

PART I,

THE  
NORSE-AMERICAN  
CENTENNIAL.

A.D. 1925. — /

To those who are proud of their  
Norse ancestry and their American  
Citizenship, this part is fraternally  
dedicated.



P R E F A C E.

The year 1925, with its numerous festivities among people of Norse blood on both sides of the ocean, was a grand and glorious year in the history of Norse people throughout the world.

It is not, however, the aim of the compiler of this book to write history - that must be done by abler men; mine is simply to present, in a concrete form, some of the material gathered in connection with the many celebrations held during the year.

Some of this may eventually be of value to a historian - if so, I am happy. If, besides, it will afford someone a cozy hour by the fireside, my joy shall be full.

THE COMPILER.

*E. O. Pedersen*

# Chapter I

## PREPARING FOR THE CENTENNIAL.

Origin | To the "Stavangerlag", an Association, whose members hail from Stavanger, a City on the west coast of Norway, ~~and its surrounding territory,~~ goes the honor of having first discussed the fitness of celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of collect<sup>iv</sup> Norwegian immigration to America.

We wonder not at this, for the father of Modern Norwegian Immigration, Kl<sup>ing</sup> P<sup>erson</sup>, himself, hailed from this City as, indeed, did all ~~the~~ <sup>participants</sup> compatriots on that famous voyage of the sloop "Restoration<sup>en</sup>" now known ~~in history~~ as the "Mayflower of the North".

However, it was soon realized that no one local organization could do this important event justice, and in 1919, a joint committee, representing various Norse-American Organizations, was appointed by the "Bygdelags Council", ~~to prepare for the coming year.~~

First Committee

This Committee consisted of:-  
 Rev. L. P. Thorkveen, Mr. Marius Hagen,  
 Mr. A. M. Sundhein, Prof. J. Tanner and Mr. N.N.Rón-  
 ning. These, together with the Rt. Rev. C.J. Eastvold, <sup>president of</sup>  
 "~~Stavangerlag~~" constituted the first Centennial Committee.

*a suitable program for the centennial festival.*

<sup>may be noted</sup>  
 It is ~~well~~ to notice that here, as always, the Norse clergy have taken a noble share in promoting matters of interest to our people and race.

Of course, the above mentioned Committee worked principally in connection with the celebration at St. Paul - Minneapolis. ~~but~~ This celebration, although by far the largest both in attendance and importance, was only one in a chain of many held at different times

and places throughout the year.

Advance  
Work

Festivities of such magnitude, as characterized all celebrations in connection with the centenary called for much advance work and careful planning, and in each instance, the Committees in charge, merit lasting thanks for labors well done. Of supreme importance was the valuable aid lent the undertaking by Nations and States. Thus, the Minnesota Legislature appropriated the sum of \$10,000.00 to exhibit the resources of the State at the Centennial Exposition on the State Fair Grounds, and the Norwegian Government sent official representatives in recognition of the event.

Memorial  
Stamps

#### SPECIAL MEMORIAL STAMPS.

The Postoffice Department graciously supported the movement by issuing two series of stamps - a two-cent and a five-cent series, and the United States Congress authorized the striking of a Memorial Medal at the United States Mint, at Philadelphia.

The two-cent stamp series were in red and black, and bears a design of the Sloop "Restorationen". An artistic frame of dragon's head and shields encircles the vessel, while the dates 1825 - 1925, and the words Norse-American Centennial appears in the upper end of the stamp. The five-cent denomination bore a design of a Viking Ship flanked on the left with a Norwegian flag and on the right the American Colors.

Centennial  
Medal

#### CENTENNIAL MEDAL.

The Centennial Medal, octogon in shape, of the same quality of silver that is being used in our moneys, bore on the ~~o~~verse side, the design of a Viking Chieftain



setting foot on American soil, the Viking ship anchored in the waters near by. Above is the same inscription as is found on the Centennial Stamps. On the reverse side appears a Viking ship under full sail, also the inscription: "Authorized by Congress of the United States of America", and underneath the Viking ship is stamped "A.D.1000", the year of Leiv Eiriksson's famous voyage to Vinland, i.e., America.

Unique  
in History

Never before, in the history of our Postal Department, has such commemorative stamps in two colors been issued, and never before in the history of postal service throughout the world has one nation's stamps carried another nation's ensign.

Congressional  
act

Likewise, it may be said with regard to the Centennial Medal, that it was the first instance of such a medal being issued by act of Congress. It was Congressman O.J.Kvale, a Lutheran Clergyman from Minnesota, who took the initiative in getting Congress to adopt bills authorizing both the special stamps, as well as the Memorial Medal. He was ably aided by Senator Peter Norbeck from South Dakota. It may be considered a coincident that the chief of the department in the engraving bureau, in which the special stamp was printed, was the Norse-American, Mr. Eidsnes. Before we leave this subject, we want to pay honor to the designer of the Medal, Mr. James Earle Traser, one of our country's foremost artists.

But, the indefatigable Congressman stopped not here. On Tuesday, February 24th, 1925, he delivered

his famous speech on "The Norse-American Centennial" in the House of Representatives, a speech which, in itself, is a mine of information as regards matters pertaining to the Norse-American people. We know our readers will be glad that we print the speech in its entirety.

Norse  
Speech

See manuscript  
SPEECH

By the issuing of special stamps, and the striking of the memorial medal, Congress had shown its good will and interest. It remained for the Norse-American people, themselves, to do the rest in order that the contemplated celebrations might be a success, and they did work with might and main that the coming events might prove the greatest gatherings of people of Norse blood ever assembled on America's soil.

Mother Country  
Interested

MOTHER COUNTRY INTERESTED.

The people of the motherland (Norway) followed developments with keen interest, and when an official invitation, to participate in the festivities, was sent, the Norwegian Government, through the good offices of our own Department of State, both the Government and Storting (Congress), responded in the affirmative and sent official representatives.

Likewise, ~~the~~ the State Church of Norway, on invitation of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, sent its Primas, the most Reverend Johan Lunde, Bishop of Oslo, and the Bishop of Stavanger, Reverend J. C. Petersen.

Other Organizations, such as the University of

Norway, the Press Association and others, sent delegates as well.. They were all able and distinguished men and women, well fitted to interpret the feeling and wishes of the people of the mother country in such a historic hour.

## Chapter II

### RECEIVING THE GUESTS. *Bishop Lunde*

The first impressions one receives, be it of an individual or of a country, are often the lasting ones. For that reason, Norsemen, in New York, did their utmost to assure our visitors from abroad a royal welcome and an open house. We wanted them to feel that America's hospitality was equal to their own.

If our distinguished guests arrived in St. Paul in the best of spirits, no little credit is due their compatriots in the East, who received them with open arms and sent them on their way rejoicing.

*arrival of  
Bishop  
Lunde*

### BISHOP LUNDE.

The first official guest to arrive was the Most Reverend Johan Peter Lunde, Bishop of Oslo, Primate of Norway. He was met at the pier by a Committee of Clergymen and laymen, appointed by the venerable head of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, the Rt. Reverend Bishop H. G. Stub of St. Paul, Minnesota.

The Committee was composed of the following clergymen: **Revs.** A. O. Bjerke, O. Amdalsrud, S.O. Sigmond, Helmer Halvorsen, J.C. Herre, Chr. Bruun and C.O. Pedersen, and the following laymen: Messrs. John Musaus, A.N. Rygg *and* Hon. John A. Gade, The Consul General of Norway, Hon. Hans Fay, met ex officio, as the representative of the Government of Norway, at the Port of New York.



While in New York, the Bishop was the guest of the Motherhouse of the Norwegian Lutheran Deaconesses' Home and Hospital, ~~having accepted an invitation extended by its Sisterhood and Rector.~~

*Picture*

The Norwegian Lutheran Deaconesses' Home and Hospital,  
Fourth Avenue & 46th Street, Brooklyn, N.Y.  
Residence of the Primate of Norway,  
during his stay in New York.

The Bishop's arrival was the occasion of much comment on the part of the press, both American and Norwegian - thus, one paper wrote on the eve of his arrival:-

~~"BISHOP LUNDE, OF OSLO  
ON WAY TO BAY RIDGE."~~

~~Noted Norwegian Clergyman to stay at  
Deaconess Motherhouse while here.~~

*Press*

*Comments*

"An official deputation of Bay Ridge Norwegian - - -  
~~Lutheran laymen, headed by the Rev. S.O. Sigmond, Pastor of  
Trinity Lutheran Church, 4th Ave. and 46th Street, will wel-  
come the arrival tomorrow morning, as he steps off the Steam-  
ship Bergensfjord at the foot of 30th Street, the Right  
Rev. Johan Lunde, Bishop of Oslo, Norway, and official  
representative of the State Church of Norway to the people  
of Norwegian descent in America on the occasion of the 100th  
anniversary of Norwegian immigration to America. ~~Other mem-  
bers of the deputation are Rev. C.O. Pedersen, Rector of  
Norwegian Hospital; Rev. Helmer Halvorsen, Pastor of Zion  
Lutheran Church, 4th Ave. and 63rd St.; Rev. J.C. Herre,  
General Superintendent of the Inner Mission; Rev. Christian~~~~

~~Braun, Pastor of Seamen's Church, Pioneer St.; Commander John A. Gade, formerly of the U.S. Diplomatic Service; Rev. A. O. Bjørke, President of the Norwegian Lutheran Pastoral Conference; Rev. O. Amdalsrud of Union Hill, N.J.; and John Musaus. . .~~

~~While here, Bishop Lunde will be a guest of the Deaconess Mother Home, 4th Ave. & 46th St.~~

At 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, Bishop Lunde and ~~the~~ <sup>his</sup> party will proceed with police escort to City Hall, Manhattan, where they will be received by Mayor Hyman. He will then be honored at a private luncheon given at the Hotel Astor at 12 o'clock.

In the evening, he will bring greetings from the Church to the young people's societies of New York at a service to be held in the Hanson Place M.E. Church. He will preach a sermon at high mass Sunday morning at the Seamen's Church, 111 Pioneer Street, ~~which~~ in the afternoon, he will attend a concert given by the Accademic Choir consisting of graduate students from the Royal Frederick University of Oslo, Norway, also in this country to attend the Centennial Celebration.

The Bishop will preach at vesper service in Trinity Church, Sunday evening, and will speak at two public meetings to be held at the Hanson Place M.E. Church on Tuesday and Wednesday.

From New York, Bishop Lunde will entrain for the West, where he expects to visit various congregations and seats of learning connected with the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America."

~~(Home Talk)~~  
~~Home Talk~~

in a Norwegian paper, we read:-

"Great satisfaction was expressed when the news came that Bishop Johan Peter Lunde of Oslo was designated to represent the Church of Norway, at the coming Centennial Celebrations.

The Bishop is an old acquaintance, having visited America in 1914, at which time he also visited Brooklyn, and preached the Centennial Sermon May 17th. (THIS REFERS TO THE CENTENNIAL OF NORWEGIAN INDEPENDENCE, WHICH FELL ON SUNDAY MAY 17th, 1914.)

Bishop Lunde may truly be called a man of the people, and we are hardly mistaken when we state that he owes his high position to his leadership among the mission, home and foreign interested people of the Church of Norway." ~~(N.Y.)~~

RECEIVED BY THE MAYOR.

Received  
by Mayor

Hardly one hour had passed after his arrival (Saturday, May 16th) before two motorcycle policemen called at the Motherhouse to escort the Bishop to City Hall, where he was received most graciously by the then Mayor of the City, Hon. John F. Hylan. He was introduced to the Mayor by the Rev. S.O. Sigmond, ~~Pastor of Trinity Norwegian Lutheran Church, Brooklyn,~~ who also briefly stated the reason for the Bishop's visit to America at this time.

The Mayor expressed his pleasure at the Bishop's visit, spoke of the good qualities of his compatriots in this country, and also expressed the hope that he would have a pleasant time while in this country.

In reply, the Bishop thanked the Mayor for courtesies received at his hands, ~~his good wishes for him,~~ and closed



his remarks by expressing the wish that God would bless the Mayor and endow him with strength to carry on the work of his high office.

~~The Bishop was accompanied by the Revs. Sigmond, Herre, Halvorsen, Pedersen and Mr. John Misan.~~

GUEST AT LUNCHEON

*Guest at Luncheon*

From City Hall, the party motored to Grant's Tomb, where relicks from the life of General Grant was viewed, ~~and~~ from Grant's Tomb, the party proceeded to the Hotel Astor, where a luncheon had been arranged, in honor of the Bishop, by the Lutheran Ministers' Association of New York. The President of the Association *Rt. Rev.* ~~Samuel~~ <sup>*D.D.*</sup> Trexler, presided.

Dr. Trexler

Dr. Knubel

~~During the luncheon~~, Dr. Trexler introduced as the first speaker, the Rt. Rev. *F.* Knuble, *Presi* ~~President~~ <sup>*Senr*</sup> of the United Lutheran Church of America (a large American speaking Lutheran Church body). <sup>*Rev.*</sup> ~~Bishop~~ Knubel addressed his remarks to the guest of honor. He said, in part; ~~that~~ "The relation of the Church in America toward ~~is~~ that of Europe <sup>*is*</sup> that of a child toward its mother. He felt that the Church here had much to learn, as to strength of faith, and the wisdom that comes with <sup>*years of*</sup> ~~the~~ experience ~~of~~." A most sympathetic and kindly speech."

Dr. Moorehead, President of the National Lutheran Council, spoke on the ecumenical character of the Lutheran Church, after which the Rev. Helmer Halvorsen ~~of Zion Norwegian Lutheran Church~~ introduced the Bishop to the audience. In doing this, he took occasion to give a short biography of the distinguished guest.

Bishop Lunde replied first in English and later in Norwegian. He loved America - he felt that the Old World looks to the Church of America for renewal of spirit. He loved the Lutheran Church, and he loved the Christian people, no matter where they came from or *what church* they belonged *to*.

When the Bishop had finished, the guests were delighted by the strains of Ole Bulls' famous "Sotersgjentens Sondag", played from the balcony by an unknown artist.

After luncheon, the Bishop and party motored to the home of the Consul General of Norway, Hon. Hans Fay, where he visited for a brief time before returning to Brooklyn.

#### RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

*Religious  
Services*

In the evening, he addressed a convention of young Norwegian people at the Hanson Place M.E. Church. Sunday morning, May 17th, he conducted *morning worship* ~~High Mass~~ at the Norwegian Seamen's Church, Rev. Christian Bruun, Pastor.

*Picture*

SEAMEN'S CHURCH.

The Church was crowded to its capacity. The Bishop preached on the text for the day, but also took occasion to bring a greeting from the Old Land. It was an inspiring sermon, and will long be remembered by those present.

SOCIAL GATHERING.

*Social  
& Gathering*

Monday afternoon, a reception was held at the Deaconess Motherhouse for Norwegian Pastors and their wives to meet the Bishop, while each evening saw him busy preaching at some church.

GROUP OF LUTHERAN PASTORS TAKEN AT THE  
VISIT OF BISHOP LUNDE.

*Interviewed  
by the  
Press*

INTERVIEWED BY THE PRESS.

As might be expected, there were those who were interested in the Bishop's views on "Questions of the Day". Thus, the noted Journalist, Frederick Boyd Stevenson, of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, requested an interview; the following Sunday, the Eagle presented a full-page article based on this interview and the coming <sup>(North-American)</sup> Centennial. The paper also carried a 9 x 12 picture of the Bishop, in ordinary vestments. (Eagle <sup>see</sup> Article *To follow here*)

WESTWARD BOUND.

*Westward  
Bound*

After five busy days, our distinguished visitor left for the West. Here, he stopped first at Decorah, Iowa, to participate in the graduation exercises at Luther



College; later, to Northfield, Minnesota, where he was present at the Golden Jubilee of St. Olaf College - this, however, was only incidental. The real purpose of his visit was to participate in the religious services held in connection with the Centennial Celebration.

A LAST WORD.

a last  
word

Shortly before he left Brooklyn, he was visited by a reporter from the "Nordisk Tidende", to whom he stated that "He was deeply touched <sup>with</sup> ~~by~~ his reception by the people of Brooklyn. It had been a great pleasure to him to renew old acquaintances and to bring <sup>them</sup> greetings from his Majesty, the King of Norway, as well as from the Ministers' <sup>and</sup> Association of Norway, and the two Bishops Bjonnes Jacobsen and Hognestad. ~~He valued highly the courtesy of the Railroad Association, in presenting free pass on all lines in the United States, good for the extent of his stay.~~

He left the City with the best wishes <sup>for</sup> all <sup>of</sup> his friends.

THE ACADEMIC CHOIR.

Arriving on the same boat with Bishop Lunde was the Academic Choir, or as it is also called "the Norwegian Student Chorus", composed of professional men and women, lawyers, teachers, doctors, etc., graduates of the Royal Frederick University at Oslo, Norway.

The Choir toured this country during the Centennial, under the auspices of the "Normands forbundet" (Norsemen's League), an International Association of Norsemen, with headquarters at Oslo.

That they were met with open arms and generous hospitality goes without saying. From the Norwegian News, we translate the following concerning their arrival in New York:-

Arrival  
of  
Chorus

ARRIVAL OF THE ACADEMIC CHORUS.

"A gray mist hung over the Narrows, as the Customs Boat, with a representative of 'Nordisk Tidende' aboard, left her moorings and nosed her way oceanward to meet the S/S "Bergensfjord". However, the mist lifted with the rising sun, and all was sunshine and happiness, when the steamer left the Quaranteen Station for Pier 30, Brooklyn. The ship carried about four hundred passengers, ~~but one soon realized that Bishop Lunde's calette and the students' caps ruled her deck.~~ There were many known faces and many a hand to shake.

The singers appeared happy and satisfied, and no wonder. They had had a wonderful trip crossing the ocean.

The Manager of the Choir, Miss Betty Lagercrantz-Sorknes enthusiastically pictured the trip as a dream .....

Crowded  
Pier

CROWDED PIER.

One seldom sees so many ~~known~~ faces on the pier as

was the case on the arrival of the "Bergensfjord" this time.

A great number of the Norwegian Lutheran Pastors of the City were there to receive Bishop Lunde, and a still larger number of "Singers" (members of the Norwegian Singing Society of Brooklyn and others) were also there to welcome their colleagues from across the sea." - - - -

~~All sorts of Committees, with duties of every kind, were there, and thanks to the Norwegian American Line Officials and the various Committees, the singers were on their way to their lodging places within half an hour from the time of their arrival.~~

RECEPTION ABOARD.

*Reception  
Aboard*

"The singers gathered in the ship's parlor about 10:30, where the Chairman of the Reception Committee, Dr. P. A. Reque,

Dr. P.A.Reque.

welcomed them with a short and concise speech:-

"You come from Norway to Norsemen in America. You are the guests of your own people, and we want you to feel at home here. Be assured, singers, that all your songs will find an echo in our hearts. It is with deep and genuine pleasure we welcome you. Three cheers for Norway and the Student Chorus."

Mr. A. N. Rygg, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, gave a synopsis of the program arranged for.



Auto-trips through New York, reception at the home of Consul General Fay, a trip to New York's famous Coney Island and lastly the Norwegian Club. - - -

~~He also stated that they would sing to an overflowing house on the morrow (Sunday, May 17th) and that over seven hundred persons would participate in a banquet arranged in their honor Sunday evening. The information was received with wild enthusiasm.~~

Finally, Capt. S.J. Arnesen, of the Transportation Committee gave instructions as to baggage, lodging, etc., and the singers were carried to their respective lodgings by the waiting autos."

#### TOURING NEW YORK.

*Touring  
New York*

The ~~mist had lifted,~~ and "the sun shone brilliantly, when the auto cortege gaily decorated with the American and Norwegian Colors, started from Nordisk Tidende's Office building on a sightseeing trip of New York. In ideal summer weather, the thirty-five <sup>autos</sup>, with smiling, anticipating singers, proceeded, under the leadership of Capt. S. J. Arnesen, assisted by detail of Motorcycle Police. The route took the visitors past the Academy of Music, where they were to appear <sup>the following afternoon</sup> ~~on the morrow~~, thence across ~~the~~ Manhattan Bridge to New York. After sightseeing around the lower parts of Manhattan, singers and hosts proceeded to the residence of the Consul General of Norway, Hon. Hans Fay, who gave a reception in their honor."

#### RIVERSIDE DRIVE - GRANT'S TOMB.

After the reception, the journey was continued up Riverside Drive to 157th Street, *to*

Picture

GRANT'S TOMB

Grant's Tomb, and other sections and sights of interest.

AT CONEY ISLAND.

Then a speedy return to Brooklyn and aboard B.M.T. Buses to Coney Island. However, the time being short, there was no opportunity for more than a casual visit at this famous playground. The day closed with a reception at the "

Reception at Norwegian Club

NORWEGIAN CLUB

" A brilliant affair, attended by several hundred of our best known citizens. The Banquet Room was beautifully decorated in National Colors, and exquisite flowers filled the room with their sweet fragrance.

Mr. Anton Wettlesen spoke on behalf of the Norwegian Club, while Dr. Barclay spoke for the guests. Mr. Payne voiced the thanks of the visitors, and their first day on American soil came to a close.

There remained the all-important tomorrow, when an expectant forwardlooking public would meet them at the Concert Hall and judge them on their merits.

AT THE ACADEMY.

The Concert

The Academy of Music: Scenes of so many events dear to the hearts of Norsemen in New York. Here Nansen and Ronald Amundsen received the ovations of their fellow

countrymen. Here Windøngstad had held forth with his Scandinavian Symphony, and the Norwegian Singing Society. Here William Jennings Bryan spoke on the 17th of May, together with the redoubtable publicist Waldemer Ager, and here too, Norwegian Lutherans have conducted some of their important religious functions, for want of an edifice large enough to accommodate the public. No wonder our hearts are thrilled at the mere mentioning of the name.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, INTERIOR VIEW.

It was altogether fitting that the 17th of May of this year happened on Sunday. No other day of the year is dearer to the hearts of the Norse-American, save the 4th of July, and no day is more suitable for the Norse-American way of celebrating the 17th than Sunday. For to the Norse-American, the 17th of May is a hallowed memorial day. It brings to his mind the folk love of an ancient people. He is thrilled by the Sagas of his ancestral home, and he prides himself of his pioneer sires on this side of the sea. For that reason, his celebration lacked all that in any way can be termed foreign political propoganda, he is attached to the Northland by the bonds of a common heritage of Saga and song.

Finally, came the hour 3 P.M. ~~Sunday~~. Nearly three thousand people filled the Academy of Music to its utmost capacity. Says ~~a paper~~ - *Nordisk Tidende*,



"The air was charged as with electricity." ~~One felt~~  
the quiver of joy and expectation on the part of the  
audience."

"As the curtain went up, one saw on the left the Student  
Singers, the ladies, in white, <sup>carrying</sup> holding their Academic Cap ~~reluctantly~~  
on their <sup>left</sup> arms, while the men were all in full dress. Oppo-  
site them on the right stood the members of the Norwegian  
Singing Society of New York and New Jersey, while two little  
girls, in native Norwegian costume, holding the American and  
Norwegian Colors, acted as honor guards."

Mr. Lawrence J. Munson, at the organ, intonated and  
led the audience in the singing of the famous old hymn:

"God Bless Our Precious Fatherland" -

"Gud signe vort dyre fedraland",

after which, the American singers, conducted by

PICTURE OF OLE WINDINGSTAD

Ole Windingstad, sang "Sangerhilsen", "A Singer's Greeting",  
addressed, of course, to the Norwegian Choir."

Welcome

To Consul General Fay was allotted the task of giving  
the singers a verbal welcome. This he did in the following  
words:-

"I have been given the honorable <sup>self</sup> task of speaking  
for all of us when we bid our guests, yea I dare say,  
our friends the Student Singers, welcome to America. Of  
course, its true, as many would have it, that New York is  
not America; but it is, nevertheless, the great gateway,  
through which most of those who visit this land pass. For

that reason, it is fitting that someone should stand at the threshold and receive you. For your first impression means so much.

I want to give a word of advice to our guests: Take a good look around while you are in New York. One sees New York but once. For New York today and the New York of yesterday and of the tomorrow are three different things. Things develop rapidly over here.

We have been visited by student singers before, and they sang their way into our hearts. Their visit is ineffaceable in Norse-American history. We feel sure that history will repeat itself. You will add another page to this history, a page that is inextricable, connected with all that binds Norsemen to the old law.

It is written, that it is not well for man to be alone.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

It the Academic Male Chorus of 1905 succeeded so well, what may we not expect this time, when the Chorus includes so many of Norway's beautiful daughters? Not only will the songs reach our hearts, but we can hardly avoid a knightly admiration for so much feminine charm and beauty.

Indeed, we must admire the male singers also, for having the courage of their convictions, in choosing a lady manager, as a matter of course. That man lets himself be led by a woman is no new thing. Nor is it a new happening, that a man likes to be led by woman, but that

man publicly acknowledges the same, that can only occur in Norway and in the National League. (This refers to the National League of Brooklyn, whose President at that time was Miss Helen Olaussen).

It is not a mere accident that the singers come to us this year. Neither is it a chance happening that they are with us today, the 17th of May. For the 'Students' Song' above anything else is able to quicken our national feelings, and awakens again half-forgotten memories of all that is dear to us on the other side.

Norway could send no better representatives to the Centennial Celebrations than the singers. They not only represent Norway, they are the embodiment of Norway." (Prolonged applause)

In reply to the greeting, the Manager of the Students' Choir, Miss Betty Lagerkrantz-Sorknes, said:-

"The best way in which we can reply to your many kind words and good wishes is by singing 'O Tonevald' ('Oh Wealth of Tones')."

This completed the introduction, and the singers then rendered the following program of songs:

*(To be included)*

*address of  
Kildal*

During the intermission, Mr. Arne Kildal,

Official Norwegian Press Representative to the United States, gave a splendid address on the theme greetings to Norway;

this was followed by the Norwegian National Anthem, "Ja vi elsker".

*The singers* acquitted themselves with credit, and the soloists were the

recipients of many beautiful floral tributes. Likewise,

the Choir received a beautiful American Flag, in silk, from



the Singing Society, "Lerken" (the Lark), by its President, Mr. Olaf Olsen, and the Vice President, Miss Nellie Larsen.

In commenting upon the concert, the Nordisk Tidende says:-

"The student singers will undoubtedly have success wherever they go in the United States. The Conductor, Mr. Russ, will receive much praise for his splendid choir."

Banquet

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~  
Of this Nordisk Tidende writes:-

"We live on memories of the past. ~~Whether~~ <sup>Whether</sup> they be pleasant or otherwise, there are always memories that cannot be forgotten.

They exist in our subconsciousness, and appear at longer or shorter intervals, as the case may be.

Eight hundred people, celebrating Norway's Day of Independence, have added to their pleasant memories an occasion never to be forgotten.

We refer to the Dinner given in honor of the Norwegian Students' Choir, by the National League and the Norwegian Singing Society of Brooklyn, at the Hotel St. George.

Truly, it was a National Celebration in every sense of the word. Beginning with the Concert <sup>at</sup> the Academy of Music, ~~there~~ <sup>it</sup> was one continuous festivity until the strains of 'Home Sweet Home' announced the parting hour to be at hand.

Though we be thousands of miles away from our native land, and even though the blue ocean separates between the old and the new homeland, yet, instinctively, something within reacts when we turn the calendar leaf

~~from the 16th~~ to the 17th of May. Perhaps, we notice it even more because of our absence from the old home. Once more "Memories" assert themselves,-- happy sunlit memories from our childhood days, when we marched proudly to the stirring melodies of ~~band~~ music and song. But, this *particular* festival was unique, even among 17th of May festivals.

The beautiful halls decorated with National Colors, the people themselves, and the patriotic <sup>sentiment</sup> ~~feeling~~, stirred by the preceding concert, all contributed to enliven the spirit of the occasion."

"Everybody came to celebrate "Dagen", the day our motherland had asserted her independence, and to pay homage to our celebrated guests, the youth of Norway incarnate, the woman who had represented Norway at the International Congress at Washington, and finally Norway's greatest living lyric, Nils Collet Voght. It had to be an occasion extraordinary - it could not be otherwise. ---

~~Immigrated Norsemen met to do honor to their native land, and the guests came with a greeting to us from Norway."~~

Dr. P. A. Reque, Chairman of the Banquet Committee, presided at the Speakers' Table, and gave a word of welcome, after which he introduced as Toastmaster for the evening, Mr. Anton Wetlesen, of the Norwegian Singing Society. During the dinner, several selections, instrumental and vocal, were rendered by such well-known artists as: Miss Margareth Olsen, Soprano; Mr. Carl Tollefsen, Violinist, accompanied by his wife, Madam Schnobel Tollefsen, on the piano. Miss Olsen was accompanied on the piano by Miss Elsie Eriksen. The artists all received merited ovations.

SPEAKERS.

Speakers

The first speaker of the evening was Norway's Consul General in New York, Hon. Hans Fay. Mr. Fay, having previously addressed the singers at the concert, contented himself with a few remarks, and by proposing a toast to His Majesty, King Haakon of Norway, and to the President of the United States, Mr. Coolidge after which the audience sang "Ja vi elsker" and the Stars Spangled Banner".

Wils Collet  
Vogt

In introducing the principal speaker of the evening, Mr. Nils Collet Vogt, the Toastmaster cited one of his well-known poems. Silence greeted the famous author as he rose to ~~address~~ <sup>address</sup> his countrymen, and, as if in a trance, they followed him as he portrayed in well chosen words the homeland in all its beauty, <sup>and</sup> told of the S/S "Bergensfjord" <sup>to America</sup> departure with the student singers.

"I stood on the deck", he said, "As we ~~silented~~ <sup>slipped</sup> out toward the great blue sea. I saw the green hills take on a deep blue hue, and little by little disappear in the horizon and then nothing but water, water, whichever way we turned."

"I saw the seagulls follow us, saw them circle around us day after day, as we drew near our destination. There are those who will have it that the seagulls fly from Norway to America and back again. Perhaps its not so, but I believe it. Let them ply from Norway to America and return. Its beautiful, and I believe in all that is beautiful."

Then Mr. Vogt touched on the 17th of May. He said:-



#1 "Last year, I watched the children's parade on Karl Johan (<sup>Principal</sup> ~~main~~ street in Oslo, Capital of Norway), and it ~~filled~~ <sup>filled</sup> me with sadness. I was along in the first Children's Parade in Bjórnsen's time (<sup>#2</sup> this refers to the great poet and patriot, Bjórnstjerne Bjórnsen) and I remember that many years had passed by since then; but, wherever I go, I am proud of the fact that I am a Norseman."

"One need not be ashamed of coming from a small country, when one springs from such a noble race as the Norwegian." (Thunderous applause)

After singing "God Bless Our Noble King", the audience gave three cheers for Mr. Voght.

~~A citizen of New York, Mr. Franklin Petersen, had written a song for the occasion, which was well received.~~

Mr. Erling Christoffersen, ~~who~~ spoke for the University of Norway; Vice Consul Stillesen, for the ladies; Mrs. Anna Backer, <sup>one</sup> ~~of the delegates to the Washington Conference,~~ <sup>finally</sup> spoke for Norway, and Miss Betty Sagerkrantz-Sorknes ~~spoke~~ <sup>participated</sup> on behalf of the Student Singers. (~~See~~ <sup>see</sup> ~~appendage No. 3~~).

Received  
by Mayor

RECEIVED BY MAYOR.

The ~~Students~~ <sup>Singers</sup>, Mr. Voght and Mr. Pryser were received by the Mayor, Hon. John F. Hylan, Monday at 1 o'clock. The Choir formed at one end of the Mayor's Reception Room, at City Hall, while newspapermen and spectators occupied the other end. As the Mayor entered the room, the Choir greeted him by singing our National Anthem. The Mayor, deeply touched, requested them to sing the National Hymn of Norway, and for the first time in history, "Ja vi elsker" was heard in the City Hall of New York. The Chairman of the

Arrangements, Mr. Rygg, made a short presentation speech, after which he, in turn, introduced the Leader, Mr. Russ; the Manager, Miss Lagerkrantz-Sorkness; Mr. Nils Collett & Mr. Pryser to the Mayor.

Mr. Hylan expressed his pleasure at being able to assist the <sup>Local</sup> Committee in welcoming the guests to New York, and likewise to do his part in giving them a proper idea and perspective of the City. He was happy to do anything that might make their stay pleasant. Later on, he posed for a picture <sup>(copies)</sup> with the guests on the steps of City Hall.

*Sail on  
the Hudson*

~~I picture a scene at the hall~~  
After the reception, the guests repaired to Battery Park, where they went aboard the City Yacht "Macon", which had been placed at Bishop Lunde and their disposal, by the Mayor. A beautiful sail up East River, Harlem River and down the Hudson to Fifty-first Street, Brooklyn, ended the singers' stay in New York.

~~A delicious lunch was served during the sail by  
Erk. Helene Glaussen, Fru Karl Torp, Fru H. Gronneberg,  
Fru Petra Jensen and Erk Andrea Olsen. Of their visit  
and stay it can truly be said:-~~

"They came, they saw, they conquered."

TOURING THE WEST.

↳ Otto Clausen, chief representative of "Nordmandsforbundet" in America, and impresario for the students' choir, writes of their subsequent appearances in the Middle and the far West:-

"On the 19th of May, the Choir gave their concert at Philadelphia, Pa. There are but few Norsemen there, but many of the singers held, that the appearance there was one of the most touching on the whole tour. Many were present whom, it is stated, had not been in touch with their native land for years. ~~But~~ They simply had to come this time.

~~During the concert, the handkerchief was very much in evidence.~~

The next concert was held in Chicago. Here the same scene as in New York repeated itself, with concert, banquet and sightseeing trip.

Here, as in New York, they were welcomed by the appearance of local singing societies at the concert. From now on, there was a rapid succession of concerts throughout the Northwest - Madison, Wis.; Decorah, Iowa, where they visited Luther College, and where they had the unique experience of listening to three hundred young men of second, third, fourth and fifth generations sing "Ja vi elsker" in the Norse tongue, and sing it correctly; thence to Northfield, Minn., home of St. Olaf College, and the world famous ~~St. Olav~~, St. Olav College Choir. Again Minneapolis - St. Paul, Superior, Duluth, Grand Forks, Fargo, Eau Claire, LaCrosse, Spokane, Seattle, Everett and finally Portland, where the Choir disbanded.



At the Centennial

The choir specialized - perhaps too strongly - ~~in~~ in Norwegian Folk Songs. Says Mr. Clausen:-

"I remember in particular the 7th of June, when the students sang at the Centennial Festival in Minneapolis. From the Speakers' stand, I gazed out on the thousands and again thousands of people present, - perhaps the largest audience any Norse Choir ever had appeared before.

Then came "Brudefarden" - 'The Bridal Party' by Halfdan Kjerulf. The old familiar tunes found their way to the hearts of the hearers. Tears that came were quickly brushed away by strong hands, made hard by honest toil. Later, a few popular ditties crown'd the effort and released the fettered emotions. I've seen a great deal in the line of demonstrations, but never anything to equal the experience of that memorable day."

Here, we part with the Academic Choir of 1925. Their visit now belongs to history. To us who had the privilege of hearing them sing, their visit forms a pleasant chapter in our book of memories; to the Norse race in America, it adds another link in the bond of friendship between kindred people.

Chapter 4  
Other Celebrities

We have noted, that besides Bishop Lunde and the Student Choir, two other celebrities arrived on the S/S "Bergensfjord", viz., Mr. Thoralf Pryser, representing the Norwegian Press Association, and Mr. Nils Collet Voght, Norway's most famous living lyric author. Mr. Voght represented the Authors' League of Norway. It is not often that authors ply their art aboard steamers, but Mr. Voght found time to write a beautiful little poem entitled: "The Immigrant", which he courteously dedicated to the Editor of Nordisk

The above mentioned visit was  
 mentioned in Chapter 4

Tidende, Mr. A. N. Rygg. ~~(See appendage page?)~~

~~CHAPTER~~  
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND OTHER VISITORS.

*Government  
officials and  
other visitors*

The pride of the Norwegian American Line is the S/S "Stavangerfjord", a handsome twinscrew, battleship-shaped passenger boat of 3200 tons and with accommodations for about 1420 passengers. Graceful as a swan did she dock on the 2nd of June, and discarded her precious cargo of passengers and goods. *[S/S Stavangerfjord]*

Her arrival was momentous, for she brought over as passengers noted men, representatives of the Norwegian executive Government, as well as legislative, and a number of others, representing various professions and organizations.

The list included the Hon. C. J. Hambro, representing the Norwegian "Storting", Parliament; the Hon. Lars Oftedahl, Minister of Social Affairs; Prof. dr. Frederik Stang, Rector of the Royal Frederick University at Oslo, representing the University and other Institutions of higher learning; Mr. Gustaf Larsen, representing the Craftsmen's Guild and the Industries of Norway; Mr. Hans Seeland, representing the Farmers' League; Mr. Peder Nordby, representing the "Selbu Association"; Mr. Olaus Islandsmoen, representing the "Valdris Union"; Mr. Knut Markhus, representing the Søndhordlands Association"; Prof. Absalon Taranger, representing the "Nordhordlands Association"; Mr. Anders Haug, representing the "Hallingdals Association"; Mr. Morgenstjerne, representing the "Norsemen's League"; and Mr. Inge Solberg, representing the ~~Oslo~~ Rotary Club *of Oslo.*

The following committees were on the pier to welcome the distinguished guest. Representing the Norwegian Govern-

ment, Hon. Hans Fay, Consul General of Norway; representing the Centennial Committee, Commander John Gade, Chairman; Editor A. N. Rygg; Rector C.O. Pedersen and Mr. Fred Werner. Representing the Lutheran Church, Rev. Helmer Halvorsen and Rev. Keefer. Representing the Brooklyn Rotary Club, Capt. S. J. Arnesen.

Commander Gade, in welcoming the guests said that *they* ~~our guests~~ came to a country where Norsemen had not forgotten their native land, while they, at the same time, were lawabiding and respected citizens. He concluded by bidding them a hearty welcome and expressed the hope ~~that~~ their sojourn in this country might be full of enjoyment.

Rev. dr. Keefer, representing the National Lutheran Council, greeted the guests on behalf of the Lutheran Church in America.

Mr. Hambro answered on behalf of the delegation. Said he, in part:-

"We, who have come to America, feel that we are met with open hearts. We know we shall have a never to be forgotten experience."

The Custom <sup>authorities</sup> ~~Officials~~, having granted the official delegation exemption, it was but a few moments before they were on their way to the Biltmore and Commodore Hotels, where they stayed during their visit in New York.

At one o'clock, a luncheon was given the delegates and committees by Commander Gade at the University Club. Here Mr. Oftedahl took occasion to voice the appreciation of the visitors for the warm welcome they had received. Commander Gade answered by saying:-

"Your people are my people and your God my God."



After lunch, a sightseeing trip took the delegates about seventy miles around New York and included among other places of interest, the Norwegian Hospital.

During their stay ~~in New York~~, the delegates were received by the Mayor, Hon. John F. Hylan, at City Hall, and likewise were Messrs. Hambro, Oftedahl, Stang and Morgenstjerne received by the Governor of the State, Hon. Alfred E. Smith.

After luncheon, given by Mr. Cappelin Smith, at the Bankers' Club, Wednesday, the guests continued their journey to Minneapolis, Minn.:

Not only were our guests received royally when they arrived from Norway, but also upon their return from Minneapolis. On the eve of their departure, <sup>Bidding goodbye</sup> <sup>for Norway</sup> a banquet was given in their honor by the Norwegian Club, ~~the~~ ~~Committee in Charge being, Capt. P.A. Jensen, Dr. P.A. Reque, Mr. A. Stolt, Mr. E. Christophersen and Mr. Anton Wetlesen.~~

Dr. Reque, as Toastmaster, began by stating that it was over one thousand years since Norsemen first visited America, though he was not here at that time. He was happy to call upon our beloved Consul General. In his speech the Consul General said:-

"Love of Country, like all love, reveals itself in two ways. Love of the Soil and the love of the people. We Norsemen have plenty of the former, and all honor to us for that; but, what we often lack is the proper love of our people - joy over our people's abilities - attachment for their institutions - enthusiasm for the goal they have set for themselves. Yet, we may be happy about this. We need not hearken back to the past. What we have

lived to see is great enough. When our descendants read history, the pages that cover the reign of Haakon the Seventh, will constitute interesting and inspiring reading. The years 1905, 1914, 1925, will form a glowing inscription on the monument graced by the emblem <sup>of</sup> King Haakon. Our descendants will know too, that in this year, the ~~the~~ President of the world's mightiest Republic said of our countrymen:-

"I know that in your hands our country is secure."

Prouder and happier words have never been addressed to any people. For that reason, let us honor contemporary history. Let us likewise honor the institutions under which we live, both here and on the other side. A toast to King Haakon and President Coolidge.

The speech was followed by "Ja vi elsker". Later in the evening, Mr. Oftedahl addressed the guests in the following words:-

"We are just a little sad of heart tonight. It is the last evening we are permitted to be with you. We return to our homes with a marked feeling of admiration for what we have seen of you and your accomplishments.

We have listened to the President tell of what you have been to America, and this is what we will tell the people at home. Our journey has been one continuous revelation from the first meeting on the deck of the "Stavangerfjord". We thank you for all this overwhelming amiability, which we accept as a homage to our dear old motherland, with its high mountains and deep blue fjords, and I ask you all to drink a toast to this land, which we all love so well.

Mr. ~~E. H. H.~~ Christophersen spoke in honor of the guests. Said he, in part, as follows:-

"It is with deep joy we greet our guests this evening. We are gathered about a common heritage, common memories. Perhaps, we assumed too much when we asked you to be with us tonight. Perhaps, it were better if you had gone right on with the impressions you have from the great Northwest, and all the fine men you met there. But, may I say to you that we too have able men among us. People, who have sacrificed much. Our Hospitals, our Churches, etc., attest to that. Likewise, it bears witness to the fact that we have kept that which is not ~~se~~ intact. Remember, we are Norsemen, and our hearts beat for that which is Norse. A toast to the Norwegian Government and Parliament.

Mr. Christophersen was followed by Mr. Hambro, whose eloquence is known far beyond the boundaries of Norway.

"When I look out on this gathering," said he, "I see a good many friends of bygone days. Wetlesen, whom I played with as a child in Bergen; Christophersen, my splendid secretary during the University Festivities; Editor Rygg and many others.

Now that we are gathered here the last evening of our stay with you, my countrymen and friends, we are happy to say that we do appreciate what you have done for Norway. Know, that whatever befalls the people of our race, wherever they may be, concerns us. For by your actions, we are being judged. By the same token, your success is ours, your joys and your sorrows are our joys and our sorrows. That's how it is. We wish you good luck and



cheer.

Finally, Mr. Voght made a few closing remarks, and the memorable evening came to an end. Tired, but happy, our guests left New York two days later, and their visit had passed into history.

~~#~~ 5

#### LEIV EIRIKSSON SQUARE.

Shortly after the Academic Choir had visited New York, and just before the arrival of the official representatives to the Centennial Festivities, at Minneapolis, there took place a celebration at Brooklyn, N. Y., which for the size of the participating public, as well as ~~for~~ <sup>in</sup> character, stands unique in the civic history of Norse-Americans.

We refer to the dedication of Leiv Eiriksson Square and the ~~procession~~ <sup>parade</sup> that took place immediately before.

First of all, we shall give our reader the facts in connection with the naming of the square.

The effort made by various Societies and individuals, to bring before the American public the name of Leiv Eiriksson and the story of his valor as a sailor and an explorer, and the fact that we were about to celebrate the One Hundredth Anniversary of the arrival of the father of modern Norwegian Immigration, Kleŕng Peerson, and his forty odd compatriots, who landed in the Port of New York on the sloop "Restoration" in 1825, caused interested persons to discuss the possibility of creating, here in New York City, a lasting monument to Leif Eiriksson and the thousands of his countrymen, whose lives and ~~work~~ <sup>labors</sup> are associated with this country.

From the very first, the matter received the whole-hearted support of several well-known men in the Bay Ridge community, especially the Hon. Charles W. Dunn, Alderman of the Fortieth Aldermanic District.

An Executive Committee was formed, consisting of Rodney T. Martinsen, Attorney-at-law, Capt. S. J. Arnesen, Mr. Peter Berge, Mr. A. N. Rygg, and the Rev. ~~Halmer Halvorsen~~ and C.O. Pedersen. Later, the following were added to the *general committee*:

#2.

Rev. Helmer Halvorsen

72  
38

~~committee~~ Miss Helen Olausen, President, Norwegian National League, Messrs. O. C. Christoffer and Fred Werner, ~~and~~ the Revs Olaf Jonsvold of ~~the Norwegian Evangelic Free Church~~ *and L. J. Vegge and J. M. Restoration*

After due deliberation, the committee suggested that the park area mentioned in the resolution printed in this ~~article~~ be named:-

*chapter*

"LEIV EIRIKSSON SQUARE"

The matter was then taken up with the Park Commissioner of the Borough of Brooklyn, the Hon. Edward T. O'Laughlin, in a letter dated March 30th, part of which is hereby reproduced:-

"The year 1925 marks the One Hundredth Anniversary of modern Norwegian immigration to the United States.

It was in the year 1825 that Kleeng Peerson sailed from the City of Stavanger, Norway, on the sloop "Restoration" with the first shipload of immigrants, landing at Battery Place, New York.

By a coincident, it was also from this place that Eirik the Red and his son, Leiv Eiriksson, nearly ten centuries before, sailed to Iceland, Leiv later on, making his historic voyage to Vinland.

The Centenary is being celebrated in many parts of the Union. In Minnesota, the celebration will be honored by the presence of the President, Mr. Coolidge. The Governors of Mississippi, North Dakota, Colorado, Montana and Minnesota, all of whom are of Norwegian descent, will also participate.

We feel that the occasion is of such importance historically, that the City of New York in some manner ought to take part, especially in view of the fact that it was here the first immigrants landed.

In going over the situation, we agreed that a fitting memorial to the Norwegian race in this City would be the naming of a City street or square in their favor, and at the suggestion of Mr. Dunn, I am enclosing herewith a rough sketch of an area, which the Committee hereby respectfully requests be named:-

LEIV EIRIKSSON SQUARE

It is the hope of the Committee that a little later on, we may be able to erect, with the permission of the Park Department, a monument of Leiv, the Discoverer, somewhere on the adjoining parkland."



#3.

73  
39

Commissioner O'Laughlin was much interested in the proposition and after ~~such~~ investigation gave his consent. When the matter first came before the Board of Aldermen, on April 7th, the Commissioner was present, in person, to speak in behalf of the measure and to urge its adoption by the Board; however, it was laid over until April 14th, when it was presented by Alderman Dunn in the following resolution:-

"Resolved, That the park area bounded by the southerly side of 66th street, the westerly side of Fort Hamilton parkway, the northerly side of 67th street and the easterly side of Fourth Avenue, in the Borough of Brooklyn, be and the same hereby is named and hereafter shall be known and designated as Liév Eiriksson Square, and the Commissioner of Parks be and hereby is authorized to note such naming on the maps and records of his office.

Alderman Dunn moved that the foregoing resolution be amended by striking therefrom the word "Liév" and inserting in place thereof the word "Leiv".

Adopted.

The Acting President then put the question whether the Board would agree with said report and adopt such resolution, as amended.

Which was decided in the affirmative."

It will be noted that the resolution was unanimously adopted. After its adoption by the Board of Aldermen, the resolution was sent to the Mayor for his approval. In this matter, the committee had the valuable assistance of the Acting President of the Board, the Hon. William T. Collins, who personally arranged to have two of the committee present at the signing of the resolution.

The Mayor accompanied the approved measure with the splendid memorandum ~~found reprinted on another page of this week's issue of Nordiska Tidende.~~ <sup>and</sup> at the suggestion of President Collins, three extra copies were signed by the Mayor, one of which will be sent to the Norse-American Museum, Luther College, Decorah, Ia. Another copy will be sent to the Museum at Stavanger, Norway, from whence Leiv Eiriksson of old and Klefng Peerson of One Hundred years ago sailed forth.

We are greatly indebted to these gentlemen for the kind interest they have taken in this matter, and their names will forever be associated with the naming of Leiv Eiriksson Square.

~~That the naming of the square should be the~~

The Mayor's memorandum

~~74~~  
40

(To be supplied)

CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

April 17, 1925.

To the Honorable,  
The Board of Aldermen.

Gentlemen:

It is with particular pleasure that I affix my signature to Resolution Introductory No. 1275, G.O. No. 138 of the Board of Aldermen, designating Leiv Eiriksson Square in the Borough of Brooklyn.

Within a year's time we shall appropriately commemorate the Three Hundredth Anniversary of the Founding of the City of New York. It is fitting that this should be done, for historical associations and recollections must ever be dear to the heart of the true patriot and a source of never-ending inspiration to all men.

But the name of Leiv Eiriksson, the bold Norseman, chronicled in the Icelandic Sagas, who, with his open boats and hardy sailors, feared not the wide wastes of the rolling Atlantic, is associated with the founding of America as far back as 1000 A.D.



What boy has forgotten, even in the maturer years of life, the pictures of the Northmen's ships with their dark ravens upon the sails, symbolic of the swiftness and the ne'er-do-die spirit of the intrepid adventureres, and the fantastic dragons' heads, mounted high upon the prows, informing all strangers of the strength and the prowess of the fair-haired warriors, to whom neither distance nor peril was but the play of a child?

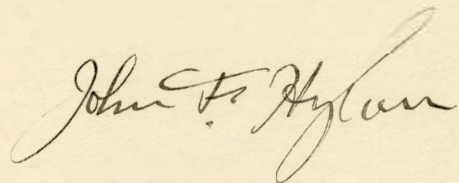
Iceland and Greenland were, perhaps, the first to feel the sure trod of the valorous Norsemen; but New England, with its smiling vines of wild grapes and which prompted Eiriksson and his followers to name this portion of our territory, "Vinland", was, in all probability, the first section upon which actual huts or habitations were built by the Norse pioneers.

We are told that the story of the Norsemen, who depended upon oar and sail and courage and strength to explore the cruel wastes of the Atlantic and the land to the west, did not reach the Europe of old at the time of their discoveries.

The City of New York however, is determined, through the naming of a Square, situate in the populous Fort Hamilton section of our city, in honor of Leiv Eiriksson, to embalm in our records,

for present and future generations, an adequate recognition of the valor and the service of the bold men of the North whose spirit of conquest and adventure spurred on the later periods of discovery and exploration which made out of an unknown region the greatest nation under the canopy of God's blue heaven.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John F. Hylan".

M a y o r .



Resolutions adopted by the Board of Aldermen.

75

In the City Record for Thursday April 9.  
appears the following

NUMBER 15772.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1925.

THE CITY RECORD.

No. 1275 (G. O. No. 138).

**Resolution Designating Liev Eiriksson Square in the Borough of Brooklyn.**  
By Alderman Dunn—

Resolved, That the park area bounded by the southerly side of 66th street, the westerly side of Fort Hamilton parkway, the northerly side of 67th street and the easterly side of Fourth avenue, in the Borough of Brooklyn, be and the same hereby is named and hereafter shall be known and designated as LIEV EIRIKSSON SQUARE, and the Commissioner of Parks be and hereby is authorized to note such naming on the maps and records of his office.

Referred to Committee on Public Thoroughfares. Subsequently reference reconsidered and matter made a General Order for next meeting.

And on April 14 appears the following  
resolution as it was finally adopted.

G. O. Int. No. 1275).

**Resolution Designating Liev Eiriksson Square in the Borough of Brooklyn.**

Resolved, That the park area bounded by the southerly side of 66th street, the westerly side of Fort Hamilton parkway, the northerly side of 67th street and the easterly side of Fourth avenue, in the Borough of Brooklyn, be and the same hereby is named and hereafter shall be known and designated as LIEV EIRIKSSON SQUARE, and the Commissioner of Parks be and hereby is authorized to note such naming on the maps and records of his office.

Alderman Dunn moved that the foregoing resolution be amended by striking therefrom the word "Liev" and inserting in place thereof the word "Leiv."

Adopted.

The Acting President then put the question whether the Board would agree with said report and adopt such resolution, as amended.

Which was decided in the affirmative, by the following vote:

Affirmative—Aldermen Allen, Campbell, Cardani, Cassidy, Corcoran, Cox, Cunningham, Curley, Dalton, Donovan, Dotzler, Dowd, Dunn, Falconer, Fenn, Fitzpatrick, Frank, Friel, Graubard, Halberstadt, Hannoeh, Harvey, Henrich, Hilkemeier, Joyce, Kaltenmeier, Keller, Kelly, Kiernan, Lenihan, McCann, McCusker, McGarey, McGillick, McGuinness, McManus, Masterson, Mahon, Meyer, Morris, Murtha, O'Leary, O'Reilly, Rudd, Schmitz, Schwab, Smith (J. R.), Smith (J. W.), Stand, Sullivan (E. J.), Sullivan (J. W.), Sullivan (T. J.), Sullivan (W. P.), Tanahey, Walsh, Weber, Williams, Wirth, Zettler; President Miller, by James J. Hagan, Assistant Commissioner of Public Works; President Guider, by Joseph Fennelly, Assistant Commissioner of Public Works; President Bruckner, by William J. Flynn, Commissioner of Public Works; President Connolly, by W. Augustus Shipley, Assistant Commissioner of Public Works; President Lynch, by David S. Rendt, Commissioner of Public Works; the Acting President—65.



RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

In the City Record for Thursday, April 9th appears the following:-

No. 1275 (G.O.No. 138)  
 RESOLUTION DESIGNATING LIEV EIRIKSSON  
 SQUARE IN THE BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN.  
 By Alderman Dunn -

Resolved, That the park area bounded by the southerly side of 66th Street, the Westerly side of Fort Hamilton Parkway, the Northerly side of 67th Street and the Easterly side of Fourth Avenue, in the Borough of Brooklyn, be and the same hereby is named and hereafter shall be known and designated as Liev Eiriksson Square, and the Commissioner of Parks be and hereby is authorized to note such naming on the maps and records of his office.

Referred to Committee on Public Thoroughfares. Subsequently reference reconsidered and matter made a General Order for next meeting.

And, on April 14th, appears the following resolution, as it was finally adopted:-

G.O.138 (Int.No.1275)  
 RESOLUTION DESIGNATING LIEV EIRIKSSON  
 SQUARE IN THE BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN.

RESOLVED, That the park area bounded by the southerly side of 66th Street, the westerly side of Fort Hamilton Parkway, the northerly side of 67th Street, and the easterly side of Fourth Avenue, in the Borough of Brooklyn, be and the same hereby is named and hereafter shall be known and designated as Liev Eiriksson Square, and the Commissioner of Parks be and hereby is authorized to note such naming on the maps and records of his office.

Alderman Dunn moved that the foregoing resolution be amended by striking therefrom the word "Liev" and inserting in place thereof the word "Leiv".

Adopted.

The Acting President then put the question whether the Board would agree with said report and adopt such resolution, as amended.

Which was decided in the affirmative, by the following vote: (Unanimous).

That the Norwegians of New York looked forward to the day of dedication with great anticipation is not saying too much. Not only did the Norwegian Press write voluminous articles on the approaching celebration, but the American Press as well.

Thus, the New York American carried the following editorial in its Brooklyn issue for Friday, May 22nd:-

The "Nordisk Tidende", ever a friend of all that pertains to the welfare and advancement of our people, writes editorially the 16th of April:-

The announcement found on another page of "Nordisk Tidende" that the Board of Aldermen have adopted the resolution naming the area between 66th and 67th Streets, from Fourth Avenue to Fort Hamilton Parkway, will be enthusiastically received by the Norse residents of Brooklyn. The action of the Board will be looked upon as a courteous acknowledgment of the Norse people as a valuable factor in the American community. The resolution comes at a very auspicious time, when we are busy getting ready for the festivities in connection with the Centennial for Norse Immigration to America.

It has been mentioned that a more suitable name than "Leiv Eiriksson Square" might have been found. In this connection, it is well to bear in mind that it was necessary to find a name belonging both to Norse and American history. With this in mind, the name Leiv Eiriksson is no doubt the most suitable.

The Committee in charge, as well as Alderman Charles W. Dunn, have not finished their work as yet. The resolution must be signed by the Mayor, before it is an accomplished fact. We do not anticipate any difficulty on that score.

When Leiv Eiriksson Square is finally beautified as a park, and a monument of Leiv erected, Norsemen will have a place in the City that can be pointed to with pride."

(Free translation)



Again it writes on the 23rd of April, under the caption:

PUBLICITY FOR LEIV.

"<sup>Si</sup> ~~One~~ certainly cannot <sup>be said</sup> ~~say~~ that Leiv Eiriksson does not get enough publicity these days. The name Leiv is in the air. The latest in connection with the action taken by the Board of Aldermen, in naming a large park space after the celebrated Norse discoverer. This continuous and very effective propaganda for Leiv Eiriksson is bound to have its effect on the American public.

Even the most obdurate opponent must eventually give in, when continually confronted with the fact that it was Norsemen that first put their foot on American soil."

Home Talk, ~~Bay Ridge paper~~ writes:-

"It is the source of no little satisfaction to many residents in Bay Ridge that the open space, bounded by LEIV EIRIKSSON Fort Hamilton Parkway, Sixty-eighth SQUARE Street, Fourth Avenue and Sixty-seventh Street, has been named "Leiv Eiriksson Square, in honor of the hardy Norseman who is credited with being the first white man to set foot on American soil. The name of the square in honor of this heroic figure was brought about largely through the efforts of Alderman Charles W. Dunn, who, acting upon the request of the Rev. C. O. Pedersen, Superintendent of the Norwegian Hospital, and a number of other men of prominence, introduced a measure to this effect during a recent Aldermanic session. This measure was promptly signed by Mayor Hylan."

The Weekly News, ~~also a Bay Ridge Paper~~, writes  
editorially on the 22nd of May:-

*Leif Eriksson*

The choice of the name, ~~Leif Eriksson~~ Square, for the park section bounded by 66th and 67th sts. on the north and south and by Fort Hamilton pkwy. and 4th ave. on the east and west has been termed an honor to the Norwegian people of Bay Ridge.

That is undoubtedly what this gesture by the city fathers is intended to be. But it is far more. It is an honor and distinction to Bay Ridge itself and to the people of all races and nationalities residing within its borders, to be linked with the name and deeds of this great Norwegian explorer, who is generally credited with being the first white man to land on North American soil.

Leif Erikssen, or Ericson, or Leifr Eiriksson, as his name is variously spelled, was the first known European discoverer of what he called Vinland, or "Wineland the Good," in North America. Careful perusal of history and of the Sagas of Eric the Red indicate that the Vinland found by Leif was some part of southern Nova Scotia. The discovery came about, as so many land discoveries have, notably Columbus' discovery of America, through missing the goal aimed for. In this case, it was Greenland which Leif had been commissioned in the year 1000 by the King of Norway to proclaim Christianity in. Thus, he was a pioneer in the spreading of Christianity as well as in discovering new lands. Stormy weather threw his ship far off its course to lands "of which he had previously had no knowledge." This was Vinland. And so, this intrepid Norse sailor, scion of a long line of noted Vikings and son of Eric the Red, himself an explorer and colonizer of renown who was the founder of the earliest Scandinavian settlement from Iceland in Greenland, in the year 985, became the first discoverer of North America.

Giving full credit to ~~Eriksson~~ <sup>*Eriksson*</sup> for this achievement in no way dims the glory of Columbus' discovery 492 years later. For there was no immediate benefit derived from Erikssen's discovery, whereas Columbus' exploit really led to the opening of the new world and its colonization.

It was not until about a century ago—the 100th anniversary will be celebrated in St. Paul next month—that the Norwegian people started to emigrate to America, following up the good work begun by their famous ancestor so many years before. But when they finally did come here, it was in large numbers and to very good purpose. This country has no more able, industrious and loyal citizens than those of Norwegian birth and descent. They are to be found in the highest places in the land, performing their work as doctors, lawyers, clergymen, United States Senators, Congressmen and industrial leaders, with the same fidelity and thoroughness which has always characterized their race.

Tomorrow, Bay Ridge will be the scene of a great celebration in connection with the dedication of Leif Erikssen Square. And well it may. For it is a high honor to Bay Ridge, out of all other sections of the Greater City, to be the place selected for this memorial to the famous Viking.

DEDICATING THE SQUARE.

The next step on the part of the Committee was to arrange a suitable dedication ceremony of the Square.

In this, they were again ably supported by the local press, who encouraged citizens as well as organizations to participate in the festivities.

The Committee decided on a public parade, to start from Forty-sixth Street and Fourth Avenue, the Norwegian Hospital, the line of march continuing down Fourth Avenue to the Square, where the dedication exercises would take place. The response on the part of our people was overwhelming. Some papers estimated the crowd at 40,000, though, we are inclined to place it somewhere between twenty and twenty-five thousand.

The following program for the dedication was printed and given out in thousands of copies. *X X Program to be inserted*

Again, we turn to the press and *City* "Nordisk Tidende's" writeup of what this paper states was "The largest Parade of Norsemen ever seen in the East."

~~Saturday's~~  
 "Saturday's 'Leiv Eiriksson' Parade will be a lasting memory to those who took part in the parade or saw it on its way to Leiv Eiriksson Square. Never before in the history of the colony have we witnessed such a gathering of Norsemen. Never such demonstrated interest in and appreciation of the fact that the new square, by the courtesy of the City authorities, had been given the proud name of the Viking.

The people followed the call. They met in great assemble and a nobler sight than the grand parade, as it filed by by with flying banners to ~~the~~ stirring airs played by



large and numerous bands was never seen in the history of our people.

It evidenced the strength of our people in Greater New York and testified to their appreciation of what had been done for them.

#### THE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday came, with clear skies and beautiful sunshine. A little warm, perhaps, but this was, after all, a thousand times better than rain.

Soon, the populace of Bay Ridge began to understand that something uncommon was in the air. Flags were flying from the flagpoles of Trinity Church and the Norwegian Hospital, and the "Nordisk Tidende's" building was in festive decorations. All along Fourth and Fifth Avenues, American and Norwegian Flags appeared. One would liken it to the 17th of May on the other side. In the early forenoon, Sunday-dressed children, carrying small flags could be seen along the Avenue, and as the time for the parade approached, they literally poured in from everywhere.

Everything had been well prepared by the Committee, who, through its Marshall, had assigned places in the adjoining sidestreets for the participating organizations. What a scene! Singers, in ~~the~~ white caps; children, all dressed for the occasion; young men and women, in native costumes; and nurses, in their spotless uniforms. Besides this, the numbers of uniformed bandsmen, the Salvation Army and the Boy Scouts formed a unique sight.

#### THE MARCH.

It was exactly 3:15 when the parade was under way, preceded by a Mounted Police Guard. The parade was headed

by Capt. S. J. Arnesen, Marshall of the parade, and his aid, Paul W. Wäg, with three Boy Scouts from Troop 117.

These were followed by the Committee of Arrangements, together with Mayor Hylan; Park Commissioner O'Loughlin; the Norwegian Poet, Nils Collet Voght and Mr. Thorolf Pryser, of the Norwegian Press Association."

Then came in rapid succession, the various participating organizations, all according to schedule.

#### ON THE SQUARE.

Even the Square seemed decorated for the occasion.

The turf was a beautiful green, and the trees stood dressed in their new coat of leaves - a pleasant sight to behold.

The Grandstand was raised in a grove between Fifth and 6th Avenues. From this stand, the parade was viewed by the Committee and visiting dignitaries, including the Mayor, the Park Commissioner, Hon. Hans Fay, Consul General of Norway; Alderman Charles W. Dunn, Mr. Voght, Mr. Pryser, and others. At the close of the parade, those who had taken part, together with the thousands of onlookers, gathered about the grandstand to listen to the dedicatory addresses, and to join in singing the national anthems of Norway and the United States.

Mr. Rodney T. Martinsen, Secretary of the Committee, introduced as Chairman for the afternoon exercises, the Rev. C. O. Pedersen, Rector of the Norwegian Deaconesses' Home and Hospital. Mr. Pedersen, after a few words of welcome, introduced the first speaker for the day in the following words:-

Mr. Martinsen, Your Honor,  
Ladies and Gentlemen:-

It is, indeed, a pleasure to be called upon to preside at the exercises of this afternoon, and what is more, I feel it a high honor and privilege.

Not only does the presence of men in high office and distinguished, as well as the presence of you, my compatriots, in itself lend importance to the day, but the occasion is of such historic significance as to cause it to be one of the outstanding events in the annals of our people in the City of New York.

That the gentleman, whose public office makes him the representative of all citizens, regardless of racial origin or political or religious affiliation, is with us this afternoon, is highly appreciated.

I have the pleasure to introduce to you, the gentleman whose signature made "Leiv Eiriksson Square" a reality, the Hon. John F. Hylan, Mayor of the City of New York



Mayor Hylands Address

89  
52  
Eiriksson  
Square

It is an obligation as well as  
a pleasure to assist in the dedication of Leiv  
Eiriksson Square. So far as I have been able to  
ascertain there is no public monument in the parks  
or squares of this city to the intrepid Norse  
adventurer.

The City of Boston did erect a  
monument to Eiriksson on its Avenue, but when we  
consider that it was in the vicinity of that  
city which Leiv Eiriksson is reported to have  
landed with his little crew, it is not surprising  
that this public recognition was given.

90  
57

Until the Board of Aldermen of our City by appropriate action designated this Square in the Fort Hamilton Section of Brooklyn in honor of Leiv Eiriksson, scant notice had been paid to one of the first reputed discoverers of America. I speedily approved the Aldermanic Ordinance for it was my belief that the time had come to pay some official tribute to the hardy race of Northmen who, without the fire-arms or the mariner's compass of Columbus of some five hundred years later, fearlessly sailed the Atlantic and set up habitations upon lands which the Indians were in undisputed possession of.

I would not detract one iota of credit from Christopher Columbus who landed at San Salvador while in search of a westward route to the Indies; nor of the Cabots who touched Labrador and New Foundland some centuries after Leiv Eiriksson's visit to our shores. Vespucci, ~~Verrazano~~, Magellan and other navigators also did their noble part in the work of discovery.

94  
5-2

We are even told that five hundred years before Eiriksson landed on the New England coast, a <sup>Buddhist</sup> Buddhist monk from far off China had reached what is now the territory of New Mexico.

But the Vikings were the sea rovers of the world. They did explore the wilderness of the frozen North. The scandinavian Sagas <sup>Sargass</sup> told of their reaching the North American continent in the ninth and tenth and eleventh centuries. They reached Iceland, whether by accident or design is immaterial, for it ultimately became a settlement for their countrymen. The colonization of Greenland, we are also told, was the result of their adventurous spirits; and four centuries of habitation attest to the hardihood of the Norsemen in this most rigid of climates.

In the Year One Thousand, Leiv Eiriksson and his crew of twenty-five men came upon Labrador and Nova Scotia, and subsequently the coast of New England in the vicinity of Plymouth County, Massachusetts.



94  
5-3

So far as records are available it was on this New England land called by the Northmen, "Vineland" because of the abundance of its grapes, that the first child of European parents was born on the North American continent. It would be no easy task for those who would dispute the early voyages of the Vikings to gainsay the existence of this child, <sup>Snorey</sup> Snorre, who proved more wide-awake than his name would suggest.

Too often the Icelandic <sup>Sagas</sup> Sagas have been regarded as mere myths, legends and unfounded scraps of ancient history. But the visits of the Northmen and in particular, Leiv Eiriksson, have according to good authority been founded upon firm historic ground. New York City has accepted the record as can be seen from this Square named in Eiriksson's honor. And New York City trusts that there has been no mishap in the attempt to reach the North Pole by airplane of that intrepid Norwegian explorer, Captain ~~Amundsen~~ Amundsen, and his American Engineer and Aviator, Lieutenant Ellsworth.

But is it a matter of very great importance to whom we owe the earliest discovery of America? Are we not all enjoying the privileges of living in a land where all men are equal before the law. Perhaps some will say that therein lies the very reason why first place must be accorded to the Vikings for was it not the thraldom of Norway, to which they would not yield, that sent hundreds of them roving the wide seas fearless alike of man or the elements? They will also bring records to prove that indications of huts or homes erected by the Northmen along the shores of the Charles River -- the stream between Cambridge and Boston -- were unearthed in the last half century. And, who knows, perhaps Commander Macmillan, who plans to explore the area between Alaska and the North Pole by airplane and to investigate the Norse ruins, will bring us further information regarding the exploits of the early Northmen.

-6-

I shall not dispute any evidence, new or old, documentary or otherwise, anymore than I would question the spelling of Leiv Eiriksson's name, although it has undergone some weird changes since the days of my school books.

We can all afford to give credit to the brave and intrepid sea rovers of the North, without reflection upon the heroic seamen of other centuries and other nations, Let us be broad-minded enough to acknowledge that they all did their share in exploring unknown regions, even as did Abraham, the forefather of the Jewish race, who "went out not knowing whither he went." Let us all be thankful that we live in this favored land, the appointed nation under God for the protection and promotion of liberty, and a land in which the people of all races and creeds and colors may come together in a common bond of human brotherhood for the uplifting of mankind and the advancement of the best civilization.

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Mayor Hylan's address was received with deserved applause, and time and again, he was interrupted by tokens of approval.

The address was followed by the Stars Spangled Banner, sung by the audience.

CONSUL GENERAL FAY'S SPEECH.

In introducing the next speaker, the Chairman said:-

"Ever since Leiv, in the year 1000, first tasted the luscious ~~fruits~~ <sup>fruits</sup> of this land and named it Vinland, perfect harmony and good relationship has existed between the two countries, Norway and the United States. And so, when representatives of this grand old land are called upon to participate in ~~matters~~ <sup>an event</sup> in which ~~the two~~ <sup>both</sup> countries are historically interested, there are, thank ~~God~~ <sup>God</sup>, no memories of past unhappy incidents to mar the occasion.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the Hon. Hans Fay, Consul General of Norway.

After the address, which was enthusiastically received, "Ja vi elsker" was sung.

The next speaker on the program was the Park Commissioner, Mr. O'Loughlin. He was introduced in the following words:-

"It is claimed that George Washington, in an address delivered in Philadelphia, said that he was proud of the fact that he was of Norwegian origin.

A certain gentleman has recently discovered that President Coolidge and Mayor Hylan's forebearers also hail from this illustrious land. This may, more or less, be a matter of conjecture. It is a fact, however, duly established by a professor of history, that the forefathers of the next speaker came to the United States via Normandy and Ireland.

While in Ireland, the family improved upon that plain, honest Norwegian Name: Olaf Lin, and called themselves O'Laughlin.

Ladies and Gentlemen:-

The Hon. Edward T. O'Laughlin, Commissioner of Parks, Borough of Brooklyn.

Mr. O'Laughlin said in part as follows:-

"I am, as you probably know, Editor of the Brooklyn Edition of the New York Journal.

It is now many years ago since I, as a young journalist, met one of Norway's foremost citizens, Fridtjof Nansen. I didn't know much about Norway then, but I determined to learn more of this interesting country; and I do know something of the Norsemen and their contributions to the world today.

I have read of their famous voyages to Normandy and

Ireland. For that reason, Ladies and Gentlemen, you will find many a noble looking blond Irishman. He is surely a descendent of the Vikings of old.

I know too, of the bold Viking who, in the year 1000 sailed the foamy ocean in open boat, and was the first white man to set foot on our shores - Vinland, as he named it.

I rejoice in the opportunity to recommend that this parkland be named Leiv Eiriksson Square. The Norse population of New York deserve this recognition. I recommended it, the Board of Aldermen passed the resolution and the Mayor approved it.

Now, that you Norsemen have received this Square, it is up to you to care for it. If I had my way, I would see to it that a statue of Leiv Eiriksson graced the square. Yea, I would go further. I would place a statue of Leiv at one end of the square and one of your celebrated countrymen, Roald Amundsen, at the other. Let me close my remarks by asking you all to join me in a minute silent prayer, for that daring Viking of today.

Mr. O'Laughlin's touching appeal for a silent prayer on behalf of Amundsen and his associates met with due response. In silent prayer, the multitude stood there, heads uncovered, in the scorching sun. Who knows what those prayers accomplished? ~~We do~~ <sup>now</sup> know, that at ~~the~~ <sup>my</sup> time Amundsen and his faithful band fought for their very lives in the barren icefields near the Pole.

The last speaker was Mr. A. N. Rygg, Editor of the "Nordisk Tidende", who had been asked by the Committee to speak on behalf of the Norse-American citizens of Greater New York.

Introducing Mr. Rygg, the Chairman said:-



Some well-meaning but misguided people seem to be alarmed at the presence of the foreign language press in this country. Of course, a radical press is harmful, whether it be printed in English or in any other language.

On the other hand, the foreign language press, rightly conducted, is of tremendous aid in the initiating of the foreigner into the ways and customs of the American people.

For 34 years, the paper, of which the next speaker is the Editor, has faithfully interpreted American ideals and aspirations to our immigrant people, and has played a noble part in cementing and preserving the bond of friendship and good will that exists between the two countries.

*Ladies and Gentlemen!*

Mr. A. N. Rygg, K. of St. O.,  
Editor, Norwegian News.

After Mr. Rygg's address, prayer was said by the Rev. Helmer Halvorsen, ~~Pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, 63rd Street and Fourth Avenue, Brooklyn,~~ <sup>after which</sup> and an army bugler sounded Taps.

Leiv Eiriksson Square was officially dedicated. It had been a day long to be remembered by those who took part. Other Norse-American Institutions may disappear, and our people be assimilated in the great American populace of tomorrow. As long as Brooklyn remains, and for all times to come, Leiv Eiriksson Square will be a monument to Leiv the Lucky and to the race from which he sprung.

The following comments on the dedication of Leiv Eiriksson Square by New York papers will be of interest.

THE WEEKLY NEWS.

One of the most colorful and impressive events ever staged in Bay Ridge was the dedication of Leiv Eiriksson Square, the park area bounded by 4th Avenue, Fort Hamilton Parkway, 66th Street and 67th Street, Mayor John F. Hyland, officiating.

It is estimated that more than 40,000 persons either participated directly in the ceremonies or witnessed the dedication and parade along 4th Avenue, from 46th Street to the square, which preceded the dedication ceremony.

More than 40 Norwegian organizations, some of them in native peasant costume, or with spread-eagle headress and the coats of mail and shield of the Vikings, were in the line of march and lent a most picturesque touch to the parade. A squad of nurses from the Norwegian Hospital, some white-clad as befitted their rank as graduate nurses and others in blue, indicating that they were still student nurses, drew

much favorable comment. Also in the procession were the Sunday schools of various Bay Ridge Churches, several troops of Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Girl Scouts and others.

The parade was headed by Captain Sigurd J. Arnesen, O.R.C., as marshall, who made an inspiring picture in his U.S. Army Officers' uniform and astride a spirited charger. He was immediately followed by his aide, Paul W. Wiig with three boy scouts from Troop 117. The liberty banner was carried by a boy in Norwegian national costume, escorted by two girls in costume. Two American flags were carried by Boy Scouts escorted by army and navy buglers, and following close behind the Norwegian flag, which was carried by Camp Fire Girls, came a figure dressed as Eiriksson himself. The members of the organizations which followed were gay in Norwegian costumes and in costumes of the ancient sagas. The colorful group which gathered about the grandstand in Eiriksson Square might have been part of an old Norse pageant.

In addition to Mayor Hylan, other notables who spoke were the Norwegian Consul General, Hans Fay. Park Commissioner E. T. O'Loughlin, and A.N. Rygg, editor of the Norwegian News. Rodney T. Martinsen, who called the assembly to order, and Rev. C. O. Pedersen, superintendent of the Norwegian Hospital, who acted as presiding officer.

*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle writes*



We have already quoted comments from the Norwegian press. In the ~~appendage~~ <sup>#</sup> will be found several articles in Norwegian covering the Leiv Eiriksson Square Celebration.

The closing chapter of this particular event was the following letter, by the Chairman of the Committee, addressed to all who had taken part in the work connected with getting and naming the square.

Thanks!

Now that the work and festivities in connection with Leiv Eiriksson Square is a thing of the past, you will allow me, as Chairman of the Committee, to express a hearty thanks to all who aided us both in getting the square, as well as by participating in the festivities. Thanks to Societies and Sunday Schools, who so loyally and willingly helped to create the wonderful parade, and thanks too, to all our countrymen and women who ~~met~~ <sup>responded to</sup> by the thousands *participated in celebrating the event.*

To the Marshall of the day, who so efficiently organized and led the parade, <sup>and</sup> to those who, by speeches, singing and music, added glory to the occasion, in the name of **all** our people. Thanks!

Long will this wonderful day live in the memory of our people.

~~(Signed) Secretary, Chairman~~

~~# Page~~ .....

THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION AT MINNEAPOLIS  
ST PAUL.

Naturally the Centennial Celebrations at Minneapolis-St. Paul, June 6th to 9th, was the outstanding event of the year. ~~Smaller~~ local festivities had their place and importance, but the ~~highlight~~ celebration at the twin Cities was the National Celebration, both as to dimensions as well as national importance and result. Writing in 1923 of the purpose and importance of the Centennial, Mr. Oscar Arneson, Publicity Chairman of the Norse-American Centennial says:-

## PURPOSE AND IMPORTANCE

There have been two important migrations from Norway. The first began a thousand years ago, when many of the Norse war-lords, earls and petty rulers refused to bend the knee to Harold the Fair Haired, who had made himself ruler of all Norway, and sailed away to Iceland with all their wealth and many of their retainers. The second began a hundred years ago, when the sloop "Restaurationen" crossed the Atlantic to the land discovered by Leif the Lucky, and started an exodus to the broad, fertile plains of America. The first was a migration of Norse chieftains, proud, wealthy and powerful, but because of the unfavorable conditions that awaited them, they had a hard struggle to maintain themselves. The second was a migration of Norway's common people, plain and simple, without worldly wealth, but who, because of favorable conditions and faithful work, soon acquired a competence and are now numbered among the most prosperous people of the earth.

The purpose of this Centennial is to commemorate in an impressive manner the events which mark the beginning of Norse emigration to this continent and to pay a fitting tribute to the Norwegian pioneers of America. In the rush of our present day life we fail to honor, as we should, those plain, earnest, God-fearing, modest, but strong and courageous men and women, who did so much for their descendants and the land of their adoption.

We cannot honor too highly the Norwegian pioneers of America. The services they rendered are of inestimable value and importance. They were among the foremost in conquering the wilderness, in developing it into one of the most prosperous, most progressive regions of the world. With ceaseless toil and sacrifice they helped to push the frontiers of civilization from the Great Lakes to the Pacific and by their whole-hearted loyalty to their adopted country, helped to save the Union during the Civil War.

By remembering the noble work done by our fathers we shall be inspired with greater zeal to prove ourselves worthy of being their children by clean living, by useful work for our community and our country.

Some may argue that Norse emigration to America began more than a hundred years ago. Yes, Norsemen landed at various times on our shores before the year 1825, and rendered notable service in the War of Independence, but it was the sailing of the sloop "Restaurationen" and the founding of the first Norwegian settlement in America that marked the beginning of a real migration from Norway to this continent.

This Centennial will be the greatest celebration ever held by Norsemen in America. The program will include speakers and musicians of world-wide fame. The President, or a prominent member of his cabinet, will represent the government of the United States; the Premier of Canada or a member of his cabinet, will speak for the dominion to the north; Crown

societies participating in the festivities aside from attendance of the public at large that will tax the capacity of the fair grounds.

The civic organizations of Minneapolis and St. Paul will cooperate with the Committee in perfecting the arrangements and in making the stay of all visitors in the two cities interesting and enjoyable.

Not less than 2,700 Lutheran congregations, the Norwegian colleges, seminaries and academies; the numerous Bygdelags, the lodges of the Sons of Norway and various other societies and organizations have been assigned places in the Centennial and are actively taking part in the preparations.

The site selected for the celebration is the geographic center of Norwegian population of America, and the Twin Cities have long been recognized as a center of Norse art, learning and culture. The Minnesota Historical Library contains the largest collection of Norse-American literature in America.

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the MORGENBLADET, OSLO, FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 6, 1908 # editorial

touching on the coming Centennial in its issue of June 6th.

see page 7

# ~~Appendage page~~



“That their expectations met with the desired results, later events proved. Never before in the history of Norse-Americans has there been such an outpouring of people. Never was such recognition extended by those in high office, and never before such unanimous acclaim of pioneers as that rendered the memory of the group that came here from Norway a hundred years ago, on the now famous sloop the "Restourationen".

Very properly the festivities began with Divine Services Sunday forenoon, June 7th. There were four ~~such~~ services, two in the Norse and two in the English language.

Three of ~~these~~ services were conducted under Lutheran auspices and one under the auspices of Committee appointed by Reformed Churches. The following orders of service was carried out

110  
69

# PROGRAM

## DIVINE FESTAL SERVICES

*Sunday Forenoon*

JUNE SEVENTH, 1925

HIPPODROME

*Ten O'Clock*

In the Norse Language

PAST. B. E. BERGESEN, LEDER

### PRELUDIUM

*Salme*

O store Gud, vi lover dig,  
vi sier tak evindelig!  
Al verden sander det og vet,  
at du er Gud av evighet.

Al engles hop og himles hær,  
lov, tak og pris for tronen bær,  
og sangen av serafim gaar  
saa langt som himlens hvælving naar.

Du hellig, hellig, hellig er,  
Gud Sebaot, vor Herre kjær,  
og fuld er himlen al og jord  
utav din guddoms ære stor.

Profeter og apostler glad  
og dine vidner, rad paa rad,  
de staar for dig i livsens sal  
med takkesang i tusental.

Din kristenhet paa denne jord  
bekjender dig og paa dig tror,  
som Faderen av evighet,  
hvis magt ei maal og ende vet.

Og Sønnen, den enbaarne, som  
fra dig til verdens frelse kom,  
samt Helligaand, vor trøster sand,  
høiløvet over alle land.

INDGANGSBØN - - - - - Past. M. Norstad

ALTERNATIVE - - - - - Past. C. N. Engelstad

SYNDSBEKJENDELSE

ABSOLUTION

KOLLEKT

EPISTEL: Kol. 3, 16—17

La Kristi ord bo rikelig hos eder, saa I lærer og formaner hverandre i al visdom med salmer og lovsanger og aandelige viser, og synger yndig i eders hjerter for Gud, og alt hvad I gjør i ord eller gjerning, gjør det alt i den Herre Jesu navn, takkende Gud Fader ved ham!

KORSANG: "Kirken den er et gammelt hus"

DAGENS TEKST: Salme 90, 1—2, 16—17

Herre! Du har været os en bolig fra slegt til slegt. Før bjergene blev til, og du skapte jorden og jorderike, ja fra evighet til evighet er du, o Gud. La din gjerning aabenbares for dine tjenere og din herlighet over deres barn! Og Herrens, vor Guds, liflighet være over os, og vore hænders gjerning fremme du for os, ja, vore hænders gjerning, den fremme du!

TROESBEKJENDELSEN (av alle)

*Salme*

Vor Gud han er saa fast en borg,  
han er vort skjold og verge,  
han hjælper os av nød og sorg,  
og vet os vel at berge.  
Vor gamle fiende haard  
til strid imot os staar,  
stor magt og arge list  
han bruker mot os vist,  
paa jord er ei hans like.

Om verden fuld av djævla var,  
som vilde os opsluke,  
vi frygter ei, vi med os har  
den mand som dem kan true;  
er verdens fyrste vred  
og vil os stöte ned,  
han ingenting formaar,  
fordi alt dømt han gaar,  
et Guds ord kan ham binde.

Vor egen magt er intet værd,  
vi vare snart nedhugne,  
men en gaar frem i denne færd,  
for ham maa alting bugne.  
Vil du hans navn faa visst?  
Han heter Jesus Krist,  
den høvding for Guds hær,  
i ham kun frælse er,  
han marken skal beholde.

Det ord de skal vel late staa  
og utak dertil have,  
ti Gud han vil selv med os gaa  
alt med sin Aand og gave;  
og tager de vort liv,  
gods, ære, barn og viv,  
la fare hen, la gaa!  
De kan ei mere faa,  
Guds rike vi beholder.

FESTPRÆKEN - - - - - *Dr. H. G. Stub*  
FORMAND FOR "DEN NORSK LUTHERSKE KIRKE"

KIRKEBØNNEN

FADERVOR (av alle)

KORSANG: "Lover den Herre"

HILSEN FRA NORGES KIRKE - - - - - *Biskop Johan Lunde*

ALBERTJENESTE

*Salme*

Naar Jesus kommer ind i landet  
og fanger folket med sin magt,  
og alle hjerter haver sandet  
hans ord og gjort med ham sin pagt,  
da blir der lystelig at bo  
i Herrens fred og stille ro.

Naar Jesus kommer — kjært at sige,  
der blir et ganske andet liv,  
et sandt og elskelig Guds rige  
hos smaa og store, mand og viv,  
og kjærlighet og himlens haab  
alt ved Guds aand og ord og daab.

UTGANGSBØN

SANG AV "ST. OLAF COLLEGE CHORAL SOCIETY"  
PROF. F. MELIUS CHRISTIANSEN, LEDER

MUSIK VED "LUTHER COLLEGE CONCERT BAND"  
PROF. CARLO A. SPERATI, LEDER

GRAND STAND  
*Ten O'Clock*  
In the Norse Language

PAST. H. K. MADSEN, LEDER

PRELUDIUM



*Salm*

Lover den Herre, den mægtige konge med  
æret,  
lov ham min sjæl, og lå det din forlystelse  
være!  
Stem op en sang,  
salter og harpe gi klang,  
Syng for Gud Herren den kjære!

Lover den Herre, som al ting saa herlig  
regjerer,  
han som dig løfter som ørnen paa vinger  
og bærer,  
lader dig faa  
mer end du kunde forstaa,  
bedre end hjertet begjærer!

Lov da den Herre, min sjæl, og hvad i mig mon være,  
alt som har aande ophøie hans store navns ære!  
Han er dig god,  
ak gjør ham aldrig imot!  
Amen. Han selv dig det lære!

BØN - - - - - Prof. L. Pedersen

ANDAGT - - - - - Past O. Larsen

KORSANG: "Den store, hvite flok"

FESTPRÆKEN - - - - - Past. H. K. Madsen

*Salm*

O tænk naar engang samles skal  
de frelstes menighet  
av alle folkeslegters tal  
;: i himlens herlighet. ;:

O tænk dog hvilken jubel lyd —  
en strøm av kjærlighet!  
Tænk hvilken tak og pris og fryd  
;: og salighet og fred! ;:

O tænk naar Herrens vidnehær,  
hans tjenere paa jord,  
de millioner møter der  
;: som hørte deres ord! ;:

O Gud, hvad er din naade stor!  
Os alle til dig drag,  
at vi kan staa blandt frelstes kor  
;: paa denne høitidsdag! ;:

*Eleven O'Clock*

In the English Language

REV. O. H. SLETTEN, LEADER

PRELUDE

*Hymn*

A mighty fortress is our God,  
A trusty shield and weapon;  
Our help is He in all our need,  
Our stay, whate'er doth happen;  
For still our ancient foe  
Doth seek to work us woe:  
Strong mail of craft and power  
He weareth in this hour;  
On earth is not his equal.

And were the world with devils filled,  
All watching to devour us,  
Our souls to fear we need not yield,  
They cannot overpower us;  
Their dreaded prince no more  
Can harm us as of yore;  
His rage we can endure;  
For lo! his doom is sure,  
A word shall overthrow him.

Stood we alone in our own might,  
Our striving would be losing;  
For us the one true Man doth fight,  
The Man of God's own choosing.  
Who is this chosen One?  
'Tis Jesus Christ, the Son,  
The Lord of hosts, 'tis He  
Who wins the victory  
In every field of battle.

Still must they leave God's word its might  
For which no thanks they merit;  
Still is He with us in the fight,  
With His good gifts and Spirit.  
And should they, in the strife,  
Take kindred, goods, and life,  
We freely let them go,  
They profit not the foe;  
With us remains the kingdom.

LITURGICAL SERVICE - - - - - Dr. L. W. Boe



*Right Rev. Johan Peter Lunde, Bishop of Oslo*



#2  
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CHOIR: "Beautiful Savior"

FESTAL SERMON - - - - - Rev. O. H. Sletten

*Hymn*  
God bless our native land!  
Firm may she ever stand,  
Through storm and night;  
When the wild tempests rave,  
Ruler of wind and wave,  
Do Thou our country save  
By Thy great might.

For her our prayer shall rise  
To God above the skies;  
On Him we wait:  
Thou who art ever nigh,  
Guarding with watchful eye,  
To Thee aloud we cry,  
God save the state!

*Meeting from the Church of Norway*  
HILSEN FRA KIRKEN I NORGE - - - - - Biskop Johan Lunde  
INTRODUCTORY VERBODNING E. E. GYNILD

POSTLUDE

SONGS BY THE NORWEGIAN SINGERS' ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
PROF. FRED. WICK, DIRECTOR  
MUSIC BY ST. OLAF COLLEGE BAND  
PROF. J. ARNDT BERGH, CONDUCTOR

HORTICULTURAL BUILDING  
*Ten-Thirty O'Clock*  
Arranged by the Young People's Luther League  
THIRD TRIENNIAL CONVENTION  
PROF. MARTIN HEGLAND, PH. D., LEADER

PRAYER - - - - - Rev. E. Rasmussen

HYMN

ANTHEM - - - - - *Our Savior's Church Choir, Omaha, Neb.*  
F. A. CARLSON, DIRECTOR

LITURGICAL SERVICE - - - - - Rev. H. C. Smeby

ANTHEM - - - - - *Concordia College Choir*  
HERMAN W. MONSON, DIRECTOR

FESTAL SERMON - - - - - Rev. J. A. Aasgaard, D. D.

ANTHEM - - - - - *Joint Church Choruses, Grand Forks, N. D.*  
MRS. DAVID STØVE, DIRECTOR

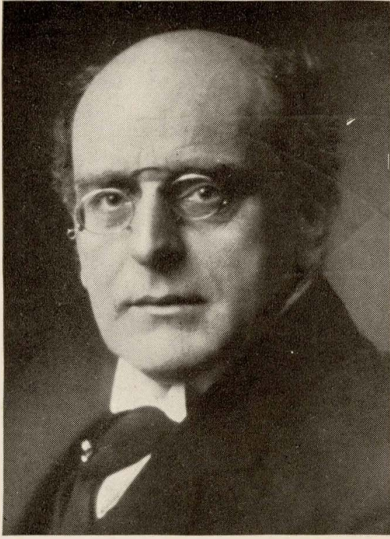
LITURGICAL SERVICE

HYMN

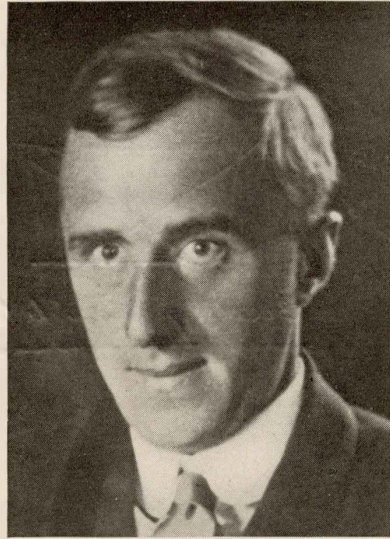
CLOSING PRAYER

MUSIC BY A BRASS QUARTETTE FROM LUTHER COLLEGE  
FRANKLIN HORSTMEIER AT THE PIANO





*Lars Oftedal*  
*Member of Cabinet*



*W. Morgenstjerne*  
*Representing Normandsforbundet*



*C. J. Hambro*  
*Member of Storting*



*Thoralf Pryser*  
*President Press Association of Norway*

Comment writes:-

## 15,000 Norwegians Brave Sun and Heat, Show Love of Country at Sunday Services

**Hippodrome, Grandstand Filled With Worshippers—Leaders Tell of Exploits and Progress in Norway and U. S.—King Sends Greetings**

Proof that Norsemen have an abiding love of their church and of their mother country was written into the record of the Norse-American Centennial today, demonstrated through the opening day of the great celebration.

In offering that proof, however, these Norsemen—Americans all—made it clear that "first comes our country, America."

Sixty-five thousand persons, Norsemen and citizens of home descent, thronged the grounds. It was striking proof. Despite a beating sun that drove the mercury upward and turned the entire Fair grounds into a sweltering arena, crowds in numbers that exceeded the average State Fair day pushed their way into the grounds Sunday. Automobiles droye into every gate, three abreast, and lines several blocks long waited their turns. Streetcars, at hundred yard intervals, poured out their scores of passengers.

### Throngs Fill Hippodrome

First to fill was the Hippodrome. Scene of immense throngs, attracted by hockey games or horseshows, the Hippodrome outdid itself Sunday forenoon for the religious service. Every seat, every box was filled. Rows of benches filling the entire floor space were occupied, and scores stood in the aisles, so no one could move. At every entrance, others stood, all through the two hour service.

About them hung banners of Stavangerlags. Dignitaries of the churches of America and Norway were on the platform. Above and to the rear was the famous St. Olaf College choir and its director, F. Melius Christianson. Below was the Luther College band. At the Horticultural building, too, crowds of young people sat or stood for the service sponsored by the Young People's Luther League, opening their convention.

In the grandstand, however, the greatest crowd assembled. First, they filled the upper tiers of seats, to stay within the shadow of the stand. Row after row, in a downward cascade, the seats filled, until hundreds sat in the broiling sun, refusing to move in spite of the heat, to hear the service, sent out through microphone and amplifiers.

### Rev. H. K. Madsen Leads Service

The St. Olaf College band was ready to play, but unhappily no chairs had been provided, and it was after 11 o'clock before they were in place. Meantime, however, the service had started, under leadership of Rev. H. K. Madsen of Minneapolis.

There were times when the tremendous congregation could not hear all that was going on, but it stayed regardless, to hear the chorus sing "Den Store

Hvide Flok," majestic Norse anthem, and to hear snatches of the sermon. Those in the upper seats were better able to follow the services, because there was a constant increase in the crowd down below during the service.

An English service, led by Rev. O. H. Sletten, followed, in the grandstand. At each service came a message from Bishop Johan Lunde of Oslo, representing the church of Norway.

"Norway could not produce such an assemblage as this," he said. "It is like standing on the shore of an ocean. I am glad to bring tidings from the church of Norway and from the king as head of the church."

He read telegrams from several congregations in Norway, and said every church in Norway was conducting services today with the Centennial in mind.

### Dr. H. G. Stub Sounds Keynote

"Because the Norwegians in America have stuck to the faith they brought with them from Norway they have accomplished what they have," he said.

Dr. H. G. Stub, white haired, wearing the white robe of his position as head of the Norwegian Lutheran church of America, speaking vigorously in spite of his 76 years, sounded the keynote of the day.

"Our love remains strong for that land where life was an endless fight against a stony soil and a stormy sea," he said. "A land poor in gold, but where almost every child can read and write. But stronger than these ties are the bonds of faith and hope and Christian charity—that Christianity given us by our people."

"Norsemen came to America 50 or 100 years ago hoping for an easier and a better living, but found the heaviest kind of work. They fought Indians and grasshoppers, they answered the call of President Lincoln for men. And now this people is holding its place in its adopted country with honor. Our prayers go upward that all that is done may be for the good of our country, America."

### 25,000 Attend Three Services

Like the murmur of the sea came the sound of thousands of voices a minute later repeating in Norwegian the words of the Lord's Prayer, then again the service of worship. Quietly they had stayed through the long service in spite of heat or lack of space.

Thus these Norse-Americans proved their love of church and of nation. There had been fully 25,000 at the three services.



Next c  
Session at

the entire space up to the stand, and hundreds sat or stood in the field back of the stand. Others sat on Machinery hill, taking advantage of shady spots.

**Crowd Presents Colorful Picture.**

A colorful crowd. Frequent umbrellas to ward off the hot sun. Coats thrown over arms, or not carried at all. Brilliantly colored gowns and hats, mingling with the light shirts of the men, made the entire stand bright. Eager faces, down below the speakers' stand, watched every move, ignoring little clouds of dust that floated past at intervals. Fitting breezes now and then was all that took the edge from the hot afternoon and made the long session bearable.

The new steel stand itself was an interesting picture. On the lower level stood members of the Students' Chorus of Oslo, waiting their turn to sing—girls in odd shaped blue tams, simple robes, the men in uniform caps.

Centennial officials, church leaders, a group of women who were part of the official delegation, sat on hard chairs, each ready for a brief word of greeting to the throng. Two by two the dignitaries of Norway arrived, in tall silk hats, long black, heavy swallowtailed coats, striped trousers, black shoes, dignified collars. They brought portfolios, bearing official greetings of elaborate parchment.

**Nearly All Speak Norwegian**

It was almost all in Norwegian. Two variations from the rule—a cablegram from Stavanger, Norway, in English, and the greetings of Governor Theodore Christianson, a Norseman of the third generation, who apologized for not making his address in Norse.

Inspiringly, the audience sung the national anthem of Norway. Then Professor Gisle Bothne, chairman of the Centennial committee, welcomed the visitors. Consul E. H. Hobe introduced the visitors from Norway, beginning with H. H. Bryn, minister to the United States, who brought the official greeting from King Haakon VII.

A parliamentary representative from Oslo, C. J. Hambro, said that "the people in Norway were proud of what the Norwegians had done in this country. It gives them the right to have the two tricolors flying together," he said.

Lars Oftedal, minister of social affairs, said that Norwegians wanted to send the prime minister, but could not do so because of the political situation.

"The government feels that the invitation to the convention was just like a handshake," he said. "In the last 100 years a very strong bridge has been built over the ocean from Norway to the United States, and a large part of the best people in Norway have gone to the United States."

**Governor Speaks**

Fredrik Stang, rector of Oslo University, gave a short address. Nils Collett Vogt, famous Norwegian writer and novelist, spoke on Norse culture.

Governor Christianson told how his grandparents came to America in the '40s.

"In greeting you I represent the general citizenry, and we are proud of the part the Norsemen have played in building up this country," he said.

"Men make greatest progress in peace times. Not arms and the man—but tools and the man."

He said that "in America has been written the story of the Norsemen's greatest achievement," and compli-

mented them upon the fact that had always responded to the national call in time of danger.

**Judge T. O. Gilbert Responds**

Norsemen of American love adopted land so well they wish to for it, but are willing to die for it necessary, Judge T. O. Gilbert of mar said in response to the visit

"But they will never forget 'there lies a land toward the snow,' he said. "They are bound 'Gamle Norge' with strong bonds. are glad that these representatives come, showing that a better understanding of and respect for the brother sisters in America has been lished."

Two concerts at night, both drawn from the best talent of Norse attracted thousands. Features were Centennial cantata, words of which written by S. O. Most and music Rode Jacobsen.

**Storm Threat Clears Ground**

The grandstand concert brought shortly before it was completed, a storm threatened, wind blowing through the stand. Crowds hurried the exits, jamming the stands roads out of the grounds, but the grounds cleared without trouble.

*this is a list of names of the people who were here*

Then, after a hurried attempt at dinner, in crowded dining halls or on benches about concession stands, or seated on the grass here and there about the grounds, they went back, augmented by thousands of others who came for the afternoon, to fill the grandstand.

There could be no question about a crowd. The entire grandstand was filled, and the bleachers were partially occupied. But most of the crowd preferred to be nearer, and filled the race track in front of the speakers' stand,



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*Sunday Afternoon*  
**NORSE GUESTS' SESSION**  
GRAND STAND

*Two O'Clock*  
In the Norse Language

PAST. B. E. BERGESEN, LEDER

MUSIK

"JA VI ELSKER DETTE LANDET" - - - - - *Forsamlingen*  
VELKOMSTHILSEN - - - - - *Prof. Gisle Bothne*

HUNDREDAARSFESTENS STYRES FORMAND

STATENS VELKOMSTHILSEN - - - *Guvernør Theodore Christianson*  
PROLOG - - - - - *M. B. Landstad*

LÆST AV ERLING DRANGSHOLT

TALE - - - - - *Biskop Johan Lunde*

KORSANG

HILSENER FRA NORGES REPRÆSENTANTER

INTRODUCERT VED KONSUL E. H. HOBE

H. M. Kong Haakon VII - - - - - *Minister H. Bryn*  
Regjeringen - - - - - *L. Ostedal*  
Stortinget - - - - - *C. J. Hambro*  
Universitetet - - - - - *Rektor Fredrik Stang*

~~EN BØN FOR NORGE I SANG~~ - - - - - *Forsamlingen*

*Salm* Gud signe vaart dyre fedraland  
og lat det som hagen bløma!  
Lat lysa din fred fraa fjell til strand  
og vetter fyr vaarsol røma!  
Lat folket som brøder saman bu,  
som kristne det kan seg søma!

Og Noreg det ligg vel langt i nord,  
og vetteren varer lenge;  
men ljuset og livet i ditt ord  
det ingen kann setja stenge.  
Um fjellet er høgt og dalen trong,  
dit ord heve daa sitt gjenge.

Vaart heimland i myrker lenge laag,  
og vankunna ljuset gjøymde.  
Men Gud du i naade til oss saag,  
din kjærleik oss ikkje gløymde:  
Du sende ditt ord til Noregs fjell,  
og ljøs yver landet strøymde.

No er det i Noreg atter dag  
med vaarsol og song i skogen.  
Um sædet enn gror paa ymist lag,  
det brydder daa etter plogen.  
So signe daa Gud det gode saad,  
til groren ein gong er mogen!

HILSENER FRA NORGE

Norges kvinder - - - - - *Betsy Kjellsberg*  
Normandsforbundet - - - - - *W. Morgenstjerne*  
Forfatterforeningen - - - - - *Nils Collett Vogt*  
Presseforeningen - - - - - *T. Pryser*

KORSANG

HILSENER VED REPRÆSENTANTER

HVIS NAVN IKKE VAR ANGIT FØR PROGRAMMETS TRYKING

SVARTALE - - - - - *Dommer Trygve O. Gilbert*

"SØNNER AV NORGE'S" NATIONALFORMAND

KORSANG

KORSANG AV DET BLANDEDE AKADEMISKE KOR FRA NORGE

ALFRED RUSS, DIRIGENT

MUSIK VED LUTHER COLLEGE CONCERT BAND

PROF. CARLO A. SPERATI, LEDER



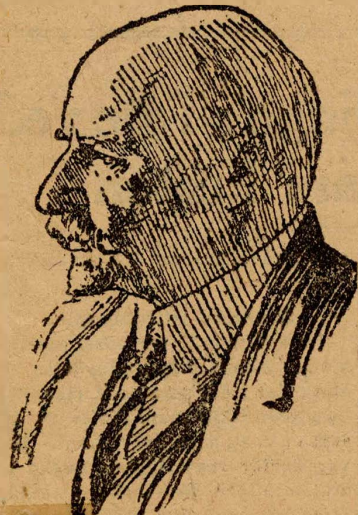
# En digterisk Hilsen fra Norge

Nils Collett Vogts Tale ved 100-Aars Festen i Minneapolis Søndag 7. Juni

Ved festen i Grand Stand paa Minnesotas statsutstillingsplads bragte Nils Collett Vogt, som repræsentant for Norges forfatterforening de utflyttede landsmænd følgende smukke hilsen:

Paa norsk forfatterforenings vegne hilser jeg utvandrede landsmænd. Norske forfattere har sendt mig hit.

En og anden likhet er der mellem dere og os. I de sidste hundre aar blev paa fremmed grund en ny verden erobret av og for nordmænd. Vide strækninger har nordmænd her underlagt sig og med kraft og seig flid visst at ut-



NILS COLLETT VOGT

nytte. Med fuld ret har man da ogsaa kaldt dette Landnam for vor stammes djerveste bedrift i det nittende aarhundrede. Men ogsaa en anden erobring gjorde vi i det samme tidsrum. Med opbud av kunstneriske evner i ødsel utførelse skapte vi indenfor vore grænser en litteratur, som rummer de kosteligste av vor aands rikdomme. En ny verden paa egen grund.

I 1825, samme aar som de første norske utvandrere satte foten paa Amerikas jord, blev Henrik Wergeland student. Under den tid som han var i Amerika, og som han senere har skrevet om i sine bøger, har han gjort en stor del av det som vi her i Norge har gjort. Han har vist os at det er muligt at bygge en ny verden paa egen grund. Han har vist os at det er muligt at bygge en ny verden paa egen grund.

aandsarbeide i fremtiden, har vi siden fulgt: Politisk uavhengighet, national gjenreisning i syn, følelse, sprog. Kort sagt — ytre og indre selvstændighet paa demokratiets grund. Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson skrev engang, at hadde han ikke anledning til hvert aar at være borte nogen maaneder, puste i høiere luft end vor egen, vilde han gaa aandelig tilgrunde. Wergeland blev, der han var. Det var han da forresten vakkert nødt til. Og kan vilkaarene i Norge endnu mangen gang føles beklemmende, ja, beskjæmmende smaa, hvor meget mer for hundre aar tilbake? I Kristiania, byraakratbyen paa 30.000 mennesker, levet han sit korte liv. En verdensand i et musehul. Han veitet ikke husene i ravnekrokens trange, stille gater, nei, han saa høit — høit over dem.

Aldrig levet en norsk mand, i hvem der var saa megen glæde som i ham. Mindes vi ham nu — og hvor gjerne erindrer vi ikke den indsats, som var hans! — hører vi vingslag i blaa luft. Han er det nyfødte lands soltindrende morgen, morgenfuglen, som med sprængende triller varslet ind dagen, den, som skulde komme.

I hans spor fulgte Bjørnson og flere. Vi vandt frem. Ikke alene politisk uavhengighet vandt vi, men — og det er hovedsaken — vi blev os selv bevisst. Gjennem vor litteratur, vor videnskap, vor kunst opdaget vi Norge. Fra aar til aar har ikke mindst norsk litteratur i menneskeskildringens tegn øket og fæstnet vor kundskap om land og folk.

De store gamle døde. En efter en gik de fra os. Vi sat der igjen med fornemmelsen av en senhøstens dag, naar taaken legger sig vaat og klam og tæt over grantoppene, mens der inde fra tykningen, hvor mastetrærne staar, lyder hugg i hugg — naadeløst, ulysesvarsulende, dumpt. Det tyndes i storskogene. Men siden da har nye slechter vokset op. Ny ungdom. Og den, som nu kom, har

kontakt med det gamle land, til dem er kongens ord rettet. Kongens brev lød nogenlunde som følgende: Jeg vil anmode Dem om at bære min varmeste hilsen frem til den norske folk i Amerika. Jeg dem. Et blad av Indbyggernes sa-

ingen vil mer indtrængende forstaa denne sangs pathos end mine tilhørere her. I eller eders forfædre gjorde den til eders, da dragningen over skyggende og stængende fjeld blev saa mægtig, at i forvandet dens ord til handling. Ikke at slaa sig til ro i det trygge, men vaage, sætte livet ind er et karakterdrag, som gaar igjen i vor historie. Ofte paa det ulønsomme. Eller helst paa det ulønsomme. I aandens verden er der ogsaa fjeld og hav og braasluk, som det gjælder at naa over. Det koste hvad det maa og vil. Ogsaa der er det land at ta, grænser at utvide. Altid dypere. Altid høiere. Paa den anden side av fjeldmuren vinker en ny verden, som ikke gir kunstneren fred, før han har vundet den, før han i skapende uro har gjort den til sin. Ogsaa han er utflytter og rydningsmand. Over de høie fjelde!

Ja, slik er det. Den samme uro, som drev den ene over hav, kan til ham, som blev sittende hjemme, hviske rytmens hemmelighet i øret, saa han stanser fortrollet og hører digtets fugl suse over sit hode. Hvem av de to er vel den rikeste?

Mangt et bud har vi gjennem norsk litteratur sendt landsmænd paa denne side av havet. Det hændte, at vi spurte os selv: Har da disse ikke noget at betro os til gjengjæld? Jeg fornærmer ingen her ved at si, at hittil har Amerikabrevene været vore utvandrede landsmænds væsentlige bidrag til norsk litteratur. Tro ikke at jeg undervurderer deres betydning og værd. De har øvet sin skjæbnesvangre gjerning. Ikke at undre sig paa om vi ogsaa higet efter andre bud end dem, som tok vor ypperste folkekraft. Sidste jul utkom paa norsk forlag en bok, skrevet av en norsk-amerikaner — jeg mener O. E. Rølvaags I de Dage, et verk, der, som I alle vet, skiller norsk nybyggerliv paa prærien for halvhundre aar siden. Høit himmel er der over boken. Lyst hvar vare tilstede selv ved jubelsums-

i det fjerne. De er trofaste, fjeldene, hvad enten de skaper utve eller hjemlængsel.

Hittil har gjennemgaaende norske skribenter stillet sin kunst i nationalitetsideens tjeneste. Saa eneraadende var dens herredømme over sindene, saa paatrængende sterk dens magt, at i hundre aar samlet alle kulturbestræbelser sig i én ubrutt strøm mot ett dagklart maal: Ytre og indre selvstændighet. Med eller mot vor vilje hvirvledes vi alle ind i strømmen, den alltid voksende. Den rev os med sig. Der er tegn, som tyder paa, at en periode av vort aandslivs historie nu er tilende. Krigen har skapt nye synspunkter. Hvorom alting er: Den trodsige selvhævdelse, den brautende selvfølelses tid er forbi. Ikke en strøm lenger, men hver mand for sig. Norske skribenter har ikke den fordel mer at bli løftet paa toppen av en national bølge, ikke den lykke eller ulykke at tjene et praktisk gjennemførlig formaal. Hvad de i sin kunst yder, vil herefter virke ved sit eget indre liv.

En ting er viss: Litteraturen blir ved at være en avgjørende faktor i utviklingen, de frie anders tumleplass og slagmark. Vi ønsker vore landsmænd i Amerika velkommen til leken og kampen.

Og noget har vi da at by paa. Vi bor i vort eget hus. Ikke et færdig hus. Vor kultur er ikke noget avsluttet og blir det forhaabentlig aldrig. Kommende slechter vil utbygge, vil utvide huset efter sit behov, men vel at merke i sammenheng med vor folkekarakter. Vi bor i vort eget hus, og allerede nu er der mange værelser i huset vort. Plass nok. Vi har plass til dere alle.

Og saa tilslut en hilsen fra vaaren derhjemme. Jeg tilstaar, at det var med tungt hjerte, jeg reiste fra den. Naar man ældes, blir man patriot. Hvor paa jord er vaaren friskere, gladere, mer forjættelsesrik end hos os? Hidsig slikker den solbakken, mens en liten bækkens-

RIKANSKE HUNDREÅRSFEST



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*Sunday Evening*  
**CONCERT**  
HIPPODROME  
*Eight O'Clock*

HALLVARD ASKELAND IN CHARGE

MUSIC - - - - - *St. Olaf College Band*  
PROF. J. ARNDT BERGH, CONDUCTOR

SONGS - - - - - *Augsburg Seminary Glee Club*  
PROF. OPSETH, DIRECTOR

SONGS - - - - - *Gertrude Boe Overby*

SONGS - - - - - *The Academic Mixed Choir of Norway*  
ALFRED RUSS, DIRECTOR

POEM: "Norway to America" - - - - - *Henrik Wergeland*  
READ BY PROF. JULIUS E. OLSON, IN ORIGINAL TRANSLATION

THE CHALET GIRL'S SUNDAY - - - - - *Ole Bull*  
NILS REIN, VIOLINIST

ADDRESS - - - - - *Nils Collett Vogt*  
PRESIDENT OF THE AUTHORS' SOCIETY OF NORWAY

"OPEN THE GATES" - - - - - *Carsten Thorwald Woll*  
ESTHER WOLL, ACCOMPANIST

THE NORSE CENTENNIAL CANTATA  
TEXT BY S. O. MØST, MUSIC BY J. RODE JACOBSEN  
SUNG BY MEMBERS OF ST. OLAF GLEE CLUB AND OTHER MALE CHORUSES  
PROF. D. A. TJOMSLAND, DIRECTOR

STAR SPANGLED BANNER  
THE FLAG WITHOUT A STAIN - - - - - *C. A. White*  
NAAR FJORDENE BLAANER - - - - - *Alfred Paulson*  
NORWEGIAN SINGERS' ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
PROF. FREDERICK WICK, DIRECTOR

LANDKJENDING - - - - - *Grieg*  
NORWEGIAN SINGERS' ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
OTTO CLAUSEN IN THE SOLO  
ACCOMPANIMENT BY ST. OLAF COLLEGE BAND  
PROF. FREDERICK WICK, DIRECTOR

MUSIC - - - - - *St. Olaf College Band*



# JUBILÆUMS KANTATE

S. O. MOST

Musik av J. RODE JACOBSEN

*Solo:*

Mindet om landet som Leif hadde fundet,  
var i aarhundreders løp næsten svundet,  
vaktet av forsynet atter tillive—  
landet for nordmænd et hjem skulde blive.

*Kor:*

Med utfærdslyst i ungdoms aar  
vi søkte for os bedre kaar,  
vi kom fra Norges fjeld og fjord  
som odelsmænd til Vinlands jord.  
Og landet fandt vi godt og stort,  
vi bygget hjem, det land er vort,  
og under stjerneflagets folder  
vi vakt om landets frihet holder.

*Recitativ:*

Mindes de mænd som gik foran  
og ryddet den første bygd.

*Solo:*

Solgangsveir gaar over Norden,  
kysten laa i blaalig dis,  
og ret ut Stavangerfjorden  
staar en slup for kveldens bris.  
Havet laa i sommerhvile  
da den stak i vest sin stav,  
fjorten uker saa man ile  
før den naadde New Yorks havn.

*Kvartet:*

Sluppens færd var dristig daad,  
uhørt for saa liten baad—  
frem til Vestens folkemøde  
var den Norges førstegrøde.

*Kor:*

Dette hundredaarig' minde  
lyser over tak og tinde  
som et gyldent soleglad.  
Tiden var i fredens lune,  
da vi ristet første rune  
paa vort nye sagablud.

*Recitativ:*

Nybygget ved Kendall stod prøven,  
der ryddet vi første grænd.

*Solo:*

Da vaagnede brat vor utfærdslyst,  
den slumret i sekler lange;  
en nyfødt frihet gav mod i bryst  
og haab gjennom tider trange.  
At odle sig gaard i fjerne Vest  
blev maalet for mange, mange.

*Kvartet:*

Der ligger de store vidder  
med deiligste akerland,  
de laa der fra arildstider  
og ventet sin rydningsmand.

*Kor:*

Der gaar mot vest et folketog,  
som ut fra fædreheimmet drog,  
en fredens hær med haab og tro

paa fremmed sted vil sette bo.  
De stevnet over vidlden frem  
og fandt paa veien sig et hjem.  
Ved sjøens bredd, ved elveleie,  
der tok vi Vinlands jord i eie.

*Recitativ:*

Gud som førte sit folk til forjættelsens lande,  
han førte os frem til de frodige steder.

*Solo:*

Her blev mandemodet prøvet  
i den første rydningstid,  
her blev fredens stordaad øvet  
i et daglig slæp og slid;  
vidlden laa i urtids øde,  
bød kun savn og strenge kaar,  
lovet dog en gylden grøde  
etter slitets tunge aar.

*Kor:*

Det lysnet i skogen hvor hyttene stod  
og prærien lagdes i furer,  
da livsmodet grodde og atter slog rod  
løsrevet fra hjemlandets urer,  
da lindredes savnet, da stilnedes tvil  
og tørredes taarefylt øie,  
da lagde sig atter om munden et smil  
med tak til vor Gud i det høie.

*Solo:*

Saa randt da aandens tider  
med daab og nadversbord, —  
hvor dødens engel skrider,  
kom trøst ved Herrens ord.

*Kvartet:*

Vi mindes vel og hædre  
de djerpe rydningsmænd,  
vor kirkes første fædre,  
der kom til nybygt grænd.

*Kor:*

Rikelig Herren velsignet vort virke,  
slegt efter slegt skal ophøie hans navn,  
som blandt vort folk vilde bygge sin kirke  
midt under rydningens trængsler og savn.  
Fri i sin fylde som brusende elv,  
lovsang skal stige mot buede hvælv.

*Solo:*

Rydningstidens mørke minder  
glider ut i tidens strøm,  
dukker op, men atter svinder  
fra vort syn som halvglemt drøm.  
Nu er solklar dag oprunden,  
viddens vildhet overvunden,  
kronet er haabet fra rydningens gry.

*Kvartet:*

Lover Gud Herren og giver ham ære,  
som har os ledet med naaderik haand,  
han gav os kraften til byrden at bære,  
han stod os nær med sit ord og sin aand.  
Hosianna! Du Davids søn, Halleluja!  
Han stod os nær med sit ord og sin aand.  
Æren er Guds i det høie.

NOTE—The words and music for this Cantata were written by Mr. Most and composed by Mr. Jacobsen, who won first prizes in competition with many others. The Cantata will be sung at the centennial celebration.

The Concert at the Grand Stand also held Sunday evening had much the same program as the Concert in the Hippodrome. The same artists participated, with the exception that here, the music was rendered by the Luther College Band, and the Soloists were Miss Dikka Bothne and C. N. Engelstad. The American Choirs participating at this Concert were the Waldrof College ~~Choir~~ and the Concordia College Choir. Miss Hanna Astrup Larsen, Literary Secretary, American Scandinavian Foundation, gave the following splendid address on "The Norse-American Woman", which was ably delivered and well received by the audience.

# The Norwegian Women of America

Speech by Hanna Astrup Larsen, Editor of "The American Scandinavian Review" at the Norse-American Centennial Celebration Sunday Evening, June 7th.

## A BEAUTIFUL TRIBUTE

When I was asked to speak for Norwegian women of America, the task at first seemed easy. There seemed only one word to say, only one note to strike—that of gratitude to the pioneer mothers. And I know that in voicing this I should be saying only what is in



HANNA ASTRUP LARSEN

the heart of every one of you. But as I considered the matter more closely, it was not so easy. So many figures crowded my memory, so many incidents—some too intimate, some too slight for recounting here—came back to me that it was not easy to choose. But then a text came to my hand, a letter from Martha Larson, the wife of Lars Larson in Jellison, who led the Sloop "Restaurationen" to these shores. And it seemed that nothing could be more fitting than to take as a type of Norwegian-American women the First Lady of the "Restaurationen," the first Norwegian woman, so far as we know, to found a permanent home on American soil, in honoring her we shall remember also the many known and unknown pioneer women who bore the burden and heat of the day with their men-folks and helped to

which has sheltered and nourished most of us from childhood.

What we know about Martha Larson is scanty, but significant, so that we can construct in imagination her gracious, noble personality. She was only a little past twenty when she married Lars Larson, a man much older than herself, experienced in war and imprisonment, sobered by his conversion to the strange Quaker faith, and by his leadership among his fellow believers. He had for years before they were married shouldered the responsibility for the oppressed and persecuted of his faith. The Larsons had been married less than a year when the young wife was called on to leave her childhood home and all the friends of her girlhood and embark with her husband on the expedition from which they knew there could be no turning back. There were reasons why it required especially high courage for her to go just then, for her first child was born on the Atlantic. During the first five weeks of his life her baby was lulled to sleep by the waves that tossed their tiny ark.

When they arrived in America the Sloop folk continued to look to Lars Larson as a kind of providence. He built in Rochester, New York what must in those days have seemed a palatial home. But it was none other than a home, it was an institution, an immigration mission, a free hotel, an employment bureau, a home-finding society, a Halfway House between the Atlantic seaboard and the free lands in the west which soon absorbed Norwegian immigrants. When Norwegians came to New York without money or friends or work, the Norwegian Consul would pay their fare to Rochester, and Lars Larson did the rest. We can easily imagine what part the wife had in all this, and from the letters written by Martha Larson we get a vivid picture of their activities. I shall quote a few lines from a letter to her own and her husband's friend, Elias Testad in Stavanger:

"As Lars is going to New York, I will tell you a little about our conditions, as well as about the other Norwegians here. Twelve Norwegians came here today, and are now sitting at the table eating their supper. About two weeks ago there arrived from ninety to a hundred people. They stayed at our house and my brother's house about a week and we furnished meals for nearly all of them. Most of them have gone to Illinois. — There are still five families at our house of the first immigrants who arrived."

She goes on to implore Elias Testad that he urge no one to emigrate who cannot help himself, because, she says: "Practically all of them come to us, and we cannot help so many. We, of course, do what we can for them all. I have gone around town looking for work for them into the country. We spare no pains to make them satisfied." In the same letter she says that her husband is "greatly interested in church work, is diligent in his work, and we live together with great happiness, for God has blessed us with both temporal and spiritual gifts. We have six children, five girls and one boy. They are good, healthy, well-behaved children, who give us great joy."

She was well named after Martha, who troubled herself about many things, but she seems to have had also something of the Mary's nature. Her letters breathe a deep piety. She concerns herself much for a friend who has strayed from the straight path and she tells what a comfort the meetings of the Friends are to her. They seem to her like a kingdom of heaven on earth. "I have often thought of thee as well as the rest of the Friends there and I feel a great love towards you all, more than I can with pen express. O that we may remember the Saviour's word when he says 'love one another.'"

After the death of her husband, she lived for many years in their home in Rochester. Those who saw her in her later years had

with a stately and beautiful woman she was. That she did not altogether forget her homeland we may see from a little incident told by a gentleman who went to say good-bye to her when he was about to leave for Norway. She was then eighty years old, and she said "You are going to Norway? I feel as if you were going to heaven!" This impulsive word throws a backward light on what it must have cost her to leave her homeland, which she never saw again.

The house Lars Larson built for his wife in 1837 is still standing, and up to a few years ago their youngest daughter lived there. She still owns it, but for some time past has occupied an adjoining house. Through this faithful daughter who has kept the memory of her parents green we feel as if we could almost touch hands with Martha Larson, the First Lady of Norwegian America.

She has had many successors. Our thoughts go naturally first to the wives of those whom we used to call "the old Ministers." Most of these women came here as young brides, came from comfortable sheltered homes where they had been delicately and carefully brought up. They came to a land where perhaps two families lived all winter long in one loghut with a calico curtain as a dividing screen; where the diet consisted chiefly of salt pork, and a bowl of common ordinary milk-soup was a queen's dish. But the Norwegian American world was young in those days, full of hope and buoyancy, and getting seemed impossible or hard to bear. The young minister's wife learned to value the friendly handclasp of the farmer's wife, and that old-country social cleavage which is credited with being in large measure responsible for the Norwegian exodus to America, was soon bridged in the new land where all shared the same work and the same hardships. The new community was built on the most democratic foundation this country has ever seen — not least through the friendship of the women who helped one another in their common troubles and their common problems. Yet for all their democratic simplicity, the parsonages set a standard of culture and refinement which the crude young world in those days needed, while their hospitality was almost as boundless as that described in Martha Larson's letters.

And the farmer's wives—what tales of courage and endurance their lives could show! First there

was the leaving their homeland with the dreary beautiful Norwegian summer night, the white stemmed birches, the purling brook, the soft mosses under foot, and the stately pines overhead,—all the things that make Norwegian nature seem very near and intimate and friendly. They came to the yet unconquered prairie, hostile, almost sinister, with no boundaries, nothing to meet the eye, nothing that came close and gave shelter, only the tall grass in which unknown dangers lurked, dangers from wild beasts and red men, and from the insidious unknown sickness that came close and gave shelter.

only the tall grass in which unknown dangers lurked, dangers from wild beasts and red men, and from the insidious unknown sickness that came close and gave shelter. only the tall grass in which unknown dangers lurked, dangers from wild beasts and red men, and from the insidious unknown sickness that came close and gave shelter. only the tall grass in which unknown dangers lurked, dangers from wild beasts and red men, and from the insidious unknown sickness that came close and gave shelter.

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though perhaps they never mentioned it. And as for me—perhaps they did not call them by that name, but the insane asylums could tell a gloomy tale of what the loneliness of the prairie did to the nervous systems of women.

It is only right that we should remember those who fell by the wayside, who were unequal to the strain, but by far the greater number were those who won out. We have all known them; in their strong, serene faces we have seen the reflection of a life well lived. So far this hard toil and lowly service in the house and on the farm is the greatest contribution the Norwegian-American woman has given. What little she has done in the intellectual field fades by comparison. There are obvious reasons for this in the exigencies of pioneer life. Another lies in the conservatism by which the new community was hedged about, as with a sheltering wall, and within which it grew strong and vigorous. The respect and comradeship which Norwegian men give their women have old traditions as far back as "Njals Saga" we read of Berghthora's saying "I am Njals' wife and I have as much to say in our household as he has."

The very rapidity with which the change has come about makes it necessary that we should pause and consider we are going. Just now it is well for us to look back on the history of the pioneer women and get from them both

chastening and inspiration. They were happy because they lived in the realities and not in a world constructed out of theories. They stood in a vital relationship to their surroundings; they fitted their place naturally. They did not have to go out and seek life; life came to them every day with its demands. And they were great, because they had infinite power of devotion. They poured out their strength without stint or measure. They gave everything and asked nothing.

Unless we can carry on in their spirit, higher education and wider opportunities avail us nothing.

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Monday morning, June 8th, so-called Norse Sessions were held in the Hippodrome and at the Grand Stand. At the Hippodrome, the following program with fifteen-minute address took place.

Chairman, Waldemar Ager, introduced by Laura Bratager.

Song by Concordia College Choir, Herman W. Monson, Leader.

Addresses.

The Norse People,	Hon.L.Oftedahl;
Our Heritage,	Prof.O.E.Rolvaag;
Solo,	A. J. Boe;
Glimpses from the Pioneer Days,	Rev. Asle Knudtsen;
History of Norsemen in America,	Past. L.M.Grimmestad;
Song by Concordia College Choir;	
The Norsemen League,	W. Morgenstjerne;
Fraternal Organizations,	L. Stavnheim;
Solo,	Alvin Snesrud;
Norse Homes,	Rev. T. O. Tolo
The Place of the Parsonage in the Life of Our Community,	Ola Johann Saervold;
Introduction of Descendants of the "Sloopers"	

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GRAND STAND

*Nine-Thirty O'Clock*

HON. N. T. MOEN, CHAIRMAN  
INTRODUCED BY REV. H. K. MADSEN

FIFTEEN-MINUTE-ADDRESSES

SONGS	- - - - -	<i>Waldorf College Choir</i>
		PROF. OSCAR LYDERS, DIRECTOR
CLENG PEERSON	- - - - -	<i>Prof. Theodore C. Blegen</i>
THE SLOOPERS	- - - - -	<i>Prof. O. M. Norlie</i>
SONGS	- - - - -	<i>Henry Houghlum</i>
MY MOTHER, THE SLOOP BABY	- - - - -	<i>Jane S. Atwater</i>
SLOOP DAYS	- - - - -	<i>Rev. John L. Atwater</i>
SONGS	- - - - -	<i>Ragna, Anna Marie, and O. Ottersen</i>
THE PIONEER PHYSICIAN	- - - - -	<i>Dr. Carl D. Kolset</i>
THE PIONEER PASTOR	- - - - -	<i>Rt. Rev. I. D. Ylvisaker</i>
SONGS	- - - - -	<i>Waldorf College Choir</i>
HOW WE BECAME AMERICANS	- - - - -	<i>Rev. J. O. Hall</i>
GREETINGS FROM PENNSYLVANIA	- - - - -	<i>Rev. J. C. Roseland</i>
REPRESENTING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION OF 1926		

NORSE-AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*St. Louis County Building, Ten O'Clock*

of this session  
the journal writes:

#### Bits of Norse History Presented

Bits out of the 100 years' history of Norsemen in America were presented for Centennial visitors today in 15 minute addresses at the grandstand and Hippodrome. Waldemar Ager was chairman of one meeting, at which addresses were in Norse, and N. T. Moen presided at the other, in English.

The pathfinder of the first Norse immigrants, for example, was the theme of Theodore C. Blegen, assistant superintendent of the State Historical Society. Kleng Peerson, who preceded the sloop "Restaurationen" by four years, was the pathfinder.

His work, bringing the first Norwegian Quakers from Stavanger, strongly parallels the coming of the Pilgrims in the Mayflower, seeking economic and religious liberty, Mr. Blegen said. Peerson truly is "The Father of Norse Immigration," he said.

Following that start, Peerson carried on by leading groups into middle west settlements, Mr. Blegen said. The pathfinder did not, however, bring the immigrants to Minnesota and the northwest, but to Illinois and Missouri.

#### Tells Story of "Sloopers"

Professor O. M. Norlie of Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, told the story of the "sloopers," and their trip to America 100 years ago. Miss Jane S. Atwater and Rev. John L. Atwater of Chicago, daughter and son of the "sloop baby," told of early days as told them by their mother.

Praising the pioneer physician, Dr. Carl D. Kolset of Sanborn, Minn., told of some of the earlier physicians who have done much for their profession.

"The pioneer physician of our people differs in no way from the present day physician, nor from the physicians of other nationalities," he said. "They all are of the same noble character. As a man, he is dignified, and yet cheerful and sincere in his calling; in his work he is quiet; in his association with mankind he is friendly and honest. His dignity forbids him to stoop to employ the blare of trumpets and beating of drums to proclaim his oftentimes almost miraculous work.

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"Again, I dare say that if there ever lived a man of whom it may be said, in the fullest and highest sense of the expression, that he sincerely tried, the pioneer physician came closer to it than others who may lay claim to such accomplishment.

"The pioneer physician, more than the present day man, forsook comfort, personal conveniences—all that was pleasant and good in his existence, including enjoyment of home—to administer to the sick and help those in need; to bring sunshine and cheer to those in need of it. And time and again he took of his small worldly possessions and gave it to those he thought needed it more than he or his. And yet his work gave but poor compensation—yes, even worse than that he often met with ridicule and slander."

#### Pioneer Pastor Speaks

Worthy in good works, too, have been the pioneer pastors, said Rev. I. D. Ylvisaker of Fargo, N. D., himself a member of the pioneer Ylvisaker family, prominent in the church. He named some of those most prominent in the Norse church's development.

"Filled with the love of God and supreme regard for His truth and sustained by unflinching faith in the people, these men spread like a benediction over our people and followed them wherever they built their homes," he said.

"They were men of knowledge. Highly educated and finely cultured, either in the best schools of their homeland or trained in educational institutions of their adopted fatherland, they possessed a learning equal to the best, but filled with the nobler knowledge. They were men of God, deeply religious. Thoroughly trained in the word of God. They came to build the church of Jesus Christ among our countrymen.

"Because they themselves were men of knowledge, they realized that the first requisite of the situation was the education of the people. They started with the children, training them in their catechism, explanation, and the Bible history."



Already

Thus far the event had been one continuous celebration.

If Sunday brought glory to the Celebration by ~~its~~ *beautiful* ~~unrivaled~~ religious service, <sup>to</sup> and <sup>the</sup> presence of the ~~Official~~ <sup>Representatives of</sup> ~~from~~ Norway, Monday brought a climax, by the presence of the President of the United States, Calvin Coolidge, and the Representative of America's Sister Nation to the North, Hon. Thomas H. Johnson, representing the Governor General of Canada, Lord Byng.

Not only did the President's visit rouse the interest of the thousands of Norsemen, who hailed him as their special guest on this occasion, but the entire Northwest, yea, the whole country looked upon it with keen interest.

~~The weather man had worked a miracle change for the second coming of Calvin Coolidge to the Northwest and for the triumphant homecoming of Frank B. Kellogg.~~

A blustery rain fell during the night, accompanied by almost a gale. In the morning the temperature had dropped and registered about 62 during the day, a drop of thirty degrees from the 92 record of the day before, and a change of 33 degrees from that which the President left at Washington.

#### Straw Hats Vanish

Overcoats and heavy clothing chased the straw hats off the streets. It was cloudy during the day, and shortly after the President arrived at the fair grounds, a blustery, cold rain set in, but it failed to scatter the huge crowd that had gathered. The President had spent the night in the home of Secretary Kellogg in St. Paul, and in the morning a curious and expectant crowd surrounded the house, eager to see the President.

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*Monday Afternoon*

*Two O'Clock*

GRAND STAND

- MUSIC - - - - - *Luther College Concert Band*  
PROF. CARLO A. SPERATI, CONDUCTOR
- FLAG DISPLAY - - - - - *St. Paul Public School Children*  
MRS. JOHN LEE, DIRECTOR
- SONG ACCOMPANIMENT - - - *Minneapolis High School Glee Clubs*  
PROF. T. P. GIDDINGS, DIRECTOR

**PRESIDENTIAL SESSION**

*Two-Thirty O'Clock*

HON. HENRIK SHIPSTEAD, CHAIRMAN

"HAIL TO THE CHIEF" - - - - - *The United States Marine Band*  
CAPT. WILLIAM H. SANTELMANN, DIRECTOR

INVOCATION - - - - - *Rev. B. E. Bergesen*  
CHAIRMAN PROGRAM COMMITTEE

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRESIDENT - - - *Governor Theo. Christianson*  
STAR SPANGLED BANNER - - - *Led by Luther College Concert Band*

THE ADDRESS BY

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**CALVIN COOLIDGE**

AMERICA - - - - - *Led by St. Olaf College Band*  
RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF THE NORSE AMERICAN CENTENNIAL  
*Prof. Gisle Bothne*

PRESIDENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MUSIC - - - - - *The United States Marine Band*  
CAPT. WILLIAM H. SANTELMANN, DIRECTOR

GREETINGS FROM H. M. KING HAAKON VII  
TO PRESIDENT CALVIN COOLIDGE - - - - - *H. Bryn*  
MINISTER FROM NORWAY TO THE UNITED STATES

GREETINGS FROM THE DOMINION OF CANADA - *Hon. Thomas H. Johnson*  
REPRESENTING THE GOVERNER GENERAL, LORD BYNG

ADDRESS - - - - - *Hon. Frank B. Kellogg*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF AMERICAN CITIZENS OF NORSE DESCENT  
*Hon. Peter Norbeck*  
UNITED STATES SENATOR

CLOSING REMARKS - - - - - *Hon. J. A. O. Preus*  
FORMER GOVERNOR OF MINNESOTA

MUSIC - - - - - *St. Olaf College Band*  
J. ARNDT BERGH, CONDUCTOR

THE SERVICES OF THE MARINE BAND HAVE BEEN PROCURED THROUGH THE COURTESY OF  
THE NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL EXPOSITION

*Address Hon. C. G. Harbo  
Hon. J. A. O. Preus  
Representing  
Norwegian  
Students  
Benediction  
Hon. Rand. H. G. Stubb*



# NORSE-AMERICAN CENTENNIAL

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N. T. MOEN, *1st Vice-President*, Fergus Falls, Minn.  
A. C. FLOAN, *2nd Vice-President*, St. Paul  
J. A. HOLVIK, *Secretary*, Moorhead, Minn.  
TRYGVE OAS, *Treasurer*, Minneapolis  
A. UELAND, *Counsel*, Minneapolis  
S. H. HOLSTAD, *Managing Director*, Minneapolis

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Early in the morning, the President received the Official Guests from Norway, at the home of the Secretary of State, Mr. Kellogg.

The guests were introduced by ~~the~~ Hon. H. H. Bryn, Minister from Norway to the United States.

     / The President, <sup>Luncheon</sup> accompanied by Mr. & Mrs. Kellogg, the Governor of Minnesota, Wm. Theodore Christiansen, and the Mayors of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Messrs. George E. Leach and Arthur Nelson left St. Paul at eleven o'clock for the Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, where a luncheon was given in his honor by the Board of Directors of the Norse-American Centennial.

From the Kellogg home to the Nicollet Hotel is approximately eight miles. The streets for the entire distance were thronged. School children had been mobilized for the occasion, and all along the route little children, accompanied by their partents, holding American flags and cheering lustily, lined the way.

~~THE LUNCHEON.~~  
Covers had been laid for about one hundred and fifty, including the representatives from Norway, Governors of Norse descent, Members of Congress and other official visitors.

There were no speeches.

The following is a fac-simile of the Invitation and front page of Menu Card used in connection with this affair.

Immediately after luncheon, the guests were taken by automobiles to the State Fair Grounds, where the Centennial Sessions were held. It is not an exaggeration to state that nearly 100,000 people were on hand to greet the President. Bands played and hundreds of St. Paul school children formed

a living flag, first of Norway, as a tribute to that country, and then of the United States, the home of so many descendants of the Norsemen.

The President's honor guard was made up of Civil War Veterans of Norse blood, who, in spite of their <sup>advanced age</sup> ~~years~~, attended their duties with unusual vigor and enthusiasm.

After preliminaries of Music, flag display and song accompaniment, the President, accompanied by the Official Guests, arrived on the grounds, and entered the speakers' stand, while the United States Marine Band played the famous "Hail to the Chief". After a short invocation by Rev. B. E. Bergesen, ~~the Chairman of the session, the Hon. Henrik Shipstead, United States Senator from Minnesota,~~ ~~called upon~~ Governor Christianson to introduce the President.

THRONG ROSE WITH GREAT CHEER.

"The people of Minnesota", Governor Christianson said, "Believe in Calvin Coolidge." He had intended to say more, but these words brought the tremendous assemblage to its feet. For several minutes the throng in the grandstands, ~~filled to their capacity of 20,000 persons,~~ and the crowds who stood in the field surrounding the platform, cheered despite the fact that threatening clouds hovered about them, that the wind was blowing a gale and the thermometer, which for days had soared above the nineties, had dropped to sixty-two degrees. The demonstration of enthusiasm and the approaching storm contented the Governor, who cut short his address to let the President speak.

When the President began to speak, the rain was being driven by the wind into the faces of the people, but neither driving rain nor the threatened fury of a serious storm, could discourage the thousands who had come to hear the <sup>head of the nation.</sup> ~~President.~~



~~and~~ They were not to be disappointed. Seldom, if ever, has any ~~social~~ <sup>racial</sup> groups of people received such wholehearted and unreserved acclaim as did Norsemen that day from the President of the United States.

## Coolidge Praises Enduring Courage and High Character of Norse Called Safeguard of Institutions

*Northmen Thrifty and Hard Workers, Backers of  
Political and Economic Independence,  
President Tells Centennial Throng.*

President Coolidge, in his address at the Norwegian Centennial celebration at the State Fair grounds today, spoke as follows:

How often in the affairs of this world a small and apparently insignificant occurrence turns out to be an event of great importance, carrying in its train a mighty influence for good or evil. Such importance always flows from the character of those concerned. The generations of the earth treasure the rude hut that sheltered the infancy of Abraham Lincoln, seek out the birthplace of Shakespeare, and give to the uninviting soil of Palestine the title of the Holy Land, all because certain obscure happenings in those places produced those who left a broad mark upon the future course of humanity.

The character of the participants brought future fame. It is such an event that we meet to commemorate today. One hundred years ago a little bark sailed from Norway to America. It was almost unnoticed at the time, save for the daring and hardihood of its navigators, but it brought with it the representatives of a stalwart race, men and women of fixed determination, enduring courage and high character, who were to draw in their retinue a long line of their fellow countrymen destined to change the face of an area broad as an empire, direct the historic course of sovereign states, and contribute to the salvation of a great nation. These mighty works have been wrought because those Norwegian immigrants were well worthy to follow in the wake of the pilgrim and the cavalier.

### Anniversary of Notable Events in U. S. History

This celebration is most happily identified with the present year, which is an anniversary of notable events in the history of our country. We are rounding out a century and a half from the beginning of the American Revolution. It was a half a century from the days of Concord and Lexington to the beginning of that stream of immigration from Norway which was to help guarantee that the spirit of freedom which had been so triumphant in the colonies should not be lost to the states.

When we consider the astonishing number of immigrants which the Scandinavian countries have contributed in proportion to their own population to making the body of American citizenship, we will appreciate the significance of this anniversary. It well deserves the consideration it is receiving here in this state which has so richly profited by a larger proportion of this north-of-Europe immigration than any other commonwealth. Minnesota would not be Minnesota, the group of imperial northwestern states would not be what they are, but for the contribution that has been made to them by the Scandinavian countries.

Because of a profound appreciation of that contribution and of its truly national value I have found it an especial pleasure to come here and join in this commemoration. In the midst of loyalties that are all beyond possibility of question, it may be difficult to choose among the many national and racial groups that have sought out America for their home and their country. We are thankful for all of them, and yet more thankful that the experiment of their common citizenship has been so magnificently justified in its results. If one were seeking proof of a basic brotherhood among all races of men, if one were to challenge the riddle of Babel in support of aspirations for a unity capable of assuring peace to the nations, in such an inquiry I suppose no better testimony could be taken than the experience of this country. Out of the confusion of tongues, the conflict of traditions, the variations of historical setting, the vast difference in talents and tastes there has been evolved a spiritual union accompanied by a range of capacity and genius which marks this nation for a pre-eminent destiny. The American people have commanded the respect of the world.

It is a good thing that anniversaries such as this are so widely commemorated. The next few years will be filled with a continuing succession of similar occasions. I wish that every one of them might be so impressively celebrated that all Americans would be moved to study the history which each one represents. I can think of no effort that would produce so much inspiration to high and intelligent patriotism. Occasions of this nature bring to our attention whole regions of the past that would otherwise remain unexplored, tend to be forgotten even by scholars, and pass entirely from the public mind. These incentives to special examination of particular historical phases teach us better to understand our country and our countrymen. Anyone who will study the institutions and people of America will come more and more to admire them.



One reason that moved me to accept the cordial invitations to come here today was the hope of directing some measure of national attention to the absorbingly interesting subject of the social backgrounds of our country. The making of such a country is not to be told in any mere category of dates, battles, political evolutions, and partisan controversies. Back of all these, which are too often the chief material of history, lies the human story of the unsung millions of plain people whose names are strangers to public place and fame. Their lives have been replete with quiet, unobtrusive, modest but none the less heroic virtues. From the has been composed the sum of that magnificent andondrous adventure, the making of our own America. Somewhere in the epic of struggle to subjugate a continent there will be found a philosophy of human relations that the world will greatly prize. If we could seize and fix it, if we could turn it over, examine and understand it, we would have taken a long step toward solving some of the hardest problems of mankind.

### AMERICA HAS PROVED ITS TRULY NATIONAL UNITY

It is not so many years since visitors from other quarters of the world were wont to contemplate our concourse of races, origins and interests and shake their heads ominously. They feared that from such a melting pot of diverse elements we could never draw the tested, tempered metal that is the only substance for national character. Even among ourselves were many who listened with serious concern to such forebodings. They were not quite sure whether we had created a nation with the soul of a nation. They wondered

if perhaps we had merely brought together a large number of people in a large place. Had these misgivings been justified when the hour of trial came, it would have meant disaster to us and to the world. But instead of crumbling into a chaos of discordant elements, America proved its truly national unity. It demonstrated conclusively that there is a spiritual quality shared by all races and conditions of men which is their universal heritage and common nature.

Powerful enough to hold this people to a high ideal in time of supreme trial, why may we not hope that the same influence will at length reach men and women wherever they are found on earth? If fraternity and co-operation are possible on the scale of this continent among people so widely diverse, why not on the scale of a world? It is not a new thought, but it is a profoundly engaging one. I firmly believe it is more than a chimera. I feel it is possible of realization. I am convinced that our national story might somewhat help to guide mankind toward such a goal. Therefore, I urge the deeply thoughtful study and teaching of our history.

No country has a history which starts with its discovery or at its boundaries. For the real beginnings of any people we must go back to the beginnings of all peoples. From the tombs of Egypt and the sands of Mesopotamia men are now unearthing the records of civilizations so ancient that by comparison we think of the recovered wonders of Carthage as almost modern. But all that we shall learn from the glyphs of Ur, the tombs of the Pharaohs, and the monuments of Crete and Carthage is part of our own history, illumination for our to-days, guideposts on the way to our tomorrows. All the past lives in the present. All the works and thoughts of those who have gone before have left their mark on what we think and do.

These Norsemen, whose beginnings in the United States we here celebrate, have exercised a great influence upon our modern history and western civilization which it is difficult to match among any other like number of people. In

many ways their influence upon northern and western Europe may be compared to that of the Greek states upon the civilization of the Mediterranean. They were the first deepsea navigators. They pioneered the migrations which boldly struck across the western waters. They were at once the terrors of the western Roman empire and the guardians of the eastern. The medieval Mediterranean was a happy hunting ground for them. They branded their name upon French Normandy, and from it descended upon Britain in the Norman conquest from which there was the beginning of modern English history.

But even before William of Normandy had conquered at Hastings, Leif the son of Erik, near 500 years before Columbus, appears to have found the new world. Indeed, there seems little doubt that several centuries before Columbus saw the light of day there was born upon American soil, of Norse parents, a boy who afterward became so great a mathematician and astronomer that his studies may have contributed much to the fund of knowledge which helped Columbus formulate his vision of the world as we know it.

### SONS OF THOR AND ODIN CALLED PRINCES OF ADVENTURE

Among the fascinating chapters in the history of the dark ages is the story of Iceland. As a little Norse republic it maintained itself for several centuries as one of the real repositories of ancient culture in a world whose lamp of learning seemed near to flickering out. We have long known of the noble Icelandic literature which was produced during those generations of the intellectual twilight; but we know too little of the part which Iceland performed as an outpost of the sturdy northern culture in bridging over the gulf of darkness between the ancient and modern eras of history.

These sons of Thor and Odin and the great free North shape themselves in the mind's eye as very princes of high and hardy adventure. From Norway to Iceland, from Iceland to Greenland, from Greenland to the mainland, step by step they worked their way across the north Atlantic. They found the western ocean, and it was a Norseman who first discovered Bering strait and demonstrated that there was no land connection between Asia and North America. One wonders whither these Northmen would turn for adventure if the earth should ever be so completely charted that exploration offered no more challenges. Within a very few years one of them first traversed the northwest passages from Atlantic to Pacific; and the same one, Amundsen, carried the flag of Norway to the South pole; and now, within a few days past, he has been the first to make large explorations in the region of the North pole in an airplane, tempting a fate which still is unknown.

One likes to linger over these tales of adventure and exploration. One of them has a special significance in connection with this celebration which entitles it to more particular reference. This, of course, is the voyage of the little sloop *Restaurationen*, which in 1825 brought the first organized party of Norwegian immigrants to this country. One reared on the New England tradition of the *Mayflower* will find all the materials for a new legend of pioneering in the voyage of the *Restaurationen*. It was a sloop of 45 tons, whereas the *Mayflower* was rated as 180 tons. The *Restaurationen* sailed from Stavanger, Norway, on July 4, 1825, with a desperately heavy cargo of iron and a party of 52 people. It came safely into the port of New York after a voyage of 14 weeks, which compares with 9 weeks required for the historic passage of the *Mayflower*.

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The arrival of the *Restaurationen* created a sensation among those inured to the sea. It was claimed that it was the smallest vessel that had ever made the trans-Atlantic crossing. The New York authorities threatened to deny it the privileges of the port on the ground that it carried too many passengers and too much cargo. It was ultimately released, apparently through the influence of the Society of Friends. Most of its passengers seemed to have been

members of a Norwegian religious community intimately related to the Quakers, and it appears that one of their reasons for coming to this country was that they had not enjoyed entire liberty of religious opinion at home. Thus the parallel between the voyages of the *Mayflower* and of the *Restaurationen*, despite that they were separated by more than 200 years, is impressive in several ways.

### ESTABLISH FIRST NORSE SETTLEMENT IN NEW YORK

Almost without money or supplies, the little company of immigrants were taken in charge of the New York Quakers who raised funds to send them to Kendall, Orleans county, N. Y. There they secured lands and established the first Norwegian settlement in this country. It is a curious circumstance that although the Norwegians are among the greatest seafaring peoples, this party was composed almost entirely of farmers, so that their first interest was to get land. And ever since, the greater share of Norwegians have come in search of homes on the land. These first immigrants having practically no money, bought a tract on the shore of Lake Ontario for \$5 an acre to be paid for in 10 annual installments. It is hard to realize that western New York so late as 1825 was so far on the frontier. Their land was heavily timbered, and they were compelled not only to clear it but to build their own shelter. The first house is said to have been a log cabin 12 feet square, with a garret. In this 24 of them lived for a time, the men seeking such scanty employment as was to be found in the neighborhood to support them through the winter. The only one in the party who could speak English was Captain Jars Olson and he had remained in New York.

Despite poverty and hardships, the colony thrived, and its members shortly were writing letters back to Norway describing the opportunities of America and urging friends to come. From this beginning the stream of Norwegian immigration set in, but most of the later comers went much farther west. A few years after the settlement at Kendall another party went to La Salle county, Ill. Already the west was fascinating them and many of the original Kendall colony sold out and went on to Illinois. Thence the migration spread to other states of the middle west and northwest. Even before it was formed into a territory, Iowa had received its first Norwegians, and from about 1835 they spread rapidly into Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakotas, and other states.

It is not possible, as it is certainly not needful on this occasion, even to summarize the story of Norwegian immigration. But it should be explained that while the settlement of 1825 in Orleans county, New York, was the first Norwegian settlement and represented the first organized immigration, these pioneers of the *Restaurationen* were not the first Norwegians to come here. Considerable numbers had come even before the Revolutionary war and some as far back as the earliest colonial years. There were Norwegians in both army and navy during the Revolution



and the War of 1812. But the fact remains that the great movement which established Norwegian communities all over the northwest and contributed so greatly to the building of that part of the country began with the voyage of the Restaurationen. It is said that Norwegians and their descendants in this country are now just about as numerous as the population of Norway itself. Norway is credited with furnishing a larger number of settlers to the United States in proportion to its population than any other European country except one.

### NORSE SETTLERS CHOOSE NORTH STATES FOR HOMES

It is frequently noted regarding immigration that the newcomers from Europe commonly sought climatic conditions here like those in which they had been raised. So the Scandinavians are found chiefly in the northern parts of this country. About 80 per cent of the population of Norway is agricultural, the remainder maritime and industrial. These proportions are closely carried out in the occupational distribution here. A great majority sought the land, but considerable numbers have always followed the sea. Some of the coincidences in connection with this migration are oddly interesting. Thus we have noted that the little sloop Restaurationen brought a cargo of iron; today Minnesota has more Norwegians and produces more iron ore than any other state. Again, Norway is a land of wonderful fresh-water lakes, and it is closely matched by Minnesota.

There is one phase in the story of immigration which seems always to characterize it. Once the tide had set in from a particular European country, the movement thereafter has invariably been encouraged by the early comers. Not only did they urge relatives and friends in the old home to come, but they devoted their new-found prosperity to help them. On this subject there is an opportunity for some useful historical research. In the pre-Revolutionary days immigration to America seems to have been encouraged from the other side, partly from political and partly from business motives.

The colonizing countries of Europe competed to control the best parts of the new world by occupying it with their colonies. Immigration was encouraged both by the governments and by companies of merchant adventurers. At that stage of the movement, of course, the colonies possessed no wealth to help their friends to come. But after the Revolution the situation greatly changed. New political conditions made this country more attractive than ever before, and developing wealth and opportunity emphasized its invitation. So we find the people of our republic deliberately and consciously encouraging the movement in this direction. There is opportunity for a much more detailed examination of these factors in the Euro; an migrant than his yet been undertaken. It would be a profoundly interesting contribution to the story of this greatest of all migrations that humanity has ever accomplished if we could know more of the precise motives which have animated it.

The contribution of this country to financial immigration of the last century and a third has certainly run into hundreds of millions of dollars, perhaps into billions. It has had a profound social influence, both here and in Europe. Its economic consequences could hardly be overestimated. A detailed study into these facts should include a close consideration of all the great migrations which have marked the distribution of men throughout the world. Man seems to have been from his beginnings the most migratory of animals. His earlier movements appear to have had their chief motive in ad-

venture and the desire to find the regions where existence was most comfortable. There could hardly have been a very serious pressure of population, for it is only in recent historic times that this factor has existed. Some very early migrations were doubtless due to climatic or other physical conditions. Later on, political, social, religious, and economic reasons caused the movements. Some went forth to make conquests, others were driven out by conquest. The children of Israel migrated into Egypt to escape from famine. They left Egypt to escape from bondage and to recover their religious liberty. The old Romans and Phoenicians were great colonizers, the Romans from imperialistic motives and the Phoenicians from desire to extend their trade. The European migration to the American continent represented in its various phases all the causes that have operated through the ages to bring about such shifts of population. In the beginning there was chiefly the motive of exploration and adventure. Later came the desire to be freed from onerous clerical or political restrictions. Then, with the realization of America's enormous resources, there was the wish to share in its developing riches. Only in the later stages of the movement did the people of this country reach their hand of welcome to take friends across the Atlantic, both urging and assisting them to come.

### ENGAGED IN CONQUEST WITHOUT INVASION, FORCE

Though I make no pretense to deep studies in the subject, yet I have been impressed that in this last regard the shift of Old World peoples to this side of the Atlantic was perhaps unique. From the time when their fast developing institutions of popular government, religious freedom, and intellectual liberality had begun to take definite and attractive forms, the people of the colonies took a new interest in inducing their European relatives to follow them thither. They engaged in an inverted crusade, a conquest without invasion and without force. The new country offered not only material opportunities, but possibilities of a spiritual and intellectual emancipation which they ardently wished their friends on the other side to share. Citizenship in the new world meant something that it had not meant in the old. It was seen that the new world offered something new. There was increasing realization that many burdensome traditions and institutions had somehow been shed. Here at last the individual was lord of himself, master of his own destiny, keeper of his own sovereignty. Here he was free.

With the 18th century's epoch of intellectual liberalism there came yet more sharp realization that the new country was not bound to ancient manners and prejudices, and that therefore it offered to the common man a better chance. Here he might realize that ideal of equality which by this time was so generally finding a lodgment in European minds. This spiritual evolution moved rather slowly in the first two-thirds of the 18th century. The Seven Years' war, or as we commonly call it, the French and Indian war, was for the colonies a period of rapid awakening and realization. They began to find themselves, to formulate more definite aspirations for their future. But it does not appear that this new conception of American destiny began in any important way to be shared in Europe until the Revolution, independence and the establishment of the federal government forced it upon the old countries.

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Then a new idea began to fix itself in the European mind. The new country was seen as an essentially vitally, basically different conception of human relationship. It appeared not merely as a new country, but as a different kind of country. It was considered not only different from Europe, but different from any earlier social creations. The European peoples had been greatly stirred by the intellectual awakening of the 18th century and the liberals among them had been deeply disappointed at the seeming meager results which accrued from it. We may well wonder what would have been the fate of Europe after 1815, if the liberalism of both England and the continent had settled down to disappointment and cynicism. We cannot doubt that during this period, say from 1815 to 1848, the beacon which they saw had been lighted over the western Atlantic was a lamp to the feet and a hope to the hearts of liberals throughout Europe.

Within this period immigration from the north and west of Europe was not only rapidly building this country into numbers, wealth, and authority in the world, but it was having a tremendous reflex upon Europe itself. But for American example and influence the democratic movements of 1832 and 1848 in Europe might have been long postponed. The broadly democratic evolution which swayed Europe so greatly in the latter half of the nineteenth century might have failed entirely.

In the period we have been discussing nearly all the immigration to the United States was from northern and western Europe. Through its reactions upon Europe it gave constant encouragement there to liberal thought and action. In this country, by gradually giving the north a great preponderance in numbers, it hastened the downfall of slavery and helped rid our institutions of that great and threatening anomaly.

These Northmen, one of whose anniversaries we are celebrating today, have from their first appearance on the margin of history been the children of freedom. Native to a rigorous climate and a none too productive soil, they had learned the necessity for hard work and careful management. They were moved by that inspiration for a free holding in the land which has always marked peoples in whom the democratic ideal has pressing for recognition. Eager for both political and economic independence, they realized the necessity for popular education, and so have always been among the most devoted supporters of public schools. Thousands of them volunteered in the service of the country during the Civil and Spanish wars, and tens of thousands in the World war. The institutions and the manners of democracy came naturally to them. Their glory is all about you, their living and their mighty dead. They have given great soldiers, statesmen, scientists, educators and men of business to the upbuilding of their adopted country. They have been rapidly amalgamated into the body of citizenship, contributing to it many of its best and most characteristic elements. To their adaptability the nation owes much for its success in the enormous process of assimilation and spiritual unification that has made our nation what it is and our people what they are.

Although this movement of people originated in Norway, in its essence and its meaning it is particularly American. It has nothing about it of class or caste. It has no tinge of aristocracy. It was not produced through the leadership of some great figure. It is represented almost entirely by that stalwart



strain who make the final decisions in this world, which we designate the common people. It has about it the strength of the home and the fireside; the family ties of the father and the mother, the children and the kindred. It has all been carried on very close to the soil, it has all been extremely human. When I consider the marvelous results it has accomplished I can not but believe that it was inspired by a Higher Power. Here is something vital, firm, and abiding, which I can only describe as a great reality.

An enormous power has come to you, but you are charged with equally enormous responsibilities. Those responsibilities you have never failed to meet, that power you have never failed to sanctify. Therein lies the sole title to all the glory you have achieved in the past and therein will lie the sole title to all the glory that you will achieve in the future. Believing that there resides in an enlightened people an all-compelling force for righteousness, I have every faith that through the vigorous performance of your duties you will add new luster to your glory in the days to come.

Our America with all that it represents of hope in the world is now and will be what you make it. Its institutions of religious liberty, of educational and economic opportunity, of constitutional rights, of the integrity of the law; are the most precious possessions of the human race. These do not emanate from the government. Their abiding place is with the people. They come from the consecration of the father, the love of the mother, and the devotion of the children. They are the product of that honest, earnest, and tireless effort that goes into the rearing of the family altar and the making of the home of our country. They can have no stronger supporters, no more loyal defenders, than that great body of our citizenship which you represent. When I look upon you and realize what you are and what you have done, I know that in your hands our country is secure. You have laid up your treasure in what America represents, and there will your heart be also. You have given your pledge to the Land of the Free. The pledge of the Norwegian people has never yet gone unredeemed.

*Picture of Nelson*

**Tribute to Nelson**

President Coolidge digressed from his speech long enough to pay a tribute to the late Senator Knute Nelson of Minnesota. ~~Senator Nelson, of Norwegian birth, was long the bulwark of Republican sturwartzism in this State. His place has been taken by another representative of the Norwegian race, Senator Shipstead.~~

Around the memory of Senator Nelson the regulars are building a legend which is expected to have a far reaching effect on the large and influential population of Norwegian descent in Minnesota and in the surrounding States of Wisconsin, North and South Dakota and even in Iowa.

President ~~Coolidge~~ referred to Senator Nelson as the "Grand old man of Minnesota."

"The people of Minnesota," he said, "will ever be proud to pay tribute to his memory."

*The*



Indeed, those who had known Senator Nelson as a noble embodiment of all the best of Norwegian culture and character, whose loyal devotion to the land of his adoption never was questioned, could not help but feel that he too was a part of this great gathering.

The <sup>abiding</sup> strength of his personality was evident, though his body had been laid to rest.

It is needless to say that the President received tremendous applause, not only when he had finished speaking, but time and again during the delivery of the address.

The President, ~~who~~ spoke from the judges' stand across the race track, ~~faced a vivid audience in the grandstand.~~ The stand was equipped with powerful amplifiers which enabled him to be heard everywhere in spite of rain and wind.

The voice of the President ~~was~~ stirred the nation. Every paper of note commented on the Centennial editorially. Said the New York papers:-

N.Y.  
the World

#### MR. COOLIDGE'S TRIBUTE TO THE NORSEMEN

Mr. Coolidge's address at the Norwegian Centennial Celebration yesterday holds little for those political strategists who read between the lines of every Presidential statement and find therein a message to the politicians. It is true that Mr. Coolidge pointed out that unlike races live at peace with one another in America, drew therefrom the lesson that a certain "spiritual quality" is common to all men, and asked hopefully the question, "If fraternity and co-operation are possible on the scale of this continent among people so widely diverse, why not on the scale of a world?" Not even the most ardent isolationist, however, will read in these sentences advocacy of a world state or threat of a supergovernment.

Mr. Coolidge, at the Norse Centennial, was content simply to pay tribute to a race which has done much to consolidate a Western frontier. This migration of a hardy, frugal people who live in a northern land of lakes and iron to another northern land of lakes and iron impressed the President as an epic story, and the motive power behind that migration interested him no less than its social effects upon our national life. Why, asked Mr. Coolidge, should the Norsemen seek America in such numbers that to-day there are as many people of Norwegian stock in the United States as there are in Norway? The answer, Mr. Coolidge thought, is that the Norseman loves liberty, and "Here at last the individual was lord of himself, master of his own destiny, keeper of his own sovereignty—here he was free."

Probably something of that sort explains the Norse migration. Not in as complete degree as Mr. Coolidge pictures has the Norseman won his freedom—his freedom economically, politically and socially—in this land of his adoption. But one freedom a new land in an old world has overwhelmingly bestowed on him. That is freedom from the dead.

*The Troy Record:* In that America which has developed out of many stocks and strains the Scandinavians have had a remarkable part. They have made marvelously loyal citizens—not forgetting their ancient loyalty but merging it in a greater loyalty that permits no bias and no reservation. It is because of this that the Pilgrims of the North, whose centenary is now being celebrated, deserve the President's praise and all the proud encomiums that are being pronounced upon them this week by writers and orators from Maine to California.

N.Y.  
the World

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91.

#### THE NORSEMEN IN AMERICA

In 1821 the Norwegian Cleng Peerson landed in America, and in 1825 the ship Restaurationen initiated Norse immigration in earnest. The centenary, celebrated in the Northwest this week, deserves the national attention which Mr. Coolidge's presence will give it. When Fredrika Bremer visited the United States in 1850 she found nearly 40,000 Norwegians already settled in Wisconsin alone. They were the advance guard of an army which, with Lief Ericsson's pioneering spirit, swept rapidly over the Minnesota and Dakota prairies. America now has a million and a quarter inhabitants of Norse blood; and their contribution to our national character, traditions and achievement is out of all proportion to their numbers.

They and their fellow-Scandinavians have largely made the Northwest what it is. They may look around them in Minneapolis and reflect that this city of 400,000 people was marked by a single

cabin seventy-five years ago. They have turned the cold northern plains into one of the most fertile farming regions of the globe. In politics they have assumed control of their section and left their imprint on national affairs. Of the last nine Governors of Minnesota six have been Scandinavians. But for the untimely death of their great liberal leader, John A. Johnson—like Knut Nelson, of Swedish blood—they might have given the country a President. Coming from nations interested in experiment, they have taken naturally to co-operation and equal suffrage—at times to the Non-Partisan League and the ideas espoused by Hendrik Shipstead and Magnus Johnson. Their cultural interests, suppressed during their years of struggle with raw nature, have steadily grown in vigor. The Norse in particular do not forget that they come from the land of Ibsen, Holberg, Björnson and Grieg.

Culturally, no stock has become more quickly Americanized than the Scandinavians. They have entered the country to make homes, to learn English and to rear their children to be patriotic citizens; they might easily have formed impervious foreign colonies, but it was not their nature. Jacob Riis in "The Making of an American" caught the spirit of this adoptive loyalty. Yet it is not incompatible with a sentiment of reverence and love for the traditions of the homeland. The Norse feel that they have a great history, dating from the time of the vikings, and that the conquest of the American Northwest is an integral part of it. They may well be proud of their heritage and its transplantation.



### The Norse Contribution

President Coolidge's Minneapolis speech was more than a surface tribute to the quality of the Norse contribution to American development and citizenship. It was not only very effective in its historical presentation, but disclosed a fine sincerity in its appreciation of an influence which has done much to shape American life, especially in the Northwestern states.

The Norse nations have always been foremost in pioneering exploration. They were the boldest of the navigators of the late Roman Empire era. They settled Iceland and crossed the Atlantic to Greenland and Vinland. They were apparently the first Europeans to reach the New World. They impressed their character and adventurous spirit on southern Europe and live in its history as a race of conquerors and supermen.

Their pioneering instinct fitted them eminently to play a helpful part in the building up of the United States. They took naturally to the frontier life and in the nation's first century American development was intimately connected with the feverish push of the frontier toward the Pacific. They came here to subdue the land and to own it, just as the earlier English, Scotch and Irish immigrants did. Merely as settlers there was thus a natural kinship between their ideas and those of the older Americans. They brought here a specific determination—to enjoy religious and political freedom, to till the soil, to create better conditions for their descendants. They may have expected much of America, but they had also much to give it, since it was to become for them in all senses their chosen country.

There was another bond of sympathy between them and the people of the region in which they settled. They cherished the ideals of freedom—of personal liberty, free speech and free labor. So, in the great struggle to abolish slavery and end its economic blight, they were absolutely at one with the free North. By contributing to the growth in population and wealth of the non-slave states and fortifying public sentiment against slavery the Norse inflow, as well as all the other inflow from Northern Europe, helped materially to rid us of the cramping and antiquated slave system.

Our Norse immigrants, mostly farmers on the frontier fringe, were rooted individualists. They were the more easily Americanized since they fitted in with the life and notions of the West of their time. Nobody talked then of the "melting pot." It bubbled without being noticed or labeled. The modern problems of immigration had not intruded, the United States at that time having both the political and the economic motive to encourage immigration as far as it could. Excess alien population in cities and excess alien labor in industry were worries unknown.

The Norse inflow, moreover, has never raised such problems. It has always held to the old lines—mainly to replenishment of the agricultural population of the Northwest. Of the many accretions to its citizenship America can therefore set the Norse immigration apart as one of the most welcome and wholesome. Our Scandinavians have made good citizens and sturdy patriots. Basic American notions and prepossessions were already in their blood. They were in a way genuine post-colonial colonials. On the hundredth anniversary of the sailing of the tiny bark Restaurationen, carrying the first company of Norwegian immigrants to this country, it was fitting to recall what these Norsemen and those who were to follow have done for America in return for what America has done for them. The balance is equitable and honorable, representing fulfillment on both sides.

"You have given your pledge to the Land of the Free," Mr. Coolidge told the Americans of Norwegian birth or descent whom he addressed yesterday. That pledge, kept, is all that can be asked of any group of citizens, native or naturalized.

### Brooklyn Daily Times

#### The Norse in America.

Five centuries before Christopher Columbus set sail from Palos in his three little boats, the ships of the Norsemen were coasting Iceland and in the few hundred years that followed they had landed a party on the shores of North America. Iceland they kept, but North America seemed too distant and empty of spoil for the old sea chiefs whose migratory instincts led them Southward, so the Norwegians did not come in large numbers to this land until about a century ago. Then, strange to say, it was not by the sea that they settled, but in the Middle West. Minnesota, Michigan, these were the States in which they settled and farmed and cleared the wild.

In Minneapolis yesterday began the celebration of the centenary of the second migration. It is a celebration in which all Americans will join. The men and women of Norway have contributed qualities of courage and strength to our American amalgam. They have made a wonderful land of the Lake States. We rejoice to have them among us and of us, and hail as brethren under the Stars and Stripes the children of Norway.



### The Meanings of a Great Occasion

President Coolidge may always be trusted to penetrate to the real significances of a great occasion. In his brief address of yesterday he seized upon and brought into sharp relief the deeper meanings of the centenary which the Americans of Norse blood have been celebrating.

What a tremendous sequel followed the daring voyage of that frail bark, the Restauration, across the Atlantic with its fifty-two sturdy Norse adventurers! However obscure and unimportant their landing in New York, after a perilous passage of fourteen weeks, may have seemed, the results that flowed from it lifted the event into an historic significance that is now seen in a clear light.

Mr. Coolidge did not fail to point out that the study of such events, stimulated by centenary celebrations, furnishes valuable "inspiration to high and intelligent patriotism." The Restauration, thanks to the attention focused on it by impressive observance of its centenary, now takes its place among historic American symbols alongside the Mayflower of more than two hundred years before it.

Who can rightly estimate the great role in the making of America played by the Norse newcomers of the Restauration and those that have followed them in a steady stream? Who can measure what they have done for America, or what America has done for them? And who can justly assess the reflex action on Europe of the triumphs such streams of newcomers have helped achieve in individualism, in liberty, in democracy?

President Coolidge is impressed by these achievements of men of many and diverse national origins in America. He is impressed by the fact that out of all these elements has been molded "a nation with the soul of a nation" and not merely "a large number of people in a large place."

Not unnaturally, contemplation of this ethnic miracle in America, moves the President to ask: "If fraternity and co-operation are possible on the scale of this Continent among people so widely diverse, why not on the scale of a world?"

It is an inspiring thought, inexact though the parallel may be. Surely the example of America, which has had such an intensive reflex effect on Europe, may well stimulate the peoples of the earth to seek the goal of lasting amity and co-operation. There are obstacles in the path of this quest that have never existed in America—hinderments of ultra-nationalism, of ancient racial feuds, of economic rivalries, of land hunger not to be satisfied, of intolerances religious and social, and so on.

The experiment in nation-making that has been so strikingly successful in America, was made in a new land with none or few of the Old World's inhibitions. When the task of bringing all the peoples of the world together into an enduring compact of friendship and co-operation is faced, the difficulties involved seem fatally complex and irremovable. Yet there is the dream, noble, radiant, utterly desirable. America is fit to lead the way to its attainment by the power of example.

Mr. Coolidge has made fine use of a great occasion to give this thought to the world, a seed though that may one day bloom into maturity and productiveness.

### the Lutheran

#### The Norse Centennial and President Coolidge

We were greatly interested in the visit of the President of the United States to participate in the centennial of Norwegian immigration celebrated recently in St. Paul, Minn. Mr. Coolidge is not merely from New England. He was brought up in Vermont. And after you have said "Vermont," say Minnesota, then Minnehaha, Laughing

Water. You might take a chance on lipping Minneapolis, unless you are in St. Paul. We mention the names in order to contrast stern resistive yet dependable Vermont with coquettish, graceful, fallow Minnesota. We think then of Mr. Coolidge, the Puritan, addressing the Scandinavian. "It intrigues one."

Of course, his visit was purely civic, and nothing was said or thought by him as to the religious views of his hosts. But if he was brought up on Puritanism, the Scandinavians are Lutherans. If religion affected the early development of New England, it was likewise a partner with economic and civic forces in transforming the Northwest into States whose people are a virile and thoughtful group of Americans.

The President came into contact with men and women who have pronounced views concerning the relationship of Church and State. They are exceedingly jealous of the rights of individuals, the rights of conscience and the limitations of legislation. They deem their interpretation of the American Constitution on such matters as the correct one. One is not overbold in asserting that they will contribute convictions concerning freedom and democracy that will enable their country and the commonwealths in which they live to solve correctly some pressing problems of this decade.



# The Minneapolis Tribune

FOUNDED 1847

## The President to the Norsemen.

In his tribute to the sons and daughters of Norway who have builded character and strength into the national organism which we call America, President Coolidge cast his thought into a mould large enough to discover to us how this nation came to take on a soul and what kind of soul was created for it. No son of the Northland could have been more generous in saying what has been woven by Scandinavians into our social, political and spiritual entity.

In this address the President revealed himself as one who has unshakable faith in a sane and righteous further working out of the destinies of this country. The spirit of adventure, and the challenge of unknown dangers, which first made men migratory creatures—notably the men of Norway—gave way in time to nobler motives for seeking new lands. These motives included the yearn for religious freedom, for intellectual emancipation, for individual liberty and for improved economic conditions.

As the urge and spirit of democracy made their way in this country the fact had a reflex influence on the older countries, impelling them toward the ideal of popular sovereignty. Meantime, in this country, Pilgrim and Cavalier, and later the Northmen, found and were moved by a common purpose of political and social unity, and a great nation evolved out of, first, a wilderness, and then a congeries of more or less closely related and sympathetic settlements.

The human contributions of Norway and the other Scandinavian countries played a telling part in shaping United States history in the nineteenth century. It was not altogether the pressure of economic circumstances that divided the country for and against human bondage. Potent as a factor was the Northland element, bringing its conceptions of individual liberty and becoming a part of our own north. The Norsemen belonged where they settled because climatic conditions were kindred to those to which they were inured at home, but it was manifest that they also belonged there by the logic of their thought processes. They believed in equality of opportunity in so far as it could be served in imperfect human institutions. They believed that individualism should be allowed to express itself without unnecessary hamperings.

From the fact of an America achieving national unity out of many and diverse elements, President Coolidge takes hope that there is something of the kind in store for the world.

"If fraternity and co-operation," he said, "are possible on the scale of this continent among people so widely diverse, why not on the scale of a world? It is not a new thought, but it is a profoundly engaging one. I firmly believe it is more than a chimera. I feel it is possible of realization. I am convinced that our national story might somewhat help to guide mankind toward such a goal. Therefore I urge the deeply thoughtful study and teaching of our history."

The America of today is essentially a product of the common people which tacitly agreed, long before it decreed, that there should here be recognized no class or caste, and no aristocracy save that founded on character. The home and the family were to be indispensable basic institutions of civic life, and these institutions, plus a due appreciation of things of the spirit, were to give fiber and shape to the governmental structure.

President Coolidge addressed himself in particular to Norsemen, but he included the world in the purview of his message.

# St. Paul Dispatch

## THE PRESIDENT ON THE CENTENNIAL.

President Coolidge in his address before the Norwegian Centennial celebration, this afternoon in St. Paul, departs in marked degree from the tenor of all his previous speeches. He presents a new facet of his character and one not yet glimpsed by the people of the Northwest. He reveals a many-sidedness comparable to that found in Samuel Pepys, who, methodical and exact in business, gifted in statecraft, careful and thrifty, successful in the management and improvement of the British navy department, still found time for philosophizing and contemplation. The President has been credited with a hard and brilliant business acumen, too cold perhaps to permit the growth of the humanizing influence of literary and historical reflection. His address uncovers this part of his mind and lets us see a little into the heart of the man, with his dreams and imaginings, his speculations and his hopes.

Yet he does not fail to do honor and justice to the Norse people and recites their history from the days when they were corsairs of the seas to their advent to America 100 years ago. He compliments without fulsomeness and he commends without flattery. He speaks for the entire people when he records the debt of the Northwest in progress and prosperity to the influx of a race which had as its two striking characteristics its lust for adventure and its hunger for land. Having recited succinctly their history and their accomplishments, he permits himself to indulge in a quiet bit of philosophizing. It is as though he were indulging in an arm chair reverie, yet speaking aloud the thoughts that arose in his mind as he contemplates the course of a great race.

He is not content to confine himself in his contemplation to the Norse adventure. He speculates upon the "riddle of Babel" which is to be found only in the United States, and is lifted by the thought that out of "the confusion of tongues, the conflict of tradition, the variations of historical setting, the vast differences in talent and taste," unity has come. This invites him to look into the social backgrounds of the country—the human story of the unsung millions of plain people—and there he is at his unexpected best. He cites the mixture of races from all quarters of the globe, and the fears that the melting pot would prove explosive rather than the vessel from which the fine tempered metal of a new nation might be drawn. The doubt

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that the United States might merely become "a large number of people in a large place," is long since dissipated, and with a slow wonder he asks for the amalgam which brought about this miracle. Perhaps it is to be the long-sought philosopher's stone, which shall blend the warring nations of the world in unity, as it has their nationals in this land.

It is a long look into the future and that the vision may persist he turns his eyes backward to the one origin of all the races, to the cradle of the Aryan stock, and asks if those which were once one may not, in the appointed time, become one again? It needs but the elusive amalgam which reunited them in this land, to reunite them elsewhere. To confirm the thought he reaches out to touch upon the causes for the migration of races. "Man seems to have been from the beginning, the most migratory of animals," and he enumerates the reasons, climatic, physical, political, social, religious and economic that have motivated the great hejiras of the ages, until he comes to that which marked the migration to the New World. He finds the cause for that differing from previous motives. The New World went forth on no warlike conquest. The Colonies engaged in "an inverted crusade—a conquest without invasion and without force." Their arms were material, spiritual and intellectual emancipation. There was not only a "new country but a different kind of country." The races of Europe were leved upon to populate our wilderness without the firing of a shot or the drawing of a sword.

Fortified with that aspect, the prospect of the future unity seems less dim and remote. To those who heard him and those who read there is imparted the comfort of a great hope and the courage of a great aspiration. The vision from the armchair becomes not only possible, it becomes probable. The little experiment of the United States, if it had done nothing in the way of proving democracy and of liberating mankind, has done enough in proving the brotherhood of man and that the children of ancient enemies can lie down in peace together. There is great strength in that thought, there is pride in it, there is meat for that determination that is preservation means more to the world than the mere existence of the nation as such. Any man, in the light of that vision of destiny, might dedicate himself anew to the safeguarding and prolonging of its existence unchanged.

That is the thought the President leaves. The practical man when he turns his mind to dream, dreams with a purpose. Hence men speak of inspiration.



OTHER SPEAKERS.

Following the President and speaking for the management of the Centennial, Prof. Gisle Bothne voiced the appreciation of the Norse world in a hearty thanks to the Chief Magistrate of the land. Thanked him for his presence, but above all for his masterly address, destined to go down in the history of two people as a classic to be cherished.

The Minister from Norway to the United States, Hon H. H. Bryn, read a greeting from His Majesty, King Haakon VII, to President Coolidge, after which the Hon. Carl J. Hambro addressed the gathering on behalf of the Norwegian Storting (Congress). This address, eloquently delivered, was followed by the reading and presentation to the State of Minnesota of a greeting from the Storting of Norway, beautifully embossed.

Mr. Hambro was followed by the Hon. Thomas H. Johnson, representing the Governor General of Canada, Lord Byng, of Vimy.

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"Time and propriety make it impossible for me even to enumerate the reasons which have endeared the Norsemen to the countries of their adoption on this side of the Atlantic. Still I cannot refrain from mentioning one or two.

"Industry, piety, respect for constitutional government, patriotism, individualism and self-reliance, love of art, education, music and love of liberty (always liberty under the law) are attributes applicable in a special sense to the Norsemen in America.

"While the love of their adopted countries in no sense has been diminished thereby, each passing generation has handed down to its successors a veneration and profound attachment to the history and traditions of the homelands of their ancestors.

"Look around this great land. Cast your eyes over the Dominion of Canada. What do you see of monuments to the splendid men and women who

### THE VOICE OF CANADA

I cannot escape from a feeling of oneness on the part of the people of the United States and Canada.

These two flags have not once in all the five score years which we are celebrating today met in conflict.

This influence (for world peace) is not confined to the two countries of which I now speak but extends to the whole of the English speaking and the Norse speaking people of the world.

Every Canadian child is taught today that the Norsemen were the first discoverers of the New World.

If we but pledge ourselves to the ideals of our Norse fathers, the future will be worthy of the glories of the past, 100 years of which we commemorate today.

A Norseman's pledge, once made, was never broken.

have gone before? They are to be found on all sides.

"The spires of their churches point towards heaven in cities, towns and hamlets across the wide expanse of both countries. Their institutions of education and charity and mercy abound all over this continent. These are not, however, their greatest nor the most enduring monuments of the 100 years of permanent Norse settlement.

"The noblest monuments of Norse culture and civilization are woven into the very fabric of the national life of the two splendid nations on this continent.

#### Deeds Prove Monument.

"In the great city of London, there stands an edifice which is an architectural marvel commanding admiration of successive generations of the world. I refer to St. Paul's cathedral. Its designer, Sir Christopher Wren, lies buried within the great cathedral. A simple slab marks his resting place with this inscription: 'If you seek his monument, look around you.'

"When I think of the Norsemen in America who have gone before, the epitaph in St. Paul's ca-

thedral comes to my mind and I say: If you seek a monument to the Norsemen of this continent, look around you.

"The United States and Canada join today to do honor to their own sons and daughters whose ancestors came here from the lands of song and saga; from the lands of the vikings and the adventurers of ages now long past. In honoring them, our countries honor themselves.

"The epoch of the immigrant and pioneer is rapidly drawing to a close. Henceforth our national progress must depend upon our own sons and daughters. The achievements of the past are a pledge and earnest of the future.

"If we but pledge ourselves to the ideals of our Norse fathers; to the virtues of our Norse fathers, if we but pledge ourselves to continue to hold high the banner of true liberty, the future will be worthy of the glories of the past, 100 years of which we commemorate today. Norsemen of America, whether residing south or north of the line which constitutes our boundary, let us today unite in our pledge. A Norseman's pledge once made was never broken.

#### Greetings to Coolidge.

Mr. President, allow me, in conclusion, to convey to yourself the compliments of the Prime Minister and people of Canada. In particular, I desire to express to you the appreciation of the thousands of Norsemen in Canada for your gracious participation in this festival.

"The United States and Canada cherish the common traditions of the English speaking race and the same ideals control our national lives. May the colossal power which rests within the arms of these kindred peoples never be invoked to drive them asunder, but to weld them together more firmly than ever before."

Need we state that this beautiful tribute to our race, spoken on behalf of our sister nation, Canada, ~~by one of our~~ ~~their own flesh and blood~~, stirred the hearts of the hearers?

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead,  
Who never to himself hath said,  
This is my own, my native land?"

SECRETARY KELLOGG.

The Coolidge administration went far out of their way to give a small but courageous people tokens of American cordiality and friendship. Not only did the President, himself, make the long and tiresome journey, in a terrific heat, but so also did his Secretary of State, Mr. Frank B. Kellogg. Not only did Mr. Kellogg go to the Centennial to speak, but he went there to be introduced to an audience and by a Chairman, who had defeated him in his effort for reelection to the United States Senate. Mr. Kellogg ~~is~~ <sup>his tribute to</sup> ~~not only lauded~~ <sup>also</sup> ~~Norse~~ Americans ~~but~~ took occasion to sound a warning against the danger of "tampering with the organic law of the land". He referred to alien infusion of dangerous doctrines and to the constant propaganda against constituted authority. The text of the address follows:-



Mr. Kellogg received the thanks of the hearers for his laudatory and illuminating address in no mistaken manner, and the press throughout the country commented highly upon it. Indeed, only this last August (1926), one of New York's foremost writers, Mr. Stevenson of the Brooklyn Eagle alluded to certain parts of Mr. Kellogg's speech.

*Senator*  
~~After the Hon. Peter Norbeck, United States Senator~~  
~~from South Dakota, had~~ responded to Mr. Kellogg on behalf  
of American citizens of Norse descent, *and the* Hon. J.O.O. Prens,  
former Governor of Minnesota, made a few closing remarks;  
With the benediction, pronounced by the venerable and be-  
loved *president* ~~presiding Bishop~~ of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of  
America, the very Rt. Rev. H. G. Stub, ~~this~~ historic session  
came to a close.

*Relics*  
*Continued* Norsemen love to celebrate, and once they get started,  
they go the limit.

~~When told on the occasion of the visit of Bishop~~  
~~Peterson to the Centennial Celebration at New York in October,~~  
~~that we were still at it, the President, Mr. Coolidge, smil-~~  
~~ingly said: "You people certainly know how to celebrate."~~

Thus, with the Centennial Celebration at Minneapolis-St. Paul. The President and his party came and went, but the celebration continued.

That same evening, ~~after the tremendous program of the~~  
~~afternoon,~~ the official session, with greetings from scores  
of Governors, members of United States Congress and official  
provinces of Canada took place. Hon. O. J. Kvale, United  
States Congressman from Minnesota presided. After music,  
by St. Olof College Band, J. Arndt Berg, Conductor, and

*an exhibition by the*  
 "Daughters of Norway" Drill Team, ~~Mrs. A. G. Floss,~~

~~Director~~; the Stars Spangle Banner was sung by the Norwegian Singers Association of America, directed by Prof. Fred Wick.

*not  
 saying* Then came official greetings from the Twin Cities, through their respective Mayors. For St. Paul, Mayor Arthur Nelson and for Minneapolis, Mayor George E. Leach, after which United States Senator, Henrik Shipstead, delivered the main address of the evening *followed by*

~~There came the~~ official greetings from States and Provinces.

Hon. J. Bracken, Premier of Manitoba, spoke for that Province. Consul C. J. Bjork spoke for British Columbia. This was followed by Gov. Theodore Christiansen of Minnesota, a representative of Gov. Henry L. Whilfield of Mississippi; Gov. J. E. Erickson of Montana; A. G. Sorlie, North Dakota; Carl Gunderson, South Dakota; John J. Blaine, Wisconsin, *all of whom were* ~~These were all~~ of Norse descent. However, four Governors of large and influential States of the Union, ~~though~~ not of Norse descent, graciously sent their greeting to the Centennial.

Governor Lep Small of Illinois, by former United States Minister to Uruguay; Hon. N. A. Grevstad; Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania, by the Rev. Jens C. Roseland and Governor Silzer of New Jersey, by the Rev. Aksel Berg.

No State, however, showed greater interest than the Empire State of the Union, New York. Governor Alfred E. Smith, unable to attend the Centennial in person, appointed an official delegation of four to represent the State at the Celebration. The delegation consisted of Major General Charles W. Berry, the highest ranking officer attending the Centennial; Lieutenant Colonel Arthur V. McDermott, Capt. S.J. Arnesen and the Rev. C.O. Pedersen.



The latter two were appointed because of the Governor's desire to send two representative citizens of Norse descent. It was a coincident that they were both born in the City of the Pioneer Sloopers, in Norway, and boyhood friends.

Besides the above mentioned, the following United States Senators and Representatives, of Norse Lineage were on the program:-

SENATORS: Peter Norbeck, South Dakota; Henrik Shipstead, Minnesota; Reed Smoot, Utah.

REPRESENTATIVES: August H. Andresen, Minnesota; Olger B. Burtness, North Dakota; Charles A. Christopherson, South Dakota; Gilbert N. Haugen, Iowa; Harold Knutson, Minnesota; O. J. Kvale, Minnesota; M. Alfred Michaelson, Illinois; John M. Nelson, Wisconsin; Knud Wewald, Minnesota; William Williamson, South Dakota.

The Rev. Meyer brought greetings from the Mayor of Chicago.

Major General Charles W. Berry, who was to have spoken the words of greeting from Governor Smith, un-

In presenting Governor Smith's greeting, the Rev. ~~the~~ Pedersen, ~~co-leader of the New York dele-~~ ~~gation~~, said in part:

"In the name of General Berry, who heads the official delegation from New York, and on behalf of Governor Smith of the Empire State of the Union, I bring you all cordial and sincere greetings. When the State of New York, through the Governor, decided to send an official representation to the Norse-American Centennial, it was not due merely to the general interest in this celebration that by right ought to be shown by all states alike, but New York remembers with just pride, that it was she who first opened her arms to the immigrant pathfinders, and it was her soil that first rewarded them for their toil.

"And so because the State of New York shares in Norse-American history from the very landing of the Restoration, she greets you today.

"She salutes the memory of the pioneers who have toiled and wrought and now sleep beneath the sod, and, extending the hand of fellowship and fraternity, she begs of you, their children, to carry on, and to preserve as a precious heritage the culture and traditions of your fathers and the spirit of our own America."

attendant heartiness. It  
the

*Mr. Chairman please accept  
the following greeting from  
the governor of New York  
of New York Hon. Alfred E. Smith  
His Excellency*

from

NEW YORK, Hon. Alfred E. Smith:



Executive Chambers,  
Albany, N. Y.  
Norse-American Centennial Com-  
mittee, St. Paul-Minneapolis,  
Minn.

Gentlemen:

Whereas, the year 1925 marks  
the one hundredth anniversary of  
the arrival at the Port of New  
York of the good ship Restaurationen,  
the Mayflower of the  
North, carrying Cleng Peerson,  
father of modern Norwegian im-  
migration to the United States,  
and his 45 compatriots; and

Whereas, these pioneers, and  
the many thousands of immi-  
grants of Norwegian blood, who,  
since that day, have sought homes  
and happiness among us, have  
contributed nobly and well to the  
making and development of our  
state and nation; and,

Whereas, we are not unmin-  
dful of the fact that to this race  
belongs the historic Leiv Eirikson,

that bold and fearless sailor  
of a thousand years ago, who,  
with his daring crew, first saw  
the shores of our beloved land;  
and,

Whereas, these historic events  
will be fittingly celebrated by  
Americans of Norwegian birth or  
descent, said celebrations to be  
held in St. Paul-Minneapolis,  
June 6-9, 1925; and,

Whereas, the State of New  
York is desirous of joining in this  
celebration;

Now, Therefore I, Alfred E.  
Smith, Governor of the State of  
New York, send cordial greeting,  
and do hereby let it be known  
that I have appointed a delega-  
tion to officially represent the  
Empire State at the commemora-  
tion exercises.

With sincere wishes for a suc-  
cessful and inspiring celebration  
I am,

Yours very sincerely,  
ALFRED E. SMITH.

*Memorandum*  
THIS GREETING.

*in speaker*  
Rev. ~~Poderson~~ also presented the following letter of  
greeting from the Mayor of the City of New York,  
Hon. John F. Hylan:-

~~Mayor Hilson~~

City of New York  
Office of the Mayor

June 1st, 1925

Norse-American Centennial Co-  
mittee, St. Paul, Minneapolis,  
Minn.

Gentlemen:—One hundred years

ago, there entered the harbor of our  
City the sloop "Restaurationen",  
destined in history to be known as  
the "Mayflower of the North," car-  
rying fifty-three immigrants from  
Norway. They left Stavanger, a  
city on the western coast of Nor-  
way on the fourth day of July, and  
after a voyage landed here on the  
twelfth day of October, 1825.

We are happy to know that our  
citizens received them with open  
arms and ministered to their com-  
fort not as an act of charity but as  
a matter of friendly hospitality.  
Since that day, thousands of their  
countrymen have passed through  
this gateway of our country, and  
from this city, received their first  
impressions of the spirit and the  
resources of our land.

It has come to my knowledge  
that the beginning of collective im-  
migration from Norway to our

country is to be commemorated  
with fitting exercises throughout  
the United States.

The City of New York is desir-  
ous of participating in this cele-  
bration. We have so done by re-  
ceiving with appropriate official  
ceremony such distinguished repre-  
sentatives from Norway as the  
Very Rt. Rev. Johan Lunde, Bishop  
of Oslo; the Hon. Lars Oftedahl,  
Member of the Cabinet and Minis-  
ter for Social Welfare; the Hon.  
Carl Hambro, Member of the Stor-  
ting (Parliament), Chairman For-  
eign Committee; Prof. Frederick  
Stang of the Royal University of  
Oslo, and others.

Lastly the City of New York has  
designated one of its choicest pic-  
ces of park land as "Leiv Eiriksson  
Square"—in honor of that intrepid  
Norwegian sailor and explorer:  
Leiv, the Lucky, and of the race to  
which he belonged.

Permit me, as Mayor of the City  
of New York, to extend to you the  
greetings of all our citizens, and to  
express to you our sincere wishes  
for a successful centenary.

Very truly yours,

JOHN F. HYLAN,  
Mayor.

*Stormy*

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*Tuesday Forenoon*

JUNE NINTH, 1925

GRAND STAND

*Nine-Thirty O'Clock*

E. G. QUAMME, CHAIRMAN  
INTRODUCED BY DR. CARL D. KOLSET

SONGS - - - - - *Augsburg Seminary Glee Club*  
PROF. H. OPSETH, DIRECTOR

FIFTEEN—MINUTE—ADDRESSES

NORSE CONTRIBUTION TO AGRICULTURE	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Hon. O. P. B. Jacobson</i>
GLIMPSES OF PIONEER LIFE	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Hon. Ole Sageng</i>
SONGS	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Otto Clausen</i>
NORSE AMERICAN LITERATURE	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Prof. J. A. Holvik</i>
NORWEGIANS IN ALASKA	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Judge G. J. Lomen</i>
SONGS	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Mrs. B. A. Clepp</i>
THE NORSE-AMERICAN SCHOOL	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Prof. Oscar L. Olson</i>
THE NORSE-AMERICAN CHURCH	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Dr. J. A. Morehead</i>
SONG	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Augsburg Glee Club</i>
THE NORSE-AMERICAN BENCH AND BAR	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Judge T. R. Nelson</i>

INTERNATIONAL SESSION

HIPPODROME

*Nine-Thirty O'Clock*

MRS. MANLEY FOSSEEN, CHAIRMAN  
INTRODUCED BY MRS. SOPHIA WETTELAND

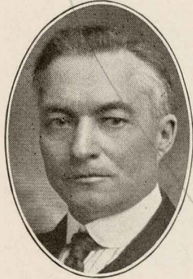
SONGS - - - - - *Augustana College Choir*  
PROF. CARL O. YOUNGDAHL, DIRECTOR

FIFTEEN—MINUTE—ADDRESSES

GREETINGS FROM DANISH-AMERICANS	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Consul T. Skellet</i>
DANISH SONGS	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Anette Yde Lake</i>
GREETINGS FROM SWEDISH-AMERICANS	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Prof. Frank Nelson</i>
SWEDISH SONGS	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>G. G. Hultgren</i>
GREETINGS FROM ICELANDIC-AMERICANS	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Hon. Gunnar B. Bjørnson</i>
ICELANDIC SONG	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>H. B. Thorgrimsen</i>
GREETINGS FROM NORWAY	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>C. J. Hambro</i>
NORSE SONGS	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Bergljot Aalrud Tillisch</i>
AMERICANIZING INFLUENCES	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Hon. O. J. Kvale</i>
NORSE INFLUENCE ON AMERICAN LITERATURE	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Dr. H. A. Bellows</i>
SONGS	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>C. J. BJORKE</i>
NORSEMEN AND THE LAW	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Judge Oscar M. Torrison</i>
SONG	-	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Augustana College Choir</i>



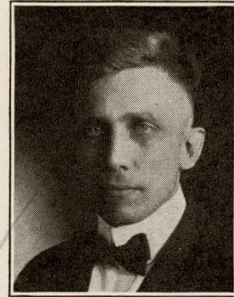
*Committee Members, Norse-American Centennial*



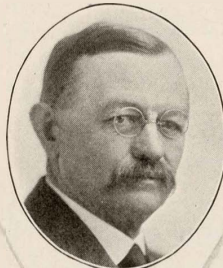
KNUT GJERSET



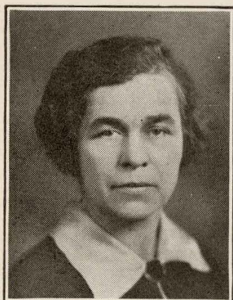
OLAF M. NORLIE



THEODORE C. BLEGEN



O. P. B. JACOBSON



MISS HERBORG REQUE



DR. INGEBORG RASMUSSEN



REV. M. E. WALDELAND



MRS. GISLE BOTHNE



MRS. J. O. LEE



MRS. SOPHIA WETTELAND



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## Tuesday Afternoon

~~Two Thirty O'Clock~~

### HIPPODROME

Arranged by Women's Auxiliary Committee

MRS. WM. O. STORLIE, CHAIRMAN  
INTRODUCED BY MRS. A. C. FLOAN

- ADDRESS: The Norwegian Woman's Place in American History  
*Bertha C. Peterson, Chicago*
- ADDRESS: Women's Work for Social Betterment in Norway  
*Betsey Kjelsberg, Oslo*
- PIANO SOLO - - - - - *Alma Mehus*
- ADDRESS - - - - - *Holmfridur Arnadottir, Iceland*
- ADDRESS - - - - - *Mrs. Otto Clausen, Chicago, Ill.*
- VOCAL SOLO - - - - - *Beatrice Bessesen*
- THE NORWEGIAN PIONEER WOMAN  
*Susie Stageberg, Red Wing, Minn.*
- AGNES WERGELAND - - - - - *Maren Michelet*
- VIOLIN SOLO - - - - - *Valborg Leland, Columbia, Mo.*
- THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE NORWEGIAN ELEMENT IN THE FIELD OF  
AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP - - - *Prof. L. Larson, Urbana, Ill.*
- GREETINGS - - - - - *Marie Michelet, Oslo*
- GREETINGS - - - - - *Dean Gertrude Hilleboe*
- SONG - - - - - *St. Olaf Male Quartette*

## Tuesday Evening

Eight O'Clock

### GRAND STAND

## THE CENTENNIAL PAGEANT

MUSIC BY LUTHER COLLEGE CONCERT BAND

CARLO A. SPERATI, CONDUCTOR

#### PAGEANT COMMITTEE

JOHANNES GROSETH  
CARL HANSON  
L. STAVNHEIM  
ARNIE OFSTIE

*Chairman*  
MRS. T. V. THOMSEN  
MRS. NILS JUELLE  
MRS. WM. O. STORLIE

(Synopsis of "Pageant of the Northmen," by Willard Dillman)

The theme of the pageant is to suggest for the present generation some hint of the story of the fathers, those hardy descendants of the Vikings, who laid the foundation of the splendid achievements of their race in the new world. The story does not follow history with too much exactness. The dramatic form cannot do this. Events must be telescoped. The story must form a dramatic entity. There must be a central current, from which no overflow may spread too far afield. To this end the story concerns itself particularly with the life of one man, Hans Christian Heg, a type of all that is best and noblest in a citizen. The story commences with his childhood, and while it does not close with his death, his spirit and the effects of his sacrifice extend through to the end.

#### THE STORY IN OUTLINE

- Scene 1. The characters in the pageant accompanied by bands, pass in review before the audience.
- Scene 2. Hans Heg is shown as a boy of ten at his father's inn, located beside a road in Norway. His mother tells him folkloric stories.
- Scene 3. The boy's grandfather recounts to him some of the traditions of his land.
- Scene 4. His father tells him something of how the earliest adventurers went to America to live.
- Scene 5. Ole and Ansten Nattestad, returning from America, visit the inn. They encourage the Heg family to immigrate to the new world.

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Scene 6. Indians are shown in possession of an American forest, which is destined to become the home of the Norse settlement.

Scene 7. A party of Norse, the advance guard of the immigrants, arrives, weary after their day's tramp. As they sleep they dream that they are visited by spirits of the wood.

Scene 8. The Indians are preparing to depart. They smoke the peace pipe with the newcomers.

Scene 9. American pioneers in covered wagons, bound westward, camp for the night. The three races gather around a camp fire.

Scene 10. The Indians take their departure. The Americans resume their journey westward. The Norse are left in possession of the forest.

Scene 11. The first settlers are joined by a larger party of immigrants, among them the Heg family.

Scene 12. At a frontier church service, the first babe born in the settlement is baptized by the young minister.

Scene 13. During a scourge of cholera an immigrant mother and her two children are stricken.

Scene 14. Hans Heg, now a boy in his teens, and Gunhild Einong, an immigrant girl, are confirmed.

Scene 15. The five daughters of a dancing master are hastily wooed and won by five young men of the settlement.

Scene 16. Hans Heg, now a candidate for the state legislature on the Free Soil ticket, makes use of a group of fugitive slaves to emphasize his arguments at a political meeting.

Scene 17. Hans Heg and Gunhild Einong are married by the Rev. Hans Andreas Stub. Ole Bull plays at the wedding.

Scene 18. While some of the settlers are gathered at the postoffice, a courier announces the bombardment of Fort Sumpter. Later a stage driver brings the tidings that President Lincoln has called for volunteers.

Scene 19. Hans Heg receives from General Grant his commission as colonel of the 15th Wisconsin, a regiment made up of Norwegian immigrants.

Scene 20. While encouraging his men at the battle of Chickamauga, Colonel Heg gives his life for his adopted country. General Grant and President Lincoln pay homage at his bier.

Scene 21. The flag-draped casket containing the body of the dead officer is brought home to the settlement.

Scene 22. Young women and young men, at the close of the war, join in a solemn festival of peace and harvest.

Scene 23. Characteristic groups indicate the advancement accomplished in America by Norse pioneers and their descendants.

Scene 24. The people unveil a statue of Colonel Heg, immigrant soldier and martyr to the cause of human liberty.

OFFICIAL ACCOMPANISTS

HANNA ROLLEFSON

MARGARET HØIGAARD

NB: PROGRAM LEADERS

Mr. J. A. Holvik has been appointed by the Board of Directors and the Program Committee to assist you in carrying out the programs and you can secure his services by applying to HEADQUARTERS IN ST. LOUIS CO. BLDG. Phone: Midway 9400.

*At One-Fifteen O'Clock*

OPEN AIR CONCERTS

SUNDAY: ST. OLAF COLLEGE BAND

TUESDAY: LUTHER COLLEGE BAND

Brooks Evans Pianos furnished by courtesy of The Brooks Evans Piano Company,  
Thomas P. Breen, Sales Manager, 111 So. 11th St., Minneapolis

Hardman Pianos furnished by courtesy of Holstad Music Co., 109 So. 9th St., Minneapolis



*The Celebration program came to a close  
with the Centennial Pageant.*

However, one more feature deserves a large place *in the*  
~~on the pages of history, viz.,~~ *story of the Celebration, namely*

**THE CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION**

Of this, the Minnesota Journal writes:

**EXHIBITS UNFOLD  
ROMANCE OF NORSE  
NATION'S ADVANCE**

**Rows of Articles Reveal Hopes  
and Fears of Settlers  
of 1825**

**THOUSANDS VIEW RARE  
CENTENNIAL DISPLAYS**

**Queer Old Chests, Tapestries,  
Needlework and Homes Shown  
at Fair Grounds**

The romance of a nation's development, the story of a race of hardy, adventurous pioneers, silently unfolded itself today for tens of thousands of visitors to the Norse-American Centennial, who visited the place where past and present meet—the Norse-American exhibits, in the woman's building at the Fair grounds.

Row upon row of articles bore testimony to the hopes and fears, the loves and sorrows of those first strangers who came to the northwest, 100 years ago. And past the relics of early days, the things that made homes for the early Norwegian pioneers, pushed all day long a never ending stream of the pioneers' descendants.

They stopped to talk, in Norwegian or English, over the needlework, the patchwork quilts, and yards and yards of fancy work, calling to each other: "Remember, Olga, grandma had a spread just like that one, only the flowers were purple," and "Pa, come here! Here is something nice!"

**Displays Picture Progress**

In one little exhibit is typified the whole display. On one stand is a model of "Per Viking's Farm, 1886"—three log cabins, a few cows, a wooden fence—space. On another, a model of "Ole Viking's Farm, 1925"—an automobile on the driveway, electric lights and telephone in the house, modern, immaculate barns, blooded stock. That is the keynote of it all. Side by side stand dishes used before the Civil war and dishes used since the World war.

All around the showcase, full of Norwegian costumes, brilliant with colorful embroidery, with white blouses and little tightly laced bodices, wander women and girls in the slim, straight, boyish frocks of 1925.

Looking down benignly on the display of the things they have made possible is a frieze of pictures of famous Norse-Americans, men who have played a prominent part in the development of the northwest. Governors, ministers, soldiers, judges, school teachers, doctors, diplomats, benefactors, all have their place.

**Queer Old Chests Shown**

There are queer old chests, varicolored and sturdy looking, that hint of the glorious golden haired brides who married Vikings long ago. There are silver and china dishes, built like Viking ships, old books and pictures, crude wagons and cultivators and mortars.

Tapestries stand out in the exhibit. High above the crowd hangs a blue tapestry, with calm, placid ducks floating leisurely across it.

A Gobelin tapestry, on which Hiawatha strides from the woods, a deer over his shoulder, was woven by a Minneapolis woman, Miss Pauline G. Fields, who died a year ago last Christmas. She spent 12 years at the work. Miss Fjelde died with her work not quite finished, and her sister, Mrs. Fjelde Hansen, 3008 Park avenue, took up the task and finished it. Miss Fjelde was the sister of Jacob Fjelde, sculptor of the Ole Bull statue in Loring park and the statue of Minnehaha at Minnehaha Falls.



### Famous Tapestries Attract Throng

Three famous tapestries by Fru Frida Hansen, 70-year-old Norwegian weaver, attracted great crowds. On "Southward," seven beautiful goddesses ride on swans' backs in a lake. On another, King Sigrud marches triumphantly. The third is a transparent tapestry, woven in such a way that its pattern will show through when it is hung before a light.

There are violins and pictures, church and institution exhibits and—most entrancing of all—two lifesize rooms from Norwegian houses of 1825.

One is a little room, with rude wooden benches along one side, bunks built on the other for beds, a queer square, jutting stone fireplace stuck out in one corner. The other room is patterned on the home of a much wealthier man of those days. Heavy gold framed pictures on the wall, tapestried chairs, heavy rose velour window drapes, hanging to the floor, an "old-country" fireplace of white, even a piano, make this one a replica of the finest a Norwegian of 1825 could dream of.

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We shall refrain from giving particulars about the Exhibition, as that will no doubt be given proper consideration in the official history of the Centennial Celebrations.

## Centennial Exhibition Program

KNUT GJERSET, *Chairman*

### COMMITTEE OF ADVISORS

Kr. Prestgard, Decorah, Ia.

T. Stabo, Decorah, Ia.

O. E. Rølvaag, Northfield, Minn.

Olaf Thorshov, Minneapolis, Minn.

D. G. Ristad, Manitowoc, Wis.

C. O. Solberg, Sioux Falls, S. D.

#### I. PIONEER LIFE:

1. Knut Gjerset: Pioneer Exhibit.
2. O. M. Norlie: Maps of Settlements.
3. R. B. Anderson: The Anderson Home.
4. Olaf Thorshov: The Interior of the Norwegian Homes.
5. Hjalmar Rued Holand: Tank and His School.
6. Eugene Gilboe, Torkel Oftelie, R. J. Meland, Jens Johnson.

Gunnar Nordbye, August Klagstad, Sverre Sieverts, Miss Olive Boe, Miss Sigrid Stenberg, Gudrun Lochen Drewsen, Mary B. Andersen, R. A. Plimpton, Minneapolis: Art Exhibit.

#### Jury of Awards:

S. CHATWOOD BURTON  
CAMERON BOOTH  
H. LINDLEY HOSFORD

#### II. CHURCH:

1. C. A. Mellby: Historical Essay.
2. Centennial Committee of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America—G. T. Rygh, Rev. R. Malmin, O. S. Reigstad, Dr. G. M. Bruce, C. S. B. Hoel: Church Exhibit.

(This Committee has also published a Cantata, a History of the Norwegian People in America, and an Order of Service for the Sunday program).

3. Centennial Committee of the Lutheran Free Church—Prof. Andreas Helland: Church Exhibit.
4. Centennial Committee of the Lutheran Brethren—Rev. R. S. Gjerde: Church Exhibit.
5. Centennial Committee of the Norwegian Methodist Church—Rev. H. K. Madsen: Church Exhibit.

#### III. SCHOOLS:

1. O. A. Tingelstad: Historical Essay.
2. L. A. Vigness, E. T. Tufte, I. Dorrnum, O. M. Norlie: School Exhibit.

#### IV. AGRICULTURE:

1. T. Hoverstad: Historical Essay.
2. O. M. Norlie: Maps.

#### V. THE PRESS:

1. O. M. Norlie: Historical Essay, Charts.
2. R. B. Bergeson: Press Exhibit.

#### VI. LITERATURE:

1. Wm. Ager: Historical Essay.
2. Karl T. Jacobsen, J. C. M. Hanson, Einar Josephsen, Jacob Hodnefield: Book Exhibit and Bibliography.

#### VII. MEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE:

1. M. W. Odland: Historical Essay.
2. Knut Gjerset: Picture Gallery.

#### VIII. ART:

Herborg Reque, John C. Langfeldt, chairmen; Emil Biørn, Nils Remmen, Charles N. C. Bagge, Chicago; Christen Bruun, Thomas Bull, Thorbjørn Bascoe, New York; A. C. Floan, Edward Mohn, Mrs. H. G. Stub, Dr. Egil Bockmann, Mrs. Charles Freeman, St. Paul;

#### IX. CHARITY AND MUTUAL AID:

H. B. Kildahl: Historical Essay, Exhibit and Maps.

#### X. WOMEN'S ARTS AND CRAFTS:

Herborg Reque, Ingeborg Rasmussen: Arts and Crafts Exhibit.

#### XI. SOCIETIES AND ORGANIZATIONS:

Carl G. O. Hansen: Historical Essay and Exhibit.

#### XII. MUSIC:

1. Gunnar Malmin: Historical Essay.
2. M. Casper Johnshøy: Music Exhibit.

#### XIII. TRADE AND COMMERCE:

Arne Kildal: Historical Essay

#### XIV. NORWEGIAN SKI SPORT:

Aksel H. Holter, Julius Blegen, Oscar Gundersen: Historical Essay and Exhibit.

#### XV. SONS OF NORWAY:

L. Stavnheim: Historical Essay.

#### XVI. DAUGHTERS OF NORWAY:

Mrs. Augusta Swan: Historical Essay.

#### XVII. THE MEDICAL PROFESSION:

Knut Gjerset: Historical Essay and Portrait Gallery.

#### XVIII. INDUSTRIES:

C. O. Teisberg: Industrial Exhibit.

#### XIX. NORSE-AMERICAN SERVICE MEN IN THE WORLD WAR

Alvin Ronning.

#### XX. ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE:

#### XXI. MINNESOTA STATE EXHIBIT FEATURING PIONEER LIFE

N. J. Holmberg, Knut Gjerset, C. G. Selvig, N. T. Moen, Fremont J. Thoe, G. B. Wollan: Agriculture and Husbandry, Horticulture, Forestry, Fisheries, Mining, Scenery.

#### XXII. NORSE-CANADIAN EXHIBIT:

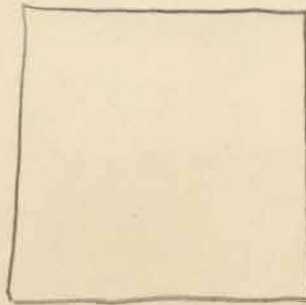
Knute Hadeland: Canadian Exhibit.

Here we take leave of what is destined to go down in history as the greatest gathering of Norsemen the world has ever seen. Perhaps the greatest it ever will see, for times change, racial groups and the conditions that made for their being kept in tact are fast disappearing. Whatever may be the future lot of our people, ~~the~~ great final cometogether, under such happy and illustrious auspices, has not been in vain.

However before we close this chapter, just a word about the

THE CENTENNIAL MANAGEMENT.

The success of the Centennial is not due to any one person, but to the combined efforts of many minds and many hands. Yet, one cannot but pay tribute to the outstanding leadership of the Managing Director of the Committee, Mr. H. S. Holstad.



*Portrait of Holstad*

To him together with the able Secretary, Prof. J.A. Holvik of Moorehead, Minn., must go the lion's share of the credit. That His Royal Majesty decorated these two gentlemen among others in recognition of their service to their race, was a beautiful and fitting climax to their earnest and able endeavor.

Chapter 7

GOVERNOR SMITH HONORED.

~~Am. Socy.~~  
Governor Alfred E. Smith had signally honored the Norse-American citizens of New York and of America.

He not only addressed a greeting to the Centennial at St. Paul, Minnesota, but appointed a delegation headed by one of the leading officers of the United States, Major General Charles W. Berry, Commanding Officer of the New York <sup>national</sup> ~~State~~ Guard, to represent the State of New York at the St. Paul-Minneapolis festivities.

It was felt by many of the leading Norse-Americans in



Greater New York, that some steps should be taken publicly to acknowledge the Governor's courtesy, as well as that of Major General Berry, who generously took the extended journey to Minnesota for the sole purpose of honoring our people.

An excellent opportunity presented itself Sunday, August 30th, when ten thousand Norse-Americans gathered, under the auspices of the Men's Aid Society, at Owl's Head, a private park belonging to the Bliss Estate. Said the

Eagle:-

Governor Smith and Maj. Gen. Charles W. Berry, regular Democratic designee for Controller, were the principal speakers yesterday afternoon at a summer festival arranged by the Men's Aid Society of the Norwegian Hospital to raise funds for that institution.

An audience of 10,000 gave the Governor an enthusiastic welcome at the Bliss Estate, Shore rd. and 67th st. General Berry, a resident of Bay Ridge for 50 years and a member of the Norwegian Hospital staff, was greeted by his friends and neighbors.

After a concert by the band of the Wartburg Boys Orphan Asylum of Mount Vernon and a program of athletic events by members of the Norwegian Turn Society, Governor Smith and General Berry were presented with gold medals commemorating the Norse-American centennial celebration in Minneapolis last June.

The Rev. Carl O. Pedersen, pastor of the hospital, made the presentation to General Berry and Capt. S. J. Arnesen, O. R. C., to Governor Smith.

They were selected for the honor because the Chief Executive chose Dr. Berry, the Rev. Dr. Pedersen and Captain Arnesen to represent New York State at the Norse-American Centennial Celebration in Minneapolis last June.

Politics were carefully avoided by the Governor and General Berry, but the Rev. Dr. Pedersen, in introducing the popular Bay Ridge physician and civic worker as "the next Controller of the City of New York," caused a demonstration for General Berry among the 10,000 seated on the sloping hill of the estate.

A. N. RYGG, editor of the Norwegian News and president of the Men's Aid Society of the Norwegian Hospital, presided at the celebration in the park. Governor Smith, who spoke briefly, declared that more energy must be put into hospital work if the institutions are to be in a position where they can cope adequately with humanity's needs. He described his fight for the \$50,000,000 bond issue in 1923 to modernize the State's humanitarian institutions. The Governor lauded the contribution made to America by its adopted citizens of Norwegian extraction.

Major General Berry, after telling of his 50 years' residence in the Bay Ridge, described the celebration of

the Norse-American centennial in Minneapolis, which he attended as one of the commissioners representing New York State.

The team representing the Norwegian Turn Society gave an exhibition of horizontal bar vaulting, calisthenics and vaulting the "long horse." Many Olympic athletes were on the team, including Tryge Andersen and Bjorne Jargensen.

Another demonstration was given to Captain Andreas Mork Grinsoe, Ulrick Wickstrand and John Presteng, who arrived in Brooklyn on Thursday night after sailing their 45-foot yawl, the "Fraedrelandet," across the Atlantic's 3,000 miles in 73 days.

(From the Eagle)

*Mr. Rygg said:*

*M. Governor, General Berry  
Ladies & Gentlemen:*

*see speech.*

OTHER CELEBRATIONS

SEATTLE.

There are four large centres for Norsemen in America: New York, Chicago, the Twin Cities and Seattle. These centres, quite naturally, become the gathering places for a large surrounding population.

Here their main newspapers are published; here are found their large Institutions; here they hold their Annual Conventions.

This is not said to belittle the importance of other smaller centres, but merely to state a fact.

It is obvious, therefore, that although the attendance at the Minneapolis - St. Paul festival numbered tens of thousands, it did not begin to touch the Norse-American population of the country. The expense involved, and the geographical distance, quite naturally kept the major portion of the people at home. For that reason, it was equally easy to understand why local celebrations, conducted in easily accessible centres, should be held. We are unable to give but the meagrist facts concerning the festivals at Seattle and Chicago; but this can be said, however. These festivities, as well as the one in New York, were not imitations of the National Celebration at the Twin Cities. They were independent of this celebration, both in characteristics and auspices. Wilhelm Morgenstierne, ~~in the Norse-League Magazine~~, writes concerning this festival:-

"It was a never-to-be-forgotten sight that met one Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, as we entered the University Stadium, where thousands had gathered for Divine Festival Service.



It was a summer day that can only be found in Norway and by the beautiful shores of Puget Sound. The air was sparkling clear, and the breeze from the ocean filled banners and flags which fluttered in the air. The sun played with radiant rays over the human ocean that filled the grandstand.

Was it only an imagination, or was it really so, that the people collectively, yea, the single individuals had a physiognomy all their own, and here on the Coast, a physiognomy different from our Norse-American in the Eastern and Northern States?

One thing was sure, they are nearer the pioneer period, the day of the pathfinders of greater exertion and sacrifices. There was no mistake about it. These were the people who had been along in giving the furthestmost boundaries of civilization "The frontiers", the last push forward in its incessant Western march, until it was met by the Pacific Ocean!

I remembered then these weatherbeaten pioneers, who had gathered in Seattle from the surrounding settlements: Stanwood, Silvana, Edison and Mt. Vernon."

Participating in the service was the Luther College Band, and besides local pastors, Professor in Theology, Morris O. Wee, from St. Paul, Minnesota.

It was a beautiful and inspiring service. In the afternoon, the civic celebration took place. The speakers for the day were: United States Senator Peter Norbeck and Mr. Wilhelm Morgenstern. The former spoke of the Norse-Americans, the latter brought greetings from the Norwegian Government. The Mayor of Seattle greeted the audience on behalf of the City.



Madam Ligne Lund, Composer writer, artist of note, brought greetings from the women of Norway. The official program of speeches and songs were brought to a conclusion by the presentation of a tableau portraying the life of the pioneer and subsequent developments, also the landing of Leiv Eiriksson, A.D.1,000, the 15th Wisconsin Regiment of Civil War days, and its famous leader, Col. Hans Heg and Roald Amundsen, surrounded by Eskimoes and polar bears.. Finally, a group of young women in white, seated on a large wagon, surrounded by Boy Scouts and Campfire Girls. This group was called "The Hope of the Future", singing "The Stars Spangled Banner", "The Hymn of Freedom" and the Hymn of the Norse-American".

The Chairman of the day was the Hon. Wm. Kolderup.

#### CHICAGO.

The festival at Chicago, under the auspices of the Citizens' Committee, headed by the Rev. H. W. Meyer, Pastor of Christ's Church, Logan Square, terminated with a large public banquet, on one of Chicago's famous piers. This was attended by the Mayor and other distinguished officials. The Very Rt. Rev. Bishop Iunde was the principal speaker.

#### BOSTON.

A two-day celebration in Boston began Saturday afternoon, with a football game between the Norwegian Turn Society of Brooklyn and the Norwegian-American Soccer Club of Boston. In the evening about a thousand people gathered at Jordan Hall, where a splendid program <sup>was</sup> carried out. Bishop J.C.Petersen and Rev.A.M.Trelstad

were the main speakers. The Mayor of the City and the Governor of the State sent representatives. Rev. A. N. Gilbertson was Chairman of the evening, <sup>while</sup> The Committee in charge was headed by Mr. Alexander Olsen. Sunday morning, Bishop Petersen preached at the Centennial Service held at St. Paul's Cathedral. The affair closed with a banquet Sunday evening.

### Chapter 9

#### The Centennial Celebration in New York.

New York, Empire State and Empire City. Gateway to the land of opportunity - haven of the oppressed. Rich in charity, abundant in wealth, lavish in hospitality. First to bid the immigrant welcome, last to give the hand of fraternity to departing guests. Oldest of the frontiers, youngest in enterprise. New York, the soul of the Nation.

If the history of Vinland, i.e., America, belongs to Norsemen, by right of discovery, New York belongs to them by the act of Colonization. There never was a time in the history of New York when Norsemen did not constitute part of its population.

It is eminently fitting, therefore, that New York should furnish the last celebration in connection with the Norse-American Centennial.

and afterwards led the audience in singing the Norwegian National Anthem, "Ja vi elsker".

This was followed by the recital of a Prologue #, written for the occasion by Mr. Franklin Petersen. This stirring piece of poesy would lose much of its force and beauty ~~if a hurried attempt by made~~ translation. The Prologue in its original is found on page ~~of the~~ ~~appendix~~, and it is worth the effort of an able translator to translate it into english for the benefit of future generations.

The Prologue was rendered by Madame Borgny Hammer, well known for her work in dramatic art. Then came the presentation of the play, and it is safe to say, that never before, in the history of Norse-American scenic art, has a play been better presented or more enthusiastically received. From the first to the last, the audience followed the play with deep interest, the players received deserved ovations. It was a delightful evening, one long to be remembered."

Windingsstad

Werner

Hammer

Margareth Olsen

Astrid Fjelde.



The New York Committee chose to start their celebration on the 9th day of October, the date of the arrival of the Restourationen in the Harbor of New York, a hundred years previous.

*Centennial Play* It began by the presentation of a play, "The Mountain Tale", in four acts, written a century ago by H. A. Bjerregaard, and continued for several days, with a splendid and varying program. Of the Centennial Play, the Nordisk Tidende writes:-

"The vestibules of the Academy of Music were crowded at 7 o'clock, by people who desired seats to the performance, but as the house had been sold out, only standing room remained to be had.

Little by little, the *audience arrived* ~~hall filled up~~, and by the time the curtain was raised, all that was representative of Norse-Americans in New York, Brooklyn, New Jersey, and Bronx, were present.

The Boxes were occupied by a large number of distinguished guests. We mention, at random: Minister and Mrs. H.H. *Bjorn* and daughters, the Rt. Rev. Bishop J.C. Petersen ~~and~~ ~~and~~ Consul General Hans Fay and Vice Consul Christensen. President Wefring and members of the Storting, Messrs. Bergensen and Sundby. Prof. Gisle Bothne and Miss Bothne. Mr. Chr. Olsen, Chicago, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Rygg, Mrs. Gudrun Lochen Drewsen, United States Representative O. J. Kvale, Mr. P.M. Selvig and others.

Precisely at 8 P.M., Mr. Windingstad, Conductor of the Orchestra, entered, and the festival began. The Orchestra first played Johan Svendsen's Rhapsody No. 3,

Saturday, October 10th, came with storm and chilly weather.

An elaborate program had been prepared both for the afternoon and evening at the 71st Regiment Armory. The weather, however, destroyed somewhat the afternoon attendance, but did not dampen the spirit of the audience or speakers.

### CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

In Commemoration of the Norwegian Immigration to America, year eighteen hundred and twenty-five, at the Seventy-first Regiment Armory, 34th Street and Park Avenue, New York City, Saturday, October 10, 1925, 3 P.M.

#### AFTERNOON PROGRAM

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1—MUSIC SELECTION .....      | Band of 100 Pieces  |
| 2—INVOCATION .....           | RT. REV. J. C. PETERSEN, Bishop, of Stavanger, Norway                 |
| 3—A WORD OF WELCOME .....    | MR. FRED WERNER, President Norwegian-American Centennial Committee    |
| 4—TABLEAUX .....             | Landing of LEIV ERIKSSON, the discoverer of America, in the year 1000 |
| 5—MUSIC SELECTION .....      | Band  |
| 6—TABLEAUX .....             | Arrival of first immigrants from Norway in New York, in the year 1825 |
| 7—ADDRESS .....              | HON. HELMER H. BRYN, Minister from Norway to the United States        |
| 8—ADDRESS .....              | HON. ALFRED SMITH, Governor of New York                               |
| 9—STAR SPANGLED BANNER ..... | Sung by the Audience—Band   |
| 10—VOCAL SOLOS .....         | ASTRI ELLISON—Christian Schiott at the piano                          |
| 11—SELECTIONS .....          | Norwegian Singers of Greater New York—Ole Windingstad, Conductor      |
| 12—TABLEAUX .....            | Norwegian Athletes (Arr. by Mr. Thorwald Hansen)                      |
| 13—MUSIC SELECTION .....     | Band  |

*The Todd Shipyard Corporation has graciously placed its band at the Committee's disposal.*

*Entire program will be broadcasted from Station W R N Y*



The Centennial Celebration at St. Paul-Minneapolis had President Coolidge, Minister Bryne, Hambro, Oftedahl, Bishop Lunde, Stang and others in attendance. New York had Minister Bryne, Bishop Petersen, Mr. Wefring, Consul General Fay, and,

Roald Amundsen and Lincoln Ellsworth.

After a short welcome address by the Chairman of the Centennial Committee, Mr. Fred Werner, the audience was bid welcome by Mr. Julius Miller, who spoke for Governor Smith.

The Church of Norway sent as its special representative to the Centennial in New York, the Rt. Rev. J.C. Petersen, newly created Bishop of Stavanger. It was this Bishop who was consecrated to the high office on Sunday June 7th, at the ancient cathedral of Stavanger, and who, in his sermon that day, so fittingly remembered the Centennial at St. Paul-Minneapolis, then in progress. Little did he think at the time, that we, scarcely five months hence, should participate in the last of a series of Centennial Festivals held throughout the United States.

Bishop Petersen ~~was~~ the next Speaker, ~~and~~ addressed the gathering in the following words:-

"It is a great pleasure for me to stand face to face with so many of my countrymen this side of the ocean. All sprang we from the same race. If we go back a century, we shall find that we have the same forefathers and like traditions.

It is just one hundred years ago that we divided into two branches. But, what becomes of the branch if it is severed from the trunk? It is just this realization that has created the Centennial festivals over here. In Norway,



too, we have celebrated the Centennial, joined by visitors from over here, because we have come to realize that the two branches belong together. The growth and strength of one increases the power of the other. We cannot do without each other. The Norway that immigrated has made the Norway that stayed at home a greater and richer people.

This century, during which immigration from Norway to America has been going on, has in many ways been a remarkable Century in the history of the homeland. Norway, too, has made wonderful progress during this time. It seems as though hidden powers have been released since the liberating work of 1814 took place. That work in itself was a proof of the virility of the people. They had in reality been prepared for the awakening for some time. Not the least does Norway owe its awakening to the spiritual labors of Hans Nilsen Hauge and the country-wide revival that followed upon his appearance and since that time, Norway has produced a long line of prominent men in all the various branches of science, culture and learning. Some have won world renown. Best known is the long list of Poets:- Wergeland, Welhaven, Bjornson and Ibsen, Lie and Kielland, Garborg and Hamsund. Also our great composers: Ole Bull, Edw. Grieg, Johan Svendsen. Painters like Tideman and Gude, Chr. Krogh, Thoulow, Werenskjold, Gerhard Munthe and others. Sculptors like: Sinding and Vigeland. Scientists like: Abel the Mathematician, Sofus Lie, Sofus Bugge, P.A.Munch. Jurists like: Schweigaard, Frederick Stoug and Johan Sverdrup. Explorers like Nausen and Roald Amundsen. In the church world, too, they have had many men of promise as for example: Gisle Johnsen and Frederick Petersen; Caspari was not born in Norway.

Meanwhile, the country sent out thousands of its sons, especially to the New World, to be along to build this country also. Among them, too, were found prominent men in the various fields of endeavor, able to take a prominent part in the communities in which they lived.

Especially is this true with regard to the church. Wherever we turn, we see what our countrymen have done and what they have been able to create of church and humanitarian institutions, and we are filled with admiration for the efficiency and self-sacrifice revealed.

We rejoice also to note that our countrymen, though they be loyal and good citizens of this, their country, also remember old Norway, and that they have neither forgotten nor are ashamed of their racial origin, even though it happens to be a small country. That they, to the contrary, have discovered that they spring from a good race, one, that in its finest roots, is deeply religious and a moral race, who, in many ways, has proven its willingness to sacrifice for the victory of the Kingdom of God and all that is good among men.

For this reason do we, with thanks to the Almighty, celebrate this Centennial. We have, today, a greater and better Norway, both here and on the other side.

Well may we say with the spelmist "Lord a dwellingplace has **Thou** been from generation to generation. Thy mercy endureth forever. Thou doth not deal with us according to our sins, nor reward us according to our iniquities. As high as the heaven is above the earth, is His **mercy** great over them that fear Him.

This is the day that the Lard hath made. Let us rejoice and make glad on it."



Prayer:

Teach us to thank and praise Thee and never to forget Thy many mercies. Forgive us all our sins and help us always to walk in Thy ways, and to be Thy children, by faith in Thy Son, our Lord Jesus.

May Thy grace and benediction rest upon us. Bless also

~~this festival. May it be done in Thy name and to Thy honor.~~

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have been asked by the Committee to say a few words in the English language. It is a great pleasure to me to comply, with the request of the Committee. I have been entrusted with the honor of representing the Norwegian Government at this important occasion. And, indeed, it is a very great honor, considering the high marks of attention which have been shown Norway and Norwegians from the highest authorities of this country; the stamp of official approval is thereby put on the centennial celebration of the Norwegian immigration. One hundred years has now passed since the good ship "Restaurationen" arrived in the harbor of New York bringing over the first Norwegian immigrants in a body. Since then thousands and thousands of Norwegians have joined them here, so that the Norwegian population

in America is now about as numerous as in Norway. It is therefore easily understood that the Norwegian immigration to the United States has been of great importance, and not only to the individual persons directly concerned and their families, but also to the governments of both countries. It is now a befitting time to review the mutual relations thus created between our countries.

The object that the men and women who came on board the "Restaurationen" wanted to obtain, was freedom of religion. They belonged to the Society of Friends and in Norway there was not at that time much freedom of worship. If a man who was not ordained as a minister in the State Church, dared to preach the Gospel in public, he risked to be drawn into prison. One of the best sons of Norway, his name was Hans Nielsen Hauge, was punished with a long prison term for this crime. No wonder therefore that the small community of Quakers at Stavanger grasped the opportunity to move over to this country where there was complete freedom of wor-

ship. Undoubtedly the principles of religious freedom reigning in the new country from the beginning of the English colonization of Virginia and Maryland, the first one Protestant with freedom for Catholics, the latter one Catholic with freedom for Protestants, has exercised a great influence in breaking down the religious intolerance in Norway, and creating conditions of complete freedom of worship. Norway is therefore greatly indebted to the United States on this score.

We would however make a mistake if we presume that craving for religious freedom was and has been the only incentive to the Norwegian immigration. Already a hundred years ago reports came to Norway about the rich opportunities of the New World and these reports have continued to come in until this day, and we hope that they will never cease.

The Norwegians are an agricultural people and what they long for more than anything else is to become owners of the land they cultivate,—most of the people that came on the "Restaurationen" were farmers and they settled down in Kendall County in the State of New York. The first Norwegian colony in this country since the days of the Vikings when Norway for three hundred years had settlements here, was thus founded in the State where we now have gathered to commemorate the beginning of the Norwegian immigration. From this small beginning the Norwegian farmer immigrants have spread over the whole North West and taken an important part in the conquest of these vast territories for human activities. They have turned the wilderness of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and the two Dakotas into fields of wheat, furnished bread for millions and millions of people, and for themselves they have created happy homes and a sound and firm basis for the future of their descendants. However they could not have done this if it had not been for the wise policy of the Congress and the

Government of the United States in adopting laws whereby the public land was offered as a gift to anyone, native born or foreigner without distinction, who wanted to cultivate it and make his home there. These laws, called Homestead laws, are unique in the world. No other government has ever given away such immense lands. Indeed, Norway has ample reason to be grateful to the United States for the favorable conditions offered to Norwegian farmer immigrants.

Another inducement to immigration was offered by the free social conditions of the New World. The peasantry of Norway has always consisted of personally free men. In the days of the Vikings we had some thralls, mainly captives brought home from foreign countries by the Viking chieftains. They were never numerous and servitude ceased in Norway with the end of the Viking age. In the middle age when serfdom was so common in Europe, Norway had already got rid of this humiliating condition of man. But notwithstanding the fact that all Norwegians for hundreds of years have been free men, there existed in Norway a great distinction between the different classes of the people, we had a kind of caste system. Word came from America that there were no castes here, all people were equal here. The laborer did not need to take his hat off when he met his boss.

In all directions, the Norwegian immigrants have been given equal opportunities with the natives of this country. They have shared with them on equal terms with regard to public offices. Norwegians are numerous in all branches of the Administration, in the Courts, and in the Legislative bodies of the different States as well as in the Federal Congress. Full confidence has been placed in them as good citizens of the United States. They



Prayer:

— / Teach us to thank and praise Thee and never to forget Thy many mercies. Forgive us all our sins and help us always to walk in Thy ways, and to be Thy children, by faith in Thy Son, our Lord Jesus.

May Thy grace and benediction rest upon us. Bless also this festival. May it be done in Thy name and to Thy honor.

May we never forget, that unless the Lord buildeth the house, they labor in vain that buildeth thereon. If Thou doth not watch the City, the guardsmen watch in vain. May we always be before Thy countenance, in the Name of Jesus, Amen."

However, the principal speaker of the afternoon was His Excellency, H. H. Bryn, Minister from Norway to the United States, who spoke as follows:-

have never been discriminated against. There has never been any reason for complaint on the part of the Norwegian Government with regard to the manner in which the Norwegians in this country have been treated by the legislative, administrative or judicial authorities, or by the public. This speaks highly of the good, favorable and sound conditions obtaining here, and it is natural that the Norwegian Government looks with favor upon immigration to this country, as long as Norway cannot keep all her children at home.

I have a special message from the King of Norway and from the Norwegian Government to all of Norwegian origin who participate in these festivities, and I think it appropriate that this message be extended to you in the Norwegian language.



address, able and illuminating, was  
ed. It was a great honor, shown the people  
at Mr. Bryn found time to participate in

tableaus were shown, representing the  
"Landing of the Restourationen", and Leiv Eiriksson's  
arrival in a Viking Ship. The portraial was excellent  
and artistic in every way. To Messrs. Christian Schiott  
and Edward Folstad goes the credit for this part of the  
program.

Besides the above mentioned, there was singing by  
the United Societies, under the direction of Ole Windingstad;

EVENING PROGRAM 8:15 P. M.

- 1—OPENING ADDRESS.....MR. FRED WERNER, President Norwegian-American Centennial Committee
- 2—TABLEAUX.....Landing of LEIV EIRIKSSON, the discoverer of America, in the year 1000
- 3—ADDRESS.....HON. WEFRING, President of the Norwegian Congress
- 4—TABLEAUX.....Arrival of first immigrants from Norway in New York—year 1825
- 5—GREETING.....ROALD AMUNDSEN
- 6—NORWEGIAN FOLK DANCES.....Norwegian Children—under the direction of Mr. Henrik Lund
- 7—SOLO DANCE "HALLING".....MR. HENRIK LUND
- 8—SELECTIONS.....Norwegian Singers of Greater New York—Ole Windingstad, Conductor
- 9—ATHLETIC DRILL.....Under the direction of Mr. Thorwald Hansen
- 10—VOCAL SOLOS.....DIKKA BOTHNE
- 11—NATIONAL FOLK DANCES.....Under the direction of Mr. Castberg Fjellanger

*Chairman of the Program Committee: Miss Helene Clausen*  
*Tableaux arranged by Mr. Schiott after designs made by Mr. Edward Folstad.*  
*Programs arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Christian Schiott*  
*In charge of the hall: Mr. Erling Christopherson and Mr. Karl W. Hagtvedt*

STEINWAY PIANO USED

Mr. Bryn's address, able and illuminating, was heartily received. It was a great honor, shown the people of New York, that Mr. Bryn found time to participate in the festivities.

Several tableaux were shown, representing the "Landing of the Restourationen", and Leiv Eiriksson's arrival in a Viking Ship. The portraial was excellent and artistic in every way. To Messrs. Christian Schiott and Edward Polstad goes the credit for this part of the program.

Besides the above mentioned, there was singing by the United Societies, under the direction of Ole Windingstad; Solos by Astrid Ellison, accompanied by Chr. Schiott.

~~# Page ..... appendage.~~

The program closed by an exhibition by the Norwegian Turn Society, directed by Mr. Thorvald Hansen.

Came the evening session, with the following program arranged:-



Five thousand people gathered for the Saturday evening session of the festivities, and followed the program with enthusiasm and interest.

The first speaker was the representative of the Norwegian Storting, Hon. Carl. W. Wefring, whose greeting from the people of Norway was received with great ~~enthusiasm~~.

In a masterly speech, he traced the importance of the pioneers in their relation to subsequent history, and told of the feeling of friendship and sincere interest that the people of Norway had for their kindred across

the sea.

Ladies and gentlemen:

You remember what happened on the 23rd of May. It was a proud day for New York, when the City of New York gave us Leiv Eiriksson

at the City Hall and celebrated its dedication with a ceremony, which was quite fitting for the occasion. We stood there in the warm sunlight of a beautiful day and we felt how nature itself formed a perfect frame around this event which justly filled us with enthusiasm and with pride.

But along with these sentiments there was also an undercurrent of anxiety which gripped our hearts all the more strongly because it found no expression in words.

For the 23rd of May was not only the day in honor of Leiv Eiriksson, it was also the second day af-

ter Amundsen and his comrades had left on their flight to the North.

It was difficult to realize at the time, in the gayness of the celebration, with the festive crowds and the fluttering flags, that anything could have befallen those brave men. But I know that we all felt the contrast between the safe happiness of the place we had under our eyes, and the perilous journey of those lonesome airplanes disappearing in the mist towards desolation and the great Unknown.

We also felt that there was a mysterious link between the two events, Leiv Eiriksson's voyage to Vinland and Amundsen's journey to the North. It was as if the latter were a natural sequence to the former. Amundsen's journey was the proof that the spirit of Leiv Eiriksson was still amongst us, or as I said at the time: "Is not Roald Amundsen the reincarnation of Leiv the Lucky?"

It seemed so natural that every speaker mentioned Roald Amundsen's name and that at last all those men and women stood with their heads bent in silent prayer for his safe and happy return. And our prayers were heard. Now he is here right among us, not only hale and hearty, but covered with glory from his achievements.

Now I would like to tell a disrespectful story. Not because it is disrespectful, but because it has a moral.

While I was out in Australia, there was a country hotel that people used to flock to because the hotel had a bird that they all wanted to see. It was a unique bird. It hadn't a feather on its back, but it could talk. And it used to flap and call out: "I'll fly! I'll fly! My God, I'll fly!" That seemed to amuse people immensely. But one day when the people returned, they did not laugh any more. For the bird had broken its cage. And fully fledged it soared towards the Heavens. The people realized how foolish they had been. They had not been dealing with an old parrot, but with a young eagle.

Scales have fallen from the eyes of the World. Once more we see Roald Amundsen in his true light. We see him as the Eagle he is: King of the Air.

He is lacking no feathers. Indeed, he has more feathers in his cap than any man I know of. Has he not braved all the elements? Not the ordinary ones that we all encounter. But the very fiercest ones, the ones you have to go and look for, to the end of the earth.

And what are the elements compared to the force of men who oppose you in passive resistance? Also that he conquered. And he did something more: Not only did he render to the Norwegians their faith in him. He rendered to them their faith in themselves.

And here I want to pay tribute to the man whose name will forever be coupled with Roald Amundsen's in this great venture. I mean Lincoln Ellsworth. He came forward at a time when things just looked their darkest. And he placed a fortune in Roald Amundsen's hands. He said: "I believe in you. Take it and spend it. I have only one condition, that I must be allowed to risk my life with you."

What greater proof of generosity, vision and courage could any man have than Lincoln Ellsworth? He has won our highest esteem, and the affection of the whole of Norway. We would have liked him to speak to us tonight. But he has asked to be excused, and we will abide by that. The reason he gave is so characteristic of the man and his noble qualities, that I cannot help repeating it to you.

Five thousand people gathered for the Saturday evening session of the festivities, and followed the program with enthusiasm and interest.

The first speaker was the representative of the Norwegian Storting, Hon. Carl. W. Wefring, whose greeting from the people of Norway was received with great ~~enthusiasm.~~

In a masterly speech, he traced the importance of the pioneers in their relation to subsequent history, and told of the feeling of friendship and sincere interest that the people of Norway held for their kindred across the sea.

He also read a message ~~to~~ from the Norsemen's League (Normands forbundet) conveying best of greetings from this International Organization.

Mr. Wefring's speech and the greetings are found on ~~appendage~~ page ~~four~~.

Pandemonium broke loose when the next speaker appeared about 9 P.M., for it was none less than Norway's famous son, Roald Amundsen, citizen of the world. Mr. Amundsen was introduced by Consul General Hans Fay in the following speech:-

When Consul General Fay mentioned the name of Ellsworth, the audience refused to come to order before Mr. Ellsworth together with Minister Bryn had mounted the platform and acknowledged their applause.

Then spoke Amundsen: First of his heartfelt reception here in New York, then of the Norse people in America. Later, he spoke of his expeditions and of his indebtedness and gratitude to his American companion, Mr. Ellsworth.

"We are about to start again", said Amundsen, *in conclusion,* "and the man who has made the ~~5~~<sup>\*</sup> new effort possible is Lincoln Ellsworth." That continuous applause greeted Mr. Amundsen's remarks is easily understood.

Again the chorus sang "Olaf Trygvason", later on "Prayer" and finally "Varde" with Morton Sherdahl as Soloist. Miss Dikka Bothne also sang several solos. The official program came to an end with ~~a duet~~<sup>a drill</sup> by the Turners and finally a sport tableau, in which several nationally known sportsmen took part.

"Ygdrasil", a Society for the preservation of native plays and dances, closed the program with an exhibition of Native Norwegian Dances. The participants were all attired in native costumes.

# He refers to the Norge flight *in 1926.*



## Centennial Jubilee Service)

Centennial  
Jubilee  
Service

Sunday, October 11, 3.30 P.M.

Brooklyn Academy of Music

INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS.....RT. REV. J. NORDBY  
*Bishop of Eastern District, Norwegian Lutheran Church of America*

SERMON.....RT. REV. J. C. PETERSEN  
*Bishop of Stavanger, Official Representative of the Church of Norway*

ALTAR SERVICE.....REV. HELMER HALVORSON

The Singing will be directed by MR. LAWRENCE J. MUNSON. MISS FORDE will preside at the Organ. Admission Free. Printed Order of Service will be distributed at the door. A Silver Offering will be received at entrance to the Academy.

The Academy of Music was filled to capacity for the Centennial Jubilee Service, Sunday afternoon, October 11th.

Among special guests present were: Minister and Mrs. Bryn, Capt. Amundsen, Hon. Carl Wefring, Lincoln Ellsworth, Consul General Fay, Messrs. Bergersen and Sundby, Railroad Commissioner O.P.B. Jacobsen, Congressman Koale and others.

The service began by an organ prelude by Mr. Lawrence J. Munson, after which the audience, led by a large chorus, sang the hymn "O God of Mercy Rich and ".

The officiating clergymen, each one represented a part of Norse-American history. The Rt. Rev. J. Nordby, ~~President~~ <sup>President</sup> of the Eastern District of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, represented the Norse-American pioneer churchmen and the church at large. Bishop Nordby, born in Norway, has been a pastor in the American church for fifty years.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop J. C. Petersen came to us from Norway. He was the Official Representative of the Norwegian Church.

Rev. Helmer Halvorsen represented the American born

# Festgudstjenesten

SØNDAG DEN 11. OKTOBER 1925

PRÆLUDIUM .....Hr. LAWRENCE J. MUNSON

O Gud, af Naade rig og stor, Send os  
din Aand, hjælp, at dit Ord Fra Øre  
saa til Hjerter gaar, At Liv og Lys der-  
af vi faar!

Det Liv, som er den sande Tro, At  
vi livsfast med Kristo gro; Det Lys af  
Kjærlighed, hvorpaa Vi for hans Ven-  
ner kjendes maa.

Gjør ved din Aand, o Herre kjær, Vi  
komme dig alt mere nær I Kjendskab,  
Kjærlighed og Tro, Til vi faa evig  
Sabbats-Ro!

## INTIMATIONSTALE

### KOLLEKT OG EPISTEL

Kirken den er et gammelt Hus,  
Staar, om end Taarnene falde; Taar-  
ne fuld mange sank i Grus, Klokker  
end kime og kalde, Kalde paa Gammel  
og paa Ung, Mest dog paa sjælen træt  
og tung, Syg for den evige Hvile.

Herren vor Gud vist ei bebor Huse,  
som Hænder mon bygge, Arke-Paulu-  
net var paa Jord Kun af hans Tempel  
en Skygge, Selv dog en Bolig under-  
fuld Bygde han sig i os af Muld, Rei-  
ste af Gruset i Naade.

Give da Gud, at hvor vi bo, Altid,  
naar Klokkerne ringe, Folket forsam-  
les i Jesu Tro Der, hvor det pleied at  
klinge: Verden vel ei, men I mig ser,  
Alt hvaç jeg siger, se, det sker! Fred  
være med eder alle!

### PRÆKEN

Naar Jesus kommer ind i Landet Og  
fanger Folket med sin Magt, Og alle  
Hjertener have sandet Hans Ord, og  
gjort med ham sin Pagt, Da blir der  
lystelig at bo I Herrens Fred og stille  
Ro.

Naar Jesus kommer — kjær at sige,  
Der blir et ganske andet Liv, Et sandt  
og elskeligt Guds Rige Hos Smaa og  
Store, Mand og Viv, Og Kjærlighed og  
Himlens Haab Alt ved Guds Aand og  
Ord og Daab.

### KOLLEKT FOR ORDET OG VELSIGNALSEN

Gud signe vaart dyre Fedraland Og  
lat det som Hagen bløma! Lat lysa  
din Fred fraa Fjell til Strand Og Vet-  
ter fyr Vaarsol røma! Lat Folket som  
Broder saman bu, Som Kristne det  
kann seg søma!

Og Norig det ligg vel langt i Nord,  
Og Vetteren varer lenge; Men Ljoset  
og Livet i ditt Ord Det ingen kann  
setja Stenge. Um Fjellet er høgt og  
Dalen trong, Ditt Ord heve daa sitt  
Gjenge.

Vaart Heimland i Myrker lenge laag,  
Og Vankunna Ljoset gjøymde. Men  
Gud, du i Naade til oss saag, Din  
Kjærleik oss ikkje gløymde: Du sende  
ditt Ord til Norigs Fjell, Og Ljos yver  
Landet strøymde.

No er det i Norig atter Dag Med  
Vaarsol og Song i Skogen. Um Sædet  
enn gror paa ymist Lag, Det brydder  
daa etter Plogen. So signe daa Gud  
det gode Saad, Til Groren ein Gong  
er mogen!

### STILLE BØN OG TAK

POSTLUDIUM .....FRK. AGNES FØRDE

Festprækenen holdes av biskop J. C. Petersen, biskop i Stavanger.

Intimationstalen holdes av biskop J. Nordby, Deerfield, Wis.

Altertjenesten forrettes av pastor Helmer Halvorsen  
av Zions norsk-lutherske Kirke, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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v. Halvorsen,

J. Petersen,

17,3:-

ow Thee,

Jesus Christ."

life, and

By the gift

generations of our people, being born in Minnesota. He is at present serving Zion Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, and thus represented the local churches as well, at the Jubilee Service.

~~Bishop Nordby died in his 82nd year.~~

Bishop Nordby gave the introductory address based on the 126th Psalm of David.

Said he: "The Lord has done great things for us, the Norse-American people these hundred years, both economically, politically and spiritually. The first Norwegian Lutheran Church was erected in 1844. Now, we have a largernumber of churches than there are in Norway. We have reason to rejoice, and we know that our kindred across the sea rejoice with us. This is evidenced by the presence of Official Guests to this Centennial Festival." He closed by praying God's blessing upon Norway, its King and people.

The Alter Service was then conducted by Rev. Halvorsen, after which the audience sang that mighty hymn:-

"Built on a Rock, the Church *both* Stand."

E'en though temples are falling.

The sermon was preached by the Rt. Rev. J.C. Petersen, Bishop of Stavanger. He took as his text John 17,3:-

"This is life eternal, that they should know Thee, the only true God and Him, who<sup>n</sup> Thou didst send, Jesus Christ."

Said the Bishop:-

"The strongest instinct in man is that of **life**, and this instinct is given man by the living God. By the gift



of life followed the desire to live, and God has attached His greatest promise to this desire: "Thou shalt live." "Do this and thou shalt live." "I live and ye shall live". Death is a word coupled with punishment and judgment.

The life with which God has endowed us has been left entirely in our own hands. It is a great gift, but also the great challenge problem. We were given life that we might attain life. We have been endowed with faculties and possibilities capable of development and expansion. The means by which to accomplish this has also been provided. It is to be found right here on this earth. "Subdue the earth". We, ourselves, must find the way to the fountains of life. When we find these fountains, our lives grow and develop and we become strong, ~~and~~ vigorous and happy. For life and happiness belong together. Is it not such a joy that has brought us to this festival today?

These fifty people, who landed here October 9th, a hundred years ago, can truly be likened unto a lifegerm that sought fountains for a richer and stronger life temporarily and spiritually. These few persons became, so to speak, the foundation stock of a whole race, the Norse-American. A healthy, bold and virile people. They came here with the right that life gives one. We have reason today to thank Him who gives both life, the desire to live, and the fountains of life.

You must risk life if you desire to attain life. They had to risk their lives, these pioneers who dared the wild and stormy ocean on a frail bark like the "Restourationen". Later on, they had to strain every muscle in order to build a home for themselves in the new land. What a terrible struggle for existence they had those early immigrants. Yet, it was

not a hopeless and endless struggle. They sowed and harvested and little by little they subdued the East. Where before, only the sigh of the winds was heard in the dark forest, or the cry of wild beasts; where one saw only the endless praries and herds of Buffaloes grazing on the steppies, one now sees fertile farmes and populous cities, wrought by the thrift and industry of the Norse pioneer.

We, who remained in Norway, grieved when we saw so many of our countrymen lower their tents, sell out and, shaking their country's soil off their feet, left for a foreign land. Often the old folks were left to spend their last days in lonesomness. The young people left one by one, as if stricken by a fever.

But, when today, after a century, we behold what has been done, both here and in the old land, then bow we before Him, who guides the fortunes of a people and say: "His thoughts are higher than our thoughts and His ways higher than our ways."

His mercy endureth forever. He has had thoughts of peace, as regards the people of Norway, even in the matter of immigation.

It is He who hath instilled the roving spirit in the hearts of the Norsemen. It is there from time immemorial. It was no chance happening that the first European to reach Vinland was a Norseman, nor that the first white child to be born here was of Norwegian parentage.

"The Norseman, he will roam; he will carry strength  
to others."

(Björnson)

Those who dared the voyage on the "Restourationen"

sprang from noble sires. They came from Skjold, Tysvar, Rogaland and Stavanger, and were descendants of Horders and Rygers, well known from the Viking period in our history. For centuries, these people turned their faces toward the wide blue <sup>sea</sup> ~~ocean~~, and from that source expected to find the solution of the great problem of life.

Thus, the strong Westward current of immigration, no doubt, has an ancient history. It has been in His hand, who wills it that man shall subdue the earth and make it his abode. For this reason, we believe that Norse immigration to this country is a part of the Almighty's plan for the distribution of mankind throughout the earth, and for this reason, too, Norse-Americans celebrate this Centennial with gratitude to Him, who doeth all things well.

God has laid down in the hearts of men another attribute as well, viz., "Love for the Native Soil." It is true what the poet sings: "Of all lands, East or West, the homeland is nearest <sup>my</sup> ~~the~~ heart."

It has an appeal all its own. Among our forefathers, this was feelingly portrayed by a touching custom:-

Wherever they went, to Iceland, Faroe Islands, Suder Islands, Greenland, etc., they invariably brought along the "high seat" ~~posts~~ <sup>(part of)</sup> posts, and <sup>in</sup> the soil ~~with~~ which they had ~~been~~ <sup>stood</sup> surrounded. Thus, they were not entirely separated from the homeland, their homes were still built on native soil.

That same love still <sup>lives</sup> ~~keeps~~ in the hearts of Norsemen. How often, in the quiet moments of life, memory of home appears, and one feels that these are roots that cannot be severed without leaving an ugly incurable wound, an unquenchable longing.



What can we take with us? Not just memories, that is not enough. Nor can we, like our forefathers, take with us some of Norway's soil, nor the blue fjords or the high mountains or the smiling valleys.

~~Even if we could take this with us, the most important still remains, viz., the home spirit, the power that carries one through good and evil days. It is this spirit that remains when all else fails.~~

Even if we could take this with us, the most important still remains, viz., the home spirit, the power that carries one through good and evil days. It is this spirit that remains when all else fails.

In our homes, we are placed face to face with the mysteries of life: Birth and death, success and failure, joy and sorrow. We feel our impotence and dependence. We feel our need of that which consecrates and sanctifies our lives, and that fortifies and gives peace in the hour of death.

We can truly say that our mother country has given her children an inheritance of immeasurable value to them when they are face to face with the stern realities of life: The word of God!

To this is attached the dearest and most precious memories - ever since as babies, we learned Our Lord's Prayer on mother's knee. Then on through early childhood, when at school we were touched by stories from holy writ, and on, on to the day we stood in the Lord's House and repeated our Baptismal vow.

To the word of God is attached our memories of Christmas Eve, with the Christmas Gospel; Easter Morning, with Church bells chiming the message of a victorious Lord Jesus. After all, it is Sundays, in the house of God, that gives our life rhythm and variety. Without it, life would be a dull monotony.

When we remember all this, we invariably begin to sing

the old verse:

"God's word is our heritage, etc."

This shall be the everlasting credit of the people of Norway. They have given their children a thorough instruction in the word of God, and this shall also be the credit of the Norse-Americans.

You have safeguarded this heritage. You felt that what the church gave you was, after all, the best gift the homeland gave you.

It means a lot to be able to say that the history of the Norse-American Church is the history of the Norse-American people. Here we have the profoundness of that love (for) to home and country that God has laid down in our souls. It is there to guide our thoughts to our innermost being, to where we must root ourselves in order to really live and find that peace of mind that we desire.

Our churchfather, Augustine, explains this longing in the following classic:-

"Lord, Thou hast created us to Thyself, and our heart finds no people before it rests in Thee." We find the same thought in the letter to the Hebrews, when it is said of the patriarchs:-

"They acknowledged that they were strangers and pilgrims on earth."

Those who say this acknowledge that they seek a homeland. If they had in mind the country from which they came, there was still time to turn back, but they seek a better land, a heavenly.

This is the one great goal God has set for all humanity. It is the attainment of this goal that creates that longing of the human soul, a longing that can only be satisfied by

the living God, Himself. It was for this very reason that God gave us His own Son. He shared our lot in this world of death that He might lead us into life everlasting.

Jesus, Himself, draws on this instinct or desire in us to live, when He points to Himself and speaks these remarkable words:-

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, even though he die, 'yet shall he live'. I live and ye shall live." He is like us in this, that His highest and innermost desire was to live to be alive.  
"I live."

We humans are unable to carry through our will to live, because of the bondage of sin and death; but, Jesus, He knows that as regards Him, death hath no power. He wills it to live, and He does live. We, on the other hand, may will it to live, but we must die. For that reason, our life is a life in constant bondage and fear, and the fountains of life in this world fails us. Listen to what Christ says:-

"Noone taketh My life away from Me, but I give it of Myself. He knows that He came by life in quite another way than did we.

As the Father hath life in Himself, so also hath He given the Son to have life in Himself. He has received His life in such a way that He has the fountains of life within Himself, just because His entrance into the world was caused by a special act of God: "Conceived by the Holy Ghost."

For this reason, the relation of Jesus to God is a special relationship. He knows Himself to be one with the Father, because He is the Son, who does the will of the Father. For this reason, too, He is continually surrounded by the Father's love and the Father's presence, even when He



treads the way of the cross. Determined and safe, strong and fearless, Christ goes through life, looking forward always to the ultimate goal. Never once did He deviate from the Father's will, though it brought Him the cross and the grave. He dared say what no man has ever dared to say: "I always do My Father's will." Who among you can convict me of nay sin?" This question is answered by those, who for three years shared His fellowship, His joys and His sorrows:

"He knew not sin."

His life was one of perfect purity, truth and love. He lived the life eternal in a perishing world. He is altogether the only one. That which separates Him from all others that ever lived is, that He knew that He was the Son and for that reason, the only one who knew the Father.

"Noone knoweth the Father but the Son, and him to whom the Son hath revealed Him."

Thus, it is only an expression of His own experience when he says: "This is eternal life, to know Thee, the only true God." God, only, was His fountain of life. I live with the father. "Because Christ was thus perfect, it became impossible for Him to live unto Himself alone."

It was characteristic for Jesus, that what He asked for Himself, He desired others to have, and because His life was all for God, He wanted it to be all for men as well. For that reason, Christ proposed to bring us unto the life that we might have life eternal.

He had to do away with all that hinders and separates us from the fountain of life, God: Our sin and guilt

separates us from God, and makes us the prey of death.

For that reason, Christ made it the great aim of His life for us Children of Death, even though He had to give His own life as a ransom. Because of the power of His eternal life, He was able to redeem men by the shedding of His blood. His resurrection from the dead is the seal of the Father upon this great sacrifice. The separating wall is no more. There is an open door to God.

The fountain of life is accessible to all that, by faith, will accept life. The life secured is by the death and resurrection of the Prince of Life.

Through Him, these wonderful words get their correct and truthful setting in this world of death and decay:-

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whosoever believeth in Me, though he die, yet shall he live." "I live and ye shall live."

If you go to this fountain of life in prayer and faith believing, live with Him in daily obedience to His holy word, you will experience the gift of His spirit, the renewal of your mind and will and a new life in faith and love. The more His love becomes the motive power of your life, the more you will actually be living the life eternal, right here in a passing world.

For to live is to love, to love God and, through Him, our fellow man. Love is the span that connects time with eternity.

"God is love, and whosoever remaineth in love, remaineth in God, and God in him." If you know how to love, you know how to live. Let us then, today, on this festival of life, seek Him, the fountain of life, the breath of life, Jesus, whom God hath given us that we might live by Him.

The nearer we come to Him, the nearer we are each other. We become, not only countrymen, sprung from the same race, but we become brothers and sisters, children of the one and same Father. The same life, the same hope and love, the same longing and a common goal.

Some day, we shall meet in that home with many mansions, where there shall gather people of many tongues and lands, from North and South, from East and West, to Celebrate the great "Life Festival", in the presence of God. Amen.

After the sermon, the alter service was conducted by Rev. Halvorsen, and the service closed by the congregation singing:-

"God Bless our Precious Fatherland."

By BliX.

The receipts at the door ~~amounted to about One~~ *was sufficient*  
~~Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)~~, enough to cover all expenses of the Centennial Church Committee.

*Brygg* The final session, under the auspices of the Centennial Committee, took place in the form of a banquet, held Sunday evening. Nearly one thousand diners thronged the large Banquet Hall of the St. George Hotel.

CENTENNIAL BANQUET  
Sunday, Octover 11, 7 P.M.  
Hotel St. George, Grand Ball Room.

Speakers: Minister H. H. Bryn; Hon. Karl W. Wefring, President Norwegian Odelsting; Mr. A.N.Rygg; Mrs. Gudrun Løchen Drewsen,; Professor Gisle Bothne, President Norse-American Centennial, Winneapolis, Minn.; and Fred Werner, President Norwegian-American Centennial, New York and New Jersey.  
Soloists: Miss Astrid Fjelde and Mr. Morton Sherdahl.  
Musical Selections: Tollefsens Trio.



Orchestra: Norwegian Folk Songs and Grieg's Peer Gynt Suite.

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Toastmaster: Mr. Erling Christophersen.

Everyone in a happy expectant mood, a worthy conclusion of a grand undertaking.

The program began by the singing of the "Stars Spangled Banner", after which the Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, Mr. O. C. Christoffer, introduced the Toastmaster of the evening, Mr. E. Christophersen, who, in turn, introduced as the first speaker, the Minister from Norway to the United States, Hon. H.H.Bryn, to the assembled guests. Mr. Bryn, after a few remarks, proposed a toast for His Excellency, the President of the United States, Calvin Coolidge. Congressman, O. J. Kvale, responded by proposing a toast to the King of Norway, His Majesty, King Haakon 7th.

The next speaker, the Hon. Carl Wefring, President of the "Odelsting", a branch of the Norwegian Parliament, was the official representative of the Norwegian Government to the Centennial.

Mr. Wefring dwelt on the importance of preserving our Norse characteristics, and repeated the greeting, given at the Saturday session from the Government and Storting and from the whole of Norway.

Then followed, a long line of after-dinner speeches by: Congressman O.J.Kvale, Mr. Frank D. Watlman, Railroad Commissioner; O.P.B. Jacobsen and Professor Gisle Bothne; the latter two from Minnesota.

Mr. A. N. Rygg read a letter # from Mr. J.A.Ornan,

President for "The Sloopers", an Organization of descendants of the original Sloopers. He also read a greeting from the Norwegian Press Association, signed by Pryser, President, and Sale, Secretary.

~~Appendage page~~

The banquet and thus the Centennial came to a close with an address of thanks<sup>by tele printed</sup> to all who had participated, <sup>Mr. Warner</sup> in making the Centennial Celebration a success.

Several telegrams were received during the Centennial Festivals:-

Oslo.  
God bless the Centennial.  
Greeting friends and kindred.  
G. A. Larsen.

"Unable accept honored invitation participate festivals, send respectful greeting, heartiest congratulation and open admiration of endurance, courage and loyalty by which Norwegian-Americans have contributed to greatness of now leading nation."  
Magnus Andersen.

(Capt. Magnus Andersen, Leader of the Viking Ship to Chicago Worlds Fair, 1891)

Oct. 7, 1925.

Heartiest congratulations to the centennial celebration from the Norwegian-American Historical Association organized at Northfield, Minn., yesterday.

Rolvaag, Secretary."

"Please convey to the Centennial Jubilee Committee the Norwegian American Line's greetings to the jubilee and our wishes that the Norwegian traditions so well represented in and around New York today may be maintained forever.

Norwegian America Line  
Henriksen."

"Passengers, Crew S.S. Stavangerfjord send respectful greeting and heartiest congratulations upon your Centennial Jubilee.  
Nestein, Konow, Housvik, Berg, Andersen, Irgens."

"Kindly allow us on behalf of the Norse Americans of Providence and environs to express to you and through you to the Norse Americans of Greater New York our greetings and best wishes for a successful and impressive celebration of the Norse American

Centennial. May we all do our share toward making the second one hundred years of our people in America as correspondingly rich in achievement for ourselves and our fellow Americans as the first century has been. Three cheers for old Norway and twice three cheers for America.

Respectfully yours,

The Norse American Centennial of Providence,  
Gus Nelson, Chairman,  
H.A.Cheel, Secretary. "

"I extend good wishes for all success.

Alfred E. Smith, Governor."

"Norsemen League sends heartiest congratulations upon your Jubilee, and best wishes for the festivities.

Hambro, Morgenstjerne, Kildahl."



~~Official Representatives~~  
Bid Adieu.

We have already seen that the State Church of Norway was represented at the Centennial in New York by the Rt. Rev. J. C. Petersen, Bishop of Stavanger, Norway.

It was he who was consecrated to his holy office on June 7th, at the ancient Cathedral at Stavanger, Norway. We will write of this in another chapter.

On the Tuesday of the Centennial Celebration, the Bishop, accompanied by the Rev. S.O. Sigmond and Rector, C.O. Pedersen, made a flying trip to Washington, D.C., where the party was received by the President of the United States, Mr. Coolidge. It was due to the courtesy and thoughtfulness of Minister Bryn that this took place, and the party was introduced to the President by Mr. Bryn.

It was a pleasant fifteen minutes visit, in which common courtesies were exchanged. Leaving the President, with reciprocal wishes for happiness and prosperity, the party was escorted through the White House by a Secretary.

After the visit at the White House, # the party was invited to lunch at the embassy. Others present were: Congressman John M. Nelson and daughter-in-law, Mrs. Nelson, Jr.; Congressman O.J. Kvale, Mr. Ottemess, Miss Bryn, Mr. John Bryn, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Roseland, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Williamson. Later on, the party was taken on a sightseeing trip through Washington.

At 8:30 in the evening, Minister and Mrs. Bryn gave a reception in honor of Bishop Peterson. About twenty people were present. Tired and happy, the Bishop entrained late that night and arrived in New York the following morning.

# Picture

On Friday evening preceeding his departure for Norway, the Bishop was the guest of the New York Committee of the Stavanger Cathedral's Eight hundredth year Jubilee Fund Association, at a dinner given in his honoe at the Norwegian Club, Brooklyn.

Present, as special invited guests, besides the Bishop, were the Hon. Carl Wefring, the Consul General and Mrs. Hans Fay, and the Rt. Rev. Samuel D. Trexler, Bishop of the New York and New England Synod of the United Lutheran Church.

It was a very pleasant hour spent around the festive tables, in the homelike surroundings of the Club. The dinner began by the singing of one stanza of the Stars Spangled Banner", after which Rev. Aksel Berg of Jersey City said Grace. Mr. Borge Westergaard, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, welcomed the guest in a short, but appropriate speech, and introduced the Toastmaster for the occasion, Mr. Sverre Sigueland, who spoke briefly

~~# 209 #~~

on the Centennial and celebrations in connection with same.

The first speaker was <sup>Dr.</sup> Bishop Trexler, who spoke of the Norsemen as keepers of traditions and bulwarks of faith. He closed by expressing the hope that Bishop Petersen would see fit to visit America at some other time.

Mr. A. N. Rygg, Chairman of the National Committee of the Stavanger Cathedral Fund Association spoke feelingly on "The place of the Cathedral ~~and~~ and the City of Stavanger, in the life of our townspeople. He closed his speech by thanking the Bishop for his visit, and requesting him to take

~~# See Page .....~~

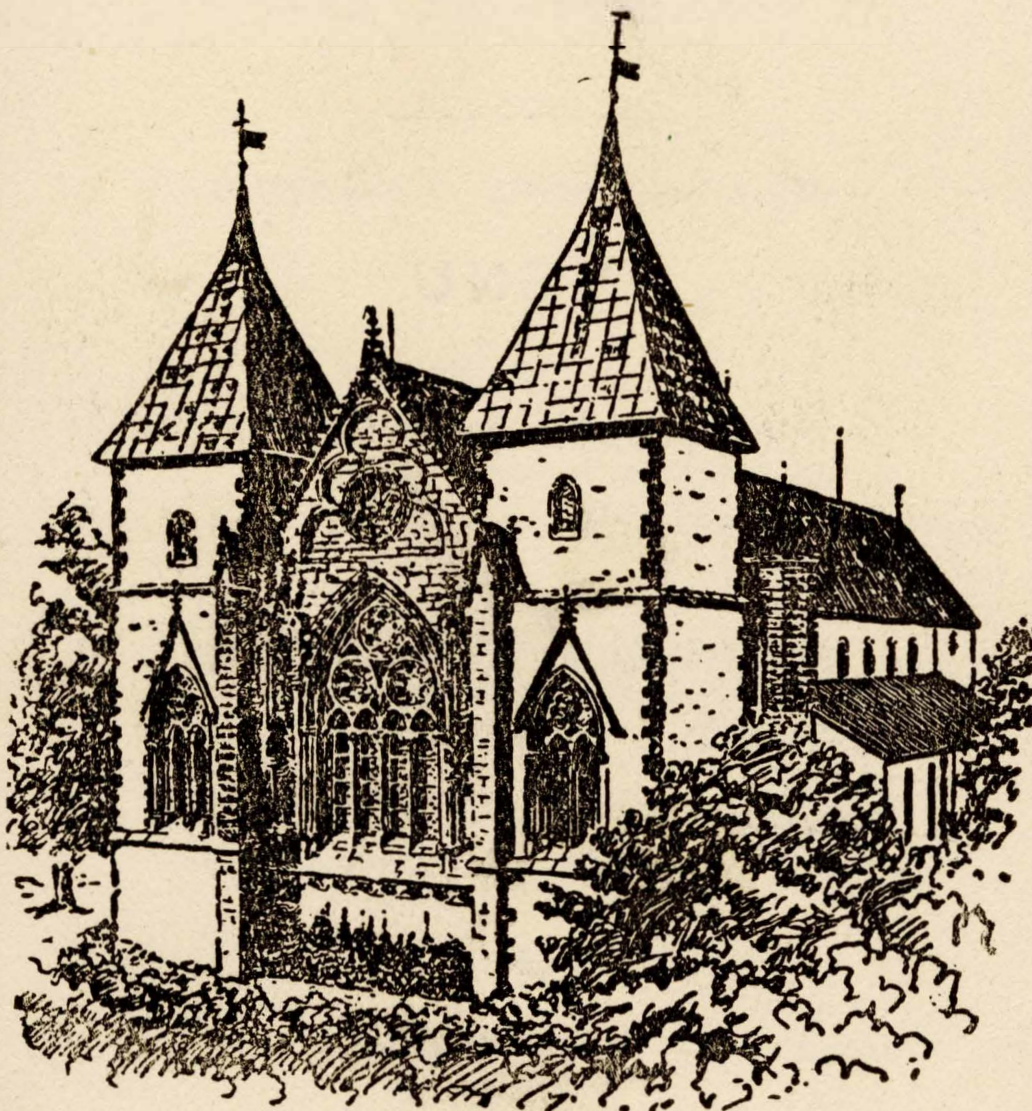


# Dinner

In honor of

**The Rt. Rev. J. C. Petersen**

Bishop of Stavanger



STAVANGER CATHEDRAL, ERECTED A. D. 1125

**Friday Evening, October 23, 1925**

Seven Thirty O'clock

**Norwegian Club, Brooklyn, N. Y.**



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UNDER THE AUSPICES OF  
THE NEW YORK COMMITTEE OF THE  
STAVANGER CATHEDRAL 800<sup>TH</sup> YEAR JUBILEE  
FUND ASSOCIATION

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M E N U

---

GRAPEFRUIT MARACHINO

CELERY            OLIVES

---

FISKEPUDDING MED REKESAUS

POTETER A LA NORSKE SELSKAP

KALVESTEK MED NORSK FLØTESAUS

---

POM PARISIENNE

COMPOT

---

BISQUIT TORTONI

DEMI TASSE

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Chairman: BERGE WESTERGAARD

—————

TOASTMASTER: SVERRE SIQUELAND

—————

SPEAKERS:

RT. REV. SAMUEL G. TREXLER

Bishop, N. Y. and New England Synod, United Lutheran Church

MR. A. N. RYGG, K. OF ST. O.

President, National Committee

REV. S. O. SIGMOND

Chairman, Centennial Com., on Religious services

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AUGUST WERNER

Baritone

ETHEL ODLAND

Piano

CARL CHRISTENSEN

Cello

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## Star Spangled Banner

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O 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 watch'd 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;  
O say does that Star-spangled Banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

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## Ja, vi elsker dette landet

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Ja, vi elsker dette landet,  
som det stiger frem  
furet, veirbidt over vandet  
med de tusind hjem,  
elsker, elsker det og tænker  
paa vor far og mor  
:|: og den saga nat, som sænker  
drømme paa vor jord :|:

Ja, vi elsker dette landet,  
som det stiger frem  
furet, veirbidt over vandet  
med de tusind hjem.  
Og som fædres kamp har hævet,  
det av nød til seir,  
:|: ogsaa vi naar det blir krævet,  
for dets fred slaar leir :|:

BJØRNSTJERNE BJØRNSEN.

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with him our best wishes for himself and his people.

The Toastmaster introduced as the next speaker, the Rev. S.O. Sigmond, Chairman of the Committee on Religious Services of the Centennial Committee, who addressed the gathering on "the desirability of a more intimate relation between the people here and in Norway. He said:-

"This Festival is the last paragraph of the last chapter of this year's many and great celebrations. They have been interesting, of course, yet I rejoice for more in what they signify, and what they promise for the future. This is, in short, a better understanding and closer relationship between Norsemen on both sides of the ocean.

A Norwegian doctor wrote, a few years ago, a striking and timely article in a Norwegian Paper, in which he called attention to a certain incongruous condition. For over a half a century, the common people of Norway, have had their face turned toward America, because their relations were there. When the great mass of the Norwegian people turned their minds toward a country beyond their own, it was, invariably, to the United States. During these many years, many a visit has been made by individual persons, and by letters between Norway and the far-off country beyond the sea. The doctor estimated that about 50,000,000 letters had passed between these two peoples during the last fifty years. What a tremendous connection of hearts! But, now comes the incongruity.

Said the doctor, whose name I do not recollect just now, and whose words I may not be quoting verbatim, "The incongruity consists in this, that we academicians do not pay sufficient attention to the Norwegians who emigrated. When

we think beyond our national boundaries, our thoughts go southward, mostly toward Germany. In so doing, we lose contact, not only with the trend of thought that dominates our kindred across the sea, but we also lose connection with our own people."

Thus reasoned the doctor wisely, and he was right. Now, that nearly one-half of the Norwegian race lives in the United States and the other half follow these, their countrymen, in their minds and hearts, official Norway should follow suit. But, as the leaders of the land, as a rule, are academicians, and they in turn, as a rule follow the German school of thought, while the common people live and think from the anglo Saxon point of view, a condition has been created of tremendous hurt, affecting both the people of Norway and the entire Norwegian race.

This condition has been changed. The time was propitious. One by one, leaders in thought and moulders of opinion changed. <sup>(their mind)</sup> Not only Statesmen and economists began to look westward, but even churchmen and university men have, little by little, joined the groupe, who believe that there are immense treasures in the anglo-saxon world, untouched by Norwegian theology and other sciences. Not only in England, but in America as well.

Then came the year 1925, with reciprocal recognition on both sides of the sea. The whole of Norway took part, including the academicians; the whole of America too. That is as it ought to be, but it must continue.

We Norwegians, on this side, feel that their fellowship must be continued by us, getting as much of the good things of Norway as is possible. We are happy, when we hear of products of all kinds reaching America from Norway. We

believe that there is a market here for much more if Norwegian energy is applied in the conquest of these markets. We believe too that it will be done. Our youth is really more Norse than it would seem - though they speak English, their attitude shows it. They are proud of their Norse Ancestry, and they buy Norwegian goods whenever an opportunity presents itself.

But, we want, not only Norwegian merchandise, but also their spiritual values. The observations of Norwegian scholars, their brilliant contributions to the realm of thought, and their advances in matters spiritual, etc.

We want Norwegian inventions, philosophy, literature, etc.

Above all, honored guests, Bishop Petersen and President Wefring, we want from Norway all the profit that can be had from church and religious life. The catechism and Landstad's Hymnary are the greatest treasures that Norwegian immigrants brought with them to this country (outside the Bible, of course). These books have, more than anything else, stamped Norwegian progress in this country.

But, it has taken a great deal of time and energy to clear the ground, to organize and to fortify us for eventual spiritual controversies. Norway escaped all this. It had been done. For that reason, church work and other spiritual endeavor had had time to develop, expand and grow in inner grace, while we had to build churches, schools and organizations all these years..

Now, the time has come when we can pay more attention to inner development, and in this, we want as much help as possible from Norway. We trust future Norwegian theologians



will leave French and take up English.

It is not for me to say what Norway might import from America, both in spiritual and economic values. May the already existing, happy fellowship between the noble and talented people of Norway and our own Norse-American people continue forever."

Bishop  
Petersen In replying to the speakers, Bishop Petersen called attention to the construction of the Cathedral, one-half of which was built in Roman and the other half in Gothic architectural style - yet there seems to be no contract, it appears quite harmonious.

The Bishop thought that the Cathedral might serve as a symbol of Norwegians and Norwegian Americans. We must both continue to be ourselves to the full, thus we shall have a harmonious effect. We have much to give each other. He left America with love for the people here. The Bishop also greeted Bishop Trexler in German, and thanked him for his courteous words.

Rector C.O. Pedersen addressed a few words to President Wefring, whom he asked to greet the Norwegian Government, its Congress and the people at large. Mr. Wefring in replying said that <sup>the</sup> four weeks spent in the United States would never be forgotten. He was overwhelmed by the spirit in which he had been met. He felt that the Norse-American was an asset to Norway.

The last speaker of the evening was Consul General Fay, who spoke of the Norwegians in New York. He pointed out, that although Norwegians are but a very small percentage of the City's population, they have, nevertheless, made themselves felt. This was especially the case with regard to churches and humanitarian institutions. He mentioned the

Norwegian Hospital, the Children's Home, Old People's Home and other Institutions of Mercy. Especially noteworthy was the fact that all this had been done by the people of ordinary means, who had given of their time, energy and hard earned money. They are the people who really interpret Norway. It is this type who has been the inspiration of President Coolidge's masterly speech at St. Paul-Minneapolis.

The Banquet closed about 11:30 by

Ja vi elsker.

*Chapter II*

A RETORSPECTIVE.

~~Sic~~ Semper Gloria Mundi is an old and truthful saying. Glories fade, music ceases and laughter is stilled - even Centennial Celebrations come to an end. Yet, our festivities have not been in vain. It has revived and strengthened our racial consciousness. It has renewed and cemented bonds of friendship between the peoples of the old land and those of the new. It has made secure for us our position as a group, among the many, that makes up this nation, and it has, in a marked way, lifted the veil and revealed to us future possibilities and obligations.

It has been a century of pioneering, the real test of our virility as a race is yet to come. Shall we be lost in the masses? Or, shall the characteristic traits of the Norseman blaze a trail down through the coming centuries? Time will tell.

NOBLE OBLIGE.

We have been much honored, great is, therefore, our responsibility. For, "Of him who much has been given, much shall be required."

Chapter 12CONSUL GENERAL FAY. *with*

A name, which we have repeatedly met in connection with the New York festivities, beginning with the arrival of the singers and closing with the dinner to Bishop Petersen, is that of Consul General Hans Fay, Consul General for Norway at the Port of New York.

Norsemen in New York, whether they be citizens of the old land or the new, are one in the appreciation of this able and efficient representative. Always willing to assist in every good and worthy undertaking, he has endeared himself to all of our people.

As a fitting climax to a year of unsurpassed festivities, seventy representative men and women from every walk in life, and representing over forty various Norse-American Corporations and Organizations in Greater New York, issued a public invitation to a dinner in honor of Consul General Fay, who, at that time, was completing his fifth year as Consul General for Norway in New York.

The invitation met with a hearty response, and the evening for the dinner found the castellian room of the St. George Hotel filled to its capacity.

Seated at the table with Consul General and Mrs. Fay were: Mr. E.A. Cappelen Smith, Chairman of the Committee, Capt. H. Dolrud, of the Norwegian American Line; and the Toastmaster, Mr. C.A. Hansen and Mrs. Hansen. # 13

Grace was said by Major T. Gabrielsen, Secretary for the Scandinavian Branch of the Salvation Army Provincial Headquarters, after which, Mr. Cappelen Smith welcomed the audience as follows:-



"Honored Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:-

We have gathered here this evening to do honor to Consul General and Mrs. Fay, who, so brilliantly, have represented Norway in New York during the last five years. In so doing, he has brought honor to Norway, an advantage to Norwegian interests, both at home as well as over here. I have the honor to bid you all welcome here this evening."

Later on, Mr. Smith, introduced the Toastmaster, Mr. C. A. Hansen, who proposed a toast to President Coolidge and King Haakon.

A number of telegrams were received during the dinner and were read by the Toastmaster.

Others who sent greetings were Mr. Ingvald Tonning, Mr. & Mrs. Einar Conradi, Marie Johansen, Mr. John H. Finley of the New York Times, Mr. August Reimert, Prof. Gisle Botane, Mr. Charles C. Haight.

Immediately after the reading of the telegrams, Rector C.O. Pedersen arose and proposed a toast for Mrs. Fay.

Introducing Capt. Doxrud as the first speaker, the Toastmaster hailed him as a sea king, decorated by three governments: The Belgian, the English and the United Kingdom of Norway and Sweden.

Capt. Doxrud spoke for the shipping interests in New York. He said: "I believe the shipping interests are united in extending heartiest congratulations to Consul General Fay, for the efficient manner in which he has represented his country and the humane and sympathetic manner in which he treats all that he comes in contact with. In all the years I have known Norwegian Consuls, I have never seen maritime matters handled more expeditely and efficiently as by the present Consulate General in New York.

But, Consul Fay's labor does not confine itself to business interests only. He has been active in many other ways as well. I am thinking at this time of his work in connection with the Scandinavian Sailors' Home, where he has rendered a great and disinterested service. I am sure everyone is happy that this public testimonial became a reality, and that we hope and trust that he will remain at his post for many years to come.

The next speaker was introduced as; a man whose holy duty it was to relieve the sick and poor in our midst, Rev. J. C. Herre. His splendid and masterly address is printed ~~in the # appendage~~ *on page - - - -*

As a representative of the business group, Mr. Herman T. Asche, former President of the Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce spoke as follows:-



*Addressed the spoke as follows.*

I have been requested to say a few words on behalf of Norwegian American commercial interests and as the subject perhaps is rather dry, I solemnly promise to be very brief. —

While all of us who are living in this great metropolis are accustomed to things of immense dimensions, it is nevertheless difficult to

understand and fully value the enormous flow of merchandise which day in and day out is moving through this port and while traffic from and to Norway naturally does not measure up to the trade with the larger European countries, still this constant traffic throughout the year has reached huge proportions and is ever growing. I shall not give statistical figures in this instance as they mean very little to the average mind aside from which they are difficult to remember.

Not all shipments passing through this port require the immediate attention of the consulate. Much of this merchandise goes through regular channels of long established relations, but the Norwegian Consulate General forms a center where most of these streams of commerce converge. Business does not always run smoothly and whenever a Norwegian merchant strikes a snag the first call for assistance is as a rule directed to his consul. In other words the consulate is his First Aid Station.

A great amount of care and vigilance is thus required to properly defend the interests of those who through lack of experience or without any fault of their own are facing losses and perhaps ruin.

Since the discontinuance of the Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce in New York a couple of years ago the work of the consulate has grown considerably. Consul General Fay offered very generously to care for the archives of the chamber during its temporary suspension, but that was the least of the burden to which he fell heir. The additional correspondence which was thus thrown on his shoulders was in itself sufficient to keep an average consulate busy.

But matters pertaining to import and export trade form only a small part of a consul's duties. We hardly realize that during a single year almost 1000 Norwegian vessels,

large and small, visit this port. Between 3 and 4 thousand sailors are annually mustered into service and about the same number out of service. Sick and stranded sailors and other citizens have to be cared for and transported home and sea protests of captains frequently require the consul's attention for entire days.

I have only mentioned a few of his principal functions and it would take volumes to enumerate his manifold duties, and the trouble is a consul is not supposed to make mistakes. If business men commit blunders they can mostly be corrected in some manner, but a consul's work is expected to be perfect or pretty near so.

Another matter which is frequently overlooked is that the Consul General of New York is not only taking care of local trade and navigation. His district embraces no less than 21 States all the way from Maine to Texas and 23 Norwegian Vice-Consuls' stations in that many cities and seaports range under this Consulate General and report to the Norwegian Government through New York. The total of Norwegian vessels which during 1924 visited the Consular district was over 2,400 of 4 millions tons.

This involves responsibilities and demands experience of the highest order and the average person hardly realizes how we depend upon our excellent consular service.

When in Norway last summer I met an old friend well versed in Norwegian matters, but with only slight knowledge of foreign affairs. And as the talk drifted to New York, commerce and consuls, he wanted to know what a consul really had to do. I told him that in New York the Consul's principal occupation is to show the tourists the newest skyscrapers.

In Consul General Fay we have a type of consul we may well be proud of. His experience abroad covers many lands in Europe, Australia, Asia and South America.

He tackled the great work that awaited him here whole-heartedly and with wonderful energy. He is ever ready to help and gives everybody the benefit of his experience and advice. He stands up in the defense of what he considers right—even if it hurts.

I am told that five years at the consular post of New York is considered equal to 10 or 15 years in other similar positions, and judging from my own observation I think it is not so far out of the way.

We feel safe with this important office in the hands of our esteemed Consul General Fay. We thank him from the bottom of our hearts for what he has done and is doing for Norway and in true gratitude wish him further success and future happiness.

*This was followed by a speech by Mr. S. T. Heland one of the founders of the Seamen's Association for many years a member of the National League & other organizations*

Mr. Toastmaster, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have a strong presentment that, when I sit down after finishing my



Rev. Oscar Bakke, President for the Atlantic Circuit of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, spoke for the Churches.

"So much good has been said tonight," said the speaker, "That I hardly know what more to say. I can say, however, that it is a pleasure for me to be here, both personally and as the representative of the Church.

We know that Consul General Fay has always shown himself interested in the Church and its work. We have always been met with courtesy and we rejoice in the fact that he is so interested in the welfare of our people. It was he who made the first move against the "Dives". It was he who organized the committee now at work, a labor in which the Church is much interested. We appreciate also his interest in the work among the poor and unfortunate.

In the name of all Norwegian Churches, I thank you most heartily."

Finally, Mr. A. N. Rygg spoke on behalf of the General Public. He said:-

"I pride myself over the privilege of speaking here tonight, even though I may be confined to leavings. The Norwegian Consulate General, however, is such an important affair, that there happily is some left yet to speak of.

Norway, as is known, has a great many Consulates; none of them, however, equals the Consulate General here in New York. The reason for this is, that the Consulate, besides taking care of the interests of Norway, comes in daily contact with a large Norwegian population with its many and varied demands. One will understand this better when one learns, that there are about 100,000 Norwegians living in

the territory covered by this Consulate. There is an endless lot of work to do. It touches all conditions of life. Consul General Fay has discharged his duties in this connection with great fidelity and promptness.

There are two men from days gone by whom we remember with deep respect: Consul General Bors and Consul General Ravn. Not alone because they filled their position conscientiously and with ability, but because they were builders in the colony as well. I believe it can be said that Consul General Fay is a worthy successor, in that he, from the very first, has given full and serious support to all that is good, idealistic and valuable among us.

He has always been ready to concil and promote every effort for the betterment and progress of our people. That is why we like him and are happy to have this opportunity to show him our appreciation.

Another factor worthy of mention here, is the excellent manner in which Consul General Fay, time and again, has represented not only Norway, but us, residents of Norse descent, as well, in the community at large. It is a fact that he, by his representative abilities has enhanced the prestige of Norway in this Metropolis. For this, we not only love him, but are proud of him too.

Finally, let me say, that we honor Consul General Fay, as an official, as a man and as a human being. We thank him for congenial and fruitful cooperation during the five years past. We trust that for many years to come, we shall be able to make use of his fine intelligence, his absolute mental integrity and his warm heart.

All speeches were received with enthusiasm and applause.

In responding to the many expressions of good will, the Consul General said:-

"From the depth of my heart, I thank you all for the kind words and courtesies extended to my wife and myself this evening. It is too much. Had not my wife been present, I should certainly have protested, but I feel that it might be pleasant for her to hear something nice said about me. It is with me, like most husbands, I suppose, that we usually bring the unpleasant things home.

Now, you may ask, what does a Consul really have to do, what are his duties? It can be answered by another question. What is there that a Consul does not have to do??

A Consul must be a handyman, partly lawyer, partly doctor, and partly a minister. Besides, he must understand some of the things spoken of by experts here this evening. He must only have common sense but first-hand information. Besides, New York is such a busy place, that matters must be cared for in a minimum of time. It's often a thankless job. People do not come to us, as a rule, before they are in difficulties. The matters in which we can be of assistance are not always of the conspicuous kind. They are not suited for publicity, but it may be of very great importance to the individual.

Perhaps a man's life or health, a father's anxiety, a mother's or wife's longing. If we can be of some aid in this respect, we have the reward of personal satisfaction, even though the world may know nothing about what has been done.

I thank you all, and I will start by those nearest to me. I thank my wife, who has been a faithful aid all these



years. I thank my faithful and untiring coworkers at the Consulate; no one man can do the work alone. He must have the aid of people upon whom he can depend, and that I have had.

I particularly desire to make mention of this tonight, because, as is well known, most of the employees at the Consulate have been engaged right here, and are members of your colony. Again, a thanks to all of you. I cannot begin to mention names. I have come in contact with hundreds, yea thousands of people in this City, amny of whom I have learned to love and appreciate.

When I look upon all the familiar faces here this evening, it has warmed my heart. May your colony and the great work it is doing thrive and prosper. A hearty thanks to you all. May God bless the Norse-Americans in Greater New York."

It was nearly twelve o'clock when the gathering finally broke up. We wonder if ever a Norwegian Consul ~~General~~ has been the recipient of such sincere and wholehearted acclaims as was ~~the dinner~~ given Consul General and Mrs. Hans Fay.