

Dagny Fredboerg Krag. Born on December 12, 1906 in Furulund, Sulitjelma, Norway. This is a mining place. The nearest largest town is Bodø.

PARENTS Sverdrup Frantzen and Jenny Bendikte Jensen. Her father worked in a store, which had almost everything. Mother was a wife and mother.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS Astrid Marie, Dagny Fredbjørg, Trygve, Sigmund Jarl, Arnoll Johannes, Thor Reinholt, and Edith Mary.

GRANDPARENTS Paternal lived closer to Dagny's family. Father was born in Beiarn. Grandparents had a farm there. Frantz and Dorteia Olsen. Grandfather was a tall, good-looking, straight man. Grandmother was small with dark hair. They were wonderful. Dagny visited them every summer. They had cows, goats, and sheep. She never saw her maternal grandparents, Andreas and Maria Jensen.

NAME Dagny's maiden name is Frantzen. Her grandfather was Frantz. The name was to be supposed to be Strand but so many had taken the name improperly.

CHILDHOOD HOME Good home. 3-4 apartments, which belonged to the store. A bakery was right down below them. Their home was in connection with her father's store. The community was not isolated. Went by train then boat to Bodo.

SCHOOL Had a good school. First class teachers.

Moved to her grandfather's place where Dagny did not stay long. She went to Oslo.

LAPP PEOPLE Interesting. Met them through the store. They were from Sweden. They dressed different, fur and skin. Men had tight pants, fell kofte, reindeer fur. They had fur gloves, decorative headpieces in all colors. Men and women had different headpieces.

Sometimes they came into the store in large groups. When the rains came they had to move their tents, had a fire in the middle of their tents.

Dagny visited them when she was in the mountains skiing. They knew her father, brought him gloves, meat and other gifts. She was with other girls on a girl scout outing.

Lapps were considered different. Not big people on the smaller side. Have high cheeks. Dark brown eyes. They

walk different, used to walking in the mountains.

They had a special little bed to carry their babies in, kromse. This was a small bed considered necessary for fjellfolk.

LAPPISH LANGUAGE This is different from Norwegian. Used their hands to communicate. Some Lappish children went to school and learned Norwegian. Dagny's father went fishing with them in the mountains.

The Lappish people were liked in Dagny's community. Dagny's mother invited them for Christmas.

They lived mostly in one place, had to move when the snow melted. They do not have much milk, made cheese from reindeer's milk, strong cheese. They also used goat's milk, which Dagny was not used to drinking. Made cheese with goat's milk.

They had skins for furniture in the house. Dagny went in for coffee. She describes this. They used canned milk for their guests. They put reindeer's cheese in the coffee.

They usually have one reindeer at home. There were many herds of reindeer around. Were about 40-50 Lapps in the area that Dagny lived in.

Dagny recalls when a Lappish friend asked her about black people in the world. They asked her various things about the world. Some did go to school. Dagny had a Lappish teacher names Nels Flottesfjell(?).

WAR IN NORWAY Could not sell Lappish food because they were Swedish not Norwegians. Father was always a generous man, always helped people.

Father went back to his father's place until he died. This is in Beiarn, a beautiful, long valley from the sea. Grandparents lived two Norwegian miles from Dagny's family.

Place called Dryppstein in this valley. People come from all over to see it. This is in the mountains.

CHRISTMAS Big, beautiful tree decorated the night before Christmas Eve. The tree was transported to the store from another place. Had rissengroet on lillejulesften and lutefisk on Christmas Eve.

CHRISTMAS EVE They had ribbe, country style meat and surkål, sweet and sour cabbage with lots of baked

goods. Mother did the cooking and baking. A maid helped out sometimes. Dagny lists the other foods they had, fattedmand, julekaken, hjortetak, goro, and berlinerkranser. They also had lots of fruits and nuts.

**JULETREFEST** A gathering after Christmas of friends and family. Christmas goes until January 6. In Dagny's house the tree stays up until the 7th.

Hung small baskets on the tree filled with nuts, fruits, and other little things. Lit the tree with candles. Sang around the tree. Got lots of presents on Christmas Eve. They hung up their real stockings so Santa could fill them.

**JULENISSE** This is what Santa is called. Left rissengroet out for the Julenisse.

**CHURCH** Family went to church and were all confirmed. Went on New Year's Eve.

**LIFE BEFORE THE U.S.** Went to school in Sulitjelma and confirmed there also. Left Sulitjelma when she was 15 years old. Moved to her grandparents' area. Stayed there for a few years then stayed with another aunt for a while.

Went to Oslo by herself and got a job. Had friends and family there. Did some sewing and worked in an insurance company.

**MEETING SPOUSE** Met her husband through his brother. Married in 1932. His name was Frithjof Krag. He was a businessman and worked for a newspaper interviewing people.

**WORLD WAR II** Oslo was bad during the war. It was hard to get food. Dagny's parents wanted her and her daughter to come home. Her husband died before the war in 1938. Her daughter was born in 1932.

**WAR WAS TERRIBLE** Bombed, shot people in Oslo. Oslo was occupied first. Talks about when the Germans took over. Dagny moved with neighbors up to Svartskog. Streets were full of people. She had to go back to the bomb shelter. 'Everybody had to be out of Oslo in 10 minutes.'

A man helped Dagny get out of Oslo. The whole town was chaotic, it really upset people.

Dagny wanted to go back to Oslo to get clothes, money, *etc.* She was stopped trying to go.

Thousands of German horses and Germans soldiers were all over. Dagny did get back to Oslo finally to gather some things. She kept in contact with her parents constantly. She sent a Red Cross telegram, which was sent to

Russia and Sweden before her parents got it.

Dagny had a difficult time getting permission to go north to visit her folks. They gave her a 30-day pass.

Came to the U.S. in 1950. Her mother had three sisters in the U.S. Two were in Tacoma. One aunt encouraged Dagny to come.

After the war, Dagny lived with her parents. She worked some, doing selling in the store.

Did not have to wait long to get on okay to come to the U.S. It took a while to get a boat. Many were sunk during the war.

Came on the Stavangerfjord. Left Norway on May 2, 1950. Stayed in Trondheim for a few days before going to Oslo. Landed in New York on May 12.

DAUGHTER'S FEELINGS ABOUT LEAVING Hard on her, she cried when they left. Dagny had to be strong. The midwife who delivered Dagny was there when they left.

BOAT TRIP Very nice. Good food. Many immigrants on the boat.

LANDED IN NEW YORK Had two big wooded boxes with her. Men all had colorful ties in New York.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS Went through immigration. A Norwegian person helped her at the immigration office.

RAILROAD STRIKE Had to take a taxi, which was an experience. The driver gave them a hard time. Took the bus to Tacoma.

Stayed overnight in Chicago before finishing trip to Tacoma.

EXPECTATIONS OF U.S. Had seen lots of movies, which made things not so much of a surprise.

BUS TRIP Funny to see windows rolled down. Pigs looked different. Saw many different animals. Trip took five days. Bus stopped every two hours for people to take a break.

Arrived in Tacoma on May 17. Her aunt picked her up. They lived with this aunt and uncle downtown.

Went to Lincoln school and learned to speak English. Worked downtown in a store, Almar Aires (?), a ladies clothing store.

**MOST DIFFICULT THING ABOUT MOVING TO THE U.S.** Had to go home and wait for work. Didn't make much money this way.

Had lots of relatives and friends in Tacoma. Many have Norwegian identities. Norwegians stuck together.

**SOCIAL GROUPS** Joined the Daughters of Norway in 1952. She was an officer here. Was very active. Has a plaque from the Daughters.

**WHY THE DAUGHTERS ARE IMPORTANT** Did many things. She liked to be active. Liked being with Norwegian people.

**TRIPS BACK TO NORWAY** She has taken six trips. The first time was in 1959 and she stayed for four months. It was nice to be back. She took a ship back, left from New York.

Dagny feels at home in Tacoma. Her daughter is here. She loves Norway.

**LAST TRIP BACK IN 1980** Dagny has a sister left to visit. Mentions the places she visited.

In 1966, she took a trip over with her daughter and two grandsons. They love Norway.

**NORWEGIAN HERITAGE** Grandchildren are interested in it. Still speaks some Norwegian. Grandson can understand the language.

**CHANGES** Daughter has been back two times. The landscape, there are buildings going on all over. Lots of houses. Lapps changed from what they were before.

Dagny missed snow when she first came to the U.S. She was excited when it first snowed.

NORWEGIAN PEOPLE Like to know they are Norwegian. Proud to be Norwegian. Good, honest people.

Dagny feels good in Tacoma. She has made the most of it. Dagny describes some of the pictures up on her wall. Has keepsakes from Norway.

Speaks in Norwegian about how you can make butter. An old song she says. She also says a Table Prayer.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES Belongs to a church but it is too hard to be active now. Belongs to Nordlandslaget, a special group of people from Trøndelag, northern Norway.

NORTHERN NORWAY Northern Norway is dark in the winter and has beautiful summers. Everyone is active in the summer, lots to do. Lots of tall mountains and fjords.

Beiarn is a place where the boats go in, as if you are going into the mountains. Jettegryte, big holes formed by water.

Hopes to take a trip back to Norway again.

DESCRIBES THE COPPER MINE IN SULITJELMA: Horses used to get copper out of mines. Put copper into bars. Mining area had many minerals and metals.