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Edward I. Salmson, was a prominent down-town businessman in the nineties. No biography is available but I have learned that he was born in Stockholm Sweden of a Jewish father who had been converted to christianity and a Swedish mother. He is supposed to have arrived in U.S. at the age of 16. When nor where is not known. Nor have I been able to establish when he arrived in Tacoma. Here he operated a jewelry store about 930 Pacific Ave from sometime in the nineties until about 1910. Then days jewelers were also opticians. After closing the jewelry shop he practised as an optician with offices in the Fidelity Bldg. for several years and was also the president of Home Electric Co. Wholesale dealers of electrical supplies and Appliances. The Family were members of the First Presbyterian Church where Mr Salmson served on the Board of Trustees. Mrs Salmson was of old American stock and I believe they had one daughter. Mr Salmson, served on the City Council in the early days. Around the turn of the century he was a member of Swedish Order of Valhalla After spending all of his mature years on this continent, and spoke english without a trace of an accent. he was still able to speak perfect Swedish in his old age.

OTHER SWEDES WHO ARRIVED EARLY AND LEFT THEIR MARK.

Had this research started some decades earlier we could have gathered more reliable data about more of our countrymen who arrived in the last two decades before the turn of the century. Not too much of their activities has been recorded and the second and third generations seems to know very little about their ancestors. Alfred Sundell, arrived here as early as 1883. Born in Vestmanland Sweden in ~~188~~ 1861 he emigrated in 1882. spending the first year in Kansas. He was a painting contractor when I knew him but he seems also to have been a glazier for some years. Except for about three years when he was a partner in a steam laundry in Seattle, in the early nineties. he spent his entire life in Tacoma. He was also an early member of Valhalla where he served as a perennial secretary and musician. He played in the original Valhalla Band and sang in the several Male choruses

which existed from time to time. A brother in law if Mr Sundell was Oscar P. Pierce. I believe they married sisters, but I have no information about the ladies. I have reason to believe that Mr Pierce was born somewhere in the midwest of Swedish parents. Seems to have joined Valhalla in 1894 and some time after the turn of the century he was presented with a tea-service by Valhalla for having served as financial secretary for 10 years. Mr Pierce was an office worker and I believe he had a position in some department in the Court House.

In 1895 his address was 2508 So 13th St. Mr Pierce was also the first Secretary when Central Lutheran Church was organized. ----- Gus Strand, seems to have been a man about town in the early nineties. The name keeps bobbing up. Just when he arrived has not been established, but he was initiated into Valhalla in 1889. I understand he was born in the province of Skane Sweden. Seems to have moved to South Prairie. Where, if my information is correct served as constable or deputy sherriff. South Prairie was probably more of a bustling town then, than it is now, with logging, saw mill and even some coal mining in the vicinity. Later, probably around 1910 or after he was also elected Mayor of the town.

..... Carl J. Lindquist, was also an early arrival. Biographical data is lacking. He was a piano repairman and finisher by trade. First employed by D.S. Johnston Co. Pioneer piano dealers and later by other dealers. Active member and perennial deacon in the Swedish Lutheran Church. A son Carl E. Lindquist, became a vice president and Cashier of Puget Sound National Bank, but died at an early age. The Carl E. Lindquist Childrens Clinic was dedicated to his memory. A lady that certainly ought to be mentioned is Mrs Alice

Gundersen, she was a native of Malmo Sweden. Her husband was a norwegian and passed away at an early age leaving her with four minor children. Like most women from her native province of Skane, where good food, much food and food right on time, is an accepted proverb she was an able and excellent cook. So by cooking and doing housework she raised her children to become prominent in the business life of Tacoma. For years she prepared the dinners at Valhalla. The oldest son Gil became Gunderson the Tailor. Since his demise the business is conducted by his son. Art the younger son established Gundersons Jewellery and the two girls were active in Ladies wear business. Neither one of the girls married;

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seems to have been retained in Tacoma even after Mr Johnson transferred most of his activities to Seattle. The region of Klondike in the Yukon territory close to the Alaska border was noted for the rich gold-bearing gravel which was washed down by several rivers flowing into the area. In 1896 one George Macarmack, made a major discovery. When this became known the area was flooded by prospectors. By the turn of the century at least 30,000 persons had arrived in the area. In 1898 gold was also discovered at Anvil creek, near the present city of Nome Alaska (The town of Nome was first called "Anvil City, and later changed to "Nome" for the nearby Cape Nome.) There was an influx there also and by the year 1900 Anvil City had a population of 20,000. It is cogent that among the number of prospectors there must have been any number of Swedes among them, and quite a number from Tacoma and vicinity. In earlier chapters we have mentioned a few who did spend some time up in the frozen north during the gold rush days. Alaska Carlson, Andy Christoferson, Andy Gehrman and others. We have tried to inquire about it from descendants of families whose ancestors participated in the Gold Rush. But after three quarters of a century most of the history of this interesting era, is lost. Most of the answers have been rather similar: "I know that dad (or grandpa) was up there but I don't think he made much, and he never said much about it." Perhaps those who made something were reluctant to talk about it and those who failed would rather forget about the whole thing. Beside those already mentioned I can think of a couple of more, a Gus Johnson, who seemingly had done quite well as he was able to retire rather early and spent his time putting around in the garden in his north end home and the rest of the time salmon fishing around Pt Defiance and in The Narrows. Biographical data is lacking but it might be added that he was a trustee in the First Lutheran Church for many years and a prominent member of the Building Committee when their present edifice was built. At times he was also referred to as a mining engineer. Charles Holmea also spent a couple of years up in Alaska during the Gold rush. If he made any fortune is not known. Charles arrived in Michigan in the eighties with his parents and other members of the family while he was still in his middle teens, from the Stora Tuna parish in Dalarna Sweden. The original name was Granholm, Here the family name was changed to Holmes. Charley arrived here first and the rest of the family followed later. Before

Mr Holmes sojourn in Alaska he had perhaps been employed in the saw-mill industry and on his return was employed by the St Paul mill as a trimmerman. Was later promoted to foreman and advanced to General Foreman and as such directed a crew of 5-600 men for several decades: The only information I have about Mrs Holmes is that her name was Ellen, and that she was born in Upsala Sweden. The Holmes were married in the early nineties. There were three daughters Edith, Lilian and Ellen who eventually became Mesdames Moon, Rosene and Carrol respectively. Mr Holme, had a brother Emil, who played in the original Valhalla Band but there is no further information about him. Mr and Mrs Nels Person, is one couple that certainly deserves a honorable mention. Both were natives of the province of Skane Sweden. Nels from the Vastra Sallerup parish and Ella from Ostra Sundelov. Both had emigrated to Minnesota in the mid-nineties in fact to the same town Sacred Heart. But never met until they located in Tacoma where Nels arrived in 1897 and Ella in 1898^{MARRIED} Around the turn of the century and eventually raised a family of one girl and nine boys. Nels was a steam engineer or heavy equipment operator first for a number of years for the Northern Pacific Railroad and later until his retirement for the Milwaukee Road. This was a musical family. Upon his arrival in Tacoma Nels became a member of the original Valhalla Band. He also played the violin and was always willing and ready to fill in in the impromptu orchestras which were formed from time to time for Swedish dances and entertainment. and when another Swedish musical organisation "The Svea Band" came into being in 1911 Nels was one of the first to join up. We might also mention that Nels sang tenor in all of the Swedish Male Choruses that did exist from time to time and was also an active member of the existing Swedish fraternal organisations. The daughter Anna, who was the oldest became Mrs Carl A. Anderson, about 1925 and we hope to give her due credit for all the work she has done for the Swedish societies later in this resume. All of the sons became solid citizens. Most of them are retired by now and have been active in various fields of endeavor. Some have moved to other states. Those still in this vicinity we might mention Henry a retired English professor from U of W, now a grape grower near Grape View, Clarence (Fat) ex custodian in the Tacoma schools. Carl a down-town bookseller. Emil and Victor spent most if not all of their working days with the Peoples Store. Raymond who was the youngest I believe is still active as a beautician up around Edmonds.. Most of the boys are retaining

their membership in the existing Swedish societies and have filled the chairs in several
 capacities. Pa and Ma Person ^{are} ~~is~~ long gone but their memory lingers. They were a devoted
 couple. Perhaps best described by a phrase from one of Carl Sandberg's poems: "They never
 got tired of each other; they were a couple" Carl A Hallin, Born in Mjolby in
 the province of Ostergotland Sweden in 1868. Learned the black smith and machinist trade
 from his father. Came to the mid-west in 1888 After a sojourn in several of the midwest
 states he settled permanently in Tacoma in 1898. He first opened and operated a bicyckle
 shop which gradually was developed into a general machine shop. Early in the century he
 developed the Hallin Gas engine which was extensively used in small boats and launches as
 well as for other purposes. Originally the shop was located in various places about 1910
 a shop was built at the east end of the 11th St Bridge where he was in business for seve-
 ral years. When competition began to get keen a decade later he built a shop near Day Is-
 land, where he concentrated on repair work. Mr Hallin was a skilled Mechanic. perhaps with
 a little more energy and business acumen he could have fostered a major industry,
 There are of course many events that happened in the Swedish community that deser-
 ves to be recorded, as well as a number of Swedes and their descendants that have left their
 marks. But, the sources of information are meager. Since the nineties almost two genera-
 tions have come and gone. We understand that a number of Swedes homesteaded in eastern
 Pierce and in eastern Lewis Counties in the early nineties. Notably the Ahlstrand and
 Neslund families who settled around Mineral Lake. We have some leads but nothing authentic.
 As more information becomes available we shall make inserts between the pages about these
 pioneers and others who done their part in ~~XXXXXX~~ ^{taming the wilderness and} ~~XXXXXX~~ made the country-
 side into productive farms and built towns and cities. The Swedes of Tacoma never
 lived in enclaves as seems to have been the case in some of the eastern and mid-west
 cities notable in Chicago, Minneapolis-St Paul and elsewhere, even to some extent in Seattle
 in earlier days, in the Green Lake and Ballard areas. Searching the City Directories from
 around the turn of the century and before one gets the impression that our countrymen
 were spread out from PT Defiance to Fern Hill and from Portland Ave. to South Tacoma.
 Yet, there some indications and those of the same religious ~~persuasion~~ ^{persuasion} preferred to live
 in the same neighborhood. Knowing something of their background it can be safely stated

that most of the Swedish Lutherans preferred 6th Ave., the Prospect, Fife and Pine St. areas. At least when you look for the more prominent ones. Notable the Lindbergs, Ahnquist, Hedbergs, Lindquist and others. The Covenanters, then known as the Mission Friends had their house of worship located at So. 18th and J St. and we have located a number of the membership living in the immediate area, The Swanson's Schlin's and others. I have less knowledge of the Baptists and the Methodists. They also had their places of worship in the same general area and of those I been able to identify resided not too far from their Churches.

Valhalla was the only fraternal society existing Their membership was scattered but nevertheless a great many of the members seemed to have had an affinity for the area around So. 14th and 15th and G st and Tacoma ave. Mr A.P. Carlson proprietor of the Vega Saloon owned a number of rental houses in the area which may account for some of them but several also owned their own homes in the neighborhood.. . . . In 1899 Rev. P.A. Matson, accepted a call to Minnesota and resigned the pastorate of the Swedish Lutheran Church. He was succeeded the next year by Rev. C. L. Frisk, who served the congregation for the next decade. About this time or before the Swedish community had been blessed with still another church to care for their souls. The Swedish Free Church. This was just an offshoot of the Covenant denomination who in turn had decamped from the Lutherans. This congregation worshiped in a barnlike structure at 14th and So M St. The first pastor seems to have been a Rev. Everlöf about whom nothing is known at this late date. The old church was torn down and replaced with a somewhat better structure sometime around 1915. This was probably the straw that broke the camels back. The membership had never been very great and the ministers came and went. With the added expense of the new church even if it was not too elaborate the burden was too much and the congregation petered out shortly after the first world war. The principal difference between the free Church and the Covenanters seems to have been in the interpretation of some of the scriptures. Their evangelists were apt to be more vehement in their preaching and some even practised faith healing. It is said by some that they may have been forerunners of the pentecostal movement. People still have a flair for religious controversy but there were perhaps even more hairsplitting about the interpretation of Bible passages in earlier days. As far as I could ascertain when I arrived in Tacoma early in the century the demarcation between the different Swedish denominations was rather

was rather sharp. Fundamentalism prevailed. Members of the various faiths were reasonably sure that theirs was the only true and revealed religion and that the almighty looked with favor on their particular faith. They could not stand for the competition from fraternal and secret societies neither. No member of a secret or fraternal order was worthy of membership in most of these denominations, in some instances this extended to membership in labor unions. The Swedish Lutheran Church was especially vehement in this respect. Up into the twenties, or as long as the by-laws of the First Lutheran Church was printed in Swedish one paragraph read that: "membership in this congregation shall be denied to persons who are members of "Free Masons" or other ungodly societies." This controversy had really started a decade or so before when the Modern Woodmen started to invade some of the Swedish communities in Minnesota and organized lodges of the order. A self centered lutheran minister at Chisago Lake Minn. decided that no real Christian of the lutheran faith could be a member of the congregation if he held membership in a secret society. He then proceeded to expell such members who were known to hold membership in secret orders and even read the ban's from the pulpit. This controversy had raged for some time in the mid-west and with the arrival of a new minister in the Lutheran Church it reached Tacoma. It seems however that none was excommunicated and some compromise was made stating that the members could receive the benefits these societies offered, but should not take an active part in the work. In a few years, when it appeared that a good many of the members had disregarded these inhibitions, the whole thing was forgotten.

..... The Tacoma Mill or Old Town Mill as it was commonly called was noted for paying substandard wages and with no union or no other organisation there was not much the workers could do about it. In 1900 however they went on strike for more money. They were paid \$1,50 for a 10 hour day and they figured that they were entitled to at least \$1,75. Just how the strikers came out can not be learned now.. .. The first automobile in Tacoma was acquired by the Henry Hewitt family in 1900. A Peter Olson, was employed by them as a coachman and gardner at their residence. When the new vehicle arrived Mr Olson, was thought to drive and maintain the same, and thus became the first chaffeur in Tacoma. Many years later the Hewitt's made Mr Olson a present of the car and he drove it well into the twenties. The steering wheel was on the right side so the passengers

on the left side of the car had to stretch out their arms and give their signals in later years , when the traffic became heavier and Mr Olson no longer had the streets to himself. Mr Olson was born in Skane Sweden. He never married. Through the years he had made some judicious investments in real estate and had accumulated a considerable amount of properties. At his demise there were several apartmenthouses in his estate. He was rather frugal when it came to money, but nevertheless he made some substantial donations when the First Lutheran Church was built. He was a brother of Nils Hammerlin, who may still have some descendants in Tacoma . One son was the late Harold S. Hammerlin, who for many years was the manager for a major oil company in the Grays Harbor area. After his retirement he returned to live in this area. The State Apartments on North State Street was originally the Girls Dormitory of The College of Puget Sound, when the College was located on the present site of Jason Lee junior high school. When the college moved to its present site (and later became a University) Peter Olson, moved the building across the street and had it remodeled into apartments. In the mid twenties he sold this property to Mr and Mrs Otto P. Walters, formerly of Montana. Who came here during the first world war and after returning to Montana to live again a couple of times came back for good and made the investment. Like Peter Olson, Mr Walters was a native of Skane Sweden and the two became bosom friends. Mrs Walters was born in Langasjo Smaland. She stated that she had numerous rides in Pete's ancient car and had learned to give the proper signals. Since the congregation was organized in 1893, the Swedish Baptists had worshipped in several rented locations. In 1899 when Rev. N. Hayland was serving as pastor a site at the South East corner of So. 12th and J St. was acquired for a future church home. Erection of the church began some time the following year and the church was dedicated in 1902. The congregation worshipped there for the next four or five decades until a more elaborate edifice was built at So. 11th and Grant Ave. and the prefix "Swedish" was dropped and the name "Central Baptist Church" was adopted. Rev. N. J. Thornquist, assumed the pastorate in 1900 and served until 1904. He was a native of Hallsjo in the province of Jantland Sweden . Came to Minnesota in 1881 at the age of 23. Studied for some years at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter Minn. with a view of becoming a Lutheran minister. Was later converted to the Baptist faith and became a minister in this denomination. Served several congregations in the Midwest before coming

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seems to have been retained in Tacoma even after Mr Johnson transferred most of his activities to Seattle. The region of Klondike in the Yukon territory close to the Alaska border was noted for the rich gold-bearing gravel which was washed down by several rivers flowing into the area. In 1896 one George Macarmack, made a major discovery. When this became known the area was flooded by prospectors. By the turn of the century at least 30,000 persons had arrived in the area. In 1898 gold was also discovered at Anvil creek, near the present city of Nome Alaska (The town of Nome was first called "Anvil City, and later changed to "Nome" for the nearby Cape Nome.) There was an influx there also and by the year 1900 Anvil City had a population of 20,000. It is cogent that among the number of prospectors there must have been any number of Swedes among them, and quite a number from Tacoma and vicinity. In earlier chapters we have mentioned a few who did spend some time up in the frozen north during the gold rush days. Alaska Carlson, Andy Christoferson, Andy Gehrman and others. We have tried to inquire about it from descendants of families whose ancestors participated in the Gold Rush. But after three quarters of a century most of the history of this interesting era, is lost. Most of the answers have been rather similar: "I know that dad (or grandpa) was up there but I don't think he made much, and he never said much about it." Perhaps those who made something were reluctant to talk about it and those who failed would rather forget about the whole thing. Beside those already mentioned I can think of a couple of more, a Gus Johnson, who seemingly had done quite well as he was able to retire rather early and spent his time putting around in the garden in his north end home and the rest of the time salmon fishing around Pt Defiance and in The Narrows. Biographical data is lacking but it might be added that he was a trustee in the First Lutheran Church for many years and a prominent member of the Building Committee when their present edifice was built. At times he was also referred to as a mining engineer. Charles Holmea also spent a couple of years up in Alaska during the Gold rush. If he made any fortune is not known. Charles arrived in Michigan in the eighties with his parents and other members of the family while he was still in his middle teens, from the Stora Tuna parish in Dalarna Sweden. The original name was Granholm, Here the family name was changed to Holmes. Charley arrived here first and the rest of the family followed later. Before

Mr Holmes sojourn in Alaska he had perhaps been employed in the saw-mill industry and on his return was employed by the St Paul mill as a trimmerman. Was later promoted to foreman and advanced to General Foreman and as such directed a crew of 5-600 men for several decades: The only information I have about Mrs Holmes is that her name was Ellen, and that she was born in Upsala Sweden. The Holmes were married in the early nineties. There were three daughters Edith, Lilian and Ellen who eventually became Mesdames Moon, Rosene and Carrol respectively. Mr Holme, had a brother Emil, who played in the original Valhalla Band but there is no further information about him. Mr and Mrs Nels Person, is one couple that certainly deserves a honorable mention. Both were natives of the province of Skane Sweden. Nels from the Vastra Sallerup parish and Ella from Ostra Sundelov. Both had emigrated to Minnesota in the mid-nineties in fact to the same town Sacred Heart. But never met until they located in Tacoma where Nels arrived in 1897 and Ella in 1898^{MARRIED} Around the turn of the century and eventually raised a family of one girl and nine boys. Nels was a steam engineer or heavy equipment operator first for a number of years for the Northern Pacific Railroad and later until his retirement for the Milwaukee Road. This was a musical family. Upon his arrival in Tacoma Nels became a member of the original Valhalla Band. He also played the violin and was always willing and ready to fill in in the impromptu orchestras which were formed from time to time for Swedish dances and entertainment. and when another Swedish musical organisation "The Svea Band" came into being in 1911 Nels was one of the first to join up. We might also mention that Nels sang tenor in all of the Swedish Male Choruses that did exist from time to time and was also an active member of the existing Swedish fraternal organisations. The daughter Anna, who was the oldest became Mrs Carl A. Anderson, about 1925 and we hope to give her due credit for all the work she has done for the Swedish societies later in this resume. All of the sons became solid citizens. Most of them are retired by now and have been active in various fields of endeavor. Some have moved to other states. Those still in this vicinity we might mention Henry a retired English professor from U of W, now a grape grower near Grape View, Clarence (Fat) ex custodian in the Tacoma schools. Carl a down-town bookseller. Emil and Victor spent most if not all of their working days with the Peoples Store. Raymond who was the youngest I believe is still active as a beautician up around Edmonds.. Most of the boys are retaining

their membership in the existing Swedish societies and have filled the chairs in several capacities. Pa and Ma Person ^{are} ~~is~~ long gone but their memory lingers. They were a devoted couple. Perhaps best described by a phrase from one of Carl Sandberg's poems "They never got tired of each other; they were a couple" Carl A Hallin, Born in Mjolby in the province of Ostergotland Sweden in 1868. Learned the black smith and machinist trade from his father. Came to the mid-west in 1888 After a sojourn in several of the midwest states he settled permanently in Tacoma in 1898. He first opened and operated a bicyckle shop which gradually was developed into a general machine shop. Early in the century he developed the Hallin Gas engine which was extensively used in small boats and launches as well as for other purposes. Originally the shop was located in various places about 1910 a shop was built at the east end of the 11th St Bridge where he was in business for several years. When competition began to get keen a decade later he built a shop near Day Island, where he concentrated on repair work. Mr Hallin was a skilled Mechanic. perhaps with a little more energy and business acumen he could have fostered a major industry,

..... There are of course many events that happened in the Swedish community that deserves to be recorded, as well as a number of Swedes and their descendants that have left their marks. But, the sources of information are meager. Since the nineties almost two generations have come and gone. We understand that a number of Swedes homesteaded in eastern Pierce and in eastern Lewis Counties in the early nineties. Notably the Ahlstrand and Neslund families who settled around Mineral Lake. We have some leads but nothing authentic. As more information becomes available we shall make inserts between the pages about these pioneers and others who done their part in ~~XXXXXX~~ ^{taming the wilderness and} ~~XXXXXX~~ made the countryside into productive farms and built towns and cities. The Swedes of Tacoma never lived in enclaves as seems to have been the case in some of the eastern and mid-west cities notable in Chicago, Minneapolis-St Paul and elsewhere, even to some extent in Seattle in earlier days, in the Green Lake and Ballard areas. Searching the City Directories from around the turn of the century and before one gets the impression that our countrymen were spread out from PT Defiance to Fern Hill and from Portland Ave. to South Tacoma. Yet, there some indications and those of the same religious ~~persuasion~~ ^{persuasion} preferred to live in the same neighborhood. Knowing something of their background it can be safely stated

that most of the Swedish Lutherans preferred 6th Ave., the Prospect, Fife and Pine St. areas. At least when you look for the more prominent ones. Notable the Lindbergs, Ahnquist, Hedbergs, Lindquist and others. The Covenanters, then known as the Mission Friends had their house of worship located at So. 18th and J St. and we have located a number of the membership living in the immediate area, The Swanson's Schlin's and others. I have less knowledge of the Baptists and the Methodists. They also had their places of worship in the same general area and of those I been able to identify resided not too far from their Churches.

Valhalla was the only fraternal society existing Their membership was scattered but nevertheless a great many of the members seemed to have had an affinity for the area around So. 14th and 15th and G st and Tacoma ave. Mr A.P. Carlson proprietor of the Vega Saloon owned a number of rental houses in the area which may account for some of them but several also owned their own homes in the neighborhood.. . . . In 1899 Rev. P.A. Matson, accepted a call to Minnesota and resigned the pastorate of the Swedish Lutheran Church. He was succeeded the next year by Rev. C. L. Frisk, who served the congregation for the next decade. About this time or before the Swedish community had been blessed with still another church to care for their souls. The Swedish Free Church. This was just an offshoot of the Covenant denomination who in turn had decamped from the Lutherans. This congregation worshiped in a barnlike structure at 14th and So M St. The first pastor seems to have been a Rev. Everlöf about whom nothing is known at this late date. The old church was torn down and replaced with a somewhat better structure sometime around 1915. This was probably the straw that broke the camels back. The membership had never been very great and the ministers came and went. With the added expense of the new church even if it was not too elaborate the burden was too much and the congregation petered out shortly after the first world war. The principal difference between the free Church and the Covenanters seems to have been in the interpretation of some of the scriptures. Their evangelists were apt to be more vehement in their preaching and some even practised faith healing. It is said by some that they may have been forerunners of the pentecostal movement. People still have a flair for religious controversy but there were perhaps even more hairsplitting about the interpretation of Bible passages in earlier days. As far as I could ascertain when I arrived in Tacoma early in the century the demarcation between the different Swedish denominations was rather

was rather sharp. Fundamentalism prevailed. Members of the various faiths were reasonably sure that theirs was the only true and revealed religion and that the almighty looked with favor on their particular faith. They could not stand for the competition from fraternal and secret societies neither. No member of a secret or fraternal order was worthy of membership in most of these denominations, in some instances this extended to membership in labor unions. The Swedish Lutheran Church was especially vehement in this respect. up into the twenties, or as long as the by-laws of the First Lutheran Church was printed in Swedish one paragraph read that: "membership in this congregation shall be denied to persons who are members of "Free Masons" or other ungodly societies." This controversy had really started a decade or so before when the Modern Woodmen started to invade some of the Swedish communities in Minnesota and organized lodges of the order. A self centered lutheran minister at Chisago Lake Minn. decided that no real Christian of the lutheran faith could be a member of the congregation if he held membership in a secret society. He then proceeded to expell such members who were known to hold membership in secret orders and even read the ban's from the pulpit. This controversy had raged for some time in the mid-west and with the arrival of a new minister in the Lutheran Church it reached Tacoma. It seems however that none was excommunicated and some compromise was made stating that the members could receive the benefits these societies offered, but should not take an active part in the work. In a few years, when it appeared that a good many of the members had disregarded these inhibitions, the whole thing was forgotten.

..... The Tacoma Mill or Old Town Mill as it was commonly called was noted for paying substandard wages and with no union or no other organisation there was not much the workers could do about it. In 1900 however they went on strike for more money. They were paid \$1,50 for a 10 hour day and they figured that they were entitled to at least \$1,75. Just how the strikers came out can not be learned now.. .. The first automobile in Tacoma was acquired by the Henry Hewitt family in 1900. A Peter Olson, was employed by them as a coachman and gardner at their residence. When the new vehicle arrived Mr Olson, was thought to drive and maintain the same, and thus became the first chauffeur in Tacoma. Many years later the Hewitt's made Mr Olson a present of the car and he drove it well into the twenties. The steering wheel was on the right side so the passengers

on the left side of the car had to stretch out their arms and give their signals in later years , when the traffic became heavier and Mr Olson no longer had the streets to himself. Mr Olson was born in Skane Sweden. He never married. Through the years he had made some judicious investments in real estate and had accumulated a considerable amount of properties. At his demise there were several apartmenthouses in his estate. He was rather frugal when it came to money, but nevertheless he made some substantial donations when the First Lutheran Church was built. He was a brother of Nils Hammerlin, who may still have some descendants in Tacoma . One son was the late Harold S. Hammerlin, who for many years was the manager for a major oil company in the Grays Harbor area. After his retirement he returned to live in this area. The State Apartments on North State Street was originally the Girls Dormitory of The College of Puget Sound, when the College was located on the present site of Jason Lee junior high school. When the college moved to its present site (and later became a University) Peter Olson, moved the building across the street and had it remodeled into apartments. In the mid twenties he sold this property to Mr and Mrs Otto P. Walters, formerly of Montana. Who came here during the first world war and after returning to Montana to live again a couple of times came back for good and made the investment. Like Peter Olson, Mr Walters was a native of Skane Sweden and the two became bosom friends. Mrs Walters was born in Langasjo Smaland. She stated that she had numerous rides in Pete's ancient car and had learned to give the proper signals. Since the congregation was organized in 1893, the Swedish Baptists had worshipped in several rented locations. In 1899 when Rev. N. Hayland was serving as pastor a site at the South East corner of So. 12th and J St. was acquired for a future church home. Erection of the church began some time the following year and the church was dedicated in 1902. The congregation worshipped there for the next four or five decades until a more elaborate edifice was built at So. 11th and Grant Ave. and the prefix "Swedish" was dropped and the name "Central Baptist Church" was adopted. Rev. N. J. Thornquist, assumed the pastorate in 1900 and served until 1904. He was a native of Halesjo in the province of Jantland Sweden . Came to Minnesota in 1881 at the age of 23. Studied for some years at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter Minn. with a view of becoming a Lutheran minister. Was later converted to the Baptist faith and became a minister in this denomination. Served several congregations in the Midwest before coming

to Tacoma. While serving a congregation in Bismark N.D. he was chaplain of the House of Representatives in North Dakota's Legislature 1897-'98. The Valhalla Lodge also began to look for a lodge home and appointed a committee to look for a suitable location. The consensus of opinion was that it should be somewhere between 9th and 15th on Tacoma Avenue. This committee seems to have rested on their oars as there is no indication that any report was ever filed. The Swedes had five churches to care for their spiritual needs. Just how many the other Scandinavian people had here in Tacoma is not known. However, they must have felt in some quarters that this was still insufficient so a corps of "The Salvation Army" came into being in May 1902. And the Scandinavians had one more soul saving service. For years their citadel was located in the basement in the building which is still standing on the north east corner of So. 13th and Tacoma Ave, until about 1914 when they erected their own building at So. 12th and K St. The first officers were a Capt. Anderson, and a Liut. Bardgren. If they were male or female is not indicated and no initials are given. In 1904 The Pacific Coast Division of the Salvation Army was formed the first commander was Staff Captain Lina Lindstrom. The summer of 1902 was a summer when there was no summer in Sweden. It rained almost incessantly so the farmers hardly had a chance to plant their crops nor to harvest whatever it was to harvest at the usual season. The northern provinces in the section known as "Norrland" was the hardest hit because what little there was to reap froze before the grain ~~could~~ could/ be cut. This coupled with the fact that the previous year (1901) had been an unusually dry year with below average crops. The result was that there was almost a famine in Norrland that year. I was a lad of about 10 at the time and well remember the collections of both money and food-~~stuff~~ stuffs gathered in the central and southern parts of Sweden at the time. Charitable people in the Swedish communities here in America also began to raise money for the famine stricken. For once even here in Tacoma the saints and sinners had a project that they could work together on. The Swedish Order of Valhalla started the ball rolling by donating \$50 from the treasury besides this they urged the individual members to donate as liberally as they were able to. A Benefit entertainment in Germania Hall was arranged for. (Germania Hall was located on 13th and E. St the present Fawcett Ave. on the present site of the Auditorium, across from Eagles Hall) Mr Tobias Sandegren, then editor of The

Tacoma Tribune, a Swedish weekly newspaper, was The Master of Cerimonies. Rev. Everlov, from the Free Church read a passage from the scriptures. Rev. Frisk, from the Lutheran Church gave the Invocation. Miss Hilma Johnson, (later Mrs C.O. Lynn, gave a Piano Solo. A Miss Hedberg, Mrs. Dr. J.R. Brown, sang Swedish ballads . A String band and an impromptu Choir from the various churches rendered several songs. A sextette, composed of: Messers P.O. Peterson, E.J. Bertle, Frank O. Anderson, John Miller, S. Eklund and A. Oman sang patriotic songs. Rev Thornquist of the Baptist church, a native of Jamtland, one of the provinces hardest hit spoke on "The Famine in Norrland" Rev Ovall from the Methodist church followe with a plea for a generous contribution to the cause. Prof Olof Bull, had gotten together a string quarte of some of the city's most prominent musicians rendered some clacdc music . Rev Anderson of the Covenant church gave the closing prayer and finally the audience sang Americ and a stanza of a lutheran choral. The entertainment together with the private subscrip- tion realized a tidy sum for the famine-stricken in Norrland. Dr John Reyholds Brown, M.D. arrived in Tacoma about 1903. Dr Brown, was born in Sjötofta parish, Vestergotland Sweden in 1865. In 1882 he accompanied his father to New Britain Connecticut where he worked in a Lock-Factory for a couple of years. In 1884 he matriculated at Augustana College in Rock Island Ill., from where he graduated in 1891. After teaching in some juni- or Colleges for the next three or four years he took a pre-medic course at Yale and com- pleted his medical studies at Northwestern U. in 1899. After completing his internship he practised in a Swedish community in Texas until he removed to Tacoma. Here he built up an extensive practise which he continued until he sucumbed to a heart attac in 1927. Mrs Brown nee Hanna Morris, was born of Swedish parents in Chandlers Valley Pa. Probably des- cendents of the group from Ostergotland who got sidetracked in Buffalo in 1846 while on their way to New Sweden Iowa, and finally ended up in Chandlers Valley. The Brown's were members of the Swedish Lutheran Church and Dr Brown, took part in Swedish activi- ties to some extent. At least as far as his time would permit. There were two daughters and a son. One of the daughters Miss Florind Brown was a teacher in the Tacoma Public schools for many years. After Dr Brown's arrival Valhalla had two lodge physicians. Dr Christen quevli, had filled this position for a good many years and had always taken a keen interest in the lodge. He was born in Norway in 1864 and was brought to Minnesota

by his parents at the age of 5. He received his M.D. degree from University of Minnesota in 1886 and was located in Tacoma in 1888. During the years he went to Europe no less than four times for post graduate work. It would take a special occasion more or less to bring Dr Brown to the lodge but Dr Quevli was a frequent attendant even if he had one of the largest medical practices in town. He certainly loved to come there and swap yarn with the old-timers. His son Dr Christen Quevli jr, also became an interested member but unfortunately he passed away at a rather early age. . . . Svea Hotel and Saloon located at 11th and Commerce St. was a pioneer establishment established by Messers Sundberg and Nyman in 1884. After Mr Nyman had disposed of his interest Mr Sundberg operated the business alone for a number of years. By 1904 however the saloon seems to have been located at 15th and C St. (Broadway) and was then acquired by a John F. Rignell, who was the proprietor until the state went dry in 1915. Mr Rignell was born in Smaland XXX in 1877. Had taken a course in an agricultural College and had managed a large estate before he emigrated to Tacoma in 1901. Had various jobs the first years until he entered the saloon business. His establishment was neither better nor worse than the average. During the entire time the saloon was operated by Mr Rignell, Carl Hegglund, was employed there as a bartender. He was something of a character and we may mention him later. After the state went dry Mr Rignell was engaged in logging operations and road building contracting. He also acquired a farm at Mud Bay near Olympia. Where he built his own dock and even operated a General Merchandise Store for a season. He was also instrumental in getting a Post Office for the area which was given the name "Rignall". After his retirement he returned to Tacoma not doing much of anything but he was not above to peddle a little "Moonshine" on the sly. It was rumored that he got religion towards the last and that a religious racketeer got away with a chunk of his money. Lower Broadway kept on deteriorating. The former Svea saloon building included. But the name Svea stuck. It was used for various illicit purposes. Every now and then the police raided the place and much to the chagrin of the Swedes the daily papers published these raids. Finally the urban renewal came along and the place was torn down. And the name of "Mother Svea" became no longer desecrated. Incidentally the site at 11th and Commerce St. where the original Svea Hotel and Saloon was situated was for years occupied by the Warburton Block. Housing some retail stores a

a restaurant and a Public Market, with offices in the upper stories. This building also went down with the Urban Renewal process and the site was acquired by the United Mutual Savings Bank and a substantial building was erected as headquarters for their widespread operations. Carl Hegglund, mentioned earlier was a native of Angermanland, Sweden where he was born in 1883. Came to Wisconsin in 1900. After a couple of years there and a sojourn in N.H. B.C. he came to Tacoma in 1904. Carl was a happy and congenial fellow, but could also be quite erratic if he per chance got one too many. After he left Rignell's establishment he went in the wood and hauling business for a season. Was partner with Axel L. Anderson, in a confectionary and cigar store for more than a decade. Was involved in several other enterprises including a cooperative saw-mill venture in California. Served twice as president of Valhalla also as Financial Secretary for several terms and in his last years he was the perennial Chaplain. His last years were filled with trials and tribulations. Mrs Hegglund the former Maria Larson born in Varmlan Sweden, passed away after a long and lingering illness. He also lost one of his two daughters. Finally a malignant illness struck him and he passed away about 1960. Rev. N.J. Thormquist resigned the pastorate of the Swedish Baptist Church in 1904 and was succeeded the next year by Rev. A.P. Ekman, who served until 1917. Rev. M.E. Anderson, also known as "Sunshine Anderson" also left the pastorate of the Mission Friend's Church. He probably remained in the area as a Home Missionary. In the twenties he visited Swedish settlements in Western Washington and held cottage prayer meetings. Then he had also a small farm on the outskirts of Tacoma and the family peddled milk. Rev. J.W. Carlson, arrived in 1905 as minister of The Mission Friend's Church. During his ministry the new edifice at So. 10th and I St. was erected and he served the congregation 'til 1913. He was a grumpy sort of a fellow and there was not much sunshine about him. Not much of a pulpit orator, was a fundamentalist to the core and he was absolutely sure that he had the only true religion. In 1905 Mr Frank Ekberg reported to Valhalla that there were two lots for sale at 13th and K St. for \$2,500. A suitable site for a lodge home. As it was a forced sale he had personally taken an option on them and Brother Charles Williams had promised to take the lots in case the lodge did not desire to go ahead with a building project. In 1905 Valhalla also took steps to get a Swedish Male Chorus started. A committee was appointed with orders to go out on the

highways and byways and find enough countrymen interested in forming a Swedish Male chorus. A few weeks later the committee reported that Valhalla Male Chorus had been organized and were already practising under the direction of Prof. Olof Bull. Prof. Bull was a busy man so perhaps the rehearsals imposed too much on his time so he soon resigned and Mr P.O. Peterson took over the baton and conducted the chorus until the arrival of one Axel Hedberg, who had been called as organist and choirmaster of the Swedish Lutheran Church. After his departure the interest waned until the chorus was re-organized in 1909 and was re-named the Swedish Glee Club with Mr George Johnson, as conductor. 1905 was the year when the union between Sweden and Norway was dissolved. Norway had been ruled by Denmark for several centuries . During the Napoleonic wars at the beginning of the 19th century Denmark was an ally of France and after Napoleon's defeat Denmark was compelled to sign the treaty of Kiel, ceding Norway to Sweden, in 1814. This union was never satisfactory and led to a lot of bickering all through the years. So when the Norwegian people voted for a separation from Sweden in 1905 there was very little opposition to their decision in Sweden. I was a lad of about 13 at the time and I can't recall that anybody was very excited about it. To the average Swede it made no difference if Norway was under the Swedish crown or not. The Labor movement was getting a foothold in Sweden about that time and the consensus among the workers was if they want to go it alone, more power to them. They even sang the Norwegian national anthem at some of their gatherings, which in some quarters was considered as an act of treason. As this separation transpired without any repercussions on either side and with a minimum of hard feelings I was rather surprised when I arrived here some five years later and found sore-heads on both sides still hot and bothered about this incident and still prone to bring it up both in and out of season. Apparently this union crisis had a greater effect on the minds of the former residents of Scandinavia here in Tacoma than it had on their compatriots back there. Clarence O. Lynn, came to Tacoma in 1901. He was born in Wyanet Ill in 1878, about nine years later the family moved to Aurora Nebraska and settled on a farm. There he remained for the next 10 years, going to school and assisting with the usual farm chores. In 1897 he entered a Business College in Omaha where he completed his education. Was for a time bookkeeper for a wholesale firm 'til he decided to move out to the Pacific Coast. Here he entered the employ of A.F. Hoska, Fune-

ral Director. The Funeral Home was located at 730 St. Helens Ave. A predecessor to the present Buckley-King. Together with Mr W.L. Gaffney, Mr Lynn, established his own Funeral Home at 945 S. Tacoma Ave on Feb. 1 1906. The Name of the firm was Gaffney & Lynn. This partnership probably did not last too long. When I arrived here in 1911 the partners had separate establishments on Tacoma Ave. Mr Lynn catered to the Scandinavians and advertized his establishment as the Swedish Funeral Home in the scandinavian press. Mr Gaffney, was a Catholic so there was no real competition between them. But for years Mr Lynn was the busiest of the two, In 1918 The building on the east side of Tacoma Ave. where the Funeral Home is still located was built. The present manager is Mr John Lynn, a grandson of the founder. Mr Lynn, was married to Miss Hilma Johnson, in 1905. The daughter of Mr and Mrs John Johnson, originally from Varmland Sweden who arrived in Tacoma in 1889 from Muskegon Michigan. Mr Johnson was a veteran boiler-room operator for the Wheeler-Osgood Co. Before her marriage Miss Johnson, was employed as a stenographer and was also the organist in the Swedish Lutheran Church. The present Funeral Home was built in 1918. The Lunn's had two sons Nathan and Marvin. Both were associated with their father in the business. Both passed away in middle age. Mr Lynn Sr passed away in 1962 and Mrs Lynn in 1969. Frank Lynn was a brother of the above. Early in the century he was listed in the City directory as an employee of the City Restaurant. Later he, with a couple of partners aquired the business which they operate for some years. Later he operated restaurants both in Seattle and Olympia. He died in Olympia in the early seventies, well past 90 years old. Both brothers having been raise in the early Swedish settlements in the midwest spoke excellent Swedish. Their parents had come from the old country. The surname of "Lynn" was adopted. The original family name could have been Israelsson. But I am not certain. It did not take too much persuasion to convince the membership of Valhalla that the lots of which Mr Frank Ekberg, had taken an option on was a suitable location for a lodge home and that now was the time for the fulfillment of a dream of getting a permanent place for the lodges activities which the members had nurtured for a couple of decades. An inventory of the treasury and negotiable papers indicated that the lodges net worth was about \$3,000. Brothers Gustave Pahrson, Andrew Christofferson, and Charles Williams were added to the Board of trustees to aid in acquiring the site, work out a plan for financing the project and to

obtain the services of an architect and let the contract for the building. Several plans for financing the project were submitted. Finally it was decided to issue notes of \$10 denominations, bearing interest of 5% until redeemed, in the amount of \$8,400. As security the lodge pledged the entire income from the building, less operating expenses. The lodge was then composed of 161 members and there was no difficulty in disposing of these notes. In fact the issue was oversubscribed. This must be considered as quite a feat in view of the fact that the average wage in this area about that time was 22 cts an hour. If you care to look up statistics. An architect named Crosley, drew the plans for the building. Smith Lining & Co was awarded the construction contract on a bid of ~~\$6,400~~ \$6,859. Gehri & Co won the plumbing contract on a bid of \$485. Sundell & Tate done the interior and exterior painting for 585 dollars. Charles Williams, an experienced builder and a member of the Board of Trustees accepted the responsibility of supervising and checking on the construction, without any remuneration. The first dirt was moved in April 1906. As a matter of fact there was a knoll containing 1200 yards of dirt that had to be removed before construction could commence. This contractor got 20 cts a yard for the removal. A stipulation was made that the building should be finished and ready for occupancy by July 15. Time dragged on and it seems that the contractor did not entirely finish the job according to rumors. But at any rate Valhalla Temple was ready and dedicated on September 22 1906. 700 hundred Swedes crowded into the building for the dedication. The City building inspector appeared and forbid the committee to let a single person more to enter. Otto Carlson, was the president of the lodge. Gustave Fahrson, was the Chairman of the Board of trustees and acted as Master of Ceremonies at the dedication. In his address of Welcome he observed that wherever the Swedes have gone forth, they have been builders and had erected Churches, schools, Hospitals and Lodge Halls. He was pleased that his countrymen in Tacoma was no exception. Mr Ernst Skarstet, a Swedish Editor and a writer of some note recited a original poem, dedicated to Valhalla. Valhalla Male Chorus rendered several selections. Attorney Emil Stenberg, and Tobias Sandegren, editor of the local Swedish Newspaper gave the orations of the day. Mr Stenberg, compared the old Valhalla legend as it pertained to the work of the lodge and the effort which had culminated in the erection of the

He also hoped that the building would be so managed that it could be handed down to coming generations as clean as it is today. Sandegren hoped that the Temple would ever shine as a beacon on the crest of this hillland like our mighty mountain be a marker for our country men from near and far. Even though we are attached to the earthly things the soul often yearns for purer and more refreshing air. Dinner was served with three settings in the Dining Room and a Grand Ball concluded the festivities. ----- Valhalla was always a mens organisation. Yet, it must be admitted that through the years the ladies had been a very helpful adjunct. The dinners that the wives of the members put on in the early years was the talk of the town. In appreciation for past services a room in the new building was set aside as a Ladies Parlor. When this became known the ladies announced that they would furnish the room themselves. Efforts were made to organize a ladies auxiliary, but we understand that these efforts stranded mostly on the ladies individual independence. ----- Gustaf Salander, had arrived in Tacoma before the turn of the century from Ostorsund Sweden and went to work in the Griffin Wheel Co Foundry in South Tacoma. In Sweden he had considerable experience in the mercantile line. So he gave up his job as a moulder and entered the grocery business in one of the street level stores in Valhalla Temple. He continued in business there until his demise some thirty years later. ----- Washington's Birthday 1907 Valhalla entertained Swedish Club of Seattle with a grand party. The guests arrived on a special interurban early in the evening and the party did not break up until 3:30 the next morning. This was an era when they still had to depend on public transportation. So when the Seattleites got back to their city again they were able to get an early streetcar to their respective homes. ----- J.C. Lindahl, came to Tacoma in 1891 and established a photographic studio. In 1907 he became active in Real Estate as a broker and disposed of his studio to Mr Ernest Peterson, Mr Peterson, was born in Stockholm Sweden in 1885 and was brought to Tacoma in 1894, at the age of 9. His father had arrived here some years before. Mr Peterson was an artistic photographer and was for many years the leading photographer in the city. Originally the studio was located in the Lucern Bldg. (Hess Bldg) on the corner of 9th and Tacoma Ave, but was later moved to the Puget Sound Bank Bldg. ----- Valhalla's annual pic-nic 1907 resulted in a tragedy. It was held at Stones Landing (the present Redondo) after a pleasant day the pic-nickers were waiting on the dock to board the steamer to bring them back to the city when

THE PILING UNDER THE DOCK GAVE AWAY plunging scores of pic-nickers in the bay. Three children of Mr and Mrs Fred Oberg were drowned a foster daughter of Mr and Mrs Gustave Pahrson, also drowned. A Young man Hjalmar Boden, who had heroically assisted in saving several lives became exhausted and perished in the waves. A special meeting was called the following day. \$750 was raised from the members and Valhalla added another \$75 for the stricken families Mr Boden had no immediate family here in Tacoma and the lodge appointed a committee to arrange for his funeral. A committee composed of Attorneys Stenberg, and Soderberg and Messers Frank Ekberg, and Charles Williams, were appointed to call on Kin County Commissioners who were responsible for the condition of the dock. The results of this visit, if any is not recorded. ----- Mr N.B. Nelson, a prominent Seattle businessman, of the firm of Fredrick and Nelson. passed away in October of 1907. He had been an active member of Swedish Club. Valhalla sent a delegation to the funeral, wearing the badges of the lodge, The delegation also placed a large wreath at Mr Nelsons bier. Cards of Thanks were received both from the Nelson family and the Swedish Club of Seattle, ----- About 1906 or 1907 a lodge of Independent Order of Good Templars came into being and given the name "Enighet" (Unity). Composed mostly of young people. The membership was never very great but it was the only organisation where the young swedish people could gather, outside of the churches. The lodge struggled along for the next six or seven years until about 1914 when it petered out. The Independent Order of Good Templars, had its inception in Utica N.Y. and was a temperance organisation. It was founded in 1851 and gained some momentum in the decades that followed and spread to England and the Scandinavian countries and to most of the countries in the civilized world. The order played an important part of organizing the Prohibition Party here in U.S. in 1869 and the W.C.T.U. in 1874. One rarely hears of the Order here in U.S. any more. The few lodges that still exist are mostly composed of Scandinavians. The order is still going strong in Scandinavia and the International Grand Lodge Headquarter is now in Sweden. So this was one organisation the young Swedes knew from home. After Lodge "Enighet" sporadic efforts were made to establish new lodges but with negative results. I did hear some years ago that a half a dozen of the key-members met in homes and held the charter from the last attempt. The Order still claims a membership of 600,000 around the World.

THE FINNISH*-SWEDISH ELEMENT IN THE SWEDISH COMMUNITY.

Composed of a Swedish speaking minority from Finland has always been a component part of the Swedish community here in Tacoma. No reference has ever been made and no distinction made on account of the origin. They have been members of our fraternal societies served as officers and on the various Boards and committees. Been members of the various Churches and served as deacons and trustees. We are apt to refer them as Swede-Finns, but most of them seems to prefer to be called Finnish-Swedes or Finland-Swedes. Except for one group who are natives of the Aland (pronounced Oland) Islands an archipelago in the Gulf of Bothnia between Sweden and Finland who are apt to inform you that they are neither Swedes nor Finns; "We are Alanningar". These islands have a predominately Swedish population a plebiscite after World War I indicated that a majority of the population wanted to be reunited with Sweden but the Finns seems to have had the better of the argument and an International commission awarded the territory to Finland. By request of the Aland people Sweden did send some troops for guard duty. They were removed as soon as the commission had rendered their verdict. The Swedes would have welcomed the Aland people into the fold but the commission's decision caused no consternation in Sweden.

According to available information the emigration to America from Finland was insignificant before 1880. By 1920 however, some 274,000 passports had been issued. of these some 60,000 it is estimated were issued to the Swedish minority. Allowing for deaths and returnees over the four decades 'til 1920 it was estimated that there were some 38,000 Finland-Swedes then living in America. There were some influx after the first world war but with the diminished emigration in the years that followed it is doubtful that the Finnish-Swedish population even approaches the figure given a half a century ago.

By the turn of the century the pattern of the distribution of the Finnish-Swedish immigrants had become discernible. Groups were to be found in several areas on the east coast notable in New York and its environs and Worcester Mass. In the lumbering and mining areas of Michigan and Minnesota also in some areas on the Pacific Coast. It is interesting to note that when Valhalla was organized in 1884 ~~there~~ there was at least one Swede-Finn

among the charter members Robert Boman, a native of the Aland Islands who must have been a rather young man at the time. It is possible that he came here as a sailor before the mast as the Alanders were apt to follow the sea. Later the entire Boman family seems to have arrived sometime in the nineties. Robert had a brother John Axel, whom I knew also a brother in Portland Ore, whose name I can't recall also some sisters that I never met. Their parents lived 'til the early twenties. I also recall a couple of brothers Peter and Frank Leaf, who had been born in Osterbotten, Finland. Both were active in the Swedish Luth. Church, where they served as trustees and deacons. Peter drowned in Gravelly Lake while swimming about 1915. Never knew where Mrs Leaf, came from. There were a couple of daughters Helen, who taught school in Tacoma until her retirement and Hilda who was secretary to the County Commissioners for decades. As far as I know Frank remained a bachelor. Another interesting Swede - Finn was John Malm, who seems to have arrived just in time for the hard times in the nineties with the intention to send for his family as soon as he had earned enough money for the tickets. With the difficult times that prevailed this took all of 10 years before Mrs Malm, and the two daughters Amanda and Marie arrived in Tacoma. Amanda was 14 at the time and Marie was younger. Both entered the public schools and soon caught up with the rest of the pupils. The Malm home probably always was in Old Tacoma I believe that Mr Malm, worked in the mills around there as a millwright and carpenter. Amanda, eventually married Charles Gord, who was born in the province of Halland Sweden. I believe that they raised a family of one daughter and four sons. This was a musical family and for a time the Gord's Orchestra was very popular around town. All of them have also taken an active part in both Swedish and Swedish Finnish activities. Marie, the younger sister never married, she was a laboratory worker at Sperry Flour Mill and passed away middle aged. Another John Malm, who had changed his name of Jonas, to John, who came to these parts in 1888 and homesteaded in Ohop Valley in 1891. Was a near relative of the John Malm, just mentioned. It has been reported that eventually he had one of the best improved farms in the Valley. His was a dairy farm and he specialized in breeding and raising pure-bred Holstein-Friesian cattle. Mrs Malm was the former Magdalene Anderson, who was born near Tönsberg Norway.

There were of course many Finnish-Swedish people that arrived here in the nineties or before that deserves to be mentioned. I remember a few by sight. But if I ever knew their names I have forgotten them long ago. If they left any posterity they are probably dispersed in all directions. Of those who had arrived after the turn of the century I do recall a number that were active and in their prime when I arrived here at the beginning of the second decade. Having been a minority people in their own country comprising of about 10 per cent of the population in Finland it is cogent that they felt a close kinship to each other and probably longed for some kind of an association of their own even if they were accepted as equals in the existing secular and religious Swedish societies. Finally on July 12, 1908 a branch of the Finnish-Swedish Temperance Society with 12 charter members was instituted in Tacoma, which adopted the name of Mt Tacoma for their organisation. A branch of this society named "Sveaborg" had existed in Seattle for some time and they were the sponsors of the new organisation in Tacoma. It seems that the drinking and the frequenting of saloons which was a common practise among the early immigrants. This became a common concern for both the Pure-Finns as well as for the Finnish-Swedes. As early as 1892 in Worcester Mass. the two categories united to form a temperance society which they named "Avasaksa" after a mountain in northern Finland. This organisation met with some success and branches of the society was established in the east and mid-west. The language difference proved to be a formidable barrier for any effective work however, and some of the Swedish speaking leaders began to feel that temperance work within their own language group would probably be more effective. An abortive attempt to maintain a lodge of the Good Templars for the Finnish-Swedish people in Escanaba Mich. was made and when this proved to be a failure efforts were made to segregate the Finnish and the Swedish speaking groups. This culminated in the forming of the Swedish-Finnish Temperance Society in Crystal Falls Mich. in 1902 with delegates representing a membership of about 500 at the start. From then on the organisation spread out both east and west and as we already have stated reached the Pacific Coast by 1908. The new organisation had some though sludging the first few years. The membership did not increase and there was other difficulties. A quartet composed of Leonard and Carl Svedberg, brothers, Edward and Albert Ahlskog, ~~also~~ also brothers were the key men that kept things going until things

began to improve. They also began to solicit members from the Swedish community. There was two Norwegian and one Swedish Good Templar lodges in existence at the time. In order to improve the attendance at their meetings the Swede-Finns made a standing invitation to the members of these lodges to attend their meetings at any time and issued passes to them, to present to gain admission. This ~~scheme~~ ^{scheme} worked and the lodge hall at Valhalla was usually pretty well filled with young Scandinavians on Sunday nights when their meetings were held. There was hardly any other Scandinavian place to gather. The Good Templars with their secret ceremonials and rites could not extend the same privileges to the Swede-Finns. But there were frequent "open meetings" and the harmony was good.

During the years a number of Swedish-Finnish Sick Benefit Societies had been organized in various places here in U.S. Several of these in Michigan and it was there it was discussed and finally decided that a federation of these societies would improve the efficiency and the purpose of their work. Four of these independent societies united in a federation and The Finnish-Swedish Beneficial Society was born. In 1909 a branch was organized in Tacoma. As stated before a Finnish-Swedish Baptist Church had also been founded about this time and now this ethnic group had three places where they could gather. Of these the Temperance Society was the most active. We have mentioned The Svedberg and the Ahlskog brothers earlier. The ~~Svedberg~~ ^{Svedberg} brothers also had three sisters who were also very active in the work: Mrs Anna Bonn, Mrs Matilda Beck, who later became Mrs Howes, and Hilma who married Albert Ahlskog, she passed away very young after only a year or two after they were married. Others I recall were Einar Rosengren, Wm Sundsten, Olive Ahlskog, Marie Malm, Ed Westman, Helmer Hedlund, and many others too numerous to mention. The Svedberg brothers were both carpenters, did some contracting together for a season. In the early twenties Carl went in the hardwood floor finishing business. In partnership with August Gustafson, and V.R. Smith, Leonard, started The Bungalow Cabinet Works in South Tacoma. Beside making cabinets and other interior finishes for houses. They also made bodies for delivery trucks. The Svedbergs, had been a large family in Finland. Leonard who was the oldest boy had to begin to help his father who was operating a small brass foundry, at a very early age and did not get to go to school regularly and according to Leonard

his entire schooling was limited to a few months. Nevertheless he wrote a good hand, was sharp on figures and a pretty good speller. He outlived all of his contemporaries and is still around at this writing (1975) Aug. Gustafson, partner with Svedberg in Bungalow Cabinet Works, learned the trade in Finland. In an era when they had to go out in the forests and select the trees, haul them to the mill to be cut into boards, wait for the lumber to season and dry out and then plane the boards down to the finished product by hand. He came to U.S. in 1909, settling in Hoquiam, where he worked at his trade and held supervisory positions both in cabinet shops as well as in shipyards in the Grays Harbor area until he removed to Tacoma in 1919. A brother of his Victor Gustafson was also associated with the firm.

As the years went by it was found that the temperance and the sick-benefit societies overlapped considerably. In many instances the same persons served as officers in both organizations. After much discussion on this matter throughout the jurisdictions of both societies it was learned that the majority favored a consolidation of the two organizations. The unification was effected at a meeting in Waukegan Ill. in 1920 when the duly elected delegates decided to unite and form a fraternal order to be known as "Order of Runeberg" in honor of Johan Ludvig Runeberg (1804-1877) Finland's greatest Swedish poet. The beneficials were left intact but the temperance requirements were considerably modified.

(In later years it has not been unusual to have a cocktail hour at festivities of the local lodge) The two organizations existing in Tacoma reorganized and became Lodge no. 166 Order of Runeberg, On October 24 1920 with Carl Svedberg as the first president. The 1922 Grand Lodge session was held in Tacoma with the Grand Lodge officers and delegates representing a membership of 4,500 in the new Order in attendance.

There were a number of Swedish speaking Finlanders that left their mark both in Swedish and in Sw. Finnish circles and would deserve to be mentioned. Most of them have now gone to their reward. We remember Jack Sunstin, known for his unusual strenght and something of a character. Originally a teamster but later a Gripman on the cable-cars that traversed up 11th St hill to K St. and down 13th from Pacific Ave. It was said that it was not unusual for Jack to put the car back on the track by himself if it jumped the track. Another

interesting character was Gus Sjoblom, logger, teamster and other occupations, eventually I believe he learned linoleum and carpet laying. He was also disposed to feature his great strength on occasion. Took boxing lessons and perhaps imagined himself as a "white hope," (Jack Johnson, was then the champion.) but never got further than the preliminaries. Claimed to be quite a distance runner also, but didn't think he could beat Kolehminen, a Finlander who was then the Olympic Champion. On the distaff side, beside the ladies already mentioned we remember Olive Ahlskog, Hanna and Ida Mattlar from the temperance society days also Mrs Hanna Udd, who was a good singer. In 1913 a mixed chorus was organized within this society in the John Malm home in Old Town. The original name was "Finlandia" which was changed to "The Runeberg Chorus" some decades later. Martin Carlson, directed this chorus most of the time until his demise in 1939. Linea Gord-Jensen, followed him for a number of years. The chorus is still in existence and now directed by Carl W. Swedberg, a graduate of Eastman school of music and a son of Carl T. Swedberg. Leonard Swedberg, who has been a member since the inception of the chorus 62 years ago is still singing at the age of 89. In this connection we might mention Mrs Carl T. Swedberg, (Caroline Knudsen) who was an ardent worker in these circles for years after her marriage. She was not a Sw. Finnish, however as she was born in Flekkefiord Norway. Ed Westman, was born in Sundsvall Sweden. I understand that his parents had moved to Sweden from Finland. He was active in both Swedish and Sw. Finnish circles until his removal to Olympia in the early twenties. His wife was Irene Hastbacka, born in Finland. Mr Westman, was the principal organizer of Olympia Veneer Co. of which he became president. Some years later he was one of the founders of Washington Veneer Co where he also became president. At his retirement he was tendered a banquet and it was then stated in the press: "that more veneer had been produced under his direction than under any other industrialist in the Pacific Northwest. Bill and Herman Hoglund, brothers were also active for a season. I recall that Bill wrote a book "Kampen for Brodet" (The Struggle For Our Daily Bread") The lodge helped to finance the publication which did not please everybody. Oscar Carlson, and Ed. Rosenquist, were Alanders and confined their activities to the Swedish lodges. Mr Carlson was a master Boat builder and held supervisory positions in some

of the shipyards that turned out wooden-wessels. Mrs Carlson was the former Amalia Larson born in Norrbotten Sweden. Mr Carlson was an avid dancer and can still tread the light fantastical the age of 90. Ed Rosenquist, was employed in the lumber industry. He is a past president of both Vasa and Valhalla lodges. A perennial member of the Board of Trustees of Valhalla and after his retirement was the custodian of the building for several years. With this we end the chapter on the Swedish-Finnish activities in the Swedish community in Tacoma. ~~Any~~ Any further details will be given their proper place as the history unveils itself. Of The Sw.-Finnish Baptist Church we have not found anything more to add than what already has been said in a previous ~~chapter~~ ^{chapters.} Except that Mrs August Gustafson, seems to have thought a Sunday School class and a family "Freeman" seems to have been key-members and later united with the First Baptist Church.

ONWARD FROM 1908.

Before writing the previous chapter on the Sw, Finnish components of our Swedish community here in Tacoma we had tried to chronicle most of the events that happened before 1908. Not much is recorded that took place this year, The Mission Friends congregation (Covenant) did acquire some property at So 10th and I St. and making plans for a new edifice on this location. The church was erected and dedicated on Dec 19 1909. In 1908 Mr Ernst T. Skarstedt, published "^SWashington och dess Svenska Befolkning" (Washington and its Swedish Population.) A work of some 800 pages containing geographical data of the state and some 300 biographies of some of the more prominent Swedes of this day. This was a commercial venture and the authors do not claim it to be a complete history of the Swedes in this era. In compiling this semi-history Mr Skarstedt, was assisted by Mr F.W. Lonegren. A number of the more prominent Tacoma Swedes of this day subscribed for the book and their ~~biographies~~ biographies and pictures are to be found there. Both these gentlemen had come from prominent families in the old country and had received both secondary and university education. After arriving in U.S. they had served as editors on some of the numerous weekly Swedish newspapers that existed during the immigration era, and tried their hands at various other occupations. After obtaining his secondary education and attending a technical college ^{SKARSTEDT} spent some time as a sailor and arrived in U.S in 1878. had various occupation such as

farmhand, carpenter, newsreporter etc in some of the midwest states for the first few years. Homesteaded as early as 1885 in the woods near Battle Ground in Clark County Washington. During his lifetime he edited Swedish papers all the way from New York to San Francisco and in between. Every now and then he got in his head that his natural bent was to be a farmer and between his editorships he had several farms both in Washington and in California. He had some peculiar ideas. He detested curtains, - "who want curtains? we want the sun. Had an aversion for using soap when he washed himself, would not speak in a telephone and would rather run up ten flights of stairs than to ride in an elevator. He may have had more phobias but this was the most prominent that we heard of. He was an accomplished violinist and carried the violin case wherever he went. When he visited in Tacoma he appeared on several programs at Valhalla Hall. He was the author of several books in Swedish all of which are out of print, long ago and by now mostly forgotten. His last hitch as an editor was on Nordstjarnan (North Star) in New York for some years in the early twenties. It was during this time that he was delegated to represent the Swedish American newspapers at some conference and was awarded a free trip to Sweden. I never heard much about his experiences on this trip. Except that when he visited a brother Waldemar Skarstedt, a newspaper editor in Falun in central Sweden, who was a fanatic teetotaler. He found that he had the largest Temperance Library in all of Sweden. "when I came in that room it almost made me nauseated" and I doubt that Ernest was much for liquor himself. For his literary efforts both as an author and a translator he was awarded a decoration by some Royal Literary Board in Sweden, "litteris et artibus". He did translate the works of some American authors into Swedish among these Longfellow's Hiawatha he also did write some very acceptable poetry, even if he disclaimed being a poet. After his sojourn in New York he returned to his farm on one of the San Juan Islands. On a visit to Seattle he found himself short of change when he was to return home so he took his "litteris et artibus" medal to a pawnbroker and was able to raise enough money on it for his return fare. This caused a great deal of consternation among his friends, when they learned about it and they lost no time in redeeming it for him. Skarstedt was a frequent visitor in Tacoma. Mostly to his friend Tobias Sandegren, editor and publisher

of Duget Sound Posten, a Swedish weekly newspaper. Mrs Skarstedt, (nee Ellen Hogberg,) also had a brother living in Tacoma. C.E. Hogberg, a bricklayer and contractor; who had arrived in Tacoma about 1906 after a couple of decades in the mid-west. The Hogbergs, hailed from Motala Sweden and had arrived in U.S. in the eighties. Around the turn of the century Mr Hogberg had invented and patented a Bake oven used in larger restaurants and bakeries The sales of which was handeled in the western states by himself and by another company in the east. The electric bake ovens which became popular put Mr Hogberg out of business and the last of ~~KEM~~ his active years he was running a Marina near Day Island. As far as I can remember he never associated with the Swedes. Tried to be a politician and received an interia appointment to the city council about 1908. But this seems to have ended his political activities. an early member of Tacoma Yact Club, which then had their fleet abcho- re in the City waterway and ~~his~~ Hogberg, used to act as a starter in the races of the early naphta launches.

I do not have too much information about F.w. Lonegren, who assisted Mr Skarstedt, in producing the book "Washington och dess Svenska Befolkning." I understand that like Skarstedt, he was the son of a prominent clergyman in the Swedish State Lutheran church, in fact he seems to have come from a long line of theologians on both sides of the family. He was well educated and had attended both Uppsala and Lund universities in Sweden. Before arriving in U.S. at the age of 29 in 1889 he had been a teacher and principal in secondary schools in Sweden. After arriving in Minnesota his activities included teaching, newspaper editing real estate sales, held some political offices and was even a political spellbinder and made at least one hundred addresses in behalf of John Lind, during his three campaigns for the governorship of Minnesota. Came west in 1906 and was for a time connected with the Swedish Pacific Tribune in Seattle. Later he was in the realestate business with a brother in law O.T. Wedmark, as a partner for a season. Eventually he went to Portland Ore. and founded Oregon Posten, which he edited until about ¹⁹³⁰ ~~1928~~ when on account of Mr Lone- grens illness the paper was consolidated with the Swedish Journal then published in Seattle.

ABOUT 1900. The Swedes in Tacoma were well provided with churches and organizations for their spiritual welfare but taere always seems to be room for one more. The Swedish Lutheran church

in uptown Tacoma, had maintained a Sunday afternoon Sunday school branch in South Tacoma for some years early in the century. In rented quarters on the Asbury Methodist Church. South Tacoma was then a bustling center and I am told that the Northern Pacific Shops employed about 1500 men about that time. There was a rather close knit Swedish community living out there then. If there was the Augustana Synod or the people themselves that started to be concerned about their spiritual welfare, is unknown. At any rate a congregation named "Svenska Lutherska Immanuel's Forsamlingen" was organized about 1908 or '09. The preliminary work seems to have been done by a Rev. Nystrom, (his initials may have been B.J.) who left the pastorate after a few months. Just where the new congregation worshipped initially is not recorded. The Visitation Catholic Church had just built their new brick edifice and efforts were made to acquire the old frame church nearby. When these negotiations stranded, Gus Markoff, was commissioned to build a Chapel on a quired lots at the corner of So. 5th and Birmingham St. In spite of his name Mr Markoff, was a Swede, born in Halland. But other data are lacking. The chapel probably had a seating capacity of around 100. Later Mr Markoff, built a parsonage next door. A kitchen and a hall for social gathering was added to the church later. After Rev. Nystrom's departure a call was extended to Rev Axel M. Green, who was then serving a congregation somewhere in Minnesota. Rev Green, accepted and served Immanuel until 1915 when he accepted a call to a church in Ballard. Later he was appointed chaplain and manager of Emanuel Hospital in Portland Ore. which was then not much more than a minor hospital and it is perhaps due to Rev. Green's ability as an administrator it grew into the institution it is to day. Rev Green is of course long gone. We might mention that he was born in Smaland Sweden and came to Tacoma as a very young lad. We understand that he had a older brother here who did pass away. In the minutes of Swedish Order of Valhalla in the late nineties we find the following paragraph: "Attention was called to two Swedish cripples who were in desperate straits. One named Salvin had lost both legs in an accident, the other by the name of Green, had been severely injured in an explosion. Neither was a member of the lodge but it was decided to appoint a committee to render whatever aid they could. A collection was started with a \$10 appropriated from

the treasury The committee approached the county commissioners who agreed to supply salvin with artificial legs.Green seems to have succumbed from his injuries. the 1895 City Directory lists Axel M.Green as a waiter in W.D.Wallace's Restaurant 1120 C.St., Room 718 So.Yakima Ave.He was born in the late 70-ties so he could only have been around 17 years old then.A couple of old-timers remembered him as a very good pool player. After he lost his brother and through the influence of the minister of the Swedish Luth church,which must have been Rev Matson,he decided to dedicate his life to the church. and went east for his education. Having reached his goal,he was now ordained and back in the west again as pastor of Immanuel Luth.Church in South Tacoma.

Initially it may have appeared that the Immanuel Church would have some kind of a future.The country was growing,people were coming westThe Northern Pacific Shops were expanding.So was The nearby Griffin Wheel Foundry(where I made my living for over forty years). Howevernewcomers to the area were more apt to settle in an ares about two miles east then best known as the "Sixth Addittion" even if they did make their living in South Tacoma. So the membership of the church never increased much over the original families plus nominal lutherans who would attend the services occasionally.There were some interesting persons in these pioneer families. We remember the Henry Delin's, Pete Johnson's, Pete Levin's, and Charlie Orman's. All these fellows were blacksmiths. Delin had several sons that bacame active in several lines of business,all passed away at an early age.Pete Levin married Mrs John (Alma)Newstrom,who was a real pioneer inSouth Tacoma.Having settled there withher first husband in 1891.Pete was quite a bass singer and belonged to the Swedish Male Choruses existing at the time.Charley Orman was something of a character. He was a native of Varnaland Sweden and like most Varnalanders he was witty and always had a suitable reply ready,Charley was not stingy but he had a way of hanging on to his money where he could make a profit and aquired a number of houses around 47th and 48th Washington and Adams ^{Sts/} There were Swedes in all the departments in the Shops John Hallen,Herman Felt and others were over at Griffin Wheel WorksMost of these were members of Immanuel Church. Noticing the trend of the Swedes settling in the Sixt Addition.Rev.Green started a mission in a rented hall at 56th and M st

Eventually this mission grew into Swedish Luth. Bethel Congregation ,organized in 1914. Beside serving Imanuel Rev,Green also preached in Olympia one Sunday per month. After Rev Green,left for Ballard. Rev,Herman Anderson was assigned to the pastorate. He was a native of Blekinge Sweden and had arrived in Minnesota before the turnof the century. Early in life he had been the hired man on My father in law's farm in his home province. Rev.Anderson,served until 1920.For the next several years the pulpit was occupied by no less than a dozen ministers ,students and laymen. Services became more or less irregular by now rhe Luth church in Auburn . Rev E.A.Larson, arrived in1928 by then there was just a remnant of the membership left who united with the Bethel Church some time during the depression years.. The parsonage had been disposed ofbefore 1920.The chapel was sold to the Visitation Catholic parish and is now known as Bennett Hall.

1909 Early in this resume we mentioned that industrialization came late to Sweden and with a surplus of labor this was one of the causes for the early emigration to U.S.A. Consequently labor unions also came late. The number of mills and factories grew and usually the managements had a very paternalistic attitude towards the workers.Some unions had been formed ,more or less patterned after the old time trade guilds.It was not until after the turn of the century that labor began to organize in earnest and even formed a ~~trade~~ federation of trade unions. The employers had also formed a federation and by 1909 the lines were drawn and when the employers locked out the workers in the metal working industries,the Federation of Labor pulled a general strike. For about five weeks in the summer of 1909 practically everything but the communications was tied up.In the end labor lost this struggle.When it came to go back to work many found that their old jobs were no longer available.In great many cases officers of the unions and some that had taken an active part in the strike were blacklisted Finding their possibilities to earn a living for themselves and their families circumscribedthe only way out was to emigrate.quite a few of these came to this area. All of those that I knew are gone now. Most of them done quite well for themselves. Imbued as the were with the cooperative idea some were the key ~~men~~ men in the first cooperative Veneer plant here on the coast of which there is now a great many.

One of these who had been blacklisted in Sweden for his union activities became the president of this coo-op plant. Later he was instrumental in organizing another company and became its president. When he was tendered a banquet at his retirement it was stated : "that more veneer had been produced under his direction than by any other man on the entire Pacific Coast".

As a sidelight to the above it might be stated that whatever ~~XXX~~ social reforms that came to pass during the later decades of the 19th century ⁱⁿ Sweden were entirely due to the efforts of the more enlightened and forward looking members of the upper classes of the society. Reforms such as lifting the ban on holding prayer meetings in private homes in 1858. Segregating church and communal affairs in 1862. The parliamentary reform of 1868 when the nobility and the clergy lost their preferred ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ status in this governing body. It was not until 1881 however, that anyone started to preach social justice in earnest. When one August Palm, gave the first socialdemocratic lecture in the City of Malmö. Palm was a tailor. In this era it was customary that a journeyman should travel and gain experience before becoming a full fledged tailor. In his travels he lived both in Germany and Denmark where he became identified with left wing organisations and had become a member of Karl Marks International while in Schlesvig. Apparently he may have been a little too vociferous for his own good as he was expelled from Germany in 1877 and from Denmark in 1881. In Sweden the new movement gained about as many adherents from the upper strata of the society as it gained from the down-trodden. Notably Hjalmar Branting, 1860-1925. who had been educated at the exclusive Bescow School for Boys where one of his classmates had been the late King Gustaf the Fifth of Sweden. He became the first social democratic member of the parliament (riksdag) in 1897 and eventually prime minister. Hinke Bergegren, also a contemporary had received a good education, spoke several languages, was a world traveler and a literary genius. Was very much to the left of center in his political views, and a rabble rouser. Nevertheless he remained the theatre and drama critic on the most conservative newspaper in the country throughout his life. This trio just mentioned can be regarded as the key men in the early left wing movement in Sweden. Branting was the architect

and builder. The other two just stirred things up. This was no intention to try to chronicle the beginnings of the Swedish labor movement, but rather to point to some repercussions that happened in Tacoma all of 75 years later and after all there is some truth in the old adage that: "an acorn does not fall too far from the tree". After the 1909 debacle, Victor K. Carlbon, a son in law of August Palm, and Carl O Palm, a son probably like a good many others found their chances of making a living circumscribed and decided to emigrate to U.S. with their families. After a sojourn in Chicago they came to Tacoma some years later. Mr Carlbon an electrician found work and became a veteran employee at the Tacoma Smelter. Mr Palm, found that the local Machinists Union would not accept his Machinists Union Card from Sweden. So after a few laboring jobs he removed to Seattle where he found work in Moran's Shipyard where his first job was building the engine for the steamer "Tacoma" a passenger vessel that ran between Seattle and Tacoma for so many years. The Carlbons had several sons. The late Henry K. Carlbon, was a tinsmith. His avocation was to attend Tacoma City Council meetings and make his opinion known on any and all subjects. Eventually the council had enough of these har-~~AK~~ speakers harangues, and passed an ordinance limiting the time and the frequency of which ~~they~~ could appear and address the council. This ordinance is still dusted off and applied now and then and still known as the Carlbon ordinance. The boys were also concerned about gambling in private clubs, paying special attention to the Elks. To which they did not even have access. Well, we suppose there was some of grandpa Palm in them so they enjoyed to stir be into and ~~stir~~ up things.

I have not been able to detect that anything of great importance happened in the Swedish community in Tacoma in 1910. The roof on Valhallas comparatively new building was already leaking like a sieve which caused some consternation among the members. A preacher had rented the hall to proclaim some new kind of gospel. The trustees were ordered to attend to determine if his preaching would be detrimental to Valhalla. It could not be decided if it was proper to rent the hall to the socialists. Finally there had been some trouble at the dances both inside and outside the building. If this was the old Viking spirit bubbling over or a tug of war between the Scandinavians and the latin

elements which were beginning to crowd out the scandinavians in the neighborhood we are unable to detect now. Anyway, to be a landlord had its trials and tribulations and the trustees of Valhalla were hard put to resolve these exigencies.

Statewide the U.S. census gave the state a population of 1,141,990. The population of Tacoma was listed at 89,743. The state voted to give the women the right to vote. Locally the Tacoma Stadium was dedicated.

Rev. C.E. Frisk

Early in 1911 resigned the pastorate of the Swedish Lutheran Church after a tenure of 10 years. There was a rumble that all was not amicable between the pastor and some of the members of the congregation. He had his followers, and there were some resignations but there was no exodus. A pioneer family transferred to an english speaking Lutheran Church. Rev. Frisk had a call to Ballard where he served briefly before accepting a call to a large church in Taylors Falls Minn. Where he perhaps served the rest of his active ministry. He passed away in Pasadena Calif. Not too many years ago ~~if~~ ^{then} well past 90.

Personally I saw Tacoma for the first time in the spring of 1911. I had left my home in Borlänge, in the province of Dalarna Sweden on the last day of February and arrived in Seattle on the 23rd ~~of~~ ^{of} March. Travel had improved I suppose but this was still a tedious journey. There was no direct connection by passenger ships between Swedish ports and port of entry in U.S. So we had to embark in ~~Copenhagen~~ ^{Gothenburg} for Hull England. By train from Hull to Liverpool. From there it took 10 or 12 days over the Atlantic to reach Boston and a full week cross country to Seattle. After spending a couple of weeks with friends there I headed for Tacoma. Can't remember the exact date, but I might mention that Tacoma had a distinguished visitor that day - ex president Teddy Roosevelt. A large delegation of distinguished looking gentlemen with silk hats and Prince Albert coats were aboard the boat to Tacoma having badges "Roosevelt Committee" to meet the ex president and to escort him to Seattle aboard a special steamer.

Tacoma was in the throes of a recall election about this time. Having just arrived from the old country my knowledge of english was just about nil at the time so I have no personal memories of the issues. I did understand that the recall was on moral grounds

the city was full of sin and iniquity and the big bad wolf was a countryman Peter Sandberg, whose biographical sketch has been given earlier in this resume.

The Christian Science Church on Division and I St. was built in 1911. by Edward Young, Mr Young was a prominent contractor in this era. Biographical data are lacking but we have heard that he was a native of Bohuslan Sweden. Had lived in Chicago before coming to Tacoma . Which could have been around the turn of the century or before. Twice married his first wife passed away rather young. Remarried, and there was children in both marriages. There may be descendants still in Tacoma. Other Structures to Mr Youngs credit is The Lincoln High School, which he built in partnership with a Mr Olson who was a Norwegian. The First Lutheran Church was built under Mr Youngs supervision. (He was a long time trustee in this church.) He also built a number of Commercial structures and Apartments.

We have mentioned earlier that Valhalla Military band which had existed from 1889 'til into the new century when it disbanded. Some latent interest must have remained and in 1911 the Swedes had another Brass Band composed of young Swedes who had adopted the name "Svea Band". This undertaking was not sponsored by any organisation, each member furnished his own instrument and uniform. Mr P, O, Peterson, who directed the original Valhalla Band also directed this new attempt. Beside Mr Peterson, Emil Bertle, and Nels Person, were also veterans of the old band. Three of Petersons sons Oscar, Ray and Harry. Harry played the snare drum. Others in a picture taken some years later I recognize: Len and Carl Svedberg, Gunnar Blomberg, John Nelson, Ed Ahlskog, Pete Hagstrom (He was a vegetarian and earned the soubriquet "Peanuts Pete.") Albert Anderson, whos name still can be read on sidewalks around town. (Anderson & Liljebeck) I perhaps knew the names on a few of the others but hav forgotten them now. The boys played for the love of it, Whatever money that they earned pleyng for dances at Valhalla and elsewhere was invested in music and equipment. The Band was popular and was going good until the beginning of the first world war when some were drafted into the army and replacements were hard to come by. When the war was over the Band was never revived.

In the fall of 1911 Gustaf R. Larson, arrived in town from Erie Pennsylvania where he had

lived for about a decade since arriving in U.S. from Halmstad Sweden, where he was born about 1880. Early in life he had learned the shoemakers trade and had since worked both as a shoemaker and salesman. Here he found employment as a clerk in Samuelson & Bergs Shoe Store at So 11th and K. St. He shifted around a bit and worked in other stores but the major part of his years in Tacoma was spent in this establishment. Immediately upon his arrival he became active in the affairs of the Swedish community. The Lutheran church, Valhalla where he served as president. Charter member and Chairman of the Vasa lodge . . . Was active in re-organizing the defunct Swedish Glee Club and in 1915 was elected President of Pacific Coast Swedish Singers. As such he was General Chairman of the "Sangarfest" held here in 1917. He maintained his interest in the various activities through the years. In the early thirties he suffered a stroke. He never married so as soon as he was able to he returned to Erie to live with a sister where he soon passed away.

The 1910 census, published in 1911 indicated that there were 683,158 Swedish born persons living in the United States. This was an alltime high. There were 3,567 in 1850, and 571,926 by 1900. After 1910 there has been a steady decline with 594,333 in 1930 and 10 year later the figure was 445,070. I have never seen a break down or even a good estimate of the number of Swedes living in Tacoma or Pierce County Nor in the State of Washington, at any time.

Earlier we have mentioned some of the Swedish pioneers that settled on Anderson and McNeill Islands. These items have largely been taken from what has appeared in the public press and other historical data. There were also Swedish settlers on Fox Island about which, as far as I know nothing has been recorded. In the spring of 1911 I spent some time with relatives and made the acquaintance with a number of these people and did keep in touch with some of them for many years afterwards. Just who was the first Swedish settler on the Island I have no idea. Gus Carlson, may have been one of the first ones in the nineties. He had considerable acreage in strawberries beyond Sylvan and the Swedes were apt to refer him as "Sträberrÿkungen" (the Strawberry King)

Mr Carlson, was born in Varmland and Mrs Carlson, who passed away before reaching middle age seems to have come from the province of Nerke. Other data are lacking, except that Mr Carlson was an early employee of The Tacoma Smelter and a friend of his told me that before he moved his family to the island Mr Carlson, would row all the way from Tacoma to clear land at every opportunity he had. Another early settler was Mr David Lundblad, who probably arrived around the turn of the century. He was a native of Ostergötland, Sweden and had arrived in Iowa in the eighties and by the end of the decade he had brought his parents and brothers and sisters to Iowa. After he became established on the island the parents and his brothers and sisters who by that time had their own families followed him and settled on stump farms on the island. His sister Hilma, was married to Axel Whalquist, and sister Alma to John Whalquist. The Whalquists were brothers and were born in the vicinity of Stockholm, Sweden. In their youth they had sailed the seven seas under both sail and steam. In Iowa they had been Coal Miners. They settled at Cedrona Bay, then called "Hope" which also was the name of the post office where Alma Wahlquist, was post master. Mail arrived as often as John Wahlquist, rowed across the sound to the vicinity of Day Island, ^{FROM WHERE} he walked up hill to the vicinity of the present "University Place" where he caught the Stellacoom street car to 11th and K St. where he transferred to the Cable car down to the Main Post office. The remuneration for the post master was the amount and value of the stamps affixed to the letters, post cards, and packages brought in. On the northwest side of the island and next door neighbors to the Dave Lundblads were the August Carlsons. They were also natives of Ostergötland and had arrived early in the century via Iowa. By hard work they had probably made themselves one of the most productive diversified farms on the island. Just how many Swedish settlers there were on the island I would not try to estimate. It could have been 25 or more ^{FAMILIES} Several beside these already mentioned were former residents of Iowa. It could also be noticed that many of the families had their roots in ^{R/}Ostergötland. It does seem a bit strange that people that had grown up in Ostergötland which has the reputation of being the Granary of Sweden and later had tilled the rich black soil in Iowa would end up as stump-

farmers on an island in Puget Sound. Where the soil was not too fertile and rocks and hard clay was abundant. It also took both dynamite and hard back breaking labor to remove all the large stumps that dotted the landscape. Especially the cedar stumps which left a web of roots which could only be chopped out with a pickaxe or mattock. But I never heard anyone complain and wished themselves back in the middle west with the oppressing heat in the summer and frigid winters. To be sure there were some who thought there were easier ways to make a living and gave up. A druggist Henry Hjertelius, arrived from Chicago and acquired a tract of raw land. He also brought his elderly parents all were imbued with the idea of having a few acres and independence. The old folks soon gave up and returned to Chicago. But between practising his profession off and on Henry hung on to the property for a number of years. My own relatives had lived in Iowa and farmed in South Dakota before coming west in 1910. Also fell for the tale of raising berries and vegetables on just a few acres would make a decent living but soon learned different. Having been used to the wide open spaces I also think they felt more or less hemmed in by both woods and water and soon turned to other pursuits. Eventually acquiring a 200 acre farm in Kiti-tas valley. Their youngest son Donald Nylan, was for years Asst. Supt of Schools in Seattle. After his retirement he was employed by the Ford Foundation to organize School Systems in Ghana and other African countries..... Any produce that these farmers had to dispose of had to be shipped by boat to the city. Tomatoes and Strawberries were perhaps the principal cash crops. These were a couple of highly perishable products and the farmers were more or less at the mercy of the commission houses as to price and other conditions. Sometimes it even did happen that the farmer received a notice that the produce had been received in a such condition that it had to be dumped..... As far as I have been able to ascertain the Swedes on McNeil's and Anderson island were rather homogenous both in religion and politics. Good Lutherans and ditto republicans. On Fox Island it was different. I doubt there were any lutherans among them. With the exception of one family who were of the Mission Friends or Covenant persuasion. Most of the others did not adhere to any of the commonly known denominations. One group were followers of a sect known as Efraim's Budbärande (Ephraim's Messengers) also known among

farmers on an island in Puget Sound. Where the soil was not too fertile and rocks and hard clay was abundant. It also took both dynamite and hard back breaking labor to remove all the large stumps that dotted the landscape. Especially the cedar stumps which left a web of roots which could only be chopped out with a pickaxe or mattock. But I never heard anyone complain and wished themselves back in the middle west with the oppressing heat in the summer and frigid winters. To be sure there were some who thought there were easier ways to make a living and gave up. A druggist Henry Hjertelius, arrived from Chicago and acquired a tract of raw land. He also brought his elderly parents all were imbued with the idea of having a few acres and independence. The old folks soon gave up and returned to Chicago. But between practicing his profession off and on Henry hung on to the property for a number of years. My own relatives had lived in Iowa and farmed in South Dakota before coming west in 1910. Also fell for the tale of raising berries and vegetables on just a few acres would make a decent living but soon learned different. Having been used to the wide open spaces I also think they felt more or less hemmed in by both woods and water and soon turned to other pursuits. Eventually acquiring a 200 acre farm in Kiti-tas valley. Their youngest son Donald Nylan, was for years Asst. Supt of Schools in Seattle. After his retirement he was employed by the Ford Foundation to organize School Systems in Ghana and other African countries..... Any produce that these farmers had to dispose of had to be shipped by boat to the city. Tomatoes and Strawberries were perhaps the principal cash crops. These were a couple of highly perishable products and the farmers were more or less at the mercy of the commission houses as to price and other conditions. Sometimes it even did happen that the farmer received a notice that the produce had been received in a such condition that it had to be dumped..... As far as I have been able to ascertain the Swedes on McNeil's and Anderson island were rather homogenous both in religion and politics. Good Lutherans and ditto republicans. On Fox Island it was different. I doubt there were any lutherans among them. With the exception of one family who were of the Mission Friends or Covenant persuasion. Most of the others did not adhere to any of the commonly known denominations. One group were followers of a sect known as Efraim's Budbärande (Ephraim's Messengers) also known among

the Scandinavians as "Lianare". Followers of a Dr Lie, who originally had been a carpenter but somehow during the American Civil War had entered the medical profession. If he was a Swede or a Norwegian I never learned. After the war he seems to have returned to Scandinavia and lived in both Norway and Sweden. Where he found a limited number of followers. As I remember the colporteurs who came around now and then preached a rather liberal gospel. When they came around, always in a group of three. It is doubtful that Dr Lie's doctrines had any impact on the American public. Most of the people I knew had been converted in Sweden. Another group was known as "Vankretsen". (The Friends Circle) Their prophet and leader was a husky, be-whiskered elderly gentleman by the name of Walfred Nordstrom. He had been born in Varmland Sweden, probably in the 1840's. In Sweden he had attended the Methodist Seminary. By reading the scriptures in the light of prophecy he had gained an opinion that most of the ^{and teachings} practises of the recognized denominations were entirely wrong. Except for a couple of cardinal principles that he was always harping on the doctrines he expounded were quite flexible and he was apt to reverse himself from time to time. According to some of the listeners that were prone to be a little more sophisticated. From Deuteronomy 5:8, he quoted: Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth. This according to Rev Nordstrom, meant pictures and ^Rphotographs of every kind and description, even to family pictures and snap shots. Some of his faithful did burn or destroyed whatever pictures and photographs they had on hand. Others just forgot about this part of his preaching. Also from the same chapter Deuteronomy 5:14, But the "seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work Etc". This was an order of which the preacher was rather adamant about and I believe that most of the flock observed this command to some extent. This was a pretty good trick. On Saturdays the menfolks and the whole family went around all dressed up, while their neighbors were out grubbing stumps or doing other chores. The faithful did not seem to do much work on Sundays neither. So this sort of gave them two holidays a week and this was long before the labor unions began to advocate free Saturdays. So it really appears that the followers of Rev Nordstrom were ^a way ahead of their times. Since coming out to this area Nordstrom was farming out in Puyallup Valley.

In earlier years I understand that he was a controversial figure in the Swedish communities in the midwest as he traveled around and held tent meetings in the various localities. In his later years he published a book . A combined memoirs of his life and an explanation of the doctrines he thought. Another gentleman that sometime appeared was F.W. Pearson, who had a truck farm and some greenhouses at Arletta. He also had his own religious views, but was by no means as controversial as Nordstrom. Periodically he published a small paper "Tjänaren" (The Servant) Issued as often as the Lord desires and at the Bible's price. (Free) There was no dearth of evangelists and colporteurs that came around. Most of whom proclaimed some strange doctrines. When some of these got too long-winded it could happen that Grandma Lundblad, who had belonged to Salvation Army in Sweden, started to think aloud and either agreed or disagreed with the speaker. Some of the menfolks thought these colporteurs came around once too often and called them "Smogas-predikanter" (Sandwich-preachers) who would rather preach than work. But these cottage-meetings gave the people a chance to get together and gave them a break in an otherwise hum-drum existence. Looking backward I spent an interesting period among some rather interesting countrymen on Fox Island. Even if I had a very low opinion about stumpfarming and was anxious to get away from there to something more exiting at the time. I even got to go to a public school for a few weeks to learn the first rudiments of the english language. There was 8 grades in the same room. The teacher was a young lady by the name of Lila Bell Acheson, Later known as Lila Bell Acheson Wallace, with her husband founder of Readers Digest, Her father was a Presbyterian minister and the attached to Withworth College. Then located in Tacoma. Finally I do remember that a periodical known as " Forskaren" (The Researcher) also had a couple subscribers on the Island. This was a well edited but an ~~MEGALIX~~ out-and-out anti religious and anti church viewpoint published in Minneapolis. So it is safe to say that our countrymen on Fox Island were more heterogenous than they were on the other islands in the sound and perhaps elsewhere.

1912.

By this time the stumpfarming and land clearing was left behind . After a sojourn at the Pioneer Sand and Gravel Co. operation near Steilacoom I was now employed in the City. Looking backward over the years one realizes that Tacoma had still a shimmer of the old

west, and had not entirely lost its frontier status. It was not unusual to see prairie scooners on the streets. Loggers and itinerant workers with their blanket rolls was a common sight. Pacific Ave was the main drag. Crowds paraded up and down aimlessly especially on Saturday nights. About every other door led to a saloon. No women allowed. But Tivoli, The Annex and a few others had a Ladies Entrance. In the upper stories of some of the lower grade hotels, the red lights were clearly visible. Pete Sandbergs, Standard Hotel had been closed as mentioned before so the gals just moved up on D street and there were bawdy houses all the way from Jefferson Ave. to St. Helens Ave. Pete still had his wholesale Kentucky Licuour Co in the Standard building at 14th and A St. In the immediate area were a number of employment offices so the area was also referred to as "The Slave Market". It was a common practise then days to buy jobs at these offices. Some unscrupulous bosses had a graft going by splitting fee's with the employment agent whereby the worker would be fired after a few days and a new man would arrive in his place. It was reported that in some instances one man would be working, another would be going and a third one coming. This was probably an exaggeration, but at any rate this system got so bad that these employment offices were put out of business by legislative action around 1914. Visell and Ekbergs Book Store was located near 14th. Mr Visell operated a Travel bureau in conjunction with the book store. There the Swedes came to buy tickets to send to relatives and friends in the Old Country and those who had been fortunate amasse a small fortune (gsmala lands stoken) so they could return to the old country and buy a farm also came there for their transportation. Mr Ekberg, operated an insurance agency in conjunction and was also a notary public, registered with the Swedish Consulate. In a basement location at the corner of 14th Mr Tobias Sandegren, printed Puget Sound Posten a Swedish weekly newspaper. So this was one place one could figure to meet some acquaintances. Strange enough there was no Swedish saloon in this vicinity. The Baltic, owned by Hjalmer Nyman, and Atlas Bar, were further down the Street closer to 17th. Charles Dufstrom, who had been a wrestler and earned the title "The Terrible Swede" was a bartender in the Board of Trade saloon at 14th. 14th Street was also the city's open air "Forum", a haven for all kinds of "Soap Box" orators. Many kinds of strange religious views were proclaimed there. Holy Rollers, Salvation Army and others came there not only to save souls, but also to drum up business. Pitch men of all kinds extolled their wares. peddlers

of various kind of nostrums ,good for man and beast guaranteed to cure most anything from stomach ulcers to a broken leg,were ever present.One of the store rooms in the Standard hotel building was occupied as the head,quarters of the Industrial Workers of the World.Commonly known as the IWW. A left wing syndicalistic labor organisation.

They held street meetings whenever they could get a crowd and carried a regular pulpit with them from their hall.They used to entertain their listeners by singing the Internationale,You'll get pie in the sky,when you die,Workers of the World Awaken,from a little ^{red} booklet. Most of these songs were composed by Joe Hill, whose real name was Joel Hillstrom,born in Gävle Sweden around 1880 and had arrived in U.S. in 1902. He must have picked up his english rather quickly for before long he was composing poems and songs. As an itinerant worker he came in touch with the IWW and became an active member and also became their poet-lauerate.In his travels he reached Salt Lake City,where he evoked the displeasure of many of the citizens for his IWW activities. After the hold-up of a grocery where the grocer was killed.He was accused of being the perpetrator of the crime and was convicted on circumstantial evidence and was executed . Although there were serious doubts about his guilt. The execution caused some international complications. The Swedish Ambassador and Pres.Wilson interceded in his behalf but the Mormons were adamant and demanded an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.Joe Hill,is known as the man that won't die. This incident happened around 1915,but just a few years back a full length movie was made of his life. Yes,downtown Tacoma had a lot of color and many things of interest early in the century, especially around 14th and Pacific Ave.

One of the first acquaintances made after I arrived in Tacoma was Karl W,Von Walter who then was a clerk in Dickson Bros Mens furnishings Store. As the name may indicate,he was a descendant of a family that once belonged to the nobility.The name of the family Winblad von Walter is still registered in the House of Knights in Sweden although their privelegies expired generations ago. He was born in Pitea Sweden in 1887 and arrived in Tacoma in 1905. At first he had to take whatever work that was available but soon found work in a department store. He was with the Dickson firm for a couple of decades until 1930 when he went into the insurance business as representative of the Travelers Ins,Co.

While he joined some fraternal orders he never became active in any of them. He was more church oriented. Was a charter member of Bethel Lutheran Church and retained his membership for about a decade. Afterwards joining the First Presbyterian Church. Where he became very active, Elected Elder and before his demise created "Elder Emeritus". He was also a life member of the local chapter of the "Gideons", where he served as president.

Tried politics and ran for representative in the legislature. But this was during the Hoover administration and not too many favored the republican ticket then. Mrs von Walter, was born in Iowa of Swedish parents. There were a couple of sons, one of which took over his fathers insurance business.

Swedish

The only other scion of a noble family I have met during my years in Tacoma occurred decades later when I met one Alexander von Törne. The privileges of the von Törne family had also expired although they were still listed among the nobles. In his youth Alexander von Törne had sailed the seven seas. In Tacoma he worked as a longshoreman and went by the name of Sandy van Thorn.

In the summer of 1912 one Ernest L. Gissler, of Boston Mass. A representative and organizer for the Vasa Order of America arrived in Tacoma. The Order had its inception in New Haven Connecticut in 1896 when several independent societies in New Haven and nearby towns decided to consolidate and form an Order which they named The Vasa Order after a 16th century Swedish King. The Order spread first over the New England States and by 1908 it had reached Minnesota and the mid-west. By 1912 the Order had a membership of over 80,000 in about 400 lodges. The zenith in membership was reached in 1929 with 72,261 members in 609 lodges. Since then there has been a gradual decline and the present membership is probably around 35,000.

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previous to January 1 1913 would be considered Charter Members. The name "Norden" was adopted for the lodge and later was given the number 233, by the Grand Lodge office. By the time the charter closed, at new years the new lodge had well over 200 members. Several factors contributed to this phenomenal growth. The lodge promised to pay a benefit of \$6.00 per week in case of illness or accident. This amounted to almost a half weeks wages at the going rate of pay, for the average worker. The existing fraternal society was strictly a mens organisation so except for the ladies aid societies in the churches the distaff side in the Swedish community had hitherto had no outlet for their energies. There was no dearth of entertainment those days. The movies were still in their infancy those days. Some vaudeville and stock-company shows was about the limit. Here was an opportunity for both entertainment and protection and man and wife could attend lodge together. So the lodge supplied a vacuum which had existed ever since the Swedes began to arrive in numbers some thirty years before.

Young people of both sexes arrived from Sweden almost weekly. With the exception of an occasional Scandinavian dance there was no opportunity for them to get together. Here there was a chance for them to get together and it can be truthfully stated that for the next several years Lodge Norden became a veritable matrimonial agency.

About this time two Swedish speaking Germans arrived in town. Henry and Willie Shreyer. Ostensible they were brothers although one could hardly discover any similarities between them. Henry took a job in a German Hardware Store, Willie became a street car conductor, but, seemed to be able to afford to take plenty of time off. They seemed to have the faculty to ^{getting in} ~~get on~~ with people, speaking three languages without any difficulty. The peculiar part was that young people, recent arrivals from Sweden from both the north and south part of the country and in between knew them from back home and thought they were peculiar because they never stayed very long in one place back there. At the beginning of the First world war a couple of years later both disappeared just as suddenly as they arrived and I have often wondered what their mission in this area really was.

By now I had aquired sufficient knowledge of the english language to realize that a

number of my countrymen, and women too for that matter really spoke a heavily accented Swedish when they spoke English. This was especially true of older people who had lived in Swedish settlements in the mid-west before coming out to the coast. They were also prone to use a great deal of English idioms when they spoke Swedish. Too bad there were no tape recorders around to pick up the idiomatic expressions of that era. Over the ^{this} decades the use of language has disappeared. This may serve as an example: Walking down the street with a friend we met a fellow and this conversation took place "Du ~~Kände~~ ^{kände} han Jan Larson, som bruka jobba for räilrod kompaniet, han har blitt killed av en strit kers i Salt Lake City. (You knew John Larson, who used to work for the R.R.Co. He has been killed by a street car in Salt Lake City) Uncle Carlson, who some times would pinch hit for the minister in the Swedish Methodist Church was one of the best - or worst exponents of this kind of "svenglish" in his sermons. One of his favorite expressions was: "Då pagar sig inte to trya to föla Gud" (It does not pay to try to fool God) Which of course was neither English nor Swedish but a jumble of both. Sometimes this kind of a dialect was referred to as "Minnesota English."

After Rev. Frisk's resignation from the pastorate of the Swedish Lutheran church, there was a vacancy of nearly two years. In the interim the pulpit was supplied by visiting pastors. Rev. Herman Lind, occupied the pulpit most of the time. In 1913 Rev. Ernest C. Bloomquist, accepted the call. He was then serving congregations on the East coast and arrived in Tacoma in the Fall. Rev. Bloomquist, was then a man of about 35 years old. Was born in the mining district in Michigan, but grew up in Duluth Minn. The congregation soon learned that he was a powerful pulpit orator, spoke English and Swedish with the same ease. A talented musician and a splendid singer. Mrs. Bloomquist, nee Florence Lindgren, originally from Moline Ill. was also a talented musician and singer. It is cogent that with this new leadership the activities within the congregation increased to a marked degree. Soon after the Bloomquist's had been established a Prof. Per Olsson, appeared and was engaged as organist and choirmaster. He was then a man about 30 had received his musical education both in Sweden and Germany and was a native of Smaland. He was a member of American Guild of Organists and earlier had been a professor of music

at Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota and been organist and choirmaster in some of the large Swedish Luth Churches in the east. Like most of the musicians he had his peculiarities. His hair was always long and curly, always wore a Prince Albert or a cut-away coat. Never seen without a walking stick. At times he could be a bit irresponsible in more ways than one. But he certainly was a virtuoso on the organ. Each evening service was preceded by a 15 min. organ concert and as this became known the church was always well filled. The choir also made great strides under his baton and gained the reputation of being one of the best in the city. Beside his position in the church he also maintained a down-town studio where he taught piano, organ and theory.

Sporadic efforts had been made to maintain a Swedish Male Chorus. Valhalla Male Chorus of 1905 was active for a couple of years and was succeeded by The Swedish Glee Club which also petered out after about the same length of time. A double quartet from the last effort hung together and appeared occasionally. About 1913 they decided to expand and were able to attract a number of new voices. For some mysterious reason they adopted the name of "Thule" when the chorus was reorganized. (Thule was the name given by the ancients to the most northerly part of Europe) Among the veterans were: Emil Bertle, Martin Carlson, Elof Lindbeck, Austin Peterson, Nels Larson, John Berglund, Carl Hellstrom, Gustaf Bjorklund all of which had been members of the previous choruses. Initially Martin Carlson, acted as leader until the arrival of Prof. Per Olsson, who was the conductor for the next two or three years until he left for greener pastures in Seattle. During his sojourn in Tacoma he also served as conductor of the Orpheus Club and Normanna Male Chorus.

Here we might mention that Martin Carlson, 1887-1939 was very active in the Swedish community both as a singer and as leader of several choruses. Born in Ranea in Norrbotten Sweden and arrived in Minnesota in 1906 and came to Tacoma a couple of years later. A painter and contractor by trade. Endowed with a beautiful tenor voice he was much in demand as a soloist both in Swedish and American circles. Never too robust he entered the insurance business and done some notary work the later years of his life. Mrs Carlson was the former Esther Granstrom, born in Lulea Sweden. Two sons Martin and Gustaf who became very active in the Swedish community.

In 1913 the Vasa lodge which had been organized the year before had well over 200 members. This success did not exactly please everybody. Noticing that the applications for membership had been dropping off some of the old time Valhalla members became quite disturbed and did not speak too well of the new lodge. One member in particular who liked to be known as Mr Valhalla went so far as to forbid his wife to trade with a grocer who had been instrumental in organizing the new lodge. This was only temporary, however. This particular gentleman recanted in a few years and became member of the Vasa lodge went through the chairs and even served a term as District Master of the Order.

Rev J.W. Carlson, of the Mission Church was not much of a friend of the new lodge neither and devoted most of an evening sermon warning his flock for the new intruder. This outburst could almost be expected from a person of his makeup. Even if one can wonder if it was necessary. About this time Rev. Carlson, received a call and left shortly thereafter for Evanston Ill. His successor was Rev Hjalmar Sundquist, a kindly gentleman who served the church for the next few years, not much of a pulpit orator but wrote some very acceptable poetry. After he resigned he headed for his apple orchard at Selah in Yakima valley to raise apples and to do some literary work.

A colorful personality of this era was Capt. Fred Anderson, in charge of the Scandinavian corps of the Salvation Army. Their hall was then located in a basement on the N.E. corner of 13th and Tacoma Ave. He did not have too many recruits and soldiers at his command but on Saturday nights the entire corps used to march down to commerce St. and hold street meetings in front of the Scandinavian saloon's of which there were several, and then invite people up to their hall. K St. was then becoming more and more of a gathering place for the Scandinavians and later the street meetings were moved up there.

It was the fervent desire of the corps to acquire a hall of their own. By pursuing various schemes Capt. Anderson, raised enough money to have their dream come through. A hall was built in 1914 at So. 12th and L St. In 1914, contractors were Leonard Svedberg, and Eric Bonn. Capt. Anderson was ordered to Portland but was soon back again. His successor was not able to keep things going. When U.S. entered the First World War Capt Anderson with a detachment of salvationists were ordered to the front in France. When he retur-

ned he had earned the title "Capt. Anderson, the Flap Jack King". At the front he had rigged up a wheelbarrow with a steel plate which he could fire under so he could bake hot cakes for the GI's. It was said that when the Germans had evacuated a town, Capt Anderson could be there ahead of the U.S. Army - baking hot cakes when they arrived. This, of course became the big event in his life. For Years afterwards whenever there was a parade, carnival, or any other public event; there came Capt Anderson, with his wheelbarrow and greasy war bible. And he never tired to relate his experiences at the front. The public tired long before him. An armistice Day, 25 years after the war was over he pushed his wheelbarrow to K St. to celebrate the event. But, somehow he had lost his knack of hot cake baking. No matter how he fussed with the dough and greased the griddle the flap jacks got burned. Even the youngsters rejected his invitation to sample them. Well, they liked them during the war" said Capt Anderson, and gave up. After the war he never resumed his position as a Salvation Army officer. Took a job as a custodian in a Tacoma school where he remained until his retirement. Passed away at 88. Then largely a forgotten man. Legionaire's and others who at one time had covered him with honor had also forgotten him. Biography is lacking. We understand that he was a native of Smaland and arrived in U.S. in the nineties. Attended the S.A. War College before the turn of the century, where one of his class mates was Albert Dahlstrom, who later became a free lance preacher. On his first visit to Tacoma he let it be known that Capt. Anderson was known as Glada (Happy) Fredwick in the East. This nickname stuck, but Capt Anderson did not seem to mind. People from Smaland are suppose to be able to get by under any and all circumstances and salvation army officers have the reputation of being able to subsist on a bare minimum. Otherwise it is hard to see how anybody could have kept this operation going, kept body and soul together and raise a family on the support of the few members that belonged to the Scandinavian S.A. corps.

This Albert Dahlstrom, just mentioned had operated around Chicago and in the mid-west 'til things got a bit hot. Had a couple of divorces behind him before coming out west and seems to have left a trail of broken hearts wherever he went. He was a frequent visitor to Tacoma where he usually held his meetings at the Danish Hall on 15th and Tacoma Ave.

Up at Granite Falls, somewhere north of Everett he had come
of logged off land with the idea of founding a colony for
sold but this scheme never amounted to much. D. continued
broke some more hearts. When a local woman disappeared w
inquire about her whereabouts it was found that he had t
Uncle Sam became interested. D. was arrested and held for
and fled to Sweden. There he seems to have gained some fo
With a new found conspirator he attempted to stage some
jects under simulated names (his was A. Albertius) But the
ever heard of Albert Dahlstrom was that he was operating
Limhamn, a suburb of Malmo Sweden.

PAY-DAY. Most factories and mills as well as other places
once a month. The time computed was from the first to the
it would be a week or two before the pay-roll was complete
would mean that in most instances that if a person went
month it would be 5 or 6 weeks before pay day. Wages up to

A load of wood was \$2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -3.00 and if you became ill you could
There were no fringe benefits to fall back on in those days
ly on your own. With the prevailing wages and so far betwe
to be good managers. Not all of the young fellows could be
Right after pay-day they could be very liberal with their
they per chance had a girl friend. There were two Vaudevi
The Empress downtown a couple of new movie houses The Blu
been built both ran full length features and the days of
There were also some fancy Ice Cream Parlors of which I r
enbrish's as the most prominent and most frequented by the
evening on the town like this could cost a young fellow a
repeated every week and on about 15 doll a week. So around
was usually around the 15th) the young people suddenly de
church. There was no admission there and nobody knew how
plate. An often heard saying among the Swedes was that: "L
Wheeler-Osgood, da är hela luther-förbundet nere i stan." (W
Wheeler-Osgood, then the whole Luther League is down town)

Some newcomer girls had to start for as little as 10 doll
wages were around 25 to 30 doll per month with very few
The work-day extended from early morning to late at night
in between. There was an unwritten rule that Thursday and
for the girls and very few households required the girls
So Thursday afternoon there were dozens of these girls d
attending to their affairs. The Swedish word for "Maid"
line some brighthead had coined the word "pigparaden" f
that some of us young fellows also took the afternoon of
afternoon show and an evening supper. I can imagine that
could be kind of shorthanded on Thursday afternoons. This
until the early thirties by that time the emigration fro
ceased and most of the girls had married. As a rule it n
years at the most before the newcomer girls headed a ho
of them became "old and faithful servants". But when the
was was available we noticed that many of the "North Em
or made into apartments. In his book Green Timber, the la

done quite well. Living frugally and saving every dime he
when North Pacific Bank built and moved into a more elaborate
to buy the former bank building and in place of North Pacific
Shoe Hospital on the plate glass window. At least for a time
half soles for 45 cents and a pair of heels for 25. Like
vein and the Sw. Am. press were well supplied with poems
and others mediocre. After he retired I lost track of him
and attained a ripe old age.

Over the Labor Day weekend 1914 the local Vasa Lodge hosted
the Order for the first time. The District Lodge was organized
the second convention had been held in Spokane the following
a dinner for the delegates on Labor Day. Free for the delegates
general public. A street car had been obtained to show the
A recap indicated that the income had been \$70.10 and the
Compare this with the 1970 Dist convention also held in 7
expenditures balanced on \$2509.61.

Other early members we remember the Charles Hedbergs, The
Mr A.V. Johnson is listed as Secretary as early as 1915 a
this writing. The same goes for Mr Karl Swanson who is 96
organization of any consequence organized in the Swedish
dinavian Pioneer Club was also organized in 1914, but th
sons from all the Scandinavian countries. Scandinavians o
resided in Pierce County for at least 25 years were eligi
only twice a year. The annual meeting was held in midwin
ner. As early as 1915 a committee was appointed to write
of Pierce County. When the committee had not reported by
photographic album be compiled of the Scandinavian pio
appointed to chronicle the history of the Scandinavian p
complained that they had not got the cooperation they e
off the ground after 10 years of struggle. Towards the
responsibility of erecting a monument to commemorate the
arrival on Comencement Bay in 1853. This committee did no
clubs historical committee. So no monument was erected.

the "old guard" was gathered to a man. I have sometime wondered if the community did not come to an end that particular afternoon. The hevanas and were mighty proud of their accomplishment. The but nevertheless some of them wished that it could have been wood. - We have acquired a great admiration for these our able to accomplish with their limited resources.

With the beginning of the first world war the emigration slowed down to some extent. After having hovered around 15 the years for the decade previous to 1914 the arrivals shrank 7268 in '16 2462 in '18 to a low of 1416 in 1918 after the war. We presume that Tacoma got their share of those that did not have as many newcomers to draw from as previously.

By 1915 or '16 the novelty of the new Vasa lodge had worn off at the meetings and new members were hard to come by. Somewhat ally C.W. Johnson took the younger members to task for not lodge. One reason for the diminished attendance could have

conductor, rendered several selections. Rev E.C. Bloomquist Church, was the speaker of the day. This was really a broadened activities commenced among the Swedish people in Tecoma and the churches had been at odds, for no particular reason ever come to Valhalla. None of them seemed to realize that saints and sinners have to live together in this world. Merely cling to St Paul's statement in Corinthians 6-14 :
2/
together with unbelievers." This event broke the ice and fre spirit of cooperation between the religious and secular Thule Male Chorus participated in the Pacific Coasts Sweden in conjunction with the San Francisco Fair in 1915. Earlier that one of the members of the chorus had imbibed a little he felt brave enough to invite the Pacific Coast Division in Tecoma. This was unauthorized, but the boys was taken ab about it. When the Thule-boys returned from San Francisco Their treasury was depleted and they had even stretched t dental expenses in connection with the trip. There were ab

Time for the convention drew near weekly luncheons were to be termed a sort of Who is Who in the Swedish community a Bloomquist and P. Vahborg, have already been mentioned. Other Fahron, Merchant Tailor, Emil Stenberg, an Attorney, E. Sand Alain Swanson, Pres. Tacoma Title Co. J. P. Vissell, bookseller Austin Peterson, Treas. Pacific Stamping Co. Gust Bjorklund Tacoma Butter Store (Kirkungen) Gus Selander, Grocer, Gust Co., C. O. Lynn, Undertaker, Emil Benson, Modern Manuf. Co., J. A. B. R/ Builde, C. F. Erickson, Builder, C. M. and John Hedberg, Joe Ho Andres Christofferson, Contractor. There were others who

responsible

This group were chiefly for the business end of the committee of the singers they engaged Madame Marie Lundelius soloist for the concerts for a price of \$700 (this was made the arrangements for the banquet at Tacoma Hotel. She Sweden and had arrived with her parents to one of the Ne husband was Mr. Gustaf Lundelius, editor of "Nordstjärnan"

that they were no orchestra but played more like a jotted
together .She was a lovely lady and all was smiles in the
pany the massed chorus in Greigs Landkenning, (Landsighting
we came to the part where one of the musicians was to acco
Here the musician probably did not read his notes right o
taken over and over. Finally Mr Pihlstrom lost his temper
(go to h-1)and sent the fellow out in another room to prac
was smoothened out when he came back .The poor fellow was
the soloist was Mr J.W.Jones, a Tacoma welshman , then muc
The first concert was held in Tacoma Stadion Thrsday evening
drew a crowd of over 14-thousand. Admission 25 cts.The wea
lot of us were treading on needles and pins all day, but i
ning.The concert was a success and got a good press.By now
around and the drivers were allowed to drive a in and par
of applauding the drivers set their horns in motion. MME S
this and claimed that this time it was the first time she

appreciation of the active part Rev. Bloomquist, had taken in
seems as most of the singers postponed their departure for
flowing at this service.

Not when the last tune had died away and the last visitor
great many drew a sigh of relief. This had been a hectic p
satis-fying moments. The convention had been a great succ
the books of the event and it was found that economically
itself and even left a small surplus. This was used to pur
bok" a Swedish Encyclopedia which was presented to and plac
the Tacoma Public Library, as a memento of the convention.
from their apperance it looks like they have been well use
at considerable length because I feel that this was the big
the Swedish community during my years (65) in Tacoma.

Rev. R. P. Mann, who had served the Swedish Baptist Church as
1917. There is no biography and no one seems to remember h
Charles Asplund, who was born in Munkfors Vermland, but move

IN his years in Tacoma he had been a member of the Swedish
ran church where he belonged to the Young Peoples society and
one of the key men in Thule Male Chorus. When the war was over
shipped back to the States he conceived the idea of getting
could visit his family in Vasterbotten Sweden before returning
documents he did sign, nobody knows. At any rate when he tried
tion service in Sweden wouldn't give him a visa, so he could
caused some consternation among his friends here and efforts
out. ~~HE~~ Rev Bloomquist, enlisted the aid of the then congress
assure the interested parties that the case would be taken
and Mr Forslund couldn't wait forever so he decided to re-
was a victim of both military arrogance and political bureau-
might mention that after the armistice when thousands of
~~THE~~ Lewis, The Swedish lodges appointed a committee to in-
camp if they could be of any service to Swedish nationals
committee only got a rude and almost hostile reception from
After the sangarfest we just reported the Thule singers too

Singing seemed to be secondary in the new chorus, ability particular neither. But the club put on entertainments with Sweden drew fairly good crowds and the organization especially again began to arrive from Sweden in the post war years. In ways, the two choruses got along fairly well for the next few cases some fellows were associated with both. Both choruses time in the mid-twenties. No post-mortems are necessary. Their talent nor support for two choruses in the long run

In the post war years the chauvinistic elements had a field coincide with their warped thinking was termed highly unpopularly aimed at anything foreign. An episcopal minister who began to deplore the fact that 15-20 churches in the center conducting their services in foreign languages and declared interests of America. In the Oregon legislature Senator Al Sweden and later elected Governor) introduced a bill making anything in any language except in English. Needless to say wartime xenophobia rubbed off and in Valhalla a resolution

Sweden experienced a recession as an aftermath of world war
tion. The Newcomers seems to have preferred the Vasa lodge
were 354 members on the membership roll. Valhalla was also
Among those that were active in the Vasa lodge we might me
of the Ned's Person's, who joined the lodge in 1917 while sh
was elected pianist the same night. About 1924 she became M
in Grycksbo Dalarna Sweden and came to Tacoma before 1920.
Portland Ore. where Mr Anderson, held a responsible positio
The couple spent their entire married life in Tacoma, an
community. Carl occupied all the chairs in the local Vasa lo
master. Just how many terms Anne has served as secretary i
would be hard to estimate, presently serving the local lodge
Another couple who were active in Vasa and the Swedish co
Carlson ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Both were natives of Ostergotland
1886 and Sigrid in 1893. Beside going through the chairs in
always be depended on to visit country-men and women who w
Elmer Wilson, arrived as a young man of 19 in Tacoma in 19
the Grays Harbor area also on construction work in the ea

when I arrived here in 1911. This was considered a safe business
associated business from all categories they catered especially
their ads in the Scandinavian papers and occasional published
to read: "You should do business with your own people
our own building." If the bank had been re-organized and
not been able to learn, but something happened about that
read: "We have entered upon the twelfth year of successful
of Directors was then composed of:" Hon. Ernest Lister, Gov.
ton, John Edward Chilberg, Pres. of Scand. Am. Bank of Seattle
Grocery Co. J. F. Visell, Merchant, George G. Williamson Attorney
also seems to have been the manager of the Bank. Gov. Lister
in 1918 or '19 (resigned as manager, Haakon Berg, who had been
for a number of years also resigned. Ole S. Larson, (a Norwegian
appointed manager, and entered his new position with a great
of innovations were inaugurated and Banker Larson, became
of Commerce and in the community, even if he never became
Berlin Building must have been acquired about 1910 for which

also opened the banks for two or three hours on Saturday. The Scandinavian Am. Bank, kept regular hours on Sat. Jan. 15. Withdrawals of deposits during the day, in the evening they faced the regular Saturday evening business. Before the run the town it was a tearful crowd milling around 15th and Pacific a large crowd but no disorders. Unable to salvage any of their money it meant that their life savings were in jeopardy and the Scandinavian community was hit hardest of all. On Monday declared bankrupt. Governor Louis F. Hart, appointed Forbes as special bank examiner, with Attorney Guy E. Kelly, as legal counsel was appointed Receiver, by Federal Judge Cushman. It was the management of the bank which was unraveled in the next few days seems to have had their fingers in the till. In one instance stole \$60-thousand for his own use. The receiver sued Eric O. Lindberg, pres. of a local wholesale grocery Co. had borrowed two noted San Franciscans. (Both of whom we shall mention later) due the bank, plus interest. If this loan was secured or not.

years in the State Penitentiary. On Jan. 30 1923 Mr Lindbergh was
Superior Court, but the Court re-affirmed the conviction. The
Supreme Court denied a re-hearing of Mr Lindberghs case and
decision. On the following day Liut. Wm. J. (Wee) Coyle, acting
Gov. Hart, issued a full and complete pardon to the convict.
severely criticized in Pierce County and elsewhere in the
son of Lindberg had been a close friend of Liut. Gov. Coyle.
Co. also went in receivership. But Lindberg went down on his
whole-sale house The Standard Grocery Co.

Efforts to extradite Jafet Lindeberg, of California to San Francisco
times. Finally a such order had been issued and Rex Ro
Pierce County and a deputy went to San Francisco to bring
Lindebergs house some of his relatives began to bring out
the officers withdrew. Lindebergs lawyers then got busy
again recinded.

The 16-story skeleton of the proposed Scandinavian Bank
months of mismanagement and default. On July 6 1924 The Fed

judging by the donations he made and the interest he showed in the history of the area. The biography and details are lacking. It is known that he returned to his home area. Eric O. Lindblom, was born in Sweden and worked in the fur trade in his youth. Spent 6 years in London before arriving in the U.S. Came to San Francisco in 1893 via stopovers in Mexico. The story is that he was shanghaied on a whaling ship in 1890 in the front after he had told somebody that he was a tailor and not that he was a sailor. At any rate he jumped ship in Alaska with a few companions. After he struck it rich, he made investments in real estate and banks both in California and the State of Washington. He must have been a Laplander. For he came to Alaska in 1887 as a reindeer herder when reindeer were imported from Scandinavia to provide a food supply. If he was a Swedish or Norwegian lapp is not known. He had investments in banks and elsewhere which eventually got him into trouble.

In the spring of 1921 Harry E. Hallen, 29, Asst. Superintendent in Co. Tacoma was shot and fatally wounded as he and his family were leaving their parents home near Tacoma at So. 52 and Mason

shop crafts went out on a general strike. The Northern Pacific employed about 1200 persons at the time. A large percentage believe that the Swedes were predominating. The strike dragged trickle back. The Scandinavians were by no means the first jobs and in the end a good many lost their positions. When and anvil, he left for good. As others went back to beg for that he had done enough hard work in his days, besides that go and beg for his job. He opened a gasoline station. It is enterprises to get held up and a couple of highwaymen tried a "no go" he bluffed them out. Charlie never lost his Varmal him that he never liked a Swede the retort came fast: "Mej helps you any".

1923. In the years immediate following the first world war in Sweden, this coupled with the privation the population had led to an increased emigration in the post war years. In the United States. Tacoma and this area seemed to have got a flood newcomers had fresh ideas and the membership and activities

to a new field in California. He stopped over to visit his
a remark that it would not be a bad idea for him to get a
gation) If the hens got unruly, at least he could wring the

1924. Nels Nelson Grandal, assumed the pastorate of the Swed
province of Angermanland Sweden. There he had served as a
tion and after advanced studies at the Bethel Seminary in
several locations in the northern part of the country. Emig
in 1913 at the age of 31. Had served several Baptist congregations
arriving here. With the arrival of Rev. Grandahl, The Swed
tinction of having the tallest minister in Tacoma.

On November 4th 1924, a very stormy night, the Swedish Lutheran
South 8th and I St. was gutted by fire. The fire was blamed on
custodians quarters. The church was built in 1889 and had been
Swedish community for 35 years. There had been a desire of
some time to erect a more modern structure and now this pro
location for the morning services and the Sunday School was
Sunday evening services and special gatherings were held

moskitos and horse flies the cows stood there and swished
so far. then a couple of cows discovered that if they rever
have the head where the other had their stern they could be
from flies. The Swede farmers noticed this and called it "k

About this time one Hans Bergman, arrived in town with his w
sojourn in Victoria B.C. where Mr Bergman, had been the sec
which had just been abolished. Mr Bergman, was a native of th
Which by the way is the most wooded province in Sweden and
1868 and had arrived in Minnesota in 1893. Was engaged in va
Minnesota, N. Dakota and Montana until 1907 ~~and~~ ^{when he} began publish
Swedish weekly newspaper in Spokane Washington. He was con
editor and publisher until 1920 when he disposed of his int
While in Victoria he had published a book about British Col
Upon arrival in Tacoma he conceived the idea of publishing
in Tacoma and Pierce County and devoted several months to t
phies and getting subscriptions. A project of this kind had
Scandinavian Pioneer Club but they were never able to get

correct. It was the first Lutheran congregation that had been
later the First Norwegian Lutheran Church, got a new minister
the distinction of being "First" and even headed the advertisement
in the daily press with two clasping hands with the following
Friendship. It extends First Lutheran Churches On Eye". Well
Lutheran Church was homeless and no longer on I St. Which
ling to give up the distinction of being "First" in the first
was founded in 1882 and the Norwegian in 1887.) There was a
and I presume that the matter was settled amicably. Most churches
in pioneer days, with a foreign prefix dropped the prefix due to
names. Probably an aftermath of the post-war hysteria. The
"Messiah Luth Church.

Building the new First Lutheran Church got under way early
cease. Some labor was hired and some was donated. Construction
available. The new location did not exactly set well with
another synod had been located one short block north for de
quarters that First Lutheran was infringing on their territory.

the dignity of the church to serve dinners and make a few
kitchen equipment was installed and dishes was available th
at \$5.00 a plate. This was in the days when one dollar was
there were some misgivings that the project wouldn't be a
attended the dinner. There were also the usual subscription
cessful. Even some of the nominal lutherans in the Swedish
1927. We began this resume by mentioning that a Swedish col
vania in 1638. The tercentenary of this historical event
country wide drive for funds to erect an American Swedish
memorate the event. The Swedish Colonial Society and the A
the prize sponsors of the project. The Corner Stone had bee
Gustav Adolf, then the Crown Prince of Sweden. The museum is
the approximate spot where the first colonists landed. A c
to support the project, and drew the support of both the re
ments in the Swedis community. A Sunday afternoon concert i
a capacity crowd. Mr. Alvin Swanson presided. Beside the
the ministers of the various Swedish Churches made strong

the first to be absorbed by the parent organization. As so
spoke english more readily than Swedish it was felt that t
separate organization. In 1942 the last Swedish conference
English-speaking body of the same area.

In the summer of 1927 one of Swedens leading Male Choruses
a brief stop-over in Tacoma and gave a concert in the Gre
was located at 13th and Market St. and fell for the urban r
had appeared in U.S. before but none had ever ventured this
noon-train 45-50 strong, As both Swedish Male Choruses had
Male Chorus was prevailed upon to greet the guests at the
ven early in the afternoon, and the singing was really out
were given a tour of the city and a dinner in the First Lu
the evening train for Seattle. Apparently their P.R. man s
impression of Tacoma. In his travelogue in a Swedish paper
a frontier town. The chorus had to sing in an auditorium wh
Parts of the city which they went through on their tour we
The only thing which hit the spot with him was the dinner

change. So under the circumstances Mr Sandegren felt it was
wed criticism afterwards. He also called to the attention
was the next highest of any city on their tour.

Rev. E. C. Bloomquist received a call from a large congregati
pastorate of the First Lutheran Church early in 1928. Like
he had his virtues and perhaps some faults, no one can plea
15 years he was active in both church and civic affairs. T
had a healthy increase in membership during his pastorate.
ship was 921 of which 707 were adults. It did become the c
Swedish community, He done much to bring the Swedes togeth
Even the Covenant Church had a farewell party for him before

During the vacancy of a few months Rev. Otto R. Karlstrom, se
also a native of Smaland and had sailed the seven seas in
in 1901 and had graduated from Augustana College a decade
and former pastor of Bethany Luth. Church in Seattle. Lath
for Sailors loggers and itinerant workers in Seattle, with

cancelled. This did not set too well with some of the old
reached whereby there would be an afternoon Swedish service
at these services turned out to be larger than expected, with
minister. Some times he would absent himself, get one of the
service and read a chapter from some book of homilies, for
feel that they were being snubbed, especially those who had
faith before emigrating but never united with a church here
elsewhere when in need of ministerial services and the Friction
of the "good will" from the Swedish community it had enjoyed
nearly fifty years earlier. Apparently he was the wrong man
wrong time. The main Sanctuary was finished during his pastorate
in theological matters and there were some skirmishes, and
followers, some members were gained and some were lost in
the mid thirties his father-in-law passed away in the mid
managed. He left to attend the funeral and some time later
By now the young Swedes that had arrived during the decade
felt. Some had even paired up and were becoming substantial

his countrymen in these parts of the state of Washington materials for the Swedish Archives at the U of W in the and was a veteran employee of the Tacoma schools. Mrs Ni daughter of a pioneer Swedish family.

Eric Kaija, arrived in the mid-twenties from Leksand Dalarna as a cabinetmaker, carpenter and a painter, eventually equ Plywood, a cooperative enterprise where he worked as a mi Lodges. The folkdancers, and for many years a member of wife the former Anna Olsson, died in '48, one son Stanley born in Colorado. Proprietor of Puget Sound Travel Bureau covered most of the world.

No doubt the roaring twenties was about the busiest and history of the Swedish community in Tacoma. There was en left who had arrived before or early in the century, and interesting. The old-timers and the new arrivals did not ons nor looked at things the same way. Occasionally there

for a number of years. Belonged to both Vasa and Valhalla Swedish community. Mrs Alm is the former Edith Swanson, fr

As stated earlier in this resume Rev. E. Arthur Larson, arri
to take charge of the two Swedish Lutheran Congregations
had also been added to the pastorate. Rev Larson was born
born in 1893. Attended the public schools there and later
he was graduated in 1919. Mrs Larson is the former Ebba A
came with her parents to Missoula Montana at the age of 5
of courage to assume the duties of this pastorate. None o
over a couple of score's of members. Only a handful of mem
South Tacoma and the remainder of the congregation consol
the Auburn Church became self-supporting and in 1942 Beth
Rev Larson, served Bethel for 36 years until his retirement
duties he served as instructor in Swedish for 18 years. Du
at P.
earned the devotion and respect of the Swedish population
"Svenskarnas Fröst" (The Swede's Minister) His efforts, eve

emigration from Sweden to America. To be sure the U.S. Commissions on immigrations and assigned certain national quotas was never filled. In 1931 less than 1000 Swedes arrived in America. The following showed a further decline. Emigrations from Sweden had declined since the economic crisis in America which brought it to a sudden halt. From about the mid 1800's to 1930 Sweden had contributed many sons and daughters to the American population. There is no reliable estimate. Americans have Swedish blood in their veins, There is no reliable seen estimates from Five to Eight millions. Most sources estimate 6 million. A favorite quip of Charlie Lutfisk, whose real name was in a Swedish act on Pantages Variety circuit a half a century ago, much - the other day I met an Irishman on the street, by

In the period mentioned above it is estimated that from 1880 to 1930 immigrants have returned to their native country to live for a variety of reasons: disillusionment, failure to financial success. Some had come to America of earning enough money to return to Sweden and buy a farm. Many fancied that things had grown better in their absence and

on request be sent back by the U.S. and the Swedish government for expenses afterwards. This was a rather a certain stigma attached so I can only recall two persons in this manner, from this area. Adolph Miller, just these parts sometime towards the end of the second decade resided at Union Mills which was on Long Lake in Thurston Tacoma and was mill-wright at the long gone Defiance Mill life. Beside being a good mechanic he was also a natural he was one of those fiddlers that Selma Lagerlof, Gustav often often feature in their stories. When Adolph played the music. As a youth he had played at the open air folk also had collected a number of Swedish Folk tunes which home once we noticed that he had about a dozen vikings, cordwood longside the piano. On one of his return trips come and live with them in Florida. But his sojourn there veiled up palms were nothing to look at" he declared and His last visit to Sweden lasted at least a decade when

best, was from Varmland. After they became established there
such as street paving and road making. Too bad that
could not put their stamp on the structures they erected.

tude of them through the years from house builders to ge
long gone and forgotten. I recall that Rialto Theatre wa
and Dahlberg. Dahlberg was an old country Swede. Always h
pron to refer him as Jesus Christ. Charles M. Martinson bu
was born in Eringsboda in Blekinge and came to Tacoma in
numerous sub contractors who specialized in certain dete
century I remember one who was known among the Swedes as
english would have been "Sewer Pete". He took both large
trunk and lateral sewers and installing the pipes. His na
but the above nicknames were the only ones he went by. A
time member of the Tacoma Police Department. The last tim
before the First World War, then he was watching the RR on
..... Beside the concrete contractors we have already ment
who at one time was business agent for the building labor
business for himself. Also John Anderson usually referred

to sell peanuts. The Chain store had taken over
pendent grocers left in the early thirties among these
on K St., Kleng and Bloomquist, on 12th and Junett and Gus
were old time grocers from the time when a horse and del
equipment of every fair size grocery, and free delivery w
business long after the time mentioned. Gunnar and Elsie
Beach, and had captive customers in that little community
boat had to be lugged down the steep hills that surround
days Elsie who was born in Sala Sweden and Gunnar who ca
in Swedish circles. In 1932 The Vasa Order of Ame
vention in Seattle . This is a Mutual Benefit, Cultural a
originated in the New England States in 1896 and spread
tion had over 72000 members and had reached its zenith a
entertained visitors and delegates with a banquet in the
the Bible Presbyterian Church.) Some joint Scandinavian
thirties which resulted in a decision to acquire a perm
property on 5-mile Lake was leased with an option to buy

In the early thirties she acquired a piece of property of orchard and a good size house at East 38th and B.St. For a place became a veritable gathering place for the Swedes on anniversaries ,shows no matter what it was always roomy There were a considerable number of people in this from the province of Dalarna in central Sweden. Dalarna is adjacent to Varmland and some claim that Dalarna is dotted with mostly iron mines and formerly had a producing pig iron. The northern part is wooded, and except there is not much industry and the farms are small. Tourists found that the landscape was much different than many other religiously preserved many of the old customs and their bordering on Lake Siljan each has their own native costumes of colors when you see a crowd of them together. Those in the northern portion, ~~who are~~ are more to be found around the

While those who had followed lumbering were more apt to from the northern parishes. Anyway, there were a considerable

until the second world war years. When there were so many was busy making money so the group just ceased to exist.

First Lutheran Church must have celebrated their 50th anniversary member there was much fuss about it. Valhalla lodge reached 1934. I recall that Albin Danielson was the "Allfader" organized for a sumptuous banquet and an initiation a record high sons and grandsons of early members. Regretfully within them dropped out.

In the thirties a number of the Swedish pioneers and some century passed away. It is not possible to enumerate all, these we might mention W.P. Sundberg, P.O. Peterson, Fred Olson, Ludvig Nelson, Gus Salander, Mrs Alice Gunderson passed away, Hjalmar Nyman, had passed away in the mid-twenties and office in 1927, from a heart attack. All of these had been the Swedish community through the years.

Mr Nyman was a man of literary tastes. A stanza in a Swedish

For several reasons the cooperation and collaboration between
the Swedish community disintegrated in the thirties. There
was no real leader that would or could speak for the entire
community. The depression put a damper on most of the activities
in the churches could have contributed to some extent. At
the same time the members of the Swedish community began to go their separate
ways. In 1936 Rev. Carl E. Rydell, assumed the pastorate
of the church. He was a mild mannered man, Minnesota born, understood
Swedish well enough to preach a sermon. Unlike his predecessor
he did not touch the language question and as far as I can remember did not
deal with the membership. He was generally well liked and served
the church well for the next couple of decades. During the depression
the Vasa lodge got together in the homes for a cup of coffee
and eventually these gatherings were moved to the Vasa lodge
and became larger and eventually these gatherings were moved
to the name "Vasa Friendship Club" These monthly lunches were
very popular and are still going strong in 1976. At
the Vasa sisters gathered to practise singing for the lodge

the lodge to english. This move had been inevitable for so
sours for a decade and by now those who arrived before
as readily as Swedish. The vote was 104 for and 34 against.
Carlson, translated the ritual some parts were eliminated
except for the obligation bears no resemblance to the original.
The lodge had had a rather stagnant field to draw new members
since the immigration ceased. Now it was hoped that some
Swedes would be interested when the lodge used the language
proceedings. This however, failed to materialize to any extent
two or three decades for them to discover Valhalla.
233 Vasa Order of America, opened and closed their meetings
fifties but carried on most of their meetings in english.
ved the Swedish Baptist Church after Rev Grandahl, left in the
thirties . Rev. Eror O. Lundgren, assumed the pastorate in
botten Sweden and had arrived in U.S. in his teens. The church
tral Baptist Church. The Swedish Baptist conference also
fix and became known as the Baptist General Conference.

whence the came. As far as I can remember there were no
themselves known as it was during the First World War. D
American planes made forced landings in Sweden. The 349t
the Baltic sea some years later. The Swedish Coast Guard
tow rope broke. We presume that the crew was saved. At 1
ferent. In his book "The Swedish Heritage In America" Mr
1000 Americans made forced landings in Sweden . This fi
underestimated. In conversations with Air Force officers
ing Fortresses that made the raids over Germany always o
persons. Most of these planes landed at Bulltofta Airport
on the southern tip of Sweden. Apparently some of them
hes nearby. When we visited the area in 1960 we once tra
road with some low rusty light standards on each side ,
and when we were curious to find out what kind of planes
the natives seemed a bit reluctant to talk about it but
ded there since the war. There were two encampments for
One was at Korsnäs, near the copper city of Falun in the

By the late forties most of the homogeneity which marked twenties had disappeared. The former Swedish churches were general public and apparently would just as soon forget a ting societies existed by habit there were some initiatio ping. By this time most of the pioneers who had arrived in who had been active in business or as craftsmen had either The second generation never showed much interest to perpetu organizations founded by ~~the~~ their parents. Most of the feriority complex that their parents were foreigners. This of the second generation of Swedes. Most of the decendar rrently shared the same inferiority complex, Except the Swi in one of his books that as a youth it bothered him that his dad called him Sharley. Later in life he became proud his given name of Charles to "Carl" the Swedish version c have been at the insistence of his wife to be Lillian Ste ged to Paula.

Late in 1950 a communication was received from Ivar Lur

in our daily paper the next day. Financially we came out
gations had been taken care of there was a profit of \$376
\$126.57 for their efforts.

In May 1951 Governor Langley appointed Attorney Bertil E.
County Superior Court, to fill a vacancy. As mentioned earlier
Swedish immigrant and was the first and only Swedish des
to this exalted position. Judge Johnson was re-elected
March of 1974 after 23 years on the bench. Judge Johnson
First Lutheran Church and has been a member of Swedish Or
several occasions when the Swedish Community needed some
to help to put things over he has always been willing to
Attorney Willard Hedlund was elected Justice of the Peace
still serving in the same capacity (1976). Born in Chicago
office at Fort Lewis during the second world war. After
to remain in this area. Mrs Hedlund, (Judith) was born in
Chicago with her parents as a child.

could find no memorial or monument to the Americans who they decided to do something about it, and built a monument atop of the monument they placed the speed ring and the b planes that land on Wake Island- They landscaped the s better painted a sign to indicate what the monument was club on Kwajalein they discussed the matter of getting a ment and Liut. Lindbeck, offered to contact me to get esti about it on the mainland. I soon learned that those who s does not work exactly for nothing and were not incline tic reasons. At the time I was in charge of the operatio in South Tacoma . But we only poured cast iron in my dep approached the Superintendent Mr J Brass foundry and I approached ~~Mr J~~ Dolansky, about I enlisted the aid of a pattern maker and a brass moule without cost as the company donated both material and la To the Gallant Defenders of Wake. Dec. 8 - Dec 23 1941. E This was the last message sent by commander Cunningham, f by the Japanese. When the plaque was finished the 40 pou to the island. Later I received a very nice letter of

material. For some reason the local vasa lodge would only books which covered the period from 1912 to 1930. Later so books seems to have been left out after a meeting and the thinking that they were of no further value. Before these the archives notes were taken of the highlights and reported to compile a history of Valhalla for their 75th anniversary in 1974. Also for the local Vasa lodges 50th and from the lost records this turned out to be quite a chore or destroyed from time to time. It is doubtful that anything Swedish churches. They were approached but never heard from organization of the various congregations had their own records. The old records dating back to 1882 were perhaps Lutheran Church at So. 8th and I St was gutted by fire in The First Lutheran Church celebrated their 75th anniversary that the congregation had been founded by Swedish immigrants. Mr H.F. Fabbe noticed this he wondered in an editorial in were ashamed of being that the congregation had been found

close to 400 people. Invitations were also extended to Dr. W.B. Sundberg, who was a member of the lodge and a son of [redacted] with his wife and two sisters, representing the W.P. Sundberg family. Mrs Alma Paine, representing the P.O. Peterson family. The [redacted] can't recall for the moment. (2) The second event was a [redacted] ball which drew a capacity crowd. (3) Finally [redacted] as a grand [redacted] members at the regular meeting of the lodge which was for [redacted]

There is little or nothing recorded about the Swedish [redacted] Morden #235 Vasa Order of America celebrated their 50th [redacted] was then the chairman of the lodge. By having dinners and [redacted] had raised enough funds to treat the entire membership to [redacted] The banquet was held at the New Yorker restaurant on 6th [redacted] capacity crowd including some of the dignitaries from the [redacted] Among charter members who received 50-year emblems we rec [redacted] Swanson, Leonard Svedberg, Elof Norman, Axel W. Carlson, Ad [redacted] Ellison, Gus Beckstrom, Alva Pearson, nee Strandell.

I believe was held in Seattle it was decided to affiliate in America" which was to be composed of The United Lutheran and Finnish Synods, At the founding of this new Lutheran was represented by 180 of the 1000 delegates. Who in turn members the Lutheran Church in America had at its inception contributed virtually one fifth of this membership. After for one hundred years the Augustana Synod disappeared January 1 1963.

A Rev. Seastrand, had succeeded Rev Rydell in the First Lutheran custom to hold a Swedish service on a Sunday afternoon once each year. He was the son of a Swedish Lutheran minister. he had absorbed enough Swedish that he was able to conduct service himself but always got Rev. E. Arthur Larson from the sermon. Rev Seastrand declared that his folks only speaking Swedish. If they had paid me more I might have learned are still a feature of the church each November and usual the past several years The Runeberg Chorus, under direction

that the church might fall apart. Miss Anderson was born
Mrs Carl Edward Anderson. Mr Anderson, was born in Visseff,
west in 1884 and to Tacoma in 1888. Among various employ
the Old Tacoma Hotel for 8 years and 16 years at Helms' &
prominent restaurants during the first couple of decades
in Tacoma he made some screwd investments in real estate
Thilda Amelia Hendrickson, who passed away in 1904 when
tually Miss Cornelia Larson, adopted Emma. She was a seam
Smaland. Had arrived in Tacoma in 1904 but it is probable
much earlier. Miss Larson passed away in 1966 at the age

In August 1963 Rev F. Arthur Larson, reached his 70th Bir
denomination that this is the proper time for a clergyma
resignation from the pastorate of Bethel Lutheran Church
Lyndon K. Mark, then serving a Lutheran Congregation in Gr
accepted and Rev Mark, arrived in February. Rev Mark was
grew up in Bellingham Wa. His ancestors came from Sweden
the third or fourth generation. His ancestors seems to hav

sermon. Prof. Theo. Karl, of H.U. a member of the church was of the church in three parts "The Early Years - The Middle Interspersed by solos by Robert Larson and Mrs Richard La Rev. E.A. Larson. Mr John Langlow, played the offertory. His one of the first organists of the Church. An Exhibition of was arranged in the educational wing of the church.

In 1965 the local lodge of Elks # 174 dedicated their new As executive chef for their well appointed kitchen they h who was well and favorably known as the Chef and propriet on the old highway 99, just south of the city limits. This Tacoma Elks Smorgasbord became famous among their brethren nights usually featured dishes of various ethnic groups. the powers to be that instead of having a Scandinavian ni Festival, on the first or second Tuesday in December (exce Serve a typical Swedish Christmas Dinner in the Dining ro porridge, ham, various kind of cold cuts and cheeses etc. Th on the Incis tableu and give a program in the Auditorium

one time was the Master of the Pacific Northwest District credited with having started the Lucia tradition here in the late Henning Hanson, she opened the Viking restaurant 1965 when she accepted her position at the Elks. Among the she mentioned Prince Bertil of Sweden, Fred Waring, and Pro John, when they visited Eisenhowers brother at American L in August 1972. Before she left the Elks held a reception red people to wish her bonvoyage. ^{When} ~~XXXX~~ she left it was Room would not be the same without Maja Lisa. It is still and their hors-d'oeuvres are excellent but we miss some of came up with sometimes. The time honored Smorgasbord has she left Buffet, Jolly Corks Buffet, etc. (Jolly Corks was that the founders came up with.) In Sweden Maja Lisa inter Hamburgers, we haven't heard how she came out - perhaps M For reasons best known to themselves the Covenant congreg and adjacent property at South 10th and I Sts in the late ted in 1909 and built under the supervision of Mr Olof L

college, which was then located in Tacoma, with a B.S. degree from University of Washington in 1916. He then continued to the University of Minnesota where he was granted his M.D. degree in 1921. ^{t/} In various hospitals in the east he established his practice specializing in children's diseases and obstetrics. By the time he retired in 1971 he had delivered nearly ten-thousand babies. - 619 - for financial reasons and sometimes would have to take home a ham or if he was lucky a quarter of beef. At his retirement he was succeeded by Dr. David H. Johnson, M.D. in Tacoma. The new Obstetrics and Gynecology department at Tacoma General Hospital will be named in his honor. He was active in many civic and charitable organizations and was a life long member of the American Medical Association. He passed away suddenly in 1973.

The First Lutheran Church celebrated their 90th anniversary services. Rev. Sigurdson had departed for his new pastorate in Yakima. He had arrived but was not yet installed. We understand that he was a minister from the mid-west. The anniversary sermon was delivered by Rev. Dr. J. H. ... of the Pacific Northwest Synod., of the Lutheran Church.

The local Vasa lodge Norden No 233, celebrated the 60th anniversary banquet at the Top of the Ocean in the fall of 1972. The present were duly recognized. These were Stephen Forslund, and Mrs Alva Pearson, Nee Strandell. Some of the sisters had which were read. Some 50 and some 25 years emblems were presented by District dignitaries who were present. The 50-year recipients received honorary membership in the lodge, which entitled them to all t exempt from paying any further dues. The 60 year history was read with some remarks by the dignitaries. Some musical numbers were performed by students from P.L.U. rounded out the program.

About this time some folks were mad at the Swedes for harboring and deserters from the VietNam war. Some of us who first became targets for some pointed sarcasm. One lady even wrote "Dear Abby". Abby checked the records and found that Sweden had signed an agreement on October 24 1961 stating that no military offenses including desertion" so in this respect This sounded interesting so I wrote the Swedish Information

CONCLUSION.

There is now about 50 years since there was any perceptible change in these parts. We presume that there is still several hundred members about Tacoma. But it is doubtful that we can refer to the organization as the Swedish Order of Valhalla is the last organization that uses the name. Valhalla by the way seems to have gotten a new lease on life. Since they were able to attract some young fellows of the younger generation to come in and take hold. By now it is 47 years since the Swedish language at their meetings. By-laws have been changed and some of the strict rules for membership that once existed have been dropped and their immediate families. By now the membership is rather small, one Greek and one Mexican both married to women of Swedish descent. Mr Douglas Durant, who like the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt has his mother somewhere along the line. In the fall of 1974 Valhalla celebrated its anniversary with proper festivities. I was again commissioned to write the history at the festivities. Later I was asked for my notes which were printed in a little booklet in time for the 81st anniversary.

h/
Searc has been made to determine if some of the firms sta
in existence and in the hands of the original families. W
Insurance brokers are still in business. The firm was sta
at his retirement he was suc succeeded by his son David A
son Steven K. Ekberg, is now associated with the firm and
On their stationary they still list Frank Ekberg - 1959 an
long time associate of the firm. The years indicate the y

Karl A. Anderson, Sheet Metal Works was established by Mr
He was a native of the city of Köping in Vastmanland Swed
ness in the old stand on St Helens Ave. and now run by a

Clarence O. Lynn was born of Swedish parents in Wyandet IL
Mortuary in 1905 after his demise the firm was operated by
Lynn. Both have passed away and the business is now manage
Marvin Lynn, and grandson of the founder.

After the Scandinavian American Bank debacle the Lindberg
manship. His Gustaf Lindberg then went down on Duellup A

were not as prone to keep chickens in their back yards, The stump farming had gone out of style so hardly anybody kept that the firm lasted almost as long as the founders. Their stairs stood vacant for a number of years. Finally some Fire Department used the building for training exercises building now occupies the corner at So 10th and K St. Whison Bros' built the large Roosevelt Apartments at So 11th from which they started to peddle wood back in 1894. corner all through the years.

In the early twenties The Olympia Veneer Co. was organized as president and the stockholders were almost exclusively a cooperative venture where everybody would share and share aquired on Olympia waterfront where the company operated. Eventually the plant was sold to St Paul and Tacoma their operations to Willamina Oregon where they had aquired

Puget Sound Plywood in Tacoma which has operated successfully about 1940 at the outset most of the shareholders were

At this writing in late March 1976 it is exactly 65 years
A lot of water has run under the bridges since then. Perso
like the changing patterns in a kaleidoscope. People have c
with memories of one kind or another. Others have just dis
I met was Einar Carlson, born in Ostergotland Sweden who h
Moines Iowa in 1901 and to Fox Island Wa 4 years later an
shop foreman with The Puget Sound Iron and Steel. Another
and a baker who had cooked from Alaska to Columbia River a
Tacoma and Vancouver B.C. His last restaurant was Purity L
There has been some centernarians. We have alreday mention
be 106. Peter Holmgren, pioneer tailor who came to Tacoma 1
the hundred. Albert Anderson, was not exactly a pioneer. H
as a sailor in 1911 ~~at sea~~ and returned here with his
ed in the lumber industry. Later he aquired some stumpland
became custodian and busdriver for the local school. Said t
in Pierce County. Furnished his own bus and kept it in rep
erson Celebrated his 100 birthday in May 1975 and died a f
think of that reached a respectable age but not quite the

week. Arranged by the downtown businessmen each November honors as being the Grand Old Man of the Swedish community with some well chosen remarks. Some who are past ninety or more are: Olof Carlsson, the boatbuilder native of the Aland Islands, Olof Carlsson, Chicago in 1907 and to Tacoma a few years later, a native of Sweden who came to this area from Vasterbotten in 1906 and has been here since. Leonard Svedberg, also a carpenter who arrived here from Sweden in 1904. He is contemplating a trip to Finland in the fall. 9th in the past 30 years or so.

Mr Axel F. Carlson, a native of Lulea Sweden came here in 1907 and operated a modern Quick Shoe Repair in The Feist and Bachrach building. He operated a couple of more shops in the central area but returned to his country place at Wollochet Bay. There were many Swedish shoemakers of which we might mention Hugo Ostling, Gus Graalen, etc, but they stuck to the old way of doing things. Frithiof Dalin, came from Smaland in 1907 or so as a blacksmith at the Pioneer Vagon works at 14th and

Aw.somewhere.Born in Västmanland and came to Tacoma in 1884. His shop was located by Olsen and Benson, was located about 50.11th and M Street. He was an active worker and past president in Valhalla. Conrad Bergstrom came to Tacoma in 1903 had a large shop further up the street. He once had a shop in the same general area. One fancy cabinet maker. 89 is A. Victor Johnson, who came from Vesterbotten early in the 1880's. Cabinet Builder . He has been a supervisor in various shops, a contractor. He re-built Bethel Lutheran Church of which he was a member. Some of the work can be seen there. The Chancel and the altar. Elof Lindstrom, born in Grundsunda Angermanland. Was for years in the Washington Building at 11th and Pacific Ave. and was in charge of the work as the mechanical ENGINEER and the remodeling of offices to the building. (Karin) was a native of Rättvik, Dalarna. Both arrived in Tacoma in 1884. They have been active in the Swedish organizations. Sweden in 1884 and arrived with his parents in Tacoma in 1884. He worked as a photographer and acquired the J.C. Lindahl Studio in Tacoma Ave. in 1907 when Lindahl decided to enter the Real Estate business. He founded the studio in 1901. It is safe to assume the 1884

He came to Tacoma in 1903. Mrs Cullberg, nee Hilda Carlson
Early in the century Andrew German, born in Sweden, the bir
truck gardens in Sumner and at one time was the largest T
also had a number of greenhouses. There were also
experienced gardeners who were doing lawn and garden maint
N.L. Larson, born in Skane who had served his apprenticeshi
England before coming to U.S. He knew both the common name
flowers. Most of the Dairymen were Swiss, but the
After all these years I can't remember the names their da
had a dairy on Keller road. The name was "Pure" something.
of a prize for having the purest milk in Pierce County. O
That their delivery trucks were lettered "Jasmin Terrace D
Mrs Sellgren, were both born in Blokings. Mr Sellgren arri
age of 16 . Mrs Sellgren arrived in Massachusetts in 1891.
some years in California and came to this area about 190
rated Green Leaf Dairy, at Tidehaven, which is no more. Anyw
interurban between Tacoma and Fife. Mr Rystet, was born in
the Rystet was born in Holland

sometime in the fifties. Served his internship in the Prov
began practise in Tacoma in the late fifties or early six
tise. outside of his medical practise he has had no connec

Mr N.G. Nelson, was always referred to as Banker Nelson, an
nected with banks a rather long time. As early as 1895 he
as a clerk in The Scandinavian American Bank 1539-1541 Pa
No. 11th St. He was born in Sweden, just where I am unable t
Varmland. A brother August Nelson was a veteran employee
He joined Valhalla in 1894. A man of rather large frame
man for Valhallas Tug of War team in the early days. There
he retained his membership in the lodge for any lenght o
his life he was only active in the Swedish Lutheran Church
tan one down-town bank. In the twenties he was an Assiste
Savings Dept. at the Bank of Tacoma. Which is noe Pacifis
..... Nels H. Magnuson, arrived in Tacoma in 1915 fr
night school to learn english and bookkeeping, and in 1918
and Tug Co as a clerk in the storeroom. He soon advanced t

president for decades. All the three just mentioned were
the early nineties. All passed away about the same time. Mr
Ted Elmer, also worked up to an executive position in the
in Minnesota where his father had been a Swedish Lutheran
family came west about the time of the first world war. He
younger than the bankers already mentioned, but he also
age, after a heart attack. Bert Magnuson, was born
a machinist in N.P. Shops and was born in Stockholm. His
about the same age as Mr Elmer, just mentioned. While working
the president of North Pacific Bank kept his eyes on him
he would mind if he took the boy away from him. Bert received
his advancement was rather rapid and finally became the president
too suffered a stroke and passed away in the prime of life.
Swedish ancestry and we had many conversations on the subject
is more descendants of Swedish families that have made it
but these are the only ones I happen to have met. At present
Olof and Sigrid Carlson, is the manager of the Fort Lewis

A considerable number of countrymen were employed by the city was founded by this corporation and to this day they of valuable real estate. We have mentioned some of the Sw shops in South Tacoma. Most of the others were in the Brid which there were several gangs in the downtown area keepi We remember Ludvig J. Nelson, born in Skane; Charles Bloom, Alvin Stenstrom, a native Tacoman, who is still around as f W. Wahlgren, was the foreman in the Round House at the Hea a native of Skane. In the early days he had made some judi and owned several apartmenthouses and the latter part of to his investments. In the traffic department I can re engineers at one time or another. C. O. Anderson, born in Vas Charles Kellstrom, both born in Varmland, J. O. Kindahl, from Edward Peterson and George G. Gustafson, were both from Sma from Dalsland. There could have been some more out on the brakemen, firemen and conductors that I was not closer acq

On the whole the average Swede did not seem to take any

the son of Ola and Helen Mork. Mr Mork was born in Aandals
Sweden. At present the local Vasa lodge Norden
bers 47 of which have been members for 50 years or more. The
since 1912. Who have been members for 63 years. The use of t
ned years ago but still this lodge is probably the most ho
this area. Valhalla has about the same number of
earlier is not quite as homogeneous. Both societies are st
bably be in business for some years to come. The churches s
no longer have any Swedish connections apparently. When the
ted its 90th anniversary their historian stated that about
Swedish or Swedish descendants. I understand the total mem
The same ratio may hold true in the other former Swedish
Before I close perhaps I should give an account of myself.
lunge Delarna in 1892. Came to Tacoma in 1911. Mrs Forslund
Tving, parish in Blekinge. We were married in 1915. My active
man. So I am by no means a writer. The reason I got into t
ning. In the summer of 1972 I received a telephone
d/
see Doris Gunstrom daughter of the late Wm Gunstrom. The

ask her if she would care to edit the manuscript. which sh
nally there was my idea to produce a copy for the local F
dish archives at the University of Washington. However Mr
manuscript deserves a wider distribution and copies of th
the modern methods of copying, of which I am not familiar
library, The House of the Emigrants at Waxjö Sweden and to
in U.S.A. A few decades ago there would have been interest en
kind, just what the situation may be today I am not able t
Mrs King for the interest and the encouragement she has g
of the Swedish people that settled and helped to build up
third generation, I would like to have her tell her own s
in her ancestry and in the Swedish influence in these part
and to dedicate this effort at telling the story of our c
soever she thinks deserves it.

With this we conclude our attempt at recording the histor
this area. About 3 years and 2 months after we wrote the
that I even would be able to finish the project. It has b