

PERSONAL BACKGROUND : Born in University Place, Tacoma, Washington on July 26, 1910.

Moved to Norway at age 10 in August 1920. Father had come to U.S. in the late 1800s. Mother came in 1904. Parents married at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Tacoma.

PARENTS Met at church. Norwegian services. Father left Norway because people were poor there. Took off to make a better living.

FATHER Raised on a farm. Seven brothers and two sisters. Father's name Ommund Tveiten. Father's oldest brother came first to U.S., but never heard from after arrival in New York.

FATHER'S TRAVELS Came to Wisconsin for a few years and returned to Norway. Was there a year or so then came out west. Brothers, Ommund, Karl, Martin, Johan came out west and did logging.

Parents married in 1908. Mother's name, Pauline Amalia Liland.

MOTHER Came to U.S. because her mother had died in Norway. She brought her 12-year-old brother too. Her younger sister died before she could come to the U.S. She had two sisters here already. She was about 20 when she came to the U.S.

Mother brought her brother to his aunt and uncle at University Place, Tacoma. She worked as a housemaid until she was married.

PARENTS ORIGINS Both came from near Sirdal in Southern Norway between Flekkefjord and Stavanger.

MATERNAL GRANDPARENTS Ommund Liland from Hompland. Anna Malena Espetveit. Talks about grandparents and where they lived. They had nine kids, two died when very small. They were farmers.

Grandfather and Uncle Per came to the U.S. for a few years but disliked it so they returned to Norway.

PATERNAL GRANDPARENTS Karl Tveiten and Marte Lund. They were farmers.

FAMILY RETURNS TO NORWAY 1920 father decided he wanted to farm with his brother. There were eight children, six born in the U.S. Carl, Oscar, Anna, Alma, Bertha.

FATHER'S WORK IN NORWAY Not enough to farm. Got a job in Kristiansund as a chauffeur. Took classes in engineering so he could care for the car.

TRAVEL TO NORWAY Left Union Station, Tacoma and arrived in New York after six days by train with a transfer in Chicago. 5-6 days wait in New York in a hotel.

HOTEL Two beds for eight people. One bathroom per floor. Uncle and Aunt Bertha returned with them. Spent some time in New York. First time on escalators.

BOAT TRIP Nine days on the 'Bergensfjord.' Boat was good. Some sick.

TRAIN Took own food. Can't remember much.

ARRIVAL NORWAY Landed in Stavanger. Met by Uncle Ommund and other relatives. Took train to Moi. Took boat to Tonstad. Took horse and buggy two miles to Tveiten. Too many for the buggy, took turns walking.

SCHOOL Hard to start Norwegian school after a few years in Tacoma.

NORWAY SCHOOL More Bible stories. Memorize Bible verses. Went to Sunday school. Fourteen weeks of regular school. Had school one month then off for one month, teacher taught other places. After confirmed finished with school. School divided into two classes - SmÅ¥skole and Storskole. Omskole, more like high school. Father chauffeured a combination passenger-cargo, car-truck vehicle.

HOME IN NORWAY Beautiful home. Winters more severe. Had skis to get to school. Very cold. 3-4 feet of ice on the ground.

CHRISTMAS Same as their Christmas in the U.S. Christmas Eve Day, found the tree in the woods. Sang Christmas carols, Norwegian and English. Decorated the tree, candles, made trimming some out gladspapir. Got an orange to hang on the tree. Decorate with cookies, korien.

CHRISTMAS DINNER Pinne steak, lamb salted, dried, put on a stick and fried in the ambers on the fire. Potatoes, lefse, potato kake.

CHRISTMAS EVE Lighted candles. Went around tree and sang carols. Ate julegroet (rice) at midnight. Put out something for Julenissen in barn.

CHRISTMAS Always got something new. No presents under the tree.

CHRISTMAS MORNING No church service held there. Sleigh bells. Skiing. Visiting other people. Ungdomhus, a gathering place for youth.

CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS Stories of Julenissen, trolls, viftefolk(?). Needed to be aware of these spirits.

SPRINGTIME Lots to do on the farm. Plant potatoes, corn, and a little wheat. Had cows and sheep.

CHORES Did carding, spinning, weaving, knitting of clothes. Took a lot of time. Lady with a knitting machine helped.

CHORES Helped with chores around the barn, milking, feeding cows. Milking was women's work.

MEN'S WORK Cut hay in the summer. Took it home by sleigh in the winter. Cut wood. Went to Snorskog to catch 'ryper' (Ptarmigan) which are small bird they caught in snares. They were sent to England and canned and considered a delicacy. She speaks in Norwegian about a cousin. A liter of 'ryper' sold for 40 nkr. last Christmas.

FATHER'S WORK Went to Tonstad to get supplies. He was also a mail carrier.

Confirmed then stayed home for a while.

RETURN TO U.S. At age 17 1/2 with brother Carl. Wanted to maintain U.S. citizenship. Looking for work. Didn't have jobs in Norway. Talks about her father's job some more.

1013 LEAVING NORWAY On April 14, 1928. 17 years old. Landed in Canada. Talks about her feelings leaving.

1076 TRAVELS Went through Liverpool, England. Then twelve days by a slow boat to Halifax, England. She talks some of why they took this route.

TRAVELS Went from Halifax, England to Quebec, Canada. Had doctor's examination in Quebec. Six days by train from Quebec to Vancouver B.C. Took boat to Squamish B.C. Stayed with Uncle Alek. Back to Vancouver then took boat to Seattle.

TRAVELS Arrived Seattle, taxi to Greyhound Bus. Met an uncle at Jefferson Hotel. Took taxi to meet Aunt Bertha at University Place.

Stayed with Aunt Bertha until mother came. Helped aunt with cows. Sold milk. Talks about the farm. Bertha's husband worked at Clearfir Lumber Co.

Brother, Carl worked at Clearfir Lumber Co., then went out with a logging company.

LANGUAGE PROBLEMS None since she'd learned it before. Saw many old friends from school who were now graduated.

SCHOOL Didn't like school in Norway as well as she had in the U.S.

REST OF FAMILY COMES Brother, Oscar came over in 1929. Father came to Vancouver in 1930, he wasn't a U.S. citizen. He worked in the woods. Carl, when 21 and already a U.S. citizen, was able to obtain citizenship for his father. Mother came in 1931 with five others. The whole family was reunited.

WORK Martha did housework. Worked as a maid. Brother, Oscar and she rented a house on Cushman Avenue.

WORK Talks about different uniforms she'd wear on the job. White uniform for Dr. Kiehl. She did cooking and cleaning. \$30 per month.

HOME Mother and father lived in the same house that she and Oscar had rented on Cushman. \$20 a month for a furnished home.

FATHER'S WORK He worked in a lumber mill by White River and Enumclaw. Younger siblings Barney (5) and Jorgen (7) had difficulties in school. They didn't know English.

WORK For Dr. Pasco for \$50 a month. Very demanding. Worked hard.

WORK New job for two old maids. Learned to cook differently on job. Toast, muffins, fruit popular U.S. breakfast. Little fruit in Norway. Everything made from scratch.

MET HUSBAND Knew from Norway.

ACTIVITIES Norwegian organizations. Normanna, Valhalla, Embla Lodge member since 1930.

WEDDING Service in Norwegian at Messiah Lutheran. Minister Rev. Michelson. Reception after service. October 1, 1938.

Husband was logger when married. Rented place on 7th and N. 'L' street. Built home at 2340 S. Ainsworth.

CHILDREN First child January 14, 1943, Einar Ingvald. Now an engineer at Tudor Engineering in Seattle. Wife, Marilyn Jones a teacher. Two adopted children. Einar was in Vietnam for nine months and again for eight months.

CHILDREN Pauline, September 1944.

WORK Martha and husband had a motel for eighteen years. Children helped with this. Husband worked at Martinac Ship Building.

CHILDREN Pauline went to Bellingham then to Washington State College in Pullman, Washington. Now a teacher. Married in 1968. Met husband, John Campbell at Washington State. He's a chemical engineer for Weyerhaeuser and previously for Shell Oil in California. She taught at Oxnard, California. They now live in Aberdeen and she is teaching in the Aberdeen School District.

CHILDREN October 1, 1946, Arne born. Went to University of Washington. Teaches at Curtis High School. Lives in University Place. Married Andrea Holmes.

CHURCH Family active in church. All baptized and confirmed Lutheran. She belongs to Circle. Goes to Gloria Dei Lutheran.

TEACHING CHILDREN NORWEGIAN Einar was fluent Norwegian when a child but his teacher discouraged its use.

NORWEGIAN TRADITIONS MAINTAINED Taught children Norwegian. Baking kumle, potato balls or dumplings with salted pork in the middle. Child learned Norwegian from Audun Toven at the University of Washington.

SUMMERTIME IN NORWAY At the SÅter she enjoyed cutting grass and putting it up in haystacks. Stacked hay for winter.

SUNDAYS IN NORWAY Couldn't do any baking or gardening. A day of rest.

She speaks Norwegian and mentions some of her favorite Christmas songs.