

PERSONAL BACKGROUND Lina Stakset. Maiden name is Dahl. Born in Refvik, Nordfjord, Norway on April 7, 1904.

PARENTS Anders and Ragnhild (maiden name was Jerstad). Dahl means flat place. They were farmers with 4-5 cows, horses, sheep and pigs. Fished in the ocean in the winter. Caught cod (torsk).

GRANDPARENTS Paternal grandparents were Haldor Dahl and Ingeborg Dahl. He died when he was 40. he was the only one out of eleven brothers and sisters to stay in Norway. All the other went to America. He took over his father's farm.

FARM Cows, horses, sheep, corn and potatoes. Dried the corn and took it to grind for flour.

MATERNAL GRANDPARENTS They lived further up in Nordfjord. They were Anders and Olina. They were farmers and he built house also. They raised crops for their own use.

FATHER Sold milk. Talks about taking calves away from the mothers early.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS Three sisters had five but they died early. Three brothers. Haldor came to Tacoma, Washington and started Tacoma Boat in 1932-1933. They build boats. Ingeborg and Anna are twins. Came to the U.S. Martha's husband is a carpenter. Speaks of her brothers and sisters some.

CHILDHOOD School, work on the farm and working with fish.

SCHOOL Seven years, age 7-14. Confirmed after school. School two days a week.

WINTER Went sledding and ice-skating.

CHURCH Walked an hour to church. Went as a family. Taught some at home. One preacher for three churches.

Took care of her grandmother for one year. She was bedridden.

CHRISTMAS Tree. Went to neighbors and sang around the tree. School had a Christmas festival. Good food. Presents were homemade things like sweaters, socks, *etc.*

Lina also did knitting and weaving in the winter.

HOME Simple house with one room. Ate, worked and did everything on the one room.

CHRISTMAS EVE FOOD Julesteik, dried meat steamed, flatbrød and potatoes. Christmas Day they had rømmegrøt.

Mother did lots of baking, lefse, waffles, søtkaka, and cookies. Bought eggs and sugar.

Tree stayed up until February. Homemade decorations on the tree. Talks about getting the tree.

HEAT Had a wood stove and an electric stove. Had an electric heater in the later years.

CHURCH Went to church on Christmas Day if there was a preacher. Father read the Christmas story on Christmas Eve.

WORK After school, she went to do housework for her aunt and uncle. Worked many years in a hotel in Måløy, Norway.

Her father died from choking. Describes when he died. A terrible way to go.

Lina's uncle came to Norway from the U.S. and encouraged the family to come to the U.S.

TO AMERICA Anna in 1926, Haldor in 1926 and Ingeborg in 1927.

The rest of the family went to Bergen to get passes for the trip to America. Mother couldn't get a pass because she had an open sore and a sister couldn't get a pass because she didn't have an eye. Describes this in detail.

1 EMIGRATION Left Norway at the end of October 1928. Didn't feel good about leaving. Came over with a lady from the same place.

TRIP Sailed from Bergen on the 'Stavangerfjord' straight to New York. Didn't go through Ellis Island. Only some had to go through.

ELLIS ISLAND Brother had problems. Nine doctors checked him. He had an open sore.

TRIP OVER Very seasick. Rough seas. Took nine days.

Lina and a friend went to Seattle. Had friends at Seabeck, Washington.

TRAIN TRIP Couldn't speak English. Held onto purses. Made coffee on the train. Had Norwegian food with them. There was a lady to watch over them the whole trip. Sold sandwiches on the train.

THINGS BROUGHT TO AMERICA Rye toast and butter.

TRAIN It was dirty. Had a bed so they could sleep from Chicago to Seattle.

FEELINGS ON COMING TO AMERICA Lonesome. First job was to take care of sickly babies in Seattle.

LEARNING THE LANGUAGE Talking to a little boy helped her learn the language. Picked up the language by herself. Describes her living arrangement and job.

PAY AT JOBS \$50 per month. Good pay for the times.

HUSBAND Met him at the Norwegian church in downtown Seattle while at a friend's wedding. His name is Henry Stakset. He was a fisherman.

WEDDING No wedding. Went to a preacher in Vancouver, Washington. Her husband was from Norway too.

Settled in Seattle. He went to Alaska from April to November. Their daughter was born when he was gone.

CHILDREN Kristy lives in Virginia. She has three boys. Two are married so Lina has three grandchildren. Daughter's husband works with the government. She talks about her grandchildren.

Mother lived in Seabeck, Washington and her brothers worked in the woods and fished too. Lina lived in Seabeck for four years.

Lina's husband built a house.

CHILDREN Allen is the oldest son. He's a plumber with the Tacoma Heating and Plumbing business. He has three sons.

HENRY Second son worked for Ford in South Tacoma. Got his own shop, fender and bodywork. He had three children, one is adopted. His wife is Arlene Faulk (?).

Other daughter in law is Bonnie Klink. Her daughter married Harold Jacobsen.

After marriage she worked a little. Had a few cows she milked. People came for cream to make butter.

CHURCH Active in Ole Hanson's church. Left the Lutheran church. Went to a Pentecostal church in Norway. Used to baby-sit in the church. Ladies Aid, missionary work.

NORWEGIAN ORGANIZATIONS Group meets once a month in a church. Everything in Norwegian. Attends Gloria Dei Church.

TRIPS TO NORWAY Six times. In 1949 the whole family took the 'Oslofjord' ship over. They were in Norway for six months.

CHANGES Hard to buy things after the war.

In 1960 Henry and Lina went from October to January. In 1976 they had a big party for Henry's brother and his wife.

1974 Home for six weeks. In 1976 she was home for birthdays.

CHANGES IN LATER YEARS They are modernized. No shortages. They buy frozen things like we do in the U.S.

Mother died in 1958. She was over 80.

LANGUAGE Lina's children knew Norwegian. They learned it from home. They spoke it at home.

CITIZENSHIP In 1949, went to classes for this.

Lina has a sister in Fife, Washington. Her husband is Oscar Quamy. He's a builder.

FAMILY REUNIONS Large gathering of Nordfjord people. Four sisters and her brother attended. All live in Tacoma. Talks about family reunions. Golden Wedding anniversary.

NORWEGIAN CELEBRATIONS Food, language, gumball, krumkake, fattigmand, and kringla.

IMPORTANCE OF HERITAGE Means a lot to be Norwegian. Likes the people and the place.

Met some Swedes and Danes in Seattle when she first came over.

NORWEGIAN SPOKEN Good example. Talks about changing church in Norway in Norwegian.