

Carl Lien was Carl Hans Malus Carlson Lien. Born in Saltdal, Norway, near Bodø. Born on January 4, 1896.

PARENTS Carl Mattson. Name Lien comes from a place they lived. All brothers took the name Lien except for one. Mother's name was Martha Johanson. Parents came from the same place. Mother died when Carl was 11. Father was a carpenter, built houses in Sulitjelma.

Father worked away from home a great deal. He had to, so he could support the large family.

They lived on a farm. Raised cows. Lots of hard work. Raised potatoes.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS Eleven children. Cris was a fisherman, he came to America. Johan was a fisherman and carpenter. He came to America. Magnus is in Chicago. He worked for Candy Factory.

GRANDPARENTS Paternal grandfather, Mans Knutson. He was a carpenter. Did not know much of his mother's relation.

CHILDHOOD HOME Not too big, there was room for all the kids. Log cabin children slept upstairs in a big loft.

Dad was out working most of the time so the kids had to do the work. Did plowing, broke in the horse on the plow. Went to the woods to get wood to burn.

SCHOOL Had to cross the river to get to school. Took a boat. Difficult to cross at times of the year. Recalls one incident specifically. Went to school and then confirmation. Confirmed in 1910. There was a church in Saltdal.

After confirmation went to Sulitjelma to work. Describes the job he did. Lived away from home. Did fishing right after confirmation up in Lofoten. Young when he left home.

Mother died when Carl was young. Oldest sister took over. Mother died of breast cancer. No treatment for her like there is today.

Carl really liked his father. He was so good to the kids.

CHRISTMAS Father read from the Bible and they all sang. Went to church early in the morning. Took a sleigh to church it was a ways to go. In the winter they drove to church on the river, which was ice.

CHRISTMAS FOODS Fattigmand, lefse, and rullepølse. Ate risengrynsgrøt on Christmas Eve. Always had it pretty good even though there were so many kids in the family.

Mother made all their clothes. She spun, carded, and wove the material for their clothes. Sisters also helped with this.

Always hung something outside for the birds on Christmas. Believed in the Julenissen put food out for him.

Juleaften: Went around to the neighbors and got cookies and bread. Put their goodies in a box and how long they could keep the goodies.

Carl spent lots of time in the woods with his father. It was scary for his father. Logging could be a dangerous job.

After working in Sulitjelma, Carl was ready to come to America. His three brothers were already here in Superior, Wisconsin.

MEETING SPOUSE Met wife in Sulitjelma. She worked there too, she worked in a motel. Her name is Tora Elisa Henriette Johanson. From Skjerstad, not far from Carl's hometown. Met at a dance. Dated for five years before they were married. Carl worked in Sulitjelma from 1913-1923.

Carl talks about the various jobs he did in that 10 years. Wife went after they were married.

WEDDING In Skjerstad in a church there. Had a big wedding, dancing. Married on December 14, 1919. Wife had a white dress.

Carl's father encouraged him to go to America. Times were poor in Norway at this time. Brother had left him money. A neighbor also was going. About sixty young people left this area in 1923.

Wife did not come until one and half years later. Daughter was born in Norway, she was four years old when she came to America.

TRIP OVER Nice trip. Easter Day sailed from Norway in 1923. Took three weeks. Came on the Bergensfjord.

Lots of snow in Superior, Wisconsin. Went through Ellis Island.

Could not speak English. Always managed to get along. People always helped. Got on the train and stayed in Chicago for one day. People told them not to go too far because it was a bad place.

Lived in Superior with his brother until his wife came. They bought a house close to his brother. Wife had a rough trip over on the boat.

WORK Worked for Morton Salt in Superior, loading cars. Describes another job he had with his brother, hard work. Learned English on this job because they were all Americans that he was working with. Paid about \$4.50 a day, \$1.15 for board. Went home every weekend.

Worked on the ore docks for five years, where they load the boats. Describes this job in more detail. Not paid that well.

Went to Chicago and helped his brother with carpentry work. Stayed for only 3-4 months. Worked for Morton Salt for five years. Loaded salt blocks for the cows. Not much pay, good to be home. Did not like the water in Chicago. Morton Salt moved to Michigan.

Did longshoring back east on Lake Superior.

Came out west in 1945. In Norway, Carl had seen movie pictures of fishing in Alaska, he told himself he would go there before he died. Wife did not want to go out west. Carl came looking for work. Worked for Buffelen on the flats in Tacoma, Washington. Was working with a neighbor of his from Norway who lived next to him in Superior.

Went to Seattle to work in the cannery.

Hired right away in Seattle to work in Alaska. This was always a dream of his. Worked in Anchorage. Fixed up the nets. Worked on the traps for seven weeks. Was on Kalgin Island between Anchorage and Seldovia, caught lots of fish, 125,000. The fish went to canneries in Anchorage and Seldovia. Carl really liked it here. Talks about the similarities between Norway and Alaska.

Julius Tollefson offered Carl a job working for him. Carl had to go back to Wisconsin. Was back in Wisconsin for three weeks and then came back and worked for Julius Tollefson at the school. Cutting trees and grass. Worked at several different schools.

Went to Elma, Washington with Julius Tollefson to work on building a new plant. They had been both laid off at

the schools. Describes his work some.

Wife came in 1948. Carl was here for three years before she came. Many friends were coming to the west coast. Daughter, Carlene was married. She married a Polish fellow in Michigan. She taught school in Wisconsin. They had two children, Linda and Mike.

Daughter went back to Wisconsin with her husband because he did not like it in Tacoma.

Stayed in Elma until he retired. Worked there for 16 years. Worked until he was 71, quit in 1967.

Hardest thing about coming to America was learning the language. Wife learned the language rather fast. She has had a stroke and now can only speak Norwegian but understands English.

CITIZENSHIP Both are citizens. Carl became a citizen in 1935 and his wife a citizen in 1946/47. Went to school for it.

CHURCH Belongs to St. Marks in Tacoma. Have been active but it is harder now with wife being sick.

SCANDINAVIAN ORGANIZATIONS Belongs to the Sons of Norway, Nordlandslaget. Belonged to the Sons of Norway in Wisconsin because there was a large Norwegian community and it was fun to be with other Norwegians.

TRIPS BACK TO NORWAY Went in 1968. Could have been home in nine hours flying from Vancouver to Bodø.

CHANGES IN NORWAY Lots of new houses. Old family house is gone. Talks about fishing when he was home visiting. The people talk different even in the area he was from. Went to his old church.

MAINTAINING NORWEGIAN TRADITIONS Have kept up the cooking and speaking of Norwegian. Daughter can speak some Norwegian.

SPEAKS NORWEGIAN Talks about his trip back a bit. Mentions burning they used to do on the 21st of June, Midsummer.