



Minnesota Works Progress Administration:  
Writers Project Research Notes.

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

Source: Tyomies (CO-Op Edition) Date of Publication Sept 10th 1931  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 29 No. 214 Page 8 Col 2 Date Line of Story \_\_\_\_\_  
Where consulted Minnesota Historical Library Date consulted Mar 17th 1939

During this time it was the policy of the Tyomies to teach farmers and workers how to do newspaper correspondence. Nearly every locality had its correspondence circle for the Tyomies. In these circles ~~xxx~~ a group of people came together with their written script intended for the papers and went over them together. In the meeting the article written by an individual of the circle was critically examined by the group, corrected if there were any mistakes and put into such form that it needed very little editing. It was then signed "Kerho" and sent to the newspaper.

To develop this kind of correspondence the Tyomies sent out its editors from time to time to instruct these numerous correspondents. Thus there appears a typical announcement of the itinerary of V Finberg one of the editors of the Tyomies in this issue of the paper. He had been sent out by the Tyomies to teach a circle of this kind in the region of Gorbin, Palo and Markham Minnesota. In the article it is stated that it is necessary to initiate new forms of corresponding for the Tyomies in order to make it a better paper and that those who are interested

Your Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name \_\_\_\_\_



SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

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from the three localities should attend Mr Finbergs meeting.

Your Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name W. A. Hargis

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION (MINNESOTA)  
Federal Writers' Project, 415 Harvard St. S. E., Minneapolis.

"Ten Commandments of a Correspondent"

1. Never begin to write at a time when you are angry. Wait until your anger has passed so that you will be able to better understand why a working class paper can not publish material on squabbles of different individuals *and* material that is derogatory to others.

2. When you begin to write investigate the matter thoroughly to make sure you know all angles and weigh very carefully if there is any benefit to the working people in what you might write.

3. Always write only on one side of the paper and have space between lines for correction, when writing with a typewriter double space your lines.

4. If you have anything to say to the editor write it on another sheet of paper.

5. Never forget to send your name and address with your articles. Remember that the editor must always know the name and address of the writer before he can publish material.

6. Try to always find subject matter which is interesting to your locality as well as generally.

7. Avoid long announcements about dances and other affairs, short ones are more effective.

Uusi Kotimaa

2

6

Dec. 28, 1929

48

150

Minn. Hist. Library

Feb. 21, 1939

8. Be sure that all the dates are correct.

9. When writing for a special number be sure that it gets to the editor in time, as if you delay, you must understand that publication of material is supervised by the editor in such a way that unless previous arrangements are made the most important articles are published first.

10. Do not take the name of the editor in vain when you notice that he has shortened or corrected your copy. Always remember that it is not caused by a tyrannical desire to prevent you from saying what you like but it arises from the necessity of the editor to supervise publication of all material according to the best interest of the paper. The editor does not out or correct your copy for fun he would much rather do something else. When you make protest to the editor keep this in mind that he has a responsibility toward the working class and that ~~he~~ is dumb, deaf and blind as a rock to all protest which he thinks unjustified.



Uusi Kotimaa

4

1

Feb. 25, 1921

40

16

Min. Hist. Society

Feb. 3, 1939

Under title "Uusi Kotimaa a peoples paper, of the people and for the people" appears a long editorial establishing the policy that it will henceforth follow. It is also an appeal to the people to rally around it on the basis of a middle course between radicalism and reaction. Following the appeal is a statement on the resignation of Mr. J. V. Lahde who had edited the Uusi Kotimaa for many years.

Uusi Kotimaa

1

2

Jan. 6, 1924.

44

2

Minn. Hist. Soc. Lib.

Feb. 8, 1939.

"New York Mills -- A burning cross, emblem of the K.K.K., 12 feet high, covered with rags and soaked in oil, was seen burning in the front of the Uusi Kotimaa editor's residence on new year eve. The fire department was called but made no attempt to extinguish the blaze. Some young local boys were overheard saying that 'we will drive the Uusi Kotimaa out of our town.'"



Finnish newspapers

Smalley, E. V. ; "A Finnish Settlement in Minnesota", in Northwest Magazine ,  
March, 1889, pp. 3-5

( Copied from material filed under "Early Settlements".)

"In the course of time a small newspaper in the Finnish language was published, and the copies that were mailed to Finland were the most effective kind of emigration literature." (N.Y. Mills)

(J.W. Lahde was editor of the Amerikan Suometar, a Finnish language paper whose first issue was just coming off the presses when Smalley visited New York Mills in January of 1889.)

An "almanac written by him and containing much useful information for Finnish settlers" was produced to show Smalley typical Christian names of Finns. Smalley notes that on the subscription rolls of the new paper he noted the family names of Mukkala, Marsu, Ojala, Fiskahi, , Toomala, Laiti, Koski, Rinipita, ~~Wenata~~ Wenata, Koskulo, Haarala, Pagari, and Pikkarainen.

Finnish newspapers of the time: One at Ashtabula, Ohio; one at Calumet, Michigan; one at New York Mills, Minnesota; and one at Astoria, Oregon, which Smalley states had been moved from New York Mills in the previous year.

Nov. 15, 1939.

MINNESOTA WRITERS PROJECT

Duluth, Minnesota  
November 14, 1939

Mr. Roscoe Macy, State Director  
Minnesota Writers Project  
500 Third Street South  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Mr. Macy:

I am enclosing both the original and the translation of the Finnish communication "Suomalainen Wirellinen Lehti." I am also enclosing the material previously translated from Ilmonen's history.

I translated "Suomalainen Wirellinen Lehti" to "Finnish Official Paper," because of sticking close to the original, but I think it should really be "Official Gazette of Finland," which would make the first word of the original caption "Suomen" (Finland) rather than "Suomalainen" (Finnish).

The English text and place names I wrote as in the original, although there are several obvious errors in place names.

There are many discrepancies in the names of the newspapers and their place of publication. (I did not think it necessary to try to give the equivalent English form for the publications.) Tie Vapauteen is listed, for example, as a newspaper, although (now suspended) it was always a magazine, issued monthly.

In the translation done previously I marked the page numbers as per request. The copy dealing with the emigration of Finns from and through Norway runs to the middle of page 27. The chapter dealing with the Red Wing Finns has, with the exception of the full paragraph on page 144, been translated.

Yours very truly,

---

Vaino Konga



Suomalainen siirtokunta Pohjois - Amerikassa.

"Boston Globe" nimisessä lehdessä Syysk. 5 p. kerrotaan:

Wrightin kreivikunnassa Minnesotassa on suomalainen siirtokunta. He ovat luterin-uskoisia ja kokoontuvat jumalanpalvelusta pitämään joka sunnuntai ja joskus myös keskellä viikkoa. Heillä ei vielä ole omaa pappia, mutta odottavat sellaista Suomesta kesän kuluessa. Heitä kiitetään hyvin jumaliseksi ja siveelliseksi kansaksi.

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According to the locality and territory data compiled by Suomi-Seura from Finnish-American newspapers, local information, congregations and society directories, there are in the State of Minnesota about 250 such cities, counties, townships or villages having some mutual Finnish endeavors, like congregations, temperance societies, labor unions and the like, or where at least some reverend or speaker has visited for the sake of the Finnish residents.

Such vicinities where from the year 1874, have been either a Finnish congregation, temperance society, or labor union or other such organizations, are in Minnesota according to our list, but which, however, is not entirely complete;

- |              |                 |              |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. Aitkin    | 10. Beacon Hill | 19. Chisholm |
| 2. Alango    | 11. Biwabic     | 20. Cloquet  |
| 3. Alavus    | 12. Bowey       | 21. Cokato   |
| 4. Albion    | 13. Brainert    | 22. Cook     |
| 5. Angora    | 14. Brimson     | 23. Cromwell |
| 6. Annandale | 15. Brittmount  | 24. Dobelius |
| 7. Aura      | 16. Brookston   | 25. Duluth   |
| 8. Aurora    | 17. Buhl        | 26. Elba     |
| 9. Balkan    | 18. Cherry      | 27. Ely      |

28. Embarrass	54. Markham	80. Sandstone
29. Esco	55. Mc Kinley	81. Sebeke
30. Eveleth	56. Meadow Brooks	82. Sentaajoki
31. Franklin	57. Menahga	83. Snellman
32. French Lake	58. Messaba	84. Soudan
33. Finlayson	59. Middle River	85. Sparta
34. Floodwood	60. Midway	86. Stevenson
35. Fond du Lac	61. Minneapolis	87. St. Louisjoki (St. Louis River)
36. Gilbert	62. Mississippi	88. Stoney
37. Haukijärvi (Pikelake)	63. Mt. Iron	89. Suomi "
38. Heinajoki	64. Nashauk	90. Susijärvi
39. Heinola	65. New York Mills	91. Tamarac
40. Hibbing	66. Oulu	92. Thomson
41. Holmes City	67. Paddock	93. Toivola
42. Idington	68. Palo	94. Toimi
43. Iron Junc.	69. Peola	95. Trout Lake
44. Ironton	70. Pikeriver	96. Two Harbors
45. Jordan	71. Red Eye	97. Wavina
46. Kalevala (Kettle River)	72. Red Wing	98. W. Duluth
47. Kantola	73. Renville	99. W. Pike
48. Keewat	74. Riseriver	100. White Iron Range
49. Kingston	75. Rosburg (Valparaiso)	101. Winton
50. Kinney	76. Runeberg	102. Virginia
51. Lawler	77. Saarikoski	103. Vwori
52. Lonrot	78. Saari	104. Vaino
53. Mäkinen	79. Salo	

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" " " " "

Tässä pyydämme myös huomauttaa Works Progress Administratiolle, että useat suomalaiset paikallismimet, kuten Dobelius, Lonrot, Mäkinen, Esco, Alango ja vaino ovat useimmiten vaarin englanninkielellä kirjoitettuja, ollen edellä mainittujen suomalainen oikea muoto: Lonrot, Mäkinen, Esko, Alanko sekä Vaino. Olisi toivottavaa että WPA korjaisi mainitut vaarat nimimuodot Minnesotan suomalaisista kirjoistaan. Minnesotan suomalaisten vakiluvusta on Teilla myös melkoisesti Suomi-Seuran tiedoista eroavat vakilukutiedot. Kasitamme kyllä, että numeromme ovat virallisista Yhdysvaltain vakilukutiedoista ja kasittanevat vaan Suomessa syntyneitä, mutta kun Yhdysvaltain vakilukuja siirtolaistilastotiedot Suomeen nahden ovat huomattavasti ristiriitaisia Suomen mainitunlaisiin tilastotietoihin nahden, niin pyydämme ilmoittaa, että nykyisin suomenkielto



puhuu Minnesotassa, tai pitää itseään suomalais-amerikkalaisena yli 100,000.

Kun seuran tilastotiedot Amerikan suomalaisista eivät kuitenkaan ole vielä lopullisesti valmiit, emme ole toistaiseksi tilaisudessa tarkoin määrittelemään kunkin paikkakunnan tai valtion suomalaisten lukumäärää. Viitaukseksi Yhdysvaltain suomalaisten väkiluvusta mainitsemme tässä Suomen Hallitukselle toimitetusta Siirtolaiskomitean mietinnöstä v. 1924, että suomalaisten lukumäärä sisältyy vaan ensimmäisessä miespolvessa Ameriassa syntyneet. Kun kuitenkin Amerikassa on jo kolmen jopa neljänkin miespolven aikaisia suomalaisia, joskin eikä suureksi osaksi kielellisesti amerikkalaistuneina. Niin on suomalaisten ja suomalaissukuisten amerikkalaisten lukumäärä huomattavasti yli puoli miljoonaa, josta Minnesotan osalle tulee noin 125,000 henkeä, ollen Suomessa syntyneitten lukumäärä Minnesotassa v. 1920 noin 30,000 henkeä.

Kun Suomessa toimitetaan väkiluvunlasku vuosittain, seurakuntien ja valtion puolesta, niin voidaan melkoisen tarkasti määrätä siirtolaisten lukumäärä. Amerikansuomalaisista on meillä parhaillan käsittelyn alaisena tilaston toimittaminen, joka perustuu paitsi viralliseen amerikkalaiseen tilastoon, myös suomalaisten seurakuntien, seurojen ja yhdistysten jäsenlukumääriin, sekä kultakin paikkakunnalta tiedustittaviin yksityisilmoituksiin.

Seuraavat amerikansuomalaiset sanomalehdet ovat eri aikoina ilmestyneet.



m. m. Minnesotan valtiossa;

Duluthissa;

1. Amerikan Kaiku 1906
2. Industrialisti Nykyisinkin
3. Kalevainen
4. Kalevan Kansa, 1931
5. Kansan Henki, 1921 ?
6. Päivälehti
7. Päivälehdien Kotilehti
8. Siirtolainen
9. Tie Vapauteen

Minneapolisissa;

10. Uusi Kotimaa, 1881
11. Amerikan Uutiset, 1893
12. Perheen Ystävä
13. Työmies, 1893 - 4

New York Mills'issa;

14. Aamurusko noin v. 1890.
15. Kansan Toveri, 1897
16. Minnesotan Uutiset, Nykyisin
17. Raittiuslehti, 1892
18. Uusi Kotimaa (lakkasi ilmestymästä N. Y. Millisissä)
19. Uusi Kotimaa ja Amerikan Suometar

M. M. Minnesotan valtiossa:

Elyssä:

20. Aatteita

Floodwoodissa:

21. Amerikan Farmari - Nykyisin



### A Finnish colony in North America.

In the "Boston Globe" of Sept. 5 it is reported:

There is a Finnish colony in Wright County, Minnesota. They are of Lutheran faith and hold religious services every Sunday and now and then also in the middle of the week. They have not as yet their own minister, but are awaiting one from Finland in the course of the summer. They are commended as a very religious and moral people.

According to the locality and territory data compiled by Suomi-Seura [seura means society or association] from Finnish-American newspapers, local information, congregations and society directories, there are in the State of Minnesota about 250 such cities, counties, townships or villages having some mutual Finnish endeavors, like congregations, temperance societies, labor unions and the like, or where at least some reverend or speaker has visited for the sake of the Finnish residents.

Such vicinities where from the year 1874, have been either a Finnish congregation, temperance society, or labor union or other such organizations, are in Minnesota according to our list, but which, however, is not entirely complete:

1. Aitkin	10. Beacon Hill	19. Chisholm
2. Alango	11. Biwabie	20. Cloquet
3. Alavus	12. Bowey	21. Cokato
4. Albion	13. Brainert	22. Cook
5. Angora	14. Brimson	23. Cromwell
6. Annandale	15. Brittmount	24. Dobelius
7. Aura	16. Brookston	25. Duluth
8. Aurora	17. Buhl	26. Elba
9. Balkan	18. Cherry	27. Ely

28.	Embarrass	54.	Markham	80.	Sandstone
29.	Esco	55.	Mc Kinley	81.	Sebeka
30.	Eveleth	56.	Meadow Brooks	82.	Sentajoki
31.	Franklin	57.	Menahga	83.	Snellman
32.	French Lake	58.	Messaba	84.	Soudan
33.	Finlayson	59.	Middle River	85.	Sparta
34.	Floodwood	60.	Midway	86.	Stevenson
35.	Fond du Lac	61.	Minneapolis	87.	St. Louisjoki (St.
36.	Gilbert	62.	Mississippi	88.	Stoney               Louis
37.	Haukijärvi (Pikelake)	63.	Mt. Iron	89.	Suomi               River)
38.	Heinäjoki	64.	Nashwauk	90.	Susijärvi
39.	Heinola	65.	New York Mills	91.	Tamarac
40.	Hibbing	66.	Oulu	92.	Thomson
41.	Holmes City	67.	Paddock	93.	Toivola
42.	Idington	68.	Palo	94.	Toimi
43.	Iron Junc.	69.	Peyla	95.	Trout Lake
44.	Ironton	70.	Pikeriver	96.	Two Harbors
45.	Jordan	71.	Red Eye	97.	Wavina
46.	Kalevala (Kettle	72.	Red Wing	98.	W. Duluth
47.	Kantola     River)	73.	Renville	99.	W. Pike
48.	Keewat	74.	Riseriver	100.	White Iron Range
49.	Kingston	75.	Rosburg (Valparaiso)	101.	Winton
50.	Kinney	76.	Runeberg	102.	Virginia
51.	Lawler	77.	Saarikoski	103.	Vuori
52.	Lonrot	78.	Saari	104.	Vaino
53.	Makinen	79.	Salo		

We desire herein also to point out to the Works Progress Administration that many Finnish place names, such as Dobelius, Lönrot, Mäkinen, Esco, Alango and Väinö, are most frequently written incorrectly in English, the correct Finnish form for the above mentioned being: Lönrot, Mäkinen, Esko, Alanko and Väinö. It is to be hoped that the WPA would rectify the said incorrect forms when writing about the Finns of Minnesota. In regards to the population of the Finns of Minnesota, you have also census figures differing considerably from those of the Suomi-Seura. We realize, to be sure, that your figures are from the official United States Census statistics and include only those born in Finland, but as the United States population and immigration statistics in regards to Finland are conflicting in a noticeable degree from the said kind of statistics of Finland, we wish to inform that at present Finnish is spoken in Minnesota, or consider themselves as Finnish-Americans, by over 100,000. As the Suomi-Seura's statistics about the Finns of America are not, however, finally completed yet, we are not, for the present, in a position to ascertain accurately the number of Finns in each locality

or in each state. As an indication of the population of the Finns of the United States, we mention herein from the report of the Emigration Committee made to the Finnish Government in 1924, that the Finnish population includes only the first generation born in America. As there are in America, however, Finns already from the third and even from the fourth generation, though perhaps to a great extent Americanized in point of language, the population of the Finns and Americans from Finnish stock is considerably over one-half million, from which to Minnesota's share comes about 125,000, the number born in Finland being about 30,000 in Minnesota in 1920.

As the census in Finland is taken yearly, on behalf of the congregations and the government, the number of emigrants can be determined quite accurately. We have now under consideration the taking of a census of the American Finns, based, besides the official American statistics, also on the membership of Finnish congregations, clubs and associations as well as on individual reports asked for from each locality.

The following American Finnish newspapers have appeared at various times.

In the State of Minnesota:

In Duluth:

1. Amerikan Kaiku 1906
2. Industrialisti (at the present time)
3. Kalevainen
4. Kalevan Kansa, 1931
5. Kansan Henki, 1921 ?
6. Päivälehti
7. Päivälehdien Kotilehti
8. Siirtolainen
9. Tie Vapauteen



In Minneapolis:

- 10. Uusi Kotimaa, 1881
- 11. Amerikan Urtiset, 1893
- 12. Perheen Ystävä
- 13. Työmies, 1893-4

In New York Mills:

- 14. Aamurusko, about the year 1890.
- 15. Kansan Toveri, 1897
- 16. Minnesotan Urtiset (at the present time)
- 17. Raittiuslehti, 1892
- 18. Uusi Kotimaa (suspended publication in New York Mills)
- 19. Uusi Kotimaa and Amerikan Suometar

In Ely:

- 20. Aatteita

In Floodwood:

- 21. Amerikan Farmari (at the present time)

Massachusetts.

Fitchburg. - Raivaaja (daily) 7,000

Michigan

Calumet. - Opas (weekly) 6,600

Valvoja (3 times wk.) 7,515

Hancock. - Amerikan Suometer (3 times wk.) 5,487

Nuorten Ystava (monthly) 890

Paimen-Sanomia ( " ) 1,035

Ironwood. - Auttaja (weekly) 1,700

Minnesota.

Duluth. - Industrialisti (daily) 6,200

Paivalehti ( " ) 6,595

New York Mills. - Minnesotan Untiset (3 times wk.) 1,350

New York

Brooklyn. - New Yorkin Utiset (3 times a wk.) 6,910

New York City. - Eteenpain - (daily) 6,910

Tyolaisnainen ( weekly)

Ohio

Fairport Harbor. - Amerikan Sanomat (weekly)

Oregon

Astoria. - Lannen Suometar (weekly) 1,319

Wisconsin

Superior. - Tyomies (daily) 11,960

Tyovaen Osuustoimintalentti (weekly) 14,008

Canada

Port Arthur. - Canadian Utiset 2,000

Sudbury - Vapaus (daily) 5,000

Totonto - Vapaa Sana (weekly) 3,450

PRINCIPAL FINNISH DAILY NEWSPAPERS IN THE UNITED STATES, JANUARY, 1938

AT FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

✓ RAIVAAJA - circulation 7,055; Raivaaaja Publishing Co., publisher; Yrjö Makela, managing editor; John Suominen, business manager.

AT DULUTH, MINNESOTA

INDUSTRIALISTI - circulation 5,237; Workers' Socialist Publishing Co., publisher; Ivar Vapaa, editor; George Niemi, managing editor; William T. Kari, business manager.

PAIVALEHTI - circulation 3,834; Carl H. Salminen, publisher; John L. Ollila, editor; Carl H. Salminen, managing editor; Dale W. Salminen, business manager.

*29 E Michigan*

NEW YORK CITY

ETEENPAIN - circulation 8,363; F-A Printing Corp., publisher; Richard Pesola, editor; Hugo Paasikivi, business manager. (Pesola also managing editor)

SUPERIOR, WISCONSIN

TYOMIES - circulation 12,490; Tyomies Society, publisher; Richard Pesola, editor and managing editor; Paul Woimala, business manager; Alfred Tiala, advertising manager.

*501 Tower and  
Dup*

*Minnesotan Uutiset (Minnesota News)  
Adolf Sundquist Editor  
New York Mills, Minn  
~~1938~~*

*29 E. Michigan  
Duluth*



PRINCIPAL FINNISH NEWSPAPERS IN U.S. - WEEKLY, SEMI-WEEKLY, ETC.

MICHIGAN

OPAS (Calumet) - circulation 6,830, Tues, Thurs, & Sat.; Copper Country Prtg. Co. Inc., publisher; V.M. Burman, editor; Charles W. Ruuttila, general manager.

AMERIKAN SUOMETAR (Hancock) - circulation 5,225, Tues, Thurs, & Sat.; Finnish Lutheran Book Concern, publisher; John E. Rantomaki, editor; Arthur I. Manning, advertising manager.

MINNESOTA

SIIRTOLAINEN (Duluth) - circulation 3,415, Wed.; Carl H. Salminen, publisher and editor; Sale W. Salminen, advertising manager.

NEW YORK STATE

NEW YORK UUTiset (N.Y.) - circulation 9,350, Tues, Thurs, & Sat.; Finnish Newspaper Company, publisher; A. Rupp, editor; August Kangas, bus. Mgr.

OREGON

LANNEN SUOMETAR (Astoria) - circulation 2,074, Tues. & Friday; Finnish Lutheran Book Concern, publisher; Autti Hautala, editor;

WISCONSIN

TYOVAEN OSUUSTOIMINTALEHTI

Tyovaen Osuustoimintalehti (Superior) - Circulation 13,225, Wednesday; Co-operative Pub. Ass'n., publishers; Henri Koski, editor; Jack K. Heino, business manager.

Finnish Periodicals in Minnesota Listed in Ayer's Guide for 1939.

Duluth:

Industrialisti---Evg. except Sunday---Politics..Industrial Union---est. 1917---  
Titus Kataja, editor; Workers Socialist Publishing Co., ~~24 E. Michigan~~  
~~24 E. Michigan~~ 24 Lake Avenue N.

Paivalehti---Every morning---Independent---Estab. 1900---circulation-3,389---  
Carl H. Salminen, Ed. & Publisher; 31 E. Michigan Street.

Siirtolainen ---- Wed.---Independent---1891---No circulation figures given---  
E.C. Tolonen, Ed.; Finnish Daily Publishing Co., 31 E. Michigan St.

New York Mills:

Minnesotan Uutiset---Tu., Thur. Sat.---Independent---1932---Circulation-10,500---  
Adolph Lundquist, editor; Northwestern Publishing co.

Superior: (These papers have a Minnesota circulation, therefore are included)

Tyomies ----Morn. Except Sun. & Mon.---Liberal Progressive---1903---11,726---  
Matt Wutala, Ed.; Tyomies Society, Publisher, 601 Tower Ave.

Tyovaen Osuustoimintalehti --- Thurs.---Finnish Interests---1930---14,008---  
Henry Koski, Editor; Cooperative Pub. Assn., P.O. Box 1000

(According to Ayers Guide for 1939, there are 2 Finnish periodicals in Mass.,  
6 in Michigan, 4 in Minnesota, 4 in New York, 1 in Ohio, 1 in Oregon,  
2 in Wisconsin, 3 in Canada)

1940

Mass - 1.  
Mich - 6.  
Minn - 3.  
New York - 3.  
Ohio - 1.  
Oregon - 1.  
Wis - 2.  
Canada - 3.



Duluth: Industrialisti (Finnish) Evening except Sunday

Ind. Union Est 1917 - Col 8 width 24 Depth 280 Sub 5.00 Cir 6.00  
HELIN, VITIKAINEN, Ed. WORKER'S SOC. PUBL. CO. 24 E. 15th.

✓ @ Paivalehti (Finnish) Morn. Ex Sun. Independent 1900

8-24-280-4.50-6.595

J. L. Ollila, Ed. Finnish Daily Pub Co - 312. Third St.

New York Times - Minnesota Uutiset (Fin) Sun - Mon - Sat - Ind. 1915 - 8-24-280-1.50-125  
Adolf Lundquist - Ed. N.W. Pub Co

✓ Tyomies: (Fin) Morn-Ex Sun Mon - Label No 1903-7-26-280-5.00 11,960  
(P.O. Statement - Sun)

Matt Mutala, Ed. Tyomies Soc. Pub. 601 Jones Ave

✓ Tyovaen OSUUSTOIMINTALEHTI (Fin) Mon - Fin. Int. - 1930 - 5-24-217-1.25  
14,008

Henry Koski, Ed. Corp Pub Assoc. PO Box 1000

✓ Tulchmy, Mass - Riivaaja (dly) Latro 7,000 - Po Statement  
Columnet, Mich - opas (S-wkly) Rep 6,600  
Valvoja (3ti a wk) " 7,515 - Po.

Hancock - Auerikan Suometar (3 wkly) Ind 5,487 Po & Sun  
NUORTEN YSTAVA (mo) Luth (Juv.) 890  
PAIMEN-SANOMIA (mo) " 1,035

Ironwood - AUTTAJA (wkly) Luth 1,600 - Embroidered free dist 100

Duluth (See min) ny kuller -

Brooklyn - NEW YORKIN UUTiset (3ti a wk) Ind 6,910 - Po.

ny - ETEENPAIN (dly) Sun 13,067 - Po

TYOLAISNAIEN (wkly) Mon Sat

Ind Rep

FAIRPORT HARBOR - O. AMERIKAN SANOMAT (S-wkly) - ~~Finnish~~ Ind Rep 1,319

ASTORIA, O - LANNEN SUOMETAR (S-wkly) Finnish Int. Rep - 1319

Superior - See -

Port Arthur - Canada - CANADIAN OUTSET (wly) Ind 200. 10  
Sudbury - VAPROS - (wly) Lettr - 5000  
TORONTO - VAPPA SANA (S-wly) Ind 2450

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	17

SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

Commercial Relations

Source: Consular Report of U.S. 987  
(edition, page, column)

Date of Publication 1870

Vol. 1871 No. 1523

Date Line of Story Dec. 31, 1870.

Where consulted Mpls. Public Library

Date consulted June 28, 1939.

Finnish Study.

"The Merchant Fleet."

"The merchant fleet of Finland consisted, at the end of the year 1869, of 1,536 vessels, measuring 316,953 English tons; and the number of seamen was 9,964.

The area of the Grand Duchy of Finland is 6,772,486 geographical square miles, and the population of the country was, in the year 1840, 1,445,626 persons; in the year 1865, 1,843,253 persons; in the year 1867-70, 1,698,031 persons. The diminution of the population was caused by the extremely bad harvest in the year 1867."

(This report was submitted by a commercial envoy, Raynold Frenckell, on December 31, 1870 and was received by the state department in Washington on February 11, 1871, according to the date of receipt.

The report speaks of a short harvest in 1867. The history of Finland records that as the great famine year when over 100,000 people starved to death due to a frost at mid-summer which killed all vegetation, such as grain, potatoes, etc.) A.B.

Your Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name A. Backman

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

Source: Consular Reports 120 Date of Publication Jan., 1882.  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 5 No. 15-18 Date Line of Story Aug. 21, 1881.  
Where consulted Minn. Univ. Library Date consulted June 20, 1939.

Finnish Study

"Russia's Sanitary Statistics for 1879.  
Report by Consul-General Stanton, St. Petersburg.

Report of the department of medicine for 1879 contains numerous and interesting statistics, of which the following figures are particularly noteworthy as exhibiting the sanitary condition of the Russian people in 1879 as compared with 1878.

Of 1,568,315 boys born in 1858, there were twenty years later but 760,622 living. (807,693 died) Of these 272,974 were examined by the staff physicians at the time of their enlistment. Out of this number 58,824 youths, or 21.5 per cent. were afflicted with one or the other disease. Nine thousand six hundred and eighty six, or 16.4 per cent., suffered from malformation, hereditary disease, or partial development of body and nerves; 40,957, or 69.6 per cent., suffered from neglect during infancy, and faulty treatment of previous disease; 8,181 suffered from varicose veins, syphilis, stone, cancer, dropsy, etc.

These figures exhibit the sad fact, that of 1,568,315 boys born in 1858, but 47.8 per cent. attained their twenty-first year, and but 37.6 per cent. were perfectly healthy.

The smallpox has not only increased, but has become more dangerous. In 1877 there were 10,287 cases, of which 25.6 per cent terminated fatally; in 1878, 48,341 cases, of which 26.6 per cent. died; in 1879m 89,156 cases, with a mortality of 28.4 per cent.

Truly dreadful and, if possible, more disquieting than the progress of the diphtheria, which ravages chiefly among children, is the spread of syphilis. This disease, by nature permanent, contagious, hereditary, finds in the immorality and the imperfect development of the people the most fruitful soil, and poisons not only the present, but generations to come. ....

United States Consulate General,  
St. Petersburg, August 21, 1881.

Edgar Stanton,  
Consul-General.

Your Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION (MINNESOTA) A. Backman,  
Federal Writers' Project, 415 Harvard St. S.E., Minneapolis

SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

Source: Consular Report 379 Date of Publication Sept. 1881.  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 3 No. 9-11 Date Line of Story Aug. 3, 1881  
Where consulted Minn. Univ. Library Date consulted June 20, 1939.

Finnish Study.

"Trade Between Finland and the United States."

"Report by Vice-Consul Donner of Helsingfors."

"I have to report an improvement in the commercial relationship between this country and the U. S., by the fact that several cargoes of Indian corn have been imported direct from the United States. The day before yesterday an English steamer Camden, arrived from New York direct to this port with about 70,000 bushels. As soon as the corn is more generally known there will be a larger import, on account of the cheapness of the article.

Regarding the emigration from this country to the United States, I have to report that about 1,500 people emigrated last year from the northern provinces of the country. Many of the people go to the United States with the purpose of remaining a few years, and afterwards returning with their earnings to their families. I should, however, say that the majority remains in the United States and after some time write to their relations and friends to join them.

Many of the people going out are landed proprietors and to some extent well off. The Finland law allows every one to emigrate or leave the country whenever he pleases.

The emigration of this year will much depend upon the harvest. If there is a poor harvest, the emigration is always larger. During the first half of this year there have emigrated to America from the county of Wasa 658 men, 75 women, and 14 children under twelve years of age."

United States Consulate,  
Helsingfors, Aug. 3, 1881.

Herman Donner,  
Vice-Consul.

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

Source: Consular Reports

(edition, page, column)

Date of Publication 1882

Vol. 7

No. 23

Date Line of Story July 1, 1882.

Where consulted University Library

Date consulted June 23, 1939.

Finnish Study

".....Finland exported, in 1861, 5,000,000 pounds of butter; in 1870, ten million pounds, and in the last two years 12,000,000 to 13,000,000 pounds. The number of cows is about the same as in this country (Denmark), and yet in 1870 more butter was exported from Finland than from here; but the home consumption is, however, very small, as the Finnish peasant lives very frugally, and only makes use of butter on holidays, or during hay-harvest....."

United States Consulate,  
Copenhagen, July 1, 1882."

"Henry B. Ryder,  
Counsul.

Your Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name A. Backman

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

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Source: Consular Report on Commercial Relations Date of Publication Sept. 1873.  
(edition, (page) column)  
(988)  
Vol. 1873 No. 1611 Date Line of Story Sept. 24, 1873.  
Where consulted Mpls. Pub. Library Date consulted June 28, 1939.

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Finnish Study

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An interesting paragraph on "Class Distinctions" appears in this Consular Report, dated, "Stockholm, Sept. 24, 1873 received Nov. 14, 1873" (page 988) I quote a few lines: " ..... It would be singular, perhaps, if a person should rise to the rank of a prime minister with an un noble name. If we go among the peasantry we shall find that even they are a sort of aristocracy as compared with a class below them. What is technically the peasant is, in Swedish, "bonde," and implies one of the class of countrymen who own and cultivate moderate-sized farms. Below him in social rank is the "Torpar," or cottager, a man with family, who hires a house and small patch of land, which he pays for by so many days' work every week.

..... an out-door hired man is called a <sup>(1)</sup>"drang." A servant girl of lowest rank, who does some out-door work, is a <sup>(2)</sup>piga." ....."

(This is referring to Norway and Sweden. The term "torpar" may have originated from Norway or Sweden and later coined into Finnish "torppari." The definition is correct. The term, or name "drang," an out-door hired-man, in Finnish is "Renki," when pronounced sounds almost alike. In this case the definition is also correct, and the possibility is that this term also originated from the Scandinavian countries.

(2)

In the case of "piga" its perfect. The Finn says "piika," meaning a servant girl doing work inside the house and also in the dairy. This term is used today in many Finnish farming localities in this country.) A.B.

Your Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name A. Backman

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Federal Writers' Project, 415 Harvard St. S.E., Minneapolis

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415 Humboldt Ave No  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Index of Volume 1 of "Report of Immigration Commission"

Wm P Dillingham Chairman

Printed in 1911 Washington Government Printing Office.

Finland

Population 236,237,266,267. Number of Swedes in Finland 271. Illiteracy in Finland 177. Natives of Finland in U S 134,623. Children of immigrants from Finland employed 320-333, 336-347, 627-636. Age classification 463-467. Earnings 366-403. Literacy 438-447. Definition of Finnish 236-238. Number of immigrants admitted to U S 97,171,214,215,238,625. Destination 106-109. Previous residence in U S 104. Money on landing 103. Finnish population in Europe 214,236,237,238. Causes of emigration 187. Number of persons and households studied 316-320,640-642. Employes studied 320-333,336-347,627-636. Age classification 463-467. Age at time of coming and effect on English speaking and literacy 446,447, 481-484. Occupation abroad 100,101,172,173, 357-363. Length of residence 116, 349-356,636,637. Residence in U S effect on English speaking literacy 445,446,461,463,477-481. Occupation 117,118, 363-366. Wages and earnings 366-403,407-411. Family income 412-417. Literacy 99,175,438-447. English speaking 474-484. Citizenship 484-489. In labor Unions 417-418. Conjugal conditions 447-460. Location of wife 459,460. Home ownership 467-470. Rent payments 419-422. Size of apartments and household 426-440. Persons per room 430-438. Boarders and lodgers 422-426. Return movement 112-118,180,182. Visits abroad 461-463. Number on Whiting Indiana 528.

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Minneapolis, Minn.

"Reports of Immigration Commission"

Wm P Dillingham Chairman

*Printed in 1911 Washington government Printing Office*

Vol 1.

Page 238

\*\*\*\*"Finnish emigrants to the United States are all, so far as known, western or true Finns. Immigration has been rapid in recent years. In the thirteen years from 1893 to 1905 Finland lost 128,000 by emigration. Nearly all of these came to America--in 1905, all but 37. In the twelve years 1899-1910, ~~151,774~~ 151,774 Finnish immigrants were admitted to the United States, the race ranking fourteenth in that regard among all races or peoples. The rate per 1,000 of the population of western Finns arriving per year (4 in 1907) was only half that of Italians, Irish, or Norwegians, and less than one-fourth that of Hebrews or Slovaks."\*\*\*\*

Page 267

" Table 16 Races or people of Finland 1900 "

Finns	2,352,990
Swedes	349,733
Russians	5,939
Germanä	1,925
Lapps	1,336
Others	639
Total	2,712,562 (1

Page 177

Finland in 1900 according to "Statistise Arsbok 1907" page 32 had 1.2 percent illiteracy among all people 15 years of age or over, or people who could not read nor write. The United States at the same time had 10.7 percent of all of its population of ten years of age or over illiterate according to the 12th Census of the United States.

Page 134

In 1900 there were 62,461 foriegn born Finnish people in the United States.



Page 623

Pacific coast and Rocky mountain States had the following number of foreign born Finnish people in 1900. Arizona 32, California 2,763, Colorado 844, Idaho 292, Montana 2,103, ~~XXXX~~ Nevada 51, New Mexico 29, Oregon 2,131, Utah 734, Washington 2,732, and Wyoming 1,220. These States had 20.39 percent of total foreign born Finnish population or a total of 12,931.

Page 334

At the time in 1910 "The Finns are employed in any considerable number only in copper mining and smelting and in iron-ore mining on the Minnesota and Michigan ranges".

Page 337

Of a general study made of 50 Finns in 1910, 5 were employed in railroad car building and repairing, 3 in cutlery and tool manufacturing, 4 in electric supply manufacturing, 16 in foundry and machine shops, 3 in hosiery and knit goods manufacturing, 1 in locomotive building and repairing, 15 in paper and wood pulp industry and 3 in the sewing machine industry.

Page 628

In the Pacific coast and Rocky mountain States of a study made of 804 foreign born Finnish workers, 2 were employed in agriculture, 12 in Fish canneries, 2 in cement manufacturing, 150 in lumbering, 225 in coal mining, 291 in metal mining, 6 in powder manufacture, 31 on electric railways, 56 on steam railways, 1 in shoe industry and 28 in smelting.

Page 357

Out of 121 immigrant Finns over 16 years of age studied by the Immigration Commission, 3 had had no occupation in the old country, 68 had worked for wages, 36 had worked receiving no wages, and 14 had worked for profit.

Page 358

Of the 121 under study 2.5 percent had no occupation in Finland, 30.6 percent had been farm laborers and received wages, 9.9 had been general laborers working for wages, and 15.7 percent had had other occupations for which

they had received wages. 29.8 percent had worked on farms for keep receiving no wages, 10.7 percent had been farmers and .8 percent had had other profitable occupations.

Page 464

Out of 3,641 foreign born immigrant Finns in industry under study none were under 14 years of age, 2.8 percent were from 14 to 19, 28.3 percent were from 20 to 24, 29.0 percent were from 25 to 29, 17.8 percent were 30 to 34, 16.1 were 35 to 44, 4.7 percent were 45 to 54 and 1.3 percent were over 55 years of age.

Page 367

In a study of 3,334 foreign born Finnish immigrant industrial workers made by the Immigration Commission, they received an average wage of \$13.27 per week wages, while at the same time 56 American born Finns under study earned on the average of \$12.48.

Page 438

In a study made of 3,603 foreign born Finnish working <sup>people</sup> ~~men~~ by the Dillingham Immigration Commission, 3,569 were able to read, 3,505 were able to read and write. Thus 99.1 percent were able to read and 97.3 percent could both read and write. Out of the 62 nationalities studied the Finnish people were one of the seven with over 99.0 percent literacy which in order of nationalities showed the following: Swedish 99.8, Swiss and Norwegian 99.7, Scotch 99.6, Danish 99.2, Finnish 99.1 and Canadian excluding the French Canadians 90.0.

Page 436

" Of the households of the several foreign races those the heads of which were Croatian, Finnish, Mexican, Russian, Slovak, or Slovenian are the only ones 5 percent of which have 6 or more persons per sleeping room;"

Page 97

From 1899 to 1910 inclusive 151,774 immigrant Finns had been admitted to



the United States, 100,289 were males and 51,485 females, 66.1 and 33.9 percent respectively.

Page 172

The different occupations of the 136,038 immigrant Finns admitted from 1899 to 1909 inclusive were as follows: 314 professionals, 6,380 skilled laborers, 5,604 farm laborers, 1,520 farmers, 68,243 common laborers, 27,581 servants, 414 miscellaneous trades and 25,982 with no occupations such as minor children housewives etc.

Page 180

In 1907, 14,860 Finnish immigrants came to this country and 3,463 returned to the old country.

Page 237

The Finno-Ugric population of the Russian Empire, European and Asiatic in ~~1897~~ 1897 according to the table appearing in Dillinghams report, numbered 5,870,977. In it they are divided into the Western, Eastern, Northern and Magyar subdivisions as follows:

The western Finnic peoples, that is, the Finns of Finland proper and those farthest west such as Karelians, Esthonians, Ijores and Chudes numbered 3,746,460. The eastern Finnic peoples numbered 2,105,873. To these belong the Cheremiss, Mordvinians, Votyaks, Permyaks, Zyrians, Voguls and Ostyaks. The northern Finnic peoples numbered 17,683 to which belong the Lapps and Samoyeds and the Magyars numbering 961 who also belong to the Finno-Ugric stock.

Page 625

According to a table appearing in the report a total number of 117,311 Finnish immigrants arrived into the United States between the years 1901 and 1910.

Page 106 to 109

"Table 17 Destination of Immigrants admitted to United States, fiscal years 1899 to 1910 inclusive, by race of people", shows the following distribution



of Finns in the United States. Of a total number of 151,774 admitted into the United States between 1899 and 1910 their destination was as follows: Alabama 41, Alaska 151, Arizona 117, Arkansas 9, California 2,737, Colorado 872, Connecticut 884, Delaware 3, District of Columbia 26, Florida 132, Georgia 58, Hawaii 18, Idaho 271, Illinois 3,498, Indiana 276, Iowa 121, Kansas 23, Kentucky 2, Louisiana 186, Maine 1,203, Maryland 97, Massachusetts 25,153, Michigan 40,915, Minnesota 22,799, Mississippi 54, Missouri 124, Montana 1,691, Nebraska 118, Nevada 64, New Hampshire 1,107, New Jersey 1,907, New Mexico 73, New York 20,362, North Carolina 24, North Dakota 532, Ohio 6,224, Oklahoma 14, Oregon 2,211, Pennsylvania 4,666, Porto Rico none, Rhode Island 341, South Carolina 110, South Dakota 1,064, Tennessee 26, Texas ~~196~~ 196, Utah 910, Vermont 373, Virginia 62, Washington 4,165, West Virginia 118, Wisconsin 4,038, and Wyoming 1,597.

Page 104

Of the 151,774 immigrant Finns who came between the years of 1899 and 1910, 17,189 or 11.3 percent were coming to America the second time.

Page 105

The total immigrants admitted into the United States between 1899 and 1910 inclusive numbered 9,555,673. Fourteen States and Hawaii each received more than 1.0 percent of the total, their standing starting from the highest being, New York 31.8, Pennsylvania 18.2, Illinois 7.6, Massachusetts 7.5, New Jersey 5.1, Ohio 4.3, Connecticut 2.6, California 2.5, Michigan 2.4, Minnesota (182,558) 1.9, Wisconsin 1.6, Missouri 1.3, Washington 1.2, Rhode Island 1.0, Hawaii 1.0. All the other States combined received 10.5 percent of the total.

Page 103

Of the 151,774 Finnish immigrants that arrived between the years 1899 and 1910, 128,059 showed money to the amount of \$2,903,872 or \$19.13 per capita for the total immigration and \$22.68 per capita for the 128,059 showing money. Of the latter group 13.1 percent showed over \$30.00 and 9.2 percent showed over \$50.00. *77.7 percent showed less than \$30.00*

Page 185 to 192

A treatise on the causes of immigration ~~are~~ is give at length. According to it the chief cause of emigration from Europe is the advice given by friends and relatives who were already residing in the new world. And a desire for a better life in America. Political oppression is given as a secondary cause the economic conditions of Europe being the primary f actor. In spite of the fact that a number of countries had laws against the recruiting of immigrants the steamship companies had their agents who operated secretly where they could not do so in the open. They were undoubtedly a large and important factor with their advertising to get the people to emigrate. Direct recruiting for industry as was done to some degree is held as a small factor in bringing immigrants to this country by the commission.

Page 412

Out of 137 foriegn born families of Finnish nationality studied by the Immigration commission they had an average income annually of \$ 781.00. 2.2 percent received less than \$300.00, 6.6 less than \$500.00, 43.8 less than \$750.00, 90.5 less than \$1,000.00 and 95.6 percent less than \$1,500.00. Only 3.4 percent of the 137 families received more than \$1,500.00 in annual income.

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"Report of Immigration Commission" Vol 2  
Wm P Dillingham Chairman.  
Printed by Washinton Government Printing Office 1911

Page 151

Out of a total of 81 foriegn born Finnish immigrants studied 81.5 percent of them could speak english in 1910.

Page 30

According to a chart presented the children of the Finnish foriegn born population shows a lesser percentage of retarded pupils than the average among native born Americans. While the figure for native born white Children in 37 cities is 34.1 percent, in the same cities only 27.7 percent of the children of Finnish foriegn born parantage are retarded or "older than the normal age for their grade".

Page 589

" In the earlier days of the Republic the emigration movement from Europe to the United States was small. It is estimated that from 1784 to 1794 the yearly immigration averaged about 4,000 and that from 1794 to 1810 it was not more than 6,000. Unfriendly relations existing between the United Syates and Great Britain greatly decreased the movement from 1810 to 1816, but soon after the declaration of peace an unprecedented emigration from Europe to the United States occurred. It is estimated that no less than 20,000 persons arrived in 1817.a. It was this great and sudden increase coming upon a class of vessels totally unfit for such service under normal conditions and completely unrestricted by any law on this side, that was responsible for the indescribable suffering and mortality!\*\*\*\*



Page 589

"Steerage Legislation, 1819 to 1908"

\*\*\*\* The period of the sailing vessel, 1819 to 1855

The period of transition from sail to steam, 1856 to 1872

The period of the steamship, 1873 to 1908. \*\*\*\*

United States Consular reports Vol 22

Page 9

In a chart appearing in the United States Consular reports for the year 1886 ending for the fiscal year June 30th a total of 491 Finnish immigrants from Finland arrived in the United States. 143 of them were females, 348 males. Forty were under 15 years of age, 397 between 15 and 40 and 54 over forty years. At the same time 17,309 people came from other provinces of Russia and 3,939 from Poland.

Page 21

According to a chart appearing in the report, nine men whose profession was mining came to this country from Finland between the years 1879 to 1886

Page 25

A sail maker came from Finland in 1879. Between the years 1882 and 1885 nineteen spinners arrived from Finland to this country.

Page 29

A chart appearing in the report indicates that Finnish immigrant farmers who came from Finland during the 14 years from 1873 to 1886 numbered each year as follows: 1873 six, 1874 none, 1875 none, 1876 one, 1877 three, 1878 one, 1879 two, 1880 twenty six, 1881 fifteen, 1882 sixteen, 1883 forty one, 1884 thirty, 1885 twenty five and 1886 twenty six.

During the same years the following number of laborers came, 1873 forty seven, 1874 sixty eight, 1875 four, 1876 two, 1877 six, 1878 none, 1879 none, 1880 one hundred two, 1881 seventy one, 1882 three hundred ten, 1883 three hundred eighty seven, 1884 two hundred seventy nine, 1885 two hundred forty eight and 1886 two hundred seventy one.

" Immigration from Europe into the United States 1820-1885"

1820,-----7,691	1869,-----335,364
1821,-----5,935	1870,-----288,591
1822,-----4,418	1871,-----296,754
1823,-----4,016	1872,-----381,459
1824,-----4,965	1873,-----369,486
1825,-----8,543	1874,-----208,059
1826,-----9,751	1875,-----144,178
1827,-----16,719	1876,-----114,548
1828,-----24,729	1877,-----94,791
1829,-----12,523	1878,-----111,382
1830,-----7,217	1879,-----184,211
1831,-----13,039	1880,-----442,096
	1881,-----600,331
	1882,-----603,086
	1883,-----498,497
	1884,-----407,606
	1885,-----327,202

1832,-----34,193  
 1833,-----29,111  
 1834,-----57,529  
 1835,-----41,987  
 1836,-----70,465  
 1837,-----71,039  
 1838,-----34,070  
 1839,-----64,148  
 1840,-----80,126  
 1841,-----76,216  
 1842,-----99,946  
 1843,-----49,013 Jan 1st to Sept 30th

1844,-----74,745  
 1845,-----109,503  
 1846,-----146,315  
 1847,-----229,117  
 1848,-----218,025  
 1849,-----286,501

1850,-----250,939  
 1850,-----57,384 These were omitted in the graph  
 appearing in the book.

1851,-----369,510  
 1852,-----362,484  
 1853,-----361,576  
 1845,-----405,542  
 1855,-----187,729  
 1856,-----186,083  
 1857,-----216,224  
 1858,-----111,354  
 1859,-----110,949  
 1860,-----141,206  
 1861,-----81,200  
 1862,-----83,710  
 1863,-----163,733

1864,-----185,233 First immigrant Finns come to America

1865,-----214,048  
 1866,-----278,916  
 1867,-----283,751

1868,-----265,853 Up to this year alien passengers also included in compilation

Figures between these  
 two lines are for fiscal  
 years ending Sept 30th.

All other figures not specifically indicated are for a calendar year.



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"Reports of Consuls of the U S" Vol 23

Page 453.

"Norwegian Fisheries in 1887"

"Report of Consul Gade"

Consul F G Gade reports the estimated income of the net fisher for cod for the season of 1887 as \$42.00. The income for previous years had been greater, \$60.30 in 1886 and \$47.50 in 1885. The catch as well as the price is reported poor for the year 1887. Herring catch at Stavanger had been a good one but the price was so low that some of the catch was used for "manure" on the fields.

"Reports of Consuls of U S" Vol 25 1888

Page 70 to 82.

Consul General Anderson gives a lengthy description of the Lofoten Fisheries.

In it is described the catching and harpooning of the whale, the gear used in catching of cod and a general description of the region. In connection with the report he says that <sup>1848</sup> ~~In 1848~~ there were 500 fishermen in the Lofoten waters and that in 1887 the number had grown to "fully 30,000" (P.75)

According to Consul General Anderson the income of the fishermen averaged about \$50.00 for the season of "three months of hard work, always exposed to great danger". According to his description three kinds of tackle were used to fish for cod, nets, trimmer lines and hand lines. The trimmer lines are from 500 to 700 feet long anchored at both ends by rocks with wooden bouys to keep them on the surface. The boats were often rowed by the men as much as twenty four miles in a single day.

"Reports of Consuls of U S" Vol 22 ~~XXXX~~ 1887

This report contains a statistical analysis of "Emigration from Europe "  
From Page 1 to Page 282.

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

Consular Reports on  
Source: Commercial Relations 580 Date of Publication 1868.  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. Yr. 1868 No. 1382 Date Line of Story Mar. 31, 1868.  
Where consulted Mpls. Pub. Library Date consulted July 6, 1939.

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Finnish Study.

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Moscow. - Eugene Schuyler, Consul.  
March 31, 1868.

"In this my first annual report I am enabled to present a tabular view of the commerce of Russia for the year 1867 taken from the official figures of the customs house. ....

Commerce with Finland: -

Year.	Exports	Imports.
1857 (Roubles)	4,322,563	(Roubles) 564,022
1858 - - - - -	2,779,019	- - - - - 584,198
1859 - - - - -	3,273,932	- - - - - -1,742,966
1860 - - - - -	2,847,791	- - - - - -2,288,467
1861 - - - - -	3,861,564	- - - - - -2,221,491
1862 - - - - -	7,150,934	- - - - - -2,762,120
1863 - - - - -	6,048,496	- - - - - -3,006,281
1864 - - - - -	6,304,031	- - - - - -3,518,161
1865 - - - - -	6,895,522	- - - - - -2,336,504
1866 - - - - -	2,211,287	- - - - - -2,397,603
1867 - - - - -	-12,547,980	- - - - - -4,054,611

The values in roubles of the chief exports to Finland during 1867 were: cereals, 9,798,139; woven fabrics, 615,964.

The values in roubles of the imports from Finland for 1867 were: Metals, not worked, 794,196; linen fabrics, 205,837; cattle, 175,563; cotton fabrics, 1,183,888."

Your Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name A. Backman

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION (MINNESOTA)  
Federal Writers' Project, 415 Harvard St. S.E., Minneapolis CVM



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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

Reports of U.S. Consul  
Source: on Commercial Relations 438 Date of Publication 1867  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. Doc. #S. 41-1867 No. 1340 Date Line of Story Nov. 2, 1867.  
Where consulted Mpls. Pub. Library Date consulted July 5, 1939.

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Finnish Study.

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By Charles A. Perkins, Consul  
Stockholm, Nov. 2, 1867.

"I have the honor to report to the department the loss, by frost and wet, of the entire crops in Sweden north of Stockholm, very particularly in Nordland and Finland. .... The government of Sweden is much opposed to emigration, and this ill-favored class is greatly disposed to it. A \*"décampement général" would take place, if means were provided them. Large numbers crowd my office daily for information." ..  
.....

Your Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name A. Backman

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

Commercial Relations Report  
Source: on Foreign Nations 1067 Date of Publication 1871  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. Doc. #S4.1-1871 #1523 Date Line of Story \_\_\_\_\_  
Where consulted Mpls. Public Library Date consulted July 21, 1939

Sweden and Norway

The reason for my reviewing this chapter of the consular report is that it brings forth clearly the conditions under which passengers traveling by steamboat out of Norway in 1870. Majority of the Finns traveled in these boats to England, and thence to U.S.A.

The article says in part..." There are separate eating rooms for officers and passengers.....furnish meals to passengers at a fixed price, and to the officers and crew at 1 riksdaler, (26 cents each per day, the latter paid by the company....."

Profits

"Most of the steamers give a dividend of 15 per cent; yet there are companies the dividend of which is only 10 per cent."

The article speaks of later model steamers with "fuel-saving machinery, have been able to declare a dividend of 25 per cent....."

C. C. Andrews  
Consular"

Your Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name Alfred Bockman

SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

U.S. Consular Reports on  
Source: Commercial Relations 314 Date of Publication 1896  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 56 #3423 Date Line of Story June 30, 1894  
Where consulted Mpls. Pub. Library Date consulted July 25, 1939

Declared Exports, 1894.

Helsingfors, Finland.

Printed Books - - - - -	\$460.15
Ethnographical articles - - - - -	289.75
Salt Fish - - - - -	388.12
Total	<u>\$1138.02</u>

Abo, Finland, 1895

Printed Books - - - - - \$128.94

Helsingfors, Finland

Printed Books - - - - -	\$169.98
Wood Paper - - - - -	320.38
Total	<u>\$490.36</u>

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

U.S. Consular Reports on  
Source: Commercial Relations 139 Date of Publication 1892  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 34-1891-92 #3109 Date Line of Story June 30, 1892  
Where consulted Mpls. Public Library Date consulted July 25, 1939

"Declared exports from consular agency of Abo to the  
United States during the year ending June 30, 1892.

Articles	Value
Unbleached sulphite pulp - - - - -	\$903.41
One canceling press - - - - -	24.13
Bleached and unbleached wood pulp - - - -	<u>1,533.31</u>
Total	\$2,460.85

Abo, Finland,  
June 30, 1892.

Victor Forseline,  
Consular Agent.

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

U.S. Consular Reports on  
Source: Commercial Relations 388 Date of Publication July, 1896  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 65 and Vol. 2 #323 Date Line of Story \_\_\_\_\_  
Where consulted Mpls. Public Library Date consulted July 26, 1939

FINLAND

"The trade of Finland is in a progressive state especially since the railways are being extended to all principle sea ports and inland places. Next year, the Diet will ask the Government to extend the railway to Tornea, as being the most northerly town and on the frontier of Sweden. When this is done, Finland will have direct railway communication with Sweden, as the Swedish Government intends to extend its railway to Hoporanda, the most northerly town in Sweden and opposite to Tornea, on the Finnish frontier.

The harvest in this country is expected to be a good one this year, there having been exceedingly favorable weather for all crops."

Exports Declared for the U.S. for the year ending June 30, 1896.

HELSINGFORS

Books, printed - - - - -	\$1,072.32
Meat, smoked reindeer - - - - -	115.70
Total	<u>1,188.02</u>

Helsingfors, July, 1896

Herman Donner,  
Acting Consul.

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

U.S. Consular Reports on  
Source: Commercial Relations 841 Date of Publication 1897  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 2 #Doc. S4.1 Date Line of Story Oct. 15, 1897  
Where consulted Mpls. Pub. Library Date consulted July 26, 1939

Emigration

"Emigration from this consular district from January 1, 1897, to July 1, 1897, to the United States, has been as follows:

From Christiania - - - -	1,545
" Christianssand - -	790
Total	<u>2,335</u>

If each immigrant were compelled to produce to the nearest American Consul, before he was allowed to embark, a certificate from a local officer in his district (the lensmand would be the proper person here) showing him to be a proper person for admission to the United States, the matter of emigration would be easy to control. Emigrants from this country, however, are, as a rule, of the desirable class."

Christiania, Oct. 15, 1897. Henry Bordewich,  
Consul.

(A large number of Finns, residing in northern Norway, emigrated to this country about 40-45 years ago from the town of Tornea in northern Finland bordering Norway. Thousands arrived at Calumet and Hancock, Michigan to work in the copper mines and soon later moved to Cokato and other parts of Minnesota and the Dakotas, History of immigration to northern Michigan shows that these Finns came mostly from the territory of Haaparanda, Norway, a city directly across the border from Tornea, Finland. A.B.)

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

U.S. Consular Reports on  
Source: Commercial Relations 730 Date of Publication Aug. 17, 1897  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 2, Doc. 4.1 House of Rep. Date Line of Story 1897  
Where consulted Mpls. Public Library Date consulted July 26, 1939

FINLAND

"I sent statistics as to imports and exports of Finland during the years 1895 and 1896, and also a statement of the transactions of the Bank of Finland for the year 1896.

The crops this year are expected to be good, as also the prices for the exports of timber and butter which are the \*principal articles of export, so that the prospects of this country are satisfactory."

Helsingfors,  
August 17, 1897

Herman Donner,  
Vice and Acting Consul.

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(\*copied correctly A.B.)



SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

U.S. Consular Reports on  
Source: Commercial Relations Date of Publication 1900  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 2 #97 House Document Date Line of Story Mar. 21, 1900  
Where consulted Mpls. Public Library Date consulted July 27, 1939

EMIGRATION

"During the year, 16,930 emigrants left Sweden, of whom 80 per cent, or 13,744, embarked at this port, (Gothenburg). This last number includes 66 Finns, 30 Norwegians, 10 Danes, 19 from other European states, and 4,931 from 'foreign continents.'"

Robert S. S. Bergh,  
Consul.

Gothenburg, March 21, 1900

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

U. S. Foreign Commerce Bureau

Source: Commercial Relations Consular Report, p. 316 Date of Publication 1902  
(edition, page, column)

Vol. 1 # Doc. S4.1 Date Line of Story Oct. 1, 1902

Where consulted Mpls. Public Library Date consulted July 27, 1939

IMMIGRATION PROJECTS.

"Negotiations were carried on in respect to four proposed colonies during 1901, and definite proposals have been submitted on lines suggested by the chief commissioner of lands and works. They were:

For Malcolm Island, for a colony of Finns--a grant of 80 acres to each colonist on terms of seven years' occupation and improvement....

FINLAND SETTLERS

An agreement with the Kalevan Kansan Colonization Company, Limited, looking to the settlement of Malcolm Island with a colony of Finlanders, was entered into November last by the British Columbia provincial government. This island comprises 28,000 acres of land. The terms of agreement provide that the company shall place a settler, or head of a family, on each 80 acres; that improvements to the aggregate value of \$2.50 per acre shall be made before a crown grant to the 28,000 acres is issued; that in lieu of taxes for a term of seven years, the company shall construct all public improvements required by settlers, other than schools, and that a crown grant shall not be issued until after the expiration of seven years from the time the chief commissioner is satisfied that the required number of settlers have been placed on the island and all other terms and conditions complied with. It is also stipulated that the settlers shall agree to take steps immediately to become British subjects; that they will conform to all requirements of the law without reference to any religious or political doctrines they may hold; that they will consent to bear arms in defence of the country, and that their children shall be educated in the public schools, in the English language. During the present summer, the company has placed a small number of settlers on the island, and this number will probably be increased. Should the plan of settlement work out successfully, the company will be granted a larger area under like terms and conditions."

Victoria, B. C.  
Oct. 1, 1902

Abraham E. Smith  
Consul.

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

U.S. Consular Reports on  
Source: Commercial Relations 603 Date of Publication 1901  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 2 #H.R. Doc. #320 Date Line of Story Nov. 13, 1901  
Where consulted Mpls. Public Library Date consulted July 28, 1939

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Development of Water Power

The Russian Government has chartered a company which proposes to utilize the wonderful rapids at \*Imatra, in Finland, as well as those on \*\*Vnoksa, Marova and Volkov rivers, all within 106 miles of St. Petersburg, for the purpose of generating and transmitting electricity to the Russian Capital. The Imatro rapids resemble those at Niagara, and competent engineers claim they are capable of furnishing sufficient power to light and heat St. Petersburg, and run its manufactories, as well as its extensive system of tram cars. The power is to come from three separate sources with interconnections, which will render failure of supply impossible.

The fact that steam power in Russia (also Finland) is produced by coal imported from England makes it a luxury, hence the proposition to utilize this gigantic water power and transmit it in the form of electrical energy to St. Petersburg is an attractive one, but financial condition of Russia is such as to make it impossible for her capitalists unaided to finance and successfully carry out such an enterprise."

W. R. Holloway,  
Consul-General

St. Petersburg, November 13, 1901.

Your Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name Alfred Bockman



SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

U.S. Consular Reports on  
Source: Commercial Relations 566 Date of Publication 1904  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 1 Doc. #722 Date Line of Story July 1, 1903  
Where consulted Mpls. Public Library Date consulted July 31, 1939

FINLAND

(From U.S. Nice-Consul Ek, Helsingfors, Finland.)

The Bad Harvest and Consequent Distress.

"The distress caused by the bad harvest that threatened the population in those famine districts has required vigorous intervention for relief to sufferers not only by the Government, but also by the public in general. This relief was organized in a most praiseworthy manner by the central committee of Helsingfors.

Even foreign countries have done much to help the sufferers, and the people of Finland will certainly remember with heartfelt thanks that in their great distress the people of the United States have sent them help and support. The Finnish people will never forget the visit last winter of the well-known American philanthropist, Doctor Klopsch, and the magnificent gifts he brought.....

Co-operative Societies

A new law concerning the regulation of so-called "co-operative societies" was promulgated in 1901, thus presenting the country a new form of association for economical purposes. During 1902 several of such co-operative societies were registered, most of them carrying on dairy business."

Helsingfors, Finland,  
July 1, 1903

Victor Ek,  
Vice-Consul.

Your Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name Alfred Bockman

SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

U.S. Consular Reports on  
Source: Commercial Relations 280 Date of Publication 1905  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. House Documents Vol. 120 #481 Date Line of Story July 18, 1904  
Where consulted Mpls. Public Library Date consulted July 31, 1939

FINLAND

Commercial And Financial Conditions.  
by Victor Ek, Vice Consul, Helsingfors.

"The Bank of Finland, which lowered the rate of discount in February, 1902, made a further reduction in the rate of interest on loans in May, 1903. Some large failures have brought heavy losses, which, however, luckily have been only of local importance.

.....The poor harvest in 1902 contributed.....to the depression in trade....."

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SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

Source: Siirtolainen Wkly 7 3 Date of Publication Feb. 9, 1917  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 27 No. 12 Date Line of story \_\_\_\_\_  
Where consulted Minn. Hist. Lib. Date consulted Oct. 12, 1938

Menahga, Minn.

"One of our early pioneers of Menahga, Mrs. Sophia Etteri, who arrived here in 1887 from Helsingfors, Finland, died here recently. She has a son, Rafael. Mr. Etteri, the father, died here in 1897.

(The article also states that the Etteris were one of the first Finns to settle in this locality.)

Your item No. 33 Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your name Alfred Backman

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION (Minnesota)  
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Minneapolis Tribune (morning)  
Tuesday, January 13, 1874  
Page 3, Col. 4

A large number of Fin~~land~~landers are quartered in the Brainerd Reception House. They were brought over by the Allen Line of steamships, whose agent accompanied them to Minnesota, remaining several weeks in order that he might know ~~their~~ for himself their impressions of the country. They are all satisfied and have joined in a certificate to that effect. This party represents a large number who will follow in the spring. They have determined to settle on the Northern Pacific, and their leading men are now hunting a proper location. Becker County, though, will probably secure them. Meantime they have comfortable quarters in the Brainerd Reception House without charge, except for the bare cost of ~~the~~ provisions.

Duluth, Minnesota  
Socio Ethnic  
Harold E. Rajala  
January 26, 1940

Material translated from "Amerikan Suomalaisten  
Historia ja Elämäkertoja," Vol. 2, by Solomon  
Ilmonen; Published at Jyväskylä, Finland, 1923.

The following is a translation of the chapter, "Siirtolaisuuden Lamauskausi" ["Depression Period of Migration"], starting on page 36 and continuing to page 38.

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"In the fall of 1873 the United States was hit by a general and a very serious business disturbance or panic. One of the largest banks of New York became bankrupt which caused many other banks to close their doors or at least to suspend business for a short time. Banks and business firms became bankrupt, other banks refused to give credit and savings withdrawals were limited. Work was stopped at mines; factories were closed and the number of unemployed grew at an alarming rate; their number was estimated at a million. This sort of bad times lasted for three years in the United States and life did not pick up to its former stand until around 1880. In Canada, strangely enough, existed a better employment condition. It resulted principally from the gigantic Canadian Pacific railroad job which the government was supporting. Around 1875 many Finns too were earning good wages in Canada although other living conditions were not so good especially on the railroad in the far wilderness. From these times resulted the term 'Canada Time', which is usually used to express good times.

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"When emigrants were gathered and men were urged to go to America, conditions there were pictured to them as being quite golden hued. Work was to be gotten anywhere and wages were very high. And when the dollars were saved and changed to Finland money it would be increased to a sizeable sum. In great hopes the Finns left the central Northland [Finland], the far north and from Torniojoki to America to



carve the gold with their carving knives. Those who arrived earlier were able to earn a little but those arriving in the fall did see what bad times mean in America, immediatly. Those who did not have savings were forced to work for subsistence wages. Old country relatives who were left behind waited with great hopes for letters with money from America; but got instead, already in the fall of 1873 and particularly the following winter, poignant letters giving knowledge of unemployment and poverty which had befallen many emigrants. Naturally that kind of letters had their effect, and everyone who had planned to go to America in the summer of 1874 postponed their trip until a later time. So then in the summer of 1874 not many Finns travelled to America. The same bad times caused a decrease in emigration from other lands too. United States statistics show that in 1873, 449,483 persons moved into the land and in 1874 immigration decreased to below a hundred thousand persons. To some extent in 1876 and 1877 Finns started to arrive in America, especially from Torniojoki. Most of them went to the copper island [Michigan copper region] where the times never did get very bad. In 1878 the working conditions improved to some extent and emigration was revived. In 1879 it was already progressing at a considerable rate especially at Kuusamo and at other places in the far north. But actually it again came into its own in the 1880's when central and southern Northland [Finland] people began moving to America in larger numbers than formerly. "

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Duluth, Minnesota  
Socio Ethnic  
Harold E. Rajala  
February 6, 1940

Material translated from "Amerikan Suomalaisten  
Historia ja Elämäkertoja," Vol. 2, by Solomon  
Ilmonen; Published at Jyväskylä, Finland, 1923.

The following is a translation of the chapter, "Eri Paikka-  
kuntien ja Pitäjien Ensimmäiset Amerikkaan Tulijat" ["First  
Comers to America from Different Localities and Parishes"],  
starting on page 38 and continuing to page 54.

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"When looking further back into the biographies of the earliest emigrants we notice that a large number of them have moved to America from or by way of Norway. Nevertheless, of that number only a small part were born in Norway, a large part of them have seen their first days on Torniojoki [Tornio River] or are originally from Finland. As is commonly known the Finns had a habit of going fishing on the Norwegian shores and on these trips many were left in Ruija [Norwegian Lapland], from where, later, they continued their trip to America. It is known, however, that in the earliest emigrating groups were a number of Finns who were born and raised in Norway.

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"The first Finnish immigrants have come to America from Vesisaari [Vadso] Norway, namely: Peter Lahti, Matti [Mathew] Niemi, Antti [Andrew] Rovonen family, the younger Matti [Mathew] Niemi, Mikko [Michael] Maata and the Nulu brothers, single men. At the same time another group of Finns coming to America left Hammerfest [Norway] in the summer of 1864, in which trip came only the Matti [Mathew] Tiiperi family of five persons and two single men. Still other Norwegian Finns arrived in America that same year, some coming to Hancock, Michigan and some to Chicago and from there to Minnesota. Vesisaarians who also came to America earlier: Olavi [Olof] Anderson, Matti [Mathew] Maunu, Johan Vittaniemi, Herman Holm, Isak

Stein, Johan <sup>Barma</sup> and Johan <sup>Keränen</sup>.

"The Alten [Altengaard] and Kaavuono [Kaafjord] [Norway] Finnish settlements are the oldest and best established. It is for that reason that Finns coming from there were born and raised in Norway. Emigration began from there a year later than from Vesisaari [Vadso] [Norway], but was very great in the later years of the 1860's, when the emigrants flowed to the copper island [Michigan copper region] to mine work. Of these are mentioned: Isak and Johan Kihlanki, Johan Petter Noppa, Johan P. Frimodig and sons, Henrik, Juhani [Johan] and Salomon Haarala; Juhani [Johan] and Peter Isackson (Nautapuoti), the brothers Juhani [Johan] Kaarlo [Charles], and Salomon Friski, Johan and Peter Hyry, Isak and Johan Fredrickson (Osti), Wels P. Nelson (Parpa), Torsten Estensen, Isak Pudas, Abram Lankki, Isak Oman, Isak and Johan Vintturi, Isak Juntikka, Johan and Matti [Mathew] Koller, Isak Kulvander, Kustaa and Peter Strolberg, Lars <sup>Rönberg</sup> (Mainun Lassi), Erkki [Erik] Lintulahti, Olli Matoniemi, Amund Hagen, Isak Roanpää (Kerttu) and etc. Relationship of most of the aforementioned can be traced to an origin in Finland.

"From Torniojoki [Tornio River] and especially from parishes on the Sweden side, thousands of Finns have moved to America; the earliest have come by way of Norway and the later ones around Sweden and England. Parishes of the same name on both the Sweden and Finland sides make it difficult to determine with certainty whether persons in question were from the Sweden or Finland side of Torniojokilaakso [Tornio River Valley]. The Finns who had moved here did not think they were making a big mistake, their main concern appeared to be the fact that they have come from Torniojoki [Tornio River]. People of the aforementioned valley are mostly Finnish.

"Alldula's emigrant ski-trail blazers to America in the 1860's were: Johan Matson, Isak Isackson (Antinjuntti), Salomon Isackson (Nautapuoti), Isack Sandquist, Kustaa [Gustav] Friska (Sukki), Antti [Andrew] Anderson (Kauvosaari) and Peter



Valimaa, etc., and the following decade: Peter Kortetniemi, Isak Nautapuoti, Isak Wm. Hendrickson, Peter Jurva, Jakko [Jacob] Harri, Erick Erickson (Hooli) and Kalle Martimo.

"From Katarenki is also a large number of earliest Finnish immigrants in America. The first arrivals were Antti [Andrew] and Isakki [Isak] Rovainen, Carl Makitalo, Abram, Erkki [Erik], Henrik and Peter Kitti, Erkki [Erik] Krapa, Pekka [Peter] Kuula, etc. Some have come by the way of Norway, others by way of Haaparanta [Sweden]. Those born at Ylitornio church can be mentioned as: Henrik Joki, Juhani [Johan] Siekas, Isak and Johan Viippola, Johan and Peter Hoikka, Johan Ruuhijärvi, etc.

"Karunki has a distinctive position in the early migration history for from there the earlier and most numerous Finns had come to America. Many of them had come to America and by way of Norway to the copper island [Michigan copper region] or Minnesota. Among the earliest comers were: Antti [Andrew] Vitikkohuhta, Antti [Andrew] Länkki, Salomon Kortetniemi, Salomon Podas, Johan Yli-Rousu, Erik Eglund, P. Kaarlo and Peter Markki, Henrik and Isak Alamaa, Abram Kuorilehto, Johan Kerttu, Abram and August Tryyki; all of the aforementioned had come in the 1860's. To America movement from Karunki reached its peak around 1873 when from there scores of families and single men moved to the new country: Edward Erickson (Hooli), Johan Torkki, Henrik Pyörny, Isak Raattamaa, Abram and Salomon Haara, Isak and Salomon Korpi, Johan and Salomon Rautio, Antti [Andrew] and Oskar [Oscar] Snapp, Erik Vanhatalo, Henrik and Isak Niva, Mikko [Michael] Heikka, Abram Saarenpää, Johan Myllykangas, Isak Sakari, Jakob Kinnunen, Sakari [Zachery] Keskitalo, Johan Anttila, Isak Fraki and Peter Ylijärvi etc.

"At Hietaniemi [Sweden] were born several of the earliest Finnish emigrant pioneers who had come from Norway: Peter Lahti, Peter Klemetti, Isak Barberg, Isak Jaakonantti, Abram and Salomon Lamberg. Those coming several years later were: Erkki [Erik] Haara, Johan Paloniemi, Kaarlo Valimaa, Isak Sandquist, Peter Alanenpää, Johan Sikainen, Isak and Johan Alanenpää, Isak Halgrona, Isak Patron, Johan Littiaianen, and Isak Davidson.



"Among Haaparanta's earliest Finns in America was Peter Thonberg who came here in 1858 and worked in the United States navy during the Civil War time and was later a shipmaster on the Great Lakes. He died in Erie, Pa., when at a very old age. Others coming in the 1860's and the 1870's are Magnus Vitikkohuhta, Nels Selväla, Peter Stroberg, Johan Ollila, Nels Maihamu, Salomon Karinen, Salomon Ruona, Kaarlo [Charles] Pelli, August Klocker, Benjamin Holm, August Tapani, Johan Alamaa, Israel Hagen, Johan Isackson (Naartijärvi), Johan Kauppi, Elias and Ulrick Föörari, etc.

"From Alatornio [Sweden] and Voijakkala the first ones went to America also at the end of the 1860's, many by way of Norway. A noticeable emigration began here too at the beginning of the 1870's, especially when it was possible to buy a ticket to America at Haaparanta [Sweden] and then step on the ship at Salmi [Sweden], on the shores of their own parish. The earliest comers to America were: Carl Pyrrö, Henrik and Juhani [Johan] Haarala (Mykkälä), Tuomas [Thomas] Heikura, Nils Lehto, Johan Partanen, William Uusimaa, Johan Torvinen, Johan Koppelo, Johan Stenman, August Jänkälä, Alexander Hiukka, Peter Liisanantti, Johan Soini and Kaarlo [Charles] Suva.

"From Torniojoki's [Tornio River's] northernmost parishes Turtola and Pajala [Sweden] is also a large number of residents in America, some having come in the 1860's, others in the following decade. Turtola born are noted: the brothers Abram, Johan and Salomon Westola, Johan and Peter Christopher, Johan, Peter and Maria Kaisa Esko, William Lehto, Henrick Matti, August Kraneatti, Johan Erkki Puranen, etc. From Pajala [Sweden]: Isak Homer (Pajala), August Anderson, Johan Jolma, Peter Thompson, etc. Emigration from Pajala and Turtola finally did reach full swing in the 1880's.

"We now move to observe the earliest migratory era from parishes within the borders of Finland.

"Lapland, Finland's northern section, reaches nearly to the shores of the Arctic Ocean. From its large but thinly populated parishes of Ustjoki, Inari, Enontekiä and Kolari are, compared with other rear-northland [Finland] parishes, comparatively few

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earlier emigrants in America. It is even more surprizing, when, from the aforementioned parishes large groups annually went for summer fishing in Norway and invariably would meet those people who spoke of the advantages of America and of the many Finns who had gone there. But it is also to be considered that in the aforementioned parishes lived many true laplanders and none of these children, born in the dusk of the northern lights, had heart to leave their dearly earned resources or reindeer-herds. In no other way either would the simple and childish meekness of the Laplanders fit in the large world, nor could they get along well among crowded peoples. True Laplanders are very rare in America.

"From Lapland's border parishes of Kittilä, Sodankylä and Kuolajärvi are met many representatives of our earliest migration. From Kittilä: Olli Hannula, Johan and Mikko Jussila, Johan Sundelin and Erkki Vuonola and others born at Sodankylä, but many who came by way of Norway are Peter Pudas, who died in New York Mills in 1900 when a hundred years old, and his son Adam Pudas, Paul Matchen (Poikila), Alexander and Kustaa [Gustav] Kumpula, Johan and Peter Saariniemi, Esaias and Henrik Alatalo, Mikko [Michael] Mattlin, Hans Kustaa Hanson, Peter Arvola and Erik Olson (Kaisajoki). Adam Sackriasson (Ongamo), who came from Norway to America in 1866, is considered the ski-trail blazer of Kuolajärvi. Those coming in the 1870's were: Peter Isackson (Kössa), Olli Isola, Johan, Matias and Tuomas Munkkala, Antti Peteri and Abram Takala and so forth.

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"Kuusamo parish steps to the forefront in considering numbers of emigrants. From there also have all the earliest emigrants come by way of Norway, for instance, Matti [Mathew] Hendrickson (Määttä), who arrived in America in 1864. It was not until in the 1870's before definite emigration begins at Kuusamo, when the emigrants pushed on to the copper island [Michigan copper region], to settle in Minnesota and also the Columbia region of Oregon and Washington. The earliest Kuusamo boys who came to America were: Herman, Isak and Johan Luukkonen, Kustaa [Gustav] and Johan Haataja, Antti and Paavo Määttä, Herman and Matti Karjalainen, Jafet and Peter Josephson, Henrik



and Sakari [Zachery] Vanttaja, August Mursu, Johan Päätaalo, Johan Tolva, Mikael Hietala, Johan Uusitalo, Erik Hänninen, Oskar Ingman, Johan Kallunki, Johan Korpua, Erkki [Erik] Käkela, Matti [Mathews] Hyrkäs, Matti [Mathew] Ronkainen, Sakari [Zachery] Pousu and Antti [Andrew] Törmänen, etc.

"Kemijarvi parish has also a significant part in the history of our migration. The first of our countrymen coming from there have done valuable work in pioneering and settling. Matti [Mathew] Niemi, Elias Peltoperä and Esaias Kujala arrived in America in 1864. Matti [Mathew] Niemi was one of the first settlers of Franklin and Elias Peltoperä was pioneer of the Clatsop and Pendleton [Oregon] Finnish agricultural settlements. August Peteri, who came to America in 1865, was one of the pioneers of the Holmes City agricultural region. Many of the Pendleton [Oregon] and Klickitat [Washington] earliest Finns have come from Kemijarvi. Even though it is impossible to list all Kemijarvians, which is just as difficult as listing the Kuusamoins, may some be mentioned here: Kustaa [Gustav], Mikael and Olli Hietala, Olli Jaakkola, Matti [Mathew] Teiningi, Johan Lehto, Jakob Erkkilä, Pietari Juuttila, Olli Hurula, Peter Annala, Olli Halonen, Johan Jussila, Abram Kaisalahti, Alexander Kaurala, Olli Kotajarvi, Matti [Mathew] Kōnönen, Johan Kärkölä, Johan Ab. Lehto, Karl Peltoniemi, Herman Planting, Kustaa [Gustav] Wm. Planting, and Johan Raappana. From Kemi parish also is a large group of early immigrants in America. It has been difficult to determine from which parish a person in question has come from, from Kemijarvi or from Kemi, or opposite. A person living on a Kemijarvi island could belong in the Kemi parish. Among the earlier Kemians who came to America in 1864 were pioneer Matti [Mathew] Pokema, died at Franklin, Johan Laho, Johan Laiti, Johan and Sakaari [Zachery] Kreku, Matti [Mathew] Juopperi, Antti [Andrew] Koivaniemi, Johan A. Friska, Hans and Johan Hanson (Niemi), Johan Ruonavaara, Herman Ruonavaara, Olli Vuokkila, Johan Peteri and Mikko Peteri, etc.

"There are not many early immigrants from the populous and extensive parish of Rovaniemi. The America-fever did not affect Rovaniemi very greatly until the 1880's. But from there did come several earlier comers: Henrik and Tuomas [Thomas] Maikko, the former died while a farmer at Cokato, the other at Holmes City, Jakob Heikka, Mikko [Michael] Johnson, Henrik Nampa, Peter Salmela, Matti [Mathew] and Ollie Sipola, etc.

"From Tervola, even though it is much smaller than the former parish, nevertheless are many earlier immigrants in America, especially in the Klickitat agricultural region, in Washington. Matti [Mathew] Ahola, Johan Flink, Antti [Andrew] and Isak Liimata, Johan Kaarakka, Johan Matson (Rapakko), Johan and Peter Niemelä. Earlier Tervolans have gone to other parts of the United States; Johan Isackson, ("Kossa"), Henrik, Johan, Lars and Olli Pajari (Pungan Veljekset [Punkki brothers]), Johan Pulju, Anton Tervo, Henrik Lumpus, Abram Palo, Olli Rousu and Olli Tepsa, etc.

"From both Simo and Ii, north-gulf [Gulf of Bothnia] shore parishes is a large number of the older immigrants in America. Pioneers from the Simo parish can be held as: Nils Alarik Olson (Folk), Jakob Jackson (Heikkila), Antti [Andrew] Kantola, Henrik Malmstrom, Henrik, Johan, Kaarlo [Kaarlo is Charles] and Lars Nikkila, Johan Vilmi and etc. Iians, into which category belong the Kuivaniemians, have the honor that they are the pioneers of the extensive New York Mills Agricultural region, where the most difficult settlement work was done by: Tuomas [Thomas] Autio, Matti [Mathew] Bimberg, Olli Kestilä, Peter Mursu, Henrik Niemelä, Johan Perälä, Alexander and Matti [Mathew] Pikkarainen, Antti [Andrew] Puuperä, Kustaa [Gustav] Hyry, Kustaa [Gustav] Koskela and Antti [Andrew] Valitalo. Other earliest Iians who are living in other parts of the United States are: Frans, Henrik and Kaarlo [Charles] Vuornos, Abram Bousson, Johan Pakanen, Matti Michelson (Jalokoski), Jakob Olson (Kaitajärvi), August Abramson (Teppo), Heikki [Henry] Hovin, Jakob Jacobson (Iapa-Aho), Henrik Hendrickson (Vehkaperä) and etc.



## FINNISH

"First Comers to America from Different Localities and Parishes"

"The Pudasjärvi parish is Northland's largest. In the 1870's the first emigrants began to push on to the western kultala [el dorado] and there did arrive in that decade, a large number. Of these ski-trail-blazers are mentioned: Johan Hagen (Forhola), Antti [Andrew] Kivijärvi, Jeremias Erickson (Riepula), Johan Eekreä, Abram Daniels (Iuhakka), Matti Hendrickson (Kämärä), Lassi [Lars] Luokkanen, August and Matti [Mathew] Joseph Kinnunen, Olli Niemelä, Olli Olson (Kaitaniemi), Johan Savela, Henrik Simonson, Henrik and Simon Tavajärvi, Gabriel Wahlman (Matalainen) Paavo Ruottinen, Olli Kynsijärvi, Olli Tolkki, Matti [Mathew] Palttari, Paavali Salmi, etc. From Taivakoski, Pudasjärvi's neighboring village, others have come later for it was not until in the 1880's before the people began moving to America. The first comers were Peter Vanha and Henrik Simonson (Simon Taival), the former is at Cokato, the latter at Astoria [Oregon].

"From the extensive Puolanka and Suomussalmi parishes are comparatively few earliest emigrants, for the movement to America did not become generally fast until in the 1880's. Nevertheless from Puolanka can be mentioned the following comers in the 1870's: Sakari [Zachery] Holappa, Johan Moilanen, Paul Keränen, Johan and Olli Räisänen, Jakob Väyrynen, etc. Suomussalmi pioneers are: Johan Adamson (Leinonen), Isak Erickson (Juntunen), Jakob Hessa, Jakob Hyttinen, Martin Jacobson, Jakob Laurila, Lars and Matti [Mathew] Mattson (Seppänen), Martin Rusko and Antti [Andrew] Vesala. - From Paltamo was Adolf Leinonen.

"From Oulu's neighboring parishes are also several very early comers to America. From Haukipudas: Mikael Wilson (Virkkunen), who came in 1866, and Antti [Andrew] Abramson (Teppo). From Muhos: Abram Hendrickson, Sakari [Zachery] Holappa, Erik Peterson (Seppälä), Antti [Andrew] and Erik Ruutti. From Utajärvi: Johan Luukinen and Johan J. Silven. From Kempele church: Peter Määttä and Johan Davidson (Monkka). From Oulu suburban parishes: Henrik Fiskari. From Lumijoki are a large number of comers to America of the 1870's, most of whom settled at Midway and Duluth: Kaarle [Charles] Kauppi, Matti [Mathew] Kauppi, Antti [Andrew] Karjala, Erkki [Erik] Maunu, Johan

Luukkonen, Heikki [Henry] Anderson (Karhu), Johan Ollikainen and Johan Kaappana. From Hailuoto are also many comers to America of the earliest decades: Albert Piekola, who arrived as a sailor at San Francisco in 1868, and those immigrants arriving three years later: Johan Juntila, Henrik Nelso (Lakso), Kustaa Johnson (Trupukka), also those who arrived in 1873: Kustaa [Gustav] Johan and Sigfrid Kauppi, Jakob Pernula, Johan Suomela, Isak Juntti, Lars Kartala and Johan Linquist. From Tyrnävä several left for America in 1873, mostly in the Swanberg party: Johan Markuksela, Erik and Simon Palkki, Abram Mällinen, Erik and Peter Pikkariainen, Antti [Andrew] and Jakob Risteli, Katri [Catherine] Turunen and Johan Kaitera. Liminka parish pioneer to America was Kaarlo [Charles] Newman, who arrived in 1864. Others: Kustaa [Gustav] Siekkinen, Johan Pietilä, Matti Litous, Antti [Andrew] Heiskari and Johan Taavetila.

"The town of Oulu has an honorable position in early emigration, from there many able boys and prominent men have come to America. Mentioned are vice-council Kustaa Wilson (Hemmi) who came in 1850, Oskar J. Larson, congressman who was born in Oulu but came to America from Kuusamo, Antti [Andrew] Berg (Rientola), Karl Marks (Newman), Johan Parkkinen, Henry Larson (Pikkariainen), Karl Teppo, etc. It was not until 1890 that the America-fever definitely prevailed among the laborers of Oulu.

"We move now to the Siikajoki district, from which river region's many parishes are a large number of early immigrants in America. The leading position is taken by the Siikajoki parish from where migration began around 1870, when Abram Hirvaskari, pioneer, came to America in 1869. Those coming two years later were: Sakari [Zachery] Erickson (Törmälä), Henrik Pirilä, Henrik Thompson (Mäkelä), and Isak Hirvaskari, writer of the memorandum of the 1873 Swanberg party; Matti [Mathew] Pirilä, Matti [Mathew] Anderson (Kertula), Antti [Andrew] and Johan Eskola, Matti [Mathew] Soini, etc.. -- From Revonlahti, Kestilä and Paavola the people began pushing on toward the new land in the 1880's. Pioneers coming in the 1870's were: Antti [Andrew] Edwards and Johan Kuusisalo from Paavola also Kalle [Charles] Hendrickson



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(Kytomäki) from Kestila. The first ones to come from Rantsila to America were: Johan Abramson (Pietila), Antti [Andrew] Newman, Matti [Mathew] Vilppula and Abram Törmä. Pulkila's Finnish ski-trail-blazer, Matias Abramson (Kärjenaho), came to America from Norway in 1865. Others coming in the 1870's: Henrick Toffer, Antti [Andrew] Viitanen, Antti [Andrew] Laksi, Antti [Andrew] Louko and a big-business-man of Hancock, Antti [Andrew] Johnson. -- The earliest Finns to America from Piipola had settled in the Holmes City agricultural region, in Minnesota. Pioneer Johan Piippo came to America in 1865, and two years later came Matti [Mathew] Jacobson (Makkonen). Those who came in 1873 were: Johan Lehto, Ivari [Ivar] Telin, Johan and Simon Simonson (Pellikka), etc.

"Sailors from Raahen and Saloinen have, in decades gone by, stopped in large groups at Boston, Philadelphia, New York, Chicago and San Francisco. Many of them had come to America a little before the slave-freeing war [Civil War], enlisted in the United States navy and took part in marine battles. A well known Raahen is George Brown (Virpi) living in New York, who came to America in 1859, served in the Federal navy, later was in business and was farmer at Port Washington, near New York. Other Raahens are mentioned as Antti [Andrew] Broman, Antti [Andrew] and Fredrik Lassila, Henry Korvelin, Johan Vilmi, Kustaa [Gustav] and Johan Sääkkä, Albert Bjorkman and Johan Wiik. Jacob Wilson (Poikajoki), sailor from Saloinen joined in the 1850 gold digging rush in California and later travelled to Astoria and Portland, Ore. The sailors coming to America in 1860's were: Simon and Tuomas [Thomas] Hornanen and Henry Rundelin. As immigrants coming in the 1870's were: Antti [Andrew] Anderson (Marjamaa), Gabriel Karvonen, Antti [Andrew] Holberg, Johan and Matti [Mathew] Harpet (Haapakangas), and Johan Jackson (Niemi). --- Those coming from Vihanti were: Matti [Mathew] Johnson (Koivikko) and Johan Wilson (Pskola).

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"In the Pyhäjoki region emigration did not develop to any great speed until the 1880's. Only several were early arrivals in America: Antti [Andrew] Piirila, Augusta and Erkki [Erik] Thompson (Vuotila), Tuomas [Thomas] Thomson (Tukkala), Kaarlo

[Charles] Nelson (Pinola), etc. From Merijärvi: Johan Mattison and Jeremias Aliini; From Haapavesi: Johan Marttala and Kontra Niiranen, the former having come in 1865, the latter in 1873.

"Finns from Kalajoki have lived in America since the 1850's. As pioneers we can list the brothers Gustaa [Gustav] and Tuomas [Thomas] Wendelin, the former had come to New York in 1855, the latter to Philadelphia in 1867. Sailors who were left in America in the 1860's were Antti [Andrew] and Johan Junnikkala. Those moving definitely as emigrants are mentioned: big-farmer Jakko [Jacob] Ojanperä, Peter Laurila, Mikko [Michael] Lapinoja, Johan Nauha, Johan Laukila, Leander Wilson (Lepistö), August Matson, Fredrik Hannula, Antti [Andrew] Kari and Matti Niemelä. From Alavieska church have come Jakob Dickson (Tikkanen), Johan Niemelä, etc. From Yliveiska: Antti [Andrew] Jacobson (Rauhala), David Castren, Jacob Ojala and Johan Stenbacka. From Nivala: William Peterson (Saarimaa) and Matti [Mathew] Rauhala, etc. From Haapajärvi: Johan Järvi (Hirsikangas) and from Sievi: Matti [Mathew] Lahmala.

"Vaasanlaani's earliest emigration is left far behind that of Oulunlaani. America-fever got some sort of foothold in the first years of the 1870's in Vaasanlaani's northernmost parishes: Kalvia, Lohtaja, Toholampi, etc., also in the Vaasa region, Musta saari, Isokyrö and Laihia. But compared to the thousands of people who moved to America from Oulunlaani, Vaasanlaani's earliest emigration does not mean very much. It was not until the 1880's before southern and central Pohjanmaa's [Finland's] people hastened to the western el dorado and emigration reached an actual 'Vaasa rate', so that in several decades the Vaasanlaani emigration number passed that of Oulunlaani. But in this work is not handled the migration of the 1880's. So we will bring to light only those parishes from where the America movement began in the 1870's.



## FINNISH

"First Comers to America from Different Localities and Parishes"

"From Kälviä are, in considering the Vaasanlään<sup>ni</sup> parishes, the most numerous early immigrants in America. Already in the 1860's a Kälviän named Helander served in the United States Navy and took part in the slave freeing war. In 1866 arrived in America as a sailor Matti [Mathew] Suva (Syväjärvi), a well known Finnish business man of New York. But definite emigration began at Kälviä in 1871 when the first group left for America. Of these are mentioned: Johan Gustafson (Maunumäki), Erik and Ludvik [Ludwig] Raquist (Tuomaala), Antti [Andrew] Huhtaketo, Erkki [Erik] Johnson, Johan Lakso, Erkki [Erik] Maunula, Erkki [Erik] Melin, Johan Nelson (Nygord), Leonard Kippo, Johan Kaski, Frans and Janne Penttilä, Josef Porkola and Jakob Rinell (Riippa). In the two following years smaller groups arrived in America, but then migration was at a standstill for several years, and again got its pace in the 1880's. Kälviä has gifted America with many able boys which has a great significance in our social aspirations and national cultural work.

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"From Lohtaja also in the 1860's the first emigrants came to America: Jakob Anttila, 1865 and Johan Johnson (Junttila), 1867. But a definite emigration from there began in the 1870's. Of these pioneers are mentioned: Kaarlo [Charles] Johnson (Jänislampi), Reuel Backman, Johan Santabacka, Matti [Mathew] Wigren, Kalle [Charles] Keiski, Leonard Anderson (Kolpponen), Alex Anderson (Roimola), Johan D. Johnson (Orjala), Johan Perander, Johan and Sakari [Zachery] Johnson (Pajunpää), Johan Vapola, Jacob and Kaleg Wuollet.--- From Kannus parish: Mikko [Michael] Kantola and Sakari [Zachery] Koski. From Kaustis: Matti [Mathew] Hendrickson (Salo), Abram Harju, Leander Jacobson (Paavola), Jakob Loffman, Antti [Andrew] Penttilä, and Reikki [Henry] Salo.

"From Toholampi people began moving to America in small numbers already in the 1870's. Pioneers were: Antti [Andrew] and Johan Kopsala, Jakob Kotila, Joosa Kivela, Alexander Kriszman, Johan Nixon (Nikkunen), Herman and Johan Seppälä, Erkki [Erik] Silvola, etc. Those coming at the end of the 1870 decade were: Fredrick and Michael Nixon (Nikkunen) and Topias Kotila. --From Veleli also, people began moving to America at the

end of the 1870's, the first comer was Antti [Andrew] Stenbacka. Simon Uusitalo left Kauhajärvi for America in 1874; Matti [Mathew] Backman left Luoto in 1872. From Alajärvi, Henrik Nurmi and Erkki [Erik] Marjapori had come to America in 1873, being the pioneers from that parish, also Matti [Mathew] Soderbacka, having come in 1874. The first to come to the new country from Kuortane were Jakob and Johan Anttila; from Himango, Matti [Mathew] Seppänen in 1870. The first to move to America from Kiuruvesi were Peter Peterson (Pöykyläinen), former church janitor, also Henrik Karkkainen, who lived for some time in Astoria, then disappeared, obviously drowned on a fishing trip.

"Emigration began from southern Northland [Finland] Finnish parishes in 1871, namely from Isokyrö. The pioneer of this movement was a renter of estates from Ikola, Aksel [Axel] Sjöberg, who, three years earlier had left for America with his family. Those coming to America from Isokyrö in the 1870's can be mentioned as: Antti [Andrew] Hegblom, Johan Helsten, Matti [Mathew] Suonu, Herman Penttilä, Isak Kaski, Kalle [Carl] Kotka, Kustaa [Gustav] Hakala, Kaarlo [Charles] Helsten, Israel Kallio, Herman Purtilo, Johan Harju, Johan Taanonen, Matti [Mathew] Kortesmäki, Johan Stenroos and Johan Mäkelä, a part of them having come to America in 1871 and another part in 1873. From Ylistaro: Jaako [Jacob] Markko, Jakob Punkari and Kustaa [Gustav] Valkkinen, had come in 1873. Those coming from Laihia at the end of the 1870's were Matti [Mathew] Hakala, Tuomas [Thomas] Lehtinen, Elias Ulgrein and Matti [Mathew] Vatiala. From Jurva the first one to arrive was Abram Kettunen in 1876. From Ilmajoki, a well-known newspaper-man, Ino Egnan, came in 1879. Jalasjärvi is represented by doctor Oswald H. Beckman, who had come to Philadelphia in 1873. Antti [Andrew] Erickson from Alavus went first to northern Finland and from there, in 1873, to America; from Härmä, Antti [Andrew] Pekka in 1873; From Kuortane, Jakob and Johan Anttila in 1871. From such large parishes as Kauhajoki, Lapua, Kurikka, Teuva, Kauhava and etc. this writer has not met anyone who had come to America in the 1870's. From these parishes too, emigration did not begin until in the 1880's.



"From the southern-Northland [Finland] towns of Kristinna, Vaasa, Uusikaarle and Pietarsaari, the same as from the central northland [Finland] town of Kokkola, as sailors and emigrants, a large number have made their homes in America. Linguistically they are considered of Swedish nationality and are very remote from the activities of the America Finns. They support their own small nationality in America, belong in their own congregations and activities. This writer had no opportunity to associate more closely with them, it is for that reason that information of the Finland-Swedes is very little. Let it be then, our hope that someone will support historical work on Finland's Swedes and undertake a compilation of a history of this people's life in America. "

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This completes the chapter and the book "Amerikan Suomalisten Historia ja Elämäkertoja," by S. Ilmonen.

Duluth, Minnesota  
Socio Ethnic  
Harold Rajala  
March 8, 1940

Material translated from "Esiraivaajien Muisto":

"A publication issued in connection with the festival held at New York Mills August 20 in remembrance of the pioneering of the New York Mills, Sebeka, Menahga and Susijarvi [Wolf Lake] region's pioneer Finns and of Minnesota's first Finnish immigrants." Published at New York Mills in 1939.

The following is a translation of the article, "Vahan Osuus-toiminnallista Historias Varhaissimmilta Ja Nykyaajoilta"

[ "Some Cooperative History of Early and Present times" ],

from page 20 to 22.

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"Because the honorable pioneers' festival committee has asked the undermarked to give some account of the social and cooperative endeavors and achievements of the N. Y. Mills and Heinola districts so I will try, with my poor ability, to do that, with what incomplete and imperfect knowledge, I have, to whatever measure is needed.

"I will begin first with New York Mills. The first farmers' cooperative was a general merchandise store which was established, as I remember, about 1893 or 94. It first was located on the south side of the railroad which is now Jack Kampsula's home and business place. The aforementioned business was at that location for only a short time and then it was moved to a location north of the railroad tracks into a business building then owned by Mr. Blowers, on which site now is located the new town hall. Later when the business grew and improved the firm bought a beautiful tiled building, then owned by Olli Pajari, where now is located the L. B. Hartz business. The business was moved there, where it continued its business until it was



closed and the building was sold back to Olli Pajari. That was in the year 1910 or 11. This cooperative, while in operation, operated successfully, and did a large volume and variety of business. This cooperatives original organizers are gone except Petter Höyhtyä. The first manager of the aforementioned business was Mr. Flinkman, who was there but a short time. Mr. Gust Määtälä, who also is dead, was occupied as manager for a long time. Also John B. Raattama, at present, a merchant in Washauk was employed by the cooperative for some time and also many others who were raised in the community were in the employ of that firm."

(This chapter is not complete and is only a translation of the first two paragraphs.)

Pfeiffer, C. Whit,

Finnish Study  
A. J. Sprang  
Jan. 30, 1940

FROM "BOHUNKS" TO FINNS.

"The Scale of Life among the Ore Strippings of the Northwest"

The Survey. Vol. 36, pp 8-14 (April 1, 1916)

Seventy-five miles north of Duluth, Minn., lies a group of low hills extending about fifty miles east and west, known as the Mesaba Range. Along the southern slopes of these hills there is clustered a group of cities and villages which are in the heart of the greatest iron ore deposits in the United States. Of this country as it really is, most people know but little. Even in Minnesota the residents of the older part of the State have vague and variant ideas of what the ranges are.

That there exists a group of cities and villages so closely connected that they form one big community of 60,000 people, is just beginning to become apparent. Much is being heard of the wonderful municipal improvements, of the miles of "white ways," paved streets and alleys, and of public buildings and schools of unparalleled excellence. Much has been said in the Minnesota Legislature of "extravagance" and profligate use of money, and the newspapers have had many columns about "controversies" between the mining companies and city officials. Beyond this little is known.

What is actually the case if that almost withinna decade a great group of mining locations have suddenly been transformed, externally at least, into cities. Virginia and Hibbing, the two largest of these, with



population estimated in the neighborhood of 15,000 apiece, were only villages of two or three thousand in 1900. With this growth has come a strong rivalry between the different municipalities, each to outdo the other; and there have developed side by side with splendid Municipal achievements, many of the social evils familiar to the older cities of the East.

The seasonable employment of the mining industry, the low wages of the lumbering industry, and the cosmopolitan character of the people with widely varying standards of living, all give rise to many economic and social conditions which tend somewhat to dim the artificial brightness shed by municipal white ways.

Here the problem of the cost of living is a most pressing one. Get into a conversation with any resident about conditions on the Mesaba Range and he will soon be telling that it costs much to live. An examination of the facts will soon corroborate his statement. In the first place, rents, especially in Virginia, are excessively high. A good thoroughly modern six-room cottage well located will rent for \$40 or \$50 a month, as compared with \$25 to \$30 in most other places. Even in the Twin Cities such a house rarely brings more than \$35 to \$40. Houses which cannot be duplicated for wretchedness outside the slums of great cities will demand \$8, \$10 or \$15 a month.

The mining companies build fair little cottages with adequate lots, which they rent to their employes for \$8 a month. But these do not take care of half the workmen. There is a "location" built by a lumber mill, of about a hundred houses, all exactly alike, of the cheapest construction - all painted, until recently, a barn red - with six rooms, 12 by 12 feet, no basements, located in an undesirable part of the city where the houses, with water supplied, bring \$14 a month rent.

Foodstuffs, many of them, are equally high. Truck gardening as an industry in the outlying rural districts is still in the initial stages of

development. The unfavorably short growing season, 100 days on the average as compared to 132 days, the average for the entire state,<sup>1</sup> has had a discouraging influence. Much of the land which was once all covered with great pine forests is either swampy or full of large boulders, and everywhere the pine stumps are thick. To clear and develop this land is a slow and expensive process. As a result little produce is raised and the local merchants must buy a large part of their spring and summer vegetables and fruits from Duluth or Minneapolis and St. Paul and sell them at prices 50 per cent or 100 per cent higher than those prevailing in southern Minnesota, Iowa or Wisconsin.

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Finally, the severity of the winters with their two to four weeks of 30 or 40 degrees below zero weather - 47 below, on January 13, this winter - makes the cost of fuel high and demands much warm clothing. It has been estimated that \$800 a year is the very lowest income upon which a man can support a family of five in any kind of an American standard of living, even then without making any provision for the future. \*\*\*

Half of the residents of these mining towns have come from Europe and 40 per cent are the sons and daughters of immigrants. According to the Minnesota Abstract of the Thirteenth Census, pages 625-6, native born of native stock form but 10 per cent of the population. Of these immigrants only 35 per cent are from Scandinavia, Germany or Great Britain. The remaining 65 per cent come from Russia, Italy, Austria or the Balkan countries.

#### THE FINNS AND THEIR FARMS.

Of all the people on the Range the Finns are numerically the strongest, and their political influence, especially, is a real power. Their standards of life, however, are widely variable, depending largely upon what use they have made of the educational advantages offered to them. On the one hand we find some of the most progressive business houses on the Range in the hands of live Finnish merchants, thoroughly Americanized, while three blocks

1. See Robinson's Economic History of Agriculture in Minnesota. Page 19 Bulletin of the University of Minnesota.



distant from such a store we may enter a home where the sanitary and moral standards are unspeakably bad. The Finns enter with zest into the American contest of money-making.

This zest develops a great deal of independence on the part of their workmen that is objectionable to many employers; it leads them early to purchase their own homes, but it also leads them to overcrowd these homes with roomers and boarders, accommodating day shifts and night shifts in the beds. It has also caused them to pack their homes in closely together, frequently with two dwellings on a twenty-five foot lot. Mine bosses claim that they will not work as well as the "Austrians" - a term applied not only to the various races from Austria-Hungary but to men from the Balkan countries, including many Montenegrins - and their strong Socialistic tendencies cause much friction. They played a prominent part in the strike of 1907, which was waged on the Mesaba Range of Minnesota over the question of an eight-hour day and a straight day-scale of wages in place of the prevailing contract scale. The strikers lost out and since then certain mining companies will not employ Finns if it can be avoided.

Yet with all this, these people have come to America to found homes. They study the English language assiduously, for it is difficult for a native Finn to acquire fluency in our language. They are not clannish politically. In a recent election for Municipal judge two strongly Finnish wards cast many more votes for an American-born candidate than for a Finnish candidate, though the latter, a practicing attorney, was technically better qualified than the former, who was not an attorney.

Their children are hard workers in school, obstinate and sullen at times, it is true, but very anxious to make progress. They are cleaner, and their standards of morality are much higher than those of the men without families from southeastern Europe. But most important of all, the Finns

do not all remain in the cities, but may be found all over St. Louis county laboriously cleaning out the stumps and boulders of the cut-over forest lands, redeeming the country for agriculture. \*\*\*

[Illustration - Public school gardens at Coleraine and Bovey, Minn. These gardens furnish an illustration of the social work being developed by all subsidiary companies under the Bureau of Safety, Sanitation and Welfare of the United States Steel Corporation]



Material translated from "Amerikan  
Suomalaisten Historia ja Elämäkertoja,"  
Volume 2, by S. Ilmonen. Published  
in Finland in 1923.

The following is a translation of the chapter, "New York Millsin Suomalainen Maanviljelysseutu" ["The Finnish Agricultural Region of New York Mills"], beginning on page 191 and continuing to and including page 218.

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#### "THE FINNISH AGRICULTURAL REGION OF NEW YORK MILLS"

"One of the most extensive contiguous Finnish settlements in America is the area west of Wadena, about 150 miles northwest of Minneapolis and about the same distance from Duluth. This Finnish region is about one hundred square miles in area, embracing all of Ottertail County and parts of Wadena, Todd, Becker and Hubbard Counties. This region is more generally known by the name of New York Mills. With the growing density of the settlement in the last decades there have sprung into existence new business centers, especially at railroad stations, according to which the region is divided into three principal parts: New York Mills, Sebeka and Menahga. These above-mentioned three principal centers are furthermore subdivided, on the basis of post offices or settlement groupings, into many smaller sections: Lehtijärvi [Leaf Lake], Ottertail, Dopelius [Topelius], Blowers, Paddock, Red Fye, Susijärvi [Wolf Lake], Runeberg, Lönnrot [Lonnrot], Snelman [Snellman], Butler, Huntersville, Tegner and Frazee.

"With its coniferous and deciduous woods, small lakes, brooks and natural meadows, the region reminds one of the scenery of Finland; so, too, its climate with its severe frosts, serene winter weather, invigorating summers and comparatively clear nights. The summer nights are not, however, lit up throughout; there are many hours of pitchy darkness. [The author is no doubt contrasting the summer nights of Finland, when there is no complete darkness because of the midnight sun, with those of Minnesota.] The summers are also somewhat warmer

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than in Finland. The soil in the southern part of New York Mills [the New York Mills settlement] is fertile; wheat and corn are grown as a rule, to say nothing of rye and oats. Farther north, around Menahga, the soil is more sandy, yielding a smaller crop of grain, but so much more abundantly root-plants, potatoes, etc. The region's famed clover, which grows in natural meadows and even along the brooks, to say nothing of that sowed in the fields, has elevated dairying to a flourishing stage, and everywhere on Finnish farms there looms into view a large cow-stable [navetta], testifying to the pursuit of cattle raising along with tilling of the soil.

"New York money men carried on extensive lumbering operations in this part of the country in the 1860's and 1870's. There was a sawmill where now stands the village of New York Mills, and from this sawmill the village received its name. A heavy forest covered the whole region at one time, and pine, oak, birch, etc., were found in abundance. The trees were cut down, a part of the logs being sent all the way to Minneapolis; the other part was sawed in the sawmill at New York Mills into boards and other building material, which were sent into the quickly growing cities of the middle west and the northwest. Railroad ties were also hewed to some extent. Many of the men of Finland have, in these parts, swung their axes and obtained extra money so that they could get along on their farms the first years.

"The history of the Finnish settlement of New York Mills begins with the year 1874. The pioneer of the settling of the region is Tuomas [Thomas] Autio, a native of the parish of Ii. While working in Brainerd, he heard from his Swedish fellow workers that about 50 miles west government lands are available by homestead rights, if any one has the courage to go into the deep backwoods and become a neighbor of the Indians. As wages were low because of the prevailing business depression in the country, Autio left to seek for himself a homestead in the suggested locality. This took place in the fall of 1874. He walked along the Northern Pacific railroad close to the sawmill at New York Mills. Turning off the rail-

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road, he traveled south along a brook, coming to such a spot where there were natural meadows and a place just right for a farmstead. He marked [staked] it out as a farm for himself, and started back for Brainerd. He acquired, from the authorities, a homesteader's right for the land he had marked out [staked out]. Alone with his family he did not want to go into the heart of the woods, so he urged his brother-in-law, Antti [Andrew] Puuperä, to become his neighbor, for there was plenty of good land available on the borders of his homestead. Puuperä heeded the advice, marked [staked] out a homestead for himself and obtained the [homestead] rights in question. The following spring these Finnish pioneers of New York Mills each built on their land humble but warm log houses, and moved even their families from Brainerd to their new farms at Lehtijärvi [Leaf Lake]. Thus began the actual Finnish settlement in the extensive New York Mills region. In the following summer, 1876, three new houses appear in the wilderness and to them move from Brainerd Alexander Nykänen, Alexander Pikkarainen and Matti [Matthias] Romppainen with their families.

"The news of the available free lands in New York Mills spread among the Finns of the copper island [Michigan copper region]. Such news was welcome. Many of our countrymen wanted to change their miner's occupation to that of a settler's trying but more promising status. The lands of Minnesota were well spoken of, but in the neighborhood of Cokato homesteads were not available, except by mere chance, and land there was high. New York Mills, being only 150 miles from Minneapolis, seemed to be very advantageous in regards to its location, and so Finns begin to move there from Calumet and Hancock [Michigan]. Israel Hagen is one of the first ones from the copper island [Michigan copper region], marking [staking] out for himself a homestead in 1877, which he immediately began to clear for cultivation. When Israel Hagen, in the summer of 1877, conducts the first religious gathering in Antti Puuperä's house, all the Finns of New York Mills at that time are present, the members of six families. Still in the same fall, but especially during the following summer, more Finnish settlers arrive in New York

Mills: Kustaa [Gustavus] Ryry, Isak Halgrona, Johan [John] Anttila, Heikki [Henry] Niemelä, Johan [John] Ollikainen, Johan [John] Partanen, Aleksander Pikkarainen, Matti [Matthias] Pikkarainen and Johan [John] Vällitalo from the copper island [Michigan copper region]; Antti [Andrew] Tuomaala from Brainerd; Olli Niemi from Red Wing, whence also came Isack Westola, a widower.

"Copper island [Michigan copper region] Finns moved out West, to farm in Oregon and Washington, in 1877, 1878 and 1879; but then came sad tidings about the Indian skirmishes there, from Pendleton, etc., and the migration of our countrymen west was disturbed considerably. It is natural that the New York Mills region in Minnesota, which had just become well spoken of, attracted attention, and to it moved those who wanted to change from the life of a miner to that of a settled farmer's. In 1879 over 20 families came to New York Mills, chiefly copper island [Michigan copper region] Finns. Of these the following can be recorded: Leonard Kolppanen, Johan [John] Anttila, Matti [Matthias] Bimberg, Heikki [Henry] Pyörmy, Isak Fräki, Johan [John] Fräki, Erick Härminen, Olli Niemi, Kustaa [Gustavus] Kauppi, Johan [John] Kauppi, Jakob Keteri, Kustaa [Gustavus] Koskela, Johan [John] Krunberg, Johan [John] Littiäinen, Isak Nautapuoti, Johan [John] Nautapuoti, Heikki [Henry] Niemelä, Antti [Andrew] Savela, Johan [John] Törgren, Erick Vanhatalo and Olli Vuokkila. Even from Ohio, from Ashtabula Harbor, came Erik Runtti and Antti [Andrew] Ruhtaketo to settle.

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"The number of Finns increases very rapidly, especially in the 1880's. Homesteads are still to be had and they attract attention. When free land was no more to be had in the vicinity of New York Mills, it was sought around Sebeka and Paddock, whither the settlement spreads in this decade. Others bought land from railroad or logging companies, which cost only five dollars an acre on a ten years' installment plan. So rapid was the increase of our countrymen in New York Mills that, whereas there were close to 40 families in 1879, their number ten years later could be estimated as a couple of hundred families or about 1,000 persons. In the 1890's the Finnish settlement spreads to the vicinity of Menahga, Susijärvi [Wolf Lake], Lönrot [Lomrot], Runeberg and Snellman.



"The livelihood of the settlers in the first years is a struggle for bread and the necessities of life. All comforts must be dispensed with. The scanty resources which could be saved from the small wages of those days were used up in the building of a home and in the providing of necessary things, as implements and furniture. A settler was thought self-sufficient when he was able to acquire a cow or draft-ox, with the aid of which he could do the work of clearing and hauling. The settlers had no horses in the first years. Even grain for seed had to be bought as well as flour. Many a year had one to toil and to clear a field in the woods before he could make his living off of his own land. Such being the case, the men had to go out to work for wages at logging, in sawmills, on railroads; some even went to the copper island [Michigan copper region] mines. But even from one's own wooded tract one received some help, for cordwood was bought at the railroad station. Only a dollar a cord, it is true, was paid for it; later, one dollar and a half. Nothing was left for the price of the timber, but a help it was, for with cordwood one could get in exchange foodstuffs and other things needed on the farm. Even the women helped the men in the clearing of land and in the tilling of soil, etc. One has also to take into consideration that an abundant supply of game was an aid in making a living; one could get birds, rabbits, sometimes even a deer, to eat with bread and butter, and fish from the lakes and brooks. In the autumn berries, especially raspberries and blueberries, which were plentiful, were picked.

"Courage, however, has been required and faith in the help of God, so that families dared to settle down in far-away woods, where one only seldom met his countrymen and in which Indians still roamed in search of game. Wild beasts, especially wolves, were numerous during winters, and they may become even dangerous. Let the following incident serve as an illustration of many other of the same sort of initial struggles falling to the lot of the settlers. A certain Finnish family moved into the Minnesota woods to become settlers. The man carried on his back a birch-bark pack [or knapsack; made for carrying lunch, known in Finnish as *eväskontti*] and his child; the mother carried another child and led a cow. It was a summer

evening when they reached their homestead in the thick woods. The man felled two shade trees, after which he sat on a stump to meditate on how shelter for the night could be had. His wife, worried, burst out crying, and said: 'How are we going to get along here?' Without replying, the man proceeded to improvise, with leafy twigs and branches, a temporary quarters and shelter from rain. After eating their frugal supper, made from the provisions brought along, they retired, fatigued. About midnight the wife was awakened by the howling of wolves and, seized with terror, she woke up her husband, exclaiming: 'For God's sake, how will we keep our children safe from the wolves here?' He tried to reassure her: 'The Lord's protecting hand looks after our children.' There they remained, in the woods; a small cottage was erected, a shelter for even the cow was prepared and the clearing of woods for cultivation was begun. Railroad ties and cordwood were cut. With the money received from them they subsisted the first years; the field was put under cultivation, the meadow was cleared. When the writer visited the said region, the above-mentioned family had a modern farmhouse, a quite extensive field and meadow, cattle and a couple of horses---all around, a secure livelihood. There were, through openings in the woods, glimpses of neighbors' farmhouses; near by was a public school, a small, unpretentious church, a store in which was located the post office, etc., testifying that the wilderness is being cleared slowly for cultivation and that the triumphal march of culture advances.

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"The struggles and hardships of the settlers cannot be conceived by the people of the present time, grown up in an age of plenty, except when one himself comes to experience it by going into the backwoods to conquer territory for cultivation. Self-denial is the life of the forest clearer and perseverance is required for it. Many go down, others become weary and return back to manufacturing and mining regions. Government authorities, however, seem to have a conception of the great service that the settlers perform, and they are ready to give them full recognition for their labors. The state authorities of Michigan and Minnesota acknowledge the merit of the Finns in the clearing of these states' most northerly



and laborious regions for cultivation; even such declarations have been made that many a place in Michigan and Minnesota would still be a wilderness if a Finnish axe and grubhoe had not conquered them for tillage. The hardy people of the North have, therefore, an important share in the cultivation and settling of America's more northerly regions, and such a part the coming generations will remember with gratitude and esteem.

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"But many of the Finns of New York Mills, like those of other settlements, have been of an iron constitution and otherwise persevering and enduring. With the years rolling by, it is true, the shoulders of many even a sturdy man become stooped and point toward the ground. After a long and arduous day's work aches are felt in the joints and strength grows weaker; but many are tenacious and have reached a very advanced age. In New York Mills there is a numerically large group of Finnish aged persons who have reached the 80th year, and even those are not very rare who have lived to be almost a hundred. The oldest Finn in the locality was Adam Pudas, who died in 1900 after reaching the age of 100 years and 6 months. Of the other aged who have passed on let these be mentioned: Johan Tervo, 96 years of age; Olli Kaitaniemi and Briita Karjalainen, both have reached 93; Heikki Pyörö and Susanna Vuokkila, 92 years; Maria Helena Rousu, 91; Eva Kaisa Ronkainen, Kaisa Jokela, Margareeta Pudas, Mrs. E. Jaakkola, Peter Halonen, Matti Karjalainen and Kaisa Ojala, 90; Olli Pajari, Matti Ojala, Briita Ollila, 89; Antti Kivijäri and Elsa Puuperä, 88; Sofia Nylund, 86; Anna Sofia Pikkarainen, 85, etc. Some of our countrymen still living are in their nineties and others are nearing 90."

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"The settlers in New York Mills, as in other places, have been compelled to get along as much as possible with their own abilities, self-help and the skills taught by nature when sickness haunted and a doctor would have been needed. So among the region's earliest Finns there were 'luonnonlääkäreitä' [literally, "nature doctors"; a "luonnonlääkäri is a doctor who effects cures without medicine or surgery] taught in the school of life [by experience], for example, Henrik [Henry] Niska, who knew how to prepare drugs for many diseases, being much used in his time.

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Johan [John] Lepistö mended broken limbs and bone injuries. But regardless of these, many succumbed in the struggle against disease because of inexperienced care and lack of a doctor. As a sad example, let Herman Blomberg's wife, Eva Tapelli, from Kiuruvesi, be mentioned, who, on bearing quadruplets, died with the children. Indeed, it had not been customary to get a doctor for childbirth and when he would have been needed in a hurry he could not be gotten in time because of the long distances.

"The center of the heaviest Finnish population is the village of New York Mills. It was established March 22, 1877, and, according to names, there are even Finns among the founders: Tuomas [Thomas] Ottio (Autio), Andrew Poopert (Puuperä), Alex Pekine (Pikkarainen) and Matti [Matthias] Ronkainen. In applying for permission to establish the village, it was pointed out that there are 300 persons living, it is located along the Northern Pacific Railroad and that many sawmill and railroad workers get their food supplies from there. There were not, in reality, 300 persons, even though the scattered settlers of the vicinity would have been included, but in America the number can be increased for emphasizing a thing, if by it no one is injured. Finns did not settle in the village of New York Mills until the 1880's. Olli Pajari began his business there in 1881, from which enterprise there grew a large business establishment. A newspaper by the



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name of Uusi Kotimaa [The New Homeland] was moved from Minneapolis to New York Mills in 1884. This paper, however, was moved out West, to Astoria, Ore., where it was published a few years until it was brought back to New York Mills. In this interval there was published in the region the Amerikan Suometar, edited by J. W. Lähde, which subsequently was merged with the Uusi Kotimaa.

"Spiritual aspirations and endeavors to spread enlightenment cannot be said to have begun until the 1880's. Church activity, however, may be recorded as beginning in the 1870's. Matti [Matthias] Ronkainen and Israel Hagen conducted religious gatherings in houses, which services, in a way, corresponded to public worship, and kept up congregational activity in the locality. But a congregation proper was not established until the 1880's; the first church was built and even a cemetery acquired. In this decade there arrived in the region men capable of preaching: Herman and Matti [Matthias] Karjalainen, Henrik [Henry] Martini, Johana [Johan: John] H. Mursu, Peter Raattamaa, Isak Koller, Jakob Erkkilä and Matti [Matthias] Niemelä."

(This concludes the narrative of this chapter.)

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"Biographical information of the earliest Finns  
coming, in the 1870's, to America"

[Where the name appears in parentheses at the beginning of  
each biographical sketch it is the original family name.]

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"ANTTI [ANDREW] ANDERSON (HUHTAKETO) was born at Kälviä Feb. 18, 1854. He came to America, to Ohio, in 1872, and to New York Mills, where he bought land, in 1879. Has cleared an excellent farm. He has been a grain buyer, etc., in the village of New York Mills. His wife, Maria Loviisa Runtti, was born at Muhos in 1866. She came to America with her father, Erikki Runtti, in 1872. Married in Ohio. Several children."

"ALEXANDER ANDERSON (NYKÄNEN) was born at Ii about 1830. He came to America, to Michigan, in 1873, and to his farm at New York Mills in 1879. Died in the 1900's. His wife, Anna Sofia Pikkarainen, nee Simola, was born at Ii in 1831. She came to America, to Brainerd, in 1873. Died in 1916."

"HENRIK [HENRY] ANDERSON (KARHU) was born at Lumijoki in 1852. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873, and to New York Mills in 1880. His wife, Johanna Svanson, was born in Sweden in 1855. Died in New York Mills Sept. 8, 1921. Children."

"JACOB ANDERSON (PERNULA) was born at Hailuoto Oct. 23, 1842. He came to America, to Hancock, Mich., in 1873, and thence to his farm at New York Mills in 1879. His wife, Kreetta Piekola, was born at Hailuoto Oct. 22, 1849. She accompanied her husband to America. Died in 1910. Four children living; sons are farming."

"LEONARD ANDERSON (KOLPPONEN) was born at Lohtaja in 1856. Came to America with his family in 1873. From Michigan he came to New York Mills in 1879, clearing a farm in the woods. His wife, Fredrika Honkala, was born at Lohtaja in 1855. Died in 1899. Thirteen children."



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"JAKOB ANTILA was born at Kuortane July 25, 1847. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1871, and thence to farm at Lehtijärvi [Leaf Lake] in 1881. His wife, Maria Ulrika Hagel, was born at Haparanda [Sweden] Nov. 24, 1848. Died in 1920. Three children."

"JOHAN [JOHN] ANTILA was born at Kuortane in 1840. With his family he came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1871, and to his homestead at New York Mills in 1879. The lumber for the first cottage was taken on credit, which was, however, paid comparatively soon. He died in Sebeka in 1899. His wife, Sofia, from Karstula, died in 1920. Four children."

"TUOMAS [THOMAS] AUTIO (MAALINAUTIO), the pioneer of the Finnish settlement of New York Mills, was born at Kuivaniemi, [in the parish of] Ii, Feb. 28, 1843. He came to America, to Duluth, in 1873, and from there to Brainerd. In the fall of 1874 he located a homestead for himself at Heinijoki [Heinäjoki (Hay River); in the narrative the site of his homestead is given as Lehtijärvi (Leaf Lake)], whither he moved with his brother-in-law, A. Puuperä, and their families, in the following spring. This pioneer of the backwoods found time to clear from the wilderness a hundred acres of land for cultivation before his life-work was done. His wife, Maria Puuperä, was born at Ii June 11, 1842. She accompanied her husband to America. Died in 1916. Two children."

"MATTI [MATTHIAS] BIMBERG was born at Ii July 10, 1842. He came with his family to America in 1873, and to farm at New York Mills in 1879. Moved to Sebeka later. An official of the town, member of the school board, etc. His wife, Anna Briita Kaitaniemi, was born at Ii in 1848. Several children."

"HERMAN BLOMBERG was born at Kiuruvesi July 6, 1853. He came from the copper island [Michigan copper region] to New York Mills, to clear land, in 1883. Came from Finland to America at the same time as his first wife, Eva Tapeli [spelled Tapelli in narrative], who, on giving birth to quadruplets, died, as did the children, in

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New York Mills in 1887. His second wife, Sofia Vuornos, was born at Ii in 1847. Several children."

"HENRIK [HENRY] BJÖRN (PYÖRNY) was born at Karunki in 1838. He came from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873, and to his farm at New York Mills in 1879. Died in 1910. His first wife, Anna Kreetta Rantti, was born at Karunki in 1838. She died in 1898. One daughter. His second wife, Anna Kallioinen, was born at Kemijärvi in 1856."

"PETER BJÖRNSTRÖM was born at Karunki in 1850. He came, in 1871, to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region]; thence to New York Mills in 1884. His wife, Sofia Haapala, was born at Oulu [the Swedish form, Uleaborg, is usually found on maps] in 1840. Two daughters."

"SALOMON BJÖRNSTRÖM, brother of the above mentioned [Peter Björnström], arrived in America in 1871. Died in 1910."

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"ABRAM DANIELSON (PUHAKKA) was born at Pudasjärvi Oct. 16, 1846. He came to America with his family in 1873, and to his farm at New York Mills in 1880. His wife, Sofia Karoliina Volman, was born in Norway, of Finnish parents, Aug. 11, 1847. Children."

"JAKOB ERIKKILÄ [probably Erkkilä] was born at Kemijärvi in 1845. Came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1871. From mining he moved to farm at New York Mills in the 1880's. Died in 1918. His wife, Anna Liisa, was from Kajaani. Married in Calumet [Michigan] in 1880. She died in 1914. Seventeen children."

"HENRIK [HENRY] FISKARI was born in the suburban parish of Oulu Sept. 5, 1830. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873, where he worked in the woods at Allouez. Later he worked in a sawmill in Cloquet [Minnesota]. He came to his homestead at New York Mills in 1880. His wife, Elsa Stiina Annala, was born at Liminka in 1842. She came to America with her children in 1879. Died in 1921."



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"TOPIAS FLINKMAN was born at Jyväskylä July 4, 1850. He came to America in 1874, and to his farm in the 1880's. His wife, Helena Sofia, was born at Karstula May 3, 1851."

"ISAK [ISAAC] FRÄKI was born at Karunki Dec. 17, 1854. He came from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873, and to farm at New York Mills in 1879. His wife, Kustaava Ritola, was born at Yli-Kiiminki Jan. 9, 1862. Married in New York Mills in 1883. Several children."

"JOHAN [JOHN] ERIK FRÄKI was born at Karunki Aug. 8, 1849. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1872, and to farm at New York Mills in 1879. Has held positions of trust in community affairs. Died June 25, 1897. His wife, Kreetta Wingelys, is from Karunki. Married in Calumet [Michigan] in 1876. Nine children."

"ISAK [ISAAC] GARLUND was born on the Tornio River in 1843. He came to America with his family in 1873. Moved from Minneapolis to his farm at New York Mills, where he died in 1901. His wife, Kaisa, is from Kemijärvi. Several children."

"JUHANI [JOHN] HAARALA was born on the Tornio River in 1817. In the 1840's he moved to Norway, whence, as a widower, he came to stay with his sons in America. Died in New York Mills, at an advanced age, in 1899."

"HENRIK [HENRY] HAARALA, the eldest son of the above mentioned [Juhani Haarala], was born at Alaattio [Norway] in 1842. He came, in 1866, with his family to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], where he worked in mines until 1885, when he moved to farm at New York Mills. Has been a justice of the peace and held other positions of trust in community matters. Died in 1913. His first wife, a Norwegian, died on the copper island. His second wife, Kreetta Kivijärvi, born at Pyhäjärvi in 1860, died in 1900. His third wife, Ida Kivijärvi, is a sister of his second wife. Altogether six children."

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"JOHAN [JOHN] HAARALA was born at Alaattio [Norway] in 1845. He came on a sailing vessel to America, to Chicago, in 1865, and thence drifted to the State of Kansas, where he married and began to till the soil. When his brother Salomon met him in Chicago 25 years later, he had completely forgotten his native tongue while living among English-speaking people. Died in 1897."

"SALOMON HAARALA, the youngest of the [Haarala] brothers, was born at Alaattio [Norway] in 1854. He came to America, to stay with his brother on the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1871, when 17 years of age. Later he moved to farm at New York Mills, living at present in the village. Has been postmaster, justice of the peace, held positions of trust in the church and in communal affairs, land agent, etc. His first wife, Maria Kuivila, was born at Kempele in 1852. They were married in Calumet [Michigan] in 1873. She died in 1883. His second wife, Serafia Maria Mammi, was born at Laihia in 1861. Eight children."

"ISRAEL HAGEN, farmer and performer of ministerial duties, was born at Haparanda [Sweden] Sept. 29, 1846. He came, in 1873, from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], and thence to farm at New York Mills in 1877, acquiring a homestead. His farm has been enlarged by purchasing more land. Has been in many positions of trust in communal affairs and a member of the boards of directors of companies. He has traveled extensively as a preacher and conductor of religious gatherings among our countrymen in the United States and Canada. A man of the people, smart and with a broad knowledge. His wife, Margareeta Kinnunen, was born at Karunki July 16, 1855. She came to America in 1877. Nine children."

"ISAK [ISAAC] HALGRONA, from Hietaniemi [Sweden], came with his family to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1871, and thence to his homestead at New York Mills in 1878. Died in 1913. His wife, Anna Liisa Pietilä<sup>W</sup>, was born on the Tornio River in 1845. She died in 1903."



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"ELIAS HANSON came from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to farm at New York Mills in 1882. Died in 1915. His wife, Helena, is from the Tornio River. Children."

"ERIK KUSTAA HENDRICKSON (KESKITALO) was born at Karunki in 1823. He came to America in 1871. Died on his farm at New York Mills in 1892. Wife and four children."

"MIKKO [MICHAEL] HENDRICKSON (KANTOMAA) came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1875, and to farm at New York Mills in 1882. His wife is Ida Niemi."

"JAKOB HIETALA is from Ylitornio. His wife, Elisabet Michelson, a Norway Finn, died in 1920."

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"KUSTAA [GUSTAVUS] HYRY was born at Kuivaniemi, [in the parish of] II, July 25, 1844. He came with his family to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873, and thence to his homestead at New York Mills in 1878, where he cleared an excellent farm in the woods. Held positions of trust in the congregation and in town affairs. Died Jan. 19, 1906. His wife, Maria Hyytiä, born April 10, 1851, died in 1916. Several children living. One of the sons is a banker."

"ERIK HÄNNINEN was born at Kuusamo in 1842. Has fished in Petsamo and Vesisaari [Norway]. He came to America, to Hancock, Mich., in 1873, and to farm at New York Mills in 1879. Died in 1914. His wife, Maria, was born at Kuusamo in 1845. She came to America with her husband. Children."

"HERMAN HÄNNINEN was born at Kuusamo in 1841. Died as a farmer in Menahga in 1914. His wife, Anna. Children."

"ERIK JAAKKOLA died in 1921 at the age of 90."

"KRISTIAN JACOBSON was born in 1845. He came to America, to the copper island

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[Michigan copper region], in 1872. Died in Menahga in 1917. His wife, Eva Karoliina, was born in 1855."

"MATTI [MATTHIAS] JOHNSON (VIITA), who was called 'Big Matt,' was born at Haapavesi in 1846. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873, and from there, six years later, to his farm at New York Mills. Died, unmarried, in 1921."

"OLLI JOHNSON (NIEMI) was born at Rovaniemi Nov. 30, 1841. He came to America, to Minnesota, in 1870, and to his homestead at New York Mills in 1878. Died June 8, 1913. His wife, Eva Pildkarainen, was born at Ii Feb. 1, 1857. She came to America in 1873. They were married in Ottertail, Minn., in 1879."

"MATTI [MATTHIAS] JOKELA was born at Lohtaja in 1823. Died in New York Mills in 1893. His wife, Maisa, died in New York Mills in 1913, at the age of 90."

"SAKARI [ZACHARY] JOKELA was born at Lohtaja Aug. 28, 1839. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873, and thence to his homestead at New York Mills in 1880. Died in 1897; unmarried."

"ABRAM KAISALAHTI was born at Kemijärvi March 16, 1851. Did some fishing at Vesisaari [Norway] during several summers. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to farm at New York Mills in 1880. His first wife, Susanna Peltoniemi, was born at Kemijärvi in 1844. Married in Calumet [Michigan] in 1878. She died in New York Mills in 1893. His second wife, Kreetta Sofia Klementti, was born at Hailuoto in 1868. Married in 1894. Children from both marriages."

"OLLI KALLINEN was born at Ala-Tammes in 1851. He came with his family from Norway to America in 1878, and five years later settled at New York Mills. His wife, Maria Johanna Nilimaa, was born at Muonio in 1855. They were married in Kaavuono [Kaafjord, Norway]. Thirteen children."



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"HERMAN KARJALAINEN was born at Kuusamo Sept. 15, 1842. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to farm at New York Mills. Deceased. His wife, Kreeta Loviisa, was born June 3, 1836."

"HERMAN KARJALAINEN was born at Kuusamo in 1830. He came to New York Mills in 1882, clearing an excellent farm in the woods. Died in 1920, at the age of 90. His wife, Briita Tiernas, from Kuusamo, died, at the age of 93, in 1913. The Karjalainen brothers, Herman and Matti [Matthias], were able to preach and conducted religious gatherings. Matti died, at the age of 90, in 1921."

"JOHAN [JOHN] KAUPPI, from Kuivaniemi, in the parish of Ii, came from Norway to America with his family in 1871, and to his homestead in New York Mills in 1879. His wife, Margareeta Tulla, was born at Kaavuono [Kaafjord; Norway] July 24, 1847. Married in 1867. Died Nov. 21, 1918. Four children. ---Briita Kaisa Kauppi, nee Virkkunen, from Ii, a widow, died at the home of her son in New York Mills in 1901, aged 84."

"KUSTAA [GUSTAVUS] ADOLF KAUPPI was born at Hailuoto April 28, 1831. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873. In 1879 he came to his homestead in New York Mills, cultivating extensive fields and building a fine farmhouse in the woods. Died in 1891. His wife, Kristiina Ventälä, was born at Hailuoto in 1840. She came with her children to her husband in New York Mills in 1880, picturing her American home to be a splendid farmstead. When she arrived, then, to the humble homestead, in the wilderness, where there was a poor cottage, tears crept into her eyes. But she, like many other settlers' wives, became accustomed to lower living standards, until the means of the house accumulated and an up-to-date farmhouse was built. Of the children, one takes care of the farmstead and one is a merchant."

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"SIGFRID KAUPPI was born at Hailuoto March 12, 1852. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to farm at Lehtijärvi [Leaf Lake] in 1885. His wife, Briita Ollila, from Ii, was born at Tyrnävä Feb. 23, 1860. Married on the copper island in 1877. Several children."

"OLLI KESTILÄ was born at Ii in 1827. He came to America, to Michigan, in 1873; thence to his farm at New York Mills in 1880. Died in 1904. His wife, Briita Ollila, was from Ii. She came to America in 1875. Died, at the age of 89, in 1913."

"JOHAN [JOHN] KEETERI was born at Lumijoki in 1839. He came to America in 1878, and to farm at New York Mills in 1879. Died in 1921. His wife, Kaisa Liisa Määtä, was born at Kempele in 1852. She came to America with her husband. Childless."

"JOHAN [JOHN] PETER KERTTU (KERTTUNEN) was born at Karunki Nov. 1, 1840. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1870. After working 15 years in the mines, he moved to farm at New York Mills. His wife, Maria Karoliina Blansfärd, was born at Haparanda [Sweden] Sept. 21, 1851. She came to America in 1874. Married in Houghton, Mich. Five children."

"JOHAN [JOHN] PETER KERUUNEN was born at Karunki in 1842. He came to America, to Michigan, in 1871. Came to farm on land he bought at New York Mills in 1885. His wife, Karoliina, was born at Haparanda [Sweden] in 1853. Came to America in 1874. Married in Hancock, Mich. Five children. [In many respects, the above two paragraphs seem to deal with identical persons.]"

"ISAK [ISAAC] KEKSI was born at Alkkula in 1846. He came to America in 1874. Died on his farm at Menahga in 1919. His wife is Kreetä Briita Kitti. Nine children."

"MATTI [MATTHIAS] KILPUA was born at Kuusamo in 1847. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in the 1870's; thence to farm at Paddock in 1884, being one of the first Finns in the locality. His wife, Anna, is from Kuusamo."

"JAKOB KINNUNEN was born at Karunki Aug. 13, 1851. With his parents he



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came from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1865; thence to New York Mills in 1882. His wife, Kaisa Liisa Kähkölä, was born at Tervola Oct. 19, 1860. Married in Calumet [Michigan] in 1879. Children."

"ANTTI [ANDREW] KIVIJÄRVI was born at Pudasjärvi in 1833. Came to America, to Cokato, in the 1870's. He settled at Lehtijärvi [Leaf Lake] in 1881. Died in 1921. His first wife died in 1912. His second wife, Anna Pyörny. Two daughters."

"MATTI [MATTHIAS] KOLLER was born in the parish of Savio, Norway, Feb. 12, 1849. His family originally came from Kolari, Finland. He came from Vesisaari [Vadsö; Norway] to America, to Calumet [Michigan], in 1873, and from there to New York Mills in 1883. Farmer and preacher. He died in 1913. His wife, Bereth Stiina, was born in Norway in 1860. Eleven children living."

"KUSTAA [GUSTAVUS] KOSKELA was born at Ruivaniemi, [in the parish of] H., Dec. 28, 1835. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to his farm at New York Mills in 1879. Deceased. His wife, Kaisa Jakunaho, Several sons."

"ISRAEL KREKULA was born at Tornio Jan. 14, 1823. He came with his family to America, to Hancock, Mich., in 1873. Six years later he moved to settle at New York Mills. Died Aug. 21, 1898. His wife, Briita Kreeta, was born at Tornio in 1822. She died in 1883. Children."

"JOHAN [JOHN] KRUMBERG---GRUMBERG was born at Lohtaja July 21, 1840. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to his homestead at New York Mills in 1879, being the second Finnish settler in the Heinola locality. Died in 1915. His wife, Anna Kreeta Niemelä, was born at Kuolajärvi March 15, 1848. She died, childless, in 1903."

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"ALEXANDER KUMPULA was born at Sodankylä May 1, 1851. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence, ten years later, to settle at Sebeka. His first wife, Helen<sup>n</sup> Junttila, or Juntikka, was born in 1869. Died in 1905. His second wife, Ida."

"MATTI [MATTHIAS] LAHNALA was born at Sievi June 12, 1846. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to New York Mills, where he purchased land, in 1886. An excellent farm. He died in 1900. His wife, Briita Matinheikki, from Turtola, came to America in 1880. Married in Michigan. Sons take care of the farm."

"JOHAN [JOHN] LAITI was born at Kemi Aug. 14, 1844. He came from Norway to America, to Red Wing, Minn., in 1869. Came to farm at New York Mills in 1885. His wife, Sofia Matleena Rautus, was born at Kittilä either in 1844 or in 1848. She came to America, to Cokato, Minn., in 1869. Married in Minneapolis in 1872. Died in 1920. Two foster daughters."

"MIKKO [MICHAEL] LAPINOJA was born at Kalajoki in 1834. He came to America in 1871, and to farm at Sebeka in the 1880's. Died in 1900. His wife, Kaisa Karoliina, is from Kalajoki."

"NELS LEHTO was born at Alatornio [Sweden] in 1847. He came to America in 1871. Worked in building construction in Chicago in 1872 and after that at the Republic iron mine in [Republic] Michigan, in Leadville, Colo., New Mexico, etc., until he settled down to farm at New York Mills about 1890. His wife, Sofia Koskela, was born at Lumijoki in 1845. Married in 1895. Died, childless, in 1920."

"JOHAN [JOHN] LITTLÄINEN, from Hietaniemi [Sweden], came to America, to Duluth, Minn., in 1873, and to New York Mills in 1879. Died about 1890. His wife, Sofia, is from Hietaniemi. Married in Duluth. Children."



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"MATTI [MATTHIAS] LITOUS was born at Liminka Nov. 25, 1847. He came to America, to Hancock, Mich., in 1873. Worked in the Republic [Michigan] iron mine, in Canada, Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio, etc. He came to farm at New York Mills in the 1880's. His wife, Kreetta Suomela, was born at Luoto Dec. 1, 1859. Married in 1882. Died Nov. 7, 1903. Five daughters."

"ISAK [ISAAC] LUNDSTROM was born at Tervola Aug. 24, 1835 or 1836. He came, in 1873, to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], where he lived 12 years. Died as a farmer in Sebeka in 1916. His wife, Kaisa Maria Flankki, was born at Tervola in 1835. She died in 1903."

"JOHAN [JOHN] LUUKKONEN was born at Utajärvi Aug. 24, 1841. He came to America in 1873. Lived in Franklin, then in Menasha, where he died. Wife and children."

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"PETER MARKKI was born at Karunki in 1839. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1870, living for some time in Allouez as well as at Calumet. Came to New York Mills in 1884. He was a carpenter by trade. Died accidentally in 1905. His wife, Maria Johanna Ylitalo, was born at Karunki in 1840. Accompanied her husband to America. She died March 26, 1903. Children. The eldest daughter, Teresa, is married to Pastor E. E. Backman."

"KAARLO [CHARLES] MARKKI, brother of the above mentioned [Peter Markki], was born at Karunki in 1852. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1872; thence to farm at New York Mills in the 1880's. Died April 8, 1902. His wife, Kreetta Johanna Rantakallio, was born at Kukkola, Alatornio [Sweden], Feb. 15, 1852. Married in Calumet [Michigan] in 1874. She died Jan. 29, 1915. Several children. ---HENRIK [HENRY] MARKKI is the third one of the [Markki] brothers."

"HENRIK [HENRY] MATTI was born at Turtola April 8, 1848. He came to America, to Red Wing, Minn., in 1871; thence to the copper island [Michigan copper region], and finally to settle at New York Mills in 1880. His first wife, Maria Fr. Björnström,

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was born at Karunki Dec. 18, 1853. Married in Calumet [Michigan] in 1876. She died in 1920. Children. His second wife, Emilia Pikkarainen, was born at Ii in 1861. Married in 1920."

"ALBERT MIKKOLA was born at Tyrnävä in 1840. He came to America, to Ohio, in 1872, and to farm at New York Mills about 1880. His wife, Sofia Skarp, is from the city of Oulu. Childless."

"JOHAN [JOHN] HENRIK MUKKALA was born at Kuolajärvi in 1853. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to New York Mills in the 1880's. His wife, Anna Keskikallio, was born at Ii in 1851. She came to America in 1874. Died in 1916. Six children."

"PETER MURSU was born at Ii in 1844. He came with his family to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to farm at New York Mills in 1881. His wife, Margareeta Mäntylä, was born at Ii in 1847. She died in 1920. Children."

"KONRAD MÄÄTTÄ, from Kuusamo, came to America in the 1870's. Acquired a home-  
stead at Paddock in 1886; died on his farm in 1911. His wife, Briita Maria Tomberg,  
was born at Kuusamo in 1844. Died in 1916. A son, Henrik."

"PETER MÄÄTTÄ was born at Kempele in 1843. He came from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1872; thence to his farm at New York Mills in 1884, where he died some years later. His wife, Eva, came to America in 1870. Married in Calumet [Michigan]. Six children."



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"HENRIK [HENRY] NAMPA was born at Rovaniemi Feb. 14, 1838. He came to America in 1873, and settled at New York Mills in 1880. Died in 1915. His first wife, Briita Maria Karhunoja, from Rovaniemi, died in 1890. His second wife, Hanna, is from Kemi. Children from the first marriage."

"JOHAN [JOHN] NAUHA was born at Kalajoki July 8, 1852. He came to America with his family in 1872. Became a farmer at New York Mills in the 1880's. His wife, Sanna Kaisa Vetoniemi, was born at Kalajoki Aug. 25, 1842. She died in 1920."

"JOHAN [JOHN] NAUTAPUOTI was born at Alkkula in 1820. He came from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to New York Mills in 1879. Died about 1890. His wife, Maria Johanna, died in Michigan."

"ISAK [ISAAC] NAUTAPUOTI, son of the above mentioned [Johan Nautapuoti], was born at Alkkula Jan. 15, 1855. He came from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to his homestead at New York Mills in 1879. His wife, Eva Vilhelmiina Strohlberg, was born at Haparanda [Sweden] Dec. 10, 1858. Children."

"HENRIK [HENRY] NIEMELÄ was born at Ii Jan. 16, 1832. He came with his family to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1872; thence to New York Mills, to farm, in 1880. Died Nov. 1, 1900. His wife, Kreetta Mänttä, was born at Kuusamo Jan. 15, 1834. She died in 1905. Five children."

"MATTI [MATTHIAS] NIEMELÄ was born at Rautionkylä, [in the parish of] Kalajoki, in 1844. He came to America, to Cokato, in 1873; thence to farm at New York Mills in 1886. Died in 1905. His first wife, Johanna Männistö, died in Finland. His second wife, Mathilda Pole, was born at Kalajoki in 1848. She came with her children to America, to the new farm at New York Mills, in 1886."

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"KAARLO [CHARLES] NIKKILÄ was born at Simo March 7, 1844. He came to America in 1871, and to his homestead in 1880. Died unmarried."

"AUGUST NYLUND, a newspaperman, was born at Laukas in 1836. Learned the trade of a watchmaker in Jyväskylä. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1877. One of the founders of Uusi Kotimaa [The New Homeland], its first editor, and later its owner and publisher. Died in New York Mills in the 1890's. His wife, Sofia Tenhunen, was born at Kiuruvesi in 1836. She came to America with her children in 1880. Died Aug. 22, 1922, at the age of 86. Sons: August and Felix have edited and published Uusi Kotimaa after their father. August [one of the sons] is also deceased. He left three daughters."

"JAKOB OJALA was born at Ylivieska in 1854. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1879; thence to New York Mills, where he purchased land, in 1886. His wife, Anna Oman, was born in Norway, of Finnish parents, in 1865. Married in Calumet [Michigan]. Childless. ---MATTI [MATTHIAS] OJALA, born at Ylivieska in 1823, and his wife, Kaisa, born in 1823, came, in their old age, to stay with their son, the former dying, at the age of 89, in 1912, and the latter, at 90, in 1913."

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"JOHAN [JOHN] OLLIKAINEN was born at Lumijoki in 1843. He came to America as a sailor in 1877. Drifted to his friends on the copper island [Michigan copper region], where he worked a couple of years in the mines, moving to farm at New York Mills. His wife, Maria Stuart, is Scotch; they were married in Calumet [Michigan] in 1878. Eight children."

"ISAK [ISAAC] OMAN was born at Kaavuono [Kaafjord; Norway] in 1841, of Finnish parents, who in the 1830's moved from the Tornio River to Norway. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1868, and to farm at New York Mills in 1888, owning a large and well-kept farm, on which the sons live at present. His wife, Maria Kreetä Björkman, a Norway Finn, accompanied her husband to America. She



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died in 1916. Several children."

"AMALIA OMAN, on becoming a widow, arrived in America, at the age of 72, to stay with her son, living here six more years."

"OLLI PAJARI was born at Tervola Oct. 29, 1814. He came, in 1871, to America, to Chicago, whence he went to the Michigamme iron mine [in Michigan], where he worked until 1884, when he moved to farm on purchased land at New York Mills. Died, at the age of 89, Jan. 30, 1904. His wife, Anna Kreetta Halvari, was born at Rovaniemi Jan. 25, 1822. She accompanied her husband to America. Died Jan. 14, 1910, at the age of 88. Sons Olli and Henrik as well as two daughters."

"OLOF PARY (PAJARI), a business man, was born at Tervola July 8, 1852. He came to America in 1871. Worked in the Michigamme iron mine [in Michigan], on a railroad in Canada, etc. Settled down at New York Mills in 1881 and began to carry on a business, from which, in the 1890's, there grew a large business enterprise, comprising a sawmill, a flour mill, a real estate agency and an ordinary general store. He was, in his time, interested in mining enterprises and in conjunction with these affairs he made a trip all the way to Alaska. No material gain was acquired in these undertakings; rather were resources derived from the business used up. Has been in many positions of trust, in communal offices and in the village council. His first wife, Saara Piippo, born at Kemijärvi in 1847, died in New York Mills in 1906. They were married in Michigamme in 1872. Children. His second wife, Saara Vormer, is English-speaking."

"HENRIK [HENRY] PAJARI was born at Tervola March 14, 1855. He came to America, to the Michigamme mine [in Michigan], in 1872, and to farm at New York Mills in 1882. His wife, Anna L. Piekkola, was born at Hailuoto Dec. 25, 1875. Married in 1898. Twelve children."

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"JOHAN [JOHN] PAJUNPÄÄ<sup>II</sup> was born at Lohtaja April 15, 1852. He came from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1872, and to New York Mills, where he purchased land, in 1882. Has cleared a productive farm. His wife, Josefiina Nikkari, was born at Himanka Dec. 22, 1851. She came to America in 1881. Four children."

"SAKARI [ZACHARY] PAJUNPÄÄ<sup>III</sup> was born at Lohtaja in 1849. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to farm at New York Mills in 1881. His wife, Maria Puukangas, was born at Kälviä in 1851. They were married in Lohtaja in 1882, when Pajunpää was on a visit to Finland. Four children."

"JOHAN [JOHN] HENRIK PARTANEN was born at Alatornio [Sweden] Jan. 27, 1846. He came with his family to America, to Hancock, Mich., in 1872; thence to his homestead at New York Mills in 1878. His wife, Eva Briita Kasala, was born at Alatornio [Sweden] June 22, 1852. Ten children."

"ERIK PELTO was born at Tervola in 1839. He came to America, to the iron mines [iron ore region] of Michigan, in 1877; thence to farm at New York Mills in the 1880's. His wife, Briita Liisa, born at Tervola in 1845, came to America in 1883."

"OLLI PELTO was born at Tervola in 1829. He came to America in 1877; died in 1907. His wife, Kreetta Pajari, born in 1828, died in 1908. Eight children."

"KARL AB. PELTONIEMI was born at Kemijärvi July 9, 1851. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to New York Mills, where he purchased land, in 1885. His wife, Hanna Anttila, was born at Karunki June 8, 1861. Married in 1879. Several sons."

"JOHAN [JOHN] JAKOB PERÄLÄ was born at Kuivaniemi, [in the parish of] Ii, in 1848. He came to America, to Duluth, in 1876, and to his homestead at New York Mills in 1880. His wife, Anna Kaisa Ylitale, was born at Kuivaniemi in 1847. Died in 1914. Eleven children."



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"OLLI PETERSON was born at Kaavuono [Norway], of Finnish parents, Jan. 10, 1853. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1868, and to New York Mills, to his farm, in 1883. His wife, Maria Katariina Markki, from Haparanda [Sweden], died in 1895. Two children."

"ALEXANDER PIKKARAINEN was born at Ii in 1854. He came to America, to Minnesota, in 1872. Came from Brainerd to settle at New York Mills in 1877, being one of the earlier ones to arrive in the region. Died in 1894. His wife, Bieta Kustaava Koitila, was born at Halluoto in 1861. Married in 1879. Several children."

"MATTI [MATTHIAS] PIKKARAINEN, father of the above mentioned [Alexander Pikkarainen], was born at Ii in 1828. He came with his family to his son in America in 1873, and from Brainerd to his homestead at New York Mills in 1878. Died in 1890. His wife, Anna Sofia Simola, was born at Pudasjärvi in 1831. Died in 1916. Children."

"PETER PUDAS was born at Sodankylä Jan. 1, 1800. He came with his family from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to New York Mills with his son Adam, to clear wooded land for cultivation, in 1880, when he was an old man of 80 years. Died on his farm Oct. 15, 1900, at the age of 100 years, 9 months, 15 [14] days, being one of the very oldest of our [Finnish] immigrant people. His first wife, Margareeta Lantto, born in 1800, died in 1890. Peter Pudas married a second time, when 92 years old, Anna Koljonen, a damsel of 38 years, becoming his wife. Children from the first marriage."

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"ADAM PUDAS, son of the above mentioned [Peter Pudas], was born at Vesisaari [Vadsø; Norway] Aug. 3, 1849. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873, and to farm at Lehtijärvi [Leaf Lake], where he purchased land, in 1880. His wife, Briita Viheriä, was born at Ii in 1846. She accompanied her husband to America. Six sons."

"ISAK [ISAAC] PIIPPO was born at Piippola Jan. 2, 1845. He came to America,

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to Holmes City, in 1873, and thence to New York Mills in 1878. His wife, Klara Kustaava Simontaival, born July 12, 1845, died in 1916. Several children."

"ANTTI [ANDREW] PUUPERÄ<sup>U</sup> was born at Kuivaniemi, in the parish of Ii, Oct. 9, 1843. He migrated to America in 1873. Came from Brainerd to his homestead at New York Mills in 1875, he and T. [Tuomas] Autio being the first Finnish settlers of the region. Cleared an excellent farm in the woods. He died Oct. 26, 1901. His wife, Elsa Liisa Pyörny, was born at Ii June 11, 1830. She accompanied her husband to America, taking part in the clearing of the land they settled on. Died, at the age of 88, in 1918. Daughter: Anna, born at Ii in 1865, came to America with her parents, and for some time attended grade school in Brainerd. She used to act as interpreter when medical aid was sought, as also in other matters. She married Peter Höyhty<sup>U</sup> in 1881; they take care of the estate."

"JOHAN [JOHN] PÄÄTALO<sup>UU</sup> was born at Kuusamo June 23, 1845. He came to America in the 1870's, and to his farm at New York Mills in 1880. Died Nov. 9, 1904. His wife, Anna Liisa, born at Kuusamo in 1854, died in 1903. Children. ---Antti [Andrew] Pääta<sup>UU</sup>lo, brother of Juhan [Johan], is also reckoned as one of the earlier comers to the locality."

"JOHAN [JOHN] RAAPPANA was born at Lumijoki Dec. 19, 1848. He came, in 1873, to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], whence he moved to the iron mines [iron ore region] of Michigan, and then to settle at New York Mills in 1880. Died, unmarried, in 1918."

"PETER RAATTAMAA, son of Juhani Raattamaa, a famous and well-known evangelist in Lapland and the far north, was born at Karesuanto, Swedish Lapland, in 1849. He settled down to farm and perform ministerial duties at New York Mills in 1883. Died in 1921. His first wife, Maria Kristiina, a Norway Finn, died in 1894. His second wife, Kaisa Takkinen, from Kuusamo, died in 1919. Several sons, who are in business, and daughters."



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"ISAK [ISAAC] RAITAJÄRVI was born at Karunki in 1840. He came from Norway to America in the 1870's, and to farm at New York Mills about 1880. Died in 1912. His wife, Anna Kreetta Halmgrona, was born in 1848."

"JOHAN [JOHN] RAPAKKO was born at Tervola May 21, 1845. He came to America in 1873. Died in Sebeka July 17, 1912. His wife, Kreetta Mathilda, was born at Tervola Dec. 5, 1848. She died May 14, 1912. Son Carl is a farmer."

"MATTI [MATTHIAS] RONKAINEN was born at Kuusamo in 1836. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to his homestead at New York Mills in 1876, being reckoned among the earliest comers to the region. Was capable of preaching and conducted religious gatherings. His wife, Eva Kaisa Kuoppala, was born at Turtola in 1820. She accompanied her husband to America. Died, at the age of 90, in 1911. Childless."

"AUGUST ROUSU was born at Karunki in 1859. He came from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873. Farmer; town trustee. He died in 1922. His wife, Anna Stiina Peltoniemi. Grandchildren living."

"OLLI ROUSU was born at Tervola Dec. 11, 1835. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to settle at New York Mills about 1890. Died in 1913. His first wife, Stiina Kaisa Moksä, was born on the Tornio River in 1839. She died in Calumet [Michigan] in 1885. His second wife, Maria Helena Hirvelä, was born at Ylivieska Jan. 22, 1830. She died, at the age of 91, Oct. 6, 1921. Children from both marriages."

"JOHAN [JOHN] RÄISÄNEN was born at Puolanka Jan. 25, 1839. He came to America in 1873. Lived in Franklin, whence he moved to Sebeka. Died in 1902. His wife, Kaisa Mäkarainen, was born at Puolanka in 1845. She accompanied her husband to America. Children."



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"JOHAN [JOHN] JAKOB SANTABACKA was born at Lohtaja Dec. 23, 1844. He came, in 1871, from Norway to America, to Hancock [Michigan], where he lived nine years. Cleared an excellent farm at New York Mills. He has held positions of trust in town affairs. His first wife, Kreetta Vitikkohuhta, was born in Norway Jan. 12, 1849. Married in 1870; the following year she accompanied her husband to America. Died Dec. 23, 1903. Ten children. His second wife, Kreetta Fräki, nee Wingelys, is from Karunki."

"KUSTAA [GUSTAVUS] SARVI was born at Kuusemo in 1845. He came to America in 1875, and settled at Paddock about 1883, being one of the earliest Finns in the locality. Died in 1916. Wife and ten children."

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"ANTTI [ANDREW] SAVELA was born at Kälviä in 1840. He came to America in 1873, and to his homestead at New York Mills in 1879. His wife, Serafia Karoliina, was born at Kälviä in 1837. She died in 1918. Childless."

"ISAK [ISAAC] STROHLBERG was born at Haparanda [Sweden] in 1845. He came from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1870; thence to New York Mills in 1881, buying state school land. His first wife, Ingeborg, born at Kaavuono [Kaafjord; Norway] in 1853, died in Hancock [Michigan] in 1880. His second wife, Mathilda, was born in 1849. Four children."

"NILS FR. STROHLBERG was born in Norway in 1856. He came to America in 1877, and to his farm at New York Mills in 1879. His wife, Maria Kaisa Nautapuoti, from Alkkula, came to America in 1873. Married in 1879."

"JOHAN [JOHN] SUOMELA was born at Hailuote Sept. 7, 1850. He came to America, to Canada, in 1873, thence to Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio, and to Thoms [Thomson; Minnesota] in the 1880's. To New York Mills he came in 1890. Owns a farm which has rotation of crops and dairying carried on in a modern way. His wife, Maria, was born at Hailuote in 1851. She came with her children to her husband in America in 1881."



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"JOHAN [JOHN] SUVANTO, from Pudasjärvi, came to America, to Hancock, Mich., in 1879, and to his homestead at Menahga in 1893. Died about ten years later. His wife, Briita."

"AUGUST SUVANTO, son of the above mentioned [Johan Suvanto], was born at Pudasjärvi in 1855. He came to America in 1879, and to settle at Menahga in 1893. His wife, Hanna Kenttä, was born at Pudasjärvi in 1855. Children."

"IVARI TELIN was born at Piippola June 10, 1841. He came to America, to Minnesota, in 1873. From Holmes City he moved to settle at New York Mills in 1880. Has cultivated an excellent farm. His first wife, Anna Valpuri Peltomaa, was born at Paavola Aug. 10, 1838. She died Jan. 3, 1907. Five children. His second wife, Hanna Piekkola, was born at Hailuote in 1853. ---Ivar Telin, Jr., son of the above mentioned, was born at Piippola in 1867."

"JOHAN [JOHN] TERVO, one of the oldest persons in the locality, died, at the age of 93, in 1922."

"LARS TRUPUKKA was born at Hailuote in 1853. He came from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to farm at New York Mills. Died in 1920. His wife, Kaisa Kristiina Hendrickson, was born at Kittilä in 1853. Married in New York Mills in 1882. Children."

"ANTTI [ANDREW] TUOMELA was born at Olhavankylä, [in the parish of] Ii, Nov. 30, 1845. He came, in 1875, to America, to Brainerd, whence, some years later, he came to settle at Lehtijärvi [Leaf Lake]. Died in 1917. His wife, Eva Kaisa Suomela, born at Haukipudas, came to America in 1875. She died May 17, 1913. Have had five children."

"JOHAN [JOHN] TÖRGREN (TÖRKKI-JUSSI) [the name in parentheses is a nickname] was born at Kaavuono [Norway] in 1857. He came to America in the 1870's. Acquired a homestead for himself at New York Mills in 1879, but after some time moved away from the locality. His wife, Anna Kaisa."



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"JOHAN [JOHN] VAPOLA was born at Lohtaja March 20, 1849. He came to America, to Minnesota, in 1873. Lived for some years in Brainerd, whence he moved to settle at New York Mills in 1880. He died about ten years later, while in the prime of his manhood. His wife, Maria Pajumpää<sup>""</sup>, was born at Lohtaja in 1849. Married in Brainerd in 1880. Son is a merchant in New York Mills."

"KUSTAA [GUSTAVUS] VAIKINEN was born at Ylistaro Oct. 20, 1845. He came to America, to Ohio, in 1873, and to farm at New York Mills in 1880. His wife, Elisabet Palomäki<sup>""</sup>, was born at Ylistaro in 1847. She came to America in 1877. Have had nine children."

"ERIK VANHATALO was born at Karunki Aug. 5, 1828. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873; thence to New York Mills in 1879. Deceased. His wife, Sofia Kauppila, was born at Karunki March 1, 1834. She accompanied her husband to America. Died in 1884. Four children."

"ISAK [ISAAC] VESTOLA, who also goes by the name of West, was born at Turtola Dec. 16, 1843. He came to America, to Minneapolis, in 1871. Settled at New York Mills either in 1877 or in 1878, acquiring a homestead, which he has enlarged through purchases of land; has built an imposing farmhouse. He has held positions of trust in town affairs, etc. His first wife, Kaisa Lantto, from Turtola, died in 1876. His second wife, Briita Liisa Tapo, was born Oct. 24, 1847. Married in New York Mills in 1878. She died in 1921. Three children."

"AUGUST VIINIKKA, from Karunki, came from Norway to America in 1869. He settled at New York Mills about 1880; died Oct. 7, 1885. His wife, Anna, after becoming a widow, married Aug. Johnson."

"PETER VIINIKKA was born at Karunki in 1840. Cleared a farm at Leaf Lake; died there in 1905. His wife, Briita, from the Tornio River, died in 1900."

"ROBERT WILLIAM (TIITTO) was born in 1828. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in the 1870's. His wife, Maria. Both died in Menahga."



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"LUDWICK VUOKKILA, also known by the name of Isackson, was born at Kemi. He came to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873. Died in New York Mills Feb. 19, 1922. Had wife and adopted son."

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"OLLI VUOKKILA was born at Kemi in 1835. He came from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], in 1873, and to his homestead at New York Mills in 1879. Died Aug. 12, 1899. His wife, Susanna Matleena Tuula, was born at Tuulaniemi, [probably in the parish of] Kemi, in 1830. She accompanied her husband to America."

"JOHAN [JOHN] VÄLITALO was born at Ii in 1845. He came, in 1873, from Norway to America, to the copper island [Michigan copper region], and thence to his homestead at New York Mills in 1878, being the region's eight settler. Besides farming he did carpentry and repaired wagons and household articles. His first wife, Loviisa Honkala, was born at Ii in 1852. Married in Hancock [Michigan] in 1874; she died in New York Mills in 1885. His second wife, Susanna. A son and a daughter from the first marriage."

"A Supplementary List of the Finns of New York Mills, Sebeka and Menahga Who Came to America in the 1880's, about Whom Biographical Information Will Be Prepared for the Following Volume."

"Antti Karjalainen, Jakob Karjalainen, Peter Karjalainen, Sifvert Karjalainen, Antti Karvonen, Kustaa Karvonen, Johan Kurvinen, Aleksander Kynärsalmi, Samuli Kämäräinen, Antti Lämpä, Matti Lind, Herman Mattila, Abram Mättälä, Johan Nevala, Peter Nevala, Matti Niskala, Kustaa Sarvi, Antti Samuelson, Samuel Samuelson, Elias Stjerna, Joseph Stjerna, Kustaa Stjerna, Johan Särkelä, Erik Thomberg, Jakob Thomberg, Abram Tormänen, all the above mentioned are from Kuusamo; Abram Honkala, Henrik Hepola, Jakob Hepola, Paul Kuha, Antti Kuukas, Isak Kuukas, Jakob Kuukas, Johan Kuukas, Heikki Ihme, Erik Jaakola, Matti Jaakola, Lassi Lohi, Matti Lohi, Matti Pinoniemi and Johan Siirax, from Pudasjärvi; Jakob Hepokoski, Tapani Erkkilä, Jakob

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Höyhty<sup>ä</sup>, Peter Höyhty<sup>ä</sup>, Jakob Jokela, Johan Kurtti, Johan Kivijärvi, Tuomas Kivijärvi, Johan Lahti, Johan Mursu and Johan Paso, from the parish of Ii; Johan Kyllönen, Johan Moilanen, Tuomas Moilanen, Isak Rama and Kalle Tauriainen, from Suomussalmi; Matti Heikkinen, Johan Kähkölä<sup>ä</sup>, Matti Peterson, Peter Kaakinen, Topias Kaakinen, August Siltala and Herman Thompson, from Kuhmoniemi; K. A. Hela, Matti Lintula, Albert Mikkonen and Tuomas Ollila, from Tervola; Erik Makkala, Alfred Palojarvi and Nils Räihä<sup>ä</sup>, from Kuolajarvi; Aatu Kela and Lars Anderson, from Taivalkoski; Alfred Jaakkola, Olli Jones, Daniel Kynsijärvi, Nikola Lehto and Isak Lundström, from Alatornio [Sweden]; Antti Niemelä<sup>ä</sup> and Antti Niilimaa, from Ylitornio; Olli Matala, Kalle Palo, August Partanen and Matti Pekkala, from the Tornio River; Heikki Niska, from Karunki; Antti Sundi, from Karesuanto; Heikki Martin, from Sodankylä<sup>ä</sup>; Johan Tervo, from Utajarvi; Herman Ranta, from Rovaniemi; Jakob Erkkilä<sup>ä</sup> and Matti Erkkilä<sup>ä</sup>, from Kemijärvi; Johan Pelto and Kustaa Saukola, from Kemi; Heikki Immonen, from Puolanka; Johan Saku, from Käräsäki; Olli Ronkainen, from Simo; Adam Etter, from Koski; Abram Millen, from Siikajoki; August Viita, from Haapavesi; Antti Koljonen, from Kempele; Johan Lepistö<sup>ö</sup>, from Hailuoto; Lauri Vesala, from Kliminki; Johan Keeteri, from Liminka; Matti Rappan[<sup>ä</sup>Rappanen, probably], from Lumijoki; Johan Siira, from Oulu; Matti Heinonen, from Paavola; Antti Porkka, from Ranttila; Matti Vähälä<sup>ä</sup>, from Revonlahti; August Siltala and Perttu Siltala, from Nivala; Mikko Ollila, Johan Pajukoski, Kustaa Pajukoski and Leander Sironen, from Kalsajoki; Mikko Kippola and Johan Ojala, from Ylivieska; Matti Niemelä<sup>ä</sup> and Tuomas Salo, from Toholampi; Johan Palmgard, from Lohtaja; Matti Paavola and Matti Virkkala, from Kaustinen; Erik Matti, Abram Marttila, Joseph Marttila, Kalle Lakso and Johan Permu, from Kälviä<sup>ä</sup>; Peter Joensuu, from Raaske; Johan Maunu, Mikko Marjamaa and Peter Marjamaa, from Yliveteli; Johan Ketomäki, from Kannus; Abram Matson, from Ullava; August Aho and Jakob Aho, from Alajärvi; Isak Borg, Matti Jacobson, Jakob Minne, Isak Nylund and Matti Sippola, from Isokyrö<sup>ö</sup>; Johan Nissilä<sup>ä</sup> and Johan Tontti, from Vähäkyrö<sup>ö</sup>; Kustaa Jetenberg, Tuomas Korpela and Elias Ulgren, from Laihia; Esa Lemponen, from Ylistaro; Leander Holm, from Kruunupyä; Antti Kompa, from Hirvisalmi; Heikki Blomberg and Antti Hu-

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tader, from Kiuruvesi; Antti Anderson (Tolvaniemi), Teodor Anderson, Matti Anderson (Shukainen), Jakob Aironen, Hugo Almqvist, merchant, Johan Burckman, Tuomas Erkkilä, Johan Garlund, Peter Frant, Abram Hanhela, Nels Kelpin, Erik Hendrickson, Mikko Hendrickson, Heikki Hopola, Lassi Hiltunen, Johan Holappa, Esa Hopponen, Erik Ruohola, Nils Riihää, August Hyry, Jakob Ikonen, Isak Raitajärvi, Kristian Peltola, Jakob Joki, Peter Joki, Jakob Jämsä, Abram Kallunki, Abram Kangas, Isak Korkola, Salomon Korkola, Kalle Kohus, Olli Kestilä, Johan Keto, Isak Koller, Kalle Kujala, Antti Kunari, Renne Kähkönen, Jakob Kuopus, Jakob Lalli, Antti Lämpä, Johan Maaninka, Peter Maijala, Erik Malkamäki, Heikki Matson, Johan Matson, Fredrik Mattila, Henrik Martin, Abram Matti, Johan Matti, Antti Mikko, Henrik Mikkola, Jakob Niemi, Matti Nikkari, Robert Nykänen, Benjam Pantisari, Isak Partanen, Kalle Pauruus, Peter Paunu, Matti Pentti, Leander Permi, Matti Pietilä, Abram Puhakka, Jakob Rajala, Antti Rimpelä, Adolf Ruikka, Erik Ruotsalainen, Roope Rytinki, Johan Riihää, Jakob Saari, Johan Saari, Johan Satapalkka [perhaps Santapakka], Antti Savola, Johan Spots, Wm. Strohlberg, Abram Sulasalmi, Johan Säkkinen, Matti Takala, Erik Vanhatalo, Erik Tapani, Olli Tervola, Johan Tolkki, Erik Tolkkinen, Erik Vattukumpu, Kustaa Venälä, Kustaa Viiki, Johan Viiki, Nils Vuokila, Herman Yli and Mikko Ylitalo."

(This concludes the chapter)

There are three different versions on how the strike started but I don't believe any of them authentic. As one is seen from the side of the worker, one from the side of the employee, and one from the side of the agitator. - It is stated in "The Survey" for August 26, 1916 in an article by Marion B. Cothern (page 535):

"The last of May, so the story goes, Joe Green, an Italian employed underground in the Alpena mine at Virginia, Minn., opened his pay envelope to find a sum much less than he understood his contract called for. "To hell with such wages," cried he, throwing his pick in the corner, whereupon he vowed never to mine another foot of ore. For three days he went from slope to slope urging the men to strike. Then, he left for Aurora to begin agitation at the St. James mine with its force of 40 men. On June 3 they struck and started marching from Ingersoll to Hibbing, gaining recruits as they went. The mine owners claimed that they intimidated workers and forced them to quit work."

In the "Literary Digest" for September 23, 1916 an article condensed from different magazine articles, page 732, stated: "That the workers spontaneously walked out, leaving the managers and community dazed (733) while the company maintains that the strike is not spontaneous walkout of the employees, but that it has been stirred up entirely from the outside by Industrial Workers of the World agitators, with whom the corporation positively refuses to deal."

The main cause of the strike was low wages. The men working in the open pit mines were receiving \$2.60 for ten hours' work. Working for this wage six days a week, every week of the year, they would have earned less than the minimum on which a family can be supported in decency and health. (The New Republic, Sept. 2, 1916)

Underground, a peculiar piece-work system of payments prevailed. Each miner was assigned a chamber or slope by the mine captain or foreman and his



rate per ton was fixed by the mine authorities according to softness of the ore. These rates were changed when even the mine authorities saw fit, thereby keeping the wages low. These changes in rates were inaugurated without consulting the men (The man also had to pay for the blasting powder, fuses, and caps they used).

A contributing factor was the high cost of living on the range which was out of proportion with the wage they received, for example, rent was excessively high. A modern six-room bungalow would rent anywhere from \$25 to \$50, depending on location. Shacks or houses that could be found in the slums of any large city would rent from \$8 to \$15 a month. Food stuffs were correspondingly high - meat 10 to 15 cents a pound higher, eggs 7 to 8 cents a dozen higher and fruit 15 to 20 cents higher.

The leaders of this strike are rather obscure. The only names that could be found were those of agitators sent in by the Industrial Workers of the World. They were as follows: Carlo Tresca, Sam Scarlett, Frank Little, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and Joseph J. Ettor. There is no mention of any individual miner being a leader with the exception of Joe Greene.

The nationality groups involved were the Finns, Slavs, Poles, Americans and Austrians.

This strike ended because of poor leadership. Nothing was gained. The Finns had little to do with it outside of their nationality being represented.

Duluth, Minnesota  
Socio Ethnic  
Harold Rajala  
February 29, 1940

Material translated from "Esiraivaajien Muisto":

"A publication issued in connection with the festival held at New York Mills August 20 in remembrance of the pioneering of the New York Mills, Sebeka, Menahga and Susijärvi [Wolf Lake] region's pioneer Finns and of Minnesota's first Finnish immigrants." Published at New York Mills in 1939.

The following is a translation of the article, "Vähän Muistelmia Menahgan Esiraivaajista" [ "Brief Reminiscences of Menahga's Pioneers," ] written by John Hilton, on pages 14 and 15.

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"The first pioneers in the western part of Menahga, which then was not there, were in the region in 1883 and 1884. During those years there came here as the first whites, to live in the dark woods among the Indians, the following persons or families:

"Jussi [John] Sarvi, Antti [Andrew] Kuukas, August Mursu, Lassi [Lars] Lohi, Paavo Kuukas, Matti [Mathew] Pietilä, Johan Kynsijärvi, Johan Maunu, Jacob Sarkiaho, Mikko [Michael] Marjamaa, Tuomas [Thomas] Ollila, Pekka Maaninga and Wille Granruth. Probably others came too which I have not received word of. They did not come all at one time, but almost singly. Their starting point was New York Mills which was the closest village, nearly thirty miles away, and where also came their mail.

"Their coming was troublesome, because there was no road except a short distance at the beginning of their trip. And all necessities had to be carried into the roadless backwoods. Some had even carried stoves and others had pulled them with sleighs



during the time of snow. But everyone was satisfied, they did not expect any better. As individual dependable and courageous Finns, they knew that nothing was impossible to them and that everything would change in time. Life to them was quite free and they did appreciate the fact that nature provided bountifully which they could freely use, game was everywhere: meat in the woods and fish in the waters which was taken whenever the need existed. Game wardens did not molest as they do now. Nature's offerings were for their enjoyment.

"I spoke to Jacob Lalli and Mike Marjamaa, who both came there with their fathers in the above mentioned years. They explained these early periods in just about the same manner. But Mr. Lalli said he was the first white resident of Blueberry-town, Tapani Erkkila was second and Aatami [Adam] Timonen, third, in the year 1893. There were many Indians in this region in those years, but they were quite friendly and did not bother these settlers. They lived on good terms with each other.

"New York Mills was then a well settled district and a part of its settlers already had a good start. When new comers arrived they told them to go to 'Rettaile' (Red Eye), for there was land available and lots of rabbits, and that there they would get a good start. And when they had rabbits in their brushpiles they had driven them away and told them to go to 'Rettaile' [Red Eye], for there they were needed, which was, at least, partly the truth, for they did become necessary here.

"Olli Pajari was the great business man in New York Mills at that time. He had helped the first settlers of this region to get started, by giving them work, for which they got necessities from his store.

"The village of Menahga began in the year 1890. The following year a railroad came in, on which many of these first settlers got work and to whom they sold ties of which they drove mainly at the time, -- in this region was used ox-teams. The first store was established by Bombag and another man by the name of Biikki. The first home in Menahga was that of Riika Karjala.

"I will mention a little of those times, when we went to Susijarvi [Wolf Lake] to live on a homestead some 43 years ago. Father had erected a log cabin on the place which was surrounded by a thick primeval forest. We were the first to live in that vicinity toward the north. This place was about a mile and a half east of Susijarvi [Wolf Lake]. It looked very strange when we went there, for, the woods reached almost to the walls, which we had never seen before. We were a six-person family: father and mother and four children, who yet were no help to their parents and had to be watched so they would not get lost there. For this reason mother often frightened us, that not to go far or an Indian would get us. In spite of this, for we never saw Indians, my oldest sister and I brought Maija [Mary] to our rabbit snares and a long distance from the building, although quite timidly.

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"Then the following summer, quite early we went again with sister Maija [Mary] to the snares which were quite far, a partridge, as it is known in America, rapped its wings somewhere on a fallen log. We had never seen such game nor heard it before, so it scared us so greatly that we could not talk. I finally asked Maija [Mary] what it was. Maija said that surely there are Indians laying there. At the same time again was heard, this time right near us. Then we found our feet. A stick went into my pants-leg and there was no time to take it out. Maija [Mary] left me behind because I could not go fast enough. Finally my pants-leg tore and the stick fell out. Then when I arrived home Maija had already explained to mother all about that Indian, which angered me very much, so I did not speak to Maija [Mary] for many days. Nor did we dare get our snares, but had to take father along, who was not scared of the laying Indian, who knew in truth what it was.

"Then the following year came a neighbor, Gusti Koskela. And later came John Hovin, Matti [Mathew] Hillukka and John Koskela. Now that region is quite thickly settled, the same as all other places. But very few of those I have mentioned are living yet.



"At that time there was plenty of work to do for success could not be gained without work. Cattle was raised in free pastures and driving was done by ox-teams, who sometimes would become quite stubborn. I remember once on a certain farm a man and his wife were ploughing a potatoe field with oxen. The man held the plow while the woman led the oxen, who's names I remember were Mooky and Bili. Everything seemed to be getting along well until the plow point hit a root and then Mooky and Bili flew back onto their haunches at the same time pulling the woman to the ground. The woman fretted and complained that Mooky sure was awkward for he always sat down whenever he felt that the plow had touched anything a little bit more solid and that in the mornings he fights with Bili and so tires himself out so that he cannot stand up in the afternoon.

"The man who was holding the plowhandles got such a jerk that his corn-cob pipe flew away, he cursed and asked his wife how long it would be before she learns to guide the oxen. The woman mused, that hadn't she had to lead him for more than ten years and if the town were closer then she would have to lead him more often and many times he had been more awkward than that Mooky.

"The man then told her not to pout there but go to the cabin and make some barley-coffee, saying he has had to lead her when she was in such poor condition when they got their son Matti [Mathew] who now is always everywhere at one time. But when the barley-coffee was drunk then everything was again as before.

"The people coming here first had suffered much more difficulties than those who are here now, for to them they were just ordinary and everyday happenings, for they had become accustomed to them and felt that it was natural and was a part of them."

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(This completes chapter)

Duluth, Minnesota  
 Clayton A. Videen  
 June 13, 1939

The New Republic, pp. 108-109; September 2, 1916  
 Vol. 8, No. 96; no dateline  
 Duluth Public Library; May 31, 1939;  
 Item #4

"The strike of iron miners employed by the Steel Corporation in northern Minnesota was one of those spontaneous walkings-out of unorganized men which leave the managers and the community a trifle dazed.

"The Mesaba range is a high plateau running back from Lake Superior for one hundred miles or more, with rich bodies of iron ore for its whole length and ten miles of its width. It is a pleasant, open, sun-lit land, in spite of its long, rigorous winters and its great expanses of brush and stump land, denuded by the timbermen of the forests that still thrive to the north. When the Steel Corporation acquired title to the richest deposits, built modern docks at Duluth, seventy miles to the south and east, and created a great fleet of ore carriers, the Mesaba range became at once the most important iron-mining district on the continent and the chief support of Duluth's hope of becoming a big industrial city.

"On the range this winter and spring the Steel Corporation, through its subsidiary, the Oliver Iron Mining Company, had twice increased the wages of laborers employed in the open-pit mines, each time by ten per cent, as in the Pittsburgh district, and at the time of the strike in June they were receiving \$2.60 for ten hours' work. With six days' work a week for every week in the year, they would have earned a little less than the amount <sup>(agreed ?)</sup> upon by all governmental and private authorities as the minimum on which a family can be supported in decency and health. But the winters are long and hard, and the open-pit laborers lose many a shift when work closes down and they are compelled to leave their families for a winter in the distant lumber camps.

"Underground, where a majority of the men are employed, a peculiar piece-work system of payments prevailed. Each miner was assigned to a stope



or chamber by the mine captain, or foreman, and his rate per ton was then fixed by the mine authorities according to the softness of the ore. These rates were fixed weekly or bi-weekly, according to the mine, and the miner was neither consulted nor informed concerning his rate until the end of the month, when he received his pay. If a miner's tonnage for the week ran up to a figure that yielded wages disproportionately high, the rate was cut. Sometimes, when a miner struck hard ore, it would be at least a week before his rate was increased, and in the meantime he worked for as little as fifty cents a day. In one of the best of the mines, the company payroll showed a range of wages from \$1.21 to \$4.90. The man earning \$1.21 this week might earn \$3 or \$4 the next. A miner never knew, until the end of the month, what his income would be for that month. The company claimed an average wage of \$3.40 per day at this mine. Yet the men were even then on strike for a flat rate of \$3 per day in dry places and \$3.50 in wet places.

"This piece-rate system, with every factor in production fluctuating and uncertain and requiring constantly the exercise by the bosses of a discretion that the miners were not permitted to question, was frankly a speeding-up device, designed to prevent 'Soldiering.' If a miner complained of his cheque, he was told to work harder. No system was ever devised more certain to create friction by encouraging favoritism and corruption on the part of petty bosses, or, when these did not exist, by leaving in the mind of the miner a smoldering suspicion that he was the victim of discrimination.

"Without an organization, with no mine committee to speak for him, the Austrian or Italian miner was helpless to make effective protest against actual abuses, or to satisfy himself that the suspected abuses did not exist. Today Mr. Davies and Mr. Fairley, the federal mediators on the ground, have in their possession an imposing stack of affidavits alleging to extortion of bribes by mine bosses, bribes that took many forms from the buying of drinks to the buying of lottery tickets, or the paying of direct bribes at the rate of \$5 or

Item #4

\$10 a month for 'easy ground.'

"When the strike began at an independent mine where conditions were particularly bad, it spread rapidly across the length of the range. Estimates of the number of men out vary from the 20,000 claimed by the I.W.W. leaders to the 15,000 estimated by Mayor of Virginia in his telegram to the Department of Labor, and the claims of the company officials that only a few thousand were out. The Western Federation of Miners had no agents in the field. It was even then undergoing reorganization and preparing to forget a past marked by dissensions and failures, even changing its name as a part of this process to the 'International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers.' So the only organization of the American Federation of Labor having jurisdiction in the metal mines could offer no aid. But in every large group of unorganized foreign-born workers are men who have espoused the doctrines and given their allegiance to the I.W.W. An appeal to William D. Haywood met ready response. Carlo Tresca, Sam Scarlet, Frank Little, and others responded. But the strike was not a week old before the permanent force of Oliver private police had been augmented by a swarm of guards, recruited from Duluth, St. Paul, Minneapolis, anywhere where men could be found willing to go to the range, strap on guns, grasp riot sticks, pin deputy sheriffs' badges on their shirts, and go forth to attack picket lines, menace strikers' parades, and brow-beat strikers wherever they should be met, singly or alone. Sheriff Meining, of Duluth, told me he had deputized 'over a thousand' of these men, and he admitted cheerfully that except for the comparatively few appointed personally by him, he had attempted no investigation of the character of the men thus armed with firearms and public authority. Mayor Power of Hibbing intercepted a letter sent with two toughs to a mine superintendent by Chief of Police McKercher of Duluth, in which McKercher asked that he be notified if the two worthies did not do their work satisfactorily, as 'I have something on them.'



"The reign of frightfulness, inaugurated by this army of privately-paid thugs is beyond belief by those unaware, through personal experience, of the methods of American industrial absolutism in crushing a revolt. Strikers were beaten and thrown into jail on trumped-up charges or no charges at all. Women and babies followed them into prison cells. A striker was shot and killed while on the picket line several blocks from the nearest company property, a notorious character named Nick Dillon, a private mine guard deputized by the sheriff, stormed into a miner's home to arrest him on a charge of selling liquor illegally. Dillon and the deputies with him carried guns in their hands, as they strode into the house without knocking and confronted the striker surrounded by his family and a few boarders. A general melee followed. A peddler who was calling at the house was shot and killed. One of the boarders was shot twice through the thighs. A deputy sheriff was killed. Many miles away, at Virginia, Carlo Tresca and five other I. W. W. organizers were taken from their hotel at three in the morning, manacled, and placed on a train for Duluth, where they are now awaiting trial for murder in the first degree. The claim is made that their speeches had induced the killing. The striker, his wife and two of his boarders are in jail on the same charge.

"The I.W.W., left without leaders on the range, promptly sent Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and Joseph J. Ettor, both active at Lawrence and Patterson. Miss Flynn remained in hiding for several days. Then the coming of outside investigators gave pause to the license of the gunmen, and today she and Ettor are unmolested. While the federal mediators remain, the Steel Corporation apparently will modify its methods.

"It is too early to judge the effect of the present strike. Certainly the Federal investigators, now completing their investigation, will be able to present to the managers a bill of grievances, a record of specific abuses, that no decent man could ignore. There are sure to be improvements. And the company has suffered too severely to court a repetition of last summer's exper-

ience. Stock piles have been exhausted and the engineering plan of many an open pit has been spoiled as the steam shovels gouged out the ore wherever it could be had most easily and quickly. Best of all, public opinion on the range and throughout Minnesota has been aroused, and there is a possibility of a strong organization of miners at an early date. Governor Burnquist, who authorized local officials to go the limit in beating down the miners, no longer finds it easy to defend his action. Other officials at Duluth and in St. Louis County may, at the next election, learn that public authority cannot be used brutally and recklessly of the side of the oppressors in a struggle against industrial tyranny."

The article is signed by George P. West.

The Literary Digest, PP. 732-733; September 23, 1916  
Vol. 53, No. 13, Whole Number 1379; no dateline  
Duluth Public Library; May 31, 1939  
Item #5

"In a season of great industrial unrest, a strike affecting thousands of people and characterized by shootings, murders, and wholesale arrests, a bitter contest in which Industrial Workers of the World have been arrayed against the United States Steel Corporation, has been waged since June 3 in the most important iron-mining district of the country without attracting more than passing attention from the daily press... The strike of the iron-miners in the Mesaba Range of Northern Minnesota has been described as 'one of those spontaneous walkings-out of unorganized men which leave the managers and a community a trifle dazed.' The employers, on the other hand, have maintained that the strike was not at all spontaneous, but was stirred up entirely from the outside by agitators of the Industrial Workers of the World. Well-known I. W. W. names have, indeed, been conspicuous in the news from Mesaba, and one of William D. Haywood's calls for relief funds for the strikers opened with this belligerent sentence: 'War has been declared against the Steel Trust and the independent mining companies of Minnesota by the Industrial Workers of the World.'



"....The largest operator in the Mesaba Range is the Oliver Mining Company, a subsidiary of the 'Steel Trust.' The strike actually began last June in a small independent mine. It spread all over the range till some 15,000 miners were affected, in great part employed by the Oliver Company.... The miners...were employed in two ways--The open-pit workers and the non-mining underground workers by the day, and the underground miners by a piece-work arrangement known as the contract system. Now the Oliver Company's open-pit miners had had their pay increased in February and again in May, bringing it up to \$2.60. The company alleges that the wages of the contract system miners were raised proportionately.... The miners objected to the contract system as practiced on the Mesaba Range because it makes wages uncertain and leads to 'much petty graft and unjust discrimination on the part of the shift bosses and captains.' Hence the workers have made these demands: '\$2.75 a day for open-pit mining; \$3 a day for underground mining, dry work; \$3.50 a day for underground mining, wet work; an eight-hour day; pay twice a month; abolition of the contract system.'

"The company maintains that the strike, in so far as it is affected, is not a spontaneous strike of the employees, but that it has been stirred up entirely from the outside by Workers of the World agitators.... They maintain that it has been managed exclusively by the Industrial Workers of the World leaders, with whom the corporation positively refuses to deal.'

"The company believes the men are well paid, and thinks the contract system necessary because of the varying nature of the work and because of the difficulty of supervising men working underground."

The news story continues with statements for and against the mining companies' "gunmen." Three or four paragraphs are devoted to George P. West's report, which has been submitted in these notes in its entirety and referred to several times since. Because these particular phases of the strike have been thoroughly covered, I feel that it is a waste of time to go over them

again.----CAV

The Survey, PP. 703-709; September 7, 1912  
Vol. 28, No. 23; no dateline  
Duluth Public Library; June 1 and 5, 1939  
Item #6

The following article, written in 1912, has no direct bearing on the strikes on the Mesabi Range, but it may be useful in the Social-Ethnic study because it deals chiefly with the immigrants in Northern Minnesota. Since the immigrant population is so large on the Mesabi and Vermilion ranges, the article ought to provide part of the background for the study.

The name of the article is "Immigrant Life in the Ore Region of Northern Minnesota," by "Le Roy Hodges, special agent and geographer, former United States Immigration Commission; former Commissioner of Immigration the Southern Commercial Congress." The story is illustrated, a picture of a Finnish miner's shack and a company cottage being among the most interesting.

The story follows:

"North of Duluth there is a region where the falling rains and melting snows on one hill drain northward to the ice wastes of the Arctic Ocean. The waters on the second hill pass down to the Great Lakes, plunge over Niagara, and rush through the St. Lawrence into the gray, storm-tossed Atlantic. Providence has also decreed that the more favored waters of this place shall fall on a third hill and flow southward into the majestic Mississippi, traverse the heart of the southland, and enter into the blue, sparkling depths of the Gulf of Mexico.

"Great wastes of land stretch for miles covered only with the charred, blackened stumps of a once magnificent pine forest. Yawning chasms, in all their ugly nakedness, mark the spots where man has discovered the removed or is now at work removing the treasures of the hills which nature so carefully stored away.



"The babel of more than thirty different alien tongues mingles with the roar of mine blasts and the crash and clank of machinery. Here side by side work Finns, Swedes, Montenegrins, South Italians, English, Irish, Bohemians, Frenchmen, Hollanders, Syrians, Belgians, Croatians, Danes, Russians, Magyars, Bulgarians, Germans, Greeks, Scotchmen, Welshmen, Dalmatians, Norwegians, and Servians.

"More than 22,000,000 tons of iron ore are produced here annually, giving employment to about 15,000 men. Nearly 2,000,000 tons a year of the hard hematite ores are dug from the surface of the earth with as little difficulty as though they were the common sands of the sea.

"Embedded in these rock strewn hills lie the wealth and power of the American steel industry. Here is the home of thirty great iron mining companies. Man can lay back a few feet of top soil and load, with steam driven shovels, an almost pure ore into the cars of waiting trains. It is an Eldorado where iron takes the place of gold!

"This region is divided geologically into two districts, or ranges as they are popularly called, known respectively as the Vermillion and the Mesabi.

"The Vermillion, the oldest of the two ranges, was explored and recognized as an iron bearing district as early as the late forties, but was not developed to any extent until 1880 when the locating of large deposits of iron ore caused a stampede. The majority of the new settlers came from the iron ranges of Michigan to seek employment. In 1882 the town of Tower, the first permanent mining camp in Minnesota, was established. A mining company was soon organized which has since been merged into a controlling iron-mining and steel-manufacturing interest which now owns and operates all mining properties on the range.

"The records of a Roman Catholic church built in 1884 show that in that year the congregation was composed of thirty families of Irish, German, Italians, and French-Canadians: 120 souls, forty-five of them single, most of them from the Michigan ranges.

"Systematic operations in the Mesabi Range were begun in 1890, thirty years after the ore was discovered. The most important find was that of an exploration party from Duluth which struck a rich deposit of iron at what is now the Mountain Iron mine.

"After the first discoveries of the vast ore wealth of the Mesabi were made, towns and railroads were built and a steady immigration from the Vermillion and the older ranges of Michigan set in. By the fall of 1892 the first shipments of ore went from the Mountain Iron Mine.

"The production of ore on the whole range in 1892 amounted to only 4,245 tons. Today the Mesabi, with its annual production of more than 20,000, 000 tons of high grade ore, is the greatest iron producing region in the world.

"The same company which owns the Vermillion properties controls and operates about two-thirds of the mines on the Mesabi, employing three-fourths of the men working in the industry. More than thirty other important concerns also own properties on the range. The centers of production are the towns of Hibbing and Virginia, and after them Chisholm, Eveleth, Coleraine, Nashwauk, Bovey, and Biwabik.

"About 1900, to the original inhabitants--Finns, Slovenians, Scandinavians, Irish, north Italians, Cornishmen, and native Americans--were added in the influx direct from Europe of Bohemians, South Italians, Bulgarians, Servians, Croatians, Montenegrins, and other South and East Europeans who now make up the unskilled element required in the development of the mines. At present the Finns and Slovenians greatly outnumber all other races, and about 77 per cent of the total population is composed of aliens.



"Underground mining is employed exclusively on the Vermillion Range where some of the shafts have been sunk more than a thousand feet. On the Mesabi are found the great 'open pit' mines which have made the region famous. These mines are operated chiefly with steam shovels, but a few employ what is known as the milling process.

"Mining in open surface cuts, or under the 'open pit' system, consists in simply removing with steam shovels the glacial drift or overburden, composed of clay, boulders, sand or low grade ore, which covers the deposits from a depth of from two to eighty feet at an average of between twenty and forty feet. The ore is then loaded by the same means into standard-gauge cars.

"The Mesabi ores are soft, with a texture varying from a fine flue dust to a coarse, granular ore which requires little blasting to enable the steam shovels to remove it from its bed. A few of the mining companies have taken advantage of this soft character of the ore and have employed the 'milling' process.

"By this method a shaft is sunk on the edge of the ore body from which a tunnel is run under the ore and connected with a vertical, funnel-shaped hole made from the surface through which the ore is milled down into tram cars at the tunnel opening. The tram cars are then run out to the bottom of the shaft and the ore dumped into skids, or elevators, and raised to a tipple on the surface. From here the ore is loaded into railroad cars for shipment. The milling process thus employs some of the features of both the open pit and the underground methods of mining.

"When methods of mining are taken into consideration, the number of accidents, both fatal and non-fatal, have been abnormally high throughout this region, fatal accidents being very nearly as frequent as in bituminous coal mining districts. The Vermillion mines are deep for ore workings, but are free from dangers of gas explosions. The earth formations on this range permit

much freedom in sinking shafts and running cross cuts for there are no very great difficulties to be overcome in preventing caving or strata displacement. On the Mesabi, explosives are used chiefly in the open mines and can not be considered an especially dangerous element in the mining operations. Mine fires and floods are rare, and can be quickly controlled.

"During the seasons of the year when lake transportation is open the demand for labor greatly exceeds the supply, and the mining companies make sweeping concessions in order to keep their pay rolls full. Unskilled labor from the South and East Europe is imported and mine discipline has been made as lax as possible, in order to keep the men satisfied after they are secured. This practice, the absence of both state and federal laws compelling the company to employ only trained and experienced miners in the responsible and dangerous occupations, the inability of the majority of the operatives to speak English and understand the rules of the mines and the orders given them, and the recklessness and rank carelessness of a number of them, no doubt account for the appalling annual accident rate.

"As the lake transportation lines are tied up during winter, this season is slack in the mines. On account of its open pit system of mining the Mesabi is more seriously affected by winter weather than the Vermillion. The mines on the latter range, all being underground, can be operated even in the most severe weather, the ore being 'stock piled' at the surface and held for shipment during the summer. If the demand for ore is active, employment can be secured on the Vermillion range the whole year round, which is not the case on the Mesabi.

"Under normal conditions, during the shipping season, ten-hour periods for both day and night shifts are worked on the two ranges. No regular Sunday work is carried on except that of repairing, cleaning and track laying which is done in a day shift of from six to eight hours.



"Wages average from \$12.50 per week to \$20 and over. More than 90 per cent of the Poles, Slovenians and Finns earn under \$15 a week, while only a very few of the native Americans, English, Irish, Germans, Scandinavians, and other races from northern Europe earn under this amount. Wage payments are made monthly in currency by all the more important companies. Gold and silver coins are principally used. There are no company stores, or other institutions, upon which script can be used.

"Compulsory accident insurance is conducted by the principal mining concerns. The usual method is for companies to deduct from fifty cents to a dollar a month from the wages of each employee. A representative system is that of the largest companies on the Mesabi, whose employees are entitled to receive \$25 per month when injured in the performance of their duties for a period of not longer than six months. For the first four days of disability no indemnity is paid. Should an employee be confined for more than four days and less than a month he receives a dollar a day. In case of death the relief benefit is \$300. In the event the permanent injury results from an accident, he is paid a cash indemnity of \$240. A few of the companies, instead of carrying their own insurance fund turn the money deducted from the wages of their employees over in payment of premiums to a liability company.

"In addition to accident insurance the majority of the companies maintain also a compulsory hospital and medical service, for whose support they deduct an additional dollar from the monthly wages of each employee. This money is paid by the companies to a contract doctor who attends all employees in case of accident or sickness, except cases of confinement and venereal diseases, for attending which they may charge extra. Some of these doctors have contracts with several mining companies.

"In several instances this system has been taken advantage of by mine superintendents and made a means of personal revenue. The superintendents contract with a doctor to render medical services at from fifty to seventy-

five cents per individual employe per month and themselves retain the balance, which in some instances amounts to several hundred dollars a month. As a result of this petty graft the personnel of the contract doctors is greatly injured and the efficiency of some of them is questionable.

"Another line of petty graft is practiced to some extent by the sub-officials of a number of companies. A group of Croatian and Servian laborers employed by one of the larger companies complained publicly that they had been forced to pay from \$5 to \$20 each for a job in the laboring occupations to one of the minor officials. Investigation substantiated the charge, and unearthed the additional fact that just prior to this instance a gang of fifteen laborers was laid off by an employment boss of the company, and the members re-employed by the same boss immediately on the payment of \$5 each. On another occasion when a Servian laborer complained in person to the general superintendent of his company that he had been compelled to pay one of the foremen for his job, that official replied: 'If you have so much money you can pay for a job, that is all right, for the foreman has a lot of little children and needs the money.'

"Labor is unorganized on the ranges, and an 'open shop' is maintained by all companies. There is an unimportant local union at Hibbing, on the Mesabi, but it has never been recognized by the operators. The Western Federation of Miners has made several attempts to organize the miners, but all have failed on account of the militant opposition to organization on the part of the larger mining interests, who import immigrants as strike breakers.

"Drunkenness is common among all races, and the efficiency of the Finns and Slovenians especially is visibly impaired by excessive drinking; the Scandinavians, though heavier drinkers, carry their drink better.

"Each town in the region has its full quota of saloons. The only community in which the number is not abnormally large is Coleraine--the 'model ore town'--with an estimated population of 2,000 on the Western Mesabi range.



There are only two saloons in this town, while a mile away, Bovey, the sister town, with a population of about 1,200, has twenty-five saloons. Bovey conditions are typical of the ore region.

"In the principal fifteen towns on the two ranges, with a combined population of about 50,000, there are more than 350 saloons, or one saloon for every 140 individuals. About 110 of these places are run by Poles, 80 by native Americans, 60 by Finns, 50 by Slovenians, 45 by Scandinavians, 35 by Croatians, about 30 by South Italians, and the remainder by the several other races in the region.

"The majority of the saloons are well fitted up, and it is not unusual to find card rooms, dancing halls and lodging quarters run in connection with the establishments. Lodging rooms in connection with saloons are most often found among the Finns. The Montenegrin and South Italian saloons are nearly all low-class places, and many of those of the Slovenians are little better. Those run by the Americans are elaborately fixed up to cater to the better classes. When out of work, or on the 'off shifts,' the loafing places of the miners are the saloons conducted by members of their respective races.

"A number of typhoid epidemics have occurred as a direct result of poor sanitary conditions that are fairly general. In Biwabik, on the Mesabi, for instance, a widespread epidemic of typhoid broke out a few years ago which was attributed to common flies carrying the disease from dry closets improperly cared for. An epidemic of the same disease at Hibbing was caused by using the waters of a small stream alike for drinking purposes and sewage disposal.

"Municipal sewage of the towns of the Vermillion range is emptied now, without passing through septic tanks or other purifying processes, into the Vermillion lakes.

"The towns on the Mesabi Range dispose of their municipal sewage by emptying it into running streams and lakes. Virginia and Chisholm, for example,

employs lakes. The sewage of Chisholm is run through septic tanks before allowed to enter the water, but as the lake is slowly being drained by mining operations in the vicinity the practice can hardly be considered as conforming to the best principles of sanitation, especially as the lake is in the town itself.

"In all communities on both ranges, whether a municipal sewerage exists or not, will be found a number of houses which have either open or dry closets, especially on the mine locations. A few are equipped with cesspools.

"Garbage and similar refuse is required to be placed in cans or barrels at each house and is collected by scavenger carts at regular periods, in most places daily. In the camps, refuse of all kinds is generally scattered indiscriminately on the ground, especially where the inhabitants are Montenegrins and South Italians. These camps are also badly congested, unclean and unsanitary.

"The most common disease on the ranges is pulmonic tuberculosis, typhoid and scarlet fevers, diphtheria, trachoma, smallpox and venereal diseases.

"Pulmonary tuberculosis is most prevalent among the Finns and Swedes, being chiefly imported. Scarlet fever, diphtheria and smallpox are common among all races. Trachoma is brought in largely over the Canadian border and is endemic among the Montenegrins, Servians, Slovenians and Croatians.

"The reason for the universality of syphilis are the large number of unmarried men in the region, who frequent illegal houses of prostitution not under the jurisdiction of municipal or state health officials. The only medical attention these houses receive is that provided by the proprietors who in some cases make examinations of the inmates at intervals of two, three, and four weeks, and use the fact as an advertisement.

"On the Vermillion range the only two towns of any importance are Ely and Tower, where general housing conditions are excellent. Nearly all immigrants live in their own houses, though a few occupy rented company houses.



There are no 'camps,' as they are called on the Mesabi, because there are but few immigrants from the South and East of Europe. The races composing the population, principally Finns and Slovenians, are permanently settled and take an interest in their homes.

"The common type of house is a frame dwelling, one or two stories high, containing from four to six rooms. A few boarding and lodging houses owned by the mining company, contain about twenty rooms and are rented to the favored employed at the same rate as the smaller cottages, the rent of company houses being \$5 a month, irrespective of whether they contain six or twenty rooms. There is little congestion.

"The homes of all races have small gardens and flower beds among them, and the visitor passing through the streets of Ely or Tower is struck with the general cleanliness. It is hard to distinguish the difference in living conditions among the different races on this range for they are all above the average.

"In the towns on the Mesabi range the natives, English, Irish, Scotch, and Scandinavians have the most substantial houses. These are chiefly two-story frame buildings, four to eight rooms, with flush closets and piped water on the inside. The Finns and Austrians live in small cottages in the larger towns, while in the outlying settlements they are found in log cabins and tar-paper shacks. In both small and large communities persons of all these races are found in boarding houses.

"Around the mine locations is found the mining camp, generally a shack or cottage in which an unusually large number of persons live together, under a boarding boss system. Camps are very common among South Europeans, and among them filth and congestion are pronounced. The standards of the Slavs are higher; of the North European higher still.

"Cottages and camps in the mine locations are usually owned by the mining companies and rented for \$6 to \$12 per month for a cottage, \$15 to \$30

for a boarding house. In some communities the mining companies rent the land for fifty cents to one dollar a month and allow their employes to erect shacks of their own. In such cases the right is reserved to move the builder off at any time should the land be needed.

"The usual price of boarding and lodging among the Swedes, English, Scotch, and Americans is from \$18 to \$20 a month on the American plan; among the Finns and Slovenians, \$14 to \$18 and among the few American plan boarding houses among the South Europeans \$16.

"The cost of food and lodging under the boarding boss systems varies among several races; and among the same race in different localities with varying standards of living. In the little town of Gilbert, for instance, the Montenegrins pay \$8 to \$15 a month for food, and \$2 to \$3 for lodging and cooking; while in Nashwauk they pay \$15 to \$18 for food, lodging and cooking. Among the better classes of immigrants in Eveleth board on the American plan costs from \$14 to \$16. The Croatians, Italians, Servians, and Syrians, living under boarding boss systems in this town pay from \$2 to \$4 a month for lodging, washing and cooking, and \$10 to \$15 for food.

"One of the most striking things on the ranges is the excellent school facilities provided in every community. Even the minor settlements where the inhabitants live in small frame dwellings, often provide school buildings which would be a credit to a large city. School attendance is compulsory in Minnesota, and members of all races are found in the class-rooms of the public schools.

"The public school system is one of the best of the state, in respect to general facilities and equipment. About 95 per cent of the school taxes are paid by the several mining companies, who are all heavy contributors to all educational movements. There are no parochial schools. The Roman Catholic parishes in nearly all settlements are made up of South Europeans. Smaller Lutheran, Methodist and Baptist churches are supported by the North Europeans.



All of these churches maintain a number of benefit and sick societies whose monthly fees range from 50 cents to \$1.50. They pay sick benefits from \$5 to \$10 a week and death benefits from \$200 to \$1,000.

"The Scandinavians are making the most noticeable progress. They entered the region as unskilled laborers, but are moving up in the scale of occupations and are found chiefly as skilled workmen in the ore mines, or as industrial law-abiding citizens who have established independent businesses.

"The Irish, English, Scotch, and French Canadians have worked up from unskilled labor to skilled occupations in the mines. The Russian Hebrews are mostly store-keepers, and are slowly progressing, as are the Finns and Slovenians on the Vermillion range.

"A few of the Finns have gone from the mine colonies into the northern wilderness and cleared small patches of land miles away from the centers of population where they remain practically the whole winter living on provisions hauled out during the fall. They seem to thrive where the hardships are most severe, but their progress in the mines is retarded by their sublimity and radicalism.

"There has been very little advancement in the scale of occupations on the part of the Bohemians, Bulgarians, Croatians, Greeks, Poles, Servians, Montenegrins, Italians, and Syrians. The Poles are good workmen but not at all ambitious. The Croatians are lazy, indifferent workmen and are among the lowest in the industrial scale."

Two or three of the pictures in this article merit consideration.

One is the shack of a Finnish miner. The building has the inverted V-roof; and the dimensions are about eight by ten or ten by twelve feet. A smaller vestibule, or "stoop" is annexed to it. The roof of the structure appears to be shingled, the main building is covered with rough, unpainted siding, while the stoop is merely put together with two-by-fours and rough boards. No windows are visible on the side from which the picture was taken.

Another picture shows a company cottage which is inhabited by seventeen Magyars. This structure is a single-storey affair, painted. It is in good state of repair. It is about eighteen feet wide and twenty-four feet long. It seems incredible that seventeen persons should crowd into a building such as this. The last picture shows a Montenegrin shack, inhabited by the boss and fourteen men. This building consists of an inverted V-roof building, about 10 x 12 feet, covered with tar paper; a log lean-to is attached and the dimensions of this is about 8 x 12 feet.

19p



SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

Source: Uusi Kotimaa 6 5 Date of Publication July 7, 1932  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 51 No. 27 Date Line of Story \_\_\_\_\_  
Where consulted Hist. Lib. Date consulted Mar. 2, 1939

"A labor play 'Scab' (Petturi) in three acts,  
written by two Minneapolis Finns, Toini Thomas and Edwin  
Ojala can be had in the Finnish language from the Finnish  
Federation, 35 East 12th Street, Eighth Floor, New York  
City, for a \$2.50 rental for one showing. The play re-  
quires 5 men and 3 women."

Your Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page No. \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION (MINNESOTA)  
Federal Writers' Project, 415 Harvard St. S. E., Minneapolis.

239595

FINNISH STUDY

By: A. J. Sprang  
Date: Nov. 27, 1939  
Filed: 9/25/1895  
At 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock P. M.

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Articles of Incorporation  
of the  
Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Congregation of  
Minneapolis, Minn.

---

We, Johan Lahtinen, Chairman and Wairo Ekquist, Secretary of a meeting of the members of the Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Congregation, the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota held at the meeting house of said congregation in the City of Minneapolis, Minnesota, on the 29th. day of July A. D. 1895 at 8 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of electing Trustees and organizing as a religious corporation under the laws of the State of Minnesota, which said meeting was held in accordance and pursuant to notice duly given as the law requires, do hereby certify, that said meeting was duly organized by the election of John Lahtinen as the chairman of said meeting and W Ekquist as the Secretary thereof and that on motion it was voted to elect Trustees and organize as a religious corporation under the laws of the State of Minnesota. That the following named persons were then duly elected as the first board of officers and Trustees, viz.:

President	-	John Lahtinen	Auditor	-	T. Murdo
Vice President	-	Peter Soorempra	Trustees	-	H. Multanen
Secretary	-	W. Ekquist			H. Heinonen
Asst. "	-	R. Wilson			J. Tunonen
Treasurer	-	S. Auranen			K. Waklin
					John Lenon
					A. Robinson.



That by a unanimous [sic] vote of the members of said Congregation present at said meeting it was resolved that the Board of Trustees and their successors in office shall forever be known and called by the corporate name of the Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Congregation of the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota.

In Witness whereof, We the said Chairman and the Secretary of said meeting have hereunto set our hands and seals this 29th day of July A. D. 1895.

In presence of:

John Lahtinen (Seal)  
President

Isaac S. Podas }

Waino Ekquist (Seal)  
Secretary

G. F. Bergstodi }

State of Minnesota }  
County of Hennepin } SS.

On the 25th day of September 25th - 1895, A. D. personally came before me the undersigned, a Notary Public, within & for said County, Johan Lahtinen and Waino Ekquist, to me known to be the Chairman and the Secretary of the Meeting described in the foregoing Certificate, and to be the persons who executed the foregoing Certificate and they acknowledged that they executed the said Certificate for the uses and purposes therein expressed and as their free act and deed.

G. F. Bergstodi, Notary Public.

Hennepin County, Minnesota.

(Notarial Seal)

*Document  
in possession  
of H. G. Sprang #3*

By Laws of the Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Congregation,  
Minneapolis, Minn.

- Sec I - We acknowledge the Christian Doctrine to be correct as contained in the Holy Bible, in both the Old and the New Testaments as written by the Prophets Evangelists and the Apostles.
- Sec II- We acknowledge to be correct the three oldest creeds or confessions namely: Nicean, Augusburg and the Athenesians Confessions all of which are in Confirmaty [sic] with the Holy Bible.
- Sec III The first and essential duty of the congregation is the spreading of the true Christian Doctrine by the preaching of the gosbel [sic] and Babtism [sic] and the confession of sins and the pardoning of the same, but at all events we acknowledge only one Babtism [sic] for the above named duly the congregation will all all times assist and send out missionaries.
- Sec IV. A person is non considered a member of this congregation who only pays his annual dues, but he or she must in all cases axcept [sic] the three first articles herein and literally comply with the same.
- Sec V. The Preachers and the Missionaries and the congregation will at all times select from among the members of said congregation.
- Sec VI. The congregation is authorized to solicit and accept free and voluntary donations for its benefit, and all property of whatever description shall at all times be owned in the name of the Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Congregation of Minneapolis, Minn.
- Sec VII. The Secretary shall keep acurate [sic] Minutes of all transactions and keep correctly the accounts of said congregation in dublicate [sic]; Two of which said records shall be in the charge of the secretary, who shall monthly make a report to the Auditor of all transactions and the Auditor shall copy said report into his record.



Sec VIII. The Treasurer shall be the custodian [sic] of the funds, moneys, and other valuables of said congregation and shall pay out Money only upon a written order duly authorized by the said congregation.

Sec IX Excepting the Minister the Congregation shall at all times have a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer, an Auditor and a board of Trustees, consisting of six members who shall at all times have full charge of the affairs [sic] of said Congregation.

Sec X. The above named officers and Trustees shall transact all business of said Congregation, but no final decision shall be rendered by officers and Trustees unless through majority vote of the Congregation.

Sec XI The Auditor shall semi-annually make a report to the Congregation of all receipts and disbursements [sic] during the preceding six months.

Sec XII The annual meeting of said Congregation shall be held in the first Tuesday in June each year at which time all officers and board of Trustees shall be elected.

Sec XIII. The President of this Congregation shall have the power to call a Special Meeting at any time he deems it necessary for the transaction of business of said Congregation.

Sec XIII [sic] Every officer and Trustees of said Congregation shall be present in person at all meetings duly called by the President. Whether said meeting be a regular or special, any member being unable to attend meeting shall notify the President of his absence and his reason for not attending.

Sec XV. All of the foregoing by-laws numbered one (1) to fourteen (14) in-

clusive, are hereby approved and ratified, as being the only by-laws  
of the Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Congregation of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Witness our hand and seal this 29th. day of July A. D. 1895.

Johan Lahtinen (Seal)  
President.

Attest:

Waino Elquist, Secretary

Office of  
Register of Deeds  
County of Hennepin  
State of Minnesota.

I, August W Skog, Register of Deeds, within and for said  
County of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that I have  
carefully compared the above and fore-going copy of Articles of Incorporation  
with the record thereof as recorded in my office, in Book 66 of Misc. page  
608 and that the same is a true and correct transcript and copy of the same,  
and of the whole thereof, and I do further certify that I am the officer in  
whose custody said record is required by law to be kept.

In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and offi-  
cial seal this 8 day of January A.D. 1930.

August W. Skog

Register of Deeds, County of Hennepin, State of  
Minnesota.

BY

Deputy Register of Deeds.



Uusi Kotimaa

2

1-2

Jan. 4, 1927.

46

2

Minn. Hist. Society

Feb. 10, 1939.

Uusi Kotimaa, oldest Finnish newspaper, published twice a week, already going toward its 46th year, enjoying one of the largest bi-weekly circulations of any Finnish language newspaper in America, is offering prizes on the following essays entitled:

1. " Causes for the collapse of American agriculture.
2. The farmer and the Farmer-Labor Party.
3. The role played by co-operative societies in agriculture.

The prizes are from \$1 to \$4. First prize \$2, second, \$3, third, \$4.

The articles should not be over ten columns in length. The prizes will be given in the form of books. The types of books may be specified by the winners from our list published in this issue."

## Finnish Newspapers

In Minnesota there are a number of Finnish newspapers. The Uusi Kotimaa was published in 1881 by August Nylund at Minneapolis, later moved to New York Mills. It is still published in New York Mills but it is now owned by the Non-Partisan League. It is the oldest Finnish newspaper now in existence. Of the 30 Finnish newspapers now in existence, 11 are socialist or radical papers. The reason for so many radical Finnish newspapers is that the radical Finns arrived after 1900 and are dependent upon the Finnish press, while the older Finns read the American papers. Since there are at present few Finnish immigrants and since the arrivals after 1900 are also getting old, there will soon be no necessity for a Finnish press, which, if continued, will exist merely for cultural reasons.



Ed + Culture  
("Catch the Thief" ads)  
Press

SOCIAL-ETHNIC STUDIES

Source: Tyemies (Daily) 4 1 Date of Publication April 14th 1917  
(edition, page, column)  
Vol. 15 No. 89 Date Line of story  
Where consulted Minn. Historical Library Date consulted Oct 11th 1938

A custom of long standing among the Finns, especially the workingclasses is the exposure in newspapers of all crooks, scabs, and known spies who would harm or bring disrespect to the Finnish nationality. This is one of the reasons which makes the Finnish people especially the workers so strict with regard to fair dealing among their fellow men. Usually these exposures of dishonest elements have the picture of the culprit with headings "Catch the thief" if it is a person who absconded with funds, "Beware of the Spy" in case of informers and stoolpighons, and "Beware of the traitor" in various kinds of cases from running away with another man's wife to petty theivery.

In the April 14th issue, Column 1. Page 4 of the Tyemies such an exposure of John Berocevids or John Luzek appears. A picture of him is published with the caption below, "Catch the thief" He is charged with stealing ~~\$127.00~~ from Vaine Vainola of Toronto Canada who has signed the exposure.

Your item No. 21 Page No. Your name W A Harju

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION (Minnesota)  
Federal Writers' Project, 415 Harvard St. S.E., Minneapolis.

"Excerpts from the history of Wadena County and surrounding communities"  
XII.

"Reminiscences about the first Finns who came to the region

In these excerpts so far we have only spoken about other language groups, because they were the first ones to appear on the scene in Wadena County history.

The first Finns who came to Wadena County and its environs came via New York Mills. This was natural as the Northern Pacific railway was built west of Wadena in 1873 and New York Mills was established shortly afterwards on this railroad. It was the only railroad in the region at the time. In consequence New York Mills became a center of a large area of Finnish settlers. Others have written about the history of New York Mills and especially about its business men.---What is going to be said here therefore will be confined to the pioneers, the unsung heroes, who were the founders of the Finnish settlement of New York Mills and its surrounding communities. This will be confined to the people who first took up land here, and north of here and started the permanent settlement.

In order to make this as clear and as authentic as possible I have turned to my good friend Olaf Pary (Olli Pajari) with a request that he should help me describe the early days. I have always known that Olaf Pary, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ of all people in the community, perhaps knows more about the history of New York Mills than any other. Mr Pary has graciously consented to help and his reminiscences are both humorous as well as educational for which I want to here express my deep appreciation."

"The observations of Olaf Pary"

"The first Finns to arrive in New York Mills who took up homesteads and began to build their homes on them were Tuomas Autio and his brother-in-law Antti Pumpera. They came here in 1875 and took claims adjacent to each other. Nature



had endowed both of them with a strong body and a strong desire to work as well. When they went into the forest to clear the land, the wilderness began to ring, crash and roar as a result of their efforts. They were both by nature honest, friendly, and good christian people so they became ~~XXXXX~~ examples of manhood for other to emulate.

Israel Hagel came to New York Mills in 1877 and immediately began his good work for the community. He is one who is endowed with a number of extraordinary ~~XXXXXXXX~~ natural abilities and he has always used them for the benefit of the community. He has become widely known among the Finns owing to his extensive travels. He was our best man in the early days, a loved servant of the people who guided many of ~~the people~~ our nationality to the New York Mills paradise. Jaako Partanen came with Hagel and both took homesteads. Partanen was an exceptionally strong man and a hard worker. Together with Hagel they toiled day and night. The length of the work day in those days was 18 to 20 hours. After Hagel and Partanen came Ivar Telin and Matti Ronkainen. They too, took up homestead land in 1877. They also were strong and healthy men and and soon cleared enough land for their homes. They were good people enthusiastically taking part in all activities which benefited the community. Mr Ivar Telin is still living and is in good health, working every day. He can still cut a 'cord' of wood a day like nothing (even though he is 87 years old). With his good example he has won the admiration of our people who greatly love and honor him. Iisakki Westola and Aleksi Pikkarainen also came in 1877. They both took homesteads and were strong and hearty men as well as good citizens.

Next comes the year 1878. It was this year when Kustaa Hyry came here who very soon after his arrival became a highly valued and respected citizen, known widely in the community. Iisakki Piippo, Juho Ollikainen and Iisakki Halgrona were the only men to take up homesteads in 1878. They too were strong and diligent workmen known for their friendliness and community

spirit. They even borrowed their excess energy to the less fortunate and helped them in their work.

In 1879 came Jaako Pernula, Juho Fraki, Juho Kauppi ( Kauppi just died May 21st 1929 at the ripe age of 87), Juho Anttila, Olli Wuokila, Kalle Peltoniemi, Kustaa Koskela, Juho Keto and Matti Bimberg. All of these men took homesteads and began to clear their land the same year.

Next in order comes the year 1880. At this time there were 40 families of Finnish people on homesteads near New York Mills and all of them were busy clearing the wilderness for cultivation.

In the early days there was plenty of game everywhere. There was wild fowl in the waters and wild game in the woods. Squirrels, Rabbits, Deer and bear abounded. There was no lack of meat. These wild animals and birds were caught in a variety of ways, by snares, dead falls, traps and every other way which the ingenuity of the hunter invented. The bears were so tame that they came into the barns and hay sheds to sleep. Once a bear visited Matti Ronkainen's hay shed three different times taking from there each time some of the fresh meat that he stored in the place. The bear was not killed because he did not do any greater damage and he finally left the neighborhood as they do. Besides the early settlers were people who did not kill ~~XXXX~~ more game than they needed for their neighbors and themselves. Water fowl could be found everywhere where there was even a little water. Fish of all kinds abounded in nearly all the lakes and streams, which were easily caught. When the early pioneer went to the River he took with him a frying pan or a ~~XXXX~~ bucket. It is said that all that had to be done, was to place the pan or bucket into the water and the fish would swim into them.

In 1881 a new wave of Finnish settlers began to arrive. Up to this time all the Finns lived on the south side of the railroad. In 1882 the land seekers began to drift north to Grass River, Paddock and even farther.



Olaf Pary came to New York Mills July 14th 1881 and on the first day began to sell merchandise. Then in 1884 the Uusi Kotimaa came and through it the message was broadcast that here was a paradise on earth. Resulting from this the flood of land seekers increased in ~~number~~ <sup>number</sup>. Most of them after stopping here, continued their journey ~~farther~~ ~~XXXX~~ north, to Menagha, Wolf Lake and even farther.

To these people again was opened up an extensive wilderness abounding with wild game. Soon there were loads of birds, deer and rabbits coming from there every day to New York Mills to be marketed. This product of the wilderness was sent to wherever it could be sold. We were always on the lookout for new markets for this product. Once when Mr Pary on one of his commercial trips stopped over in Fargo, No Dakota, the hotel man inquired if there were rabbits for sale in New York Mills. Mr Pary told him that he could secure some. Just as Mr Pary was about to leave the hotel man asked him to send to the hotel all the rabbits he had on hand. On arriving home Mr Pary packed two large drygoods boxes of rabbits weighing about 800 pounds and ~~XXXX~~ shipped them to the hotel keeper. When the hotel man received the rabbits and the invoices for them he found that he had received ~~too many~~ <sup>altogether</sup>, ~~XXXX~~, so he sent a wire to Mr Pary saying; 'In the name of god dont send any more rabbits'.

It was fortunate that the region abounded with game and fish in the early days. If it hadent been so rich in wild animals ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ many of the pioneers would have suffered much more than they did and perhaps some of them would have never gotten started. The Fish filled lakes and streams were another asset which was invaluable.

We are often asked about the character of the Finnish pioneers and their greatest virtues. All I can say is that they were real examples of strong

and hardy men and women. They were friends of all, with a great co-operative feeling prevailing among them. I would say that they were in character and integrity 'wingless angels'.

In the settlement days there was very little money in circulation, which is indicated by the following incident. Israel Hagel happened to be a possessor of a dollar in currency, which he loaned to a neighbor who needed money very badly. It happened so however that before he needed the dollar, another neighbor needed it worse so he loaned it to him. It is said that this same dollar was in this way circulated among nine neighbors and it finally came back to Israel Hagel.

The fact that the people ~~of~~ were friendly and amicable, co-operating in everything that they could, was a great blessing to the New York Mills settlement. Being strong in bodily strength and tenacious in their purpose added to this blessing. They were able because of these characteristics to do the original spade work in the founding of our community. Of them only one thing can be said, and that is, that they were good, strong and healthy people in body and mind and because of this they have made New York Mills the place it is today, known among all!



Duluth, Minnesota  
Socio Ethnic  
Harold Rajala  
Mar. 6, 1940

Material translated from "Esiraivaajien Muisto":

"A publication issued in connection with the festival held at New York Mills August 20 in remembrance of the pioneering of the New York Mills, Sebeka, Menahga and Susijärvi [Wolf Lake] region's pioneer Finns and of Minnesota's first Finnish immigrants." Published at New York Mills in 1939.

The following is a translation of the article, "Muistelmia Esiraivaajain Juhlän Johdosta" ["Pioneers' Festival Reminiscences"], written by B. Pansari, on pages 16 and 17.

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"When I think of the pioneering era of this large Finnish colony, where now live many thousands of our countrymen as farmers and business men, it can be said, that among its beginners were no persons of great means, no speculators nor persons of high learning, only others like us had come to seek a better existence in America. He was like Abraham of old who was told: 'Leave your land and kin and go to the land to which I direct you.' So he left nor did he know his destination. So then he came here to New York Mills from which has grown a large and thriving colony. I would like to give him thanks, only he is there where his lips are closed, only one is still living who as a child came with those first pioneers. When I came, the first time, from Finland, 48 years ago, to New York Mills, I made an error, for I came at night and got quarters at an inn. In the morning I went out to seek the town, for I thought New York Mills was a large place because there was even published a newspaper. But the large town I could not find. I only found a friendly storekeeper, Olli Rajari

and then J. W. Lahteen. Mills certainly was a small place compared to what it is now. When I went to the farm I met friendly people, who served me devotedly. It made the trip more happy, which was to that time, very lonesome, after having moved from Finland to an unfamiliar land, somehow the love of my countrymen greatly enlivened me, and so I remained here to live, and where I will surely stay to the end of my life.

"I should mention something of the Sebeka region. This region was still unoccupied for several years later than Mills. About 1882 the first settlers appeared in the north-country and later again in 1883-84. It took a great deal of daring to go into unsettled wilderness. Many were quite poor. Of course there were no roads, there were no animals, and very few schools and churches. Stores were at far away Wadena and New York Mills. To reach them it was necessary to go by foot. When some progress had been made, then the drive to town was made with oxen and in English was ordered when to turn right or left, or whatever was needed to be done. It is a wonder that they understood it for were not they born in the country? Then horses were coming into use. The first wagons appeared, then gas buggies in which was smartly driven.

"In the year 1891 the railroad was completed from Wadena to Park Rapids at which time we can definitely place the beginning of the Menahga and Sebeka stores. There was only one store in Sebeka at that time which was managed by a Swedish business man who is still living, and in the same was also a postoffice. There was a sawmill; wood products were produced, and in the summer hay was made and blueberries were picked. Mostly ties were sent out and from there was gained everyday necessities, although the prices were low. But during those times everyone knew it best to be satisfied. There were not many amusements where money was needed. Roads were very poor and in some places were no roads and travelling was done where best could go. If there were automobiles at that time nothing could be done with them for there were no roads on which they could drive and there was no money to buy gasoline with. The first schools were timber huts; from boards were made long tables and benches. Teaching



facilities were primitive. But at that time they did not feel that loss. As far as I remember, the first church was the Runeberg apostolic-lutheran church. Now there are many. Hay was made by large crews and got so much that there was some to sell, for on newly mown land there grew plenty of hay. Perspiration certainly flowed during haying time.

"The first machinery were the mower, threshing machine and rake. Not many of the pioneers were mechanics, but the axe and mattock they knew how to use so that large primeval forest has disappeared to such an extent that now there is a shortage of fuel wood for many.

"The pioneer families were large, they raised large families and built stately homes, cleared fields and meadows which many of the present generation would not be able to even cultivate. They move to towns where there is easier work although sometimes they make a very bare living. That certainly is a sad condition. 'Whatever is so fine nature has provided' is an old Pioneers' motto. But we will also create for our descendants. They have done a heroic work which they have left to their children. From within me I say to you, thanks and honors. Much of their blood is buried in the bosom of the earth.

"Great, has been the progress to our time, which every one knows. We now have phones, radios, automobiles, electric lights, and various kinds of machines and pleasures. With tar and cement have been surfaced the roads. They all cost much money, and that is what the shortage is now. Now we have cooperative creameries, cooperative stores, churches and halls and many common things which are usefull and have been made by this generation. It is no wonder then that people have to hurry because of that condition. Here we had before gloomy backwoods and now there are here good roads and extensive fields ..... "

(This concludes the chapter.)

Material translated from "Esiraivaajien Muisto": "A publication issued in connection with the festival held at New York Mills August 20 in remembrance of the pioneering of the New York Mills, Sebeka, Menahga and Susijärvi [Wolf Lake] region's pioneer Farms and of Minnesota's first Finnish immigrants." Published at New York Mills in 1939.

The following is a translation of the article, "Esiraivaajanhuksen muistelmia" ["Reminiscences of an Old Pioneer"], on pages 4 and 5.

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#### "REMINISCENCES OF AN OLD PIONEER"

"We were speaking to the well-known, aged fellow-countryman, Erik Tumberg, and requested him to give a brief review of his life and of the original conditions of the Farms of this region. He consented to do this willingly, recollecting this and that, and his memory still appeared to be good.

"Erik Tumberg was born at Ruusama Feb. 20, 1859. From there he moved to Kemijärvi and came direct to New York Mills with his wife (nee Pieta Kustaava Yli-Räisänen) and his little daughter, Briita Kaisa (the present Mrs. Antti Mänttä), Aug. 3, 1882. Still in the same year he went to work on the railroad at Valley City, N. D., where the Northern Pacific railroad was just at the time being constructed. Twenty men altogether went from here [New York Mills]. Mr. Tumberg still remembered their names well. There were in the group, among others, Antti Päätaalo, Matti Johnson, Matti Hepokoski, August Partanen, Matti Paavola, Matti Niskala, Matti Takala, Frans Kohus, Fred Sarvi, John Järvelä, Kusti Majava, Antti Hokka, John Hokka, the three Kesäniemi brothers, Lars, Petter and Jacob, and John Marminen. Of those of this group who settled down to live here in New York Mills, there are still living, besides Mr. Tumberg, Matti Paavola and



"REMINISCENCES OF AN OLD PIONEER"

August Partanen, who are well-known residents of the Lehtijärvi [Leaf Lake] region. The others have died. The greatest part of them were residents of the New York Mills region, some going to the Sebeka and Menahga localities, as Matti Takala, Frans Kehus and Fred Sarvi, Jaakko Järvelä, Kusti Majava and Jacob Kesäniemi to Michigan, the Hokka brothers to Poinsett [South Dakota] and Isaac Kesäniemi to Finland.

"Well-liked workmen had these men been in railroad work. They had been put to work shoveling dirt into railroad cars, in which work there had been Irish before them. The bosses had not sent cars sufficiently, so that the men had had to wait for them and sit around, for it had been thought that it would take them the same time to fill as it had the Irish. They had been astonished at the Finns' capacity for work. Four cars had they filled to the Irishmen's one. Then in the following summer, 1883, they were on the same job six months yet, and more money was earned. In that same year Mr. Tumberg applied for a homestead in Deer Creek town. A man by the name of Matti Bimberg, who afterwards moved north, had begun to live on the homestead, but had not occupied it the required time. There was an excellent timber growth on the land, which was cut and sold as cordwood and railroad ties. At the same time Mr. Tumberg cleared land with the real energy of a Finn. From the first year's sowing of wheat 140 bushels was gotten. In the second year, when more land had been opened up, 300 bushels were already gotten, and the year following that, 640 bushels. Wheat was at that time the only 'treasury.' From lumber, which was sold to local dealers, who handled it, one received only so-called 'due bills' or bills of goods, with which one could buy commodities from merchants. The price of wheat in those years had been about 80 cents a bushel. Other grains were not as yet grown much at that time. Potatoes were grown only for one's own needs. Nor were cattle raised much, only for one's own family chiefly. In buying the cows they cost about 40-50 dollars, but even from good cattle raised for meat one received only about 15 dollars. When, then, the so-called 'democratic time' [among the Finns in America this term, in earlier years, meant "hard times" or "depression"] came in the '90's, the price of wheat declined greatly, so that for several

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"REMINISCENCES OF AN OLD PIONEER"

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years one received only around 40 cents a bushel. Thereafter, the price again went up.

"Mr. Tumberg mentioned that the closest neighbors at the time when he located on his homestead were Ivar Telin, from Piippola, Erik Vanhatalo (Hendrickson), from Karunki, Sweden, John Littiäinen, from Karunki [this Karunki is probably the one on the Finnish side], Antti Savela, from Lohtaja, and Kalle Kujala, from Kemijärvi. At that time there were already in this region scores of Finnish settlers and in the following years new ones came continuously, some direct from Finland and others from Michigan, and some even from western coal mining regions and other places. Many who had come here moved to the neighborhood of Menahga, Sebeka and Susijärvi [Wolf Lake], as the freely obtainable homestead lands here were exhausted, there being, of course, available railroad, state and private land. Railroad company land had, in some instances, been sold quite cheaply, as low as 30 cents an acre.

"Oxen were the first draught animals, and soon they learned to understand Finnish. At the time when Mr. Tumberg came some had already had horses, as Abraham Kaisalahti and [Mr.] Valitalo. High priced had the horses been at that time, a good team of horses costing as much as 500 dollars.

"Amity, harmony and attachment had prevailed among the settlers in those times. They visited, on foot, places even at greater distances. They were helpful to each other; they did not argue about politics nor did they draw up lines on the basis of parties. Quite often Mr. Tumberg says of remembering his many friends and neighbors of that time, of whom a greater part have gone to the quiet of the grave, among others, John Krumberg, a native of Lohtaja, a big and powerful pioneer, who had been by nature quite jocular and had a 'gift of gab,' and able in other respects.

"On coming to clear land here, Erik Tumberg was only 23 years of age. Youthful strength in that clearing of the wilderness for cultivation was certainly needed. Young and robust had almost all the other men and women coming here in the pioneer days been, young and full of vitality, who generally were able to endure the diffi-



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"REMINISCENCES OF AN OLD PIONEER"

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culties and adversities over which they had no control, which were not trivial.

"Mr. Tumberg's first wife died in 1916. Twenty years ago he remarried, Mrs. Josefiina Mattila (nee Anttila) becoming his wife. Of the children from his first marriage, five sons and two daughters are living, all of them residing as farmers in this region. The sons are William, Jalmer, Oscar and Richard [the fifth son's name is not given] and the daughters Mrs. Antti Mänttä and Mrs. William Puranen (Olga). Jalmer lives in the old family home. There are 44 grandchildren and 41 great grandchildren, so that the entire kith and kin comes to about a hundred persons, enough to fill a small church.

"Mr. Tumberg has, during his life here, belonged to the Apostolic-Lutheran congregation, being a serious-minded and devout Christian. The children also are members of the Apostolic-Lutheran congregation, William and Jalmer being well-known hymn singers.

"For the last ten years the elder Tumberg's have lived in their own home on the eastern edge of the village."

(This concludes the article)

Material translated from "Esiraivaajien Muisto": "A publication issued in connection with the festival held at New York Mills August 20 in remembrance of the pioneering of the New York Mills, Sebeka, Menahga and Susijärvi [Wolf Lake] region's pioneer Finns and of Minnesota's first Finnish immigrants." Published at New York Mills in 1939.

The following is a translation of the text and captions of the pictures on pages 4, 5, 6 and 7.

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#### "A PIONEER FAMILY IN FIVE GENERATIONS"

"In the picture we see the well-known Lehtijärvi [Leaf Lake] township's first pioneer settler Mrs. Maria Pajumpää, her daughter, Mrs. Maria E. Rimpilä, the latter's daughter, Mrs. Alma Aho, and Mrs. Rimpilä's granddaughter, Mrs. Jake Van Der-may, and her five-week-old son, Donald Jacob. Thus there is in the picture the same kin in five different generations. Mrs. Pajumpää was 88 years old May 20 last. She was born at Kälviä. Her husband, Sakari Pajumpää, was born at Lohtaja in 1849, and came to farm at New York Mills in 1881, dying several years ago. The aged Mrs. Pajumpää lives with her son Emil. Other children are Antti Pajumpää, who lives in the town of Lehtijärvi [Leaf Lake], and Mrs. John Suomala, living in Kettle River."

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#### "JOHN COOK (KAUPPI)"

"He was born in the village of Kuivaniemi, in the parish of Ii, May 18, 1842, and came to New York Mills from Calumet [Michigan] with his family May 7, 1879. He died, at the age of 87 years and 3 days, May 7, 1929. Children here are John, Charles and Sander Cook."



## "A LIVING FIRST PIONEER"

"MRS. AMELIA JOHNSON"

"She was born in the parish of Ii Feb. 1, 1858. Came in 1875 to Brainerd, to stay with her mother (her father, Matti Pikkarainen, had drowned in the Mississippi River while she was on her way to America). She worked in Brainerd some years and took a homestead in New York Mills. Married Olli Niemi (Johnson) in 1879. Her husband had come here in 1878. Mr. Johnson died in 1913. She lives here with her daughter, Mrs. Albina Koski. Another daughter, Mrs. E. E. Lauley (Esther), also lives here. Two daughters live out West. There are several grandchildren. Her brother, Alexander Pikkarainen, moved to farm here in 1877, and her mother, who, after the drowning of her first husband, married Alexander Nykanen, moved here with her husband about the same time. Mrs. Nykanen died in 1916."

## "THE FIRST FINN BORN IN MINNESOTA"

"JOHN ABRAM ROVAINEN"

"He was born at St. Peter, in Nicollet County, Minn., Feb. 25, 1865. As a little child he moved with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Antti Rovainen, to the Franklin agricultural region in Renville County. In 1885 he went to the Oscar Eliasson logging camps at Hancock, Mich., where he was five years. In 1894 he married Liina Flogerberg in Franklin, and during the same year they moved to Minneapolis. They have had five children. Wife and two children are living."

(The article, "Sananen esiraivaajista" ["A Word About the Pioneers"], on page 6, has not been translated)

Material translated from "Esiraivaajien Muisto": "A publication issued in connection with the festival held at New York Mills August 20 in remembrance of the pioneering of the New York Mills, Sebeka, Menahga and Susijarvi [Wolf Lake] region's pioneer Finns and of Minnesota's first Finnish immigrants." Published at New York Mills in 1939.

The following is a translation of the article, "Suomalainen siirtolaisuus Minnesotassa 75 vuoden ikäinen" ["Finnish Immigration in Minnesota 75 Years Old"], beginning on page 7 and continuing to page 9.

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#### "FINNISH IMMIGRATION IN MINNESOTA 75 YEARS OLD"

"Finnish immigration in Minnesota is almost as old as this state, only six years younger. This state of the North Star and the meecasin flower received its state's rights in 1858, and the first Finnish immigrants arrived here in 1864. The Finns, therefore, can be said to be a well-established people already in our state.

"According to the information obtained by Pastor S. Ilmonen, our well-known historian, the first Finnish immigrant group arrived in this state in the summer of 1864. It was, as a matter of fact, the first actual immigrant group arriving in America after the Delaware Finns arrived in the seventeenth century, although, of course, individual fellow-countrymen had arrived in the different seaports of this country as seamen and otherwise between the Delaware migration and the year 1864, during the California gold fever in the 1850's, for instance. The year 1864, however, can be looked upon as the actual starting point of the new Finnish immigration. Three different Finnish groups left Norway at that time, Minnesota the destination of their journey. Norwegians had already come to this country in large



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numbers earlier and from them the Finns who had migrated to northern Norway had heard of the advantages which this new country had to offer, the acquiring of free land by those intending to be farmers, for example, by right of occupation.

"From Tromsø, in northern Norway, the first Finnish immigrant group left for Minnesota with Norwegian immigrants in the above-mentioned year. Fourteen persons belonged to that company, and their names are known. They were: Peter Lahti, from the Tornio River, his wife, Johanna, and son, Kaarlo; Matti Niemi, from Kemi, his wife, Maria, and sons, Matti, Nikolai and Kaarlo; Antti Rovainen, from Matarenki [Sweden], his wife, Matlena, and one child; Mikko Heikka, from the Tornio River, and his wife, Maria, and a single man by the name of Nulus. These names are very well known in the history of the Minnesota Finns. The Lahti family is best known by the name Bay [which is the equivalent of the Finnish "lahti"] and the Niemi family by the name Johnston.

"This group arrived in the city of St. Peter, which at that time was only a small hamlet. Lahti and the younger Matti Niemi enlisted in the northern states' army, the war for the emancipation of the slaves still being waged at that time. The others got work harvesting and, in winter, lumbering. During the following year the party moved to Renville County, to the settlement region named Franklin, in the Minnesota River valley, where they acquired farms for themselves and began to clear them for cultivation. Toward the end of the same year there came also Lahti and Niemi, who had enlisted in the army, with the termination of the Civil War. Thus was born the Finnish farming settlement of the Franklin region, which can be considered as the first Finnish agricultural region in this state."

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"Another Finnish group left with Norwegians from Hammerfest just about the same time as the first mentioned one, arriving in the city of Red Wing three months later. Among them were Matti Tiiper, from Alkkula, his wife, Elizabeth, their daughter, Anna-Kreeta, and two other children, and two single men, whose names are not known. Tiiper succumbed to cholera at Red Wing in the following year; the others dispersed to their settlements.

"In the third Finnish group, which left Vesisaari [Vadsø], Norway, in the same spring, were the single men Elias Peltope<sup>n</sup> and Esaias Kujala, from Kemijärvi, Matti Maatta<sup>n</sup>, from Kuusamo, and Matti Marttala, from Hietaniemi [Sweden]. They also came to Red Wing. There they were urged to enlist in the Northern Army, where comparatively good wages were paid, but these fellow-countrymen were not interested in a military career, preferring to go logging, which was to be had. Afterwards they also began to cultivate land in the Cokato region.

"From this humble beginning of 25 persons there then developed later the great Finnish migration directed toward Minnesota. That will not be taken up in this article. Let it be only mentioned that after Franklin came the Finnish agricultural settlement in the region of Cokato, it being 75 years ago next year when the first Finn took a homestead there. Next there sprang into existence the Finnish agricultural settlement of Holmes City and a little later the first Finns settled down to live in the Thomson and New York Mills, Sebeka, Menahga and Susijärvi [Wolf Lake] regions. Duluth, Minneapolis and Brainerd are the oldest cities in which Finns have taken up residence. Finnish settlement spread to the Minnesota iron range shortly after the first ore finds were made there in the early part of the 1880's. At that time a number of Finns worked in lumbering in the northern parts of the state and Finnish farming settlements began to appear here and there in addition to the places mentioned above. The iron range mines and the construc-



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tion work of cities attracted a great number of Finns, many thousands, and from the mining regions one family after another moved to farm, either to homesteaded, railroad company or state land, the first big strike of the Mesaba Range in 1907 causing a large movement to the land.

"We also know that new impetus to emigration from Finland to Minnesota and other states was caused by the oppression years of Finland [the Russianization program of Czar Nicholas II in Finland], beginning in 1899, migration being the greatest during the first years of the present century and so on until the World War, which checked immigration for the war years. And then after the war came drastic immigration restrictions, which have continued, so that after 1921 the number of immigrants who have come to Minnesota from Finland has been, compared to former times, very small.

"The Finns living in Minnesota at present number a good deal over 100,000. There is no accurate information about the number of Finns, since in the United States Census only those born in Finland and the native born of Finnish parents in this country are reckoned as Finns. The number already born in this country of native born Finns, however, begins to be large. Also there is in our state a considerable number of Finns born in Sweden and Norway and their descendants. Of the foreign groups, the Finns are in fourth place in Minnesota, ahead of them being only the Germans, Swedes and Norwegians.

"Most of the Finns live in the large county of St. Louis. Then come the New York Mills, Menahga, Sebeka and Susijärvi [Wolf Lake] contiguous Finnish region in Otter Tail, Wadena and Becker Counties, the extensive Finnish settlement of Carlton County and the Finnish region of Wright and Meeker Counties (the Cokato, Amundale, Kingston and Dassel district), Minneapolis, the Finnish localities of Itasca County, the Finnish region of Douglas County (the Holmes City, Brandon, Kensington and Farwell district), the Franklin region, Crow Wing County (Brainerd

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and vicinity), Aitkin County, Marshall County (Middle River), Red Lake County (Plummer), Pine County (Finlayson and Sandstone), Lake County (Two Harbors and vicinity), Koochiching County, Beltrami County and several other counties in which Finns live in smaller numbers. We may say that Finns live generally, all in all, in about twenty counties in this state.

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"Extensive is the work which our fellow-countrymen have performed in this state as clearers of the land for cultivation, in industry and in the fields of social and cultural life in general. Against many difficulties have they had to struggle, poverty, the drudgery of work, the insecurity of economic life and even against a great deal of prejudices. Many have succumbed hopelessly in that struggle, but generally it can be said that the Finns have kept their place well alongside the other nationalities. Their own educational pursuits, centered upon their own nationality, have been intensive in the field of many different cultural activities and even through this it has been able to contribute more to the general cultural life. The younger generation, as one receiving an American education, begins to take part already in an effective way in the creating of a common development of the state.

"We raise, with respect, our hats to the Finnish pioneers of Minnesota. Their work merits our highest recognition. They have been a people courageous and overcoming every obstacle, and on the foundations laid by them have the younger generations continued their activities and struggled with their own difficulties."

(This concludes the article)



Freely translated from the Uusi Kotimaa of Oct 12th Vol.42 Page 3 Col.1,  
Oct. 19th Vol.42 Page 3 Col.1 and ~~XXX~~ Dec. 31st Vol 42. Page 2 Col. 4 of  
1923. by W A Harju.

" History of New York Mills"

"The past and present of the Finnish farmers of New York Mills"

"As related by J W Lahde (Trans.Note. For many years editor of Uusi Kotimaa)

It should be interesting even to other localities to read about the past and  
present of this the largest Finnish agriculture community in America. The  
writer has had the happy opportunity and experience in living in this community  
and being active among its people for the past 36 years and has seen the  
struggles and trials of the people unfolding themselves from the early period  
onward.

This story therefore necessarily will ~~XXXX~~ not only be confined to the Finns  
but will deal in part with the whole history of this region. History is memoranda  
gathered from the past, it deals with the life, struggle and the difficulties of  
all of the people and therefore all of the people are related in it.

The historic incidents of New York Mills are not very old. They are only as  
old as one generation.

The village of New York Mills is in Newton township. This township was established  
and first named New York Mills March 22nd 1877. Among the founders of the  
township are a few Finns even though in the records their names have been  
Americanized. These Finnish founders were Thomas Ottio (Tuomas Autio) who is  
still living, Andrew Poopert (Antti Puupera), Alex Pekine (Aleksi Pikkarainen)  
and Matti Ronkainen, who is also still alive.

The first township meeting and election of officers was held April 11th. 1877  
in the Towsley & Cornwell store in New York Mills. The township retained the  
name of New York Mills until July 26th. 1883 at which time it was changed to  
Newton.

The village of New York Mills was founded January 7th 1884 and the first village  
elections were held May 27th 1884. Among the founders of the village were

Charles J Johnson, O Pary, O A Austin, August Sitz, Fred Reymolds and others.

In the petition for establishing the town it is said that there are ' 300 souls' and that an organized village would be a great benefit to them, because it is on the Northern Pacific railway and the railroad workers as well as the lumbermen get their provisions from here.

When the first Finns, Tuomas Autio, Antti Puupera and Matti Ronkainen came in 1875 it could not have been a very large place. (Israel Hagel came on June 19th 1877.)

The first merchants of the village probably were Jerry Winslow and A S Blowers. The third early merchant was Olaf Pary or Olli Pajari who opened his store here June 14th. 1881.

The Uusi Kotimaa which was owned by August Nylund sr. the father of August F Nylund and Fred Nylund moved from Minneapolis to New York Mills in 1884. During the year 1888 the Uusi Kotimaa was again moved now to Astoria, Oregon and in the fall of that year J W V Lahde established another weekly paper called the "Amerikan Suometar" which was published in New York Mills until the Uusi Kotimaa was moved back from Astoria. After the coming back of the Uusi Kotimaa the two papers were amalgamated appearing thrice weekly for a short time. The tri weekly publication had to be abandoned however, very soon as at the time there was not enough support.

The largest merchandise establishment of New York Mills in the early days was Olli Pajaris store. His timber operations were also very extensive.

All of the area where now is located the central park and the older Finnish church at that time was Olli Pajari's wood lot. Other merchants worthy of mention were Kellog who bought the Winslow store and again sold it to Cornwell. The first corporation store was established in 1884 which was managed by Nils Strolberg. It went out of business very shortly afterwards.



The Mc<sup>K</sup>enzie saw mill was started during the year 1882 and it operated for 4 years. During the same year A J Sitz and August Newman together established a hardware store. It was finally taken over by Sitz alone who a few years ago sold it to Lind and Piilola. This establishment has expanded and is now known as the Piilola, Kela, Mattson and Company. Some corporation started a flour mill here in 1895 but it later burned down.

Hugo Almquist came to New York Mills in 1884 and was for many years employed in the Pajari Store. He established his own business in 1893 and in 1911 he sold it to a company composed of farmers. He is now the owner of a large commercial establishment in Crosby, Minnesota.

The Olli Pajari merchandise store was the first brick building in the village of New York Mills. It was constructed in 1886. The first hotel man here was a Norwegian by the name of Johnson. He later sold his hotel to Clark after which it burnt down. The present day hotel was built by H C Hanson. A man by the name of Clint W Fiske established the first livery stable in 1883.

The prosperous period for the New York Mills community begins when the Finns start diversification, when the creameries begin to grow in the community.

The New York Mills creamery Co. was established March 1st 1901. Its first officers were; Israel Hagel President, Jacob Ojala Vice Pres., S J Haarala secretary, Jacob Pelto treasurer and Matti Niemela and John P Aarni Board members.

The Cloverleaf Creamery of Heinola was founded January 1st 1907. Its first Board of Directors were; H Anderson Pres., Peter Raattama Vice Pres., Adolf Anderson secretary and Jacob Hietala treasurer.

The Topelius Creamery was started April 1st 1907. The members of the first Board were; J H Muckala Pres., Andrew Lind secretary, and Matti Hill treasurer. William Puranen, Gust A Ruikka, Mikko Hendrickson and Roy O Pier were the other Board members.

Otter Tail County where New York Mills is situated was formally established March 18th 1858 and the county seat designated at the time <sup>was</sup> Otter Tail City. Here it is necessary to say a few words about the name Otter Tail. The name Otter Tail was not only given to the county, it was also given to its largest lake, River, Township and town. As stated the first county seat was at 'Otter Tail City', but we must not confuse this town with the present village of Otter Tail, which is located two miles east of Otter Tail lake in Otter Tail township.

At one end of Otter Tail lake there is a narrow strip of land or island, about a mile and a half long and two or three rods wide. It follows the bend of the east shore of the lake. This unusual strip of land has been formed by ice movements in the course of ages. This narrow elongated island long ago became known to the Indians as Otter Tail, because of its similarity in form to the tail of an otter. So the name was first given to the lake, then to the town and finally to the county.

Although Otter Tail County was formally established in 1858 its organization actually took place in 1868. French travelers and voyageurs knew about Otter Tail lake already as early as 1800. In Otter Tail City there are said to have been 5 log cabins in 1858. E C Corliss the first county attorney of Otter Tail County says that there were still 5 buildings in the town in 1870 when he first saw the city. On February 28th 1872 the county seat was moved to Fergus Falls by arrangement of Attorney Corliss.

When the civil government had been properly established to guide the community the cutting down of the forests ~~XXXXX~~ and settlement was begun. The first Finnish settlers sent 'tidings to their brothers and news to their relatives' about the beautiful country, which resulted in the influx of new settlers seeking land.



August Nylund and J W Lahde through the Finnish press and Olli Pajari on his business trips broadcast the information among the Finnish people about the country and its fertile land which brought more new settlers even directly from Finland.

New York Mills was at the time the only railroad station of the locality. Thus all of the first settlers were compelled to stop here and then spread to the Paddock region where later the towns of Sebeka and Menasha ~~was born~~ <sup>was established</sup>. There were still homesteads to be had north of here, so it was possible for even a poor man to secure land, even though at the time there were many more difficulties than there are now to get a start in farming. Many of the people at that time came here penniless, but they could get an axe and provisions from Olli Pajari on a promisory note. With the provisions on their back and the axe under their arm they proceeded through the wilderness on foot to stake out their claims. After this a group together would hire a surveyor to measure the land and determine the boundaries on the basis of which the filings in the land office were made. Soon too, cabins went up on the land thus platted for the families to live in. The first dwellings were crude cabins but they were greatly appreciated. Now they had their 'own home' (oma Tupa) even though it may have been small. No one in those days, could have imagined that those who went into the wilderness would some day have great houses in which to spend their old age, and barns, silos, windmills and other equipment, improving so rapidly, that the farms seem to be in constant competition vying with one another, which will be the best equipped. No matter how convincingly one would have attempted to ~~predict~~ predict the change that has taken place, ~~no~~ one would have believed what actually has happened. -- Who could have at that time believed that in the latter part of the second decade of the 20th century, automobiles would speed along the roads, where oxen had tramped before, That tractors would, like they have replaced, draft animals in our fields.

In the modern day communication with the other side of the world can be carried on through a telephone in the corner of your home. The mail which was carried in the early days once a week to the towns, now comes every day to your door. Every day it is brought and taken from your farm. In the early days the cabins were illuminated by a dim oil lamp, now our great houses shine with bright electric lights.

Will this happy situation continue long?. This will be dealt with in the forthcoming articles."

(to be continued)

"tehtävä on niin vanha ja muuttessa pysyvä  
kun Olli pajarin Nuotta"

"Obligation is as old, and remains in your  
memory as long as Olli Pajar's promisory note"



(Trans.Note. Second instalment issue of Oct 19th 1923 Vol 42 No 48  
page 3 Col. 1.)

"For the time we will go back to the old times and later again we will come back to the present with added reference to our modern younger and older farmers and merchants.

The old times when the first Finns came here are yet very clear in my mind.

It is interesting to go back in years and remember how determined and courageous the pioneers were, when they went into the wilderness to build their homes.

For an example, the late Peter Nevala who died only last week. He with others started through a roadless wilderness on a 20 mile trip to the Paddock region.

Arriving there they built a crude shack in which to live so long that they could stake out their claims. In this cabin the families of these men were compelled to live together until a survey of the land could be made, so that each knew where his land would be. There was no kind of a road at that time so all of the provisions had to be carried from New York Mills a distance of 20 miles. There was no place closer from where provisions could have been secured.

After long years of observation of the hard work and activity of these early Finnish pioneers one can only marvel their courage and tenacity. It was the late Juhani Aho who called the Finns 'The people of the Juniper' (Katajainen Kansa) meaning that they were as "strong and tough as the juniper tree". That phrase best describes the pioneers of the New York Mills territory. When the cabins of the Finnish pioneers began to multiply in the wilderness, they would often be visited by the red skinned Indians. To the Finnish settlers the Indians were very friendly, often bringing them game for which the settlers in turn gave them tobacco. Oddly these natives of America prized tobacco very highly.

When a yoke of oxen was secured for the whole community it was a great step forward and made life much better. In the winter when the roads were better

the pioneers would haul provisions from town together. Some commodities they hauled in sufficient amounts to last through the summer. Gradually however the number of oxen grew in the community so that each family finally had a yoke for themselves. The Finns soon learned the ox drivers "language" so travel with them became quite satisfactory. About midway between New York Mills and Paddock in a place called Davies there was a saw mill in the early days. Near this saw mill lived a Finn by the name of John Tolppi, a pleasant man, whose place was the midway travel post between New York Mills and Paddock. At his place the oxen could get water and forge and in his house the traveler could get hot coffee and food. At his place one would meet the pioneers and their ox carts traveling back and forth, especially in the winter time when shelter was necessary. Some times the people would come to Mr Tolppi with their tales of woe and discouragement. He would tell those who complained, that there "was plenty game, rabbits and deer so why should we worry". He would then remind them that it was much worse in the barren tundra of Lapland. He would tell them to put out their ~~ir~~ snares for the rabbits, and to get at least one gun for the community with which to bring down deer from the woods. "Why should we complain he would repeat, as by the hunt and chase we can sit all winter long by well provided flesh pots!" He would also admonish them to open up land and to make ties with which to trade coffee, sugar and flour from New York Mills. "The game of Tapio (woods) ~~XXXXX~~ will take care of us so there is no need to worry" he would say.

In this way Mr Tolppi would entertain his large number of visitors. Often he would also read comic peices to them from the Finnish newspapers. All the Finnish newspapers of the time came to Tolppi's house. There of course were only two in the country at the time the Uusi Kotimaa and the Amerikan Suomalainen Lehti. Many are the discouragements that Tolppi turned into new hope. The people would stop at his place coming and going. On the way



to town they would have a load of ties and often a carcass of a deer decorating it. At the time deer could be shot and sold in the towns.

During this time there was an abundance of game in the woods. Often one would see a large number of deer hanging on the main street of New York Mills which had been brought down by Finnish hunters.

The people of the time were confronted with two great problems. These were the opening of land for cultivation and building of roads. In the fall of 1887 the writer was called upon to preach at Paddock. August Nylund sr. accompanied him on the trip. The worship was held in Johan Bangor's house who had a little larger dwelling than the others. (There was not even a schoolhouse in the region at the time). This was the first longer trip of the writer in this region. We had horses from the livery stable at New York Mills. The roads were something indescribable. In some places through the lowlands the road was made from poles laid on the ground without any embankment. The poor and penniless immigrant could not provide anything better. The State or the County did not give aid to roads. The settlers themselves had to build them by what means they had at their disposal. This first preaching trip will always remain in the memory of the writer.

This however did not discourage the early settlers. They were hardy men and women. Their faces shone with hope and contentment. The prospect of a better future gave them enthusiasm and stamina. During the next winter I visited Paddock a number of times. On one Sunday I had the occasion to also preach to the Swedish people in their own language of whom a number of families lived near Davies.

The Finnish settlement spread very rapidly from Paddock. A little later the Great Northern railway was built from Wadena to Park Rapids. It is along this road that the live towns of Sebeka and Menasha were established. Surrounding both of these towns today there ~~is~~<sup>are</sup> extensive Finnish

agricultural settlements. Many of the original settlers of these communities were first customers of New York Mills but later they have ceased to come here so often because they now have market places closer.

There are of course a great number of people who have come herelately and still continue to come. For these newcomers it is much easier to get a start than it was in the early days.

Of the ox cart period there would be a great number of interesting stories to tell. The ox is a faithful beast of burden. Many times the drivers would start from New York Mills in the evening. They would cover themselves up with warm blankets in the wagon or sleigh and fall asleep. The next morning upon waking they would find themselves in Mr Tolppis barnyard, just in time to geth their morning coffee. Again when the settlers started from home in the afternoon they would come to Tolppis in the evening and after stopping there they would cover themselves in the sled, waking up in the morning in front of Pajaris store in New York Mills where the oxen would ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ always stop.

Life moved very slowly in the pioneers days, but in spite of it there was a lot of fun and frolic. The people lived in the hopes of a better future. there was a friendship and brotherhood among all just as though they had all been related. It can be said that in one way they were related. They all came from the same country and had the same fatherland. All of them spoke the Finnish language which tied them together. All of them also faced the same difficulties and sufferings, which made for common understanding. The larger cities and towns were far away. Alexandria was the closest of the more important towns. Fergus Falls 54 miles from New York Mills too, was an important town because it was the county seat. In the early days people often walked to these cities to transact their business.



Slowly but surely the open fields began to broaden around the settlements. Every acre of woodland that was transformed into a field increased the hopes and aspirations of the people. A healthy imagination and the prospect for a rosy future, gave strength and determination to the pioneers to withstand all the difficulties, which were some times so great that it is doubtful if the modern generation could have stood up under them. An unbounded faith in the heavenly father and the great hopes kept the mind occupied and alert. So long as hope remains one feels good, because hope is a soft pillow on which to lay your head after an arduous day of labor.

Just as soon a sufficient material security was achieved to warrant it the sowing of the seeds of the spirit was begun. The first Finnish church of this region was the Apostolic Lutheran Church located in the same ~~place~~ place where now stands the magnificent south church of this congregation. This congregation was established around the year 1885. The Evangelical Lutheran Church of New York Mills was founded in 1892, that is the independent Evangelical congregation. Later a group separated from this and they founded the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran congregation of St Peter in 1896. This church is now known as the Finnish Synod. The Leaflake Evangelical Lutheran congregation was established in 1889. The Topelius Evangelical Lutheran church in 1911.

After the Great Northern railway was built 30 years ago two sister towns sprang up to the north of New York Mills. These towns are Sebeka and Menasha. These towns grew very rapidly and are today beautiful, prosperous and lively small towns. These towns are surrounded by Finnish people and Finns predominate among the owners of their business establishments."

(To be continued)

(Trans.Note. Third instalment issue of December 31st 1928 V61 42  
No 164 Page 2 Col.4.)

"Wadena County has not yet reached a stage where it would have its own county history, so in writing about the Finnish settlers one has to depend upon his own memory.

The Finns came in greater numbers to the county only after the Great Northern railway was extended from Wadena to Park Rapids. As indicated before it was on this road that the new towns of Sebeka and Menasha grew up. There was of course a few Finnish farmers who settled there before, but the writer does not remember all of them. And besides many of them are now dead. Mr John Harju was one of the older settlers but he is dead now for many years. Others were Abram Parvianen, Tervo, Mikko Marjamaa and Särkela. Of the older settlers living there mention should be made about Daniel Kuusi, Kalle Kuha, Antti Komppa and his brother Israel Komppa and perhaps a few others.

On the border of Wadena and Otter Tail county on the Otter Tail side there were a number of old Finnish settlers. Among these are Leander Siironen, the Hännikens, Herman Hänninen, Peter Hänninen, and the brothers Kustaa and Fred Sarvi. Another old settler of Wadena County is Oscar Anderson who later sold his land and now lives in New York Mills.

All of these early settlers first came to New York Mills, and after buying their provisions here they walked to their homesteads carrying their goods with them some times as long a distance as 20 miles. Some of these people had a lot of ingenuity. According to my memory it was Kittijärvi, who needed a grindstone on his place. Such a thing of course was too heavy to carry on ones back. So when he bought the grindstone in town, he made a wheelbarrow using the grindstone as a wheel. In this way he took much more provisions to his home than he could have carried, and the grindstone was also gotten to his farm where it was needed. He wheeled his load for 20 miles which of course was not a pleasant task when there was no roads. But such was



the substance and the tenacity from which the Finnish pioneers were made.

These old pioneers yet today could tell many interesting stories about their life, and the great obstacles that they had to overcome in the early days. It is unfortunate that the writer has not gathered all of the reminiscences of these people before when they were still fresh. Because of this neglect or oversight many good stories have gone to the grave with those people who experienced them.

On the Sebeka railroad construction job there were a number of "Strong and hearty old men" (Tervas Kantoja) like Konraad Maatta (deceased), and Jooseppi Stjerna (also dead), who were very interesting. Jooseppi Stjerna came from Russian Karelia and could sing the Kalevala runes, included among them short stanzas of the later folklore /Wainamoinens Brothers son'. He could not remember the rune completely so it was not of much value. Jooseppi Stjerna had first come to Holmes City where he lived for a short time. He was the brother of Sakri Stjerna who lived in our community.

Old Mr Savela and his equally old wife could tell a lot about their experiences on the Grass River (Heinajoella) where they lived for a long time. Other old settlers in the Menagha region who come to mind, are old Mr Ruona and his son Adolf Ruona, Matti Niemi, Henry Ihme, Antti Kuukas, Abel Heikkinen the jeweler who still lives in Menagha, Peter Pauna an old Merchant of Menagha. It was Pauna who simultaneously farmed and operated a general merchandise store in Paddock, Olli Pajari of New York Mills being his wholesaler. Pauna later went west but returned from there in poor health to die here.

Many of these old friends have already been called upon to pay their debt to mother nature, going from our midst never to return. These are Adam Komppa, Mr Siltala, Mr Ollilä, Jacob Minni and Peter Raatikka. Others are still living like Olli Ronkainen and Erik Peltto who are around 80 years of age. They are some of the noble men of toil who have experienced both calm and storm in

in this region.

An extraordinary <sup>ca</sup> incident is that Olli Ronkainen, who in the early day operated a saw mill in Menasha, and later became a famous bear hunter in Beltrami County, now with his aged wife lives next door to the Uusi Kotimaa. These unusually hardy old people on the nice winter days that we have had, have just completed the building of a garage for their automobile all by themselves. These people even though they may be old in years are very modern in their ways and their outlook. They have an automobile and they can be seen driving together like youngsters. For a poet they would be interesting subject matter to depict a satisfied and happy family life"

(to be continued)

(Trans. Note. I am unable to find the issue of the paper in the Minnesota Historical Library where the article is continued in 1924)