

to the speakers' table. A mighty clapping split the air in compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Bouwens and their mighty brood. Bouwens was all pride and smiles and so was his wife. Then unexpectedly two more children dashed into the family group. Yes, they belonged there to make the children total 11.

"Generally count them," Bouwens said in explanation of his oversight, "excited and I forgot."

The men colonists were dressed for the fete in their Sunday-go-to-meeting clothes. They stayed so long to sing and dance in community hall that none took time to change into older clothes for the train ride.

With friends and relatives and well wishers they began gathering at the depot at midnight. There were bags to be checked and children to be collected, extra clothes and loose blankets to be taken care of. The colonists got their things done just in time.

#### "These Are Our People"

About 1:30 a. m. hundreds of people began flocking to the depot.

"This is history," said Henry Olsen. "These are our people and they are going away. They are making history and we are going to help them."

Rhineland did. A string of cars blocks long edged in side by side until hardly a foot of the long depot yard remained unoccupied. The lights of uncountable automobiles illuminated the station platform. A clear moon shone down through fleecy clouds, throwing its beams on the scores of spectators who overflowed onto the railroad lawn.

Inside the station's gray walls the pioneers gathered. There a father hugged his son in farewell embrace and a few of those men who have

#### Few Slept First Night

Few of the children have imaginations to match that lad's. Just learning how to ride a train, a new experience for the majority, keeps their thoughts busy.

The train is cluttered with baggage. Suitcases, boxes and blankets weigh down the overhead racks and are crammed between the seats and on the seats.

Confusion dominated the start of the trip. Nothing had been put in order for the first leg of the journey and so there was little sleeping. There was no place for it. A few tried curling up lengthwise of their day coach seats, but generally it proved vain. Sleeping will have to be done from St. Paul to Seattle if at all. The men are confident that with more time they can improvise cots from the single seats allowed each passenger more than 12 years old.

Most of the families left their

individuals, at 1 cent a copy, the delegate said.