

## Pioneers Get Touch of Sea

Big Swells Upset Colonists, but Not Children, on Alaskan Trip

BY ARVILLE SCHALEBEN  
OF THE JOURNAL STAFF

Aboard U. S. A. T. St. Mihiel, Alaska Bound—(By Radio)—Climbing the ladder of latitudes to Urele Sam's attic is a dizzy business to many of the Wisconsin and Michigan pioneers. We are taking the outer passage to Seward and as this is written we are plowing along at 15 knots through swells 12 feet high. A smoother sea, however, is forecast by the captain.

Many are severely seasick, but were cheered Sunday night by a clear, brilliant sunset after a day of cold, rain and fog.

The favorite diet among the ailing is crackers and fruit, although some don't want that much.

Monday, May 20, 1935  
"I never want food again. Two looks at a pineapple, and wow!" moaned Betty Herman of Plymouth. "It will be all right if the ship sinks," said some of the men.

The adults are the ones most affected. The children are sailors. They run and wrestle and examine everything. On Sunday they attended Sunday school classes while their parents lay in deck chairs or hung over the rails. Luckily the pioneers' orchestra—piano, guitar and violin—was in playing shape and entertained. Director Harold Carleton helped out by devising games to take minds off the sea. Some colonists watched for ships; they were disappointed.

### A Chain Letter

The travelers are being well cared for. There are no serious diseases—one case of possible measles and several colds. A doctor, three nurses and orderlies are treating the colds in the well equipped hospital. The meals are served cafeteria style, with the sexes separated. The Filipino servers interest the colonists greatly. Mothers with small children sleep in staterooms; the others between decks.

While we have left the States we have not escaped the pres-fad. A chain letter aboard is planned!

## Colonists Near Alaskan Goal

Seward Landing Scheduled for Tomorrow; Many Are Seasick

BY ARVILLE SCHALEBEN  
OF THE JOURNAL STAFF

Aboard U. S. A. T. St. Mihiel, Alaska Bound—(By Radio)—The St. Mihiel is due in Seward, Alaska, at 8 a. m. Wednesday and at least 350 of the 573 colonists on board are praying nothing will happen to delay it.

The 350 are seasick, many seriously so. Entire families are down. Some persons have not left their bunks for 48 hours. A few braver souls crawl around the deck, trying to shake off the effects. The well carry food—usually just crackers and fruit—to the bedridden. A few brave souls, wan of countenance, have made brave attempts to shake off the effects by pacing the decks but they usually end up by diving back into the bunks.

### Taste of the Salt

The going was heavy again Monday, with long swells rocking the transport. A big wave doused four boys standing on deck.

"We're the first pioneers to taste the Pacific," they laughed.

The sun shone for a few hours early Monday, then there was a fog and more rain.

For those who were able to be on deck there was some excitement during the day. A school of porpoises played about in the sea, greatly amusing the children. Another vessel was finally sighted—a fishing ship that loomed through the fog. There was a fire drill, with men, women and children donning lifebelts and taking positions at the lifeboat stations.

### Dogs Sick, Too

The first contagious disease was definitely diagnosed Monday—Gloria La Flam of Shell Lake was hospitalized with a mild case of measles. Director Harold Carleton believed the child had been segregated before spreading the disease. Oh, yes, and the dogs howl so loudly that it is hard to sleep at night. They are seasick, too.

## Manager to Be One of Colonists in Fact

BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL  
Palmer, Alaska—The Matanuska valley colonization project has a recruit in the person of Don L. Irwin, general manager of the project.

Irwin announced Monday that he would take one of the 40-acre farms to be distributed by the government

farm work. The only difference from the other colonists will be that he will use the old schoolhouse for a home until the new one is completed.

## Land Sighted by Colonists

Alaska Port Plans Big Welcome, Men to Hasten to Land Drawing

BY ARVILLE SCHALEBEN  
OF THE JOURNAL STAFF

Aboard U. S. A. T. St. Mihiel—(By Radio)—Land was sighted at daylight Wednesday. Land! It means all that and more to the Wisconsin and Michigan pioneers aboard this army transport nearing Alaska. It means new homes, new adventures, a new chance. So you can imagine the feelings stirred up as the first shadows appeared over the horizon.

Seward, the landing port, is preparing a welcome. The men of the expedition will go on at once to Palmer, in the Matanuska valley, to join the Minnesota men in a drawing for 40-acre farms. The women and children will stay at Seward for several days to rest up. Many are still suffering from seasickness and the chance will be welcomed.

Tuesday night there was a two-hour improvised entertainment aboard. There was trick dancing, songs, group singing, laughs galore. Earlier in the day there was a baseball game on deck, but it ended when Director Carleton batted the ball into the ocean. Michigan was leading Wisconsin, 8 to 2, when that happened; perhaps the game will have to be resumed on land to settle the arguments on how it would have turned out.

One new case of measles has developed—the daughter of Chris Anderson of Shell Lake is hospitalized. There is a report that all children