Members of two Hennepin county families to leave April 25 for Alaska, where they will become modern pioneers on a government subsistence project in the Matanuska valley are shown above. In the upper picture are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Alexander of Golden Valley, helping pack some of the family's belongings. The children are (left to right) Harold, Jr.; Bonnie Lee, Winston and Billy. Inset is Mr. Alexander. Below is the Oscar Engebretson family of Bloomington. Left to right are James, Mary Louise, Mrs. Engebretson and Charles, standing beside the family dog, Jiggs. Inset is Mr. Engebretson.
Members of two Hennepin county families to leave April 26 for Alaska, where they
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Rainbow Points to Land of Promise for 300 Minne-
sotans — Trek Northward Will Start April 26—
Parents and Youngsters Stirred With Enthusiasm
at New Opportunity Given by Uncle Sam

Their rainbow of hope leading to the land of gold, Alaska, more
than 300 Minnesota men, women and children today were preparing for
a 3,000-mile journey that will result in their becoming modern pioneers.

Today, in 67 homes throughout the state, including half a dozen in
Hennepin county, the women are packing clothes and deciding what per-
sonal belongings they should take with them. The men are crating farm
machinery and tools that will be taken along.

And the children are hurrying about gathering together previous
treasures and books. Some of the older
boys are studying their geography,

to secure an advance knowledge of
what they will find when, about the
second week in May, they arrive in
the valley of the Matanuska river,
above Anchorage, Alaska.

Will Get 40 Acres

As in the days of the pioneers, the
emigrants will be homesteaders, each
family to receive title to 40 acres
after living on the land five years.

The federal government is sending
them to Alaska on a new type of
subsistence colonization project, and
will provide each family with a bung-
kalow, machinery, some cattle, and a
$2,000 cash account that eventually will be paid back.

The Minnesota pioneers will leave
St. Paul April 26 on a special train
of 10 cars, arriving in San Francisco
May 1. Here the modern pioneers

will board the transport St. Michael,
named after one of Alaska's initial
towns, for the trip up the coast to
Anchorage, Alaska, about 30 miles
from their final destination in the
Matanuska valley.

Shopping in Minneapolis
occupying many of the women living
in and near the city. The S.H.A.
providing the families with new
clothing as the state's contribution
to the project.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Alexander,
who live in a tiny frame house with
four children near Turner's Cross
road and the Nineteenth avenue N.

(Continued on page two)

STRIKE TIES UP

OMAHA TROLLEYS

Omaha, April 20.—(AP) — Omaha's
street railway system was paralyzed
today as 400 union employees of the
company went on strike, impatient
with arbitration efforts of a federal
mediator.
a man over the other side of the creek who came from Denmark and he said kids don’t get seasick. I hope he’s right.”

The Alexander family came to Golden Valley nearly three years ago from a farm near Wanaummer, S. D. Mr. Alexander has farmed seven acres in Golden Valley, but the drought and other conditions convinced him that he should seek government approval for the Alaskan trip.

A slightly different story was told by Mrs. Oscar Engbreston, who will become one of the modern pioneers with her husband and three children, Charles, 12; James, 9; and Mary Louise, 6.

See Golden Chance

The Engbretns for the past two years have rented a farm east of highway No. 5, just above the Minnesota river. Both crops have been poor. Before that, Mr. Engbreten was a shipping clerk in a Minneapolis wholesale firm, where he went when a milk company for whom he worked was forced to reduce personnel.

Raised on a farm in northern Minnesota, Mr. Engbreten was with the United States navy during the war. After his discharge, he married and then settled on a small farm near Zumbrota. And then he came to Minneapolis, to work for the milk company.

“Things have been so hard for us that we applied a month or so ago for a seed loan.” Mrs. Engbreten said. She was hanging out clothes after a large family washing in preparation for the trip.

“Somehow, the loan officials decided to ask us if we wanted to go to Alaska,” she went on. “I’ll say we did. And now we’re going.

What They’ll Take

“We’re allowed to take along 2,000 pounds of stuff. We’re taking sleeping bags, mattresses, tools, farm machinery, clothing, dishes and such things as that.”

“We can’t take along any tables or chairs or beds, because they’re going to be built right into the bungalows the government is giving us.

“I’m so excited I hardly knew what to do. We can buy more land at $5 an acre after we get our title to the first 40 acres. It will be wonderful, being on our own.”

Just then Charles ran up to the house. He had been following a farmer harvesting a nearby field. A huge Chesapeake retriever, its tail wagging, followed him. In a moment James and Mary Louise arrived.

“Boy, it’s going to be swell up there—I know it,” Charles beams.

“But I’m wondering if they’ll let me take Jiggs, my dog, along. It’s going to feel terrible if they don’t.”

James and Mary Louise were very concerned about the matter.

All they knew was that the modern pioneers were going to leave Flavel at 4 p.m. April 26, that they probably would sail from Seattle, and that four days later they would be in Anchorage, Alaska, ready for the Bonnie trip up the valley to their new homesite where roads are now being constructed.