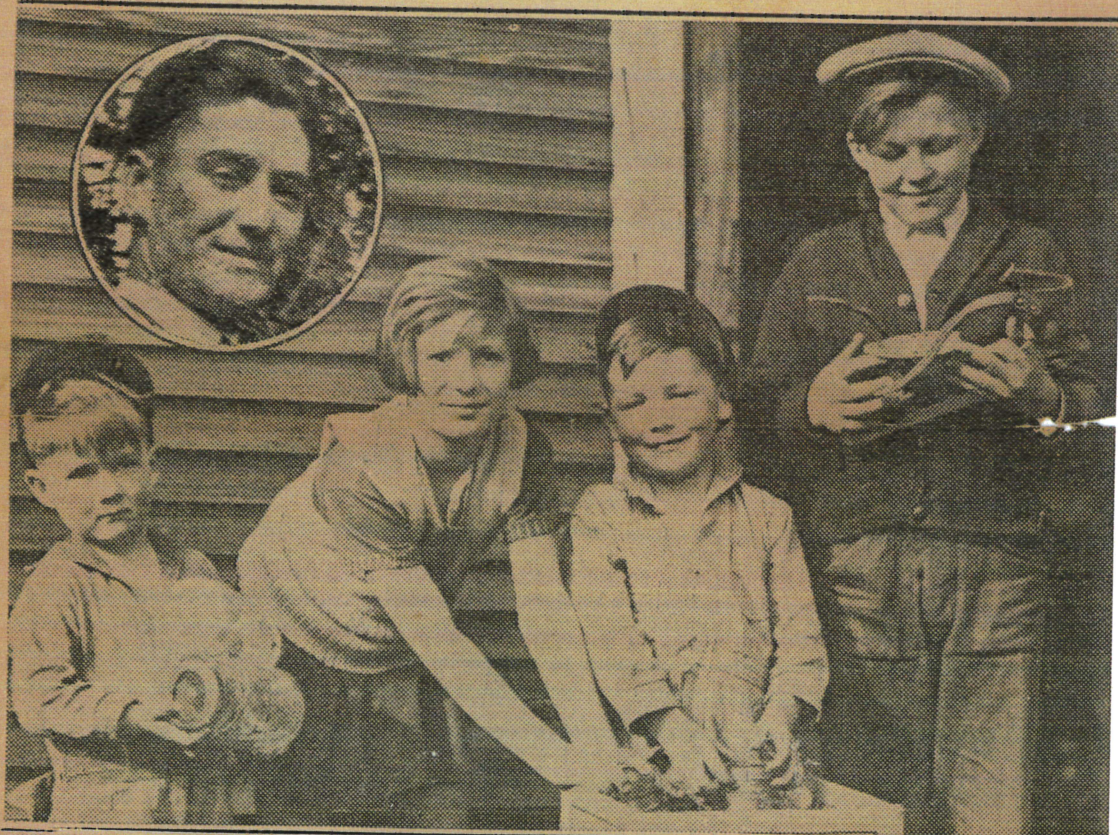


Hennepin Families Thrill to Pioneer Call, Pack for Alaska



Minneapolis Star Photos.

Members of two Hennepin county families to leave April 26 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.

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Rainbow Points to Land of Promise for 300 Minnesotans — 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 personal 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 precious toys and books. Some of the older ones 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 bungalow, machinery, some cattle, and a drawing account of \$3,000 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 is occupying many of the women living in and near the city. The SERA is 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 Crossroad and the Nineteenth avenue N.

(Continued on page two)

Stocks Soar in Active Trading

New York, April 20.—(U.P.)—Utility and industrial stocks whirled up to new high points for the year today. The hour's trading was active on the New York exchange this morning.

According to a table

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ALEXANDER FAMILY

STRIKE TIES UP OMAHA TROLLEYS

Omaha, April 20.—(U.P.)—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.

MINNEAPOLIS FOLK TO BE PIONEERS

(Continued from page one)

had in Golden Valley, were shopping when their home was visited.

Billy Wildly Thrilled

But Billy Alexander, 11 years old, his nose freckled and his cap on the back of his head, was guardink a sister and two brothers in his parent's absence, and he knew all about it.

"Sure, we're going," he declared. "And gosh are we excited."

"No, I'm not," his sister, Bonnie Lee, 10, insisted.

"You are too," the older brother replied.

"I'm going to take my skates along, although there isn't ice up here a lot of the time," he went on confidentially. "You see, the Japanese current comes across and that makes the water in the ocean kind of warm, and the winds blow up the valley between the mountains and so that makes things kind of warm and nice, see?"

Billy rattled off statistics about Alaska while Winston, 6 years old, and Harold, Jr., only 4, played happily with a red dump truck. They're going to take the truck with them. Bonnie Lee was busy looking over some fruit jars.

Take Only Their Fruit

"They're going to let mother take some of these along with us," she announced gravely. "We've got a lot of fruit and vegetables that mother put up last summer still left, but I don't suppose we'll be able to take those along with us."

"You know what," Billy broke in, "we were the first family chosen to go to Alaska. I guess I wonder if kids get sick on the ocean? There's

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 Wanamaker, S. D. Mr. Alexander has farmed seven acres in Golden Valley, but the drouth and other conditions convinced him that he should seek government approval for the Alaskan trip.

A slightly different story was told by Mrs. Oscar Engebretson, who will become one of the modern pioneers with her husband and three children, Charles, 12; James, 9; and Mary Louise, 4.

See Golden Chance

The Engebretsons 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. Engebretson 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. Engebretson 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. Ingebretson 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 springs, 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 know 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 harrowing a nearby field. A huge Chesapeake retriever, its tail waving, followed him. In a moment James and Mary Louise arrived.

"Boy, it's going to be swell up

there—I know it it," Charles beamed.

"But I'm wondering if they'll let me take Jiggs, my dog, along. I'm 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 St. Paul 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 30-mile trip up the valley to their new homesite, where roads are now being constructed.

Mut's

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Freshness

NOW