

# VOSSINGEN

TIDSSKRIFT  
UDGIVET AF VOSSELAGET

## INDHOLD.

|  | Side |
|--|------|
| Krigen og store mindeaar.....              | 1    |
| Norges indsats i krigen.....               | 1    |
| Kampen om Voss.....                        | 2    |
| Litt om Voss i krigstidi.....              | 2    |
| Vossebygdi var ikkje minst i skotlina..... | 9    |
| Dei norske øvde storverk.....              | 12   |
| Ei føl tid daa tyskarane kom.....          | 16   |
| Hendingar paa Bulken.....                  | 17   |
| Kva hende i Raundalen.....                 | 19   |
| Mere om hendinger paa Voss.....            | 20   |
| Stor glede over freden paa Voss.....       | 21   |
| Fra Kytesgrenden, Voss.....                | 22   |
| Paa Vossestrand .....                      | 23   |
| Den tyske brutalitet.....                  | 25   |
| De som mistet livet under krigen.....      | 25   |
| Lars Tvinde .....                          | 26   |
| Rassia paa Voss.....                       | 27   |
| Vossastrondi under okkupasjonen.....       | 29   |
| I krigstjeneste i Amerika.....             | 32   |
| De flyvende festningers bygmester.....     | 37   |
| Vosselaget .....                           | 38   |
| Lokalt Vosselag i Madison.....             | 39   |
| Knute Nelson mindes paa Voss.....          | 40   |
| Bøker .....                                | 41   |
| Naar slegtninger ikke underrettes.....     | 42   |
| Fra Vestkysten .....                       | 43   |
| Lars Nilson Nesheim .....                  | 44   |
| Alfred Knutson i Odda.....                 | 45   |
| Et og andet fra Voss.....                  | 46   |

## VOSSSEIAGET

har havt møde i efternævnte byer, og der valgt formand og sekretær som her nævnt:

- 1909 Møde i Albert Lea, Minn. Vosselaget stiftet.  
Knut Henderson, Cambridge, Wis., valgt formand.  
Torbjørn L. Ringheim, Northwood, Iowa, sekretær.
- 1910 Møde ogsaa i Albert Lea, Minn.  
Senator Samuel A. Nelson, Lanesboro, Minn., formand.  
Lewis L. Thorgerson (Mørkve), Kiester, Minn., sekretær.
- 1911 Møde i Madison, Wis.  
Prof. L. W. Boe, Forest City, Iowa, formand.  
Lewis L. Thorgerson, Kiester, Minn., sekretær.
- 1912 Møde i Minneapolis, Minn.  
Pastor A. Oefstedal, Chicago, Ill., formand.  
Lewis L. Thorgerson, Kiester, Minn., sekretær.
- 1913 Møde i Chicago, Ill.  
Pastor A. Oefstedal, Chicago, Ill., formand.  
Lewis L. Thorgerson, Kiester, Minn., sekretær.
- 1914 Møde paa utstillingsgrunden, St. Paul, Minn.  
Dommer A. Grindeland, Warren, Minn., formand.  
Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., sekretær.
- 1915 Møde i Fargo, N. Dak.  
Dommer A. Grindeland, Warren, Minn., formand.  
Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., sekretær.
- 1916 Møde i Decorah, Iowa.  
Pastor Knut K. Bjørgo, Red Wing, formand.  
Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., sekretær.
- 1917 Møde i Red Wing, Minn.  
Pastor Knut K. Bjørgo, Red Wing, Minn., formand.  
Prof. L. W. Boe, Northfield, Minn., valgt sekkr., var ikke tilstede.
- 1920 Møde i Madison, Wis. Vosselaget reorganiseret.  
Advokat William Nelson, Deerfield, Wis., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1921 Møde i Minneapolis, Minn.  
Advokat William Nelson, Deerfield, Wis., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1922 Møde i Albert Lea, Minn.  
Advokat William Nelson, Deerfield, Wis., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1924 Møde i Fergus Falls, Minn.  
Guvernør R. A. Nestos, Minot, N. Dak., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1925 Møde paa utstillingsgrunden i St. Paul, Minn.  
Advokat Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1926 Møde i Decorah, Iowa.  
Advokat Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1927 Møde i Kenyon, Minn.  
Advokat Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.

(Fortsettes paa tredje side af omslaget.)

# VOSSINGEN

TIDSSKRIFT UDGIVET AF VOSSELAGET

Fortnættelse af det ældste bygdelagsorgan i Amerika.

1857-1860.

K. A. RENE, Redaktør.

Hefte 34

Madison, Wis.

1946

Det var meningen at faa dette hefte ut før jul forrige aar, men det har vært uraad at faa det trykt paa norsk før nu. Ventetiden opveies dog med de gode beretninger, som først ankom efter jul, saa det er aldrig saa galt, det er godt for noget, som sagt er.

## Krigen og Store Mindeaar.

Vi har gjennemlevet det største mindeaar i verdenshistorien — aaret 1945. en sexaars krig — den mest vidstrakte og mest ødelæggende baade med hensyn til liv og eiendom, som historien kan opvise, er netop avsluttet. Og som toppunktet paa det hele kom den atomiske bombe, som antagelig maa gjøre ende paa al krig landene imellem.

Krigen begyndte med Tysklands overfald paa Polen i 1939, hvilket bragte England og Frankrig ogsaa med. Forskjellige lande ærklærede sig neutrale, deriblandt Norge og Amerika. Men Tyskland og Japan tog intet hensyn til slige papirbestemmelser, trods alle internationale love og regler. De hjalp dem kun til uhindret at grieve ind, hvor de fandt for godt.

Den 9de april 1940 blev vort gamle fedreland, Norge, uden varsel av noget slags, overfaldt av tyskerne, og den 7de december 1941 overfaldt japanerne ligeledes uden varsel den amerikanske havn, Pearl Harbor. Amerika ærklærede da krig mod Japan og straks ærklærede Tyskland krig mod Amerika. Senere overfaldt tyskerne ogsaa Rusland og andre land og krigen strakte sig jorden rundt. Her er da mindeaar av største betydning for etertiden. En ny verdensordnings er i første række blitt resultatet.

### Norges indsats i krigen.

Norge var ikke forberedt paa krig. I 127 aar hadde det havt fred, trods krigs andetsteds. Det hadde grund til at tro, at det ogsaa denne gang skulde gaa fri. Men nye elementer var komne til anvendelse. De gjorde avstande av mindre betydning

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ORGAN FOR THE VOSSELAG

Continuation of the oldest bygdelag newsletter in America.

1857-1860.

K. A. Rene, Editor

Hefte 34

Madison, WI

1946

It was the intention to get this out before Christmas last year, but it was impossible to get it printed in Norwegian before now. The waiting period must be balanced with the good reports that just came after Christmas so it is never so bad that it isn't good for something, as the saying goes.

## The war and a big memorable year.

We have experienced the greatest memorable year in world history — the year 1945. A six-year war — the most extensive and damaging both as regards life and property that history can exhibit has just finished. The high point of it all was the atomic bomb which may end all wars between countries

The war started with Germany's attack in Poland in 1939, which brought England and France in. Various countries declared neutrality, among them Norway and America, but Germany and Japan disregarded such paper decisions despite all international laws and rules. They just helped them to invade wherever they thought it was to their benefit.

On April 9, 1940, our old fatherland, Norway, without any warning of any kind, was attacked by the Germans and December 7, 1941 the Japanese, likewise without warning, attacked the American harbor, Pearl Harbor. America then declared war against Japan and soon Germany declared war against America. Later Germany also declared war on Russia countries around the world. Here is a memorable year of greatest importance for the future. A new world order of the greatest magnitude has been the result.

### Norway's involvement in the war.

Norway was not prepared for war. There had been peace for 127 years in spite of war elsewhere. There were grounds to believe that they would escape this time too. New elements were in use. They made distance of less meaning so that several countries came

saa flere lande kom med i hvirvelstrømmen. Flyvevaabenet av nye typer, og forbedringer i flaademateriellet gjorde tyskerne overmodige. De kunde let naa til Norge og derfra til England. De kjendte godt til Norges fredelige hensigter og mangefulde forsvarsvæsen og ventede derfor ingen modstand der. Deres general var kommen til Norge som en strømpeagent og lastebaade fulde av soldater var plaseret udenfor havnene. Saa kom deres vældige krigsskibe i nattens mulm og mørke og løb ind til de vigtigste kystbyer, som de var istand til at besætte den første dag.

Dette skede dog ikke uden betydelige tab; thi det utænkelige hændte. Det norske folk satte sig til modverge. Til dets uvisnelige hæder tog det straks op kampen. Naar det gjaldt hus og heim og fedreland var det ikke længer paa fred at tænke, og det skamløse overfald vilde de ikke taale, koste hvad det vilde.

Et heldigt tilfælde gjorde, at den norske regjering med konge og storting ikke faldt i tyskernes vold. Et tysk skib var bombardert og senket af englenderne den 8de april, og det viste sig, at dette skib skulde til Bergen med soldater. Denne vigtige oplysning kom til regjæringens kundskab saa tidlig at den med konge og storting i største hast kom sig ud av Oslo, og fik ligeledes guldbeholdningen i Norges bank bragt ud. Betydningen av dette er forstaaeligt nok. Den retmæssige ledelse av landets sager kunde i væsentlige dele vedbli, om det end blev fra England.

Men England var heller ikke tilstrækkelig forberedt paa saadan en krig. Det vilde hjelpe Norge, men hadde mere end nok med at hjelpe sig selv for det første. Det var igrunden modstanden, som tyskerne mødte i Norge som frelse England. Den gav det tid til at sætte sig bedre istand, og det kom saa til at frelse den øvrige verden indtil Amerika kom med. Dette er blit erkjendt fra offentlige kredse, og det har skabt høieste grad af beundring og velvilje for Norge uddover verden.

### Kampen om Voss

Det vakte selvfølgelig stor bestyrtelelse paa Voss, da man fik høre, at Bergen var indtaget av tyskerne, og forberedelse til modstand sattes straks igang. Mobiliseringsordre blev straks udsendt i 4de Division, hvis samlingsplads er paa Voss, hvor de to leirpladse, Tvillemoen og Bømoen er. General Stephens kom med sin stab til Voss og hadde sit hovedkvarter der for det første. Bergens Bataljon fik i henhold til oberstløjtnant Stenerson samlet sig paa Ulven og tog straks stillinger ved jernbanelinjen til Voss. Den trak sig kjæmpende tilbage til Vaksdal, hvor en haard kamp fandt sted, og hvortil endel av den samlede styrke paa Voss sendtes.

into the maelstrom. New types of aerial weapons and improvement in naval equipment made the Germans overbearing, they could easily reach Norway and from there to England. They well knew Norway's peaceful intentions and inadequate defense and therefore expected no resistance there. Their general had come to Norway as a stocking salesman and freighters full of soldiers were placed out side the harbors, then their powerful warships came in the dead of night and ran into the most important coastal cities which they were prepared to occupy the first day.

This wasn't without considerable losses; because the unthinkable happened. The Norwegian people resisted. To their eternal honor they immediately started to fight. When it involved house and home and native country there was no thought of peace; the shameless attack was not to be tolerated, regardless of cost.

A fortunate event took place, when the Norwegian government with its king and parliament did not fall under the Germans' control. A German ship was bombed and it turned out that this ship was bound for Bergen with soldiers. This important information reached the government in time so that the king and parliament left Oslo in great haste and likewise brought out the gold holdings of Bank of Norway. The legitimate leadership of the country's business though essentially divided could continue even though from England.

However, England wasn't either prepared for such a war. It wanted to help Norway but had more than enough to help itself at the beginning. Basically it was the resistance that the Germans met in Norway that saved England. It gave it time to better prepare and to save the rest of the world until America joined in. This became acknowledged in official circles and has created the highest degree of admiration and good will toward Norway all over the world.

### The fight in Voss.

It, of course, awakened a great alarm at Voss when they heard the Bergen had been captured by the Germans and preparations for resistance were put underway. Mobilization orders were immediately sent to the 4<sup>th</sup> Division whose assembly point was Voss where there are two military camps, Tvillemoen and Bømoen. General Stephens and his staff came to Voss and established headquarters there at the beginning. The Bergen Battalion gathered at Ulven under Colonel Stenerson and took up a position at the railway to Voss. It withdrew its forces to Vaksdal, where hard fighting took place and to where a number of troops from Voss were sent.

Da tyskerne truede med at bombardere Vaksdal, hvor det store møllebrug er, blev stedet opgivet, men ikke før end de betydelige lagre af melvarer var bragt opover til Voss. Der blev saa kjæmpet videre opover linjen ved tunelerne i Evanger og mange tyskere faldt.

Et amerikansk skibsmandskab, som var beordret ind til Stamnes, var vidner til kampen langs Bolstadfjorden og fandt den gruelig. Mange tyskere blev begravet i fjorden, blev det berettet.

Tyskerne sendte ogsaa store troppestyrker indover Hardangerfjorden. Fra Aalvik i Kvam, sendte de en avdeling opover til Bordalen paa Voss. En anden styrke sendtes fra Eide i Granvin langs jernbanelinjen mod Voss. Her mødte de en kraftig modstand fra de norske i Skjærvet. Mange tyskere faldt der, men bare to norske. Det var saaledes fra tre kanter, at Voss blev anfaldt av landgangstropper. Men ved siden av det blev der skudt fra krigsskibenes vældige kanoner lige til Voss; og saa kom bombingen av Vossevangen fra flyene — hvorom vil sees i det efterfølgende m. m.

En forvidnelig beretning har vi fra Voss Sparebank, sendt os av bankens kontorchef Lars J. Skutle. — Den lyder saaledes.

#### Litt om Voss i krigstidi.

Fraa vossingar i Amerika er det kome mange brev og fyrespursnader om korleis det staar til med slegt og vene og koleis stoda er i Vossebygdi. Det vil vera vanskeleg for Voss Sparebank aa svara paa alt dette, men me skal her gje eit oversyn over hendingane i krigstidi:

Det tyske overfallet paa Noreg kom heilt uventa. Tidleg om morgen den 9 april hadde tyskarane faatt fotfeste i Oslo, Kristiansand, Stavanger, Bergen, Trondheim og Narvik. Ved aataket paa Oslo vart det gjort hard motstand, og tyskarane miste fleire skip m. a. slagskipet "Blucher", ogso i Bergen og Narvik hadde den tyske flaaten store tap.

Forutan sjøvegen sende tyskarane tropper med fly, og etter at Fornebu ved Oslo og Sola ved Stavanger var tekne, vart dei norske flystyrkane, som ellers var svert smaa, trengde nordover, slik at tyskarane helles fort vart herrar i lufti.

Det var lite av dei norske styrkane som var mobiliserte. Og naa aatake kom so fort, vart det vanskeleg med ei fullstendig mobilisering.

Fraa gamalt har Voss vore eit militærskanser med to eksiplassar, Tvilddemoen og Bømoen. Om morgen den 9 april sende rikstyret ut mobiliseringordre, og paa Voss vart det fyste veka samla ein styrke paa om lag 5000 mann. Av dei vart 3000 sende til stridane i Valdres, der dei gjorde ein god innsats. Resten av styrkane vart sende til forsvar av Bergensbana fraa Vaksdal til Voss

When the Germans threatened to bomb Vaksdal, where the large flour mill was located, the place was surrendered, not before a significant supply of flour had been brought up to Voss. Then there was fighting all along the line to Evanger and many Germans fell.

The crewmen aboard an America ship, which had been ordered in to Stamnes, were witnesses to the battle along the Bolstad fjord and found it horrible. There were many Germans buried in the fjord, it was reported.

The Germans also sent many troops into Hardangerfjord. From Aalvik in Kvam, they sent a unit up over Bordalen toward Voss. Another unit was sent from Eide in Granvin along the railroad line into Voss. Here they encountered strong resistance from the Norwegians at Skjærvet. Many Germans were killed but only two Norwegians. Thus Voss was attacked from three directions by ground troops. In addition, there was shelling from warship's powerful cannons all the way to Voss; and there was bombing of Vossevangen by air, about which you will see in the following, with more.

We have an interesting description from Voss Sparebank, sent to us by the bank office manager Lars J. Skutle. — It goes like this.

#### A little about Voss during the war.

From Vossings in America there have arrived many letters and inquiries about how relatives and friends are and how things are in the Voss area. It was difficult for Voss Sparebank to answer all these but we shall give a survey of the happenings during the war.

The German attack was totally unexpected. By the early morning of April 9 the Germans had gotten footholds in Oslo, Kristiansand, Stavanger, Bergen, Trondheim and Narvik. There was strong resistance to the attack on Oslo and the Germans lost several ships among them the battleship "Blucher"; the German navy had big losses at Bergen and Narvik also.

The Germans sent troops by air as well as by sea and after Fornebu at Oslo and Sola at Stavanger were taken the Norwegian Air Force, which was rather small, moved northward so that the Germans became masters of the sky early on.

Very little of the Norwegian forces were mobilized. Since the attack came so suddenly, it was difficult for complete mobilization.

Since the old times, Voss has been a military center with two training places, Tvilddemoen and Bømoen. In the morning of April 9, the government sent out mobilization orders and during the first week there gathered a force of 5000 men. 3000 of them were sent to fighting in Valdres, where they made a good contribution. The rest of the forces were sent to defend the Bergen

og til Granvin og Skjervet. Det gjekk ikkje lenge før desse avdelingane var i strid med tyske styrkar som freista aa trengja fram mot Voss. Fyste dagane hadde ikkje tyskarane større framgang, og dei tok daa flyvaapenet til hjelp. Kring 20. april byrja tyske speidarfly aa visa seg over Voss, og den 23., 24. og 25. april vart Vossevangen og Vosse distriktet bomba. Paa Vossevangen strauk det med 82 bustadhus og forretningshus. Ute i bygdi vart garden Vettle-Honve, ei løe paa Løno og husi paa Iver-Anders sitt bruk paa Rykke heilt øydelagde.

Paa Vangen vart omlag 1000 menneske utan tak over hovudet, og dei fleste hadde ikkje meir enn dei gjekk og stod i.

I alt var det 11 menneske som miste livet, av dei 5 i ein familie paa Rykke. Det var eit under, at det ikkje gjek endaa fleire med. Det vart ialt sleppt 450 sprengbombar over vossedistriket og ei mengd brandbombar.

Den samla skaden er rekna til 10 mill. kroner, etter prisnivaat 8. april 1940, av dette fell 4,5 mill. paa hus.

Etter flyataki i desse 3 dagane vart den militære motstanen paa Voss broten, og notti til 26. april kom dei fyste tyske herstyrkane til Vossevangen, og sivilfolket paa Voss fekk snart læra at me var eit herteke folk.

Dei fangane som tyskarane tok — omlag 200 — vart fyste natt set inn i Vangskyrkja, og der fekk dei korkje mat eller drikke. Seinare vart fangane flytte til skulehuset, og om eit par vekor slapp dei fri.

Av dei husi som staar att i Vangens sentrum kan me nemna: Voss Sparebank, D. Hustvedt, kyrkja, eit stort nybygg paa dei gamle stalltomtene, S. Olsens enke, Gasmagasinet, Haaland, Frost, Brødr. Ullestад, og lenger inne Voss Handelslag, Voss Avholdskafe, Ungdomshallen, Enkjeheimen, tannlege Nesheim og Gjøsteins murbygg. Ellers var om lag alle husi inn til elvi øydelagde paa baae sidor av hovedgata. Berre Murrester og skorsteinar stod att.

Det var ikkje mange dagane før tyskarane var klaar over over at dei hadde lit i interesse av staden utan folk. Dei tok difor opp arbeidet med aa faa det sivile live igang att. Det var ikkje lett. For aa gjera gatona framkomelege, vart fangane sette til rydjingsarbeid. Med unntak av O. Arnesens bakeri vart alle bakeri meir eller mindre skadde, og matsituasjonen vart difor svert vanskeleg dei fyste dagane.

Folk paa gardane tok svært godt imot alle brann- og skadelidne og alle framande som var paa Voss dei dagane.

Det varde ikkje lenge før tyskarane prøvde aa fortelja att dei kom som vene, men maaten som dei kom paa var daa ikkje veneferd.

Var det lett for tyskarane aa ta Noreg militært, fekk dei snart røyna, at det var ikkje so lett aa vinna over

Rail Road from Vaksdal to Voss and to Granvin and Skjervet. It wasn't long before these units were fighting the German forces who were attempting to advance on Voss. The first days the Germans didn't make much progress and they asked aerial assistance.

On about April 20, scouting planes began to show up over Voss and on April 23, 24 and 25 the Vossevangen and Voss area was bombed. At Vossevangen 82 residential homes and business buildings were destroyed. Out in the country, the Vettle-Honve farm, a barn on the Løno farm and the buildings on Iver-Ander's working at Rykke were completely destroyed.

There were about 1000 people without a roof over their head at Vangen and most had only what they were wearing left.

In all 11 people were killed, 5 in one family at Rykke. It was a wonder that more weren't killed. In all 450 exploding bombs were dropped in the Voss area and a number of incendiary bombs.

The collective damage was calculated to be 10 million crowns according to the prices of April 8, 1940, of this 4.5 million of buildings.

After the aerial attacks during these three days the military resistance at Voss was broken and on the evening of April 26 the first German Army forces came to Vossevangen and the civilians at Voss soon learned that we were a conquered people.

The prisoners taken by the Germans — about 200 — were put in the Vangs church the first night, without food or water. Later they were transferred to the school house and they were released in a couple weeks.

We can name the buildings in Vangen downtown that were still standing: Voss Sparebank, D. Hustvedt, the church, a big new building standing on the old stable lot, S. Olsen's widow, Gasmagasinet, Håland, Frost, Brothers Ullestad, and farther in Voss Cooperative, Voss Temperance Cafe, the Youth building, the Widow's Home, Dentist Nesheim and Gjøstein's brick building. Otherwise all the buildings in to the river on both sides of the street were destroyed. Only bricks and chimneys remained.

It wasn't many days before the Germans indicated they had little interest in the place without its people. They worked at getting civil activity going again. It wasn't easy. To make the streets passable, prisoners were put to work with clearing. Except for O. Arnesen's bakery all the rest of the bakeries were more or less damaged and the food situation was critical those first days.

The people on the farms were very good about taking in all the burn victims and strangers that were at Voss in those days.

It wasn't long before the Germans tried to explain that they came as friends, but the method in which they came was not friendly.

It may have been easy for the Germans to take Norway militarily, but it wasn't so easy to win over the

nordmennene aandeleg. Dei vart straks møtte med kald ro, og motstanden hardna etter kvart meir og meir til i dei 5 okkupasjons-aari.

Alt fraa fyste stund fo'r tyskarane fram som herrefolk. Bygdi fekk tvangsutskriving av kjøt og potetor, høy, hestar, bilar og anna. Elles fekk bygdi ei bot paa 100,000 kr. og alle radioapparati vart inndregne.

For at tyskarane skulde faa sitt, var det streng rasjonering av mat, sko og klede.

Daa Amerika kom med i krigen, kverrsette (beslaglagde) tyskarane alle bankinnskot og all eiga som amerikanske borgarar hadde her i landet. Det var den 12. februar 1942 det kom forordning om dette. Det laut daa sendast oppgaavor til reichskommissar Terboven over bankinnskot og onnor eiga amerikanske borgarar hadde her i landet. Men daa tyskarane laut gjeva opp, kom kapitulasjonen so braat, at dei fekk ikkje tid eller høve til aa gjera bruk av kvervsetjingi. Alle innskot som amerikanske borgarar har i Voss Sparebank staar difor urørde.

Paa alle omraade kom det tyske inngrøp. Bladi fekk ikkje lov aa skriva anna om krig og politikk enn det som høvde nazi, og etter kvart kjende vossingane seg om lag utestengde fraa verdi.

Heilt utan nytt fraa utanverdi var vossingane likavel ikkje. Det fanst radioapparat, som var godt göymde, og med dei kom det nytt fraa England og Amerika. Disutan kom det "illegale" avisor med meldingar utanfraa. Men alt detta var faarleg. Tysk politi var stendig ute etter slike som dei meinte var "brotsmenn" eller gjorde motstand mot nazifiseringi av landet. Det vart sendt folk ut or bygdi til fangelæger paa Ulven og Espeland og derifraa gjekk ferdi til Grini, og fleire vart sende heilt til Tyskland.

Etter kvart vart det organisert heimefront over heile landet. Heimefronten hadde sin serskilde militærorganisasjon som fekk vaapen fraa England. Daa tyskarane kapitulerte og Mill. org. kom fram i dagen, syntet det seg at dei fleste unge menn var væpna. I Vossebygdene hadde Mil. org. ein sterkt organisasjon og det kom mykje vaapen fraa fly ned i Vossefjell!.

Korleis greidde folk aa livberga seg i krigsaari?

Ingen hev svølte, endaa det ofte har vore vanskeleg om mat. Naar det gjeld sko og klede har folk lote slite paa det gamle. Det har vore mykje strev for husmødrene, men dei fleste har greit seg merkeleg godt.

Paa Vossevangen har det dessutan vore stor husnaud. Sidan brannen i 1940 er det reist 60—70 bustadhus og 18—20 forretningsbrakkar, men her er likevel mange som ikkje har skikkelege husvære.

Norwegians' spirit. They were soon met with a cold stillness, and the resistance gradually increased during the 5 years of occupation.

Already from the first hour the Germans went forth as the master race. The district had compulsory conscription of meat and potatoes, hay, horses, cars etc. Besides the area was fined 100,000 crowns and all radios were seized.

So that the Germans would get theirs, there was severe rationing of food, shoes and clothing.

When America joined the war, the Germans impounded (confiscated) all the bank deposits and all property American citizens had in the country. There came an order about this on February 12, 1942. We had to send statements to Reich commissioner Terboven about the deposits and other property America citizens had in this country. But when the Germans surrendered, it was so sudden that they didn't have time or opportunity to make use of the transitory setting. All the deposits that American citizens had in Voss were therefore undisturbed.

German intervention was everywhere. The newspapers weren't allowed anything about the war or politics but that it suited the Nazis and soon the Vossings felt closed off from the world.

The Vossings weren't nevertheless without news from the outside world. There were well-hidden radios that brought news from England and America. In addition, there were illegal newspapers with reports from outside. However, all this was dangerous. German Police were incessantly after such that they called criminals who resisted nazification of the country. People were sent out of the area to prison camps at Ulven and Espeland and from there to Grini, and several were sent all the way to Germany.

After a while, the homefront was organized all over the country. The homefront had its special military organization that received weapons from England. When the Germans capitulated and that military organization came to the light of day it seemed that most young men were armed. The military organization was strong at Voss and got a lot of weapons by air up in the Voss mountains.

How were the people able to keep body and soul together during the war years?

No one starved though there was difficulty obtaining food very often. When it came to shoes and clothing people had to keep using the old. It was especially difficult for the housewives but most of them did remarkably well.

There has been a great need for housing at Vossevangen. Since it was burned in 1940. 60-70 residences and 18-20 business barracks have been built but there are still many without proper housing.

Det som helt motet oppe hjaa folk i alle desse vanskane, det var at me hadde gode og mektige venner i Amerika, og serleg at me var visse om at nordmennene derborte gjorde mykje til hjelp for landet.

Noreg er no fritt, men korleis vil so framtidi verte?

Det ein med vissa kan segja er at landet har vorte fattigare.

Tyskarane sette store arbeid igang. Dei bygde flyplassar og dei bygde brakkar til militære. Dei har soleis bygd flyplass paa Bømoen og store militære lager med mange brakkar i Skulestadmoen, Prestegardsmoen, Jernesmoen og ved Palmefossen. Elles bygde dei bunkers og laga skyttargraver ymse stader. Det var til sine tider 3000—5000 tyske soldatar paa Voss. Daa krigen var slut var her 6000 tyske krigsfanger og 800 russarar, som slapp fri daa tyskarane gav opp.

Til aa finansera alle desse arbeidi fekk tyskarane Norges Bank til aa skriva ut setlar. Ein reknar at dei skuldar omlag 11,3 milliardar kronor, og til dette kjem daa det tyskarane elles har øydelagt. Den økonomiske stoda er difor ikkje god, og for aa tryggja krona og den norske valuta har staten lote gaa til ei pengesanering. Saneringi tok til 8. september og ein prøver aa naa maalet ved desse tiltaki:

1. Ombytte av alle gamle setlar mot 60 pst. kontant i nye setlar og 40 pst. avsett til riksinnskot i Norges Bank.

2. Registrering og delvis binding av alle innskot i bankar.

3. Registrering av alle verdipapir, obligasjoner og aksjar. Tiltaki under 2 og 3 tek sikte paa aa slaa fast eiga til kvar einskild person, for paa den maaten aa faa grundlag for ein eingongsskatt.

Det har vore ymse meininger om dette, og det fyste lovframlegget vart drege tilbake, so endaa kan ein ikkje segja noko vist om korleis eingongsskatten vert regna.

Eingongsskatten tek fyst og fremst sikte paa aa ta eit opgjer med alle som har tent pengar paa krigen i landet vaart. Dinaest aa skapa tryggleik om den norske valuta i utlandet.

Det staar ikkje te aa nekta at Noreg treng innførslle av mange slag varor, og ei stund frametter maa ein lita paa kredit og tiltru. Omlag 50 pst. av handelsflaaten vaar har gaatt til botnar i alliert tenesta. Fabrikkane vaare er nedslitne og alle transportmidilar treng ein større eller mindre reparasjon for aa kunna verta nyttaa paa ein effektiv maate.

Nokon stor eksport kan me difor ikkje makta dei fyste aari, og framtidi er difor ikkje ljos korkje naar det gjeld pengestellet eller levemaaten. Men igjønom vanskane maa me, og staar berre folket saman og set sjølvhjelp som sit fyste maal, vonar me at dei saar og skadar krigen har volda, eigong vil verta lakte.

Men ein skal ikkje berre tenkja paa alt det vonde fraa okkupasjonsaari. Den største gleda me har idag ed

That which cheered up all these people during these struggles was that we had good and mighty friends in America, and especially that we knew the Norwegians over there were doing a lot to help our country.

Norway is now free, but what will the future hold?

It can be said with certainty that the country is poorer.

The Germans started a lot of big projects. They built airfields and barracks for their military. Accordingly they built an airfield at Bømoen and big military warehouses and many barracks in Skulestadmoen, Prestegårdsmoen, Jernes Møen and at Palmefossen. In addition, they built bunkers shooting emplacements various places. In their time, there were 3000-5000 German soldiers at Voss. When the war was over there were 6000 German prisoners of war and 800 Russians that were set free when the Germans surrendered.

To finance all this work the Germans made Bank of Norway issue script. One calculates they owed about 11.3 billion crowns and this added to all the Germans destroyed. The economic situation there is not very good, and to secure the crown coin and Norwegian currency the government had to do money sanitizing. The sanitizing took place on September 8 and one attempts to achieve this by these methods:

1. Conversion of all old currency for 60% cash in new currency and 40% reserved as government deposit in Bank of Norway.

2. Registration and fixation of all deposits in banks.

3. Registration of all letters of credit, obligations and stock. Enterprises of fewer than 2 or 3 are to be combined to a single person so that there will be a basis for a one-time tax.

There have been various purposes for this, and the first legal proposal was retracted so as yet one can't say how the one-time tax will be calculated.

The one-time tax firstly is aimed to make an adjustment for everyone who has earned money in the war in our country. Next it is to guaranty confidence in the Norwegian currency in foreign countries.

It can't be avoided that Norway needs import of many types of commodities and temporarily will have to depend on credit and trust. About 50 % of the merchant fleet has gone to the bottom in the service of the Allies. The factories are worn out and all transportation methods need more or less updating in order to be utilized in an effective manner.

Therefore we won't be able to effect many exports the first years and the future isn't bright as regards the money situation or standard of living. But through the problems we must stand together and help ourselves first of all, we will hope that all the wounds and injuries that the war has caused will sometime be healed.

However, we shouldn't dwell on all the bad from the occupation years. The greatest happiness we have today

idag er at me fraa eit fritt Noreg kan senda vaare helsingar og beste ynske til vener og frendar i Amerika, det landet som med Roosevelt i brodden har vore Noreg sin trufaste og mektige ven i dei 5 myrke aari.—

#### Voss Sparebank.

I sin følgeskrivelse 15de desember med ovenstaaende beretning fra Voss Sparebank forteller kontorsjef Lars Skutle noget mere om tildragelserne paa Voss i krigstiden og følgende hidsettes derav:

"Av revisor i Voss Sparebank, Lars Hustveit, fik jeg for nogen dage siden din adresse. Han fortalte, at han hadde faat brev ifra dig, og at du hadde bedt ham hilse venner og kjendte.

Efter disse 5 lange og mørke krigsaar varmer det en om hjertet igjen aa høre fra normenn, som bor udenfor landets grenser. Det er mest ikke til at tro, at vi iaar skal feire den første fredsjul. Vi har i 5 aar levet for blendede gardiner. En liten lysstripe ut gjennem vinduet og "Gestapo" var der med en gang. Var man heldig slap man med en mulkt, og var man det modsatte blev man sat i kasjotten. Dette at gater og vinduer igjen er oplyst føles serlig festlig, nu paa den mørkeste tid av aaret.

Krigen? — Til aa begynde med forsøgte vaart land aa balansere mellom de krigende stormakter Tyskland og England. Saa kom Altmark-affæren i Jøssingfjord og vi følte, at situasjonen holdt paa aa bli kritisk. Den 9. april blev saa vaart land uten varsel og uten krigserklæring overfaldt. Det var hos os metoden fra Pearl Harbor først kom i anvendelse.

Jeg vedlægger en lidens beretning fra Voss Sparebank om overfaldet paa Voss. Det var frygtelig, men rart nok: Det var ikke mange menneskeliv som gik med her. Min kone og jeg blev tatt til fange, idet vi forsøkte aa lure os over "Vosso" for aa komme bort fra elendigheten i tetbebyggelsen paa Vangen. Tyskerne forsøkte først aa true med, at vi skulde følge med op paa Vangen for aa bevaktes der. Jeg protesterte og rart nok gik de med paa, at vi skulde bli bevogtet nedre ved elven i et hus ved fergestedet. Der maatte vi være etpar døgn, men saa en morgen tidlig lurte vi os over elven og dermed kom vi os over i Gjernesskogen, og hvad der saa videre skede her, vil du finne i bankens beretning. Det har været en vond tid, men nu er heldigvis tyskerne ute av landet, og vi gaar omkring og føler os som barn igjen, barn som er sluppet bort fra trang og kontrol.

Hvordan har vi hat det under krigen? — Vel, gaardbrugerne har jo avlet det meste av det som skal til for aa leve. Vi har hat streng rasjonering, men rart nok — vi har holdt det gaaende allesammen. Vi har spinket spart og spendt liv-

is that we are a free Norway and can send our greetings and best wishes to relatives and friends in America, the country with Roosevelt at its head has been a trustworthy and powerful friend in the 5 dark years.—

Voss Sparebank.

In his accompanying letter of December 15 with the above report from Voss Savings Bank the office manager, Lars Skutle, tells some more about the events at Voss during the war and the following is included from it:

"I got your address from the auditor in Voss Savings Bank, Lars Hustveit, a few days ago. He said that he had received a letter from you and that you had bid him greet friends and acquaintances,

After these 5 long and dark war years, my heart is warmed to hear from a Norwegian who lives outside of our country's borders. It is almost unbelievable that this year we shall celebrate our first peace Christmas. We have lived behind closed curtains for five years. If a chink of light peeped out the "Gestapo" was there at once. If one were lucky he escaped with a "fine", or else one sat in a prison cell. Now that the streets and windows are lit again feels almost festive now at the darkest time of the year.

The war? — to start with our country tried to balance between the war powers Germany and England. Then came the Altmark\* affair in Jøssingfjord and we felt the situation had become critical. Then our country was invaded on April 9 without warning or declaration of war. To us it was the method used at Pearl Harbor first put to use.

I am enclosing a little report from the Voss Savings Bank about the invasion of Voss. It was frightening but strangely few lives were lost here. My wife and I were taken prisoner because we were trying to sneak across the Voss River to escape the miseries of the downtown area of the Vangen. The Germans at first insisted that we should follow along up to Vangen to be guarded there. I protested and peculiarly enough they agreed to guard us in a building near the river at the ferry stop. We had to stay there a couple days then early one morning we slipped across the river and got over to the forest at Gjernes and what happened after that you will find in the bank's report. It has been a bad time but now fortunately the Germans are out of the country and we walk around like children again free of pressure and control.

How did we have it during the war? — Well, the farmers harvested most of what we lived on. We had severe rationing but strangely enough — we kept going altogether. We have scraped and saved and

\* The *Altmark* affair occurred in February 1940 when the *Altmark*, a fuel supply ship for the German battleship *Graf Spee* was returning to Germany with 229 British sailor captives aboard. It sought refuge in Norwegian waters, was seized by the British and the prisoners rescued (Much to Hitler's anger).

remmen ind. Kosten har været noget ensidig og naar det gjelder sko og klæder har vi maattet snu og slite paa det gamle. Verst har det været for familier med mange barn, men ogsaa disse har kommet igjennem elendigheten.

Din søster Synneva fik sit hus helt ødelagt i 1940, men fik ganske snart bygget sig en barak, saa hun kunde fortsætte med kafedriften og sitter ganske godt i det (se brev). Ole Møssefins døtre bor ogsaa paa Voss. Den ene er gift med en som heter Rode. Han er chaffør og kjører bil for Jakob Farestveit. Mosefin er fremdeles maskinist i Elektricitetsverket og saavidt jeg ved, har familien det ganske bra. De har sit hjem uskadt. (se brev).

Paa Skiferbruddet paa Møn har det ikke vært drift under krigen. A. K. Møn er død likesaa to av hans sønner. Den ældste Knut mistet livet ved et biluheld. Han kjørte paa holken utover broen i Steinbrohaugen og hans bror, Nils, døde kort tid etter av sygdom.

Olav Bjørgum lever, men er flyttet fra gaarden. Han har sat sig op hus i Haugemoen, hvor han nu bor. Han er 84 aar gammel, men fremdeles som en "ungdom rank". Nils Opheim døde for 4 aar siden og min søster Maria døde i 1943.

Min bror Knut døde for 15 aar siden, men konen hans, Eli, lever. Handes helse er imidlertid noksaa daarlig, saa hun kan vanskelig bevege sig uten at nogen støtter hende. Per Vike og hans kone er begge døde. Per døde sidst og like rank til det sidste. Sønnen Knut har gaarden. Sjur har i mange aar været lensmand i Luster.

Dette var som et lite rundskue. Livet gaar sin gang. Nogen dør og nogen kommer til.

Jeg sliter i banken fremdeles. Jeg slet i mange aar med en daarlig helbred men i de senere aar har jeg vært ganske bra.

Saa tilslut min bedste hilsen og ønske om en god jul og godt nytaar.

Lars Skutle.

\* \* \*

Den 15. november, 1943, hadde Voss Sparebank sit 100 aars jubileum, og trods tyskerne var der fest paa Fleischers Hotel med omkring 50 deltagarar. Foruten bankens funksjoner og direksjon var lensmand, prest, sorenskriver, ordfører tilstede, tillige representanter fra forskjellige banker i Voss og Hardanger. Det var kontorsjefen Lars Skutle som styrde med dette og han fik da ogsaa serlig velfortjent tak av forsamlingen for dette og sit dygtige og tro arbeide som direktør (nu ordfører) Isak Hjelle frembar. I anledning jubileet gav Sparebanken ut til veldedige øiemed i bygden 100,000 kroner. En sang forfattet av Anders Ullestad blev sunget ved festen.

Lars Skutle var den sidste vossing nærværende

tightened our belts. The meals were rather simple and when it came to shoes and clothing we had to turn and wear the old. The worst were the families with many children, but they too got through the misery

Your sister, Synneva had her building completely destroyed in 1940 but soon built a temporary building from which she could continue her lunchroom and got by well in it (see letter). Ole Møssefin's daughters also live at Voss. One of them is married to one named Rode. He is a chauffeur and drives for Jakob Farestvedt. Mosefin is still a machinist for the Electric Company and as far as we know has a family doing well. Their home was not damaged (see letter).

There hasn't been any activity at the slate quarry at Møn during the war. A. K. Møn is dead, as are two of his sons. The oldest, Knut, lost his life in a car accident. He drove over the rail of a bridge at Steinbrohaugen and his brother, Nils, died shortly after of sickness.

Olav Bjørgum is alive but has moved off the farm. He has set up housekeeping in Haugemoen, where he lives now. He is 84 years old but still "erect as a youth". Nils Opheim died 4 years ago and my sister Maria died in 1943.

My brother Knut died 15 years ago but his wife, Eli, is alive. Her health is rather poor so she can hardly walk without somebody supporting her. Per Vike and his wife are both dead. Per died last and was spry to the end. His son, Knut, has the farm. Sjur has been the sheriff in Luster for many years.

This has been like a little panorama. Life goes its way. Some die and some arrive.

I continue to work in the bank. I struggled with poor health for many years but in the last years I have been completely well.

At last, I send my best greetings and wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Lars Skutle.

\* \* \*

On November 15, 1943, Voss Savings Bank celebrated its centennial, and in spite of the Germans had a party at Fleischers Hotel with about 50 participants. In addition to the bank employees and directors there was the sheriff, minister and mayor present as well as representatives of the various banks in Voss and Hardanger. It was office manager Lars Skutle who made the arrangements and received thanks from the group for this and his capable and trustworthy work which director (now mayor) Isak Hjelle conveyed. On the occasion of the jubilee the Savings Bank gave out 100,000 crowns to charities in the district. A song composed by Anders Ullestад was sung at the party.

Lars Skutle was the last Vossing the present editor

redaktør talte med da han for 42 aar siden drog til Amerika. Da var han i Bergen. — Red.

**VOSSEBYGDI VAR IKKJE MINST I SKOTLINA**  
**Brev fraa Lars L. Hustveit til red. som fortel om tyskarane sit intog, og om styreskjifte paa Voss og annat.**

(Me hermar yveskrifti etter han)

Afdal 28. aug. 1945. — Hr. K. A. Rene:

Dykkar brev dagsett 15. juli d. a. er motteke. Det er ikkje undarleg om vossane i Amerika gjerne vil høyra nytta fraa gamle landet, og serleg slik som tilhøvi har vore dei siste aari. Det har hendt mangt i desse aari, som me ikkje har havt tanke om fyrr, og hadde ein ikkje oppløvt det, vilde ein ha vanskeleg for aa tru det. Landet er vorte herja som aldrig fyrr, og Vossebygdi har ikkje minst vaare i skotlina.

Du har truleg høyrt um tyskarane sitt aatak paa Voss dagane omkring den 20 april 1940. Me hadde bombefly over oss i fleire dagar irad. Ein stor del av Vangen vart lagde i grus. Det gjekk særleg utover forretningsstroket langs hovudgata. Kyrkja er spard, likeeins husi paa øvre sida av gata ved kyrkja fraa Voss Sparebank sit hus til Olav Ullestads sit hus paa austsida av kyrkja, og so staar der att 3 hus ved indkøyrsla til Holdeplassen. Elles er alle husi langs gata fraa jærnvegstasjonen til Nyebrui lagde i grus antan ved sprengbombar eller brandbombar. Folk maatte røma fraa alt det dei aatte. Det vart ei hard paakjenning for folket paa Vangen.

Ute i bygdi vart det ogsaa kasta ned bombar, men der slap ein etter maaten bra fraa det. Nokre hus gjekk med der og, men ikkje so svert monge. Paa Rykke gjekk det og med nokre menneskeliv, mellom andre gardb. Anders A. Rykke (son af Ivar-Anders). Paa Vangen var det, sovidt eg kan minnast, berre eit menneske som miste livet under bombigji. Det som gjorde, at tyskarane gjekk so hard fram her, var at ein del av den norske hær hadde samla seg til motstand.

Det er enno ikkje gjort noko med oppattbyggjungi av Vangen, men nokon av forretningsfolket har sett opp barakkor paa brantomtane, so dei kan halda fram med forretingane sine.

So var me daa komne i tyskarane si vold. Til aa byrja med saag det bra ut. Dei vilde me skulde halda fram med alt styre og stell som fyrr; men det synter seg snart at motsettingane var for store, og dei gamle styri maatte vika plassen for National Samling sine folk, som hadde gjenge inn for nasismen, og dei har daa hatt styret til freden kom. No er dei ikkje fuldt so kjephøge. Mange av dei er fastsette sigta for landsvik.

spoke with when he left for America 42 years ago. He was then in Bergen. — Ed.

**VOSS WASN'T LEAST IN THE LINE OF FIRE**  
**Letter from Lars L. Hustveit to ed. that tells about the German entry, and about the change of government at Voss and more.**

(We imitate the headline after him)

Afdal Aug. 28 1945. — Mr. K. A. Rene:

Your letter dated July 15, this year, was received. It's not strange that the Vossings in America would like to hear news from the old country, and especially the way conditions have been these last years. A lot has happened in these years and we don't think as before and had we not experienced it, we would have difficulty believing it. The country has been ravaged as never before and the district of Voss wasn't least in the firing line.

Certainly you have heard about the German attack at Voss on the days surrounding April 20, 1940. We were flown over by bombers several days in a row. A big part of Vangen was reduced to dust. It involved especially the business section along the main street. The church was spared, as were the buildings on the upper side of the street by the church from the Voss Savings Bank building to Olav Ullestads building on the east side of the church and there are three buildings remaining at the entrance to the taxi stand. Otherwise all the buildings along the street from the railroad station to the New Bridge were laid to gravel with explosive bombs or incendiary bombs. People had to flee from everything they owned. It was a hard strain on the people at Vangen.

There were bombs dropped in the rural areas too, but most everyone escaped serious damage. Some buildings were lost but not a whole lot. There was loss of life at Rykke among them farmer Anders A. Rykke (son of Ivar-Anders). At Vangen, as far as I can remember, there was just one life lost during the bombing. What made the Germans attack so severely was that the Norwegian Army had collected there to resist.

There hasn't been any rebuilding at Vangen yet but some of the business people have erected temporary buildings on the burnt out lots so they can continue their businesses.

Therefore, we came under the control of the Germans. It appeared OK to start with. They insisted that we should continue with management and activity as before; but soon there was too much disagreement and the old council had to give way to the National Assembly people who had accepted Nazism and they were on the city council until liberation. Now they aren't so cocky. Many of them are stipulated to be charged with treason.

Det gamle heradstyre er no innattset med Isak Hjelle som ordfører, og til hausten skal det vere nye val.

Tyskarane har vore virksame dei aari dei har vore paa Voss. Dei sette igang store arbeid baade med vegbygging og husebygging. Soleis har dei sett opp ei mengd brakkor i Skulestadmoen, Palmefossen, Gjernesmoen og Prestegaardsmoen, og einskilde hus andre stader og. Det vart nøigdi medarbeid og folk tente pengar, og mange meinte me hadde gode tider. Men det er endaa ikkje avgjort, kva verd desse pengane faar.

Noko av det verste er at ein har kjendt seg so utrygg desse aari. Ein veit ikkje kven det er dei sier klo i neste gong. Ransaking og ettersøkjing kringom bygdi har det vore ofta, og Gud hjelpe den, som daa vert huka.

Naar det gjeld levemaaten desse aari, so faar ein vel segja, at det har gjenge toligt bra særleg daa for oss paa landsbygdi. Verre har det vore i byarne, der det har voro svert ringt med kostholdet mang ei gong. Bøndene hadde leveringspligt av alle varor og produkter som ikkje gjekk med i hushaldet (rasjonen), men desse varor saag ein lite att av, for den tyske krigsmakt skulde vel fyst ha sitt og daa vart det lite att til dei andre. Mjølrasjonene var det vanskeleg aa faa til aa strekke til, likeins med smøret, og so vart det ofte turre brødet med kaffierstatning til. Til al lukka har potetane slege godt til desse aari, og det har korne vel med. Ein merkjer alt, at det er vorte noko betre i matvegen. Der er kome nokre baatar med korn og andre varor til lands, delvis faa Sverige, Danmark og Amerika.

Med klæde og sko er det derimot smaat bevendt, og det ser ikkje ut til, at det vert nokon tilgang paa desse varor i den nærmaste framtid.

Etter 5 lange aar fekk me daa fred og me er glad for at me slapp so lett tilslut. Me hadde tenkt oss oppgjerdet paa ein langt annan maate; men tyskarane sitt nederlag i Tyskland vart avgjerdet for oss og. Me slapp krig her i landet før kapitulasjonen.

Med dette har eg prøvt i store drag aa gjeva deg eit lite yversyn over tilhøvi i Voss i krigsaari. Det kunde sjølv sagt segjast mykje, mykje meir, men det faar i tilfelle væra til ei onnor gong.

Besta helsing, Dykkar  
Lars Hustveit.

I brev av november 1945 har Hr. Hustveit gaave noko meir opplysningar. Han skriv:

"Det er rett som du skriv, at det vakte bestyrtelse paa Voss, naar me fekk høyra at tyskarane hadde gjort aataak paa Norge, og at Bergen var teken. Dette var 9. april 1940. 4 divisjon

The old town council has been re-installed with Isak Hjelle as mayor and this fall there are to be elections.

The Germans have been energetic the years they were at Voss. They started lot of work both in road construction and building buildings. Accordingly they built many barracks at Skulestadmoen, Palmefossen, Gjernes Møen and Prestegaardsmoen, and occasional buildings other places too. It was satisfactory with work and people earned money and many insisted that we were having good times. But it hasn't yet been decided, what this money is worth.

One of the worst things was one felt so insecure these years. One didn't know whose clutches they'd fall into next time. Ransacking and being wanted by the police occurred often and God help him who got caught.

In regard to life-style in those years, one would have to say that it was tolerable, especially for those of us in the rural areas. It was worse in town where it was very sparse with food many times. The farmers had a duty to deliver all the wares and products that weren't used in the household (rations), but we saw little of these products because the German war machine was to get its share first and there was little left for anyone else. It was difficult to get the flour ration to reach, same with butter, so often there was dry bread with artificial coffee. To our good fortune the potato crop was good these years and also the grain. One could detect that it was a little better in the way of food. Some ships have come to this country with grain and other produce, some from Sweden, Denmark and America.

Contrariwise, the clothing and shoe situation is not very good and it appears there won't be any supply of these products in the near future.

After 5 long years we got peace and we are happy to escape so lightly after all. We were suspect that we might be confined in far worse manner; but the German surrender in Germany freed us too. We avoided war in this country before the capitulation.

With this I have tried in one big breath to give a little oversight of the conditions in Voss in the war years. Naturally, much, much more could be said but it will have to wait for another time.

Best greetings to you,  
Lars Hustveit.

In his letter of November 1945 Mr. Hustveit gave some more descriptions. He wrote:

"You were correct in the letter you wrote that it caused dismay at Voss when we heard that the Germans had attacked Norway and that Bergen had been taken. This was April 9, 1940. The 4<sup>th</sup> Division

fekk soleis noko tid paa seg til aa mobilisera so det var ikkje so smaa militære styrkar paa Voss omkring midten af april. Men so maatte denne divisjonen senda nokso store styrkar til austlandet og det svekte sjølvsgåt forsvaret paa Voss. Tyskarane kom inn i Vossabygdi fraa 3 kantar — fraa Bergen jarnvegslina, fraa Hardanger, over fjellet fraa Ålvik til Bordalen og fraa Granvin. Langs jærnvegslina var det fleire trefningar. Paa Bordalen møtte dei ikkje so sær stor motstand. Derimot var det hard kamp i Skjervet, der nordmennene hadde sett seg godt fast.

Men so var det, at tyskarane sette inn med flyaataki sine og øvde "terror" meddi dei i fleire dagar slepte spreng- og brandbombor over tettast bebygde strøket paa Vangen.

Dei norske styrkane trekte sig daa tilbake — eindel utover Raundalen, men storparten over Vossestrand til Gudvangen. Under denne tilbaketrekking var dei utsatte for sterke flyaatak.

Om denne manøvren fraa normennene si sida var rett, torer eg ikkje ha nokon meinings om, men eg trur ein maa rekna med, at hadde ikkje nordmennene trekt seg attende, hadde baade resten av Vangen og ein stor del av bygdi vore lagd i grus, for me hadde ikkje nokon ting aa møta flyaataki med. Dei kunde uhindra boltra seg akurat som dei vilde.

So vilde du gjerne vita litt om korleis nasistane styrde her paa Voss, og kven som var med. Til det er aa svara, at det var ikkje National Samlings folk paa Voss, daa tyskarane kom. Tyskarane vilde — til aa begynne med — at alt skulde gaa som før. Dei kom som vener, sa dei. Heradstyret med Isak Hjelle som ordførar vart difor sittjande ei tid framover, men litt ora sen kom tyskarane med krav, som dei styrande ikkje kunde gaa med paa, og enden vart, at det gamle heradstyret maatte takka av, og nytt heradstyre vart daa oppnemd av fylkesmannen, som var N. S. mann (dei gamle fylkesmenn var avsette).

Det vart etter kvart nokre vossingar som hadde gjenge inn i Nasjonal Samling, men ikkje sers mange; mellom desse var Halle Vinsand, som fekk i opdrag aa skipa det nye heradstyre eller heradsting, som det no heiter. Nils Skiple var varaordførar. Elles var det ikkje mange N. S. folk med der. Det var i det heile ikkje mange nasistar paa Voss og mange av dei som opererte her var utanbygds folk. Dei er no under retforfyljing, og før denne er avslutta, er det ikkje so godt aa oppgjeva namn, ein kan so lett koma til aa "retta smed for baker". Truleg vert det ikkje so svert lenge før etterkjingane er avslutta, og daa vil det koma fram kva dei einskilde har gjort seg skuldige i."

Hr. Hustveit sende og ei utgreiding om reguleringi av Vossevangen av kommune ingeniør Kvamma. Den er interessant for mange av os, men

thereby had some time to mobilize so there was a not so small military force at Voss by the middle of April. However, this division had to send generous reinforcements to the east country and this, of course, weakened the defense at Voss. The Germans attacked the district from three directions — from Bergens railroad line, from Hardanger, over the mountain from Ålvik to Bordalen and from Granvin. There were several actions along the railroad line. There wasn't so much resistance in the Bordal valley. On the other hand, there was fierce fighting at Skjervet, where the Norwegians had established good defenses.

But then the Germans started with their aerial attacks and created terror when they used explosive and incendiary bombs on the most populated part of Vangen for several days.

The Norwegian forces with drew — some out the Raundal valley but the major portion out Vossestrand to Gudvangen. During this retreat they were subjected to strong aerial attacks.

Whether this maneuver was correct from the Norwegian side I can't say but I believe that if the Norwegian Army hadn't withdrawn the rest of Vangen and a great deal of the area would have been destroyed because we had no defense against aerial attack. They could frolic unhindered all they wanted to.

You would maybe like to know a little about how the Nazis controlled us here at Voss and who joined them. To answer this I'll say there weren't any Nazis at Voss when the Germans came. The Germans — to begin with — wanted everything to go as before. They came as friends, they said. The town council with Isak Hjelle as mayor continued sitting for a time but little by little the Germans came with demands that the council couldn't accept and a new council was appointed by the county president who were Nazis (the old councilmen were removed from office).

There were after a while some Vossings who had joined the Nazis, but not very many and among these was Halle Vinsand, who got the assignment to organize the new town council or town "parliament" as it was now called. Nils Skiple was vice chairman. Otherwise there weren't many Nazis at Voss, so many who functioned here were people from outside the district. They are now pursued by the court and before this is finished it isn't proper to name names, one can so easily "confuse the smith with the baker". Maybe it won't be very long before the investigation is over and then it will be evident who the individuals who are guilty of it are".

Mr. Hustveit also sent an clarification about the development of Vossevangen by town engineer Kvamme. It is interesting to many of us but too long

for lang til aa takast med her. Der var tevling millom fleire arkitektar om reguleringsplanen og arkitekt Leif Tvilde, Voss, og medarbeider student Arne Berg, Voss, tok fyste premie.

Lars Hustveit var født paa Tvinde 1875 og var saaledes 70 aar i 1945. Han er sön efter Lars Davidsen Hustveit og Eli Jørgensdtr. som kjøpte gaard paa Tvinde.

Lars gjennemgik underofficerskolen i Bergen, var nogen aar lensmandsdreng, saa giftede han sig i 1903 og bosatte sig som gardbruker paa Afdal. I 30 aar var han med i herredstyret, mange aar som ordfører. I 1937 frasa han sig gjenvalg. Som foran nevnt, har han været revisor i Voss Sparebank og har havt flere andre tillidshverv. Det var glædeligt, at han slap saapas vel fra ulempene under nasistystret paa Voss. Me takkar for brevene fraa han og for helsingi han sende til alle vossingar. — Red.

### DEI NORSKE ØVDE STORVERK

I fleire brev til Red. gjev Anders Ullestад greida paa mangt aa mykje i heimlande og daa serleg paa Voss i krigstidi. Det er gjilt aa sjaa om alt dette, som dei norske ha gjort og kva dei var opp imot, og Ullestад kan gi det den mest virkande sving. Han har vore midt opp i alt so aa segja. Me fekk postkort fraa han av den 17. juli, der han gjev uttrykk i høge tonar for gleda over freden og fridomen av landet. So fekk me brev, som her ska gjengivast:

"Gode hr. Rene og gode Vossingar i Amerika!

"Etter 5 lange og tunge aar er Noreg vorte frelst og frit att. No har me fenge kjennit kva det er aa vera i treldom. Me har vore under aaket, vorte trakka ned av ein jernskod hæl. Tyskarane kom til Noreg for aa hertaka landet vaart brutalt og forferdeleg. Me greidde ikkje aa staa imot med vaapenmakt; men me stod aandeleg sterke, og me kjempa imot paa ein maate, som gav oss kraft og mod til aa halda ut.

Det vart tunge aar, me vart trelar. Me vart omringa av eit nett av spionar. Diverre hadde me ein del forredarar millom oss, som hjelpte til aa tyna vaar fridom og vaart land. Men no er me frie kvinner og menn. No er Noreg fritt.

Me har havt ein god og sterk heimefront. Me har havt kvinner og menn som har ofra alt for fridomen til og med sit liv. Den norske lærarstand stod sameint og sterk. Det norske presteskap med biskopane i brodden gjorde eit heltearbeit. Høgesteret med Paal Berg i brodden stod heilt paa Norrigt rett og ofra alt. Den eine organisasjon etter den andre kjempa for vor fridom. Den norske ungdom gav eit lysande døme, og vaar stolte sjømannsstand gjorde storverk, som altid

to be included here. There was competition between several architects about a development plan and architect Leif Tvilde, Voss, and his associate student Arne Berg, Voss, took first prize.

Lars Hustveit was born at Tvinde in 1875 and thus was 70 years in 1945. He is a son of Lars Davidsen Hustveit and Eli Jørgensdatter who bought the farm at Tvinde.

Lars was graduated from the Non-Commissioned Officers School in Bergen, spent some years as a deputy sheriff, then he married in 1903 and began farming in Afdal. For 30 years he was on the town council, many years as mayor. In 1937, he declined re-election. As mentioned before, he was auditor for Voss Savings Bank and has occupied several other public positions. It was fortunate that he avoided some of the unpleasantries of German command of Voss. We thank him for all the letters and for his greetings to all the Vossings.

### THE NORWEGIANS GREAT ACHIEVEMENT

In several letters to the Ed., Anders Ullestад gave accounts about a lot in the home country and especially about Voss in wartime. It is great to see about all that the Norwegians have done and what they were up against; Ullestад can give it the most moving twist. He was, so to speak, in the middle of everything. We got a postcard from him July 17 in which he praised to the skies his joy about the peace a freedom in the country. Then we got a letter that will be reproduced here:

"Good Mr. Rene and good Vossings in America!

"After five long and difficult years Norway has been saved and is free again. Now we have known what it's like in slavery. We have been under the yoke, been trodden below an iron-shod heel. The Germans came to Norway to take our country in a brutal and terrible way. We weren't able to withstand such a force of weapons but we were spiritually strong and we fought against it in one manner that gave us strength and the courage to hold out.

It was heavy years; we were slaves. We were surrounded by a net of spies. Unfortunately we had a number of collaborators among us who helped melt our freedom and our land. But now we are free men and women. Now Norway is free.

We have had a good, strong homefront. We have had men women and men who have offered everything for freedom up to and including their lives. The Norwegian teaching profession stood united and strong. The Norwegian clergy with their bishops in the front did heroic work. The supreme court led by Paal Berg stood completely for Norwegian justice and offered everything. One organization after the other fought for our freedom. The Norwegian youth were a shining example and our stalwart seamen profession did a magni-

vil leva i Noreg si soga. Eit sligt folk kunde ikkje kuast i kne.

Ja, no er me eit fritt folk att. Det er stor gleda yver heile landet, alt som er skote igrus skal no reisast att. Øydeleggingane var store. Byar og bygder vart øydelagde. Mange vart drepte, mange ofra livet. Heile Finnmarki vart lagt i grus. Men alle vil no "bygja og bøta med bot som dugar", landet vaart skal reisast att.

Noreg har vorte kjennt no ute i verdi. Alle taler vel om landet vaart, og me er storleg glade for det. Me vil takka Amerika. Me vil takka vaare kjære frendar, vossingane, derborte. Dei har gjort eit storveges arbeid for oss. Hels alle gode vossingar og alle gode amerikanarar for trufast venskap og godt hjartalag.

Her paa Voss er me no med friskt mod. Vangen, som har lege i ruiner, skal byggjast opp att. Det gaar seint endaa; men det skal gaa. Me har havt forredarar her og. No sit dei i fengsel og ventar paa sin dom.

Tyskarane herja mykje baade paa Vangen og kring bygdi. Dei rana skogane; dei tok det meste av maten. Det vart lite av alle slag for oss; men me har ikkje svolte, om det ofte røynte hardt. Varor elles var her mest ikkje aa faa. Me laut lite paa det gamle. No vonar me, at det kjem seg litt etter kvart. Me er med friskt mot og har von om ei god framtid.

Hels alle vossingar og elles alle som spyrr etter Voss og Noreg. "Gud signe vaart dyre fedreland". Hjartaleg helsing.

Anders Ullestад.

I brev av 15. september gir Ullestad en fin tribut til U. S. og til norske sjømænd, soldater og andre, samt om Vangens stolte kirke, som trænger reparasjon. I disse breve blir der riktignok adskillige gjentagelser og som flere skriver om; men i hvert er saameget nyt, at det er nødvendigt at tage alt med for at belyse situationen fuldt ud i denne historiske periode i Voss's historie.

"Hr. K. A. Rene: Mange takk for brev gaar. Jeg skal denne gang skrive riksmaal, men her paa Voss skriver vi nu for det meste nynorsk. Det er bare nogle faa embedsmænd og andre, som skriver riksmaal nu. I alle skoler og i bygdens styre og stell skriver man nu nynorsk.

Det er uvanlig gildt at høre fra Amerika. Vi har nu vore borte fra hverandre i 5 lange og tunge aar. Nu er Amerika og Norge kommet nærmere hverandre end nogensinde. Forbindelsen og venskaben blir bedre og sterkere end før. Det føler vi alle her i Norge. Vi er blit glade i Amerika. Vi har med beundring lest og hørt om det store verk som Amerika har gjort i denne forferdelige krig. Amerika er nu den sterkeste magt i verden. Den

facient job that will always stay in the saga of Norway. Such a people could never be subdued to their knees.

Yes, now we are a free people again, there is joy all over the country; everything that was crushed to dust shall be rebuilt. The damage was extensive. Cities and country areas were laid waste. Many were killed; many gave their lives. All of Finnmark was devastated. However, everyone now wants to "build and repair with ways that are right"; the country shall rise again.

Norway has become known in the world. Everyone is talking about our country and we are pleased. We want to thank America. We want to thank our friends, the Vossings over there and you good Americans for true friendship and good heartedness.

Here at Voss we are in good spirits. Vangen, which lies in ruins, shall be re-built. It is slow at first but it shall be done. We have had collaborators here too. Now they sit in prison awaiting sentencing.

The Germans did a lot of damage both at Vangen and around in the district. They stole the forests; they took the food even though there were tough times. Goods were hard to come by. We depended on the old. Now we expect that it will gradually get better. We have good spirits and look forward to a good future.

Greet all the Vossings and anyone else who asks about Voss or Norway. "God bless our dear fatherland". Hearty greetings.

Anders Ullestad.

In a letter dated September 15, Ullestad makes fine tributes to the U. S. and to Norwegian seamen, soldiers and others as well as to Vangen's proud church that needs renovation. In these letters there are, of course, many repetitions but each letter has so much news it is necessary to include everything in order to clarify this historical period of the history of Voss.

"Mr. K. A. Rene: many thanks for the letter yesterday. I will write Bokmål this time but here at Voss, most write Nynorsk. Only a few officials and others write Bokmål now. In all the schools and in the business and activity of the area people write Nynorsk.

It's uncommonly nice to hear from America. we have been separated from each other for 5 long, hard years. Now America and Norway have come closer together than ever before. The connection and friendship is better and stronger than before. We all feel that way in Norway. We are in love with America. We read and hear with amazement of the big accomplishments America has done in this terrible war. America is now the greatest power in the

indsats som U. S. A. har gjort paa alle Omraader er aldeles ufattelig.

Vi her paa Voss og hele Norge takker Amerika for all hjelp og alt godt i disse tunge aar, og vi er glade for den gode omtale, som de styrende i Amerika har git til Norge. Det er vel særlig vore sjøfolk, som har kastet glans over Norge.

Jeg skal i korte drag fortelle litt fra krigens tid her i Norge og da serlig paa Voss.

Vort land hadde forsømt sitt forsvar. Da Tyskland kom med sitt lumskelige overfald paa Norge stod vi næsten vergeløse. Men folket var friskt og sterkt. Det tok op kampen med heil hug og varmt hjerte. Forrædere hadde vi, det er sandt. Med Quisling i spidsen solgte de vort land til Tyskland. Men bare 1 procent av hele folket stod paa Qvislings sin side. Her paa Voss hadde vi og forrædere, men det var bare slike folk, som ikke hadde godt ord paa sig og slike, som var maktsyke.

Tyskerne kjendte alle forhold i Norge og forræderne hjalp til paa bedste maate. Oslo, Bergen og andre byer blev tatt med engang. Overfaldet kom saa pludselig paa den mest brutale maate. Overalt satte tyskerne sig fast.

Her paa Voss kom de fra flere kanter. Vore soldater blev sammenkaldt i en fart. Men her paa Voss blev soldaterne sendt østover, saa vi stod næsten uten forsvarere.

Men dem vi hadde vilde kjempe og de gjorde sin pligt til det yderste. De vilde gaa paa. Men desværre var endel av vaare officerer svake og viljeløse. De holdt soldatene igjen. Jeg ved, at mange kjekke gutter graat, fordi de ikke fik gaa løs paa tyskerne slik som de vilde. Overmakten blev for stor, og vaare friske, tapre gutter maatte rømme.

Saa kom tyskerne med sine bombefly. Paa den mest barbariske maate skjøt de byer og landsteder ibrand. Tre dage itræk fløi disse flyene over Vossevangen og over hele Voss og kastet sine brandbomber. Første dagen stod den østlige delen av Vangen i brand. Mit hus, Voss Bokhandel, var det første hus som blev slukt av flammerne. Andre dagen var det den vestlige del som stod i luer. Det var forferdelig at se paa Særlig var det vondt at se vaar prægtige, gamle Voss Prestegaard staa i brand. Store vakre verdier gik til spilde og blev flammernes rov.

Men til vor store glæde blev ikke vor stolte og fagre kirke paa Vangen rammet av bomberne. Men like ved kirken faldt flere bomber. Flere glas og et stort glasmaleri blev knust. Likeledes ramlet ned en av de store lysestakerne i kirken. Ellers var kirken uskadt. Det var vor store glede i sorgen.

Vangskirken, stot nu er 700 aar gammel, er en av de vakreste kirker i landet. For tiden arbeider vi med innsamling til restaurering av kirken. Der er nu inntokmet ca. kr. 50,000 til restaureringen. Men

world. The effect the U. S. A. has had in all regions is absolutely incomprehensible.

We here at Voss and all of Norway thank you in America for all your help and everything good in these difficult years, and we are happy for the good reports the government in America has given Norway. It has especially been the sailors that have cast brilliance over Norway.

In a short note I shall tell a little from the war time here in Norway and especially at Voss.

Our country had neglected its defense. When Germany came with its insidious assault on Norway, we were literally defenseless. Nevertheless, the people were healthy and strong. They took up the battle with enthusiasm and warm hearts. We had betrayers that's true. Led by Quisling they sold our country to Germany. Only 1% of the people stood on Quisling's side. We also had collaborators here at Voss but they were people who didn't have anything good to say, who were power-hungry.

The Germans knew all the conditions in Norway and the collaborators helped as best they could. Oslo, Bergen and other cities were seized at once. The assault was sudden and most brutal. The Germans secured everything almost everywhere.

They came from several directions here at Voss. Our soldiers were called together rapidly. But our soldiers here at Voss were sent eastward so we were literally defenseless.

Those we had wanted to resist and they did their duty to the utmost. They wanted to carry on. Unfortunately a number of the officers were weak with lack of will. They held the soldiers back. I know that many good boys cried because they weren't allowed to fight the Germans the way they wanted to. The attacking force was too much and our healthy, brave youth had to run.

Next the Germans came with their bombers. In the most barbaric manner they set the city and villages afire. For three days in a row the planes flew over Vossevangen and all Voss and dropped their incendiary bombs. The first day, the eastern part of Vangen was on fire. My building, Voss Book Store, was the first building that the flames were assuaged. The second day it was the west end that stood in flames. It was terrible to see. It was especially painful to watch the grand old Voss parsonage afire. Great beautiful valuables were splintered and plundered by the flames.

To our great joy, the proud and handsome church at Vangen was not struck by the bombers. Several bombs landed alongside the church. Several panes and a big window painting were broken. In addition, one of the big candelabras was knocked down. The church wasn't damaged otherwise. That was our great joy in our sorrow.

The Vang Church, having stood 700 years now, is one of the prettiest churches in the country. Presently we are working collecting towards restoration of the church. 50,000 crowns have been collected for the restoration. But

vi trænger enda ca. kr. 20,000.00, skal den bli fuldt ferdig. Jeg, som er kasserer for innsamlingen, haaper sikkert at faa det resterende beløp.

Naar Vangskirken blir helt ferdig med restaureringen blir den overmaate vakker. Vi faar haape, at tiden blir saapas bra, at arbeidet i kirken kan bli fuldført om ikke saa lenge. Likeledes haaper vi, at arbeidet med at bygge opigen Vossevangen maa begynne om mulig til næste aar. Men pengevanskelsighederne er mange, saa alle ting er paa det uvisse. Netop nu i disse dage holder Norges Bank opgjør med pengevæsenet. Vi faar haape, at den norske krone kan holde sig uten svikt.

Men tilbake til krigstiden. Den tredje bombedagen paa Voss var like fæl, som de to første dagene. Bombeflyene raste over hele Vossebygden. Paa Rykke i Tykkebygden blev en hel gaard bombet. Fem mennesker fandt døden. Baade paa Vangen og flere steder blev folk truffet av bomber. Men det var merkeligt at ikke flere blev dødens bytte.

Folk paa Voss tok alt med største ro, og slik var det overalt i Norge. Naar vi ikke regner med forræderne, saa var det norske folk rakrygget og sterke i troen paa, at Vort land skulde bli frelst og fritt igjen. Aldrig har denne troen sviktet. Hjemmefonten med vor staute kjekke ungdom i spidsen tok opp kampen. Vor lærerstand, kirkens folk, høiesterer og ellers alle gode organisasjoner har staat sin prøve og gjort et arbeide, som skal leve i Norges historie. Vore mænd i Amerika og England med kongen og kronprinsen i spidsen har ogsaa staat vakt ora vort land i disse krigsaar. Vi er stolte av vort kongehus. Ingen norsk konge siden Olav den hellige vil blive elsket saa høit som kong Haakon.

Det kunde været overmaade meget at skrive om. Det vilde bli for langt. Men nu da freden kom stilt og overraskende, blev det jubel og glede over hele landet. Kong Haakon og kronprins Olav har havt hver sin straalende seiersreis fra landsende til landsende. De er begge to blit hyldet av hele det norske folk. Nu gjelder det da "at reise det som velt er, bygja og bøta med bot som duger".

Nu maa alle gaa til daadrigt arbeid. Nu maa Norge reisast igjen, saa det kan bli godt at bygge og bo i vort kjære fædreland. "Ja, vi elsker dette landet."

Hjertelig helsing til dig og til alle gode vossar og nordmenn i Amerika,

Anders Ullestад.

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Olav Lydvo fra Voss er tilsat den Norske ambasaden i Paris. Han er student fra Voss Landgymnas og Norges Handelshøiskole, Bergen var i august ifjor sekretær i utenriksdepartementet. ("Hordaland")

we need 20,000 crowns more, before it is completely finished. I, as treasurer for the donations, do hope to get the remaining amount.

When the church at Vangen is restored it will be exceedingly beautiful. We can just hope that the work in the church can be completed before long. Likewise, we hope that the work building Vossevangen up again can be started next year. But there is a lot of difficulty with money so everything is so uncertain. Just now the Bank of Norway is adjusting with the Finance Department. We hope the Norwegian crown will not weaken.

But back to wartime. The third day of bombing at Voss was just as bad as the first two days. The bombers raged over the whole district. At Rykke in the Tykkebygden, an entire farm was bombed. Five people were killed. Both at Vangen and several other places people were hit but it was remarkable the more were not doomed to death.

People at Voss took everything with composure and that's the way it was all over Norway. If we don't count the traitors then the rest of the Norwegian people were courageous and strong in their belief that our country would be saved and free again. This belief never weakened. The Home Front with our stalwart young people leading it took up the fight. Our teaching profession, the church people, our Supreme Court and other good organizations passed the test and did a job that will live in Norway's annals. Our men in America and England with the king and crown prince also stood watch over our country in these war years. We are proud of our royal family. No Norwegian king since St. Olav has been loved as much as King Haakon.

There is extremely much to write about. It would be too long. But now that peace has come quietly and surprisingly, there is joy and happiness in the entire country. King Haakon and Crown Prince Olav have each made their glittering victory trip from one end of the country to the other. They have each been cheered by the Norwegian people. Now there is meaning in "to set up something that is knocked down, build and repair with patches that are suitable".

Now we all must go to heroic labor. Now shall Norway rise again, so it can be good to build and live in our dear fatherland. "Ja, vi elsker dette landet" (Yes, we love this country).

Hearty greetings to you and all good Vossings and Norwegians in America.

Anders Ullestad.

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Olav Lydvo from Voss is employed at the Norwegian Embassy in Paris. He was a student from Voss High School and Norway's Business College. The Bergenser last year was secretary in the Department of Exterior. ("Hordaland").

## EI FÆL TID DAA TYSKARANE KOM

Systor mi, Fru Synneva Rene Henjum, som driv kafe' paa Vossevangen og fekk huse sit bomba, skriv om hendingi, daa tyskarane kom og anfaldt Voss. Noko av breve er soleis:

"Eg lever som vanleg; driv kafe' som eg har gjort. Det vert ikkje lenge før eg kan halda 25 aars jubileum.

Paa Vangen vart jo alt bomba og opbrendt i 1940; men etter ei 4—5 maanaders tid begynte eg paanyt i barakke, som eg sette up, og har sian dreve der. Men det var ikkje so liketil aa faa tillatelse til aa bygja op at, sjølv om det ikkje var anna enn ei barakka. Noko sjekkeleg hus fikk me ikkje lov aa bygja. Der ska regulerast. Heile Vangen ska regulerast, og eg og mange med meg sit midt i reguleringsstrøket, so me maa riva nedatt barakka, naar det skal bygjast.

No var Vangen so fin med baade murbygg og asfalerte gater, og so vart heilt ødelagt. Det var heile forretningsstrøket helst so gjekk med. Eg hadde noko lav assuranse baade paa hus og innbo; men eg fekk litt meir; det vart taksert.

Det var ei fael tid daa tyskarane kom inn i landet den 9. april 1940. Me hadde havt stor reingjering om notti til den 9. Me maatte altid gjera reint om notti i kafeen. Me var vel ferdige omlag kl. 2 om notti. Me kom op i soverommet og lagde oss. Eg er altid van aa sjaa i enten ei bok eller avis. Mens eg laa aa las, slokna ljose. Me viste ingenting; men om morgonen kunde dei fortelja, at tyskarane var komne til Bergen. Det gjekk so eit par dagar. Daa vart det mobilisering, og alt vart i ei røra. Tyske fly drev aa speida, og flyallarm var her til stadighet; so me maatte springa ifraa alt aa gjøyma oss. Me fekk daa ordre om aa evakuera, og me reiste til Rokne om kveldane og nerat paa Vangen om morningane. Me hadde aape kafeen. Her var ein storm av folk som skulde hava mat — desse som skulde paa moane og faa uniform. Dei skulde ut i krig med tyskarane. Men kva hadde me aa krigast med imot ei slik stormakt so tysken?

So tidleg om morgen den 23. april daa me var paa veg nedat og var komne eit lite stykke. So kom der 5—6 fly, som begyndte aa kasta bombor, og kl. 11 formiddag var heile Vangen i ljós laage. Det var eit syn aa sjaa. Me hadde so god utsikt paa Rokne. Me saag naar huset vort brente. Det var so synbart veir og soli sjein. Me hadde ikkje att meir enn me sto aa gjekk i, so dei segja. Men papiri mine og kontantane hadde eg daa heldigvis, og to hundar. Mannen min likar aa gaa paa jakt; men det har ikkje vore jagtløyve desse aari ant enn for nasistar; dei har me ikkje befatta os med.

So den 26. april kom der (nazi)-troppar masjerende fraa Bordalen, Hardanger, Vossestrand og Gudvangen (seinare), og langs Bergensbanen. Men dei norske troppene var kommanderte østover

## THE AWFUL TIME WHEN THE GERMANS CAME

My sister, Mrs. Synneva Rene Henjum, who runs the café at Vossevangen and had her building bombed, wrote about the happenings when the Germans came and seized Voss. Some of her letter goes like this:

"My life is as usual; operating the restaurant as I have done. It won't be long until the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Everything was bombed and burned up in 1940 but in 4-5 months I started again in a temporary building I built and have continued since. It wasn't easy getting permission to build again, even if it were only a temporary barrack. We weren't permitted to build a proper building. It was regulated there. All of Vangen was regulated, and I and many others sat in the middle of the regulated section so we will have to tear down the barracks when we build.

Vangen was grand with both brick buildings and asphalted streets and it was completely destroyed. The entire business district went along. I had a small amount of insurance on the building and contents; but I got some more; it was appraised.

It was an awful time when the Germans came to the country April 9, 1940. We had a big cleaning session during the evening before the 9<sup>th</sup>. We always had to clean up in the evenings at the restaurant. We finished about 2 a.m. We went up to our bedrooms and lay down. I usually look at a book or the newspaper. While I lay reading, the lights went out. We knew nothing but in the morning they told us that the Germans had come to Bergen. A couple days went by. Then there was mobilization and everything was in a tizzy. German airplanes were observing and the air raid alarms went steadily; we had to run and hide. Then we got orders to evacuate, so we went up to Rokne during the night and back down to Vangen in the morning. We had the restaurant open. There was a crowd of people who wanted food — those who were going to the camps to get uniforms. They were going to war against the Germans. What did we have to make war with against such powers as the Germans?

Early in the morning of April 23 when we were on our way back down, we had gone a little ways. Then 5-6 airplanes came and started dropping bombs and by 11 o'clock in the forenoon, all of Vangen was in bright flames. It was a sight to see. We had a good view from Rokne. We saw our building burn. There was good visibility and the sun was shining. We didn't have anything but what we wore, so to speak. Luckily I had my papers and cash, and two dogs. My husband liked to hunt; but it wasn't legal to hunt these last years, except for the Nazis, with whom we didn't associate.

Nazi troops came marching on April 26 from Bordalen, Hardanger, Vossestrand and Gudvangen (later), and along the Bergen Railroad. The Norwegian troops were ordered eastwards away from

herfra disse trakter, saa tyskarane hadde berre aa finna seg tilrette, naar dei kom paa Vangen. Dei tok daa tilfange alle dei, som dei trudde var soldater og sette dei inn i kjyrkja. Det var noko røvara utan likje. Det var ei uhyggelig tid.

Det har daa ikkje stende paa oss med maten. Eg hadde ifjor 2 grise, som eg fekk slagta, og eg har 2 hønar, so me har hatt baade flesk og egg. I fleira vekor ifjor hadde me ikkje smør; men me steikte flesk og smurde feiti paa brødet, og det var godt. Eg har stova til betjeningen min som bestaar av 3 jentor."

Aslaug Mossefin — dottor til Brita, ei annor systor, skreiv og noko om hendingane paa Voss. Systori, Borghlid og mann, myste huset sit under bombingen og alt dei hadde. Dei bur no i ei av dei 30 svenske barakkane, som vart sende til dei skadelidne. Ho skreiv og, at der var 800 russiske fangar og 6000 tyskarar paa Voss daa freden kom.

### HENDINGER PAA BULKEN

Mrs. Johanna Vinje, født Rekve, har vist redaktøren et brev fra sin veninde Margretha Rongen hvorav vi faar en forvitnelig greie paa hvad som hændte ved Bulken da tyskerne kom. Følgende kan derav berettes:

"Nu maa jeg skrive om andre ting. Du maa tru, vi blev glade ivaar da krigen var slutt — at me fik igjen vort frie Norge. Det blev en stor fredsfest her paa Bulken i bedehuset med nasjonal mat, som vi ikke har havt paa lenge.

Saa maa jeg fortelle lidt om krigen, naar den kom. Det var nogen uhyggelige dage, som vi aldri glemmer. Vi tænkte: Er det her paa Bulken slaget skal staa? — for de norske soldater strømde nedover her og skulde møte tyskerne.

I førstningen naar det kom fly, saa sprang vi i skogen og gjemte os under de store steine, for de skjøt med maskingevær; men det var ingen som blev rammet her paa Bulken. Det var nu Voss bomberne var bestemte til. Det blev nogen svære brak, vi hørte nedover her. Det var sprengbomber og brandbomber i massevis. Saa tenkte vi, naar de har ødelagt deroppe, saa kommer de her. Men heldigvis saa slapp vi fra det med 6—7 skud gjennem huset vort.

Da tyskerne kom marsjerende opp Brende ved Vasenden, da var det godt vi hadde rømt til Bergslien; thi uten hadde det gaatt galt med oss. Vi fikk beskjje at flykte, for fienden var ikke langt borte. Me evakuerte i Bergslien. Der var 45 stykker med alt fra Bulken.

Saa kom der mange flyktninger av soldater. De kom over Rausmulen. De laa der om natten. Om morgenens reiste de til Teigdalen og Eksingedalen.

this area, so the Germans only had to organize when they came to Vangen. They took anyone whom they thought might be a soldier and put them in the church. They plundered without comparison. It was a dismal time.

We weren't in bad shape for food. I had two pigs I had had butchered last year and I had two hens so we had both bacon and eggs. We didn't have any butter for several weeks; but we fried the side pork and put the fat on our bread, and it was good. I had rooms for my waitresses, consisting of three girls.

Aslaug Mossefin — Brita, another sister's, daughter, wrote about some of the events at Voss. Her sister, Borghild, and her husband, lost their house and all they had during the bombing. Now they live in one of 30 Swedish barracks that were sent the suffering. She also wrote that there were 800 Russian prisoners-of-war and 6000 Germans at Voss when peace came.

### INCIDENTS AT BULKEN

Mrs. Johanna Vinje, born Rekve, showed the editor a letter from her friend, Margretha Rongen, in which she gets interesting descriptions of what happened at Bulken when the Germans came. The following can be recounted from it:

"Now I should write of other matters. You can believe we were happy the war was over — that we had peace again in our free Norway. There was a big peace party here in Bulken at the meeting house with traditional national foods that we hadn't had for a long time.

I must tell you a little about the war and when it came. They were some horrifying days that we'll never forget. Was it here at Bulken a battle would occur? — the Norwegian soldiers streamed down past us on the way to meet the Germans.

First came the airplanes, we ran to the woods and hid behind big rocks because they shot with machine guns; but no one here at Bulken was hit. The bombers were destined for Voss. There were some loud explosions, we heard down over there. There were great quantities of explosive and incendiary bombs. We thought that when they had destroyed everything there they would come here. But luckily we escaped with only 6-7 shots through our house.

When the Germans came marching up Brende at Vasenden, then it was good that we had run away to Bergslien; otherwise it would have had gone bad with us. We got a message to flee, because the enemy was not far away. We evacuated to Bergslien. There were 45 people from Bulken there.

Many soldiers came in flight. They came over Rausmulen and camped there at night. in the morning they went to the Teigdal and the Eksingedal

Ja, vi var glade, naar vi kom hjem igjen og fik se, at husene stod i behold, for vi hørte en smeld saa nær. Da trodde alle, at det var Bulken, som blev bombet. Det var paa Lille Honve de kastede ned brandbomber. Buskapen blev reddet, men alt innbo strøk med.

Men det blev verst med Vangen. Du skulde ha seet, hvordan der saag ut, Johanna. Det var nedbrent alt ifra stasjonen innover til nyebru. Kjernen staar igjen, heldigvis, og Sparebanken og Hustveit sitt hus og det svære huset som stod endlangsmed kjerkegaarden. Simons huse staar igjen, saa det var ødelagt hele strækningen innover.

Det var nu bra at der ikke strøk med saa mange folk. Det var gaarden Rykke dei bomba. Det gik til hele huslyden, 5 mennesker.

I selve krigen i Valdres, hvor slaget stod var nu flere ifra Voss, som mistet livet — 2 ifra Bulken. Det var Lars Gjerme og Knut Skjeldal, som mistede livet.

Ja det var nu godt, de reiste østover, saa vi slapp se den felslige krigen. Sidste natten vi laa hjemme,sov ikke vi meget. Der fo'r soldater i lastebiler hele natten. Eg laa og saag ut hele tiden, og skalv. Eg torde ikke klæ av mig; saa laag eg i tøfler. Eg var redd, at maatte rømme paa sokkerne.

Det var om morgenen i femtiden eg hørte slik ramling utfyre huse. Saa sprang eg ut skulde se, hvad det var. Da plaserte de to kanoner innmed huset vort. Det var fly som kom. Me sprang opover bakkene. Me hørte kor det smalt nede fra huset, naar de skjøt ifra flyet. Det var hestene med kanonerne de hadde seet, men de gjemte sig ovenfor huset til Olav Bulken. Han som kjørte den ene kanonen var Anders Utigaren (Mathison) paa Rekve, sør til Mari. Me laag opp i urdi og gjemte oss — riste og frøs. Da reiste eg med en gang til Bergslien for at være tryggere. De andre kom om kvelden for da var tyskerne komne til Bolstad.

Paa grund av plass paa papiret faar eg slutte med dette — Hilsen. —

I samme brev fortelles om dødsfald paa Bulken og Rekve: Handelsmand Brynjulf Rongen døde i september 1943; Nils Rekve i oktober s. aa.; Ole Flage døde i oktober og Anfin O. Rekve i september '44. Johannes Rekve i '44; Ivar Rørli, Rekve og Mari Rekve i 1943. Ragnild Rekve i '39 og Ingebjørg Rekve (paa holmen) '39.

Der er mindst 50 organiserte lag paa Voss. De angaar alle slags sager. Efterkrigstiden synes at ha stimulert deltagelsen, og det maa da siges at være gode avledere fra tanken paa krigsulykkerne og dens usikkerhed.

Yes, we were happy to return home and find our homes there because we had heard an explosion close by. We, all though Bulken, had been bombed. They had dropped incendiary bombs at Lille Honve. The animals were saved but the household goods were all destroyed.

The worst was at Vangen, you should have seen how it looked, Johanna. It was burned down all the way from the station in to the new bridge. The church remains, luckily, and the Savings Bank and Hustveit's building and the big building that stood alongside the cemetery. Simon's building is still standing so everything in from there was destroyed.

It was good that many people weren't killed. They bombed the Rykke farm. The whole household was killed, five people.

The battle itself was in Valdres, where several from Voss lost their lives — two from Bulken. It was Lars Gjerme and Knut Skjeldal who lost their lives.

Yes, it was good that they moved eastwards, so we avoided seeing the awful fighting. The last night we lay at home but didn't sleep very much. Soldiers in trucks went by all night. I lay and looked out all the time, and shook. I didn't dare undress so I lay in my slippers. I was afraid I might have to flee in my stocking feet.

At five in the morning I heard rumbling out in front of the house. I ran out to see what it was; they had placed two cannons by our house. Airplanes came. We ran up the hill. We heard loud noises down by the house when they shot from the airplane. They had seen the horses drawing the cannons but they hid above Olav Bulken's house. One of the drivers of the cannons was Anders Utigaren (Mathison) at Rekve, son of Mari. We lay and hid up in the talus — trembled and froze. Then we went to Bergslien to be safer, the others came in the evening because the Germans had reached Bolstad.

Because I'm running out of paper, I'll have to quit with this — Greetings —".

In the same letter is news of deaths at Bulken and Rekve: Storekeeper Brynjulf Rongen died in September 1943; Nils Rekve in October same year; Ole Flage died in October and Anfin O. Rekve in September '44. Johannes Rekve in '44; Ivar Rørli, Rekve and Mari Rekve in 1943. Ragnild Rekve in '39 and Ingebjørg Rekve (on the holm) '39.

There are at least 50 organized clubs at Voss. They represent all kinds of causes. The period after the war has seemed to stimulate participation and it can be said to be a diversion from thoughts of the war misfortunes and its insecurity.

## KVA HENDE I RAUNDALEN

Brev av 26. dec. fraa Ivar E. Øvsthus til Red. forteller om hendar i Raundalen og andet.

"Ja, det var ei svær tid me maatte igjønnom her i Norge, naar desse tyske røvarpakke kom her. So han hadde rett Lars Eskeland. — Eg trefte han ein dag paa Vangen fyste sumaren tyskarane var her, og daa sagde han, at tyskarane var dei mest djevelske folk han hadde hørt um i soga.

Paa Vossevangen var det eit trist syn etter bombingi. No har det korne seg litt etter brakkone vart uppsette. Det vert vei lenge før Vangen reiser seg att.

Her paa Voss faar me no vel helst segja, det var lite nasistar (eller forædarar som me helst kalla dei), naar ein tenkjer paa folketaket. I Raundalen var det berre ein; det var bonden Nils Skiple (varaordførar i det nye heradstyre) Faren var fraa Sunnfjord, men mori var av den gamle Skipleslekti (Arnefolki). Den neste var Anders D. Kløve, sön til David Anderson Kløve (Øvre). Det var igrunden merkeleg — son til so staute foreldre; og syski hans var og gode nordmenn. Nils og Anders har sote i arrest sidan ivaar og ventar paa dom. Neste nasist var Johannes Isakson Ygre. Han er og fastsett. So er det ordføraren i nasistheradstyre — Halle Vinsand sit arrestert og Torstein Dagestad med 3 sønner — den eine ha fenge 7 aars tvangsarbeid; dei andre ventar paa dom. Knut Ludvo har sote arrestert ei tid, men har vore ute. Og so har det vore ein nokre innflyttarar, som ha vore nasistar.

Her til Raundalen kom tyskarane den 27. april. Dei norske soldatene som laag paa Vangen hadde fare ut "dalen" fyre. Dei fyste reiste med tog, men so vart linja bomba, so dei siste bilte til Skiple. Men daa vart det so mykje blaut snø, at dei maatte reisa tilfods.

Folki her i dalen rømde husi sine. Me budde i vaarfloren, somme i stølshus og mange under berghamarar, so det var ikje so greit for gamle folk og so borni.

Det var eit merkjeleg syn aa sjaa folk fo'r og bar paa eigne-lutane sine so det var mangt eit gamalt sylvbelte og sylja som vart gjøymd i dei dagar.

Det tok lang tid før dei fekk forbindelse yver fjelli (aust og vest), so me maatte plagast med dei lenge.

Den tyske majoren (han som indtok Voss), gjekk i ei snoskreda paa Mjølfjell og døyde der, til gleda for os andre. Soleis er denne verdi.

Det var ein ung gut fra Roundalen som fall, (Ivar Jonson Sygnabere?) og so ein fremande. Dei er begge gravlagde paa kyrkjegarden i Raundalen. Det er reist et fint minnesmerkje yver dei.

Eit bustadhús vart bomba paa Urland, men til al

## THE HAPPENINGS IN THE RAUNDAL

In a letter dated December 26 from Ivar E. Øvsthus to the Ed. he tells of the happenings in the Raundal and more.

"Yes, it was a difficult time we had to go through here in Norway when the German plunderers arrived. Lars Eskeland was right. — I met him one day at Vangen the first summer the Germans were here, and he said the Germans were the most devilish people he ever heard of in history.

It was a sad sight at Vossevangen after the bombing. Now it has improved a little after the temporary buildings have been set up. It will be a long time before Vangen returns to normal.

We'll have to admit that there were few Nazis (or traitors as we prefer to call them), when you consider the population. In Raundalen there was just one; he was the farmer Nils Skiple (vice mayor in the new town council). His father was from Sunnfjord but his mother was of the old Skiple family (Arne people). The other was Anders D. Kløve, son of David Anderson Kløve (Øvre). It was basically remarkable — the son of such first-rate parents; and his sister was a good Norwegian. Nils and Anders have been arrested since this spring awaiting sentencing. Johannes Isakson Ygre was another Nazi. He too is awaiting decision. Then there is the mayor in the Nazi town council — Halle Vinsand who is under arrest as well as Torstein Dagestad with his three sons — the one has received seven years at hard labor; the others await sentencing. Knut Ludvo has been under arrest for a time but has been out. So have some outlanders, who were Nazis.

The Germans came to the Raundal on April 27. the Norwegian soldiers who were at Vangen had gone out the valley before. They first went by train but the tracks were bombed so the last motored to Skiple. Then there was so much soft snow they went by foot.

The people here in the valley fled their houses. We lived in the spring barn, some in sæter huts and many out under the cliffs so it wasn't very good for the elderly and the children.

It was an extraordinary sight to see people going carrying their personal property; there was many an old silver belt and jewelry that was hidden during those days.

It took a long time before they made a connection over the mountains (east-west), so we were troubled by them for a long time.

The German major (he who captured Voss) was lost in an avalanche at Mjølfjell and died there, to the joy of us others. Such is this world.

There was a young man from the Raundal who was killed (Ivar Jonson Sygnabere?), also a stranger. They are both buried in a cemetery in the Raundal. There has been erected a fine monument over them.

A residence was bombed at Urland, but luckily the

lukka, var folki oppe under noko berghamrar. Mannen døydde ei tid etter av slag. Truleg har det teke paa hjarta hans.

Men no so vel, er me fri røvarane og daa gror det snart til. Nordmennene har laate prøvt mangt i gamle dagar og. Kunde berre freden vara no, so skal me ikkje klaga. —

Eg er gardbrukar og 38 aar gammal. Eg har mykje interessa for åttagranskning og bygdesoga. Har du hørt eller trefft paa noko um kong Sverre si ferd fraa Voss til Valdres i 1177? Eg har prøvt aa samla dei opplysningane, som let seg gjera. Han reiste ut Sverrestigen og gjønom Sverredalen paa Øvsthus. (Sjaa Hist. om utv. fra Voss og "Vossingen" no. 1, 1924 av K. R. Rene).

Ivar E. Øvsthus.

### MERE OM HENDINGER PAA VOSS

Styrk S. Reque i Madison, har faat nogle breve fra sin slegting telegrafistinde Brita Anfindsdtr. Rekve, som fortæller en hel del fra Voss. Hun har ellers været flere aar i Haugesund, men fik sig overflyttet til Voss i oktober 1945. For rummets skyld kan her kun nevnes noget nu om krigen: "Vi har hat noen frygtelige aar. Hele Vossevangen ble bombet. Heldigvis staar den gamle kirken fra 1270 igjen. Alle fengslerne har været fulde. De har pint og plaget folk og masse dødsdømte og mange døde som fanger i Tyskland. Gaarden Honve, rett innenfor Rekve ble ogsaa bombet og alt brendte ned til grunnen. Vi holdt alle tappert ut, og nu er jo seiren vunnet. Sjøfolkene vaare er begyndte at komme hjem igjen, likedan flyverne. Der var mange fra Voss, som rømte til England. Du har vel fulgt godt med i avisene og radio, saa du vet vel, hvordan vi har hatt det. Inntil radioapparatene tok tyskerne fra os, saa det var dødsstraf aa høre paa radio.

Jeg har netop hatt 14 dages ferie og vært i Oslo, var der inne naar kongen, kronprinsessen og barna kom tilbake den 7de juni. Kronprinsen var kommen før. Der var en endeløs jubel og fest og ingen uroligheter.

Alle fengslerne er nu fulde av Quislinger, og det er kommet lov om, at de skal overgi til staten alt det de eier og har. Paa Voss var der ikke mange utav de, men hele huset til Torstein Dagestad var Quislinger og sitter nu arresterte, som nærpaa en sørn.

Vi har nu bare vært frie folk 1½ maaned, og mange ting er alt begyndt aa rette paa sig. Her er allerede kommet mange laster fra England og Amerika, og saa er Sverige og Danmark flinke til aa hjelpe, saa nu har alle det bare godt. Men tyskerne stjal og plyndret overalt, saa det vil gaa mange aar, før her blir nogenlunde levelige vilkaar igjen.

people were hiding up under some cliffs. The husband died after a while of a stroke. Maybe it had been hard on his heart.

But now good, we are rid of the pillagers and things soon will heal. The Norwegians have been tested a lot in the old days too. If only peace would last, then we won't complain. —

I am a farmer and 38 years old. I am very interested in genealogy and regional history. Have you heard about or encountered anything about King Sverre's journey from Voss to Valdres in 1177? I have tried collect the information as best I am able. He went out Sverrestigen and through Sverredalen at Øvsthus. (See Hist. om utv. fra Voss and "Vossingen" no. 1, 1924 by K. R. Rene).

Ivar E. Øvsthus.

### MORE ABOUT THE EVENTS AT VOSS

Styrk S. Reque in Madison has gotten some letters from his relative Brita Anfinsdatter Rekve, which tells a great deal about Voss. She had been in Haugesund for many years but moved to Voss in October 1945. Because of space we only include something about the war. "We have had some horrible years. All of Vossevangen was bombed. Fortunately, the old church from 1270 is OK. All the jails have been full. They have tormented and tortured people and condemned them to death and many died as prisoners in Germany. The Honve farm, just inside from Rekve was bombed and completely burned to the ground. We maintained our courage and now the victory is won. Our seamen have started to come home again as are the aviators. There were quite a few from Voss who escaped to England. You, no doubt, followed everything in the newspapers and on radio so you know how we have had it. Until the Germans took away our radios, it was a capital crime to listen to the radio.

I have just finished 14 days vacation and been to Oslo, was there when the King, Crown Princess and the children returned on June 7. The Crown Prince had returned earlier. There was endless jubilation and celebration and no misbehavior.

All the jails are now full of Quislings, and they have made a law that they must forfeit to the state all they have and own. There weren't many of them at Voss, but the whole family of Torstein Dagestad was quisling and is now under arrest, except for a son.

We have just been free people 1½ months and many things are corrected themselves. There have come many loads from England and America, and Sweden and Denmark are good to help, so everything is only good. But the Germans stole and plundered everywhere so it will be many years before we have livable conditions again.

Elles er alt paa Voss bare bra nu. Vossevangen skal bygges opp igjen. Der var internert 10,000 tyske soldater paa Voss nu, men vi hadde faat baade engelske og amerikanske soldater som hjelper de norske, saa alt gaar helt knirkefrit.

Sommeren 1939 bygget far et litet hotel oppa Upsete paa Bergensbanen. Det var meningen aa utvide det straks kriga var slut; men det fik han ikke opleve. Det drives nu av Kristi, min syster. Mor og Kristi er der oppe til ca. midten av september. Der har vært masse gjester i hele sommer. Det ligger bare 5 minutter fra jernbanestasjonen Upsete paa Bergensbanen, 5 mil fra Vossevangen.

Jeg har været med i hjemmestyrkerne og har hørt paa ulovlig radio hele tiden, og de var her masse av. Endatil i prækestolen i kirken paa Voss var hemmelig radio, saa folk var flinke.

Søster Anna har vært lærer i Oslo under krigen. Hun har ogsaa været med i hjemmestyrkerne, avdeling hemmelig illegal postcensor. Engang stod hun ferdig aa flykte over Sverige, Rusland, Amerika og videre til England, men saa blev det ombestemt.

Brita Rekve.

#### STOR GLEDE OVER FREDEN PAA VOSS

I fleire brev fraa Voss gives uttrykk for stor glede over at krigen var slut. Eit typisk av dette slaget er eit brev fraa Anna A. Hustveit til enken etter hendes bror, Ivar, nu Mrs. Mertina Myrvang, Madison, Wis. og dottor Ida.

Paaskedag 1945: "Gode deg og Ida. De ventar vel aa høyra ifraa Norig no etter dei 5 svarte og lange aari her. Tenk at me no har faat fred. Me kan liksom ikkje skjøna da. Fyrst no forstaar me kor godt me hadde da før krigen. Den dagen eg fekk høyra at me hadde faat fred, svara eg, at detta er altfor godt til aa tru. Men so saag eg at alle flag kom paa top, aa hakekorset forsvandt, aa daa maatte eg tru da.

Dei fleste her hadde regna med invasjon med bombing aa braak, men i plassen for da kom freden smilande mot oss, og so var me redde, at kvislinga og Jøssinga skulde tørna saman; men da hadde heimafronten syt for ikkje vart gjort. Heimafronten gjekk vigt nat og dag alt til her kom militære, som kunde byta med dei, so me vart sparde for borgarkrig.

No er mange av kvislingane fastsette og faar vel snart svara for seg. Dei fraa Vossestrand set og her paa Voss.

I 1940 brann her up umlag 80 hus her paa Vangen under bombingi. Mit hus var med dei som fek staa. Du kan tru eg var glad, naar eg kom neratt aa fan huse mit att. Berre to takheller var knuste. I 1941 tok tyskarane radioen min. Den faar eg vist ikkje att.

Otherwise everything is all right at Voss now. Vossevangen shall be built again. 10,000 German soldiers are interned at Voss now but we have both American and English soldiers helping the Norwegians so it's going without a hitch.

During the summer of 1939, father built a little hotel at Upsete on the Bergen railroad. He had meant to enlarge it as soon as the war was over but he didn't get to do it. It is operated now by Kristi, my sister. Mother and Kristi are up there until the middle of September. There were a large number of guests all summer. It is located just 5 minutes from the railroad station Upsete, 30 miles from Vossevangen.

I have been with the Home Front forces and have listened to the illegal radio all the time of which there many. Even the pulpit in the church at Voss contained a secret radio, so people were clever.

Sister Anna was a teacher in Oslo during the war. She also was in the Home Front, the division of secret postal censorship. At one time she was prepared to escape via Sweden, Russia, America and finally to England, but it was decided against.

Brita Rekve.

#### GREAT JOY ABOUT PEACE AT VOSS

Several letters from Voss express great joy over the ending of the war. Typical of these is a letter from Anna A. Hustveit to the widow of her brother, Ivar, now Mrs. Bertina Myrvang, Madison, WI and her daughter, Ida.

Easter day 1945: "Good you and Ida. You are expecting to hear from Norway now after five black, long years here. Just think we have peace. We can hardly believe it. Not until now do I understand how good we had it before the war. That day I heard that we had peace I answered that it was too good to believe. Then I saw all our flags raised and the swastikas disappeared so I had to believe it then.

Most people here had anticipated an invasion with bombing and explosions, but in place of that peace came smilingly to us and then we were afraid the Quislings and Jøssings (patriots-opposite of quisling-traitors) would clash but they had the Home Front taking care that it wouldn't happen. The Home Front stood guard night and day until the military came to relieve them so we were spared a civil war.

Now many of the Quislings are arrested and will have to answer for themselves. Those from Vossestrand are in jail at Voss.

About 80 houses here at Vangen burned up during the bombing. My house was one of those still standing. You can believe I was happy when I came back down and found my house again. Only two roof tiles were broken. In 1941, the Germans took my radio. I guess I won't get it back.

Her har komme mykje pakkor fra Sverige, Danmark og England. Da er vist fleire land og som har sendt; men her er so stor misnøie med utdelingi. Fra U. S. A. er her og byrja komma pakkor, men da trur eg. helst er slektinga, som sender til slektingar aa daa kan no ikkje alle kritisera. Da er mange, som har hatt det vondt, aa daa er det nok saart aa veta um alle dei gode pakkene, aa ikkje faa noko av dei.

Umlag 80 hus vart bomba paa Vangen. Kor mange hus vart bomba ute i bygdi veit eg ikkje, men dar var no nokre der og. Paa Tvinde vart da kasta umlag 50 bombor, men heldigvis raaka dei ikkje husi. Dei tre bombedagane var noko føle dagar. Men no er det over. No stend det da att aa døma kvislingane aa byggja uppatt.

Med helsing,  
Anna.

#### FRA KYTEGRENDEN, VOSS

Andrew Highland, Chicago, Vosselagets formand, fik brev i august fra sin brordatters mand, Anders Repaal, som gir os et indblik i aanden blandt hjemmefrontmendene. Det er ellers fortalt os, av Erik Repaal i Madison, bror av gaarden Repaals nuværende eier, at der like ved husene paa gaarden var en observationspost. Der var et stort gasolin og oljelager og flere huse som tyskerne satte opp. Der var stadig en vaktstyrke der, og mange laste- og andre biler. Knut Knudson Repaal døde i Tyskland i 1943. Han hadde vært med i illegalt arbeide.

Anders Repaals brev hidsættes:

Hr. Highland og familie: "Ja, nu er Dere vel interesseret i, at høre fra Norge og kanske mest fra Voss. Skal prøve skrive nogen ord; saameget vert det ikke. Man er liksom ikke vaaken endnu etter en nat paa 5 aar.

Alle i vaar slekt er i live, friske og ved godt mot til at tage fatt paa de arbeids opgaver, som venter os og hele det norske folk.

Mangt har vi faat gjennemgaa siden sist jeg sendte Dere brev — meget, som vi helst vilde glemme; men som dog aldrig blir glemt. Ja, ja, nok om det.

Hvad maten angaar, har vi greit oss saa nogenlunde vi som bor paa landet. I byerne har det vært meget værre. Vi har ikke net sultet, men saa har vi maattet spise saant, som vi i normale tider neppe vilde luktet paa. Men nu er det alt meget bedre i matveien. Klær og sko har det og vore daarlig med — særlig sko, som det ikke ser ut til at bli nogen bedring med paa lenge ennu. Til finere bruk er det sko av papp og papir, og til arbeidsko brukes trebotner med papp til overlær. Verst er det at holde skotøi til guttene.

Ved krigens begyndelse april 1940 bombet tyskerne paa Voss 2 dager i trek. Paa selve Vossevangen

We have gotten a lot of packages from Sweden, Denmark and England. There are evidently more countries that have also sent; but here there is dissatisfaction with the division of the packages. We also get packages from U. S. A. but those are generally from relatives and shouldn't be criticized. There are a lot of people who have had it tough and it is hard to learn about all those good packages and not get any of them.

About 80 buildings were bombed at Vangen. I don't know how many buildings were bombed out in the rural areas but I know there were some there too. About 50 bombs were dropped at Tvinde but luckily none hit the buildings. The three days of bombing were horrible days. Now it's just to sentence the quislings and rebuild.

With greetings  
Anna

#### FROM THE KYTE SECTION, VOSS

Andrew Highland, Chicago, Vosselag's president, got a letter in August from his niece's (brother's daughter's) husband, Anders Repaal that gives an insight into the spirit among the home front men. It has else been told us by Erik Repaal in Madison, a brother of the farm's current owner that just by the buildings on the farm was an observation post. There were big gasoline and oil tanks and several buildings that the Germans had put up. There were constant guards there and many trucks and other vehicles. Knut Knudson Repaal died in Germany in 1943. he been doing illegal work.

Anders Repaal's letter is quoted:

Mr. Highland and family: "Yes, you are no doubt interested in hearing from Norway and possibly mostly Voss. I shall try to write some words; it won't be much. One isn't completely awake yet after a night of five years.

Everyone in our family is alive, healthy and in good spirits to take part in the work tasks that await us and all the Norwegian people.

We have experienced a lot since the last time I sent you a letter — much that we would rather forget; which never will be forgotten. Ja, ja, enough of that.

As far as food is concerned we were OK those of us who lived in the country. In town it was much worse. We haven't exactly starved but we have had to eat that which in normal times we would have barely sniffed at. Now everything has improved regards food. It's still poor as far as clothing and shoes — especially shoes for which there doesn't seem prospect for relief for some time yet. For dress we use shoes of cardboard and paper and for work we use wooden shoes with cardboard uppers. The worst is to get footwear for the boys.

At the beginning of the war in April 1940 the Germans bombed Voss two days in a row. Just at

blev 80 hus lagt i aske, saa der var ikke meget igjen; dog stod kirken og nogen større murhus igjen. Kringum i bygden var ikke skaden saa stor. Men merkelig nok gik ikke mer end 5 mennesker tapt.

At skrive om tyskernes fremferd elles er lite mun i. Dere har sikkert alt hørt om deres gjerninger hvad tortur og myrding angaaer. Det norske folk maatte under slike omstendigheter bli haarde og kolde. Det var dødsstraf for aa ha en revolver; men jeg hadde baade revolver og gever og 3000 skudd, og saan med de fleste; og vi var fast besluttet paa, at et opgjør skulde det bli, koste hvad det vilde. Man tænkte som saa, at det var bedre det blev en ende med forfærdelse, eller en forfærdelse uten ende. Men til vor store glæde vart det fred uten mere "trubbel" — noget vi ikke hadde drømt om; for nogen dage i forveien sa den høgste tyske befalende i Norge, at samme om Tyskland gikk tapt, skulde krigen fortsette i Norge.

Men det blev til alles glæde en fredelig slutning. Man ønsker nu bare at se den sidste tyskedrit ute av landet, men det tar tid. Her var 400,000 tyskere ved krigens slut — et pent tal, naar man tenker paa, at det norske innbyggertal med kvinder og barn er 3,000,000. Ja, ja, til november er lovt vi skal være kvit disse tyske rovdyr.

Ja, man er ikke opplagt til nogen skrivning — orker liksom ikke sitja i ro. Det er saa mangt i tankarne; men det er no so mykje Dere fer høyra, at alt etter tilhøvi stend vel til med oss.

Og so maa eg fortelja, at den 18. november 1944 fik vi sön no. 3 — ein tidig plugg, som fikk navnet Øystein etter sin oldefar paa Høyland. Bjarne er nu vel 10 aar og Knut snart 8, og trods nød og elendighet vokser dei fort og ser nokolunde bra ut.

Ja, so fer eg slutta for denne gang. Ja, det er sandt, Lars Høyland er gift — har 2 barn, gut og en pike — Knut og Mary.

Anders Repaal, Kyte, Voss.

### PAA VOSSESTRAND

Mange fik føle krigen og okkupasjonens redsler ogsaa paa Vossestrand. Derfra var det 5 soldater som faldt i 1940. Disse var Hans Stalheim, som stod ved siden av Lars Gjerme da denne faldt i Valdres, samt Sigmund Helgeland ogsaa i Valdres. Desuten kaptein David S. Humlebæk, Lars Lund og B. Gudvangen.

Der var en god hjemmefront, men der var ogsaa forrædere. Et N. S. herredstyre med Lars Sveinson Ryg som ordfører avløste det gamle, men efter freden har hr. Ryg og nogen andre været i fengsel nede

Vossevangen 80 buildings were reduced to ashes, so there wasn't much left; though the church and some of the big brick buildings remained. The damage wasn't as severe around in the district. Remarkably only five people were killed.

To write about the proceedings of the Germans is of little value. You have certainly heard of their work relative to murder and torture. The Norwegian people had to become hardened and cold under such conditions. There was a sentence to death to have a revolver; but I had both a revolver and a rifle and 3000 cartridges and that's the way with most of us and we had decided that's what the reckoning would be, whatever the cost. One thought it would be better that it ended with horror than it be an unending horror. There was great joy when peace came without trouble — something we hadn't even dreamt of; because in the days preceding the high command in Norway said that even if Germany were lost, the war would continue in Norway.

Nevertheless, it was a peaceful solution, to everyone's happiness. One only wishes to have the last German turd out of the country, but it takes time. There were 400,000 Germans here at the end of the war — a goodly number when you consider that the Norwegian population, including women and children is 3,000,000. Ja, ja, we are promised to be rid of these German beasts of prey by November.

Yes, one isn't in the mood for any writing — would rather sit in peace. There are so many thoughts, but it is enough that you learn that things are OK with us.

I have to tell you that on November 18, 1944, we got son number 3 — a hale and hearty fellow who was named Øystein after his great-grandfather at Høyland. Bjarne is now 10 years and Knut will soon be 8 and in spite of want and misery they grow fast and look good.

Yes, I'll quit for this time. Yes, it's true, Lars Høyland is married — has two children, a boy and a girl — Knut and Mary.

Anders Repaal, Kyte, Voss.

### AT VOSSESTRAND

Many at Vossestrand felt the dread of war and occupation too. There were five soldiers that fell in 1940. These were Hans Stalheim who was at the side of Lars Gjerme when he was killed in Valdres, as well as Sigmund Helgeland, also in Valdres. Additionally there was Captain David S. Humlebæk, Lars Lund and B. Gudvangen.

There was a good Home Front, but we also had traitors. A Nazi town board with Lars Sveinson Rygg as mayor replaced the old but after peace Mr. Rygg

paa Voss, og det gamle styre indsattes igjen. Tyskerne kom ofte og speide paa gaardene; men folkene blev varslet, og man søkte dækning. Fire gutter paa Markusteigen, som var voksne, rømte tilfjelds, da de hørte at tyskerne kom over Langedalen. Søsteren Ingeborg, bar mad til dem i flere dage. Hun blev slaaet i hodet av tyskerne fordi hun ikke vilde fortelle hvor guttene var, men kom sig igjen. Av etterfølgende breve vil man dog se, at mange paa Vossestrand blev arrestert og mishandlet av tyskerne. Ole S. Vinje, Madison, Wisconsin, har git os et par breve til gjengivelse her, det ene fra hans brordatter, Marta, dateret 25. mai 1945, som blandt andet især viser gleden over freden da den blev bekjendt.:

Kjere onkel Olav og alle der borte i U. S. A. Ja, endelig, endelig er han kommen den dagen, som vi har lengtet saa saart efter. Krigen er slut, Noreg er fritt, og me er frie. Ingen, som ikke har prøvet det kan forstaa de følelser vi hadde den 7. mai, da vi fikk høre det første budskap. Flaggene — det rene norske flag — gikk til tops alle stader. De, som ikke hadde store flagg, satte opp sine smaa. Kirkeklokkerne ringte, og folk sprang, som de var galne og handtrykte og tillukka med freden! — var det kvar ein kjem. Vi kan nu sige det vi vil, skrive det vi vil og slippe legge os um kvelden og staa opp um morningen med den trykkende angst, at tyskerne kan komme og arrestere eller mishandle oss. Og me sender ei varm takk til alle, nest etter Gud, som har arbeidet for oss alle disse aarene for at kunne faa oppleve den dagen. Saa faar vi haape, det lager sig litt etter hvert baade med det ene og det andre.

Vi og vore herhjemme, saavidt vi ved har vært heldige og sluppet tortur; men hadde det ikke no blit slutt, saa hadde det ikke vært Vossestrand mere, for tyskerne hadde faat rede paa hjemmefronten her. Fem uker før krigen blev slutt var her fengslet 21 manfolk, desuten mange ihøst i september (1944?). Men der var berre two gutter igjen. De andre var kommet hjem. De var fra Bidne, og den ene satt naa i Oslo og var domt til døden og har lidt forferdelig. Det har de som reiste nu ogsaa. Men som vel var, var det saa kort stund. Odd og Leif Vinje var iblandt dem. Vi skal sende avisene, naar det blir raad, saa de faar lese det som har gaatt for sig. Og saa har de sikkert hatt radio og der, saa de vet masse.

Ingeborg, faster, døde for næsten two aar siden og Knut Saue døde aaret efter krigen; det har de vel hørt. Desuden er gamle skredderen, bakeren og Knut Flatebø døde. Jeg sender brevet i din gamle adresse. Haaber dere er friske og i bedste velgaaende. Der er vel ute i krigen av gutter der og. Her skal komme amerikanske tropper til Norge siges der.

sits in jail down at Voss, and the old town board is installed again. The Germans came often and searched the farms but the people were warned and sought concealment. Four boys from Markusteigen, who were grown, escaped to the mountains when they learned that the Germans were coming up Langedalen. Their sister, Ingeborg, carried food up to them for several days. The Germans hit her in the head because she wouldn't tell them where the boys were, but she recovered. From the following letter you will see that many at Vossestrand were arrested and mistreated by the Germans. Ole S. Vinje, Madison, Wisconsin, has given us a couple letters to duplicate here, one from his brother's daughter, Marta, dated May 25, 1945, that among other things shows the joy that occurred over peace when it was announced.:

Dear uncle Olav and everyone over in the U. S. A.

Yes, finally, finally has come the day we have longed so badly for. The war is over. Norway is free and we are free. Nobody who hasn't tried it can understand the feelings we had on May 7 when we heard the first message. The flags — the true Norwegian flag was raised everywhere. Those who didn't have big flags put up their small. Church bells tolled and people ran around like crazy, shaking hands and congratulating for peace! — no matter who they met. We can now say what we will, write what we will, and avoid going to bed at night and getting up in the morning with that overwhelming fear that the Germans could come and arrest and mistreat us. In addition, we send a warm thanks to everyone, next after God, who worked for us all these years so that we could experience that day. We should hope that things will improve gradually for one and all.

We and those here at home, a far as we know, have been fortunate and escaped torture; but if it hadn't ended soon; there wouldn't have been any Vossestrand anymore because the Germans had found out about the Home Front here. Five weeks before the end of the war, 21 men were jailed, in addition to the number in the fall in September (1944?). But there were only 2 boys still there. The rest had come home. They were from Bidne, and one was imprisoned in Oslo and was sentenced to death and had suffered terribly. That was what was happening to those who were taken this time, too. As luck would have it, it was only a short time. Odd and Leif Vinje were among them. We'll send the newspapers, when we can, so you can read about what happened. Certainly you have been listening to the radio there too, so you know a lot.

Ingeborg, my paternal aunt, died almost two years ago and Knut Saue died the year after the fighting; you probably have heard. Besides the old tailor, the baker and Knut Flatebø died. I am sending the letter to your old address. Hope you are vigorous and in the best of health. The boys are out of the war there too. They say that America troops shall come to Norway.

Guri og hendes familie er i behold; Ingebjørg og mannen er bosat i Aal i Hallingdal, der Peder er banevokter. De har fire barn. Sjur er hjemme hos foreldrene.

"Gud signe vaart dyre fedreland."

Marta.

### DEN TYSKE BRUTALITET

Landhandler Odd Larsen Vinje, Flatebø, Vossestrand, skriver til sin gamle ven, Olav S. Vinje, Madison, Wis., følgende om sin erfaring hos tyskerne:

Kjære Olav! Ja, eg hev mang ei gong tenkt og sende deg ei helsing yver havet; men det hev ikkje vorte før. No hev det gjenge fleire aar at me ikkje hev havt høve til og fenge hørt fraa kvarandre. Det er underleg til og ikkje vera sin eigen herre; men no hev me fenge prøvt det i Noreg og.

Men du kan tru gleda var stor daa me fekk det budskap, at Noreg var vorte fritt att. Me som var bundne baade paa hender og føter, me hadde ingen ting og seia. Dei kunde behandla os akurat som dei vilde. For det fekk me sandeleg røyna, daa me var i fengslet hjaa tyskarane. Dei kunde banka oss soiels, at me var blaae kringum heile kroppen. Var det soleis at me mukka oss, var det berre meir bank og faa. So ein kunde aldri hava noko tanke for, at dei kunde handsama folk paa den maaten. Men det var raaheit utan like — Difor kan ein aldri fulltakka for, at me verkjeleg kom ut or dette slaveriet. Det er ingen som skynnar, kva det er og koma i henderne paa slike. Difor takkar ein aldri nokk for frihete heller.

Ja, no hev de havt mange av ungdomarne ute i krigen i Amerika og. Den krigen er en forbandelse.

Ja, du kan true det var godt og faa smaka kveite og ein liten draape kaffi att og no. Det var daa ein 4 aar siden me fekk det. Me hadde berre ein sort mjøl, og det var ikke rosverdig; men underlig nok, me van igjønom det og.

Daa ein no tenkjer attende paa desse aari som hertekne folk, maa ein reint beundre, at me klarte det so passe.

Men me faar sanna dette ordet som skrifti seier, at som dagen er, saa skal styrken være. Med hans kraft skal me vinna yver alt. Det er godt og faa altid setja si lid til han, som hev sagt, at han vil vera med os alle dagar.

### DE SOM MISTET LIVET UNDER KRIGEN

I bladet "Hordaland" nævnes 22 personer i Voss hered, som blev krigens ofre og der vides om 5 fra Vossestrand. Alle enkeltheder om disse kjendes dog endnu ikke; men om nogle kan lidt berettes.

Guri and her family are safe and sound; Ingebjørg and her husband live at Aal in Hallingdal where Peder is a railroad watchman. They have four children. Sjur is home with his parents.

"God bless our dear fatherland."

Marta.

### THE GERMAN BRUTALITY.

Realtor Odd Larsen Vinje, Flatebø, Vossestrand, writes to his old friend, Olav S. Vinje, Madison, WI, the following about his experiences at the hands of the Germans.

Dear Olav! Ja, many a time I've thought of sending to you a greeting across the ocean; but it hasn't happened before. Now many years have passed that we've not have had opportunity to hear from each other. It is strange to not be one's own master; but now we've tried it here in Norway too.

You can just believe how great the delight was when we got the message that Norway was free again. We who had been bound both at hand and foot; we didn't have anything to say. They could treat us any way they wanted to. It was a real trial when I was imprisoned by the Germans. They would beat us until we were black and blue over our entire body. If we should make a sound, we would only get beaten more. One would never have believed they would treat anyone in this manner. It was brutality without comparison — therefore one can't ever completely express the gratitude that we actually came out of this slavery. Nobody realizes what it's like to get in their hands. Therefore we can't express our gratitude for freedom enough.

Yes, you have many young people from America out in the war too. The war is a curse.

Yes, you can believe it was wonderful to taste white bread with a little drop of coffee. It was four years since we had had any. We had only dark flour, and it was not praiseworthy; but amazingly, we survived it.

When one thinks back on those years as occupied people, one just has to wonder that we endured them.

In truth, we will have to say as the scriptures say, that as the day is, so shall our strength be. With His power we can conquer everything. It is good to always trust in Him who has said He will be with you always.

### THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE WAR.

In the newspaper "Hordaland" 22 people are named from Voss who were sacrificed to war and 5 more from Vossestrand. All individuals are not known yet; but about some can a little be described.

Som nevnt foran blev ca. 3000 mand fra Voss sendt over til Valdres. Det var vossinger og nordfjorder. Det viste sig, at endel tropper paa Østlandet var sendt hjem av sine officerer, som hadde lyttet til Quislings tale i radioen om ikke at gjøre modstand, og saa maatte vestlændinger til. De tog stillinger ved Tonsaasen og Begnadalen i Søre Aurdal ovenfor Bagn. Tyskerne kom olover fra Hønefoss og vilde vel tage veien over Filefjell. Men ved de nævnte stillinger fik de saadan modtagelse at de blev drevet tilbage. Ved denne kamp faldt Lars Kjelson Gjerme, Knut Knutson Skjeldal, Hans Stalheim og Sigmund Helgeland — de to sidste fra Vossestrand. Om der var nogen fra Evanger vides ikke.

Knut Knutson Repaal var med i saakalt illegalt arbeide, blev tatt av Gestapo i 1945 og døde i Tyskland.

Knut A. Veka blev skudt av tyskerne i Trandumsskogen den 1. mars 1943.

Brynjulf Liland rømte over til England, var under øvelse der og skulde ha gått til Norge igjen, men døde ved et uheld under øvelserne i September 1943.

Bjørn Norman Bolstad, skudt av tyskerne i Tromsø 1943.

De som døde under bombingen paa Rykke var: Anders Anderson og hustru Anna Jørgensdatter Styve og 3 barn; Arthur Anderson Rykke, Anna Andersdtr. Rykke, Inger Andersdatter Rykke, Erna Jørgine Andersdtr. Rykke; Johannes Sjurson Kollenæs, Martin Anderson Gjøsten, Sverre Klausen Selheim, døde i Tyskland; Theodor Danielson, skudt i Trandumskogen; Martin Veisene, Torstein Kjærland, John Larson Seim. Ivar J. Sygnabere, Hermod Johannesen Haug, Olav Sivertson Aas, Martin Fredrikson Lundgren. Desuden kan nævnes ingenør Lars Rivenes som bodde i Bergen, død i Tyskland, og Leif L. Kindem, Odda, skudt i Trandumskogen, angivelig som kommunist. Kristian Mugaas, døde i Sverige i april 1945.

### LARS TVINDE

Med i den norske heimefront har vore mange framstaaende menn. Ein av dei er skodespelar Lars Tvinde ved det Norske Teatret. Syskinbarnet hans, han Andrew Highland, Chicago, har ofte hat brevveksling med han før i tidi, og no etter Noreg vart fritt, fekk han straks svar paa eit postkort han sende til han. Dette forvidnelege svar, har me faat av Highland til aa gjengi her. Det er soleis:

Norge 18 juli '45.

Kjære Andrew, Julia, Marion, Helene, Erving, Arthur med de mindste:

"Stor takk for kort og helsing idag. Kortet hadde teke lang tid, men du kor gildt det var daa det kom. Det var det fyste til oss sidan freden kom.

As mentioned before, about 3000 men were sent from Voss over to Valdres. They were from Voss and Nordfjord. Evidently, a number of the troops from east Norway had been sent home by their officers, who had listened to Quisling's speech on the radio that there was to be no resistance, so the west Norwegians had to set to. They occupied positions at Tonsåsen and Begnadalen in southern Aurdal above Bagn. The Germans came up from Hønefoss and were intending to take the road over Filefjell. But the above named positions resisted them and they were driven back. During this battle Lars Kjelson Gjerme, Knut Knutson Skjeldal, Hans Stalheim and Sigmund Helgeland were killed — the last two from Vossestrand. It is not known if there any from Evanger

Knut Knutson Repaal was doing so-called illegal work; was taken by the Gestapo in 1945 and died in Germany.

Knut A. Veka was shot by the Germans in Trandumsskogen March 1, 1943.

Brynjulf Liland escaped to England, was in training there with intent to return to Norway again but died in an accident during training in September 1943.

Bjørn Norman Bolstad was shot by the Germans in Tromsø 1943.

Those who were killed during the bombing at Rykke were: Anders Anderson and his wife Anna Jørgensdatter Styve and 3 children; Arthur Anderson Rykke, Anna Andersdatter Rykke, Inger Andersdatter Rykke, Erna Jørgine Andersdatter Rykke; Johannes Sjurson Kollenæs, Martin Anderson Gjøsten, Sverre Klausen Selheim, died in Germany; Theodor Danielson, shot in Trandumsskogen; Martin Veisene, Torstein Kjærland, John Larson Seim. Ivar J. Sygnabere, Hermod Johannesen Haug, Olav Sivertson Aas, Martin Fredrikson Lundgren. Besides we can list engineer Lars Rivenes who lived in Bergen, died in Germany, and Leif L. Kindem, Odda, shot in Trandumsskogen, ostensibly as a communist. Kristian Mugaas died in Sverige in April 1945.

### LARS TVINDE

There were many of our prominent men in the Norwegian Home Front. One of them was actor Lars Tvinde with the Norske Teatret. His cousin, Andrew Highland, Chicago, has often exchanged letters with him before and now after Norway became free, he got an immediate answer to a postcard he sent him. This interesting answer was given to us by Highland and is reproduced here. It reads as follows:

Norway July 18, '45.

Dear Andrew, Julia, Marion, Helene, Erving, Arthur and the little ones:

"A big thanks for the card and greetings today.. the card took quite a while, but, oh, how nice it was when it came. It was a first for us since peace came.

Eg ser dere alle har det godt; det var ei gleda for oss og faa frett. Truleg har dere ga at fri og kome til fronten? Det har vi vore spente paa. Vi har havt nokon forferdelige 5 aar, men vi seier alle Gud vere takk for, at det no vart slutt. Det var ikkje aa tru, at det skulde gaa, som det gjekk. Vi her i landet var fyrebudde paa det verste. Dei som ikkje var forrædere var villige aa setja live inn.

Det har vore ei leid og strid tid, daa helst i byane har det vore reint ille enkelte stader, serleg med matspurismalet. Paa bygderne har dei greidd seg godt med maten etter høve.

Alle vore slektningar er i livet og har slokke bra fraa det. Barna etter Knut har det bra og kome seg godt til. Vor slekt paa Nordmøre likens. Vi er alle smaanøyte og takksame i slike tider.

Heimen vor i Oslo er ikke rørd, anna, at vi har mist ein god radio, — den faar vi ikkje igjen. Det var ofte spennande om kveldane; naar vi gjekk tilsengs maatte eg ha gode støvlar staaende parat, om eg skulde verta huka om natti. Slik var det mange stader. Vi har hat folk i dekning og dreve med "illegal" avisar til faste kunder. Ein ting er sikkert. Det tyske folk burde ikkje reise seg meir. Dei er saa tarvelige, at ein kan ikkje nemna det.

Kjærleg helsen til alle samman fra oss,  
Gudrun og Lars.

### RASSIA PAA VOSS

Av Lars Tvinde.

Du Anders vilde høyra eit og anna, som du kunde tenk ja deg aa lesa opp i Vossalaget. Det eg kunde tenk ja meg maatte vere og referera om rassia paa Voss. Endaa alt, som er om tyskarane og krigen, er vi saa lei av, at vi orkar korkje høyra eller lesa om det.

Den 4de september 1944 kom tog fraa Austlandet til Mjølfjell med tyske soldater, som drog avgarde som lumhundesvermen opp Langedalen til Framnes. Fraa Bergen og Voss kom nokon og slutta seg til svermen. Desse reika rundt heila Vossstrondo til vaarstølane, fjellstølar, ut i Jordalen, Myrkdalen og møttest med svermar, som kom over Vikafjella. Dei kravsa seg fram og snusa oppi og ned i alt. Braut opp kistor i lofti, om det ikkje vart læst fort nok opp. I stovebygninga rota dei fraa kjellar til loft. Her er det aa merkja: var det mørkt i kjellarane vaagde dei seg ikkje ned. "Da æ løge med da naor dei æ myrkreddde."

Ja ja, denne tyskarsvermen, som no var godt og vel 700 mann spreidde seg over alle fjell og dalføre paa Vossestrand. Resultatet var, at dei fann ein sendar paa ein vaarstol, som høyrdet til garden Bidne. Denne vaarstolen hadde 4 unggutar fraa Bergen leigt; men guitarne var som blaast bort og vart heller ikkje

I see you are all fine; it was a joy for us to get freedom. Probably you have been free and come to the front? We have been anxious for that. We have had some horrible years, but now we say thank God it's over. We couldn't believe that it would go this way. We in this country feared the worst. Those who weren't traitors were willing to give their lives.

It has been a nasty and hard time, particularly in the towns it has been pure hell some places, especially with regard to the question of food. In the country they were able to provide themselves with food according to their needs.

All of our family is alive and survived all right from it. Knut's children are fine and are growing. It's the same with our family in Nordmøre. We are all modest and thankful in such times.

Our home in Oslo wasn't disturbed other than we lost a nice radio, — which we won't get back. It was often exciting at night; when we went to bed I had to have a good pair of boots standing ready in case I should be hooked during the night. That's the way it was many places. We have had people under cover working with "illegal" newspapers for steady customers. One thing's for sure. The German people shouldn't rise again. They are contemptible; one doesn't know what to say.

Loving greetings to everyone from us,  
Gudrun and Lars.

### RANSACKING AT VOSS.

By Lars Tvinde

"Anders, you may have heard one thing or another that you would consider reading to the Vosselag. One thing I think I'll recommend is about the ransacking at Voss. Yet we are so tired of the Germans and the war that we almost can't stand hearing or reading about it.

On September 4, 1944, a train from east Norway came to Mjølfjell with German soldiers, who took off like migration of lemmings up the Langedal to Framnes. They came from Bergen and Voss and added themselves to the migration. These reached over all of Vossestrand to the spring sæters, the mountain sæters, out in Jordalen, Myrkdalen and were met by others swarming up over the Vikafjell. They demanded access and sniffed up and down everywhere. They opened chests in the storehouses whether or not they were locked. In the homes, they rooted from cellar to attic. Here it should be noted that when the cellar was dark they would rather not go down. "It is comical that they are so afraid of the dark".

Ja ja, this swarm of Germans, certainly 700 men spread themselves all over the mountains and valleys of Vossestrand. With the result that they found one radio transmitter at a spring sæter belonging to the Bidne. This was the spring sæter that four young men from Bergen had rented but the boys were as if blown away and they

tekne. Derimot vart det tegne mange gislar; men dei kom godt fraa det alle saman.

Den 11te september, som er min fødselsdag, skulde eg paa Vangen — sende litt matvarer til Oslo, som eg hadde kjøbt paa ulovleg maate (etter nasistlovene). Daa eg var komen ned paa Laite, kom ein lumhundasverm inne paa Aasborna. Eg sprang opp til Vetrastætta, gjymde ryggsekken i risgaren med mose ok kvist ovenpaa, skunda meg heim, opp gaa hallemen, der eg hadde nokre geitostar ligjande, bort i løa, grov dei ned i høye. Daa eg kom ut att var 80 tyskarar med hestar og vogne i tunet. Dette pakke hadde vi fraa 9-tida om morgen til 7 om kvelden. Trynæ paa dei var overalt, til og med paa purko, som laag fredeleg paa grisagaræ. Den einaste staden dei ikkje kom var ned i kjellaren i gamle stova, som Gudrun og eg budde i — men der var mørkt. Ret nok er der elektrisk ljos, men det sette vi neimen ikkje paa.

Pistolar, maskingjever og anna fanteskap med vakter ikring var sett opp overalt paa garden. Om det ikkje var oss dei skulde vakta paa, so kanskje sine eigne, naar dei for rundt nøvena, bort om husæ oig skulde løysa brokjæ.

Vil gjerne nemna, at kona mi var uforskamma mot dei, slik at sjefen for dette pakket vart so sinna paa henne, at han stod og eintrampa, knytte nævane og skrek som ein dritunge.

Lumhundenaturen fornekta seg ikkje. Karfolk fraa Nordlanda, heller ikkje fraa U. S. A., trur eg, vilde oppstre paa slik maate, og daa allermindst lata seg erta.

No var det vaapen og radio dei var paa leiting etter. Fann dei andre ting, som dei ikkje tykte var lovleg, so var dei frampaa straks. Jøsingane skulde saumfarast.

Naar dei var ferdige paa Tvinde tok dei det lettvint nedetter. Hos bror din, Lars, (Høyland) var dei so vist innom. Men etter 2 døgns kvild tok dei fat paa nytt kring i Voss og kom Guhjelpe meg paanytt til Tvinde, slo seg til eit døger og helt paa brenne opp heile garden med ein veldig pipebrann. Brandbilen fraa Voss vart stoppa 10—12 gonger paa vegnen av vakter. Slik var vakthalde over heile bygda." —

Lars Tvinde blir iaar 60 aar gamal, aa i dette høve vil det passa aa seia noko meir om han og kunsten hans. Han er kan hende den fremste skodespelar i Noreg idag. Han byrja paa Voss i Ungdomslaget, der dei kring aar 1900 fyst hadde vist fram spelstykke. Men det var i 1907 at Tvinde vart med. Han var daa handelsbetjent hjaa halvbroren David Hustveit paa Vangen, og det var meinings, at han vilde verta handelsmann. Men spellaget viste framifraa dugleik. Der vart tevling i 1910 millom fleire ungdomslag paa sjølve "Den Nationale Scene" i Bergen, og Voss Ungdomslag viste seg som eit av dei to beste.

weren't captured. On the other hand, a lot of hostages were taken; however they all were released OK.

I went down to Vangen on September 11, which was my birthday, — to mail to Oslo a little foodstuff that I had purchased illegally (according to Nazi laws). When I got down to Laite, a large lemming swarm had come to Aasborna. I ran up to Vetrastætta, hid the knapsack in a brush pile covered by moss and branches, then hurried home, went to the outbuildings where I had some goat cheese hidden, over in the hayloft, buried in the hay. When I came out again there were 80 Germans with horses and wagons in the yard. We had this pack from 9 in the morning until 7 in the evening. They nosed everywhere, even among the pigs, who were lying quietly in their pen. The only place they didn't go was the cellar in the old house where Gudrun and I lived — but it was dark. Of course we had electric light, but we certainly didn't turn it on.

Pistols, machine guns and other tomfoolery with guards posted around were set up all over the farm. If it weren't us they were guarding, maybe it was their own when they had needs, and went around the buildings and took down their pants.

I want to mention that my wife was completely undaunted by them such that the commander of this pack was so mad at her that he stood and stamped his foot, made fists, and hollered like a little kid.

They didn't renounce their lemming nature either. Men from Nordland, more like than from U. S. A., I think, would behave in this manner or at least be interested.

They were looking for weapons or radios. If they found other items that they thought weren't unlawful, they soon found a reason. The Jøssings (patriots) were examined critically.

When they were finished at Tvinde, they went back down casually. They were evidently in to your brother, Lars, (Høyland). After two days rest, they started anew around Voss and God help us, back to Tvinde, settled in for twenty-four hours and tried to burn the whole farm with a big flame-thrower. The fire truck from Voss was stopped by guards 10-12 times on its way. Such was the watch over the entire area". —

Lars Tvinde will be 60 years this year and it would be appropriate to say something more about him and his art. He is probably the most prominent actor in Norway today. He started with the Voss Youth Company who presented some plays first about 1900. It was in 1907 that he joined them. He was then an apprentice clerk for his half-brother David Hustveit at Vangen. He was planning to become a storekeeper. However, the play was a success. In 1910, there was a competition between several youth companies actually at "Den Nationale Scene" in Bergen, and the Voss Youth Club showed itself as one

Lars Tvinde sa daa fram den fyste replikken i fyste stykket. I juni same aar spelte dei to lagi paa Fahlstrøm teater i Oslo. Tvinde vart serleg aatgaard, og daa Det Norske Teatre om hausten 1912 var stifta og skulde til med prøvor vart han beden ora aa vera med. Etter aa ha tenkt over det ei tid vart det so, at han skulde vera med paa prøve eit aars tid. Teatre gjorde lukka og Tvinde vart med aar etter aar, og so saag han, at der hadde han sit livs yrkje.

Fysta framsyningi av Det Norske Teatret var i Kristiansand den 2den januar 1913. Det byrja med "Ervingen" av Ivar Aasen, og Tvinde sa der og fram fyste replikken. I fystningi spela Tvinde mykje komiske rollar, men slog so om og har siden spela dei meir alvorlege karakteristiske rollar: Ingjen har som han spela "Jeppe paa Berget" av Holberg, og mestarstykke hans er vel "Didrik i Menneske" av Olav Dunn, det han spela for hundrade gong i 1937, daa han hadde 25 aars jubileum. Daa vart han og av kongen gjort til riddar av St. Olav, og dei norske avisorne hadde daa lange artiklar ora han. Lars Tvinde var fødd paa garden Tvinde, Voss, den 11te september 1886. Foreldri hans var Knut Haldorsen og Eli Jørgensdtr., gardbrukarfolk paa Tvinde; og paa Tvinde vokste han op som ein tega bondegut til han kom paa Vangen som handelsbetjent. Der fikk han dagstøt sjaa typar og karakterar av fleire slags. Tvinde har mange slektningar i Amerika.

### VOSSASTRONDI UNDER OKKUPASJONEN

Av Knut Bjørgaas

Tyskarane kom her den 27 april 1940 straks etter dei hadde hersett Voss. Folket var rymt tilskogs og tilfjells. Eg og min huslyd var heime. Eg gjekk ut paa Haugen og saag paa dei — og dei paa meg. Alle kikkertar var retta mot meg. Det er ei av dei tyngste stunder og hev livt. Men daa var det som noko kviskra inn i sjæli mi: "Du skal faa uppliva den dag dei maa utatt or landet!" Seinare kom eg ofte i tvil um det. Men det var no trui paa denne lovnaden, som helt meg uppe under alt like vel, og soleis var det no med mesteparten av folket. Den retferdige Gud veit nok aa halda dom, naar timen kjem. All soga syner, at slik aatferd aldri kan halda seg uppe i lengdi.

Dei fyrste troppane braut seg inn og rana og stal mangestadar. Hjaa oss var dei rimelege, vel fordi eg var heime og saag etter. Ei tid etter fekk me innkvartering. Det var ei mengd sambandstroppor som laag her. Hjaa oss hadde me ei tid 12 mann. Dei fleste av desse var dana folk og fo'r finsleg aat i fyrstningi. Dei var her til ut i november 1940. So reiste dei til Voss, men de fo'r her paa øvingar alt som tidast. Og Stalheim hotell tok dei til heim for tyskartauser med ungar. Det var brukt soleis til ut paa

of the two best. Lars Tvinde said then his first lines in that piece. In June of that same year those two companies played at the Fahlstrøm Theater in Oslo. Tvinde was especially noticed and when Det Norske Teatre was formed in the fall of 1912 and was giving tests he was asked to join. He thought it over and thought he would try it for a year. The theater was a success and Tvinde was with it year after year and at last he saw that it would be his life's work.

The first presentation of Det Norske Teatret was in Kristiansand January 2, 1913. It began with "Ervingen" by Ivar Aasen, and Tvinde there said the first lines. In the beginning he had comedic roles, but he switched and later played the more serious characters roles: no one has played "Jeppe paa Berget" by Holberg like he, and his masterpiece was probably "Didrik i Menneske" by Olav Dunn, which he played for the hundredth time in 1937 when he had his 25<sup>th</sup> year jubilee. At that time, he was made a Knight of St. Olav by the King and the Norwegian newspapers had long articles about him. Lars Tvinde was born at the Tvinde farm at Voss September 11, 1886. His parents were Knut Haldorsen and Eli Jørgensdatter, farm people at Tvinde; he grew up at Tvinde as a genuine farm boy until he came to Vangen to be an apprentice storekeeper. He was able to observe people and characters of all kinds there. Tvinde has many relatives in America.

### VOSSASTRAND DURING THE OCCUPATION

By Knut Bjørgaas

The Germans came here April 27, 1940 soon after they had occupied Voss. People had evacuated to the forests or the mountains. My family and I were at home. I went out on the hill and looked at them — and they looked at me. It was one of the most difficult hours I have experienced. However, something whispered into my soul: "You will see the day when they will have to leave your country!" later I often doubted that. But there was accuracy in this promise that supported me during everything nevertheless, and that's the it was with most of the people. A just God knows enough to make sentences when the time comes. All history shows that such behavior never can last long.

The first troops broke in and ransacked and stole many places. They were reasonable with us, maybe because I was home and watched them. A time later we had to provide lodging. There were a great number of communication troops who slept there. For a while we had 12 men. Most of these were refined people and were nice at the beginning. They were here until November 1940. then they went to Voss, but came here for training occasionally. They took the Stalheim Hotel as a residence for their servants and their children. It was used as such to

sumaren 1945.

Etter kvart, som dei skyna det var vonlaust aa vinna nordmennene for seg, vart dei meir aggressive. Det gav berre motstandsrørsla ny næring. Her var uppbygd ein heimefront, som vart sterkare etter kvart. Dei faae bygdefolk, som gjekk yver i N. S. fekk merka det. Me fekk vaapen ved flyslepp ute i fjelli millum Strondi og Eksingedalen. Tobak og kaffi same leis, og so smaa radiomottakarar. Instruksjonsofficerar fraa England helt "lærerut" i fjellet med gutane; meldingstenesta vart utbygd. Me kjende berre kvar sine sidemenn, so me viste ikkje um kvarandre elles. Men dei, som var paa vaapenøving saman, kunde sjølvsagt ikkje anna enn kjenna til dei som var med same avdeling.

I september 1944 hadde gestapo fenge nosi i, att der helt seg two offiserar paa Bidnesvaarstolen. Dei greidde aa koma undan, men tyskarane fann radiosendaren deira. Daa var det dei brende stølen og arresterte folket paa Bidne og Finne. Dei fleste slapp no lause att um eit bil; berre two-tre unggutar vart internerte. Og heile bygdi vart ransaka, kvart kot i bygdi; men dei fann ikkje noko.

Skulefronten helt og. Lærar Sørestrand i Myrkdalen vart arrestert i mai 1942, og var paa Kirkenes til ut i november. Hine lærarane fekk arbeida i fred. Presten vor arbeidde og illegalt. Han vart fyrt forvist or bygdi, men fyrr han var reist kom det bod, att han skulde vera her. Han fekk ikkje løn. Folket her la saman til uppholde aat han. Sokneraadet vart avsett, og nytt sokneraad utnemt. Eg var formann i det gamle raadet. Formannen i det nye raadet, Sjur Ulvund, som var striput, kom til mig og vilde ha bøkene. Eg nekta aa lata dei. Sidan høyrdie eg 'kje gjete. Men eg gjekk aa venta paa gestapo daa eit bil, so eg var 'kje trygg.

Heile vetteren 1944—45 var heimefronten i rivande utvikling. Eg hadde rullane, so eg fylgde godt med i det og viste kvar tid kven som var med og kva funksjon kvar mann var etla. Fjerde april tok so den store rassiaen til, daa so mange vart tekne. Dei vart førde til Bergen og pinte paa det grusomste. Daa saag det stygt ut. Dei allerflest som var att gjekk i dekning. Hadde 'kje freden kome daa, so hadde me nok vorte nøydde til aa mobilisera styrkane og sett hardt mot hardt. Karane laag i urdhol og berghellerar alle stader. Sume reiste radt aat Arnefjord i Sogn. Umraadsjefen vaar, Nels L. Hommedal, kunde 'kje reisa so langt. Han og ein annan laag 6 vikor i ein tom landkome i ein lodebygning paa Vinje. Det var ein ny kome som ikkje var teken i bruk, men det kunde ikkje vera nokon koseleg plass likevel—myrkt og kaldt og trøngt. Kvelden den 7. mai kom han ud og tok styringi yver styrkane. Vakter og ordonansar vart sette, og me helt oss samla nat og dag me i staben, og

the summer of 1945.

Gradually, as they realized it was hopeless to win over the Norwegians, they became more aggressive. This gave the resistance movement new impetus. There was built up a Home Front that progressively got stronger. The few district people that adopted Nazi-ism were aware of this. We got weapons by air-drop out in the mountains between the Strand and Eksingedal. We got tobacco and coffee the same way, as well as small radio-receivers. Instructors from England held classes in the mountains for the boys; the communications were improved. We only knew our companions. Otherwise we didn't know about each other. Those who were at weapon training together couldn't help but learn who was in the same unit.

In September 1944, the Gestapo got information that two officers were staying at the spring sæter at Bidne. They escaped but the Germans captured their radio transmitter. Then it was that they burned the sæter and arrested the people at Bidne and Finne. Most of them were eventually released; only 2-3 young men were interned. The entire district was ransacked, every closet in the district; however, they found nothing.

There was a school front too. Principal Sørestrand in Myrkdalen was arrested in May of 1942 and stayed at Kirkenes until November. His teachers were left alone. Our minister also worked illegally. At first he was banished from the area; but before he had gone, there came orders that he should stay. He didn't get any salary. The people got together and supported him. The parish council was removed from office and a new one appointed. The chairman of the new council, Sjur Ulvund, who was a collaborator, came to me and wanted the books. I refused. Subsequently, it wasn't mentioned. Nevertheless, I expected the Gestapo for a while so I didn't feel safe.

The Home Front was rapidly developing during 1943-44. I had the rosters, so I followed proceedings and knew who was involved and what job each man was assigned. The big search drive started April 4 and many were captured. They were taken to Bergen and tortured appallingly. Things looked bad then. Most of those remaining were under cover. If peace hadn't come then we would have had to mobilize and actually start fighting. There were fellows lying in crevices and mountain clefts everywhere. Some quickly went to Arnefjord in Sogn. Area commander Nels L. Hommedal couldn't go away that far. He and another stayed for six weeks in an empty storehouse at Vinje. It was a new storehouse that hadn't been used but it couldn't have been comfortable anyway—dark and cold and crowded. In the evening of May 7, he emerged to take command over the forces. The outposts and ordnance were ready and we kept near the staff night

venta paa mobiliserings orden.

Helgatorsdag 10. mai samlast karane. Dei fleste arresterte var daa og attkomne, og sume av dei var mødtt upp og — iser nokre bilførarar. Dagen etter rykte kompaniet fuldtalligt til Voss, og saman med troppor fra Bordalen og Viki hersette dei Voss. Raundølene hadde vakthalde yve jarnbana ovenfor Ygre. Borstrand, avdelingen vart ikkje mobilisert. Eg hev høyrt, det skulde koma av att offiserane deira ikkje var aa lita paa, men kva som er sant veit ikkje eg. Der var ialfall noko mudder.

Tyskarane trodde det var fallskjermstroppor som kom, daa dei saag strendingane rykte inn paa Vangen. Men dei helt seg rolege og saag helst nedslepte ut.

Jubelen paa Voss var veldig den dagen. Ikkje mindre liv var der dagen etter daa polititroppane kom med arresterte svikrarar. Det var nett og nett folkemengden ikkje tok dei or nevane paa polititroppane.

Varemangelen var leid heile okkupasjonstidi og vart verre til kvar tid. Alle matvaror under streng rasjon. Inkje kaffi og smaa rasjonar med tobak. Bøndene kan ikkje klaga. Det var ikkje raad aa føra so nøgje kontroll med dei i alle deler. Men andre trur eg greit svolt til sine tider. Og svarthandelen gjekk nok for seg trass all kontroll. Det var tyskarane, som skulde forsynast først av alle maavita, og dei livde flust og let matvaror forfarast, so det er ilt aa tenkja paa det.

Pengesetlar tok tysken ut or Norges Bank. Det fløynde med nye pengesettlar. Men kva er dei verde?

Det kjem til aa taka lange tider fyrr alt kjem i lage att. Men det hev bestna med mangt. Brødet er no baade godt og rikeleg og fisk er her godt um, so svert som fisket hev slege til dette aaret. Kjøt og hev det laga seg mykje med sidan me vart fri tyskarane.

Ja, eg gamle mannen, fekk endaa vera med i omraadestaben for Vossestrand og nermaste bygdene. Baae sønene var og med i heimefronten, den ældste, som er lærar, var politisjef for umraadet og hadde 10 mann under sin kommando. Den yngste, som er gardbrukar, var med dei stridande. Han var ellers med bergartilleriet i Valdres under kampane der i april 1940 og. Daa' var den eldste med som friviljug i saniteten der aust. Baae kom att uskadde, og i 1945 slapp me alle og vel fraa det endaa tyskarane gjorde ein rassia og arresterte umlag 30 mann paa Vossestrondi. Det spøkte for att dei hadde rulla upp heimefronten her. Mange strauk tilf jells og tilskogs og laag i dekning. Eg laut halda meg iro heime endaa so faarleg det var. Eg hadde 'kje helsa til aa liggja ute. Men so kom freden. Den 7. mai satt eg i den vesle radioen og lydde og

and day, waiting for orders to mobilize.

Ascension Day, May 10, the fellows assembled. Most of those who had been arrested had returned and some of them met too — especially some drivers. The next day the full company advanced to Voss and together with the troops from Bordalen and Vik, they secured Voss. The men from Raundal guarded the railway above Ygre. The Borstrand unit wasn't mobilized. I have heard that this came from lack of confidence in their officers, but whether this is true or not, I don't know. In any case, there was some mix-up.

The Germans believed that it was paratroops coming when they saw the Strandings advancing into Vangen. They stayed quite inactive and appeared quite disconsolate.

The joy at Voss was fantastic that day. No less life was there the next day when the military police troops arrested the collaborators. It was a close thing that the crowds didn't seize them from the hands of the military police.

We suffered from lack of goods during the occupation and occasionally it got worse. All foodstuffs were severely rationed. No coffee and only small rations of tobacco. The farmers didn't complain. It was impossible to control them in all respects. Others went hungry at times. The Black Market thrived in spite of all attempts at control. The Germans had to be satisfied first, of course in everything and they lived extravagantly and let foodstuff be wasted; it is nasty to think about.

The Germans took the cash out of the Bank of Norway. It streamed with their new currency. But what are they worth?

It will be a long time to return to normal. It has improved in many ways. The bread is both good and rich and the fish are good here too and the fishing has lived up to expectations this year. We also have a lot of meat since we got rid of the Germans.

Yes, I am an old man but I still had the opportunity to be on the area staff for Vossestrand and the surrounding districts. Both my sons were in the Home Front, the older, who is a teacher, was chief of police for the area and had 10 men under his command. The younger, who is a farmer, was with the infantry. Beside, he was in the mountain artillery in Valdres during the campaign there in April 1940. Then the oldest was a volunteer with the medical service there east. Both came home unhurt and in 1945 we all escaped harm though the Germans made their ransacking maneuver and arrested about 30 men at the Vossestrand. It was dangerous because they had the roll of the Home Front here. Many of our men fled to the mountains or forests or lay hidden. I had to stay quietly at home no matter how risky it was. I wasn't healthy enough to lie out. But then peace came. I sat listening to my little radio on May 7

fekk veta um at tyskarane hadde kapitulert, og so laut flagget upp. Stongi hadde stende tom sidan 1940.

Den 10de mai mobiliserte me paa Vinje og kunde senda eit kompani fuldt vepna, 102 mann, nedetter til Vossevangen, og endaa hadde me att 50 mann til vagt og polititenesta. For so tok arrestasjonen av N. S. og stripute til. 11 mann vart fyrebels fastsette.

Det er som ein draum no, baade det vonde og det gode. Det syner alt Guds uforskyldte miskunn, att me slapp so lett. Stakars Finnmark laut verta krigsskodeplass og ligg som ei øydemark endaa.

Nett i desse dagar er her ein storstila aksjon for innsamling av hjelp til dei, som sit att etter dei fallne. Landsinnsamling varar denne vika ut (30te mars) og hev alt naatt 16 millionar kronor. Truleg naar det upp i 20 millionar, naar det vert uppgjort.

### I KRIGSTJENESTE I AMERIKA

Som nævnt foran kom De forenede Stater med i krigen, da Pearl Harbor den 7. december 1941 blev anfaldt av Japaneserne, og selvfølgelig blev et stort antal soldater av Vosseslegt med andre indkaldt til krigstjeneste. Navnene paa endel av disse kjendes og med nogle oplysninger nævnes her, men det er ikke stor del av alle. Det er kun nogen, vi har hørt eller seet beretninger om — især barn av gamle Vosselagsmedlemmer. Flere medlemmer av enkelte familier har staat i tjenesten og dem maa da nævnes i første række.

Odd Eide, Fertile, Minnesota, har hatt 4 barn i tjenesten. Disse er:

K. Arne Eide, f. 1912, premierløitnant, var i det sydlige Tyskland, nær Augsburg, da krigen endte, og stod vistnok i 7de Arme. Han besøgte Hitlers røverhuie, Berchtesgaden, og andre berytede steder i det sydlige Bayern. Senere har han været i det sydlige Frannkrige.

Odd Arvid Eide, f. 1920, "Commsisioned 1ste løitnant i sa-nitetsvæsenet.

Roald Armand Eide, f. 1924, er korporal og for tiden i Ft. Knox, Ky.

Clara Alfhild Eide, f. 1918, premierløitnant i sygepleier-korpset, var da hun blev avmønstret "head nurse in the Station Hospital at Waco, Texas."

Brynjulyv (Ben) K. Hovde, Madison, Wis. har havt 3 sønner i krigstjeneste:

Reimund Hovde, 26, premierløitnant, hervede sig i armeen i oktober 1940, blev med i kvartermester korpset i 32te division i Australien. Var først stationert ved Camp Livingston, Alexandria, La., Camp Lee, Va., og i Massachusetts.

Leonard Hovde, 27, hervede sig i flaadens i december 1940. Har været med skibe, som har

and learned the Germans had capitulated; then raised the flag, the flagstaff had been empty since 1940.

On May 10 we mobilized at Vinje and were able to send a full company with full weapons, 102 men, down to Vossevangen and still have 50 men back for guards and police service. Then there was the arrest of the Nazis and collaborators, 11 men as previously stipulated.

Now it is all like a dream. Both the bad and the good. It seems as if we escaped so lightly only due to God's undeserved mercy. Poor Finnmark became war's theater and lies as a desert yet.

Just now in these days there is a large-scale action for the collection for the families of those fallen. The country collection lasts through this week (March 30) and is approaching 16 billion crowns. I hope that it will amount to 20 billion, when it is settled.

### IN THE WAR SERVICE IN AMERICA

As mentioned before, the United States entered the war when on December 7, when Pearl Harbor was attacked by the Japanese and naturally a number of soldiers of Voss origin, and others, were called into the military. We know the names of a number of these and something about them will be mentioned here but we don't have much about all. There are only some that we have seen heard or seen descriptions about — especially children of old Vosselag members. Several members of certain families have been in service and we must list them at the beginning.

Odd Eide, Fertile, Minnesota, had four of his children in service. They are:

K. Arne Eide, b. 1912, first lieutenant, was in southern Germany, near Augsburg, when the war ended, and served with the 7th Army. He visited Hitler's raptor aerie, Berchtesgaden, and other notorious places in southern Bavaria. Later he was in the south of France..

Odd Arvid Eide, b. 1920, "Commissioned 1ste lieutenant in the medical corps.

Roald Armand Eide, b. 1924, is presently a corporal in Ft. Knox, Ky.

Clara Alfhild Eide, b. 1918, a first lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps when discharged as the "head nurse in the Station Hospital at Waco, Texas."

Brynjulyv (Ben) K. Hovde, Madison, WI has had three sons in the military.

Reimund Hovde, 26, first lieutenant, enlisted in the Army in October 1940, was in the Quartermaster Corps in the 32nd division in Australia. He was first stationed at Camp Livingston, Alexandria, La., Camp Lee, Va., and in Massachusetts.

Leonard Hovde, 27, enlisted in the Navy in December 1940. He has been on sea duty in the

operert paa Atlanterhavet og havt flere trefninger med fienden.

**Ben (Brynjulf) Hovda**, d. y., innkaldt til tjeneste i november 1942, og var en tid med en flaateavdeling ved Alaska.

Nils H. Mugaas, Norma, N. Dak., hadde 4 sønner i krigstjeneste. Nermere oplysning mangler. (Se Hist. om Udv. fra Voss av Rene, p 726).

A. S. Bragstad, Stoughton, Wis., 2 barn i tjenesten:

**Robert Bragstad**, løitnant, er prest, stasjonert ved Vancouver, Wash., en tid.

**Ruth Bragstad**, løitnant, med armeens sykepleier korps. Deres far er en sønnesøn av John Brakastad, pioner predikant i 1850-aarene.

Nils N. Spilde og hustru Anna K. Saude hadde 2 sønner i tjenesten, begge i flaaden. **Russell** paa Atlanterhavet og **George** paa Stillehavet.

Peder Lee, Deerfield, Wis., 3 sønner i tjenesten: Sigurd Olav og Gerhard:

**Olav Lee**, f. 1915, var i juni-september 1945 i Merchant marinens skole i New York. Er nu i Madison, Wis.

**Sigurd Lee** f. 1918, var ogsaa i marinen som opererte paa Stillehavet—Alaska, California, Philipinerne og er endnu i tjenesten.

**Gerhard Lee**, sersjant, 28 aar gl. Var i armeen paa Stille-havsøerne; 4 aar i tjenesten, en tid paa Philipinerne. Er nylig kommet hjem til Madison.

Knut Hoverson, (Nyre) Morrisonville, Wis., hadde 3 sønner i krigen: Ove og Arthur som tjente i Frankrig, Henry i Burma, Asien.

Anton Ettesvold, Morris, Minn., nævnt i Decorah-Posten, 4 sønner og en datter i tjenesten: **Maynard**, som faldt i Frankrike, **Winfred**, som er kaptein, samt **Rudolph** og **Carl**, desuten datteren **Thelma** og svigerdatteren, enke efter Maynard, sykepleiersker. Ettesvold og hustru var æresgjester hos President Roosevelt i januar 1945.

Officerer av høi rang foruten de nevnte foran :

**Olaf Mandt Hustvedt**, admiral, født i Chicago 1886, søn av pastor H. B. Hustvedt (Telemark) og hustru Anna Marie Reque, vokste op i Decorah, Iowa, udgik fra Luther College i 1906, blev optat paa sjøkrigsskolen i Annapolis, graduerte der som en af de 10 bedste, tjenstgjorde saa paa forskjellige krigsskibe, var tildels ved kommandantens stab; i 1930—33 ved flaadens kanonfabrik i Washington; i 1933—35 øverst-komanderende paa U. S. S. Louisville; saa i 3 aar ved flaadesjefens kontor, var kommandør paa U. S. S. Detroit; var saa igjen stabsoffiser og tjente en tid paa flaadens krigsskole i Newport, Rhode Island. Blev i 1941 sjef for det nye slagskip North Carolina, og efter en meget vellykket prøvetur blev han i september samme aar utnevnt til admiral. Skibet har en besetning paa 1000 mann og

Atlantic and has had several encounters with the enemy.

**Ben (Brynjulf) Hovda**, the younger, was drafted into service in November 1942, and served for a time with a fleet near Alaska.

Nils H. Mugaas, Norma, ND, had 4 sons in the military. More information is lacking. (See the Hist. om Udv. fra Voss by Rene, p. 726).

A. S. Bragstad, Stoughton, WI, 2 children in service:

**Robert Bragstad**, lieutenant, was a minister stationed at Vancouver, WA, for a time.

**Ruth Bragstad**, lieutenant, with the Army Nurse Corps. Their father is a grandson (son's son) of John Brakestad, pioneer preacher in the 1850's.

Nils N. Spilde and his wife Anna K. Saude had 2 sons in service, both in the Navy. **Russell** on the Atlantic and **George** on the Pacific.

Peder Lee, Deerfield, WI, 3 sons in service: Sigurd (Adolph?), Olav and Gerhard:

**Olav Lee**, b. 1915, attended the Merchant Marine School in June-September 1945 in New York. Now he is in Madison, WI.

**Sigurd Lee** (Adolph?) b. 1918, also was in the Navy operating in the Pacific—Alaska, California, Philippines and is still in service.

**Gerhard Lee**, sergeant, 28 years old. He was in the Army in the Pacific Islands; 4 years in service, a while in the Philippines. He has recently come home to Madison.

Knut Hoverson, (Nyre) Morrisonville, WI, had 3 sons in the war: Ove and Arthur who served in France, Henry in Burma, Asia.

Anton Ettesvold, Morris, MN, mentioned in the Decorah-Posten, 4 sons and a daughter in service: **Maynard**, who was killed in France, **Winfred**, who is a captain as well as **Rudolph** and **Carl**, besides daughter **Thelma**, and the daughter-in-law, widow of Maynard, nurse. Ettesvold and his wife were honored guests by President Roosevelt in January 1945.

Officers of high rank not named before:

**Olaf Mandt Hustvedt**, admiral, born in Chicago 1886, son of pastor H. B. Hustvedt (Telemark) and his wife Anna Marie Reque, grew up in Decorah, Iowa, was graduated from Luther College in 1906, entered the Naval Academy in Annapolis, was graduated 10th in his class, served on various warships, was with the Naval Command for a while; in 1930—33 at the naval cannon factory in Washington; in 1933—35 Lieutenant-commander on the U. S. S. Louisville; then 3 years at the Naval Command office, was commander of U. S. S. Detroit; again was staff officer at the Naval War College at Newport, Rhode Island. He became captain of the battleship North Carolina, and after a trial run in September that same year was made admiral. The ship has a crew of 1000 men and 75

75 officerer. Hans bedrifter under krigen er endnu ikke kjendt.

**Julian E. Egre**, Kaptein, sør av Stephen Sjursen Egre, De Forest, Wis., og sønnesøn av Sjur Steffensen Ygre, nybygger ved Deerfield, Wis.; graduerte fra De Forest høiskole og Wisconsin Universitet som jurist, begyndte at praktisere som sakfører, blev indkaldt i april 1942 til krigstjeneste i flyvaabnet, men blev overført til justisdepartementet i Washington, D. C. at tjene i krigsforbryderavdelingen; avmønstret i sept. 1945.

officers. His activity during the war is not yet known.

**Julian E. Egre**. Captain, a son of Stephen Sjursen Egre, De Forest, WI, and grandson (son's son) of Sjur Steffensen Ygre, pioneer at Deerfield, WI; was graduated from De Forest High School and the University of Wisconsin as a lawyer, just started to practice as an attorney, was drafted in April 1942 for military service in the Army Air Force, was transferred to the Justice Department in Washington, DC to work in the war crimes division; discharged in 1945.



**Arthur Highland**

**Arthur Highland**, løitnant commandør, Chicago, Ill., sør av Andrew Highland, President av Vosselaget og verkstedseier i Chicago, født i Aurora, Illinois 1911, flyttet med foreldrene til Chicago, gik paa Carl Schurs høiskolen der, saa ved Northwestern universitet, hvor hans anlæg for svømming kom til fuld utvikling og i 1934 bragte ham hædersprisen. Sammen med to andre svømmere drog han saa til Japan, hvor de deltok i det nationale tournament og flere andre opvisninger. De tilbragte 27 dage i Japan. Kommen tilbake til Chicago drog han i 1935 sammen med kamerater til Europa, hvor de hadde opvisninger i svømming i 25 byer; tok i 1936 del med "the American Olympic Team" paa tur til Europa og senere en tur til Europas hovedstæder. I 1937 sluttet han sig til selskapet "The Water Follies", der drog paa opvisninger i vest og midveststatene. I to aar var han "tank" leder ved Northwestern og saa leder av "the Lake Shore Club of Chicago team" indtil han

**Arthur Highland**, lieutenant commander, Chicago, IL, son of Andrew Highland, President of the Vosselag and factory owner in Chicago, born in Aurora, Illinois 1911, moved with his parents to Chicago, went to Carl Schurz High School there, then went to Northwestern University, where his talent for swimming became fully developed and brought him a championship in 1934. He went to Japan with two other swimmers where they entered the national tournament and several other exhibitions. They spent 27 days in Japan. After returning to Chicago he left with his comrades for Europe where they had exhibitions in swimming in 25 cities; took part with the American Olympic team in 1936 on a tour of Europe and later on a tour of Europe's capitals. He joined the company of "The Water Follies" who presented shows in the west and mid-west states. For two years he was the tank coach at Northwestern and then coach of the Lake Shore Club of Chicago team

4 juli 1942 fremstillet sig til tjeneste i Annapolis. Kom den 26. juli til Iowa City, blev der som leder av "the Pre-Flight School Swimming Department" indtil i mai 1945, da han fik ordre at gaa til "the Pre-Flight School in Athens, Georgia", hvor han i de neste 5 maaneder var leder av svømme departementet der. I september blev han forflyttet til "the Great Lakes" og var der forfremmet til løitnant kommandør. Han hervede sig da til fortsatt tjeneste i 6 maaneder i flaaten og den 21. december seilte til Philippinerne. Hans hustru og to barn blev i Chicago hos hans foreldre.

**Edmund Bolstad**, premier løitnant i flyvaabnet, søn av Otto og Eden Bolstad, Fertile, Minn., var "pilot" paa et U. S. "fortress" og blev i 1944 skudt ned over Bremen, Tyskland.

Familien Qvale: **Norman Hughes Quale**, løitnant, søn av advokat Norman Nilson Qvale, Barabo, Wis., og sønnesøn av Nils Anderson Qvale, Madison, Wis., var i februar 1944 aviation cadet i armeen, er gift og bor nu i Madison, Wis. Hans brødre er: **John Quale**, ensign i flaaten; **Glenn Quale**, ogsaa i flaaten.

**Howard Quale**, søn av Sam Nilson Qvale, Madison, Wis., har vært med i Pacific flaaten.

**Daniel Thompson**, søn av Lee Thompson og Adelia Nilsdtr. Qvale, Madison, Wis., var i "the Coast Guard", nordre del av Atlanteren.

**John Flint**, søn av E. M. Flint og hustru Susanna Nilsdtr. Qvale, er i Pacificflaaten. Hans bror **David Flint**, løitnant i marinen og ingenør paa vestkysten; **Moris Flint** er i sanitets-vesenet ved medisinskolen.

**Joyce Flint**, Wave, datter av Ida Nilsdatter Qvale og A. G. Flint.

**Lloyd L. Nesberg**, Sergeant, f. 1920, søn av John og Frieda Nesberg, Madison, Wis., og sønnesøn av Anna Larsdtr. Gjerdager, indkaldt til tjeneste 26. september 1942, beordret til Ft. Riley, Texas og blev med i kavaleriet 1ste Corps, 112 eskadron som sendtes til Stillehavssøerne. Var med i 5 slag. Stod 33 maaneder i tjenesten — de to sidste i Japan, hvorfra han kom hjem og blev avmønstret ved McCoy, Wis., 15. oktober 1945.

**Harold L. Nesberg** — Lloyds bror — f. 1927 meldte sig til tjeneste i flaaten 20. febr. 1945 og beordret til Memphis, California, hvor han blev med paa slagskibet "Dakota", der opererer ved Europakystene.

**Edwin S. Bergo**, sergeant og radio-tekniker, f. 10. mai 1918, søn av John J. Bergo og Maria født Pederson (Hosaas), Madison, Wis., indkaldt til tjeneste 29. mai 1941 og beordret til Camp Davis, North Carolina, hvor han blev med i "Anti Aircraft" bataljonen; drog den 15 december med denne, efter Pearl Harbor overfaldet, til Hawaii, ankom der den 7 januar 1942, var 8 maaneder paa Gilbert øerne, saa igjen

until July 4, 1942 when he volunteered for service at Annapolis. On July 26, he came to Iowa City, as coach of "the Pre-Flight School Swimming Department" until May 1945 when he was ordered to go to the "the Pre-Flight School in Athens, Georgia", where for the next five months he was coach of the swimming department there. In September he was transferred to "the Great Lakes" and was promoted to lieutenant commander. He volunteered for continued service for 6 months in the Navy and on December 21, sailed to the Philippines. His wife and two children stayed in Chicago with his parents.

**Edmund Bolstad**, first lieutenant in the Air Force, a son of Otto and Eden Bolstad, Fertile, MN, was a pilot of a U. S. "flying fortress" and was shot down over Bremen, Germany in 1944.

The Qvale family: **Norman Hughes Quale**, lieutenant, a son of attorney Norman Nilson Qvale, Baraboo, WI and grandson (son's-son) of Nils Anderson Qvale, Madison, WI in February 1944 was an aviation cadet in the Army, is now married and living in Madison, WI. His brothers are **John Quale**, ensign in the Navy; **Glenn Quale**, also in the Navy.

**Howard Quale**, a son of Sam Nilson Qvale, Madison, WI has been with the Pacific fleet.

**Daniel Thompson**, a son of Lee Thompson and Adelia Nilsdatter Qvale, Madison, WI, was in the Coast Guard in the north Atlantic.

**John Flint**, son of E. M. Flint and his wife Susanna Nilsdatter Qvale, is in the Pacific fleet. His brother **David Flint** is a lieutenant in the Navy and engineer on the west coast; **Moris Flint** is a corpsman with a medical school.

**Joyce Flint**, Wave, a daughter of Ida Nilsdatter Qvale and A. G. Flint.

**Lloyd L. Nesberg**, Sergeant, b. 1920, a son of John and Frieda Nesberg, Madison, WI, and grandson (son's-son) of Anna Larsdtr. Gjerdager, drafted September 16, 1942, ordered to Ft. Riley, Kansas and joined the cavalry's 1st Corps, 112 squadron which was sent to the islands in the Pacific. He was in five battles. Served for 33 months — the last two in Japan, from where he returned home and was discharged at Camp McCoy, WI, October 15, 1945.

**Harold L. Nesberg** — Lloyd's brother — b. 1927 enrolled in the Navy February 20, 1945 and was ordered to Memphis, California, where he joined the battleship "Dakota", which operated off the coasts of Europe.

**Edwin S. Bergo**, sergeant and radio technician, b. May 19, 1918, a son of John J. Bergo and Maria born Pederson (Hosaas), Madison, WI, drafted May 29, 1941 and ordered to Camp Davis, North Carolina, where he joined an Anti Aircraft battalion; then went with this December 15, after Pearl Harbor attack, to Hawaii, arriving there January 7, 1942, spent 8 months on the Gilbert islands, then again to Hawaii. He

paa Hawaii. Stod i "Searchlight" bataljonen, Battery C. 219, Anti Aircraft Artilleri som radiotekniker, blev avmønstret i McCoy, Wis. den 2 oktober 1945. Studerer nu ved Wisconsin universitet i Madison.

**Stanley Drogsvold**, sersjant i "The Medical Corps", søn av John Drogsvold, Stoughton, Wisconsin.

**Sjur Ivarson Dymbe**, sersjant i faldskjermtruppene, født paa Voss 1904, søn av Ivar Vikingson Dymbe, utv. 1926 og var bosat i Milwaukee, hvor han drev som gartner og park arkitekt til han den 10. april 1940 meldte sig til øvelse som soldat. Senere blev han med i den norsk-amerikanske Ski bataljonen, "Viking" og var en av de første som meldte sig i denne. Efter et aars tid blev han overført til faldskjermtruppene. I lang tid var han med sin avdeling i Stor-Britanien, og sommeren 1945 var de i Norge og han fik da besøke hjembygden, hvor hans far og flere søskende levde. Nu er han igjen i Milwaukee.

**Arley Fadnes**, søn av Martin Fadnes og hustru Anna, født Mugaas, Madison, Wis., tjente i Tyskland.

**Gordon Grimstad**, sersjant f. 24. april 1925, søn av Nils Grimstad, Madison, Wis. Indkaldt til tjeneste 4 januar 1943, blev med i 26 Div. 3dje Arme, har 4 "Battle Stars" og Purple Heart. Avmønstret den 21 april 1946. Er nu i Madison.

**Obert Herheim**, f. 1922, søn av John Herheim og hustru Josephine f. Sherven, Madison, Wis. Indkaldt til tjeneste i december 1942, hadde mekanisk øvelse ved Bloomington, Illinois, og saa sendt til Stillnavsøerne, hvor han den meste tid har vært paa New Guinea, som lastebilkjører. Kom hjem efter 3 aars tjeneste i december 1945.

**Wayne M. Herheim**, søn av Martin Olavsson Herheim, Madison, Wis., indkaldt til tjeneste i februar 1943 og beordret til Camp Robert, Calif.

**Alfred Johnson**, De Forest, Wis., søn av Nils Johnson og hustru Gyrid H. Skjervheim, tjente over i Frankrig.

**Peder Albin Larson**, sersjant, f. 28 juli 1920, søn av Rognald Larson (Grove) og hustru Anna født Skjelvik, indkaldt til tjeneste i september 1942, var 6 uger i Camp Volta, Texas, 3 maaneder i Camp Gruba, Luisiana, forfremmet til korporal der og til sersjant i april 1943, var hjemme 15 dage, saa til Camp Gruba igjen, derpaa med transport fra New York til Egypten og tilsluttet 5te Arme. Var med fra Egypten til Sicilien og derpaa til Italien; var med i slaget ved Cassino og besøkte det berømte kloster; blev haardt saaret og tatt paa hospitalet; var til Rom; kom tilbake i januar 1945 og var en tid paa et hospital i New York. Er nu i Madison, Wisconsin.

**Bob Lerom**, søn av Sandford Lerom, Great Falls, Mont. ,og sønnesøn av Christ Lerom (av Lie slekt), Morrisonville, Wis., og hustru Betsy (Rockne), var i flyvaapnet i flaaten.

served in the "Searchlight" battalion, Battery C. 219, Anti Aircraft Artillery as a radio technician, was demobilized at Camp McCoy, WI October 2, 1945. Now he studies at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

**Stanley Drogsvold**, sergeant in the Medical Corps son of John Drogsvold, Stoughton, Wisconsin.

**Sjur Ivarson Dymbe**, sergeant in the paratroops, born at Voss in 1904, son of Ivar Vikingson Dymbe, emigrated in 1926 and lived in Milwaukee, where he worked as a gardener and park architect until April 10, 1940 when he volunteered for training as a soldier. Later he joined the Norwegian-American Ski battalion, "Viking" and was one of its first members. After a year, he was transferred to the paratroops. For a long time he was with a division in Great Britain; in the summer of 1945 they were in Norway and he visited his home, where his father and several siblings lived. Now he's in Milwaukee, again.

**Arley Fadnes**, son of Martin Fadnes and his wife Anna, born Mugaas, Madison, WI served in Germany.

**Gordon Grimstad**, sergeant b. April 24, 1925, son of Nils Grimstad, Madison, WI. Drafted January 4, 1943, was with the 26 Div. 3rd Army, has 4 Battle Stars and a Purple Heart; demobilized April 1946. He is now in Madison.

**Obert Herheim**, b. 1922, is a son of John Herheim and wife Josephine b. Sherven, Madison, WI. He was drafted in December 1942; had mechanics training at Bloomington, Illinois, and was sent to the islands in the Pacific, where he spent most of his time in New Guinea, as a truck driver. He came home after 3 years of service in December 1945.

**Wayne M. Herheim**, a son of Martin Olavsson Herheim, Madison, WI, drafted in February 1943 and ordered to Camp Robert, CA.

**Alfred Johnson**, De Forest, WI a son of Nils Johnson and his wife Gyrid H. Skjervheim, served in France.

**Peder Albin Larson**, sergeant, b. July 28, 1920, a son of Rognald Larson (Grove) and his wife Anna born Skjelvik, drafted in September 1942, was in Camp Volta, Texas for 6 weeks, 3 months in Camp Gruba, Louisiana, promoted to corporal there and to sergeant in April 1943, was home 15 days, then to Camp Gruba again, then by transport from New York to Egypt and attached to the 5th Army. He went all the way from Egypt to Sicily and thence to Italy; was at the battle of Cassino and visited that famous monastery; was badly wounded and taken to a hospital in Rome; came back in January 1945 and spent time in a hospital in New York. He now is in Madison, Wisconsin.

**Bob Lerom**, son of Sandford Lerom, Great Falls, MT and grandson (son's son) of Christ Lerom (of Lie family), Morrisonville, WI and his wife Betsy (Rockne), was in the Naval Air Force..

**Karl Moen**, sør av Arnfin Knutson Moen (Flatlandsmoen), Stoughton, Wis.; kom ind i tjenesten den 11 juni 1943, i flåten, og blev sendt til Stillehavsoerne, først til Salomonsøerne. Han var pakhusforvalter, 3. klasse. Kom hjem igjen i 1945.

**Lloyd George Myrvang**, sør av Torleif A. Myrvang og hustru Bertine, f. Vinje, Madison, Wis., var født 15. sept. 1924. Indkaldt til tjeneste 1. december 1942, og var først med Armored Div., Camp Campbell, Ky. i "the Technician Five" (T/5) — saa i Tyskland. Er nu i Madison.

**Royal' Thomas Nelson**, f. 1921, sør av Roy Nelson, Madison, Wis. og sønnesøn av Thomas Nilson Skutle; indkaldt til tjeneste i oktober 1942 og blev med i "Anti Tank Division 77", New York. Den opererte paa Stillehavsoerne og Philippinerne, var med i 5 slag og har 5 "battle stars" og "Purple Heart", blev haardt saaret ved juletid 1944, blev avmønstret 23 december 1945. Har nu arbeide ved Madison Brass Works.

**Abner Bernhard Prescott**, f. 1918, sør av Mr. Prescott som døde i første verdenskrigstjeneste og sønnesøn av William Prescott (Prestgaard), Madison, Wis. Hans mor er Bertha, født Pederson, (Hosaas), nu Mrs. Roy Nelson. Blev indkaldt til tjeneste i juni 1944, og blev med i flåten, først i "the Great Lakes", saa med U. S. S. Harding, som har operert ved Hawaii og Panamakanalen. Kom hjem 7. mai 1946 efter 2 aars tjeneste ; forfremmet til "ensign".

**Bertram S. Shelvik**, født 1920, sør av Sivert P. Shelvik, Madison, Wis., blev indkaldt til tjeneste i oktober 1942 og blev tilsluttet 13 Armory division (tank div). , og den 1 februar sendt til Europa, hvor han var med i 3. Arme; deltok i 2 slag og har 2 "battle stars". Var sluttelig en tid i California; kom saa hjem efter 3 aars tjeneste. Er nu i Madison, Wis.

**Hjalmar A. Skuldt**, marinesersjant, sør av S. B. Skuldt, Madison, Wis., og sønnesøn av Gjertrud Knutsdtr. Mørkve, har tjent i marinene ved Stillehavskysten. Han er en kunstner av rang og benytter fritiden til at tegne portrætter av menn og kvinder i tjenesten.

**Leo Vinje**, stabsersjant, født 1917, sør av Olav Larson Vinje og hustru Eli A. Flatlandsmoen, indkaldt til tjeneste 5. april 1941, var først et aar ved Camp Livingston, Louisiana, reiste den 1. april 1942 fra San Francisco til Australien, var 8 maaneder paa New Guinea, 26 maaneder ialt paa Stillehavsoerne; kom saa til Fort Benning, Ga., og var der omtrent et aar før avmønstret, 12 juli 1945; blev gift i Madison 21 juli 1944 med Marie Wulf av Madison. Er nu i Madison.

#### DE FLYVENDE FESTNINGERS BYGMESTER AV VOSSESLAKT

Det er interessant at vite, at bygmesteren av de bekjendte Boeing flyfestninger er av vosseslekt i

**Karl Moen**, a son of Arnfin Knutson Moen (Flatlandsmoen), Stoughton, WI; entered the service on June 11, 1943, in the Navy, and was sent to the Pacific islands, first to the Solomons. He was a storeroom guard, 3rd class. He came home again in 1945.

**Lloyd George Myrvang**, a son of Torleif A. Myrvang and his wife Bertine, b. Vinje, Madison, WI, was born on September 15, 1924. He was drafted December 1, 1942, and was first with an Armored Div., Camp Campbell, KY as a T/5 — then in Germany. Now he is in Madison.

**Royal' Thomas Nelson**, b. 1921, a son of Roy Nelson, Madison, Wis. and grandson (son's-son) of Thomas Nilson Skutle; drafted in October 1942 and was with the Anti Tank Division 77, New York. It operated on the Pacific islands and the Philippines, was in five battles and has five battle stars and a Purple Heart, was badly wounded at Christmas 1944, was demobilized December 23, 1945. He now works at the Madison Brass Works.

**Abner Bernhard Prescott**, b. 1918, a son of Mr. Prescott who died serving in World War I and grandson (son's-son) of William Prescott (Prestgaard), Madison, WI. His mother is Bertha, born Pederson, (Hosaas), now Mrs. Roy Nelson. He was drafted in June 1944, and was with the Navy, first in Great Lakes, then with the U. S. S. Harding, which operated in Hawaii and the Panama Canal. He came home May 7, 1946 after 2 years service, promoted to ensign.

**Bertram S. Shelvik**, born 1920, a son of Sivert P. Shelvik, Madison, WI, was called in service in October 1942 and was assigned to the 13th Armory division (tank div), and it was sent to Europe, where he was in the 3rd Army; participated in two battles and has two battle stars. At the end, he spent some time in California; came home after three years service. Now he's in Madison, WI.

**Hjalmar A. Skuldt**, marine sergeant, a son of S. B. Skuldt, Madison, WI and grandson (son's-son) of Gjertrud Knutsdatter Mørkve, served with the marines on the Pacific coast. He is an artist of rank and uses his free time to paint men and women in service.

**Leo Vinje**, staff sergeant, born 1917, a son of Olav Larson Vinje and his wife Eli A. Flatlandsmoen, drafted on April 5, 1941, was first a year at Camp Livingston, Louisiana, on April 1, 1942 went from San Francisco to Australia, spent 8 months on New Guinea, in spending 26 months in the south Pacific before coming to Fort Benning, Ga., and was there about a year before being demobilized July 12, 1945; was married in Madison July 21, 1944 with Marie Wulf of Madison. Now lives in Madison.

#### THE FLYING FORTRESS BUILDER OF A VOSS FAMILY

It is interesting to know that the master builder of the famous Boeing "Flying Fortresses" is from a Voss

andet led. Hans navn er Clairmont Leroy Egtvedt. Han er født nær Stoughton, Wis., den 18. oktober 1892 av foreldrene Sjur (Sivert) Pederson Egtvedt, født paa Vossestrand 1839 og hustru Mary. Hans far og bedsteforældre utvandrede i 1845. (Se Renes Hist. om utv. fra Voss, pg. 322). Clair gik paa høiskolen i Stoughton og arbeidet paa farm. Sivert med familie drog i 1911 til Seattle, Wash. og der fortsatte sønnen sine studier som ingenør. I 1916 stiftedes The Boeing Air Craft Co. og det følgende aar blev Egtvedt med i dette som tegner specielt af flyvemaskiner. Neste aar blev han chief ingineer, i 1922 selskapets sekretær og i 1926 vicepresident og 1933 president; blev i 1939 formann i direksjonen av The Boeing Aircraft Co. og The Boeing Transport, Inc., og i 1944 igjen president. Mange fly og bomber er utgaet fra disse selskaper, hvad vi her ikke nærmere skal berette om nu for rummets skyld.

### VOSSELAGET

Det Nationale Vosselag har ikke hatt regulært møte siden det i 1941 mødte i Madison, Wis. I 1942 fik bestyrelsen istand en vellykket social sammenkomst i Heks Park i det gamle Muskego settlement, Racine Co., Wis.

Det samme gamle styre er da endnu i sine stillinger, nemlig : Andrew Highland, Chicago, formand; Stephen White, St. Paul, Minn., viceformand; Knute Edahl, Chicago, sekretær; John Glimme, Chicago, kasserer. T. K. Setre, Minneapolis, Minn.; John Herheim, Madison, Wis., og John Eide, Mt. Horeb, Wis., direktører. K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., historiker og utgiver av Vossingen.

Formand Highland sender herved følgende hilsen til vossinger paa begge sider av havet:

Jeg betragter det som et stort privilegium og en stor fornøjelse at kunne sende en hilsen til mine sambygninger baade i dette land og i Norge og i særdeleshed til de hjem paa Voss, som led mest under krigen.

Det er mit inderligste ønske, at vi igjen kan ha vort regulære møte i sommer paa et sted, som senere vil bli bekjendtgjort. Da vil jeg opfordre de gamle venner av Vosselaget, som tidligere saa trofast har givet sin støtte, igjen at komme ud og fortsette deres gode arbeide i fremtiden.

Det er av stor viktighed, at vi har stor tilslutning paa dette første møte, da vi alle vil ha nyheter og fortroligheter at veksle med hverandre.

Deres meget forbundne,  
Andrew Highland.

Formand Highland er svært interessert i Vosselaget og fremme av dets skrift. Han har tilbuddt sig at betale hvilket som helst underskud paa trykning av Vossingen og har, som foran sees, sendt stykker til

family in the second generation. His name is Clairmont Leroy Egtvedt. He was born near Stoughton, WI October 18, 1892 of the parents Sjur (Sivert) Pederson Egtvedt, born at Vossestrand 1839 and his wife Mary. His father and grandparents emigrated in 1845. (See Rene's Hist. om utv. fra Voss, pg. 322). Clair went to high school in Stoughton and worked on a farm. Sivert and his family moved to Seattle, WA and there his son continued his studies in engineering. In 1916, The Boeing Air Craft Co. was founded and the following year Egtvedt joined them as a designer particularly of airplanes. The next year he became chief engineer, in 1922 the company secretary and in 1926, vice president, and in 1933, president; became chairman of the board of The Boeing Aircraft Co. and The Boeing Transport, Inc., and in 1944 again president. Many airplanes and bombers have come out of these companies which we won't describe in greater detail here because of lack of space.

### THE VOSSELAG

The National Vosselag hasn't had regular meetings since its meeting in Madison, WI. The board of directors had fortunately got together in Heg Park in the old Muskego settlement, Racine Co., WI.

The old board still had their old offices, namely: Andrew Highland, Chicago, president; Stephen White, St. Paul, MN, vice president; Knute Edahl, Chicago, secretary; John Glimme, Chicago, treasurer. T. K. Setre, Minneapolis, MN; John Herheim, Madison, WI, and John Eide, Mt. Horeb, WI, directors. K. A. Rene, Madison, WI, historian and publisher of Vossingen.

President Highland hereby sends his greetings to Vossings on both sides of the ocean:

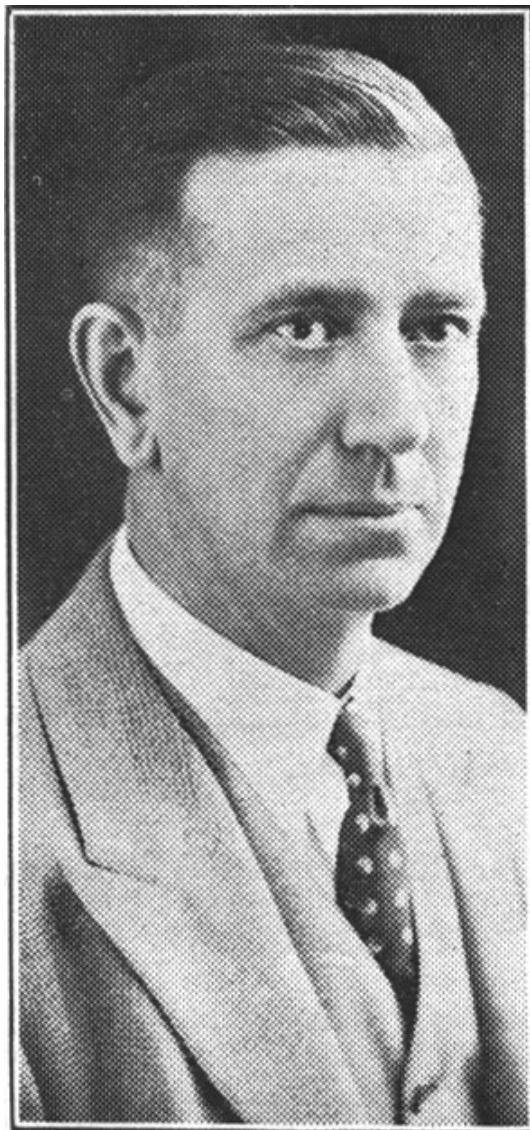
I regard it as a privilege and great satisfaction that I can send my greetings to my fellow Vossings in this country and in Norway and especially those home in Voss who are suffering the most during the war.

It is my innermost wish that we can have our regular meetings in summer at a place that will be announced later. Then I want to urge the old friends of the Vosselag, who earlier have given their faithful support to again come out and continue their good work in the future.

It was very important that we made the big decision that we all have news and confidences to exchange with each other.

Gratefully yours,  
Andrew Highland

President Highland is very interested in the Vosselag and promoting its publication. He has offered to pay whatever deficiency there may be for the printing of the Vossingen and as was seen before,



**Andrew Highland**

optagelse i skriftet. Han er ellers som verkstedseier og driver sammen med Viking Nordheims sørn, en meget optagen mand. Firmaet Nordheim-Highland, N. Kimball Ave, Chicago, Ill., har dette paa sit brevpapir som viser forretningen:

"Special Cabinetwork and Woodturning, Display Cabinets, Tables, Wood Novelties and Parts.

#### **LOKALT VOSSELAG**

I Madison, Wis., holdes det lokale Vosselag vedlige, og møterne er meget godt besøkte. Den 18. juni 1944 havdes stort møte i Burrows park i anledning 100-aaret for den store utvandring fra Voss i 1844 og 130 aaret for Eidsvoldsmøtet in 1814 og

sent items to the publication. He is otherwise a factory owner that he operates jointly Viking Nordheim's son, a much occupied man. The firm Nordheim-Highland, N. Kimball Ave, Chicago, IL has this on its letterhead that shows the business:

"Special Cabinetwork and Woodturning, Display Cabinets, Tables, Wood Novelties and Parts.

#### **THE LOCAL VOSSELAG**

In Madison, WI the local Vosselag meets regularly and the meetings are well attended. On the 18<sup>th</sup> of June 1944 they had a big meeting in Burrows Park on the occasion of the centennial of big emigration from Voss in 1844 and the 130<sup>th</sup> year since

vossingers indsats det aar. Lagets daværende sekretær K. A. Rene talte om dette. Andre talere var Advokat R. N. Nelson og John Glimme. John Eide var formand. Billede togtes.

Den 2den december 1944 var aarsmøte paa Schenks hall. Prof. Einar Haugen talte om pionerpresten Ditrickson og menighedsforholde i 1844. Journalist Lisa Lindbek var ogsaa tilstede. K. A. Rene ledede møtet og valgtes til næste aars president. Rognald Larson (Grove) vicepresident; Mrs. Robert Nelson, sekretær, og Siver Shelvik, kasserer.

Den 8. juli 1945 havdes igjen sommersmøte i Burrows Park. Det var i anledning utvandringen fra Voss i 1845 og grundlæggelsen af Spring Prairie settlementet. Talere var Prof. Einar Haugen, advokaterne Andrew C. Fadnes og Robert Nelson, samt Mrs. Julia Reque og formanden K. A. Rene. Billede togtes.

Den 17de november 1945 havdes aarsmøte med program i Insurance Bldg. hall. Ca. 150 personer tilstede. Hovedtaleren var student Knut Johanson fra Oslo, assisterende instruktør ved den skandinaviske avdeling ved Wisconsin Universitet. Han fortalte om Oslo Universitet og den medfart studenterne der fik av tyskerne. Selv blev han arrestert, men om en tid fri igjen, og drog da til Sverige. Det nye styre som valgtes blev: K. A. Rene, formand; Rognald Larson, viceformand; Fru R. N. Nelson, sekretær; Siver Shelvik, kasserer, samt socialkomite: R. N. Nelson, Ole S. Vinje og Peder Lee, samt Fru John Herheim, Fru Anna Larson, Fru Bertine Myrvang, Fru P. Boyd og Fru Anna Landsnes.

Neste møte blir holdt den 7 juli 1946 i Burrows Park.

#### **KNUTE NELSON MINDES PAA VOSS**

Der skal være stevne paa Kvilekval, Evanger, iaa til minde om senator Knute Nelson, og beretningen om ham sees i bladene. Huset hvori han skulde være født er overtaget av det offentlige, og der er de sager, som han og hans mor brugte, og nu vises der.

Knut Nelson var født den 2den februar 1842. (Her i Amerika har man sagt 1843, men i Evanger har man jo kirkebogen). Historien om Nelsons fødsel er fortalt lidt forskjelligt, men man maa holde sig til hvad hans halvbror, Henry Nelson, fortalte nedskriveren herav.

"Ingeborg Haldorsdtr. Kvilekval og Helge Knutson Styve var forlovet, men begge var uden midler. Saa reiste Helge i 1843 til Amerika, og det var meningen at Knut og hans mor skulde komme efter senere, naar han hadde skaffet sig et hjem. Helge døde tidlig her, og saa blev det først i 1849, at Ingeborg og Knut kunde reise."

the meeting at Eidsvold and the Vossings influence that year. The lag's secretary K. A. Rene talked about this. Other speakers were attorney R. N. Nelson and John Glimme. John Eide was the president. A picture was taken.

The annual meeting was on December 2, 1944 at Schenks hall. Prof. Einar Haugen spoke about the pioneer minister Didrickson and the congregation situation in 1844. Journalist Lisa Lindbek was also present. K. A. Rene president the meeting and was elected the next year's president. Rognald Larson (Grove) vice president; Mrs. Robert Nelson, secretary, and Sivert Shelvik, treasurer.

On July 6, 1945 the summer meeting was again held in Burrows Park. It was on the occasion of the emigration from Voss in 1845 and the establishment of the Spring Prairie settlement. The speakers were Prof. Einar Haugen, attorneys Andrew C. Fadnes and Robert Nelson, as well as Mrs. Julia Reque and President K. A. Rene. A picture was taken.

On November 17, 1945 the annual meeting and program were held in the Insurance Bldg. hall. About 150 persons attended. The main speaker was student Knut Johanson from Oslo, assistant instructor in the Scandinavian Department at the University of Wisconsin. He talked about Oslo University and the treatment the students received from the Germans. He himself was arrested, men but was set free after a time and went to Sweden. The new officers elected were K. A. Rene, president; Rognald Larson, vice president; Mrs. R. N. Nelson, secretary; Sivert Shelvik, treasurer, as well as the social committee: R. N. Nelson, Ole S. Vinje and Peder Lee, as well as Mrs. John Herheim, Mrs. Anna Larson, Mrs. Bertine Myrvang, Mrs. P. Boyd and Mrs. Anna Landsnes.

The next meeting will be held July 7, 1946 in Burrows Park.

#### **KNUTE NELSON IS REMEMBERED AT VOSS**

There will be a gathering at Kvilekval, Evanger, this spring in memory of Senator Knute Nelson, and descriptions of him were written in the newspapers. The house in which he is supposed to have been born has been taken over by the public and there can be seen artifacts he and his mother used.

Knut Nelson was born on February 2, 1842. (Here in America people say 1843, but in Evanger people have the church register. The story of Nelson's birth is told with variation but we have to pay attention to what his half-brother, Henry Nelson, told the author about it.

"Ingeborg Haldorsdatter Kvilekval and Helge Knutson Styve were engaged, but both were poor. Then Helge went to America in 1843, and it was intended that Knut and his mother would come later, when he had obtained a home. Helge died soon here, and not until 1849, could Ingeborg and Knut come."

Av et gammelt brev sees, at Helge Styve døde i 1846. Han hadde vistnok kjøbt et stykke land i Skoponong settlementet eller Muskego, og døde der. (Se ellers Hist. om Udv. fra Voss av Rene.)

### BØKER

**Anders Ullestад**, Voss, har utgivet 2 bøker i krigsarene. I 1943 utgav han boken "Voss og Vossinger". Det er en bok som forteller i digit og prosa om Voss og vossinger i forfatterens egen tid. Det er en minderig tid paa mange maater, og Ullestad har vært med saa at si i alt. Det er en svert interessant bok.

I 1944 utgav han en digtsamling "Vossavisor og Andre Songar". Han summerer indholdet saaledes: Vossabygdi, Vossingar, Utflytte Vossingar, Skular paa Voss, Minnesongar, Jol og Nytaarssongar, Fraaholdssongar, Idrot, Ungdomssangar, Jotun-heimen. — Som man ser en vekslende samling med serlæg fie sange. Første sangen hadde nærpaa bragt Ullestad i tysk fangenskab, forteller han, da han blev indkaldt laa han heldigvis!! syg, saa hørte han ikke mere derom.

Hr. Ullestad er nu 78 aar, f. 1868. At fortelle om alt han har tat del i vil føre for langt her. Kun dette: Han var med at stifte Voss Idrætslag for 60 aar siden og er nu det ældste medlem. For 60 aar siden skrev han sig ind i Voss Avholdslag og er nu næst eldste mand der. I 1890 var han med at stifte De "Unges Forbund", nu Voss Ungdomslag, av hvilket han nylig valgtes til æresmedlem. Det var han som i 1895 tog op arbeidet med at faa Voss Folkehøjskole stiftet. Han har interessaert sig meget for friluftsferd og gjorde begyndelsen til at Voss Udferslagslag i 1933 blev stiftet. Ellers har han hat interesse av at faa reist minnesmerker over Vosses bekjendte mænd — som for Per Sivle, Ola Mosefin, Bergslierne, L. Kindem, Lars Eskeland og Ridende Vossebryllup. Han har arbeidet meget med at faa restaurert Vangskirken og for Voss Gamlehjem. Det var han som samlede penge til Vossefanen og fik den sendt til Vosselaget i Amerika. Han har vært en flittig brevskriver fra Voss.

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**Knut Bjørgaas** — lærer og kirkesanger paa Vossestranden - har i krigsaarene udgivet 5 bøker av samlingen "Or Gammal ti". Det er forvidnelige fortellinger av gamle folk i Vossebygderne paa ægte Vossemaal. Det er folkeminder av første klasse, fremstillet saa levende som man selv hadde hørt fortelleren. Bjørgaas har her gjort et verdifuldt arbeide, ikke bare ved at bevare vossemalet i ægte

We learn from an old letter that Helge Styve died in 1846. He had evidently bought a piece of land either in the Skoponong settlement or in Muskego, and died there. (See more in Hist. om Udv. fra Voss by Rene.)

### BOOKS.

**Anders Ullestad**, Voss, published two books during the war years. In 1943 he published the book "Voss og Vossinger". It is a book that tells in prose and poetry about Voss and the Vossings in the author's own time. In many ways it is a memorable time and Ullestad saw it all. It is a very interesting book.

In 1944, he published a collection of poems "Vossavisor og Andre Songar" (**Voss Ballads and other Songs**). He summarizes the content thusly: the Voss district, Vossings, Emigrated Vossings, Schools at Voss, Memory Songs Christmas and New Years songs, temperance songs, Sports, Youth songs, Jotunheimen. — As one sees a mixed collection with especially reactionary songs. The first song almost put him in a German prison, he tells; when he was called in, luckily!! He was sick, so he didn't hear any more about it.

Mr. Ullestad is now 78 years, b. 1868. To tell everything he has done would take too much space here. Only this: he helped found the Voss Sports Club 60 years ago and is now its oldest member. He signed up in the Voss Temperance Society 60 years ago and is the second oldest member there. In 1890 he helped found De "Unges Forbund", now the Voss Youth Club, of which he was recently made an honorary member. It was he who in 1895 worked to get the Voss Folk High School started. He is very interested in open air activities and created the beginning of the formation of the Voss Travel Club in 1933. Otherwise he has had interest in raising monuments over Voss' famous men —as for Per Sivle, Ola Mosefin, the Bergsliens, L. Kindem, Lars Eskeland and the Riding Voss Wedding. He has worked for the restoration of the Vangs church and for the Voss Home for the Elderly. It was he who collected money for the Vossefanen and had it sent to the Vosselag in America.

\* \* \*

**Knut Bjørgaas** — teacher and precentor at the Vossestrand — during the war years published 5 books in the collection "Or Gammal ti" (From Olden Times). They are interesting stories of the old people in the Voss districts told in genuine old Voss dialect, they are folk memorabilia of the first class presented so alive as if one heard the narrator. Bjørgaas has performed a valuable service

form, men ogsaa ved at vise tro og skikke og levevis paa visse maader i gammel tid. Bare 5 procent av de gamle fortellere lever nu, siger han, saa det var paatide at dette blev samlet.

Bjørgaas er med i komiteen som arbeider med at faa ud Vossestrandens bygdebok. For 15—16 aar siden valgte herred-styret komiteen og Bjørgaas fik i opdrag at sette op en plan for arbeidet, og denne godkjendtes. Anders B. Sundve er nu formand i komiteen. Av helbredshensyn har Bjørgaas nu sluttet som lærer, men er meget interessert i slekts- og anden historie. Han arbeider nu med en ny samling av kirkehistoriske smaastykker, "Fotafar" kalder han det, som skal utkomme til høsten. — Han skriver ellers meget i "Kirkebladet for Vossebyggerne", utgivet av de tre sogneraad.

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### **Naar Slegtninger ikke underrettes.**

Det hender ganske ofte, at folk i Amerika kommer bort uden at slegtninger i Norge faar greie paa, hvor det blev av dem. Dette kan volde sorg, besværlighed og tab. Nærværende redaktør har faatt forespørgsel om flere vossinger. Nogle har han faat greie paa, men nogle ikke.

Nylig har han faat greie paa en, som har ligget under torven i 12—13 aar. Han var tilmed en veteran fra 1ste verdenskrig. Hans fulde navn var Arne Askjelson Skiple, som skrev sig Arne A. Skipley, da han kom ind i tjenesten; (senere Arnie). Han hadde ingen nære slektninger i Amerika. Hans far Askjel, som skrev sig Oscar Shipley døde i Minneapolis i 1932. Han hadde en søster og 2 brødre paa Voss. Arne døde paa veteran hospitalet i Minneapolis den 2 jun 1933, men først ved nytaar iaar fik slegtningerne paa Voss greie paa at han var død. Saa blev det spørsmaal om hans eiendele, og endda er ikke alt opklart om dem. Han hadde en 160 acres farm og en byggetomt efter sin far og selv hadde han over \$100 i pension, naar han ikke var paa hospitalet og han hadde en automobil, som han hadde lovet at sende sit søskenhorn Knut Grove i Voss, men som denne ikke har faat, og det staar nu igjen at faa greie paa den.

Arne Skipley var indkaldt til krigstjeneste den 18. juni 1918 av det lokale "Board" i Koochiching County, Minn., og fik serial number 3-340-235. Sendtes til oversjø tjeneste 9. september 1918 som medlem av Co. C, 342de infanteri, kom tilbage til U. S. den 22 juni 1919 og var hæderligt avmønstret ved Fort Snelling, Minn. den 16 juli med kompani M. 55de infanteri. Han var gasset over i Frankrig og blev helseløs. Han hadde bestemt at "the Disabled Veterans" skulde greie med hans begravelse og efterladenskaber.

not only to preserve the Vossamaul in its genuine form, but also show desire for the customs and ways of living in the old times. Only 5% of the old is spoken now so it is urgent that we collect it.

Bjørgaas is on the committee that is working to publish a bygdebok for Vossestrand. Bjørgaas was elected to the town council 15-16 years ago and Bjørgaas made a proposal to create a plan for this work and this was approved. Anders B. Sundve is the current chairman of this committee. Bjørgaas resigned as a teacher because of health reasons but is still very interested in genealogy and other history. He is now working on a new collection of church history items. He calls it "Fotafar" and it will be published this fall. — he also writes frequently for "Kirkebladet for Vossebyggerne" published by the three parishes.

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### **When information about relatives can't be found.**

It often occurs that people in America get astray without their relatives in Norway being able to learn what happened to them. This can create sorrow, difficulties and loss. The current editor has received inquiries about several Vossings. He has found information on some, but not on others.

Recently he got news about one that has been buried for 12-13 years. In addition, he was a veteran of the First World War. His full name was Arne Askjelson Skiple, who used the name Arne A. Skipley, when he joined the service; (later Arnie). He had no near relatives in America. His father, Askjel, who used the name Oscar Shipley died in 1932 in Minneapolis. He had a sister and two brothers at Voss. Arne died at a veteran's hospital in Minneapolis on June 2, 1933, but the relatives in Voss didn't learn that he was dead until New Years. Then there was the question of his property and that hasn't been cleared up yet. He owned a 160 acre farm and had a building lot from his father and he himself had a \$100 pension prior to coming to the hospital and he owned a car that he had promised to send to his cousin Knut Grove in Voss, which he hasn't received and about which we have no information.

Arne Skipley was drafted into the military June 18, 1918 by the local board of Koochiching County, MN, and was given the serial number 3-340-235. He was sent overseas September 9, 1918 as a member of Co. 342<sup>nd</sup> Infantry; came back to the U. S. June 22 1919 and was honorably discharged at Fort Snelling, MN on July 16 with Company M, 55<sup>th</sup> Infantry. He had been gassed in France and was an invalid. He had decided that the Disabled Veterans should arrange his burial and deal with his estate.

### FRA VESTKYSTEN 1938

Dette er en forsiktig beretning som dog kan ha sin interesse.

Knut Olavson Liland, Aberdeen, Washington, sendte nogle oplysninger for "Vossingen" i 1938, men "Vossingen" maatte av gode grunde stanse indtil videre da, og et uddrag gives nu. Han skrev:

"Det er min simple pligt at erkjende modtagelsen — og takke for den store pregtige Vosseboken. — Jeg maa beundre den mand som har været leder — og for det meste paa egenhaand fuldført det herkulesverk som heter — "Historie om udvandringen fra Voss og Vossingerne i Amerika". Det maa uten tvil — være den største utgave om utvandring og settling, — som nogensinde er beskrevet fra en enkel bygd — i hele Norges land, osv."

Knut Liland var født (paa Stølen) i Voss, juli 1869 av foreldrene Olav og Marta Liland. Av 11 søskenhænder var han den yngste. I 1938 var det bare søsteren Martha Haga, 84 år, som levede paa Voss og broren Brynjulf i Amerika.

Knut blev i 1891 udesaminert fra underofficerskolen i Bergen, var en tid handelsbetjent hos broren, Olav, ved Haugesund, saa en tid ved Liland Hotel, drog saa til Oslo og var adskillige aar i en stor forretning der, kom i 1903 til Amerika, stanset nogle maaneder i Montana, drog saa til Seattle, Wash. I 1905 bosatte han sig i Aberdeen, Wash. "Det er logging og lumber, som har bygget Aberdeen," skrev han, og han kunde saaledes først bli en "Lumber Jack", men det gik fremover, saa han har gjort det godt. I 1906 kom hans prinsesse fra Oslo, skrev han, og de blev gifte. De har 2 barn Olav og Mary, om har hat gode skoler og gode "jobber".

Hans bror, Brynjulf Liland, f. 1865, bodde i 1938 i Snohomish, Wash. Han døde ugift for et par aar siden.

En brorsøn Olav G. Liland, født 1890 af foreldre Gotskalk og Anna Liland — blev udlært baker i Bergen, kom til Amerika omkring 1913, og har drevet som baker i Washington. Han har i over 20 aar været formand i et "wholesale bakery" i Seattle ; gift med en svensk dame og har barnene Gothard, Myrtle og Gordon. Ejer eget hus i 6303—4th Ave., N. S., Seattle.

En søsterdattersøn av Knut Liland er David Eide, f. 1901, søn av Johannes og Marta Eide. Hans mors foreldre var David Nelson Vestheim og hustru Marta, f. Liland. David kom til Canada i 1924, men drog efter nogen maaneder til Aberdeen, Wash., og blev der et aars tid. Han hadde ferdighed i smed arbejde og maskineri og drev meget med sligt arbejde i dokkerne og ombord i skib. Saa blev han fyrbøter i et stort skib, som skulde gaa til Kina. Siden har han færdet paa sjøen og har reist til Japan, Kina, Australien,

### FROM THE WEST COAST 1938

This is a tardy report that still may have its interest.

Knut Olavson Liland, Aberdeen, Washington, sent some information for "Vossingen" in 1938, but the "Vossingen", for good reasons, had to stop until further notice and a extract is presented here. He wrote:

"It is my simple duty to acknowledge the arrival — and thank for the big grand book about Voss. — I am just amazed over that man who has been the leader and for the most part by his own hand completed the Herculean work called — "Historie om udvandringen fra Voss og Vossingerne i Amerika". It must without doubt — be the greatest publication about immigration and settlement, — that has ever been written from a single district — in the entire country of Norway, etc.

Knut Liland was born (at Stølen) in Voss, in July 1869 of the parents Olav and Marta Liland. He was the youngest of eleven siblings. In 1938 there were only his sister Martha Haga, 84 years, who lived at Voss and his brother Brynjulf in America.

In 1891, Knut was graduated from the Non-commissioned Officer's School in Bergen; he worked as a clerk for his brother, Olav at Haugesund, then a time at Liland Hotel, then moved to Oslo and for a several years was with a big business there; came to America in 1903, stayed in Montana for a few months then went to Seattle, WA. In 1905, he settled in Aberdeen, WA. "It's logging and lumber, that have built Aberdeen," he wrote, and he was first a lumber jack, but progressed so he did well. He wrote that his princess came from Oslo in 1906 and they were married. They have two children, Olav and Mary, who have had good schooling and have good jobs.

His brother, Brynjulf Liland, b. 1865, lived in Snohomish, WA in 1938. he died a couple years ago, unmarried.

A nephew (brother's son), Olav G. Liland, born in 1890 of the parents Gotskalk and Anna Liland — was trained as a baker in Bergen then came to America about 1913 and has worked as a baker in Washington. He has been the foreman in a wholesale bakery in Seattle for over 20 years; is married to a Swedish girl and has the children Gothard, Myrtle and Gordon. He owns his own house at 6303—4th Ave., N. S., Seattle.

A great-nephew (sister's daughter's son) of Knut Liland is David Eide, b. 1901, a son of Johannes and Marta Eide. His mother's parents were David Nelson Vestheim and his wife Marta, b. Liland. David came to Canada in 1924, but moved to Aberdeen, WA after a few months and stayed there a year. He had been trained in smithing and machine work and worked at this on the docks and aboard ship. Then he became the fireman on a big ship headed for China. He has sailed the seas since and has been to Japan, Australia,

Syd Amerik og helt til London. Aktet at bli  
maskinist. Adresse: Seattle Seamen Mission, 107  
Columbie Street.

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South America and even London, intending to be a  
machinist. Address: Seattle Seamen Mission, 107  
Columbia Street

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### Lars Nilson Nesheim

The old saying: Honor him to whom honor is due, seems at times to be forgotten, ignored or even misrepresented. This can be said with reference to Lars Nilsen Nesheim, who copied a large number of pioneer-letters from America and bound them into books, by which they have been preserved.

These have been documents of great value to historians of our days. But even a supposed historian as Theodore C. Blegen, dean of Minnesota University who has — after seeing about these books in "Vossingen", succeeded in getting hold of one — and with a facsimile in his "Migration from Norway" tells, that he don't know, who copied those letters and other doubtful things. In that letter book stands underneath letters: Fraktured (Copied by frakturskrift) by Lars N. Nesheim.

Also in "Vossingen" of 1924, sent to the Minnesota Historical Society, of which Blegen was assistant superintendent, is an article about Lars Nesheim, written by Ivar D. Hustvedt on request by the editor. There too all the facts are found.

In "Skandinaven" for October 16, 1931, is Lars Nesheim represented as a singular or odd fellow by Sophia Boe, in sending a letter book to be printed there. I hardly think she was in a position to judge.

These letter books have been brought out of its hiding place after K. A. Rene's Historie om utvandrangen fra Voss was issued. And as Pres. L. W. Boe wrote to the author: "A great value of your book is, that it brings out more hidden historical stuff". The Norwegian-American Historical Association has made full use of that.

Lars Nesheim was born on the farm Nesheim in Voss in 1792 and was brought up there. (See Vossingen 1-2, 1925, p 16 SJN) His parents were Nils Steffenson and Gertrud, b. Hefte, Nesheim, very well to do people, and interest in books has been a feature in that family. Nephews of Lars had probably the largest collection of books at one time in Voss.

There were not many opportunities in the farm districts in those days, and Lars acquired a knowledge of draining wet ground and became an expert in that line. In the spring and summer he dug trenches for drainage and had plenty to do in that way. He was all over in Voss working. He also gathered roots in the fall and made baskets and panniers of different kinds in the winter.

After the emigration from Voss to America started, he became interested in copying America-letters, which he saw where he worked or heard about. These letters were sent to emigrant's relatives in all parts of Voss, and Lars must have gone far to see them. Some must also have been brought to him, as it stands in some letters that it should be shown to Nesheim, and he should be asked to write, which shows, that he was corresponding with those emigrants. When the Correspondence Society in Chicago was started, in 1848, it sent the letters to Nesheim and precentor David Kløve, and they were requested to answer, which shows that they had faith in those men. Not everybody in Voss had any practice in letter writing, so Nesheim made them a service.

Nesheim copied also other things, especially songs, and he was a good singer himself. Thereby he stimulated interest in folk songs. He got his neighbor, Sylfest Fletre, the school teacher, to compose a song about Lars himself, and it was probably he, who got Fletre to compose the "Store Løne-borgvisen" of 24 verses. Fletre came later to America and has many descendants here.

Lars was unmarried. It was rumored, that he was in love with a poor girl not approved by his proud parents, but that is uncertain. He was probably too busy and interested in other things to think of love. In his later years he stayed at his married sister's place, at Lemme, where he died in the year 1880. How many letter-books he made up, is not known. Four can be accounted for, and one was lost on board an emigrant ship. But this is claimed to be one of those printed in "Skandinaven".

In view of the above, we say: Honor be to the memory of Lars Nilson Nesheim.

K. A. R.

\* \* \*

Alfred Knutson, Odda, Hardanger, som er en god vossing fra Vaksdal i Bruvik, og har Vosse-slekninger paa Saude i Voss og endel i U. S., har sendt redaktøren en hel haug med utklip fra forskjellige aviser om vossinger. Det vilde ta et helt hefte at utgi det her. Men vi takker og vil bruke det nødvendigste. Han ønsker ellers oplysninger om Bruvikinger i U. S. for en bygdebok. — Odda var et farlig sted i krigstiden. Der er flere vossinger i arbeide og som foran nevnt, var Leif Kindem, som blev skudt av tyskerne, derfra, hvor hans mor, kone og søskende er. Leifs far, Lars N. Kindem, døde i 1935. Han var redaktørens tremenning og har 3 søstre i U. S. A.— den ene, Eli, enke etter redaktørens bror.

I Odda hadde de en tysk station med en hel del barakker, forteller Knutson. Han hadde en barakke i hagen sin og fire utenfor. Omkring 15 meter fra hans

\* \* \*

Alfred Knutson, Odda, Hardanger, who is a good Vossing from Vaksdal in Bruvik, and has Voss relatives at Saude in Voss and a number in the U. S., has sent the editor a big pile of clippings from various newspapers about Vossings. It would take a whole issue to present them here. We thank you and will use them appropriately. He wants to further explain about Bruvikings in the U. S. for a bygdebok. — Odda was a dangerous place during the war. There are several Vossings working here that were previously named; there was Leif Kindem, who was shot by the Germans, from there where his mother, wife and siblings are. Leif's father, Lars N. Kindem, died in 1935. He was the editor's second cousin and had three sisters in U. S. A. — the one, Eli is a widow of the editor's brother.

There was a German station in Odda with a whole group of barracks, tells Knutson. He had a barrack in his garden and four just outside. About 1

hans hus var et antiluftbatteri. Fire personer blev dræpte, 8 ellers skudt paa og nogen saaret av bomber. En del sat i tyske fengsler.

Knutson er interessert i historiegranskning, og har skrevet om Renes Vossebok baade "Hardangeren" og "Nordhordland".

### ET OG ANDET FRA VOSS (Efter "Hordaland")

Ved Mjølfjell Station, (Bergensbanen) skal bygges kirke, hvortil midler samles. Før er der skole, hotel og forretningshus. Der er blit en liden by i denne vidunderlige fjelltrakt yderst i Raundalen.

Ved Voss Landgymnas tok 75 elever eksamen artium i 1945. Alle hadde lært norsk, engelsk, tysk og matematik, 20 var fra Voss.

Mindesmerke over L. Kindem, den kjendte forretningsmand og historieskriver skal sættes ved Voss Folkemuseum, som han var grundlægger av.

Der var stort stevne ved Voss Folkemuseum den 5te aug. 1945. 2000 personer tilstede og storartet tilstelling.

Det gamle herredstyre i Evanger var indkaldt den 6te august, da S. N. styret blev slutt. Det saa ut til, at det før indsatte nasi styre ikke hadde greit at gjøre noget galt der. Gustav Håtveit er ny ordfører.

Paa møte i 1945 i grenden om Dukstad blev det bestemt, at denne grens skal kaldes Kvitheim efter det gamle navn, som omfattede Dukstad, Øvsthus, Lofthus og Lirhus. Efter Haldor Duk til Kvitheim, 1317—65, blev Dukstad opkaldt.

Baade militær og sivil "heimefront" kom tidlig igang paa Voss — kanske tidigere end andre steder. Organisasjonsarbeidet stod først direkte i forbindelse med London. Senere i samband med fylkestyret.

Otte russiske soldater gravlagde paa Voss. En av disse var skudt av en tysker i Svelgane ved Bulkelen. Seks av dem var først begravne paa Tvillemoen, men er nu flyttet til kirkegaarden.

Idrettspladsen paa Voss blev meget vanskjøttet og misbrukt av tyskerne. Efter freden fikk de arbeide med at sætte den i stand igjen.

4000 tyskere paa Voss måtte paa veiarbeide og deltes i 8 lag. Det var paa veie til Haugur fra Raudstad, Rjode — Tillung, til Tesdal, Øvsthus—Nordheim, Tvinde—Afdal, Gjerde—Ringheim, Tvillemoen—Gjerdaker,

meters from his house was an anti-aircraft battery. Four people were killed. 8 others were somewhat wounded by a bomber. A number were in German prisons.

Knutson is interested in history and has written about Rene's Voss book both in "Hardangeren" and "Nordhordland".

### ONE THING AND ANOTHER FROM VOSS. (From "Hordaland")

A church shall be built at Mjølfjell Station, (Bergen Railway) as soon as funds are obtained. There is a school, hotel and a store already there. It's like a little village in the wonderful mountainous area farthest out in the Raundal valley.

75 pupils were graduated from Voss Landgymnas in 1945. Everyone had studied Norwegian, English, German and Mathematics. 20 were from Voss.

A monument to L. Kindem, the famous businessman and historian, shall be erected at the Voss Folk Museum of which he was the founder.

There was a big convention at the Voss Folk Museum on August 5, 1945. 2000 people attended and there was a magnificent exhibition.

The old town council in Evanger was called back on August 6, when the Nazi council quit. It appears that the previous Nazi council had managed to not do anything wrong. Gustav Håtveit is the new mayor.

At a meeting in 1945 in the neighborhood at Dukstad it was decided that this neighborhood shall be named Kvitheim after the old name, which will include Dukstad, Øvsthus, Lofthus and Lirhus. Dukstad is named for Haldor Duk of Kvitheim, 1317—65.

Both military and civilian homefront were started early at Voss — maybe earlier than other places. The organization's work was in direct connection to London at first. Later it was connected to the county board.

Eight Russian soldiers were buried at Voss. One of these was shot by a German in Svelgane by the Bulkelen. Six of them were first buried at Tvillemoen have now been moved to the cemetery.

The sports field at Voss was very water-damaged and abused by the Germans. After peace came, they started to work to get it in proper condition again.

4000 Germans at Voss had to work on roads and were divided into 8 crews. They are on the roads to Haugur from Raudstad, Rjode — Tillung, to Tesdal, Øvsthus—Nordheim, Tvinde—Afdal, Gjerde—Ringheim, Tvillemoen—Gjerdaker,

Selheim—Tverberg; desuden maatte 100 rydde op paa Nordheim — og 100 paa Møn skiferbrud.

Didrik Lærum, sør av distriktslægen paa Voss, var ingenør i Etiopia, sjef for jernbanebygning til Egypten og Palestina. Var og i Persien (Iran) general konsul i Teheran. — Er nu professor ved den tekniske skole i Trondheim.

Tyskerne anlagde trekulbrennerier ved Palmefosson, Voss, og Haugsviken, Strandens. De er overtatt av Staten.

Tyskerleiren i Skulestadmoen blev i oktober samlingstedet for Vestlandets forrædere. De skal arbeide paa veien over Vikefjellet fra Myrdalen til Sogn.

Vosselag i Oslo ble stiftet 31 mars 1946. 180 personer deltok. Anders Dolve, formand.

Vosselaget i Bergen begyndte igjen med fest 3die juledag. Det hadde ikke mødt siden 1940. Lærer Jacob Horvei styrde møtet som var ordnet av Mathias Dolve og andre. Martin Midtun fortalte om hendinger i krigen 1940 i den avdeling han var med i. Mange var mødt frem.

Selheim—Tverberg; in addition 100 had to clear up at Nordheim — and 100 at Møn slate quarry.

Didrik Lærum, son of the district physicians at Voss was an engineer in Ethiopia, director for railroad construction from Egypt to Palestine. He was in Persia (Iran) as general consul in Teheran. — is now a professor at the technical school at Trondheim.

The German built charcoal furnaces at Palmefosson, Voss, and Haugsviken, Strandens. They have been taken over by the state.

The German camp at Skulestadmoen, in October, was the assembly point for the West Country traitors. They are going to work on the road over Vikefjellet from Myrdalen to Sogn.

The Vosselag in Oslo was started March 31, 1946. 180 people participated. Anders Dolve, president.

The Vosselag in Bergen started up again with a party on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of Christmas. It had not met since 1940. Teacher Jacob Horvei presided at the meeting arranged by Mathias Dolve and others. Martin Midtun told about happenings in 1940 in his division. There was good attendance.



- 1928 Møde i Madison, Wis.  
Advokat Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1929 Møde i Hayfield, Minn.  
Advokat Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1930 Møde i St. Paul og Minneapolis, Minn.  
Odd Eide, Fertile, Minn., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1931 Møde i Fertile, Minn.  
Odd Eide, Fertile, Minn., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1932 Møde i Canton, S. Dak.  
Advokat Arthur F. Giere, Galesville, Wis., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1933 Møde i Chicago, Ill.  
Advokat Arthur F. Giere, Galesville, Wis., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1934 Møde i Decorah, Iowa.  
Advokat Arthur F. Giere, Galesville, Wis., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1935 Møde i Hayfield, Minn.  
Advokat Arthur F. Giere, Galesville, Wis., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1936 Møde i Deerfield, Wis. Hundedaarsfest om udvandringen.  
Advokat Arthur F. Giere, Galesville, Wis., formand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.
- 1937 Møde i Lake Mills, Iowa.  
Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., formand.  
Anders Highland, Chicago, Ill., viceformand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.  
John Glimme, Chicago, Ill., kasserer.
- 1938 Møte i Stoughton, Wis.  
Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., formand.  
Odd Eide, Fertile, Minn., viceformand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.  
John Glimme, Chicago, Ill., kasserer.
- 1939 Møte i Minneapolis, Minn.  
Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., formand.  
Lars A. Seim, Decorah, Iowa, viseformand.  
K. A. Rene, Madison, Wis., sekretær.  
John Glimme, Chicago, Ill., kasserer.
- 1940 Møte i Alexandria, Minn.  
Arthur Markve, Minneapolis, Minn., formand.  
Stephen White, St. Paul, Minn., viceformand.  
Knut Edahl, Chicago, Ill., sekretær.  
John Glimme, Chicago, Ill., kasserer.
- 1941 Møte i Madison, Wis.  
Andrew Highland, Chicago, Ill., valgt formand.  
Stephen White, St. Paul, Minn., viceforman. ledet møtet.  
Knut Edahl, Chicago, sekretær.  
John Glimme, Chicago, kasserer.

