

I was born in Arne's Plads in Bamble, Norway. The nearest city was Langesund. My birthday: September 7, 1886. My oldest sister died when she was 6 years old so I got her name, Marte Karine. Christian was 2 years older than me. When I was 6 years old we all had the scarlet fever. Then my other sister died. The first that I can remember is when father told us: "If you want to see Hannah die you must look now." Her eyes looked straight up. Halvor was the baby. Five years later Eli was born so that was our family.

When I was 15 Uncle Tallak and Cousin Mary came over to Norway for a visit. That was a wonderful time. Christian went with them to Amerika. Then after that we were all Americans and there was no rest until we had sold everything but the old chest and the spinning wheel. Those two things came with us to America.

We had a nice little home in Norway and I can't thank God enough for the good times I had there. Father read the Bible for us every day and took us to church quite often. He sang for us every day, too. Halvor and I watched cows in the pasture in the

summertime. I had my knitting with me too. We didn't always like it but it was good for us.

I was confirmed in Norway. I can't remember much of what Pastor Lampe told us but I intended to live a Christian life. I liked to go to prayer meetings but there was always a fear over me all the time. I kept on praying God to let me live until I could go to communion again. I thought that would help take that fear away. It didn't go but one evening at the prayer at our house there was an old man standing by the door talking about his experience and faith. Just then my fear was taken away and I could say with the Salvation Army "the burden rolled away". I seemed to see Christ on the cross for a second. I had much trial and fear since but not only fear.

Grandpa Tallak Haines was married in Norway to Ellen Halvorsen in about 1843. When they left for America they had one son Oliver, or Halvor. Together with them came Ellen's mother, three brothers (Elias, Ole, and Jens), and two sisters (Nellie and Kirsten). Another sister, Hellene, was left in Norway. She was about seven years old and was adopted by an old couple, Lars and Kari Vinje. I have heard that it took

them 14 weeks to cross the ocean, but I am not sure about that.

The first place where they stopped was in Canada. There Tellif Haines was born in 1848 and there Nellie Halvorsen married a Yankee by the name of Chase. They had four children (Eli, Charles, Oscar, and Helena). Ole Halvorsen married and lived in Port Huron. They had no children.

From Canada the others moved to Port Washington, Wisconsin and to a little place called Port Ulio. There Ellen's mother died and was buried, but they can't find the place any more. In Port Ulio Kirsten married Soren Anderson. They had three children but only one, Mary Jane, lived and was later Mrs. Krietzer.

Elias Halvorsen bought a farm in Manitowoc, married Andrea and they had five children (Alfin, Tillie, Mary, Melvin, and Lizzie) Jens Halvorsen bought a farm in Star Prairie, Minnesota, married and had a big family. Elias Halvorsen's son Alfin married Jens Halvorsen's daughter and they had one dozen children who are living around there in Minnesota.

Tallak and Ellen Haines moved on to Green Bay, lived there for awhile, and then moved to Sugar creek. There Oscar was born in 1860, and Martha Eliza in 1862. So then they had Oliver, Telif, Melvin, Mary, Eli, Christine, Oscar, and Martha Eliza or Lizzie. From there Oliver went into the Army (Civil war) and died of some sickness after six months. His father, Tallak, felt so bad about that death that he did not want to live in Sugar creek any more so they moved on to Sturgeon Bay. They lived there for awhile; then Tallak bought the point which is now Idlewild.

They lived there at the time of the big fire of 1871. Elias Halvorsen, from Manitowoc, was there for a visit at the time, and he had a big boat out on Green Bay so they all went out on that when they heard the fire howling through the woods. The wind turned when the fire was about 100 feet from the house so that was spared and is Idlewild Inn.

Between 1871-1881 the Tallak Haines family cleared a lot of land in what they called "The Swamp". This area is now named Hainesville.

In 1881, Tallak, his daughter Mary, and her husband Knut Knutson went back to Norway to see

how Hellene was getting along. She had not heard a word from them in all those years (35) because no one of them could write. Hellene by this time was married to Amund Rogen and had four children (Christian, Karine, Halvor, and Elias).

That was a great day, the day Uncle Tallak came to see us in Norway. I, Karine, remember it well as I was 15 years old then. Mother did not know him and he would not tell us who he was. His sister's daughter was at our place visiting just at the time, too. We were afraid of him until he told us that he was Tallak Haines from Amerika. Was it ever wonderful when the questioning began! When Cousin Mary came, there was still more questioning.

After visiting with us, Tallak went over to visit Edwin Grasymer's grandmother. She knew him. Tallak had worked there before he went to Amerika.

When Uncle Tallak, and Mary and Knut went back to "North Amerika" my brother Christian went with them. After that we sure got the fever, too. That next year Aunt Ellen Haines died so the next winter Uncle Tallak came back to Norway and stayed over winter. So then my father bought a farm from him in

Hainesville, and we sold everything. We had a nice home there in Norway, too.

In the spring of 1882 we all left for Norway Amerika. There was plenty of sea sickness, too, when that big ocean liner rolled over the waves. But, when we got to the big square house in Hainesville, Mary and Lizzie had everything ready for us. Christian or Chris had rented the Idlewild farm so we moved into that clean little house there.

That summer mother's brothers and sisters came to see her. Aunt Nellie came from Canada, Aunt Kirsten and family from Port Ulio, Uncle Eli from Manitowoc, Uncle Jens from Star Prairie, Minnesota. I have always said it was the happiest time of our life. Mother asked so many questions about how they had been all that time, and they asked about Norway. I had no care. It was so much fun to see all those American cousins that I could not understand.

Oscar was the most interesting. He was sick that summer. I didn't know that this cousin would be my husband. Married now for 56 years (1888-1944).