

KU-EU-IT

(NORTHERN LIGHTS)

Winter Fun



by Jack Cassel

at

Jesse Lee Home

KU--EU--IT
(Northern Lights)
Written and Published by Children
of the Jesse Lee Home
Seward, Alaska

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THREE MONTHS "OUTSIDE"

It is fun to go on a vacation but it is fine to be back Home. Three months seem a long time when you look ahead, but it goes pretty fast while you are living it, and when you look back on it, it seems only a dream that has passed in the night. During our three months furlough we travelled some 16,000 miles through 22 States, the District of Columbia and Mexico. We saw mountains, deserts, wide plains, oil wells, farming communities, elevateds, subways, buildings over 100 stories high, beautiful conservatories of flowers and many, many other things. But nothing looked quite so good to us as the snow-covered Chugach Range of mountains when Chris landed us on the little old Seward Airport on our return.

We visited with our oldest son and his wife and four small children in San Diego. George works on the huge CONVAIRS which the Consolidated Aircraft make. We visited our daughter and her husband and their four children in Sioux City, Iowa. Her husband, a VET, was just finishing his College work to earn a degree in Public School Music. Then we went on to Iowa City and visited our other son, Bob, and his wife and two children. Bob is working hard to earn his Master's degree in Science. That makes ten grandchildren we had to interview, seven of whom we had not seen before.

After a preliminary "get acquainted" with the family we went on to attend a meeting at Buck Hill Falls in Pennsylvania where there were gathered some 500 Methodists from all over the world--China, India, Africa, Japan and Hawaii, as well as the United States. To meet and know such people is to come away greatly inspired to come home and try to do a little better job in our own small corner of the world.

Fortunately we carried with us a good collection of Kodachrome slides not only of Jesse Lee Home and the children but also of the Seward General Hospital, Seward Sanatorium and scenes from all over Alaska. We showed these pictures about 35 times and gave some 17 talks before audiences of from 50 to 200 people. We enjoyed the OHS! and AHS! when some of the pictures were shown and remarks, such as, "I didn't know it was like that in Alaska."

The pictures were a wonderful help in getting folks all over the country better acquainted with you boys and girls and they served to bring us all closer together. Many times we were asked by people if there were some way they could help us in our work at Jesse Lee Home.

It was a great experience, one which we will remember a long time. But the best part was to come home and see your happy, healthy faces. We could see the progress and improvement you had made while we were away. The burdens had been carried and problems solved for awhile by the rest of the Staff and all we could see was how smoothly things were running and what a good job they had done and how you young people had grown in many, many ways.

We want to thank the Staff again for "carrying on and to thank you boys and girls for doing your part in keeping things going at Jesse Lee Home.

--George and Marie Green.

LIFE AT JESSE LEE HOME

There is never a dull moment at Jesse Lee Home. Every day is filled with an assortment of activities. Besides the regular school work which is held at the Bay View Grade School and the Seward High School, the children are taught how to sew, cook, and keep house.

We have a Boy Scout and a Girl Scout Troop. We also have a Junior and Senior Choir with choir practice each Friday night. The boys are given practical lessons in farming and housework. The girls are taught how to make bread, pies and cake. Nine girls are taking piano lessons. They take their turns playing for morning devotions, which are held in our spacious dining room with its twenty-three long French windows looking out upon the most wonderful range of snow-covered mountains I have ever seen.

Sunday morning our older children are taken to the Methodist Church down town, a distance of about two miles. Our only means of transportation is by open truck. We hope some day to have our own Jesse Lee Home Bus. The younger children attend Sunday School in our own building. Sunday evenings we have a Junior and Senior Youth Fellowship conducted in our own chapel. All of these activities are supervised by members of the Staff with the exception of the Scout Leaders and piano teacher, who come from town.

Last but not least is our kindergarten, which was organized last September for our pre-school children. The kindergarten is filling a long-felt need. This group is made up of Russian, Indian, Aleut, Eskimo, White and other races. I wish our friends in the States could see their eager faces and outstretched hands as they salute the American flag. How they love to sing, "My country, 'tis of Thee, Sweet land of liberty!" One of their favorite songs is, "Jesus loves the little children All the children of the world, Red and yellow, black and white, They are precious in His sight."

And so the days come and go, every one of them filled with something worth while. "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, even the least, ye did it unto me."

--Isabel Fleming.

APPLE PROJECT

The children and staff of Jesse Lee Home have been enjoying fresh apples on the table in their dormitories since Christmas, due to the efforts of Miss Dotha S. Varker, Conference Secretary of the Wesleyan Service Guilds of the Pacific Northwest Conference, who sponsored the project. She said they could not have gotten them shipped without the aid of the Stubbs Fruit and Storage Company, who packed them and got them ready for shipping. Mr. and Mrs. Stubbs are active members of the Yakima, Washington Church. The apples were donated by the fruit growers of the Yakima Valley. When the children come home from school, the first thing they say is "Do we get apples today?" We wish to thank all who had a part in this project.

HONOR ROLL

HONORABLE MENTION

February 1949

All Pupils -- Co-operative

Neither absent nor tardy: Marie Devine, Thomas Devine, Jane Hawkins, Joe Kohler, Beatrice Havercamp, Leona Kohler, Lolita Havercamp, Alice James, Marie James, Bert Mayokok, Esther Kaloa

Best Conduct: Jane Hawkins, Joe Kohler, Louis Berntsen, Bert Mayokok, John Parks

HONOR ROLL

Grade 8

Esther Kaloa
John Parks

Grade 7

Beatrice Havercamp
Bernard Ivey
Leona Kohler

Grade 6

Walter Berntsen
Marie Devine
Jane Hawkins
Joe Kohler
Clarence Mahle
Rose Parks
(Gerald Ivey - conduct excepted)

(Not more than 2 Cs and above C in conduct)

Still the "Workingest Boy": Walter Berntsen

All pupils helped with decorations and valentines for Valentine Day.

Special help: Esther and Lolita made the valentine box.
Thomas put up decorations for Lincoln's and Washington's Birthdays.

All pupils made decorations for Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays.

Volunteered to take part on program: Lilly, Gerald, Lolita, Alice, Bernard, Walter, Nellie, Beatrice, Esther, Thomas, Marie James, Louise.

Especially courteous: Jane, Marie James, Clarence, Louis, Louise, Alice, Gerald, Bernard

Selecting songs and leading singing: Esther, Thomas

All boys and girls: Studious and quiet when left in room alone for short periods

--Katherine Nager
Principal
Bay View School

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Just lately we have changed our officers for the coming year. The officers are the following: President, Jack Cassel; Vice-President, Irene Ivey; Secretary, Bertha Berntsen; Treasurer, Tom Devine; Recreation Chairman, Buddy Ivey; Missionary and Worship Chairmen, Leona Kohler and John Parks.

This next year we plan to do a lot of interesting things in our Youth Fellowship. We are sending for some Y. F. equipment. We are going to save our collection and offerings to send one or more Jesse Lee students to Kings Lake Camp this summer. I was one of the lucky ones last year, and it really is something worth working for.

On Sunday, March 13th, the new officers were installed for the coming period of time. As a symbol of the President's office, Jack Cassel was given a gavel and Irene Ivey a share in it, as Vice-President. Each officer was given a symbol. Worship Chairman received a Bible; Secretary, a notebook; Recreation Chairman, a volley ball; and Treasurer, a dollar bill. Rev. Knight, District Supt. of Alaska, installed the officers and served communion to all present. It was a beautiful service, one that not many will forget.

--Irene Ivey.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PARTY

On March 13th we had our Sunday School party. We went down to the Methodist Church to meet Miss Spencer and the rest of the class at 2 o'clock.

After we went down, we decided to take a walk around town. First we went down to the hospital to see Miss Leichliter and a couple of the boys. Then we left there and went down near the dock and back up to the skating rink, where we watched the children skate. That was around 3:30, so we decided to have our party. The party was for Saint Patrick's Day. We had hot dogs, candy, salad, and tarts. It was very good.

Then we sang a few songs and played musical chairs, kick the tin can and other games. And shortly after Mr. Cassel came with the truck and took us home. We thank Miss Spencer and the committee for planning the party. We all had a good time.

--Lilly Pletnikoff.

THE GIRL SCOUT PARTY

Marie James, Beatrice Havercamp, and Esther Kaloa planned a party for part of their Hostess Badge in Girl Scouts. We had chocolate cake, jello with whipped cream and hot cocoa. We invited the big boys.

First, we gave each person a card shaped like a Girl Scout Pin with things to do on the back, which were made by the ones who planned the party. Each person did what he or she was told to do. The best ones got prizes. There were first, second, third, and fourth prizes. There were other games, then we danced until it was time for refreshments.

After we had our refreshments the boys and girls went to their homes. They thanked us for the good party we had. We also thanked our cook, Mrs. Olga Johnson, for the refreshments which she made for us.

--Esther Kaloa.

THE CARNIVAL

Some of us kids went to the Gymnasium at the Seward Territorial School to enjoy the Carnival. Some of us from here helped in the booths. They had many stands, such as Crown and King Game, Penny Toss, Mammy Grab Bag, Bean Toss, Sponge Toss, Guess What's in the Cake, Guess How many Beans in a Jar, Fights, and Bingo. The refreshments were hot dogs and buns, coffee, and soda pop. There were a lot of people there and most everybody enjoyed it. There were very many gifts as kitchen things, panda bears, dolls, and a set of dishes. We all came home after a nice evening of fun, bringing a box of candy and many other nice gifts.

--Bertha Berntsen.

MOVIES

We have seen quite a few nice shows here at Jesse Lee. The names of some of them are: "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Stanley and Livingston in Africa," "How Green Was My Valley," "The Five Sullivans," "Kidnapped," "Desert Symphony," "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm," "Heidi," and a couple of other ones. The movies are shown in the auditorium.

One night Rev. Knight showed us "Desert Symphony." It was a nice colorful picture. It showed scenes of a worship service in the desert.

--Leona Kohler.

GIRL SCOUTS

In Girl Scouts Miss Lechlitter had us work on our badges. Some of them are: Reader's Badge, Painting Badge, Hostess Badge, Health Badge, Dramatic Badge, and others. Last night the girls worked on the Dramatic Badge. The Brownie Scouts put on a very nice play about a girl who was stealing. At the end she becomes a Girl Scout.

Irene Ivey, Bertha and Lolita put on a concert behind a sheet. We turned out the lights and shined a flashlight on the sheet, which showed their shadow. Esther asked Marie Devine, Louise Berntsen, and me if we would help her act out the song, "Shortnin' Bread." Marie and Louise wore baby bonnets (to be the two little darkies) and also had their dollies. They sat on a blanket. Esther (the Mammy) wore a red turban around her head, a blue polka dot skirt stuffed with padding and a lot of lipstick. Alice (the doctor) wore a pair of thick-rimmed glasses, a false mustache, Mr. Perry's old hat and a jacket. Boy what a day! We sure had fun. And if I may add a word of praise, Rose Parks is my choice for acting. She kept the Troop laughing nearly all the time in the play.

--Alice James.

VALENTINE DAY

On Valentine's Day in school the children said some poems. Then we sang songs and passed out the Valentines and sang some more songs. Miss Rager gave the children a bag of candy, and we went home at 2:30.

--Jane Hawkins.

Herbert: Miss 'Gee will you fix this 'spender, please?
It just doesn't want to bit anything!

SPORTS



FUR RENDEZVOUS BASKETBALL TOURNEY

We left Seward February 22nd on our way to the Basketball Tourney at Anchorage. Talk about a ride on the train, it was worse than going on a boat. As soon as we got up there we watched the girls in their Gym classes. Then we found where we were to stay. There were eight teams up there, Kodiak, Palmer, Fairbanks, Nome, Anchorage, Wasilla, Cordova, and Seward.

Our first game was with Fairbanks. We barely beat them by five points. Our next game was with Anchorage, and they really had a hot team that night because they beat us by 25 points, and that was sure a setback for us. And then our next game was with Palmer, and we really had to fight to win that game. If we had lost that game, it meant we would have come in third or fourth place. They were ahead through the whole game until the last three minutes, then we started to hit and we beat them by four points.

Then came our chance to play Anchorage again, and I'm telling you we really gave them a scare and the people their money's worth. After the first quarter we were ahead 13 to 7; then they got ahead 23 to 17 at the half; then it was 27 up at the third quarter. It finally came out 39 to 34, with them winning.

The next day we asked them to play us for Railbelt Championship and they didn't want to. I guess they were kind of scared. The League was split up into two groups--the A and B League. Kodiak got the championship for B League and Anchorage for A League.

Next year we plan to come in first place. In 1947, we came in fourth; in 1948, in third; and in 1949, we came in second; so in 1950, it will be our turn to come in first. We are getting up there slowly but surely.

--Dick Deigh.

OUR HIKE

Irene, Rose and Kathryn took the middle-sized girls for a walk on Sunday afternoon. We started to the waterfall, but the snow was too deep, so we came back home. We asked if we could go to the beach. Miss Case told us that we could go anywhere we wanted to. So we went down to the beach. We went far out because the tide was low.

On our way back Gladys and Amelia got stuck in the mud. We had a hard time pulling them out. First we got Amelia out. Then we had to get Gladys out. She was in so far her boot was almost covered, but we got her stocking foot out first. Then we got her boot out. Then Amelia sank in the snow and her boot came off, and she walked in the snow in her stocking foot. When we all got home we had to change some of our wet clothing. Some of the girls got shells from the beach, too.

--Anna Jensen.