

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL RANUM PICNIC.

The fourteenth Annual Ranum Picnic was held in Oschner Park, Baraboo, Wis., on Sunday, June 20, 1948.

The grounds were quite ideal. There was a speakers platform, with a roof. Directly in front of this, were placed the picnic tables and park benches. Milton Ranum put his public address system into operation early that morning. So, we were all set for a Big Day. And, we surely did have it. It was the huge success of our gang that caused the other groups of picnickers in the park to Stop, Look and Listen.

The people had been told that the dinner bell would ring promptly at 12 o'clock, noon. But it failed to ring. We were there, the tables were loaded with food, and every one was nearly starved. But the Master of Ceremonies was no where to be found. It was nearly one o'clock when he finally showed up with the coffee. No questions were asked until we got through eating. It was then that Milton told us of his delay. The coffee was made at his home. When he went home to get it, something went wrong with his car. Ralph Lewis offered to take his car to go over to get it. While en route, his car got a flat tire. So, that is why we ate at one o'clock instead of noon sharp. But, that was quickly forgotten. We probably ate just a bit more, as a result.

Mrs. Carl Ranum read a few words of scripture, and lead the group in prayer.

Carl Ranum gave a short talk,. He told about his early life. He told us that he was going to write a book, and that all present would get a copy, Free.

The Secretary was asked to give a short talk. He was not prepared, but he complied with the request. However, he felt that could probably do a better job if he, too, could write it all in a book.

Edward N. Ranum and his wife Gertrude had just returned from a trip to the country of her ancestors, Switzerland. They, also, traveled through through the war torn section of Germany, while en route to the country of his ancestors, Norway. Little did we ever dream that any of our group would ever visit the homeland of our Grandfather, Nils K. Ranum. It was he who came from Norway, to the United States of America, with his bride. It was their honeymoon, and once here, they made it their home for the rest of their natural life. Ed. and Gertie told us about some of their experiences, while abroad. To us, it was very interesting. Ed said that the next time he goes to Norway, he is going to brush up on speaking the Norwegian language, before he starts. (I might say, now, the next time he goes, there a lot of the rest of us who would like to go along. If, only we could.)

Mrs. Daryl Wingett (formerly Ardythe Ranum, daughter of Ben J. and Anna Ranum), gave a very descriptive talk about Egypt and Palestine. She and her husband had spent nearly a year in Egypt. Daryl was employed by an American Aviation Co.

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Ardythe proved to be a very able speaker. Her subject was intensely interesting. As said before, all ears throughout the Park were listening. (Thanks to the public address system).

At the business meeting, Milton Ranum decline to act as our President for the second term. (He is very capable. We would have liked for him to serve.)

A vote was taken. Mrs. George (Hazel) Newton was elected to succeed Milton. Her brother, Norman Hilden was elected to serve as Vice President. The Secretary & Treasurer was not voted upon. It seems to have become a "for granted proposition".

Edward Ranum, very generously, offered to provide the meeting place for the 1949 gathering. It was unanimously approved. We had been waiting for this offer. It gives us an opportunity to "meet and eat" on the Old Homestead of Grandfather Nils K. Ranum.

Nine Hundred miles of traveling, to attend a picnic, is quite a record. It takes more than a cup of coffee and a ham sandwich to cause people to travel such ~~big~~ distances. Mr. & Mrs. Claire Ranum and Mr. & Mrs. Daryl Wingett came by car from Kansas City, Mo. They reported that they drove all night, Friday night, and arrived in the farmyard of their uncle, Carl Thompson, about day break, Saturday morning. The return trip was made on Monday.

Peter Ranum came up from Elden, Missouri, again. Peter enjoys these gatherings. We are happy that he can be with us. He spent several weeks in visiting with his brothers and sisters, also with his son Vivian and family, who live on a farm near Mineral Point, Wis.

Others who traveled from outside of the state were; Mrs. & Mrs. Gilbert Goodnight & Son from Buffalo Center, Iowa. Mrs. & Mrs. Ray D. Ranum & Sen Marlo, from Minneapolis, Minn.

When they were living, O. K., and his brother, ~~and~~ Andrew would often talk of their cousin, out in Iowa. It seems that her name ~~was~~ was Lowe. She is no longer living. But she has sons and daughters who are living. After having received several notices of the Ranum Picnic, they became interested. This year, they decided to attend the Picnic and to get acquainted with some of their "Cousins". We were happy to have them with us. They are;

Ernest Loe of Royal, Iowa
Edwin Loe of Rockford, Ill.
Alma Loe of Linn Grove Iowa. (Her mother, Mary Loe, lived here)
Mr. & Mrs James Houghton of Rockford, Ill.

Mary

It was a beautiful day for a picnic. In fact, it was quite ideal, until about 5 p.m., when a few drops of rain began to fall. By 5:30 we were getting a very gentle little rain. No one seemed anxious to go home. But, gradually, car by car drove away, and we all went to our homes, or to the homes of the relatives we planned to visit.

Ray D. Ranum, Secretary.

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The following persons were in attendance;

Mr. & Mrs. Ray D. Ranum & Marlo
Mrs. Sherman Ranum
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Faris & Lowell, LaVerne, Donna Mae
Mrs. Gena Swenson
Mrs. Marbha Hilden
Mr. & Mrs. Donald C. Berray)
Connie Lynn Berray)
~~Deloris & Virginia Lee, Gregory~~
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Hilden & Deloris, Virginia Lee, Gregory
Mr. & Mrs. Norman W. Plath & Beverly Lou
Mr. & Mrs Alvin G. Ranum
Gilbert M. Ranum
Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Knutson
Mr. & Mrs. Sherman Knutson & Della Jeanne
Mr. & Mrs. George Booth
Mrs. Marvin Ellis
Carl Thompson
Mr. & Mrs. Claire J. Ranum
Peter Ranum
Mr. & Mrs. Murel Munson & Roger E.
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence N. Munson
Mr. & Mrs Herbert Goldman
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Cook
Myron & Jeanette Neckar
Mr. & Mrs. M. A. Tollund & Marilyn, Robert
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Lewis & Daniel
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Ranum & John, Joan , Ruth x))
John Zurfluh)
Mrs. Maurice Ranum & Jean, Joyce
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Ranum
Mr. & Mrs. Erhardt Schmitgall & two children
Mrs. Alfred Johnson & Alice Ann
Mrs. George Newton
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Cook
Mr. & Mrs Daryl Winget
Mrs G. W. Goodnight
Ernest Lee
Edwin Lee
Alma Lee
Mr. & Mrs. James Houghton
Joe Torgeson Jr.

82 persons present

(there seems to be several who did not ~~put~~
turn in a slip of paper with their
name written thereon.)