

35th Re-union Picnic

The thirty-fifth Annual Re-union of Relatives (Ranums and those who are related thereto) was held in Brigham Park, near Blue Mounds Wis., on the fourth Sunday in June (June 23 1969).

Attached is a newspaper clipping which tells about the weather conditions which prevailed throughout the entire area for the month of June and the first part of the month of July.

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More briefly, the weather could be described as being NOT particularly conducive to the holding of picnics for that entire period of time.

The coolness and dampness (plus the wind) was quite a contrast to the previous year in which it was hot.

In spite of the un-favorable conditions, seventy two persons were in attendance.

Mr. & Mrs. Herman Deden drove the 250 miles from their home in Fairfield Iowa in order to be present. And, this was the first time in which they had attended these re-unions. From the embrace given to his cousin Constance Houghton, one would judge that the trip had been well worth while.

George Newton Jr. and family of Grand Forks N. D. were present. They had been on a business-pleasure trip to Chicago. And, now, they were on their way back to their home in Grand Forks. They camped in their trailer during their entire trip.

The Registrar reported the deaths, births and marriages that had been turned in to her.

During the earlier part of the year 1969, we were saddened by the un-expected death of our Cousin Edward Nels Ranum. He was the owner and operator of the Ranum Bee Farm. The cause of death was a heart attack which followed a bout with the flu. The heart attack came without warning of any kind.

Later, in the same year, we were saddened by the death of Mrs. Elaine Berray. She was the daughter of the late Norman Hilden. The cause of death was the collision of automobiles. And, so, this was sudden and, of course, un-expected, too. She was 42 years of age. Five children and her husband Donald mourn her passing.

Paul Ranum (son of Ben Ranum) brought the record in which he is the soloist. It is a record of religious songs. He, also, brought a record player, and favored us with some of his music. These records have been used by twenty some odd radio stations and two television stations. They are available to those who desire to purchase same. We highly recommend such purchase. And, we observed that some of the relatives did make purchases that day.

The manuscript entitled "Our Heritage" had been completed and printed just in time for the re-union. A number of copies were available for distribution. Each recipient was asked to become a contributor to the costs of same. Persons who made a contribution, also, made a record of their own contribution. Cousin Nora (Ranum) Olson had charge of accepting the contributions and of distributing copies of the manuscript.

Speaking for her son Mark, her daughter Joan, her son-in-law Roger Lloyd, and herself, Mrs. Gertie Ranum extended the invitation to hold the re-union in 1970 in Mt. Horeb.

The invitation was accepted.

Ray D. Ranum

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