

Biography of Betuel Herigstad
--Myrtle Stokka

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Descendents of the pioneer are:

Karen Westley
831 College Avenue
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Bard Herigstad
Pendant D. Orielle
Alberta, Canada

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Descendents of pioneer (Cont.):

Omon Herigstad
Minot, North Dakota

Inga Herigstad
Conrad Herigstad
Emil Herigstad
Henry Herigstad
Lydia Herigstad
Sylvia Herigstad

The six last ones have the address of Cooperstown,
North Dakota.

Irene Westley
Arla Westley
Cyrus Westley
Roy Westley
John Westley
Ella Westley
Ruby Westley
Howard Westley
Ira Westley
Robert Westley
Esther Westley

The eleven last ones have the address of 831 College
Avenue, Wheaton, Illinois.

Jean Herigstad
Roger Herigstad
Eldine Herigstad

The three last ones have the address of Minot, North
Dakota

Dorothy Herigstad
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Below is a Letter 1881

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"On the whole, however, I can say that I am getting along fairly well. I hope that through others of my letters you have heard of my work here in building my cellar house, of the oxen, and the location of the settlement. And lastly let me say, God be praised, I have been feeling well up to the present. In eight days I expect my family to arrive; I have had to be without their company the whole summer and it has been lonely at times."

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1881-2

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"From a pioneer in Dakota"

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Betuel Herigstad (continued) #3

arrive. I have had to be without their company the whole summer and it has been lonely at times.

I am not certain whether you are one of those who asked for advice concerning America. On the whole it seems to be a good deal easier to make a living, but there are many hardships connected with the life of a pioneer, especially at first. I should like to see you and others come over, yet consider the matter twice before you leave the Fatherland and the place where your cradle stood. It is not a small matter.

Dear brother E.:

I have just received your letter. Thanks. Nothing gives me greater joy than to receive letters from friends and brothers in the dear Fatherland. It warms the heart to realize that we are remembered by you. God bless you all. We are still getting along well. We do, however, wish that the winter was past. We are a little fearful of the cold and there is but little money among us with which to purchase the needed provisions for the winter, as during the winter months it will be rather risky to undertake with oxen the long journey over the prairies of thirty miles to the nearest market. We are praying for a mild winter in our log and sod cabins, where some of us will have to put up with the bare earth as walls and floors. A pioneer's life had many trials and difficulties which are not so easily overcome. If these were better known in the dear old Norway, it would probably act as a damper on the craze for America. We have no crop this fall, as we came here so late this spring, but must buy all our provisions until next fall, so it will be rather difficult to get through this first year.

From a pioneer in Dakota.

--Myrtle Stokka