

Mrs. Beelaert Is 79 Saturday; Life Hard But Good She Says

Mrs. Alfons Beelaert, who will be 79 Saturday, has had many experiences in her life, but perhaps the strangest is the offer to trade a child for a farm.

It occurred during the terrible thirties when the Beelaerts had lost their farm three times that their banker, Joe Fisher, offered them the farm for their daughter, Agatha.

Alfons, unhesitatingly, replied, "No, Mr. Fisher. You keep your land and I'll keep my kids."

A half century ago on March 12, 1910, a husband and wife and their three children booked passage on the good ship Laplander, and sailed from Antwerp, Belgium to New York City.

They were leaving relatives and living conditions behind they understood in search of a good life in America where everything was new and strange.

That little family consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Alfons M. Beelaert, their son, Gus, and their daughters, Jennie and Chris. Gus has an indistinct memory of the port holes on the ship—nothing more.

Immediately upon leaving port Mrs. Beelaert became a victim

ber of her family to interpret for her.

The children say that their mother was plagued with a fear of storms, carried over from her childhood, which she was never able to conquer. Whenever a storm threatened, she insisted that each child come downstairs where they slept on the floor until the storm passed. Mrs. Beelaert piously invoked the protection of her patron saints for herself and her family during the storm.

So deep in sleep were they that they scarcely noticed the change in beds and were often unminutal of their mother's prayer ritual. The dedication of a loving mother's faith in the religion of her choice is an influence recognized and evaluated at face value only as her off spring grow up and realize their own responsibility to make a like impression on their own family in their growing-up years.

Sometimes the children felt that their parents were rather hard on them and that they had few pleasures to balance their long days of hard work.

Faced now with the responsibility of raising their own families, with all of the modern conveniences (plus the modern distractions) of the present day, they marvel at their parents' ability to feed, clothe and educate and exact old-country obedience from their five sons and five daughters.

No doctor was ever called to that early Beelaert home. Sweet lard, hot salt water and turpentine were the mother's allies in keeping her family healthy. No calorie count was ever kept on the amount of food they devoured and miracle drugs, vitamins and spots were non-existent.

As a girl Mrs. Beelaert learned to make the lace for which Belgium is famous. For 31 years, while her family was growing up, she did not use the art but reserved her knowledge of the handicraft in her retirement and has reverted to the skill of her girlhood for both pleasure and profit.

Mrs. Beelaert and her good friend and former neighbor, Mrs. Lena Kirschner, now of Pilger, team their talents to make pin money from the sale of the Belgian lace motifs inserted into handkerchieves and household linens.

It requires about a week of spare time to make the inserts for a pair of pillow slips. She makes her own patterns, carefully protecting her work from soil as she fills in the intricate stitches, strengthening the spider foundation from which the pattern is developed. Up to date none of her daughters have learned the trade of a Belgian lace maker.

For the most part Mr. and Mrs. Beelaert accepted the customs of the new country but one holiday, the Katampus holiday, comparable to our Fourth of July, celebrated the last Sunday in September is still kept by the family.

A few cooking tricks are favorites, even for the third generation. One is stump-cabbage, spinach, lamb's quarter or dandelion greens cooked with potatoes and mashed together in time honored fashion.

A pudding baked of a mixture of eggs, milk, sugar, ground coffee, orange rind and ginger snaps is a holiday treat Mrs. Beelaert makes at Christmas time by the ovenful.

Mr. Beelaert died in January, 1932, and since that time his wife has lived alone. She has had a number of sick spells but when she has been seriously ill the absent members of her family come and keep sick vigil with her.

Such is the power that the miracle of faith and affection of a devoted family can wield over critical illness, adding to the ministrations of professional medical and surgical specialists who have the new and all powerful drugs at their command. Her great need for the children and the life-prolonging courage and desire to live that they are able to inspire in her have pulled her through many touch-and-go situations when the life-balance could swing either way.

Besides being the sailing date, March 12 is also Mrs. Beelaert's birthday. She was 29 years old the day they set sail for America. She still has a 92 year old sister, Matilda Coppeters, back in the old country.

Mrs. Beelaert was born Marie Coppeters at Belaer, Belgium in 1881. Her father was a butcher by trade. She attended school there, acquiring what would be equal to an eighth grade education. Boys and girls attended separate schools that are comparable to convents here.

She was married to Alfons M. Beelaert Jan. 2, 1904. Twelve children were born to them, nine of whom are living. They are: Gus of Spokane, Wash; Mrs. Frank (Jennie) Bohn of Ewing; Mrs. Walt (Chris) Christon of Rockford, Ill.; Evo of Pith, Idaho; Marie Page; Mrs. Gordon (Marie) Harper of Chicago, Ill.; Alfons M. Jr. of Orchard; Mrs. D.D. Agatha Courtwright of Los Angeles, Calif. and Joseph H. of Page.

An oddity occurs in the Beelaert family identifying each son with his number of children according to age. The oldest, Gus, has one child, Evo has two, Frank has three, A.M. has four and Joseph H. has five.

Mr. Beelaert returned to Belgium for a three month visit one summer, leaving his wife and family to carry on. Mrs. Beelaert has never made that trip.

Three sons and three sons-in-law served in the armed forces. During that time Mrs. Beelaert learned to read and write the American language, scoring assistance in reading or answering the letters from her boys.

Mrs. Beelaert writes as she speaks, a mixture of words from her two countries, America and Belgium, introducing the brevity of speech in a vernacular peculiar to the foreign born. When excited she breaks out into a torrent of pure Belgian and when possible she depends on a me-

Warranty Deeds

WD- Ralph B. Dailey to John G. and Harry Peter 1-31-55 \$19,200. N $\frac{1}{2}$ 15-27-12.

WD- Ernest M. Lieb to First Nat. Bk-Atkinson 10-15-59 \$633. Lots 3 and 4 Bk 2-Balons Add-Atkinson.

WD- Marie A. Young to Carroll

Olson, et al., 12-16-59 \$10,000 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 30-31-14.

WD- Lorne E. Hickok to Frank Siebender and wf 2-29-60 \$12,800. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 35-30-13.

WD- Vincent Olson to Curry Ranch Inc. 3-2-59 \$20,800-SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 21 and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 28-31-14.

WD- Mary Hanley to Lowell Clouse 3-1-60 \$24,600-SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 2- and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 11-29-12.

WD- Walter P. Elley to Robert

Harold Vrooman 3-2-60 \$9,000-NE $\frac{1}{4}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 5- N $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec 4- W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 4-26-16.

WD- Josephine Bruder to Raymond Wagman 11-17-58 \$8,000-NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 23-30-13.

WD- Joe M. Shonka to Ralph Garwood 2-19-60 \$42,800- All Sec. 1- NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 10-25-13 and Lots 1 and 2 of Sec. 6-25-12 and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 25-26-13.

WD- Claude I. Miller to Vincent and Lucille Olson 8-7-59 \$20,800.

NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 17- SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 9-31-14.

The U. S. Army Engineer District, Omaha, will have vacancies for Power Plant Operators within the next few months. Salaries range from \$2.21 per hour to \$2.70 per hour. Most of the vacancies will be in the state of South Dakota; however, other vacancies may occur in Iowa, Nebraska, North

Dakota, and Montana.

A Civil Service examination has been announced for these positions, and interested person may get complete information and necessary application forms at their local postoffice, or from the Executive Secretary, Board of Civil Service Examiners, U. S. Army Engineer District, 420 South 18th Street, Omaha, Nebraska. There is no closing date for the acceptance of applications.

Cheese Festival

PRICES EFFECTIVE TO SATURDAY MARCH 12
PLENTY OF PARKING THE FRIENDLIEST STORE IN TOWN

VELVEETA
MULTIPLYED PROCESS CHEESE SPREAD

2 Lb. Box
69¢

READY TO USE...
for COOKING - SALADS - DESSERTS

KRAFT Miniature Marshmallows
1 1/2 Oz. Bag
Recipes on bag 15c

VAN CAMPS
PORK And BEANS 2 1/2 Cans **2/49¢**

ALL FLAVORS
JELLO 12 Pkg. **\$1**

FREE! FREE! 300 lb. Mammoth Kraft Cheddar Cheese on Display Now.

Your Chunk of Kraft Cheddar Cheese FREE If You Guess Within a Half Ounce of The Correct Weight. Piece Must Be At Least One Pound or More.

ALSO... FREE SAMPLES OF KRAFT CHEDDAR CHEESE AND NABISCO CRACKERS ALL DAY THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

AUNT JANE'S PICKLES 26 oz. jar 29c | OYSTER SHELL 50 lb.75c | WHITE BLOCK SALT 50 lb.75c

A PARTY SUGGESTION -

American-Brick DELUXE SLICES 8 oz. pk 29c
Stick CRACKER BARREL 10 oz. pkg 49c
Wedge CRACKER BARREL 8 oz. pkg 37c
Blue-Dill CHEESE DIPS 6 oz. pkg39c
Onion SNACK LINKS 6 oz. pkg 29c

KRAFT CHEDDAR CHEESE LB. **69**

NABISCO 2 Lb. Box **49¢**
CRACKERS 1 Lb. Box **27¢**



MRS. ALFONS BEELAERT

of an ailment most common to sea-faring folk - sea sickness - and her husband had to be responsible for the care of the children throughout the entire trip.

They first sighted the Goddess of Liberty at the entrance to New York harbor on March 27, fifteen days after the sailing date. Clearing the customs was a comparatively simple matter as they had but one trunk and a box as baggage and less than \$50 with which to begin life anew.

Mr. Beelaert had a brother, Eploit, living southwest of Ewing in Nebraska and a farm awaited there. Mr. Beelaert had been employed as a common laborer in Belgium and a quick adjustment had to be made. With unerring instinct, a sort of sixth sense that the foreign-born seem to have, they seemed to understand the weather and the soil that governed their farming operations and this placed them among the better, prosperous farmers in their neighborhood.

This farm was home to them until 1922 when they purchased the farm known as the Beelaert home place and which is at the northwest convergence of the four farms five miles north of Ewing and known as the junction on highway No. 20.

Raising a family of ten children in the face of drought conditions and bank failures that prevailed in the 20's and the "dirty thirties" teaching them to be frugal, hard working, honest and dependable, must have posed rather an insurmountable problem.

During that time they lost their farm three times, each time at a discount. On one such occasion their banker, Joe Fisher, offered to give title to the land if Mr. Beelaert would give him their baby daughter, the fair Agatha, in exchange. Characteristic of a parent Mr. Beelaert unhesitatingly replied, "No, Mr. Fisher you keep your land and I'll keep my kids."

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Dorsey News

Mrs. Harold Osborn

The Dorsey Aid society met Wednesday at the Guy Pinkerman home.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Derickson and family were Sunday dinner guests at the John Derickson home.

Miss Evelyn Barta spent Saturday with Jo Anne Alm.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Gihlar were Verdigre visitors Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Gihlar spent March in Verdigre visiting at the Frank Marshall home.

Gordon Barta and Wilbur Mitchell furnished the music Saturday night at Verdigre for the dance.

George Kubic, who spent several days with his sister, Mrs. Mary Dryak of Niobrara after leaving the Lynch hospital, is now at his home.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Graham and Leslie attended the dance in Verdigre Saturday night.

Harold Dale Christensen was calling on folks in this community Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Osborn were coffee guests at the Bus Green home, also visited with Mrs. Alvie Knapp. She is at her daughter's home visiting.

She has spent the past few months in a rest home in Niobrara.

Bill Alm was a business caller at the Osborn home Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Ruzicka visited at the Joe Pavlik home Sunday evening.

Otto Ruzicka was called to the Ed Tusha's home to help with the work.

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MEADOW GOLD
COTTAGE CHEESE
12-oz. Pk. 19c 2-lb. Pk. 47c

WILSONS
BIF 12-oz. can 43c

All Varieties
5 Oz. Jar
4 99

BRACH-All Varieties
CANDY Pk. 29c

GOLDEN DEW OLEO
6 Lbs. **\$1 00**

BARBETS
CLEANSER ... Per Can 10c

DEL MONTE STEWED
TOMATOES 2 303 Cans 49c

CREATED BY
KRAFT
Miracle Whip
Salad Dressing

QUART JAR
49¢

VITA PACKED
HERRING 2 1/2 lb. jar \$1.98

H & G FROZEN
BASS lb. 25c

FILLET OF OCEAN
PERCH lb. 29c

SWANSON'S T-V
DINNERS each 59c

FRESH ROASTED
PEANUTS 4 lbs. \$1.00

GOOD BRAND
GR. BEANS 8 303 cans \$1.00

BUY ONE AND GET ONE FREE

Buy 1 Pkg Bakers
Caramel Chips For 27c

Get 1 Pkg Bakers
Lemon Chips FREE

2 3 oz. pkg
25¢

SPRY 3 Lb. Can **59**

Prime **MEATS**

SWEET RASHER SLICED
BACON 3 Lbs. **1 00**

FRESH MEAT | LEAN | BEEF PATTY
SPARE RIBS Lb.39c | **PORK STEAK** Lb.39c | **STEAKS** Each19c

SWIFTS
WIENERS
3 Lbs. **1 00**

SWIFTS | BEEF PATTY
BRAUNSWEIGER Lb.49c | **BOIL BEEF** Lb.19c

FRESH CRISP
CARROTS Bunch 5c

WE GIVE T-V STAMPS

THE NEW **OUTLAW**

HYDROX COOKIES.....2 1-lb pkgs 89c | STALEY'S WAFFLE SYRUP Gallon Can \$1.29

Quick SCHOOL-TIME LUNCH!

Build it around
KRAFT DINNER
Cooks in 7 minutes

2 8 oz. Pkgs.
35¢

NEBRASKA RED
SPUDS
100 Lb. Sack **2.49**