

November 20, 2006

Hi Walter:

I came across an internet site that had passenger lists on-line. (I wish that it would have been available when I was writing the Tastad story)

Sam Tastad:(Travelling as Samuel N Johannesen)

He first arrived in New York harbour on April 4, 1907, on the ship named Hellig Olav. He sailed out of Christianson, Norway on March 23, 1907, for a 12 day journey. Sam is 19 years old.

Sam declares that he is a farm laborer, last living in Hetland Norway and destined for Pierpont, SD. He declares that he has \$10 cash with him and he is going to join his brother Gustav Tastad in Pierpont. He has a paid ticket to get from New York to Pierpont. Sam declares that he is 5 foot 8 1/2" and that he has a scar on his left forefinger and right middle finger (I think) and 3 spots on left hand. He says he was born at Tastad, Norway. He also declares he is not a polygamist, insane, an anarchist, been in prison or crippled! I did not find any other travelling companions from Stavanger, or anyone else going to Pierpont with Sam.

The ship carried as many as 1500 passengers.

Lauritz Tastad: (Travelling as Tastad Laurits Pedersen)

He first arrived in New York harbour on July 19th, 1906 on the ship named Teutonic. He sailed out of Liverpool England on July 11, 1906 for an eight day journey. Lauritz is 15 years old.

Lauritz declares that he is a laborer, last living in Stavanger, Norway. He declares that his passage was paid by his brother and that he has \$10 with him and he is going to join his friend Gunder Odlund and his two brothers in Pierpont, SD. He has a paid ticket to get from New York to Pierpont. There is no physical description of Lauritz, only that he is in good health. He is travelling with Gunder O Aadland, age 53, who is an American citizen, (suggesting that he was returning from a visit to Norway) going to Pierpont as well. Also going to Pierpont is Tobias Ludvig Langager, age 18. Tobias calls himself a "Smith" and Gunder is a Farmer. Gunder is returning home with more than \$50, while Tobias is connecting with _____.

Lovise Johannesen: (Travelling as Louise Pederseon)

John Tastad: (Travelling as Johan M. Pedersen)

They arrived in New York harbour on March 26th, 1900 on the ship named Belgenland. They sailed out of Liverpool on March 14th, 1900 for a 12 day journey. Louise is 18 years old and John is 23 years old.

John declares that he is a farmer, and Louise is a domestic. Both claim Stavanger as their last residence, and both are headed for Langford, SD. They both say that they have paid for tickets to Langford and that their brother(s) have paid for their passage to the U.S. They claim to have 40 kroner (crossed out and replaced with \$10) with them, and they are off to meet their brother, Gustav Pedersen (Tastad) at Langford, SD. There are no physical descriptions of these two travellers.

They are travelling with Olaf W. Tastad, age 23, farmer from Stavanger, headed to Langford and Gustav Pedersen as well. It looks like he refers to Gustav as "friend". On the same ship, is Lars L. Overvaas, 24 years, heading to Pierpont, Langford SD to see his brother Knud.

Gustav Tastad: (Travelling as Gustav Johansson)

Gustav arrived in Philadelphia on June 29th, 1896, on the ship called Rhymland. He sailed out of Liverpool on the 17th of June, 1896, for a 12 day journey. Gustav is 17 years old.

Gustav declares that he is a farmer and that Stavanger Norway was his last residence. He is headed for Langford, SD. He claims to have paid the passage himself and carries 25 kroner. He has a paid ticket to Langford, SD. I am not able to make out if Gustav has anyone at his destination in Langford. Perhaps it is not important, as Gustav is travelling with his uncle, Ludvig Aadland, age 27, who is returning a second time to Langford. (Did Ludvig have a father named Gunnar __?) Health is good for both men, and no other travellers appear connected to them.

Gustav Tastad: (Travelling as Gustaf Tastad)

Gustav Tastad returned to Norway after his father died, in 1904. He returned to the United States on the 19th of August, 1905 via Boston harbour on a ship called the Arabic. The ship left Liverpool on August 11th, for an 8 day journey. Information is now brief, as Gustav is a U.S. citizen. Interestingly, the ship Arabic, was torpedoed by German submarine U-24 off the coast of Ireland in 1915. 44 lives were lost.

Tollef Helgesen: (Father of Hannah Tastad nee Syhre)

Tollef (age 31) and his wife Lovise (age 27) travelled with their two children, Lisa (4 1/2) and Pauline (3) from their home in Karmoy to America. They came on the ship "State of Alabama" starting out from Glasgow and ending up in New York, on June 1, 1885. (Some discrepancy here, ship log suggests July 6th, 1885)

Tolleff declares that he is a sailor, and Lovise is listed as wife. Their destination is "middle Dacota". No other information can be gleaned from this early voyage.