

The trips to Sandbakk in my childhood

It was Olav and Ingeborg who lived there.

Olav was brother to my mamma, and Ingeborg was my cousin. It used to happen that we children were allowed to visit each other every summer. It was great fun when the day arrived and we should leave for Sandbakk. For me it was Edd and Oskar at my age, while Inger was four years younger than me.

We went with the boat for local traffic, and at first we had to be accompanied by someone. I remember particularly once, then my grandfather Edvard had visited us in our home at Nyvoll, and I was allowed to go with him when he should return home again.

This was very exciting, it was so much to experience on these big boats. We were not used to get so much when we attended these trips, but this time grandfather bought a small bottle Eventyrbrus (a kind of soda) for me. Yes, that taste I never forget. The bottle with the red content can not be compared with anything that exists today.

I think this was the summer 1945. Grandfather was a warm and kind man, and that time I could borrow his fishing rod. We boys then went to the river that comes down from Lappvannet (lake), and there it was a pond called Lakshola. We did a little fishing, and then I get a nibble. The fish was big and we were small, so now it was a hard time on shore. In the end it ended well, but when we got the fish on shore it had got loose from the hook and we were about to loose it into the river. This was a great event, and the fish was between 2 and 3 kilogram, but if it was a salmon or a trout I can not tell today.

It was a lot to take part in the week we were allowed to stay there, and I will mention the trips to Lappvannet. On the trips we used a boat we always got fish, and it was so nice to take part in this, and it was so exciting to go ashore in the upper end of the lake, and there was also a big river coming down from the mountain.

I also remember the draftox Balder, it was used instead of the horse. Yes, they were big animals, but the horse was always more speedy.

Olav was a clerk for the boat for local traffic, and the first years the boats had to be dispatched by boats from the shore. I think it was a great drudgery this work, both summer and winter in all kinds of weather. In addition to this he also had a shop in the house they lived in. It was always so exciting to get into the shop, but at that time it was so little to buy for, so it was mostly to look at the items there. Yes, I suppose some times we got a little tidbit when we stayed there, and we were always happy if we got a prune or two. I also remember the good smell in the shop, a mixture of spice, treacle, raisin, and a lot other things. Yes, I should gladly experienced this again, but all that will only be good memories.

The week we children were allowed to stay there passed very fast, and it was a lot of play, bathing and the like.

Today I some times think about this, and for me it is good memories that always will stay with me.

In the end I will say that as it is more than 60-70 years since I attended this, it is possible that some of it may be different from what I have described, but largely it was most probably like that.

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