

Mother coming to America

She came over on the Bergensfjord. There were four girls in a cabin. Her mother had sewn all her clothes, she was the best dressed. Her mother Thora copied the fashions from a couture magazine.

She stayed with the Svervtsen family. Mr Svervtsen was her grandfather's 1/2 brother.

Her brother Hans was already living and working in America. He met her at boat...Took one week off to show her the sights. Statue of Liberty...etc.

First apartment was with another girl...three story house one bathroom and four rooms on each floor. Rented for 3.50 a week.

Time estimated to be 1925.

First job as house maid....and cookwealthy families in New York. Onefamily expected too much of her. Her aunt got mad came to her employer and told her they were unreasonable and she wouldn't allow her neice to work for them. They offered more money...still refused. Got a job working as a waitress in Childs.

As waitress worked for 8 cents an hour. Tips were usually a nickel. Worked in downtown new York....Saw the Lindberg parade. She moved to Schrafts restaurant where she says she learned so much about the business. Credits them for her knowledge of restaurants, how to treat customers, uniforms etc.

Jimmy Walker used to frequent the restaurant. James M Caine took a liking to her. Encouraged her to write about her experiences in this country. She wrote, "You Can't Fool the Waitress" and an article "Housemaid's Knee" both published in Collier's magazine...Her picture sketched and on the cover.

Came home on 4th ave subway....with days earnings....Daddy and Uncle George there to meet her to buy bargains from the push cart. Married in 1927 Daddy couldn't find work, so she got another apartment and Daddy and George all moved in together... He would get odd jobsbut continued to look. Very hard times. Many people hungry. Finally her landed a job as a superintendent. It paid \$125 a mont and free apartment. They were considered rich by many stands. So many unable to find any work. She worked as waitress and he worked in the apartment building. He was very talented and could fix and anything.

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