

Letter From Europe con't.

ren dislike spinach I suggest they send them to Norway as such is a treat-at the equivalent of 90¢ U.S. currency a serving for one at the better hotels and restaurants!

Above the Arctic Circle cabbage plants have just been set and vary from 3" to 6" high. The growing season is 3 months only but as the sun-supposedly-for 24 hours per day, such is equivalent to almost six months. There is no darkness, no dew or frost, May 15th to Aug. 15th hence the farmers don't have the uncertain cold spells such as I'm told you had in Highlands after May 10th.

White potatoes are raised in all possible places, even up and down 10 to 25 degree slopes. Although it seems to rain most every day, such are the slow and soaking kind; never heavy showers, hence no terracing is needed. A superficial glance along the coast causes one to believe that all the rocks in Europe were deposited here, but there are sunny, sloping hills behind the rugged coast. Along the fjords one notices farm lands and garden flats on the sunny side, but barren hills and mountains on the reverse side. That's the only way to express it as the sun doesn't travel overhead at all; somewhat in the shape of a rainbow. It doesn't set at all at Hammerfest, for instance, from May 17th to Aug. 1st and one becomes confused when West becomes East in a matter of 15 minutes at midnight. Therefore, for the uninitiated, it is difficult to know directions.

Norway is a country of contrasts with its 24,000 islands and the equivalent number of lakes, fjords and waterfalls. It is not unusual to see Bridal Veil Falls ranging from 200' to 2000' high, and cascades and water falls on the order of Dry Falls and Satulah cascade on a scale 5 to 10 times as high. English is taught in all schools in Norway so we have been able to feel at home. The state does better for its school children than at home as they furnish free meals and free dental and medical treatment for all children. In the interior their school "buses" are ferries and ships of all description which operate the year round; again, the effect of the sea around Norway, as the water in the fjords never freezes as a general rule. This is interesting when one considers that Oslo, the capital, is about 1200 miles farther North than New York or Boston.

I've made temperature readings over the 1300 mile coastal stretch from Bergen to the top of Europe and noted that there is never more

than 3 to 5 degrees difference in mid-day and midnight readings. While we wear spring clothing and topcoats the Norwegians seem to suffer in such weather and dress as lightly as in mid-summer in the U.S.A. It is interesting to see the kids enjoying a swim in lakes fed by melting snow while we are bundled up heavy enough for freezing weather in Highlands. Even up in reindeer land each village has its own choice swimming place!

A word about breakfast in Norwegian hotels and on board their cruise ships to the North Cape. They have a big table on which one finds 3 cold cereals, 7 types of cold cuts, jam and marmalade, pigs feet-onion mixture, mixed vegetable salad, 3 kinds of bread, 3 kinds of crackers, plenty of coffee, butter and cream, and for those who are still hungry they serve you a hot cereal, fried eggs and bacon. It requires some active training to get ready for breakfast! A "light" lunch and about the same dinner as breakfast, except they start out with a hot plate of meat, fish or eggs!

Cordially yours,  
Stacey Russell

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'GUN BELT'

Gun Belt, starring the redactable and popular George Montgomery, will be shown at the Galax Theatre Saturday, July 10. Also starring in this movie is Tab Hunter, another popular actor.

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