1390 A

8 OPEI

Tuesday

Harvest Festival - peculiar to country.

Lammas Sabbat. August 1st

August Eve, Harvest Festival, or Festival of Fruition. Old Keltic name - Lugnasdal. Name of Keltic God-Lleu (Celtic form of Apollo) Lleu was Christianized into St Olaf. also the Nordic Odin

The High Priestess or High Priest casts the magic circle. HP at the altar says;

"I, ---, H.P. and Magus, do hereby invoke thee, O having Arada, Mother of all things, as thy laws are, so shall they be. Great is the Mother who has given us such tools as shall till the earth. Great is the Mother who has given us hands and a mouth for swallowing, who makest us to grow without our knowledge, and breathe whilst we are asleep."

The HPs salutes the cardinal points of the circle (AS by raising the athame in salute) She says;

"Hear ye, O my people, the ploughland is heavy with the golden wheat of life. The cattle are bound. Good substance fills the house. Fair women are in their homes, and with just laws, good men rule in wealth and prosperity. The boys go gladly with the girls in flowing dances, and gambol and frolic in the turf's sweet flowers." At

All the people reply;

"We hear thee, O Great Mother, and give thanks."

The HP salutes the four cardinal points and says;

"Hear ye O my people of the power the gods may give you. Remember this, all those who have taken it upon themselves to have great power for greater than those of others, have incurred for a time hatred and unpopularity

but if one has to pursue a great aim, this burden of envy must be accepted. and it is wise to accept it. Hatred does not last forever, for the glory of the past is the glory of the future, stored up in the memory of men. It is for you to safeguard against hatred and cherish that future glory and to do nothing now that is dishonourable, but first you must purify your mind and your body, saying to yourself "now it is my life I must shape" as a carpenter shapes wood, and the thing to be formed is a righteousness towards the gods; as nothing to me is the body, and as nothing the parts thereof let death come when he will and I shall flee him not, for now they shall cast you out of the universe (AS I think this refers to Christians)

But wherever thou shalt go there will be the sun and the moon and the stars and the vision and communion with the gods"

All the people reply:

"We hear ye O Great Mother and seek purity."

The witches all kiss their partners Blessed Be, and are anointed with oil on the forehead according to their degree. The HPs chants at the altar:

"Mother of all things, come thou beautiful one, only begotten Goddess of light Accept these offerings we humbly give".

The handmaiden offers incense to the HP, which he lights. The corn and fruits are presented and offered up. Wine is presented and offered up. Bread is presented and offered up. The High Priest says:

"Hear us Blessed Goddess, we offer these fruits of the Earth. Grant us in return abundant health and prosperity, and all the joys of life. O Queen of all delights, this we ask."

The HP and HPs lead the dance round the altar with phallic riding poles or broomsticks, with the aide chant 'Eko Eko Azarak, Eko Eko Zomelak