

This printing: 125

WOLF'S



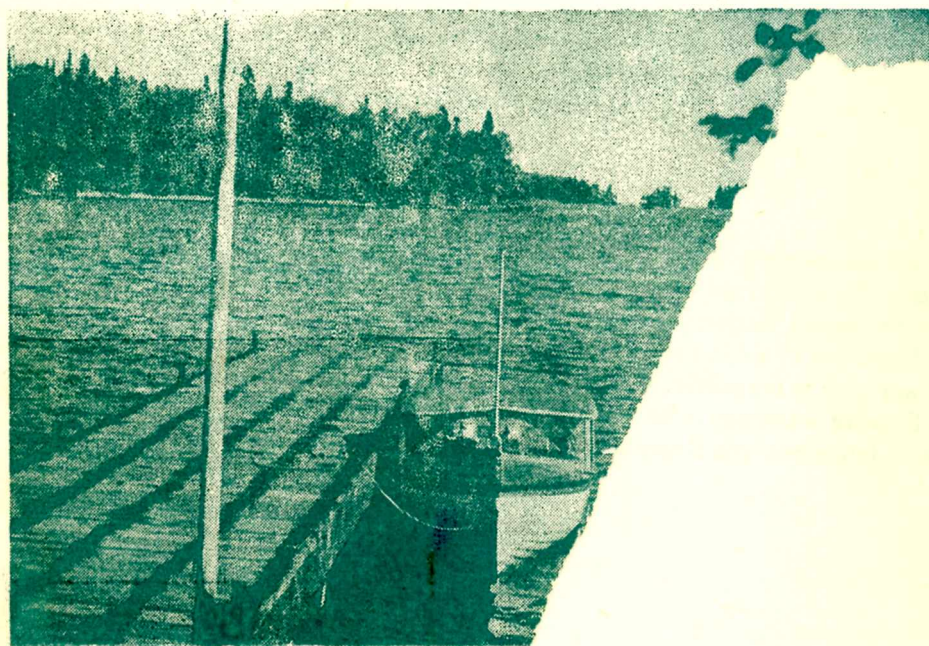
EYE

Vol. 1 No. 4

ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK; HOUGHTON, MICHIGAN

April 15, 1957

ALL LOOKING FORWARD !?!



W E A T H E R

Whether or Not????
(We sail in April)

The winter of 1956-57 will probably be recalled as The Winter of the Thick Ice. Reports as of this week tell us that the Coast Guard Cutter Woodrush chugged and churned thru' 30-inch ice off Bayfield, Wisconsin, taking 7 hours to go 7 miles. A similar story was being enacted over at the eastern end of Lake Superior in the vicinity of Whitefish Bay where heavy northwest winds piled ice to a height of 25 feet. The Coast Guard Icebreaker Mackinaw, aided by three other ice-breakers, was called to the assistance of a number of ships held captive and helpless in the driving ice. Reports stated the bow of the Mackinaw was raised 6-8 feet before cracking a path for the marooned vessels. The ice jam grew to such proportions - some 45 miles long and 30 to 60 miles wide - that shipping was finally halted. Reports from the North Shore, in the vicinity of Port Arthur and Fort William, Ontario, indicate like conditions.

We have open water at the dock here in Houghton, which is certainly misleading as far as the Keweenaw Waterway as a whole is concerned. The view from the top of Quincy Hill (which, incidentally, is quite a view) shows ice beyond as far as the eye can reach.

Much speculation and interest is shown locally in the annual "Portage Pay-off." Guesses are registered at local stores as to the date, hour, and minute the first commercial ship will go through the Bridge connecting Houghton and Hancock. Prizes are awarded by the local merchants to the correct guesser.

FROM AND ABOUT THE ISLE ROYALTY

It's regrettable that we don't have enough space to reprint the splendid article about Captain Greenleaf, skipper of the Ranger II, which appeared in the Daily Mining Gazette Green Sheet of Saturday, April 6, 1957. The article called attention to the Captain's ten years of duty with the National Park Service and his almost one thousand crossings of Lake Superior from Houghton to the Island and return.

Electronics Engineer Jim Oswald has secured equipment to regulate the speed of radio transmission. By transmitting from Mott at half speed and receiving at Houghton on double speed, Mr. Oswald estimates we will be able to capture every word of a Markham broadcast. Another triumph for Science. (or Markham!)

The girls in Houghton have a lilt in their walk these days, have you noticed? Ahhhhhhhhhhh, Joe Colombe's back in town!

Word has been received of the death on February 27 in Ontario, Oregon, of Mrs. Dorothy (Frederick) P. Bailey. Mrs. Bailey will be remembered as a summer resident in Tobin's Harbor, occupying one of the small islands in that Harbor.

Regional Director Tobin, Please Note - Exhaustive research fails to reveal origin of name TOBIN for Tobin's Harbor. Basis for the name seems to stem from early settler. Anyone able to offer more explicit information?

According to a letter received recently, Jack Wood of Copper Harbor will not be available for charter service to the Island this summer. He is selling out his Michigan business, he said, and moving to Florida to engage in shrimping.

The week of March 25 brought us a number of visitors from the Minnesota side: - John Skadberg and son, Hay Bay; Nels Wick, Washington Harbor; Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rude and son Mark, Fisherman's Home; Mr. and Mrs. John A. Skadberg, Washington Harbor. Their right to vote in Michigan had been challenged by a candidate for Supervisor of Keweenaw County and a personal appearance was necessary to retain their vote. It was good to see them all -- we learned that Nels Wick leaves in June for an extended visit to visit relatives in Norway; Mark Rude was taking examinations for a scholarship at Michigan Tech. We hope he makes it! The ladies of the party, Ollie Skadberg and Elaine Rude, were very chic in their "city" clothes - what a metamorphosis from their island garb, hmmm?

It's hard to tell, as you walk down Houghton's main thoroughfare these days, whether the many sun-tanned faces we meet got that way from basking in the Florida sunshine or ice fishing off Jacobsville.

We miss all those busy little sounds from the office of Naturalist Linn - and what's more, we miss Bob and Holley, too, and will be glad to welcome them back next week. Our thoughts will be with Bob on his examination date, April 15, and our good wishes, too.

They should have known it - nobody, but nobody, takes down storm sheds on April Fool's Day! But boys'll be boys, you know; we've had snow and cold winds ever since and our little electric floor heaters are getting put to good use. The Ranger II shed her overcoat the same day in anticipation of what we hoped would be spring.

Margaret Uren has been enjoying two weeks of annual leave. We were awfully sorry, Margaret, that the storms in the west caused you to change your plans for a western vacation. We have an idea someone else was sorry, too! Better luck next year.

News from the National Park Concessions, Inc., tells us that Mr. Sanborn and Miss Sanders will arrive early next month to get the new multiple units in readiness for summer occupancy. Vertin's of Calumet got the contract for the furniture, so they very happily reported to us.

As this goes to press, fishing season is again with us, and in spite of falling snow, interest is high. Rods and reels and lines are fingered speculatively, and that faraway look is in the eye. Not even Governor Williams is immune to the lure of the line as evidenced from a letter he penned to the Superintendent recently.... "I sure hope we can get to Isle Royale this year. I feel I have a rendezvous with that big pike at McCargo....."

Last Minute News - A brief note from the Linn's, just received, informs us they will be back in Houghton April 22. Enroute home they will stop off to see Mary and Bob Gibbs, who, from all reports, have been busily entertaining visitors from these parts all winter. We know, of course, that the Welcome mat is bright and the latchstring always out at the Gibbs'.

The substitute editor hopes you will not find her guilty of periphrasis, of which we have enough as is. (I've been waiting for a chance to use that word - and to think I managed to squeeze it in on the last paragraph of the last page!)

