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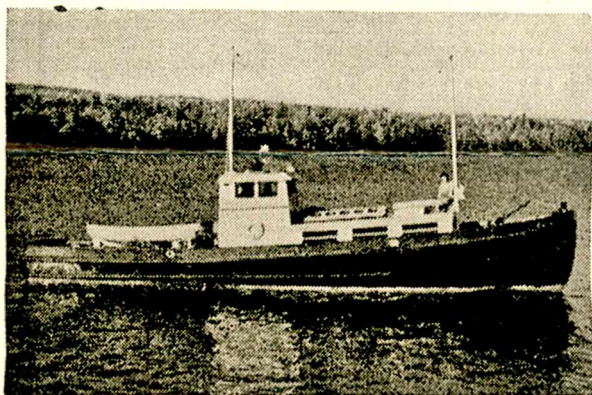
EYE

Vol. 1 No. 5

ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK, HOUGHTON, MICHIGAN

May 15, 1957

18th Season as National Park being readied!



THE COVER PHOTO

The National Park Service Tug TONAWANDA

The Tug TONAWANDA is now beginning its 11th season at Isle Royale. She was built in 1944 by Hodgson-Greene-Haldeman at Long Beach, California, and was brought to Isle Royale in 1947 from the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland. Commodore Joseph Colombe has been the Skipper of the TONAWANDA all the way from Maryland to the present time. Joe can spin a lot of tales about the trip up the Hudson and the Canal into the Great Lakes, especially the ice that kept him blocked at Tonawanda, New York, from May 2 to May 19, 1947 - hence the name TONAWANDA.

FROM AND ABOUT THE ISLE ROYALTY

It is bad form, they say, to begin with an apology; however, since this issue is a week late we feel we should explain. The move to the park from the winter mainland headquarters, two mimeographs undergoing rejuvenation, an unexpected and never-ending volume of work - all conspired to cause the delay.

The RANGER II made its first voyage of the season to Mott Island on April 30 and reported a good crossing. No ice was encountered and very little snow on arrival.

Miss Ruth Sanders, Mgr. Rock Harbor Lodge, arrived in Houghton May 3 and left for the park May 9 aboard the RANGER II. Accompanying her was a skeleton crew to get the new units - the Chippewa and Saginaw - ready for occupancy. Freight shipments are coming in steadily and the Ranger II and crew are busily engaged with cargo movements.

To Hilda Amundson of H. Christiansen & Sons, Duluth, we are indebted for the following item - "Andrew Jorgenson passed away on April 4. He was skipper on H. Christiansen & Sons' boats for a number of years, on the Detroit and Winyah, between Duluth, Grand Marais, and Isle Royale. He had retired, and was living at Stewart River (out of Two Harbors), was caretaker at Christiansen cottage, and the past two years operated Andy's SmokedFish Shack at Stewart River." Undoubtedly Andrew is remembered by many of the residents who sorrow at his passing.

We were quite surprised on reading the Chicago Tribune for Sunday, March 31, to find our Mrs. "Coach" Orsborne looking out at us from the pages amidst her collection of dolls gathered for more than a half century. The collection numbers 140 dolls, including Mrs. Orsborne's first "Big" doll which somehow survived, she said, in spite of her habit of combing its wig to pieces. What an interesting hobby and collection, we thought, and wondered how many other surprises might be in store for us if we only knew!

Mr. Snell writes - commenting on a picture of Lookout Louise which appeared in the May 11 issue of the Chicago Daily News - "The Edwards were perhaps the first cottagers on the island. They had a daughter named Louise, a teenager. She often joined other teenagers in a climb to the top of the ridge. Her mother always called to her as she left, 'Look out, Louise', and after a time they gave it that name."

While visiting with a friend over the week-end, we were given the privilege of leafing through her treasured copy of "History of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan" published in 1883. Several items appearing therein we would like to share with our readers:

"The following interesting description of Lake Superior and the copper found there is a translation from De la Mission du Sainte Esprit a la Pointe Chagacnamigong dans de Lac Tracy on Superior - Chap. XI, des proprietes et Raritez: 'The lake has the form of a bended bow, of more than 80 leagues in length. The southern side represents the string, and the long tongue of land which springs from the center of the south shore, and projects upward of 25 leagues into the lake near its middle, is the arrow. The northern coast is bordered with frightful crags, which are the termination of the prodigious chain of mountains which take their rise at Cape Tourment, above Quebec, and extending to this place, traversing more than 600 leagues in extent, and losing themselves in the farther extremity of the lake. There are very few islands in the lake, and they occur mostly on the northern shore. This great expanse of the waters gives room for the winds, which agitate the lake with as much violence as they do the ocean."

Another item states: "The first account of the Copper Region of Lake Superior of which we have any knowledge is that published by Lagarde in Paris in 1636. The first written about Isle Royale was by Pierre Boucher published in Paris in 1640."

Recent additions to the Isle Royalty:

Mary Phyllis Hakala, 6# 9 oz., to Jean and Bob Hakala

Janet Lynn Williamson, 7#13 oz., to Joyce & John Williamson

Congratulations to Bob Janke! As a result of a contest sponsored by the Young Engineering Teachers Branch of the American Society of Engineering Education, he won a national award, presentation of which will be made at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. on June 20.

Milford Johnson, the Edisen's, Holte's and Skadberg's (Hay Bay) came over on the Jeffery prior to the first trip of the Ranger II. Since then the Anderson's of Belle Isle and Mattson's of Tobin Harbor have arrived. A recent visitor was Arnold Johnson, a former resident, who spent several days visiting with old friends.

Spring foliage, while not as vivid, is every bit as colorful as autumn. At present the birches are a bronzy green and just beginning to leaf, while the aspens are of that particular shade best described as a "spring" green. The alders and willows are just beginning to bud. None of the understory - thimbleberry, fern, big-leaved aster - are out, so that you can see through the woods for hundreds of yards, making trail location comparatively easy. Although small patches of snow are still seen in sheltered spots, some flowers are in bloom - the short-stemmed violet, marsh marigold (cowships), and several of the orchids, among them the Calypso, and the Polygala.

As for wildlife, Chief Ranger Davis and Park Ranger Stamey reported seeing the first moose calf of the season on a hike into Benson Lake the other day; it was not more than a day old, they said, and had trouble managing all four legs at the same time.

And finally, last Sunday, the Superintendent and Roy Stamey were able to use the fishing gear they mail-ordered during the winter. Pike they were after - and caught, too!

Mr. Arthur E. Demaray, former Director of the N.P.S., writes from Tucson, Arizona that he has enjoyed reading Wolf's Eye and wishes it a long life. Thank you, Mr. Demaray!

