

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1928

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have true value and which are written by persons not connected with the editorial staff of this paper.

Seen From The Highways

MINNEAPOLIS, JUNE 18, 1928.—Nine hundred fifty miles of good Michigan roads, not such good Wisconsin roads, and very fine Minnesota roads...

IRON COUNTY CONTAINS about 20,000 people. It has an estimated property valuation of twenty millions of dollars; its roads are as good as any we have thus far seen in Michigan.

WE (MEANING MRS. AVERILL, BILLY, aged eight, and myself) left Birmingham at eight o'clock Wednesday morning, June 13. We reached Mackinac City at five o'clock that afternoon, having put 303 miles of roads behind us.

THE OLD SUN HAD ALREADY started its path toward the zenith when we embarked again in the old bus for our next stops, Gladstone and Escanaba, about 175 miles from St. Ignace.

ABOUT 30 MILES OUT of St. Ignace we ran across some of the artistry of an ancient glacial action, when we discovered, on a high ridge of land, several hundred acres of boulders, some of them as large as a small dwelling.

JUST BEFORE WE ARRIVED at Gladstone we came to a bend in the road at which point was tethered a small black bear, native to Northern Michigan.

SPeAKING OF ROCKS, some of the things we saw on the trip took us back to a year ago when with Clarence Vlier, R. J. Coryell, and Robert V. Moore, we visited Isle Royal, in Lake Superior.

a volcanic upheaval. Its surface is chiefly trap rock—harder than granite—and within its bosom have been trapped many tons of precious minerals, large copper.

CRYSTAL FALLS AND IRON RIVER are about 87 miles northwest of Escanaba. They are the traveler's first glimpse of Michigan's mineral wealth. Started about 40 years ago, Crystal Falls is now a city of about 5000 people.

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ON THE WHOLE, WE BELIEVE that the buildings seen in most of the Upper Peninsula communities and upon the farms are in better shape than those from Bay City to a few miles south of Cheboygan, just below Mackinac City.

HUMAN BEINGS, IN THEIR JOURNEY from the cradle to the grave, biologically speaking, spend their time in unoccupied ways. Some of them occupy little white tents, some have much money, wear rough clothing, eat common foods, and live in inexpensive shelters.

LAST THURSDAY NIGHT, in company with Joe Sturgeon, editor and publisher of the Delta Reporter, of Gladstone, we attended a Baccalaureate Service at the Escanaba high school.

REFFERING AGAIN TO BOYS AND GIRLS (and what is more precious in life?) we saw many girls in the Upper Peninsula, and in Wisconsin, at

tried in overall. We suppose this is more practical than chifon or the modern knicker—and less costly. It did seem funny at first to see a group of over-all-attired youngsters down the road a ways and then discover that they were not boys at all.

MUSN'T FORGET TO TELL YOU that we saw the summer home of Big Bill Thompson, mayor of Chicago and chief anti-British citizen of America. It is situated on Sand Lake, in the eastern part of Wisconsin, adjacent to Iron County.

EXPECT THAT OUR ABLE ASSISTANT, Raymond Girardin, is wondering by this time where he will find space The Eccentric for all this stuff we'll cut it short by stating that our trip through Wisconsin took us within fifty miles of President Coolidge's summer camp on the Brule River.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES J. SHAIN arrived at the hotel last night, about 30 hours after leaving Birmingham. They left Birmingham Saturday afternoon, drove to Grand Haven, took the ferry that night for Milwaukee, left Milwaukee early Sunday morning and made the 375 miles in 12 hours.

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We believe him, but as for myself I must admit that when you slow-down to only sixty-five it is hard to see anything. But that is only the difference between a Packard and a Buick I guess.

Political Sportsmanship

As governmental units grow, and greater numbers of people are spread over a most even area of a district, there is bound to appear a desire over the entire territory for responsibility in carrying on governmental affairs; interposed into practice, this means that candidates from various sections of governmental units aspire for office, to the end that their respective areas may have some voice in government.

In Oakland County, which, within the past ten years, has witnessed a great influx of population in its southern area, this situation is, indeed, very pronounced. Wherein at one time Pontiac was the chief center of Oakland County's population, a condition now presents itself in which the center of population has left the county seat and is rapidly extending outward.

Especially true is this in the matter of circuit court commissioners for, as you may know, Royal Oak for many years has had a commissioner, the other being from Pontiac. On September 4, Oakland County Republicans will again nominate two candidates for circuit court commissioner, to succeed George B. Hatrick of Royal Oak and Richard T. Keeling of Pontiac.

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