

Fall Hunting Clubs Are Being Organized

LANSING—The conservation department is getting its early start in organizing Williamston plan members of cooperating clubs at low limited numbers of hunters on their lands, the hunters pledging themselves to protect farm property.

The plan takes its name from a town southeast of Lansing where it originated in 1930. The conservation department sponsored the plan which has been copied in other states.

The department supplies signs for posting lands and tickets that are issued to hunters.

Under the Williamston plan, members of cooperating clubs at low limited numbers of hunters on their lands, the hunters pledging themselves to protect farm property.



By GENE ALLEMAN

BEAVER ISLAND—It is a day and a half of doing things to people.

Take Beaver Island, for instance. Here lived James J. Strang, "King of the Mormons," with his five wives and many children. That was 90 to 100 years ago.

Nearby is High Island, former summer home of King Ben Purnell of the House of David. The colony was now deserted, even tents deserted dormitory with seven bedrooms.

George Stephenson, jovial, carefree ex-newspaperman from South Bend, expressed the lure of the islands in these words: "There's only one place in the world like Beaver Island. That's why I am here. And some day I hope to stay here year-round, winter and summer. I like it."

Stevie, as he is known, was on the main deck at St. James when we greeted him. In five minutes we were old friends. Two decades ago we had worked a year on a South Bend daily newspaper, now extinct, at the same time when Charles Butterworth, Hollywood film comic, was on the police beat. Bing Lardner of Niles had left the staff to win fame in Chicago.

A reunion on Beaver Island. Of all places in the world, why this one?

Hatless, his face tanned by the winds and sun, Stevie had been painting two fishing boats on the dock. An old Plymouth sedan, badly worn with part of one rear window missing, provided transportation to his log cabin on Sandy Bay, down a few miles from St. James. There he lived with an elderly sister. From rental of fishing boats, he managed to get along.

He confided: "You can live on five or six dollars a week food expense. There's no place to go on Beaver Island—no night clubs, no movie shows. You enjoy the finest air in the world, clearest every minute of the day and night by Lake Michigan at every point of the compass. Sure, I'm out about this place. I haven't a care in the world."

We had left Chiklevois at 9:30 a. m. on the conservation department patrol No. 1, a 70-foot, diesel-powered craft, commanded by a grand man, "Cap," Charles J. Alters. The patrol boat was on a regularly scheduled trip to inspect fish nets. Alters is a native of South Haven and Beaver Island, and his father had been a "salt water man," owner and master of sailing schooners out of South Haven. In fact, one of the last sailing vessels operated on the Great Lakes was owned by "Cap's" father while the family resided at St. James, back in 1911.

Let's introduce you to his crew. Erwin Belfy, assistant supervisor and first mate, double-dubbed the Shamrock Inn, the island's combination tavern and social center, as aide to the bartender proprietor, Richard LaFrance. Dick, his son-in-law, doubles as justice of the peace. One Dick's trials, held at the tavern, exiled a drunken Indian to work 90 days in a

lumber camp. Justice on Beaver Island is stern.

Then there is Richard "Dick" Lahti, story-telling conservation officer, who once served seven years on Isle Royal before the great forest fire. Emil Fischer, engineer-cook, is as handy in the kitchen as he is in the engine room. With no exceptions, Emil's white fish dinner while we were enroute to High Island was the finest we have ever consumed. That is a sincere compliment to Emil, and perhaps also, to the appetite stimulating climate of the Beavers.

Beaver Island, 32 miles from Chiklevois, a 10-mile-per-hour boat, is one of three archipelagos at the northern rim of Lake Michigan. Just off the Leelanau peninsula are the North and South Manitowish islands. Next are the Foxes—North Fox and South Fox. At the northern end are the eight Beavers—including Eagle, Squaw, and Whiskey.

Secluded and off the beaten path, St. James is an easy-going fishing village, the Michigan capital of Irish fishermen. Until a few years ago, oil lamps provided household illumination, and a board walk linked the white-painted stores along the curving harbor throughout.

Dan "Turner" Boyal, Irish fisherman, born on Beaver Island in 1872, is a fine specimen of robust health—bright pink cheeks, sparkling eyes, pure-white hair, with an infectious smile and laugh. His voice is soft, colored by a slight Irish brogue.

"My father was Dan Boyal, and so was his father before him," said Dan, who is known to everyone as Turner. "My father had five brothers, all named Dan Boyal after their father. It's an Irish custom, you know."

"We Irish came to Beaver Island from Canada. A sea-faring people, we have always gone to sea to fish or sail. Sure, some of the Irish do farming, but not many of them. It's easier to make a living on boats than farming—one reason why you see so many deserted farms on Beaver Island."

St. James with its lazy atmosphere was so named by King Strang.

When John H. Forster, a federal surveyor, visited the Beavers in 1855—just 90 years ago—King Strang was at the height of his bizarre career. Along the picturesque harbor was a cluster of log buildings. A log tabernacle dominated the landscape.

Strange, lawyer-editor, visited the Mormon settlement at Nauvoo, Illinois, in 1844 and became a convert. When Joseph Smith, Moses of the Mormons, was killed by a mob at Carthage—a chapter of early American intolerance—Strange claimed title as Smith's successor. The Mormon "college of twelve" elected Brigham Young who then led the historic trek to Salt Lake City. Strang established a rival kingdom, first at Spring Prairie, Wisconsin, and later at St. James on Beaver Island.

His defiance of conventional morality led to his undoing and

ultimately his death. The Irish on Mackinac Island and Pine River (Charlevoix) regarded him as an adulter and a pirate. Two jealous Mormon followers, some of whom were characterized by Surveyor Forster as the "flowest kind of white trash—ignorant, superstitious and licentious," were the assassins who waylaid King Strang and escaped on a U. S. mail boat to Mackinac Island.

Today, 32 miles off the prosperous Traverse City-Petoskey tourist route, Beaver Island is a haven of peace to its 250 white and 125 Indian inhabitants.

It offers some of the best fishing grounds on the Great Lakes. Its climate is perfect for hay-fever sufferers and asthmatics. Yet there are few resorts. Little effort has been made to preserve authentic Mormon buildings. But to the traveler, St. James will be remembered as a snug happy haven of the Irish—the Gallaghers, McCanns, Martins, Boyels, and McDonoughs.

Fish is not rationed, and prices are soaring.

The Irish on Beaver Island, always inclined to gaiety, are happier than usual.

Maybe our one-time newspaper friend, George Stephenson, is right.

There is only one place like Beaver Island—at least in Michigan.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public hearing will be held Monday, July 19th, 1945 at 8 o'clock P.M. in the Municipal Building to consider the removal of an Elm tree in front of 431 Park Street.

IRENE E. HANLEY, City Clerk

July 19, 1945

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WOODWARD AT MAPLE

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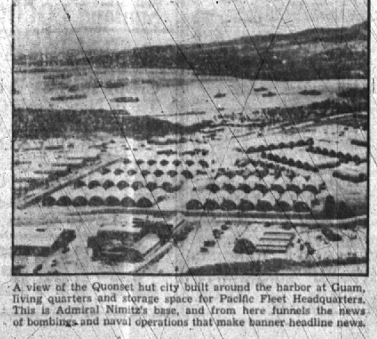
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WOODWARD NEAR MAPLE

B-29's Home to Roost



Here is the "parking lot" on Guam, with B-29's roosting and waiting for another trip to Nippon. It was carved out of coral, as were other similar bases on Tinian and Saipan, farther north in the Marianas Islands, between missions, thousands of Army ground crewmen work on the planes to keep them in top shape.



A view of the Quonset hut city built around the harbor at Guam, living quarters and storage for Pacific Fleet Headquarters. This is Admiral Nimitz's base, and from here funnels the news of bombings and naval operations that make banner headline news.

How big is the job of beating the Jap?

No one knows. No one can say with certainty how big the job of licking him is—but this is how big the Jap is, this may give you an idea



The Jap has a giant empire—Somehow we have always looked upon Japan as a small nation, a "little island." But—the Japanese empire is vast, huge, the second largest in the world. It is nearly 5,000 miles long. It is over 3,000 miles wide. 400,000,000 people now live under Japanese rule—three times as many people as there are in the United States.

4,000,000 + 2,000,000

The Jap has a huge army—Japan can put in the field from 4,000,000 to 6,000,000 war-hardened fighters. 2,000,000 more can be quickly called. How many is six million soldiers? Three times as many as there were Germans fighting the allied armies in western Germany.

OIL RUBBER FOOD METALS

The Jap has ample resources—In their home islands and the vast territories the Japs have taken are all the things that Japan needs to conduct a long and vicious war. The figures on Japan's resources are startling—in many cases, greater than ours.

The Jap has great production—Japan's home islands are industrialized to an eye-widening degree. So are vast areas Japan has held for the past twenty years. The Japs are making new and improved planes. They are building ships, guns, tanks and munitions in huge numbers. Japanese workers work 16 hours a day, 7 days a week. The fiber of the Jap is tough stuff. How big is the job of beating him? No one can say. But this is how big the Jap is—this may give you an idea.

Says Admiral Halsey: "The Japanese are hard fighters. It will take all the force America can muster to beat them. The task may be long, how long no one can say. But we can say this: It can be shortened only if every American worker sticks to his job of backing American fighters. It will take the best every one of us can do to beat Japan."

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