

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART THREE

SEVENTY-FIRST YEAR—NO. 27

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1948

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Richard Cook, with his trailer which provided him with sleeping and eating quarters, as he appeared in Birmingham Thursday noon after completing his 1,303 mile hike from Florida to Canada.

Florida to Canada by "Trailer"

By Alice E. Morgan

"Going My Way" might be the theme song of Richard Cook, native of Freeman township in Clare County, as he completes his walk from Gainesville, Fla., to Canada. Cook passed through Birmingham the other day, having visited Canada. He was then on his way to Midland to visit his "folks" and to the northern part of the state for two week's fishing. He will then return to Midland, and accompanied by members of his family, go back to Florida by truck.

Asked why he took the trip, the tanned, 40-year-old Michigander replied, "Well, partly to settle an argument as to whether or not a man could outwalk a horse, and partly because I wanted to. The company I was working for pulled out of Florida and I didn't want to go with them. I wanted to see the country and make friends, and this was a good chance. So, I just packed my wagon and started out."

Home-Made Wagon

The wagon is a home-made contraption with a small, once-white canvas shelter built over it. It has been his home since leaving Florida on July 5.

"I've got everything but a bathroom," he said. "When I wanted a bath I stopped at a tourist camp."

It seems difficult to picture a man using so small a space for cooking and sleeping quarters, but Cook has managed, and apparent-

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Local Girl Is Among Those Feted By AIB

Miss Nancy L. Kirby of the Birmingham National Bank staff is one of the 32 members of the Oakland County Chapter of the American Institute of Banking who completed courses of study of the Institute last spring. All were honored by the Oakland County Bankers Association at a dinner last Thursday evening at Forest Lake Country Club.

O. C. Thomas, president of the Orion State bank and the association, presided, with Herbert H. Gardner of the local bank acting as toastmaster. William B. Hall, vice-president of the Detroit Bank, was the speaker of the evening.

Other local bank personnel to attend included Herman E. Erke, president of the Oakland County Chapter and assistant cashier of the Birmingham bank.

The Institute is the educational section of American Bankers Association. Bank employees are offered the opportunity to further their education and thus advance the standards of banking. The Oakland County membership totals 177, of which 36 were enrolled in courses last year.

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