

Chips

and

Sawdust

**A NEWSLETTER
from**

**FOREST HISTORY
ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN, INC.
403 McIndoe Street
Wausau, WI 54401**

AUGUST 1994

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NINETEENTH ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR SEPTEMBER 30TH

The Forest History Association of Wisconsin will hold its 19th Annual Meeting of members on September 30 and October 1, 1994. All FHAW members, their relatives and friends, and anyone interested in Wisconsin's forest heritage are invited to attend. The two-day session, with the theme "Prominent Lumbermen of Central Wisconsin", will be held in Marshfield, Wisconsin. The meeting will include a series of presentations in line with our theme, an FHAW business meeting, an auction, dinner, and a tour of the historic Upham Mansion in Marshfield. Details of the program, costs and registration forms were sent to all FHAW members in late August. Make your plans now - let's get together and share our interests!

SPECIAL AUCTION ITEM

Donations of items for the auction to be held during the 19th Annual Meeting are still coming in. A complete listing is not available at this time, but I'm sure there will be many interesting items offered in this always fun event. One special item that will be offered at the auction will be the following three pieces nicely framed and matted in a single display:

- * A photograph of a Goodman Lumber Company logging train.
- * A real photo postcard of the Soo Line Depot at Goodman.
- * The first Soo Line ticket to Goodman.

Proceeds from the sale of this item will go to the FHAW scholarship fund. Members are encouraged to dig through their "junk" and see what they can part with to add to the items for the auction.

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MAY 26, 1994 MARSHFIELD, WI

The meeting was called to order with all directors present except Sohasky and Vallier. Guests were Larry Easton, Neenah; George Winkler of the North Wood County Historical Society and Kristin Held of the Wisconsin DNR, Madison. The Secretary gave the highlights of the last Board meeting of October 24, 1993. The report was approved without any additions or corrections. Committee reports followed.

Publications: Editor Rohe reminded the Board that the 1994 PROCEEDINGS would be his last; a successor must be found for the 1995 edition. (Editor's note: We would like to find someone soon so they can work with Randy on the 1994 issue.) Treasurer Fixmer reported that the 1993 edition cost \$2,497.00 for 358 copies, or \$6.97 per copy. After some discussion about the price to be charged purchasers, it was moved, seconded and approved to charge mail purchasers \$9.00 per copy postpaid. Editor Ray Clark informed the Secretary that he has changed printers for C&S; the new one will print 300 copies for under \$100., including text paper, versus the cost of over \$200. by the former printer.

Annual Meeting Planning: Chairman Larry Easton outlined progress to date on arrangements for facilities, lodging, meals, and preliminary program of speakers. The meeting will be held at the Marshfield Innkeeper, September 30 to October 1.

Forestry Hall of Fame: Chairman Don Lambrecht reported on the proceedings of the selection committee on May 11. Inductees selected were John Saemann, retired Marinette County Forest Administrator and former president of FHAW, and Stanley Welsh, deceased, former Wisconsin DNR State Forester.

Distinguished Service Award: Chairman Rohe reviewed the biographies of four nominees; selected by closed ballot was Carl Krog, Marinette, author of numerous articles of early day logging and lumbering in northeastern Wisconsin. By unanimous voice vote,

the Drummond Historical Museum was selected to receive the organizational award. Similarly, a post-humous award will be given to recognize Bill O'Gara of Wisconsin Rapids for his contributions to railroading history.

Student Scholarship Award: Secretary Fixmer read a letter from Janet Young thanking FHAW for the \$300. award and giving her background. She is the first adult student to win. Fixmer expressed his disappointment that neither of the two forestry schools had an entry in this year's contest.

Membership: Secretary Fixmer distributed a summary sheet listing members dropped for non-payment of dues (15); new members enrolled (10), and one resignation due to his failing eyesight. The importance of renewed efforts to get new members was again stressed. At this point in the proceedings, Kristin Held, public relations coordinator for the Wisconsin DNR, reviewed its two year program for increasing public awareness of the state's forest history and its significance. Special events, video tapes, informational literature, and other educational activities will be utilized toward that objective. FHAW's commitment was confirmed to have its exhibit on display at the DNR's meeting in Oconomowoc September 13-14.

Exhibits: Chairman Fixmer reviewed the special events at which tentative commitments had been made for the display of various theme-related exhibits. He informed the Board that personal obligations for the balance of this year, plus the limitations of the budget for travel expense, will limit his participation in all seven of those events and will require the cooperation of other Board members. With regard to the Trees for Tomorrow 50th Anniversary observance, approval was given for the Secretary to arrange for a special Certificate of Appreciation plaque to be presented on that occasion at a cost of about \$100. Baumann and Lambrecht agreed to handle the Logging Congress display and Albrecht the DNR event. Participation at the Wisconsin Society of American Foresters, tentatively set for mid-September in Wausau, will depend on the theme of that meeting.

Revision of "Firsts": Secretary Fixmer reported that a number of additions, deletions and corrections have been made, but that a revision of the acknowledgments and forward still needs to be done. This project will be finalized as soon as possible after the beginning of the next fiscal year, and after printing bids are solicited.

Round Lake Logging Dam: A letter from member Pat Schroeder of Park Falls was read, soliciting additional funds for the completion of the dam. On proper motion and second, approval was given to donate \$50. after July 1.

Financial Reports: Treasurer Fixmer reviewed the ten months operating statement. Projections to the end of the fiscal year indicate that there could be a small operating gain. Also reviewed was a proposed budget for 1994-95. Income projections will need to be exceeded to avoid a potential deficit.

Nominating Committee: By mutual consent, appointment was made by President Harm of Lambrecht, Rohe, and Stearns to comprise a nominating committee to prepare a slate of nominees to succeed the five directors whose terms expire at the 1994 annual members meeting, namely, Albrecht, Baumann, Harm, Sohasky and Vallier.

State Historical Society Awards: Nominations for the State Historical Society Awards of Merit (to individuals) and the Reuben Gold Thwaite Trophy (to an affiliate society) were to be received by July 18. Secretary Fixmer was instructed to re-submit FHAW's nomination for the latter award and Randy Rohe to re-submit Fixmer's nomination for the former.

Next Meeting: It was mutually agreed that the next Board meeting would be held on August 25, 1994 at the Heritage Hill Living Museum in Green Bay.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

RUSSELL H. ROBERTS, Wisconsin Rapids, has been promoted to the position of area procurement manager for the Port Edwards and Nekoosa paper mills of Georgia Pacific Corporation. He was formerly GP's tree farm forester in charge of the company's landowner assistance program.

CATHY NORDINE, Land o' Lakes, vice president of Lake States Women in Timber, was a member of the delegation that visited with a number of Congressmen in Washington, D.C. last spring. Their message to the politicians was basically that the concerns of the timber industry should be considered in any proposed legislation that affects the industry adversely.

MICHAEL GOC, Friendship, delivered a slide presentation at the annual members meeting of the Friends of Marathon County Public Library last May. Based on his recently published book, "Stewards of the Wisconsin (River)", Goc examined the different ways that people who have lived on its banks have thought about and used the Wisconsin River over a 200 year period.

JOHN ZAZADA, Rhinelander, was featured as a guest editorialist in the July issue of the Journal of Forestry. John is a research forester with the USDA Forest Service and is currently working on hardwood regeneration and ecology problems. His editorial gives his perspective on understanding one of the latest controversial issues facing forest land managers, that of ecosystem management.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS ENROLLED

The FAW welcomes two new life members to its ranks: Reinhart (Reiny) Krause of Algoma and John W. Taylor III of Crivitz. Krause has been a member since 1979 and Taylor since 1989; both have now decided to eliminate the bother of paying dues on an annual basis and made the \$250. payment to assure membership for the rest of their lives.

"Reiny is a well known lumberman in the forest products industry, having been the owner of the Algoma Lumber Company for many years. He was recently honored by receiving the Lake States Lumber Association's first award for excellence in serving the interests of the industry and for "responsible utilization of our renewable resource". In 1983, he became noted for having made the third selective harvest of valuable hardwood timber on historic Chambers Island in Green Bay, 6 1/2 miles off Fish Creek on the Door County peninsula. That operation required the barging of the logs 45 miles from the island via the Sturgeon Bay ship canal to the Algoma mill.

John W. Taylor III is one of several managers for the Thunder Lake Mountain Ranch in southwestern Marinette County. The 3,200 acre ranch has been owned by the same family for over 80 years and has been managed for such multiple uses as timber production, agriculture, and recreation. Taylor has been quoted as saying, "We at Thunder Mountain Ranch are committed to good forest management as a way of preserving our investment." The ranch includes approximately 500 acres of pine plantations and nearly 2000 acres of hardwood and popple forests.

IN MEMORIAM

HAROLD F. SCHOLZ, 1903 -1994. Another charter member of FHAW passed away last February when Harold Scholz of Shawano, WI, died. Scholz was recognized as an authority on the management of Lake States oak forests. In collaboration with the Wisconsin Forestry Hall of Famer, Raphael Zon, he co-authored one of the earliest publications concerning the silviculture and economics of hardwood forests. Their research was published in "How Fast Do Northern Hardwoods Grow?", Research Bulletin 88, January 1929.

Scholz' active years, prior to his retirement in 1966, were entirely with the USDA Forest Service, serving in a variety of positions with the Lake States Forest Experiment Station. He was also active, in cooperation with F. B. Trenk, Wisconsin state extension forester, in the establishment of a number of demonstration forest plots statewide. These plots were designed to show small woodland owners the economic advantages of managing hardwoods for maximum growth and quality. Scholz earned his BS degree from Iowa State College (now University) and his Masters from Harvard. He was a 65 year member of the Society of American Foresters.

JOHN L. LAUGHLIN, 1941 - 1994. A life member of FHAW, John Laughlin, 53, died suddenly on July 30, 1994, while vacationing in Michigan. Laughlin was a well known citizen of Wausau, coming there in 1973 from Toledo, OH, where he had been an executive with the Owens Illinois paper division. More recently he had served as vice president of finance for Wausau Papers, held a similar position with Nicolet Hardwoods, and served as president of Tomohawk Power and Pulp Company.

FOREST HISTORY SOCIETY HONORS AUTHOR - JOURNALIST

The 1994 award for forest history journalism was awarded to James Long of Portland, OR, by the Forest History Society, a national education institution based at Duke University in Durham, NC. Long is an investigative reporter for the *Portland Oregonian* and authored an article titled "Of Grants and Greed" in his newspaper in May, 1993. The award winning article explained how 19th century land grants became important in today's forest economy in the Pacific Northwest.

Why should that article be of more than passing interest to FHAW members, especially those members whose "special interest" is in the long gone logging railroads of Wisconsin? The connection becomes obvious when one realizes that it was the policy of government land grants that motivated entrepreneurs to penetrate railroads into the vast pine and hardwood forests of northern Wisconsin. The result was not only the devastation of that resource by the much maligned "timber barons". Too often overlooked is the fact that hundreds of towns and villages owe their very existence and whatever economic benefits they enjoy today to the railroads that were built following those land grants.

ASSOCIATION LIBRARY ACQUIRES NEW BOOK ON WALKING TRAILS

FHAW recently received a donated copy of Walking Trails of Southern Wisconsin for its reference library. A press release from the University of Wisconsin Press publishers that accompanied the donation, announced that this newest book in its popular series about Wisconsin was now available for sale. The book, the only one of its kind, is a handy pocket size guide that describes more than 100 marked trails at 60 different locations in a 15 county area. The trails ramble into forests, along lake shores, over glacial formations, around Native American earthworks, and even through the backyards of millionaire's mansions.

Author Bob Crawford of Sun Prairie claims to have walked at least partway on every trail he describes, so his system of rating the degree of difficulty in walking every mile of those trails is highly subjective. Nevertheless, walkers and hikers will find Walking Trails of Southern Wisconsin a useful guide to enjoying a wide range of walking experiences. The soft cover edition is available for \$16.95 at most bookstores or directly from the University of Wisconsin Press, 114 N. Murray St., Madison, WI, 53715-1199.

1995 FHAW SCHOLARSHIP

The Forest History Scholarship is awarded annually to a student at a Wisconsin college or university. One scholarship will be awarded for 1995 in the amount of \$300. Scholarship recipients are selected by a board of reviewers appointed by the Forest History Association. The sole criterion for selection is a paper written by the student on any aspect of forest or conservation history of Wisconsin.

The paper should be prepared as follows:

- * The manuscript should be no longer than 1000 words.
- * Double spaced, typed on 8 1/2 x 11" white bond paper.
- * Number all pages and use generous margins.
- * Title page should list author's name, school, class and major.

The deadline for submission is February 10, 1995. The winner will be announced in March, 1995. Papers should be submitted to: John Saemann, 330 Jefferson St., Marinette, WI, 54143.

ROUND LAKE LOGGING DAM RESTORATION PROGRESSING

Substantial progress is being made with the planning and required approvals for the restoration of the Round Lake Logging Dam on the South Fork of the Flambeau River in Price County, according to the most recent issue of the Sluiceway News.

Funding for the costs of restoration has now been attained to within \$18,000. of the goal originally set. Renewed efforts are being made by the Friends of the Round Lake Logging Dam to raise that amount so that the rebuilding process may be started this year. A raffle is currently being conducted; 3,000 tickets at \$5.00 each or three for \$10.00 are available. Tickets may be purchased by mail from Bill Ave'Lallemant, N. 14734 W. Turner Lake Road, Lac du Flambeau, WI, 54538. Prizes include a 46" color TV, a Ruger 30.06 rifle, a hi-fi stereo VCR, and a Stihl 029 chainsaw.

Although most of the timbers and lumber for rebuilding the dam have been obtained, the Sluiceway News reports that a number of special large timbers are still needed for the dam's upright braces:

- 8 - 12" x 16" x 16 feet long
- 2 - 12" x 20" x 16 feet long
- 5 - 12" x 12" x 20 feet long

If any FHAW members know of any source for the above, please let Secretary Fixmer know and he will relay that information to the Friends of the Round Lake Logging Dam. Incidentally, FHAW member Patricia Schroeder is a director of that organization and personally thanked FHAW for its recent donation toward that unique project.

NEW HISTORICAL MARKERS PROGRAM

The following article is from Wisconsin Preservation, July/Aug 1994.

The Division of Historic Preservation is pleased to announce the state's new historical markers program. The purpose of the Wisconsin Historical Markers Program is to "stimulate interest in and knowledge of the state." Through the official state marking system, the Division of Historic Preservation, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, assists the citizens of the state to identify and mark important historical, cultural and natural history sites and resources. Highway plaques and markers help to educate state residents and travelers about Wisconsin history and help to promote the preservation of the state's heritage.

The Wisconsin historical markers program has been expanded to include several new categories in the marking system. Markers may now be nominated not only for sites of historical, archeological, geological or legendary significance but also for sites of architectural, cultural, ethnic and natural history significance as well. These new categories provide wide-ranging possibilities to recognize the people, places and events that have made a significant contribution to the many facets of Wisconsin history and will help to increase the number of official state historical markers erected in the state.

In addition, the state legislature has expanded the program to include marker nominations of local significance. Communities will now have the opportunity to mark the significant people, events and sites of their local area. Finally, the new markers program provides for plaques to identify the historic buildings and sites listed in the State Register of Historic Places.

Markers or plaques for this program are available in five sizes. Individuals or groups interested in applying for an official state plaque or marker should contact the new Historical Markers Program Coordinator, Sarah Davis McBride, at (608) 264-6488, or by writing the Division of Historic Preservation, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State St., Madison, WI, 53706.

Ed note: FHAW members are encouraged to make nominations from their local areas under this program.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST

FOR THE

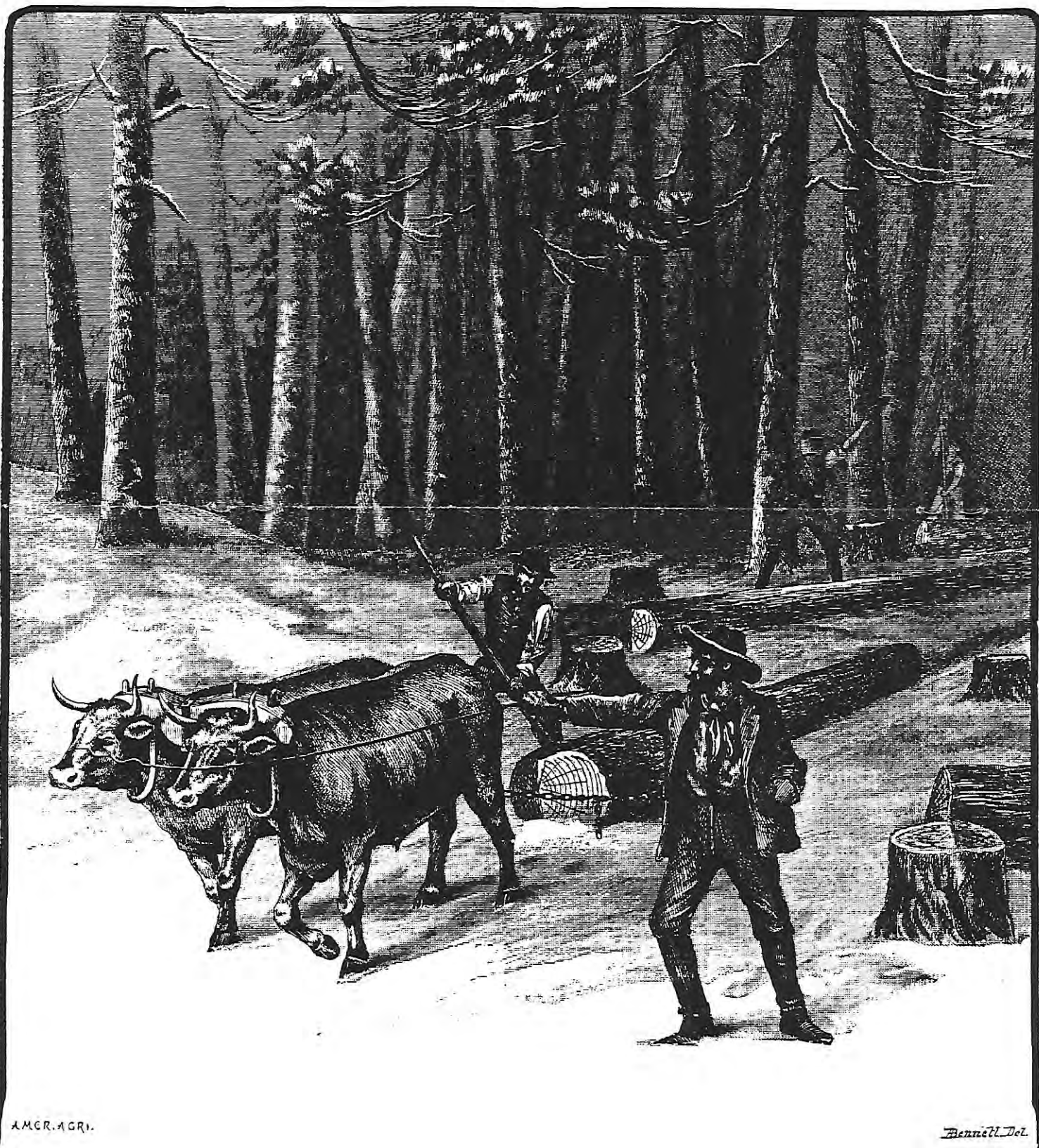
+ FARM · GARDEN · & · HOUSEHOLD +

"AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, MOST USEFUL, AND MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN."—WASHINGTON.

VOLUME XLIV.—No. 12.

NEW YORK, DECEMBER, 1885.

NEW SERIES—No. 467.



AMCR.AGRI.

Bennett Del.

Logging in the Menominee.—(See page 550.)

Drawn and Engraved for the American Agriculturist.

THE WAY IT WAS IN 1878, PART II

The May 1994 issue of Chips and Sawdust included Part I of this series, which reviews the leading industry in Wisconsin in 1878, that being the manufacture of lumber. The original article, by W. B. Judson, was published in the Historical Atlas of Wisconsin - 1878, in which the author provided many important facts, not generally known at that time, about the numerous log driving rivers of the state and the many sawmills in operation at that time. Part I covered the Menominee, Peshtigo and Oconto Rivers. We now continue to the Wolf, Wisconsin and Black River watersheds:

The Wolf river and its tributaries constitute the next district, proceeding westward. The first saw logs cut on this stream for commercial purposes were floated to the government mill at Neenah in 1835. In 1842, Samuel Farnsworth erected the first sawmill on the upper Wolf near the location of the present village of Shawano, and in the following spring he sent the first raft of lumber down the Wolf to Oshkosh. This river also rises in Oconto County, but flows in a southerly direction, and enters Winnebago Lake at Oshkosh. Its pineries have been very extensive, but the drain upon them within the past decade has told with greater effect than upon any other district in the state. The quality of the timber is very fine, and the land is considered good for agricultural purposes, and is being occupied upon the lines of the different railways which cross it. The upper waters of the Wolf are rapid, and have a comparatively steady flow, which renders it a very good stream for driving logs. Upon the upper river, the land is quite rolling, and about the headwaters is almost mountainous. The pine timber that remains in this district is high up on the main river and branches, and will last but a few years longer. A few years ago the annual product amounted to upward of 250,000,000 feet; in 1876 it was 138,000,000. The principal manufacturing points are Oshkosh and Fond du Lac; the former has 21 mills, and the latter 10.

Next comes the Wisconsin, the longest and most crooked river in the state. It rises in the extreme northern sections, and its general

course is southerly until, at Portage City, it makes a grand sweep to the westward and unites with the Mississippi at Prairie du Chien. It has numerous tributaries, and, together with these, drains a larger area of country than any other river in the state. Its waters flow swiftly and over numerous rapids and embryo falls, which renders log driving and raft running very difficult and even hazardous. The timber is generally near the banks of the main stream and its tributaries, gradually diminishing in extent as it recedes from them and giving place to the several varieties of hardwoods. The extent to which operations have been carried on necessitates going further up the stream for available timber, although there is yet what may be termed an abundant supply. The first cutting of lumber on this stream, of which there is any record, was by government soldiers, in 1828, at the building of Fort Winnebago. In 1831, a mill was built at Whitney's rapids, below Point Bass, in what was then Indian territory. By 1840, mills were in operation as high up as Big Bull falls, and Wausau had a population of 350 souls. Up to 1876, the product of the upper Wisconsin was all sent in rafts to markets on the Mississippi. The river above Point Bass is a series of rapids and eddies; the current flows at the rate of from 10 to 20 miles an hour, and it can well be imagined that the task of piloting a raft from Wausau to the dells was no slight one. The cost of that type of transportation in the early times was actually equal to the present market price of the lumber. With a good stage of water, the length of time required to run a raft to St. Louis was 24 days, though quite frequently, owing to inability to get out of the Wisconsin on one rise of water, several weeks were consumed. The amount of lumber manufactured annually on this river is from 140,000,000 to 200,000,000 feet.

Black River is much shorter and smaller than the Wisconsin, but has long been known as a very important lumbering stream. It is next to the oldest lumber district in the state. The first sawmill west of Green Bay was built at Black River Falls in 1819 by Col. John Shaw. The Winnebago tribe of Indians, however, in whose territory he was, objected to the innovation of such a fine art, and unceremoniously offered up the mill upon the altar of their outraged solitude. The owner abruptly quitted that portion of the country. In 1839 another attempt to establish a mill on Black river was more successfully

made. One was erected at the same point by two brothers by the name of Wood, the millwright being Jacob Spaulding, who eventually became its possessor. His son, Mr. Dudley J. Spaulding, is now a very extensive operator upon Black river. La Crosse is the chief manufacturing point, there being ten sawmills located there. The annual production of the stream ranges from 150,000,000 to 225,000,000 feet of logs, less than 100,000,000 feet being manufactured into lumber on its banks. The balance is sold in the log to mills on the Mississippi. It is a very capricious river to float logs in, which necessitates the carrying over from year to year of a very large amount, variously estimated at from 150,000,000 to 200,000,000 feet, about equal to an entire season's product. This makes the business more hazardous than on many other streams, as the loss from depreciation is very great after the first year. The quality of the timber is fine, and good prices are realized for it when sold within a year after being cut.

MEMBER SEEKS CCC INFORMATION

I had the chance this summer to visit one of our members, Paul Brenner of Boulder Junction. Besides having a beautifully secluded home on a lake and a nice collection of log marking hammers, Paul has an amazing set of files on items concerning the local history of his area. Paul is quite active in giving lectures at schools and such, and is quite well known locally for collecting and sharing knowledge of the logging industry and the general local history of the areas around Boulder Junction. If you ever try to reach him by phone, you'll find just how busy he is! Paul asked that I relay his request that he is seeking photocopies of photographs and news items relating to CCC Camp 650 at Star Lake and Camp 1601 "Crystal Lake", which was actually located at White Sand Lake. If you have any such items, you can write to Paul Brenner at Box-108, Boulder Junction, WI, 54512. Paul also provided me with the information for the following article. These items, relating to sickness and accidents in the logging camps near Boulder Junction, were taken from the *Minocqua Times*, 1902 - 1917.

SICKNESS & ACCIDENTS IN THE CAMPS

6 / 0 5 / 0 2 The friends of Hugh Murray, an old resident of Woodruff and one time policeman there, became alarmed over his mysterious disappearance the latter part of the last week, and instituted a search for him. His dead body was found over 20 miles from here, near the Boulder dam, early Sunday morning. He had been working at the M.L. camp near Wildcat Lake and becoming ill, concluded to go to Kelley's shack and rest up. In going to Kelley's he took the wrong road and, becoming seriously ill, died on the way. It was supposed at the camp that he was at Kelley's but some ten days afterward when it was discovered that he was not there, word was sent to Woodruff to see if he had went there, but failing to find him a searching party was organized and succeeded in finding the body Sunday morning. It was badly decomposed and eagles had devoured part of the head when discovered.

9 / 0 3 / 0 3 John Hoy met with a serious accident at Glenbrook last Saturday. He fell from a bridge and was followed by several large logs. That he was not killed was miraculous. He spent several days in the Rhinelander hospital and is getting along nicely.

9/03/03 A bad wreck happened on the C.M. & St. P. Ry. near Star Lake on Monday afternoon. A work train with conductor Murphey in charge pulled by engineer Jaines was struck by a logging train in charge of Conductor Carman with Chas. Blair as engineer and Thos. Close as fireman. Engineer Blair was pulling the logging cars and backing up with the caboose ahead of him, running at a good rate of speed when turning a sharp curve the trains came together. One brakeman was riding on top of the caboose and the other inside and when they discovered the other train. they were only about 100 feet apart and immediately jumped. Their warning cry was heard but neither the engineer nor his fireman had time to jump and when the engines came together, they smashed the caboose to splinters and jammed the tender of Blair's engine into the cab, pinning him and the fireman into the boiler. The cab was at once filled with steam and though every effort was made to rescue the men it was impossible. Thomas Close the fireman lived some twenty minutes and Engineer Blair some 57 minutes before death relieved them of their sufferings.

10/01/03 Phillip Webber, a woodsman employed at the Cutler Lewis camp on Boulder Lake, was struck by a falling tree and killed

instantly last Saturday. The remains were brought to this place the same evening and Monday buried in the Minocqua cemetery.

4 / 2 3 / 0 8 Tuesday night between 10 and 11 o'clock a log shanty at Houlton Bros. camp at Trout Lake was destroyed by fire. It was occupied by Joseph Granley, foreman for the Houlton Bros., and when discovered by the men sleeping in the bunkhouse it was impossible to save him and he perished as did also his dog who was in the building with him.

5 / 1 6 / 1 2 Monday the death of John Beauvine occurred in the saloon of Wallace & Scholz at Wild Cat Springs, the demise being due to alcoholism. The incident leading up to his passing away shows a deplorable condition of affairs. A week previous, Beauvine received over \$140. from the Brooks & Ross Co., says Mr. Ross of that company. He went to the saloon and never set his foot out of that place alive again. He was filled up with booze, and when he died he was penniless, and he was buried in the Potter's field. It appears as though the saloon is nothing but a dive of the lowest kind, and the town of Eagle River ought to investigate the condition there, and take away their license. We are glad to note that Oneida County has no such "joints".

5/23/12 Mr. Wallace, of Wallace and Scholz, proprietors of the Wild Cat Springs Resort, was in Minocqua yesterday and found time to visit the office. Mr. Wallace reported that certain statements given in this paper relating to the death of Beauvine who died at that place was untrue. In explaining it, Mr. Wallace says the man had \$138. in time checks which he left with him, \$35 of which was sent away to pay a debt. He gave some money away to fellow men and spent about \$80. On the morning of his death, he left the saloon, so Wallace says, in good health and at night he was found dead. Mr. Wallace says that he conducts a good honest place, and that it is neither a joint or a dive.

3/11/15 Matt Duemes, scaler for Brooks and Ross at Boulder Jct., was taken to the Rhinelander hospital Friday. It is reported that he has typhoid fever.

2/24/16 Wm. Meyers (of Woodruff) who was working for Brooks & Ross at Boulder Jct., was accidentally cut with an ax above his foot. He was taken to the Tomahawk hospital in a serious condition.

HOLT LUMBER IN ASHLAND?

While doing some research on railroads, Larry Easton, one of our members, found an interesting article concerning the Holt Lumber Co. establishing a large lumber operation in Ashland, WI, in 1900. Larry passed along this information to Don Holt of Appleton. Don expressed surprise at this news, and his letter of reply to Mr. Easton reveals some interesting information on Holt activities. Don Holt's letter is printed below. A portion of the newspaper article describing the Holt operations in Ashland follows.

June 10, 1994

Dear Mr. Easton,

I was very interested in the article you sent me about Holt Lbr. Co. establishing a logging and sawmill operation in Ashland in 1900. I have never heard of that before. As far as I know Holt's only operation back at that time was a saw and planing mill in Oconto and logging camps in northeastern Wisconsin and one camp in Upper Michigan near Bruce's Crossing.

However, when I read of Geo. H. Holt, President, I can guess what happened. He was a speculator and loved to attempt to start and operate new businesses. Wm. A. Holt, his younger brother, and my father, started in Oconto in charge of the whole operation in 1887. His father, D. R. Holt, lived in Chicago and operated a retail yard. He bought timber and the mill in Oconto from Mr. Uri Balcomb, and sent Wm. A. Holt up to Oconto to manage the operation. I never heard him mention anything about starting a plant in Ashland. I can imagine Uncle George trying to do it on his own, and found out he couldn't swing it. My dad had his hands full at Oconto until 1938, the year Holt Lbr. Co. shut down for lack of logs.

George Holt was never real active in the Oconto operation. He had a small one in Canada north of Lake Superior that went broke. He also had an electrical business of some kind in Florida in later life, and had an unsuccessful investment in a gold mine out west. He was an adventurer, period.

Sincerely, Don Holt

THE BIG DEAL CLOSED TODAY

ASHLAND TO HAVE LARGE DISTRIBUTING YARD Holt Lumber Company Has Decided to Locate at Ashland Mayor Bardon Has Engineered the Deal From the Start Others Interested

(from the Ashland Weekly Press, March 24, 1900)

For some months, quiet, systematic and energetic work has been done by a certain gentleman of Ashland, with a view of securing the location of one of the largest manufacturing enterprises in the west, for Ashland. Several trips and conferences were necessary, and many obstacles were encountered, but overcome by persistent patience and effort. Last fall, the American Lumber company, at the head of which are the Holt Brothers of Oconto and Chicago, signified to Mr. Thomas Bardon their desire to establish a large planing mill and distributing yard somewhere, either at Ashland, Superior or Duluth. Mr. Bardon secured options on *(three sites are then described)*. Five members of the company came here and carefully inspected the different locations offered.

(After discussing different propositions and conferring with the railroad on rail matters) The Holt Lumber company then addressed the following communication to Mr. Bardon, their confidential representative here on the ground, and who has so ably assisted and engineered the deal at this end.

"Chicago, Feb. 13, 1900 - Hon. Thos. Bardon, Ashland, Wis.,
Dear Sir: Confirming our conversation of yesterday at Ashland. We propose to establish at Ashland a wholesale lumber distributing plant designed to handle not less than 25 million feet per annum to be distributed by carloads, provided you will secure to us free of cost the title and occupancy of the property herein referred to, as stated in our conversation. *(Property, wagon road and mill waste details are then presented.)* That you may understand the necessity for obtaining these facilities in order to successfully compete at Ashland with the same character of business at other points we submit the following statement of the scope of our plan. This embraces:

"Planing mill, dressed lumber sheds and dry kilns adequate to this business, say ten machines.

"Lumber yard needed, twenty acres or more.

"Track connections with all roads entering Ashland without extra switching charge.

"Dock to deep water.

"Fleet of barges for transferring cars loaded with lumber, or lumber in bulk, from any mill docks on the bay to our plant.

"Assorting works, to regrade the lumber from mill grades to yard grades.

We estimate that the outlay involved and the number of men employed in our operation will be greater than that required in any of the saw mills, in handling this same amount of lumber. *(Rail matters are then discussed)*. "We have an option at a location at West Superior, which is now complete, with railroad connections and planing mills and docks, and ready for immediate use. At Ashland a large expense must be incurred to prepare the land and secure the necessary rail and water connections. The character of the swampy piece which we have selected is about as bad as it could be, and is worthless, with the one exception of its accessibility. The expense of filling and ditching and protecting this property will be so large, and the benefit of the location of the enterprise to the city and adjoining property will be so great, that we think it reasonable to propose that this location be donated to us free of cost to us."

Holt Lumber Company, George H. Holt, President.

(The article then discusses how Mr. Holt's propositions would be met and explains the wrapping up of the deal) The American lumber company will build a large dock on the east side of the site. They also intend to build a big pulp mill and put in other industries on this ground. They will move their car ferries, scows, tugs, etc., here. They will be large purchasers of timber and logs on the north shore and transport the same here to be sawed in our mills and then be manufactured by them. No enterprise ever came to Ashland that promises better results to the people. It entirely fills a new field for labor and capital, and goes to make Ashland the best lumber market on Lake Superior. Certain delays seemed unavoidable and time only could work out the present grand result to Ashland, the stalwart iron and pine manufacturing metropolis of northern Wisconsin.

Timber Estimators' Book

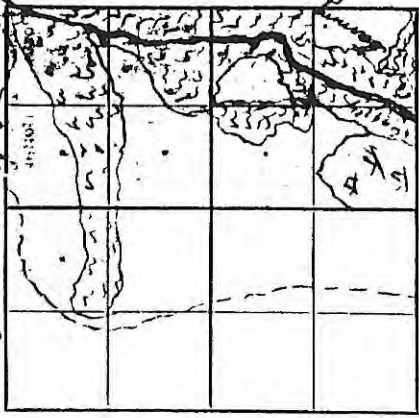
—PREPARED BY THE—

THOMAS J. MATHEWS LAND COMPANY,

MERRILL, WISCONSIN.

The rapid advance in value of all kinds of timber, makes the accurate estimating of timber lands more difficult than formally. This book will enable the estimator to make a record of every kind of valuable timber growing on the land.

SEC. 5 TOWN 45 RANGE 40



Soil	White Pine	Norway Pine	Hemlock	Basswood	Birch	Elm
NE	Cut	-	30	10	10	20
NW	Cut	-	55	10	40	20
SE	Cut	-	25	10	20	20
SW	Cut	-	10	10	10	20
NE	Cut	-	80	10	65	15
NW	Cut	-	95	10	80	15
SE	Cut	-	-	-	-	-
SW	Cut	-	20	10	10	10
Totals						

Soil

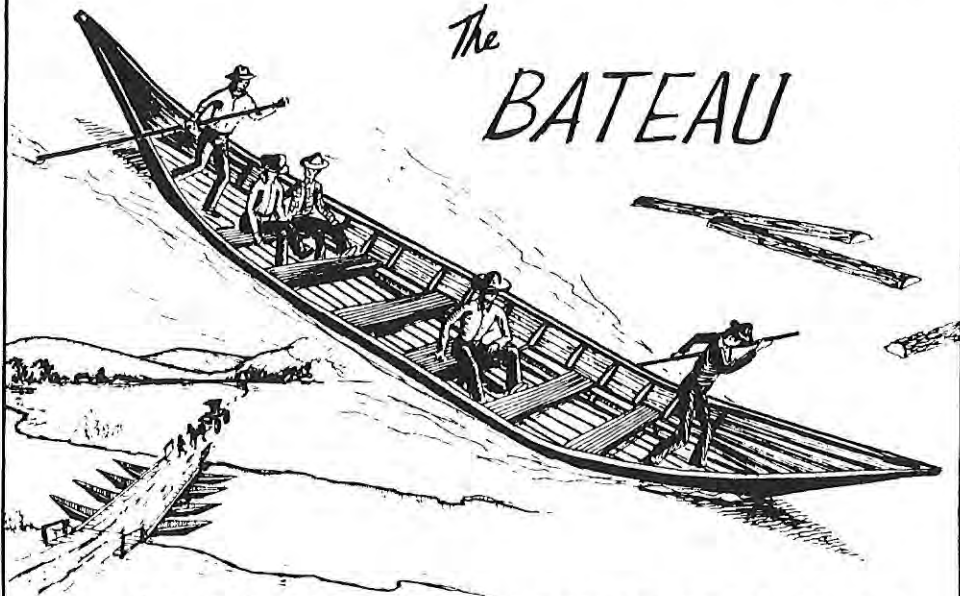
Topography

Estimated

WISCONSIN LORE and LEGENDS



The BATEAU



ONE OF THE MOST VERSITILE BOATS USED ON THE RIVERS IN THE VAST WHITE PINE LOGGING AREA OF NORTHERN WISCONSIN WAS THE STURDY BATEAU OR "MACKINAW BOAT".

IT WAS INTRODUCED TO THE AREA BY FRENCH-CANADIAN TRADERS WHO FOUND THE FLAT BOTTOM BOAT VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO CAPSIZE. IT WAS A LONG BOAT (SOME WERE UP TO 40 FEET IN LENGTH) THAT WAS ABLE TO HANDLE LIGHT OR HEAVY LOADS OF GREAT BULK WITH EASE.

LOW, PARALLEL GUNWALES FLANKING THE WIDE MIDSHIPS PERMITTED THE CRAFT TO BE USED AS A PONTON TO SUPPORT A SECTION OF A BRIDGE CROSSING A STREAM. BOTH THE STERN AND BOW WERE HIGHER THAN THE GUNWALES TO PREVENT THE BATEAU FROM SLIPPING FROM OUT AND UNDER THE BRIDGE DECK.

IT WAS USED BY THE LOGGING COMPANIES FOR TRANSPORTING THE "RIVER PIGS," MEN HERDING LOGS DOWNSTREAM TO THE MILLS DURING THE ANNUAL SPRING DRIVE.

GENERALLY PIKE POLES WERE USED TO PROPEL THE CRAFT, BUT OARS WERE ALWAYS AN OPTION.

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**FHAW MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT
ITEMS FOR THIS NEWSLETTER TO:**

Ray Clark, 2720 Lawrence Drive

DePere, WI 54115

The Post Office will not forward bulk 3rd class mail. Please inform the secretary of any change in address.



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