

# Florida?—Ahhh

Even before all the cold, Michigan ranked third in state of origin for motorists entering Florida this time last year.

And 90 per cent of Florida-bound vacationers make the trip in the family car, notes Joseph Raikes of the Automobile Club of Michigan.

Those Michiganders who make the trip this year will find new entertainment attractions, new hotel and motel accommodations, improved highways and plentiful gasoline along major routes.

Disney World recently opened its River Country next to Ft. Wilderness Campground. The six-acre water recreation area features an old-fashioned swimming hole, waterfalls, raft rides and picnic areas.

Another new attraction is the \$2-million, 5,000-seat Atlantis Theater at Orlando's Sea World. It is perched on the edge of a 17-acre lagoon and is designed for aquatic shows, televised water sports and theatrical productions.

The expanded Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey's Circus World near Haines City, about 12 miles west of Disney World, offers a participation circus for persons who would like to perform under the Big Top. Guests can walk the high wire, fly on the trapeze or have their faces painted like clowns.

At West Palm Beach, there is the new Lion County Safari Amusement Park with 15 rides.

Hurricane World, about two miles east of Orlando boasts a \$5-million, 20-acre complex including a storm test-

ing facility, a mini-theater for hurricane films and what is billed as the scarier ride designed by man—an aerial hurricane ride called the "Eye."

**MOTORISTS PULLING** trailers or just pitching tents will find campgrounds under heavy pressure, the Auto. Club reports.

Hotel and motel pressure always is heavy in winter, but this year Florida has several new hotels and motels and more are scheduled to open.

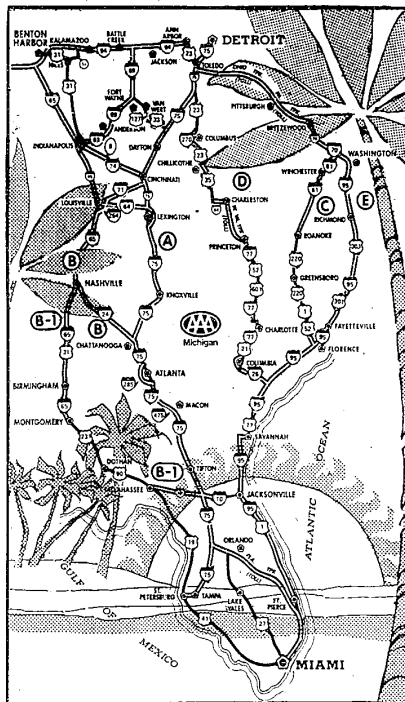
Motorists will find Florida's interstate highway system about 77 per cent complete, with the bulk of the uncompleted mileage the 275 miles of I-75 in southwest Florida.

The I-75 bridge over the Caloosahatchee River, which started two years ago, is expected to be completed in February. In southeast Florida, the 78-mile stretch of I-95 between Miami and PDA Boulevard in West Palm Beach also is open.

Southern Michigan motorists should allow at least 2½ days of driving time to reach the Florida state line and 3½ days to reach Miami.

The most direct route for east Michigan tourists is Route A via I-75. Its 1,410 miles include 1,406 miles of four-lane highway and told for the trip to Miami cost \$5.20. Route A goes through Cincinnati, Lexington, Knoxville and Chattanooga but skirts Atlanta via a bypass. There is semi-mountainous terrain on only about 30 miles of the trip in Kentucky and Tennessee.

Motorists heading for Florida from other section of the state or country can check the accompanying map for routes and toll rates.



COMPARISON OF ROUTES — DETROIT TO MIAMI — 1977\*

ROUTE	MILEAGE	4-lane highway	TOLL
A	1410	1404	5.20
B	1465	1459	5.20
C	1592	1422	9.90
D	1401	1172	6.80
E	1601	1569	10.30

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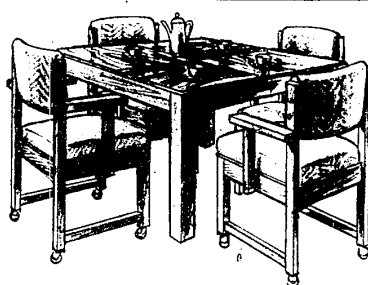
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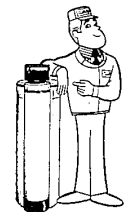
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