

# MICHIGAN OUT-OF-DOORS

## SCENERY-HIDING TREES ON HIGHWAY TO BE REMOVED

Scenic views along Michigan's trunkline highway system now obscured by interfering trees and undergrowth, will soon be opened for the enjoyment of motorists. It was announced this week by State Highway Commissioner G. Donald Kennedy.

Kennedy revealed that the highway department, in cooperation with the conservation department, has planned the removal of the offending "canopies" as a part of the winter program for maintenance forces.

In cases where the highway parallels a scenic attraction for some distance, it was suggested to district foresters and engineers that intermittent openings from 400 to 500 feet be opened, but not necessarily removing all trees.

"There are many beautiful views now obstructed from view," Kennedy said, "that can be revealed by this program." He added this was particularly true along the scenic shoreline routes and more generally true in the northern half of the Lower Peninsula and the Upper Peninsula.

Where obstructions to the views are located some distance from the highway rights of way, it was said property owners would be contacted to obtain their cooperation in an effort to accomplish the result desired.

Kennedy said the work would be speeded as rapidly as possible in an endeavor to have the views opened up for next summer's tourist traffic.

Ludington, Wm. Mitchell, Munuscong, Muskegon, Orchard Beach, Staris Traverse City, Wilderness, J. W. Wells and Wilson state parks.

Defense activities may result in changes in the improvement program when skilled workers on WPA are returned to private employment and if material costs should go up.

Salvage of wind-blown timber in state parks is progressing satisfactorily following the Armistice Day storm. Principal salvage operations will be carried on in Hartwick Hills, Interlochen, Munuscong and Wilderness state parks.

## STATE TO START 2 1/2 MILLION DOLLAR PARK PROGRAM

Michigan's 2 1/2 million dollar state parks improvement program goes into the new year with work in progress in 20 parks and scheduled to begin soon in nine others.

It is the last part of the present program for the engineers of the conservation department's park division who are directing the work. The 1939 legislature voted a half million dollars, \$250,000 to be spent in each of two fiscal years, 1939-40 and 1940-41, as the state's share of a program in which federal contributions, principally through the WPA and CCC, with some special appropriations, is securing improvements costing five times as much.

Start of work at Brimley state park on Whitefish bay in Chippewa county launches the department into the final six months of the two-year program. A new entrance road, parking area, sites for 110 camping parties and a combination toilet, laundry and shower building are planned. Similar improvements including construction of bath houses, water and sewer lines, sanitary facilities and electric connections for trailer campers, are planned for coming months in Bay City, Gladwin, Gable, lake, Interlochen, Marquette, McLain, Silver lake, Sterling and White Cloud state parks.

Work now in progress in Baraga, Burt lake, East Tawas, Fort Wilkins, Grayling, Harrisville, W. J. Hayes, Holland, Island lake,

Whirl of an airplane propeller may mean a fatal blow to the foresters in the conservation department's Cusino state game area in coming weeks as Blaine Brannon, area manager, surveying conditions in winter deer yards, makes his patrols in the new snowmobile. Brannon has built a light, propeller-driven, ski-equipped vehicle which he intends using on trails in the area where distances to some swamps are so great that snowshoes and ski patrols cannot be made.

The snowmobile is a portable and some features of similar equipment built in St. Ignace for use of commercial fishermen. The Russian government bought some of the sleds built in St. Ignace, using them as models for equipment which saw service in the Finnish campaign. Brannon's vehicle differs in that the motor is placed closer to the ground, power being transmitted to the propeller shaft by belts. A retractable fin down the center of the front ski is pushed up when it encounters obstacles, gives greater grip in snow at other times.

Two persons can ride in the snowmobile. A light automobile motor supplies power.

## Thirty Deaths Result From Gun Wounds in '40

Thirty deaths from gunshot in the 1940 hunting season, the most recorded in the last 12 years, are resulting in renewed emphasis in the conservation department's educational campaign for greater familiarity with firearms through more off-season practice at ranges.

In previous seasons, from 1939 back through 1929, the toll of hunters killed had been 23, 23, 27, 23, 18, 24, 20, 15, 27, and 26. Casualties are not in proportion to the hunting hosts, which now number about 500,000 in small game season and 360,000 in deer season.

Seventeen of the 1940 season's fatalities were in small game hunting. Nonfatal accidents, totaling 45 in small game season and 26 in deer season, were fewer than in 1939.

In 46 of the 1940 accidents, fatal and nonfatal in both seasons, the shotgun was the firearm in use. In 31 cases the weapon was a rifle, and in one instance a hunter was wounded with a pistol, and in other accidents the type of gun was not reported. Of 27 cases the hunter was shot by his own gun. Twelve of those fatally injured were less than 20 years old.

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## Second Thoughts

By ROBERT M'CHESNEY  
(Associated Newspapers)  
WNU Service.

FOR the third time since 9 a. m. the telephone rang and it was only 10 a. m. then. Jerry took the ceiling of the book with a light, it did seem. In the area prior to universal telephone service must have been much more peaceful for busy housewives than this hectic age of constant interruptions.

The first call had been from Bill's Aunt Mary, announcing her intended arrival for lunch; later, the butcher had called giving the exacting news that he'd not be able to send broilers that day—Aunt Mary doted on fried chicken. To make matters worse, Mary Ellen had cut her thumb badly and was very sorry in consequence; little help could be looked for from that quarter. And now—this!

"Is that you, Jerry?"

"Yes, dear."

"You really didn't sound natural somehow. Say, Jerry, we're invited to dine with the Fanchers tonight at their new studio-apartment. It's sure to be a wop of a party."

"But, Bill—"

"But me so but! We're going. I wouldn't miss it for the world. It's been got up in a hurry—Jack just called up some of the fellows and told them to breeze in about seven with their wives."

"But, Bill, dear—"

"Now listen, honey, I'm in a rush. You know what I'll need. I must have time to come out to dress, so you put my things in that light overnight bag and come in on the six-o'clock. Dick? Yes, I'm ready to start now—Remember, Jerry, the six-o'clock. I'll meet you at the station."

The receiver at the other end clicked and Jack sat still, her mind in a whirl of resentment and anxiety. Aunt Mary already on her way—Bill out of his office for the day probably.

"Are you perfectly sure that you have taken proper care of Mary Ellen's thumb, Geraldine, dear?" asked Aunt Mary the moment she saw that member swathed in white cotton cloth.

Aunt Mary had a decided will of her own and though Jerry assured her that the injured thumb had been thoroughly soosed with antiseptics from the family bottle, luncheon had to be postponed while the bandage was removed, lotion applied and a fresh bandage secured by Aunt Mary's capable hands.

The clock was chiming five as the door closed behind Aunt Mary and Jerry was free to race frantically upstairs to pack Bill's evening clothes in the bag. At 5:45 Mary Ellen had deposited the overnight bag by the hall door and retired to the kitchen to nurse her still painful thumb. The telephone was ringing maddeningly as Jerry ran down the stairs, Mary Ellen being out of sight, she feverishly took down the receiver, only to get no response to her hurried "hello—hello—hello."

At the first stop a pretty girl entered the car carrying a smart-looking bag. A bag Jerry loomed swiftly forward and groped beside the seat where her bag should have been. "It was not there—it never had been there—it was right where Mary Ellen had put it by the hall door. The train going the other direction had already passed the next stop—anyway, Bill was to meet the six-o'clock—the toll her—the situation broke over her. What would Bill say?

She knew what this going to the Fanchers meant to him. Angry, helpless, tears filled her eyes as the fatigue of the trying day overcame her and she visioned Bill's impatient irritation.

"Oh, you're always forgetting something," he would begin in the tone that she knew so well.

A sensation of bitterness surged over Jerry. Did marriage ever mean anything for a woman except exaction? Bill's comfort, Bill's pleasure, Bill's relatives, why, they filled her life to the exclusion of everything else.

The train came to a stop and Jerry rose with a sigh.

"Hello, honey, I'm glad you got my message. Mary Ellen thought you must have run in next door, for the bag was still in the hall," said Bill, tucking her arm through his. "I was half afraid you wouldn't come in town since the party was called off. I'm sort of glad it's off, to tell the truth, for it was certain to have been an all-night affair. I thought you were disappointed, though. What do you say we have a little dinner all by ourselves and then take in a show?"

After having braced herself for indignant disapproval, Jerry's reaction to the changed situation was a bubbling joyousness that made Bill burst forth spontaneously: "I, honey-girl, we have better times when we step out all by ourselves than at any party that was ever thrown."

Jerry was silent, but she squeezed his arm satisfactorily. Her spirits began to descend a little as they neared their favorite cafe. Should she tell Bill the truth about the bag? What good would it do? Their evening might be spoiled—no, she decided, she'd not tell him. What a man didn't know, etc.

"Here's lettuce with Roquefort cheese dressing," she ordered rapidly.

## MICHIGAN TREES VARY IN SNOW AND ICE DAMAGE

Heavy snow two years ago in Michigan proved that varieties of trees differ in amounts of snow and damage.

Surveys conducted by Maurice W. Day, superintendent of the Dunbar forest nursery of Michigan State College on an acreage located near Sault Ste. Marie, indicated that Scots pine and the spruces seem best adapted to planting in areas likely to be most subject to snow damage.

This damage, Superintendent Day explains, leaves branches hanging by fragments but still attached to the tree trunk. This condition probably causes defects in the lumber eventually produced by these trees. Small loose knots would be numerous, although the large amount of resin exuded by the wounds likely would keep down any extensive amount of fungus infection.

Any cultural treatment that will obtain thrifty growth is an advantage, it is pointed out by the forester. Snow damage would be less after a tree height of 8 to 10 feet is reached.

In the studies it was found that where red pine and white pine were involved in deep snows, the damage was reduced by pruning to a height of three to four feet as an early in age as possible.

The winter of 1938-39 offered Day an excellent opportunity for the study. Snowfall recorded by the U. S. weather bureau at the Sault reached a total of 128 inches for the winter. Age of the trees ranged from 10 to 15 years. Surveys were made in blocks of red pine, white pine, Scots pine, Norway spruce and white spruce.

Apples and Juice Sold At Michigan Apple Show

A recent report to the Department of Agriculture concerning results of the Michigan Apple Show recently held in Chicago discloses that 750 bushels of apples and 800 24 can cases of apple juice were sold at the show.

The apples and juice were sold to persons from 26 different states. This is the first time that apples and apple juice have been offered for sale at the show, the commodities being on exhibit only in other years.

With the wide distribution effected by the sales in Chicago, growers feel that markets for Michigan apples and juice will be definitely increased.

## New Road to Falls Resurfaced by CCC

Motorists, next spring, will be able to drive to a point within three-quarters of a mile of the lower Tahquamenon falls when CCC enrollees of Camp Paradise complete the clay surfacing of the 24-foot roadway whose construction was begun a year ago. The new road is reached from a point five miles west of Paradise on Whitefish bay in Chippewa county. A crew of 50 has moved 13,500 cubic yards of material to date in building the road.

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