

View of the Au Sable from Michigan National Forest

### Chippewa Chief Deserts His Tribe Rather Than Quit Beloved Au Sable

East Michigan River, Famous in Poetry, Prose and Song, Mecca For Noted Persons

(By E. M. T. Service)  
Copyright, 1923  
By Joe Dermody

MADE famous in prose and poetry, and favored with unrivaled scenic splendor along its course of 250 miles past timber-studded bluffs and grassy moors, the Au Sable in East Michigan is in winter a rendezvous for the hunter and trapper and in summer a romantic adventure for the tourist.

This great aquatic artery, rising in northeastern Michigan near the central part of the lower peninsula, feeds many lakes and countless streams and springs, has an unending charm. Men who have once floated down its waters return to its precincts year after year. An Englishman crossed the Atlantic year after year to fish the river. An Indian chief deserted his tribe rather than leave his fishing and hunting stream. Two Bay City, Michigan, men have made their age to it together and are already planning for next May 1 their forty-second visit.

The river is not only historically and scenically appealing but it has a piscatorial attraction. Congressman Harry S. New, of Washington, D. C., has been fishing the stream for 41 years. The late James Oliver Curwood, the novelist, who died in 1927, had a cottage on its banks in which he wrote many of his outdoor stories. Annually he had as his guests prominent New York publishers and editors. Gene Stratton Porter completed her last book in her cottage on the Au Sable and at the time of her tragic death in California had an option on 15 miles of frontage on this wonderful stream.

R. C. Durant, better known as "Cliff," son of W. C. Durant, founder of General Motors, has a cottage on the South Branch of the Au Sable. "Hideaway," young Durant calls his place. Cliff Durant, known chiefly to the public as a sportsman, automobile driver and aviator, plays the stock market from his Au Sable cottage. Freed from the distractions of civilization, he has, from his Au Sable cottage, traded in issues to the number of 10,000 to 20,000 a day. This he achieves through the use of telegraph and telephone wires. Durant has several times been a competing driver in the automobile races at Indianapolis.

David Shoppengon, a Chippewa Indian chief, because of his love for the

Au Sable, divorced himself from his tribe, when with the coming of the white man, the tribe quit the territory. Shoppengon remained in the vicinity of the river for the remainder of his life and up to the time of his death a decade ago worked as guide and fisher and hunter on the stream. Noted men in every line of endeavor returned regularly to assimilate Shoppengon's hunting and a fishing knowledge. Today a hotel at Grayling, Michigan, near where the river rises and from which many start on the canoe trip down the river, is named after the Indian chief and a life-size painting of Shoppengon, the work of one of his artist patrons, is prominently displayed in the lobby of the hotel.

Shoppengon was an interesting and romantic figure and while he lived was as much a center of attraction of the section and the river as the landmarks. His name and the Au Sable were almost synonymous. He embraced Christianity after the departure of his tribe and one of his doctrinal tenets was a profound aversion to fishing or hunting on the Sabbath, a circumstance that contributed much of discredit to many of the visitors who engaged his services. One of his delights was the opportunity to relate in flamboyant oratorical style the manner of the massacre of the British at Fort Michilimackinac, first hand facts of which he claimed to have received from his father who was a participating chief in the Pontiac uprising.

A cross, seven inches long, brought to this country by the Jesuit missionaries in the seventeenth century, was handed down to Shoppengon and was preserved by him until his almost up to the time of his death. The cross is now on display in the rooms of the Bay City Historical Society at Bay City.

The Au Sable flows through a part of the great Inland Forest of 215,000 acres which is visited annually by residents from every state in the union, the provinces of Canada and even from England, France, Japan, and South America, countries.

The canoe trip from Grayling to Lake Huron, into which the Au Sable empties, is one of the charming, intriguing magnets for many of the tourist visitors. This trip may be made in company with guides whose entire lives have been spent on the river.

asked that the name of the donor remain anonymous.

The applause that greeted the announcement was evidence that the movement was a popular addition to the program. The committee later decided on two prizes, for winner and runner-up, so instead of a 5 pound box of candy the prizes were changed to a 3 pound and a 2 pound box.

Mrs. Victoria Gagnier, of Detroit, was the winner. The first prize in the spirited contest, that followed, and Mrs. P. T. Rich of Midland, took the second box.

The relay contest of Friday prevented taking of a group photograph until Saturday afternoon, by which time quite a number of the members had left the lodge. The total registration was about 20.

### The Sports Program

(By James S. Haskins)  
Although the heavy rain drenched most of the contestants in the sports program planned for Friday morning, the long list of prizes proved such an incentive for the athletically inclined that the races were closely contested. O. V. LaBoiteux, Reading, had charge of the contests which were pulled off in front of the Van Ettan Lake Lodge.

The grand prize, a seven tube radio set presented by the Western Newspaper Union of Detroit, was awarded to F. E. Pejberg of Standish. Herb Wood, Dangor, was the winner of the special 100-yard dash event and thus captured the Field Manager's Trophy presented by L. W. Feighner, Nashville. Wood will have the trophy for a year and at next year's summer outing it will again be placed on the awards list. The editor winning it three times gains permanent possession of the award.

The other winners and the prizes they won were as follows: Hopski-jump — W. H. Berkey, Cassopolis, was awarded the carving set offered by the Whitaker Paper Co., Detroit.

Foot man's race—Elmer J. Hanna, Harbor Springs, won a special prize offered by the Dudley Paper Co., Lansing.

Men's backward race—J. Grim, Blanchard, received a gold band set offered by the John Wilding Paper Co., Fort Wayne, Ind.

Stone throw—James Haskins, Jr., Howard City, won \$15 worth of new type offered by the American Type Foundry Co., Detroit.

Low golf score, W. F. Panzer, Detroit, received the steel shafted McGregor golf club offered by the Merghubler Linotype Co., Chicago, Illinois.

Row race (man and woman)—M. J. and Mrs. O. V. LaBoiteux, Reading, were awarded the two cabinets of writing paper presented by the Western Newspaper Union, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Ladies Bean Race—Mrs. Paul McDonald, Gaylord, received the 100 engraved calling cards offered by the Jenner Co., Louisville, Ky.

Ladies Novelty Ball Race—Mrs. P. Rich, Midland, was a set of silver boxes given by the Campbell Paper Co., South Bend, Ind.

Ladies Pen Race—Miss Mary Berkey, Cassopolis, was awarded a box of candy offered by the Central Michigan Paper Co., Grand Rapids.

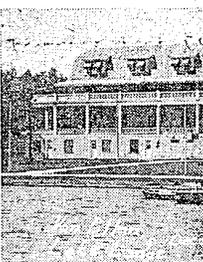
### Van Ettan Lake Lodge

If you are planning a summer vacation, consider the advantages offered you at Van Ettan Lake Lodge, where every detail has been planned for your comfort and pleasure and where a standard of excellence is maintained that will please you.

All of the pleasures of our door life can be enjoyed under the most favorable conditions," says the owner, Mr. Frank G. Crowley. "Golfing, fishing, tennis, dancing, fishing, bathing, boating, picnicking, etc. are the most popular amusements; and for those who desire rest and quiet they will find this at Van Ettan. We do not encourage style—your sport or fishermen's clothes will always meet our approval. We wish you to be comfortable, as best pleased you, as your pleasure is ours."

Van Ettan Lake Lodge is a thoroughly modern structure containing 60 guest rooms, a great many of which have private and connecting baths; every room with running hot and cold water and numerous corridors for guests desiring such accommodations.

Adjoining the Lodge there are about 20 cottages for families or parties who desire to be by themselves and enjoy the homelike privileges afforded by them. These cottages have three sleeping rooms, large living room (some with fire place) and a complete bath room. All meals taken at the Lodge and occupants of the



VAN ETTAN LAKE LODGE

cottages have full hotel service. The dining room will seat 250 people and the meals speak for themselves. White Fish and Mackinaw Trout are served twice daily on the tables within one hour after being taken from Lake Huron and prepared by an expert in this line. Certified and pasteurized milk and cream are always to be found on our tables in abundance and are furnished us by the celebrated Serradella Farm, which is reputed to be the most complete and best conducted dairy and stock farm in Michigan. All fruits and vegetables are served in season fresh from the market gardens in this vicinity.

Van Ettan Lake is a body of water about 5 miles long and 1 1/2 miles wide, has an inlet and outlet and is always fresh and clear, being fed directly by springs. The fishing is exceptionally good. Black bass, walleye, perch, pickerel, great northern pike, bluegills, catfish, rainbow and lake trout, muskellunge and other spring-fish abound. The lake is stocked with several million fish each year and will not be allowed to deplete. Within a short distance of the Lodge there are several excellent trout streams, which can be reached by direct, ever splendid roads, where lovers of this sport may have their full satisfaction.

The nine hole golf course laid out

Ladies Ball throw — Miss Ruth Beach, Fenton, won a silver pitcher presented by the Chope-Stevens Paper Co., Detroit.

Ladies balloon race—Miss Mary Berkey, Cassopolis, received a \$5 gold piece given by the Quimby-Kain Paper Co., Grand Rapids.

Ball casting—W. F. Panzer, Detroit, received a cabinet of writing paper presented by the Butler Paper Co., Detroit.

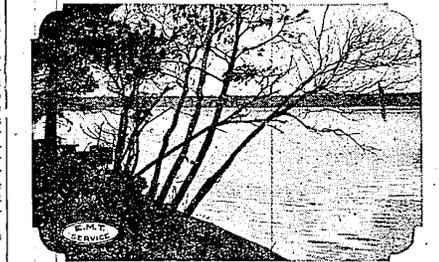
Men's relay race—Won by Frank Spizer, Paw Paw; James Haskins, Jr., Howard City; Geo. P. Moss, Milwaukee; W. S. J. Grim, Blanchard; and J. Thompson, Paw Paw. Prize, a box of cigars offered by the Central Michigan Paper Co., Grand Rapids.

Along the picturesque Au Sable River has been put in excellent playing condition by a professional and will continue to be improved each year until a degree of supremacy has been reached.

The bathing beach, right in front of the Lodge, has a clear white sand bottom and a gradual slope, and is perfectly safe for either adults or children. The roads are all improved and are kept in perfect condition. About two-thirds of the roads consist of cement pavement and the remainder excellent gravel.

The nine hole golf course laid out

### Sixteenth Century Mystery Ship, Buried In East Michigan Inland Lake, Believed To Be La Salle's "Griffin"



Poetical and Romantic Lake Solitude  
Copyrighted, 1923  
(E. M. T. Service)  
By Joe Dermody

Lake Solitude, near East Tawas, Michigan, about three-quarters of a mile from the Lake Huron, one of the great inland seas, has a skeleton of a mystery ship buried in the muck underneath its placid waters. How the derelict came into the waters of Lake Solitude is as much an enigma as the presence of the ship itself.

Lake Solitude is small and has no connection with any body of water except through a narrow two-foot stream that trickles into Tawas Bay and Lake Huron during the spring of 1923. It is believed to be a dry bed for part of the year.

The battered old boat was in Lake Solitude when the first white settlers arrived. It was a sizable craft, about sixty feet long, with a decked first cabin and a second cabin below. It was ornately fashioned, with broad bows and narrow high poop resembling the old Spanish, Portuguese and French caravel ships in the sixteenth century. Bulkheads held a set of silver boxes together were said to have been of copper.

On Lake's Bottom Centuries The boat has been on the bottom of Lake Solitude for decades—perhaps centuries—that old bulk of rotting, rotting upper timbers surrounded in a cobwebby atmosphere of antiquity. The pioneers who came to the shores of Solitude ninety years ago saw it and wondered. Historians have wondered ever since. Tourists from every state in the Union, from provinces of Canada, from European countries and even from the Orient, intrigued by the romance of the mystery, annually visit the isolated lake.

No one has positively ascertained what ship it was that rests upon Solitude's bottom, or how it came to be in this inland lake. A sixty-foot vessel never sailed into Lake Solitude by way of the two-foot wide creek, hatched with muck. It was a derelict before white men settled in Michigan and there is no living person who has been able to tear away the shroud of marine mystery surrounding it.

The waters of the lake have receded and the deck has rotted away, but the keel is said to be still intact, under the water, despite the constant attrition of lake waters, winds, ice and storm.

The explanation? Here is the only logical one, given some credence by historians. Vessel Built in 1679

The story starts in that epoch of derring-do when English, French and Portuguese adventurers, explorers and voyageurs, impelled by the then human motives of conquest, discovery and regal reward, sailed the known and unknown seas seeking new worlds, gold, Arcadians and fountains of youth.

Nearly 250 years ago, when the penetratingly bitter cold of a January day in 1679 congealed the surface of the great lake, a little band of approximately thirty men toiled wearily through the glacial and naked forests on the hazardous and difficult portage around Niagara Falls. They made up the gallant and intrepid company which followed La Salle into the water wilderness of the Great Lakes. On their backs they carried ship's furnishings from chandeliers of Paris and in their hearts the high purpose of blazing a trail into a strange and unexplored world.

They loved the falls they bowed great timbers and fastened these timbers into the first sailing vessel to embark on the Great Lakes. On the vessel's prow was

fantastically carved the grotesque monster which gave the "Griffin" her name.

Cruise Ends in Tragedy In August, the boat, which was destined to be the flagship of all the great fleets on the lakes today, set sail. But the cruise which had started so valiantly ended in tragedy—and in a little less than eight years before it cleared the waters of Lake St. Ignace, where La Salle as commander and Father Menespin as journalist, the Griffin made port at St. Ignace, where Father Marquette had established a mission eight years before it cleared the waters of Lake St. Ignace for Great Bay September 2, where it took on a cargo of rich furs for La Salle's creditors in Montreal. La Salle sent the Griffin back to Niagara Falls while he continued on in canoes to Lake Pelee, where the Griffin was lost in a storm and never heard of again unless, perhaps, the wreck which lies in the waters of Lake Solitude is that of the ill-fated craft. The fate of the Argonauts is unknown.

Great Inland Sea Covered Areas Lake Huron probably extended farther inland than the three-quarters of a mile of high timbered ridges which now separates it from Lake Solitude. It is definitely known that at one time what is now the northern tip of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan was covered by a great inland sea, and undoubtedly Lake Solitude is what geologists call a newland lake. So it is not impossible that the bulk of the Griffin was tossed upon the shores and the water later receded, leaving only a small lake. Pieces of metal salvaged from the old boat are of ancient workmanship. As recently as 1900, skeletons were found in the vicinity of the boat, one with a sword thrust through it, which after much cleaning proved to bear the French Lilles and French motto and a sixteenth century date.

If the boat was the Griffin what romance hovers about the decayed old derelict? What history lies there in the salvaging! All those who know the truth perished with the Griffin and every summer, thousands of tourists visit Lake Solitude, described by one author-tourist as "a spot too poetic for anything but a honeymoon," to dream about the ancient sailing vessel lying under the lake's surface, resisting the disintegrating process that always follows in the wake of disaster and neglect and which typifies to the visiting tourist from every section of the country the valourous and indomitable spirit of those rogues of old who first planted the cross and civilization in this great territory.

Logging Camp at Grayling To Be Permanent Exhibit

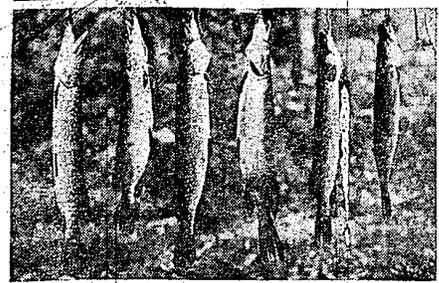
The Hanson Pine tract near Grayling presented to the state sometime ago and a memorial to Major Edward Hartwick, is to be the site of the reproduction of old-fashioned logging camp such as was used in Michigan more than a half century ago. Work on the building of this typical lumber camp is scheduled to start this month. The buildings will be constructed of logs grown on the site. Lumbering interests of the state will equip the building with all the tools used in the logging days from the first time when the first woodman's axe fell in Michigan up to the present time. The exhibit will be the only one of its kind in the country.

### Bridge Tournament

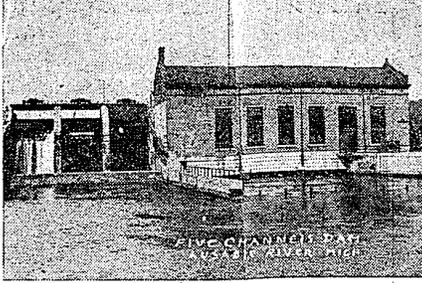
A bridge tournament for the ladies, on Friday afternoon, "spanned" what would otherwise have been a gap in the program.

Because of weeping skies, side trips that in fair weather would have been very interesting, lost their attractiveness to many of the ladies who preferred the spacious lobby of the Lodge to braving the out of doors with Juniper Plovius "Zigzagler" (it is whichever way you prefer).

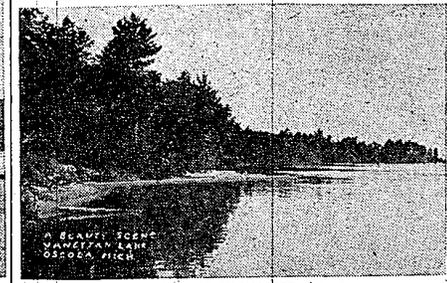
Though Mrs. E. S. usual, C. W. Hunkerford, of the Michigan Bell Telephone Co., suggested to the committee that she would provide a 5 pound box of good candy as a prize for a bridge contest and, modest as usual, he



THE KIND THEY CATCH AT VAN ETTAN LAKE



FIVE CHANNELS DAM ON AUSABLE RIVER



A BEAUTY SCENE ON VAN ETTAN LAKE