

Looking Back

Compiled by Ryan Schlehuber



A 1911 photograph of the students of the former Kennedy School, which was three miles south of Pickford, shows the class of the one-room schoolhouse and their teacher, Edna A. Robinson. Students identified in the photograph include (from left) Parker MacDonald, W. Forbes McDonald, Clifford Taylor, an unidentified male student, Jennie Taylor in front of Oakman Kennedy, Mary Kennedy, Nellie Bawks, Beatrice Peterson, Florence Hudson, three Hart sisters, and Edna Robinson. The boy in front of the group is Otto Clegg. (Photograph courtesy of John and Audrey McDonald)

115 Years Ago

The St. Ignace News

Saturday, August 29, 1891

A public meeting will be held at the City Hall Monday evening, August 31, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of organizing a joint stock company to manufacture and furnish the City of St. Ignace with electric lights.

At the council meeting last Monday evening, the committee on building and grounds was instructed to ascertain at what rate and on what terms the St. Anthony's Rock property could be purchased, with a view to buying same and making a small park.

P. Mulcrone, one of the wealthiest and most enterprising of the citizens of St. Ignace, was in Sault Ste. Marie Tuesday. - *Soo Democrat*

Dr. Campbell has purchased a high grade double-barreled shot gun.

Yesterday morning after the arrival of Thursday's *Detroit Evening News*, a contract was made with a local dealer to supply the St. Ignace band with Winchester rifles, with which the members have been instructed to practice and become expert enough to hit the state editor of the above named paper at 10 paces, after which the boys will leave for Detroit in a body to seek revenge. The following item clipped from the State column of the News explains the cause:

"St. Ignace has a brass band which has been in existence five or six years, but which is said to have learned in that time but four tunes. It is also alleged that No. 4, as played on the streets the other night, caused lights in adjacent buildings to go out and soured all the milk within a radius of half a mile."

Later - In reply to a message sent by leader Eby, the State editor takes it all back and says that the word "St. Ignace" should have read "Cheboygan," but otherwise the item is all right. The order for the rifles has been counter-manded.

The LaSalle and third ward schools were connected with the water works system this week.

Advertisement - "A Tremendous UPROAR in St. Ignace Over Wm. Saulson's Going Out of Business Sale."

90 Years Ago

The St. Ignace Enterprise

Thursday, August 31, 1916

Saturday is tag day for the raising of funds to help the physically defective children of Michigan, of which there are several in our own city and county.

The latest news from Washington indicate that a strike of the railroad employees is inevitable, and the men have their orders to go out at 7 o'clock Monday morning unless a settlement is effected in the meantime. Congress is ready to take action to prevent a walkout, but the outlook is reported as dark.

Vacation days are nearly ended as public schools will re-open next Tuesday morning.

Monday is Labor Day. St. Ignace has made no plans for a celebration and the day will be much like other week days. The bank will close and *The Enterprise* will observe the day by letting its force use the time for their own pleasure.

The principal event of interest in the European war this week was the entry of Romania in the contest on the side of the Allies. Greece is also expected to throw her strength to the

Entente.

Efficiency in the post office department with a proper re-adjustment of rates will permit the government to inaugurate a one cent letter rate within the next year.

Out-of-town young men or women attending school in St. Ignace can secure a good home at reasonable rates at Mrs. F. Therrian's opposite LaSalle High School. Room for four.

The old annex to the Hammond-Standish building has been razed and the surroundings cleared up. Adding to the appearance of the building is a new outside stairway and a vestibule for the upper apartments. Now if the building were to receive one or two coats of paint it would add still further to the premises and that section of the town.

Miss Hilda Siren is temporarily assisting at the post office during the absence of Miss Gallagher.

50 Years Ago

The Republican-News & St. Ignace Enterprise

Thursday, August 30, 1956

The James I. LaRoque golf trophy will be at stake next Sunday, according to Fran Win-Gar, pro at the local course.

Mackinac County's annual fair will open at the Allenville fairgrounds on Friday, August 30, with "Entry Day," when exhibits will be place and entertainment planned.

The Labor Day rush for the final summer vacation period of 1956 will bring nearly 29,000 cars to cross the Straits of Mackinac.

Mackinac County's school children, number 3,064, will answer school bells in the out-county area on Tuesday, September 4. Record school enrollments are likely in all but three districts where small losses are shown. These are St. Ignace, Bois Blanc, and Newton townships.

35 Years Ago

The Republican-News & St. Ignace Enterprise

Thursday, September 2, 1971

Proclaimed as the "World's Greatest Walking Event," the annual Labor Day Mackinac Bridge Walk started in 1958 with 65 persons participating.

The Black Gown Tree weekend will be held September 3, 4, and 5. The free pageant, presented at the spot where Father Marquette landed in 1671 to found his home mission, depicts his work among the Indians,

his departure with Joliet to explore the Mississippi, and the return of his bones to the present, final resting place.

Having studied all the records of the late Father Jacker, Dr. Stone has high hopes of unearthing some remnants of the wall from the original mission in St. Ignace, established in 1671 by Father Marquette. After only a day and a half of digging, bottles, glass, and ceramics dating from about 1870-80 have been unearthed.

Winding up a very successful season, the final meeting of Les Cheneaux Islands Association officers and board of directors will meet on Sept. 8. The 265-member association, which was founded here in 1923, is primarily concerned with

safe-guarding of island and mainland homes and business places. A staff of inspectors patrol the area in a year-round program.

15 Years Ago

The St. Ignace News

Thursday, August 29, 1991

Beginning September 1, recreational boaters stopped by the U.S. Coast Guard and found to be without the new boat user fee tax decal will be issued summonses. It can levy fines up to \$5,000 on boaters found without the tax decal.

A Florida man charged with the murder of a St. Ignace-area resident was arraigned together with an accomplice August 26 in connection with their escape from the Presque Isle County Jail in Rogers City.

DeTour is now a part of the Lake Huron Circle Tour. The circle tour

loop through DeTour begins at the intersection of M-48 and M-134 and is designed by brown signs, which indicates the traveler will return to the starting point or that some of the roads are not paved.

Workers began laying new paving in the west side of North State Street in St. Ignace this week as the summer-long public works project entered its final phase.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The St. Ignace News is seeking original prints or reprints of old photographs depicting areas in the Eastern Upper Peninsula to be scanned into its archives and for the Looking Back column. Photographs to be loaned or donated to the Michilimackinac Historical Society can also be dropped off at The St. Ignace News.



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