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ROSEAU COUNTY

GUIDE AND HISTORY

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HISTORY OF THE ROSEAU VALLEY

THE LAKE OF THE WOODS COUNTRY

ROCKY POINT RESORT

June 27, 1938

888 words

GENERAL INFORMATION

Roseau County

Railroads: The Great Northern Ry. passes through the villages of Strathcona, Greenbush, Badger, Fox, Roseau, Salol, and Warroad. At Warroad connections are made with the Canadian National Ry. which also passes through the villages of Swift and Roosevelt. The Great Northern connects with a main branch at Crookston; the Canadian National is a main line between Winnipeg and Duluth and Port Arthur. Passenger trains run twice daily except Sunday, on the Great Northern, four times daily on the Canadian National.

Highways: The county is traversed by trunk highways 11, 32, and 89, and by county and township roads. (See Highways and Transportation.) State 11 and 32 are bituminous-treated, State 89 is gravel-surfaced. Almost all the county roads are graveled; these and the State Highways have the benefit of snow removal. State 11 and 32 are seldom blocked by snow, but State 89 from Bemidji is generally impassable during the winter. Travelers are advised against taking this route after heavy summer rains, as some portions south of Roseau County are unsurfaced.

Bus Lines: A bus line from Thief River Falls to International Falls operates through Roseau County. At these terminals connections are made with lines to larger cities. The bus stops in Roseau County are at Strathcona, Greenbush, Badger, Fox, Roseau, Salol, Warroad, Swift, and Roosevelt.

Air Lines: No airlines. A cabin plane is available at both Roseau and Warroad for special trips. It is important to note that Warroad is the only airport of entry on the boundary between Duluth and Pembina. Aviators may clear at the customhouse near the Canadian National depot. Landing accommodations for seaplanes only; there is no land airport at Warroad at present. A cabin plane makes trips triweekly from Warroad to the Northwest Angle and Oak Island during the winter.

Motor Vehicle Laws: Consult Minnesota Motor Vehicle Laws. (For local regulations see Villages.) The Minnesota Highway Patrol for this distric is stationed at Roseau.

Accommodations: Hotels at Greenbush, Roseau, and Warroad. Modern conveniences, but limited facilities. Restaurants at the principal villages. The tourist camps at Roseau and Warroad are equipped with necessary conveniences.

Climate and Equipment: Travelers in summer should be prepared for warm days, and cool nights best described as the "one quilt" kind. Winter travelers should inquire of road conditions after wind or storms. (See Climate.)

Recreational Areas: (See Lake of the Woods Country.) For further information write the Warroad Chamber of Commerce; George Arnold, American Point; Charles Fernstrom, Oak Island, Tony Wons, Oak Island. The Lake of the Woods resorts

offer excellent accommodations for all types of vacationers, but cater to the sportsman. Hunting and fishing are the chief attractions.

Seasons for visiting Lake of the Woods to advantage: As this is primarily a hunting and fishing area, the best seasons for sport within the legal limits are of first consideration. Fish strike best in the spring and fall. Mosquitoes are likely to be troublesome in June and early July during wet years.

Fish Laws (Digest): Game fish are defined as wall-eyed pike, pickerel, great northern pike, yellow perch, sand pike (or saugers), muskellunge, crappies, bass (striped, grey, yellow, black, silver, and rock), sunfish, many varieties of trout, landlocked salmon. Rough fish are defined as bullheads, catfish, garfish, whitefish (not less than 16 inches), carp, dogfish, redhorse, sheepshead, suckers, eelpout, buffalo, and inland herring.

Open Season for Fishing (dates inclusive): Wall-eyed pike, pickerel, great northern pike, yellow perch, May 15 to March 1; sand pike (or saugers), muskellunge, May 15 to Feb. 1; crappies, June 21 to Feb. 1; bass (all varieties) June 21 to Dec. 1; trout (any variety except lake trout), May 1 to Sept. 1; lake trout and salmon, Nov. 15 to Sept. 15. Rough fish by angling any time except March and April.

Licenses: Nonresident $3.00; resident, 50¢ per individual, $1.00 for family. Licenses may be purchased at the auditor's office, Roseau County Courthouse, or at Holland's Pharmacy, Warroad.

Open Season for Hunting (dates inclusive): Deer, Nov. 15 to Nov. 25 in even years. Season was open on deer for 6 days in 1937. Nov. 20 to 25 inclusive. Season as well as restrictions may vary from year to year. The Northwest Angle may be opened to moose hunting between Oct. 10 and 20 at the discretion of the Game and Fish Department. Season on migratory birds, Oct. 10 to Nov. 8.

Border Regulations: United States Custom Offices, between April 1 and October 1, are open 8-8; from October 1 to April 1, 8-6. Canadian Custom Offices are open 9-9. Tourists must submit their cars for inspection to the officials of the country which they are entering. They are advised to have with them their State registeration cards for car identification. Imports for personal use to the amount of $100 are duty-free, but restrictions are placed on tobacco and alcoholic beverages.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ROSEAU COUNTY

Location — Roseau County is situated in the northernmost tier of Minnesota counties, and lies on the eastern edge of the Red River Valley. It is bounded on the east by the Lake of the Woods County, on the south by Beltrami and Marshall, on the west by Kittson, and on the north by the Dominion of Canada. The county is reached by three State highways, 11, 32, and 89 (see Highways and Transportation), and is crossed by the Great Northern and Canadian National Railroads.

Incorporated January 31, 1894, Roseau is one of the youngest counties in the State. It has an area of approximately 1,716 square miles, and a total population of 12,621, of which 3,323, or approximately 26 percent, live in incorporated villages. The County is 60 miles long, 32 miles wide. Within its length and breadth are contained all those factors that combined make up what is to the stranger a typical rural area, while whose who live here know it as a land of infinite variety with a distinct character of its own.

Geology and Topography — About twelve thousand years ago, according to geological reckoning, Roseau County was covered by an immense body of water now known as Lake Agassiz. Formed by the final melting of the Pleistocene glacier, this lake, of which Lake of the Woods and Lake Winnipeg are remnants, once had an area of 110,000 square miles and was the largest inland lake ever formed on the globe. As the waters receded, following the retreating ice cap, they left behind them a series of successive shores. Eight thousand years ago the waves of Agassiz washed againsts its fourth beach, and deposited tons of cobblestones, gravel, and sand to build a long

high ridge which today may be traced for hundreds of miles through Minnesota and North Dakota. This shore, the Campbell Beach, extends entirely across Roseau County, like a highway built for a race of giants. It varies from several hundred to several thousand feet in width, and rises from ten to fifty feet above the terrain on either side. Entering the county near the village of Pelan, it runs northeast for 30 miles, then trends southward twelve miles, outlining a former bay now occupied by the Roseau River. Appearing again as the eastern shore of this bay it then runs east by northeast to the far end of the county.

A portion of the fifth beach (Mc Cauleyville) appears in the remote northwest corner of the county (Sec. 31 and 29, T. 164 N., R. 44 W.). Several sandbars of considerable elevation occur along the Roseau County-Manitoba border, the most prominent being Minnesota Hill that rises very abruptly from the swamp to the south and has a maximum elevation of 1,120 feet.

When Lake Agassiz was at its greatest elevation, it contained a large island called today Beltrami. This former island lies in Beltrami and Lake of the Woods Counties, but its slopes extend into southeastern Roseau County where the highest altitudes in the county occur. These slopes are marked by a series of gravel ridges formed before the Campbell Beach; and another series of beaches rise in Huss and Poplar Grove Townships, the most prominent of the group being known as the Siberian Ridge.

The county's principal river, the Roseau, has its source in the Beltrami Island. It descends northwesterly, then flows due north practically bisecting the county to its top tier of townships, where it turns abruptly and pursues a westerly course to the Roseau-Kittson County line. Throughout the central and lower portions of its course, the river is embraced by a broad valley of extremely fertile lacustrine clay. (See Drainage and Soils.)

The Muskeg Bay of the Lake of the Woods eclipses the northeast corner of the county to provide a frontage on the fifth largest lake wholly or partly within the United States. (See Lake of the Woods Recreation.) Principal affluent of Muskeg Bay is the Warroad River whose branches flow through six eastern townships. These streams are characterized by narrow and quite deep valleys.

It is interesting that the elevation of the Lake of the Woods is 1,060, which is 30 feet higher than the water level of the Roseau River at Roseau. Very little high land separates the two watersheds. Were a channel a few miles in length dredged to connect Muskeg Bay with Lost Creek of the Roseau River, the waters of this great lake would pour westward into the Roseau Valley.

Flora and Fauna

When the first settlers came to this country, only forty years ago, they found it a land of alternate marsh, swamp forests, and heavy upland timber. The great abundance of game, the building material and shelter that the forests provided, attracted these good people from the wind-swept prairies along the Red River. Today, though to a steadily lessening degree, this land retains these characteristics.

In some northern portions of the county dismal bogs of waving reeds, and heaths of sphagnum moss, cassandra, and leather-leaf stretch away to the black, tattered skyline of swamp spruce over which drifts the smoke of Canadian trains. This is only one aspect of the swamp. In the fall the dun tassels of the Phragmites communis wave eight feet high around the ponds where mallards and teal rise, and circle and settle again. The ditch grades are marked by the deep magenta of frost-touched raspberry bushes, and the tamaracks vary from a pastel green to a brilliant ochre against the deep green of the balsam and spruce. But the swamps are dwindling and soon will be no more. The gray, bony fingers of fire-killed tamaracks have fallen, and with them have gone the last traces of the time when forest fires were

a menace to settlers. The call of the loon and the pumping of the bittern is heard less frequently now. The marshes are drying out and the odor of peat smoke lies on the air from midsummer to freeze-up. Today grain nods in the wind and rows of potatoes stretch like studies in perspective, where only a few years ago grew sedge and swamp grass. In the past five years alone 135,000 acres of peat land have been burned off and put under cultivation. (See Soils.)

Spruce, balsam, tamarack, and cedar make up the lowland forests, while alder, dwarf birch, mountain maple, and willows constitute the shrubbery. Norway, white, and jack pine are the common highland conifers. These evergreens constitute the principal forest remnants and occur chiefly in the eastern portion of the county, with arms running west along the north and south borders in an area approximately defined by the boundaries of the Red Lake Game Preserve. Of this area, lowland conifers cover 138,000 acres, highland conifers 62,720 acres.

From the Roseau Valley westward, deciduous forests predominate. Elm, ash, basswood, and paper birch grow heavily along the banks of streams, and coppices of oak crown the gravel beaches. Hardwoods are not elsewhere common. South and west of the River Roseau the woodlots of a former great forest of poplars limit the horizons and conceal even closely neighboring farmhouses from each other.

Roseau County's forests still yield lumber, pulpwood, fence posts, and an abundance of inexpensive fuel. Many farmers augment their income by harvesting forest products during the winter. Additional income during this season may be derived from trapping, an occupation carried on by a number of farmers. In fact, villagers have suffered an occasional dearth of fuel because farmers living in the timber country have at times found trapping more lucrative than cutting cordwood. Weasel, skunk, mink, marten,

and fisher are the principal animals taken. Brush wolves here are not regarded as an important menace to livestock, but rather as a source of revenue and sport. A few years ago wolf chases by foxhounds on moonlit winter nights were popular, and several hound packs are still kept for such hunts. In 1929 Roseau County paid out $8,178 in wolf bounties. In 1931 this disbursement had dropped to $729 for the year, but by 1935 had risen to $3,840.

Among the larger mammals deer are the most common (see Recreation), and moose are occasionally seen. Black bears inhabit the forests in small numbers. Although usually content to seek their food in the woods, they occasionally succumb to the temptation of little pigs or sheep. A bearskin rug and tough steaks are the customary aftermath. Beavers have been rapidly increasing, and are now so numerous as to be a nuisance in agricultural areas where their dams cause troublesome overflows.

Conservation

A comperative abundance of wild life and forests has not blinded Roseau County people to their value or to the danger of their depletion. In 1932, after considerable effort on the part of civic leaders, a bill was approved by the State designating an area comprising twenty Roseau County townships as a future addition to the Red Lake Game Reserve. This area is now known as the Red Lake Preserve.

The Beltrami Island State Forest, established in 1934, extends into southeastern Roseau County, including T. 160 N., R 37 W., the Township of Elkwood and portions of Beaver, America, Clear River and Oaks Townships. (See Map.) This area is being evacuated by farmers under the direction of the Government as the greater portion of the land-predominantly jack pine-covered sand hills, grassy swales, and bogland-is unfit for agricultural purposes. Forest rehabilitation work is being carried on in the evacuated area. This State forest shelters the only herd of caribou in the United States.

The District 12 office of the State forest service is at Warroad. Stations with lookout towers are also located at the settlement of Clear River and River. Besides the summer task of minimizing the fire hazard, the forest patrol polices the Government timber stands and carries on educative work. There have never been any serious forest fires in Roseau County.

The Plain

Although Roseau County still retains much of the color and character of its rugged past, it is a thriving modern farming community, with advantages which only a comparatively new country can offer. (See Farms and Farm Values.) The luxuriant growth of legumes in the lime-rich soil, the consistently high market price for clover and alfalfa seed, and the comparative abundance of rainfall for all crops during the recent Nation-wide drought have done much to advance agriculture to a high level in recent years. The predominating aspect of the county today is not one of forests and swamps--these for the most part lie off the beaten trails and in forest preserves--but of fields of rye, of oats in shock, of sheep grazing on limestone-strewn fields, and most prominent of all, of seas of clover blossoms. Roseau County farms are large, with their limits usually defined by section line highways indicated from the distance by staffs of telephone wires with black quarter notes of birds upon them.

The log buildings of yesterday have been superseded by modern farmsteads. Even the conventional foursquare house built from memory by Scandinavian carpenters is being outmoded by those of more detailed design. It is significant that the greatest number of outstanding residences are found not in the villages, but on the farms. No program of rural electrification has been carried out here, but a large number of farms have private systems with power generated by motor of windcharger. Good houses, ample machine sheds, fine barns and silos are characteristic of the county.

People

The predominating racial element here is Scandinavian. Attracted by advertising pamphlets and more substantial in-

ducements in the form of low-priced land, these people first settled on the treeless acres along Jim Hill's Minnesota and Manitoba Railway, but, answering again the pioneering urge, moved eastward into the Roseau country where game was more plentiful and forests broke the strong northwest winds.

In several instances immigrants from various regions of Norway and Sweden have settled in closely knit groups. The largest of these is perhaps the community of former natives of Dalarne, Sweden, in the Township of Malung (see Villages: Malung). Falun Township, adjacent, was named for a city in central Sweden by former inhabitants of that district. Directly north of these two townships, in Spruce and Enstrom, is a settlement of Swedes from the province of Vasterbotten. This group organized the annual Vasterbotten reunion held for the first time in Roseau in 1935.

Norwegians, in their settlement, have likewise occasionally followed the pattern of their Old World provinces. In Dieter Township people from the valley regions of Valdris and Holling live in adjacent communities as they did in Norway. To the south are the Telemarkens, who held their first reunion at Badger in 1936.

North of Greenbush, in the Townships of Polonia, Barto, and Hereim is a fairly large settlement of Poles, and immigrants from Bohemia occupy a small area in the Townships of Poplar Grove and Huss. This latter nationality is however proportionately small. Slavs as a single group rank second to the Scandinavians in numbers, in the ratio of about one to ten. Germans are scattered throughout the entire county, and number almost as many as the Slavs. Emigrants from eastern United States--principally Scotch, Irish, and English--settled the larger portion of eastern Roseau County. American Township was named to distinguish it from territory settled by "foreigners."

Today assimilation of American culture and customs has all but obliterated the racial distinctions which prevailed in the early days of settlement. Scandinavian churches still sponsor annual lutefish dinners,

one of the Lutheran congregations of Roseau has an annual smorgasbord, and Scandinavian cookery is an outstanding feature in farm homes over all the territory. The Bohemians still make pastries flavored with poppy seed, and the Polish Catholic colony observes religious customs reminiscent of the Old World; but by and large, few characteristics remain to distinguish one nationality from another, and even bilingualism seldom persists beyond the second generation.

The Indians who first held the land are now few in number, although there is a small Chippewa village on the shore of Warroad River on the south edge of Warroad Village. Tepees are set up as summer dwellings, a small amount of handicraft is bartered, and occasionally a tribal dance is staged for a consideration. During the winter the Indians abandon their tepees in favor of nearby frame houses, or remove to the woods to hunt and trap.

Churches and Schools

Coeval with settlement in Roseau County, the crossroads and the country school are the punctuation marks in the story of community life. High-spired and high-domed, the early churches were, and some still are too spacious to heat comfortably in winter. The pious pioneers to whom God was as near as nature, must have endured Sundays with the fortitude of Puritans. The interest of the Scandinavians and Slavs in religious and secular education is a marked attribute. No sooner had the settlers erected houses than they began to look for a place where the Bible might be explained on Sundays, and the English language taught during the rest of the week. The churchyards now give final rest to those who, foreseeing children's need, endowed their children's children.

There are approximately 35 rural and 20 village churches in Roseau County. Norwegian and Swedish Lutheran and Catholic are the principal denominations.

The county has 124 rural schools. (<u>For village schools see</u>

Villages.) Roseau County ranks 18th in the State in the number of rural schools. Of counties having more, all exceed Roseau in population by several thousand; many by a ratio of over two to one. In 1936, 103 of the 124 schools were open. All met the requirements for State-aid benefits, which demand high standards of heating, ventilating, and seating equipment, and approved educative material. The uniform high standard of its schools brought approximately $85,000 in State-aid money to the county in 1935.

Social Activities

Rural social activities usually originate within societies and organizations designed for some particular utilitarian purpose. Country people believe in combining business with pleasure. Ladies' aids, parent-teachers' associations, farm bureau units, farm holiday and Farmer-Labor groups are examples of organizations of serious purpose that also provide social activities. Chicken suppers, basket socials, parties, community plays and sports days are sponsored by these and like groups. In the villages similar activities are carried on by the churches and by fraternal and similar organizations.

Social life in country and village is rapidly becoming nearly the same. There was a time when a definite cleavage existed, and the effect was sometimes seen in a feeling of antagonism between the two classes. Good roads and rapid transportation are the important factors in the growing oneness of town and country. Fifteen years ago the farmer made a trip to town only when it became an absolute necessity, for the roads made it a tough haul and old dobbin's pace was not geared to make the fields and farmhouses stroke by. Today he shows up two or three times a week and seldom fails to come on Saturday night. Consequently the farmer talks politics and crops with the butcher and baker and joins the Odd Fellows, the Masons, and the Elk. His family enjoys the same entertainment as the villagers, with whom they mingle, and about the only habit they havn't adopted is the playing of bridge. Although the agricultural schools get many of the rural school

graduates, there has been a very sharp increase in the enrollment of country children in the village high schools in the past decade, another indication of change. In some village high schools the enrollment is nearly 30 percent rural.

About 25 percent of the high school graduates, usually boys, go on to take up college work. They almost invariably attend nearby institutions in Minnesota and North Dakota. The universities of Minnesota and North Dakota receiving the largest number.

Recreation The younger people and those who never grow old have ample opportunity here for enjoying varied recreational pleasures. Skating and skiing are the major winter pasttimes. Roseau has a large covered ice rink and one of the fastest amateur hockey teams in northern Minnesota. (See Villages: Roseau.) Almost all the other villages have outdoor rinks and junior hockey teams flourish from one end of the county to the other. People with ski fever go to Bemis Hill in southwestern Roseau County, where facilities for ski and toboggan sport are free to the public. This winter playground was given to the people of the county by the Hon. Mike Holm, formerly of Roseau, and now secretary of State, and is maintained by the forest service.

The summer season is ushered in by the annual rural schools May sports day, in which grade school children compete. Baseball and kittenball are the most popular summer sports. A county-wide kittenball league provides considerable excitement throughout the season. Tennis is played, and golf has many followers. Golf courses are located at Roseau and Warroad.

The Lake of the Woods offers capital sport for the angler (see Lake of the Woods Country), and the rice fields of this lake, as well as the many duck ponds in the county, afford excellent shooting. Grouse, pheasants, and prairie hens are numerous in the fields and woods. The abundance of deer in the swamps and forests of northern and eastern Roseau County draw nimrods from all parts of the State and beyond.

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At 47 mi. is the

VILLAGE OF BADGER

Railroad Stations: Great Northern R. E., west end of Badger.

Traffic Regulations: Angle Parking.

Accommodations: No hotel.

Tourist Information Service: Inquire at Ramberg's Pharmacy.

Theaters and Motion Picture Houses: One

Annual Events: Market Day.

VILLAGE OF BADGER

BADGER (1,083 alt.; 325 pop.) spreads out for almost a mile along the hog back of the Campbell Beach. At its greatest girth it widens down to the surrounding till plain on both sides, but that is a development of recent years. The founders of Badger chose the top of the ridge to keep their feet and cellars dry.

Today the till plain is a checkerboard of farm lands from which flows a constant stream of produce into Badger--and out of it again. Partial 1934 exports from this village include; 48 carloads of clover seed, 55 carloads of grain, 149 carloads of livestock.

The large amount of seed shipped from this point is due to the Badger seed mill, which makes the village an outstanding market for hardy northern-grown grass and legume seed. The Badger mill is the best equipped in that part of the State and consequently attracts seed raisers from long distances.

The seed mill is one of Badger's 36 business places, including five general stores, a lumber yard, a creamery, and a newspaper shop. Badger's newspaper is the Herald-Rustler, edited by G. J. Brenden.

There is no better evidence of Badger's good trade location than its ability to survive calamity. The village has suffered the most dismal bank failure in the history of the county; a large portion of its business district has twice been leveled by fire; but Badger has gone on to establish sound finance again, and upon the ashes of each fire it has constructed better buildings, so that today it has some of the most modern business structures in the county.

There are not likely to be any more calamitous fires in Badger. After the last one the townsfolk decided to protect their business district. With Government help they laid water mains and placed hydrants from one end of the business section to the other, constructed a new fire station, and purchased hose and chemical wagons to extend protection into the residence area.

A few years ago, in 1931, the people of the town and the surrounding country got together to supply another need. The result of their co-operative effort was a community hall constructed through funds raised by donation and by a community sale to which villagers and farmers alike brought goods to be auctioned. The hall now serves several purposes. It is used for public and private meetings and conventions. With showers in the basement, it serves each year as the high school gymnasium. High school and community plays, and concerts by traveling choirs and orchestras are held here. It also serves as the local theater; two movies are held weekly.

Badger has a consolidated high school which offers a standard curriculum. There are five churches in the village; Catholic, Lutheran Free, Swedish Augustana, Norwegian Free, and Methodist. The Rebekah and Woodman lodges are the fraternal organizations represented.

FARMING IN ROSEAU COUNTY

FARMS, FARM ACREAGES, AND VALUES

The United States Census of Agriculture for 1935 lists 2,287 farms in Roseau County. Of this total, 40 percent were operated by full owners, 31 percent by part owners, 28 percent by tenants and 1 percent by managers. The average size of a farm is 233.6 acres; the average value per farm is $3,134; the average value per acre $12.99. Over 50 percent of the total land area of the county is in agricultural use.

Farms do not vary significantly in size from one end of the county to another. Such variation as there exists in the employment of land for agricultural purposes, depends upon the predominant soil, the terrain, and the presence of timber. Legumes for seed and hay are grown over all the till area (see Map), and in the upper Roseau Valley. Grasses, both wild and tame, are an important crop in north-central and northwestern portions. Legumes and grasses raised principally for seed are the major crops. Of the grains, flax, rye, and oats are the most important, and are used extensively for diversification and rotation. Sheep raising is the principal occupation in the southwestern corner, while dairying is carried on throughout the entire county.

SOILS

The soils of Roseau County are generally similar to those of the entire Red River Valley. The most common type is glacial till which predominates throughout southwestern and northwestern Roseau County, and probably underlies most of the peat deposits of the latter area. Till is a general term applied to glacial drift consisting of clay, sand, silt or rock-flour, pebbles, and boulders which may be intermingled in any

proportion. Glacial till predominates over all the north-central United States and is responsible for some of the country's finest farming land.

Much of the Roseau till has such an abundance of lime that the county has become famous as a legume-producing territory (see Crops). Especially rich in lime is the territory around Greenbush, and sections of eastern and southern Roseau County, although a high content is characteristic of nearly all Roseau till. In general, this soil is not excessively stony except in the southwestern portion. This area is devoted to sheep raising and annually produces the majority of the 40,000 Shropshires that make Roseau one of Minnesota's leading sheep counties. Considerable stone also occurs in the far northwestern and southeastern corners, and in a comparatively narrow strip on the north side of the Campbell Beach.

Second of the soil types is lacustrine (lake) clay deposited by Lake Agassiz. This is the soil which made the heart of the Red River Valley famous as a grain-producing area. It is extremely rich, almost free of stone, and light enough to be easily worked. The lacustrine deposit occurs over a broad region flanking either side of the Roseau River throughout the central and lower portions of its course. The distribution of the exposed areas, indicates that large portions of lacustrine soil lie below the peat found in the townships of Spruce, Spruce Valley, Dieter, Pholitz, and in Town 163 North, Range 40 West, and Town 163 North, Range 43 West. These areas are rapidly being burned off and put to agricultural uses. About 35 percent of the county's land area is of exposed lacustrine clay.

Lacustrine sand predominates in the southeastern corner of the county and also in the townships of Huss, Barnett, and Poplar Grove. Where this deposit is loamy, as in these townships and in portions of the southeast corner, excellent crops are raised. Sandy loam, besides being fertile, is of a fine texture easily worked into a cover to provide protection against drought, whereas heavier soils crack open and dry out.

Most of Roseau County's unarable sandy land is now included in the Beltrami Island Forest (see Conservation).

Since 1930 approximately 211 square miles, or 135,000 acres of peat land have been burned over and most of this is now under cultivation. (See Drainage.) Crops on burntover lands have yielded heavily. Oats have produced 60 bushels to the acre, barley, 40 bushels; sweet clover from 12 to 14 bushels, and potatoes, more than 250 bushels to the acre.

Although critics of the peat-burning practice prophecied that during heavy rains these reclaimed areas would be inundated, this has not been the case.

DRAINAGE About 1910 a hasty and, in many instances, ill-advised program of drainage by ditching of swamp lands was inaugurated in several northern Minnesota counties of which Roseau was one. The agencies backing this project were for the most part nonresident, and were not responsible to the counties in which they operated. The result in Roseau County was the dredging of Roseau Lake and a number of large swamps unsuited for agricultural purposes. Between the conclusion of the program and 1929, only a small portion surrounding the dredged swamp land was ever utilized. Although the inner acres benefited hardly at all from the network of ditches, they were so highly-taxed that they were in large measure abandoned. It is from this area in northwestern Minnesota that Beltrami Island Forest (see Conservation), was established to relieve those counties in which it lies, of interest and principal on bonds, as well as of the delinquent tax burden.

During the present cycle of comparatively dry years, however, with thousands of acres of peat land burned off and cultivated, the drainage program has begun to bring in returns.

Except for occasional topographical pockets, the upper Roseau and Warroad River basins have excellent natural drainage. Throughout its

western course, the Roseau Valley is very flat, and although no overflow has occurred since 1927 and no serious flood since 1919, this area may be regarded as subject to inundation. The upper course of the stream has been dredged and can carry a normal flow of water. In southwestern Roseau County there is no water-course of consequence, the area is relatively high, with a gradual slope to the north and west, and it is inundated only in times of abnormally heavy rainfall. The natural drainage, and that provided by over a thousand miles of drainage ditches, is further aided by the State- and county-aid road ditches, of which 25 miles or more are added annually. (See Highways and Transportation.)

Weather records reveal that the county is not normally subject to cloud-bursts or summer rains of long duration. The last seriously heavy midsummer rain occurred in 1919. Rain usually comes in frequent showers of short duration, with occasional slow rains which last from eight to twenty hours. To this moderate rainfall and the character of the terrain may be attributed the fact that the county has no erosion problem.

CLIMATE To many unfamiliar with higher latitudes, the words "northern Minnesota" bring to mind a picture of bleak winter fields, of hard blue distances, singing telegraph poles and heavy snows. To those who live there, these features are part of the beauty and fascination of the land.

It is true that northern Minnesota winters are cold. In January and February the mercury slips down below the last clasp of the thermometer's glass tube, and sometimes it must be admitted, stays there for a long while.

Nevertheless it must be remembered that to newspapers "extremes make news," and the general impressions created of the severity of northern winters is by no means a fair presentation.

Extremes of 40 and 45 below have been recorded in Roseau

County during January and February, but- the average temperature during these, the coldest months, is 3 degrees below zero, and the mean minimum is only- 8.6.

The mean annual temperature at Warroad, Roseau County, is only 2.3° lower than at Fargo, a world famed farming center, and only 7° lower than at Minneapolis.

Food for thought is furnished again by the fact that over a hundred miles north of Roseau County lies Winnipeg, with whose 218,785 inhabitants, are mainly supported by the populous agricultural region surrounding it.

Roseau County winters are rigorous, but the dryness of the atmosphere alleviates the chill, and the heavy forest cover breaks the northwest wind, so that there are no blizzards.

However, it is precipitation and the growing season temperatures that most interest the farmer. With persistant drought over the entire north-central area of the United States, with the erstwhile "bread basket" of the Nation perennially parched and its topsoil blown away, the question of rainfall is of paramount importance to persons contemplating farming in a new country.

In this respect Roseau County has been extremely fortunate. Incredible as it may sound to those living in drought-stricken areas, during the drought years 1931-36, average annual precipitation at Warroad was approximately two inches greater than the average of the preceding years 1901-30.

The county's two official weather stations are located 22 miles apart, one at Roseau, in the central part of the Roseau County, and one at Warroad, in the northeastern portion. Average of the records of the two stations give a fair picture of the county's temperature and precipitation.

Average from beginning of records through:

Place	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	Average 1931-35
Roseau, Roseau Co.	19.71	21.33	21.64	12.03	16.40	14.91	17.26
Warroad, Roseau Co.	20.37	19.35	24.82	24.59	20.81	21.90	22.29
County Av.	20.04	20.34	23.23	18.31	18.60	18.40	19.77

The average length of the growing season at Roseau is approximately 101 days, at Warroad 114 days. The longer period at Warroad is due to the moderating influence of the Lake of the Woods. The last killing frost in the county occurs usually in the latter part of May; the first autumn frost in the first or second week of September. This frost is usually not severe, nor is it county-wide. Hard frosts begin around the first of October.

Agricultural statistics on Roseau County show that all crops common to the northern grain states can be successfully raised here. The heavy winter snows provide cover for winter wheat and rye, and insure moisture in the spring to further the winter crops and to start the summer crops.

CROPS Since the earliest days of its settlement, the methods of agriculture in Roseau County have been those of diversified farming. While the rest of the Red River Valley was a perennial ocean of waving wheat that almost engulfed the small prairie towns, Roseau farmers were growing oats and rye on the plots they had hewed out of the forest; they had introduced sheep, and at least one among them had started a cattle ranch "for pleasure and for sport." The wooded character of this new country probably explains the Roseau farmers' choice, and saved them from having to learn the advantages of diversification, from bitter experience, as did the prairie farmer.

Early crop diversification is not the county's only agricultural distinction. In certain of its crops it stands preeminent in the lower Red River Valley, and even in the entire State.

GRASSES AND LEGUMES

Roseau, has long been advertised as the "County of Clovers." The fertile, lime-rich, glacial till of this margin of the Red River Valley, produces extravagant quantities of sweet clover, alsike, and red clover. In Roseau County clover is a weed, it sods the ditches and grows high on the shoulders of the road, it runs off its own premises and invades neighboring fields, and sometimes becomes a nuisance.

But sweet clover is the county's principal money crop. In the production of clover seed, Roseau County ranks first in Minnesota and is in fact one of the important primary sweet clover markets in the entire United States. In 1935 (last figures available), 17,089 acres were harvested for seed. This total exceeded that of any other county in the State by 5,000 acres, and represented almost one-fourth of the State's entire clover seed cut. In the previous year, Roseau farmers threshed 10,240 acres of sweet clover, one-fifth of Minnesota's entire sweet clover seed harvest. In 1933 Roseau County was again first among the counties with 7,014 acres.

The western part of the county is especially adapted for sweet clover; the eastern part, for red clover and alsike. Since greater profits accrue from the former, a relatively small acreage is devoted to clover and alsike for seed, but their total in 1934, was 587 acres, giving the county the rank of third in the State.

Alfalfa grows abundantly throughout the entire county. Its rise here to importance as a seed and hay crop has been rapid. In 1931 very little was raised--the county stood 64th in the State on the basis of acreage. In 1933 Roseau had jumped to 41st place among Minnesota counties and in 1935 to eleventh place with 15,365 acres, overtaking 53 counties in four years. Of this amount, 1,506 acres were cut for seed--an alfalfa seed acreage exceeded only by one county. As much as 500 pounds of alfalfa seed per acre have been reported by Roseau County farmers.

The production of tame hay is an important feature of the county's diversified agriculture. The greater portion is of the leguminous type; of the grasses, timothy hay is the most important. In 1935 Roseau County farmers cut 20,262 acres of timothy for hay. They also cut 1,829 acres for seed, the largest timothy acreage cut for seed of any county in the State.

In 1932 Roseau County produced 77,400 tons of tame hay of all types, in 1933, 67,700 tons, a production exceeded by only three counties in the State. Considerable wild grass is also cut for hay, the county producing 21,780 tons in 1932 and 14,000 tons in 1933. During the drought, the production of hay for outside consumption has been a profitable occupation for Roseau County farmers.

FLAX Flax, like alfalfa, has become increasingly important to Roseau County. The flax crop of 1934 showed an increase of almost four times that of five years before. In 1932 the average yield was 11 bushels per acre which topped by three bushels the next best yield in the northwest district, with its eleven Red River Valley Counties, and was exceeded in this respect by only 15 counties in the State. In 1933 Roseau again topped the northwest district with an average of 8 bushels per acre, with only 17 counties surpassing it in production.

OATS Oats also grow well in Roseau County. In 1934 the average yield was over 25 bushels per acre, in 1933 it was 30 bushels, and in 1932, 32 bushels. In 1932 the yield exceeded the next best average yield in the northwest district by five bushels.

BARLEY Barley is another current money crop to which the Roseau County farmer looks for a good profit. In 1933 barley yielded 20 bushels to the acre, in 1932, 23 bushels. In both years the yield exceeded the other ten counties of the northwest district; in 1932, by 5 bushels per

acre. The 1934 yield, on which no comparisons have been computed, was 196,842 bushels from 9,073 acres, an average yield of approximately 22 bushels.

WHEAT Wheat production is relatively unimportant in Roseau County, although wheat is raised with more than moderate success. In 1933, 3,600 bushels of durum wheat and 75,000 bushels of other spring wheat were produced.

RYE The production of 50,259 bushels of rye in 1934 was treble the county's yield for the year before. The average runs between 12 and 15 bushels, but occasionally more than 30 bushels to the acre are harvested.

CORN Though not a corn country, the raising of corn, principally for fodder, is rapidly becoming a part of the farmer's yearly program. As good average corn yields are produced here as anywhere in the northwest corner of the State. Corn-stalks have reached a height of 11 feet, which proves that Iowa isn't the only tall corn country!

POTATOES The raising of potatoes, particularly for certified seed, is an occupation of steadily mounting importance. Farmers have reported yields up to 260 bushels per acre.

The northwest district of Minnesota includes Clay, Norman, and Polk Counties, long famous as "spud country," but in this district it is actually Roseau County which for years past--since it started to produce potatoes on a large scale--has been pre-eminent in its potato yields.

SHEEP In recent years Roseau has been the most consistent top rank sheep-producing county in the State. In 1932 it ranked first in Minnesota with 48,000 head of sheep and lambs. In 1933 with 46,000 head it again ranked first as it did in 1934 with 45,000 head. In 1935, Roseau County dropped to second with 39,061. Shropshires are raised almost exclusively. Farmers have found sheep raising highly profitable both on a large and small scale, for it fits excellently with the scheme of diversified farming.

DAIRYING The luxuriant growth of grasses and legumes, such as timothy, alfalfa and clover, makes Roseau County naturally a dairying country. In recent years the rapid development of dairying has been accelerated by more modern dairy barns, a larger acreage of legume hays, and better bred stock. The principal breeds in the county are Holstein, Guernsey, Jersey and Shorthorn.

There are seven creameries in the county, at Strathcona, Greenbush, Badger, Roseau, Ross, Wannaska, and Warroad. All of these are cooperatives, while four are members of the Land O' Lakes Creameries organization. Buttermilk dryers are operated in the Roseau and Warroad creameries. The Roseau creamery has a pasteurization plant.

In 1935 approximately $56,300 was paid out to Roseau County farmers for butterfat from which was manufactured 1,857,592 pounds of butter. In the same year 142,900 pounds of dried buttermilk for poultry feed was produced in the creameries at Roseau and Warroad.

Of all the sources of Roseau County farm income for 1935, income from livestock products ranked highest at 38.6 percent.

SLAUGHTER ANIMALS The raising of livestock for slaughter is also of considerable importance. In 1935 the income from livestock products was 18.2 percent of the total farm income.

POULTRY The poultry industry here is relatively unimportant except for an occasional splurge of turkey raising. Chickens are chiefly raised for home and local meat and egg consumption.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Roseau is served by the Great Northern and Canadian National Railways. The Great Northern road (Crookston-Warroad branch) enters the county from the south at the village of Strathcona and serves southwestern, central, and northeastern Roseau County. The shipping points are Strathcona,

Greenbush, Badger, Fox, Roseau, Salol, and Warroad. The Canadian National which connects with the Great Northern at Warroad, provides eastern Roseau County with transportation facilities through this shipping point and those of Swift and Roosevelt.

The majority of the farmers bring their marketable livestock to the larger shipping points where it is held until a sufficient number warrant running a livestock train directly to South St. Paul. These trains leave at quite regular intervals during the shipping seasons. Grains are shipped in the same manner to storage places at Duluth, Grand Forks, and Minneapolis. Small produce is usually marketed at the nearest village. There are three potato- and produce-shipping associations and four livestock-shipping associations in the county. (See Cooperatives.) Livestock shipping is carried on both by rail and truck.

Roseau County has over 2,435 miles of road which include 107 miles of trunk highways, 142.5 miles of State-aid roads, 293.5 miles of county-aid roads, while approximately 1,840 miles are township roads.

The trunk highways, State 11, 32 and 89, traverse the central and southern Roseau area and link the most important villages. State 11 runs west to North Dakota, and east to International Falls; State 32 links the county with important towns to the south, and State 89 provides direct communication with Bemidji and the Paul Bunyan resort region. From the county three routes run to Winnipeg and the Canadian North: State-aid road "B" (see Villages, Fox), county-aid road 40 north from Warroad, and State 89 which runs north from Roseau.

During the period 1930-35, the county spent $262,490 on county-aid roads, and $56,859 on State-aid roads. Both types are built on a pay-as you-go basis. Eighty-three percent of the State-aid roads and 85% of the county-aid roads are gravel-surfaced. The local surfacing program has been

relatively inexpensive due to the larger number of gravel deposits here.

As Roseau county road ditches are always designed as drainage ditches also, the lands abutting a State or county-aid road gain not only transportation benefits, but drainage benefits as well. State-aid roads have 24 foot surfaces, county-aid roads, 20 foot surfaces. Both have 8-foot bottom ditches. About 25 miles of county roads are being built annually.

The county has a 6 ton, and two 4½ ton snow trucks equipped with "V" and wing plows and all county roads are kept open by them throughout the winter.

COOPERATIVES AND OTHER FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS

There are several flourishing farmers' organization in Roseau County.

The oldest of these is the Farmers' Cooperative Elevator Company of Roseau, which has operated successfully since 1911. The company is made up of approximately 260 patrons who hold the 273 shares of common capital stock. Par value of the stock is $25. In 1936 the cooperative paid $6,037 in patronage dividends, and 8 percent interest on shares. This, the only cooperative elevator company in the county, owns buildings and equipment valued at $20,129. The elevator is capable of handling 150,000 bushels daily.

There are seven cooperative creameries in this county, located at Greenbush, Strathcona, Roseau, Badger, Ross, Wannaska, and Warroad. Five of these are members of the Land O' Lakes Creameries, Incorporated.

The Farmers' Union Oil Company has operated here since the spring of 1934. The company now has eleven service stations within the area supplied by the distributing points at Roseau and Warroad. The local company has approximately 200 paid-up stockholders, and did a business of $105,000 in 1935.

Three stores, an insurance company, 2 potato- and produce-shipping associations, 4 livestock-shipping associations, and 12 telephone

companies are all operated on the cooperative plan.

The Roseau County Farm Bureau, was organized in the fall of 1933, now has approximately 300 members. The bureau is active in the support of the county extension projects for the betterment of rural progress in agriculture and home economics.

The farm bureau sponsors 4-H work, directed by a 4-H leader working through the office of the county agent. The 4-H enrollment for 1936 was 256 boys, 314 girls--a total membership of 570. Thirty-five volunteer adult leaders helped direct the work under the supervision of the 4-H director. Of the 732 projects begun in 1936, 95 percent were completed.

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VILLAGES, HAMLETS AND INLAND POST OFFICES

There are six incorporated villages in Roseau County; seven unincorporated hamlets, and six inland post offices, most of which are operated in conjunction with country stores.

The development of good roads which began about 1916 has had a strong influence in centralizing population at a few relatively large trading points, with a corresponding decline in the number of county stores and inland post offices.

Although the 1930 census indicates otherwise, Roseau is now the largest village in the county, with Warroad, on the Lake of the Woods, second in size and importance. Greenbush, Badger, Roosevelt, and Strathcona follow in order of population, and complete the list of incorporated villages.

The villages will be treated, not alphabetically, but as consecutive towns on the main chain of highways through the county. By beginning at Roosevelt at the eastern end, and proceeding west and south on State 11 and State 32 to Strathcona, in the southern portion of the county, this gazateer may also be used as a tourist guide.

For easy reference to any one of the villages, the following index may be used:

Village	Page	Pop.	Prin. Highways	Railroads
Badger		325	State 11	G. N.
Fox			State 11	G. N.
Greenbush		387	State 11 and 32	G. N.
Pinecreek			S.A.R. "B"	
Roosevelt		287	State 11	C. N. R.
Roseau		1,028	State 11 and 89	G. N.
Ross			S. A. R. "B"	
Salol			State 11	G. N.
Strathcona		112	State 32	G. N.
Warroad		1,184	State 11	G. N. and C. N. R.

At 57 m. is the

VILLAGE OF GREENBUSH

Railroad Stations: Great Northern

Traffic Regulations: Angle parking. Observe stop signs at intersection of streets with State 32, an arterial highway.

Accommodations: One modern hotel, limited facilities. The municipal tourist camp is situated at the edge of a grove three blocks north on Main Street from the junction of State 11. There is a cook shack, a stove, and a well on the premises.

Tourist Information Service: Inquire at Charles Hotel.

Theaters and Motion Picture Houses: One. Athletics: Independent baseball and basketball in season.

VILLAGE OF GREENBUSH

GREENBUSH (1,071 alt.; 387 pop.) is a trade center which serves a widespread agrarian population of mixed nationalities, of which Polish, Bohemian, and Scandinavian predominate. Situated in the midst of a region noted for the lime content of its soil, this village is an important primary sweet clover seed market. (See Agriculture.) From 20 to 30 carloads of seed are shipped from Greenbush annually. Dairying is also an important occupation in this section. The farmers' co-operative creamery in Greenbush manufactures approximately 375,000 pounds of butter each year.

A modern, well-equipped hospital under the direction of an able physician serves the community. Greenbush has a municipally owned water system. Electric power is supplied by a high line. The local paper is the Greenbush Tribune published every Thursday by E. R. Umpleby.

Perhaps the finest building in the village is the Greenbush Consolidated School. The school was erected in 1920 at a total cost of approximately $75,000. With a course of study based on the 6-6 plan, the school furnishes instruction to an average enrollment of more than 200 students, approximately 50 percent of whom are nonresident. It has well-equipped departments in home economics and industrial arts. The building provides living quarters for the superintendent, and dormitory accommodations for a limited number of nonresident girls. The auditorium is equipped with an amplifying system. The school maintains a skating rink, open to the public at a nominal cost. The public also has access to the school library of some two thousand volumes. Among the sponsored extracurricular activities are music, declamation, Boy and Girl Scouts.

The history of Greenbush began in 1904 when the Great Northern Railroad from Crookston was extended to the gravel ridge. Immediately a village sprang up at this point as old Greenbush, 2 miles east and Pelan,

a flourishing settlement 10 miles to the southwest, were abandoned. Greenbush grew rapidly and by the end of the first year had a population permitting its incorporation as a village. The townsite was purchased from Ole O. Herreim, one of the community's earliest settlers, whose name is perpetuated by the township in which the village is located.

Present-day Greenbush bears the name of the abandoned "Old Town" to the east, which grew up around a camping place, land-marked by a coppice of evergreens. The pioneer historian, Jacob Nelson, refers thus to the spot "Early in the evening we camped by the side of the ridge in a heavy spruce grove known to the Indians as Ska-Och-Way, meaning spruce, or green bush." From this grove was derived the name of the village.

In the early days the flat lands on either side of the ridge, lacking drainage, were largely covered with water. Behind the beach (south) lay a floating bog, almost impossible to cross. Today the territory around Greenbush is built into many fine farmsteads, and even some of the erstwhile bog is under cultivation.

At 34 m. is the

VILLAGE OF ROSEAU

Railroad Stations: Great Northern R. R., south end of Viola Ave.

Traffic Regulations: No U turn at intersection of Viola Avenue and Pearl Street. Angle parking. Stop at intersection of streets with State 11, an arterial highway. The Minnesota Highway Patrol for this district headquarters at Roseau; traffic laws are rigidly enforced.

Accommodations: Three modern hotels, limited facilities. The municipal tourist camp is at present located on the west bank of the Roseau River adjacent to State 11. If coming from the east, turn right after crossing the bridge. The camp is equipped with grills, tables, drinking water, electric lights, and other conveniences. Roseau's new 14-acre park which lies along the river south of town has now been developed for the use of campers.

Tourist Information Service: Inquire at the Encore Cafe, the Gray Inn, the Roseau Printing Company, all on Viola Avenue, or the County Highway Department, County Court House, on West Pearl Street.

Motion Picture Houses: One. Athletics: States-Dominion Hockey League games at the Memorial Ice Rink from December through March. Independent basketball, baseball, and kittenball in season.
Swimming: Municipal pool in south park. Tennis: Two treated courts in south park. Golf: 9-hole course in south park. No fees.

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ROSEAU

ROSEAU (1,048 alt., 1,028 pop.) is pronounced Rose-o, with equal accent on both syllables. The name is that of the river, translated from the Indian by La Verendrye, and is the French word for rush or reed.

In the early days of the Roseau Valley settlement (between 1885-1890) two men, unrelated in point of time or blood, found the same spot on the Roseau River to their liking. The first had a utilitarian eye. His name was Frank Pelcher and he chose this place because here he could most readily ford the river with a load of whiskey--which Canadian officials valued at $12,000 when they subsequently seized it.

The second man had the eye of an artist. His name was Seward Wood, and he came to Pelcher's Crossing and built a cabin there because the river was broad and beautiful, overhung with massive elms and basswoods, and the high banks were rank with pea vine and tall grass, so he knew that the soil was rich.

Soon others followed and built cabins under the tall elms and locust trees. A store was built nearby, and Jadis post office, the forerunner of the village of Roseau, was established.

Twenty-four thousand dollars worth of concrete in the form of a dam and disposal plant now crosses the river where once it was crossed by $12,000 worth of whiskey. The dam, completed in 1935, restored the dwindling river to a level even higher than that of Pelcher's day. There was a time when the river ran with a trickle, and a creamery emptied buttermilk into the crossing spanned by a mere footbridge. A new modern creamery now

stands near the center of the town; it includes a buttermilk dryer and a pasteurization plant. This and the flour mill are the principal industries of this non-industrial town. Important also is the Arcast shop which holds patents on and manufactures machinable rods for welding cast iron, which are shipped to all parts of the world.

Roseau's municipal power plant generates cheap power at a profit large enough to finance many public improvements such as the village's share of its fine, new community hall, a WPA project. Water, for house supply and fire protection is also supplied the plant; two artesian wells can supply 12,000 gallons per minute, a flow adequate for the emergency of a fire of large proportions. The town's system of water mains and hydrants, and its chemical wagons have long made serious fires a rare occurrence.

Situated at the junction of State 11 and State 89, Roseau has access by good roads to the urban centers of the east, south and west. A surfaced road also runs north to the Manitoba line, where it connects with the Dominion road to South Junction. Lying just 10 miles south of the border, Roseau enjoys a large trade from Canada.

The Great Northern Railroad provides rail facilities, and truck lines to Duluth and the Twin Cities operate through the town. Roseau imports cement, gas, autos, farm implements, and fruit; it exports agricultural and forest products. A partial list of rail exports in 1934 includes 53 cars butter, 205 cars grain, 218 cars hay, 22 cars potatoes, 61 cars sheep, 25 cars cattle, 28 cars pulp, 125 cars straw.

The educational needs of the town are well met. The Roseau high school, which is taught by a staff of 18 teachers, operates on a 6-6 plan, and gives practically all the benefits of a junior-senior high school. Besides the regular academic subjects taught by most schools in Minnesota, Roseau offers special courses in music, art, and commercial work. The extracurricular

activities include basketball, hockey, track, declamation, vocal music, band, and girl scouts.

The enrollment is steadily increasing. In 1936-37 enrollment was 475, of which about 25 percent were students from the rural districts within a radius of twenty miles.

The surgical needs of the town are now taken care of in a new $40,000 hospital, built in 1938. There are four physician-surgeons practicing in Roseau.

Roseau has also given careful regard to its spiritual education. Though not necessarily evidence of godliness on the part of its people, there are seven churches in the village.

In fine, Roseau is a quiet, somewhat picturesque rural village which flourishes as a trade center. Village life is closely knit and little marred by factional disputes. There was a time when the village was composed of clans, but their members have intermingled. In Roseau today one can scarcely speak of a neighbor without speaking of a relative.

SIDE TOUR: At Roseau turn left on State 89 4½ miles, then left 3 miles on county road "K" to the hamlet of MALUNG, spread out along the winding east branch of the Roseau River.

MALUNG

From county road K the little village is identified by a large, modern community hall built of brick, surrounded by a 26-acre park. The Malung store and post office, the church, the town hall, and a number of residences lie on the south side of the river.

This community was settled by immigrants from Dalarne, Sweden, a territory which extends from the Norwegian frontier to within 25 miles of the Baltic. Out of Malung developed the Dalfolket Forening, an annual

reunion of the people from Dalarne. This reunion is now an important annual occasion held in various cities throughout the country.

The founders of the Malung community came in 1888 and built homes on land which seemed fertile and well drained. The excellence of their judgment is evidenced by the fact that the appraised value of land in Malung Township is the highest in the county.

The township was surveyed in 1891, and named by the founders after their home city in the Old Country. Malung post office was established in 1895.

Malung people, strongly influenced by the success of cooperatives in Sweden, are enthusiastic and active workers for cooperative enterprises in Roseau County.

Returning on county road "K" turn left and proceed south on State 89, 9½ miles to WANNASKA, a small rural hamlet situated on the elm-clothed banks of the south branch of the Roseau River. "Wannaska" is from the Chippewa, the mellow syllabled name of a warrior whose romance with a maid of the Dakotahs furnishes a beautiful tale of the Roseau Valley.

WANNASKA

Some years ago Wannaska had three stores, a bank, a restaurant, a hotel, a blacksmith shop, garage, a hundred-barrel flour mill which ran day and night. Today its big industry is the Co-operative Creamery which manufactures approximately 237,000 pounds of butter annually from butter fat received from 216 patrons. Wannaska's one store does between $35,000 and $45,000 worth of business yearly.

The principal crops are grass seed, barley, wheat and oats. Oats in the district have run as high as 60 bushels to the acre (see AGRICULTURE).

The first settlers of the Wannaska community arrived and pre-empted claims in 1894. A post office was established in 1896 by John Spencer, who, as part of his contract, carried the mail on his back over the Indian trails from Roseau twice each week. The original log post office still stands in the village of Wannaska.

RETURN TO MAIN TOUR

At 37 m., the highway climbs astraddle a high gravel ridge. This ridge is the Campbell Beach of glacial Lake Agassiz, and stretches across the entire breadth of Roseau County. (See PHYSICAL FEATURES.)

At ~~30~~ 40 m., is a filling station and a residence, all that remains of the former Fox post office. Fox was named by its first citizen, T. S. Homeland, who, according to tradition, observed that as long as there was a Badger village and a Skunk Creek, he might as well call his place Fox and make a menagerie of the ridge.

Platted in 1909 by Nils K. White, Fox never attained sufficient population to be incorporated as a village. The hamlet saw its best years during 1917 and 1918, at which time four stores served a considerable trade area and an elevator and a lumber yard did a brisk business. Its decline began almost at the same time with the improvement of the trunk highway and the increase of motor traffic.

Fox, however, is still important as being at the junction of State 11 with county road "B", the southern terminus of a direct route to Winnipeg. This road is gravel surfaced to the boundary. North from the international line the Canadian roads cross a sandy hill country through a picturesque hinterland to Winnipeg, a distance of 105 miles. Although the Dominion roads are not improved, they are passable at most times during the summer.

SIDE TOUR: At Fox turn right on county road "B" 5½ miles.

ROSS

ROSS, a small hamlet in Dieter Township situated on the Roseau River. It comprises two stores, a school, several residences, and a creamery which manufactures approximately 112,000 pounds of butter annually.

The name Ross was intended as a tribute to Rose Dieter, daughter of an early settler, but Ross was as close as the Scandinavian tongue could approach the given name. The region around this hamlet was settled chiefly by immigrants from the valley region of Halling in Norway.

Less than a mile north of Ross, on the Jesse Nelson farm (right after crossing the river) is the site of an old Indian village, where in days past was seen the Ghost of the Roseau Lake. (See HISTORY of the ROSEAU VALLEY.)

PINECREEK

At 11½ m., is PINECREEK, one of the oldest communities in Roseau County, founded in 1889 by five settlers whose names are to be read on a simple monument one mile east and a quarter mile south of the hamlet, the spot where they first pitched camp on the soil of their choice.

A post office was established in 1896 on the Hans Haugen place. In 1904 one of the original settlers, Mr. Arne Knutson, established a store one mile south at the cross roads. In the fall of the same year the post office was transferred to the Knutson store, and subsequently a hamlet grew up at this point. Today its principal buildings are the old Knutson mercantile, the post office and the customs and immigration quarters.

Here, a short distance south of the cross roads, is the second church to be erected in Roseau County. The building is well preserved and is still used for various church and community affairs. Though it has undergone some remodeling and repairs, the original logs constitute its walls. These logs were cut during the winter of 1890-91 when, at the threat of an Indian up-

rising (see HISTORY OF THE ROSEAU VALLEY), the Pinecreek settlers contemplated building a fort. The scare was without foundation, and the logs were used for a house of worship. The church was completed in 1893. Upon the outer wall a bronze plaque placed by the Roseau County Historical Society commemorates the fortieth anniversary of its founding.

The present Norwegian Lutheran Church and the Pinecreek school are situated on the highway, one mile to the west.

Of great value are the many artesian wells which have been drilled in the glacial lake bottom around Pinecreek, Ross, and Duxby. These wells produce an abundant supply of water, characterized by a taste of iron.

Before the advent of drainage these flowing wells were sometimes a matter of considerable aggravation to the early settlers. One well, drilled a short distance west of Pinecreek, flooded an entire section, making a mire of the roads and resisting the frantic attempts to plug it up.

The soil around Pinecreek varies from a sandy to a clay loam. Fine hay clover, timothy and alfalfa are the most important crops. Grass seed is the principal export, and dairying flourishes.

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ROSEAU COUNTY

HIGHWAY TOUR

Approaching from the east, the tourist enters Roseau County after crossing the Canadian National Railway tracks and enters the

VILLAGE OF ROOSEVELT

Railroad Stations: Canadian National, south of the highway, and near the center of the town.

Traffic Regulations: Parallel parking on north side of Main St. only.

Accommodations: One hotel, not modern.

Tourist Information Service: Grill's Garage.

ROOSEVELT (278 pop.), named after the famous "Teddy", stretches out for nearly three quarters of a mile along the railway which gave it birth. The uncommon number of amply built frame houses in this small village indicates that it began its existence as a lumber town. From 1902 to 1918, the presence of several saw mills in the vicinity kept the town a lively and boisterous place. There are no mills in Roosevelt today, though one operates in the timber country some miles to the south.

The village has a school which provides a standard curriculum through the tenth grade. Children wishing to complete the high school course are sent to Warroad. The village has a number of mercantile establishments, a garage, a hotel, and a community hall. The municipality provides for winter recreation by maintaining a skating rink.

There are four churches, Congregational, Catholic, Norwegian Lutheran, and a Church of God.

From Roosevelt State 11 parallels the Canadian National Railroad, passing through the hamlet of SWIFT at 7 m. At one time heavy shipments of timber were made from this point. Swift may well allude to the rapidity of its rise and the suddeness of its decline.

At 13 m. is the

Approximately 2 miles beyond Warroad the highway crosses a jack pine ridge which was formed as a sand bar of Lake Agassiz. At the crest of the hill, on the shoulder of the road, stands a tall Norway pine, the only one of its species in the vicinity. Known as the Lone Pine, it has been a landmark since the "Winter Road" between Roseau and Warroad was established. Recently, when the highway was realized, strong public protest caused the State highway department to abandon its plan of chopping down the tree. Instead the road was built around it.

At 25 m. is the

VILLAGE OF SALOL

Population 75; Transportation, Great Northern Railroad.

Only a short time ago Salol was a booming lumber town; today a few bleached and settling piles of sawdust are reminders of the heyday when lumberjacks filled both of Salol's hotels to overflowing.

The first white men to enter this district (about 1906) came for the coniferous timber which cross-hatched its horizons. Men on foot slogged through miles of mud and muskeg to reach the dryer clay islands where they could set up a grindstone to sharpen their axes; others came in by boat. The first road into Salol was a 3-mile stretch of corduroy which in the spring rose with the water and forced the pack-burdened lumberjack to practice logbirling willy-nilly. It is told at Salol, that just before dredging began in the Algoma Swamp, coal was hauled in during the winter and deposited at strategic points along the lines where the dredges were to come. But when spring arrived and the ice thawed about 60 tons quietly slipped out of sight into the boggy ground.

The name Salol is another reminder of the roughhouse days of the timberjack. According to tradition, three "peavey-pushers" were sent to Roseau to confer with the best brains in that village regarding a name suitable for the future metropolis of northern Minnesota. The delegation had no sooner reached

the county seat, than it fell in with gay company. When at last the town came into clearer focus it was night, home was miles of weary slogging distant, and their mission was still unaccomplished. The prospect of greeting a nameless and unfriendly town with the dawn painfully bestirred the minds of the lumberjacks. Out of the fog came inspiration. One of the trio remembered that in cases of indecision the drawing of names was often resorted to. Resolutely the three marched into the Roseau drugstore, and to the drawer marked "Labels." One pulled the drawer open, a calloused paw reached in and drew a slip. The label bore the legend SALOL.

Triumphantly the three lumberjacks returned home. They told the people that "Salol" was a Latin word meaning queen of the forest.

Salol now serves a thriving farming community. Agriculture has come rapidly into importance in this section. The clay loam islands north of the hamlet, and the highlands to the south in Enstrom and Falun Townships constitute some of the finest farming land in the county. The soil, with its high lime content, is particularly well adapted for raising clover and alfalfa. Much of the former surrounding swampland has been burned off, and the plow has converted yesterday's "keg" into today's fields of oats and barley. In addition to grass seed crops, dairying and sheep raising are important occupations.

Salol has two general stores, a two-room schoolhouse which is open for an 8-month term, and two churches. A recreational parlor, a grain elevator, a produce market, are among the enterprises which should succeed in this town. Nine miles from Roseau and 12 miles from Warroad, Salol is situated in a trade area of its own.

Recently Salol people have made swimming their principal summer recreation. This is due to the fact that a gravel pit one-half mile south and one and one-half miles east of the village suddenly filled up with spring water. Because of the gravel bottom, the water seeps out as it flows in, maintaining a fresh

supply throughout the summer months.

The woods and swamps in the vicinity of the town afford one of the best spots for deer hunting in Roseau County.

RM

In leaving Greenbush, continue south on State 32 to the

VILLAGE OF STRATHCONE

67 m.

Railroad Stations: Great Northern at west end of village.

Traffic Regulations: Angle parking.

Accommodations: No hotels.

Tourist Information Service: Spjute Store.

VILLAGE OF STRATHCONA

STRATHCONA (112 pop.) the southernmost village in Roseau County, is virtually on the Roseau-Marshall County line. A "Great Northern town", it was named by James J. Hill in honor of Sir Donald Smith (Lord Strathcona) who came to Canada as an adventurer and advanced to the position of Resident Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company and a financial promoter of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Situated in the most important sheep-raising territory of a county which consistently ranks first or second in the State annually in this industry (see Farming in Roseau County), Strathcona is an important shipping point, and draws trade from a wide agricultural area. It has eleven business places, including two general stores and a creamery. The village would welcome and feel it could support other business enterprises, particularly a grain buyer and a dealer in feeds and seeds.

Strathcona is justly proud of the fact it has always had the lowest tax rate of any village in the county. The town has no bonded indebtedness.

The prosperity of the surrounding country is evidenced by the fact that all available farms with buildings are occupied. Farmsteads relinquished during hard times have been redeemed by local people.

Although sheep raising is the principal occupation in this section, dairying is also important. The people of the territory have been interested in high grade stock since the late M. B. Hershey introduced pure-bred milk strain Shorthorns on his farm 4 miles north of Strathcona, and made the investment pay large dividends. Grass seed raising is another important source of farm incomes.

Strathcona has a new two-room schoolhouse, constructed with Government

funds, and conforming to standards required by the State Departments of Education and of Public Health. It is a one-story building with a full basement which provides a recreational room, a furnace room, and a lunch room.

The village has four churches, a Swedish Lutheran, a Norwegian Lutheran, a Baptist, and an Evangelical Free Church.

Two annual events here are the Lutefisk supper and the community sale.

VILLAGE OF WARROAD

Railroad Stations: Great Northern R. R.; Canadian National R. R., both on north side of village.

Traffic Regulations: Angle parking. Stop at intersection of streets with State 11, an arterial highway.

Accommodations: Two modern hotels. Tourist camp at north end of Lake Street, facing Lake of the Woods. This camp has a flowing well, electric lights, grills, and other necessary conveniences.

Tourist Information Service: Hotel Warroad, Warroad Pioneer.

Motion Picture Houses: One.

Athletics: Independent basketball and baseball in season. Water sports.

Swimming: Municipal pool near tourist park. Golf: 9-hole course. No fees.

VILLAGE OF WARROAD

WARROAD (1,066 alt., 1,184 pop.), situated on Warroad River and Muskeg Bay, is the only American port on the Lake of the Woods. (See The Lake of the Woods Country.) Boats make regular, scheduled trips from this town to American Point, Oak and Flag Island, and to Kenora, Ontario. A six-passenger amphibian plane is available for chartered trips or short excursions. During the winter, mail and passengers are carried bi-weekly by plane to Oak Island and the Northwest Angle.

When the Chippewa held this region, the rice fields of the Lake of the Woods were a bone of contention between them and the Sioux, who invaded the territory by way of the Red and Roseau River water route which ended at the mouth of the Warroad. This was the old war road, from which the village derives its name.

Jean-Baptiste la Verendrye ascended the Warroad River in 1834, and just 90 years later the American Fur Company operated a fur post somewhere near the spot now marked by a stone and inscription in the village tourist park.

When the first settlers came to this region about 1895, Jake Lockland was operating a trading post near the Indian village on the north side of the Warroad River, near the bay. Here, around the natural harbor formed by the river, the village of Warroad grew up.

Warroad's harbor has been developed and is now controlled by the Government. A part of the development was the creation of an island within the harbor, on which was built a large marine machinery warehouse. The suction dredge which built the island is now used for the maintenance of the harbor

and the channel. The Government has complete charge of the harbor lighting and the placing of buoys, and intends to extend this service to other parts of the lake.

Due to its location, Warroad is important for its fisheries, which ship approximately a million and a quarter pounds of fish to eastern markets annually. The principal commercial varities are pike, pickerel, sugar, redfin, bullhead, trout, whitefish, carp and some muskellunge.

The availability of rough fish at low cost has stimulated the growth of the fur farming industry in this area. One and a half million dollars is now invested in fur breeding along the American side of the Lake of the Woods, mink and fox being the principal animals raised.

A $15,000 cooperative fishmeal factory, constructed in conjunction with the SERA and the State Department of Conservation, is located in Warroad. Here two species of fish, the burbot and tullibee, are converted into stock food.

Another of Warroad's industries is the feldspar mill. At this plant spar from Manitoba and from the quarry on the Northwest Angle is ground to powder and shipped out by rail, mostly to ceramic plants where it is used in making enamel ware and porcelain. Feldspar is also a prime ingredient in chinaware and tile glaze, and is used to some extent in soap making and in polishing materials. Approximately 40 carloads of feldspar are shipped out of this village annually.

The cooperative creamery has has an average annual production of 456,450 pounds of butter for the past five years. The plant also manufactures dried buttermilk.

Warroad serves as the principal trading center and shipping point for a large volume of produce from eastern Roseau County. Assuming considerable importance in recent years is the certified seed potato crop raised around

Warroad. Shipper's estimates of carloadings out of Warroad in 1935 give these figures on farm and forest products:

100 cars	livestock	10 cars	grass seed
150 "	seed potatoes	100 "	timothy and alfalfa
75 "	grain	50 "	timber products.

A locally-owned water and light plant, equipped with four Diesel engines generates 540 horsepower with an 80-kilowatt peak. Fire protection of the village is insured by hydrants throughout the business section, and by a portable Boyer pump which uses water from the Warroad River. Many blocks of sewers provide the major portion of the residences with sanitary conveniences.

Warroad has a modern hospital, and a State bank with a capital and surplus of $28,000. The local paper is the Pioneer, a weekly, published by Earl Chapin. The local school has an average enrollment of 400 pupils, for whom it employs 14 teachers. Six teachers handle the first six grades, eight teach the junior and senior high school. Besides the regular work prescribed by the State Department of Education, orchestra and band instruction is offered, and vocal training is provided. In recent years Warroad high school singers have been awarded honors at the State Music Festival. The athletic program of the school includes football, basketball, track, and hockey. A teacher training department providing first year instructions is also operated in conjunction with the high school.

Facilities for both summer and winter recreation are ample. There is a municipal swimming pool at the lakeside just north of the tourists' camp. Boats and airplanes are available for either short or extensive excursions. Winter sports include hockey and wind sled racing. Fishing is good at the mouth of the river and in the bay, particularly in the spring and fall. Bemis Hill, 17 miles south, in the newly created Beltrami Island Forest, provides facilities for ski-jumping and tobogganing. (See Recreation.)

A southern gateway to the Lake of the Woods region, only now coming into

prominence as a resort area, Warroad seems destined to become increasingly important as a recreational center in the years to come.

IS

4,166 words

HISTORY OF THE ROSEAU VALLEY

Archeology

The first-known written record which relates to the Roseau River Valley is a memoir by Pierre de la Verendrye, who explored this and the territory to the north and west between the years 1732 and 1749. The history of the Roseau Valley, prior to the coming of La Verendrye, is illumined only by the tantalizing and uncertain light of legend, and the occasional discovery of archeological artifacts.

The discovery of the Minnesota Man--actually the skeleton of a 16-year-old girl--established the antiquity of mankind in the Red River Valley at approximately 20,000 years. This skeleton was found near Pelican Rapids in the silt of a lake which preceded glacial Lake Agassiz.

Whether this early type of man inhabited the territory which is now Roseau County is purely a matter of conjecture. We do know, however, that another and more highly developed race lived in this region about 8,000 years ago. At that time Lake Agassiz had retreated to form its fourth shoreline, the Campbell Beach--that high gravel ridge which runs uninterruptedly for fifty miles through southwestern and east-central Roseau County. (See Geology.) Along this beach lived a people whose culture was distinguished by the use of ivory specimens, which suggests that the mammoth may have been their contemporary, and probably fell a victim to their weapons.

One, and possibly two artifacts of this culture have been found in

the vicinity of Roseau. One is an ivory fish-spear discovered in the bed of the Roseau River about a mile beyond its confluence with Mud Creek. But even more unusual is the curio recovered within the limits of Roseau Village. This is a round stone displaying incised figures within a circle. University of Minnesota authorities believe these figures are prehistoric writings. The fish spear is on display in the private collection of Mr. P. O. Fryklund of Roseau, which can be seen at the Community Auditorium.

Near the western boundary of Roseau County, on the gravel beach about three miles east of Two Rivers, are three mounds which were conspicuous when the first settlers passed by them, and are still visible today. These mounds have never been investigated, but it is not unreasonable to assume that they are tumuli of these early people who lived beside Lake Agassiz. However, there is considerable controversy regarding this point, as it is the site of an Indian battle, and some writers maintain that the mounds are breastworks thrown up at the time of the encounter.

The Legend of the White Men

One of Roseau County's most fascinating legends is associated with this spot. The tale was told by the Indian Mickinock to explain the auburn shade of his wife's hair. The story, as related in Jacob Nelson's Forty Years in the Roseau Valley, is substantially as follows:

"When the Indians first entered the Roseau Valley, it was covered by water, and the sand ridge (Campbell Beach) and the Cypress Mountains (Canadian highlands just across the boundary) were islands.

"Late one autumn a fierce storm swept the great lake, and cast against the shore of the sand ridge an alien boat which was hurled to pieces by the ice and wind. From the wreck there escaped to the ridge fourteen strange people with fair skin and light hair--seven men, two women, and five

children.

"The north wind having spent its fury, died away, the south wind sprang up, and a long period of warm weather ensued, during which the white survivors prepared for winter as best they could by building three sod wigwams on the island. (This probably refers to the three mounds.) By spring famine and sickness had taken all but one man and five children.

"At this time the Indians who were living on the Cypress Mountains, saw the smoke of camp fires on the sand ridge, and went over to investigate. There they found the white people and took them back to Cypress Mountains. The following winter the white man died. The children grew up with the Indians and took Indian mates."

Mickinock claimed that his wife was a descendant of these white people. Aside from this tale there is no tradition among the Chippewa as to when their progenitors took possession of this territory.

The Indians

The Indians of today are far different from the type that found the northern end of their world on the Campbell Beach. The first Indians known to have occupied the northern Red River Valley were the Crees, who are mentioned by the Jesuit Fathers in their Relations as early as 1640. These Indians were concentrated around Lake Winnipeg, but their domain extended over a wide region which unquestionably included the Red River Valley.

Related to the Crees were the Chippewa, who later also occupied the Roseau Valley. Fortified by the possession of French arms, the Chippewa took over northern Minnesota in the eighteenth century by a war of conquest, during which they drove the Sioux into southern Minnesota and the Dakotas.

The Lake of the Woods and the Roseau River areas were for a long time a borderland occupied by the Chippewa and invaded by the Sioux. The canoe and ridge trails which traverse present Roseau County have been steeped in the blood of many bitter encounters.

When the whites first settled in the Roseau Valley there was a Chippewa Indian village on the north bank of the Roseau River near the point where it flowed west out of the old Roseau Lake. The site is in section 25 of Dieter Township, about two miles east of Ross. (See Ross.) Another older village was located on the southeast quarter of section 13 of the same township, where the waters of Pine Creek once entered Roseau Lake. Many artifacts of prehistoric culture from the Ross Indian village will be found on display at the Roseau Museum. (See Roseau.)

Coming of the French

The coming of La Verendrye to the Lake of the Woods affords the first certain date of a white man's presence in the Roseau Valley. Crossing the lake to its western shore in the summer of 1732, La Verendrye established there Fort St. Charles. (See The Lake of the Woods Country.) There is no record that any of the party penetrated the territory west of the lake until 1734, although it is probable that they did. Early in the spring of that year a large band of Crees and Monsonis, full of the spirit of reprisal and with a valor doubtlessly whetted by the possession of French arms, began preparations to invade the country of their enemy, the Sioux. The Indians importuned La Verendrye's eldest son, Jean-Baptiste, to accompany them as their commander, so that he might bear witness of their prowess in battle. La Verendrye unwillingly granted their request lest the Indians conclude

that the French were cowards. Accordingly the party of 600 Indians left the fort on May 11, 1734, with Jean-Baptiste at their head. The warriors told La Verendrye that with the expected Assiniboines, their total strength would be between 1,000 and 2,000 men.

The party followed the route of the Roseau River, from the Lake of the Woods to the plains, on an old war road, traversed for generations by predatory bands. The route led from Muskeg Bay up the Warroad River where a portage was made to Hay Creek, a tributary of the Roseau River. Jean-Baptiste La Verendrye thus became the first white man of record to enter the Roseau Valley.

The French gave the Roseau River the name it bears today---"Riviere aux Roseaux"---a translation of the Indian name "River of Rushes." The rush referred to is the Phragnites communes, a very coarse grass which often grows from 8 to 12 feet high.

The English

When the first settlers came to the valley, there were traces of an old trading post on the Roseau River about 4 miles beyond the present village of Roseau. According to a romantic tale, the post was destroyed by the great fire which swept through the country near the beginning of the eighteenth century, leaving it a blackened wasteland. Before making his escape, the man in charge of the post placed all the company valuables, consisting of various records and $16,000 in gold, in a watertight, screw-topped copper can, which he buried by an oak tree. A chain, fastened to the can, was looped around the tree at the ground and covered with earth. The factor fled into Canada with the holocaust following him a good distance.

Several weeks later the factor started back after the cache, but a high wind caught him in a canoe on Shoal Lake. Neither the copper can nor the factor was ever recovered.

After the Treaty of Paris ended French sovereignty in the New World, fur trade in the Northwest became disorganized, and for many years the wilderness claimed its own. In 1755, when Alexander Henry crossed Lake of the Woods, he referred to Fort St. Charles as "an old French trading post almost entirely destroyed by the Nadowessies (Sioux)."

At the beginning of the nineteenth century the expansion of the Hudson's Bay Company's activities along the Red River revived the fur trade in the Northwest. This trade was soon enlivened by the advent of rival fur companies. By 1824 the American Fur Company operated a post at the mouth of the Warroad River.

By the middle of the nineteenth century the Hudson's Bay Company had extended its activities to the region drained by the Roseau River. Old records of this company kept in London reveal that one of their parties visited the Roseau Valley in 1847, and investigated the vicinity of Roseau Lake. By their report we can see that the river was aptly named, for they wrote:

"The river channel can be traced through a marsh ten miles long, nearly on a level with the water in the river. The depth of the marsh does not exceed three feet, and it is quite possible to wade on horseback through it."

By this same document it appears that the company already had, or at that time established, a trading post on the south shore of the river where it enters the lake. The approximate site has been determined by Mr. Eddy Billberg, formerly of Roseau.

During this period the Roseau Valley harbored many hunters and

trappers, and this semblance to settlement hastened the inevitable period of home building, for woodsmen carried tales of the region's bounty to the more populous outer lands, and thus advertised the valley.

The First Settlers

It is difficult to say who actually was the first settler in the Roseau Valley. Israel Ryder, the fur trader, is known to have been one of the first to have a residence here, but he could scarcely be called a settler. There were probably other traders before Ryder who operated for some time in the valley. Seward Wood, who lived at Pelcher's Crossing, is also mentioned as one of the first home builders on the river, but he did not stay long. Ole Holm, who came in 1887, names Bill Book, Jim Jester, Seward Wood, and Israel Ryder as the first four settlers in the valley. Both Book and Jester were married, and their wives were with them. All these pioneers had cabins on the river within a few miles of each other, and all in the vicinity of the present village of Roseau.

When J. W. Durham, pioneer and historian of the Roseau Valley, first visited this region in 1886, he found only a scattering of people. Among those he names are Jacob Nelson, Nick Cain, Lon Irish, Ryder, and Wood.

Few Indians occupied the valley when the settlers came. Jacob Nelson, who established his home near the Ross Indian village, states that about 40 persons lived in the village when he first visited it in 1885. One of these was Billy McGillis, a half-breed, who had married an Indian girl. From McGillis Nelson learned many legends of the valley.

The Ghost of the Roseau Lake

It was here , at the Indian Village, that the Ghost of Roseau Lake

wandered.

The ghost, which the Indians called the Windego, had terrified the natives of the village for generations, not so much by its spectral appearance, but because it presaged death. Not only the Indians, but their white neighbors, the Nelsons, saw this apparition on several occasions, and a memorable eyewitness description is included in the Nelson history:

"I was in the yard at the Mickinock house about midafternoon. Looking south I saw that apparition rise by the side of the muskeg and start walking westward; it stumbled and nearly fell; then it started to run and several times stumbled, but each time it recovered and ran on about a quarter of a mile. Finally it went out of sight behind the east end of the grove on the small ridge on Bertilrud's homestead. The apparition was about fifteen feet tall, dressed in some material that looked like white lace.

"Whatever it may have been, it was not a hallucination of superstitious fears in the dark, for I saw it in broad daylight.

"Mrs. Mickinock died on the following morning."

Hardships of the Settlers

Nearly all the settlers who entered the Roseau Valley came by way of the Sandridge Trail, which pierced the forest and scrub eastward from the edge of the Red River plain to the Roseau River. The trail followed that high gravel ridge, the Campbell Beach of Lake Agassiz, which offered a convenient ingress to a territory characterized by barriers of marsh and bogland.

In the early days game and wild fruits were abundant in the Roseau Valley, and the heavy forests provided cover from storms and plen-

tiful material with which to build homes. Of the country in 1886 Durham writes:

"I found the forest teeming with wild game of every description. Chief among these were moose, elk, caribou, and red deer. These animals often gathered in large droves, giving the early comers every opportunity to hunt. Birds of every description were as plentiful then as now, the only difference being that wild geese and ducks were far more numerous."

However, it did not take the pioneers long to discover one of the chief reasons for the prodigal vegetable growth of the Roseau River country. Rains fell with monotonous recurrence. Having fallen, the water had no particular place to go, so it stood. Durham complains that the sod roof of his home would become so saturated with water that it would continue to leak until the next shower came along, so that the family underwent perpetual rainfall. To add to the pioneers' troubles, the shades of evening were composed mostly of mosquitoes. In wet seasons the cattle, maddened by the torture, would bellow day and night and walk unceasingly for relief, or when possible, stand in water up to their necks.

Even during dry years the swamps and lowlands were filled with water. People living on the edge of these stretches would have to wade knee deep in order to get to neighboring farms, and some of the pioneer women paddled about in such makeshifts as tubs and water troughs in order to have their chats and coffee.

Not only did the first comers have to face the annoyance of persistent rains, but they also had to contend with periodic floods of the Roseau River. In a May 1892 issue of the Roseau Region we note this commentary on the state of rainwater in the lower Roseau Valley.

"Father Nelson of the Indian Village has finally fled to the mountains. He hung to the willows with commendable tenacity, but when

the catfish began to flap their tails against his windows and monkey with the door knob, he donned his life preservers and struck out, admitting for the first time that the water was going to be high."

Another memorable flood occurred in 1896 at which time families were isolated by water for six or seven weeks, and many settlers suffered serious losses of valuable livestock and seeds.

Snakes, too, were a considerable nuisance in the early days. One pioneer woman related that she had to hang out the straw mattress each morning to rid it of the many small snakes which found their way into it at night. Although these reptiles seem to have been of every size and color, apparently there were no poisonous ones among them. However, they always invaded the cabins, perhaps for shelter and warmth, and once inside they proceeded to make nests in the mattresses, to find their way into sugar sacks, drop down upon the beds from the sod roofs.

Money was almost a curio in the early days of the valley. One settler recalls that he lent a friend two dollars. Three years later the man was still unable to repay the debt in coin, so he squared his obligation by the delivery of a load of lumber.

Social Development

Once the settlers had begun to arrive in the country in considerable numbers, they went to work on cooperative enterprises by which to better their condition. One of the first of these was a crude sawmill with which two operators could cut a hundred feet of lumber a day. A shingle mill was also constructed of a 12-foot log equipped with a blade which operated like a kraut cutter. An early brick plant also flourished on what is now the Dynes farm south of Roseau. The Dynes house, made of this brick, is still in use.

The Roseau Valley settlers had no sooner built their houses than they began to look for a place where the Bible might be explained. The Seventh Day Adventists were perhaps the first to enter the field of church activity. Baptist, Mission Friend, and Lutheran congregations quickly followed. Early religious services were conducted in the homes of the settlers. The first church, built in 1891, 1½ miles west of the present site of Roseau, was open to all denominations. As nearly as can be determined, the Rev. Mr. Askeland was the first ordained resident minister, a man distinguished by his unselfish and untiring service to his pastorate.

The First School District

Education also received the attention of the pioneers at an early date. The circumstances incident to the organizing of the first school are amusing.

First of all the pioneers signed the usual petition to the Kittson County board for a school district. But after this had been done, it was discovered that the proposed district did not have enough children of school age to be legally organized. To overcome this deficiency, the settlers wrote into the petition the required number and added one extra for good measure. This was done by lowering the age of a few bachelors.

But as soon as they had solved this problem, the pioneers found another. They discovered that the boundaries of the district must be designated on the petition, and the county had not yet been surveyed. Someone suggested driving a stake into the ground and conducting measurements from it, but it was deemed that this might not meet official approval.

The settlers sat down, reasoned together, and produced a solution which was a real triumph. Election was coming on in the fall, and by this time the Roseau settlement had a substantial number of votes, so the votes were pooled, and the boundary question was turned over to the Hallock

officials. No question of procedure was asked, but it was understood that the combined vote would go to the county official who made the school district possible.

J. W. Durham was selected to negotiate at the Kittson County capitol, and the first cooperative effort in the Roseau Valley was successfully concluded. This district was organized and no one asked how. Mr. Durham was elected to the first school board in special recognition of his strategic maneuvers at Hallock.

The Indian Scare

After 1887 settlers poured into the Roseau Valley so fast that it was impossible to keep track of when they came or where they settled. It has been estimated that between 700 and 800 persons entered the valley in the year 1888 alone. Conditions steadily improved as the population grew and community activity increased. The valley had began to bustle with promising activity when an incident came near to depopulating the whole region. This was the Indian scare of 1891.

The pioneers found the Indians of the Roseau Valley peaceful and friendly. The whites carried on trade with them, and the two peoples were mutually helpful. Both pioneer historians comment upon the honesty of the Indians, not a few of whom endeared themselves to the settlers by their sterling qualities. Nevertheless, there were always whiskey, nervous whites, and excitable Indians. These were the ingredients from which the scare was brewed over a fire of malicious mischief.

According to Jacob Nelson, whose opinion is corroborated by others, the scare was precipitated by the machinations of several ill-intentioned whites. In January 1891, frightening rumors of impending massacre began to flood the valley. It was told, possibly on a basis of fact, that Rain-in-

the-Face, the notorious ally of Sitting Bull, had visited the Indians of the Red Lake Reservation to incite them to revolt. It was further whispered that the Chippewa had purchased all the powder and lead to be had in Thief River Falls; and the Indians at Warroad were reported to be dancing the Ghost Dance with visitors from the Red Lake and other villages. The climax of these wild tales was a Revere-like arousal of the valley settlers by two men who bore the terrifying information that Indians in war paint were descending upon the settlement. In panic, settlers loaded their household goods on carts and headed precipitately out of the valley in the dead of winter. Those who were determined to remain grimly prepared to defend themselves. Some men flouted the rumor of an uprising and counseled the remaining population to send scouts to Warroad to see what the Indians actually were doing. Meanwhile evacuation of the Roseau settlement continued. Erick Holm was dispatched to Hallock to report to authorities; on his return he met about sixty teams of refugees on the sand ridge in a most miserable plight.

On January 26, 1891, Sheriff Youngren of Hallock telegraphed Governor Merriam asking for 300 rifles and ammunition for the Roseau Valley settlers. Five days later, the Crookston Times printed the following story:

FEAR AN OUTBREAK

"There is much anxiety among the settlers along the Red Lake Reservation ... over the way Moosedung's band of Indians has been acting during the past few days. For some time past the Indians have acted in a very sullen and insolent manner, but no particular attention was paid to their actions until settlers commenced to come in and report that for three or four nights the Indians had been dancing and they had heard the drums and yells of the savages during the greater portion of the night."

That there might have been some cause for alarm around Red Lake had the surly Moosedung been able to muster more assistance seems probable, but an uprising was far from the thoughts of the Indians in the Roseau region.

The white scouts finally returned from Warroad to report the Indians there friendly and indulging only in social dancing. Moreover, when Chief Maypuck and his band learned of the scare, they became almost as frightened as the settlers. Apprehensive of repercussions, Oshwash and Maypuck journeyed to Roseau to learn more about the matter.

So quickly was the scare dissipated and so slowly did the oxcarts travel, that emissaries soon overtook the fleeing settlers, and the greater part of them were persuaded to return. February once again saw the smoke rising above the housetops, a proclamation that all was well in the Roseau Valley.

The Indian scare was the last major event in what can properly be termed the early history of the Roseau Valley. After 1892 the tide of immigration spread to every part of the region that is now Roseau County, and the history of this area becomes increasingly complex.

The New Era

On December 31, 1894, Roseau County was created by proclamation of Governor Nelson, being formed from a part of Kittson County which was created March 9, 1878. In the same year the village of Badger was platted.

For some years the development of the country was retarded by lack of adequate transportation facilities. But in 1900 the Canadian National Railway built its tracks around the southern end of the Lake of the Woods, then through Warroad village and the northwestern corner of the county. This and other circumstances pursuaded the reluctant James J. Hill to extend a branch of the Great Northern through Roseau County in 1904. Thus, within a span of twenty years, this region had progressed to a new era of development.

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THE LAKE OF THE WOODS COUNTRY

Just east of Warroad the traveler along State 11 may catch an occasional glimpse of an expanse of water which stretches out to meet the sky. This is a bay of the Lake of the Woods, that beautiful remnant of glacial Agassiz whose winding, forested shores embraces over 13,000 emerald islands.

The Cambrian foundations of Roseau County lie under hundreds of feet of glacial drift, but beyond the fields of flax and rye and north of the bog a rugged Canadian upland rises, a great upheaval of rock that is so old that it antedates the amoeba. This is an outcropping of the great azoic shield which appears only rarely above the surface of the earth.

Of this great outcropping, of the curious flora that grows here, our country would have had none, had not Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, John Adams, and a few English gentlemen believed that the Mississippi lay on a line due west of the Lake of the Woods. As a result of this slight geographical error, made at the time of the signing of the Treaty of Paris, there was formed on our northern boundary, that curious jutting pinnacle of land known as the Northwest Angle. This isolated hinterland and the islands and waters that lie within the American segment would be little more than a geographical curiosity were it not that it is an important source of fresh water fish and one of the most picturesque and primitive vacation areas in this country. Warroad, the only American port on the Lake of the Woods, is a gateway to this region.

From Warroad it is almost 30 miles north across open water to the islands and the Northwest Angle. The islands on the American side lie a few miles apart, but further north they are separated only by narrow arms of water. The islands are upthrusts of metamorphic rock

covered by forests of pine and ash and mountain maple. Here and there a mantle of earth grows sweetgrass and wintergreen, but usually the gneiss and schist is carpeted only by a gray-green lichen. Yet, by some prodigy of growth peculiar to this region, out of nearly every crevice grow towering pines, in every cleft and hollow lies an ankle-deep carpet of moss, and from every tiny crack spring heavy growths of underbrush. It seems strange here, that a German scientist could have produced a sensation by growing hair on the crystal of a watch.

The herbage is as unusual as it is prodigal. On rocky ledges can be found the early saxifrage, one of the earliest flowering plants, and the rough erigon or fleabane, both extremely rare in Minnesota. Juniper thrives among the rocks, along with a dwarf sumach which in autumn lends its startling scarlet to the bright crazy-quilt of color. Both are strangers in a far land. One must travel a hundred miles southward before these plants appear again.

Oddest of all is the cactus which grows bountifully on some of the more barren small islands. The green, spine-covered fingers against the gray rock seem almost unbelievable when one remembers that every winter the mercury drops to more than 40° below.

If the vegetable kingdom fails to interest you, you might care to know that almost all the important minerals of the earth can be found in this region. On still days visitors to American waters can hear the intermittant rumble of dynamite blasts from the Yellow Girl Mine on nearby Shoal Lake, which has been profitably producing gold for many years. Before the opening of the richer Procupine fields in northern Ontario, this was an important gold country. In 1899 the Sultana Mine on upper Lake of the Woods was the greatest gold producer in Canada's western fields, and others on the lake were yielding heavily.

The gold here is far from exhausted and other metals have never been exploited. Silver found in quartz dikes has assayed higher than gold. Copper pyrite commonly occurs; galena, molybdenite, mispikel, and iron pyrite are almost as common. Cobalt, antimony, and beryllium have been discovered. Extensive deposits of iron ore have been prospected on Hunters' Island and magnetic sand is found in drifts along the lake shores. On Falcon Island, in Canadian waters, mica outcrops in great glittering sheets, and on the Northwest Angle is one of the largest known feldspar dikes in the United States.

The Lake of the Woods country offers a summer of cool, shower-filled months. It is a quiet vacation retreat, away from the crowded places, as yet scarcely known except to sportsmen.

There are few lakes in the United States that afford greater variety of fish. The waters abound in small- and large-mouth bass, crappies, pickerel, pike, salmon trout, and the incomparable muskellunge. Salmon trout up to 40 pounds have been caught here, and it was in these waters that the world's largest muskie (56½) was taken. Robert Page Lincoln, nationally known authority on fishing, stated in one of his recent magazine articles that Lake of the Woods was undoubtedly the last great muskie-fishing lake in North America.

In late autumn, when the reels and rods have been put away and the wind grows rowdy and scatters colored leaves over the gray rocks, the shores, bays, and inlets teem with mallards, teal, and other fowl which feed upon the abundant wildrice. This is a time of quiet waiting behind blinds of rushes, and the sweet smell of gunsmoke upon the air. Later still, when the gray clouds of winter sweep up over the northern horizon and the waters lie still and black like iron, rifles are oiled and trigger springs tested. Deer frequent the islands, and the Angle is

a bit of big game wilderness to dream about. Just across the boundary, in Ontario the season is open every year on deer, moose, and caribou. A movement is on foot to open the Northwest Angle to moose and caribou shooting to conform with Canadian regulations.

This country is steeped in a romantic past. Here dwelt the Kennebic, serpent spirit of the Indians who jealously guarded the treasures of the rocks, and here the Great Spirit came to earth to admonish the tribes to live as brothers together in peace. (See Rocky Point.) This is the country of Massacre Island, the site of old Fort St. Charles, and the Dawson Road. Indians, French, and English have all left imprints of their eras in the legend and history of the Lake of the Woods.

The first white man of record to behold this lake was Jacques de Noyon, in 1688. But the real discovery and exploration of this region was left to Pierre de la Verendrye, also a Canadian by birth, and also a native of Three Rivers. It was La Verendrye who built Fort St. Charles on the Northwest Angle Inlet, and it was his eldest son who perished with Father Aulneau and nineteen others on the bleak heights of Massacre Island.

In late July 1732 La Verendrye, pushing westward in his search for the western sea, reached the Lake of the Woods after a fortnight's journey from Fort St. Pierre. Crossing the southwest part of the lake, the party set a northward course until they reached the outlet of a river which was later known as the Northwest Angle Islet.

Here on an island on the south side of the Inlet, La Verendrye's men constructed a fort which was christened St. Charles in honor of the Marquis Charles Beauharnois, and the missionary of the party. Charles Messaiger. A contemporary memoir gives a good picture of this early French post.

"La Verendrye had built another fort on the west of the Lake of the Woods, sixty leagues from Lake Tekamamiouen (Rainy Lake). The fort is 100 feet wide with fo r towers. In it is a house for the missionary, a church, another house for the commanding officer, four corner buildings with chimneys, a gunpowder magazine, and a warehouse. There are also two gates opposite each other, a sentry box, and the piles are 15 feet high."

The fort faced north across the cove, viewing Buckete Island. Situated in a great hunting and fishing ground, its excellent location made Fort St. Charles La Verendrye's most important post during the period of his explorations.

Massacre Island

After three strenuous years in the wilderness, La Vérendrye had, in 1734, returned to Montreal to report his activities and to secure further financial aid that he might carry on his work of discovery and exploration.

Instead of being accorded honors for his unselfish service for France, the explorer received a chilly welcome. He found himself harassed by jealous enemies and hounded by creditors. An appeal to the King of France for needed funds fell upon deaf ears. La Vérendrye was finally forced to rent his forts to his creditors for three years, besides giving them right to manage the posts.

Disheartened but undaunted, La Verendrye returned to Fort St. Charles, arriving in September 1735. With him was a missionary, Father Aulneau, who had been sent by a Jesuit order in France to take over the work of bringing Christianity to the Indians.

La Verendrye found the garrison on the verge of starvation. Because of heavy rains the wild oat crop had not been harvested, and their stock of other provisions was almost gone.

A party of men was dispatched to procure provisions at Fort Maurepas on the Red River, and another group was sent eastward to new fishing grounds. Through its own desperate efforts and the help of friendly Indians, the garrison kept alive throughout the winter, but barely so. The Indians, witnessing their privations, named the island across from the fort "Buckote" (We Hunger), which name it bears to this day.

Spring found La Vérendrye's men not only short of rations, but short of gunpowder as well. The sense of foreboding which had grown with their adversity was deepened when it was learned that the prairie Sioux had been seen on the lake with the avowed purpose of taking French scalps in retaliation against the French alliance with the Crees, Assiniboines, and Monsonis.

The expected expedition from Michillimackinac, bearing supplies, did not come. In desperation, La Vérendrye sent one of his men, Bourassa, to meet the party and hurry them onward. Three days passed and Bourassa did not return. The situation at the fort was becoming desperate.

At council it was decided to send immediately a larger party eastward to Kaministigoya. Father Aulneau asked to accompany the convey, perhaps as a precaution for safety, for seldom did an Indian dare to kill a missionary. At Aulneau's entreaty La Verendrye's eldest son, Jean-Baptiste, was named to head the party.

On June 5, 1736, La Vérendrye inspected arms and distributed gunpowder to the 21 picked men, and exhorting them to be wary of the Sioux bade them Godspeed.

The next morning a band of Monsonis arrived at the fort and reported that the Sioux were on the warpath and had plundered Bourassa. The report was shortly after confirmed by a letter from Bourassa relating a narrow escape from the stake.

This information caused La Verendrye deep anxiety, which was soon intensified; for a few days later a canoe of supplies from Montreal arrived at the Fort, but the incoming voyagers had seen no sign of the expedition sent out to meet them. At once La Verendrye sent a party to follow the route probably taken by his men.

On June 22, the party returned bearing tragic news. On a small rock island, about seven leagues from the fort, they had found the remains of Jean-Baptiste, Father Aulneau and the nineteen others. The bodies lay in a circle, and had been decapitated. The heads, most of them scalped, were found warpped in beaver skins.

What happened on Massacre Island no one knows. Certain evidence suggests that the Sioux probably approached the French with overtures of peace, then at a signal, fell upon them. At any rate, the French, even at a disadvantage seem to have given good account of themselves. A short time afterward two Monsonis found twenty abandoned Sious was canoes which bore blood stains, and human limbs were found buried in the sand of the nearby shore.

Shortly after the massacre a party of Indians from Sault St. Marie who loved the French, landed on the island and buried the bodies under a tumulus of stones.

Later in the fall the French dead were brought to Fort St. Charles and buried under the chapel where they remained for 182 years "awaiting the coming of friendly hands to be gathered and given a more worthy burial place."

Massacre Island today

Massacre Island is about 18 miles from the site of old Fort St. Charles, and 2½ miles from Birch Island. It is in Canadian waters. The island is of almost solid rock, and high above the lake's surface. It is about three

quarters of a mile in length and a quarter of a mile in breadth, with an area of approximately 67 acres. A deep ravine full of box wood and brambles divides the island, causing some difficulty in crossing it. On abarren hill stands a wooden cross, commemorating the brave men who died there.

Scarcely less romantic than the history of Fort St. Charles are the attempts to rediscover the ancient site and its sacred relics made by the Catholic Fathers of St. Boniface. After six years of diligent study of all records extent relating to the fort, the second expedition accomplished its purpose in 1908. The painstaking research had been for naught, for it was Indian observation and legend which brought to light the ancient remains.

"On the south shore of the Inlet", said an Indian chief, "almost opposite the spot where you have planted your cross (1902), in a little cove of reeds and poplars, are three chimneys. The chimneys are not directly opposite the cross, but a little west."

A party was immediately dispatched to the south shore, where it soon came upon a small cove as described. Searching the grounds just in from the cove, the men soon discovered some flat stones. Here they dug and found a hearth stone, some charcoal, ashes, and a carpenter's chisel. Thus was discovered Fort St. Charles. The earnest and persistent efforts of the Catholic Fathers had at last borne fruit. Within the confines of the ruins were found the nineteen skeletons of the party who perished on Massacre Island, among them those of Jean-Baptiste de la Verendrye and Father Aulneau.

Fort St. Charles today

Fort St. Charles is but a few minutes by motorboat from Penasse, on the shore of Magnusson's Island. One disembarks at a rickety wooden dock which thrusts out into the water like a crooked finger. The famous historical site is a short distance west along the island, in the thick of a

heavy bush which springs up from damp ground. The poplars grow tall and slender, with high crowns, winnowing the sunlight. To the left, inland, a lichen-covered granite slope rears up.

In the same manner that decay and growth almost obliterated the site from the Catholic Fathers, so once again the old timbers and covered excavations are spread with the mulch of many season's decay.

The ruins stand near the shore, overlooking a field of wildrice. In the center of the site is reared a slender cross, bearing the carven inscription.

Fort St. Charles
Fonde 1732, Retrouve 1908

A number of moss-covered, crumbling timbers, evidently left by the rediscoverers, have become almost a part of the forest mould. The rocks of the original fireplace remain. Before these stones, 200 years ago, sat the intrepid French voyagers, some destined to meet violent death at the hands of the Sioux. Two hundred years ago, what did anxious eyes at the Fort strain to see beyond the reeds and wildrice?

Today, looking out across the Inlet, one may glimpse a lone Indian paddling toward the north shore, or a hiker following the channel between the reeds.

Visitors to the American side of the Lake of the Woods are assured of complete facilities for vacationing. Boats make scheduled trips to the Islands and the Angle (see Warroad), and plane service is available. Cabins, boats, guides, and all the facilities for hunting or fishing may be had at American Point (Pennasse) the northernmost post office in the United States, and at Oak and Flag Islands. At Center Island, owned by Tony Wons, erstwhile radio star of the "House by the Side of the Road" and author of "Tony's Scrap Book", is located a Canadian customs office for the convenience of the many who constantly cross and recross from Canadian to American waters.

280 words

ROCKY POINT RESORT

Rocky Point is a picturesque, quiet resort on the Lake of the Woods approximately 12 miles north of Roosevelt. It can be reached by county line road No. 21, which is graveled the entire distance. Rocky Point's many cottages are privately owned, chiefly by Roseau people who developed the site. The Point has a fine bathing beach, offers good fishing, and its setting of birch, ash, and poplar, screening outcrops of gneissic rock, is one of striking natural beauty.

The Rock of the Gods

Two miles offshore from this resort is a great white rock which rises 14 feet above the lake surface from a depth of 11 yards. The rock, 160 feet long, 60 feet wide, and standing out in sharp relief against the water, is a rookery for herring gulls and cormorants; seventy cormorant nests and thirty of the herring gull were counted here in the spring of 1935. Except for the nests the rock is totally barren. Not a tree, shrub, nor a blade of grass grows on its surface; nor have they, say the Indians, since the Great Manitou descended upon it to bring his message to the tribes. The prosaic white man has named the stone Gull Rock; to the Indian it is the Rock of the Gods.

When the French came to the Lake of the Woods, they found that the Indians, though of many different tribes and even nations, were living peaceably together. According to the Red Men, this was not always so. There was a time when the Sauteaux, Monsonis, Crees and Assiniboines continually warred with one another, and so weakened themselves that they were unable to repulse the constant encroachments of the Sioux who

coveted the fish and wildrice of the Lake. When LaVerendrye came, these tribes were united in guarding the War Road by which their enemy would advance, and together their blood was shed to wet the Mabeckamung (dark and bloody ground). La Verendrye also found that the Indians regarded Gull Rock with awe and reverence, and that not one would set foot upon it. And therein lies the most important of the legends of the Lake of the Woods region.

The Legend

The Crees, Chippewas, and Assiniboines made war upon each other until their braves were dead, and there was no strength remaining to resist the encroachment of the Dakotas. In a beautiful country of plenty there was only bloodshed, and the enemy was ready to drive the people from their inheritance.

Then it was that the Great Spirit descended to earth and rebuked his children.

One midsummer day a terrible heat gripped the land. The morning had dawned sultry and oppressive, and as the day wore on the heat became more and more intense. The people from the islands and the land flocked to the shores. Mothers carried crying children to the lake to dip them into the water's edge unafraid of man in the greater fear of the unknown. The people huddled together in groups, like hares cowering before a storm, their hearts filled with foreboding.

Suddenly over all the Lake there was a blinding flash of light, and a great voice which seemed to fill every corner of the earth spoke:

"I am the Great Spirit. I have come to tell you to be friendly with one another. To the west and south are a people whose eyes are turned in this direction, and unless you who live upon this lake become as brothers, the enemies of the plains will fall upon you and drive you hence.

"You must quarrel no longer. The same sun pours down its beneficent light over all and the watchful eyes of the Great Spirit is never turned away from his children."

The last syllables of the great voice rolled away over the horizon like the reverberations of distant thunder, and a silence fell which was so great that the people were deafened. The heat lifted, and cool breezes began to steal in from the lake. The Indians, who had fallen prostrate, their faces to the ground, arose slowly. They lifted their eyes in time to see the Great Spirit rising as a mist into the heavens; but those near saw the mist first rise from the Rock of the Gods.

The rock had been covered with trees and grass, but when the startled people saw the Great Spirit leave the island, it was no longer wooded. Not a tree was left, nor a blade of grass - only the stone.