In This Issue:

MAINE IS CHRISTMASLAND ...... Elizabeth A. Mason 3
   Everything Is Here—In Abundance

BRIDGTON ACADEMY ............................................. 7
   Profile Of An Historic “Small School”

FOUND: A MOUNTAIN IN MAINE .............................. 12
   Report On Sugarloaf Development

COMMUNITY ACTION BOOSTS GARDINER .................. 15
   William A. Hatch
   Maine’s Newest Shoe Factory Dedicated

OUTDOORS IN MAINE ......................... John C. Page, Jr. 18
   Hunting’s Behind, Fishing’s Ahead

YOU TAKE THE BYWAYS! ............. Owen M. Smith 22
   “Collecting” By Camera In Maine

MINSTRELSY OF MAINE ........... Edited by Dan Kelly 27
   Poetic Inspiration of the Season

ISLAND DAYS .... Ruth Vivian Smith Inside Back Cover

SNOW VIEWPOINT ..................... N. Kay Dell Back Cover

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Maine Is Christmasland

Pine Cone's "Around the Cracker Barrel" columnist shows how our Pine Tree State contains all the possible and traditional ingredients for an old fashioned Christmas. News and notes on Maine people and their activities.

By ELIZABETH A. MASON

The landscape has taken on a Currier & Ives winter print appearance, though one has to do a bit of hunting to find a dappled grey drawing a sleigh down a snowy road! There may be one, but all we usually see are recent model cars whizzing along at summer speed.

Yet, we've come to think of Maine as the real Christmasland because all the necessary elements seem to be here for an old fashioned Christmas, with some nice modern Yule ideas, too. Maine supplies thousands of Christmas trees to the Nation. Since Thanksgiving, in big bundles on huge trucks and railroad cars they've gone on long journeys from Maine forests. An occasional one has ornamented a car top along with the deer of the lucky hunter.

The Yule logs for our fireplaces come from our woods, as do the greens and berries for window boxes and wreaths. Native cranberries and pop corn, home grown, are woven into strands for decorating trees, as well as finding their way into sauce and pop corn balls.

Clever Maine artists, the Shevis of Belmont, Frank Hamabe, Bluehill, Janet Berry, Rockport and Wm. Farrell, Monhegan, have designed the Christmas cards we send out to all our friends. Yes, come to think of it, we can be pretty self-sustaining when it comes to Christmas. Our clever knitters produce out-size stockings to be filled to overflowing with all kinds of wonderful Maine gifts.

Daydreaming, we've thought of all those home products you might like to find under your tree or in your stocking. Well, we'd start with some presents for the house: A lovely hooked rug, some hand-made pine furniture including a Welsh dresser to hold some colorful Maine pottery, or some choice tea set from the home of an old sea captain. There would be a set of new Craftwood or Brewer Mfg. Co. salad bowls, and some new Vi bert's flower pots in an interesting slip-glazed design.

While about it, a George Washington spread from Bates, some Pepperell and Lockwood linen, a hand-blocked luncheon set and new draperies from Goodall's would be welcome.

Come to think of it, how'd you like to find the deed to a charming old Maine home in the toe of your stocking? Or a cozy log cabin? Maybe Santa has done just that for you! If you got the cabin then surely an Old Town canoe should be among your gifts, and tramping around it this Winter you would want those snowshoes from Norway. Any one of these would be welcome gifts, wouldn't they?

But Mother would like some personal things—a length of lovely tweed from Maine looms like Martha Vaughn's at Boothbay, a stunning necklace from Madeleine Burrage, one
of Dunham's (Waterville) fine new three-way coat-dress-robef, Maine Forest Products Pine Bubble Bath; and 'teen age daughter would love some clever silver bracelet charms from Clifford Russell, plaid tweed for a skirt from Highland Weavers, gay handblocked scarf from Stell Shevis, and a pair of Maine-made red moc-casins.

Baby sister will love a gay stuffed lion or other animal from Marilla Libby, or a “kitty bib” from Martha Pushard. Brother will really go for a Congress sport jacket, and an L. L. Bean tackle box with an assortment of Maine flies, and that long-wanted Maine-bred puppy.

Father will gloat over a Viyella shirt or one of the very special wool taffetas from Hathaway and an Old Academy Handcrafters, Peggy Ives or Tenafly Weavers tie, while he balances his long-desired Thomas Rod, and wriggles his toes comfortably in his Maine moccasins. He would be pretty pleased that his family thought enough of him to offer all this and a handsome Russell-wrought silver fob with his favorite boat design, or a Van Baalen lounging robe.

Day dreaming are we? Well then, how about a lovely Maine-built yacht for the whole family? That would certainly make a Christmas to top all Christmases, but what one of these Maine things or any others wouldn’t?

Then think of Christmas dinner—home grown turkey or chicken or even goose, vegetables straight from the farm, venison mince meat pie, Maine-bottled Fairview wine, cider, too! MacIntosh apples—even old-fashioned Russets, and butternut-maple fudge. Mm-Mm!

Under that tree, we hope there’s a big box of assorted Maine foods from Maine canning companies and home kitchens—clam chowder, sardines, brown bread, blueberries, Bessey’s jellies, and by all means some luscious blueberry or raspberry jam prepared by Elizabeth Kaufman (of Old Spaulding House, South Thomaston) and sold with special blueberry and raspberry jam jars from Rowantree.

The story of Mrs. Kaufman’s putting this combination on the market is one of real Maine cooperation. She conceived the idea, Rowantree responded by creating a special raspberry jam jar (they already had the blueberry one). Then she wrote her copy for promotion. At this point her husband’s employers at Gregory’s Men’s Store in Rockland offered to type the stencil and loaned a mimeograph for the cards. Mr. Kaufman ran the cards off, and then daughter, Pleasance, colored them. This gift goes forth appropriately packaged with a spray of balsam!

This Christmas season has brought to our attention how many Maine firms are mailing catalogues or booklets to prospective or old customers so that shopping may be done leisurely at home. To our desk have come tempting ones from Massachusetts House Workshop (Lincolnville), Vibt’s Pottery (W. Sullivan), Wincliff Shop (Kennebunk Landing), Dunham’s (Waterville), L. L. Bean’s (Freeport), Nichol’s Sporting Goods (Yarmouth), Woodman’s (Norway). We believe the Smiling Cow Gift Shops (Boothbay Harbor and Camden) have mailing pieces featuring Maine items, and also the Country Style R. F. D. Shop, (Cape Elizabeth) —and probably there are others. All these introduce Maine to new friends daily.

We’ve thought and thought, and in honesty, we can’t think of a thing missing in Maine to make it completely Christmasland. We haven’t reindeer, but we’ve got Perry Greene’s Chinooks to deliver all these for Santa Claus!

A good deal of new industrial activity is being enjoyed in several Maine communities, auspicious for 1952. General Electric brings employment to many in the Limerick area. Sylvania Products is getting underway in Waldoboro. Commonwealth’s ultra-modern, large new shoe plant is in operation at Gardiner. At East Boothbay four large minesweepers are taking form at Goudy and Stevens, where yachts are also in winter storage and repair work underway on various fishing boats.

At Boothbay Harbor brisk activity also prevails on government work at Sample’s Yard. Currently, plans are taking form for the opening of a shoe factory. Too, Spaulding Bisbee, Jr. has just opened offices for the ship-
ment of Maine seafoods all over the country.

At Brunswick great activity prevails as construction proceeds on the Navy airfield, and one of the most bustling of Maine towns is Limestone, home of the bomber base. Searsport's large new oil terminal is creating a growth in shipping and rail business for that area. In Aroostook and Washington Counties there should be cause for rejoicing with great demand for both potatoes and sardines at higher prices.

We hope more winter vacationers will come and join us in our winter activities of church suppers, square-dancing, local players' productions, school basketball—as well as skiing on our great variety of slopes. Down East at Machias there is always some exciting horse racing on ice, and most towns have excellent skating ponds, where bright bonfires warm rosy-cheeked skaters who later gather in homes and local halls for coffee, cider, doughnuts, or real baked bean suppers.

You can hunt antiques in Winter as well as in Summer. We are told that a word with Arthur Lougee of the Casco Bank & Trust Co. in Limestone will produce entry to the Weeman home, where privileged visitors may view a prize collection of early Maine antiques.

There are museum exhibits to visit and concerts, too.

More gift shops are open year round, and a charming, unique place to visit and shop is Norsecraft Gift Shop in Searsport. Norwegian born Anker and Dagmar Fjeldheim moved from New York City and opened their shop the past summer. Being expert coppersmiths, they offer beautiful copper lamps (unusual shades too), desk sets, and then there are beautiful imported sweaters. Silver, pottery, and toys from Scandinavian lands are also sold. Unusual candies and foods may be bought. This is another shop engaging in mail order business.

As Mainers away from Maine gather in winter meetings from St. Petersburg to Pasadena, we hope they'll be properly nostalgic for their Pine Tree State.

We note that already many Hancock County people have gathered in St. Petersburg for the winter. Among them are the Ernest Halls whose son, Captain Daniel Hall, formerly sports editor of the Bar Harbor Times, is now at Randolph Field, Texas, with his family established in San Antonio.

Recently, Pasadena Maine-ites had Mrs. Cora Dudley tell them about her summer's visit in Maine. This Pasadena group meets the last Wednesday each month and welcomes newcomers. Members there will be interested in hearing that the Irving Foggs are now back in Maine building a new home off Baxter Boulevard in Portland.

On November 15th the Pine Tree State Club of Rhode Island held a chicken supper. Harry E. Watts is President and Lalia Kennedy, secretary.

For many months we have delighted in the faithful interesting reports from Effie Inez Wing of the Maine Women's Club of New York. Her last letter informed us it would be her final report. Many, many thanks to her for her fine newsgathering. Mrs. Florence D. Pinkham (Lewiston) is their new president, and at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Frank Giuffra (Ethel Manning, Auburn) in Montclair, N. J. entertained sixty members at a picnic lunch. On November 3rd, the meeting was at the Hotel New Yorker, and Mrs. Walter Smiley (Brewer) and Mrs. James Thornton (Rockland) directed the program.

New members of the New York Club are: Mrs. Louis B. Smith (Beulah Cunningham), Bar Harbor; Mrs. George Martens (Ruth Vass Miller), Bar Harbor; Mrs. Percy L. Roberts (Vivien Billings), Center Lincolnville; Miss Anna Belle Perkins, North Brookfield; Mrs. Robert Schmid (Clarice Small), Mexico; Miss Corinne M. Barker, Bangor; Miss Grace N. Pendleton, Islesboro; and Mrs. H. A. Clinkunbroomer, Islesboro. Associate members who own cottages at Boothbay Harbor are: Miss A. Evelyn Campbell and Miss Gertrude Kranz. Their Christmas party was on December 1st with Mr. Shirley Leavitt, formerly of Sherman, Maine, directing carols. Former President Isabel Whittier (Brunswick) has been earning the Club money by selling Maine products to members.
At Washington, D. C., according to the Pine Tree State News, the Maine people heard May Craig on October 17th, and on October 26th staged their annual Halloween party with refreshments of Maine apples and cider. November 15th there was a baked bean supper and in December a Christmas party. The next meeting will be the Congressional reception in January. President and Mrs. Don Larrabee welcomed a new daughter August 16th. Good news from this society is the possibility of a Directory of all Maine persons residing in Washington.

We're still eager for news of other Maine groups???

We hear that Raymond Reid (son of Walter E. Reid who gave Maine's Reid Park at Georgetown) is the new manager of the Hotel Severin at Indianapolis, Indiana. We'd like to know how many Maine folks are in hotel work elsewhere.

News on Maine people away is eagerly awaited, so let's hear from more of you. A nice letter recently came from S. B. Skillings, formerly of Westbrook (Saccarappa), now of Tacoma, Washington. We're glad he enjoyed a summer visit to Maine after many years' absence. He said, "I was very much surprised at the beauties of the State travelling down the Coast to Eastport, thence to Fort Fairfield." Well, many people have surprises in store when they really explore Maine. If you've not done it, make yourself a New Year's resolution to do so.

If you do explore Maine, you may find yourselves suddenly and cozily settled in a Maine home—just as the Proulx's, recently of Asheville, North Carolina, find themselves. You have noted our clever Christmas card cover by Mrs. Proulx, and here is the story of how she, her husband and five children happen to be in a snug little red house near the new Freeport bypass. Both Proulx's are from Connecticut, and after their marriage they lived successively in Vermont and North Carolina. (Mr. Proulx was superintendent of a blanket mill there). Every vacation, however, found the couple returning to explore and dream of living in Maine.

Finally, they came to see Marion Parody of our Real Estate Service, and having told her what they wanted, visited several realtors near Portland (Daughter Ann must be near a good violin teacher). Finally, from Lester Hughes they purchased their house and shop where mill-end wools, cottons, and rug strips are sold. Mrs. Proulx, already art trained, is attending Portland Art School to supplement her knowledge, and next spring lovely, hand-screened articles will appear in the shop along with nice hand-loomed rugs made by the busy twins. Looking at our cover you can tell the Proulx's have the Maine spirit, now can't you?

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU ALL!

* * *

Note: We'll be glad any time to furnish readers with addresses for Maine products of all kinds.

MAINE'S SCENERY rates as the No. 1 tourist attraction in a survey made for the Maine Development Commission by the H. B. Humphrey, Alley & Richards agency. Average stay was about two weeks. Of those who answered the survey questionnaire, 41.5 per cent had never before vacationed in the Pine Tree State, showing the great importance of attracting entirely new business to Maine each year.

THE PINE CONE
Bridgton Academy

One of Maine's smallest, as well as oldest, preparatory schools is proud of its ability to develop the individual, rather than striving for educational mass production. This descriptive sketch indicates how it's done.

Nestled among the hills at the head of picturesque Long Lake in North Bridgton is one of Maine's oldest and most distinguished preparatory schools — Bridgton Academy. Founded in 1808 by a group of public-spirited citizens, who wished to provide educational opportunities for the youth of the area, the school had a humble beginning. Its first classrooms were over a livery stable in a building which has long since disappeared. Among its first problems were the settlement of arguments with the local Indians over land granted the school by the General Court of Massachusetts—for in those days the "State of Maine" had not yet come into existence.

Yet even from the first, the record of achievement of Bridgton Academy graduates has been an exceptional one, and the rugged individualism which characterized its early pioneers has somehow been handed down through tradition, story and practice from those early times. The result has been that the Bridgton Academy of today...
Kim Dong Su, 19 year old youth from Seoul, Korea, is an all ‘A’ student.

is a thriving institution, fully accredited by the State Department of Education and the National Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, with a beautiful and spacious campus, and an enviable reputation in educational circles.

Situated as it is, in the very center of one of Maine’s most popular summer and winter resort areas, Bridgton Academy has had a strong appeal for hundreds of students from out-of-state as well as for the many “Mainers” who have received their secondary education in this fine school. As a matter of fact, during the past few decades out-of-state students have been more numerous than Maine boys and girls in the three school dormitories, and have given the Academy a rather cosmopolitan atmosphere.

This year, for instance, the enrollment includes students from all of the New England states and one lad from South Korea, who served as interpreter for Major General Frank E. Lowe during the Korean campaign of last Winter, when the General was covering the battlefronts as a special representative of the President.

Because of Bridgton’s ideal location the Academy is able to offer its students such informal outdoor activities as swimming, either at the school beach or the diving float, boating, good fishing both in Long Lake and in nearby brooks, hunting, mountain climbing, skiing, skating and camping. For fun it is hard to beat such activities as a cook-out on a remote beach accessible only by water, a climb up Mount Washington’s challenging Tuckerman’s Ravine, a day of skiing on the slopes and trails of Pleasant Mountain, just 8 miles from the campus, or an evening skating party on moonlit Long Lake followed by refreshments and informal dancing in the recreation hall,—to mention a few typical school activities.

Naturally the students also participate in the regular organized interscholastic sports programs as well. Bridgton maintains teams in football, cross country, basketball, softball, ice hockey, baseball and track. Nearly every boy and girl in school is a member of some team. Squads are small so that everyone gets a chance to play.

But Bridgton Academy’s reputation does not rest solely upon its recreational advantages nor upon its unique location. Although Bridgton students spend many pleasurable hours in the school’s large, well-equipped gymnasium, on its hockey rink, athletic fields or tennis courts or in the great outdoors which beckons all around, the greatest part of their time and effort is spent in academic pursuits.

In classes which average 12 students a boy or girl can learn fast and well the lessons of the textbooks, and the supervised study hours each evening contribute tremendously to academic proficiency. Bridgton offers college preparatory, home economics, and general courses to students from grades nine to one year beyond high school graduation. This latter postgraduate class is composed of students whose regular high school career at some other institution did not prepare them for the continuation of their education. An additional year away from home, with opportunities for individual help from interested and sympathetic teachers is of great value to this type of boy or girl as hundreds of successful Bridgton graduates will testify.
The fact that each year about 95 per cent of Bridgton's graduates are admitted to colleges, universities, hospitals or business schools for further academic training is ample evidence of the effectiveness of the school's scholastic program. This successful record is in large measure due to the high calibre of instruction which Bridgton makes available. Teachers who know boys and girls and understand how to live with them informally outside the classrooms are a great source of help and inspiration to many a Bridgton undergraduate. Bridgton Students come to learn that their instructors have equal interest in them both as scholars and as persons.

Remedial reading, too, has played an important role in the academic life of the school, for Bridgton was one of the first schools in the State to make remedial reading part and parcel of its curriculum. Its program in this field has been changing and developing over the past eight years until today, under the guidance of a teacher who has been trained in the latest remedial procedures, Bridgton tests every student for reading difficulties and gives those who show reading deficiency special instruction in reading techniques. The program has resulted in an over-all academic improvement among the students and in certain instances has made honor students from boys and girls who formerly found it difficult just to get by. Bridgton is justly proud of its success in teaching reading.

**Another school activity** which finds many supporters among both students and staff is music. Under

Small classes permit students to learn fast and well. Miss Glenna Yeaton, attractive French and Latin instructor, transcribes the popular "White Christmas" into Latin on the blackboard.
the direction of Headmaster Richard L. Goldsmith, who is now in his 15th year at Bridgton, having served seven years as an English instructor before assuming the principalship, the Glee Club and other vocal groups spend many happy and profitable hours of singing. More than half of the student body belongs to the Glee Club which presents annually in the Academy chapel its program of Christmas Vespers.

The Glee Club numbers are augmented by instrumental numbers and selections from the Academy Songsters—a group of twenty students and teachers who perform more difficult music and incidentally, sing on numerous occasions throughout the school year, both at the Academy and at outside concerts. The Songsters travel as far afield as Boston once a year where they sing for the annual get-together of the school's Massachusetts Alumni Association.

Bridgton has always been proud of its music program, but since last summer when the Academy was selected as the site for the Berkley Summer Music School, the institution has come even more to be associated with fine music. The summer session is under the direct supervision of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Berkley, professional musicians from New York City, and offers training in violin, viola, violoncello, piano accompanying, ensemble and string orchestras.

Mr. Berkley, who is violin editor of the well-known Etude magazine, and his staff of seven distinguished musicians, have brought something new to Bridgton Academy and to the picturesque community of North Bridgton; for now the school seems as alive through most of the Summer as it is throughout the other seasons. Its dormitories, auditorium and recitation rooms are filled with music, and the weekly campus concerts presented through July and August are a real treat for both summer visitors and local residents. The Berkley Summer Music School last Summer included 35 students representing most of the New England States, New York, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Michigan and Iowa.

Aside from its music and the recreational facilities already mentioned, Bridgton Academy offers numerous other extra-curricular activities which are carefully planned to give each student ample opportunity for developing a sense of responsibility as well as a chance to become an active participant. This feature of Bridgton's curriculum as much as any other, enables the school to realize the goals of its educational philosophy in developing not only good students but
The Songsters, under the direction of Headmaster Richard L. Goldsmith, travel far afield each year to sing at alumni get-togethers.

also well-rounded personalities and responsible citizens.

In many a larger school the boy or girl of average and sometimes even of superior ability is “lost in the crowd” simply because there are so many candidates for the same position that he never has a chance to use and develop his talent or to prove his worth. This is particularly true of the youngster who is naturally shy and hesitates to assert himself. The student at Bridgton, however, finds that with only about ninety school mates and a wide assortment of school activities to choose from, he often is urged to accept responsibilities or to take part in new projects which at first may interest him only slightly.

The activities of the National Honor Society, Camera Club, Student Council, Dramatics, Art Club, Press Club and Gold Key, to mention a few, provide means for exploring a student’s talents and interests. The boy or girl who participates in some of these organizations not only learns more about himself but becomes important to the particular group with which he is associated as well as to the school as a whole. Frequently the results of this process are increased self-confidence and added poise which in turn improve not only the student’s personality but often times his academic work as well.

Yes, Bridgton Academy is a small school. It always has been and probably it always will be; for since 1808 its self-perpetuating board of trustees has realized that there are many advantages to limiting the size of the Academy.

And Bridgton is a friendly school, too. Visit its campus almost any time and the chances are you’ll be greeted with a friendly “Hi” by one of the students or that a staff member will be really pleased to talk with you or to show you about the beautiful hillside campus. Most guests claim they can note the friendly spirit of informality about the school even during a short visit.

Maybe it’s just another expression of the well-known Maine hospitality; or maybe it’s because Bridgton’s teachers hold the Academy in such high esteem—three of them are graduates; or maybe it’s because the housemothers and resident faculty members try to make the dormitory life as nearly like home living as “home away from home” can be. Whatever it is this atmosphere of friendliness along with its fine traditions, its outstanding academic record and its success at recognizing and developing individual student talents, have played an important part in making Bridgton one of the finest of Maine’s academies.
Found: A Mountain In Maine

Development of Sugarloaf Mountain, Franklin County, second highest peak in Maine, is becoming the "hottest" ski area possibility in the Northeast, with dependable snow conditions outranking even White Mountain areas.

So you think that with the exception of the jumping and cross country contests at Rumford, there is no skiing in Maine? Take a tip from me and mark the name SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN in your little red book, because in the next few years you're going to hear a lot about this spot. It holds promise of becoming one of the most dependable ski areas of the East.

We Maine skiers take this "you ain't got nothin'" attitude with a bit of pardonable smugness because we know now that we do have somethin' in Maine that challenges any ski area in the Eastern United States. Want to hear more about it? Let's look at the record.

Sugarloaf is located in the west-central part of the State, about thirty-five miles east of the New Hampshire border, half-way between Kingfield and Stratton, just off Route 27. Its smooth slopes rise above the rambling timbered valley of the Carrabassett River to a height of 4,237 feet, making it the second highest mountain in Maine, topped only by the mighty Mount Katahdin.

Sugarloaf is part of the beautiful Blue Mountain Range of Northwestern Maine and smack in the center of the New England snow belt. Accurate snow records made here over the past few years show an average annual snow fall of more than 120 inches; and in 1951—which was a year most of us want to forget—on April 27th, Sugarloaf had 5 to 15 feet of hard packed corn snow in the snow fields near the summit. That, my friends, was in the year of our Lord 1951, the Winter of no snow. As for terrain, Sugarloaf has a vertical drop of more than 2,500 feet in a mile and a half. The lower slopes have gradients of from 10 to 15 degrees, and increase to about 33 degrees at the top.

So much for the mountain. Let's go back a bit and I will tell you a little of how we found this skiers' Shangri-La in the heart of the Vacationland State; what we are doing about it; and, what we are going to do.

Four years ago the Maine Ski Council was formed as a federation of Maine ski clubs with the objective of welding these organizations together for the purpose of promoting Skiing in Maine. One of the projects of the Council was to create an Area Development Committee to probe into the possibilities of new areas for development in the State—areas that would meet the specifications of the USEASA for qualified race courses. After exploring numerous mountains, the group "discovered" Sugarloaf and unanimously voted it the mountain most likely to succeed. In July, 1950, the Sugarloaf Ski Club was incorporated and plans projected toward developing this site.

Great Northern Paper Company, which holds title to most of the mountain, was contacted and agreed to lease to the club the land area necessary for the project. Property owners near the highway consented to approve right of way grants for an access road in to the slopes. With these legal formalities cleared, the club launched a membership campaign in the Fall of 1950 to raise the money necessary for construction, and the Sugarloaf dream was on its way toward becoming a reality.
The Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club is unique in many respects, and the progress thus far proves again that old proverb that “where there is a will, there is a way”—as long as there are willing workers to push it along. Members of the club hail from all over the State, and many from outside. The roster lists school kids in their teens, manufacturing firms, retail stores, skiing enthusiasts, and those who wouldn’t get on the dam’ things for love or money. In short, everyone who wanted to see something started here in Maine gave their support to the new project in the way of monetary contributions or actual physical, back-breaking work cutting trails and swamping roads.

By far the greatest contribution has come from a handful of Kingfield residents under the prodding of genial Amos Winters, to whom goes the greatest part of the credit for cutting the trail and the building of the road. No one knows the Sugarloaf country better than Amos. There are few places in the East that he hasn’t skied; and according to him, for terrain and dependable snow cover, nothing can touch it. The Dead River Company, a large lumbering operation of the region, helped to keep the club treasury in the black this Summer by supplying a bull-dozer and operator, for five days, to doze out one and a quarter miles of road. Experienced woods-men have constructed bridges, carpenters have promised help in constructing the shelters, and the membership insignia was designed by an artist. All this unified help has made possible the start made on this development here in Maine in these days of high prices and small dollars.
Much remains to be done, of course, but we are proud of the amount that has been accomplished. A trail, laid out by Sal Hannah, has been cut to a fifty-foot width and is about one and a half miles in length. The road has been pushed in two miles from the highway and it is expected to be graveled before snow falls this Winter. Plans have been made for a shelter at the base of the slopes this year also. The chair lift, lodge and sleeping facilities are, of course, only a hope for the future at this time; but, without exception, those who have seen Sugarloaf concur with us in the contention that this area has what it takes to become the best in the East.

For those who want to try Sugarloaf this year, I advise climbing skins, sturdy legs and a strong constitution—but believe me, it will be worth it. If you enjoy Spring skiing, you will find Sugarloaf to rival the Ravine at Washington with plenty of corn snow and warm sunshine. Snowfields extending a half mile from the summit to the timber line offer any terrain that you could hope for and a view of Mt. Bigelow and the Blue Mountain Range that will stack up to anything you have ever seen.

In conclusion, I would like to second Amos Winters' sentiments: “You won't believe it 'til you've been there and skied it.”

Travel time to Aroostook County has been greatly improved during the past year, due to completion of several major highway projects over the past few years. Plane and railroad service have been augmented. The firmer potato market, along with defense construction activities, also has served to brighten the Aroostook economic picture considerably in the past few months.

* * *

“Maine For Winter Vacations” booklet, available at all Maine Publicity Bureau offices, lists winter sports facilities in Maine as well as hotels and similar accommodations in these areas.

* * *

Maine industrial products are on rotating display at the Maine Information Center at Kittery and in the windows of the Maine Information Office in Rockefeller Centre, New York City, both operated by the Publicity Bureau. Other displays of Maine products recently were arranged by the Publicity Bureau at the Eastern States Exposition, American Legion Convention in Miami, Lions International Convention and similar large gatherings.
Community Action Boosts Gardiner

By William A. Hatch
Pine Cone Staff Photographer

Commonwealth Shoe and Leather Company, manufacturers of Bos­tonian and Mansfield shoes for men, located in Gardiner for 55 years, recently demonstrated their faith in the future of Maine industry and in the integrity of Maine labor in occupying this new $500,000 factory.

Officially dedicated Nov. 17, the new plant was turned over to Com­monwealth by the Gardiner Board of Trade and went into immediate production of the quality shoes that have brought distinction and profit to the city of Gardiner for the past half-century.

Climaxing two busy days of ‘open house,’ the new-old industry was given a lusty welcome by a grateful community and lauded for their decision not only to stay in Maine but to expand into the largest new shoe factory building constructed in New England during the last twenty years.

A hearty ‘well done’ was delivered by Harold F. Schnurle, president of the Maine Publicity Bureau and chairman of the Maine Develop­ment Commission; U. S. Senator Owen Brewster; Mayor Philip H. Hubbard of Gardiner and John T. Skolfield, II, chairman of the Build­ing Committee of the Gardiner Board of Trade who presented the key to the new factory to Commonwealth’s president, Charles H. Jones, Jr.
Dedication ceremonies were preceded by a colorful parade forming at the old factory building in the center of the city (above) and marching to the new plant, about a mile away. Led by the Castine Maritime Academy Band, (upper left) the parade turns from Water Street followed by a string of open top convertibles (left) carrying company and state officials along the route of march lined by cheering townspeople. At the new factory (below left) the spacious parking area is roped off while bands from Edward Little, Richmond and Lewiston High Schools perform intricate drills for the crowds. Lewiston's Band (below) steps smartly past the reviewing stand.
Veteran employees Helen Small and Mabel Gowell (above) greet visitors to the new plant and Anne Moore pins orchids on two Edward Little High School bandettes.

Plant superintendent Ray Watts, right, proudly shows some of the Bostonian shoes, pride of the new factory, which is expected to boost production by 20 per cent.

President Jones, below, accepts a huge key from Skolfield, symbolizing Commonwealth's acceptance of the new factory from the Gardiner Board of Trade. Others in the picture are Charlotte Knight, Manchester, Maine Dairy Queen; Barbara Clossey, Eastport, Maine Seafoods Goddess; Schnurle and, at the right, Sam Henderson of the Gannett Radio Stations, master of ceremonies.
MAINE'S deer hunting season is just over.

Without doubt, a larger number of hunters bagged more deer than for any previous statutory deer season in the State's history. Chief Game Warden Lester E. Brown estimates that some 41,645 deer—bucks and does about 50-50—were killed legally, the largest season's bag on record. The exact count will be available in a few weeks. It compares with 39,216 deer killed last season.

But that wasn't the really big news of the Maine season. Maine's deer population also is estimated at an all-time high and this year's bag is regarded mostly as an abundant harvest year—looking at the figures from a cold conservation standpoint, that is.

The really BIG news this year is that Maine again is pioneering for the rest of the Nation in effective hunting safety procedures and practices. Despite the larger number of hunting licenses sold this year and the constant reports on more hunters in the woods, Maine was able to register a reduction in shooting fatalities from 19 of last year to 15 this year. Of this 15, only six were cases of being mistaken for game, as against 12 in the same category last year. The other fatalities were gun-mishandling accidents.

This improvement in Maine's hunting accident record didn't just happen—it really was planned!

Last Spring the then-new Maine Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game, Roland H. Cobb detailed Game Warden Maynard Marsh of Gorham to analyze all available data of recent years on Maine hunting accidents. For field work interviews, Marsh was assisted by a trained psychiatrist of the Maine Department of Health and Welfare.

Based on this preliminary work before this year's season began, a carefully worked out program of education and publicity was set in motion prior to the gunning period. Newspaper, radio, motion pictures and group meetings were utilized to get across the safety program. Every suitable Maine agency and institution, led by Gov. Frederick G. Payne himself, cooperated in calling public attention to the safety program.

In addition to the usual standard safety "commandments" on handling of guns, "look-before-you-shoot," etc., one of the most important features stressed was the wearing of bright red, or even fluorescent scarlet items of hunting clothing. In last year's hunting fatalities, not one of those killed was wearing bright red, although a few were wearing dull red.

This year, according to Marsh's investigations, no one shot during the season was wearing anything of solid red, not even a cap. Clothing in these cases included—and note this—brown hunting clothes, blue jackets, frocks, and even olive drab jackets with fur collars!

All during this season, Marsh's investigations continued, with the psychiatrist cooperating. These investigations will continue during the com-
ing months. It's too early, of course, to predict all the results that will come from the continuing analysis of Maine hunting accidents, but official comment seems to be leaning toward a law requiring deer hunters to wear bright red clothing, even if it's just a cap, hat, or overvest. A similar accepted law is that which requires a red flag on vehicles with loads protruding from the rear. The object in both instances is to save lives.

Brilliant red, or better still, fluorescent scarlet, is readily visible in the darkest woods growth and resembles nothing that moves in the woods. It is visible from long distances and from the air in case hunters get lost, which can be almost as serious a hazard as accidental shooting.

Sawyer-Barker Company of Portland makes a scarlet hunting coat and these were in wide use this Autumn. Another development is a lightweight scarlet overvest, which also may be seen from afar. L. L. Bean Company at Freeport, world-famous Maine mail order house, developed scarlet gloves, with the words, "Look Before You Shoot" stamped in black across the backs.

As the Daily Kennebec Journal observed editorially:

"By the time another Legislature comes in, a year and one month hence, the findings should be conclusive. This will give ample time to hear arguments pro and con on a red clothing law and other safety suggestions, such as examinations for hunting licenses.

"The program is a splendid response to growing public concern over the perils of Maine hunting season. More and more people become gun shy each year. The cry for preventive measures is imperative.

"If followed through, the program is bound to save many lives and prevent one of Maine's greatest sports from self-ruin."

Another highly effective aspect of the new Maine hunting safety program was the school talks given by various game wardens. Warden Ken Gray of Gardiner especially was detailed to full-time school safety work. As compared with 19 fatal and non-fatal accidents involving teen-agers last year, Chief Game Warden Brown reported only one or two such accidents this year.

All who are familiar with the hunting safety subject through sports magazines and other publications know that it is a mounting national problem and by no means confined to the State of Maine. In fact, the ratio of hunting accidents to hunting licenses in Maine is considerably below that of many other States.

But here in Maine, if there is only one accident a season, that is one too many. That's why Commissioner Cobb went right to work on the problem as soon as he took office and the work under Warden Marsh's direction already has produced such significant results and promises to be of continuing great value to the State of Maine.

The hunting safety problem has been talked about and written about nationally for many years, to our knowledge, but our own Maine activity of the past year has been the only practical, effective program that we so far have heard about, since it gets down to specifics and gets away from generalities, where most of the effort in other states seems to have bogged down.

It makes us proud of our Pine Tree State and reminds us again of our State Motto: "Dirigo" I lead!

Of all the scores, and even hundreds of Maine people, who are cooperating in the Maine hunting safety program, one of the closest collaborators with Cobb and Marsh has been Bob Elliot, publicist of the Maine Development Commission, specially detailed to work with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Game. To Bob, as well as to all others who have had any part in bringing about the remarkable progress made this year in reducing Maine hunting accidents, all of us can say a hearty: "Well done!"

PINE SHAVINGS

Plenty of ducks and geese, but generally unfavorable tide and weather conditions have marked the Maine migratory bird season, which ends Dec. 10. Mild weather during the first part of the split season kept inland ponds and lakes open most of the time, reducing the congregation of waterfowl along the coast. There was a touch
of wintry weather during the period between the split seasons and some of the migratory movement started, but just as the second season opened again on Nov. 23 we were in another mild spell for a few days, taking the edge off the second-season opening.

The week of Nov. 26 brought a heavy snow blanket and real freezing weather over central and northern Maine for a week and then it turned mild again, as this is being written. Migratory flights of geese and other choice birds from the Maritime Provinces and beyond are well on their way, however, but now again the tide situation leaves much to be desired. The best days for waterfowling seem to be dogged with unfavorable tide periods during the best morning and afternoon hours.

Rather than let this sound like a typical hunter's complaint, we'll hasten to add that we have been able to get in several dawn sessions with the tough-skinned ducks, each of them convincing us more than ever that duck-shooting is still a vastly underrated sport in Maine. If you've got the proper setup of shore blind and good looking decoys, well placed, where else can you get in a fast hour's shooting with a real sporting gamble on you-know-not-what may come within the range of your shot? We got our bag limit within the hour each time, with some fast and exciting shooting. Maybe tide and weather did not combine to perfection each time we could make it to the blind, but it's the handicaps to overcome that make for the best fun in any sport.

For those who can get beyond outer harbor limits, there'll be gunning for eider and old squaw ducks and scoters until Dec. 31. Racoons may be hunted with dogs through Dec. 15. Bobcat hunting is good the year around, of course, and bear also have no closed season, although virtually all are believed to be denned up by now.

Rabbit hunting continues through Feb. 28 in all counties and through March 15 in Waldo and March 31 in Franklin, Somerset and Oxford. All reports to this office from the inland game bird season, which closed Nov. 15, give us to understand it was one of the best in years, with good conditions underfoot and an above-normal supply of pheasant, partridge and woodcock. Several of our veteran bird-hunter friends told us they really had some fun during the past season and always got a bird for the pot. This was a great year for bear, too, according to all reports, and both the resident and non-resident hunters bagged a better-than-average number of bruins.

One sidelight of the season we didn't like to read about in the daily press were several stories about excited hunters clubbing wounded deer and bear with their gun butts to finish them off. In each case we heard about, the gun was completely ruined, making it an expensive, as well as a particularly foolish and unsporting act. We heard about one such case where the gun accidentally discharged, wounding the hunter, but not fatally.

All through Autumn the Bureau has had a steady dribble of fishing inquiries and it is noteworthy that these have been strong on bass, which don't become legal until after trout and salmon and are regarded mostly as a summer vacation fish.

It makes us want to get out the tackle boxes again, to fondle the flies, reels, spinners, gear and small gadgets and make sure they're all in good shape, well-oiled and wrapped to break out at the first chance for Spring fishing. Maybe also we'll lovingly add to the boxes a few choice items our tolerant family and close friends have added as they do every year under the Christmas tree, knowing full well that our annual bout with piscatoris de-
mentis, dormant now, is only a few weeks off.

We'll do this some night during the Christmas season, when the wind is howling, the mercury is dropping and the snow is coming down blizzard-fashion outside. Please don't ask why or how we know it will be like this, but it has happened that way every year since we were a youngster and we know this year will be no exception. Later on, after New Year, on a similar snowy night, we'll be down in the warm cellar tinkering with the outboard, finally giving it a few revs just to hear the sweet music of it and make sure it's in tiptop shape. Not a creature will be stirring—just us and the outboard.

* * *

Another thing that gets the piscatoris dementis bug stirring in us about this time each year is the preparation for the 1952 edition of "Fishing In Maine." Invitations to Maine sporting camps, resorts and other places catering to the Spring fishing business already have gone out for their advertising, which, for my money, is as enticing, or even more so, than the text we prepare.

"Fishing In Maine" is always first-off-the-press in each year's annual run of Publicity Bureau productions, so we must have it ready while the snow still is deep in the north country. It's always in great demand at the midwinter Sportsmen's Shows and is an excellent means of answering the great number of inquiries we receive on fishing all through the Winter and Spring months.

* * *

The 15th annual Conservation Poster Contest of the National Wildlife Federation, Washington, D. C., is being announced. It is open to all U. S. pupils from the seventh grade through high school and has a number of prizes posted. Purpose of the contest is to develop a nation-wide interest, particularly among young people, in the need for restoration and conservation of organic natural resources. Deadline is Jan. 31, 1952.

An old Boston newspaper clipping in the possession of Mrs. Dan Malloy, Hallowell, widow of a former chief warden, gives a good idea of what a hunting trip to Maine cost back before the turn of the century. As to railroad fares, it reads:

"From Boston, one can go to almost any part of Maine and return for not over $18. In many cases it is much less, but $18 will serve as a first rate limit. Greenville, at the foot of Moosehead Lake, can be reached and the return made for $14.50. To and from Vanceboro is $13.50."

(Surprisingly enough, with inflation and all, today's railroad fares compare quite favorably, showing a Boston-to-Maine railroad ticket is still a good buy. Today's 30-day round trip fares from Boston cost: To Bangor, $17.27; to Greenville, $22.79; to Vanceboro, $25.02. That's with the Federal tax.)

Now take a look at other costs:

"Board can be had at hotels and camps for from $1 to $2 per day and at farm houses for $3 to $4 a week. It is much cheaper, however, to take a good supply of canned goods, relishes and coffee, hire a guide, the cost of whom will be from $1.50 to $2 a day, according to the size of the party, and live in the woods. For $30 to $40 a good time can be had in the Maine woods and a good shooting can be had if you go to the proper place."

Quoting game laws, the account states:

"Moose, deer and caribou may be shot from Oct. 1 to Jan. 1. Deer on the island of Mt. Desert, Nov. 1 to Jan. 1. The possession, except alive, of more than one moose, two caribous and three deer is prohibited. . . . A bounty of $5 paid for every wolf and bear killed."

Other legal dates were:


On that note we'll close the column until Spring rolls around, with our best wishes to all for a HAPPY CHRISTMAS and a prosperous 1952!
You Take The Byways!

A frequent Pine Cone contributor, one of Maine’s outstanding camera hobbyists takes time out from his insurance business to point out the possibilities of “collecting” a wide variety of subjects in the Pine Tree State.

By Owen M. Smith

For the best in photographic adventures, get off Route One, take the alternates, then explore the little winding country roads that will lead you to scenes and subjects that you’ll never find on the cement.

Before you go, study not only your road map but also the “Schedule of Events,” which you can pick up at any of the Maine Publicity Offices. This will give you a list of events in season which are naturals for the photographer. The Indian Festival at Old Town, the Twin Party at Lakewood, the Doll Carriage Parade at Rangeley, Rockland’s State Lobster Festival— all of these are events that are held each year, and hardly a Summer goes by that some town doesn’t celebrate its centennial with the quaint costumes of a hundred years ago. Speaking of costumes, watch out for Firemen’s Musters with their fire-red shirts which make such snappy Kodachromes.

In taking colored slides, group each picture around some idea or theme. You might call it collecting with a camera. Perhaps your interest lies in historic Maine. If so, make a collection of historic places, historic houses and historic markers because, as you

Scenes like this aren’t found on the cement.
know, Maine’s coast was mapped by Capt. John Smith himself, but its history began long before this.

Some of my loveliest views appear in my collection of State Parks and Memorials, starting at Kittery Point and including Sebago, Mount Blue, Acadia and Baxter State Parks, for this gives a cross section of sea, lakes, forests and mountains.

Speaking of collecting, have you ever thought of collecting pictures of collectors. Go to an antique auction and you’ll find all kinds of action and human interest shots, from the gesticulating auctioneer to the tense faces of the bidders and always the shot of the matron triumphantly carrying away some oversized heirloom.

Open house days and flower shows also give wonderful opportunities for variety in your slides, particularly if you are familiar with flash equipment. Here, lighting is no problem and you can get many pictures that otherwise would be passed by.

For action shots, there are fairs and horse races, sportsmen’s shows and field trials, speedboat and yacht races. There is nothing that will add to your audience’s interest more than action shots and you will find action aplenty in these events.

Add to your collections a set of sunrise and sunset silhouettes. Put a figure in the foreground and thus add variety to the straight scenic view.

If you have some particular interest or hobby, it will add tremendously to the appeal of your collection of pictures. A golfer who visits Maine’s many beautiful courses makes not only a record of the course but also of his various foursomes.

Anyone interested in boat design will be intrigued by the variety at his disposal, not forgetting Old Town, Rangeley and Grand Lake canoes.

Books have been written on Maine’s lighthouses, buttons and charm bracelets and her lumber industry. The skilled photographer can build his collection around these and many other ideas.

Keep your weather eye cocked, for if the morrow be clear with a north-
Don't forget closeups and semi-closeups.

west wind, it will be perfect for those long looks from Cadillac Mountain or the Rangeley hills. Time and tide may wait for no man but the smart photographer can arrange his picture-taking schedule to take advantage of both.

IN PERUSING a map of Maine, trace the little roads that edge the coast line. Kittery Point, Ogunquit, Wells and Kennebunkport are starters with rockbound coasts, beaches, lighthouses and activities maritime.

Just as an example, a day or a week could be spent exploring for pictures in the colorful Boothbay region. It is unfair to single out one area from Maine's 1,200 mile coast line, because each section varies and everywhere there will be picture opportunities, particularly for the color cameraist.

Don't limit yourself to views and vistas. Step up folks and take closeups!—not only a charming garden by the sea, but also a grouping of flowers by a stone wall (they're not rock fences here in Maine) or use a little patience and catch a closeup of a yellow butterfly which lights on exactly the flower you pick for him. You can be sure that your garden clubs at home will love the variety found in a set of Maine garden pictures and Maine flower closeups, both cultivated and wild.

Action adds zest to the photographic album and is a must for the moviemaker, but please remember two cardinal laws for excellence in movies; first, a tripod whenever possible for screen steadiness; and second, enough footage on each scene so your audience can appreciate it. Don't forget that when you are taking each picture, you are thoroughly familiar with its setting, whereas, when your audience views it for the first time on the screen, it takes a second or two to orient itself to each new locale.

Activities of all kinds are along the coast, unscheduled as they may be, from the slow tempo of clam digging to the fast action of speedboat races. Closeups, as you know by going to the movies, are particularly effective on the screen. Watch for hands and what hands are doing—mending nets, painting markers, putting wooden pegs in the lobsters' claws.

The coast is but one fringe of Maine's vast fabric. Turn inland! As you drive, watch the big white clouds which will add glamor and drama to your landscapes. If you are using black and white film, don't forget you will need a yellow filter to darken the sky, so the clouds will stand out in

Camera shots add to the game bag.
bold relief. Of course, you will not forget to compensate a full stop for your K2 filter so your picture won’t be underexposed.

As we have said before, wherever your interest lies, so will your lens focus. Farming?—Aroostook’s potatoes; Oxford’s sweet corn; Cumberland’s dairy herd. You’ll find the most modern machinery used for haying and harvesting in the intervale country but when you come to the rocky, hilly farms, you’ll find they will be doing it the hard way. Watch for hand mowing along the fence edges and oxen pulling hay carts.

Climbing?—no need to give you any hints if you are a real enthusiast, for you will know the long trail leads to Baxter Park and Katahdin’s tops. For picnic climbers, here’s a hint: You will be delighted with the little climb up Douglas Hill with its rewarding views of the White Mountains and many lakes. It is within an hour’s drive of Portland and beyond East Sebago.

Nature?—Maine is full of opportunities but it is hard to blueprint them. Sometimes they are along the blacktop roads but more often you will have to explore the dirt roads or get out and walk woodroads themselves. There are no guarantees, but that’s what makes photography interesting. Of all the arts, photography is the one that must pounce on its opportunities as agilely as a fox on a mouse in a hayfield.

Perhaps you’ll find a porcupine ambling along the roadside, or see a partridge and occasionally, instead of ducking out of sight, it will strut across the road in dignified insolence. Deer occasionally are seen at mid-day but more often they slip out in the

*Infinite variety lies along Maine’s 1,200 mile coast line. The ever-changing scene at Portland Head Light.*
early morning or at dusk. At night, you may catch them jewel-eyed in the headlights of your car, but it will take a flashgun with ultrafast film to record them.

Maine becomes brazen in her October costumes; golden and crimson against her blue skies, inviting the camera fan to an orgy of color photography. Where? Everywhere! Mount Blue at Weld, Mooselookmeguntic from the Height of Land beyond Oquossoc, Chain of Ponds on the Arnold Trail above Eustis, just to mention the northwest corner of Maine bounded by New Hampshire and Canada.

For the hunter and fisherman, roads are merely things to be deserted and their trails begin where the roads stop. For them, nature opens her heart and secrets. Her quiet beauty and her violent wrath, to them, are many precious opportunities to enrich their game bags with camera shots.

The comfort of the modern car and the clearing of the winter roads makes Maine's winter invitation ever more attractive on those rare days when trees are covered with ice or snow and the sun breaks through the morning after a storm. It will be so beautiful that you will pause in your picture taking and become, for an instant, not only a photographer but a philosopher attuned with the Infinite.

The Maine vacation season now extends from early May to late October, based on traffic reports at the various Maine Publicity Bureau Information offices. This was the first year on record that information seekers at these offices passed the 1,000 mark for the first full week in May. Peak traffic counts come during the first week in August, when more than 8,000 callers are registered.

Opening of the Route 128 super-highway around Boston to the South Shore area the past Autumn brought six callers to the Maine Publicity Bureau office in Portland during the first week to inquire about purchasing Maine property. The Bureau's Maine Real Estate Service Division has helped Maine brokers and owners to move more property this year than ever before.
Minstrelsy of Maine

Edited by Dan Kelly


Poems, to be eligible for consideration for this Department, should be about Maine or of particular interest to lovers of Maine. While at least minimum standards of craftsmanship will be required, selections will be made on the basis of reader interest, rather than critical perfection. Only previously unpublished poems should be submitted. All submissions should be sent directly to Dan Kelly, Editor, Minstrelsy of Maine Department, 48 Water Street, Hallowell, Maine; and should be accompanied by the usual stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of the material if not found available.

Marginalia

Let's write a poem. Nothing difficult, nothing of great import. Just something easy and ordinary, something the elusive average person might enjoy. Let's take the whole process from beginning to end, telescoped, of course, due to space limitations.

You're sitting at a table or desk with a few odd moments unspoken for, a piece of very blank paper and a ditto mind. You'd like to write a poem, a verse... say, something regional. You live in Maine (or have visited Maine) so you begin fingering the various Pine Tree ideas stacked away in the attic above your eyebrows. The trunk marked Maine is a poet's gold mine... lakes, trees, coastline, an endless vein of inspiration. You pass over the more obvious ideas; they require a great deal of work. Some of the best poetry is written about very obvious subjects, but for it to be the best the poet must find a new way to say an old thought. Ever try to find something new under the sun?

You cast around for an idea... Maine, seasons, morning, mountains, Katahdin, sunrise on Katahdin, time to milk the cows, farmers... Say! How about treating Maine as a farmer? Work in the farm and sunrise, hmmm.

Let's see now... "The cock crows on Katahdin..." well, there's an opening line. Has an ear-catching beat and captures the inner eye. The first stanza works out fairly easily, comparing Maine with neighbor states.

"The cock crows on Katahdin
Long before the sun can rise
(break)
On the late and drowsing neighbors
Of this grizzled Yankee state."

The rhyme pattern is a b c b after you change the word "rise" in the second line to "break" to rhyme, slantwise. Not entirely happy with "grizzled," but it fits. On to the second stanza now...

"He's up to do a dozen chores..."

Got that milking in there! Also, poetic fallacy... giving the inanimate virtues. Virtues? Well, functions. But you've never been too convinced as to the validity of poetic fallacy anyway. So, he's up to some chores, what next? How about those neighbors?

"He's up to do a dozen chores
Before a streak of light
Can fall in/on New York canyons
Or disturb the Pittsburgh night."
Like that "canyons." May not be a virgin nugget, but it's still gold. And "Pittsburgh night," darker than other nights. The pace is set now . . . go West, young writer!

"And long before Chicago
Is rubbing at its eyes
This downeast farmer's tried
The morning on for size."

Now, that's a good line . . . “tried the morning on for size.” Worthy of a more serious effort, perhaps. File it.

"And by the time the mountains
And Pacific see the sun..."

Too many “ands.” Change “and” in line 9 to “for.”

"He's made the rounds of farming
With half the/his work begun."

Weak stanza . . . padding. Work on it later. Right now, complete the thought with “punch,” if possible.

"The cock crows on Katahdin;
The Yankee farmer knows
'The early bird will get the worm'
Just as the proverb goes.”

Well, could be stronger, but for the moment it will stand as a first draft. Title? Sometimes the title comes first, but not this time. And the title is important. Let's try a proverb or maxim . . . say, “Early To Rise.”

And so the poem is written. Not finished, but well on the way. You sit back with a glow of accomplishment. Visions of checks, bylines, checks, fame, checks fill the air. (No rejections?) What editor could be so crass as to refuse this? (You’d be surprised!) Next step . . . where to send it? Well, how about Pine Cone? (No checks!)

### Inspiration

The well is deep and always there; What matter if we spill it? But if the well run dry, what then? Get a bucket, friend, and fill it!

DAN KELLY
Book End
Hallowell, Maine

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### Maine

**You're an old maid;**
Your tongue cuts sharply like sleet in the northwind,
Your manner is short like the tourist season,
Your face is unyielding like the ledge on the hillside.
Your hopes are corseted with prejudice,
Your heart's as warm as the summer
Hastily hidden with a crust of snow,
Your daring has gone with the pioneers,
But your blood runs rapid like your rivers,
And your possibilities are countless like your trees.

Donald and Minnie Bowden

---

### Maine Winters

**There is no doubt Maine winters are not kind.**
Cold closes in, the snow is deep and blind,
Roads are cut off; long before robins sing
Maine people sit about and wish for spring.

And yet Maine people would not change their weather,
They learn to take the warm and cold together.
The frosty days Maine people criticize
Still wear a crystal luster to their eyes.

Louise Darcy
Sea Call

There's a winding road that leads to the sea,
And my eager feet are carrying me
Down that road to the ocean side
For my heart runs out to meet the tide.

Water, and sun, and drifting sand
Calls me like a beckoning hand.
And I come wherever I may be
Back to my first love, the bounding sea.

Lorna Starbird

Brrr!

I think that I would like the snow
If I didn't know I had to leave my hovel
To shovel.

I think that I would like the ice
And grant it nice,
But gravity and it
Insist I sit.

I think that I would like the cold
If only it were not so cold.

I think I'll look at the furnace.

Michael Scripture

Sea Born, Land Bred

My heart must be in tune with sounds that distance hides;
Thus do I, inland, mark the rise and fall of tides,
That, wakeful in the night, straightway I smile
To hear the turning sea wind creep,
With searching steps across a hundred miles,
To whisper to me—sleep.

Marian H. Crabtree

The Foolish And The Wise

The foolish and the wise will come,
To walk within the Christmas snow,
The foolish and the wise will pray
"Christ give us" but the poem
Will only stay for some,
Both foolish and the wise,
For some are Solomons in Heaven,
And there are fools in Paradise.

Marion Schoebeltein

Stars Above Maine

Our Pole star, halfway high,
Hangs in the northern sky
At night in Maine.

The Great and Little Bear
Circle around it there,
And ever constant pair,
At night in Maine.

While seasons come and go
They shine with steadfast glow
In their orbed plane,
East, west, above, below,
At night in Maine.

Edith M. Larrabee

Headlines

Steel-Coal Prices Hit New High
(Dan got a cinder in his eye.)

Unions Seek New Raise In Pay
(Kerry's tooth was pulled today.)

Statesman Sees New Threat Of War
(Eggs and butter: call the store.)

Missing Heiress May Be Found
(On a diet . . . gained a pound!)

Rheta Kelly

Clothes Line

A poem is a clothes line,
A washing out to dry—
Few minutes wrung out clean
And hung against the sky.

Israel Newman
**Photo Credits:**

**Front Cover:** Original watercolor for Maine Christmas card by Lois Proulx, Freeport. Process plates and all other engravings by Waterville Sentinel Engravers.

Pages 22-26: Photos by Owen M. Smith.

All other photos by William A. Hatch, Pine Cone Staff Photographer.

* * *

On the two days prior to the opening of Maine's hunting season, L. L. Bean Company at Freeport sold the largest number of non-resident licenses and did the biggest 48-hour mail and over-the-counter sales volume in the company's history.

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If you are not already a regular subscriber to THE PINE CONE—and would like to receive future editions—here's a handy subscription form for your convenience:

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THE PINE CONE is an ideal gift at any time of year for a friend or relative who is far away from the pine-scented “Maine Land.” An attractive PINE CONE gift subscription card notifies the recipient of your interesting gift. You may attach here names of persons to whom you wish THE PINE CONE sent with your compliments.
Island Days

There is so little time—so little time
To have my windswept islands and the sea,
And sail my painted boat on windy days,
And race an island's breeze with light, quick feet,
That I have set aside each wild, free day
To drop my anchor in a quiet cove;
To climb the rocks and wander through the trees
And feel warm sun or cool and stinging rain;
To watch the people come and go away
On boats with names like Aucocisco
That touch their noses to each quiet isle,
Then plow back to the city's crowded way.
And Casco Bay looks, no two days, the same,
Changing in light and shadow, sun and storm.
And so I use my one free day each week
To cruise among the islands in the Bay—
There is so little time—so little time.

Ruth Vivian Smith
Nothing stirs a child’s delight
As when he sees a world of white,
A bush becomes a magic thing
To make the heart and spirit sing.
A tree no longer is a tree;
A castle’s there for youth to see.
And every solitary post
Becomes a shrouded, lonely ghost.
The adult eye may seek in vain
What to a youngster’s heart is plain.
The childhood fairy world of white
To grownups is another sight!

N. Kay Dell