9-1-1963

Maine Developments, September 1963

Maine Department of Economic Development

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DOWN TO BEDROCK

By next spring we in Maine should have a better idea of where we stand. Or, perhaps more properly, on what we stand.

This information will have cost the state and federal governments something in the neighborhood of $500,000 and it is worth every penny of it, and more. For it is upon such bedrock facts that million-dollar industries are based.

The Geologic Map of Maine which the Maine Geological Survey (a DED division) will publish next spring represents 20 years of fact finding by the geologists of state and national government. It is the first such publication since 1933, when a map was printed which contained the limited information available at that time.

Even the new map will not tell the whole story of the rock structure which underlies the soil of Maine. At the pace at which the geological survey has been progressing it will require an estimated 10-15 years to complete the data on the entire state. Details concerning about one-eighth of Maine's area will not be included in the new map because preliminary work is not yet completed.

Of what value is a geologic map? Basically, a geologic map describes the rocks of the mapped area. It tells what kind they are, where they are located, their age and their relation to each other.

MAPS BRING PROSPECTORS

This information is valuable, State Geologist Robert G. Doyle says, partly because it provides an inducement for minerals prospecting. The information on a geologic map indicates, to the expert, areas where worthwhile deposits might be found. It is a basic requirement in the attempt to interest mining companies to look-see an area, and the chances are very good that there'd be more mining companies interested in Maine today if we could have provided them with such a map yesterday.

In addition to indicating favorable locations for metal deposits, the geologic map points out the locations of granite, limestone, clay and other non-metallic mineral occurrences which may be worthy of development. The information also is of value in highway and other types of construction.

An intimate knowledge of bedrock conditions at the sites would be required before dams could be built at Quoddy or any of the river locations which have been considered.

With funds recently and presently available it requires about three years to complete the field work required for a geologic mapping of one quadrangle, containing 300 square miles. Maine contains 230 quadrangles.

The work is done during a 13-week period in the summer, by professional geologists.

This summer six small field crews operated in Oxford County, Kingfield, South Central Maine, York County, the Mooshead-Katahdin area, and Aurora.

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Long Train

A sleek, green monster of steel almost six "substantially in excess of $2% million" and miles long would be "Long Train," which is the St. John development exhibit.

Commercial and industrial exhibitors included Maine Woodland Jewelry, Fayette; in Topsham and Lost Valley in Auburn. Many boat owners and operators came into the office to do some ski-doodling.

The Eastern States Exposition, which has been doing in this regard. We hope that you will be able to continue this program to the next few years to come."

MANY BOATS

To further the "International" theme of this year's Exposition, President John F. Kennedy presented a.set of "St. John Island" canvas signs in North Waterford which directly represent boats and yachts were named for foreign countries were erected throughout the Exposition grounds.

Pased in front of one of these signs is Joseph W. Poole, executive Director, Japan Trade Center, of Boston, with "Japan." President John F. Kennedy observed the Maine's prettiest building on the Avenue of States where each New England State has a building. Maine's is the prettiest building on the Exposition's entire Avenue but the statement was stricken from the bill with considerable opposition.

The presidential comment was occasioned by the fact that this is the first time that a major exhibit has been so designated. The number of registrants from a single country—this year—was a total of 68, Oregon 2,0, California 195, Texas 66, and others included Hawaii 1, Alaska 2, Washington 29, Idaho 11, Pennsylvania 2, New York 66, New Hampshire 3.

It is a unique situation. The world beat a path to Maine's door and the numbers increased. The number, 10,611, is an immediate result of the July through September sales of Maine's tourist industry. Large numbers of tourists who came to Maine are now 1,150 yacht clubs and marinas for many types of watercraft, including small craft and power boats." The number grew rapidly, aren't we?... As when the President visited the White House Press Secretary, Pierre Salinger, noted that "Maine was the first state in the country to build a boat to be emulated by other states. The State of Maine has received presidential commendation for its encouragement of boating and other water activities and the development of Maine's waterways."

Next summer, the number of registrants from a single country—this year—was a total of 68, Oregon 2,0, California 195, Texas 66, and others included Hawaii 1, Alaska 2, Washington 29, Idaho 11, Pennsylvania 2, New York 66, New Hampshire 3.

A couple of years ago vacationists from this state heard over their car radio that Utah was the "hunting paradise" of the West. This summer, in conjunction with other New England States, there were 31,000 hunters registered, 6,000 of whom were out of state. Maine's data is still being compiled, but it is expected to show a similar percentage of out-of-state hunters.

The world's most important recreation industry. Twenty-five years ago the first major ski slope was opened at Pleasant Mountain, Bridgton, Maine. Today Maine has 11 major areas and close to 40 organized community slopes.

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DED CUTS SITE COSTS

"It costs more to find a plant site than it did to discover America," according to a Norfolk and Western Railway advertisement in a recent issue of U. S. News & World Report.

With crew members paid $2.50 per month and Columbus himself drawing $300 per year, the total cost of discovering America was "some $7,000."

"Contrast this with the cost of finding a plant site," the adv. suggests. "Time and travel of high-priced executives, on the road for weeks, even months. The tab can come to $25,000 or more."

The railway, with offices in Roanoke, Virginia, has detailed industrial information on communities in parts of six states it serves which it offers to industries looking for new plant locations so that they "can zero in on a few prime sites instead of roaming the boondocks."

DED provides a similar service. On hand, ready for mailing to industries interested in a Maine location are a State of Maine Factual Data book, fact industrial and development resources books on two counties and four regions of the State, data books on more than 50 individual communities and many surveys of available industrial buildings.

CRULLER

In a stew, dumplings are better.

The Bangor Daily News, commenting upon a "Salute to Industry" observance by Presque Isle, praised this Aroostook community's success in converting a closed Air Force base into an industrial park:

"...But this is not the whole story. The city has other industries outside the park. And one of the world's largest potato storage warehouses is being opened there this week by Potato Service, Inc.

"Presque Isle is appreciatively saluting this industry this week. The community's progressiveness calls for a salute as well. If all other communities were as alert, the State of Maine would be moving ahead faster than it is."

And the Star Herald, weekly newspaper of that city, in a special Salute to Industry supplement, said:

"1963 is the year in which Presque Isle became the largest employer of people in Aroostook County. In 1960 Presque Isle had some 250 people employed in industry. By the end of 1963 the figure will be approximately 1250 - a growth of 1000 new jobs in three years."

"Presque Isle was dealt a severe blow in early 1961 when the former Presque Isle Air Force Base was closed," the Star Herald reports. The city acquired the large area with several buildings from the federal government and the newspaper supplement lists 33 tenants including industries, commercial enterprises, city, state and federal agencies and service agencies.

Among the newcomers to Presque Isle are the Potato Service, Inc., already expanding with construction of a huge potato warehouse; Indian Head Plywood Corp., Aroostook Shoe Company, International Paper Company, and the Northwestern Maine Vocational Institute, for which opening funds were provided by the 101st Maine Legislature.

"A labor force willing and able to work plus the wide use of Manpower Development and ARA training programs have been one of the keys to Presque Isle's success," according to the Star Herald. About 300 persons have been trained with the cooperation of the Maine Employment Security Commission and the Department of Education.

The picture below represents one of the former hangars, now occupied by Indian Head Plywood Corp., at the Air Force base which Presque Isle's gumption transformed into "Skyway Industrial Park."