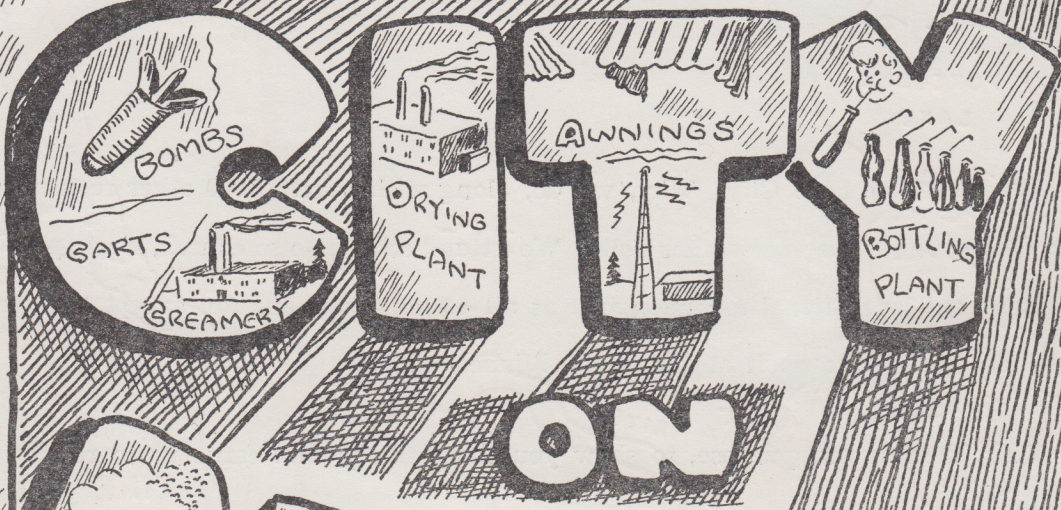
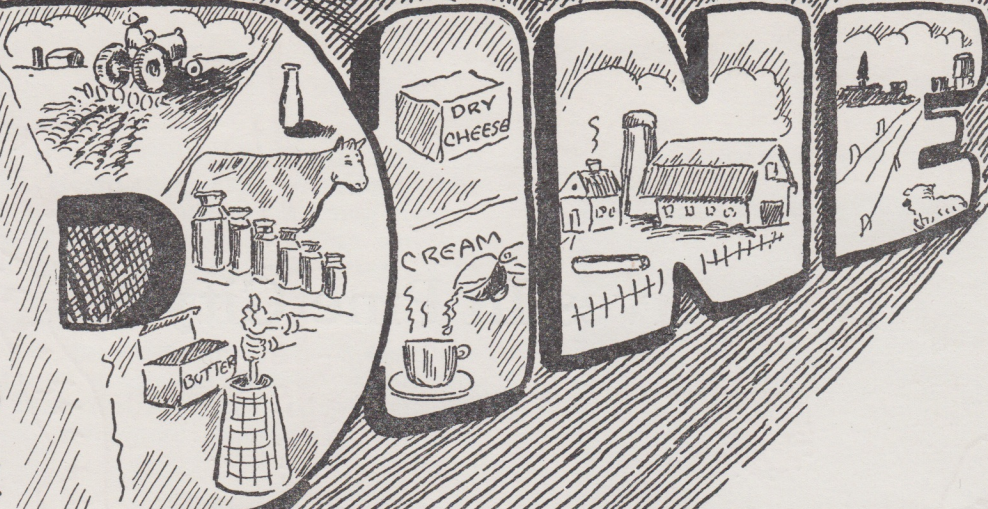


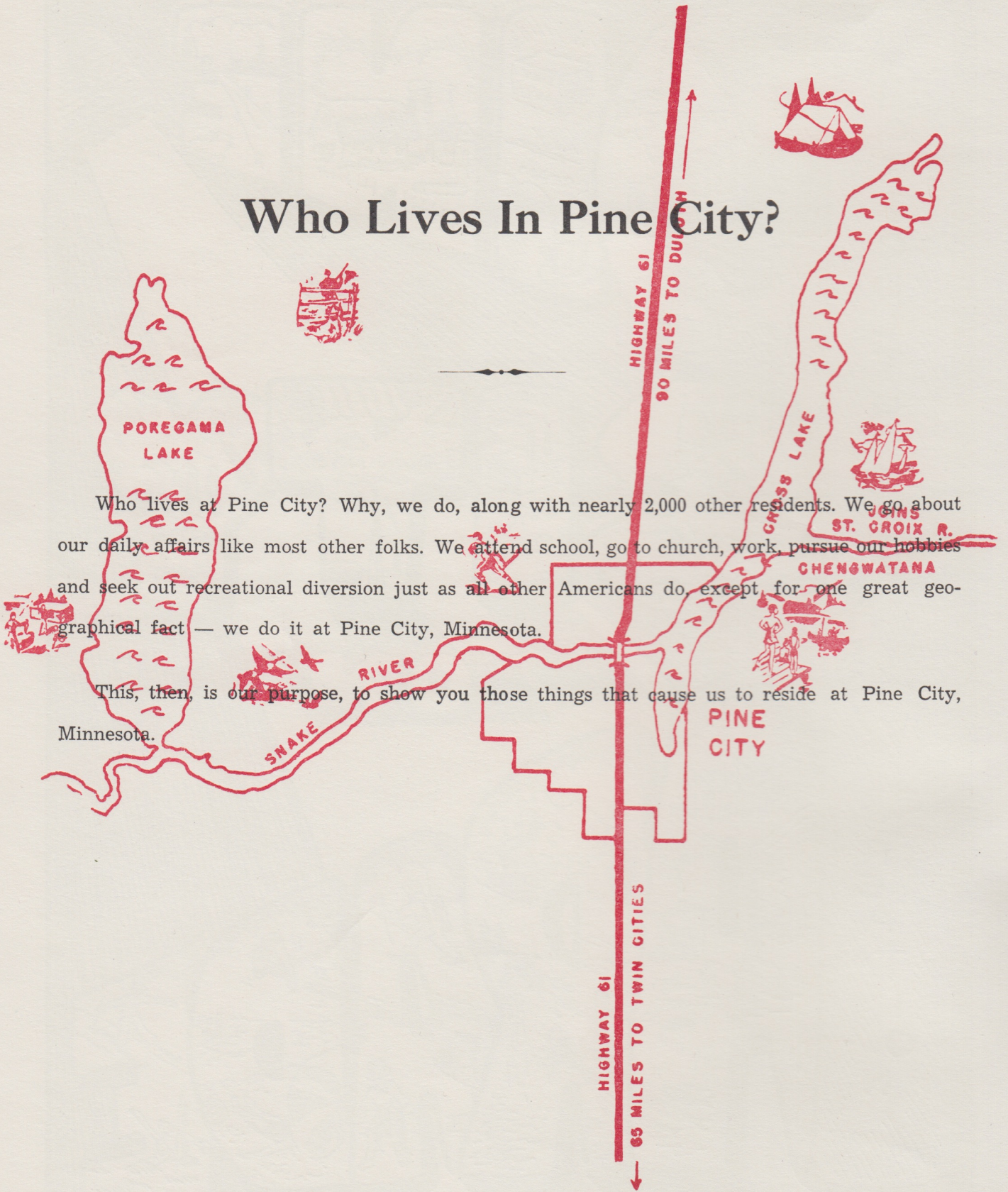
AGRICULTURE

INDUSTRY

RECREATION



Who Lives In Pine City?



Who lives at Pine City? Why, we do, along with nearly 2,000 other residents. We go about our daily affairs like most other folks. We attend school, go to church, work, pursue our hobbies and seek out recreational diversion just as all other Americans do, except for one great geographical fact — we do it at Pine City, Minnesota.

This, then, is our purpose, to show you those things that cause us to reside at Pine City, Minnesota.

History of Pine City

Pine City is probably as old as man's inhabitation of the North American continent. The geographical nature of the surrounding region caused this area to be a hub of Indian activity. Archeological and early historical sites, well documented by artifacts and relics discovered along the neighboring waterways by local collectors, bear out the existence of camps and forts that antedate or elude all written Minnesota history. The historical sequences have been forever lost, but evidences remain to stir our imagination.

Referring to a map, it is seen that the Pokegama-Cross-Snake river system connects the regions of the upper Mississippi and head of the Great Lakes with the St. Croix, wending its way southward to the early sites of Minnesota development. White men first found a concentration of Ojibiway Indians on the east shore of Cross lake, where the Snake river emerges continuing uninterrupted to the St. Croix, which flows into the Mississippi.

The rivers and lakes were greatly utilized by the Indians as a means of travel. The traders and trappers quickly saw this natural advantage and trading posts sprang up to barter with the trappers who traveled the lakes and rivers. Such a settlement was started on Cross lake. It was known as Chengwatana, which in the Ojibiway language means, "Land of the Pine."

In 1803 Thomas Connor, established very likely the first trading post on the Snake river. He came from Lake Superior, probably financed or directed from Fon du Lac trading post on the western boundary of Duluth where the St. Louis river joins the greatest of all fresh water lakes.

He pushed upstream on the Wisconsin Brule river and reaching its headwaters, portaged overland a short distance to the headwaters of the St. Croix. Going in a southwestern direction he paddled downstream until he reached the mouth of the Snake river. Connor spent five uneasy days fighting the rapids and the hostile attitude of the Indians on the Snake, but after traveling seventeen weary miles he reached the site of Chengwatana on Cross lake. Pausing several days, he and his Indian companions rested before pushing up a more tranquil part of the river toward Lake Pokegama. Somewhere on the Snake he spent a winter trading and returned to Lake Superior the following spring.

Photo by courtesy of George Atkinson



Ojibiway family and birch bark canoe on the shores of early Pokegama lake.

Our region was also blessed by another great natural resource. Virgin pines of unique stature and quality covered the land. Because of the wonderful means of transporting logs by water to saw mills and market, a great industry boomed, and Chengwatana was firmly established. In 1856, two years before the state was organized, it was designated as a county seat which also at that time served the later formed Kanabec and Carlton counties.

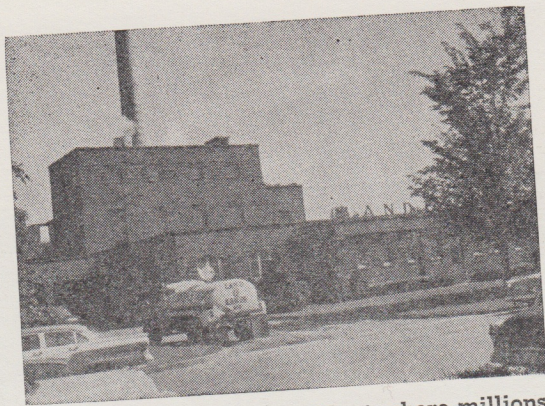
In 1869, when a railroad was built connecting St. Paul and Duluth, the village was moved to the west side of Cross lake to take advantage of the railway service. It was renamed Pine City, a translation of Chengwatana. The village flourished, outfitting the tremendous logging operations in progress at that time. It has remained at this site to the present day.

Unknowingly, the lumberjack provided the birth of another great industrial endeavor — agriculture. At the turn of the century, large tracts of denuded land offered a challenge to homesteading farmers. They were enlisted from not only the United States, but also from Europe. The influx of hard-working, enterprising families formed the foundation of an economy that will long outlive furs or timber. These producers of varied foodstuffs depend on the village of Pine City to provide its agricultural and living needs.

Pine City, all through these historical events, has geared its meaning and service, perpetually growing, to the needs of its dependents and continues to pave the way for future progress.

Commerce of Pine City

and because of the almost uniform self-acquired mechanical ability of farm people, the superintendents boast of great productive gains.



Receiving port of Drying Plant where millions of gallons of milk are processed annually

Agriculture and industry are the two main economic functions that provide work for the residents of Pine City. A score of years ago, dairying provided the main source of commerce, but in more recent years industry has come to Pine City and today various factories and enterprises employ a substantial number of workers.

Many farms throughout the countryside supply products that are processed in the village. Undoubtedly, milk is the most abundant dairy product, being trucked daily to a Co-op Creamery or the modern drying plant.

The creamery, handling thousands of gallons of milk a month, produces mostly whole pasteurized milk and sweet cream butter. As many as 1,750,000 pounds of butter are produced yearly from this creamery alone. The excellent quality of the various products are acclaimed by consumers as truly top-grade dairy foods. In an average year \$1,350,000 are paid to the supplying farmers, and this money is in turn spent for the management of the farms thereby supporting the many businesses operating to aid the farmer.

The drying plant is a marvelous example of modern science working to utilize the potential value of raw milk. Powdered milk, food fortifiers and even casein glue and paint are made from this versatile food. Men working in well equipped laboratories are incessantly discovering and creating new uses for an age old product. Their work has done much to relieve our serious surpluses by affording new demands for dairy farming. As many as 91,200,000 pounds of non-fat milk a year are processed providing incomes for workers, retailers and farmers.

Industry is flourishing in Pine City. Currently, a factory under contract to government agencies is manufacturing practice bombs. The organization is staffed by mostly local employees

Another site of bustling activity is the awning factory. Here attractive awnings for homes and business buildings are fabricated and shipped to dealers throughout the country. These awnings are constructed of durable, modernly designed strips. Varying numbers of people are employed by this enterprise giving the workers a stable source of income.

Pine City is home for a large bottling plant producing national brand carbonated beverages. Twenty-eight people are employed in providing eight counties with their products.

In addition to these organizations, numerous other types of businesses ply their trades. Dolly carts and road machinery are produced in Pine City. Many machinery and implement dealers supply the needs of farmers and contractors. A secure bank, several hardware stores, feed mills, clothing stores, cleaning and launderers, garages and car agencies, grocery and meat markets, repair shops and many other business men meet the demands of a modern community. Professional men are represented by physicians, dentists, lawyers, druggists, veterinarians and morticians.

As the county seat of Pine county, Pine City houses governmental and maintenance workers. In the new large and architecturally attractive court house, state and county officials serve the residents of this village and other villages of the county.

A solid, well-founded basis of commerce is imperative for prosperity, future growth and expansion. As we have attempted to show you, Pine City enjoys this asset.



Court house, seat of Pine County, governmental heart of the area.

Recreation at Pine City



Snake River, largest tributary of the St. Croix-Mississippi system, route of historical travelers, provides outdoor thrills for sportsmen.

In an ever increasing tempo of living, recreation becomes more imperative to keep to-days worker on an even keel. Often times in a large metropolitan area recreational diversion is out of reach or, at least, difficult to attain. On the other hand, small isolated communities are lacking activities or facilities. Pine City has neither of these problems, but instead a rare, invaluable balance of commercial and recreational potential.

Far-sighted conservation laws, and decreased hunting and fishing pressure, plus easy access, provide a paradise for the afternoon or weekend nimrod.

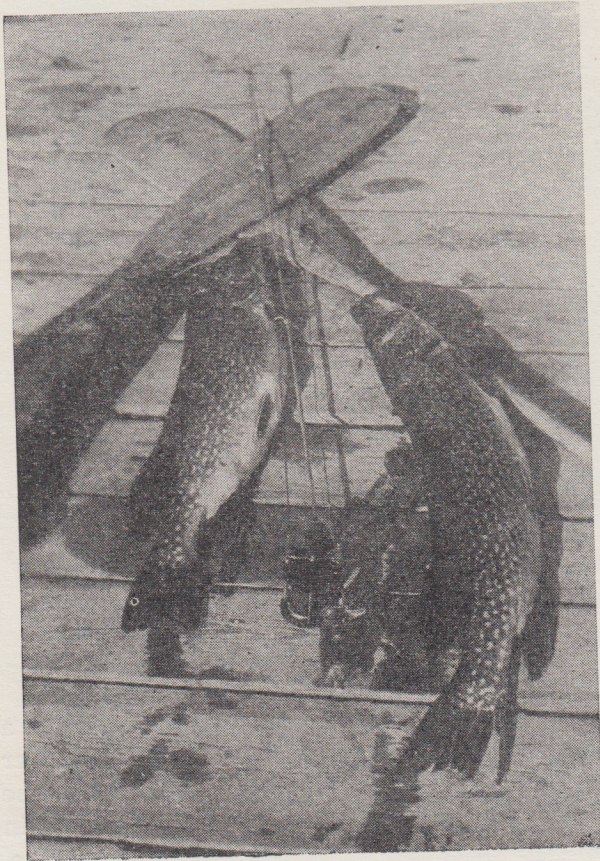
For several decades, thousands of diversion-seeking sportsmen have continually pushed their sporting frontier farther and farther north. Today those areas bear astoundingly increased hunting and fishing pressures. The pressure has begun to tell, and many travel northward into Canada to find more game. This prolonged "leap-frogging" over our area has allowed the game to increase, unhindered by concentrated sportsmen usage. Coupled with this fact, an accelerated program for developing recreational sites in and around Pine City allows us unboastfully to offer extremely varied recreation.

Fishing is good and the variety is almost a piscatorial dream. From the two lakes and river alone, without once removing your boat, the following fish are frequently caught — and in quantity! Northern pike, walleye pike, crappie, sunfish, largemouth bass, small mouth bass, channel catfish, "mud" catfish, bullhead and sturgeon. And these fish are no midgets — in 1956 a 69 pound sturgeon was landed at the inlet of Cross lake! Sheephead, ellpout and dogfish are less frequently taken. Trout in abundance are found in the cold feeder-streams of the Snake and St. Croix system.

Upland game is predominated by the ring-neck pheasant, who yearly increases with corn production. Patch farm woods are inhabited by well-fed gray and fox squirrels. Along river and creek beds and in wooded areas we find partridge and the elusive wood cock. In the spring, the Snake system is a colorful pathway for thousands of migratory birds, and the rice beds afford duck shooting in the fall. White tail deer abound in the large tracts of forest and swamp land North and East of Pine City. Occasional black bear are bagged by deer hunters.

The trapper and naturalist can readily observe the haunts of mink, otter, beaver, gray fox, red fox, brush wolf or coyote, and infrequently the furtive timber wolf is glimpsed.

Recreation at Pine City



Great Northern Pike, savage strikers patrol the lakes and river.

Pokegama and Cross lakes with the connecting Snake river allow the boating enthusiast to travel uninterrupted for many miles. Regardless of the size of the craft, whether to explore or make speed runs, our water-ways have appropriate areas. You can find the "ole swimmin' hole" or a supervised beach. On Cross lake you can water ski six miles without changing course, and nearly as long on Pokegama.

During the winter, children and adults skate at the village rink, and the newly constructed hockey rink houses spirited games. After a fresh snow various hunting parties take to the field with hounds. The abundance of uncultivated land provides an ideal habitat for such predators as the red fox, gray fox, bobcat and wolf. Many

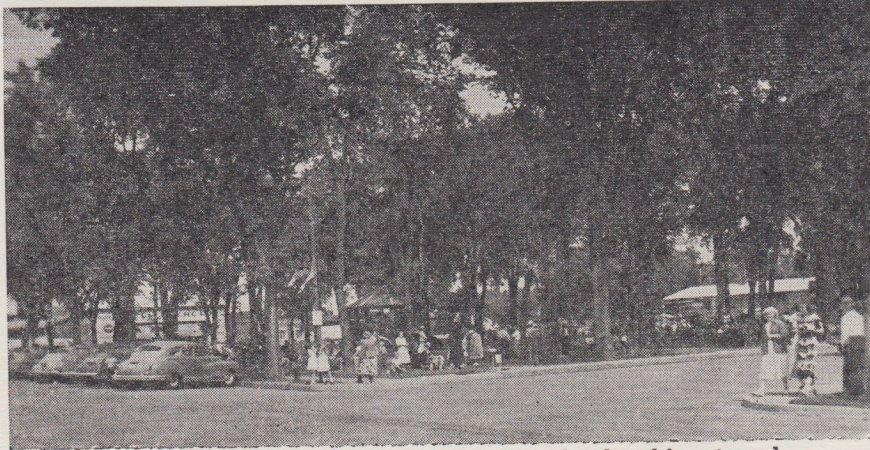
sharp winter days are spent following fresh tracks. The Pine City ball park, home of the Pirates, entertain rooting spectators on summer evenings. Riding stables, gardening, unlimited hiking facilities and the beautiful St. Croix State Park refresh weary citizens. Tourists and cottage owners hurry each weekend to enjoy their cabins or stay at the resorts.

The future of recreation in the Pine City area has unlimited value and possibility. State and federal agencies have launched a varied program of providing more recreational opportunity for vacationing citizens. The game and fish workers of the State Conservation department have only recently purchased a site for public access on the south shore of Lake Pokegama. This landing, in addition to the new access being planned for the Snake river and Cross lake, will allow individuals to drive their cars on modern highways to spacious parking areas adjacent to the water. These sites of access insure the future propagation of fish by spawning aids and stocking.

During the logging era the water level of the upper Snake and the lakes was artificially raised providing a means of floating the "wanagans", large rafts of floating logs, to market. Weekend vacationers from the twin cities traveled by train to Pine City where they embarked on steamers, sailing up-river to resorts and hotels on the shores of Pokegama. Old, yellowed registers bear the names of prominent 1900 Minnesotans. After the decline of the logging industry, farm pressure succeeded in lowering the level in an attempt to salvage flowage areas. Although the river is still easily navigable there is not sufficient draft for large craft. Increased recreational pressures and modern farming trends have once again aroused the desire for a higher water level. The almost universal clamor for more water has instigated new interest and action, and more water for easier navigation and maintained watershed reserve will surely be a future certainty.

It would seem inevitable that cabin sites and property would be at a premium along the water-ways. Indeed Pokegama and Cross lakes are studded with summer homes and cabins. However, sites are still available, and river property is virtually untouched. Come to Pine City and enjoy our great natural heritage.

Community Living



Robinson Park, refreshing resting place for lunching travelers.

Pine City is an incorporated village. The main governing body is made up of a mayor, councilmen and a clerk. Along with these officials many boards are set up to handle the community affairs of the village.

The business men are organized within the Pine City Commercial Club. This active group is always on the alert to facilitate and augment the working assets of the community.

Currently, a public landing to make the lakes and river more accessible to recreation-seeking persons is being negotiated. This combined effort of the Commercial Club, village, Conservation and Highway Departments is expected to do much for future enjoyment of our superior recreational potentialities.

The Athletic Association, comprised of enthusiastic sports-minded individuals affords the organized impetus behind our baseball team and other much attended team activities. The Fair Board, a group of public-minded farmers and business men yearly direct the Pine County Fair. The Pine City Development Corporation has raised capital by selling shares to encourage industry to settle in the area. Their past efforts have already paved the way for the foundation of two flourishing factories. The Wednesday Study Club undertakes community projects to make Pine City a better place in which to live. Recently they installed street signs and addresses. Last year the Pine County Historical Society published a map showing interesting historical sites. They are actively engaged in recording and tabulating the rich and exciting history of the county. Scouting activities and other local committee work is carried out by time-giving individuals.

The Pine Poker-Pioneer, first published in 1885, is our weekly newspaper. Its service and promotional attitude not only provides Pine county residents with news and information, but also fulfills the areas printing needs.

Last year marked the birth of WCMP radio station at Pine City. The station has done much to more closely knit all phases of community living not only at Pine City but also east central Minnesota and west central Wisconsin. Because of the staffs fine efforts, residents of WCMP land are far more actively aware of their neighbors activities.

The communities spiritual needs are looked after by Assembly of God, Catholic, Evangelical, Lutheran, Methodist and Presbyterian churches. Pine City is also the home for a mission house of Redemptorist Catholic priests.

Pine City public grade school and high school competently educates school age pupils from throughout a far reaching district. A fleet of safe, dependable buses travel many miles to make education a possibility for even the most remotely situated child. Last fall a newly erected Catholic parochial school was opened for grade school pupils, taught by Benedictine nuns from the Duluth Diocese. Parent-Teacher organizations and the school board work to insure a well-balanced program of learning and they boast of a substantial percentage of graduates who continue their studies at a collegiate level. School activities cause much spectator interest and create an unmatched source of public entertainment and attendance.

Musically inclined residents have their choice of participating in a chorus, orchestra or drum and bugle corps. The Pine City Drum and Bugle Corps has been in great demand in parades and pageants all over the state of Minnesota and parts of Wisconsin.

It is impossible to thoroughly cover all community activities. Many social groups, clubs and organizations should be mentioned to give the observer a complete picture of social living. The proximity of the two cities, Minneapolis and St. Paul, afford the opportunity of residents attending national cultural productions without being hindered by a long trip. Regardless of how varied one's interests may be, outlets are readily available in Pine City.

Members of the
Pine City Commercial Club
Pine City, Minnesota

Roy White
Pine City Fuel Co.
Fair Store Dry Goods
Pine City Electric Co.
Russell Wilson
Henry Korf
Fair Store Grocery Dep't.
Ben Franklin Store
Stop & Shop Grocery
Richard Barry
Robert Schuller
L. N. Haedt
Coast To Coast Store
Pine City Body Shop
Red Owl Store
Lahodney Dress Shop
Borchers Shoe Store
Gehl Oil Co.
First National Bank
John Sharp, Att'y. at Law
Johnson Standard Service
Pine City Cooperative Creamery
Buzzard Greenhouse
Coca Cola Bottling Co.
A. K. Stratte, M. D.
Ralph Mach, M. D.
Cavallin Ford
Red Owl Meat Market
Sausser's Inc.
Bayliss Swanson
Kuzel Electric Co.
Korbel Sporting Goods
Ray Arimond
The Flower Box
Janke Super Valu
Pine Clothing Co.
Jimmy's Cafe
Larry & Floyd's Mobile Station
A. W. Smith
Hinze Gamble Store
Pine City Livestock Sales
Joseph Dolan
Pine City Coop Ass'n.
George Sausen, Att'y. at Law
Rural Coop Power Ass'n.
Dorow Furniture Store
Town & Country Cleaners
Zephyr Awning Co.
Olson Food Market

Yost Brothers
Albert Blomberg
Riverside Motel & Sport Shop
Buckley Plumbing & Heating
Pete Osterdyk
Jess Ingram
V. L. Vanstrom, Att'y. at Law
Dave Hoefler
Gray Photo Studio
Bob's Jewelry
Terry's Beauty Salon
Teich Standard Service
Earl Foster
Scenic Sign Co.
Olson Produce
Bantleon Barber Shop
L. W. Onken, O. D.
Swanson Funeral Chapel
Richard Hegman
Fred Bobzin
Paul Novy
Robert Liebel
Clarence Siebert
N. W. Bell Tel. Co.
Pine City Mercantile Co.
William Witte
Herb Anderson Insurance Agency
Albin Skalicky
East Central Electric Ass'n.
Paul Beeman
Oscar W. Anderson
Ben DeBoer, Land O' Lakes Drying Plant
Inter State Lumber Co.
William Jones
General Trading Co.
A. D. Romano, D. D. S.
Teich Salvage Yard
The Pine Poker-Pioneer Inc.
Elmer Olson
Pine City Drug Co.
Pine Motors, Inc.
V. W. Ziebarth
Lilja Pharmacy
Case Nieboer
Thrun Manufacturing Co.
Keith R. Selleck
Pennington & Clem, Insurance, Real Estate
Marshall Johnson