

Last of Great Pines Near Thompson Felled

Thompson, Mich., April 24 (Special)—A large white pine tree, owned by the Englebretzen brothers, has recently been cut into lumber by the Richardson sawmill at Thompson.

The measurements of the tree were: 135 feet in height, and 52 inches in diameter. At 104 feet high, the diameter was still 14 inches. It scaled five 16-foot logs and two 12-foot logs. When sawed up there was better than 2500 feet of lumber.

The tree was glazed by fire 35 years ago. Many of the old residents remember that forest fire. Farmers fought the fire day and night for a week and then were forced to flee to the lake shore. The fire attacked the pine tree and only by the efforts of a few was the tree kept from being destroyed. The homes of nearly all the agri-

cultural population were destroyed and all of the woods from Englebretzen's hardwoods to the shores were swept away.

When the Soo Line railroad was being built through Manistique, the rails were laid so that it would pass by the pine tree. If a person would stand at the Soo Line depot and look up the track towards Thompson, the pine could be seen in the center of the track. The tree could also be seen through the courthouse windows at Manistique.

The mammoth pine was the last of the forest monarchs that once made Thompson famous. Poplars take the place of the huge pines which once covered the entire township.

It was a familiar landmark both on land and water. It has guided many a hunter to his home, and directed numerous ships to the Thompson harbor. A story is told of an old sailor, who heard that the tree was to be cut, several years ago. He made a special trip to the Englebretzen home to persuade them to let it stand. He gave as his reason that he could see the tree many miles out on the lake, before he could see Thompson.

Those who sawed the tree down were Alfred Erickson, Miles Stanley, Noel Hursh and George and Charles Englebretzen. The lumber was pronounced as the finest quality that has been cut here for years.

Thompson Items

Mrs. B. Flodin is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Herman Peterson, a few days.

Don Johnston and Ike Mariontet made a trip to Shuster's farm to get Mr. Mariontet's car, which has been there the past winter. They will use the car in their fishing industry at Parker's bay.

Mrs. Charles Mattson and son, Henning, and Mrs. John Stoor and son visited at the Emil Nelson farm.

Mrs. August Sidbeck and children left for their home in Munising, after attending the election dance. While they were here they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Erickson.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pierce visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Strassler at Cooks.

Ernest Peterson is employed at Manistique by Fredolf Danielson.

Mrs. William Sheahen has started to take the census for Thompson township. She expects to be finished Saturday.

Mike Barnes and others from Manistique are hauling cinders from the Soo Line tracks to Joe Hoholick's farm where they will