Big Gus - Pukaskwa National Park

The early trappers of Pukaskwa National Park were all dedicated people and full of character. For instance Dan Goodchild liked the wilderness so much that he left a job at the mill paying \$150.00 a month to pick berries for \$2.00 a day; and Gordan Primeau was such a book fanatic he'd finish the chapter he was reading before rising to greet his rare guests. The most inter-

Moose hunt selection...

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vest Program absolutely fair to all moose hunters in Ontario, we will make the necessary corrections to the computer program and all 87,000 applications through again for the 42 WMU's."

The Minister said the same quotas used in the first draw will be used for the second. Those who have already received tags will be allowed to use them. If their names are drawn a second time, they will not be issued a second tag.

No new applications for the second draw will be accepted.

Mr. Pope said that while more tags will be issued for the 1983 hunt than originally intended, due to the program error, this should not present a serious setback to the success of the Selective Moose Harvest Program. "Our best estimates tell us we may be issuing tags for an additional 750 moose," he said. The original goal of the Selective Moose Harvest Program was to reduce the number of moose harvested, Mr. Pope said.

"Even with this second draw, we have still cut down the number of hunters licensed to hunt bull and cow moose in Ontario — from 86,000 in the 1982 season to approximately 50,000 in 1983. This still represents a dramatic reduction and enables us to meet our original goals of conservation and moose management."

The new computer program designed by the private firm was pretested on 6,000 names before the actual draw. The second draw is expected to be completed by the end of this week, Mr. Pope said. Hunters will be notified next week.

Under the Ministry's new Selective Moose Harvest Program, only hunters with specific tags can harvest a bull or cow moose. All other resident hunters with a valid moose licence can harvest a young-of-the-year calf moose only.

One Soyburger, Hold the Mayo

Consumers all over the world can expect to see more food products and food ingredients made from such exotic sources as cottonseed, soybeans and sunflowers. Texas A&M food scientists have developed dozens of new foods from cottonseed including a cottonseed burger. Soybeans are already being used extensively in margarine and vegetable oil and soon will be replacing milk solids in baked goods.

esting trapper, and probably the most colourful person in Pukaskwa's history is Big

Gus Weideman received his nickname because of his impressive size and stature. He was a very strong man. He could squeeze the head off a large fish with one hand or lift a barrel of coal oil onto the back of a wagon. Adding to his powerful image was the fact that he always carried with him a healthy selection of knives and loaded guns. Needless to say, Gus was greatly feared. He was suspected, but never convicted, of various crimes.

Big Gus arrived in Pukaskwa in the 1920's, from where, no-one knew. He stayed in an old logger's cabin in Otter Cove. He trapped in the winter; and in the summer he fished, salvaged logs, and provided ice for a nearby fishery. Gus sold his furs in White River or Heron

Bay, where, true to character, he usually went on a bit of a rampage.

Unlike other trappers, Weideman was a health nut and believed in eating well. He was also especially fond of a country and western radio program that played at 4 a.m.

A severe accident nearly cost Gus Weideman his life. Though a spike was driven into the back of his head, he managed to row to the Otter Island lighthouse. From there he was rushed to Sault Ste. Marie where he recovered from his in-

jury. He returned to

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Otter Cove in 1948.

During his last few years of life, Big Gus lived in Mud Bay, now Hattie Cove, the site of Pukaskwa National Park's campground. He died in Port Arthur in 1958 leaving us the legacy of his stories and a

park laced with his

trails.



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