Page 10, Terrace Bay-Schreiber News, Wednesday, September 23, 1987

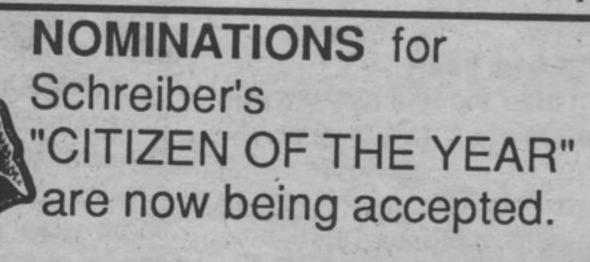
Anne Todesco anticipates the coming hunting season

Another time when travelling late from Nipigon some wolves were spotted sitting on or standing upon the roadside snow banks at Cavers, as if watching traffic going by- the car lights made

their eyes shine so they were easy to spot.

What's missing from our area now are the caribou that used to live on the islands.

When I first came up to the



Nominations should include a resume and must be in before November 1, 1987.

SEND TO:

Mr. M.L. Cosgrove

Reeve

Township of Schreiber

P.O. Box 40 Schreiber, Ontario

POT 2SO

North Shore area of Lake Superior in the early '20s, caribou were quite plentiful. They were a popular game animal with the Americans. What a graceful moving animal, with their heads held high, supporing their beautiful rack of antlers.

Large boats or a tug would freight the victims of the hunters' rifles to harbours to be shipped home.

The boat decks looked as if they were loaded with antlers. As for enjoying a caribou steak, I was never fond of it as I thought it tasted mossy.

One year, one of these animals crossed from the mainland to Nicol Island via swimming across the harbour.

Many of the villagers lined the shore, some with binoculars to watch it crossing. Many of the fish boats were just entering the

harbour with their day's catch of trout, but the caribou appeared quite unconcerned by their arrival.

In 1915, times were hard because of the first World War. The snow was very deep that year. A herd of caribou started to migrate from the Pays Plat Lake area to cross to the islands but became stuck in the deep snow.

The Pays Plat and Rossport homes had plenty of fresh meat for the winter as the story goes; about 30 of the animals were shot-wolves even got into the fray.

The humans salted, dried, cooked and froze the meat. Reports on this episode are in the District Officer's (forester) files.

Another story on the migration of caribou to the islands was when my brother was travelling east along the old highway route

LOOK

WHAT

YOU

CAN

WIN

at Sand Lake sometime in the '4 when he had to stop his car as herd of caribou were crossing I road and milling about enroute crossing to the islands in La Superior.

Superior.

In the 1860s, '70s and '80 surveyors and explorers hunt in the Rossport and Pays plareas for fresh meat for the co

struction crews.

Two Fench chaps were sent hunt for fresh meat on the island

The went to Salter Island. The story goes that the two meducame lost in a snowstorm; the came up and they lost their bearings and kept going about in coles until they realized that the were passing, while tracking caribou, a conspicuous rock we several times; hence, the origin name for the island was Ve Island; later changed to Salt Island as the fish packers known as Salters.

Packing plant

There was a fish packing pla on the Northwest side of the island where the fish were packed in a brine of salty water in wood en kegs and barrels to be collected ed twice a year when schooned and sidewheelers were used pick up the fish for eastern makets.

That was before the railrown was completed; then the fis would be packed in ice to kee them fresh-very little salted fis went to markets once the railrown was in operation.

One of the last salters was man known as Chumm MacDonald. One of the points o this island, also the bay, ar named after him- Chummy Point and Chummy's Bay.

In the late 1800s, explorer and surveyors stopped here that hunt caribou, deer, and moose salt or pickle it in brine to replenish their food supply.

Among the first white people to reach our shores were two Jesuit Priests, Fathers Charle Renault and Rev. Isaac Jacque who worked among the Indian and white settlers.

Many Rossportites hunted an trapped our animals dow through the years in the are including the island.

An eccentric old trapper ble in here one fall and decided twinter on St. Ignace Island.

His name was Ecker of Recters. He cached his food if trees that he had covered the bas of the trunk with tin or zinc to keep animals from climbing the trees after his food packed in can vaas bags.

He sealed in the front of small cave to live in and use wood as fuel to keep warm.

We enjoyed his yarns about seeing wolverines, packs of wolves and a tame fox that would come to the cave looking for handouts.

He told of planes arriving from across the border and Canada hunting moose, deer or caribo out of season.

They only took the four quarters of the animals home, thus leaving liver, tongues; and I was told that caribou had been imported to the north end of Lake Nipigon but I just couldn't understand why as they were always there.

I cannot remember the time period this was done if a true story.

I understood that they were woodland Caribou.

I believe that an odd one or two are still spotted north of the railway or on an island.

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