

## THE CALL OF THE OUTDOORS

By Will Dilg

(President, Isaak Walton League of America)

### OVER THE PORTAGE

IN spite of the fact that automobile roads have penetrated almost all of our wildernesses and frontiers, it is still impossible to get into the real forest, to enjoy the quiet, the solitude, the hushed beauty of the wilderness, without getting out and working for it.

In the west the pack trail leads on from the roads, in the east and south the foot paths reach out beyond the highways, in the north the portages take the canoe voyageur of the beaten lanes of travel. Of these, the portage is the most interesting. The freight routes of the early trappers and traders through the north, always by water, were dependent on the backs of men in part; and the vacationist of today who penetrates those regions must, in exactly the same manner, carry his equipment of life on his shoulders when the portages, those barriers that keep the wilderness wild, are met.

The most primitive pack harness, and one that is even now commonly used in the canoe country, consists of a single strap called a "tump line," by means of which the load is suspended from the packer's head. After the neck muscles become hardened to this form of exercise, surprisingly heavy burdens can be portaged in this manner.

The well known sash of the coureur de bois is utilized as a combination head and breast strap when packing and is worn around the waist like a girdle at other times. This strong, brightly colored and picturesque sash is still sold at all frontier posts of the Hudson's Bay Company.

A carrying harness that allowed the packer to shift a portion of the strain

from the head to the shoulders, and vice versa, was used by the early timber cruisers of Michigan and Wisconsin. It was called the Michigan Packstrap and consisted of a head strap and two padded shoulder straps. These were riveted to another set of straps and buckles that bound the load into a compact bundle. This device was very popular during the Klondike gold rush and is still favored by many old woodsmen.

Seeking an improvement on these arrangements, a leather worker of Duluth devised and patented a Pack-sack that made his name famous among the pioneers of every timbered and mineral region on earth. It was literally a sack to be packed and its great popularity was chiefly due to the scientific accuracy with which the carrying harness was placed. Although it has been on the market for more than forty years, it remains today the favorite of the white men who travel the wilds.

All of these things are necessary for wilderness travel. You cannot enter a wilderness by automobile, for the automobile and the road it travels on can never be parts of a wilderness. The wilderness lies only in the realm of unassisted human endeavor.

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### Frank W. Brach Builds \$65,000 Residence Here

Frank W. Brach received a permit this week to build a new brick residence at 169 Sheridan road. The house will contain 16 rooms and attached garage, and will cost \$65,000. Other permits issued recently include one to W. G. Kelley, for a frame and brick veneer home at 1040 Dinsmore road, to cost \$18,000, and two to Lester Mann, for frame residences at 1417 and 1423 Tower road, each to cost \$8,000. Another permit was issued to T. A. Buenger for a brick home with attached garage on Ridge avenue. This building will cost \$15,000. Several permits for garages and additions to existing buildings were issued.

### Sachacasi Camp Fire Invites to Food Sale

"Come one, come all to the sale of delicious food," is the challenge issued to Winnetka housewives this week by the members of the Sachacasi Camp Fire group of Sacred Heart Parish.

The sale of foods prepared by the girls is scheduled for today, between the hours of 10 and 6 o'clock, and will be held in the Parish hall of the church on Tower road.

"Come and buy for Sunday", continues the invitation. "There will be pies, cakes, bread, cookies, candies, preserves and pickles at reasonable prices."

### TOUR CONTINENT

Otto F Reich, master in chancery of the Superior court of Cook county and former president of the German club of Chicago, and his son, Paul Frederic, who has just graduated from the University high school, sailed for Europe on the steamship Deutschland Thursday of this week. They will make an extended tour of the Continent returning to Winnetka in September.

### COMMUTERS RALLY TO OPPOSE RATE BOOST

The Liberty Loan campaign program of war days has been adopted by the Chicago Commuters' association in its efforts to defeat the 20 per cent increase in commutation fares asked by the 18 railroads operating suburban trains in the Chicago district. Each town and village has its quota of membership which must be filled by July 15, the date set for the hearing before the Illinois Commerce Commission, and an intensive drive for members was begun this week in 14 suburban towns. The quota for each suburb has been set at 10 per cent of the population.

Joseph Keig, attorney for the association, made a short talk from WTAS Monday night, from WMAQ Tuesday evening, and will continue to make brief announcements and appeals by radio. Plans are under way to broadcast the proceedings of the hearing before the Illinois Commerce Commission. A feature of the campaign will be tiny buttons similar to those distributed by the Red Cross, but bearing the

words "I Belong." By this token the commuter who has joined the association will be identified. L. J. Scholty and M. H. Karnes, of River Forest, are assisting in the work of organization.

"We are securing data and commutation information from Boston, New York and other cities," said Attorney Keig, "and in co-operation with the corporation counsel's office of Chicago, we shall do everything possible to disprove the claims of the railroads that they are entitled to a 20 per cent increase. We must, however, have the united support of commuters and be able to demonstrate to the Commerce Commission that there is opposition to the carriers' demands. Otherwise, that body can hardly be expected to refuse the railroads' demands."

Fred W. Mill of Glencoe is chairman of the association.

### SPEND SUMMER IN WEST

Robert and Junior Nicholls, sons of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Nicholls, 1066 Tower road, Hubbard Woods, have left to spend the summer in Colorado. They have made reservations at Silver Spruce Ranch for the month of August.


## BLACK DIRT

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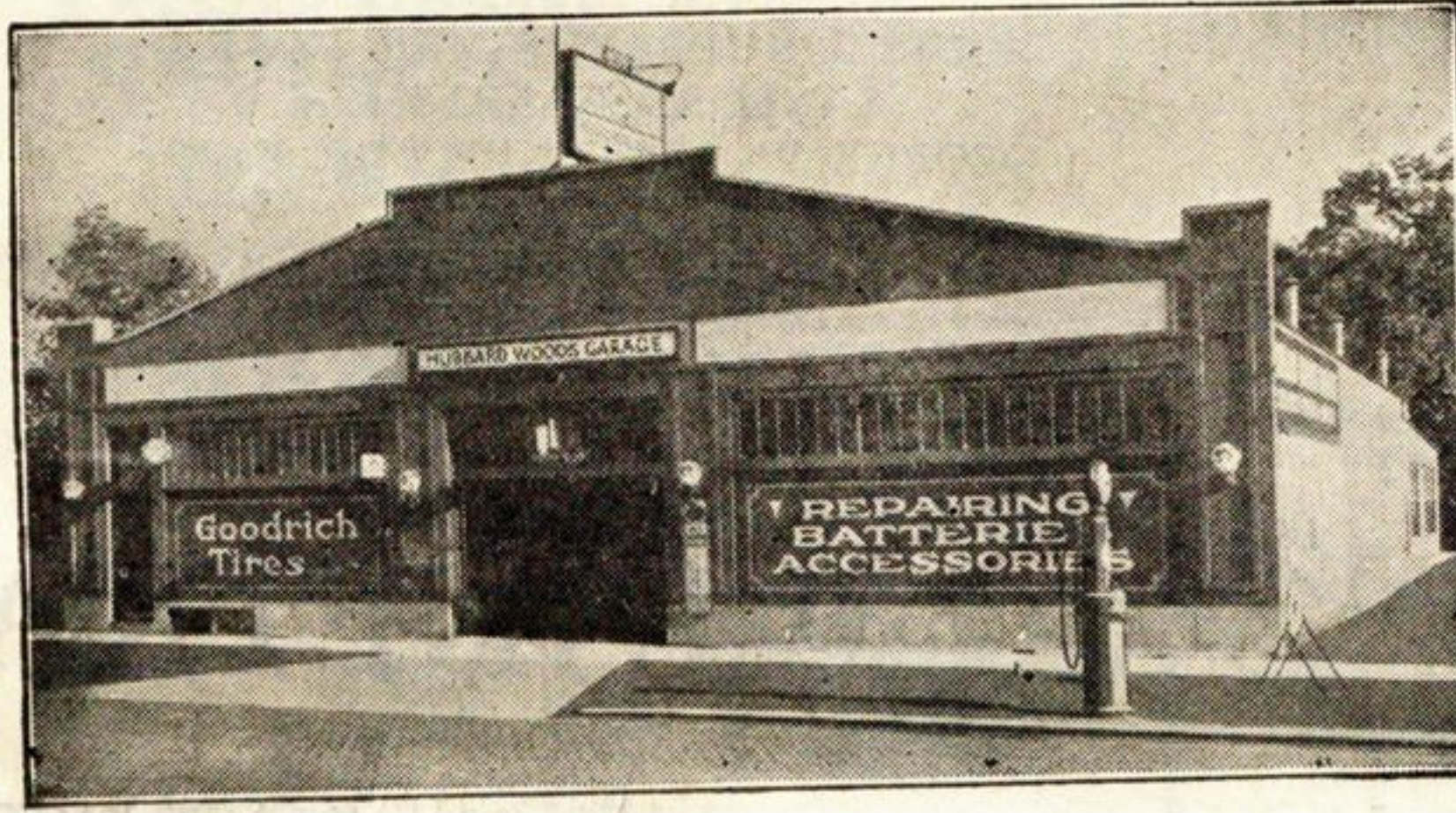
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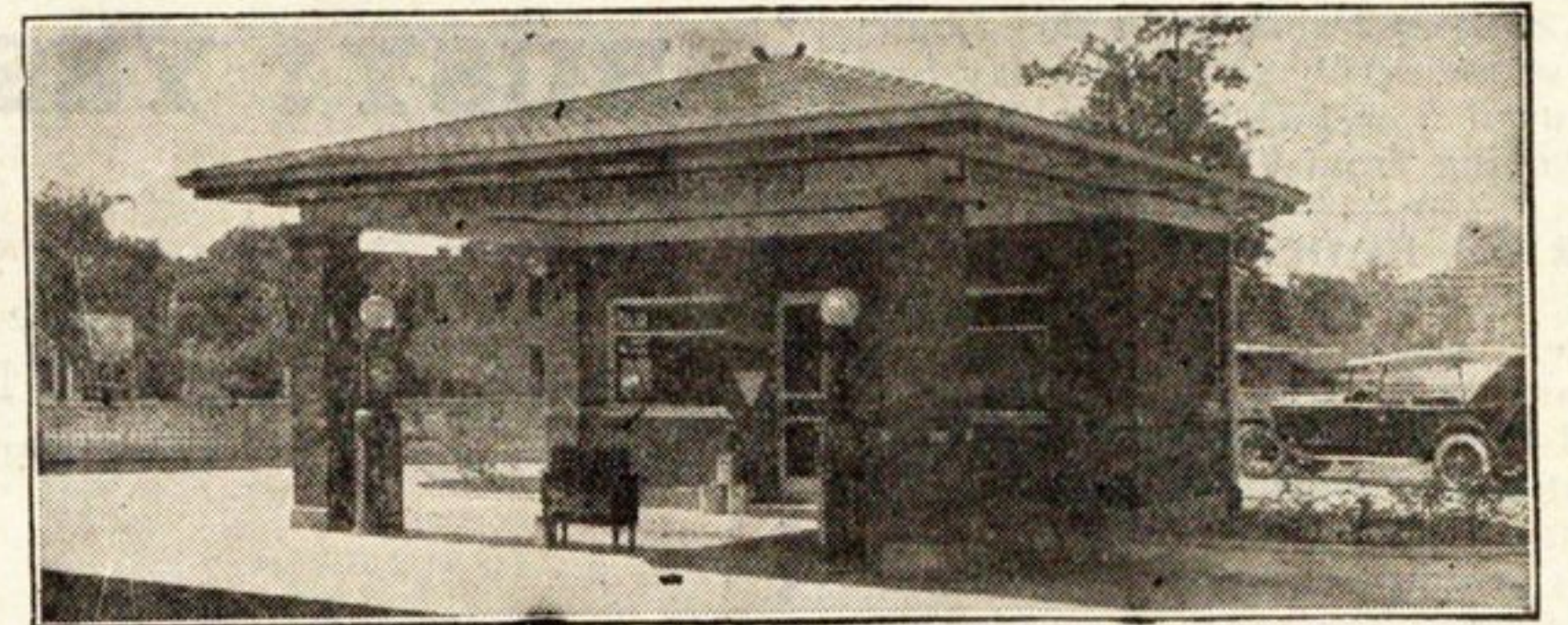
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