

**A STRATEGY FOR
RE-ESTABLISHING
SELF-SUSTAINING LAKE TROUT
STOCKS IN ILLINOIS WATERS OF
LAKE MICHIGAN**

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burbot were also caught. In 1885, five years after the fishery had begun to decline, 35,000 pounds of whitefish and 4,000 pounds of lake trout were

caught in Lake County pound nets. This intensive pound net fishery probably began to deplete whitefish stocks³ soon after the nets came into use, as was the case at Whitefish Bay and North Bay in Door County, Wisconsin and elsewhere on the Great Lakes (Milner 1874). By the mid-1870s the pound net fishery had peaked, with 47 nets operating in the Waukegan area (Nelson 1878). Following is a Waukegan fisherman's account of pound net fishing about 1916, and a description of the final disappearance of whitefish in the area:

We had five pound nets at one time, and we caught quite a few whitefish out of them . . . but the Gemash's were there before we were. They were the pound net fishermen; they were there before the harbor was built (1895-1986) Just at the start there were two brothers--French Canadians. They fished right off the beach in 20-30 feet of water.

We were fishing pound nets when I was still a kid yet. By that time we were fishing in 50 to 60 feet of water. I used to run the gasoline engine and the pump on the scow. I'd run that engine and the anchors for them on a darned old rowboat. It was a son-of-a-gun of a hard job for a 16-year old kid. He always jetted⁴ our spiles (stakes). We had a little Duffalo Engine with 2 cylinders, 4 cycles, and that would pump a good stream of water. We'd catch whitefish as far north as the state line. That was all sand and

³"At the south end of Lake Michigan two varieties or grades of whitefish are recognized, viz, the "shore" and the "outside" fish. The latter are firmer than the "shore" grade and bears shipment with less loss. The "outside" fish are taken in gill-nets, and the other in pound-nets. The "outside" fish, moreover, has a smaller head and reddish fins. There are no spawning grounds on this coast, and no white-fish, consequently, are taken in autumn." (Goode 1884)

⁴Jetting refers to a method of sinking pound net stakes into a sand bottom. A stream of water was pumped through a hose tied to the stake. The water would "jet" a hole in the sand allowing the stake to be pushed 3 or 4 feet into the lake bottom. Once the sand settled back around the stake, the hose was pulled up (Interviews by Coberly 1978).

gravel. Six-hundred pounds was a big lift and we were happy to get even 200 pounds in the summer.

We stopped fishing pound nets when John Mannville came into Waukegan--that ended the pound net and whitefish fishing. That was about 1920 and 1922. Up until then we were catching a lot of nice whitefish in the summer, but when John Mannville came in they dumped all their excess asbestos into the lake. We'd be swimming, wading in 6-12 inches of asbestos waste. The whitefish would get it in their gills. (Interviews by Coberly 1978)

Catch records show that by the mid-1890s lake trout had replaced whitefish as the major commercial species in Lake County. The Lake County whitefish catch in 1885 was 35,000 pounds, including chubs and Menominee whitefish, while only 4,000 pounds of lake trout were recorded for that year. In 1890 the lake trout catch remained stable at 4,500 pounds while whitefish dropped to 28,000 pounds. By 1897 the whitefish catch was 11,200 pounds while lake trout rose to 219,000 pounds, a catch not exceeded until 1929, despite an increase in fishing effort and the development of more efficient vessels and gear.

The large lake trout catch in 1897 was due to improvement of the Waukegan Harbor area and the subsequent arrival of Waukegan's first successful gillnetters. Between 1850 and 1910, federal assistance provided for expansion of the harbor from a single wooden pier and one warehouse to a safe refuge for vessels of moderate draft. By 1896 a channel connecting the harbor with deeper water had been dredged, and a breakwater constructed (Vogel undated). In that year Captain William Smith and two sons came to Waukegan from St. Joseph, Michigan and began fishing for trout. The Smiths' 28 ton steam tug was the only large fishing vessel in Waukegan for the next ten years. Nearly the entire lake trout catch for Illinois in 1903 (198,000 pounds) must have come from the efforts of the Smiths since no vessels were recorded for Cook County that year and only five pound nets remained in

WAUKEGAN DAILY

AND THE WAUKEGAN DAILY GAZETTE

WAUKEGAN, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1922

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STATE WANTS TO PUSH SHERIDAN ROAD PAVING

State Highway Engineer Tells
County Superintendent to
"Go Ahead"

AFTER GREAT LAKES NOW

The state highway department is anxious to have Lake county start the improvement of Sheridan road between 20th street, North Chicago and Lake bluff, and in a programme co-operation with Clark E. Russell, county superintendent of highways, the state engineer, W. W. Perry, told the Lake county engineer to "go ahead" and remove all the obstacles that now are delaying the work.

One of the reasons of delay has been the county's inability to get the government to take action. Before the government can do this, the agreement that must contain some of the property. A check on the location of the road which involves vacation of some privately owned property is also being worked out but Supt. Russell and Superintendent M. McManis of Lake county are of the opinion that the private owners will be willing to let leave the district right of way, an agreement having practically been reached.

Supt. Russell and Superintendent McManis were at Great Lakes Wednesday afternoon concerning with Commander M. M. Furch and Commander Cook with regard to getting them to urge the Washington officials to speed up the work of vacating the needed government property.

POLICE WARRING ON NOISY MOTOR-TRUCKS

Police Take Score of Drivers to
Station Today and Give
Them Warning

IS DECLARED A NUISANCE

Shelby and unimproved "waterways" were launched by the local police today against noisy motor trucks. The drivers of perhaps a score of the offending trucks were taken to the police station today and were shown by Assistant Chief D. W. Kelly where they are violating the city ordinance. No time was allowed to get away for objection. They were warned that on a second offense they would be liable for a fine of \$25.00.

The place where the violation are the worst, according to the assistant chief, is the Washington street hill, leading west from the Northwestern depot. He says that the din made by the open cutouts on motor trucks at times is almost deafening. He characterized them as a nuisance that he intends to abate.

"The truck drivers called in today had all sorts of excuses to make," Terrell said. Excuses, however, will avail them nothing if they are brought in again. There is no excuse for leaving the loud horns opened the police have no time to stand for such a nuisance. Drivers must have their horns put in condition so that they do not make so much noise as to make the neighbors annoyed. A policeman was stationed on the Washington street hill today to pick up all violators.

Two Probation Officers To Remain On The Job

Judge Persons Announce They
Are Willing to Reconsider
Resignations

NOT TO CLOSE HOME HERE

Recent resignation of a number of the judicial and Superior court judges of Cook county, which included Judge J. M. Mac Lane, probations officer, and Mrs. Mac Lane, superintendent of the Cook county Home, and which announced to make necessary the resigning of Mrs. Mac Lane, and also because of the previous resignation of Mrs. Palmer, who had decided to take up work elsewhere, will not close the Home or cause the suspension of Juvenile welfare work in the county, it was announced today.

Judge E. L. Foy, in a letter to Edward J. Marshall, chairman of the Executive Home committee, on Wednesday, assured that official Cook county judges and judges' willingness to resign, but being known, and also that Mrs. Mac Lane is ready to continue her work after receiving the assurance of cooperation upon the part of members of the committee, supervisors, and citizens.

Judge Foy's letter follows: Judge E. L. Foy.

COMMERCIAL FISH- ING IN WAUKEGAN AT A STANDSTILL

Smith Company Obligated to Go
Over 400 Miles North
to Fish

BLAMES LAKE POLLUTION

Commercial fishing in the area which is concerned, is practically at a standstill. The Smith Fishing company, the largest commercial fishing concern in the city, has been obliged temporarily to abandon fishing here and have sent their rigs, the main haul, and all their nets to Bay View, about 420 miles north of here.

ONLY 2 SCHOOLS IN COUNTY SHARE IN DISTRIBUTION

Antioch, Gurnee High Schools
to be Reimbursed for Agri-
cultural Course

EACH IS TO GET \$1093.73

Only two schools in Cook county are sharing in the federal and state reimbursements to schools throughout Illinois for agricultural educational training under the Smith-Hughes law, the total amount of which is \$21,877.46 for last year, according to a statement issued today by Carl Colvin, state super-

Inquiring Reporter

QUESTION TODAY
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The place where the violatons

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COMMERCIAL FISH- ING IN WAUKEGAN AT A STANDSTILL

Smith Company Obligated to Go Over 400 Miles North to Fish

BLAMES LAKE POLLUTION

Commercial fishing, so far as Waukegan is concerned, is practically at a standstill. The Smith Fishing company, the largest commercial fishing concern in the city, has been obliged temporarily to abandon fishing here and have sent their tug, the ~~Waukegan~~ Hall, and all their nets to Bayfield, Wis., about 420 miles north of here.

The shipments of white fish and trout being received here from them is all that is supplying fresh fish. Capt. Richard Smith is in charge of the work there.

The other fishing concerns which are fishing off Waukegan are getting small catches of chubs and a few perch.

According to Captain William Smith of the Smith company, the pollution of the lake along the shore of Waukegan is what has spoiled the white fish fishing off this port. White fish, he says, stay close to the shore as a rule and are caught in ponds. The pollution near the shore in Waukegan has driven them to other points.

As far as the trout are concerned they remain too near the surface at this time of the year, Capt. Smith says. Later in the year they go into deeper water.

The Smith tug will return to Waukegan as soon as the fishing becomes better.

FAIL TO GET BODY

ONLY 2 SCHOOLS IN COUNTY SHARE IN DISTRIBUTION

Antioch, Gurnee High Schools to be Reimbursed for Agri- cultural Course

EACH IS TO GET \$1093.73

Only two schools in Lake County are sharing in the federal and state reimbursements to schools throughout Illinois for agricultural vocational training under the Smith-Hughes law, the total amount of which is \$131,532.78 for last year, according to a statement issued today by Carl Colvin, state superin-

These two schools are the Antioch high school and the Gurnee high school. Each is to receive \$1,093.73.

The fund has not yet been distributed, but the amount which each school has been determined and the money will reach the various schools in the near future. One hundred twenty-one schools in the state will benefit by the fund this year.

The agricultural course at both the Gurnee and Antioch high schools is said to be excellent and has been praised several times by state inspectors.

TRUCK RUNS OVER BOY BICYCLISTS

Aino Barton, aged 15, of 615 Helmholz avenue, was run over by a truck belonging to a local laundry and driven by Albert Freeman, 404

Reporter

Today

the more care-

Men!!! Just driving through those winding nearly made men are too ex- ywhere a wild hen they are

use to make a n a car but it d that women y may run into are still plenty of who is the woman.

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