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WAUSAUKEE - A Hustling Village with a Population of Fifteen Hundred

Among the hustling lumber towns of northern Wisconsin, one of the most prominent is Wausauke, in Marinette County. When the Milwaukee & Northern, 10 years ago, pushed its iron track through the northern wilds to the iron range, lumbermen were not slow in perceiving the natural advantages offered by the Big Wausauke stream as a location for the manufacture of lumber. A large region west of the Menominee River being untouched by other railroads, the timber resources were almost intact and where the Milwaukee & Northern crossed the Wausauke, a small sawmill was soon humming - surrounded by the inevitable array of shanties. Attracted by the prosperity and resources of the place, mill men, merchants and farmers flocked in, the woods receded out of sight and the little collection of log shanties expanded, in half a dozen years, into a thriving village of 1500 inhabitants with excellent schools, churches, good hotels, a weekly paper and everything that goes to make up an up-to-date, wide-awake manufacturing town. The old one-horse saw mill has evolved into a modern institution with all the appliances and appurtenances of a first-class mill, capable of turning out anything in the lumber line from a sixty foot bridge timber to a delicate piece of moulding, and hauling logs winter and summer with its own locomotives and cars. On a spur of the C. M. & St. Paul road at the other end of the village, stands another large and well appointed saw mill and between the two of them, the hills and dales are being rapidly denuded of their timber covering and turned over to the horny handed farmer. The soil of the surrounding country is well adapted to farming as is attested by the abundant crops that are raised and each succeeding year the pursuit of agriculture is extended. Stock raising is a great resource of this locality, as has been observed by westerners who declared that the grazing here was superior to that found in most sections of the west. The proximity of the granite quarries and the great iron range with its teeming population provides an excellent market for all kinds of farm produce and induced by the unfailing market and the cheapness of land, many farmers have started in, and following the receding line of timber, keep close to the heels of the woodman. All varieties of soil may be found in this region, the strong clay of the hardwood ridges, the black muck of the low grounds and the warm sand loam of the pine lands. Wheat, oats, timothy hay and potatoes attain a growth unequalled and the season seldom fails to mature a good crop of garden vegetables. This section has become famous as a resort for sportsmen. The Wausauke creek rising on the divide between the Peshtigo and Wausauke rivers, pursues its tortuous and hurried way in a south-easterly direction to the Menominee. It is fed by numerous spring creeks and the trout fisher can pursue his avocation to his heart's content. Beautiful little lakes are interspersed through the woods and many of them are literally swarming with bass, pickerel, pike and muskalonge. Deer are plentiful here yet and the woods abound in small game. If the hunter wants excitement he need not travel far to find signs of bear, wolf or wildcat. There is a great future in store for northern Wisconsin. For beauty of topography no section of the union can equal it. Its thousand lakes nestling among its forest clad hills, its thousand brooks sparkling and chasing through its fertile vales give it a charm that is lacking in the dreary treeless prairie or the barren mountains of the far west. Being outside the zone of tornadoes and periodic droughts, there is no place on the continent where man has a better chance to attain a great old age and succeed in the pursuit of health, happiness and the almighty dollar.'