



BILL McCULLOUGH, Leavenworth, threw away his cigarettes and set his canoe, The Spirit of Sacagawea, into the headwaters of the Missouri River at Three Forks, Mont., in early June. Last week, he stopped here for breakfast as he neared the end of his nine-week "cold turkey" voyage and headed home for a hero's welcome and a hot shower. Applying the skills he learned in 35 years of hunting and fishing on the Missouri, Bill met the challenge of the river and now plans to finish the trip with wife Penny to New Orleans.—Globe photo.

Happy Ending To Canoe Trip

By MICHAEL McDERMOTT
William M. (Bill) McCullough, Leavenworth, retired officer of the Federal Prison System, walked into a restaurant here Friday morning for a breakfast of pancakes and eggs.

It was a welcome change for the sardine-bullion cube diet which had sustained him during a nine-week canoe voyage on the Missouri River from Three Forks, Mont., to here.

Bill, who has fished and hunted along the Missouri for 35 years, said he's always wanted to see what made the river tick and indicated that the canoe trip was a "final exam" for his outdoor skills.

He passed the first leg of the river test without much difficulty and paddled on to home after stopping for breakfast and an interview here Friday.

The second phase, completion of the trip to New Orleans with wife Penny, will begin after a week's rest.

"I wasn't in this for publicity. I wanted to experience the fun

and the challenge of the whole thing," Bill said. He met with newsmen only twice during the 2,250-mile journey and reported that he felt a little "lonely" when a friend dropped him and the canoe off at Three Forks.

Bill, who learned about river canoeing real fast on this trip, speaks with reverence about the "virgin river" above Sioux City, Ia. "There are some beautiful white rock formations in the Montana back country that you just can't see by car," he said.

The retired penitentiary officer also encountered wildlife not normally seen by most travelers.

After 10 to 12 hours of paddling each day, Bill would make camp on the hard river bank. One morning he awoke to find five deer staring at him in his sleeping bag. Slowly, Bill reached for his camera and snapped a picture. The click of the shutter sent the deer scampering back into the wilderness.

At one point he was about 50 miles from the Canadian border

and encountered hundreds of Arctic terns on a river sand bar. Bill also reported sightings of Canadian geese and some pelicans.

Bill averaged about 30 miles an hour on lakes of the river and could reach 50 to 60 miles an hour with the current and a tail wind.

He and his canoe, Sacagawea, named after the Shoshone Indian woman who accompanied Lewis and Clark on their exploration into Montana, encountered some other Bicentennial river travelers during the nine-week voyage. Bill said he passed both the flatboat and keelboat expeditions during the trip.

He ran into a hailstorm and 10 to 15 foot waves near Fort Peck, Mont., but laid on the bottom of the canoe and maneuvered it through the rough water.

On the Fourth of July, Bill repaid a debt by rescuing four men from a swamped motor boat in North Dakota. Bill said once he was rescued from the river and this time it was his turn to be the rescuer.

Bill seldom stopped at towns along the river and when he did it was either to replenish his supplies or to call home and let his wife know he was all right. His last grocery supply stop was in South Dakota.

Last week, he encountered fragments of the thunderstorm which ripped through Atchison near Rulo, Neb. Again, he was able to maneuver safely through the water without losing any of his belongings.

Bill reports he had choice eating all the way. After catching and eating some trout in Montana, his choice was either sardines in mustard or sardines in oil. Occasionally he would boil some water and drop in a bullion cube to make soup to go with his sardine dinner.

The 51-year-old McCullough paddled down to a friend's cabin near Kickapoo Friday and then landed at Riverfront Park in Leavenworth Saturday morning where he received a hero's welcome from friends and relatives.

Cummings R.R.

Mable Moore

Miss Coleen Erpelding entertained the FHA girls of ACCHS with a picnic at her place on Sutter Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Sanders spent a few days in New Mexico, Mexico, California and Las Vegas, Nev.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Lane, Winchester, visited their grandparents while their parents attended the horse races at Omaha.

Miss Coleen Erpelding visited Miss Nina Kanning, Topeka, and attended the Margaret Staib-Marlin Johanning wedding.

The Pardee cemetery association held its annual meeting at the Farmington Christian church. Ralph Sanders was elected president. John Thorne, secretary-treasurer, and Gilbert Kelms, Gladys Butler and Alva

ROAD REVIVAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — Time and usage take their toll on roads, just like people. But unlike humans, roads can be renewed indefinitely.

Based on an average life expectancy of 22 years for new pavement, one-fourth of the nation's 3.8 million miles of roads have reached "middle age" and need rejuvenation, says The Road Information Program (TRIP).

These 938,365 miles are 15 years old or more and should be resurfaced to insure longevity and safe, smooth driving. Failure to resurface means they will eventually have to be completely rebuilt at 4½ times the cost of repavings, says TRIP.

FLYING HIGH

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (AP) — Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Follweller got "high" again for their anniversary.

They managed to attain a six-mile altitude on a jet on the way to Las Vegas for the celebration