

HITCH-HIKING OF AN ILLINI STAR THROUGH THE SOUTHWEST IN RECORD TIME

Travels 3,300 Miles in 11 Days, Covering 10 States; Believed to Be a Record; Visits Many Universities, and Is Given Exceptional Assistance by Traveling Salesmen

BY DAVE PINTAR, VICE PRES., NO. 211, SSCU

Chicago, Ill.—A few of my brother members of the Illini Stars Lodge, No. 211, SSCU, asked me to send a little story about my vacation to the New Era.

I started from Chicago and, although vacation excursions were at a low price, I planned a trip which I thought would be more adventurous. My mode of travel was a very popular way, and that is hitch-hiking on the highways. I planned on visiting SSCU lodges in the towns and cities on my route, but I made such good time the first few days that before I reached a locality where there were English-conducted lodges, I had changed my original plans and planned to complete my trip in the least possible time. I wanted to set a record for others to equal or beat. The Post-Gatty flyers were my idols at that time and I was trying to do some speedy ground covering in a different way.

I left Chicago July 1, at 10 a. m., and arrived in St. Louis that evening at 8 p. m. The second day was one of my longest hops, for at 7:30 p. m. I reached Miami, Okla. The third day was a slow one, for I got only as far as Stillwater, Okla. For the first time since leaving Chicago I got off Route 66. I took Route 1 to Drumright, then Route 33 to Perkins, and then 40 to Stillwater. I went 35 miles out of my route to see Oklahoma A. and M. College, which is in Stillwater.

On the fourth day I took Route 40 back to Perkins, then 33 to Guthrie, and Route 4 to Edmond, where I was again back on Route 66, and then continued to Texola, Okla., which was only three miles from the Texas state line. Fifth day I passed through the Texas panhandle and continued on into Santa Fe, N. M., where I stopped over night.

The sixth day I took Route 485 to Raton, Mexico, and then 85, which took me over Raton Pass, one of the highest through highways in America. I stopped one hour to view Pikes Peak and one hour in Walsenburg at the home of Mr. Tomsich, a brother of the SSCU, where I was treated cordially. I arrived in Denver, Colo., that evening at 8 o'clock.

I covered poor ground on the seventh day. I left Denver on Route 285, took a side trip to Boulder, and while there I took a trip around the University of Colorado grounds. At 4 p. m. I reached Cheyenne, Wyo., the state capital, and then took Route 85 to Greeley, Colo., where I spent the rest of the evening.

The eighth day I left Greeley on Route 38 to Holyoke, where I branched off on Route 51 to be able to see some of the best grazing land in the West. At Wray, Colo., I took Route 3 to McCook, Neb., where I was again back on Route 38. I spent the evening there. The ninth day was a good one, for I arrived in Lincoln, Neb., at 7 p. m. The capitol building at Lincoln is the most beautiful and costliest in this country. Another sight which I enjoyed was the neat array of the clean buildings forming the University of Nebraska. I enjoyed my evening at the Capitol Beach Pavilion.

On the tenth day I continued on Route 38 through Omaha, a very busy city, where I visited Creighton University. At Red Oak, Ia., which prints more calendars than any other city in the United States, I branched off on Route 71, which took me into St. Joseph, Mo. From there I took Route 1 to Kansas City, Kas. I took a half-hour tour, and then took Route 40 to Columbia, Mo., where I spent the evening. I enjoyed the evening with a trip through the University of Missouri grounds.

On the eleventh day I arrived in St. Louis at 3 p. m., crossed the Missouri River and was back in my home state. I took Route 66 to Springfield, Ill., where I concluded my trip July 11, 1931.

The trip was very interesting and I had good luck in getting lifts. Salesmen were the most generous. One salesman picked me up at Pueblo, Colo., took me to Denver, where we stopped over night and next morning

continued to Cheyenne, Wyo. En route we stopped four hours at Boulder, where he attended his business. Another salesman picked me up at Clarinda, Ia., and took me all the way to St. Louis. En route he stopped to attend business at Kansas City and we stopped over night at Columbia. He insisted on paying for my meals and hotel bills while I was with him and he asked me to drive, which I did.

Some of the sights I enjoyed most were the Cushing oil field near Tulsa, Okla., a 20,000-acre wheat field in one lot in the Texas panhandle and the Rocky Mountains in general. I found the poorest roads in Nebraska, where at times the gravel was 10 inches thick and low gear was necessary to pull through it.

In Walsenburg, Colo., I was picked up by two gentlemen who were well acquainted with the Young American Boosters, No. 216, SSCU, and spoke highly of all the members. I covered 3,300 miles in 11 days on the road, which I believe is a good average. I have pennants from all the larger cities and many souvenirs. It is great fun and sport, and I hope some brother members try it next summer.

GREAT AMERICAN NOVELS

The English novelist, John Galsworthy, tells us the great American novels are "Tom Sawyer" and "Huckleberry Finn," by Mark Twain; "The Scarlet Letter," by Nathaniel Hawthorne, and "McTeague," by Frank Norris. Perhaps Mr. Galsworthy never read "Thelma," "East Lynne" or "Three Weeks."

A FALLACY

One of the common human fallacies is the belief that we learn by experience. We don't—very much. Theoretically, we do, but actually we do not. We are always taking a chance, in the face of experience. That's not a bad tendency of the human being. That's the method of great discovery.

Number of Languages

No exact figures can be given on the number of languages because no authority would agree on just what constitutes a language. It is estimated, however, that there are about 5,000 distinct languages and separate dialects spoken in the world. English is more widely spoken than any other language. German comes second, Russian third and French fourth.

IN INSTALLMENTS

Young man: How much do I pay for a marriage license?
Clerk: Five dollars down and your entire salary each week for the rest of your life.

Newest Theater

New Yorkers have a new theater—almost. This one, a legitimate, the Earl Carroll, at Seventh Ave. and 50th St., seats 3,000 and has almost as many innovations. To begin with, the box office is a long counter presided over by eight trusty treasurers, each equipped with the gift of gab, an ingratiating smile and a chart of the house.

The orchestra floor is completely enclosed with metal doors at the entrance of each aisle. There will be no standing room. The ceiling is stainless steel and the walls are covered with black velvet slashed by perpendiculars of glass and steel.

The entire decorative treatment is modernistic, black, silver and straight lines, illuminated by indirect lights from four separate systems, making possible flooding of the theater in red, white, blue and green or any color combination from screaming scarlet to modest violet.

The backstage switchboard has been switched to the orchestra pit, where the "light conductor," in evening attire, will manipulate the mazdas in full view of the customers.

The orchestra pit has three moving platforms, permitting three bands to be interchanged without interrupting the music. Downstairs there is a continental cafe, and the stage door will be manned by women, equipped with uniforms, phones, desks and everything.

TICK PARALYSIS

The Public Health Service is investigating a new disease tick paralysis, a strange malady affecting men, sheep, dogs and foxes. It is caused by an animal tick known to science as "dermacentor andersoni." As explained by the Health Service, this tick, which is also responsible for Rocky Mountain spotted fever and Colorado tick fever, attaches itself to its victims, sucks their blood and discharges its venomous poison into them. The paralysis first affects the feet, then the hands and arms, the throat and tongue, and rapidly spreads until the heat or respiratory system is hit. It may cause death in from three to five days. But the queer malady may be stopped and recovery assured by simply removing the tick, the source of the poison. The paralysis will then disappear in a few days. For that reason deaths only occurs in animals and young children.

Immorality

Immorality may seduce the young and lead them astray, and some apology may be offered for it; but it is revolting to see it confederated with the crafty experience and canting hypocrisy of the old, when they have lost all love of virtue and all sense of shame.—Acton.

REASONING

Whatever else may be said of it, prohibition has led to some peculiar reasoning. For three or four generations we were told that whisky was a stimulant because it contained 50 per cent alcohol. Now comes Dr. Shumaker, suggesting that unless alcohol is contained in whisky, or stuff called whisky, it is not a stimulant.

Judge Knott: Were you ever in trouble before?
Defendant: Yes, your honor this woman sued me for breach of promise long before we were married.

Judge Knott: I thought I recognized her knees.

CIGARETS

According to the figures of the Internal Revenue Bureau, 119,944,000,000 cigarettes were consumed in the United States in 1930. During the same year 6,730,000,000 cigars were consumed.

BEEES WORK THEMSELVES TO DEATH

The Many Varieties of Honey Bees Keep Apiculturists Busy Learning Their Peculiarities and Odd Ways of Living

There is no unemployment problem among the bees. These energetic insects literally work themselves to death. The worker, at birth, is charged with a certain amount of energy and each day of its life as an adult it becomes weaker. Finally it has "burned up" all its pep and dies—usually in from four to six weeks.

And, let it be known, at the outset, the workers are females!

The average worker weighs 80 milligrams and, in her heyday, is able to carry a burden equal to one-half her weight. She flies as far as eight miles in search of raw materials for honey. Those stung by the statistical bee have figured that a pound of honey represents nearly 300,000 miles of flight. A honey bee can do 25 miles an hour "loaded," but obeys traffic regulations by usually doing 15. Even then she often rests en route. In the hive those that disobey set traffic regulations are promptly killed.

Contrary to a popular idea, honey is not nectar that has partially been digested by bees; it is flower sweetness mixed with saliva. The length of a bee's tongue (which is really a tube to suck the juice of the flowers) determines from what blossoms it shall sip. Only the bumblebee can reach the nectar of the red clover and carry the pollen to fertilize that important plant.

Mrs. Bee visits only one type of field each trip. But she returns with two things—not only sweet juices but pollen dust which adheres to the stiff hairs of her legs and body. Close inspection shows bees returning from work covered with red, yellow or other colored dust each to her particular field. She scrapes the latter off with the little combs provided on her feet and rolls this into compact balls which she stuffs into little cups conveniently provided at the leg joints.

Another bee is called the "spoke-shaver." It burrows into the softest parts of dead or dying trees, making a long tunnel about a quarter of an inch in diameter. It lines this burrow with fine down from the stems of various plants. It alights on some plant with a woolly stalk, then opens its jaws and lays them on the stem. Next it runs quickly up the stalk, shaving off a long down-covered strip, which curls up like a shaving. The mason bee

makes its holes in old walls; you will hardly find a wall containing crevices that has not a colony of these little yellow insects, who may be seen busily popping in and out of their tunnels.

The carpenter bee, black in color with purplish wings, drills into sound wood. When she has made a tunnel several inches in length she lays an egg and places a supply of food beside it. Then she chews into tiny fragments some of the chips she has made whilst burrowing, and makes a hard cement. With this she builds a partition across the tube, completely walling in the egg. Another egg and another partition follow until the tube is filled. Then she seals it up. The upper cells all produce male bees, which come to maturity at the same time. The occupants of the lower cells are not ready to emerge until 10 days later, for they are females, which take longer to develop.

Bees are excellent weather prophets and usually mass back to the hive several hours before the rain or wind storm breaks. They do not observe regular hours, but, on bright, warm days leave the hive as early as 4 a. m. and continue their nectar flights until 7 or 8 in the evening.

The smallest honey bees in the world are in India and the East Indian islands. Their honeycombs are no larger than a child's hand, and their cells no larger than a small pinhead.

The sting of the queen honeybee differs considerably from that of the worker in that it is longer, is curved and sheathed, and has fewer as well as shorter barbs on the lancets. It is also more firmly attached in the sting chamber than is the sting of the worker, which is easily torn from the worker's body once the sting penetrates an object beyond the barbs which extend backward like the barb of a fish hook. The queen honeybee seldom uses her sting except to kill rival queens in her colony. The workers do the most stinging; the drones are stingless.

There are certain bees in the Canal Zone which bite but do not sting. They produce fine grades of honey, from which with a fine flavor to some is acid and actually poisonous. Other bees in that zone neither bite nor sting, but their fluid which burns the skin.—Pathfinder.

UNPOPULARITY

Most of us fear to take an unpopular cause because we do not want grief of being understood, condemned, apparently proved wrong, no real leader ever thought acted in terms of one opinion. He was possessed the idea that ultimately cause would win, that he would be found to be right. He was large enough not to be for fear he couldn't be a spot when a newly enlightened public opinion declared right.

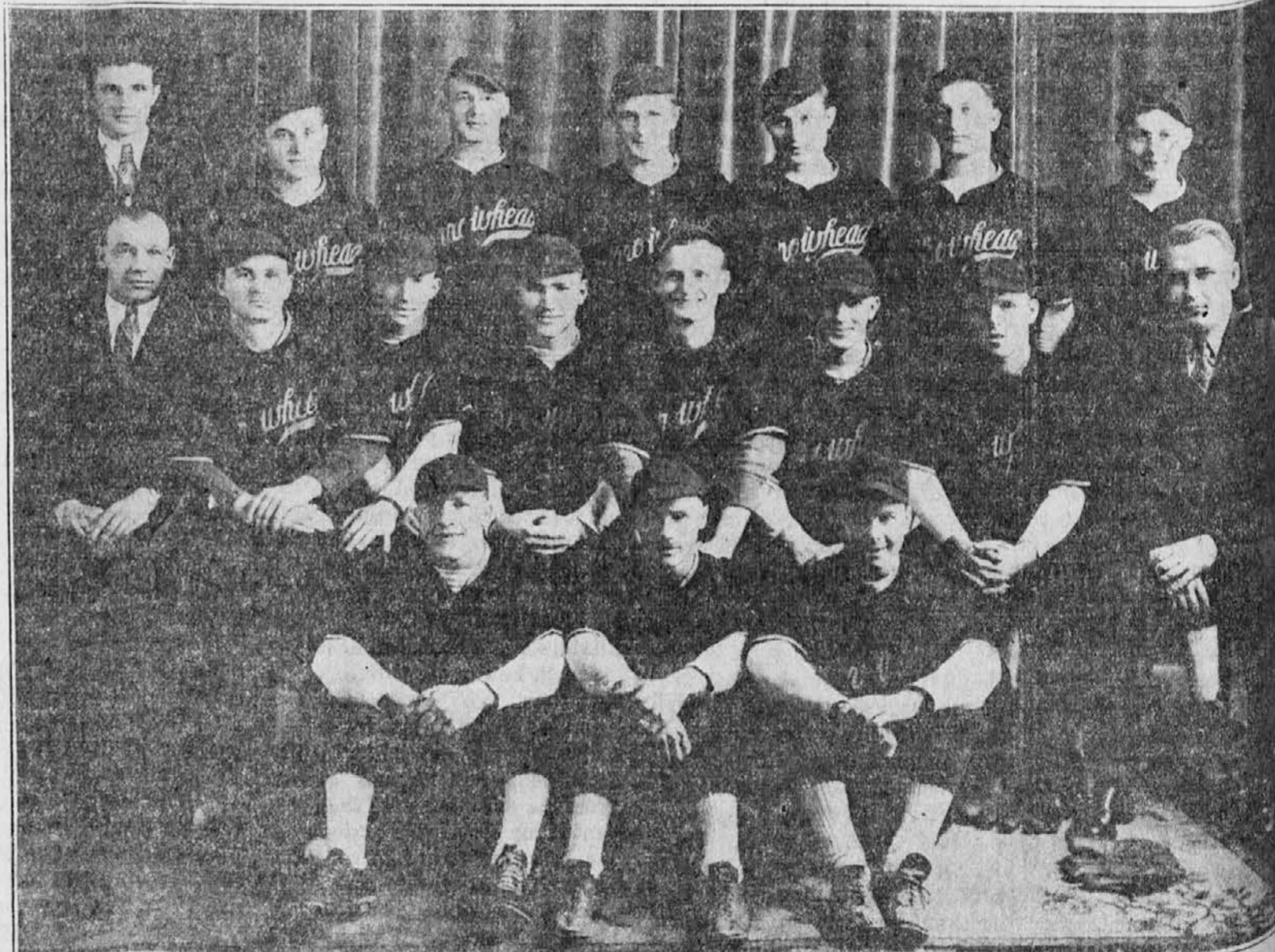
NOT COMPLICATED

We make human affairs much more complicated than they really are by forcing between two points is a straight line. Lying is complicated. Truth telling is simple. By lying ourselves and our honest reasons for our actions can go through difficult paths by a simple road. Deception and confusion make many things that ought to be easy.

AIR TRAVELERS

More than 417,500 passengers were carried on American lines during 1930, or more than twice as many as in 1929. The Department of Commerce reports the aeronautics industry. The miles flown in 1930 were 36,945,203, a 10,000 per cent increase over 1929. The number of passengers carried was 8,324,255, an increase of 2,800,000 over 1929. Both substantial increases. This form of transportation is now well established and likely to double itself this year.

ELY ARROWHEAD LODGE, NO. 184, SSCU, MINNESOTA STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONS



First row, left to right: John Deyak, Joe Bubash, Garfield Nickolas. Second row, left to right: Joe Koschak, Matt Ballas, Louis Zgone, Fred Banks, Rudolph Krall, John Kovach, Bert Maddern, Martin Grahek, assistant manager. Third row, left to right: John Strukel, business manager, Charles Merhar, John Grahek, John Sayovitz, Joe Krall, Joe Rozman, Martin Krall.

Ely, Minn.—Although this is the first season the Arrowhead Lodge, No. 184, SSCU, organized a baseball team, the members can be exceedingly proud of the team's accomplishments. Two titles are credited them, one the Minnesota SSCU state champions, and the other the Vermillion Range crown. Ten games were won by the Arrowheads out of twelve played. The two defeats were handed them by the strong Falls team. However, it is their stern purpose to avenge the two defeats.

Joe Koschak is the manager, and also the president of Arrowhead Lodge. Joe has done exceedingly well with his team, and his keen judgment has turned more than one victory. We sincerely hope that he will be there next year. Since the playoff for the national SSCU baseball championship will not take place this year, we will put our appearance for the basketball title.

John Strukel

