

7 /23 -

### Soo Line Now Operates Rib Lake Branch Line

Beginning May 1, a Soo Line engine began hauling trains on the Rib Lake branch between Chelsea and Rib Lake. The train crews will also be Soo Line men. Carl Schoch of Meford has been given the position of engineer on the line and other crew appointments will be made later. Ever since the Rib Lake branch was built about 46 years ago, the mill company at Rib Lake furnished the crew and engine on this branch. In the early days only the conductor was a railroad man, in the employ of the old Wisconsin Central railroad.

For a long time the lumber company has desired to have their locomotive released from this service and when the agreement with the Soo Line expired May 1 they withdrew their engine and the Soo put on a crew and engine.

The lumber company engine is now doing switching and hauling for the company exclusively and Frank Hayward, Rib Lake, who has been engineer on the Rib Lake Branch for many years is now devoting all of his time to the lumber company work. The other engine formerly used for switching by the company has been sent east to be used by their interests there.

### Fire Fighting Apparatus Unique

Perhaps the most unique and efficient fire-fighting apparatus in the state is owned by the Rib Lake Lumber company for fire protection along its right of ways. The unit consists of six tank cars of 8,000 gallons capacity. These cars are equipped with hose and high pressure injectors that will throw water from the tank with sufficient force to quite a distance into the timber standing along right of ways. These injectors are reversible so as to enable them to take up water from lakes or streams. These cars are always filled with water in readiness and are stationed at strategic points. Each locomotive of the company is also equipped with hose and pressure injectors to use the water of the engine tanks.

It has been reported that three black bear cubs were seen in one of the lumber camps near Rib Lake. This is very unusual since the black bear is almost extinct in this section of the country. Black bears are not protected much in this state by conservation laws.

The Rib Lake Lumber company shipped one of its switch engines to Pennsylvania last week, there being no further use for it here since the Soo line has taken over the Rib Lake branch line. The engine was piloted by Dan Powell who will come back when it is delivered. The switch engine was attached to the through freight to Pennsylvania.

- Will. Graap who was helping tear down camp for his brother, Paul Graap, who logged for the Rib Lake Lumber Co. last winter, shot a large black bear near Co. M near Rib Lake last week.

7/25 - Wanted: Men to cut, skid, and load pulpwood. L.P. Lamberty, Rib Lake

7/25 -

### Rib Lake Lumber Company Builds New Planing Mill

Work has been started on a new planing mill for the Rib Lake Lumber company for surfacing and resawing green hemlock lumber. The foundation, which is 32x80 feet, was begun last week. The building will be located on the north side of the tramway and west of the sorting shed in the yards. Concrete piers for the foundation were put in about two years ago but the proposition was postponed. The building will now be completed and put into use

this year. H. P. Welch, production manager of the Central Pennsylvania Lumber company, is in Rib Lake supervising the construction. The new building will house a high speed machine and a resaw which will require from three to five men each to operate. Only the lower grades of hemlock, suitable for box lumber, will be handled in the new planing building.

8/22 -

### Rib Lake Lumber Company Is Building Dry Kiln

As part of a program of improvements at the plant of the Rib Lake Lumber company, plans are being drawn for a dry kiln to be erected here as soon as possible. Work began this week.

The kiln will be built of concrete, tile and brick, will be 31x60 feet, and will contain three separate rooms to be used for drying the better grades of hardwoods. The office of the mill superintendent, Mr. Brush, has been moved to make room for the new kiln, and a track is being laid from the yards to the spot. It is estimated that the kiln will handle about 1,500,000 feet of hardwood lumber every 12 months. If the weather and building conditions are favorable the kiln may be in operation in eight or nine weeks.

9/5 - The new planing mill of the Rib Lake Lumber Co. is nearing completion. A carload of machinery for the plant arrived last week and another is expected

10/29 - (Interwald) Roy & Albert Poppe are working at Jim Peterson's camp.