Spring rains are rapidly erasing the signs of the winter just past, in order to make room for a fresh new season to move in. This is that short interim period between winter and spring when we have to put up with muddy roads and soggy fields. This, of course, is a small sacrifice for the beauty of a new born spring.

WEATHER: The weather for the month of March as recorded by Fire Officer Bill Wagner.

Total snow fall 4 inches.
Total precipitation 1.23 inches.
High temperature of 47 degrees on the 19th.
Average high temperature 33.4 degrees.
Low temperature 0 on the 7th and 13th.
Average low temperature 18.2 degrees.
5 p.m. high temperature 42 degrees on the 19th.
5 p.m. low temperature of 10 degrees on the 10th.
5 p.m. average temperature 23 degrees.
Rain or snow fell on 8 days.
Fog occurred on 4 days.

GAME NEWS: Of primary concern this year is the apparent loss of many of the Island's turkeys. Even with the extensive coverage of the Island this winter, only 26 can be accounted for. At least some suspicion is confirmed that Coyotes are partially to blame. Karl Kuebler came across the remains of one that had obviously met its fate in the jaws of a Coyote.

At this writing, the only season to report on is Beaver trapping. This year there are only two trappers, Rogers Carlisle and Karl Kuebler. This is but a two week season, ending after the first week in April. The season was moderately successful with nine Beaver taken.

NO DOGS: With one exception, April 15 again marks the last day until July 15th when dogs may be trained afield in Michigan on Game birds and animals. The exception to this rule allows dog owners to use their animals on Fox chases both day and night through out the year. In all other cases, dog training will be taboo from April 16th to July 15th to protect ground nesting wildlife and their young.
SUNDEW OPENS HARBOR: On Saturday, April 5th, the Coast Guard Icebreaker, Sundew, broke out the ice to the ferry dock. Its primary mission, however, was to supplement the Island's shortage of fuel oil. Although the ice in the Lake has been practically non-existent all winter, the ice in the Harbor has been rather reluctant to melt. The Sundew had about 18 inches of solid ice to bust through.

BEAVER ISLANDER RUNS: The Beaver Islander's crew flew off to Charlevoix the first of the month to ready the boat for another season. Mechanics completed checking the engines over and a short test run was made. Only one problem existed and that came about with the discovery that one of its Rudders was missing. It's possible this happened on its rough final crossing last fall. A replacement rudder has been installed, so all is well once more.

EARLY LAUNCHINGS: A sure sign of spring is when boats begin to appear in the water again. Ralph Merrill has returned again along with Gene Burke and Marcus Martin, to maintain the Department of Natural Resources camps on Garden and High Islands. Their boat, the "Bird Dog" has been painted and launched. A trip to High Island was scheduled for the following day but an east wind during the night trapped the boat in pack ice at the dock.

This past week another boat appeared in the Harbor. This, a 36 foot steel fish boat, purchased by Donald Cole, which will be used to expand his commercial fishing business.

EGG HUNT: The Beaver Island Christian Church held its second Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Sunday. Twelve dozen colored eggs were hidden on the Church grounds and a given signal dozens of youngsters scurried in all directions, seeking them out. While this was going on the adults were served coffee and rolls. After the eggs were gathered, an accurate count was taken and it was determined there were still two missing. Even the ones that hid them couldn't find them but a good time was had by all and the whole thing was deemed a success.

OTTER FOUND. A dead Otter was found along the shores near Nomad, by Jeff Howland, son of Ed and Jane Howland. Otters are extremely rare to the Island, and where it came from or what happened to it isn't known.

OBITUARIES: WILLIAM F. WITtenburg, 61, former director of the county audit division of the Michigan Auditor General's Department, died on April 3rd in Ocala, Fla. He had been in state government more than 30 years and division director for more than 25 years when he retired in 1966. After retirement he served briefly on a Senate investigating committee. During the summer he lived on Beaver Island and spent winters in Florida.

A native of Three Oaks, he was born William Gluth, but was adopted in infancy by the Wittenburg family and lived in New Buffalo. He was a graduate of Notre Dame.

Survivors include his wife, Florence; a sister, Alice Wittenburg and a brother, George Gluth.

Services were held April 8th at the Smith Funeral Home, New Buffalo, with burial there.
WARREN ROBERT TOWNSEND, aged 72, of 621 Lawndale Ct., Holland, Michigan passed away April 11th in Holland Hospital, Holland, Michigan.
Mr. Townsend was taken to the Metcalf Mortuary on Sunday, April 13th, where the family received friends. On Monday, Mr. Townsend was return ed to Holland, Mich. where services were held in the Grace Episcopal Church at 11 a.m., Rev. Robert Winter officiating. Interment Greenwood Cemetery, Grand Rapids.
Warren Townsend once owned High Island, where he raised cattle. He sold the Island to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and he and Bea spent the summers at their home near the Lighthouse here on Beaver Island.

MRS. RUTH (RICHARD B.) LYONS, 50, passed away on April 10th at Little Traverse Hospital after an illness of four months. Funeral services were held from the Winchester Funeral Home on Saturday, April 12th. The Rev. Lawrence Tenhopen officiated and interment was in Brookside Cemetery. She had been a patient at the hospital for 13 days. She was born Ruth B. Beckwith December 7, 1918 at Tempe, Arizona. She married Mr. Lyons in 1942 at Lorraine, Ohio. Mrs. Lyons was a former teacher. They have made their home in Charlevoix since 1947. She was a member of the First Congregational Church.
Besides her husband, she is survived by four daughters, Mrs. Bennett (Leslie) Cunningham, of Standish and Susan, Beth and Laurie, all at home; her mother, Mrs. Erma J. Beckwith, of East Jordan; one grandchild a brother, E. Forrest Beckwith, of Pittsburgh, Pa. and one sister, Mrs. Merton Bush, of Huntington, N.Y.

DR. CLYDE A. DICKINSON, of Wayland passed away of a heart attack at his home on February 10th. He was 66 years old. Surviving are his wife, Margaret, three sons, Edward of Houston, Texas, Johns of Dearborn and Dennis of East Lansing, one daughter, Mrs. Herbert (Emily) Roberts, of Washington, D.C., four grandchildren, two sisters, Miss Cassie Dickinson and Mrs. John Darling, both of Fremont.
Dr. Dickinson graduated from the University of Illinois Medical School in 1933 and served his internship at Blodgett Hospital, Grand Rapids. He started practicing in Wayland in 1935 and retired in 1968. At the time of his death he was the Director of the Allegan County Health Department. He was a charter member and past president of the Allegan County Medical Society, member of the Michigan Health Officers Association and served as Allegan County Medical Examiner for 33 years. He also was a charter member and past president of the Wayland Rotary Club.
Requiem Mass was offered Thursday morning, February 13th at eleven o'clock at St. Therese Church with Msgr. Adelbert Radawski officiating. Burial was in Elmwood Cemetery. Rosary was recited Wednesday night at eight o'clock.
Memorial contributions may be made to the Heart Fund at the Archer-Hampel Funeral Home.
MRS EMMA SUSANKA, 86, passed away at the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. Joy Bates, 5306 No. 33rd St., Phoenix, Ariz. Mrs. Susanka was born on Beaver Island in 1893.
She is also survived by two nephews, Owen and Dan Boyle, of Chicago, and a niece, Mrs. Leonard (Sis) Bratlin, also of Chicago.

MONTGOMERY-WARD DAYS: On April 14th the Montgomery Ward Store from Petoskey again sent representatives to the Island for a two day sale and dinner for the Islanders.
This year Chop Suey was served with salad, rolls and cake finishing off the menu.
88 people were served with the proceeds going to the Women's Circle of the Beaver Island Christian Church.

BIRTHS: Mr. and Mrs. Edward Miecher of Fenton Michigan announce the birth of a daughter, Heidi Victoria, on March 3rd. Heidi was born at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak and weighed in at 6 lbs. 5 oz.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Ruston, 1732 Paris St., Apt. 3, Aurora, Colorado announce the birth of a daughter, Kimberely Marie. She was born on March 31st and weighed in at 6 lbs. 8 oz. The very happy and proud great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nackerman.

Dale and Nancy Cull of 1904 Woodbridge, Bay City, Michigan announce the arrival of a son, Raymond Dale, on April 17th. Raymond Dale weighed in at 7 lbs. 7 oz. His proud grandparents are Ray and Claire Cull, his happy great-grandmother is Mrs. Mable Cull and his great aunt is Mrs. Grace Cole.

FLU FLOORS ISLANDERS: The past month a little virus bug has visited almost every home on Beaver Island.
Last week our Health Officer, Dr. Joseph Christie, closed the school from Wednesday, April 16th until Monday, April 21st.
Everyone is fine now and all set for the coming season to begin full of penicillin and flu shots.

HOSPITAL NOTES: Danny Greene, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Greene of Ludington, has been hospitalized for five weeks after being hit by an automobile.

Mrs. Ray Penwitt, 2821 N. Melbourne Ave, Pomona, Calif. has been ill. She is the former Geneva Skopp.

Father Robert Boyle, of Chicago, is recuperating at home after hospitalization. Father "Bob" is a brother of Mrs. Irene Melville.

Mrs. Billy (Mary Jane) O'Donnell, 15644 Minerva, Dalton, Ill. had recent surgery in Chicago.

Virginia Rountree is a patient at Munson Hospital in Traverse City, Michigan.

DROWNING VICTIM: Mrs. John (Jeanne LaPreniere) Osmolinski sent us word that her brother-in-law, Michael Osmolinski, 33 years old, was drowned in the Grand River near Ada. As yet his body has not been recovered.
GRADUATION: Francis Pike, son of Mr. and Mrs. John David Pike of Montague, Michigan, graduated from Western Michigan University. Francis plans to teach in California.

Nancy Elms, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Elms of Ludington, Michigan recently graduated from Nazareth College.

RETURNING BIRDS: The following people have returned to Beaver Island after spending the winter on the mainland.

Maria Gallagher, Marie and L. Z. Reigle, Kate Connaghan, Lillian and John Gallagher, Pat and Rosie Bonner, Ada Martin and the Witcomb family back on High Island. Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Roy returned to the Island last Monday.

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FOR SALE: 33 ft. twin engine, Richardson Cruiser, fully equipped - radio, fathometer, hot and cold running water, sleeps four with room to spare. This boat is in excellent condition and completely refinished. A real buy at $5,500.00.


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FOR SALE: 16 ft. fiberglass Aluma Craft. This is a new boat with practically no time on the 65 H. P. Mercury on her stern. Fully equipped with an interior like a sports car and a full cover vinyl top, this boat provides comfort with an abundance of speed. This is a buy for a price that would barely buy the engine anywhere else. Price $1,500.00.

FISHERMAN'S DREAM: 15 ft. Fiberglass Starcraft boat with lo-loader trailer. 40 H.P. Johnson Electramatic Outboard with steering and control console. Full cover and like new. $1,500.00 valued at well over $2,000.00.