

## MY MOTHER IN 1923 ~~~ REALLY??

### 'ROAD QUEEN'S IN FAST TRIP WHILE MAN 'HOOFS IT'

*Sunday State Journal, M'Gregor, Iowa, August 1923*

Pretty Girl Hikers Find Traveling Quite Easy and Pass Up Mere Male Trampler

How many miles a day can a hiker make?

If young enterprising, attractive and of the feminine gender - a hundred anyway.

If a mere man, well that's a different story.

On Tuesday last a man left Madison to hike to McGregor, Iowa, to the Wild Life School. Several hours later three young women set forth from the same capital in "knickers," knapsacks on shoulders, with the same objective in view.

They - the young women - arrived the following day. They had covered 104 miles, walked just three of them, and were fresh and chipper as you please.

Two days later the man, footsore and dust covered, put in his appearance. "Can you beat it?" he exclaimed wrathfully, as he sank down with a heavy sigh into a rocker on the Heights Inn porch at McGregor. "Those girls left Madison after I did. Everyone on the road stopped and picked them up. Not a darned person offered me a lift. I don't think I look so tough either."

#### **It's Easy, Girls Say**

"How do you manage?" the girls were asked.

"Oh, when we see a car coming we just look, then they stop and ask us to ride," answered Miss Gladys Borchers, one of the three. "Not a car passed us except one that was a new one which a man was learning to drive. We rode in everything. Even in the back of a \$50 secondhand Ford truck loaded with chickens to a Packard Sedan. Everyone was just fine to us.

"I should say they were," the other two chimed in, and Miss Whitbeck added, "If you ever lose faith in human nature, take our advice and start on a hike and you'll get it all back. People are "Just the nicest things." Why one man even went eight miles out of his way to get us where we wanted to go."

Miss Whitbeck taught at the University of Porto Rico last year and will be on the faculty of Bryn Mahr college next year; Miss Borchers is an instructor in Rockland college; Mrs. Helen Lechtemainer, the other of the trio, taught at Mount Holyoke college before her marriage. All three are University of Wisconsin graduates.

#### **Pick Out Speedy Cars**

They are out to see their state and a bit of Iowa and Minnesota besides. This is their first hiking experience. They didn't expect to get far, as they have only two week vacation. But since their first day's experience, they have decided they may be able to cover a considerable territory in their fortnight. After a day in McGregor at the Wild Life School, they took the early morning ferry for Prairie du Chien. Then set forth for La Crosse by the main road. It's important to choose only main roads they think. From La Crosse, they will go to Minneapolis, thence to Duluth and Superior and down the lake via Milwaukee to Madison.

"Quite a hike for two weeks." It was suggested, as they left Prairie du Chien.

"But not if we make a hundred miles a day, and I shouldn't wonder if we would do better than that. We must today, because we lost 24 hours seeing the beauties of McGregor. No trucks for us this day. Just the speed cars," said Miss Whitbeck.

"If you want to put in more experiences when you write us up, it will be all right. We'll have them," called back Miss Borchers as they swung into step down the road. But just then a car came along and stopped, and as they hopped in, she called back as a parting message, "Somebody ought to coin a word for this kind of hiking."

**Newspapers are a never ending source of stories!**