Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

September 27, 1951

Work has begun by the Wisconsin Michigan Power Company on construction of a new dam on the lower Paint River (T42N/R32W Sec.24) in Mastodon Township. The project includes digging a mile long diversion canal (Little Bull) which will permit transfer of water from the Paint River to the Peavy Backwaters. A 100 kilowatt water wheel and generator will be installed at the dam site.

A frightening storm brought havoc to the Iron County Courthouse clock tower caused by a bolt of lightning at 4:00PM heard throughout the City of Crystal Falls. The strike cut a wide gap in the north section of the tower before streaking to the basement throwing every telephone and electrical unit in the building out of commission. Debris was scattered onto the Sherriff's house as well as the First Lutheran Church parsonage property across Court Street. It was the first time in memory lightning struck the building since May 1911 when the flag pole on top of the structure was destroyed.