

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

May 26, 1960

An average of 25,000 tons of iron ore is shipped to the Escanaba loading docks from the East Iron County mines each week. A crew of less than a dozen men handles the job for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company. Local nerve center for the rail traffic is the Northwestern depot located at the foot of Crystal Avenue which was constructed in 1882. When at total of 100 cars are on hand which constitutes a normal haul, three diesel engines are coupled to haul the 88 to 99 ton cars for the 90 mile trip to Escanaba. About half of the ore hauled comes from the Bristol Mine with the other half from the Tobin Mine. Permanent members of the local depot crew include Sigard Martinson (brakeman /17yrs), Bill Ahola (switchman/13yrs), Eugene Stacy (car inspector /13yrs) and Edmund "Cuda" Stacy (Engineer /48yrs).