There Is Nothing Small
About Wisconsin
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THE area of Wisconsin is 56,066 square miles. This
is greater than the area of England, or Cuba, or Czechoslovakia. Wisconsin is larger, too, than New York, less
than a fourth the area of Texas, and a little over half
as large as Colorado.

Of this area of 56,066 square miles a large part
was covered by the great glacier that, thousands of years
ago, spread over the northern part of North America.
But in the southwestern part of the state there is an area
of 10,000 square miles that was not glaciated and is known
as the Driftless Area. This is the most rugged part of
the state.

In Crawford, Vernon, and La Crosse counties the hills
rise 400 to 500 feet above the bottoms of the valleys.
In Juneau, and the eastern part of Jackson county the
land is very flat and sandy, so the Driftless Area has
not only the most hilly but also the flattest areas in
the state.

Eastern Wisconsin was much like the western part of
the state before the glacial period but the great glacier
lowered the tops of the hills and filled up the valleys
until the present topography can be described as a gentle
undulating landscape with only occasional morainic hills
and steep ridge faces to alter the general condition.
In many of the low areas the land is covered by lakes,
ponds or swamps, which are generally absent in the Drift-
less Area.

Once Had Mountains

The northern part of the state is really a remnant
of a once mountainous area. Long periods of erosion wore
the mountains down almost to a plain - a peneplain.
Here and there are hills that rise above the plain such as Rib Hill, Flambeau Ridge, Mt. McCaslin, Penokee Range and others. These are merely remnants of the former mountains. Nearly all of this area has been glaciated and an irregular veneer of glacial drift was spread over this old peneplain. In this drift are many depressions that are now filled with water making the numerous lakes of the northern part of the state.

This, then, is the foundation upon which has been, and will be, built the prosperity of Wisconsin - past, present, and future. Within the boundaries of the state have been, and are to be bound, the resources which Wisconsin people have used in supplying themselves with an abundance of the necessities, the comforts, the conveniences, and very many of the luxuries of life. Here a people, made up of representatives of many nations, is working out its own destiny and contributing liberally to the building of western civilization.

Wisconsin Country Weeklies

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  - South
  - West