

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

November 19, 1959

John "Skippy" Anesi is a member of the elite United States Coast Guard four-man crew stationed at Stannard Rock 45 miles off shore from Marquette in Lake Superior. Anesi, a 1957 graduate of Crystal Falls High School, has been stationed as a tower-keeper at the "Rock" since March. Often called the "loneliest place in America", the 110' lighthouse tower with its 140 thousand candlepower light began construction in 1877 and became operational in 1892, marks a narrow 1,800' long reef, the entire surface of which is under water except at a point near its southern extremity.

Nestor Hill of Mansfield Township is a patient at the Crystal Falls Municipal Hospital following an accident at Florence, Wisconsin. Hill was drilling a well for Ken's Motor Sales in Florence and while attempting to grease the drill rig his right hand became caught in the gears resulting severely injuring his right hand. His thumb and first three fingers of the hand were lost and the hand, though badly mangled, was saved.



**STANNARD ROCK**, located 30 miles off the tip of the Keweenaw peninsula and 45 miles out in Lake Superior from Marquette, has been labeled "the loneliest place in America." It is a storm lashed guidepost to the lake-going vessels, a lighthouse rising 110 feet from a small mound of rock, only visible evidence of a long shallow reef that proved the end of many worthy ships before the light was first turned on in 1892. A Crystal Falls coastguardsman, John "Skippy" Anesi has been a member of a four-man staff at the outpost since early spring. (See story)