

# Lester Royce

## The story of Lester Royce, William Durant and a very special Fly Rod

*courtesy of Mary Munn & Deanna Rowland*

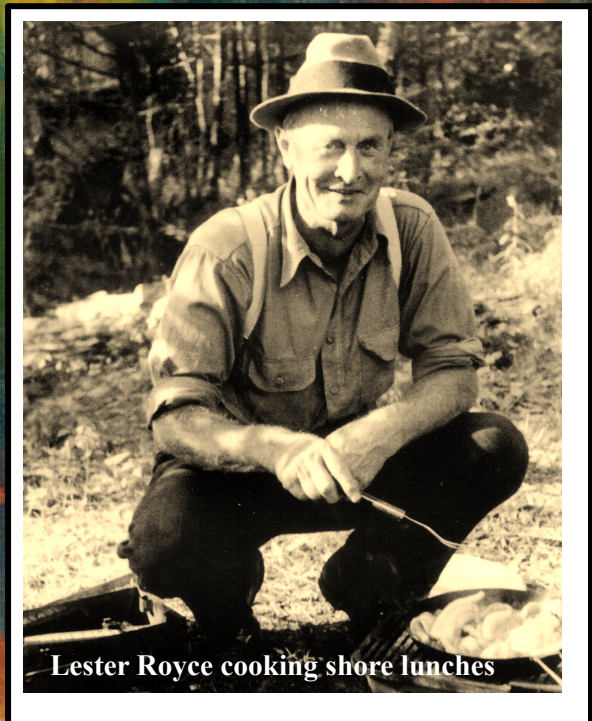
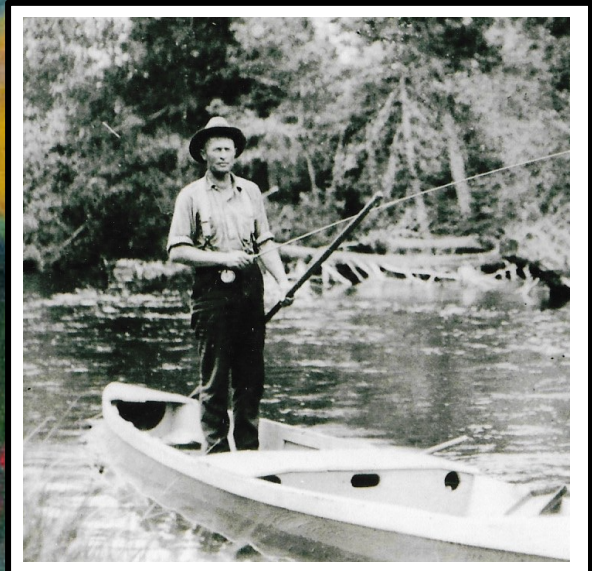
"Lester Royce was a close friend of my uncle, 'Dobie Munn', and a premier guide on the AuSable River. Many sought Lester's guidance, including Mr. [William] Durant, the man who founded General Motors. In fact, Mr. Durant would only fish on the AuSable with Lester Royce. Whenever Lester and Mr. Durant went fishing, they always stopped somewhere on the riverbank for lunch.

Lester was known for his stream side lunches and always wore the same hat.

On one of these occasions, Mr. Durant asked Lester to describe the perfect fly rod, and asked him to include such things as the weight, the length, the number of eyelets, the size of the handle, the types of materials for the various components, etc. So Lester told Mr. Durant what his dream fly rod would be like.

About six weeks later, Lester Royce and Mr. Durant were having lunch on the river bank, and Mr. Durant presented Lester with his 'dream pole', which Mr. Durant had crafted by Abercrombie & Fitch.

Years later, when Lester could no longer fish, he gave the rod to my uncle, Dobie. My uncle told this story and gave the rod to his daughter, my cousin, Mary Munn. My uncle, Dobie Munn, passed away at 102 years old (June 2007)."



Lester Royce cooking shore lunches

