

PARK VISITORS SET A RECORD

Figure Nears 10 Million,
Wilkins, Big Spring,
Wells High in U.P.

Although falling short of the 10,000,000 mark, Michigan state parks attendance for 1941 set an all-time record of 9,687,314, according to final figures released this week by the parks division of the conservation department.

The previous all-time high was 9,609,443 set in 1937, while last year's attendance was 8,946,453.

The increase was general throughout the state, but Holland gained most—over a quarter of a million more than in the year before. Although Grand Haven's attendance slipped about 160,000, at 1,247,000 it still topped Holland's 1,234,000 for the year. Completion of improvements at Holland largely explains the shift.

Other state parks leading in attendance are Bay City, with 956,000; Cass Lake, 491,000; and Hayes (Wamplers Lake), 369,000.

Fort Wilkins state park led in the upper peninsula, with 159,000, while Palms-Book (Big Spring) had 75,000 and J. W. Wells (Cedar River) had 64,000.

For some unexplained reason, camping permits in state parks failed to keep in step with the attendance increase, dropping to 44,840 from 45,005 the year before. The all-time high of 51,131 was set in 1938.