

2 phone calls

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GUIDE NOTES

BEING AN OUTLINE FOR USE OF
SCOUTERS CONDUCTING PARTIES
OF SCOUTS ON A WILDERNESS
CANOE TRIP.

WRITTEN BY

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REGION TEN CANOE BASE

DIRECTOR

1112 MINN. BLDG.

ST. PAUL

- PREFACE -

WHILE I HAVE WRITTEN THIS MORE OR LESS IN STORY FORM TO HELP MAKE IT A LITTLE MORE INTERESTING, THERE IS MUCH THAT COULD BE ADDED TO MAKE A GOOD STORY OUT OF IT. I HAVE TRIED TO CUT IT DOWN SO THAT EACH PART OF THIS "STORY" WOULD TEACH SOMETHING OF THE WAY OUR CANOE TRIPS ARE RUN, WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE GUIDE AND SWAMPER, AND WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE SCOUTS.

THIS STORY IS NOT TO TEACH THE ART OF CAMPING, CANNING, NATURE STUDY, THE USE OF THE AXE, HOW TO READ A MAP, HOW TO READ A COMPASS, NOR HOW TO APPLY FIRST AID. THERE IS MUCH INFORMATION ON THESE SUBJECTS ELSEWHERE AND PRESENTED IN FAR BETTER FORM THAN COULD BE DONE HERE.

NOR IS THIS STORY TO TEACH ONE TO BE A GUIDE. GUIDES ARE "CAUGHT" NOT "TAUGHT" AS THE SAYING GOES.

HERE IS A SAMPLE OF AN AVERAGE ONE WEEK TRIP EXCEPT PERHAPS IT MIGHT HAVE A FEW MORE "SITUATIONS" WHICH ARE NECESSARILY INCLUDED. ALL NAMES ARE FICTITIOUS BUT THE PLACES ARE REAL.

HOD LUDLOW
CANOE BASE DIRECTOR,
1942.

REGION TEN,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA,
1112 MINNESOTA BLDG.,
ST. PAUL, MINN.

READY FOR THE NEW ARRIVALS

IT IS SUNDAY, JULY 12TH, ABOUT 1:00 P.M. THE NOON MEAL IS OVER WITH AND THE DISHES HAVE BEEN CLEANED UP, THE BUILDING SWEEPED OUT AND THE GROUNDS OUTSIDE PICKED UP AND PUT IN ORDER.

SCOUTS ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE ANYWHERE FROM 2:00 O'CLOCK ON AND EVERYTHING IS SET FOR THEM. IN FACT, EVERYTHING IS SET FOR THE TRIP WHICH WILL START TOMORROW MORNING.

AT CAMP THERE IS THE DIRECTOR, MAC MC DONALD, FIVE GUIDES, OLE, JACK, "DOC" WILLIAMS, AND AVERY. FIVE "SWAMPERS" WHO ARE REALLY ASSISTANT GUIDES OR APPRENTICE GUIDES, ZOWY, SY, SAM, LEFTY, AND GEORGE. ALL OF THEM ALREADY HARDENED UP AND TANNED FROM TRIPS OF THE WEEKS GONE BY.

ALL OF THE GUIDES HAVE HAD THEIR ASSIGNMENTS AS TO WHO AND HOW MANY THEY WERE GOING OUT WITH FOR THE COMING WEEK AND ALL OF THEM HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH MAKE THINGS RUN SMOOTH UPON THE ARRIVAL OF THE SCOUTS. WILLIAMS IS ON HAND TO MEET EVERY NEW ARRIVAL, SHOW THEM PARKING SPACE, WHERE THEIR LUGGAGE IS TO GO, WHERE THEY WILL SLEEP FOR THE NIGHT, AND HAS THEM REPORT TO THE OFFICE. OLE, DOC, AND THE OTHERS ALL HAVE THEIR RESPECTIVE PARTS TO PAY ALSO BUT BEFORE ANYONE COMES LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE EQUIPMENT SET FOR THE TRIP.

THE CANOES HAVE ALL BEEN CHECKED OVER, PERMANENT PATCHES PUT ON WHERE NECESSARY AND DOBBED UP WITH A BIT OF PAINT WHERE NECESSARY. THE YOLKS ARE ALL TIGHTENED DOWN AND ALL SHIPSHAPE. UP IN THE STORE ROOM THE GRUP PACKS ARE ALL PACKED AND ALL LINED UP IN ROWS BY PARTIES, EACH GUIDE HAVING HIS OWN STALL FOR THE PURPOSE.

OLE IS THE OLD TIMER OF THE BUNCH AND SINCE WE ARE GOING TO FOLLOW HIM ON HIS CANOE TRIP, LET'S GO UPSTAIRS TO HIS BUNK AND HAVE A LOOK AT HIS PERSONAL CLOTHING AND HIS PERSONAL PACK FOR THE TRIP.

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PERSONAL CLOTHING AND PERSONAL PACK

THE CLOTHES WHICH OLE INTENDS TO WEAR TOMORROW ARE LAYED OUT ON HIS BUNK. HERE IS A WOOL SHIRT. HE LIKES TO WEAR WOOL SHIRTS ON CANOE TRIPS AND NEVER TAKES A COTTON ONE. WHEN THE WEATHER IS WARM HE TAKES HIS SHIRT OFF. WHEN THE SUN IS REALLY BEATING DOWN AND IT'S REAL HOT HE SLIPS IT ON BUT JUST LETS IT HANG LOOSE WITHOUT BUTTONING IT OR TUCKING IT IN HIS PANTS. THIS PROTECTS HIM FROM THE SUN BETTER THAN ANYTHING ELSE AND STILL DOES NOT FEEL HOT ON HIM AND NEVER GETS WET WITH PRESPARATION. ON COOL DAYS AND EVENINGS THE WOOL SHIRT FEELS GOOD AND SAVES CARRYING A JACKET. IF HE STILL ISN'T WARM ENOUGH HE HAS AN EXTRA WOOL SHIRT WITH HIM WHICH HE CAN PUT ON ALSO. IN RAINY WEATHER HIS SHIRT GETS WET JUST THE SAME AS ANYONE ELSE'S BUT BEING WOOL, HE DOESN'T FEEL WET, HE DOESN'T FEEL THE CHILLY AIR AROUND HIM AS ONE DOES WITH A WET COTTON SHIRT ON.

AT NIGHT AFTER A RAINY DAY A WET WOOL SHIRT ISN'T HALF BAD, HE HARDLY KNOWS IT WAS WET WHILE A WET COTTONG SHIRT AFTER A DAYS' RAIN, WILL, OLE WOULDN'T HAVE ONE.

HERE IS A PAIR OF PANTS - GOOD TOUGH ONES AND A HEFTY BELT ON WHICH IS HIS SHEATH KNIFE. HE KEEPS HIS KNIFE LIKE A RAZOR. IT IS A LIGHT ONE, FAIRLY THIN AND A FLEXIBLE BLADE - NOT ONE OF THOSE THAT ARE GOOD FOR NOTHING EXCEPT TO SPLIT WOOD.

HIS SHOES ARE LOW ONES OF THE MOCCASIN TYPE BUT HAVE A TOUGH SOLE AND HEEL AND ARE WELL OILED AS HE IS IN WATER SO MUCH WITH THEM THAT THEY WOULD GO TO PIECES IN NO TIME IF HE DIDN'T KEEP THEM OILED.

HIS SOCKS ARE SHORT WOOL ATHLETIC SOCKS. A WOOL SOCK IN A WELL OILED SHOE NEVER FEELS COLD AND CLAMMY AS THEY DONT SOAK UP WITH WATER AND UNLESS ONE GETS AROUND TO PUTTING SOME STICKS UNDER THE PACK TO KEEP IT UP OFF THE BOTTOM THE WATER SOAKS IN - INTO WHAT? - NOTHING BUT A PIECE OF CANVAS IN OLE'S CASE.

NEXT IS A SLEEPING BAG ROLLED UP TO THE SIZE OF A FOOTBALL AND WEIGHS BUT FIVE POUNDS AND HAPPENS TO BE AN OFFICIAL SCOUT SLEEPING BAG No. 1332. IT'S A HONEY! HE LIKES THE CHEAPER MODEL No. 1442, ALSO BUT OH, HOW OLE HATES THOSE BIG BULKY ONES THAT ONE CAN'T GET INTO A PACKSACK. YOU CAN GET MOST ANY OF THEM IN A PACK BUT TRY AND GET ANYTHING ELSE IN. THESE ARE OKAY IN THEIR PLACE BUT THAT PLACE IS NOT ON A CANOE TRIP.

OLE ALWAYS USED BLANKETS BEFORE THIS YEAR, TWO SINGLE HUDSON BAY BLANKETS. THEY WORKED SWELL BUT BEING ON TRIPS EVERY WEEK ALL SUMMER OLE THOUGHT HE WOULD LIKE SOMETHING A LITTLE LIGHTER.

ALONG SIDE THE SLEEPING BAG IS A SWEAT SUIT FOR PAJAMAS. THESE ARE PERFECT FOR SLEEPING OUT. IN THE CASE OF USING BLANKETS, THEY ALMOST TAKE THE PLACE OF A BLANKET FOR WARMTH. MOSQUITOES CAN'T BITE THROUGH THIS MATERIAL, THEY WEAR FOR YEARS, AND MANY A TIME THE UPPER PART, THE SWEAT SHIRT, COMES IN HANDY TO WEAR DURING THE DAY. YOU'LL FIND THEY ARE WORTH THE MONEY MANY TIMES OVER.

HERE IS A CHANGE OF UNDERWEAR, AN EXTRA PAIR OF SHORT WOOL SOCKS, A CLOTH SACK CONTAINING A TOWEL, TOOTHBRUSH, SOAP IN A SOAP BOX, AND A RAZOR. HE SHAVES WITH HAND SOAP ON THE TRIPS. IT WORKS FINE WHEN NOTHING ELSE IS TO BE HAD.

THEN COMES THE "DITTY BAG". NOT NECESSARY FOR SCOUTS ON CANOE TRIPS BUT VERY NECESSARY TO OLE.

THEN ON THE VERY TOP OF THE PACK IS A WATERPROOF PONCHO WHICH HE SELDOM USES AS A RAINCOAT BUT HAS IT HANDY TO SPREAD OUT OVER THE PACKS IN HIS CANOE IN CASE OF RAIN. IT'S SOMETIMES USED AS A SAIL IF THE WIND IS RIGHT AND AS HE SLEEPS NEXT TO THE TENT FLAP AT NIGHT, IT COMES IN HANDY TO KEEP THE DRIVING RAIN OFF HIS SLEEPING BAG AND IS THERE IN CASE HE HAS TO GET OUTSIDE IN THE NIGHT RAIN TO TEND TO SOMETHING BUT THAT SELDOM HAPPENS BECAUSE OLE USUALLY HAS THINGS PREPARED FOR RAIN BEFORE HE TURNS IN FOR THE NIGHT. THIS COMPLETES HIS PERSONAL PACK AND IT'S NOT FULL EITHER AND ONLY WEIGHS ABOUT 20 POUNDS.

THE "DITTY BAG"

IT USED TO BE A CLOTH BAG BUT NOW OLE HAS A SMALL ZIPPER BAG. IT'S A JUNKY LOOKING OUTFIT BUT SURELY COMES IN HANDY. HERE IS A PAIR OF SIDE CUTTERS USED FOR TAKING FISHHOOKS OUT OF THE UNLUCKY HANDS AND FACES OF CARELESS FISHERMEN. IT ALSO COMES IN HANDY TO TIGHTEN CANOE YOLKS, ETC. AROUND THE CAMP.

TWO MAPS, BOTH MAPS OF THE SAME COUNTRY, BUT MANY IS THE TIME WHEN BOTH OF THEM COME IN HANDY WHEN HE WAS GOING THROUGH UNKNOWN COUNTRY. ONE MAP IS ABOUT THE BEST ONE CAN GET IN THE UNITED STATES OF THE CANOE COUNTRY AND THE OTHER IS A GOOD CANADIAN MAP. THE MAPS SHOW LAKES AND PORTAGES ABOUT THE SAME TO THE AVERAGE PERSON, BUT THERES A DIFFERENCE. IN A TIGHT SPOT THE USE OF BOTH MAPS BRINGS OUT LANDMARKS, DIFFERENCES IN PORTAGES, TRAILS AND OTHER DETAILS THAT SAVE MUCH TIME IN LOCATING THE CORRECT SPOT.

HERE IS A GOOD COMPAS WHICH ISN'T USED OFTEN, BUT HAS COME IN HANDY PLENTY OF TIMES. IT IS IN A WOOD CASE AND THE WHOLE THING WOULD FLOAT IF NEED BE.

OLE USED TO CARRY A WATERPROOF MATCH BOX FOR EMERGENCY BUT DROPPED IT IN THE LAKE AND IT SUNK. NOW WE FIND A BUNCH OF MATCHES WHICH HAVE BEEN DIPPED IN WAX ARE BEST. THESE WILL FLOAT. THEY ARE SELDOM USED BECAUSE OF THE GOOD SUPPLY OF MATCHES CARRIED IN THE KETTLE PACK IN A TIN CAN.

HERE IS A STUB OF A PENCIL AND SOME PAPER, A BIT OF STRING, A FEW NAILS, A YOLK BOLT AND WASHER WHICH IS OFTEN USED IN REPLACING YOLK BOLTS THAT BREAK. A SMALL CHUNK OF WIRE, A SMALL CARBORUNDUM STONE, A CHUNK OF RAW-HIDE SHOE LACE, A TINY FIRST AID KIT, THIS IS SELDOM USED AS THERE IS A LARGE ONE IN THE KETTLE PACK BUT IT IS HANDY IN CASES WHEN OLE HAS TO LEAVE HIS PARTY WITH HIS SWAMPER AND TAKE SOME CAMPER WHO HAS BEEN HURT BACK TO THE CANOE BASE.

HERE IS A CONTAINER OF TANNIC ACID SOLUTION FOR PERSONAL USE FOR SUNBURN, ETC., A TUBE OF CANOE GLUE WRAPPED IN A PIECE OF CANVAS FOR PATCHING CANOES, HIS CAMERA WITH SOME EXTRA FILM, AND SOME POLARIZED GLASSES. POLARIZED GLASSES GIVE ADDED PROTECTION TO THE CANOES AS THEY TAKE OUT PART OF THE GLARE OF THE SUN ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER, THEREFORE MAKING IT EASIER TO SEE ROCKS, ETC. JUST UNDER THE SURFACE OF THE WATER.

HERE IS HIS POCKET SIZED FISHING TACKLE BOX WHICH CONTAINS HIS FISHING LICENSES AND FISHING TACKLE. MORE OF WHICH WILL BE SAID LATER.

A BOTTLE OF MOSQUITO REPELLENT. HE'S FOUND THAT IF IT IS USED CORRECTLY "STAY-WAY", A COMMERCIAL BRAND NAME, IS BY FAR THE BEST KIND AVAILABLE.

THEN THERE IS A SMALL BOTTLE OF SACCHARIN TABLETS, A TINY BOX OF COMPRESSED TEA TABLETS, AN EMERGENCY RATION BAR. THESE ARE USED ONLY IN CASE OF AN UNEXPECTED TRIP BACK TO THE BASE CAMP.

HE ALSO CARRIES A COLLAPSABLE DRINKING CUP IN HIS SHIRT POCKET WHERE IT IS HANDY.

IV

SCOUTS ARRIVE

A TRUCK PULLED INTO THE BASE CAMP. WILLIAMS WAS ON HAND TO GREET THEM AND SHOW THEM ABOUT. IN THE OFFICE MAC GREETED SOME OF HIS OLD FRIENDS AND THEN WAS BUSY GETTING THEM REGISTERED.

DOC WAS COLLECTING THE HEALTH HISTORIES AND EXAMINED EACH PAPER AND MADE NOTES OF SEVERAL THINGS TO CHECK LATER. HE LATER SORTS THEM OUT INTO GROUPS FOR THE TRIPS AND CHECKS WITH THE GUIDES OF THINGS TO WATCH FOR, ETC. "DOC" BEING A STUDENT OF MEDICINE WAS CAREFUL NOT TO OVERLOOK ANYTHING.

EVERY AND SY WERE BUSY ISSUING PACKSACKS, PONCHOS, GROUND CLOTHS, ETC., AND AS NEW PARTIES PULLED INTO CAMP, THE FIRST ARRIVALS WERE ALL SET FOR A LITTLE ACTION.

LEFTY TOOK ONE GANG FOR A SHORT HIKE IN THE WOODS, OLLIE HAD A GROUP DOWN AT THE LAKE GIVING THEM SOME CANOEING INSTRUCTION, SAM WAS IN THE KITCHEN GETTING THINGS TOGETHER FOR THE SUPPER THAT EVENING AND A LITTLE LATER THERE WAS A GANG DOWN IN FOR A SWIM WITH ZOWY AND WILLIAMS ON HAND AS LIFE GUARDS.

EVERYONE HAD A BUSY AFTERNOON AND WERE GLAD TO HEAR THE "COME AND GET IT" WHICH RANG OUT FROM THE KITCHEN.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER SUPPER MAC SPOKE OF THE PLANS FOR EACH GROUP TO MEET WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE GUIDES TO PLAN THEIR ROUTE BY GETTING THEIR HEADS TOGETHER, GOING OVER THE MAP AND DISCUSSING THE WISHES OF EACH AS TO PADDLING DISTANCES, FISHING, ETC. HE ALSO TOLD THEM THAT CAMP FIRE WOULD BE AT 8:00 O'CLOCK AND THAT EACH GANG WOULD BE CALLED UPON TO INTRODUCE THEMSELVES AND TELL OF THE TRIP THEY HAD PLANNED TO TAKE.

V

CAMP FIRE

BY EIGHT O'CLOCK THE DINING TABLES HAD BEEN MOVED AND THE GANG WAS GATHERING ON THE BENCHES IN FRONT OF THE BIG FIREPLACE. SOMEONE STARTED A SONG AND EVERYONE JOINED IN LUSTILY.

MAC GAVE AN OFFICIAL GREETING TO THE GANG, MENTIONED ALL PRESENT WHO HAD COME FOR A SECOND OR THIRD YEAR FOR A CANOE TRIP, TOLD THE GANG SOME OF THE HISTORY OF THE BOY SCOUT CANOE TRIPS, AND MADE IT PLAIN WHAT WAS EXPECTED OF EACH ONE WHILE ON THEIR TRIP AND OF THEIR COOPERATION WITH THEIR GUIDE. MAC WENT THROUGH THE FISH LICENSE PROBLEM (WHICH WILL BE DISCUSSED LATER) AND GAVE THE DANGERS OF USING CIGARETTES IN THE WOODS AND THAT ALL WHO WANTED TO SMOKE COULD PURCHASE A DIME PIPE AT THE OFFICE. IF THERE WAS ANYONE WHO HAD VALUABLES THEY WISHED TO CHECK AT THE OFFICE, THEY SHOULD DO IT AFTER BREAKFAST IN THE MORNING.

EACH GROUP OF SCOUTS INTRODUCED THEMSELVES ALONG WITH A LITTLE OTHER INFORMATION AS TO RANK, HOME TOWN, ETC. IN VARIOUS INGENIOUS WAYS. EACH GROUP TOLD OF THE TRIP THEY HAD PLANNED AND WHERE THEY WERE INTENDING TO GO.

CORRECTING STROKES AND GIVING POINTERS HERE AND THERE. AS THE GANG SLOWLY GATHERED HEADWAY UP THE LAKE, OLE AND LEFTY BEGAN GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH THEIR PARTNERS AND THROUGH THEM LEARNING THE NAMES OF FELLOWS WHOM THEY COULD NOT REMEMBER FROM THE PREVIOUS NIGHTS INTRODUCTIONS. BY NOON ALL WERE DOING PRETTY WELL AND ALL CANOES PULLED UP ON SCULL POINT IN NEWFOUND LAKE FOR LUNCH.

"ALL CUPS OUT", SAID LEFTY AS THE GANG WERE CLIMBING OUT INTO THE WATER AND PULLING THEIR CANOES UP ON SHORE AND OLE SHOWED THEM HOW TO PUT BRANCHES AND DRIFT WOOD UNDER THE CANOE BOW WHICH RESTED ON SHORE TO KEEP IT AWAY FROM THE ROCKS AND GRAVEL.

"HOW ABOUT A SWIM?" PIPED UP ONE OF THE FELLOWS. IT WAS A WARM DAY AND AS THEY WERE NOT PRESSED FOR TIME, OLE GAVE THE OKAY BUT FIRST A PAIL OF WATER FOR NECTAR WAS DIPPED OUT OFF SHORE A WHYS AND THE "BUDDY SYSTEM" WAS PUT INTO ACTION. OLE TOOK WATCH AS LIFE GUARD AND REMINDED THEM OF A ROCK WHICH WAS JUST UNDER WATER OVER YONDER.

LEFTY GOT THE BREAD PACK OUT AND ASKED FOR A VOLUNTEER TO HELP BUTTER BREAD. TWO SANDWICHES EACH WERE BUTTERED AND A SLICE OF MEAT PLACED BETWEEN EACH. THE NECTAR WAS STIRRED UP AND A "DIPPER CUP" PLACED ON THE EDGE OF THE PAIL AND LEFTY YELLED, "COME AND GET IT".

ONE OR TWO FELLOWS WERE STILL A BIT HUNGRY AFTER THEY HAD HAD THEIR SHARE AND SO A FEW MORE SANDWICHES WERE MADE AND ALL WERE SATISFIED. SOME OF THE FELLOWS WERE GETTING SET TO SHOVE OFF AGAIN BUT OLE REMINDED THEM OF SCRAPS OF PAPER LEFT AROUND BY STATING THAT EVERYONE HAD TO HAVE A "PASSPORT" BEFORE LEAVING. THE "PASSPORT" CONSISTED OF THREE PIECES OF PAPER OR RUBBISH NOT NATURAL TO THE WOODS. SOMETIMES OLE MAKE THE REQUIREMENTS FIVE OR SIX PIECES DEPENDING ON HOW DIRTY SOMEONE ELSE HAD LEFT THE CAMP SITE. ALL HAD THEIRS AFTER A LITTLE LOOKING AROUND AND PUT THEM IN A PILE ON THE SHORE RIGHT NEXT TO THE WATER'S EDGE. LEFTY LIT A MATCH TO THEM AND LET BURN ALL THAT WOULD BURN THEN KICKED OVER THE WATER ON THE PILE MAKING SURE THAT EVERY SPARK WAS OUT, AND PUT THE REMAINS INTO HIS CANOE TO BE BUMPED OUT IN DEEP WATER.

SOMETIMES IF IT IS RUBBISH THAT DOES NOT BURN DRY AND CLEAN IT IS THEN ALWAYS BURIED.

"HOW MANY KNOW WHAT KIND OF TREES THE MAJORITY OF THESE ARE HERE ON THE POINT?" ASKED OLE AS THEY SHOVED OFF. THE BOYS LEARNED THAT JACK PINE WAS THE CORRECT ANSWER AND THEY SADDLED OFF.

OLE NOTICED SOME OF THE BOYS HAD HAD THEIR SHIRTS OFF FOR A TIME AND AS THERE WAS A HOT SUN BEATING DOWN, HE REMINDED THEM TO TAKE IT EASY THAT THEY RECEIVED DOUBLE EFFECT BEING ON THE LAKE - THE DIRECT SUN PLUS IT'S REFLECTION WHICH BURNS JUST AS BADLY.

AS THE GANG CAME WITHIN SIGHT OF PRAIRIE PORTAGE, OLE HAD THEM DRAW IN CLOSE TOGETHER AND SHOWED THEM THE CANADIAN BORDER TO THE SURPRISE OF ALL. ASKED HOW MANY KNEW WHAT PLEZEN IVY WAS AND WARNED THEM OF IT'S PRESENCE ON THE PORTAGE. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT THIS WAS THE SPOT THAT HE HAD TOLD THEM ABOUT THE NIGHT BEFORE WHERE THE VOYAGEURS ONCE HAD THEIR CANOE REPAIR STATION AND THAT THIS WAS THE ROUTE THAT THEY USED ON THEIR WAY TO AND FROM THE FUR COUNTRY, ETC.-

"THE LANDING SPOT ON THIS END OF THE PORTAGE IS A BIT ROCKY AND ALMOST TOO DEEP TO WADE," SAID OLE, "SO ALL GET IN SINGLE FILE BEHIND LEFTY AND BEACH THE CANOES ONE AT A TIME. WATCH LEFTY TO SEE HOW HE DOES IT AND BE CAREFUL OF THE ROCKS."

THEY ALL HAD THEIR FIRST REAL PORTAGE LESSON HERE AND IT WAS A BIT SLOW AND DIFFICULT AT FIRST FOR MOST OF THEM. THEY WENT OVER THE PORTAGE ONE AT A TIME, HELPING EACH OTHER WHERE NECESSARY.

THEY WERE SHOWN HOW TO GET THEIR CANOE ON THEIR SHOULDERS WITH THE HELP OF SOMEONE ELSE AND ALSO FOR THOSE THAT WERE ABLE, THE ABILITY TO DO IT ALONE. HOW TO STOW THEIR PADDLES TO MAKE THE CANOE BALANCE, HOW TO PICK UP THE SECOND PACK AFTER THEY ALREADY HAD ONE ON THEIR BACKS, AND HOW TO SET EVERYTHING DOWN ON THE OTHER END OF THE PORTAGE KEEPING EVERYTHING SEPARATE SO THERE WOULD BE NO CONFUSION IN SORTING OUT EQUIPMENT FOR LOADING THEIR CANOES AGAIN.

SOME WHO THOUGHT THEY KNEW WHAT POISON IVY WAS, FOUND OUT WHAT THE REAL THING WAS AND ALSO GOT A GOOD LOOK AT THE THORN APPLES WHICH GROW ON PRAIRIE PORTAGE.

NOW THAT ALL WERE ON BASSWOOD LAKE, OLE TOOK THE LEAD TOWARD BAYLEY BAY RANGER STATION AND COMING OUT ON TO THE BAY PROPER THEY WERE HEADED DIRECTLY INTO THE WIND. PADDLING WAS A BIT HARDER AND THE WAVES A BIT HIGHER. OLE TOOK THIS CHANCE TO REMIND THEM TO FEATHER THEIR BLADES INTO THE WIND AND FIND OUT HOW MUCH EASIER IT WAS.

OLE'S BOWMAN WAS BEGINNING TO GET A LITTLE TIRED SO OLE PULLED UP IN THE LEA OF AN ISLAND AND THE TIRED ONE TOOK HIS PLACE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CANOE AND A FRESH MAN WAS BOWMAN.

BY THIS TIME MANY QUESTIONS WERE COMING AT OLE FROM EVERY DIRECTION - THE SAME OLD QUESTIONS OLE HAS BEEN ASKED THOUSANDS OF TIMES ABOUT HOW IS FISHING NOW, WHERE DOES THE BORDER RUN FROM HERE, HOW DEEP IS THE WATER HERE, AND IF THIS LAKE FREEZES IN THE WINTER TIME AND MANY QUESTIONS A LOT MORE FOOLISH THAN THESE BUT OLE ALWAYS DID HIS BEST TO ANSWER ALL OF THEM FOR HE REALIZED THAT THESE QUESTIONS WEREN'T SO FOOLISH TO THOSE THAT ASK THEM AND THAT HE TOO MIGHT ASK SOME JUST AS FOOLISH SHOULD HE GET DOWN IN ILLINOIS WHERE THEY HAD COME FROM. BESIDES OLE WAS KIND OF PROUD OF THE FACT THAT HE COULD ANSWER ALL THESE "STRANIE" THINGS THAT THEY WERE ASKING ABOUT. IT BOLSTERED HIS EGO.

THEY PULLED UP ON THE NICE SAND BEACH AT THE RANGER STATION AND LEARNED ANOTHER LESSON ABOUT KEEPING THEIR PACKS, CANOES, ETC., FROM TOUCHING THE SAND THUS SAVING SANDY CANOE BOTTOMS, SANDY PACKS AND BLANKETS, SANDY GRUB, ETC., FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

THEY FOUND THE RANGER, REPORTED, PICKED UP THE NECESSARY TRAVEL PERMITS AND ANGLING LICENSES AND STARTED ACROSS THE PORTAGE TO BURKE LAKE. THIS TIME OLE SHOWED THEM SOMETHING OF THE ART OF RELAYING ON A PORTAGE, PREPARING THEM FOR THE PORTAGE WHICH WAS COMING UP TOMORROW BEFORE THEY GOT TO AGNES LAKE.

ON A "RELAY PORTAGE" EACH SCOUT TAKES WHAT HE CAN CARRY AND WALKS WITH IT UNTIL HE GETS TIRED, SETS IT DOWN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PORTAGE TRAIL, TURNS AROUND WALKS BACK A WAY UNTIL HE IS RESTED AND PICKS UP ANYTHING HE FINDS ON THE TRAIL AND CARRIES THAT UNTIL HE GETS TIRED, SETS IT DOWN, WALKS BACK TO SOME OTHER PACK OR CANOE WHICH HAS BEEN LEFT BY SOMEONE ON THE TRAIL AND CARRIES IT UNTIL HE REACHES THE FAR END OF THE TRAIL.

ONE BY ONE THE GUIDES AND SWAMPERS WERE CALLED UPON, OFFICIALLY INTRODUCED, AND EACH GAVE THE GANG A LITTLE PIP TALK OF MATTERS WHICH THEY HAD BEEN WANTING TO KNOW.

JACK TOLD OF THE "VOYAGEURS" OF OLD, OF SOME OF THEIR EXPERIENCES AND SHOWED THE BUNCH THE BOOK "THE VOYAGEUR'S HIGHWAY" BY NUTE AND MENTIONED IT WAS ON SALE IN THE OFFICE.

DOC TOLD OF FIRST AID EQUIPMENT USED ON THE TRIPS AND WARNED OF SUNBURN, ROLLING ROCKS, GOING BAREFOOTED, SWIM PERIODS ON THE TRAILS AND OF WATER TO DRINK.

WILLIAMS TOLD OF THE DANGERS OF FOREST FIRES, WHAT DAMAGE THEY HAD DONE AND HOW EASILY THE WOODS COULD BURN.

AWERY TOLD OF HOW ONE AXE PER PARTY WAS ALL THAT WAS NEEDED AND THAT THAT AXE WAS UNDER THE CARE OF THE GUIDE. HE ALSO ASKED IF EVERYONE HAD SUFFICIENT DISHES FOR THE TRIP.

"ZOWY", WHO GOT HIS NAME FROM MIXING SUCH DELICIOUS "ZOWY" NECTAR, EXPLAINED METHODS OF PORTAGING, COURTESIES TO OTHERS MET ON TRIPS.

SY COVERED THE CARE OF THE CANOES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT.

SAM DESCRIBED THE MOSQUITO SITUATION AND GAVE POINTERS ON HOW TO AVOID THEM AND MENTIONED THE "STAY-WAY" ON SALE AT THE OFFICE.

LEFTY DEMONSTRATED THE PACKBACK AND JUST HOW IT SHOULD BE PACKED AND HOW TO HANDLE THE FULL PACK. HE ALSO TOLD WHAT TO TAKE ON THE TRIPS AND WHAT TO LEAVE HOME.

MAC McDONALD GAVE EACH A COPY OF THE "PADDLE AWARD" REQUIREMENTS AND ASSURED THEM THAT THE GUIDES WOULD BE GLAD TO GIVE THEM ANY HELP NEEDED IN FULFILLING THE REQUIREMENTS.

A FEW MORE SONGS RANG OUT AND ALL TURNED IN FOR THE NIGHT EXCEPT A FEW OF THE GUIDES WHO HAD A LITTLE JUGGLING AROUND TO DO WITH THEIR PACKS OF GRUB ON ACCOUNT OF SLIGHT CHANGES THAT HAD BEEN MADE IN THE NUMBERS THEY WERE TO TAKE OUT ON THE WEEK'S TRIP.

VI

MONDAY MORNING

"DAYLIGHT IN THE SWAMP" YELLED DOC AT 6:00 A.M. AND PASSED THE WORD AROUND FOR EVERYONE TO GET THEIR PACKS WELL PACKED UP BEFORE BREAKFAST.

THE GUIDES HAD DETERMINED WHO WAS TO DEPART FROM CAMP FIRST, SECOND, ETC. AND INSTRUCTED THEIR RESPECTIVE PARTIES TO GET ALL THEIR PACKS AT A DESIGNATED SPOT SO AS NOT TO GET THEM MIXED UP WITH THOSE OF THE OTHER GROUPS. ONE TOLD HIS GANG TO GET THEIRS DOWN AT THE SHORE NEAR THE MOUNTAIN ASH TREE. - A LESSON ALREADY IN THE IDENTIFICATION OF TREES -

THE GUIDES MADE OUT THEIR ITINERARY SHEETS AND DECIDED ON WHO SHOULD HAVE WHAT CANOES TO BE ASSIGNED AFTER BREAKFAST, ETC.

SCOUTS CHECKED THEIR BILLFOLDS, EXPENSIVE WATCHES, CAR KEYS, ETC., AND BREAKFAST WAS READY.

AS SOON AS BREAKFAST WAS FINISHED THE FIRST GROUPS BEGAN TO GET UNDER WAY WHILE THOSE REMAINING HELPED WITH THE DISHES AND CLEANED UP THE CAMP IN GENERAL. FINALLY EVERYONE HAD PULLED OUT EXCEPT OLE'S BUNCH AND OLE ROUNDED THEM UP CALLING LEFTY, WHO WAS TO BE OLE'S SWAMPER FOR OLE THIS WEEK, TO GET OUT THE NECESSARY PADDLES FOR THE BUNCH. THOSE WHO HAD HAD SOME EXPERIENCE CANOEING PICKED OUT PADDLES TO SUIT THEMSELVES AND OTHERS WERE GIVEN PADDLES WHICH CAME UP TO THE SCOUT'S EYES. A SET OF KNEE PADS WERE GIVEN TO EACH.

THE PARTY WAS MADE UP OF ELEVEN SCOUTS FROM ILLINOIS. OLE SPOTTED THEIR LEADER AND TOLD HIM HE WAS TO CONTINUE TO BE THEIR LEADER ON THE TRIP, (KNOWN AS PL FROM NOW ON) CALLED HIM ASIDE AND EXPLAINED THAT CANOES 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, AND 20 WOULD BE THE ONES USED AND THAT NUMBER 20 WAS TO BE OLE'S BEING AN EIGHTEEN FOOTER AND WOULD CARRY THREE ON THE TRIP. OLE SPOTTED TWO OF THE WEAKER FELLOWS AND TACTFULLY ASSIGNED THEM TO HIS OWN CANOE TO BE HIS PADDLING PARTNERS. THE OTHERS WERE TO PAIR UP AS BUDDYS ACCORDING TO SIZE AND ABILITY AND EXPERIENCE THUS TRYING TO GET THE MOST EXPERIENCED TO BE IN THE STERN TO START WITH.

THE CANOES WERE LAUNCHED ONE AT A TIME AND EACH LOADED HIS OWN CANOE GRABBING THE PACKS BY THEIR "EARS" AND PLACING THEM UPRIGHT CLOSE TO THE OWNER. THE GRUB PACKS, THE "WET PACK", "DRY PACK", KETTLE PACK, TENT PACK, AND BREAD PACK, WERE RATIONED OUT ACCORDING TO THE CANOES WHICH COULD STILL SAFELY STAND A LITTLE MORE WEIGHT. THE DRY PACK BEING SAVED FOR LEFTY'S CANOE FOR SPECIAL CARE AND THE BREAD PACK BEING SAVED FOR OLE'S OWN CANOE.

THREE EXTRA PADDLES WERE PLACED IN CANOES TO BE USED ON THE TRIP IN CASE OF BREAKAGE.

WADING RIGHT INTO THE WATER AND THEY LOADED THEIR CANOES TO KEEP THE CANOES FROM TOUCHING GROUND, OLE ASKED THOSE THAT HAD SHOVED OFF TO STAND CLOSE BY FOR FURTHER ORDERS AND FOR EVERYONE TO MEMORIZE THE NUMBER OF HIS OWN PACK, HIS OWN PADDLE, THE NUMBER OF HIS CANOE, AND ALL OF THE CONTENTS - THE NUMBERS OF GRUB PACKS, EXTRA PADDLES, KNEE PADS, THE FISH RODS, WHICH HAD BEEN LASHED UNDER THE INWALE, AND EVERYTHING ELSE THAT MIGHT BE LOOSE AS THEY WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE THINGS IN THEIR OWN CANOE ON PORTAGES, IN CAMP, ETC, FROM NOW ON.

OLE SEARCHED THE SHORE FOR ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN LEFT BEHIND AND LAUNCHED HIS NUMBER 20, HIS PARTNERS LOADING THEIR PACKS AND TAKING THEIR PLACES AND OLE LOADING THE BREAD PACK AND HIS OWN LIGHT PERSONAL THINGS, AND SET SHOOK THE DRIPPING WATER OFF HIS FEET AS HE STEPPED IN THE CANOE, LOOKED AT HIS WATCH, TOOK OFF HIS SHIRT, GOT INTO KNEELING POSITION AND SHOVED OFF.

VII

OFF ON THE TRIP

THERE WAS A BREEZE FROM THE N/ AS THE GANG PULLED OUT. SOME OF THE CANOES WERE HAVING A HARD TIME STEERING. LEFTY AND OLE HELPED OUT WHERE HELP WAS NEEDED

THUS EVERYTHING MOVES ACROSS THE PORTAGE TRAIL WITHOUT MUCH DELAY. ONE GETS HIS REST WALKING BACK WITHOUT A LOAD ON HIS BACK. IF EVERYTHING IS LEFT ON THE TRAIL AND NOT TO ONE SIDE OF THE TRAIL, NOTHING IS MISSED AND LEFT BEHIND. THE LAST MAN OVER THE PORTAGE ALWAYS KEEPS TRACK IF THERE IS ANYTHING LEFT BEHIND HIM OR NOT AND THEREFORE NOBODY GOES BACK OVER THE TRAIL, UNNECESSARILY LOOKING FOR ANOTHER PACK OR SO. THIS IS A FAST AND EFFICIENT METHOD FOR AN EXTRA LONG PORTAGE. IF THESE PORTAGES ARE TAKEN IN THE USUAL METHOD ONE WALKS AS FAR AS HE CAN AND USUALLY SITS DOWN TO REST BEFORE GOING ON. AFTER ABOUT FIVE RESTS HE ARRIVES AT THE END OF THE PORTAGE AND STILL HE USUALLY HAS TO WALK BACK THE FULL LENGTH OF THE PORTAGE FOR SOMETHING ELSE THAT SOMEONE ELSE COULD NOT CARRY. THUS A LOT OF TIME IS WASTED.

IT WAS DRAWING NEAR 4:00 O'CLOCK AND OLE DECIDED THEY WOULD CAMP ON BURKE LAKE.

"WE'LL CAMP OVER ON THAT LITTLE POINT," SAID OLE POINTING, "AND SEE WHAT YOU CAN CATCH ON THE WAY OVER - GET CLOSE TO BOTTOM AND STAY WITHIN ABOUT FIFTY FEET OF SHORE AND YOU'LL HAVE THE BEST LUCK." AND LOOKING OVER AT LEFTY HE SAID "LET'S GO OVER TO THE OLD BEAVER HOUSE AND PICK UP SOME WOOD." LEFTY'S AND OLE'S CANOES HEADED OUT FOR THE BEAVER HOUSE AND THE REST STARTED TO FISH.

THE TWO SCOUTS IN OLE'S CANOE WANTED TO KNOW WHY A BEAVER HOUSE WOULD BE THE PLACE TO GET WOOD, SO OLE EXPLAINED TO THEM THAT A BEAVER ALWAYS FEEDS ON POPULAR, EATING THE BARK OFF OF IT, CUTTING IT IN SHORT LENGTHS AND PILING IT ON TOP OF THEIR DWELLING. THE SUN DRIES IT OUT IN FINE SHAPE THERE AND IT MAKES EXCELLENT WOOD TO COOK WITH - VERY LITTLE WORK TO GETTING IT TOO.

THEY FILLED THEIR TWO CANOES UP WITH BEAVER WOOD AND HEADED FOR CAMP. THEY NOTICED THAT A COUPLE OF THE CANOES HAD PULLED IN SOME FISH ALREADY AND PADDED BY TO SEE WHAT HAD BEEN CAUGHT. ONE CANOE HAD SOME NICE WALLEYED PIKE AND A COUPLE OF NICE BIG NORTHERNS, AND THE OTHER CANOE, NOT HAVING SEEN THE FIRST CANOES' CATCH, PROUDLY SHOWED OLE A COUPLE OF SMALL NORTHERNS ABOUT A FOOT LONG. OLE WOULD HAVE THROWN BACK SUCH BAIT AS THAT BUT NEVER MAKES FUN OF A BOYS' CATCH BECAUSE HE REALIZES THAT IT MAY BE THEIR FIRST AND THEY THINK THEY'RE WHOPPERS - SO WHY SPOIL THEIR DELIGHT?

THERE WAS ENOUGH FISH FOR A MEAL BEING IT WASN'T GOING TO BE A FISH DINNER, SO OLE CALLED IN THE GANG SAYING THEY WOULD GET PLENTY OF CHANCE TO FISH, THEY COULD AFTER SUPPER IF THEY WANTED TO, BUT THERE WAS WORK TO DO AS THIS WAS THEIR FIRST NIGHT OUT AND THINGS WOULD GO A BIT SLOWER IN SETTING UP CAMP AND GETTING THE MEAL READY. THEY HAD ALREADY SAVED SOME TIME HOWEVER IN GETTING THE BEAVER WOOD SO EASILY.

AS SOON AS EVERYONE HAD BEACHED THEIR CANOES THERE WERE PLEASE TO GO SWIMMING. "OKAY" ASSURED OLE, "BUT FIRST THE TENTS GO UP AND THE BEDS ARE MADE." OLE HAD HAD PLENTY OF EXPERIENCE WITH LETTING THE TENTS GO UNTIL READY FOR BED - TO MANY MOSQUITOES AT THAT HOUR AND THERE'S NO USE IN HAVING THESE KIDS FIND OUT THE HARD WAY.

OLE CALLED THE P. L. ASIDE AND TOLD HIM THAT HE WOULD LIKE THE TENTS UP AND BEDS MADE AND ALL TENTS CLOSED UP TIGHT FROM THAT TIME ON UNTIL THEY WERE READY TO CRAWL IN FOR THE NIGHT BECAUSE OF THE MOSQUITOES. HE ALSO EXPLAINED TO THE P. L. THAT THIS WAS A CANOE TRIP AND THAT HE DID NOT WISH TO BRING THOUGHTS OF "K P DUTY" BUT THAT HE WOULD LIKE A LITTLE HELP EACH MEAL AND LEFT IT UP TO THE P. L. TO DECIDE UPON WHO AND HOW TO GET THE JOB DONE.

LEFTY AND OLE HAD TO DO A LITTLE COACHING WITH THE TENTS THE FIRST NIGHT AS ALL OF THEM WEREN'T USED TO PUTTING UP THIS TYPE OF TENT WHICH HAD PROVEN THE BEST TYPE FOR THE PURPOSE. SOME STARTED TO MAKE TENT STAKES AND SOON FOUND OUT THAT THEY COULD NOT DRIVE THEM INTO THE GROUND AS THERE WERE TOO MANY ROCKS. IN FACT, NOTHING BUT ROCK, SO OLE SHOWED THEM HOW TO LAY STICKS IN THE STAKE LOOPS AND THEN SET ROCKS ON THE STICKS TO HOLD THE TENT IN PLACE BEING CAREFUL TO GET ROCKS WITHOUT SHARP EDGES SO AS NOT TO CUT THE TENT. ALL THE BOB CLOTHS WERE WEIGHTED DOWN SMOOTH ON THE GROUND SO MOSQUITOES COULDN'T CRAWL UNDER AND IN THE MEANTIME LEFTY GATHERED UP THE BEAVER WOOD, HAD IT ALL NEAR THE FIREPLACE AND WAS BUZY SPLITTING IT UP IN PIECES ABOUT A FOOT LONG. IF IT'S LEFT ANY LONGER THERE IS ALWAYS SOME ENDS STICKING OUT SOMEWHERE AND NOT BEING RIGHT IN THE HEAT OF THE FIRE THEY ALWAYS SMOKE AND MAKE IT MISERABLE COOKING BESIDES PUTTING MORE BLACK ON THE KETTLES TO BE CLEANED OFF.

HE REPAIRED THE FIREPLACE A BIT BY ADDING SOME MORE ROCKS, FIXED THE CROSS STICKS FOR THE KETTLE CRANE, MADE A POT HOOK AND PICKED OUT THE LARGEST OF THE KETTLES, RUBBED SOAP ALL OVER THE OUTSIDE OF IT, FILLED IT WITH WATER AND PUT IT ON TO GET HOT. RIGHT AWAY QUESTIONS SHOT OUT AS TO WHY HE PUT SOAP ON THE KETTLES AND LEFTY EXPLAINED HOW IT KEPT THE BLACK FROM STICKING TO THE POTS SO HARD AND IT WAS EASIER TO CLEAN.

MORE POT HOOKS WERE NEEDED SO LEFTY SHOWED THREE OF THE FELLOWS HOW THEY WERE MADE AND THAT TAG ALDER WAS THE BEST PLACE TO FIND THIS KIND OF A STICK AND THAT TAG ALDER WAS FOUND MOSTLY ALONG THE LAKE SHORE AS IT GREW IN MOIST SOIL.

OLE TOOK THE SMALL SHOVEL AND AXE FROM THE KETTLE PACK AND WENT OFF IN THE WOODS, PICKED OUT TWO TREES FAIRLY CLOSE TOGETHER AND CUT A POLE WHICH WOULD REACH BETWEEN THE TREES. HE LASHED THE POLE TO THE TREES WITH A ROPE. (SOMETIMES THE NAILS IN THE DITTY BAG COME IN HANDY HERE) HE DUG A HOLE IN THE GROUND AND THE LATREEN WAS READY. HE WENT BACK TO CAMP AND MADE SURE EVERYONE KNEW WHERE IT WAS AND TO BE SURE AND USE IT AND ONLY IT.

OLE ASKED IF THERE WAS ANYONE INTERESTED IN COOKING AND IF SO THEY WOULD BE ONLY TOO WELCOME TO TAKE PART. SOMEONE WANTED TO COOK THE FISH, SO THE MEAL WAS PREPARED WHILE THE REST WENT SWIMMING.

WHEN LEFTY YELLED, "GET YOUR EATIN' IRONS!" EVERYONE DASHED FOR THEIR PACKS, GOT THEIR DISHES AND WERE THERE IN NO TIME.

THE GANG LOOKED LIKE A BUNCH OF VULTURES AS THEY ATE AND LEFTY AND OLE MADE SURE THAT EVERYONE WAS SERVED BEFORE THEY SERVED THEMSELVES AND MADE SURE THAT EVERYONE HAD HIS FILL BEFORE THEY ATE ALL THAT THEY WANTED.

WHEN SUPPER WAS OVER EVERYONE WASHED THEIR OWN DISHES AND TWO OF THE GANG CAME FORWARD TO DO UP THE POT AND PAN AS THE P. L. HAD CHOSEN. OLE TOOK ONE OF THE BLACK POTS HIMSELF TO CLEAN AND EXPLAINED HOW MUCH HARDER THE BLACK COMES OFF IF THE POTS ARE LEFT FOR MORE THAN ONE MEAL OR IF PINE WOOD HAD BEEN USED FOR THE COOKING FIRE AND THE BOYS WERE DELIGHTED IN THE WAY THAT SOAP HAD HELPED KEEP THE BLACK FROM STICKING ON THE POTS.

THE MOSQUITOES WERE BEGINNING TO COME AROUND AND VARIOUS BOYS WERE COMPARING THEIR FAVORITE BRANDS OF MOSQUITO DOSES. A FEW WERE CAUTIONING OFF SHORE WITH THEIR RODS AND OLE WAS HELPING SOME OF THEM WITH THEIR BADLY BACKLASHED REELS AND SHOWING THEM HOW THEY MIGHT IMPROVE THEIR CASTING SO THEY WOULDN'T HAVE THAT TROUBLE.

LEFTY FINISHED PUTTING THE DISHES AWAY, PUT SOME PRUNES TO SOAK FOR BREAKFAST, AND LINED UP THE GRUB PACKS ON A HUMPED ROCK AND COVERED THEM UP WITH THE KITCHEN TARP.

OLE NEVER TOLD THE GANG WHEN THEY SHOULD GO TO BED, THIS WAS A CANOE TRIP AND NOT A SCOUT CAMP. HE WAS ABOUT READY TO CRAWL IN HIMSELF HOWEVER AND SAW THAT EVERYTHING WAS SET IN CASE OF WIND AND RAIN. SAW THAT THE CANOES WERE WELL UP FROM THE SHORE AND NOT CLOSE TO ANY DEAD TREES THAT MIGHT FALL, CALLED SEVERAL FELLOWS ATTENTION TO PIECES OF CLOTHING LAYING HERE AND THERE FROM THE SWIM, AND CHECKED LEFTY TO SEE IF HE HAD PUT ANY DRY KINDLING UNDER THE KITCHEN TARP TO START FIRES WITH THE NEXT MORNING.

BY THIS TIME EVERYONE WAS BEGINNING TO TALK ABOUT TURNING IN ALSO BECAUSE OF THE TOUGH DAY THEY HAD BEEN THROUGH AND PARTLY TO GET AWAY FROM THE MOSQUITOES WHICH WERE BEGINNING TO GET PRETTY BAD.

WHEN ALL WERE IN THEIR TENTS AND THE MOSQUITO BAR CLOSED RIGHT OLE WENT AROUND TO EACH TENT, STUCK THE END OF HIS SPRAY GUN INSIDE AND GAVE THEM A HEALTHY SHOT OF MOSQUITO DOPE AND WENT TO HIS OWN TENT. HE BRUSHED AWAY MOSQUITOES ON THE TENT FLAP AND QUICKLY SLIPPED INSIDE SO THAT NONE WOULD FOLLOW HIM, GAVE THE TENT A COUPLE OF SQUIRYS AND LAYED THE SPRAY GUN AWAY FOR THE NIGHT WHERE IT WOULD NOT GET TIPPED OVER. HE TIED THE MOSQUITO BAR SHUT AND PINNED TOGETHER ANY OPENING LEFT WHICH HE COULD FIND WITH SAFTY PINS WHICH HE ALWAYS KEPT PINNED INTO THAT MOSQUITO NETTING FOR THE PURPOSE.

OLE ALWAYS SLEPT NEXT TO THE DOOR OF THE TENT. HE TOOK OFF HIS SHIRT AND PANTS AND ROLLED THEM UP FOR A PILLOW, PUT HIS SHOES DOWN AT THE FOOT INSIDE DOWN, PUT HIS SOCKS INSIDE HIS SLEEPING BAG, HIS SHORTS UNDER HIS "PILLOW", PUT HIS SWEAT SHIRT AND PANTS ON AND CRAWLED IN HIS SLEEPING BAG, AND SPREAD HIS PONCHO OVER ALL.

SOME OF THE GANG STARTED UP A FEW SONGS BUT THEY KIND OF PETERED OUT 'CAUSE THE GANG WERE SORT OF SLEEPY AND IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE YOU COULD HEAR ONLY THE BREEZES PASSING THROUGH THE PINES HIGH ABOVE AND IT'S WHISPERING SONG WENT INTO THE NIGHT.

VII

TUESDAY

IT WAS 8 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING BEFORE THE GANG STIRRED - NO USE IN GETTING EVERYONE UP EARLY IF THEY FEEL LIKE SLEEPING BECAUSE THEY JUST HAVE TO WAIT AROUND CAMP FOR THE TENTS TO DRY OFF FROM THE MORNING DEW.

IT WAS A BIT COOL AND OLE LEFT HIS SWEAT SHIRT ON UNDERNEATH HIS SHIRT. HIS SOCKS BEING DRY, DRYING IN HIS SLEEPING BAG OVERNIGHT. HE COULD NOTE A TRACE OF DAMPNESS TO HIS SHOES BUT THEY WERE NOT WET.

"DAY LIGHT IN THE SWAMP" HE YELLED AS HE WALKED DOWN TO THE LAKE TO WASH. HE PUT A FIRE UNDER A WELL SOAPED KETTLE OF WATER TO HEAT FOR OATMEAL AND INSTRUCTED EVERYONE TO GET ALL THEIR PACKS PACKED UP BEFORE BREAKFAST TO BE READY TO GO.

BY THE TIME BREAKFAST WAS OVER AND THE POTS WERE BEING SCRUBBED THE TENTS WERE DRY. IT TOOK A LITTLE COACHING THIS FIRST MORNING ON HOW TO FOLD THE TENTS UP SMALL ENOUGH TO GO INTO THE TENT PACK.

THE POLES WHICH HAD BEEN USED IN SOME CASES TO SET UP TENTS WERE PILED UP IN A PILE, THE ROCKS USED AS "STAKES" WERE PILED UP IN A PILE BESIDE EACH TENT SPOT, THE FIRE WAS PUT OUT WITH SEVERAL BUCKETS OF WATER, THE AGES SCRAPPED OUT, AND THEN OLE TOOK A DRY PIECE OF WOOD ABOUT AN INCH IN DIAMETER, SPLIT IT, AND WHITTLED EACH SPLIT SIDE SMOOTH. HE TOOK OUT HIS PENCIL AND WROTE ON ONE PIECE "THIS FIRE WAS PUT OUT WITH WATER." AND PLACED THE STICKS IN THE FORM OF AN "X" IN THE CLEAN FIREPLACE WHERE THE FIRE HAD BEEN. THIS CREATED A LOT OF COMMENT AMONG THE BOYS AND OLE EXPLAINED THAT IT HELPED "ADVERTISE" THE NECESSITY IN THE WOODS FOR PUTTING OUT FIRES WITH WATER. THE NEXT CAMPER WHO VENTURED THERE WOULD SEE IT AND IT WOULD MAKE HIM STOP AND THINK A LITTLE.

THE REMAINING BEAVER WOOD WAS PILED UP NEATLY BESIDE THE FIREPLACE AND COVERED WITH A CHUNK OF BIRCHBARK WHICH LIFTY HAD FOUND IN THE WOODS CLOSE BY. THIS WOULD KEEP IT DRY AND HELP OUT SOME CAMPER ON A RAINY DAY. "FARTHER NORTH OFF THE WELL BEATEN TRAILS," REPORTED OLE, "ONE ALWAYS IS FINDING WOOD FIXED IN THIS MANNER READY FOR USE AND THE SURROUNDING CAMP SPOTS ARE CLEAN - SLICK AS A SHISTLE." HE WENT ON, "THE FARTHER OUT ONE GOES INTO THE WILDERNESS THE BETTER CAMPERS ONE FINDS TRACE OF. USUALLY THE CAMPSITES CLOSE TO CIVILIZATION ARE THE DIRTIEST. I DON'T KNOW WHY UNLESS IT'S BECAUSE JUST THE DIRTY CAMPERS NEVER VENTURE OUT INTO THE WILDS."

THE BOYS WERE INTERESTED AND BEGAN CLEANING UP THE CAMPSITE, EVEN SMALL BITS OF GUM WRAPPERS AND ANYTHING THAT WAS NOT NATURAL TO THE WOODS. THE PLACE WAS SPOTLESS.

THEY LOADED THEIR CANOES AND TODAY OLE TOLD THEM THAT THEY HAD BETTER SHIFT AROUND A LITTLE IN THEIR CANOES SO THAT EVERYONE MIGHT HAVE A CHANCE AT PADDLING IN THE STERN.

"YOU LEAD THE WAY TO OUR NEXT PORTAGE, JOHNNY," SAID OLE TO ONE OF THE BOYS AND HANDED HIM A MAP AND COMPASS AND SHOWED HIM THE ROUTE TO BE TAKEN ON THE MAP. "WE'LL FOLLOW YOU EVEN IF YOU GO TO THE WRONG WAY".

AS THEY WERE SHOVING OFF, OLE TOOK A GLANCE AROUND CAMP TO SEE THAT THEY HADN'T FORGOTTEN ANYTHING AND HE HEARD A SPLASH. TWO FELLOWS WERE IN THE WATER AND WERE SWIMMING TO SHORE. OLE SAW HIS CHANCE TO TEACH THEM SOMETHING HOWEVER, AND MADE THE TWO SWIM OUT TO THEIR CANOE AND CLIMB IN.

HE HAD EVERYONE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE CANOE HADN'T TIPPED OVER BUT THE BOYS HAD FALLEN OUT OF IT WHICH IS THE CASE IN 70% OF THE "TIP OVERS". THE BOYS HAD BEEN CARELESS AND THE BOWMAN HAD SHOVED OFF BEFORE THE STERNMAN HAD GOTTEN SETTLED DOWN SO THEY BOTH LOST THEIR BALANCE. MOREOVER, THEY LEFT THEIR CANOE AND SWAM FOR SHORE AND OLE TOLD OF THE DANGERS OF LEAVING THEIR CANOE - THE BEST LIFESAVER THEY HAVE WHETHER TIPPED OVER OR NOT. WITH A LITTLE COACHING THE BOYS WERE SURPRISED TO LEARN HOW EASILY THEY HAD CLIMBED INTO THEIR CANOE FROM THE WATER.

JOHNNY LEAD THE WAY AND THE REST FOLLOWED. HE HIT IT RIGHT AND THEY PORTAGED INTO SUNDAY LAKE AND ANOTHER KID HAD HIS CHANCE AT CROSSING SUNDAY LAKE AND FINDING THE NEXT PORTAGE BY MAP.

THIS FELLOW DIDN'T DO SO BAD EITHER AND THEY ARRIVED AT THE PORTAGE. THE FIRST ARRIVALS HAD NOTICED HOW DIRTY THINGS WERE AROUND AND WERE BUSY PICKING UP PAPERS, ETC., AND WERE CLEANING THE PLACE BY THE TIME OLE GOT THERE.

"THIS IS A GOOD 'RELAY PORTAGE'" HE SAID, AND PASSED OUT SIX LEMON DROPS TO EACH SCOUT AND EXCLAIMED, "HIS WILL GIVE YOU A LIFT."

"HE SOUNDS LIKE WE MIGHT REALLY NEED IT ON THIS PORTAGE", SAID ONE OF THE FELLOWS.

OLE DELIBERATELY PICKED UP SOME WINTERGREEN LEAVES AND BEGAN CHEWING THEM AND OUT OF CURIOSITY MOST EVERYONE FOLLOWED AND WERE DELIGHTFULLY SURPRISED. "MAYBE WE CAN FIND A YELLOW BIRCH BEFORE THE TRIP IS OVER. THAT HAS AN EVEN STRONGER TASTE OF WINTERGREEN."

OLE PUT HIS PACK AND CANOE ON HIS BACK AFTER HAVING STUFFED HIS KNEE PADS IN THE GERN AND WEDGING THE PADDLES BETWEEN THE YOLK AND THE THWAITS AND STARTED ACROSS THE PORTAGE WITH THE REST FOLLOWING. "THERE ARE A FEW CANOE RESTS ON THIS PORTAGE AND IF YOU WAIT UNTIL YOU COME TO ONE OF THEM BEFORE SETTING YOUR CANOE DOWN IT WILL BE MUCH EASIER TO PICK UP AGAIN."

WHEN OLE WAS ABOUT HALF THE WAY ACROSS THE PORTAGE HE MET TWO FELLOWS CARRYING ONE CANOE. THEY EACH HAD A PILLOW ON THEIR SHOULDERS FOR PADDING AND EACH HAD ONE END OF THE CANOE RESTING RIGHT SIDE UP ON THE PILLOWS. THEY WERE JUST ABOUT WORN OUT AND SET THEIR CANOE DOWN FOR A REST. OLE SET HIS CANOE ON A CANOE REST NEAR BY AND ASKED THE FELLOWS IF THEY MINDED IF HE CARRIED THEIR CANOE FOR THEM. "MIND" THEY ASKED, AND BEFORE THEY COULD SAY MORE OLE HAD THEIR CANOE ON HIS SHOULDERS AND WAS CARRYING IT AWAY. THERE WASN'T ANY YOLK ON IT BUT OLE WAS UNDER THE CENTER THWART WITH IT LAYING ACROSS HIS SHOULDERS.

OLE KEPT MEETING MEMBERS OF HIS OWN GANG COMING ACROSS THE PORTAGE WHO WERE AT FIRST A BIT PUZZLED AT SEEING HIM CARRYING A STRANGE CANOE BUT SOON CAUGHT ON. OLE CAME TO THE END OF THE PORTAGE, SET THE CANOE DOWN, GRABBED SOME PACKS WHICH HAD BEEN LEFT THERE BY THE SCOUTS AND STARTED BACK ACROSS THE PORTAGE.

THE PORTAGE TURNED OUT TO BE SORT OF A TWO WAY RELAY. THE SCOUTS WERE CARRYING THEIR OWN THINGS IN DIRECTION, SETTING THEM DOWN AND CARRYING GOODS BELONGING TO THE STRANGERS ON THEIR RETURN TRIP BACK AGAIN. WHAT A MESS OF JUNK THE BOYS NOTICED AS THEY CARRIED THEM BACK ACROSS THE PORTAGE. INSTEAD OF GRUB PACKS THERE WERE CARDBOARD BOXES OF GROCERIES READY TO FALL APART, TACKLE BOXES, FISH HOODS, LIFE VESTS, SUIT CASES, AND WHAT NOT.

FINALLY EACH GANG HAD THEIR OWN THINGS ALL CARRIED ACROSS AND THE STRANGERS JUST COULDN'T GET OVER THE FACT THAT THE SCOUTS HAD HELPED THEM SO MUCH. THEY WERE OVERJOYED AND TOLD OF HOW IT HAD TAKEN THEM OVER A HALF DAY TO COMPLETE THIS PORTAGE ON THEIR WAY ACROSS A FEW DAYS BEFORE. THEY EVEN OFFERED TO PAY THE SCOUTS, BUT EVERYONE REFUSED, OF COURSE.

IT TOOK A LOT OF TIME BUT NOBODY HAD MINDED, IN FACT, THEY FELT GOOD OVER BEING ABLE TO DO SUCH A GOOD TURN.

IT WAS 12 O'CLOCK NOON AND AS OLE ALWAYS TRIES TO HAVE HIS MEALS ON TIME, THE GANG ATE LUNCH BEFORE GOING ON.

ABOUT A HALF MILE PADDLE ON AGNES BROUGHT THEM TO LOUISA FALLS AND A GOOD CAMPSITE.

"HOW MANY WOULD LIKE TO STAND IN A BATH TUB AND HAVE A NICE SHOWER BATH?" ASKED OLE GRINNING. THERE WAS A HOOT AND A HOLLER FROM THE GANG AND "DON'T TRY TO KID US," THEY SAID.

"PULL YOUR CANOES UP AND FOLLOW ME THEN," SAID OLE AND EVERYONE FOLLOWED SUIT. OLE LEAD THEM UP TO THE FAMOUS LOUISA FALLS BATH TUB WHERE OLE HAD BEEN MANY TIMES BEFORE. LOUISA FALLS IS A SIXTY FOOT FALLS AND ABOUT A FOURTH OF THE WAY FROM THE TOP THERE IS A BREAK IN THE FALLS AND IN THIS BREAK IS THE BATH TUB BIG ENOUGH FOR ABOUT TEN FELLOWS TO GET IN AT ONCE AND STAND UP TO THEIR NECKS IN WATER WITH A SHOWER OF WATER COMING DOWN ON THEIR HEADS SO HARD THAT IT SHOOK THEIR BODIES ALL OVER. THIS LASTED ABOUT AN HOUR AND THE BOYS HAD THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES. THEY GOT DRESSED AND ALL WENT BACK TO CAMP.

"IT IS EARLY YET BUT WHAT DO YOU SAY WE ALL GET OUR TENTS UP AND BEDS MADE BEFORE WE DO ANYTHING ELSE?" SAID OLE AS HE WENT ABOUT UNPACKING THE TENTS. IT ONLY TOOK THE UNPACKING TO START THE WORK AND IN NO TIME THINGS WERE ALL SET UP. THERE WAS WOOD TO GET AS THEY HADN'T GOTTEN ANY BEAVER WOOD AND OLE TOLD THEM OF A NEW KIND - "SQUAW WOOD" HE SAID GRINNING. "AND WHAT KIND OF WOOD COULD THIS BE?" THEY ASKED AND OLE TOLD THEM AND SHOWED THEM IT WAS DEAD POPLAR ABOUT TWO INCHES IN DIAMETER STILL STANDING WHERE IT HAD DIED AND NICE AND DRY AND SOUND. IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG TO BRING IN PLENTY OF THIS AND BY THIS TIME ONE OF THE FELLOWS HAD SPOTTED THE TOBACCO CAN NAILED ON A TREE WHICH OLE HAD BEEN MANY TIMES AND WHICH ALWAYS CONTAINED SOME NOTE FROM CAMPERS WHO HAD BEEN THERE BEFORE. THE NOTE READ, "BE A GOOD CAMPER AND LEAVE THIS SITE THE WAY YOU FOUND IT." AND WAS SIGNED "TWINK" "WHO WAS TWINK?" THEY WANTED TO KNOW AND OLE TOLD THEM HE WAS A GUIDE WHO ALWAYS TOOK BOYS FROM MINNEAPOLIS ON TRIPS UP IN THAT COUNTRY.

THERE WERE CAMPERS AT ANOTHER CAMPSITE DOWN THE RIVER A WAY AND OLE TOLD THEM NOT TO GO NEAR THE CAMP UNLESS THEY WERE INVITED. AS SOME OF THE BOYS WERE GOING FISHING, JUST CANOEING, OR EXPLORING.

LEPTY HAD A BUNCH DOWN GIVING THEM SOME ADVANCED CANOE INSTRUCTION AND OLE STARTED TO GET THINGS IN SHAPE FOR SUPPER.

A LATREEN WAS PROVIDED, SUPPER COOKED, AND OLE CALLED THE GANG IN. THEY ATE A HARDY SUPPER, CLEANED DISHES, AND WERE JUST MONKEYING AROUND WHEN OLE HEARD SPLASHES IN THE WATER ONLY TO FIND THE FELLOWS PEGGING ROCKS INTO THE LAKE. HE TOLD THEM HE WISHED THEY WOULDN'T AS GOOD CAMPERS DON'T DO THAT AND TOLD THEM OF HOW SO MANY ROCKS FOR "TENTSTAKES" AND FIREPLACE ROCKS ARE NEEDED, AND SOMEONE MIGHT GET HURT AS IT HAD HAPPENED IN THE PAST.

NIGHT CAME AND THE GANG WENT TO BED AS USUAL BUT THIS TIME THERE WERE LUSTY SONGS IN THE AIR FOR OVER AN HOUR, FUNNY CRACKS, GAGS, ETC, BUT ONE CAME OUT A TRIFLE ON THE SHADY SIDE AND OLE SLAPPED THE LID ON THIS IN A HURRY. NOBODY TRIED IT AGAIN ON THE ENTIRE TRIP.

IX

WEDNESDAY

OLE AWOKE AND HEARD A FIRE CRACKLING MERRILY OUTSIDE, LOOKED OUT OF THE TENT AND SAW LEFTY THERE POKING MORE WOOD UNDER TWO STEAMING KETTLES OF WATER. WITHIN AN HOUR EVERYONE HAD BREAKFAST AND OLE SUGGESTED A HIKE IN THE WOODS.

THEY HIKE FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS, RUNNING ACROSS MANY DEER TRACKS, SOME MOOSE TRACKS, ARROWHEAD PLANS, LABRADOR TEA, PRINCESS PINE, INDIAN PIPE, AND MANY OTHERS BESIDES RUNNING A "PORKY-PINE" UP A TREE. THEY ALSO PICKED ENOUGH BLUE BERRIES TO FILL ONE OF THE LARGE BUCKETS SO OLE PROMISED HE WOULD MAKE THEM A BLUEBERRY PIE AND AN EXTRA PIECE WENT TO THE ONE WHO COULD IDENTIFY THE BIGGEST NUMBER OF PLANTS AND TREES. THERE WAS A SCRAMBLE FOR SPECIMENS AND OLE WENT BACK TO CAMP TO PREPARE DINNER. THEY HAD FRIED BACON, POTATOES AND GRAVY, BOILED CARROTS, AND THREE BIG BLUEBERRY PIES WHICH OLE HAD BAKED IN THE REFLECTOR OVEN.

THEY BROKE CAMP AND PREPARED TO MOVE ON UP THE LAKE.

OLE TOOK THE BAG OF LIMA BEANS OUT OF THE GRUB PACK, DUNKED IT IN THE LAKE AND SET IT IN THE BOW OF HIS CANOE. IT WAS TO BE DUNKED EVERY 30 FEET SO THAT THEY WOULD BE SOAKED UP FOR SUPPER THAT EVENING AND AS THERE WOULD BE NO PORTAGES AHEAD THAT DAY IT WAS A SIMPLE MATTER TO JUST KEEP THEM IN THE CANOE.

AS THEY SHOVED OFF TO PADDLE NORTH WITH ONE OF THE BOYS TAKING THE LEAD AS "GUIDE" THEY SPIED FOUR CANOES COMING DOWN THE LAKE TOWARD THEM - SOME HIGH VOICES AMONG THEM - SURE ENOUGH IT WAS A PARTY OF GIRLS AND AS THEY DREW CLOSER ONE COULD SEE TWO BOYS IN THE BUNCH, APPARENTLY THEIR GUIDES, A PARTY OF YWCA GIRLS. SEVERAL COMMENTS CAME FROM THE SCOUTS AS TO THOSE LUCKY GUYS AND OLE COULD SEE THERE MIGHT BE SOME WISCRACKS AS THEY CAME CLOSER TO THE PARTY OF GIRLS AND REMINDED THE GANG OF WHAT ZOWY HAD SAID AT CAMP FIRE BACK AT THE CANOE BASE AND THAT THEY WERE SCOUTS. IT WAS SUCCESSFUL AND THE PARTIES PASSED EACH OTHER WITH NOTHING OUT-OF-THE-WAY SAID. AFTER THEY WERE OUT OF HEARING DISTANCE OF THE GIRLS THE CHATTER STARTED UP NATURALLY ABOUT THAT CERTAIN GIRL IN THE BOW, ETC., -

THEY WERE PASSING THE HUNDRED FOOT VERTICAL ROCK CLIFFS WHICH AGNES IS FAMED FOR AND SOME OF THE GANG WANTED TO STOP AND CLIMB THEM AND ROLL ROCKS DOWN THINKING HOW MUCH FUN IT WOULD BE TO SEE THEM GO CRASHING INTO THE WATER. OLE TOLD THEM HOW THIS HAD BEEN DONE DOWN ON CROOKED LAKE AND HOW A ROCK CAME DOWN RIGHT THROUGH THE BOTTOM OF A CANOE WHICH HAPPENED TO BE GLIDING ALONG BELOW. HE SUGGESTED THEY KEEP GOING IN ORDER TO MAKE THEIR NEW CAMP SPOT BEFORE IT GOT TOO LATE IN THE DAY.

AS THEY CAME OUT ON THE OPEN STRETCH IN AGNES THERE WAS A BIT OF A HEAD WIND AND THEY HAD TO PUSH THEIR PADDLES FOR ALL THEY WERE WORTH UNTIL THEY REACHED A SMALL ISLAND CLOSE TO THE WEST SHORE AND ABOUT HALF WAY UP THE LAKE. THIS IS WHERE THEY WERE TO CAMP. RELIEVED, THEY UNLOADED THEIR CANOES AND SET UP CAMP. SOMEONE FOUND A PEACH OF A CASTING ROD WHICH HAD BEEN LEFT THERE, AND OLE SAID THEY WOULD TRY AND FIND THE OWNER WHEN THEY REACHED THE RANGER STATION ON THE WAY BACK AND THAT IF THE OWNER COULD NOT BE FOUND, THE FINDER COULD KEEP IT.

WHEN CAMP WAS SET OLE MADE IT CLEAR THAT BEING SUCH A SMALL ISLAND, THERE WAS A LATHEEN OVER ON MAIN LAND WHICH HE HAD HANDLED HIS CANOE AND HAD PUT A HOLE IN THE CANVAS.

OLE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY AND HAD ONE OF THE FELLOWS PATCH IT UP UNDER HIS GUIDANCE.

THEY HAD SUPPER AND WERE PICKING BLUEBERRIES WHICH WERE LARGE AND ABUNDANT AND OLE ANNOUNCED THAT IF THEY PICKED A SMALL KETTLE FULL THAT THEY COULD HAVE BLUEBERRY PANCAKES IN THE MORNING. THIS WAS SOMETHING NEW TO MOST OF THEM AND THEY EAGERLY FILLED THE BUCKET.

AS IT GREW DARK THE MOSQUITOES WEREN'T SO BAD HERE BECAUSE THE GENTLE BREEZE ON THE SMALL ISLAND BLEW ALL OF THEM AWAY. SO THAT EVENING THEY BUILT A CAMPFIRE AND HAD A SWELL TIME DOING TRICKS, TELLING STORIES AND SINGING.

X
THURSDAY

PANCAKES, BLUEBERRY PANCAKES, A FOOT IN DIAMETER WERE GOBBLED DOWN THAT MORNING WITH BUTTER AND GOOD BROWN SUGAR SYRUP ON THE. THOUGH THEY ATE LIKE HOGS, ONE OF THOSE PANCAKES WAS ENOUGH FOR ALL BUT LEFTY, HE COULD ALWAYS DOWN ANOTHER SMALL ONE.

OLE KNEW BY MAKING THEM THAT BIG HE WOULD SAVE A LOT OF TIME FRYING PANCAKES WHICH ALWAYS TAKES LONG ENOUGH ANYWAY COMPARED TO ANY OTHER BREAKFAST.

A COUPLE OF THE BOYS WERE CASTING OFF THE STEEP SHORE LINE OF THE ISLAND AND WERE PULLING IN SOME FISH. "NORTHERNS." HE HEARD THEM SAY AS THEY WERE THROWING THEIR CATCHES BACK IN THE LAKE. OLE HEARD THEM AND CAME OVER TO TELL THEM THAT IF ANY OF THEM WERE HURT BADLY BY THE HOOK, THEY HAD BETTER KEEP THEM.

ANOTHER FISH WAS CAUGHT AND AGAIN THEY TOSSED IT BACK IN THE LAKE. "DO YOU KNOW WHAT KIND OF FISH THAT WAS?" ASKED OLE IN AMUSMENT. THE KIDS LOOKED PUZZLED AS THEY WONDERED IF THEY HAD MADE A MISTAKE IN IDENTIFYING THE FISH. "LAKE TROUT" SAID OLE LAUGHING AND THIS TIME THE WHOLE CAMP HAD GATHERED AROUND TO SEE THE EXCITEMENT.

LAKE TROUT CAUGHT CASTING OFF SHORE - BOY! THAT WAS SOMETHING. SOME OF THE OTHERS TRIED IT BUT WERE UNSUCCESSFUL AND OLE EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS THE FELLOWS WHO HAD GOTTEN BACKLASHES WHO HAD GOTTEN THE TROUT BECAUSE THEIR LINES HAD TIME TO SINK DOWN THE NECESSARY FIFTY FEET OR SO WHERE THE TROUT WERE.

THEN THEY ALL WANTED TO TRY IT AND WERE PUTTING ON LARGE SINKERS SO THEIR BAIT WOULD SINK DEEP ENOUGH.

OLE WAS ON THE SPOT. HE REALIZED HOW MUCH FUN THEY WERE HAVING AND WHAT A SHAME IT WOULD BE TO SPOIL THEIR EXPERIENCE AND STILL WHAT WERE THEY TO DO WITH THE FISH THEY CAUGHT? THEY HAD TO LEAVE IN A SHORT TIME IN ORDER TO GET TO BASSWOOD TONIGHT. HE CALLED THE GANG TOGETHER AS MUCH AS HE COULD AND TOLD THEM OF THEIR PREDICAMENT. "WE HAVE TO GET TO BASSWOOD TONIGHT IN ORDER TO GET BACK TO THE BASE CAMP ON TIME AND THEY CERTAINLY COULDN'T JUST CATCH FISH AND WASTE THEM."

AFTER DISCUSSING THE WHOLE THING OVER AND AT OLE'S SUGGESTION, THEY DECIDED ON A PLAN AND WERE ALL SATISFIED.

THEY WERE TO FISH FOR A HALF HOUR LONGER, THROWING BACK ALL FISH WHICH WERE NOT HURT AND KEEPING THE REST TO BE SMOKED RIGHT AWAY TO BE TAKEN WITH THEM.

THEY WOULD REALLY DIG IN AND PADDLE IN ORDER TO MAKE UP THE LOST TIME AND MAKE BASSWOOD BY DARK.

THE PLAN WORKED OUT OKAY. THEY STOPPED FISHING IN A HALF HOUR AND HELPED OLE GET THE FISH READY TO BE SMOKED. THE INSIDES WERE TAKEN OUT, HEAD CUT OFF, AND THEY WERE SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE INTO TWO PIECES. THEN OLE AND LEFTY STRUNG THEM ON GREEN STICKS AND THERE THEY HUNG, THE HEAVY SMOKE FROM GREEN MAPLE WOOD CURLING AROUND THEM WITH JUST ENOUGH HEAT TO COOK THEM THROUGH AND THROUGH AND THEY COULD HARDLY WAIT FOR A TASTE.

THEY BROKE CAMP AND GOT ALL SET TO GO WHILE OLE TENDED THE FISH, BASTING THEM EVERY SO OFTEN WITH BACON GREASE TO KEEP THEM FROM DRYING OUT. WHEN THEY WERE THOROUGHLY DONE OLE GAVE THEM EACH A TASTE, AND PUT THE REST IN A CLOTH BAG AND PUT THEM IN THE GRUB PACK.

OLE LOOKED AROUND. THE CAMP WAS ALL CLEANED UP SO THEY PUT THE FIRE OUT WITH WATER, CLEANED THE ASHES OUT, LOADED THEIR CANOES, AND STARTED OUT. OLE LEAD THE WAY NOT WANTING TO LOSE ANY TIME.

THE GANG WERE IN GOOD SHAPE, THEIR STROKES WERE ALMOST PERFECT BY THIS TIME AND THEY WERE WELL BROKEN IN. THEY WENT DOWN THROUGH SILENCIE LAKE, SUMMER, NOON, AND INTO SHADE LAKE SO FAST THAT IT ALMOST WORE OUT LEFTY AND OLE. THEY WERE RACING ONE ANOTHER ACROSS SHADE LAKE WHEN ONE OF THE FELLOWS SNAPPED A PADDLE. THERE WERE EXTRA PADDLES BUT OLE TOLD THEM TO SAVE THE BROKEN ONE AND THEY WOULD REPAIR IT THAT NIGHT.

THEY REACHED NORTH BAY IN BASSWOOD BY SIX O'CLOCK WHICH WAS PRETTY GOOD TIME FOR THAT DISTANCE. THEY HAD EATEN ALL THE SMOKED FISH AT NOON SO OLE PICKED THE QUICKEST SUPPER OUT OF THE GRUB PACK, MACARONI AND CHEESE. IN NO TIME IT WAS READY AND WHILE THEY WERE EATING ONE OF THE FELLOWS ASKED OLE ABOUT THAT OUTBOARD MOTOR AND TWO FIVE GALLON CANS OF GASOLINE WHICH THEY HAD PASSED ON A PORTAGE THAT DAY. "AREN'T THEY AFRAID SOMEONE MIGHT STEAL THEM?" HE ASKED. "PEOPLE JUST DON'T DO THAT SORT OF THING UP HERE IN GOD'S COUNTRY" OLE EXPLAINED AND WENT ON TO EXPLAIN HOW THERE WAS JUST SORT OF AN HONOR ABOUT SUCH THINGS IN THE WILDERNESS AND HE TOLD THEM OF THE OVERNIGHT CABING THROUGH THE WOODS WHICH BELONGED TO THE RANGERS WHICH WERE ALWAYS LEFT FULL OF FOOD, BLANKETS, ETC., WITH UNLOCKED DOORS. THAT PEOPLE WERE WELCOME TO STAY THERE BUT HAD ALWAYS TREATED IT WITH RESPECT.

THEY COULD HAVE JUST DISCARDED THAT BROKEN PADDLE BUT OLE KNEW THAT ACTUAL PRACTICE AT REPAIRING IT WAS FAR BETTER THAN BEING TOLD OF METHODS SO BEFORE TURNING IN THAT NIGHT THEY REPAIRED THE PADDLE AND HAD A LOT OF FUN DOING SO.

THAT NIGHT OLE WOKE UP. HE THOUGHT SOMETHING HAD AWAKENED HIM, BUT DIDN'T KNOW WHAT AND THEN HE HEARD SOME DISHES RATTLE. SOMEONE HAD GOTTEN UP AND WERE ROBBING THE GRUB PACK THOUGHT OLE, IT HAD HAPPENED BEFORE AND HE LOOKED OUT OF HIS TENT. THERE WAS A BEAR SNIFFING AROUND. IT WAS NOTHING NEW TO OLE BUT HE KNEW THAT THE OTHERS WOULD GET A KICK OUT OF IT IF THEY COULD SEE HIM TOO. HE KNEW IF HE MADE ANY NOISE THE BEAR MIGHT RUN OFF IN THE WOODS AND NOBODY WOULD GET A CHANCE TO SEE HIM, SO HE QUIETLY WOKE UP THE OTHER THREE FELLOWS IN HIS TENT SO AT LEAST THEY COULD GET A CHANCE TO SEE THE BEAR.

A LITTLE EXCITEMENT IN CAMP WON'T HURT ANYTHING THOUGHT OLE AND HE SUDDENLY WHOOPED AND HOWLED WITH ALL HIS MIGHT. EVERYONE WAS UP AND OUT OF THEIR TENTS LIKE A SHOT. OLE TRIED TO ACT A LITTLE AFRAID TO GET EVERYONE IN THE SAME MOOD SO THAT THERE WOULD BE SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT WHEN THEY HAD GOTTEN BACK HOME.

ABOUT HALF THE CAMP HAD GOTTEN TO SEE THE BEAR AND THE OTHER HALF WERE PRETTY SCARED AND DIDN'T KNOW WHETHER THEY WANTED TO SEE ONE OR NOT. OLE APPOINTED FELLOWS FOR NIGHT WATCH - ONE HOUR EACH UNTIL MORNING AND WENT BACK TO HIS TENT AND WENT TO SLEEP. HE WAS PRETTY SURE THAT THE NIGHT WATCH WOULD BE CARRIED OUT AND PROBABLY WITH MORE THAN ONE ON DUTY.

XI

FRIDAY

THAT MORNING THERE WERE SOME OF THE GANG WHO LOOKED AS IF THEY HADN'T SLEPT A WINK ALL NIGHT BUT CERTAINLY NO ONE FELT BAD ABOUT IT AND THEY WENT ON WITH THINGS AS USUAL.

THERE WAS A STIFF BREEZE THIS MORNING AND IT WOULD BE IN THEIR BACKS SO OLE SHOWED THE BUNCH HOW THEY COULD RIG UP A SAIL FOR THEIR CANOES.

TO EVERYONE'S DELIGHT THE SAILS WORKED PERFECTLY AND THEY HAD GOOD TIME AS THEY GLIDED DOWN THE LAKE BUT JUST TO HIT IT THERE DIDN'T SEEM QUITE NATURAL SO THEY STARTED TO PADDLE AND ALONG WITH THEIR SAILS THEY FAIRLY FLEW DOWN THE LAKE.

SHORTLY AFTER THEY HAD EATEN LUNCH THEY REACHED THE RANGER STATION. ADDRESSING THE RANGER OLE ASKED HIM IF ANYONE HAD REPORTED LOOSING A ROD AND REEL AND THE RANGER ASSURED HIM THAT A PARTY HAD LOST ONE ON BARE ISLAND ON AGNES. "THEY'RE CAMPING OVER ON WASHINGTON ISLAND RIGHT NOW," SAID THE RANGER, "AND I EXPECT THEM BACK OVER HERE THIS EVENING."

"HERE IT IS," SAID OLE HANDING IT TO THE RANGER, "THAT 'S JUST WHERE WE FOUND IT."

THEY SPENT A FEW MINUTES AT THE TRADING POST THERE, CANDY BARS BEING THE BIGGEST ATTRACTION, AND THEY GOT INTO THEIR CANOES AGAIN AND HEADED FOR WIND BAY.

"WE'RE BACK IN THE GOOD OLD U. S. A. NOW," SAID OLE AFTER THEY HAD PADDLED ABOUT TEN MINUTES. IT WAS A SURPRISE TO MOST OF THE GANG AND THEY ALL BROKE OUT SINGING GOD BLESS AMERICA.

WIND BAY WAS FULL OF GREEN RUSHES AND LOOKED LIKE A MEADOW. "WILD RICE," EXCLAIMED OLE AND AS EVERYONE SEEMED INTERESTED HE WENT ON TO EXPLAIN HOW IT LOOKED WHEN IT HAD RIPENED AND HOW THE INDIANS HARVESTED IT - THE RICE DANCE THEY HAD WHEN HARVESTING TIME WAS OVER, ETC.-

THEY PORTAGED OVER TO WIND LAKE AND WENT ON TO AN ISLAND WHERE THEY SET UP CAMP. "LOOKS LIKE A LITTLE RAIN TONIGHT," SAID OLE AS HE CASTED HIS WEATHER-EYE ABOUT. WE'D BETTER TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS FOR IT.

THEY WERE CAREFUL TO PITCH THEIR TENTS ON HIGH GROUND WHERE NO WATER WOULD RUN IN ON THEM DURING THE NIGHT.

OLE CAME UPON ONE FELLOW WHO HAD MADE HIMSELF A BALSAM-BOUGH BED AND OTHERS WERE STARTING TO FOLLOW SUIT BUT OLE CAME TO THE RESCUE OF THE BALSAM TREE AND EXPLAINED THAT IN CASES WHEN A FELLOW WAS OUT BY HIMSELF IT MIGHT BE PERMISSABLE TO MAKE A BOUGH BED BUT IF ALL THE HUNDREDS OF SCOUTS WHO WENT OUT ON TRIPS DURING THE SUMMER EACH MADE THEMSELVES A BOUGH BED, THAT BEFORE LONG THERE WOULDN'T BE A BALSAM TREE WITHIN A MILE OF ANY CAMPSITE.

THE GANG SAW THE POINT AND WERE SATISFIED TO GO WITHOUT. "YOU MIGHT DO A LITTLE TINY DITCHING WHERE POSSIBLE." OLE ADDED.

AS EVERYONE WAS READY FOR BED THAT NIGHT IT STARTED TO RAIN. OLE LIKED TO HEAR IT ON HIS TENT. HE ALWAYS COULD SLEEP SO GOOD WHEN IT RAINED.

XII

SATURDAY

IT WAS STILL MISTING HEAVILY WHEN OLE GOT UP AND HE STRUNG UP THE KITCHEN TARP AS A ROOF TO COOK AND EAT UNDER.

BEING THE LAST TIME THE POTS WOULD BE USED THIS TRIP, THEY WERE SCRUBBED EXTRA SHINY.

SOME OF THE FELLOWS WERE CHECKING OVER THEIR PADDLE REQUIREMENTS SO AS TO BE SURE THEY HAD EVERYTHING DONE SEEING THAT THIS WOULD BE THEIR LAST CHANCE AND ONE OF THE BOYS ASKED OLE ABOUT THE "GOOD TURN TO THE FOREST SERVICE" AND OLE ASSURED THEM THAT THIS WAS AN EXCELLENT SPOT TO COMPLETE THAT.

THIS CAMP GROUNDS WAS CLOSE TO CIVILIZATION AND USED BY MANY "FISHERMAN" WHO RATHER ENJOY IT WHEN THE FISH AREN'T BITING SO THEY CAN GO ON SHORE SOMEPLACE AND PARTY UP A BIT. THE PLACE AS A MESS. BEER CANS LAYING AROUND EVERYWHERE, BROKEN BOTTLES, RAGS, DEAD FISH, IN FACT THE PLACE RATHER STUNK.

THE BOYS WERE STARTING TO CLEAR AND OLE SUGGESTED GETTING A CANOE UP ON THE GROUNDS AND FILLING IT WITH CANS. AT FIRST SOME OF THE KIDS KIND OF SAT BACK. THEY DIDN'T THINK SO MUCH OF THE IDEA BUT AS SOON AS THEY SAW THE PLACE BEGINNING TO LOOK BRIGHTER AND CLEANER THEY BEGAN TO TAKE A LITTLE PRIDE IN THE WAY THEY HAD LEFT THEIR PREVIOUS CAMPS AND FINLY DECIDED THAT THIS CAMP SHOULD BE THE SAME. IT WOULD BE A SHAME TO SPOIL THEIR RECORD NOW.

THEY ACTUALLY THOUGHT IT WAS FUN NOW AND WERE PICKING UP EVERY BOTTLE CAP AND FINELY GOT DOWN TO WHERE THEY WERE PICKING UP BURNT MATCHES.

BEFORE LONG THE CAMP WAS AS SPOTLESS AS THE OTHERS THEY HAD LEFT. THEY HAD FILLED UP TWO CANOES FULL OF THE DEBRIS AND HAD BURIED ALL OF IT. THEY FELT PROUD OF THE SPOT.

THE CANOES WERE SCRUBBED OUT WITH THE BIG SCRUB BRUSH FROM THE KETTLE PACK AND THEY SHOVED OFF.

THEY ATE LUNCH ON THE PORTAGE INTO MOOSE LAKE AND HEADED FOR THE CANOE BASE, MUCH TO THEIR SURPRISE THAT THEY WERE SO CLOSE TO WHERE THEY HAD STARTED.

OVER NEAR THE BASE THEY SPOTTED ANOTHER GROUP OF SCOUTS JUST PULLING IN FROM THEIR TRIP. THEY WERE ABOUT TO YELL TO THEM BUT REMEMBERED THAT GOOD CAMPERS DIDN'T DO SUCH THINGS AND THEY JUST WAVED AND WAVED THEIR PADDLES BUT COULDN'T RAISE AN ANSWER.

WHEN THEY ARRIVED AT THE BASE CAMP THERE WAS MAC TO GREET THEM AND WERE TELLING HIM OF THE MIDNIGHT VISITOR THEY HAD HAD AS THEY TOOK "THE LAST PORTAGE" UP TO THE

CANOE RACKS AND UP TO THE LODGE.

OLE⁹ WAS THE LAST PARTY TO ARRIVE IN CAMP AND MOST EVERYONE HAD PULLED OUT FOR HOME EXCEPT THOSE WHO HAD JUST PULLED IN AHEAD OF THEM.

"CHECK IN YOUR EQUIPMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE," SAID OLE, "WILLIAMS IS IN THERE AND WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU AND DON'T FORGET TO HAVE ALL OF YOUR EQUIPMENT FOLDED WITH THE NUMBER OUT."

THEY CHECKED IN THEIR EQUIPMENT, MAC GAVE THEM THEIR BILLFOLDS, WATCHES, CAR KEYS, ETC. AND THEY LOADED UP THEIR CARS.

SOME HAD THEIR "PADDLE AWARD" BLANKS SIGNED BY THEIR GUIDE AND MAC, THERE WERE LOTS OF "WRITE ME A LETTER" 'S IN THE AIR, HAND SHAKING, AND LEFTY AND OLE WERE OUT TO SEE THE GANG OFF. TO SOME GUIDES THERE MIGHT OF BEEN A SIGH OF RELIEF, OR "GOOD RIDANCE", BUT TO OLE IT WAS THE PARTING OF SOME TRUE FRIENDSHIPS WHICH HE HAD MADE AND HE HAD A FUNNY FEELING IN HIS THROAT AS THE GANG LEFT.

HE TURNED TO BUSY HIMSELF WITH HIS GRUB PACKS WHICH WERE ALMOST EMPTY. HE SHOOK OUT THE WET AND DRY GRUB PACKS, PUT THE FOOD WHICH HAD HAD FOOD IN THEM AND AS SOME OF THEM WERE DAMP, HE HUNG THEM UP TO DRY.

HE SHOOK OUT THE EMPTY BREAD PACK AND TURNED TO THE KETTLE PACK. IT WAS ALL SET FOR ANOTHER TRIP EXCEPT FOR A FEW THINGS WHICH HAD TO BE ATTENDED TO. HE FILLED THE SALT CAN, BAKING POWDER AND SODA CANS, REFILLED THE FLIT CAN, AND MATCH CAN AND SET THE KETTLE PACK IN ITS PLACE AS IT WAS ALL SET FOR ANOTHER TRIP EXCEPT FOR SHARPENING THE AXE.

AS THE OTHER GUIDES WERE BUSY FILLING UP FOOD BAGS FOR ANOTHER TRIP HE TOOK THE AXE AND GAVE IT A WHIRL ON THE GRINDSTONE. THEN WENT TO THE OFFICE. "HOW WAS THE TRIP?" ASKED MAC, "OKAY, BUT I'M ALL SET FOR A TOUGH ONE NEXT WEEK. WHAT'S THE LINE-UP?"

MAC SHOWED OLE HIS PROSPECTS AND ASSURED HIM HE HOPED HE'D GET HIS WISH. ALL OF THE GUIDES KNEW FROM EXPERIENCE THAT THIS AFTERNOON WAS THE TIME TO GET ALL THE WORK DONE AND THE PLACE IN SHIPSHAPE FOR THE NEXT PARTY. THIS WOULD GIVE THEM A FREE EVENING AND A FREE SUNDAY MORNING TO DO WHATEVER THEY WISHED.

THE FOOD BAGS WERE ALL FILLED FOR THE NEXT TRIP, JAM CANS CLEANED OUT AND REFILLED, ALL THE WET TENTS AND PACKS WERE HUNG OUT TO DRY, THE PACKSACKS WERE LOOKED OVER AND THOSE THAT NEEDED REPAIRING WERE SORTED OUT AND RIVETS WERE PUT IN WHERE NEEDED ETC. THIS WAS SY'S JOB. EACH GUIDE ATTENDED TO HIS PARTICULAR JOB AND THE WORK WAS ALL DONE BY SUPPER TIME.

DOC LOOKED OVER ALL THE FIRST AID KITS AND REPLACED ANYTHING NEEDED, SAM AND GEORGE WASHED UP ALL THE JAM AND PEANUT BUTTER CANS AND FILLED THEM FOR ANOTHER TRIP, OLE AND LEFTY GAVE ALL THE CANOES A GOING OVER, PUT ON PATCHES, DOBBED ON PAINT, AND TIGHTENED YODKS, ETC.

AVENY HAD PREPARED SUPPER ALONG WITH MAC AND THEY SWAPPED STORIES ABOUT THEIR VARIOUS TRIPS OVER THE SUPPER TABLE.

AFTER SUPPER THEY LISTENED TO THE NEWS - HAD TO CATCH UP ON THE NEWS ONCE A WEEK ANYWAY AND THEN THEY GATHERED IN THE THINGS WHICH WERE ON THE LINE DRYING, FOLDED THEM UP AND PUT THEM AWAY.

THE WEEK WAS OVER AND THEY WERE WONDERING WHAT SORT OF GANGS THEY WOULD HAVE THE COMING WEEK.

XII

THE OTHER TRIPS

JACK, WITH ZOWY AS SWAMPER, HAD TAKEN A "FISHING TRIP". HIS GANG WANTED TO FISH, SO JACK PICKED OUT A LAKE NOT TOO FAR AWAY, SET UP A BASE CAMP AND CAMPED THERE MOST OF THE WEEK WHILE THE BOYS FISHED, NOT JUST IN THAT LAKE BUT IN OTHERS CLOSE BY. THEY HAD A CHANCE AT THE WALL-EYED PIKE, LAKE TROUT, AND BASS, ALONG WITH PLenty OF NORTHERN PIKE.

SOME DAYS THEY WOULD STRIKE OUT AFTER BREAKFAST WITH JUST THEIR LUNCH AND FISHING TACKLE AND SPEND THE DAY IN NEARBY LAKES FISHING AND SOMETIMES EXPLORING.

HE ALWAYS SAW THAT THEY HAD SOMETHING TO DO HOWEVER. VERY SELDOM DID ANYONE JUST STAY AT THE BASE CAMP WHICH THEY HAD SET UP AND JUST LAY AROUND WITH NOTHING TO OCCUPY THEM. THESE FELLOWS NEVER COME BACK THE SECOND YEAR.

DOC AND SY HAD BEEN ON ONE OF THOSE TRIPS WHERE THE GANG WANTED TO COVER COUNTRY. THEY WANTED TO SEE HOW MANY LAKES THEY COULD COVER IN A WEEK. THEY WANTED A WORKOUT AND DOC GAVE IT TO THEM.

WILLIAMS AND SAM HAD A PARTY WHO WERE MORE INTERESTED IN THE WOODS. THEY WANTED TO HIKE IN THE WOODS, TO STUDY BIRDS, ANIMALS, TREES, AND PLANTS. WILLIAMS HAD PICKED A SPOT NOT TOO FAR OFF, SET UP A BASE CAMP FOR TWO DAYS, MOVED TO ANOTHER CAMPSITE AND SET UP A BASE CAMP THERE FOR THE REST OF THE WEEK AND THE BOYS HAD JUST WHAT THEY WANTED.

AVERY AND GEORGE TOOK OUT A PARTY WHO'S DESIRES WERE SIMILAR TO OLE'S GANG EXCEPT THAT THEY DIDN'T WANT TO GO INTO CANADIAN WATERS. THEY STAYED SOUTH OF THE BORDER, AND HAD A FINE TRIP WITH PLenty OF FISHING AND PADDED THROUGH PLenty OF REAL WILDERNESS.

EACH BOY IS GIVEN HIS CHOICE OF THE KIND OF TRIP HE WISHED TO TAKE AND IF HE COMES FOR THE SECOND YEAR, ONE OF THE TWO YEARS HE HAS UNDOUBTEDLY CHOSEN A TRIP WHICH COVERS AS MANY LAKES AS POSSIBLE AND THIS TRIP IS THE ONE WHERE HE USUALLY HAS THE MOST HARDSHIPS TO ENDURE AND THEREFORE IT LASTS IN HIS MEMORY THE LONGEST AS BEING A REAL EXPERIENCE.

OTHER WEEKS THERE HAD BEEN TWO WEEK TRIPS IN WHICH THE PARTY HAD GONE OUT AND HAD PLenty OF VARIETY AS TO SEEING PLenty OF COUNTRY AND ALSO MAKING IT A BIT MORE EASY AND DOING MORE FISHING. THIS MAKES AN IDEAL TRIP.

XIII

THE CANOE TRIP GUIDE

A LOT OF PEOPLE ASK, "HOW COME ALL OF YOUR GUIDES AREN'T FELLOWS WHO WERE BORN AND RAISED IN THE NORTH COUNTRY. DON'T THEY MAKE THE BEST GUIDES?"

THE ANSWER IS THAT OUR GUIDES ARE PICKED FROM THIS PART OF THE COUNTRY SO FAR AS POSSIBLE BUT HERE GOOD GUIDES ARE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN. WHY? BECAUSE A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF NATIVE GUIDES DO THEIR WORK ONLY BECAUSE IT'S A JOE AND A TOUGH JOB FOR THE MONEY EARNED AND MANY OF THEM WOULD NEVER GUIDE IF THERE WAS ANY OTHER JOB THEY COULD GET. THEY'VE LIVED IN THE WOODS AND LAKES ALL THEIR LIFE AND GUIDING TO THEM ISN'T FUN - FAR FROM IT. THERE IS NO ROMANCE TO IT ANY MORE THAN THERE WOULD BE FOR A CITY FELLOW TO GUIDE A PARTY OF VISITORS AROUND HIS OWN CITY FOR WEEKS ON END DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS. HE GOES "STALE" ON HIS JOB. PICKS THE EASIEST ROUTES AND THE GANGS WHO WANT TO "TAKE IT EASY" WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

HE DOESN'T SEE WHY THESE FELLOWS WANT TO LEARN THE NAMES OF ALL THESE UNINTERESTING TREES, PLANTS, BIRDS AND ANIMALS. ANYWAY, SO HE NEVER MENTIONS THEM UNLESS SOMEONE BEGS FOR THE INFORMATION. SURE, HE KNOWS A LOT ABOUT THIS COUNTRY BOTH SUMMER AND WINTER FROM YEARS BACK BUT IT ISN'T INTERESTING TO HIM SO WHY SHOULD IT BE INTERESTING TO ANYONE COMING UP HERE ON A CANOE TRIP.

TAKE A FELLOW WHO WAS BORN AND RAISED ON THE PLAINS. A FEW OF THEM AFTER A TIME GROW "STALE" TO THE WOODS TOO, BUT A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THEM LOVE IT. IT'S ROMANCE AND IT GETS IN THEIR BLOOD. THEY'D GUIDE FOR NOTHING IF THEY COULD JUST HAVE THE CHANCE TO ENJOY THE WILDERNESS IN ALL IT'S SPLENDOR. PROVIDING THEY HAVE ALL THE OTHER REQUISITES OF A GOOD GUIDE - THESE ARE THE KIND OF GUIDES THAT GO TO MAKE UP OLE, JACK, DOC, WILLIAMS, AND THE REST.

WHAT ARE THESE OTHER REQUISITES FOR A GOOD GUIDE?

FIRST, AND THE MOST IMPORTANT IS RESPONSIBILITY. WE BELIEVE A PERSON SHOULD BE AT LEAST EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD BEFORE HE SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO ACCEPT SUCH A RESPONSIBILITY. HE ALSO SHOULD HAVE TRAINING OR IT'S EQUIVALENT TO THAT GIVEN IN THE AQUATICS COURSE AT FAIRMONT, MINNESOTA, EVERY YEAR.

BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR A GROUP AT A SCOUT CAMP DOESN'T COME UNDER WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY A GUIDE HAS ON A CANOE TRIP. HE IS MILES OF TOUGH TRAVELING FROM THE NEAREST DOCTOR. JUST TRY HARD AND VISUALIZE THAT YOU ARE A GUIDE WHO HAS HIS GANG OUT FIFTY MILES FROM NOWHERE AND THE BUNCH ARE IN SWIMMING. YES, THEY ARE ALL SWIMMERS BUT THIS ISN'T LIKE THE WATERFRONT AT SCOUT CAMP. JUST OFF SHORE IT GOES DOWN TO 20, 30, 40, 60, OR 100 FEET DEEP! WHAT CHANCE WOULD YOU HAVE IN TRYING TO MAKE A RESCUE IF SOMEONE HAD GONE DOWN? YOU COULDN'T EVEN GET A DEAD BODY TO BRING BACK WITH YOU, LET ALONE A SICK ONE. SEVERAL OF OUR GUIDES WHO ARE EXPERT SWIMMERS, UP IN A CLASS OF THEIR OWN, SAY THAT THEY SHUDDER AT THE THOUGHT OF ANYONE EVER NEEDING HELP IN THOSE BOTTOMLESS LAKES. THESE EXPERT SWIMMERS ARE THE MOST CAUTIOUS IN WATCHING THEIR GROUPS SWIM MANY TIMES NOT ALLOWING A SWIM WHERE IT IS SO DEEP EVEN THOUGHT THE BOYS SAY THEY WILL STICK WITHIN TEN FEET FROM SHORE. IT'S SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!

AND THE SWIM IS JUST ONE OF HIS RESPONSIBILITIES. IT IS ALSO HIS JOB ALONE TO CARE FOR THE HEALTH OF EACH INDIVIDUAL IN HIS GROUP. SEE THAT THEY HAVE A GOOD TIME TIME IN ALL KINDS OF WEATHER AND BRING THEM BACK SAFELY.

OUR GUIDES ARE OF GOOD HEALTH AND ARE BUILT TO "TAKE IT". THEY ARE OF GOOD CHARACTER, FRIENDLY, AND CONGENIAL. THEY WATCH THEIR LANGUAGE AND SET GOOD EXAMPLES.

THROUGH PAST EXPERIENCES IT IS FOUND THAT WHEN A BOY GETS OUT ON A CANOE TRIP AWAY FROM OTHERS HE KNOWS IT IS DIFFERENT THAN EVEN HIS SCOUT CAMP.

IF THE OPPORTUNITY PERMITS HE FINDS THIS IS A SWELL SPOT TO LEARN SOME NEW SHADY STORIES, TO PRACTICE A LITTLE PROFANE LANGUAGE AND POSSIBLE TO LEARN TO SMOKE AS HE KNOWS THAT NOBODY WILL EVER KNOW THE DIFFERENCE. HOWEVER, IF HE IS WITH A RESPONSIBLE GUIDE, THIS CAN BE TURNED INTO THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION AND, BEING AS CLOSE TO NATURE AS IT IS, HE CAN HAVE MEMORIES OF IT BEING THE CLEANEST AND THE HEALTHIEST EXPERIENCE OF HIS LIFE.

OUR GUIDES KNOW THEIR SCOUTING. THEY NOT ONLY KNOW THE REQUIREMENTS WHICH SO MANY SCOUTS ASK ABOUT ON THE TRIPS, BUT ALSO ARE ABLE TO GIVE ALL NECESSARY INSTRUCTION FOR ANY TEST WHICH IS LIKELY TO BE A "NATURAL" ON A CANOE TRIP.

OUR GUIDES KNOW THEIR WILDERNESS FIRST AID FROM A TO Z. AFTER ADMINISTERING FIRST AID TO A PATIENT THEY GET HIM TO A DOCTOR IF NECESSARY. IF THE PATIENT MIGHT POSSIBLY BE SO BAD OFF THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO MOVE THEM THERE IS A LOOKOUT TOWER OR A RANGER STATION NOT FAR AWAY WHERE THEY MIGHT PHONE FOR A PLANE TO COME AFTER THE PATIENT OR BRING A DOCTOR TO THE SPOT. SO FAR, THIS HAS NEVER BEEN NECESSARY.

THE GUIDE KNOWS THAT THE CANOE BASE MIGHT NOT BE THE QUICKEST PLACE TO GET TO, THAT ON BASSWOOD LAKE THERE MIGHT BE A DOCTOR OR A FAST BOAT TO TAKE THEM TO ELY, OR AT ON SAGANAGA LAKE THERE MIGHT BE A DOCTOR OR MEANS OF GETTING TO ONE QUICKLY.

IF THERE IS NO SWAMPER TO TAKE THE INJURED PERSON BACK TO CIVILIZATION, THE GUIDE MIGHT GO HIMSELF BUT IS SURE TO SEE THAT A BASE CAMP IS SET UP AND THAT A RESPONSIBLE PERSON IS LEFT IN CHARGE. IF NO PERSON LIKE THAT IS AT HAND, HE TAKES THE WHOLE PARTY OUT WITH THE INJURED ONE.

OUR GUIDES NOT ONLY KNOW THEIR CANOEING BUT ARE ABLE TO INTELLIGENTLY TEACH IT.

OUR GUIDES ARE GOOD CAMPERS. EACH SCOUT WHO GOES ON A TRIP WITH ONE OF THEM IS A BETTER CAMPER WHEN HE RETURNS.

OUR GUIDES KNOW MOST OF THE TREES AND PLANTS, BIRDS, ANIMALS, AND FISH IN THE SECTION OF THE COUNTRY AND TEACH THEIR USES, ETC.

OUR GUIDES KNOW HOW TO FISH, WHERE TO FISH, AND KNOW WHEN TO STOP FISHING. THERE IS NEVER ANY WASTED. THEY KNOW THE FISH LAWS OF THE SECTION OF THE COUNTRY HE IS PADDLING IN AND SEES TO IT THAT EACH MEMBER OF HIS PARTY LIVES UP TO THESE LAWS.

OUR GUIDES ARE TEACHERS NOT CANOE CHAUFFEURS. THEY ARE PART OF THE GANG, NOT THE BOSS WHO GIVES ORDERS OF "DON'T" DO THIS AND "DON'T" DO THAT. HE AROUSES INTEREST DOESN'T SAY "COME NOW, LET'S HAVE A CLASS ON PLAN STUDY." DID YOU NOTICE HOW OLE ACCOMPLISHED THESE THINGS?

A GOOD GUIDE IS A LEADER, GOOD WOODSMAN, AND A DARN HARD WORKER.

THE CANOE TRIP TACKLE BOX

MUCH HAS BEEN WRITTEN ON FISHING TACKLE AND MANY HAVE THEIR OWN IDEAS. FISHING TACKLE VARIES IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE COUNTRY AND TYPES OF FISH TO BE CAUGHT. HERE ARE THE THE BARE NECESSITIES WHICH ARE SUFFICIENT FOR A CANOE TRIP.

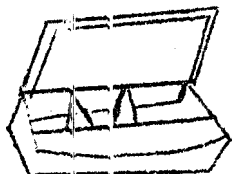


FIGURE 1. - A SMALL TACKLE BOX WHICH CAN BE CARRIED INSIDE THE PACK OR IN THE POCKET. A SMALL TIN CAN WITH A TIGHT FITTING COVER WORKS JUST AS WELL.

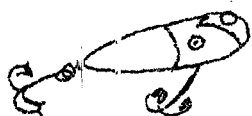


FIGURE 2. - TWO PLUGS OF THIS TYPE ARE PLenty. ONE WHICH FLOATS ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER AND THE OTHER WHICH SINKS. THERE ARE MANY COLORS AND SHAPES WHICH HAVE MANY NAMES. A "REDHEAD" OR "PIKEY MINNOW" ARE TWO WHICH WILL DO FINE. THESE ARE GOOD FOR ALL TYPES OF FISH FOUND IN THESE WATERS BUT ARE PARTICULARLY GOOD IN FAST WATERS. THE FLOATING ONE FOR RAPIDS WHERE THERE IS DANGER OF CATCHING ON ROCKS, ETC.-

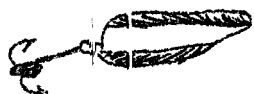


FIGURE 3 - THE SPOON TYPE OF SUCH NAMES AS "K-B", "JARVINEN" "DAREDEVIL", - AND ANY OF THEM ARE GOOD. TWO OR THREE OF THESE IS PLENTY, POSSIBLY OF DIFFERENT TYPES OR COLORS. THESE ARE GOOD FOR ALL TYPES OF FISH AND ARE GOOD FOR TROLLING.



FIGURE 4 - A "JUNEBUG SPINNER" FOR LIVE BAIT. THESE COME IN HANDY WHEN FISH AREN'T BITING QUITE SO WELL. THEY'RE GOOD FOR ANY OF THE FISH. TWO ARE SUFFICIENT.



FIGURE 5 - SINKERS. ABOUT THREE SMALL ONES WILL DO FOR ORDINARY FISHING FOR THE WEEK. ALONG WITH THREE HEAVY ONES - FOUR OR FIVE OUNCES EACH. THESE ARE TO GET DOWN ABOUT SIXTY FEET DEEP FOR LAKE TROUT.



FIGURE 6 - FLIES. EITHER THE DRY OR WET TYPE OR BOTH. IF YOU ARE A FLY FISHERMAN YOU WILL PROBABLY HAVE YOUR OWN IDEAS ANYWAY. IF NOT, THEY ARE NOT NECESSARY AT ALL.

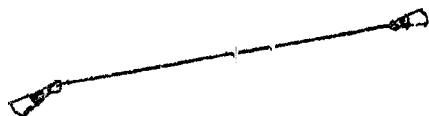


FIGURE 7 LEADERS. ABOUT FIVE FAIRLY LONG ONES.

ON THIS TACKLE YOU CAN CATCH ALL YOU WANT OF WALL-EYED PIKE, BASS, LAKE TROUT, CROPPIES, AND NORTHERN PIKE.

A CASTING ROD IS DESIREABLE BUT NOT NECESSARY, FITTED WITH A FULL SPOOL OF 18 POUND TEST LINE. IF YOU BUY ONE, GET ONE WITH STEEL TIPS AND EYES, NOT GLASS OR AGATE, THEY BREAK EASILY. FIFTY YARDS OF COMMON TROLLING LINE WILL CATCH PLENTY OF FISH, HOWEVER, IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A ROD.

LICENSES

NO GUIDE LICENSE IS REQUIRED IN MINNESOTA.

A GUIDE LICENSE IS REQUIRED IN CANADA.

A MINNESOTA LICENSE IS REQUIRED IF YOU ARE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OVER FOR RESIDENTS - 16 YEARS FOR NON-RESIDENTS.

A CANADIAN LICENSE IS REQUIRED REGARDLESS OF AGE UNLESS A PERSON OF UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE IS WITH HIS PARENTS WHO HAVE A LICENSE.

A CANADIAN LICENSE IS REQUIRED IF YOU POSSESS FISHING TACKLE. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE FISHING TO BE ARRESTED.

A TRAVEL PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR ANYONE WHO TRAVELS BY CANOE IN CANADA. THIS COSTS NOTHING.

IF YOU ARE A NON RESIDENT OF MINNESOTA, DO NOT BUY FISHING LICENSES UNTIL YOU KNOW DEFINITELY WHERE YOUR CANOE TRIP WILL TAKE YOU.

MANY CANOE TRIPS DO NOT GO INTO CANADA AND THEREFORE NO CANADIAN LICENSES ARE NECESSARY.

MANY CANOE TRIPS ARE ALL WITHIN THE BORDERS OF CANADA EXCEPT FOR THE FIRST AND LAST DAYS OUT AND THEREFORE ONLY A CANADIAN LICENSE IS NECESSARY.

MANY CANOE TRIPS ARE ALONG THE BORDER, ONE DAY ONLY IN CANADA AND PERHAPS ANOTHER ONLY IN THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER DAYS OF TRAVEL RIGHT ON THE ACTUAL BORDER. IN THIS CASE IT IS WISE FOR SOME OF THE PARTY TO GET UNITED STATES LICENSES AND SOME TO GET CANADIAN LICENSES, THUS WHEN ON EITHER SIDE, SOMEONE CAN ALWAYS FISH SO THE GANG CAN HAVE FISH FOR SUPPER.

THIS YEAR WE HOPE TO HAVE AN ARRANGEMENT WITH THE CANADIAN OFFICIALS WHEREBY THE CANOE BASE CAN BUY A NUMBER OF FISHING LICENSES WHICH ARE TRANSFERABLE THUS THE CANOE BASE CAN IN TURN SELL EACH SCOUT A LICENSE FOR A SMALL AMOUNT TO BE RETURNED AT THE END OF THE TRIP. \$5.00 IS THE PRICE OF A CANADIAN LICENSE IF ONE PURCHASED IT FOR HIMSELF ALONE. THUS IT MIGHT BE CHEAPER FOR A NON-RESIDENT OF MINNESOTA TO TAKE HIS CANOE TRIP IN CANADA WITH SAY A DOLLAR FOR A TRANSFERABLE LICENSE, THAN TO GET A MINNESOTA LICENSE FOR \$3.00.

XVI

RECIPES

MEATLESS MULLIGAN

BOIL RUTABAGAS AND ONIONS AND CABBAGE. BOIL POTATOES SEPARATELY. THEY NEED NOT BE PUT ON UNTIL HALF AN HOUR AFTER OTHER VEGETABLES HAVE COME TO A BOIL. WHEN ALL ARE DONE, MIX AND ADD TOMATO PASTE, SALT AND PEPPER.

THE BULK OF THE VEGETABLES MUST BE POTATOES ON ACCOUNT OF THE LIMITED QUANTITY OF OTHER VEGETABLES CARRIED. A LITTLE CORNED BEEF MIGHT HELP - OR BACON GREASE OR DICED BACON MAY BE FRIED AND ADDED.

MACARONI MAY BE COOKED SEPARATELY AND ADDED. IN FACT, RICE OR OATMEAL OR ANY COOKED CEREAL OR FLOUR PASTE MAY BE ADDED AND USED FOR THICKENING AND TO STICK TO THE RIBS.

CORNSTARCH MUDDING

BRING SUFFICIENT WATER TO BOIL - SWEETEN WATER WELL - MAKE THIN PASTE OF CORNSTARCH. STIR IN BOILING WATER UNTIL THICK AND DONE. FLAVOR WITH MAPLE SYRUP OR LEMON JUICE OR LEMON POWDER.

BEAN SOUP

BOIL A SMALL QUANTITY OF BEANS IN A LOT OF WATER, UNTIL DONE. SEASON TO TASTE.

BEANS MAY BE BOILED AND THEN PUT IN A FRYING PAN WHEN COOKED. IT WILL CHANGE THE FLAVOR WITHOUT BAKING.

HUNTER'S STEW

SAME AS MULLIGAN BUT USE A DIFFERENT MIXTURE, SO THAT IT WILL APPEAR DIFFERENT. THE GREATER THE IMAGINATION, THE GREATER THE SUCCESS - PROVIDING MATERIALS THAT BLEND WELL ARE USED.

SQUAW CORN

DICE BACON AND FRY TILL DONE - PUT CANNED CORN OR DRIED CORN WELL COOKED INTO THE HOT FRYING PAN WITH THE COOKED BACON AND STIR UNTIL MIXED. SEASON. CORN FRITTERS MAY BE MADE BY ADDING CORN TO THE PANCAKE MIXTURE.

RICE - SPOTTED DOG

PUT WASHED RICE IN COLD WATER AND COOK UNTIL DONE. CAUTION, IF WATER IS 4 TIMES THE DEPTH OF THE RICE, IT WILL NOT BURN. ADD COOKED RAISINS TO MAKE "SPOTTED DOG"

POTATO SOUP

DICE POTATOES AND COOK UNTIL DONE. ADD ANY QUANTITY OF WATER DEPENDING UPON THE CONSISTENCY DESIRED. SEASON. THIS IS A VERY RAPIDLY PREPARED DISH - VERY NOURISHING AND A GOOD "PICK ME UP"

OATMEAL MUSH

STIR MEAL INTO BOILING SALTED WATER. COLD OATMEAL MAY BE FRIED THE NEXT DAY.

DOPE

MIX BROWN SUGAR INTO MELTED BUTTER TO MAKE A THICK PASTE TO BE USED AS A SPREAD.