

REGION TEN
WILDERNESS CANOE TRIPS
RECORD OF PADDLE AWARDS

NAME	Buhl, Tom
ADDRESS	909 Fourth Street South, St. James, Minnesota.
COUNCIL	Minnesota Valley
DATE OF TRIP	1938
GUIDE	Bob Layton

PADDLE AWARDS : DATE	
BRONZE	9/13/38 - Through Fulton
GOLD	
SILVER	

My Canoe Trip

When we arrived at Hibbard's Lodge Sunday July 31, we were given a hot supper after which each one checked out a pack sack and a poncho. Some of us slept outside as there wasn't enough room in the cabin for all of us.

After a good breakfast Monday morning we were told what precautions to take with the canoes and what not to do. Our party, of thirteen including our guide Bob Layton, was first to leave. From Moose Lake we went through Newfound, Sucker, Birch, and Carp Lakes and a pothole before we went up the Knife River into Knife Lake where we made our first camp. We pitched some of the tents and then went swimming. After supper we went to bed and we must have slept sound because we didn't know it had rained until we got up and found our blankets wet. It rained off and on Tuesday morning so we studied trees and picked and ate blueberries. In the afternoon we blazed a trail over to a bay, because of rough water, and in the shelter of this bay we paddled to the other camp and fished along the way. We got a bass and one walleyed pike. When the waves quieted we were able to return without portaging and dried out our blankets. Some went fishing after supper but caught only one lake trout. We slept in the tent that night so of course it didn't rain.

We had fish Wednesday morning for breakfast. After the waves went down some we started out down the lower arm of Knife. From Knife we portaged to a pothole then to Spoon, Pickle, and Kekekabic Lakes. On the latter there were white caps. After going a short distance we camped on a quiet bay. The blueberries here were unusually large. We climbed one high cliff and could see all the lakes we had covered that day. We also swam quite a lot here. The waves wouldn't seem to subside so we went up the lake against the waves and then came back down the lake with the waves over to an island. Here there was an old tumbled down lumber camp and we found pieces of hand forged chains etc. It was windy and the mosquitoes didn't seem to bother us here.

Thursday morning we ate and packed early. the first portage out of Kekekabic was about the hardest one on the trip although not the longest. We went through Shoestring, Frazer, Thomas, and Ima Lakes and four potholes before we got to Jordan Lake where we made our camp site at about 4:15 P.M. We caught a couple of walleyes before supper but nothing after. After a good sleep and a good hot breakfast as usual we had to wait for the waves to quiet down before we started out. We started from Jordan about 9:00 A.M. and made camp on Newfound about 1:00 P.M. After supper Bob, as a special treat, made "darngoods" which are like doughnuts and they made a big hit. There were chipmunks here as there are on most of the often used camp sites.

The mosquitoes were bad Friday night and every body was on K.P. duty Saturday morning to get the kettles polished good.

We arrived at Hibbard's Lodge about 10 o'clock Saturday morning.

I feel that a report of this trip would be incomplete with out mentioning what a swell fellow, good guide, and excellent cook Bob Layton our guide is.

Tom Bull

plant	Plants	value
1. raspberry	1.	food for humans and animals
2. gooseberry	2.	" " " " "
3. blueberry	3.	" " " " "
4. strawberry	4.	" " " " "
5. wild rice	5.	" " " " "
6. pigeon grass	6.	Food for animals
7. quack grass	7.	" " "
8. mint	8.	flavoring
9. rose bush	9.	ornamental
10. fern	10.	"
11. water lilly	11.	"
12. cattail	12.	"
13. poison ivy	13.	none "
14. canadian thistle	14.	none
15. nettles	15.	"

Kind	Trees	Use
1. Norway pine		1. lumber
2. Jack pine		2. " and telephone poles
3. White pine		3. interior finishing
4. Balsom		4. resins for painting & Christmas trees
5. Birch		5. flooring
6. Poplar		6. excelsior, paper, and wooden ware
7. White cedar		7. fence posts, ties, and shingles
8. Red maple		8. interior finishing and tool handles
9. Sugar maple		9. maple sugar and same as red maple
10. White spruce		10. paper pulp
11. Dog wood		11. lathes
12. Black walnut		12. gunstocks and cabinets
13. June Berry		13. no commercial value, berries edible
14. Elm		14. fence posts and ties
15. Ash		15. tools
16. Tamarack		16. ties and fence posts
17. Canadian Juniper		17. fence posts
18. Basswood		18. lumber
19. Butternut		19. cabinetmaking, sap for syrup
20. White oak		20. interior finishing
21. Wild plumb		21. no commercial value, just the fruit
22. Cherry		22. fruit
23. cotton wood		23. pulp
24. Boxelder		24. some times used for construction and pulp
25. Blue spruce		25. flooring, paper pulp

Scouts Tell of Their Canoe Trip

John Olson and Tom Buhl in
Group of Thirty Boys on
Venture

(Editor's note — The following story of the canoe trip taken by John Olson and Tom Buhl with the Boy Scouts, was written for the Plaindealer by John Olson.)

After we had reported at Scout Headquarters at Hibbard's Lodge on Moose Lake, we were given our pancho and a pack in which to carry our own equipment. Also we arrived on Sunday, the canoe trip in itself did not begin until the following morning.

After we had received general instructions and certain safety precautions, a group of about 30 scouts and scouters was divided into two parts, each having a guide. Our group was the first to leave the lodge on Monday.

We paddled through several lakes and rivers and as we encountered each succeeding body of water, we made a portage. On our last portage of the day, on a certain Knife Lake, we came upon an old logging dam. It was still very sturdy and being made of rock and logs its condition was excellent, considering the fact that the logging camps in that country were abandoned 40 years ago.

Approximately 45 minutes later we came to what was to be our base camp for two days. After we finished supper and by the time we had everything prepared for night it was about 8:30 p. m. Because we were very tired after the first day's paddling, we all went to bed very early.

We can truthfully say that we slept soundly through the whole night, for we had no tent to protect us from the rain and found our waking in the morning that our blankets had been soaked by a shower of rain during the night. Tuesday turned out to be a very hot day so our blankets dried before we needed them again.

Before dinner we portaged to a place on the same lake where the second group had pitched camp. Here we fished and swam all afternoon. Many of us went in search of bark from dead birch trees for handicraft purposes. About 5 o'clock we paddled back to our own base camp further on up the lake. After we had our evening meal several of the fellows went fishing. They were only successful, however to the tune of one lake trout caught at about 75 feet deep. About 8:30 o'clock we could hear the droning noise of mosquitoes as they began to come out of the forest upon our camp, so we thought it best to go to bed before they became unbearable. That night we put up a small tent, called a "forest", to protect us from the rain. Naturally, it didn't rain.

difficult portages over high banks, separating the lakes, and by supper time we were ready for bed.

About 5:30 o'clock the other group of scouts arrived at our camp site and we both slept together that night. Saturday was our last day in the north woods. On this day of course, the water was as smooth as glass, about the only ripples in the lake being made by our paddler. Being only four miles from the Lodge we arrived there at 11:30 o'clock in the morning.

Because all good things end quickly, we were forced to say "Goodbye" to the National Forest and our newly made friends. We took the bus to return to St. Paul and came from there to St. James by train.

Our guide refused to start Wednesday morning because the lake was white with waves. It wasn't until 9 o'clock that we started, even then on choppy water. After about 30 minutes of paddling, we had our first portage of the day. The next portage, one of the hardest of our entire trip, was made into Spoon Lake. Many routine portages followed, going from Spoon to Pinkereel and then to Kakababic. On this lake a terrible wind came up, driving the waves to three and four feet in height. This made it necessary to find the shelter of some bay. A few minutes of rather hard paddling brought us out of the whitecaps.

As we came into the bay, on our right there was a hill about 300 or 400 feet high. As we were eating an early dinner it began to rain. The rains in the north woods, however, always seem to be very short, most of them lasting only a half hour or 45 minutes. Several of us climbed the small mountains mentioned above, to take some pictures of the country. On our way down, we came upon a huge hole between two rocks, forming a probable place for bear hibernations in the winter.

When we came down it was so late and we had only a short distance to go, so "Bob", the guide, determined to go through the waves. We arrived safely at our evening's camp about 6:30 o'clock that night. We spent a swell night, not being bothered by any mosquitoes because the wind of the day continued through the night.

The next day we were forced to travel against the waves which were still very large. Besides heading into the wind, we had six portages that morning. In the afternoon on one of the five portages, we found an old logging sluice, abandoned 30 years previously. We proceeded shortly on our way and nothing of special interest occurred.

We were unable to start Friday until 9 o'clock because of the continued high waves. We made some

K List of 25 trees.

John Olson
J.S.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Poplar. | 13 Aspin. |
| 2 Birch. | 14 Elm. |
| 3 White Pine. | 15 Ash. |
| 4 Norwegian Pine. | 16 Tamarack. |
| 5 White Cedar. | 17 Basswood. |
| 6 Jack Pine. | 18 Oak. |
| 7 Balsam. | 19 Butternut. |
| 8 White Spruce. | 20 Hornapple. |
| 9 Red Maple. | 21 Canadian Juniper. |
| 10 Hard Maple. | 22 Wild Plum. |
| 11 Dogwood. | 23 Cherry. |
| 12 Willow. | 24 Cottonwood. |
| | 25 Boxelder. |

List of 15 plants.

John Olson.
J.S.

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Raspberry. | 8 Mint. | 15. Quack grass. |
| 2 Blueberry. | 9 Rosebush. | 16. Pigeon..... |
| 3 Strawberry. | 10 Juneberry. | 17. Poison dry. |
| 4 Gooseberry. | 11 Water Lilies. | 18. Nettles. |
| 5 Fern. | 12 Cat Tails. | 19. Pitcher Plant. |
| 6 Winterberry. | 13 Wild Rice. | |
| 7 Moss. | 14 Wild Daisy. | |



TOM BUHL