REGION TEN
WILDERNESS CANOE TRIPS
RECORD OF PADDLE AWARDS

NAME	Lan, Ralph
ADDRESS	4719 - 29th Ave. South, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
COUNCIL	Minneapolis
DATE OF TRIP	August 13 - 19, 1939
GUIDE	Jack Layton

PADDLE AWARDS:	DATE
BRONZE	8/19/39 - Thru Cornell 1/2/40
GOLD	
SILVER	

Ralph Lam

I

Explorer Canoe Trip Aug. 13-19, 1939

Preparations for the 1939 Explorer canoe trips were made far beforehand by several meetings of the fellows interested. The price of the trips was $11.50 which included our food, guide, canoes, and most everything for a good trip except our personal equipment.

Through the generosity of Harry Cline and the Billesby Post all the fellows went together in one truck.

When the gas, oil, and insurance was paid for it only amounted to $2.00 per Scout.

Sunday

We were told to be at the Citizens Aid Building at 4:30 Sunday morning Aug. 13. Everyone was on time so we got loaded and were on our way at two minutes after five.

When we left the Citizens Aid Building everybody was sitting on the padded seats put in by Harry Cline, but as we neared the open country the air got cold so we took the blankets off the seats, laid on the

floor and covered our selves with them.

Our first stop was at the town of Pine City. Here the Catholic boys went to Church and the rest of us went to a resturant for breakfast. We were started again a little after 8. A.M.

Later on as the sun came out the fellows came out of their hibernation and we began to talk of what was going to happen the next week.

Our next stop was at a filling station just this side of Cloquet. Here we had refreshments of pop, sandwiches, candy, and ice cream, while some of us played "The Beer Barrel Polka" on the machine.

The distance between Cloquet and Virginia was short but the boys were getting cramped so we stopped for a short time.

Next we stopped in Ely for dinner and to pick up Don Butts. Here the fellows got their films and things that they had forgotten to get in the city.

It was about 25 miles from Ely to

Hibbards Lodge and from what we heard the road was now to good.

The last two and one half miles was more like a deer trail than a road, full of chuck holes and overhanging trees, but we finally arrived at the Lodge at 2:22 P.M.

On arriving at Hibbard's Lodge we unloaded our truck and went to the beach for canoe instruction.

Afterwards we met all the guides and men in charge of the canoe trips, and were given our pack sacks, ponchos and ground cloths.

About 6 P.M. we had a supper of meat loaf, scalped potatoes, beans, coffee, bread & butter, and pudding for desert.

After supper everybody got together. There were scouts from Fairmont, Hibbing anoka, and Minneapolis.

There were about 35 Scouts so we divided into three groups, each group taking the trip it wanted. Jack Layton was to be our guide and Don Griese the assistant guide.

It was rather crowded for sleeping that night so some of the Scouts slept on the floor and some outside.

Monday

The call for all out came at 6 A.M and everybody rolled out and began to pack. At 7 we had breakfast of Cereal, French toast, and coffee.

After breakfast we finished packing and we were the first party to shove off. We departed at 8:22.

Our party consisted of four canoes.

#1 Jack Layton
Don Grilse

#2 Don Butts
Bob Soderberg
Ralph Lane

#3 Orly Thornsjo
Don. Rudd
Harold Gerick

#4 Dick Bacon
Jim Sullivan

We paddled north on Moose Lake through the Moose Narrows into Newfound Lake. In the Moose narrows Jack showed us an old house

watering trough made by the Indians. It was in about 6 ft of water but the water was clear and it was easy to see. Our next lake was Sucker. About 10 we came to Prairie Portage and Prairie Portage Falls. This was our first portage and quite easy so we got everything over and went back to look at the falls and the old logging dam. Most of the fellows took pictures of the falls.

Our next lake was Basswood and the largest lake we had come upon yet. All along Basswood we were on the boarder and as we looked to the north we could see the large and beautiful pines of Canada and to the south we could see the second growth timber of the U. S.

One could see the great difference in the conservation practiced by the Canadians and the way the people of the U. S. have cut and ruined their timber land.

We stopped for lunch on an Island on the Canadian side of the border. For lunch we had peanut

butter and pinecot jam sandwiches and nectar.

After lunch we sat around awhile resting and Jack told us one of his stories. It was good but we were all too disgusted to tell him so. (The fellows of the trip are going to keep that story a secret)

As we started out Jack decided the waves were too high so we went on a hike to pass the time.

Later we started out over rough water, the waves were about 1½ to 2 ft high and it made the going plenty tough for the first day. We had to stop twice to empty out one of the canoes.

Our paddling was tough the first day but we covered 22 miles and camped on an Island just off Ottawa Island in Canada. Pitched camp and had supper at 8.02. Stew, rice pudding, tea. Jack forgot his cook book but its swell anyway. We got to bed at 10:00 and had a grand night for sleeping except it was slightly rocky.

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Don had a good place to sleep except for one rock so he decided to dig it out, it turned out to be bigger than he expected so he had to stuff his sweat shirt in the hole and then he spent a pleasant night.

Tuesday

We started our trip in the right way by oversleeping until 6. Breakfast was at 7:22; cereal, prunes, & coffee. Afterwards we broke camp and were in the water at 8 A.M.

Our first portage for Tues. came at Upper Basswood Falls, its name was Horse Portage and they weren't far wrong. The portage was 1½ miles long but it was well beaten. There were three other parties on the portage with us. After the portage we had horse meat sandwiches, nectar, & chocolate. The last canoe was in the water at 12:22

The second portage was only a short distance from Horse Portage and only 24 rods long.

Soon after came the portage around Wheelbarrow Falls of 40 rods. This falls

was somewhat different because it seemed to be two falls but was really only one.

The portage around Lower Basswood Falls was only 12 rods and the easiest one yet.

As we left the falls we were in Crooked Lake and soon came to the picture rocks. These pictures were somewhat small and located on the rocks about ten feet above the water. They were supposed to have been painted by the Indians. The pictures we could make out were those of a moose, pelican, wolf, and deer.

We made camp about a half a mile from the picture rocks on a very beautiful point in Canada. Camp was pitched and we had supper at 6:30. It consisted of bean soup, spaggetti, and tea. Later on several of the fellows went fishing with no luck.

The day was none too easy so we all turned in early. Don Grisel and Ji slept on their rope beds.

V

Wednesday

Hal, Don Rudd, Bob, and Jim got up about 5 to go fishing. They got 4 walleyed non of them very big and Hal lost two dair devils, Bob broke his rod, and Jim lost his.

We had breakfast at 9. Fruit, pancakes, and cocoa. Because the fellows caught the fish we just had to have some fish stories. I believe the best one told was Jack's about the banana oil. About this time we were getting pritty sick of Don's "Mighty Purty". It seemed that everything he saw was 'mighty purty".

After breakfast we went to get some pictures of the picture rocks and went after Jim's rod and reel. Don Griese was the hero and went down to 45' (4 or 5') of water, battled with a snake and finally got it.

When Don Griese had come up from the briny deep with Jim's rod we went up the lake a little way to an old log sluice. We brought our canoes ashore and followed the old sluice back into the woods. We came upon

two small lakes which had been used for logging.

From here we hiked around hunting for different trees and plants for our bronze paddle award.

Lunch of meat sandwiches, nectar, candy, and fish came at 2:00. Boo bit into a luscious sandwich and got a bee instead his puss. sure was a mess for a couple of days.

When lunch was finished we laid around and rested for awhile and then went on another nature hike which just about completed our lists of trees and plants.

We got back to camp just in time to help Dick fix supper. We had stew, lima beans, and bread and butter. At supper we had a good side splitting laugh and no one knows what at yet. Hal got started laughing and couldn't stop for quite a while and then couldn't eat his supper because his sides hurt too much.

That evening we had a camp fire. We sang songs and ate "dam

goods". The northern lights were really beautiful and lasted quite awhile. Bed at 10:22

Thursday

Thurs. morning we had to get up at 3:A.M. to get started ahead of the wind. We had breakfast of cereal, fruit & coffee while it was still dark. The last canoe was in the water and we were off at 6.

Our first portage was lower Basswood Falls. It was very short so two fellows carried the canoes instead of one of the fellows carrying it on his shoulders.

Next came Hhelbarow Falls. The portage was quite easy and after that a portage about half as long as Hhelbarow Falls.

The last portage for the day came at upper Basswood Falls. It was a mile and a half and plenty tough. It took us 40 minutes to get over and then we were 40 minutes ahead of schedule.

We started up Basswood Lake and made camp on the same Island

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that we had Monday night.

Lunch consisted of jelly and cheese sandwiches, hardtack and nectar.

After lunch everyone picked the softest spot he could find and we slept most of the afternoon.

Just before supper we pitched the tents and made the camp ready for the night.

For supper we had rice pudding, apple sauce, tea, and bread and butter.

After supper some of the fellows went fishing, but no luck.

Friday

Fri. we woke up at 6 A.M. Breakfast of corn meal mush, fruit, and coffee. It was somewhat overcast and looked a lot like rain. Off at 8:22

We stopped at the Trading Post and bought out all the chocolate they had. It was Canadian made and sure was good.

All through the trip we had been telling Don that he was getting bald. He hadn't it very seriously until yesterday and now he is going to get a

VII

Fitch's shampo when he gets to Ely. Jack has made him quit wearing his hat because it stops the Curcilation on the top of his head.

At the south end of Wind Bay we hit a mile portage but it was lots tougher than the mile and a half one. Somebody called it "Hill's Half acre" and they weren't far wrong.

At the end of the portage we came to Wind Lake. It was not very big and we raced with Don and Dick most of the way. Next came the half-mile portage, it was alright except that it was straight up and down.

After this portage came lunch. Jam, cheese, and peanut butter sandwiches and nectar. Of course Don had to tells some more of his stories and they are getting worse. We found out that back wash is coffee, spotted dog is rice with raisins, big sag is stew with meat, and little sag is stew without meat.

No one moved after lunch we

just stretched out and went to sleep.

Some of the fellows went fishing in Wind Lake before supper while Don took charge and fixed supper.

We had macaroni and cheese, cocoa, and bean soup.

We planned to have some kind of a reunion some time before school starts if possible.

When camp was cleaned up we sang songs and went to bed.

Saturday

Up at 6 A.M. Breakfast of coffee, fruit, oatmeal, and bacon.

After breakfast we did up the dishes for the last time and cleaned up the camp.

While all this was going on we let Don sing "The Darkies Sunday School," and everybody got to eat High Water Charlie from Cripple Creek.

We arrived at Hibbard's Lodge at 9:22 A.M. and repacked all our equipment in our own pack sacks.

Our last meal of the trip

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consisted of sandwiches of every known variety and nectar.

The last bunch came in a little later than was expected, but we pulled out at 3:22 P.M. We road all right until we got into Ely, but after that it started to raid and it rained most of the way home.

We stopped at Cloquet at 6:22 for supper and we were home at 11:22. The end of a perfect trip.

Ralph Tan
Aug. 20,

25 Trees and Uses

1. White Oak - Furniture
2. Mountain Maple - Tool Handles
3. Tag Alder -
4. Black Ash - Furniture
5. Pin Cherry - Furniture
6. Cherry Tree - Fruit
7. Mountain Ash -
8. White Spruce - Lumber
9. Red Oak - Lumber
10. Black Spruce - Lumber
11. Balsom - Resin
12. Black Oak - Lumber
13. Willow - Fuel and Charcoal
14. White Birch - Wooden Ware
15. Poplar - Wooden Ware
16. White Cedar - Lumber
17. Jack Pine - Lumber
18. Norway Pine - Lumber
19. White Pine - Lumber
20. Tamarack - Lumber
21. Balsom Fir - Resin
22. Juniper - Fences and Fuel
23. White Elm - Lumber
24. Quaking Aspen - Cheap lumber
25. Sugar Maple - Sugar

26. Choke Cherry - Fruit
27. Bur Oak - Lumber
28. June Berry - Fruit

Ralph Law
Aug. 20, 1939

10 Plants and Value

1. Fructose Lichens - no use
2. Foliose Lichens - " "
3. Crustose Lichens - " "
4. Bunch Berry - animal food
5. Large Leaf Aster - " "
6. Ground Pine - " "
7. Selaginder Moss - no use
8. Pigeon Wheat Moss - " "
9. Wild Rose - Seeds for food
10. Yellow Water Lily - Fish food
11. White " " - " "
12. Purple Osier - animal food
13. Yarrow - " "
14. Pickerel Weed - Fish food
15. Wild Iris - no use
16. Indian Peace Pipe - no use
17. Hair Bell - no use
18. Canadian Thistle - no value
19. Bull Thistle " "
20. White Clover - Food for animals
21. Reindeer Moss - " " "
22. Cat Tails - no use
23. Platten Weed - animal food
24. Alsike Clover - Food for animals

Ralph Law

List of 5 parts of merit badges passed.

A. Canoeing

1. With a companion who has passed the swimming merit badge tests, demonstrate the proper method of entering and leaving a canoe, pushing off and landing. (a) From & to a pier or float in deep water (b) From & to a beach.

2. With companion show proper form in paddling both bow and stern, on both sides of the canoe.

B Botony

3. Give a list of at least 5 plants that are usually found growing together in woodlands, or 5 near water, and 5 found in open fields or 5 along roadsides.

C. Conservation

4. Know for his region the principal game birds, animals, and fish, and the seasons during which they are protected, how they are protected, and what are the results of protection.

D. Forestry

5. Identify 15 kinds of trees or shrubs.

RALPH LAW LAW