

REGION TEN
WILDERNESS CANOE TRIPS
RECORD OF PADDLE AWARDS

NAME	Micklish, Willard
ADDRESS	Morris, Minnesota.
COUNCIL	Red River
DATE OF TRIP	July 30th to August 5th, 1939
GUIDE	Martin Kossch

PADDLE AWARDS : DATE	
BRONZE	8/5/39 - Through Gilbert
GOLD	
SILVER	

WILDERNESS CANOE TRAIL - TRIP 4

Sunday July 30. Five of us boy scouts arrived at Hibbards Lodge today at four o'clock P.M. after seeing the interesting ore docks at Two Harbors and the beautiful scences along the North Shore Drive. We met the other scouts from La Moure and Fargo who appear to be o.k. After repacking to our other packs we had supper at the scout cabin. During the meal talks were given by Mr. Conger and the guides about the trip and the history connected with the country. Several of us climbed to a very high cliff ~~and~~ afterwards enjoyed a good sleep.

Monday July 31. We awakened at six thirty and had breakfast at the lodge. At nine o'clock we started canoeing on Moose Lake. Soon we passed between the straits to Newfound Lake and after a long paddle portaged into Little Iron Lake. We soon entered a beautiful lake called Ensign, which had many islands and surrounded by high hills. On a small island we ate our noon meal which certainly tasted good after the first paddling. The second portage was an hour later. After carrying our packs and canoes twenty rods we reached Bass Lake where we saw a Bald Eagle nest. The next portage was one hundred and twenty rods to Gibson which was more difficult and felt by most of us. Twenty rods more from Gibson we reached Pothole Lake and then into the Jordan Lake. Cliffs and a deep narrow channel of the Jordan River finally brought us to another lift-over to our destination, Lake Ima. Four o'clock, by the sun, we began to set up our tents. Our first meal was a darb and good. We acquainted ourselves with the island and went to bed..

Tuesday August 1. Our guide entered our tent and it wasn't long before everyone was preparing for the day to come. The day before I was appointed as quartermaster, so, I did my duty this morning. In the afternoon several of us cleaned camp and built a seat for our meals. In the afternoon I began on my bronze paddle award and forestry merit badge. I hunted practically all day for ~~trees~~ and shrubs and learned their names from Marty during our tour in the woods. We built a rack for the blankets and prepared our bed for the night. Visitors came and stayed with us for the night.

Wednesday August 2. Oh!! did it rain last night and we almost got a little wet but thanks to the ditching party. Clouds hung low most of the day and we feared that it might rain all day but it cleared up at noon. Jim and I went fishing today and caught several large pike. After dinner several of the party went across the lake to a wonderful Blueberry Patch where we all picked and ate until we had our fill. Several boys began to build a raft today and had had the christening at four o'clock, and it really floated. I'm still studying the trees, plants, and shrubs and hope to pass it tomorrow.

Willard Micklish
1939

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Bronze Paddle Award

WILDERNESS CANOE TRAIL--TRIP 4

Thursday August 3. Whow! the wind almost blew us out of our tents this morning and beached us for another day. I've never paid so much attention to the trees above or the plants below before. After classifying twenty five trees and fifteen plants etc. I finally passed my requirements to the paddle award. At supper I was so hungry that I ate a hornet by mistake which stung me once on my tongue and the side of the cheek, but nothing serious. We swam and fished again today and are having a swell time. At four o'clock Marty told us that we were going to break camp and leave for Newfound at six thirty P.M. Paddling during the evening with a gorgeous moon rise is something wonderful. We made very good time and arrived at our destination at ten thirty. Did the bed ever feel so good.

Friday August 4. Awakening this morning we were told what our tour for the day was to be a journey to Birch Lake over the Canadian Border. It didn't take very long until we were paddling our way to the Border. We swam before our noon meal and proceeded to Birch Lake. Arriving there at two o'clock we climbed up through a dense forest growth to a high cliff which overlooked part of the trail we covered. Back again to the camp we prepared our supper and all ate like starved tramps. At night we had a camp fire in which everyone participated in telling stories. Our guide, Marty, gave the best catch stories that swept us all off our feet. Although the fellows are quite tired they are beginning to miss their inner spring mattresses.

Saturday August 5. All of the scouts were forced to get up this morning immediately when the guide dropped the tents on top of them, and also threw two prankers into the lake. We ate our breakfast and started on the homeward journey at ten o'clock. Paddling thru Newfound and Moose Lakes we reached Hibbards Lodge at eleven thirty. After repacking and eating we were all surprised by our parents coming up to get us. The final thrill occurred on the way out of Hibbards Lodge when a bear ran out of the woods across in front of our car. We left for home with many fond memories of a canoeing experience.

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Trees and Shrubs

Black Spruce	paper pulp, con., ships.
White Spruce	construction, pulp wood.
White Cedar	.....	pencils, cedar chests, posts
White Pine	.....	finishing lumber
Norway Pine	.....	spars, piling, sills
Jack Pine	.....	spars, posts, pulp wood
Balsam	.....	ornament, pulp wood
Mountain Maple	.....	no commerical value
Mountain Ash	.....	" " "
Silver Leaved Willow	.....	" " "
Hazel Brush	.....	" " "
Tag Alder	.....	" " "
Pin Cherry	.....	" " "
Sasparilla	.....	" " "
June Berry	.....	Fruit
Flowering Dogwood	.....	shuttles, mallets, pulleys
Quaking Aspen	.....	paper pulp, excelsior
Large-toothed Aspen	.....	paper pulp
Paper Birch	.....	spools, lasts, paper pulp
Choke Cherry	.....	fruit value
Blue Berry	.....	Fruit
Raspberry	.....	Fruit
Wild Rose	.....	no commerical value
Wild Currant	.....	" " "
Honeysuckle	.....	" " "

Plants

Bunch Berry	.....	Bird food
Day Lily	.....	For insect nectar
Canadian Thistle	.....	For " "
Goldenrod	.....	" " "
Wild Iris	.....	" " "
Broad Leaved Astor	.....	" # "
Joe Pie Weed	.....	" " "
Strawberry	.....	bird food and nectar
Deer Moss	.....	none
Pigeon Wheat Moss	.....	none
Ground Pine	.....	none
Sponge Moss	.....	none
Rye Grass	.....	bird food
Arbor Vitae Moss	.....	none
Shelf Fungus	.....	none