

Our Banner Summer Outing

******* A Trip Through Ontario., By Bonnycastle Dale *****

to know just how to take a summer's fun and still not run through a very large bank account. We had figured it all out in dreary December, nipping January, stormy February — "My, how long this winter is in passing!"-windy March-April- "Hurrah! Hurrah!" That was Fritz, my inextinguishable assistant cheering — April Fools' Day. What an appropriate time for a naturalist to start! And if he keeps a diary, what a good path he might blaze for the sum-

Now one thing we had firmly determined-to grow our green vegetables at every camp-if we stayed there long enough. Fritz slyly asked if he "had to pack the garden along if we moved too soon." Next as to outfit. The tent was of eight-ounce duck. We put it up and painted it thoroughly with two pounds of paraffin, dissolved in a quart of gaso-line, made hot by standing the tin in

N these days of high prices it is well | current of that "Crooked River" so called in the Ojibway-the native tribe here-abouts-and in five hours made the busy manufacturing city of Peterboro. Here are the celebrated lift locks that raise you sixty-five feet to the river above. I send you a picture of them. No, the excited crowds are not gathered to see us pass through. This was taken on the opening day. See one lift lock on top of that huge hydraulic piston and the other -steamboat laden, level with the water. Truly, the first of its kind on this Western continent. Well, we had the western continent. Wen, we had the shivery, open-air elevator feeling it gives everybody as we went up, and we felt quite consequential giving all this trouble for so small a craft. Fritz was so full of elation that I pushed the Mowich out of the lock and left him-full of worldly pride; perched on the great gate, and he had a mighty stiff run to catch up too. This Trent Valley Canal has been dug and deepened along natural waterways

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Lift Locks, Peterboro, Ont.

on the stove, your trip will be to uncharted regions. Next we made a window and pipe hole, and netted them both. Then a tent cover of heavy sheeting to cover the entire tent—except the walls and extend over the front six feet to form a porch. This was waxed also. We took along a cheap sheet-iron camp stove, one sixteen-foot Rice Lake canoe, made at Gore's Landing, Ont.—I have no re-tainer by anybody—but the best canoe made is their sixteen-foot double cedar at about fifty dollars with sail and everything complete; the life of this craft is fully fifty years. I have in my long outing life used all canoes; this is the steadiest. With air tanks it is a regular life preserver. Turner of Peterboro will furnish or rent tents. Our motor launch was from the Peterboro Canoe Co., 171/2 feet long, good beam, hight draught, 11/2 horse, makes six miles an hour and is big enough for two or three for long trip; or for four to six for short ones. We find St. Charles canned milk preferable for long trips; it makes the best coffee I have ever tasted. We sent and got Eaton's (Toronto) catalogue, and bought our case goods there, saving a large per cent. You can sit down and outfit completely from that catalogue. Behok, the Mowitch launched, and we away off along the reaches of the new Trent Valley Canal! From Rice Lake to Peterboro we followed the winding Otonabee. We had spent the month of April at our island in the lake-"Migration Point"- picturing the wild fowl. As the weather was getting warmer we were bound north just to see where you could go in a

boiling water—away off from the stove. | to connect Georgian Bay with Lake On-Be sure of this, as if you heat gasoline | tario saving 247 miles—it may or may not tario saving 247 miles—it may or may not be commercially valuable, but for a motor boat or canoe trip it is ideal, so much so that we loafed along its lakes and locks for full two months, gaining thereby much birdlore and photographs-so the fifteen million dollar ditch is of some use to the tourist. Here you find Ontario at her best, swift water and virgin forest, sloping lake banks and most modern agriculture, up-to-date towns and villages right alongside ye old time stump fence line roads. The primeval laziness of some of the people is without a rival. There was one family-who shall be nameless. The eldest hopeful struck up quite a friendship with Fritz. This "Bill" as red-headed and freekled a Bill as ever was seen, had supper with us at the foot of a placid lake, and bid us good-bye with much feeling. A glorious moonlit night tempted us to break camp and do an eight mile spin. The canvas rose like a huge fairy mushroom at midnight at the head of the At daybreak-hearing an animal lake. tramping about the tent I shooed" it good and loud and plenty. "Good morn-ing" it answered. By all that's believable Bill had arrived for breakfast. "From morn till night he followed our flight"-lock, lake, river had no horrors for him. The lure finally drew him 25 miles from home. He never slept at Just dropped in next morning camp. Just dropped in next finally but like. pointedly, "Why?" Oh! so simple a reason. "So as Jack can get the crop reason. "So as Jack can get the crop in." Fifty miles walking to escape cropping. Ye gods! Fritz laughed so hard it injured Bill's feelings, and we lost him for ever. Another mighty lift lock-all steel this one-was passed at motor boat. We bucked the heavy spring Kirkfield, and then we/ventured out into

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