

camped at the foot of Lake Linderman, and the next morning was spent in portaging our goods to Lake Bennett.

A narrow and shallow river connects Lake Bennett with Tagish Lake. Bands of barren-land caribou cross here each year in their migrations to the south, and the river is known to the miners by the name of "Caribou Crossing."

Tagish Lake is about eighteen miles long, and Windy Arm, near its head, is always remembered by those who have crossed it. The wind which follows the course of the lakes from the Chilkoot pass is here met by a cross-current of wind coming from the coast by the White pass; we found the water too rough to risk swamping our little boats and losing our supplies. A day of very hard work was spent in getting the boats around the worst place, a distance of only three miles—one man riding in the boat kept her off the rocks with a pole, while the others towed with a long rope, wading waist-deep in the ice-cold water.

Lake Marsh, the fourth of the series, is about twenty miles long and very shallow at the lower end. A difference in scenery and temperature here begins to be quite noticeable. The timber is of a better growth, and birch and cottonwood are plentiful. While the air is cool and invigorating, the temperature is from seventy-five to eighty-five degrees under

the influence of the summer sun, which shines for twenty hours each day. On the protected banks are masses of wild roses and blue-bells, and everywhere is the wonderful arctic moss, from six inches to a foot in thickness, so delicately constructed that it appears like lacework, and of beautiful varying shades of white, pink and green. This moss, however, is always wet and very difficult to walk on, and is the home of Alaska's great pests—countless swarms of mosquitoes and gnats. The former I know can bite through a flannel shirt, and a mosquito bar is generally worn over the head as a protection against them. I caught with a troll several fish, which my companions called white-fish, and these, with some wild onions, were a pleasant change from our salt meat.

Further down the river wild blueberries and low and high bush cranberries grow in abundance, and, with salmon, form the food for the bears. I also found later in the year wild raspberries and a few strawberries.

The outlet of Lake Marsh is a broad, winding river with low banks. Here we overtook a party of four Germans, three of whom were cow-boys from Texas; their leader, from Maine, was experienced in handling boats. We continued our journey together, and soon the increased swiftness of the current and the roaring



From a photograph.

LAKE BENNETT.

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