

Most of the forest is second growth, not more than twenty years old, and part has been burnt recently. The first portage is two and three-quarter miles from the lake. It is on the north side, is 11 chains long, and has a fall of 10 feet. When I was on the river it was blocked by fallen trees and log jams, but these have since been cut out, and now it forms a good canoe route to Robertson lake.

Makamik Lake, Lois Lake, and Height of Land Portage.

Makamik lake is shallow, the water is muddy, and the shores are generally low. It is somewhat circular in form, with a diameter of about six miles. It is drained by the Whitefish river, which flows into Abitibi lake, and receives from the south the Lois river and a small stream called the Ogassasan. The Lois river, which drains a lake of the same name, is eighteen miles long, and has five short portages. It is about 3 chains wide at the mouth, but is considerably wider just below Lake Lois, where it flows through a swampy country for some miles.

Lake Lois is nine miles long, and near the middle narrows to a quarter of a mile in width, and is nowhere more than two miles wide. The average depth is sixteen feet. The Indian name of this lake is Wikwasika. For fuller description of Makamik lake, Lois river and lake, see Mr. Johnston's report already referred to.

A portage over four miles long starts from a small stream at the eastern end of Lake Lois and leads across the height of land to the waters of the Nawapitechin river. Except at one or two places where small streams cross this portage, the land is poor, either rocky or sandy, and covered with Banksian pine; or swampy, approaching muskeg. By climbing elevations a good view of the neighbouring country was obtained. Looking northward from near the middle of the portage the country presents the appearance of a flat plain, with two blue mountains in the distance. Looking south, one mile from the west end, a low range of hills is visible. Like most of the country along the watershed between the St. Lawrence waters and Hudson bay, the land is flat and of little value for agricultural purposes. A few miles on either side the drainage is better, the rocks are more deeply clay covered, and conditions generally are more favourable for vegetation of every description, and for the successful cultivation of the soil.