

ed him for the trip and he proved to be a very valuable man to us, as he was familiar with all the northern country through which we were to travel.

On reaching Quinze Lake we had dinner and then launching our canoes we commenced the long paddle northward. We could very well have proceeded up the Quinze River, by carrying around the various rapids as we encountered them, and taking in the scenery there, but our delays prompted us to adopt the quicker route. On the evening of the seventh we camped at the north end of this lake and started early in the morning up the river to Barriere Lake. This river is, I believe, sometimes called the Lonely River, but it must not be confounded with the Lonely River that we ascend later on in our journey. At the foot of Barriere Lake, we again encounter rapids, and a short carry is necessary to get into its waters. From here we paddled northward all day, stopping on an island for dinner. This lake is very long and narrow, with dense forest down to the water's edge. Wild fowl, including various species of duck, were fairly plentiful, though shy, owing to the route being frequently travelled by the Hudson Bay Co.'s men and by those engaged in lumbering and surveying.

In the afternoon we entered the Lonely River, which is almost a still-water stream about eight miles in length, connecting Barriere with Opisatica Lake. We saw many duck on this stream and numerous fresh signs of moose. Reaching the foot of Opisatica about an hour before sundown, we camped for the night and caught several pike. There is very good fishing from here onward.

Next morning we journeyed onwards until we came to the Narrows, where William Paulson lives with his family during the trapping season. Continuing through the Narrows the Lake expands again and we find two large bays extending to the west and east. On the journey up this lake we saw our first moose. He was busy eating lily pads when we first saw him, but as the wind was blowing towards him, he soon got our scent and made off into the forest.

Soon after we reached the north end of the lake and crossed a short passage into "Height of Land" Lake. Paddling down this we came to a somewhat longer portage, parts of which were planked, it being one of the routes of the Hudson Bay Co. Crossing this portage we came into another small lake, which empties its waters northerly by the Snake River into Island Lake.

We are now over the "Height of Land" and are on waters which eventually reach Hudson's Bay. Down Snake River we go and soon find ourselves in Island Lake, where we were to have two weeks of genuine sport. It being late in the afternoon, we did not go far on Island Lake that day, but pitched our tents on an island, where we remained a couple of days to explore that part, and ascertain where the moose were located.

All along the route travelled by canoe there are dense forests of poplar, birch, fir, spruce and tamarack, but the latter were all dead.\* I think it would be very difficult to find a living tree of this species. What is the cause of the death of all the tamarack I was unable to determine, unless from the depredations of some species of caterpillar. We certainly enjoyed immensely the long canoe trip, with a south wind sweeping us along all the way. I would be glad to take the trip again, if for nothing else than to view these magnificent lakes. The air here, unpolluted by smoke, is enough to bring health and vigor to any, and I thought if one could transfer these waters to the vicinity of some of our American cities, what a resort they could be for holiday excursions of our over-crowded people.

In passing up these lakes, you find that lumbering is carried on to a considerable extent, though I failed to see any timber that I considered worth cutting, unless for pulpwood, and inquiring to find if the territory had been lumbered over in former years, I was informed that such was not the case, that the large timber is found principally on the high ridges, somewhat distant from the lakes. Here they get fairly good pine, but in general from the lakes the forest trees appear small and I

\*See Editorial Comment following this Article.