a man can satisfy his own ambition for a taste of the wild and at the same time comply with the demands made by the different members of his family. If he owns a camp, right behind it may be the limitless forest and in front there may be a lake. Then down at the end of the lake there may be a hotel. There there are dances and the man's daughter and mother may run down in the launch for a Saturday night function of some kind. At the same hotel there are likely to be golf links, or at least some tennis courts. And a half mile or so up the lake there will perhaps be some other camp and then another, a situation which makes the social side of the mountain life well worth while. The man's camp will of course be the headquarters for any canoeing or camping trip that he or the members of his family may choose to make during the season.

Hotel life in the woods is full of its advantages too. It can be said of every summer resort section in the country that there are hotels and boarding houses to suit every man's taste and means, and this is particularly true of the Adirondacks. One has only to take a canoe trip through, say, the Fulton chain to see the diversity of accommodations that are offered to the resort seeker. Especially on Fourth Lake are there comfortable camps which take boarders, and at the foot of the lake are several excellent hotels. Some of the other places where unusual hotel facilities are offered are Lake Placid, the Saranacs and Paul Smith's.

There are too many things to be done in the Adirondacks and too much fun to be had to attempt to tell about them all. But who is there who has not wanted at some time in his life to take a trip through the woods in a canoe? Plenty of men will say that a canoe trip is the only way to enjoy the woods. They come pretty near being right. As for a canoe itself, there are men, particularly guides and lumbermen, who will never say a good word for the craft, insisting rather that the boat generally known as the Adirondack guide boat is the better. It is in the matter of speed.

But there is nothing congenial about a guide boat, and besides one works when one rows. The man who rows also is always going away from somewhere, and never seems to be getting anywhere else until the nose of his boat, which is at his back, of course, bumps the shore. So if you have a canoe hung up in some barn and are going up into the woods this year, see to it that some one takes it down and sends it on ahead of you, that it may await your arrival at the point at which you start in on your trip. Or if you don't own a canoe write on ahead and have a canoe reserved of the kind you always use.

The best known canoe trip in the Adirondacks is that which begins at Old Forge on the Fulton Chain. Striking north from Utica one goes as far as Fulton Chain (not on any lake) on the Adirondack division of the New York Central. There there is a six mile railroad that runs down to Old Forge. Here you may buy whatever you have neglected to purchase at home when you made up your kit. But don't think that Old Forge is the last civilized community that you will strike for weeks, and that you have to lay in a supply of provisions for all the trip. That is hardly the case, and besides provisions are heavy to transport.

The start from Old Forge through a winding inlet to First Lake, just as the early morning mist is rising from the water, surface is enough to give any man a thrill of expectation. By the time you have passed into Second and Third lakes the chances are that you simply can't resist that temptation to land at the dock of some unoccupied camp and take the first memorable plunge of the trip.

So far you probably have not encountered any wind or sea and you may feel that there isn't any thrill coming your way. You won't have any exciting times with weather and sea if you use ordinary precaution. But Fourth Lake has a will and a way of its own and when something blows it seas that are not pleasant to paddle from one end to the other, a distance of five miles. Men who have cruised on such lakes as Temagami, however, say that none of the Fulton lakes give any reason for alarm.

At Inlet, on Fourth Lake, the canoeist enters through an overgrown stream into Fifth Lake. He just cuts across the corner of this lake to the left and there begins his first carry. The carry is short and won't seem anything to the man who is used to Adirondack carries or to the man who has been wise in the selection of his canoe kit. But right here is where many a man who takes his first canoe trip sits down, overhauls his duffle and discards everything that is not essential.

Canoeing in the Adirondacks is not easy simply because it is only a few hours ride from the city. It may not be as hard as in the Canadian woods, but there are the carries, and they can't be avoided. The best thing about a carry is the satisfaction which one can't help but feel when he has toted his canoe or his fifty pound duffle bag over it.

The aspect of Sixth Lake is unusual in that parts of it seem to be nothing but flooded forest land whose great trees, now bare, stand gaunt in the water. It is a wild lake without any camps. Seventh Lake is almost as wild and marks the beginning of a long stretch in which there are no camps.

A mile carry takes one into Eighth Lake, the gem of all the Fulton Lakes. It is surrounded by State land, thus prohibiting the possibility of anything but temporary camps. Great green woods slope down to the water's edge. The color of the water is deep blue and altogether the lake has a charm which is seldom duplicated even in the Adirondacks. Passing out of Eighth Lake through the mile and a half carry to John Brown's Tract Inlet is something of a comedown, but it at least gives a man the feeling that he is quite a hero. The carry is noted for its mosquitoes.

The winding inlet brings one into Raquette Lake, the largest so far. On it are a goodly number of fine hotels and private camps. If one wants to stay at hotels at night right here is the place to stop after the first day's work. The next day a side trip well worth taking is that up the Marion River to Blue Mountain Lake. This route takes in the interesting ride over a mile of railroad. The cars resemble the trailers attached to electric cars in foreign cities. One can also ride in the so-called baggage car with one's canoe.

The little engine goes puffing up, winding through green hills and finally comes to the shore of Utowana Lake. Blue Mountain itself, just the other side of Blue Mountain Lake, rises up larger and larger and bluer and bluer as one goes on into Eagle Lake and finally into Blue Mountain Lake. This lake is another gem. The canoeist will probably want to camp on shore and perhaps climb Blue Mountain, but if he is pressed for time he can get back to Raquette the same day that he started.

A four mile paddle around two great arms of Raquette Lake brings you to the half mile carry into Forked Lake, which has a wild aspect and is surrounded by game preserves. Out of it flows the Raquette River. The first mile and a half of this river is impassable for a canoe and the carry follows the roadway above the rapids. The advantage of taking the trip in the direction described will be seen when the canoeist slips his boat into the water below the rapids. A three mile current out in the centre of the stream brings him in no time to Buttermilk Falls. Here the river goes tumbling 30 feet over jagged rocks and is indeed a sight worth coming to look at.

At the crest of the falls is a place where you will want to stop for your noonday meal if not to stay all night. Then you go on down stream and after another short carry emerge on Long Lake. This fourteen mile enlargement of the Raquette River is interesting because of its character, and is quickly passed with the help of a favoring wind. A third of the way down it is the town of Long Lake, at which there is a bridge crossing. Then at the end of the lake you again take up the course of the Raquette River and follow its winding course for half a dozen miles till you come to Raquette Falls.

Here you may telephone over to the other end of the mile carry for a boat wagon to come after your canoe. This saves a very hard hilly carry and at the same time allows you to follow the river path which clings to the hillside just above the turbulent waters of the river. This is the best way to view the well known Raquette Falls.

Midway along the path a spring of what is said to be the coldest water in the woods bubbles out from under a ledge. Below the falls you again float your craft and take up the paddle. The few miles seem long and you expect every turn to reveal the point where Stony Creek comes in on the right. Go up this to Stony Creek Ponds if you want to make for the Saranac Lakes, and then a mile and a half carry into Upper Saranac Lake.

Or, if you want to follow on down the Raquette River past Stony Creek you will come out in Big Tupper Lake, from which you can make your way into Little Tupper.

The canoe routes from Corey's, where one strikes Upper Saranac from the Raquette River route, lead either through Middle Saranac Lake to Saranac village on Lower Saranac, or north to Saranac Inn. The canoeist will perchance be inclined to lay off a day or so when he sees what a great place Upper Saranac is; there are many good camping places on it.

From Saranac Inn the canoeist should drive two miles to Little Clear Pond, thence by canoe over the route known as Seven Carries through Little Clear Pond, Green, Little Long, Bear, Marsh, Upper St. Regis, Spitfire and Lower St. Regis to Paul Smith's hotel. This trip can also be made by another route with only two carries. The drive from Saranac Inn to Lake Clear (four miles); canoe through Lake Clear to Lake Clear Inn; carry to Upper St. Regis (two miles); thence canoe through the Upper St. Regis, Spitfire and Lower St. Regis to Paul Smith's.

From Paul Smith's and the St. Regis chain of lakes the entire network of waterways of the North Woods opens to the canoeist. The journey from the Fulton Chain of lakes as described in the foregoing may be reversed over the carries to the Upper Saranac Lake.

Northward from Paul Smith's is a one mile carry to Osgood Lake. The canoe route then lies through Osgood Lake to the outlet of Lake Lucretia; through Lake Lucretia to the portage to Rainbow Lake, one mile. Thence northwesterly through Rainbow to the outlet; down the north branch of the Saranac River to Lake Kushaqua; Saranac River again to Mud Pond and portage one and three quarter miles to Loon Lake. The last stage of the trip is through North River to Saranac River and by this to Lake Champlain at Plattsburg.

From Saranac village it is also possible to paddle to Plattsburg, eighty miles distant by water. This course follows the Saranac River.

The man who thinks he is not cut out for a canoeist need not think that canoeing is necessarily the greatest feature of the Adirondack woods. For him there are other kinds of play.

There are four seasons in this region, those for fishing, dancing, hunting and trapping. The second is best known and has more devotees than the others.

Any time from May 1 to July 1 is a good time to fish for trout if you really want the fish. Any time in season is good if you are fishing for fun. Every North Woods enthusiast knows a place where the fish are always hungry. It is the best place in the woods, and that is just what every fisherman will tell you about his favorite haunt. There are thousands of these best places. Your experiences will be the same at any one of them. From the time you leave the railway with your pack on your back and start into the woods until you unsling your burden at your camping spot you experience the greatest discomforts of your fishing trip. Then the fun begins.

You build your leanto of boughs and by that time you are hungry for bacon and bread and coffee. Then you go out to fish. From a raft near the shore of some lake or in the rifts of some mountain stream you cast your fly or bait. An hour passes like a minute.

In the hunting season, besides your food supplies your hunting outfit should include a rifle, a bright red hat that insures you against being mistaken for a deer, and a guide who probably knows where the deer are running and surely knows how to cook venison and tell stories.

But while fishing and hunting have charms to which every man and boy falls an easy victim and the trapper's life is interesting to read about, it is undoubtedly the Adirondack summer season that has most elements of pleasure. A few summer days or months passed in the North Woods are never lost. It may be only resting in the comfortable hotels and on their broad piazzas, or perhaps it is golf or tennis, horseback riding or boating. With any of these the days pass quickly. At night the orchestras in the hotels call the scores of dancers and before the open fireplaces with their burning logs you make acquaintances easily.

There are but few rainy days in an Adirondack summer and you won't remember them when thinking of your sojourn next winter. The days you will remember are the sunny days when the spirit of forest and lake calls you away from the hotel and its small gossip. Then it is good to be in the woods. Then it is joy to cast a fly in a cold corner of some lake, to glide over the calm surface of the water in a boat that seems pushed by hands from beneath.

The western section of the Adirondack Mountains is reached via the Carthage and Adirondack branch of the New York Central. The first resort of importance in this section is Lake Bonaparte, eighteen miles east of Carthage. The lake is five miles long and two miles in width, with here and there a small clearing in the dense forest that lines its shore. Its name is taken from its one time possessor, Joseph Bonaparte, eldest brother of the great Emperor.

From Lake Bonaparte the train passes through a picturesque wooded country until Benson Mines is reached, about twenty-five miles from Lake Bonaparte. Benson Mines is the station for Star Lake, one of the fairest of all the wilderness waters, one mile and a half from the station by wagon.

The Star Lake region is in every way desirable as a place for summer loitering. The shores of the lake are high and no unsightly marshes are found there. The size of the lake forbids heavy seas.

Cranberry Lake is reached from Benson Mines by means of the Cranberry Lake Railroad. There are good hotel accommodations here and boats leave twice each day for all points on the lake where there are hotels and cottages. Cranberry Lake is over 1,500 feet above the sea and the mountains along its shores are from 2,000 to 3,000 feet high.

The lake makes excellent headquarters for all the surrounding country, good hotel accommodations are found there, and furthermore it is the home of some of the biggest trout in the Adirondacks. The best places for camping are on the quiet, shady banks of the beautiful Oswegatchie, either above or below the lake. The fishing is fine in either direction.

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