

SCOUTS MISSISSIPPI RIVER TRIP

On the weekend of the 14th and 15th of June, the First Russell Boy Scouts went on a canoe trip down the Mississippi River. We started on Mississippi Lake about a mile and one half from Carleton Place at 11.30 a.m. There were two Leaders and sixteen Scouts travelling in three small canoes and one freight canoe. We hoped to reach Galetta by 5 p.m. the next day. It was nearly 2 o'clock before we reached Carleton Place. By 4.15 we had portaged the dam and had eaten. Within the next hour we reached the Appleton Mill Site. For nearly one hour we searched for a route around the rapids. We camped there for the night, eating, fishing and swimming. We were away again by 8.15 the next morning.

By 11 o'clock we had portaged around the dam at Appleton. We encountered a set of rapids just after Appleton, these were bypassed by a little stream. By about one o'clock we were at Almonte and chances of making Galetta by 5 o'clock looked slim. Our leader phoned ahead and told our pick-ups to meet us at Pakenham. We ate lunch and got around the Almonte Dam by about 4 o'clock. We encountered one set of rapids which we lined down (a rope on each end of the canoe and a man on each rope). We shot two more sets of

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rapids right after that. We got to Blakeny Rapids by 6 o'clock. Two of our Scouts hitch-hiked to Pakenham to bring back our rides. We were back in Russell by 8.15. This was the end of an enjoyable, hard trip.

Chris Coates

TONGUE-TWISTER: TRY THIS ONE! Betty Botta bought some butter, "But," she said, "this butter is bitter, but a bit o' better butter will but make my batter better." So she bought a bit o' butter, better than the bitter butter, and it made her batter better, so 'twas better Betty Botta bought a bit o' better butter.