



Mid-Nango

Photo by Paul Hietpas

### THE TERRIBLE TYRRELL'S TEACHER

(see *Nastawgan*, Spring 1989)

It was necessary on our first (1980) trip to cut a 5.5-km portage from Yoyoy Lake to (my named) Wolf Lake. I had never before cut that long a portage, and the compass seemed wacky, but I followed it rather than my own inclinations, fortunately. It was quite a job 'developing' the thing to which we gave the special name and, at the time, we didn't appreciate the fact that we would never again travel the twisting swamp-ridden route under dry skies. After that first year, approaching the Teacher meant that we were about to be taught what a long, wet portage could be like in the rain. Memories of the Teacher are rich with sog, but character was built, and we were better prepared for what lay ahead.

