

## ***Centennial Moment #13***

This event occurred almost a year before we opened our Rotary Boys Camp (Camp Kawartha) on Clear Lake. It foreshadowed our desire to create CK. At the time of this event, our club was just over 3 months old.

From *The Evening Examiner*, Peterborough, Friday, July 8, 1921:

### **ROTARIAN GAMBOL AT RICE LAKE PROVIDED FUN FOR BOY CAMPERS**

**RAN INTO HEAVY RAIN STORM ON THE WAY,  
BUT AFTERNOON WAS UNMARKED.**

Eight or nine cars of Rotarians with ladies of the households, or of other households as may be, drove to the Boys Camp, on the shore of Rice Lake, six miles east and south of Keene on the Elmhurst Farm. Those of the party who left the city early in the afternoon were treated to a specially-boisterous storm of rain and hail, with liberal lightning and thunder. For nearly an hour it poured, a welcome irrigation of the crops, now in many fields approaching harvest under the excessive heat. All cars exposed to the downpour were well washed.

The Boys Camp proper is at the shore of the lake at a spot convenient for bathing and swimming. Meals are served in an old but capacious log homestead on a hill back of the camp. This arrangement makes for diligence and promptness, and besides, the sleeping camp is very neatly kept, for the garbage man never calls on his rounds. Between thirty and forty boys were closing up the week end, the camp closing down, for those there at end of this week. Mr. Loomis of the Y.M.C.A. staff in charge, Mrs James taking care of the feeding arrangements. Now, feeding is right. Considering that the lady baked, just as a casual supply, **31 pies during the hot morning**. And for tea, had cut and buttered 8 slices of bread. Heaps of it.

### **Heaps of ice Cream**

The Rotarians unloaded lashins' and lavins' of grovender. The ladies of the party arranged the tables and placed the boys in a double row on the benches and followed one delicacy with another until all had enough. A hungry bunch, but there was ample. Going down, Chris Graham had about the most unwelcome passenger, in the shape of a tank of ice cream, which had been promised to the boys. When the auspicious moment arrived, Rotarian Albert Fowler undertook to dispense the concentrated coldness using a cone filler. He had one job, but stinted none. Supper was well worth taking a hand in and there was plenty.

Rotarians and friends repaired to the lake for a half hour's bath and swim and enjoyed the immersion. Swimming races for the boys and ladies were exciting and ludicrous.

### **Boisterous Baseball Battle: Boys vs. Rotarians**

After supper, a **baseball contest; no, that is insufficient, it proved to be wrestle**, was put on between the boys and the Rotarians.

There are skilled men in the Rotary ranks, but their deftness doesn't incline to the game. Except seasoned accomplices like Rotarian Chris Graham and Reg. Turner, **most of the others handled the bat same as a cow would a musket.** The match was a powerfully demonstrated one. **Rotarians could chase a ball downhill to the edge of the lake, but the racing back, oh boy.** Rotarian Frank Dobbin was selected for umpire on grounds that **he knew nothing at all about the game, but they found someone who knew less about it and took him in preference.** There is a fine sense of discrimination in these Rotarians, when they nick a winner.

### **Too Much far the Crows**

The gallery sat in almost silence. The casualties were heavy. Until Mrs. Fred Roy (*wife our our founding President*) came along and said that the thing deserved some pep being put into It. Pep was right. Then **everybody yelled their heads off.** A flock of crows, sheltered in the shrubbery below the fatal field, took alarm and started for the other side of the lake - actually driven from their home.

Rotarians were disposed over the diamond, anywhere they thought they would be useful **and not harmed.** The boys **having had two weeks incessant practice,** were out to win. The score resulted as for Y.M.C.A. 11, Rotarians 6. None of the latter will be mentioned in the despatches, though Claude Rogers, Reg. Turner and Chris Graham deserve the Military Cross, if not something else.

Another Rotarian Outing may be held of an afternoon further on in the summer, seeing that **the first gathering was a whale of a success.** A social afternoon is quite in line with Rotarian principles, and brings away from office and counter and shop, men who deserve to have an afternoon off, just as a relaxer. Besides, the other half of Rotarian households have the opportunity of seeing that **old boys will be boys, just for the fun of the thing.**