FRENCH RIVER

Chalet-Bungalow Camp

CANADIAN PACIFIC

[1931?] 25¢

French River
Chalet-Bungalow Camp

PERCHED on a cliff overlooking a broad river that sweeps down between grey-blue rocky walls—walls that are touched here and there into rare beauty by lichen and nodding flowers, green birch and clumps of jewel-like berries—is a group of artistic bungalow cottages. This lordly stream in the forest is the French River—noted alike for its swarming game-fish, its scenic beauty and its interesting history. The group of cottages is the famous French River Chalet-Bungalow Camp.

Fishing and golf are the major activities at the camp—and such fishing and such golf! Fishing? The vicinity of the camp is an angler's paradise. In eddy and backwater, among the sedges skirting the shore, in the shadow of huge boulders that block the channel, lurk wily old "muskies," great northern pike, large and small-mouth bass, pickerel and other game-fish. Fighting gamesters are these, worthy foe for the best of anglers. Each guide has his favored spots, and so many are the fish that each guide's choice is invariably justified!

And as for the golf. You don't take a car. If you are energetic, you pack your clubs in a canoe; if you are not, you take an outboard motor boat or the camp launch and go ashore at the first tee. And if you are neither a fisherman nor a golfer; if you neither canoe nor swim nor play tennis, there is the quiet and rest of nature to banish the cares of city life.

The Chalet-Bungalow Camp

French River station is on the Canadian Pacific Railway, 215 miles north of Toronto, 60 miles north of Parry Sound, and 45 miles south of Sudbury. The Chalet-Bungalow Camp, within 200 yards of the station, is attractively situated on an elevation which commands a magnificent view of the main channel of the French River.

An outlying sub-camp is situated at Pine Rapids, at the head of Eighteen Mile Island, in the heart of the best fishing waters of the upper French River.

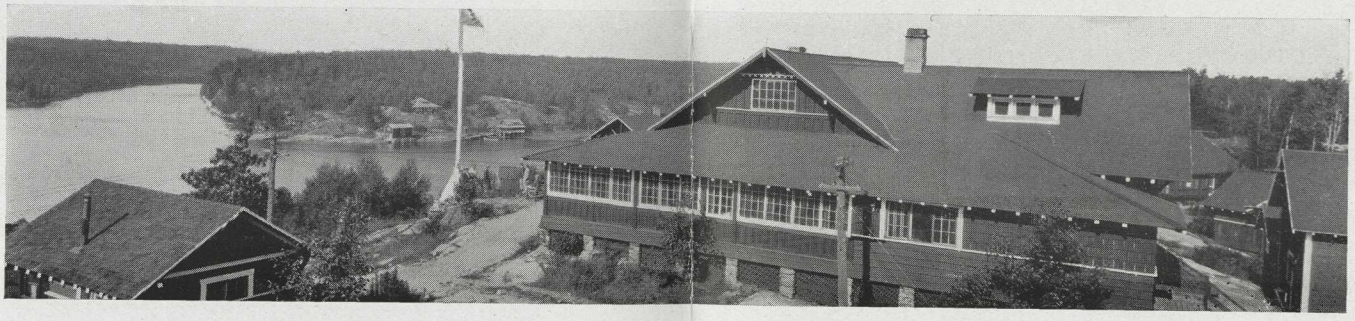
For the benefit of those who do not know what a Chalet-Bungalow Camp is, let us say that it has nothing at all to do with tents. On the contrary, it is like living in one's private house, without the bother of meals or servants—living on one floor, in bungalows of solid timber construction, without elevators or bell-hops, and yet with all the conveniences of civilized existence and the added pleasure of being in the midst of friendly people. Each little bungalow is self-contained and cosily furnished; some have two rooms, some one. Porches (yes, they're screened!) and deep wicker chairs make it easy for you to live the veranda life; illumination is electric light, not candles, and maid service relieves you of all work.

These snug little cottages, built of British Columbia fir, face westward toward the river gorge. The interior equipment consists of single Simmons beds, dressing table, washstand, a little stove for use in wet or cold weather, several chairs and a fine large clothes closet. The floors are hardwood. Cheery cretonnes give an added note of gaiety to the cabins, which are well ventilated and charming.

Toilet and bath buildings are centralized, containing baths and showers; there is always an abundant supply of hot water. Efficient maids keep the bungalows in order. The camp has its own ice houses, and its own pumping and electric light plant.

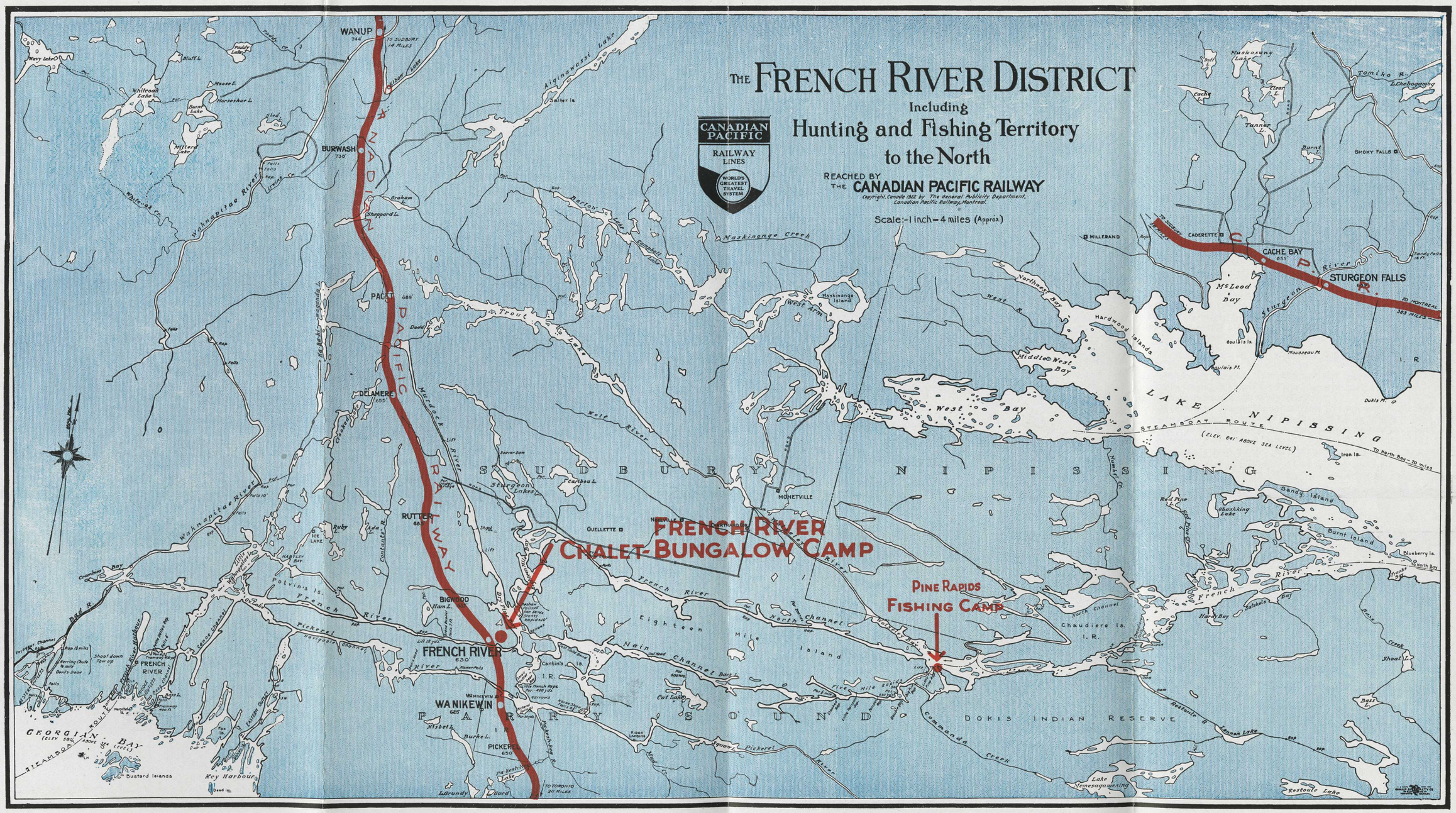
The Club House

And when the bell rings for meals, you seek the clubhouse with its spacious dining and recreation rooms. Afterwards, writing desks tempt the energetic, while the comfortable wicker chairs about the great stone fireplace of the lounge-room satisfy all longings. Just off the lounge is the manager's office, and behind it, the kitchens. The dining-room opens on to a wide screened veranda, where rocking-chairs and bridge-tables suggest the quiet rubber between more strenuous pursuits. From the veranda little winding paths lead away to the bungalows, to the dock, to the station, and to the tennis court. In the evening, the recreation room, equipped as it is with piano, radio and gramophone, is in popular demand for dancing.



The Central Clubhouse overlooking the Main Channel of the French River

Printed in Canada, 1932


THE FRENCH RIVER DISTRICT
Including
Hunting and Fishing Territory
to the North
REACHED BY
THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY
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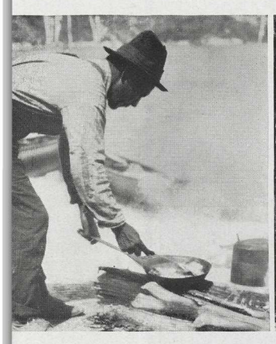
Scale:-1 inch-4 miles (Approx.)
CANADIAN PACIFIC
RAILWAY LINES
WORLD'S GREATEST TRAVEL SYSTEM
CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY
FRENCH RIVER
CHALET-BUNGALOW CAMP
PINE RAPIDS
FISHING CAMP
WANUP
BURWASH
DELAMERE
RUTTER
BIGWOOD
FRENCH RIVER
WANIKEWIN
PICKERED
CACHE BAY
STURGEON FALLS
CADERETTE
HILLERAND
MONETVILLE
OUELLETTE
SMOKY FALLS
SUDBURY
NIPISSING
PARRY SOUND
LAKE NIPISSING
STEAMBOAT ROUTE
(ELEV. 641' ABOVE SEA LEVEL)
GEORGIAN BAY
DOKIS INDIAN RESERVE
Eighteen Mile Island
Chaudiere Is.
Hardwood Islands
Sandy Island
Burnt Island
Maskinonge Creek
Wahnapitae River
Pickerel River
French River
Lake Nemesagamesing
Restoule Lake
Key Harbour
Bustard Islands
TO TORONTO 211 MILES
TO MONTREAL 383 MILES
TO NORTH BAY 20 MILES

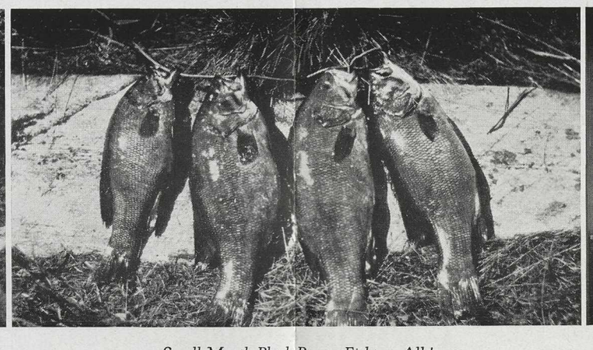
Come to French River this Year

Fishing Golf Canoeing Swimming



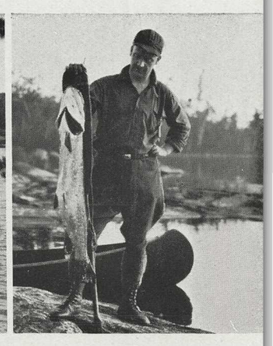
An alfresco lunch

Some of the Bungalows



Small Mouth Black Bass—Fighters All!

Landing at Pine Rapids Camp



Victor and Vanquished

Courtesy and friendliness prevail at French River, and everyone does his or her utmost to make the guest's stay happy and comfortable. There is no set entertainment, but always something interesting to do. In addition to tennis and golf, there is the smooth floor of the new recreation room which invites you to dance, and the camp manager is never too weary to sit down at the piano in the cool of the evening. The best proof of the camp's success with its guests is the fact that approximately one-half of its business is repeat business, the same guests returning year after year.

The Golf Course

French River Chalet-Bungalow Camp is one of the few resorts on the continent where one can enjoy fishing in the heart of the wilderness, and still keep in intimate touch with mashie and niblick. On Dry Pine Bay is a most picturesque nine-hole golf course, miraculously achieved on the terraced plateau between Gibraltar-like rocks. The greens are excellent, and the whole course, 2,200 yards in length, kept in splendid condition. Some of the tees are in the woods, or amongst rocky boulders, and players occasionally startle the deer which have been tempted out of the woods by the sight of the green grass.

Through the kindness of Mr. E. F. Seagram, of Waterloo, Ontario, who owns the course, guests at the French River Chalet-Bungalow Camp have the privilege of playing upon payment of a small green fee.

Bathing

The camp has a float, diving board and bath houses. At the foot of the links is a beautiful sandy bathing-beach. Amongst the woods are some delightful walks, while a variety of short canoe trips can be made within easy paddling distance, and launch trips are arranged daily.

Fishing

The flow and volume of water rushing through the French River, from Lake Nipissing to Georgian Bay, provide against any noticeable depletion of its finny population, and the variety of fish cannot fail to satisfy the most capricious sportsman. Black bass, both of the small and large mouth varieties, abound, and attain here unusual size. Savage maskinonge are plentiful in the weedy bays and the swirls and eddies of fast waters throughout the district. One recent summer, a monster "musky" weighing 55 pounds was taken in the North Channel of the French River, at the mouth of the Wolseley, and big fish of this variety are not uncommon. Some time ago a party of Ohio sportsmen caught, besides their limit each day of bass, pike and pickerel, no less than seventeen "muskies", ranging from 10 to 38¼ pounds; and a "musky" of 35 pounds weight, with a length of 50 inches and a girth of 21 inches, was taken in the Main Channel of the French River, one mile from Camp.

Adjacent to the river are innumerable small lakes, reached by not too difficult portages, in which there is splendid bass fishing.

The fishing season for both bass and maskinonge is from July 1st to October 15th. Licenses (which can be obtained at the camp) cost non-residents $5.00 plus 50 cents for person issuing.

Guides and Boat Hire

The guides who work for the Camp are carefully selected, and for the most part are Indians, Ojibway and Nipissing, from the Pickerel Reserve, descendants of those very Indians who in 1615 conducted Champlain and his party down the French River. They are of particularly fine type, and upon a reasonable interest and knowledge of wild life being shown, will lose the taciturnity which is an Indian characteristic, and speak fluently and eagerly of the life they know so well. Forty of these guides pitch tent each year across the river from the Camp. The fee for guides is $5.50 a day, which includes meals, and all money transactions are made between the guests and the manager of the Camp.

There is a boat and canoe livery at the Camp, equipped with a splendid stock of rowboats, canoes and first class launches. Boats and canoes may be rented at $1.00 a day. There are also two outfitting establishments, where all the visitor's ordinary requirements can be taken care of.

The Fishing Trophy

A large silver trophy, known as the French River Chalet-Bungalow Camp Trophy, has been donated by the Canadian Pacific for the largest maskinonge caught each year. This competition is open to all registered guests at the Camp, and entry forms and conditions can be obtained either from the Manager or the General Tourist Agent, Canadian Pacific Railway, Montreal. The trophy is retained permanently by the Company, but each winner's name is inscribed on a silver shield, and a suitable individual award is also given.

Recollet Falls

One of the most pleasurable short trips lies west of the Camp, where a mile-and-a-half paddle or launch trip brings one downstream to Recollect Falls. The waterway is almost eerie in its wildness. A shadowed, silent channel, it lies between stern rocky walls that look like bombarded battlements. Between the precipitous sides all sounds are stilled except for the thin voice of a bird or the "plop" of a fish in a spot where one didn't happen to be looking.

A seven-foot drop of creaming water constitutes the Falls, named in commemoration of several Recollet priests who are said to have lost their lives there many years ago.

Between the high banks of the river, and just below the falls themselves, good fishing is to be obtained, including "muskies."

Dry Pine Bay

Northward from the Camp is Dry Pine Bay—really an expansion of the Murdock River, one of the principal tributaries of the French. To Dry Pine Bay everyone sooner or later goes to fish; around its shores are a number of cottages and camps. Tumbling into it are Meshaw Falls, which separate the North from the Main Channel of the French; portaging over them one comes to the lower end of Eighteen Mile Bay, which not only affords ideal fishing where monster muskies flirt with the angler's hook, but is also scenically beautiful.

Eighteen Mile Bay leads to the North Channel of the French River; following the course of that channel upstream, the Main French is rejoined near the Pine Rapids Camp, and can be followed back to camp. A side trip can be made, by a 400-yard portage, from the Main French to Cat Lake, in the many bays of which maskinonge are found.

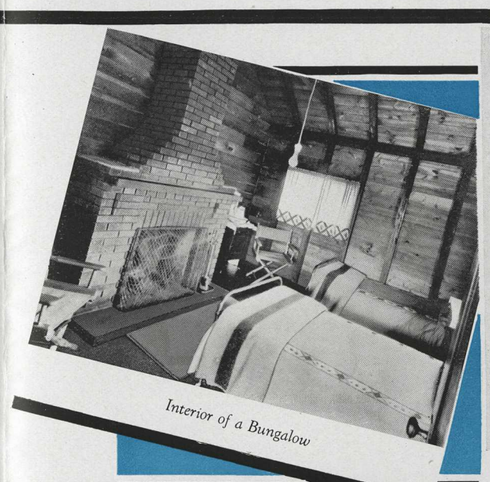
Pine Rapids Camp

Almost due east from French Camp, situated at the end of Eighteen Mile Island, near where the North Channel and Main Channel of the river part company and where the Wolseley River flows in from the north-west, is an outlying camp of especial interest to the fisherman. This is Pine Rapids Camp, under the management of French River Camp.

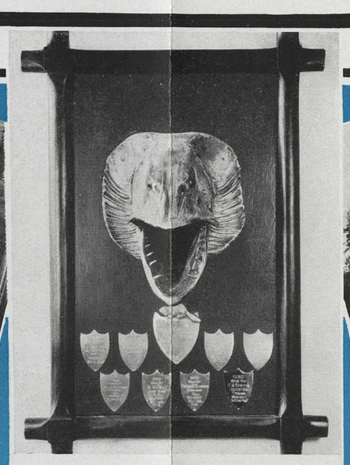
The trip to Pine Rapids Camp is one of the most beautiful in the entire district. The usual way of making it is by launch as far as the foot of Five Mile Rapids—a distance of about twenty miles. Each turn in the river has some fresh vista of shore and woodland; rocky islands, crowned with pine trees, dot its surface, and ofttimes a startled deer or fox is seen as the launch rounds a bend. The river widens in some places to almost a mile.

At Five Mile Rapids you transfer to canoes, and portage in turn past the Parisian, Big Blue, Little Blue, and Big and Little Pine Rapids. A short paddle thereafter brings you to the Camp, commanding a wide view of the confluence of waters.

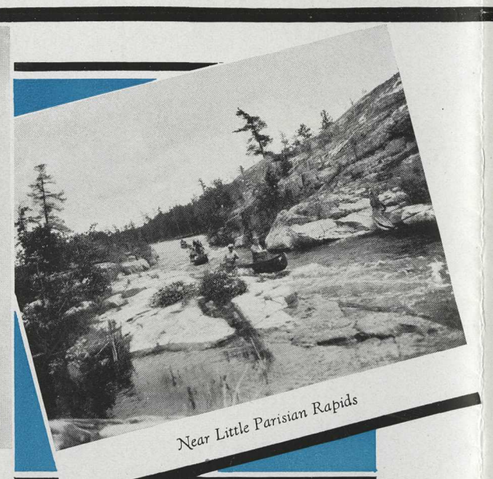
This outlying camp is in the heart of the best bass and maskinonge fishing and it has proved a very popular feature.



Interior of a Bungalow



'Lunge Trophy



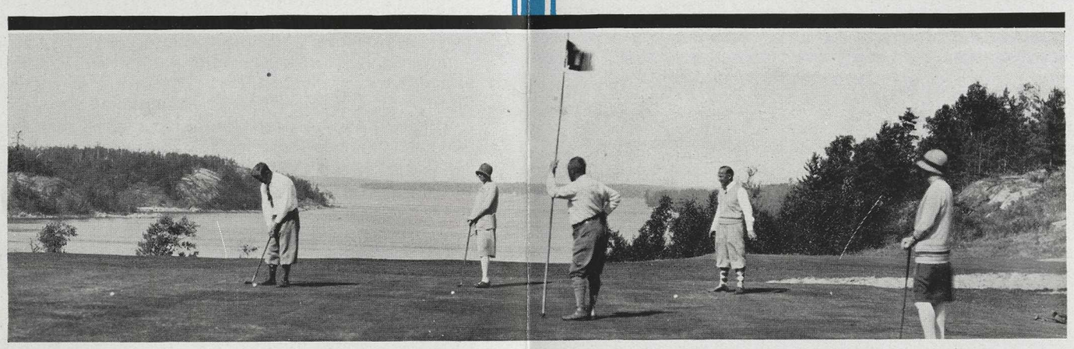
Near Little Parisian Rapids

Choose your Table

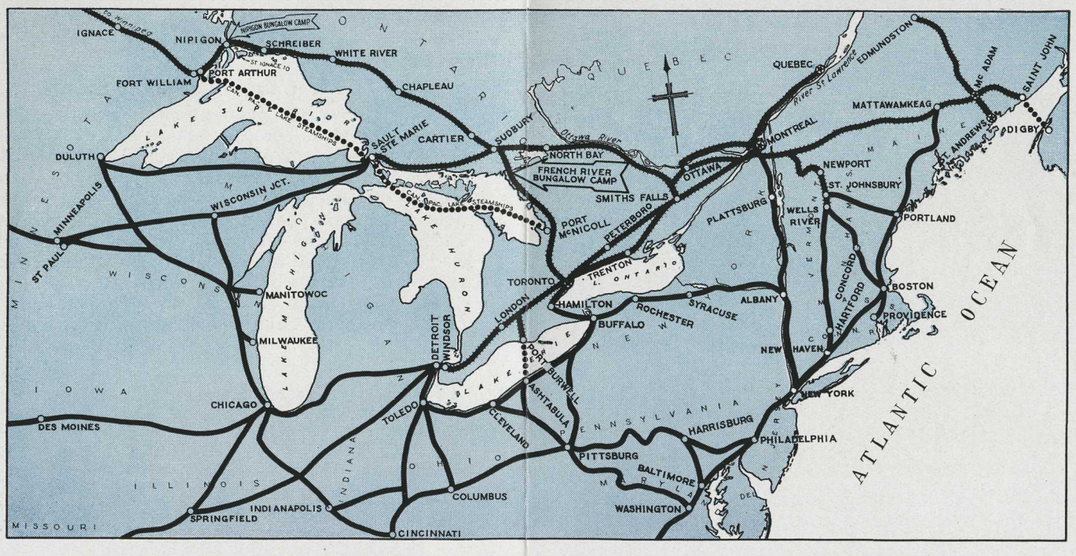
Club House Lounge

Exhilaration

Camera, please!



Bring your Golf Clubs



How to Get Here

Canoe Trips

Fishing always implies canoeing, and French River provides some unexcelled canoe trips. The river is in reality a chain of small lakes, some sixty miles in total length, connecting Lake Nipissing on the east with Georgian Bay on the west. From the Chalet-Bungalow Camp one can reach French Village, nineteen miles downstream, with three portages, or travel upstream by launch to Five Mile Rapids. By canoe one can go at will for unlimited distances in all directions. There is, for example, the fine trip along Dry Pine Bay, the Murdock River, and a chain of small lakes to Wanup. At this point one turns south again down the Wahnapitae River to Little Wahnapitae Lake, and thence to Ox Lake, the confluence of the French and Pickerel Rivers. Instead of the journey upstream by water, the canoe can be shipped by rail to Wanup.

Or instead of continuing north from the Murdock River, as in the last trip, one can turn east to Dodd Lake and portage to Trout Lake. A lacework of streams and small lakes connects Trout Lake with the West Arm of Lake Nipissing, or—turning north—with Aiginawassi Lake.

To Lake Nipissing

The finest trip of all perhaps is to Lake Nipissing, via the Main French and past Pine Rapids Camp. A fairly long cruise, this can easily be made, and once Five Mile Rapids are passed the portages are not hard. Lake Nipissing can be crossed to Sturgeon Falls or North Bay.

A side trip can be made from this route up the Wolseley River, from where it joins the French on the other side of Five Mile Rapids, to Trout Lake—a beautiful sheet of water, twelve miles in length and averaging ¾ mile in width. Good fishing can be obtained, the lake and tributary waters being plentifully stocked with salmon-trout, bass and maskinonge.

The Pickerel River

From the Chalet-Bungalow Camp the Pickerel River can easily be reached, around Cantin's Island. The Pickerel River, although it parallels the French River for so considerable a distance, drains a different area, and many attractive trips can be made along it to the fine regions that lie to the south. It is possible, for example, to reach the Magnetawan River, an important stream that drains some four thousand miles of outdoor country.

The map in this booklet shows how easy it is to traverse the French River territory by water.

An Historic Stream

"Then we arrived at the cabins of the Nipissings. There are little rivers, pretty ponds and fine meadows, with very beautiful woods encircling them." So wrote Sieur Samuel de Champlain, great explorer of this continent, more than three centuries ago. Champlain was not in search of fish or scenery, but of a path to that western sea which bordered the fabled land of Old Cathay. Leaving Montreal in April, 1615, his little party, which consisted of himself, Etienne Brule and guides, paddled up the Ottawa River into the Mattawa, portaged across to Lake Nipissing, one of whose outlets is the French River, and camped (it is said) near the spot where the main camp now stands.

These were the first whites to pass down the French River. For two and a half centuries after, the tumbling river was the path of adventure for fur-trader, warrior, hunter and missionary. Many and terrible were the fights between the Indian tribes and between Indians and white men. Today, the only monuments which mark the struggles of these early visits of the European are the cairns of doubtful authenticity raised in memory of the missionaries.

Why French River Camp Appeals

It is situated in the heart of a rugged, beautiful "wilderness" country, and yet is only eight hours from the densely populated region surrounding Toronto, and but a few hours more from New York State, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Indiana.

It is ideal for the canoeist, fisherman, golfer, tennis-player and swimmer—and for their wives, sons and daughters.

The meals are good—wholesome food well cooked and well served, and the drinking water is absolutely pure.

You have the privacy of a house of your own.

What to Wear

A word as to clothes—always a very important item in connection with a holiday trip, especially to the fair sex. It is not necessary to bring an extensive wardrobe to the Camp. The men usually go about in their fishing and outing costumes, and the ladies usually wear sports outfits in the daytime. Knickers are the rule—and a couple of simple gowns for wear in the evening if you feel like it. French River Chalet-Bungalow Camp is a resort where nice people come for a real holiday, and a trunkful of clothes is entirely unnecessary.

Train Service

During the summer an excellent train service is in effect to French River, which is on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway from Toronto to Sudbury. In addition to a night train, a fast train leaves Toronto in the morning, making connection with trains from New York, Boston, Buffalo, Pittsburgh and Cleveland.

From Sudbury, southbound, to French River is about 1½ hours.

See current Canadian Pacific time-tables for train-schedules.

Rates

French River Chalet-Bungalow Camp will be open in 1932 from June 15th until October 1st. It has accommodation for 120 guests. The one-room bungalows contain two beds, the two-room bungalows four beds. Rates, $6.00 per day, American plan, or $38.50 per week.

Pine Rapids Camp has accommodation for about 23 guests, in comfortable canvas houses with board flooring, with a dining room of frame-construction in charge of a resident cook. Rates $6.00 per day, American plan, $38.50 per week.

For reservations, address J. G. Strathdee, Manager, French River Chalet-Bungalow Camp, the P.O. address (while camp is open) being Asinka, Ontario. Prior to date of opening, address Hotel Department, Canadian Pacific Railway, Montreal.

Other Camps

Other Chalet-Bungalow Camps in Ontario are:

Devil's Gap Camp, Kenora—the centre of the beautiful Lake of the Woods district.

Nipigon River Camp, Nipigon—deep in the north woods.

Information about these can be obtained from any Canadian Pacific agent.

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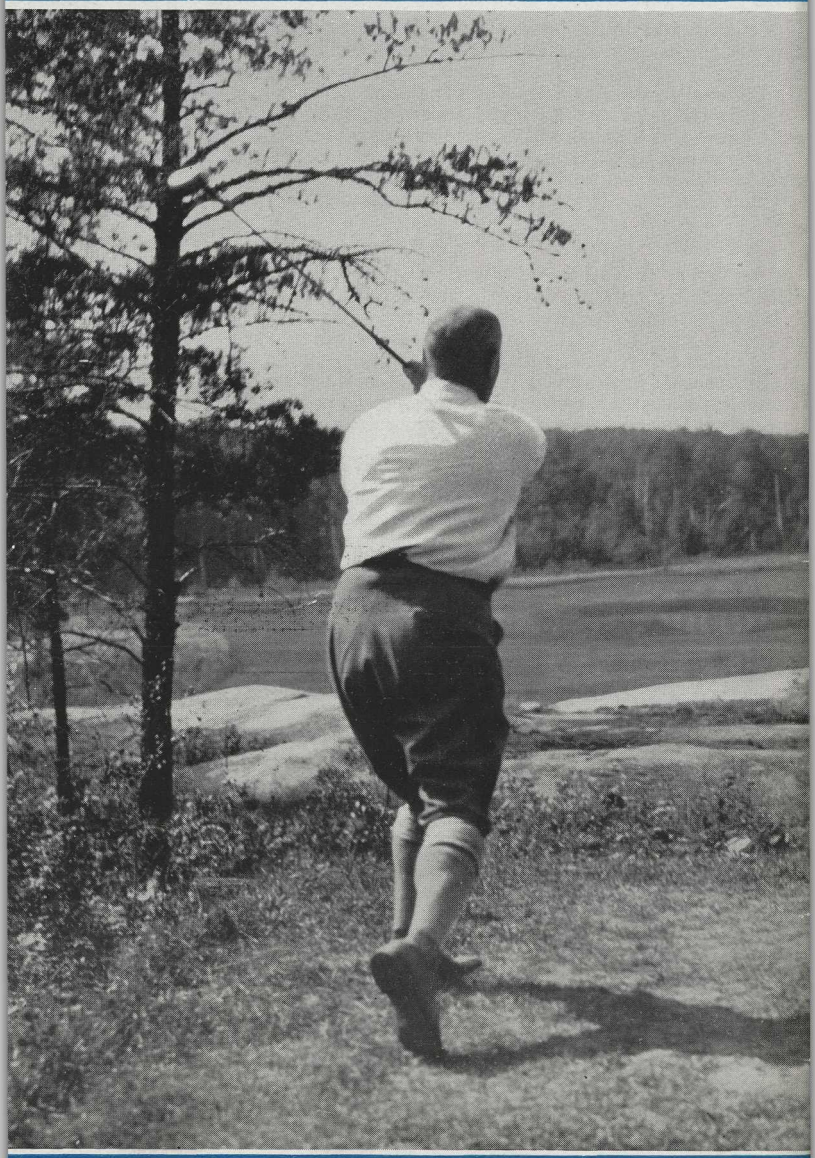

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