

I have already mentioned the interest of Albert Rogers in single girls, and in men in isolated employment situations. He was interested too, in these neighbourhood boys, and thought it would be a good thing to arrange for them to have a summer holiday away from the city. He asked Raymond Booth and me to try to find a suitable camp site, offering to pay for the land. We looked at a number of places not far from Toronto, since transportation would be one of the major problems, and finally found a ten acre property near Waubaushene on Sturgeon Bay, an inlet from Georgian Bay, and about 90 miles from the city. Albert Rogers came down from his summer cottage to see it. He anchored his boat in the bay and I rowed him in slowly to the beach, so that he could test the bed of the lake for quicksand. We found none. He then noted that the railway passed through the property near the shore. He did not like that, but was re-assured when he realised that the single track was straight at the camp site, and for a considerable distance on either side, and that there would be warning whistles as trains came round the bends of the bay shore from both directions. It was a branch line and trains were not frequent. The passenger service has since been discontinued.

It is appropriate to describe something of the physical layout of the site; the story of its development and its later use, belongs in the wider Yearly Meeting work which will be described in due course. The property has a level area, cleared of timber, near the highway. This area is large enough for field games. Beyond this level section, there is a slight incline to the high point of the land, which commands an extensive and beautiful view over miles of the coast line of Georgian Bay. This we felt, should be the building area. Descending from this point towards the bay shore, one passes through a beautiful wood with moss-covered boulders which have lain there for countless ages. This is a place where trilliums abound in the springtime, and where autumn's rich colours precede the inevitable winter snow. The beach is partly sandy and the rest is covered with rocks and stones of many geological formations. After a few days thought, Albert Rogers felt that it would be a suitable location, and I was asked to proceed with the purchase. It was 1930, and this was one of the last services of Albert Rogers to the Society of Friends in Canada.

The boys and girls clubs continued in operation until 1942, the winter activities of the boys as described above, those of the girls of a maidenly character, and such as would help them in later life. In summer both boys and girls used the camp property. Early in the use of the camp, the question of a name for it arose. It is in an area rich in Indian history. Only a few miles away is the Martyrs' Shrine, a church commemorating the martyrdom of the Roman Catholic priests Lalemont and Brebeuf. Dr. Firth made careful enquiries of Indians in the neighbourhood and was advised that the name for Friends in the Huron Indian language was Nee-Kau-Nis. We thus have Camp Neekaunis, the camp of the Friends.

The club work in Toronto terminated in 1942 for several reasons. In 1924, there had been a pioneer element in the project in that district and it was much needed. By 1942, several churches in the neighbourhood had