
My 14-Mile Hike

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For my First Class Scout test Philip, Richard, Tommy and I left the church at 8:15 Saturday morning for our 14-mile hike.

We went along Mt. Pleasant Street until we came to a grocery store. There we bought some and candy. The hike then led us along the road until we came to Pierce Mill. There we studied a map to see which road we were to take. We followed Beach Drive until we came to a bridle path. The path led up to a white bridge on Military Road in the Park. We went over to the Park Police Lodge House to find out which way to go, but found no one there.

We again followed Beach Drive, which led us to another bridle path. Then we hiked along it until we came to the creek. We spied a log lying across the creek, which Tommy and I straddled. Across the creek was another path where I found an acorn with rare markings. The trail led us up to Beach Drive again.

We went down by the creek at the side of the road where we found a milk bottle. Richard put a note in it, which said, "Whoever findeth this bottle, findeth no milk." We threw it into the creek, but the cap came off and the water leaked in. A little later Tommy found a skeleton of a turtle. Richard wrote another note and put it in the shell, which we put into the creek.

Then the road led us to some tennis courts and to the edge of a racetrack. We followed a log fence, which we tried to walk until we came to a field. The field led us to the East-West Highway. On the other side of this we built a large marker, which pointed toward our encampment. We went across a large field and a small brook looking for a good campsite. We got into some poison ivy. Phil carried me away from it on his back. We came back across the brook and came to a wider place in it and found an excellent campsite. There we stopped and unpacked. Tommy and I gathered wood while Phil and Richard made the fire. I then set out to find myself a good stick for the twist. I soon got it peeled and twist around it. Then I fixed the bacon and eggs.

We left the camp at 3:00. We found that part of our sign that had been knocked down by a racehorse. We hiked along Beach Drive. On the way we heard them announcing the scores. We hiked along the creek until we found the milk bottle that we had thrown in several hours before. Finally we came to a path where Tommy found a paper with some fishing prizes on it. He almost got left behind while he read the prizes over and over, so we blindfolded him. We also blindfolded Phil and Richard. As we went along we saw some Negroes fishing for minnows. We kept on going until we came to the white bridge at Military Road. We followed a path until we came to a bridge that went back across the creek. Then we followed the road until we came to Pierce Mill. As we went along, an argument was started about which road we should take. We followed a road and then a path up to Richard's house where I called up my Mother so she wouldn't worry. We got back to the Church at 7:20. I arrived home at 8:00 and tired.
