

father and other companions while climbing Mount Katahdin. A huge searching party of several hundred National Guardsmen, woodsmen and policemen sought for him in vain. Veteran guides finally gave up hope that he had survived.

Meanwhile the lost boy, lightly clad, buffeted by a hailstorm, lacking food or equipment of any kind, stumbled through the forest. He saw deer and bear, but no humans. He practiced woodcraft learned as a Boy Scout, ate wild berries and drank water from rock pools. He tried and failed to make a fire by rubbing sticks together. When brambles tore his clothes he covered himself with a tattered coat found in an abandoned hut. At night he slept wrapped in a burlap sack which he also found. At last, after following a mountain brook downstream, the boy came upon a telephone wire. That led to a guide's camp and safety.

Lost on Katahdin

The tallest and most rugged of Maine's mountains is Katahdin, an Indian word meaning "highest land." A mass of granite cliff and boulder rising 5,267 feet above sea level, the peak overlooks a wilderness of forest and underbrush, a preserve for wild animals. Human habitation is scarce and visitors are warned not to enter the area without a guide.

From this wilderness there emerged last week 12-year-old Donn Fendler of Rye, N. Y. He had been lost for eight days after being separated from his