HEART-OF-THE-HILLS VIEW

So we have, over the years named it —
not all at once, but gradually, increasingly, year by year,
trip by trip, hour by hour, moment by moment.

A vista — unsurpassed —
not because of its unequaled beauty,
though to us it has become that now
but because of what has happened to those
who came to its brow —
and looked, pondered, imagined,
became inspired and moved.

It has distance, breadth, expansion,
a vista pulling one onward and outward —
serenity and hopes unending.

A scene — hundreds of camper eyes have viewed,
the young, the older, those being led and those leading —
each being impressed new and anew,
thoughts sprung; thoughts deepened,
convictions grown and seasoned.

Counselors and campers, adults and staff —
all, in a sense, humble and equal,
different only in background and experience
and comprehension of its history, beauty and meaning —
its place in our lives — in our future —
all have come to its view.

To those who have seen it —
cloud covered, cloudless and clear,
sun lit, star lit, moon lit;
storm swept, brilliant and loud,
drenched with rain, gentle and strong;
pastured, planted and harvested;
blanketed in snow with diamond crystal-branch and stem,
in white — in green — in gold,
spring, summer and cold.

increasingly captures deeper meaning and importance —
our heritage — the birthright of all.

Memorable events have happened here in its full view —
discoveries and learnings,
campfires, peaceful canvases slumber,
songs, poetry, art — silence and laughter;
wild creatures prowling, birds soaring,
vegetation tame and wild,
and people unadjusted but adjusting,
young voices of inexperience,
others with more maturity — all yielding;
yielding to its majesty and powers.

It leads — its messages interpreted through us
have been placed in hands of souls
who have translated its function in numerous other places and roles.

It is awe inspiring, spiritually uplifting —
God created —
May it continue to better persons how
Our Heart-of-the-Hills View.

— L. B. SHARP