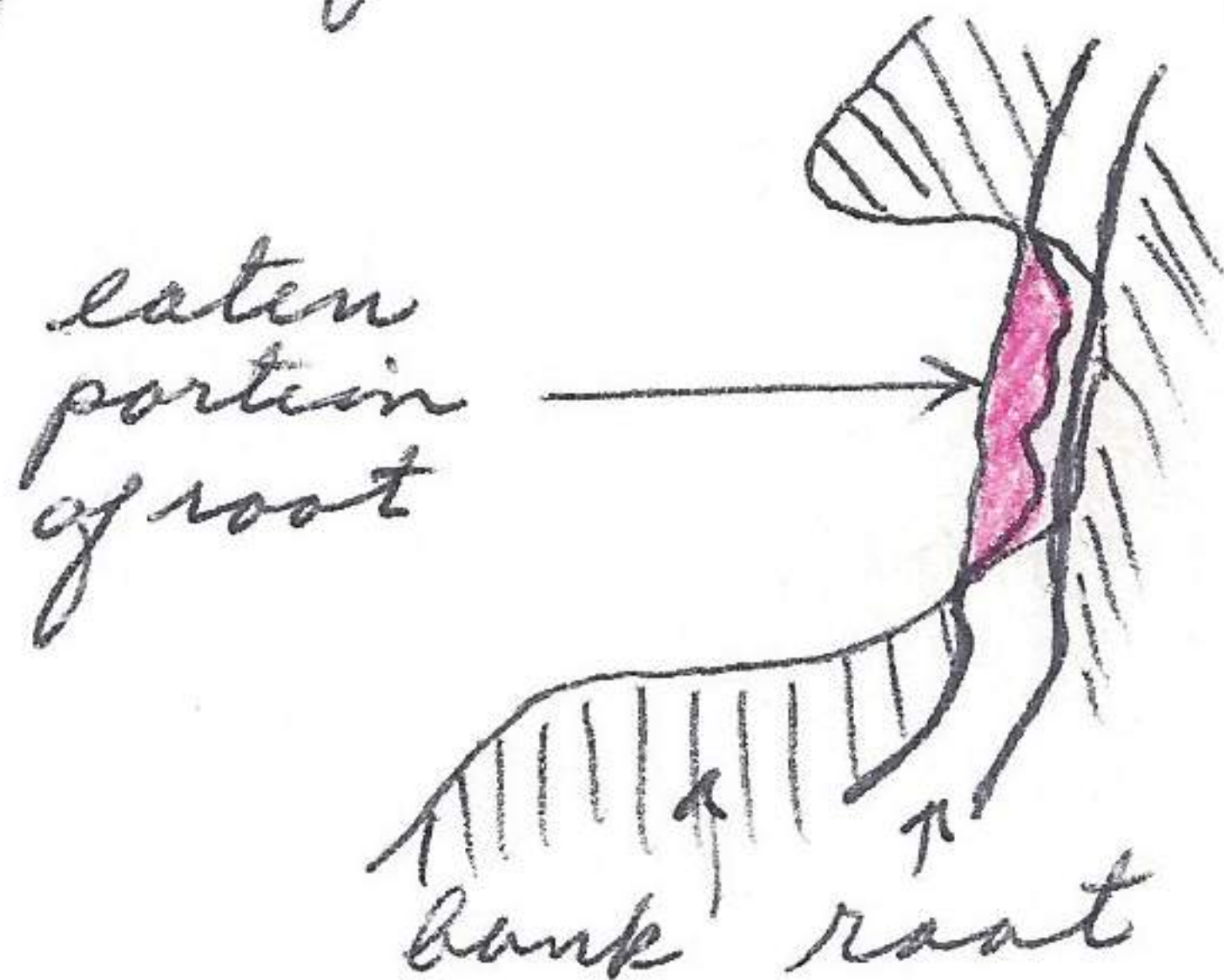


a light colored beaver jump & slid down into the water with a splash followed by a second dark colored beaver which also practically jumped into the water. They swam underwater up Creek. The two most commonly used holes are one at water level and the other about 4 feet above water. Some are 10 feet up bank under roots of trees. Considerable digging in bank for roots at about 1 1/2 feet above present water level and varying in size from a hole 4 inches in diameter to one the body size of a beaver or larger (up to double the body size). In practically every case the shallow hole ended at a root from a small shrub or small tree. The root was either barked or completely cut off. I am wondering if these roots were excavated and eaten at a time when the ice covered the river and food was not available. The diggings, however, appeared fresh. The holes did not go beyond the digging. Some of these holes are used as resting places and for feeding on grasses and small stems as on some of the floors there was an accumulation of debris. This debris could have been placed there by muskrats, which use the holes dug by beaver. There were other holes and scraping of soil made by beaver. Tracks were common on shore as well as up and down the bank. A smooth trail up & down the bank indicated the dragging of the belly across the mud. There were no extensive trails which are more common later in the season. In areas being actively used there were small cleaned limbs on the bank but not as numerous as later in the season. About 8 trees had been cut but main feeding on small willows or limbs 3/4 inches in diameter. Beaver no doubt use the entire river course but there are definite areas where there are concentrations of beaver, especially where the water is slow moving & deep. Only one bank den was reinforced with a house of sticks and this house was had only about 6 inch of sticks below the hole. It would be interesting to study the adaptation of the beaver along the Wakarusa in respect to the influence of the variable water level



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