

The Scout

A Monthly Publication
for Boy Scout & Wolf Cub



Leader

Leaders of the Boy Scouts
Association in Canada

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"THIS gathering has been significant because it is Canada-wide. . . All we want is mutual understanding; one great big Canada that is one. . . You of the Great West have met and found what good fellows are the chaps from the East; you of the East have met and found what good fellows are the chaps from the West."

With these words, and the added wish for every good thing in life, and pleasant recollections of their visit to Ottawa, the Chief Scout for Canada signalized the close of one of the outstanding events in the history of Dominion Scouting — the special All-Canada Gillwell Winter Training Course of Feb. 26-March 7, which brought together Scout leaders of every province in Canada, including a notable group of provincial and district commissioners.

Not only was the course notable as the first All-Canada gathering of Scout leaders. It brought the first occasion of the attendance of a body of Scout Leaders as such at the opening of the Dominion Parliament; the troop was guest as a body at a number of notable social functions, including entertainment at Government House; it was instructed in two sessions by the Chief Scout for Canada himself, and finally it had the high honour of participating in the induction of the Chief Scout as Scoutmaster of the First (Canada) Gillwell Troop.

The Chief Scout's Participation

Only to newcomers in Canadian Scouting will it be necessary to say that Lord Byng himself participated whenever possible, again demonstrating that he does not regard the title of Chief Scout as merely honorary. He faced at the disposal of the course the big indoor tennis room at Rideau Hall for the second week's meetings (it was not previously available), and in addition to the two lecture sessions which he took, contributed a short but memorable talk on the higher, ultimate aims of Scouting in the development

The All-Canada Special Gillwell Training Course

of "Canadian Christian Citizenship." He looked in on the course at other odd times, and personally showed the class through Rideau Hall, pointing out the various portraits of previous Governors General, and drawing attention to a number of particularly interesting war mementos—including the original signboards of several famous German trenches captured by the Canadian Divisions.

Her Excellency Lady Byng also "looked in" several times, and met each member of the course; and shortly before the close of the sessions

quarters, when the Chief Commissioner, Dr. James W. Robertson, welcomed the class and outlined the course. Assistant Chief Commissioner John A. Stiles then opened the first session, with a talk on the Patrol System, following which the course was organized into a troop of four patrols. The patrols were directed to choose their own emblems, the result being the Wolves, Wood Pigeons, Frogs and Blue Grouse.

The subjects taken up during the eleven busy days of the course were those covered in the regular Gillwell Winter Course, the only variation being the open discussion of problems and experiences touched upon, and a session given up to a discussion of equipment and other supplies, presided over by Quartermaster George Ferguson. The points brought out are covered in another column.

Each session was run as a troop meeting, with patrol competition for attendance, observation and success in games.

P.T. and the Mental Sommersault

Undoubtedly the most strenuous session was that on P.T., taken by the Chief Scout. With coat and vest off he led the class in ten minutes of exercise that left all quite willing to sit down for the succeeding talk. This also was by the Chief Scout—a blackboard demonstration of teaching by associating important details with a phrase or sentence. The lecturer sketched

the outline of the Great Lakes, marked each with the first letter of its name, then pointed out that these letters — O E H M S — might easily be remembered in sequence by the sentence "On Edward His Majesty's Service."

From time to time during his talk the Chief Scout interjected an entirely unrelated question — illustrating the "mental sommersault" method of keeping the mind alert and interested.

(Continued on page 3)



Left to right, top row.—Major R. W. Gordon, A.D.C., M.C., Ottawa; J. H. Ross, Fort William, Ont.; P. S. Watson, Devon, N. B.; R. B. Wells, Regina, Sask.; Rev. G. T. Spriggs, Kensington, P.E.I.; H. A. Hubbard, Simcoe, Ont.; I. W. Vidito, Halifax, N.S.
Middle row.—W. J. P. Selby, Regina, Sask.; F. C. B. Sara, Calgary, Alta.; W. Solway, Edmonton, Alta.; R. F. Corkran, Sherbrooke, Que.; E. O. Thompson, St. John, N.B.; W. H. Gibson, Tillsonburg, Ont.; A. O. Stein, Brockville, Ont.; E. M. Newman, Portage la Prairie, Man.; Frank Jobin, Winnipeg, Man.; G. Ross Marshall, Halifax, N.S.
Seated.—W. D. S. Rorison, Vancouver, B.C.; R. Ross Sutherland, Victoria, B.C.; Rodney C. Wood, Dominion Camp Chief; John A. Stiles, Assistant Chief Commissioner; Baron Byng of Vimy, Chief Scout for Canada; James W. Robertson, Chief Commissioner; F. E. L. Coombs, Dominion Staff; G. C. Walker, Charlottetown, P.E.I.; D. E. Macintyre, Owen Sound, Ont.; L. H. Miles, Montreal, Que.

Their Excellencies entertained the entire troop and instructing staff at supper. The unassuming homelike hospitality of His Excellency and Lady Byng was one of the pleasant recollections carried away by the class. The kindness of Major Gordon and other members of the Governor General's staff also was greatly appreciated.

An All-Canada Troop

The course was opened on Tuesday afternoon, February 26, in one of the city's big office buildings near Head-

The Scout Leader

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Chief Scout for Canada
His Excellency Lord Byng of Vimy,
Governor-General of Canada.

Chief Commissioner
James W. Robertson, C.M.G., LL.D.
F. E. L. Coombs - - - - - Editor

DOMINION HEADQUARTERS
203--205 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Canada

OTTAWA, APRIL, 1924

As Scouts—We Are Friendly

IT CANNOT be emphasized too strongly that the Fourth Scout Law—"A Scout is a friend to all," etc.—applies to our attitude toward all other boys' organizations. It is only natural that rivalry, and some expression of it in word and bearing, should develop between boys of any grouping. There are wholesome forms of rivalry; and on the part of Scouts the rivalry should be wholly and only friendly. Scouts should frequently be reminded of the Fourth Law, and its constant and broad application.

Scoutmasters themselves should set the example—in act, word, and in thought. We are not scouting for Scouting; we are scouting for Canada. We are making what contribution we can toward the character building of Canadian boys. We could not give leadership to them all, even if we had the opportunity. And perhaps neither the boys nor Scouting would be as well served if we had the opportunity and the leaders, and there was only the one program for all sorts of boys.

Let us have no rivalry except the rivalry which provokes unto good works, with the friendliest, most cordial co-operation whenever the opportunity offers.

In case of any local adverse criticism of Scouting the best reply, and the only convincing reply, is consistently good Scouting, and all that it means in friendliness and Good Turn service by the individual and by the troop as a whole.

Other Winter Courses

SO successful was the Winnipeg Winter Course under Charles A. Hill that a "waiting list" developed and increased until it was necessary to put on a second course. This is now under way.

The course held at Hart House, Toronto University, closed amidst much enthusiasm. The final patrol competition figures stood at 155, 155, 154, 154. The two ties were settled by a keenly contested game.

The Warden and Under Warden of Hart House expressed the opinion that the course had been very successful, and had resulted in much good. The hope was expressed that a similar course might be held next winter. Toronto was the first University to introduce the Gillwell training.

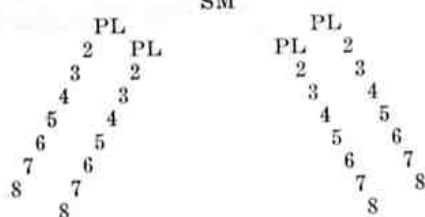
The Camp Chief reports the Toronto District course to be one of the keenest—a big troop with 100% attendance. Other successful courses are in progress at Montreal, Halifax and Vancouver. The last is headed by Frederick H. Bates and the Halifax course by Assistant Provincial Commissioner Eaman.

A new course is starting at Owen Sound, for that district, under the direction of District Commissioner D. E. Macintyre, who recently took the All-Canada course at Ottawa.

It should be noted that the Winter Course, Part III, either a or b, is alternative to the Correspondence Course Part I for the Canadian Gillwell Badge. A candidate therefore may take the Summer Camp (Part II) and either one of the above for qualification. Part II is compulsory, and has no alternative.

A Correction

Arrow Formation



Through a make-up error in the March article on Troop Formations and Hand Signals the right half and left half patrols were transposed in the "Arrow Formation," with the result that the head of the arrow pointed away from instead of toward the Scoutmaster. The correct formation is shown above.

The Scouts of the 1st Kincairdine (Ont.) Troop were found prepared when called upon by the local Chief of Police to assist in a so-far-unsuccessful search for an elderly woman who had disappeared. Within fifteen minutes the Scouts were out. They went about their task systematically, and finally Scouts Anderson and McLean found a trail, followed it for over a mile into the country, and located the body of the unfortunate woman in a field. The boys covered the body with their overcoats, and while one remained on guard the other hastened back to town, notified the family minister, then the coroner, and arranged for the needed conveyance.

Contributed for the Q.M.

Scout: My Scoutmaster says I am to get my uniform from you.

Quartermaster: All right, son. How will you have it—too large, or too small?

The Bulletin Board

Gillwell Correspondence Course papers will not be read after May 1st.

Scoutmasters and Patrol Leaders to the number of 520 sat down at the Montreal District Scout Leaders' Annual banquet, held in the Rose Room of the Windsor Hotel.

The following names of members of the Executive Committee of the Ontario Provincial Association should be added to the list given in the March number of the LEADER: Charles J. Gillooly, H. P. Hermance and J. F. M. Stewart, Toronto; W. J. Hickey, Welland and W. R. McNeil, Hamilton.

A very successful troop-demonstration-conference was recently held at Whitby, Ont., under the direction of Assistant Provincial Commissioner Frank Irwin. Twenty-two leaders were present, from Whitby, Port Whitby, Port Perry, Oshawa and Thornton's Corners.

During the conference Troop Leader Ted Brant of the 1st Whitby took a friction fire speed test, and secured his flame in 38 seconds, breaking the record of 42 seconds held by P. L. Cyril Heard of the same troop. Messrs. Jones and Nunn of the Toronto staff held the watches. Unofficially Ted has secured a flame in 30 seconds. It will be remembered that the conditions call for timing by two watches, and the use of wood, tinder, etc., native to the locality.

According to newspaper clippings and other information B.P.'s birthday was celebrated from coast to coast with banquets, displays, entertainments, sleigh rides, and combinations of these. Imagine a moving picture of Scout doings around the globe that night! And imagine the songs sung and the speeches spoken and the eats eaten—but no, you couldn't the last!

The Canadian Scout play "A Strenuous Afternoon," by E. Russell Paterson, Provincial Secretary for Quebec, was "put on the air" from Station CKCK, The REGINA LEADER, by boys of the Regina Scout Band. The band is one of the most popular and regular program features of CKCK, and Bandmaster R. B. Wells, who also is Provincial Secretary for Saskatchewan, has received hundreds of letters of appreciation.

Cross country races are popular with South African Scouts. At a Scout eight mile relay race held at Cape Town the winning team, the 2nd Green and Seapoint Troop, covered that distance in 47 minutes 30 seconds. A feature of the race was the running of the entire distance by Troop Leader Evans of the Simon's Town Troop. Through an accident the other members of the team did not reach their relay points, and Evans, determined that his Troop should be represented at the finish, win or loose, ran the entire distance.

A. B. C. and an—

- 7.30 Patrols assemble in Corners. Dues—Points for String, Pencil and Matches.
- 7.35 Break flag. P.L.s. explain compass game in Corners.
- 7.40 Compass game.
- 8.00 Drawing of Bowline made from knot tied by Scout.
- 8.10 Flag Snatching. (Union Jack composition, etc.)
- FREEZE**
- 8.30 Tumbling.
- 8.45 Lower flag.
- Good Night.

THE ALL-CANADA GILLWELL

(Continued from page 1)

Example Stories from Canadian History

Following the blackboard talk, the Chief Scout spoke of the inexhaustible fund of good Scout stories contained in Canadian history. He thought not sufficient use was made of this source. As an example he told in graphic detail the story of the taking of Quebec, leading up to the last hours of the two great leaders, Wolfe and Montcalm, and the fact that even under the shadow of death neither thought of himself. "One 'died happy' since he had fully carried out the task entrusted to him; the other's last words directed the sending of a request to the English general that he 'treat kindly the inhabitants who had fought against him.'"

Such historic examples of service and of thought for others, offered by the great leaders of both branches of the Canadian people, might well, the Chief Scout thought, be kept fresh in the minds of all young Canadians.

The Spiritual Side

During another short session taken by the Chief Scout he spoke of the necessity of all round development of the boy—a healthy body, a healthy mind, and finally "that spot divine." "I often think of Scouting under three heads," he said, "three C's—Canadian, Christian, Citizen," and urged the seriousness of a Scoutmaster's responsibilities.

Troop at Opening of Parliament

The attendance of the entire troop at the opening of Parliament was a noteworthy occasion. The men were given front seats in the balcony above the Speaker's chair; and the row of vari-coloured neckerchiefs and Scout shirts attracted considerable attention, and added a new note to the brilliant scene. Following the opening, the troop, by special invitation, attended the reception of the Speaker of the Senate, the Hon. Hewitt Bostock. A number of the men also attended the reception of the Speaker of the House, the Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux.

Busy Guests

A very interesting visit was that paid the Prime Minister, MacKenzie King; who received the troop most cordially, and took time to explain something of a prime minister's routine duties. Other events included visits to the National Art Gallery, Victoria Museum, the Royal Mint, the Archives, and an entire evening of talks, lantern slides and moving pictures provided by members of the Parks Branch, Bird and Wild Life Conservation, Historic Sites and Town Planning branches. The heads of these various institutions and departments threw everything open to the visiting Scouts, and provided guides and lecturers who were only disappointed that the visitors' time was limited. As a souvenir of their visit to the Parks Branch each man was given a splendid collection of books and pamphlets, including a copy of Hewitt's "Conservation of the Wild Life of Canada" and Taverner's "Birds of Eastern Canada." At the Natural History Museum a Duck-bill Dinosaur's tooth was given as a souvenir.

Other events included a snowshoe hike led by the Dominion Camp Chief, Rodney Wood, on Saturday morning; a visit to the Y.M.C.A. Boys' Hobby

**An All-round Sense Test**

Show; attendance by members of the troop at Sunday morning service at Knox Presbyterian Church; a dinner given the visitors by the Ottawa District Scoutmasters, and finally a dinner given by the members of the course to the Chief Commissioner and members of the Dominion Headquarters' Staff.

Memorable Banquets

The dinners will long be remembered by those who participated for the warm spirit of Scout brotherhood felt and expressed by every man present. Provincial Commissioner Ross Sutherland of British Columbia presided at the second dinner, and voiced the appreciation of the members of the course and the pleasure they had had in meeting and knowing "Headquarters" personally. To not a few it had been a revelation, declared the chairman; and the experience promised much for the future of Scouting in those sections of Canada separated by days of travel from the Capital. Dr. Robertson in replying also expressed the belief that the course had accomplished the two-fold purpose of showing Canada what Scouting was in a large way, and at the same time showing Scouting something of what Canada is.

Assistant Chief Commissioner Stiles in his response referred to the various Canadian provinces as the fingers of a pair of hands—capable of performing great things when they work in harmony. Rodney Wood made special reference to the aim of the Gillwell courses, and stressed the humility which teaches the Scoutmaster to subordinate himself, and which decries praise. He quoted Kipling's lines:

"For their work continueth;
Great and deep continueth,
All without their knowing."

The New Scoutmaster of the First (Canada) Gillwellians

The investing of the Chief Scout as Scoutmaster of the First (Canada) Gillwell Troop (composed of men who have taken and passed the full Gillwell course), which was one of the closing incidents of the course, was a simple but most impressive occasion. The ceremony was performed by the Chief Commissioner, Dr. Robertson, who secured in place the grey Gillwell neckerchief. The Scout Promise was of course not taken, the new Scoutmaster being already a Scout—in fact the oldest Scout in Canada, in point of service.

In a few quiet, serious words the Chief Scout accepted the honour. He concluded with a declaration, deliberately spoken, that impressed every man present anew with the dignity and significance of the principles of Scouting, and their challenge to the loftiest impulses of service. Said the Chief, "I expect to be a Scout to the end—morally, physically and spiritually."

The ceremony was terminated, proper Scout fashion, with three whole-souled cheers and a tiger for the new leader or the First (Canada) Gillwell Troop.

Guests of the Y

The majority of the men on the course were accommodated with rooms at the "Y," where the facilities of the entire building were placed at their service. The kindness shown by every member of the Y staff was greatly appreciated.

It should not go without mention that the entire cost of the course, including transportation to and from Ottawa, was borne by an anonymous friend of Scouting, as a contribution to good-citizenship training in Canada.

Ontario Program

- 7.25 Fall in, patrols in line.
- 7.30 Inspection.
- 7.40 Push and Pull (patrol competition).
- 7.50 Patrol Corners
 - Foxes, 2nd class as arranged.
 - Lynx, 2nd class as arranged.
 - Wolves, Tenderfoot as arranged.
 - Bulldogs, Tenderfoot as arranged.
 - (3 Freezings.)
- 8.20 Nigger in Woodpile.
 - (1 Freezing.)
- 8.30 Blind Man's Journey (patrol competition).
- 8.50 Circle—Songs — Announcements—Flag—Dismiss.
- 9.05 Court of Honour.

Recent Entertainment Ideas

OPENED with recitation "Canadian Born," followed by "A Song of Canada," by Scout and Cub members of St. George's choir—Morse signalling by 3rd Pack—Shadowgraph.—Tableaux "The Conjuror," showing boy joining troop, and transformation when he comes up for investiture.—Selections by Troop orchestra.—A "Beauty Parade" take-off representing Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter, Bathing Girl, Marjorie, Hortense.—Barney Google and Spark Plug.—Awkward Squad.—Selections by "Pan Yan Orchestra."—Chorus, "Come Along to Toytown."

A Lively Closing Scene

The above program was given on two successive nights to packed houses by the 3rd Owen Sound Troop. The admission fees were 25 and 15 cents, and the net proceeds \$65.00. The principal expenses were printing, electrical fixtures and balloons. Twelve dozen of the latter were given out free to the kiddies in the audience, being distributed by clowns during the closing chorus, while the rest of the troop scattered among the audience and threw spiral confetti—a lively carnival scene.

Talent If You "Dig" For It

"It is surprising," comments Dr. G. Murray Fraser, the Scoutmaster, "the talent one finds in a troop if one digs deep enough. The orchestra was splendid, and practically made the show. Spark Plug and Barney Google were prize winners. We rigged up a frame with a head at one end and two Scouts inside. A large horse blanket with 'Spark Plug' printed on the cloth and sewn on it covered the frame, and made it quite lifelike. To see Spark Plug sit down and answer questions and do a little dance was side-splitting."

Rehearsed Three Months

"The manager of one of the theatres loaned us a spot-light, the hydro-electric commissioner ran in special wires for the lanterns and the Ladies' Auxiliary provided the Scouts with cocoa and cake after each show. Scouts from other troops acted as ushers."

"I find that people as a whole are always glad to help the Scouts in any way. All that is necessary is to ask. I also find that the advice in the LEADER is good, namely rehearse and rehearse. We worked for three months preparing for it but it was well spent."

An A-1 Demonstration—Not Money

The Canadian Scout play, "One Day's Fun," put on by the 12th London Troop, netted some \$30.00. An outlay of \$19.00 was made for decorations, scenery material, etc. Some of the troop thought the expenses too high.

"But my aim," writes Scoutmaster J. B. West, "was rather to present a sort of tableaux of Scouting, to let parents and others see just what it included. (A number of demonstrations are worked into the plot of the play.) I was more anxious that they should be impressed by the excellence of the program and go away with a highly favorable opinion of the work

of the troop than take in money. As far as I can learn the play will prove a big factor in boosting Scouting."

An Effective Finale

An original finale was added to that of the play. It was described as follows:

"After the second scene of the play we changed back to the forest at night—troop in a semi-circle around the camp-fire; all lights out except camp-fire and a dim blue light shining on the tent. The trees looked most realistic. Then sang E'en gon yama. Curtain, and lights on. Troop at alert and salute while flag lowered. Then the King."

Invite Local Editors To Look In

This idea—that of Scoutmaster W. D. Forrest, 1st Huntsville (Ont.) Troop—resulted in a story in one of the local papers that must greatly have strengthened the position of the Scoutmaster and widened the understanding of Scouting in the community. The story was run under a large head, "A Night with the Scouts." The impressions and information set forth will be of interest. In part the article follows:

"It was the Editor's privilege a few nights ago to spend two hours with the



A Fifth Vancouver Monkey-bridge.

Scouts at the Central School. The experience served to enlighten us on the comprehensive character of the work being accomplished by this fine organization under leadership of Major Forrest, the Scoutmaster, and his assistants.

"There were 40 young chaps present, and everyone was keenly alert and deeply interested in the program. The preliminaries included the roll call, payment of dues, flag raising—an impressive ceremony which inculcates needed respect for the flag—inspection, and presentation of badges. . . .

After physical drill, "the patrol leaders conducted a series of demonstrations in First Aid. These exercises included all manner of stunts from bandaging a collarbone to the construction of an improvised stretcher from boys' coats. Knot tying followed for ten minutes."

"One of the interesting features of the program was a contest between three of the patrols in illustrating the first of the Scout Laws: 'A Scout's honour is to be trusted.' To work

out this illustration the boys were left to their own ingenuity. All three patrols did this very impressively and the central emphasis upon the sacredness of a Scout's honour was brought out very clearly. Mr. Holmes, ex-Scoutmaster of Barrie, was the judge, and complimented all the boys on the work accomplished."

"The camp-fire singing and the closing games contributed to the variety of entertainment. Mr. J. W. White, chairman of the Troop Committee, and Mr. H. E. Rice addressed the boys briefly. . . .

"The boys meet each Friday night at 7.30. Visitors are welcome to drop in, and they are certain to be impressed with the thoroughness of the work being done, and the valuable part it is to play in moulding the lives of these young men into channels of usefulness as future citizens."

An Attractive Report

THE 1923 annual report for Ontario has been published in an attractive 16-page khaki-covered booklet, 4 x 8½ inches in size. The matter is attractively arranged, with marginal captions, and is illustrated with characteristic sketches from the "doubly pointed" pencil of the Chief Scout.

Salient features of the report were covered in the March LEADER's story of the annual meeting. Two sections not mentioned warrant quoting as a reminder of some Good Turns Scouts may render one another as well as others.

The Northern Troops' Fire Fund

The Northern Troops' Fire Fund raised by 5 and 10 cents subscriptions from Scouts and Cubs for the re-establishment of troops which had lost all their property, uniforms, etc., in the Temiskaming fire of October, 1922, reached a total of \$478.39. The money was expended under the supervision of Col. H. E. McKee of Cobalt, President of the Temiskaming Boy Scouts Association.

Good Turns Picked at Random from Troop Reports

"Harvested a crop of corn for a woman who was ill."

"Kept the sidewalks of Main Street cleared of snow during the winter."

"Picked apples for charitable institutions in the city."

"As a special good turn to the janitor of the church the troop held a logging-bee and cut up into stove wood a large quantity of limbs blown down during a sleet storm."

"Scouts provided clothes for one of our members who was up against it hard."

"Helped an elderly lady to move her things to her new home and during the winter months helped other old people when they were not able to get out for chores."

"Helped fireman at all fires and searched for lost children."

"Threw club-room open to other boys of the town for an evening's fun."

"Distributed literature for Children's Aid Society."

"Helped to keep back crowds at unveiling of a war memorial."

"Boys helped several elderly people by carrying wood, etc."

MAKING FIRE by friction "as the Indians used to" is becoming increasingly popular among Canadian Scouts—as it should be. Troop Leader Ted Brant of the 1st Whitby Troop (Ontario) recently made a new Canadian time record by securing his flame in 38 seconds from the first stroke of the bow.

While speed contests have value, we are laying stress on the more practical test which requires a Scout to go into the woods with only a thong and Scout knife, find his material, make his set and get his fire. This is real woodcraft, and of the kind that appeals to the romance in every boy. As well it has its practical possibilities, particularly for Scouts of the "frontier" districts. There are a number of authentic cases of men losing their lives, or undergoing great suffering, as a result of exposure in the woods or wilderness because they knew no way of making fire, to warm themselves or for a signal, with the "matches" nature has provided. For all boys friction fire making has a value as an effective means of implanting in the mind the idea of resourcefulness.

An Experimental Set Now Available

In this connection Scoutmasters will be interested to know that among the new items advertised in the forthcoming spring catalogue of the Stores Department is a friction fire set—The Tecumseh Fire Bow Set; offered as a means of encouraging boys to master the art. The contract for supplying this set was placed only after thorough experimenting with the various kinds of woods available, and a practical and dependable fire set has been the result. The instructions accompanying the set are given herewith, for the benefit of Scoutmasters who have made their own sets and who have not mastered the art to their satisfaction.

The Tecumseh Fire Bow Set

The various parts of the Tecumseh Fire Bow Set include a fire-board, a spindle or drill, a hand-block, a rawhide thong and sample tinder. Because of its awkward length and shape, and since it is an item that any boy can readily improvise, the bow is not included. The fire-board and spindle are of carefully selected wood, each tested for fire making.

The Bow

The bow may be made of any stout stick, preferably but not necessarily bow-shaped, some 20 or 24 inches in length. Various knots may be used for securing the thong to the bow—one end fixed, the other adjustable, so that the thong may be tightened when necessary. An effective way to secure the thong is to cut a small eye-slit near each end of the thong, then make a running noose. At the fixed end take a turn of the noose around the bow, then pull and tighten. Pass the second noose over the other end of the bow, take a turn of the thong around the spindle, then tighten the thong by pushing the noose back toward the end of the bow until the turn around the spindle is sufficiently snug to grip it. At the back of the bow under and



A New Fire Record and a New Fire Set

above the adjustable noose cut a succession of shallow notches. Should the thong stretch it will then only be necessary to remove the spindle and move the noose slightly toward the end of the bow.

How to Make Fire

First shape a small quantity of tinder into a loosely made bird's-nest. Under the edge of the notch of the fire-board place a thin flat chip, or "fire-pan," to catch the dust coal. The coal can be picked up from the ground with a knife blade, but a "fire-pan" is safer.

Twist the bow thong around the middle of the spindle, so that the spindle is on the outside of the thong—not inside, rubbing against the bow.

Position Is Important

Kneel on the right knee and place the left foot firmly on the fire-board. (See illustration.) It is very important that the fire-board be held immovable. Hold the hand-block so that the drill is perpendicular, and adjust yourself so that your left wrist is pressed firmly against or below your knee. Hold the bow precisely at right angles to the drill (to prevent the thong traveling up or down the spindle). Now apply a moderate pressure to the hand-block, gradually increasing if it seems necessary; and with a rapid even motion drive the bow backwards and forwards.

Continue until the notch is well filled with the black wood powder, and the powder is smoking freely.

Don't Break the Coal

Being very careful not to move the fireboard (which might result in breaking up the little dust-ember), lay aside the bow and drill. Place your right hand on the fire-board, to steady it while you remove your left foot. Carefully hold the fire-board with the left hand, and with the finger tips of the right hand give the board a light tap (to break the coal from the sides of the notch). Tip up, and remove the fire-board. Carefully pick up the fire-pan, or chip, and drop the lump of smouldering dust into the centre of the bird's-nest. Pick up the nest, close your hand about it loosely, stand up and swing the nest in the air. You will feel the heat almost immediately. As soon as the nest is uncomfortably hot, place it on the ground, blow it into flame—and build up your fire.

The fire may be brought by placing tinder over the coal on the ground, and blowing directly upon it, but the hand-coaxing method generally is surer, and the flame, when it comes, is much stronger.

If smoke does not come within a minute, examine the end of your spindle. Probably it is "polishing," or has developed a "lead-pencil" point. With your knife scrape off the polish or pare down the point. If the spindle

again fails (where the wood is known to be suitable), drop a little dry dust into the hole.

Points to Remember

When making a new fire-pit in your board, start it so that the outer rim will be a quarter inch from the edge of the board. Cut the notch v-shape, the same width top and bottom, the sides smooth, the point of the notch not quite reaching the centre of the fire-pit.

Different kinds of wood will call for slightly different pressure on the spindle; which will be learned by experience.

All woods will not make fire; some grind up too easily, developing little heat; others are too hard; woods containing resin will "polish" as soon as heat has developed.

Kinds of Wood and Tinder

Varieties of Canadian wood which give dependable results include red and white pine, red and white cedar, basswood, elm, black ash, soft maple. All wood must be well seasoned and dry. There is a difference of opinion as to whether the spindle and fire-board should be of the same wood. Good success has been had with various combinations such as basswood on cedar, white pine on elm, etc.

It is a theory that in every section of country a native wood may be found that will make friction fire. Testing of this theory and the trying of various combinations of wood for spindle and fire-board offer a field of interesting experimenting for Scouts.

Tinder may be made of fine dry shavings, dry moss, grass, or leaves rubbed up in the hand. The best tinder, however, is cedar bark fibre, or fibre made by shredding soft pine or cedar between stones. The latter was much used by the Indians.

Keep At It

Your first attempts to make fire may fail. Keep at it, each time giving careful attention to every step and detail. When you have caught the "knack," practice until you can get your flame within the minute.

The next step is to leave matches behind, stick the rawhide thong in your pocket, go out into the woods and find the necessary material and make your fire set on the spot. An Ontario Scoutmaster habitually does this during hikes. From a single dead dry branch from a cedar tree he makes everything, including the tinder. He has made fire in the rain.

The Tecumseh Fire Bow Set, with a stout khaki carrying case, is mailed post paid at 75 cents. Address Stores Department, Boy Scouts Association, 203 Wellington Street, Ottawa.

Three years ago there was opposition to Scouting in Rhodesia. So has opinion there changed that when this year a conference on Scouting was held in Cape Town the Rhodesian Government offered to pay the expenses of a Rhodesian delegate. And when the manager of one of the largest Rhodesian mines required a clerk he stipulated a man with Scouting experience, in order that a Scout troop might be organized for the benefit of the boys on the property.

❖ The Scoutmaster's Five Minutes ❖

A Talk on the Fifth Scout Law

A Scout is Courteous.

"How sweet and gracious, even in common speech, is that fine sense which men call courtesy!" —Field.

THERE ARE few boys but have heard the "cloak" story of Sir Walter Raleigh and Queen Elizabeth—how that gallant courtier spread his cloak over a muddy spot in the road so that the Queen might pass dry shod.

There is a story of another courtier of far different circumstances. He was a ragged little New York newsboy, and with a gathering of other poorly clad children was waiting before a mission hall to be admitted to a Christmas treat. One thinly clad little girl with ragged shoes seemed particularly to suffer from the cold, and kept shifting from one foot to the other. The newsboy observed her. He watched for a moment, then suddenly pulled off his cap and threw it on the ground at her feet. "Stand on that, kid," he said.

Which of these two acts would you say was the more truly courteous? (A few minutes for discussion; which probably will result in the decision that the newsboy was entitled to the most credit since his act presumably was not the result of upbringing or example, or with any expectation of reward, but simply an impulse of thoughtfulness.)

What Is True Courtesy?

Just what is true courtesy? For it is not the performance of some act of good manners merely because you know it is expected of you. True courtesy is shown in the spirit in which you do a thing. If you give up your street car seat to a lady only because you feel you must, it is not courtesy. If you rise and give it because you wish the lady to be comfortable, and do so gladly and with a smile—that is courtesy.

King Edward's Thoughtfulness

True courtesy comes from the habit of thoughtfulness for others. A homely but perfect illustration is given in a story of the late King Edward, when Prince of Wales. He was dining with a party which included a man of little social experience. During the luncheon the man poured his tea into his saucer for drinking. Immediately the Prince also poured his tea into his saucer, and so drank it—in order that the other might be saved the discomfort of discovering that he had committed a breach of conventional table manners.

A similar story of thoughtfulness is told of a certain English princess, who when a member of a party dropped and broke a cup, immediately herself dropped a cup—to save the other's feelings.

It Can Be Developed

There is a kind of politeness which is only an imitation of courtesy; an imitation of the words and mannerisms understood to be characteristic of people of social standing. Its artificial-

ity is nearly always recognized, and only leaves an impression of insincerity. On the other hand there are boys who really are thoughtful for others, but do not know how to show it gracefully. Such boys should not feel that they are at a disadvantage as compared with boys who seem to have the faculty naturally. Any good quality like courtesy, acquired as the result of sincere and intelligent effort, is bound to be deeper and more lasting than a faculty which has come naturally and without effort. Boys without natural graciousness of manner therefore should practice a courtesy of words and bearing that will properly express their feelings.

Importance of Saying the Right Thing

The art of saying the right thing in

Why Some Troops are an Outstanding Success

They are headed by a Scoutmaster—

Who was nominated by the boys.

Who realizes the big things in Scout leadership for himself.

Who develops his Troop slowly, around Patrol Leaders selected by the boys.

Who uses the Patrol System. Who is himself always willing to learn, and always learning. Who consults with and uses his Troop Committee whenever possible, and generally makes them feel that they are an important part of the troop organization.

They are supported by a Troop Committee—

Who are really interested.

Who frequently look in at a troop meeting.

Who realize that the Scoutmaster is a volunteer, giving of his time and thought in an important service for other men's sons.

Who give the Scoutmaster every aid possible, including personal encouragement and appreciation.

the right way also has a practical value. An Egyptian king once dreamed that all his teeth had fallen out. He called a soothsayer to interpret the dream. The soothsayer assumed a sad countenance and assured the king that all his relatives would die before him, and that he would be left alone to lament their loss. The king was very angry, and commanded that the unhappy soothsayer be whipped. The next prophet summoned appeared with a glad face. "For your dream, sire," he said, "thank the gods! They promise you length of days! You will live longer than any of your relatives!" And the king was greatly pleased.

Tactfulness

A necessary element of courtesy is tactfulness. The unflinching tact of the late King Edward was one of his fine

qualities. An example occurred during one of his Mediterranean holidays. He had occasion to land unexpectedly at a minor Italian seaport. It had been raining, and the roads were muddy. The local officials had run a carpet between the pier and the carriage, but it was not quite long enough, and in the gap they had laid down an Italian flag. The king landed, passed along the carpet, and came to the flag. Instantly he stepped aside into the mud, as he did so raising his hat in respect to the national emblem of the country whose soil he was treading.

Includes Respect

Another necessary element of courtesy is respect—respect for the rights, feelings and opinions of others. This also means a readiness to acknowledge the good qualities of others, and to think of these good qualities rather than qualities which you dislike. It was said of a certain greatly loved pastor that he was never known to say anything to another's disadvantage. This meant that he had cultivated the habit of never thinking of anything that was to another's disadvantage.

The published diary of the Duchess of Teck contains this quotation from Queen Victoria: "God has been so good to me that now, in my old age, I want to confess that I have not any dislikes."

A Scout Leader's Example

One of our leaders in Canadian Scouting was once invited to address a gathering on boys' work. Unknown to him another speaker, the advocate of another boys' work program, had also been invited to address the meeting, and spoke first. On then being called to the platform the Scout leader complimented the audience and the previous speaker on one of the finest boys' work addresses he had ever heard, and asked to be excused from saying anything regarding the particular program in which he himself was interested. In other words, he would do nothing to take from the success of another man's address.

Courtesy Spreads Sunshine

Because of its origin in kindness of thought, true courtesy always means the spreading of sunshine. When speaking before a gathering of Scoutmasters recently, the Hon. Martin Burrell, one of Canada's most experienced public men, declared it his belief that more of the world's unhappiness was caused by small unkindnesses and discourtesies than by the big calamities and sorrows of life.

In Business

The value of habitual courtesy in business is well known. Most large department stores now have an educational course for the training of young clerks in salesmanship; and this instruction particularly emphasizes courtesy. In fact, courtesy is described as "the foundation of successful salesmanship."

In business or out, however; on the street, the playground, at home, the true Scout is always courteous—because he is a Scout.

Try These Games

BLIND MAN'S JOURNEY (sense-training game; patrol competition)—Chairs or benches are placed as obstructions, leaving a central winding pathway. A chair is stood four or five feet from the "in" opening. A Scout is stood behind the chair, allowed to study the windings and distances of the pathway, then is blindfolded, and endeavors to go through without touching an obstruction. If he succeeds he scores a point.

It is necessary to rule "Out" on the first touch of an obstruction. Otherwise a touch may give direction. For the same reason absolute silence must be insisted upon.

As a variation the obstructions may be placed in a circle, with opposite openings and a chair in the center. The boy in this case may be stood and blindfolded six feet from the "in" opening, without the obstructing chair immediately in front.

The problem should not be made too difficult at first.

In order to put a whole troop through quickly all P. Ls. may be used as "blindfolders," the patrols standing in line and following one another as quickly as possible; the P. Ls. themselves going last.

Where patrols are uneven in numbers the small patrols may repeat until they have sent in as many boys as the largest patrol.

When the game is first played a humorous touch may be added at the conclusion by asking, "Who would like to try it again?" and selecting the most confident boy; then, as soon as he is blindfolded, have all the obstructions silently removed.

Push and Pull (patrol competition if desired)—At the central point between two chalked or otherwise indicated goal lines 30 feet apart, four boys from two patrols face each other on either side of a Scout staff, grasping it with both hands. With watch in hand, the Scoutmaster on an even minute says either "Push!" or "Pull!" and alternates the command every five seconds for half a minute.

A win is scored either by one patrol team pulling the other over its own goal line during a "Pull" period, or pushing the other group back over its goal line during a "Push" period.

A turning or twisting of the "scrum" is "No game." It must be a straight push or pull toward or from each patrol's goal line.

Only a stout staff should be used; otherwise it may splinter or break, and cause an injury.

Both the above games were developed at the recent Winter Gillwells, and proved very successful. Push and Pull makes a particularly lively brief P. T. game.

In the spring a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of—hiking, if he is a sure enough Scout.

Don't Open It!

DON'T open the new catalogue—the Spring and Summer Price List of the Stores Department, just out, and a copy of which either has been or shortly will be mailed you.

That is, unless you have a half hour to spare. You will not lay it aside within that time.

And you will be lucky if you can lay it aside in any case without at once filling an order blank. Of course that is what the wily Q.M. had in mind; why for weeks he spent every spare minute at the office and numerous long evenings at home working on the contents—writing, classifying, sketching page layouts, etc., etc.

In its new and enlarged page form, and with a greatly increased number of illustrations, the new Price List undoubtedly is one of the most interesting books ever sent out of Dominion Headquarters.

It is more than a Price List. It is a pictorial presentation of the equipment and all of the incidentals necessary to or helpful in the running of a Scout Troop or Cub Pack. For the new Scoutmaster or Cubmaster it shows at a glance "what we shall need." The old Scoutmaster will find it a ready reference for a lot of details regarding which he is frequently referred to—points on uniform, equipment, books available on certain subjects, etc.

For example, when organizing a new patrol the decision of the boys as between several emblems may be decided by the color of the shoulder knot. Very well, you refer to page 14 of the catalogue, and run down the list of emblems and color combinations opposite. Incidentally you can help the boys decide whether the new patrol flag is to be in natural colors, at 35 cents; in red on white at 40 cents, or in special colors of the patrol emblem decided upon at 50 cents.

One page in the catalogue that will stop you is that on Archery, with a fine halftone of the Camp Chief demonstrating correct position. The accompanying interesting and instructive article is also by the Camp Chief.

It is a curious coincidence that without any communication or understanding on the subject, archery was taken up at the 1923 Canadian summer Gillwells during Rodney Wood's absence, while he, at the Imperial Gillwell, also was boosting the ancient sport. It is certain that as a result of Scout leadership archery is due for a boom in Canada.

Other new items set forth in the Price List include a friction-fire set, printing cuts for troop stationery, programs, Scout news columns in local papers, etc.; numerous new items of equipment, and finally a list of carefully selected and approved story books for Scout reading, by the world's best writers.

Save the Forest Week

THIS is a Dominion-wide forest conservation publicity week—April 27-May 3—in the program of which every Scout troop should interest itself. Forest protection is a natural Scout activity, and the opportunity for further interesting the boys in the whole subject of forestcraft should not be overlooked.

Scoutmasters' talks on the subject might emphasize such points as these:

The obligation of Scouts to set an example of care with fire when in the woods, and to caution others who are careless.

The far reaching results of a forest fire in the loss of work to lumbermen, mill workers, teamsters, etc.; the increase in the cost of lumber, and in the cost of houses; in the cost of food, through the increase in the cost of wooden, cardboard and paper containers, etc. A considerable percentage of the cost of living today as against that of twenty years ago is traceable directly to the depletion of the forests, much of it by fire.

Thriving communities which grew up around lumber mills and other associated industries have practically disappeared, following failure of the district lumber supply as a result of fires.

Practically all of our eastern streams, large and small, have been affected by the disappearance of the forests, and the resulting loss of a steady water supply that formerly was retained and fed out gradually by the forest covered watersheds. Instead, we have spring freshets and floods, and later in the year very low water; in some localities serious water shortage.

Information on local Save the Forest Week activities will appear in all local papers.

Expert Likes Our Swimmer's Book

MR. W. W. WINTERBURN, Honorary Secretary of the Ontario Society, writes as follows with reference to the recently published booklet "The King's Scout Swimmer and Rescuer":

"Thank you for your very interesting and instructive book on Swimming. It is one of the most easily understood books that I have read, and I have read a goodly number. I sincerely trust the book may be the means of stimulating and promoting the knowledge of swimming and life saving amongst the Boy Scouts."

Mr. Winterburn is an expert on all matters pertaining to swimming and life-saving work. He is Director of Aquatics at Hart House, University of Toronto.

(The SCOUT SWIMMER AND RESCUER may be ordered direct from the Stores Department—20 cents, post paid.)

A page of helpful ideas from wherever and whomsoever we can obtain them

THE DUFFEL BAG

If you have a good one worked out with your own Troop, please send it in.

A Camp Announcement

"I'M GOING to the SCOUT CAMP this year! Savin' my money for it, too. Gee! They've built a Recreation Hall an' put in a new Water Supply. Our whole Troop is goin' to be there, b'lieve me! Gotta get some new hooks for my fishin' lines. Wonder if the ole Lake is warmin' up yet. Bet I'll be able to swim a mile. Savin' up an awful appetite for the Eats. Good old Pie again this year!"

The above, mimeographed on the district letterhead, with scouty marginal picture decorations, was posted over a month ago on every troop bulletin board in the Hamilton District.

This Is Good

"The boys have been attending the Fire Hall, where the Fire Chief is giving them lessons in Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting. At two recent fires the firemen have availed themselves of the services of two of the boys who were present, and they proved useful Scouts in every way and were personally complimented by the Chief. Each boy in the troop has taken charge of the alarm box nearest his home, and if he sees the glass broken or the box out of order in any way he notifies the Fire Hall at once."

—Scoutmaster T. G. LEWIS,
2nd Woodstock Troop.

Safety League Asks Scout Help

This warning, broadcasted throughout Ontario, might well be given country-wide publicity, with alterations to suit particular local dangers.

A SPECIAL WARNING AND A GOOD TURN OPPORTUNITY:

The Ontario Safety League has asked us to do all we can to warn the public, particularly children, to keep off the ice hummocks along the Great Lakes. From slush ice these hummocks have formed unusually far out over deep water. At no time safe, they are, with mild weather, becoming doubly dangerous. Unless this warning is heeded and people "KEEP OFF" these ice fields, fatalities are sure to result.

Have your boys broadcast this warning and, if these ice formations in your vicinity are attracting the attention of the venturesome, organize patrols with lariat ropes to watch the danger spots, particularly during the week-ends when many people visit the shore.

Scoutmasters' Clubs Note

AT THEIR March get-together members of the Vancouver Scoutmasters' Council listened to a very interesting and instructive talk on the diagnosis and treatment of common camp ailments, by Dr. Ireland.

At the last gathering of Scout leaders of the Ottawa district—the occasion of the entertainment of the All-Canada Winter Gillwell Course—Dr. A. Sloane, himself a Scoutmaster, gave a particularly well illustrated and practical talk on the treatment of aching teeth in camp.

Camping On Paper

Eleventh Border Cities Troop
Boy Scouts Paper Round-up



Help!

Please call at my home for newspapers which I will save for you every month.

Name

Address

Do A GOOD TURN DAILY

Collections will be made on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month.

The collecting and selling of paper is a means frequently resorted to by troops for the raising of camp funds, with widely varying success. The "varying" often is due to the varying quality of thought and organization put into the effort.

The above reproduced card, which explains itself, was the idea used with notable success by the 11th Border Cities Troop (Windsor, Ont.).

A similarly well thought out and well organized "paper round-up" put on jointly by all the troops of the Owen Sound district produced a carload of paper in two days. The car was loaded by the Scouts, and sold "F.O.B." The maximum return was thus secured—something over \$300.00.

Another means of raising funds devised by Owen Sound Scouts was the painting of "OWEN SOUND" automobile signs for local autoists. This looks like an opportunity for Scout troops in any locality where such name plates are not now available.

(If your troop has an original and effective way of raising funds, kindly tell us about it.—Ed.)

Ye Scout Almanack

April 1st—All Fools' Day—Scouts to "fool" as many lonely or needy people as possible by a cheerful Good Turn.

April 9th—Vimy Ridge, 1917.

April 18th—Good Friday.

April 19th—Full Moon.

April 20th—Easter Sunday.

April 21st 27th—Easter holidays in Ontario Schools. Dates may vary in other provinces. A good time for special spring hikes.

April 22nd—Ypres, 1915.

April 23rd—St. George's Day. St. George is the Patron Saint of Boy Scouts everywhere. Mark his anniversary with a troop event of special importance.

April 27th-May 3rd—Participate in the Dominion wide "Save the Forest Week" activities.

During April — Spring observation hikes. Begin talking camp and camp funds, if not already started. Aid in local Spring "clean-ups."

Are You Using Them?

THERE is no doubt that Scout Law plays drive home the spirit of the laws far better than a mere parrot-like repetition of them. At the same time they have proved very popular with the troop.

A Semaphore Stunt

After the play each patrol received a short message written in semaphore characters. When deciphered it called upon each Scout to return the message signed with his name in semaphore. Patrol points were awarded for speed and correctness.

—S. M. PICKLES,
8th Vancouver Troop.

"We Need Old Uniforms"

THIS is one we borrow from our brother Editor of that meaty little publication the *Buffalo Scout Trail*. You'll agree the idea is good, particularly for larger districts.

"Headquarters has an arrangement with a local women's club that will permit us to take in old uniforms, and have them repaired and washed at cost.

"These will be issued at cost to our deserving boys.

"If you have an outgrown or otherwise unused suit or piece of equipment, please send it to —————. It will do double duty and a last good turn.

"Will You Help?"

Would Your Troop Do This?

WE HOLD our meetings in the Public School, the Cubs at 4.15 and the Scouts at 7.30; and have splendid meetings in both cases—38 Cubs and 39 Scouts. I felt very much encouraged recently when in spite of two tempting counter-attractions only three Scouts were absent. One was at a boys' party; and I asked all who had been invited to stand up. About fifteen stood. I then asked all to stand who wanted the meeting shortened so that they might go to the party—and not one stood. I thought this a very good indication that our meetings were interesting.

—W. D. FORREST,
1st Huntsville, Ont.

ARE YOU taking the Imperial Headquarters "SCOUTER"? If not you are missing a great deal of valuable and most interesting matter, in addition to the Chief Scout's monthly article. The SCOUT LEADER does not take the place of the Imperial H.Q. publication; its field is distinctly Canadian Scouting problems. Take the SCOUTER. The subscription price is 4 shillings; the address, Scouter Office, 17 Henrietta St., London, W.C., 2, England.

The new Canadian Scout Camp Fire Song Book contains songs for all occasions—entertainments, banquets, sleigh rides, etc. 15 cents per copy, \$1.65 per doz.—Stores Department, Dominion Headquarters, Ottawa.