

# The Scout

A Monthly Publication  
for Boy Scout & Wolf Cub

# Leader

Leaders of the Boy Scouts  
Association in Canada

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ONE of Scouting's lessons to the World: Anglican, Baptist, Catholic Priest, Methodist, Orthodox Jewish Rabbi, Presbyterian—and all brother Scouts of the Owl Patrol, Manitoba Gillwell, '24.

AMONG men coming to the Gillwell summer training camps there usually are a number who do not know "just what they are coming to." Occasionally even there are some who are uncertain whether they will like it, and whether it will be worth their while.

For these the following information is offered:

## A Gillwell Camp Is

A ten days' summer training camp for Scoutmasters or prospective Scoutmasters, located if possible—like all real Scout camps—entirely away from the fuss and feathers of everyday town or city life.

It is organized as a model Scout troop camp, on the Patrol System.

On arriving at camp each man, whether he has been in Scouting for a week or eighteen years, becomes a boy again, a Scout in the Crow, Owl, Canada Bird (or other) Patrol of the Camp Troop. And he goes in for all the jolly good fun of a boy in camp, save only for those periods when he "plays grown-up" in order to take notes of lectures, games and other demonstrations.

The Scoutmaster of the troop is the Camp Chief of a Deputy Camp Chief.



"And next moment the grizzly—"

## Just What is Gillwell?

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### Why Gillwell for the Old S. M.?

At one of the Gillwell camps of 1923 the average experience in Scouting of the men attending was over 5 years. A number had been in Scouting over ten years. At the conclusion of the camp every man voluntarily declared that the course had been of real value to him. A number, including several of long experience, declared that they had never before actually grasped the true intent and spirit of Scouting.

Perhaps this is the chief value of Gillwell to the old Scoutmaster. With the best intentions of service, the very knowledge acquired through years of experience sometimes becomes a handicap. As an illustration, in some Scouting centres the direction of first aid tests year after year by a fixed group of leaders has resulted in a steady raising of the passing standard—as the examiners' familiarity with the subject increased



Where the Robins cooked and ate.

Seemingly the fact was lost that the work was being taken each year by a new crop of boys, and that the scope of the tests was first aid, and not the last aid of the physician.

Similarly it is possible for the old Scoutmaster to lose his grasp of the real intent and scope of Scouting; to get somewhat "off line." It was to meet this very problem in the Old Country that the first training course at Gillwell Park was organized.

Probably the concrete example of the desirability of the Gillwell course for experienced Scoutmasters is the 24-hour Journey. Almost invariably after going through this experience the old Scout leader declares in effect, "I never before realized just what the First Class Journey meant. Now I will know what I am putting my boys up against, and I will know just how to instruct and prepare them for it."

You need not be told that such a Scoutmaster, returning to his troop and telling of the Journey adventures and mis-adventures, establishes for



The story in the sand.

himself a new and higher place in his boys' regard. Indeed, one of the important results of the whole experience is the new position which the taking and passing of the Gillwell course gives the Scoutmaster in the estimation of his boys. And when finally he has written off the theoretical course, Part I, or taken III (a) or (b) of the winter course, and has received his grey neckscarf, with its tartan badge and maple leaf, he has become a leader that his boys will boast of.

## Gillwell for the New Scoutmaster

For the new or prospective Scoutmaster, the Gillwell summer camp course offers a short cut to an understanding of the true principles and spirit of Scouting that will start him off in his work with a maximum of confidence and a minimum of fumbling and worry and mis-directed effort. It insures the boys looking up to him from the beginning as a fully qualified leader, and one who actually knows what they regard as the big thing in Scouting—woodcraft.

## What Gillwell Means to Everyone

Discovery of what is meant by "the Scout spirit"—the most important, in fact the vital qualification for real Scout leadership. This is something that seems difficult to catch from reading; something, experience has shown,



Ready for the Journey adventure.

# The Scout Leader

Published by the Canadian General Council of The Boy Scouts Association.

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

Chief Commissioner  
James W. Robertson, C.M.G., LL.D.

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## Character and Law

WHEN reading an old copy of "Liberty" the other day, I came across the following:

"Law is an expression of character. One Boy Scout may be worth a dozen legislators.

"People find their stability not in the multiplicity of their laws but in the development and discipline of their character. If you breed from statutes you breed invertebrates. If you breed from self-discipline, character, tradition, ideals, and sound inner morality you breed strength.

"No congress or parliament can make a sound breed. It can merely express one. If statutes so supplant character as to extinguish it they defeat the purpose of law."

This appreciation of our Movement is worth handing on to you fellows, for it is in the building of character that the whole strength of Scouting lies. Laws are necessary rules for playing the game, but without character there would be no law. When you look for the incentive for human action it is to character and conscience that you turn, rather than the statute book. We know that certain things are taboo but it is a knowledge that such things are wrong and against the common good that acts as a deterrent, rather than a fear of the law.

The Scout laws—the Ten Laws of Life, as I have heard them called—are a stimulus rather than a restraint; they do not say that you may not be dishonorable, unkind, unclean, but definitely state that "a Scout is honorable," "a Scout is a friend to all," "a Scout is clean in thought, word and deed." Our Chief has designed them with one idea—to build character.

Remember this responsibility, "One Boy Scout may be worth a dozen legislators."

—Leslie Sara,  
in Calgary Boys' Herald.

## Winter Course Notes

"THE enthusiasm displayed by the men was quite remarkable," writes Mr. J. J. McGuire, Grand Knight of the Calgary Council, K. of C., with reference to the class of 51 men who completed the Calgary Part III (a) Winter Course under Field Secretary

William Solway. The concluding session of the class, held in Great War Veterans' Hall, was witnessed by several hundred onlookers.

A feature of the concluding session of the Calgary Course was the presentation of the Gilt Cross for bravery to Scoutmaster Erwin Blight of the 10th Calgary Troop. The act for which the medal was awarded was the diving rescue of a boy who had been swept away by the Elbow river current and wedged beneath a submerged rock.

At the concluding session of the New Toronto Three-A, held as a dinner, Provincial Commissioner Laurence very effectively delivered the prescribed talk on "Service for Others." The troops represented on the course cover an area of some 15 miles, and several of the S.M.s. came in each night by motor; others had a hike of several miles to the Radial. Leader Phillips' report on the course concludes: "Evidences are already to hand of the good effect of the course upon the troops whose leaders took part. There will be no difficulty in organizing a Part III (b) Course next winter."

We have one more Three B meeting, and up to date we have found it far more interesting than the part "A". Lashing, fire-woods, indoor fires, were probably the highest of the high



MINIMUM fireplace, minimum wood, minimum kitchen kit for 6 Gillwell Crows with maximum appetites.

lights. These were very practical and everyone worked. On indoor fires we, after instruction, had each patrol actually make one. Advanced knotting required again that every person should actually tie these knots. Wonderful results! For the fire material we gathered local stuff, and tried it out with friction, flint and steel, and with matches. We have had a real spirit present, and it has been difficult to chase the men out after the meetings so I could go home. During our course I have managed to review Part "A", and also talk on troop meeting programs. Enquiries already have been made about a Part Three "C."

—Wyburn Hill,

Secretary Hamilton, Ont., Council.

The 3rd Owen Sound Troop repeated their annual concert on a third night for the benefit of under privileged children, the tickets being distributed by the Rotary Club and Y. Candy and balloons were distributed by Scouts during the last program number. Although an extreme cold snap cut down receipts on the first two nights, the troop paid for a new platform curtain and lights, presenting these to the Sunday school.



A Stayner, Ont., Cub broke his leg. His brother Cubs and Scouts organized an ice carnival, raised \$57.00 and sent him to a hospital at Collingwood.

A gathering of Scouts and Cubs at Moose Jaw, Sask., brought together 235 boys. Prizes were presented to boys winning leading places in the examinations that concluded the Patrol Leaders' course conducted by District Commissioner Strachan.

A Salvation Army Life Saving Scout troop is being organized at the Vancouver Citadel, with the assistance of Adjutant Arthur Porter, who took the 1924 summer Gillwell at Ottawa. Salvation Army Scout camps are being run as far as possible along Gillwell lines.

The Rotary, Kiwanis and Gyro Clubs of Regina are furnishing the Regina Rover Band with new instruments—these to be paid for as the band earns the wherewithal. Recent concert programs show that the band is still playing the high class music that has always characterized it under Mr. Wells' leadership.

The interdenominational possibilities of Scouting are again well illustrated by the church connections of the present 1st Galt Troop, Ont. Denominations represented: Anglican, Methodist, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Baptist, Jewish, Bible Students, Gospel Assembly, Gospel Hall. All the boys attend their respective Sunday-schools regularly.

Once a Scout always a Scout was literally true of Winnipeg's oldest Scoutmaster, Mr. George Baker, of the 35th Troop, who recently passed on, at the ripe age of 86. But a week previous he received a gold Swastika from his boys. In compliance with one of his last requests, he was buried in his Scout uniform.

Now fathers' auxiliaries! Following a particularly well planned father and sons' banquet of the 26th Vancouver, a Fathers' Auxiliary was organized, every father engaging to stand behind his boy and the troop. As practical evidence that they meant business they presented Scoutmaster Longmuir with \$25 for the purchase of a troop flag.

At the February meeting of 28 members of the Halifax Scouters' Club three patrols were formed for a demonstration of games. Between game periods talks were given on "The Value of Proficiency Badges," by Scoutmaster Guilford, of the 12th Troop; on "Saturday Afternoon Hike" by P. J. Power, 8th Halifax, and Scoutmaster of the Club; and on "Games—Their Uses and Values," by F. J. Gaudet, 5th Halifax, School for the Blind Troop. Mr. J. B. Fielding contributed some interesting reminiscences of Sir Robert Baden-Powell.



## JUST WHAT IS GILLWELL?

(Continued from page 49)

that a Scoutmaster, with the best of intentions, may carry on for years without really grasping.

A Gillwell camp provides a valuable social experience through its close day after day comradeship with men of the best type and of a wide variety of trades, professions and business. Particularly perhaps is this experience valuable to men of country districts or the smaller communities, who ordinarily have little opportunity of such diverse association, and under such pleasant conditions. In every Gillwell camp friendships are formed which promise to be lifelong. Not infrequently the members of a patrol make of themselves a permanent organization, and arrange to keep in touch with one another by correspondence.

Another very valuable feature of this social experience—at least for many—is the discovery of “what fine fellows” are men of other religious beliefs, or class, or blood nationality, when you really have an opportunity of knowing them. In this respect it is felt that the Gillwell camps have made a contribution to Canada's future. Every man who attends a summer Gillwell and catches its spirit becomes an exponent of this broad spirit of good will, which will be so important a factor in the future of the Dominion—of the world in fact.

It is a common experience to find in a Gillwell camp patrol such religious “mixtures” as Anglican, Baptist, Roman Catholic, Salvation Army. Several patrols of last summer's camps included men of five different religious denominations. And without exception such patrols are among the top-notch patrols of a camp, and noted especially for their “happy family life.”

### An Ideal Holiday

Finally, attendance at a summer Gillwell means one of the jolliest holidays imaginable—one of those you reminisce about for years. It might well be called the ideal holiday for the worthwhile man, since it is a holiday not simply of indolence, with thought chiefly for one's self, but a holiday full of lively mental enjoyment; a holiday of learning and doing every day, with at the end the satisfaction that always follows time well spent, and in addition an inspiration for further service, and a feeling of increased efficiency for that service.

### Invariable Appreciation

As a matter of fact, since the holding of the first camp in 1922, or 22



SAID the N.S. Owls, “Grass is damp, but blankets must be aired.” So they built a blanket rack.

camps in all, every man present at the last council fire has expressed satisfaction at having taken the course. A great many have expressed themselves in almost extravagant terms regarding the experience. Clergymen especially have been appreciative, not only of the sheer holiday enjoyment of the ten days, but also of the fine “atmosphere” of the camp.

### The Visible Reward

All those successfully passing the Gillwell camp course, and the written or winter course, and who are then recommended by their District Commissioner at the expiration of six months' actual troop work, are recommended to the Chief Scout for the Canadian Gillwell Badge. On receipt of the Gillwell badge and accompanying diploma the successful candidate becomes a member of the Canadian Gillwell Troop, of which the Chief Scout for Canada, Lord Byng, is Scoutmaster; which troop in turn is a part of the great world-wide 1st Gillwell Park Troop, whose Honorary Scoutmaster is Sir Robert Baden-



A Gillwellian visitor from Ulster tries out the Que.-Ont. Robins' stone fireplace.

Powell, Chief Scout of the World. The grey neckscarf of Gillwell may then be purchased and worn.

### No Gillwell Cult

At this point it should be made clear that there is no such thing as a Gillwell cult of Scoutmasters. One of the points most emphasized in the concluding talks of a Gillwell camp is that Gillwell men must avoid even the appearance of considering themselves a kind of super Scoutmaster; that what the real Gillwell man is noted for is the readiness to learn rather than impart; a keen interest in the work of all other Scoutmasters, only offering possible suggestions when these are asked for. We believe Canadian Gillwell men have held to this; that any other impression has grown out of the expectations of over-critical or over-sensitive observers.



BLANKETS fluffy with ozone and sunshine, the floor sweet and dry, interesting outdoor doings all day—who wouldn't sleep!

### Origin of Gillwell

Gillwell Park lies on the edge of Epping Forest, in the parish of Waltham Holy Cross, near London. The name Waltham comes from the Saxon, and means “forest home”—a very appropriate name for a Scout training centre.

The hall was built by King Edward VI, for a hunting lodge, and in later days it was one of the haunts of the notorious Dick Turpin, who eluded his pursuers by slipping through a secret passage to a place where his famous horse, Black Bess, was waiting.

In 1919 the Scout District Commissioner for Roseneath, Dumbartonshire, Mr. W. F. de Bois Maclaren asked of Sir Robert Baden-Powell what he could do which would be most helpful to Scouting in a large way. Sir Robert suggested a camping ground which would be easily accessible to boys from the crowded East End of London, and which might also be used for training Scoutmasters in woodcraft. Mr. Maclaren thereupon purchased the Gillwell estate and presented it to the Boy Scouts Association.

### First Course in 1919

Gillwell was formally opened by Mrs. de Bois Maclaren in 1919, and in that year the first Gillwell course for Scoutmasters was held. Similar training centers have since been established in Scotland, Ireland and Wales, and most English counties, and in the overseas dominions.

Gillwell Park is open all the year, and even in the winter months Scouts will be found camping every weekend, so attractive a pastime has camping become to the London city boy. The ground is quite free, but the boys must provide their own tents, equipment and food. The attractions include a swimming pool.

The patch of tartan on the Gillwell scarf is worn in commemoration of the donor of Gillwell Park, who has since passed on to higher service. The maple leaf identifies the Canadian members of the world-wide Gillwell Park Troop.

### Canadian Courses Same As Imperial

The Canadian Gillwell courses are under the jurisdiction of the Canadian General Council, but they are the Imperial Gillwell courses modified only in minor details as necessary to meet Canadian conditions.

### Application to Attend Gillwell

Application to attend the Gillwell summer camp is made to Provincial Headquarters, when an application

blank will be forwarded for filling in. Except in special cases, each camp enrolment is limited to 32. Preference will be given to applicants of 21 years or over, as experience has shown that only very exceptional men under 21 fully understand and benefit from the instruction.

The cost of attendance at a Gillwell camp, in addition to the travelling expenses, is a registration fee the amount of which will be fixed by Provincial Headquarters. In an increasing number of cases Troop Committees or Local Associations are meeting this outlay. Camp rations are provided free.

Details of personal kit to be taken are furnished in a pamphlet of information which will be supplied on application to Provincial Headquarters.

The indications are that applications to attend 1925 camps will in many cases exceed the maximum enrolment possible. Those desiring to attend should make early application.

### Manitoba Annual Meeting-Conference

"SCOUT and Cub leaders of the province go back to their work today with fresh inspiration for the coming year, after their conference of yesterday at the Royal Alexandra Hotel."

This summing up by the Boys' Own Tribune of the "left over" of the 1925 Manitoba Annual Meeting-Conference covers the really important role of such gatherings.

The summary was the one item needed to complete the record of what probably was the most successful and largest gathering of leaders in the history of the Manitoba Association. The reports presented by Honorary Secretary Harold Riley and Honorary Treasurer A. L. Crossen indicated a condition that could not well be improved upon. Figures showed that the enrolment had increased 50 per cent., that 80 Scout leaders had completed training courses during the year, and that this growth had been maintained and a further 60 leaders trained since January 1925. Rovering also showed a healthy growth, with a membership of 65 in Winnipeg.

The financial report indicated a balance on the right side of \$500.

#### More Efficiency

The conference motto, "More Efficiency," was well lived up to during the proceedings. The annual meeting was combined with the noon luncheon, and the entire balance of the day and evening was given up to demonstrations and discussions.

In the absence of Provincial Commissioner Edward Fitzgerald, Mr. F. S. Long, Assistant Provincial Commissioner, opened the initial session. He expressed the hope that all would enter into the conference "in the fullest, freest spirit of Scouting, so that at the end of the day we may feel that we have strengthened the cause and driven further the stakes of this great Movement."

The invocation was offered by Archdeacon R. B. McElheran.

An inspiring address of welcome by the Lieutenant Governor, Sir James Aikins, opened the annual meeting luncheon.

### Mr. Fitzgerald Provincial President

The one note of regret concerned the resignation as Provincial President of Sir Augustus Nanton, who has occupied that position since the Provincial Council was organized in 1915. The resignation was necessitated by Sir Augustus' removal to Toronto as president of the Dominion Bank.

The vacancy was filled by the election of Mr. Edward Fitzgerald who will continue as Provincial Commissioner. The other officers of the Association were likewise re-elected.

Following is the conference program as published in a neat two page folder, the front cover bearing the now familiar smiling Canadian Scout with the rakishly tipped Stetson:

#### Morning Session

- 9.30 A.M. Assembly of Delegates. Registration and Get Acquainted.
- 10.30 A.M. Opening of Conference. Chairman: Edward Fitzgerald, Provincial Commissioner.
- Invocation—Rev. Arch. McElheran.
- 11.00 A.M. Discussions and Demonstrations.



A rope-spinning game developed last summer by the Assistant Chief Commissioner—who has had added to his responsibilities the duties of Camp Chief.

- (a) "The Patrol System," led by G. W. Bartlett, Deputy Camp Chief.
- (b) "Sign Drill and Formations," led by C. A. Hill, Deputy Camp Chief.
- (c) "Patrol Competitions and Games," led by A. W. Wilcox, Asst. District Commissioner.
- 12.30 P.M. Dutch Luncheons—Anywhere.
- "Visit the Office," 710 Sterling Bank Building.
- 1.00 P.M. Ninth Annual Provincial Council Business Meeting "Luncheon."

#### Afternoon Session

- 3.00 P.M. Discussions and Demonstrations.
- (a) "Scout Promise and Law," led by Frank Jobin, S.M., 21st Troop.
- (b) "Scout Charades and Games," led by Montague Stall, S.M., 42nd Troop.

4.00 P.M. Physical Training and P.T. Games.

E. M. Newman, S.M., 2nd Portage la Prairie Troop.

4.30 P.M. Model Cub Meeting.

"Cub Law and Promise,"

F. W. Thompson, Asst. Prov. Com. "AKELA"

#### Evening Session

6.00 P.M. Conference Dinner.

Address of Welcome, Sir James Aikins.

Addresses, Group Songs, Demonstrations.

Moving Picture: "Tenderfoot Tim."

7.45 P.M. Discussion.

"Rovers," led by E. F. Mills, Dist. Com.

Opening Question Box, Discussions, Etc.

#### A Camp Museum

A "Camp Museum" at the conference included a miniature log cabin, a model monkey bridge, constructed by members of Winnipeg Rover Troop "A", and a miniature trestle bridge constructed by a Scout of the 18th Winnipeg. The latter bridge was sufficiently strong to hold a 100 pound Scout. The knotting and lashing workmanship of both bridges was of the best, and drew many critically approving comments.

### The Quebec Annual Meeting

"I AM opposed to Scout meetings which hold boys after 9.30; I believe in boys going to bed early." This was one of the statements of the Chief Commissioner, Dr. James W. Robertson, when stressing health as an important aim of Scouting before the Quebec Annual Meeting at Montreal, Feb. 18.

"In health we are not the nation we should be," the Commissioner continued. "We are too much like the old lady who was 'never sick, but hardly ever well.' We should never forget that health is one of the first aims of Scouting; and that health nourishes character."

Illustrating the fact that health is not alone a matter of good food, Dr. Robertson told of a nutrition survey of the school children of Toronto, and the revelation that the lowest nutrition was found among children attending a school in one of the wealthiest sections.

Dr. Robertson also made a plea for full support of the training of Scout and Cub leaders. As an indirect but material help to this end he also asked full patronage of the Dominion Headquarters Stores Department. "All this," he said, "will keep us strong."

When delivering a message of good wishes from the Chief Scout for Canada, Lord Byng, the Chief Commissioner spoke of the real participation of the latter in Canadian Scouting—in its councils at Ottawa, and in various other ways during his frequent tours about the Dominion.

Appreciation of the self-sacrificing efforts of the Scoutmasters and Cubmasters—"those who actually do the work"—was expressed by President W. T. Finley, who occupied the chair, and by Provincial Commissioner J. A. Ewing.



### Large Increase of Cubs

The report presented by Secretary E. Russell Paterson showed 1924 to have been a year of successful activities. A feature of the report was the indicated increase of 11 Wolf Cub packs, 301 Wolf Cubs and 23 Cub pack leaders. An increase also was shown in the number of Scouts, Sea Scouts and Rovers, throughout the province, but with a small decrease of Scouts outside of Montreal. This decrease was attributed to the lack of a permanent field secretary—a situation which promises to be remedied in 1925 by the organization of the new St. Maurice Valley District, and the activity of the new District Commissioner, Mr. W. G. E. Aird, in raising the necessary funds.

Seven Rover troops were reported active in the province. In addition to these senior Scouts, it was noted that in Montreal 17% of the troop membership were boys of 16 years or over. The Sea Scouts attached to the Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club reported another successful year. Several extended cruises were undertaken by Sea Scout groups under their own leaders.

### True Cub Training for Cubs

In connection with the increase in the Wolf Cub enrolment Secretary Paterson noted that there was a certain danger from the influx of such a number into the Movement, and emphasized the necessity of Cubmasters guarding against a precocious training which would lessen the interest in Scouting when Cubs "go up" to the troops.

A decrease in the number of proficiency badges earned during the year was credited to the raising of the standard of examinations; which was considered a desirable development. Another cause was believed to be the greater emphasis now being placed on outdoor Scouting—"which was quite as important as badge work."

"The whole system of proficiency badges forms a subject worthy of study, in order to secure greater usefulness to Scout training," stated the report. "There is no question but that the tests should be made far harder, necessitating much more preparation on the part of the Scout."

### Canoe Trips for Older Scouts

In connection with the report on the provincial camp at Tamaracouta special mention was made of a very successful experiment in running extended canoe trips for senior Scouts.

"This type of camping is admirably suited to boys of Rover age," the report stated, "and as excellent facilities are afforded for canoeing throughout the province, it is a Scouting activity that deserves much attention in the future."

The Eastern Townships Scout Officers' Association was reported as having another successful year. Under its auspices a rally was held at Sherbrooke on May 24th, attended by Scouts and Cubs of 13 troops and packs, numbering 293, with 17 leaders. Rain necessitated the holding of the rally indoors, but the occasion was none the less enjoyable and inspiring.

Feeling reference was made to the severe loss suffered by the Montreal Local Association during the year by the death of its President, Mr. Walter J. Francis.

Provincial Commissioner J. A. Ewing, K.C., Provincial President W. T. Finley and the other officers of the Provincial Council were reelected.

### Provincial Report Items

The 2nd Sherbrooke Troop is now on its 13th year of continuous activity.

Regarding the Sherbrooke district camp: "A departure from the usual routine was observed by adopting the Patrol System recommended by Dominion Headquarters, and this is thought to have been responsible to a large extent for the splendid success attained this year. A Patrol Competition was carried on throughout the camp period, and considerable scout work was accomplished."

For the seventh year the Scouts of Sherbrooke and Lennoxville were asked to undertake the task of ushering the grand stand at the Great Eastern Exhibition. The Exhibition directors expressed their satisfaction

### WHO KNOWS?

*I may go to that boy to-morrow to borrow money or to hear him preach, or to beg him to defend me in a lawsuit; or he may stand with pulse un hastened, bare of arm, in white apron, ready to do his duty, while the cone is placed over my head, and night and death come creeping into my veins. Be patient with the boys—you are dealing with soul-stuff. Destiny is just around the corner. Be patient with the boys!*

—Elbert Hubbard.

at the capable and courteous way in which the Scouts performed their duties.

Refreshment selling on the grand stand was undertaken this year, and the proceeds of this enterprise together with a grant of \$175.00 made by the Exhibition in connection with the ushering, gave each troop a respectable sum of money for their camp fund.

The 1st Lennoxville Troop, Scoutmaster George Loke, presented these figures: 2nd Class, 12; 1st Class, 15; Kings, 8. Left town during year, 1 T.L., 2 P.Ls., 1 A.S.M. Added this year, 7 new members. Present total, 39 Scouts, 3 Officers. Concerts realized \$120. Camp 14 days, 43 Scouts and Cubs. Camp cost \$175. Troop Committee handles all money.

The S. M. and one A.S.M. of this troop are Gillwell graduates.

The boys attending the summer camps are the best Scouts during the balance of the year.—Rev. A. A. Harrison, Shawinigan Falls.

### The Big Banquet

The social feature of the Quebec Annual Meeting was the annual banquet of Scoutmasters, Cubmasters, Assistants and Patrol Leaders of the Montreal District. The gathering packed the largest dining-room of the Windsor Hotel, and was a brilliant affair, of notable addresses, much jolly singing and other noise-making by the husky young junior leaders. A strikingly impressive bravery award presentation to three Scouts by the Chief Commissioner, Dr. James W. Robertson, also marked the occasion. The chief speaker of the evening was Mr. R. L. Calder, K.C. The incidental program was provided by the Kiwanis Club, and to add to the "musical effect" each boy present was given a kazoo. The result was as deafening as might be imagined, with such well lunged performers.

### Re Proficiency Badges

AN EXTENDED discussion at the Toronto conference regarding proficiency badge standards boiled down thus:

All King's Scout badges (the service badges) should be passed at least 90%, and the boy's knowledge of the various subjects maintained at this level by yearly reviewing and examination.

That all other badges be regarded as a field for "vocational guidance browsing"; a means of leading the boy to discover the life work which most naturally appeals to him. That the passing standard for these badges be reasonably elastic, and the badges awarded rather for effort and investigation than for the excellence of achievement or results.

It was noted that this was Sir Robert Baden-Powell's original idea, although one frequently lost sight of.

The progress of a troop is its progress in spirit and in service. Its progress in service is closely associated with its progress in the study of the public service badges.

It was notable that the best troops, the troops which were keenest on public service, were also keenest on badge work.

Badge work applicable in the home is desirable as a means of bringing some of the practical results of Scouting to the attention of parents. If a boy can wash and mend a shirt well, sew on buttons properly, etc.; can neatly and promptly repair a broken step, or put in order a door bell that has tired of its job, this makes an excellent impression on both the father and mother.

In illustration of the practical results of insisting on full qualifications for the public service badges:—A somewhat nervous boy might not learn to float, or to dive in deep water, except for the necessity of being able to do this in order to acquire the Swimmer's Badge—the first step toward making him a Scout Rescuer. The story later was told of a high-strung boy with an instinctive fear of the water who finally overcame it,

with the help of his Scoutmaster, in order that he might complete his First Class Scout tests.

The importance of the wearing of proficiency badges by Scouts for its impression upon the public was brought out by Provincial President Mitchell, and confirmed by other speakers. When talking with business men the President had been struck by the interest they had shown in a Scout wearing proficiency badges. To them it was an evidence of the practical results secured by Scout training. "You must be bringing out what school masters cannot," was one quoted remark. "You are tackling an important matter which the schools do not tackle."

Provincial Commissioner Laurence during trips about the province had found a marked difference in the appreciation of Scouting where proficiency badges were or were not in evidence. "Where I find troops have few or no badges there is a lack of real interest on the part of the adult community," he declared.

Regarding the falling-off in proficiency badges earned during 1924 it was noted that there is a low badge period in every troop which holds its boys from year to year. This is a period when you have a new group of Scouts working at 2nd Class and 1st Class tests, and older Scouts aiding as instructors.

Peterboro examiners are furnished with a card, one side bearing the questions, the other side the answers—where these are verbal; the purpose being to standardize examination.

In the Hamilton district "problem" tests were favored for the Scout Ambulance Man badge, patients being tagged with a card describing the accident and symptoms.

It was noted that doctors are not always the best examiners on first aid. They require reminding that Scout first aid study is not aimed to make a juvenile doctor, but only to make the boy capable of rendering prompt and intelligent first aid, when necessary, pending the arrival of a physician.

Toronto examiners vary questions to avoid a set examination and a set of stereotyped answers. The test questions are taken rather as an outline, discovery of the boy's general knowledge of the subject being aimed at. One form of examination procedure is, "Here is the badge. What must you know or do to qualify for it?"

Toronto has three examining boards, meeting at regular intervals in schools in different sections of the city. A Recorder receives the names of the Scouts as they appear, and the boys are then assigned singly or in groups to the examiners.

Each section of the badge test has a certain minimum pass mark. The boy falling below this must come before the board again. The whole test must be passed 90%.

The examining centres have been found an inspiration to badge study.

## A Composite Four-Night Troop Program

- 7.30 Patrol Corners; roll call, dues.
- 7.35 Roll Reports.\* Flag Break. Scout Silence.
- General Inspection.\*
- Special Inspection—\*
  - (a) Teeth.
  - (b) Left ear, right hand.
  - (c) Shoes.
  - (d) Hair.
- Post marks on board.
- 7.45 (a) Hand Signals.\*
- (b) Compass Blind Man's Buff.
- (c) Blind Man's Journey.\*
- (d) Tracking game or Tracking Box problem.\*
- 7.55 Corners—Test and Badge work arranged by Court of Honour.
- (Freeze\*)
- 8.10 Lively Game—(Freeze\*)
  - (a) Patrol hand-wrestling.\*
  - (b) Whip Tag.
  - (c) Elephant and Whale.\*
  - (d) Patrol hand-wrestling.\*
- 8.20 (a) Sealed message in Morse.\*
- (b) Sealed message in Semaphore.\*
- (c) Morse Relay.\*
- (d) Semaphore Relay.\*
- 8.30 (a,b) Ice accident problem.
- (c,d) First Aid problem.
- 8.40 (a,c) Scout Law baseball.
- (b,d) Scout Law play, impromptu; two minutes to prepare, two minutes to act.
- 8.50 Council Fire: Program planned in turn by patrols, including suggestion to S.M. for his Five Minutes.
- Announcements. Scout Silence.
- O Canada. King. Flag. Dismiss. Two points off for noisiness when leaving or outside. One point off for last patrol out, other than Duty Patrol. Court of Honour.
- \*Patrol Competition.

## YOUR OPINION ON THE REGISTRATION PLAN IS DESIRED. KINDLY FILL IN AND RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

### Notes on Four-Night Program

- Inspection Points—See Patrol Competition, Scout Leader, Feb., 1924; Patrol Competition Scoring, Oct., 1924.
- Hand Signals—See Hand Signals, Nov., 1924.
- Blind Man's Journey—See April, 1924.
- Compass Blind Man's Buff—See March, 1925.
- Tracking Games—See January, 1925.
- Tracking Box—See Troop Room Equipment, Feb., 1924.
- Patrol Hand-wrestling—Facing in pairs, patrols lined up on chalk mark, right toe beside right toe. Grip right hands, left hands behind back; suitable room between pairs. Begin wrestling on whistle. Won by patrol with most feet remaining on chalk line. Of four patrols, winners wrestle for 1st and 2nd place, losers for 3rd and 4th.
- Whip Tag—See Feb., 1925.
- Elephant and Whale—A Tenderfoot knot-tying race and tug-of-war. Two patrols in one line facing S.M. A four- or five-foot length of rope stretched

on ground at feet of two center men. Similar or shorter lengths stretched on ground before each of others; each boy opposite center of his length. All stand at Alert, hands at side. On "Sheet-bend (or other knot)! Go!" center men catch up center rope, and begin pulling. Boys behind tie on their ropes, then pull. Decision as in ordinary tug, except that incorrectly tied knot by winners is "No pull." Each boy must tie-on without assistance.

Note: When checking up knots Scoutmaster may have some difficulty in identifying a Sheet-bend that has turned over. Practice this identification.

Variations: Ropes may be held aloft in the hands awaiting the "Go!" and knots may be tied behind the back.

Sealed Messages—See March, 1925.

Ice Accident Problem—See Scouts and Ice Accidents, Jan., 1924.

First Aid Problem—See Bandaging Competition, June, 1924; Field Day Competition, May, 1924; First Aid for New Scoutmaster, March, 1924.

Scout Law Baseball; Scout Law Plays—Jan., 1924.

NOTE: Use these programs chiefly as a suggestion for your Court of Honour, allowing the boys to make any alterations, rearrangements or substitutions that you see no definite reason for questioning.

## B. C. Cubmasters Talk Program

CUB meeting programs provided the principal topic at one of the recent regular meetings of the Vancouver Scoutmaster's Council under the chairmanship of Assistant Cub Commissioner Milnes. The discussion was lead by Acting Cubmaster Hudspeth of the 7th Pack, who presented two program outlines, a paper on the planning of the Cub meeting, and another outlining the fundamentals of each program. The fundamentals were outlined thus:

Each Wolf Cub meeting should include:—

Action—Give the boys games and contests; something to provide expression for the abundance of energy in the normal boy.

Instruction—Each meeting should lead the pack up one step on the ladder of Cubbing.

Recreation—Games that Cubs enjoy and are of recreative value.

Inspiration—The Cub Promise and Law form the basis of all Cubbing. The moral principles they express must be kept constantly before the Cubs in an attractive and suggestive manner. The investiture ceremony and inspiring stories of heroic men are very useful.

Many good program schedules were given by those present. A sample:—

- 7.00 Fall in. Special instruction with regard to program.
- 7.05 Noisy games or jungle dances.
- 7.20 Instruction in classes.
- 7.40 Competitive games.
- 7.55 Sing-song or stories.
- 8.07 Roll call; announcements.
- 8.15 Cub Promise, dismiss.



## The Newest Things in Equipment

**T**HE general attractiveness and readability of past editions of the Dominion Headquarters Stores Department Price List has frequently been commented upon. It has been a handbook of the most up-to-date equipment ideas rather than a mere itemized list of Scout supplies.

We believe everyone will agree that the latest edition, the **SPRING AND SUMMER PRICE LIST FOR 1925**, marks yet another step forward in this respect—in interesting “newsy” features regarding all manner of Scout equipment and their uses.

Of these features the series of illustrated articles on the Scout uniform will be studied with interest by every live Scoutmaster and Cubmaster—those anxious to keep posted on that very important detail of “visible” Scouting, neat and correct dress. The articles tell you just what you will want to know.

### The New Scout Shoe

Probably the most important new offering is the **NEW AND SPECIALLY MADE BOY SCOUT SHOE** (or boot, if you prefer to call it that). Many samples offered by different firms were closely studied before decision was made; and the decision was made on serviceability. The shoe is manufactured by a firm that has made lasting-quality their first aim, after that the question of possible price. And it's a most comfortable shoe. You'll be wanting a pair for yourself.

### The New Tent

In the Camp Equipment section study the new Sheik Tent. The name may not strike you as notably Scouty—until it is explained that the tent is a desert type, originated by those famous desert hikers the Arabs. The quickness with which it can be erected is worth considering. Its moisture- and insect-proof sewed-in floor also commend it. It is the new tent “rage” among auto tourists.

### Flashlights

Another new camp equipment item is a flashlight. There are several types and sizes—for finding a mosquito in your tent, or spotting a grizzly cleaning up your grub-stake 500 feet away. Their real use is found at the Council Fire, as an aid in reading; and for finding your way about camp on a particularly dark night, to make sure your boys are all tucked in and O.K.

If you are not yet using a Smiling Scout at the top of your local weekly Scout News Column, study the new electros on page 31. These are sold at about half the cost of a new cut.

### One to Every Boy

There was much appreciation last year of the sending of copies of the Catalogue to each Scout and Cub. It took a lot of wear off the S.M.'s or C.M.'s copy, brains and patience.

The plan will be repeated this year. In each catalogue going to an S.M. or C.M. is a form for listing boys who should receive copies. It is hoped this list will be returned at the earliest date possible.

Why not have your Troop Scribe,

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**T**HE last copy of the 1925 Edition of the **CANADIAN BOY SCOUT AND WOLF CUB DIARY** was sent out in mid-March—the last of 5,000.

*Why didn't we print more?*

Because of the general business outlook last summer. Remember, we have to plan nearly a year ahead. And you probably need not be told that out-of-date diaries are about as salable as Wolf Cub caps to King's Scouts.

The moral is—order your 1926 diaries early. We expect to have them ready in October.

*For 1926?*

For 1926 we have completed plans to give you the **BEST DIARY WE HAVE YET PUT OUT**—new matter and illustrations, but retaining the best nature-love features, arranged in a more

Secretary or Troop Leader fill it out during your next meeting? This would help, and would be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks—  
The Q. M.

### Second Meeting's Program of St. John, N.B., Cub Study Circle

- 7.30 Break Flag; Cub Law in unison.
- 7.35 Chose Sixers and Sixes (two of 4 Cubs each).
- 7.40 Game—Camp Chief Has Lost His Hat.
- 7.50 Questions 8 and 9, followed by general discussion.
- 8.15 Game—Fizz-Buzz.
- 8.25 Questions 7 and 10. General discussion.
- 8.50 Game—I Am Carrying This Book.
- 9.00 Question 11. Discussion.
- 9.15 Game—Arrow Game.
- 9.25 Question 12. Discussion.
- 9.40 General discussion of Cub matters of a local nature, such as inter-pack visiting, etc. (Unanimously decided to meet again in two weeks' time if possible. Everybody well pleased with the evening's program and progress.)
- 9.50 Lower Flag, Cub Promise, Dismiss.

convenient way for reference. And the pliable binding will be

**GUARANTEED NON-CURL!**

The binding for 1925 was not altogether satisfactory. To ensure a Scout standard of quality for 1926 we have placed the Diary with a new firm, noted throughout Canada for the extra high quality of its work.

As a new feature, for 1926 a limited special

**GIFT EDITION in SOFT LEATHER**

will be offered. With the Scout crest in gold on its rich leather cover, this Diary will make a gift that you would take pleasure in presenting to anyone in Scouting—up to the Chief Scout himself. Bear it in mind for next Xmas.

Details and prices will be announced in the Fall Edition of the 1925 Stores Department Catalogue.

### SOME 1924s LEFT

We have on hand some 200 copies of the '24 Diary. In many respects these would serve the purpose of a pocket Handbook and Note Book—with pencil corrections of page dates. They will be supplied at 10c per copy while they last.

### THE STORES DEPARTMENT

The Boy Scouts Association  
**DOMINION HEADQUARTERS**  
203-205 WELLINGTON STREET  
OTTAWA : : CANADA.

### A Special Month's Program

**T**HIS is the program prepared by Acting Scoutmaster Wm. Morrison of the 15th Vancouver Troop, to be used by that troop in their special drive during February, 1925. A copy was mailed to every boy in the troop.

- Feb. 1. **Scouts Own**—(Union Church at 12.45) Let's begin right.
- Feb. 3rd. **Troop meeting**—Talk by Mr. Merrick (S.M. 5th Troop).
- Feb. 8th. **Hike**—to North Vancouver (Lynn Creek) with 9th and 17th troops. Show them how it's done.
- Feb. 9th. **Troop Meeting**—Competition night.
- Feb. 14th. **Study Tour** of the Ballantyne Pier. (2 o'clock, in uniform.) This will be good!
- Feb. 16th. **Troop Meeting**—Story night.
- Feb. 21st. **Bun Feed**—(Bon fire night bring your Dad—lots of eats—In honour of the Chief Scout's Birthday.)
- Feb. 22nd. **Another Hike**—It's going to be a good one.
- Feb. 25th. **Patrol Leaders' Meeting**—Special instruction on patrol work.
- March 2nd. **Parents Night**—Bring them along and show them what we can do.

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.

## Your Patrols Do This?

**T**O celebrate their success in the patrol competition of the past six months and to ensure further success in the new year, the Cougar Patrol (of the 4th Vancouver) held a combined patrol meeting and bun-feed at the home of their leader, Cliff Thompson. Instruction for the Healthman's Badge, planning of future patrol meetings and hikes, a radio program, some fine singing, and last but not least, the eats, were the main features of the evening."

## We Should Hear This Frequently

**O**N FEB. 21st we (5th St. John, N.B.) had the pleasure of meeting and welcoming Scout Stewart Bunce when he arrived on the Montcalm from England. We gave him a pleasant surprise in the form of a large box of "Eats"—sufficient to supply his needs until he arrived at his new home in Tilbury, Ont. We enjoyed meeting him, and intend to correspond with him."

Let's hope Scout Bunce was similarly met at Tilbury.

## That Bird Sanctuary Troop

**O**N (a February) Saturday members of the Tenth (Calgary) Troop went on a tree and bird observation hike. The boys were given maps and instructions to go by patrols, and directed to choose their own directions to a given spot, where all would meet at 12.30 for lunch.

"The Scoutmaster and boys from the Eagle and Robin patrols on arriving at this spot discovered the site occupied by about 70 wild ducks, of which they were able to get a close-up view. Many other kinds of feathered friends were observed.

"The reports of the various patrols showed that a number of magnificent spruces had been destroyed for Christmas trees or other decorations.

"A distance of 14 miles was covered before returning home about 7.30 P.M."

## Any Ideas Here for Your Troop?

**S**OME St. John, N.B., doings as noted in the district *Scout News*:

A number of local Scoutmasters are taking the St. John's Ambulance course.

Scout ushers are being supplied for the weekly Community Story Telling Hour for children.

On icy days an East St. John troop is keeping the neighborhood sidewalks covered with sand and ashes.

The 19th planned a Saturday hike. The S.M. was unable to go, "so we went ourselves, and had a fine hike around the artificial lakes. We made good use of the compass coming back."

The 17th (Trinity) Troop joined forces with the Trinity Guides to put on a Fair for the benefit of their camp fund. All other organizations in the church were invited to participate. Result, a fine success.

Two Scouts are on duty every day 4 to 6 P.M. at the District Scout Office,

for general office and messenger work. Troops supply them in turn. "We find them very useful. It gives me a chance to get away early to supper, and get an early start on visiting troops and packs," observes the Secretary.

A District Scout Employment Bureau has been established, and notification has been sent to all local business men, with the suggestion, "If you want a boy, employ a Scout." Each S. M. turns in a list of his boys who are anxious to work, what hours they can work, and notes regarding any special work they are desirous of obtaining, or are trained for.

Last Tuesday saw all the boys at work in five patrols, each guided by a Rover.—18th Winnipeg News.

## Ye Scout Almanack

### April

1st—All Fools' Day. Scouts to "fool" as many people as possible by Good Turns.

5th—Palm Sunday.

9th—Vimy Ridge, 1917.

Holy Thursday. Passover.

10th—Good Friday.

12th—Easter Sunday.

13th—Easter Monday.

22nd—Ypres, 1915.

23rd—St. George's Day.

19-26th—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."

**YOUR OPINION ON THE REGISTRATION PLAN IS DESIRED. KINDLY FILL IN AND RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRE.**

## Patrol Work Exhibits

**T**HE Hawk and Eagle patrols of the 10th Calgary have started the novel scheme of exhibiting examples of their handicraft in two large windows of the troop headquarters, formerly a hotel. The windows have attracted much attention and favorable comment. The displays will be provided and arranged by all the patrols, week about.

## The Extra Something that Counts

**A** SCOUTMASTER who had recently finished a Gillwell Winter Course called at Headquarters a few days ago. He told us that one of his boys had come up to him at the close of his last troop meeting and said, "Gee, Mr. —, why didn't you take the Gillwell Course long ago?" And Mr. — had been no novice at scout-mastership, either.

—A Provincial H. Q. Postscript.

All Scout Leader paid subscriptions are dated for the current publishing year, and back copies supplied.

## We Are Getting Together

**T**HE (new 4th New Glasgow, N. S.) Troop is starting out in a small way, and avoiding the mushroom growth that is so fatal.

—Old Scout, in

New Glasgow News.

Following the advice of District Commissioner Ravenhill, it was decided to admit only six boys to the (new Royal Oak, B.C.) Troop and Pack, these to receive thorough training, before final organization is completed and other boys admitted.

—Victoria Colonist.

## Rover Stuff

**R**OVER Jim Day from Headquarters was a visitor to the Tenth Calgary Troop at last Friday's meeting, and taught the troop some new songs round the camp fire.

"An interesting new game in the patrol competition of that evening was the identification of persons by the sound of their footsteps. The lecture of the night was on the Second Class test in fire lighting."

## Tenderfoot Probationers

**T**HAT troop of husky youngsters who have been hiking at the top of The Trail column during the past winter—the 2nd Portage la Prairie—don't beg boys to join their troop, nor to remain. Said their Scribe recently in the *Portage Graphic*:

"There has been considerable change in the Troop this last week or so, with the accepting of two new boys on probation and the withdrawal of three others. It is tough luck to see the boys drop out, but they failed to use the opportunities that the probation period of two months offered.

"The Otters have a new recruit ready to be invested in Jim Rowlett and a new recruit busy on his tests in Earl Clark. The Hounds have two vacancies in their patrol for new recruits who are willing to go to work."

## Camp Fire Night Visitors

**W**E have made it a practice of having a Camp Fire Night once a month during the winter season, and inviting another troop to join us. After Flag Break and Inspection about three-quarters of an hour is spent in competitions and games. We then form a circle around the camp fire (built of logs, with red electric bulbs in the center), and sing songs and tell Scout yarns. Refreshments are then served by the Duty Patrol; these being supplied by all the members of the troop. The troop yells are given, and we close with the National Anthem, lowering of the flag, Scout Silence, and dismissal.

The Camp Fire Nights have made us better acquainted with other troops, and we feel they have been a contribution to the Scout spirit in Winnipeg.

—S. C. Clowes,  
2nd Winnipeg.