



Practical Ideas from the Conferences

Building the Troop Programme

The Scoutmaster should always be prepared with a good programme. The opening procedure always should be the same,—the boys then know what to expect. Otherwise, vary your programme as much as possible.

Use the element of surprise. On last Hallowe'en we had ropes tied with certain knots in the corners. The boys thought the mystery item concerned these ropes. Then at the proper moment a couple of the bigger Scouts suddenly entered with a tub of apples. Complete surprise and barrels of fun!

Use variety in starting games, instead of the conventional, "Now let's play a game." Example: One evening I strolled over to the Wolves' corner and said, "The Beavers told me tonight that they could run a knot race one second faster than any other patrol. Do you want to take them on?" The game went over with a bang.

Include items which give play to patrol team work. Too much cannot be said for the Patrol System. I started in Scouting doing it all myself, and the boys simply sat back. Now it's the boys' game,—and we've the best troop in Ontario.

A live troop spirit can be had only when the boys are progressing, on work well done. After attending Gillwell I took up with my boys the question of earned badges, and said, "Boys, if you didn't really earn the badges you wear, take them off. Let's start again." And my Troop Leader at once took off four.

Don't forget to give some patrol competition points for effort. A year's competition is too long. We now have a quarterly competition shield, and a Rotary Shield which is awarded in addition at the end of the year.

We senior leaders of the troop have found it an interesting and effective stunt occasionally to change places with the Patrol Leaders for part of the meeting.

Use story telling for patrol competition points in your council fire programme, one point to the patrol of each boy telling one.

Considerable help may be had by visiting other troops and observing the working out of another Scoutmaster's programme.

Finally, consult your boys regarding your programme. We hold a special Court of Honour for this once a month; particularly to make sure that we include in our programmes items the boys may want.

As to attendance,—if you have good troop programmes the boys will come.

After a well planned and well run meeting, you go home a happy Scoutmaster. Make sure that your meetings are well planned. —A. S. Buesnel, 1st Chatham Rotary Troop.

Discussion: Be prepared to alter your programme in case of an emergency. This happens occasionally in the case of a troop meeting in a church basement. One evening a meeting of ladies was held in the adjoining room. They asked us to be quiet for 15 minutes. I called my P.L.'s together, we discussed the problem, and made up a special programme to be carried on in silence. We allotted each patrol ten special competition points. One point was then to be taken off for each boy making a noise during the period, the points left to be added to the patrol competition figures. The boys enjoyed it, and right there we sold Scouting to the ladies of the church.

The Place of Singing in the Troop Programme

The vigor and sprightliness associated with youth and Scouting should characterize Scout singing. Practically all songs, including the National Anthem, O Canada and hymns, should be sung always well up to time, or even a little faster.

While speaking of the National Anthem, let us not forget that this is "God Save the King," and not "O Canada," or "The Maple Leaf." The latter are our Dominion songs; "God Save the King," sung around the world, is one of the bonds of the British Empire. And incidentally, in its music it is one of the significant things we have in common with our cousins across the border.

Every Scoutmaster should learn how to beat time correctly, and gestures for controlling volume. One of the most effective ways to control volume at a council fire sing-song is to sink on the heels or rise to the full height, at the same time using the hands to control time. Have the boys use gestures or movements suggested by the words. When singing the round, "Row Your Boat," for instance, have all "row."

Patrol Leaders should be given frequent opportunity of leading the troop singing, in order that they may develop as song leaders.

Have the boys of your troop systematically memorize all the old standard songs which everyone is supposed to know but doesn't. Give important competition points for each song memorized. This might help to even up some of our patrol competitions, where older and huskier patrols have been running away with things. Offer prizes.

(Continued on page 53)



SOME of the practical work done by the 1925 Winnipeg Akela Course, under the Assistant Provincial Commissioner for Wolf Cubs, Frank W. Thompson.

The Scout Leader

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Our Patron Saint

APRIL 23rd once more brings the anniversary of St. George, Scouting's patron saint. For seven centuries,—or to be more exact, 704 years,—the feast of St. George has been kept as the national festival of England; and it is fitting that he who was possibly one of the youngest martyrs to the cause of truth and liberty should have been chosen as the patron saint of Scouting.

It was in the year 303, A.D., that the young centurion in the Roman army, who had served his emperor with great honour, was condemned to death as a Christian by Emperor Diocletian.

Much that is picturesque and inspiring has been woven into the romance that has come down the ages, and while it is probable that many of the details are the outgrowth of hero-worship, it is the well defined ideal that we cherish.

The Royal Society of St. George was founded in 1894, for the two-fold purpose of reviving the observance of St. George's Day in England and throughout the Empire, and for strengthening and maintaining the spirit of chivalry and national honour.

The motto of the society is one that might be taken especial note of by Rovers. It is as follows:

"Patriotism is more than a sentiment; it is a conviction, based upon a comprehension of the duties of a citizen, and a determination loyally to perform such duties. Patriotism is love of country, born of familiarity with its history, reverence for its institutions, and faith in its possibilities, and is evidenced by obedience to its laws and respect for its flag."

A St. George's Day Service

One of the most impressive Sunday services in honour of St. George of which an account has reached the *Scout Leader* was that held by the Rev. Canon Pierce-Goulding, chaplain of the 1st Edmonton Troop, in All Saints' church, Edmonton, 1925. All the Scout troops, Cub packs, Guide companies and Brownie packs of the city were invited to attend, as well as local members of the Provincial Council; and the church was packed to capacity, including the lobbies. It was a distinctly Scouty service, the lessons for the day being read by Field Secretary William Solway. At the conclusion of a memorable address by Canon Pierce-Goulding all the mem-

bers of the Movement present reaffirmed their Promise,—the Scouters and Guiders first, standing together, then the Scouts and Guides, and finally the Cubs and Brownies. It was most impressive, and numbers of those present were much moved.

"Scout" Sermons

AN increasing number of clergymen are discovering the virile possibilities of sermons with a Scout flavour. Recently Ven. Archdeacon Crowfoot of St. Paul's, Saint John, N.B., addressed the Cub pack of that church, choosing as his subject Gideon's method of picking good scouts from the bad. At St. Gabriel's, Calgary, Rev. W. C. Marsh addressed a packed church on "The Ideal Scout," using as his text St. Paul's exhortation to Timothy. He drew an analogy between St. Paul and Sir Robert Baden-Powell, and asked the Scouts present to place themselves in the position of Timothy, "going out into the world on missionary ventures of service."



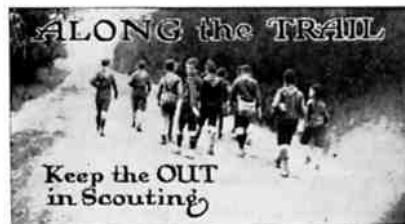
THE Overseas Commissioner of the Boy Scouts Association, Sir Alfred Pickford, Bart., who arrives in Canada on April 10th, for a tour of the Dominion.

Of 30 men who took the Vestibule course at Medicine Hat, Alta., 15 are now helping in some way with the five new troops that were organized in that city as a result of the backing of the Rotary Club.

The Calgary Association is developing an endowment fund for the perpetual support of the Scout work in the district. A bequest of \$5,000 by the late W. R. Hall provided the foundation for the endowment.

Alberta has a Lone Scout troop of 40 who have passed their Tenderfoot tests. Two have reached the First Class tests, and are doing well on proficiency badges. The boys of the troop are scattered all over the province.

Assistant Commissioner D. W. F. Nichols of Essex County and the Border Cities spoke on the Scout Law before the Scoutmasters' Training course of Montreal. This is the second recent exchange of Scout lecturers between Ontario and Quebec.



Winnipeg Rovers are discussing the establishing of a Rover Guest House.

During 1925 Hamilton lost three of its best Scoutmasters to the ministry.

One of the active Winnipeg packs is the Hiawatha Ukrainian Wolf Cub Pack of 25 boys.

A Rover patrol has been organized among employees of the C.N.R. at Moncton, N.B.

A gathering of some 10,000 Rovers is expected in London for the first big Rover conference, opening April 1st.

A three-days' training camp for Patrol Leaders is being held by the Hamilton district during Easter Week.

On the request of the Ukrainian National Home, Winnipeg, a Scout troop was organized at that institution.

St. George's Troop, Moose Jaw, provided a Children's Hour radio programme at Station 10AB, of the Moose Jaw Radio Association.

The Montreal Rotary Club held a Boy Scout luncheon, at which one of the city troops gave a demonstration of Scout work.

In the presence of members of the local Badge Board, London Scouts met at the central fire hall to take their Scout Fireman's test.

The Lions Club of Dunnville are backing Scouting in that Ontario town, and Fire Chief Smith has offered to instruct the boys for the Fireman's badge.

An outstanding exhibition at the Alberta Patrol Leaders' Conference was a journey sketch map made by one of the New Canadians Scouts present.

With the organization of two new Scout troops and one Cub pack the Local Association at Fredericton, N.B. now comprises 8 troops and 4 packs.

The 1925 report of the 8th Vancouver Troop showed seven Scouts with 100 per cent. attendance. Each of these boys received a copy of the *Handbook for Canada*.

As further practical proof of their interest in Scouting, the Medicine Hat Rotary Club has provided the five local troops with a Scout Hall.

McGill University Old Scouts held a club supper discussion of Cubbing under the leadership of Mr. H. M. Jocke, District Supervisor for Wolf Cubs.

A team of Saint John Rovers won the Senior Wallace Nesbitt First Aid trophy for New Brunswick, topping the scores of five experienced railroad first aid teams. The Rover team will now compete in the Wallace Nesbitt competition for all Canada. Needless to say all Scouts and especially Rovers, will wish them the best of luck. The team includes Clarence G. Hoyt, Captain; Donald W. Colwell, L. L. Johnson and Laurence G. Pincombe.

Two B. C. Outdoor Cub Programmes

Saturday Afternoon

- 2.30 Cubs arrive. The majority usually are on hand, and make a wild dash to greet the C.M. when he alights from the street car.
- 2.40 Circle under Senior Sixer. C.M. enters. Grand Howl with C.M. in centre. Inspection, dues, notices (absentees?) etc.
- 2.50 Warming up game, Square Tug of War.
- 3.00 Group instruction under A. C.M. and C.M., or Six instruction under Sixers.
- 3.15 Instructional or mental games.
- 3.25 Mouse Howl, sing song, yarn or special talk.
- 3.40 Game. Jungle Dance. Off home.
- 3.50 C.M. discusses personal problems or questions with any Cub.
- 2.30 Cubs arrive with C.M. Grand Howl, notices, etc.
- 2.40 Tracking, instructional or adventure game (Six competition).
- 3.00 Individual contest game with points to Six. Usually an observation game.
- 3.20 Group games.
- 3.40 Yarn, sitting around Council Rock.
- 3.50 Yells, skyrocket, salute, etc. Reminders about notices. "Good bye and good hunting."

The Winnipeg Annual Meeting-Conference

THE appointment of Lieut.-Governor Sir James Aikins as Chief Scout for Manitoba and the presentation of a gold Scout badge were outstanding incidents of the Manitoba annual meeting. In accepting, Sir James had many encomiums for Scouting, and declared the Movement could not fail, since it was "founded on eternal truths." Sir James' first official act as Provincial Chief Scout was the awarding of the Akela Badge to Mr. J. K. Sparling, one of Winnipeg's oldest Cub leaders.

The report presented by Provincial Commissioner F. S. Long was in a high degree satisfactory. An increase in membership and in the number of trained leaders was indicated, an improvement in the standard of Scouting activities generally, and financially a balance on the right side. The number of Scouts in the province was shown as 4,000. It was felt that foundation had been laid for substantial progress in 1926.

Jackson Dodds was elected President of the Provincial Council, and Edward Fitzgerald, Sir Hugh John Macdonald and George A. Galt, vice-presidents.

The Conference

The second Annual Manitoba Conference brought together some 100 Scout and Cub leaders, February 17-18, at Fort Rouge United Church for a helpful programme of talks and demonstrations.

"The Older Boy Problem," by Judge F. A. E. Hamilton of the Winnipeg Juvenile Court, provided a most interesting opening session. The boy's need of inspiration along an individual path in life was one of Judge Hamilton's emphasized thoughts.

A practical presentation of "The Troop and Pack Committee" question by Mr. C. A. Hill opened the second discussion. Mr. Hill's troop, the 28th Winnipeg, then staged a model troop meeting, and St. Martin's pack, under Miss Ivy Webster, presented a pack meeting.

In a talk on "Psychology of the Boy" Professor F. W. Kerr, of Manitoba University, stated that although there was as yet no definite boy psychology, there were certain traits which appeared always at certain ages. "There are certain instincts emerging," he said, "which we sometimes mistake and subliminate." He warned against suppression of boyish instincts and suggested rather that they be "drained off into right channels."

"A programme, to appeal to older boys," Professor Kerr emphasized, "should be educational and non-denominational."

The relation of the Scout Movement to other character moulding influences of the community was discussed in a group of three short addresses. Dr. D. S. McKay spoke of the relationship which exists between the Movement and the home, Principal J. S. Little, of Earl Grey School, linked up Scouting with the school, and Rev. R. Hall showed how the Scout Movement and the church are working in harmony.

An excellent exhibition of scoutcraft work furnished by various Winnipeg troops attracted much appreciative attention between the conference sessions. The display included models of camps and hike bivouacs, drawings, wood carving and a log cabin. A striking model was that of the Quebec bridge.

Ontario Conference Notes

Said by Provincial Commissioner Laurence:

Let me impress the importance of finishing badge work—of keeping the boys moving on toward King's Scout rank. Let us think more of the importance of First Class and King's Scout standing.

We perhaps do not fully appreciate the services rendered by the Medals Board. Its task is difficult,—much like a meeting of adjusters. There is service to the individual, and service to the Movement. It would be the easiest way always to approve applications for a medal award; but it would be a serious matter were Scouts to receive awards to which they were not truly entitled,—notwithstanding that this might be disappointing locally.

Said by President J. W. Mitchell:

We are coming to the time when it will be said of a man, not what he was worth financially, but what he did that was worthwhile.

There is increasing evidence of public interest in Scouting. There is a possibility of each of us further increasing public interest by talking Scouting to individuals. We may be starting a "chain."

Medal awards are one of the important avenues through which a knowledge of Scouting reaches the general public.

I would like to emphasize the desirability of individual boys earning money for their registration, as a contribution toward spreading the knowledge of Scouting to other boys.

Four Composite Troop Programmes

- 7.30 Patrol Corners; roll call, dues.
- 7.35 Roll reports. Flag Break. Scout Silence. General Inspection. Special Inspection—*
- (a) Hair.
- (b) Finger nails.
- (c) Left shoe lace, right shoe.
- (d) Teeth.
- Post marks on board.
- 7.45 Lively Game—(Freeze)
- (a) Hare and Hounds.*
- (b) Foot in the Ring.*
- (c) Reversing Circle.
- (d) Chain Tag.
- 7.55 Corners. Test and Badge work as arranged by Court of Honour.
- (Freeze)
- 8.10 Quiet Game—(Freeze)
- (a) Knot Hoop Relay.*
- (b) Blind Man's Journey*
- (c) Strange Scout.*
- (d) Patrol Footprints.*
- 8.20 (a) Sealed message in Morse.*
- (b) Semaphore Relay.*
- (c) Sealed message in Semaphore.*
- (d) Morse Relay.*
- 8.30 (a) Ice accident problem, impromptu.*
- (b) Hand Signals.*
- (c) Tracking box problem.*
- (d) Schafer Resuscitation drill.
- 8.40 (a) Scout Law Baseball.*
- (b,d) Scout Law Charades.*
- (c) Inquisition Game.*
- 8.50 Council Fire: Songs. S. M.'s Five. Songs (rounds). Announcements. Scout Silence. O Canada. King. Flag. Dismiss. One point given first patrol out. Court of Honour.
- *Patrol Competition.

Notes on Programmes

Hare and Hounds,—March, 1926.
Foot in the Ring,—March, 1925.
Reversing Circle,—March, 1926.
Chain Tag,—February, 1925.
Blind Man's Journey,—April, 1924.
Strange Scout,—March, 1926.
Patrol Footprints,—May, 1925.

THE CAMP CHIEF'S PAGE

THE 1925 CAMP QUESTIONNAIRE

With the October Scout Leader there was for the first time sent out to Scoutmasters a questionnaire regarding the summer's Scout camps. Reports on 88 camps were received, as follows by provinces: Ontario, 30; Saskatchewan, 18; British Columbia, 14; Quebec, 6; Nova Scotia, 6; New Brunswick, 5; Alberta, 4; Manitoba, 3; Prince Edward Island, 1. In addition one report was received from a Canadian Gillwell trained Scoutmaster in Newfoundland.

While the number of camps reported upon was a comparatively small proportion of those known to have been held, the details given undoubtedly provide a fair index to the standard of camping generally.

PATROL SYSTEM CAMPS

One of the questions asked concerned the use of the Patrol System. The replies to this were most gratifying. Of the 88 camps reporting, no less than 62 were run entirely on the Patrol System, and in every case with complete success. The remarks ran the gamut from a brief "O.K." to enthusiastic recommendation from the boys themselves. Nine camps reported use of the Patrol System, with the modification that the patrols in turn cooked for the entire camp, and central dining. In all of these cases there was a large percentage of Tenderfoot Scouts present, a lack of experienced Patrol Leaders or Assistant Scoutmasters, or both.

Only four camps reported as not using the Patrol System, two of these being large district camps.

"RECOGNIZED SCOUT CAMPS"

To the question regarding the use for 1926 of a "Recognized Scout Camp" placard, to be issued to Scoutmasters engaging to run their camps to certain minimum standards, 56 Scoutmasters answered yes. Two were in favor of the plan with modifications, two were not ready to express an opinion, and one wished further details. Of those answering the question only two expressed themselves as opposed.

THE WINTER COURSES

Part III-A recently completed or under way: St. Francis Xavier College, Antigonish, N.S.; Provincial Normal College, Truro, N.S.; St. Mary's College, Halifax; Pine Hill College, Halifax; King's College, Halifax; Moncton, N.B.; Fredericton, N.B.; Montreal; Windsor, Ont.

Akela Course: Windsor, Ont.

Akela Study Circles: Halifax, N.S.; Saint John, N. B.

Vestibule Courses: Brandon, Dauphin, Portage la Prairie, Man.; Edmonton, Cardston, Camrose, Lethbridge, Red Deer, Alta.; Niagara District, Ont.

OUTDOORS IN APRIL

Have the boys put up the bird houses built during the winter? Have last year's houses been cleaned, for this year's occupants?

What were the first wild flowers seen this month, and when?

What plants kept their leaves green under the snow?

What classes of invertebrate animals have appeared? and when?

When did the water-fowl return, by species? Were you able to take any steps to protect them against illegal spring shooting?

How Do We Know Star Distance?

SOONER or later your boys will be asking, "How do you know the stars are so far away?" It is not a difficult matter to demonstrate, even if you are a little weak on your mathematics. Most of the older boys will know that in an equilateral triangle we have two sides equal in length to the base, and that the base angles are 60 degrees; also that if we increase the angles at the base, the two sides will reach farther before they meet. Demonstrate with three staves on the floor.

Now if we were to take the equator of the earth as the base of a triangle, and measure the angle made by looking at Sirius, then move to a point on the equator 4,000 miles away (the distance through the globe), and again sight the star, the angles would be the same. In fact the lines would seem to be parallel. Actually the lines would not be parallel; but the distance of the star is so great that the difference of the angle would not be perceptible.

So we need a longer base line. Instead of using the Earth we will use the path of the Earth's orbit. We will sight Sirius, and take its angle, then do the same thing six months later, when the Earth is at the other limit of its orbit. Now we have run out a line from either end of a base line which measures 186 million miles—and the angles are very clearly shown. And now we can quite accurately work out the distance at which the two lines cross. And this is the distance away of the star.

We have here another difficulty, however, and this is, that the figures expressed in miles become so large as to bewilder us. So we must use a larger unit. We use the distance light will travel in a year—six quadrillion miles—and call this a "light year." The Pole star, for instance, one of our nearest stars, we say is 36 light years away; that is, it takes its light 36 years to reach us. Some stars are as much as 400 light years away. The nearest star to the Earth is Alpha Centauri, in the southern hemisphere, which is $4\frac{1}{2}$ light years away.

Boys desirous of studying the subject for themselves will find an excellent book in "Elementary Mathemat-

cal Astronomy," by Barlow and Bryan. A very good book for beginners supplied by the Stores Department, at 35 cents, is "Astronomy Simply Explained for Boy Scouts."

A CORRECTION:

In the March article, "Telling Time By the Stars," in the second column the following corrections should be made:—In March the Dipper will be south, i.e., appear above the Pole Star, and on September 20th it will appear below or north of the Pole Star. . . . Half way between 6 and 12 on the right would be 9 p.m. and half way on the left side would be 3 a.m., etc.

A.S.M.

Caste Forgotten by Indian Scouts

BUT it must be admitted that the Jamboree held at Madras (during Christmas week) had lessons for everybody who wanted to learn. If nothing else, the fact that so many lived together in perfect harmony and worked and played together, displaying a wonderful spirit of camaraderie, should be an eye opener for the pessimist of the future. All castes and creeds were represented there; but nobody thought of his caste or color, but felt and realized that he was a brother to every other fellow, whether he came from Baluchistan or from Galle, in the far south of Ceylon. Friendliness—and a smile—was written ineffably on everybody's face, and what else mattered for the Scout? The Junior League of Nations is a happy designation coined for this world-wide Scout Movement.

—The Mysore Scout.

The Manitoba Free Press of March 6th carried a three-column picture of Scoutmaster Ford and 14 P.L.'s and Seconds of the 25th Winnipeg Knowles Home Troop, all of whom passed the Scout Fireman test given by Fire Chief J. Buchanan.

Under District S. M. Wheeler a course for Patrol Leaders is meeting on succeeding weeks in Galt, Preston, Waterloo and Kitchener, Ont. For its first session in Kitchener, the gathering was given an official welcome on behalf of the Mayor.

The 18th Brantford has adopted the "Good Turn Box" idea. This is a box placed near the door in which Scouts quietly drop a paper containing a brief statement of the week's good turns. These are not referred to by the Scoutmaster except occasionally, the names of the boys not being mentioned. It has been found helpful in fixing the good turn habit, particularly for new troops.

The 1925 annual report to parents by Scoutmaster H. W. Pickles of the 8th Vancouver again covers with model completeness the year's record of the troop. One of the several tables gives patrol competition points for the year on attendance, punctuality, neatness, discipline and progress. The report notes that the troop plans in the spring to build a headquarters club-room, and that they have accumulated \$75.00 toward the \$150 required for the purchase of material.

TROOP SINGING

(Continued from page 49)

Have song contests between patrols. Have the troop learn new songs frequently. Don't sing the old ones to death.

Select each council fire song programme carefully. A good general plan is to begin with a lively humorous song or two, then one or two of the old standard songs. In any case, always close with a good one.

Let us all get together and kill the singing of "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here" by Scouts. The spirit of recklessness and lawlessness and all the rowdy associations of this song are entirely opposed to Scouting principles. This includes the use of the music to other words. I understand it is proposed to drop this use of it from the next edition of our Camp Fire Song Book.

Adopt some good standard song as your special troop song. We have adopted that splendid old Harrow song "Forty Years Onward" as the closing song for our summer camps. We also use it when a boy is moving away and leaving the troop. It is very effective, and thought-provoking.

We have, I think, a very striking way of using "The End of a Boy Scout's Day" at camp. As we sing, the flag is slowly lowered, in the light of a flashlight.

Let us add to the present public reputation of Canadian Scouts that they are singers; that they can always be counted upon to know and if necessary to lead in the singing of any of the old standard songs,—not merely for the first verse and chorus, but all the way through.

—Leonard Wheeler, 1st Galt Troop.

Boy Scouts' Fire Service

There is an opportunity for community fire service work by older Scouts, particularly Rovers, in the smaller towns and villages. It should not be attempted by Scouts under 14.

\$15,000,000 of preventable fire loss occurs in Ontario annually. Scout firemen could make a real contribution toward reducing this.

Many town fire brigades have no jumping nets or sheets. These could be made by Rovers. (We expect shortly to publish details for the making of a jumping net.—Ed.)

Scouts should have instruction in handling pails for fire fighting. Otherwise a lot of water may be lost between the water source and the fire. This is particularly necessary where one bucket line is used for both going and returning pails.

Dragging unconscious persons from a burning building by the use of rope is not practicable. Valuable time is lost, and if a stair is descended the victim may suffer a fractured skull. If the victim is on the first floor, and the doors are open, simply catch up like a baby, or drag out by the clothes. Otherwise, use the Fireman's lift, which leaves one hand free to feel the way, open doors and descend a ladder.

Scout firemen, properly trained,—Can see that cars are never parked within 20 feet of a hydrant.

Can inspect lanes and alleys for fire hazards.

Can guard hose from being crossed by cars.

Can act as messengers for captains or fire chiefs.

Can return to fire hall for certain items of equipment or apparatus.

In winter can supply firemen with hot tea or coffee; in summer with cold water.

Can aid in salvage work.

Some Examples

Scouts of Woodstock look after fire alarm boxes. Know all apparatus equipment, and where kept. Respond to all alarms; go messages; go for special pieces of apparatus required. After fires, the local Chief shows Scouts through the building, if possible, explaining the origin of the fire, etc.

At Kingsville Scouts respond to all alarms. Go for extra apparatus. Take charge of salvaged goods and furniture. Last year boys of the troop discovered and put out a fire in the cloth covering of tobacco plant beds, preventing considerable loss.

At Port Dalhousie Scouts have the authority to turn in fire alarms for bonfires burning after sundown. Instance of a Scout telling one man he should put a fire out; was refused;



EVERY hike should include some tracking.—A tracking session of the 1925 N. S. Gillwell.

the boy said he would turn in a fire alarm; man acknowledged he was wrong, and helped boy to put the fire out.

Chatham Scouts inspect lanes and alleys for fire hazards.

Pembroke Scouts have been given the same training as that given new firemen by the local fire chief.

—L. J. Bishop.

The Play Way in Scouting

We want to teach people in this country to play. Dignity is assumed. It stops play. Let us learn to take it off. The two most dignified persons in the world are the butler and the undertaker.

Play is necessary to the development of boys, physically and mentally. Play gives mental agility.

If a boy does not want to play, he is sick. Even at hospitals children will play,—with things on their cot coverlets.

While play is natural, boys require to be taught to play properly. Their tendency is to play a too limited range of games. Almost every boy plays baseball, but a large percentage cannot swim, row, box or wrestle.

Left to himself, the boy frequently will develop a tendency to evade the rules of the game. It may be necessary to make it clear to a boy that no game can be played successfully unless all the players abide by the rules. In other words, games teach honesty and co-operation.

Every Scoutmaster should have his own book of games, and should record there all those he has tried and found successful.

Games should be played with a particular object. Have it in mind to teach a certain thing to a boy, and if necessary invent a game to do this.

Struggle is one of the fundamental principles of boys' games. When inventing games, include struggle.

—John A. Stiles.

The Wolf Cub

The Cub is plastic. On joining your pack he probably for the first time is treated as other than a "kid." You can make any impression upon him that you wish.

Aim first to cultivate in him style and manners. Each Cub should leave you possessed of a polite manner. Before the days of Cubbing boys often were sent to dancing schools in order chiefly to acquire polite manners.

Giving them a good time is the object. Through the games plant the seeds of right conduct,—self-discipline. At first all will want to be "It," and probably not want to play the games you desire. You must peg away until you get them all interested in your games.

Loving care must be the spirit on the part of the Cubmaster. The pack is a little family: it must be a happy little family.

The Cubmaster should plan his own programme; not the boys.

Take your time in Star instruction. Take six months or a year for the Second Star work. The boys will be with you four years, if they come in at eight.

Story Telling: The common idea is that story telling is a special gift. Anyone can acquire the ability with practice. The practice is profitable to the Cubmaster. It expands the vocabulary, develops confidence, also the voice. As a result of regular story telling to your pack, you may wake up some day to find yourself an effective public speaker.

Make up your own stories. This is comparatively easy also.

Don't yourself try to teach everything. Inquire among your friends for those having hobbies. You probably will find some who can teach basket-making, etc.

Pack and Troop: The Scoutmaster should appear to the pack as a jolly good fellow who can tell a jolly good story.

My experience does not approve of the use of Patrol Leaders as Cub instructors. They have enough of their own work to do. Rovers are O.K.

Cubs will not want to go up to a poor troop. Make your troop better than the pack, if you can.

Where the pack meets from 7 to 8, and Scouts 8 to 9.30, in the same hall, keep your doors locked until the Cub

meeting is over. Otherwise the arriving Scouts will distract the attention of the Cubs and spoil the end of your meeting.

Make sure that every boy is told the Mowgli story.

The Grand Howl should be the standard howl. The pack leader always should lead. Watch for the bringing down of the right hand and the leaving of the left at salute, instead of the reverse.

Always show the correct way of doing a thing,—never the wrong way, even in demonstration.

Investiture: Regardless of the number ready, I would not invest more than two in one evening. No one but Akela should instruct for the investiture.

Cubs and the Union Jack: Personally I do not think packs should use the Union Jack; but that Cubs should work up to this in the troop. Where it is desired to use the Union Jack with Cubs, however, my suggestion is opening with the Grand Howl, inspection in corners, and then the flag-break with Cubs at the salute in their corners. In other words, something quite different to Scout procedure.

Don't encroach on Scouting—not even to the extent of teaching one extra first-aid bandage. Scouting and Cubbing are entirely different programmes. Let us keep them so.

H. M. Jockel.

A Rover of the 1st Pembroke, Ont., with experience in practical leather work, is giving instruction for the leather worker's badge to classes limited to four Scouts. The first evening session includes a brief talk on tanning (material for which was furnished by the Scoutmaster), and instruction in simple sewing. At the second week's session half-soleing and heeling are done, after which the boys continue the work by themselves. Five boys have passed the tests, and it is expected to pass 15 during the winter. As a practical result, several of the boys are now wearing shoes which they themselves half-sole.

GALLANTRY AWARDS FOR PERIOD JAN. 1—FEB. 28, 1926.

Letter of Commendation

Patrol Leader Avery King, 16, 1st Penticton Troop, B.C., for courage and fortitude shown following an explosion which mutilated and finally necessitated the amputation of his hand.

Medal of Merit

Miss Dorothy G. Hilliard, Cubmaster, St. Mary's Pack, Victoria, B.C., for very exceptional and faithful service. Miss Hilliard was the first lady Cubmaster to receive a warrant in British Columbia.

Mr. Philip R. Lyman, Montreal, for 14 years of notable service to the Movement in Montreal, this including organization of the first Montreal Sea Scout Troop.

Mr. Donald Ross, Secretary the Border Cities Council, for long and faithful service, which included the organization of the first Scout troop in Windsor, Ont.

Gilt Cross

Scout Eric King, 13, 1st Penticton Troop, B.C., and Scout Arthur Hook, 13, 1st Naramata Troop, B.C., for first aid and other excellent work done for Patrol Leader Avery King when the latter suffered a mutilated hand as the result of a dynamite cap explosion.

Scout Allen Sheward, 19, 2nd Moose Jaw Troop; and A. S. M. Harry Miles, 21, 3rd Moose Jaw Troop, Sask., for the rescue of Scout Hemming when he got into difficulties in deep water at the district camp.

Silver Cross

Scout Edward Fletcher, 12, 1st Brownsburg Troop, Que., for rescuing a young woman from drowning, although he had himself but recently learned to swim.

Scout Gordon Maligny, 15, 1st Hanover Troop, Ont., for the rescue from drowning and revival by artificial respiration of a partly disabled returned soldier who was overcome in the water. The rescue was made fully dressed.

Scout Charles S. Maxwell, 12, 1st St. Johns Troop, Que. Although in a weakened condition, the result of scarlet fever, Scout Maxwell plunged into a deep hole in the Richelieu River and after a struggle supported another Scout until both were rescued by a soldier.

Scout Reginald McCaughey, 12, 1st Hanover Troop, Ont., for the rescue, while fully dressed, of an eleven year old boy who got into deep water while bathing.

Court of Honour
of the
8th Saskatoon
(Emmanuel
College) Troop
1926.



Court of Honour Notes

"A Court of Honour was called for discussion of the organization of Second Class work under special instruction."—4th Moose Jaw.

At a Court of Honour meeting of the 1st Kingston, Ont., it was decided that P.L.'s should hand in to the Court of Honour an account of their patrol meetings.

The Court of Honour of the 3rd St. Catharines Troop decided that no more recruits would be received until all the Scouts already enrolled have passed their Second Class tests.

"The Court of Honour held an important session after the parade was dismissed, and dealt with the Dominion Registration of the troop. It was decided to register all the individual Scouts in the troop out of the badge

A Reforestation Project For Nova Scotia Scouts

IT WAS formally announced at the Annual Meeting of the Boy Scouts Association of Nova Scotia that the Provincial Government has set aside within reach of Halifax a tract of 3,000 acres of woodland, to be used by the Scouts of the province for the study of reforestation, and as a wild animal preserve. It is understood that each troop will be assigned a certain section of the tract for reforestation, and incidentally as a site for a permanent cabin camp. It is agreed that in the event of the Government of Nova Scotia cutting down and selling timber grown on the land during occupation by the Scouts, 40% of the proceeds are to be paid to the Boy Scouts Association. It is the hope of those interested that ultimately a permanent source of revenue for the support of the Movement will thus be developed.

Credit for this far sighted and very practical arrangement goes to Mr. Otto Schierbeck, Forestry Engineer of the Government of Nova Scotia, and a warm friend of Scouting. During the summer of 1925 Mr. Schierbeck spent considerable time in Scout camps in Nova Scotia, lecturing most entertainingly on reforestation and other kindred woodcraft subjects.

Scout leaders of the other provinces will watch the success of the Nova Scotia venture with much interest.

fund, which at the present time is quite ample. The Scouts are quite in favor of the registration idea, and are anxious to co-operate in boosting the Scout Movement."—2nd Portage la Prairie.

The 1st Kingsville, Ont., Troop tried a six months' probationary system for P.L.'s and one month for the Troop Leader. One T.L. was turned back to his former position as P.L. by the Court of Honour, and accepted the demotion in the best Scout spirit. The Scoutmaster was not present at the Court of Honour when the question was decided.

The boys were made P.L.'s on the understanding that they would cheerfully step down if the patrol under them did not run satisfactorily.

Scout Ideas from—

Sixer Councils are proving a success with several Saint John Packs.

Each patrol of the 5th Moose Jaw is specializing on a certain proficiency badge.

The Lynx patrol of the 2nd Sherbrooke Troop held a Rummage Sale on the city market.

The 25th Hamilton Troop won the Enlow Cup as the most proficient troop in the Hamilton District.

The 2nd Saulte Ste. Marie troop renovated St. Peter's Church House and fitted it up as a gymnasium.

Dr. C. C. Bell has donated a shield for first aid competition between the Scout troops of Chatham, Ont.

The 1st Rossland, B.C., Troop attends divine service in a body once each month, alternating between the different churches.

Kingsville, Ont., Scouts have charge of the town flags, putting them out and taking them in as required.

The leading patrol of the 3rd Moose Jaw is each month awarded the keeping of a gold banded staff.

Several Scouts tried for their Entertainer's badge as a programme feature of the big 10th birthday banquet of the 6th Vancouver Pack.

The number of industrial hikes recorded is steadily increasing. Has your troop visited local industrial plants?

An old underground root-house on the historic Strathcona estate, Deer Lodge, Winnipeg, has been turned into comfortable den by Scouts of the West Winnipeg district.

The Fredericton, N.B. troop having the most 1st Class Scouts by July 1st, 1926, will be awarded the Arthur Shute Cup, offered by a local jewelry firm.

As one in a series of first aid and health talks, by Dr. H. Spencer, boys of the 2nd Sherbrooke were given an interesting lecture on prevention of the most common diseases.

The 4th, 8th and 30th Vancouver troops have appointed "camp bankers" to manage their Camp Fund banks. A District Camp Bank is maintained at district headquarters.

Troops of Fredericton, N.B., compete monthly for a district honour flag provided by the local Rotary Club. Points are awarded at a monthly inspection by members of the district staff.

The 21st Hamilton Troop gave a parents' night banquet at their headquarters in the basement of the Allenby School. The subsequent programme "showed the parents what Scouts really do at a troop meeting."

A going-up ceremony for Wolf Cubs of the 19th Calgary Hebrew School Pack was made impressive by the reciting by Patrol Leaders, as the Cubs came up, of the ten Scout Laws. As each Law was repeated a tall candle was lighted.

The District Ladies' Auxiliary of the Boy Scouts Association of Owen Sound, made up of representatives of the various troop auxiliaries, reported an excellent year of activities at their annual meeting. After buying dishes and cutlery for the district Scout camp there was a balance on hand of \$50.00.

The new

SPRING and SUMMER CATALOGUE for 1926

Will reach you early in April!

You will find listed in it:—

NEW INTERESTING BOOKS.

NEW EQUIPMENT, such as
A NEW GILLWELL CANTEEN
and a new

NEST OF PAINT POT BILLIES,
SUITABLE FOR PATROLS.

PHONOGRAPH RECORDS

BY THE CHIEF SCOUT.

NEW LADY CUBMASTERS'
UNIFORM.

COMPLETE NEW OUTDOOR
SERVICE UNIFORMS.

The edition also carries a
special message from the
Chief Commissioner,
Dr. James W. Robertson.

A NEW METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION!

The tremendous growth in
the demand for the catalogue
—the last edition ran over
30,000—has necessitated a
change in the method of distribution.

This year Scoutmasters and
Cubmasters are asked to return a detachable form which they will receive with their personal copy of the catalogue, this form calling for the mailing to them in bulk of the number of copies required for the members of their Troop or Pack.

It is hoped that this form will be returned promptly, so that there may be no delay in the forwarding and distribution of the catalogue.

Again thanking you,
—The Q. M.

—Coast to Coast

The Eagle patrol of the 7th Saint John takes much pride in a mounted eagle totem.

Members of the 1st Port Dalhousie, Ont. Troop paid a surprise visit to the 2nd St. Catharines.

Scouts served the big Anglican Laymen's Association dinner held in All Saints', Windsor. Over 300 men sat down, and "were served without accident."

The 2nd Canso, N.S. Troop did their own carpenter work and electric wiring when a room over the Baptist Church Vestry was placed at their disposal as a headquarters.

Following the recent reorganization of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Boy Scouts Association of Quebec City, committees have been formed for each of the four Scout troops and three Cub packs.

"Any Scout in the city may attend the special instruction periods of the different troops, provided he comes in uniform or with his Registration Certificate."—St. Catharines, Ont. Scout News.

Boys of the 1st Moose Jaw Troop are making a large "Indian" map of the Moose Jaw river, marking in various hike rendezvous in Indian symbols, and similarly noting historical incidents connected with certain locations.

Two English Scouts, members of the crew of the S.S. Caribou, were introduced by Saint John Scouts to skiing, tobogganing and other Canadian winter sports, and during their stay in port attended meetings of St. Jude's Troop.

The new headquarters of the 1st Port Hope, Ont. Troop includes a gymnasium. This will be fitted up with horizontal bars, vaulting horses, spring boards, etc. Gymnastics will not be allowed to interfere with real Scout meeting programmes, however.

The 11th Hamilton Pack, in council, decided that any Sixer absent from meetings without excuse should lose his rank for one week. If absent for three weeks, he will be considered out of the pack. When a Sixer is absent the Second takes charge.

A mass meeting of Saint John, N.B., children held at the Imperial Theatre under the auspices of the local Red Cross, was ushered by a party of 40 Scouts, who were declared to have handled the large crowds of children most efficiently. The Scouts were in charge of District Secretary Johnson.

A highly successful reunion brought together 75 Scouts of the 1st Sydney, N.S. Troop in Christ Church parish hall. The programme comprised a blindfold hockey match, with a bell for the puck; lantern slides of troop camps held since 1918; short addresses, choruses, yells, refreshments, a flashlight photograph and Auld Lang Syne.

No less than 13 troops from 7 different communities in Pictou County, N. S., were represented in a Scout play given at New Glasgow, under the direction of Rev. Fr. A. J. MacIsaac, Gillwellian Scoutmaster of the 1st Lourdes Troop. The play, "A Street Boy's Honour," has been given four times.

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 Council Fire Medal Presentation

An indoor council fire, a circle of some 200 Cubs and Scouts and a background of massed troop colours provided an impressive setting for the presentation of medals to Scoutmaster the Rev. C. M. C. Hallowell and five St. Thomas Scouts, awarded for rescue work following the Pinafore Park swan boat tragedy of last summer. The council fire was located at one end of Masonic Temple Hall, and the balance of the room was crowded to capacity. The actual presentation, performed by Assistant Provincial Commissioner F. C. Irwin, was made on the far side of the circle, so that those receiving the medals faced the audience; and the fire was arranged so that most light was thrown out on this side. For the same reason the fire circle was left partly open on the side towards the audience. A concealed fan and tissue flames made the fire effectively realistic. All other lights were turned off save a number of subdued-red ceiling globes.

The medal ceremony was preceded by a council fire programme. The flags of the various local troops were then grouped, and provided the background for the presentation.

A Church Tower Headquarters

WESTMINSTER Church, St. Catharines, Ont., has placed the church tower at the disposal of the church troop as a headquarters. The troop is making of the tower a "three story" clubroom. As the first step, the Seagull Patrol painted and decorated the first floor and installed a gas fire-place, electric light fixtures and furniture. This room is a general meeting place and reading room, and is also used for the Court of Honour. The second floor is the store room and patrol meeting room. The third floor will be a workshop. A number of tools have been donated; and it is planned to make additional furniture, and also camp equipment.

Rover Mates from the various Winnipeg Rover groups comprise a district Rover Court of Honour.

Certain Alberta city troops have adopted country Lone Scouts or Lone Patrols. They keep in touch with them by correspondence.

The 8th Vancouver has a neatly printed four-page folder of miscellaneous information answering questions which may be asked by parents and by new boys joining the troop.

Knot Hoop Relay.—Patrols in Indian file. P.L.'s given a rope about three feet long. At "Sheet bend, go!" (or other knot) P.L.'s tie knot, making a hoop; pass hoop down over body, untie, hand to next boy, who does same. Last boy, on untying, holds rope up, crying, "Through!" Patrol competition. Left to each Scout to tie the knot correctly before going through the hoop.

The Nesbitt Junior Competitions

THE 1st Sydney Troop, of Christ Church, Sydney, N.S., had the honour of winning the first Wallace Nesbitt Junior competition held in Nova Scotia.

The competition for New Brunswick was won by the 5th Saint John Company of Girl Guides, who were coached by District Scout Secretary L. L. Johnson.

The Quebec competition was won by the 85th Montreal Troop.

In Ontario the 1st Huntsville Troop established a record by winning the competition for the second year in succession, and incidentally the Globe Shield. The team made 152 points out of a possible 180, one of the boys securing a perfect individual score. The team was instructed by the captain of last year's winning team, too old to compete in 1926.

Ye Scout Almanack

April

1st—Holy Thursday.

All Fools' Day. Scouts to "fool" as many persons as possible with Good Turns.

2nd—Good Friday.

4th—Easter Sunday.

5th—Easter Monday.

Last Quarter of the Moon.

9th—Vimy Ridge, 1917.

11th—Low Sunday.

12th—New Moon.

17th—2nd Battle of Ypres, 1915.

18th-24th—Participate in "Save the Forest Week."

19th—First Quarter of the Moon.

23rd—ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

27th—Full Moon.

During April—Early spring observation hikes.

Begin talking summer camps and camp funds in earnest.

Aid in local spring "clean-ups."

May

1st—May Day.

4th—Last Quarter of the Moon.

9th—Rogation Sunday.

Mothers' Day.

11th—New Moon.

13th—Ascension Day.

P. O. & R.

The new edition of Policy, Organization and Rules for Canada is now available, and can be had at 25 cents per copy from Provincial Headquarters or the Stores Department, Ottawa.

SCOUT CORRESPONDENTS

Two 12 year old Scouts in Dirlerton, Scotland, and a Patrol Leader in Mauritius are anxious to correspond with Scouts in Canada; the former with Scouts of about the same age, and the latter with one or two Patrol Leaders of active and successful troops. Letters addressed in care of Dominion Headquarters will be forwarded.

The "Out" of the Meeting

FRIDAY'S meeting of the Tenth was featured with a game that took the troop by patrols around a mile and a half course in Roxborough Place, and called for a knowledge of compass directions, Scouts' pace, observation and deduction. It also proved how easy it is for one boy to slip out of a crowd without being noticed on gathering at the end of the meeting and the question being asked, "Who's missing?" no one at first discovered the name of the Scout who had been purposely told to drop behind without being noticed. It also proved how easy it is for one to make mistakes. For several reports as to when he had last been seen, showed that imagination rather than accuracy guided the answers.

Arriving back at the hall, a new game, "noises in the night," was the introduction to the general instruction on night stalking and deduction from sounds.

—10th Calgary.

A Diverse Programme

THE diverse all-Scout programme of the Second Annual Jamboree of the 1st Galt, Ont., Troop carried these items:—Blindfold boxing, tub tilting, Indian wrestling, signalling test to demonstrate a Scout's training in quick thinking, the making of a Scout staff ladder, the Toonerville automobile in camp, lariat spinning, a recitation, a Missioner's demonstration of changing the sheets of a sick bed without removing the patient, the making of a camp bed, presentation of proficiency badges by Canon Snelgrove, accompanied by a short address in appreciation of the practical character of Scout training; a piano selection, an Arabian tableau as a setting for the singing by Scoutmaster Wheeler of "Till the Sands of the Desert Grow Cold"; a humorous play, "The Absent-Minded Professor," and as a finale, a council fire scene and council fire programme.

The 1st Banff Scouts and Cubs have their headquarters in the basement of the Banff Museum.

Was It Your Troop?

FROM a last summer's radio broadcast talk, after a description of a tidy camp site left by a large Scout troop: "This year many listeners will be camping, probably by the roadside. See that your camp site is left as tidy as the Scouts left theirs."

Knot Relay.—Patrols in Indian file at one end of room. One judge for each patrol at other end. P.L.'s given two lengths of rope. On "Fisherman's go!" P.L.'s run to judges, tie knot; or judge's "O.K." run back to rear of patrol. Ropes are passed up to Number 2, who runs, ties, returns to end of patrol, etc. Last boy passes ropes up to P.L., who holds up to signify "Finished."