



A  
New Year's Greeting  
from our  
Chief Scout

*I consider it a great pride and pleasure at this season, as Chief Scout of Canada, to send warm greetings to all Boy Scouts from the most senior Commissioner to the youngest Wolf Cub. I trust and pray that the year 1927 will bring you all health, happiness and prosperity and give you opportunities of many acts of brotherhood and service for the honour of your Motherland.*

*I hope to have many opportunities of meeting and greeting you all during the coming years.*

(Signed) WILLINGDON,  
Chief Scout for Canada.



Another  
"Better-yet"  
Year of  
Scouting!

IN Viscount Willingdon Canadian Scouting once more has the good fortune to claim, as its head, a leader of long and distinguished public service,—as Member of the Imperial Parliament from 1900 to 1910, as Junior Lord of the Treasury from 1905 to 1912, as Governor of Bombay from 1913 to 1919, Governor of Madras from 1919 to 1924, and as a special emissary of the British Government to China in 1925. Viscount Willingdon's interest in Scouting may be described as similarly comprehensive. During his stay in Bombay and Madras he was Chief Scout for those Indian presidencies, and earlier was Scoutmaster of his own troop at Willingdon, Sussex, with his son as one of his patrol Leaders.

At the recent quarterly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Canadian General Council, His Excellency occupied the chair, and evinced a keen interest in the reports presented. He described himself as "the new boy" of the committee, anxious to learn all he could of the Movement in Canada.

Of especial interest to our Scouts will be the information that the new Chief Scout "made good" in sports at school and college, and was elected captain of his cricket eleven at both Eton and Cambridge.

In other words, in Viscount Willingdon we have another "real Scout."

## The Toy Shops

NEWSPAPER reference to Scout Christmas doings throughout Canada once more recorded a fine story of thought and work for others. The chain of Boy Scout Toy Repair Shops, stretching literally across the Dominion, made happy at the most conservative estimate, 15,000 children who otherwise in all likelihood would have experienced childhood's most poignant disappointment, an empty stocking on Christmas morning. A d hundreds of Tenderfoot Scouts from families in comfortable circumstances learned for the first time what "being poor" really meant, and discovered the joy of bringing joy to others less fortunate.

Practically the only reports received are clippings from local papers; and as items not infrequently escape the clipping service, the following list of "branches" of the Toy Shop Chain probably is not complete.

### The '26 Toy Shop Chain

Halifax, New Glasgow, N.S.; Saint John, N.B.; Three Rivers, Sherbrooke, Montreal, Que.; Hamilton, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Peterborough, Kincardine, Chatham, Perth, Windsor, Lindsay, Brigiden, Ont.; Winnipeg, Man.; Moose Jaw, Sask.; Calgary, Strathmore, Viking, Alta.; Vancouver, B.C.

### The Help of the Guides

As last year, our sisters the Girl Guides made a splendid contribution by re-dressing dolls, notably at Calgary and Ottawa. At the latter place

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HIS Excellency the Governor General at the Ottawa Toy Shop. "Perfectly splendid—for the boys as well as the children who will receive the toys," was the Chief Scout's comment after spending nearly half an hour inspecting all departments. His Excellency was greatly interested in the fact that a chain of similar shops was in operation across Canada.

## The Scout Leader

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

Chief Scout for Canada  
His Excellency Viscount Willingdon,  
Governor-General of Canada.

Chief Commissioner

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

F. E. L. Coombs - - - - - Editor

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### Tell More About Your Doings

**I**F MORE troops, when re-registering, would report generally upon the year's activities, many more excellent ideas would find their way into the *Scout Leader*. The following are examples noted in the reports of the 1st Chester and 1st Freeport Troops, N.S.

The 1st Chester, Scoutmaster C. I. Hiltz, held their usual summer camp, also a Jamboree. The boys made a great many articles of wood which they sold to people in the town for a small sum. From this source they realized \$93.00, which they donated toward paying off the debt on the local Community Hall.

The 1st Freeport Troop recorded a number of neighborhood Good Turns, notably at Christmas. The troop visited all the "shut-ins" of the community, and took them candy and fruit. They cut wood for elderly persons. Rev. E. M. Hamilton is the Scoutmaster.

### The Scout Troop as a Bridge Between Sunday-School and Church

**I**N AN impressive address on "The Boy Problem" before the Sarnia-Port Huron Ministerial Union at Memorial Hall, Grace Church, Port Huron, the Rev. Denny Bright endorsed the Boy Scout programme as a means of bridging the gap between the Sunday-school and the church. He emphasized the fact that boy temperament is not introspective, but practical and active. "Because of the present day failure of the home to fulfill its religious duties," he said, "the church must adopt less conservative and conventional methods for holding the boys."

### The Cub Silence

**T**HE "Cub Silence",—the "Scout Silence" as used by a Cub Pack—apparently is not fully understood by all of our Cubmasters. A recent newspaper clipping referred to it as a "simple form of remembrance of the Scout and Cub officers who fell overseas." On certain special occasions this could be its significance. For regular use, however, its purpose is "a few moments of silent prayer," particularly for a pack of boys representing a number of different religious denominations; or simply as a means

of clearing the boys' minds and ensuring attention for some announcement, or for marking the conclusion of some ceremonial and the beginning of a games period.

### Can Pick Out Scouts in a Class Room

**I**N the course of an address before the Montreal Lions' Club, Mr. E. Russell Paterson, Provincial Secretary of the Boy Scouts Association, quoted the principal of a large Montreal school as declaring that he had found the ethical influence of Scouting so effectual that he could pick out a Scout in a class without seeing his badge. Mr. Paterson drew on local examples for illustrations of the usefulness of Scouting in Canadianizing boys of foreign birth, instancing Greek and Polish troops, organized at the request of local leaders of those national groups, who wished their boys to become Canadians as quickly as possible.

#### FOR 1927

*I would be true, for there are those who trust me;*

*I would be pure, for there are those who care;*

*I would be strong, for there is much to suffer;*

*I would be brave, for there is much to dare.*

*I would be a friend to all—the foe—the friendless;*

*I would be giving, and forget the gift;*

*I would be humble, for I know my weakness;*

*I would look up—and love—and lift.*

### Has This Been Said?

**H**AS this been said of your troop? It was clipped from an Ontario local paper: "The Troop is creating a splendid record of useful service and is proving itself to be a real asset to the community."

### A B.C. Mayor's Tribute to Scouting

**M**AYOR Stewart of Vernon, B.C., paid the following tribute to Scouting when turning over to the President of the Local Association the key of the new Vernon Scout Hall, a community enterprise for the benefit of all the children of the town: "Mr. President, I commit to you the custody of the hall which I now declare to be officially and formally opened. The constitution, tenure, aims and objects of the Boy Scouts Association fit its officers pre-eminently to discharge the trust, symbolized by the return of this key, of conserving and administering this building to the use in perpetuity of the boys and girls of this community."



A Happy New Year of yet better Scouting.

A Scout troop of two patrols has been organized at the Ontario School for the Deaf, Belleville, under the leadership of Scoutmaster Alfred Burrell.

The 1st Sandwich Troop, Ont., includes in its ranks Scout George Beneian, who made his start in an Armenian Scout troop in Athens, Greece.

H.R.H. the Duke of York was invested by Lord Hampton with the Silver Wolf, at a Wolf Cub Palaver in London, in recognition of his interest in Scouting.

A special conference of the District Commissioners of Ontario will be held at Hamilton, Wednesday, February 9th,—preceding the annual two-day provincial conference of Scout leaders.

Troop registration at Dominion Headquarters assists field work in your province, and provides each Scout with a "character" card that sooner or later may be of important value to him.

At the recent opening of the Drumheller, Alta., Scout Hall Mayor McConkey stated that he was able to tell the local boys who were Scouts by their conduct on the street.

Assistant Provincial Commissioner Irwin and District Commissioner Wigle were present at the December meeting of the Essex County Scout Leader's Club, held at the Y. It was "one of the most interesting meetings that the Club has held this year."

Assistant Scoutmaster Colin MacKenzie of the 10th Calgary Troop was elected President of the Calgary Kinsmen's Service Club. A letter of congratulation from the Chairman of the Troop Court of Honour noted that, like Scouts, the Kinsmen "are pledged to personal service."

The many Scout friends of Provincial Commissioner H. A. Laurence of Ontario will regret to learn that it has been found necessary for him to go south for the winter. Mr. J. W. Mitchell, President of the provincial organization and Honorary Secretary P. G. Cherry will share Mr. Laurence's duties.

During a severe December storm, Walter and Gordon Burrows, of the Beaver Patrol of the 1st Camrose Troop, Alta., discovered a threatening fire in a house chimney. They quickly procured a ladder, and with the assistance of another member of their patrol succeeded in climbing the roof and carrying up water until the fire was out; and the call for the fire department was cancelled.

### THE TOY SHOPS

(Continued from page 37)

District Commissioner Symes directed the work, assisted by Brown Owl Reid of St. Bartholomew's Brownie Pack. The two shops produced over 800 dolls looking "like new."

#### The New Shops

Innovations this year were the opening of Rover shops at Saint John, Montreal and Moose Jaw, and a Wolf Cub Toy Shop at Winnipeg, the latter under the direction of Assistant Provincial Commissioner F. W. Thompson. These shops produced some excellent ideas in organization—for noting in connection with our Toy Shop plans for 1927.

#### Expanding Distribution

More attention was given to Children's Hospitals, Orphanages and kindred institutions. At Winnipeg toys were handed over to the Immigration Matron, "to help New Canadians to know that there is a Christmas welcome for them here."

At Calgary a number of appeals by mail from children in the country were filled. Here is one letter, from a little New Canadian on a farm:

"Dear Santa Scout:

*Who ever you are down there I am fine. Been a good boy and so has my brother Jacob and my name is Peter and 12 years and Jacob is 9 years old so what are you please giving us Christmas but dont forget my brother Jacob please. Our Santa is frozen in the ice so I hope you are not and dont forgate. From Peter."*

Peter received not only a parcel of toys, candy, etc., for himself and brother Jacob, but also a special letter from one of Santa's Scout Clerks—who sent special letters in all such cases, as well as with the joy-making packages going to kiddies in hospitals and sanatoriums.

It is hoped next Christmas to further develop this "service" for poor children in institutions and in the country districts.

#### An Example Story

Those who have not yet taken part in the work may not realize its joy-giving possibilities. Here is an example which must have been duplicated many times: One of the Guide leaders of the Ottawa Shop Doll Department undertook to deliver a number of parcels. At one home when she explained her mission the mother broke down, and threw her arms about her neck. It was a family in hard circumstances, who had as much as possible kept their situation to themselves; there had been no prospect of "any Christmas at all" for the children,—and the doll and other toys almost literally "dropped from the sky."

#### For Next Christmas

Experience seems to indicate that there is more need for the Scout Toy Shop in the larger centers. In a number of the smaller towns, at least, there have been fewer families in such straits that Santa forgets them

completely. In such cases the local Scouts might well plan to send boxes of toys to mission stations,—as did the 1st Kincardine Troop. This probably would mean the opening of the shop early in November.

As now generally known, the Boy Scout Christmas Toy Repair Shop has become our biggest annual country-wide Good Turn—a happiness-bringing service of substantial proportions, a valuable experience to the boys participating, peculiarly scouty in its demand upon the resourcefulness and ingenuity of the boys; and from a publicity point of view, one of the most effective means of drawing public attention to the most important underlying principle of Scouting, "others before self," as set forth in the Promise: "To help other people at all times."

In order that the big Good Turn for next Christmas may be yet bigger and more effective, it is requested that all leaders who were in charge of 1926 Shops will, while the details are still fresh in their minds, make note of their arrangements for publicity, collection, repair and distribution, and send these, with suggestions out of the experience, to the Editor.

One of our Farthest North Troops—Hay River Anglican Mission, N.W.T.

S.M. Kruger former Ottawa Scout.



Troop Halls

ANOTHER encouraging sign of the substantial progress of Scouting in Canada, and of its growing permanency, comes in newspaper clippings describing plans for or the opening of specially built or improvised Scout halls. The following budget of such headquarters items, received during December, may contain suggestions for solving the headquarters problems of other troops.

The 18th Halifax found a satisfactory meeting place in an old gymnasium building, renovated it, and took over early in December.

In aid of their club house fund the 4th London, Ont., Troop gave a high class concert which attracted a large audience to the Labour Temple. The programme was contributed by leading local artists.

The 4th Winnipeg Troop is staging a series of concerts during the winter, to raise funds for the building of a troop hall on a site given the troop by the municipality.

The boys of the 3rd Yarmouth, N. S., decorated and otherwise made an excellent headquarters of a basement room placed at their disposal by Zion Baptist Church.

The North Kamloops Troop, B.C., met in a room of the local school, using oil lanterns brought by the boys. A gasoline lantern was purchased by the Troop Committee, and to give more suitable room, the Scouts secured permission and unscrewed the school desks from the floor and placed them on moveable 2x4's. This troop meets twice a week.

A clubroom for the Scouts and other boys of the town has been opened in Radville, Sask. The room will be under the supervision of a board consisting of the president of the Local Association, Mr. A. A. K. Johns; a secretary-treasurer, Mr. J. C. Lawson, and Scoutmaster E. B. McKay. The hall will be equipped with gymnastic apparatus, tables, chairs and a library, and will be open from 7 to 9 each evening excepting Sunday.

When the log cabin of the 1st Tatamagouche Troop, N.S., located a mile and a half from the village, was partly wrecked by unknown persons, the boys secured permission to rebuild it

on a corner of the school grounds. Two Saturdays were spent in taking the cabin down, and the boys are now reconstructing it on its new site.

A remodelled ginger ale factory provided an excellent Scout hall for the 1st Armstrong Troop, B.C. The new headquarters was opened with a house warming banquet in which Scouts, Guides, Cubs and Brownies, and members of their committees participated to the number of 150. It is planned later to hold a celebration to which the general public will be invited.

The fourth annual concert of the 12th Regina Troop, the Premier's Own, drew an audience of 500 to the City Hall Auditorium. The proceeds go toward enlarging the troop's headquarters. It is planned to enlarge the building to the proportions of a community hall for the general use of residents of that part of the city. Recently the troop secured the necessary additional ground through a twenty year lease of three lots from the C. N. R.

For nearly three years the 2nd Chatham Troop, Ont., had their head-

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# THE CAMP CHIEF'S PAGE

## OUTDOORS IN JANUARY

Don't overlook snow-tracking,—one of the most fascinating and valuable Scouting games. Get out into the country if you can; if not, study the tracks of dogs, cats and birds, as well as human tracks, in town. Don't forget that we have our special book, reproducing the life-size tracks of a large number of Canadian animals—"Animal Tracking," at 75c postpaid.

Has your troop a feeding station for birds? Every troop should have at least one.

## THE WINTER COURSES

Winter Courses now running: Part III-A—Toronto, Ont., under District Commissioner E. O'Callaghan; Windsor, Ont., under Rev. Brother Silvin; Regina, Sask., under District Commissioner C. H. Goddard. Projected, Acadia College, Wolfville, N.S.; Chatham, Ont.

Part III-B—Projected, Winnipeg, Montreal.

Part II Akela running: Montreal, under District Cub Commissioner H. M. Jockel; London, Ont., under Cubmaster H. B. Tyndall. Projected, Winnipeg, Man.

Vestibule Courses reported—Welland, Ont., with 12 registrations, including leaders from Port Colborne, Fonthill and Humberstone. St. Thomas, Ont., with 31 registrations. Sarnia, Ont., with 22 registrations.

## VESTIBULE COURSE RESULTS

"I am having all kinds of success with my troop this fall," wrote a St. Thomas, Ont., Scoutmaster. "We have settled down to our winter's programme full of enthusiasm. This was partly due to the fact that a couple of my leaders attended the Gillwell Vestibule Course. We have gone over the weak points in our organization and strengthened where needed, particularly the competitions." And regarding **The Scoutmaster's First Year** he added, "I am very thankful to have received a copy. It certainly is a great help to me."

## FOR SEA SCOUTMASTERS

A Training Course for Sea Scoutmasters will be run in connection with the Gillwell Camp planned for the Province of Quebec, August 1-13 next. The camp will be held on the Lake of Two Mountains, near Montreal, under the direction of the Dominion Camp Chief. The instruction for the Sea Scout section will be given by Lesslie R. Thomson, Commissioner for Sea Scouts for the District of Montreal, assisted by other Sea Scout leaders.

The course of training planned is the first attempt in Canada to give a definite course for Sea Scoutmasters. It is hoped that at least one Patrol will be gathered for this purpose, and it is expected that a number of leaders from Quebec and Eastern Ontario will enroll. The training will

include lectures in common with those who are taking the regular Gillwell Camp. These joint sessions will be held in the morning, and the afternoon devoted to the Sea Scout training. The second week of the camp will be taken up with two cruises, one in a small open boat and the other in the Sea Scout yacht "The Jellicoe".

## ONE S.M.'S ANSWER TO Q. 25:

"I can say honestly that this course has been a means of making my work as S.M. a good deal easier, and the work of my troop a lot better—not so much from the questions asked; the reading that must be done has improved my knowledge of Scouting a great deal, has widened my vision, so to speak. I had very little enthusiasm before I started, and consequently my meetings were somewhat the same; now it is different. Since taking the Correspondence Course, combined with the camp course, I feel so full of pep that I can hardly wait for my meeting nights to roll around. And the troop too have awakened."



It took nearly everything they had, but the 2nd Red Deers made their stretcher.

## Standardizing the Cub Guide Test

FOR the purpose of standardizing the Wolf Cub Guide's badge test the 10th Montreal Troop uses a 12 page blueprint book containing an introduction to the subject, the directions for carrying out the various tests, and each page of tests is followed by a well drawn map of the section of the district referred to. Accompanying Test No. 5 is a large folding map of the Town of Mount Royal, with its "danger spots" coloured in red. The book, 8½ x 11 in size, is an exceptional combination of practical details and artistic presentation.

The introduction runs as follows:

In the days when this country was inhabited solely by Indians, and when there were no towns or roads, the Indians had certain members of their tribe to find and make out a trail and to lead the tribe by the shortest and easiest route to whatever place they might be going. The Indians who made the trail were called Guides, and were very intelligent men. The best among them were called Wolves, as

these animals, when travelling in packs, always have one of their members as a Guide. So every Wolf Cub must be a good Guide.

## How To Be a Good Guide

1. If, on your way home from school, you are stopped by a stranger who has just got off the train and who asks you the way to a certain road, don't stop and gape at him, or say "Wot?" but show how smart a Wolf Cub you are by telling him clearly and slowly the nearest way to reach the road he wishes to get to. Never accept any money for this small service, as it is your "Good Turn" for that day; and when you leave him salute smartly.

2. The Indian Guides, besides having to know the various trails and paths around their camp, had to have a good knowledge of the country at some distance from their own. And in the same way Wolf Cubs must know, not only the various roads and landmarks in the Town of Mount Royal, but must be able to direct a stranger to some of the important places in Montreal. The maps, with their explanations, show you exactly how to get to various places; and the directions should be learned by heart.

Here is an example of the details given under Test No. 1:

## HOW TO GO TO THE MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL

Take C.N.R. train to Dorchester Street Station, walk up stairs to Dorchester Street, cross over the street, go up McGill College Ave. to St. Catherine Street, take St. Catherine Street car going east, transfer at St. Lawrence Main, go south on St. Lawrence Main to Dorchester Street, get off car, cross over St. Lawrence St., go east on Dorchester Street one block. Large building on your right hand side is the Montreal General Hospital.

Similar details are given for finding two other hospitals, and on the succeeding page a full page map further makes the directions plain.

Test No. 2, with map, shows how to reach the C.P.R. and C.N.R. stations. Test No. 3 and map tells how to direct a person to four of Montreal's leading hotels. Test No. 4, with map, tells how to reach various suburbs of Montreal, three of the city's large stores and the Place d'Armes playground.

Directions for Test No. 5, in addition to calling for the name and location of all streets in the Town of Mount Royal, and all short cuts to Pack Headquarters, "Call for acquaintance with the location of the local railroad station, fire and police station, country club, power house, the mayor's home, schools and leading stores. The accompanying large map includes also street corner danger zones marked in red.

Test No. 6 notes the nearest doctor, address and telephone number, nearest chemist, etc.

The following paragraphs are added to Test No. 5:

Cubs should also know that the Town of Mount Royal is a town in the Province of Quebec, with a population of about 13,000 people; that it has a Country Club, a Mount Royal Women's Community Club, two schools

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## ❖ Scouting from Coast to Coast ❖

**T**HE 1st Rutland Troop, Scoutmaster A. W. Gray, was instrumental in bringing about the organization of a troop at Winfield, B.C.

A cheque for \$1,000 toward the building of the new Vernon Scout and Community Hall was received by the Vernon Boy Scouts Association from the local chapter of the I.O.D.E. The sum was in part a donation and part the net receipts from a Mah Jongg carnival. The building will be 60x110 feet, and it is planned ultimately to add showers, and other equipment, a stage, with curtains, etc.

A member of the Troop Committee attends each meeting of the 8th Saint John Troop, N.B.

Cubs and Scouts of Hamilton filled the main body of Westminster Presbyterian church on the occasion of the district fall church parade and listened to a special sermon on the Scout Laws by Rev. K. Huntley Palmer, D.D. The Scouts were marched to the church by the Salvation Army band.

A Scout troop for coloured boys has been organized in connection with the International Club of Halifax, N.S.

In a car loaned by a good friend of the troop, Scout and Cub leaders of the 2nd Sherbrooke motored to Montreal and were guests at special meetings of the 37th Montreal Troop and 26th (St. Luke's) Wolf Cub Pack. "The meetings yielded many valuable ideas and suggestions in games and Scoutercraft."

"Endurance and Health" was the subject of a recent five-minute talk by Scoutmaster Corbett, at the indoor council fire of the 4th Peterborough.

Members of the Local Association were invited to the troop birthday bean feed of the 1st Glenavon Troop, Sask., and the President of the Local Association presented Scoutmaster and Scouts with their service stars.

Postmaster Thompson of Saint John, N.B., addressed a gathering of several local troops on the postal service, describing the travels of a letter from mailing to delivery.

The Peterborough Boy Scouts Association at its annual meeting was warmly congratulated by Mayor Holloway upon its work among the boys of the city. A strong executive council was re-elected, with Rev. Fr. Costello as President. The splendid developments of the past year were credited largely to the efforts of District Commissioner J. J. Turner.

Halifax troops will give increased attention to badge work this winter. Several troops are giving particular attention to the Missioner's badge, the Public Health Man and Pathfinder.

Hamilton Scouts acted as guides during the recent convention of the W.C.T.U.

Robson Black, Secretary and Manager of the Canadian Forestry Association, addressed a gathering of Montreal Scouts in the auditorium of the Montreal Technical School on "Forestry and its value to Canada."

The 5th Border Cities Troop of coloured boys has been given permission by the Windsor Board of Education to use the basement of Mercer Street School for a troop headquarters, without charge.

A busy hike of the 10th Edmontons included the passing of fire lighting and cooking tests, observation and trail reading and the securing of natural wood staves.

Some ninety boys and girls, the majority in costume, made up the jolly Hallowe'en party given by the 1st Niagara Falls Troop to the Girl Guide Company of All Saints'.

Pictou, N.S., Scouts prepared and served a banquet to guests who included their Troop Committee and other prominent citizens.

A  
3rd Fort William  
hike.



The 1st Welland Troop, Ont., held a Fathers' and Sons' Night, carrying out a regular meeting programme with the dads included in the various patrols and entering the games. Refreshments were served by the Scouts.

Having, on the request of a group of boys, secured a Scoutmaster and a headquarters for a Scout troop, the Rotary Club of Bowmanville, Ont., capped their effort by offering funds for equipment. The boys accepted the offer as a loan. On a recent Friday night the troop invited the Rotarians to a banquet in their troop headquarters, and presented the Rotary President with a cheque in full payment of the loan. The boys had raised the funds by their own efforts.

150 Saint John Cubs participated in a Wolf Cub Thanksgiving field day.

Before the final school examinations last June, Mr. Carol Cameron offered a Scout knife to the Scout of the 1st Parrsboro Troop, N.S., who made the highest percentage in examinations, and to the patrol making the highest average a Scout hand axe. Scout Robert Howard won the knife and the Beaver Patrol the axe.

A Rover Troop to be known as the 1st Sosowaganing, with an initial membership of 17 senior boys, has been organized in connection with the United Church at Kenora, Ont.

The 16th Halifax (College St. School) starts its hikes early Saturday morning, cooking two meals in the woods, and working off a number of patrol competitions.

As a result of the success of the 113th Montreal Troop—made up of 20 crippled lads at the Montreal Shriners' Hospital—interested inquiries have been received from thirteen other Shriners' hospitals in the United States and Canada. At their recent first formal inspection the crippled Scouts presented the Thanks Badge to Chairman H. J. Elliott of the hospital board.

"This season the Scouts are going to it with a bang. Programmes are improving both in the Patrols and in the Troop."—1st Revelstokes, B.C.

The impression which individual Scouts can make upon the members of a church congregation received an unusual illustration in the unveiling in the Church of the Advent, Long

Branch, Ont., of two beautiful memorial windows to Wolf Cub Cyril Pollard and Scout Albert Gray, of the 1st Parklands Troop. A yearly memorial service also will be held.

Presentation of a troop flag by James Yelland and a Union Jack by the Troop Committee to the 1st Lachute, Que., Troop was followed by a turkey banquet, tendered the Scouts by Mr. H. Kearns of Montreal. At the close of the banquet Mr. Kearns added a \$100 cheque for the purchase of troop equipment.

The 17th Winnipeg Troop (St. Matthew's) recently held its 12th annual birthday banquet, with 134 guests and boys, and Archdeacon McElheran.

A totem pole carved and painted with various figures and characters has been presented to the 6th Halifax Pack (St. Mary's). The deciphering of the legend on the totem pole has been made a contest, with a prize offered for the Cub giving the best solution.

Fire Chief Stapf and Assistant Chief McMillan gave the 1st Welland a talk on the Fireman's badge. They will act as examiners on the subject.

The 6th London Troop, Ont., opened their fall entertainment by marching into the hall singing a marching song. A programme which included a camp scene, then a minstrel show, was concluded with the singing of the Scout chorus "Be Prepared." On behalf of the boys Archdeacon Sage presented the accompanist and assistant director with a box of chocolates as a little expression of appreciation.

The necessity of obtaining associate supporting memberships for all Saskatchewan troops was stressed by Provincial Commissioner A. H. Ball at the semi-annual meeting of the Provincial Council. Twenty-five delegates from seven Scouting centres presented encouraging reports.

At a "Parents' Afternoon" of the 10th Montreal Pack the composition of the Union Jack was explained by one of the boys, games were played and wood carving and painting exhibited. A beautifully made totem pole, bearing 32 ribbons with the names of boys who had won badges, was presented to the pack, and tea was served by the Mount Royal Women's Community Club.

Five St. Thomas, Ont., Troops combined to put on a most successful Scout jamboree programme. Following the programme a large number of proficiency badges and cords were presented.

The energetic 1st Parrsboro Troop, N.S., under Rev. C. R. Harris, has organized a Cub pack. Older Scouts will help with the instruction at the meetings, which will be held at the Scout hut.

Supporting memberships at 50 cents per year are being secured by the Local Association of Sherbrooke, Que.

A filled hall of relatives and other spectators witnessed a most successful demonstration of Scout work and a Scout and Cub Investiture at Espanola, Ont., under the direction of District Commission Vantom. Addresses were given by Rev. T. Jones of the United Church, Rev. Fr. Brennan of the Sacred Heart Church and Rev. H. Turner of the Anglican Church. The first aid work was inspected by Drs. Harvie and Rowley.

The reorganized 10th Edmonton Troop, under Scoutmaster Shewell, made a promising start with the lively slogan of being "the best troop in the city by Christmas."

Scouts of New Germany, N.S., were entertained at a social evening by the C. G. I. T. of the Epworth United Church.

Once a week throughout the winter both theoretical and practical lectures on leadership will be given P. L.'s and Seconds of the 7th Winnipeg.

Presentation of a Thanks Badge to the janitor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Windsor, was an incident of the banquet given the 11th and 21st Border Cities Troops by the

boys' mothers. During seven years of association with the work for the boys of St. Andrew's church Janitor Mackenzie declared he had never found occasion to "exchange a cross word."

A talk by A.S.M. Blake on the history and value of the Scout uniform and the purpose of each item of Scout equipment provided an interesting item of a packed-house entertainment given by the 2nd Sherbrooke Troop and Pack.

The play "Fingers," repeated this year by the 18th Winnipeg Rovers, was presented at Headingly, at a reunion supper for returned soldiers; at Good Templar's Hall, Winnipeg, under the auspices of the Harmony Temple of the Pythian Sisters; at Stoney Mountain, in aid of the local Scout Troop, and the same afternoon before the prisoners of the penitentiary.

The boys of the 16th Halifax annually compete for the Phillip Shield, donated by a former Scoutmaster, its possession being awarded for the



Eighteenth Winnipeg make friction fire with material secured by themselves in the woods.

greatest number of badges earned during the year. Presentation is made one of the troop's big evenings, with outside speakers and other special features. This year the badges were presented by Sea Scoutmaster Casey of the 2nd Halifax Sea Scouts. The entertainment was provided by the Bulldog Patrol.

Archery is popular with the 20th Border Cities,—with five bows in the troop, and the boys doing some excellent shooting. They have been invited to cross the river for a friendly contest with Detroit Scout archers.

At a special gathering of the Troop, Pack and parents of the 6th Winnipeg a Thanks Badge and a brooch were presented to the Rev. Charles and Mrs. Oke. The programme included various demonstrations of Scout work, friction fire, and an outline of a troop meeting by A. S. M. Oliver. Second Beaton gave a brief talk on the Fireman's badge and Patrol Leader Rae told of some of the work of the Chief Scout in South Africa.

Individual prizes of Scout equipment are awarded Scouts leading in the individual competition of the 2nd Soo (St. Peter's) Troop, Ont.

"Scout work was outlined by several of the Scouts, each of whom chose some particular phase of the work to

speak on; and several of the badges were demonstrated"—at a dinner of the 2nd Dartmouth, N.S., to which the Troop Committee and others interested were invited. The troop plans to hold a number of such dinners during the winter.

A concert given by the Boy Scouts of Moose Jaw, Sask., brought a large attendance to the opera house. The varied programme included contributions by both Scouts and Cubs.

A feature now running in the very full Saturday Scout page of the *Sain John Globe* and *Saint John Times-Star* is the outline of the qualifications for certain proficiency badges—as information for the general public. The page is supplied by District Secretary W. E. Hoyt.

Forty-two Scouts attend one Sunday-School in Kincardine, Ont. Seven won Bibles for perfect church attendance during the past year.

An investiture of Tenderpads and the installation of a Senior Sixer were

performed at an indoor council fire of the 1st Vernop, B.C., Cub Pack, in the presence of parents and friends. Instructors for this pack are provided by one of the patrols of the troop.

The 18th Winnipeg Rovers commenced a series of educational trips with a visit to the Booster Plant of the Winnipeg Hydro.

At the annual Cub supper of the Centenary and St. James' Packs of Saint John, N.B., the speaker was the Honorary Cubmaster of St. James' Pack, the Rev. H. A. Cody. District Secretary Hoyt contributed a talk on the Cub uniform and discipline.

The 6th Moose Jaw Troop is organizing its older boys as a Rover Patrol.

The 58th Toronto Troop (Church of the Transfiguration) visited the 23rd at St. Clements' Parish Hall for an evening of Scouting games.

The interest being shown in the Provincial Wallace Nesbitt Jr. first aid competitions for 1927 by Nova Scotia troops promises close competition and the prospect of a strong team for the Dominion-wide final.

Two recent visitors to the 10th Calgary were A.S.M. Bowden of the 26th Bournemouth and A.S.M. Bird of the 3rd Croydon Troop, England.

The 19th Saint John patrols compete for the Arnold Kee Patrol Competition Flag.

The Hamilton District held its usual annual Christmas holiday camp Dec. 27-31. The popularity of the camp was attested by the application to attend of every boy who attended the camp of last year.

Melfort, Sask., Scouts assisted all day Saturday at a bazaar held in the town hall.

A shield for patrol competition has been presented to the 9th Halifax Troop by Mr. E. C. Grundy. The troop is completing plans for the erection of its headquarters on the big Halifax District Scout reforestation camp site.

"For the Christmas Good Turn the University Hospital was selected by the Hawks, General Hospital by the Otters and the Royal Alexandra by the Beavers and Eagles."—5th Edmonton.

The entire 1st Niagara Falls Troop is receiving a course of lessons in life saving at the Fall's View Gym and Swimming Pool, the instruction being given by Commissioner Hardman of Niagara Falls, N.Y. Commissioner Hardman has offered the Canadian troop three prizes for competition in first aid bandaging.

Rutland, B.C., Kangaroos enjoying hunter's stew on a recent hike. The tidy layout and masked axe say "good camping" under S. M. Gray—which goes naturally with their recently getting on the Missionary Troop Honour Roll by helping organize another Troop at Winfield, B.C.



A Chanuka entertainment was given December 2nd by a Montreal Jewish Troop in the Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue, Westmount.

On Thanksgiving Day twenty of the 2nd North Vancouvers hiked to Capilano River. Each patrol chose a camp site, and spent most of the time in preparing the ground for future visits. Camp kitchens were constructed and a frame work for shelters fastened together.

The 4th Winnipeg Rovers had as a visitor Rover Fred B. Hember of the 8th Forest Hill Troop, London, England.

The 3rd Fort William, Ont., claims the unique distinction of having for Scoutmaster and Cubmaster a husband and wife, both Gillwellians,—Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Ellard.

The 1st Sydney's examining board of four members includes in its work the passing of recruits on the Tenderfoot tests.

On a visit to the 21st Edmonton (St. Mark's) District Commissioner Hilton complimented the troop on their response to the hand signals. Boat race and cock-fight are popular inter-patrol games of the 21st.

Practice at rescuing persons from drowning through ice accidents was an item of a 13th Saint John December programme.

An excellent series of brief articles on various phases of Scouting have been appearing in the Scout column of the **North Shore Vancouver Press, B.C.** Other items of the column, as one would expect, indicate good Scouting by the local troops.

Members of the Troop Committee of the 3rd "Vimy" Peterboro Troop have donated a shield for the always-running patrol competition.

The annual report of the Weyburn, Sask., Boy Scouts Association, published in the **Weyburn Review**, noted the troop's community service, which included assisting at the Chautauqua the Weyburn Fair and a school teacher's convention. The troop property enumerated included two bell tents.

The auxiliary of the 4th Winnipeg Troop is known as the Mother's Council.

A memory test used by the 13th Saint John Troop consists of the reading of a short message at the beginning of the meeting and the writing of it from memory by each boy at the end of the meeting.

The Rev. J. M. Laird, of Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Thomas, Ont., was invested as Chaplain and Honorary Scoutmaster of the 3rd St. Thomas, the church troop.

With the transfer of Mr. D. A. Merrick, manager of the Halifax branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia, to Vancouver, the 9th Halifax lost one of its outstanding Scouts, in P.L. George Merrick of the Beavers—the holder of two medals for life saving as well as numerous proficiency badges.

At an open meeting of the Scout Troop of Punichy, Sask., the Scouts debated the question, "Cows' milk versus the canned variety." The supporters of the canned product won the debate.

The 17th Winnipeg Scouts and Cubs held their 12th annual birthday church service on Sunday, November 14th. This well established troop, under Scoutmaster R. Eatough is made up of six patrols, with an Assistant Scoutmaster in charge of each three.

About fifty Patrol Leaders and Seconds from outside points were expected at the annual Patrol Leader's conference held at Red Deer, Alta., Dec. 27-29.

The Port Colborne, Ont., Scout news column notes that "a few recipes for our Scout recipe book were collected. Interest is growing in our newest venture."—Presumably the publication of a "Scout Book of Cooking Recipes" secured from the local famous cooks, as described in the October Leader.

The Sunrise Troop, Boys Industrial Home, Saint John, N.B., won the Brindle Soccer Cup, awarded the winner of the District Scout Soccer League.

The Scout Troop of the School for the Blind, Halifax, were hosts to the other troops of the district for an early December rally. Assistant Provincial Commissioner Eaman directed an interesting programme of contributions by the various troops, a sing-song, and presentation of badges to successful contestants in the Overseas Club's nature observation test for Scouts.

"No Scout allowed to attend camp unless he has earned his Second Class Badge"—is a rule for 1927 laid down by the 3rd St. Thomas, Ont., (Knox Church) Troop.

Covers were laid for 150 at the annual banquet of St. Jude's Cubs and Scouts, Winnipeg, the guests including members of the Troop and Pack Committee, auxiliaries and parents. The banquet was provided by the Parents' Committee.

Mayor Edwin Pickerton addressed some 60 Cubs and Scouts of the 1st Yorkton Troop at their annual banquet, held in the basement of St. Andrew's United Church and provided by the troop Ladies' Auxiliary.

The Quiroet medal for semaphore signalling donated to Sherbrooke Scouts by Cubmaster Cecil Quiroet of Quebec City was won by Troop Leader Edmond Waller of the 2nd Sherbrooke. Two lectures on citizenship to a group of Scouts desirous of passing the Citizen proficiency badge were given by Mr. H. E. Grundy, secretary of the Sherbrooke Local Association.

With other church organizations, the Boy Scouts conducted a stall at St. John's Church Bazaar, Sarnia, Ont., to raise funds for the building of a Sunday-school.

During their Thanksgiving Field Day the 1st Chilliwack Troop, B. C., constructed a rope bridge at the fair grounds. The bridge proved its stability by supporting the entire troop. A three-column picture of Scouts and bridge appeared in the **Chilliwack Progress**.

The 7th Brandon Cub Pack has been organized, with headquarters at the Brandon Baptist Church.

The Board of Education of Windsor, Ont., is encouraging the use of the local school gymnasiums after hours by Scouts and other juvenile organizations, charging the nominal fee of \$5.00 for the season.

Monthly suppers are being held by the Scout and Cub leaders and Troop and Pack committeemen and others interested in Saint John Scouting.

Camp lantern slides are always interesting in the winter. When they are several years old, so much the better. District Commissioner A. K. Strachan visited and entertained the 3rd Moose Jaw Troop with photo slides of the district camp of 1917. The Scouts shown are nearly all leaders today.

Sarnia Scouts were well represented at a district Court of Honour held in Elks Temple, Port Huron, Mich. Rev. John D. Malley, chairman of the Elks Club, presided.

Parrsboro, N.S., Scouts were given a series of lectures aimed to qualify for the Public Health Man's badge by Mrs. C. A. Huntley. The lectures concluded with a talk on the house fly, and pictures showing how disease germs are carried.

The Tranquille Minstrel Troupe gave their services free to the 1st North Kamloops, B.C., to raise funds for the troop.

Success has its penalties. The Cubmaster of the 21st Border Cities (St. Andrew's Church) had to raise a call for help when he found 80 boys on his hands.

Dr. Wm. MacIntosh, curator of the Saint John Museum, is again this season lecturing to the local troops on woodcraft subjects. The lectures are delivered to groups of several troops brought together for the evening at the museum. Following the lectures the Scouts are conducted through the museum by the curator.

The 1st Sydney (Christ Church) Troop entertained the boys of the 10th (coloured) Sydney, which has its headquarters at Whitney Pier.

About 125 Scouts, Cubs and leaders gathered at St. Patrick's School, Winnipeg, to bid farewell to Rev. W. G. Nicholson, Anglican rector of St. James', who has accepted a parish in Toronto. On behalf of the organization he was presented with a Thanks Badge by the Provincial Commissioner for Wolf Cubs, Mr. F. W. Thompson.

The Windsor Star has joined the big dailies who allot weekly space for a special Scout column. The column is headed by our widely known smiling Scout.

Sixty Scouts and fathers—or "next best friend"—sat down to the first

birthday banquet of the 1st Melfort Troop, Sask. "After supper the whole company played Scout games, amid great merriment."

The Saint John Rovers are rendering excellent service by providing emergency leadership for packs and troops. They also provide Scout instructors.

Presentation of the King's Scout badge to Scout Alex. Williams was made the occasion of a special open night at the Boy Scout Hall, Medicine Hat, Alta. The presentation was made by Judge Greene, Honorary President of the Local Association. An item in the *Medicine Hat News* inviting the public to be present, outlined the tests which must be passed by a King's Scout candidate.

Through the columns of the *Glencoe Transcript* the 1st Glencoe Troop, Ont., offers the services of the troop and its leaders to the three churches and other institutions in town. The troop in December offered to secure Christmas trees for those desiring them.

In connection with the revival of folk dancing frequently mentioned in connection with Scout displays in



"AUSSIE" Gillwellians, Fooks (left) and Gerner (right) will be recalled in Montreal, Toronto and Windsor, where they spent some months in '25, home-bound from the Jamboree.

England, "Old Scout" of the *Halifax Herald* has suggested that a trophy be offered for group dancing by Scouts of the district. Reference is made to a very effective Indian war dance put on by the 8th Halifax (1st Baptist) Troop at the last Halifax Jamboree.

The 11th Windsor Life Saving Scouts provided an entertainment at the Salvation Army Citadel which included bridge building, staff drill, pyramid building, music, dialogues, an Investiture and Scripture reading.

A half-hour Scout's Own Bible class is held at 10 a.m. each Sunday morning in the hall of St. James' Independent Presbyterian Church, Melfort, Sask., by Scoutmaster J. B. Bunting. After the class each Scout is expected to attend his own church service.

The 1st Antigonish Troop is giving some special attention to astronomy this winter, with a series of talks on the subject by the Scoutmaster, Rev. B. C. Salter.

Patrol Leader Harry Pollard of the 10th Calgary was made an assistant photographer for the world cruise of a C.P.O.S. tour sailing from New York. He was given a send off by the troop and provided with credentials introducing him to Scouts "around the world."

Two capacity audiences filled St. Alphonsus Hall, Windsor, for the annual district entertainment provided by members of the 29 active Border Cities Scout Troops.

Miniature flags of all nations and table decorations in the colours of the two troops provided a pretty setting for the annual banquet of the 1st and 2nd Yorkton Troops, Sask., and members of the district council, held in the school room of the Presbyterian church.

The 1st Digby, N.S., Troop is numbered among the troops having their own orchestras. They have been called upon frequently to furnish music at local entertainments.

The 3rd Peterboro Troop held a competition to determine the champion knoter of the troop. The first round decided the championship of each patrol. For the final test the four Scouts tied their knots in the dark.

The story of John Gillies, a "good scout" of pioneer days in New Brunswick, related by Rev. C. G. Lawrence, and an illustrated address by Rev. W. E. Fuller on the habits and customs of people of the Stone and Bronze age, proved interesting at the annual Scout and Cub banquet of the 17th Saint John. Members of the Troop and Pack Committee were guests. The evening's programme included a Tenderpad investiture.

Loyalty to one's church and one's self was the subject of an impressive address by the Rev. Field Yolland, to the Scouts of the 1st Rossland Troop, B.C., at their November monthly church parade.

Presentation of a fountain pen to the caretaker of the school where the Pack meets was one of the interesting incidents of an At Home of the 8th Toronto (Church of the Resurrection) Wolf Cub Pack which was attended by over 200 boys and their parents. The Pack also presented Cubmaster Oakley's wife with a gold embossed pen.

The 16th Halifax Troop has organized a Rover patrol. The rovers are constructing a log cabin in the woods on Colpitt's Lake and plan to spend part of the Christmas holidays there.

Forty-five Winnipeg Wolf Cubs took part in the semi-annual Hesketh first aid competition of November 26th. First place and the keeping of the Hesketh flag until the next competition in April went for the second time to "A" Team of St. Luke's Pack, Cubmaster Olive E. Hartley. St. Mat-

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## TROOP HALLS

(Continued from page 39)

quarters in a small shed in McKeough Memorial Park. At a cost of \$1,300 the Scoutmaster, his assistants and the boys extended this building and made of it a sizeable and comfortable headquarters, with a fireplace. A very jolly banquet prepared by the mothers and sisters of the boys opened the new hall, with members of the Troop Committee, other local leaders and the Editor of the *Chatham News* as guests. Proficiency badges were presented, a large three-year-old birthday cake was cut, and the Gillwell beads were presented to Scoutmaster Bob Dunlop. A piano for the occasion was loaned by Helntzman & Co.

Pending completion of their new specially built headquarters in Kingsway Park, the 10th Calgary Troop and Pack are occupying headquarters offered them by the board of managers of St. Paul's Church. The troop was formally welcomed from the pulpit by the pastor, Rev. A. M. McColl, and in the November church publication, *St. Paul's Messenger*, the boys were given a cordial editorial welcome. The troop already has found an opportunity of returning the kindness by helping in various ways with the church activities, including the providing of ushers at a church concert and arranging piano, chairs, etc., for the church mother and daughter banquet.

A new idea in troop halls was that brought to full realization by the 1st Belleville Troop, Ont., with the opening of a fine spacious headquarters in the remodelled driving shed of the Bridge Street Church. A maple floor was put in, a large brick fire place constructed at one end, and the other details completed at a total cost of \$1,500. The result is a first class hall, which provided ample room for a banquet seating 100 boys and many of their fathers. Dr. F. E. Malott is Scoutmaster and one of his assistants is Wallace Havelock Robb, the poet. The Girl Guides also will use the hall, and will contribute toward its maintenance.

The new Scout hall at Drumheller, Alta., was converted from a small apartment house building. The roof was re-shingled and new floors put in. At the formal opening by President H. A. Brown of the Local Association a Silver Cross for a courageous attempt at life saving was presented by Mayor McConkey to Scout Lyle Paterson.

The Board of Education of Kingston, Ont., in December approved the leasing of the old Rideau School to the Kiwanis Club for the use of the Boy Scouts of the city. The recommendation of the Property Committee was made in the following terms:

"That the old Rideau School building be leased to the Kiwanis Club of Kingston, for use of the Boy Scouts, at a nominal rental of one dollar per year, the Kiwanis Club to pay the insurance, garbage and all other taxes, and to vacate on one month's notice if required by the Board.

"The above to be embodied in a lease to be prepared by the Board's solicitor."

The members of the 1st Halifax (St. Paul's) Troop were the first to complete their cabin on the district reforestation site near Waverley. They then constructed a table, benches and bunks, and installed a stove. The cabin is built of tongued and grooved boarding, battened, to ensure comfort in the coldest winter weather.

The Chester, N.S., Scouts are paying off the balance due on their Scout hall by making and selling various articles of wood. They are working afternoons and evenings at a well fitted work bench installed in the hall. The boys make such things as tables, wheelbarrows, kiddie cars, and miscellaneous toys.

A procession of Girl Guides, Brownies, Cubs, Scouts and school children headed by the City Band preceded the opening of the fine new Scout Hall at Vernon, B.C., Dec. 9th. At the hall, in the presence of a large gathering of citizens, two Scouts bent the Union Jack to the halyard, ran it up to the top of the staff and broke it out while all present stood at the salute or bare headed. Mayor Stewart then unlocked the door and lead the way into the hall, to the strains of the Maple Leaf



The  
S. M.'s  
"right  
hand."

\$1.00  
Postpaid

played by the band. His Lordship Bishop Doull offered a prayer dedicating the building to the use of the Scouts and Guides, and all other organizations working for the good of the young. Led by the band, O Canada was sung, and this was followed by the singing of "Hearts of Oak" by the public school choir. His Worship Mayor Stewart then formally turned the keys over to President Charles White, of the Local Boy Scouts Association, and delivered an address of congratulation and good wishes in which he paid a high tribute to the local Scout leaders and to the Movement.

A note of regret occurred in the mention of the recent death of Mr. A. O. Cochrane, M. L. A., Honorary President of the Local Association, who had played a very active part in the project.

In conclusion Bishop Doull dedicated the flags of the Scouts, Cubs and Guides, and the most impressive service was brought to a conclusion by the singing of the National Anthem.

The Vernon Scout Hall is the result of a united community effort backed by the leading citizens of the town,

including the Mayor and Council, the I.O.D.E., Rotarians, Elks, and other organizations. A Board of Control will operate the hall. Four afternoons a week will be allotted to school children, a fifth to the Brownies; and the evenings will be allotted by schedule to the Scouts, Guides, Cubs, Rovers, Trail Rangers, Tuxis Groups and the C.G.I.T. Every organization using the hall will pay for the privilege on a monthly basis the amount of the charge to be in accordance with the number in the unit and their ability to pay.

## 7th Pacific P.L. Conference

THE 7th Annual Pacific-Northwest Patrol Leaders' Conference, held at Bellingham, Wash., Nov. 27-28, was the usual splendid success, with an attendance of 485 young leaders, including an excellent representation from Vancouver, Victoria, New Westminster, Chilliwack and other southern B.C. points.

Two of the topics discussed were, "What Patrol Leaders Mean to Scouting," and "How Shall We Train Our Patrol Leaders?" In a forceful talk on "The Spirit of Scouting," Scout Executive G. H. Berg of Whatcom County submitted a number of pointed questions, to be answered for himself by each P.L. present. Sample questions were, "Do I lead correctly?" "Am I a leader because I wear the badge of one, or do I lead in fact?" "Could the Scouts in my patrol copy my behaviour and always be good Scouts?" "Am I always careful about my personal appearance and habits?" "Do I do my best to do my best in all things?"

As is customary, the visiting Scouts were guests in the homes of Bellingham and surrounding districts.

## What They Say of the "First Year"

WE are receiving more unsolicited commendations of this publication than for any other textbook issued by Dominion Headquarters during recent years. The following, from former Provincial Secretary Limbrey of Saskatchewan, is an example: "It is the best book of practical, constructive Scouting suggestions that I have ever purchased from Headquarters; it is a guide to a completely successful meeting . . . . The information must have been gathered from Scoutmasters all over the Dominion, out of years of practical Scouting."

Because of the immediately practical value of this book—with the 12 pages of TROOP MEETING PROGRAMMES, and many other working helps—it is one which might very properly be purchased out of troop funds, or provided by the Troop Committee.

During the early summer Moose Jaw Scouts put on a campaign against a black knot blight which had attacked chokecherry and Saskatoon trees in Kingsway Park. On one Saturday 1,800 knots were cut and burned, and on another, 1,600. The First Troop undertook to keep the trees as far as possible free from blight during the summer, and visited the park regularly for this purpose.

## ❖ The Scoutmaster's Five Minutes ❖

### An Eventful Sunday

"A Scout smiles and whistles . . ."

ALWAYS? Even if he happens to be stranded in the desert, and the eagerly longed-for trip to see his few remaining relatives or friends ends in a great disappointment? Well—the Eighth Law says so! Let me tell you how some Armenian Scouts in Bagdad kept the Law and how they smiled in spite of a great heartache.

The 11th Bagdad (Armenian) Troop was recruited from the refugee orphans who lived in a large home in Bagdad. These boys had fled from their own country after a great massacre. Some, with their few remaining relatives or friends, had tramped the many weary miles which lay between them and the British lines; others, captured by Arabs or Kurds and forced to work under the lash like slaves, had succeeded in escaping or had been rescued by our armies. In the large home-like orphanage kind and loving friends were helping them to start life afresh and to forget the horrors and terrors of the past.

At Baqubah, on the banks of the river Diyala, a great concentration camp had sprung up to house the Assyrian and Armenian refugees, and it was the one great wish of the "11th" to go to the camp to see their people. But there were many obstacles in the way. For a time they did not see how it could be arranged.

"If only we could go to Baqubah . . .!" they murmured wistfully.

Then one evening when they paraded for Troop work, "The Pasha"—as they called their much-loved British Scoutmaster—told them that he had been able to arrange for a party to travel to Baqubah by motor the following Sunday. You should have heard their cheers! And the questions they asked!

The longed-for day arrived and Troop H.Q. was besieged just after dawn; not one of the chosen intended being left behind, and the remainder gathered round hoping for a vacancy at the last moment. The departure was timed for 8 a.m., so they filled in the time with folk songs until they went in for breakfast. At half-past seven "The Pasha" arrived, but the motor-tender hired for the occasion did not turn up till 9.30. Hitch No. 1.

There were no gloomy faces, however, for the "Armenians" evidently believed in "better late than never!" While the delighted trippers were being stowed away inside the tender, the two Indian drivers were given breakfast. Then, with a last look round to see that the rations and cooking pots were aboard, and that the Scouts on the tailboard were securely roped in, "The Pasha" gave the signal to start. It was a tight fit, certainly; but were they not going to Baqubah?

The merchants of New Street came to the doors of their little cupboard-like shops to see the strange spectacle. The cheering and singing Scouts, the Troop flag flying from the front of the vehicle, and the presence

of the three British Scouters caused much speculation and fingering of beards.

"How is this! These Armenie boys with their Inglezi officers travelling in a motor! Are they going out to fight?" ran the gossip in the cafés and bazaars. And few of those who saw the departure expected to see the "Armenians" return.

Out by the North Gate they sped, and on to the dusty desert road towards the realization of their dreams. But—(ah! there's often a but on these "stunts," isn't there?)—the excited "11th" had not proceeded more than five miles from the City of Caliphs when, with a zip and a bang, their offside rear tire went flat. Hitch No. 2.

The tender stopped and the drivers examined the damage. A "burst"—how annoying! The Troop dismounted and the work of repair was begun; but even a spare wheel is not much help if it takes an hour to put on—as this one did. All aboard, and off they went again. "Now we shan't be long!" they said in Armenian, and it seemed quite likely that they wouldn't.

Avoiding the beaten track with its foot or so of dust, their "ship" sped across the hard-packed sand sailing over the many nullahs (dried water channels) as it went. The situation looked more promising, and the songs of the Scouts grew louder as mile after mile sped by. But twelve miles from their last stopping-place they halted again—the near-side tires this time!

For two hours those Indian drivers wrestled with wheels and performed conjuring tricks with spare tubes and repair outfits. The sun grew in strength as the day wore on, and the "Armenians" were glad to seek shelter beneath and on the shady side of their transport, while they tucked into their midday meal—to keep their "pecker" up.

On the move once more and hoping that their troubles were now over, the 11th Bagdad carried on. Khan Beni Saad appeared ahead, its few straggling date-palms breaking the monotony of the glaring sand. Hopes rose higher as the Khan was passed and left behind; then with a sound like an explosion, the four rear tires went down and their hopes were dashed to the ground.

The position was hopeless. Examination showed that the tubes had burst beyond repair. A conference was then held to discuss the next move. It was decided that a party should set off to find the nearest station on the railway some miles across the desert and arrange for the smaller boys to return by train; a passing motorist should be asked to take one of the drivers back to the City for assistance, and the remainder were to stand by their "ship."

The search party set off in the best of spirits. Shortly afterwards a kindly British officer packed a driver and two Scouts into his car and sped off to Bagdad. As the sun journeyed across to the West, other Good Samaritans came along, and one by one

the younger boys were taken back to the orphanage, much to the disgust of "The Twins," who wanted to camp out.

The search party returned towards sunset after a fruitless tramp; either the railway had been removed for the occasion, or the mirage had sent them astray. So another band set out for an Arab village just showing on the skyline, to procure supplies; they returned to find a blazing fire and the water boiling for tea.

The sun sank into the barren wastes as they gathered round the fire for the welcome meal—round, flat bread (like pancakes), dates, jam and tea. Not a grumble at the shortage of rations, not a murmur from anyone. Instead, a happy party secretly hoping that their relief would not come. They wanted to remain in the desert all night, but they were to be disappointed once again.

Just as their supper was finished, the headlights of an approaching car were seen across the moonlit desert. In a few minutes cheery British voices announced the arrival of the garage superintendent and his assistant; they had left their dinner unfinished and had come post haste to the rescue.

With the aid of the spares they had brought, and the food and drink which had been reserved for them, the work of getting the tender ready to travel was completed within half an hour. The "Armenians" were stowed inside and at a steady twenty miles an hour they returned to the city piloted by the car.

At the end of a far from perfect day, the 11th Bagdad alighted at their headquarters tired and weary of limb. But they were not too tired to give their rescuers a mighty cheer, neither did they forget "The Pasha."

So even if a Scout is stranded in the desert, he still smiles or whistles (or sings), doesn't he?

—The Scouter.

### Scoutmaster's "Five" Material

AS a source of much excellent and widely varied and authentic matter on woodcraft, as well as good stories for reading or telling around the council fire, **Canadian Forest and Outdoors**" (51 Sparks St., Ottawa, \$2.00 per year) and "**Rod and Gun**" (Woodstock, Ont., \$2.00 per year) are highly recommended. Both publications have been considerably expanded during the past year, and rank among the best publications in the outdoor field. Where the magazines would be used primarily for the troop, it is suggested that subscriptions might properly be provided out of troop funds, or by the Troop Committee.

Proving that he was still capable of setting a Scoutmaster's example, although 70 years of age, Mr. Robert Herrod, an active member of the Executive Committee of the Ashington District Association, England, plunged into the River Wansbeck and saved a boy from drowning.

COAST TO COAST

(Continued from page 44)

thew's Manitowapa, Mowgli B. St. George's A. St. Luke's B. Chalmers, and Mowgli A followed in the order named. All obtained the necessary 60% entitling each boy to his First Aider's badge.

A Waterloo County, Ont., inter-troop scoutcraft competition included these items: Troop handling by whistle and hand signals, knot tying, semaphore signalling, first aid and rope ladder construction. The oldest troop, the 1st Galt, showed the benefit of experience and took first place, the 1st Preston Troop, second, and the combined 1st and 2nd Kitcheners, third place.

A series of snapshots just received show various stags in the erection of a headquarters for the 8th Vancouver in the garden of Scoutmaster H. N. Pickles—from the piled up lumber and untouched trees which were sacrificed, to the inviting, cozy interior, with its stove, its shelf of books, pictures on the walls and group of boys around its big table.

The early evening audience at the Imperial Theatre, Saint John, N. B., were treated to an impressive surprise at the close of the first picture programme when the curtain of the big stage ascended and revealed 250 Scouts, each troop with its colours. The boys received an ovation as they came to the salute on the appearance of His Worship Mayor Hoyt. The occasion was the presentation to the Victoria St. United Baptist Troop of the Scout Baseball League championship pennant for 1926. In his address Mayor Hoyt expressed warm approval for the Boy Scout Movement and the effectiveness of its training for good citizenship. Police Constable Howard is Scoutmaster of the winning troop.

The Christmas Good Turns of the 1st Halifax Troop included the delivering of Christmas parcels for those unable to get out.

The usual large attendance of parents and friends and members of the Local Association marked the annual meeting and display of the 1st Buckingham Troop, Que. An impressive showing was made by the proficiency badges earned during the year. Scoutmaster Copping received a service star marking the completion of 11 years of continuous leadership of this fine troop and pack, and three Scouts received King's Scout badges.

The I.O.D.E. Overseas Post-graduate Scholarship for 1926 was won by Gillwellian Scoutmaster Ronald Hayes of the 3rd Halifax Troop,—who continued his Scout work throughout his college term. During the past two summers Mr. Hayes did research work under Dr. A. G. Huntsman, director of the Government Marine Biological Research of Canada, making a special study of the salmon, and last spring

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THE STORES DEPARTMENT

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

was graduated from Dalhousie with the degree of B. Sc. Mr. Hayes will continue his studies of Marine Zoology at the University of Liverpool. He took the Gillwell course at Stewiacke, N.S., in 1923.

What was described in the Fredericton Daily Gleaner as "a most delightful as well as instructive function" was a Scout and Mothers banquet held by the 1st Douglas Troop, N.B., at the home of the parents of Scoutmaster Robert Parent. Following the banquet an entertainment of songs and toasts was directed by Patrol Leader Dumphy, as chairman. An original number included a competition in describing the bird or animal of each patrol, the first prize being a Scout Diary.

Truro, N.S., Boy Scouts participated in a parade in connection with a Christmas Seal campaign to raise funds for the Provincial Tuberculosis Commission.

Presentation of a pack flag, a going-up ceremony and a Scout investiture were features of a carefully prepared programme put on before a large gathering by 80 Scouts and Cubs of the 3rd Fort William Troop. At a table bearing 10 candles four boys were made Second Class Scouts, each boy lighting a candle and repeating the Scout Law. The investiture was performed by District Commissioner Rev. H. A. Sims. A large number of proficiency badges was presented, and a "Julius Caesar" comedy was effectively given by a group of eight Scouts.

Our Immigration Chaplain

At the recent quarterly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Canadian General Council mention was made of the service being rendered the Movement at Quebec City by the Rev. M. LaTouche Thompson, in meeting all Old Country Scout migrants landing at Quebec. Mr. Thompson welcomes the Scouts, looks after them while in the city, and reports their destination to Dominion Headquarters, this information being passed on to the Provincial offices. Mr. Thompson is known as the "Scout Immigration Chaplain."

STANDARDIZING THE CUB GUIDE TEST

(Continued from page 46) and three churches, a Mayor and Town Council, park and playground. The Howitzer (cannon) which is located at the junction of Rutland and Graham Avenues is a prize captured from the Germans during the Great War by the Canadian Expeditionary Force. This gun should be all the more prized when it is remembered that the Germans did not capture one single gun from the Canadian Forces, while there are many such German guns throughout Canada.

The Troop Camp Fund Bank offers one of the best methods for raising camp funds. Try it for this year, and begin now. Camp Fund Account Cards, per dozen, 25c, postpaid.

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.

### It's Hard

To apologize,  
To begin over,  
To admit error,  
To be unselfish,  
To take advice,  
To keep on trying,  
To think and then act,  
To profit by mistakes,  
To forgive and then forget,  
To take a deserved blame,—  
**BUT IT ALWAYS PAYS,—  
AND IT'S GOOD SCOUTING.**

### Letting the Court of Honour Do It

"A new patrol (of the 1st Niagara Falls, Ont.) was formed, and the Court of Honour unanimously selected Lloyd Lotimer as Patrol Leader with Hector Smith as Second. Reginald Kierstead was selected to fill the position as Second in the Fox patrol vacated by Lotimer."

### A River's End Hike

MEMBERS of the 25th Hamilton Troop "went exploring last Saturday and followed the Dundas creek, just to see where it did go and where it came from. The boys were mighty tired when they returned, but they claimed it was the best of fun. They propose to discover several other streams."

### N. B. Troops Making Their Own Tents

IN order to make unnecessary the future renting of tents, as well as for the ultimate reduction of camping cost, the twelve troops of the Fredericton, N.B., District have decided to procure the necessary material and make their own tents. They hope to have them for next summer's camp.

### A London Cub Palaver

SOME excellent singing by the 8th Willesden Pack; action verses by the 4th Westminster Pack; spirited and well staged games by the Lord Mayor's Own Pack (1st City of London); country dancing and singing games by the 1st Sunninghill Pack, and most amusing and well-performed "dumb acting" entitled "History Without Tears" by the 1st, 4th and 6th Ealing Packs, were a revelation in practical Cubs' work to all present.

### Mugs as Patrol Competition Trophies

A granite drinking cup is the prize awarded monthly in the patrol competition of the 1st Islington, Ont. The cups are displayed in each patrol's corner, and are highly valued by the boys. Each patrol is aiming in this way to completely equip itself with cups for camp and other use. This troop has what is described as one of the scoutiest headquarters in Ontario,—a large hall with permanent patrol corners screened off and appropriately decorated, a special corner for the Scoutmaster, locked property boxes for patrol and troop equipment, etc. Mr. T. J. Haslett is the Scoutmaster.

### "Vegetables" and "Animals"

AS a variation of "Crows and Cranes," or "Heads and Tails," the 1st Port Colborne, Ont., is playing "Vegetables and Animals." The troop is lined up in two facing ranks, one is designated the "Vegetables" and the other "Animals." The Scoutmaster then tells a story, and whenever a vegetable is mentioned, the "Vegetables" endeavour to reach their side of the room before being captured by the "Animals."

### FAKE SCOUT HIKERS

The Boy Scouts International Bureau has issued a warning regarding two Latvians, Emmanuel Kotulyskijs and Julius Vilnits, said to be cycling round the world, dressed in imitation Scout uniforms. Neither is a Scout, and no assistance should be given them.

### Scout Dates

#### January

1st—New Year's Day. Every Scout and Cub starts his 1927 Diary with the Good Turn checked off.

Hold one of the following hikes:—

A Ski hike.

A Snowshoe hike.

A bird observation hike.

An animal tracking hike.

A tree identification hike.

A twig alphabet hike.

An over-night hike or winter camp for older Scouts (See "Winter Hikes," The Scoutmaster's First Year, page 112.)

A summer-camp locating hike.

4th—Schools reopen.

6th—Epiphany, or Little Christmas.

#### During January

Five Saturdays for hikes or week-end camps.

Discuss and arrange plans for Father and Son Banquet or other observance of the Chief Scout's birthday, February 22nd.

### A Patrol-Planned Meeting

THE planning of the troop meetings in turn by each patrol has provided some interesting evenings for the 3rd Renfrew, Ont. A recent meeting programme devised by the Lions included these details: Opening prayer. Roll call and collection of dues. Personal inspection by Patrol Leaders, left shoe lace. Lace to be in good condition, sound, not shabby looking, and tied correctly. A self-control game (referred to elsewhere). Patrol charade competition on Scout loyalty. Signalling instruction, semaphore. Troop instruction on first aid, brief. Patrol competition in corners on broken jaw. Game of Scout Law Baseball. Stories by two Scouts on the faithfulness of dogs to man, in illustration of the Sixth Scout Law. Talk by the A.S.M. on Christmas Good Turns. Prayer and repetition of Scout Promise.

### A Self-Control Game

ABOUT 15 boys (of the 3rd Renfrew, Ont.) were placed at irregular intervals on the floor. Another Scout was then blindfolded and sent into the group. The boys standing were to keep perfectly still, and were not to move or smile even if the blindfolded Scout walked straight into them.

### An Idea for Next Year's Camp

AS a qualification for camp, the Court of Honour of the 1st Rossland Troop, B.C., decided that every Scout must have passed the Tenderfoot tests, and three Second Class tests, including fire-lighting and cooking; must also have perfect attendance, and must have his name in by May 28th.

### Pointers for Troop Leaders

IN a talk to district Troop Leaders, District Scoutmaster O. J. Lawson of Saint John, N.B., suggested as the qualifications for a Troop Leader that he: (1) Have a general knowledge of the Scout Handbook for Canada. (2) Have at least six months service as a Patrol Leader. (3) Be a qualified First Class Scout. (4) Have the ability to take charge of a troop during the Scoutmaster's temporary absence. In addition Troop Leaders should consider it one of their duties to help every boy in the troop to live up to the Scout Law, themselves setting an example; and should lead in Proficiency Badge work.

### The Parents Were Impressed

THE 3rd Border Cities Pack put on a lively and very successful parents' night of demonstrations and games, presentation of badges, and a going-up ceremony. "Cubmaster Barker gave a happy touch to the impressive ritual by his felicitation of Cub Callop, who had been a fine example of what a Cub should be, all through. Scoutmaster Gawley received him into the Scouts, assisted by P. L. Owen of the Crow Patrol—who is the Cubmaster's right hand man with the pack. . . . The 3rd Cub Pack has demonstrated fine esprit de corps, and is a source of pride to the 3rd Troop."

### DOMINION REGISTRATION HELPS BOYS & MOVEMENT

### THE DIARY DITTY

A Scout without a Diary's like  
A dog without a tail,  
A fish that's out of water,  
A track without a rail;  
A hike without a hiker,  
A book without a leaf,  
A sneeze without a sneezer,  
A cow that isn't beef!

Oh a Scout without a Diary's like  
A car without its wheels,  
A cold without a handkerchief,  
A Scout without his meals!  
A Scout without a Diary!!!  
What, you haven't one, you say?  
Oh gosh, don't be a dumb-bell!  
GO GET ONE! RUSH TODAY!

—Scout Dispatch.