



At the Conferences

Ontario (concluded)

"Boys and Books"

DURING an instructive talk on the above subject, in opening the second morning's session, Miss E. A. Stanfield, boys' and girls' librarian of the Hamilton Public Libraries, deplored the fact that boys of today are reading too many books of an undesirable kind,—from "bad" to "detrimental." Among those classed as bad Miss Stanfield included stories of "sentimental adventure," and among the detrimental books, stories recording exciting adventures that involve no good action.

The majority of "series" books she described as either bad or detrimental, with a few notable exceptions. The "bad" included "Rover Boys" and several so-called Scout series, published in the United States. One of the exceptions was the Altshaller books. The Henty books she described as good, with sound historical atmosphere.

Miss Stanfield strongly advised against the buying of cheap books,— "too often the contents are as cheap as the outside." As an example of recently published books of the right kind she mentioned "A Boy of the Last Crusade," and "The Man from Kanalla," both especially suitable for Scouts because of their exemplified unselfishness and indomitable courage.

"Boys," she concluded, "model themselves upon characters that they admire. Reading contacts' build character and feed imagination. So give thought to your boys' reading."

"Hiking and Hike Camps"

This session was in large part a practical demonstration, admirably conceived and carried out. On a table was a miscellaneous collection of hiking kit, from salt to blankets; and several experienced young Scout hikers in turn prepared for a half day hike, an over-night hike and a week-end hike. Items of food were selected and placed in a haversack,—some improperly, for comfort in carrying, and then readjusted. During the selection of food and the packing, running comments and questions by Secretary Wyburn Hill drew attention to the "quantities," "reasons for," etc. The boys (Patrol Leaders) also were asked to outline the general objectives and incidental activities of example hikes. The competition feature was usually mentioned, including the winter identification of trees, birds, land marks, the recognition of a hill from an unusual angle, etc. One hike objective mentioned was the following of a small stream to its source.

On the subject of the organization of troop hikes, the plan was mentioned of naming a certain corner and a certain time as a rendezvous for each patrol, the Scoutmaster himself having preceded, laying a trail to the point where a bivouac was to be made and tests passed.

The week-end hike favored was the Friday-afternoon to Saturday-afternoon hike, the boys being home in time for supper.

The Scouts who so capably put on the demonstration were Patrol Leaders Hickey, Barrow and Flynn of the 6th Hamilton Troop, and Cherrier of the 25th.

"The Heart of a Boy"

That "good can be accomplished only by one who has a boy's affection and confidence," was the message of a thoughtful and greatly appreciated address by Dr. C. E. Mark, of the Toronto Normal School, dealing particularly with boys of the age at which they usually come under the influence of Scoutmasters,—early adolescence.

THE 1st Arran Troop, Sask., inquires: "Who can match this?"—President of Association, French; S.M., Iclander; C.M., English; A.S.M. Canadian; A. C.M., Ukrainian; Owl P.L., English; Flicker P.L., Chinese; Scouts, Russian, Polish, Ukrainian, Canadian. "And every last one o'em a real Canadian."

And what other troop of similar size can match their winter's production of bird houses?

Physical awkwardness at this stage Dr. Mark referred to as "physical growth which has outgrown control," and he described as quite similar a boy's lack of emotional stability.

The critical importance of thoughtful direction and handling was pressed. "In this stage a boy may be caught, and made a power for good; or, under unfavorable circumstances and handling, he may be lost. And it must not be ignored that good can be accomplished only by one who has the boy's affection and confidence."

Discussing the winning of the boy's confidence, Dr. Mark laid down the general principle that "we must proceed in harmony with his emotional development and growth." This, he thought, was a point not fully taken into consideration by modern education, which "perhaps puts undue stress on knowing, overlooking the fact that the emotions and the intellect cannot properly be separated."

"Feeling," Dr. Mark continued, "is closely related to born instinct,—as,

the emotion of fear, and the instinct to flee; the emotion of anger, and the instinct to fight." He spoke of the play instinct, of the instinct of curiosity, of ownership, and the constructive instinct; all of which should be recognized and utilized when dealing with boys.

The instinct of ownership, he noted, reinforced a boy's interest in manual training,— "What you make is going to be yours." This was a principle that would apply broadly in the case of many Scout proficiency badges.

A further step was the "transfer of an established interest to something else." Radio was mentioned as an example,— "next, reading about radio, then an interest in reading apart from radio."

In illustration of the use of the play instinct to a particular end, Dr. Mark referred to the classic story of Tom Sawyer and his whitewashed fence.

During his address Dr. Mark paid Canadian Scouting a gratifying compliment when he declared that of the



young men attending the Toronto Normal School, those who had Scout training "were conspicuous for their qualities of leadership."

Dr. Mark's conclusion was a further reference to the importance of the Scoutmaster's spiritual qualifications for his job. "Even though you have all knowledge, but have no 'heart,'" he declared, "you have nothing for the boy."

"How to Interest Scouts and Cubs in Nature Study"

That "Nature offers one of the master keys to a boy's heart"; that "the great secret of successful leadership on the trail to Natureland is a leader himself so fascinated that boys become fascinated by his interest"; and that "the leader must be as true as the scientist, but not afraid to be sentimental," were some of the thoughts offered by Wallace Havelock Robb, poet and naturalist of Belleville, Ont., in discussing the subject, "How to Interest Scouts and Cubs in Nature Study."

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The Scout Leader

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Governor-General of Canada.

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OTTAWA, APRIL, 1927

Thanks—Come Again 30th Westminster!

Saint John, N.B.,
March 15, 1927.

The Westminster choristers, as members of the 30th Westminster Scout Troop, send farewell greetings to their brother Scouts in Canada, who have shown them a kindness and hospitality they can never forget. May every prosperity attend the Scouts of the Dominion.

SYDNEY H. NICHOLSON,
Commissioner for Music.

DURING the eastern and concluding part of their tour of Canada, the Westminster Abbey Boy Scout singers were heard with the same delight as in the west; and on their part local Scouts extended every form of entertainment that time and weather permitted. Tobogganing and skiing parties were given at Ottawa, Hamilton and Montreal. At Toronto a big day included skating, hockey and a pow-wow of the visiting Scouts and local Patrol Leaders in Old St. Andrew's Church Hall. The big event at Montreal was a sing-song attended by some 800 local Scouts.

The Scout choristers sailed from Saint John by the S.S. Minnedosa, March 16th, with a final send-off by the Scouts of the winter port.

From the Scouting point of view, as in all others, the tour was a splendid success and undoubtedly has given a new interest to Scout singing in Canada. It will be the universal hope that the visit of the "30th Westminster" and Scoutmaster Sydney Nicholson—Organist of Westminster Abbey, and Commissioner for Music at Imperial Headquarters—may be repeated at a not distant date.

A Paid Scoutmaster

OCCASIONALLY the suggestion is made, from the outside, that the Scoutmaster of some particular troop be paid a salary by the parent institution, or by a group of local organizations, or even by the municipality. Scout leaders cannot emphasize too strongly the fact that the voluntary nature of the boy's connection with Scouting would make such an arrangement inconsistent and undesirable, both from a psychological and a prac-

tical standpoint. It would at once take a Scoutmaster out of the fundamentally important role of the "big brother," and make of him a paid teacher. Practically, it would place a Scoutmaster in a position where others might say, "He is paid for it, let him do it"; and where Scouts and their parents might question "whether he is giving value for the money received."

The spirit of Scouting can only be realized where the membership of the boy and the leadership of the Scoutmaster is voluntary.

Scouting Helps in Detroit Schools

THAT Scouting has contributed largely to the practical elimination of disciplinary difficulties in the Detroit schools was the declaration of Mr. Frank Cody, Superintendent of Schools of that city. In response to a request that he confirm a statement reported in the press, Mr. Cody wrote: "The Boy Scout organization as an integral part of our school system has been of first value in disciplinary matters. The practical elimination of trouble has been brought about in no small measure by the contribution of your organization."

Financing Registration

THE 35th Toronto Troop finances its Dominion Registration by a special monthly fee of 5 cents. The March 1st number of the troop paper, *The Pathfinder*, contains the reminder: "Don't forget your Dominion Registration fee—5c per month."

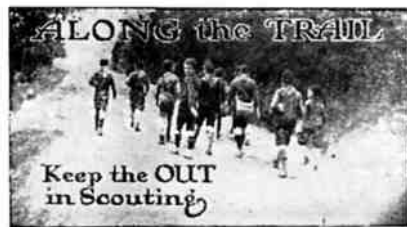


A lively cock-fight at the camp of the 13th Saint John.

Scouts in Big Forestry Scheme

NOVA SCOTIA Scouts are to participate in a province-wide reforestation project, in co-operation with the Provincial Department of Lands and Forests. Each troop has been invited to plant trees on private property, or on Crown lands allotted by the department. As a result of the training received this year, it is hoped that individual Scouts will next year be able to take charge of school children and instruct them in tree planting. Friday, May 13, has been designated as tree-planting day, and by direction of the Provincial Superintendent of Education all Scouts participating will be given a holiday, with credit for school attendance.

HELP THE FIELD WORK IN
YOUR OWN PROVINCE BY
DOMINION REGISTRATION



CVCA, the Edmonton Journal radio station, broadcasts a Scout programme from 7:15 to 7:45 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month.

Among the number of distinguished leaders who took the recently completed Calgary Part II Akela Course was District Commissioner Sir Archibald Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G.

Nova Scotia Scoutmasters are reminded to notify Provincial Headquarters by April 15th regarding the number of trees their troops can plant in connection with the new provincial reforestation scheme.

The Second Annual Quebec Scout Leaders' Conference, March 18-19, brought to Sherbrooke nearly a hundred Scout and Cub leaders for another most enjoyable and helpful exchange of experiences and ideas. (Digest of discussions in *May Leader*.)

Quebec City has a District Ladies' Auxiliary of over 100. The members are divided to assist each of the four troops and three packs. The organization has been very effective in keeping the parents of Scouts and Cubs interested.

As a recognition of many years of valuable services to Scouting in Saskatchewan, the Honorary Silver Wolf was presented to former Provincial Secretary G. J. Johnson, Deputy Clerk of the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly. The presentation was made by His Honour Lt.-Gov. Newlands.

"That Canada needs Scouting because Canada needs leaders" was one of the points made by the Assistant District Commissioner at the London, Ont., Scout Leaders' Conference. Another, "That out of every one thousand boys in Canada thirty-five come before the law courts annually, and that in every 3,000 of these only one is a Scout, are facts of significance."

"Outside of the Christian home, the Boy Scouts organization provides the finest means of character building that I know of," said Sir James Aikins, Chief Scout for Manitoba, addressing the Winnipeg Kiwanis Club. The training inspires boys to high ideals and sets their feet in the paths of duty and righteousness,—all especially important in a young country like Canada, declared Sir James.

Clippings recording B.P. "birthday banquets" were received in such numbers from every part of Canada that it is impossible to make individual mention. Perhaps the largest number was that of the 1st Galt, to which more than 300 Scouts and their friends sat down. In a number of cases the celebration was made the occasion for presenting Thanks Badges, and troop or pack flags.

AT THE CONFERENCES

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As a mechanical aid a good field glass was described as practically a necessity, and one of the "open sesame" to an understanding and love of Nature.

The use of one's own observation and experiments in the woods as the basis of talks for Cubs and Scouts was interestingly illustrated. One of these described the way in which the speaker told a group of Wolf Cubs of experiments with a squirrel and some peanuts hung on strings along a rope, out of the squirrel's reach from the ground. Most realistically all the squirrel's various experiments and mishaps were described and acted out,—his sitting on his haunches, looking up sideways at the dangling nuts, and scratching his ear as though thinking; running up the stump, along the rope, reaching for one of the nuts, and falling to the ground, etc., and finally his success.

Observation of several Sapsuckers "telegraphing one another" on dead trees provided another story; and the early morning calling of Whippoorwills.

The stories seemingly were as much enjoyed by the "older boys" of the conference as by the Scouts and Cubs to whom they had first been told.

The Gillwell Round-Up

The annual Gillwell Round-Up, held at noon of the second day of the conference at the Wentworth Arms, brought together another new-record gathering of 49 leaders, including 6 ladies who had taken the Akela course. Frank C. Irwin, presiding, recalled the first Ontario Conference Gillwell luncheon, which was served at one small table in the corner of a main dining-room, and sketched the steady yearly growth of numbers to the present gathering, filling a separate room.

A roll call by "years" brought to their feet representatives of every Ontario camp since that of 1922, a number who had taken their course in Manitoba, New Brunswick or Nova Scotia, and Akela graduates of the first Ottawa course and several subsequent courses. A telegram conveyed greetings from another little party, of "Canada Birds" and "Crows," meeting at the same hour in Toronto.

Reminiscences, singing and fun filled the hour, with a brief address by the Dominion Camp Chief. His message was a plea to pass the training on, to serve modestly and humbly, avoiding any impression of assuming to be a final authority. "Scouting is a life's study," he said; "no one can know it all. Let us always have the open mind to learn."

During the luncheon formal announcement was made of a plan to erect at Ebor Park, the provincial Gillwell, a store and lecture hut in memory of the late Harry Lister, the camp's first quartermaster. Ontario Gillwellians were invited to subscribe to the fund.

A Wolf Cub Palaver

For Wolf Cub leaders the high spot of the conference was the Cub palaver under the leadership of Akela Frank W. Thompson, Assistant Provincial Commissioner for Wolf Cubs of Manitoba. And talk and demonstration did not disappoint.

A pack of 24 was organized from volunteers, including a complete Six of ladies; and the programme consisted of alternate talks and demonstrations.

A handsome totem pole, bearing in symbolic coloured carvings a complete outline of the Cub training, provided Akela the text for his introductory talk. He explained the use of the pole as a visual reminder of tests passed and still to be passed; that it kept constantly before the pack the things to be achieved; how the Tenderpad was shown his position near the foot of the totem, and the position held by older Cubs farther up the pole. In a word the totem pole could be made the index, or programme, by which to work.

The totem pole had many uses; "you can do with it much or little. It can be to the pack what colours are to the troop. The Cub Promise can be made jointly to Akela and the totem pole."

Akela then demonstrated the simple and effective use of the totem in leading a Cub snake dance.

Discussing the question of the troop and pack run by the same person, the Manitoba leader "would not say a man could not run both troop and pack, but that he could not do justice to both."

Cub rallies were good, if not overdone.

Mr. Thompson outlined the district Cub organization in Winnipeg, in four complete units, with "quite a flock of District Cubmasters." A sample district, No. 6, included 13 packs and two D.C.M.'s. Each D.C.M. looked after a half dozen packs. The authority vested in the D.C.M. was passed along so that each pack had its definite responsibility.

The question of Cubs not going home direct after meetings was dealt with, and a simple method of checking up on the time required was suggested. This was the offering of a prize to the Six whose members, on a certain evening, averaged the shortest time in reaching home, this time being

recorded on a card given each Cub for signing by his parents. The card thus established the time at which parents could expect the boys to be home after Cub meeting. The test would be given once or twice a year.

As a means of getting in touch with parents, and ensuring their understanding of the work being done, the use of a special invitation card for an occasional night of demonstration work was recommended. Experience indicated that 50% more would accept such special card invitations, as against an informal invitation through the boy. The cards, which were noted as "not transferable," were received at the door, and later checked over by the Cubmaster. He or she then made it a point as soon as convenient to call upon the parents not present.

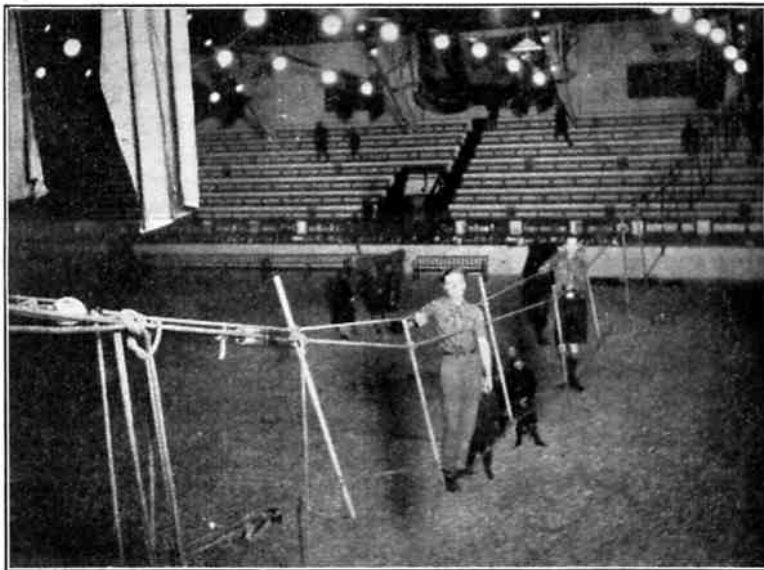
The importance of correct and properly worn uniform was stressed;—"It must mean something to the boy." The borrowing of uniforms by one pack from another for special occasions was strongly advised against, both on practical and ethical grounds. It would result in some new Tenderpad, for example, wearing an array of service stars and other badges to which he could not possibly be entitled,—a fact which would attract attention and probably uncomplimentary remarks regarding the "significance" of the badges awarded in certain packs.

It was mentioned that Winnipeg Cubmasters each month sent in a postal card report, noting the date of the last meeting, number present, tests passed during the month, etc.

It was recommended that the Cubmaster habitually use the expression, "Akela says,—so and so," as a means of habituating his Cubs in the use of the term whenever addressing or speaking of him.

The practice and occasional use of the "Mouse Howl" was recommended, as a substitute for the Grand Howl during the progress of a church meeting upstairs. "You do not go down for the Mouse Howl; it is given stand-

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A practicable monkey bridge for a Winnipeg Jamboree. It was built by the 18th Winnipeg, and hung 20 feet above the Auditorium floor.

THE CAMP CHIEFS PAGE

OUTDOORS IN APRIL

Migrating birds will be glad to visit gardens in which they can find seed of various kinds, grit, etc. By scattering crumbs and seed in quiet corners one may have close contact with the Canada Bird, or White-throated Sparrow; the White-crowned Sparrow, the Fox Sparrow, the Purple Finch and the Junco and other species.

A bird bath also attracts migrants. The placid water doubtless acts as a reflector, attracting the eye of the bird.

A Song Sparrow watched me make a bird bath last April 15th, and was into it and delighted before the riled water had a chance to clear. Make it shallow, with sand bottom, and graduated from nothing to an inch and a half deep.

Look for the return of Purple Martins and Swallows.

Leafless, budding garden tangles are the haunts of strange, quiet birds. Outwit them by motionless observation. The furtive Hermit Thrush with his cinnamon tail is there. He is crafty at hiding, but a frozen Scout fools him and sees him.

Mr. Woodchuck is just out.

Squirrels are caring for their babies.

Six or seven little Muskrats have arrived to each family.

Hungry Fox puppies are keeping Mr. and Mrs. Reynard busy.

Mrs. Black Bear is just out of her winter den, perhaps with a pair of rolly-polly cubs.

Wa-wa, the Canada Goose, many thousand strong, is at Jack Miner's and other stop-over sanctuaries.

Suckers are running up the streams; good eating now.

The Garter Snake is poking about in the warm places.

A big cocoon, discovered on a hike, may yield a lovely Cecropia moth.

"Freeze" by the pond and you may hear the song of the Swamp Tree Frog,—a short, ascending trill of high pitch, twelve to twenty-four times a minute. He is less than an inch long, and brownish in colour. Hear him, locate him, and study him.

—W.H.R.

THE WINTER COURSES

Part III-A running—Powell River, B. C., under Scoutmaster W. Crowther. Regina, Sask., under District Commissioner C. H. Goddard. Brandon, Man., under D.C.C. Hill and Field Scout Davison. Montreal (second course), under Executive Secretary E. R. Paterson. Fredericton, N.B., under District Secretary Fred Barnes. Provincial Normal School, Truro, N.S., and Pine Hill College, Halifax, N.S., under Field Commissioner J. O. Kaulbach. New Glasgow N.S., under District Commissioner E. W. Spurr.

Part II Akela completed—Calgary, under Provincial Secretary W. Solway; Victoria, B.C., under H. T. Ravenhill. Running—Toronto, under District Commissioner E. O'Callaghan. Halifax, N.S., under Lt.-Comm. and Mrs. A. E. Eagar. Winnipeg, Man., under Assistant Provincial Commissioner F. W.

Thompson.

Akela Study Circle running—Moncton, N.B., under Cubmaster Ruby E. Young.

Vestibule Courses completed—Niagara Falls, Harrow, Ont.; Medicine Hat, Taber, Alta.

WINTER COURSE NOTES

The Brandon Part III-A, under D.C.C. Hill and Field Scout Davison of Winnipeg, has a membership of 27.

The New Glasgow, N.S., Part III-A, under District Commissioner E. W. Spurr has an enrolment of 30.

Seventeen students took the Part III-A given at Acadia College, Wolfville, N.S., by Field Commissioner Kaulbach.

The Akela course given at the Truro Normal School by Lt.-Comm. and Mrs. A. E. Eagar of Halifax was taken by 40 students.

A postal card reminder mailed two days before each session of the Fredericton Part III-A helped to maintain an excellent attendance.

A hike tent makes a camp dining shelter for a patrol of the 1st Rutland, B.C.



The Moncton, N.B., Akela Study Circle, which has been a great success under Cubmaster Ruby E. Young, consists entirely of young ladies.

The second Montreal Part III-A course of the winter season, under Executive Secretary E. R. Paterson, opened with an enrolment of 34.

The Victoria Part II Akela course, under H. T. Ravenhill, was given on two succeeding days a week for five successive weeks. Ten of the 15 leaders taking the course were ladies. Eight Scoutmasters represented the Troop for an impressive going-up ceremony. An effective atmosphere was secured by the preliminary reading of a portion of Kaa's hunting. A competition in developing "Cub lairs," and in the making of various things from week to week, developed a keen competition between the Sixes. A bird talk by Rev. R. Connell and a talk on flowers and the "Wonder of Life" by Rev. H. T. Archbold were interesting added features. The course ended with a council fire and a Six competition in acting and story telling.

Part III-B Gillwell certificates have been awarded to twenty-five leaders who qualified at the recent course held by the Montreal District.

"One of the keenest and most interested classes he had ever had the pleasure of conducting" was the compliment paid by Field Secretary Solway to the Calgary Part II Akela class, which concluded with a banquet February 28th. One of those taking the course was Sir Archibald Macdonell, K.C.B., C.M.G., Calgary District Commissioner. The class included ten ladies. During the closing banquet a fountain pen and pencil were presented the course Akela by members of the Pack.

GILLWELL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Saskatchewan Gillwell will be held at the permanent provincial Gillwell training centre on Lake Lebert, July 19-29. It is possible that a Part II Akela course may follow, July 29-August 2. Rev. W. D. Hasell will act as D.C.C.

Ontario's 1927 Gillwell will be held at Ebor Park, July 5-16, according to an announcement from Provincial Headquarters. "The camp fee will be Ten Dollars, this amount to cover camper's food, etc., while at the camp. Half the fee will be payable at time of application and the balance on arrival at Ebor Park."

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES IN BEFORE APRIL 30th

Those who are studying and writing off the Scouting and Cubbing Correspondence courses are reminded that books must be in by April 30th, if it is desired that they be reported upon before the fall.

The Vancouver District has arranged the 1927 camping programme at Camp Byng in four periods, the first three periods to be under the direction of the Camp Director. Scout will have the first period of two weeks, and Cubs the next two periods of a week each. The fourth period is for troops under their own Scoutmasters.

The 20th Vancouver is running a tent caterpillar patrol competition. Scout Colin Turner recently boosted his patrol's figures by bringing in 3,500 caterpillar rings.

MISSIONARY CHURCHES ARE THE SPIRITUALLY ALIVE CHURCHES—THE SAME WITH SCOUT TROOPS

❖ Scouting from Coast to Coast ❖

AN Easter camp for Patrol Leaders and Seconds will be held at the Hamilton district permanent camp site, Port Maitland.

Representatives of several outside troops were present at a Patrol Leaders' Conference held at Middleton, N.S., under the direction of Assistant District Commissioner Evans.

Fifty Medicine Hat, Alta., Scouts acted as beaters in a drive to rid the district of rabbits.

An ice carnival of the 1st Paisley, Ont., netted \$30 for the troop funds. The rink was placed free at the service of the Scouts by Manager Dewar. Part of the receipts were from a "hot dog" and coffee booth.

The other troops and packs of their district were guests for a very enjoyable evening of the 24th Winnipeg Troop and Cornwall Cub Pack.

Decorations of Scout equipment connected with different phases of Scouting activity were used at a dance held by the 2nd Capreol Troop, Ont., to raise troop funds.

Of the possible 120 points of the senior St. John Ambulance test A.S.M. J. W. Blake of the 2nd Sherbrooke, Que., was given 120, A.C.M. Clarence Blake, 120, P. L. Brownlow, 109, A.S.M. Trussler, 105, and P.L. Price, 100.

Ten Scouts of the 23rd Toronto passed for their Swimmer's badge at the tank of the central Y.

The Troop Committee of the 1st Truro Troop, N.S., has provided the troop with a clubroom headquarters, which the boys themselves are fitting up and furnishing.

Lantern slides of camp activities, camp scenes which included singing, first aid and other demonstrations, a Cub investiture, an educational film from the Department of Agriculture showing the life history of the tent caterpillar, and other special numbers by local artists made up the very successful annual entertainment of the several Simcoe, Ont., troops and packs.

Forty Scout and Cub leaders of Vancouver attended their annual February banquet. District Commissioner Rorison was in the chair.

Chaperoned by the Rev. William and Mrs. Swan, the St. Martins' Boy Scouts and Girls' Club held a combined sleigh drive, and returned to the United Church Hall for games and refreshments.

Patrol Leaders Brooks and House have been running the 5th Moose Jaw since the troop lost its Scoutmaster and A.S.M.

An educational movie, "The Vanishing American," shown under the aus-

pices of the Elora Troop, Ont., added substantially to the troop camp funds.

Practically every troop of the Centre and East districts of Winnipeg was represented on a Saturday afternoon hike which ended in a supper at Norwood United Church. The boys supplied their own eats, the church providing hot tea and coffee.

Boxing is being given special attention by the 1st Walkerton Troop, Ont.

The rural comedy "In Plum Valley," given by the 17th Halifax (St. Mathias) in the parish hall, was a fine success, and drew two large houses.

Principal W. J. Elliott of the Kingsville, Ont., public school, addressing a joint social meeting of the 1st and 2nd Kingsville and 1st Harrow Troops on the First Scout Law, told the story of Sir Walter Scott and the debts of a publishing firm which he spent six years in wiping out, as a matter of honour. Principal Elliott quoted the story as an example of living up to a principle which the great novelist had expressed in the words, "Without courage there can be no honour, and without honour there can be no other virtue."

Several boys of the 2nd Sherbrooke, Que., under A.S.M. Trussler, attended a meeting of the Y.P.A. of St. Andrew's Church to demonstrate some features of Scouting.

Vancouver Scout leaders were invited to attend a course in camp leadership at the Y under the direction of George Ross, director of Camp Elphinstone.

Schafer resuscitation and other first aid were demonstrated by the 6th Border Cities Troop at a lecture given under the auspices of the Essex County Safety Association in the Windsor-Walkerville Technical Institute.

The Scouts of Sacred Heart Parish, Sydney, N.S., presented a highly successful play which attracted good houses on two succeeding evenings.

A "Camp Self-Denial Bank" is one of the means used by the 1st Markdale, Ont., to raise troop funds. A rule of the troop is that the boys shall earn their own equipment and uniforms.

In recognition of his twelve years of service with the troop Scoutmaster Maurice L. Tallant, of St. Paul's Troop, Regina, was presented with a six-volume set of Thompson Seton's books on woodcraft.

The 1st Port Colborne, Ont., has raised \$15 toward its camp fund by the collection of waste paper.

At a concert given in the Assiniboine School, Winnipeg, Man., the boys of St. James Salvation Army Scout Troop gave a demonstration of their work.

The 1st Nelson, B.C., Troop were hosts to the C.G.I.T. group of St. Paul's United Church.

"Some Aspects of Scoutmastership" was the title of an interesting address given by Assistant District Commissioner D. W. F. Nichols at a meeting of the Chatham, Ont., Scout Leaders' Club.

District Cubmaster A. E. Johnstone has the distinction of being the first Cub leader in the Border Cities to receive his Part I Akela Course certificate.

During a hike of the 16th Halifax natural wood staves were cut for members of the troop still without them. A visiting Scoutmaster accompanied the troop to examine those who wished to pass their fire-lighting test.

The 3rd Kingston, Ont., Troop has been given a new club room in St. James' Church. The boys are doing the necessary re-decorating.

The Col. McGregor Cup for the best display of bantams at the Border Cities Winter Poultry Show was won by Patrol Leader G. Hilsley of the 6th Border Cities Troop.

A weekly district rally to which all Cubs, Cubmasters and Assistants are invited is held on Friday evenings in the Dougall Avenue School gym, Windsor. Games and songs make up the programme.

The winners of the patrol competition of the Lynn Valley Troop, B.C., were entertained at supper by the Scoutmaster, Rev. J. M. Sykes, M.A., at the Dovercourt, Lynn Valley.

A new department in the Brockville, Ont., Scout news column is called the "Question Box." The public is invited to send in questions regarding Scouting.

To help defray the travelling expenses of a representative to the Ontario Scout Leaders' conference at Hamilton, the boys of the 1st Port Colborne, Ont., were asked to double or treble their dues on "pow-wow night."

Boys of the 3rd Dartmouth (St. Peter's), N.S., presented Scoutmaster Coté with a pair of gloves in appreciation of his leadership. The 3rd is up to full strength, and has a waiting list.

Granite drinking cups are now being awarded as patrol competition prizes to the Kincardine Troops. When sufficient cups for each patrol have been earned, plates, etc., will be given. It is anticipated that competition will be very keen in order to obtain these useful hike necessities.

The Scouts of the 10th Border Cities Troop were given a banquet by their sisters. The Cubs of the 1st Pack also were present. Following the banquet, presentation of badges and enrollment

cards took place and an investiture ceremony was held. In turn the sisters were waited on by members of the Crow Patrol.

A demonstration of indoor work which included first aid, knot tying, signalling and games was given at a "Guest Night" held by the Nokomis Wolf Cub Pack and the 3rd Winnipeg Troop. Charters for the troop and pack were presented by District Commissioner Sparling.

To demonstrate the Cub character training methods to parents, Cubmaster Milnes of the 6th Vancouver put on a special display in St. Paul's Parish Hall. The programme included stories, jungle dances, and some amusing playlets and games.

Identifying by smell the contents of ten paper bags proved an interesting game for the 1st Darlingford, Man., Troop.

Four Windsor Catholic troops assisted the 14th Border Cities, of Our Lady of the Lake Church, Ford City, in putting on the 14th's first entertainment.

The organization of a Sea Scout unit is being discussed for the older boys of the 1st Parrsboro, N.S., Troop.

For use as a District Headquarters, an old customs warehouse has been placed at the disposal of the local Scout organization by the city of London, Ont. A large yard will make an admirable rallying place for troops on public occasions.

Seven Scouts of the 39th Winnipeg were passed in their Fireman's badge test by City Fire Chief Dickson.

The names of Scouts qualifying for proficiency badges and the dates and places of the next examinations are announced by the Montreal Badge Board through the Scout column in the daily press.

A Union Jack was presented the 1st Brampton Troop, Ont., by the Queen Alexandra L.O.B.A.

Prior to his leaving for Varden, Man., Manager N. Hamon of the Parrsboro, N.S., branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, was presented with the Thanks Badge by the 1st Parrsboro Troop. Mr. Hamon has been for several years chairman of the Troop Committee.

Deputy Fire Chief Keefe is instructing the 2nd Halifax Troop in the Fireman's badge.

When their meeting place was required for other purposes the 4th St. Catharines visited the 3rd and 1st Troops, who were meeting on the same night.

At the conclusion of a much enjoyed entertainment of the 1st Arran Troop, Sask., a Thanks Badge was presented to the president of the Local Association, Rene J. de Bourg-Copin, and to

Mrs. F. G. Sercombe a silk scarf in the troop colours and an apron embroidered with the Scout badge.

A troop of Sea Scouts is being organized at Belleville, Ont. Two large boats already have been secured.

The Lumbermen's Educational Class of New Westminster, B.C., have placed their new hall at the disposal of the 3rd New Westminster Troop as a headquarters.

Four Rovers and the members of the Owl Patrol of the 1st Galt Troop acted as waiters at a banquet of the ladies' auxiliary of the local veterans' organization.

At a special church parade of the 50th Toronto Troop to St. Cuthbert's Church, Leaside, a set of handsome altar hangings was presented to the church by the troop in memory of its first Scoutmaster, Edward S. Burford, who fell at Vimy Ridge. Following the presentation of the hangings, the rector, as a mark of the esteem in which the troop is held by the congregation, presented the 50th with a



A snowshoe tramp,
a windbreak, a fire,
hot beans—who wouldn't
be a Canadian Scout!

A.S.M. Currie and a
patrol of the 2nd
Saint John (St. Luke's).

handsome carved oak wall plaque and bracket holding the bronze statuette of the "Boy Scout" by Tait McKenzie. The gift will hang on one of the church walls.

During a social evening at which the 3rd Sydney, N.S., entertained the 1st Sydney, Scout Fry was "tried" on the charge of disturbing the peace by attempting to sing.

The presentation of service stars and Cub and Scout competition cups, an address by Field Scout Davison, an investiture, demonstrations of Scout and Cub work; making fire by friction (in 20 seconds, by P.L. Byers) and the cutting of a large birthday cake were features of the first birthday party of the 6th Brandon (First Presbyterian) Troop, held in the Collegiate Institute gymnasium. Rev. C. S. Oke presided.

"Fingers," the Big Brother Movement play put on several times with great success by Winnipeg Rovers, was given with equal success by the boys of the 1st and 3rd Fort William Troops, under the direction of Scoutmaster H. W. Ellard.

For the annual B.P. birthday banquet of the 5th Edmonton the tables were decorated in competition by the

various patrols. The Eagles won with the representation of a camp on the edge of a (mirror) lake. The camp included various tents, a radio aerial, trees, grass, paths down to the lake, boats, and a diving board.

District Commissioner J. K. Sparling presented A.S.M. Clowes of the 2nd Winnipeg Troop with his Gillwell beads, at a regular meeting of the troop.

Saint John, N.B., troops during the winter provided ushers and otherwise assisted most effectively at the largely attended Children's Saturday Story Hour conducted at the local Armouries by the staff of the local Carnegie Library.

The Gillwell Badge was presented by District Commissioner Wigle to Scoutmaster H. Elliott at the annual banquet of the Scout leaders of Essex County, held at the Prince Edward Hotel, Windsor.

As a good turn to the troop, the managers placed the Lunenburg, N.S., rink at the disposal of the 1st Lunenburg Troop for an evening's hockey and skating party and a banquet, held in one of the rink dressing rooms.

Several Scouts of the 2nd Saint John (St. Paul's) chose a snowshoe hike for passing fire lighting and cooking tests.

At a Cub and Scout Father and Son service held in St. Andrew's United Church, Roseland, B.C., Scouts provided the ushers, two Scouts read the scripture lesson, and A.S.M. Dalto McArthur and a father of one of the Scouts addressed the gathering. Rev. H. J. Armitage was in charge of the service, which attracted a crowded congregation.

Scout's pace, cooking and fire lighting tests made a busy hike for the 2nd St. Catharines, Ont. The 4th St. Kitts held an educational hike to the city filtration plant, with a tracking game on the side.

For a very successful hike of the 1st Port Credit Troop, Ont., the boys, in two patrols, were given a map by which to travel, the Scoutmaster following a third shorter route and reaching the objective first. There various tests were held and a meal prepared on the snow. An account of the hike

in the **Port Credit News** must have made interesting and enlightening reading to the general public.

Saint John, N.B., Rovers have had a most successful winter season of hikes, lectures, social activities and miscellaneous service to the community and to various local troops and packs. According to the **Saint John Times-Globe** Scout Column of March 1st, "Rovers Prichard and Currie are supervising St. Paul's Troop, Rover Lee is assisting St. George's, Rover Pincombe is helping the Victoria Street Baptist Troop, Rover Robinson is running the Centenary Cub Pack, and Rover Leck is assisting the Trinity Troop."

District Scoutmaster Wheeler, a party of Galt Scout and Cub leaders and the entire 1st Kitchener Troop attended the opening meeting of the newly organized 1st Waterloo Troop.

Special weekly patrol hikes are being planned and carried out by the Hawks of the 5th Edmonton.

A district Scout benefit entertainment held in the Georgian ball-room of the Admiral Beatty Hotel, Saint John, under the patronage of Sir Douglas and Lady Hazen and His Worship Mayor and Mrs. White, was a social event of importance, and netted a substantial sum. An old friend of local Scouting, Mrs. G. Wilford Campbell, was general convener of the large committee of society leaders of the city responsible for the event.

Future activities of the 86th Toronto Rovers were discussed at a dinner given the patrol by Scoutmaster Edmunds. Mayor Alex Hodgins of the Toronto Boy Council is patrol secretary.

Wolf Cubs provided the first part of a successful entertainment of the 1st Parrsboro Troop, N.S., (Circle, Investiture, Badge Presentation, Grand Howl, Signalling and First Aid), and Scouts the second part (Horseshoe, Investiture, Badge Presentation, Scout Yell, Friction Fire). As Part Three the troop presented Act II of the Scout Play "One Day's Fun," and concluded with signalling to music and a camp-fire sing-song.

Ottawa troops have for some years claimed as their own some of the leading boy singers of the city. The role has now been taken up by Montagu Read, a P.L. of the 9th Troop, a soprano soloist of unusual range and quality, whose services are in wide demand for musical events of importance.

Each boy of the 19th Edmonton contributed 5 cents toward the special Scout entertainment extended the visiting Westminster Abbey Scout singers.

The rule has been made for the 18th Halifax that any boy missing two meetings, without adequate excuse, will not be legible to attend summer camp. No applications for admission to the troop will be received after March 1st.

A combined entertainment and display given by the 9th Ottawa Scouts, Cubs and Brownies held the close attention of a large gathering of parents and friends at St. John's Parish Hall. The possibilities of the knot tying race as an interesting programme number were well demonstrated by the contestants, who worked with great rapidity and practically without fumble. The first knot (the clove hitch) in each case was tied about a Scout staff planted upright on the floor by a second Scout. Two original plays by "Brown Owl" Read were given very effectively.

The problem, "What would you have done had you been in the Montreal theatre fire," was used as a special patrol competition by the 2nd Sherbrooke Troop. The patrols had two minutes to prepare their answers.

During a recent meeting of the 21st Edmonton each boy was given an individual test in observation and one in first aid.

A series of short articles on different phases of woodcraft are appearing in the Scout column of the Brockville, Ont., Recorder. It is suggested that



Scouts and Cubs of Port Angeles, Wash., on a visit to Victoria, B.C.

the boys cut these articles and paste them in a scrap book for future reference.

The New Glasgow, N.S., Rotary Club has given an honour flag for monthly "general efficiency" competition between the troops of the county.

As an outside "breather" competition game the patrols of the 2nd Chatham, Ont., were given a Scout sign trail which led them over a considerable section of the city.

A letter explaining the Dominion Registration plan was sent to parents of the boys of the 19th Edmonton.

The "Troop Circle of King's Scouts" of the 35th Toronto now numbers 30, with 7 active in the troop. The two latest to achieve the rank are brothers (Prince) who were invested together, and have since "travelled along" side by side.

Part of the weekly meeting of the 2nd Sherbrooke Court of Honour is being given to a study of certain sections of Roland Philipps' "Patrol System."

Many of the parents of Scouts were present at the annual meeting of the

Boy Scouts Association of Thorold Park, Ont. Various suggestions for helping the work of the troops in the district were discussed.

The 15th Saint John (Portland United) visited the Natural History Museum on an "educational hike."

Rev. Canon C. W. Vernon, general secretary of the Council of Social Service of the Church of England, was a visitor at a regular meeting of the 2nd Prince Albert (St. Alban's Cathedral) Troop, Sask.

The Court of Honour of the 4th Peterborough has started a Troop Library.

The Troop Charter was presented to the 2nd Brandon Troop by the President of the Local Association on the occasion of the troop's first birthday.

Bird houses are being constructed and put up by the 1st Brockville, Ont.

"All Scouts will be in kit, and will carry ropes and axes. Home by 5:30 p.m."—From a 2nd North Vancouver notice for a hike up Grouse Mountain.

A cup for inter-patrol competition has been given the 1st Three Rivers Troop by District Scoutmaster Jones.

The 2nd Kitchener Troop (St. John's) held a meeting in the K. of C. Hall, "so as to enable several of the members of the lodge who are interested in Scouting to see the manner in which a Scout meeting is conducted." As a result a Troop Committee was organized and other steps taken to organize a troop in connection with St. Mary's church.

The Women's Institute of Hilton Beach, Ont., voted funds to provide a flag and other equipment for the local Scouts.

In connection with study for the Leatherworker's badge, the 2nd Saint John (St. Paul's) Troop heard a talk by Mr. G. L. Nixon on the curing and tanning of hides, and the making of buckskin from small animal pelts. On the same evening several model bridges were inspected, in Pioneer badge tests. The meeting was in charge of Rovers Prichard and Currie.

Patrol Leaders of the 3rd Peterborough assemble their patrols fifteen minutes before meeting, for collection of dues and "patrol inspection."

District Commissioner Aird of the St. Maurice Valley Association presided at a banquet which brought together many prominent citizens as guests of the 1st Three Rivers Troop. The banquet was provided by the troop Ladies' Committee.

A fund-raising bazaar given by the 3rd Border Cities Troop (Giles Boulevard United Church) took the form of a miniature fall fair, with booths of various kinds. One stall displayed miscellaneous Scout handiwork which was offered for sale. A tea room was conducted by the ladies associated with the troop.

One of the new Winnipeg troops is that of Grace United Church, with Rev. R. G. Burgoyne—formerly prominent in Montreal Scouting—as its Scoutmaster.

A lecture on minerals by Dr. William McIntosh, curator of the local Natural History Museum, was greatly enjoyed by the Saint John Rovers.

Following an address on fire prevention before the 2nd Prince Albert Troop, Sask., Fire Chief J. N. Smith took the boys through St. Alban's Cathedral to test their observation of combustible materials previously prepared by Scoutmaster Daynes.

The Essex County Scout Leaders' Club has an active membership of over twenty-five, divided into patrols. The regular programme includes discussion of individual troop problems.

"An investiture ceremony in the heart of the woods was a novel and impressive feature of the hike held last Saturday (February) of the 16th Halifax Troop. . . . The hike had been planned for several weeks ago, but owing to bad weather had been postponed."—*Halifax Chronicle*.

"Blindman's hockey," played by the boys in pairs, blindfolded, with hockey sticks and an empty shoe-polish tin containing a pebble as a puck, proved popular with the 39th Winnipeg.

The 2nd Niagara Falls Troop attended divine service at the Drummond Hill Presbyterian Church "in thanksgiving for the restoration of their Scoutmaster, Dr. Smith, to health." They were received at the door by the church elders, and the Scout colours were placed in front of the pulpit. Following the invocation the National Anthem was sung. Rev. Bertram Nelles preached a special sermon, on "The Boy's Religion."

Since the visit of the Westminster Abbey Scout singers, Scouts of the North Vancouver Troops "are asking for a Scout choir for North Vancouver."

A week following the Ontario Conference fifteen Chatham Scout and Cub leaders met to review the papers discussed. "Scoutmaster Phillips gave a very interesting talk on the Cubbing demonstration shown."

The Troop Committee of the 19th Calgary has presented the troop with a patrol competition cup. Names of winning patrols and dates will be engraved on the trophy.

The 4th St. Catharines, Ont., hiked half way to meet a patrol of the 1st Port Dalhousie, who were out on a trek-cart trek.

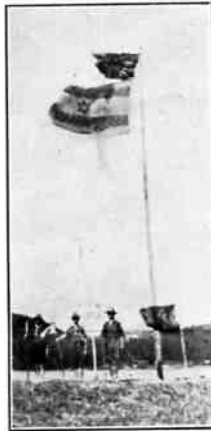
For a district Scout entertainment given in the Community Hall, Medicine Hat, Alta., the various troops were instructed to go, not as troops, but in patrol formation. "Each P.L., read

District Commissioner Harding's published instructions, "will see that order and discipline is observed while going through the streets."

Several investitures and the formal installation of two P.L.'s of the new 4th St. Catharines, Ont., were made in the presence of the Troop Committee. The occasion was "rounded off" with a sing-song and "eats."

The very attractive Sixth Anniversary number of "The Double Triangle," official organ of the 59th Toronto Jewish Troop, mentions a trip to Hamilton to present a Scout flag to a Hamilton Jewish Troop.

An interesting feature of a meeting of the 1st Bowmanville Troop was the presentation of Dominion Registration certificates to each Scout by the chairman of the Boys' Work Committee of the local Rotary Club.



Flags of the Saint John Young Judaeon Troop.

A typical full-time troop meeting, concluding with the council fire, gave the Troop Committee and friends of the 1st Hudson Troop, Que., an exact idea of what is done at a Scout meeting. An investiture by Scoutmaster D. W. Francis, of the Montreal Shriners' Hospital Troop, demonstrated this ceremony impressively, and was followed by presentation of the Troop Charter to Rev. Canon J. J. Willis, chairman of the Troop Committee. This troop has doubled its membership since October, under the leadership of Rev. Albert Johnson of the Memorial United Church.

AT THE CONFERENCES

(Continued from page 75)

ing, whispered as loudly as possible. It is very effective in securing quiet."

In conclusion Akela Thompson reminded his pack and the large circle of listeners around the auditorium that "the Cub programme is a four years' programme; that the work need not be hurried; that it should result in the learning thoroughly of cheerfulness, thoroughness and good manners." And referring to games, particularly games of alternate noise and quietness, "if your Cubs, at a signal, can turn from maniacal noisiness into absolute quiet, then the games are doing their work."

During the course of the more than an hour's session a number of snake

dance and stalking games were played, the bunderlog game and "frog pond."

The assisting leaders of the Pack included Executive Commissioner O'Callaghan of Toronto, as Bagheera; Miss Estelle Glover, of the Provincial Headquarters staff, as Baloo; the Dominion Camp Chief as the Kite, and Pack Leader Lloyd George of Toronto as the "Pack Rat," with the duty of producing as required the various articles needed for demonstration or games.

Conference Notes

The simple but effective decorations of the auditorium included a handsome full-sized teepee bearing Scout emblems and symbols, in a corner; above, across the stage, a huge Union Jack some 75x40 feet in size, and below, in the centre, a stand of Scout colours,—Scout flag, Union Jack, and Cub flag.

Messrs. O'Callaghan and Wheeler,—the former at the piano and the latter leading—were the lively directors of the frequent singing.

A popular incident at the council fire was the presentation to Assistant District Commissioner Nichols of Windsor of the Thanks Badge, in recognition of services rendered by him in connection with the Ebor Park Gillwell courses.

The announcement was made at the council fire that steps are being taken to make of Ebor Park a permanent Gillwell training centre for Ontario. The information, which was given by Mr. George Luck, owner of the property on which the camp site is located, was received with much enthusiasm.

As an impressive conclusion to the first aid demonstration preceding the council fire, one of the "patients" was taken away very comfortably on a Scout "bike ambulance,"—the stretcher hanging beneath the framework connecting the two bicycles.

A telegram of greeting and good wishes, and regret at his inability to be present, was sent Provincial Commissioner H. A. Laurence, in Florida. The following reply was received: "Greetings. Let's be thankful for the good our Movement has achieved. May you appreciate your responsibilities. May you be strong in courage to go on."

A CENT A WEEK FOR THE OTHER FELLOW!

An Ontario Sanatorium Troop

THE running of a Cub-Scout Troop for the boy patients of the Queen Alexandra Preventorium, near London a Good Turn of the Old Scouts' Club of University of Western Ontario, is bringing a new and helpful interest into the lives of the lads concerned. The work requires skill and tact, and the instruction given is limited to activities which do not call for much exertion; but the results have been marked, especially in the increased cheerfulness of the young patients. A red-letter day was the visit last summer of Sir Alfred Pickford, who saw the boys at work and play, and participated in a Cub investiture. The troop is backed by a committee of members of the sanatorium staff. Mr. H. B. Tindall is the Cubmaster-Scoutmaster.

Signalling Dominoes

THIS is really an excellent game for learning either Semaphore or Morse. Take 26 small cards and copy out the signalling alphabet on them. Don't put the name of the sign on any part of the card. Put a bold mark at the top to show which is the right way up. Otherwise you won't know whether you have got, let us say, U or N in Semaphore or F or L in Morse. Suppose you have three players. Deal out six cards to each, and put the rest in the pool. The player to the dealer's left then plays any card he likes and the next player must then play the letter on either side of it. For instance, if the first player puts down K, the next man must play J or L. Suppose he plays L, the third man must play J or Emma. If a player can't play he must draw one from the pool. If he still can't play, it becomes the turn of the man on his left. When you come to Z in one direction, or Ac in the other, of course the next letter will be Ac or Z, as the case may be. A player can only play one card at a time, except when he has only two cards left, in which case he may play both if he can. The winner is he who gets rid of all his cards first. If you have a large number of players you use two alphabets. It is not a bad practice to use two sets at once, one Semaphore and the other Morse, playing them alternately, with the exception that when Ac or Z come together they must both be of the same set. It will save space if you build your cards in two piles on the top of the first two cards played, remembering that one pile works forward and the other backwards, but when learning it is best to spread all the cards out.

Another game you can play with these cards is this: Prepare a number of cards, each with a word on it in which the same letter does not occur more than once, such as "Victory." Then prepare two separate alphabets, either Semaphore or Morse, differing slightly from one another. For instance, you can make one Semaphore set with a solid black circle at the centre and the other with a circle at the end of the arm. In Morse you can make one set with solid black dots and dashes and the other with the middles left white. Then form two sides of players (one to three on a side is best) and throw your two alphabets on the table face upwards and shuffle them well through one another. Then draw a card from your list of words and turn it face upwards. Suppose the word drawn is "Blacksmith." (It has previously been settled which alphabet belongs to each side.) The side first forming the word "Blacksmith" out of its own proper alphabet wins. This is a capital game both for teaching the alphabet and for training the eye.

—The Ulster Scout.

An Advertisement Game

A new game of the 2nd Sherbrooke: Clipped advertisements which illustrate some phase of Scout training are placed on a table in the centre of the room, and patrols are given two minutes for observation. Reports detailing the Scouting activities concerned are turned in by the P.L.'s.

Casting Animal Tracks

CASTING animal tracks can prove both an interesting and instructive project. There is little chance of error and the materials are not expensive.

Two or three pounds of plaster of paris costing ten cents a pound, some water, an old cup, a teaspoon, and a small stick pointed at one end and in the form of a spatula at the other are all the materials needed.

When the tracks of an animal have been located, select one that is clear and concise in outline. It should first be cleared of any sticks or bits of dirt by the pointed stick. Next the plaster of paris should be poured.

Mixing the Plaster

Care must be taken here to secure best results. Fill the cup with water, then pour slowly into the same as many spoonfuls of plaster as you think will be necessary to cast the track. Do not stir. As soon as all the plaster has settled to the bottom, pour off the milky water at the top till it begins to thicken. You now have the right mixture. It should be poured into the track at once before it starts to set, thereby insuring that the thin mixture



Visiting Wolf Cubs of Port Angeles, Wash., on the summit of Malahat, Victoria, B.C.

will penetrate all the small cracks and places.

The cast will set in a short time and can be removed as soon as the surface appears fairly solid to the finger nail. Dig away the dirt beneath, being sure that considerable adheres to the cast. If possible, though, allow the cast to stay without removing for several hours. It may be handled then without fear of breaking. When thoroughly dry, preferably a day or two later, brush with a stiff bristle brush or immerse in water and wipe off with a soft rag.

This completes the work and leaves for instruction or collection purposes an exact reproduction of the foot of the animal that made the track.

Try it Out on the Dog

To stimulate interest in this project at a troop meeting, make up a well packed sand box. Let the boys make casts of their own hand prints. Perhaps with care you can get an impression suitable for casting of a dog's foot. It shouldn't be hard to get a dog, although other animals might cause a scene—Scouting.

HELP THE FIELD WORK IN
YOUR OWN PROVINCE BY
DOMINION REGISTRATION

Tracking Game—The Thread Race

YOU require a field with hedges (a big garden would do), and numbers of small pieces of coloured thread or thin ribbon. One umpire prepares the "course" by going round the hedge before the game starts and tying on to boughs, twigs, leaves, etc., small lengths of the two colours; green and white are the best to use.

Each piece of green counts five points (being harder to see), while each white string counts one point, as it can be easily spotted.

The number of pieces of coloured or white ribbon are unknown to the Scouts taking part.

The starting umpire prepares a list of names, with columns in which are entered:

Time each Scout starts and completes the round of the field;

Number of pieces of ribbon spotted, with marks on the above scale.

Each Scout then doubles round the field, keeping his eyes skinned for green or white ribbons or threads on the hedges. He jots down in his notebook each piece seen, saying whether it is green or white. The wary and careful Scout will be careful not to stop opposite a piece of ribbon spotted, as he will, of course give away the position to others following in rear at, say, half-minute intervals. If you spot a piece of ribbon, take no apparent notice. Don't halt in that place; you can easily enter a mark quietly in the right, green or white, column in your book when you are safely past the place.

Umpires will decide at the end of the game who has done the course most quickly, and will make a sliding scale of points for, say, every ten seconds or half minute Scouts arrive after the best time taken.

It therefore often pays to go fairly slowly round the field, as you may spot more ribbons. On the other hand, a Scout who can use his eyes quickly can do the whole course at the "double" and will probably spot most of the hidden ribbons.

Umpires must be careful to tie the ribbons or threads on to branches or twigs so that they are not covered up in any way. Each one must be visible without having to pull back branches to look behind them.

Try it the next time you're out on field work. You will be astonished to see how quickly it improves the eyesight and quickens the observation.

—Scouting in Malaya.

Old Buildings for a Troop Headquarters—A Caution

THAT there is another side to the "good fortune" of obtaining an old building for a troop headquarters has been discovered by a Western Ontario troop. Several years ago the troop secured the use of a discarded school, at the nominal rental of \$1.00 a year, but with the understanding that they should keep the building in repair. "In fulfilling this obligation to date," says the Scoutmaster, "we have spent more than it would have cost to build a good Scout hut." The building referred to is of two storeys, which doubtless has a bearing upon its upkeep problem.

❖ The Scoutmaster's Five Minutes ❖

Our Telugu Boy Scouts

IN the early part of 1923, we began our Scout Work or our Scout "movement" (movement) as the boys insist upon calling it. The leaders were trained. The Parrots, the Cuckoos, the Coppermiths and Woodpeckers took their places in the long line of those who "do their best to serve God, King and country and to help others at all times."

We learned the uses of that much loved weapon, the staff, the first principles of tracking, signalling and first aid. But, "When would we have a camp?" No one knew exactly what a camp was. But the Scoutmaster had told enthusiastically of the wonderful Madras Scout Camp with its lines of white tents and its glorious big bonfires and sing-songs, and of the wonderful lessons learned from the "Doragarus" (white men) who came and lived right with "our Indians." So "Camp" loomed large on our horizon.

But the little old woman who lives in the shoes scratched her head a great many times and wondered how and when and where. And then came the inspiration—Uppada—Uppada with its sandy beach, and long lines of white-capped breakers; Uppada with its travellers' bungalow and great open spaces. That was the place.

The last whistle has gone and the boys swing off, very gay with their blue neckerchiefs and all the khaki the combined efforts of the school could summon—staves from which dangle small bundles of clothes and mats, over shoulders,—here and there cooking utensils or earthen pots carried in a yoke,—at the head the British flag.

Books have been written on "simple" camp equipment, but the Samalkot Troop was born and brought up on the simple life.

We journey eight miles by train to Pithapuram, and seven miles on foot under the interlocking branches of great trees, and then there is the sea with its tumbling breakers, chasing the big boys back to safety. We have reached the Uppada.

The first thought was supper. Some boys dug the trenches for cooking, some drew water with a palm leaf bucket, and set it boiling for the rice. Some went to the bazaar to buy onions, salt, oil and tamarind. Quite a number went to seal the bargain for their choice of the fish that lay in piles on the shore, fresh from the nets. But somehow all radiated back to watching pot after pot of rice, bubble up, get soft, and finally strained and placed on the growing heap that meant solace to an aching void.

Miss North, who chanced to be picnicking in Uppada that evening, brought over the ice left in the ice cream freezer. The boys wanted it so badly they almost fell over one another getting there. But there was a great cry of "Oh, it bites, it bites," when they got it in their hands.

Supper over, each boy washed his one and only dish—his rice bowl. All met together for prayer. Then mats and sheets were spread out on the

ground, and soon there was not a sound save the regular beat of the waves on the shore. The great golden moon turned all into fairyland.

There never was such a day,—rising whistle when the first shimmer showed in the sky,—drill and morning prayer on the wet shore, looking over the great sea, with its myriad tiny white sails dancing, dancing in the rosy light,—then that wonderful first dip, and home for breakfast.

The boys spent the morning in exploring the shore and finding a place where they could swim in the back-water for tests. They found wonderful colonies of gulls and other seabirds. Coming home, we found that the fisher folk, the morning's work over, were having a glorious time in the sea. The young men and boys had unfastened the two long hollowed tree trunks that made a boat of sorts and were using the one piece to ride the breakers, some standing and some lying along it. Our boys had never seen this fun before. But they were not long in getting into it too.

Evening brought first supper with the hottest fish curry Miss Farnell and I had ever tasted, and then song and story—yes, even an Indian mother-in-law story—around the camp-fire on the beach.



Before leaving the following day, we had a wonderful sight. The sea was like a glassy millpond. A school of very large fish had come in quite near the shore. They chased one another, leaping out of the water, doubling and turning most gracefully. The people said they were sword fish.

Our Troop had an invitation from an old boy of Samalkot School to come and visit his little school at Uppada, which is a village on the Pithapuram field. The boys were very glad to tell of what their Scout work meant, of its great call to service, and how it takes the very best kind of Christian to make a good Scout. After the meeting the mothers plied us with questions—"How is my sister Mary's son?" "Is my grandson from Tuni going to pass?" "Do you remember my son who studied in Samalkot a long time ago?" "What made you come from a big place like Samalkot to our miserable little village?"

The boys set out on the hike home, happy and tired, full of glowing accounts of their adventures, and especially of the wonderful fish curries, when everyone had enough and to spare. They sang with a new gusto—

"Boy Scouts are the happiest of all boys,

They learn to be brave and be true;
They learn to serve others with joy.
They learn well their duty to do.
They'll do you a good turn with pleasure,

When you are in need or distress.
The Samalkot Boy Scouts forever,
Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue."

—Miss Brothers,
in The Canadian Baptist.

As Others See Good Turns

"AS a general rule boys are rather shy about little girls. But for the past few Sunday afternoons we have noticed one of the Troop Scouts walking along the street with a little four year old girl, hand in hand. She laughs and talks with him, and they are great friends now, because each Sunday this Boy Scout walks quite a long way to get this little girl and takes her to Sunday School, and home again. She's a little too small to go alone and she likes to go. We call this a real good turn!"

—From an Ontario weekly paper.

The 11th Border Cities
have financed their
summer camp by
systematic waste paper
collection.

FOR some time a certain printer in a certain Canadian town has been doing printing for a local troop, and declining to send in bills; instead he occasionally 'phones in to ask if the troop is not running short of stationery. Recently the Scoutmaster called on him for some work, but first explained that unless the troop could pay for it they would not feel free to come to him again. The printer replied: "I saw one of your boys do a good turn to an invalid lady three years ago, at great inconvenience to himself, for over three weeks. It made some of us neighbors look pretty cheap not to have done it ourselves. I'm not rich, but as long as I'm in business the —th are going to have all the printing they want and if you ever talk about paying for it you'll hurt my feelings."

THE SCOUTMASTER'S FIRST YEAR

"Undoubtedly the most practical and pointed resume of a Scoutmaster's work that I have yet discovered. Constant use of the book in connection with my meetings only serves to confirm my earlier conviction regarding its usefulness."

—Rev. Albert Johnson, 1st Hudson
Troop (Wyman Memorial
Church) Que.

Nesbitt Junior Results Reported

FOR the third year in succession the team of the 1st Huntsville Troop was announced winner of the Ontario Wallace Nesbitt Junior first aid competition of the St. John Ambulance Association. The troop will again represent Ontario in the Dominion competition, which it won last year. Second place was taken by the Oakwood (Toronto) Collegiate Institute team. Other Scout troop teams figuring were the 46th Toronto, the 2nd Stratford, 7th London, 3rd Belleville, 1st Welland, 3rd Fort William, 3rd Toronto and 14th Ottawa. Thirty-nine teams competed, including Scouts, Guides, Public and High Schools, Boys' Clubs and other organizations.

The competition for Quebec was won by the team of the 1st St. Anne de Bellevue Troop, who will represent their province in the Dominion competition. Second place was taken by the 89th Montreal Troop, third place by the 28th Girl Guides and fourth by the 1st Buckingham Troop.

Broadcasting and Registration Helping New-Canadian Boys

THE service that the Boy Scout Movement is rendering Canada in extending a welcoming hand to the boys of "New Canadian" families who come to make their homes in this country was dwelt upon by Provincial Secretary Solway in an address before the Calgary District Council. "As a people, we are too prone to label them 'foreigners,' and to keep the label on," Secretary Solway declared, "when from the start we should treat them as part of our Canadian family."

"Scouting is doing this; and Scouting has a wonderful appeal to the 'New Canadian' boys," he said. "Wherever they meet another fellow wearing the Scout button, he is immediately recognized as a brother Scout, and one who will greet them as an equal."

The monthly Scout programme being broadcast from the Edmonton Journal radio station is proving a great help in making isolated patrols and troops feel that they are part of the big Movement, and is helping to break the loneliness of many boys on the farms. One of the first troops to send in a letter of appreciation for this service was the troop at Hay River, 800 miles north of Edmonton, within the Arctic Circle.

Secretary Solway emphasized the bearing of the Dominion registration Scouts upon field work for the extension of Scouting in the outlying districts, and urged Scoutmasters to "instill the missionary spirit of Scouting," in order that their boys might understandingly assist in sending the fun and benefits of Scouting to other lads less fortunately located.

First Aid at School

AS a result of excellent first aid given a boy with a badly gashed head, King's Scout Ross Scrase of the 5th St. Thomas Troop has been appointed by the principal to take care of all first aid cases at the Balaclava Street School.



LET'S SING ONE OF THE 19 NEW SONGS IN THE NEW EDITION OF THE CAMP FIRE SONG BOOK!

THE NEW SONGS

There's a Hole in My Bucket (with music).—Round, My Dame Has a Lame Tame Crane (music).—Killi-Watch (music).—The Bingo Farm.—John Brown's Baby and Little Peter Rabbit (mimetic songs).—Bells of St. Mary's.—Love's Old Sweet Song, with special Campfire Chorus.—'Till We Meet Again.—Scout Vesper Song.—Taps (music).—Table Blessing.—Chanteys, Blow the Man Down (music) and Rio Grande (music).—Two Nations by the Sea.

Single Copies, 15c. Dozen Copies, \$1.65.

The 1927 Diary-Handbook

EVERY SCOUT SHOULD HAVE ONE FOR RECORDING OBSERVATIONS DURING SPRING and SUMMER CAMPS AND HIKES!



How to Make a Kit Bag—How to Carve a Scout Staff—How to Make Birch Bark Dishes—Hints on Archery, Boxing, Lariat-throwing, Swimming, Water Rescue—New First Aid Hints—Health Rules and Physical Development Record—Signal Codes and Trail Signs—Pages for Recording Identification of Birds, Wildflowers, Trees—Edible and Poisonous Mushrooms—Rover and Sea Scout Sections—A Contents Index.

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THE STORES DEPARTMENT

Dominion Headquarters

The Boy Scouts Association

203-205 Wellington Street
OTTAWA, CANADA.

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 Practical Troop Paper

THE March 1st number of *The Pathfinder*, the troop paper of the 35th Toronto Troop, is an excellent example of a simple but practical single-sheet troop publication,—useful, and much more likely to live than the often-attempted paper of 4, 6, or more pages. The latter type seldom lasts; it demands too much time and hard work on the part of the young editors or the Scoutmaster himself. *The Pathfinder* of the date mentioned, type-written in two columns on one side of an 8x11 sheet, and mimeographed, contains: The Troop's meeting place, day and time, and name, address and 'phone number of the Scoutmaster (F. Arthur Willet) and his four assistants. An Editorial. A news item, "30 KING'S SCOUTS," recording the addition of two. The Patrol Competition standing, captioned "BEAVERS WIN AGAIN." "BADGES WON"—since the last issue. "NEWS ITEMS"—brief personals. "QUESTION"—a problem, the answer to which is turned in to the Troop Secretary for patrol points.

DOMINION REGISTRATION ASSISTS FIELD WORK IN YOUR OWN PROVINCE

Special Patrol Competitions

THE ten points for the best demonstration of useful knots went to the Beaver Patrol, under Second John Crossman, Patrol Leader A. Taylor being sick.

Another ten points was awarded to the Eagle Patrol, under P.L. J. M. Heaps, for the best demonstration in improvised methods of transporting the injured.

Next week's competition will be fire lighting without matches. The recognized method is by the use of a fire-bow and drill. There are 20 points for this, which are well worth having.

—1st New Westminster, B.C.

Inter-Troop "Test Baseball"

THE Tenderfoot Test "baseball" team of the 1st Port Dalhousie, Ont., visited and played a lively game with the team of the 4th St. Catharines. "At 8 o'clock the game started, and rattled on merrily as Scout after Scout was faced with tricky T. T. questions by the Pitcher, and either answered, and made a base, or did not, and was called out. Four innings were played, at the end of which the home team claimed a win, 20—8. Cheers for the winner, and return cheers ended that part of the programme," the rest naturally being refreshments. "The Port team challenged the 4th to a return game Friday week."

Another Community-Built Scout Hut

THE new specially-built headquarters of the 1st and 2nd Oakville Troops, Ont., was formally opened Feb. 20th by President J. W. Mitchell, of the Ontario Provincial Council, in the presence of a large gathering of prominent citizens. The headquarters was

erected largely through public subscription, the site being provided by the town council. The building material was supplied by local firms at a substantial reduction in price, and much of the construction work was done by interested citizens. The Scouts themselves aided in the excavation of the basement.

The building is 42x24 feet in ground plan. It includes a spacious lobby, with cloakrooms, an assembly hall, and a headquarters office for each of the two troops. In addition to a furnace the hall has a large brick fireplace.

On the occasion of the opening ceremony a gold Thanks Badge and a bronze Scout statuette were presented to Reeve Blakelock, who had given much time in supervising the construction.

The high standing of Scouting in Oakville, of which the hut is a community expression, is credited to Scoutmaster F. A. Phillips of the 1st Oakville Troop. During the past year it was necessary to organize a second troop; and total membership of the two troops is now over 80.

Scout Dates

- 1st—All Fools' Day. Scouts to "fool" as many persons as possible with Good Turns.
 - 3rd—Passion Sunday.
 - 9th—Vimy Ridge, 1917.
 - 10th—Palm Sunday.
 - 14th—Holy Thursday.
 - 15th—Good Friday.
 - 17th—Easter Sunday.
Jewish Passover.
2nd Battle Ypres, 1915.
 - 18th—Easter Monday.
 - 23rd—ST. GEORGE'S DAY.
 - 24th—Low Sunday.
 - 24th-30th—Participation in "Save the Forest Week."
- During April
- Early spring observation hikes.
 - Begin talking summer camps and camp funds in earnest.
 - Aid in local spring "clean-ups."

Patrol Bottle Ball.—Two 14-foot circles are drawn on the floor, 6 or 8 feet apart. A bottle or a nine-pin is placed upright in the centre. With a football, or other ball, the members of (for example) the Owl patrol, with the exception of their P.L., take up positions about one circle, and the P.L. of the Crow Patrol stands near the centre between the bottle and the Scout with the ball. Similarly the members of the Crow patrol, with a second ball, take up positions about the second circle, and the P.L. of the Owls stands between the ball and the bottle. The object of the game is to knock over the bottle, which the opposing P.L. endeavours to protect by always keeping in front of it. Kicking is not permitted. The game begins on the whistle, and the first patrol knocking over the bottle wins.

HAVE YOU YOURS?

An order for three copies of *The Scoutmaster's First Year* has come from Poona City, India. Have you your copy?

Patrol Inspection in Corners

AT fifteen minutes past seven all Scouts should be at the Troop Room. This does away with any lateness which would lose points in the Patrol Competition and enables a leader to know who will be present during the meeting. Five minutes later the Patrol Leader should blow whistle, or give his patrol call specially arranged signal and have patrol line up in the patrol corner. He should go carefully over each Scout's uniform to see that everything is in order. He should see that shoes are shined, nails cleaned, teeth brushed, hair combed, and that all his Scouts are ready for general inspection. Of course, he himself will be tidy and neat before he makes his inspection. Then he should collect the fees. When fees are collected before the meeting the matter is out of the way, and it is not necessary for the leader to go about asking each boy if he has his dime here, when they should both be working.

When the above programme is carried out, general inspection is only a matter of form. No points will be lost in the competition and each boy will be spick and span, like a real Scout.

—3rd Peterborough.

A Point for Your Financial Campaign

ADDRESSING the Saint John, N.B., Rotary Club in behalf of Scouting and other boys' work, Mr. V. F. McAdam, of the Montreal Boys' Home, declared that the average yearly cost of keeping a boy in a reformatory was \$400, as against the cost of \$9 for a year in a boys' club. Of the criminals in U.S. prisons last year, 70% he said were under 25 years of age.

The modern boy is not different from the boy of earlier generations; the average home conditions are different. "Give him something worth while to do, and he won't go wrong," the speaker declared.

Ending a Cub Council Fire

HOW do your council-fires wind up? Mine always end with a hymn, and the boys love it, too. No; we are not a church pack; just an ordinary bunch. I tried it out when I found that a camp fire generally meant a noisy, discor- dized breaking up, and discovered it had a real steadying effect, quieted the boys for the closing repetition of the Promise, and dismissal.

—Edwin Worthington, Riverview Park, S. Vancouver.

A CENT A DAY FOR THE OTHER FELLOW THROUGH DOMINION REGISTRATION

Did You Use the Monoxide Gas Problem in the Feb. Leader?

RIDGETON, Ont., March 10.—Joseph Lee, aged 55, was asphyxiated from carbon monoxide fumes in his garage on Broadway Street tonight.