

The Scout

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for Boy Scout & Wolf Cub



Leader

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"Scouting's Importance to the Empire"—the Governor-General at the Montreal S.M.'s and P.L.'s Banquet

A splendid setting for a most effective address on Scouting by His Excellency the Governor-General, speaking as the Chief Scout for Canada, was provided by the annual Scoutmasters' and Patrol Leaders' banquet of the Montreal district held at the Windsor Hotel January 13th.

Closely banked behind the speakers' table was a long row of Union Jacks and troop flags, and facing the table and filling a balcony at one end—a many-coloured and lively picture—were close to 700 P.L.'s and older leaders, in uniform.

His Excellency's address, which was broadcast through Marconi station CFCF, contained many significant passages. He paid a gratifying tribute to the enthusiasm for Scouting which he had seen in Canada, and expressed the hope that the present membership of some 50,000 Scouts would before the expiration of his term of office have reached 100,000.

He expressed the belief that boys of English and French origin would find in Scouting a meeting place of common interest and understanding. "I hope very much to see in the near future," he said, "English and French boys co-operating and working together in the Boy Scout Movement, learning to understand each other better, and to know each other's language better,—so that when they grow up they will be able to work together in complete harmony for the benefit of the Dominion."

His Excellency referred to the experience he had with the Movement in two provinces of India—Bombay and Madras—in both of which districts he was Chief Scout. He spoke of the misapprehensions at first felt in certain quarters when it was proposed to form the young Indians of various castes into Scout troops, and how his conviction that the Movement would succeed was fully justified.

"I have come to the conviction," he said, "that there is no association or organization in the Empire that is more important in the building of good citizenship. I think you will agree with me that to do that we must instil love, affection and devotion for the motherland and the British Empire. We must also instil the principles of a high sense of honour, self-reliance, courage, and a willingness to accept the highest responsibility whenever called upon. If we can instil these

characteristics into our young men we need never fear for the future of the Empire."

Dr. Frank G. Adams, President of the Montreal Scout Council, thanked His Excellency on behalf of the local organization, and Alderman Walter Watson spoke on behalf of His Worship Mayor Martin, who was unable to be present.

A most effective boyishly-phrased address of welcome on behalf of the Patrol Leaders present was made by P.L. Ecclestone of the 5th Montreal Troop. Following the speeches, a number of district trophies were pre-

*B.-P. and
Lady B.-P.!
Many
most
happy
returns
of the
day!—*

*A toast
of
boyhood
and
girlhood
that will
circle
the
World
on
February
22nd.*



sented by Mr. T. H. Wardleworth, Commissioner for Montreal.

Mr. M. F. McNaughton, president of the Montreal Scout Officers' Club, presided.

An effective feature of the banquet arrangements was the placing of Patrol Leaders in troop groups at small circular tables, and the inclusion in these groups of one of their committeemen.

Among the considerable number of out-of-town guests was President E. W. Spurr of the Pictou County Association, N.S.

Scouts and Ice Accidents

(Reprinted from Scout Leader, Jan., 1924)

ALREADY this winter there have been ice fatalities, resulting from carelessness, or from the inability of someone to make an intelligent rescue, or from lack of preparedness.

Every Scoutmaster should discuss the matter with his boys, remind them that it is a Scout's duty to prevent such accidents, and make sure that they are mentally prepared to act promptly and intelligently should an accident occur. Also they should be cautioned against themselves setting any example of carelessness.

Some Warnings

Ice less than two inches thick is not absolutely safe. If full of air bubbles, in an eddy near the foot of a falls or rapids, six inch ice may be unsafe; accidents have resulted from the breaking of ice over a foot in thickness, and apparently firm, but full of bubbles.

The danger of "air holes" or "breathers" is known to most boys. These are especially dangerous when the ice is covered with snow. Frequently they are then indicated only by small circular humps, or by a raised icy snow-crust, resulting from water rising through the opening.

Precautionary Measures

Have your troop make sure that all danger spots on the local skating places are plainly marked with danger signs.

Assign certain Scouts, in turn, to act as safety patrols each afternoon or evening, at least two to every pond or stretch of lake or river ice, where there is skating.

Have all Scouts owning lariats habitually carry these, coiled round their waist (under the sweater or coat if desired) when skating. If not lariats, other suitable rope.

Or have them carry hockey sticks, or their Scout staves, with a small but strong life-line secured to the middle, then wound around the stick.

Rescue-Talk Hints

"If one of your boys should break through the ice: In the first place, KEEP YOUR HEAD. If the ice is thin, do not try to climb back upon it, but spread your arms out over the surface and wait for assistance. Remember, it takes very little to support a person in the water if the person keeps cool. Give the same advice to another boy who has gone through.

"If you are the rescuer: When compelled to cross dangerous ice to reach the person who has broken through, push a ladder or plank ahead of you, if available. If such things are not at hand, carry a pole, or your Scout staff. Should you go through, these will assist you to keep above the

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The Scout Leader

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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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OTTAWA, FEBRUARY, 1928

Ushering

MENTION has been made from time to time of the efficient service rendered by uniformed Scouts as ushers at fall fairs, conventions and various special occasions, and of the effectiveness of this service incidentally in drawing general attention to the public service feature of the Scout training.

Toronto Scouts have had special opportunities of this kind, and have splendidly met them with a staff of alert, well disciplined, smartly dressed, courteous boys who have consistently added to the reputation and standing of the Movement.

Scouts and leaders elsewhere in Canada will join in congratulating the Toronto Scouts upon the latest and perhaps most significant opportunity of such service offered them,—that of ushering and looking after the comfort of guests at the opening of the Ontario Parliament, Feb. 9th.

Smaller cities and towns of course seldom offer service possibilities of such proportions. Every community, however,—no matter how small,—offers occasional opportunities for ushering and otherwise assisting at public or church functions, and these opportunities are just as effective in developing the "service viewpoint" in the boy, and just as effective in drawing attention to this feature of the Scout training.

Make "Opportunities of Public Service" a standing item of business at your Court of Honour, and again read "Ushering," page 79, *The Scoutmaster's First Year*.

"Miscellaneous Service" in

Uniform

THE 4th Ottawa (Mutchmor School) Troop has been giving some attention to the rendering of service in uniform by members of the troop at various church and Sunday-school suppers and entertainments. Scouts of the denominations concerned are assigned. At a recent Sunday-school festival of St. Gile's Presbyterian Church a group of uniformed Scouts under a Patrol Leader rendered effective service in controlling the younger Sunday-school scholars prior to the supper and in the interval between the supper and the succeeding entertainment. Miscellaneous service rendered at a Ladies' Aid entertainment brought many appreciative remarks followed by a formal letter of thanks.

Why a Poorly Attended Display?

WHILE a large attendance at Scout displays and entertainments is frequently reported, not infrequently there is mention of a very slim attendance. Sometimes there are good reasons in counter attractions and bad weather. It might be worth while, however, for the Scout leaders concerned to sit down with their Courts of Honour and ask some such questions as these: Was the publicity well devised and sustained? Had the quality of previous entertainments anything to do with it? Is it possible that the troop has not yet earned for itself a real standing in the community?—so that its offerings are regarded as akin to those of a Sunday-school, to which one often goes chiefly because you are connected with the school or church, and have no other engagement?

Perhaps the most important question is, "Has the troop really demonstrated the possibilities and qualities of Scouting as a public service organization in the community?" This must be demonstrated!



Ambulance Team of the 1st St. Anne de Bellevue, Que., runners-up in the provincial Wallace Nesbitt Junior, 1927.

Successful Troop Registration in Ontario

"WE can now confidently say that the Dominion Registration System is established," announced Assistant Provincial Commissioner F. C. Irwin in his quarterly report of December 15th last to the Executive Committee of the Ontario Provincial Council. "A few troops are somewhat backward in getting their boys registered, but the reason in every case is something other than opposition. . . . The system is in its second year, and we are pleased to note a considerable number of re-registrations. Most troops are doing their best to meet the financial aspects of the plan, although some admittedly have difficulties."

The latest country to adopt Scouting is Persia, where the movement has been founded under the auspices of the Ministry of Education at Teheran and already numbers some 2,500 Scouts. All schoolmasters are urged to start Scout troops in their schools.

ALONG the TRAIL



A Dominion Scout Registration Car is a world-brotherhood passport.

Make it another "real Canadian" month of out-door Scouting fun and test passing.

Vancouver district leaders already are discussing arrangements and dates for the Easter and regular summer camps.

Toronto Scouts have been asked to take charge of the ushering at the opening of the Ontario Provincial Parliament, Feb. 9th.

District Commissioner A. K. Strachan of Moose Jaw was a recent visitor at Saint John, N.B., on his annual winter visit to his old home in Cardiff, Wales.

A cordial New Year's message of greeting and good wishes was issued to the Scouts and leaders of Alberta by His Honour Lieut.-Gov. Egbert, as Chief Scout for the province.

A largely attended Scout Leader's Conference of the Halifax district was held at St. Paul's Hall, January 27-28, with a Saturday evening supper and session at the Y.M.C.A. Troop Leaders and Patrol Leaders and Rover Scouts participated. Uniforms were worn at all sessions.

Ontario leaders are reminded of the big annual conference-get-together to be held at Peterborough February 16-17. Leaders from other parts of Canada who may be within reach of Peterborough are cordially invited. Hotel accommodation can be secured by writing The Secretary, Boy Scouts Association, 266 Hunter St. W., Peterborough.

Announcement has been received of the Revised Conditions of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught's Challenge Shield Competition for 1928, accompanied by a circular letter from Sir Robert Baden-Powell on the subject of miniature rifle shooting. Conditions and entry forms may be secured from Provincial Headquarters.

A large percentage of town boys must leave home to "seek their fortune." The fact that a boy is carrying an up-to-date Scout Registration card may decide whether or not he is given a particularly desirable position and start in life. No character card has such universal value.

During a meeting of the 1st Port Credit Troop, Ont., Scoutmaster Hayes received a 'phone call for help from a burning auto. He despatched four Scouts. Arrived at the scene the Scouts promptly chopped a hole in the ice of a ditch, used their hats as buckets, and put out the fire, the car then driving away. The *Toronto Globe* humorously referred to "the Scouts' fire fighting apparatus, the regulation five-gallon Scout hat."

SCOUTS AND ICE ACCIDENTS

(Continued from page 49)

surface, and to climb out. If using a plank or ladder, push it across the break in the ice, and if necessary crawl along it until you can grasp and help the person upon it.

Lariat and Hockey Stick

"If you have a lariat, of course you will throw the loop over or within reach of the person in the water.

"If you are carrying a hockey or other stick with a life line rolled about it, unroll the line, and from a safe distance shoot the stick across the ice. Direct the person in the water to place the stick across the ice in front of them, rest their elbows upon it, and raise themselves as you pull. If the ice breaks, have them repeat the operation until the ice holds.

Ordinary Rope

"If you have only a rope, tie it about your body, have someone hold the end, then crawl flat over the ice, distributing your weight as much as possible, until able to grasp the hand of the person in the water. Hold firmly, ask the person on the other end of the line to pull, and direct the person in the water if possible to roll out sideways upon the ice.

The Human Chain

"If neither rope, planks nor sticks are at hand, use the 'human chain'—each boy grasping one ankle of the boy ahead, and all shifting forward cautiously, until the leader is able to reach the hand of the unfortunate.

"In practically all cases the proper way to get out of a hole in the ice, whether being helped or not, is to break the ice away until solid ice is reached; rest the arms and elbows upon it, flat; get one foot out, then carefully raise and roll out full length sideways. Remember those points."

Ice Rescue Practice

After the above outlined talk, put on an ice-rescue demonstration. This may be made a competition, each patrol being given a "problem" which they must begin acting out immediately, the P. L. taking the part of the actual rescuer.

For example: "A young lady has gone through the ice, down there by the door. The ice is thin, and breaks as fast as she attempts to climb out upon it. She is panic-stricken. You have your lariat about your waist. There is an old board fence over there on the other side of the river (other side of room). Go ahead!"

And so on. Without warning, while the third or fourth victim is being "drawn from the water," add: "The person is unconscious from shock and cold."

Unconscious Cases

In unconscious cases the victim would of course be treated for apparent drowning and shock (p. 477 Handbook for Canada, p24 Scout Ambulance Man or p112 Scout Diary, 1928). Where the rescued person is able to walk he would be taken ashore quickly and kept running until he reached some place where his clothes could be removed; he would be put to bed, given hot drinks, hot water bottles applied, etc.

The details above mentioned or indicated might be left out of the preliminary discussion, in order to test

the boys' grasp of the needs of the situation, and also to provide points for criticism in judging the merits of the respective demonstrations. Criticisms would be made and points awarded at the conclusion of the last demonstration. To drive the lessons home the session should be repeated at an early meeting, and new problems given.

Tell Some Rescue Stories

The Medal Award sections of our Annual Report contain a number of fine stories of ice accident rescues by Canadian Scouts, which might well be read or told. One is given herewith, selected for its completeness of detail. It describes the rescue by four boys of the 1st Kelowna (B.C.) Troop of a full grown, six-foot man, wearing a heavy overcoat, who had gone through extremely thin ice on Okanagan Lake.

The four Scouts, who were without ropes or sticks, skated to a boathouse and secured two lengths of rope. These they quickly tied together, and in single file, holding the rope, skated rapidly to the scene. When near as possible to the man in danger, Troop Leader DuMoulin threw the rope. Because of its having stood a long time

The Toy Shop of the 2nd Cardston, Alta., S.M. Wood, turned out 180 articles, many of considerable value, for Christmas distribution by the Local Relief Society.



uncoiled, however, the rope curled up, and fell short of Burne's reach.

The Scouts wasted no further time in experimenting. One end of the rope was secured to a hockey stick. Leonard DuMoulin, the smallest and lightest of the four, dropped to the ice, and pushing the stick ahead of him, began worming forward on his stomach. Behind him, holding him by one foot, and with one hand grasping the rope, crawled Jack Groves. In like manner behind Groves crawled Anthony DuMoulin, and behind Anthony, Godfrey Groves, the heaviest.

The ice began to crack ominously beneath them, but the Scout chain crawled slowly but steadily on. At last they were near enough, and Leonard DuMoulin sent the hockey stick, with the rope attached, skimming towards the hole. The stick reached Burne, and he clutched the rope.

Troop Leader DuMoulin directed Burne to tie the rope about his waist. Burne declared he could not release his hold on the ice to do this. He said he could hold the rope with his hands, however.

Leonard DuMoulin was then directed to pull. The three lads behind him dug in the toes of their skates, each tightened his hold on the leg of the boy in front, and Leonard pulled. Burne came a few inches up over the edge of the hole. There was a crackle,

the ice gave way, and he sank back. The boys backed up, and Leonard pulled again. Again the ice gave way. Several times this was repeated. With the ice making ominous sounds beneath them the boys persisted, however, and finally a quick, strong heave brought Burne in a rolling sprawl out upon the surface. The four Scouts backed further away, and with a final heave dragged the drenched skater to solid ice and safety.

Toy Shop Echoes

THE final roll of the Scout Toy Shop Chain was 54, the last added being Cardston, Alta., Punnichy, Sask., and Cobourg, Ont. Added to non-shop troops providing gifts for settlers—North Bay and Cobalt, Ont.

For its first year the Vancouver District Toy Shop, operated in co-operation with the Vancouver Daily Province under the direction of Clive Sara, produced the remarkable number of well over 10,000 toys, and took care of the children of 2,100 families, including settlers. Chilliwack, Burnaby, New Westminster, North Vancouver and other nearby Scouting centres

contributed toys and assisted in distribution. Work was begun early, and much of the repairing done by troops at their headquarters. The Guides did splendid work with the very large number of dolls.

The Halifax Toy Shop, one of the originals of 1924, and previously operated by the 8th Halifax (First Baptist) Troop, was made a district enterprise, and run in co-operation with the Good-fellow's Club of the Halifax Daily Mail. Excellent support was given by various business houses, and a free 'phone service installed. In addition to local distribution the shop supplied toys and candy for 100 settlers' children in Nova Scotia and 48 in B.C. and Alberta. The shop met its own mailing expenses on these parcels.

The Brandon Shop was established in the basement of the C.N.R. station, on the invitation of Divisional Superintendent J. J. Napier, who also had work benches erected. The shop attracted considerable local attention, and was visited by the Bishop of Brandon, Mayor Cater and other prominent citizens. The shop's supporters included several of the large local business houses. Toys were distributed through the local women's service organizations.

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THE CAMP CHIEF'S PAGE

THE NEW INDOOR TRAINING COURSE FOR SCOUTMASTERS

A new training course, as above named, is announced by Dominion Headquarters. The new course, divided into four "Units," will take the place of Part III-A and Part III-B Winter Courses. The material presented in the lectures of the four Units covers that included in Parts III-A and III-B and in addition includes matter covered in Part I (Correspondence) Course.

Part III-A and III-B Winter Courses now running and immediately projected will be completed, and the new Indoor Training Course adopted for subsequent classes.

Will Reach Large Number

It is believed that the change to the shorter Four-Unit system will result in getting training to a large number of men who could not see their way to taking the ten-night course. It also will make possible the putting on of several Unit courses over week-ends in places where the less elastic Part III courses could not be given.

It is believed that Unit 1 will attract Troop Committeemen and Local Association members, along with prospective leaders, as a means of acquiring an elementary knowledge of Scouting methods. Unit 1 was designed to meet this need.

Size of Classes

Where the leadership of one or more graduate Gillwellians is available, and where classes of at least 12 members (of 18 years or over) can be organized, permission will be granted by the Dominion Camp Chief to conduct any or all of the four Units. In quite small communities classes of 8 will be authorized.

Session Arrangements

The sessions of a Unit may be put on in any way which suits the convenience of the class and instructor. Suggestions are: (a) One night a week for three weeks (b) three nights in succession; (c) every other night for a week; (d) Friday night, Saturday afternoon and Saturday evening (usually with a social hour and meal between the two Saturday sessions). The Units themselves may be put on in any order and may be taken by candidates in any order, although the 1, 2, 3, 4 order is recommended.

Certificates

A candidate completing all four Units will receive a certificate which, together with the Part II (Camp Course) Certificate and the Part IV (Commissioner's Recommendation Certificate) will entitle him to the Canadian Gillwell Badge.

Will Be Kept Up-to-Date

While it is anticipated that the new Indoor Training Courses will stand indefinitely, they have been laid out with a certain elasticity which will permit of such modification as may from time to time be suggested by observation and experience, to the end that they may be kept well up-to-date.

Information may be secured from Provincial Headquarters.

THE WINTER COURSES

Winter Training Courses now running: Part III-A—Glance Bay and Sydney, N.S., under Field Commissioner J. O. Kaulbach. Chatham, Ont., under District Commissioner A. S. Buesnel. Scoutmaster's Indoor Training Course, Unit 1: Ottawa, Ont., under Assistant Chief Commissioner J. A. Stiles.

Projected: Saskatoon, Sask., under Mr. S. J. Limbrey.

Part II Akela, now running: Vancouver, B.C., under Mr. E. H. Milnes, Assistant District Commissioner for Wolf Cubs. Edmonton, Alta., under District Cub Commissioner W. A. Bayley. Ottawa, Ont., under Assistant Chief Commissioner J. A. Stiles.

Projected: Fraser Valley and Victoria, B.C., under Mr. E. H. Milnes, Assistant District Commissioner for Wolf Cubs.

Study Circle: Projected—Moncton, N.B., under Lady Cubmaster Ruby Young.

Where two of the
Crows nested
on their 24-hour Journey.

—Saskatchewan
Gillwell, 1927.



OUTDOORS IN FEBRUARY

Four hiking Saturdays this month. Make the most of them—for ski or snowshoe hikes to various objectives, with various test and observation games included in the programme. Here are a few Winter Hike reminders:—

Discuss and plan with your Court of Honour—objective, duration, food, clothing.

Clothing—This should not be overdone. It should be just sufficient in quantity for the probable weather conditions, and should not be too tight. Remember, the boys will be more or less steadily on the move until arrival at the rendezvous. The new official Canadian Scout winter uniform—including breeches, mackinaw and toque—ideally solves the problem.

If the occasion is simply an afternoon's hike, an extra sweater carried along and slipped on when a halt is made will provide the extra warmth then needed. If it is to be an overnight camp, and the question of weight prevents the carrying of the extra sweater, a blanket may be thrown about the shoulders for added warmth during a halt. Where equipment is taken by sleigh or toboggan, each boy must be advised to take the extra sweater. Long, flapping overcoats should not be worn.

Blankets—For the overnight hike two or three good woollen blankets will be required by each boy. These should be of a total weight of at least eight pounds, preferably ten. A ground sheet or poncho also should be taken; or where the boys do not possess these, heavy wrapping paper or several thicknesses of newspaper may be used beneath the blankets. Newspapers also may be used to secure additional warmth if needed on especially cold nights, being slipped between the blankets.

Footwear—If it is to be a ski or snowshoe hike, the wearing of suitable footwear will be taken for granted; otherwise footwear will depend upon the weather. For frosty days larigans, shoe packs or moccasins are the proper thing. If there is a possibility of mild weather and damp snow, larigans, shoe packs or heavy shoes, well "dubbed" or oiled, should be worn, in preference to rubbers or rubber boots. It is just as harmful for the boys' feet to become wet from perspiration—which is likely to occur inside rubber-covered shoes or rubber boots—as it is from snow or water.

A comfortable shoe for particularly cold weather is a rubber and felt

storm boot with an extra pair of heavy socks worn in place of the inside shoe.

The Scoutmaster should not be satisfied merely to give advice on the subject of footwear. He should make sure that every boy will be suitably shod. If in doubt he should before starting hold a shoe inspection, making sure that the soles of shoes or boots, when these are worn, are sound. Otherwise wet feet may result from snow melting on the shoes before the camp fire.

The Eats—The food taken should be scoutily simple in kind but plentiful in quantity. On a per-boy-per-meal basis quantities suited to the duration of the outing can readily be worked out from the following lists:

For a Saturday hike: Canned beans; frankfurters; sandwiches; bread (buttered); cocoa (prepared, including milk and sugar); cake or marshmallows.

Added for a several-day's camp: Oatmeal; bacon; canned boiled dinner; potatoes; salt; bread; butter; coffee or tea; sugar; condensed milk; stoned dates.

And try some popcorn. The boys will enjoy both the popping and the eating of it; and it has good food value. Shelled, it takes but little room. It is popped in a frying pan covered with a tin plate. For quantity, take one good handful per boy per pop.

❖ Scouting from Coast to Coast ❖

THE 1st Welland, Ont., and the 16th Winnipeg, Man., report two teams entered in the Wallace Nesbitt Junior competition. * * *

At a Pack Council meeting of the 1st Sherbrooke it was decided that a hike should be held on the first Saturday of every month during 1928. * * *

Scouting Working North

One of the interesting far-North troops recently chartered in Saskatchewan is that organized by Rev. Thomas Murray, missionary to the Porcupine Settlement, Carragana district. The troop numbers 12 boys. How about a few postals or letters of greeting and good wishes from troops elsewhere in Canada? * * *

The Northern News of Cobalt, Ont., is running an interesting weekly column of local and district Scout doings, mixed with informative paragraphs regarding the Movement and programme. * * *

The 1st Oaklands Troop, B.C., found an interesting variation of "O'Grady Says" by substituting "O—bey!" and "O—mit!" * * *

These Gatherings Impress

Trinity Parish Hall of St. Thomas, Ont., was packed with Scouts, Cubs, Guides and Brownies and Life Saving Scouts to meet Field Secretaries Jones and Paddon of the provincial office, and to witness the presentation of life saving medals to Cubmasters Walter Elwood and Charles Anderson of Knox Church Pack. The programme included a council fire demonstration by the 1st Dutton Troop and Pack, pyramids and first aid by the 1st Salvation Army Life Saving Troop, in addition to a wide variety of contributions by local Scouts and Guides. * * *

At a Court of Honour meeting of the 2nd Sherbrooke Troop business discussions included the question of a concert, patrol corner improvements, new equipment required, competition prizes and registration fees and cards. * * *

Bracebridge Scouts made an excellent impression with the Canadian Scout play "Woodcraft" on two successive nights at the Town Hall. * * *

Rovers Urged to Join Alpine Club

A lecture on the joys of hiking in the foothill country near Calgary provided the subject for an interesting lecture before the Calgary Scoutmaster's Club by Public Librarian Robert Calhoun. Mr. Calhoun, a member of the Alpine Club of Canada, urged that older Scouts and Rovers be encouraged to become members of the Alpine Club. * * *

Toc H London, Ont., recently organized, already has produced three volunteers for Scout leadership, and more are expected. * * *

Cubs of the Norwood Pack, Winnipeg, and girls of the Church C.G.I.T. group formed the choir for the special annual white gift service. * * *

A Good "Guest Evening"

The Mothers' Club and a number of committeemen were present at a Guest Evening held by the 4th Chatham Troop, Ont. Patrol competition cups were awarded—the Attendance Cup to the Foxes, and the Proficiency Cup to the Tigers. Each patrol staged a stunt, and all joined to serve the luncheon. One of the committeemen and the president of the Mothers' Club addressed the boys. A camp fire and sing-song closed a jolly evening. * * *

A programme feature of the Digby, N.S., Troop is the writing of essays on birds and animals which are read and commented upon at meetings. Recent subjects were "The Deer" and "The Wild Goose." * * *

The 1st Cobalt Troop entertained a group of Junior Tuxis Boys to a hike and marshmallow roast. A hike game was played, supper was cooked and a camp fire held. * * *

An Employment Bureau for Rovers

The Moose Jaw District Council has decided to conduct a bureau to assist older Scouts and Rovers in securing employment. The bureau will be directed by the district secretary, without charge to Scout or employer. Scoutmasters were asked to provide the secretary from time to time with up-to-date lists of Scouts and Rovers desiring employment, their qualifications, etc. * * *



The 2nd St. Thomas, Ont., Rovers, and S.M. Turnbull. They did good work as an Ambulance unit on Jubilee Dominion Day last, and were later invited to form the nucleus of a Senior St. John Ambulance Division. * * *

ected by the district secretary, without charge to Scout or employer. Scoutmasters were asked to provide the secretary from time to time with up-to-date lists of Scouts and Rovers desiring employment, their qualifications, etc. * * *

Each patrol of the 23rd Border Cities is endeavouring this year to raise money to purchase its own tent for the summer camps. * * *

At a recent regular meeting of the St. Dunstan's Troop, Fredericton, N.B., Prof. H. B. Hachey of the Department of Physics, University of New Brunswick, who has recently taken over the Troop, was invested as a Scout by District Commissioner LeBaron Bull. * * *

1st Cobourg Gives Instead of Asks

The annual report of the 1st Cobourg Troop, Ont., recorded the contribution of \$25 to the building fund of St. Peter's Church, \$19 to the local chapter of the I.O.D.E., the putting out by two Scouts of a grass fire which

threatened a barn filled with hay, and the performing of a rescue from drowning by another member of the troop. * * *

Scouts and Rovers of the 1st Regina very successfully entertained the 4th Regina Company of Girl Guides, at headquarters. The boys served the supper. * * *

At a recent meeting of the Fort William Cub Pack, Lady Cubmaster Mrs. H. W. Ellard gave a talk on New Year's Resolutions, and read a number of letters of thanks from new settlers in the West to whom the Cubs had sent Christmas parcels. * * *

A District Ladies' Auxiliary

At the annual meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Boy Scouts Association of Victoria, District Commissioner H. T. Ravenhill was chief speaker. Reports were read, officers for the coming year elected and plans made for raising funds during 1928. * * *

On a recent hike to Martindale, the 1st Port Dalhousie Troop, Ont., helped a farmer bring in his wood supply. After this they cooked supper and enjoyed a council fire and sing-song, and hiked for home. * * *

At the first meeting of the new year the 2nd Sherbrooke Cub Pack was given instruction on the Guide and House Orderly proficiency badges by Committeeman Placey. * * *

"The Results Justify the Effort"

A report on Border Cities Cubbing by District Cubmaster A. E. Johnstone showed 14 Packs, 22 officers and 400 Cubs,—“with the exception of two packs, all in a flourishing condition.” New packs were reported organized at Amherstburg and Harrow, both under Lady Cubmasters. The report concludes: “At present your District Cubmaster is working with five different packs every week, and while he finds the work taking rather much of his time, he feels that the results justify the effort.” * * *

A combination p.t. and observation period of the 1st Fairfield Troop, B.C., sent the Scouts out on the run to a certain billboard. They observed this for a brief period, returned and made a sketch of the subject set forth. * * *

Cobalt Scout leaders visited New Liskeard recently and assisted in the formation of a troop in connection with the Anglican Church. A follow-up visit by the S.M. and C.M. of the 1st Cobalt found the new troop going along nicely. * * *

Camrose Loses, Edmonton Gains

The 1st Camrose Troop, Alta., which has reached a high standard of efficiency under the leadership of Scoutmaster Percy Fowler, reports with regret the loss of Mr. Fowler by transfer to the Customs Department at Edmonton. Various departments of St. Andrew's Anglican Church also will lose by this active Scout leader's departure. * * *

Fireman's tests for Rovers are being given at the Central Fire Station, Hamilton. Two Rovers recently proved their usefulness by assisting the city firemen at a fire in the Wentworth Arms Hotel.

\$100 was collected by the 10th Moose Jaw Rovers and turned over to the District Council for local Scouting purposes.

Making the Troop Annual Meeting Interesting

The first annual meeting of the 1st Palmerston Troop was held in the form of a regular weekly meeting. Mr. W. Scott, visiting from Sarnia, and formerly a P.L. of the 2nd Sarnia Troop, handled the special inspection, which was "buttons." A number of boys were invested and service stars presented. Rev. E. O. Seymour addressed the troop and refreshments were served.

One of the lively troop magazines coming to the Editor's desk is "The Wonk-Eye," of the 1st Chilliwack Troop, B.C. It is well illustrated, contains much interesting troop chat, and some excellent timely matter by Scoutmaster Brice.

Tenderfoot and Second Class tests were re-passed at the first 1928 meeting of the 23rd Border Cities.

Another Good Troop Evening

At a social evening of the Scouts and Cubs of the 9th Regina attended by over sixty parents, presentation was made to Scoutmaster C. J. Moore of his warrant as Assistant District Commissioner by District Commissioner Smyly. Refreshments were served by the Ladies' Auxilliary.

On the eve of his leaving for Toronto to join the field staff of Provincial Headquarters, Scoutmaster Arthur Paddon was entertained by his troop, the 21st Border Cities, and presented with a brief case.

Occasional Patrol Leaders' nights have been successful with the 2nd Sherbrooke Troop. For these occasions the P.L.'s are given the entire responsibility of planning and carrying out the programme.

By Way of Variety

"The 2nd Kincardine Troop had a novel meeting last Wednesday. The Scoutmaster walked in and stated that he was just a plain Scout in the Moose Patrol for the evening and asked the Assistant Scoutmasters to go ahead with an impromptu meeting. No doubt the S.M. desired to see just what his A.S.M.'s could do in such an event. We'll say right here that McLeod and Shiells carried out a first class meeting."

For the starting of a new Scout troop in connection with St. Paul's Church at Esquimalt, B.C., boys were first chosen as P.L.'s and Seconds, put through their Tenderfoot work, and invested. A Cub pack was given a similar "best start."

An anonymous donor has offered a gold medal for friction fire competition at the Chatham, Ont., Scout Jamboree to be held in April. The medal offered in 1926 was won by Scout Jackson of the 1st Chatham Troop.

N. S. Troop Entertains at Children's Hospital

A Christmas Good Turn which some other troops might note for possible use was the "Revue" put on by the 1st Woodside Troop, N.S., at the Halifax Children's Hospital. Said the Halifax Mail, "The bright cheery songs, and the tricks and antics of 'Joey,' the troop clown, all were applauded. The boy patients reveled in the boxing by the Peeper brothers, Kid Wilfred and Battling Gerald, while the girls were greatly amused by the 'girls' of the troupe." Before leaving the Scouts handed around chocolate dainties, and left a generous supply for future use."

Dedication of the troop and pack colours of the 1st Niagara Falls Scouts and Cubs took place in Drummond Hill Presbyterian Church.

The December Patrol Competition of the Fairfield Troop, B.C., was won by the Crow Patrol. A prize of camping equipment was promised, but the Crows voted to turn the funds over to the troop treasurer, to provide material for patrol shoulder knots.

A Troop At Home Programme

An At Home of the 1st Paisley opened as a regular meeting; promotions were announced; proficiency badges were presented by members of the Troop Committee, and the Scoutmaster addressed the parents, thanking them for their co-operation. Then each patrol gave a demonstration—"Wood pigeons showed the rescue and revival of a person who had broken through the ice, the Wolves demonstrated the rescue of a person from the upper floor of a burning building, and the Wild Geese successfully lit a fire without matches and boiled an egg."

Business men of Digby, N.S., contributed generously toward the cost of repairs made by the boys themselves to the local Scout Hall.

The Ladies' Auxilliary of the 2nd and 4th Sarnia Troops held a very successful euchre and bunco party. Ten Scouts in uniform assisted in serving refreshments.

Dunnville Lions Again Back Scouts

The Lions Club of Dunnville, Ont., is backing local Scouting for another year. At a recent meeting steps were taken to secure more suitable headquarters, and it was arranged that a member of the club should be present at each troop meeting.

The 7th Edmonton paid a visit to the 2nd Troop for an interesting meeting. Indian games were played and instruction given in first aid and signalling. In patrol corners drill and woodcraft were taken up. The usual Court of Honour was held.

Seventy boys sat down to the annual banquet of the 1st Brockville Scouts and Rovers, with Scoutmaster Rev. A. F. C. Whalley and former Scoutmaster A. J. Trail, presiding.

Distinguished British Statesman Presents B.C. Scout's Medal

A double distinction fell to Patrol Leader Harrison of the 1st Ladysmith Troop, B.C., when he was presented with the Canadian Humane Society's parchment for life saving at Government House, by the Rt. Hon. L. C. M. S. Amery, British Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, in the presence of His Hon. Lt.-Gov. Bruce and a composite troop of Scouts from Victoria, Oaklands and Fairfield. Acting Mayor William Marchant also was present. District Commissioner H. T. Ravenhill related to the group of officials the details of Scout Harrison's act, of August last, when he dived fully clothed from a wharf to rescue a small boy who had disappeared in the waters below.

A feature of a recent meeting of the 4th Peterborough Troop was a short period devoted to the drawing of patrol animals.

The annual At Home of the 1st Vernon Troop, B.C., held at the Court House, proved an enjoyable affair. The decorations included lights shaded in blue and green, the troop colours, large blue fleur-de-lis, flags and Scout pictures. Music was provided by the Nighthawk Serenaders Orchestra, all of whose members were Scouts or ex-Scouts.

A Combined Banquet

The combined sixth annual banquet of the 1st Chatham Troop and first annual banquet of the 7th Chatham—an affair crowded with fun, stunts and songs, and good eats provided by the Ladies' Auxilliary—was made the occasion for presenting retiring Scoutmaster Fred Buesnel of the 1st with a gold watch chain, following addresses by Canon Perkins and President Thomas of the Scout Council. Mr. Buesnel has taken up the wider duties of District Commissioner.

At a regular meeting the 1st Truro Troop, N.S., presented the Troop Secretary, Mrs. H. R. Davidson, with a gift as a mark of appreciation of her very active interest; and to Scoutmaster C. R. Barrett, a gold ring. Several proficiency badges were presented and a fudge treat enjoyed.

An invitation to a movie party by Manager Harrison of the Capitol Theatre, St. Catharines, brought out 325 Scouts and leaders of the St. Catharines district. In addition to the city troops, Scouts and Cubs were present from Merriton, Beaverdams, Barnesdale, Port Dalhousie and Thorold.

Tuxis and Scout Problems Similar

An outline of Trail Ranger and Tuxis work was given by Boys' Work Secretary Shoemaker of the Victoria Y.M.C.A. before the district Scouters' Council. "It was found that the problems of the two organizations were

very largely identical. One of the chief of these was the need of men to lead troops or squares as Scouters or Mentors."

The 10th Calgary has added boxing to its repertoire.

The London, Ont., Jamboree received splendid support from the local press, with page-wide headings over generous stories.

A Precaution to be Remembered

Before dismissing the 1st Paisley, Ont., after a January hike in which slush and rain were encountered, the Scoutmaster "instructed the Scouts how to prevent ill effects from wet feet or clothing. Not one hiker caught cold."

The 17th Hamilton (St. Alban's) Troop put on a very successful concert for the benefit of the Sunday School.

The Christmas number of "The Trooper," the magazine of the 6th Vancouver Troop, was a most attractive edition in three colours. A generous number of illustrations were well done, especially the marginal sketches of the page devoted to nature lore.

St. John's Wolf Cubs, Sarnia, and some of the books and toys they collected for the Sarnia Scout Toy Shop.



A Memorial Clock for the 1st Galt

At an impressive ceremony in the 1st Galt Troop council room Mr. W. E. Howes of Stratford, formerly of Galt, presented to the troop a beautiful clock in memory of his son Harley, one of the original members of the troop, who died during the after-war flu epidemic. Rev. Canon Snelgrove officiated. The clock, 28x12 inches, with a chime, bears a suitable brass plate.

A Mothers' Auxillary is being organized in connection with the 29th (Sandwich) Border Cities Troop.

Cobalt Girl Guides entertained the 1st Cobalt Troop to a toboggan party and supper in St. James' Parish Hall.

Invite the Mayor and School Principal
The Troop Ladies' Auxillary were hostesses to the 1st Nanaimo Scouts and Cubs and their friends for an evening of games, music and refreshments. Mayor Busby and School Principal Webb addressed the boys, who on their part offered a demonstration of Scout work.

An Effective Jamboree Opening

The annual Galt Scout Jamboree, given on two successive nights, was attended by some 700 persons, and netted \$100. An effective opening was

the singing of O Canada by a group of 90 Cubs, Scouts and leaders, followed by "John Peel." The Jamboree was repeated in Preston in aid of the 1st Preston Troop.

More Scout Libraries

The growth of Scout troop libraries is interesting. The already substantial library of the Vernon, B.C., Troop continues to grow, and the 2nd Sherbrooke, Que., news column notes that its library now contains over 200 volumes. The 6th Ottawa is one of the last recruits to the library chain.

The 3rd Alberta P.L.'s Conference

THE Third Annual Alberta Patrol Leaders' Conference, held at MacKay Avenue School, Edmonton, December 28-29, brought together some sixty boy leaders for a programme that was felt to have marked another advance in this annual event. In addition to addresses on Scouting subjects, notably understanding speeches were heard from Bishop Gray and Mayor Bury. The Mayor stressed principles which he said were expected in a Scout: "a good, manly, straight-

forward character; courage, perseverance and courtesy." Bishop Gray, speaking on "The Value of Scouting," emphasized the rule that "a cushy job is not worth while. Anything that is worth while doing is not easy," he declared, and took the recent Toy Repair Shop work as an example.

District Commissioner Hilton introduced the first subject for discussion, "The Training of a Recruit." Other subjects were: "That Awkward Boy" in the patrol, "Distance Judging" and "Signals and Signalling." Col. R. H. Palmer, Forestry Superintendent, discussed "Conservation of Forests and Wild Animals" and "Forest Fire Fighting," and Mr. J. N. Eagleson, instructor of music in the Edmonton Public Schools, gave a talk and demonstration of community and camp fire singing.

The conference was organized into patrols by Field Secretary Solway. Provincial Commissioner Dr. George Malcolmson delivered the address at the closing supper at the Y. During the conference the facilities of the Y gym and pool were placed at the service of the visiting Patrol Leaders.

Telegrams of fraternal greeting were exchanged with the Alberta C.S.E.T. Boys' Parliament, in session at Calgary.

An Annual Report in the Local Press

A statement of receipts and expenditures and a tabulation of the year's activities of the 1st Truro Troop, published in the *Truro News* over the signature of the Troop Secretary, Mrs. H. R. Davidson, presents a striking record, and one that must have very favourably impressed the community. The financial statement shows receipts and expenditures from all sources and for all purposes of \$624.40.

The list of public service activities offers an excellent example of what may be done by one alert town troop. They include: Searched for man lost in the woods. On duty at Colchester County Hospital opening, 2 p.m.—9.30 p.m. Assisted in parade to advertise Fireman's Tournament. Provided Scouts for opening of Fireman's Tournament. Participated in unveiling of Soldier's Monument. Participated in parade for Tuberculosis Society. Met Westminster Abbey Scout Choristers, passing through, and presented with basket of apples and box chocolate bars. Planted 1,000 seedlings in Victoria Park. Dominion Day, on duty 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.—body guard for school children; decorated grave Sir Adams Archibald; assisted with games at park 2—5 p.m.; older boys on duty at park 7—10 p.m. Body guard to Governor-General, July 14. Showed winter bird feeding exhibit at fair. Ran Christmas Scout Toy Shop.

TOY SHOP ECHOES

(Continued from page 51)

The Scout Herald-Sunshine Calgary Shop provided for some 1,400 local children, and a large number of children in the nearby rural districts, including those of 128 settlers' families. A feature of the Calgary shop's work was its promptness in taking care of last minute calls. One of these was a telegraphic request from Ottawa, three days before Christmas, to look after a family of eight. The toys were expressed and arrived on Saturday, the 24th. A splendid kit of repair tools was presented to the shop by the Herald-Sunshine Society.

The Lethbridge Shop distributed 150 toys with the aid of the District Nursing Mission.

In addition to local distribution, the New Glasgow, N.S., Toy Shop took care of 101 children of new settlers on Prince Edward Island and 13 in British Columbia. Candy was included in each package. The Gyro Club financed the mailing.

The Ottawa Toy Shop played Santa to 3,115 children in 808 families, including 647 settlers' children on farms.

The Saskatoon Toy Shop received splendid support from the *Saskatoon Star*, from the public schools and from the ministers of several churches. Some 850 toys were distributed locally on Christmas eve with the help of loaned cars and a truck provided by the Western Lighting Agency. Principal Lennan of the Saskatoon Business College arranged the preparation of letters to go with the gifts.

The 1st Chatham Troop, Ont., took care of 450 local children. An unexpectedly large demand necessitated a house-to-house Scout canvass and the fixing of the maximum age of recipients at 13.

Victoria, B.C., Scouts collected toys, mothers of families in poor circumstances were invited to tea at headquarters, and requested to select gifts for their 70 little folks. Remaining toys were turned over to the Salvation Army.

The Guelph Shop provided 411 packages for local children and took care of 20 in the west.

The Sherbrooke Shop established a splendid record by providing toys for 731 children, including 105 settlers' children in Quebec. Voluntary cash contributions of \$35.05 were received toward shop expenses and the cost of mailing settlers' packages.

Toronto had 18 branch toy shops. These and the central shop took care of a little over 800 settlers' children in Old Ontario and New Ontario and the West. One interesting block included all the children of a Mennonite settlement on the Trans-continental in New Ontario. The 42 boys of an Indian school were generously provided with new warm clothing in addition to toys and books. The usual list of missions, orphanages, children's hospitals and other institutions were looked after. A postal card accompanying parcels to settlers offered to replace broken toys or parcels not received. A number were duplicated.

Winnipeg Scouts and Guides distributed some 1,600 toys, books and dolls of an exceptional quality, the large number going to settlers' children in the province. The local Immigration Hall, Junior Red Cross and a number of missions and other institutions also were generously provided with gifts.

The Saint John, N.B., Toy Shop, with the help of the Girl Guides, took care of 1,200 children, including 164 settlers' children in New Brunswick and 27 in the West. The street railway company provided passes to Scouts delivering Christmas parcels.

Fort William Cubs received two Santa Claus package acknowledgments written in a foreign language which they were unable to read.

In appreciation of the supplying of toys to the children of ex-service men the Regina branch of the Canadian Legion staged an At Home and moving picture show at the Legion Auditorium for some 300 Regina Scouts. The Regina Shop distributed 650 toys through the Salvation Army, the Canadian Legion, the Red Cross Junior Hospital and the Children's Shelter.

Fredericton, N.B., distributed 1,086 gifts in the city and among settlers' children in the province. Santa Claus packages also were sent to a number

of little New Canadians in the West. The Toy Shop headquarters was supplied by Mayor Clark. Active supporters of the shop included the Countess of Ashburnham.

The Three Rivers Scouts sent toys to the children on the Magdalene Islands. This has been one of their special Christmas Good Turns for several years. Their quota of toys for

farms in the West. To each of the latter were sent books, toys, a noise-maker, and a new pair of wool stockings.

The Edmonton Shop, run in conjunction with the Edmonton Journal Sunshine Fund, distributed gifts as follows: Journal Sunshine, 804; Journal Sunshine Russian Missions, 100; Salvation Army, 225; Soldiers' Settlement Board families, 436; Roman Catholic Institutions, 125; Church of England Institutions, 50.

In addition to toys provided the local Children's Home and the Salvation Army, the Moncton, N.B., shop furnished toys for 91 settlers' children in north-eastern New Brunswick, 11 in B.C., and 46 children of the G.W.V.A. veterans. It was their first shop.

A new avenue of distribution discovered by the Hamilton Shop was the City Health Department, which took 300 toys. The Ottawa Shop distributed a number of gifts in one of the nearby communities through the local Chief of Police.

The Red Deer Rotary Club met the expense of mailing toys sent by the Red Deer Toy Shop to settlers' children in that part of Alberta.

At St. Thomas, Ont., city firemen did most of the toy repair work.

Parcels of an average value of \$5 were sent by the 1st Sarnia Troop to 9 young settlers in the West. The gifts were brought by the boys or paid for from troop funds.

Photographs of Toy Shop work were received from Truro, N.S., Moose Jaw, Sask., Calgary, St. John, N.B., Montreal, Chatham, Ont., Toronto, Sherbrooke, Que., Winnipeg, Ottawa, Cardston, Alta. It is hoped more will be received. They help to interest others in the possibilities of the Big Good Turn.

A number of the shops mention plans for next year. Montreal placed aside larger toys requiring considerable repair, for fixing by individual troops during the intervening year.—The report made to the local executive by the Edmonton Shop suggests that for next Christmas a start be made on November 15th, there being sufficient carried-over material on hand to occupy the boys for two weeks.—In addition to storing a quantity of broken toys in order that repair work may be started earlier for next Christmas, Saint John, N.B., has inaugurated the plan of collecting discarded playthings throughout the year.

Where Toy Shops sending gifts to settlers have received no acknowledgments it should be remembered that many of these newcomers have little or no letter writing ability. Some of the European-born families probably did not understand the meaning of the gifts, never having before known such disinterested kindness. This is a common experience of the officials of the immigration departments of the two big railroads. The children neverthe-

A Composite Four-Night Troop Programme

- 7.30 Patrol Corners; roll call, dues. Points off for snow not shaken off outside.*
- 7.35 Roll reports.* Flag break. Scout Silence. General Inspection.* Special Inspection.*
 - (a) Hats, for proper dents.
 - (b) Rubbers, torn or not rubbed over.
 - (c) Contents of right pocket for usefulness; extra ½ point for carrying string.
 - (d) Parting of Hair.
- 7.45 Lively Game—(Freeze)*
 - (a) Zig Zag Relay.*
 - (b) Foot in the Ring.*
 - (c) Barnyard.
 - (d) Vegetables and Animals.
- 7.55 Patrol Corners. Test and badge work as arranged by Court of Honour. (Freeze)*
- 8.10 Quiet Game—
 - (a) Signalling Dominoes.
 - (b) Checked Relay.
 - (c) Spies.
 - (d) Compass Treasure Hunt.
- 8.20 (a) Morse Relay.*
 - (b) Semaphore Relay.*
 - (c) Sealed message in Morse.*
 - (d) Sealed message in Semaphore.*
- 8.30 (a,c) Tracking problem (outdoors).*
 - (b) Panic in Movie Theatre.*
 - (d) Hand Signals.*
- 8.40 (a) Scout Law Charade.*
 - (b,c) Ice accidents.*
 - (d) Carbon Monoxide poisoning.*
- 8.50 Council Fire: Songs, S.M.'s Five. Songs (mimetic). Announcements. Scout Silence. O Canada. King. Flag. Duty Patrol named. Dismiss. Court of Honour.

*Patrol Competition.

settlers' children in the West was made up entirely of new toys, and the parcels mailed three days after receipt of the request from Ottawa.

The Rover-Toe H Toy Shop of Moose Jaw was a big success, and furnished gifts for 425 children. A picture of one day's collection at Radio Station CJRM looked like the entire stock of a small store, and included articles of quite considerable value.

The Windsor, Ont., Toy Shop was Santa Claus for 600 children in the Border Cities and 104 children on

less enjoy the gifts, and the experience undoubtedly helps both children and parents to an understanding of Canadian ideals.

As a result of the greatly expanded Toy Shop work a number of inquiries have been received regarding the origin of the scheme. The idea first came to the *Scout Leader* in 1923, from a brief paragraph in the *Scout News* of Omaha, Neb.—where a Scout Toy Shop apparently had been in operation for some years. In the December *Scout Leader* of that year mention of the plan was listed among a number of other Scout Christmas Good Turns. In the December *Leader* of 1924 the idea was studied and presented in an expanded form, and two centres and two individual troops reported the organization of shops—Calgary and Ottawa, and the 1st Chatham Troop, Ont., and 8th Halifax. The experience of these shops was outlined in the *Scout Leader* of December, 1925, and the number of shops that year increased to 13. In 1926 the number was 23, and for 1927, 54. A number of individual troops in Toronto and elsewhere had been collecting and redistributing toys for some years; and the general idea of developing the work along the present repair shop lines had a local start in Calgary in 1922, according to a recent editorial in the *Calgary Herald*.

Particularly good ideas—logical ideas—not infrequently “break out” simultaneously in different centres. This would seem to have been the case with the Scout Toy Repair Shop. To give credit where it is due, however, *The Scout Leader* is glad to acknowledge its indebtedness for the first suggestion to our American Scout brothers, of Omaha, Neb., and the editor of their excellent local publication, *The Omaha Scout News*. Our Toy Shop Scrap Book contains a picture of the Omaha Toy Shop on its first page.

Ensure Good Cooking for Next Summer's Camp

THE further advance in camp cooking noted in last summer's Camp Questionnaires was undoubtedly due in some part to the use, by Scoutmasters, of the Cooking Test Card advocated last winter. The Camp Chief suggests that the system be again used; and the sample card is again here reproduced.

The idea is that copies of the card be made by the Troop Scribe and handed each Second or First Class Scout, with the request that he secure his mother's co-operation, and hang the card up in a conspicuous place in the kitchen until it has been filled and duly signed. The week-end and holiday hikes will provide the opportunity for “finishing off” the course. It is suggested that all the older Scouts, and the S.M. himself, take the course, whether or not they have previously qualified as camp cooks.

The list may look formidable, but if spread over five months, means less than one item a week. Where difficulties are presented, the list may be divided between two, or even three

boys who expect to attend camp. In this case each boy would be given a card with his items marked, or the others scored out.

A boy cooking the entire list would readily pass the outdoor First Class and Camp Cook tests.

Special Monthly Badge Classes

The 2nd London Troop has arranged for a series of monthly badge courses, to which other troops are invited. During January Mr. Wiley instructed for the Electrician's badge; February will be devoted to the Engineer's badge; for March, Mr. John Grant, in charge of C.P.R. first aid work, will give the Ambulance course, and during April it is expected that a course will be given on the Printer's badge.

COOKING TESTS		
To be passed before June 1, 1928.		
Article	Cooked O.K.	Signed
1 Oatmeal		
2 Hunters' Stew.		
3 Potatoes (2 styles)		
4 Eggs (2 styles)		
5 Bacon		
6 Beans		
7 Bannock.		
8 Steak		
9 Sausage		
10 Fish		
11 Roast, or Pot Roast		
12 Prunes, Apricots, or Dried Apples.		
13 Tea		
14 Cocoa		
15 Coffee		

Exchange Letters With an “Opposite” in the Old Country

IT is desired to develop an exchange of letters between Canadian leaders of various ranks, Rovers and Scouts, and those of a similar rank, and of similar Scouting interest, in the Old Country. Thus a Scoutmaster, an Assistant Scoutmaster, a Rover, a Patrol Leader or a Scout would be put in touch with a leader, a Rover, P.L. or Scout of similar rank or number in England, Wales, Scotland or Ireland. This should be of most interesting possibilities; and it is hoped that a good number of Canadian Scouts and leaders will take advantage of the arrangement.

The first letter should be addressed “Brother Scout,” or Rover, as the case may be, and the envelope addressed Overseas Correspondence, Dominion Headquarters, Boy Scouts Association, 172 Wellington St., Ottawa. It will then be passed on to the department concerned at Imperial Headquarters.

Ye Scout Second-hand Booke Shoppe

HERE is a real troop fund-raising idea! The 124th Montreal (St. Matthew's), Scoutmaster H. M. Calder, held a two days' second-hand book sale in the basement of the church, and netted \$23.00. The books were collected from members of the church.

This suggests the possibility of a real Scout second-hand book shop venture in smaller towns where there are at present no such second-hand stores. As a matter of fact there are very few second-hand book shops in Canada, even in the larger cities; yet many people cannot pass a display of second-hand books, offered at an attractive flat price, without pausing to look them over, and not infrequently to buy. Second-hand magazines in good condition also have a demand.

Suitable publicity would be necessary. Presumably the first appeal for books would be made among friends and neighbours of the members of the troop. Where the troop is connected with a Sunday-school, an appeal might be arranged there. It would be made clear that the purpose was to raise funds to meet the troop's expenses, perhaps including those of the summer camp.

A Location

A very small well-located store, which might be had at a low rental, would be the ideal location. Probably the most feasible plan would be to secure some window space in a store of some non-conflicting line, such as a shoe store, and have a Scout salesman on duty at specified hours. A specially constructed movable display-bookstand might be placed outside before the shop window, weather permitting, or where there is a vestibule, placed there, in a position to catch the eye of passers-by. (Such a movable stand of second-hand books placed in the vestibule of an Ottawa book store usually has a number of people looking over its contents. A large placard which can be read by passers-by announces the price, usually “25 CENTS EACH.” Occasionally a placard announces “15 CENTS EACH,” and more rarely “50 CENTS EACH.” The books are back-up, and the stand is of such a height that the person of average height can readily read the titles.)

The Question of Competition

Such book sales offer little real competition with regular book stores. As a matter of fact it can be argued that they are likely to improve business, first by helping to clear out the books of certain families who are then likely to buy new books, and second, by generally contributing to an interest in reading. In the case of certain school books, it already is the practice of pupils to sell these second-hand to one another.

EXPLAIN THE PURPOSE OF
DOMINION REGISTRATION
TO YOUR COURT of HONOUR
THE BOYS'LL FINANCE IT.

❖ The Scoutmaster's Five Minutes ❖

The Test of the Black Prince

DURING the battle of Crecy, King Edward III. posted on an eminence by a windmill, was watching the progress of the battle into which he had sent his son, Edward, the Black Prince, to win his spurs. A messenger came in haste to the king, saying that the prince was hard pressed and entreating him to come to his aid.

The king replied, "Is my son dead, unhorsed or so badly wounded that he cannot support himself?"

"Nothing of the sort, thank God," rejoined the knight; "but he is in so hot an engagement that he has great need of your help." The king answered, "Now, Sir Thomas, return to those that sent you, and tell them from me not to send again for me this day, or expect that I shall come, let what will happen, so long as my son has life. And say that I command them to let the boy win his spurs; for I am determined, if it please God, that all the glory and honour of this day shall be given to him and to those into whose care I have entrusted him."

The knight returned to his lords, and related the king's answer, which mightily encouraged them, and made them repent that they had ever sent such a message. When the battle was over and the battle was won, King Edward came down from his post, advanced to the Prince of Wales, embraced and kissed him, saying, "Sweet son, God give you good perseverance. You are my son, for most loyally have you acquitted yourself this day. You are worthy to be a sovereign."

—Adapted from Froissart.

Australian Tracking

TRAVELLERS in Australia tell many stories of the extraordinary skill of the Australian black as a tracker. It is amazing, they say, to observe the easy accuracy with which these men are able to exercise their peculiar talent.

During one of the African wars an officer of an Australian contingent boasted of the cunning of his black tracker—who was no great master of his craft, after all—until he quite exhausted the credulity of the British officers with whom he was messing. He told one remarkable tale after another, until the other men challenged him to make good his reputation for veracity. The conditions were these:

The five skeptical British officers, two afoot and three mounted, should start at various intervals in whatsoever directions they might elect, and proceed for a period agreed upon. The black tracker, knowing only the colour of the horse that each mounted man rode, and having seen only the print of the shoes that each footman wore, should trace them all within a certain time, and subsequently report the movements of each with reasonable accuracy.

"Is it agreed," said one of the officers, "that we may obscure our tracks?"

"Oh, yes!"

"Must we keep to soft ground?"

"No," the Australian laughed, "Go where you like."

"May we take off our shoes?"
"Of course. Don't spare the tracker. He'll be all right enough."

The tracker had an entertaining day of it. He returned contemptuous of the bushcraft of the five British officers. But he had not been spared, for the officers had taken to stony ground, and sought in every way to bewilder him.

He had followed the tracks of the mounted men on the run, identifying the movements of each by the colours of the dark brown, light brown, and grey hairs of the horses, samples of which he produced. He also told how the first horseman had dismounted and lighted his pipe, how the second had been thrown when riding at a canter, and how the third had dismounted, rested in the shade, and climbed a tree for a view of the country.

He described accurately the movements of the footmen. One had tramped his course without pause or accident; but the other, having taken off his shoes, according to the evidence of a wisp or two of wool from his socks, had cut his foot and gone lame the rest of the way, as a stone with a speck of blood disclosed.

Stalking by sound at the N.B. Gillwell. The joke was that both were Foxes.



When the tracker concluded his revelations, it was agreed by the five British officers that his report was ample, that he had not made a single mistake, and that he had fulfilled all the conditions of the trail.

—The Torchbearer.

Drowning a Dog

THE following pathetic story is vouched for to us by one whose name is abundant evidence of its veracity. It has been published in the "British Weekly":

Reference was made in the course of the trial to the killing of a dog. I wonder if any of my readers have ever tried to drown a dog? I once tried. I hopelessly failed. He was an old dog, possessing such intelligence and fidelity that it has never seriously incensed me that human beings should be compared in certain matters to lower creatures. He had become old. Life was a burden to him, it seemed. He had difficulty in breathing. But he was a real gentleman, and when his trouble, whatever it was, threatened to reach a paroxysm, he would waddle to the door so that he might not embarrass us! But he seemed to get worse and worse, and the man about the place was commissioned to put him down. He, without any intentional cruelty, asked me to do the job, being then but a boy. So I

took him on a string, and in my other hand I carried a weight, and so we reached a lonely place by the side of a canal. (Whenever I read that tremendous story in Genesis about Abraham and Isaac travelling alone up that mountain side, I have tried to put pressure upon my own mind, for I want to sit down and weep, thinking of that evening in my boyhood.) I tied the weight to the other end of the string, with the dog sitting patiently. As I was kneeling to make the stone secure, his old face was level with my young face; and he licked my cheek. That completed it. I cut the string, threw the stone into the water, and went home. It is a great thing to have had a mother who understood you when you were a boy. Mine read the whole story in my tear-stained and swollen face.

Many a walk we had afterwards, that old dog and I, and I must ask my readers to believe me when, putting my hand to my heart, I tell them that, a year or so later, that old dog walked into that canal and drowned himself, when the Author of his being had signified finally that his day had come.

More Good-citizenship Missionaries

GOOD Scouting just naturally spreads and grows. The Scouting activities of Fredericton, N.B., under District Commissioner LeBaron Bull and a group of similarly devoted Gillwellians, has become an outstanding example. As a result of the impression made upon visitors to Fredericton, and the missionary efforts of Fredericton leaders in following up inquiries, a number of troops have been organized in other localities. The latest was organized at the little community of Burt's Corners, following a visit of Commissioner Bull. The good citizen-making contribution of such efforts is not always appreciated, until one is reminded that the boys of such rural centres are too often left entirely to themselves for their amusements, and frequently with disastrous results. The newspaper clipping mentioning the organization of the Burt's Corners troop added this, referring to Mr. Bull's address on Scouting: "Some of the boys who had their cigarettes and pipes in their pockets threw them away when they left the hall."

A VALUABLE IDENTIFICATION
AND CHARACTER CARD GOES
WITH SCOUT REGISTRATION

The Universal Success of the Lady Cubmaster

THE following extract from a letter of our old friend Pickie to the Assistant Chief Commissioner with reference to the success of Lady Cubmasters, and the accompanying note on the subject by Sir Robert Baden-Powell, will be of interest to all those concerned with Cubbing in Canada.

"It is strange to me," writes Sir Alfred, as Commissioner for Oversea Scouts and Migration, "that so much opposition should be shown here and there to the idea of Lady Cubmasters. I found it in 1923 in Australia, in some places almost violent; but since then they have become completely converted to the enormous value of using the services of ladies where Cubs are concerned. I would go almost further and say that where other qualifications are equal, a lady has a more delicate touch with boys of that age than a man, splendid as so many of the latter are. I have visited Packs all over the world, and the devotion that is shown by these little fellows for Lady Cubmasters is wonderful. This devotion must result in the boys imbibing the ideals which are so splendidly set forth.

"I enclose a note by the Chief on the subject."

The Chief Scout's View

Regarding the value of Lady Cubmasters, I think everybody with any experience of Scouting in Great Britain will agree with me in saying that without their help the Cub branch could never have attained its present standard in numbers and effectiveness. More than half of our Packs are run by them. Of course it is difficult to compare individual men Cubmasters with Lady Cubmasters since local conditions vary so, but it is safe to say that on the average the ladies are quite as successful as the men in results on the boys.

I also think, from my experience, that it is more difficult to find men than to find ladies gifted with the special qualities needed for dealing with the small boy. Women also are more readily found than men for this work, especially in outlying villages.

Another point in favour of enlisting young women into this branch of our work is a national one, because it gives them a really practical training in mothercraft, by getting experience and practise in dealing with every kind of temperament and bringing out the inherent good qualities in each individual boy and eradicating the bad. With such experience they cannot fail to be the more efficient mothers later on for the nation.

My observation of the work of Lady Cubmasters is not confined totally to Great Britain. I have lately spent seven months in South Africa, where I found the Cubs on a particularly good and efficient footing, and this was largely the result of the work of Lady Cubmasters.

Of course there was a good deal of prejudice against employing ladies in this capacity when we first started the idea, but that has long ago died out. They are now not only accepted by the men, but welcomed on their merits for the work that they can do.

(signed) ROBERT BADEN-POWELL.

CUBMASTERS!

Here's something you have been waiting for!

THE SIXER'S POCKET RECORD BOOK

It will help simplify your Pack records — attendance, fees, progress. It will add to the importance of the Sixer's position. It will add a new interest to the Sixer's duties, and will give him good experience. It will "tidy up" his job generally.

Designed with the help of several of our leading Canadian authorities on Wolf Cub work.

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Dozen Copies ----- \$1.65

POSTPAID

A NEW CATALOGUE

Our new General Catalogue for 1928 is now printing. It will offer a number of new and interesting lines. Watch for an announcement regarding its distribution in the March Scout Leader.

THE STORES DEPARTMENT
DOMINION HEADQUARTERS
The Boy Scouts Association
172 WELLINGTON STREET
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Why You Should Be Interested in an Akela Course

If a Cubmaster—

It provides you with a training that has proved its value both to the novice and to the experienced leader.

If a Scoutmaster—

It gives a new appreciation of the respective play ideas of the Cub and of the Scout programmes. It helps to an understanding of the essential mental difference between the Cub and the Scout, and of the reasons behind the distinctive features of the Cub and the Scout programmes.

Because every troop should have its affiliated Pack. Every Scoutmaster of a troop without a pack should interest himself in bringing about the organization of a pack.

Because Cubs make better Scouts.

In other words,—more Cubs, more and better Scouts.

Interest a friend to take the course.

—After an article in the Vancouver District Bulletin.

Roverings

THE splendid work being done by Rovers in some of our smaller towns will be suggested by the following paragraphs picked from the Scout News column of the Kincardine Review-Reporter of various dates:

The bird's nest competition is now closed and the Rovers have a fine chart of some 15 excellent specimens of nests mounted in such a way that they can be viewed and examined.

The H.Q. now has an extra fine artificial council fire. The Rovers made this last Thursday afternoon. It is for the use of the Scouts and Cubs as well, and the fellows appreciate the work of the Rovers who supplied it.

There was a big night at H.Q. last Monday when 23 Rovers and 21 Cubs and their leaders gathered together. The Rovers had invited the Pack to a camp fire evening, and it was a jolly time throughout.

The silent acting stunt was good. A Rover was handed a slip of paper on which were short instructions as to what he was to act, for example, "Be a baker and make flapjacks over a fire." He went through the motions, and the others wrote down what he did. The Brocks won out over the Tecumsehs by one point. A.S.M.'s Farr and Mooney conducted this stunt.

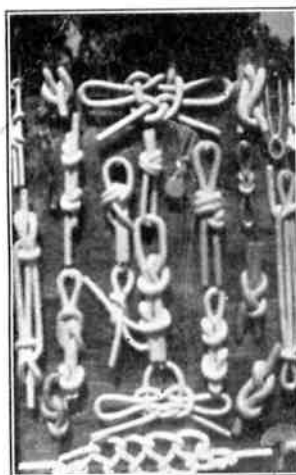
A Winnipeg "Freeze" Idea

AS a means of smartening his boys on the "Freeze" signal, Scoutmaster Hamlin of the 9th Winnipeg used a fairly large badge which he termed the "Dub's Badge," the honour of wearing this being awarded the last boy responding to the signal. At each subsequent signal the boy wearing the badge was very much on the alert to freeze instantly, and at the same time had his eyes open to spot the boy who froze last. The badge was then passed on to this boy. The boy holding the badge at the close of the meeting turned it in to the Scoutmaster, but assumed possession at the opening of the following meeting. The system was very successful.

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
"Wooden
Knot"
Board.

"The work
was done
with a
jackknife,

each knot carved from one piece of wood. I tie a rope into the desired knot, and use it as a model."—S.M. Wm. R. Agar, 1st Brooklyn Troop, Ont.

A Good Elementary-Signalling Game

PATROLS (or Sixes) sit in file. In front of each, at a little distance, is a chalk ring in which stands an Indian club or bottle. A second similar ring is drawn on the floor a short distance from the rear of the patrol. A letter is allotted to each boy—the same letter to Boy No. 1 of each group, another letter to No. 2, and so on. Standing out in front, the leader signals a letter (either Morse or Semaphore). Thereupon each boy having that letter springs to his feet, races to the club, carries it to the chalk ring at the other end of the patrol, and returns to his place. The boy first back in his place scores a point for his patrol.

A Quebec Cub Hike

STARTING at the city limits and ending at the destination of the hike, competition on observation was carried out. Any Cub noticing along the way a bird-nest in a tree, tracks of animals, or anything out of the ordinary, immediately reported his discovery to Akela, with such comments or explanations as occurred to him. For these observations and reports individual competition points were given. The afternoon was spent in playing Cub tracking games, and before leaving for home a fire was built and supper cooked, under the supervision of Akela.

—1st Sherbrooke Pack.

New Fire-Making Sets

AN interesting announcement regarding a new fire-bow set—faster, and more complete, including the bow itself—may be looked for in *The Scout Leader* for March. Also announcement by the Stores Department of a new flint and steel set.

A Good Scout Minstrel Stunt
THE GRINDSTONE.—A Stunt for two. Properties: Two pie pans, a knife and some water.

The Grindstone is seated in a chair, his legs crossed, and a pie pan in each hand, their backs together. He has a mouthful of water.

The other actor walks in whittling, mentions that his knife is dull and guesses he'll sharpen it on the old grindstone.

Pushing the top foot of the grindstone with one foot in an up and down motion he starts the wheel, the two pie pans rubbing together give the lopsided motion typical of grindstones. Now and then the operator twists the ear of the grindstone whereupon a stream of water sprays on to the pans.

When worked by fellows who know their stuff, this is really a funny presentation.

—Omaha Scout News.

Scout Dates February

- 2nd—Candlemas, and "Groundhog" Day.
- 3th—Our American brother Scouts celebrate their eighteenth birthday. Send congratulations to some U.S. Troop.
- 10th—Send birthday greetings to Baden-Powell, Chief Scout, Boy Scouts Association, 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1, England, to reach him on the 22nd.
- 14th—St. Valentine's Day. Hold a bean party or weiner roast, perhaps with an hour's skating, skiing or sliding beforehand.
- 22nd—B.P.'s Birthday and the winter season's big Scout banquet evening.
- 29th—The extra day. Suggest a special Leap Year Good Turn.

During February

Continue the winter hikes, camps, snow-tracking, etc. Prepare for Scout service at skating places on lakes, rivers and ponds during mild spells.

Quebec Scouts Again Assist Hospital

Scoutmasters C. Proctor, N. Sutherland, Assistant Scoutmaster C. Wilkins, Troop Leader G. Webster and Patrol Leaders T. Bain and J. Purdie, representing the Lachine Boy Scouts, on Saturday handed to Mr. Houston, chairman of the Board of the Lachine General Hospital, the sum of \$222, the proceeds of their Good Turn Fund. Mr. Houston in a brief speech expressed the thanks of the Board for the generous gift of the Scouts, stating that the cheque was away over the objective. The Officers and Scouts made a round of the wards, distributing fruit to the patients, and also gave a big doll to Peggy, one of the little patients. They were entertained to supper by the nurses.

—Montreal Star.

A Camp Fire Game Ship's Alphabet

PLAYERS are seated in a circle. Beginning anywhere, the umpire asks: "The name of the letter?" "A" the player indicated may say. The umpire turns to another player and asks: "The name of the ship?" and immediately commences counting sternly up to 10. "Arabella" is sibly given before that number reached. "The name of the Captain" to the next player, again commencing to count to 10. The answer may be "Ananias." "The name of the cargo?" "Apples." "The port she sailed from?" "Alabama." "The place she is bound for?" "Aden." "The next letter?" "K" and so on round the circle.

Each player failing to answer in time, or who says something which is not applicable, moves down one place, or takes the umpire's place.

A Good Hike

A winter hike of the 1st Bear River Troop, N.S.—

The route was up over Indian Hill and across the Indian Reserve to Labrador Road.

At a point where the woods were thickest the entire troop walked Indian file through a trailless part of the country. After many turns over ground where none of the boys had travelled, the Peewits were ordered to take their bearings and lead the troop back to the road, using the sun for direction. They accomplished their object in a faultless manner.

At the supper site near Labrador Corner the Beavers had charge of the "Roast Apple Girl," and the Peewits the "Hot Chocolate" fire.

The Court of Honour then held a session, and the troop returned home, after covering about eight miles. The Scouts, who nearly all have new uniforms, presented a splendid appearance.

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The Wolves
make
twist.
—
Sask.
Gillwell
Journey
1927.