

The

Scout Leader

March Theme:
FLOODS AND EMERGENCIES
SECOND STAR SIGNALLING
USE THE GROUP COMMITTEE

VOLUME 25 - No. 6

OTTAWA, ONTARIO

FEBRUARY 1948



THE SIGN POST

NEVER PASS A FAULT

How often have all of us seen errors in training or the conduct of groups and said to ourselves, "I'll let it go this time, I'll check up on it later". Yet, when you see the same error again you find that another person is responsible, and so we go on never correcting bad Scouting. If we corrected errors, mistakes and discrepancies as we saw them, those we lead and the Movement as a whole would be the better for it. Let's resolve as Scouters never to pass a fault.

* * * *

POSTAL GLOBAL SCOUTING

At the present time on the display board at Dominion Headquarters, we have an exhibition of envelopes, postmarks, and stamps from the various National Scout Headquarters who sent us greetings at Christmas and the New Year. It is an impressive exhibition to see. One cannot look at it without realizing afresh the immensity of this Movement of which we are a part. While we as Scouters may have some conception of Scouting as a world brotherhood, I often wonder how much the boys themselves understand of this great conception. If Scouting is really to achieve this in the minds of its members it must become something more real and tangible than just an idea. Here surely is an opportunity for us to develop a real sense of brotherhood by visits, letters, photographs, magazines, badges, and parcels. We must ask ourselves, "Are we and our boys really participating in world friendship, or are we just believing in it as a good thing of which we are not necessarily a part?"

* * * *

TROOP TARGETS

In viewing the year-end statistics, I am somewhat disappointed at the small number of First Class and King's Scouts. I suggest to you that you set for yourself "Troop Targets" of membership, of First Class and King's Scouts, of proficiency badges, of days of camping, and so on, to be accomplished during your year. Perhaps you may want to set yourself an annual Troop Target or you may be more long-sighted and desire a two or three year programme. Whatever you set for yourself as a Troop Target, discuss it with your Court of Honour and do all in your power to reach it. We are not giving our lads the complete benefits of Scouting unless they face the challenge of the First Class tests. If they are progressively trained and succeed in passing the First Class tests then the whole field of King's Scout and Bushman's-Thong lies before them like a valley after reaching a summit.

D. C. Spry

Chief Executive Commissioner.

THE SCOUT LEADER

The Idea Magazine for Canadian Scouters

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by

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THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

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Editorial

A National Jamboree

IN THE early days of Scouting a gathering of Scouts was generally known as a Rally, and it usually saw the Troops of a particular district assembling at a central rendezvous. Later, as the Movement developed, and began spreading its tentacles across nations and across the world, such a Scout gathering became known as a Jamboree. Before Scouting was established some dictionaries described a Jamboree as "a boisterous frolic"—which may be true of some aspects of a Jamboree but is hardly a fair description of what a Jamboree really is—and one has to turn to the most up-to-date dictionaries to find a Jamboree described as "a great Rally of Boy Scouts".

This is another example of how the game of Scouting has given new meaning to old customs and ceremonies. The Jamboree as "a great Rally of Boy Scouts" finds those in the Movement meeting together, for an occasion that may be of a national or of an international character, to demonstrate for themselves and the interest of others just what Scouting means. It offers an excellent opportunity of giving expression to the purpose of Scouting, and has become so valuable a feature of the Movement that the international Jamboree is now recognized to be an integral part of the organization's activities.

Thus, special significance attaches to the decision to hold a National Jamboree in Canada next year. It will be the first Jamboree to be held in this country, and those Scouts who qualify to attend it will be participating in an historic occasion. They will realize more vividly than heretofore just how much their local Troops are essential links in the general chain of national Scouting, and they will acquire a new sense of unity, one with another, in a movement which in this country stretches from the Atlantic to the Pacific and reaches out to the remote places of the North and Northwest. Scouts will be brought together from all parts of the land, and they will bring with them those diverse interests and characteristics which Scouting assumes in a vast and spacious country, and will prove for the interest of themselves and others how unity exists amidst such diversities.

The Canadian National Jamboree is scheduled to be held between July 16 and 24, 1949, on the banks of the picturesque Ottawa river, about 20 miles west of Ottawa. Through the agency of Dominion Headquarters a special committee, with members drawn from every province, is being organized to prepare for the event, and a special staff is being created to supervise the camp and its administration, and to organize the displays and all the general activities associated with such a rally of Scouts. All Scouts attending must be between the ages of 14½ and 17½ at the time of the Jamboree, and must be First Class Scouts. Those fortunate enough to attend will find the occasion not only a novel experience in itself, but an event that will hold a distinctive place of its own in the annals of Canadian Scouting.

Progress in Training

THE progress in training reported during 1947 reflects that enthusiastic spirit which is so desirable in a movement such as Scouting. Interruptions in Scouting that were

inevitable during the war affected training as well as other branches, but it is clear from the latest training reports that steady advances are now being made in all aspects of peacetime Scouting.

Training statistics for last year reveal a deepening interest on the part of those anxious to improve their qualifications for the work. Those who attended Part II Wood Badge courses included 141 Cubmasters and 124 Scoutmasters, an increase of 43 and 51 respectively over 1946. Part I certificates were issued to 133 Cubmasters and 105 Scoutmasters, an increase of 43 and 3 over the previous year. Substantial increases were recorded in attendances at District Preliminary courses, and certificates were issued to 446 Cubmasters, 459 Scoutmasters, and 33 Rover Scout Leaders. These figures represent increases of 76, 179, and 33 in the respective categories.

It is recognized in Dominion Headquarters that efforts to develop the training programme depend greatly on the measure of support given by those in the field; the improvements recorded in 1947 indicate that such support was forthcoming last year. There is genuine appreciation in Ottawa of this manifestation of interest in the training programme, and thanks are extended to all responsible for the progress made. It is hoped that a similar interest will be taken in the training programme for 1948, so that even finer achievements may be recorded when this year closes.

A Record Membership

SCOUTING continues to make a strong appeal to the boys of this country, and the latest census figures show there were more Canadians in the Movement in 1947 than at any time in its history. Membership rose from 98,477 in 1946 to 103,759 in 1947, a total which surpassed the previous record of 102,873 reached in 1939. The number of Cubs rose from 47,800 to 52,044, while Scouts increased from 38,632 to 39,077, reversing a slight decline which showed itself in 1946 when a reduction of 105 Scouts was recorded. Rovers numbered 1,900 as against 1,564 the previous year, and the number of Leaders advanced by 463, upholding the ratio of approximately one leader to 10 boys, generally considered to be the ideal ratio.

It is noted, however, that while more members were enrolled in six of the nine provinces, no advances in numbers were made in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and Manitoba. Special circumstances doubtless accounted for this. The increase in membership found reflection in *La Federation* and in the Troops associated with the Salvation Army, and in general terms it can be said that Scouting is re-asserting the influence it tended slightly to lose during the later years of the war, when so many other vital claims were being made on the men and youth of the nation.

While it is satisfactory to be able to announce progress in numbers, there should be no inclination to regard a large membership as a goal in itself. The importance of the Movement in the life of the country is exemplified chiefly in the Scouting standards that are upheld. In the building of character, Scouting holds a special position among organizations for the young; and the best way to strengthen the membership is to prove that association with Scouting reflects the acceptance of those lofty ideals which are essential to sound citizenship.

How to Teach Second Star Signalling

By D. R. Kennedy

SIGNALLING is one of the most important of the Second Star tests, for a knowledge of this subject is very useful when the Cub becomes a Scout.

Although the requirements permit either Morse or Semaphore, the latter is more commonly used in Cubbing, is easier to learn and its use in the Pack—rather than Morse—leaves the Scoutmaster something new in signalling to offer the boy when he goes up. For these reasons Semaphore is herein considered; but many of the suggestions offered can readily be adapted to Morse.

Instruct in Small Groups

Instruction in signalling should be given in groups of three or four boys, as it is impracticable to correct individual faults and to keep all the boys active when the classes are larger.

Some Cubs find it difficult at first to maintain the proper stance, with the weight balanced evenly on each foot, so it is necessary to watch this feature to prevent the boys tiring themselves unnecessarily by standing incorrectly for lengthy periods.

The so-called "Circle" system of instructing in Semaphore usually will be found the simplest to teach, and is easiest for the boys. A point to remember: Because "J" is not learned until after the other letters, some boys may gather the impression that the Semaphore alphabet does not include the letter. Emphasize it.

Teaching the Circle System

When explaining the circle system, the arms may be compared to the hands of a clock. While the minute hand makes one complete revolution every hour, the hour hand moves only a fraction. So it is with Semaphore. In the first circle, one arm, (representing the hour hand) stays always at the Group position. Then in the second circle, the right arm moves to "A" position and remains there for all the letters of the circle, while the left arm (representing the minute hand) moves all the way around. For the letters of the third circle the right arm remains stationary at the "B" position while the left hand makes the circuit. And similarly with the other circles.

Master One Circle at a Time

It will be found best to see that the boys are thoroughly familiar with each circle before going on to the next. This can be accomplished by having

them repeat the letters of each circle several times. Then simple words, made up of only the letters already learned, can be sent and received. When the entire alphabet has been learned in this manner the boys should be able to fulfil the requirements of the test.

The use of signalling flags will make the subject more interesting and realistic, but it will usually be found advisable to withhold the flags until the alphabet has been learned. Then they should be used whenever possible.

Save possible confusion by warning against practicing at home in front of a mirror. For the same reason instructors are advised not to turn their backs on the boys when teaching.

Steady Reading Practice Necessary

Signalling is a subject which is easily forgotten if not practised con-

Following are a number of Semaphore games which will be found helpful.

Semaphore Relay

One or more letters of the alphabet are assigned to each member of each Six. Akela stands in a conspicuous spot and signals various letters. As their letters are signalled, the boys run to the end of the room, the one touching the wall first earning a point for his Six.

Circle Semaphore

Can only be played if the Pack does not contain more boys than the alphabet contains letters. Pack in circle. "It" in centre. Each boy is assigned a letter of the alphabet. Akela, standing where all can see clearly, signals any two letters and the boys to whom those letters have been assigned must try to change places. As soon as they move "It" attempts to fill one of the gaps.

Relay the Message

An outdoor game. Each Six is spread out so that each boy in the Six can see only the Cub from whom he is to receive the message and the one to whom he is to relay it. Each Sixer is given a short message (each one is different if the boys from the various Sixes are close to one another) which he signals to the next boy in his Six. When the Second, who is at the end of the line, receives the message he reports to Akela. Points awarded for speed and accuracy.

Secret Message

Prior to the beginning of the game Akela hides a dozen or so messages written in matchstick Semaphore around the Pack's meeting place. A time limit is set and the boys start the hunt. Points are awarded at the end of the allotted time for each message discovered, plus additional points for correctness in translating.

Treasure Trail

Another outdoor game. Akela has previously laid out one trail for each Six, starting from a common point. When the game starts each Sixer is handed a semaphore message which tells where the next message is secreted. The Six sets out to find the second message, which, when translated, indicates the location of the third message, and so on. A jelly bean "treasure" is cached at the end of each trail.

2 STAR CUB SIGNALLING TEST REQUIREMENTS

Cubmasters should make a point in teaching 2nd Star Signalling not to encroach upon the signalling test for a Second Class Scout. The 2nd Star requirements as provided by P.O.R. are: "Know the alphabet in Morse or Semaphore, and be able to send and read slowly simple words."

tinuously, so Akela will wish to use various methods of keeping the boys interested. Stunts such as posting up notices or sending the boys postcard messages in matchstick Semaphore will be found effective. Brief announcements in Semaphore can be made during the meeting. Semaphore instructions can be issued with points awarded to the first Six carrying them out correctly.

Stick to Cubbing Limits

During a Pack outing it is often possible to set up signalling stations and to have messages relayed across meadows or ponds. When this is done, however, it is necessary to be very careful not to encroach upon the Scoutmaster's sphere of activity, and no "calling up" or other signals should be used by the Cubs. They should be taught nothing but the alphabet in accordance with the Second Star requirement: "Know the alphabet in Morse or Semaphore, and be able to send and read slowly simple words."

YARNS

By *Bureaucrat in Jamboree*

THE telling of yarns is an important part of a Scouter's work. The word "yarn" is here used in a wide sense to cover short anecdotes, accounts of true exploration and adventure, and imaginative tales. We have only to turn to *Scouting for Boys* and *The Wolf Cub's Handbook* to see how effectively this instrument can be used in a variety of ways.

Some Scouters are diffident about telling yarns; they feel that they have not the right skill for narrative, or they fear that they will break down and forget the right sequence of events. These are natural misgivings, but we should all try to overcome them, for if we do not, then we are failing to use one of the best means we have of training our Cubs and Scouts. Some Scouters find no difficulty in retelling tales, and we are apt to envy them and say, "It's a gift." Now, it is quite true that some do have a gift of this kind, but we can all learn the elements of the art—for it is an art—and improve with practice. Once we have gained a little skill in this art, the satisfaction to ourselves is great and is even greater and more important to the boys.

We need yarns for a number of purposes, such as:

1. *Explanation:* A short anecdote can bring to life a bit of instruction and make it real to the boy who sees so much by imaginative pictures. This is well illustrated in *Scouting for Boys*.

2. *Encouragement:* The carrying out of our Scout Promise is far from being an easy task; we all need encouragement, and this can come from knowing that others in the past have been able to live fine lives in keeping with the ideals for which we strive. But if their lives are described in such a way that they lose their humanity and become impossibly perfect, we are not encouraged, but discouraged. So we tell our Cubs and Scouts of great men and women of the past—their failures as well as their achievements. They can then become examples to us all of what we, too, may do to overcome our weaknesses. It is easy here to overdo the moral application; boys do not benefit from direct preaching so much as from example.

3. *Entertainment:* At the camp fire or at the end of a meeting a good rousing story, true or imaginative, can bring colour into humdrum life. Tales

of actual adventure or exploration can be used, or fiction. Legend, folk-story, and history are all part of the great store from which we can draw our supplies—and the supply is unlimited.

These three purposes overlap, but by distinguishing them in this way the possible use of yarns is made clearer. A further distinction we should make is between yarns suitable for Wolf Cubs and those for Boy Scouts.

Wolf Cubs

The Cub is at the age of fantasy. His mind is pictorial, and abstract notions have no reality for him. This is why he loves drawing, even if he has no technical skill; to the adult the results may seem meaningless, but it is essential to look at them with the Cub's eyes. He will accept improbabilities that would be laughed at by his older brother. He revels in tales of animals that behave just like himself; the folk-tale, the legend, indeed the

whole Arabian Nights world, as we may call it, makes a strong appeal. There is the danger that Cubmasters may give the Cub rather pretty-pretty yarns with a highly sentimental atmosphere. Here, too, let us guard against the kind of child-story that is in fact written for adults who see their own early days through a romantic mist. There is nothing misty in the Cub world.

Boy Scouts

The Boy Scout will feel that tales of fantasy are all right for babies, but not for him! He has left that world and wants real life, for he is beginning to look forward to being a man. He will want romance and adventure of a true-to-life character. Yarns of this kind must be probable, so that he can say to himself, "I'd like to do that!" He sees himself playing the part of the hero, doing the same daring deeds, taking the same risks, and coming out



The First Kimberley, B.C., Pack Leaders believe in lots of fun and romance in their Cubbing. Top picture: a few of the Cubs at a Pack Hallowe'en Party. Bottom: An Indian Night at the Pack.

on top in the end. It is for this reason that the yarn can become such a powerful instrument for character-training in the hands of the wise Scoutmaster, for its sets before the boy ways of living and of conduct that he will want to imitate himself.

Where are the Yarns?

Before going on to discuss how the would-be yarn teller can learn his art, the question may be asked, "Where are we to find the material?" It is difficult to answer this in an international journal, for the best reply would be to give examples of books that could be used. Here it is only possible to suggest types of books. First there are books of exploration; accounts by the men who have themselves set out to open up unknown territory. Every country has its famous explorers, but we should not limit ourselves to our national heroes—let us go farther afield. This source of yarn-material is without limit. Biographies of such pioneers again will supply the ore for us to work up into the finished product. Turn next to books of short stories by writers of romantic and adventurous fiction; here again a very short search will reveal a wealth of material. The writers need not be those who have written specially for boys; their work, too, is obviously at our disposal, but writers of adventure tales for adults give us much good material that can be adapted for younger hearers.

If the Scoutmaster is not sure what kind of yarn appeals to the boy, he should read the papers and books the boy himself reads with enjoyment. He will soon find that action is more important than description, and that movement is as important. Studies of character make no appeal to the boy, but he can quickly appreciate qualities in action such as courage and loyalty.

Full-length novels of adventure should not be forgotten. Episodes can be retold, but there is also the possibility of serial telling, or reading. Let us not overlook the part that reading can play in the Troop life. In my own experience I have found the reading by instalments of a novel in camp, either during the rest hour or at the camp fire, a popular form of yarning.

Hints for Tyros

Now to come to the most important aspect of this business—how to tell the yarn. I can only pass on methods I have found fairly successful, and I write as one who had to learn by experience without having a natural gift for telling a yarn.

The yarn selected should be read through two or three times. Then, with the book closed, write down a summary in a series of words and phrases. Check this with the original. Emphasis at this stage should be put on getting the sequence of events in the right order.

Remember that a good yarn opens in an arresting manner, it pursues a steady course of action to a climax, and then it comes to a conclusion as quickly as possible. In few things is it so true to say, "C'est le premier pas qui coûte." So my advice is, for the first few times, memorize the opening sentences of the yarn. Once these are "on the air" and the attention of the Scouts has been captured, the rest is not so alarming. The correct order of the events is important, but this can best be secured by an outline scheme or a series of keywords rather than by full verbal memorization. Go straight ahead with the story. Don't break it, as some do, by dramatic appeals such as, "And what do you think happened next?" The answer may be rather disconcerting.

For the first attempts it may be as well to have clearly in one's memory the last sentences of the yarn—it is so important to end properly and not merely to stop speaking.

It will be useful to keep a notebook for jotting down outlines of yarns with a reminder of when each was told. The Scouts enjoy the repetition of a good story provided it is not retold too frequently, and few of us can store up a large enough collection of yarns to satisfy the appetite of a Scout.

Training

Far more attention is given on Training Courses for Cubmasters to the question of yarns than on Courses for Scoutmasters. I think this is a pity, for the impression is given that yarning is for Cubs rather than for Scouts. Both sections need this form of fun, though each requires its special kind. The winter months give us many opportunities for telling yarns, and I hope that these few notes will encourage the timid to make some attempts. I am sure that once the first few efforts have been made the adventurer will continue and will rapidly improve. He will, at the same time, find that his ability to discover the right material improves, and it will not be long before his notebook is full of yarns.

The Original Yarn

Let me add a note about making up new yarns. Boys do not demand a high standard of art in a yarn; their needs are really fairly simple—action, movement, easily appreciated characters. So why not try inventing your own stories? Start with some simple idea—such as a Scout rescuing someone through his skill in being able to construct an emergency bridge. Build round that idea, selecting your characters, and remembering to work up gradually to a well-defined climax, and then to finish off rapidly. You may find you cannot do it, but you may discover you have the ability and the imagination that make the invention of new yarns not only a possibility, but a delight to yourself, and, it may well be, to your Scouts as well. At any rate, make the attempt.



This is a Scout-Guide Week Window display at the Meyers' Studios in Regina, Sask. Many merchants are happy to co-operate in arranging such displays.

Scout Membership in Canada Reaches All-Time High in 1947

REGISTERING an increase in membership of 5,282 boys and leaders, The Boy Scouts Association in Canada recorded the largest membership on record in 1947. According to the census, recently compiled, membership as of October 31st, 1947, totalled 103,759, as compared with 98,477 in 1946, and with 102,873 in 1939, the previous record figure.

Biggest increase was in the number of Wolf Cubs which increased from 47,800 to 52,044. Boy Scouts increased in numbers from 38,632 to 39,077. There was a decrease of 7 in the number of Lone Scouts, and 29 in the number of Sea Scouts. Rover Scouts showed a sizeable increase from 1,564 to 1,900. The number of adult leaders also recorded a healthy increase from 8,491 to 8,954.

Unit Statistics

Increases were recorded in the number of Scout Groups, and also in the number of Wolf Cub Packs and Boy Scout Troops. Rover Crews went up in number from 97 to 135, and Sea Scout Troops from 52 to 56.

A disappointing feature was the decrease in the number of active First Class Scouts from 1,807 to 1,553, and in the number of active King's Scouts from 824 to 814.

Affiliations

Affiliation of Scout Groups is shown by the census as follows:

Anglican	418
Baptist	80
Canadian Legion	41
Community	660
Handicapped	8
Hebrew	15
Latter Day Saints	30
Lutheran	13
Presbyterian	112
Roman Catholic	198
Salvation Army	68
Service Club	145
United Church	398
Others	133

It is interesting to note that of a total of 2,319 Groups 1,403 are sponsored directly by the churches. In addition all La Federation Units were church sponsored although the number of groups was not listed.

Camping

It is interesting to note that the number of registered camps increased by 67 from 580 to 647, and the number of unregistered camps from 21 to 46, although these figures are incomplete. The number of boys attending camp increased by nearly 30 per cent from 14,753 to 21,039. In other words more than one in every five boys in the Movement attended camp.

These figures do not include short camps of which 263 were recorded in 1947, and at which the attendance was 2,937.

A recapitulation of the census figures follows:

RECAPITULATION BY PROVINCES

Prince Edward Island

Wolf Cubs	158
Boy Scouts	210
Lone Scouts	27
Adult Leaders	63
Total, 1947	458
Total, 1946	600
Decrease	142

Nova Scotia

Wolf Cubs	2,237
Boy Scouts	2,825
Lone Scouts	158
Sea Scouts	21
Rover Scouts	36
Adult Leaders	537
Rovers counted as Leaders	5
Total, 1947	5,809
Total, 1946	5,787
INCREASE	22

New Brunswick

Wolf Cubs	1,762
Boy Scouts	1,567
Lone Scouts	152
Sea Scouts	32
Rover Scouts	91

Adult Leaders	334
Rovers counted as Leaders	13
Total, 1947	3,925
Total, 1946	3,760
INCREASE	163

Quebec

Wolf Cubs	3,701
Boy Scouts	2,814
Lone Scouts	20
Sea Scouts	199
Rover Scouts	27
Adult Leaders	589
Rovers counted as Leaders	
Total, 1947	7,350
Total, 1946	8,032
Decrease	682

Ontario

Wolf Cubs	27,564
Boy Scouts	17,736
Lone Scouts	105
Sea Scouts	743
Rover Scouts	778
Adult Leaders	4,320
Rovers counted as Leaders	168
Total, 1947	51,120
Total, 1946	48,469
INCREASE	2,651

Manitoba

Wolf Cubs	3,261
Boy Scouts	2,022
Lone Scouts	171
Rover Scouts	15
Adult Leaders	547
Rovers counted as Leaders	5
Total, 1947	6,011
Total, 1946	6,283
Decrease	272

Saskatchewan

Wolf Cubs	2,355
Boy Scouts	2,063
Lone Scouts	281
Rover Scouts	40
Adult Leaders	435
Rovers counted as Leaders	
Total, 1947	5,159
Total, 1946	4,748
INCREASE	411

Alberta

Wolf Cubs	2,866
Boy Scouts	2,647
Lone Scouts	41
Sea Scouts	28
Rover Scouts	40
Adult Leaders	484
Rovers counted as Leaders	4

(Continued on next page)

FROM ONE RECORD TO ANOTHER

	Leaders	Boy Scouts	Wolf Cubs	Rovers	Sea Scouts	Rover Sea Scouts	Air Scouts	Lone Scouts	Rovers Counted as Leaders	Total
1939	8,338	49,609	41,037	2,877	713	344	..	503	548	102,873
1940	7,969	45,489	40,353	2,361	883	227	..	503	444	97,341
1941	6,996	41,866	39,552	1,342	1,342	168	18	665	247	91,334
1942	6,412	37,744	39,351	861	859	144	52	583	277	85,729
1943	6,699	36,851	40,883	722	889	130	37	999	116	87,094
1944	6,749	39,020	43,871	824	1,013	154	66	1,412	133	92,976
1945	7,516	38,737	44,783	965	1,083	144	29	1,588	168	94,677
1946	8,491	38,632	47,800	1,564	1,099	201	16	991	317	98,477
1947	8,954	39,077	52,044	1,900	1,070	77	1	984	348	103,759

(Continued from previous page)

Total, 1947	6,102
Total, 1946	5,933
INCREASE	169

British Columbia

Wolf Cubs	5,507
Boy Scouts	3,468
Lone Scouts	29
Sea Scouts	47
Air Scouts	1
Rover Scouts	108
Rover Sea Scouts	35
Adult Leaders	850
Rovers counted as Leaders	34
Total, 1947	10,011
Total, 1946	8,110
INCREASE	1,901

Salvation Army

Wolf Cubs	1,038
Boy Scouts	372
Rover Scouts	12
Adult Leaders	143
Rovers counted as Leaders	7
Total, 1947	1,558
Total, 1946	1,529
INCREASE	29

La Federation des Scouts Catholique

Wolf Cubs	1,595
Boy Scouts	3,353
Rover Scouts	786
Adult Leaders	652
Rovers counted as Leaders	112
Total, 1947	6,256
Total, 1946	5,226
INCREASE	1,030

Dominion of Canada

Wolf Cubs	52,044
Boy Scouts	39,077
Lone Scouts	984
Sea Scouts	1,070
Air Scouts	1
Rover Scouts	1,900
Rover Sea Scouts	77
Adult Leaders	8,954
Rovers counted as Leaders	348
Total, 1947	103,759
Total, 1946	98,477
INCREASE	5,282

"We Had a Great Night"

SOME Scouters will recall the story a year ago of the excellent carol singing Good Turn by the Scouts and Guides of Westcott, Alberta. Here's a note of what the same group did at Christmas, 1947. "We had a very successful caroling party at Christmas in conjunction with the 10th Lone Guide Company, and visited most of the shut-ins over a 25 miles radius covering over fifty miles on our journey. The roads were good, so we had a great night."



Wolf Cubs in West Winnipeg District sang carol programmes in two Winnipeg railway stations on December 23rd to the delight of large crowds of travellers. This C.P.R. photograph shows the Cubs under A.D.C. Miss Mary Dutton, singing around the giant Christmas Tree in the C.P.R. station.

HOW TO ORGANIZE FOR FLOODS AND EMERGENCIES

By Executive Commissioner G. Ray Bryson, London, Ont.

B.-P. said it: "A Scout must always be prepared at any moment to do his duty, and to face danger in order to help his fellow-men".

With this challenge before us in our motto "Be Prepared" we must be ever ready to rally to the aid of our community when danger is imminent.



Emergencies can be broadly classified into two types. The terrible earthquake at San Francisco, or the deluge of death inundating the City of Johnstown might be termed 'sudden' emergency, while on the other hand floods, cyclones, and tidal waves which have been building up for days and have given people time to "batten down the hatches" might be termed 'pre-warned' emergency.

Steps in Organizing

The first step in organizing for any emergency is BEFORE it occurs. The extent to which we can be of service depends entirely upon the number and quality of Scouts we can provide and the communication system with which to contact them.

In setting up this contact system we must be prepared for any eventuality. For example, it would not do to rely upon radio call-up only to find that a power failure rendered receivers useless. Nor would it do to depend solely upon a telephone call-up system and discover that over-burdened switch-board facilities were not capable of handling the calls.

CALL-UP SYSTEM

System	7.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.	12.00 p.m. to 7.00 a.m.
Radio	1st choice	3rd choice
Telephone	2nd choice	1st choice
Messenger	3rd choice	2nd choice

You will see by the chart above that while a radio call-up would be first choice during the day, it might well be useless at night. Suppose that without warning a fire strikes a small outlying section of town at 3.00 a.m. The rest of the community blissfully unaware of the calamity, sleep peacefully on. In this case the telephone would be first choice. On the other hand, during the day news travels like fire itself. A telephone call-up would be most inefficient. Telephone facilities are so overtaxed that sometimes it is impossible to get emergency calls through. Thus radio would be first choice during

the day. In communities where telephone service had broken down, and hydro disrupted, messenger service would of course be the only method available.

The Next Step

The next step in organization is to advise the Scouts and Leaders what is expected of them. This might be handled by a letter something like this:

To all Scouters, Scouts and Rovers, District of _____

What to do in Case of Emergency

1. Tune in to Local Radio Station CFFF and wait for instructions.
2. In case of power failure, report to your Troop Headquarters. In warm weather wear full uniform. In cold weather dress warmly but wear Scout Hat for identification purposes. Bring the following equipment in a haversack:
 - (a) Flashlight (with extra batteries)
 - (b) Thermos of hot tea, coffee or cocoa
 - (c) Sandwiches, cookies, etc.
 - (d) Ground sheet
 - (e) First aid kit

You can see from the foregoing that in time of emergency during waking hours we would have (a) Scouts and Scouters available collectively or individually for call-up or (b) Troops or portions of Troops available and equipped at various locations throughout the District. During the sleeping hours of course a telephone system could be used to have Scouts report immediately to Troop Headquarters or elsewhere. The old system of S.M. to Assistants, to P.L.s, to Seconds, to Scouts would be most effective.

Use Everybody

Another very important factor is that of using all members of the Association who are able to serve. Lady Cubmasters could be used to set-up emergency soup kitchens, relief stations for Scouts, emergency shelters, and other important duties.

Group Committee members would prove invaluable in transporting Scouts to duty stations, working with Scout teams in evacuation, assisting at emergency stations, getting food and equipment, etc.

It would be impossible to set down a system that would work everywhere under all conditions. What might be a very good and effective system for Your Town, Alberta, might be useless in My Town, New Brunswick. Therefore, in setting down a hypothetical case it must be remembered that it is

not a "Master Plan". It must be adjusted to the type of emergency, the size of the district, and the number of Scouts and amount of equipment available.

A Sample Case

As a test case, let us build ourselves a city and call it Our Town. A river flows through the Eastern section of Our Town and a large concrete dam to the North regulates the flow of the river and supplies us with power.

For days the rain has poured relentlessly. At first the ground absorbed the moisture but now the depth of water behind the dam increases alarmingly. City officials at first claimed no danger but now realize the necessity of evacuating the East Section of town.

Sightseers are pouring into the city by the thousands and the police are nearly frantic trying to control and divert it from the flood threat section.

We as Scouts offer our services to the police who tell us the immediate needs are assistance in evacuation, control of traffic, and emergency shelter for the people being evacuated.

Our first step therefore is to 'alert' the members of our Association by radio, set up an emergency Scout control centre, and start to work in co-operation with existing organizations where help is most urgently required.

Scout Troops on the edge of town have been sent to set up road blocks to control and divert the flow of sightseers. Truck and through traffic is diverted through Our Town by an alternate route. An equal number of Troops are held in reserve for relief duty. Scout Troops near the flood area are called out for evacuation duty. The required number of Troops are called out for duty to block off all roads leading to the flood area to all but police, fire, emergency and evacuation vehicles. Again an equal number of Troops are held in reserve for relief. We know that if the dam should break that our power will be cut off and we will have to depend on messenger service, so we instruct all "Stand by" relief units to report to their Headquarters with blankets, etc., so they can rest until needed. We know that we can then reach them as a unit much quicker if necessary.

Lady Cubmasters and Mothers' Auxiliaries set up emergency shelters and soup kitchens. Group Committee members assist in the securing of necessary equipment for these stations such as beds, blankets, food, etc.

The overflow spilling over the top

of Our Town dam is like boiling water. The centre of the dam begins to crumble and a deluge of death races towards the city. The dynamos supplying power to Our Town stop and radio communication is ended. All traffic entering the danger section is stopped. On a pre-arranged signal police cars race through the almost deserted East end blowing sirens as a last warning. People run for cars and trucks leaving furniture on lawns and verandahs and head for high ground. The first wave of the rushing torrent reaches Our Town and in a matter of minutes the East End is a flattened mass of homes, factories, furniture and debris.

We are lucky. Not a life lost. But our job is far from done. Traffic details must be relieved and through the long night we must continue our work. Group Committee members with cars can take Scout messengers from post to post because now we are working by lamp light and depend solely upon our messengers for accurate information.

And after the flood is over hours of hard work still remain. The traffic is worse. More sightseers. Details of Scouts must assist police in throwing a cordon around the district to prevent looting. The homeless must be clothed, sheltered and fed.

Our Town might well be your town or my town and disaster may strike at any moment. Are we prepared?

In conclusion, the following should be remembered:

1. Do not select a plan of action that is not flexible. Emergencies do not usually fall into a pre-arranged pattern and generally they cannot be "pigeon-holed".
2. We cannot hope to set up a system of organization that will be applicable to all districts or for all emergencies. The system must be adjusted to size of city, available Scout power and type of emergency.
3. It is not our job to take the place of local police or fire departments. It is our duty to work under the direction of some authoritative body if requested to do so.
4. They also serve who only stand and wait. And we must keep our reserves on hand if and when they are needed should the emergency become worse.
5. And finally, as Scouts it is our responsibility to be an effective force to be prepared to render service.

B.-P. said it: "Be Prepared to turn out at any minute . . . to face danger in order to save others".

HOW A SCOUTER USES HIS GROUP COMMITTEE

By S.M. George C. Green, 47th Windsor, Ont., Troop

No doubt many Scouters have faced the same difficulties with their Group Committee as we once did. Perhaps they have not had a Group Committee, or again possibly they had a Group Committee which was simply a name, and completely inactive. Little more than a year ago our Group was afflicted with one of the latter. I am not laying the blame on the Committee or the sponsoring body. Somewhere, somehow there seemed to be no one to give guidance. Now we have one of the most active and interested Committees in Windsor.

At the instance of our Scouters, and with the assistance of the District Group Contact Committee, our Group Committee was completely reorganized with resultant better understanding between the Group and its sponsoring body, and a willingness on the part of the Committee to understand and help the Scouters in their work with the Troop and Pack.

What Is Needed

In my humble opinion it is easier to form a new committee than to rejuvenate an old one. The key man is the chairman, and he should be a man who has respect of the Scouters, and who himself has respect for the judgment of the leaders. As Chairman you want a man who is not too busy to give adequate attention to the Group; a man who will always attend meetings; a man with the tact and diplomacy necessary to lead the committee in its work, and at the same time to act as liaison between the Group and the sponsoring body.

I know a lot of Scouters will reply—"well, we just haven't that kind of chairman." If that is the case something should be done about it. If you are affiliated with a Church your Committee should be appointed at the annual meeting of the Church, and the committee's personnel should be carefully discussed with the minister before the names are submitted.

There is no use keeping dead wood on the Committee. Members who cannot or will not attend meetings should be dropped from committee membership. Membership on a Group Committee is not an honorary position, so that the question of creating bad feeling should not enter into it.

If your District has a Group Contact Committee, that body can frequently suggest ways and means of improving the Committee's effectiveness which, coming from this source, would be acceptable to the Committee where it might be resented coming from the Scouters.

Scouters and the Committee

It is of utmost importance that the Scouters be interested in the personnel of the Group Committee. Herein the Group Council (made up of the Group Scouters) comes in useful. There is no reason why this Council cannot suggest names to the minister of the Church or other organization sponsoring the Group. It should always be and Scouts are good prospects.

Some Scouters may argue that it is better to do the work themselves than to go to the trouble of organizing a good committee. The answers to this argument are obvious. First the Group is incomplete without a Group Committee, and second, the Scouter who adopts this attitude is overlooking one of the most profitable sources of support and help.

Source of Leadership

Work on the Group Committee gives the layman a new understanding of the problems of running the Group units, and frequently it is a source of

leadership itself. I know one former Group Committee chairman who is now an Assistant Cubmaster, and I am sure, had he not served on the Group Committee, he would never have undertaken unit leadership.

It is an advantage to have on the committee men with automobiles, some with the necessary experience who might give instruction in mapping and related subjects; artisans who will instruct in badge work.

However the principal qualification is an interest in the Scout Movement.

Give Committee a Job

Many Scouters find that they have to look after all the details of planning the summer camp. This is a Group Committee job. True the Scouters will have to assist, but why bother with the purchasing, the trucking of equipment and the transportation of the boys, when the Group Committee exists for that very purpose. Our Group Committee not only provided transportation for the Scouts and their equipment to camp, but provided transportation for the Cubs to spend a day in camp with us, and one member of the Committee acted as Quartermaster throughout the ten day camp. Our chaplain arranged for another minister to take his church services, so he could be with the Troop and conduct services in camp. That is the kind of co-operation a Group can expect to receive from an interested and active committee.

Now, how did we create this happy situation in our Group, when a year ago we were floundering around with-



Upper Lachine, Que., Boy Scout Troop, whose Scoutmaster is Kenneth B. Drysdale, proudly display the Gaunt First Aid Trophy. The Trophy, open to Intermediate First Aid Teams across Canada, came to Quebec for the first time when the Upper Lachine Scouts won it. Col. J. B. LeMoyné, President of the Quebec Branch of the Saint John Ambulance Association, presented the Trophy.

out the active co-operation of a live Group Committee?

How We Did It

First, we had regular monthly meetings of the Committee at the home of one of the committeemen or one of the Scouters, with refreshments served after the meeting. The members of the Committee got to know each other and their families and the happiest atmosphere prevailed.

The leaders must be interested enough to attend Group Committee meetings. If you're not interested, you can hardly expect your Committee to be interested.

Next—when your Committee is organized give it work to do. A good many committees die for lack of work.

Committee Finances

You are probably wondering where the Committee obtains its money. We have a system which we think is unique; we actually collect monthly dues from each member, which are collectable whether or not a member is able to attend the meeting. Naturally this does not pay all the expenses. We have an occasional card party at the church. The Group Committee sends two tickets and a letter to each Scout and Cub parent, also to each member of the Ladies' Auxiliary. The results have been very gratifying, and these parties not only raise funds but they bring together the parents and help build up a Group spirit. These gatherings are also a good occasion to keep a lookout for prospective members for the Group Committee and the Ladies' Auxiliary.

We make a point to invite the Group Committee to every important function in either the Pack or Troop. In this way the boys get to know the members of the Committee and that the Committee is actively interested in them. This close association with the Pack and Troop gives the Committee a feeling of being needed and wanted with the result that they rise to their responsibilities. The members of our Committee give at least one night a week to the work of the Group.

Check Unit Finances

We also use our Group Committee Treasurer to make a monthly check of the Pack and Troop finances, thus saving the painful experience of coming to the end of a year and finding these finances mixed up. Our Committee expects a monthly statement from each unit, showing receipts, expenditures, and balance on hand or in the bank.



Members of Hamilton's 46th Troop (St. John's R.C.) pose with their display of 100 toys which they repaired, painted and handed over to the Catholic Welfare League. W. Robson is Scoutmaster.

It Seeks Out Leaders

According to P.O.R. it is the duty of the Group Committee to carry on a unit which may lose its leader. That is exactly what our Committee did when the Cubmaster found it necessary to resign. The Committee carried on until a new leader was found and the Pack never missed a meeting. A member of the Group Committee also assists at Troop meetings until an additional assistant can be found.

Last year the Scouters made all the arrangements for the annual Father and Son banquet which entailed an enormous amount of work. This year the Committee is handling the whole

affair. The Committee handled registration with the result that this was completed well ahead of previous years when Scouters did the job. At a Parents' Night the Committee arranged for the refreshments, and even washed the dishes. This latter task set them thinking—the result—today we have a Ladies' Auxiliary.

A year ago we were without an active Committee and with little corporate activity in the Group. Today we work as a team, the Pack, the Troop, the Group Committee and the Ladies' Auxiliary. The Committee has confidence in the leaders, and the leaders confidence in the Committee.

A MEMORY OF MOISSON

By J. E. Tomkins, *Eire, in Jamboree*

THE last camp fire for me at Moisson was the finest of all. I had walked many miles in the camp that day and was to depart for Savoy on the morrow, so decided to stay by my tent and rest. Not far away three figures were tending a small fire which soon began to burn brightly. This was very inviting. I went across to them and was made welcome. Soon afterwards another young Scouter arrived. We sat around the cheery flames chatting, laughing and telling each other tales of our own countries.

About an hour later a French Rover came up, a friend of José, the Belgian who had first lit the fire. "Look", said José proudly, "we are five different nations. Guess from where we come!" Our new companion guessed, getting the countries correct, but for the wrong people. The Swiss Rover next to me was an American and I was a Dutchman!

Holland found some tea, Ireland supplied a dixie and a tin of sweet-

ened milk, Switzerland produced another dixie and Nescafé, while Belgium discovered some biscuits. Not to be outdone, France and Denmark filled the dixies with water and collected some mugs and a spoon. I don't know how many times the small dixies were refilled, but we drank tea and coffee until there was no milk left. Then Holland insisted on sharing his chocolate; I believe it was the only bar that he had.

We sat talking in low tones around that small, cosy fire until, gazing into the dying embers, we realized that the night was still. The sound of distant singing could no longer be heard and the stars shone down through the breathless air. I looked at my watch. It was one o'clock in the morning. Somewhat inappropriately, I said good night and picked my way through the heather to the tent, conscious, as I believe the others were, too, that in this little corner of the world at least there was real peace.

ROVERING - What Are We to Make of It?

THE Rovering section of the Movement has never been very certain about what it is meant to be or should aim at; to the mind unfilled with the philosophy of Scouting, many a present-day Crew seems to be a body of men anxious to keep on Boy Scouting, to be a social club for those interested in the Movement, or to be a collection of odd-job men for the Local Association. Admirable as such bodies may be, and indeed to some minds are, do they correspond to an adequate conception of what a Rover Crew should be?

Now I do not propose to define the nature and purpose of a Crew; that is something which we still (thank goodness) have to discover. I will say nothing beyond that it is a body of men above Senior Scout age, keen to continue their practice both of the ideals and activities of Scouting. That is our experimental basis; given those men, we have to build up Crews in our Districts and a Movement in the country worthy of the vision which B.-P. gave us and capable of making a big step towards it.

To begin to accomplish that end we need first of all the realization that Scouting is not enough. We are suffering from a surfeit of nothing-but-Scouts. I mean this both spiritually and materially. All those who live on a philosophic basis consisting only of Scouting's principles and ideals, man-made as they are, are steadily paralysing the Movement. Whenever Scouting tries to keep going by its own momentum, it will fail; only where it carries men and boys above and beyond itself to God (as we all know B.-P. intended it to do) will it succeed.

Similarly those who try to live within the small Scout world are doing neither themselves nor the Movement any good. Particularly is this true of the Rover Crew, where Scouts should begin to practise what they have learnt outside the Movement. Scouting does not train its members for its own Utopia, but for God and the earthly community.

Rovering—and here the word means also “an individual Rover Crew”—does not begin to justify its existence as a section of the Movement until it makes its presence felt for good not only within Scouting but outside it and, in this latter direction at any

By Michael Richards in *The Scouter*

rate, extremely little has been done. My first proposal for the development of Rovering is platitudinous—more and better leaders. By that I mean, not more men with personality to impose their ideas of Scouting on others, but more men with a realization of what Rovering can be and with the will to devote themselves to its development as a priority amongst their activities.

Secondly, for the time being, at any rate, we need District Crews; the small Group Crew cannot arrange all the activities that a Rover Crew should

side it; in his own church, in local politics, or societies, or in youth Movements (whether his own Troop or the local boys' club). He will be engaged in these activities, with the background and comradeship of the Crew to ensure that he never becomes bounded by any narrow horizon nor loses the ideals which Scouting gave him.

Finally, a plea for experiment. Let us have the greatest possible freedom in Rovering for some years; given *Rovering to Success*, accepted standards of entry, a few general principles and careful guidance from men devoted



Indian Scouts are keen on keeping the “OUT” in Scouting. Here are seen Scouts of the St. Theresa School Troop in Saskatchewan in hiking and camping scenes. The breeches and long sleeves are a protection from blackflies. Rev. Father Giard, O.M.I., is Scoutmaster.

provide and, by Rover age, a Scout should be carrying the influence of Scouting outside the circle in which he has been brought up. Meetings should deal with as wide a variety of topics as possible; what those are will depend on members of the Crew; they should provide the common ground for men who are Scouts, but who are detaching themselves more and more from the activities given them by the Movement, who are relying less and less on Scouting.

The Rover Crew must lead Scouts from a preoccupation with Scouting to their life's work, and to a position in which they can look upon the Movement from the outside and, seeing both its glorious assets and its failings, serve it with all the more faith and usefulness.

With this in mind, I should say that within two years of joining the Crew the Rover should have become actively engaged in some form of service out-

ing themselves primarily to Rovering, let us experiment with our methods, activities and constitutions. The pioneer spirit is sadly lacking; yet the Rover branch should be our pioneer section, continually trying out and perfecting new ideas to make sure that we deserve to be called a Movement. Let us pioneer in our activities also; Rovers must gain a name in the country for travel, exploring, camping and climbing—yes, and dramatics, sport and everything else which gives scope to the expenditure of creative energy.

With a clearer and greater idea of Rovering's possibilities, we need eyes to see the inadequacy of our present Crews; no plans or instructions alone can succeed; only with these two pictures in our mind can we hope to turn what is into what can be.

Great minds discuss ideas, average minds discuss events, little minds discuss people.

TRICKS OF THE TRAIL

Fire Building in Snow

YOU can start a fire easily in wet weather or snow by using a little strip of birch bark. Small coils of it may be found at the foot of birch trees, or dangling loosely from the tree itself and almost ready to fall off.

Build a platform of green logs for your fire; otherwise you are liable to get a nice roaring blaze going, only to have it disintegrate into a bed of slush as it sinks through the snow. If it is on the prepared platform, the whole thing will drop evenly as the snow melts and your fire will be safe.

Winter Camping Gear

Make a check list to show the camping equipment you will need for a winter's weekend outing. Keep it free of non-essentials, but try to include all of the following items: Storm cap with ear laps; parka, mackinaw or overcoat; an extra woolen shirt; a sweater; extra mittens; extra heavy underwear; two pair of extra wool stockings; an extra pair of shoes; shoe laces; some shoe grease; hankys; a poncho or raincoat; a sleeping bag or four good woolen blankets; heavy pajamas; axe; safety pins; and the ordinary camping gear you generally use for summer camp.

Keeping Warm at Night

You can't relax when you are suffering from a case of chattering molars. And so it automatically follows that you can't get any restful sleep under such conditions either.

A reflector fire in front of a Baker tent will give you plenty of heat in the coldest weather. Taking a short workout without working up any perspiration is also a good way to enable your body heat to warm up your sleeping bag.

Cold Weather Camp Sites

Try to pitch camp in the shelter of some natural windbreak, such as a windfall, a cliff, or an outcropping of rocks that stand up a few feet. This may make your fire smoke hang around more than an open camp site, but the sheltered location makes it worthwhile to put up with that mild discomfort.

If you are on an overnight hike, remember to start pitching camp at least two hours before dark, preferably sooner. It is pretty tough to find wood and set up a comfortable winter camp when the early blackness of the long winter night descends.

Winter Axemanship

There is a peculiarity about the steel in axes and knives that too few people understand. An axe or knife which will be entirely satisfactory in southern climes may be very poor in sub-freezing temperatures. This is because some types of steel become more brittle than others in cold weather, and a brittle axe may be chipped and nicked by knots in the wood. Keep the axe in the tent when it is not being used. Remember also that winter wood is frequently wet, so be extra careful not to maim yourself by allowing the sharp edge to glance off a log and into your leg.

Don't make the tenderfoot mistake of "thawing out" your axe-head by putting it in the fire, however. Fire will draw the temper out of the steel and make your axe too soft to be any good as a cutting tool.

Buddy Up or Freeze

One of the most important things for winter campers and sports enthusiasts to remember is the "Buddy System". In skating, for example, have a pal along, even if he is not skating. Should you break through a blow-hole, you'll have help—especially if you took the precaution of keeping a rope handy.

Even for woods hikes, snowshoe treks, ski trailing, and cold weather camping, it can be vital to have someone else available. Just suppose you sprain your ankle so badly that you cannot move—what chance would you

have to get out alive in near-zero weather, and darkness coming early. Yes sir, there's nothing like having a buddy along. If you still need convincing, try rereading Jack London's grim short story "To Build a Fire."

Sleeping Bags Breathe, Too

Avoid covering your sleeping bag with a tight-fitting waterproof cover, as such covering will keep all moisture in the bag. Of course, your ground cloth tarp ought to be absolutely waterproof, but, if your bag is not constructed so that your body moisture has some outlet, it will become damp and clammy. During a cold spell, this moisture will freeze in the bag during the day, and when you climb in again at night it will melt and you'll soon find yourself in moist bedding, which conducts your body heat away.

Scout Carol Sing

OVER 200 Peterborough, Ont., Scouts took part in a pre-Christmas carol sing in George Street United Church. The George Street Church Group played host to other Troops in the city. Illustrated carols were thrown on the screen and Skipper Groombridge told the nativity story. For the first time Cubs were invited to attend.

Auction Raises \$350

OVER 150 people crowded into the Gibson sales barn at Chilliwack, B.C., to take part in the Lions Club auction on behalf of the Boy Scouts. Every item was sold, and the net proceeds were \$350. Such items as household pets, a keg of nails, and a can of anti-freeze found ready buyers.



A good bit of publicity for Halifax Apple Day was this fine float arranged by the 3rd Halifax Troop in co-operation with the Lands and Forests Department which also had a plane overhead with a loudspeaker asking Haligonians to buy Apples.

*A page of helpful ideas
from anyone, anywhere.*

THE DUFFEL BAG

*If you have a good one,
tested, please send it in.*

Toronto Troop Helps

THE 166th Toronto Troop, through Scoutmaster Archie Heath has sent \$5.00 which has been placed in the Chins-Up Fund. This fund is now being used to print 15,000 copies of *Aids to Scoutmastership* in the Greek language, with the balance of funds going to purchase equipment for the Greek Scouts, whose equipment and books were all commandeered during the German occupation.

Plaster Rock, N.B., Again

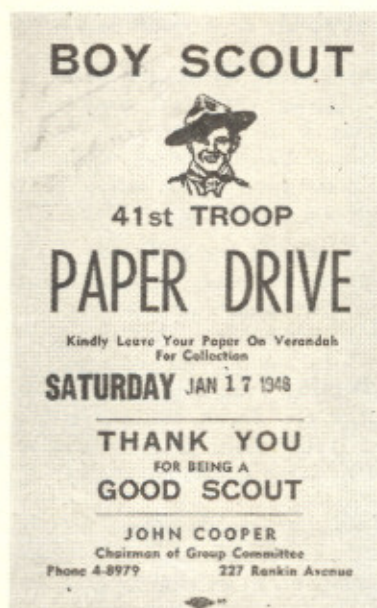
THE Plaster Rock, N.B., Troop which has an enviable record of Scout Community Service has scored again. This time the Troop has furnished a room in the new Red Cross Hospital at Plaster Rock, earning the money themselves and selecting even the curtains and floor coverings. This Troop is under the leadership, as it has been for more than a quarter of a century, of Scoutmaster Tilton Sutton.

Fort Churchill Wolf Cubs

THE following item is taken from the Fort Churchill *Icicle* the official paper of the Fort Churchill garrison in Northern Manitoba. "Those wild howls you hear of a Friday night are not the Indians coming to reclaim this particular part of their former lands. They are more likely to emanate from the enthusiastic throats of the Fort Churchill Wolf Cubs as they practice their Grand Howl at their weekly meetings. Organized in the early summer of 1947 the Cubs have as their Cubmaster C.Q.M.S. Spain. In July Cubmaster Spain took his young charges across the Churchill River for a week's camp. This was probably the most northerly Cub camp on the continent. In spite of the unremitting attacks of flies and mosquitoes, trying to drive them back to this side of the river, the boys maintained their beach-head for the whole week and a good time was had by all. Besides learning how to live the Cub way, the boys perform a good many useful services around camp, paid and unpaid. It is they who deliver this paper to your door in good or bad weather. It is they who run a delivery service with the Pack sleigh from the commissary. Two of the Cubs act as ushers at the Protestant church service, and very smart they look in their uniforms as they perform this much appreciated service."

Yes Sir! There's Money in Waste Paper

FIFTY truck loads of waste paper were loaded into five freight cars at Peterboro's C.N.R. station in late November, to net the Boy Scouts of the city nearly \$1,000 profit. A thorough canvass of the city was made, with Scouts, fathers, and committeemen helping. The use of the trucks was donated by city firms. Another such paper drive is already being planned for the early spring.



This "dodger" was used by members of the 41st Windsor, Ont., Troop prior to their paper drive. Of 21 boys in the Troop, seven work on Saturdays. The remaining 14 Scouts, working on two Saturdays only, netted \$125 for Troop Funds. Yes, there's money in waste paper.

A Parents' Night Programme

WHEN the 11th Saint John, N.B., Troop staged their second annual Parents' Night recently they presented a programme of wide variety which immensely pleased the large audience. As a special guest they had Provincial Commissioner Eli Boyaner. The programme included the following items: a tumbling act; readings; first aid demonstration of how to take care of a fractured leg, including making a stretcher; the tying and uses of knots; lashings; friction fire lighting; making a camp bed; rope spinning; uses of the compass; comedy numbers, musical items, and campfire songs.

Food for Britain

BLYTH, Ont., Scouts recently made a house to house canvass to collect non-perishable foods to be sent to their namesake town in Britain—Blyth.

What's Cooking?

MOST cooking tests are passed on spring and summer hikes. Adequate preparation for cooking tests may be made during the winter months by sending parents the cooking requirements for Second and First Class tests, and asking them to train their boys to pass these tests under kitchen conditions. The object of this training is to give Scouts the benefit of their mothers' cooking experience, to teach them the difference between boiling and simmering, the need for proper mixing and the proper use of condiments. Many boys haven't the faintest idea how long it takes to cook a good stew. We recall a Patrol at camp last spring who, making a stew, had the vegetables all cooked, before they thought of putting in the meat. Parent instruction would help Scouts to better understand the first principles of cooking, and this should be done when hiking is not as frequently done as it is in the warmer weather.

A Rover Project

THE following is an extract from the answer of a New Toronto Rover, to a question in a Correspondence Course study.

"Some time ago, the Rover Crew of which I was a member, offered their services to the Police Department of the town for just such emergencies, or to help find lost children, etc. We used a three-man buddy system for calling the Crew out on short notice, grouping the fellows according to the neighbourhood in which they lived. Each group of buddies (in the case of a lost child) had a certain area to cover. Fortunately we were not called for actual service in this regard, but we did hold practices and found our system to be very effective. Our town had a population of some 7,000 and on one occasion, we found a described man within a half hour of the call, which was sent out at nine o'clock on a Sunday morning. Members of the Crew acted as extra police at the largest fire on record in the town, so our practice did bear fruit."

ANNOUNCING THE FIRST ALL CANADA



BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE

DATES: July 16 to July 24, 1949

AGE LIMITS: Born 1932 to 1935. Age 14 to 17 as of January, 1949.

QUALIFICATIONS: First Class Scouts.

COST: It is planned to equalize costs so that all boys attending will pay the same, from whatever part of Canada they may come.

FURTHER DETAILS will be published as arrangements are made. All applications and selection will be made by Provincial Associations. Make no applications until advised.

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES

(Continued from page 96)

Certificate of Merit For Meritorious Acts.

- O. U. Seeman, Honorary District President, Winnipeg Man.—For his outstanding contribution in various capacities to the success of Scouting in Winnipeg and Manitoba.
- Donald Donaldson, 8th Winnipeg Troop, Winnipeg, Man.—For his presence of mind in dealing with high voltage wires which had fallen to the ground due to a storm.
- Ernest Payne, 8th Winnipeg Troop, Winnipeg, Man.—For his presence of mind in dealing with high voltage wires which had fallen to the ground due to a storm.

Letter of Commendation For Meritorious Acts.

- Cub Jack Eacott, age 9, 3rd Tillsonburg, Ont., Pack, for his presence of mind in assisting a younger boy who was in danger of drowning on the beach at Port Burwell.

Service Medals

For Long Service in Scouting.

- Dorothy Alker, Oshawa, Ont.; Edward Alker, Oshawa, Ont.; Harold Bateman, Oshawa, Ont.; Mrs. Doris L. Coole, Vancouver, B.C.; Alfred Davis, Collingwood, Ont.; M. S. Decarie, Montreal, Que.; G. Warren Foote, Montreal, Que.; Franklin J. Foster, Nanaimo, B.C.; Russell B. Goat, Montreal, Que.; L. C. Houldsworth, Montreal, Que.; Arthur G. James, Montreal, Que.; Frederick E. B. McCrea, Vancouver, B.C.; Francis T. Naish, Vancouver, B.C.; Ronald A. Nicholson, Oshawa, Ont.; William Panting, Vancouver, B.C.; Maurice A. Pelton, Halifax, N.S.; J. W. Phillips, Quebec City, Que.; J. R. Preston, Montreal, Que.; J. Harry Rigg, Oshawa, Ont.; Harold Schein, Toronto, Ont.; John Edward Setchell, Regina, Sask.; Julius Shapiro, Toronto, Ont.; Albert G. Sorge, Amherst, N.S.; Earl C. Turner, Sherbrooke, Que.; Harold Viel, Vernon, B.C.; Harold G. Amos, Picton, Ont.; W. Ashton, Vancouver, B.C.; Francis J. Bower, Copper Mountain, B.C.; James Albert Bowron, Saskatoon, Sask.; Roland R. Brown, Nelson, B.C.; Emile L. Callow, Ottawa, Ont.; John Donald

- Carmichael, Toronto, Ont.; Robert William Carry, Kingston, Ont.; H. A. Chandler, Courtenay, B.C.; E. G. Charnock, Fort William, Ont.; Harvard P. Collins, Vancouver, B.C.; Harold Coulson, Mimico, Ont.; John Dickson, Humber Bay, Ont.; Hugh Douglass, Toronto, Ont.; Munro G. Elder, Saskatoon, Sask.; John D. Foggo, Nelson, B.C.; Robert Gibson, Hamilton, Ont.; Seymour C. Gordon, Wolfville, N.S.; Rupert Henderson, Saskatoon, Sask.; George Hertz, Barrhead, Alta.; William LaBute, Windsor, Ont.; C. A. MacLean, Strathmore, Alta.; Rev. Cecil Jeffries Markham, Rothesay, N.B.; Arthur G. Merifield, Windsor, Ont.; B. H. Mortlock, Ottawa, Ont.; Blake L. Patterson, Windsor, Ont.; Jack Payne, Calgary, Alta.; Richard Walter Chauncy Power, Halifax, N.S.; Robert Robinson, Dartmouth, N.S.; Frederick Harold Rowley, Halifax, N.S.; R. Lawrence Small, Winnipeg, Man.; Lawrence P. Spearing, Nanaimo, B.C.; Burrell G. Stevens, Toronto, Ont.; A. Cecily Tasman, Halifax, N.S.; Harold C. Taylor, Edmonton, Alta.; Reg. St. J. Terrett, Oshawa, Ont.; Charles E. Terry, Etobicoke, Ont.; Alvin W. Thompson, Alderwood, Ont.; Linton H. Tooley, Saskatoon, Sask.; John H. E. Toombs, Calgary, Alta.; Maude Lillian Towsley, Fort William, Ont.; Don Ure, Nelson, B.C.

Bar to Long Service Medal For Additional Service.

- William Arch, Niagara Falls, Ont.; David Armaly, Windsor, Ont.; Colenso Bowles, Woodside, N.S.; Harry W. Bryant, Hamilton, Ont.; William Baird Corrance, Hamilton, Ont.; Albert Davis, Niagara Falls, Ont.; Fred W. Falconer, Eureka, N.S.; Bruce Grant, Fort William, Ont.; T. A. Larmour, Windsor, Ont.; Charles Verrell Nunn, Toronto, Ont.; Robert Salmon, Raymond, Alta.; W. S. Van Orman, Raymond, Alta.; Henry Samuel Watson, Grand Pre, N.S.; Henry P. White, Edmonton, Alta.; W. Stanley Hickman, Montreal, Que.; E. H. M. Knowles, Regina, Sask.; Sydney J. Leyland, North Vancouver, B.C.; Miss Margaret A. Marshall, Montreal, Que.; Mrs. Ruth Naish, Penticton, B.C.; George H. Scott, Saint John, N.B.

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES

Warrants Issued

His Excellency the Chief Scout has approved of the issuance of the following Warrants of Appointment.

Provincial Commissioner

T. W. S. Parsons, Victoria, B.C.

District Commissioner

Charles Langstaff, Smiths Falls, Ont.; K. N. Stewart, Fernie, B.C.; J. Ormsby Lee, White Rock, B.C.; E. G. Beastall, Chilliwack, B.C.; John W. MacKenzie, Arncliffe, Quebec.

Scouter

George W. Mountain, Fredericton, N.B.; Rev. Oswald Porelle, Moncton, N.B.; Wilfred Sonier, Moncton, N.B.; Joseph Albert Corbin, Moncton, N.B.

Scoutmaster

Robert John Webb, Victoria, B.C.; Alexander J. Gertzen, White Fox, Sask.; Franklin Joseph Foster, Nanaimo, B.C.; Harry Morley Watson, Vancouver, B.C.; K. R. M. Spall, Willowdale, Ont.; John D. Martin, Maple, Ont.; S. G. T. May, Flinton, Ont.; James Joseph Claxton, Vancouver, B.C.; Earl Thomas Levy, Victoria, B.C.

Assistant Scoutmaster

David Basil Waterhouse, Vancouver, B.C.

Cubmaster

John Johnson Baker, Cranberry Lake, B.C.; Alfred Victor Brett, Vancouver, B.C.; Louise Margaret Clayton, Montreal, Que.; John E. P. Weston, Longueuil, Que.

Assistant Cubmaster

William Charles Roberts, Croydon, Que.

TRAINING DEPARTMENT

SPECIAL TO DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

We would draw to the attention of District Commissioners that the issue of Wood Badge parchments and beads depends entirely on their endorsement of the candidate on the Part III Confidential Card, and we would request that considerable judgment be exercised in connection with the completion of this document.

A Scouter can write a good Part I Course and do well on a Part II Course and still fall short of the final requirements as outlined on the Part III Card. The District Commissioner is the only person who can honestly evaluate the candidate in this regard.

If the Commissioner is at all doubtful, it is his duty to withhold endorsement, and in all fairness to the Scouter, he should be told why it has been withheld. It is quite possible that a talk with the Scouter with the promise of endorsement within a given period, should there be improvement in his Scouting, would be helpful to all concerned. But it is important that holders of the Wood Badge be entirely worthy of that insignia.

MORE TAKE TRAINING IN 1947

Training statistics for 1947 show a considerable increase over 1946. The attendance at Part II Wood Badge Courses was 141 Cubmasters and 124 Scoutmasters; increases of 43 and 51 respectively. Part I certificates issued were 133 Cubmasters and 105 Scoutmasters. These figures represent increases of 43 and 3. There have also been substantial increases in District Preliminary Course figures. Certificates issued were 446 Cubmasters, 459 Scoutmasters and 33 Rover Scout Leaders. These are increases of 76, 179 and 33 in the respective categories.

We realize to the full, that efforts by this department to increase our training programme would have been fruitless, without the wholehearted backing of the people in the field. That this was forthcoming is shown by the figures quoted.

We wish to express to everyone who in any way has been active on Training Programmes, our sincere thanks for the grand job they did in 1947. It remains now to see that 1948 passes the 1947 record.

WOOD BADGE COURSES

Akela Part II Courses

British Columbia—Camp Byng, August 23-28.

Saskatchewan-Manitoba combined—Gimli, August 9-14.

Ontario—Blue Springs, July 17-24.

Sudbury, July 12-18.

Part II Wood Badge

British Columbia—Lake Osprey, July 1-10.

Saskatchewan-Manitoba combined—Gimli, July 24-Aug. 2.

Quebec—Tamaracouta, August 7-15.

Ontario—Blue Springs, July 24-Aug. 2.

Blue Springs, Sept. 18-27.

North Bay, July 24-Aug. 2.

AWARDS FOR SERVICE AND GALLANTRY GRANTED MAY TO DECEMBER, 1947

Silver Acorn

For specially distinguished services.

Hon. N. E. Tanner, Edmonton, Alberta.

Mr. Ford S. Kumpf, Waterloo, Ontario.

Silver Cross

For gallantry with considerable risk.

Glenn Bryant, Assistant Scoutmaster, 1st Great Central Troop, B.C.—For his prompt and skillful rescue from drowning of a boy who had fallen into Great Central Lake.

Gilt Cross

Granted to those who do exceptionally well in case of emergency though without special risk to themselves.

Alexander Bramson, Assistant Scoutmaster, Iona, Montreal Troop—For his part in the rescue of a woman who had been overcome by gas fumes in a closed house.

Arthur G. Holmes, Scoutmaster, St. Matthew's, Montreal Troop—For his part in the rescue of a woman who had been overcome by gas fumes in a closed house.

Robert Tollman, Salvation Army 502nd Pack, Toronto, Ont.—For his Scoutlike rescue of a boy who had slipped down the steep and muddy banks of the Humber River and was in danger of drowning.

John MacLachlan, 1st Porcupine Troop, Porcupine, Ont.—For his Scoutlike rescue of a boy who had accidentally plunged into the swollen, icy waters of Lake Porcupine and was in danger of drowning.

Medals of Merit

For Good Services to Scouting.

Miss Jean Alexander Cameron, Lady Cubmaster, Winnipeg, Man.

Miss Jessie Cowie, District Cubmaster, Winnipeg, Man.

J. E. Fehrenbach, Commissioner, Kitchener, Ont.

Francis S. Fry, President, Calgary, Alta.

N. T. Gardner, President, Kitchener, Ont.

Rev. Father Peter Graf, Chaplain, Kitchener, Ont.

H. B. Holloway, Executive Commissioner, Edmonton, Alta.

Amos Reginald Holt, Scoutmaster, Winnipeg, Man.

R. V. MacCosham, Vice-President, Edmonton, Alta.

Neil A. McLennan, District Scoutmaster, Flin Flon, Man.

Nils Norenus, District Commissioner, Weston, Ont.

J. F. Percival, Edmonton, Alta.

Frederick C. Conley, District Scoutmaster, Orillia, Ont.

Irvin L. Robertson, District Commissioner, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

Edwin Clyde Weddell, K.C., District Commissioner, Kelowna, B.C.

Bar to Medal of Merit

For additional Good Services to Scouting.

James Walker, Honorary Treasurer, Edmonton, Alta.

James G. Scott, Assist. Executive Commissioner, Edmonton, Alta.

(Continued on page 95)