

November Theme
WINTER SCOUTING AND CUBBING
SCOUTER TRAINING

The Scout Leader

VOLUME 26 - No. 2

OTTAWA, ONTARIO

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER, 1948



"He Sends the Snow in Winter"

See "Cover Picture" Page 18

THE SIGN POST

APOLOGIES

I HOPE readers of *The Scout Leader* will forgive me for not contributing to the "Signpost" last month. At the time *The Scout Leader* went to press, I was on an eight thousand mile motor tour of Scout camps and leaders' training courses in Western Canada. The mobile life I was leading did not leave much time for the writing of contributions to *The Scout Leader*.

WESTERN TOUR

During my tour I was much impressed with all that I saw. There were many very good camps and some delightful campsites. I was impressed by the eager desire of Scouters to improve their efficiency and knowledge. There is a great need for Provincial and District Councils to do more for the assistance of Group Scouters. Too often I found enthusiastic Cub or Scout leaders stumbling along on their own with little guidance or assistance. I do hope that District Commissioners and their assistants will see to it that training is "taken to the leader". It is much more difficult because of time, jobs, home life, etc. for a leader "to go to training". I wonder how many District Commissioners have included in their plans for the 1948-49 season District Training Courses and specialization courses? Is there a District in Canada which will have all its leaders qualified by the year end?

LEADERSHIP LINKS

Have you an assistant? If you can answer "yes", you are a lucky fellow. Don't ruin him by neglect. Give him responsibility. Train him. Give yourself a meeting night off every month. Let him take over for you. If you can not bring yourself to this, your assistant needs training or replacement.

If you answer "no" you will find your time well spent in search for one. I know the difficulties are numerous but it is only fair to the Troop or Pack that an assistant be available and trained to take your place should you be unable to continue your activities in the Movement. How many Packs and Troops have disappeared for lack of this continuity factor? District Commissioners and their assistants should search their lists and take helpful action through Group Committees to ensure that every leader has a team of assistants.

DON'T GO DOWN THE MINE, DADDY!

While I was in Kimberley this summer I had the good fortune to be taken underground in the famous Sullivan mine where I met a great many Scouters and parents of Scouts. So you see, Scouting goes underground even in Canada. However, as I went into the mine, I could not help wondering how many Scouters would take their Packs and Troops "down into the basement" this winter. I do hope that more and more Scouters will realize the importance of having at least one outdoor activity every month throughout the year. Don't go underground all the time.

Good luck and Good Scouting!

D. C. Spry
Chief Executive Commissioner.

THE SCOUT LEADER

The Idea Magazine for Canadian Scouters

PUBLISHED MONTHLY SEPTEMBER TO JUNE

by

The Canadian General Council
THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

Chief Scout for Canada

His Excellency Field Marshal the Right Hon.
Viscount Alexander of Tunis, K.G.

Dominion Commissioner

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OTTAWA

Oct.-Nov., 1948

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COVER PICTURE

Cubs in Fort Churchill on Hudson's Bay do not go underground in winter. Photograph by Cubmaster Frank Spain shows them enjoying the exhilarating fun of building a snow house. See also page 20.

Editorial

On Using The Group Council

SCOUTING provides a continuous programme in good citizenship for the boy from eight years of age to Rover age. It interests the boy in three distinct programmes, each especially adapted to a particular age group. From eight to twelve there is the romance of the Cub programme; from twelve to seventeen the more rugged outdoor life of the Scout, and from seventeen to twenty-four the training for manhood which is called Rovering. Every leader, Cubmaster, Scoutmaster or Rover Leader should take the boy along this continuous trail through the three branches of the Movement that leads to citizenship.

To further this aim and to achieve unity of purpose the Group system was established, with all units under the single sponsorship of one group. The Group Council is a body composed of all the Scouters of the Group. The Council is set up in Canada under the provisions of Sec. 16, Sub-sec. 4 of P.O.R. which reads: "Where a Group consists of more than one section, Scouters of all sections should meet regularly to discuss matters affecting the Group, such as arrangements for 'Going Up' ceremonies, for sharing the use of headquarters, for sharing the use of Group equipment, etc. Such a meeting is called a Group Council. The members will appoint one of their number or invite a member of the Group Committee to act as chairman."

The Council is an essential part of the Group set-up. Through it the little problems which arise from time to time are ironed out and plans are made for joint participation by all sections in such activities as Boy Scout-Girl Guide Week. Through the Council, Scouters can establish the closest and friendliest of relations with each other, obtaining sympathy with each other's difficulties and maintaining an atmosphere of mutual helpfulness. In this way the common object for which all are working becomes clearer and closer.

It is the Group Council which decides such matters as an acceptable Group neckerchief, suitable Going-Up ceremonies between Pack and Troop and Troop and Crew. It has a deeper purpose however than merely deciding on the mechanics of Group operation—to weld into one the spirit and will to extract all that Scouting has to offer.

P.O.R. suggests that the Group Council should meet regularly. The desirable results obtainable from the work of the Council are limited if the Scouters are not brought together at frequent intervals. It may be trite to say that the Group is only as strong as its weakest part, but it is nevertheless true. The friendly intercourse of the Scouters, each bent upon doing the best of which he is capable, with his section, can be most helpful in strengthening the Group as a whole, and by strengthening the Group, strengthening Scouting throughout the country.

Opportunity For Service

CUBS and Scouts from small towns and rural areas have often to be admitted to city hospitals for special treatment. The presence of these lads in an unaccustomed environment offers opportunities to city Cubs and Scouts to demonstrate the spirit of their brotherhood as it is exem-

plified in the fourth Scout law—a Scout is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout.

In at least one large city contact is maintained with these institutions, and neighbourhood Packs and Troops are notified when Cubs and Scouts from out of town are in hospital in their areas. These boys are then visited and given a friendly hand, often being helped to carry on with their Cub or Scout work while undergoing treatment.

This is the sort of thing for which Scouting exists, to extend the hand of friendship and to help the other fellow. It is tremendously appreciated by these lads, many of them hundreds of miles from home and friends, to have some friendly Scout or Cub call and help pass away the long hours. Here is a real job of service for city Scouts and Cubs. Go to it.

* * * *

Time To Study First Aid

THE approaching winter months provide the ideal time of year for Scouters to make themselves proficient in first aid. More and more Scouts are rendering public service in this field, and the scope of the work can be greatly enlarged as Scouters become more proficient in this subject.

Both the St. John Ambulance Association and the Red Cross Society have trained in first aid hundreds of instructors, who are willing to give their services to Scouting without charge. They may be used to give advanced instruction to groups of Scouters, or to conduct special courses for Troops leading up to the award of both the Boy Scout Ambulance Badge and the special badges issued by these societies.

The public has come to look to Scouting for this type of service. Many Scout Troops operate First Aid Posts at fall fairs and other public gatherings, and constantly one reads in the newspapers accounts of Scouts who have rendered splendid service in this field. It is to be hoped that Scouters will take advantage of the willingness of the Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Association to provide the necessary instructors.

* * * *

On Saying Thank You

IN A recent issue appeared an article on the purposes of public relations in Scouting by the Executive Commissioner of Public Relations. An important aspect of public relations, and one that is sometimes overlooked is that of voicing appreciation for favours received. Many people go out of their way to show special consideration for Scouting, and it should be the business of those in the Movement to see that such people are thanked. This applies both to the small favours by the caretaker of the hall where the Group meets, and to the more affluent supporter whose favour might seem more important. It is a common human trait to expect to be thanked, and remembrance of this at all times would reflect that courtesy which Scouts are expected to display. Shakespeare wrote a truism when, in *As You Like It*, he penned the memorable lines, "Blow, blow thou wintry wind; thou art not so unkind as man's ingratitude."

Don't Go Underground With Cubs In Winter

ELSEWHERE in this issue General Spry refers to the matter of going "down into the basement" for the winter. Because Wolf Cubs are very young and rather a care, there is a tendency once the cooler weather sets in to have every meeting "down in the basement." This is a mistake. Cubs need and like the outdoors just as much as their older brothers in the Troop or Crew. Just ask a Pack of Cubs if they would like a sleigh drive and you will overwhelmed with their enthusiastic affirmative answer. It is not the Cub's idea to meet always indoors during the winter.

During the past summer Dominion Headquarters had several visits from Cubmaster Frank Spain of Fort Churchill, Manitoba. Mr. Spain runs a Pack composed of the sons of service personnel at Churchill, where the winters are about as cold as you'll find them anywhere in Canada.

But the Wolf Cubs of Churchill do not spend all their time indoors in the winter. Witness their outdoor activity pictured on the cover of this issue. Cubmaster Spain tells us that his boys love to get out in the cold weather. Not only do they have lots of fun, but they learn how properly to dress for cold weather activities.

Cubmasters will be rendering a service to their boys by carrying on as many outdoor activities as possible during the winter months. Short winter hikes, sleigh drives, skating, skiing, building snow houses, snow fights—all offer suggestions for outdoor Cub activities, and need in no way interfere with Pack test and badge work.

The secret of happy winter outings for Cubs lies in choosing the right kind of apparel for the occasion—as much as in the type of programme. Too much clothing is often more harmful than too little in winter.

Whatever the temperature clothes should always be sufficiently loose and porous to carry off the moisture given off by the body by perspiration. Wool accomplishes this about as well as any fabric, but the newer windproof and snow-proof outer garments are very important.

Two or more thicknesses of clothing are better than a single heavy garment, because there is more air space to carry away the moisture. Tight clothing should never be worn because it tends to do away with this very important air space.

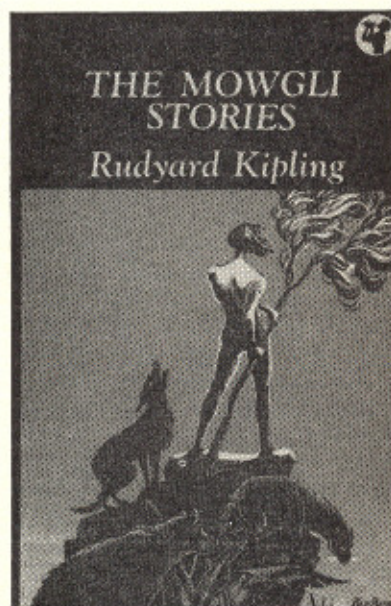
Cubs should wear two pairs of woolen socks, the under pair thin and smooth. They should not be tight. The new

specially designed winter boot, now on sale in The Stores Department, is ideal for winter outdoor activities in most parts of the country, but the safest bet is to be guided by accepted local practice in this regard. The main thing is to make certain that the boy's feet are warm, and that there is no danger of frost-bite.

Cubs will not likely be out for long periods, so it is not necessary for them to carry extra socks. Winter leather boots may be waterproofed with an application of dressing made from neatsfoot oil, beeswax and tallow in

(Continued on next page)

TWO NEW BOOKS NOW IN STOCK



THE MOWGLI STORIES

Akelas! Here's just what you've been waiting for. The Mowgli Stories from the Jungle Books by Kipling. A special low-priced edition published by Pan Books in England. Order your copy right away.

The Mowgli Stories
by Kipling

75c

THE FIRST TEN YEARS

Sir Percy Everett, who was more closely associated with B.-P. in the founding of Scouting than any other man tells the engrossing story of Scouting's early days. A book you will want to read several times.

The First Ten Years
by Sir Percy Everett

\$1.25

THE STORES DEPT.

The Boy Scouts Association

306 METCALFE ST., OTTAWA



Above is shown the completed igloo or snow house erected by the Cubs of Fort Churchill, and pictured in course of erection on our cover. These Cubs do not go underground in winter.

Winter Troop Activities

Suggested Adventures From The Prairie Provinces

MORE and more Scouting is getting outdoors all the year round. Here are a couple of reports on winter activities in the prairie provinces. The first gives a general review of these activities in Alberta, and the second is the story "Operation Snow Bird", the winter camping adventure of the senior patrol of the 12th Saskatoon Troop.

Winter Activities in Alberta

Scouting activities in Alberta, like most other provinces, may be considered under two headings:—City Scouting, and Scouting in the smaller communities. It is our general experience that Scouting in the cities tends to be more showy, with a lot of Test and Badge work being done, while in the smaller towns and villages, advancement is slower but a far more active outdoor programme is conducted.

In the cities, unfortunately, Scouting largely "goes underground" in the winter. However, an effort is being made by the more active Scouters to encourage outdoor activities even in the coldest weather. In both Calgary and Medicine Hat, District campsites are located within easy hiking distance of the city; these camps are equipped with permanent buildings, with bunks, so that Troops or Patrols are able to conduct overnight hikes with a degree of comfort. One Troop in Edmonton has its own campsite with a log building under construction, and Patrols have been conducting ski hikes nearly every week-end, camping in the completed kitchen portion of the building. Many other Troops have ski hikes, but do not camp out overnight.

One part of the winter programme

Don't Go Underground . . .

(Continued from previous page)

equal parts. These materials are heated and applied hot. Dubbin, which may be purchased ready made-up is equally good.

An ideal winter outfit for Cubs might consist of a woollen toque or ski cap, Cub sweater over two suits of light underwear, with an outer garment of the windbreaker or parka type, or ski jacket. Cub "breeks" or ski pants will round out the outfit. Warm mitts are of course essential, and it is just as well to have these attached by a cord to some other part of the outfit. Cubs have a way of losing things.

of the Calgary District is worthy of mention—each year they stage an "Ice Stampede" as a means of raising funds. The main feature of this event is "Chuckwagon Racing", in which teams of six Scouts or Cubs on skates pull a miniature chuckwagon mounted on a sleigh around the arena. Practise for this event entails a good deal of activity on out door rinks. From a financial point of view also, it has proved to be an unqualified success.

In the smaller communities, however, little encouragement is needed to get the boys out of doors. One reason for this may be that they are more naturally exposed to the elements; the convenience of buses and street cars are lacking, and boys often have to travel long distances to reach school—it is not uncommon for rural Scouts to walk or ride five miles to a Scout meeting.

The problems of winter travel, and an inadequate Field Staff make it hard to get a complete picture of all activities in the smaller places. However, an indication will be given by experiences reported by two country Scouters.

In the one case, the Scoutmaster reported that he had had several all day hikes, with temperatures ranging down to 20° below zero, meals had been cooked out of doors, and the ex-

perience was enjoyed by the whole Troop.

In the case of the other, two Scouts, dissatisfied with their First Class Hike held in the fall, had planned to repeat this during the Christmas holidays. They were not daunted by the fact that it was snowing hard, with the temperature 10° above zero, but set out as planned. They stayed out for 36 hours, using as a shelter a tarpaulin stretched across walls of snow, which was too soft for building an igloo.

Operation "Snow Bird"

By SCOUTMASTER J. A. BOWRON

The Senior Patrol of the 12th Saskatoon Troop decided upon a week-end camp at Beaver Creek, under winter conditions. The week-end decided upon was March 6-7. In due time March 6th arrived, but the temperature had dropped considerably and the wind was from the northwest, indicating much lower temperatures. However at the pre-arranged hour, the Patrol reported, complete with packs, skis and lots of ambition. Piling into the truck they were driven a distance of about six miles, when owing to the large drifts and uncleared roads, it was necessary for the balance of the journey of six miles to be made on skis.

ASM Allen Rose, in charge of the expedition, was fortunate in having a ski trooper's (USA) pack and carried a load of over forty-five pounds. This pack, being of frame construction, was perfect for this type of hike, fitting

(Continued on next page)



An adventure that will live long in their memories was the 250 mile canoe trip undertaken this past summer by these 15 members of the 25th Calgary Troop, under Scoutmaster R. N. Talbot. This Troop undertakes an ambitious trip of this nature each summer.

Winter Troop Activities

(Continued from page 21)

snugly on the shoulders and small of the back, allowing the required air space between the pack itself and the back. The construction of this pack is such that considerable load can be carried with ease and comfort. The Scouts used the square army type pack, with blankets rolled around the pack, the average weight being close to thirty pounds, or about five pounds overweight. Each Scout took a sleeping bag, one Hudson Bay blanket, or two ordinary blankets, ground sheet, change of underwear, change of socks, toque, waterproofed matches and moccasins, in addition to a portion of the food supplies. Other items taken were axe, camera, candles, flashlight.

The six mile ski trip was done in three stages, a short rest between each stage. The temperature at time of arrival had dropped to zero. At camp ski boots were removed and moccasins put on and as each member of the Patrol had his assigned job everyone was soon busy. Snow was cleared from the campsite by use of skis and with a large tarpaulin a shelter was lashed between trees, facing S.S.E., as the wind was from the N.N.W. Snow was banked up at the rear of the shelter and by this time a reflector fire was going and sufficient dead diamond willow and black birch had been collected to keep the fire going for the required period. Birch bark and one match was used to start the fire and no difficulty was experienced in keeping the fire in good shape. Snow was melted to provide the water supply and it was found that it takes a lot of snow to make a little water.

Supper, consisting of hot soup, fried steak and biscuits was eagerly disposed of and by the time darkness had descended the temperature had dropped to about 5 degrees below zero. Bed rolls were prepared, supplies checked and preparations made for the morning. One dead poplar tree was cut down for extra fuel. Before retiring for the night it was necessary to extinguish the reflector fire, owing to the high wind no heat was being reflected into the shelter. The temperature at this time was 10 degrees below. A canvas was therefore dropped over the front of the shelter. The snow under the ground sheets was then molded to suit each individual sleeper, as the body heat tends to melt the snow, which, under low temperature, soon freezes solid. Before retiring each Scout put on a

fresh suit of underwear and fresh socks, put on his detachable parka hood, crawled in between the blankets and with the precautions already taken enjoyed a comfortable warm sleep. Putting on fresh underwear and socks before retiring certainly proved to be worthwhile.

The big test, however, came in the morning. Rising from a warm sleeping bag, with temperature 10 degrees below, and having to dress, was quite a task, which did not improve any by lying and thinking about it. One at a time the plunge was taken, and soon there was a cheery blaze from the reflector fire. It was found that while all outer clothes, which had been placed between the blankets during the night, were ready to put on, the overalls apparently had absorbed a lot of moisture and were frozen solid. This condition did not apply to the regular ski pants worn by the A.S.M. These were two ply ski pants and proved to be perfect for a trip of this nature.

Breakfast consisted of porridge, bacon and scrambled eggs, and pancakes. After breakfast an attempt was made to do some tracking, but the exceptionally deep snow, some drifts being twenty feet in height, made this impossible. Tracks noticed were those of rabbits, coyotes, weasels, and partidge. A flock of about fifty snowbirds came down about twenty yards from the campsite and did not appear to be at all timid. These birds were white with black tails and black wing tips. One magpie was seen and a coyote spotted about 150 yards distant. This coyote remained perfectly still until approached within one hundred yards when without much apparent movement it disappeared in the bush. Lunch consisted of soup and a good stew.

After lunch the shelter was dismantled, packs assembled and then came the job of putting on the ski boots. These were stiff and frozen but eventually this was overcome. The fire was put out, the campsite left in a clean and tidy condition and faces turned towards home at 16.00 hours. The first eight miles was done by ski when the truck finished the balance of the journey home.

Comments

For winter hikes in below zero weather, when cooking and meals are in the open, it was found that each meal should have been in a separate bag and so labelled.



His Excellency the Governor-General, Chief Scout for Canada, presents the Gilwell Wood Badge to Scouter Herb Northcott during his visit to Vernon, B.C.

That as much prepared food should be taken as possible. This on account of everything freezing and when preparing food this soon froze again when not actually on the fire.

Reflector fire not satisfactory for heating shelter when temperature ten below and strong north wind.

Mitts should be attached to belt or parka, to prevent same becoming mislaid in the snow.

The fire, when outdoors in this temperature, should never be used for warmth. Movement and action are all that is necessary to warm up.

Everyone should have his assigned job and know how to do it.

Detachables parka hoods better than toques for sleeping, as they do not become displaced during sleep.

Sea Scouts Visit Liner

A GROUP of Ottawa Sea Scouts from the city's three Sea Scout Troops journeyed to Montreal in September, where through the co-operation of the Canadian Pacific Steamships they had the privilege of touring the *Empress of Canada*. The boys, under the leadership of Sea Scoutmaster S. G. Metcalfe, visited every part of the ship and were royally entertained by C.P.R. officials.

SCOUT LEADER'S BOOKSHELF

The Scoutmaster's Five Minutes

"BRIEF Story Talks on the Scout Promise and Law and Related Subjects" is the subtitle of this very useful pocket-size book, which contains sufficient story material to last a Scoutmaster for at least a year and a half. The book was compiled by Frank E. L. Coombs, former Editor of Publications. No person in Scouting is better qualified to write such a book. Mr. Coombs was for many years a writer of boys books, and this combined with his long years in Scouting makes him the ideal author for such a work as this.

Realizing that one cannot "preach" to boys, he has prepared a series of stories which point the moral without the necessity of the Scoutmaster emphasizing the moral.

Many Scouters are at a loss to interpret the Scout Promise and Laws to their boys in language and form that they will readily understand. This little book does just that. In addition to the Promise and Laws its stories deal with reverence, courage, sportsmanship, woodcraft and Scoutercraft.

This little book is not nearly as widely used in Canada as it might be. Possibly that is because it has not been drawn to the attention of Scoutmasters often enough. A few months ago, when it was shown to Scout Executives at the National Training Centre of the Boy Scouts of America at Mendham, N.J., an immediate order was placed to provide a copy for every member of the course.

There is no doubt that this book can be of inestimable value to the Scoutmaster in the character building side of his activities. The cost is so small that it should be on every Scoutmaster's bookshelf.

The Scoutmaster's Five Minutes... 35c

Handwork for Cubs

The Cubmaster who wishes to add this book to his library had better do so right away, as the Stores Department informs us that the present stock is quite small. *Handwork for Cubs* is the work of Molly E. Shannon who is an acknowledged expert in this branch of Cub work. More and more Cubmasters are developing handwork in their Packs to round out the Cub programme, and as a means, not only of teaching Cubs how to make things,

but of making Christmas presents for the home or for children in institutions. A further use is the making of articles for bazaars and sales of work.

The book contains twenty suggestions and how to carry them out. These suggestions range all the way from toy-making to leather-work and cane and raffia mats. Miss Shannon has the happy faculty of conveying her ideas in simple language and no Cubmaster should have any difficulty in following any of the score of suggested activities.

The Cub programme is so devised that the Cubmaster has plenty of opportunity to introduce such extra activities as handwork, without interfering at all with Tenderpad or Star Cub work. This 45 page book will answer the question so many Cubmasters ask: "What sort of handwork shall we do?"

Handwork for Cubs..... 35c

Good News for Akelas

Pan Books Ltd., of England, have just published *The Mowgli Stories* by Rudyard Kipling in a single small volume. This is the sort of book every Cubmaster will want, especially in view of the difficulty in getting the Jungle books. The contents include, Mowgli's Brothers, Kaa's Hunting, How Fear Came, Tiger, Tiger, Letting in the Jungle, The King's Ankus, Red

Dog, The Spring Running, and In the Rukh. All but the last are from the first and second *Jungle Books*, while the last is from *Many Inventions*.

The Mowgli Stories..... 75c

The First Ten Years

In this 40th anniversary year most Scouters are particularly sensitive to Scouting's background. This new book by Sir Percy Everett, Deputy Chief Scout tells the story of "The First Ten Years", and tells it in an extremely interesting way. Sir Percy was in Scouting from its inception. In fact on an autographed photograph of himself sent to Sir Percy in 1929 B.-P. wrote "To Percy Everett on the 21st anniversary of our starting Scouting together."

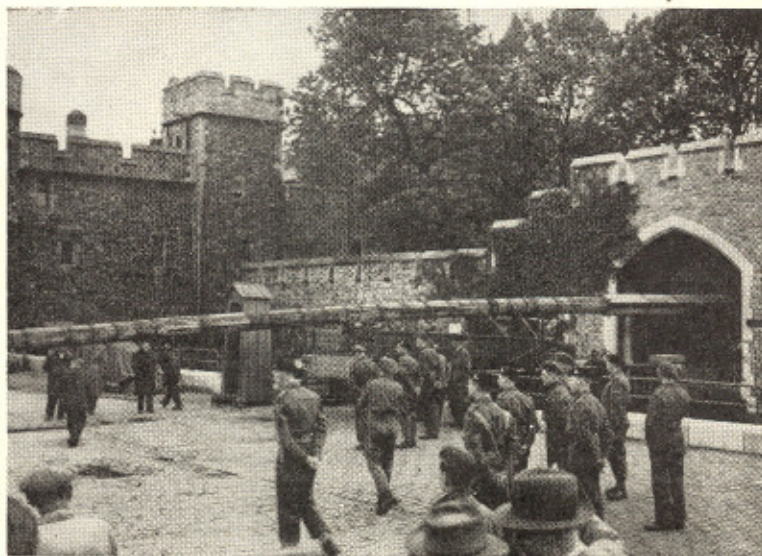
There is a lot of valuable information, and many interesting anecdotes of the Founder that we doubt have appeared in print anywhere before. Likewise the book contains a number of illustrations of the early days of the Movement.

Of particular interest is a verbatim conversation between Sir Arthur Pearson (publisher of *Scouting for Boys*), and B.-P. in which the plans for starting Scouting were discussed.

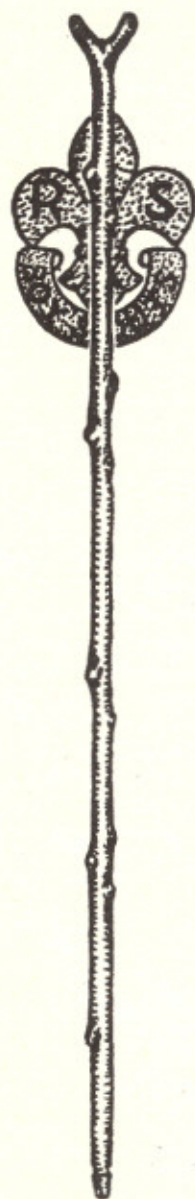
In his early writings B.-P. is quoted as having written: Scouting instruction:—Which end to begin at." His answer: "The right end for the teacher to start with is the end with the Jam on it."

Here is a book everyone interested in the early history of Scouting will enjoy.

The First Ten Years..... \$1.25



The new 158 foot British Columbia fir flagpole is shown in this picture as it arrived at the Tower of London. It was the gift of Mr. Prentice Bloedel, President of the Boy Scouts Association in British Columbia, who not only provided the pole but paid the costs of delivery to London.



THE ROVER WORLD

WINTER CAMPING FOR ROVERS MARITIME ROVER MOOT TENTH ONTARIO ROVER MOOT

THE Scout Movement has blazed the trail of camping and other outdoor activities for boys. More and more emphasis is being placed on year-round camping. Winter camping and all-weather hiking is a phase in which Rovers might well blaze a new trail.

While the Movement has at its command the reports of military winter camps and of the special experimental winter camps conducted by the famous explorer Dr. Vilhjalmur Stefansson for the Boy Scouts of America, of even greater importance are the experiences of those within our own Movement. Rovers might well be the spearhead of the drive for more winter camping.

"Why," you might ask, "do we need more winter camp-

ing?" The answer is simple. Scouting, as a part of its training for citizenship, seeks to develop sturdy virile young men, to whom the elements are not something to be feared but rather something to battle and conquer. Another important point is that nature has as many wonders to offer man in the winter as in the summer. The Scout is trained to see and hear things that others do not see and hear. He sees tracks and signs that reveal to him the nature and habits of the creatures that made them. The sounds of the woods tell him many stories.

Here is a pioneering job for Rovers, to go out and show how winter camping is done, to assist Scoutmasters in operating winter camps, to experiment with winter shelters, winter cooking, and winter life in the open.

Winter camping demands seasoning.

It is not for the novice to go out and camp without a period of preparation. Training might well start by sleeping with wide open windows, and taking a daily cold bath. Considerable cold weather hiking should be done. There should be practice in the erection of shelters and tents, before any attempt is made to stay out overnight. The first winter camp should be no more than an overnight hike. After a few weeks of this training, Rovers should be in condition to undertake camps of longer duration.

Winter camping sites should be near home, and easily accessible. The site should be protected from prevailing winds. It should be fairly near a source of food supply, and close enough to a telephone and a doctor in case of emergency.

In no phase of camping does the question of leadership loom so large as in winter camping. The very circumstances that make winter camping such exceptional training demand competent supervision and plenty of it.

Here is where the Rover section of the Movement can render a great service to Scouting by pioneering in winter camping and by offering its services in leadership.

Maritime Rover Moot

INDICATIVE of the increasing interest in Rover Scouting in Canada was the First Maritime Rover Moot which was held over the Labor Day weekend at Ing's Interval, near Hillsboro, in Albert County, New Brunswick. Moncton Rovers, directed by A.D.C. Rover Alfred C. Barton, were hosts and a splendid job they did. Exactly 100 Rovers and leaders registered at the Moot and paid a \$3 registration fee which entitled them to a generous supply of provisions during their stay at the Moot.

Cooking was done by groups and rations, prepared by Rover Charlie Keith and his assistants, were issued well in advance of each meal. The system worked out most satisfactorily. An advance party of Moncton Rovers had erected a number of tents ready for the visitors who showed their appreciation by striking the tents and returning them to a central loading point at the close of the Moot.

Council fires held Saturday and Sunday evenings were marked by group participation in that several excellent skits and song numbers were presented, while the group singing saw the introduction of some new favorites such as "Ging Gang Goolie", "We are the Red Men" and other popular songs.

Executive Commissioner "Bill" Speed from Halifax, N.S., contributed much in leading the singing of several spirituals as well as some skits and



Service really means something to the 8th Oshawa, Ont., Rover Sea Scouts who have served for three years as official First Aiders at the Motorcycle and Air Races. This year they were joined by three Girl Guide Sea Rangers. The Rovers have rendered many other services in Oshawa.

Greece Says Thank You

IN June, 15,000 copies of Lord Baden-Powell's book, *Aids to Scoutmastership* in the Greek language were shipped to the Boy Scouts of Greece as a gift from the Boy Scouts of Canada. The books were paid for from the balance remaining in the Chins-Up Fund, which was collected during the war to assist bombed-out Scouts in Britain and Europe. The balance of the Fund remaining after this work was completed, approximately \$1,200 was donated to the International Bureau for the extension of world Scouting.

From George Zelacosta, International Commissioner for the Boy Scouts of Greece (Soma Hellinon Proskopon), has come the following letter of appreciation.

Athens, Greece, June 26th, 1948.
"Dear General Spry:

"Our Ambassador in Ottawa has informed us of the ceremonious delivery to him of the first copy of *Aids to Scoutmastership* in Greek, an edition which the Canadian Scouts offer to their brothers in Greece.

"I have been authorized by the Council of Soma Hellinon Proskopon to convey to you and all our brothers in Canada our sincere feelings of gratitude and our great emotion for this and all past kindnesses. The Canadian people have conquered the hearts of the Greek people a long time ago, not only for its understanding and sympathy but for the very substantial assistance it has always extended us, especially during the dark days of enemy occupation and the difficult days which followed.

"Our boys are much indebted to the Canadian Scouts and Scouters who have lost no opportunity to encourage and help their brothers in Greece. We shall never forget what your Association has been and is contributing to Greek Scouting.

"With kindest personal regards, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE ZELACOSTA,

International Commissioner."

The Science of Backpacking

By D. R. King, High River, Alberta

Part II—Hiking and Equipment

NOW that we have completed the packboard, we are ready to load up. First and foremost is, of course,

your bed. You have learned to make a camp bed with two or three blankets, which is very good, however if you plan on doing very much camping,



Hon. Francis Forde, High Commissioner for Australia in Canada, is greeted by Wolf Cub Bobby Harvey of Ottawa's 54th Pack, when he visited the weekend Camporee over the May 24th holiday.

your best bet is to purchase a sleeping bag. The Stores Dept. carries an exceedingly good line of bags, and the low price allows almost any boy to afford one. It is a good idea to pin a sheet inside the bag, which makes it easy to clean and air.

A sleeping bag is just like a set of blankets, it has to be aired after each using, else it will become damp and musty. I have found that the best method of packing is to first obtain a stout canvas bag, such as those offered in the catalogue. The sleeping bag is rolled tightly and slipped into this canvas bag, being loosened and spread out afterward, to make pockets inside. Your blankets may be rolled in the same way as the sleeping bag. Most of your equipment may now be slipped or stuffed around the inside folds of the bed, which will protect any fragile piece.

Hike Equipment

The minimum of equipment should be as follows:

Sufficient food in cans and dried form to last the trip;

Soap and towel; Toilet articles;

Utensils and cutlery;

Extra clothing—which I shall refer to later;

Ground sheet—or army type raincoat;

A length of soft, stout rope;

Flashlight;

Hand axe;

Matches, string, needles, thread, etc.

Perhaps you wonder why I put soap and towel near the head. There is nothing to make one feel so fresh after a thirty-mile hike, as a real scrubbing, even if in ice-water. Keep to regular habits of cleanliness as much as possible. It really pays to be safe.

Hike Clothing

Now about hike clothing. Policy, Organization and Rules for Canada, provide that "Correct Scout Uniform must be worn in public." This means that Scouts should hike in Scout uniform. There is no part of the Scout uniform which is not perfectly suited to hiking.

Starting from the ground, let us consider the boots. These should be quite heavy and stout, and should give plenty of support to the ankles. For the end of the day, just around camp take a pair of light low shoes. The change of type will prove restful.

If the hike is of longer duration than one day, it is well to take along an extra shirt and shorts. The underclothes worn will of course depend on the weather and the country through which the Scout is hiking. It is well

too, in blackfly infested country to take along a pair of longs to be on the safe side. For a hat, there is nothing better than the Scout hat. It's broad brim will keep the sun off the back of the neck, and will also provide good shelter from rain.

It is well too to take along a warm light parka or jacket for cool evenings. Don't take bulky clothes. A raincoat is an essential. I have already mentioned the army type rain cape which may be used for the dual purpose of raincoat and groundsheet.

Of course at least two extra pairs of socks are necessary for any trip. Change them often and thoroughly dry each pair before packing away.

This looks like quite a mountain of stuff, but it will all go into your pack, with a little pushing. Pack the bed first, and stuff the bulky foods around in it. On this put next your extra clothing, leaving the eating things and the gear you will need first right at the top of the pack, so that you can get at it easily, without having to turn out the whole thing.

This procedure puts all the equipment inside, where it is protected from rain and dust, and leaves nothing hanging on the back to snag on trees or drop off. Even a pack can be neat and clean. Nothing should be left on the outside save the axe, the first-aid kit, and the water-bottle, and these are firmly lashed on with cord.

Shouldering the Pack

Now you're ready to be launched. With the pack tied up as described in Part I, lean it against a tree or rock with the straps out. Now sit with your back against it and slip your arms into the straps. Lean out a bit to test for comfort and fit. If it does not seem right, adjust the length of the straps a little until it hangs right. The next problem is to get up. Merely cross your legs as in the squat, and lean forwards, placing your hands before you and lifting with the legs. A small heave will bring you to your feet and you need only to straighten up to complete the movement. Stand for a moment to get your balance, then start off.

Take short easy steps at first to get used to it. Don't rush, don't run. Go steadily. When you are tired, rest. You will find yourself much fresher and feel far better at the end. One caution. Don't drink too much water. You may have the sensation of thirst, but it is only dryness of the mouth and throat. A small mouthful of water swished around in the mouth and spat out is



The Kiltie Band of the 2nd St. Catharines, Ont., Troop is seen as it marched past the saluting base in a recent parade. Once again the smartness of the scene is spoiled by one of the Flag Bearers not appearing in official uniform.

A GROUP COMMITTEE'S JOB

Through The Eyes of a Committee Chairman

By George Shearer, Chairman 47th Windsor, Ont., Group Committee

IN the February issue of *The Scout Leader* appeared an article by Scoutmaster George Green of the 4th Windsor (St. Mark's Anglican Church) Troop, under the title "How a Scoutmaster Uses his Group Committee." This article will endeavour to show you how one Group Committee chairman feels his Committee can assist the Group.

Nearly three years ago we reorganized our committee, and since that time we have had but three changes

far better than a big drink. Water-sickness is a very miserable thing, so drink only when rested and cool.

When on a hard trek, make sure all your food is well cooked, and take your time eating. Hard work demands proper diet and digestion.

Now, perhaps you do not altogether agree with my methods, however each has his own ideas. Don't stick to one formula, try them all, pick out the best parts of each, the parts you can do best, for after all, you only obtain the best results when you do the work the easiest way you can. Put all the ideas together, throw in a few of your own. Then you will have a chance to really enjoy your pack trip.

in membership. Two of the original committee are now with the Pack as Akela and assistant, and the third change was necessitated by the removal of a member to London, Ont.

Shortly after the committee was formed, we found it necessary to accept the Akela's resignation. Immediately every man on the committee pitched in and took some part in keeping the Pack operating until we were able to secure the services of a new Akela.

"How," you may ask, "do you keep your Group Committee interested?"

Here is an outline of how we operate.

We meet every second Monday of the month at each other's homes. Our Scout and Cub leaders attend our meetings. There are seldom any absences. Usually one or more ladies from the Auxiliary attend the meetings.

The Treasurer, who audits the books of both Pack and Troop presents a financial statement for each unit. Twice a year two committeemen audit all books. We hear from the leaders as to their plans for the future and their suggestions as to ways and means for the Group Committee to lend assistance. We also study complaints and are usually able to help in finding a solution. When Scoutmaster or Cub-

A Group Committee's Job

(Continued from page 27)

master experiences disciplinary difficulties, these are usually reported to the Committee which is frequently able to help. This gives the committee contact with parents which has proved valuable.

We also try to remedy any situation where the leader appears to be at fault.

During each year we hold a card party to swell our funds, and these have been quite successful. We also handle arrangements for the Father and Son banquet, which is not staged as a money-making undertaking, but as a means of gaining the closer interest and understanding of the fathers. At first we had some difficulty getting fathers out, but now we have no trouble at all. The Ladies Auxiliary and women of the Church give a great deal of assistance in this project.

To keep the eyes of the Cubs looking forward to the day they will be Scouts, the Committee sponsors a day's outing for the Cubs to visit the Scouts while in camp. This has now been done for two years, and has been most successful. The Cubs leave early Sunday morning in cars and trucks provided by members of the Committee and local merchants. They attend Scouts Own, join in the swim period, and make a tour of the camp.

This seems to be the story of how our committee operates. There is one thing perhaps, that should be added. I do feel our meetings go on a bit longer than necessary, but when I know that the members are enjoying the meetings, and that I have one of the best committees in this part of the country I do not worry about it too much.

Planning The Training Programme

IT is the usual practice for Scouters of Packs, Troops and Crews to consult their co-workers, particularly at this time of year, and then to draw up a programme of training for the ensuing season. This is most commendable and it is just as important for district officials to confer and to plan activities for the district. Such things as rallies, displays, competitions, combined parades, camps and particularly training cannot be arranged for adequately at short notice. It takes time and planning so that one feature fits into another with a resultant planned progress.

District activities planned on a hit or miss basis are bound to produce a patchy effort and at the end of the year it will appear that little progress has been accomplished.

In planning district activities it is very important that Scouters training courses be included. There will always be a need for training. If a Scouter is keen on his job and is anxious to do his best for his boys, he ought to seize every opportunity which will fit him to do a better job. And it is up to the district officials to provide these opportunities.

Plan well ahead for district preliminary training courses—particulars regarding these are available from Provincial Headquarters. The programmes provided are quite elastic and can be readily adapted to meet local condi-

skipping, story-telling, jungle plays and dances. Scoutmasters have attended specialization courses in mapping, signalling, pioneering, camp cooking, starmanship, nature lore, etc.

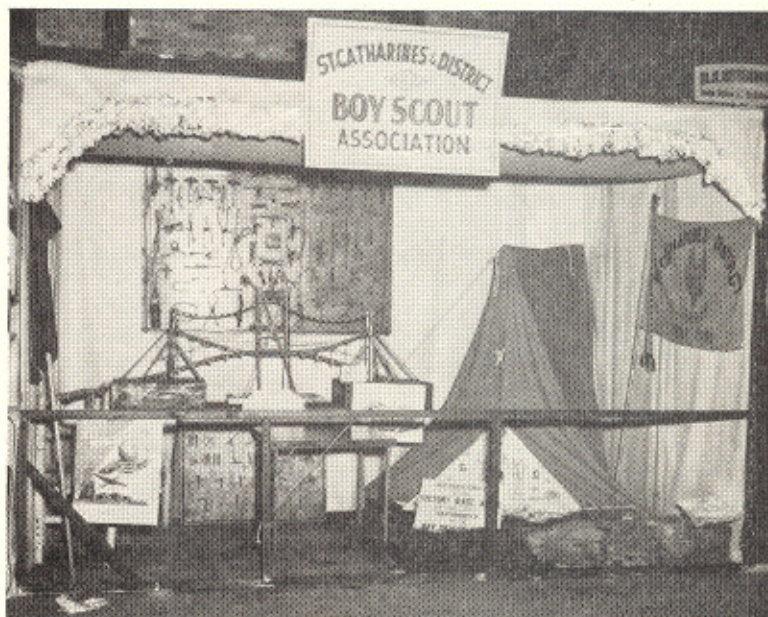
It must not be supposed that the holding of district preliminary courses exhausts the opportunity for training. Find out the weaknesses in the district and correct them by offering specialization courses. Consult the Scouters—they may feel the need for some special training.

Sometimes the response to training schemes is disappointing—that in itself is a challenge, to the district officials that they do a complete job of "selling" beforehand, and to the Scouters that they realize the need for constant training.

Now is the time to plan your training. Don't delay.

Group Wall Newspaper

A good idea for the Troop or Pack headquarters is a Wall Newspaper. All that is required is a fairly large notice board and a group of two or three boys to run it. Everybody in the unit can contribute to it by newspaper clippings, snapshots, poems, drawings, etc.—anything they think might be of interest to the Cubs or Scouts in the unit. The team in charge merely need to change the contents periodically. It liven up the notice board and keeps the boys up to the minute on useful information, ideas and news.



This booth which attracted much public attention was displayed at the St. Catharines, Ont., Industrial Exhibition. Application forms were available for prospective Cubs and Scouts and numerous pamphlets on Scouting were distributed.

BOY SCOUT APPLE DAY

A Tried and Proven Way of Raising Scout Funds

"BE PREPARED" Order Your Supplies Now

APPLE DAY TAGS

Always give a tag when selling an apple. It prevents the embarrassment of trying to sell the same person twice. Smart new tags, with Scout-Apple imprint on one side and "Thank You" message on the other.

Price Per 1,000.....\$2.25

Strung ready for use.

October—Apple Day Month is here. Make sure this year that you are not disappointed, by ordering your Apple Day supplies of tags, window cards and window stickers now. Many Scouters were unable to obtain supplies last year because they left it too late. Make sure your Group shares in the thousands of dollars that can be raised through well planned Apple Days.

Newspaper Advertising Mats

To Help You Build Your Apple Day Sales



As Above

Mat 8848, 7 column.....	\$1.00
Mat 8948, 3 column.....	.50
Mat 9048, 2 column.....	.45

APPLE DAY WINDOW CARDS

Strikingly printed in two colours on heavy card, with coloured block for you to print your own date. Post them in store windows and on posts.

Price Per Dozen.....\$1.15



As Above

Mat 9148, 7 column.....	\$1.15
Mat 9348, 3 column.....	.50
Mat 9448, 2 column.....	.45
Mat 9548, 1 column.....	.40

Order Mats by Number

APPLE DAY WINDOW STICKERS

"Support your Local Boy Scouts —Buy a Scout Apple" is the message on these 23" x 6" window stickers. Gummed all ready to put up.

Price Per Dozen.....35c

PLAN EARLY - ORDER EARLY
from

The Stores Department
THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION
306 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa

How I Started Scouting

By Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell

EDITOR'S NOTE.—This article, reprinted from the July issue of *JAMBOREE*, official Journal of World Scouting, appeared originally in the first issue of *THE SCOUT* on April 18th, 1908—at the very dawn of Scouting. We reproduce this first article contributed to the first number of *THE SCOUT* by its Founder, both for the valuable information it contains and also to mark the 40th anniversary of Scouting.

I HAVE suggested Scouting as a good thing for boys because I began it myself when I was a boy, and I know that if you want to enjoy life and get on, a great step towards it is to learn Scouting while you are young.

And I am glad to see that, although the Boy Scouts have only been set going within the last two months, they are rapidly increasing all over the country, and we have even had letters from Burma, Gibraltar, and Canada, asking for particulars, with a view to starting up colonial branches.

My first beginning was in "Watermanship"—for we had in the family a small sailing yacht, which we four brothers manned ourselves. This necessitated one of us being cook and crockery-washer, and I have not forgotten my first experience in that line. I had to cook the dinner.

First Shot at Cooking

Well, you know what it is like when you begin as a Scout to cook your food—it is not quite a success at first. Mine was not, either. The dinner was not good; I know it, because I ate the whole of it myself—not because I liked it, but because I had got to. My brothers could not eat it, so they made me do so, just as a reminder that I must learn to cook better.

I accordingly learnt a little about cooking after that from a cook at home, and I learnt from a baker how to mix flour and water and yeast to make dough for bread. I picked up a lot of Scouting when living in town by noticing what was in shop windows, and remembering the names of shops and streets. I used to look at a map of the town and then go to a strange part of it and try to find my way to some church or other building without asking the direction, merely by remembering the map. I knew every short cut through back alleys and passages. I attended every fire that I could get to, and I made friends with firemen, and they taught me a lot about how to save people and how to put out fires.

There is plenty of Scouting to be learnt in towns, just as there is in the country or on the sea.

I remember how in our sailing boat we ran on some rocks one day, in rather a nasty little sea, and, as the boat heeled over and rolled about, I thought all was up with us; and I huddled down helplessly, waiting to see what was to happen.

I was quite prepared, like the frog in the milk, to give up all efforts to save myself.

Story of a Boathook

Just then a boathook, which had become dislodged, slipped and fell overboard into the sea, and I was thinking how soon I was probably to follow it when I was suddenly recalled to life by a string of remarks from my eldest brother, who was in command, abusing me for sitting by and letting the boathook go overboard and telling me to grab hold of it before it floated out of reach, which I quickly did.

I then saw that if he was so mighty particular about saving an old boathook at that juncture there might be some hope for our saving ourselves. So I bucked up and set to work to help the others. In the end we got off safe and sound. But that lesson of the boathook has been of the greatest use to me many a time since in tight places when things were looking very bad. I have remembered that then was the time to wake up and work extra hard and not to give in, and if people round about were looking glum and nervous, the thing was to suggest some small thing to think about and to carry out, to remind them that matters were not so hopeless after all.

For instance, in the case of an unpleasantly strong attack by the enemy, when some people were beginning to think that things looked bad for us, it came in useful to sing out: "Where's the cook? Isn't it about time we had breakfast?" and that seemed to set them all right again and to give them heart to carry on.

We not only sailed our boat round most of the coast of England, but we also made boat expeditions inland in a small folding-up canvas boat, which was great fun. We explored the Thames pretty nearly up to its source in the Cotswold Hills, and then we got on to the Avon, which rises on the other side of the same hills, and went down it through Bath and Bristol to the Severn; then we crossed the Severn and went up the Wye into Wales. We carried our tent and cooking-pots with us and slept out in camps every night and had a real good time.

Handy Men All

Of course, to do this we had to be "handy men"—to understand all about rowing and managing the boat, how to swim, how to tie knots, how to light fires and cook food, how to build shelters and to drain a wet camp, and so on. We used to get leave from the owner of the land where we stopped to take a rabbit or catch some fish for food. To get a rabbit we either set a snare or, what was better fun, we stalked him with a little saloon pistol.

One evening I was doing this at a place where, I am sorry to say, we had not got leave. There was no house to be seen, and we were late and short of food.

I was creeping up behind a bush to get within shot of a fine rabbit who was squatting in the grass, when I thought I heard a crackling of leaves and sticks the other side of the bush. A horrible idea struck me that a keeper was there stalking me, so I quickly slid back and crept back again as quietly as I could. When I had got some little distance I squirmed round, still lying flat on the ground, to see if I was being followed, and then I saw another fellow creeping away from the bush in the opposite direction.

He, too, was a poacher, who had likewise heard me and thought I was a keeper, and we were both wriggling away from each other. So I had another look at the rabbit, but he, cunning beggar, was sitting there, and I could almost swear he was giggling; at any rate, the next moment he popped back into his hole and we got no rabbit for supper that night.

(Continued on page 32)

OFF THE
PRESS SOON
—
THE CANADIAN
Boy Scout Diary
PERPETUAL TYPE
START IT ANY TIME

Watch for Announcement



THE DUFFEL BAG

A page of helpful ideas from anyone, anywhere.
If you have a good one, tested, please send it in.



Scout Is High Student

KEITH Newton Drummond, Troop Leader of the Rosemount First United Troop in Montreal, led the Province of Quebec with a percentage of 91.7 in the school leaving examinations. Drummond was a keen Scout and a camper at Montreal's Camp Tamaracouta.

Mediator a Scout

COUNT Folke Bernadotte, United Nations Mediator in Palestine who was recently assassinated, was very active in Scouting. He was a member of the International Committee of the Boy Scouts, and last year headed the thousand strong Swedish contingent to the World Jamboree in France.

Former Scout Commended

NAVAL Headquarters in Ottawa has sent a letter of commendation to Electrician 3rd Class John Gibb, R.C. N., Sarnia, Ont., for his prompt action in rendering first aid when an Able Seaman collapsed following electric shock. Gibb is 26 years old and has been in the Navy for the past eight years. He studied first aid as a Scout and earned his Ambulance Badge in addition to his St. John Ambulance junior and senior certificates.

Good Turn Competition Gets Public Acclaim

A GOOD TURN competition staged by the 4th Guelph, Ont., Troop, brought forth very favourable comment in *The Guelph Mercury*. To encourage regular Good Turns, the Scoutmaster, Rev. E. Owen Johnston, has planned these competitions. The story in *The Mercury* was not the work of a Troop scribe or a newspaper reporter, it resulted from a telephone call from a very pleased citizen who benefitted from the Good Turn competition. It told of five members of the Troop calling at her home and offering to do a Good Turn for her. The boys cut, watered and raked the lawns for three ladies. The two column heading on the news story read: "Scouts Good Deed a Day Rule Contrast to Riots at Wasaga."

Registration

"ALL Groups and all Sections thereof must be registered at Provincial Headquarters, and are recognized as units of The Boy Scouts Association only whilst registered."

P.O.R., Section 114.

When your Provincial Headquarters notifies you your registration is due—be prompt—it's the Scout way of doing things.

Ambassador Former Scout

SIR Oliver Franks, the new British Ambassador to the United States, is a former Wolf Cub, Boy Scout and Rover Scout, and is the youngest British Ambassador ever to be appointed to the United States.

Duke Heads Old Scouts

HIS Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, husband of Princess Elizabeth, who was a Boy Scout in his school days has consented to be Patron of the newly formed "B.-P. Guild of Old Scouts." Study is being given to the formation of the Guild in Canada.

B.-P. on Sea Scoutmasters' Uniforms

FROM the Headquarters *Gazette*, forerunner of the British magazine *The Scouter*, is taken this comment from B.-P.'s *Outlook*. It appeared in September, 1921.

"One word about Sea Scoutmasters' uniform may not be out of place here. I have never shown myself much in love with that dress, which was invented when I was away at the other end of the world. My main objection to it is that it tends to make the Sea Scoutmasters appear on a different footing from other Scoutmasters and from their boys; in other words it tends to suggest that they are imitation officers instead of elder brothers.

"Lately a Sea Scoutmaster asked if he might dress 'like a Sea Scout, instead of like a sick bay steward'.

"I was in full sympathy with him. I have noticed a good many Sea Scoutmasters are now saving tailors' bills and avoiding misconception on the part of the public by dressing as nearly as possible like their Scouts."

From Last Month

LAST month's cover picture depicting a group of Cubs learning their knots was a *London Free Press* picture featuring Miss June Hodgins, District Cubmaster in London, Ont., and some of her Cubs. The demonstration was put on during Scout-Guide Week. Also, we neglected to mention in the caption of the picture of Canada's Scout Executives at the National Training Camp that Executive Commissioner G. Ray Bryson of London was not present when the picture was taken.

Thoughts on Discipline

"IF WE join a voluntary movement we subordinate our will to the good of the whole, and this should be even more binding upon us than discipline imposed from without. The whole secret of Scout discipline is that it comes from within. If at any time we find that our circumstances or our conscience prevent us from wholehearted obedience to our obligations, then in all honesty we should leave the Movement. There is no compulsion to join the game, but having done so we must either play according to the rules or leave the game and find something more congenial elsewhere. When discipline comes from within there is all the more need to see that our own leadership is one of use and not abuse."

—From *Running a Troop*.

Akelas Hold Refresher Course

THE Niagara District Akela Club staged a very successful weekend refresher training course over the Labour Day weekend. Charles V. Nunn of the Ontario Provincial Office acted as camp chief. Besides leaders from the Niagara District, Akelas were present from Windsor, Preston and Kitchener. In all 30 attended the course which covered such subjects as handicrafts, jungle dances, camp health, signalling, special Pack meetings, etc. The programme was based on training the leaders themselves requested in a poll taken last year. Highlighting the course was a nature ramble conducted by Mr. Miller, a well known Niagara district naturalist. The Akela Club song books also made their first appearance at this course, which was held at Camp Wetaskewin, St. Catharines.

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES

STORES DEPARTMENT

INDIVIDUAL MEASUREMENT SERVICE BACK AGAIN

The Stores Department is pleased to announce that with uniform materials in better supply for shirts and shorts, the "Individual Measurement" service can now be resumed. This service is provided at an added cost of 75 cents per garment over and above current catalogue prices. Scouters requiring such service are asked to write the Stores Department for particulars of personal measurements required for this service.

WARRANTS ISSUED

His Excellency the Governor-General, Chief Scout for Canada, has been pleased to approve the following warrants of appointment as *Scouter* (all offices).

Ontario:—William S. Ambrose, Toronto; Robert H. Anderson, Toronto; Mabel Beavan, Toronto; Frank Bell, Kingston; Melba C. Cohen, Toronto; John J. Daley, Toronto; Kenneth J. H. Ellis, Owen Sound; Lorraine M. Fildey, Toronto; Clifford H. Fletcher, Toronto; James J. Gibbens, Toronto; Hamilton Gray, Toronto; Ruth L. Harpell, Kingston; Hugh A. Hubbard, Simcoe; Kenneth R. Jakins, Lakefield; Ralph J. Kuyle, Toronto; Leslie R. Lacey, Toronto; Richard W. N. Lanes, Simcoe; Bernard J. Langford, Toronto; Kenneth H. Leff, Toronto; Eugene A. Raciott, Toronto; Leslie Richardson, New Toronto; Muriel Schnurr, Guelph; Robert A. Scott, Toronto; Robert J. Steven, Toronto; James Clayton Taylor, Toronto; Peter E. Trant, Toronto; Robert J. Wilkie, Toronto.

Manitoba:—Fred George Ratson, Morden; Albert W. Thorington, St. James; Edward Thorndycraft, St. James.

New Brunswick:—Sydney Weldon Logan, St. John; Cecil Jeffries Markham, Rothesay.

British Columbia:—Neil McGregor Heslop, Vancouver;

Marion Fredrica Palmer, Vancouver; Mary Ethel Wilkinson, Alberni.

Saskatchewan:—Harry Crone, Moose Jaw; Mervyn D. Warner, Moose Jaw.

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

Scouters throughout Canada will welcome word that a booklet of "Leaders' Guidance Sheets" featuring ideas and suggestions for each day of Scout-Guide Week, Feb. 20 to 27, 1949, is being prepared by the Public Relations Service at Dominion Headquarters. Distribution will be made via Provincial and District Scout offices, probably to Group Committee Chairmen, on the basis of one booklet to each "Group", not one to each "unit".

With the slogan "Preparing for Tomorrow—Today", there will be a new theme picture for the 1949 observance of Scout-Guide Week. This is now in course of preparation by Canadian artists, and will be reproduced in coloured poster form in four sizes and styles. These will be distributed through the Stores Department at Dominion Headquarters.

Because marked success was achieved where joint committees of Scout and Guide representatives on both the provincial and district levels, functioned in 1948, it is suggested that such committees again be established.

Working Kits containing samples of all Scout-Guide Week material prepared by the P. R. Service, will be distributed through Provincial offices to key people who, obviously, should be members of the joint committees suggested above. These key people, in turn, will be asked to order quantities of the various sheets and booklets required for provincial and local coverage. By means of the joint Scout-Guide planning committees, much overlapping in the contacting of newspapers and radio stations, as well as in the distribution of advance material to leaders and others, will be avoided. You are urged to see that your group and your district takes steps to make early plans for the observance of S-G Week. It is up to each of us to start "Preparing for Tomorrow—Today".

How I Started Scouting . . .

(Continued from page 30)

Much as I liked these boating expeditions, I liked tramping ones just as much. In the holidays we used to walk through countries like Wales and Scotland, each of us carrying a bag on his back and sleeping out at night wherever we might happen to be.

Life in the Open Air

Generally we would call at a farm and buy some eggs, butter, and bread, and ask leave to sleep in a hay-loft if it was bad weather. Otherwise, in summer-time it was very nice to sleep in the open alongside a hedge or haystack, using hay or straw or old newspapers as blankets if it was cold. In this way we got round a lot of splendid country where we could see all sorts of animals and birds and strange flowers and plants, of which we took notes in our log; and we had to make our way by the map which we carried,

and at night we used to learn to find our way in the dark by using different sets of stars as our guide. And we made sketches of any old castles, abbeys, or buildings that we saw, and read up, or got someone to tell us, their history.

When we got to any big town we used to get leave to go over one of the factories to see what they made there and how they made it, and we found it awfully interesting to see, for instance, how cloth is made from sheep's wool, how paper is made from logs of wood, iron from lumps of stone, china from bones and flints powdered up and mixed in a paste, and then turned on a potter's wheel; how furniture is made, how engines work, how electricity is used, and so on.

That was the beginning of my Scouting. In our handbook on *Scouting for Boys* I have shown how you can learn all the different duties of Scouts for yourselves by six or eight boys getting

together and forming themselves into a Patrol and then carrying out the games and practices given in the book.

Some years ago I wrote a little book of instruction for Scouting for soldiers in the cavalry, and when I came home after the war I was astonished to find that this book was being issued in a great many schools, so I thought how much better it would be if I wrote a book on peace Scouting for boys, instead of that which was merely soldier Scouting for soldiers. And I am glad to say that directly I brought out *Scouting for Boys* it was bought up in thousands (16,000 in the first fortnight), which shows it was wanted.

What I Want To Do

By forming "Patrols" of Scouts in different places I hope to get all the different boys' clubs to come into close touch with each other, and for all boys to be Scouts, and therefore useful men and good friends among themselves.