

*The*  
**Scout Leader**

*May Theme*  
SCOUTING FUNDAMENTALS  
TROOP AND PATROL CAMPING  
BIRD WATCHING

VOLUME 27 - No. 8

OTTAWA, ONTARIO

MAY, 1950



**LORD ROWALLAN'S  
MESSAGE FOR  
ST. GEORGE'S DAY**

The following message was received by Viscount Alexander, Chief Scout for Canada, from Lord Rowallan, Commonwealth and Empire Chief Scout, on the occasion of St. George's Day.

"The Festival of St. George has come round once more. Let us try to live as he lived and show his courage and steadfastness in the face of danger."

ROWALLAN,  
Chief Scout

British Commonwealth  
and Empire

**A SCOUT SMILES** See Story on Page 121



## THE SCOUT LEADER

*The Idea Magazine for Canadian  
Scouters*

*Published by*

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THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

*Chief Scout for Canada*

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

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## What We Think

### Parents and Camping

IT is never too soon to start thinking about the camping season, especially as the yearly camp is an essential part of Scout training. Indeed, without camping experience a Scout's training is incomplete, and in making early plans Scouters may be able to do much to alter a situation which finds hundreds of Scouts making no use of the opportunity to go camping.

The inability to go camping is often explained in various ways. Some Scouters are just not interested, or Scouts have work to do during the time chosen, or Troops lack the needed equipment, or Group Committees are not active enough in promoting enthusiasm for camping. When such reasons are given efforts should be made to overcome the difficulties they imply, and it will be found that in most cases they can be overcome.

It is not so easy, however, to deal with the problem that arises when parents have objections to camping. Most parents appreciate the value of camping, but some hesitate, for understandable reasons, to see their lads go off to a freedom from parental supervision. They think their boy is too young and unable to take care of himself, that he is likely to be homesick, or ill, or meet with an accident. Perhaps the family has a summer cottage and would like to have their boy with them when they go to it.

Such arguments have a certain validity, but if the positive values of camping are understood by parents most of the arguments lose their force. Most parents would agree that a time comes in a boy's adolescent years when he "has to stand on his own feet". The Scouter or Group Committee man should emphasize in a talk with the parents how camping offers opportunities for the development of self-reliance, and how Scout camping in particular is organized to ensure, that in work or in play, the Scout is under expert supervision.

Homesickness is not the prerogative only of young campers. Mothers may contribute to it by writing emotional letters to their boys, and visits of parents to camps are often a direct cause of homesickness. For the boy, the overcoming of homesickness marks an advance to emotional maturity. Trained leaders can always recognize the symptoms, and they know how sympathy and understanding can disperse them.

It is, of course, true that an accident is possible in camp, but it is much less likely to happen in a Scout camp than in those holiday centres where discipline and responsibility are not inherent factors in the arrangements. The number of drownings in Scout camps is infinitesimal. Swimming periods are always supervised, and the boy is instructed in swimming, water safety, and rescue work.

The summer cottage argument can only be met by pointing up the values of camp experience. It is an organized holiday, arranged in the interests of the boy, and designed to ensure his personal safety, promote his well-being, and develop his sense of responsibility. The Scout lives in a tent family, where he learns to share and co-operate with others in a degree that is not always possible at the family cottage. Discipline is stressed, and the boys are given specific duties. They perform a multitude of tasks—making their beds, sweeping out their tents, cooking their meals, and taking care of hygienic arrangements.

Indeed, camping may have a real value for parents who permit their boys to go to camps. It gives mother a relief from the cooking of meals, washing dishes, laundering clothes, and eternally wondering what Junior is doing now. Her rest can become the more beneficial with the knowledge that her boy is having a good time, under capable leadership, developing his character, and learning a lot of things that will be valuable to him in later life.

(Continued on page 116)



## The Sign Post

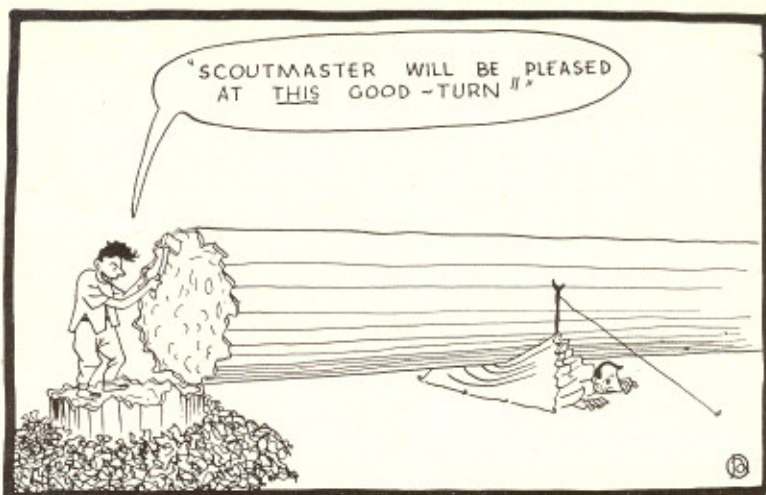
### PROGRESSIVE TRAINING FOR CAMP

I hope that the spring and summer season of 1950 will see Scouters supervising progressive training programmes leading to the summer camp. It is important that the more experienced Patrol Leaders and Scouts have a hand in the training of the younger lads. This sort of training must be closely supervised in order to ensure that new Scouts are adequately trained to play their parts properly at the Troop Camp. Short day hikes, followed by overnight and week-end camps should be the programme for the spring months. In this way your Troop will be properly trained and experienced so that they may thoroughly enjoy their summer camp, and may have the opportunity of benefitting from it to the fullest extent. Even in cases where the Scouter knows that he will be unable to take his own Troop to camp, such progressive training should be carried on so that those boys who are able to go away on Patrol or District camps without the leadership of their Scouter will benefit from this progressive training.

### WHERE ARE YOU?

It is important that every Scout group headquarters should have a large map of the city posted so that all may see it. In this way the members of your Troop will have a picture in their mind's eye of the layout of their city. This may be of value to you in case of an emergency. In addition it is most useful on other occasions for training purposes, for games and for the preparation of Troop plans for public service projects. Local travel bureaux can quite often be of assistance in provision of such maps.

*D.C. Spay*  
Chief Executive Commissioner.



By Jack Akroyd, Toronto.

## "THE SCOUT MASTER'S GREAT OPPORTUNITY" Planning the Troop Camp

TO THE boy, the annual Troop Camp represents possibly the most important event on the Scouting calendar. The camp is, as B.-P. has said, "the Scoutmaster's great opportunity" and it is up to the Scoutmaster to take the fullest advantage of this potent aid in the formation of the boy's character.

It has been suggested time and time again that the success of a camp depends upon its preparations, and that these preparations should start almost as soon as the last summer's camp has finished. It is difficult to write anything new on this subject, but an occasional reminder of important points sometimes does not come amiss.

### Choice of Site

The choice of site should be decided as early as possible. This choice will depend upon many things such as: the activities in which the Troop decides to indulge; the time of year in which the camp is to be held; the amount of money available for transport, and various other considerations.

The next step is reconnaissance. A scouting expedition made by the Scoutmaster, one or two leaders and the Court of Honour will undoubtedly prove valuable. They should take their food and sleep out. Sketch-maps, sketches and photographs should be made with notes on the characteristics of the country. A report should then be made to the Troop and the sketches displayed on the Troop Notice Board. This is good practical Scouting for those who go and will help to excite the enthusiasm of those who do not.

### Camp Activities

The Scouters and Court of Honour

should decide well ahead of camp what activities there are to be included in the camp programme. A good deal of preparatory work should be done during the year at Troop meetings, both indoor and outdoor, so that the full use of the open air is not neglected when the boys arrive in camp. First Class work, Tracking, Pioneering and Woodcraft are examples of general activities that can form the basis on which a camp programme is built and for which training can be carried on during the regular Troop programme.

In building up programmes, it is important to bear in mind that provision should be made to use the Patrol System and that Patrol Leaders have an important share in the conduct of the camp as a whole. A brief Patrol Leaders confab every night after camp fire marks their importance in the eyes of the other Scouts and brings the Scoutmaster into closer touch with them, and, through them, with the rest of the Troop.

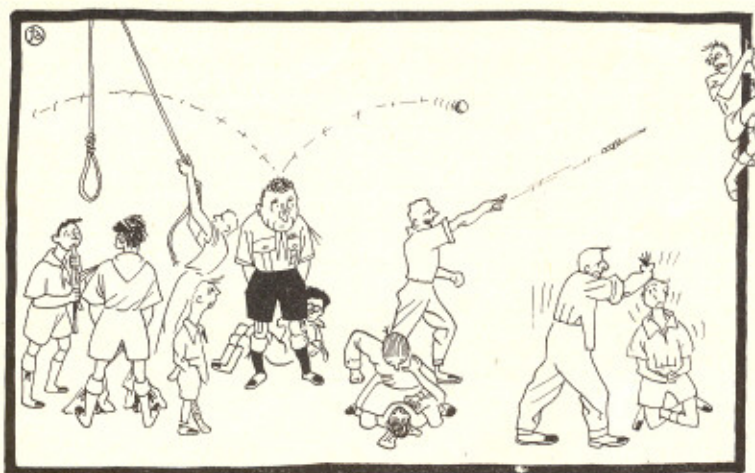
Programmes should include provision for wet days. There are any amount of wet day activities such as observation and mapping practices, gadget making, hobbies, etc., that the Scoutmaster should keep up his sleeve and for which he should make preparations before camp by providing materials. Practice for camp fire skits and songs is a good wet day activity in itself, and may help to improve the standard of camp fire programmes.

### Camp Fire Yarns

It is important that the Scoutmaster should realize the value of the

(Continued on page 116)





That lost feeling when first trying to get the P.L.s to run their own Patrols.

## The Troop Camp . . . . .

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camp fire and particularly the value of camp fire yarns. We are apt to forget the fact that *Scouting for Boys* is built up on a series of camp fire yarns. This same method can be employed today with the Scoutmaster spinning a yarn at the camp fire as an introduction and incentive to the activities that are going to take place tomorrow.

### Parent Co-operation

Before starting out on the camping adventure it is important that the parents of the boys have a clear picture of what is going to take place and realize their responsibilities in helping "Mr. Scout" with his preparations. A letter to the parents well before the actual camp will prevent the Scouter from being bombarded with elementary questions by anxious parents, and will give him more opportunity to deal with the major questions which arise.

Experience on the part of the Scoutmaster is also an important factor and the significance of preliminary training cannot be over-emphasized. This training may be in the form of attending a recognized Scouters' Training Course in the District and participation in a previous successful Scout camp. No Scout camp should be held without first obtaining the official Camp Permit from Provincial Headquarters as required by P.O.R. It is sometimes better policy to forego the Troop camp for one year, to allow the Scoutmaster to avail himself of a Wood Badge Course, and thus equip himself for more effective camping in the future.

Be certain that you have enough assistance. The Scoutmaster should be free to supervise the general welfare of the camp with assistants to supervise the Stores, First Aid and camp routine.

## Importance of Food

Napoleon said that the army moves "on its stomach". This, in essence, is also true of a Scout camp. Menus should be carefully planned well in advance, keeping in mind the importance of nutritional value, variety and plenty.

The booklet "Camping Guide for Canadian Scouters", available from Provincial Headquarters or the Stores Department, summarizes in a handy form the points to be remembered and the numerous items that have to be thought out, and carried out, beforehand.

### The Law of the Camp

It is a good idea for the Scouter preparing for camp to run through the Scout Laws and see how each can be carried out by himself and his Troop in the camp.

*Honour* applies to the whole conduct of the camp, the care taken of the property of others and the behaviour of the campers.

*Loyalty* means abiding by the camping rules, bathing rules, the rules laid down by the landowner and includes the discipline of the camp.

*Usefulness* is demonstrated in the good turns done in camp for those who have helped to make it a success, for those who live in the neighbourhood and in the purposeful activities which are planned to help the campers to advance in their Scouting.

*Friendliness* is the atmosphere which should exist all the way through the camp and *brotherhood* can be furthered by inviting others not so fortunate to share in the enjoyment of camp.

*Courtesy* is expressed in the care taken by the Scoutmaster beforehand to keep parents and others informed of

his plans, in seeing that the Scouts write home announcing their arrival (not necessarily as one Scout did: "Arrived safely, Scoutmaster very grumpy, send more money"). Again the behavior of the Scouts on and off their site is of real importance.

*Kindness to Animals* can sometimes be expressed in camp better than elsewhere in the care of stock, in seeing that gates are kept shut and game and wild life not disturbed unnecessarily.

*Obedience* is bound up with camp discipline and especially the place the Patrol Leaders should have in it. The Scoutmaster must be careful to see that he does not override and that the P.L.s themselves do not abuse their authority.

*Cheerfulness* should be the atmosphere that radiates all round the camp, expressed in happy activities and the warm comradeship of the camp fires.

*Thrift* should be the key-note of the preparations beforehand. Too much money should not be spent on transport or the provision of unnecessary equipment. Food supplies should be well planned and organized and purchases made in the best market. Thrift is also an important factor in each boy obtaining the necessary camp fee.

*Cleanliness* sums up the whole purpose of the camp and the whole purpose of Scouting so far as the lives and futures of the Scouts are concerned. See that it exists outwardly and inwardly—in thought, word and deed.

## What We Think . . . . .

(Continued from page 114)

Finally, camping is fun for the boys. The challenge and adventure of camp life appeals to them. There are the overnight hikes, the varied games, the pioneering expeditions, and the other interests which find a response in every boy. There is, too, a sense of comradeship with others, developed in circumstances which foster the social instincts. Nor are deeper things overlooked. There are talks and discussions round the dying embers of the camp fire; prayers beneath the stars; the Scouts' own services each Sunday, with the sun throwing shafts of light through the cathedral-like roof of the trees. From such experiences impressions are garnered that will dwell with the boy long after his Scouting days are over.



## DEVELOPING BOY LEADERS THROUGH PATROL CAMPING

"THE camp," said B.-P., "is what the boy looks forward to and is the Scoutmaster's great opportunity." The Patrol camp is the logical development of the Patrol System itself; thus it becomes the duty of the Scoutmaster to encourage this form of camping in the Troop and to provide opportunities for the Patrol to go on their own outings under the leadership of a responsible Patrol Leader.

The Scoutmaster's first task in developing the "responsible" type of Patrol Leader, comes under the heading of training, and preparations should be carried on consistently throughout the year. These preparations consist not only in the collection of the requisite amount of gear and grub, but also in the training of the boys in selecting sites, pitching tents, sanitation, cooking and various other skills, with the object of each boy doing his designated job skilfully.

An excellent idea is the Court of Honour Camp when this entire body, along with the Scoutmaster and his Assistants, take part in a series of overnight, or preferably week-end camps. Here is a real chance to observe the Patrol Leaders in action and to get across to them the valuable lessons and techniques of camp planning and leadership which are so much better learned out-of-doors.

Indoor activities also play an important part in the training process. Projects such as the one shown in the accompanying illustration, that of each Patrol building a model campsite, help to put over the lessons intended in a manner which appeals to the boy.

In the preparations for a Patrol camp, give the boys their heads, that is, let the Patrol plan the programme and menus and select the site themselves. This of course does not mean that the Scoutmaster should be excluded, but rather that he should act as an advisor, checking the programmes, menus and site and making suggestions which will help the Patrol properly to complete its planning. In the words of Lord Rowallan, Chief Scout of the Empire, "... if we don't give an opportunity to the boy to make his own mistakes; if we don't give him the experience of leadership which the Patrol System gives him, let's call our Troop a club straightaway and be done with it."

One fundamental to observe in Patrol camping and one which amplifies the timely remarks of Lord Rowallan, is to let the boys camp alone, with no adults. Visiting is fine and desirable, but not direct adult supervision.

See that each Patrol Leader has a copy of *Camping Guide for Canadian Scouts*. This splendid little pamphlet, available from your Provincial Headquarters, will assist the Patrol in laying out their campsite and contains a wealth of information and suggestions on practical campcraft.

Duty to God must not be overlooked. A copy of "Prayers for the Brotherhood" should be a part of Patrol equipment and boys should include their own Bible with personal gear. Insist upon Grace at meals, evening Prayers and on the week-end arrange a Scouts Own and attendance at the closest Church, if possible. Be sure that those boys, whose Religion requires it, have the opportunity to attend their own Church services.

Set Patrol objectives and have the boys turn in written reports on their activities. Remember, though, that the camp is an adventure and the fact that a report of it must be made should not be allowed to obscure the spirit of the adventure; on the contrary, the report should reflect this spirit. These objectives may include sketch maps, surveys for Troop camps, First

Class Tests, signalling stations, pioneering, etc. If pioneering is used, keep the project comparatively simple and don't let the boys spend the entire time in camp on this one activity alone.

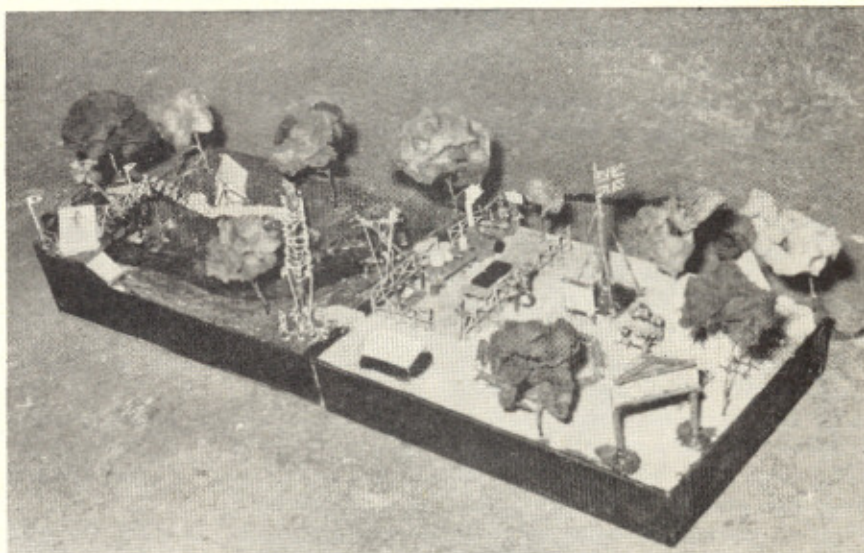
During the Patrol camp, even the Tenderfoot can begin to learn the technique of hiking, reporting, map-making and camping under the leadership of his Patrol Leader. The camp, as well as bringing the Scouts to some extent before the public eye, can be used to introduce some emphasis on "knight errantry" and the doing of Good Turns. The chief importance of and necessity for Patrol camps, however, lies in their importance in the development of Junior Leaders.

An experienced Scouter has said that the value of one day in camp is greater than that of a month of regular meetings. From this statement we can see that the lessons learned out-of-doors are of inestimable value in the development of the Patrol Leader and his boys; the result of which can only lead to the ever-increasing efficiency of the Patrol both as a unit and also as a part of the Patrol System within the Troop.

The Boy Survey showed that boys come into Scouting seeking adventure and obviously leave due to its lack in our programme. The Patrol camp is one way to give the boys that adventure in a practical way in which they are participants, rather than spectators.

There's a lot of work and a lot of preparation to ensure a successful

(Continued on page 121)



To assist in teaching the fundamentals of camp layout, the making of a model Patrol site will be found most helpful. This picture illustrates the suggestion,



# A Page of Games for Cubs and Scouts

"WHENEVER I am stuck for a good game I turn to the *Wolf Cub Handbook*," a successful Cubmaster told us the other day as we chatted with him in the bus on the way to the office. The successful Scoutmaster would probably tell you that he turns to *Scouting for Boys*. It is amazing how few Scouters realize that these basic books of Cubbing and Scouting are a treasure house of games and ideas. Here are a few games from each—together with one or two new ones.

## For Wolf Cubs

**The Naval Raid.** An open door represents the harbour entrance, two blindfolded Cubs, one on each side, the British cruisers. The other Cubs—the enemy vessels—try to enter the harbour one by one through the door so quietly as not to be caught by the sentinels. (WCHB)

**The Arrows Game.** (So called because the questions represent the arrows with which the Cubs get wounded.) The Cubs sit round in a ring, while the Cubmaster then asks questions round on the knots, flag test, etc. If a boy fails to answer the first question put to him, he folds one arm, as if it were in a sling. If he fails to answer the second, he folds the other. When he fails a third time he kneels, and at the fourth he lies down and is "dead". (WCHB)

**Observation Tramp.** Take the Pack for a ramble through town or country and assign points for certain objects noticed on the way.

As an instance:—

Horse going lame, 8 points

Crow, 3 points

Flock of seven birds, 3 points

Pebble shaped like a bird's egg, 3 points

Oak tree, 1 point  
and so on.

Each boy seeing an object that counts will report to the Old Wolf in a whisper, and the marks due will be recorded against his name. (WCHB)

**Whispering a Message.** Each Six stands in file behind the Sixer, with about two yards between each Cub. The Sixers are told a message by Akela which they must take back to their Sixes and whisper to the next Cub. The Cub repeats the message to the Cub behind him, and so on. The team which passes the message down to the end most correctly wins.

**In the Pond.** Cubs form a circle round an Old Wolf just outside a chalk line. When the Old Wolf gives the order "In the Pond," all jump in. On the order "On the Bank," all jump out. If the order "In the Pond" is given when all are inside the circle, none must move, and none must move if when you are on the bank the order "On the Bank" is given. Such orders as "On the Pond" or "In the Bank" must be ignored, as they are traps. The Cub with the least mistakes wins. (WCHB).

**Minefields.** Each Six becomes a Liner, blindfolded by a fog (and a scarf) and crossing a minefield. The Sixer is Radar, left on the coast from which the ship is about to sail. Radar may call "Port," "Starboard," "Ahead" and "Astern". Squatting Cubs form the mines and must be stationary. If touched, however, they explode, and the whole liner sinks and becomes dangerous wreckage. Two, three or four liners may sail at



once from different coasts, each endeavouring to reach the coast opposite. In the event of a collision they both sink.

Mrs. H. I. Addis in *The Scouter*.

## For Scouts

**Dispatch Runners.** A Scout is sent out to take a note to some well-known spot, say in a neighbouring town or district. He will there get the note signed or stamped with the date stamp of the shop and return. The rest of the Scouts are posted by their leader to prevent him getting there by watching all the roads and likely paths by which he can come, but none may be nearer to the shop than 200 yards. The dispatch runner is allowed to use any disguise and any method of travelling he can hit upon.

In the country the game may similarly be played, the Scout being directed to a certain house or other specified spot. (S. for B.)

**Thimble Finding.** Send the Patrol or Troop out of the room. Take a thimble, ring, coin, bit of paper or any small article, and place it where it is per-

fectly visible, but in a spot where it is not likely to be noticed. Let the Scouts come in and look for it. When one of them sees it, he should go and quietly sit down in his Patrol corner without indicating to the others where it is. After a fair time he should be told to point it out to those who have not succeeded in finding it.

**Track Memory.** Make a Patrol sit with their feet up, so that other Scouts can study them. Give the Scouts, say three minutes to study the boots. Then leaving the Scouts out of sight, let one of the Patrol make some footmarks in a good bit of ground. Call up the Scouts one by one and let him see the track and say who made it. (S. for B.)

**Stalking.** Instructor acts as a deer—not hiding, but standing, moving a little now and then if he likes. Scouts go out to find him, and each in his own way tries to get up to him unseen. Directly the instructor sees a Scout he directs him to stand up as having failed. After a certain time the instructor calls "Time," all stand up at the spot which they have reached, and the nearest wins. (S. for B.)

**Doctoring.** Each Scout in turn acts as an explorer or missionary with a few simple remedies. Three patients are brought to him in succession, each having a different disease or injury. He has to advise or show what treatment should be carried out. (S. for B.)

**Stone the Crows.** Suspended from the ceiling on the end of a long rope is an ancient boxing glove stuffed with cloth or paper to give it sufficient weight. Two players (the men on the fence) stand on chairs at opposite sides of the hall. The rest of the players are Crows and stand at one end of the room. At a signal the crows fly down the room while the two on the fence try to wing them with the stone, which must be swung, not thrown. Any crow so caught becomes a lame duck, and tries to check the crows in their flight so that the men on the fence have a better chance of winging them. No grips are allowed by the lame ducks—body work only. John Sweet in *The Scouter*.

**More Games.** There are nearly sixty games for the Troop or Patrol in *Scouting for Boys*, and nearly 40 for the Pack in *The Wolf Cub Handbook*. You will never be stuck for a game, or for a programme idea if you keep these basic books before you when planning your programmes.



## AN OPEN LETTER TO SCOUTMASTERS ON

## The American Jamboree

Dear Scoutmaster:

Do you remember when you were a boy? Perhaps you were a Scout, and if under the pressure of earning a living and running a Troop, you haven't forgotten those boyhood days, you will probably recall the strange longings and ambitions you had. We'll wager a dollar to a doughnut that you longed for adventure, to go to strange new places, to meet new people, and to do things which challenged your full physical and mental capacities.

Well, friend Scoutmaster, boys haven't changed a bit since you were a boy. Like you the boys of today want to travel, to seek new friends, to meet the challenging things of life.

To your adult mind a great Jamboree might not seem as exciting or as adventurous as it did when you were a lad—but to your Scouts—a Jamboree is something that comes once in a lifetime.

Just talk to any adult who attended one of the Jamborees of bygone years, and you'll be surprised how vividly their experiences have remained with them. They'll recall the Scouts they met, the wonderful adventures they had, and the glorious fellowship that only a Jamboree can provide.

At the end of June one of the biggest Jamborees of all time will be held at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. The Boy Scouts of America, whose national Jamboree it is, have invited Canadian Scouting to participate and it is hoped that a Canadian contingent of 700 will attend.

The question is—what are you doing to see that your Troop is represented?

Are you going to see that one or more of your boys have the thrill of joining with 40,000 other Scouts on this historic site in all the fun and adventure of a Jamboree? Let it never be said that boys missed this "thrill of a lifetime" because a Scoutmaster was indifferent. Your Provincial Headquarters will be acquainting you with details of cost, pre-Jamboree camps, transportation arrangements, etc.

Your task is to enthuse your boys, give leadership to the effort to raise the necessary funds and see that your boys are so trained that they will be a credit to your Troop, your Provincial Contingent and Canadian Scouting.

How about it Mr. Scoutmaster?

Yours sincerely, JAMBOREE JOHNNIE.

## American Jamboree Health Notes

## Medical Examination

WITHOUT exception every person who attends must have had a medical examination (by Medical Doctor) recorded on a standard Jamboree form which will soon be available for that purpose. Prior to final acceptance that examination record must have been reviewed and approved by your Health and Safety Committee. Reasons for rejections are heart disease, epilepsy, diabetes, crippling orthopedic conditions and tuberculosis.

Vaccination against smallpox within 5 years is a MUST. No exceptions.

Please tell that to anyone who wants preferred treatment. It's everybody's protection.

## Re-Check

Upon arrival at the camp everyone—Scouts and Scouters including Headquarters Staff—will be rechecked by a corps of Medical Doctors. You know the purpose, for the protection of all, to discover and care for anyone who may have developed either a contagious illness or other condition needing medical attention. Hospitalization when necessary will be provided at either the Valley Forge Army Hospital or at the Naval Hospital in Philadelphia.

A Health Lodge and First Aid Station—in every Section. Sick call every morning. Section Medical Doctors will give first aid when needed and six beds will be provided in the lodge for campers requiring further attention.

(Continued on page 121)



*"Get in on"* THE NATIONAL  
**JAMBOREE**

VALLEY FORGE, PA.  
**JUNE 30<sup>th</sup> - JULY 6<sup>th</sup> 1950**  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



# A Cub Book of Prayers

By Mary A. Pickering, Akela,  
3rd Victoria, B.C., Pack

SEVERAL years ago as a Guider I had my Brownies make individual Six prayer books. On taking over a Cub Pack four years ago I started the same idea.

Prayers for a child, to me, mean prayers about everyday things they see and do, prayers that bring to them a realization that God is with them all the time, that his work is in everything they see and eat and work and play with.

We use bright coloured sheets of heavy construction paper—8 inches by 10 inches, with covers in their Six colours. They may be tied with a leather thong or plaited craft-strip in the Pack colours. On the covers we use a picture of our camp chapel.

The first page contains the Lord's Prayer, and the next few pages Cub Prayers. After that each Cub brought in a simple prayer along with a picture illustrating their prayer, which was arranged on a single page. If the prayer was thanking Him for playmates the picture would show a group of boys playing a game. These were followed by prayers for the King and our country.

The following is an example of one prayer a Cub brought in and which he clipped from a book.

## A Great Grey Elephant

A great grey elephant,  
A little yellow bee,  
A tiny purple violet,  
A tall green tree.  
A red and white sailboat,  
On a blue sea,  
All these things you gave to me,  
When you made my eyes to see.  
Thank you, God.

The four little prayers written by Mrs. P. F. Alder, and which appeared in the June, 1947 issue of *The Scout Leader*, are very good examples. On the last two or three pages the Cubs pasted graces which could be used at meals or at camp.

We use the prayer books in this manner. The duty Sixer appoints one of his Cubs to read a prayer, thus giving other Cubs a special job to do. Besides the thought the Cub puts into selecting his prayer, he also has the joy of sharing it with others in the Pack. From time to time we all join in the

Lord's Prayer or the Cub Prayer, and after either we always have Cub silence.

The reaction of the boy is splendid—he will take a few minutes before the Pack meeting to make his choice. The remainder of the Pack bow their heads and close their eyes while he recites it. Even if a new Chum should stumble on a word there is never a snicker or a movement. They seem to realize that they helped to make their Six prayer book and that when their turn comes they will have their choice.

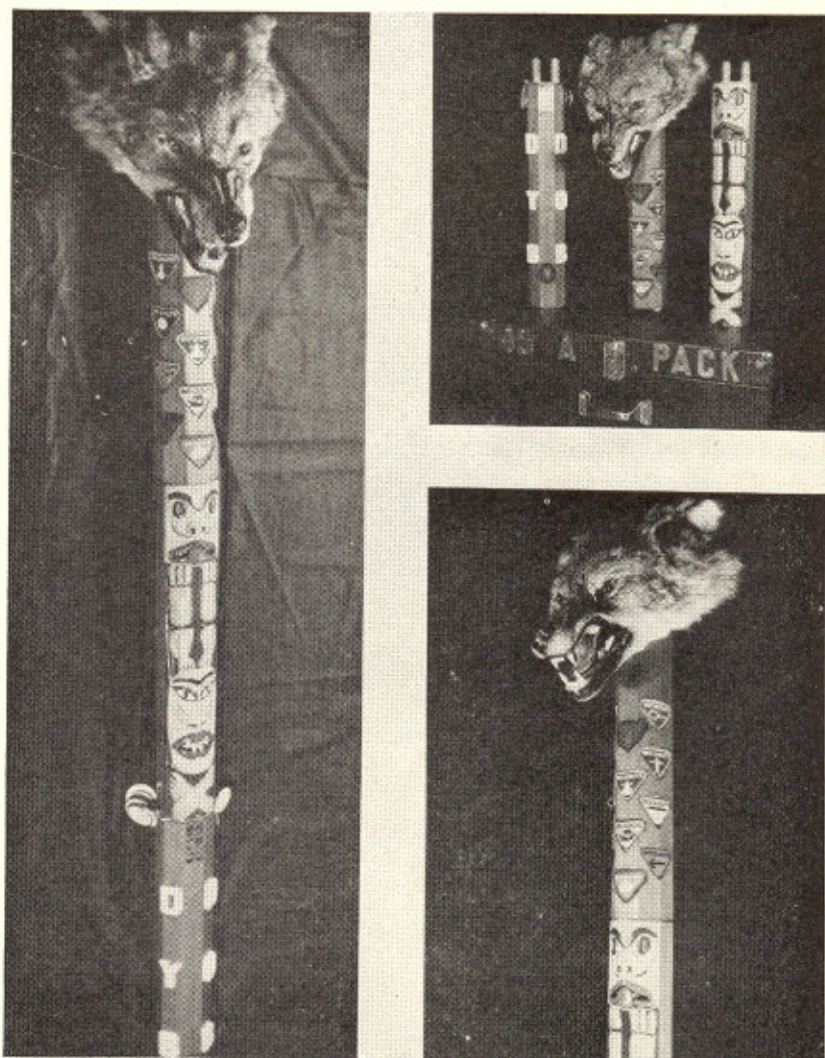
A final note to Akelas—this might be taken in the Pack as handicraft—spiritual handicraft—something made to share with others and the great Akela of all—God.

## Why I Am a Cub

DURING the recent National Financial Campaign, Wolf Cubs of Richmond Hill, Ont., wrote the Letters to the Editor of the local paper, *The Liberal*. They convey something of the appeal of Cubbing as boys see it.

David Tinker wrote: I am a Cub because I want to learn to be a good sport. I want to learn to do somersaults, stand on my head and play games. I am a Cub because I want to earn badges and my First Star and Second Star. I am a Cub because I want to become a good Scout. I am not a Cub just for the fun of it. I joined to learn how to do my Best. That is why I am a Cub.

Michael Butt wrote: I am a Cub because I enjoy the company of the boys. Also, because Cubs are a world-



This excellent Totem Pole is the work of Cubmaster Bob Massena of Toronto, who made it as a memorial to his chum, William Brockhurst, former Cubmaster of the 45th Toronto "A" Pack, who died in 1947.

Made in three parts it can be taken apart for storing.



wide organization and we are all brothers when we pass our Tenderpad. We receive valuable instructions, which we can use all our lives. It is a lot of fun and a good organization.

*Tony Berry wrote:* I am a Cub because I wanted to have the fun of games, tying knots, hiking and Church Parades. I like the parties we have on Hallowe'en and Christmas, in fact, every meeting is like a party. One thing I like in my Second Star is Semaphore. Every year we have a Father and Son Banquet and put on a skit of some of the things we learn at Cubs.

*Graeme Bales wrote:* It is nearly two years since I joined the Cub Pack at Richmond Hill. I want to be a Cub because I wish to mix with other boys, and learn the useful things a Cub should know such as the Law and the Promise, knowing the points of a compass, how knots are tied and their names, skipping backward and what the Union Jack is made up of. Besides learning these things, I have learned to play games fairly and to be a good sport every day. I have learned these things and have many more things to learn before I join Scouts which is my ambition.

## Patrol Camping . . . . .

(Continued from page 117)

Patrol camp but it is well worth while. If we ever expect our Patrols to become efficient in all aspects of the Patrol System, we must give them the chance to practice. The training in habits of observation, obedience and self-reliance provided by real Patrol camping is invaluable in developing character and in assisting in our efforts to make good citizens, fully prepared to take their place in a rising Nation.

## Jamboree Health Notes . . .

(Continued from page 119)

### No Left Over Food

Food will be drawn for each meal. To avoid possible illness from spoiled food, "left overs" will be burned or placed in garbage.

### Dish Washing

Only cutlery and cooking utensils will require washing after meals. Paper plates, cups and bowls will be burned. Eating tools washed and boiled; pots and pans scrubbed and super heated to sterilize.



"Good Turns" are always in season. Toronto's 185th Troop provided gifts for every patient in a Sick Children's Hospital Ward. Scoutmaster Jack Hamilton is seen presenting gifts to Bob Casey, who suffered multiple fractures when run over by a tractor trailer last August.

## COVER PICTURE BLIND - BUT ALWAYS SMILING

THE most attractive cover picture in this issue shows a sightless Scout and his pal leaving church after a Sunday Church parade. The smile on the face of the sightless Scout is not there for the occasion. He happens to be smiling most of the time and despite his affliction never forgets the 8th Scout Law "A Scout smiles and whistles under all difficulties."

Two operations and seven weeks in hospital left 13-year-old Jim Tullett of Vancouver without his sight. However he took little time in adjusting himself to the new life that was demanded of him, and he gets around so well that a stranger would have to look close to detect his handicap.

Jim is very independent and he believes that his blindness is only temporary. He tries to do everything himself, but he will take an assist from his particular pal, Scout Michael Seal. They have been pals since Grade 1 days in Lord Tennyson School, and while they belong to different Scout Troops they are otherwise inseparable.

When Jim went into hospital last summer Michael gave up most of his other activities to be with his pal, to visit him practically every day and to read to him. When Jim returned to his home Michael continued to visit

him regularly. They go to the same Sunday School and have worked out a system so that Mike can guide Jim as unobtrusively as possible. When they come to a curb for example, Mike says quietly "take it easy—a curb," and Jim steps down without breaking a stride.

At home Jim goes for walks with his mother, helps with the dishes, carries parcels on shopping trips and helps to amuse his baby sister. He is learning to type and read Braille. "I don't think I'll really need Braille" Jim says, "but I don't mind learning it. It'll be another accomplishment and maybe some day I'll be able to help another blind person by teaching it."

Brave words of a 13-year-old boy—but fully in the tradition of the Scout Spirit.

## Get Chance at Good Turn Right on Their Own Doorstep

AS HE was about to enter a church gymnasium to attend a District Scout Rally, Scout John Sass, of the Tenth Chatham Troop, fell and broke his knee-cap. Gathering around, his fellow Scouts rendered first-aid, saw that he received medical attention and was finally taken to his home. John was the only member of the Tenth Troop to miss the Rally.



## SCOUT LEADER'S BOOKSHELF

### Religious Books

TO AID Scouters in emphasizing the first part of a Scout's duty—to his God—a number of books of a religious nature have been produced and are on sale in The Stores Department. Despite the fact that one frequently hears from Scouters who want help and guidance on the spiritual aspects of Scouting, these religious books have a surprisingly small sale. Possibly this is because Scouters are not fully aware of what the books contain, and thus how helpful they can be.

### Prayers for the Brotherhood

Possibly the best seller among Scout religious books has been the *Prayers for Use in the Brotherhood of Scouts*. This book contains suggested prayers for practically all Scout occasions, in addition to those for all the religious festivals and observances in the Christian church. To some is given the gift of extemporaneous prayer, but most Scouters are much more comfortable with a book of prayers which have been carefully thought out and beautifully written. This small book should be in the possession of every leader of a Scout section. It fits handily into the shirt pocket. A means of using this book effectively was suggested in last month's *Scout Leader*.

*Prayers for Use in the Brotherhood of Scouts*. From your Provincial Headquarters or The Stores Dept. 35c.

### Church Scouts Prayer Book

This small book is designed chiefly for Scouts belonging to the Church of England. It has the commendation of the Archbishop of Canterbury who says in part:—"In our whole Movement it is a foremost necessity that both men and boys should rightly and steadily 'say their prayers'. That these printed pages may make it easier for them to do so is my confident hope and my own earnest prayer." There are prayers for morning and evening, for the great festivals, and instructions about confirmation and Holy Communion. The last few pages are devoted to prayers for Troop meetings, camp prayers, Patrol prayers in camp and hints for Christian courtesy and usefulness.

*The Church Scout's Prayer Book*. From your Provincial Headquarters or The Stores Dept., Ottawa. 25c.

### The Scout Hymn Book

Some few months ago we reviewed this book in these columns. For a long time there has been a need for a hymn book containing the more popular hymns and this will fill that need admirably. There are just a hundred hymns in the book, which is pocket size and they are carefully selected to fill many needs. The themes covered are Worship, God in Nature, Morning, Evening, Christian Life and Service, The Kingdom, Our Country, Festivals of the Church such as Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, etc., The Church, Holy Communion, and fifteen hymns specially suitable for Wolf Cubs.

*The Scout Hymn Book*. From your Provincial Headquarters or The Stores Dept., Ottawa. 30c.

### God and the Open Scout Group

*God and the Open Scout Group* may not be the most inspiring title for a book, and perhaps that is the reason this book has not been widely circulated. It is the work of John Thurman, Camp Chief at Gilwell Park, who will be in Canada this summer. It is intended for the Scouter of the open Group which is not sponsored by a Church, and whose members may be associated with many different churches. The Scouters of such a Group have a

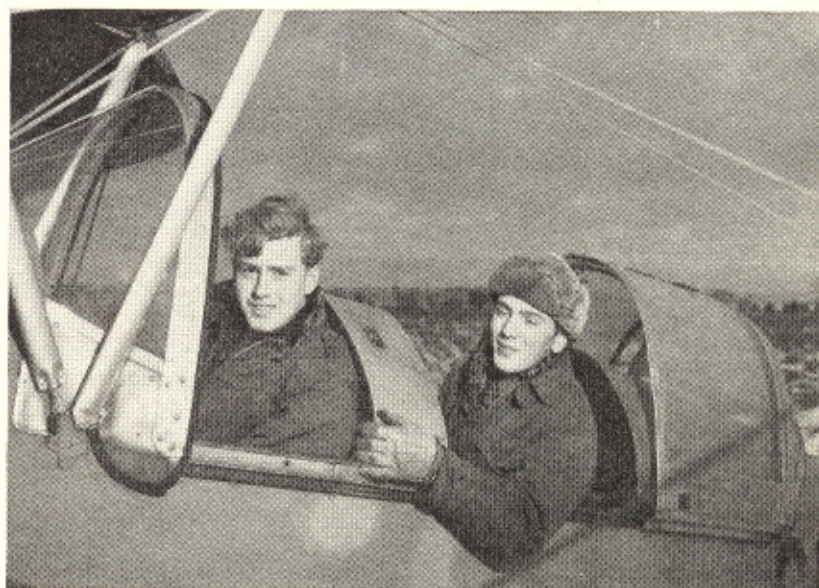
much more difficult task in interpreting the spiritual aspects of Scouting, than have the Scouters of Groups where all belong to one denomination. This is not a dry theoretic book, but a live and inspiring book which should be in the hands of Scouters of every open Group in the country.

*God and the Open Scout Group*. From your Provincial Headquarters or The Stores Dept., Ottawa. 85c.

### Spiritual Life of the Group

Kenneth C. Sparrow, an active Scouter, first published this book in 1932 and it has proven acceptable all over the Commonwealth and Empire. It is not an easy book either to review or describe. It deals with a dozen different aspects of the spiritual life of the Group and any Scouter who finds this subject a bit of a problem will find this book helpful. One of the most valuable chapters is the last in the book under the title "The Problems of a Scoutmaster." It deals with the Scoutmaster's job in regard to the so called "delicate" subjects. The Scoutmaster who has the confidence of his boys is in a position to do something of value in matter of sex knowledge, the use of bad language and smutty stories, and this chapter will give him some useful suggestions.

*Suggestions for the Deepening of the Spiritual Life of the Group*. From your Provincial Headquarters or The Stores Dept., Ottawa. Price 55c.



A precedent in Canadian Scouting was set in February when Rover Scouts Dalton Murr and Bob Laur of Tillsonburg arrived at the Ontario Rover Rally at Oshawa in a Tiger Moth piloted by Laur. The plane was the first to land at Oshawa's Camp Samac.



## INFORMATION ON THE

# Religion and Life Award

## Lutheran Requirements

When a Scout has been granted the Pro Deo et Patria award by the Lutheran Committee on Scouting, he wears on his Scout Uniform the Religion and Life Award. The Pro Deo et Patria Medal may be worn by the Canadian Scout on his civilian clothes.

NOTE: The award is not granted until the Scout has attained to First Class or higher rank, but Scouts of lower rank may be enrolled as candidates for the award.

## Primary Requirements

### (For Enrollment as a Candidate)

Religious projects for Tenderfoot Scouts:

- Knowledge of prayers for Church and Home.
- Knowledge of the Church Year.
- Evidence of daily Bible reading and regular Church attendance.
- Ten hours of service to Church and Community.

## Additional Requirements

### (For Second Class Scouts)

Religious Projects:

- Knowledge of the Creed.
- Knowledge of the Altar and appointments.
- Evidence of daily Bible reading and regular Church attendance.
- Fifty hours of service to Church and Community. (This may include 10 hours given as Tenderfoot).

## Additional Requirements

### (For First Class Scouts)

Religious Projects:

- Knowledge of the Word and Sacraments.
- Knowledge of the Church Liturgy.
- Evidence of daily Bible reading and regular Church attendance.
- One hundred hours of service to Church and Community. (This may include the 50 hours given as Tenderfoot and Second Class Scouts).

## Final Requirements

Arrangements should be made for an examination of the candidate preferably in connection with a meeting of the Troop Court of Honour.

The Pastor should conduct the examination in the presence of the Scoutmaster and the Chairman or a member of the Group Committee, who before signing the recommendation must make certain that all the requirements have been fulfilled.

## Suggested Scope of Examination

The candidate should be required to:

- Demonstrate his knowledge of the cardinal doctrines of the Church:
  - Creed.
  - Prayers.
  - The Word.
  - Sacraments.
- Demonstrate his knowledge of the Church Year.
- Give evidence of daily Bible reading and regular Church attendance.
- Demonstrate his knowledge of the Altar and appointments.
- Demonstrate his knowledge of the Church Liturgy.
- Have completed 150 hours of service to the Church and Community.
- Special Project. Have compiled a special project, such as building a miniature altar and dressing it properly; building a model church; landscaping the Church grounds; writing a paper on the Reformation, the Life of Martin Luther, or on any other subject assigned by the Pastor.

## Presbyterian Requirements

THE Scout must fulfil the following conditions to the satisfaction of his minister or in the case of a vacancy or Mission Field to the satisfaction of the Interim-Moderator of the Kirk Session:

- Be a member of a Sabbath School (or in isolated areas a member of the Sabbath School by Post) of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.
- Secure the Diploma of the Junior Memory Course and the three seals of the Intermediate Memory Course of the "Presbyterian Memory Courses."
- Pass one annual "Bible Study Tests" supplied to Sabbath Schools by the Board of Sabbath Schools and Young Peoples Societies—8th Floor, 100 Adelaide St. West, Toronto 1.
- Answer Questions 86-99 in the Shorter Catechism.
- Recite two texts as scripture proof of each answer of Questions 86-99 in the Shorter Catechism.
- Outline the system of government of the Presbyterian Church.
- Be able to use the Bible to find the following passages:

- The Word made Flesh (John 1: 1-14)
- The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6: 9-13 and Luke 11: 1-4)

- The Beatitudes (Matthew 5: 1-12)
- The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7)
- The Magnificat (Luke 1: 46-54)
- The Nunc Dimitis (Luke 2: 29-32)
- The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15: 11-32)
- The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 30-37)
- Paul's Hymn to Love (I Corinthians 13)
- The Armour of God (Ephesians 6: 10-17)
- The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20: 1-17 and Deuteronomy 5: 6-21)
- The Mizpah (Genesis 31: 49)
- The Aaronic Blessing (Numbers 6: 24-26)
- The Apostolic Benediction (2 Corinthians 13: 14)
- An Ascription of Praise (Jude 24: 25)

For further information please communicate with the Board of Sabbath Schools and Young People's Societies, The Presbyterian Church in Canada, 8th Floor, 100 Adelaide St. W., Toronto 1.

## HOLD EVERYTHING!

Are you making your plans for summer camp? Well, hold everything until you see the new Stores Department Catalogue—off the press shortly.

In it you will find listed and illustrated a wonderful selection of camp gear and equipment:—

Tents Axes Equipment  
First Aid Kits Sleeping Bags  
Cooking Utensils Etc.

All Stores Department Camping gear is tested merchandise, and approved by Canadian Headquarters before going on sale.

Watch next issue for particulars of the new Catalogue distribution plan.

## THE STORES DEPT.

The Boy Scouts Association  
306 Metcalfe St. Ottawa



# BIRD WATCHING

By John Blow, Toronto



THE subject of migration is one of the most fascinating features of bird study and one in which the interest of both the novice and experienced watcher may be focussed readily. Much speculation and investigation has centred around the migration of birds from the earliest times to the present. References may be found to it in the Bible, Homer's *Iliad* and the works of Aristotle.

Some of the common beliefs held until a few centuries ago regarding migration, were that birds hibernated in hollow trees or buried themselves in the mud, or flew to the moon. The fact is that even today many basic questions concerning migration are only partially solved or are still unanswered. It is only recently that the winter home of the chimney swifts has been ascertained and that the nesting places of several members of the goose family and the Harris's sparrow have been discovered.

This fortunate and astounding ability to seek the most suitable climate for all times in the year, to fly with an unerring sense of direction, to travel tremendous distances, to answer the irresistible call of the north in the spring and the lure of the south in the fall, makes of migration a challenging riddle to which satisfactory answers have yet to be found.

For the beginner at the sport of bird watching, it is essential to have a few common standards for the purpose of identification according to size and type, e.g., the crow, the robin and the sparrow. Fix the size first in relationship to any of these three. Next take into consideration general colour, particular markings or characteristics, flash colours in flight and any other outstanding features. Points I have underlined in my Gilwell note book of many years ago are as follows:

Appearance of bill, feet (track), wings, tail; peculiarities of habit—does the bird hop or run? How does it fly? Where does it perch, if ever? What is its call-note? How would you describe its song? What does it eat?

Description of nest, if discovered—situation, shape, materials; eggs—size, number, shape and colour.

Hatching — period of incubation? How long till chicks are feathered? How do the parent birds feed the chicks? Of what does their food consist? How long till the young birds fly? How long before they are on their own?

Interest will wane quickly if too much stress is put on extensive note taking or family relationships at first. Those who display a deep interest should be encouraged to qualify for the *Bird Wardens Badge*. The setting out of nesting material, early in the spring, such as short bits of yarn (be certain the pieces are not more than three inches in length or birds will become entangled), bits of cotton batten and waste on twigs or split sticks pierced in the ground will attract birds at nesting time. Other means of attracting birds for close observation are shallow, rough bottomed bird baths and feeding trays for early comers.

The boys' imaginations may be aroused by thinking of migratory birds as explorers and adventurers who have actually seen places and things which humans can only read about. When Cubs, Scouts and Rovers report their

first robins, blue birds or swallows, challenge them with the question of where did these birds spend the winter. Organize bird hikes by Patrols, now, before the great influx of migratory birds are upon us. The interest aroused will carry many boys into detailed recording and create an all year round hobby of captivating interest.

To assist in identification, encourage the use of good bird guides. Sets of bird plates for use on bulletin boards and for game purposes in the Troop Hall may be purchased through the National Audubon Society, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York City; enquire also from the Royal Victoria Museum, Ornithological Branch, Ottawa. An excellent Canadian text is *Tavener's Birds of Canada*. A book which I have found most helpful is *A Field Guide to the Birds*, by Roger Tory Peterson. It was revised and enlarged in 1947. A companion volume for those in the west is the same author's *A Field Guide to Western Birds*.

Be sure to stress that "the best collection is recollection."

## B.-P.'s Batman Addresses Cubs

THE Heywood Cub Pack of Vancouver North Shore had an interesting speaker at their recent Father and Son Banquet in the person of Thomas Corder, former batman of Lord Baden-Powell. Mr. Corder recalled experiences during his association with B.-P. and gave a knot-tying demonstration.



An impressive ceremony marked the occasion when these six Sea Scouts of the 26th Ottawa Troop became King's Scouts. Left to right the new King's Scouts are Dick Ackland, George Logan, Noel McKenna, John Clement, Ted Martin and Peter Drage.





# FUNDAMENTALS OF THE SCOUT METHOD

## The Need for This Statement

SOME of the principles of the Scout method may be found at work or in various combinations, in other forms of boy training; it is the synthesis of the principles which distinguish Scouting from all other Movements. The loss of one or more would result in a new Movement and not be in keeping with the ideas formulated in *Scouting for Boys* (1908) and expounded and developed by B.-P. in his subsequent writings and speeches.

He found it necessary to go on explaining and applying these ideas because many Scouters did not (as some still do not) realize the practical implications of the principles, or they concentrated on one aspect and failed to grasp the fact that all combine to form a whole. It is still necessary to go on expounding these principles; the voice of the Founder is stilled and it is in his writings, and in the experience of the first generation of his followers that his teachings endure. Now a new generation is coming forward to carry on the work. It is essential that they should fully understand what B.-P. taught. Moreover, millions of men of recent years have become accustomed to the mass methods of military training, and they will not find it easy to rid their minds of such methods and accept in practice as well as in word, the special methods of Scouting. The older generation who knew B.-P. have a duty to their successors—the duty of expounding and maintaining the fundamentals of our work.

## The Purpose of Scouting

*Aims.* Towards the end of his long life, B.-P. summed up the aims of Scouting:—

"Let us therefore, in training our Scouts, keep the higher aims in the forefront, not let ourselves become too absorbed in the steps.

"Don't let the technical outweigh the moral. Field efficiency, backwoods-manship, camping, hiking, good turns,

Jamboree comradeships are all means, not the end.

"The end is *character*—character with a purpose.

"And that purpose, that the next generation be sane in an insane world, and develop the higher realization of service, the active service of love and duty to God and neighbour." (1939)

*Character.* "Character" was a word which B.-P. constantly used in expounding the aims and purposes of Scouting. What did he mean by it? The answer can be given in his own words, this time from a passage writ-

**NOTE:** *This explanation of the basic principles of Scouting is limited to a consideration of the original nucleus of the Movement—the Boy Scout between the ages of 12 and 17. Extensions of the scheme to meet the needs of younger boys and young men do not affect the fundamental importance of the central idea round which the whole Movement has developed. Matters of organization are not considered—it is sufficient to note that the principle advocated by B.-P. is that of decentralization.*

*What is said in this statement, is an attempt to answer the important question:*

**"What are the essential principles of Scouting?"**

ten in 1913. He had been discussing the educational function of Scouting.

"... education in high ideals, in self reliance, in sense of duty, in fortitude, in self-respect and regard for others—in one word, in those attributes that go to make up *character*."

This purpose is not peculiar to Scouting, though note should be taken of the special qualities selected by B.-P. as admirable. It is in its *spirit* and *method* that Scouting is distinctive.

## The Spirit of Scouting

All attempts to define a spirit are bound to fail; the essence of the Scout Spirit is to be found in the Promise and Law.

*The Promise.* The boy makes of his own free will a promise or oath on his honour, to serve God, his country, and his neigh-

bour. That service is defined in the Scout Law.

It should first be noted that the Promise is a *voluntary* undertaking. If any kind of compulsion is brought upon the boy to join the Boy Scouts, his Promise can have no moral binding force. The fact that he freely chooses to so bind himself puts upon him a personal responsibility which carries great force.

Secondly, note should be taken of the words B.-P. included in the Promise—"On my honour."

He considered that one of our most important tasks is to develop the sense of honour in the boy.

On it, he wrote, "The whole of the Scout's future behaviour and discipline hangs." The method of inculcating this basic virtue is not so much by precept, but by treating the boy as a responsible being who can be trusted. Trust calls forth trust.

A third point to note is that B.-P. included the sentence "*I will do my best*" in the opening words of the Promise. He realized how great a challenge the Promise and Law are, not only to a boy but to all of us, so he deliberately brought the obligation to a level at which the recruit could feel that, hard as the job is, if he only does his best he will still be true to his undertaking.

*Duty to God.* Duty to God is a fundamental obligation laid on every Scout. Within the Movement, the religious faith to which the Scout belongs is fully safeguarded; he is expected and encouraged to fulfill his church duties. Those Scouts who do not belong to churches are brought

into touch with religious ideas by the prayers said at Troop meetings, and by the Scouts' Own service. No one who denies the existence of God can be a Scout.





**Loyalty.** Every Scout is expected to be loyal to his own country and to serve it to the best of his ability according to his opportunities. Just as Scouting does not prescribe any one form of religion, so it does not advocate any one political philosophy; its training in good citizenship has nothing to do with political parties; it is for the adult citizen as such (and not as a Scout) to determine the form his duty to the community must take.

**The Law.** The Scout Law sets down in plain language the code of conduct which is the basis of good citizenship. It puts before the boy in positive, not negative, terms such virtues and duties, as honour, loyalty, helpfulness, friendliness, courtesy, obedience, cheerfulness,

thriftiness and purity. Practical ways of making these real are provided in the life of the Troop; thus the Daily Good Turn is a beginning in forming a habit of thoughtfulness for others.

**The Motto.** The Scout Motto—Be Prepared—is another reminder to the Scout that his Promise and Law are real things. In his training he prepares himself to be useful to others; he learns to look after himself and to keep a cool head in emergencies so that he can look after others.

**The Grin.** One essential element in the Spirit of Scouting—and how often B.P. reminded us of this!—is *cheerfulness*. He once told us not to take ourselves "too damn seriously", and he warned us that if Scouting lost its laughter it would lose its appeal and success. "Scouting", he was fond of saying, "is a game."

**Variety.** Another important element cannot be simply labelled; it is covered by B.P.'s phrase, "the fresh excitements of new adventures." This love of the unexpected is a mark of the true Scout. "I have little use," wrote B.P., "for a cut-and-dried routine system in a Scout headquarters building." That is why he stressed the importance of a lively imagination in the Scouter.

### The Activities of Scouting

**Attractive.** The scheme of training devised by B.P. is based on using the natural desires of the boy as a guide to the activities which will attract and

hold him. As he wrote in April, 1922: "Find out from them by listening or by questioning which activities appeal most to them, and then see how far you can get these going—that is if they are likely to be beneficial to the boys."

It is important to notice the last clause—"if they are likely to be beneficial." Here the Scouter has the important responsibility of selecting, in consultation and agreement with the boys themselves, the activities best suited to the purpose of our training. In this manner we have the guidance of *Scouting for Boys*, but B.P. never claimed that the handbook covered everything; he himself was constantly throwing out suggestions for fresh activities and he expected Scouters to be constantly on the watch, as he was, for new ways of attracting and holding our boys.

Two features of the scheme should be noted:—

**Outdoors.** The appeal of true Scouting has always been to that element of the vagabond, pioneer and explorer which is part of our nature, and is at its most evident in boyhood. Hence the significance of the opening sentence of B.P.'s "Explanation of Scouting" in *Scouting for Boys*.

"By the term 'Scouting' is meant the work and attributes of backwoodsmen, explorers and frontiersmen."

Scouting is an outdoors Movement—that is part of its essential character. To whatever degree conditions may, at times, force us indoors—such as weather, darkness or town life—we must always regard this as a second-best necessity and never as a satisfactory substitute for the real thing. A headquarters building is necessary for many purposes, but Scouting did not begin in a building; the right environment is to be found in the fields, the woods and the open country.

**Achievement.** The growing lad likes to feel that he is making headway in his skill and knowledge of practical things. B.P. met this desire by a badge system which is an integral part of Scouting. There are efficiency badges—Tenderfoot Second-Class, First-Class—for developing all-round Scout knowledge; other badges encourage the gaining of knowledge useful for Public Service; others are intended to widen the Scout's open-air skill; yet others suggest hobbies and interests for leisure time. The wide

variety offered is not meant to encourage the winning of a great number of badges; the purpose is to provide something to stir up even the least gifted boy to progress.

### The Method of Scouting

**Unique.** A unique feature of Scouting is the method of training devised and perfected by B.P. This he had developed during his experience in training young soldiers as army scouts in India and Africa. He found that their greatest need was such qualities of character as initiative, self-reliance and reliability. The lessons B.P. learned in this field he later applied to the training of boys.

**Patrol System.** The key to the method is the Patrol System, that is, to give B.P.'s own words, "putting your boys into permanent gangs under the leadership of one of their own number, which is their natural organization whether bent on mischief or for amusement." The Patrol of six to eight boys is small enough for each to feel that he can play his part as "one of the gang." "Every individual in the Patrol is made responsible, both in den and in camp, for his definite share in the successful working of the whole."

Under the leadership of the Patrol Leader, who all the time is exercising personal responsibility, the Patrol progresses by healthy rivalry with other Patrols; it becomes a family in which loyalty is a strong bond; as the Scouts discuss ways and means of increasing efficiency, so they learn the art of community living, and of the give and take necessary in common affairs. It is "All for each, and each for all."

In the Court of Honour or Troop Council when the Patrol Leaders meet together to discuss Troop matters, a further training is gained—almost imperceptibly—in that democratic life which is the characteristic of full citizenship.

**A Difficult Idea.** It is not surprising that B.P. found it necessary to expound the significance of the Patrol System time and time again. The normal way of training is by periods of instruction in talks and lectures. This is the easiest way of doing the job. The instructor goes home feeling that he has done something; the searching question should be, "But has the Scout done anything? Has he put anything into the business and so developed his own abilities and character?"

**No Mass Methods.** B.P. was strongly, even fiercely, opposed to all mass methods of training. Thus, speaking of Scout camps, he said:—





"Scout camps should be small—not more than one Troop camped together; and even then each Patrol should have its own separate tent, at some distance from the others. This latter is with a view to developing the responsibility of the Patrol Leader for his distinct unit."

So, too, he had little use for drill. In *Scouting for Boys* he wrote:—

"Military drill tends to destroy individuality, whereas we want, in the Scouts, to develop individual character; and when once drill has been learned it bores a boy who is longing to be tearing about on some enterprise or other; it blunts his keenness. Our aim is to make young backwoodsmen of our Scouts, not imitation soldiers."

Even for physical training he preferred to put the emphasis on making the boy "individually responsible for his own health and to carry out his physical development by personal exercises and practises 'on his own' and in his spare time." The outdoor activities of Scouting provide a natural way of promoting health and fitness.

So we come back to the Patrol System—"key to success" as B.-P. called it. By this method each Scout is assured of individual treatment, and his increasing responsibility and self-reliance become assets of citizenship.

### World Scouting

Scouting was not planned as a universal system of training boys, but the ideas and methods which B.-P. brought together proved to have a far wider validity than he imagined. Country after country has found that Scouting makes an appeal to boys such as no other way of training has been able to make. Thus has been forged another bond of union between peoples. There must inevitably be adjustments of details and of organization to meet national conditions, but Scouting can be recognized as the genuine article when it has the characteristics outlined in this explanation:—

- (1) A free promise and Law of conduct.
- (2) A progressive and attractive outdoor programme of activities.
- (3) A system of Badges to lure the Scout onwards.
- (4) A training of character based on the Patrol system.

## HEADQUARTERS NOTICES

### WARRANTS ISSUED

His Excellency, Viscount Alexander of Tunis, K.G., Chief Scout for Canada, has been pleased to approve of the following Warrants as Scouters.

#### British Columbia:

Charles Adcock, Kamloops; Charles P. Withers, Vancouver; Walter Pickering, Victoria; Norman H. George, Victoria; Arthur Robert Fletcher, Vancouver; A. C. Bain, Vancouver; James Blain, Burnaby, B.C.

#### Alberta:

Paul A. Ream, Edmonton; Nicholas F. Tkachuk, Hilliard.

#### Saskatchewan:

Ralph George Carter, Saskatoon; Henry Allen Ross, Saskatoon; George B. Skwar-chuk, Yorkton; Gordon Baker, Saskatoon; Lois P. Wood, Saskatoon.

#### Manitoba:

Charles Henry Waldon, Portage la Prairie; Earl W. Moore, Transcona.

#### Ontario:

Lillian M. Taylor, Hamilton; G. E. Driscoll, Hamilton; Charles R. Voorman, Hamilton; Alfred L. E. Bishop, Murwash; John E. Sutherland, Woodstock; Gordon J. Elley, St. Catharines; Evelyn R. Boyle, St. Catharines; Blanche D'Antonio, St. Catharines; Lorraine M. Koehler, St. Catharines; Edward J. Longhurst, St. Catharines; Peggy Reynolds, Toronto; Walter S. Layzell, Toronto; Constance A. Retter, Toronto; Doris M. Young, Toronto; Florence E. M. Wilson, Toronto; Yvonne F. McCallum, Toronto; George L. Loke, Toronto.

#### Quebec:

Milton Haynes, Montreal; Kathleen O. Kane, Montreal; Ethel V. Morris, St. Eustache Sur-le-lac; Margaret Riley, Montreal; Jean G. Smith, Ville St. Pierre.

#### New Brunswick:

Ronald Joseph Leger, Moncton, N.B.

### NEW FILM AVAILABLE

Fascinating is the word for a new film now available to Scout groups through the courtesy of Imperial Oil Ltd. It is the 400-foot, 16 mm., sound film, in colour, entitled "The Loon's Necklace". Declared the finest film produced in Canada in 1949, the film has won international awards at film festivals in Venice, Brussels, Edinburgh and Cleveland. In this production, Crawley Films of Ottawa, have portrayed an Indian legend of how the loon got its neckband and colourful back wing markings. Indian masks, in their original colourings, play an important part in the film which will make a hit on any Scout film programme. The film, which should be ordered direct from the National Film Society, 172 Wellington Street, Ottawa, (and not from Scout headquarters), is available free of charge to Scout groups which order it along with other films from the National Film Society's extensive film catalogue, or from the Scout Film list as enclosed with the P.R. Handbook from your Provincial Headquarters.

### THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

#### Notice of Annual Meeting 1950

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Canadian General Council of The Boy Scouts Association will be held at the Public Schools Administration Building, 330 Gilmour Street, Ottawa, Ont., on Friday, April 28th, 1950, at 3.00 p.m.

A report by the Executive Committee on the work of the past year will be presented and the election of officers for the ensuing year will also be held.

Any Scouters in Ottawa at that time will receive a hearty welcome to this meeting.

## Wood Badge Courses

### Cubmaster Courses

British Columbia, Camp Barnard	Aug. 12-19
Prairie Provinces, Prince Albert, Sask.	July 21-Aug. 5
Quebec, Tamaracouta	Aug. 19-26
Ontario, Blue Springs	July 22-29
	Sept. 2-9

### Weekend Courses

Quebec, Quebec City	May 20-June 3
Ontario, Crooked Creek	June 3-25

### Scoutmaster Courses

Maritime Provinces	July 18-28
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British Columbia, Osprey Lake	Aug. 19-27
Prairie Provinces, Prince Albert, Sask.	Aug. 7-16
Ontario, Blue Springs	July 29-Aug. 6
	Sept. 9-17
Quebec, Tamaracouta	June 17-24
Noranda District	July 22-29

### Weekend Courses

Quebec, Richmond	Aug. 5-26
Ontario, Crooked Creek	May 6-June 3

John Thurman, Camp Chief of Gilwell Park, will visit a number of these courses.



# THE DUFFEL BAG

## Very Inspiring

Extract from a Correspondence Course Study:—"It has been very inspiring to take this course. I have learned much in Scouting in the past 14 years but this course has been, in my opinion, of more benefit to me than I could ever imagine."

## Cubbing Out of Doors

Extract from a Correspondence Course Study:—"In this part of the Province (Kirkland Lake, Ont.) we are indeed fortunate in having lots of bush country, and our Pack goes out into it during both summer and winter. The millions of flies during June and July do not help a bit but we take them in our stride and thrice this year we have been out in the bush on skis and snowshoes in temperatures of six and 14 degrees below zero. There are many items of interest in the bush during the winter months. Toboggan parties on every third Saturday afternoon regardless of temperature, are becoming a regular part of our activities."

## Canada's Southernmost Scout Group

THE Ontario Provincial Council has recently granted a Charter for a new Scout Group on Pelee Island, the most southern point in Canada. It is coincidental that the northernmost Scout Group and the southernmost Scout Group in Canada should both be more or less isolated, as it is only possible to get to Pelee Island by boat or plane in the summer and by plane only in the winter.

Scoutmaster Allan Stokes has a rather unusual position in that he is an Observer for the University of Chicago, studying wild life and bird migration, on Pelee Island.

The total population of the island is something over 350 people of which there are only about 50 children, both boys and girls, between 8 and 18. There are only a dozen boys of Scout age, so that the seven who form the Scout Troop represent a good percentage of the eligible population.

## Time Well Spent

Extract from a Correspondence Course Study:—"I have enjoyed this course very much, and I would like to add that it has most definitely made me realize in all too many instances how much I *didn't* know and still have to learn about Cubbing. I feel it has been time well spent and I only hope the Pack here will benefit from my hours of work as much as I have."

## It's Dynamite

IN RECENT weeks the nation's newspapers have told the stories of several serious and in some cases tragic accidents due to the careless handling of dynamite. Scouters should warn their Cubs and Scouts of this danger.

Most people have little knowledge of the danger of handling dynamite. It can never be said that dynamite is safe. The more common dynamites are generally nitroglycerine compound in gelatin form, wrapped in oil paper.

One of the strange ideas that has become prevalent is that one can only detonate dynamite by shock or concussion. Some people believe that dynamite can be safely burned. We dread to think of the consequences if some Scout believing this should toss a stick of dynamite into the campfire to see it burn. Dynamite can be detonated by heat as well as percussion, and most detonators are designed to employ both methods. Experienced handlers will not even allow this explosive to be exposed to the direct rays of the sun for any considerable period of time.

Another hazard that should be watched is the use of empty dynamite boxes as fuel for campfires. These empty boxes are frequently found where construction crews have been building bridges, roads or dams. Most of the boxes have absorbed some of the seepage of nitroglycerin and when burned could cause an explosion, especially if used in a stove or camp fireplace.

There are far too many Canadian youngsters doomed to go through life maimed because they did not understand the dangers of dynamite. Now the hiking season is with us again, it is a good thing for Scouters to give their boys a chat on this subject.

## Has Made Me Think

Extract from a Correspondence Course Study:—"I have thoroughly enjoyed the course and have done more reading than in the past 20 years. If anything the course has made me think."

## Paging Mr. Payson Weber

A REQUEST has been received, through *The Scout*, for the assistance of *The Scout Leader* in finding a lost penpal for Rover Scout Leader Fred Alton, of 18 Tarran Cottages, Thorcroft Nr. Rotherham, Yorkshire, England. For several years R.S.L. Alton was corresponding with a Mr. Payson Weber who lived on Carling Avenue, somewhere in Ontario, but during the war he lost touch with his pal and is desirous of contacting Mr. Weber once again. If any reader is aware of the whereabouts of Mr. Weber, we are sure that a note to Mr. Alton, at the above address would be most appreciated.

## They Were Prepared

ONE established Troop in a farm community in British Columbia did outstanding work during the months of December and January when this District had the misfortune to experience the worst winter in its history. Snow of a depth of 3 to 4 feet and temperatures of zero were experienced in a country where the usual winter temperatures are around 40° and no snow falls as a rule.

The Scoutmaster of this Troop (who incidentally holds the Wood Badge) had a map drawn of the community, and each house was marked on the map each Scout was responsible for certain houses, some four or five houses each and during the severe weather the Scouts made themselves responsible for seeing that all old people and others unable to look after themselves were looked after. Walks were cleared of snow and wood was chopped.

There are many aged and infirm people living alone in this district and the Scouts did a wonderful job caring for them.

All the side roads were blocked by snow and many people completely isolated for days, but thanks to the preparations made by this S.M., there were no cases of hardships.