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THE SCOUT LEADER

Volume 40, No. 4
December, 1962

the scout leader

THE IDEA MAGAZINE FOR

ALL SCOUTERS AND ADULT LEADERS OF THE MOVEMENT

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this month

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PERSPECTIVE

THE ATTENTION OF NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

has been drawn to a growing number of "chain letters" being distributed by Scouters among their Scouter friends. This practice is to be discouraged, as the following resolution of the World Conference of Scouting reveals:

"The World Conference condemns the practice of chain or pyramid letters which are considered to be of no lasting value and liable to abuse. In some countries such chain letters are prohibited by law or by the postal authorities. It is recommended that any such communications be destroyed by the recipient."

Scouters are asked to conform to this ruling of the World Conference.

EXPERIENCE IS NOT WHAT HAPPENS TO A MAN;
it is what a man does with what happens to him.

—Aldous Huxley

DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN

By all the means you can
In all the ways you can
In all the places you can
At all the times you can
To all the people you can
As long as ever you can:

—Wesley

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO: Christmas wishes were extended from the Chief Scout, Baden-Powell.—Boys of the 31st Ottawa (Eastview French-Canadian Troop) delivered Christmas gifts by dog sled.—Efforts to supply the drought-stricken families of the west with Christmas toys reached a peak.—The first Provincial Jamboree of the Scouts Catholiques of Quebec was held on St. Helen's Island near Montreal.—A Kirkland Lake Scout team set a new tent-pitching record.

—From *The Scout Leader*, December, 1937




OUR COVER PICTURE:

Eskimo Scout, Alec Tokaluk, with his husky dog. Alec is a member of the Great Whale River Troop, Northern Quebec, which was formed last summer. Uniforms were donated by Scouts in the Montreal area and flown to Great Whale by the RCAF.

(Photo: RCAF)

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM THE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

AND

ALL THE STAFF AT

YOUR NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS



Fun and Sparkle



By D. A. BRYDON

Reprinted with permission from *The Community Courier*

in CHURCH Programmes

A good church recreational programme welds teenagers and young people into happy fellowship as nothing else does. It can be the seed-bed for leaders of all the senior organizations of the church. It is also "the yeast working through the lump" that gives character and zest to the whole; the "plus" that makes young people report to their friends, "You ought to join our group. We have fun."

Good church recreation programmes are so recent that many middle-aged and older people find it hard to reconcile them with the function of the Church. However, wise Christian educators are establishing the value of recreation in the Church and in the community. They are showing us how young people can learn to look to the Church for guidance; how the elements of training for Christian living can be combined with the development of citizenship in programmes that attract young people.

Many recent church buildings provide wonderful accommodation and facilities for complex recreational programmes. Some of those in larger centres have part or full-time youth and Christian education directors. In small towns and rural communities there are usually volunteers who devote some margin of their free time to their church's recreation programme.

Recreation programmes have become necessary in a society that is becoming more and more urbanized, motorized and exceedingly group-conscious. Teen-agers want to be where there are numbers. They want to associate with groups that are successful. Success to them is enthusiasm, life, spirit, fun, happiness.

Recreation can put the sparkle the young people are looking for into the churches' programmes only with the help of resourceful leaders. In recreation programmes, as in all else, the key to success is the leader. Some leaders may be born, but in most communities they must be plucked up from the woods and encouraged and helped along. Age does not matter as long as they know young people, can quicken their imaginations, can organize them, teach them. It is important that youth leaders know how to delegate responsibility, and how to supervise without appearing to do so.

Many churches realize that without a teen-age programme, they would soon lack leaders for the other programmes of the church. Those who see deeply into the needs of the community see that if the church programme fails, the community may soon be short of leaders. Too much will fall on too few tired shoulders, and young people will soon react with, "It's too dead here; let's go somewhere". Only those dedicated people who have themselves experienced good programming and who understand the cost of preparation, will be able to attract volunteers who will give generously of their time in community programmes for youth.

Until youngsters are over fourteen years of age, most churches recommend separate programmes for boys and girls, co-educational programmes from there on. Many excellent handbooks and manuals are available to help the leaders plan programmes of games and contests for play parties and special events. Those churches that have play-rooms and gymnasiums have the opportunity

to use floor- and ball-games. Group singing of all kinds also has a recognized place in church young peoples' programmes.

A group of teen-agers will frown on or back away from the counsellor or leader who dominates them or tries to control the group directly. On the other hand, they are uncomfortable if they are ignored and have no help. They know that where there is no supervision from adult leaders there will be, at the end of the road, no programme. Often young people choose their own adult counsellors and leaders; and they most often choose wisely. Husband-and-wife teams are ideal, and more and more of them are coming forward.

When they are about sixteen, teen-agers begin to roam in cars, and it is possible to plan regional or area meetings, even for a whole county. The recreational element is often at its best here—in regional sports leagues, corn and wiener roasts, "hops" and square dances. A dash of sophistication and sparkle can be added by giving careful attention to especially attractive food, decorations, music and so on.

Skilled recreational leadership developed in church groups carries over into the recreational programme of all community groups, and *vice versa*. Where the church's programme has been bigger, where it has been sending leaders and potential leaders to training courses put on by the Community Programmes Branch and other organizations, the total recreational programme in a community has benefited.

The leaders of church recreation programmes have much wider objectives than just keeping young people busy, or out of trouble. Their job is part of a total programme of youth development. Through the recreation programme, a youth leader can often help shy, backward or uncommunicative youngsters to discover their true personalities, to bring all the strengths and foibles of their natures to the surface. Such leaders have wonderful opportunities, not only to understand their charges, but also to influence in a direct way the creation of new attitudes, the shaking-loose of anti-social, unethical, or unhealthy habits and practices. Through good recreation programmes can come the establishment of positive values, if the leader is seeking not to win games particularly, but to understand and develop people.

Church programmes of recreation can sometimes be criticized for lack of "standards of excellence". But even programmes that leave something to be desired serve as a training ground for counsellors and can lead on eventually to programmes that contribute to the community's mental health, physical fitness and understanding of citizenship.

The key to success is to have enthusiastic and skilled leadership. The leaders must know their own groups and their needs. The work of the youth leader—counselling, guiding with the skill of a good adult educator, never seeming to control or dominate—can be one of the most challenging and fascinating experiences for those who will develop themselves efficiently to do it. They need and deserve the encouragement of the senior organizations in our churches and in our communities. ★

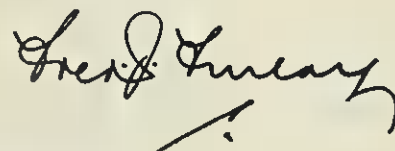
B R O T H E R H O D

In this season of good will, it would not be amiss to say a few words about brotherhood. There is so much tension in the world today; so much lack of understanding and appreciation of the other fellow's point of view; so many evidences of "man's inhumanity to man". It would be well for us, as leaders in the World Scout Brotherhood, to pause and ask ourselves "Are we really making a positive contribution towards bringing about a better understanding between peoples of different races and religions?"

You may ask "What can I, as an individual, do?" My answer is that, by personal example, we influence the boys with whom we are associated in our Cub Packs, Scout Troops and Rover Crews. In our Scouters Five Minutes, and on other occasions, we can tell them of the achievements of the great men of the world—men who have come from every race and creed. We can stress the fact that no race or creed has a monopoly on goodness or excellence. We can make sure that nothing we say or do casts reflection on any person because of their race, or creed.

This reminds me of the story of the high school boy whose parents decided to give him a birthday party. They told him to invite his friends. Among his friends was a coloured boy. When his father discovered that a coloured boy was invited, he questioned his son on the wisdom of including the coloured boy by saying, "I am not prejudiced, but what will people think?" The boy replied, "Not people, dad, just grown-ups". It is true that young people learn their prejudices from their elders. From my own experience while living in the West Indies, I have noticed that children do not discriminate because of racial or religious differences. It is only when a parent says, "I don't want you to go around with that . . ." that prejudice begins.

Would it not be a good idea if we, as leaders, set an example of tolerance so that boys in Scouting may learn that race or creed are poor foundations for discrimination. ★



Chief Executive Commissioner.



Win shooting awards like these: join Dominion Marksmen

Shooting is great sport. It's a man's sport in which anyone can excel. It gives you the solid satisfaction of friendly competition—and the thrill of seeing your shots creep closer to the bull's-eye as your skill develops.

The Dominion Marksmen Program gets you started shooting quickly and easily. It is a progressive shooting program which rewards each step of your progress with a pin, badge or shield. Targets and awards are provided free of charge. In addition there is the Dominion Marksmen Crest, available only to registered club members.

Members of Dominion Marksmen participate in nation-wide competitions. Former members have competed successfully in Olympic and world championships.

If you'd like to learn more about Dominion Marksmen and how you can join, write: Dominion Marksmen, P.O. Box 10, Montreal. You'll be finding out about a sport which will last you a lifetime.

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BOY SCOUT WEEK '63

There's a challenge to Scouters' initiative in the theme for Boy Scout Week, February 17 to 24, 1963. "A Salute to Scouting 'Round the World". Scouting's axiom "Be Prepared" takes on a note of urgency when it is realized that Scout Week '63 is barely ten meetings away.

To help leaders plan for this challenging project, National Headquarters has already distributed over 40,000 special Scout Week Public Relations aids in the form of posters, idea folders and other material. Idea folders and posters are available free from your nearest Scout Headquarters.

Available direct from the Stores Department, Boy Scouts of Canada, Box 3520, Station "C", Ottawa 3, Ontario, is a Boy Scout Week Information Kit of 13 useful items, illustrated in the idea folder. It sells at \$1.00 per kit (plus provincial sales tax where applicable). Only 2,000 kits were produced, so Scouters are urged to order early.

Another useful item is the 1963 pocket calendar, illustrated on this page, available direct from the Stores Department at \$1.00 per hundred (plus tax if applicable). These are excellent contact items. Some Scouters plan to send one to every boy in their Section, in a Christmas card. Others will use them at Scout Week banquets and for other public relations purposes.

Many Sections are already planning their Boy Scout Week celebrations. Costumes and customs of other lands, will be featured in Cub Pack programmes. Scouts of many Groups are already working on their World Friendship proficiency badge tests.

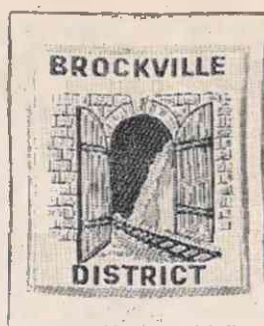
See page 10 of this issue for *P.O. & R. Revision* regarding the requirements for the World Friendship Proficiency Badge.

One interesting method of stimulating group participation was used by a Group Committee which, in November, gave a dinner for the leaders of the Group's two Packs and two Troops, plus representatives of the sponsoring body. After the meal the Group Committee asked leaders of each Section to outline their plans for observing Boy Scout Week, 1963, in view of the unusual theme.—If a Scouter had no plans formulated, the Group Committee was ready with suggestions for the Scouter's consideration.

Using the Boy Scout Week Information Kit, especially the world map and the flags, the *Facts on World Scouting* booklet and other material, Scouters can make Boy Scout Week 1963 an interesting and memorable event for their boys and themselves.

Scouters who do early planning for the event with their boys, will help make Boy Scout Week 1963 a truly national salute by Canadians to Scouting 'Round the World. ★





CANADA'S *Colourful* DISTRICT BADGES

Part 19

Left: The Colchester, N.S. District badge shows the fleur-de-lys in gold, superimposed on a red outline map of Colchester County. The map, in turn is superimposed on the Nova Scotia emblem, shown as a blue St. Andrew's Cross on a white field. The lettering and border are in blue.

Centre: The Brockville, Ont. District badge depicts the first railway tunnel bored in Canada. The tunnel was built in 1859-60 and is one of the few tunnels which have doors at either end. The tunnel is still in use. The badge is white with the tunnel in black and grey. The lettering is black. The border and date are red.

Right: The South Peace, Alta. District badge depicts the Peace River by a blue band running from north to south. The background is the grey-brown of the earth. A yellow band across the bottom represents the wheat of the area. The white trumpeter swan which inhabits the Grand Prairie area, is shown. The badge is bordered in black and the lettering is green.



Do not write to any Scout office about badges or mailing lists to be used in making a collection of badges because they are unable to handle such requests.

Extra! Extra!

Are you the sort of person that always makes that *extra* little gesture that has all your friends saying "My, he's such a thoughtful fellow!" Well, here's an opportunity to do your friends a Good Turn. Mail in an order today. Start the NEW YEAR off in the Scouting way.



Order a "Gift" subscription for your friends. You'll be glad you did!

CUT ON DOTTED LINE

To: Boy Scouts of Canada
P.O. Box 3520, Stn. "C"
Ottawa 3, Ontario.

Please send THE SCOUT LEADER for _____ years to:

NAME (please print) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY AND PROVINCE _____

I enclose \$ _____ (at \$1.00 per year, \$1.50 outside Canada).

S.L.-4

ATTENTION

P.O. & R. REVISION

★ The following is a revision to Rule 78 (iii), to be inserted on page 41 of the 1962 edition of *P.O. & R.*

- (iii) The affairs of the Crew are controlled by a Crew Executive consisting of the Leader, the Assistants, the Mates and other Rovers of the Crew as may from time to time be elected.



MISSING

★ The Publications Department at National Headquarters requires a 1938 edition of *The Wolf Cub's Handbook*. Anyone willing to offer a copy of this handbook as a loan or "For Sale" is asked to contact the Publications Department, Boy Scouts of Canada, Box 3520, Station "C", Ottawa 3, Ontario.

A SLIGHT MISUNDERSTANDING

★ A donation of \$18.64 from the Part II Rover Leader's Course, Blue Springs, Ontario was listed, in error, in the Scout Brotherhood Fund donations in the October issue of *The Scout Leader*. This amount was intended for contribution to the Kandersteg Chalet Fund. We wish to thank Mr. A. S. Fleming, of Ontario Provincial Headquarters, for drawing this matter to our attention.

—Ed.



P.O. & R. REVISION

RE WORLD FRIENDSHIP BADGE

Boy Scout Week, 1963, Salutes Scouting 'Round the World! This is the theme that focusses attention on the World Friendship badge. International Commissioners are supplying the Relationships Department of National Headquarters with names of Scouts from their countries.

Boys from the following countries (figures show the number of names now available) wish to correspond with Canadian boys: Philippines (6); Sudan (14); Puerto Rico (1); El Salvador (86); South Africa (2); Finland (8); Japan (10); Denmark (4); Jordan (29); and U.S.A. To obtain correspondents in other countries will take a little longer.

Scouts are being encouraged to work on the World Friendship badge. However, the old requirements would have required the Scouts to wait until 1964 for recognition. With the advent of air-mail, it seems unrealistic to expect three letters and their replies to take over a year for completion.

In view of this, and to bring other requirements up-to-date, the National Executive Committee of the Boy Scouts of Canada approved the following revision to Rule 311, of *P.O. & R.*, at their October meeting in Hamilton.

- (i) Have knowledge of the geography, history and people of at least three countries other than his own.
- (ii) Have corresponded with a Scout, or other pen pal, from another country, writing and receiving at least three letters.
- (iii) Have a knowledge of the organization and activities of the World Conference on Scouting and be able to point out on a map thirty countries that are members of the World Conference.
- (iv) Complete three of the following:—
 - (a) Have camped or hiked with Scouts of another country for at least three days and show that he has a reasonable understanding of Scouting in, and the culture (people) of that country.
 - (b) Have a knowledge of the main points of the United Nations Charter, the purpose and organization of the United Nations, the function of its principal subsidiary agencies, the main principles of the Declaration of Human Rights. Be able to explain these in simple terms.
 - (c) Have taken part in some practical activity of an international character such as:
 - (i) Helping an international organization such as Junior Red Cross, UNICEF or CARE.
 - (ii) Helping new immigrants from abroad.
 - (d) Have a knowledge of the structure and purpose of two organizations of which Canada is a member such as:
 - (i) British Commonwealth
 - (ii) NATO
 - (iii) Colombo Plan
 - (iv) Postal Union
 - (v) International Red Cross
 - (vi) International Court of Justice
 - (vii) World Bank
 - (e) Write a short essay on some aspect of contemporary world affairs and its effect on Canada. ★

GAMES

These are excellent games for getting your Christmas get-together rolling. Scouters may find it convenient to adapt some of these ideas into ice-breaking parlour games for use in their homes during the holiday festivities.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU . . .

Each player is given six beans. When the signal is given, each player engages another in a brief question and answer period. Unacquainted persons will first introduce themselves. Anyone using a forbidden word such as "Yes, No, I, My or Me", must forfeit one bean to his opponent for each offense. After changing partners several times, see who has the most beans.

ANIMALS OF THE ARK

The Leader divides the players into two groups of equal numbers and whispers the name of a different animal to each member of the first group and then whispers the same names to the members of the other group. When the signal is given, the players scatter and give calls imitating the animals they represent. The calls are used as a means of locating a partner. The last pair to find mates are the losers.

BEAST, BIRD OR FISH

Divide the players into teams "A" and "B". Seat the teams opposite one another. An "A" member throws an object (knotted handkerchief) to any "B" member calling out simultaneously one of the words Beast, Bird or Fish. The instant after calling, he starts to count ten. Before he reaches ten, the "B" player must name either a Beast, Bird or Fish, depending on what the "A" player called for. If the "B" player fails to name an object before the thrower counts ten, one point is scored for "A" team. Similarly, a point is scored if the same object is called twice.

Note: It adds to the fun to permit a player who cannot think of a name to throw the handkerchief to a team mate at least two players away and call "help" while throwing. Tenderfoot, First or Second-class requirements might be substituted for Bird, Beast or Fish. ★

ICE SAFETY AND RESCUE

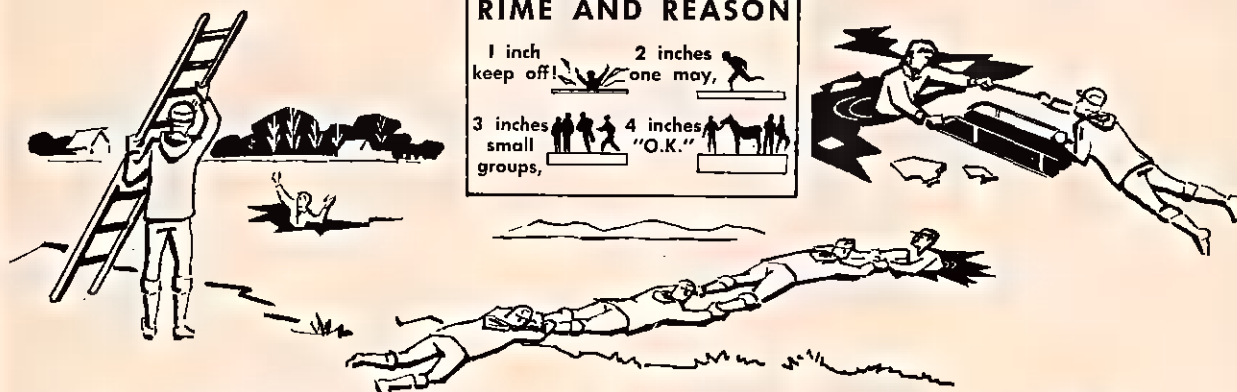
RIME AND REASON

1 inch
keep off!

2 inches
one may,

3 inches
small
groups,

4 inches
"O.K."



Use a ladder, pole, rope or human chain to reach ice disaster victim. Beware of thin ice in making the rescue.



Use pocket knife or any pointed object to help pull yourself out

For Those Christmas Parcels

BOY SCOUTS CELLULOSE TAPE

For gift wrapping, letterheads, display posters, signs, etc.



No. 26-412 Small roll
144" with dispenser
25c ea.

No. 26-413 Large roll
864" with dispenser
95c ea.

CUB AND SCOUT STICKERS

Ideal for decorating your Group stationery, place cards, gifts, etc.

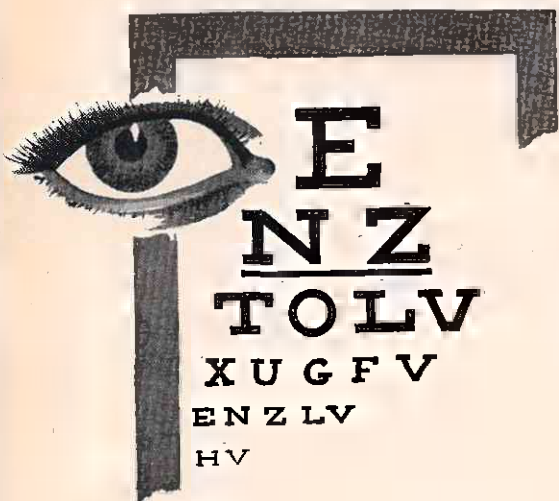
No. 26-410 Boy Scout Stickers
Pkg. of 500 \$4.00

No. 26-414 Wolf Cub Stickers
Pkg. of 500 \$4.00




Available from Your Local Distributor or
The Stores Department





What
Do
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By

THEODORE SCHWARTZ

District Scoutmaster

Toronto, Ont.

It is being said that many boys do not join the Troop, and that many older Scouts drop out, because of uniform, programme, or lack of camping.

While these factors may have some bearing on the situation, they are not our main problem. On the contrary, the main problems are:

- 1) Lack of leaders
- 2) Active leaders who lack Scouting skills

Why do I say this? From observations, I have come to realize that:

- 1) Boys of all ages like Scouting
- 2) The reason there are not more Troops is *not* due to lack of boys, but rather to lack of leaders. (Just look around. Do you know of any Scoutmaster who is in need of boys?)
- 3) Because Troop Scouting requires more skill than does Cubbing, there are fewer Troop leaders than Pack leaders and, therefore, fewer Scouts than Cubs.
- 4) Many Troop leaders lack advanced Scouting skills, causing their senior Scouts to lose enthusiasm and drop out.

I have seen a Troop fall apart after losing its Scoutmaster. From these observations the main problem appears to be not the "boys" but the "leader" or more specifically, lack of leaders. Let us, therefore, look into the method of obtaining leaders.

Finding a leader is the task of the Group Committee. There is great merit

in this system. However, how many Group Committees function in name only? Because the turnover in Group Committee membership is frequent, most of the existing Group Committees are "green". A "green" Group Committee finds a "green" man to train boys in skills with which he is unfamiliar.

To remedy the latter, National Headquarters provides Leadership Training Courses. These are wonderful and inspiring courses. What leader does not look back with fond memories to his training days?

However, when a Troop loses its leader, it takes a long time to find his replacement. Then months pass before a training course is available. (In the meantime the boys are not getting Scouting, lose interest and drop out.) The new system of giving a new leader an interview by a district staff member is a start in the right direction, though not sufficient.

The first problem to tackle is finding leaders. The question arising now is this: "Are there enough young men willing and able to volunteer their time for Scouting?" My answer is a definite YES! There are many young men with too much time on their hands. Why then don't these potential leaders flock to our ranks? The reasons are many but none are insurmountable. Principally:

- 1) Many potential leaders do not realize that they are needed and wanted.
- 2) Lacking Scouting skills and knowledge of the courses available, they shy away from our ranks.

Now, what is the solution to this problem?

- 1) Group Committees should be strengthened.
- 2) There should be an additional man on each committee to recruit potential leaders.

3) Members should be made aware of the importance of qualified leadership and should be trained to obtain leaders. (There is an excellent booklet entitled "Here's How", suggesting six steps to follow in obtaining Scouters, which Group Committees should make use of.)

4) The press, radio, and TV should be utilized in bringing in new leaders. A new volunteer should be given the opportunity to work with a Troop of his choice as assistant to the Scoutmaster, for a period of time (six months or a year) during which time he should attend at least one basic course. Only then should he have the privilege of being registered as Scoutmaster of a new Troop.

Once we have enough leaders, we can turn to other problems: 1) meeting places, 2) programme, 3) uniform, 4) camping, 5) adventure, 6) camporees, 7) jamborees, 8) instruction and tests, 9) badges.

1. MEETING PLACES:

Every available place—service clubs, schools, churches, synagogues—should be asked to open its doors to a Scout group.

2. PROGRAMMES:

The programme should be broadened to bring modern science and technical developments into Scouting. Youth, singing, music and folk dancing, go hand in hand. It is almost a crime that these spirit-building, moral-lifting forces are neglected among Canadian youth in general and Scouting in particular. Facilities and instructors should be made available to train leaders and Scouts in active singing, harmonica playing, and square dancing.

3. UNIFORM:

The Canadian Scout uniform is very smart and smartness is a positive part of Scouting. The Canadian uniform stands out favourably at any World Jamboree. One does not have to read the badge to recognize a Canadian Scout. The Scout hat is synonymous with the Mountie and the Mountie is synonymous with Canada. However,

when it comes to practical Scouting, our uniform is less perfect. A Scout hat loses its shape when caught in the rain, and in cold winter days the Scout loses both the shape of his ears and the colour of his knees. Yet both are important. The hat epitomizes Canada and short pants epitomize youth. (Even father feels twenty years younger when he dons his bermudas).

The solution may lie in providing (besides the present uniform) practical, inexpensive shirts and pants of olive green or khaki and a peak cap similar to our winter cap, to be used on appropriate occasions (winter) and at appropriate places (camp).

4. CAMPING:

Many Troops do not go camping because they do not have the equipment or their leaders lack camping knowledge, or both. Many Troops do not have the money and others find it impractical to spend so much money for tents and equipment merely to camp a few weeks a year. To encourage camping, arrangements should be made for Troops to rent the necessary camping equipment. More training courses should be arranged for leaders in practical camping, pioneering, tree and bird recognition.

5. ADVENTURE:

Few Canadians have ventured beyond the beaten path! In some countries railway companies have specially reduced prices for Scout groups. How many of our Scouts have seen the sun shining in its full glory at midnight? Why shouldn't our Scouts be given an opportunity to travel, camp, see and experience the adventure of far-off places?

6. CAMPOREES:

I have a hunch that many Scouts fail to take part in Camporees because they lack the skills or lack the equipment, or both.

7. JAMBOREES:

Many Scouts never get to a Jamboree, world or national, for similar reasons or because of the cost and time involved. Many Scouts meet indoors until suddenly a Jamboree is "dumped" in their laps. They are not prepared for it in skills, finances, or thinking. Our aim should be: Every Scout should be

a Queen's Scout by the age of 16 and should have attended at least one Jamboree. A Scout should be made aware of the aim and begin working toward it from the day he joins our ranks. He should start saving money for attendance at a Jamboree from the day he joins, either the Pack or the Troop. Side by side with this should be his training from instructions and tests, through hikes, camping, camporees, 1st Class Journey, Provincial Jamborees, National and International to World Jamborees.

Can it be done? Yes! Is it easy? No. Nothing worthwhile is easy but youth thrives on challenge. Why then, is this not being done? We come back to the original problem:

- 1) Not enough leaders.
- 2) Not enough trained, active leaders.

It is obvious that a Troop stands or falls with its Scoutmaster. The efficiency of the Troop depends upon the quality of its leader. Since it is difficult for a leader to learn all the Scouting skills at once or find enough time to do a good job, and since Troops usually do not have the space nor the tools for proficient work, I suggest that every community should set up a central place where tools and instructors would be available for Scouts to work on their proficiency badges. In addition, in the nearest camp, materials and instructors should be at hand for practical Scouting and pioneering. There would be leaders who would volunteer for such services and many other leaders would avail themselves of these opportunities.

This is a big task indeed. But, if we want to get the best out of Scouting, we have to put a great deal in. People are bemoaning the sad juvenile situation. Scouting acts not only as a deterrent but trains its members in a positive and honorable way toward sound citizenship. It should be made clear that tears alone will not solve the problem.

What do we see? We see a challenge. Our Canadian youth of today, the potential leaders of tomorrow, deserve our combined effort. Canada and the world, longing for peace, will forever be grateful to our "World Brotherhood" Movement.

What is needed is vision. Together, together, we can do it! ★

AT OURSELVES?



For the first time in the history of Canadian Scouting, a National Conference was held for members of the Training and Reading teams. Over 450 Scouters responsible for training adult leaders, made a concentrated study of some vital aspects of the Scout programme. Never before has so much experience and knowledge been gathered together for such a purpose.

The conference was held in four areas of the country—Amherst, N.S., Winnipeg, Man., Banff, Alta., and Oshawa, Ont. The first was held during the week-end September 8-9 and the last during the week-end October 13-14.

The purpose of the conference was threefold:

1. TO examine some of the major issues of concern to Canadian Scouting today, and to assess the urgency for solutions;
2. TO bring together the advice and opinions of experienced trainers in all parts of the country;
3. TO consider new approaches and fresh emphasis on training for immediate consideration and use.

PROGRAMME

Before the conference, a comprehensive guide was issued to every prospective participant showing how the purpose might be achieved. It presented facts and important issues to be discussed at the conference and asked many questions about our programme and its application today, so that those attending could prepare themselves to become useful participants.

The programme was the same for each location and dealt mainly with four major issues.

1. "DO WE HAVE A PROBLEM?" An examination of our membership figures and their significance, followed by an extended question period.
2. "WHAT IS SCOUTING?" Discussion groups examined what is, or is not Scouting and what is the criterion.

Breakthrough

**A report of the findings and conclusions
of the first National Conference of the
Training and Reading Teams**

3. "THE JET GENERATION". A short presentation dealing generally with boys of today and supplemented with films from the "Ages and Stages" series (produced by the Department of National Health and Welfare). Discussion groups followed, dealing with related questions.
4. "LEADERSHIP". Discussion groups considered a series of questions regarding leadership in Scouting and how we use it at boy and adult levels.

How did the conference go? Obviously, for the programme highlights mentioned, this was a study conference. A time to study, think, talk—and think again. Apart from being given some facts concerning membership, the conference was left to draw its own conclusions from the presentations. For many, this was a new experience and even at the end there were still a few seeking short, simple answers. For the great majority, however, it was a most stimulating experience. They gave all they had and received as much in return from their companions. One conferee was heard to say, "I went to bed at eleven. If my wife knew I was turning in at that hour, she'd think I was sick!" Yes, the pace was fast and intense.

What did the discussions reveal? The questions on membership trends and subsequent comments in discussion groups seemed to indicate that, while a very few see success in our growing total membership, the majority are very concerned with the fact that we are becoming an organization for 8-11 year-old boys rather than for 12-17 year-old boys, for whom Scouting was originally intended.

Discussion groups produced substantially similar views. Briefly, they agreed:

- (i) THAT, in theory, the Scouting programme was intended to be adaptable. In practice, it has become rather formal and stereotyped. The fundamental principles should be rigidly adhered to but practices should be flexible.
- (ii) THAT, for Scouting to continue successfully, it must ensure that the programme is adapted locally to suit the needs and interests of the boys it serves.

- (iii) THAT, we need a better understanding of boys and the way they develop.
- (iv) THAT, there is a place in the Scout programme for co-educational activities which could include service projects as well as social activities. Opinion on suitable ages for these activities varies widely but the majority favoured 14 years and over as acceptable.
- (v) THAT, greater use be made of young adults, as leaders, especially in the 18-25 age range.
- (vi) THAT more guidance in leadership skills be given at adult leader training courses.
- (vii) THAT a better understanding of both the role of the adult working with boys and his relationship to them at various ages and stages be developed through our books and training.
- (viii) THAT, generally, Scouters should assume a less autocratic attitude when working with boys. They should share the development of section organization and interesting programmes with the boys and permit them to assume increasing responsibility for direction as age and ability increase.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Generally, there was a feeling that adults had assumed too dominant a role in Scouting. Many ideas were proposed suggesting opportunities for boys to assume greater responsibility for their programme. These ranged from giving more power to Sixers' Councils to National Conferences for Patrol Leaders and older Scouts.

Concern was expressed by some at the omission of specific references in the conference to the Scout Promise and Law. Any fear that drastic changes were imminent was dispelled when it was pointed out that the fundamental principles of Scouting were confirmed and given full endorsement by the Programme and Uniform Sub-committee in an early report.

Some members felt that the wording of the Scout Law needs revision, (e.g.: Should a Scout always obey orders without question?) It was stated that many adults are incapable of communicating such values as loyalty, honour, etc., to a boy, especially as the boy grows older. The problem arises from a basic lack of understanding of boys on the part of many leaders.

The Programme and Uniform Sub-committee explained its views concerning uniform to the conferences. These may be summarized as follows:

THE COMMITTEE

- (i) recognizes that no one set of garments will be suitable for all occasions or suit all people;
- (ii) believes that the evolution of both programme and uniform must be a continuing process.
- (iii) believes that, if a degree of flexibility and choice is introduced into dress practice, these problems can be solved by the membership (the boys);

- (iv) believes a high degree of differentiation between the dress of the three Sections in Scouting is desirable.

With this in mind, the committee has recommended that regulation blue longs and shorts become equally acceptable as uniform for Scouts, Rovers and Scouters, the decision being left to the Court of Honour, Crew Council, and individual Scouter. Other modifications include provision for a choice of headgear for Rover Scouts. Full details of this report may be found on page 23 of this issue.

IN CONCLUSION

The findings of the conference substantially supported the thinking of the Programme and Uniform Sub-committee and will, therefore, confirm them in their approach and expedite their work.

These findings represent a basic understanding of many of the problems with which Scouting is faced. Only upon understanding shared by the membership can Scouting continue to grow and remain virile. Thus, changes result as an expression of the desires of the membership and not by imposition.

The Sub-committee sees all changes occurring in this evolutionary manner and stated at the conference that it does not intend to present a final plan for any revisions. It will continue to study the problems and offer suggestions progressively to the Movement for gradual implementation. The next step is to conduct a study on how Scouting is actually practised.

The conference proclaimed its faith in Scouting and its ability to help boys develop into responsible adults. If the views of the conference appear critical, it is because the purpose was to look objectively at those areas where improvements need to be made. This in no way negates the fine work which is being done in Scouting nor depreciates the services the Movement is providing for our youth.

Out of the discussions, at least four ideas arose for participants to consider for immediate action.

1. Encourage active recruitment of boys into Scouting at all ages, especially 10, 11, 12 and 13 years.
2. Through training and other methods of communication, introduce an atmosphere more conducive to evolution, by encouraging people to use their imagination and initiative.
3. Through improved training, help Scouters achieve a better understanding of boys.
4. Conduct similar studies and study conferences for other members of their training-teams at Council levels and at Scouters' Clubs.

Credit for conceiving the idea of a National Conference goes to the National Programme Committee but deep appreciation and thanks is due to all the volunteers who, by giving up a week-end and travelling great distances at their own expense, helped the conference realize its purpose. They made a tremendous contribution to the future of Scouting. ★

NEW FIRST AID BOOK

We are pleased to announce that the St. John Ambulance Association has agreed to permit the Boy Scouts of Canada to use its new book as the official first aid manual for Scouts. This manual, entitled *Preliminary First Aid*, represents the first Canadian edition of its kind produced by the St. John Ambulance Association and is a revision of the British publication, *A Preliminary Manual of First Aid*.

Two doctors, representative of the two organizations, collaborated in the revision to ensure that the first aid requirements of the Scout programme would be given consideration. The only one of these requirements not covered in the new manual is the subject of camp ailments (*P.O. & R., Rule 220 (v)*), which is not considered to be within the common definition of first aid. *Rule 220 (v)* is under study by the National Programme Committee and a definite recommendation will be going forward to the National Executive soon. In the interim, it is recommended that arrangements be made by local Scout authorities for the instruction and passing of Scouts with respect to this requirement.

As a result of the information contained in the new manual, the National Programme committee will be making further recommendations to the National Executive on the whole subject of first aid requirements. ★



ST. JOHN AMBULANCE PRELIMINARY FIRST AID

Contains all the necessary information for Scout first aid tests, including the Ambulance Man Badge. (Does not cover camp ailments.—These will be dealt with in a separate publication).

Catalogue No. 20-473.....60c

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Scoutscope



STOUTHEARTED SCOUTS

Three Boy Scouts, David Day, Bob LeMessurier and Frank Janes, members of the Sixth St. John's Troop, recently made a 20-day, 587-mile trek across the province of Newfoundland. The boys put a lot of forethought into the hike and reduced their walking pack load to a maximum of 25 pounds. They used dehydrated foods and arranged to have six days' rations shipped ahead to three pick-up points. Walking of this nature is hard on the feet but the boys felt that the benefits of the trip would outweigh any hardships involved. The purpose of the jaunt was to reawaken interest in hiking as a sport.

INTELLECTUAL TROOP

The 41st Vancouver Boy Scout Troop have the distinction of having three of their Scouts become Rhodes Scholars. In 1959, Michael Brown was named Rhodes Scholar for British Columbia and since then his fellow Troop members have kept up the good work. Stuart Robson was named Rhodes Scholar for British Columbia for 1962 and William Megill, a former member of the Troop during 1953 and 1954, has been named Rhodes Scholar for Ontario for 1962.

UNDER THE NORTHERN SUN

The Scouts and Cubs of the Second St. Albert, Alberta Troop and Pack have shipped their sky blue and yellow neckerchiefs to Eskimo boys in Coppermine. The Eskimos are among Canada's most northerly Scouts and Cubs and so far have not attained complete outfits. The St. Albert boys started wearing scarlet neckerchiefs last spring.

KLITSA MOUNTAIN LAKES SEEDED

Nearly 16,000 Kamloops fry were dropped into four lakes in the Klitsa Mountain area of British Columbia. The young fish are primarily intended for Boy Scout fishing. "In two years time, there should be some good fishing for the boys", conservation officer George Vincent said.

OVER THE BOUNDING MAIN

Two "Flying Junior" sailboats have been made available for use by the Boy Scouts of Canada, New Brunswick Provincial Council. Mr. A. M. A. McLean, Provincial Vice-President of the Boy Scouts of Canada is the donor. The boats are to be used to promote sailing within the Scout Movement in New Brunswick.

SURPRISING SCOTTISH THISTLE

A member of the 6th Arbutus St. Paul's Troop, Victoria, British Columbia, Alan Meakes, was one of three Canadian representatives at a Meet held at Blair Atholl, Perthshire, Scotland. "The meeting was a wonderful way to promote friendship and understanding among Scouts of different lands", he said. Alan did some sight-seeing in England and Scotland while he was overseas. The Scottish thistle was a real surprise to him. Accustomed to the Canadian variety, he was astonished to see it growing five feet tall in Edinburgh Park.

ONLY MAKE BELIEVE

A businessman, active in the Scout Movement, tells a story of the heart-break of a little girl when her doll lost an eye. Even though the season for repairing toys was still a few months away, the Boy Scouts managed to find a blue eye that almost matched. Then they fitted the doll with a small pair of eye glasses for her "eye trouble". There is no doubt that those who gave their time and energy will be well rewarded by the gratefulness of a little girl, happy in her world of make-believe.



This year's Sea Scout Rally in Hamilton used winter camping as its theme. These two Sea Scouts are inspecting some of the equipment to be found in the model winter campsite set up by the 25th Hamilton Rover Sea Scout Crew. (Photo: Hamilton Spectator)



The 147 pairs of skates netted in the Calgary Boy Scout Association's "Skates Unlimited" drive will be sent to Indian and Eskimo children in the Northwest Territories. Scout John Robinson of the 71st Troop of the Sacred Heart School is shown with Mr. Gordon Mitchell, Chairman of the Esso Dealers Association and Mr. M. Bell of Radio Station CFAC. Both organizations were most helpful during the drive. (Photo: Calgary Albertan)



January

Theme: Communications

PACK – JANUARY

HIGHLIGHT ACTIVITY



Visit to a Newspaper

“The exchange of information in the right place at the right time is both the major activity and major problem of our society.”

—Canadian Conference on Education

The initial details and travel arrangements for this activity should be worked out by the Group Committee.

Talk about the event before you go. Get Cubs who are newspaper boys to add to the discussion from their point of view. Let the newspaper people know that you are interested in all phases of the work. Perhaps the sports editor or one of his writers could talk to the Cubs. If time permits, the men in the ‘rolling’ room may show the boys how to make a newspaper hat.

SOME OTHER ACTIVITIES

Invite a person who is familiar with the deaf and dumb alphabet to the Pack to talk to the Cubs about the deaf and their language.

The same could be done with the blind. You may be able to borrow a Braille copy of Tenderpad to Second Star to show the Cubs this special form of written language.

Get one of the parents to do some research in the library about the origin of words as a basis for a talk to the boys. This could even be done with proper names such as Smith and Baker (originally occupations); Fitzpatrick and Adamson (relating to father and son); Stafford and Normand (relating to places) and so on.

Try to run a game or other activity by non-verbal communications, i.e. by using signs only—no words. Run

the old favourite game of pass-the-message and emphasize to the Cubs how important it is to repeat and understand the message before passing it along. A variation would be to have the message telephoned from one member of a Six right along to the last member. This could be done at home or, more fun and more expensive yet more practical, could be done by using public pay telephones. The latter method could be an interesting outdoor activity prior to or following an indoor meeting.

The following may suggest other programme ideas related to the theme:

1. Morse code signalling by lamp in the dark or outdoors.
2. Indian writing—check E. Thompson Seton’s books in library.
3. Secret writing with onion juice, milk, or invisible ink. Check library for details.
4. Match stick messages using semaphore code.
5. Visit to local gallery to see which artists are best able to communicate through their paintings to boys of Cub age.
6. Bring in a French-Canadian friend or foreign-born visitor to talk to Cubs about other languages—perhaps teach basic elements—thus increase the Cubs’ understanding of other people.

TROOP — JANUARY

(Note: Warn Troop in advance so that they can individually brush up on their signalling—Morse or Semaphore.)

1st MEETING









Use the noticeboard. Put notices on the board in Morse or Semaphore.

Use Morse or Semaphore signals to start Troop games.

By Patrols—have the Scouts design signalling equipment that can be used on a wide game. Get them to make working models. Experiment with colours—i.e. lights or cloth for signal equipment. What colours can be seen best and the farthest.

2nd MEETING

Work on cryptography. Have your Patrols work out codes that can be used. Assign codes and see if Patrols can break them.

i.e. Semaphore Clock.		or Semaphore Compass.	
Letter	Semaphore	Time	
A	— 	7.30	A =  = SW/S
B	— 	9.30	B =  = W/S
C	— 	10.30	C =  = NW/S
D	— 	12.00	D =  = N/S

CAB = 10.30/7.30/9.30

CAB = NW/S; SW/S; W/S I the operation to the Scouts.

Set up a poster competition for the Troop depicting some aspect of World Scouting. Posters to be submitted by the first meeting in February.

3rd MEETING

Have a wide game involving signalling and instructions in code. Provide either a base to check after a certain period or a sealed envelope with clues to the code. Allow maximum points for Patrols who do not use base or envelope and complete signalling project. Allow less points for opening envelope and least for returning to base.

i.e.—have them work on a signal tower and signal back to base—using equipment made by Patrols—when they have completed the project. (have wood and ropes available).

Close off with a campfire with singing and stunts. Get them to design original campfire stunts.

4th MEETING

Use a public speaker to instruct Scouts in the art of speaking to audiences. Use tape recorders to let them hear their voices. (Preferably one to a Patrol). Assign short impromptu speeches on various Scout projects to each member of the Troop. Use several from each Patrol.

Using the photographers badge as a base, encourage Scouts to enter the Group Photographic Contest.

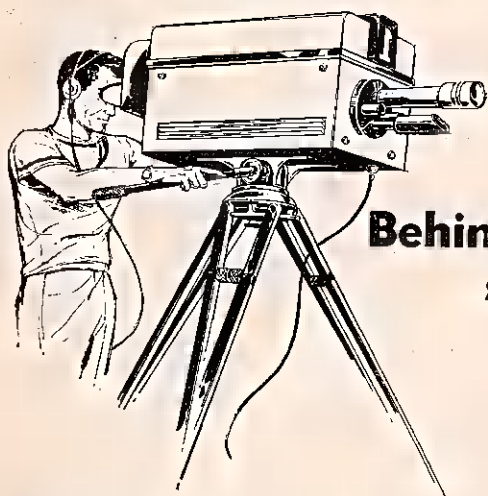
HIGHLIGHT

Make a tour to one of the following:—

- Telephone exchange
- Telegraph office
- Television station
- Radio station

Arrange to have someone guide the tour and explain the operation to the Scouts.

CREW — JANUARY



Behind the scenes

HIGHLIGHT

Through a visit to a firm or station, explore the opportunities for young men in the field of electronics, Radio or TV. Try to arrange to find out what goes on behind the scenes.

Have the Crew Executive consider the following as Crew Questions.

PLAYS: In conjunction with Rangers, produce, direct, design set and costumes, act in and present a play. Make use of people in the theatre for advice and guidance.

DEBATES: Challenge another Crew or a Ranger Company to a debate. Use as a subject a contentious item current in the world, country or community.

Mock Trials: Use a lawyer and visits to a trial to set the foundation for a Mock Trial in the Crew.

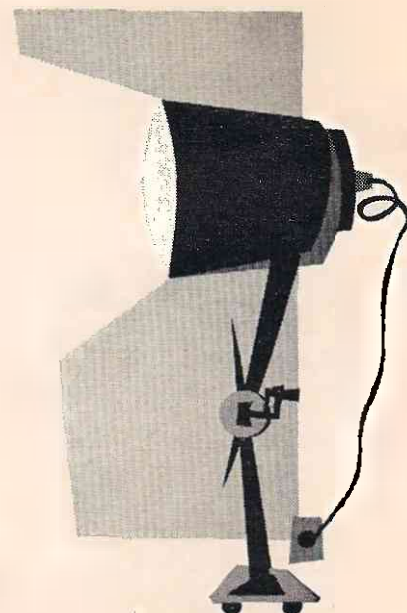
Tape Recordings: Explore the possibility of exchanging tape recordings with foreign Crews or Explorer Posts. Produce a tape recording on Scouting suitable for a Radio Broadcast. Seek advice and help of local stations.

ART: Explore one of the following, or all three:—

- Art
- Music
- Theatre

These are methods that people use to communicate ideas. How effective are they?

Spotlight on Learning



THE BOOK OF OUTDOOR WINTER ACTIVITIES

By Gunnar A. Peterson & Harry D. Edgran
Published by G. R. Welch Co., Toronto, Ont.
Price \$5.50

This book is highly recommended to all Scouters who are looking for idea material for programmes during the winter months. There is a wealth of ideas on games, social gatherings, winter camping, skating, skiing, snow sculpture and just about anything else that you can think of doing in a Canadian winter. In addition, the book is liberally sprinkled with line drawings of a variety of interesting projects for boys to make during the winter.

THE LONGEST MILE

By Jack A. Guest
Price \$3.50

Jack Guest, a Scouter with many years' experience, writes an interesting, factual book of a boy's love of dogs and the outdoors. He takes us through the rigorous weeks of training necessary to bring a dog-team and its driver to top shape for competition. Interwoven into this main theme are new adventures and experiences in northern cabin life as lived by the hero of the story, Jim Paine, Queen's Scout.

The climax of the book is the exciting and suspenseful five-day dog-team race. It portrays vividly, the arduous and gruelling days of the race and how Jim Paine uses his Scout training to persevere and handle a critical turn of events which lead to an unexpected climax. The author employs his first-hand knowledge of his subject to weave a fascinating story about and for Scouts.

ADVENTURES WITH HAND LENS

By Richard Headstom
Published by McClelland & Stewart Ltd., Toronto, Ont.
Price \$5.25

This book is particularly recommended for Pack Scouters although it would also be a very useful addition

to any Troop library. With the simple equipment of a hand lens or magnifying glass the author leads us into another world. In the hands of an imaginative Scouter, this book could help to develop inquiring minds and at the same time provide hours of fascination for any Pack or Troop programme in camp or during the winter.

THE NEW SCIENCE OF SKIN AND SCUBA DIVING

Published by G. R. Welch and Co., Toronto, Ont.
Price—Hard cover \$4.15
—Paper cover \$3.10

The two sports covered by this excellent booklet are increasing rapidly in popularity throughout our country. Boys and young men in the Scout and Rover sections particularly have been showing great interest in these two water sports, and they would find this book extremely valuable as reference material. The book has been prepared for national cooperation in aquatics by an editorial committee consisting of experienced skin, scuba divers and medical authorities.

THE SHAPE OF THE EARTH

By Patrick Lynch
Published by Macmillan Co. of Canada Ltd., Toronto
Price \$2.75

It is obvious from the great demand for science-fiction stories among young people, that there is an increasing interest in the physical environment of man and speculation of what may happen in the future. This book, containing many excellent illustrations, brings the reader up to date on many of the more recent things that have been learned about the world in which we live, its shape and how things move. It is highly recommended as a gift book.

A THOUSAND AND ONE QUESTIONS ANSWERED ABOUT EARTH SCIENCE

By Richard M. Perial

Published by Dodd Mead and Co. (Canada) Ltd.,
Toronto

Price \$7.25

This is a question and answer book which would be extremely valuable to the Troop library to answer the many questions which young people might have about the science of our earth. Certainly, the answers can be found elsewhere but this concise volume deals with this material in a most interesting and entertaining manner.

THE DESERT PEOPLE

By Ann Nolan Clark

Published by Macmillan Co. of Canada Ltd., Toronto
Illustrated by Allan Houser

Price \$3.50

This is a rhythmic story of the Indians of the southwest United States. It is a delightful story and the illustrations by the Indian artist contribute greatly to making this a truly beautiful little book. It is highly recommended for all boys, particularly, those in the late Cub ages. It would make an excellent gift book.

THE GREAT CANOE

By Adelaide Leitch

Illustrated by Clare Bice

Published by Macmillan Co. of Canada Ltd., Toronto

Price \$1.50

This is the first book in the BUCKSKIN books series which have recently been published by the Macmillan Company as part of a literary contest. These excellent little books (approximately 115 pages) are designed for young people from the ages of eight to twelve, although

older boys might enjoy reading them as well. The first book in this series is about the great gift of a canoe to Samuel Champlain and the story of a young Indian boy is woven beautifully around this exciting chapter in Canadian history. The book is set in very large type and is highly recommended as a gift book.

WEST TO THE CARIBOU

By Laurie McLaughlin

Illustrated by Joe Rosenthal

Published by Macmillan Co. of Canada Ltd., Toronto

Price \$1.50

This is number 2 of the BUCKSKIN series and is the exciting story of two boys who travel across Canada in pioneer days and west and north to the caribou country. It is an exciting adventure and delightfully illustrated.

SHIPS OF THE GREAT DAYS

By Joseph Schull

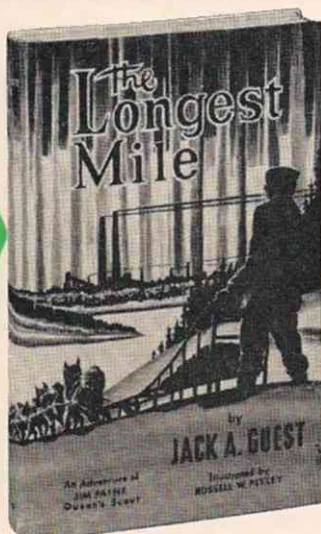
Published by Macmillan Co. of Canada Ltd., Toronto

Price \$2.50

This is another book in the "Great Stories of Canada" series and is a reconstruction of the author's story of the Canadian navy during World War II. This book is an exciting narrative yarn which will delight all Sea Scouts and others who are interested in Canada's great contribution during the important sea war between 1939 and 1945.

The Stores Department of the National Headquarters has asked that we specify that books reviewed, such as the above, are not stocked by the Stores Department.

THRILLING ADVENTURE FOR ALL BOY(S) SCOUTS



a book about SCOUTING

by **JACK GUEST** — Assistant Regional
Commissioner, Ontario "Green Acres" Region

"The Longest Mile" tells of the adventures of Queen's Scout Jim Paine in the annual five-dog team race in the wilds of Northern Quebec.

It's the fascinating story of how Jim finds and trains his team, and how the gruelling days of the race, across rugged northern terrain in sub-zero weather affects his life.

Although Jim Paine is a Boy Scout, this tale will find a place in the hearts of *all* boys who thrill to exploits of the great outdoors and life in the far north.

Available at book and department stores everywhere!

A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS GIFT

\$3.50



RETURN TO THE PATROL SYSTEM?

For some time I have wondered how more emphasis could be placed on the Patrol System in our Troop.

Through the years, we have paid lip service to the idea of using the Patrol Method. We have encouraged . . . the conducting of Patrol Meetings, Patrol Hikes and Patrol Camps. What further steps could be taken to further the "Method"?

Perhaps we are only doing half the job. . . . In the early days when Scouting was mushrooming all over the United Kingdom and rapidly spreading throughout the Commonwealth (then the British Empire), and around the world, B.-P.'s *Scouting for Boys* was in every boy's hip pocket. Enraptured by the adventures of the "Hero of Mafeking", they took to Scouting as a duck takes to water.

In *Scouting for Boys* (1908 version), B.-P. says in the first two paragraphs of Camp Fire Yarn No. 2:

"To become a Boy Scout you join a Patrol belonging to your Cadet Corps, or Boys' Brigade or club.

"If you are not a member of one of these, or if it does not as yet possess a Patrol of Scouts, you can raise a Patrol yourself by getting five other boys to join. They should, if possible, be all about the same age. One boy is then chosen as Patrol Leader to command the Patrol, and he selects another boy to be the Corporal or second-in-command. Several Patrols together can form a Troop under an officer called a 'Scoutmaster'."

. . . These two paragraphs give the key—to become a Boy Scout, you join a Patrol. Several Patrols form a Troop. The emphasis is on the Patrol.

What has happened since 1908? Have we become an Organization? Today we have a National Council, Provincial, Regional and District Councils. District Commissioners and their staffs abound. To form a Scout group there must be a Sponsor and a Group Committee. Scouters must be found to lead Sections and arrangements must be made for a meeting place and for the procurement of equipment. All very necessary in 1962—but what of the Patrol?

Our literature, our training, our equipment all tend to suggest the Troop is the thing, with the Scoutmaster constituting the main organizer and chief instructor. We have a Troop Progress Chart, a Troop Flag, a Troop Log, etc., etc. . . . Even *Rule 73 of Policy, Organization and Rules* states: "A boy . . . may be accepted into a Boy Scout Troop." *Rule 74 (i)* says: "A Boy Scout Troop consists of not more than 32 Scouts . . ." and *Rule 74 (ii)* "The Troop consists of Patrols of not more than eight Scouts each". This is so different from the original conception of a boy joining a Patrol and several Patrols forming a Troop.

. . . In our Troop we decided to bring the matter before the Court of Honour for their deliberation. The point of contention was this: "Should not a boy join a Patrol rather than the Troop?" and, "Should the Patrol Leader, therefore, not invest the boy as a member of his Patrol?" Naturally this proposition provoked much hot discussion. The final decision was to give the idea a whirl.

The next time an investiture of a boy as a member of a Patrol was to take place, the Court of Honour's decision was put into effect. A week prior to the ceremony, a careful explanation was made to the Patrols and to the recruit. . . . The promise was made before the boy's peers, rather than to the Patrol Leader. As soon as the Promise was made, the Patrol Leader pinned on the Patrol Shoulder Knot and welcomed the new Scout to his Patrol. The new Scout then received his neckerchief and Troop name strip from the Scouter, symbolizing that after acceptance as a Patrol member, he is automatically a member of the Troop. Finally, the presentation of the Provincial Emblem, indicating acceptance by a much larger body than either the Patrol or Troop, followed by the presentation of the cloth and metal Scout Badges and the Scout hat, symbols of membership in the Boy Scouts of Canada and a world-wide brotherhood were made. The point is, that the New Scout became a member of a Patrol first and foremost—a step toward a full return to the Patrol Method.

It is still too early to assess whether we are on the right track. The reaction of the boys was and is favourable. Only the future will tell the complete story.

PATRICK M. O. EVANS.

Ottawa, Ont. Scoutmaster.

✿ Sounds like a good idea! Does anyone have any further ideas on the subject? Ed.
POP GOES THE . . .

Last week-end at our Huron District Camporee, I was checking a site prior to the departure of a Patrol when a loud explosion came from the adjoining site. Investigation revealed that a Patrol was burning cans prior to bashing and burying them. . . . One of the cans contained aerosol insect spray and it had exploded after being exposed to the flames.

Scouters, please make sure that your boys read the warning on aerosol cans. Do not puncture them or expose them to heat. They explode easily.

J. L. BARRETT.

Clinton, Ont. Scoutmaster, 1st Bayfield.

ARCHAIC BADGES?

As a Physician-turned-Scouter, I protest against the archaic requirements for the "Public Health Man's" proficiency badge. The same clauses, word for word, are used as when I was a Scout but public health has changed enormously in the interval.

I wonder if other badge requirements are similarly out-of-date and what provision, if any, is made for reviewing periodically.

ADAM WALDIE, M.S.

Vancouver, B.C. Scoutmaster

✿ The National Programme Committee deals with revisions to the requirements for proficiency badges periodically. Please submit any suggestions through your Regional Council, who will forward them to the Provincial and National Councils. Ed.

. . . Regarding the subject of grade badges, it might be a good idea to delete semaphore signalling from Second Class requirements and substitute Morse code using the flag only. Then the buzzer, lamp, etc., could be used for First Class requirements. Under the heading of Public Service in Second Class requirements, why not include all highway traffic signs and simple basic theory of the automobile engine? Then, for First Class requirements use practical application with the Scout demonstrating how to effect simple repairs to the engine, locate engine troubles, change a tire and perhaps, even learn to drive a car correctly under the expert guidance of his parents or the Scoutmaster. This would entail a Scout being old enough to obtain a learner's license, but it would contribute to the safety factor of Public Service in the First Class Badge and also add some badly-needed zest to the badge in modern times.

The Auto Mechanic Badge is the nearest equivalent we have, but it is too complex for most Scouts.

Possibly some test in the First Class Badge would concern radios. Acquiring knowledge of the basic circuits, building a one valve set etc., or requiring a thorough knowledge of transistor radios, in accordance with the Scout's age, might be practical requirements.

Adopt the same thing for Scouts with regards to power mowers, outboard motors, tractors, rifles, etc., and incorporate the proper safeguards necessary, in accordance with the ages of the Scouts. Obviously, one would require more of an 18-year-old Scout than of a 13-year-old Scout. In this modern age knowledge of modern appliances and utensils is vital to personal safety and should be taught to all who come in contact with these things.

In conclusion, I think that the Scout Movement should modernize its present programme to include electronic and mechanical items. We already have most of these things included in proficiency badges but perhaps they should be included in the First Class Badge or added as a bar to the First Class Badge upon successful completion. This would enable us to offer our Scouts subjects comparable to the Air Cadets, Army Cadets and Sea Cadets, who offer us such stiff competition in this area. Maybe we could learn from them and incorporate some official drill into the Tenderfoot Badge!

ANDREW BROWN,
Scoutmaster

Courtney, B.C.

SKIN DIVING SCOUTS

The Scouters of the First Chester Troop, with the Court of Honour's approval, would like to bring the following to your attention:

During this summer's Troop camp, the following Scouts successfully passed the requirements for their Skin Divers Badge: Lloyd Tancock, Robert Zinck, Michael Hichie, Fred Hutchinson, and Gerald Myall.

Assistant Scoutmaster Peter Wilkins was in charge of our water front activities and, being a qualified skin diver, gave the boys the very best of training. This being a new

Correspondents are requested to indicate their rank or position of service in Scouting (e.g., Cubmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Group Committeeman, etc.). This will enable readers to better appreciate the writer's viewpoint.

Views expressed are those of the writers. They do not necessarily reflect the policy of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of Canada. The Editors reserve the right to edit letters for reasons of space or clarity. The Programme and Uniform Sub-Committee receives copies of all correspondence relating to its work.

badge, we thought it worthy of note.

Skin diving is fast becoming a popular sport and without some knowledge of the problems involved, it can be dangerous. The fact that Scouting has recognized this by providing a Proficiency Badge is another argument against those who claim that our programme is not modern and up-to-date.

ERIC HAGEN,
Scoutmaster

Chester, N.S.

✿ Watch for revisions to the Stamp Collector and Engineer Proficiency Badges and the proposed requirements for two new badges—the Coin Collector and Outboard Motor Proficiency Badges—to be published in the January issue of The Scout Leader.

Ed.

YOU CAN DO IT TOO!

I would like to comment on the experiences of the 11th Kitchener Troop regarding our exchange visits.

Our Troop has now completed eleven camping trips to all parts of Ontario, Quebec and many parts of the U.S.A. The Troop has remained a strong (40 members) enthusiastic unit with a high calibre of camping. The cost of the trips is kept very reasonable due to fund-raising projects which help cover expenses. Our past achievements are as follows: 1952—Haliburton; 1953—Buffalo; 1954—Montreal; 1955—Algonquin; 1956—Detroit; 1957—New York; 1958—Indianapolis; 1959—Algonquin; 1960—New York; 1961—Muskegon; 1962—Algonquin. In 1963 the Troop is considering camping at Washington, D.C.

The Troop camps completely self-contained and uses the Patrol system of camping and cooking all meals over open fires. . . . We travel by charter bus and use our own 1/2-ton panel truck for some equipment.

The 10,000 miles logged on these trips have been the most enjoyable days in the lives of many boys. The same experiences could be enjoyed by many other Troops with hard work and long-range planning. Give your Scouts a challenge and you will find boys eager for adventure.

MURRAY FRIED,

Kitchener, Ont. Assistant Scoutmaster.

CHESS ANYONE?

We are interested in recruiting chess players to play games by correspondence with our members from the United States and other countries.

We have a large membership of students ranging from elementary through college age, teachers, and other adults from all walks of life who would like to challenge players from Canada.

Not to be overlooked are the excellent opportunities to form lasting friendships and pen-pals over the chess board.

We would be glad to hear from anyone interested in participating in this interesting activity.

G. L. JOHNSTON,
Executive Director,

P.O. Box 1502 International Chess Club,
Manhattan Beach,
California.



Uniform

Bulletin



Uniform

Bulletin



At a meeting in Hamilton, Ontario, on October 26-27, 1962, the National Executive Committee adopted several modifications to the Scout uniform:

1. Provision was made for equal use of navy blue long trousers or short for Scouts, Rover Scouts and adult leaders. Each individual Court of Honour or Crew Executive is free to decide which uniform to wear.
2. Among other innovations, a red beret was authorized as an additional hat for the Rover Scouts.

The above decisions were reached on the principle that the boy membership should be given a choice in the dress they are to wear, and that there should be increased differentiation in the uniforms of the different Sections of Scouting.

The National Executive also approved a special uniform for use by members of the Canadian Contingent attending the 1963 World Jamboree in Greece. This comprises a less formal shirt, light sand in colour, green corduroy shorts, and stockings to match the shirt. The Contingent will also wear the standard well-known Canadian uniform. Should this special uniform prove popular, it may be considered for introduction as an authorized Scout uniform.

The special sub-committee studying Scout uniform is continuing its work.

For full details of these changes, see the January issue of *The Scout Leader*. ★



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