



The Scout Leader



Vol. 41, No. 7, March 1964

the scout leader

THE IDEA MAGAZINE FOR

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HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL
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ALL SCOUTERS AND ADULT LEADERS OF THE MOVEMENT

Perspective

THE THINGS THAT we get peevish about fall into two classes: those we can do something about and those we cannot help. Herein we might take a lesson from a swordsman: when he cannot parry a thrust he takes it on his shield. Or from the Eastern philosopher who, when kicked by a mule, overlooked the insult on considering its source.

—The Royal Bank of Canada
Monthly Letter

THE FITNESS THROUGH SCOUTING theme is being used in many ways. We recently saw the new 1964 Ernwigle Scout Camp crest from the Windsor, Ont. district which uses the fitness triangle and figures in its design. We hope other councils and groups will use the theme and emblem in their camporees, field days and other special events this year.

EVEN A TURTLE gets nowhere until it sticks its neck out.
—Anon.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO: The 2nd Lindsay, Ont. Scout Troop attended a regular Monday night meeting of the Lindsay Town Council "to get an idea of how the town fathers do business."—The 1st Gaspesian Troop at Peninsula, Gaspé, Quebec held an annual decoration service during which wreaths were placed on the graves of the troop's original Scoutmaster and an active supporter.—St. Anthony's Troop of Notre Dame de Grâce, Montreal held Saturday and Sunday afternoon patrol bird feeding hikes. With bags of bread crumbs the patrols covered parks and fields within several miles' radius of troop headquarters.

—from *The Scout Leader*
March, 1939



OUR COVER PICTURE

Peter Mills, left, and Chris Ancliffe of the Cedar Park Heights Scout Troop help load a Red Cross truck with some of the 170 pints collected at a Blood Donor Clinic organized by Lakeview and Seneca District Boy Scouts in Quebec.

Photo by R. R. Davis

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS: To avoid missing copies, please send your change of address at least six weeks before you move, to the above address, giving us both your old and new address and an address label from one of your copies.

In keeping with our theme, *Fitness Through Scouting*, I want to say a few words this month about *Fit For Action*, our sub-theme for March.

When we think of fitness we normally think in terms of physical fitness, but, of course, fitness means more than that. While it is important to be physically fit, if we are to be 'fit for action,' we must meet the challenges and demands facing us as leaders and counsellors of boys.

This involves not only knowing and practising the rules of good health and, by our example, passing these on to boys, but also maintaining our fitness to guide and counsel through leadership training.

It involves keeping abreast of the needs and aspirations of boys of today, maintaining good relationships with other sections of the movement and making sure that we are using all the resources available to us.

I shall not attempt to give you a complete check list of all those things which contribute to our *fitness for action*, but here are a few which occur to me. No doubt others will occur to you.

- Are you maintaining good health habits and encouraging your boys to follow the rules of good health and physical fitness?
- Is the fitness of each member of your troop, pack or crew an important consideration in the life of the group?
- Are you taking the training necessary to keep yourself abreast of the latest leadership techniques, particularly with respect to the development of peer leadership?

● Are you keeping yourself informed, through reading, on the needs and aspirations of the boy of today?

● Are you maintaining good relationships with your sponsor, your group committee and the other section leaders to ensure that prompt and effective action can be taken to carry through those events and activities which are important in the life of the group?

● Is the group equipment adequate and in condition for immediate use by the boys?

● Are you well-informed on events being planned by your district, your province and your National Council?

● Are your boys being encouraged to fit themselves to participate in these events, ensuring that your group will be adequately represented?

● Are you alert to the possibilities for growth and fulfilment which the game of Scouting can offer today's youth?

● Are you aware of the need to maintain a happy and close relationship with the parents of the boys in your charge, recognizing that our mutual assistance will contribute to the boys having a happy and worthwhile experience in the Scout movement and assist them to develop to their fullest potential?

Fred J. Lunn
Chief Executive



The
4th NATIONAL
BOY SCOUT
SAILING REGATTA
will be held
AUGUST 9 to 15, 1964
in
CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.



Pack

'The Quality of a Nation'

Although this excellent film is intended mainly for adults, there is much in it to interest Cubs. It gives a kaleidoscopic impression of Canadian scenes which ties in closely with the monthly theme.

The film is available, free of charge, from the Canadian Film Institute, 1762 Carling Avenue, Ottawa.

Provincial Coat of Arms

To make your Cubs more aware of the history of their province, how about setting each a project? Ask them to look up the history of their respective provincial coat of arms and report back to you. Perhaps each Cub could make a sketch of the emblem.

Cycling

Within a few weeks, many boys will be coming to meetings on their bicycles. Here are a few suggestions to remind them of their responsibilities as 'junior highwaymen':

(a) Have an inter-six quiz based on your provincial highway code. One six challenges another to answer pertinent questions.

(b) Arrange to have the six act out the right and wrong ways to cycle.



April's Programme

(c) Have a Scout or parent come to the pack and, using a bicycle, show how to keep it in top condition.

(d) Invite a police officer to the pack meeting to discuss the highway code with your boys. In some areas, the police invite the pack to attend a talk and film at the police station.

(e) Show the film *Bicycle Safety*. This film is available from the Canadian Film Institute, 1762 Carling Avenue, Ottawa, for a service charge. It is a sound, black and white 16 mm. film intended for beginners. It shows how to avoid the danger of careless bicycle riding

by paying attention to basic safety rules. Children are shown checking their bicycles for mechanical defects.

After going through the above steps, many of your cycling Cubs will be well on their way towards earning their Cyclist Badge.

Guide Badge

Part of being a citizen lies in knowing how to render service. This requires knowledge and the Guide Badge lists some areas that Cubs could explore to gain such knowledge. This involves the use of bicycles, messages and public telephones.

Link all these together to form an interesting series for pack activities.

Conservation

A citizen should have some knowledge of the natural resources of his country. With Cubs this could be put over in a number of ways:

(a) 'Adopt' a tree. Cubs, living in a newly-developed area, could be made responsible for planting *and/or* looking after trees in the area.

for

(b) Encourage your Cubs to carry out experiments on growing things as outlined in *The Way to the Stars*.

(c) Enlarge on (b) by getting the more interested Cubs to experiment with growing different types of grasses in window boxes.

(d) Have a few parents interested in conservation work with Cubs in developing a conservation display. This could be part of the local community horticultural show or an individual display.

(e) See chapter 5, section D (Exploring Nature) of *The Pack Scouters' Handbook* for other ideas on conservation.

Troop

Citizen's Badge

Make this badge more than a series of interesting activities.

(a) Hold an election campaign. Feature speeches and debates, nominations as required by local statutes, ballot slips, ballot boxes and a sample polling station.

Bring in a local person in charge of municipal elections to help with these arrangements.

(b) By patrols, explain the procedures by which people from other countries become Canadian citizens.

(c) Visit local, provincial or national councils. Follow a specific law or bylaw from its inception to implementation.

(d) Design a chart to show the relationship of Canada to other nations in the Commonwealth.

(e) Set up a demonstration 'trial by jury.' Appoint various court officials. Consult local lawyers for advice.

Civic Government

What is a reeve, mayor or councillor? What are their functions in your municipality? How often do they meet? What committees do they work with? Are they paid? How much does it cost to operate a campaign? How is it financed? Who is eligible to vote? Should 18-year-olds vote?

Have patrols prepare a presentation of a segment of this topic for other patrols. Invite municipal officials to attend and comment on presentations.

Conservation Badges

Arouse the interest of Scouts in these badges by carrying out, as patrols or as a troop some of the projects listed under each of the four badges.

With this as a basis Scouts can be encouraged to gain the knowledge necessary to pass the rest of the badge.

Conservation Display

From some of the projects in the Conservation Badges, arrange for individuals or patrols to make up display items. Hold a parents' night and highlight conservation films and speakers to round out the programme.

You could also feature displays on conserving patrol and troop equipment, clothes and personal gear. Mothers will favour such a display.

Crew

Citizen

We talk glibly about 'good citizens.' What are the qualities that make a person a 'good citizen'?

Citizenship

Explore this from various viewpoints. Invite a minister, policeman, magistrate, school teacher, social worker, service club representative, civic official and any others you might want to give a brief talk. Discuss the talks with individuals in the crew and encourage them to express their own views.

If the crew resolves that a good citizen has certain qualities, make a practical project out of it.

For example: If the crew decides that a good citizen obeys the laws, check the laws to see which ones they, as individuals, have obeyed. Have they ever gone over the speed limit?

Court Visit

If possible, follow a traffic accident from the point of impact to final settlement. Keep a log of all that happens.

- (a) Visit the scene of the accident.
- (b) Follow reports of it in the newspapers.
- (c) Visit the courtroom if there is a trial.
- (d) Record any settlement or the final decision.
- (e) Discuss the possible results of the accident on those involved.

Democracy

As a 'quest', explore what a democracy really is. Is Canada or the United States a democracy?

Is the crew democratic in its actions? If so, draw an example. If it isn't, discuss why this is so.

Natural Resources

Canada is a big country. Many countries are envious of the natural resources we have. Can your crew identify these resources? How are they developed? Who has paid for their development? What are the social ramifications involved in the ownership or control of these resources?

Answers to these questions could lead to:

- (a) Trips—Visit mines, hydro projects, farms, fisheries, etc.
- (b) 'Quest'—Study stocks, bonds, private enterprise, monopolies, investments.
- (c) Projects—Form an investment club. Exchange visits to other countries or to other parts of Canada.

CARE or UNICEF

These are only two of the many agencies involved in the work of helping other people help themselves.

Investigate these agencies to determine whether the crew could contribute to one of them. Perhaps the *Foster Parent Plan* might be of interest to the crew.

Vocation Parade

Use a panel of guests to explore the large number of vocations that are, or will be, available to members of the crew.

Have these men outline briefly what they like about their jobs. Ask them to discuss remuneration, holidays, the effect their job has on their family life and what education is needed for the work.

Follow this up with a discussion and provide an opportunity, over refreshments, for Rovers to meet the men.

Muscle Meet

Take a troop of red-blooded Scouts, add fast action contests, season with sharp scorekeeping and you have a sure fire programme feature for fun. Here are eight, rough, tough and thoroughly enjoyable team contests.

First divide the troop into age groups; then, depending upon the size of troop, divide each age group into weight groups.

If you're raring to go!!!, you don't have to wait for your troop to schedule a muscle meet. All you need is a buddy of your own size, then get started on your Fitness Fun now.



Pull Apart. Scouts sit foot to foot with hands locked and legs spread wide apart. Each pulls his buddy hard enough so that he can lie on his back at end.



Arm Wrestle. Players lock arms at elbows and try to force each other to the ground. They should keep arms stiff for most force. Tripping is not permissible.

Push Back. Boys stand back to back with arms linked. Conduct contest between two lines, twenty feet apart. Winner is the one who pushes opponent back over line.



Belt Tug. Boys fasten belts together and place them as loops around heads. Each tries to pull belt off opponent's without his knees or hands leaving the ground.



Squat Hand Wrestle. In squat position, compete in Indian hand wrestle. Moving feet or tipping off balance loses the match.

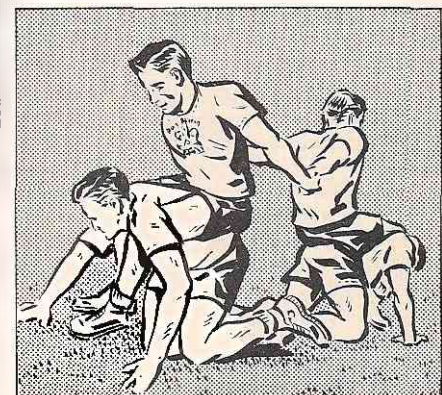
Indian Arm Wrestle. Each boy tries to force his opponent's hand to the ground or raise his elbow without moving his own elbow. Try alternating hands.

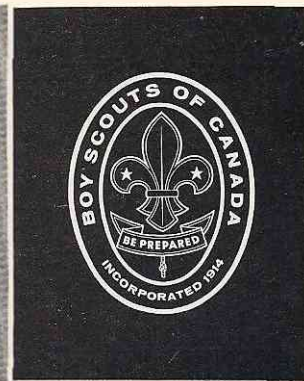
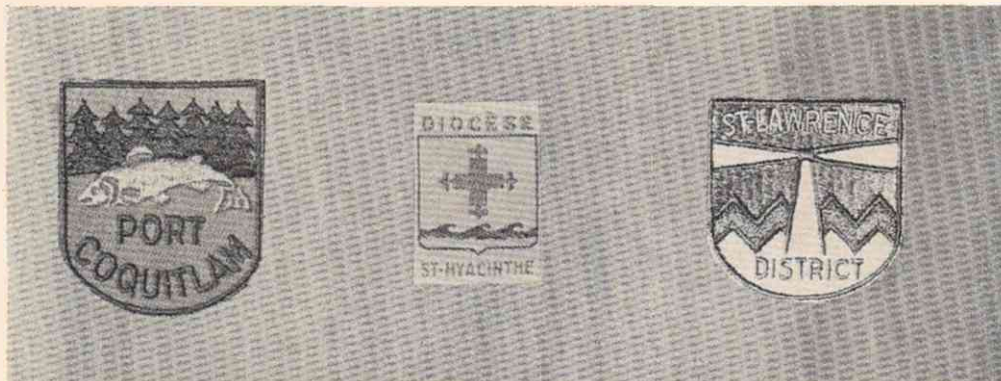


Tug O'War. Mark ground and rope for center Point. At end of stated time limit, team with rope center on its side wins.



Tractor Pull. Driver and tractor back up to opponents. Drivers reach back and grasp each other's hands. On signal driver tries to pull opponent off tractor.





Left: Port Coquitlam District in B.C. takes its name from the local Indian tribe which has lived in the area for 2,000 years. The district badge depicts the salmon, the Coquitlam River and the evergreen trees common to the area.

Centre: The St. Hyacinthe Diocese Badge is worn by Scouts of La Fédération Des Scouts Catholiques in the diocese of St. Hyacinthe, Quebec. As St. Dominique is the patron of the diocese, the badge shows the cross of the Dominicans. The three waves represent the three sectors of the diocese, crossed by the Yamaska River.

Right: The St. Lawrence District in Ontario centres around Prescott along the St. Lawrence Seaway. The badge shows the lighthouse at Windmill Point, site of an historic battle.

CANADA'S *Colourful* DISTRICT BADGES

Part 29



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.

GAMES FOR SCOUTS

Indian Hand Wrestling

Each wrestler puts his right foot forward, placing the outside of it against the outside of his opponent's right foot. Both Scouts then straighten their arms and lock hands. At the word *GO*, each tries to knock the other off balance by pushing, twisting or pulling. The Scout who moves either foot or who touches the floor with his hand or body first is the loser.

(If one Scout 'jumps the gun,' either intentionally or otherwise, he gains the upper hand immediately. To avoid this, the Scouter should perhaps use the following orders when starting the competition: '*Position!*' (Take position, clasping hands loosely); '*Grip!*' (Grip tightly without bending arms) and '*Pull!*' (Start wrestling.)

Chinese Get-Up

Contestants sit on the floor or ground, side by side or back to back, with legs extended, feet together and arms folded.

At the starting signal, they rise to their feet without unfolding their arms. The winner is the first one who comes to a standstill with feet together and arms folded, provided he did not unfold his arms in rising.

Here is a tip. When a troop champion is selected, a judge must be selected who makes decisions quickly.

Palm Boxing

A small, quick, nimble Scout can readily defeat a larger and stronger slow-moving competitor in 'hand push.'

Contestants stand very close together with heels together. At the starting signal they try to push each other off balance by pushing one or both palms. They are permitted to feint and dodge by moving palms wherever they please. The one loses who is first to move or lift either his heels or toes.

Winners in palm boxing must acquire the art of dodging and keep leg muscles partly relaxed when attacking and resisting.

So You Are



What is the Scouter's reaction when you step into the meeting hall? Do you get a smile and a hearty welcome? Or is his response less than enthusiastic? To understand why he reacts favourably or unfavourably, let's look at ourselves through the Scouter's eyes.

What have we done to him, with him and for him in recent months?

- Did our visits lighten his load or just make it more of a burden?
- Did we leave him encouraged or discouraged?
- Do our actions label us a help or a hindrance?
- Did we listen patiently or did we have so much to sell that we did most of the talking?
- When the Scouter heard we were coming did he consider it good news or bad?

If our attitude is one of helpfulness it is the only passport we need to ensure a hearty welcome from each of the Scouters we visit. After all, the only reason we call on him is to find out how we can help.

As District Scouters we should consider the following points when visiting sections.

- (1) Be on time for the opening and stay long enough to get an accurate impression.
- (2) Avoid making notes during your visit. To do so may make it appear to the Scouter that you are rating him and will not contribute to the friendly and informal relationship you are trying to build.
- (3) Be prepared to contribute to the programme, game or yarn. (Keep a record of what you do so that on your next visit you won't repeat it.) Choose a game that is original, simple and designed to tell you something about the work of the section.

(4) Have a knowledge of insignia so you can congratulate a Cub or Scout on holding a certain badge and you can recognize patrol and six insignia.

(5) Know something of the customs and traditions of the section so that you don't unwittingly upset established traditions.

A Visiting District Scouter

(6) Be genuinely interested in what is going on. Your visit is an opportunity to impress on the boys that others are interested in them and that they belong to a world-wide brotherhood.

(7) Praise the Scouter in front of the boys. (You can always find *something* to commend.)

Every visit should end with either an honest pat on the Scouter's back for a job well done, or a frank discussion on how he could do a better job. The informal after-meeting coffee break is probably the best time to make suggestions for a better functioning section. Don't force your ideas upon him; suggest them. If he doesn't follow your recommendations, ask for an opportunity to demonstrate them at a future meeting.

The aim of training is to give Scouters and prospective leaders an understanding of the principles, aims and

methods of Scouting which they can apply to their own section.

It is important that all District Scouters endeavour to qualify for the Wood Badge. Before we can encourage leaders to take training, it seems only right that we ourselves should have made the most of all possible training opportunities. But just because we have taken a course doesn't mean that we are trained. We must *always* be willing to learn.

We should attend courses and conferences, read, involve ourselves in discussions and do all we can to be aware of the changing needs, trends and thinking in Scouting. Keep abreast of the times.

One of the best methods of training Scouters is to encourage them to visit other groups. Promote this idea among your Scouters and, if possible, take a promising young assistant Scouter along on one of your visits to another group.

District Scouters must be able to lead through their tact and understanding of human nature. We must have an inexhaustible supply of patience, an ability to get things done without irritating others, an abundance of diplomacy and self-confidence and enthusiasm for the Scouting movement.

Our objective is to help Scouters achieve a better understanding of the needs of boys and of how they, as Scouters, can help fill these needs.

Your contact with the Scouter pays off as he spreads his enthusiasm to boys and other men.

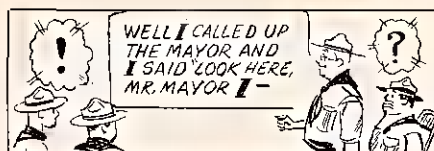
DO'S and DON'TS



DON'T always ask them to do a job.



DO drop in on friendly calls and commend the Group for jobs well done.



DON'T pose as a big shot.



DO build up the leader so that the boys will think even more of him.



DON'T be a Snoopervisor.



DO remember that you are a service man and supervisor.

The Silver Cross — I

For gallantry with considerable risk

Cub Daniel Peter Christopher Rylance, 9, Roseneath, Ont.—For the gallant and courageous manner in which he, armed only with a pitchfork, went to the rescue when his youngest brother Timothy, age 2, climbed into a ram's pen and was viciously attacked by the animal. Danny's mother followed him into the pen, and to complicate matters still further, so did Danny's second brother, a six-year-old. In the melee that took place, and in spite of being knocked down by the maddened animal, Danny managed to fight it off with his weapon, giving his mother time to snatch up Timothy. While Danny held the berserk ram at bay, they all managed to get out of the pen, but not before both Timothy and his mother had been severely mauled.



The Gilt Cross — 6

For gallantry with moderate risk

Cub Bryan Roy Craven, 9, Kenora, N.W. Ont.—For the gallant rescue of his cousin, Wayne McKay, age 6. Cub Craven, a non-swimmer, bravely waded in to rescue his cousin, also a non-swimmer, who had jumped off a dock into deep water and was in danger of drowning.

Cub John Dayton, 9, St. Vital, Man.—For his gallantry and presence of mind in quickly going to the rescue of his father who had slipped off a rock into the swift waters of the Winnipeg River and was in danger of drowning.

Scout John Albert Bowser, 12, Kentville, N.S.—For his gallantry in rescuing five-year-old Robert Smith who had fallen into Mill Brook. Scout Bowser completed the rescue by performing artificial respiration, restoring consciousness to the younger boy.

Patrol Leader Keith Corrigan, 13, Vernon, B.C.—For his quick thinking and gallant action in rushing to the rescue of Mrs. Ursaki, who was being viciously mauled by a large dog. Keith's adroit use of his hockey stick allowed the lady to escape further injury.

HONOURS and AWARDS

His Excellency, General the Rt. Hon. Georges P. Vanier, D.S.O., M.C., C.D., Governor-General of Canada, in his capacity as Chief Scout, is pleased to announce the following honours and awards on the occasion of the anniversary of the birth, on February 22, 1857, of Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, founder of the Boy Scout movement.



Scout Frederick Arnold Gunderson, 13, Ladysmith, B.C.—For his presence of mind and the gallantry shown when he jumped in, fully-clothed, to rescue Flynn Millard, age 9, from drowning in Davis Creek.

Scout Norman Reid, 13, Churchill, Man.—For his prompt and gallant action when he entered a burning building to rescue a four-month-old baby. Scout Reid then turned in an alarm which led to the rescue of the baby's mother.



Medal for Meritorious Conduct — 1

For meritorious acts not involving heroism or risk of life

Scout Phillip Cullen, 15, North Augusta, Ont.—For the level-headed manner in which he dealt with the suicide attempt of a man who had slashed his throat and wrists. Scout Cullen's immediate action in putting to use his knowledge of first aid resulted in the man's life being saved.



Certificate of Meritorious Conduct — 7

Patrol Leader Ross Grant, 15

Patrol Leader Robert McNamara, 14

Patrol Leader Ross Murdoch, 13

Patrol Leader Bruce Oliver, 13

Chateauguay, Que.

For their co-operation with an RCMP constable, under whose direction they meticulously followed instructions which led to the arrest of some smugglers.

Scout John Corneil, 13

Scout Ricky Coyles, 12

Scout Allan Stevens, 11

Carleton Place, Ont.

For their prompt action in running 1½ miles to warn the local Canadian Pacific Railway authorities when, on a Scout hike, they discovered that a large

tree had fallen across the main line between Ottawa and Carleton Place.



The Silver Acorn — 6

For especially distinguished services

Mr. Harry C. Firth, London, Ont.

Mr. Richard Otto Fletcher, Vancouver, B.C.

Mr. Ian Donald Hamer, Victoria, B.C.

Mr. W. Irving R. Hearst, Toronto, Ont.

Mr. Edwin A. Jarrett, Toronto, Ont.

Mr. Frank A. Worth, Willowdale, Ont.



The Medal of Merit — 20

For especially good services

Miss Ruth Shergold, Vancouver, B.C.

Mr. Gerald A. Blackburn, Ottawa, Ont.

Mr. Frank E. Braucht, Guelph, Ont.

Mr. George Brewer, Toronto, Ont.

Mr. W. Cecil Carson, Ottawa, Ont.

Mr. Charles Clark, Stoney Creek, Ont.

Mr. Robert W. Dadson, Flin Flon, Man.

Dr. Andrew F. Dunn, Ottawa, Ont.

Prof. Frederick L. Ferguson, Guelph, Ont.

The late Dr. James S. Glover, Guelph, Ont.

Mr. Ernest G. Jones, Windsor, Ont.

Mr. John Joyce, Toronto, Ont.

Mr. James M. MacTavish, Fort Garry, Man.

Mr. James R. Owen, Beaurepaire, Que.

Capt. Peter Robertson, Ottawa, Ont.

Mr. James E. Rutledge, Port Credit, Ont.

S/L Frederick I. Stephens, Zweibrucken, Germany

Mr. Jack Marshall Walton, Chilliwack, B.C.

Mr. Geoffrey Walter Wheatley, Pointe Claire, Que.

Mr. Harry Whiston, Toronto, Ont.



Certificate of Merit — 3

Mrs. Cecelia Dickie, Creelman, Sask.

Mr. Frank H. Crocker, Victoria, B.C.

Mr. James B. Laidlaw, Penticton, B.C.

The 'emergency' meeting had been called for half-past eight, *sharp*. Upon entering the vestry just a few minutes late, I was startled. 'Was I in the right place?'

There were some fifty chairs—five rows of five on each side of the room. On the left, I saw three mothers huddled in the very front row. On the right, a husband and wife sat in the second row. I knew them . . . their little Gerald played with my little Larry. I nodded, took off my overcoat and sat down beside them, holding my hat and coat in my lap.

"Put it over there," Gerald's father said to me, motioning to the empty chairs. "Leaders we haven't got, but chairs? . . . plenty."

The three ladies on the other side nodded to me, and not knowing them I sort of half-nodded in return.

My son's friend's mother pointed to

me and called across to one of the ladies.

"Sylvia, do you know who this is?" she said with a nasal twang. "This is Larry's father . . . you know, the boy who plays with my Gerald."

The ladies tittered. Sylvia called back, "I knew right away . . . like two halves of an apple."

I crimsoned but smiled faintly and hated myself for it. Up front I saw a cloth-covered table, and behind it four empty chairs. It was now fifteen minutes to nine. From time to time a door at the side opened and a short, bald-headed man peered out at us. A little later, a youngster wearing a Cub hat and carrying a pitcher of water and four glasses (one piled inside the other) burst into the room, deposited the pitcher precisely in the centre of the table and then proceeded to place a glass (upside down) in front of each chair.

He Was The Babe Ruth Who Struck

It was a little after nine o'clock when the side door opened for the final time and the bald-headed man, much like a drum major, led a woman and two other men to the head table.

For some reason the six members of the audience stood up. The four officials positioned themselves rigidly behind their chairs. The paunchy leader summoned a stern look to his face. The lady beside him nervously clutched the back of her chair, a handkerchief tightly twisted in her hand. (It turned out that she was the leader's wife who served unofficially as secretary of the *Committee*.) Next to her stood a tall, distinguished-looking individual with bushy, 'John L.

Lewis' eyebrows and beautifully greying hair.

And next to him stood 'Big Chief Scout'!

Here and now let me say that I have great praise for the Boy Scout movement. I think they are one of the more worthwhile groups in the country. But I say 'Big Chief Scout' in this instance because, although I respect the uniform, I disliked the man on sight.

He was handsome, about thirty-five years old or so, and stood straight as a ramrod. But those awards that he wore! Wow! Do you remember the cartoon 'The Little King' . . . the character who wore his medals clear

across the chest? 'Big Chief Scout' did him one better—he wore them shoulder to shoulder and all the way down the sleeves! At least it seemed that way.

The little man cleared his throat and said:

"Rogers."

Rogers the Scout gave forth in a clear, resonant voice, reminiscent of the introduction to the old Mr. District Attorney radio programmes . . . "defender of the truth, champion of justice . . ." It was a Scouting declaration of some sort.

There was a shuffle and we sat down. Once seated, the stout man stood up again. He took a long, cold look at us and then began to speak.

"This meeting is a shame!" he declared. "A shame to this institution, a shame to this community, a shame to the Scouting organization and a shame to your sons!"

This riled me. I didn't stand but from my chair found myself saying:

"Now wait a minute! The people to scold are the parents who are NOT here!"

There was some fluttering up front; the chairman was determined to keep the meeting in hand. He went into a long description of what had been done to assure a good turnout . . . letters, a release in the bulletin, phone calls . . .

He praised the efforts of the members of the *Committee* who had 'laboured long and devotedly to assure the institution that its flame of Scouting and Cubbing would not be extinguished.' He also thanked the mothers and fathers who indicated that they were interested in their child's welfare by attending the meeting.

He sat down and one lady applauded. A smile flickered across his face and he stood up again.

"I guess in my anxiety over the terrible situation in our Cub pack I forgot to introduce myself and our distinguished guests."

His name was Sterns and his wife's name was Mrs. Sterns. 'Bushy eyebrows' was an honorary district or regional chief . . . a prominent business leader in the community, and 'The Little King' was a young engineer, second in devotion only (it would appear) to the late Baden-Powell himself!

'Bushy eyebrows,' a Mr. Dalton, was called upon to 'say a few words.' He had prepared some brief notes. He traced the history of the Scout organization from the year *one* and told us about the highlights of the Cub programme. He complimented my son's pack on its past performance and extended his appreciation to the officers of 'this institution who have indicated their recognition of the importance of Scouting to good citizenship by allowing the troops and packs the use of this splendid hall for their activities.' He completed the oration by wishing Scouting in the area, in the community, in the city, in the province, and in fact Scouting everywhere . . . 'my warmest and sincerest wishes for abundant and fruitful achievement.'

He received a spontaneous ovation.

I developed a nasty headache.

that when the time came he would leave this good world with his neckerchief on.

He was to Scouting what Babe Ruth had been to baseball, Goren to bridge, ice to the Forum on Saturday night. He and his family (his wife was a pack leader, his two daughters were Brownies, his young son was chafing at the bit to become of age in order to join the Cubs) lived and breathed Scouting day in and day out, and ' . . . his great personal sacrifice would forever be remembered by an inspired Scouting organization and an ever-grateful community.'

Rogers wore this introduction well . . . not even a vague pretense of modesty. It was obvious from the way he stood up and leaned against the table that he honestly and truly *believed* it!

For a moment he looked at us, like a matador sizing up his adversary. Then he sallied forward. He came right to the point.

"Parents of Cubs," he said, "the pack your son belongs to is going to be obliterated unless you do something about it."

of Scouting Out With Parents

by Alex Mogelon

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The Montrealer where it

appeared under the title

'Cub Meeting'

Then Rogers was called upon to speak. I'm tempted to say, 'was put upon us,' but I won't. How can I best describe the introduction he was given? I once heard Prince Philip introduced to a meeting of a world scientific body. *That* had no class! Then there was the introduction of Sam Etcheverry at the farewell dinner tendered by the Sportsmen's Club where Sam was lauded all the way from Montreal to St. Louis.

Amateur stuff compared to this!

Mr. Rogers beyond doubt was the epitome of Scouting. No organizational task was too large, no chore was too infinitesimal for this Samson of Scouting. He had been 'in the movement' practically from the day he was knee high to a pup tent and it was obvious

He paused so the words would find their mark.

"Do you want your son's pack to perish?"

He was looking at me so I stammered a "No."

"Then why don't you do something about it?" He was shouting. "Why don't you make your son attend Cubs regularly? Why don't you help him with his Cub problems? Why don't you get off your haunches and help your son's pack leader?"

The 'haunches' part hurt me. Most of my work is done by the seat of my pants, so to speak, and only a day or two ago my wife had told me that in a certain area wear was becoming apparent.

"That's a lie!" I screamed. "My son hasn't missed a Cub meeting for months!"

"Yes," he retorted, "but it's obvious from the records that you and the other fathers simply don't care." He lowered his eyes and glared at me. "Do you know that your boy's Cub leader, Dave Armstrong, is at his wits' end? There are eighteen Cub fathers and not one has volunteered to help!"

I was angry. True, I had been asked to help but I refused for what I knew were legitimate reasons. Earning a living! I was on my feet.

"Mr. Rogers," I said loudly, "your facts may be correct but I resent your approach; in fact, I think I even resent you."

There was a hubbub. Mr. Rogers took advantage of the opportunity by screaming, "The trouble with you is that you don't care for your boy!"

Well, that did it.

"No," I shouted. "No, I don't care for my boy! I only clothe him, feed him, house him, educate him, give him piano lessons, give him all the love, protection and adoration that's in me, pour my whole body and soul into him . . . but according to you, I don't care for him!"

Larry's friend's father helped me to my seat.

"Don't take it personal. Don't take it so personal," he kept repeating, trying to calm me.

Mr. Sterns leaned across the table and had a quick exchange of words with Scout Rogers. Mrs. Sterns held her handkerchief close to her mouth and Mr. Dalton leaned back and looked at something on the ceiling, as if the outburst hadn't taken place.

Mr. Sterns spoke. "Now, friends, let's try to understand the situation. Mr. Rogers didn't single you out intentionally . . . He wasn't talking to any individual in particular. He was addressing us as a group . . . as a group that has a problem and a great responsibility and he is just as anxious to help us solve our problem as you are." He ended with a flourish of indignation.

Now a calmer attitude prevailed. People spoke softly, in short sentences, choosing their words with great care.

Mrs. Singer (she was the one who recognized that Larry's facial features

were exactly like mine—clever girl!) said:

"I am a mother of three. I know the pack is in trouble. But how can I help?"

I wanted to 'right' my position in the eyes of the group, so I said without looking at Rogers: "I don't know a thing about Scouting. How can I help?"

Rogers smiled. "My dear fellow," he said (all of a sudden I was 'his dear fellow'). "All you have to do is give up one Tuesday night a week."

"But what do I have to know?" I demanded. "I've never been a Scouter in my life."

"Look," he said, and I could see Sterns leaning forward, the answer virtually bursting from his eager lips. It came out in unison:

"*You don't have to know a thing!*" they chortled.

Rogers purred much in the same way I say 'Now take your medicine honey and I'll give you this candy' to my two-year-old. "That's the beauty of coming out to help the Cubmaster. No rehearsal, no preparation at home . . . all you have to do is be there and Cubmaster Armstrong will fill you in a few minutes before the pack meets."

I was shocked! I didn't have to know a thing! Even though they thought nothing of any abilities I might possess, they could have at least used a healthier approach.

I know how to whittle, I know how to put together a club newspaper, I know how to play a mean game of bean bags. But no, they couldn't ferret out this information and have me come with some stature as an 'expert', even though they might never put these unusual skills into their programme. They preferred that I come without background, without Scouting skills . . . like a *zombie* . . . and have big Dave Armstrong mould me as a leader in front of my own child!

I didn't say much more, except to answer a question from Mr. Sterns.

"In all honesty," he asked, "hasn't this season done something for your boy?"

"Is he the one with poor posture and control?" Scout Rogers added, handing a legal-size sheet of paper back to Mrs. Sterns.

"Yes," I muttered, "it has done something for him. So has hockey. So has being one year older."

No one paid attention to these latter remarks.

The rest of the meeting didn't take long. Rogers made some 'concrete proposals,' drawing upon the vast experience he has gained in his lifetime of service to Scouting, and then departed for an 'emergency meeting' of a divisional executive or something.

I did not volunteer to become Dave Armstrong's nincompoop assistant, but I did commit my wife to make a few phone calls to try to enlist some volunteers.

"Even women will do," Mr. Sterns pleaded, "and remember, they really don't have to know anything."

The first person my wife phoned had already said 'No' to Mrs. Singer. The second turned out to be married to an old girl friend from the Maritimes and she joined my wife's bridge club.

As for the Cubs, I gather they somehow survived because Larry kept going each Tuesday and at the end of the season I attended the Father-And-Cub second annual closing dinner, complete with thirty-six people at the head table, Doug Harvey who lectured us on (of all things!) sportsmanship and clean play and a venerable old gentleman who used to be a Scout in Sydney, Australia and who, decked in tails of 1930 vintage, solemnly presented colours to one of the packs.

After it was over, Larry, Larry's friend Gerald, Gerald's father and I lingered awhile to shake hands with the dignitaries. Rogers was there, in full regalia, of course, and so was Sterns in all his glory.

Rogers looked at me severely and jibed: "Glad you could find time to make it."

I started to say something about it being 'a nice dinner' but he was already busy with his adoring public.

Larry's friend's father glared at me in astonishment.

"How could you do it?" he exclaimed.

"Do what?" I asked.

"Shake hands with him," he snorted in disgust, pointing to Rogers.

"What do you mean?"

"After what he said to you in front of all those parents! I just don't understand some people," he concluded, walking away in anger.

And do you know what? Neither do I.

Right: *The Boy Scouts of Canada recently presented a token of friendship in the form of a hand-carved moose to the Philadelphia Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Left to right are Region 3 Executive Clarence F. Urffer, B.S.A.; George N. Beers, director of publications, B.S.C.; H. M. Privette, Scout Executive of Philadelphia; Frank G. Harrington Jr., Council vice-president and Wiley J. Millyard, Canadian consul in Philadelphia.*



CHARLES F. SIBRE

700-MILE ADVENTURE

Two leaders and eight boys of the 2nd Vancouver, B.C. Scout Troop last summer completed a 700-mile canoe trip through Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

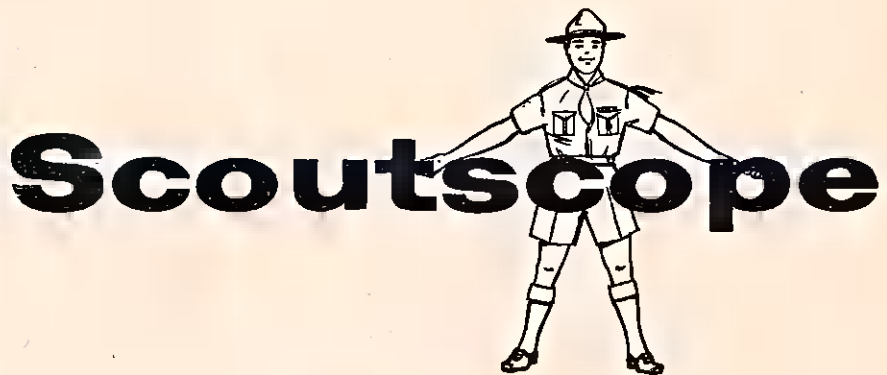
Scoutmaster Malcom Hickleton planned the trip which followed the route used in 1820 by explorer Alexander Mackenzie. The expedition got under way at Cold Lake, Alberta and followed the Waterhen, Beaver and Churchill Rivers to Flin Flon, Manitoba.

The young adventurers, aged 15 to 17, travelled about 40 miles a day.

HURRICANE HITS HAITI

Last October a devastating hurricane hit the West Indian islands of Haiti and Cuba. Thousands of people were killed and estimates of damage ran into millions of dollars. In Haiti, Scouts and Rovers worked day and night in co-operation with the Red Cross and other relief agencies to alleviate distress. They helped clear roads and set up reception teams to care for survivors from the sea.

—*World Scouting Bulletin*



BUREAU GETS NEW STATION

On Feb. 22, the new transmitter for radio station VE3WSB was officially opened in Ottawa by Mr. N. Bow, Special Assistant to External Affairs Minister Paul Martin. The transmitter was presented to the Boy Scouts World Bureau by Daystrom Ltd., manufacturers of the Heathkit line of communications equipment and has an output of about 180 watts on AM, CW and SSB.

It is intended that the station will transmit a world Scout bulletin in slow speed morse code at least one night a week as well as maintain other schedules.

Left: Scout Ricky Van Allen and Cub Craig James sit astride a Sparrow air-to-air rocket at a display in Crang Plaza, Toronto. Last year's Scouting theme was 'Blast Off to Scouting Trails'.



THE TELEGRAM, TORONTO

In planning this activity I have made the following basic assumptions:

- There are six sixes, each having six Cubs.
- A large hall is available with separate lairs or areas for each six.
- There are four regular leaders—the Cubmaster (*Akela*) and three assistants (*Baloo*, *Bagheera* and *Raksha*.)
- There are three extra leaders who are assigned Jungle names, e.g. Chil, Kim, Hathie and Kaa.

In preparing for this event it is recommended that the extra leaders be advised at least a week in advance of the jobs they will be required to do and familiarized with stories with which they are involved. It is also recommended that the jungle opening proposed be practised at least twice in advance.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 6:50 p.m.—Leaders are assigned to lairs, one to each, with instructions to give the boys, particularly the sixers, a special name such as Tawny Fur or Red Fang to be used all evening. Moon, Totem and Council Rock are already placed. The Hall is partially dark.
- 6:55 p.m.—Cubs arrive and go directly to the lairs. No Cubs are admitted prior to this time.
- 7:00 p.m.—Jungle opening (See detail.)
- 7:05 p.m.—Inspection. Use progressive system with boys moving from leader to leader. Each leader inspects one item using a jungle name: for example, paws, fur, hide, etc.
- 7:15 p.m.—*Akela* calls *Baloo* and *Bagheera* to the Council Circle to conduct the game called *Look Well, O Wolves*, for appropriate jungle build-up. (See detail.)
- 7:20 p.m.—Disperse to lairs until the hall is cleared of Totem, Moon, etc. Use the suggestion that they must wait until the sun rises for further activity.
- 7:23 p.m.—Play a relay game with *Bagheera* in charge. The game is *Kaa's Shedding*. (See detail.)
- 7:30 p.m.—Play relay game, *Listen Well* or *Kaa's Hunting* with *Raksha* directing. (See detail.)
- 7:35 p.m.—Return to lairs. Assistants set up Moon, Totem and Council Rock. Each six is assigned a jungle story to act out. One leader should be assigned to each six to assist. The leader should be forewarned as was indicated earlier. The acting can be in the form of a jungle dance or any other method acceptable to the leader.

Sample Stories:

- (a) Arrival of Mowgli in Raksha's cave.
- (b) Mowgli carried off by Banderlog.
- (c) Kaa and the monkeys (Cold lairs) (Dance of Kaa.)
- (d) Death of Shere Khan. (Dance of Shere Khan's death.)
- (e) Letting in the jungle.
- (f) Mowgli learns the laws. (Dance of Baloo.)

Allow not more than two minutes for each act. Competition points can be awarded for each act depending on the practice of the pack.

7:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.—Presentation of Acts.

8:00 p.m.—Remove Totem and Council Rock to the edge of the circle and play *Catch the Monkey*. (See detail.)

8:10 p.m.—Yarn 'Red Dog' told by *Akela* or other qualified story teller. Cubs remain in circle.

8:30 p.m.—Close with special Jungle closing. (See detail.)

DETAILS

Jungle Opening: Cubs are in lairs and silent. Totem, Council Rack and Moon are already in place. *Baloo* calls '*Akela*.' Cubs move out in single file, whispering the name of their six and proceed to form a circle around the Totem. *Baloo* calls '*Whose Cubs are you?*' Cubs answer '*Akela's*.' Cubs turn and face Totem. *Akela* walks to centre and says:

*"Now this is the law of the jungle
As old and as true as the sky,
And the wolf that shall keep it may prosper
And the wolf that shall break it must die."*

Cubs reply in unison with the law. A pre-arranged Cub leads in the Grand Howl. *Akela* or *Baloo* then inquires briefly of random Cubs as to the meaning of the two parts of the law.

Cubs sit and any special announcement can be made.

Game (Look Well, O Wolves): New Cubs coming to the pack are supposed to be recognized thereafter by the rest of the pack so all must observe him closely. This game requires three or four Cubs or leaders to be individually observed by the pack. They then leave the circle and one at a time return with several changes in their clothing or appearance. Cubs are challenged to identify the changes.

Game (Kaa's Shedding): This is the old game of *Skin the Snake*, but it should be introduced by telling the story of how Kaa sheds his skin at regular intervals. The boys are in relay formation. The first boy reaches between his legs with his right hand. The boy behind takes that hand in his left hand and passes his right between his legs and so on to the end of the line. On a given

by G. Stuart

Assistant District Commissioner

Elbow River, Alta.

signal the boy at the end of the line lies down while the other boys move over him not letting go. As soon as all are lying down, they then reverse the procedure and all get up again without breaking hands.

The first six complete and at the alert is the winner.

monkey as he jumps. Cubs are numbered and all squat (not sit.) One Cub is chosen to hold a stick or rod about three feet long (a yardstick will do) in the centre of the circle. This Cub calls a number and lets the stick fall. The Cub with that number must attempt to catch it before it falls on the floor. If he succeeds he takes the place of the Cub in the centre for the next attempt. Cubs succeeding could be given competition points.

Game (Kaa's Hunting): Cubs line up in single file, each boy holding the hand of the boy in front of him. A chair with a clear opening underneath it is placed about twenty feet in front of each six. On a signal, sixes proceed forward through the chair legs and back to their place without breaking hands, moving the chair or making a noise. If the chair is moved, the six must start over again going through the chair. An appropriate jungle story should be told.

Let's Plan A Cub Jungle Night

Game (Listen Well): This game is intended to emphasize the need for good hearing and should be introduced with reference to the need of jungle animals for acute hearing. Ask each to pick the two boys in the six with the best hearing. These boys will then line-up for relay formation, and the first boy in each section is blindfolded. An alarm clock is placed somewhere in the hall. On a signal, the blindfolded boys attempt to find the alarm clock by sound. If the balance of the sixes do not co-operate, the clock cannot be heard, hence it is good silence training for the Cubs. Two boys out of each six only should be used as the game consumes considerable time.

Game (Catch the Monkey): This is played in a circle. Cubs are told they must be alert and quick to catch a

Jungle Closing: After completion of the Yarn, Cubs quietly correct their circle and Akela makes any special announcements.

Akela says:

*"The law of the jungle is simple,
And Cubs must learn it each day.
For Cubs who grow wise in the jungle,
The word for the law is Obey."*

Cubs answer quietly "Obey."

Designated Cub leads in a whispering Grand Howl and Cubs silently file back in front of their lairs to stand at alert. Akela salutes the pack, which returns the salute.

Akela says "Good night, Good hunting," and the Cubs dismiss.

There are a few other problem areas that might face you from time to time in your leadership of a Scout troop. These problems are not connected with violation of the ideals of Scouting, but rather relate to the personal problems of individual boys.

HOMESICKNESS

The homesick boy is often one who feels inadequate and insecure in his home and needs constant reminders of his family's presence to bail him out of trouble. The parents may describe this boy as a home-loving child who doesn't want to be separated from them.

When you plan camping trips, have a complete understanding with parents before the trip. This will include your actions in case one of their sons becomes homesick while on the trip. Parents should understand that, if they will leave the boy in camp, you will be able to make a real contribution to his development.

As the homesick boy learns that you and his fellow Scouts understand his problem and want to help him with it, he will become part of the group and growth in the boy will begin.

If a boy shows symptoms of homesickness, take fast action to involve him in activities that will be stimulating and exciting. Give him a chance to talk to you privately about the people at home—*Don't* tell him to forget them.

Ask one of the junior staff to take a personal interest in the boy—to work with him directly to so involve him in activities that he won't want to return home because he is gaining the acceptance and support at camp which he formerly had at home.

BOYS WITH HANDICAPS

Boys in Scouting have many and varied handicaps—poverty, wealth, parent indifference, parent over-interest, lack of time, excess time and dozens of others that are too seldom recognized. We are often

Understanding Boys - Part III

by Fritz Hines

Scout Executive
Northern Orange County Council
Anaheim, California

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This article is the third of a four-part series, *Understanding Boy Behaviour*, taken from the 1963 edition of the *Scoutmaster's Handbook* published by the Boy Scouts of America.

concerned with only readily apparent handicaps such as the physical and mental. While these two do stand out, all handicaps need understanding.

PHYSICAL HANDICAPS

The physically handicapped boy usually has a great desire to take part in a natural way in all the activities of the normal boy. He will struggle against great odds to do the same things that other boys do.

You need to be sure the boy with a physical handicap doesn't overdo to the extent of doing himself bodily harm. On the other hand, don't be oversolicitous by trying to protect and help the boy at every turn. He will usually shrug off a helping hand, desiring rather to prove to everyone that he is as good as they are in spite of his handicap, and he should be allowed to do so.

In working on the tests for advancement, the Scout should be encouraged to meet all of the requirements as nearly as possible. Obviously, if he can't go in the water, he should apply for a substitution for this test for First Class; and, if his handicap prevents his walking, he should substitute for the hiking tests for Second Class.

It is also permitted that he substitute merit badges for those required for Star and Life, but it should be noted that there can be no substitution for the requirements specified for the Eagle Scout rank.

MENTAL HANDICAPS

Boys with mental handicaps bring a need for a different approach. This handicap may range from actual feeble-mindedness to the boy who is just slow in his thinking processes. Methods for helping boys with mental handicaps will vary according to the degree of handicap.

A boy who is classified as severely mentally retarded will probably be in an institution and may take part in the Scouting programme with other boys in that institution.

While there are no substitutions specified for boys with mental handicaps, leaders of boys in these institutions have been given latitude in determining what is a boy's 'best.' They know that this 'best' isn't up to the standard of a normal boy in a regular troop, but it can be adequate to allow recognition of the boy in an institution.

Many boys who are just a little slow are now active in regular troops right along with their brighter buddies. You need to protect these boys from the unthinking jibes of other Scouts. If necessary, discuss the problem of these boys with your patrol leaders' council.

Make sure members of the troop understand the problem and are sympathetic rather than critical in their acceptance of the boy as a member of the gang. Unlike the procedure with a boy in an institution, advancement standards for this boy must be the same as that of other boys in the same troop.

SEX CURIOSITY

Curiosity about sex is normal and healthy among Scout-age boys. They might ask you questions about it and, if you feel you can adequately answer their questions, do so. Otherwise, you should refer the question to the boy's parents or doctor or spiritual leader. Don't feel that you must be prudish and avoid the subject, but on the other hand, don't feel you are the only one to whom they can turn.

Under present standards of morality in America, open discussion of sex among Scout-age boys requires the guidance of one of these three categories—parent, doctor or spiritual leader.

(Next month, in his final article on Understanding Boys, Mr. Hines suggests ideas that will supplement good programmes in maintaining troop discipline.)

I Think Canadian

"Each Group has its own distinctive neckerchief worn by all uniformed members. The design, colour and material are determined by the Group Committee but must be approved by the next senior headquarters. A Group emblem may be worn at the point."

Rule 121, P.O.&R. (1962)

I suggest that a national neckerchief for Cubs and Scouts is a worthwhile option to the present group neckerchief.

There is nothing new or radical about this suggestion. The Brownies of the Girl Guides of Canada have a national Brownie tie and the Guides may choose between wearing a national Guide tie of blue or a tie made in company colours. The tie used by the Girl Guides is closer to our neckerchief than it is to a tie worn by a civilian.

The Cub Scouts of the Boy Scouts of America wear a national neckerchief and the Boy Scouts have a choice of a number of neckerchiefs. These include a national Boy Scout neckerchief and other neckerchiefs of a regional or special events nature—for example, a jamboree.

The uniform section of the *Programme and Uniform Subcommittee* feels that "it is desirable to maintain some feature (of Scout dress) identifying Canadian Scouting with the world-wide brotherhood."

From a review of films and photographs of Cubs and Scouts of other lands, I suggest that the neckerchief is the one common item of uniform worn. Therefore, this is the feature that we should retain for our uniforms.

The section also believes that "a variation in uniforms between sections is *highly* desirable." If we retain the neckerchief as an item of our uniforms, then variation can only come through colour. Little can be done with design and material.

To me, the introduction of national neckerchiefs for Cubs and Scouts would add another variation in uniforms in those groups which would make use of them. In addition, this small but important variation may add a little more glamour to Cubs going-up to Scouts. They will be completely rid of their 'small boy' uniform and, perhaps, better prepared to move into an 'older boy' programme and uniform.

What effect will this have on:

(a) *the boys?*

To the eight-year-old (and, to a lesser extent, the 11-year-old), there will be great appeal in being told, at

by P. J. Horan

Programme & Uniform Subcommittee

his investiture, that he now has 170,000 brother Cubs across Canada, many of whom will be wearing this same neckerchief.

(b) the parents?

Parents will find that national neckerchiefs will be more readily available at distributors than group neckerchiefs.

In addition, they will find that if they have to move (and Canadian families are highly mobile), their son will not need to get another neckerchief if he transfers to a group using the national neckerchief.

(c) the pack and troop?

Tradition will still play a part but the use of national neckerchiefs may add a little more to the going-up cere-

What about identification?

If national neckerchiefs become official options to group neckerchiefs, then some other means of group identification will be required for those groups using national neckerchiefs. I suggest that more elaborate shoulder tabs, similar to those used in the armed forces, have boy appeal.

What would you suggest?

Much time and effort is being spent at many levels of Scouting in looking after neckerchiefs. The Boy Scouts of Canada buys, catalogues, stocks, sells and ships 110 official neckerchiefs. It also supplies material by the yard for groups who wish to make their own neckerchiefs. In addition, some groups purchase neckerchief material locally.

Scouts Should Have

monies and, as explained in (a), the use will tend to make boys more aware of the national scope of the movement.

(d) the group committee and ladies auxiliary?

For new groups, the availability of national neckerchiefs will solve one of its big problems.

Existing groups who are having difficulty keeping up with the demand for group neckerchiefs will have the option of using national neckerchiefs.

The sewing convener of the ladies auxiliary will be able to spend more time on flags, bandages, garter tabs, bean bags, lair curtains and perhaps, even on tents.

What about choice?

With existing groups, boys join a pack or troop that already has a group neckerchief which they must accept. They haven't any choice.

With new groups, there is limited choice. The majority of such groups are in large centres. With only 110 official neckerchiefs from which to choose, new groups soon find that most large centres already have more than one hundred groups, many of which use official neckerchiefs.

I suggest that the provision of national neckerchiefs for Cubs and Scouts will cut down much time and effort, make better use of valuable space, eliminate frustration along channels of communication and provide the Boy Scouts of Canada, from packs to National Council, with an improved operation.

If suppliers were allowed to concentrate on producing a large quantity of two national neckerchiefs instead of a relatively smaller quantity of each of the 110 neckerchiefs, it is not unreasonable to expect:

- a superior quality article
- a superior quality dye job
- a cost per item not much more than the present cost for a one-colour neckerchief.

The following is a proposed revision of Rule 121 of P.O.&R.:

"Each Group may choose:

(a) to have its Cubs wear the national Cub neckerchief and its Scouts to wear the national Scout neckerchief or

(b) to have its members wear the Group's own neckerchief—design, colour and material to be determined by the Group Committee and approved by the next senior headquarters."

A National Neckerchief

What do you think?

Coming Events

EVENT	PLACE	DATE
National Council Annual Meeting	Ottawa	May 9, 1964
P.E.I. Provincial Jamboree	Camp Buchan, P.E.I.	June 27-July 2, 1964
6th U.S. National Jamboree	Valley Forge, Penn., U.S.A.	July 17-23, 1964
9th Scottish International Patrol Jamboree	Blair Athol, Scotland	July 21-31, 1964
8th International Patrol Camp	Venezuela	August, 1964
Manitoba Provincial Jamboree	Portage la Prairie, Man.	August 8-15, 1964
2nd New Brunswick Provincial Jamboree	Sussex, N.B.	August 15-22, 1964

Note: This information is published as a service to readers who may wish to attend international, national or provincial Scouting events. Readers should not request additional information from the Editor or from Scout council offices (unless otherwise indicated.) Further details will usually appear in this or other Scout publications.



To meet the demands of Canadian hospitals, the Canadian Red Cross must collect more than 850,000 bottles of blood in 1964.

Since 1947, more than 2,780,000 Canadian hospital patients have benefitted by transfusions of whole blood and blood products provided by the Canadian Red Cross Transfusion Service.

Over one million young people are enrolled in 37,638 classroom branches of the Junior Red Cross in Canada and the Canadian Department of National Defence Schools in Europe.

March Is Red Cross Month

CRESTS



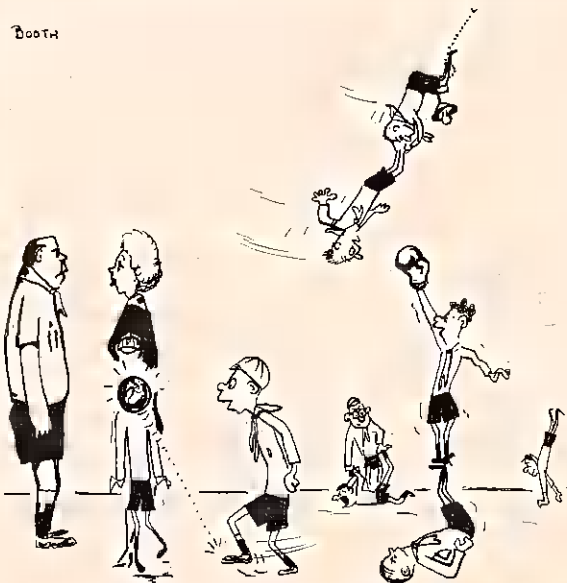
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"The District Commissioner says we should bring 'fitness' into our pack programme."

Apathetic Parents

I shudder at the thought of National Headquarters planning to 'stimulate membership' in 1964.

I cite the case of a thirty-six-[member] Cub pack, [whose] leaders . . . were obliged to resign for unrelated reasons during the summer months.

In spite of person-to-person appeals, local press appeals and letters, no one has yet agreed to take over the Cubmaster's job. It was naively believed that when the pack did not re-open there would be a rash of phone calls from the parents—funny joke, ha ha!

So, thirty-six young lads, several of whom were approaching Scout age, are no longer Cubs. This and several other situations here convinced me that what we need to do is to try and stimulate some spark of interest in the parents' minds. It becomes more and more apparent that many members of this species do not [care] what their offspring do with themselves, let alone [what] the Cub packs to which they belong (the one-night-a-week baby-sitting service) [does].

So, we need leaders, but here again we sometimes hit another snag. Praise be, the district staff of our district actually insists that all Scouters take training. I believe we have about the highest percentage of trained leaders in Quebec. However, what of the leader who refuses to take training, either directly or by making excuses?

I say that these people should be politely asked to leave the movement . . . and [similar action] should be taken with individuals who refuse to abide by P.O.&R. This may adversely affect our quest for leaders, but it ensures quality.

Problem Number Three is the group committee. Some [members] do an excellent job. In some [committees] we find that only two or three . . . do all the work. Some exist only on paper.

I do not believe that our efforts to adapt the Scout programme [to attract the older boy] are going to be effective



unless we can get the full co-operation of the adults, particularly parents. This seems to be a formidable task—it is easier to fight opposition than apathy—but in all fairness to the boys, not to mention those dedicated Scouters and committee members, we must keep up the battle, smiling and whistling under all difficulties.

. . . [And now, regarding the new corduroy pants.]

You [said] that the new 'sharp drape' would be more appealing. I might mention that they have been very poorly received in this area. In fact, at the request of our Scouters, the district council has made a formal complaint to provincial headquarters.

[I would like to make one last comment.] Cubmaster F. Birch's claim [in the October, 1963 letters page] that

Scouter's sheath knives are usually dirty, blunt and seldom used, prompted me to check mine.

After two years' service it is blunt, dirty and has not been used. Maybe he is right [about it being a] 'dubious personal adornment!'

Mine is now clean, sharp and put away in a safe place.

Gordon Booth

Ex-Assistant Scoutmaster

Ste. Therese, Que.

Wants Canadian Articles

. . . In both your November and December issues you had major two-page articles which were reprints from other publications. Few of your articles seem to have anything in them to make one think, although I did find the articles from the sub-committee on uniform in the November and December issues and the article by John Thurman in the December issue exceptionally good.

It again, however, was not written expressly for *The Scout Leader* but was an extract from a speech.

I hope that in the future you will give us more articles by our own Canadian Scouters.

R. LeClerc

District Scoutmaster

Toronto, Ont.

While we encourage people to send in material we regret to say that we get very little from the thousands of section and district Scouters throughout the country. We do publish most of the articles that are received and only rarely do we completely turn down anything.

How about it readers? Let us hear from you.

We hope to have more articles in the future by Canadian Scouters and at the same time expect to continue reprinting material from other publications which Canadian Scouters will value.—Ed.



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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.

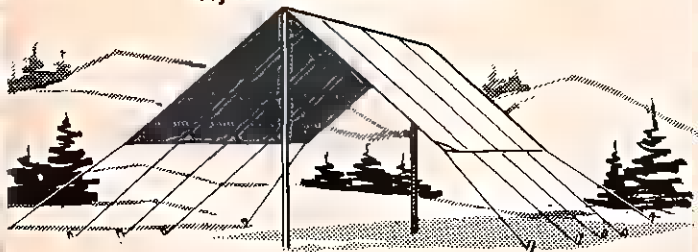
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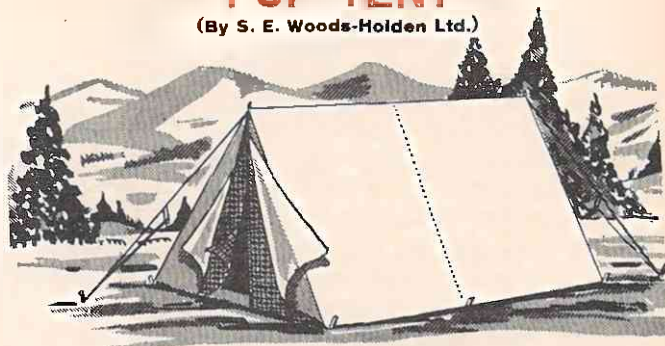
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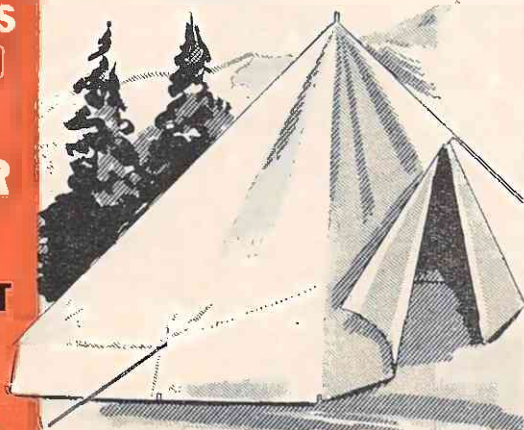
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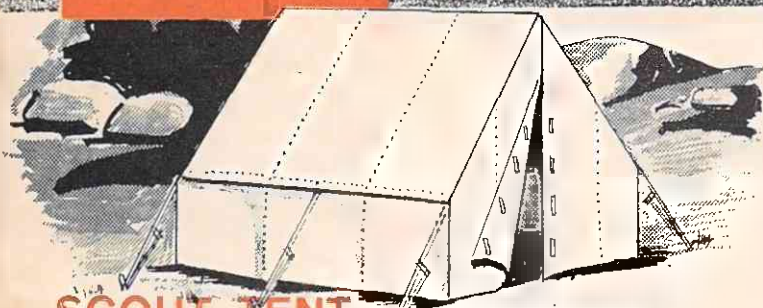
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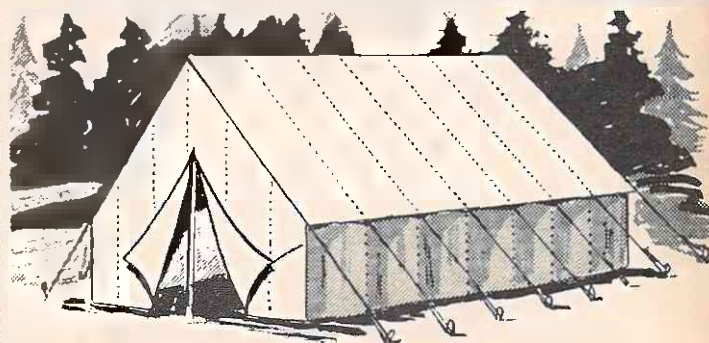
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