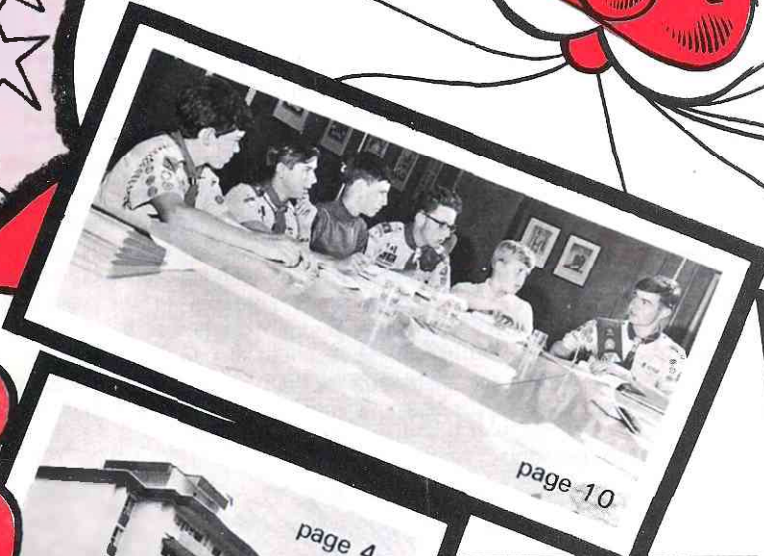


the scout leader

VOLUME 46 NO 4

DECEMBER 1968

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A HAPPY DECEMBER
ISSUE!



❧ A BUSY YEAR ❧

With the approach of the end of another year, it is natural that we should reflect on the events that stand out as significant to each one personally and, of course, what happened in the world of Scouting. We are also wondering what 1969 holds in store for us and building plans for the future.

In Scouting, the most significant development has been the decision to implement the new Scout program in September. Since the decision was taken, there has been a concerted effort to prepare the materials, conduct workshops, find additional leaders, group committeemen, resource persons and sponsors.

At the same time, the Venturer program, introduced on a "trial" basis, has become a permanent fixture and occupies more and more of our attention as increasing numbers of older Scouts and boys who had left Scouting or never had been Scouts are swelling the Venturer ranks. Here again is the challenge of a new program with all the attendant problems, at the local level particularly.

I wish to give prominence to these two developments not to downgrade or under-emphasize the revised Wolf Cub program, which is now well established, or the Rover Section, which is now under thorough examination, but rather to draw into focus the two areas where change is taking place.

Change is rarely accomplished without some stress and strain and the crucial point at which a program can be called a success or otherwise is the relationship between the adult leader and boys with whom he works, and whether through this personal contact the stated objectives of the program are achieved. Again the efforts of all the other members of the Scouting team are well-recognized.

This brings up the matter of giving the counsellor or advisor the tools with which to carry out his task, using his own imagination and initiative in their application. He may take someone else's example, or pull new ideas "out of the air." In any event, the way he goes about it will bear his own imprint and nobody else's. But provincial commissioners and district commissioners should ensure he has all the information and the opportunity to ask questions and get answers.

Perhaps I could add one word on my own reaction to contact with many Scouters over the past few months. The great majority fully support the new Scout program, based on what they know of it. There is some apprehension, however, with which I can sympathize and understand, when terms such as "sensitivity training," "peer learning," "group dynamism," etc. are used to explain one aspect or another of the program. I believe the function can be explained in ordinary, everyday language without frightening a leader who is already concerned about the "new" program and all its implications. Finally, Scouters who liked the method they were using and got good results from the boy's point of view will probably find that there is not that much difference. I would like to feel that Scouters who do not like the idea of change will give this "new" program a fair trial. The change has retained all the fundamental values and principles but it is greatly enriched and more flexible, aimed at drawing out each boy's potential to the maximum. I am certain you will enjoy the experience.

And so, I would like to say a sincere "thank you" to all leaders for their great effort and accomplishment during 1968 and every good wish for happiness and success in the challenging year ahead.



Deputy Chief Scout



The Scout Leader

For all adults affiliated with the Boy Scouts of Canada to inform, instruct and inspire about the Cub, Scout, Venturer and Rover Scout Programs.

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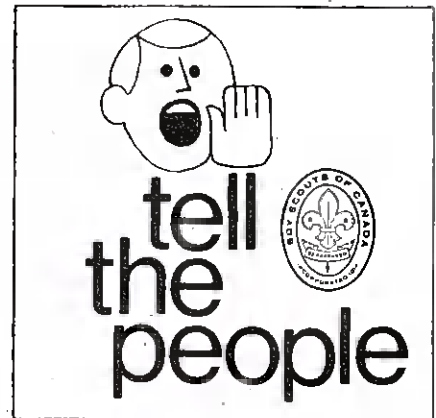
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...through use of Boy Scouts of Canada symbol.

You know it stands for Scouting, I know it stands for Scouting, but what about the public? Too often we confuse them with a variety of symbols and words on our letters and publications.

The C.N. logo is an example of good use of a symbol. It has become well known in Canada and abroad because they use it consistently on their trains, letterheads, offices, ads and tickets.

The symbol of Boy Scouts of Canada, illustrated above, should be used as is - without variations. It can be used in conjunction with symbols of councils or groups - but should not be replaced by them.

The Boy Scouts of Canada symbol should not be confused with section symbols.

These symbols should only be used when an article, paper or display depicts one of these programs. To use one of these to represent Boy Scouts of Canada is wrong - it does not represent all sections and only confuses the public.

In addition to the symbol, proper use of our name is necessary. We cannot expect other people to know what it is unless we use it properly. We are "Boy Scouts of Canada".

If we wish to designate a group, section or council we should follow this pattern:

Boy Scouts of Canada
52nd Adanac Group
Boy Scouts of Canada
1st Melody Venturer Company

If the group, section or council has its own symbol this could be used with Boy Scouts of Canada symbol.

by Lionel A. Pye

GREATER TORONTO
REGION

HIGH RISE SCOUTING!

Multiple dwellings now account for over half of all housing units started. Scouting of the future will have to follow the boys out of the traditional neighbourhood pattern into the high-rise.

4



Peter Nied wanted to be a Scout. His home is at the corner of two busy intersections in Metropolitan Toronto. His front door opens onto a long carpeted hall to an elevator which takes him to a paved parking lot below. Behind his home is a recreational area including tennis courts and gymnastic equipment; he also has a swimming pool and sauna bath. Peter has a lot of neighbours — there are 199 other families living in his house. Why? Because Peter lives in an apartment complex.

He leaves the apartment building during the day to go to school, but his parents are reluctant to let him walk the same distance at night to join a local Scout troop in the area.

Peter couldn't go to Scouts — so Scouting came to him!

Notices were sent to all the families in the building announcing that "Scouting Comes to Greenbriar." This resulted in a meeting of interested parents who provided from their number a group committee, a Scoutmaster, a Cubmaster and an Assistant Cubmaster. The leaders attended training courses and eventually 18 Cubs and 10 Scouts were registered as the 18th Scarboro West. Peter has his Scout troop and Scouting has come to the world of the high-rise apartment.

The pattern of Peter Nied's life is rapidly becoming the standard pattern for more and more boys of Scouting age. The high-rise apartment building is becoming home for a large proportion of our population. In the 1961 census, apartments and row houses represented 28% of the total housing available, and recent trends would seem to predict that this figure has nowhere to go but up. Apartments and row houses now account for about one half of all dwelling units started, compared with less than one-sixth fifteen years ago; and their number is

continuing to grow rapidly while construction of other forms of housing has tended to level off. And their inhabitants are not limited to single people or young married couples with no children — in 1961, families accounted for nearly four-fifths of all apartments and flats.

In these families living in the new metropolitan complexes there lies a great potential for Scouting, boys who, like Peter, would not otherwise be able to join a troop.

Such troops are generally welcomed by residents and management of the apartment building. Greenwin, the owners of Peter Nied's apartment building, welcomed the idea enthusiastically as a partial solution to the vandalism that plagues most such buildings, and which has become particularly costly in parts of Metro Toronto. It is hoped that the new Cubs and Scouts will set an example for the other children in the building — cutting down joyriding in the elevators, flower trampling and roughness in the playground.

Bayshore, a similar high-rise complex on the outskirts of Ottawa, formed a Cub pack and a Scout troop at the instigation of the recreation director of the complex and interested parents. As in Greenbriar, the boys are allowed to use the swimming pool, the gym and the other sports facilities that belong to the complex.

But starting a Scout troop in an apartment building is not simply a matter of sitting and waiting to be approached by a group of boys. Peter got his Scout troop because Greenwin's property manager, Ken Jorgensen, is also a Deputy Regional Commissioner in the Boy Scouts of Canada who gave a great deal of encouragement to the project. High-rise Scouting is a case of taking Scouting to the boys, rather than waiting for the boys to come to Scouting. Who is interested in your area? ■

◀ "The Greenbriars"

Property Manager, Mr. Kenneth Jorgensen, presenting a "Way to the Stars" to Cub Harold Nied with Scout Peter and father Bill Nied looking on.



Planning Committee - (left to right) - Dan Sheehan, District Commissioner; Lionel Pye, Regional Field Executive; and Ken Jorgensen, Property Manager at the planning desk.





SO

YOU



ARE ON A



PART I

**Advice to the
new committeeman—
and some pitfalls
to be avoided by new or
veteran committee members.**

6

Boy Scout officials often meet men who say proudly, "Oh, yes, I'm in Scouting. On the district committee, I think. I don't know just why they have it, but you fellows seem to think it's necessary."

A committeeman who doesn't know why he's needed? This may sound ridiculous to you, but a newcomer often finds more fog than he expects.

Like a parachutist dropped in a strange desert, your first job on a committee is to get your bearings. That includes determining the committee's objectives. **If objectives are vague, insist they be made clear.**

You may find your committee's broad objective spelled out in the bylaws and still not know what specific targets are now on the horizon. Almost every lodge and service club has a boys' work committee, for example, with duties delineated in literature from its national office; but the literature can't tell precisely what your committee's projects are for this year.

So ask questions. Press for clear answers. Is your group supposed to be judging, investigating, advising, planning, or creating? Your questions may stir up thought, which is unsettling but healthy.

Each member should take that slice of the work which interests him most, or which he can do best. But he isn't always told, unless he asks, what the committee thinks he can do. Whatever it is in your case - potent connections, a sharp pencil at figuring costs, a shrewd eye for legal pitfalls - the sooner you know, the better.

If you're a newcomer, the old-timers will be sizing you up. Don't seem too shy or too brash. If the whole committee is new, the problem is multiplied. Of course, the chairman's job includes melting these invisible barriers, but he needs help.

Eugene Peckham in **Dynahelps for Democratic Leaders** stresses the need for quickly fusing "just a gathering of people" into a team and advises new committeemen to get this process started. His first suggestion is "Come early." Locate the meeting place. Familiarize yourself with its facilities.

Before the meeting is called to order, chat with every member, if you can. This gives you a chance to mention who you are and why you're interested, and to evoke similar information from the others. If you do this casually, with a smile, you'll no longer be a stranger by the time the meeting starts.

"Silence is the virtue of fools," wrote Francis Bacon. It certainly isn't golden in a committee meeting. A silent committeeman may learn a lot, but he contributes nothing - and may dampen the spirit of others.

In asking questions, don't worry about sounding naive. The others know you're new. They'll welcome your questions as a sign of interest, and your fresh approach may light up something they overlooked.

Before long you can start expressing opinions. Not lengthily, of course, nor bluntly, but helpfully. Unless someone else has adequately stated the same opinion, say what you think about every issue that comes up. Perhaps you can do it as Ben Franklin did:



COMMITTEE!

By **DONALD and
KEITH MONROE**

Adapted from
How to Succeed in Community Service
J. B. Lippincott Company.

"When another asserted something that I thought an error, I denied myself the pleasure of contradicting him abruptly. . . . I began by observing that in certain circumstances his opinion would be right, but in the present case there appear'd or seem'd to me some difference."

Paul L. Johnson, seasoned committeeman in a dozen civic enterprises and full-time executive of Pacific Telephone Company, jots down every opinion and suggestion voiced at every meeting. After a while he synthesizes and points up what the others have said, the areas of agreement and disagreement, and his own judgment in the light of his experience.

Chairmen often have trouble, and you can help. If you see that Jones is too shy to speak, you can say, "I'd like to hear what Mr. Jones thinks about this." If the conversation strays off the subject, you can herd it back. If someone has a good point but isn't getting through to the others, you can tactfully rephrase it so they grasp it. If another member doesn't understand the committee's aims, tip off the chairman so he can enlighten him or ask you to do so.

Another, more subtle help you can give is simply to show enthusiasm. Let everyone see that you're interested and loyal.

There are many ways to be obnoxious in committee work. They include heckling, second-guessing, monologuing, dogmatizing, pontificating, belittling, and quarreling. No committeeman tries to be obnoxious but many are, without half trying. To avoid it keep a hard eye on yourself, a tight rein on your ego, and an open mind.

Another group of errors - genial ones - might be labeled distractions. Telling a long, involved story; starting a debate on a side issue; joking with a neighbor while a colleague is speaking. Watch yourself, and don't take offense if someone says, "We aren't getting very far with the meeting's business." Meetings are faster and more fruitful when everyone sticks to the subject and saves funny stories for the coffee klatch.

A third type of mistake is overhelpfulness. Many chairmen are inexperienced, uneasy, and self-conscious. A helpful remark that implies criticism may throw them into a tizzy. If you think your chairman needs advice, speak to him in private and with tact.

If you offer advice in open meeting, he may be upset not only at the implied rebuke but at interference with his program. He can give your ideas more judicious thought if he hears them in a quiet corner. And if he turns down your proffered help, you won't have been publicly squelched.

Another error is inviting somebody to join the committee - or, more commonly, asking the committee to invite him - without first consulting the chairman alone. He knows what kind of people he wants. There may be reasons, which he can't state openly, for not wanting your candidate. ■

How about committee members who talk too much? And how should you behave if you're in the minority? These are two of the questions to be discussed in our next issue.

Veteran Scouter and school counselor Don Peters continues his down-to-earth hints (begun in our November issue) on counseling with boys on personal problems.

PART II How to Talk with a Boy

by Donald L. Peters, Member-at-Large, Board of Governors, American School Counselor Association

Adapted from Scouting magazine, B.S.A.



8

"I like kids and I believe in them. That's why I'm a Scouter," one leader told me. "But there's this one boy in the troop I just can't stomach. I don't know what it is about him. He isn't what you'd call a bad boy, but we just don't hit it off."

Of course, such situations are bound to come up because boys are complicated creatures. But so are men.

With this leader I shared a similar experience from my work as a school counselor. "Now and then," I told him, "a youngster walks through my door and I have an immediate don't-like reaction. Inwardly, I groan, 'if there's one thing I don't want to do today, it's talk with that obnoxious character.'"

For a moment, mine is a completely selfish reaction. In time, I might be able to figure out what it is I don't like about the youngster, but what would be the point? It would be in my past experience and not in his.

"As a matter of routine and with no show of concern, I shift the center of interest from my feelings to his. I smile and ask what I can do for him. If it looks like we're going to do more than exchange a few words, I get up and close the door, giving him privacy. Then I let him talk. If this comes hard for him, I ask a few standard, but sincere questions, to try to get to know him.

"Then something happens, one of the most rewarding satisfying things in my work. In a matter

of minutes a change takes place. The youngster there in the chair beside my desk is no longer an obnoxious kid I don't want to have anything to do with. He talks on about himself, his likes, his hates, his problems, his hopes, and his dreams; and suddenly, he is an interesting significant individual.

"Once I take the emphasis off my own feelings and keep the youngster the center of the discussion, miracles happen."

Later this Scouter reported, "You know that boy I was telling you about? . . . I gave your idea a whirl. And you know, it works." From the richness of his expression, I was sure it had.

You may wonder how much time can a Scouter spend counseling individual boys?

More important than a Scouter spending much time in talking with boys about their personal problems is his availability: his Scouts should feel confident there is an "open door" to a man they can discuss their problems with if need be.

To cite one extreme case: a teen-ager I knew of, not a Scout, was having serious girl-friend trouble. His "steady" walked out on him for another boy. He wanted to talk. His dad was off at a meeting that evening, and, besides, they had drifted apart in recent years and seldom had any close talks. The boy went to see his best buddy, but he was swamped with homework. The next morning the boy was found dead in his car, a hose from the exhaust through a window.

Another case, with happier consequences: one Sunday morning in San Francisco a widowed mother called me about her son, a sixteen-year-old in our troop. The boy was a fair Scout, but he had started running with a wild, precocious thirteen-year-old girl in the neighborhood. He had defied his mother and was out of control. She was on the verge of calling in the juvenile authorities.

That afternoon the boy and I took a long ride and talked. He did most of the talking and led the conversation. Later, he attended a meeting of a youth group at the church that sponsored his troop. The following week he dated a girl his own age from this group, and the thirteen-year-old quickly lost her attraction. To this day he doesn't know his mother called me - that is, unless he's reading this.

The point is, Scouters must be available to spend time talking with boys as the need arises.

Can a boy go to a man he respects, a man he wants very much to like him, and tell him things of which he is ashamed?

Much depends, I believe, on the image the leader builds up in the minds of the Scouts. The leader who never makes a mistake or certainly never admits it in front of the boys, who is quick to punish without hearing both sides, who corrects and belittles a boy in front of the group when he makes a mistake, and who is too busy "telling" to listen will do well to see that there are other men, assistants or committeemen, who are available to talk and work with boys individually.

The leader who can laugh at himself, who admits and learns from his mistakes, who helps boys to do their best but does not blow up when they fall short, who rarely uses punishment, who shares his decision-making with the troop leaders council, who discusses a boy's shortcomings with him in private and never laughs at him, and who is an interested listener as well as a good storyteller is bound to be sought out for talks.

Still, regardless of his approach or position in Scouting, the leader should realize the tremendous surge of will power necessary for a boy to approach a man for help. He also should realize that a boy finds it extremely difficult to let himself appear anything less than a man. A Scout truly is never more brave than when he tells his problems and admits his shortcomings to his Scoutmaster.

The leader, in dealing with his many-sided role, should be careful to define the situation. If the Scouter is obligated to reprimand and punish under certain conditions, he should let the boy know what these conditions are.

As for confidences, I believe that all should be kept, with three exceptions - (1) if the boy may harm someone else, (2) if the boy may harm himself, and (3) if the boy appears mentally ill. Otherwise the boy deserves the right to expect his secrets to go no further, and a man who willingly listens to a boy's secrets is obligated to keep them.

When should a Scouter refer a boy elsewhere? In the three cases where a Scouter must make a referral, the parents or a social agency are the ones to call. Beyond these three cases, the Scouter

should make a referral only with the permission of the boy.

One common referral might be to a school guidance counselor. Many schools now have trained guidance workers. Some school counselors are qualified to delve rather deeply with youngsters into their personal problems, their capacities, and their aspirations. Others are little more than clerks to schedule next year's courses. You will do well to check to see which it is in the schools in your community.

One thing for sure, you won't want to pass on a boy to someone else unless you know what's in store for him if you do. You won't want to undermine the faith a boy has in you by making a bad referral or by just "pushing him off on someone else."

Up to now we have been considering how to talk with individual boys. Most of the principles for talking with individuals apply in talking with groups.

A leader should have a faith in the human personality both on individual and group bases. Growth and change are possible within groups as well as individuals, when the leader sees that they have opportunities to talk things through in well-ordered group discussions.

You cannot provide a confidential setting in a group, of course. But you can minimize the threat and the fear by seeing that orderly rules of free discussion are in force. You can see that everyone has a right to be heard, that no one is ridiculed for giving his opinion, and that personal references are declared out of bounds. When a youngster does slip into comments about his personal life or family, an individual talk may be in order.

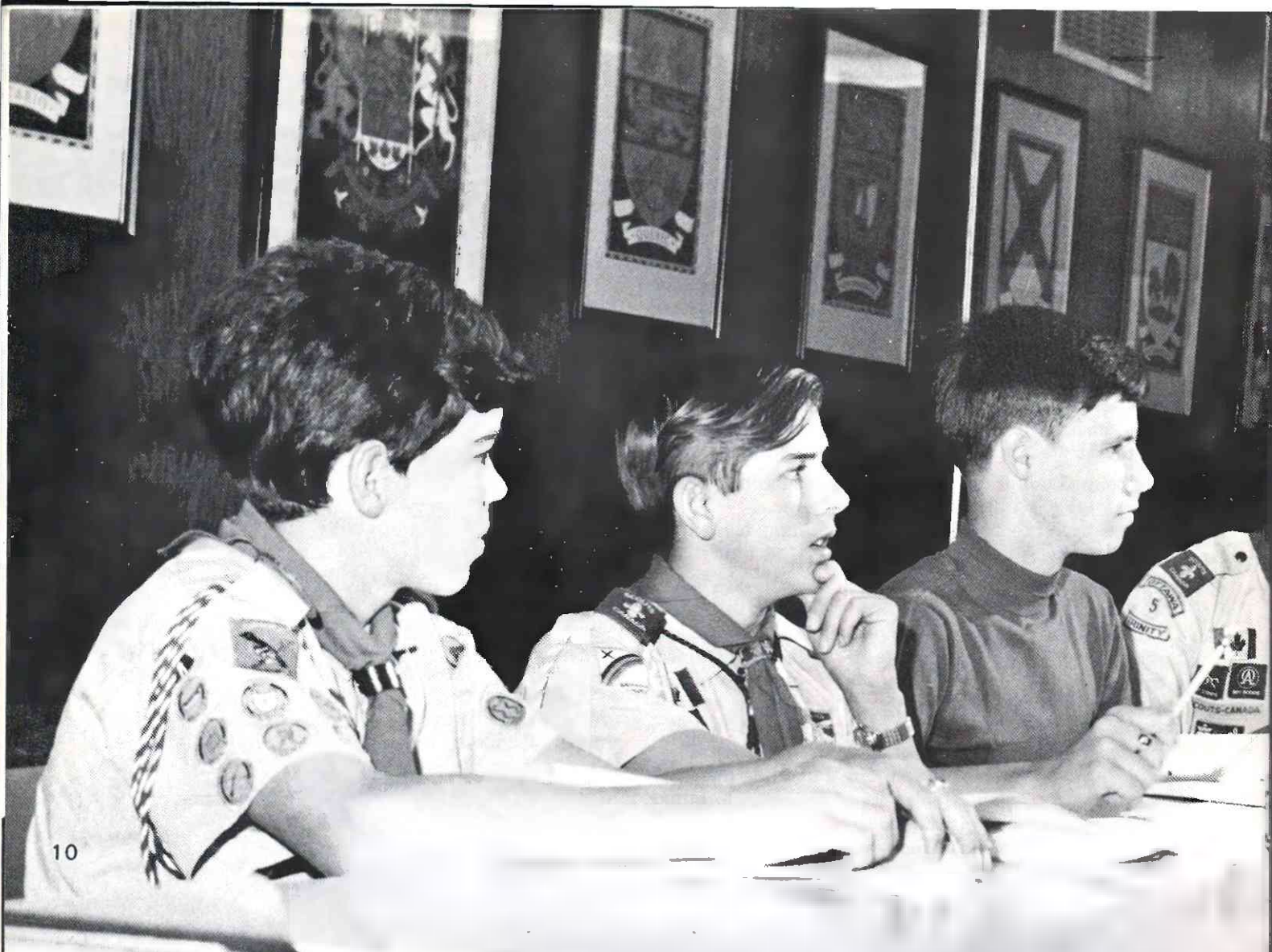
Acceptance and a feeling of belonging should pervade the group if the boys are going to open up and get much out of the discussion.

Willingness to listen is ever important. The discussion leader must be willing to let hostile and negative things be said. He must be willing to "give enough rope," and then wait for the positive voices to rise up in opposition - and this will happen if the order of discussion protects the rights of all who wish to speak.

Discussion leaders should avoid entering into the discussion directly. They should, however, try to give direction to the discussion and help the participants to strive toward goals instead of wandering haphazardly and arriving at no conclusions. A discussion of boy-girl relations, which might end with tentative plans for a hay ride or a theater party, is more of a success than one that merely dwindles away, for example.

There are many other problems in counseling with boys, and none of them have pat and final answers. But merely because we do not have all the answers concerning boys and what makes them tick is no reason not to try to do what we can. Scouters are the tryin'est bunch of men in the world.

One thing we know for sure. Talking with boys pays off - in growth and well-being of the boy and in the enrichment of the man. And there is much to talk about. ■



A COMING ATTRACTION: first natio

Since its very recent birth the Venturer program has stressed that the boys themselves should undertake the organization and planning to put into practice their own program ideas. This principle will receive its greatest practical test next spring when Venturers will tackle the biggest project they have taken on yet—a week-long Venturer conference in Ottawa, planned and operated by Venturers, for Venturers.

The First National Venturer Conference, to be held during the week of June 22 to 26, 1969, promises an ambitious program of workshops, lectures, film shows and tours as well as athletic contests and social activities of all kinds. Delegates will be able to exchange ideas about what they are doing and how they are doing it in their own home situation. Discussion groups will review standard matters in the program, such as the Venturers' uniform, handbooks, and awards system and will spend one whole day discussing a topic relatively new to Canadian Scouting conferences—co-ed activities. The discussions will end, appropriately enough, with a dance

that evening.

Over 250 delegates will be invited to attend, representing every province and the overseas regions. Invitations will also be extended to Les Scouts du Canada, to Boy Scouts of America Explorers and Venturers from the United Kingdom to send representatives. Prime Minister Trudeau and Governor-General Michener have been asked to drop in for brief visits, if their respective schedules will permit it. A tour of the national capital is, of course, on the books as part of the four-day program.

The 300 or more delegates who are expected to attend will be lodged at the Carleton University campus in Ottawa—a result of the decision of the Venturers who are planning the Conference to hold it indoors in a "hotel-type" atmosphere rather than a camp.

All of the advance planning (which began this July) for this ambitious project is being carried on by the Venturer Steering Committee—Jamie Laws, the chairman of the Committee is from Toronto;



national venturer conference

Mark Elward from the Toronto suburb of Don Mills; Bill Buckingham from Lachine, Quebec; Ward Westgate from Montreal; Gary Giles and George Adamson from Ottawa. The Toronto and Montreal boys have flown into Ottawa for two meetings so far, and five of the Committee members travelled to Colorado in August as part of the Canadian delegation to the Fourth National Explorer Delegates Conference hosted by Boy Scouts of America. From this hectic four-day round of study, discussion and sports competitions they brought back heads full of ideas and fists full of notes for their own conference.

Among themselves, the members of the Venturer Conference Steering Committee represent the interests of the kind of boys who are drawn to the new section. The traditional Scout interests of camping and canoeing rank high on their lists of interests, but also included are model railroads, a ham radio station, electronics, mini bikes, slot car racing and what are variously described as "co-ed activities" or just plain "girls." One of the boys

ran a tour service for visiting Scouts in Ottawa last summer, and another persuaded a friend to join him on a bicycle ride from Toronto to Ottawa.

There are indications that enterprising teen-age boys are being attracted to Venturing in increasingly larger numbers — a survey of western Canada indicated that new companies were being formed almost every day, many of them with members who had never been involved in Scouting before. And the idea of the first Venturer conference is being received with great enthusiasm. Many areas have already made plans for provincial or regional conferences to select their delegates to the national conference — a practice that is being encouraged as much as possible so that every Venturer can participate in the choice of delegates.

If the First National Venturer Conference does everything that its young organizers are hoping and planning for, it will be an exciting experience for every delegate, as well as an opportunity for each one to make his own personal contribution to the future of his own Venturing movement in Canada. ■

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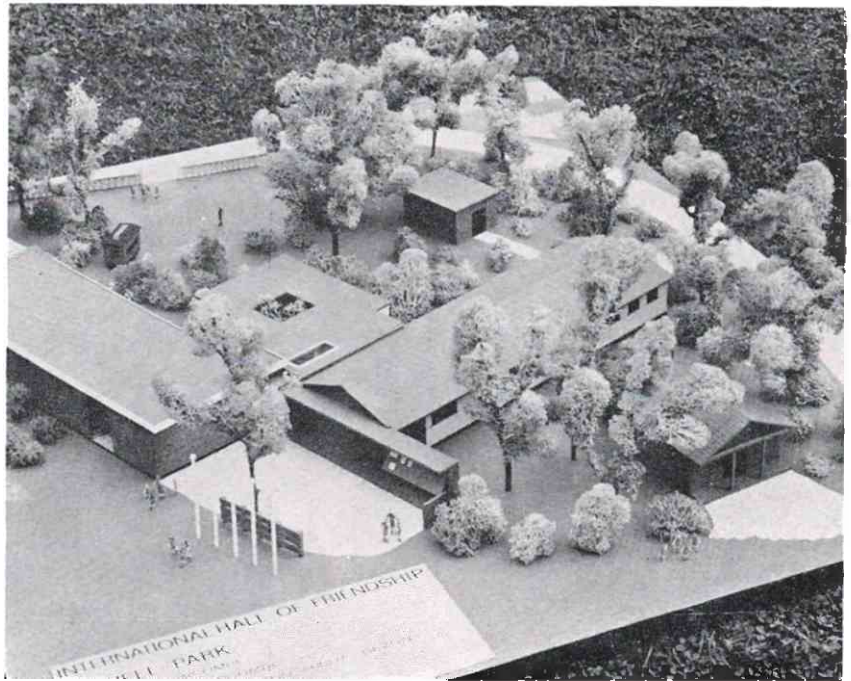
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GILWELL 1919-1969

Gilwell Park will celebrate its Golden Jubilee in 1969, fifty years of service to Scouters around the world, and plans are well under way for the big year. In addition to regular Wood Badge Courses, a number of specialized courses are planned, along with such special events as the Sedan Chair Rally; Queen's Scout Reception; First National Scout Family Camp; National Cub Scout Leader's Camp; Cub Scout Open Day; International Weekend and National Father and Son Camp.

Probably the major event of the year is the Gilwell Reunion, the weekend of September 5, 6 and 7. The Reunion will commemorate that weekend in September, 1919 when the first Wood Badge Course was held.

When the International Scout Training Conference was held at Gilwell in September, 1966, it was suggested that a book should be produced to celebrate the anniversary and tell the story of the first fifty years. Now available under the title *The Gilwell Story*, it tells of the men and women who have passed over Gilwell's acres on training courses and conferences; of the hundreds of thousands of boy campers; of the personalities associated with Gilwell's development, but above all of the place itself, set on the fringe of Epping Forest.

The estate has known many changes since William deBois Maclaren in 1919 handed over to the Scout Movement 57 acres and woodlands with derelict buildings, to the present day international training centre of Scouting with four training grounds, 62 buildings, camp fire circles, hostel, chapels and swimming pool and a total of 108 acres.

In way of marking the anniversary with a tangible project, it was decided to build an International Hall of Friendship, with facilities to handle large conferences, a simultaneous translation centre, staff rooms, small providore, dormitories for winter courses, and a museum. The total cost of the project, between \$65 and \$75,000, is being raised through donations from around the world.

If you are interested in contributing to the International Hall of Friendship or attending the Gilwell Reunion in September, contact Administration Services at National Headquarters in Ottawa. ■

Christmas is just a few weeks away and most of us are preparing for a wonderful time of giving and receiving.

Gaily decorated trees, stockings filled with toys, and goodwill to — almost all men.

Yes, almost all men or women or children, for there are some who for a variety of reasons are not able to share in the bounty of the Christmas season.

This year we can help those less fortunate with a little imagination, a little hard work, and a lot of affectionate concern.

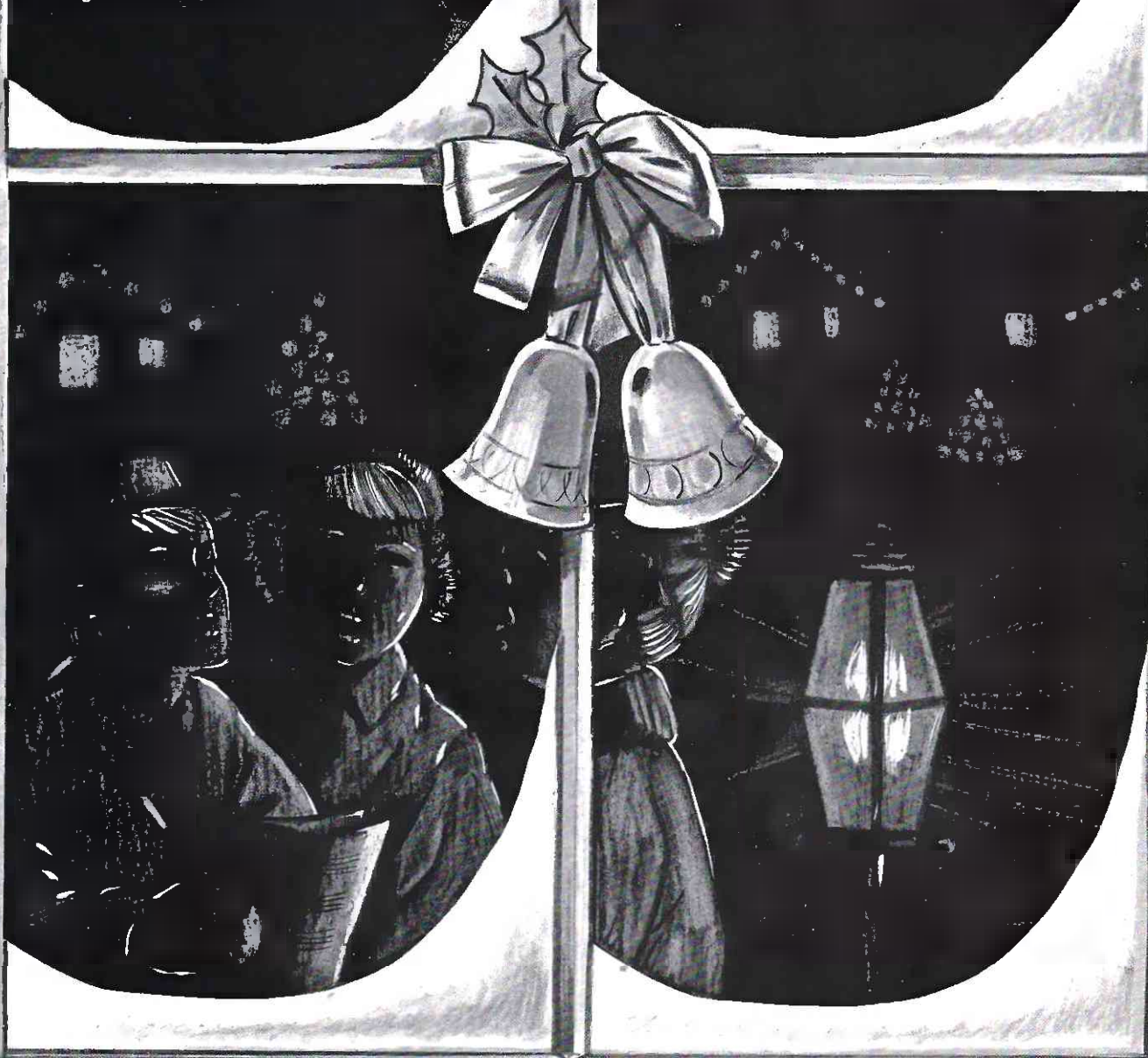
Here is a challenge to give a little of ourselves this year — the returns will be well worth the effort.

Challenge 'em To Give....

by R. J. Roberts,
Assistant Director,
Program Services

Share some of the seasonal fun and good spirits of your own boys by taking your regular troop meeting or perhaps your Christmas party to senior citizens' homes or to institutions for young people who are not able to join in our activities.

To impress upon your boys the problems of the handicapped, try a Christmas party (complete with pop and cookies) where a third of your group are blindfolded, a second group have their hands lightly tied behind their backs, and the other third have their legs tied to a chair. Each group must fend for themselves, and games that are played must be done so by a completely new set of rules. In an exercise of this kind, service is seen in a new way.



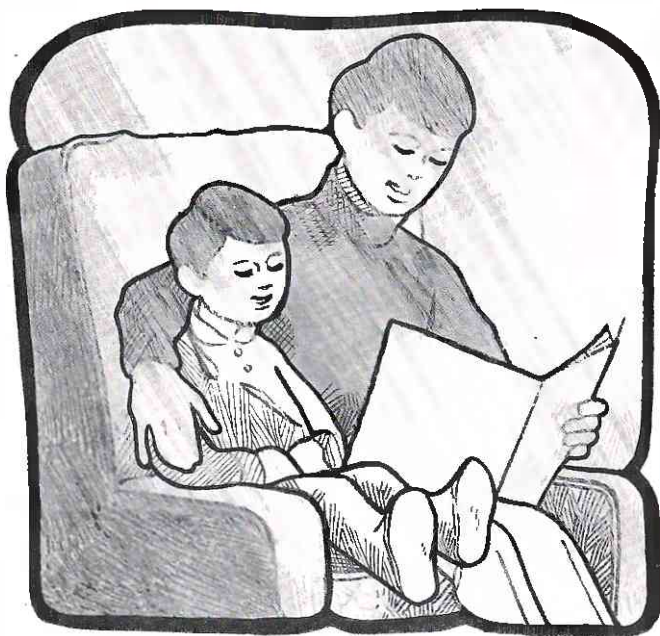
The Gift of Self at Christmas

The Gift of Self at Christmas

Hospitals are usually understaffed at this time of the year with everyone wishing to spend Christmas with his family. Maybe some of our older members could offer a valuable service to such institutions at this time by performing a variety of chores which may range from cleaning floors, to reading to patients, to playing with children. A check at your local hospital may be well worthwhile.

In England last year a Scout group, realizing the problems older people have doing their Christmas shopping, arranged with the municipal council to permit a local department store to open its doors for an extra hour one night.

At the appointed time station wagons, mini buses and cars brought people in wheel chairs, on crutches, and even some on stretchers to the store, where they were able to shop without being rushed or pushed and for once in a long time were able to choose those gifts they wished to purchase rather than have others shop for them.



14

Some people in your community may have a tough time getting out to do their Christmas shopping because of a sick child or an elderly parent who requires constant care.

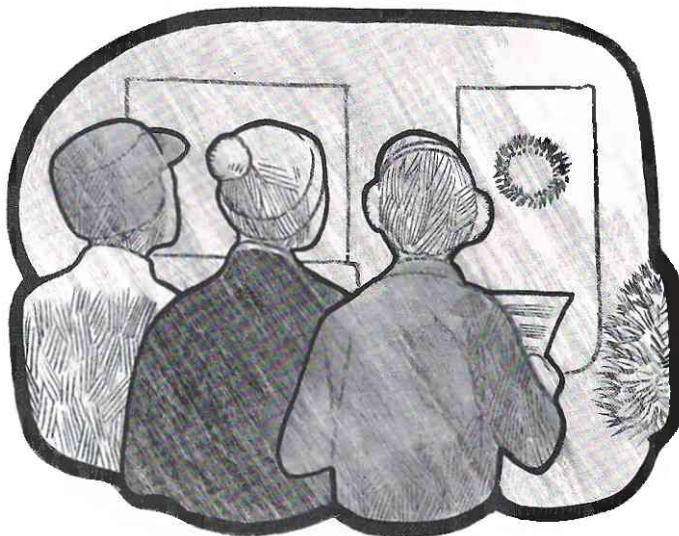
Perhaps Venturers could offer to "people-sit" on the Saturday before Christmas, allowing such parents to have a worry free afternoon or evening, knowing that while they are out things at home are well looked after.

The new programs now in effect in Scouting call for help from many resource people. Some have helped us for years, like the fireman or policeman, but now we ask many more in all walks of life to help us.

As a special thank you to these people, why not have a Christmas party just for them? Our Cubs,

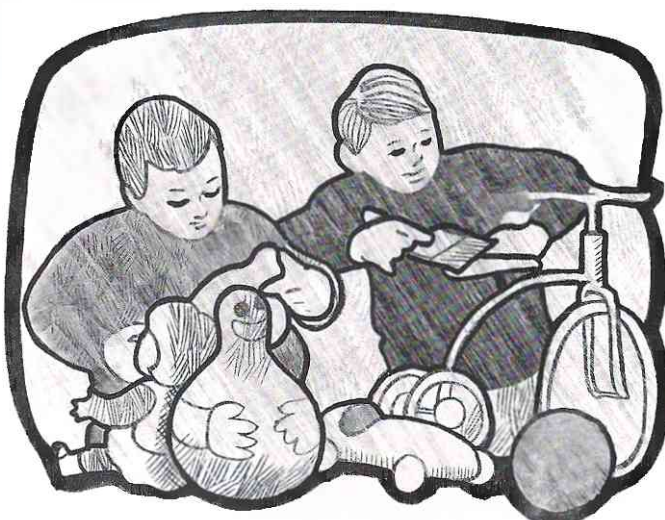
Scouts, Venturers and Rovers could show a Scouting movie and serve pop or tea and coffee, sandwiches and cookies in a room decorated especially by them for the occasion.

This would make a good show place for the many talents acquired during the year as a result of the assistance offered by these resource people.



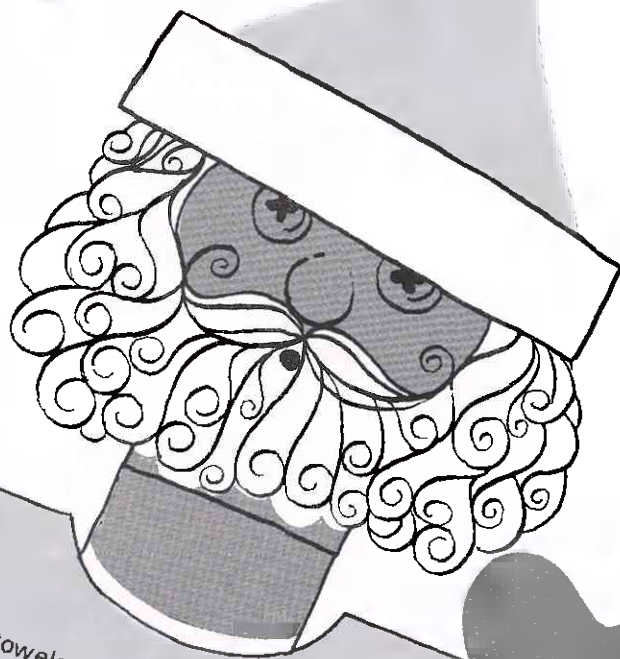
In all the commercialized hustle and bustle of the season, why not take time out for a carol singing night. This delightful practice has almost become a thing of the past and, when it is revived, too often is only a way to make a little money.

The sound of 20 or 30 young voices singing a well-rehearsed carol will open many doors and not a few hearts. Learn a few good carols, be ready to sing them with feeling, then go on out and entertain your neighbours as a way of saying "thank you" for their help over the year. Perhaps a homemade Christmas card to say thanks could be left behind at each stop.



The Christmas toy shop is still a much needed service we can provide, so start now to collect old toys, get together with some fathers or older boys and have a fix-up and paint-up weekend. The toys, once repaired, can be passed on to one of your neighbourhood service committees for distribution.

The practice of gift-giving can take on a brand new light if we try making our own gifts instead of buying them for our family and friends. Here are some gift suggestions (from Lewiscraft, a handicraft supplier in Toronto) that your Cubs can make themselves for their parents, younger brothers or sisters, or hospitals and institutions.



Materials

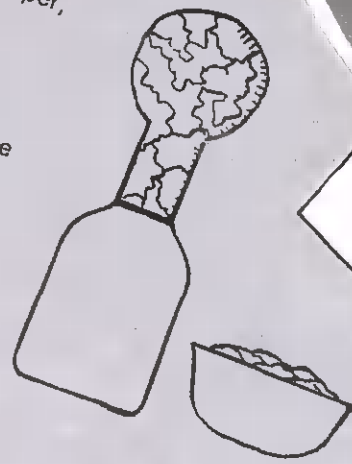
Instant Papier Mâché
Styrofoam Balls - 3" diameter
Cardboard Tubes (from paper towels, waxed paper, etc.)
Paint and Brushes
Mexican Papier Mâché Glaze (and Thinner)
9" Squares of Felt - assorted colours

This basic puppet structure can be used to make many different types of puppets - clowns, dolls, monkeys, etc. It all depends on how you wish to decorate it.

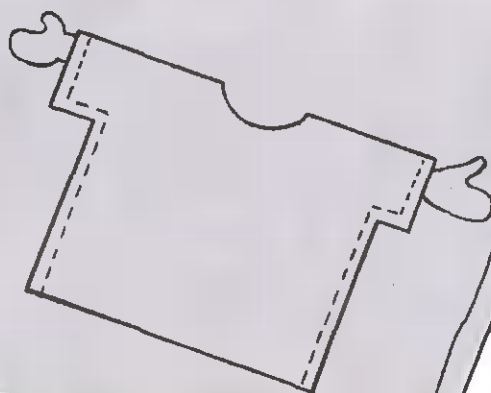
Cut a cardboard tube into 3" lengths. Cut a hole in a 3" styrofoam ball and push the roll into it. This forms the head and neck of your puppet.

Prepare a small amount of Instant Papier Mâché ball and cardboard roll (try resting it in the neck of a bottle while you work - it's much easier that way). For a smooth finish, dip your fingers in water and rub them over the surface. Facial features (nose, ears, bushy eyebrows, etc) can be built up with additional papier mâché. String or wool can be embedded in the wet mâché for hair (or you can be em-mâché to dry thoroughly (at least twenty-four hours).

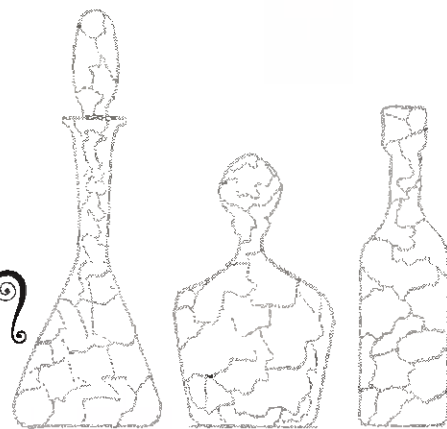
Before you paint the puppet head, you should coat it with Papier Mâché Glaze. This will seal the surface and prevent the paint from soaking into the dry mâché. When the glaze has dried, your puppet head is ready for painting - enamel or oil-base paints are best, but tempera paint can be used as a coat of glaze. When the paint is dry, seal the surface with a coat of glaze. Cut a body from a 9" square of felt, as shown in the illustration above. Trim with ribbon, wool, scraps of felt, etc. Glue the body to the puppet neck with a heavy-duty glue such as bond cement.



Hand Puppets



Bottles Painted with Art Tissue



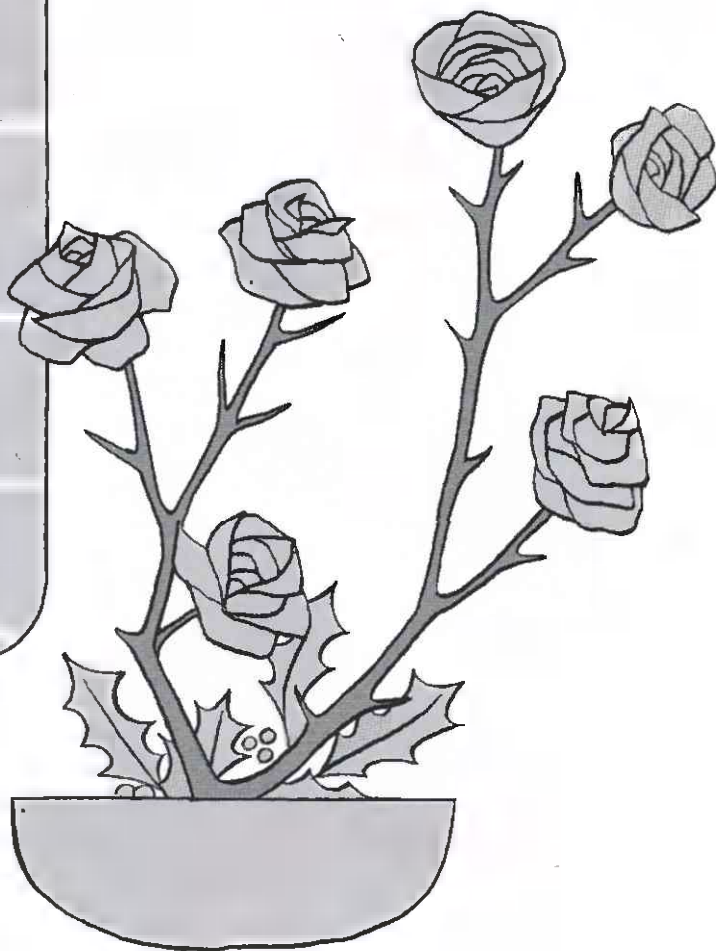
Materials

Bottles and jars of different shapes and sizes
Art Tissue - assorted colours
Elmer's Glue-All
Paint Brush - 1/2" flat
Plastic Spray

Empty bottles and jars of all shapes and sizes can be transformed into gay and unique vases, piggy banks, pencil holders and knick-knacks... they make great Christmas gifts for just about everybody.

Tear the art tissue into different shaped pieces - the size will depend on the size of the bottles being decorated. In a small bowl, mix a half-and-half solution of Elmer's Glue-All and water. Brush this watery mixture onto the surface of the bottle. Apply the pieces of art tissue to the bottle, coating each piece with the glue and water solution as you attach it. Apply several layers of art tissue, overlapping different colours for shaded effects. Allow the bottle to dry thoroughly.

The art tissue will fade considerably as it dries. To seal the surface, and to restore the original colours of the paper, spray the bottle liberally with plastic spray - we suggest two coats. As plastic spray dries very quickly, your bottle will be ready for use in a few minutes.



Rose Tree Centrepiece

Materials

Branch from a tree Floratape
Art Tissue Masking Tape
Wired Picks Plastic Spray

This easy-to-make rose tree makes a lovely table centrepiece for parties, banquets, teas, etc.

Anchor the branch in a solid base - a pot filled with plaster of Paris or modelling clay. Paint the branch with white enamel paint (or another colour of your own choosing) and decorate the base - with paint, or merely wrap with art tissue.

To Make Roses - Roll a sheet of art tissue around a wooden dowel, such as a broom handle. Crush the paper by pushing both ends together.

Remove the dowel without uncrinkling the paper. Cut the roll into 3" sections. Gently unroll each section and re-roll loosely around a wooden pick; wire the bottom to hold. Add a calyx from green art tissue. (Note: one sheet of art tissue will make about four roses.)

Fasten the roses to the branch with masking tape, and then wrap with floratape. To give the roses an iridescent look, and to prevent them from wilting, spray them thoroughly with plastic spray. ■



Warrander Studios

New Badges For The Chief Scout

The Chief Scout, Governor General Roland Michener, C.C., C.D., received the first badges and a badge sash of the new Boy Scout program from four Ottawa Scouts at Government House early in September.

Deputy Chief Scout *AVM* J. B. Harvey was also present for the ceremony and gave His Excellency the latest issues of The Scout Leader and Canadian Boy.

Do-It-Yourself Snowshoes

Scouts of the 5th Weyburn Troop in Saskatchewan have applied their ingenuity to the task of making their own snowshoes. A member of the troop's Group Committee provided the initial expertise for the project, but the boys were soon shaping and lacing their own snowshoes.

The frames for the shoes were made from broken hockey sticks, cut in two. They boiled the wood for two days to make it pliable enough for shaping. The Scouts cut holes and slots for the laces and bolted the pairs of sticks together, front and back. The cross pieces were added to give the snowshoes the desired shape and the toe of the shoe was turned up by propping it in position

until the wood had dried. The boys then added the lacing and foot harnesses made from lamp wicking - which had to be ordered specially since local hardware stores no longer stock that particular commodity. The final product that emerged was put to use to help earn the Winter Scouting badge.

Regatta Winners

Five days of competitive sailing ended in Saint John, N.B. on August 13 when two Calgary Scouts, Stan Devitt and Robert Grant took first place honours at the 8th National Boy Scout Sailing Regatta. The Calgary sailing team competed against teams from every province except Newfoundland and one from Cape Cod, U.S.A. to win the regatta trophy, the R. C. Stevenson Cup.



Hamilton Spectator

"Spiney The Thing" Attends Jamboree

A talking robot, "Spiney the Thing," and his creator Jack Wooton, a 15-year-old Scout from North Bay, Ont., were one of the prime attractions at the First Ontario Jamboree at Milton, Ont. in August.

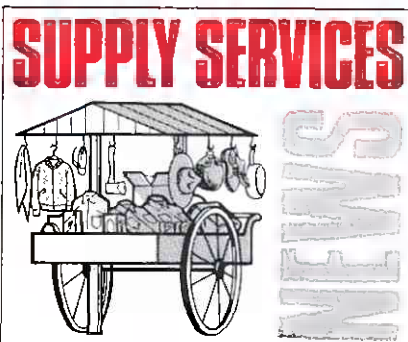
At the entrance to the Northlands sub-camp, Spiney answered questions from Scouts and their visitors with the aid of a microphone hidden 20 feet away. One group of campers became so attached to Spiney that they came by every evening to wish him goodnight.

It took Jack Wooton about two months to make Spiney, who stands about four feet high and has an intercom system encased in his head. The head is made from a rectangular tin can, the body is a wooden box about three feet high and the legs are made from pieces of lumber. Some of his older visitors spent considerable time trying to find the batteries and wires leading to his "voice," but they were too well hidden. After the Jamboree Spiney was put on display in a North Bay store. ■



SPECIAL OFFER - ARCTIC JAMBOREE CRESTS AND NECKERCHIEFS

There are a limited number of Arctic Jamboree Crests and Neckerchiefs still available. Crests are 50c and neckerchiefs \$1.25 (complete with crest), available from Relationships and Information Services, Boy Scouts of Canada, P.O. Box 5151, Postal Station F, Ottawa 5, Ontario.



We "goofed" in our news in the October Scout Leader by describing a SECOND as Seconder in the notice regarding Silver neckerchief slides.

Final arrangements for the supply of the NEW UNIFORM FOR LEADERS have been made--we are now optimistic of

having it ready for sale in January.

Demands for ITEMS FOR THE SCOUT '68 program have been heavier than anticipated--we apologize for any delay in obtaining fresh supplies, however, we know you will understand how difficult it is to forecast exact requirements.

We have been fortunate in obtaining a further supply of ORANGE NECKERCHIEF MATERIAL and can now respond to further orders for neckerchiefs utilizing this colour. We must warn customers, however, that we are experiencing difficulty in matching shades exactly in several other colours.

In answer to several inquiries--we are still experiencing production problems with the proposed NATIONAL NECKERCHIEFS for Cubs and Scouts.

We are working on it and hope to be able to make an announcement in the near future.

Regina and area Scouting now has an ADDITIONAL DEALER -- Hudson's Bay Company recently opened a Scout Department in its new downtown store.

Even while they are not listed in our current catalogue we can still fill orders for the following items:

Wool hose, navy with green tops, all sizes.

Bell bottom trousers, most sizes.

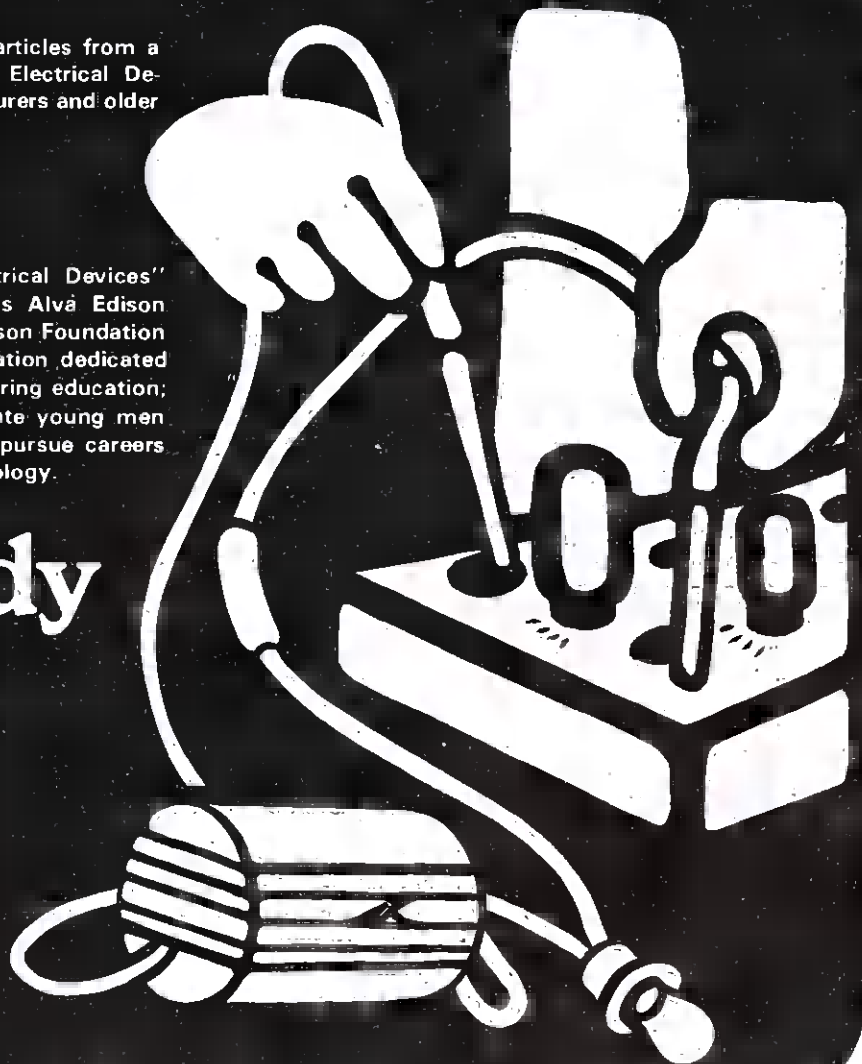
Here's news of a new and interesting catalogue item -- the Canadian Boy Stamp Outfit (catalogue 71-104, retail price \$2.95) will make an excellent Christmas gift. Experts tell us this is a real "value-for-money" item which will appeal to many boys. ■

This is the first in a series of five articles from a book, "How to Build 5 Useful Electrical Devices." All good projects for Venturers and older Scouts.

"How To Build 5 Useful Electrical Devices" is a publication of the Thomas Alva Edison Foundation. The Thomas Alva Edison Foundation is a non-profit education foundation dedicated to advancing science and engineering education; its primary purpose is to stimulate young men and women to investigate and pursue careers in science, engineering and technology.

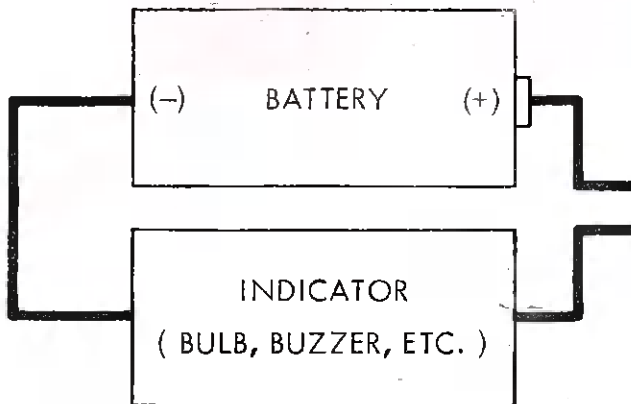
A Handy Circuit Tester

© 1967. Thomas Alva Edison
Foundation, Inc.



In general a circuit tester tells whether or not an unbroken conductive path exists for electricity to flow from one point to another. It therefore serves as a very useful tool for making sure an electrical circuit is continuous. At the same time, it is ideal for tracking down circuit openings caused by bad connections, wire breaks, dirty contacts, and similar faults.

Every electrical laboratory has a circuit tester in one form or other. Engineers, repairmen, and electricians use this device daily. You too will find it helpful in many ways, especially if you have to do any troubleshooting.



How It Works

Circuit testers vary in how they are designed and what they are called. People sometimes refer to them as continuity indicators, circuit tracers, or conductivity checkers. Depending upon their design, they show that a circuit is complete by either lighting a bulb or making some kind of sound. But regardless of their name or what they do, all circuit testers have the same basic parts. And they all work on the same principle.

The basic parts include a battery or dry cell, an indicator, and two probes connected as shown in the circuit diagram. The principle is obvious. When the two probes are touched together, the battery will activate the indicator. Therefore if each probe touches a different point in a dead series circuit and the indicator goes on, then that part of the circuit between the probes must be continuous.

The circuit tester will work with parallel circuits too. But you can be fooled unless you work with one leg at a time and have one end of this leg disconnected from the rest of the circuit.

Materials Needed to Build the Tester

- . 2 long thin nails for probes
- . 2 feet of insulated wire, any kind
- . Screw-type flashlight bulb for indicator
- . Socket (with lead-in wires) to hold bulb
- . Flashlight battery

How to Build It

Cut off a piece of wire about 1½ feet long, and remove ¼ inch of insulation from both ends. If you

can solder one of these ends to the top of a nail, do so. If you can't, then remove a little more insulation and wrap the exposed wire a few times around the upper part of the nail. Tape the wire securely to the nail.

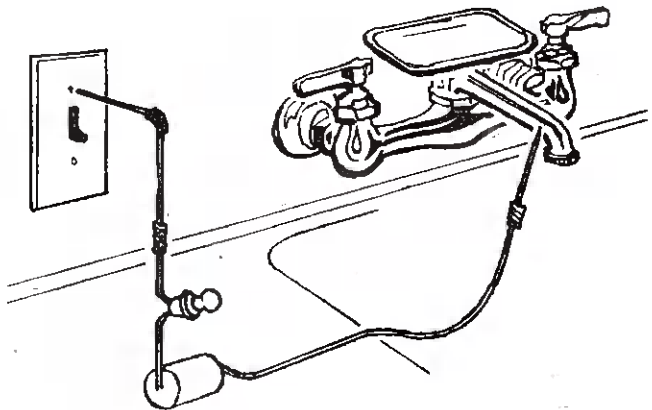
The other end of this wire goes to either end of the battery. Let's make it the positive end. Again, the connection should be made by soldering. And again, if you can't, tape will have to do for the time being.

Now attach one of the socket wires to the negative end of the battery. If you haven't been able to solder the battery connections, do the following: Encircle a strong rubber band around the battery, as many times as you can so that the taped-on wires press tightly against the battery at both ends.

Finally, bare the tips of the remaining ½ foot of wire. Splice the socket to one end of this wire, and fasten the second nail to the other end. If the battery, bulb, and connections are all good, touching the nails will light-up the bulb. You will then own an honest-to-goodness, workable circuit tester.

Suggested Uses for the Tester

Even though it does but one simple thing, the circuit tester has dozens of practical uses. For example it provides a sure way of checking a fuse to see if it is good or not. It can tell if the insulation in an appliance has broken down. And it is an excellent device for finding out whether the wall switch and electrical outlet boxes in your home are grounded.



This last application would give your circuit tester a real workout. To try it, you'll have to make the probe wires longer. Fasten one probe to a nearby water pipe or faucet; be sure you make good contact. With the other probe touch the cover plate screw of every wall switch and outlet in the house (but don't take the cover plate off or insert the probe into an outlet). The circuit-tester bulb should light up each time. If it doesn't, the metal box inside the wall is not grounded. And it should be, unless your house was erected before electrical codes for new buildings went into effect. ■

Books for Christmas



HAPPY CHRISTMAS, edited by W. K. Seymour and J. Smith. 253 pages. The Ryerson Press. \$7.95.

Christmas in all its facets is captured in this book, with a blend of stories and poems, some new and some familiar, to delight all ages. Christmas is visited from Elizabethan times through to today in the words of such famous authors as Dickens, Dylan Thomas, T. S. Eliot, Samuel Pepys, J. B. Priestly and Stephen Leacock. Richly illustrated with line drawings and full colour illustrations, it is a book made for family reading.

STORY OF SILENT NIGHT by Paul Gallico. 55 pages. General Publishing Co., Ltd. \$2.50.

During the night of December 23, 1818, a hungry mouse chewed through the leather bellows of the church organ in the small Austrian town of Oberndorf, near Salzburg. When the damage was discovered by the young assistant priest, Joseph Mohr, he realized that unless something was done immediately, there would be no music for Christmas. He wrote the words of a carol and asked the church organist, Franz Gruber to set it to music for guitar. On Christmas Eve the composition was performed by Gruber, with Mohr and a children's choir singing the words. Thus the much-loved "Silent Night" was born. It was to be one hundred years before Mohr and Gruber were to receive credit for their work. This book tells the full story of the composers and their carol and would be a fine addition to a group or family library.

THE CHRISTMAS BOOK, edited by James Reeves. 192 pages. William Heinemann Ltd. \$4.95.

This well-illustrated book deals with the twelve days of Christmas and provides a varied holiday fare including stories, poems and carols. A fine gift for adult and child.

WHEN MONSTERS ROAMED THE SKIES: The Saga of the Dirigible Airship by Joseph F. Hood. 145 pages. George J. McLeod Ltd. \$5.50.

If you lived during the dirigible era and many of us did, the sight of one of those great cigar-shaped airships was often a frightening experience. To look out a window on a clear day and see one hovering in its immensity overhead was enough to send chills up and down the spine. This book, the newest addition to the popular "Adventures in Flight" series details the history of flight through to the launching of Count von Zeppelin's 400 foot, first giant of the air, and beyond. After von Zeppelin's success people came to regard the dirigible and not the airplane, as the future in transportation. Soon all major nations were building dirigibles that flew over land and sea. The stories of many of the great silver airships - the **Graf Zeppelins**, the **Norge**, the **Shenandoah** and others that roamed the sky in a glorious age that came to an end with the crash of the **Hindenburg** are told in detail. This book would make an excellent addition to the library of an "airminded" boy or adult.

HAMBURGERS PLAIN AND FANCY by Ceil Dyer. 96 pages. Geo. J. McLeod Ltd. \$1.00.

Usually considered one of the basic items in the repertoire of the backyard chef, the hamburger gains new status in this unusual book. Here are 101 different ways to prepare the "lowly burger." Let your chef try the Madison Avenue, the South Boston, the Finger Burger, the Fork Burger, the Filled Burger, plus 96 more. Other highlights of the book include "All About Hamburgers," which discusses the types of beef burgers, and "Go-Withs," which contains recipes for the kinds of salads, baked beans, dips, spreads and sauces that turn ordinary meals into parties. An ideal gift for dad or his lad.

FIRE-WAGON HOCKEY (The Story of the Montreal Canadiens) by Andy O'Brien. 138 pages. The Ryerson Press. \$3.95.

The history of "Les Habs" is written by a veteran Montreal sportswriter who has been closely connected with the club for many years. It is an inside look at Canadiens and the famous players who have been on the team since 1917 and will be of interest to hockey fans of all ages. A good gift for a budding star.

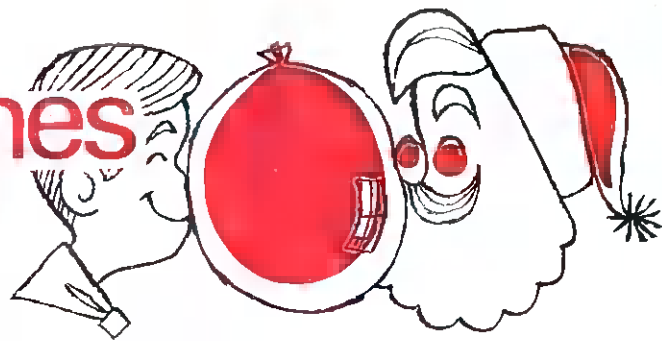
THE OUTDOOR GRILL COOKBOOK by the staff of the Culinary Arts Institute. 112 pages. Geo. J. McLeod Ltd. \$1.00.

Over 300 recipes to make glad the heart of the outdoor chef, even in the middle of winter. Originally published as the **Master Chef's Outdoor Grill Cookbook** and recognized as one of the leading books in its field, the entire contents are repackaged in this smaller (5 1/4" x 8 1/2") format. Line drawings accompany recipes for: appetizers; spreads; drinks; meats, fish and fowl main dishes; vegetables and desserts.

THE DANGEROUS SKY (Canadian Air-men in World War II) by Tom Coughlin. 213 pages. The Ryerson Press. \$6.95.

This story of some ninety men of the Royal Canadian Air Force in World War II will be of interest to veterans of the RCAF, men who were boys during that period and airminded boys of today. The exploits of such legendary heroes as Canada's top ace George "Buzz" Burling, who once shot down four enemy planes in one day, and K. O. Moore of Coastal Command, who destroyed two German U-boats in one half hour, are told along with stories of Transport Command, the Second Tactical Air Force and the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. The book is well illustrated with many original never-before-published photographs. ■

songs and games for Christmas



Here are some songs for the Christmas season, two of which are slightly different versions of old favourites. New or not, they should be a small addition to your pack or troop's carol-singing repertoire.

The games we chose this month with an eye to the cold weather and the holiday season. They are all indoor games that don't require too much space, and some of them could be fun at your Christmas party.

If you cut along the dotted lines around the instructions below and punch a hole in the six circles down the left side, you will have a handy page to place in your leader's pocket record book.

JINGLE BELLS

Dashing thro' the snow
In a one-horse open sleigh;
O'er the fields we go,
Laughing all the way;
Bells on bob-tails ring
Making spirits bright;
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight!

Jingle bells! Jingle bells!
Jingle all the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh!
Jingle bells! Jingle bells!
Jingle all the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh!

(Modern Verse)
Modern girls, of course,
Don't go out that way:
Wouldn't use a horse,
Can't abide a sleigh.

Clinging to their swains
On a motor-bike,
Or jammed into a hot-rod seat —
That's the stuff they like.

Putt-putt-putt, honk-honk-honk,
In the modern way,
Sixty miles an hour or more —
"Far too slow," they say:
Putt-putt-putt, honk-honk-honk —
That's the style today;
Oh, how very out-of-date
Is a one-horse sleigh!

THE CHRISTMAS CARD GAME

Take a set of old Christmas cards (about three times as many cards as there are Scouts in the troop) and cut each card into two pieces, making two sets of half-cards so that each half-card in one set has its counterpart in the other. Some of the cards should be cut so that the halves are easy to spot as belonging to each other (e.g., by cutting vertically down the middle of a coloured picture of a vase of flowers), and others should be made difficult to spot (e.g., by cutting along the horizon of a seascape). Distribute one set of half-cards all over the room (they should all be visible but not necessarily all of them obvious). Give one half-card from the other set to each Scout and keep the "pool" in your hand. On the word "Go!" all the Scouts try to find the other half of the piece that you have given them and bring it to show you. Every Scout finding a pair that fit is given a fresh half-card from the "pool" until there are none left. When all have finished, the patrol with the largest number of paired pieces wins.

A CHRISTMAS TELEGRAM

Have everyone write down the word "Christmas" leaving a space after each letter. Then allow ten minutes for all players to compose a telegram, the first word beginning with C, the next with H, the third with R and so on. The first word should be the name of the person to whom the telegram is sent, the last word the name of the sender. The players then read out their own attempts in turn, the winner being the one who has composed the most original.

Adult Education Program

Training documents available - 25¢ each

Documents primarily for the use of councils concerned with administration of adult education programs:

- AT-002-08 Plan for Adult Education
- AT-003-08 Classification and Coding of Adult Training Documents
- AT-004-08 Administration of Training Records
- AT-005-08 Form and Content of Adult Training Documents
- AT-006-08 Style Guide for Adult Training Documents

Documents primarily for the use of adult trainers:

- TI-009-08 Training by Consultation
- TP-001-08 Designing Training Events
- HL-001-18 The Role of the Section Scouter

- IZ-001-18 Getting to Know Boys
- OS-001-98 Converting to the New Boy Scout Program
 - 1. Concepts
- OS-002-98 Converting to the New Boy Scout Program
 - 2. Implementation
- OZ-001-18 Programming
- OZ-002-18 Working with Boys

Documents for the use of section Scouters and adult trainers:

- RH-001-08 Coping with Change
- TI-002-08 Films and Tape Recording
- TI-003-08 Paired Interviews and Triads
- TI-005-08 Group Observation and Evaluation Techniques

CHRISTMAS DINNER

A simpler game for Cubs along the same lines: — Give each six a piece of paper with CHRISTMAS written vertically down the side and tell them that after each letter they must write the name of some article that could be found on the table at Christmas dinner — e.g., C for cranberry sauce, H for hamburgers, and so on. They can also use articles used in the table setting, e.g., S for saltshaker. Each list doesn't necessarily have to add up to a menu you would want to sample, as long as every item mentioned is one that could be found on the dinner table at one time or another.

BALLOON RELAY

Divide the pack in pairs in sixes. First pair in each six place a balloon between their cheeks and run with it, without holding each other, to the end of the room and back to their respective sixes. Next pair then continue in the same way. First six to finish and at the alert wins.

BALLOON BLINDMAN'S BLUFF

You can use up the balloons after the relay with this game, which provides a lot of noisy fun. Players of teams, in turns, see a small balloon on the floor, are then blindfolded and walk to where they think the balloon is, and may then — without feeling — make three stamps to try and burst the balloon. The team bursting the most balloons wins. To make the game one of skill rather than luck, let each player have two tries and the position of the balloon should not remain constant.

HOLY NIGHT, PEACEFUL NIGHT

(Tune: Silent Night)

Holy night, peaceful night,
Through the darkness beams a light,
Yonder, where they sweet vigil keep,
O'er the Babe who in silent sleep,
Rests in heavenly peace,
Rests in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holiest night,
Darkness flies, and all is light!
Shepherds hear the angels sing:
"Alleluia! Hail the King!
Jesus, the Saviour is here!
Jesus, the Saviour is here!"

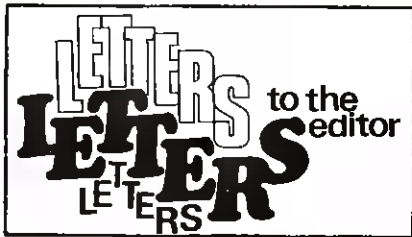
Silent night, holiest night,
Wondrous star, O lend thy light,
With the angels let us sing
"Alleluia to our King,
Jesus, our Saviour is here!
Jesus, our Saviour is here!"

BELLS

What is that joyful sound I hear,
That sounds so sweetly on the ear?
It is the sound of distant bells,
Of peace and joy their music tells.

(Sung on an octave.)

1. Working down
2. Working down
3. Working up
4. Working down.)



PROGRAM CHANGES

Dear Sir:

In your October issue of The Scout Leader you dealt with changes in the Wolf Cub Five Star and Badge Programs. Although mentioned in the article that these changes would be incorporated in revised editions of "The Way to the Stars" and "Star and Badge Activities" which would be available in the fall, would it not have been possible to print up the new and revised requirements and badge changes in a form similar to your Camp Fire Songs and Action Games pages, so that the article could have been clipped and placed in the Scouters Pocket Record Book? Would it be possible for you to keep this in mind when changes in requirements are made for any of the sections? This would keep the Scouter up-to-date and better able to use the new material.

I asked several Scouters in our district what they thought of this idea and received a very favourable response.

Yours in Scouting
R. J. Skrepnek, ACM,
Monarch Park District,
Greater Toronto Region.

Ed: A good suggestion Mr. Skrepnek! In the future, space allowing, we will do just that, thanks.

MORE ABOUT UNIFORM

Dear Sir:

In the June/July issue of The Scout Leader, you published a picture of the new uniform for lady Scouters. I say this style of uniform is outmoded. It might be all right for any female leader who wants to be at her best for ceremonies but I must say that female Scouters can be expected to be just as active and adventurous as male leaders. I feel that the present uniform is more feminine and would seem to serve its purpose.

If the National Council persists in changing the existing style, they should switch to either mini's or maxi's, but whatever the decision, it should be kept in mind that our female leaders require a uniform which allows freedom to move in active games and outdoor programs, as well as being attractive.

I would be interested in hearing opinions of the female Scouters themselves.

Yours truly,
Earl Wiltsie, C.M.
St. Laurent/Cartierville District

Dear Sir:

I understand our new uniform is to be a grey blouse and skirt along with a blazer, beret and tie of burgundy. I still like the Scout green, but as our Cubs are in grey, I suppose our uniform was bound to change. I agree with Mrs. M. Simpson of Burlington as to grey--we'll get grey fast enough. But all joking aside, could we not substitute a white blouse for the grey?

Mrs. Eleanor Tack,
Cubmaster,
Napanee, Ontario.

SCOUT ESPERANTO LEAGUE

Dear Sir:

The publicity of the past year regarding our country's centenary has overshadowed another anniversary which I am sure will be of interest to your readers - the 50th anniversary of the Scout Esperanto League - 1918-1968.

Since its very small beginning the League has steadily grown and now includes Scouts and Cubs in many countries who correspond, exchange ideas and gifts, etc. by means of the international language Esperanto, which, as I am sure you will know, received the blessing of "B.P." in his book "Scouting for Boys."

Through the efforts of a few dedicated Esperantists, the Canadian section of the League was able to be represented in the Scout compound at Expo '67 with hundreds of leaders, Scouts and Cubs being shown the use and facility of the language.

Esperanto is the only feasible answer to the language problem, and several millions of users can readily testify to this, including members of our Canadian section.

The language has an added value to Canadian boys because they can now obtain the special badge - Mi Parolas Esperante.

Any further information on the league may be obtained by writing to: J. Hoyle, Box 621, Forest, Ont., or U.P. Ronald, 45 100th Ave., Roxboro, Que.

Sincerely,
John H.F. Hoyle,
National Representative,
Canadian Section,
Scout Esperanto League.

Ed: If you're interested, write Mr. Hoyle.

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