

THE CANADIAN DECEMBER 1972

leader



SUPPLY SERVICES



It is again our pleasure to wish our customers a **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.** 1972 has been a "consolidation" year with little or no change in uniform. It has, consequently, seen less inconvenience and disappointment.

Our full-colour catalogue and uniform leaflets have resulted in a rejuvenation of interest in Supply Services products — especially in uniform. We sincerely hope this has assisted you, our leaders, in instilling pride of membership in Boy Scouts of Canada.

Our wishes for a successful 1973.

Here's news of an interesting book we now stock — its title is "**Science Experiments & Amusement for Children.**" It includes 72 easy experiments for which no special equipment is needed and which illustrate important scientific principles. The Canadian price is \$1.50 and its catalogue number: 20-241.

You will probably have noticed that our new catalogue included **Cub pencils** and **Scout pencils**, three inches long. These have a metal ring for attaching the pencil to a belt or lanyard — at 15¢ each they are a good buy, especially as a Christmas present, as they are not easy to lose.

The Cake and Sandwich Dish dropped from our new catalogue is again available — it has the Scout emblem and Cub emblem etched on polished aluminum. Its price is \$8.95 and the catalogue number is 60-320.

During visits to dealers in southwestern Ontario recently, a Supply Services representative noted that many of them still had large quantities of catalogues available. These are distributed to customers as requested. Supply Services, too, has a considerable quantity available. We are most anxious to get catalogues into the hands of those we are trying to serve and we ask leaders to make sure that each member of their group gets a copy. Write Supply Services TODAY for a supply or obtain them from your local dealer.

Cub Uniform leaflets and **Scout Uniform leaflets** are again available through Scout offices. Make sure you have a few of these helpful, handy leaflets available.

The new, **SKI-MATIC style Cub Toque** is really proving to be a popular item. An ideal item of winter wear, both warm and comfortable, it is shown on page 3 of the catalogue.

Don't be disappointed by being unable to get **snowshoes** when you need them. Last season we disappointed many customers because of the exceptionally heavy demand. Make sure you get your requirements by ordering NOW — they are shown on page 9 of the catalogue.

We receive many mail orders on which the name and address of the customer are difficult to decipher. This often leads to delay and, sometimes, mistakes. May we request that all names and addresses on mail orders be printed. Thanks.

"A QUESTION ANSWERED"

Why do we have a Supply Services — could not private enterprise fulfil the same function?

It is very doubtful whether private enterprise could, or would, be prepared to make available the numerous items — many for which only a small demand exists and which are produced especially for Scouting. Without some coordination there would be many problems associated with development (which calls for Scouting experience and expertise), and with advertising and distribution, which would be next to impossible to overcome. It is not difficult to visualize the costly confusion which would result from the duplicated efforts of our seventy-five suppliers when endeavoring to advertise and sell their individual wares to the hundreds of thousands in the Scouting family across Canada.

Supply Services is the coordinating factor — centralizing all business procedures (development, procurement, storage, distribution, advertising, accounting) at one location in National Headquarters in Ottawa, thus simplifying the fulfilling of Scouting-customer needs in an orderly and economical way.

The centralized operation also assists in the protection of Boy Scouts of Canada copyright.



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THE CANADIAN

DECEMBER 1972 VOLUME 3 NUMBER 4

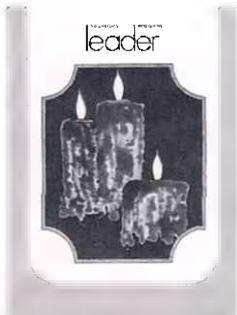
leader

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JAMES F. MACKIE, Editor

BEATRICE LAMBIE, Assistant Editor **MICHEL PLANT**, Editorial and Advertising

COVER



Although candles are no longer as widely used, they still play an important part in the decorations of Christmas and, along with holly and greenery, bring new life to a dying year. In medieval times, people believed that the Christ Child wandered through the streets on Christmas Eve, looking for those who believed in Him. So candles were put in windows to guide Him to their homes. Once again, to you and your boys, the staff of *The Canadian Leader* send their very best wishes for an old-fashioned, family Christmas and a New Year of happiness. **Cover by Bruce Rawlins.**

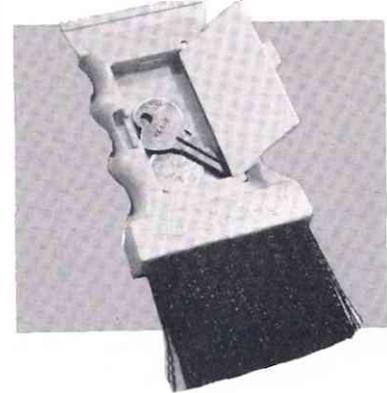
THE CANADIAN LEADER magazine is published monthly, except for combined issues of June-July and August-September, by Canyouth Publications Ltd., P.O. Box 5112, Stn. "F," Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3G7. Second class mail registration number 2405. Yearly subscription prices: in Canada and to Canadian Forces overseas, \$2.00, outside Canada, \$2.50. Address manuscripts to the Editor, **THE CANADIAN LEADER** magazine, P.O. Box 5112, Stn. "F," Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3G7. The publishers will take all reasonable care but will not be responsible for the loss of manuscripts, photographs or drawings. Recommended by Boy Scouts of Canada.

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Winter Camping

By Bruce Hopson

Challenge your Scout troop or Venturer company to a winter-weekend camp! With the proper preparation your boys will enjoy adventure and fun, and the satisfaction that comes from knowing they have experienced the outdoors under extreme conditions.

When you think about it, summer is pretty good to us: poorly trained and ill-prepared campers can get away with improvising and inexperience. Winter is less forgiving to the camper who makes mistakes, and the results are potentially more disastrous in terms of comfort in camp. But there are no mosquitoes, blackflies or similar pests to make life miserable in the winter, so let's prepare ourselves for winter camping, and enjoy it.

Snowshoes are a boon to any winter camp or hike and every boy should have a pair, but the expense of a good pair of snowshoes is often too much to expect every Scout and Venturer to own his. So why not make your snowshoes as a troop project? Scouter John Purchase of Bracebridge, Ontario, has sent us plans for making "Panther Paws," plywood snowshoes which can be made easily in a short time. These "Panther Paws" closely resemble the wooden-plank snowshoes made by the Naskapi Indians of northern Quebec.

John's Panther Patrol made their snowshoes of two pieces, measuring 12" by 24", of 3/8" fir plywood. The outline pattern and toe-hole were cut out with an electric sabre saw. Crossbars, 3/4" square, were fastened to the bottom of the snowshoes with glue and screws. The crossbars help to prevent slipping on hills and crusty snow. The two slots for the harness were made by drilling a series of holes and finishing the slot with a chisel. After a light sanding, the snowshoes were waterproofed with two coats of urethane varnish. A simple harness may be made from one-inch lampwick, using about five feet for each snowshoe. To fit the snowshoes, loop the wicking over the toe of moccasin or boot, pass the two ends through the slots behind the toehole, then pass the wicking diagonally across the toe. Take the ends around the heel and back up to the toe, where they are tied together. These snowshoes will support 165 pounds. For heavier people you may have to enlarge the snowshoe up to 36 inches long.

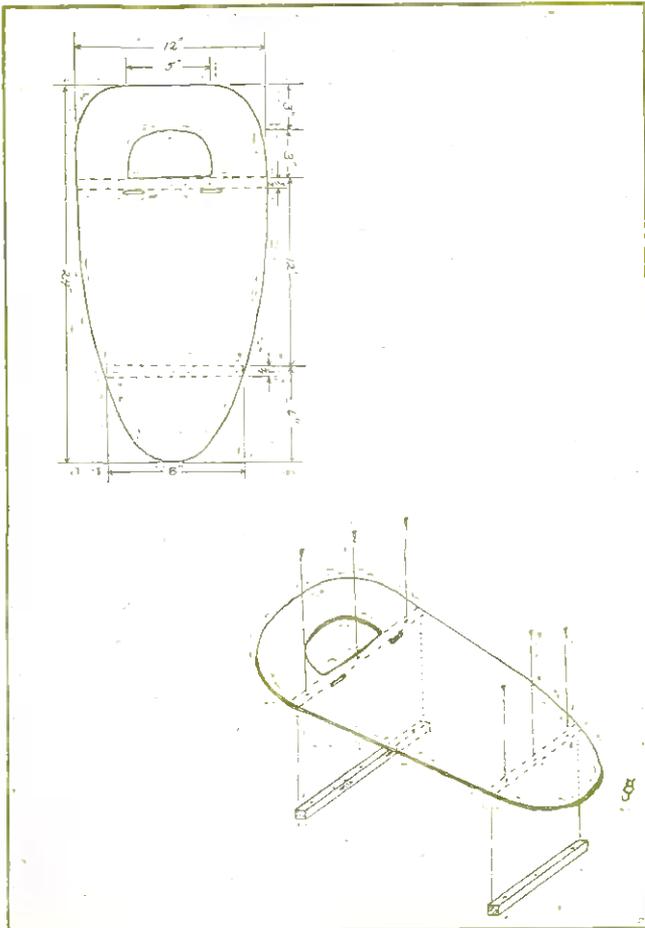
Who should go to a winter camp? Well, just about anyone, but it is wise to take inexperienced Scouts for a couple of one-day hikes to prepare them for the rigours of a weekend. Use these hikes to try out your snowshoes, practise fire-lighting and cooking.

You can't just build a fire on the snow — the snow will melt and the next thing you know your fire is at the bottom of a hole. Take some wide aluminum foil and spread it on snow which you have compacted with your snowshoes. Then build your fire on top of it. The foil helps reflect the heat away from the snow. If you don't mind packing it, a sheet of light, galvanized metal will serve the same purpose. The old technique of using green logs for a fire base is discouraged because of the damage to our natural resources. Remember, too, if you use foil: take it back with you when you strike camp and stick it in the garbage as it will not disintegrate.

Take a tent or two on your one-day outing and let Scouts practise tent pitching in the snow. *The Canadian Scout Handbook* gives some tips, but practice is important.

Make sure each Scout knows how to dress for cold weather. The little secret is "dressing in layers" so you can shed or add clothes as you require them...for example, while hiking, body temperature rises so you will want to take off a jacket or sweater; in camp you will need that jacket to keep warm when you are less active. It is equally important to keep dry. Snow may dampen you, but perspiration is the trouble-maker. When you are damp, you get cold! Anti-perspirant won't do — dress so you can shed clothes when you need to. Here are some tips: start with a pair of flannel pyjama bottoms and a good thermal undershirt. Long-Johns are a no-no: they cling to the body and absorb sweat, and they don't provide those little air pockets that retain body heat. The second layer should be a flannel or wool shirt and a pair of ski slacks that are designed to shed snow. Jeans or heavy wool trousers absorb snow and moisture. Top this off with a wool sweater and a windproof jacket. A pair of wool mitts, with a pair of waterproof leather or vinyl mitts on top, will keep the hands warm. Wear a hat or

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- Hot Stuff!

toque that will cover the ears. Keep the head covered under all conditions, as the head does not have a heat regulating mechanism like the rest of the body.

Footwear in the winter depends a lot on the weather conditions. In dry snow there's no beating a pair of moccasins or shoepacks and a couple of pairs of wool socks. For moist conditions, a pair of insulated, high-cut, leather boots are a must because moccasins slurp up moisture. As an alternative, try a pair of socks, light running shoes, a pair of socks over the shoes and a pair of galoshes. (You can wear boots on those "Panther Paws," but not on conventional, rawhide-laced snowshoes.) With footwear, the important thing is to make sure it is not too tight - you will cut the circulation and cold will set in. When snowshoeing with moccasins, stop once in a while to massage the feet as the harness tends to cut down blood circulation and accelerate frostbite.

Once you have made these basic preparations, you are ready for the weekend camp. Here is a suggested checklist of personal gear for a weekend in the snow.

To wear:

pyjama bottoms
thermal undershirt
ski slacks
wool shirt
sweater
windbreaker, parka or anorak
two pairs wool socks
water-repellent boots
wool gloves or mitts
water-repellent mitts
cap or toque
handkerchiefs
knife
matches
a couple of your favourite chocolate bars

To carry in your pack:

extra socks
extra flannel shirt
pyjamas
sleeping bag: either a good arctic bag, or a wool blanket inside a summer bag, or two bags: one inside the other
ground sheet or air mattress
newspapers (very important)
eating tools: sheath knife, spoon, cup, bowl and plate.
You don't need a knife and fork.
your share of group equipment

The newspapers in your pack will help you sleep warmly. The trick is to put them between your air mattress and sleeping bag. Remember that 75% of the cold you want to avoid comes up from the ground. Newspapers are very good insulators and, in a pinch, you can start your fire with them. When you leave camp, take them back with you or burn them.

Now for the patrol equipment:

tents
pressure stove and lantern
Swede saw
kitchen utensil kit
dishmop
bucket
shovel

two pots with lids: one big, one not so big
large, iron frying pan
candles
tea pot, if desired
garbage bags
food - but we'll get to that

Small tents are recommended as they are warmer than big tents. Pressure stoves and lanterns are here to stay so we might as well use them.

A Swede saw is far superior to an axe in the winter. First of all, chopping frozen wood is difficult because

the axe tends to bounce off the wood. Saws don't make half the mess of chips an axe does and they cut twice as fast.

Cold weather and vigorous activities develop hearty appetites. When your Scouts design their menus they should consider nutritional value as well as ease of preparation. Here's where foil cookery is regal. It's fast... it's easy... and there are no pots to wash.

Try this for breakfast: Good Old Porridge... it's good and it's hot. Eggs baked in foil: make a cup out of foil, crack an egg or two into it and stick it in hot coals (sprinkled with ashes so you don't burn the egg) for five minutes; and exit: egg, sort-of-poached. Never neglect toast and jam. Finish with tea, coffee or hot chocolate. Don't forget Vitamin C which your body cannot store: some powdered orange juice will do the job.

Shredded Wheat cereal offers a fast and pot-free meal. Heat with hot water: the recipe is on the box. They go all mushy, but are good and, again, hot. For something different, take an egg and a sharp, thin stick. Pass the stick through the egg carefully and roast it over hot coals. It's like a boiled egg, only it's roasted.

Here is a lunch which employs one frying pan. It's called **Slurp**: assemble ½ pound of diced, slab bacon; 2 chopped onions; 1½ pounds of hamburger; 2 green peppers; cook the lot in your iron frying pan. (There's nothing like an iron frying pan; well worth trucking into the bush.) When it's cooked, the onions look glassy. Add 1 medium-size can of tomatoes and stir everything together. Serve over thick slices of bread which you have cut from a loaf of previously unsliced bread.

Kabobs are good, too - no pots. Cut a group of green sticks suitable for skewering. Foods you can skewer are potatoes, round steak, onions, bacon and just about anything you can push a stick through. Roast the works over the fire until tender.



Mmmm, scrumptious. Carefully prepared food, besides being a necessity at winter camp, somehow ALWAYS tastes much better.

- The Lethbridge Herald Photo

(continued on page 6)



For these Scouts, a metal drum, cut in half lengthwise, makes a first-class fireplace that will not sink into the snow or endanger the groundcover.

— The Guelph Mercury Photo

Suppers are like lunches and can be interchanged. Our troop calls this one **Conestoga Burgoo** and who knows where it came from. Take one can condensed tomato soup and one of vegetable soup. Crank off the lids and pour over hamburger which you have previously sautéed in your iron frying pan. To this add enough boiled macaroni to stretch the meal among the patrol. A one-pot, one iron-frying-pan meal. Use your gas stove.

While we're busy opening cans, let's remember that canned foods freeze like everything else and, when frozen, the contents may be a little difficult to pry out. The solution is to plunge the tin, unopened, into some hot water for a minute.

Here's a foil dinner that's inside out: **Hamburglers**.

Take enough hamburger or, preferably, ground chuck to feed the patrol (allow $\frac{1}{2}$ pound per hungry Scout — hungry being relative), and make two thin patties for each Hamburgler desired. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. To assemble: divide the total number of beef patties by two and cut that many slices of onion and cheese. The idea is to get the onions and cheese between the two meat patties, using the meat to seal everything together. Wrap the works in foil and place in hot coals for ten minutes, turning once. Cook in foil, similarly, one spud and two carrots, both thinly sliced (in butter), per person. Remember that the latter take a little longer to cook — prepare them first. Top this off with baked apples, cored and stuffed with brown sugar and cinnamon, cooked in foil.

Burgers in Armour are hamburgers, onions, thinly sliced potatoes and anything else that sounds good, all grouped together in foil and cooked on the coals.

Apart from the fact that foil saves on pots, you will find that everything tastes much better, almost better than home-cooking, because the foil retains all the scrumptious juices in the food that otherwise are boiled away. Satisfaction guaranteed!

As a Scout, you would be committing mortal sin if you neglected "Mug-Up," the cherished bedtime snack. In the winter, even Scouters like a mug of hot chocolate and a fistful of cookies.

First Aid is amply covered in *The Canadian Scout Handbook*, except for one thing: **frostbite**. Prevention is always better than cure so the idea here is to keep the face moving — skin freezes when it is stationary, so to speak. Solution: either make faces at each other or, more simply, chew gum. Result: less chance of frostbite. Snow-blindness and bandage application are covered in the book.

Now we are ready to go camping!

If you have a favourite, summer camping spot, why not use it in the winter? With all the snow around, it will be like camping in a totally different place. Find a campsite that is sheltered from the wind: wind can make a camp twice as cold. If possible, try hiking a short distance to the site, packing your gear either on your back or on a toboggan. Your *Handbook* gives you good tips on packing gear. Make sure to allow more time for hiking and setting up camp than you would in summer. If you cannot locate a water supply, melt compact snow, but the same water-purification precautions should be taken as in summer. Water chlorination kits are available at provincial health departments and are the best method.

Once your camp is set up, it's time to start the fun. Here are some suggestions around a weekend program for a Scout troop or Venturer company.

If you plan to leave Friday, allow enough daylight time to set up camp: tents, fireplace and firewood. A pot of hot chocolate served by the Scouters is a good way to warm the spirits after some hard work at tent pitching and wood gathering. Ensure that no Scout unfurls his sleeping bag **until** bedtime. Unfurled sleeping bags allow moisture to get into all the little air spaces in the bag. Therefore, fluff up your sleeping bag just before turning in. Have each Scout stuff his clothes in the bottom of his sleeping bag to keep them dry and warm. It is important that all campers change into a *pair of fresh pyjamas*. The body gives off about one pint of water during the night so a Scout sleeping in his clothes will be damp in the morning and, therefore, cold. First thing in the morning, every Scout should air his sleeping bag for an hour or so to dry it. Afterward, roll it up again.

Have a good breakfast as soon as you are up, and take care to wash your dishes and pots in hot water, rinse them and air dry. Don't neglect to wash yourself as well: apart from being hygienic, it wakes you up fast.

If it is more practical to arrive at your campsite on the Saturday morning, leave early so you'll have time to set up camp well before lunch.

If you have time for a morning activity, why not try some orienteering with a compass and couple this with tree identification? Orienteering will acquaint your campers with the surrounding country, which could be important in the evening, and identifying trees by bark and shape alone will be a challenging activity. This will take you through to lunch. Make sure to allow a little more time for meal preparation in the winter.

There are any number of activities that can be done at a winter camp — skiing, skating, tobogganing and snowballing — which we can often do just as well elsewhere. Why not have a shot at building a snow shelter? Or an obstacle course?

When the snow is sticky you can build a dandy snow shelter by constructing "walls" from a bunch of snow balls. Make it square, roof it with skis or spars and a tarpaulin; cut a small door in the side. If it is built with low, three- to four-foot walls, it will be quite warm — some of the Scouts might try sleeping in one of these instead of tents; they are warmer because the snow acts as insulation.

While the snow shelters are in progress, get some of the Scouts to set up an obstacle course or, if there are some Venturers along, they might offer some ideas and assistance in this project. Next month we hope to include in *The Canadian Leader* an article on setting up an obstacle course.

After supper, when it starts to get dark, let's get on those snowshoes we made and enjoy a simple, wide game like "Capture the Flag," which is all the more fun in the snow. Afterward, have some hot chocolate ready, roast some marshmallows over the fire, and then to bed.

Another interesting aspect of winter camping is that no animal can go anywhere without leaving tracks, and snow tracks are usually easy to find, so you might try some plaster-casting. You will need an atomizer bottle, some paper clips, strips of light cardboard about two inches wide and some plaster of Paris. The technique is to spray water on the track until a layer of ice forms,



With practice, pitching a tent on packed snow is little problem. Note the method of tying the snowshoe harness using one-inch lampwick.

thick enough to support the plaster. Make a ring of the cardboard and fasten it with a paper clip. Put this around the track, pour in the plaster and, when it dries, you will have an impression of the animal track. This is one thing you can take home as a souvenir of your winter camp.

Before you strike your camp, remember to have each patrol collect **all** the garbage, stuff it in a garbage bag and take it home with you. That way, when you return in the summer, or other Scouts wish to use your campsite, they will not be confronted with your residue.

A winter-weekend camp with a lively program is an excellent way to let Scouts test their winter-camping skills. It's a pack of fun and makes an excellent wrap-up for Scouts earning the Bronze or Silver Winter Scouting Badge.

BRUCE HOPSON is a Venturer Advisor with the 32nd Ottawa Group. He has attended the University of Victoria and Carleton University, majoring in English, Psychology and Journalism, and has been approved for a position on the executive staff, Boy Scouts of Canada. He is presently employed by Program Services at the National Office on project work with the Scout Program evaluation and Leader Surveys.

This low snow shelter, with improvised roof of skis and canvas, provides comfort and warmth for four. The door should be small and away from the wind.



ARE THERE THESE FIRE HAZARDS IN YOUR HOME?



Fire Prevention Is Everybody's Job

We thank the Dominion Fire Commissioner of the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, for material used in this article.

If you should waken tonight to find your house on fire, how would you escape? If you can't answer that question quickly, it's time you did some serious planning. The safety of your family is at stake. Fire prevention is most important, but you must also plan the family's escape in case of fire.

PLAN IN ADVANCE

Hold a family meeting. The plan you make could mean the difference between life and death. Its purpose is to evacuate the house quickly and safely.

Assess your house for escape routes from every room. You need a route other than the door opening on a hall. During a fire, a hall is like a superheated chimney and becomes impassable. Everyone should know how to break a window safely, if necessary. Use a heavy object, such as a chair, while shielding your face against flying glass.

Smoke and gasses — not flame — are the primary killers. Closed doors will keep smoke out of a room for a time, giving you a chance to escape by an alternative exit. Before opening a door during a fire, put your hand flat against the door. If it is hot, don't open it! Head for the other escape exit, crouching down if smoke has entered the room.

Your escape plan will help only if remembered. Plan a fire drill at home; include practice in escaping from the house or apartment. **There must be a pre-arranged meeting place for the family outside the building.**

INSTRUCT YOUR BABYSITTER

During your absence, the sitter is responsible for the safety of your children and your property. Impress upon

her that, in the event of fire, the first and most important thing to do is **GET THE CHILDREN OUT QUICKLY AND STAY WITH THEM.** Tell her to wrap them in blankets, not take time to dress them.

- Show your sitter through your house so she will be familiar with each part of it.
- Be sure she knows the quickest way out for the children if she has to get them out because of fire.
- Show her the alternative escape routes in case the regular route, such as the stairway, is blocked by fire.
- Give her the telephone number of a nearby friend who can come to her assistance quickly, as well as one where you may be reached.
- She must call the Fire Department as soon as possible **from a neighbour's house.**

Every year we hear about tragedies caused by fire. **But fires do not happen. They are caused.** Many are caused by carelessness, ignorance/or lack of forethought. Panic is hard to control but, if everyone had a fire-escape plan, many who panic could be removed from endangering themselves and others.

WHAT TO DO rather than **WHAT NOT TO DO** is the most effective approach. However, what not to do cannot be left to chance when dealing with health and safety.

Everyone should know how to give a fire alarm by telephone and at the alarm box. Everyone should know he must wait at the alarm box for firemen to arrive to direct them to the fire. If you should telephone the fire department, give your address first in case your call is cut short by flames. Many panic-stricken callers don't disclose the location of the fire.

If you are working with a group in a school or building with fire bells, tour the building with the boys to show them where the alarm boxes are located. Show how the bells are rung. Plan two routes out of the building which could be used if the fire alarm were to ring.

We must teach our youngsters what to do in case clothing catches fire: **persons should never run if their clothing catches fire.** Smother the flames in a blanket or coat. If this is impossible, the person should lie on the ground and smother the flames by rolling over and over.

When someone is burned even slightly, he must receive medical attention immediately.

KNOW THE DANGER OF LIGHTNING

- At the approach of an electrical storm, one should seek shelter in a building or lie on the ground, away from trees and fences.
- Kites with metal ribs or wires or tinsel twine for the tail are **always** dangerous.
- Flying any type of kite during the approach of a storm is dangerous.

FIRE FIGHTING

- Fires sometimes can be smothered by removal of the oxygen supply: covering with dirt or sand; covering with a rug or blanket; or sweeping with a broom, as in a grass fire.
- Water puts out fires by reducing their temperature to below ignition point.
- Fires may be kept from spreading by wetting the surroundings: by pouring water on walls and roofs of nearby buildings.
- If water is used on a small flame, use a little at a time rather than all at once.
- Water should be applied to the burning substance at the base of the flame, **not the flame itself.**
- **Special "fog" nozzles diffuse the water into minute droplets and increase the effectiveness of the water in putting out fires.**

Times when water MUST NOT be used, except as "fog":

- on oil or gasoline fires, as the burning oil floats on water and spreads to a larger area;
- on fires in electrical circuits because water conducts electricity and may cause further short-circuiting and fires.

A LARGE PROPORTION OF CANADA'S ANNUAL FIRE LOSS OCCURS ON FARMS:

- improper storing of hay, grain and fodder may cause spontaneous ignition;
- smoking, lanterns and faulty wiring in barns are important causes of fire;
- farm buildings often are in remote areas and should be equipped with lightning protection;
- dry vegetation and scrub around all buildings should be kept cut.

BECOME FAMILIAR WITH INCIDENCE OF FIRES AND THEIR CAUSES

Smokers' carelessness causes 47% of all Canadian home fires.

Heating equipment causes 16% of all Canadian home fires.

Flammable liquids cause 4% of all Canadian home fires. Electric wiring causes 10% of all Canadian home fires. Rubbish and trash cause about 12% of all Canadian home fires.

Discuss with your boys the causes of the greatest number of fires. Then consider the causes of the greatest fire loss. Investigate whether there are any fires

beyond the control of man. What can be done about lightning as a cause of fire?

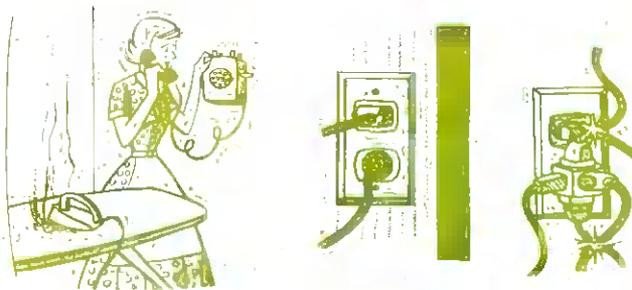
Air is necessary for fire to burn. This is a simple experiment for your boys. Use two candles of the same size and two jars of the same height but with as much difference in their diameters as possible. Secure both candles to a smooth surface **and light them.** At exactly the same time, place one jar over each candle and watch what happens. Discuss with your boys which went out first and why. Discuss the danger of touching a live electric wire or of handling electrical equipment with wet hands.

REMEMBER

- Electric, heat-producing appliances, such as irons and toasters, should be disconnected when not in use.
- Electric cords should not be placed under rugs, over nails or other places where the insulation may be worn or the wire broken.
- Electric cords must not touch radiators or steam pipes.
- Fuses provide fire protection. Before changing a fuse, the main switch should be pulled.
- Fuses of the proper size for the circuit involved should be used.
- **Carelessly discarded cigarettes, pipe embers and the careless use of matches are the chief causes of all fires.**

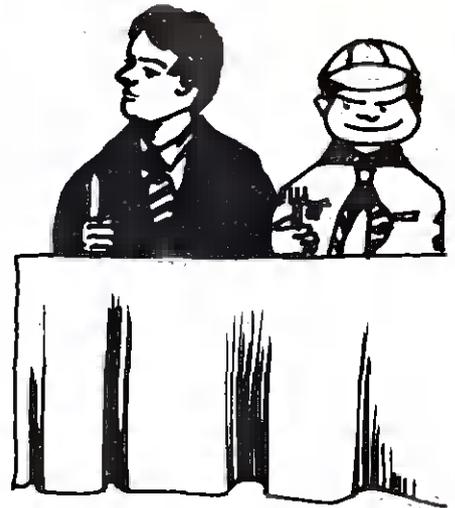
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON PAGE 8

1. T.V. Antenna lacking lightning protection and placing undue strain on chimney.
2. Chimney too low, exposes roof.
3. No flue lining in chimney and poor mortar joints.
4. Flue connection papered over, not bricked in.
5. Rubbish in attic.
6. Exposed element electrical heater too close to combustibles.
7. Electric extension cords.
8. Thawing water pipe with open flame.
9. Poor maintenance of heating equipment.
10. Fireplace without insulating base, no fire screen.
11. Sagging fluepipe rusted through, too close to wood ceiling.
12. Soot accumulation in chimney.
13. Flammable liquids and gasoline appliances stored in home.
14. Improper electrical fuses.
15. Rubbish in cellar.
16. Electric heating appliance connected and unattended.
17. Accumulation of wood shavings and sawdust.
18. Curtains blowing over stove.
19. Wax and oil soaked mops and rags in cupboard.
20. "Octopus" wiring. Too many appliances overloading one outlet.





Dinner Is Served



February is really not very far away and with February comes Scout-Guide Week celebrations. So what do you intend to do to make it something special in your group or section this year?

The annual Father-and-Son dinner has become an acceptable tradition with many groups across the country, with the mothers being invited along to cater and/or serve. Of course, if your group has honoured the dads with an invitation each year and you feel a change is in order, why not consider a Mother-and-Son dinner with the fathers doing the serving?

10 Either way, it is a desirable form of Parents' Night activity and has proven itself useful in bringing Scouting to the parents. While the dinner is considered a social event, its purpose is to encourage parents to take an understanding interest in the progress and advancement of their boys in Scouting.

A Father-and-Son dinner is also an opportunity to bring the group committee into the act, as it is the responsibility of this group to plan such an event. A special subcommittee can be appointed to handle arrangements or the whole committee could be involved. As members of the group committee, Scouters would also be actively involved in the planning.

When to Hold Your Dinner...

Friday evening is considered most suitable as the boys can stay up later than on a school night but, in any case, the dinner should end no later than 9:30 p.m. In setting the date, it is wise to check with the sponsoring organization to ensure that it does not conflict with one of their events, especially if you intend to use their facilities.

The Menu...

The group catering the dinner should be asked to submit possible menus to the committee and the one chosen should be most appealing to the boys, rather than the adults. Use a little imagination in your planning and try to stay away from the traditional cold ham, scalloped potatoes and apple-pie menu.

Keep the ticket price realistic so that no one is excluded because of cost. The sponsoring body, group committee or ladies auxiliary may wish to pay for the dinner or, possibly, subsidize it. This is permissible but care should be taken to see that this does not use funds that could be needed for more important things.

Decorations...

A brightly decorated dining area will add to the enjoyment of the evening. Tables should be attractively decorated with place cards, serviettes and place mats. All these items are available from your local Scout shop or Supply Services in Ottawa. Tables and walls can also be decorated with group colours and centre pieces of model campsites, gadgets and pioneering models.

When to Start...

Starting time will depend on where you live and how long it takes the dads to get home at the end of the working day. In larger centres, where congested highways can mean long delays, be realistic in your choice of a starting time... **but do start at the announced time!**

Tickets...

Tickets can be sold ahead of time or at the door. However, if you require an accurate attendance count for catering purposes, a pre-dinner ticket sale, with a deadline, is the best plan. Tickets also allow for an accurate dinner count if you are working on a "per plate" charge.

Chairman for the Evening...

In many groups, the group-committee chairman presides at the annual dinner, while others prefer to have an older Scout or Venturer do the job. In such a case, it is usually advisable to have an adult as joint chairman to assist the boy over any rough spots.

If you feel a head-table is necessary, and this is your choice, the chairman should occupy the central place at the table, with the guest of honour (usually the speaker) on his right. If the chairman's son is a member of the group, he should sit on his father's left. Other head-table guests could be the minister of the church or head of the sponsoring body and local government and/or Scouting officials, but keep the head-table guests at a reasonable number.

Some committees like to honour their Scouters with a head-table seat but, usually, Scouters prefer to sit with the dads and boys. Also, in a large group where there are many Scouters, this becomes impossible. Wherever the Scouters sit, they should be near enough to the chairman for necessary consultation and they should be introduced during the evening.

The Program...

There is no standard form of program for a Father-and-Son dinner but here are a number of items that seem to appear regularly:

- The program usually opens with Grace, said by the group chaplain or a boy.
- *O Canada* is sung either at the opening or closing of the dinner.
- The toast to the Queen is normally proposed early in the dinner, allowing those who wish, to smoke.

The procedure is simple: the chairman says, "Gentlemen (or 'Ladies and Gentlemen,' if ladies are present), The Queen." The audience then stands and glasses are lifted from the table and held for a moment at eye level: The words, "The Queen," are repeated by all, one sip of the liquid is taken and the glass is replaced on the table. The audience then sits down.

The chairman's remarks are usually the first program item after the toast to the Queen. These should be brief, well prepared and should include:

- a welcome to those present,
- a brief report on the group,
- a brief outline of future plans,
- a tribute to those responsible for the year's achievements (being careful not to leave anyone out).



The remarks could conclude with the introduction of the head-table guests and the Scouters, asking each to rise as his name is called. The audience should not applaud until all are introduced. The speaker, if there is one, is not usually introduced at this time.

Other toasts will depend on how the group is sponsored. If it is a church group, an older Scout could propose a toast to the church, with the minister responding. Another toast might be to the fathers, proposed by an older Cub or Scout, with a father responding. It is important, however, that both those who propose and those who respond to toasts are well prepared. If a toast is proposed to Scouting's Founder, remember it is to "the memory of Lord Baden-Powell"; toasts are not proposed to the dead, only to their memory.

A word of warning! Don't have too many toasts; they take too much time and young boys have only so much patience.

Clearing the Tables...

If there is to be a speaker or a program following the toasts, a singsong might take place while the tables are cleared. This will allow the kitchen staff to get on with their clean-up jobs. The song leader should be chosen well before the dinner so he can prepare appropriate songs and, if desired, arrange for a pianist. Depending on the numbers and size of the hall, an amplifier system may be needed for the chairman, speaker and song leader.

The Speaker...

A guest speaker is not always essential, nor is one always desirable for a Father-and-Son dinner. The main thing for the planning committee to keep in mind is that it is difficult to speak to an age group ranging from eight years to the oldest father present.

If it is decided to have a speaker, he should be selected with care and should be a person with a known ability to interest both adults and boys. In any event, the interest of the boys should be the first consideration.

The speech should be brief, not more than 10 to 15 minutes. The speaker should be given a definite time limit.

The introduction of the speaker should be brief and to the point. Tell who he is, the highlights of his career and point out why he is particularly suited as a speaker at a function of this kind. He should be introduced while the audience is still fresh and relaxed and prepared to listen.

Have a qualified person express the thanks of those present to the speaker. Again, this should be short, simple and sincere.

Other Programs...

Parents like to see their sons in action and a program featuring the boys might be planned. If games or competitions form part of the program, some should be included for participation by parents.

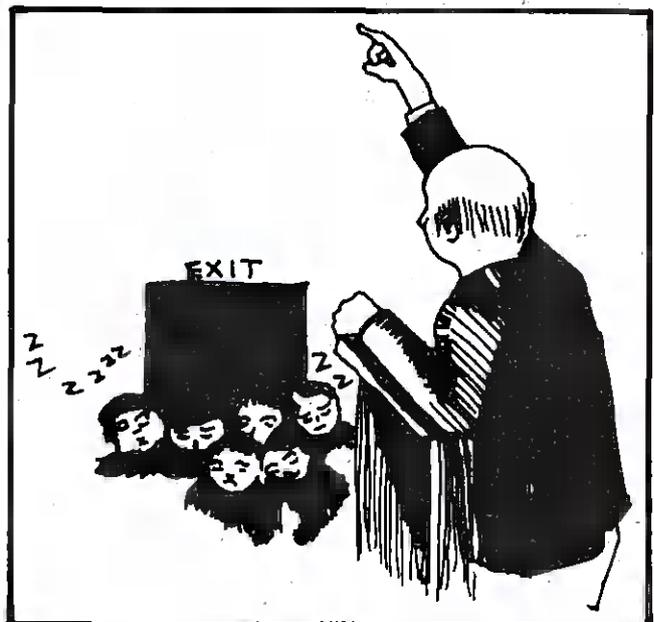
In some groups, the program is presented alternately — one year by the Cubs and the next by the Scouts.

Cub and Scout demonstrations, short plays, skits, singsongs, pageants and movies are all suitable items for a parents' night program. When movies are shown, such pictures as jamboree films are suitable. There is no need for general movies or cartoons which can be seen in local theatres or on television.

Whatever is decided, the program should be carefully prepared, rehearsed and of suitable duration.

Some Further Suggestions and Reminders...

- Keep your program moving; there is nothing quite so boring as a program with long waiting periods.
- End your program on a high note.
- Close no later than 9:30 p.m.
- See that boys without fathers have an adult escort.
- If games are played, have parents participate.
- Provide an opportunity for members of the group committee and Scouters to meet the parents.





Operation Diamond

By Jack Humble
Photographs by Bob Muir

Camp Barnard and the summer of 1972 will long be remembered by some 286 boys from less-fortunate families living in the greater Victoria region. Aged eight to 14 years, the boys participated in a series of three, week-long camps, between August 14 and September 3, at the regional Scout camp in Sooke, B.C. This was camping with a difference — few of the boys had any previous camping experience and many were from apartments without facilities for a games' area.

Wide use was made of both activity and junior leaders, aged 14 to 17, who worked with the boys as counsellors for all three weeks of *Operation Diamond*. Duties of camp chiefs and program directors were handled by adult leaders. The three camp chiefs, all active Scouters of many years' experience in working with youth, coordinated each week's activities with the help of the various program directors. The cooperation of all the staff, particularly the cooks and cooks' helpers, was constantly assisted by the presence in camp of the very tactful and thoughtful regional field executive.

Each unit of *Operation Diamond* was assigned an adult, senior counsellor who liaised in two directions: between junior and activity leaders and the boys, and between junior and activity leaders and the program directors. This helped prevent small problems from developing into big ones. Camp chiefs coordinated all sections and programs, kept a fatherly eye on the boys and lent a ready ear to boy, junior leader or program director. This all helped to make a smooth-running camp. Due to the large number of motherless boys, it was decided to add an older, lady Scouter in addition to regular staff. A smile from her and a kind word helped many lads, particularly the small boys, adjust to camp life.

Region made the surprising discovery that almost every adult leader had given up either holiday time or a week's salary to work at *Diamond*. Several Scouters, members of the Canadian Armed Forces, had given up holiday leave to attend.

All boys attending *Operation Diamond* were divided into two main groups: a "Yellow Group," of boys eight to 11 years; and a "Green Group," of 12- to 14-year-olds.

Earlier in the year at a brainstorming session of the staff for *Operation Diamond*, it was decided to evolve a

quick method of identifying staff and campers. The Handicraft Staff designed an oval disc to be cut from cedar logs and hung around the neck on a plastic cord. These would be sanded by the boys and then painted different colours within a diamond design. Fluorescent paint would be used so it would show up day or night. (Flashlights pick up this paint easily.) Measuring one-by-two inches, the discs were cut by one of the Scouters. In the first handicraft session of each camp, every boy learned to make his own: sandpapering for the finish; painting a diamond in the centre; using black felt-tip marker for his name and the date; and waterproofing with two coats of shellac. These were called *Teekees* after the Samoan good-luck *Tiki*. The boys thought they were "neat" and wore them long after *Diamond* was over.

The colour of the diamond on each *Teekee* had specific meaning: campers wore either green or yellow, according to age; administration wore blue; activity and junior leaders wore black; adult leaders, program directors and camp chiefs wore red. We understand these now are considered cherished items and will be added to any Scouter's campfire robe if he has been the holder of this memento.

Camp Barnard has many features which help make accommodation of large groups of boys an easy matter. There is a big main lodge which can be used for handicraft sessions or evening assemblies in wet weather; large, well-laid-out kitchens with an attached, covered dining area close to each Cub camp; and many static, wooden tent frames with attached flooring. We also possess an excellent, freshwater lake for swimming, and large areas where Scout-age boys may erect bivouacs or tents. There are many acres of forested hills and mountains for boys of any age to climb or explore. Wild game and birds are common to the area. *Operation Diamond* used every section of Camp Barnard for their program.

Cub-camp areas are located near kitchens and the Yellow Group suffered from the wafting of delicious smells at various times of the day. Since anticipation is part of the pleasure in life, youngsters lost no time in reaching the dining area at mealtimes. Camp menus for hungry boys were provided by a dietician from the Canadian Armed Forces. Cries of "seconds!" and even "thirds?" and clean plates reflected the popularity of the cooks. Each kitchen was staffed by a professional cook plus one adult assistant and two, strong, junior leaders from the Scouting fraternity.

The cry of "Mug Up!" and the clang of the old-fashioned triangle (especially made for *Operation Diamond*) brought small boys running from all over camp for hot chocolate and goodies. Since many of their families were on tight budgets, this was a real treat. After each meal, one very small boy always asked one cook, "What're we gonna have next time?" Cook would tell him the menu...to which the young man invariably would say, "OH, BOY!!!"

Boys attended *Operation Diamond* at no expense to themselves. Cooperation was fantastic — from the City of Victoria, the municipalities, the Armed Forces, service clubs, churches, local businessmen and private citizens. Armed Forces loaned sleeping bags and transported the boys by bus (some 28 miles) to and from Camp Barnard. Private businessmen donated everything from cardboard, paint, wood, glue and paper to bathroom tiles for plaques in handicraft. One man came in for several hours each night for weeks to cut cardboard for books. Three ladies, over 70, saved every bit of string for six months to tie those books together. One of Victoria's outstanding photographers saw that each boy who attended camp had a picture of himself with his buddies and junior leader before he went home. This was the sort of thing that showed the people really wanted to share in the project.

Funds for food, program and camp expenses were raised by approaching the Provincial Government directly for a \$25 grant per boy, if the family was supported by social assistance. By appearances before the Council of the City of Victoria, and the adjoining Municipal Councils of Oak Bay, Saanich and Esquimalt, and making personal appeals for the support of this project, other funds were added to allow boys from low-income families to attend the camp.

Region received good cooperation from radio and TV stations in this area. Two appearances of Scouters and our Scout Executive involved in *Operation Diamond* caused much favourable comment. This was on the Noon Show and a special-appearance timeslot. About this time, people began to be aware of the need to help. Two articles appeared in the local papers. A small committee was formed to handle administration and thank-you letters. One mother gave \$1, a church men's club donated \$50, several interested viewers gave from \$20 to \$100. The City of Victoria donated \$1,000, and this was matched by the Municipalities of Oak Bay and Saanich. In all, a total of \$12,000 was raised from various sources. One member of the hard-working camp committee, who also was working with Region on the *Diamond* project, obtained a donation of \$680 from fellow members of the

Victoria Rotary Club. Everyone did his best to help. Administration of funds for *Operation Diamond* was carefully handled by a committee of members of the Regional Council plus our Regional Scout Executive.

Boys at *Operation Diamond* enjoyed a very active program: swimming, hiking, archery, bivouacking, handicrafts, nature walks, wide and circle games, outdoor cooking, fire building and evening campfires. No one knew any songs or liked to sing, and it took a day or two to work up enthusiasm. After that, the magic of the evening campfire became a special event before bedtime. A Sunday Service similar to Scout's Own was held — in some cases the first time a boy had heard a prayer or been to a church. All behaved very well.

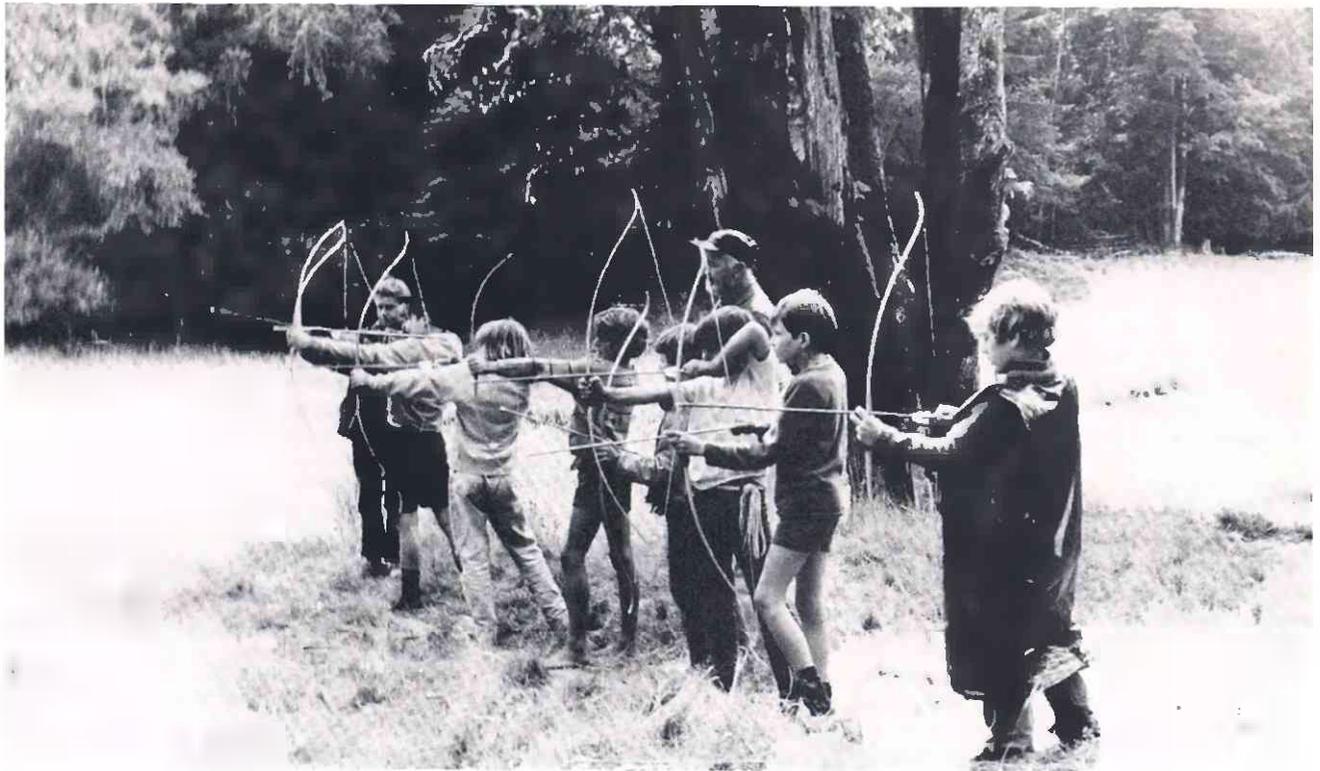
Camp Barnard has a small mountain, just tall enough to be a challenge. This was used for a hike and ramble. "Greens" had a much more challenging program, adapted to their age group. The older boys wanted as many outdoor things to do as could be contrived, so the older junior leaders built a really difficult obstacle course. Boys were taught to pull together as a team during games and skill sessions. The Green Group was allowed to bivouac by themselves, learned how to build fires, and do a treat for "Mug Up" in the evening, under supervision of a trained "survival man."

Each young counsellor, whether in charge of a group in the Green or Yellow section, was responsible for his five boys at all times. It was found that each counsellor needed a buddy he could team with, so each could watch the other's lads or work together in larger groups. A close empathy was established between boys and their counsellors, and many new friendships were formed. Some of the campers were handicapped, or had no mothers or fathers. They really blossomed in the week that they "belonged." Adults tried to show interest in any boy who needed special attention. Considering the number of eight-year-olds attending camp for the first time, homesickness was minimal. There were few minor accidents and no major ones. A trained First Aider was on staff to treat scraped knees and cut fingers.

Highlight of each week was a theme day which culminated in a pageant. This was keyed to three all-time favourites, "Robin Hood," "All Sooke Day" (lumberjacks), and "Indian Day," complete with a real teepee from the prairies. The boys dressed the part each Saturday and participated in games and competitions for candy and ribbons. Sunday finished off all crafts and found missing socks and clothes. Monday was a very complicated day. The Armed Forces could pick up only on this day, thus one group of campers would be dropped off on the day another group left. This was exhausting

(continued on page 14)





for all concerned and it is hoped to improve this system another time.

14

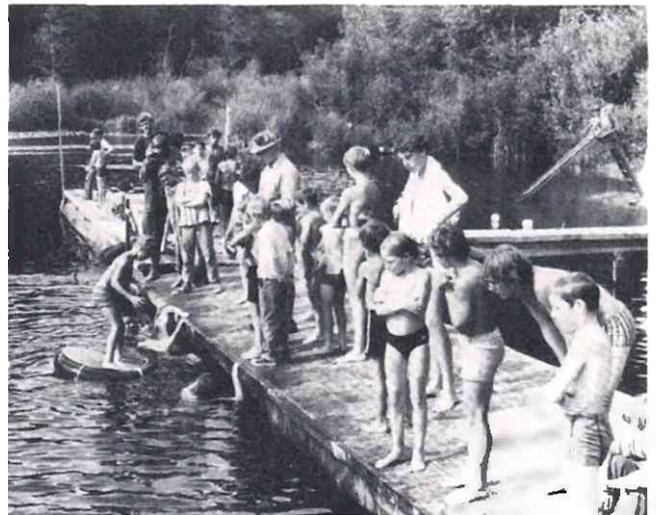
Health insurance was taken care of at camp by registering each boy as a Cub or Scout through the Regional Scout Office. Although not recruited in any way, the region has found that some fifty percent of those attending indicated their intention of joining active packs and troops this year.

Collectively known as the "Black Diamonds," the junior leaders were very proud of their name, and found it a real challenge to work as counsellors in a camp of this type. At present they are forming a distinctively new type of Venturer company, composed of many who attended *Operation Diamond*. This is to be regional in concept and is formed with the idea that it will give service where needed, in regional and district events of this type which need trained, young leaders. They will develop skills consistent with this which will train them well in handling young boys of Cub or Scout age. A new training course is being set up relative to this, with emphasis on age and enthusiasm. They have asked that it be run by leaders, who will act as advisors, who were program directors and camp chiefs of *Diamond*.

One of the districts of Greater Victoria Region has accepted the sponsorship, with district council and district staff (ex-*Diamond* alumni) finding facilities and resource people. We are all watching this group with much interest as Region thinks it will be a challenging addition to the Venturer program. They have developed a camaraderie and enthusiasm that could be catching!

Some 60 adult, junior and activity leaders, kitchen staff and non-uniformed members of Scouting participated in the three weeks of this camp, which were a resounding success and a "first" for the Greater Victoria Region.

A full report on *Operation Diamond* has been prepared by the Greater Victoria Region for distribution to any province, region or district interested in sponsoring a project of this sort.



JACK HUMBLE is Assistant Regional Commissioner, Greater Victoria Region. When not Scouting, he is employed as a City of Victoria Social Worker. It was he who conceived and planned *Operation Diamond*. A retired career officer with the Royal Canadian Navy, he was Assistant Provincial Commissioner, Halifax Region, during his naval posting on the east coast. Both he and his wife have been active in youth work for most of their lives.

Said Jack when interviewed, "This was Scouting at its best! We needed to help our less-fortunate neighbors' children. We reached into the community and involved people from all over the Victoria region to give these boys each a week of fun, challenge and excitement. How wonderful it would be if this would grow to be a project of every region or district across Canada... a national movement into every community!

"We have been asked why the title, *Operation Diamond*, was picked for the name of the camp. Well, frankly, it was not really just a camp as such... as mentioned, it was a special project. Boys are precious to our Movement and to the world... hence the name, *Operation Diamond*. It seems quite fitting under the circumstances, doesn't it?"

Amazolo angephike nelanga



THE DEW CANNOT COMPETE WITH THE SUN!

The Importance of Public Relations & Communications in Scouting.

Explained, with the help of some Zulu proverbs, by Vic Clapham, MPRISA, MSIASA — Public Relations & Communications Adviser, Boy Scouts of South Africa; Member, PR & Communications Committee, Boy Scouts World Bureau; in consultation with Mack Omega Shange, SAHQ Field Commissioner, Natal African Division.

Reprinted by the courtesy of Boy Scouts of South Africa.

HE WORKS BACKWARD LIKE A FOWL

Usubenzel' emuva njengenkuku

He works backward like a fowl! This can be said of the adult leader who does not understand the need for good Public Relations and Communications. You go backwards instead of forwards if you do not have a good Public Relations and Communications program as part of your pack/troop/company/crew management plan. Without such a program you get problems like these:

- **"Leakage" of boys:** they leave the Movement if they do not progress, do not get the fun and adventure of real Scouting.
- **Lack of Scouters:** adult leaders drift away, too, if we don't provide good training courses, and enable them to play a part in developing Scouting activities of good quality.
- **Lack of parent support:** they will not help if their son is not making progress, is not enjoying his Scouting; they will not help if they do not see the results of good quality Scouting.
- **Lack of community support:** people all around you will not help you if they do not know what Scouting

can do for boys, and do not see quality Scouting in action.

- **Lack of funds:** people who do not see the results of good Scouting will not contribute the money you need.

THE DEW CANNOT COMPETE WITH THE SUN

Amazolo angephike nelanga

What is "Public Opinion"? It is what all people, everywhere, think about Scouting for boys. What is "Public Relations"? It is the job of helping all people, everywhere, to know that Scouting is good for boys.

When people know nothing about Scouting, you cannot expect them to support the Movement. Like the wet dew on the ground, their interest is cold. But when you tell people about Scouting, and show them good quality Scouting that shines like the sun, then the dew of disinterest will evaporate. The dew cannot compete with the sun.

Good Public Relations is good quality Scouting that shines like the sun — bringing to people the light of understanding, and warming their interest.

THE EAR TELLS THE HEART

Indleb' itshel' inhliziyo'

Before the heart is moved to help, people must hear about Scouting, and see what Scouting does for boys. But who are these people, these "publics," whose support we must win?

Our most important "public" is the boy himself because:

1. If a boy enjoys good quality Scouting, makes good Scouting progress, he will stay in the Movement — and encourage other boys to join.
2. If a boy always goes home happy with his Scouting then his parents, his family and all who know him will say: "Scouting is good for boys!"

Thus we see that good Public Relations starts inside the pack, the troop, the company, the crew, with the boy himself — and with the good quality of your Scouting program.

15

IT LICKS ONE WHO LICKS IT

Ikhoth' eyikhothayo

One good turn deserves another! Like the cattle who may be seen licking one another, one helps the one who helps him. So, when Scouting helps a boy, the boy's parents will tend to help Scouting. Thus...Scouting's next most important "public" are the boy's parents and family.

- Your pack/troop/company/crew must win parent and family support.
- The best way to start doing this is to send every boy home happy with his Scouting — all the time.

However, there are also many other ways to win parent and family support.

THE COW WITHHOLDS ITS MILK WHEN PRODDED, BUT YIELDS WHEN COAXED

Iyagodla nxa igqulwa, yehlisa nxa inxenxwa

When they do not support Scouting, it is not good Public Relations to prod parents and others, or criticize them. But it is good Public Relations to coax them...persuade them gently...and keep on showing them examples of good quality Scouting. To win the milk of parent support, here are a few other things you can do:

1. When badges and certificates are presented to their sons, invite parents to take part in the ceremony — a mother is proud to pin a badge on her son's shirt in front of the pack, troop, company or crew. Praise not only the son, but the parents who encouraged him to make progress.

(continued on page 16)

2. Use Field Days — even small pack and troop Field Days — and invite parents and others to be your guests, to come and see the boys demonstrate Scouting skills. But...have a good, well-organized program. A good program wins friends — a bad program loses friends.
3. Likewise, invite parents, families and others to come to a well-organized campfire, to join in the singing, dancing, stunts.
4. Camp is a fine place to demonstrate Scouting in action. Have a Visitors' Afternoon — let the world see the high standard of Scout camping, and see Scouting skills, games, activities.
5. Use such occasions to put over the Scout Promise, and the Scout Law. People begin to understand Scouting if they know these.

In these and other ways you are "communicating" information about Scouting. You are Telling! Showing! Let "Tell" and "Show" be your slogan.



16

ONE HAND WASHES THE OTHER

Isandla sigez' esinye

A hand cannot wash itself. The right hand must wash the left — the left hand must wash the right. Likewise, when Scouting helps the community, the community approves and starts to want to help Scouting. Thus, Good Turns in the community not only demonstrate that Scouts are good citizens, with a sense of responsibility to the community, Good Turns are also very good Public Relations. Community service **shows** that Scouting helps produce good citizens. But, let us first understand that... Your local community is made up of many different "publics," such as:

- all boys who are not Cubs and Scouts; and their parents and families.
- councillors, doctors, teachers, businessmen and other community leaders.
- other community organizations, such as the Girl Guides; the Red Cross; the St. John Ambulance Brigade; the churches; the sporting clubs; the women's organizations; the commercial, industrial and agricultural organizations, and many others. (Note: you should always work closely with the Girl Guides, with regard to Public Relations and Communications, for our sister Movement's problems are the same as ours.)

So, in planning any kind of demonstration of good Scouting — such as a Good Turn in the community — it is a wise idea to make a list of your main "publics." In all PR work you can see more clearly, with such a list, who your "publics" are — and thus you can aim your Public Relations and Communications activities in the right directions.

IT IS AS SIMPLE AS THIS: You cannot communicate with people until you know who they are, and where

they are. There is no such thing as a "General Public" — only many different "publics" which, together, make up your community.

Example: if, say, you planned a Conservation Good Turn which involved clearing land of harmful weeds, your important local "publics" would be: 1. The local agricultural authorities. 2. Any local agricultural organizations. 3. The local farmers. 4. Any local business people concerned with agriculture — such as places that sell seeds, fertilizer, implements. 5. The parents and families of the boys doing the job. 6. The local Girl Guides.

Example: if, say, you were holding a major First Aid Competition, your important local "publics" would be: 1. Any branch of the Red Cross or similar organization. 2. Local medical people. 3. Local druggists. 4. Local authorities concerned with Road Safety and any associated business organizations. 5. Local educational authorities and teachers. 6. The parents and families of the boys. 7. The local Girl Guides. When you plan to "Tell and Show" good quality Scouting, first "Know Your Publics."

GIVING IS TO MAKE ONESELF FAMOUS

Ukuphan' ukuzidumisa

When one gives freely, his praises are sung. People are usually eager to help such a person should the need arise. In Scouting we do Community Service, without reward, to help train the boy in his responsibilities as a citizen. However, we should not turn a blind eye to the Public Relations value of Community Service. Service to the community by Cubs and Scouts sings Scouting's praises. Giving helps make the Movement famous — helps win the approval and support you need. There are many ways in which the Community Good Turn can win friends, win support. Here are a few:

- clearing away litter — rubbish
- helping old people — repairing their homes, planting their vegetables, etc.
- helping the crippled, the handicapped.
- repairing broken roads, paths, rural bridges, etc.
- helping illiterate people to read and write.
- clearing wild land for cultivation.
- planting trees for firewood, windbreaks, etc.
- helping people in emergencies such as floods, fires, earthquakes, accidents.
- fighting bush and grass fires.

Remember: You often need the permission of local authorities before you do a Community Good Turn.

SOME SEEDS WILL GROW, OTHERS WILL DIE

Kuyoqhuma nhlamvu, ezinye ziyofekela

Not all your Public Relations efforts will be successful. That's why you must plant the seeds of good Public Relations all the time. Then you can be sure that enough seeds will grow and bear fruit, to feed you the help and support you need from your different "publics."

The "public memory" is short. People soon forget. Keep reminding people all the time, in ways which we have shown, that Scouting is good for boys. Tell them often. Show them often. Make "Telling and Showing" part of your pack/troop/company/crew program.

The seeds will not grow where organization is bad. Naturally, if you have neglected to form group committees and a district council in your district, and have otherwise neglected proper organization according to the Movement's rules, then you cannot expect good results from any Public Relations and Communications program. To grow and bear fruit, the seeds of Public Relations and Communications need the fertile soil of good organization.

DO NOT BOIL THE WATER BEFORE YOU GRIND THE MEAL

Ungaqali ngamanz' impuph' ingakasilwa

First, attend to proper organization. See to it that the required committees and councils are functioning. See to it that Scouters are properly trained. See to it that pack/troop/company/crew programs are planned with the progress of the boys in mind. Concentrate on improving the quality of your Scouting activities. Only the well-organized unit, the well-trained boys can show that Scouting is good for boys.

HE IS WANDERING IN THE BELLY OF A COW

Udukuz' oswini lwenkomo

This can be said of the adult leader who does not give attention to Communications. No project or activity, big or small, can be successful without good Communications.

What is this thing we call "Communications"?

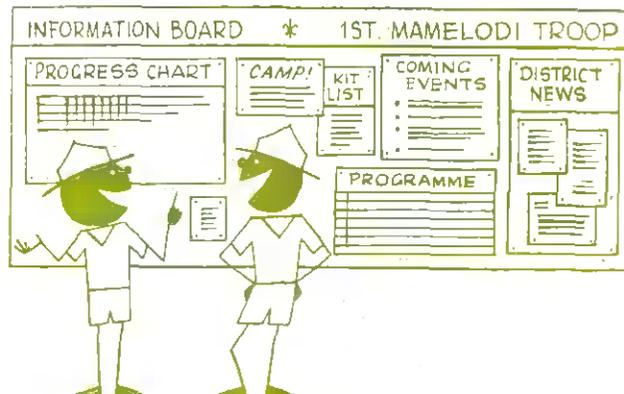
It is passing on information. It is "Telling" and "Showing." We communicate every time we speak or write or draw a picture. We communicate by our actions and in many other ways. Books and booklets, news sheets, magazines, leaflets, posters...all are means of communication.

Ah! But things like magazines and news sheets and so forth require money, you will say. We have no duplicator, no paper, no money to spare for these things. This is often true — but it should not stop you from planning good communications; there are other ways that cost little or no money at all. Here are some ideas:

1. If you have a large pin-up board — a pack/troop/company/crew or group **Information Board** — you can communicate well with your boys. An I-Board about 4-feet deep and 6-feet wide (big ones are best) can be made of scrap materials, such as old box wood. On it you can display handwritten, typed or printed messages and notices of all kinds, including training charts, photos, progress charts, and many other things you can prepare yourself, or which come to you from your district, provincial or national HQ. Anyone can make an I-Board, and appoint a good I-Board Editor who will keep it up to date.
2. When organizing a camp or a hike or any other activity, you may not be able to afford to duplicate things like kit and equipment lists. But you can display such things on your I-Board — and each boy, with pencil and paper, can make his own copy.
3. With a pinned-up master copy to guide him, every patrol leader can make a progress chart. Such a chart is essential for the planning of proper patrol training programs. (Progress charts are available through Supply Services.)
4. When you have a Field Day, or some other event to which parents and others are invited, you may not be able to afford to print a program. But you can set up an I-Board, on which you can display details concerning the events themselves and information about Scouting. For example, pin up the Scout Promise; the Scout Law; press cuttings about Scouting taken from newspapers and magazines; photographs connected with Scouting which you may have; and so on. You can keep a file of items of this kind, collecting them for public-display purposes.

All these are no-cost ways of communicating information to boys and others. Another low-cost way is to set up a pack/troop/company/crew library — no matter how small it is to start with, it will grow. We communicate in many other ways apart from printed words and pictures. Here are some examples:

- if you send news about Scouting to your local newspaper, or to a Scout publication, you are communicating. Material for newspapers should go through your district HQ — but you can send news, and also photographs, direct to your Scout publication.
- if you receive printed information material from your district, divisional, provincial or national HQ, you are communicating IF you pass it on at once to your fellow Scouters, or your boys, or your committee, or whoever may be concerned. (If you file it away and forget it, or delay passing it on, you fail to communicate efficiently.)
- likewise, if you have Census or other forms that come to you from district, provincial or national HQ, you are communicating well if you attend to them at once, and then get them back to HQ. The same applies to notices you may receive about things like training courses. It applies to letters you receive, too. Deal with such things quickly — send back replies



without delay. All such things are very important communications, essential to the smooth operation of the Movement. Communications is a "two-way street," and the "traffic" must flow up and down quickly, clearly, without delay.

- if you give your boys a Yarn around the campfire, or at a meeting, you are communicating. Likewise, when you make a speech to parents and others, you are communicating — and doing it well if you prepare your Yarn or your speech beforehand...and if you do not speak too long!
- flying your Flag is communicating — telling the world that "here is Scouting."
- all patrol, troop and other council meetings, or committee meetings, are "means of communication" — provided they are well organized.
- writing "thank-you" letters, or letters containing information, or letters of any kind to parents and others, is communicating.
- all the ways we have mentioned before of "Telling and Showing" are means of communication.
- every Scout and Scouter is, in himself, a means of communication. If his uniform is clean and smart, and he behaves well, then he is communicating a good impression of Scouting to all who see him.

Everything about Scouting communicates something about Scouting! Thus, you can see why we link together the words "Public Relations" and "Communications." Like the two horns of a bull, Public Relations and Communications go together.

THE FORD IS MEASURED BY A STAVE

Isiziba sizwiwa ngodondolo

Be sure of the depth of the water before you cross the river of Public Relations and Communications. Get the

measure of the job. Do NOT try to do everything yourself — the good leader always delegates responsibilities. Ideally, the best organized Scout group has a group committee of parents and others — and one of these takes on the job of Information Officer. He works with the committee and the Scouters to help organize effective Public Relations and Communications. Where this is not possible, a Scouter should take on the job, but should not try to do everything himself. He might, for example, work along these lines:

- guide and supervise one or more boys who are editors of the pack/troop/company/crew information board.
- see that printed material from HQ is made available to the boys — or whoever else should read such material without delay.
- see that a pack/troop/company/crew library is established; appoint a librarian.
- establish, and keep up to date, a list of names and addresses of all boys and parents; of all adult leaders in the unit; of all other names and addresses — inside the unit and outside the unit — that are important. Postage is too costly for widespread written or printed communications; often you can save money by using the boys as messengers.
- work closely with other adult leaders who are organizing "special events" such as Field Days, and take care of Public Relations and Communications matters such as the design of attractive gateways, the information board, exhibits of Scoutcrafts, signboards, press publicity, and publicity items in general.
- keep close contact with district and provincial HQ, with regard to matters connected with Public Relations and Communications. The ideal district should have people responsible for Public Relations and Communications — and these, where they exist, are the people to work with.
- through the above district, maintain contact with press, radio and television media, and establish friendly, efficient relationships with any press, radio or television people with whom you come in contact. Ideally, such good relationships are fostered by the provincial and district PR men — but local conditions might dictate that you do so yourself.
- "feedback" important pack/troop/company/crew news and information to district HQ. For example: reports on successful Public Relations and Communications activities; photographs of newsy events; samples of any material you might produce in the sphere of Public Relations and Communications.

All leaders should be aware of their individual Public Relations and Communications responsibilities — but one adult leader, especially, should have the overall responsibility for organizing PR and Communications work.

A POT DOES NOT BOIL WHEN NOT LOOKED AFTER *Imbiza kayibil' ingenambheki*

It will be clear that Public Relations and Communications work is vital to the development of the Movement at all levels — the local pack/troop/company/crew (or group) level, the district level, the provincial level, the national level, and the international level. At the divisional level especially (as at the national and international levels) there should be someone responsible for PR and Communications — who has no other task in Scouting.

This is the ideal situation. But whether such officers exist or not, at the district and provincial levels, the local pack/troop/company/crew should go ahead and organize its own Public Relations and Communications work. PR

and Communications work is most important of all at the pack/troop/company/crew level, because that is where the boy is — that is where Scouting happens!

A LEOPARD LICKS ITS SPOTS, BLACK AND WHITE

Ingwe ikhotha amabala ayo amhlophe namnyama

Like a leopard, Scouting has only one body. But like a leopard, Scouting has many spots — takes place in many different areas.

Public opinion about the whole Movement is formed by the quality of the Scouting at all the spots, both black and white.

Thus, through good Public Relations and Communications work at all levels, we must lick all our spots.

A BIRD IS PRETTY BECAUSE OF ITS FEATHERS

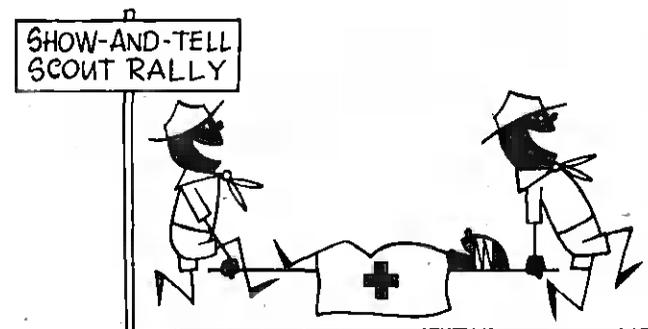
Inyoni yinhle ngezimpaphe zayo

Scouting has many fine feathers to show. Show is the important word.

- SHOW parents the Scout Promise, the Scout Law. Show them to everyone.
- SHOW how Scouts try to live up to the Promise and the Law.
- SHOW the patrol system in action — in camp, on Field Days and elsewhere.
- SHOW Scouting skills at gatherings where your "publics" are present.
- SHOW what the Good Turn really means — what Community Service means.
- SHOW, above all, that Scouting is good for boys by sending every boy home happy with his Scouting program and his Scouting progress.

Fine feathers grow in only one way in Scouting. Fine feathers grow out of a top-quality program that produces top-quality Cubs and Scouts.

18



MAGIC TAKES TIME

Ilumbo liva kade

At first, the rewards of good Public Relations and Communications come slowly. And the rewards only come if you have a PR and Communications program that operates all the time — in a properly organized unit that produces quality Scouting. If you combine all these things, then even magic doesn't take a long time!

The really magical thing about it is that it does not cost a lot of money. To be sure, the wealthy Scout unit that can afford to print magazines and newsletters, and stage all manner of activities designed to show Scouting to the world, has an added advantage. But, as we hope we have shown, it is also true that the pack, troop, company and crew that has little or no money to spend on Public Relations and Communications can do a splendid job... by producing top-quality Scouting and "Telling and Showing" it to everybody.

Truly, the dew cannot compete with the sun!

WHEN A RECRUIT JOINS YOUR TROOP, CAN HE EXPECT FUN AND ADVENTURE OR RUN-OF-THE-MILL, TROOP ROOM STUFF?

We admit to being a little anxious in this department, in case that keen newcomer begins to cool off before he has really had time to warm up to the game. He arrived on the doorstep expecting goodness-knows-what in the shape of fun and adventure, and if all we have to offer is a bit of run-of-the-mill, troop-room stuff it will be no wonder if he feels let down.

First impressions being of the greatest importance, steps should be taken at once to ensure a bright beginning to his Scouting career. The obvious man to undertake this important commission is the patrol leader. As I visualize it, the action might well run along these lines:

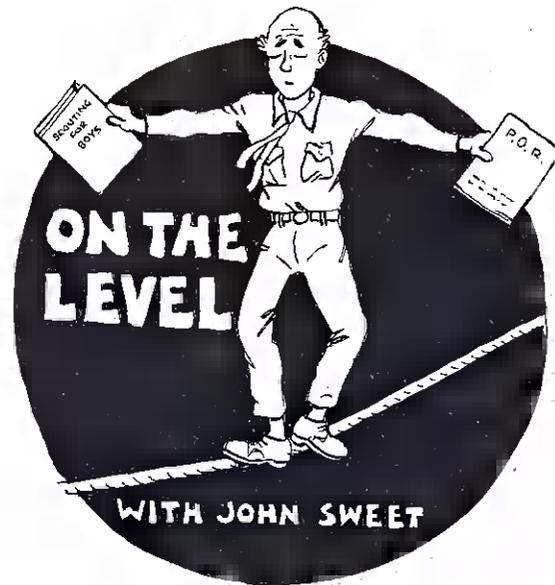
During "patrol time" at the boy's first troop meeting, the PL will lead him to the Quartermaster's store and hand him, in the order named, a hurricane lamp, a box of matches, a long wax taper, a Scout staff or similar light spar, and a two-pound glass jam jar. Then, while he stands there looking like the fag-end of an unsuccessful rummage sale, wondering what life has in store for him, the PL will summon his chief assistant to a low-voiced confabulation in which only the following words would be clearly audible to the listening ears of the puzzled (and perhaps slightly worried) new boy:

"Dead dog Pond — methane gas — Will o' the Wisp — Midsummer Night's Dream — **don't let him get too close** — take care! — explosion —"

The chief assistant (well-briefed in advance, of course) will thereupon instruct the new boy to light the hurricane lamp, and together they will pass into the night.

The purpose of the exercise will be merely to decant a *souppçon* of the highly combustible methane, or marsh-gas, from the deep, rich mud at the bottom of the local duck-pond and to test its explosive properties. This, as you know, is done by submerging the jam jar upside down, and then raising it slowly until the rim is just below the surface. The jar should be tilted slightly as it is raised to spill out the air. It is then held in the inverted position with the rim still below the surface while the new boy stirs up the mud below it with the butt end of his spar so that the bubbles of gas rise to the surface. These bubbles are caught in the inverted jar just before they break the surface. The lighter-than-air gas will remain in the jar as long as it is kept upside down. This gas-tapping process should continue for ten minutes or so to ensure a reasonable intake and, needless to say, the assistant PL will have been instructed to see that most of the interesting executive work is carried out by the new boy himself. When the tapping process is completed, the jar should be set on two sticks to keep it clear of the ground, and a lighted taper applied to the open end. The longer the taper, the less danger there will be of burnt fingers. For let it be known that marsh gas is indeed highly volatile when mixed with air and, if sufficient care has been taken in the tapping process, the resulting explosion will certainly make your new boy jump like a scalded cat.

Anyhow, the experience, if it does nothing else, should convince the lad that Scouting is in truth something quite different from anything he has encountered so far in his



young life. What's more, having shared the adventure with the second-most-important man in the patrol, he is bound to feel that he has been **accepted**, and this, as any psychologist in the audience will tell you, is a step forward of the greatest importance.

Now, it is just possible, I suppose, that you may not think much of the foregoing suggestion, or maybe you are short of suitable duck-ponds in your neck of the woods, or have some other good excuse for turning it down. Never mind. Here is another idea. As before, the purpose of the exercise will be to give your fledgling Scout a taste of genuine, outdoor adventure almost from the moment he steps inside the troop-room doorway.

Again, the initiative should be with the patrol leader. Once more he will buttonhole the new boy and address him thus:

"Terence, lad...you know that old maple behind the Presbyterian Church?"

He will admit it.

"In exactly ten and a half minutes from now," the PL will inform him in low, conspiratorial tones, "as the Town Hall clock is chiming the third quarter, two anarchists, heavily disguised, will meet at the foot of that tree to discuss a plan to blow up the gas works. Off you go, and don't come back until you have discovered all you can about the plot and the two characters concerned."

Off the lad will go, not quite knowing whether he is awake or dreaming, and presently the PL and his assistant, suitably disguised, will slope off to the rendezvous, arriving precisely on the stroke of time.

The "plot" should be full of interesting detail to give the listener in the tree lots to remember, and the conspirators should remember to speak up loud and clear, so that he has a sporting chance to drink it all in. Another thing they should be asked to bear in mind is that the show is being put on for the boy's benefit and not for their own amusement. I say this because boys, being what they are, are always inclined to ham it up a bit just for laughs. It would defeat the object of the exercise if the boy were made to feel that he was the subject of a practical joke.

Returning to the troop room, the watcher in the maple should be asked for a verbal report of all that he has seen and heard, while the rest of the patrol sit round, good as gold, listening to every word. This will make the new boy feel truly important, and will do him no harm at all at the very outset of his Scouting career.

Let me conclude by saying that both these potted, troop-night adventures were used successfully in my own troop, the 17th Whitley Bay, just before World War II. You never can tell. They might work equally as well with your own boys today.

OBSERVATION CHECKLIST. Please check locally and send reports (picture postcards only) to this department, c/o The Editor.

1. Instrumental music at the campfire almost invariably brings the house down.
2. Campfires, however, are not what they were. What with radio, TV and the rest, boys nowadays are conditioned to listening to music without any thought of making it themselves.
3. "Pioneering" at the summer camp or local Scouting night almost invariably consists of a runway, a monkey bridge, or (if water is available) a raft.
4. Cubs move faster than Scouts and are quicker off the mark.
5. Girl Guides regard Scouts with ill-concealed contempt but think Venturers and Rovers are wonderful.
6. So do Venturers and Rovers.
7. Sea Scouts are better disciplined than agricultural Scouts.
8. Handicapped Scouts are the keenest of the lot.
9. You can't judge a Venturer by his hair-style. Some quite **intelligent** young men don't mind looking wet.
10. Team games aren't as popular as they were in the Western World. More and more, the tendency seems to be to play for yourself and not the team.
11. Scout knives and axes are rarely sharp.
12. John Bunyan's hymn, "Who Would True Valour See," is still top-of-the pops at Scout services.

(Note by John Sweet: Item 10 has been inserted to raise the hackles a bit as a means of overcoming the initial inertia which is the bugbear of all Scout leaders when it comes to putting pen to paper. Do write. The continued silence from Canada is killing us.)

INSTANT CHARACTER STUDY FOR SCOUT LEADERS. Suppose you and another fellow were about to pick up a heavy log, would you —

- a) go straight for the heavy end?
- b) go straight for the light end?
- c) hang back and leave it to the other man?

If you answer "yes" to question (a) you are a man after my own heart, but are unlikely to live to a ripe old age; (b) will indicate that you are intelligent but apt to tire easily; and (c) that you are neither one thing nor the other.

And here is another self-revealing exercise, this time for the troop as a whole. It is best conducted by a popular assistant troop Scouter (if any) while the troop Scouter stands back and keeps the mob under observation.

Line up the troop, bring them smartly to the alert, and tell them to close their eyes and keep them tightly closed until told to open them again. A series of quick-fire orders should then be shot at them — "Left turn, about turn, three paces forward march, stand at ease, alert, left turn," and so on until the parade is brought back (more or less) to its original formation.

The troop Scouter should then step forward and invite any Scout who opened his eyes during the operation to hold up his hand.

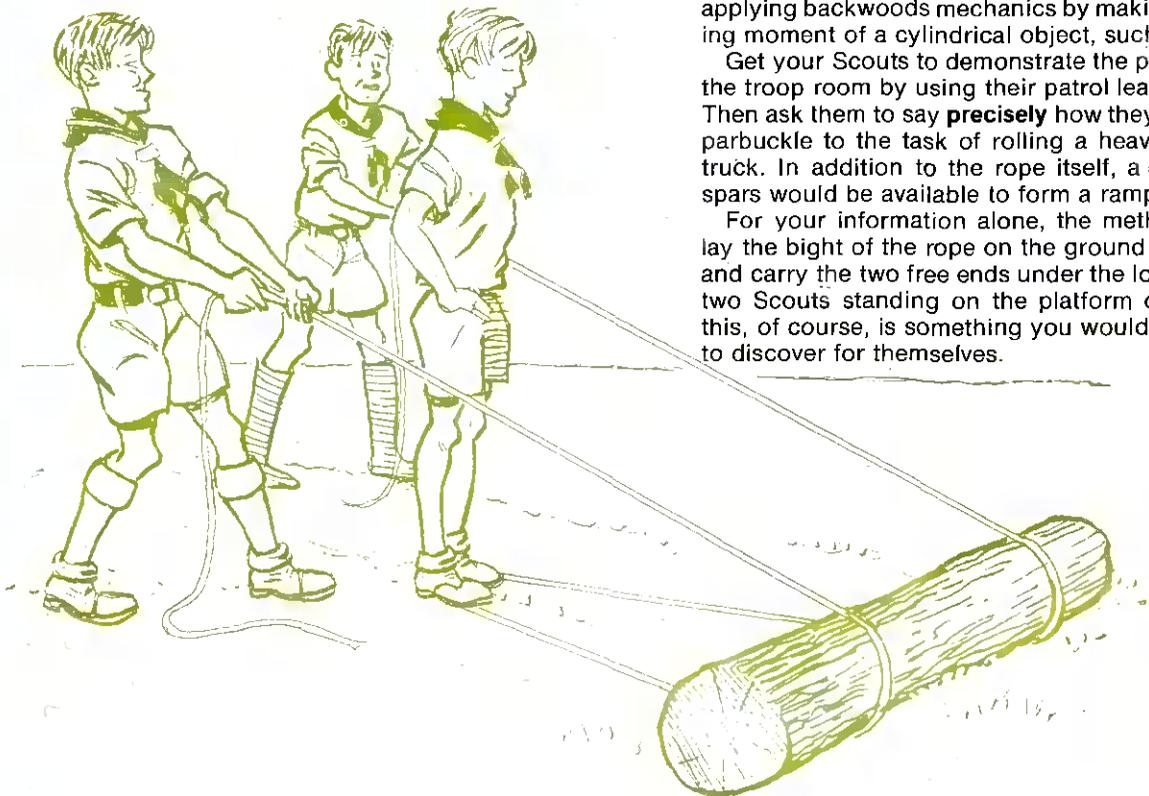
What will probably happen is that there will be a few moments of stunned silence, then one by one the boys will glance round furtively to see whether anyone else is opening up before they do so themselves. Eventually, after a lapse of three or four seconds, some virtuous soul will lead the way, and with greater or less reluctance the others will follow suit until every hand is raised. This little exercise should give the watching leader much food for thought, and there would be nothing to stop him discussing the psychological implications with his patrol leaders at his next meeting of the PLs.

The experiment could then be repeated at some subsequent troop meeting and note taken of any improvement in performance by the troop as a whole.

The parbuckle, as every Scout knows, is a method of applying backwoods mechanics by making use of the rolling moment of a cylindrical object, such as a fallen tree.

Get your Scouts to demonstrate the principle of this in the troop room by using their patrol leader as the "tree." Then ask them to say **precisely** how they would apply the parbuckle to the task of rolling a heavy log onto a flat truck. In addition to the rope itself, a number of stout spars would be available to form a ramp. Nothing else.

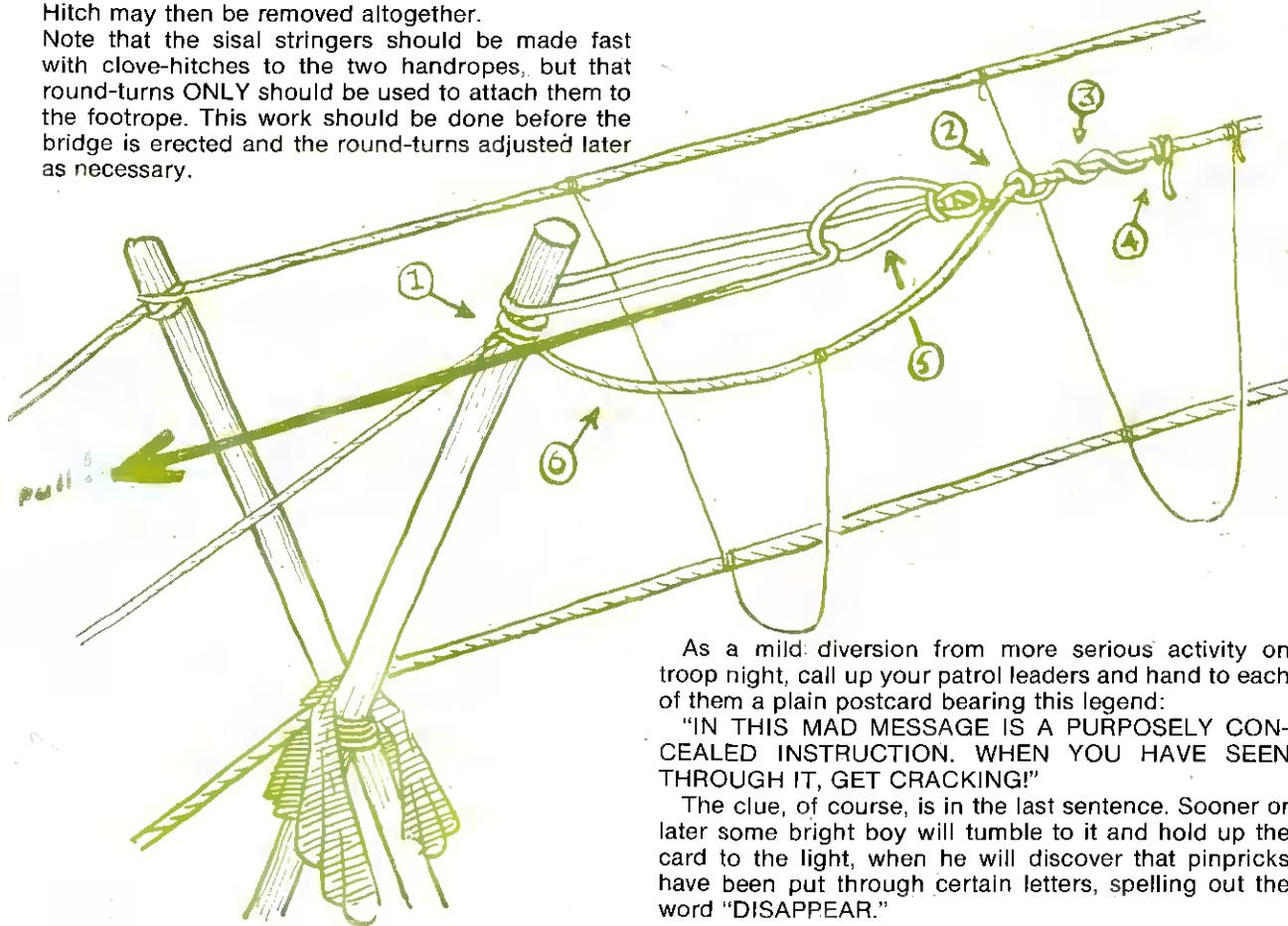
For your information alone, the method would be to lay the bight of the rope on the ground below the truck, and carry the two free ends under the log and then up to two Scouts standing on the platform of the truck. But this, of course, is something you would allow your boys to discover for themselves.



We have lately been carrying out a little armchair-borne research to find out why it is that so many Scout-built Monkey Bridges have a playful habit of tipping their passengers into the drink round about the point of no-return, and we have come to the conclusion that the fault must lie with the artists responsible for the illustrations in the many pioneering books which have been published in all parts of the Scout-speaking world. Almost without exception, the drawings show an impressive array of blocks-and-tackle on the main hawser, while the two hand-ropes are left completely unstrained. This, of course, very much adds to the excitement of crossing the bridge and makes it much more entertaining for the spectators, but it is not, in our view, sound pioneering practice. Personally we always use Harvester's Hitches to strain the handrail ropes. The illustration shows how it is done, stage by stage. Saltwater types will note with particular interest how the "Handy Billy" technique has been applied to this small problem.

1. Hand-strain the handrope and secure temporarily to the sheerlegs with a clove-hitch.
2. With a light ("Handy Billy") rope, put a half-hitch on the handrope, working ACROSS the lay.
3. Carry the tail of the "Handy Billy" under the handrope, and then make a few turns INTO the lay.
4. Secure the tail of the "Handy Billy" temporarily with a clove-hitch.
5. Set up a "Harvester's Hitch" in the "Handy Billy" rope. (Note that this hitch is merely an incomplete sheepshank with the free end carried round an anchorage of some sort — in this case the tip of the sheers — and then dogged back through the loop of the sheepshank.
6. Strain the handrope by means of the Harvester's Hitch, then take up the slack and adjust the clove-hitch on the sheers as necessary. The Harvester's Hitch may then be removed altogether.

Note that the sisal stringers should be made fast with clove-hitches to the two handropes, but that round-turns ONLY should be used to attach them to the footrope. This work should be done before the bridge is erected and the round-turns adjusted later as necessary.



While the Harvester's Hitch is before us, here is a small theoretical problem you might like to submit to your patrol leaders at the end of the next council meeting. Remind them that this hitch, having three returns on the moving part of the tackle, gives a mechanical advantage of three to one, then provide them with fairly long lengths of cord and invite them to set up a number of Harvester's Hitches in series to give (in theory at least) a purchase of — wait for it! — 81 to 1. It can, in fact, be done — in miniature at least — though with heavier cordage the loss of efficiency through friction and drag would certainly cancel out the mechanical advantage in the tackle itself.

The method, of course, is to mount each recurring tackle in the pulling part of the tackle in front of it, giving a purchase of $3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3$.

Highly ingenious, as I hope all present will agree.

Mention of John Bunyan's pilgrim reminds me that some time ago I was rescued from a most embarrassing situation by the local Guide Commissioner. I had been chosen to read the second lesson at the St. George's Day parade, and was nervously unzipping my windbreaker preparatory to advancing to the podium when I found to my horror that the wretched thing had jammed, with one side of my jacket halfway up my frontal elevation. The splendid lady sitting alongside noticed my predicament and as we rose for the singing of the hymn slipped me a stub of pencil. "Who would true valour see," I heard her warble in a fruity contralto, "scrub it with pencil..." I did so, and as I live and breathe, it worked. One sharp tug completed the job. The zip unzipped and I was free.

My opinion of Guide Commissioners has always been high. From that moment onwards it was higher than ever.

As a mild diversion from more serious activity on troop night, call up your patrol leaders and hand to each of them a plain postcard bearing this legend:

"IN THIS MAD MESSAGE IS A PURPOSELY CONCEALED INSTRUCTION. WHEN YOU HAVE SEEN THROUGH IT, GET CRACKING!"

The clue, of course, is in the last sentence. Sooner or later some bright boy will tumble to it and hold up the card to the light, when he will discover that pinpricks have been put through certain letters, spelling out the word "DISAPPEAR."

VIII Interamerican Scout Conference



Lima, Peru, from August 7 - 11, 1972, was the setting for the VIII Interamerican Scout Conference. Canada's representatives were Air Vice-Marshal J.B. Harvey, our International Commissioner, who also was leader of the delegation; and Messrs. A.W. Denny, Deputy Chief Scout; E. Bower Carty of Ottawa; R.K. Groome, President of the Quebec Council; J.J. Tellier, L'Association des Scouts du Canada; and J.P. Ross, Chief Executive.

Three special seminars, from August 4 to 7, preceded the opening of the conference. At the meeting of international commissioners, considerable emphasis was placed on the importance of associations ascertaining that news about international Scouting activities reaches the boys and leaders. This has great appeal for today's youth, particularly where boys know they are helping less well endowed Scouts while continuing projects in

their own community. There is also the basic desire to travel and to see things that differ from their surroundings.

The subject of "twinning" of countries, provinces, regions and towns was discussed and considered highly desirable. A Canadian province, region or district might wish to twin with a counterpart in South or Central America or the Caribbean. Variations of this are many and some form of twinning might evolve as projects develop.

The duties and responsibilities of international commissioners were discussed at length. Canada outlined how we are organized in this respect: policy statements, terms of reference for an International Relations Committee and an international commissioner, associate members of that committee and advisers or consultants.

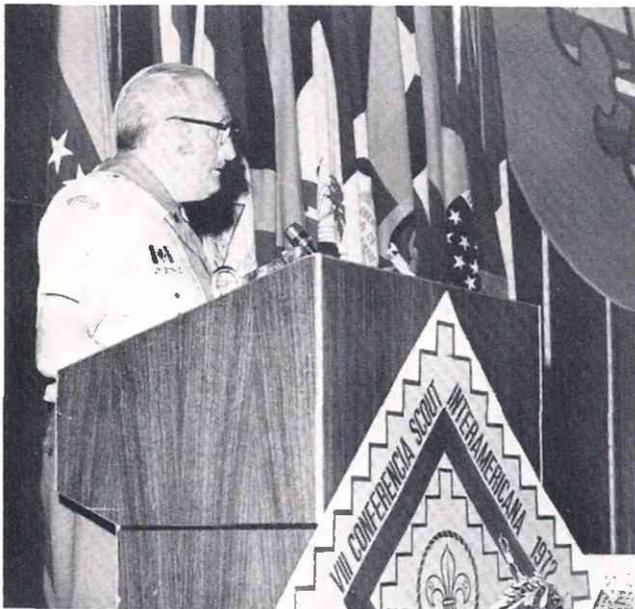
Canadian delegation, left to right: R.K. Groome, J.J. Tellier, J.B. Harvey, J.P. Ross.



So much interest was displayed that Canada was asked to send to the Regional Office for distribution to other international commissioners in the Region copies of the policy statements, the terms of reference and the committee organization.

Liaison with various international agencies, including the United Nations, was also discussed at length. In this regard, some countries have progressed further than Canada, but we have made a good start and will expand this aspect of our activities. In some countries, it has been a practice for Scouting to share projects with other agencies, and Canada intends looking into this.

A Scout Executives Seminar was attended by Percy Ross who presented a paper on procedures for selection and hiring of Scout executives. The seminar dealt with the policy for professional Scout service; training for Scout executives; the World Five-Year-Plan and how this can be implemented in a region. There was considerable discussion on the calendar of professional training events for the region and reports on future plans in connection with professional Scout service within the various countries.



International Commissioner addressing the Conference.

The official conference opening ceremony was held on August 7 and was followed by a reception at City Hall. Messages were read to the assembly from various heads of state, including a message from our Governor-General and Chief Scout.

Mr. Nahim Isaias, President of the Interamerican Scout Committee, presented a report of progress in the region for the period 1968 to 1972.

Scouting and Community Development, the main theme of the conference, was related closely to the second objective, the Image of Scouting, introduced by Dr. Elias Mendoza, a member of the World Committee and Chief Scout of Peru.

During the election of the new slate of officers of the Interamerican Scout Committee, Canadian delegate Reg Groome was elected to the new Committee.

During the second plenary session, a detailed report on The Sociological Study of the Image of Scouting in Latin America and the Caribbean was presented by Dr. Mateo Jover, Research Director, Boy Scouts World Bureau. The conference considered the report in five work groups and Canada participated in all five groups.

The Five-Year Plan as it applies to the Interamerican Region was introduced by Dr. Lazlo Nagy, Secretary-



The opening ceremonies of the Conference.

General of the World Bureau, and Boris Ricci, Executive Secretary of the Interamerican Scout Council. Canada's delegation leader stated Canada's desire to participate, noting that there were several ways in which Canada could contribute, all project rather than financially oriented. Goals rather than commitments were stressed.

Later Canada had an opportunity to report on the Can-Carib Project and to make a presentation to Sherman Ramsingh. A detailed report on the Can-Carib Project will appear in the February issue of *The Canadian Leader*. Jean Tellier reported on the project in Haiti currently being sponsored by *L'Association des Scouts du Canada* for the further development of Scouting in Haiti.

In consideration of amendments to the Constitution, Canada reported our desire to see the Conference convene once every four years. However, the Conference voted in favour of amending the Constitution in order that a meeting of the Interamerican Committee can take place every two years.

During the Seventh Plenary Session, the United States was selected as the locale for the Ninth Interamerican Conference, with Trinidad as an alternative.

Canada's delegation believes it contributed to the Conference particularly in the Scout Executive and International Commissioner Seminars.

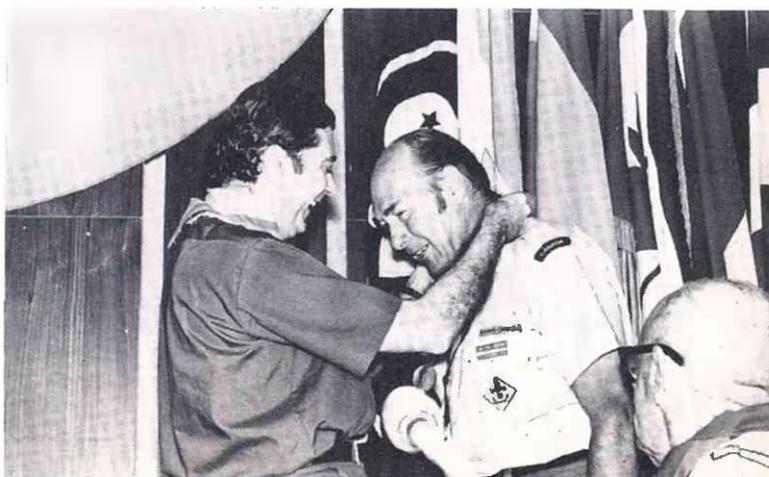
Two decorations were presented to Deputy Chief Scout Wally Denny for good services to Scouting in the Interamerican Region: one from the Interamerican Region and one from Venezuela.

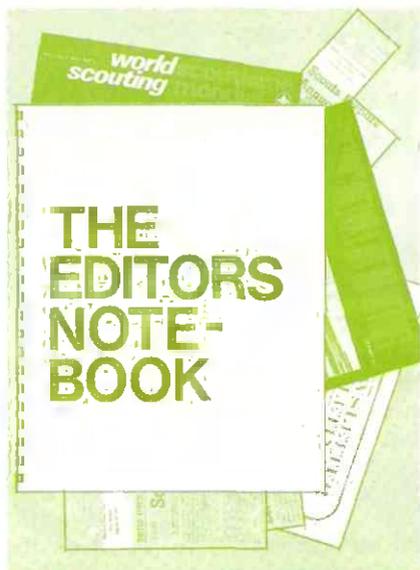
Our International Commissioner also received a posthumous award for John Miner for his outstanding work as a member of the Interamerican Regional Committee. The award will be presented to Mrs. Miner in Canada on some suitable occasion.

Bower Carty, as vice-chairman of the World Committee, took an active part in the conference.

It was recommended that the International Relations Committee of Boy Scouts of Canada study the whole matter of identifying projects for support by Canadian Scouting through the Canadian Brotherhood Fund, foundations, government and other agencies to take care of our share of development in the World Five-Year Plan.

The Deputy Chief Scout receiving an award for service to Interamerican Scouting.





South Africa's *SCOUTING DIGEST* recently published this interesting follow-up to "The Childrens' Charter," which we reprinted in October. Called "Ten Commandments for Parents," it was drawn up by teenagers at a recent conference in Johannesburg.

1. **KEEP YOUR COOL:** do not lose your temper in every crisis. Do not get excited when things go wrong. Kids need the confidence that only a steady hand and a settled soul can offer.

2. **DON'T GET HUNG UP ON A JAG THAT KEEPS YOU AWAY FROM HOME:** if fathers must be away from home, they should make the most of times at home. Mothers should forego heavy social programs to be at home to supervise children.

3. **DON'T GET STRUNG OUT:** stay away from liquor and sleeping pills. Be a square.

4. **BUG ME A LITTLE:** use strict but loving discipline. Show your kids who's boss. Don't just let them ride out the storm. Help them anchor their ships.

5. **DON'T BLOW YOUR CLASS:** keep the dignity of parenthood. Don't dress and act and swing the way teenagers do.

6. **LIGHT ME A CANDLE:** show your children the way to faith. Tell them that God is not dead, sleeping, hiding or on vacation. Give them the security of a living faith.

7. **TAKE THE WORLD OFF MY SHOULDERS:** share your children's problems. Discuss morals, life, love, eternity, beauty, peace and peace of mind with them.

8. **SCARE THE HELL OUT OF ME:** when you catch a child in his first encounter with smoking, drinking or sex — punish him. Let him know why you are taking these actions and let him know that more stringent mea-

sures will be taken if the transgression is repeated. Be sure he understands what he has done wrong, and why it is wrong, and that you are doing this out of love and concern, and not to be vindictive. Do not mete out punishment in anger.

9. **CALL MY BLUFF:** let a youngster know once and for all that you mean what you say. Regardless of what a teenager threatens — to run away, become a delinquent, drop out of school — stand firm and the bluffing will stop.

10. **BE HONEST WITH ME:** always tell your children the truth. Never keep them in doubt where they stand on any matter. Be truthful and generous in praise, and then when it comes time to criticize, they will believe you and respect your judgment.

The 1973 **Canada Summer Games** will be held in British Columbia and the Burnaby Region is coordinating Scouting's participation.

If facial expressions tell a story, only the dog seems to be really enjoying this canine kiss. His name is **Squire**, the recipient of his affection is Constable **Dave Athans**, and both are members of the Vancouver Police Department. This *Vancouver Sun* photo was taken at the Vancouver Police Academy's graduating ceremonies where Squire had just been presented with the *Sun's* annual Award of Merit, presented to the dog involved in the most outstanding case during the year. Squire and Constable Athans tracked and captured a wanted man after a 2½-hour, four-mile chase through dense bush

and swampland. The Sea Scouts were on hand as guests of the Department.

Ontario's *Provincial Notes* reprinted the following appropriate item from the *Anglican Digest*: "We recently heard about an editor who explained away the mistakes that crept into his publication with the following note: If you find errors, please consider that they appear for the benefit of those readers who always look for them. We try to print something for everybody." To which I can only add, "Amen!"

A reminder to groups who are planning to take advantage of the various **fund-raising plans** advertised in *The Canadian Leader* — check with your local council first to ensure that they have no restrictions regarding raising funds in this manner.

The **Greater Victoria Region** has embarked on a special scheme to take *Scouting into hospitals* for boys who are there for a lengthy stay. The project coordinator is looking for program material in the form of handicraft projects and ideas for both Cub and Scout ages. If you can help, send your ideas to the writer and we will send them to Victoria.

God will not ask thy race,
Nor will He ask thy birth;
Alone He will demand of thee,
What hast thou done on earth?
— Persian proverb"





Doris Merkosky is blind and until recently she could not travel freely on her own for fear of accident or injury. Now, with the help of 15 Scouts from **Regina's St. James United Church troop** and the Morris-town, New Jersey, training centre for seeing-eye dogs, she is completely mobile. During the winter and early spring, the Scouts look turns walking Doris at least three miles each day; at the required 3½ miles-per-hour speed of a seeing-eye dog, describing the area to help orient her for the time when she would be alone with her dog. The boys responded to the commands she gave, in order to coordinate her movements with those of the dog. Now Miss Merkosky has her "eyes," a twenty-month-old German Shepherd called Cory and, thanks to 15 Scouts who cared enough to help, a new life.

A recent interesting visitor to National Headquarters was **New Zealand Field Commissioner, Colin McLennan**. Colin is on an extended self-education tour that will have him away from home for some four months. Before coming to Ottawa for a week, he spent nearly three months in the United States taking courses and visiting and working in camps and councils in New England. From Ottawa, he flew to London where he planned to spend some time in The Scout Association offices and see the 40th Anniversary Gang Show; then it's on to Geneva and the World Bureau Office for a week, and then home via a number of far east countries.

When the Lindsay (Ontario) Central Exhibition was held in September, the **Victoria County Scout District Council** erected a Scout-Guide Village on the exhibition grounds for the enjoyment of visitors. The village covered a sizable area immediately south of the grandstand and included a log-cabin with one wall open and a backdrop of trees, tents and canoes. During the exhibition, members put on demonstrations of camp furniture building, tent erecting, pioneering, and Scouting and Guiding ceremonies. In the evening there were campfires and singsongs in which the public was invited to participate. Sounds like a great way of getting Scouting before the public in a most positive way. And I wouldn't be surprised if the kids and leaders had a good time in the process.

In Calgary, the members of the **105th Fairview** troop were thinking of others less fortunate than themselves when they built this giant snowman out of *papier maché* as a Christmas gift for the Children's Hospital. The Scouts spent some 10 hours working on the project which is more than seven feet tall. *Calgary Herald photo*



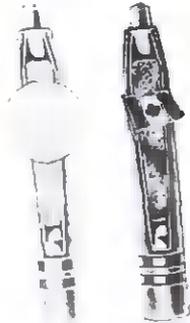
This is the symbol chosen for the **14th World Jamboree** which is to be held in Norway from July 29 - August 7, 1975. The site of the Jamboree will be Jorstadsmoen on Lake Mjosa, 120 miles north of Oslo. The organization of the Jamboree will be shared by Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden, and home hospitality both before and after the Jamboree will be in these countries, as well as Norway. Total Jamboree attendance will be about 15,000 Scouts and Scouters with a boy age qualification of 14-18 years. Details of Canadian participation will not begin to take shape until sometime in 1973. In the meantime, boys and parents should be informed so that their planning can begin.

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A Day for Polar Bears



By Jean King
Extension Member
Wolf Cub Subcommittee

Many days of planning go into the annual Polar Bear Day, hosted each year at Elliot Lake (Ontario) by the North Shore District. Akelas are given a schedule of events at least three weeks prior to the event. Included with this information is a list of material to be supplied by each pack.

Despite a blizzard and very cold temperatures, a full complement of

120 Cubs and 40 Brownies, with their leaders and a group of interested parents, descended on Elliot Lake to take part in the fifth, annual, Polar Bear Day.

On arrival each pack moved quickly to establish its lair and to construct snow houses large enough to accommodate the whole pack. Nearly four feet of snow made this an exciting challenge. Fires were started in the lairs and each pack kept its fire burning throughout the day. Any 'polar bear' who got cold could go to its own lair to get warm.

At 10.30 a.m. the Grand Howl was held. All the packs met together around the flagpole which had been set up on the ice. Then the packs hurried to finish their lairs and to deploy Cubs at strategic fishing holes on the ice. Snowmobile rides on the ice proved as popular as ever and, before long, it was time for lunch.

As soon as the lairs were cleaned up after lunch, the teams were ready for the games' competitions. The three-legged race resulted in many laughs for the spectators; the foot race proved hazardous due to the deep snow. Several Cubs, seeing victory in sight, did not count on the effect of the snow. Relay races were as exciting as ever, and the tug-of-war was as popular in winter as it is in summer. The cheers for the toboggan races could be heard for miles!

Throughout the day points were given for efficiency, neatness and spirit, as well as for the first five winners in each race or relay. A separate trophy, traditionally, is given to the pack which catches the largest fish. When the time arrived for the closing Grand Howl, the air crackled with excitement as every boy waited for the big news: who had won the trophy? Competition was strong and very close.

A final Grand Howl signaled the end of the fifth, annual, Polar Bear Day. Cubs and leaders went wearily back across the ice to dig out cars and begin the long trek home. Before leaving, however, one startled staff member heard a Cub ask, "When's Bluejay Day? In June, as usual?"

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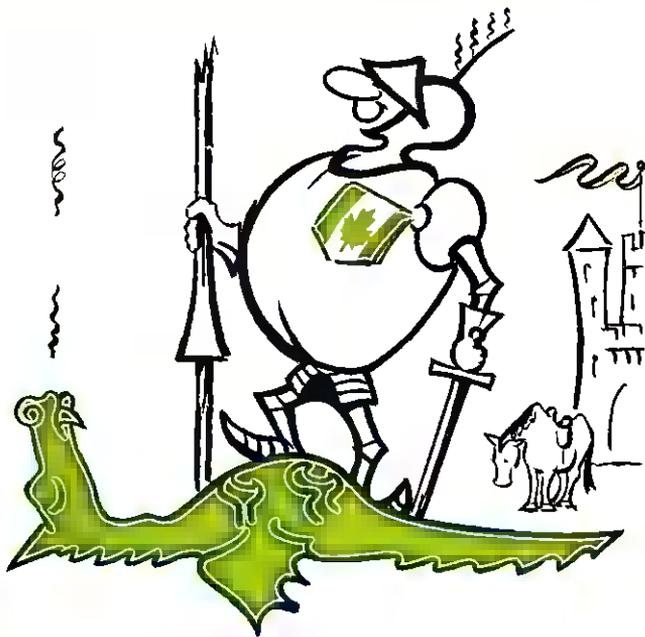
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THANK YOU

Program Services extends thanks to all who participated in the *Leader Survey* conducted in September. The response was very high and it is appreciated that so many willingly provided the needed information.

The purpose of the survey was to reveal, generally, what kinds of persons are attracted to Scouting. The information gained will help to provide guidance for the recruitment and retention of volunteers, and to develop and modify future training programs and organizational aids.

Returns are being compiled and results will be published early in '73.

Many Scouters had additional comments and questions about Scouting and the survey. These people will be contacted by mail in the near future. Further questions, problems and comments on the programs and the way they are serviced can be sent to:

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Boy Scouts of Canada
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stories & games



NEW YEAR'S — WHAT A DAY!

While you may sing *Auld Lang Syne* when the clock strikes 12 on New Year's Eve, your Japanese counterpart may be singing *Otanjobi Omedeto Gózaimasu* (Happy Birthday to You) — for the stroke of midnight means it's everyone's birthday.

Celebrating the first day of a new year is an age-old custom. Nearly all peoples have marked the coming of the year. However, the time selected as New Year's Day has varied widely. The First Day has been celebrated as early as the autumnal equinox, about September 21, and as late as the summer solstice, about June 21.

In most European countries during the Middle Ages, March 25 was the beginning of the New Year. And legend has it that El Cid, hero of Spanish liberation from the Moors, once won a great battle on New Year's Day by giving his tired horses generous gulps of sherry the night before.

Long ago the Russian people gave the New Year a roaring welcome with a hundred cannon shots at midnight.

In ancient China, people took a different approach to the First Day. They cleaned house, paid debts and closed their shops. Then they shot off firecrackers...and who can ever forget a New Year's in Chinatown of a big American city, with its colourful procession and fiery paper dragons breathing good cheer to everyone.

In old Japan, New Year's was a time for everybody to don new clothes, take three days off from work and visit their friends. Each gatepost would be adorned with green pines

CIRCLE-OUT

This is a strenuous game but great for an outdoor meeting on a sunny day in the snow. A player who is out of breath may obtain a brief respite by calling "Pax!"

Two starting lines are marked on the ground, 30 feet apart and directly opposite each other. **The boundaries must be clearly defined by easily visible markers.** The play area should be fairly large.

Players are divided into two teams of equal size. Each team lines up behind one of the starting lines, with rival teams facing each other. Before the signal to start is given, the leader points out the possible chance of collision between players who do not watch where they are running. He also points out the importance of strategy as well as speed.

On "Go," each team spreads out anywhere within the assigned limits. The object of the game is for any player on one team to completely circle any player of the rival team. As soon as a player is completely circled, he drops out of the game and goes to one side of the play area.

Two players on one team can try to circle a player on the opposing team but their strategy may be upset by two of the rival teammates uniting, not only to break up the attempt but also to put either or both rival players out of the game.

This is a fast-moving game, and the leader who acts as umpire must keep a sharp lookout to see that the players are carrying out the "out" rule. The umpire may also decide whether the "Pax" rule should be observed or not.

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FOX AND GOOSE

In a large, flat area make a circle in the snow about 30 yards in diameter. Inside, make crisscrossing paths in any direction; make some of them dead end. One Cub (the fox) chases the others (the geese) but they must stay on the paths. As Cubs are caught, they become foxes and catch more geese.

SNOW EXERCISES

Try cartwheels, skipping, leapfrog, hopping, headstand, forward roll and racing in the snow. Very different from doing them in a gym!

HIGHWAY CODE

On a flat area in snow, make squares representing town blocks separated by streets. Place sticks in the snow for stop signs and yield signs.

Have the Cubs practise the highway code by pretending they are vehicles such as busses, trucks, motorcycles, ambulances, police cars.

HOOK-ON

This can be hilarious in the snow. Footing is not steady and boys tend to end the game looking like polar bears.

Four boys go to one end of the play area. The rest line up at the opposite end.

On "Go," all the boys rush at the four who are opposite and try to hook on. If a boy succeeds, he and his partner try to prevent anyone else joining them but, if someone else does, he forms part of the chain.

After all the players have hooked on, the line with the fewest members wins. The first four of that line are picked to be the next loose ones.

and bamboo. And over each door would hang red lobsters, crabs and scarlet tangerines, standing for long life and happiness.

Gypsies in Spain used to marry on New Year's Eve. The 18th-century writer, George Borrow, tells us that a main feature of the bridal ceremony was the feasting associated with it. Once the Gypsy couple took their vows, guests ate and sang and danced throughout the night and day.

Italians consider January 1 as part of their Yuletide festival and so revel until Twelfth Night, 12 days after Christmas. But in France, New Year's is the day for exchanging presents for Christmas is purely a religious observation.

John Ruskin, noted 19th-century English critic, once toasted the New Year by saying: "I consider just and tolerable the drinking of sherry from dawn to dusk...Happy New Year!"

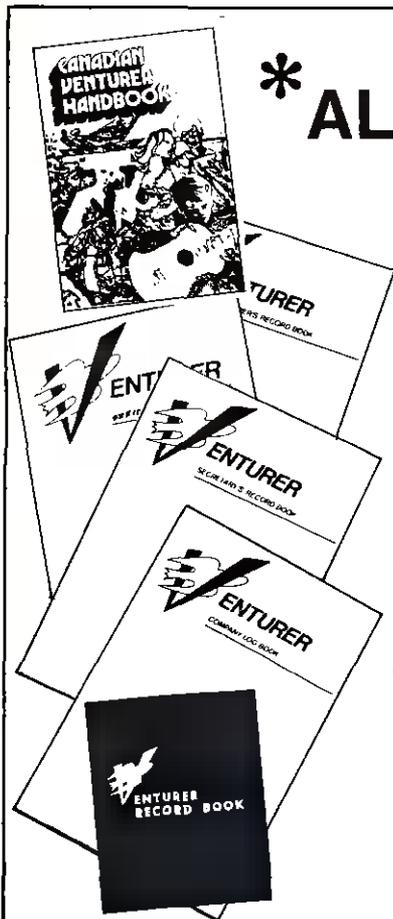
In Scotland the first one across the threshold, the "First Footer," supposedly brings the host good luck. Midnight Scot celebrators carry cakes and spiced ale to wish their host a good year.

AULD LANG SYNE — in FRENCH

Faut-il nous quitter sans espoir,
sans espoir de retour,
Faut-il nous quitter sans espoir
de nous revoir un jour.

Ce n'est qu'un au revoir, mes frères,
ce n'est qu'un au revoir,
Oui, nous nous reverrons, mes frères,
ce n'est qu'un au revoir.

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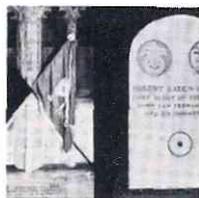
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REMEMBER WHAT PEACE THERE MAY BE IN
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surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth
quietly & clearly; and listen to others, even the dull & ignorant;
they too have their story. ✎ Avoid loud & aggressive persons,
they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with
others, you may become vain & bitter; for always there will be
greater & lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements
as well as your plans. ✎ Keep interested in your own career,
however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes
of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world
is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there
is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full
of heroism. ✎ Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection.
Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity &
disenchantment it is perennial as the grass. ✎ Take kindly
the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of
youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden mis-
fortune. But do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many
fears are born of fatigue & loneliness. Beyond a wholesome
discipline, be gentle with yourself. ✎ You are a child of the
universe, no less than the trees & the stars; you have a right to
be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the
universe is unfolding as it should. ✎ Therefore be at peace
with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your
labors & aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace
with your soul. ✎ With all its sham, drudgery & broken
dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be careful. Strive to be
happy.