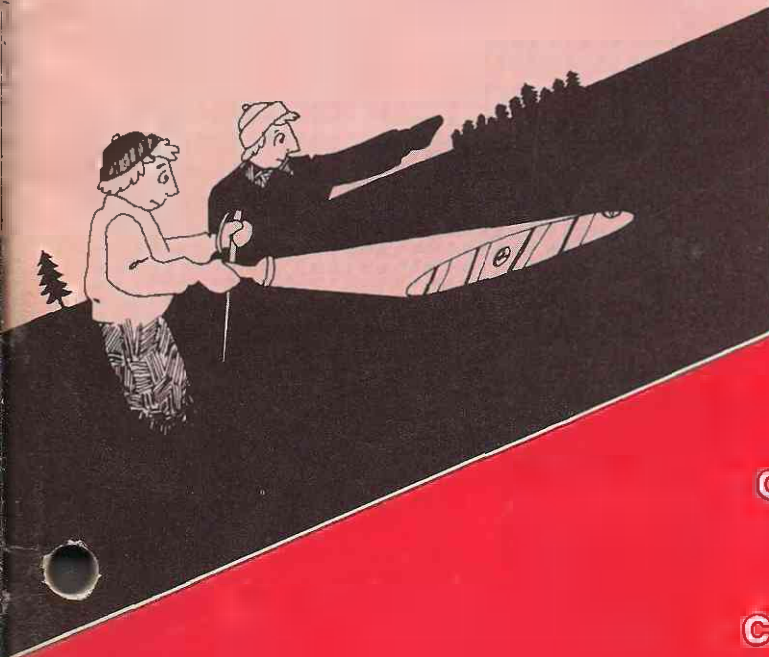
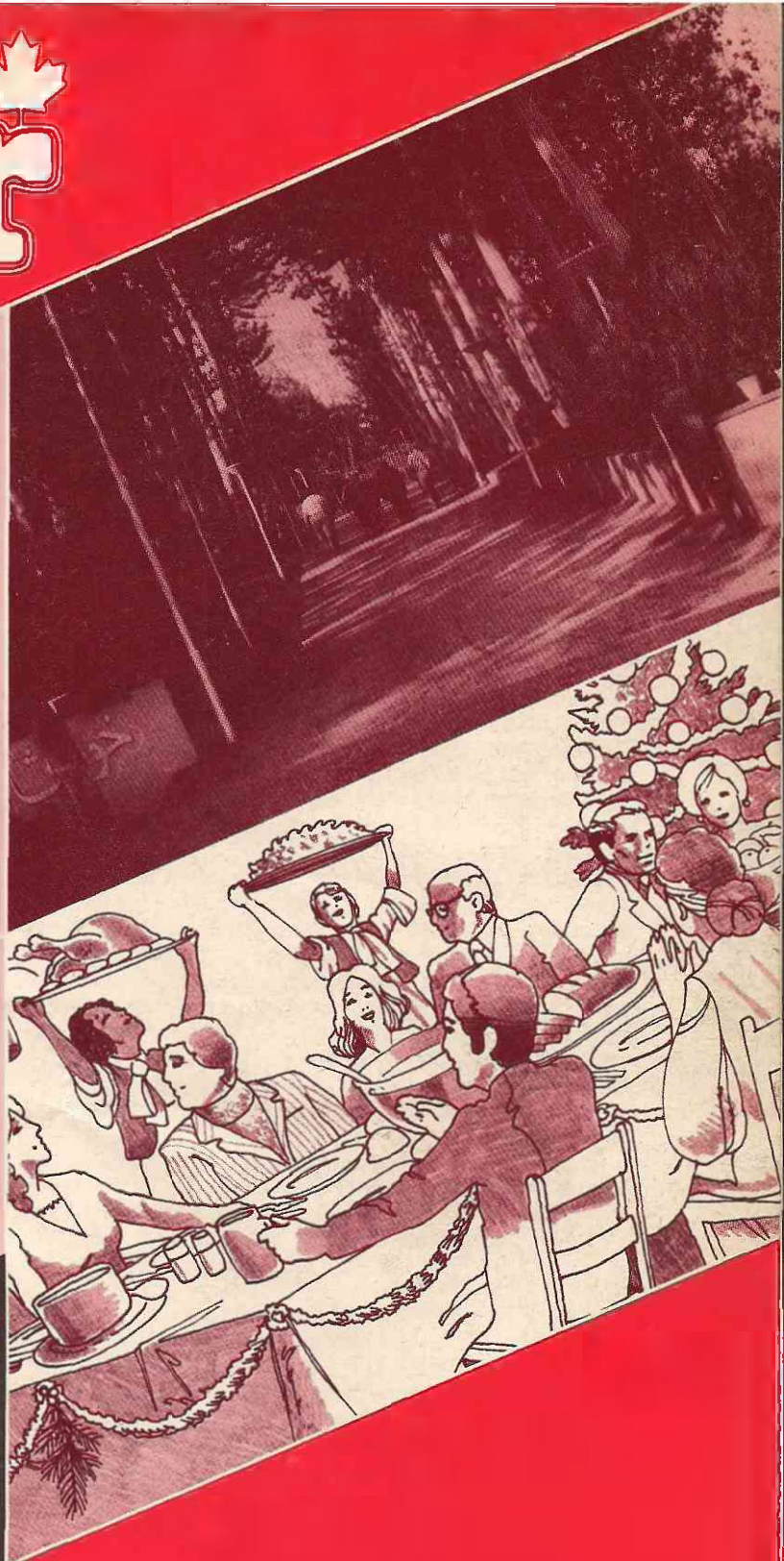
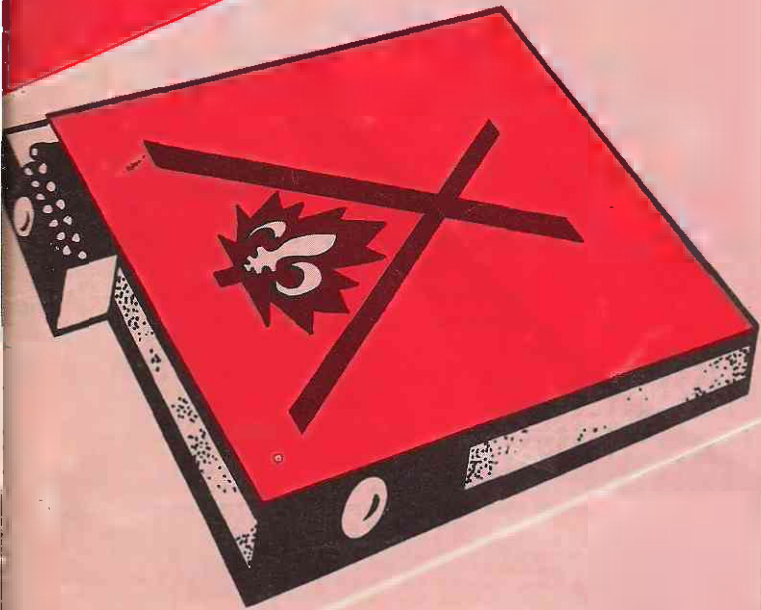


# the leader



... in this issue  
**COLOURFUL CHRISTMAS CRAFTS**  
**IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU**  
**WORLD JAMBOREE '79**  
**CHRISTMAS PARTY FOOD PARADE**  
... plus much, much more





# BOY SCOUTS OF CANADA TRUST

by L.H. Nicholson

At its May 1975 meeting, the National Council approved in principle, the establishment of a National Scout Trust or Foundation, as a separate corporation with its own constitution and by-laws. In broad terms the new body was to have the task of building and administering a fund to support any "special Scouting purpose or project not within the field of normal operations".

The National Council also decided that members of the Trust or Foundation should be its honorary president, honorary vice-presidents and, to provide a link with council, the president, past president and chief executive. This would allow a total membership of sixteen to eighteen from which a board of directors might be selected.

Mr. D.A. Thompson, a former president and now an honorary vice-president, undertook the legal work necessary to establish the corporation while I, in my capacity as chairman, arranged for the election of a board of directors. There followed several consultations with the National Council and Administrative Board while the first meeting of the newly elected directors was held in November, 1976. Also in that month incorporation was completed and our Letters Patent were received, as well as our registration as a charitable organization.

So much for the formalities - now in practical terms what is our set-up, purpose and plan?

Well, as to set up, here is our Board of Directors:

Lawrence Dampier - Vancouver  
A. Wallace Denny - Mississauga, Ont.  
Ian Roberts - Toronto  
John W. Sharp - New York  
D.A. Thompson - Winnipeg

L.H. Nicholson - Chairman, Woodlawn, Ont.

J. Percy Ross - Administrative Secretary, Ottawa.

We have completed banking arrangements, worked up promotional material and designed our letter-head. James A. Riddell has been designated as our staff man from the national office and will be the focal point for correspondence and internal administration. Our official name is "Boy Scouts of Canada Trust".

The purpose of the Trust is - and I paraphrase the relevant clause on our Letters Patent - "to receive and manage a trust fund and to make grants from it to any council or group of Boy Scouts of Canada for any special Scouting purpose or project not within the field of normal operations". We realize that this description of our grant-making authority will require careful interpretation, a matter which will undoubtedly receive early and continuing attention from the board of directors where responsibility for ruling on grant applications will rest.

Our plan of operations has not been worked out in detail as yet but certain important factors are already

recognized. For instance any promotion or campaign the Trust undertakes will need to be carefully arranged and timed, so that it will not complicate or be in conflict with other Scout fund-raising efforts. It also seems likely that our first promotion will be an internal one directed to our members and honorary members, indeed we have already reached honorary members in some provinces and hope, when appropriate, to reach them all. The insertion of bequests in the wills of Scouters and friends of Scouting may well be a major feature of our plan.

The Trust may receive and administer donations or bequests to which special conditions are attached - for instance a donor may wish his gift to be used in a certain area or for a specified purpose. Where no special conditions are attached to a gift, it will be used for such purposes as the board of directors within its authority may decide. As well as cash donations the Trust is empowered to receive real and personal property.

Channels and forms for grant applications will need to be decided and promulgated but obviously this information will not be required until the fund reaches usable proportions - and just when this will be cannot be anticipated. However we have already received some donations, three of which are well worthy of mention. Our very first gift came from a former president of the National Council. Our first gift from a corporation came in the form of a \$1,000 cheque from a large financial house on the instigation of a director of the firm who also happens to be a well known Scouter. Then a Saskatchewan Scouter sent in \$100 which he had received in the form of a gratuity and, because of his position, was unable to retain. These, with a number of other welcome gifts, have put us "in business".

Finally I think it important to emphasize that while the Trust was established by the National Council, its purpose is to support Scouting by Canadians wherever they may be - it is not for use at the national level alone. To make the Trust a success, we need cross-Canada knowledge of its purpose and a united effort to build its fund and maintain it at a usable size. Thereafter all Canadian Scout units will be able to share and benefit from its operation.



L.H. Nicholson is a former deputy chief Scout and, as honorary president of Boy Scouts of Canada, is a member of the Board of Directors of Boy Scouts of Canada Trust and its first chairman.

# the leader

The Canadian Leader Magazine

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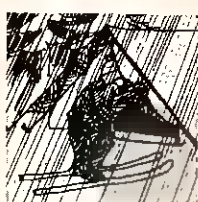
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**JAMES F. MACKIE,**  
Editor

**BETTY RAPKINS**  
Assistant Editor

**MICHEL PLANT,**  
Editorial and Advertising



## COVER

While some may think that Christmas is still some distance away, we know that our readers will want to be planning ahead, with parties and colourful gift-giving in mind. In order to give leaders time to put our Christmas suggestions into practice, we offer a number of festive ideas, together with news and views on a wide variety of subjects.

# supply services news

by Bill Johnson

It's a long way from Ottawa, Ontario to Nanaimo, British Columbia but when you have had the opportunity to visit all the Scout supply dealers and Scout Shops between those two points, it is a most stimulating and rewarding journey.

I met many leaders and service team people at meetings and conferences and would agree with those who say Scouting never looked better in Canada.

We received many constructive suggestions which indicate that there are areas where we must improve in both quality and service, and we will do it.

My most sincere thanks to everyone who made the trip so pleasant and worthwhile.

We have just reviewed the calendar sales situation and find that 417,000 have been shipped. This means that we are almost sold out again this year. If you haven't ordered those extras you require, please act fast.

Christmas is just around the corner and, in support of your local dealer or Scout Shop, we ask that you give as much lead time as possible when ordering gifts. Check your catalogue; notice the tremendous variety of good Christmas gift ideas and make this a Scouting Christmas.

## NEW ITEMS

**Fire & Folk Songbook** - an excellent collection of all the favourite campfire songs with music.

Cat. #20-609 . . . \$3.95

**Spoon - Scout Canada Logo** - a distinctive new design for the spoon collector.

Cat. #60-326 . . . \$3.25

**B.-P. Cassette** - a collection of nine of B.-P.'s addresses dating back to 1918.

Cat. #20-809 . . . \$8.95

**Scout Logo Letter Opener** - finished with a gold coloured handle and the new logo in an oval setting.

Cat. #60-228 . . . \$8.95

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# COLOUR

# CHRISTMAS

by Betty Rapkins

Christmas is the time for giving. You can do your boys a service by teaching them this and what better way than by practical experience? So now is the time to think about family gifts, while there are still enough sessions ahead to stock up on the necessary raw materials and for young fingers to draw and cut out and glue together and wrap.

Let's make it a colourful craft theme this year, with some fairly simple ideas that the younger members can tackle. And of course you'll want to keep costs down as much as possible, so the following ideas require basic, inexpensive craft materials. Choose nice, bright colours where possible, to add to the pleasure of Christmas giving and with the pleased smiles of mums and dads - and grandmas - in mind.

## FELT CHANGE-PURSES WITHOUT MUCH SEWING

### Materials:

Felt in bright Christmassy colours especially red and white. (1 square foot of felt should make 3 purses but each purse should be in two contrasting colours.)

Scissors, round ended ones are best if the younger boys are to do their own cutting out.

White glue and a black nylon marker or felt-tipped pen. Buttons, in pairs, for cat and dog eyes. White shirt buttons are fine but other small pairs might look good. Plus some big red shiny buttons for the clown and Santa's nose.

Needle and thread to sew on buttons.

Styrofoam coffee cup or any 3" diameter circle for marking out pattern.

## DOG

### Instructions:

Place coffee cup on light coloured felt and draw round. Move cup to darker felt and repeat but this time add ears as indicated in drawing. Cut out. On lighter piece draw nose and mouth with black marker, as shown.

Lay face circle on darker piece with ears. Line up lower half so that ears stick out around top half. Bend larger right hand ear flap down over face. Trim face piece straight across between A and B. This will be purse opening. Mark position of eyes with felt pen so that corresponding slit may be cut in right ear to fasten purse. Sew on buttons for eyes. Cut slit in ear for buttonhole.

Sew, or glue, two pieces together on dotted line making sure gap is left between A and B. Be careful glue

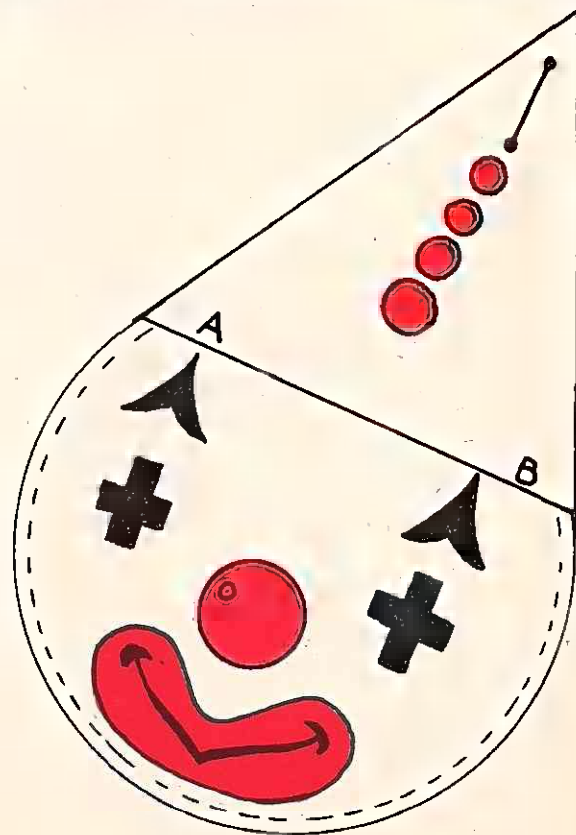
doesn't spread too far in from edge. Leave for a little while to dry. Fasten button through ear flap.

**CAT** is made in exactly the same way, adding whiskers with marker pen. Green or gold buttons for eyes would look extra good.

## CLOWN

White felt throughout could be used with red mouth and hat pom-poms, either cut from red felt and stuck in position, or a red marker pen could be used.

Cut two circles, one continuing out to a point for cap, as shown. Mark black crosses for eyes plus pointy eyebrows. Add big red mouth. Hat pom-poms go on front and back of hat so that they show when purse is open and closed. Sew big red button at lower centre for nose,



# RAW

# CRAFTS

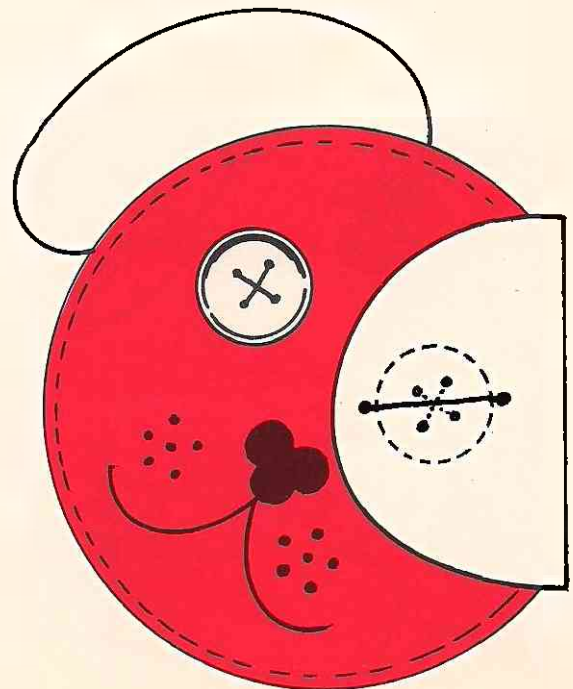
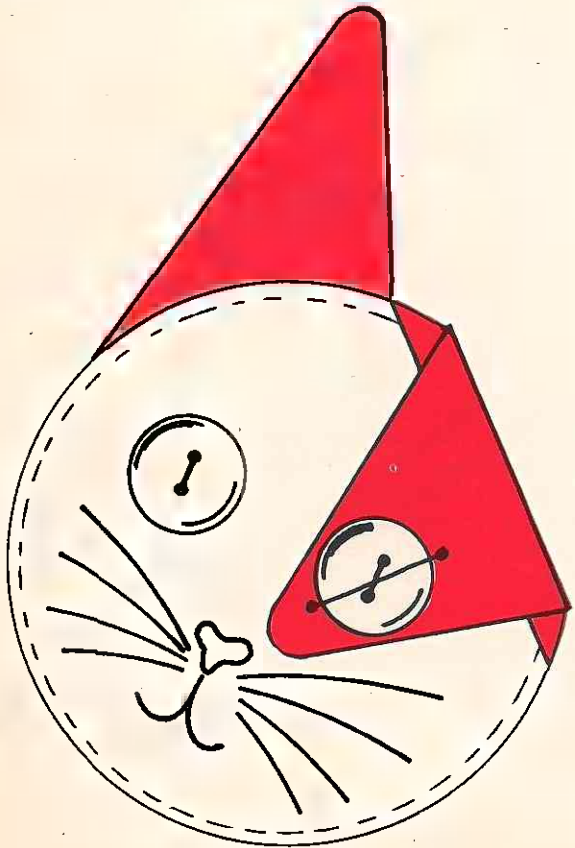
(For Cubs and Beavers)

taking care to position it so that slit cut at top of hat meets it for fastening. Trim face piece straight across between A and B for purse opening. Sew, or glue, front and back carefully together close to edge, along dotted line A - B.

**SANTA** is made in similar way to clown, but using one piece each of red and white felt. Cut *both* pieces with point, as for clown's cap, but white piece is now turned to point in opposite direction, to form Santa's beard. Mark position of button nose to fit buttonhole slit on point of hat. Add white hat pom-poms back and front. With black pen mark eyes and outline brows and moustache. Sew or glue front and back around edge, as for clown.



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## FOR YOUNGEST BOYS

A simple **bookmark** would be suitable for very young boys to tackle. This would help them to learn how to share materials and how to handle marker pens, ruler and round-ended scissors. If brightly coloured felt or card is used it adds to the enthusiasm and enjoyment. Quite small scraps will do, perhaps left over from other projects.

Show them how to measure a six inch strip on either felt or card and mark a line along both sides of the ruler. This will give them a 6 inch strip by approximately  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches which they now cut out. With felt pen, mark a spot one inch from each end, along both 6 inch edges, as indicated at A,B,C,D, on diagram. Find centre point of one short edge (E). Draw a line from E to A and from E to B and cut along these two lines to make point. Draw a line from C to D and make several cuts from bottom of bookmark to this line, to form fringe.

Now decorate with small contrasting felt scraps or felt marker pens. Simple seasonal outlines such as Christmas tree, snowflake, snowman, star, bells would be suitable.

## FOR OLDER BOYS

**A matchbox holder.** You will need four equal sized boxes of matches for this gift - so it might be a timely occasion to discuss sensible attitudes towards matches and fire precautions in general.

### Materials:

4 boxes of matches.

4 short lengths of wire plus 4 beads or small buttons, OR 4 bifurcated paper staplers.

2 squares of felt approximately 6" square.

Glue.

2 squares of card the same size as felt.

Assorted small trimmings: felt, sequins, shells, twigs.

Pierce a small, centered hole at one end of each box. Thread one bead or button to centre of short length of wire (approximately  $1\frac{1}{4}$ "). Give wire a few twists immediately behind bead and poke two ends through hole. Bend ends back inside box, or use bifurcated staple in similar manner, to form handle. Repeat this at one end of each box.

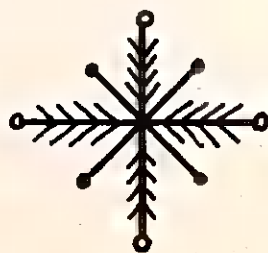
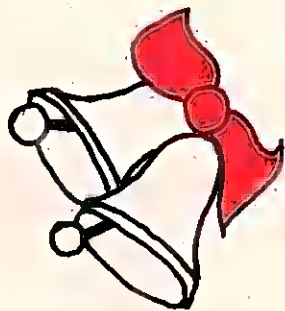
Place four matchboxes on one piece of card, in positions shown diagram attached, with bead handles facing outwards. Glue these to card. Glue second piece of card to top and trim top and bottom card flush with outer edges.

Cut two squares of felt to fit. Glue one to bottom of boxes. Now let the boys' ingenuity run wild to provide decorations, either glued or lightly stitched into position, on the other piece of felt. This is better done before finally gluing in place on top.

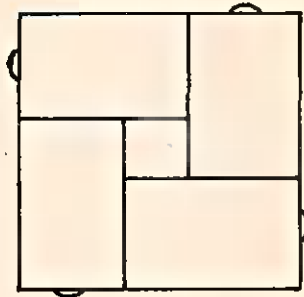
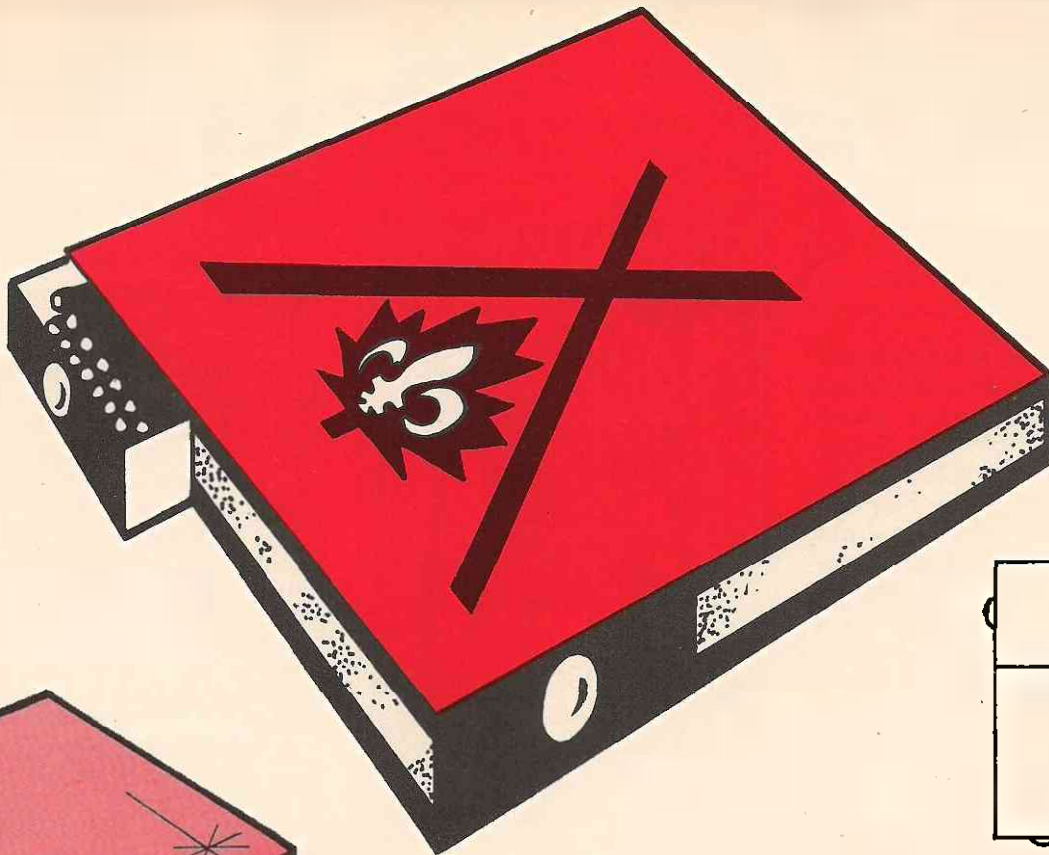
**Suggestions for decorations:** - A ribbon bow, two evergreen leaves and a cluster of small fir cones, berries or tiny glass Christmas tree balls. A felt Santa, clown or animal face using purse designs overleaf.

A number of small twigs - birch would be suitable - cut into short lengths of about one inch and attached with one raffia stitch at each end, overlapping in a rough circle to suggest a nest. Rough string, coiled and stitched down at intervals could be used instead. Then stick a cluster of smooth beads in centre for eggs.

A Scout logo using felt, natural materials and/or marker pens.







### GIFT WRAPPING

With a final, gift wrapping, session in mind why not ask the boys to start collecting small boxes, cans and cartons ahead of time - the sort of containers soap, cosmetics, pencils etc., sometimes come in. Incidentally, it's never too early - or too late - to start a "Make and Do" box - simply a large grocery carton in which you can store any bits and pieces, from scraps of string or ribbon to empty egg boxes, which might come in handy during future craft sessions.

Then see how much imagination the boys can muster to turn these into intriguing gift wraps. Perhaps cube shaped packaging might become an alphabet block or a slim, rectangular shape could be covered with bold spots to look like a domino. A chunky oblong might suggest a train or car, and a tin can covered to make a snowman.

Tissue paper, tinfoil, even colourful seed catalogue pages or newsprint can be used to cover the basic shapes. A few felt pens and perhaps a small packet of gummed-backed art paper in assorted colours can be shared by all the boys to add details. Plus that great boon to all parcel wrappers - a roll of sticky tape, preferably in a dispenser to save time searching and scratching for that free end which always so mysteriously disappears.

The finishing touches don't have to cost a thing. A sprig of greenery, a fir cone and a label cut down from last year's old cards complete this year's colourful Christmas gift giving.





# World Jamboree '79

by Jim Sarginson

The 15th World Jamboree will be held in Iran in 1979. Last autumn Jim Sarginson, Overseas Secretary of The Scout Association, (U.K.) visited Iran to see something of the country and the site of the Jamboree. He wrote this article for SCOUTING magazine, which is reprinted with the compliments of The Editor.

Iran, better known perhaps to historians by its former name of Persia, lies to the east of Turkey and Iraq, to the south of the U.S.S.R. and to the west of Afghanistan and Pakistan.

It is a land of contrasts.

It has an area of approximately 630,000 sq. miles, about seven times that of the United Kingdom, which mainly comprises an arid tableland between 3,000 and 6,000 ft. above sea level, encircled, except to the east, by lofty mountain ranges which rise to 18,000 ft. in the Elburz mountains of the north.

Geographical contrasts give rise to quite dramatic climatic fluctuations. In the south, winters are short and mild; summers are long and very hot, sometimes producing shade temperatures of more than 120°F. In the north, winters are colder, while summer temperatures can reach 95°F, with very low humidity; hot, yet bearable.

The capital city is Tehran, with a population of approximately four million. It is a modern and not particularly attractive city, although there are some fine examples of Moslem architecture hidden along backstreets here and there. The most notable piece of modern construction is the enormous Shahyad Arya Mehr monument, close to the airport, which contains a very fine museum and art gallery. It stands alone, uncluttered and directing the attention of its admirers towards loftier principles by its gentle and sweeping curves.

The visitor to Tehran cannot fail to be moved by its quaint transport system and dearth of hotel accommodation. An under-ground train system similar to the Paris Metro



is under construction, but meanwhile the average visitor must work out the complicated methods of travel for himself. If you are lucky enough to find taxis to yourself, though you can barter with the drivers to establish a just fare, you may easily not reach your exact destination as they follow only certain recognized routes. Buses, mainly British double-deckers, are sardine tins on wheels and, without a knowledge of written and spoken 'farsi', are hard to understand and best avoided.

#### Unexplored Markets

The dearth of hotel rooms speaks, not of few hotels—indeed there are many—but of a multitude of foreign visitors to the city. My impression was of feverish activity by European salesmen tapping hitherto unexplored markets in a country where oil revenues are young yet ripe for exploitation, and of European technicians frantically introducing the modern technology that the West produces but the East desperately needs.

For the most part, the citizens of Tehran are sophisticated and not unlike Western Europeans in their daily life, though there are still to be found the stricter Moslems whose women dress in traditional black and wear the chadour over the face. There is still noticeable poverty, and young boys earn a meagre living as 'shoeshines' at the pavement's edge.

Traffic is a policeman's nightmare

and little respect is shown for normal conventions such as lights and signs! Officialdom wreaks its revenge, however, at least on the unfortunate drivers of illegally parked cars; not with paper tickets but with heavy metal wheel-locks removable only on payment of a fine!

#### Iranian Scouting

The 10th Asia-Pacific Scout Conference was in progress in Tehran while I was there. The meetings were held in the impressive National Headquarters of Iranian Scouting and, as one might expect, everywhere Scouts and their leaders were evident.

In true Moslem fashion, friendliness and generosity were the order of the occasion and I experienced the Iranians to be charming and genuine in their expressions.

Scouting is a vital force in the nation; contrary to some opinion, it is in no way state controlled but may receive in an erratic manner, help from state and local government. Its Royal patronage is active rather than passive, the young Crown Prince being very much involved in a local Scout troop. He, alongside many of his kinsmen, has played his part in the building of the site that will house the 15th World Scout Jamboree.

Devoid as Tehran might be of much architectural splendour, its people have a culture that is their own and goes back many centuries before ours. The vast majority of Iranians are Shi'a Moslems, though there is a comparatively small number of devotees to other minor religions, the most important of which, historically, probably is Zoroastrianism whose followers were persecuted of old by Arab invaders and whose ranks have steadily dwindled down the centuries.

I was enthralled by a visit to an Islamic *Zurkaneh*, a kind of extremely unusual gymnasium where certain of the Moslem faithful perform a daily ritual, to the chanting of a cantor, of exercises designed by their ancestors to strengthen them bodily for a time when they might be called upon to take up arms.

#### Monotonous Attraction...

I flew by Iran Air to Mashad, the nearest airport to the Jamboree site. The absence of clouds gave me an



uninterrupted view of the landscape.

The countryside of Iran, certainly that which I saw, looked as if some giant had passed his razor across the surface, for there is little evidence of grasslands. The various hues amongst the rock formations offer a Martian panorama which has a monotonous attraction.

Neyshaboor, the nearest township to the Jamboree site, is some 135 kilometres on the Tehran side of Mashad and this journey was made by car. The land is raked with gullies, dry now in autumn but swollen in spring with the melting snows of the surrounding mountains.

We passed through towns and villages which for all the world fitted my mental picture of Palestine in the time of Christ rather than the busy modern lifestyle that I had witnessed in Tehran. The houses were made of mud with flat roofs and scattered here and there with little thought for town planning. The women and children gathered at the water hole to perform the daily ablutions and no doubt gossip and chatter. In the fields men worked at the cotton and vegetable crops, some piling high the backs of donkeys until they seemed about to break. In the distance the dust rises and, as it clears, two bullocks are to be seen drawing a plough—of wooden construction! Here and there are mounds of wheat and the occasional team winnowing the corn. Combine harvesters are still ages away.

#### Jamboree Site

Neyshaboor is famous for being the birth and last resting place of Omar Khayam, known to us in the west as a poet but in Iran as an important astrologer and mathematician. His shrine, in itself a magnificent yet simple monument, is in the midst of fine lawns and sweet-scented shrubbery.

It is perhaps not surprising, therefore, that the District Camp Site is named after this illustrious man, the OK camp and around it is being



A Tehran street scene

developed now the site for the 15th World Jamboree.

The camp is in fact about 7 km north of Neyshaboor township, but as one approaches the vicinity, this 'oasis', snuggling beneath a chain of mountains, stands out of an otherwise dry and arid landscape.

One cannot but marvel at the effort that Scouts have put into developing this site. There are orchards of vines, quince, apples and walnut. Trees were planted in the early days that now stand proudly, sentinels over the development defying the elements to destroy the labours of mere humans.

Grass is not easily grown and is all the more difficult to maintain once established. One must camp therefore on what is there—sand and earth. Tents are pitched on narrow terraces in a formal manner quite unlike our typical practice in Britain where the siting of tents and layout of sites is very much more irregular.

#### Benefit

While walking about the camp, I was impressed to learn about a group of young men who were formed up into three sides of a square before a flag pole, obviously prepared for some formal occasion.

Iranian Scouting had entered into an arrangement with the Ministry of Labour whereby several of these Districts' sites arranged courses for young apprentices in crafts such as bricklaying, welding and plumbing.

Scouting benefitted in two ways; the resources of the site were improved through the practical application of the apprentices' skills and, conversely, for a proportion of the course, the apprentices' were told about the principles of Scouting and were instructed in leadership skills.

At the end of the course, they were invited to join the Scout Movement so that if they so wished on returning home, they could either start up a Scout troop or assist with an existing one. So this apparently formal occasion was that point when those apprentices who chose of their free will to do so, took the Scout Promise for the first time.

#### Culmination

The 15th World Jamboree will be the culmination of the efforts and vision of Iran's Chief Commissioner, Dr. Hosein Banai. But it will also, of course, be more than that; it will encourage his Scouts, and indeed Scouts worldwide, not only to think about and become involved in the practical application of Scouting principles, but also to realize its potential as a service to mankind.

Around the Omar Khayam camp, land has been purchased and given to be developed as a future amenity for the district of Neyshaboor but which in 1979 will be the temporary home of World Scouting. Five dams are being constructed to capture the waters that come down from the mountains when the thaw sets in. Hitherto much of this water has been lost; so the water supply for the Jamboree will be assured, not to mention the potential activities it can offer. After the Jamboree is over, the people of the locality can see and experience for themselves the value of Scout activity and enjoy a permanent water supply.

During the Jamboree, 15,000 Scouts and leaders from all corners of the world will be asked to plant one million trees; they will also become involved in the management and running of a poultry farm set up to provide the Jamboree with meat and eggs but to continue thereafter as a Scout venture for the benefit of the local populace.

#### Exciting...

It has not been my purpose here to give intricate details of the Jamboree, for they will come later. It is my hope that this article has set the scene for what I believe will be an exciting and vital world event in a part of the world with a culture vastly different from our own but with an economy of increasing influence on Western Europe. I am sure that every Scout fortunate enough to become involved will return home so much the richer and wiser. In the March issue of **The Leader** a picture was shown of the 1979 Jamboree emblem. I am told that the shape of the emblem background is considered a symbol of beauty in Iran, copying as it does the form of the *angir*, a pomegranate-like fruit that grows on trees in great abundance in the southern part of the country.

Perhaps the symbolism of the poster will bear fruit in great abundance.



Entrance to Jamboree site

Readers may feel that November is a bit early to be thinking about Christmas food but, this year, why not plan a really super party with your Scouts, Venturers and Rovers carrying in a Yuletide feast on trays held high?

Think of the wonderful feeling of anticipation both boys and guests will feel, as each course appears through the doorway, perhaps specially spot-lit in a semi-darkened room. Trays of fruit punch, concocted for the occasion by the boys, with lots of colourful trimmings; closely followed by barbecued turkey; stacks of foil wrapped baked potatoes; bowls of gleaming salad and, if a fiery Christmas pudding is beyond local cookery resources, an old English cream-covered, almond studded trifle instead.

Plus nuts and oranges and all the traditional extras, with Christmas tales to follow, accompanied by big pots of coffee and chocolate kept hot at the side.

There might even be suitably festive background music as all these succulent courses are laid, in their turn, down the centre of a long, decorative banqueting table, perhaps with a special guest of honour seated at one end.

Now let's think how we can achieve this.

#### Invitations

This could be just a party for the boys but it would be more in the spirit of Christmas to share the occasion by issuing invitations - perhaps to dads or grandads, or to retired Scouters in your vicinity. Other suggested guest lists include senior citizens from a local home; "my favourite relative"; any lonely or bereaved folk the boys may know of in the community. Perhaps a guest of hon-

our could be invited - a senior Scouter or a local celebrity (especially from the world of sport!) and then tickets might be sold to a select dozen or so outsiders, the proceeds to help offset costs or to go to a worthy local Christmas cause.

If funds are low, incidentally, now is the time to be planning to sell Christmas trees, to shovel walks, or to think up other seasonal fund raising schemes.

#### Decorations

A Dickens-type theme would be in keeping with the banqueting idea. Push all the tables together to make one long festive board. If space makes this difficult, tables could form a U shape with any very special guests at the top table, across the width of the room, and a right-angled "wing" added at each end.

You might like to keep the whole theme red and green and gold/silver. A real Christmas tree, placed where guests can see it as they enter, plus paper bows and evergreens tucked around existing pictures, doors, etc., would be in character.

Decorate the table with lengths of red crepe paper, pinned or taped together, pin loops of greenery along the edges and, with a can of gold or silver spray paint, create richly Victorian table decorations. (This spraying should be done on lots of newspaper outside or in a garage. If weather conditions make it an indoor job, place items to be sprayed in a large cardboard carton, to protect surroundings.) It is surprising how good even humble jam jars full of twigs and ever-greens, or simple boxes and baskets piled with fir cones look when sprayed.

Tinfoil might suggest further silvery decorations. A silver foil star could be attached to place cards, or add small sprigs of real greenery. A couple of fairly artistic boys might be detailed to make these in advance. Paper

# Christmas Party Food Pa





plates, napkins, beakers, would save a lot of time and trouble if funds allow. And, as indicated in our illustration, the boys chosen to serve the feast might like to wear simple costumes suggesting earlier times.

If you have a lighting expert in your group it would add atmosphere to have warm localized lighting, plus the already mentioned spotlight arranged to shine along the table - just at the beginning when the feast is paraded in - as it shouldn't be left on to dazzle the diners during the meal.

### Food

If weather conditions allow, why not barbecue the turkey out of doors? This is fun, even in the snow, and is made much easier with the aid of special rotisserie attachments. But one word of advance warning: - Under no circumstances should the barbecuing be brought in under cover as it is dangerous to use charcoal indoors.

It is not the purpose of this article to suggest specific quantities or cooking times, as the size of your group and available cooking facilities will vary. However it may help to know that a dressed 16-20 lb turkey should provide approximately 24 portions. One good sized potato each baked in foil and a selection of salads would, with bread, condiments and sauces, complete the main course. A simple salad for 24 would require 3-4 lettuces, 2-3 cucumbers and 3 lbs tomatoes.

The traditional Christmas plum puddings are available in many supermarkets but often do require lengthy steaming. So it may be more convenient to adapt an old English trifle recipe for desert.

For this you will need a decorative bowl lined with sliced jelly roll or plain sponge cake. Spread with jam - raspberry is particularly suitable. Take a tin of fruit - again any would do but mixed, diced fruit or sliced

peaches would be good - and pour the juice from the tin over the sponge. Leave to soak for a few minutes and then place fruit over surface. Make one pint of custard and pour over fruit. Leave to cool. When cold cover with whipped cream and stud with shelled almonds. Other decorations such as sugared violets, edible silver balls and crystallized cherries can also be used to add variety if several trifles are required.

For a really eye-catching starter let the boys concoct a mixed fruit punch. It might be an idea to spend part of an evening ahead of time experimenting with various ingredients until an ideal balance of flavours is produced. Give the best concoction a name and let this be the one to be used for the party.

Suitable ingredients for experimental purposes could include orange juice, iced tea, sparkling lemon or soda pop, sliced oranges and lemons, sugar, cherries, mint sprigs, cucumber, etc. Add colourful straws, plastic mixing paddles and ice cubes.

For decorative effect and refreshing taste, a tray of these should really start your Christmas party food parade with a sparkle.

At the end of the meal hot coffee and/or chocolate accompany a relaxed story-telling session. This could start with a reading from the Bible, of the story of the Nativity, followed by passages from "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens, or by other short, Christmassy tales.

The boys might be asked beforehand to bring along a favourite poem or passage from a book, with a theme related to the season in some way. It might be about animals hibernating in wintertime, an exciting moment in ice hockey or downhill skiing, or a description of how country folk in earlier days used to cure hams and store fruit and vegetables for the long winters without the aid of refrigeration. Or it could be an item from the newspaper in which courage or generosity is featured.

The older guests might then like to tell of their own experiences during particularly memorable Christmases in the past. Younger boys could describe special family traditions in their own homes at this time, and if some of those present are from other lands it would be especially interesting to hear about the different ways in which other countries celebrate the festive season.

The lighting, at this stage of the meal, could be kept quite low, with a very soft, warm spotlight drawing attention to, but not dazzling, individual speakers.

Then, when the last tale is told and the coffee pot empty, the boys might like to distribute small gifts from the tree, to their guests. These do not have to be expensive but should indicate that some thought and care have gone into their selection.

It would be fun if the presents suggested Victorian times - like those old-fashioned conical shaped bags of peppermints or home-made fudge. These little candy bags are simply made from small sheets of blue art paper twisted into cones, with the bottom point folded, (perhaps with the aid of a small piece of sticky tape - although those early store keepers did it all with a flick of the wrist) and the top triangular flap tucked in.

Or the boys could, beforehand, make a felt stocking for each guest, to be filled perhaps with a small gift, a candy cane, an orange, and a silver coin - or tiny lump of coal - tucked in at the toe for good luck!

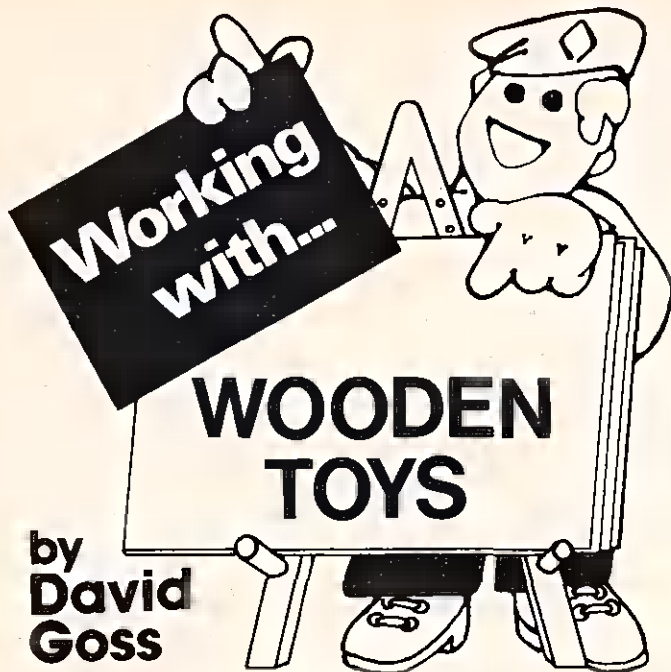
Perhaps a little ingenuity beforehand might take the form of a competition to see who can come up with the best tiny gift for - say - a quarter or fifty cents, to tuck into the stocking.

Then, with suitable background music, the evening could end with carols in which all, young and old, can join in.

# Grade

by Betty Rapkins





by  
**David  
Goss**



12

With Christmas only weeks away, perhaps you are searching for a craft project which has that "little extra". Why not try this wooden toy?

This is not an original design by any means: Few wooden toys are, because they've been with us as long as knives and scrap wood were found in the same household. This one is a stronger version of the popular Kub Kar - suitable for the preschooler who likes to hold "smash-up derbys" or who has careless parents who step on his toys with their size "12's".

Our group constructed these cars in 1975 and donated them to the church nursery, to amuse the toddlers during their weekly visits. On a recent check, I found them still intact, with only a few of the drivers missing. Donating them is the "little extra" I was talking about; if you give the toys away, then you're really entering into the spirit of the season.

**For each car you'll need pieces as follows:**

- A. 3/4" pine 8" long x 2" wide
- B. 1 1/2" x 1 1/2" pine x 7" long
- H. Is a 3/4" dowel cut 2" long and grooved 3/4" from top to represent the division between body and head.
- J. Are wheels cut out of 3/4" pine with a 1 3/4" hole saw. Make 5.

**SUGGESTIONS**

All parts should be cut out prior to meeting as described above. Either approach some shop teacher or woodworking friend, or get together with some dads and patrol leaders to do this part of the operation. This is the only way you could hope to finish the basic construction in one night.

**METHOD**

Take piece "A" and drill three 1/8" holes at "K" - one at 3", one at 3 1/2" and one at 4". All to be 1/8" in from edge. Also make wheel guide holes as at "L" - by drilling 1/16" holes 3/8" from bottom of piece "A", and 1" from edge - one for each wheel. Take piece "B" and drill 3 - 1/8" holes at E, F and G, which are 1", 1 1/2" and 2" from front and 3/4" from top. Also drill a 3/4" hole 1" deep into top of "B" at a point 5 1/2" from front and 3/4" from either side.

Drill a 1/4" hole in the back at "I" - at a slight slant and about 1/2" from top and 3/4" from either side. Insert a 1/4" piece of dowel in this so it protrudes 3/4". Also drill a 1/4" hole at "M" - 5/8" from front, 3/4" from either side and add a piece of 1/4" dowel so it protrudes 1/4".

Place your block of wood "B" into a mitre box and cut saw lines 1/8" deep at a point "C" which is 1/4" from front on all sides except the bottom, and also at point "D" which is 3 1/2" from front.

Make a driver by cutting a 2" length of 3/4" dowel. At a point 3/4" from top, cut a saw mark into dowel around the circumference to divide the body from the head.

Make the wheels by cutting five 1 3/4" holes into 3/4" thick pine stock with a hole saw attachment for an electric drill. Set them aside until assembly.

**ASSEMBLY**

Place glue on bottom of "B" and top of "A" and then position "B" on "A" so the back of "A" and "B" meet, and there is a slight portion of "A" sticking out on both sides of "B". Especially make sure that "B" is clear of holes at "K". Nail firmly through "A" into "B", now add the wheels by placing a #6 1 1/2" screw through each wheel and into the previously drilled 1/16" holes in each corner of "A". Be sure to place a washer as a bushing on both sides of the wheel before placing screws. Repeat for each wheel. Place the 5th wheel on the dowel protruding at "I". Don't glue this.

At this point we let our boys take the cars home to carve, chop, saw, chisel or otherwise modify the basic design so that each car took on its own personality. They, also nailed on tacks for lights, and did their own paint jobs. As a final touch they added the exhaust pipes by placing three pieces of #12 wire strands into holes "E", "F" and "G", gluing it, and then snaking the other end through the holes at "K".

The boys came up with many good designs and some, who had not done such a good job at the hall, even started again and ended up with better models. At the next meeting we presented a small prize for the best design, placing our names and dates on the cars, and bundled them up and off to the nursery.

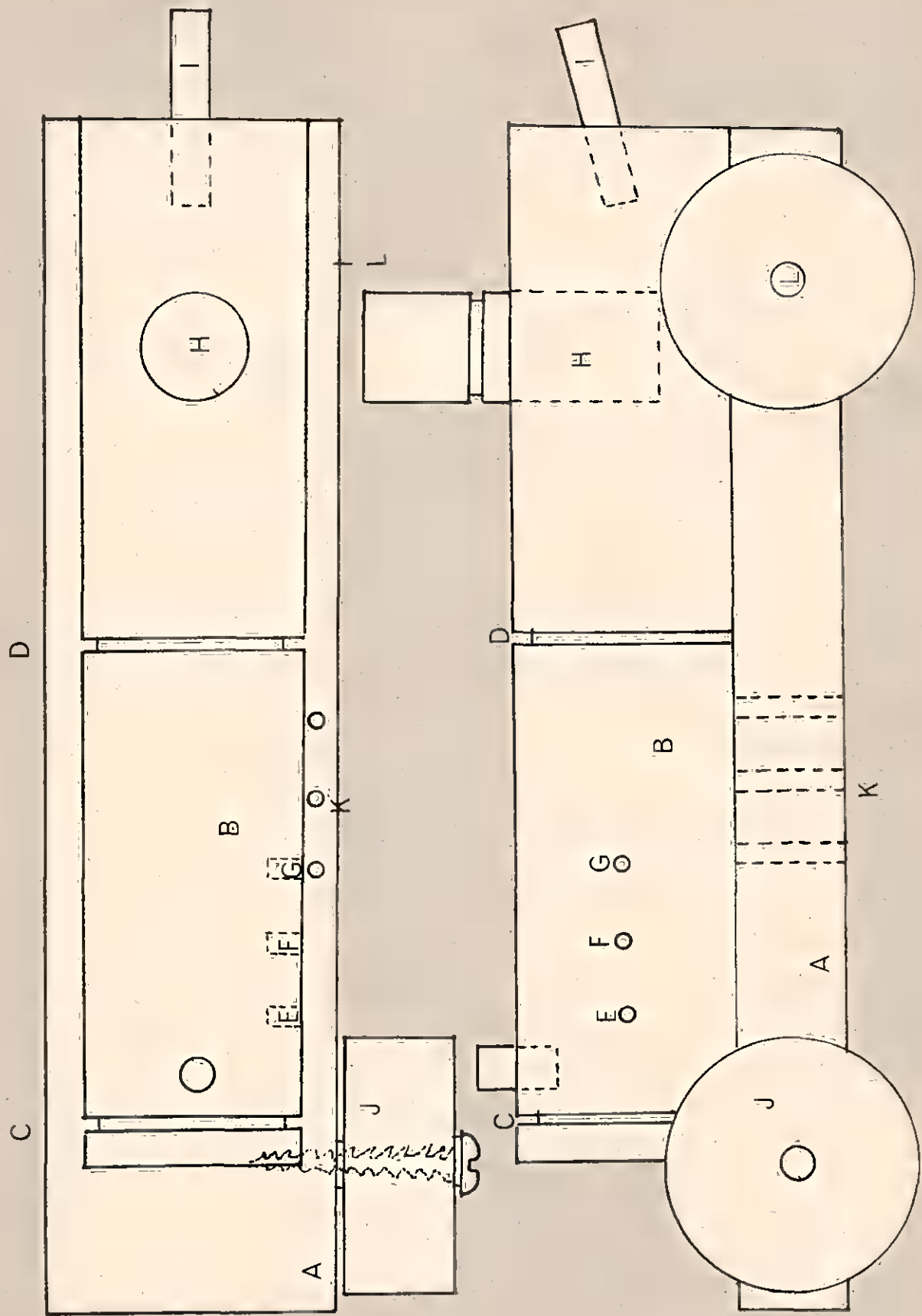
This is a good Christmas project but don't attempt it unless you and your leaders have actually cut out and put one together. It would also be helpful if you could recruit some fathers who have tools and talent, to help out.



DAVID GOSS has had a long association with Scouting and St. George's 21st Scout Troop, Saint John, N.B. He is employed with the Recreation Dept., City of Saint John and is married with one son.

**NEXT MONTH: Working With . . . Winter.**





# The Herring Gull



## Canadian Wildlife Series

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The seashore would not be the same without sea gulls, but to gulls the shore is just one place to make a living. They are also found beside inland lakes and rivers, on garbage dumps and golf courses, from the Atlantic provinces to British Columbia.

Throughout their wide Canadian range and in the northeastern United States, the herring gull (*Larus argentatus*) because of its large numbers, is the bird commonly called a sea gull. However, on the west coast the term applies to the closely related glaucous-winged gull (*Larus glaucescens*).

### Relation to Man

Gulls as scavengers can profit from the organic wastes of garbage, sewage, fertilizer, and fish waste dumped all around our prosperous communities. Because of the availability of these wastes, gulls thrive near large cities, harbours, and fishing ports, and have become a pest in some of these places.

It was not always thus. At the end of the nineteenth century, sea gulls were rare along the Atlantic coast because of persecution. In those years, many farmer-fishermen led a precarious existence on outer islands—tending gardens, fields, and flocks, and fishing with nets and lines. Any bounty from the sea was welcome, and gull eggs and young were worth considerable exertion. Then it became fashionable to use bird wings on ladies' hats, and a fee of 20 to 40 cents could be earned for each set of wings and back feathers collected for the millinery trade. With this added to the taking of eggs and young, sea-bird populations reached a low ebb.

Fewer than 4,000 pairs were counted in 1900—all in easternmost Maine and New Brunswick. In 1965, however, censuses showed about 100,000 pairs on some 240 colonies, all along the shore from New York City to Grand Manan, New Brunswick. Censuses of gulls made on ten bird sanctuaries on the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence showed an increase from 1,020 herring gulls in 1925 to 18,315 in 1965. Why has there been this dramatic change?

As the standard of living rose and the use of inboard engines spread, fishermen gathered into coastal villages at safe harbours, leaving the outer islands to the thunder of the surf and the cries of the sea gulls. Gulls were given protected status in 1916 by the Migratory Birds Treaty between Canada and the United States.

With their diet supplemented by garbage and fish wastes, gulls have continued to increase apace. In many places they have doubled their numbers every 15 years. Because they are attracted to metropolitan areas, they have even become a nuisance and a hazard to aircraft flying in and out of airports.

### Appearance

The adult herring gull is about two feet from bill to tail and has a white head, body, and tail. Its bill is yellow with a red spot on the lower tip and its legs are flesh-coloured. Adult gulls have grey backs, and the tips of their outermost flight feathers are black with a white spot. In winter, adult heads are heavily streaked with brown. Immature birds are a mottled brown, and take four years to develop full adult plumage.

### Nesting Habits

Gulls nest in colonies and, once a colony is well established, they are faithful to it and reluctant to settle elsewhere. Yet as the colony grows some birds are unable to establish breeding territories. Sooner or later, these birds start to loaf on another island, near abundant food supplies. As the urge to breed grows, some start nesting—and the rush is on. In a very few years, the colony grows to capacity.

The density reached depends upon the island's terrain, not the number of gulls. Nests on a broken jumble of rocks or driftwood will regularly be 5-10 feet apart; but on grassy knobs or sand dunes, the nests will be 40-60 feet apart. Nests on an open, bald, rocky knob will be 10-30 feet apart. Thus, the characteristics of the habitat regulate how closely together gulls will crowd—a sort of zoning ordinance.

### Behaviour

Although at first glance a gull colony seems a noisy, squabbling anarchy, there is a roughhewn organization. Each pair occupies an area from which they drive other gulls and on which they nest. To occupy this territory, to find and pair with a female requires communication between individual gulls. This interchange has been studied for several decades.

An early student said of birds that they have very little intellect but very intense emotions, and their communications are of moods. If a gull wants to state intent to stand fast, he gives the trumpeting 'long call'. If he threatens to peck a neighbour, he draws himself up to look bigger, lowers his bill-tip ready to strike, and pulls his 'wrists' out of his body feathers. Then he steps stiffly toward his opponent. If his opponent stands fast, both gulls are faced with the choice between attacking or running away—a conflict situation.

Many studies have been made of what birds do and why, when two moods or drives contradict each other. Does the energy of nervousness overflow and make the animal do something, or do the conflicting drives cancel each other out, hence unmasking other actions? All we



can see is that when in conflict, gulls, like people, may stare at their feet or toy with a stick, just in the way that we doodle, scratch our heads, or smoke. Once an observer is familiar with what happens before and after each posture or call, he can read the moods and follow just what is going on.

### Breeding

Biologically, it is most efficient for all members of a colony to get on with reproduction, so fighting during courtship is minimal and mostly bluff. By mid-May in most places, a clutch of eggs—three with nearly all experienced females—is laid and incubation starts.

In the first breeding year (third or fourth of life) many females do not lay a full clutch. Females often take every third or fourth year off from breeding and apparently three-quarters of the females on a colony lay the full three-egg clutch.

Mortality is high. Fifty percent of the eggs fail to hatch, or are dead or destroyed by the end of the first week after they hatch. In one study, each pair produced an average of one chick a year, ready to leave the colony at 40-60 days of age. However, about one-third of those chicks died before another month had passed.

### Feeding Habits

How do the gulls from a colony get all they need to sustain themselves and raise their young? In 1961 and 1962, near Boston, Massachusetts, breeding gulls were caught and coloured several bright tints to trace their daily trips for food. It was apparent that the vast majority of the gulls sought their food as close to their breeding colony as possible. If there was a fish pier within five miles, few gulls went farther. If the nearest dump was 17 miles away, commuting that far was regular; even 25 miles was not an unreasonable daily round, if there was nothing nearer and the rewards were attractive enough.

After the gulls left their islands in mid-or early August, some drifted south along the coast and a kaleidoscope of gulls was reported at loafing areas such as points on Cape Cod where gulls could go several directions to follow fishing boats. The dumps of Greater New York and resort towns of the New Jersey coast reported them too; but studies of the proportions of marked to unmarked birds made in July-August and again in January-February showed that most of the adult gulls stayed near home. Once they have begun to breed, they apparently tend to winter next door.

We can say from these studies that a city's gull problems result from its own 'effluent society'. If a city cleans up its sewers and fish piers, covers its garbage and pig farms, gulls will go elsewhere. They go just as far (and no farther) as is necessary to find food, fresh water, and a peaceful place to loaf or breed.

Examination of the food in gulls' stomachs shows that they will eat almost anything—clams, small fish, floating dead animals, young and adults of other nesting birds, bread, French-fried potatoes, and so on. The majority of gulls' food is 'natural', but the 20-40 per cent subsidy which they get from man's wastes has created for them a booming economy.

### Related Species

Of the 43 species of gull found in the world, 15 breed in Canada. Specialized feeding techniques and variation in range prevent competition between species.

Black-backed gulls, found only on the Atlantic coast, are powerful fliers off-shore. Ring-billed gulls search shallower water, are on the wing more, and range inland fresh-water lakes. Laughing gulls are strong fliers, hovering, parachuting and picking from the surface; their breeding range lies mostly south of the herring

gulls'. Bonaparte's gulls are faster, more erratic fliers, picking small prey from the water or sitting and pecking like a chicken. They nest in trees in the forests north-west of the breeding range of the larger gulls. The cliff-nesting Iceland gull occurs in the northern part of the herring gull range, coming south in winter to the coasts of the Atlantic Provinces. Thayer's gulls nest in the Arctic and winter in coastal British Columbia. In the far north are cliff-nesting glaucous gulls. Even farther north, on the arctic islands and northern Greenland, there are species such as Sabine's gull, ivory gull, and Ross' gull which we seldom see.

### Adaptations

Whenever there is high mortality, anything which helps in the survival of an individual is of great advantage and will be encouraged by Darwinian 'natural selection'.

During the first days after hatching, a chick instinctively pecks at its parent's bill—especially at the red spot. This pecking stimulates the parent to regurgitate food. It is as if the adult did not know the young needs food but is 'loaded' and needs to have the trigger pulled by the chick.

When they start to run about, chicks do not know the borders of their parents' territory, and the adults have to guard them from neighbours who would kill the chicks if they intruded into their territories. The spots on the top and back of the chick's head identify each chick individually; the adults learn these markings in the first few days and the chicks learn the borders of the territory. These spots are the last of the downy plumage to be lost before the chick leaves the nesting colony.

When the gull population is dense, gulls will occupy all suitable places in their feeding area (as distinct from the colony). Adults on feeding areas drive away intruding gulls. If the chicks (now flying) were excluded, their survival would obviously be endangered, and they are already at a disadvantage because of inexperience. However, chicks exhibit behaviour which lessens the adults' aggressiveness in defending their territory on the feeding areas. This behaviour, which takes the form of hunched posture, head pumping, and shrill calls, is carried over from the colonies.

All these behavioural adaptations reduce the mortality of chicks at times when they are most vulnerable. Another adaptation is the spotting of the eggs to make them inconspicuous; and another detail that an adult removes the eggshell from the nest once the young has hatched. What a subtle and inconspicuous act—perhaps one minute in the year of the adult's experience—yet selection has picked it out and maintains it. We can guess that the adaptation developed because hungry crows and other gulls are attracted to the nests by broken shells.

The adaptations developed in gulls, such as scavenging along the shore, colonial nesting, resistance to pollution, ability to withstand crowding together at concentrated food sources and especially their opportunism, have prepared them for a maximally profitable and peaceful coexistence with man.

### NEXT MONTH: The Muskrat

#### From the Canadian Wildlife Service's HINTERLAND

WHO'S WHO series issued under the authority of the Honourable Jack Davis, PC, Minister of the Environment.

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# It Could Happen To You

by J.S. Allan

This is a true story and, potentially, a very serious one. It happened to Scouter J.S. Allan of the 199th Troop, Toronto but could equally well have happened to anyone, anywhere. What would you do if confronted by a similar situation? What can we learn from it, as leaders, and pass on to our boys?

If the need ever arose, could you and your boys cope with hypothermia, frostbite, drowning?

The episode started on the Saturday of March 20, 1976. The time was 4.45 p.m. and the place was a patrol weekend camp in mixed wooded swampland north-west of Orangeville, Ontario, about 70 miles north-west of Toronto. The conditions were 0 - 3 feet of wet snow, starting to melt in large areas, with temperatures ranging from just above to just below freezing point. Much water lay in low areas. Ice on the lakes and rivers was in the process of "going out". Foot travel, without skis or snow shoes, was virtually impossible in the sheltered woods where the snow was still deep.

The camp consisted of six Scouts and their Scouter. Supper was scheduled for 5.30 p.m., that is, in three quarters of an hour.



The boys were from Toronto and familiar with their immediate camp surroundings only. They did not know the general countryside of the neighbourhood. The camp was back in the woods away from roads or conspicuous landmarks.

"Skipper," said Greg, "May Robbie and I go for a short exploration trip on our skis before supper?"

"Yes," replied the Scouter. "You might like to try and find the beaver colony across a field which is through the hardwoods, that way," and he pointed in a north-north-easterly direction. "If you head off through there," and he pointed again, "you should find an old track through the wood that leads to the field. Be careful of the swamp. Don't go out onto the swamp, whatever you do."

"No, O.K. Skip," the boys replied. "Thanks."

The Scouter's mind reverted to more pressing matters.

Supper did turn out to be on time, but at 5.30 there was no sign of Greg or Robbie. The Scouter had taken a quick look for them at 5.15 with no results, so the decision had been made to start the meal without them. This was completed by 6.00 but still there was no sign of the two boys.

"Well, I'm afraid we're going to have to go and look for them," the Scouter reluctantly admitted. "Anyone see which way they left camp?"

There was no reply.

"Alright," he continued, "We've made a lot of tracks in the snow close around our camp area, and there's only one line of tracks coming in, where we hauled everything from the cars," (to the south). "It's unlikely they went out that way. Everyone drop what they're doing. We'll each take a section of a big circle round the outside of our camp area and someone's bound to cross their outgoing tracks."

Everyone put on their skis and split up into their allotted directions to see what sign of the missing boys might be found in the snow before it got too dark. The Scouter chose the most difficult section, to the north-east, which lead through unknown thick woods and swamp, and he fervently hoped that their tracks would not be found here. However, sure enough, as he was about to turn around, unmistakably staring out of the snow were distinct ski tracks. Without delay he doubled back and called in the other searchers, for an emergency plan, as darkness was less than an hour away and no-one, including the Scouter, had ever been where those tracks led.

"Al," said the Scouter to Alan, an older patrol leader with good skiing experience, "I want you to come with me to see if we can track them down. Andrew," he said, turning to the patrol second, "I want you to remain in charge of the rest of the patrol in camp. Here's my whistle. If Greg and Robbie return before we do, blow it as hard as you can in short blasts. We are going out in a north-easterly direction. No one is to leave this camp until morning. If we haven't returned by daylight, you are to report to Mr. and Mrs. Archer, who are due to come and spend the night at the farmhouse. Explain to them everything you know and follow their instructions from then on. Don't worry about us. With two of us together, we shall be alright. Al, get your things and we'll be off."

With a brief goodbye to the others, Al and the Scouter departed. Although it was still quite light, very much to Al's credit, he had had the forethought to bring a heavy duty flashlight with him. Difficult to hold with a ski pole in each hand, but one which threw a good beam well ahead. He commented, though, that he feared the battery was getting weak.

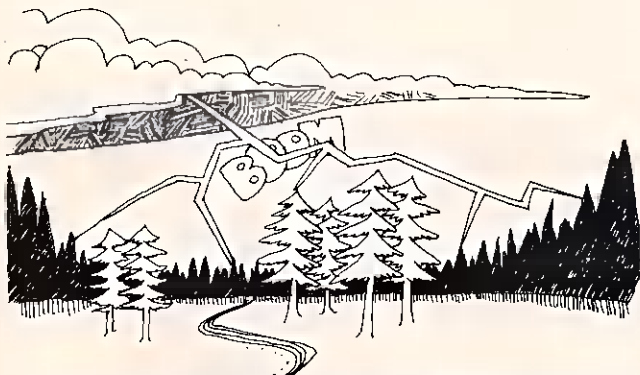




It was light enough to find the point at which the tracks had last been seen and they were able to follow them without much difficulty, between the trees. The temperature was extraordinarily mild for both the time of year and the time of day. This was a good and a bad omen. It meant that the missing boys might survive the night if they were lost, without getting hypothermia. But at the same time it meant ice over any deep water would be that much weaker. And it seemed only reasonable to expect the temperature to plunge from its amazing  $0^{\circ} - 4^{\circ}$  down by at least 5 or 10 degrees. If the boys were lost or injured in some way, would they have enough sense to stay put? Could they keep themselves warm enough? Did they have matches with them?

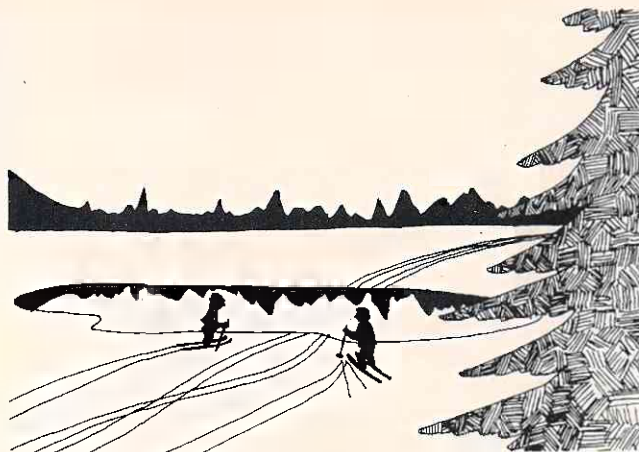
The ground now was getting lower and the tracks dodged between pools of open water. Occasionally, when they came out into the open, it was possible to see the trail without the flashlight, and at these times they turned it off to conserve the battery. Eventually however, at about 7:15 p.m., the light had to be left on all the time and the tracks had now lost any form of coherent direction. They plunged madly, first one way for a while and then another, through difficult, steep parts and shallow pools of water. Always leading in a general direction away from the campsite.

The conversation between the trackers, which had started off with a veiled undercurrent of apprehension, became limited to terse bare essentials. There was an appreciation that time could be of vital importance. Every minute the flashlight was in use, meant it was that much closer to petering out completely. It had now become too dark to see any sign of the trail without it, and they had criss-crossed with their limited range of vision so many times, that it would be foolhardy indeed for them to try and find their way back to camp without a light. And, if the temperature dropped, accompanied by a fresh fall of snow, flashlight or no, they would be trapped, with no trace of any route out of this interminable swamp and bush. To add to their hazards, flashes of lightning started to appear in the distance, accompanied by the faint rumbling sounds of thunder.



The time was now about 7:45 p.m. and both had sopping wet feet from the pools of water they had gone through. However, in spite of this, due to the mild temperature, their bodies were not cold and they had tied their coats around their waists to minimize perspiration.

Suddenly the light beam showed the tracks leading straight down into a large area of water. How deep? The question flashed through their minds as, with hearts in their mouths, they approached the edge and explored the expanse of water with the flashlight. It proved to be a very large pool, about 50 feet across and several times that stretching out on either side.



The ski tracks, sure enough, could be seen dimly on the far side, emerging from the water, up the distant snow-covered bank. The idea of following those tracks was uninviting but at least the boys had reached the other side, and so in they splashed. The water came up almost to their knees but no higher luckily and they soon reached the other side.

With cold, wet legs, grimly they followed the tracks which led on with a turn or two until they came to the edge of what appeared to be a slow running river. There appeared to be firm ice running down the middle but the rest was open water. By exploring a little up and down the bank, they found a spot where the water was narrow enough to manoeuvre their skis from the bank to the ice and again over to the far bank. Here they once more found the trail of ski tracks which now turned left, leading close to the river bank. At a small tree they turned left again, *straight to the river and into a gap of water about 4 feet wide*. The Scouter's mouth and throat went dry as he looked at the black, foreboding water and the cracked and broken ice surrounding it. He dared not look Al straight in the face as he stepped forward to test the depth of the water with his ski pole. It would not reach the bottom nor locate any submerged objects.

"Al," he said after a few moments of soul searching reflection, "You stand right there and shine the flashlight around the edge here to see if there is a spot narrow enough for me to get out onto that ice again, to see if we can find any further tracks,"

With difficulty, and some help from Al, he managed to get across and take the light from Al. The ice was hard with no trace of snow, in either direction, although he explored for some distance each way.

They had lost the trail!

Three possibilities, or a combination of them, appeared likely:

1. The ice could have broken round that black hole and one or both of the missing boys may have drowned. (Remember, when the boys had left at 4:45 p.m., it was light and they would not likely have had a flashlight with them. It would be all too easy to stumble into such a hole in the dark.)
2. The missing boys had managed to get out onto the ice and proceeded along it, one way or the other, with any number of subsequent possibilities.
3. They had turned around and gone back on their own tracks and veered off in some other direction undetected by the trackers.

The Scouter returned to the bank and came to a decision. As far as he could see, they had done all that reasonably could be done in the circumstances. They must now

look to save themselves by getting back to camp before either the flashlight gave out, the thunderstorm broke (they were not dressed for heavy rain), a snowstorm covered their tracks or the temperature dropped sufficiently to freeze them.

They noted the time. It was 8:15 p.m. They then cut a blaze in the bark of a small tree to establish the exact location and turned about.

The lightening flashes were getting closer and more frequent. They recrossed the river without mishap and once again skied through the large pool. Al's only comment was that the water was just as cold and wet the second time as the first.

Shortly after this, the rain started, followed by the thunderstorm proper. The rain absolutely deluged, at times prohibiting any progress for lack of visibility. Their insulated winter clothing became saturated and they were soaked to their skins.

Mercifully, the flashlight kept going but the tracks had frequently become obliterated by the rain. When this happened, Al remained stationary at the last sign of the tracks, while the Scouter worked forward carefully with the light, skiing back and forth in arcs until a new sighting was made. Then he would shout to Al to join him.



At last, feeling sick with despair and exhaustion, they finally got back to camp. It was 10:00 p.m. No sign of

anyone awaiting them. All had gone to bed. The Scouter went straight to Andrew's tent and called from outside. A very relieved voice answered from within.

"Andrew, we're both back safe, but we have a very serious situation on our hands," the Scouter stated. "We were unable to find Greg and Robbie".

"Oh," Andrew replied, "They got back!"

The following morning the affair was discussed in detail with the boys. It seemed they had never considered themselves absolutely lost. Both had got their feet and lower legs totally wet and one of them had gone into the river. After getting onto the river ice, they had walked along it for some distance and then came to a remote road. By walking along the road they discovered a house from which they got directions to return, via local side roads, to the farm where the camp was located. By great good fortune, because the weather had remained so unseasonably mild, they had walked back in their wet state without getting frozen and reached the camp just before the thunderstorm broke.

So all was well in the end. There were no awful reports to be made to parents. No search parties in the morning. No police dogs. No helicopters. No headlines. Just a very relieved Scouter.

But the whole thing would have been avoided if the boys had only thought the process out calmly and clearly. . . "What we must do is take the 45 minutes we have before supper time. Allow - say - 10 minutes as a safety margin. That leaves 35 minutes. Divide this in half - say - 15 to 20 minutes. We must turn back, following our own tracks, after being out for no more than 20 minutes."

It would be safe to say that here was one Scout leader determined to ensure that his boys knew the proper drill next time such a situation was likely to occur. Would your boys know what to do?

Next month, we shall be including an article on how to cope - and survive - in an emergency. Meanwhile, why not take another look in the Campcraft and Winter Activities sections of your Canadian Scout Handbook, where you can find lots of useful advice on what to do when lost.

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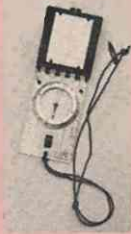
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by Bob Butcher

With the Christmas season just around the corner many Beaver colonies will be looking for ideas to use in some sort of celebration.

In last year's November issue of *The Leader* I shared with you a Christmas play written by Mrs. Lyn Richardson of Winnipeg. This year we are fortunate to be able to share with you another of Mrs. Richardson's plays.

Perhaps you may want to use it in your colony, adapting it to suit your needs or else it may stimulate you to create your own play. The lines are relatively simple, each character having only a couple of lines. The costumes and props can be made by the Beavers themselves at meetings leading up to the presentation. One of the leaders should serve as the narrator.

### THE CURIOUS PINE TREE OF WESTWOOD

*Props and characters:*

- Small Christmas tree
- Large boxes to fit over boys and supplies to gift-wrap them
- Angel for tree top
- Lights for tree (small twinkling and medium size)
- Extension cord
- Large silhouette decorations to hang on tree (construction paper) such as stars, bells, angels, wise men, wreaths, Santas, snowmen, candy canes, Christmas stockings and reindeer.
- Tinsel for tree and perhaps snow spray
- Tape recorder
- Suggested characters:* 16 principles, rest can be trees
- Animals of the Forest: Mice, rabbits, birds, chipmunks and Brown Owl
- Voice of the Curious Tree
- Gifts
- Timothy Mouse

*Beavers should stand and face audience when saying lines. Carol: Oh Christmas Tree (softly in background)*

**Narrator:** In the Forest of Westwood, there stood a little pine tree. He was a very nice little tree and although he was just a sapling, his branches were thick and even and he was growing tall and straight. There were other trees in the Forest who looked just like him but he was a very special pine tree. For one thing, he was very curious and often full of mischief. Sometimes the other older, larger trees looked down on him and they often scolded him when he was particularly naughty.

*(Curtain opens - Trees and Animals on stage - Carol played louder)*

**Narrator:** His best friends were the animals of the Forest and he played with them all day long. When the chipmunks and squirrels scurried about in his branches, it tickled him and he loved to laugh and giggle. When the wind blew, he would dance and sway and rustle his boughs in a way that some of his elders thought to be very unbecoming to a stately pine tree. And he loved to stay awake at night with Brown Owl and watch the moon make the snow glisten. Of course this was not acceptable behaviour for a growing tree. He wished the older trees understood his behaviour a little better because he did admire their stature and it made him unhappy when they were cross with him. He hoped that someday they would appreciate his curiosity. *(Some action on stage)*

One bright, sunny day in the dead of winter, the little tree came to notice something rather strange going on all around him. There was definitely a change in the atmosphere of Westwood Forest. The animals were extremely busy and seemed to be exceptionally happy. They were talking about Shepherds and Angels and a new Baby that had been born. All the best fruit and nuts that had been stored away were in neat piles in the clearing and the word "Christmas" was being chattered over and over again. He watched and listened for as long as he could but it wasn't long before he called out to Timothy Mouse. . .

**Voice:** Timothy, can you tell me what Christmas is?

**Narrator:** Timothy stopped short and stared at the tree with his beady little eyes.

**Timothy Mouse:** Of course I can. I will get all the animals to help me.

**Narrator:** And with that, all of the friends of the Forest joined together to tell the little tree all about Christmas.

*Carol: The First Nowell (softly in the background)*

**Narrator:** The first one to speak was the wise old owl.

**Brown Owl:** Christmas is the birthday of a Baby King. Christmas is Angels, His welcome to sing.

**Narrator:** Then the mice made a contribution.

**Mice:** He slept in a manger all cosy and warm, On a night that was peaceful and quiet and calm.

**Narrator:** And two little beavers splashed in the pond.

**Beavers:** He came here to tell us the right things to do, And He said "Love your brothers", that's me and that's you.

*(Point to selves and to audience)*

**Narrator:** The birds looked at the tree and said:

**Birds:** So Christmas is love that lasts all the year round, The peace and the joy in our hearts can be found.

**Narrator:** The rabbits hopped over and said:

**Rabbits:** Christmas is sharing good cheer with all men, Our parents, our teachers and all of our friends.

**Narrator:** And the trees joined in:

**Trees:** There are many more things that Christmas can be, There are twinkling lights and tinsel and of course **A Christmas Tree.** *(Tree lights come on) Carol: Christmas Tree*

**Narrator:** And the gifts under the tree had something to say:

**Gifts:** There is Frosty and Rudolph and lots of Ho! Ho! Ho! There's holly and sleigh bells and of course the mistletoe. At Christmas we share presents that we put beneath the tree. I wonder what dear Santa will have in his bag for me.

**All together:** Each light on this tree,  
Is a wish you must hear,  
Have a Very Merry Christmas  
And a Happy New Year.

*Carol: Joy to the World*





### THE NAME OF THE GAME

John Sweet lays it on the line in this month's **ON THE LEVEL**

Now that I've done with it, the above headline shall be added forthwith to my "Glossary of Words and Phrases We Can Well Do Without". The others are: -

"At this moment in time."

"In actual fact."

"Right across the board" and "At the end of the day."

"You know," (when used as a suffix to every remark.)

"Basically," (when it has nothing to do with the context.)

"I mean," (when used interminably by Mr. David Frost.)

There are others, of course, but those will do to start the ball rolling. No doubt you have your own pet dislikes. Do tell. We'd hate to think we may be treading on a few sensitive literary corns ourself.

Driving down a quiet country lane just an hour ago we passed an open gate with a large sign alongside which said that such and such a Scout troop was in camp. We drove in to say hullo but found no sight or sound of life. I walked into the middle of the site to make sure that the camp was indeed deserted and in so doing saw it all - tents, marquee, trestle tables, cooking stove, larder, latrines, the lot. Everything clean and tidy of course, but to be honest, except for that sign on the gate there was nothing, nothing at all, to show that this was indeed a Scout camp. No patrol sites, no flagstaff, not even a noticeboard.

Was it merely a sign of old age that I came away feeling rather sad?

Mr. Nicholas Long of Dorchester and the Cambridge University Scout and Guide Club has pointed out that there are two ways of erecting a tripod - the first symmetrical, in that each spar supports another spar and is in turn supported by a third; the other asymmetrical, which simply means that one spar takes the weight of the other two.

We now invite you to put this to your patrol leaders and leave them to work it out for themselves.

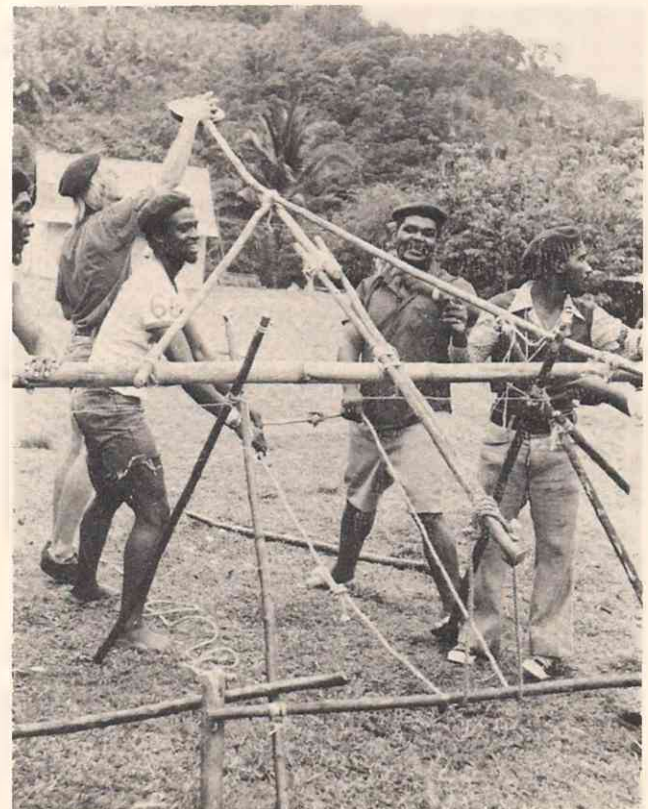
Thought for the month: **Boys quit Scouting because of what they don't do on troop night, not because of what they do.**

This cheerful photograph, taken at an Advanced Course, Dominica, April 1977, was kindly sent to us by Mr. Graham Bucknell, our Travelling Commissioner, operating from Baden-Powell House in London, to whom many thanks. It shows a group of Caribbean Scouters from that distant corner of Graham's bailiwick firing freshly-picked coconuts from their own (improved) version of the well-known O.T.L. Roman Ballista - a fearful weapon of assault which was first introduced into the armoury in the year 1950 by Scouts from the following patrols: Swift (2nd Louth), Otter (1st Whickham), Kingfisher, Hawk and Scott (17th Cheltenham), Wood-pigeon, Peewit, Hawk and Otter (1st East Grinstead), Tiger, (17th Fareham), and last but, as they say, not least, Lion (18th Forest Hill).

The patrols had accepted the challenge of the then Editor of our weekly magazine THE SCOUT and had marooned themselves voluntarily for 24 hours on an imaginary desert island with a full program to carry out. Once on the island they were in honour bound to stay put. The ballista was just one of the items in a list of L.F. type activities on the agenda.

How many of these heroic castaways are still among those present, I wonder? Anyhow, warmest greetings and good wishes to all of them, whoever and wherever they may be.

And here's an idea: If any of them would care to drop me a postcard for onward transmission, per Graham Bucknell, to any of the group of six kindred spirits in the photograph (not forgetting the invisible owner of the hand on the right of the picture) I feel sure that Graham will have great pleasure in acting as carrier pigeon.



### Incidental Intelligence

To make a splendid radiator for your tent in winter, knock a ring of small holes in an empty tin can near the base with a larger hole in the lid. Set a lighted candle in the can. If the can is knocked over the candle will go out. It should, however, be handled with care - for obvious reasons!

To prevent pickets from developing a tonsure on top, chamfer the edge.

Knots have a weakening effect on rope but the break rarely occurs in the knot itself. Almost invariably it comes in the "nip" where the rope emerges from the knot.

Whatever you may have heard to the contrary, the reef is a most unreliable knot for joining ropes together - not because it weakens the rope but because it is not a "give and take" knot and can easily work loose under variable strains.

When trying on a new pair of walking boots for size you'd be well advised to wear two pairs of thick socks.

A good way of binding spars or poles of any kind together for ease of transport is to slip a tent peg bag over each end and bind it in place with a west-country whipping. Failing that, use two-inch-wide rubber bands cut from an old inner tube.

Monkey bridges can be positive death traps unless they are built to specification.

Water filters do not purify, they merely clarify water.

When not in use, the hafts of felling axes etc. should be given a good rub down with raw linseed oil.

You can dispense with whippings on the ends of nylon and other synthetic fibre ropes by sealing them with a lighted match.

Elm trees have a habit of shedding healthy-looking branches without warning.

24

Judging from our mailbag, very many Scout troops thoroughly enjoyed that "Blind Orienteering" activity in which boys were sent blindfold to walk a straight line of sisal twine pegged out on flat ground. The object of the exercise was to find out whether the general tendency was to veer to right or left. It was, in fact, a genuine scientific project.

We are now told, however, that although several score experiments were carried out most efficiently by individual Scouts, much more hard evidence will be needed before it can usefully be fed through the computer.

Over to you. All you need is a flat field, a big ball of sisal, two metal tent pegs and a marching compass.

Another idea would be to use a transistor radio to take a fix on your local radio station, simply by switching on and turning the set slowly until the sound fades completely. We are told that it works best if you keep the volume down when carrying out this experiment.

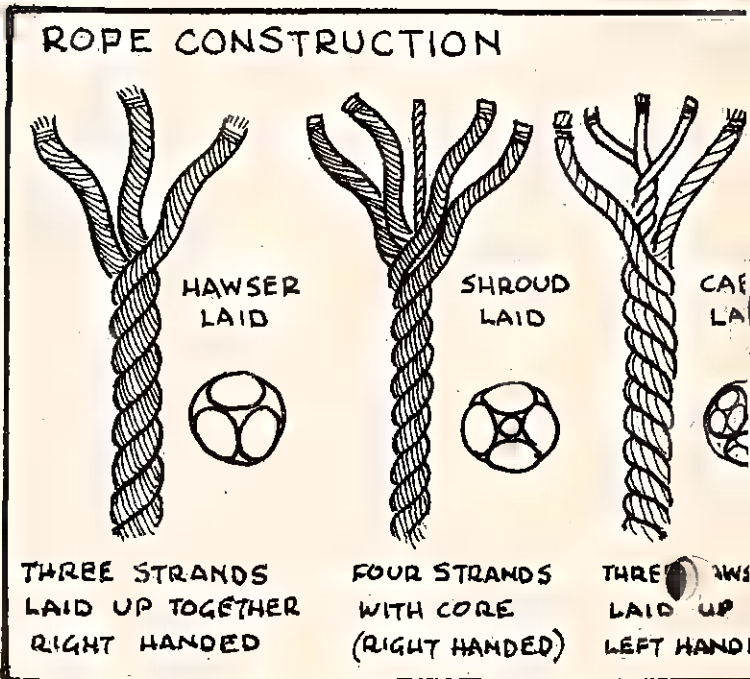
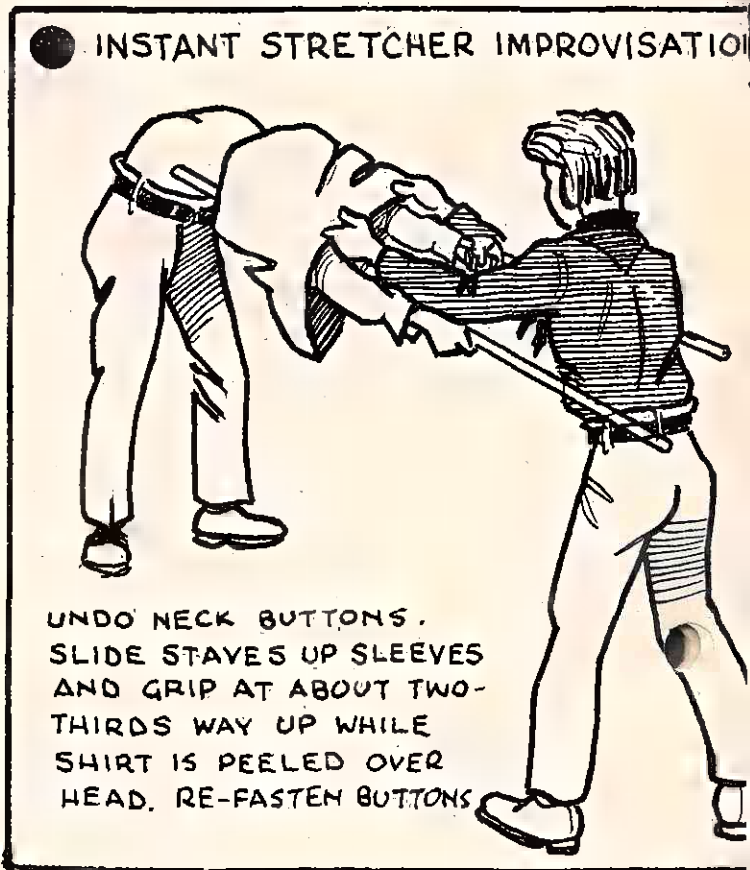
We are indebted to our old friend, Mr. Les Mitchell of "Jamboree-on-the-Air" fame for this idea, which, as you will readily appreciate, would be well worth knowing if ever you were lost in a fog and found yourself walking in a circle with only a transistor radio to guide you. Meanwhile, pending this eventuality, you could field test Les Mitchell's suggestion by laying out your sisal line along this "fix" and then arming your blind orienteers with the transistor to keep them on the straight and narrow.

Do let us know how you get on.

Two good old chestnuts for next week's troop meeting:

1. Scouts in a fairly close circle, facing in a clockwise direction. At the signal, every man sits on the knees of the man behind. Disperse the troop and repeat the process at the toot of a whistle.

2. Same formation, each Scout with a short rope. The troop is brought up to the alert and then the order "Two paces outward - move!" is given. They are then instructed to walk round in the circle, with the emphasis on





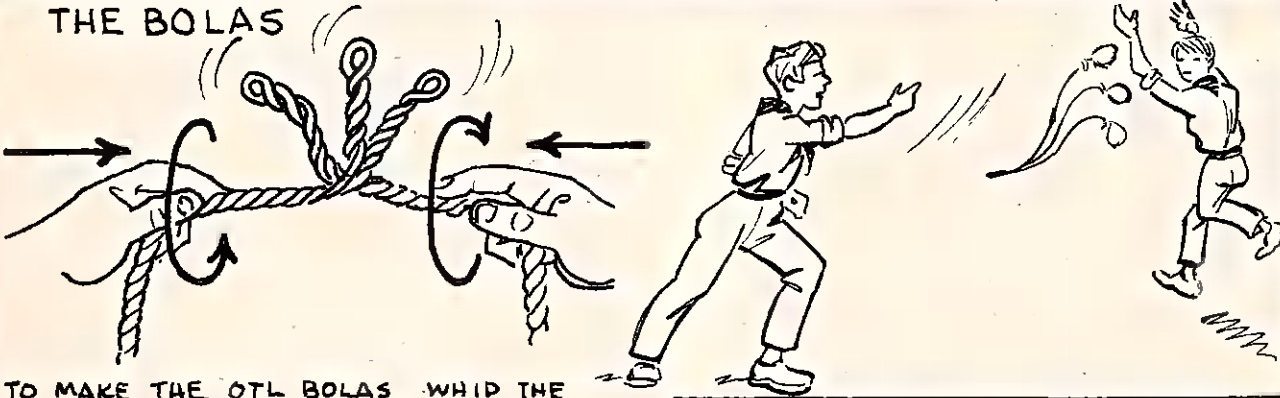
"walk" and, when the signal is given, each man must put a non-slip loop round the waist of the man in front. Repeat the process with the intended victims **next but one** in front.

Anybody who read that news item in the papers about the Dutch vet. who tapped one of his bovine patients for methane and in so doing burnt his client's farm to the ground will no longer, we trust, regard our own interest in this most volatile of fossil fuels as mere eccentricity.

Further experimentation with livestock, however, should not be encouraged. All you want is a nice muddy pool, preferably one overhung with foliage, a two pound jam jar, a stick to stir up the sludge and release the gas and a match to explode it.

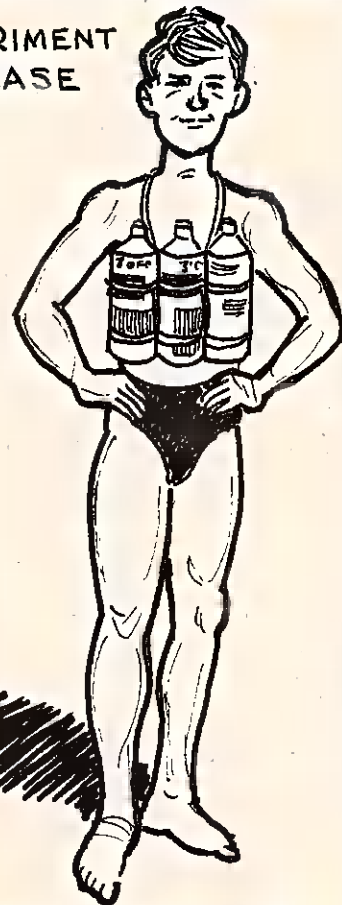
Incidentally, as far as I am aware no member of the Fringe has yet attempted to collect and explode a jarful of marsh gas **in the dark**. It ought to make quite a spectacle. Who, we wonder, will be the first to have a go?

### THE BOLAS



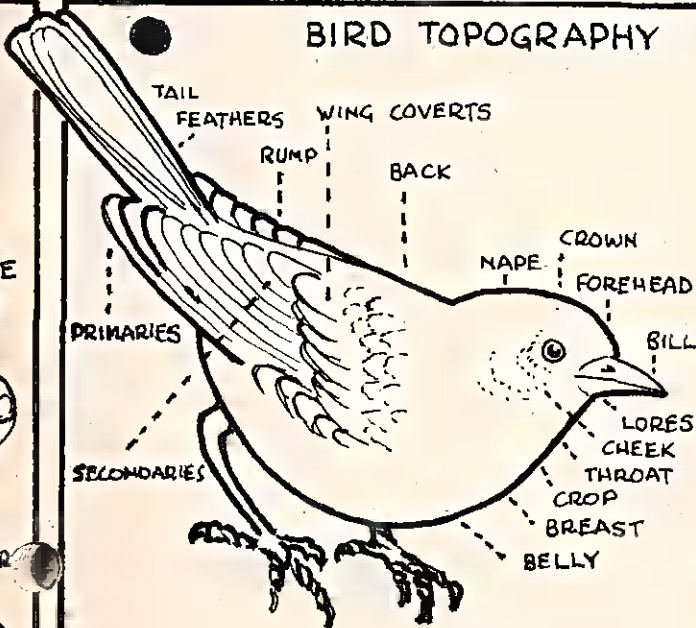
TO MAKE THE OTL BOLAS, WHID THE ENDS OF A 2m. LENGTH OF 7mm. LINE AND DESTRAND THE MIDDLE BY TWISTING AND (SIMULTANEOUSLY) PRESSING INWARDS, AS SHOWN, TO WITHIN A FEW INCHES OF THE ENDS OF THE LINE. PART-FILL THREE SMALL PLASTIC BAGS WITH WATER AND TIE THEM WITH SHEET BENDS TO THE LOOPS. USE AS SHOWN, WITH LUCK THE BOLAS SHOULD WRAP ITSELF ROUND YOUR VICTIM AND BRING HIM DOWN LIKE A STEER

### FOR EXPERIMENT ONLY, PLEASE



WITH PLASTIC BOTTLES AND OTHER ODDMENTS IMPROVISE A BUOYANCY JACKET. TEST IN FAIL-SAFE CONDITIONS.

### BIRD TOPOGRAPHY





# VENTURING INTO CHILD CARE

by Doug Campbell

With the company starting to plan its activities for this coming year some Venturers will be looking for unique and challenging activities. Some companies have found success in planning their yearly program by focussing on particular interests which are common to most of its members. The company takes on member interests such as photography, automotives or scuba diving and then plans activities to help them better understand their interest. In some cases, a company will focus on two or three interests in order to allow all Venturers to participate in their specific interest. A unique area your company may want to try is that of child care. You will notice activities in each of the experience areas, so that a balanced program can be designed.

## Benefits to Venturers

Through a program such as this, Venturers can understand the growth and development of pre-school children. They will learn how young children perceive their world and will work directly with pre-schoolers to understand how they learn. It will help them to understand the relationship between the young child, the parents, other family members and the community, and to appreciate the important responsibilities of parents and family, in preparation for the Venturer's own future as a parent with family responsibilities.

## Interest Areas - Career or Avocation

Focussing in on this area can help the Venturer to investigate the roles of being a future parent, responsible older brother or sister, teacher, child psychologist, pediatrician, social worker, playground/recreation director, pre-school teacher, nursery school worker, babysitter, day camp counsellor, manufacturer or supplier of child products and toy designer.

## Potential Resources

Today there are a great deal of resources available in this area. Resources for such a program can be found in a nursery school, child care centre, school, community college, commercial day centre, voluntary day care centre, day camp, church, housing development offering child care, commercial and manufacturing firms offering child care, children's hospital, residential and/or patient institution for the handicapped, mental health agency with pre-school children, university or college child study centre, social work departments and government agencies.

Some of the people who could be consulted to help

the Venturers better understand this interest are pre-school teachers, child psychologists, pediatricians, pediatric nurses, child care workers, day camp leaders, graduate students in child care, parents of pre-school children, university professors and researchers in child psychology.

## Company Activities

Following are various activities which have been divided into several experience areas, thus producing a balanced program.

## Vocational Experience Areas

- Hold a meeting where different specialists talk about their specific areas of child care.
- Observe pre-school and nursery school teachers as they deal with young children.
- Observe the child psychologist in action.
- Visit a playground to observe activities for toddlers and pre-school children.
- Visit a children's hospital or children's ward to observe how the pediatric nurse relates to her young charges.
- Discuss the special health problems of pre-school children with a physician specializing in pediatrics or a dentist specializing in pedodontia.
- Review with a manufacturer of child products, the way in which these products help the child develop physically and emotionally, and how they aid the learning process.
- Discuss with a social worker or public health nurse, the particular problems of young children related to broken homes, child abuse, alcoholic parents, malnutrition, improper housing, limited social contact, and other factors.
- Visit an institutional facility to learn how culturally deprived youngsters are stimulated towards learning readiness.

## Service

- Volunteer your services to a child care organization.
- Conduct a seminar for other Venturers in the area of child care.
- Assist a playground or recreation director in developing programs for pre-school children.
- Establish a "mini" child care centre in the waiting room of a hospital, out patient clinic, public health facility and/or social service agency.
- Help establish a toy lending library in the community.
- Make and distribute simple toys and games for hospitalized or institutional children.
- Co-operate with social workers, visiting nurses or public health nurses, and volunteer as babysitters for families needing but unable to pay for these services.
- Establish a child care facility in a local church to care for young children during worship services.
- Organize a child care service with peers.

## Outdoors

- Assist parks and recreation leaders in conducting outdoor games for young children.
- Learn about the physical development of young children and explore such facets as depth perception, co-ordination, dexterity, eye-hand co-ordination, and test these in simple but vigorous outdoor games.
- Lead a group of pre-school youngsters on a short hike or nature trail.
- Assist in building simple, inexpensive equipment for a minipark, people's park, or volunteer child care facility.



### Citizenship - Social and Cultural Experiences

- Meet with members of a child advocacy organization to learn about child abuse cases, consumer products designed for children and educational needs for pre-school youngsters.

- Study the medical, dental, health, educational and recreational services available to children in the community and undertake a program to inform parents of these services.

- Review city, provincial and federal laws involving children and children's rights.

- Collect clippings and magazine articles related to the problems of children and lead a discussion group relative to possible solutions.

- Inspect a playground, school or other facility and review the safety of playground equipment and craft supplies.

- Visit a toy store or department store and review the consumer products available. Note how the products are specifically designed to provide for safety and note any discrepancies that might be observed. Call these to the attention of the appropriate consumer organization in your community.

### Personal Fitness

- Review with a physician or nurse, how physical and mental well-being contribute to effective and enjoyable parenthood.

- With a dietician or nutritionist, study the particular nutritional needs of expectant mothers, nursing mothers, and infants and young children at the various stages of development.

- Learn the needs of expectant fathers.

- Have a pediatrician or physical therapist tell how exercises and specific types of play assist in correcting physical defects.

- Review television programs designed specifically for pre-school youngsters. Observe if and how they contribute to the child's learning and social adjustment. Do the same for television commercials directed towards young children. Monitor the amount of violence shown in children's programming.

### Social Experiences

- Plan and conduct a children's party for a hospital,

extended care facilities, orphanage or similar organization.

- Volunteer your services to assist with a park, church or community organization, Halloween party, Christmas party or similar holiday event.

- Plan and carry out a family party or celebration.

- Plan an activity for a Beaver colony or Cub pack.

### Other Activities

- Visit a college or university centre offering degrees related to early childhood education. Arrange to visit or observe demonstration class rooms, meet the faculty members and students, and note how their lesson plans are specifically designed to the ages and abilities of the children.

- Visit a manufacturer or distributor of child care products. Discuss how the project is designed, how non-toxic or non-hazardous materials are used, how the product is tested, and its educational, physical training, nutritional and protective value.

- Offer to the adults of your community a seminar on child care. Your company would organize and design this seminar.

- Make a detailed study of the growth and development of the children from birth through age five. Include such factors as nutritional needs, physical growth, coordination, dexterity, rates of learning, perception, developing speech patterns, vocabulary and related elements for the normal child. Make some graphic displays to show your research. Then take your research to a low income community group so that they can better understand the area of child care.

- Work with children from a variety of backgrounds, determine if environmental factors have a positive or negative effect on children.

- Work with professional consultants to develop a plan that would reduce the effects of deficiencies in physical, emotional and intellectual opportunities. Under professional guidance, work directly with children having any of these deficiencies and determine through your efforts if progress has been achieved.

A great deal of activity can occur when investigating the area of child care. Perhaps your company would like to venture into this area.

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# training talk

by reg roberts

This month Reg writes about ...

- • CJ '77 AND TRAINING
- • MOVING INTO METRIC
- • THE GOOD TURN

## CJ '77 AND TRAINING

Jamborees tend to be major events in the lives of all who attend, and CJ '77 was, I am sure, no exception. The memories will live on in the minds of all those who participated, for a long time to come.

Hopefully, many of these memories will be recaptured and retold as each batch of film is shown and reshown to various audiences (accompanied by cheers or groans) in the months ahead.

For many people who attended CJ '77, training before the event made many things happen smoothly and without some of the friction that could have occurred. For some of the participants, a lack of training may have caused some problems.

CJ '77 saw a move towards a different form of camping practice; a strong emphasis on lightweight equipment was obvious, rather than the old style heavyweight items. New types of food were tried out requiring experimentation by quite a number of participants. And of course the whole matter of living together with over sixteen thousand other people required a new way of looking at others and learning how to get along in a confined space, and in a very short period of time.

How well did you do at CJ '77 and how much can still be learned from the experience? More important, how much of what you learned has since been shared with others?

Now that you are home again and with CJ '77 receding into the past, you may wish to consider some training events in your area, where you can share some of the things you learned and even improve on them. Scouts and Venturers who did not attend can benefit from attending an event that highlights some of the learning and shows them how you dealt with some of the problems that arose. Leaders who generally don't see much value in training events may be encouraged to see things in a different light when they hear what you have to say.

Training isn't always a matter of formalized courses and new learning isn't something picked up from a book or as a result of attending a lecture. That's part of it of course, but much happens by way of training and learning, just because we happen to be in a certain place at a certain time.

CJ '77 was a very special place and time for all who attended. Let's be sure that those who did, have an opportunity to share their learnings to the fullest possible extent with each other and also with those who did not

attend. After all, we do want to be ready for the next Canadian Jamboree - don't we?



## MOVING INTO METRIC

With Canada being fully committed to metric conversion by 1981, the question of what we in Scouting may be doing to help ourselves and others in this matter is, seems to me, one we should be looking at.

Holding as many training events each year as we do, does provide quite a number of opportunities for some training to take place in the metric area, and whether we agree with the change or not, it is inevitable, so how can we as trainers make it easier?

One way is to go through the various handbooks we have and make appropriate additions and changes from our old terms to the new. Such changes can then be shared with participants when they attend their next course.

Another possibility as a program item in the next training event, is to plan a session on the metric system and how it affects Scouting.

A third possibility is to have a number of bases set up as a "get to know each other" exercise at the beginning of your next course. As people arrive they could visit each base and find out how much they weigh, their height, some weather information and how much coffee they have in their cups. The number of bases and the information shared is up to you and your imagination.

One thing is sure however, and that is that Canada will, in a few short years, take its place beside the other nations of the world using this international system. You could be instrumental in providing for many Scouters the first serious introduction to the world of metres, degrees celsius, litres, cubic centimetres and kilopascals.



For help in this training area, see your local metric commission and also refer back to the August/September 1975 issue of **The Leader**.

### THE GOOD TURN

The term "good turn" is one which used to be very much a part of our everyday Scouting life. It's not heard quite so often today, having been overtaken by expressions such as "providing service for people" or "meeting the needs of others".

However, I am sure the "good turn" is still carried out by many, and there is no question in my mind that young people today really are sensitive to the need to help someone, in some way, on a regular basis.

It may be difficult for young people in Canada to really appreciate some of the needs that young people in other parts of the world have. What follows is taken from a recent edition of the *World Scouting Newsletter* and may help create a better understanding of what people in some Scouting countries face each day.

Have boys or leaders on a training course close their eyes and imagine the following:

1. Take away from the house all the utensils and furniture except for a few old blankets, one kitchen table, one chair and a few pots.
2. Empty the closets of all clothing except for a few of the oldest dresses or jeans and T-shirts for each member.
3. Empty the kitchen cabinets of all food, except for a small sack of sugar, some salt, some onions, and a small bowl of peas.
4. Take away all sinks and toilets. Cut off water and hydro.
5. Demolish the house and go with the whole family to live in a hut you made yourself.
6. Replace all the other houses where you live, with similar rough dwellings.
7. Throw away all newspapers, magazines and books. This is not such a big loss since very few can read.
8. Keep in town only one radio.
9. Move the nearest hospital 20 kilometres away from where you live and replace the medical staff with one midwife.

10. Throw away all your money, your savings bank book, your checking account book, pension plan and insurance policies and keep only \$3.00 to support your entire family.

11. Place at the disposal of the family a small piece of land to grow food, both for the family and to sell.

The above sounds extremely drastic but in truth two out of every three of the earth's inhabitants live under those conditions at this time.

In such situations, Scouting is increasing its community development activities to help provide such basic needs as food, shelter, hygiene and learning skills that can earn a cash income and improve the standard of living.

Perhaps the next time you are thinking about a session on community service, or discussing the "good turn" with members of your section, having them imagine living in conditions such as those outlined above may help stimulate some really creative and worthwhile projects as well as a better understanding of the plight of others.

### BILL OF RIGHTS FOR VOLUNTEERS

The final item this month is taken from "*Outlook*", a publication of the Volunteer Service Unit of Alberta. For trainers and members of the service teams across Canada, the eleven items listed below seem to me to have a special significance. I hope you agree.

1. The right to suitable assignment.
2. The right to be treated as a co-worker and not just free help.
3. The right to know as much as possible about the organization - policy, people and programs.
4. The right training for the job.
5. The right to inservice training.
6. The right to sound guidance and direction.
7. The right to proper working conditions.
8. The right to promotion and a variety of experiences.
9. The right to be heard, to have a part in the planning.
10. The right to recognition, through promotion and awards.
11. The right to day-to-day expression of appreciation by professionals.

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# patrol

by Deborah L. Cooper

## Retarded Boys in Cubbing

Every Thursday afternoon, the auditorium of Oakridge School is alive with boys. They are the **27th Oakridge School Cub Pack, Vancouver, B.C.** These boys are Scouts on the Cub program, and between the ages of 15 and 19. They are mentally retarded.

The main purpose of Cubbing for retarded boys is to allow them to enjoy being a part of Scouting. The boys play games, make crafts, take instruction and earn badges just like all other boys in Cub packs but in this pack, the program is specially designed to fit their capabilities.

The boys are referred to as Scouts because of their physical development but they operate at the Cub level of learning. In many cases, the Cub pack is the only group outside their school and home in which they can participate. The limitations of the retarded boy dictates modifications of the basic Cub program and deepens his need to feel a participant in the outside world. This Cub program is very important to these boys because they can become involved and they can succeed. Their limitations are not emphasized. Not all of the retarded boys in the school that this pack serves are considered capable of entering the program. To the few boys that are chosen to become members, being a Scout is a privilege and an honour.

When Akela arrives, she is met immediately with a barrage of questions ranging from "Are you going to do your shopping tonight?", "Where is your husband?" and "Can you walk on a sprained ankle?". With these questions the boys receive the individual attention they need.

I find it an exciting experience to lead the boys in a game. They enter into it whole-heartedly, and spontaneously clap when it is over. Very few Cub packs tend to show so much enthusiasm. We modify their games to compensate for their limitations. For example, when the boys are "numbered off" in a game, we give each a numbered card. When a number is called, it is held up by the leader and the boys compare it with their number. Another variation we use, is to give each boy a colored card instead of a number.

During the instruction period we teach them simple skills which they can use. Most Cub packs learn to tie the sheet bend and the clove hitch knots but in our Cub pack, they learn the reef and the necktie knots. The instruction periods are brief. You soon realize that they have lost interest when the boy you are speaking to diverts his attention to the boy beside him.

To keep the boys motivated and interested in what they are doing, we reinforce their progress immediately. After a boy has progressed through one step of a skill, we encourage him with, "Good, John!", "Yes you've got it!" or "Good for you!". At times a boy will get really excited over his accomplishment and give you a suffocating embrace. Fortunately, this does not happen too often!

The boys have very little conception of time. It is inappropriate to have the boys work on a project with the goal beyond that meeting. The future has no meaning to them. They want the reward or the results immediately after they have finished one skill for a star. The usual response is "When do I get my star?"

One Thursday morning, the public buses were on strike. Their classes were cancelled. We arrived at the school not knowing if we would hold a meeting or not. In order to hold a regular meeting, the boys would have to find alternative ways to get to school. To our great pleasure, most of them arrived in full uniform, just in time for the meeting. That day they proved they could assess a problem and solve it. One boy phoned a fellow Cub and arranged a ride with him. Another boy turned on the radio and learned that "his" bus had just started back on its route and he ran to catch it as it left the garage. Other boys were not as fortunate and took alternative bus routes. But by whatever means they chose, it was on their own. To the boys a pack meeting was too special to miss. I do not know who was more pleased, we, the leaders, or the boys, to find that the meeting would not be cancelled that day.

The Cub program can provide the boys with an opportunity to do what other boys are doing. An example of this was when they had their first experience with a district church parade. The boys marched in behind the other Cub packs without our assistance and sat together. They proudly stood up and repeated the Cub promise with the other packs. (They were oblivious to the remarks about their size). After the service, they showed such an interest in the flags, Akela decided that we must get them a flag, with the pack's name on it. This church parade gave the boys a feeling of *really* belonging to Scouting.

A boy with a handicap "... has the same rights to the joys of life as anyone else and must be allowed the dignity of risk".\*

---

\* *Scouting for Boys with Handicaps*. The National Council of Boy Scouts of Canada, 1976. Page 1.



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# PARTNER GROUPS AND SCOUTING -WORKING TO-



## GETHER TO SERVE YOUTH IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES !

by Pat Horan

In April of this year, forty-four participants attended Scouting's first National Partners Conference held in Ottawa at the National office.

The event was held under the direction of National Vice President C.O. Bick of Toronto and the opening address was given by National President R.K. Groome of Montreal.

As part of his address, Mr. Groome presented certificates of appreciation to partner groups for their years of service to youth, as partners of Scouting. The years of service ranged from 16 to 67 years.

The participants came from Salt Lake City, Portage la Prairie, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa. They represented eight national church partners; eleven national community partners; Chaplaincy General Service, Canadian Armed Forces; Girl Guides of Canada; National Voluntary Interagency Recreation Project and Ontario Ministry of Education.

In his opening comments, Judge Bick paid tribute to the work of the National Church Relationship Conference, which has been meeting for some 19 years, and welcomed both church and community group delegates to the first National Partners Conference. He underlined the objective of the conference which - simply

stated - was to increase the understanding of the wish of Scouting to work together with partner groups, to help them serve the needs of youth and families in their local communities.

Four theme papers were presented for review and discussion by small work groups:

Captain Peter Roed, National Director of Scouting for the Salvation Army spoke about the "Role of the Chaplain". As an "influencer" the chaplain can do much to enhance the growth of the Scout group.

Father John O'Donnell, Roman Catholic Diocesan Chaplain for Scouting and Guiding in Toronto, speaking about "Scouting in the Local Church" noted that when the local pastor/minister recognizes that Scouting can be integrated into the religious education program of the congregation, then Scouting in that group will likely be strong.

Rev. Brant Loper, Associate Secretary of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, provided two papers related to volunteerism. Among other points, he emphasized that Scouting works best when it is compatible with the objectives of the sponsor and the connection is supportive and visible. As responsible recruitment is an aspect of responsible sponsorship, Mr. Loper provided a number of clues on effective recruitment and retention of volunteers.

George Brown, past Lieutenant-Governor of Kiwanis International, spoke to a paper "Scouting in the Local Community". He outlined the basic elements required to make a Scout group effective.

Some of the key issues identified by the small discussion groups included:

- The continuing need to get to and share with local partner or potential partner groups, how they may use Scouting to serve the needs of their boys, or boys they would like to reach in their communities.

- Ongoing work is required to allow the chaplain (or chaplain representative) to take a more active role in the leadership team at the section level. There are suggestions in "Let's Celebrate" to support this move.

- More effective use of the tools and strategies concerning the effective recruitment and retention of leaders is required. Sharing these with local Scout group personnel is essential. Some strategies are to spell out the job; put a tenure on it and provide support.

- The support system to the local group (including the sponsoring body and group committee) needs to be reviewed and strengthened.

- There is a need to more effectively involve parents and families in Scouting and to help them meet more of their needs in raising children in today's unsettled conditions.

- Some form of training/orientation is necessary to allow chaplains (or their representatives) to take a more active role in Scouting. "Let's Celebrate" is seen as a basic resource document.

- At levels above the group, some form of chaplaincy, service or national committee of chaplains may be required to help leaders, and others, in all Scout groups to meet the spiritual needs of their members.

- Current aids such as books, pamphlets and audio-visual aids, need to be more widely promoted and put to use. Examples mentioned included "Let's Celebrate", "Sponsoring and Administering Scouting", "Seven Keys to Recruiting Volunteers" and the ideas and approach in the "Home and School and Scouting" pamphlet.

- Spell out the "terms of partnership" (as listed in B. P. & P. and appropriate pamphlets and books) with the partner or potential partner representative concerned. Review annually.





Through a special presentation on what is happening nationally in work with the handicapped, the conference recognized the value of extending Scouting's network through cooperative endeavours with service clubs, churches, agencies and other such groups, in order to provide Scouting to more boys with handicaps.

The delegates were most appreciative of the dinner meeting and evening program with a group of Venturers. The company put on an audio-visual display of their activities for the year, followed by discussions by a panel of Venturers and parents and finally a question and answer period.

Chief Executive J. Percy Ross reviewed the past year's accomplishments for the delegates and outlined the new three year plan whereby Scouting, in cooperation with its partner groups, will be providing the opportunity for a substantial portion of youth, from all segments of society, to be actively involved in Scouting.

Scouting was asked to take the initiative in urging delegates, partner and potential partner representatives and other appropriate personnel, to promote, plan and conduct local/regional partner conferences along the lines of the National Partners Conference.

A small group of delegates (from the Canadian Home and School/Parent-Teacher Federation, the Royal Canadian Legion, Kiwanis International, Anglican Church and Salvation Army) has been set up under the chairmanship of Judge C.O. Bick, to review some of the items raised at the conference or left over from the agenda.

During the conference, Jim Dark, the delegate for the Elks, from Portage la Prairie, met with National Office personnel to complete plans for a promotional pamphlet, "Elks and Scouting", designed to encourage present Elk sponsors and assist more Elk lodges to use Scouting as part of their work with youth, in their local communities.



In addition, Roger Fluhman, the delegate from the Mormon Church in Salt Lake City, Utah, met with Varge Gilchrist, the Canadian Church-Scouting representative, and Pat Horan of the National Office, to review and discuss ideas re the growth of Scouting in the church in Canada.

The first part of a two part evaluation process showed that the delegates were very satisfied with the proceedings and they asked that it be conducted annually or at least bi-annually. The second part of the evaluation process concerns the "back home operations" and it is now underway.



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## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

There has been a fair amount of mail from adults and boys regarding CJ '77 and all very positive but perhaps this one from **Tony Watson of Antigonish, Nova Scotia**, says it all:

"Dear Jamboree Committee: The Jamboree was an experience I'll never forget. Would you be able to send me an aerial photo of the camp or tell me where I could send for one? I did not have the quarter to buy one on my last days there and I feel that this would be just about the best souvenir I could have - *next to my memories*. I am enclosing a cheque from my Mom for 50¢."

By the way, Tony wasn't the only boy broke or at least badly bent at the end of the Jamboree. When I delivered **Bill Whitehead**, who did that fine CJ story in the August/September issue, to the Canadian Forces section of Ottawa's Uplands Airport to catch his flight back to Lahr, West Germany, I met a large number of leaders and boys from the **Maple Leaf Region**, who were travelling home on the same flight. All were very enthusiastic about their stay on PEI but I found out that cash was very scarce. In fact one patrol of eight boys had only five cents between them. And that's cutting it pretty fine!

\*

When I visited Brownsea Island in October, 1976, to gather material for the 70th anniversary story, (which appeared in the June/July issue) the trip was planned by **Mr. A.W. (Alf) Murray, assistant county commissioner (activities) for the Dorset County Scout Council**.

During the visit to Brownsea, Alf mentioned that Poole District held a father and son camp on the island each summer and that as 1977 was the 10th annual camp, a joint celebration would be held along with

Brownsea's 70th. At the time I asked him if he would send me some information on how the event went and here is the report.

From our first father and son camp in 1967, we have camped on the same spot as those 20 boys and B. - P. did, in 1907.

To mark the dual anniversary, the organizers decided that special invitations should go to the **Mayor of Poole, Counsellor P. Norman** and the two original "boys" of the B. - P. camp, who live in the area, **Arthur Primmer and Terry Bonfield**.

The opening day of the camp was a very busy one for the Mayor but by arranging an early embarkation to the island of participants, we managed to have his company at the opening ceremony.

Terry Bonfield spent all Saturday with us and walked around to all the campers, telling and re-telling his adventures in 1907. His stamina, for an 83 year old, was really amazing.

The three special guests were presented with camp pennants and the Canadian Brownsea anniversary crest, which we obtained from your Supply Services.



On Sunday, Arthur Primmer came over for the day and, like Terry, showed an incredible amount of energy for his 85 years. He too visited all the campers, including a group of Scottish Scouts who had travelled 26 hours non-stop to camp on Brownsea in anniversary year.

Arthur was unavailable on the Saturday because, in his capacity as a registrar, he had three weddings to perform. **(EDITOR'S NOTE: In a letter received from Mr. Primmer, dated September 6, he informed me that he had been awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee medal for long and loyal service under the Crown as a registrar. In his 63 years, he has performed 20,000 marriages, which is a record.)**

The fathers and sons had a great

weekend, many enjoying each others exclusive company for a whole weekend for the first time, without distractions from other members of the family. A lot of Mums confided in me, that it was quite a break for them too!

Alf apologized for not having a photo of Arthur, due to a camera problem. The one he did send was too dark to print. Our photo shows (l. to r.), Alf Murray, Terry Bonfield, His Honor the Mayor and Norman Steele, A.D.C. Scouts.

\*

That fine magazine of the United Church of Canada, *The Observer*, always makes for good reading but one of my favourite pages is "Quotes and Comments". The editor of this item must have a very good sense of humour because he or she always has a selection of good stories. Here are two examples from the June, '77 issue:

A little girl sitting in church with her father suddenly felt ill. "Daddy," she whispered, "I have to throw up." Her father told her to hurry to the washroom.

In a few minutes she was back. "I didn't even have to leave the vestibule," she exclaimed brightly. "There's a little box by the door that says 'For the Sick'."

The second story tells of the hot day when there were guests for dinner and mother asked her four-year-old to say Grace before the meal.

"But I don't know what to say," the boy exclaimed.

"Oh, just say what you heard me say," replied the mother:

Obediently the boy bowed his head and murmured: "O Lord, why did I invite these people here on a hot day like this?"

We should also express our sincere thanks to *The Observer* General Manager, **Mr. E.L. Homewood**, for his assistance in the preparation of



the *Readership Survey* which we ran in the October issue. Mr. Home-wood allowed us to make use of a recent survey conducted by *The Observer*, as well as providing some useful advice.

✱

And speaking of the survey, have you completed your copy and returned it to us? If not, how about doing it now?

✱

Like Canada, the Scouts of the United Kingdom produced a **Silver Jubilee Badge** to mark the Queen's 25 years of service. **Jack Olden, Public Relations Officer of The Scout Association**, wrote recently to say that this badge is now available to Scouts and Scouters in Canada, on a first come basis. However, they must be purchased in quantities of 25. The cost is \$11 (US funds) for 25.

If you are interested, address your order to **Jack's attention, The Scout Association, Baden-Powell House, Queen's Gate, London SW7 5JS, England.**

✱

Speaking of the Queen's Jubilee, the **Boy Scouts of America's Johnston National Scouting Museum** installed a new exhibit this year to mark the occasion and the birth of Scouting in England 70 years ago.

The three-part exhibit includes a re-creation of Queen Elizabeth's 1953 coronation parade, featuring metal figures collected over many years; postage stamps and flags; books; souvenirs and photos from 25 years ago and today; and British and Canadian Scout Jubilee emblems.

The museum is located on the grounds of the BSA National Scout Office, **North Brunswick, New Jersey** and is well worth a visit if you are in the area.

✱

**Charles M. Cochand, Flat 5, 58 Rutland Gate, London SW7 1PL, England**, wrote recently to ask if any pack Scouters in Canada would be interested in pen pals for their Cubs. Mr. Cochand is leader of the **9th Chelsea** but began his Scouting with the **57B Woodland Heights in London, Ontario**. If any of your boys would like a London pen pal, write direct to Mr. Cochand.

✱

To mark the **6th Caribbean Jamboree**, the Government of Jamaica, through the post office, issued a special set of four commemorative stamps on August 5, 1977. In denominations of 10¢, 20¢, 25¢ and 50¢, they are a single design: the Scout emblem, maps of Jamaica and Doctor Bird, on different coloured backgrounds.

✱

On Friday evening, May 27, **New Brunswick** Scouting paid a well-deserved honour to a Scouter who has been active for over 50 years on the local, national and international level.

Over 300 present and ex-members attended **Dr. S. Allan Hopper Night** in **Moncton** to pay tribute to this exceptional man who, despite a busy medical practice, has, in addition to his national and world Scouting duties, worked on the boy level since 1927.

Those present included ex-Scouts of Allan's who are now grandfathers and fathers; boys from his present group; the Mayor of Moncton; Leonard C. Jones, member of parliament for the area and the Chief Executive of Boy Scouts of Canada, **J. Percy Ross, Ottawa.**

One of the most travelled men

active in Scouting today, Allan has attended seven World Jamborees, including the first, held at Arrowe Park in England in 1929; three American jamborees; two Canadian jamborees; five provincial jamborees; three western hemisphere training conferences; nine world conferences and a large number of Canadian training courses and events.

Dr. Hopper has been called upon to assist Scouters and boys in many parts of the world, with medical problems, and countless numbers will testify to his understanding and kindness.

We send our congratulations to Allan Hopper and wish him many more active years in Scouting.

✱

The dog has been called "man's best friend" but judging from the stare that Scout Scott Buswell is giving the pooch in our photo, any misbehaviour on his part and we would guess all friendships cease.

Scott was doing clean-up duty at the **Hamilton Kennel Club's** 86th annual championship dog show this year, and had his broom at the ready. I have had a couple of pretty good suggested captions for the picture but feel it's safer to let you think up your own.

*Photo by courtesy of The Spectator, Hamilton.*

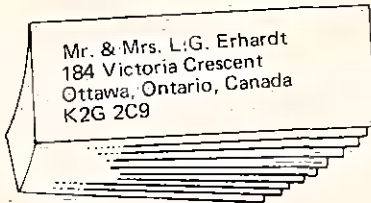


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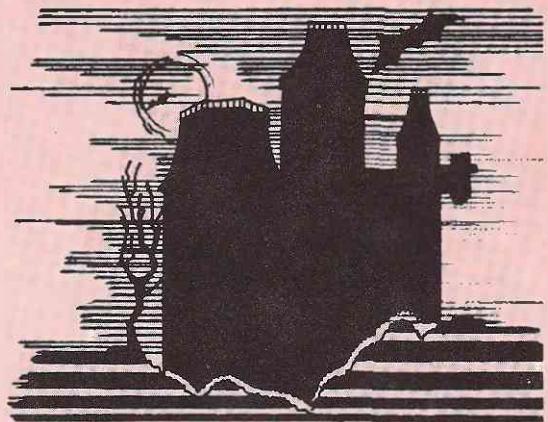
How many sets of labels does your group plan to sell? (approx.) \_\_\_\_\_



# ● Haunted Castle

## Skit

### and Games



by Betty Rapkins

○ This is a skit for five boys. The story teller sits to one side and reads the tale out aloud, leaving out instructions shown in brackets. Darker print shows where sound effects should be used. Two boys mime the story at centre stage while two other boys are in charge of sound effects in the wings or hidden behind screens at each side of stage area.

○ The idea is to make the story come alive for the audience by showing all the actions in mime and without the aid of stage sets or scenery, and especially to see how many ingenious sound effects they can think up beforehand and provide during the story-telling.

○ For example: **trudging** sounds might be made with two boots on a tray of sand; **thunder** sounds realistic when a sheet of thin metal is bent or flapped; horses' hooves **clip-clopping** are provided by banging half coconut shells together.

#### THE HAUNTED CASTLE

○ Tim and Bob (*or insert boys' real names*) had been hiking all day when it started to **rain** heavily (*sounds of rain*). On they **trudged** (*boys trudge wearily with heads bent*). Soon the rain turned to **thunder** and they were startled when an owl suddenly **hooted** close beside them and flew overhead (*boys look up startled and duck heads*).

○ "What's that?" Tim asked Bob (*in mime*) as they listened to the **clip-clopping** of an approaching horse and rider. **Running** (*on the spot*) they followed the horseman through a deep forest and ducked their heads when a **breaking** branch **crashed** to the ground ahead of them, as the wind **howled**.

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#### BUNDLES

○ This is a race using two or more hula-hoops. Knotted loops of rope could be used, of approximately hula-hoop size.

○ The idea is to see how many boys can be squeezed into each hoop, so that it "bundles" them together around their waists. They must then race from and to a given point and the first bundle home wins. This is made much more difficult if the boys in each bundle are facing in a variety of directions.

○ If space is limited, they could race around four sides of the hall, touching a marker boy or collecting a small object at each corner so that no short-cuts are taken.

#### OBSERVATION

○ Test the boy's observational skills by placing a number of small, everyday objects on a tray. These might include a bunch of keys, a penknife, a badge, a teaspoon, book-matches, a cup, scissors, a feather, a reel of thread, to make a total of about fifteen items.

○ Bring the tray in, covered with a cloth. Give each boy paper and a pencil but tell them not to start writing until you give the word. Uncover the tray and allow them two minutes to study the contents. Then replace the cover and give them a few minutes to list as many as they can remember.

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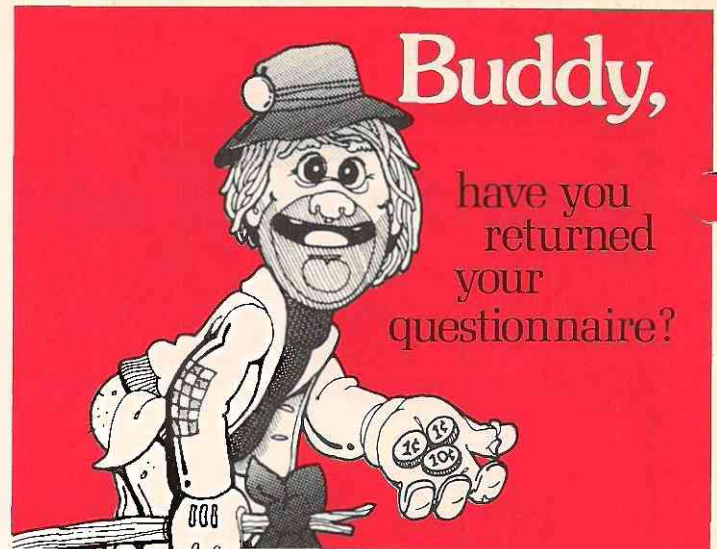
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### MAGNETIC WALK

Cubs line up in pairs, in relay formation on a starting line. Each pair should be face to face with arms straight down at sides and toes touching partner's toes. At a given signal the pairs move forward with their toes "magnetised" - walking with toes touching all the time. Each pair goes around a marker about 25 feet away and returns. The next pair in each team follow the same procedure. First six to finish the relay wins.

### SHOP WINDOWS

Small cards with a single letter on them are placed on the floor in a circle. The Cubs stand around in a circle just outside the cards. At a given signal all the Cubs run around in one direction (to the right or to the left) until Akela calls: "The shop is open". The boys stop running and each one picks up a card. They must then find others with cards to spell out an item that can be purchased in a store. The first group to complete a word is rewarded with a candy or points for their sixes.

### BALLOON PASSING

Provide each team with a small inflated balloon, six to eight inches in diameter. Teams stand in file formation. On a given signal, the first player in each team puts the balloon under his chin and, without using his hands, passes it to the second player who takes it under his chin, also without using his hands. The balloon is passed down the line in this manner. If dropped, it may be retrieved by hand but must be placed again under the chin of the person dropping it before passing continues. The first team to complete passing down the line wins.

Soon they reached a castle and the mysterious rider gave a mad laugh before disappearing through a gateway.

"Hey, this is kind of scary," shuddered Bob (in mime) but they bravely decided to try the old oaken door. Searching in the entranceway they noticed a rusty bell-pull. The two boys tugged at it and in the distance a bell rang. (This could be any kind of bell and would be quite funny if deep church bells or a squeaky bicycle bell was used.)

The door creaked open and out rushed . . . (The boys should decide what rushes out and make the appropriate sounds.)

Tim and Bob turned and ran for their lives until they reached the main highway. A bus approached, stopped and opened its doors and the boys climbed aboard, breathing a sigh of relief that their scary adventure was over. Soon they would be back home, safe and sound.

*This skit could be used in a number of ways:*

As an alternative to one group of five boys, chosen perhaps for their acting ability and imagination, doing it as an entertainment for the rest of the group, several small groups could act it out competitively. The audience would then judge which made the most enterprising and clever use of sound effects, how well the story was read out and which pair of boys produced the best miming.

Or you might like to use this story as a basis for further tales, perhaps incorporating a wide range of animal noises which the boys might hear while in the forest.

The setting could also be changed completely to a haunted ship at sea, with a great deal of creaking timber, flapping sails, waves and eerie ships' sirens.



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