

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER VOLUME 9, NUMBER 1

the **leader**



T'anks a lot.

a report on
the survey
results
(page 4)



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the leader

The Canadian Leader Magazine

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JAMES F. MACKIE,
Editor

BETTY RAPKINS
Assistant Editor

MICHEL PLANT,
Editorial and
Advertising



COVER

He's back! The little hobo who, last October, asked if you could spare 12¢ (for a stamp) and a few minutes to complete a readership survey, is with us again, this time to report on the great results to his request for help. For more information, turn to page 4 and read our lead article, "Tanks A Lot — a report on the survey results".

supply services news

by Bill Johnson

As we approach the beginning of another busy season, we are acutely aware of the need to have sufficient supplies in all our outlets to meet your requirements. Last year, because of unprecedented sales and some manufacturing problems, we weren't ready but this year we are and, if the fall orders are any indication, so are the Scout Shops and Dealers across the country.

Be sure and have a good look at our new lines of **uniform trousers**. These jean style pants are the same quality as the top-selling jeans in the country, but at an attractive price. They are a good, hardwearing garment, not just for uniform but for everyday school wear.

Many **new items** will appear in our fall catalogue and in Dealers' and Scout Shops across the country. They include:

- Three all new sleeping bags
- Three new camp cook sets
- An official camp cap
- Several new books, i.e., Water Activities; First Aid; Pioneering and many others.

Be sure and get your copy of the **1978/79 Supply Services catalogue**. They are available from your local office or Dealer now.

Councils are now ordering their supply of **1979 calendars**. If your group is thinking of using this excellent fund raiser for the first time, contact your office immediately. We expect to run out again this year, so don't delay.

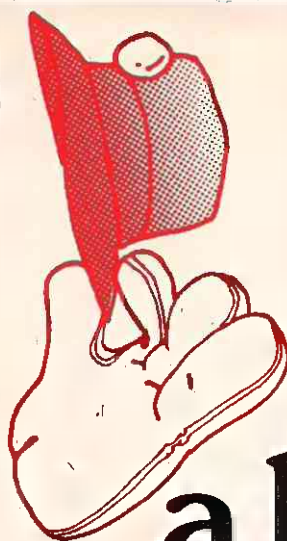
Stocks of the **70th Birthday Crest**, cat. #04-462 and **neckerchief slide**, cat. #06-001, are beginning to run low. These two items will not be renewed, so if you want a souvenir of Scouting's 70th anniversary you had better act soon. Most Dealers and Shops should still have a supply. A

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Tanks



a lot

A Report on the Survey Results by Jim Mackie

To the 746 good folks who felt they could spare 12¢ and a few minutes of their time, to help us find out if **The Leader** was, in fact, doing its job by helping them to do theirs, we say *Tanks a lot*, you're all great!

While space will not permit a detailed review of all we learned, we would like to give you a few facts and figures — along with a few specific quotes.

To begin with, completed surveys came from first year Scouters right up to one good lady in Moncton with 53 years service, and the age span was from 15 to 82. However, the long service Scouters seem to be our major contributors.

As you will see in the breakdown by provinces, which follows, every one plus the North West Territories was represented. Additionally, under the heading of OTHERS, replies and allied letters came from such places as Texas, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Vermont and New York in the United States and from Ireland, England, Germany and New Zealand.

The OTHER column, in the breakdown by sections, contains non-Canadians, commissioners' staff, service and training teams, retired, Scout executives, group committees, district council personnel, chaplains and leaders presently holding more than one appointment.

And a word to the mathematicians and accountants, don't try to balance the figures against the total 746 replies, because some people neglected to complete every question. There seemed to be a few ladies who hesitated to record their ages and under SEX we had some answers like — "Yes please", "fine" and "pretty good".

Generally, we can say that the majority of those who replied, were happy with the magazine, its con-

tent and the editorial policy and direction. While one person, told us to "stop making an idol of Baden-Powell," 355 asked for more stories by B.-P., and 345 want more on the history of Scouting.

In fact, here's what people want more of:

Book Reviews	136
Stories by B.-P.	355
History of Scouting	345
Foreign Scouting	260
Letters to Editor	233
Scouting Personalities	226
Craft Articles	489
Spiritual Articles	251
Inspirational Articles	264
Scouting With Handicapped	181
Jamboree Articles	227
Local Activities	360
Canadian Animals	360
Canadian Trees	364
Canadian Flowers	346
Wide Games	517
Safety Articles	319
Orienteering	359
Pioneering	344
Knotting	356
Water Activities	221
Winter Activities	479
Hikes	477
Humour	330
Cartoons	225
Special Pack Meetings	331
Special Troop Meetings	268
Photography	181
Cooking	396
Campfires	542

To those who complained that one part of the country or another was getting too much space, we can only say that we print what we receive that we feel will be useful "to the majority of Scouters right across Canada". We know exciting things happen from coast to coast but unless we're told... and that's the reason we asked for help in the May issue from local reporters. But please remember, items are not

produced to glorify one section of Canada or another but to provide you with good program material. Where it originates should be secondary, if it gives boys and girls in other parts of the country fun, enjoyment and knowledge.

Here are the results of the seven questions on the back page of the questionnaire:

1. *What do you do with The Leader after you have finished reading it?* Discard — 26. Keep for future reference — 679. Pass to others — 103 (some ticked twice).
2. *Would you like a binder to be available for your back issues?* 471 said yes — about 63%
3. *How many people looked in your October issue of The Leader?* 1,935, which is a little over 2.5 per copy. Some said "many".
4. *What is your leadership position in Scouting?*

Beavers	114
Cubs	234
Scouts	158
Venturers	29
Rovers	10
Guides	8
Others	188
	741
5. *How long have you been active in Scouting as a leader?* 9.2 years (average).
6. *What province do you work in?*

British Columbia	104
Alberta	65
Saskatchewan	18
Manitoba	29
Ontario	317
Quebec	58
New Brunswick	28
Nova Scotia	76
Prince Edward Island	9
Newfoundland	18
North West Territories	6
Others	9
	737
7. Average age: 36 Sex: Male 516 Female 224

Now to answer a few of your questions

- To those who asked why their assistants were not receiving the magazine — we can only guess that your area is not on the Every Scouter Plan. They can, however, subscribe personally, at the preferential rate of course, or through the group committee.

- A number of concerns, needs and requests have already been answered in articles and we will try in the future to cover as much of what was requested as possible.

- About 63% of those replying felt that a binder would be a good idea, while others suggested that all

magazines could be pre-punched by the printer. On a local basis, readers can just remove the two staples and punch the holes themselves. However for us to do it here would add a large figure to our monthly printing bill and our budget does not allow for this additional expense.

- To the readers expressing concern about the advertising content, we should say that (1) it has never exceeded 25% per issue, which is low if compared with other magazines, including the major Scouting ones, and (2) the dollars earned from advertising have helped to keep our subscription prices low and increase the size from 24 to 40 pages.

- For those people asking for book reviews, watch for Betty's November article which will contain outlines of some recent books felt suitable for the group library and Christmas gifts.

- *Many, many* asked for fund-raising suggestions. An article, scheduled for December, is now in preparation and will provide over 50 money-making ideas.

- If you asked for more stories and plays for Beavers, you will note they have already started and will continue.

- For the hikers in the crowd, we will begin a spring series on various specialized hikes. Watch for it and perhaps send in your own favourites for inclusion.

- *And a special note:* Just because a program article *looks like* it's directed to a specific section, don't overlook it, if it's not yours. With a little imagination, most of our material can be easily adapted for almost any age group.

- Suggestions and comments filled over 75 pages of 8½" x 11" paper and these have been categorized under program sections and shared with the Program Committee, its section sub-committees, the Public Relations Committee and many others.

- Many, many compliments and good wishes were received for which we are most appreciative. Just one example: "It's almost worth being a Cub leader just because one receives **The Leader**. When it comes to quality magazines one might say 'You're leading the pack' (if you don't mind the pun(s))." — We don't — thank you!

- To those who wanted more short stories for campfires, we have already published "The Scouters' Five Minutes" and "Potted Stories" — both two parters — and more will follow.

- "Why don't you publish music

to your songs?" Simple: practically every piece of music is under strict copyright and if you print, you pay. In most cases, the charge is far beyond our budget.

- "Can you possibly speed up processing of circulation or are you handicapped by funds?" **The Leader** is mailed second class, usually the last week of the month, in the hope that it will arrive the first week of the month as dated. We know that there are postal delays but if we could find a solution to this problem, no doubt we would be considered national heroes. If we mailed first class, it would cost over \$13,600 (34¢ per magazine) per issue. Mailing costs now run to approximately \$1,300 per issue.

- "More articles written by leaders themselves, for they are more experienced people, not you." First of all we have always encouraged Scouters to contribute but good stories of *national* interest are hard to get. We'll keep trying BUT we must take issue with "... they are more experienced." Our regular contributors have *all* (and in some case still) run sections, worked on service teams/district, provincial staff; been members of more training teams than they can remember. There is not one (with the exception of our Betty Rapkins) who does not have less than twenty years active service in the Movement.

- To those who suggested it — we have already started running successful articles from back issues.

- One reader wants to know how to run the game SCRUMPING. Can anyone help? (Betty says it means stealing windfallen apples, in the UK.)

- The idea of a column on "Problems and How to Solve Them" is not a new one, as we offered to do something like this a year or so ago but had no response. The suggestion came up again in the survey and we are willing. Just send in your problem and we will try to get you an answer. Some came along with the survey and perhaps we'll start with them.

- We also had some great one-liners like: "I feel this magazine could be of *much more help* for leaders, Jim Mackie!" That's all — not where or how. Tell us and we'll see what we can do.

- For those who want more information on the training and duties of Scouters in Training and Activity Leaders, we have asked Reg Roberts to prepare something for us on the subject.

- The regular cut-out features on pages 37 and 38 are very popular

and many, many readers asked for more. Here is where you can help us by submitting favourite poems, yells, recipes, etc. Any suggestions for new cut-out type features will also be welcomed.

- To the one reader who objected to our little hobo character; sorry about that but he sure did the job for us by attracting the attention of so many.

- Comment: "A Forum or 'Action Line' column. Scouting on the professional level emulates the Federal Government in believing that as long as all criticism is suppressed — swept under the carpet or blatantly denied, people will be satisfied. Remember it is easier to quit Scouting than Canada. Quebec please note." We're sure Mr. Leveque will duly note the comment and we draw the attention of the writer to page 2, March 1978 issue. The new National Program Forum should provide an even more authoritative audience for his problems and concerns.

- Comment: "Articles on orienteering, knotting, water and winter activities, cooking as well as survival subjects but written in each instance by competent professionals rather than the best Scouting has to offer." Sir, you would be surprised at how many outside organizations look to the green grass on Scouting's side of the fence for expertise in the majority of these subjects. But that doesn't mean we don't go outside for help, because we do. Remember that just because a man or woman bears the title of Scouter, doesn't mean he or she doesn't wear other hats or have other capabilities.

- Question: "How about a column on 'It's Working!' where leaders can share ideas that really take off." Another good idea, which we will happily find room for. Let's hear from those with workable ideas.

- Comment: "I'd like to see a 'tip of the hat' or 'pat on the back' for *local* Scouting personalities." So would we, but in your local bulletin where it really belongs! There are so many Scouting people doing great jobs in Canada, that we just wouldn't have room to acknowledge them all; and then we would really be in trouble.

How to sum up? Well, as one Scouter replied: "It would be impossible to please everyone." So perhaps we'll just end by saying that we'll do our best to please as many as we can but we do need your help and want it.

Again, to those who took the time, *thanks a lot!* X



There are a great many excuses for not planning outdoor meetings in the fall, including cooler nights, less daylight hours and new boys that could get mixed up or lost. However, a Scouter who wants to set the tone for an exciting and challenging winter season and who wants to impress the new lads with a troop night program that is sure to catch their interest, doesn't deal in excuses, but in activities. This is the Scouter who might consider staging an "Operation Starlight".

It is done quite easily, using the resources of your neighbourhood, by inviting a couple of nearby troops to participate and working their neighbours and leaders into the plan.

What is it? Basically, the boys all come together at one of the troop headquarters where they are given duplicated copies of a program which lists six or seven locations they must visit, within a time span of one and one-half hours. If the area is not well defined, a map should also be duplicated and issued, showing the locations to be visited. At each location a "Scout Skill" project is set up to test the boys' ingenuity, athletic ability, or Scout craft talent. These locations are manned by troop Scouters, adult committee members or resource people.

Locations chosen should be either private property you have permission to use, or public property like squares, parks or playgrounds, within the boundaries set out on your map. Generally speaking, projects should be within a mile radius of the site you're using as the game headquarters, with the projects spaced far enough apart to prevent boys from bunching up as they travel in groups of threes and fours, to try the various activities.

It is quite important to have the projects set up 15 minutes before the starting time of the game, with each project leader having a score sheet so he can give visiting groups a mark of 1 — 10 for trying the project. Five points can be given for arriving in an orderly manner at each project, and five points awarded for satisfactory completion of the activity scheduled at each station.

Also important is advising your local police of the game, so they will be aware of the activities, some of which might be alarming to residents who happen to look out of their window.

Before the boys leave the game headquarters, they should be given firm instructions to return by 8.30 (if started at 7 pm). Those not at the headquarters at the appointed time should lose one point for every minute they are late.

As the groups return, the group committee should be present to serve hot chocolate and cookies. Following this, prizes are awarded, perhaps consisting of sample plaques made of scrap panelling and labelled with the plastic, stick-on tape (see article "Working with Camp Crafts", page 12, **The Leader**, April 1978). It is best to present a winner for boys 11-12 and for 13-14 year olds, as that is how they will likely group, and the older boys should do better. They don't always though, as the younger lads have so much enthusiasm for a project such as this, that they go all out to do their best — a valuable piece of training in their early weeks of Scouting.

Here is a typical Operation Starlight, exactly as presented to the boys. Some explanation follows it, along with some further suggestions.

OPERATION STARLIGHT "2"

Headquarters — St. George's Hall, Watson Street

Area of game — West side peninsula

Time — 7 pm to 8.30 pm **Date** _____

Team Number — _____

General Instructions — Teams of four

Two classes — (1) 13 and over
(2) 12 and under

There are ten projects to visit, each worth ten points. Leaving at prompt 7 pm and arriving back at prompt 8.30 pm, is also worth 10 points. Projects can be done in any order. You should spend about four minutes on each project, this gives you 40 minutes to do the projects, and 50 minutes for walking and waiting. Remember to give your team number to the project leader, whether you complete a project or not, as there will be five points given for orderly reporting to each project even if a line-up of teams prevents you from attempting a project. If you do a project, a further five points will be awarded for satisfactorily completing the project. Watch your conduct at all times. We will be watching you even between projects. Respect all property.

At enemy projects you will be attempting to complete the assigned task without being caught. Report to the leader before trying the project, for a full explanation.

PROJECTS — (Refer to numbers on map)

1. Leave headquarters by 7.00.
2. **Blue Rock Hill Bomb** — Enemy Project. Report to leader at Victoria St. entrance to hill. He will show you where a bomb has been set under a street lamp at the top of the hill. You are to remove the pin from the bomb without being caught by the guard who is roaming the hillside.
3. **Car Accident** — There has been a car in collision with a hydro pole at the corner of St. James and Ludlow St. Demonstrate proper procedure with the driver who wants to leave the car, and with the passenger who has been thrown clear of the vehicle.
4. **Map the Square** — A map of Queen Square is provided. You are to mark in the trees and identify them by species.
5. **Steal the Plans** — Enemy Project. Report to the leader leaning against a pole opposite 191 King St. He will tell you of a set of plans in Stear's garage. You are to stalk into the garage, study the plans, and return to the leader prepared to answer questions. A guard will try to prevent you from seeing the plans.

6. **Bicycle Bill** — Bicycle "Bill" is on the playground on Winslow St. with a bicycle and obstacle course set up. Show him you know your safety rules and can ride correctly.
7. **It's in the Box** — In the bus shelter at the corner of Rodney and Market Place, a leader has a box containing 20 objects. Reach into the box and try to identify the contents.
8. **Star Gazing** — On Courtenay Hill at the flagpole, a leader has set up a telescope for you to try and pick out some of the heavenly bodies. (If visibility is poor, pick out some city buildings — but no girl-watching allowed!).
9. **All Tied Up** — Report to the project leader at the rear of New Albert School. You must tie him up using five basic knots.
10. **Reporting in** — Report by 8.30 to headquarters. You will lose one point for every minute you are late.

Further Explanation

Project 2 — You will have to rig up a bomb that can go off. See **The Leader** (April '78, page 28, "Jamboree Activities for the Troop"), for a good example.

Project 3 — The St. John Ambulance will do a great job of realistic make up, or you can use your own materials. Dangle a wire over the car hood to simulate a dangerous condition.

Project 4 — Your parks department can provide a map of a square in your neighbourhood.

Project 5 — The purpose here is to let the boys think they might get caught, but don't really catch them unless they are obvious. Letting them study the plans and report to the leader makes a good observation project.

Project 6 — The emphasis here should be on "safety", not on skill. Lanterns can be used to light the area.

Project 7 — Self explanatory.

Project 8 — Self explanatory, if you can find someone with a telescope.

Project 9 — Self explanatory.

Here are some other projects you might try.

Walkie Talkie — Learn how to operate a walkie talkie. Send your men out into the field with a set and let them talk to one another, passing on a sample message you give to one but not the other.

Light the Torch — A project leader will give each of your group one match. You must try to light a torch (candle)

sitting in rock, in the centre of a field. A guard will try and take your match from you. Once you lose your match you are out of the project.

Famous Faces — A leader has ten head and shoulder shots of famous people. Can you identify them?

Slap Shot — A goaltender is in full equipment ready to test your ability to shoot a ball past him with the ball hockey gear provided.

Bearings — Standing on Martello Hill, give the compass bearings of City Hall, Partridge Island, Vocational School, and the CFBC Radio Towers (use local spots, of course).

Mileage — Before you travel the route to the various projects, find some mechanical means to determine the total distance you will walk.

Safety — From the corner of King and Ludlow Streets, study the traffic for ten minutes, making a note of any violations of traffic rules by all cars, bicycles and pedestrians.

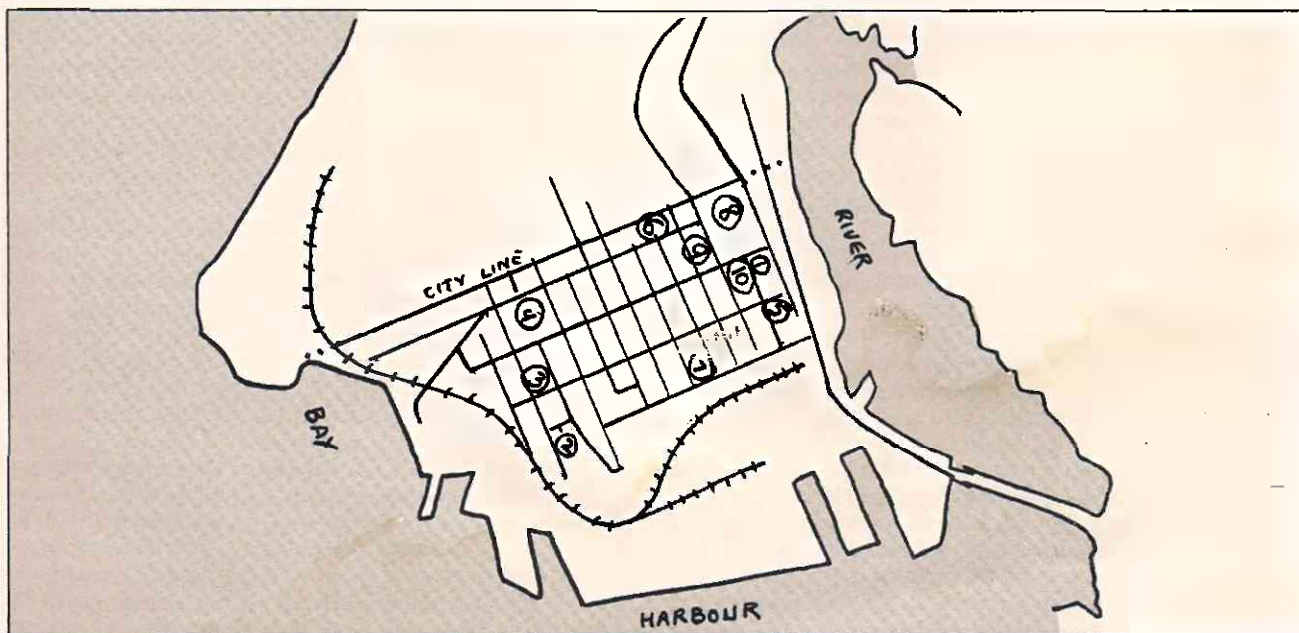
Good Turn — Do a "good turn" while on your journey. Report to headquarters what you were able to do.

Estimation — In the park at Market Place, estimate the height of the chestnut tree in the northwest triangle of the park.

Time Race — At the corner of King Street, note your time, then proceed at quick pace along the following streets and report to the project leader. It should take you eight minutes. How long did it take? (You will have to fill in streets according to your town, also adjust the time to suit your locale.)

First Aid — One of your men has fallen down the hill behind Doug Hamilton's house. He has broken his arm and his leg is hurting badly. Bring him to Mr. Hamilton's house for treatment. You will be judged on (1) how you get him to Mr. Hamilton's house and (2) your treatment, once you arrive.

These are but suggestions for your projects. The important thing is not to get complicated projects that take a great deal of time; there is little value in having a project that will cause the boys to bunch up. As the title of this article suggests, this is "Operation Starlight", and if you get your boys out under the stars on a crisp fall night, the boost to your program will be tremendous, and one that the boys will remember after many indoor programs have faded from their memory. X

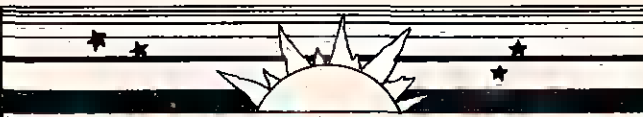


The Calgary 168th Cub Pack has developed a program of combined weekend hiking and camping for all seasons. This program evolved in response to several problems which to some extent are probably common to many Cub packs.

Our foremost problem was maintaining the interest of those boys in their final year of Cubs. These boys have access to a multitude of experiences and opportunities through school, community associations and other youth activities. However, camping is one of the few stimulating and challenging activities that our pack program can uniquely offer to them.

Our second problem was that Star and Badge work related to outdoor living was not all that exciting until translated into live situations. Fundamental skills involving menu planning and meal preparation, tent site selection and erection, fire lighting and map work took on new dimensions when practised at meetings and then lived on the weekend.

Our third problem was to provide some portion of our program that involved fathers in a situation other than working at a bottle drive or chauffeuring boys. In particular, we wanted some opportunities for boys and fathers to share the satisfaction that comes from learning and meeting new challenges together. Again, hiking and camping seemed to be the answer.



Year Round Camping With Cubs

By Donald H. Smillie

Fortunately, we live within an hour's drive of the foothills and eastern slopes of the Rockies. The spectacular geography and geology in the area provide countless interesting hikes of one to five miles duration. Also, the Alberta Forest Service maintains several special camps available at no charge to a group such as ours. Each camp consists of a couple of acres of tent space, several individual fireplaces with grills for cooking and a rough shelter with a fire pit for camp fires or eating space during inclement weather. Notwithstanding all the above, I think our program could be adapted to many other locales in Canada.

We invite as much father participation as we can get on our trips. For each trip we assemble new sixes consisting of three to four Cubs and two or three fathers. One or two sixes are assigned to each of the four pack leaders. This approach serves three purposes. It ensures that fathers are integrated into all camp activities so they don't get bored. It provides extra teaching power for individual instruction during a learning activity such as map reading or fire lighting. And finally, it provides a measure of general supervision so that leaders are not continually doing head counts (particularly around streams). Not all fathers are expert campers. So we meet with them and the boys a week before the camp to review the general program activities, explain the fathers' role and tutor them in any special skills. The

boys have already been involved in planning for two or three previous meetings.

This program got underway last May when we set out for a year-end camp to a ranch a few miles west of Calgary. Our party consisted of twenty boys and sixteen adults, including three leaders. Due to the beautiful weather this proved to be an excellent time to attempt the first camp. We were able to concentrate on enjoying ourselves instead of bucking the elements.

Aside from some rambles, wide games and a camp fire, a significant portion of our program was dedicated to skills involved in setting up camp and meal preparation. Camp consisted of a diverse group of small and medium size tents rounded up from Cub families. The boys had to direct the selection of a relatively even, comfortable tent site on higher ground and then assist with tent erection.

The meal preparation portion of the program centered around a Saturday supper cooked by the boys followed by Sunday breakfast cooked by the dads. Our camp was near a rocky beach area which was ideal for fireplace construction (and ultimate destruction) and driftwood gathering. So the boys in each six dug a small fire pit, built a rock wall around it and gathered enough wood for two meals. Then the fire lighting fun began. Although no paper was allowed, I must admit that more



than the regulation two matches were used in most cases.

Supper was a tinfoil meal consisting of sliced potatoes, carrots, onions and hamburger patty (and the odd pebble and wood chip). Each boy prepared a separate meal for himself and one for his dad. In spite of some of the preparation techniques, everyone conceded that supper was tasty.

All of the foregoing supper activities took about three hours. Each stage, or "event" was judged by a different panel drawn from the fathers. The boys in the winning six for each event were awarded appropriate prizes at the camp closing ceremony (eg. cutlery sets for best meal cookers). The next morning the tables were turned when the dads had to prove their ability with one match (or more) and whip up a mess of bacon and eggs. For all the dads who had never before brewed steeped coffee, they were surprised at what a fine drink it made (and how it stiffened their backs after a restless night on the ground).

This trip proved so successful that we were tempted to begin our new Cub year with another trip. Of course, by the time our pack got rolling smoothly (?) it was October. So plans were laid for an early November trip. Since we had approximately twenty new boys and only fifteen veterans we altered our tactics accordingly. We picked a good hiking area and invited everyone for the

day, including supper and a campfire. Only the veterans were invited to remain in camp overnight. As a result thirty-five boys and seventeen dads came out hiking. Fifteen boys and nine dads stayed overnight. Again we were blessed with sunny days. But an overnight low of -2°C and a skiff of snow in the shady spots let us know that winter was coming.

Our hike was a trip for a mile to the base of a five hundred foot scree slope which led to some large caverns halfway up the mountain side. After a picnic lunch at the base, we then picked our way up the slope to the caves and explored them. In order to maintain control over errant feet during the climb and cave exploration, we used fifty foot lengths of quarter inch polypropylene rope to link together groups of two adults and four or five Cubs. An adult was at each end of the rope and the boys were strung out every seven feet along the rope. The ropes were knotted through everyone's belt. This scheme worked perfectly. It eliminated possible accidents due to somebody losing his footing. It provided an opportunity to teach co-operation on the trail and discipline to the members of each group. And it lent an aura of excitement to the expedition since all the boys had seen mountain climbing pictures with people roped together. This was just like the big leagues!

After our descent to the lunch area we had a fossil



hunt. Everyone found at least one good fossilized shell or piece of coral. Even the odd trilobite was found. Along with a little map work and the return hike, the program easily filled the day until mid-afternoon when it was time to go and set up camp. The map work mainly involved looking at a 1:50,000 topo sheet and then examining the features surrounding us which were depicted on the map. Close contours on this kind of map are certainly meaningful when you're at the base of a 1,000 or 1,500 foot rock face which has an average slope of 60° .

Because of the number of novices in this program, we were less ambitious with our cooking plans than during the spring campout. In fact, we settled for a beans and weiners feast cooked on Coleman stoves. For Sunday breakfast though, we did bake some Bisquick loaves of bread to go with our bacon and eggs. This proved to be tasty and relatively easy to prepare.

One of the main purposes of this campout was to teach the boys how to dress, act and equip themselves to be comfortable during cold weather camping. This was really a prelude to a winter camp for sixers and seconders. However, the idea of bringing the novice boys out just for the day served another purpose aside from the obvious enjoyment of the outing. Seeing the older boys stay out overnight has really whetted their appetite for camping and given them a goal to shoot for in terms of skill development. Similarly, our winter camping trip

for final year Cubs hopefully will be a carrot for the second year boys.

The next trip was in mid-March. At this time of year there are enough traces of winter to be exciting without the bitter cold of January or February. Due to the limited number of boys going we did not need help from the fathers but two keeners asked to come. Of course they were welcome. The trip involved backpacking for a third of a mile along a snow-clogged road into a Forestry Service camp. Our weight allowances were devoted to appropriate warm clothing, foam pads and sleeping bags. The adults also packed food, mainly of the backpacking type, for meals that were easily prepared on the wood-fired camp stove.

Since most of the boys had never been winter camping we planned a short weekend, from noon Saturday until mid-afternoon on Sunday. Most of Saturday afternoon was devoted to camp set-up and exploring the immediate area. Camp set-up consisted of erecting a large lean-to closed in with plastic tarpaulins, followed by several trips to the woodpile. Lightly falling snow added a sense of urgency to these activities and created a proper atmosphere for a real winter adventure.

By supper time the work and fresh air had made everyone hungry enough that the goulash made from powdered soup mix, soya bean meat substitute and



noodles was quickly gobbled up. It didn't even have to be drowned in ketchup to taste good! We then spent the evening by the fireside in the kitchen shelter. A tired crew bedded down in the lean-to shortly after 9 p.m. A sleeping bag check had been done the week before so we knew that everyone was adequately prepared for the overnight low of -10°C . Since the snow was still falling the boys eyed their shelter with some skepticism. However, they all woke up around 7 a.m. after spending a fairly comfortable night and quite proud of themselves for having fared so well in such primitive circumstances.

Sunday morning dawned with two inches of fresh snow on the ground, but no more snow falling. A hearty breakfast was followed by camp clean-up and packing. After that we went on a two hour ski/snowshoe ramble. Between animal track reading (elk, coyote and moose), and map work, the morning flew by. Camp ended with an early afternoon picnic lunch in the sun and hike-back out to the vehicles.

Then, in late May or early June we plan to have another annual father and son campout for all boys. So the ex-novices will then be able to jump on the bandwagon in preparation for starting the cycle all over again next year. At the same time we will be saying good-bye to our final year veterans.

Yes, in the 168th Calgary Pack we found that year round camping is possible and fun. Λ

WORKING TOGETHER



10

by Pat Horan

— a report on the Second National Partners Conference.

Introduction

On April 25 and 26, forty-six participants took part in the second National Partners Conference held at the National Office of Boy Scouts of Canada, in Ottawa.

They came from Salt Lake City, Saskatoon, Portage la Prairie, Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, plus a number of other Ontario and Quebec centres.

They represented ten national church partners, six national community partners, the Chaplaincy-General Service of the Canadian Armed Forces, the National Voluntary Interagency Recreation Project (co-ordinating the efforts of several national organizations dealing with the integration of handicapped children/youth into regular activities), Girl Guides of Canada and Boy Scouts of Canada.

At the request of National President R.K. Groome, the conference was chaired by Past National Vice President, Judge C.O. Bick of Toronto. National Vice President George Cummings of Ottawa extended greetings and continuing offers of support to the delegates. In his comments, he emphasized Scouting's wish to work together with partner groups to serve the needs of boys in local communities.

Volunteerism

Because of its importance in both Scouting and partner groups, an in-depth discussion on volunteerism was led by Reg Roberts, Executive Director, Adult Volunteer Service at the National Office. In his presentation, Reg used the findings of Scouting's recent study of section leaders plus comparisons with studies conducted outside of Scouting.

As a result of this stimulating presentation, small work groups were formed to review and discuss six areas of concern. Here are some of their findings and recommendations.

- a) *Spiritual emphasis during meetings, hikes, rambles and camps.*
 - take time — stop — appreciate people, places and things
 - create your own prayers, songs and hymns
 - personal sharing rather than "preaching" as such
 - consider book *Things to Celebrate* as companion volume to *Let's Celebrate*
 - use poetry, sketching, drama and photography
 - what about a Scout edition of Bible?
 - prayers that relate to boy experiences
- b) *Chaplaincy service for groups without a chaplain*
 - chaplain could be a qualified lay person
 - section leader could be the chaplain
 - consult local ministerial association
 - seek the "whole person" approach
 - activate *Let's Celebrate*
 - introduce Scouting to ministerial meetings
- c) *Adult recruitment for all segments of society*
 - indigenous leadership for native peoples
 - adapt Scouting to cultural needs/expressions
 - change image
 - consider financial sponsorship in some cases
 - consult *Anglican Church Army Manual*
 - support/encourage cultural appreciation programs
- d) *Development of life stages of adults*
 - articles in **The Leader** and in leadership training material
 - integrate "understanding boys" with "understanding adults"
 - some help in training sessions
 - some groups expressed concern about use of this total area
- e) *Reward systems for adults*
 - recognition from parents is a key
 - identification for chaplain
 - involve sponsor — special banquet
 - lifestyle award
 - publicize achievements of individual in areas other than Scouting (weekly newspaper)
 - citizen of the year
 - Lutheran certificate and medals
 - practise the brotherhood message
- f) *Registration of all Scouting personnel*
 - all right for council and group/section committee members
 - optional for ladies' auxiliary and other support personnel

Advantages — sense of belonging, greater commitment, recognition, more money, more involvement.

Disadvantages — cost, some objection by some sponsors.

Recommendation

A great deal of discussion time was spent on the recommendation before the National Council concerning the place of chaplains in community groups. Judge Bick asked a small *ad hoc* group to provide a reworded recommendation that would retain the intent, yet consider the wishes of the field and of the conference delegates.

TO SERVE YOUTH • • • • •

Note: The reworded recommendation was presented by Major Don Hollingworth to the National Council meeting on May 13 and approved, with the proviso that the final placement in B.P.P. be made by the task group concerned.

Special Interests

Through a base method form of presentation, four areas of special interest to most delegates were covered:

a) Rev. Don Laing, Chairman of NACSUCC (National Advisory Committee on Scouting in the United Church of Canada) used a film slide presentation (*Partnership with Boys*) to show how Scouting can be an integral part of the Christian Education program of a local congregation. In addition, he reviewed NACSUCC's *Partnership with Boys* kit — a new working guide to assist in the integration process.

b) Rev. Tom Martin outlined the work of the Anglican Church Commission on Scouting (Toronto Diocese), to show how it is involving clergy, laity and Scouters at the parish level. A *Wayfinders Kit* has been produced to assist that process. The work and resources of the Commission have been shared with the House of Bishops.

c) John Pettifer of the Ontario Provincial Council, Boy Scouts of Canada, worked with Marilyn Muleski of the National Voluntary Interagency Recreation Project, to share ideas on the positive and growing work of integrating youngsters with handicaps into Scouting.

d) John MacGregor of the National Office, informed the delegates of the expanding work of Canadian Scouting in the support of training and community development activities in the third world — especially South America. The support for this tremendous thrust comes primarily from the proceeds of the Trees for Canada project plus matching grants from CIDA.

Partner Initiatives

A representative of each partner group reported on ideas to support, strengthen and extend the Scouting operating under its auspices. These ideas included:

- the promotion of the *Wayfinders Kit* to church and Scouting personnel in **Anglican** parishes of the Toronto Diocese and elsewhere. Also plan to expand the Kit to involve leaders and boys of *all* program section programs.

- the wider promotion of the congregational kit *Partnership with Boys* by the **United Church**.

- production or updating of pamphlets on Scouting by the **Elks, Optimists, Kiwanis, Knights of Columbus** and possibly **Lions**.

- introduction or updating of the Religion in Life program by **Baptists, Anglicans, United Church, Mennonites, Presbyterians, Reorganized Latter Day Saints** and **Mormons**.

- Task Force on Scouting in the **Roman Catholic** Diocese of Toronto is now working with Zone personnel (Organization just above the parish level).

- "Canadianization" of Church Scouting material by **Mormons** is now underway. Will be used as resource for proposed series of Church-Scouting regional conferences across Canada.

- fact sheets on Scouting being updated by each partner.

- fact sheet on Scouting developed by **Presbyterian Church** office for use by church conference personnel.

- "**Saints**" have set up a "Task Force on Scouting" to raise awareness of potential of Scouting in each local church.

- **Elks** to consider the appointment of a national

liaison person on Scouting along the lines of that established by the Canadian Home and School/Parent-Teacher Federation.

- **Kiwanis** are talking to Key Clubbers (age 17-20) about values of leadership through Scouting.

- **Baptists** have produced a resource manual on their Religion in Life program.

- **Legion** supports Scouting in every way and any way, especially at community level.

- **Salvation Army** has set up a national *ad hoc* committee on Scouting-Guiding. Toronto Corps produced a study guide *Christ and the Child — In focus* to support spiritual emphasis in Scouting/Guiding.

- **Lutherans** distribute a flyer on Scout-Guide Week to every congregation plus a newsletter to all clergy, which contains news on Scouting and Guiding. Now completing plans for film slide series, *Lutherans and Scouting*.

- **Mennonites** have introduced a Religion in Life program and propose to promote Scouting as a program for their youth.

It was also reported that through the efforts of the Anglican flying padre, Rev. Ralph Rowe of Thunder Bay, five new Scout groups have been set up among the Cree Indians of Northwest Ontario.

Panel discussion

Through the cooperation of John Brugmans of the National Capital Region (Ottawa), Boy Scouts of Canada, a number of section/group leaders were recruited to act as a panel and discuss with delegates areas of special importance. A number of points were identified and reviewed and lead into the further discussion on volunteers and volunteerism.

In addition, the 85th Ottawa Beaver Colony, under the direction of David Scott, held their regular meeting in the National Office to provide the delegates with an opportunity to see and hear Beavers in action.

Chaplaincy Corps CJ'77

Don Laing, the coordinator of the Chaplaincy Corps for CJ'77, gave an enthusiastic report on the event and paid special tribute to those delegates who volunteered their time to attend the jamboree as chaplains.

International Year of the Child 1979

Pat Horan presented a brief report on Scouting's involvement with the *International Year of the Child — 1979*. Scouting is represented on the national committee and has provided suggestions and ideas for councils and groups.

Regional Conferences and Resources

Pat Horan also reported on the successful "Recognition Night for Sponsors" conducted by the Nova Scotia Provincial Council and attended by National President Reg Groome. The news that the Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta councils are planning provincial partner conferences for October was welcomed by the delegates because of their long-stated interest in getting such events underway at other levels of Scouting.

To assist the process, Relationships Service has since produced and distributed a *Relationships Conferences* workbook to all staff and provincial and other presidents and commissioners.

Conferences in 1979

Because the National Partners Conference is one way to bring together all partner representatives (some of which have no national organization as such), it was agreed to hold a third such event following Easter, in April 1979. This recommendation was approved by the National Council meeting in Toronto on May 12, 1978. X

The Beaver Story

~ A Play



by Bob Butcher

The Beaver Story.

As you begin to give some thought to a new, busy Beavering season no doubt you will be facing the situation of having several new boys join your colony. One of the things new boys will have to do is become familiar with the Beaver story, *Friends of the Forest*. Over the years colony leaders have devised many ways to ensure this, from reading or telling the story to boys or using a flannel board with felt characters to illustrate the story.

One of the other ways has been to act out the story, with many of the older Beavers playing the principal parts in order to help the younger ones learn and understand where some of the Beaver terminology and leaders' names come from.

Some time ago I received the script for just such a Beaver play from **Hawkeye Jim Kingham** of the **52nd Ottawa "B" Colony**.

Over the past few years I have shared two other plays with you in my Beaver pages and, judging by the favourable feedback I have had in your letters, I've decided to share Hawkeye Jim's version of the Beaver story with you at this time.

Jim reports that their play was designed to be a continuing activity running over five weeks.

The first week, while one of the leaders summarizes the story *Friends of the Forest*, another leader sketches, on a piece of wrapping paper about 20 feet long, some scenes from the story.

The Beavers start painting the mural the first week, and finish it up in week two.

In the third week the boys and leaders make the other props required for the play. These consist of two Beaver lodges made out of large cardboard boxes (picked up at an appliance store) with a doorway cut in, and painted to look like sticks. They also make a Beaver dam out of cardboard tube (picked up at a carpet store).

Then, on week four, the colony has two rehearsals of the play and on week five the Beavers' parents and the members of "A" Colony are invited to be the audience and to share in the fun.

One of the advantages of the play, Jim reports, is that it is laid out in such a way that Beavers with singing or speaking parts are led into their lines by the narrator. There is also lots of movement involved in the course of the play so that all of the actors have a chance to become involved. There are enough speaking parts for the Beavers so that they can be shared around. An ordinary table or two make ideal hiding places to simulate tall reeds. Keo starts off the play wearing a loose fitting brown sweater which he quickly sheds when the lighting flashes to reveal his "silver" Cub uniform.

When the play is over, a party follows and all join in to share in the games and refreshments. Without further ado then, here is the script used by Ottawa's 52nd Colony. Add to it or adapt it to your own needs.

Narrator

Once upon a time, in a deep dark forest, there lived a happy colony of beavers. Some of the beavers worked on their dam, others worked on the lodges, and yet others brought logs to the beaver pond.

These beavers had fun, worked hard, and helped their families and friends.

In fact, they had so much fun that they sang while they worked.

Beavers sing

"We are little beavers having fun,
Working hard in the morning sun.
If you try to catch us we will run,
'Cause we are little beavers having fun".

Narrator

Tic Tac, the squirrel wondered how the beavers could work so hard and still be so happy.

He decided to go to Malak, the owl, and ask him.

Tic Tac

"How come the beavers work so hard and yet still seem to have fun?"

Malak

"Because they know that if they want to have a happy winter together they must make a strong dam and lodges and store lots of food so that they won't go hungry. So you see, the busy beavers are really planning ahead and thinking of the good times they will have, snuggled in their warm lodges throughout the winter. That is why they are so happy."

Narrator

One day a family moved into the forest and began to build a cottage. The beavers decided to swim down and take a look at the family. While they were swimming down the river a storm suddenly came upon the beaver pond.

One big brown beaver named Keo who had been left behind to take care of the beaver dam was struck by lightning. (*Lights flash.*) Surprisingly, he was not hurt. But his coat had turned completely silver. He also discovered that he could speak two languages.

He could speak normal beaver talk:

Keo

"Chatter, chatter, chatter."

Narrator

And he could talk human talk:

Keo

"A, B, C, 1, 2, 3, I can talk like people — me!"

Narrator

Quickly he began to swim down the river to tell the other beavers. When he caught up to them, they were already at the Jones family's new cottage. But they were waiting in the tall reeds in the river to see what the humans were doing. Even though they thought that they were hidden by the reeds, they could not escape Mr. Jones' sharp eyes.

Mr. Jones

"Don't look now, but I think there's a family of beavers behind those reeds".

Narrator

But, of course the whole family looked, and the beavers knew that Mr. Jones had seen them.

A Beaver

"Mr. Jones has really sharp eyes".

Another Beaver

"Let's call him Hawkeye"

All other Beavers

"O.K. Yes. Hooray, Hawkeye"

Narrator

Mrs. Jones was busy hammering a nail into the side of the dock. She was wearing clothes as brightly coloured as the rainbow.

A Beaver

"What bright clothes Mrs. Jones is wearing".

Another Beaver

"They are as bright as the rainbow".

Another Beaver

"Let's call her Rainbow!"

All Other Beavers

"O.K. Yes. Hooray. Rainbow."

Narrator

Another member of the Jones family was looking at flowers. He had rusty coloured hair and creaked when he bent over to look at flowers.

Rusty

"Creak, creak"

A Beaver

"Hey! Look at that one's rusty hair"

Another Beaver

"And listen to him creak when he bends over to look at flowers".

Another Beaver

"Let's call him Rusty".

All Other Beavers

"O.K. Yes. Hooray, Rusty"

Narrator

At that moment Keo came swimming around the bend in the river.

Keo

"Hey Beavers! I can talk human talk".

Narrator

They all gathered around Keo and chattered about his new silver coat. He taught them the words to a human song so that they could go up to the Jones' and tell them who they were. (Together they all swarm up to the family.) As they approached, Hawkeye called out to them:

Hawkeye

"Who are you, and what do you do?"

Beavers

"Beavers, Beavers, Beavers, — Sharing, Sharing, Sharing".

Beavers Sing

"We are little beavers short and stout, Here are our tails and here are our snouts. If you squeeze our tails, you'll hear us shout. Hey! We are little beavers, short and stout".

Rusty

"I wish I could talk to the Beavers".

Keo

"You can".

Rusty

"Can I come and see your house?"

Keo

"Sure".

Narrator

So Rusty walked along the shore of the river while the Beavers swam back to their pond. When they all got there, Rusty dove into the water and took a good look at the Beaver lodge. The Beavers offered him an apple to eat. He thanked them and returned home. The beavers continued their hard work to get ready for the winter. As he walked along the forest path in the evening sun, he could hear the sound of the busy Beavers singing softly:

Beavers sing

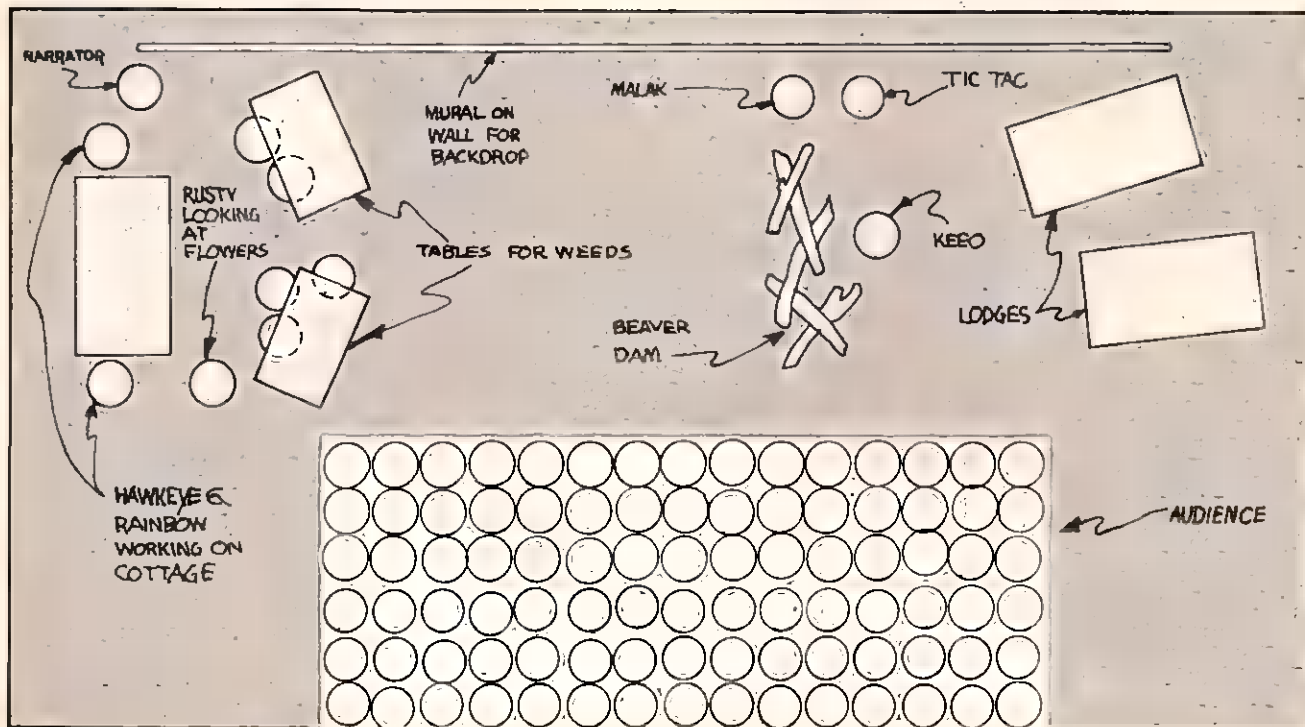
"We are little Beavers having fun,

Working hard in the evening sun.

If you try to catch us, we will run,

'Cause we are little Beavers having fun"

Lights Out. X



Scouter's Five Minutes

part 2



14

by Betty Rapkins

Here, in the second half of our special selection of favourite stories, poems and quotations from well known Scouters and regular contributors to **The Leader**, we start off with a story from Judy Evans, who so often entertains us with her experiences as a pack leader in Lynden, Ontario. After various attempts to get her ideas across to the boys, she finally hit the jackpot with her own, home-made version of "The Good Samaritan", animal style.

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Way up in northern Canada, in a dense forest, a young wolf cub lay caught in a thicket. The more he struggled to free himself, the more his coat became tangled in the thorns until finally he just lay on the ground, exhausted and frightened.

It was his own fault he was in trouble. He had been travelling south with the pack and, instead of staying close to them as he had been told, he had wandered off to do some exploring on his own. There was so much to see in this new part of the forest, an interesting hump over there and a pile of leaves to jump in just ahead.

And then he had found the rabbit hole. He knew that someone was home because of the scuffling that went on when he poked his head in, so he just sat right there and waited. But nothing happened and when he finally looked up to see where the rest of the pack were, there was no-one in sight.

In a panic, he had run blindly into the forest and had suddenly found himself caught in the middle of a big, thorny bush. That was a couple of hours ago and he had been trying ever since to free himself. But he had just

made matters worse and now he was caught so fast that he could hardly move.

Just as he was wondering what to do next, he heard the sound of leaves rustling in the forest. Someone was coming, maybe his mother had returned to look for him. But no, the figure that came out of the trees was that of an old, grey timber wolf.

The young cub perked up. Wolves were clever and cunning. This one would know how to set him free.

"Help!" he shouted. "Please help me!"

The old wolf paused and then shook his head. "Sorry young fellow," he said, "but I'm just stalking a big, juicy hare for my supper. No time to stop right now. And keep your voice down, will you?" he added. "It's very hard to hunt with all that noise going on." Without a backward glance, he slid silently into the forest.

An hour later there was a great crashing amongst the trees and a huge brown bear appeared. The cub perked up. Here was someone strong enough to free him by trampling the thicket to the ground.

"Help!" he shouted. "Please help me!"

The bear stopped for a moment and stared at where the cub lay caught among the thorns. Then he too shook his head.

"Sorry," he rumbled, "but it would take too long to get you out of there and I'm just off to find a cave for the winter. Seen any good ones around?" Without waiting for an answer, he lumbered off into the forest.

Another hour passed and, just as the cub was beginning to give up hope, he heard yet another sound amongst the trees. A beautiful deer peeked timidly out at him and, seeing the trouble he was in, walked out to have a closer look.

No good asking for help there, thought the cub. She's

not strong or clever and she probably wouldn't help me anyway.

But to his surprise, the deer came forward and with her soft mouth gently started to ease the thorns away from his coat.

At last he was free!

"Thank you!" he cried, "Oh, thank you". Now, if only I can find my pack, I will be safe."

Just then a Canada goose flew overhead.

"Stop a minute," called the deer. "Can you tell me which way the wolf pack went?"

"Yes indeed," was the reply. "They are at the water hole, just a short way towards where the sun sets."

Quickly the deer and the young cub set off through the forest and, some time later, in the distance they spotted the water hole with the pack resting around its edges. The deer gently pushed the young cub in the right direction and then, with a toss of her head, disappeared into the forest. He never saw her again.

After telling this story, Judy discusses it with her Cubs and asks them questions such as: "Which of the three animals should you try to be like — the timber wolf, the bear or the deer?" (Hopefully, the majority will say the deer!) "But the deer wasn't big and strong like the bear, or cunning and clever like the timber wolf, so why would you choose her?" (Because she helped the cub.) The group then discuss the need to help each other in this world, with Wolf Cubs having a special job to do because of the promise they made when they were invested. The subject of good turns is then discussed generally and the following questions and points raised.

"How many of you did your good turn today?" With characteristic good humour Judy suggests that you don't get too ecstatic if everyone raises their hands. Imagination does wonders in a tight spot.

"How many of you are going to do your good turn tomorrow?" Everyone except the out and out rebel can be expected to respond to his. And a thought to end on: "As you go home tonight, think about your good turn. Remember that it isn't only helping someone in trouble but, more often, just doing something without being asked. Be like that deer and take time to stop and do a good turn, not just tomorrow but every day."

With characteristic enthusiasm, our regular contributor from Saint John, N.B., David Goss, has over the years collected a campfire book packed full of ideas which he gathers from a variety of sources, ranging from *The National Enquirer* to the church page in his local newspaper. He has chosen one or two of his favourites to share with us, and you might end an evening's program with one or more of the following:

Over all the hill tops, all is quiet now
In all the tree tops, hearest thou
Hardly a breath; the birds are asleep in the trees:
Wait; soon like these, Thou too shalt rest.
Translated from the German Joham Van Goethe by H.W. Longfellow.

or

Do all the good you can
In all the ways you can
In all the places you can
At all the times you can
To all the people you can
As long as ever you can.

or

May the spirit of Scouting rest with us,
May the blessing of God remain with us,

To each of us the message true,
Scouting will stand or fall by you.

or

This is the end of our story
The fire is burning low
The day is done
So ends our fun
Tis time for all to go.

From Bill Speed, retired Provincial Executive Director, Nova Scotia, came this poem he particularly likes, as it is suitable to read to the boys after a walk or hike through the woods. He suggests that, for younger boys, the day might conclude with just the last verse.

TO DICKIE

When you walk through woods,
I want you to see
The floating gold of a bumblebee,
Rivers of sunlight, pools of shade,
Toadstools sleeping in mossy jade,
A cobweb net with a catch of dew,
Treetop cones against the blue,
Dancing flowers, bright green flies,
And birds to put rainbows in your eyes.

When you walk through woods,
I want you to hear
A million sounds in your little ear,
The scratch and rattle of wind-tossed trees,
A rush, as a timid rabbit flees,
The cry of a hawk from the distant sky,
The purr of leaves when a breeze rolls by,
Brooks that mumble, stones that ring,
And birds to teach your heart to sing.

When you walk through woods,
I want you to feel
That no mere man could make this real...
Could paint the throb of a butterfly's wing,
Could teach the blackbird how to sing,
Could give the wonders of earth and sky...
There's something greater than you or I.
When you walk through the woods
And the birches nod,
You'll find a friend of mine named God.

And from Joe Turner, Provincial Executive Director, Ontario, we received a thoughtful selection with the comment that, in presenting a Scouter's Five to young people, almost anyone, with a little imagination, can give a worthwhile message about any subject that comes to mind. For example, says Mr. Turner, take a rock and look at all the qualities it has:

TAKE A ROCK

There are great varieties;
Some are very useful, others are not,
Some are big, some are small,
Some are bright, others are dull,
Some are valuable, others are worthless,
Some are hard to find, others you can
trip over, etc., etc.

Then we can see what these qualities and characteristics tell us, and relate them to people qualities and characteristics. Mr. Turner carries this theme through in the story of a postage stamp, and while lack of space

prevents us from including the entire piece, we especially like the thought that: "A stamp never gives up in spite of the licking it takes". But we did have to find room for the following poem because, as Mr. Turner points out; it is only by being the "best of whatever you are" that man ultimately reaches his goal. To use to the fullest extent our God-given powers is a challenge to each of us.

THE BEST WE CAN BE

If you can't be a pine on top of the hill
Be a scrub in the valley — but be.
The best little scrub at the side of the rill.
Be a bush if you can't be a tree.

If you can't be a bush be a bit of grass
Some highway to happier make.
If you can't be a muskie then just be a bass,
But the liveliest bass in the lake.

We can't all be captains, we've got to have crew,
There's something for all of us here.
There's big work to do and there's lesser work too
And the task we must do is near.

If you can't be a highway, then just be a trail.
If you can't be the sun be a star.
It isn't by size that you win or you fail.
Be the best of whatever you are.

Next we asked Al Craig, Director of Printing Production, Communications Services, here at the National Office, for an item which he found of particular interest. He turned immediately to his well ordered filing system and produced this North American Indian translation of the 23rd psalm.

The Great Father above is a Shepherd Chief, and I am His, and with Him I want not. He throws out to me a rope, and the name of the rope is Love. He draws me, and He draws me, and He draws me to where the grass is green and the water is not dangerous, and I eat and lie down satisfied.

Sometimes my heart is very weak and falls down, but He lifts it up again, and draws me into a good road.


His name is wonderful. Sometime, it may be very soon, it may be longer, it may be a long, long time, He will draw me into a place between mountains. It is dark there, but I will not draw back; I will not be afraid, for it is in there between these mountains that the Shepherd will meet me, and the hunger I have felt in my heart all through this life will be satisfied. Sometimes He makes the Love rope into a whip, but afterwards He gives me a staff that I may lean on. He spreads a table before me with all kinds of food. He puts His hand upon my head, all "tired" is gone. My cup He fills it till it runs over.

What I tell you is true. I lie not. These roads that are away ahead will stay with me through life and afterwards I will go to live in the Big Teepee, and sit down with the Shepherd Chief forever.

Finally, I had thought of including some of my own favourite short pieces but, as a member of the editorial team, it is my happy task to select suitable items for our Scouter's Five Minutes and so, in a sense, my personal choice is a regular feature in **The Leader**. However, one particular sentence does stand out in my memory — not a famous quotation but a chance remark made by a social worker whose job it was to deal with delinquent boys.

"If only," she said sadly, "someone, when these lads were young, had taken the time and trouble to say to them: 'Look kids — this is a buttercup'."

To me, this answers all those so often unthanked leaders in the Scouting Movement who sometimes mutter to themselves: "Is it worth it?" Believe me. It's worth it.

And if you can help us to "show our boys a buttercup", by sharing your own favourite and most meaningful story, poem, prayer or saying, do let us hear from you. If you can keep it brief so that it fits our Scouter's Five Minute format, then we'll do our best to include it in a future issue of **The Leader**. 



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It has just occurred to me that it might be quite possible to devise a method of erecting a small tent by remote control in the middle of the troop room floor, simply by pulling a few strings from the sides of the room. As I visualize it, you would probably need a couple of light spars about twice the length of the tent plus, of course, a good supply of cordage.

Perhaps you would like to refer the proposition to your patrols and let me know what they make of it. Do give the dear lads our salutations and best wishes. Theirs, I feel sure, is a hard life and — you never know — perhaps the odd word of encouragement, even from a perfect stranger like myself, might help to spur them on.

Some boys have mothers who care too much, others have mothers who don't seem to care at all. But, as to that, it is always dangerous to jump to conclusions.

Some time ago a friend of mine in Suffolk, England, told me that a boy from the local housing estate had joined his troop. After he'd been in for a couple of months or so my friend thought he'd better do the right thing and call on the boy's parents.

They lived in a pretty tough neighbourhood, where the police always went around in pairs — in their squad car, of course. Sid knocked on the door and after a long interval the boy's mother appeared, wiping her hands on her apron:

"Yes?"

"Mrs. Higgins?" asked Sid, switching on the masculine charm.

"Yes?"

"Good evening. My name is Andrews."

"Yes?"

"Sid Andrews," said Sid. "I'm the Scout leader."

"That's nice," said the lady, "though what the blazes it has to do with me — Oh, wait a minute, wait a minute," she cried. "So that's where the sly little (*personal noun deleted*) has been going on Friday nights for the last few weeks! I'll murder him. Stan-LEE!"

Slam!

Next time I saw Sid he told me that the boy was still turning up; but Sid was a bit anxious, because for one

thing there seemed no prospect of him ever getting into uniform, and for another, Christmas was coming and it had always been the practice in the troop to ask the boys to bring something from the larder at home to make up food parcels for needy pensioners on the estate. Sid didn't think there was much hope of getting anything out of Stanley's mother — which would be another cruel embarrassment for the lad.

However, Stanley turned up hugging a huge jar of home-made pickles.

"My mum says," he told Sid, "that old ladies likes pickles."

Which, as all the old ladies in the readership will confirm, is perfectly true.

As I say, it doesn't do to jump to conclusions and sometimes Scouting can break through some thorny barriers.

The word "amateur" is an honourable term meaning *one who cultivates any study, art or sport for the love of the thing and not for material gain*. Unfortunately the lexicographers twisted its meaning completely when they added the suffix *ish* and turned it into a term of disparagement and, by implication, contempt. Unhappily, quite a lot of otherwise quite intelligent people were unable to adjust their minds to these subtle linguistic refinements and came to regard the word amateur itself as somehow derogatory. In the game of cricket, for instance, amateurs were dubbed "gentlemen" and pro's became "players" — a classic example of Victorian public school snobbery which suggested that players could not be regarded as gentlemen and gentlemen could not play. Now we are being urged to cultivate the "professional" approach to Scouting, the inference being that by emulating players who get paid we shall somehow play harder and better.

Now that autumn is knocking at the door, how would it be to suggest to your Scouts that a system of inter-patrol challenges should be instituted for a trial period of — say — one month, during which time each patrol would be required to throw down the gauntlet to one other patrol and then play a return match against them. The nature of the first challenge to be decided by the challengers, the second by their rivals.

Here are a few ideas to set you thinking:

1. For each patrol an old, battle-worthy kitchen chair — preferably one that has already been relegated to the garden shed. The chairs are converted into chariots by shoeing the hind legs with thick wads of cloth (sacking, old tent canvas, etc.), securely bound with sisal twine. The charioteer sits astride the tilted chair and is dragged round the course by two Scouts. Continue until all have had a go.

2. Erect the highest flagstaff with anything available except orthodox pioneering spars.

3. Build the highest human pyramid capable of moving the farthest distance before collapsing.

4. Light and extinguish a candle from the farthest distance away without touching the ground or upsetting the candle.

5. Get the entire patrol over a stream (real or imaginary) by means of the Swing Bridge shown in this month's worksheet. (CAUTION: Make sure that the upright spar is well heeled into the ground of the bed of the stream. If it skids you will be in trouble.)

6. Each patrol has a 50m. length of sisal twine and must set up a Blindfold String Trail in any location within easy distance of the troop room. The rival patrols set off simultaneously along the other's trail and are timed over the course by "host" patrol leaders.

Do let us know if you come up with any bright ideas.

As for that dark and forbidding scene in the top left corner of the worksheet, please make it clear to all who are interested that due regard must be given to that question mark in the lowering sky above the desolate moor. What they are looking at is definitely NOT a recommended method of coping with a badly wrenched ankle in whatever circumstances, so please do not write to the Editor complaining that John Sweet has done it again.

The idea is that you should show the pretty picture to your boys and suggest that some of them might like to undertake a bit of light-hearted research during patrol time at next week's troop meeting and then send us a brief report. No doubt in the course of their researches they will stumble on a better way of dealing with this emergency — always remembering that they must use only such improvised equipment as might be available in the situation as shown.

We shall look forward to hearing from you.

As for that cross-cutting lark on the worksheet, not every troop will be able to lay hands on a real, man-size, two-handed saw, but I need hardly point out to you that, for purposes of the experiment, an ordinary bushman will serve equally as well.

Never shall I forget that September morning, long ago, when, as a temporary stand-in member of the Gilwell training staff, I shook the dust of the office from my feet and wandered up on to the deserted Training Ground in the hope that I might there encounter, once again, the spirit of the Founder.

And sure enough, there he was, standing hands on hips a little to the north of the Gidney Cabin, eyeing a baulk of fallen timber speculatively.

"Been expecting you," he said, without looking round. "What kept you?"

I started to explain about the mountain of paper in my "In" tray but clearly he wasn't interested.

"This log, now" said he. "I was just wondering how one could use a two-handed pull-but-don't-push crosscut single-handed to saw it up."

"If we had a nice whippy sapling behind it," I suggested, "the sort of thing the chair bodgers use in Buckinghamshire to operate their lathes . . ."

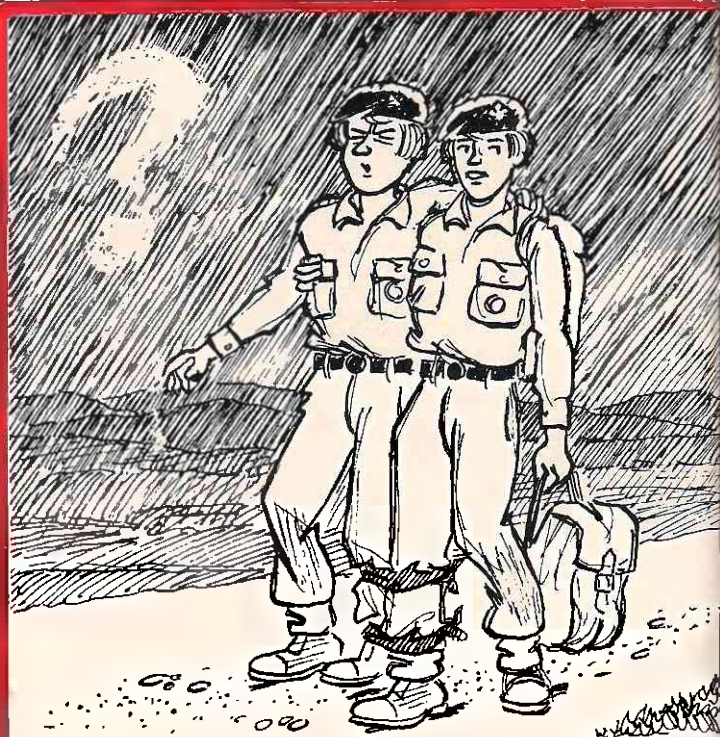
"But we haven't," he pointed out, "and I'm not having you taking liberties with that nice little birch tree. What we really need is a spring of some sort between the saw handle and the tree. Any suggestions?"

I saw the twinkle in his eye and knew that he was handing me the idea on a plate.

"A strong rubber band," I cried, "cut from a discarded inner-tube."

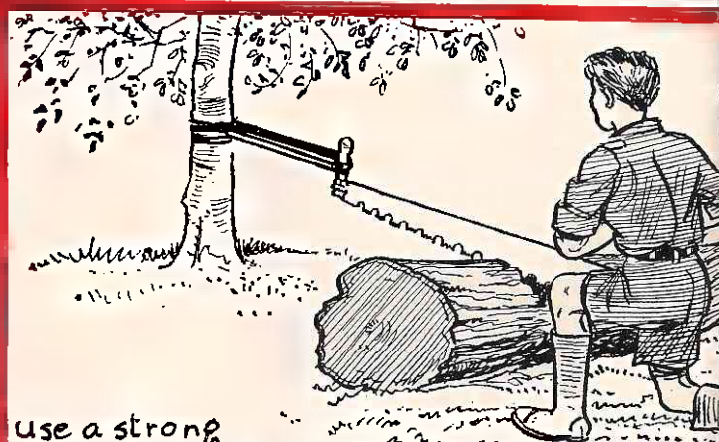
"Brilliant!" said he. "Come on, let's see what Eric Colley can do for us down at the Training Store."

And that, believe it or not, is how this important step forward in backwoods technology was taken. A



Out on the moors one of the Scouts has wrenched his left ankle rather badly. His companion managed to carry him out of the heather to the track, but now he is exhausted. With night approaching and a storm building up, the boys must carry on on their own steam in search of shelter.

WOULD THIS BE A GOOD IDEA?

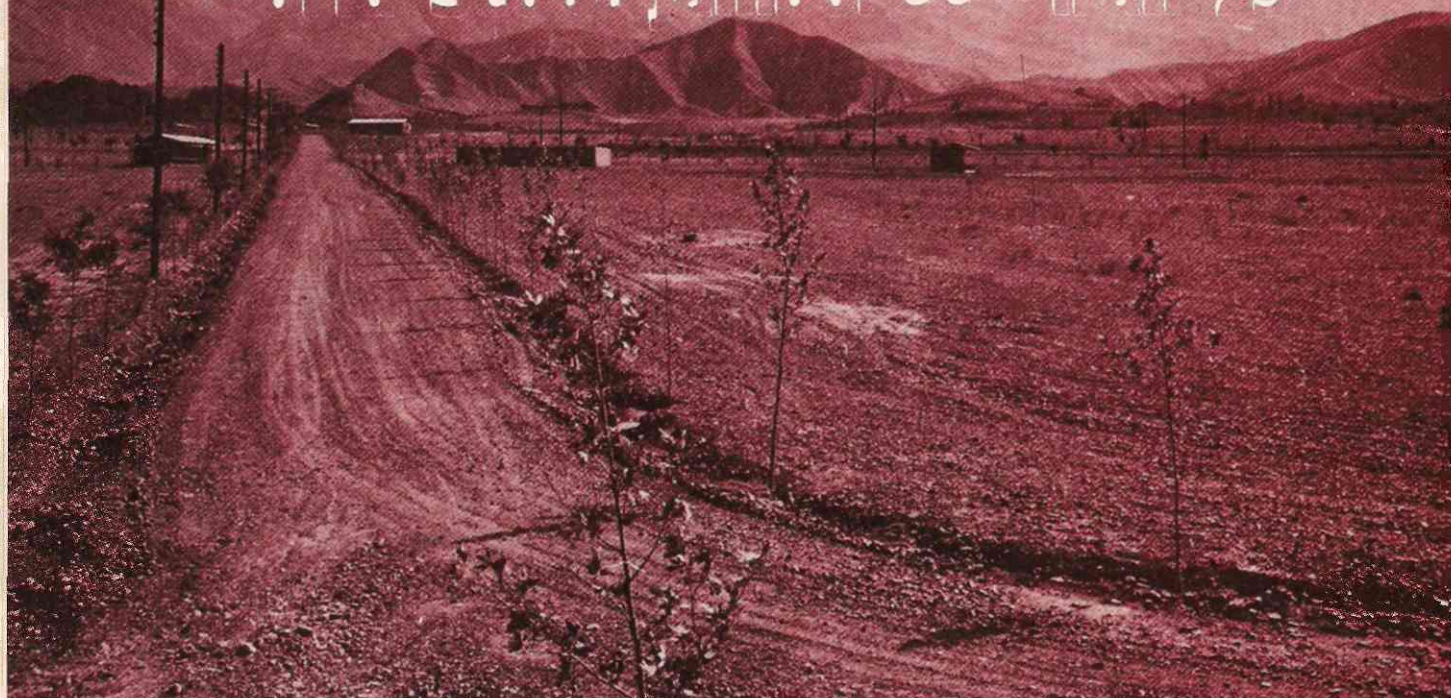


Use a strong rubber band to operate a crosscut saw singlehanded.



With a high bank on the take-off side of the stream and a low landfall, the HAYMAKER BRIDGE (inset) might leave you airborne. One way of solving this problem might be to connect the fore stay to the end of the boom with a strong (4 inch wide - 305 mm.) rubber band, cut from a discarded inner tube. An even better idea would be to dispense with the forestay altogether

World Scout Jamboree - Iran '79



Photographs by Bob Butcher

Sub-camp site at the Omar Khayyam campsite with the Alborz mountains in the background. Permanent buildings shown in the photograph are the toilet and shower facilities.

By Robert E. Milks

Visit to Jamboree Site

Because this is the first World Jamboree to be held in the Middle East, the National Commissioner, Lt.-Gen. A. Chester Hull, visited the Jamboree site at the end of June, 1978.

Accompanying General Hull, who is our Contingent Leader, was John MacGregor, Contingent Coordinator, and Bob Butcher, Jamboree Travel and Transportation — both from the national office.

The purpose of this visit was to get a first-hand look at the Jamboree site, to arrange contingent travel in Iran, to determine equipment needs, to review the Jamboree program and to check on a variety of administrative details, such as clearance through Iranian customs.

They chose to arrive at the Jamboree site at the same time of the year as the contingent will be in camp.

This meant they experienced the climate range that the contingent can expect during the Jamboree. As a result of their visit, they will be able to finalize plans for the 1500 Scouts, Venturers and Scouters who are expected to attend the Jamboree as part of the Canadian Contingent.

Jamboree Application

Your application, and those of your Scouts and Venturers, should be in the local Scout office by December 1, 1978. Remember to submit two application forms for each person and that they should be accompanied by a cheque for \$100.00 (your deposit) made payable to Boy Scouts of Canada.

You can submit your application forms earlier! Your cheque can still be dated for December 1, 1978. In fact, this would greatly assist Jamboree planning as it would indicate the numbers going to the Jamboree from each part of Canada.

European Tour

The next issue of **The Leader** will carry details on the visit to Europe by the Canadian Contingent. This promises to be one of the highlights of the trip and one that all members of the contingent should thoroughly enjoy.

Attention Scouters

The change of climate and the surroundings at the Jamboree are such that Scouters should have a medical before submitting their application.

Those with chronic health problems, especially those who require daily medication, should be aware of the fact that it is not simply a matter of going to a local drugstore to refill a prescription. Such people should seek their doctor's advice on participating in the Jamboree.

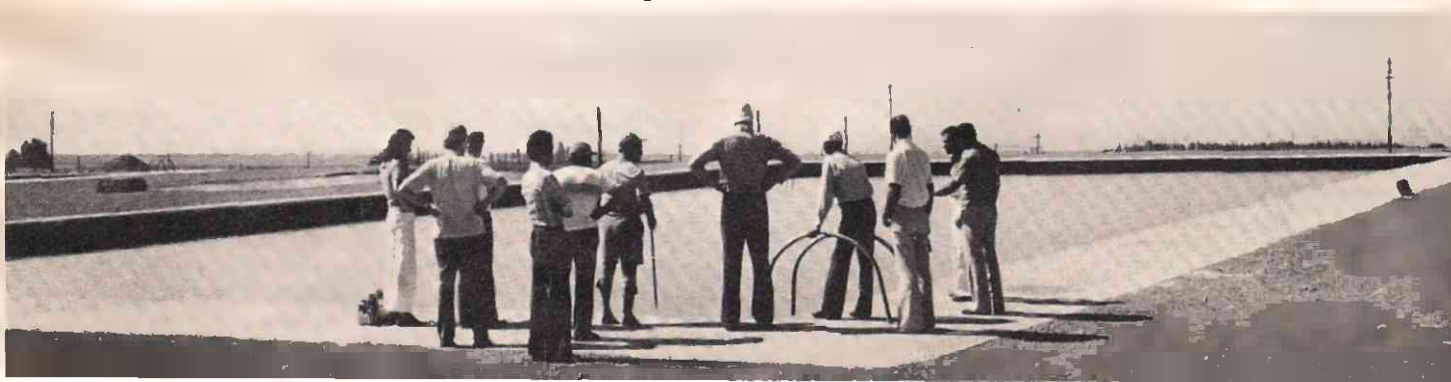
Farsi — Anyone?

The World Bureau is attempting to secure tapes or records to help contingent members learn basic phrases in *Farsi* — the common language of Iran.

If these can be made available, you will receive word in lots of time so that you can begin to learn this language.

The tapes or records will not make you fluent in *Farsi* but could be a real help if you want to bargain at one of the Iranian markets.

Canadian, Danish and American visitors inspecting one of the four new camp swimming pools.

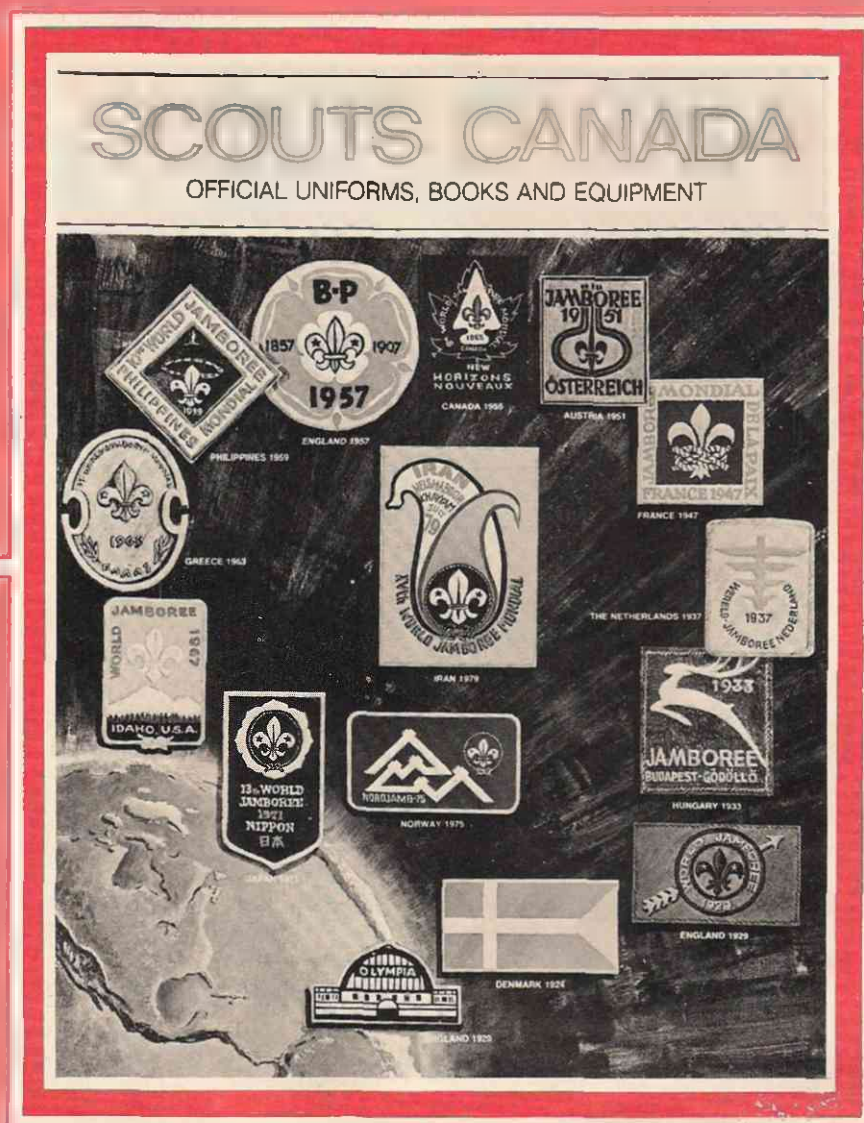


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PADDLE MAKING

By D.C. (Doug) Cunningham

Have you ever scrounged for ideas to tide you through the indoor winter meetings? Have you ever longed for spring so that your program could shift outdoors for real "Scouting" activities?

If so, your thoughts have probably wandered to last year's canoe trip, or the one up-coming. Then you recall that some of the company paddles are broken or that more are required. As you shop around for a good price on a decent paddle, you will probably decide that you have to quadruple the weekly dues, turn gray, go bald, develop an ulcer, or perhaps all four!

Don't despair. For a modest investment of not much more than \$3.00 per person, a few tools that most people have sitting around idle in the basement corner, and three or four weekly meetings, each member can own a hand-made paddle worth at least \$25. — \$35., not only a good investment but a useful item. And don't overlook the sense of accomplishment and pride shown by the boys in the finished product.

Warning: You may find that your meetings will last for three hours or more! Once the boys get started, they don't want to stop!

Tools:

Spoke shave or electric planer
Jig saw
Block plane
Half round rasp
1 or 2 C-clamps

Materials:

One piece 1" x 6" x 6' undressed (rough) lumber
Assorted sandpaper
Spar varnish and brush
Linseed oil (boiled or raw) — boiled will dry faster
Steel wool, broken glass (optional).

Selection of Materials:

Black cherry; easy to work with, strong, light, good appearance.

Maple; strongest, but more difficult to work than black cherry, lighter in colour, susceptible to checking and warping.

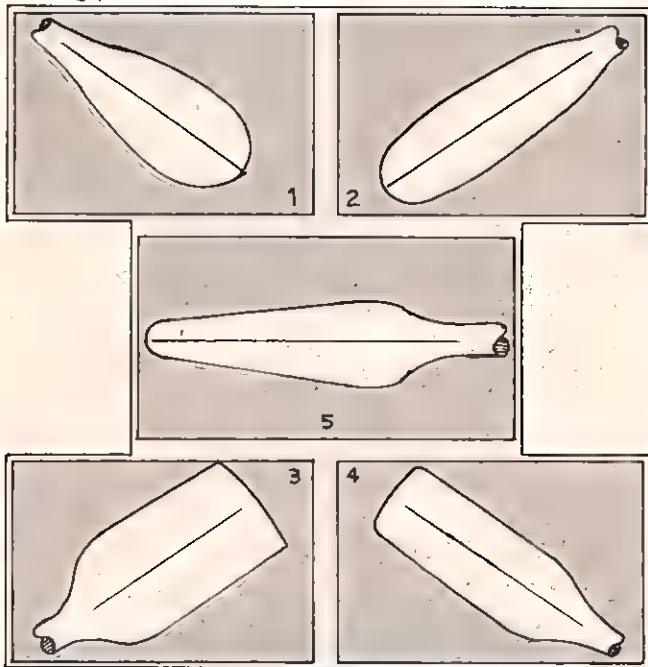
White or red cedar; very easy to work and very light but not strong.

White ash; between black cherry and maple for ease of workability and equally as strong as maple, more limber and flexible and lighter than maple, very interesting grain especially if rubbed lightly with a stain before varnishing.

Spruce; light and easy to work but not very strong.

Design:

There are as many different designs as there are people making paddles. Here are some of the most common.



- 1) Beaver Tail — probably the most common and most versatile of all designs.
- 2) Modified Beaver Tail — also a very popular and versatile design, especially for women's paddles.
- 3) Racing — suitable only for racing but not for canoe manoeuvrability.
- 4) Square blade — reasonably versatile, but not as good as Beaver Tail or Modified Beaver Tail for manoeuvring canoe.
- 5) Deep Water — (Rat Tail) used exclusively in deep water where blade need not be lifted from water.

Procedure

First determine proper length as follows: grip paddle (stick, broom handle, etc.) as you would when paddling, then hold it on top of your head. With proper length paddle, your elbows should form a 90 degree angle.

After proper length and design have been determined, make a pattern of blade by folding a large piece of paper in half and drawing one half of the chosen design along folded edge, and cut out.

Mark a line down centre of board. Place blade design on one end of board so that fold in paper coincides with line on board, and trace. Measure distance from blade to grip and trace grip (same procedure as for blade). Width of shaft should be same as the thickness of the board. If you have a paddle, you may trace it instead of above procedure.

Cut out blank using jig saw or band saw. Mark a centre reference line on the remaining three sides of the paddle blank.

Clamp paddle blank to bench or place on a chair and sit on it to hold it firm while working on it. Use spoke shave or electric hand planer to shape blade, (work on flat surface of blade, one quarter at a time — work towards the lines on the surface and edge of blade without removing lines at this time).

Use block plane or spoke shave to round shaft. Shape grip with rasps. Finally, thin blade to desired thickness using spoke shave or plane.

Sand entire paddle so that no rasp marks or cuts from spoke shave or planer remain, finishing with a fine sandpaper or steel wool to get a cabinet-like finish. (Broken glass may also be used but be sure to wear gloves.)

Rub one or two coats of linseed oil well into the paddle and let stand until it is soaked in before varnishing. The tip and grip may also be soaked longer to prevent checking. Varnish with spar varnish (at least 3 coats), sanding lightly between each coat. X



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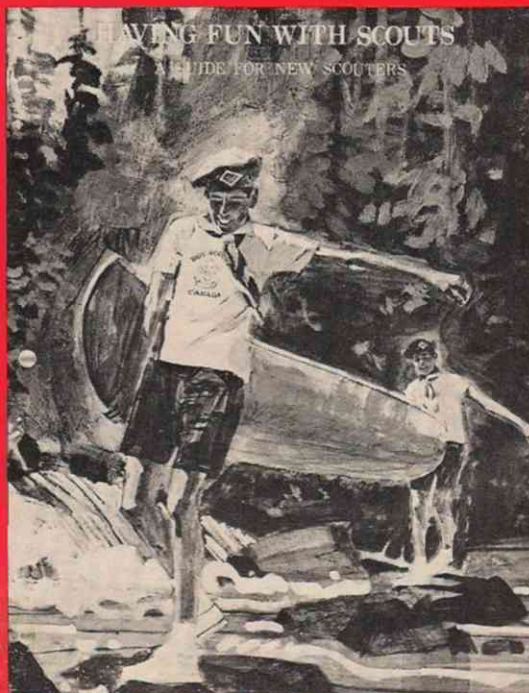
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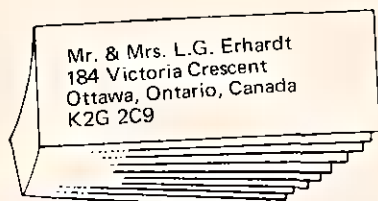
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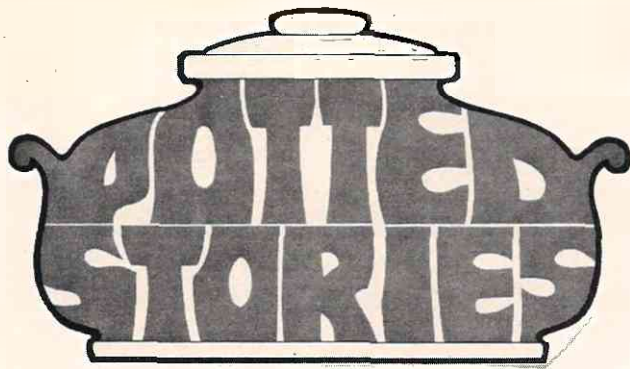
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PART 2

Last month we discussed how to tell a good story to your boys, even if you don't have a natural flair for storytelling. Given a basic plot, in the form of a potted story, we suggested that anyone, with a little practice, can tell a good tale. This month we bring you three examples of suitable storylines based on Vera C. Barclay's book "Potted Stories" and we end with one from the U.K. "Scouting" magazine, which contains a message we can all, perhaps, learn from.

As our usual cut-out section at the back of the magazine has been replaced, for this issue only, by the annual index, we are setting these potted stories out so that, if you follow the grey shading, you can cut them out and save them in the usual way.

A TALE OF TWO CAMPS

Two separate Scout troops go camping in the countryside and happen to choose sites not far apart. One group is really keen, spotless camp, wonderful gear. They go on hike and come upon the other camp. See a Scout hat lying about so know camp belongs to brother Scouts. Walk across field to make friends, giving various patrol cries as they go, hoping to be answered.

No one about so look around for a clue as to what troop it is. Untidy smouldering fire, with greasy pots and pans lying around. Scattered dirty plates. Piles of food-refuse buzzing with flies. Bucketful of soapy water surrounded by dirty towels.

Who can it be? Bell tent has flaps closed. They open door and look in tent. Smoky atmosphere you could cut with knife. Six so-called Scouts sprawling about smoking, playing cards, listening to rock music.

Hikers: "Oh, sorry we didn't know you were there."

Sprawlers: "Whaddya want?"

Hikers: "Well it seems we're close neighbours, we're camped just across through those trees."

Sprawlers: "So?"

Hikers: "Perhaps we can lend you a hand, help clear up or something? We've nothing special to do this morning."

Sprawlers: "And perhaps you can just push off and leave us alone."

The hikers head back to their own camp, discussing their new neighbours. One says he knows about that particular troop. They're a pretty rough bunch of boys who used to have a really great leader until he left town. Now they just muddle along. There's talk of the district commissioner disbanding them if a new leader can't be found. One boy says his cousin Mike used to be a Scout leader and has just moved their way. Maybe he'd take them on. Boys did seem pretty rough diamonds but were at least still trying to keep going.

Back at own neat camp they receive surprise visit from district commissioner who says he is touring camps in the area. Delighted with such a well run camp. Boys exchange glances. What will he think of camp across the way? One boy sidles off and hurries through trees and across field to warn sloppy campers. Two others join him, breathless and a bit scratched, and they hastily assist rough bunch to make things ship-shape. Bury food scraps, etc., just in time for commissioner's visit.

Rough troop repay their visit later, and sheepishly admit camping much more enjoyable when things done properly. Admit they lack proper leadership and later are greatly transformed when boy's cousin Mike agrees to become their leader.

THE STOLEN HORSE

In 1388, war between England and Scotland. The Scots army at Yetholm. The English want to know their plans, send spies as heralds, minstrels, etc.

A squire rides in, finds church used as Scottish G.H.Q., ties his horse to a tree and walks boldly in. Says he is servant to one of the Scottish Lords. Listens to the talk and hears their plans. Then away to tell the English.

Outside church finds his horse gone, decides to walk. But has been seen by two Scottish knights. Said one to the other: "I have seen many wonderful things, but here is one I cannot understand — a man has lost his horse and makes no enquiries." So they follow him up, find him to be a spy, and take him prisoner.

HELPING A KING

Tale told of a King long ago. The King was hunting, rode hard after his stag and got separated from the rest. Lost in the forest, made his way to woodcutter's cottage for shelter. The woodcutter and his wife, greatly embarrassed by visitor of evidently high rank from Court, torn between fear of him and desire to win his favour and thought of possible reward, keep bowing and curtsying, making humble talk and compliments, etc., but don't do much.

Son of the house, youth, comes in, hands chair to King, takes his cloak and hat and hangs them up, makes up fire, puts pot on for supper, goes out, takes King's horse to water, then to stable, unharnesses him and gives oats and hay, and straw for bed. Brings in wood for fire, water for washing, etc., lays table, after meal clears away, then makes up bed in inner room for King — in fact, does everything for King's entertainment just as if all part of the day's work. Does not show that there is anything strange in it, nor that there is any reward coming for it. Simply gets on with it.

King going away next morning makes careful note of situation of cottage, and later sends for son. Parents wondering whether the King is pleased or angry, whether punishment or reward coming. On arrival at Palace, the son is offered a position in the King's household. "I need men who can be relied upon to serve me without thinking whether they are going to be rewarded," says the King.

A KOREAN LEGEND

In Korea there is a legend about a native warrior who died and went to heaven.

"Before I enter," he said to the gatekeeper, "I would like you to take me on a tour of hell."

The gatekeeper found a guide to take the warrior to hell. When he got there he was astonished to see a great table piled high with the choicest foods. But the people in hell were starving. The warrior turned to his guide and raised his eyebrows.

"It's this way," the guide explained. "Everybody who comes here is given a pair of chopsticks five feet long, and is required to hold them at the end to eat. But you just can't eat with chopsticks five feet long if you hold them at the end. Look at them. They miss their mouths every time, see?"

The visitor agreed that this was hell indeed and asked to be taken back to heaven post-haste. In heaven, to his surprise, he saw a similar room with a similar table laden with very choice foods. But the people were happy: they looked radiantly happy.

The visitor turned to the guide. "No chopsticks, I suppose?" he said.

"Oh yes," said the guide, "they have the same chopsticks, the same length, and they must be held at the end just as in hell. But you see, these people have learned that if a man feeds his neighbour, his neighbour will feed him also." A

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Ideas for campsite layout, fund raising, arena events, open air worship suggestions and Persian gardens.

The Blue Jay



Canadian Wildlife Series

National Film Board Photothèque — photo by Marcel Cognac

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The Blue Jay

Probably every reader of the Thornton W. Burgess story-books remembers the noisy, aggressive and handsome Sammy Jay, a literary characterization of the Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*). It was Sammy Jay who flew across the Green Meadows into the Green Forest screaming "Thief! Thief! Thief!" whenever Reddy Fox appeared. In reality the Blue Jay frequently does play this role, its loud cries warning other birds and mammals of an approaching predator, whether fox or man. The Blue Jay's scientific name is derived from Greek and Latin words and means, in reverse, "crested, blue chattering bird", an apt designation.

This bird's call is a familiar woodland sound in eastern North America. According to W.M. Tyler, "It is the Blue Jay's voice, more than his gay color, that makes him conspicuous. We cannot be long in the open air before we hear him — in woodland, in open country, in the suburbs of our larger cities. At the least alarm he begins to shout, and often, with no apparent cause, even a lone bird will break out, like a schoolboy, it seems, out of pure joy in making a noise. Especially in autumn the Jays shout so loudly that they fill all outdoors with sound." Their most characteristic sound is an "unrelenting steel-cold scream" as Thoreau expressed it, variously rendered "thief", "jay" and "peer". They have a wide variety of other calls, particularly a mellow whistle *kloo-loo-loo*, quite musical in form, and also a softly delivered song, a continuous sweet warbling only infrequently heard.

Distribution

The Blue Jay, which occurs from Southern Canada south to Texas and Florida, is only a straggler on the open plains. It breeds in the mixed-wood forests of central Alberta, Saskatchewan and southern Manitoba, and

from there east through central and southern Ontario to southern Quebec, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. It is the only jay that occurs throughout most of its range. In the northernmost part of its range it may be seen with the Canada or Gray Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*), a bird that breeds much farther north to the tree line and in central Florida the Blue Jay coexists with the Florida or Scrub Jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*). The Steller's Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*) replaces the Blue Jay west of the Rockies, and is fairly similar in general habits. It is the "blue jay" to the people of British Columbia but in fact is a darker blue than the widely recognized Blue Jay and lacks its white markings.

Relatives

The Blue Jay belongs to the crow family or Corvidae, a group of 100 related species including ravens, rooks, jackdaws, crows, magpies and jays. Some of these species are the largest members of the order Passeriformes or perching songbirds. The family, of world-wide distribution, is best represented in the northern hemisphere. These birds are of ancient lineage; fossil remains of corvids have been identified from Miocene deposits 25 million years old.

Description and general behaviour

Male and female corvids are nearly alike in appearance, and both sexes help build the nest and care for the young. Most corvids are non-migratory, but some wander about, often in small bands, after the breeding season. In keeping with their omnivorous habits, all corvids are bold and aggressive and often prey on the eggs and young of other kinds of birds. Because of these habits, some of them are unprotected by laws.

The Blue Jay is a little larger than a Robin, about a foot in length from the tip of its bill to the tip of its tail. A white-faced bird with a blue crest, back, wings and tail, it is strongly marked with black and white. Its crest, the elongated crown feathers found in many jays, is raised or lowered according to the bird's mood. In moments of high excitement and aggression the blue crest may be fully erected, forming a prominent peak. However, when feeding close together with other jays, when ready to flee, or when quietly resting, the crest is laid flat on top of the head, giving the bird a quite different and somewhat dishevelled appearance. W.J. Long noted: "When pleased with what he sees or hears or does his crest is straight up and down, and all its feathers are as one feather. When he is greatly surprised or excited the crest points forward of the perpendicular, or if he is frightened it bristles out like a bottle brush." The position of the crest or crown feathers thus indicates the bird's behavioural state, a characteristic of many birds whether crested or uncrested. The Blue Jay's crest position, when erected, is emphasized by a black band that crosses over the back of the head, a continuation of the broad band or necklace across the chest.

Few persons finding an intense cobalt or azure-blue feather from the tail or wings of the Blue Jay can resist picking it up. The vivid colour makes an exotic contrast against brown leaves or green grass. However, blue pigment is unknown in birds. This bird's feather colour results from refraction of light by a peculiar inner structure of the feather substance and, if the feather is crushed, the blue colour disappears. Shed feathers may often be seen in late summer, for adults go through a complete change of plumage between June and September. During this moulting period Blue Jays may be seen *anting*, a term referring to a bird using ants or ant excretions

while preening. Excited anting birds often trip over their own tail in frantic efforts to apply ants with their bill to the underside of their wings. A recent theory holds that this peculiar behaviour results from skin irritation caused by new feather growth. Possibly ant excretions have a soothing effect on the bird's skin. A wide variety of substitute materials such as fruits, tobacco, mustard and vinegar elicit anting behaviour. One observer who kept tame Blue Jays had a bird that anted with "various bitter, sour fruit juices and hair tonic"; a second jay anointed itself *only* with the hair tonic. Another person had a captive Blue Jay that applied burning cigarettes to its feathers! This strange behaviour requires further study. Any observations of anting in any bird species are worth reporting to a local natural history journal or magazine.

That the Blue Jay is a favourite of many is shown by the long list of adjectives applied to it, including audacious, amusing, beautiful, boisterous, canny, clownish, determined, haughty, impudent, independent, inquisitive, jaunty, lawless, mischievous, obstreperous, resourceful, saucy, valiant and wicked. Only a bird that lives close to man could have attracted so many epithets, many of which have been applied with a degree of admiration. The Blue Jay early adapted to settlement conditions; throughout its range it is generally more common in settled regions, provided there are a few trees, than in the wild. In woodland retreats it is usually more wary than we have come to expect, for in towns and cities it is almost tame. The Jay that appears at a back yard feeding station year after year may be the same individual, for several banded Jays have lived from 10 to 15 years. Such birds may be tamer than most of their kind.

Food habits

Audubon's famous painting of this species shows a group of three lively Jays feasting on freshly-laid eggs from some other bird's nest. The egg and young of other birds are, at times, an important food source. The bulk of its diet, however, consists of vegetable material such as wild fruits, acorns, hazelnuts, beechnuts, corn and other grains, and also insects of many kinds. Blue Jays can be important in the local control of the injurious tent caterpillar. One pair of Jays may feed hundreds of tent

caterpillar pupae to their nestlings in early summer. The parents extract the pupae from their tough, silken cocoons and carry several inside the mouth at one time to the young. The destruction of cocoons for this purpose eliminates potentially thousands of moth eggs due to hatch in the following spring.

As is characteristic of a bird with a nearly omnivorous diet, the Blue Jay has a heavy bill—useful in pecking open cocoons as well as acorns and other hard-shelled nuts. It frequently carries off acorns and beechnuts and conceals them under leaves, in grass and in hollow trees. Wintering Blue Jays commonly carry away food from a feeding station, especially bread and sunflower seeds, to be buried in the ground or snow and later found and eaten. A regular supply of peanuts, mixed grains and especially sunflower seeds will attract Jays to a feeding shelf. They seem to enjoy holding the hull of a seed or peanut beneath their feet while pecking it open to extract the kernel.

Habitat

The Blue Jay occupies a variety of habitats within its large range, from the pine woods of Florida to the spruce-fir forests of northern Ontario. It is less abundant in the heavier forests, preferring mixed-wood and deciduous forest areas, especially where beech, hazel and oak are found. It builds a bulky nest, about seven inches in diameter, of small twigs and a variety of other materials such as lichens, moss, grass and paper. The inner cup of the nest, about four inches in diameter, is shaped with mud and lined with fine rootlets and feathers. Most nests are 20 feet or less from the ground in dense coniferous thickets. The Blue Jay often nests in settled areas, sometimes close to buildings. During the nesting season, especially in the more remote parts of its range, it may be quiet and unobtrusive even near its nest.

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NEXT MONTH: The Trumpeter Swan

From the Canadian Wildlife Service's HINTERLAND WHO'S WHO series issued under the authority of the Honourable Jack Davis, PC, MP, Minister of the Environment.

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training talk

by reg roberts

This month
Reg writes ...

Scouters' Clubs and Effective Meetings

The Scouters' Club

Scouters' clubs have been part of the Canadian Scouting scene for a great many years, some operating most successfully and others just limping along from month to month.

The successful ones seem to be those that have a purpose for existing and are well supported by the members. One seems to go with the other. Without clear cut goals enthusiasm and interest will be lacking, membership will fall off and the club will probably fold.

During my own years as a volunteer I was fortunate in being associated with a strong and healthy Scouters' club and found it to be the focal point of the district to which I belonged, both in terms of adding to my store of Scouting knowledge and skill and in providing a social component of some significance.

It is worth noting that little in the way of reference material or positive guidelines seems to exist in regard to Scouters' clubs and because I am aware that this is an area of interest, I hope the following will be of some use. I am indebted to John Pettifer of the Ontario Provincial Council for most of this material.

Unofficial Body

Perhaps the first point to be made is that a Scouters' club is an unofficial body. Nowhere in the regular literature of the Movement will you find official status given to such a group. This is intentional in that a Scouters' club is not, and cannot be, a policy making body.

The members cannot, and must not, make decisions that should be made by a local council. Such decisions would include the raising and spending of funds, council appointments...including the commissioner and the service team...setting and approving dates for local events, management of campsites, etc.

A club can, and should, make recommendations to its local council through the commissioner in these areas if necessary, but must abide by the final decision of the local council that is responsible to the provincial council.

A Scouters' club cannot, and must not, take over the role, function and duties of the local council in any way.

Having started off with all the things a Scouters' club may not do, you must be curious about what can be done by such a body. There are six major areas in which a Scouters' club can and should be active, which are as follows:

Training: Originally, many clubs grew from the desire of leaders to get together and exchange ideas, share program items that had proven successful, discuss unsuccessful events and seek reasons why they were unsuccessful and ways to improve on them in the future.

This aspect of Scouters' clubs is essential and should be part of every agenda. With the broad, flexible section programs we now enjoy, such exchanges can prove invaluable to both the new leader and the old hand.

Such exchanges are valuable informal training sessions. The Scouters' club is also a valuable medium for formal sessions on selected topics, carefully prepared and presented to assist in the "back home" program. A major portion of all club meetings should be devoted to some aspects of program development and training.

Communicating: Even with the best service team available, communications are still limited. Leaders need to be kept informed, and this is where the club comes in...to provide the opportunity for added communication and discussion on local, provincial and national events; on program developments and on problems.

Co-ordination: Why send a bus half empty to a point of interest? That bus could be filled with a second pack or troop through a little co-ordination...and that might just cut down on the cost too! Such co-ordination, liaison, sharing...call it what you will...can be a valuable attribute of the Scouters' club.

Implementation: The Scouters' club cannot set a policy, but the implementation of a policy where it directly affects the section programs could well be a function of the Scouters' club. Such would be the detailed planning of a camporee; a Cub field day; a local bottle drive or paper pick-up; a local church parade or hobby show.

The sharing of resources: More and more, the need to develop adequate resources is being felt by creative leaders. The pooling and sharing of resources, the opportunity to help leaders find and utilize community resources are essential functions of the Scouters' club through those who participate.

Social: To enjoy Scouting, a leader has to have fun doing it. The Scouters' club provides opportunities for leaders to enjoy a social event, a special party, a friendly exchange with leaders in another district; perhaps an occasional challenge to leaders in the next area. The chance to make friends and share a common interest is something that should not be overlooked.

It is during these times also, that recognition can be made for long service, meritorious conduct or training achievement by leaders. Recognition should not be limited to achievement in Scouting but also for achievement, promotion, personal development made by members outside of Scouting in their home, school or business life.

The above represents only some of the positive aspects of club programs and those who belong to an active club can no doubt add many others.

To be successful, a Scouters' club must meet regularly, the usual being once a month. Most successful clubs meet

at an evening hour that follows after the end of section meetings, allowing leaders to attend the club after their section duties are over.

It is customary to have the president or chairman of the club elected from the membership. This is not usually a role for the commissioner, although such may be the case. Often a member of the service team will fill this position as one of a number of specific assignments.

The commissioner and the service team should generally be left free to act as resource people to the club membership and observing from the sidelines allows for more objective consideration of the needs and feelings of the members.

Since the club should not detract from the primary duties of the leader, i.e. with the sections, care should be taken not to set up an elaborate executive. A president or chairman and secretary/treasurer should suffice.

The normal expenditure of a Scouters' club should not amount to more than the cost of refreshments for the meeting, or for the costs of a "special" meeting such as a visit or a party. The costs should be borne by the members. The Scouters' club must not be involved in any form of fund raising for its own use. If extra funds are required, these should be sought from the local council. Funds for locally sponsored events such as camporees, etc., should be drawn from the council budget.

As with all Scout funds, if a separate bank account is necessary, this must be over two signatures, and an annual accounting made to the local council.

The monthly program for the club should be set up by the club president or chairman, in consultation with the commissioner. The program should take into account the needs of the members, the time of year, coming events, etc. For the greatest success, programs should be drafted at least two months in advance but with sufficient flexibility to allow for day to day happenings.

Membership of the Scouters' club should be open to any adult serving in a leadership capacity in the program area.

Any constitution, if one is needed, should be of the simplest form, in keeping with the By-Laws, Policies and Procedures of Boy Scouts of Canada, provincial policies, and the by-laws of the local council. The constitution should be ratified by the local council.

Hopefully, the foregoing will answer some of the questions around Scouters' clubs both existing and proposed. What I have said is intended as guidelines and not direction, for every Scouters' club will have its own way of operating and will, of course, be subject to those procedures set out by its local council.

An important point to me, is to recognize that for most adults who come into Scouting, being a volunteer leader should not be seen as all work and no play.

Scouters' clubs — gatherings of the adult leaders in a district or area — can provide a much needed and enjoyable arena for socializing. They can provide for training sessions both formal and informal and they offer legitimate opportunities to clear up contentious issues, offer comment on practices and procedures, get the latest information and come to know the other adults who, like themselves, make up the strength of our Movement.

I would be pleased to receive any comments on any aspects which I have overlooked that should have been mentioned.

Effective Meetings

The following comes from a copy of the World Scouting Idea Exchange, a publication circulated by the World Bureau to Scout councils around the world. As we move into the fall round of activities, meetings at all levels of the Movement will be planned and called, and can be

expected to affect our lives in some way.

Meetings are one of Scouting's most important forms of internal communications and the number of hours that adults spend in meetings each day, around the world, are an impressive resource. Good meetings help move Scouting forward. Poor meetings discourage valuable volunteers. Here are a few tips that may help make meetings more effective.

Meetings, valuable as they can be, can also be overdone.

Don't call meetings when:

- a phone call or memo will do
- a key person is not available
- participants don't have time to prepare
- it costs too much
- personality conflicts or plans of those at a higher level might make the meeting a waste of time.

Call meetings to:

- talk about goals
- listen to reports
- reach an agreement
- discover or solve problems
- train people
- tell people what to do and how
- explain plans and programs
- keep things moving
- build morale.

Meet with people who:

- have to carry out decisions
- have good ideas or information
- can approve the results
- represent different views.

The Meeting can improve communications with these thoughts in mind:

Do:

- start and finish on time
- know what you want to say
- have your materials ready
- talk the audience's language
- present simply and to the point
- be clear, confident, enthusiastic
- use visual aids
- listen to other opinions and encourage others to speak up
- take a break if the meeting goes much over an hour
- close on a positive note
- be sure all agree what was decided.

Don't:

- dominate a meeting called to get ideas
- let people drift off on other subjects
- get upset when people disagree with you
- make fun of anyone
- allow discussion to become argument
- let the meeting bog down.

Meeting Participants can contribute to effectiveness by remembering:

- you wouldn't have been invited unless someone thought you had something to say.
- speak up on things you know about; don't bluff when you lack information
- study the subject of the meeting beforehand; rehearse any assigned presentation
- use visual aids when they can help
- listen attentively to others and respect their opinions
- don't start arguments
- remember your "meeting manners"; don't distract others
- listen and take notes
- don't spring surprises unless you've cleared them with others first
- you'll have a greater effect on decisions if you think out what you want to say before you say it.



Several months ago I had a letter from one council concerning the craft books which are listed in our Supply Services catalogue. The letter indicated that some of these books seemed suitable for Beaver leaders, some for Cub leaders and some for both. This suggested that some form of assessment of these books was in order, so we asked the Nova Scotia Council to set up a task group of both Beaver and Cub leaders to review the series and send us their opinions.

What follows is their evaluation of the books suitable for Beaver

leaders. In my *Paksak* column, this issue, I deal with those books suitable for Cub leaders. You will note there is some overlap. Please keep in mind that these are the opinions of just one group of leaders. You may choose to use these as a guideline but in the final analysis your own judgement will tell you what is suitable and what is not.

Indian Crafts. "This book is excellent for both Beavers and Cubs. It has a lot of ideas, the articles are inexpensive to make and the instructions are good. We would highly recommend this book."

Make-It Fun For Little Ones. "This is an excellent book for Beavers, the crafts take a short time, most are inexpensive and there is a lot of material in this book."

Make With Paper Plates And Cups. "The instructions are good and these crafts would be inexpensive to make."

Make It With Ice Cream Sticks. "Good for Cubs . . . Some could be used for

Beavers, such as the airplane. These articles would be inexpensive to make and on the whole we would recommend this book."

Gifts From Odds 'N' Ends. "A few of these crafts are suitable for Beavers."

... Fine co-ordination is required for several of these crafts."

Tin Can Projects For Children. "Mainly for Cubs but some are simple enough for Beavers. The articles would be inexpensive to make but close supervision would be necessary."

Toys With Plastic Bottles. "Some could be used for Beavers but a fair amount of measuring and cutting is required . . . The leaders would have to give some of these instructions slowly so as not to be too confusing to the boys."

Make It With Round Boxes And Cardboard Rolls. "Suitable for Beavers . . . but they would have difficulty with this. The main problem . . . is that it is quite difficult to obtain a lot of these containers." X



Since crafts are one of the eight elements of the Cub program, our Supply Services lists a number of craft books in its catalogue.

A task group comprised of Beaver and Cub leaders recently reviewed this series of books and provided us with their impressions of which were more suitable for each program. (See *Beaver Happenings* for more information.)

What follows is their evaluation of the books suitable for Cub leaders. Please keep in mind that these are the opinions of just one group of leaders. You may choose to use these as a guideline but in the final analysis your own judgement will tell you what is suitable and what is not.

Make It With Ice Cream Sticks. "This book has very good instructions and is good for Cubs especially since Cubs would consider these articles useful. These articles would be inexpensive to make and on the whole we would recommend this book."

Crafts With Small Wooden Objects. "Most projects involve a lot of gluing. Co-ordination would be needed but not a lot of supervision. These projects would be suitable for Cubs."

Easy Wood Projects. "This is a good book to use with Cubs. The instructions are good and we would recommend this book to Cub leaders . . . Excellent for the older Cub."

Indian Crafts. "This book is excellent for both Beavers

and Cubs. It has lots of ideas, the articles are inexpensive to make and the instructions are good. We would highly recommend this book."

Gifts From Odds 'N' Ends. "Some of these crafts would be better for an older level. Fine co-ordination is required for several of these crafts."

String Art Made Easy. "Excellent for the older Cub. The projects would present a real challenge for the boy . . . The instructions are good. The boy would enjoy doing these projects as the end result would certainly give him the feeling of accomplishment."

Tin Can Projects For Children. "This book would be mainly for Cubs. The instructions are good, the articles would be inexpensive to make but close supervision would be necessary when cutting tin."

Fun With Egg Cartons. "A good book for Cubs. Most projects are challenging, needing co-ordination. Supervision would be needed."

99-Plus Plastic Projects. "The instructions could be plainer. Fine co-ordination is required for most of these crafts."

Toys With Plastic Bottles. "Very good for Cubs . . . A large amount of cutting to be done for the projects in this book . . . Cubs would enjoy making most of these projects."

Fun With Macaroni. "The instructions are easy to follow and Cubs would enjoy making some of these articles . . . A lot of co-ordination is needed. They would be suitable for Cubs working under supervision."

Centrepieces And Favors. "These crafts could be used for Cubs but even with Cubs a lot of leader involvement is required."

Make It With Round Boxes And Cardboard Rolls. "This book would be better for Cub crafts than Beavers because a lot of precise measuring and cutting is required."

Make It With Pop Bottles And Caps. "The instructions are fairly good. Much fine detailed work is required. Some younger Cubs would have difficulty with some of these crafts." X

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

BOYS' LIFE SUBSCRIPTIONS

In future, it will no longer be necessary to send subscriptions for *Boys' Life* magazine through Ottawa.

It was decided recently, in order to cut-down on processing time, that all such requests should be sent directly to *Boys' Life* Magazine, Boy Scouts of America, North Brunswick, New Jersey 08902.

Boys' Life officials have studied the costs, extra postage and current exchange rates for Canadian subscriptions and have issued the following statement:

SPECIAL OFFER TO BOY SCOUTS OF CANADA MEMBERS

Boys' Life — one year — 12 issues \$6.00 — includes special postage of \$1.75. (Regular rate — \$8.95 — includes \$1.75 postage.) Please indicate membership on subscription order.

The Chief Scout, His Excellency, Governor General Jules Léger, recognized 28 Scouts and Scouters for extraordinary gallantry and service to Scouting, at an impressive ceremony held at Government House in Ottawa on Friday, May '5.

While each citation told its story of bravery and dedication, perhaps the one that affected those present the most, was read prior to the presentation of the **Jack Cornwell Decoration to Scout Donald Kell MacDonald** of Antigonish, Nova Scotia.

The Cornwell Decoration perpetuates the memory of **John Travers Cornwell**, a 16 year old Scout from London, England, who as a boy seaman at the Battle of Jutland in 1916, remained at his post, though mortally wounded, carrying out his

orders, to the end of the action. He was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions.

The decoration bearing his name is presented to a member of any program section of Boy Scouts of Canada who is especially recommended for pre-eminently high character, devotion to duty and specific acts of physical courage or who has undergone great suffering in an heroic manner.

Donald MacDonald is an 11 year old Cub who suffered a very severe injury to his left leg on October 8, 1975. In the last two years, he has had 34 operations to save the leg and, in spite of much discomfort and pain, has been an example to all. While confined to hospital he continued his school work and Cub tests; at pack meetings he has refused to allow a heavy cast and crutches to hamper active participation.

Donald is seen here receiving his decoration from the Chief Scout.



A few years ago, the Scouters of the **Acadia 64th Group of Calgary, Alberta**, decided that their Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers should know more about the place of their police service in the community and introduced a new program item they called — **Police Night**. It was so successful that each year since, two constables have visited the group and talked on their work and zone policing, and have presented equipment displays

and conducted question and answer periods.

In March, the 64th decided that it was time they properly thanked the police for all their help and at a special ceremony held at the police headquarters, with all members of the group present, presented **Chief Sawyer** with an appropriately worded citation which not only expressed their thanks but also made the entire force honorary members of the group.

Why not introduce your boys to your local police department? It will give them a better appreciation of what this group of men and women do for us each day.

From World Scouting's **NEWS-LETTER**... "Thematic" stamp collections are those whose stamps portray a single, special subject, such as ships, flowers, sports, — or Scouting. At the **World Thematic Philatelic Exposition "PORTUGALE '77"**, the grand prize went to the outstanding collection of **Scout stamps** and documents dating from Mafeking, of **Walter Grob of Switzerland**, a former Scout. The prize, a model of a caravelle ship made of gold filigree, was presented by the President of the Portuguese Republic... This year, the **World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts** is celebrating its 50th birthday. It was founded in 1928 by 26 national organizations, with a total of 886,627 members. Today it has grown to 94 national organizations with over 7 million members. One aspect of the Golden Jubilee celebrations will be the 23rd World Conference this summer in Iran... After an opening ceremony with the Governor of Kabul City and other government officials participating, 5,000 **Afghanistan** Scouts and Guides began their annual Good Turn Week activities. Projects included obtaining blood samples from 15,000 city dwellers for malaria testing, purifying 2,000 water wells, paving a rural road — and the Cubs delivered flowers to hospital patients... The 1st Dampier Scout Group of **Perth, Australia** wanted to participate in the 20th Jamboree-on-the-Air but couldn't locate an amateur radio station and operator to help them, however their leader found a solution. As a port quarantine officer, he was able to pass them through quarantine and onto a 150,000 ton iron ore carrier where they were able to use the ship's radio for the weekend... supporting the national literacy campaign, **Indian Rovers** attending colleges and universities of Jodhpur,



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JULY 15-21, 1979

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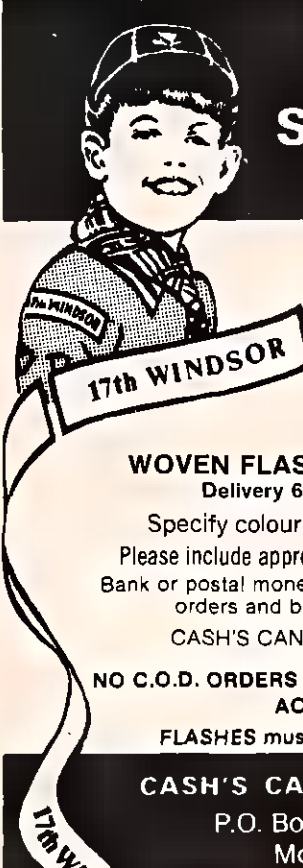
Venturer subcamp and three Scout subcamps. The unit of organization will be five to nine Scouts/Venturers and one Scouter/Advisor. The Jamboree will be "no trace" style using lightweight equipment. Participants will provide their own gear, and cooking will be by lightweight stoves using naphtha or similar fuel. Jamboree food supply will be supermarket style, with prices comparable to Winnipeg supermarkets.

Estimated costs:

— Camp fee, which includes Jamboree T-shirts, crest, and other Jamboree operating costs	\$60.00
— Estimated food costs	\$35.00
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**NO C.O.D. ORDERS OR PERSONAL CHEQUES
ACCEPTED**

FLASHES must be ordered direct from:

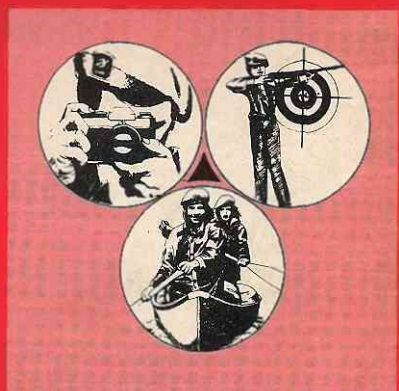
CASH'S CANADA LABELS LTD.
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