

FEBRUARY 1979 VOLUME 9. NUMBER 6

the **leader**



Fun in the Snow



Rover jottings

by Phil Newsome

The following report of the 8th Rover Moot held August 28 to September 1, 1978 was received from Rover Glenn Dick of Alberta.

The week of August 28 — Sept. 1 was not a quiet one in Southern Alberta, as 340 Rovers converged on that Council's Camp Impessa, to attend the 8th Canadian Rover Moot. They came from across Canada, Newfoundland to British Columbia, and from New York State and Kentucky in the United States. To some it was their first trip to the majestic Canadian Rockies and for others their first Rover Moot, but to all it was an experience never to be forgotten.

2 Hosted by the Edmonton Region, the moot committee, chaired by Brent Davies, began planning in November, 1975. Working in conjunction with Leo Toone — Regional Commissioner of Southern Alberta, Colin Bates — hike co-ordinator of the Camp Impessa and the 1st. Claires Holm Rover Crew, the site was secured permitting the moot committee to strive for the preliminary objectives of the moot. In particular, and contrary to predictions by many, the Rovers of Canada displayed their worth by completing preregistration four months prior to the moot. This was done in spite of the general instability of Rovers due to careers, post education and other interests.

Over one hundred and fifty people took part in a forty five kilometer hike to Grizzly Lake, which met the full expectation of those wishing to see the ruggedness of the Rockies.

On Monday the Hon. Ralph G. Steinhauer, Lt. Governor of Alberta, officiated at the opening ceremonies, assisted by Mr. Roy Brooks, President, Alberta Provincial Council, representing National Council; Mr. Alex Elder, Provincial Commissioner, Alberta and Mr. Hugh King, Moot Chief and Regional Commissioner of Edmonton Region. After the ceremonies, a chilli dinner was served to all participants, followed by an evening campfire hosted by Ontario Rovers.

Tuesday's program consisted of a choice of two events. A tour of the Coleman Colliery's open pit coal mining operation and one of the daily hikes to the summit of Cable Mountain, or a visit to the historic outpost of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Fort McLeod and then on to Lethbridge.

Wednesday's activities consisted of another out trip, this time to Watertown National Park. There the Rovers,

in full regalia, invaded Watertown campsite and made full use of the boat tours on Lake Watertown. Returning to camp, everyone was treated to an excellent salmon roast hosted by the contingent from British Columbia. The evening was rounded out with a campfire and a conference to discuss pertinent issues in Rovering.

Action packed Thursday started with traditional highland games. Events included a caber toss, hammer throw, log rolling, sprints and putting of the stone. The five event marathon concluded at noon and in short order everyone left for Pincher Creek and a genuine western rodeo. Sponsored by the moot, local cowboys demonstrated major rodeo events and Rovers participated in bull riding and the greased pig catching. Later everyone returned to camp to feast on the moot "glut" hosted by Edmonton Rovers and then to watch a number of Blackfoot Indian ceremonial dances. The evening closed with the final campfire, lively yet solemn as the moot was only too quickly approaching its end.

The moot ended Friday with the 340 Rovers gathering near the waterfront for the closing ceremonies. National Commissioner Chester Hull was on hand and challenged those present to make their needs and aspirations known to regional, provincial and national levels of Scouting. Following his talk various moot awards were presented. Special mention was made of the work of Edmonton field executive, Gordon Hennigar, who resourced the moot throughout the long planning and on site.

Perhaps the most important issue to come out of the moot was brought forth at the Wednesday evening conference. Rovers believe that Rovering has a definite place in the Scouting Movement, and that it should receive support from all levels — national, provincial and regional. Such support would aid Rovering in its bid for recruitment, and combined with personal contact with Cubs, Scouts and Venturers, provide a greater public awareness. Through high visibility, the Rover population would increase in the future. In addition, a good and well balanced program is essential to any truly active Rover crew.

Perhaps the best way to sum it up is to "keep on Rovering".

In the next edition of *Rover Jottings* we hope to share the outcome of the mini conference held during the 8th Rover Moot. X

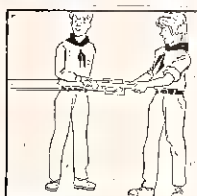
the leader

The Canadian Leader Magazine

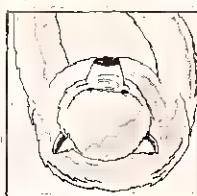
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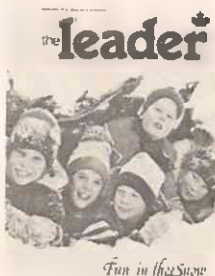
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Outdoors

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Advertising



COVER

With the arrival of February, the sun gains strength and it is an ideal time to get your boys out in the snow, which soon will give way to the first signs of spring. The faces of these Quebec Cubs express much better than any words, the joy of a late winter outing.

supply services news

by Bill Johnson

What's in a pair of pants?

On occasion, we have had members say, "Why can't we buy our uniforms cheaper when we're such a big organization?" Here's part of the answer:

Back in November we had the opportunity to visit the plants where our Action Pants are manufactured and we came away with some interesting facts. They produce over 50,000 pairs of blue jeans every week. Last year we sold 10,000 pairs of Action Pants, or the equivalent of one day's production.

We also discovered that they engineer and produce top line blue jeans for nearly every major department store in Canada, including one of the best known and best selling lines of jeans on the market. We also learned that our Action Pants are engineered to exactly the same specifications. The only difference is the material. Jeans are made of denim (cotton), a material that shrinks, fades and wrinkles. The material used in our pants is 65% polyester and 35% cotton. They do not fade as quickly, do not shrink if washed properly and are perma-press.

If you check the prices on top line jeans you will find that we are also priced lower.

When we asked the plant manager how our pants rank with their regular denim lines, he stated that they are a harder wearing pant than blue jeans.

Our final question dealt with sizing and we were advised that all their garments are engineered to Canadian Standard sizing, including ours. It did develop that we were missing one crucial size in the greys, waist 25" boy's size 10. This has now been added to our line.

So if you're looking for good value in everyday pantwear, look first at ours.

THE CANADIAN LEADER magazine is published monthly except for combined issues of June/July and August/September by Ganyouth Publications Ltd., P.O. Box 5112, Stn. "F", Ottawa, K2C 3H4. Enquiries concerning subscriptions, advertising or editorial should be directed to this address, attention the Editor. Second class mail registration number 2405. Yearly subscription price to registered members, Boy Scouts of Canada, \$3.00. Others, \$5.00. Outside Canada, \$7.00. Recommended by Boy Scouts of Canada.

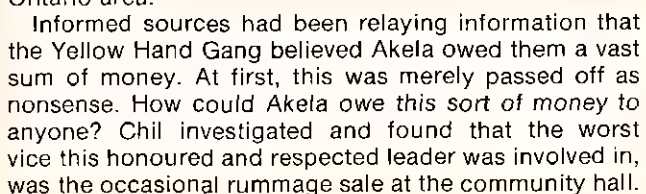
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ISSN 0036-9462

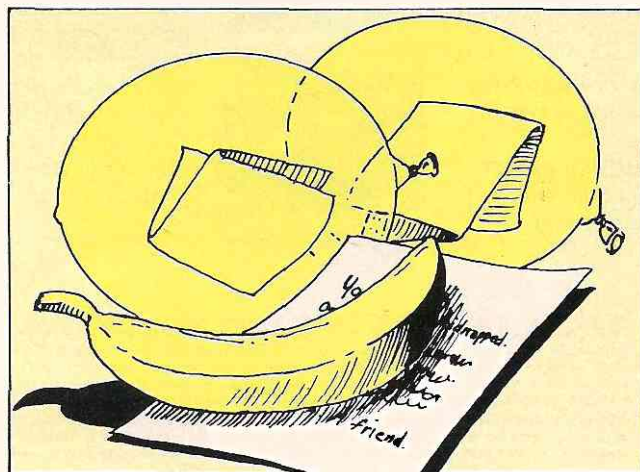


by D.B. Chipman and L. Lawrie

Battling the Gang is great fun, as you will see if you read on. Perhaps you could dream up a Gang activity for your boys. It only takes some imagination and planning.



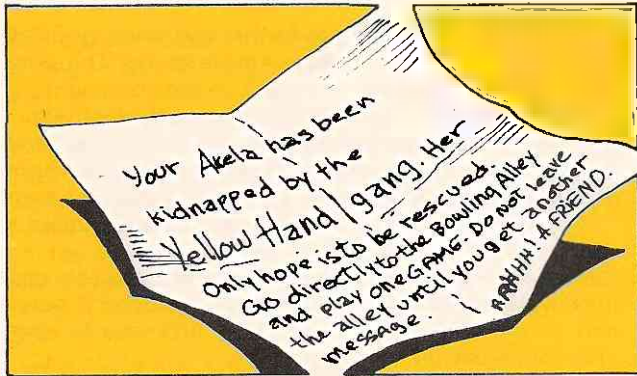
When Chil arrived at Caribou Hall he was immediately impressed with the turnout of Cubs. Avoiding a torrent of hurried questions, he quickly assembled the boys in a circle. He explained that Akela was missing and that he could say little more, except that clues were supposed to be located within the confines of Caribou Hall. It didn't take long for the Cubs to find the clues. Two were located in yellow balloons, hidden among various articles of furniture, the third was carefully located in a banana.



Chil instructed the Cub who found that one to consume the evidence. The messages were all the same:

"Your Akela has been kidnapped by the Yellow Hand Gang. Her only hope is to be rescued. Go directly to the bowling alley and play one game. Do not leave the alleys until you get another message."

"Arhhh!! A friend."

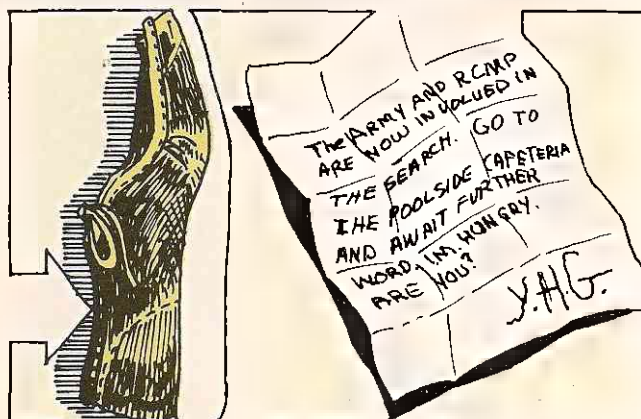


Reality suddenly struck everyone. How could this happen? Were the Cubs and leaders not on guard these past few months? Doug Curtis, forever the non-believer, swore up and down that he had seen Akela at about 3. p.m. that afternoon. Another link in the chain of mystery? It couldn't be. Or could it?

Anyway, a brave pack, with tears welling up in their eyes, proceeded to the bowling alley. Frank Gottfried, the manager of the alleys, was sympathetic to their plight, and helped set up the teams and get the Cubs playing their games. After the boys had played, the fun of the last hour soon left them. Robert Rittthaler exclaimed that there had been no further word.

Was this just a trick to lure the Cubs away from their objective? By this time, four junior leaders had joined the search: Mike Courtney, Ernie Ling, Toni Webber and Jeannie Webber. Also Mr. Corrigan, father of one of the Cubs, had offered his assistance and was immediately accepted within the ranks of the pack. Chil breathed a sigh of relief. At this point he could use as much help as possible.

Suddenly Mr. Gottfried called seconder Garry Wilson back to the counter. He gently chided him about leaving



something in his shoes. Garry looked surprised. He quickly searched his shoe and looked shocked at what he pulled out. It was another piece of paper like those found at Caribou Hall. Nervously he read the message aloud:

"The Army and R.C.M.P. are now involved in the search. Go to the Poolside Cafeteria and await further word. I.M. Hungry. Are you?"

"Y.H.G."

Perplexed looks were on every face. There was nothing to do but follow the instructions. They must find Akela.

Later, as the boys devoured their hamburgers and milkshakes, all they could think of was that poor old Akela was being forced to eat — or even that, perhaps, her kidnappers were not feeding her at all! Chil suggested that they each save a little bit of their food for her when she was found, however, it soon became obvious that the Cubs had decided unanimously that they needed their strength more than Akela, as they literally destroyed every morsel of food available to them. After all, they reasoned, who was doing the rescuing, them or Akela? Good point, Chil decided.

Chil and Garry Corrigan were in conference when two Cubs approached them with agitated looks on their faces. Their complaint was simple. Whoever had cooked their hamburgers had forgotten to remove the tinfoil.

"Wait a minute," said Garry, "they don't use tinfoil here."

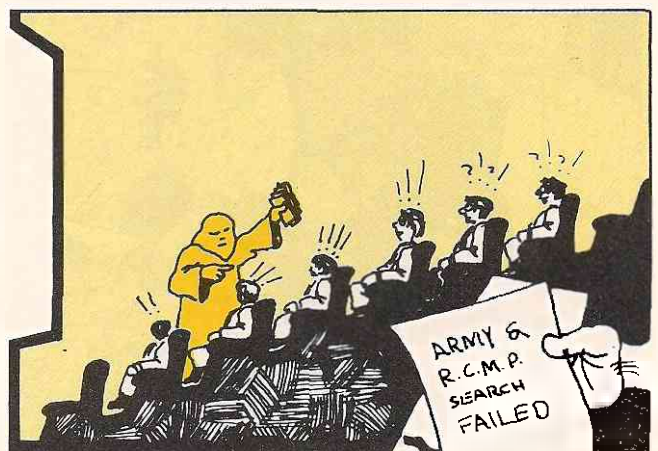
Examining the foil, he found messages inside which read:

"At 6.15 go to the theatre: you will be known by your uniforms. Pay close attention to the movie for possible leads. After the show, stay in your seats. You will be contacted. Gulp ..."

"Y.H.G."

Being close to six o'clock, a quick search of the town complex was initiated, yielding nothing. At 6.15 the Cubs lined up outside the theatre. Some comments were filtering through from the pack, referring to the fact that they had had a lot of fun since Akela had been kidnapped and maybe they shouldn't try too hard to find her. Chil reminded them that the situation was, indeed, serious and that their duty to Akela should be foremost. The sly smiles on the boys' faces disturbed the leaders.

At this point, Chil said he had to leave so that he could search the area once more. Mr. Mike Kowalchuk, the theatre manager, then ushered the boys into the cinema and seated them. The show itself was full of clues. It was *Star Wars*. Every boy was glued to his seat for the entire movie. After the film finished, the Cubs sat anxiously waiting for some sign, when without warning a masked figure, clothed entirely in yellow, ran down the aisle clutching a large pile of envelopes in his hands. The nervous boys sat frozen to their seats as an unearthly voice whispered eerie instructions. They were told to go



(Continued on page 35)

FUN WITH

by June Miller

In the November 1978 issue of *The Leader*, you may recall that we included a letter, in *Beaver Happenings*, from Mrs. June Miller of Mississauga, Ontario. Mrs. Miller switched from Cubbing to Beavers and, with the aid of puppets, found herself relating well to the younger boys and sharing a great deal of fun with them. She now tells us more of her work with puppets and suggests how other leaders might find them a useful aid and a fun project to tackle right away.

"Actions speak louder than words." How often we hear that expression, and how true it is. Puppetry is one medium where instant action and reaction can speak loudly and clearly, cutting through all manner of communication barriers.

A few years ago, the Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto involved me as a "Play Lady" and, as such, I would spend one day a week on the children's floor. Many times a silly puppet would be able to break through a barrier that a child had built around himself, and share his fears and anxious moments, his tears and his laughter when that child would not share them with humans. It was there that the value of puppets as a communication tool became so very clear.

The realization was put to further use when, as a Cubmaster, the puppets helped as an aid in telling "The Jungle Story". What better way to introduce the cunningness of Shere Khan, the diplomacy of Bagheera, the learnedness of Baloo, the stupidity of Banderlogs, and of course, the leadership of Akela, than through the manoeuvrings of a puppet? A puppet group was formed of the sixers and this developed into the Christmas entertainment for the church Christmas party.

More recently, puppets have been used most successfully with the Beavers. Puppets seem to be a natural part of the Beavers' life, and they just love to spend time with them.

At first, beaver puppets were used to tell the story of *Friends of the Forest*, complete with a great silver Keeko. Then, when training courses developed, along came Elmer. He is a four foot high bird over my arm; a most striking figure complete with long orange feet and legs.

Elmer developed quite a repertoire of songs, thanks to a record entitled, *Singable Songs for the Very Young*, sung by "Raffi". The record is available from most good record stores for around \$6.00.

It is amazing just how the Beavers relate to this big bird. At a recent Beaverfest, attended by both Elmer





PUPPETS

and a close cousin, the Knock-kneed Knuffle, there was a long line-up waiting to say good-bye to him, to give a kiss, and to shake his leg.

So leaders, if you are looking for something to give your group a lift, give puppetry a try. How about involving your whole group in the action? Your Cubs can make the puppets, your Scouts can build the stage, your Venturers can handle the lighting and sound effects and, of course, who else but the Rovers to take care of the publicity and transportation? The Beavers will be your audience. There you have the whole group involved. In Beavers we call it sharing.

One thing that you will get out of this is spelled in just three letters — FUN, pure, unadulterated fun! Just to see the faces of these little guys as they become lost in the fantasy of the story or when Big Bird leans over and takes a nip of somebody's nose. They are completely lost in the world of make-believe.

The best resource for this activity is the public library. Some of the larger cities have puppet clubs and will give you all sorts of help, but for those who haven't got the clubs, then try the library. They will tell you how to build the stage, make the puppets, write the play, produce the play, and perhaps even invite you to come and use their library space for a trial run.

Another good source is Lewiscraft stores. They have some very good books on puppetry. For story resource,

go back to the library, and to the record stores for the songs. Start to poke around and to look for these things, and you will be amazed at what is available.

The boys can make their puppets out of many materials. If it is a hard-headed puppet, flour and sawdust and water creates a good mixture to mould around wadded up newspaper. Let dry, sand and then paint. The body would then be made of cloth. Felt makes a dandy body.

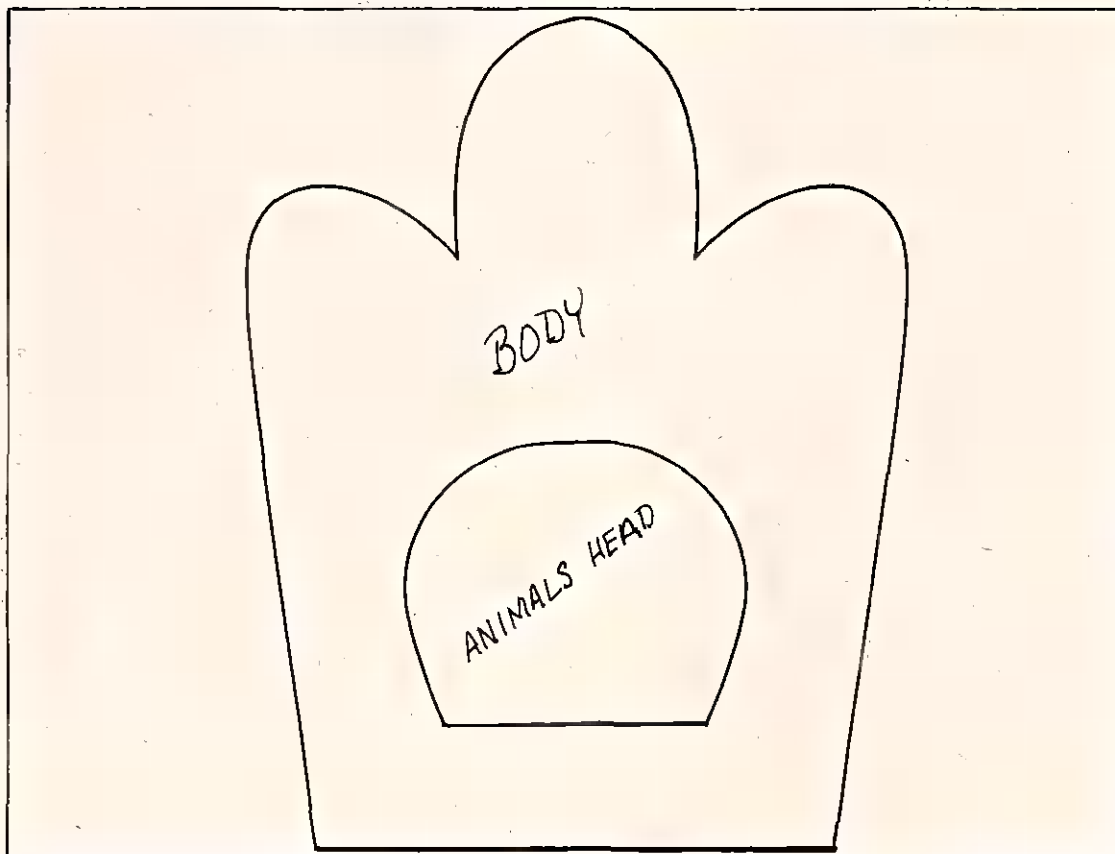
My beaver puppets are made out of brown fur fabric, using the illustrated body pattern. The head is shaped like an egg. Stuff the head lightly and insert neck of body. Sew head and neck, add eyes, teeth and of course, a beaver tail.

The pattern can be used for many animals, by just changing the colouring of the fur fabric and adding the characteristics.

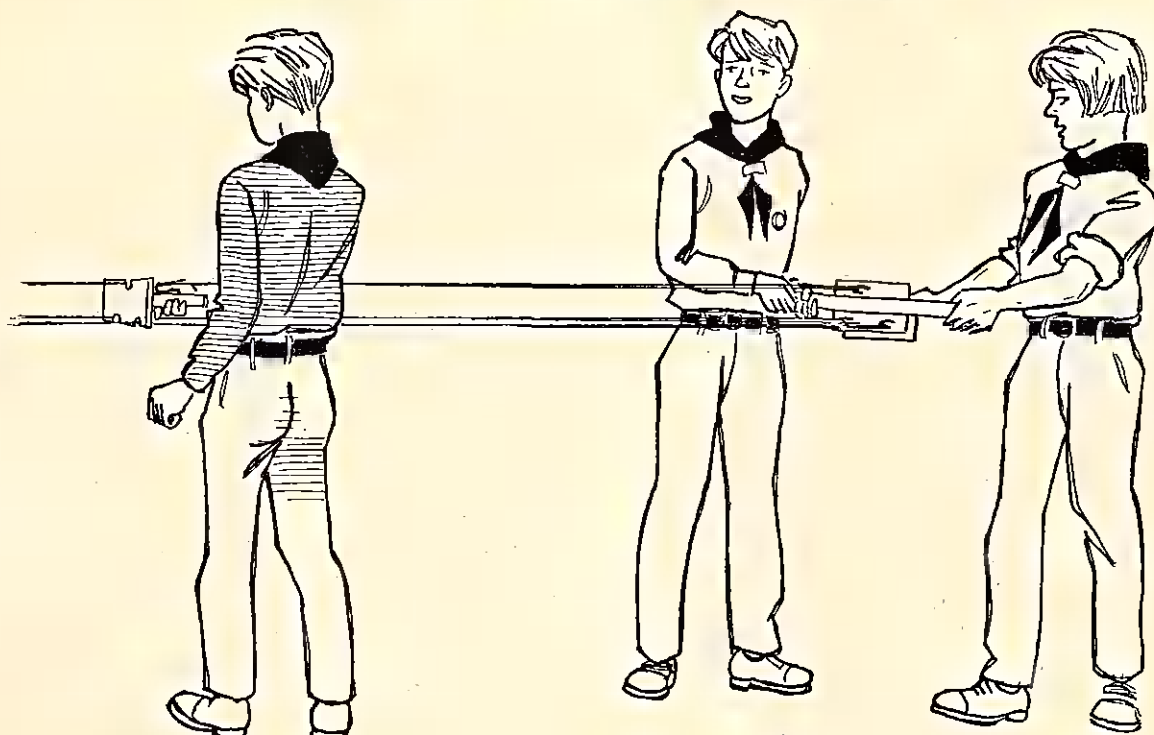
A Beaver can make his very own puppet out of a paper bag and brown construction paper cut like a beaver's face, and glued on.

Hopefully, a door has been opened to show what fun you can have out of this media, opened enough so that tomorrow you will all be making calls to your nearest libraries and record shops. If I can be of any help to you, do drop me a line through **The Leader**. Let me know what fun you found waiting for you when you walked into the magical world of puppetry. X

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THE HOLTON VILLAGE ROPEWALK



8

by Les Howard and John Sweet

A recent request from C.E. Tanner of the 33rd Winnipeg for information on how to make rope, arrived shortly after John Sweet sent along this article on *The Holton Village Ropewalk*.

We hope that you will get your boys involved in rope making, after you read the article, because it is a lot of fun. Let's hear how you do.

An O.T.L. Make-and-Use Feature

We do not, of course, claim to have "invented" this apparatus but we hope you will find that it has been developed in one or two interesting new ways which still leave scope for further experiment and research.

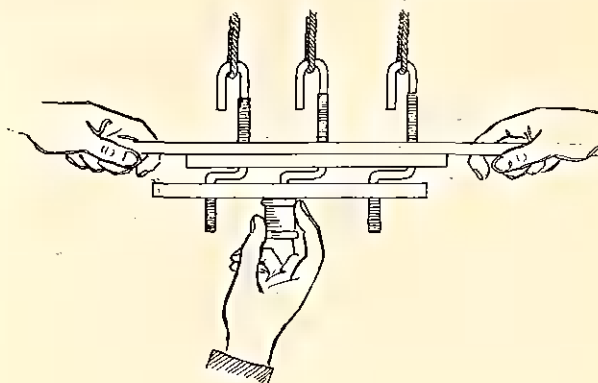
Les Howard and John Sweet

The purpose of the exercise is to convert a ball of twine into a length of cable-laid line 10 mm. diam. (approx. 1 1/4 in. circ.) using improvised apparatus only.

This will involve the laying up of three times three lengths of twine "on the double" to make three hawser-laid strands, which must then be laid up together to make the "cable". It will be necessary to build up the torsional strain in the material by twisting it in opposite directions at each stage, so that when the components are assembled to form the completed "cable", the counter-action of potential energy in the rope will be held in balance. A sophisticated process, but well within the capability of any Scout Patrol who are prepared to take the trouble.

To set up the HOLTON VILLAGE ROPEWALK you will need a good stretch of flat ground with a convenient fence rail or other secure anchorage at one end. The only materials required, apart from your ball of sisal, are three oblongs of 9mm. plywood 15 x 10cm; two 9mm. plywood strips, one 45 x 3cm. and the other 30 x 3cm; three 15cm. lengths of 3mm. diam. soft wire and a few squeezes of quick-drying glue.

Glue the longer plywood strip across one of the boards lengthwise with the ends protruding to provide a two-handed grip on the board. This and one other board should be matched and clamped together in a vice while three 3mm. diam. holes are drilled through them in the form of an equilateral triangle of 8 cm. sides. A small cotton reel is glued to the middle of the second board, again for convenience in handling.



Make two right-angle bends at 3cm. intervals at one end of each wire. It is of the greatest importance that the three cranks should be identical in every way and for accuracy it is best to measure off and mark each wire at the angle, holding it at that point in the vice when making the bend. The wires should then be assembled in the wood and prevented from moving forward or back by the simple process of fitting collars of insulation tape. The hooks may then be made. This is best done by turning the wire with pliers round any cylindrical object of suitable size.

The rope-maker is ready for use.

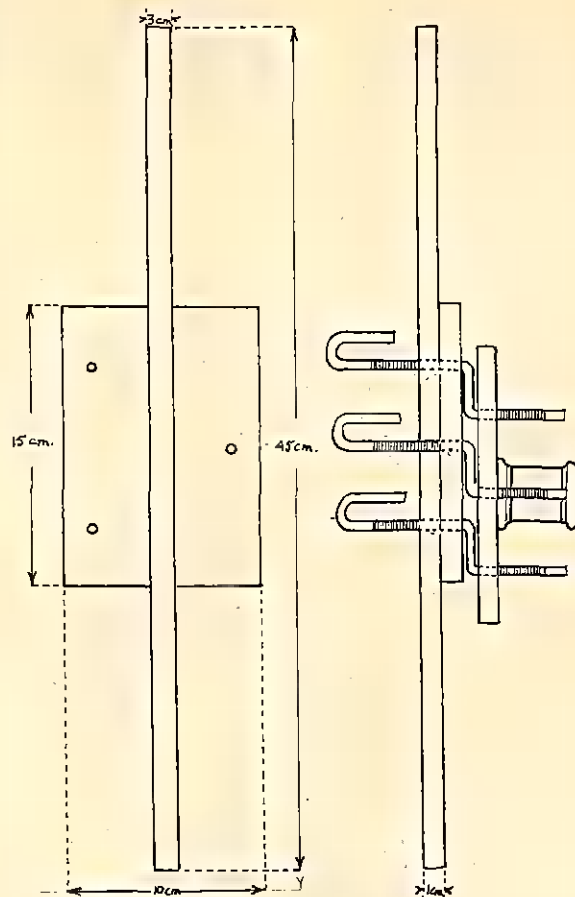
To make the "spreader", glue the second (shorter) plywood strip to the board to form a convenient handle. Drill three 5mm. holes near the sides and cut notches to correspond with the position of the hooks of the rope-maker. Smooth the notches with sandpaper to minimize friction.



Three Scouts are needed to man the Holton Village Ropewalk.

Cut the twine into three equal lengths, double each length and slip the bights over the hooks of the machine. Stretch the lines of (doubled) sisal down the ropewalk and secure the free ends, still under tension, to your chosen anchorage, taking care that the lines do not cross. Insert the spreader to hold the three lines apart and prevent them twisting up together and, keeping it in this position, carry it down to the far end of the walk.

Scouts 1 and 2 hold the handles of the machine and keep the lines at full stretch while No. 1, with his free hand, grips the cotton reel handle and turns the backboard in a clockwise direction, thereby twisting the doubled lines of sisal counter-clockwise to build up the necessary torsional strain in the twine. This process should be continued until the twine shows signs of "kinking" when the strain is relaxed. The three lines should then be taken off the machine one at a time, stretched thoroughly to remove any embryo kinks and transferred (all three) to one hook only. The backboard should then be turned counter-clockwise, so that the three lengths of twine are laid up together right-handed (hawser-laid). At this stage it will be found advisable to bring the spreader up to within a few metres of the machine and move it slowly backwards down the rope to ensure that the strands are laid up evenly, bearing in mind that the lay will tend to become more open if it is allowed to travel freely down the rope. The aim is to keep it under control. It is possible, too, that from time to time one strand will leapfrog over its neighbour and put the whole lay adrift. When this is seen to occur, the operation should be halted while Scout 3 corrects the fault manually — a very simple process if caught in time.



Three lengths of hawser-laid line should be prepared in this way to make the strands of your "cable".

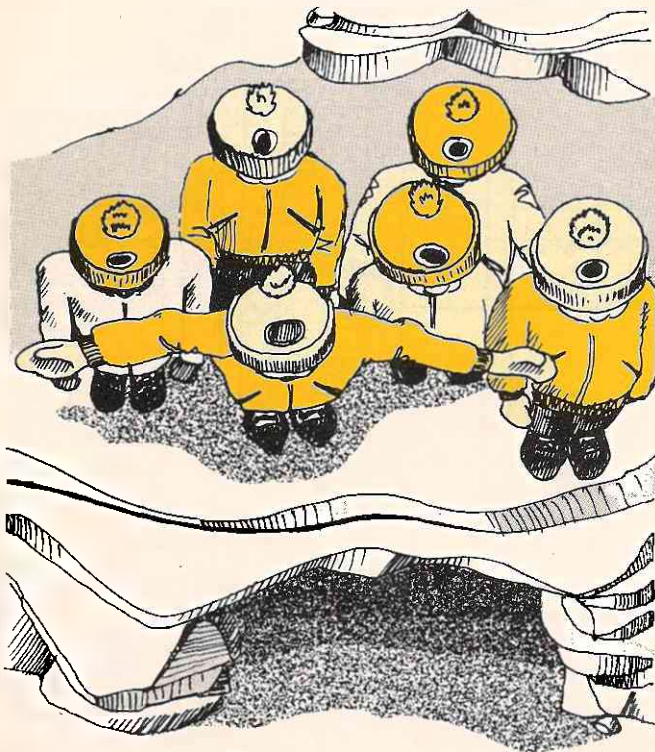
The cable-laying process follows the same general pattern, except that at each stage the machine will be operated *in reverse*. Again the spreader will be brought into play to keep the strands apart while the machine is turned counter-clockwise to twist them right-handed to the point of kinking, after which they will be stretched, transferred as before to one hook so that when the machine is turned clockwise they will be laid up left-handed (cable-laid). And again the spreader will be moved, as before, down the ropewalk to control the laying up process.

From all of this it will be clear that, although the making of a rope is a complicated process, it is quite within the scope of three intelligent boys who are prepared to work together as a team. Run as a patrol competition it should make quite an attractive display item for your next "Open Day", particularly if the "cables" are immediately put to some practical use.

Another idea — passed to your patrol leaders for research, please! — would be to put a core of heavier cord into your cable. One possible complication would be that, whereas the strands of the rope will shorten progressively as the cable is laid up, the core will not. Here in Holton we shall be particularly interested to hear how your boys cope with this small problem. X

THE SNOW BEAR

by Judy Evans



10



Here's an exciting little story you might like to read to your boys when you have a quiet ten minutes available. It illustrates how just one of the many skills they learn at their meetings might, in an emergency, be put to good use.

"Gee, that was fun tonight," said Peter as he and his second Joe walked home from Cubs. "That semaphore stuff was neat. Imagine being able to send a message to someone just by waving your arms about!"

"I bet we never get to really use it though," answered Joe. "There's not much chance of being stranded, here in town."

The two boys made their way down the street, climbing over the snowdrifts and circling round the trees as they went. Winter was long and cold in the town where they lived and the snow, which started in October and didn't finish until May, was piled up in huge mounds along the street.

"Are you coming on Saturday?" asked Peter.

"You bet," was the answer. "That winter day camp last year was great and this year should be even better. Remember how we chased Baloo and stuffed snow down his neck?"

"Yes, that was fun," chuckled his friend. "And then he got his own back by climbing that tree and shaking the snow on top of us."

Both laughing at the memory, they said goodnight and went into their houses.

By Saturday morning the snow that had been falling all week had stopped and the sun was shining. As the pack walked along the path towards the pine forest in which they were to spend their day, Akela pointed out several animal tracks in the snow.

"Now look carefully," he warned. "We'll be having a six competition this afternoon to see who can find and identify the most tracks."

"That's easy," whispered Peter and Joe. "We learned all that stuff last year, and Red Six won the competition too."

They made their way into the forest until they reached a clearing surrounded by tall, dark pines. Putting his rucksack down, Akela said "Okay Cubs; this is where we will be spending the day. Now the first thing we need to do is get a fire going. Baloo and I will clear a place in the snow while you boys gather the wood."

Within fifteen minutes a fire was crackling merrily and a large pile of wood and twigs was stacked neatly to one side. After everyone had warmed himself around it, Akela spoke.

"Well, that didn't take too long and, now that the work is done, it's time for some games. As I told you at the last pack meeting, the six that wins the most points today will keep the Cub flag in their lair for the next month. We've planned a lot of games and competitions so let's get started right away."

The morning flew by. Each six had to make an igloo and then follow a trail that had been set for them. By the time they returned to the campsite it was lunchtime and they all sat round the fire roasting their hot dogs and sipping cups of steaming hot chocolate.

Peter and Joe sat on a log whispering between them-

selves.

"We're way behind on points," said Joe. "If only our igloo hadn't collapsed!"

"Never mind," said Peter. "Maybe we can catch up this afternoon. Akela said we are starting off with that game where you have to find all the animal tracks."

Sure enough, as soon as lunch was over, each sixer was given a pencil and paper and told to take his six into the forest and draw and name any tracks they found.

"Okay, Red Six, let's go!" called Peter. "I know a place that hardly anyone ever goes to. There will probably be a whole bunch of tracks there."

Quickly the boys made their way through the forest and over a hill to where a small ravine nestled between the trees. There, sure enough, were dozens of animal tracks imprinted in the snow. The six boys spent a busy half hour drawing and naming them until at last they seemed to have found them all.

Calling the six to come to where he was standing, Peter said "We'd best go now. Our time limit is almost up and, if we don't get back, we'll lose points for being late." Looking around he added "Where's Jimmy?"

"Over here!" came a shout.

"Hurry up then," called back Joe. "It's time to go back."

"No, you come over *here*," yelled Jimmy. "There's a great big track in the snow and it's different from all the others."

Quickly the Cubs tramped over to where Jimmy was standing. Just as he had said, there in the snow was a line of huge tracks leading up the hill and into the trees.

The boys looked at them in silence.

"It couldn't be a dog," said Peter. "The tracks are too big for that."

"Is it a bear?" asked Jimmy in a scared voice.

"Can't be, stupid," answered Joe. "Bears hibernate in the winter. You know — they go to sleep."

"Then what is it?" asked one of the other Cubs. No one answered and an uneasy silence settled over the boys.

Finally Peter said "Well, let's have a quick look around and then we will have to get back. Joe, you make a drawing of the footprint while we just check the area."

The boys searched carefully but nothing came to light until suddenly from around the corner of a large rock came another shout from Jimmy.

"Hey, come *here* you guys. I've found something else."

The six ran round the rock to find him standing at the entrance of a large cave, pointing just inside. There they saw the remains of a campfire still smouldering and some human footprints mixed in with more of the same kind of tracks as those they had just seen.

Staring, Joe said "Do you think that whoever was here might just have smoked a bear out of his cave?"

"Well if he did, where is the bear now?" asked one of the Cubs.

Before anyone had a chance to answer, there was a low, rumbling growl from behind them and a dark shadow appeared in the snow. Turning around slowly, the boys found themselves facing a huge brown bear. Its little yellow eyes were squinting in the sunlight and, as it advanced towards them, it was growling in a soft, bad tempered voice.

"RUN!" yelled Peter. "Up there where he can't get us!"

Desperately the boys scrambled up onto a rock ledge above the cave. Peter swung his leg up just in time to miss a swipe from the bear's paw. It was plain that he was very angry.

"What shall we do now?" asked Joe. "If we're not careful he'll climb up here and get us."

Peter realised that, as he was a sixer, it was up to him to do something. But what? No one knew they were there and they probably wouldn't be missed for a while.

Suddenly he had an idea. Turning to the Cubs, who were clinging to various parts of the rock, he said "Okay. Now don't anyone panic. Let's try making faces at him and shouting. Maybe he will be scared away and, even if he isn't, there is always the chance that someone will hear us."

One by one, they stood up and started shouting and making faces. The bear stopped growling for a moment to stare at them and then let out an infuriated roar and started to climb up the rock face to the ledge.

"Stop the noise," shouted Peter. "We're just getting him mad." As the shouting died down, the bear dropped his big furry paws from the ledge and sat on the ground looking up at them.

Suddenly Joe looked through the trees and let out a yell.

"Look over there," he shouted, pointing to the top of a nearby hill. "There are some of the other Cubs. Maybe if we wave at them they'll go and get Akela."

Frantically the six started to wave only to find that, when the other Cubs finally spotted them, they just waved back.

"That's no good," said Peter. "They can't see that we're in trouble." Suddenly he slapped his knee. "I know! Let's signal to them!" Standing up so that he was in plain view of the distant Cubs, Peter signalled: S . . . O . . . S . . . B . . . E . . . A . . . R . . . S . . . O . . . S . . . B . . . E . . . A . . . R . . . He carried on repeating the same message until he noticed one of the boys signalling back.

"What's he saying?" sobbed Jimmy. "Will they rescue us? I'm scared!"

"They're signalling back," said Peter, "and it says 'O . . . K . . .' And look — they've gone. Don't worry Jimmy. Akela will soon be here."

It seemed like hours before help came. The boys all made themselves as comfortable as they could and the bear, who obviously had no intention of going away, sat below them and growled softly, taking an occasional swipe at the ledge with his huge furry paw.

At last there was a shout in the distance and two men appeared. As they got closer, the boys saw that it was Akela and another man who was carrying a gun.

As they neared the cave, the man fired a shot into the air and, with a startled grunt, the bear lumbered off into the forest.

Safe back at the campsite, the Red Six told the rest of the pack what had happened to them. When they had finished it was time to go home but, before they set off, Akela called them into a circle.

"Before we go," he said, "I want to give you the results of today's competitions. Because of the trouble the Red Six ran into, we were not able to get through all the program but here are the results anyway. On the games we *did* play, the end result is a tie between Red and Blue Six, each having twenty-two points. However, although you were not aware of it, we were also marking you on discipline and the ability to think for yourselves. In this respect Red Six were far and away the winners. If they had panicked this afternoon, they could have been in serious trouble but, instead, they acted as I would hope all you Cubs would act — bravely and sensibly. It now gives me great pleasure to award the pack flag to the Red Six."

Peter stepped forward proudly and received the flag. "I have that bear to thank for this," he thought. "If it hadn't been for him we wouldn't have won today. What an adventure that was!" X

The Brotherhood Fund - Alive and Well



by J.L. MacGregor

In the April 1978 issue of this magazine we reported on the conclusion of one program — *Operation Amigo* and the beginning of a new one — *The Honduras-Canada Project*. We also indicated that we would report on other development projects being supported by the Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund. Here, then, is an accounting of how your Brotherhood Fund is being used. It must be emphasized that all of these projects receive enthusiastic and generous contributions from the Non-Governmental Organizations Division of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

Honduras-Canada Project — In June of last year, four members of the Canadian delegation to the Interamerican Scout Conference in Guatemala made the short journey to Honduras to see the project in action. The team consisted of H. Morrey Cross, International Commissioner; E. Bower Carty, past chairman of the World Scout Committee and present member of the International Relations Committee; J. Percy Ross, Chief Executive and J.L. MacGregor, Executive Director, Relationships Service. Our hosts had prepared a whirlwind program designed to ensure that we saw and did as much as possible within the span of three short days — and even shorter nights.

The highlight — among many highlights — was a visit to the Arts and Trade School in the community of San Pedro Sula. The school is a major part of this two part,

Woodcarving School



Bower Carty, Morrey Cross and Percy Ross with the Bookbinding Section



Morrey Cross visits the Plumbing School



John MacGregor and Morrey Cross in the Tailoring Shop

The Woodworking Shop



four-year project. It was a Saturday morning and the students and staff had come to the school especially to meet with their Canadian visitors. We were given an enthusiastic welcome by a general assembly at the entrance to the school where the flags of Canada and Honduras flew side by side. The welcome included a delightful exhibition of dances performed by some very young but very talented boys and girls dressed in colourful cultural costumes.

Then followed a most heartwarming tour of the various classes of instruction, where the students eagerly demonstrated their considerable proficiency in the skills they are learning. Skills that will one day enable them to obtain jobs and thereby contribute to the development of their country.

Although our visit to the Arts and Trade School was extremely brief, we came away with some very good feelings and some equally strong impressions. We were greatly impressed by the competence and genuine dedication of the principal of the school Professor Elias Murillo and his entire staff of instructors. These are men and women who will certainly never be classified as over-paid. We sensed that they have chosen to share their knowledge and skills with young people as their contribution to the rebuilding and future development of Honduras. It is a significant contribution.

We were impressed by the strong support, both moral and material, being given to the project by the political and industrial leaders of San Pedro Sula. Several meetings and receptions hosted by local government officials, the top leaders of San Pedro Scouting and the Honduras Port Authority clearly revealed that Scouting is a highly respected and integral part of the community. The Honduras Port Authority is a dynamic organization which has a major role in the planning and development of the whole country.

The second day of our visit involved a hair-raising, heart stopping three to four hours drive from San Pedro Sula to the capital city of Tegucigalpa. The narrow, twisting road took us through the beautiful, mountainous countryside that is typically Honduras. It also provided the sobering experience of seeing the terrible poverty in which many of the people live their daily lives.

Our program in Tegucigalpa included visits to a nearby artisan school and a handicraft centre. Both of these institutions are important to the teaching of skills that have already begun to have an impact on the economy of the country. Our hosts had thoughtfully arranged a most enjoyable visit to the Scout Training Camp. It is a simple but beautiful camp that has been carefully designed as a model of sound conservation practices. In addition to meeting informally with key officers of the Scout organization, we were treated to a delicious, typical Honduras meal cooked over an open fire. Here again, the Canadian flag was in evidence, flying alongside the Honduras and Scout flags.

The second part of the Honduras-Canada project concentrates on rebuilding and strengthening the Scout Movement in Honduras. The Canadian visitors were most impressed with the men and women who are giving leadership to this end. Their plans for the present and future have been well thought out. Their dedication and enthusiasm are infectious and made us feel very happy that Canadian Scouting is associated with the Honduras-Canada *Operation Amigo*.

Other Development Projects — Here, in highly capsulated form, is a list of other Community Development Projects that are being supported by the Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund in partnership with CIDA. The coun-

tries themselves also make contributions to the projects in the form of manpower, materials or money.

Caribbean Area — The sum of \$3,000 per year for three years will assist the Travelling Commissioner to carry out much needed field work among many of the Caribbean Scout Associations, particularly in the training of leaders. *Brotherhood Fund \$1,500 — CIDA \$1,500.*

Chad — This African nation of four million people has an annual per capita income of \$83. The sum of \$9,000 will be used by the Scout Association to purchase 20 ploughs, 10 carts, 15 oxen and a supply of imported fertilizer. This, in turn, will provide the basis for Scouts to receive vocational training in agricultural techniques designed to improve the standard of living in their communities. *Brotherhood Fund \$3,000 — CIDA \$6,000.*

Korea — A contribution of \$16,500 will enable the Asia-Pacific Scout Region to conduct a Community Development Seminar for selected leaders of Scouting from Korea and several neighbouring countries. These leaders will disseminate their knowledge of community development techniques to other adult leaders, particularly those who work directly with boys. *Brotherhood Fund \$5,500 — CIDA \$11,000.*

Bangladesh — In co-operation with the Department of Agriculture, the Bangladesh Scout Association has undertaken a program of training for older Scouts and Rovers in the cultivating of paddy, jute, banana and market vegetables. Certain items of equipment were essential to carry out and expand the program. These included power tillers, weeders and other agricultural implements. A contribution of \$34,080 has enabled the Bangladesh Scouts to purchase the required equipment. *Brotherhood Fund \$11,360 — CIDA \$22,720.*

New Projects — In addition to the activities reported above, negotiations have just been completed with the NGO Division of CIDA to support three projects in Rwanda, Peru and the Africa Region. A further project from India is being studied by our International Relations Committee. All of these projects are oriented towards Community Development. Progress reports will be published in a future issue of this magazine.

The Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund is indeed alive and well — thanks in large part to the *Trees for Canada* program. As most Scouters now know, fifteen percent of the money raised goes directly to international development projects. Every Beaver, Cub, Scout, Venturer, Rover and Scouter who participates in the *Trees for Canada* program should be made aware that his or her involvement is helping our brother Scouts in other countries to help themselves. This becomes especially significant as our Founder's birthday approaches. We believe that B.-P. would be very happy to see the "good turn" being practised in this way.

During Scout-Guide Week celebrations it has become the custom for many groups, church-parades, Scouters' conferences and other Scouting events to organize special contributions to the Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund. We applaud this thoughtful practice and respectfully suggest that you consider it as part of your celebrations. Cheques or money orders should be made payable to Boy Scouts of Canada, Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund.

Turn to page 29 for our latest list of Brotherhood Fund Donations.



The winter season doesn't end in February, so how can another season begin? Well, the one I'm talking about is the re-run season on TV, which starts this month across the land. So, with the second run shows on the tube, your boys may have more free evening time to try some "between meeting activities".

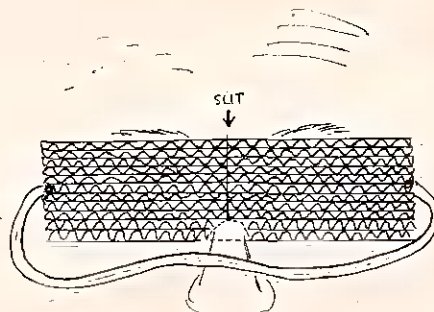
This idea is one which appealed to the lads of my troop. We passed out mimeographed sheets bi-weekly throughout the season, which included some of the ideas presented here. I invite you to photocopy these pages and present them to your boys, with a challenge to do one each week for the next five weeks.

As an incentive, I have a nice plaque here that I made in my workshop, which I will have engraved and will send to the first troop to send me a sharp black and white photo of their entire troop with at least one of the completed projects in their hands. Also, include a short description of how the scheme went over. The first envelope to be received, with the contest rules followed, will receive the trophy; the next nine will receive a New Brunswick crest mounted on a wall panelling plaque.

No entries will be expected before the *fifth* week, as the projects are intended to be "between meeting activities". So, the earliest you can complete the projects will be early March.

All photos and descriptions should be mailed to David Goss, c/o P.O. Box 1971, Saint John, N.B., E2L 4L1. Here are the projects:

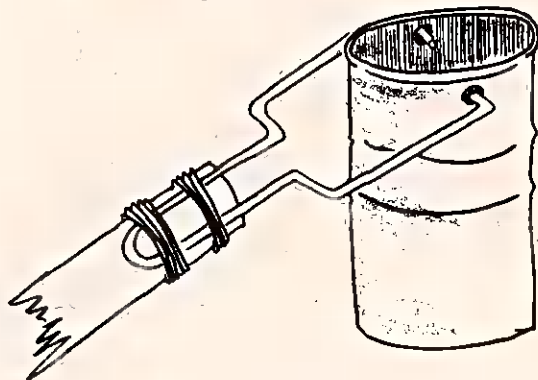
Corrugated Cardboard Snow Goggles — These snow goggles are easy to make and illustrate the principle of snow goggles. To make them, you'll need one square of corrugated cardboard 9" x 9", a strong pair of scissors, a bottle of rubber cement, two strong elastic bands, two bread bag ties and a sharp knife. Cut your cardboard into strips half an inch across (about 20 strips). Glue them together, in a stack-like formation. Twenty-four hours later the glue will have dried and you can then cut an upside-down V shaped hole for your nose. Using your knife, cut a line down the middle of the cardboard, being careful not to cut the cardboard in half. Do the same about two inches in from the left and right margins (edges) of your cardboard, then bend slightly. After that, loop your two elastic bands together and attach to cardboard with ties, as shown in diagram. You will then have a pair of snow goggles that enable you to see very well between the tiny holes in the corrugated cardboard.

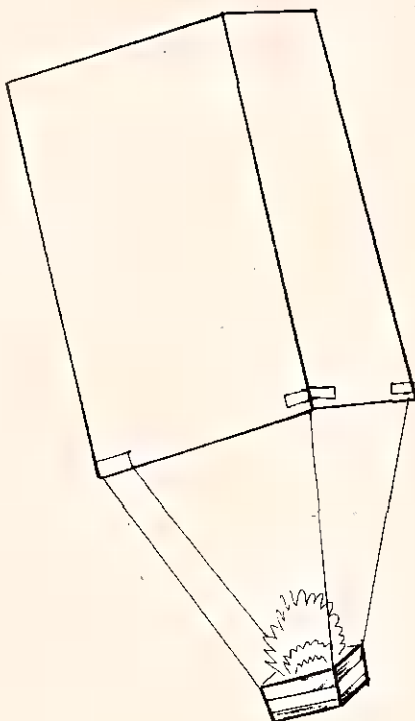


Camp Zero Flare — This flare can be used to light your campsite at winter camp. It is meant to be used outdoors, and should never be lit inside.

Take a long, thin can, such as those that pizza sauce comes in or a ten ounce soup tin. Drill or punch two holes in the top just under the rim, and insert a coat hanger wire into the holes after bending it to the shape shown in the diagram.

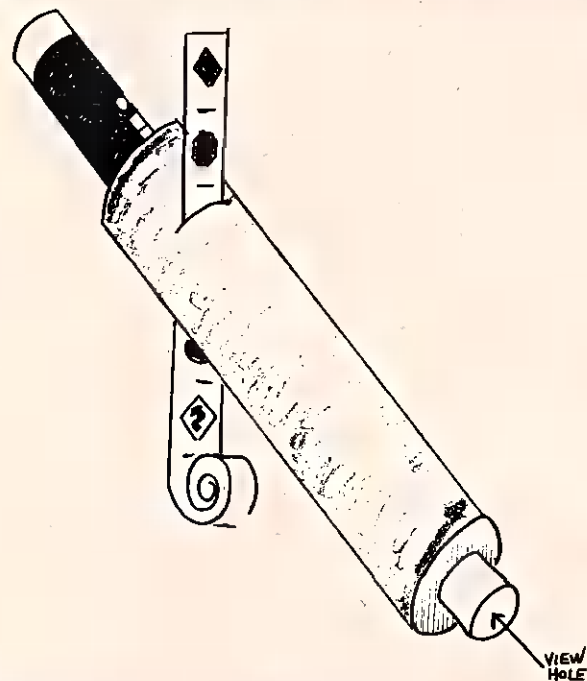
At the camp, tie the handle end of the wire to a stick, and fill the tin can with waste cotton or gauze. Add some methyl hydrate (alcohol) or oil, and light. *Note well* — this is a flare, it will flare up for a few minutes when first lit — keep your face away.





Hot Air Balloon — Get a lunch bag, the type that is rectangular (see diagram). Suspend four fine wires from the edges of the bag to the bottom of a plastic milk carton and tape them in place. Line the bottom of the milk carton and the insides, with foil.

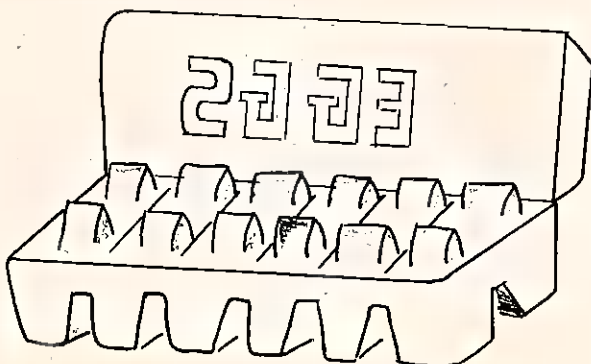
Put in some cotton batting which has been soaked in methyl hydrate (alcohol), and light it. The flame will fill the bag with hot air, causing it to rise. *Do not try indoors and keep faces away from the alcohol.* Best tried outdoors on a calm day.



Symbol Viewer — This activity will provide part of the program for our next meeting, so bring it to the troop meeting on

Fasten a flashlight to the end of a mailing tube so that it projects a beam on a strip of paper which passes through a slit cut in the top and bottom of the tube. On a strip of paper, draw or trace outlines of symbols such as traffic signs, cartoon characters, well known local buildings, crests of sporting teams, etc., so that one symbol at a time will show up in the tube when a viewer peeps in the view hole. As the strip is pulled through, the viewer tells the project-maker what he thinks he sees. A bit of cooking oil rubbed on the viewing strip will make the symbols more vivid. Once you've got the view strip in place, don't pull it out, as it is difficult to re-insert. (Leaders might wisely assign different patrols different symbols to arrange. If you aim your viewer at a ceiling light you may not need a flashlight.)

Egg Carton Cookers — This is an efficient yet easy-to-make cooker. All you need is two egg cartons, a newspaper, some strong string or cord, 24 charcoal briquettes and one large package of parawax.



Begin by placing a charcoal briquette in each egg "cup" of both cartons. Next, melt your parawax carefully in a double boiler, then pour a little into each cup of both cartons, filling each one almost to the brim. Always place your charcoal briquettes in the egg carton cups *before* pouring your parawax.

After the parawax has hardened, close the lids on your egg cartons and place each carton side by side on your newspaper. Then wrap your newspaper around the egg cartons, much like wrapping up a gift, tying everything together with your string or cord.

To use your egg carton cooker, simply scoop out a little basin-like indentation in the snow, put down a layer of aluminum foil about a foot long and a foot and a half wide, then place your cooker on top of the foil. Next, take a match and light your cooker. After the newspaper has burned away and the wax has melted, leaving only your briquettes exposed, you can place your food, (which must, by the way, be wrapped in aluminum foil), on top of the briquettes. When the briquettes turn grey, they are really hot and will do their best job of cooking your food. A

The Striped Skunk

Canadian Wildlife Series

Photograph by National Film Board Photothèque ONF

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The striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) is one of the most useful small mammals that inhabit the mixed farmlands, grasslands and forests of Canada. Unlike many other animals it has adapted well to the presence of man, and its present range, from Central Mexico to the Northwest Territories and from Labrador to west-central British Columbia is much expanded since primeval times.

The skunk prefers open areas of mixed forests and grasslands and has very little fear of man, so it has benefited from the new habitats created by the opening of the forests that accompanied settlement and agriculture.

There are four groups of skunks represented by eight species in North America, but only two species occur in Canada. The hog-nosed skunks (*Conepatus*) are confined to the southwestern United States, Mexico and South America, and the hooded skunk (*Mephitis macroura*) occurs in the southwestern United States and Mexico. Of the four species of spotted skunk (*Spilogale*), the eastern spotted skunk (*Spilogale putorius*) almost reaches the Canadian border between Minnesota and Manitoba, but only the western spotted skunk (*Spilogale gracilis*) actually occurs in Canada. There are a few records of this skunk in southern British Columbia, but only as far as 70 miles north of Vancouver. The striped skunk is the one familiar to most Canadians.

Characteristics

The striped skunk is about the size of a cat, but has a stout body, a rather small head, short legs and a bushy tail. Its small head fits conveniently, but sometimes too snugly, into enticing open jars.

The thick, glossy fur is black, with a thin white stripe

down the centre of the face and a broad white stripe beginning on the back of the head, forking at the shoulders and continuing as a white stripe along each side of the back to the base of the tail. The tail is mostly black, but the stripes may extend down it, usually to a tuft of white at the tip.

Fur buyers grade skunk pelts into four groups, depending on the amount of white in the fur. Black skunks are considered the most valuable.

The skunk has long, straight claws for digging out the burrows of mice, ripping apart old logs for grubs and larvae, and digging in the sand for turtle eggs. It moves slowly and deliberately, and depends for safety not on running away, nor on remaining inconspicuous, but on its scent glands.

Skunks belong to the weasel family Mustelidae, all of whose members have well-developed scent glands and a musky odour. The skunk is outstanding for this characteristic, however, and can discharge a bad smelling fluid to defend itself. Indeed its scientific name, *mephitis*, is a Latin word meaning "bad odour".

The scent of the skunk is produced by a thick, yellow, oily fluid, or musk, secreted by two glands located on either side of the anus at the base of the tail. The glands are about the size of a grape, and contain about a tablespoon of musk, enough for five or six discharges. The glands are connected by ducts to two small nipples that are hidden when the tail is down and exposed when the tail is raised. The musk is produced rather slowly, at a rate of about one-third of an ounce a week, and is discharged only as a last desperate measure after repeated warning signals.

A skunk is not an aggressive animal and will always try to retreat from a man or other large enemy. An angry skunk will growl or hiss, stamp its front feet rapidly, or even walk a short distance on its front feet with its tail high in the air.

The striped skunk cannot spray from this position. To perform that defence it usually humps its back and turns in a U-shaped position so that both the head and tail face the enemy. Many people used to the antics of the striped skunk have been deceived on their first encounter with a spotted skunk, which faces an attacker standing on its front feet with its back and tail arched forward.

The skunk directs the fluid from the glands in a stream that disperses into a fine spray. The spray can reach as far as 20 feet, and can be aimed with considerable accuracy for five to ten feet. The odour is strong enough to be carried at least one-half mile on the wind. At close range the spray of a skunk causes severe smarting of the eyes and even nausea, but these symptoms soon disappear as the nasal passages quickly become desensitized to the odour.

Various remedies are recommended to get rid of the odour on clothing or dogs that have been sprayed by a skunk, but some of the remedies are almost as bad as the musk. Vinegar or a mixture of vinegar and detergent is a simple and quite effective treatment. Veterinarians, who treat large numbers of dogs that have been sprayed by skunks, recommend a bath in tomato juice.

Skunks seem to be aware of the repulsiveness of their own odour, and avoid scenting on themselves. They therefore avoid musking in confined spaces, and their dens have little of the skunk odour about them. Skunks may be carried in a burlap bag or a covered live trap, as long as they are not bumped or badly frightened.

Habits

Skunks generally live in the abandoned dens of woodchucks, foxes or other mammals their size or larger

and only occasionally excavate their own dens. They will also use stumps, rock piles, or refuse heaps, or even will set up housekeeping under a house or porch or in a cellar. The latter practice is especially common in farming areas. Skunks that den under buildings should be trapped outside. Never shoot them under the building. To dispose of unwanted or locally harmful skunks without harming them, box traps may be used. Such traps permit easy handling of the skunks and transportation to more suitable localities for release. Once the skunk is captured, the trap may be covered with several burlap bags until it is transported several miles away and the skunk released. For information on obtaining such a trap, contact the local humane society.

If a skunk digs its own den, the den is usually simple, but one taken over from another animal may be quite elaborate. There may be from one to five well hidden openings that lead to a system of tunnels and chambers. One of the chambers is lined with about a bushel of leaves and used for a nest. The leaves may also be used to plug the openings to the den in cold weather. A skunk gathers leaves by placing them under its body, and then shuffling along to the den with the leaves held between its legs as it moves.

Skunks may leave their den to forage at any hour of the day, but are usually abroad from late afternoon or evening through the night. They forage within about one-half mile of the den, but may venture as far away as a mile and one-half in a night. Males become more active during the breeding season, when they may travel four or five miles a night.

Skunks are truly omnivorous. They eat insects, mice, shrews, ground squirrels, young rabbits, birds' eggs and various plants. During the autumn and winter they eat about equal amounts of plant and animal foods, but eat mainly insects in the summer. Skunks are especially fond of grasshoppers, crickets and insect larvae such as white grubs, army worms and cutworms. They will even eat wasps and bees, which they kill with their front feet. Although they annoy farmers by raids on beehives and henhouses, it has been estimated that almost 70 percent of a skunk's diet constitutes a benefit to man and only 5 percent is harmful to his property.

By autumn skunks have acquired a heavy layer of fat and in November or December they select a deep den in which to spend the winter. As many as 20 skunks have been found in one den, but the number is usually much fewer. Usually the mother and young den together, entering the den when the temperature reaches about 32° F.

Males are active until the temperature reaches about 15° F, and may join their own family, other males or may den alone. They may emerge briefly from their den at any time during winter. Any association of sex and age may be found together in a den.

By late February, in some parts of Canada, skunks begin to awaken from their winter state of torpor, and are fully active by the end of March. On the prairies and in the most northern parts of the range, spring emergence is somewhat later.

Breeding

Skunks begin to breed in late February or March, when they emerge from their dens, and the young are usually born in early May. There are usually four to six young in a litter, although the number may vary from two to sixteen.

A newborn skunk weighs about one-half ounce and, although almost naked at birth, shows the characteristic black and white colour pattern of the adult. They

are fully haired in about 13 days and their eyes open after 17 to 21 days.

When the young skunks are approximately seven weeks old the female takes them out to forage for food, and they are weaned at about two months. They remain with their mother until autumn and may join her in the winter den.

Enemies

The scent of the skunk is an effective defence against most natural enemies. Nevertheless it is preyed upon by bobcats and birds of prey. Most birds, especially hawks and owls, have developed the sense of sight at the expense of their sense of smell; the Great Horned Owl in particular seems relatively unaffected by the scent and has made the skunk its principal prey.

Trappers take 6,000 to 7,000 skunks a year in Canada, but this represents only a small fraction of the total skunk population and has no appreciable effect on their numbers.

Motorists are a much greater hazard. Skunks, like porcupines, are overly confident of their defence mechanisms, and often pay heavily for the air of unconcern with which they cross highways.

Skunks as carriers of rabies

Skunks are a major carrier of the virus of rabies which all warm-blooded animals, including man, are susceptible to. The occurrence of rabies is a continuing problem in many parts of Canada. Skunks may transmit the disease to other wildlife, livestock, and to humans as well as propagating it among their own kind. While skunks will normally retreat from man, the rabid animal will often show no fear of him. Children in particular should be warned against handling "over-friendly" skunks.

If a person is bitten, he should cleanse the wound at once and report to a physician. Delay could result in a human fatality. The nearest federal veterinary authorities (Health of Animals Branch, Canada Department of Agriculture) should be alerted immediately. The skunk should be caught, if possible, for examination at one of the Department's Animal Pathology Laboratories.

Economic importance

Although skunks may become a nuisance to poultrymen and beekeepers, the damage they inflict is not economically important and they are beneficial to agriculture. In fact, skunks proved such an efficient enemy of the hop grub in New York State that legislation was passed to protect the skunk. In many parts of their range they are the most important predator on insect pests.

The skunk is a fur bearer of minor importance. Its fur, which is thick and lustrous, can be used for coats and jackets, but is mainly used for trimming. Most of the pelts marketed in Canada come from eastern Canada.

In the period following the First World War, when fur prices were high and unstriped black skunks were in great demand, various attempts were made to raise skunks on fur farms. Had fur prices remained at the level they reached during the boom, these ventures might have succeeded, but today the cost of raising a skunk is far more than the pelt is worth. The value of the skunk lies elsewhere. It is an interesting and attractive animal which plays a significant part in nature, specifically as a predator of mice and insects. X

From the Canadian Wildlife Service's HINTERLAND WHO'S WHO series. Reproduced by permission of the Minister of Supply Services Canada.



training talk

by reg roberts

This month
Reg writes about ...

Using Wood Badge Notes

Using Wood Badge Notes

A couple of months ago, I spent a very pleasant and informative weekend at the Ontario Trainers' Conference at Blue Springs just outside Acton, Ontario. The weather during the weekend was crisp and cold. The discussions that took place were also crisp though far from cold and a well balanced agenda kept things warm throughout the conference.

This is an annual event in Ontario, one that brings key trainers together from every part of the province. Its purpose, apart from the important one of simply bringing trainers together, was to review the state of training in the province, provide a period of renewal for those attending, examine in detail some particular training areas and become familiar (or at least be exposed to) some new developments in the field of adult leader training.

Aside from the content, the entire format was set out in such a way as to provide a model for the participants to consider when setting up training events in their own back home area. The accommodation was indoors and comfortable, the meals were catered, well balanced and appetizing, coffee breaks created appropriate pauses for people to get together in informal groups to discuss mutual interests, and a qualified and friendly staff of trainers put the whole event together.

The bringing of people together and the opportunity for frequent and informal groupings is an important factor, in my view, in helping to establish that the training program in any province is not something that happens in isolation.

In most provinces, training is planned and developed by a relatively small group of dedicated people who put much time and effort into making sure that a large number of section leaders, committee and council personnel are as well trained to carry out their respective jobs as is possible.

For this group of trainers, much sharing of information took place. The exchange of views, the questioning of certain practices and procedures led to a high degree of enlightenment for all concerned.

As planners and developers of training, those attending picked up many insights as to how similar things are done in various other areas. While the basic objectives for training sessions are essentially the same in each area of a province, approaches to carrying out the training do tend to differ.

Regional traditions are an influence, of course, as is the makeup of local training teams and the length of time people have worked together. It is often easy to see (in such a conference setting) that doing the same thing over and over again in the same way (because it worked so

well in the past) may not always be the best approach. Especially when you hear of a really neat way of handling a session that you had not previously considered.

Events such as this conference also provide opportunities to check out one's own understanding of certain policies or objectives and one's competency in a number of skill areas. Some sizing up of other trainers takes place, of course, but for the most positive of reasons such as "What can I learn from him or her that I can make use of?" and also in terms of perhaps inviting a trainer from another part of the province to participate as a trainer on a course in your area.

For me, writing for this magazine is sometimes a rather anonymous endeavour and so it was a happy occurrence to have people discuss previous articles and, more important, to ask if I would consider writing about such and such in a future issue. The discussions around such requests were extremely valuable.

Getting back to the title of this month's article — one of the key subject areas for the conference was the use of the Wood Badge notes for each section. Produced under the title of *Guidelines to Beaver (Cub, Scout, Venturer) Leaders' Wood Badge*, these notes have been available for the past couple of years. Regularly they are reviewed and, in the light of any feedback or to provide for any program or policy changes, they are updated.

I should start by saying that almost without question, the trainers like the notes and really use them on a regular basis when planning a Part I or Part II section Wood Badge course.

During this particular training weekend a general review of the notes — their content and usage — was carried out and, while it would be difficult to relay all of the comments, it is important to pass some along.

The notes are set out in the following manner. At the beginning are a series of introductory pages followed by specific objectives to be achieved during the course and then finally, a number of suggested course operating procedures, staffing requirements and supporting appendices which are felt to be of value to the training staff.

One concern expressed was that some trainers do not have a full set of any of the particular notes but rather just copies of those pages for the sessions they will be conducting. The consensus of opinion was that trainers should have a full set so that they would have a sense of continuity and a feel for the entire event.

The notes do not indicate an opening or introductory session for either Part I or Part II courses and this was felt to be something that should be corrected. In responding to this comment I pointed out that a welcome to the course and an introduction to what the event is all about

was seen to be automatic and so was not included.

Many things might have been included, coffee breaks being one of them, but essentially the Wood Badge Guidelines are just that — guidelines to the vital content to be covered but with as much flexibility as possible concerning how the course objectives are to be achieved.

The subject and content areas, the methods and techniques suggested and the lists of resources for each session are similarly brief in the belief that local conditions, expert resource persons, participant requirements and trainer competencies are all factors you will consider when interpreting the notes and planning a course.

A good point to consider was raised in regard to the placement of the sessions and various subject areas within the sessions. The guidelines, if followed to the letter, will provide an acceptable and appropriate format for a Part I or Part II course. However, there is no reason why a competent team cannot rearrange the order to suit themselves if that is seen as more appropriate in meeting the needs of the participants.

Some sessions lend themselves to a certain location within the structure and to being completed in one session. Other subject areas may be better dealt with piecemeal throughout the course. As trainers you have the flexibility to move in either direction as you choose.

While a closing session is not spelled out, the trainers felt it extremely useful to note this fact and to indicate the need for a summary of all that had gone before, relating it to back home, just before participants leave. This I fully endorse.

Writing objectives out on paper does not always give them the *active* significance one might like to see, so that trainers felt it important to note that, wherever possible, the objectives should be achieved by "doing things". Obviously much information giving will take place, which tends to be somewhat passive. So, wherever possible, consider an active way of putting the training across to achieve the objectives.

While the objectives are intended to be dealt with in a manner that *all* section leaders can appreciate and understand, there are only a few specific references to working with boys who have handicaps. Trainers should check the participant groups for leaders who have boys with handicaps and ensure that they fully understand how to apply the learning in such situations. Indeed, since any section could have a handicapped child, it would be worthwhile to explore this learning area in some depth.

In each of the guidelines is an appendix which deals with "The Spiritual Side of Scouting". Some discussion arose over the apparent indication that participants could opt out of this aspect of the training program. This certainly was not intended. The intent here is that the very important area of spiritual guidance within Scouting is not something that takes place only on Sunday. Certainly opportunities for church attendance must be provided and trainers should arrange for a Scout's Own to take place for those who wish to participate in that form of religious observance. Of equal importance is the matter of spiritual observances which can happen at any time and any place. Trainers should seek every opportunity to emphasize these points in any session that seems appropriate. While it is a good idea to invite a chaplain to resource this area of training, be sure that other skills a chaplain may have in any training areas are used to the best advantage.

The guideline sessions that deal with "Understanding Boys" received a fair amount of comment and a variety of ideas were exchanged around how this session may be made effective. Most people felt that the many films

now available from public libraries, school boards or other local sources are really valuable in stimulating discussion and understanding of this training area. Again it was pointed out that, while a specific session does cover this area, it is also a subject that can be reinforced in many of the other sessions.

The guidelines for Wood Badge training do seem to have proved to be effective and their acceptance is general across Canada. They are intended to provide, for trainers, the essential objectives to be achieved if those adults who seek such training are to be equipped to carry out their Scouting jobs in the most able manner.

But all the written notes in the world will not be effective unless you who carry out the training take the written word and make it come alive. It's your interest, creativity and insight that is required to look at an objective, determine where it fits for a given training group and then, together with the participants, put it across.

What we seek as a result of our training is that each participant comes to understand the many aspects of Scouting's programs and develops the skills to practice with the boys in the section, those ideals, concepts and activities that will help them to grow and develop into individuals who are happy about themselves and are prepared to deal with the world around them.

The Blue Springs Training Conference did much for the trainers who attended and all, I am sure, left with a stronger resolve to continue to do the best possible job of training they can. They also left knowing that they are not alone, that others seek the same results in other parts of the province.

These results are, I submit, extremely worthy and when achieved are a source of tremendous satisfaction to trainer and participant alike. X

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This issue I want to share with you a letter and photo I received from Catherine Held from North Delta B.C., as I think it outlines some opportunities for Beavers.

"We have an interesting new colony in our district. I'm dying to share a few of the things that are happening in it.

"The colony and committee is made up of members of the Sikh and Christian community (I think it is necessary to use those as distinctions). We have a Sikh Temple in North Delta, and the colony meets in a school where many of the boys go.

"Because of the difficulties that are encountered, the colony is a small step towards better understanding and respect through sharing.

"The boys and their families shared evening worship at the temple and we ate dinner there

afterwards. Next week the ladies are getting together to plan a Christmas celebration, where the boys will decorate a Christmas tree in the leader's home. The leaders in the picture are Beth Bennet who worked with me during the summer to make sure the colony got started in the fall. The other leader in the picture is Mr. Gill, a very delightful grandfather, who is a retired chief of police from India.

"You may notice that the East Indian boys are wearing turbans with the Beaver crest on the front. The boys are all enjoying the Beaver program and each other. The adults, too, are enjoying working together. It has been my privilege to learn many interesting things about another culture, and to get to know some really fine people as friends. There is plenty of sharing, plenty of learning — mostly there is love . . ." X



paksat by Bob Butcher

Kim — A New Leadership Position in the Cub Pack

At its November 1978 meeting, National Council approved the introduction of a new leadership position in the Cub pack. The following are some guidelines for Cub leaders for the introduction of this position to their packs.

Background

When the Beaver program was developed in 1971 a leadership position called 'Keeto' was created. Keeto is an older Cub who works as a member of the Beaver leadership team. Because this position has had considerable success and appears to have some significant advantages, it was decided that a similar position ought to be created in the Cub leadership team.

Name

KIM is a name closely associated with Scouting. Rudyard Kipling, author of *The Jungle Books*, wrote a novel

of that name which was published in 1901, and which tells the story of a boy of Scout age and his adventures in India. B.-P. tells of these adventures in *Scouting for Boys*, Campfire Yarn #1, wherein he concludes:

"These adventures of Kim . . . illustrate the kind of valuable work a Boy Scout can do . . . if he is sufficiently trained and sufficiently intelligent".

Though not directly a part of the Jungle theme, there is a close relationship here too. The theme of *Kim* is already familiar in the Wolf Cub program through such activities as Kim's Games. Kipling's story can form a valuable base for the introduction of the proposed position to the Wolf Cub program.

Role

KIM is a member of the leadership team in the Cub pack. The position should be filled by a Scout, preferably one in his 2nd or 3rd year of the Scout program. He will serve as a link between the Cub and the Scout programs, and also serve to strengthen the communications link between the Cubs and adult members of the leadership team. There may be one or more Scouts filling this role.

Duties

KIM should be employed in a variety of ways. Apart from helping with games, crafts, and stories, and other program items, these will be some of his special func-

tions:

- As a Scout involved in his own program as well as Cubs, he should inform his Scout leaders about the Cub program and the Cub leaders about the Scout program.
- He should introduce the older Cubs (10 year olds) to Scouting, in order to make their transition from pack to troop much easier.
- He should participate in the Going-up Ceremony and escort the Cubs into the troop.
- He should begin to assist the Cubs with their Scout badge requirements, to facilitate their investiture into the troop.
- He should be a link between the Cubs and Scouts at joint functions such as Christmas parties, picnics and other group activities.

Selection

KIM should be chosen carefully. If there is a troop attached to the group or nearby, the Cub leaders should contact the Scout leaders, explain to them the role of this position, and invite them to visit a pack meeting to see where KIM will fit in. The Scout leaders should then be in a position to recommend some candidates to choose from. In making their selection, Cub leaders must keep a number of considerations in mind.

• KIM should have the time required to do the job, keeping in mind other activities, Scout and otherwise. The Scout leaders and parents should be involved in this assessment.

• He should be warm and friendly and able to get along with the Cub age group.

• He should be reliable when counted on to do a job.

• He should be a responsible boy and able to set a good example for the Cubs.

• He should know how to work with others and communicate with them.

• He should be able to express himself and be capable of responding to needs experienced by others.

• He should be an older Scout. A young Scout might be too close to Cub age and more prone to participating as a Cub, rather than as a leader.

• He should be able to gain satisfaction through giving, not just getting.

• He should join in pack activities and work with sixes.

NOTE: This is a Cub leadership position to be filled at the initiative of Cub leaders for a specifically Cub pur-

pose. It is not to be construed as a reintroduction of the former "Cub Instructor Badge" which was an element of the Scout program, initiated by Scout people for Scout purposes.

However, work in this position could be applied to the service requirements for the Arrowhead Badge.

Tenure

In selecting a Scout for this position, he should be asked to fill this role for a set period of time only. It might vary from pack to pack but would probably be for one Cubbing season or at least six months, if going-up ceremonies are held twice yearly. It would be useful to have an agreement with KIM that if he does not like his job after a month, or if in the other leaders' eyes he is not performing as expected, he could be excused. There should be mutual assurance that he will retain his Scout role, and the Scout leaders and parents should be involved in monitoring any time pressures imposed.

Training

As a member of the Cub leadership team, he is entitled to some explanation and guidance on what his job would entail and how he should go about it. He should be made fully aware that he is part of the leadership team and that he will be called upon to share in the planning meetings for the pack meetings and programs. He should be trained by the other leaders of the team, and can also participate in any council courses designed for this position. He should not take part in the adult training program.

Uniform

KIM will wear his regular Scout uniform at pack meetings to identify him as KIM.

Leadership

Filling this role could be an important growing experience for a Scout. In the pack he should have the opportunity to work with a team of adults in program planning and to see the results of his work in the pack meeting. Here he should have a chance to develop and use his leadership skills in helping Cubs do things for themselves, in accordance with their readiness and abilities. It should be an opportunity for him to make a contribution to the Scouting Movement of which he is a part. X

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Suggestion for new sort of tug-o'-war: Four teams of equal number, each with its own rope secured to an old car tire at intervals of 90°. A circle of about 3m. diameter is marked out on the deck. Opposite teams combine to manoeuvre the tire clear of the circle against the pull of the other two. The only rule, strictly enforced by an independent observer, is that the ropes must be kept taut at all times.

Do try it. There may be more to it than you imagine.

At an excellent conference we attended in the West Midlands last autumn, a small group of patrol leaders, who'd been invited with the obvious intention of helping the conferees to keep their feet on the ground, were asked what they most liked about Scouting and, much to our surprise, said "All of it".

Later in the discussion I suggested that it might help to put a bit of sparkle into the troop night program if they threw in an occasional encounter with the Guides — as, for instance, a friendly round-the-houses wide game on Twelfth Night. The idea was coldly received. "All right," I said crossly, stung to the quick by this unexpected rebuff, "then why don't you try to get your patrols certified?"

"Certified?" they said. "What's that?"

"As members of the Lunatic Fringe, of course," I said exasperatedly.

Blank stares all round the circle.

The truth of the matter being that they'd never even heard of the Lunatic Fringe.

Anyhow, to cut a long story short, those patrol leaders have given a solemn undertaking that they will do their best to become Certified, provided that we publish a few suggestions for the sort of thing that might justify the award of the coveted certificate.

Here we go then:

1. Organize an inter-patrol tent-erecting competition indoors, in which ridge tents are erected and held in position by teams of six Scouts only. At a signal, the tents must be lifted shoulder high, moved round the troop room in a clockwise direction without losing their immaculate shape and re-erected on the spot just vacated by the previous tenants.

2. Each Scout to bring a light spar of some sort from home — a broom, a mop, a (safe) garden tool — anything which has a reasonable shank to it, plus any extras, such as step ladders, clothes horses, hurdles and other oddments which they think might come in handy. The purpose of the exercise will be to build up, on sound pioneering principles, the life-sized skeleton of an unknown species of dinosaur. Lots of sisal twine lashings will be provided and cameras will be at the ready so that photographs of the completed monster, surrounded by its progenitors, may later be submitted to the Editor of this magazine for possible publication.

And while you are about it, you might as well invent a suitable name for the creature.

3. Divide the patrol into two teams, one led by the p.l., the other by his assistant. From the map, find two places in the landscape, within easy distance of the headquarters and not less than a quarter of a mile apart, from which you can exchange simple light signals. Sealed messages, written in Morse Code, to be provided by a Scout leader. On their return to base, the teams must decode each other's message, so that they will know what they have been saying to each other.

4. All Creatures Great and Small (with acknowledgements to Mr. James Herriot, who wrote the popular



series of novels): Try to persuade the other patrol leaders to join you in promoting a livestock show in which every member of the troop must bring a live creature of some sort to the troop meeting. Points will be awarded for the best cared for exhibit — not necessarily the most attractive.

5. With anything you can find, improvise a sedan chair and use it to carry the youngest member of your patrol back home after the meeting.

6. Make use of a roll (or rolls) of white toilet paper and coloured felt pens to put an attractive frieze right round the troop room, based on the Scout Law plus any "woodcrafty" symbols you like to introduce. Every Scout in the troop must contribute.

Very well. We have kept our side of the pact with those patrol leaders in the West Midlands. Now it is up to them, isn't it? Yes, it is. And, speaking for myself, I can hardly wait to see what they will come up with.

Our local hedgehogs make the most extraordinary noises when they visit us for supper each evening. But is it possible — can it be, oh tell me do — that I heard one whistling, actually whistling, the other night?

My wife heard him first and sent me out to investigate. The time was about ten o'clock on a mild evening in late October. A gusty wind was blowing and the air was full of the dry sounds of autumn. But there was no mistaking that particular sound. A whistle, high-pitched and clear. Without shadow of doubt, a whistle.

Whoever or whatever it was — he, she, it, — was buried deep in our untidy shrubbery. I waited, watched and listened but nothing stirred. No hint of movement. No sign of life. And no more whistling.

I returned to the bungalow and kept watch on the supper plate of bread and milk, outside the front porch. Presently he turned up as usual and buried his snout in the trough. The nightly ritual was observed. At half-time he waddled off into the herbaceous border as if to get his second wind; then back he came to finish the job before upsetting the saucer in the middle of the garden path and beetling off home, leaving his trademark as usual, behind him.

But that whistling? Could it have been him? If not who else?

Next time you find yourself in a position where your life depends on your ability to write an invisible message, you might like to know the looking-glass-and-wet-paper method. Simply spread your wet paper on the glass, cover it with a sheet of dry paper and write your message with a ball-point pen. The message will disappear from the wet sheet as it dries out. To bring it up again, simply re-wet the paper.

The cook wished to measure exactly four fluid ounces from a billycan. Apart from the billy, he had two mugs, one holding five ounces, the other three. How did he do it?

Now, let us suppose that he wished to measure out exactly four and a half ounces and had only a four and a five ounce mug available — what then?

The answers to both these baffling problems are in the endpiece.

Now, with compliments, a few trivialities for the coffee break at the next meeting of your Court of Honour.

- Hand out light ropes and spend a few minutes making and unmaking that splendid new knot, Hunter's Bend, until everyone has it at his fingertips and can pass it on to his own Scouts during patrol-time at next week's troop meeting. (Diagram by courtesy of H.M.S. Ark Royal Deep Sea Scout Crew, to whom many thanks.) Find out the behaviour of this bend under a variable strain by making it loosely with very short tails and work-

ing it concertina fashion. Compare with other joining knots — reef, sheet bend, etc.

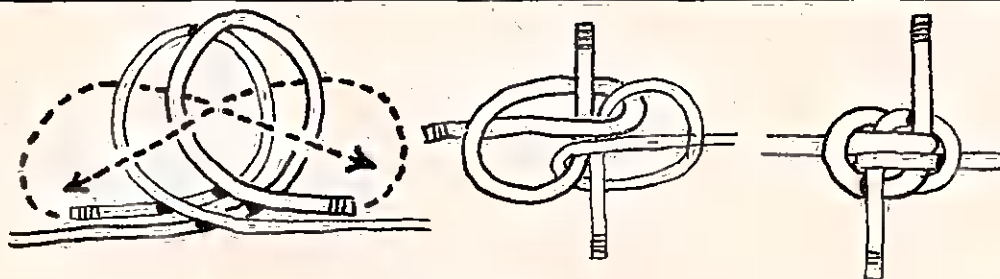
- Charge a sheet of light brown paper with static electricity, simply by heating it and then brushing it vigorously in one direction with a clothes brush. Scatter scraps of newspaper on the tabletop and hold the sheet a few inches above them to create a miniature snow-storm in reverse.

- Scouts in pairs practice lip-reading by mouthing uncomplimentary remarks across the table. (Note: it will help if lip and tongue movements are studied beforehand in what you might like to call an "audiovisual" exercise!)

- Working from ground level, try putting a Highwayman's Hitch round an overhead beam.

- Provide the use of a 30 mm ruler (or rulers) and allow each man five minutes to prepare and memorize a table of his own digital measurements which will enable him to measure *accurately* various (named) features in the room — e.g. the noticeboard, the tabletop, Skip's waistline, etc. The measurements could then be compared with each other and with the master list.

- Anything involving food is always popular. Just before coffee break, while deliberations are still under way, produce a single hamburger and carve it carefully into small sections, one for each member of the Court. Provide aluminum foil, soft wire, candles, matchboxes filled with sand and cocktail sticks. When coffee is served, cover the table with protective sheets of newspaper and invite the boys to prepare their own snacks.



Overlap the free ends of two ropes and make a fore-hand loop in both ropes together. Pass the ends through both loops in opposite directions so that each makes a thumb knot in itself. Work tight.



For joining ropes both thin and thick,
Hunter's Bend will do the trick.
Just make two loops and lose each end
And you'll have made it — HUNTER'S BEND!

The problem facing the gardener's boy is that he must grip his "wheelbarrow" well above the knees and try to keep it on the straight and narrow by pushing only (pulling strictly *verboten*) while the barrow twists and turns in an effort to go the other way. "Stubborn Donkey" is self-explanatory, the only rule being that the "donkey" must not dip his head to free himself from his master's handgrip.

In the line-and-circle problem, your pencil should take the following route: A to B, by right hand curve to E; to D; by right hand curve to C; straight down to D; by left hand curve to C; to B; by left hand curve to E; to F.

Finally we return to the Two Mug Trick.

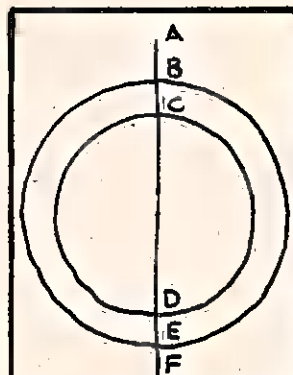
One way of solving the first problem would be to fill the five ounce mug (No. 1) and from it fill the three ounce mug, leaving two ounces in mug No. 1. The cook would pour the three ounces back into the billy and decant his two ounces into mug No. 2. He would then refill mug No. 1 and from it would top up mug No. 2, leaving, if my arithmetic is correct, four ounces in mug No. 1.

There may be a better way, but I'm afraid that's the best I can do at the moment.

In the second problem a different technique would be needed. All you have to do is to halve the contents of each mug by tipping each in turn until the surface of the liquid just touches the rim at both top and bottom. Δ



Place two coins on your elbow and try to catch them before they hit the deck



Draw this in one continuous line without lifting your pencil off the paper.

27



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PATROL CORNER

by Phil Newsome

Through The Scout Handbook

How many times have you been asked: "What do Scouts do NOW?" or "I remember when I was a Scout, we used to . . . ; do they still do that?"

The following troop activity may go a long way to answering some of the many questions about the Scout program, as well as providing hours of program material for small groups of Scouts or for that matter for the total patrol or troop. The basic idea is to make the *Canadian Scout Handbook* come alive to those who view the presentation, as well as for those who present the material.

The scheme involves breaking the patrols into groups of two or three Scouts and giving each group a chapter of the handbook to illustrate through skits or other visual demonstrations. A quick glance at the table of content of the *Canadian Scout Handbook* will show that there are nine major sections, not including the last two items of badge requirements and the badge scheme. The latter does, however, lend itself to a very good static display which may be of interest to many former Scouts. Each of the major sections of the handbook also represents at least one achievement badge and in some cases the chapter contains material covered in a number of achievement badges.

With this in mind, the presentation could be developed around the badge scheme, which at the same time covers the purpose of showing what boys do in the Scout program.

Each group of boys develops a method of presenting a chapter of the handbook. The total presentation can be part of a parents' night held as a windup to the year's activities, or as a display for Scout-Guide Week in a shopping mall or other display area. In either case, those who see the total presentation see the handbook come alive, as Scouts demonstrate what Scouting is all about and what activities make up the Scout program.

Scouters may wish to suggest some possible methods of presentation, such as using 35 mm slides to illustrate the section on "becoming a Scout" or perhaps the organization of the total project can be given to the group of Scouts responsible for the chapter on "leadership". If the event is being designed as an evening presentation, you may wish to consider the use of a master of ceremonies, who presents the material as if he were reading the handbook.

Keep in mind that Scouting will not only be judged by the activities and skills that are demonstrated but also by how the display is organized and the effort that goes into each component part of the total display.

Thought must be given to the order of presentation (flow) so those viewing do not have to move back and forth through the exhibit. Continuity is most important if your viewers are to understand how a Scout progresses through the Scout program or how a particular skill is developed to perfection. Don't overlook the possibility of unique display methods, such as, have a small pool with a canoe to demonstrate how to stow gear properly for travel. The pool could be constructed of a wood or metal frame with a thick plastic tarp as a liner. It may be wise to use this type of demonstration outdoors. Those who are more adventurous and wish to also demonstrate how quickly Scouts can react to any emergency, may wish to put the prefab pool indoors. Additional equipment such as mops and buckets may be necessary.

This may be the opportune time to invite those older Wolf Cubs, who will soon be coming up to the troop, to view the presentation, so that they may see just what Scouting is all about. The added attraction of including a pictorial review of the past year's activities may be just the incentive for more boys to join your troop. Not only will the event answer some of those questions about what Scouts do but it may also open the eyes of some of your Scouts who have forgotten some of the skill in camping, knots and lashings, or conservation practices.

As in any presentation of Scouting activities there must be as much action as possible. We want to project an action packed, fun and adventurous program and this will not be accomplished successfully with boys sitting around or with static display. Boys doing things catch the eye and the imagination of the viewer and, if you can give away something, maybe pancakes, or camp twists, etc. it would be even better.

Another point to keep in mind is that recruitment of both boys and leaders happen in the strangest places and a supply of pamphlets and other information material should be available.

One final suggestion, if the presentation is to be used at a shopping mall or in a large hall, think about the possibility of an appropriate entrance or gateway that will be eye-catching and draw people to the demonstration.

The theme, "Through the Scout Handbook", could be used annually as the material and methods of presentation would be as varied as the boys developing them. The event does take time to develop and will require the boys getting together to prepare and practice their material. This in itself may provide an added benefit and contribute to a stronger, more close knit working group for future activities. X

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

In October, the **Green Acres Region** of Ontario held their annual fall camporee at Woodland Trails Camp and at that time each of the 400 participants released a helium filled balloon which contained their names and addresses. In the seven weeks following the release, a number of the tags were returned and, while some naturally came from Ontario, they also came from Sussex, N.B.; Lafargeville and Saranac Lake, New York State; Howland, Maine; Sutton, Vermont and New Hampshire.

This picture reminds me of the scene in the famous, full-length cartoon feature, *Gulliver's Travels*, where the tiny Lilliputians climbed all over the sleeping Gulliver and tied him down. Actually, the Cubs of the **Rockway Division, North Waterloo District, Ontario**, are battling a giant but not a human one — this is a 20,000 gallon rubber storage tank donated to Camp Everton by the **B.F. Goodrich Canada Ltd.** The tank is 65 feet long and gave the kids a lot of fun by acting like a rolling and pitching trampoline whenever it was climbed on. Our picture was sent along by **Bob Bareham**, division commissioner, who told us that the tank has been named the **Whale**, and been responsible for the invention of a number of unique "water tank" games. However, we won't bother to pass them on because we don't really expect many camps to add this type of facility to their games equipment.

Cubs and Beavers in **Colchester District, Nova Scotia**, had an op-

portunity last fall to share the fun of Scouting with their non-Scouting friends, and at the same time compete for prizes for themselves and their packs.

The boys participated in two "Treasure Hunts" sponsored by the Consumer Products Group of **Union Carbide Canada Limited**.

The Treasure Hunt idea was conceived in 1976 by Union Carbide and Scouting officials as a means of introducing young people to some of the attractions of Scouting. The idea was tried out in Toronto and Montreal and found to be fun for all.

For the Cubs and Beavers and their friends who they invited along, the hunts involved searching a wooded area for a hidden treasure, in this case some 1500 Eveready batteries. The batteries when found were traded in for points, and prizes were awarded to those boys having top scores.

Each participant in the hunt received at least one prize, ranging from a flashlight to camping and sporting equipment. After the hunt was over, a series of games, including tug-of-war and relay races were held, followed by an outdoor lunch.

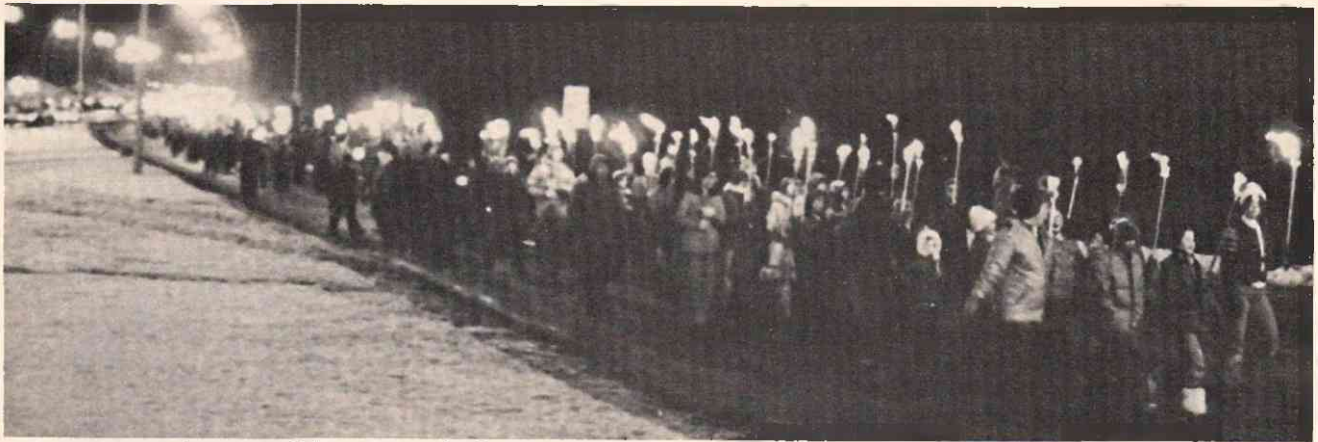
More than 350 Cubs and Beavers participated in the Colchester outings.

From World Scouting's **NEWS-LETTER**... The World Bureau's first experiment in running an international camp in conjunction with the Jamboree-on-the-Air, in October of last year, was a great success with over 150 Scouts, Guides and leaders from six Scout associations camped together on the out-

skirts of Geneva. Troops came from Switzerland, two French associations, two Boy Scouts of America troops and a Canadian troop from the Maple Leaf Region.

The non-radio activities included map and compass competitions, incident hikes and the making and using of solar cookers of cardboard and aluminum foil. Radio activities, in addition to direct voice radio, included teletype slow-scan television and use of the OSCAR satellite. The Bureau station talked to 124 Scout stations in 29 countries... When a devastating tornado swept over the Delhi University area of **India**, Scouting responded immediately to help the 2,000 people affected and the authorities. They cleared up the debris and constructed new huts for the low income victims, and distributed fruit, medicine, clothing and magazines to the injured in hospitals. They also wrote letters for victims telling relatives about their situation, washed patients' clothes and offered other help... As part of a project on their national heritage and culture, Scouts of northern **Greece** became aware that the church and cemetery of Saint Athanassios might be lost to future generations. The church, which was built in 1736 with local material and which contained some magnificent mosaics, had been abandoned and neglected for many years and was approaching an advanced stage of decay. The Scouts raised funds from local landholders and went to work. The first job was to repair the roof to stop further destruction of the mosaics and interior, then the inside was cleaned, simple repairs made and the remaining mosaics fixed in place.





Scout-Guide Week in **Edmonton**, in 1978, got off to a blazing good start when some 2500 members of the two Movements marched, each carrying a blazing cloth torch that had been dipped in wax, to a city park where the Week was officially opened by **Mayor Cec. Purves**. The *Edmonton Journal* newspaper, which kindly allowed us to use this picture by **Jim Cochrane**, noted that Groat Road, along which the parade moved, "looked like a river of fire". Certainly a unique way to kick-off this special event.

The members of the **1st Kimberley Cub Pack, B.C.**, have adopted Pioneer Lodge, a home for the self-caring elderly and visit it two or three times a year with entertainment and refreshments. They also offer their services for odd jobs around the grounds and at Christmas time provide the Christmas tree and have a carol sing.

One of the residents of the Lodge visited **Biggar, Saskatchewan**, last summer and while there bought an ornamental rocking chair which was being sold by Wolf Cubs of the area. She brought the chair back to the Kimberley Cubs as a craft idea. They liked the idea so much that they in turn made a chair for each of the Lodge residents as a Christmas gift.

So you see, it's not only Beavers who like to "share" their time and talents.

On June 5, 1974, along with **Frank Kohler, International Commissioner, Maple Leaf Region in Germany**, I visited World Scouting's chalet in **Kandersteg, Switzerland**, to inspect the Canadian Room, which had been opened in 1957 but had received no attention thereafter. The Kandersteg Committee

had requested that something be done to put the room in order and if possible, to provide the workers, and cash, to move its location from the first to the second floor of the chalet. What I saw on that visit was something that did Canadian Scouting no credit.

On return to Germany, Frank met with the Maple Leaf Regional Council and recommended that the Region assume responsibility for the project.

A little over two years later, on October 19, 1976, I once again visited Kandersteg, this time to participate in the reopening of the new Canadian Room, by **Major-General Ramsey Withers, Commander Canadian Forces Europe and Honorary Field Commissioner, Maple Leaf Region** (now Lieut. General and Vice President of the National Council, Boy Scouts of Canada). Over the two years, the men and women of Maple Leaf had contributed thousands of hours and well over \$2,000 of their own funds, to purchase materials to put the new room in order. One item only was lacking at that time and that was new drapes; the ones on the windows

had come with the first room and were just holding together by threads.

On my return to Canada, I set my wife on the trail of material with an appropriate Canadian motif and after many, many phone calls she was at last given a lead by the Canadian government's exhibition department to a firm in Montreal. They had just what we were looking for and sufficient yardage was purchased and shipped to Germany where **Marg Kohler** sewed it into drapes.

In May 1978, after attending INTERCAMP, we once again drove to Kandersteg, this time to hang the new drapes. This picture, taken by Frank Kohler, shows about half of the room. There are two more sets of bunk beds, a writing desk and closets.

So if you and your boys or family are ever in the vicinity, it is hoped you will visit Kandersteg and take advantage of the facilities. In the meantime, the new Canadian Room is being well used by Scouting people from all over the world, thanks to the good people of the Maple Leaf Region.



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(Continued from page 5)

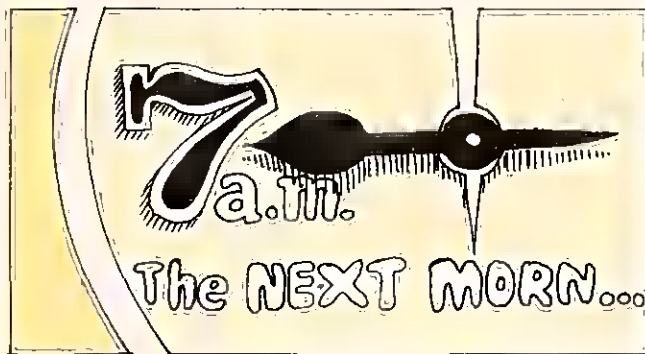
Operation — "Yellow Hand Gang"

straight home, to get a good night's sleep and to be prepared for the worst. He passed one set of envelopes to the sixers and seconders and another set to the remainder of the pack. He then ran back up the aisle and disappeared without a trace.

The instructions to the sixers and seconders were simple. They were ordered to phone members of their six to relay the message that the Army and R.C.M.P. search had failed to locate Akela, and that phase two of the rescue plan was now in effect. The Cubs were to be prepared to depart to the search area at 7 a.m. the next morning. Their point of departure was Caribou Hall. In their messages, the remainder of the Cubs were told to wait by their telephones for an important call.

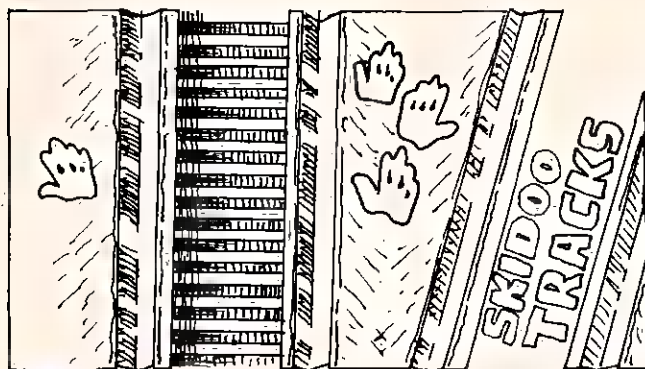
The leaders, in the meantime, had received the same instructions from a mysterious voice on the telephone ... Chil inhaled deeply; it was going to be a long night.

Seven a.m. comes early to boys who are used to



scrambling out of bed at ten to nine to make nine o'clock classes; and it showed in their faces next morning. But there was something else evident, perhaps nervous anticipation of things to come? Chil did not ponder it too long as he re-read the phase two package that had been so carefully planned by the leaders, months earlier, when the rumours had first started about the Yellow-blooded terrorists. He trusted that it was complete in detail.

The boys and their kits were whisked into waiting cars. So far so good, was the combined look on the haggard faces. When all the Cubs were assembled at the local airport, the agreed lift-off point in the phase two package, Chil decided to brief them on the activities of the night before when the entire townsite and Camp Nanuq had been searched, revealing only one set of clues by the mouth of the Churchill River. It was two sets of skidoo tracks, innocent enough at first, but a second glance at the tracks revealed small yellow hand imprints in the snow.



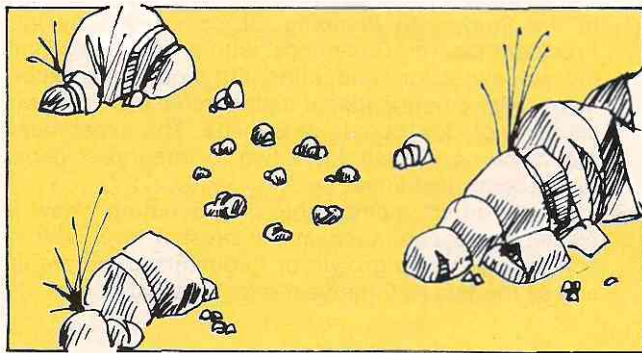
The direction of the tracks was south-east across the river. That had to bring the travellers into the Dymond

Lake area. It made sense, as Dymond Lake was surrounded by Esters (an elevation or ridge), that would make travelling easy. So Chil explained that the Cubs would be ferried to Dymond Lake in an aircraft owned and piloted by Mr. Doug Webber, who ran a lodge on the edge of Dymond Lake.

By nine-thirty, and after six trips in Mr. Webber's aircraft, all the Cubs were safely on the ground at Mr. Webber's cabins. The first groups over had done a preliminary search and had uncovered a trail sign heading off in a westerly direction. They had wisely decided to wait until the entire pack arrived before continuing. Mr. Webber gave the pack some rations, just in case their search should keep them out for a long time.

The boys who had been involved in the woodsman training the summer before, quickly took the lead in the search. The signs were left in haste, using organic materials, and could easily be missed if one wasn't looking for them. After about two hours of searching, the Cubs found a written clue instructing them to take a tea break. The boys were only too happy to sit down for a spell but were perplexed to find that the only things in the ration bags were some coat hangers, tin foil, tea bags and small snack packs. It wasn't long, however, before makeshift kettles were formed out of the tinfoil and coat hangers. Fires were started, snow melted and heated and then, at last, tea eagerly consumed with the snack packs.

The boys began to talk in frustrated voices. Akela was nowhere around. They didn't think they had the energy to carry on: What was to become of poor old Akela? Suddenly one of the boys stumbled onto a sign etched into the hard tundra. It was the Scouting sign for "gone home".



"Of course," the Cubs exclaimed. "The Cabins!"

With renewed energy the fires were extinguished and the long walk back to the cabins began. After some time they finally arrived at the Lodge. It didn't take long to find their beloved leader, tied up and gagged, under one of the small beds in the cabin.

There was a feeling of excitement among the Cubs. They had rescued Akela.

But what of the Y.H.G.? What happened to them? Akela cleared it up in little time. When the Cubs had arrived at Dymond Lake, the kidnappers wisely decided they were no match for some twenty members of this loyal Cub pack, and escaped on their snowmobiles before the boys had deciphered the trail signs and returned. Akela then reasoned that the Y.H.G. had a traitor amongst them who had left the clues, but if it hadn't been for the Cubs using their training, she may never have been found.

After a hearty lunch, the pack decided to make the best of the situation and spent the remainder of the weekend engaging in numerous adventure activities.

It was truly a memorable weekend for the First Churchill Wolf Cub Pack. X

Venturer Log

by Phil Newsome

At the last meeting of the National Council, Boy Scouts of Canada, held on November 17, two items affecting the Venturer program were adopted. The words "On my honour" were added to the Venturer Promise so that it now reads:

On my honour, I promise to develop myself so that I may better

- love and serve my God,
- respect and help my fellow man,
- honour and render service to my country.

The change to the Promise has been included in the new *Canadian Venturer Handbook* but the decision came too late to have it printed in the new *Venturer Advisors' Handbook* and advisors are asked to make a note of this change in their book.

The second item that was adopted by National Council brings to a close the long debate on female membership in the Venturer program section. It was recommended and adopted:

1. That a more aggressive policy of co-operation with the Girl Guides of Canada be undertaken;
2. That all the data collected to date regarding female membership in Boy Scouts of Canada be turned over to the Study and Planning Group chaired by Vice President George Cummings, with a view to developing guidelines for conducting and monitoring experiments with co-educational membership in all program sections of Boy Scouts of Canada. The experiments are to be conducted for a two to three year period along controlled lines;
3. That all co-ed membership in "Scouting" now in existence be continued at the present level with no action to produce growth or to diminish it before the end of the two to three year experimental period.

Although the decision will not please everyone, it does begin the process so that a decision on co-ed membership can be made based on factual data collected from across the country.

* * * * *

Trail Bars (no cooking required)

The next time the company is planning a hike and are ready to run out and buy lightweight snack food for the trail, here is a recipe that they can use to produce their own lightweight snacks, at a considerable saving to the company's funds.

Ingredients

- 1/4 lb. seeded raisins
- 1/4 lb. dried figs
- 1/4 lb. dried apricots
- 1/4 lb. roasted chopped peanuts
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 1 1/2 tsp. liquid honey or corn syrup
- aluminum foil.

Method

Put fruit through a grinder, mix in chopped nuts, lemon juice and honey to make a stiff dough. Form into bars and wrap in foil to eat on the trail.

* * * * *

Venturer advisors wishing copies of the Venturer Interest Questionnaire illustrated on page 38 of the new *Venturer Advisors' Handbook* may obtain them by writing to **Boy Scouts of Canada, Program Services, P.O. Box 5151, Station 'F', Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 3G7.** X

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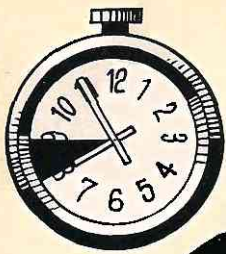
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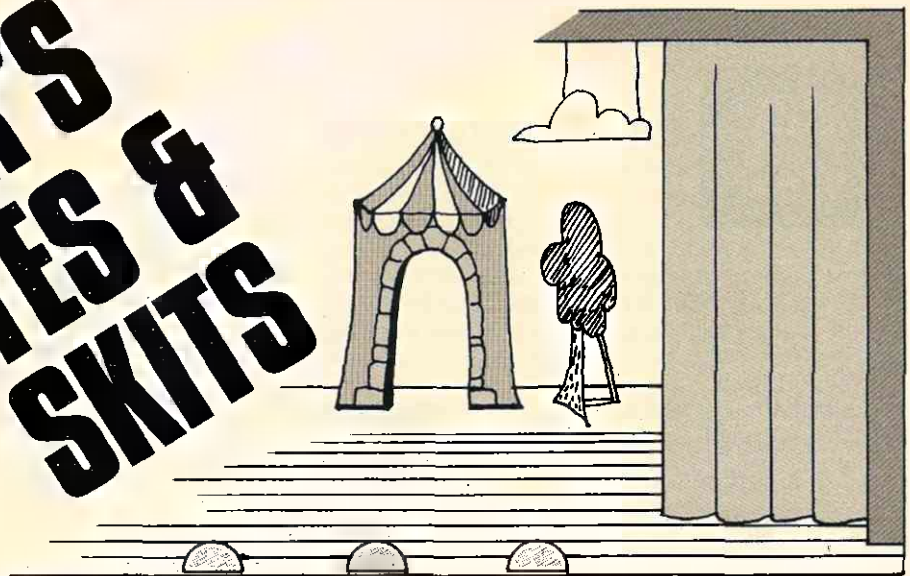
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SCOUTER'S 5 MINUTES & SKITS



HEAVEN

Oh, heaven isn't just a place
Of sidewalks paved with gold
Where the sun is always shining
And it's never wet or cold.

No, heaven can be any place
Where good men get together,
And do their work and have their fun
In any kind of weather.

Yes, heaven can be just a place
Where men (and women too)
Are busy doing all the work
The Lord needs them to do.

Oh, Isaac was a working man —
King David tended sheep.
And Peter was a fisherman
Who had a charge to keep.

Joseph kept old Pharaoh's books
And Jacob herded cows.
And Adam was a farming man —
The first to follow ploughs.

Great Moses was a desert guide —
The best you ever saw.
And Lord Christ worked as a carpenter
With hammer, square and saw.

No, heaven isn't just a place
To loaf the whole day through.
It's where men do the Lord's work
He's needing them to do.

— from *The Crest, The Salvation Army*.

Our prayer and God's mercy
Are like two buckets in a well;
While one ascends, the other descends.
— from *Jack Dalton of Montreal*.

SPOOKS FROM FIRE LAND

Try this skit during Fire Prevention Week.
It was developed at a Cub leaders' conference
at Philmont Scout Ranch, USA.

Cast: Seven Cubs dressed as ghosts.

*Set: Dim lighting and sheets draped over
boxes, etc., for graveyard effect.*

First Ghost: I smoked and smoked
And smoked in bed
And now you see
That I am dead.

Second Ghost: My pop said frayed wires
Were okay,
I became a spook
Without delay.

Third Ghost: I saved oily rags
To use again,
No telling what
I might have been.

Fourth Ghost: We thought the campfire
Under control;
I just climbed out
Of my six foot hole.

Fifth Ghost: While in a hurry
The hot grease splattered;
I didn't know
It really mattered.

Sixth Ghost: I played with matches,
It was such fun,
'Til I caught fire
And began to run.

Seventh Ghost: I filled with gas
The lawnmower hot,
So, like the others,
Now — I'm not!



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THREE RIVERS

*Setting: Two prospectors meet. First pros-
pector has camp set up and food cooking.
Dog is sitting beside him. Props needed in-
clude two beat-up old hats, picks, cooking
pots over fire and, of course, a dog.*

First Prospector: Howdy.

Second Prospector: Howdy.

First: Any luck?

Second: Nope.

First: Come fur?

Second: Quite a jog.

First: Et-lately?

Second: This mornin'

First: Hungry?

Second: Yep.

First: Join me?

Second: Don't mind iffen I do.

First: Have a plate.

*Second: (Holds up plate and looks at it):
Don't wanna seem picky but ain't
it a might dirty?*

*First: Well' now, its as clean as Three
Rivers can get it.*

*Second: Clean as Three Rivers can get it!
(Shakes head but eats stew when it is dished
out.)*

Second: Mighty good vittals.

*First: Thanks pardner. Mind handin' me
the plates so we kin clean up?*

(Second prospector hands him plates.)

*Second: (Puts plates on floor and calls loudly
over his shoulder): Here Three Rivers, here
Three Rivers.*

(Dog comes up and starts licking plates!)

From Detroit Area Council Pow Wow.

A BEAVER

Just a little person
Of the family tree,
Just a wee small person
A BEAVER, that's me.

I am at the bottom
Moving oh so slow,
Reaching, pulling upwards,
As slowly I will grow.

In the right direction
As I move across a bough,
With my leaders there to guide me
And to show me how.

And, as these branches thicken,
Building for success,
In Cubs, in Scouts, just learning
To do my very best.

Just a little person
Of the family tree,
Just a small PROUD person,
A BEAVER, that's me.

— from Mrs. Miriam Masterman,
Beaver leader, 52nd St. Catharines, Ont.

CUB JUNGLE PRAYER — AT CAMP

God, grant me grace to be a Cub
To make the Old Wolves proud!
Helpful, willing, cheerful, quick,
Courageous too, should I be sick;
Neat and clean, and never rude,
Never wasting any food —
God, there's so many things to be,
You'll simply have to stand by me
To make the Old Wolves proud! Amen.
— from Mrs. Alice L. Beals, CM, 1st Cold-
stream "B" Pack, North Okanagan District.

Outdoors

by Bob Butcher

I am sure we have all heard, or even said from time to time, that "outing" is three quarters of "Scouting" or that we should all strive to put the "out" in "Scouting" by conducting many of our programs outdoors or by making sure that camping is part of our outdoors.

I am sure that many leaders take this to heart and carefully study the Camping and Outdoor sections of their leader handbooks for ideas on how to go about this. Some even go so far as to obtain a copy of *About Camping* from their local Scout Shops or to look for books on camping and outdoor activities at their local library or bookstore.

A great deal can be learned through reading. Not only can it provide us with new knowledge in a particular field, it can motivate us to seek a greater involvement. There comes a time though, when we begin to recognize the limitations of learning from a book. We need the opportunity to be shown, to try a particular skill ourselves and to have our performance evaluated by someone with more experience. After all, one of the underlying concepts of Scouting's programs is to provide opportunities for boys to "learn by doing".

At the risk of trespassing into the domain of my colleague who writes *Training Talk*, I want to promote the kind of opportunity that leaders have for "learning by doing", namely the leader training courses.

Many leaders will have participated in Part I Wood Badge courses for their section but fewer will have at-

people to conduct specialty outdoor courses because they recognized the skills and resources that Scouting has to offer.

I want to describe to you one such training opportunity that I had the good fortune to attend last summer. I and two other members of the National Program Committee attended the "Scouting Skills and Program Enrichment Course" conducted by the British Columbia Provincial Council. In planning the course, the staff took into account the special interests of the participants by designing the course around the most favoured activities selected from a longer list of possibilities circulated in a precourse questionnaire. The course program included sessions in the following: Lightweight equipment selection; pioneering; orienteering; cooking; survival skills; canoeing (introductory), canoeing (advanced) and nature study.

The fact that the course lasted a full week may have been the reason why more people did not attend. This was unfortunate because the staff and the facilities were geared to handle many more. Nevertheless, a total of over forty participants and staff were treated to a delightful learning experience. Male and female leaders from all five of Scouting's program sections were represented.

One of the highlights was spending a day rambling about Camp Boyle with Carleton McNaughton, a noted local naturalist, who was able to enlighten us on many examples of the flora and fauna as well as the natural history of the Okanagan Valley. Another was the opportunity to spend a day with Bjarne Thorshang, of the B.C. Provincial Emergency Program, learning some of the finer points of working with a map and compass and learning how to lay out and follow an orienteering course.



tended Part II courses. It is at these Part II courses where the trainers really begin to emphasize the camping and outdoor activities and where leaders can have the opportunity to learn and to practise some outdoor skills such as campfire leading, wide games and nature study.

In many councils, leaders are especially fortunate in being able to attend courses designed specifically to teach outdoor skills. To uncover these goldmines of opportunities, search your council training bulletins for courses with names such as "Camping Course" or "Program Enrichment Course" or "Canoeing and Outtripping" or "Winter Camping." Some may be designed specifically for leaders of your section while others may be open to leaders from all sections. Some may be offered locally while some may be provincial courses. Some may even be operated in conjunction with local school boards. One of the Ottawa school boards approached Scouting



As on any good course there was ample opportunity to spend some time chatting with other course participants, to share notes and experiences related to the outdoors.

For some it was the first or second time they had paddled a canoe or selected and experimented using lightweight camping equipment and lightweight foods, or slept in a bivouac.

The effort and the teamwork of the staff served as an example of how participants could work together with other members of their leadership teams to provide challenging outdoor activities for their boys.

If you feel that you could benefit from a day, weekend or week long training course in outdoor skills, contact your service team or local Scout office to determine if any are available. If not your inquiry might help identify a need. X

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