

A black and white photograph of a stone archway with a tiled roof. Two boys in scout uniforms are walking through the archway. In the background, a church with a tall spire is visible through the trees.

THE
SCOUTERS

JUNE 1954

9^D

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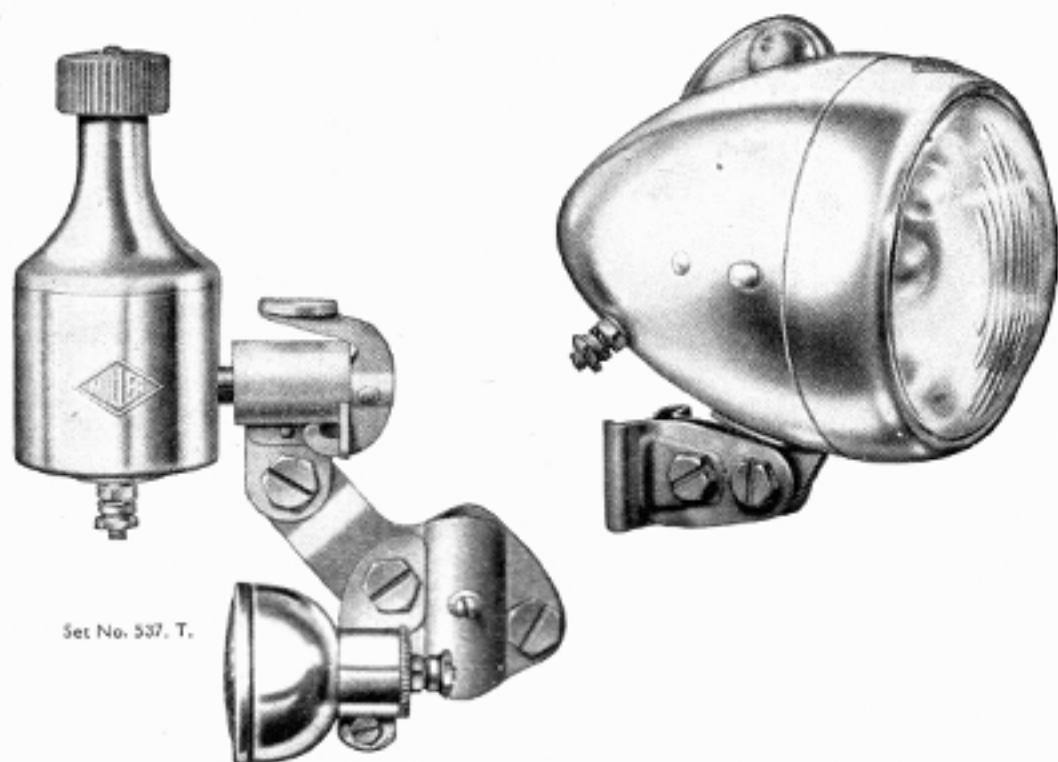


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THE OUTLOOK

How many of you have ever heard of William Smith? I hope you have, every one of you, for he was a pioneer to whom we in Scouting owe much. He was born on October 27, 1854, and was Secretary of a Sunday School in a Mission in Glasgow. But, just as our boys tend to drift when they reach fourteen or fifteen, he found that too many of the boys from the Sunday School gave up their attendance when they went out into the world. He was a keen Volunteer, the equivalent of our Territorials - and a combination of those two interests led him, on October 4, 1883, to gather thirty boys in a new experiment which he called "The Boys' Brigade." We must remember that at that time there were no Movements catering for boys of that age, so this little gathering was the seed from which has sprung all the great Youth Movements of the world today.

Within three years there were sixty-one Companies in existence and a Headquarters office had to be established to co-ordinate the work. Today there are 120,000 boys and men in the Brigade, and another sixty or seventy thousand in the Life Boys who correspond with our Cubs, and these are to be found in the United States, Canada, India, Africa, the West Indies, Australia, New Zealand, Malaya, Holland and Denmark, with scattered Companies in other countries. But this is not the only connection with Scouting.

Every year there was a great parade in Glasgow, when several thousand boys of the Brigade marched past an Inspecting Officer, and in 1904 B.-P. undertook this job.



THE B.B.'s FOUNDER

He was immensely impressed and turning to William Smith said:- "How I envy you this great lot of boys." It was for The Boys' Brigade and the Y.M.C.A. that he wrote *Scouting for Boys*. But Sir William Smith, as he became in 1909, saw that there was room for work in a wider field than the Protestant Church membership which was the basis of the Brigade, and later on, at a great Scout Rally in Windsor Park, there was Sir William Smith standing by B.-P. and saying to him, "Do you still envy me?"

The two were close friends for the rest of Sir William's life, just as Scouting and the Brigade have worked together in the closest harmony, realising that each has its own contribution to make and that, while they travel different roads, the goal is the same.

By THE CHIEF SCOUT

A very great man, Sir William, the pioneer to whom we all owe much. When the Brigade are celebrating the centenary of his birth this year, let us join with them in spirit, and perhaps in some places and on some occasions give them more active help, to show our gratitude, as B.-P. himself would have been the first to do.

I see in the papers, as I write, the case of a Council who are suffering much damage to their property from children and young men, due, it is said, to natural exuberance. What rubbish all this double-talk is! Why not call it what it is: unadulterated selfishness, and lack of self-control and discipline. I was the witness the other day of a simple example. Four girls were playing with an old tennis ball. There were about a dozen boys, all respectably dressed and clean, who just took the ball from the girls and started a game on their own. I watched to see what would happen and after a few minutes I went over and told the boys to give the ball back. It simply hadn't occurred to them that it wasn't the sort of thing that boys did to girls. They wanted the ball, they could take it, so they took it. You see and hear of the same sort of thing happening all over the place, and nobody does anything about it. Just "natural exuberance," I suppose. What awful rubbish it is when you come to think of it; let us in Scouting get back to calling a spade a spade. The fifth Scout Law is just as important as any other of the ten.

It forms the basis of civilised living, and when we become lax and think that rudeness is manliness, whether it is to parents, Scouters or to the public, we are one step nearer to the breakdown of society. It doesn't only apply to taking balls from small girls and preventing them from playing the game they want to play; it applies to our conduct on the roads; it applies to shouting and bawling at the tops of our voices when others are trying to rest; to keeping the radio going at full blast regardless of other people's wishes; throwing litter all over our beauty-spots and the countryside because we can't be bothered to take it home or bury it. "A Scout is courteous." Remind your boys of this summer.

Real, natural exuberance is a grand thing, but it is our job to develop natural courtesy, which will prevent it from being dominated by pure selfishness. It is a grace of life, which is disappearing along with so many other of the qualities of the true Gentle Man.



THE B.B. TODAY

I have just had a report of the Easter week-end at Gilwell, which delighted me very much indeed, and shows that the winter training has not been neglected, for the report says that camping standards were higher than ever, a very marked improvement all round, and as a consequence of this improvement, the accident rate was the lowest there has been. Of course, there are always bound to be slips of one kind or another, but where there is good camping the slips are not so frequent nor so serious. The general courtesy and turnout also showed a wonderful improvement. It wasn't a case of a few isolated instances, but a very high level throughout. Keep it up. Further news of the Royal Visit has come from Melbourne, where the Chief Scout of Victoria writes to me:- "Naturally those responsible for the organisation of the various Royal Progresses were advised that our Scouts would be very proud to undertake any tasks for which they were suited. The following list will indicate the various ways in which service was rendered.

1. The strong posts allotted to the Crippled Children, Women's Hospital and Red Cross were manned by parties of Scouts, who were responsible for the security and control of the arrangements for seating those authorised to use that particular area.

2. Five hundred Scouts and Scouters were given the task of sale and distribution of programmes in connection with the Shrine Dedication Service.

3. Fifty Queen's Scouts were given a place of honour at the Shrine when Her Majesty dedicated the new memorial.

4. Parties of Scouts were made available to the organisers of the School Children's Rally and Returned Servicemen's Rally to assist in various ways.

5. In addition to these special tasks, strong posts of Scouts were organised on every possible occasion during the Royal Progress throughout the State, This was particularly so in country areas where the Scout uniform was most prominent in every gathering.

6. In one particular instance the police commended a small party of Senior Scouts for effectively straightening a traffic jam, and for continuing to direct the traffic until the congestion had ended.

I am satisfied that the members of our great Movement did their utmost to make a real contribution to the great and memorable event of the visit of our Queen which proved such a wonderful inspiration to every citizen."

We have all, I am sure, watched with pride the activities of the Scouts on the newsreels. We have done our best in all these celebrations to do our duty to her and., by the time these words are in your hands, will have welcomed her back to our country with undying gratitude for all that she has done to link all the peoples of her great family.

A final note on Windsor and our St. George's Day Service. I believe sincerely that the March Past was the best we have ever had. There was a pride in the step, both on parade and in the town. In the absence of the Queen, the Queen Mother took the Salute, and, as so often in the past, was accompanied by Princess Margaret. They both chatted with many of the Commissioners and others from home and overseas, and delighted and thrilled the Handicapped Scouts gathered in the corner of the Quadrangle by their words for each one of them. On parade with them was the first spastic Scout ever to gain the Queen's Scout Badge under the new rules - a wonderful performance.

After the Service I presented the prizes to the two fellows from Kirkby Lonsdale who won last year's Adventure Log Competition for a most beautifully kept log of a caving expedition which was a model of its kind; adventure without foolhardiness, careful preparation and fine achievement. Some of the equipment they made themselves, and by their journey added not only to the technique of caving but also discovered new routes and extended old ones. One of the notable features was that they gave details of their routes and the expected time of return, so as to reduce any possible anxiety and undue risk in case of accident. The second prize winners came from New Zealand for a journey through the uninhabited country of the

South Island - another fine performance.

Some day, perhaps, after a few more years' experience, the best of these logs may be published, to provide inspiration for others to follow their example. Let's hope so at least, and let's hope that the generosity of the two Scouters who have provided the prize money will be rewarded by an even greater success this year.

ROWALLAN.

OUR DISTRICT *By A.D.C*

The D.C. rang me up.

"Bugface," he said, "I have just heard a most frightful rum our. Miss Merryweather is shortly getting married, and she's going to live in Scotland. *You'll* have to take on A.D.C. Cubs until we can find somebody else..."

I yelped back an agonised refusal.

"Unless you withdraw that order," I said, "I shall throw in my plume. Offer me a simple job like Chairman of the United Nations Disarmament Commission or President of Egypt or Chief Warden in Dartmoor, and I'll take it like a shot. But to be A.D.C. Cubs a man needs more courage and tact than I am afraid I possess."

I put down the receiver and sat back to digest the dreadful tidings of Miss Merryweather. I suppose she is only about thirty-seven or thirty-eight, but ever since I came to the District she has been A.D.C. Cubs, and for quiet efficiency she had put us male wearers of the purple plume completely in the shade.

She is quite a tiny woman, with a low, sweet voice, and I am informed by judges of that sort of thing that she is still quite pretty. Anything less like the stout bespectacled masculine lady Cubmasters of music-hall and Gang Show it Would be difficult to imagine.

It is years since she had a Pack of her own, but she is always running a Pack, because Cubmasters seem to be even more difficult to get, in our District, than Scoutmasters, and Miss Merryweather will never let a Pack die. When Miss Smith of the 10th went to Australia leaving only a very raw A.C.M. in charge, Miss Merryweather floated along the following week and found pandemonium, and the A.C.M. - in tears.

She smiled round on the wild animals as if she thought they were playing a new game, and rather a good one, and said in her lowest and sweetest voice that she was so glad they were getting along so nicely under their new leader, and she hoped they would not mind her coming along for a few weeks to see how Miss Rawe did things, because she knew Miss Rawe meant to make it the best Pack in the District, and to win the Jupe Cup...

She stayed with the 10th long enough to see Miss Rawe over her teething troubles, and then floated to the 44th. which young George Rice had just given up on going into the R.A.F. And so on, *ad infinitum*. If anything went wrong in the District connected with Cubs the D.C. never turned a hair.

He just rang up Miss Merryweather, and forgot all about it On L.A. committees, too, she was worth twice her weight in platinum. Even the rudest and roughest male could not go on being rough or rude after Miss Merryweather had spoken in that gentle voice of hers.

It seemed almost impossible to believe that she was rattling on us by getting married. She meant as much to the Cubs as old Hankin meant to the Scouts, combining, as so few do, the maximum of practical efficiency with the true spirit of the game.

A chill feeling of horror seized me as I suddenly wondered what would happen if old Hankin also go married, and went to China or somewhere. At forty-eight he ought to be safe enough, but these dreadful scourges are apt to be infectious.

A face appeared at my window, the rugged weather-beaten face of old Hankin. He leaned on the ledge and spoke. It was like a nightmare.

"Congratulate me!" he said with a fatuous smile, "I'm getting married."

My head reeled.

"When do you leave for China?" I asked despairingly.

"China? I'm not going to China. Elspeth wants to have the honeymoon in Scotland.... I suppose you guessed that it was Elspeth Merryweather. She said 'yes' at last when I drove her home after the Badge Committee meeting on Wednesday .."

TO ALL SENIOR SCOUTS AND ALL SCOUTERS(S)

How well I remember my feelings when, as a schoolboy, I took over the captaincy of the cricket eleven. The same sort of feeling came to me again when in the sterner days of war, I was appointed to command an infantry company which was just going into action. And now, as the newly appointed I.H.Q. Commissioner for Senior Scouts, feelings and thoughts very similar to those from my school and soldiering days assail me. What kind of job will I make of it and, being human, will I succeed in my efforts to serve Scouting in this new capacity? Well, the answer depends upon so many things but, from the outset, I would like to pay tribute to the grand job that has been done by my predecessor, Mr. Francis V. Cowie. Under his able leadership Senior Scouting began and has established itself as a very vital section of the Movement. That it has come to stay there is no doubt and I shall endeavour to carry on where Francis left off. Not that he has really gone for we are delighted to know that he still serves the Section on County level and will be available and ready to give us the benefit of his advice and experience. Thank you, Francis, for all that you have done for us since Senior Scouting came into being.

It is not my intention at this stage to write a thesis on Senior Scouting nor do I wish that this article should appear in any way to be in the nature of a lecture. The Editor, when he kindly invited me to make this contribution, suggested that it should take the form of an introduction - introducing myself to you all.

First of all, then, I should like to tell you that I am under forty years of age and still active in other things apart from Scouting, cricket being one of my passions. (Here I might add that I think it's a good idea to have some other interest which is outside Scouting,) I feel that the keynote of Senior Scouting should be Adventure and that, as a generalisation, S.M.s(S) should be of an age which allows them to take part in the majority of expeditions and adventures which their boys plan. Note that last phrase because I feel quite keenly about it. If the Seniors are allowed to organise and plan their own adventures I am sure that they enjoy them the more - and what good training it is against the day when they will be planning such things for their own Troops. What I mean is that the perfectly organised adventure, expedition or summer camp, if planned by the Scouter, may be enjoyed by all who share the experience but its value is nowhere near as lasting as that in which, at the planning stage, the boys have had a hand. At Senior age boys are turning from the "having things done" idea to that of "doing it ourselves" and, as Senior Scouters, we must help and train them towards this fresh approach.

I feel, also, that in our efforts to concentrate on adventure, we must beware lest we tackle this question of toughness in the wrong manner. The strong, smiling, healthy and tough young Senior is a great joy to behold provided that he is still a gentleman who remembers the fifth Law on all occasions. We are not in our Senior Scouting seeking to produce a form of organised hooliganism which produces selfishness, rudeness and discourtesy, for that would be a contravention of all that we stand for. The chances of Seniors making such a mistake are remote but, nevertheless, bad habits have an awful way of spreading and unless we take a firm line the whole standard we seek to set may become difficult to achieve. It is, of course, very natural that when we reach Senior age we wish to leave behind many of the things connected with our younger boyhood: we want to be different. The Camp Chief, when discussing this point some years ago, said that "there was no virtue in being different unless at the same time one was better." Senior Scouts should be better and we know what splendid chaps the majority are, but there are some who let us down by forgetting that they are Scouts at all, and far from being better, they become just the reverse.

I hope that in spite of all the excitement of life at Senior age and the adventure and romance of it, we shall always keep our sense of proportion and remember that we are, after all, only one section of the Brotherhood of Scouting. Let us keep this in mind on Group level too.



(Photo by S. Newton)

LURENCE STRINGER

As the Senior Troop we can do so much to help the Pack and the Boy Scout Troop as well as follow our own more personal inclinations.

I trust that many of you will seek opportunities of service in this direction - how often the harrassed Akela or hard-pressed S.M.' would value the odd half hour's assistance from a tough and willing Seniors Yes, we are members of a team.

It is because we are members of a team that I ask you all to continue to set a high example in all that you do in your Scouting. Whilst there are times when certain activities on which you engage demand suitable attire which may not always be your Scout uniforms I hope that, when you do appear in uniform, you will turn out in a manner that is a credit to the Movement. Will you watch, especially, the way you wear your bead-dress? Nothing looks smarter than the maroon beret worn in the correct manner, nothing worse than one that is worn right on the back of the head or at a rakish angle. Scouters ~n, of course, influence their boys so much in this whole question of dress by setting the highest personal example. What a pleasure it was to witness the Windsor Parade this year, and one of the chief things that contributed to. this was the turn-out and bearing of the Scouts who took part. I hope you will strive to maintain this standard on all occasions.

Finally, I would like to express the hope that those of you who are not Queen's Scouts will make every endeavour *in* this direction. it is a great honour and worthy of our very best efforts. But let us remember that the wearing of this badge, by itself, is not enough. We must try to live up to it by living lives which, us every department, are worthy of the one whose name we bear. To do this we must see to it that every day that we spend on earth is lived in the real spirit of Scouting because then, and only then, will we be true to our promise and Law. This is what being a Queen's Scout means.

My very best wishes to you all.

LURENCE STRINGER.

H. Q. Commissioner for Senior Scouts.



5. TWENTY QUESTIONS

1. Why should scraps of bread, potato peelings and so on not be put in the wet pit?
2. Do you know what the regulations about bathing are? Could you write them down, not necessarily word for word, without having to consult P.O.R.?
3. And the boating regulations?
4. Can you list the people through whose hands your form P.C. passes?
5. How many plants can you recognise that: (i) a farmer does not like to see on his land; (ii) are good for lighting fires; (iii) burn well when the fire is lit; (iv) indicate damp places (if you pitch camp during a dry spell); (v) are good to eat; (vi) are poisonous?
6. Have you erected recently the tents that you are taking to camp?
7. Do your P.L.'s possess copies of *Camping Standards*?
8. Are you familiar with the concessions that British Railways grant to parties?
9. How many of your Scouts have cooked meals for a whole day?
10. Where can a map of the area in which you propose to camp be bought?
11. Could you tell a farmer or landowner what exemptions have been granted to the Boy Scouts Association from the laws governing the control of the use of land for camps?
12. Have you planned how far with Second Class, First Class, and badge work you hope each Scout will get during camp?
13. Who is going to work hardest in camp, you or the P.L.'s?
14. How many of your Troop realise that a smart Scout with a cheerful smile can melt the heart of the crustiest local inhabitant?
15. Which is the more important, a good report on the P.C. from a D.C. impressed with an efficient camp, or a local population impressed with a cheerful, friendly and helpful lot of lads?
16. Is there an unusual bird, beast, building, craft or sport common in the area where you are going to camp?
17. How many of your Troop have passed the Second Class fire-lighting test after it had been raining for twenty-four hours? or after any rain at all?
18. By what biting insects are you likely to be troubled in camp, and what do you propose to do about it?
19. Have you ever thought of asking the local D.C. to have the last word in the Patrol competition? The Patrol on whose site, after you have gone, it is least easy to make out where tents, fire, wood-stack, turf and so on were, deserves some marks.
20. Can your P.L.'s answer these questions? (No marks for No. 13.)

[And if you're taking your Troop to camp NOW as the time to discover any answers you didn't know.]

T. T. MACAN.

6. NIGHT SCOUTING

Darkness can sometimes transform a commonplace activity into a real adventure. Even going home from the Band of Hope meeting along a familiar but ill-lit back lane used to provide me in my boyhood with a weekly thrill that I remember to this day. Sometimes, when my courage was unequal to it, I had to make a long detour to avoid those shadowy doorways and the yawning terror of the Co-op Society's back entrance; and on those occasions I felt that the Band of Hope had somehow let me down. After all, one needed a strength greater than one's own to face the ordeal of the back lane, and if it wasn't the job of the Band of Hope to provide it, whose job was it? But, looking back, I can quite see that it was all wonderfully adventurous. I often wish that my present fear of the dark was still as keen, so that I could recapture the thrill of it.

Anyhow, it is quite certain that some, at least, of your Scouts will be afraid of the dark. In camp, the idea will be to provide them with opportunities to rise above their fear. A good deal can happen to the character of a boy in the short journey from one side of a dark wood to the other.

As a general principle it may be said that the best night stunts are the short, simple ones. In open country plant a lighted hurricane lamp in a dingle and set your men off in pairs from different points around a wide arc with nothing but a compass, a bearing, and a distance to guide them. The first pair to find the lamp must get it back to camp without being intercepted.

In camp, of course, you will scour the landscape by day for any unique feature that might be turned to good account by night. At Eastertide, in the wild country to the south of Cader Idris, we found an abandoned slate quarry no larger than a village school playground which seemed to us full of possibilities.

The sides dropped sheer for sixty feet, and the one and only entrance - a seventy-yard tunnel through virgin slate - was flooded with ice-cold water to an unknown depth. Even in the bright sunlight of Good Friday afternoon this hole in the mountainside looked grim beyond belief - a splendid spot for a murder or the practice of the rites of Black Magic. But we sent the land rover bumping back down the mountain track to fetch the rubber dinghy, and when the new AS.M. had proved that it was quite possible to navigate the tunnel with no more than reasonable risk, the decision was made. Later, by moonlight and The uncertain beam of a hurricane lamp, the Drake Patrol had the thrill of a lifetime exploring what was to them a hitherto unexplored tunnel plunging to some unknown destination in the mountainside. The ring of their excited voices as one by one they emerged into that dark arena and saw the stars and the rising moon above them came up like music to our ears. It occurred to us later that we might have added to the excitement by dangling a "corpse" of some sort over the moon-splashed rock above them, but we decided that to do so would have been a mistake. Unnecessary frills can spoil a good adventure.

For Senior Scouts a "Night Trial" on the point-to-point pattern can be organised without too much difficulty: merely a series of simple hazards around a circular course of a quarter-mile radius, with the timekeeper firing off rockets at fifteen-minute intervals at the hub. Or better still, if the village clock chimes the quarters, your Night Trial could follow the traditional pattern of the steeplechase, with the dock acting as time-keeper. Scouts in teams of two or three. The hazards" need not be too elaborate. Here are a few suggestions:-

- (1) Crossing a patch of radio-active ground on improvised pattens.
- (2) With light spars, sisal, and an empty cocoa tin, snuffing out a candle in a two-pound jam-jar twenty feet up a tree.

THE SCOUTER PICTURE GALLERY No. 1
Alan and his Dog
 by A. V. Ingall



(3) On a dark though starry night, using the principle of the comparative shadow to estimate the height of a given object. (Special marks for the Scouts who have the gumption to lie on the ground and find the limit of the non-existent shadow by taking a fix on some convenient star.)

(4) Finding a hidden Aldis lamp under the church clock and transmitting a time-check on a given bearing.

(5) Measuring up the village by answering a series of questions: How high is the water tower? What is the girth of the oak in the middle of the village green? How deep is the duck pond six feet out from the willow at the N.N.E. corner? What is the distance from the church to the Rose and Crown? - and so on.

(6) Following a string trail through a thickly grown coppice.

(7) Grilling a sausage on a stick.

(8) Fly-walking up a rocky bluff and abseiling down again. (Rope already in position. The last team would recover it.)

On a very dark, clear night, tell each Patrol to equip themselves with a good supply of pointed hazel-sticks and a white "flash" of some sort for each man (a 12 in. square of white card would do), and set them off on a bee-line course of a mile or so across country. The P.L. will be given a bearing, a distance, and a prismatic, and left to organise his own Patrol. At 100 yard intervals the hazel-sticks will be driven into the ground and left so that they may be inspected later, in broad daylight, by the Patrol. What use the P.L. makes of the "flashes" is entirely up to him. At the inquest on the following day, ask the A.S.M. to yarn briefly on "marching on a marker."

In country where otters, foxes, badgers, or other wild creatures abound, encourage your Patrol Leaders to take their men out track-spotting by day with the promise that they may revisit the place by night to spy upon these nocturnal animals.

Offer a small reward for the first Scout to see a mole at work, or a "varmint" foraging in the undergrowth, or a stoat making a kill.

Get each Patrol to pin out a track-trap near their camp kitchen - merely a sheet of white cartridge paper ringed in thick black boot-polish with mouse-bait of some sort in the centre.

Send them out to find phosphorus in the rotting timber.

Suggest to your Senior Patrol that they might like to organise an all-night vigil, in relays, in a tree-top hide above a known water-hole or similar rendezvous with the purpose of keeping a traffic census of wild life. The result of their researches would be given in a brief Camp Fire yarn on the following day.

After lights out, tip off one Patrol to pack overnight rucksacs and withdraw quietly to a point on the edge of the camp where they will be issued with hike tents, breakfast rations, and a map showing where, they must establish their new Patrol camp. En route they must lay a clear trail which can be followed without too much difficulty by the rest of the Troop next day. Leave the Troop. to discover for themselves that they are short of one Patrol, and after breakfast and flag-break offer a reward to the first Patrol to track down the absentees.

Just before nightfall on a fine summer day, send out a runner to tell your Scouts to bring to the Camp Fire a groundsheet and a blanket. After prayers, announce that from that moment the tents are out of bounds and that you don't want to see them again till seven o'clock next morning.

In our experience *long* night hikes are of doubtful value. However attractive they might spund, the fact is that you can see and hear very little of interest as you plod along - the wild life of the countryside melts into the darkness at your approach - and after the first hour or so your personal discomforts, the nipping of a boot or the chafing of a strap, become almost as great as your boredom. Still, night hiking is an experience that every Scout should have. A two-hour stretch is ample.

Even by daylight wide games have a habit of going awry.

After dark they rarely do anything else. Not that it matters a great deal, so long as there is plenty of activity for everyone, and the game is not allowed to drag on interminably; but you will minimise the danger of anti-climax if the following simple rules are borne in mind:-



WHERE IS THIS? (5)

The April photo in this series was Somers Gate, leading to Somers Walk, Gilwell Gembrook, Victoria, Australia

(1) Set a definite limit on both time and the area to be covered. As a beginning, forty-five minutes will do.

(2) Arrange beforehand a simple code of sound signals to be used in emergencies or if the stunt seems to be going completely haywire.

(3) Avoid too much violent action in the early stages of the game. This does not mean that the stunt should be slow or tame. By all means introduce a certain amount of rough-and-tumble, but let it occur fairly late in the stunt when the climax is impending. Otherwise your carefully planned game win degenerate into -a mere dogfight.

(4) The rules should be few and simple, bet emphatic. Do not, however, expect to achieve any sort of standard by rule alone. You may hope that your Scouts will drift like shadows through the pine wood, but to suppose that a mere rule enjoining silence will prevent excited and inexperienced boys from talking and laughing together in the course of a night exercise would be to cry for the moon. Only progressive training will make stalkers of them.

(5) The action should be continuous. A certain amount of hanging about in cover may be unavailable, but so far as possible every man should be kept on the move.

(6) Prepare in advance. Go over the ground in daylight with your P.L.'s and plan your stunt on the spot

(7) Keep the first-aid kit handy at a known base throughout the game.

(8) As soon as possible after the event, hold a brief but light-hearted post mortem (with cocoa), receiving first from the Patrol Leaders an account of their own part in the affair, then allowing the irrepressible to tell of their own misadventures.

(9) Count noses before and after the game.

JOHN SWEET.

PATROL ANIMALS AND BIRDS

By MICHAEL BLACKMORE

VT. HAKS

In the April number of THE SCOUTER I wrote about falcons, so you may well ask: what is the difference between a falcon and a hawk? They certainly look rather alike at first sight and their habits are similar in some ways. Well, without going into all the reasons why naturalists have divided them into separate groups perhaps I ought to start by saying that there is one notable feature by which you can tell them apart in the field.

All true falcons have long sharply pointed wings, whereas the wings of hawks are broad and rounded. Their tails are also longer in proportion to the wing-span than those of the falcons.

There are two kinds of hawks on the British list - the sparrow-hawk and the goshawk. Both are essentially woodland species and they generally build their own nests in suitable trees. Most of the falcons, on the other hand, breed in open country without making any nest at all, though two of them (the kestrel and hobby) often take over the disused nest of some other bird.

The sparrow-hawk is common throughout most of the British Isles wherever there are plenty of trees and plantations. Quite apart from its longish tail and the characteristic shape of its wings you can recognise it by its colour. The female, which is about the size of a pigeon though more slender in build, is greyish brown and her much smaller mate is slate-grey. If you remember this you ought not to confuse either of them with the kestrel whose wings and back are reddish. The sparrow-hawk's underparts vary between whitish-grey and rufous, but they are conspicuously barred with brown instead of being streaked like those of the kestrel.

As its name implies the sparrow-hawk feeds mainly on birds but I should add that it does not kill sparrows only. If it confined itself to them nobody would mind very much. Unfortunately it also destroys large numbers of song-birds including several useful insect-eating species.

But the main reason why the sparrow-hawk is unpopular is because it takes young game-birds and poultry. It will make a lightning dash across a field where chicks are feeding with the hen and sometimes it even swoops into the farmyard itself and carries off its victim almost under the farmer's nose. No wonder he dislikes this bold marauder whose raids combine the elements of surprise and speed!

You can get a good idea of the sparrow-hawk's tactics if you watch it hunting along a hedgerow, for it has a well-known habit of skimming past the bushes and snatching small birds from the branches. You may also see it flying through woodland glades or gliding among the surrounding trees in search of prey. The sparrow-hawk is fond of hunting along a regular beat, passing from one wood to another in a more or less well-defined circuit. It also has a habit of making its raids at the same time each day.

Once you have learnt the routine of a particular sparrow-hawk you can generally depend on seeing it regularly if you wait patiently at the right place.



GOSHAWK

I shall never forget the thrill I had when I found my first sparrow-hawk's nest. I was a schoolboy then and had been lucky enough to catch sight of the female bird one afternoon in May as she flew off her nest in a larch tree. I had quite a difficult job "shinning" up the trunk but the sight of those four pale bluish eggs blotched with brown markings at one end was well worth the effort.

I left the eggs untouched and returned six weeks later after the young had hatched. They were fluffy white balls of down and looked harmless enough, but when I tried to stroke one of them I quickly realised my mistake. A nestling sparrow-hawk will defend itself vigorously with beak and claws, and even during its early days it can take an uncomfortably firm grip on your hand with its yellow talons!

The nest was deserted in the third week of July and then the young birds spent several days in the adjoining trees. A few patches of down still showed on their backs but their main plumage was now dark brown above and whitish below. It was quite easy to find them because they called continually to their parents. Owing to this habit of advertising their presence many newly fledged sparrow-hawks are tracked down every year and shot by gamekeepers in July and August.

Earlier in this article I mentioned the goshawk. You are not likely to see a wild one nowadays unless you are very lucky, because it is rather a rare visitor here. Until the end of the seventeenth century goshawks bred regularly in the forests of England and Scotland, but about sixty years ago this line bird became extinct as a British nesting species. Within recent times, however, goshawks have again bred in a few places.

Naturalists believe that there is a simple explanation for this. The goshawk is a favourite bird among falconers and it is thought that some specimens which have been imported from the Continent for training have escaped from captivity and have managed to find mates and build nests. This is certainly a likely theory, but there is always the possibility that goshawks really are trying to re-establish themselves here by natural means.

The goshawk resembles a large sparrow-hawk in build and, like that species, the female is much bigger than the male. Her length from head to tail is about two feet and the adults of both sexes are dark brown above with a whitish underside heavily marked with brown bars. Eric Hosking's portrait of a tame specimen on a falconer's gloved hand shows an immature bird whose under parts are marked with vertical streaks. These will change into bars after the next moult.



DEAR EDITOR

Camp Visiting

DEAR EDITOR,

The contribution in THE SCOUTER for April I have perused with much interest: and, no doubt, the echo of his cry will be "And so say all of us." However, there is one point which he raises, viz. "Orderly layout of tents," with which, with very great respect to "a D.C.," I am not able to agree. To pitch tents to rule of thumb - "in a line or half circle" - savours to me of too much regimentation. Why should they be so set out?

Personally, I like to see tents dotted about, and not too close together; but each Patrol having its own "Camp," self-contained and separate from other Patrols, the whole forming one composite camp. This tends to carry out the Patrol System, and to foster that spirit of Adventure, Leadership and Responsibility which form one pillar of Scouting. The setting out of camp to any one fixed idea, such as half circles or lines, does not foster this spirit (apart from the risk of falling over tent guys), and I think does away to a very great extent with the individuality of Patrols, which individuality should never be lost. In the Troop Headquarters each Patrol has its own and separate corner, each with its own idiosyncrasies and distinct from every other Patrol; and I think that the same idea should persist in Camp.

Camps have changed during the years; but give me the camp set out according to my ideas (above), before the circles and lines (which may be due to the great number of people who have - nowadays - been in the Services, particularly the Army).

What about Brownsea Island?

NOMAD.

DEAR EDITOR,

Lots of good ideas in D.C.'s "Camp Visiting" article (April SCOUTER), but on the subject of latrines I wonder if he is right in advocating a long, very deep trench in solid clay? The text-book, of course, is all for the shallow trench, the argument being that below a certain depth the process of disintegration is arrested. All highly scientific, but there may be something in it. Perhaps a more important objection is the effect of the deep trench on the latrine-shyster. No effort should be spared to make this lad feel cosy.

When D.C. writes "A screen of some sort" he surely means an internal screen to separate the compartments, and not the latrine screen proper. For the latter purpose a screen of some sort" just isn't good enough. A very sound, well-built structure is needed, and to those of us who a lots of camps, in the summertime the need is still, regrettably, self-evident. How sad it is to pass from the sunlight of the camp itself to the shadow of the shrubbery, to find lurking there ashamedly a crazy erection of sagging hessian held together by innumerable trip-wires of sisal or cast-off guy ropes. On-the-spot improvisation is grand, but lats are perhaps not the best place for it.

JOHN SWEET, Field Commissioner.



The Crux of the Problem

DEAR EDITOR,

First of all, may I say, I was invited by you, sir, to contribute the March letter after you had heard about our problem and action which you considered might be of interest so readers.

Secondly, the action taken followed 100 per cent agreement by our Group Council. The matter was discussed over a long period.

My brother Scouters who comment in the May Scouter forget one main point - that we had a serious problem, a problem which others also have. We decided to do something about it. The criticisms levelled at us are certainly not constructive. There is nothing we do not already know. Discipline is giped at. There is distortion of my article - we still have bad boys. The Troop was disbanded, not purged. We most certainly have rules - the rules in Scouting for Boys. But some people have queer ideas about the Scout Promise and Laws. These are serious things and boys must take them seriously.

We are taken to task about "Duty to God." We are a sponsored Church Group and all of our lads are committed to attend Church or Sunday School - that is a condition of entry. Anything wrong about that? We are accused of religion down a boy's throat. That comment is an excuse for not attending Church. How many boys of 12 years want to go to Church or Sunday School? It is surely the parents' job to take than, not ask them. If the parents refuse, what then? Example alone by Scouters is not enough. I repeat, Duty to God is the first thing in Scouting and so us at any rate this means attending Church regularly for worship, prayer and fellowship. If we do not insist on this, how can a boy keep his Promise? Those who say that a Christian need not go to Church are most assuredly doing a disservice to Scouting.

To those who mention our Founder, I would say that I remember B.-P. and there were no Cubs or Rovers then. The problem age was and still is 11 - 15 years. What is the difference today? It is pure unadulterated selfishness backed by an over baked welfare state. What has happened to the Good Turn? Where is courtesy? Where is thrift? Lack of these things, brother Scouter, calls for strong action, not words. That's all from me!

G.S.M.

Leakage

DEAR EDITOR,

There seems to have been a great deal written just recently on the subject of leakage in the Scout Movement; much of it seems to have overlooked several points.

For a long time I have felt that it is much too easy for a person to get a warrant in the Movement and I am quite sure that quite a large percentage of those who do take out warrants do not know what Scouting is or what they are letting themselves in for - that they are taking on a serious job and a job of service, but one which if entered into in the right spirit can give a great deal of satisfaction, fun, etc. I think it would be better to require a prospective Scouter to take a Course, say a P.T.C., before being granted a warrant. He or she would then be in a better position to know something at least of Scouting and Cubbing. Too many G.S.M.s and D.C.s seem to take the line that anyone to carry on the Troop or Pack is better than the right man or woman.

Instead of boasting of the fact that we have a membership of 500,000 in the country, let us cut down to 300,000 and close the weak Groups which in many cases are a bad advertisement for Scouting - they are probably not getting Scouting in any case - hence your leakage (so called); close the Packs which have no Troop to which the Cubs can go and transfer the Cub Scouter(s) to other Groups. I fully appreciate that it may not be as easy to do this as it is to write about it, but I am sure there ought to be a much stricter control on the starting of Groups and of the efforts made to obtain Scouters.

There seems to be the attitude in some quarters that in some Groups which are not too well staffed at least the boys are being kept off the streets - this has been expressed to me on more than one occasion. Surely if this is the frame of mind of some Scouters, then they ought to be doing something else than trying to run a Scout Troop - Scouting is surely something positive and not merely a negative policy of keeping boys from getting into trouble.

Much of the so-called leakage comes from the fact that the boys are not getting Scouting for Boys as B.P. gave it to us.

Another point which seems to be forgotten is that the organisation which we are in is Scouting for Boys - not Scouting for Men - and does it really matter if we do lose a certain number of the over fifteens, especially if they have gained a good First Class Badge? Instead of vain laments, let us rather spend the time planning better programmes to keep the boys who want to stay. If the over fifteens want to stay then, of course, we must provide an attractive programme for them.

(Rev.) C. K. HORSEY, O.S.B.,
D.C.C., Middlesex

Talking Points (3)

DEAR EDITOR,

Success! At last someone with whom I can completely agree on test revision. I have always regretted the ending of First Class cooking, when cooking is bound to be so important to our camp life. As far as the Second Class test goes, surely a good "cuppa" is more often required than porridge?

Donning my armour, I also maintain that Semaphore is obsolete, while Morse in these days of radio catches the youngsters' imagination. This is especially true if you have access to the equipment of a "ham," an amateur radio transmitter, as I have. (But then, one lives just round the corner - why not contact him?)

Map reading? In a subject that immediately interests nearly all boys, it is silly to restrict it to such a minimum for Second Class. This test should be interpreted very liberally. Any boy passing is required by me to interpret any common sign, draw a decent sketch map of a route, and actually set a map without compass. He is also usually asked to follow some compass bearings, as well as know the points.

Once an observer said "But all that is not in the book!" and was flattened by the boy's reply "So what! I'm doing it for fun."

Lastly I echo - bury the Six Exercises. I have yet to meet the Troop where this test is anything but a ritual, anyway.

Why don't Scouts remember tests they have passed? Because if it was treated as a test, as a necessary evil, or because Skip said it was time to do some work (all reminiscent of school), it is learnt contemptuously as such and forgotten. The boys' interest and imagination must be captured, and the passing of a test almost a sideline.

If they are thinking of revising the tests, and G.S.M.'s ideas are a proposition, then I am the first to second them.

D. WILLIAMS, S.M.

Another Rover Scout Proficiency Badge

DEAR EDITOR,

B.-P. said that Scouting was the trail to Healthy, Happy Citizenship and I think that, especially for Rovers this could be extended to be Healthy, Happy Husbandship.

Rovering at times misses a great opportunity to help young men to achieve this state for, as most married Scouters will know, being a husband usually means that one is expected to be able to choose the right house in which to live, to hang wallpaper, clean drains, bath babies and carry out many like tasks.

Many young men enter Crews without having any experience of these types of jobs either because they have not previously been Scouts, or that the Handyman's Badge was not gained as a Scout.

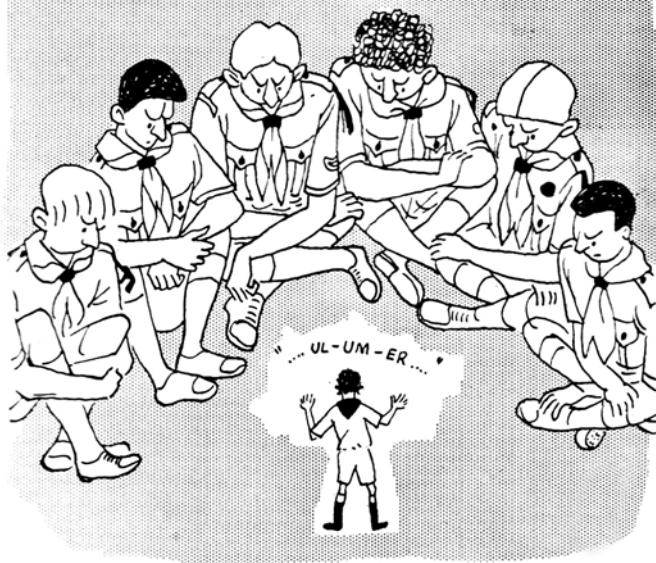
It would be a great help to these, and to almost all Rovers, if we could introduce into Rovering a Badge that would show that a Rover had eadeavoured to fit himself out to do the jobs that will be most necessary during his earlier married life, when money is usually very short, and his home and family are being established.

This Badge would cover much more ground than the Handyman Badge and should be of the same standard as the Rover Progress Badge.

G. H. HUMPHRIES,
R.S.L. 212 18th Manchester
(Burrage St. Nicholas).

WHY SCOUTMASTERS GROW OLD QUICKLY.....!

~ ONE'S FIRST ATTEMPT AT SPINNING
A CAMP-FIRE YARN ~



The Curse of the Dixie

DEAR EDITOR,

In the January SCOUTER the Rev. B. W. Mackie asks if anyone remembers the Jaarky canteen. The question takes me back to the days of old and the long exhausting treks across the Essex marshlands; so long ago that treks must be the word; hikes were unknown. And I recall the soup cubes of many varieties with Mock Turtle the favourite, crumbled up and sifted into the Jaarky to thicken the chopped meat and vegetables of the evening stew, individually prepared and cooked.

Perhaps the Scout Shop could persuade a manufacturer to try the market with a batch though it is doubtful whether the price can be kept down to 5s. in these latter days. One improvement I would suggest. Make the lid really loose fitting. The old type top had tall sides to form a drinking cup. These sides slipped down the inside of the billy when the top was used as a lid. Getting it out when the billy was full of hot stew was a delicate operation; too delicate for my tenderfoot fingers. I lost a much-needed meal one evening thirty years ago and the poignancy of that moment is with me yet.

H. F. HUTTONN,
G.S.M., 1st, Coichester

To Keep You Thinking

To most men, experience is like the stern lights of a ship which illumine only the track it has passed.

SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE
(Table Talk).

34. THE QUANTOCK FOLLIES, 1954

By R. A. ARCHER, JOHN MOORMAN
and ROBERT BRANTON

Senior Scouts assembled at Crowcombe Youth Hostel on the afternoon of Friday, January 1st. They began with supper. The scheme was based on a treasure hunt. On Saturday they were to travel on foot to Holford Y.H. about 10 miles away by the roads selected, playing Delta's Blue Cross game. (For this, see SCOUTER 1949, pages 88 and 89, *Further Opinions of Delta*, and G. K. Chesterton's Father Brown yarn, *The Blue Cross*.) This was to give them some clues to the position of the treasure. Then they were to have supper and turn out at 8 p.m. for a night stalking game, at which they were to earn more clues.

They were to go the next day to the centre of the Quantocks and play a wide-game which would give those who were successful the last remaining clue. When they had that, they were free to go and find it.

The treasure itself consisted of sweets, buried three weeks earlier, in a box with a car-jack, in a large field covered mainly with dry bracken. When it had been buried, all obvious traces were removed, but it was expected that the mat of 6 inches of rain, which would be normal for those parts for that time, would complete the work of hiding the grave. But murder will out. There was barely an inch of rain. Bearings had been taken from the grave to four conspicuous objects ranging from 70 to 300 yards away and the distances were paced. A species of mine-detector had been borrowed to locate the grave (hence the need for jack).

This depended on hearing a buzzer which would be faint over the iron and inaudible at other times. When it came to the point, the rustle of the wind in the bracken drowned the buzzer, but the lack of rain prevented this defeating the Scouts who arrived first in the field.

A plan of the field was also made and a photo copy was prepared for each Patrol. These marked in the objects to which bearings had been taken. The plans were then cut up into eight-piece jig-saw puzzles.

After supper a yarn on finding valuable cargoes in sunken ships was given by Commander Kennelly, an expert on the subject. Then briefing began. The Scouts were made up into Patrols of about three or four, and told that the next day they would have to go by prescribed routes to Holford Hostel. They were to look out for the unusual, unseasonable, or out of place. They would be told within 200 yards where to look. (These are the essentials of Delta's game.) If they were on a road or path, it could always be seen or heard from the path without crossing hedges. Instances of the out-of-place and unseasonable were suggested, a handbill of trains on a branch line in northern Scotland in a G.W.R. wayside station, and a man bathing in a pond on January 2nd. They were then sent off to bed and told to be ready at 8.30 a.m., Saturday, January 2nd.

In the meanwhile Blue Cross clues were prepared. We prepared two routes, the red route and the green route. Both started with the same first clue. They shared clues 4, 5 and 6. 2r, 3r, 7r and 8r were different from 2g, 3g, 7g and 8g.

In Delta's game the setting is fundamentally urban, and it is possible to have people whom the Scouts did not know waiting about to deal with those who spotted the clue. In our very rural surroundings this was not usually possible. It was necessary to devise a system not only of rural clues, but methods of passing instructions without people. When necessary the distance and bearing of the place where the instructions were, from the unusual clue, were given at the previous clue.

No.1 unusual object (henceforward called clue) was a badge of the Arosa Ski Club on a board in the hostel on which the various countries' Y.H.A. badges were exhibited. Scouts were told to look for a clue in the hostel and come and tell the Scouter in charge when they found it. He gave instructions, which in the case of 2g told them to look in a hole 25 yards away from the clue on a certain bearing. 2g was an ash pole backrest to an otherwise pinewood seat.

The bark was on both. 2r was a notice outside a farm offering Rhode Island pigs for sale: the owner had the instructions. 3g was chestnuts (sweet because all the others had been used as conkers) lying under an oak tree.

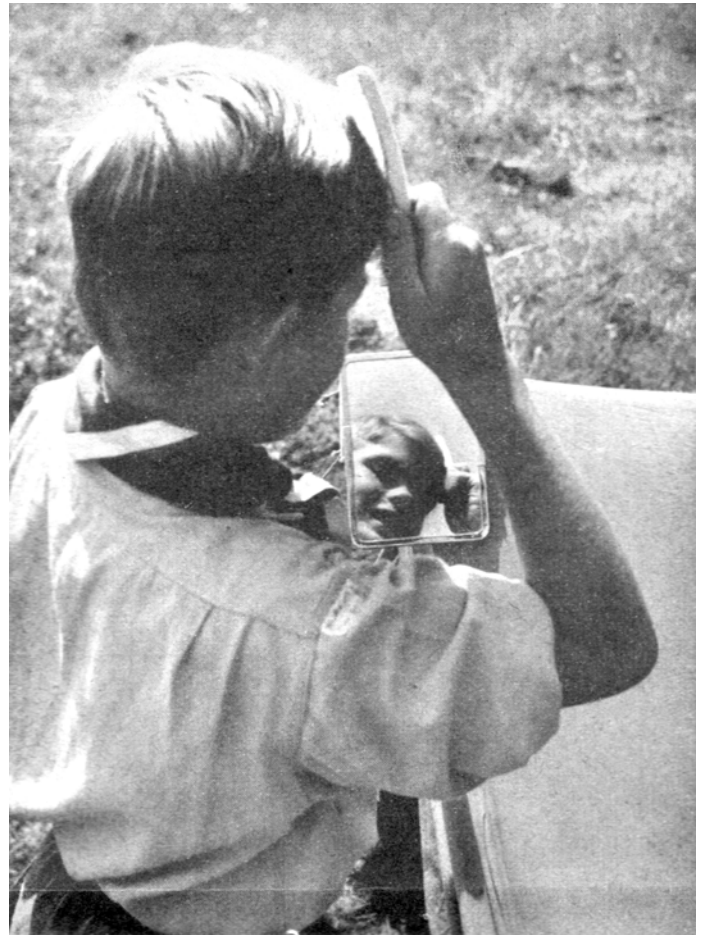
The instructions were in the tree, not difficult to find but requiring a climb about 15 feet up. 3r was pine cones under an oak tree. In this case the tree was so smothered in ivy that to search up it would have been hopeless. We put the instructions behind one large ivy stem where it came out of the ground, and stuck a blue-headed drawing pin over the spot. No. 4 was a notice in the Stogumber cricket club's notice board that a cricket match against Crowcombe would begin at 5 p.m. on January 2nd. No. 5 was a piece of thin wood painted purple which had been put into a roof to replace a broken slate which lay on the ground with the instructions under it. This clue sounds difficult but was not, because the roof was a very low one so that a boy in the road could touch the wooden substitute tile. No.6 was a man concealed and armed with an owl call which he blew-in the daytime. In this case there was a cross roads on a bus route very near by, and a boy whom none of the Scouts knew, apparently waiting for a bus, handed out the instructions. 7g was a stuffed seagull perched in a tree, and 7r a false Union Jack with all the white borders the same breadth, flying on the danger flagstaff of a shooting range. 8r and 8g were both piles of round stones off the beach at Minehead, at over 1,000 feet on the Quantocks where all the natural stones were very angular, and of different composition.

At each clue, each party had to pick up a numbered piece of paper which was exchanged at Holford for the corresponding piece of the jig-saw plan. It was not possible to put the actual pieces of the plan round because it was necessary to ensure that whatever pieces any Patrol got were cut out of the same plan. There was a telephone number which a Patrol without a clue could ring up and get help. but if they did they forfeited their piece of the plan.

On arrival at Holford they had supper. At 8 p.m. they turned out again for stalking on a dark moonless night. Three stalking pitches had been arranged, one in a beech with little under-growth, one in the open through div bracken and gorse, and one along a stretch down which ran a grass track under beech trees, with dry bracken and some banks and ditches if one left the path. At the end of each pitch was a man who had to be found. A string rather over 100 yards long was stretched across their probable line of approach, and he was on it. The men on the string were supposed to be the friends of the stalkers. Each had two parts of a message giving instructions to find the treasure if you were in the field and had the plan, one copy for each Patrol. If one member of the Patrol only found the man in the allotted time, he got one of the parts of the message. If two or more did so, they got both. To get the whole message you had to get two boys to each man. There were also three other men near the middle of the stalking pitches, in fixed positions, with signalling lamps. They marked the stalking, each marking out of three:

If they heard only they deducted one point. If they saw only they deducted two, and if they both heard and saw a Patrol they deducted all three. Thus each Patrol was marked out of nine marks. Now the instructions to find the message were in simple substitution cypher with a nine-letter code word. The Patrols were given one letter of the code word, in its place, for each mark they got for the stalk. It was not very difficult to break the cypher even if no letters of the code word given. Nearly all Patrols had some.

The stalking was not a complete success as arranged. Short intervals, about 100 yards, had been arranged between the end of each stalk and the beginning of the next. This was intended to prevent the noise made by one Patrol being attributed to another. Patrols were started and stopped by whistle, and at the end of each stalk they were given verbal instructions to get to and start the next. This resulted in some Patrols never starting on the right line. Also it was very hard to be sure that one heard all whistles. We had plenty of telephone cable and earphones. We should have had a starter and finisher for each stalk. The starter should have had a clear torch and the finisher a coloured one. In each period of three minutes, when they were moving from finisher to starter, all these lights should have been on. These six men should have been on telephone lines, laid direct from finisher to starter and on by circuitous route to the next finisher.



THERE'S A NICE CLEAN BOY!

We would thus have ensured that each Patrol started each stalk, having seen a light at the point they were trying to reach. We had to give out more to some Patrols for this reason than they were entitled to under the rules.

After the stalking, they went to bed. They were told to rendezvous the next morning at Dead Woman's Ditch in the centre of the Quantocks for a wide-game at 11 a.m. Whilst they had been Blue Crossing on the 2nd, a party of Rover Scouts who had taken part as Seniors the previous year had prepared the scene for the game. Just south of Dead Woman's Ditch runs Ram's Combe, with both sides of the combe covered in Forestry Commission pine forest, most of it with undergrowth, and along the bottom a stream and gravel cul-de-sac road, bordered with a thick and very dense rhododendron jungle. Through this the Rover Scouts had laid out half a mile of telephone cable. It must have been very hard work, as the cable and drum weighed half a hundredweight, the country was steep and the wood very dense. On one end of it a Scouter who had been a wireless operator in his army service, was sitting with a buzzer, sending repeatedly in very slow morse a message which gave the map reference of the field in which the treasure was buried, the only information so far withheld. On arrival the wide-game was explained. Each Patrol had to select one Scout as attacker.

He was provided with 10 yards of telephone wire, an earphone, an earphone, and a safety pin. It was his object to tap in. No baring of the wire allowed, but the safety pin could be pushed through it. He then had to read the message. All others, including Rover Scouts, were defenders. They had to prevent tapping in.

It took two defenders together to catch an attacker. Touching him caught him. If caught he did not forfeit any knowledge he had gained, but he had to go round a car about 300 yards from the nearest point on the wire, to get a new life and get more knowledge.

As soon as he had the map reference he could call his Patrol off and seek the treasure. Thus it became easier to get information after the first ones had it.

After the game the Rover Scouts wound in the wire, also hard work, though less so than laying it out. There were about seven attackers and twenty-four defenders. This game went very well. The proportion of defenders to attackers, the length of the wire, the density of the wood and the length of the message all suited one another. It lasted rather over the hour.


The first Patrol to get the information went off to the field and got quickly by compass to within about two yards. Then, as already stated, murder will out. Traces were found and Jack's grave was duly revealed.

It had been the intention to make the first Patrol peg out a claim about five yards square when the second Patrol arrived, and so on, but as they found the treasure before the arrival of the second, this was unnecessary.

The party then went to Crowcombe Church House, an interesting old building which the Rector very kindly allowed us to use, free of charge, and in which he gave us a short but very excellent Scouts' Own. The County Commissioner, who lives in Crowcombe, also came and talked to the boys and heard about what had happened. After that we had tea and dispersed.

Now we are thinking out our Follies for 1955!

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NEWS FROM 25 B.P. ROAD

Within a few days of these notes appearing, Mr. F. Haydn Dimmock will vacate *The Scout* editorial chair that he has occupied with distinction for more than thirty-six years. As the Chief Scout wrote in "The Outlook" for April, "Dim" will continue to serve Scouting as a Headquarters Speaker and as Organiser of the Soap Box Derby and the Canoe Cruise and in a recent letter he assured me how much he is looking forward to what he terms his Scout Life Number Two. We wish him every happiness in his future service to Scouting.

The Committee of the Council has appointed as his successor Mr. Rex Hazlewood who, in future, will be responsible for editing both *The Scout* and THE SCOUTER. We know what a splendid job he has done since he became Editor of THE SCOUTER in 1944 and I am confident he will be equally successful in his new responsibilities. I feel sure he will enjoy the support of every Scouter in his efforts to produce a weekly paper worthy of our Movement and one that Cubs and Scouts will want to buy and read. Inevitably, with a new editor a paper changes. The first number of the new volume will appear on July 2nd, and you will find it in a new dress, with new contents and even at a new price, because we find that the new paper cannot be published economically at less than four pence.

I think *Scouts* are going to like the new *Scout* and I hope Scouters will tell them about it and encourage them to buy it regularly. At any rate, please ask them to buy the first number - the rest can be left to the paper and to them.

Just over a year ago we were busily engaged in selling the Coronation Programme on behalf of King George's Jubilee Trust and you may remember the very kind letter of thanks which appeared in THE SCOUTER for December last. But it was with some surprise that I learned from the Secretary of the Trust, Major-General T. N. F. Wilson, a few days ago that odd amounts of money are still coming in. Naturally, he is anxious to close this account as soon as possible and will, therefore, be grateful if anyone who

knows of amounts still outstanding will arrange for them to be forwarded immediately.

I want to make it clear that vast sums are not involved, but if the few pounds outstanding can be paid over quickly the Trust will be obliged.

At this time of the year most of our Scouting should be out of doors, but G.S.M.s and others responsible for Group programmes have to look a long way ahead and no doubt an occasional summer's evening has to be spent in thinking of autumn and winter activities. Judging by recent inquiries, some are even beginning to think about the Annual Group or District Show.

As you know, Ralph Reader has most generously made available songs and sketches from *The Gang Shows* for use by Groups and Districts and I feel that, in view of the inquiries I have mentioned, this is, perhaps, a good moment to draw attention to a couple of points regarding this material that have caused some difficulty during the season lately ended.

The first point relates to the words of the songs and sketches. All of these items have been licensed by the Lord Chamberlain for public performance, but it may not be generally known that it is illegal to make any change in any item without first obtaining his approval. May I suggest that we would save ourselves a lot of trouble and expense if the items were staged in their original form. It seems to me to be more courteous to the author, too.

The other point is about recording parts of the Annual Show. Now we know how proud we are of the performances in our Show and how pleasant it is to record them for posterity. However, copyright enters into it and, quite rightly, Ralph retains the recording copyright in his material so permission cannot be given for Gang Show items to be recorded. As I have said, he is only too pleased for us to use his songs and sketches in our shows; let us be content with that gift.

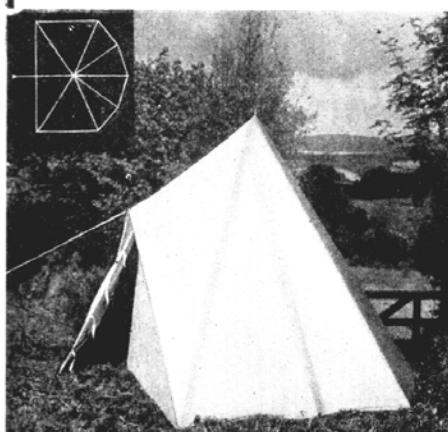
A.. W. HURLL,

Chief Executive Commissioner.

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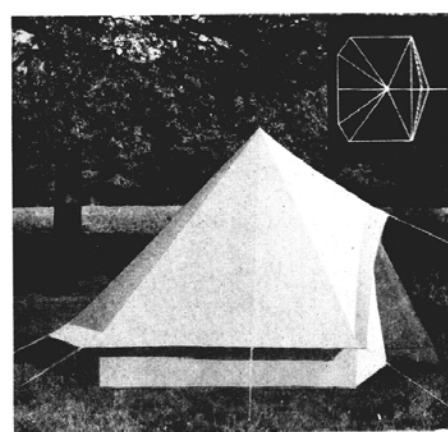
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THE GILWELL LETTER

One of the time-honoured practices and, indeed, a necessity at the end of Pack and Troop Meetings is "Notices." Clearly there are things that every Scouter needs to tell his boys and probably the end of the Meeting is as good a time as any other to do the telling. I have been wondering recently if most of us do not talk too much on these occasions and expect the boy to remember a quite unreasonable amount of information. It is not always the boy's fault that the news we wish carried home to his parents does not always reach them.

Scoutmasters might try using their Patrol Leaders, which is hazardous but right, and I would like you to try a new sort of Kim's Game based on Notices. Make a very careful note of all you say at the end of a Meeting and then, early in the next Meeting, after all the usual preliminaries of inspection and so forth, ask for a rendering of last week's notices. When you see the results don't fly off the handle at the boys but rather take yourself to task and resolve to keep the notices down to a minimum, likewise the time you take to put them across. I incline to the view that more than two notices and longer than three minutes is courting confusion.

The same line of thought prompts me to offer you the following. I will not tell you where it comes from: I dare not! "Almost invariably some adult with an inexhaustible interest in his own remarks popped up and harangued the multitude." Those words, "inexhaustible interest in his own remarks" strikes me as most significant and worth remembering by Scouters, Commissioners, and, not least, by myself. When we have something to say we should say it as intelligibly, concisely, and pleasantly as possible. When we have nothing of any interest to say we should keep quiet. The world today is a noisy place, and even boys will appreciate a few moments of respite from the Scouter's voice.

I was telling the Chief Scout recently that, as I see it, the standard of camping is greatly improved, not that there isn't still room for improvement, but I do think we are over the "couldn't care less" branch of camping which some Troops seem to have been indulging in during the past few years. I think, too, the standard of courtesy is improving, and it may well be that the two things are linked. If we do anything properly it tends to improve the standard of other things we do. We cannot put into water-tight compartments such things as camping, courtesy, honour, cooking, hiking, and Good Turns; I believe they are all linked inextricably and executively in the Scouting mosaic.

I have been particularly pleased to this improving standard of courtesy because this is one of the essential lubricants of our civilisation and it is nearly always an expression of unselfishness. I think that we have helped at Gilwell in a small way, and we shall continue to do so, by such simple matters as not serving Scouts in the Provodire when they omit to say "Please" and by welcoming a "Thank you" for something that has been enjoyed.

There are small things but they are vital and fundamental to character training.

Now to turn to Training for a sent. I attended a County Conference recently where I had been asked to talk about Training. I thought I would go over to the attack and, as they did not shout me down, perhaps some of you who read this would like to try. I gave this gathering of Scouters three reasons that sometimes apply for not attending a Training Course.

They are laziness, insincerity and personal conceit. Laziness because sometimes, although with quite a little sacrifice, you could make the time; insincerity because sincerity of purpose demands the utmost effort to do the best for the boys and perhaps you are no winking that effort; and conceit because I have come across people who say "The Training Team can teach me nothing: I have been doing it for too many years."

Of course, I know that in sane circumstances loyalty to family and to parents may make a Training Course impossible. I know that certain forms of employment make it very difficult. But I would like you all to think about it and make sure that the three very fierce reasons I have given don't apply to you.

Lastly, anyone wanting to know how to run a really effective and enjoyable Scout Dinner should write to the Commissioner for Southend. I can honestly say I have never been to a better arranged Scout function of this nature than the one I attended a few weeks ago.

It was a joy to be present and a credit to Scouting, and all because those in charge had taken the trouble to do everything as well as they knew how, and how well they knew!

P.S. The Chief Guide, Lady B.-P., promises to be at the Gilwell Reunion. I hope those eligible to attend will be there to meet her.

JOHN THURMAN,
Camp Chief

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LUCK OF THE MONTH

By THE EDITOR

June

June: a month, if all be true that they say, of hot waxen nights and long-as-childhood days packed tight with sunshine. The wild rose drops its brief petals, the bumble bee drones in the bindweed flowers and the hay is cut – “cut the hay when the rhododendron blooms” my boyhood reminds me. When I think of June evenings I think of rivers and streams:

In starfilled laughing evenings
Tree sings to mirrored tree;
Moonwhite the rivers carry
Other moons to see.

If you smack the reeds by the streams these days the reed-warbler (or so I once was told) will sing to you.

For schoolboys they are busy days - exam. rooms and cricket pitches and swimming pools: often P.L.'s won't be available, but the wise Scouter knows that that gives an opportunity to others. These evenings, Troop meetings (and Pack meetings) take on a more leisurely air - and what better time for yams and chats about this and that with friendship ripening, than a June evening? And all Scouts will camp as much as they can and so make the English summer a very part of themselves.

“The Scout”

I do not think I can say very much about the new-look Scout which at the request of the Committee of the Council I am editing now that Mr. Dimmock has felt that more leisurely days must for the future be his. I can ask only for your prayers and good wishes to fulfil a task which at first appalled me, still frightens me, and only the faith and comforting words of my friends constrains me to attempt.

I should like to think that all of our Cubs and Scouts will read each week, and that most of them will take it. (To a great extent its pages and their quality must depend upon its income.) To give the Cubs a fair share of them, to give variety while developing the revenue from advertising, more pages are necessary, and that meant a price increase. But twenty-four pages for 4d. is good value these days: the better type of paper means better reproduction of illustrations, and I hope the training pages, the stories inseparable from a boys' paper, the competitions (which will be a regular feature) will all be welcomed not only by the boys but by their leaders - you, my dear readers. At present less than 50,000 copies of The Scout are sold weekly - and how many of these are bought by adults we do not know. You will know how many of your Pack or Troop order it regularly and you will know that we have 426,000 boys in the Movement in this island alone.

I am sure, too, you will agree that we should use every tool we possess to help the Cubs and the Scouts in our care, especially when we consider how many we lose and how few First Class Scouts (indeed how few Second Class Scouts) and fully qualified Cubs we produce. The Scout is a tool that can be used to advantage week in week out by the Cub and the Scout as well as by the Scouters of Pack and Troop. Do your best, then, by talking about it and by showing it, by example and by occasional exhortation, to get The Scout known to the boys, ordered by the boys regularly from the newsagents (for that is the only way to get it) and read by the boys.

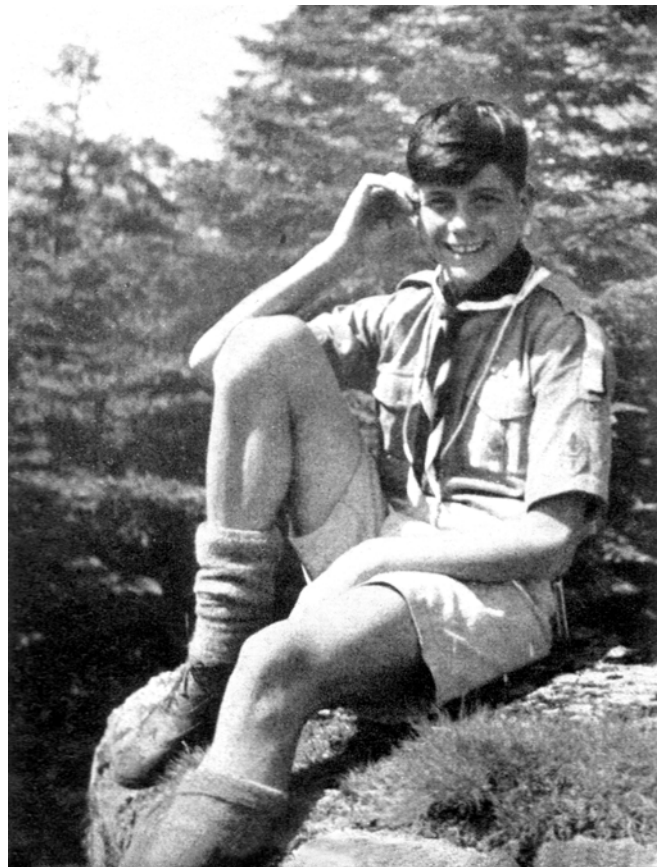
Especially by the 376,000 of them who haven't taken it up to now! Thank you very much.

I can add that I shall welcome more than ever good photographs (especially “cover” pictures) and cartoons.

Bob-a-Job

Two stories for you:

Colin Vogal, an eight-year-old Liverpool Wolf Cub, is in hospital with an orthopaedic complaint and has to lie on a frame. For his two jobs during Bob-a-Job Week he “wound daddy's watch and wrote some letters for mummy” - so his father gave him the properly earned two-shilling piece.



(Photo by J.F. Grumitt)

“Why shouldn't I have a rest?”

Unfortunately in his excitement Colin swallowed it - the first recorded instance of two bobs for jobs in a small boy's inside.

The coin was recovered after an operation, was pickled in alcohol and was presented formally to Colin's Cubmaster!

My second story was told me by an old friend with whom I was lunching recently whom many of you will be glad to hear of: Stanley White, one-time Travelling Commissioner and up to the war a Deputy Camp Chief at Gilwell Park. Stanley lives nowadays in the country and has a large garden some of which is woodland. He was entertaining friends when a young Scout appeared looking for a job. Those of you who know Stanley will have no difficulty in hearing his expressive voice explaining to me that of course he hadn't any particular job ready, but suddenly had an inspiration: “You can root up these seedling sycamores. They're an awful nuisance. I'll give you a bob for fifty.” Whereupon the Scout went into the garden and Stanley back to his friends. Some considerable time later, remembering the Scout, Stanley went out to find him - to be greeted with a cheery voice which said: “Here you are, Mr. White. I've pulled up 800. You owe me sixteen bob!”

Faintly Speaking

Which is actually the name of Miss Gladys Mitchell's latest detective story, and one of the very best, which is saying something. But I mention it here because, as her readers will know, Miss Mitchell is quite superb in delineating small boys, and one for our delight comes into this excellent tale. And then I came across this sentence: “She had acted merely in obedience to one of her strongest emotions, a deep, abiding, amused and tender love of small boys.”

That is an exact description in my opinion of the emotion that ought to be felt (howbeit quite privately) by the best Old Wolves: and what makes it perfect (I think) is the third of the four adjectives in front of “love.”

REX HAZLEWOOD.

TALKING POINTS

(Second Series)

4. CAMPING GEAR - AND ALL THAT



In the Scout Troop we use camping as an end in itself, as a method of learning how to live out-of-doors in all kinds of weather. We learn how to cook on a wood fire, how to keep good order on our site, how to use tents and how to be comfortable and warm at night when sleeping on the hard ground. All this is done with the aid of fairly heavy gear which is transported for us. It is a wonderful apprenticeship for the Senior Scout when camping becomes a means to an end - that of keeping him self-sufficient and mobile when out on an adventure or seeking some quest. I dislike to see Senior Scouts more than two nights in succession at a camping site, for I feel they should be on their way somewhere, searching for something.

There is nothing new to say about camping. There is possibly just a new twist or a variation of the same thing we have been doing for years. At the moment our trend seems to be toward the gimmick or the showing off of rather elaborate camping gear. We also seem to have got ourselves into the moist hands of the purveyors of so-called ex Government surplus disposal stores or the bewitching hands of the super-glossy lightweight gear makers whose products can only be purchased by the very well off or a sponsored expedition to Everest. It could be pointed out with some truth that equipment designed for the armed services cannot always be the right gear for us, and likewise the same applies to the super specialised items designed for entry into the fairyland of high peaks. I suppose it is natural to try to acquire a little glamour by obtaining some of this equipment but we really ought to follow a line of our own for, as you know, we are proud of the fact that we lead the way in camping practice, at least amongst the Youth Movements.

A Senior Scout, to be mobile, needs some lightweight camping gear that is at one and the same time simple and inexpensive. The remedy is a simple one. We should, as Senior Scouts, I think, make our own camping gear, even for the sake of having satisfaction in proving our ability to make things. Those among us who have tried it know that there is nothing so practical or satisfactory as a tailor-made suit, so with our camping gear there is nothing so practical as gear tailored to our own requirements, nothing so pleasurable as the exercising of skill in making the gear.

As I said above, there is nothing new to talk about in the practice of camping but we can certainly say a few words about the choice of gear and a few points can be made upon the subject of spending our pocket money on acquiring the basis of the outdoor man's natty outfit. This situation has occurred before, of course, and can really be part of a cycle. I can remember in my young days being drawn to elaborate gear but being edged off it by an understanding Scoutmaster. In those days the Scoutmaster had only three books on his shelf apart from his prayer book and Bible; they were Scouting for Boys, P.O.R. and Horace Kephart's Camping and Woodcraft. Scouting for Boys was used for its inspiration and method of Scouting, P.O.R. for its training programmes, and Kephart for its technical information.

Now, all that a man needs for living out of doors is a tent to sleep under for the night, a warm cover to sleep in, a few utensils for cooking food and a pack to carry these things in. We have already agreed that these should be light in weight, thoughtfully made and cheap.



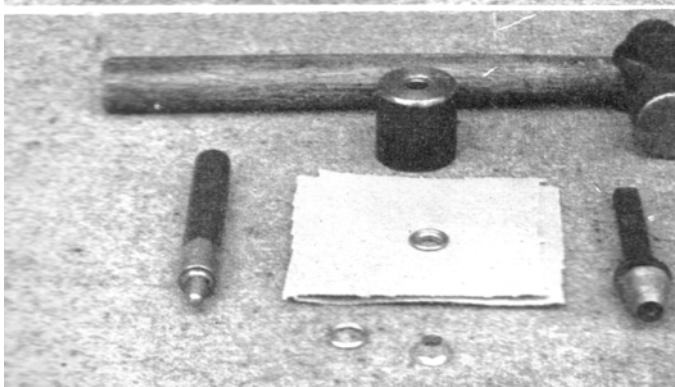
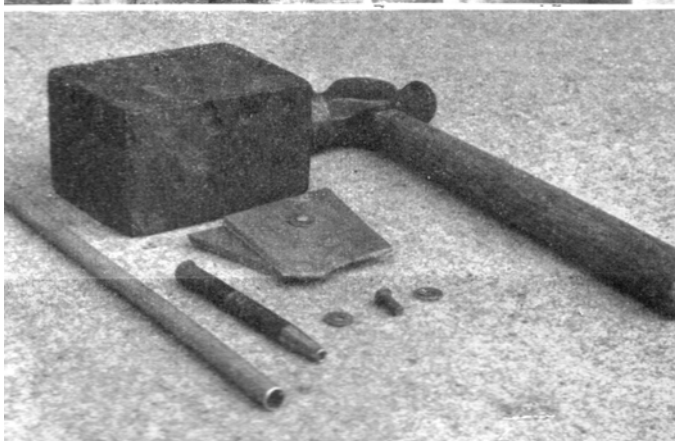
The Pack Sack. We have had our legs pulled for years by the suppliers of the Bergen type rucsac with its frame designed ostensibly to carry heavy weights. When you stop to think about it the notable pack carriers of the world the backwoodsmen of Canada and the Sherpa porters of Nepal, all carry their weights well up on the shoulders, not on the hips as one does when using a rucsac. The truth is the rucsac was designed for ski runners or mountaineers who wanted freedom for their elbows and their gear well out of the way. Bergens designed a rucsac, their No. 557, for the Norwegian armed police force, during the war, which was quite the reverse to the normal, it being wider at the top than at the bottom, so as to bring the weight on to the shoulders, which rather goes to show what I mean. My favourite Pack Sack is Kephart's Duluth and it is only after using it that the subtleties reveal themselves. With the attachment of the shoulder straps a little lower than the top of the sack, it can either be enlarged for full gear or reduced for one-day trips. The long attachment straps can be used to "add in" any additional items that need to be carried and above all the weight is brought up on to the shoulders, allowing full freedom of the hips when walking. I find there is no need for a carrying frame with this type of sack and indeed a frame is rather a nuisance, it gets in the way in a bus or train, it takes up room in a tent and will not fit into a boat or canoe and its use has been overrated. It you must. have an air space between the back and the pack you can sling a rolled groundsheet across the straps, in the same way as a Swiss guide carries his climbing ropes. But again, when one is striding over the hills on our usually cool days it is sometimes a comfort to feel the pack snuggling against the back and it can give an added feeling of warmth. The Duluth pack is very easy to make.

Tents. You will not be worth a farthing rushlight as a camper if you do not hold very strong opinions about tents. But before you start spending your money, just consider the hike sheet. It does not matter what you make it of - if you waterproof it - but it should be nine feet square and well eyeleted or taped. You can pitch this square in all manner of ways to suit the weather of the day and if there are several of you with them, these can be combined to form various shapes to suit the needs of the camp. They can also be used as a dining shelter on a wet day or a cover for the fire if you go in for a tent later.

Pots and Pans. Any tin can be made into a billy or frypan - just a little ingenuity and a little investigation on how to use a pair of snips or a riveting hammer.

Sleeping gear. A down sleeping bag is almost a necessity - blankets are so heavy and bulky, and so expensive to buy. Yes, but you can also make them. Down can be bought in various grades and mercerised or waxed fabric can be got in various colours too. The rest is up to you. Get the know how from your mother or sister and choose an empty room with no draughts, then - good luck! I have found that milk straining cloth, fluffy one side, smooth the other, made into a sleeping bag lining, is very warm for its weight and besides can be washed as frequently as you want to.

The number of operations you require to obtain the know how for making the various articles of gear I have been talking about are very few. You should be able to use a sewing machine, mother or sister comes in here, stitching with thread through leather, riveting and eyeleting.



A passable skill with tools, coupled with a sense of form and balance, should produce the tailor-made outfit we are aiming for, giving us pleasure and pride in their use.

Dear Kephart says "The less you carry in your pack, the more you should carry in your head." I think that this sums up what I have been trying to say. Camping is an art, the practising of which underlies the best methods of our Scout training for manhood.

PERCY NEVILLE,
D.C.C., Surrey.

The photos (by Stanley Newton) show:-

On page 16.

(a) **THE HIKE SHEET.** 9 ft. by 9 ft. square. Eyeleted at 1ft. 6-in. spacings all round. Reinforced with 1in. tape. The material is red coloured nylon proofed with Mystolene. Guys in 8oz. cord. No runners but adjusted with bowline and toggle. Illustration shows three ways of pitching this tent. There are others.

(b) **COOKING GEAR** - Home-made from obvious food tins.

On page 16.

(a) **DULUTH PACK SACK.** - Illustration shows pack with sufficient gear for a normal week's hike. Tucker bag with-food and cooking utensils under large flap to ensure there are no bulky hems to dig in the back and is also ready for meals en route.

Waterproof "added in" under the straps for quick access. Groundsheet rolled and laid across the carrying straps to create an air space between back and pack. Second illustration shows pack adjusted to carry a small amount of gear for one-day hikes.

(b) **RIVETING.** - The tools for riveting: wad punch for cutting the hole; copper snap head rivet backed with copper washers either side; a piece of tube to fit over the rivet to settle the whole together; iron block and ball hammer for peaning over. Allow 1½ times the diameter of the rivet protruding to enable a nice snap head to be formed.

(c) **EYELETING.** - The tools for putting in eyelets: Wad punch for cutting a clean hole in material; the two parts of the eyelet; the eyeleting tool; a large ball-bearing can be used quite effectively in place of this tool.

LETTERS TO A YOUNG ROVER – VI

DEAR DAVID,

I am sorry to have delayed a few days answering your last letter, but as Chairman of our District Bob-a-Job Committee I have been going through all the Scouts' cards and analysing them for my final report to the L.A. Quite a fascinating task! I think the Bob-a-Job idea is one of the best we have ever had in the Movement. The cash is useful, of course, the publicity invaluable, and the work done is a real help to a lot of people, but the great gain seems to me to be that doing the jobs brings home forcibly to the Scouts the meaning of the Third Law.

There is a type of boy nowadays (and there probably always has been) who regards work of any sort as something just to be got over as quickly as possible, so that he may get back to his play or his idleness. If Bob-a-Job week did nothing else, it would be worth having because it teaches a lot of boys, for the first time, that work is the best play of all.

If we could teach everyone in Britain to take that attitude, what a different nation we should soon become! We need millions more houses and hundreds of thousands of miles of new roads, thousands of new school buildings and factories, and millions of pounds' worth of new machinery in the factories if we are to become a hundred per cent efficient as a nation, and if everybody would "do the work for which they draw the wage," as Kipling sang, we could achieve these things within ten years.

The trouble at the moment is that too many people are thinking of their jobs in terms of money rather than in terms of "service." Not everybody, by any means, for millions are really putting their backs into it, but enough to make national prosperity remain "just round the corner."

Whatever job you do when you get home, I hope you'll take a pride in doing it better than it has ever been done before. If, when you knock off at night, you know in your heart that you have earned your bread, you'll enjoy your leisure far more than the man who slacks. There are some jobs, I suppose, that are hopelessly monotonous, but I doubt if there are as many as we are apt to think. Most jobs become interesting when you take a pride in them.

One of the most contented men I know looks after a big public lavatory in this town. The white pottery glistens like fine china, the brass work gleams, and the floor is always clean. He had a young sort of apprentice lavatory looker after helping him the other day, and I heard him instructing the boy in the proper care of the imitation-marble floor.

"If the mop is too dry," he was saying gravely, "you won't get in the cracks, and if it is too wet you'll leave puddles, and people will tread in them, and in five minutes the floor will be a sea of mud. It's a fine art getting the mop just right."

One felt that one was in the presence of Titian or some other old master, instructing a pupil in his studio, and the comparison is not far-fetched at all, for any job done well is a thing of beauty and a work of art.

It is quite a pleasure to pay a visit to that man's lavatory, but it is not a pleasure to pay a visit to the milk-bar on the opposite corner. There are two waitresses, and I do not think either of them were ever Girl Guides. Even when business is slack there are always a dozen dirty cups and saucers left on the counter, and rings of cold tea, and crumbs and bits of paper. I often walk an extra quarter-mile to have my coffee at another milk-bar, where a middle-aged woman keeps the place speckless. She always looks bright and happy, and those girls always look bored and dull. Nobody has ever told them that work is fun.

Right through the nation's life the same thing is going on. I know the managing-director of one big firm who spends half his time in the local club, drinking double-whiskies and saying that his employees are a lazy lot and wages are too high, and that what we need "to bring the country to its senses" is a few million unemployed.

I know another managing-director who works a fourteen-hour day and seems to know most of his hundreds of employees by name, and who says he has got a wonderful "team."

He not only pays the-proper wages, but gives Christmas bonuses on a staggering scale. To work at "Brown's" (though that isn't the name, of course) is to be envied, and when a vacancy occurs he can take his pick of two or three good men. People only try to get jobs with the other fellow when there is nothing else going.

Both men are in their early fifties, but the lazy one looks sixty and suffers from severe gastritis. The boss who thinks work fun looks forty and is the best bat in the works cricket team.

So when you come back, David, whether you become a clerk or a Cabinet Minister, or a dustman or a chartered accountant, think more of the job than the money.

When he framed that Third Law, however, our old Chief was not thinking only of a man's daily work, but of his "after-hours" service to the community. If you can use all your time and all your qualities in your "paid" job, then you will probably best serve the community by doing so, but if you can't, then don't waste them.

Much of the strength of English life is due to the voluntary service of individuals of all types. Even in your own brief twenty years you have benefited by a good deal of it. Scouting has meant quite a lot to you, I know, and your various Scoutmasters have not been paid! Nor has the District Commissioner or the LA Secretary or the County Commissioner or the County Secretary, or any other of the scores of local people who have made your Troop nights and your camp possible.

Then there's the Literary Society you are so keen on. Old Mr. Callender has built that up in thirty years as a labour of love.

The park, too, where you play tennis, was set aside by the local council when the town began to grow fast twenty years ago. Councillor Bagshot and some others nearly talked themselves hoarse before they could convince the townspeople of the need for it. Bagshot is dead and forgotten, but there is still a Council manned by unpaid workers who have the interests of their fellow-citizens at heart. Don't ever go in for those cheap sneers at Councillors that empty-headed people are so fond of making. On the whole they do a wonderful job, and they get a lot of kicks and n6 halfpence at all. Your M.P. is in a different position, because he is paid, but most M.P.'s actually *lose* money by being in Parliament, and whatever party they belong to are inspired by a genuine spirit of service to the community.

We belittle them and despise them, but, after all, we are the purest democracy in the world, and it is the much-maligned M.P. who has made us so and kept us so.

Then there are the people who run local supporting branches of such institutions as St. Dunsians, the S.S.A.F.A., the Church Army, the R.S.P.C.A., etc., who help to fill the gaps in the Government's efforts for our welfare, and the welfare of the old, the unfortunate, and the weak.

There is an endless field of voluntary service everywhere in Britain, and if you have the and talent to spare you are a "passenger" citizen if you won't play your part.

Naturally as your old Scoutmaster, I would like to see you make Scouting your leisure-time field of service, but the object of the Scout Movement is a wider one than just to breed Scout-masters. We try to breed good citizens of all sorts, and if you feel that you would be more use in some other form of service, good -luck to you!

All the same, I hope you'll take a warrant when you come back. I've been many things myself, a politician and a Sunday School teacher and secretary of a literary society and a worker in a boys' hostel and a lay preacher and 4xha things, but on the whole the time I have given to Scouting is the time I am surest I have used well. There's so little red-tape in Scouting, and it is so practical and yet idealistic and fairly cheap to run! And the nearest I have ever come to perfect happiness in this life has been as Scoutmaster of my own Troop.

A green meadow and a stream on a sunny day, with the white tents open to the wind, and the voices of twenty boys you've brought from the hot town sounding beneath the blue heaven. That last precious half-hour round the dying embers of the fire as you smoke your pipe and inner with your A.S.M. as the owl hoots from the purple copse and the wood-smoke mingles with the scent of trodden grass...

But I mustn't try to persuade you'

Yours ever, **A.D.C.**

ROVER ROUNDABOUT

Looking through the last page or so of THE SCOUTER brings home to us the fact that the combination of talk and camping is with us once again. Moots and yet more Moots, and what good things they can be from the point of view of meeting brother Rovers, swapping ideas and yarns, collecting new ways of camping and cooking, finding that you know somebody who was a Scouter or brother Rover before "I moved down here to work" or "got posted to my present dump" and most of all, storing up for the future memories which help all of us when life is dealing all the low cards, inspiring us to hang on or make the extra effort, just because we remember that handicapped Rover who put up such a fine show under appalling conditions that particular week-end, or the cheerful working party who saw very little of the show but gave "service" with obvious enjoyment which just made all the wheels go round smoothly.

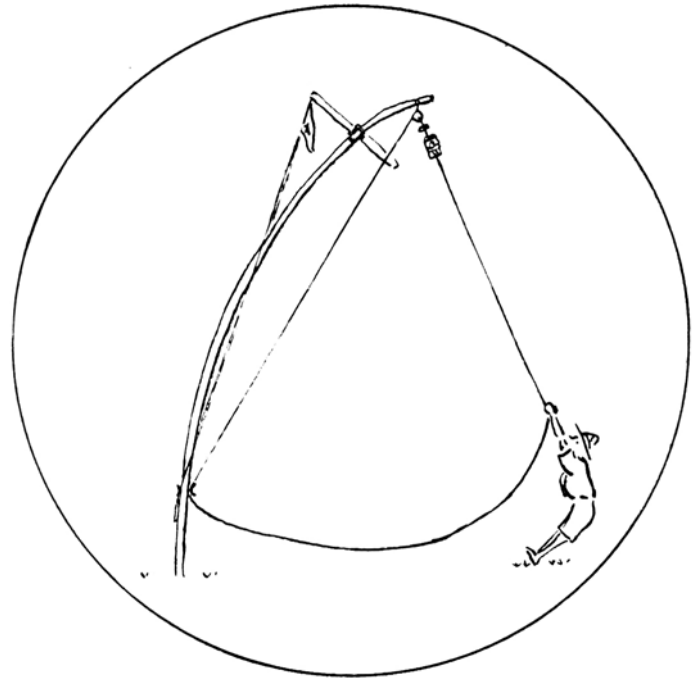
Having just had a week-end at Bath has reminded me once more of all this and what a thrill to meet a fine energetic crowd from an R.A.F. Training Establishment, many only just seventeen, in fact a Senior Scout/Rover combined Crew, working under a young R.S.L. who boasted that he had nothing to do with the organisation for the week-end, the Crew saw to it all. Five of the lads had spent a week in the Channel Islands during Easter, all planned by themselves. Somebody in Scouting had laid a magnificent foundation for this Crew, in more cases than one and in districts wide and far. If one of your boys is an R.A.F. apprentice in the Weston-super-Mare area he is doing well in a grand Crew, and Rovering in general thanks you for your earlier efforts with the fellow you may have regarded as lost (we often do when a chap strikes out for himself). As B.-P. so aptly put it he has started paddling his own canoe. Too early? Don't you believe it.

Back to Moots: here was Ulster arranging a Moot for, as they thought, 140 at the outside, but they had an attendance of 240, all full of enthusiasm. Jack Stewart was the ace speaker and he must have got a great kick out of his Saturday in Belfast, for they got through a programme of twelve items in six hours including Jack on "Divided Loyalties" and "Roving on the Continent," a Judo demonstration, a talk on "The Rover Mate in the Crew," and a Camp Fire, altogether an attractive programme with no time for anybody to get tired because of the length of a session. If you are in Ulster, the Rover Forum meets on the second Wednesday in each month at the H.Q., 50 Dublin Road. Look in, they will be pleased to see you.

With Coventry's Moot programme came a throw-away headed "A word in your ear" which is a grand job giving an introduction into Scouting and asking for help with Scout Groups as Instructors, Examiners, Organisers of fund-raising efforts, Group Committees, etc., closing with - "Please help the men of tomorrow." I shall be interested to know if it works, although it looks a good idea to me.

A Scottish Rover has picked up our remarks about Rover/Ranger co-operation. He tells me he knows nothing of night hikes, but he does have experience of a combined conference at which, in Auchendennan Youth Hostel overlooking Loch Lomond, an invigorating and thought-provoking weekend was spent. They talked of declining numbers, problems of leadership, and 'the talks during the recesses were much more stimulating than the platform speeches. My correspondent considers that brothers and sisters should meet more often. But he, too, is concerned at the disparity of ages. Why not Rangers over twenty-one? Did I hear "why Rovers over that age?" Sir!

The "Service" boys are at my throat. I've heard from Malta where two Crews operate, a mixed one of the three Services with fifteen members - running a varied programme but sometimes at a loss for one. Cheer up - most Crews are! Catterick Camp Crew - one of my fellows was there for a long time (I had a feeling that the Crew ran the camp nearly) with Armoured Corps., R.A.S.C., Signals and R.A.F. Regiment, and participation with the local Rangers. (Warning: one of my Rovers married one of them, and he is still Scouting.) Then a note from an R.A.F. Camp at Topcliffe, Yorkshire, confirming



that his contacts with Army types had completely convinced him that Rovering was not strong in that Service, but at their station they were very much alive, running a Pack and Troop and redecorating their room on the station and getting contacts outside.

Many fellows feel that there should be a list at I.H.Q. where fellows who are due for posting changes could check up, so that contacts could be made and no time lost, but my mother always impressed upon me "That the Lord helps those that help themselves" and I feel rather the same about you Service lads: If there is no hope of contacts inside your camp, how about the nearest village? Any Church contact will tell you of a -Troop around the neighbourhood.

Lastly from the magazine of the Deep-Sea Rover Scouts in the Far East, Fulcrum, an article which I hope, J. Froud, "Toc H" Hong Kong, will not mind me quoting in part, but which I feel has a message for us all.

"Burrow awhile and build," wrote Browning; and not a little of the burrowing which we must do in order to build is by thinking. How often and how deeply a man thinks can only be judged by the man himself. We might do worse than ask ourselves whether we are satisfied with the amount and quality of the thinking in our own Rover Crew, and with our part in it.

Today we are surrounded by biased potted information and propaganda, which conceals the truth by suppressing some of the facts. Are we always ready and eager to face all the facts, facts which are sometimes very grim indeed, without trying to escape, falsify, or colour them with our own likes and dislikes? Most of us avoid the tragedy of coming to believe that our fancies are more real than the facts. But of how many of us can it be said that "he never falsifies the facts"? That we do falsify them we are often unaware, and when told so we vehemently deny it. Sometimes we refuse to admit the facts exist.

From all this few of us escape; and the cause lies both within us and outside us. In our search for truth we must ask ourselves, what are our values. They will either be those by which we believe we ought to live, or those by which in fact we do live. To realise this is of paramount importance if we are to think fairly about our fellows as well as ourselves; and it is our duty as leaders to think and practise the true values. Not by lip-service but by our demonstration of these values in living, will we be judged.

We have often been accused of doing too much talking in our Crews, but it is the only way in which the young man will be able to sort out for himself the standard of values which will guide him, when the time comes for him to part from his Rover brethren, taking out to his life of Service that which has often unbeknown to him become assimilated into his character by talking with his Scout comrades. Talk sows the seeds of thought.

JACK SKILLEN.

“LETTING IN THE JUNGLE”

DEAR OLD WOLF,

Long, long ago, when Scouting was still young, B.-P. sat one day deep in thought. There was a problem to solve, a big one. He had already given the game of Scouting to the youth of the world and they loved it. But now . . . their younger brothers wanted to join in. “I must do something for them,” he thought, “but they’re a bit too young for my game. What I need is something that seems different yet leads naturally to the older Game. It must have a romantic background, for they are at the age of make-believe, yet it must train them in character and useful knowledge without them quite realising they are being taught. That will bring out the best in them, spontaneously.” Then . . . inspiration came. Often had he found pleasure in Kipling’s *jungle Book*. “The very thing,” he said. “They shall be Wolf Cubs and run with the Pack. Learn the Law of Obedience, the Law of Obedience, and the Law of Loyalty. Their background shall be the Jungle, their friends and foes the Jungle creatures and their home the Den.”

What a wonderful idea! What a prospect of adventure for a small boy! And yet in many places that dream is being shattered by those who seek to follow Cubbing most of all, the Cub-masters. You see, in Scouting there are many of us who, in temperament, are quite different. There is the “down to earth” practical Old Wolf who only believes in what can be seen and touched. There is the shy, nervous Old Wolf, scared stiff the Pack will laugh at him. And there is the Old Wolf who only sees the Cubs and finds joy in giving himself to them. They all have their faults and their virtues. What do they think of the Jungle? Just listen to their thoughts: “Kid stuff; what’s it do for them anyway?” “My Cubs laugh at it all; they don’t like the Jungle.” “I think it’s fun and it teaches them.” And all these different people with their different thoughts are teaching in the same Game. If it wasn’t for the patience and vitality of the Cubs, the Packs would have dispersed long ago.

Let us look at the Pack Life that ignores the true background. Firstly there is the Law. “The Cub gives in to the Old Wolf. The Cub does not give in to himself.” Read it again and you will see it concerns *two* people, the Cub and the Old Wolf. How can a young boy appreciate the Cub Law without knowing the true relationship that should exist between them both. He should know that when a *real* Wolf Cub is born he is blind and helpless, and his only chance of survival the care of his parents who give warmth, food and protection. Later, those parents teach the Cub how to keep himself clean, how to recognise friend from foe and how to hunt, that he might have food and live. Thus the boy learns the dependence of the real Wolf Cub on his Jungle parents, the Old Wolves. Then, the words of the Cub Law known and remembered, Akela quietly turns to the boy and says, “But you’re a Cub and I’m an Old Wolf.” Then, and only then, does the boy understand the true meaning of the Law and realise his Cubmaster is a friend who will help and teach him in all things, not just an Officer who instructs and is to be obeyed. It is the lesson of the Jungle repeated in real life. Again, how easy for a boy to break a Law if he doesn’t really understand it. Teach him *why* and there will be no breaking.

Now we will turn to the name “Akela.” I can remember asking a Cub why he called his Cubmaster by that name. He scratched his head, thought a bit and said, “Dunno, sounds daft to me. Suppose he likes it.” I can pardon the parent who opens the door and says, “Good evening, Mr. Akela,” but not the Akela who uses a name about which his Cubs haven’t a clue. Then the Proficiency Stars. How can a Cub realise the necessity for knowledge to open his eyes unless he also knows that a *real* Wolf Cub is born blind? I remember the Cub who, when asked the meaning of the star in his cap, replied, “Well, you see, you have to learn lots of things and when you know ‘em they give you a star and say, ‘You’ve passed, stick this in your cap.’” Exaggerations? No, these tales are true. Don’t you see what these Old Wolves are doing. They are using signs and words just like a parrot because they are in the Handbook. And these words - their value and their meaning? Nothing at all. Listen to these Old Wolves again. “We don’t use the Jungle background, it isn’t very practical.”

No, they will use meaningless words and ceremonies; that is much more practical. Or is it? Now it is a good thing to pull something to pieces when the foundations are wrong. It is much better, however, if we afterwards rebuild on sounder lines. So no more destruction, let’s build from now on.

Firstly, let me say quite boldly that the boy who is not thrilled by the Jungle is *not* in any Pack I have ever met. Present it with *conviction* and *imagination* and he will follow. Do note those two words in italics, for they are the key to all Jungle problems. I’m sure the Cub doesn’t want convincing of the Jungle; it is the Old Wolf who does not believe. “My Cubs don’t like the Jungle.” Do please search your heart and find if you didn’t put those words in their mouths.

Next, “I can’t put it over; I haven’t got any imagination.” If you really hadn’t, Cubs would just be a noisy mob of kids and you wouldn’t be wasting your time leading them. You’ve got *some* at least; dig it out and use it.

How much Jungle background should you impart to the new Cub? One story is enough at first, “Mowgli’s Brothers.” It is this yarn that explains to him the Law, introduces Mowgli with his friends and foes, explains Akela and the need for Stars. One yarn, told with sincerity, taking about ten minutes, and the Cub is off to a flying start. Then comes the imagination to make sure he knows and remembers. You can have questions in the form of games, like the Two Wise Trees (Pack Night, May 1953), Animal Picture games, and above all Play Acting on Jungle themes, for a Cub may remember what he reads but rarely forgets what he does.

Now we are really off. Ever heard of! Jungle Dances? If you have, forget them and remember instead Jungle Plays. Start then with the simple form of Jungle Plays as described in the Handbook, then dig out that imagination and enlarge on them. Here are just two ideas for you.. briefly.

Baloo, sleeping at the foot of a tree, is awakened by Grey Brother running past. The young wolf explains it is hot and he goes to swim in the Hidden Pool of the Watersnake. “You do not know their tongue. You will be bitten and die,” says Baloo, but Grey Brother, strong in the power of youth, goes off. Later the Pack, led by Akela, finds him lying dead. They pick him up and come sadly to Baloo. “Never will you be safe until you remember my wise words,” says Baloo. “Let me teach you the Law again.” The Pack spread out and as they strut round repeating the Law of the Pack the Jungle play of Baloo ends. Again. . . Three young Wolves spy the young deer drinking with their mother at the water-hole. “Follow me. I’m the best hunter,” they all say. The stalking becomes a riot, the deer easily escape and the young wolves are angry and hungry. From the bushes comes Bagheera, mighty hunter. “I thought the wild pig were feeding2 says he. “Hunt that noisy way and you starve. Call the Pack and I will teach you the Jungle Magic of Bagheera.” Follows the hunt as described in the Handbook. Just two simple plays that not only give the Cub added interest but explain why the plays are performed.

How often should Jungle Plays be performed? A good rule is, “Frequently enough that they are not forgotten; not so frequently that the Cubs get too used to them” Do all the Pack join in? This is where I temporise with my critics. As a Cub approaches the age of Scouts and Scholarships, the age of make-believe begins to fade. If a Cub gross up very quickly it may perhaps be best to send him off on a badge test, but this all depends on the boy.

Finally, one more bold statements. The Jungle will claim and hold a Cub for nine-tenths of his Pack life if he has been trained with sincerity and some imagination. That last tenth is concerned with his final training for the more adult world of the Troop. Don’t dismiss the background B.-P. chose; it was chosen for a purpose. Don’t be afraid the Jungle has much to teach and is very friendly. Play this Game she way it was intended and both your life and the Cubs will be she richer for having shared with B.-P. his great dream.

Listen! In the distance I can hear the voice of a young Cub, entreating, “*Please* who was Mowgli?... Who was Akela? Am I really a Wolf Cub?”

He’s asking you.... Go on... . Tell him....

BALOO,

Asst. Akela Leader, Essex.



“WE`LL DYB, DYB, DYB”!

THE GAMES CHEST: CUBS FARMING

1. HARVESTING.

Gear: One sheet of wrapping paper and a length of string for each Cub.

Purpose: Practice in reef knots and in catching and throwing.

Each Cub makes a parcel of his cap which becomes a sheaf of corn and is placed in a chalk square (his Six cart) at one end of the Den. When all the “carts” are full the Sixes, in files, are spaced down the Den. Sixers take one “sheaf” at a time and pass them on to the “elevator” by throwing them to the next Cubs. When “sheaves” reach the last Cubs they are built into “stacks” in chalk squares at far end of Den.

Any “sheaf” becoming untied or being dropped must be returned to Sixers to be retied and placed again on to the bottom of the “elevator.”

Points are awarded for the first “stack” to be completed and for the neatest and tallest “stack.”

C. M. CLUTTERBUCK.

2. REAPING THE CORN.

Gear: One stick approximately 18 in. to 24 in. long per Six.

Purpose: Physical exercise and team spirit.

Pack in Sixes in relay formation. The stickles (i.e. sticks) are placed some distance in front of each Six. At signal first Cub in each Six runs to stickle, picks it up and runs with it along Six, holding it approximately one foot above ground so that Cubs may jump over it. Cubs jumping over are “reaped” and they immediately squat on floor. The first Cub replaces the stickle and goes to back of Six, whereupon the Six stand up, and the second Cub repeats as for first Cub.

W. N. PAUL

3. THE LOST SHEEP.

Gear: Nil.

Purpose: Just fun and perseverance.

Pack is divided into two teams of sheep, each appropriately marked, each having a shepherd and his dog. All are gathered in the market place (the Den). Whilst the two shepherds and dogs are gossiping, the sheep wander off. (The Cubs hide in different places over a specified area not too near the market.) Suddenly the shepherds realise the sheep are gone and rush off with the dogs to find them and bring them back to the market. They can collect sheep from both flocks; the dogs can collect also but must lead every sheep they find to his shepherd who is collecting his sheep together and driving them back. Points are given to the teams, two for every sheep of their own flock and one for every sheep from the other flock, the winning team having the most points. Sheep must be properly hidden but can “bleat” if they see their own shepherd or dog near.

MOLLY BOLTON.

4. DOWN ON THE FARM.

Gear: Nil.

Purpose: To get rid of their inhibitions, if any.

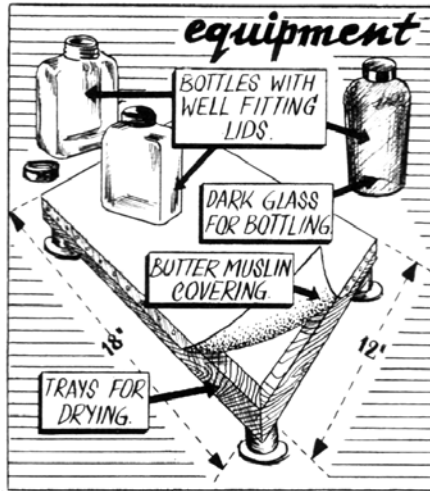
The Cubs are lined up in Sixes and numbered. Akela says he wants some bacon, and calls a number. The Cubs of that number come up to Akela, acting the animal concerned. The game continues with eggs, butter, beef, wool, etc., and points are awarded for the best acting. If any further fun and noise is required, the Cubs can pat their animal as he returns and say “Thank you, cow” or whatever it might be.

W.M. PEIRCE.

TRAINING NOTES

[These notes are intended as a basis for yarns on parts (only) of certain badges or of Scout Training.]

6. HERB DRYING



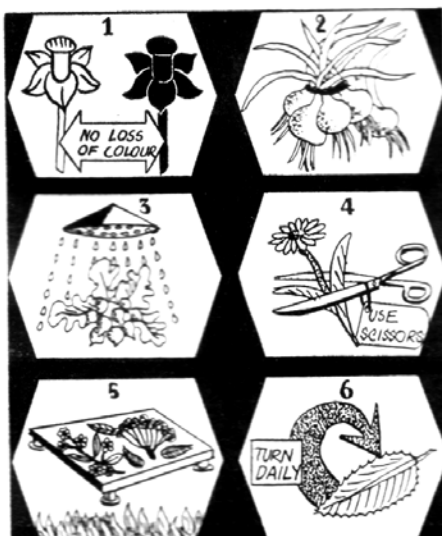
Herb gardening is a hobby well worth while for the keen Scout who is trying to get his Naturalist badge. The results are usually very satisfying, as herbs have so many uses: aromatic, medicinal or culinary, or any combination of these. But doesn't herb gathering fit in extremely well, with Scouting activities such as hiking and camping?

There is really no need to possess your own herb plot, as long as you like these primary activities in our Scouting life, and go hiking or camping with the purpose of herb collecting. Of course you must know what plants you are looking for - therefore herb recognition comes before gathering and drying and bottling. However, it would fall outside the scope of this article to discuss the ways and means of identifying herbs, and to know which herbs are useful for what. The best thing you can do is to buy one of the little books on this subject and to select such herbs to grow or gather as you think suit the purpose for which you want them.

The next step is to go with a friend or your Patrol on a "floral foray," armed with guide book and metal containers in which you can deposit your finds; or to start digging in your own herb garden. Needless to say, it would be quite useless to start growing or collecting herbs if you do not know how to prepare them. And this is where this article hopes to enlighten you somewhat. Luckily you - will not need a lot of expensive equipment, and you do not need to buy a single item. First of all you can make some rough wooden frames of about 12 by 18 inches and cover these with butter muslin. Put some cotton reels at the corners for legs and your drying trays are finished. Your supply of small, empty bottles is just a question of collecting them all the year round. Every bottle used for storing purposes needs a well-fitting lid and has to be of dark glass or earthenware. Surprisingly simple equipment, isn't it?

(1) Gathering of herbs, either from your own garden, or in the field, can be done between June and December, depending on the plants you want to collect. (2) Herbs are ready for gathering when they are just starting to flower as then the flavour and scent are at their best and the plants, oil has reached its maximum. (3) The best time to pick herbs is after the dew has left the ground, so that there will not be any unnecessary moisture on them, and before sunrise. The sun will draw a lot of scent and oil from the plant into the air. (4) Only the best shaped, greenest leaves should be gathered, whether you collect only the leaves or the whole plant. (5) Clean the plants as far as possible of insects, dirt, etc., while gathering, to save time later on. (6) Put the herbs in separate containers for different species, which will avoid any errors once the herbs are dried.

Herb drying - the next step - is very easily done, although daily attention is required. (1) One golden rule to keep in mind is that herbs should not lose their colour when dried, as this would mean a considerable loss of oil and scent. (2) Herbs with wooden stems or bulbs should be tied in bunches of about ten or twelve plants, and when the weather is warm hung in the open against a fence or wall in the half-shade. Take them indoors every night long before nightfall, as any dampness will undo all the drying process of the day. (3) It is advisable not to wash the herbs once they are gathered; unless this is unavoidable due to some garden pest on the plant. If you do wash them, do not put the tap full on them, or drench them in water, but wrinkle the water on them, and afterwards shake as much moisture off as possible. (4) Then you can cut the best leaves with scissors, so as to avoid any damage to them, and spread them on your trays. (5) When the trays are filled, you stack them above an oven for about four days. (6) Do not forget to turn the contents of your trays daily.



Besides leaves you might have to dry certain flowers, seeds or even roots. Take great care with flowers, and spread the blossoms singly on your trays for one to two weeks. Seeds have to be gathered when they are ripening. It takes between one and two weeks to dry them, after which they have to be threshed.

The most difficult - or least easy - part of a herb to dry, is its roots. Never dig a root up while the leaves are still in full growth, for then much of the medicinal properties of the plant are not yet contained in the part beneath the surface. When you dig a root up, see that you get the entire and undamaged root out of the ground, and wash and scrub the root afterwards. Then you can cut the rootlets and the surface part of the herb off, and if the root is big enough, you can slice it to promote drying. Drying takes about three weeks in the ordinary way, after which the root should have lost about three quarters of its original weight, and should have shrunk considerably.

Lastly, to make your herbs ready for consumption, you powder the leaves or flowers, and put this powder in a dry basin. Now rub this powder through a fine sieve, in this way obtaining the final product which you can put in your jar or bottle, marking it clearly as to its contents. All your bottles should be stored in dry and dark place, and in this way your herbs will retain their scent and flavour for quite some time.

You can gather the seeds of anise, caraway, coriander and dill; the bulbs or roots of garlic and liquorice; the stem of angelica; the flowers of basil, borage, marigold, margoram, rue, thyme and hyssop; and the leaves of almost any herb, including those mentioned, with the exception of hyssop.

As you see, herb drying is a simple way to collect some useful and handy home and camp helps for illnesses, and some very tasty ingredients to brighten your menu.

J. ANDRE DE JONG.

BOOKS

Sports Injuries: Prevention and Active Treatment, by Christopher Woodard (Max Parrish, 1 2s. 6d.).

To one who attempts to combine with the profession of a schoolmaster the spare time activities of a Scouter and a First Aider this book is of absorbing interest. It should prove of considerable value to all Scouters who are prepared to bear in mind that they do not, strictly speaking, belong to the category of athletic trainers and coaches for whom the book is primarily intended, and that for this reason, although the general principle of "active treatment" may be wisely followed by all, some of the more detailed suggestions should be approached with caution by those who are not experienced coaches and who are dealing with boys of whom the majority cannot undergo systematically regular athletic training.

To subject Scouts to irregular 4oses (as at occasional Troop Meetings) or suddenly intensive courses (as during a summer camp) of some of the more strenuous of Dr. Woodard's remedial, preventive and strength-training exercises would perhaps be nearly as foolish as to allow untrained competitors to enter for a gruelling race. And it would be equally unwise to lose sight of the fact that some of the admirable "first-aid" suggestions in the book do in fact border upon "second-aid" and should therefore be approached with caution by the experienced layman.

These remarks are intended as a reminder that we should recognise our limitations, both in scope and in experience, and are in no way a criticism of the book itself; for no one could be more explicit than Dr. Woodard has been (a) in stating that the selection and adaptation of particular exercises, the exact amount of work to be done upon each, the frequency of the routine, and other matters such as breathing rhythm are vitally important factors in prescribing for the individual ("A car might be a very good medium of getting from A to B, but unless the traveller can drive well, much time would be wasted and much damage might be done to the car!"), and (b) in signposting very clearly the types of injury which should be given expert medical attention.

The author, both as an expert half-miler and athletic "blue," as a specialist in the treatment of muscle injuries in athletics, and as honorary medical adviser to British teams at the last two Olympic Games, approaches his subject with an authority and an experience that command the highest respect. He writes clearly and convincingly, and is on the whole skilful in avoiding technical terms that a layman would not understand and in explaining those that he cannot avoid using. The numerous photographic plates illustrating the exercises, and the line-drawings (mostly anatomical) in the text, are all admirably clear.

His main purpose is to expose the fallacy of the all too common practice of immediately applying strapping, massage and heat-treatment to muscle injuries, and to replace this by the immediate treatment of minimising with cold water the intra-muscular bleeding (which is considerably increased by heat and massage if applied within four days of injury), and then getting the muscles moving again gently so that the patient can at once recover his body-balance. In almost all cases strapping merely gives a dangerously false sense of security, restricts the blood-circulation which is essential for recovery, lowers the general "tone" of the muscles, and upsets the patient's balanced movement, thus frequently developing a habitual

limp and sometimes causing muscle strains in other parts of the body as a result of that upset of balance.

Apart from his valuable instruction on the principles of "active treatment," Dr. Woodard provides two interesting chapters on "Diet and Dope" and "Self-confidence and Staleness," and deals systematically with all the injuries likely to be sustained by those who take part in all the commoner sports. His advice on such common injuries as deep grazes, black eyes, bleeding noses, strained back muscles, sprained wrists and thumbs, "tennis elbow," and the infection known as "athlete's foot" is particularly valuable. And his remark on the danger of movement when a fracture is suspected - "If people were more aware of the need to reduce *any* movement to a minimum after such an accident (*broken collarbone*), there would be far fewer casualties from secondary shock or complications" - underlines an important principle which even would-be First Aiders could observe more strictly than they often do at present.

WATKIN W. WILLIAMS.

The White Desert, by John Giaever (Chatto & Windus, 25s.).

Mankind is on the march: later centuries I am sure will look back on our years as we look back on those other years when the human spirit seems to burst its bonds and go questing. Expeditions large and small explore the ocean beds and the highest peaks and the hottest and coldest deserts. The White Desert of Mr. Giaever's book is the Antarctic where, himself a Norwegian he led a team from Great Britain, Sweden and Norway: his book is the official account of the expedition, the first international expedition of its kind, 1950-52.

The book is almost a model of what such a book should be: written with spirit and liveliness, scientific without being stuffy with jargon, illustrated with thirty excellent plates and ten sketch maps, it will afford joy to all those interested in the Antarctic or in exploration, and give a long summer's reading - for there are 304 pages. (I said "almost a model" for I think an index would have been pleasant to have.)

The expedition had its tragedy (three of its members were drowned), and its sadder moments (as when the dogs had to be shot), but nevertheless it is an exhilarating book to read. Scientific expeditions on a much smaller scale have been the subject of recent articles in THE SCOUTER and all of you who have enjoyed those will particularly be interested in the preparations - of food, clothing, instruments and the like recounted in Chapter II. Altogether this is a fine book, well presented, and highly recommended to you all..

R. H.

Three Singles to Adventure, by Gerald Durrell (Rupert Hart Davis, 15s.). It really is true that there is a place of that name; and, if you first get to British Guiana, you can then take a first-class ticket to Adventure. This is a most interesting and very amusing account of the adventures and misadventures of a small party of collectors of strange animals for the zoos of Europe. Those who look askance at wild animals kept in captivity may feel some doubt about the book; but it is delightfully written, and the author clearly has a real love and understanding of even the quaintest and most awkward creatures.

He also possesses that sense of humour which appears to be a highly necessary qualification for those engaged in his particular profession; his account of a ridiculous bird they acquired, whose ruling passion in life seemed to be a deep and abiding desire for human company - generally with extremely embarrassing results for the immediate object of its affections - is a perfect joy to read. The book is illustrated by a number of photographs of fantastic beasts, the kind whose faces remind one irresistibly of some of one's friends and colleagues.

D. F. M.

To Hidden Depths, by Philippe Tailliez (William Kimber, 16s.)

Those of you who know that exciting and beautifully produced book *The Silent World* will already know a great deal about Captain Tailliez, Commander of the (by now) very famous Undersea Research group of the French Navy. It is now his turn to tell of his experiences in his own way, many of them of course already recounted in *The Silent World* written by Dumas and Cousteau, the other two members of a redoubtable modem "Three Musketeers." But this will not prevent you from enjoying Captain Tailliez's book with its own individual standpoint (if that is a word that can be applied to modem deep-sea diving) and its own straightforward style. And much of the matter - for example this year's descent of the bathyscaphe - is new.

There are forty-seven photographs (regrettably none in colour), mostly odd and entertaining, some more successful than others. A book for you all to read and enjoy.

R. H.

Rendez-vous 127: the diary of Mine Brusselmans (Benn, 12s. 6d.).

Mine Brusselmans is one of that band of magnificent people who during the war worked in secret to get back to England airmen who had been shot down. She worked with the escape organisation in Brussels (which was, as the publishers remind us, the receiving end of the famous Comente line which stretched across France and over the Pyrenees to freedom), and was responsible for the safe return of 180 airmen. All the time she carried on in occupied country, bringing up her two children and continuing as a housewife.

This book has all the sense of immediacy and daily anxiety which a diary gives. It was written mostly between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. and hidden in all sorts of odd household places. I do hope you will read it and think about it in terms of what we ourselves might have had to do. It is intensely interesting.

H. R.

The Escapers, by Erie Williams (Eyre & Spottiswoode & Collins, 16s.). Escape stories have for me a fascination all of their very own. For that reason I found this book a veritable storehouse of treasure. Erie Williams is an escaper himself and became famous as the author of *The Wooden Horse*, the story of his escape from a German prison camp. Since then he has collected an escape library of several hundred volumes and from it has chosen the eighteen stories which make up this book. They are all first-hand accounts and range from the sixteenth century to the present time. The book thus contains a collection of thrilling adventure yarns.

The yarns are told by those who were the central figures in the adventures and who were pitting themselves against tremendous odds and staking everything on their attempts to regain their freedom.

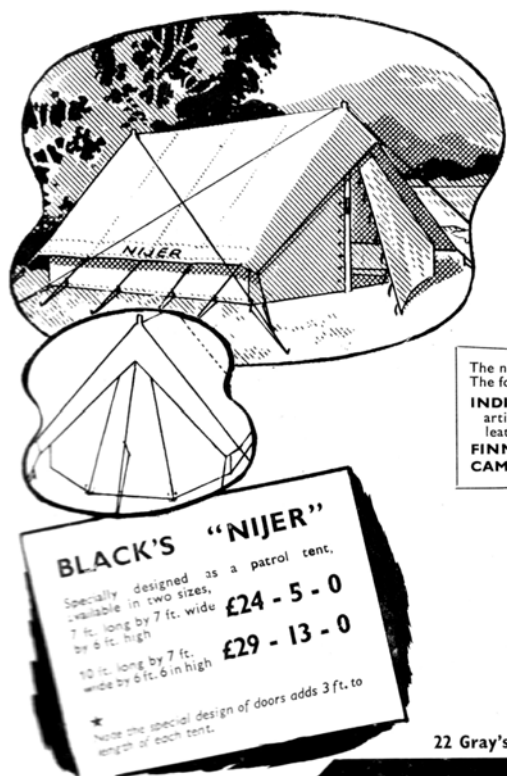
In his introduction the author takes us inside the mind of the escaper and examines the motives and impulses which influence him to make the great attempt and the problems which he has to face when he has begun his break for freedom. All Scouts are lovers of adventure and therefore all *Scouts* - from the newest Tenderfoot to the most hoary of Commissioners - will find the pages of this book full of interest and will want to have their own copy to read at leisure.

T. E. SCOTT-CHARD.

The Observer's Book of Aircraft, by William Green and Gerald Pottinger (Warne, 5s.).

So popular was the first edition of this little book that it had to be reprinted three times within six months of its appearance. In this new and very welcome edition, the authors have completely revised the contents and have taken the opportunity to introduce many of the new aircraft which have recently made their appearance. The book contains photographs and details of 171 aircraft and three-view silhouettes of more than a hundred of them. All the aircraft in the official I.H.Q. lists for the Air Spotter and Air Observer Badges are included and for this reason the book is a "must" for every Troop library. The best compliment which can be paid to the book is to say that the authors have in every way maintained the very high standard which they set in the previous edition and have given wonderful value for the modest sum of five shillings. Its handy size is one of its biggest assets, since it can be slipped into the pocket on those Troop outings to aerodromes and Air Displays where it can be used to great advantage.

T. E. SCOTTCHARD.



NIJER...the tent with a Future

and an illustrious past. Many of the original Nijers bought twenty-five years ago are still giving excellent service to Scout Troops. The Nijer you purchase this year will serve your Scouts and their sons! Such amazing value is a factor which should be borne in mind in these days of high prices and canvas shortages. Buy now while the price holds.

The new "Good Companions" Catalogue—containing a full list of outdoor equipment will be available shortly. The following special items are included:—

INDIAN CAMP MOCCASINS. The genuine article. Canadian made from oil tanned brown leather with hand sewn vamp. Per pair 56/—	SCOUTERS PULLOVERS, rainproofed all-wool, raglan sleeves, crew neck, oat-meal shade 45/4
FINNISH HUNTING KNIVES 20/8	SPORTSMAN'S KNIFE, of stainless steel 2 blades, corkscrew, screw-driver, pricker, crown cork opener, and shackle for lanyard 16/9
CAMP BLANKETS, 64" x 84" fawn, all wool 65/8	



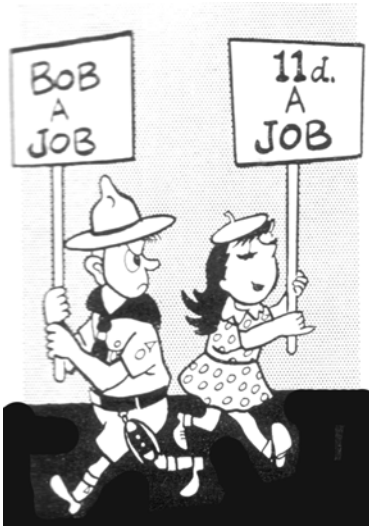
Makers of Reliable Camp Equipment since 1863

SCOTTISH INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, PORT GLASGOW, RENFREWSHIRE

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BOB-A-JOB PUBLICITY

"This Bob-a-Job Week's come just right - I hate work after a holiday."

As in past years considerable free publicity was given to Bob-a-Job Week through the medium of newspaper cartoons, principally due to the initiative of the Publicity Department at I.H.Q.

Prior to the week an amusing "reminder" was again sent out to many leading cartoonists with the result that over twenty drawings, both large and small, appeared in the Press, mostly in the large National newspapers.

The full value of this great Good Turn to Scouting by the Press is almost impossible to assess, but in terms of £ s. d. based on normal advertisement rates, these happy "solus position advertisements" (for such is what they were in effect) amounted to at least £2,300 - far in excess of previous years.

To Art Editors and Cartoonists alike we say "Many, Many Thanks Indeed!"



NOTES AND NEWS

JUNE PHOTOGRAPHS

This month's cover is by Mr. H. T. Hassall of Altrincham, and shows Scouts of the 1st Broadheath Troop entering the lych gate of Gawsorth Church, Cheshire.

WOOD BADGE COURSES

Gilwell Park

Cub Courses

No. 131 Monday, July 12th—Saturday, July 17th
No. 132 Monday, August 2nd—Saturday, August 7th
No. 133 Monday, August 23rd—Sunday, August 29th

Scout Courses

No. 230 Saturday, July 3rd—Sunday, July 11th (Full)
No. 231 Saturday, July 17th—Sunday, July 25th
No. 232 Saturday, August 7th—Sunday, August 15th
No. 233 Saturday, August 14th—Saturday, August 28th.
(To be held in the Lake District. Scouters (5) specially invited.)

No. 234 Saturday, August 21st—Sunday, August 29th
No. 235 Saturday, September 11th—Sunday, September 19th

Rover Courses

No. 12 Monday, July 26th—Monday, August 2nd
Applications to: Camp Chief, Gilwell Park, Chingford, E.4.

County Courses

A full list of Wood Badge dates, covering the whole of the United Kingdom, was published in the February issue. Up-to-date information about Courses can always be obtained from Gilwell lark.

London (Gilwell Park)

Scout, 5 W.E. Sept. 11th
Cub, 3 W.E. June 26th Cub, Cont. July 15th—23rd
Apply: The Secretary, London Office, 3 Cromwell Place, S.W.7.

Scotland (Fordell)

Cub, Cont. July 26th—31st Cub, Cont. Aug. 23rd—28th
Scout, Cont. July 10th—15th Scout, Cont. Aug. 7th—15th
Apply: The Secretary, Scottish Headquarters, 44 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, 2.

Wiltshire (Lacock Abbey, Nr. Chippenham)

Scout, Cont. Aug. 14th—22nd
Apply: H. M. Letchworth, "Greenacre," Idmiston, Nr. Salisbury.

Yorkshire, West and Central (Bradley Wood)

Cub, 2 W.E. July 24th (incl. August Bank Holiday)
Apply: Miss G. Barker, 17 Victoria Mount, Horsforth, Leeds.

DEPUTY CHIEF SCOUT'S WEEK-END

The Deputy Chief Scout, Sir Rob Lockhart, will be in camp at Gilwell Park over the week-end of July 10th—11th in order to meet as many campers as possible. Sir Rob will be present at the Camp Fire on the Saturday night and address Scouts' Own on the Sunday morning. Applications for a permit to camp at Gilwell that week-end should be addressed to the Camp Warden in the usual way.

COUNTY EVENTS

3rd-4th July Scout Rally and Camp, Huntingdonshire County
 Camping Ground, Houghton.
17th-31st July Scottish Rover Scouts' "Wee Moot," Monrie Castle.
19th-20th Camping Competition, Huntingdonshire.
 County Camping Ground, Houghton.

I.H.Q. SPEAKERS' VISITS FOR JULY

3rd	Leys School, Cambridge	Chief Scout
10th—11th	Gilwell Park	Sir Rob Lockhart
11th	Salvation Army "Scouters' Sunday"	J. Ramsay
24th July	Scottish International Patrol Jam-	Sir Rob Lockhart
5th Aug.	borette, Blair Atholl	

B.-P. GUILD

The sixth of the series of six articles for the Guild was to have been "The International Fellowship of former Scouts and Guides," but this is temporarily held up.

SEMAPHORE—ALTERATION IN R.N. PROCEDURE

Sea Scouts are warned that in making Semaphore signals the Royal Navy have deleted the numeral sign. All figures are now spelt out alphabetically, e.g. Thirty-five, not 35.

METEOROLOGY

Scouters interested in this subject may like to know that a Short Vacation Course on Meteorology Will be arranged by the Council for the Promotion of Field Studies in association with the Royal Meteorological Society from August 25th to September 1st, at Malham Tarn Field Centre, near Settle, Yorkshire. The inclusive fee. of £6 10s. and forms of application and further particulars are available from the Publicity Secretary, C.P.F.S., Ravensmead, Keaton, Kent. The Royal Meteorological Society's monthly magazine Weather is available from the Society's Headquarters at 49 Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7, for 24s. per annum.

NORTHERN COMMAND MILITARY TATOO

The Rovers of Central Yorkshire are helping with programmes, steward duties, etc., at the above Tattoo to be held in Leeds from Monday, June 28th, to Saturday, July 3rd. Anyone willing to lend a hand, provided they are over eighteen years of age, should get into touch with Mr. C. Bateson, 8 Harehills Park Avenue, Leeds, 9, stating their name, address, age if under twenty-one, the Group to which attached and any nights they are willing to attend.

THE STRUCTURE OF WORLD SCOUTING

This is the title of a little 8-page pamphlet issued by the Boy Scouts International Bureau at .4d. a copy. It can be obtained from the Scout Shop.

ESSEX ROVER MOOT, POOLE

It is much regretted that this Moot has had to be cancelled.

1954 SCOUTER PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Glimpses of nature - clouds, buds, flowers, flowering branches, insects, birds, animals wild and domestic, trees, fruits and fungi, fishes, the weather, etc., etc.

Photographers are invited to semi in photographs for the above competition.

(i) Photographs should be not less than half plate size.

(ii) The name and address of the competitor should be written on the back of each photograph.

(iii) Prizes of 10, 7, 5 and 3 guineas and fifteen prizes of 1 guinea will be awarded. Any other photographs will be paid for at normal reproduction rates.

(iv) Photographs should be sent to The General Editor, 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1, at any time of the year before the closing date, October 31st. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed for all photographs that have to be returned.

The Editor's decision is final.

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES

Presentation of Queen's Scout Certificates

It has been decided that a reception for Queen's Scouts will be held on Saturday, November 20, 1954, by the Deputy Chief Scout, General Sir Rob Lockhart, K.C.B., C.I.E., M.C. The reception will be held at the Royal Naval College at Greenwich.

Those wishing to receive their Royal Certificates at this reception should indicate their choice in the usual way when sending their application card to I.H.Q. The number attending will be strictly limited to 200 and early application is therefore advised.

The arrangements for 1955 will be notified to the Movement as soon as possible. Meanwhile, application cards received from Queen's Scouts who wish to attend a reception but not on November 20th will be retained at I.H.Q. until the details for 1955 are published.

C. C. GOODHIND,
Administrative Secretary.

AWARDS FROM 8th APRIL TO 5th MAY, 1954 CERTIFICATE FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

D. Depledge, Senior Scout, 36th Rotherham (Rawmarsh Parish Church)

"In recognition of his courage and cheerfulness under great suffering."

Ng Thin Tuck, Patrol Second, 31st Georgetown, Penang.

"In recognition of his help given at a serious oil mill fire. Despite risk to himself he continued to assist the Fire Brigade for many hours, Sun Woo Loong Oil Mill, Penang, 2nd December, 1953."

Ong Cheang Soon, Patrol Leader (Seniors), 7th Taiping, Perak.

"In recognition of his prompt action and presence of mind in giving artificial respiration to a youth who had been rescued from drowning. In company with two others he gave artificial respiration for over two hours, and ran two miles to contact an ambulance, Burmese Pool, Taiping, 16th August, 1953."

GILT CROSS

Kuah Kim Boo, Troop Leader, 5th Taiping, Perak.

"in recognition of his gallantry in rescuing a youth from drowning and assisting to apply artificial respiration, Burmese Pool, Taiping, 16th August, 1953."

LETTER OF COMMENDATION (GALLANTRY)

B. W. Aidridge, Patrol Leader, Malvern College.

"In recognition of his prompt action and presence of mind in saving an American serviceman from drowning in a Swimming Pool, East Molesey, 8th September, 1953."

P. Haddock, Scout, 2nd Ilford North (St. Laurence, Barkingside)

"In recognition of his prompt action and presence of mind in saving a boy from drowning in a Swimming Pool, Ilford, 6th July, 1953."

F. B. Shenton, Patrol Leader, 109th City of Stoke-on-Trent (St. Peter's Secondary Modern School).

"In recognition of his prompt action and presence of mind in saving a boy from drowning in the River Trent, Stoke-on-Trent, 15th February, 1954."

SILVER ACORN

E. H. Lane, Headquarters Commissioner for Training, Tasmania;
W. G. Rodgers, Hon. Treasurer, The Boy Scouts Association (New Zealand Branch); Rev. H. S. G. Walker, D.C., Belper and District;
Sir Joseph G. D. Ward, Bt., CC., Canterbury, New Zealand.

"In recognition of their specialty distinguished services to the Scout Movement."

BAR TO THE MEDAL OF MERIT

Staffordshire North. - H. G. Bloore, Badge Secretary, Leek and The Moorlands.

"In recognition of his further outstanding services to the Scout Movement."

MEDAL OF MERIT

Birmingham. - D. W. Jones, G.S.M., St. Michael's, Church Langley (49th Birmingham, Oldbury), D.S.M., Oldbury.

Cambridgeshire. - R. E. Hodgkins, M.B.E., A.D.C., Newmarket and District; C. I. Walker, Chairman, Cambridge.

Cumberland West. - W. J. G. Moncrieff, S.M. (5), 3rd Workington (Methodist), D.S.M., Workington; B. Morgan, D.R.S.L., Workington.

Essex. - F. J. Brand, Hon. Secretary, Brentwood and District.

Hampshire. - Lt.-Col. W. E. Beazley, C.I.E., M.C., formerly D.C., Peterfield District; H. F. Cove, Hon. Secretary, Peterfield District; Miss D. Hemming, D.C.M., Bournemouth.

Hertfordshire. - H. C. Thurley, Hon. Treasurer, Bishop's Stortford and District.

Jersey. - H. Clifford, ASM., 8th Jersey (All Saints); R. G. Laurens, G.S.M., 8th Jersey (All Saints); R. G. Perchard, SM., 12th Jersey (Methodist).

Kent. - J. F. Gilbey, G.S.M., St. Paul's, Maidstone, A.D.C., Maidstone.

Lancashire North East. - H. A. Coates, Chairman, Clitheroe and District.

Lancashire North West. - F. R. Hayton, G.S.M., 13th Lancaster.

Lancashire South West. - W. O. Chick, Hon. Secretary, Warrington and District; Rev. H. A. Lankey, A.D.C. (Senior Scouts), Warrington and District, G.S.M., 26th Warrington (2nd Padgate).

London. - H. Bullen, G.S.M., 22nd North London; E. S. Freeman, G.S.M., 211th North London; E. W. Hazell, Hon. Treasurer, Islington; P. G. Spooner, G.S.M., 2nd/31st Kensington, A.D.C. (Seniors), Kensington; R. H. Swindell, G.S.M., 10th North London.

Manchester. - J. Dean, Chairman, East Manchester.

Middlesex. - F. T. Benge, G.S.M., 2nd Whitton (St. Augs'stne's); R. A. J. Clark, Hon. Treasurer, Roxeth; Mrs. F. K. Peddy, C.M., 1st Northolt; E. W. Pratt, Hon. Secretary, Isleworth and Osterley; F. Pursglove, Hon. Secretary, Greenford and District; H. Snowdon, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Isleworth and Osterley.

Norfolk. - Miss H. O. Driver, C.M., 10th Yarmouth.

Northumberland. - C. W. Harris, G.S.M., 19th Tynemouth (9th Tyne), D.S.M., Borough of Tynemouth.

Nottinghamshire. - J. N. Davey, A.C.C. (Training) and D.C.C.

Somerset. - M. W. Brown, G.S.M., 1st Stanton Drew; Mrs. R. M. Brown, C.M., 1st Stanton Drew; Lt.-Col. W. Mallalieu, President, Taunton and District.

Surrey. - R. A. Clare, G.S.M., 1st Cobham; S. G. A. Duke, G.S.M., 21st Wimbledon; N. J. Godfrey, G.S.M., 14th Croydon (1st Seladon); A. M. Jarvis, G.S.M., 1st Oxshott, Asst. D.C.C.; D. C. W. King, G.S.M., 2nd Ether; D. J. N. Vogler, G.S.M., 4th Wimbledon. Wiltshire. - F. W. C. Merritt, Hon. Secretary, Devizes and Mid-Wilts., Hon. County Secretary.

Yorkshire Central. - F. Pickles, C.M., 2nd South Leeds (Salem).

Yorkshire South. - E. H. Frith, G.S.M., 65th Doncaster (Alder Grove); Rev. A. V. Selle, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Sheffield, Asit. Ak.L.

Yorkshire West. - J. F. Beaver, D.C., Bingley, Deputy C.C.; F. D. Bicknell, SM., 16th Bradford South (Clayton Diehards); T. Maddocks, formerly G.S.M., 9th Keightley (Baptist); T. Rushworth, City Commr., City of Bradford; W. Spencer, A.S.M., 18th Bradford South (Clayton Heights Try-Hards).

Wales.

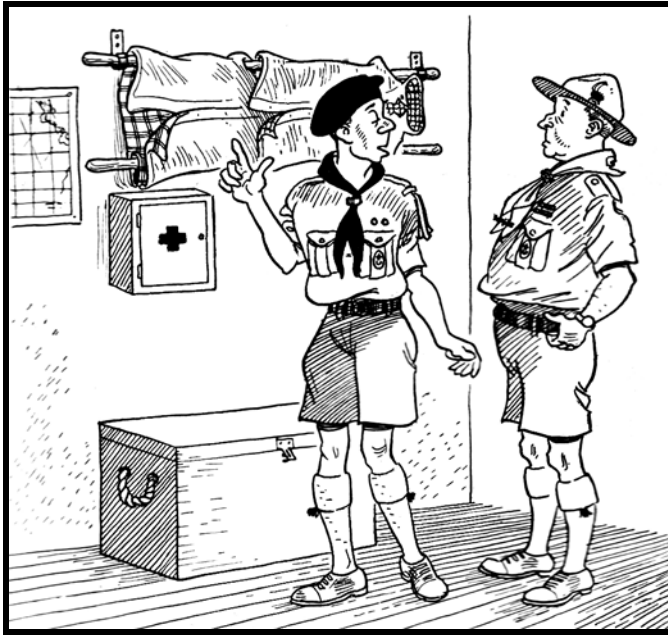
Anglesey. - Mrs. J. E. Addison, Hon. Treasurer, Holyhead; L. J. Hollands, Hon. Secretary, Holyhead.

Scotland.

Edinburgh and Leith. - G. M. Greig, G.S.M., 118th Edinburgh (St. Patrick's R.C.).

Midlothian. - E. D. Low, S.M., 10th Midlothian (Corstorphine); A.D.C., Calders and Leith Valley; H. N. Robertson, S.M., 10th Midlothian (Corstorphine).

Renfrewshire. - A. L. Cowan, formerly Chairman, Paisley; J. W. Ferguson, A.C.C. (Training) and D.C.C.; J. C. McFadzean, G.S.M., 4th Renfrewshire (7th Clyde Area), A.C.C. (Sea Scouts); R. Mommson, formerly S.M., 23rd Renfrewshire (12th Greenock); D. Thomson, G.S.M., 9th Renfrewshire (St. Joseph, R.C.).



"We keep it there in ease of emergency"

CLASSIFIED

COMING EVENTS

Four Counties Moot, 1954, at, Aylesbury, Bucks, September 25-26th. Details from F. Davies, Lynthorpe, Waterside, Chesham, Bucks.

Sussex County Rover Moot, Sept. 25-26th, at Hillside (Henfield). Moot fee 2s. 6d. Principal speaker, Cecil Potter (C.C., Middlesex). Applications to Moot Office, 28 George Street, Hove, by August 3 1st.

Sutton and Cheam Rover/Ranger Conference 1954, October 2nd and 3rd, at the Sutton Public Halls. Full details from Miss S. Hewsen, 46 Banstead Road South, Sutton, Surrey.

"**Cobwebs**" - this is the theme of the next Yorks. W.R.N.E./Central Yorkshire Ranger/Rover Conference to be held in Pudsey, nr. Leeds, October 30-31st. Come and sweep yours away! Senior Guides and Senior Scouts particularly invited. Full details from Miss M. O. Smith, Prospect Cottage, Farsley, Leeds, after July 1st.

ACCOMMODATION

12 Hans Road, London, S.W.3 (Kensington 5951) has been opened as a hotel by Adeline Willis, formerly Warden of the International Guide Hostel in London. Rooms (some with private baths) and breakfast from 17/6-25/-. Dinners by arrangement. Special weekly terms. Convenient for main line stations, I.H.Q., shopping and sightseeing. Scouters and their families specially welcome.

C.M. marrying August requires unfurnished accommodation in the Ilford area. Box 189, THE SCOUTER.

Scouters marrying shortly require unfurnished accommodation London over Border or Suburban Essex. Box 190, THE SCOUTER.

EMPLOYMENT

The Church Army offers a Free Two-Year Course of Training, with small allowance, to suitable keen Christians, between the ages 18-30; Church of England Communicants. After training, a salaried post is found as an officer in the Church Army (Mission Vans, Parish Workers, in Youth Centres and Men's Hostels, etc.). Apply to Captain J. Benson, 55, Bryanston Street, London, W.1.

Redhill County Hospital have a few vacancies for men who are anxious to train as Student Nurses for the examination to enter the State Register. Amenities include comfortable accommodation, sports and pastimes. The hospital is within easy reach of London and the coast. Apply to Matron for full particulars of salary, conditions of service, etc., Redhill County Hospital, Earlswood Common, Redhill, Surrey.

Openings exist for men between 21 and 30 to train as General Secretaries. First essentials: sense of Christian vocation, good education, organising ability in religious, social, educational and physical activities with youth. Write giving particulars of experience and qualifications to Personnel Secretary, National Council of Y.M.C.A.s, 112 Great Russell Street, London, W.C. 1.

Student nurses (male), 18 years of age or over, required for two years training for the certificate of the British Tuberculosis Association, or four years' training for combined General and B.T.A. Certificates. Training grant of £230 first year, £240 second year, less £108 for board residence. Hospital transport connects with rail and 'bus services. Apply: The Matron, King George V Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Godalming, Surrey.

Preparatory School needs a master to teach general subjects and take charge of Scouts - resident post - salary by arrangement. Box 186, THE SCOUTER.

Abbey National Building Society invites applications for young men aged 16-21, educated to G.C.E. standard, to be trained for responsible positions on its clerical staff. Vacancies are limited and early application should be made to Establishment Officer, Abbey House, Baker Street, London, N.W.1.

Resident Assistant. House Father (single) required in a Children's Reception Home (40 children, ages 3-15 years). Must be practical and really interested in work with boys, including their leisure activities, and preferably keen on gardening and handicrafts. Salary £350 x £15 - £410 p.a. less £108 p.a. for board and lodging. Application forms from the County Children's Officer, The Castle, Winchester.

Wanted for Roland House a Resident Cook Housekeeper. Apply stating age and experience to Hon. Warden. 29 Stapney Green, London, E.1.

PERSONAL

Happy Scouting to all in 1954. And make your Scouting happier with a well-fitting pair of Dover shorts in best English cords. Write to Ossie Dover (The Cycling Tailor), 160 Kensington, Liverpool, 8. Phone Anfield 1683. S.A.E. for patterns and prices.

Dr. Sutton will give a special Organ Recital for Scouts in which the Scout Hymn and other music will be played, on Tuesday, June 29th, at Holy Trinity Church, Kingsway (opposite Holborn Underground). Commence 1.10 p.m.

Wig... Pmuquaers, Any Production, lowest rates. Make-up materials. SAE with inquiries. "Bert," 46 Portnall Road, W.9. LAD: 1717.

Theatrical costumes and accessories. Costumiers to the London Gang Show. Special rates of hire to Troops for all productions. West End Costumes (Peter Dunlop), Ltd., 18 Tower St., W.C.2. Temple Bar 6806.

Rover has been able to arrange with Lloyd's Underwriters specially reduced premiums for private and commercial motor insurance for warranted Scouters. Apply Rover Scout Mills, 59-63 Cornhill, E.C.3.

Screen Printing. Print your own posters, Group notices, magazine covers, etc., with the C.L. Screen. Complete outfit from £4 10s. 0d. Write for details to C.L. Screens, 33 Wellington Avenue, Hounslow.

A.S. Vaissiere Bugle and Trumpet Makers. "What," never heard of us? Well, now is the time to get in touch with us in regard to your instruments that need repairs. You will never regret the day. Note our address: 16b Georges Road, Liverpool, 6. Phone: Anfield 3343.

Haulage of camping equipment. Licence to carry anywhere. F. G. Tester, Ardingly, Sussex. Phone: Ardingly 258.

When camping in the Launceston area, Cornwall, why not let an old C.M. supply your needs in Groceries, Provisions, etc. We shall be pleased to hear from you. R. W. Allen & Son, 5 Newport Square, Launceston.

Spanish boy 19 years old, knowing English wants to correspond with English Boy Scout (Catholic if possible) of the same age, being able to come to Spain during the summer holidays. His stay in Spain would be free. Write to Box 187, THE SCOUTER.

Lady C.M. uniforms made to measure from 68/-. Dress, shirt, battle blouse and skirt; proofed gab., etc. Send S.A.E. for patterns and self-measurement form to Miss Puttock, Upcotts, Everton, Lymington.

Xmas cards. Write now for complete details of raising funds by selling Xmas cards to Dept. "5," The Harris Distributing Co., Britannic House, 99/119 Rosebery Avenue, E.C.1.

Photography. Contacts 3d., Postcards 7d., Half-plate 1/3. Doubtful? A trial will convince! Hayden Carr, 7 Blenheim Place, Brighton.

Spanish boy 19 years old, knowing English wants to correspond with English Boy Scout (Catholic if possible) of the same age, being able to come to Spain during the summer holidays. His stay in Spain would be free. Write to Box 187, THE SCOUTER.

Handweaving for pleasure and profit. Send 6d. for 16-page illus. book on looms, tuition, yarns. Douglas Andrew Ltd. Dane John Monastery, Canterbury.

Active "Wood Badge" Scouter (28) without present Troop obligations, offers services for first two weeks August to assist Troop camp, County gathering, etc. Jamboree and continental hiking experience. Reference available. Willing pay own expenses throughout. Any offer or suggestion considered. All replies acknowledge Box 185, THE SCOUTER.

Two Anglo-Catholic Scouters (one Senior) urgently needed, South London, to avert closing of 30-year-old Troop. Box 188, THE SCOUTER.

DUPLICATING AND TYPEWRITING

All classes of duplicating and typewriting neatly and accurately executed by Guider. Prompt delivery, special terms to Scouters. Alert Typewriting Bureau, I Peasmarsh, Gillingham, Dorset.

Advance Duplicating Service, Prompt accurate work. Mod. charges. Scouters 10% discount. 5 Warwick Ave, S. Harrow, Middx. Byron 4730.

Guider undertakes all classes of Typewriting and Duplicating at reasonable prices. Mrs. Cox, 121 Londen Road, Rarosgate.

Duplicating for every need, typewritten or photographic process. Details W. Lansbury, Kings Head Cottage, Lower High Street, Cheltenham.

FOR SALE

Reconditioned ex-Army huts, and manufactured buildings. Timber, Asbestos, Nissen Type, Hall Type, etc. All sizes and prices. Write, call or telephone, Universal Supplies (Belvedere) Ltd., Dept. 93, Crabtree Manorways, Belvedere, Kent. Tel. ERITH 2948.

Trek Carts! Tubular steel, unused, rubber-wheeled, Paratroop hand trucks. Particulars free. Only £5 15s. 0d. Greens, 613 Albert Street, Lytham.

200 tents for sale, various sizes, i.e. bell tents, ridge tents, marquees. All ready to erect. List on application. Yeo Bros. Null Ltd., Martock, Somerset.

D'abri Patrol Tent, with fly sheet, white dock, inside measurements 12 ft. x 10 ft., height 6 ft. 6 in., 36 in. walls, complete with poles, ropes, pegs, etc. Perfect condition £17 10s. 0d Another, same sizes, £15. Accept £30 for the two. W. Mahood, Beaconsfield Corner, Ormskirk.

50 ft. Motor Yacht lying Ramsgate mobile floating home.: Sea Scouter unable to maintain since moving ashore. Must be sold or exchanged for smaller craft. Please inquire: 34 11111 Crescent, Bexley, Kent. Phone BEX HTH 9975.

Sleeping Bag, ex Selfridges, cost £7 used one night, £5. Box 190, THE SCOUTER

Classified advertisements, 4s. per line. Box Nor. Is. extra. Notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths included under "Notes and News" for a like fee.

WATERPROOF & PRESERVE

GRANGER'S SOLUTION

Grade 1212 for reproofing closely woven light-weight tents, sails, deck chair canvas, rain-coats, ropes, nets, leather coats, shoes, bicycle saddles.

MESOWAX

For use where maximum protection is required on medium and heavy-weight camping equipment, awnings, non-rubberous car-hoods, decks of folding boats, etc.

Both proofings supplied colourless and in 7 colours, 1 coat on 1 side proofs throughout.



From Scout & Guide Shops, Camping Outfitters, Halfords & Stores

Full particulars from GRANGERSOL LTD., Loates Lane, Watford



HIKEY-FLY

A luxurious lightweight tent which can accommodate three. A 1954 feature is the introduction of an alternative model with 12" canopy at each end of the flysheet which gives ample protection for all weathers.

Size: Length 6' 6", width 5', height 5', with 12" walls. Improved lightweight white Egyptian cloth, with all accessories packed in valise of own material.

Price £7 7 0

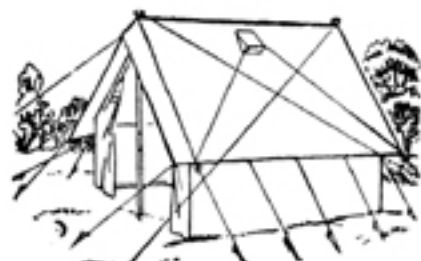
With 12" canopies each end— Price £8 2 0



PATROL TENT

An economical tent for the Patrol, one that will give many years of reliable service. Made from medium weight 8 oz. green cotton duck, complete with all accessories.

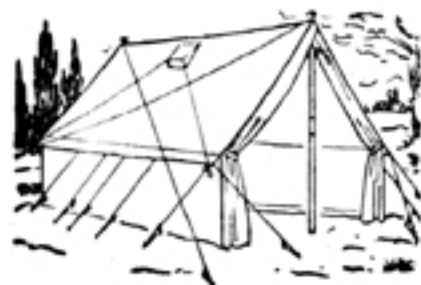
Size: Length 9', width 7', height 6' 6", with 36" walls. Price £19 5 0



PIONEER TENT

A stalwart of the 1929 Jamboree, weather-resisting and roomy. A safe investment for the Troop. Made from medium weight 8 oz. green cotton duck, complete with all accessories.

Size: Length 10', width 8', height 7', with 36" walls. Price £24 19 6



DOUBLE FOUR TENT

Another tried and trusted favourite that we offer with absolute confidence. Its extra 2 feet in length makes a roomy tent for the patrol of eight. Made from 10 oz. green cotton duck, complete with all accessories.

Size: Length 12', width 7', height 6', with 36" walls. Price £26 5 0

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Tents that are famous for name and performance; equipment that is used in many parts of the world. Back this with the long experience and guarantee of satisfaction that goes with all Scout Shop supplies and you will really enjoy—camping the Scout Shop way.

FEEDING SHELTERS

Improved design with green waxed cotton sheet, two two-piece uprights, jointed ridge pole and four corner poles. Complete with lines, pegs and mallet. Alternatively, can be used as fire shelter.

Size: Sheet 12' x 9', 6' 6" uprights.

£8 12 6

LATRINE SCREEN

Hessian screen made from strong 10 oz. hessian. Supplied with five 1 1/2" poles and guy lines.

Length: 22' x 6' high.

£4 19 6

GROUNDSHEETS

Individual size, strong wigan backed rubber, eyeleted. 6' x 3'. Medium weight.

12 6

Oilskin, for lightweight camping, 6' x 3'.

8 9

We shall be glad to quote for any sized groundsheet in rubber or green wax-proofed canvas.



SLEEPING BAGS

Palo Mine, standard. Down filled, length 6' 6"—weight 3 lbs. 10 ozs.

£6 18 6

Gramplan, duck down and feather filling 6' 2" long, 30" wide, tapering to 22"—weight 4 lbs. 8 ozs.

£5 2 0

Good Companion, standard. Down filled, length 6' 6"—weight 3 lbs. 8 ozs.

£5 8 0

Sleeping Quilt, 6' 3" x 5', feather down filled, easily made into an ideal sleeping bag

£3 7 6



AXES

Gilwell hand axe, 5" steel head, 13" haft

13 -

Leather case for Gilwell hand axe, with belt loops

6 6

Felling axe, high grade steel heads severely tested.

2 1/2 lbs. 20 3

4 1/2 lbs. 27 -



STOVES

Radius No. 20. 1/2 pint paraffin stove in tin box

35 -

Radius No. 42. 1/2 pint petrol pressure stove, packed in tin box which acts as windshield

31 3

Mera Stove No. 75. Rapid boiler, using the well-known Mera solid fuel, with stand, saucepan, tea infuser and egg holder

18 6



CAR BADGE

An attractive badge 4" x 2 1/2" fleur de lys, raised polished on matt chromium background; raised chromium plated letters on a green scroll, with a black background to the Badge.

Price 10/6 (Postage 6d.)

Imperial Scout Shop

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