

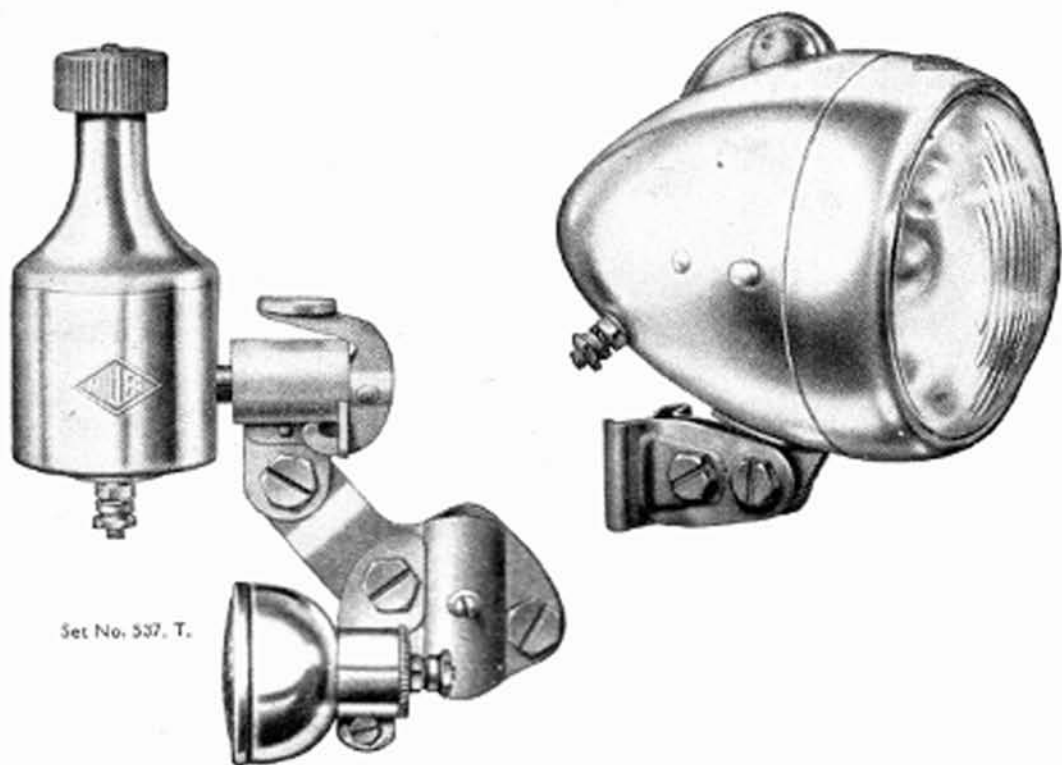
THE SCOUTER



April 1956

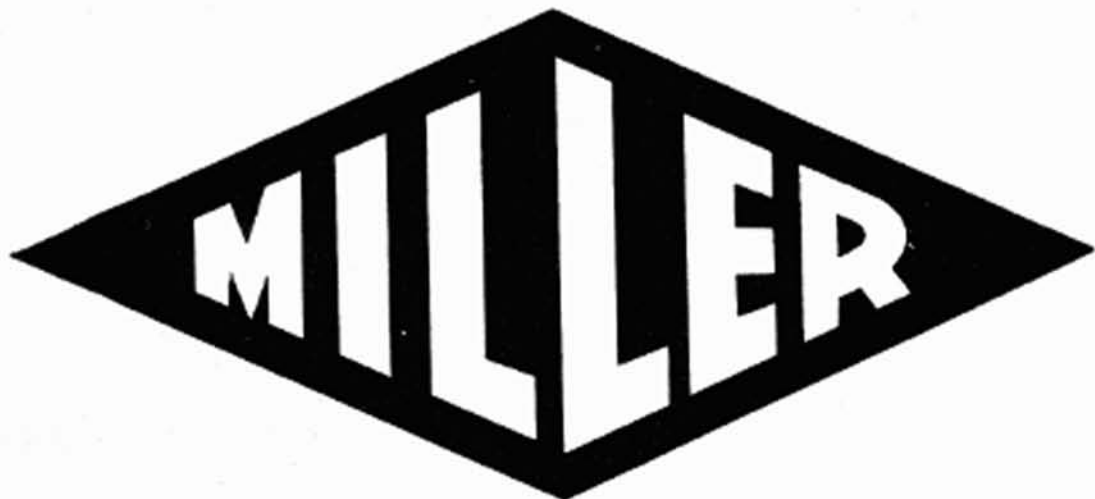
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The SCOUTER

April 1956

Vol. L. No. 4.



THE OUTLOOK

By THE CHIEF SCOUT

It's a long way from Sydney to Fiji across an ocean containing literally thousands of islands, but which is so vast that, hour after hour, even when the weather is clear, you never see a sign of land or of a ship. Nandi, the international airport, is the junction of the South-West Pacific and through it pass the great trans-ocean aircraft. But after a night stop there we had to transfer into a little three-engined Drover, plane to fly over the central mountains and the high plateau to the broad delta of the Rewa River, covered with fields of sugar-cane where lies the airstrip of the capital Suva. To one who was in his youth, and indeed still is, a Conrad fan, the very names have a magic quality, and to see the trading schooners, still lying alongside the wharves he knew, brings special thrill.

His Excellency, Sir Ronald Garvey and his wife had just left British Honduras when I was there in 1952, but we had many cross-references in the Caribbean and Africa, and other parts of the world so there was no lack of topics of conversation, and the welcome they gave us made us feel part of the family almost at once.

Our first Scout visit was to the Island of Makongai, a volcanic island set in the midst of a criss-cross of coral reefs with crystal clear water changing from eau-de-nil to deep cobalt. This is the great leper settlement for the South and West Pacific. Scouts, Guides, Cubs and Brownies were there in strength to line the route from the jetty to the playing field. For years the Reverend Mother Felicitas has been the leading spirit in excellent Scouting and Guiding, and the name seemed more appropriate than ever today for one of the Scouts was to receive the Gilt Cross for Gallantry. A fine-looking First Class Scout who, when a boy was lying in contact with a live cable, knew what to do and did it. There was no rubber glove so, knowing the risk, he got a pair of rubber soled shoes and slipping them over his hands, in spite of bums, he pulled the boy clear and started artificial respiration. With the help of two other boys who received letters of commendation, he brought him back to life and took him to the hospital. It was as great a triumph for the Rev. Mother as it was for the boy himself, although she refused to admit it, for when the need arose the Scout training bore fruit and they were prepared.

Dances and songs were a sheer delight and the whole atmosphere of this place was as happy as you could find anywhere. What changed days there are even from ten years ago. Leprosy is no longer the tragedy it was; the new drugs, except in the most obstinate cases, bring quick relief, but hats off every time to the Rev. Mother and the Sisters who, do such magnificent work.

Our tour round the island brought at the first stop, at Singatoka, the two great traditional ceremonies of welcome, the presentation of the whale's tooth, and the Yanggona or Kava ceremony with the ceremonial preparation and presentation of the refreshing drink made from the roots of the plant. The whale's tooth ceremony is of great dignity and gives the key to the courtesy and charm of the Fijian. Part of the ritual is that those who are presenting it belittle its value to the spokesman, for the recipient, to whom the gift is passed, makes interjections from time to time saying, "on the contrary it is a truly magnificent gift." In my case this was certainly true, for the Tambua I received was the gift of Ratu George Cakobau, the Paramount Chief of the Fijians, and was not only of great weight but of great antiquity, with a beautiful rich polish. The Yanggona was duly made and strained again and again through grasses and was then presented in a cup made from a coco-nut shell. When I had received it at Yarra Brae seven years ago I had not liked it, now it was tart and most refreshing.

Here, too, we saw the two types of dances with which we were to become familiar but never satiated. They are both performed to the rhythm of a drum, hand, claps and singing. The Meke is a complete dance as we know it with foot, hand and body movements. The Vakamololo on the other hand is danced seated on the ground with body and hand movements only. Both may be danced by either men or women, and the Fijian men, with their natural sense of fun, often dance the woman's ones with movements exaggerated to a magnificent burlesque. Most of these dances, if not all, are wound round an old bit of folklore or a well-loved story of war or fishing expeditions.

But at almost all the Rallies the Indian Scouts also showed their love for their old traditions, and that they were as anxious as the Fijians to keep them alive in an alien land. They, too, were not afraid of burlesque and seemed to have caught the infectious sense of humour of the Fijians. There are, I believe, more Indians than Fijians in the islands, and it was grand seeing mixed Packs and Troops in many places.

Scouting has one weakness in that it is mainly to be found in the schools, and too often when a boy leaves the school there is no Troop which he can join. I hope it will be possible to encourage the sponsoring of Troops by congregations as at home. The dominant

influence of the Methodists, 85 per cent of Fijians are Methodists, should make this much easier than at home with so many different denominations. The Scout Council are well aware of this problem and will, I am sure, tackle it successfully. There is also scope for revising the Second and First Class tests to make them better adapted to island conditions. Especially could they provide many more horticultural and agricultural badges in an agricultural population, and as "Agriculture and Fisheries" go



SVEN ORTQUIST, A LEPER SCOUT AT MAKONGAI, WHO WON THE GILT CROSS

together at home, there could also be more done to encourage fishing and a knowledge of fishing methods. But Scouting is doing a grand job, and it was most heartening to see the interest of the great concerns such as the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, who, under the leadership of Mr. Elliott, Chairman of the Scout Council, are doing a great deal to help Scouting in the villages, and also the big Gold Mining Company who run a first class Scout Troop and Guide Company, with Cubs and Brownies, among the children of their employees with Fijian Scouters and Guiders of high quality.

The only other island we were able to visit was Vanua Levu, where we spent a happy couple of hours watching a good relay race and a number of different events, one of which was to make a kite of paper and bamboo which had to take out a thread about fifty yards long.

Among many good Camp Fire shows, the most original was put on by the boys evacuated from Ocean Island, a lonely phosphate isle, to Rabi. They sang a song with a spelt-out chorus, and as they sang the letters they also signalled them in semaphore. All the good ideas do not come from the big centres.

It was a grand trip, only marred by a hurricane which prevented us from going to Samoa. We got half-way there but had to turn back, and continuing bad weather made it impossible to get there within the time limits. However, I was able to visit a Teacher Training College near Suva and talk to a grand audience of young men and women who will have the task of moulding future generations of boys and girls. If appearances do not belie them, they will make a good job of it.

My further adventures must await next month.

ROWALLAN.



A NIGERIAN SCOUT SALUTES HIS QUEEN AT LAGOS

THE INTERNATIONAL SCOUT CLUB

Last December I called a meeting at I.H.Q. of Rovers and Crew Scouters from London and the Home Counties to discuss the possible formation of an International Rover Scout Club in London. This meeting, at which the attendance was eighty-five, unanimously agreed that the idea was worth pursuing and appointed a Committee to work out ways and means.

At a further meeting in February of them interested this Committee produced a number of reports and recommendations which met with general approval. A new Committee was thereupon elected to get things moving and on February 22nd (what better date than B.-P.'s birthday?) the I.H.Q. General Purposes Sub-Committee considered the draft Constitution of the Club which I put forward and, after a bit of polishing up, approved it for submission to the Committee of the Conecil.

So far our planning had been based on a scheme for an International Club for Rover Scouts and Scouters only, but it now became clear that something wider was wanted. Our aim had always been to provide a centre where members of the Movement of all nationalities could meet and mix on equal terms with their British Brother Scouts, during ideas and experiences and exploring together both in this country and abroad. But facts and figures showed that by limiting the Club to Rover Scouts many of our visitors from other lands would be ineligible for membership as would large numbers of keen potential members from Britain.

The Club Committee therefore concluded that it had better think again and at a meeting held on February 28th decided after full discussion, to recommend that membership of the Club be open to Scouts, Senior Scouts, Rover. and Scouters of all nationalities above the age of seventeen years. I was authorised to seek the permission of the Committee of the Council to proceed on these lines and on February 29th this permission was given. An International Scout Club (the first of its kind, I believe) is therefore to be started in London. The purpose of this article is to tell you something about it and to invite your support.

Aims and Objects.

These may be summarised as follows:

- (1) To promote personal international friendships, a wider knowledge of and interest in the world Brotherhood of Scouts and a better appreciation of other peoples and other lands.
- (2) To provide a centre in London where Scouts, Rovers and Scouters from abroad and in the Services can make contact with Scouting and find friendship, interest, help and information.
- (3) To provide members of all nationalities with opportunities for adventurous activities both in Britain and abroad and ideas for use in their own Groups.

We are planning a Venturer Section of the Club, to be organised and run by the younger members who will be encouraged to explore new lands and new ideas. This is an aspect of International Scouting which has never, in my opinion, received sufficient emphasis. In every free country of the world there are Scouts to meet and to get to know, ready to tell of their ways and keen to show us their own lands. I hope that from the Club may go out teams of mixed nationalities to see what they can of Scouting in the wide world and to "report back" to the Club during winter meetings.

Headquarters.

It is hoped eventually to base the Club on B.-P. House for which plans are going ahead. Until the house is built, however, we shall need a temporary headquarters, and we are actively searching for suitable premises to house the Club as from next autumn. Since next year we in Britain are to be hosts to all the world I feel it would be fine indeed if the Club came in full operation really soon.

We are therefore seeking comfortable temporary premises where a library of international Scout books and periodicals will be available and where light refreshments can be on tap.

We want members to feel free to bring in Scout guests, particularly from abroad. And we want Rovers and Scouters in the Services to know that they can drop in at any time.

Activities.

We intend to link the Club with Service Rover Crews at home and abroad. Plans are already afoot for a party of members to visit Service Rover Crews in Germany and perhaps to go on to Berlin and make touch with German Scouting there. I believe it will be a valuable thing for Senior Scouts and young Rovers to see for themselves, before being called up, something of Service life and Service Roving abroad.

During the winter months activities will include talks on world Scouting and world affairs. We shall invite speakers of varied nationalities to tell of their own lands and customs; we shall try to assist members in the study of foreign languages. Social events will also find their place in the programme.

It is my expectation that members will hold themselves available on a roster basis to do a regular job of international service by guiding and befriending some of the Scout visitors from abroad who come to this country each year in ever increasing numbers. At the same time the Club will insist that its members shall put their existing Scout loyalties first.

Opening.

I ask confidently for wide support for this new venture, and hope that the Rovers and others who have already done so much to start it off will join in goodly numbers.

The opening meeting at which the official film of the 8th World Jamboree, Canada, 1955, will be shown, is to be held at Caxton Hall, Westminster on

Tuesday, May 8, 1956, at 7.30 p.m. After the film there will be the opportunity for full discussion of the whole scheme. All those interested will be welcome to attend.

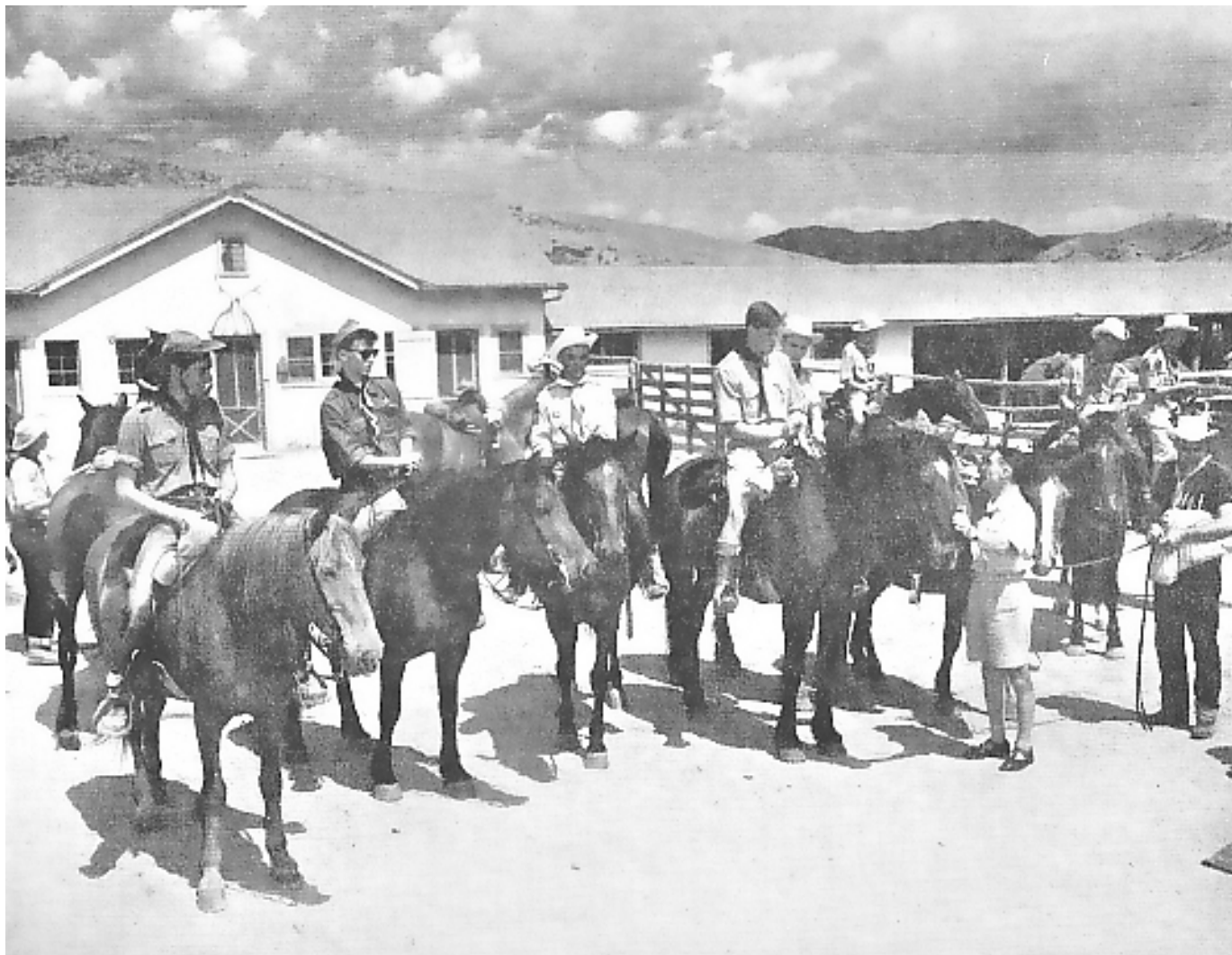
During the first week-end in June (2nd/3rd June) the second "International Week-end" will be held at Gilwell Park for which a full programme of International Scout events is being planned.

Those attending will camp in the Boys' Camping Field at Gilwell and will be responsible for providing their own tentage and camp equipment and for making their own feeding arrangements. Full details of this week-end may be obtained from the International Department at I.H.Q.

I hope to see a large attendance both at the opening meeting and at Gilwell, and shall welcome offers of help as well as letters of suggestion or constructive criticism from any who have the cause of International Scouting at heart.

ROBIN GOLD,

International Commissioner.



SOME OF THE EUROPEAN SCOUTS AT THE START OF THEIR FIRST LESSON IN HORSE-RIDING AT THE PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH, NEW MEXICO, U.S.A.

Representatives left to right are from: France (standing), Germany, Italy, Turkey, Great Britain, France, Finland, Great Britain (Leader), Greece, Great Britain, Greece (standing).

The leader was Mr. R. S. Thomas, International Secretary, I.H.Q.

DEAR EDITOR

Finance

DEAR EDITOR,

In the last few months various letters have appeared in THE SCOUTER containing suggestions for obtaining a regular income for I.H.Q. without the need to rely on support from the public in the form of Bob-a-Job week.

Some of your correspondents are in favour of a Membership Subscription. Others consider an Accumulating Fund should be set up by means of increased contributions to I.H.Q. through Bob-a-Job. Still others consider earnings from Bob-a-Job should be limited to avoid the possibility of causing the public undue inconvenience through the misplaced zeal of some members of the Movement.

All these suggestions have been carefully considered by the Finance Committee at I.H.Q., and through your columns I would like to thank your contributors for them.

It is felt, however, that so long as earnings from Bob-a-Job continue year by year to be maintained no alteration in the present scheme is desirable. In support of this contention, I would point out that contributions from Bob-a-Job to I.H.Q. average almost 2s. per head and, in consequence of increased membership, earnings continue to increase. Added to which, it is felt that local Scouting relies to a very great extent on the income from Bob-a-Job week for its needs and would regret its disappearance.

Moreover, there is no evidence to support the view that the public are growing tired of Bob-a-Job. If ever that day comes your readers may be sure that I.H.Q. will not fail to observe such signs and develop its policy accordingly.

S. J. L. EGERTON,

Treasurer, Boy Scouts Association.

Wearing of Shorts

DEAR EDITOR,

May I heartily disagree with G.S.M. Wright in February SCOUTER, who claims that "out of season wearing of shorts is 95 per cent the cause of Leakage." This is not so! Provided that the Troop Programme is made sufficiently active and interesting (this being up to the Scouter and C. of H.), boys will turn up to Parade in uniform. Even if they remove long trousers before Inspection.

The average Senior Scout would not think of Hiking or Climbing in the Peak District or Snowdonia in winter in shorts, so fit the uniform to the job in hand. It is no disgrace to the Movement to wear "longs" while travelling to and from Troop H.Q. in winter.

So let Scouters use a little wisdom in the matter of Shorts *v.* Longs. Bad programmes cause Leakage - not cold knees.

GEO. W. HINDE,

S.M. (S), 8th Muswell Hill.

DEAR EDITOR,

Although Mr. Wright of Norfolk tells us that wearing shorts has caused 95 per cent of the Leakage I cannot remember losing a boy for this reason in nearly twenty years with the Movement. Discretion can be used when demanding that uniform should be worn. There are only a few months in the year when wearing shorts creates discomfort, and a boy can then be attired as he chooses on the journeys to and from Troop meetings, providing he changes into uniform on arrival.

Bearing in mind the variety of shorts worn by Scouts now I hesitate to think of the effect produced by an official change to long trousers. Even if a standard was laid down, there would still be those who would turn up in jeans, pin stripes and corduroys.

I agree with most of Mr. Finlow's remarks, but he need have no qualms over a change over to slacks. These have been permitted for Scouters and Rovers for years, but are seldom seen.

It is inevitable that current fashions must influence our uniform, otherwise we should still wear long sleeves, breeches, or shorts below the knees, and the Girl Guides would still wear those horrors of black stockings.

The beret had to come, shorts will get shorter and who knows, perhaps one day the powers that be will awaken to the fact that ankle socks as part of the uniform for the boys, at camp and in the summer months, have all the advantages, both in appearance and practicability, over the uncomfortable long woollen stockings worn today.

K. V. BULLOCK.

R.S.O. & T.

DEAR EDITOR,

It occurs to us that it might be useful to those concerned with the implementation of the new "Rover Scout Organisation and Training" to know the views of the undersigned Rover A.C.C.s of the South Eastern Counties in this matter. This appears to us to be especially necessary as we had no knowledge of the scheme until only a few days before its publication in THE SCOUTER (March 1956). Now that we have the scheme it seems to us that we must back up the Chief and do our best to make it a success. In our opinion all who are in any way concerned with Rover Scouts, and consequently with the over-23's, should do their utmost to give the scheme a fair trial. In this we count upon their loyal support.

In these South Eastern Counties therefore we shall do our best to implement the scheme and produce the maximum benefit to the Rover Section and, indeed, to the Movement as a whole.

Bedfordshire	J. E. R. Sowman.
Berkshire	Ernest P. C. Preston.
Buckinghamshire	Frank E. Davies.
Essex	Denys J. Branch.
Hertfordshire	Ronald Freeman.
Isle of Wight	F. R. B. N. Kennedy.
Kent	Stanley Brown.
London	D. C. Broome.
Surrey	L. C. Stowe.
Sussex	I. R. Kellam

Note. - It is regretted that owing to the fact that Middlesex has no A.C.C. (R) at present it was not possible to include this important County.

Life-saving

DEAR EDITOR,

Of the instalments of "Scoutmaster" recently concluded, the one which most impressed me was that in which the methods of Life-saving developed in America were introduced.

I am quite well aware that the fact that the Americans started something is a good reason for us to turn up our snoots and do now't.

As a holder of the Bronze Medallion, however, I am glad that I have never had to go to the rescue of anyone in peril drowning, and if I knew that at each Scout camp I attended where the Scouts could swim an occasion would be provided for me to show my prowess in the Life-saving Art, every camp would be a nightmare. The truth is that the methods taught are no doubt the best that can be devised in the absolute emergency where no prior precautions or preparations were possible, but they are not by any means ideal for universal application.

Fortunately we need not necessarily follow the Americans. There is a means to hand which could make the Boating and Bathing Rules "child's play." I suggest that I.H.Q. encourage a Nation or Movement Wide effort to develop the application of the "Frogmen's Flippers" which are now being acquired by numerous of our Scouts as birthday and Christmas presents.

At a recent attendance at the swimming baths with members of my Troop, I found quite by accident that a Scout of thirteen using a pair of "Flippers" having no previous knowledge of "Life-saving" and no particular merit at swimming on his back, "flipped" me two lengths of the baths with no strain whatsoever.

I weigh 14 stone. All I had to do was to hold him by the head in the position of the First Method of Rescue and I was completely comfortable. Acting as an inert patient I found also that he had no difficulty in "flipping" me a full length of the baths by an application of the First Method in the usual trained position, although before we tried this degree of "skill" he had had no trouble in "saving" me by holding on to me by the hair (a method no good for "Crew Cuts" or balding Commissioners).

If "Flippers" were employed as a routine, it would be quite simple to insist on a compulsory water drill for all Scouts and Cubs wishing to bathe under Scout Control, so that every Scout or Cub getting into difficulties would automatically know what to do. No one could insist on such a drill with the present "Life-saving" methods as the drill itself would be too exhausting for the potential rescuers, and my experience is that the methods do not breed the degree of confidence which would allow the Scouts and Cubs to submit to a compulsory drill.

ERIC NOBLE,
D.C., Gorton, Manchester;
G.S.M., 123rd Manchester.

Timetable or Programme?

DEAR EDITOR,

I fully agree with Mr. Fox's protest that the official sources for the instruction of Scouters do paint too rosy a picture of our raw material's enthusiasm and determination. All the same, I do not share Mr. Fox's sense of frustration. It is due, surely, to some faulty notions of aims and functions in Scouting today.

Here is one fallacy - "Boys want to do things for themselves." No, some boys do. In an adult society of any country, class or creed there are many men who are insipid, slow to accept a challenge, and who take the path of least resistance. The boy is father to the man - and Scouting in its fullest sense works only for those who have guts. There is no magic in Scouting. (The new recruit need not be told this!) It can only work when the boys have the right qualities - its value is that its classless nature enables it to develop these qualities wherever they are to be found in society. Of course we must include others than the obviously right type in our Troops - but not too many. I should say that the edge of even a well-established Troop will be dangerously dulled if more than one in three or four of its members are not "live." A poor example spreads more quickly than a good one.

The value of experience in a Scouter lies in spotting whether the boy who comes to join is the Scout type (in spite of misleading appearances), and his courage comes in suggesting to the Court of Honour that it is time the wrong boy was asked to leave. Very few of us have the necessary experience and insight - consequently we must expect leakage. In reply to the storm of protest this statement may arouse I would point out that there is both spiritual and social salvation outside Scouting as well as within it. To suggest that letting a boy go is to consign him to perdition is just so much sentimental eyewash.

I do not believe that any sort of Scout is better than none. Other organisations can keep a boy off the streets. Scouting may have had this function forty years ago when schools and youth clubs provided fewer interests - but how wasteful of Scouter effort! Have we not all experienced frustration at having spent time and trouble in getting a boy, who was fundamentally not interested, through a few tests only to see him drift after a couple of years? It may be possible to inspire the utterly unsuitable boy, to work a miracle in fact - but not on two hours a week, and not for most of us.

I believe, on the contrary, that our function is to train an elite of the boys who want to be trained. Let us develop the qualities of self reliance, devotion, loyalty, etc., by working on boys who accept the methods of Scouting. (There are boys who just don't get a thrill out of a camp which most of the others find exciting.) This policy would not make our task easy, since those who are keen are not necessarily clever (and may not be keen all the time), but at least it would make it realistic and avoid

discouraging the Scouters and being unfair to the really keen boys.

Here, I think, may be a clue to some of Mr. Fox's worry. Nevertheless I doubt whether his boys are representative - our Seniors can just scrape up their camp fee let alone waste £10, and our under-15s are as likely to go for a hike on their free day at camp as they are to go to the village. I think a tradition of hiking is a great boon.

If Mr. Fox can honestly claim nearly 25% obvious successes, what on earth is he worrying about?

C. P. FRIEDLANDER,
G.S.M. 18th Morden (St. John Fisher).

Mr. Butterfield's Investigation

DEAR EDITOR,

I was greatly disturbed to see Mr. John Butterfield's article in the February issue of THE SCOUTER. since his use of the pseudoscientific approach may well lend a spurious air of validity to his "investigation."

In the first place, Mr. Butterfield has omitted to state his assumptions. His basic assumption, that the answers to his miscellaneous collection of questions can provide an index of Troop standards, has only to be stated to be seen to be invalid. Taking the extreme example, who wants the Scouts to know the name of the A.C.C.?

In the second place, Mr. Butterfield has got his order of priorities wrong. Presumably he would agree that the people with whom we are concerned are, in descending order of importance, the Scouts, the Scouters, and the District and County Officials. The role of the last named is, as I see it, to provide the maximum of assistance, when requested and with the minimum of fuss, to the two first-named.

In the third place, and following from this, Mr. Butterfield has got his attitude and approach quite wrong. Surprise "inspections" are completely out of place in an organisation run by people of varying abilities, and suffering from varying degrees of human imperfection, who are alike only in that they are attempting to do, to the best of those abilities, a job which they feel is worth doing. "The Confession of a D.C.," printed in the same issue of THE SCOUTER, provides a splendid illustration of somebody in the process of getting his order of priorities straightened out, and I hasten to congratulate the D.C. concerned on his action.

W. STOTHART,
16th Wavertree Sea Scouts.

Newsagents

DEAR EDITOR,

I thought you might be interested to know that several of my Scouters who have been regular readers of THE SCOUTER, have been experiencing difficulty in getting a copy from their local newsagent. One has not been able to get a copy since September, her inquiries having been met with some airy comment about the effect of a dispute. I recommend to all new Scouters, and on this occasion have recommended to those who are complaining, that they should place their order direct through I.H.Q. Could you let me have about 75 order forms so that I can include them with my next District Circular? In the meantime from your end you might like to follow up this report because if our experience in St. Helens is being repeated in many other Districts, it would be doing a lot of harm to your circulation.

T. R. MARSHALL,
D.C., St. Helens and District L.A.

(I can think of no reason why THE SCOUT or THE SCOUTER cannot be easily obtained in normal times through any newsagent apart from the negligence of the newsagent. If readers having trouble will let me know the name and address of their newsagent and his wholesaler we will take it up with our distributors Messrs. Newnes and Pearson. However, these papers can be obtained by subscription direct from L.H. Q. - R.H.)

THE SEA SCOUT YEAR - I

January brought its ice and snow, forcing us to cancel one Troop night owing to the dangerous, icy conditions on our guardship, the Matthew, and the frozen, almost unusable state of the boats which we have to use for ferrying to and fro. But soon things began to get into their swing. First and Second Class work proceeded apace, and the usual long-term badge courses were started. Coxswain Badge training was done mainly at week-ends, sometimes with a P.L. and sometimes a Scouter. Oarsman Badge was taught almost entirely by the P.L.s, First Class trial hikes were prepared for on Troop nights, and the individual sailing instruction necessary for Helmsman Badge was given by the Scouters, mostly on Sundays. On Troop nights the Patrols took turns to do their various duties: one Patrol for cleaning, one to ferry Scouts to and from the guardship and one to look after the canteen. There were the monthly Patrol meetings followed by a Court of Honour, and the monthly thorough cleaning of the ship and boats.

A short night hike in February resulted in one small Scout being taken from the Troop. He arrived home over-tired, his clothes torn and knees badly scratched. The Scouters' fault this; the hike was for "older juniors" and he should never have been allowed to come. "Badge mornings" were started on Sundays to give individual instruction to those who had missed training on Troop nights, but so many turned up that the Scouters were overwhelmed; the remedy was to concentrate on Second Class work one week and First Class work the next. At the end of the month the whaler came out of the water by crane (a delicate operation this) for painting and repair. This took two week-ends. The starboard watch (two Patrols) worked on her for the first week-end while the port watch, aboard the Matthew, dragged out their camp gear to prepare it for the spring; vice versa on the following Saturday and Sunday.

March began with a hike for the over-fifteens - across the Somerset flats at night to Hutton Youth Hostel, then the next day over Crookes Peak and Blackdown on the Mendips. It was wonderful walking with the snow still lying against the limestone walls and hedges. Most of the month was taken up by furious Patrol activity. In turn each Patrol did the following on a competition basis:

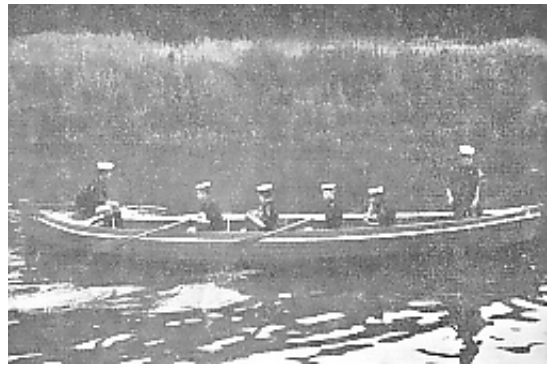
1. Went away in the whaler as "enemy agents in disguise." Their job was to prepare for a midget submarine attack on the shipping in the harbour by taking essential bearings and soundings. They were also asked to bring back photographs showing the armament of a frigate and a new type minesweeper.

2. Cycled down the full length of the tidal river to record on an outline chart all the navigation lights, marks, moorings, etc.

3. Built a monkey bridge (S.M. to be able to cross without breaking his neck. Points for lashings etc.).

4. Revised First and Second Class work aboard the Matthew in preparation for any competitions we might enter for during the year. On the whole things went very well indeed. Some of the photography was shocking but the bearings were good. The charts were all neatly done and a mine of information (some, alas, a little misleading). The bridges all passed the test in spite of a few qualms on the S.M.'s part, and the revision was duly accomplished, but proved rather oppressive and "something to be got over and done with." The most satisfactory way of doing revision seems to be by various types of relay competitions on Troop nights. The Troop Annual General Meeting was poorly attended, but luckily this rather gloomy start was followed later in the year by some really successful financial efforts on behalf of the Group Committee. What a tremendous debt Scouting owes to these hard-working people!

With April came Easter. The Second Class Scouts set out, complete with report books, on their First Class trial hikes, and the over-fifteens went to the Brecon Beacons for a ridge-walking week end. This proved to be a wonderful experience; most of the hills were climbed in good weather, but the last day found us in thick mist at 2,000 feet.



We stumbled on, part of the time along the edge of a steep precipice, with the visibility down to a few yards. "This compass can't be right," quoth the rather worried leader. But of course the instrument was right and when at last we found our way down into the sunshine, and then back to the camp we were very tired indeed. In the midst of Bob-a-Job Week we found ourselves beginning preparations for our first Patrol camps and for Admiralty Inspection (why do we always have to be doing two or three things at once?). The Patrol camps went very well, most of the P.L.s finding their own camp sites and arranging the necessary transport (old cars, plumber's lorries etc.). This sort of thing, however, is hard on the Scouters as distances of five or six miles between sites make it difficult for them to get round to each Patrol for inspections, tests and instruction. Everyone seemed to enjoy Admiralty Inspection. The secret seems to be to strive for smartness and efficiency all the time and not brow-beat the Troop into a special effort once a year.

May 1st found us attending St. George's Day Parade. A packed church and good singing, but afterwards - oh! the rain, and the white dribbles of blanco from our fresh white hats! On the following week-end five of our Queen's Scouts went to Gilwell to receive their certificates. The rest of the Troop had a disappointment as a visit to a large ship at Avonmouth had to be cancelled because she was being fumigated. Then came the Down River Journey and Camp for the Coxswain Badge course. This was the culmination of nearly four months' training. The swift tides of the Avon will not permit the taking of any chances, and it was two well-disciplined crews and a fully equipped whaler and dinghy that locked out of the harbour into the tideway. A northwesterly wind funnelling through the Avon Gorge made the beginning of the trip rather heavy going, but worse was to follow, and as we approached Sea Mills Reach, the strengthening wind blowing against the ebb began to make the water choppy and the boats were hard to handle, their bows blowing off first one way and then the other. Later on we began to take spray aboard and the order was given to don lifejackets. The crews were very tired now and we were all glad when the time came to turn head to tide and come alongside the anchored ferryboats off the historic and notorious village of Pill. Here the camp gear was unloaded and carried threequarters of a mile to the camp site. The return journey was made in much quieter conditions, and when at last we reached the Matthew and the log was completed, one Scout was heard to remark that he had learned more about seamanship that week-end than he had ever been taught on Troop nights. Whitsun meant more Patrol camps (the Court of Honour was being given its head). Once again we had good weather and the Scouters were able to visit each site to help teach, and to test for the Second and First Class badges.

Early in June we had our open night. This was rather too well attended, but the outboard motor did magnificent work and propelled over a hundred people to and from the Matthew. Later on we attended the District Week-end Camp. The P.L.s chafed a bit at the "over-organisation"; too many Patrol camps I suppose. The high-light of the camp was the Scouts' Own, held in the marquee because of heavy rain. The talk was given by a young minister and there could hardly have been a man or boy there who was not deeply moved.

A. J. BARTLETT

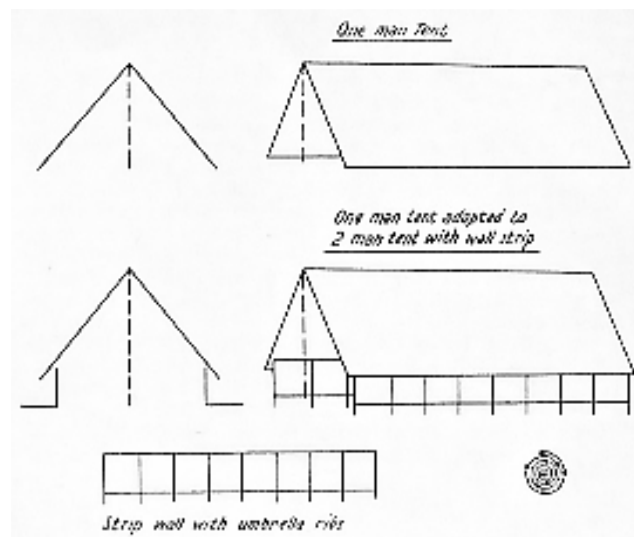
S.M., 99th Bristol "Cabot" Sea Scouts.
(To be concluded.)

C A M P I N G D A Y S

SCOUT CAMPS (8/-) and CAMP FIRE LEADERS' BOOK (5/-) are by the Editor and the Camp Chief. No Scouter or Commissioner should be without them.

The PATROL GOES TO CAMP (1/-) is for the Scout—and no Scout should be without it! Tell your Scouts!

C A M P I N G D A Y S



I don't know why the Baker tent is not more in favour with Senior Scout campers, one seldom sees one in use. Right from the early days of my camping life I have used one and even at the moment I am engaged in wearing out my third. It has many advantages over other types of tent all of which become apparent when it is in use.

For instance one can sit up in it without touching the sides, and look straight out at the view; rather nice when one wakes up in the morning and is getting sorted out for the day's programme. The gear which one is not using for the day can be stowed at the back and still leave the tent free for sitting in. If one returns from a wet trip one can take off wet clothes under the canopy before sitting down for a change of clothes from the back. In wet weather one can have a fire - controlled of course - under cover with kitchen arrangements to hand, pot rack one side, firewood the other and be able to cook in comfort. At night, too, it is pleasant to have a red glowing fire to look at as one lies snuggled down in one's sleeping bag. This tent, too, is the link between summer and winter camping - exceedingly few small tents are workable in winter. With a thatched roof of the backwood shelter pattern over the tent and a blazing fire in front - canopy shortened of course, one can be very comfortable.

The Baker tent - the design is similar and follows the principle of the Dutch oven, hence its name - is what one can call a working tent; it does so many things for you. Not only does it work for all types of camping, hiking, base camps - I have used it in the mountains - but in doubtful weather is shown to advantage.

It is like sleeping under the veranda at home - if it faces east - it is rather pleasant to have the sun waken you with its rays trying to lift your eyelids.

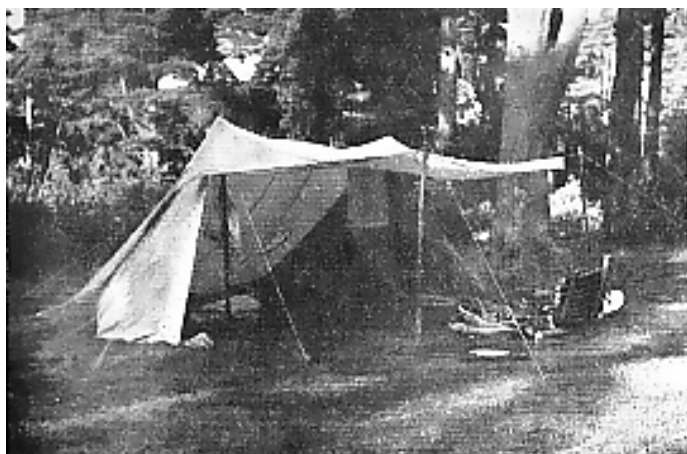
Horace Kephart of course has the design, and mine was copied from him. Not only can it be used as shown, but the canopy can be pegged down to form the vowel "A" shape if necessary.

The tent in the photograph has a floor area 7ft. ins. x 7 ft. 6 ins., height is 5ft., wall at back is 1ft. Weight 4lb., less poles and pegs, and will sleep four adults. It should present no difficulty in home manufacture.

The second idea on tenting is for something that one can use to adapt a one man crawl tent so that it will take two people, but at the same time still retain its use for solo, work.

One would need an extra section of 9ins. for the existing poles to raise the tent that much higher, rings sewn along the edge and guys will of course be needed. Then a loose wall made from similar material to the tent, 12ins. wide in a continuous strip long enough to go all round the perimeter with umbrella ribs sewn in at intervals with ends projecting about 6ins. This separate wall can be pushed in the ground just inside the tent line to form a wall up to the eave. This strip wall can be long enough to go all the way round and across the doorway too. If used with a little care and imagination one can have air conditioning with complete rain protection.

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



WIDE GAMES - I

By THE CAMP CHIEF

The earliest form of Troop Meeting which the Scouts of 1908 experienced was a Scouting Game played in the open, probably on a Saturday afternoon. Not unnaturally they found that if they met together during the week to talk over last week's game and to discuss the game to be played next week there was a greater chance of its success. They soon began to do rather more during their week night meeting than merely discuss the game, and regrettably (and it is a matter for sincere regret) as the years went by the indoor Troop Meeting became more organised and had so much put into it that ultimately there was no time to plan the Scouting Game and for many Troops it ceased to be.

I am realistic enough to appreciate that this was perhaps inevitable, but I still believe that the Wide Game, as it is nowadays called, is a very worth-while part of the Scout programme, and it is certainly the kind of thing a boy thinks he is going to do when he joins a Scout Troop. Perhaps because so little of it is done is one of the reasons why boys fade away from our Troops!

The Editor has asked if in the next month or so I will give you some instructions and suggestions for Wide Games. I am going to lift them straight out of the Gilwell files because I want to give you games which have been played here by Scouters on Training Courses and which I know can be very successful.

The essence of a good Wide Game seems to me to fall under these heads:

(1) It is suitable for the area over which it is to be played. The Scouters must know the area and not merely try to work from a map. No map is ever up to date, which is not surprising as someone is always planting a copse of trees or felling them, building a house or demolishing a cottage, moving a road or digging a canal. It is absolutely necessary to go over the ground just before the game is to be played, and you must clearly define the limits of the game so that the Scouts taking part know exactly where the boundaries are. Incidentally, when playing a Night Game, I believe that the Scouts

should be taken round the area in daylight. I recommend this not because I am worried about a few Scouts being temporarily lost in the dark, but because the game, which never starts because the participants get to the wrong place, is not likely to be a success by any standards. The Cup Final at Wembley would hardly be rated a success if one team went to Hampden Park.

(2) The game should call for some planning, with the Patrol Leaders very much in evidence, and some Scouting skill, e.g. stalking, tracking, observation, listening, signalling.

(3) The game should need some degree of physical effort, but should be so devised that the younger and smaller members of the Troop have a good chance of making a contribution to the game and do not get "killed off" in the first sortie. I know of few more depressing ways of spending an afternoon than being dead from 3.00 to 4.30!

(4) Everybody taking part must know what they are supposed to be doing and when they are supposed to be doing it. Certainly use the Patrol System for briefing the P.L.s and, if necessary, give them extra briefing, but also tell the rest of the Troop something about what is supposed to be happening.

(5) Make sure the instructions are not too long or too complicated. At Gilwell a few years ago we had a wonderful example of "How Not to run a Wide Game."

It involved reams and reams of instructions which we never understood, and still don't, and there were so many opposing teams that half the Training Course did nothing and the rest who were determined to do something all did different things.

The instructions must be straightforward and quite clear, and if they are to arise out of a story then it is a good idea to have a precis at the foot saying just what the Owls are supposed to do and where the 'Peckers are supposed to be.

(6) There must be a clear cut signal for starting the game and a clear cut signal for ending it.

(7) Always count the players before starting the game and when you think you have finished it. This may sound a trite and obvious thing to say but, believe me, it is necessary. If a Scout is lost the sooner you know about it the less worry you are going to have.

(8) If you are going to play a Scouting Game near buildings, and especially at night, make sure you are not going to be a nuisance to other people. I say this with some feeling: I do not regard it as courteous, intelligent, or good Scouting when someone lights a firework or a signal flare in my garden at 2.30 in the morning. Thoughtless behaviour towards other people

is always bad Scouting. I can take this a step further: if you are going out of camp to play a Wide Game in another area at night, return quietly and not giving an imitation of a radio programme.

I mentioned earlier the unsatisfactory nature of being "killed" early in the game and being out of action for the whole afternoon, and yet most games require some method of taking "lives." I do earnestly suggest to Scoutmasters that whatever method is used it becomes possible for Scouts to regain "lives" by reporting to one of the umpires and possibly by earning a second "life." I would place no limit on the number of lives a Scout can have, but I would make him earn them, e.g., all Scouts start with their "life," which may be a coloured wool strand tied round the arm, and within a matter of minutes two have lost them - lives

fairly given up in battle. They will report to an umpire who will say, for example, "Bring me an oak leaf." (This means, of course, that the umpire must have a little knowledge also!) If the Scout turns up with the leaf of an elm tree he is still given his "life," but it goes down on the score sheet and he will be delayed a little in the pursuit of the game whilst he is shown what an oak leaf looks like. The umpire might ask the Scout to repeat the third Scout

Law or to tie a bowline and, here again, it helps if the umpire can do these two things. I have used with tremendous success this method of revising basic training as the price to be paid for a new life.

Other ways of having "lives" are the carrying of scarves in belts (but personally I do not care for this as I never like misusing the Scout uniform, although I may be in a minority); the throwing of balls covered in yellow ochre, which puts rather a premium on the cricketers; spotting numbers fixed in hats, which is jolly good in theory, but how they do cheat in practice and how to stop them is beyond me. By and large I think wool on the arms is the best method.

Now I come to a matter which may be controversial. I am afraid I have very little use for playing Wide Games in Scout uniform, for these reasons:



I believe there is virtue in a Scout looking smart, and with the best will in the world it is impossible to look smart after you have been thrown in a pond, taken refuge in a pig sty, or climbed a tree, all of which are quite legitimate actions in a Wide Game.

Secondly, Scout uniform is not very suitable for playing Wide Games, and the better trained is the Scout the less suitable his uniform becomes, for the more badges and decorations he wears the more difficult it is to conceal himself in natural surroundings, particularly when wearing the maroon and gold Senior Scout Badges which can be seen across a couple of fields! If the game calls for concealment why handicap the Scouts who are supposed to be the most proficient?

I believe that old clothes should be the order of the day, and if it is rough country with brambles and thorns then long trousers, denims or jeans should be worn with an old shirt and a not too woolly pullover. (If the pullover is too woolly it will unravel when caught on protruding thorns.) There is no real virtue in Scouts lacerating their knees on blackberry bushes, and surely it is no bad thing to have a "Wide Game Rig" which I suppose would be comparable to non-uniform camping.

I have not yet come to the most important of my reasons for not wearing Scout uniform when playing Wide Games. In a well-played Wide Game most of the participants are going to get hot and sticky, and when the game is over they ought to strip, shower if possible or certainly wash all over, and have a good rub down, putting on fresh clothes, Oh, I know it may mean taking a tent to the site of the Wide Game so that there is somewhere to change, and the whole thing may be a great nuisance to the Scouters, but I was never one to save them trouble. If we are serious about hygiene and all that then what on earth is the use of taking great pains to keep a quarter of a pound of butter fresh and allowing thirty Scouts to get hot, sticky, and generally unpleasant, and keeping on the same clothes for the rest of the day.

So much for introduction; next month to the games!

A NEW VENTURE

By JACK COX, A.C.C., London

Some two years ago Ralph Reader went to a Ranger show at the Royal Albert Hall in evening dress. Earlier on he had been at an El Alamein Reunion and so the evening dress was not really a special compliment to the ladies.

"This is the first time I have seen you out of Scout uniform, Ralph," said Lady Baden-Powell. They conversed about Scout and Guide shows in general and Lady Baden-Powell's parting shot was:

"After all, Ralph, we are one Movement." That thought remained with Ralph Reader for a long time. Gradually the idea of a joint Scout - Guide show with a large cast built up in his mind, and soon he was hammering out a script and working on the music.

The result is *Voyage of the Venturer*, a musical play with a cast of one thousand Scouts and Guides of assorted ages which should pack the Royal Albert Hall to capacity during the week of July 9th to July 14th next. (In all there will be seven performances, one nightly show with a special matinee on the Saturday afternoon.)

There are roughly five hundred Scouts and five hundred Guides in the play and, with one or two exceptions, all are over 14. The Scouts include Senior Scouts, Rovers, and Scouters; the Guides include Rangers and Guiders. The play is being presented by the

London Scout Council in association with the County of London Girl Guides, and all districts of London are represented.

This joint Scout - Guide show is not the first time such co-operation has taken place, but it is certainly the biggest thing of its kind that we have yet seen. With Ralph Reader as producer and the Royal Albert Hall for a setting, it will, indeed, be a spectacular show that may set something of a pattern for Scout-Guide co-operation in ventures of this kind.

The rehearsals both of the cast and the combined choir are taking place at major points in the North, South, East and West, with five combined rehearsals in April and June, and one dress rehearsal. The play is in mime, with narrators, and the music includes a fine theme which runs all through the show.

* * *

The story of the play is both topical and colourful. It is based on the legend of the old king who wanted to find out which of his three fine sons would be the wisest ruler, the one most suited to take his place on the throne in due course. Paul, Galiad and David are leading parts in the play, but the main part of the story centres around the youngest prince, David, played by Kenneth Cregeen, and a dark-skinned stowaway boy who sails West with him in the good ship *Venturer*.

The part of the dark-skinned boy is played by a 13-year-old Scout from Jamaica, Aurelius Evans, whose father is in London studying to be a barrister. Aurelius has been in Britain for some three years. Other parts are played by old hands from the "Gang Show" and "Boy Scout" casts, but it is important to realise that *Voyage of the Venturer* is quite different from anything that Ralph Reader has ever tackled before. The play is not a pageant and is certainly not a "Gang Show," but there are many scenes of splendour and beauty, with cracking barefist and cutlass fights, performing bears and dancing girls in a banqueting hall in Arabia, as well as much honest fun and frolic.

Through the voyage of this fine old sailing ship, *Venturer*, David finds Truth and Tolerance and Courage, and all are needed in full measure to make a world of happiness that young people can grow up in with the security of good fellowship and fair dealing.



No one would say that the play is "a Scout story," for instance, or even "a Guide story." It shows in a more subtle way how the business of daily living is all part of Scouting and Guiding, and how the qualities that our training sets out to foster and achieve are simple, homely truths and abounding faith. Let us say that *Voyage of the Venturer* is based on good citizenship and cheerful living in a world of doubts and despairs. In that respect it can well be a story of our own times, though set in the gay robes and bright costumes of long centuries ago. As an experiment in the friendly co-operation of Scouts and Guides it will be watched with interest and appreciation, and all the more so because 1957 is a very important year in our calendar.

I have said very little about the music of the play because it is not easy to write about the simple but effective and melodious tunes that Ralph Reader gives us. The theme is delightful, and so are the songs and choruses. The Pirate Song may make our favourite aunts call for smelling salts, but they will recover in good heart and will

probably buy the music on the way out.

The Box Office opens at the Albert Hall in May and a leaflet 'is in this issue of THE SCOUTER. Any other queries., can safely be sent to The Secretary, The London Scout Council, 3 Cromwell Place, London, S.W.7.

OUR DISTRICT

By A.D.C.

YOUNG CONKLESHILL made a thorough nuisance of himself at the Executive meeting last night, and kept us all nattering until past ten o'clock, although the agenda had been so short that we had all hoped to be home early for once.

It was only ten to nine when we came to "other business," and we were knocking out our pipes and putting our spectacles away in their cases or making a note of the date of the next meeting in our diaries when our hopes were rudely dashed.

"I've got something I'd like to bring up," said young Conkleshill from his seat in an obscure corner of the room.

He is twenty-one, and took over the 34th from old Dedlock three months ago, having then just finished his two years in the R.A.F. A comparative newcomer to the neighbourhood, nobody knows much about him, and though he was co-opted to the Executive soon after he came, he has never before opened his mouth.

The Chairman sighed.

"Carry on," he said.

Conkleshill began nervously, but plucked up courage as he continued.

"I saw an article in the February SCOUTER," he said, "about an investigation they've been having in West Yorkshire by the A.C.C. Scouts into the way Troops are actually - not theoretically - being run. He found that 20 per cent of Scouters turned up in "civvies," a lot of Troops worked without any sort of programme, games lacked imagination, inspections were often slack, etc. To my mind it revealed a pretty awful state of affairs, and I think we ought to try the same sort of investigation round here. We've just got a new D.C., and if the County don't feel like tackling it, he could do it at District level."

Gulling, who runs a very good Troop and knows it, interrupted. "Personally," he said, "I've no faith in these mass investigations. Just a lot of peeping and prying that wastes everybody's time and leads nowhere. When this young man has been a Scouter for twenty years, as I have, he'll realise that the more the Scoutmaster is left alone the better. He's the man who does the job, after all."

There was a murmur of applause, and somebody was heard to whisper that it was cheek for a youngster who hadn't been in the District above five minutes to want to tell us how to manage our affairs.

Then old Hankin took his pipe out of his mouth.

"The D.C. isn't here tonight," he said, "but I propose that this meeting should request the A.D.C. to talk the matter over with him. Personally I think the idea is a good one."

We talked round and round the subject for an hour, and in the end the motion, or something like it, was carried. Hankin and I and young Conkleshill walked home together, and Conkleshill told us why he had brought the matter up.

"It wouldn't have been sporting to criticise my predecessor in front of his old friends," he said, "but I was brought up in a decent Troop, and to my mind the 34th when I took over wasn't a Troop at all. It was simply a gang, and a low-morale gang at that, and in my opinion it should have been closed down years ago. It was jolly decent of you, Mr. Hankin, to support me."

Hankin grunted.

"I'm not at all sure that any good will be done," he said, "but the way you spoke reminded me a bit of Tom Fowler. He was S.M. of the 19th in 1939. He wasn't satisfied with our standard of Scouting, and he was a thorough nuisance at all the meetings. He died in the Battle of Britain, and when he'd gone I realised that it wasn't just cocky pigheadedness that had made him try to stir us up. He'd got a vision, dim and incoherent, of a standard of Scouting we've never yet achieved. We old blokes get into a rut, but in our hearts we know Scouting could be something quite glorious. something it isn't yet. So for Tom Fowler's sake I never squash a youngster with an idea, even if I'm far from sure he's right."

WORTH THINKING

ABOUT - IV

RAW MATERIAL FOR TROOP AND PACK YARNS

The Importance of a Right Objective. - An old Russian fable tells of a small house in which lived three brothers. Nothing proved successful with them. One day, Good Fortune paid them a visit and determined to spend a whole summer with them and help them in anything they undertook. Things changed. One brother, a poor trader, became rich. Another entered the service of the government and became an important official. The third brother chased butterflies all the summer and, thanks to Good Fortune, never missed one. "Good Fortune has now gone and the third brother curses Good Fortune because she has left him with nothing but a beggar's wallet."

"If", - King Philip of Macedon wrote a threatening letter to the rulers of Sparta: "If, once I enter your territories, I will destroy you all, never to rise again." The Spartans replied in a letter which contained only one word: "IF."

Don't wait to be told! - Before the Battle of Trafalgar, Nelson summoned his captains to council and explained his general plan for the battle finishing up with: "If any of you, in the smoke of the cannon and confusion of the engagement, cannot see my signals, you cannot do wrong if you lay your ship alongside the next enemy's and fight her."

Outward appearance. - A Scout set out for a First-Aid Competition with great eagerness. He had been selected to act as patient for his Troop team and was proud of his neatly-combed hair and cleanly-scrubbed knees. His face reddened and fell, however, when a boot and sock were whipped off to allow for attention to an injured foot. His washing had not reached to the invisible parts of his anatomy.

Cubs are as bad! - Akela, rendering first-aid to a Cub: "When did you wash your knees last?" Cub: "This morning." Akela, indicating part of the Cub's leg just above the knee: "You didn't wash here." Cub: "Oh, that part's covered by my trousers."

The importance of what can't be seen. - The Chief Scout has related how a surveyor in the desert in Egypt in 1916 took a bearing with a compass on a wooden post at nightfall before it got dark. He had only a mile to go but got hopelessly lost and spent the night seven miles from his camp on the banks of the Suez Canal. On returning at dawn, cold and weary, he found he had got a false bearing because the post had a nail driven in flush with the woodwork about 3 or 4 inches down.

A tactful reproof - Sir Herbert Tree, the actor, wished to tell a member of his company that his particular presence was not vital to the scene. "Very good, marvellous," he said, "but would you mind moving back just a little, Mr. Blank?" "Mr. Blank moved 2 feet. "A little further, please." There was another move. "That's better, but a little more." Mr. Blank moved back again. Then he glanced around him. "But I'm right off the stage, now, Sir Herbert." "Excellent, Mr. Blank, excellent," replied Sir Herbert.

Conceit. - Sir James Barrie tells in one of his books about a place called "Malcolm's Leap," "so-called because one, Malcolm, jumped across the river at this spot when pursued by wolves. Next day, he returned boastfully to look at his jump, and, gazing at it, turned dizzy and fell into the river."

Appreciation of others. - Turner, the great painter, was a member of the hanging committee of the Royal Academy. One day, when the walls were full, his attention was attracted to a picture by an unknown provincial artist named Bird. "It is a good picture," he said, "and must be exhibited." "The arrangements cannot be disturbed; it is impossible," he was told. "It is a good picture," Turner repeated, "it must be hung up." Without further ado, he pulled down one of his own pictures and put up Bird's in its place.

J. B. GEARING.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY AWARDS, 1956

*Awards made on the occasion of the Fortieth Anniversary of the
Wolf Cub Section)*

SILVER WOLF

Miss D. Baxter, A.C.C. for Wolf Cubs, Co. Down, Akela Leader, Northern Ireland.

"In recognition of her services of the most exceptional character in Northern Ireland over a period of 38 years."

Miss H. M. Fiddian, A.D.C. for Wolf Cubs, Handsworth.

"In recognition of her services of the most exceptional character in Birmingham over a period of 39 years."

Miss M. Frizeile, A.C.C. for Wolf Cubs, Surrey.

"In recognition of her services of the most exceptional character in Surrey and Middlesex over a period of 32 years."

E. D. Smith, Headquarters Commissioner for Wolf Cubs, Imperial Headquarters, Akela Leader attached to Gilwell Park.

"In recognition of his services of the most exceptional character at Imperial Headquarters and in Staffordshire over a period of 27 years."

BAR TO THE SILVER ACORN

Miss M. M. Foord, A.C.C. for Wolf Cubs and Akela Leader, Yorkshire East Riding, G.S.M., 1st Kirkella (St. Andrew's).

"In recognition of her further specially distinguished services."

SILVER ACORN

Miss S. R. G. Guggisberg, T.D., D.C.M., Caterham and District, Akela Leader, Surrey.

A. G. Howe, A.D.C. for Wolf Cubs, Cochester, A.C.C. for Wolf Cubs and Asst. Akela Leader, Essex, G.S.M., 21st. Colchester.

T. R. James, A.D.C. for Wolf Cubs, Wallasey, G.S.M., 7th Wailasey (St. Mary's Own).

F. A. Kuhllicke, M.A., A.C.C. for Wolf Cubs and Akela Leader, Bedfordshire, G.S.M., 18th Bedfordshire (Bedford Modern School).

Mrs. G. E. C. Killard-Leavey, A.D.C. for Wolf Cubs, No. 3 District, A.C.C. for Wolf Cubs, Devon.

Mrs. O. Le Count, C.M., 10th Waltbamstow (St. Gabriel's Own).

Mrs. R. H. Morris, C.M., 3rd Reigate (Merstham).

Miss G. Peel, Akela Leader, Northumberland.

Miss N. Peel, A.C.C. for Wolf Cubs and Asst. Akela Leader, Northumberland.

O. C. Simmons, A.C.C. for Wolf Cubs and Akela Leader, Kent.

Mrs. H. M. Warren, A.C.C. for Wolf Cubs and Akela Leader, Hertfordshire.

Miss M. I. Wheeler, C.M., Harborne St. Peter's (95th Birmingham, West), A.D.C. for Wolf Cubs, Birmingham West.

"In recognition of their specially distinguished services."

SILVER WOLF

F. C. Braby, M.C., County Commissioner, Kent.

"In recognition of his services of the most exceptional character in Kent and London over a period of 30 years."

A. Charrett, A.D.C., Horsham District.

"In recognition of his services of the most exceptional character in Sussex and Hampshire over a period of 47 years."

T. O. Fisher, G.S.M., 1st Douglas, Asst. Island Commissioner for Sea Scouts, Isle of Man.

"In recognition of his services of the most exceptional character in the Isle of Man over a period of 44 years."

Sir Alexander W. G. Grantham, G.C.M.G., Chief Scout, Hong Kong.

"In recognition of his services of the most exceptional character in Hong Kong and Fiji over a period of 11 years."

H. P. Hider, G.S.M., 3rd Kingston (All Saints).

"In recognition of his services of the most exceptional character in Kingston over a period of 43 years."

R. A. Puttick, G.S.M., 1st Southwark.

"In recognition of his services of the most exceptional character in Southwark over a period of 46 years."

Mrs. U. Richardson, Headquarters Commissioner for Handicapped Scouts, Imperial Headquarters.

"In recognition of her services of the most exceptional character at Imperial Headquarters and in Cumberland over a period of 27 years."

G. A. Smith, A.C.C. and Hon. County Secretary, County of the City of Aberdeen.

"In recognition of his services of the most exceptional character in Aberdeen over a period of 30 years."

H. L. Seymour Thomas, Commissioner, North Wales.

"In recognition of his services of the most exceptional character in Wales and Warwickshire over a period of 44 years."

BAR TO SILVER ACORN

Lt.-Col. P. D. C. Johnston, County Commissioner, Cumberland West.

F. W. E. King, M.B.E., D.C., Chesham District, A.C.C. for the Training of Scouters, Buckinghamshire.

C. S. Whitehead, A.C.C. for the Training of Scouters, Suffolk.

N. J. Wilkins, Town Commissioner, Croydon, D.C.C., Surrey.

"In recognition of their further specially distinguished services."

SILVER ACORN

C. H. Barker, G.S.M., 2nd Petts Wood.

H. L. Baron, B.Sc., County Commissioner, North East Lancashire.

J. D. Barron, M.C., President, Fifeshire.

A. E. Bell, A.D.C., Sheffield.

S. J. D. Berger, M.C., F.C.I.S., Chairman, Hackney.

P. W. Blandford, A.C.C. for the Training of Scouters, Warwickshire.

F. E. Blewett, D.C., Southall District, D.C.C., Middlesex.

A. Bowman, D.C., South East Manchester.

The Ven. L. A. Brown, M.A., Archdeacon of Lewisham, Member of Religious Advisory Panel, Imperial Headquarters, D.C.C. attached to Gilwell Park.

Wing-Cmdr. T. E. W. Browne, M.A., M.Sc., Asst. Commissioner for Sea Scouts, North Wales.

A. E. Cheal, M.B.E., formerly A.D.C., Tonbridge.

A. W. Clark, A.D.C. for Scouts, Hackney.

F. G. Clinton, D.C., Dorking District.

E. W. L. Cross, G.S.M., 21st Plymouth (St. Mattbias), A.D.C., No. 2 District (East), Devon.

E. J. Cuschieri, Quartermaster, Camp Commandant and Asst. D.C.C., Malta, G.C.

G. G. Dean, G.S.M., 17th Crosby, A.D.C., Crosby District.

E. G. Denning, Honorary Secretary, Plympton and District.

S. C. East, A.C.C. for the Training of Scouters, South East Lancashire.

W. J. England, G.S.M., 18th Norwich (Hellesdon), A.C.C. for the Training of Scouters, Norfolk.

O. E. Fernandez, Headquarters Commissioner, Malaya.

H. Fletcher, J.P., A.C.C., Derbyshire.

Rev. S. W. Gerhold, Island Commissioner, Guernsey.

J. Hall, D.C., Ainwick District.

D. H. Hanson, G.S.M., 8th Chichester (Lancastrian School), D.C., Chichester District.

A. B. Homan, Honorary County Treasurer, Kent.

W. Horsfall, Chairman, Spen Valley.

W. E. Hughes, County Commissioner, Carmarthenshire.

E. Hunt, A.D.C., No. I (Moordales) District.

R. E. Ince, Chief Commissioner, Singapore.

Admiral (S) K. M. Lawder, C.B., R.N., Headquarters Commissioner for Deep-Sea Scouts, Imperial Headquarters.

J. F. Leech, Assistant Commissioner for Training, Bechuanaland.

J. G. Livingstone, S.M., 1st Clydebank (Singer Alpine).

H. R. Mallett, J.P., D.C., March District.

R. W. Medcalf, D.C., Tottenham.

"In recognition of their specially distinguished services."

NEWS FROM 25 B.P. ROAD

I very much hope that S.M.s and S.M.s(S) have drawn the attention of their First Class Scouts to this year's Adventure Scheme, details of which appeared in THE SCOUTER for February and The Scout of February 17th. The adventure must be undertaken between April 1, 1956, and March 1, 1957, so, for the First Class Scout who has to take an early summer holiday, there is not a lot of time left for preparation. I am sure this scheme is just the sort of thing that will appeal to First Class Scouts and, if your chaps have not yet heard about it, I hope you will tell them without delay. With encouragement from Scouters, I am quite sure there will be a bumper entry for this competition which will end during the Centenary and Jubilee Year.

On March 17th-18th we reached another milestone in training - the one hundredth Commissioners' Course. By a happy coincidence, it was held in B.-P.'s Room at 25 B.P. Road and the Course was honoured by the presence of the Chief Scout for part of the weekend.

It is of interest that since the last war ended sixty-five Commissioners' Courses have been held with an average attendance of just over forty. This is yet another illustration of the enthusiasm of Commissioners to get to know more about their job and is a fine example to all Scouters. The occasion gives me an opportunity of expressing thanks to those members of the Training Team who have given so much valuable help with these Courses.

I was interested to learn from the Headquarters Commissioner for Grants that my note in this column in February 1955 about the Frothblowers Fund resulted in an increased number of applications. As the camping season begins, Mr. Nevill feels that Scouters may welcome another reminder of this Fund which exists to help Scouts to go to camp who might otherwise not be able to do so.

While on the subject of grant aid, it may not be generally known that there is a Fund at I.H.Q. to help Sea Scouts with the purchase of boats and equipment essential to effective training.

The Grants Department will be only too pleased to supply forms of application for assistance from either of these Funds.

You and your Scouts are no doubt wondering how things are going with regard to the events planned to celebrate the Centenary of the birth of B.-P. and the Movement's Jubilee next year. Ken Stevens is keeping us in touch with the arrangements for J.I.M. through his notes in THE SCOUTER each month but you may like to hear about some of the other celebrations.

You may remember that, in this column in November last, the hope was expressed that every District would ask its Local Authority to honour the Movement by preparing floral carpet beds in public parks and gardens for 1957. In January, District Commissioners received details of the scheme including suitable designs and information about the plants recommended for use in the laying out of such beds. From reports, many D.C.s lost no time in approaching their Local Authorities and already there is an excellent response to the suggestion. It is hoped that if any District is not yet in touch with its civic authorities about the scheme approach will be made quickly as long planning is necessary for the production of the plants that have to be used.

Within a short time, every D.C. and L.A. Secretary will receive the leaflets about Scout Weeks which will be held between February 25th and July 31st, and the Collective Good Turn Week which will take place between June 17 and 22, 1957. Both of these events will require a lot of preparation and, with the arrival of these suggestions from I.H.Q., Districts will, no doubt, be getting down to business if they have not already started.

Information about other events will be made available as soon as possible.

A. W. HURLL,
Chief Executive Commissioner.

THE GILWELL LETTER

Persistent rumours of spring at Gilwell have been confirmed this week by the arrival of the first Wood Badge Course of the year. Admittedly it is an indoor course - that is to say, the candidates "live in" and have their meals cooked for them but, nonetheless, the Training Ground, the Bomb Hole, and the hundred and one features of Gilwell are in full use once more, and there has been no lack of outdoor incident.

A few minutes ago, for instance, we saw a distinguished Air Commodore, heavily disguised as a Rover Scout, trying his hand for the first time at the art of abseiling, actually from one of the roof timbers in the Camp Fire Shelter. This was an optional activity, and to be honest one could not have blamed some of the more mature members of the course from opting out of it. To men unfamiliar with rock climbing it requires a real effort of will to launch oneself into thin air with nothing to hold on to but a few strands of manila. Yet it will surprise no one to learn that in our little company of Rover Leaders there were no heel-taps. Indeed, most of them, having survived the initial ordeal, queued up at once for a second helping. Whatever the problems of Rovering may be (and this, I must explain, is written in advance of last month's SCOUTER!) there is surely hope for the future when we have men of such spirit to lead our Crews.

Just before lunch-time on this delightful March day, Group Captain David Lumgair (I.H.Q. Commissioner for Rover Scouts), dropped in to see the course, and performed a tour de force in talking to the Rover Leaders for the best part of an hour on the subject of Rover Training without betraying a single fact that we weren't entitled to know before zero hour on 20th March. Never were so many shrewd questions so shrewdly parried!

This winter we have, I believe, broken new ground at Gilwell with our "Training and Testing" and "Patrol Activities Courses." The first of these was designed to illustrate the variety of techniques available to Scouters in working the Patrol System; the second to suggest a wide range of practical activities which Scouters could pass to their P.L.s through the Court of Honour and, more particularly, to demonstrate the briefing and training of P.L.s to enable them to organise their own Patrol Meetings and Expeditions - a very necessary part of Scoutmastership.

We may claim a modest success for these experiments. Indeed, we have today received from one satisfied customer (admittedly one who was softening us up to ask a small favour) the following striking tribute: "We tried out some of your ideas on the Troop last Friday and the chaps thought they'd been hit by a bomb." But the point we wish to make is this: The ideas were not ours; neither were the techniques we employed. They came straight from Scouting for Boys with just a seasoning of up-to-date stuff from back numbers of THE SCOUTER, from The Patrol Books and The Scouter's Books series and other sources of material which are available to everyone. Yet to the Scouters who took part in the course they appeared to have all the charm of novelty.

All of which makes you think....

By the time you read this the South Eastern Counties Rover Moot at Gilwell will have added another page to the history book, and the event to which we shall all be looking forward with joy and dread will be the Cub Open Afternoon on Saturday, 9th June. The Assistant Camp Chief (Training) who is organising this uproarious event has asked me to make two points:

(1) Please do not arrive before mid-day. The festivities begin at 2.00 p.m.

(2) A Knock-Out Cricket Competition will again be a feature of the programme. Teams of eleven players, please. If you wish to compete, your entry should arrive by post not later than Saturday, 26th May.

JOHN SWEET,
Acting Camp Chief's Deputy.

LUCK OF TILE MONTH

By THE EDITOR

February 10th. - Did you know that the Chinese ideograph for crisis is composed of two parts, one meaning danger, the other opportunity?

February 12th. - Interesting to see that the Reuter Correspondent in Moscow, who was present when Burgess and Maclean reappeared, was Sidney Weiland, who was the junior on *The Scout* staff from August 1942 to November 1944. He was (incidentally) at my first National Air Scout Camp. He always knew what road he wanted to follow. Good luck to him.

February 13th. - Children in Nottinghamshire council homes, I read, have been given a pocket money rise. Cub-age boys get Is. 6d., Scout-age boys 2s. 6d., and at 14 years of age 3s. 6d. Compare this with 1910 pocket money and the price of *The Scout* then: and the price of *The Scout* now is obviously *not* beyond boys' pockets. What is missing is not money but the enthusiasm of the early days.

February 16th. - Interested to know that the Delta Problem Game, which was based on Senior Scouts endeavouring to hold secret Patrol Meetings on a given evening within a given time, is still being played with enthusiasm. My local Group has added a variation: they invoke the aid of fifth columnists - who may be anyone not a member of the family - to learn the Seniors' plans.

February 21st. - Sent by Billie Martin Tomson (A.C.C., Kent) five-and-a-half inches of ribbon, divided into two, just over an inch wide, of a pale oatmeal colour, a scarlet and dark blue lined border, bearing (twice within that length) a portrait of B.-P. in grey with those letters unhyphenated in mauve followed by a two-leaf spray in gold. Rather charming and definitely interesting. Anyone know anything?

February 22nd. - Learn that the *Junior Mirror*, started eighteen months ago, is closing down. The *Junior Express* has already been remodelled and become an Eagle-type fourpenny.

February 24th. - *The Scout* unable to appear today - together with many other London-printed magazines.

February 29th. - Received from Br. Martin, S.S.F. (for our archives) some Mafeking photos including some of B.-P. Most welcome.

March 1st. - Typical quip from Tiny Chamberlain: "Having a boy who dislikes camping in a Scout Troop is like inviting a temperance reformer to be a member of a drinking club."

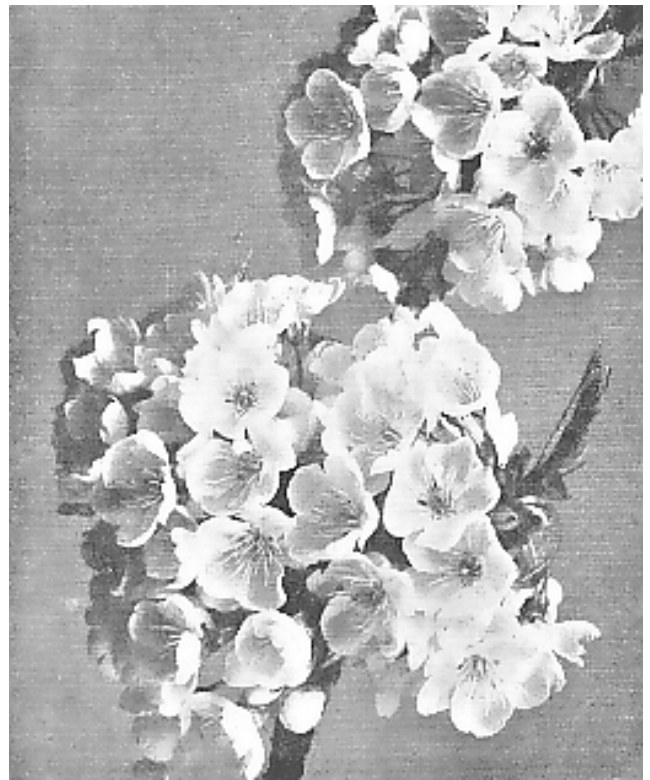
March 3rd. - *Always* pleasant to be with London-over-the-Border, a keen appreciative crowd. This time a well-attended District. Conference at Seven Kings with "Josh" Reynolds talking admirably on "What sort of a man was B.-P.?" before I followed less adequately on "The Patrol." Well organised, well chaired.

March 5th. - From *Pelican in the Wilderness* - a naturalist's Odyssey in America - by F. Fraser Darling: "Elderly, boyish, rugged and wise in his own way, I kept having the feeling I knew him well or that he was like someone else. Then I got it. His counterpart in Britain is Colonel Ronald Campbell, quondam Master-at-Arms at the University of Edinburgh, World's Champion Fencer, Scout and good companion. They have the same slightly rascally smile, the same insight into character, the same utter selflessness."

Again:

"I was dead on time, and so was Gregg, at 8.30 o'clock the next morning. He was to me the type specimen of a good Scoutmaster, and later I learned he had been a Scout Commissioner in Colorado."

March 6th. - Nice story from Mr. Bignell of Weymouth about a Cub whose mother lost him entirely for one afternoon in an early Bob-a-Job week. When he returned late for tea, he responded blithely to her inquiry that he had been weeding a garden path. Much was mother's indignation as she fed her son, when she picked up his card and read "Weeding garden, 2.1 to 6 - 6d."



LUCK OF THE MONTH: CHERRY BLOSSOM

Her son listened to her indignant comments chewing thoughtfully, then said gently: "After all, Mum, she was a very old lady, and she did give it with a good heart."

March 7th. - Saw the official Canadian Jamboree film, sponsored by that magnificent store Eatons of Toronto. A stirring film, both gay and dignified - easily the best Jamboree film so far. Do see it if you can.

March 8th. - The *Manchester Guardian* had a heading this morning "Rovers starting short time." It referred, of course, to the motor industry.

March 12th. - I note that Brewer's *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable* under the heading Rakshas says (among other things) that they "assume any shape at will and their strength increases as the day declines" - which seemed to me reasonably true of our Rakshas, on Pack Nights anyway. The note goes on "Some are hideously ugly, but others, especially the female spirits, allure by their beauty." After mature consideration I offer the opinion that there is *some* truth in this statement.

March 17th. - Very happy occasion: wedding of Enid, sister of friend and colleague John Rapley. Almost everyone concerned *something* to do with Scouting. Typical telegram (among many others) from Seniors of the Group: "May your love be as deep as the mud at Brentford!" (where they keep their boat!)

March 18th. - From delightful book *The Best of Friends* (Letters to Sydney Carlyle Cockerell): in a letter from William M. Irons of the U.S.A.: "I did one boy-scoutism that's been put on the slate to my credit in Heaven - I showed a lad how to cut, first a reed and then a feather...."

What a fascinating word "boy-scoutism"!

REX HAZLEWOOD.

ROVER ROUNDABOUT

Yes, here we are again after being "crowded out" last month. I have quite an accumulation of notes from widespread sources. But for all that I am sure that there must be many areas where Rovering activities merit mention and whose work if known would inspire other fellows to look wider for their service jobs. I know that some of our friends are apt to deny the everyday type of service as being nothing out of the ordinary, but a Crew in New Cross (London) have been every year since 1934 organising an Old Folks Party. This year the Mayor and his lady honoured them by attending, the Rotary people helped in the transport and the local Scout Silver Band played during the proceedings. A voucher for five shillings' worth of groceries was given to all and an old couple, whose ages total 163 years, are off to spend a holiday as a result of the Good Turn. From the area in which the above event took place I had news of a young man who was on the Jamboree working party and after the show hitch-hiked some 600 miles to Moose Factory and got a post as instructor at an Indian school. Whilst the parents are at work as trappers the children are given teaching at the school in accordance with the Canadian Government's Indian Act. If successful at the Residential school they can go to High School and the University. They range, in age, from 6 to 16. His letter to his Rover Leader speaks of the difficulties of the job and says "I suppose I must expect this and it's just another rock around which I must travel." Of course he will make out he has the "guts," and a lad who started a Chinese Troop whilst on his National Service has already done something worth while with his time. I've heard moans from Rover Leaders who feel that the fellows have "let them down" because they have moved on from Rovering. That is the privilege of leadership. A Crew of twenty for ever may be very nice but it may become just a Club in its activities.

But while the Crew members are kept working, the service which they do becomes a habit, something which is part of their way of living.

Another note from a "live" area tells how Camberwell Rovers lent a hand recently at the annual party of the Invalid Tricycle Association (South London Branch), this being the third year they have been called in to help. As the party went on from about 3.30 to 10 p.m. on a Saturday two "shifts" were provided, the first being on until six o'clock, during which time they received the guests, parked their "chairs" under cover, assisted in serving tea, clearing away and washing up. The second took over after tea, helped with the evening's programme and saw the guests off safely in their "chairs" at the conclusion, providing running starts for those engines which had become unduly cold whilst parked.

What impresses most of the people with whom we come into contact is the happy spirit in which this work is carried out. It breeds happiness and as such helps in the days to come to look back on a pleasant experience. This is Scouting at its best, no flags, bands, parade mannerisms, showmanship, just the helping hand from one person a little more fortunate than the other, that Christian spirit a living, vital thing.

I had a letter from the father of two Manchester Rovers who let me know a little more of the conference which they held. He gate crashed the "do" and he said that "he wouldn't have missed it for

all the tea in China" as an old Scout. One of his jobs seemed to be care of the Bicester Garrison Crew who after rather an adventurous journey were fed and bedded down in a warm Rover Den. What a grand impression that type of service makes on the young service Rover not used to what my correspondent calls "These Rover Rackets which certainly get people well mixed up and in the right mood." The main brickbat at the open session was the position of the older Rover in the Crew. The general consensus of opinion was that the older Rover was still able to do a great deal of service to the Movement. David Lumgair appealed to them not to - interfere with the training of the Crew, but rather give service outside.

This, of course, is no new line for anybody to take and quite frankly you may remember that I have on occasion appealed to fellows to take a more active part in outside Movements - local council, trade union, drama groups, sports clubs and other community activities. They can in many cases do with some of the Scout spirit and outlook infused into them. The healthy happy citizen which we pride ourselves in producing must take his place in the everyday life of the community and make himself a working part in the everyday life of the majority of the people, not just confine himself to the relatively small number of Scout acquaintances where his good works, whilst extremely useful to us as a Movement, are rather a narrow outlet for a member of a World Wide Brotherhood.

The Devon Rover news sheet is again to hand and by their notes things go well. Their Hallow-e'en week-end produced new topics for discussion. They have at last buried many of the hoary subjects and gone was the wishful thinking and destructive criticism which seems to have been a product of the post-war Scouting (Rover type in particular).

Still many only talk and are most anxious not to do any work to put things right according to their lights. (This is by no means confined to the old men of the Crew either.)

As I told you, London was holding a Rover Leaders' "do" at the Law Courts. We based the whole project on putting across the Rover Plan for our Crews and there is no doubt that many of our Crews will benefit from their time spent in listening to folk who knew how (from practical experience) the job can be done. But in going over the attendances we found that the best areas and Districts sent the largest numbers of leaders. How typical this seems of much in our Movement these days. Leadership must be what it infers to be operative, and if you just sit around telling folk what is wrong without exploring the ground to be covered, how can one hope to get young men to the ultimate end of sound Rover training for service. Do as I do not do as I tell you is a "must" for all leaders and bad leadership in any section of our Brotherhood is all that is wrong with

Scouting. Boys don't leave a going concern except to start such a set up of their own.

"By the term 'Scouting' is meant the work and attributes of the backwoodsmen, explorers and frontiersmen." This quote by B.-P. under a Camp Fire picture heads the paper (note) of the 3rd Altrincham (Cheshire) Group attached to the Grammar School and they boast a Rover Crew (the ideal Old Boys set up). Stuart Young their Rover leader tells me how difficult it is to keep a Crew alive in this age of educational "madness." The indoor meeting can only be monthly round the table, but all through last summer they were out and about, hiking, camping, assisting the Footpath Preservation Society and many of the members worked



with Packs and Troops whilst still continuing their studies at the Universities. Stuart's letter finishes "Rovering does work, Jack, though the wheels may grind but slowly!" This was followed by a note from one of his Rovers who worked with me at Gilwell last summer who tells me that some of them have started working on a camp site and how satisfying that job is. Thank you, Norman: I'm glad that your stay with us inspired you towards this line.



The "I'll organise-this-down-here-over-there-careful with it-right-here" type

It is nice to think that THE SCOUTER isn't only circulating in the South! This Roundabout is for Rover news and events from any quarters. Write to me, do The Editor (he's a good fellow! - and always forwards the notes without fail!) Amongst the recent envelopes was a copy of Crew's News from Hove (2nd Group). It was a job to pull out something from these notes as there was so much of interest (we could have put them all in), but I couldn't leave out this letter to the Editor:

"I was fortunate enough to meet Rod in town the other week and he persuaded me to write to you telling of a Good Turn that I did just recently. I do not wish to disclose my name and Rod has promised me that he will keep my secret.

"Near us there is a girl, about 15, who is unfortunate enough to be a spastic. Her mother is blind and father appears to have lost interest in life. Last summer a local Guide Company raised enough money to send her to a Polio Fellowship Hostel where she met several other girls like herself. Some of them had a troll like framework on which to support themselves when they walk. This girl tried one out and found it so successful that she obtained the measurements and a photograph. She told the I.P.F. about this on her return home, and one of their representatives approached me and asked if I could make one for her. I have nearly completed the job and pass this information on to the Crew:

"(1) The cost complete is nearly £1."

"(2) The time taken to construct is approximately 15 hours, to me an unskilled man.

"I was persuaded to pass this information on in the hope that you will all realise how little of your time and money is required to make life so much better for those less fortunate than ourselves."

So here it is, the essence of good Rovering summed up in one article from all the angles, starting with the Rover new to the Crew, trained for service to the community, the membership of a Brotherhood in which so many of us have found inspiration to press on against the standards of a mad, competitive world, privileged to have caught a glimpse of the "best" that man can be. No wonder that we "celebrate" 1957.

JACK SKILLEN.



**J.
J. I. M.
M.**

Consequent upon my having mentioned last month that I was inclined to take certain aspects of J.I.M. for granted, I have been reminded that there are still a number of people who are not quite clear in their minds about some of the main features of the event. It was, for instance, something of a shock to me to learn that there was a rumour going the rounds which says that the letters J.I.M. stand for "Jamboree in the Midlands"!!! The idea of using the code word J.I.M. arose out of a desire to avoid having to refer to "Jamboree, Indaba, Moot" every time on administrative memos and in other such places. It was inevitable that the title should be used universally, although it started merely as an expedient in the office.

Another matter which does not seem quite clear in everybody's mind is that all three events are to take place at the same time. I have heard it suggested that when the Jamboree is over the Moot will start and then the Indaba will conclude the event. All are, in fact, going to take place together between 1st and 12th August.

I know that there has been much speculation about the titles of the sub-camps, and many very interesting suggestions for names have been sent in. The Directing Committee has decided that it would be most appropriate on this occasion to name all sub-camps after the Jamborees that have already taken place.

The names will therefore be:

**HEADQUARTERS CAMP
JAMBOREE SUB-CAMPS**

**OLYMPIA
COPENHAGEN
ARROWE PARK
GODOLLO
YOGELENZANG
MOISSON
BAD ISCHL
NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE**

**ROVER MOOT
INDARS**

I wrote recently about the formation of a Camping Advisory Committee in the Midlands to help Groups to find suitable camping areas near to Sutton Park for their summer camps next year. I do want to make it clear that these will not be, and cannot be, 'auxiliary camps' and any such reference to them is quite wrong. The administration of these particular Camps is nothing to do with the J.I.M. organisation whatsoever.

I am glad to say that a small Midlands Counties 1957 Camping Advisory Committee is now in existence. All correspondence relating to summer camps in the Midlands should be addressed to its secretary as follows: Captain D. A. Dudley, Camping Secretary, 62 Studland Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, 28.

The administrative work will be done in his office, but naturally you may receive replies from one of the Commissioners in the districts round Sutton Park which have camping space still available. I would urge that you make early application if you want a site, since at the time of writing this the Troops who have applied have asked for accommodation for a total of nearly 3,000 Scouts and later on it may not be possible to offer camp sites near to Sutton Park at all.

KEN STEVENS,
Organising Commissioner.

IDEAS AND THINGS - IV

Intelligent readers of THE SCOUTER who have read my previous outpourings, either by accident or because they had nothing better to do, will have realised that so far we have utilised only one principle, i.e. to send a body of Scouts or Senior Scouts to Point "A" where they carry out a given task, then proceed to Point "B" and carry out a task, and so on until ideas run out. This time we are to do something entirely different. We are going to send a party of Cubs to Point "A".

For many years it was the custom in our District to hold the annual competition for the Cub Challenge Flag in a church hall. If there were sufficient examiners to cope with all the Packs at once it was not so bad, but when examiners were outnumbered by Packs someone had a full time job keeping the unoccupied ones quiet, to enable examiners to make themselves heard. A similar idea was tried out of doors, but again there was the task of doing something about the unoccupied Cubs. Three years ago the principle mentioned above was first introduced into the competition, with excellent results.

Not being an active Cub type myself, I had nothing to do with these affairs apart from putting forward the odd suggestion. Any Scouter who is not strictly speaking a "Cub type" will be able to visualise without difficulty the reception given to such suggestions. Not, mind you, that Cub people are impolite, far from it. They know all there is to know about the fifth Scout Law. But they are quite able to run their own affairs.

Just to get back to the application of the principle. Understanding the basic idea, all we have to do is make the story round which the whole thing revolves suitable for the Cub age group, interesting, and not too complicated. The outline of the three run so far in our District seem to have worked very well. They may be used, copied, amended or discarded without permission from anybody.

With apologies to the B.B.C.—IV



Music while you work

No prizes will be awarded to those who point out that there is a certain amount of repetition from one year to the next. This is bound to be, as each year similar "test" ground is covered. The important thing is that it should appear different to the Cub.

And now for the first "go." Packs, accompanied by a responsible Senior Scout, one Senior per Pack, reported at quarter hour intervals to the D.C.M. at "A." There the story was told something on the following lines.

A treasure was hidden many years ago, and the only person who now knows where it is has gone to see that it is still where it should be. Unfortunately for this character, but fortunately for the Cubs, he is wounded and bleeding red wool at irregular intervals. Before being permitted to follow the trail, the Cubs are inspected to make sure that they are quite fit to take part in this hunt for the treasure. This done, and marks jotted down, off go the Pack in full cry with a tough Senior Scout trying to keep up with them.

Part way along the trail a Cubmaster is in difficulties with a bomb (tennis ball) which must on no account be dropped or the whole party will be blown sky-high. The bomb is thrown to a Cub, who must throw it to another one. He throws it back, and this is repeated twelve times. (One point deducted for each time the crowd is blown up.) The bomb is then thrown back to the Cubmaster who is left to do the best he or she can with it until the next lot arrive. Continuing along the trail another Cubmaster gives a warning that poisonous snakes are at large. Luckily these snakes are of the variety which can be "charmed" which is very fortunate for all concerned. It is rather an unusual type of "charming" though, as to keep them quiet one Cub must skip forwards fifteen times, and another backwards the same number. Each Cub who has performed at one or another point has a white arm band tied round his arm so that he will not be called on again, and by the time the course has been completed all present will have had a go at something.

Having lulled the snakes to sleep a compass direction is given to enable the Cubs to proceed to the next point, as the terrain is such as not to make the blood stains easily seen.

Part way along this bearing the Cubs are informed that at the other side of a narrow bridge (improvised) is a village which has been cut off from civilisation for several weeks. Cubs are required to take supplies (weights carried on the head) over the bridge which supposedly spans a raging torrent. Upon reaching the other side, Cubs are informed that they are now catching up with their wounded friend, who was last seen eating lentils. This is rather a good thing, as there is still a marked shortage of blood, and the chap with the lentils seems to have had a bit of bother with them, having very conveniently dropped a few from time to time. As the lentil trail is followed the Senior Scout escorts will no doubt come in useful in preventing Cubs from collecting the lentils and either (a) eating them or (b) throwing them at each other.

After a while the wounded comrade is found suffering from shock, and requiring bandages to be applied to leg and finger. Having done this a message describing the injuries and requesting the presence of a doctor must be taken verbally to the next "stop." Here a (toy) dog has fallen down a cliff, and Cubs are given three ropes, two of one thickness and one of another, and told to make them into one long rope, tie round the waist of one Cub, and lower him down the cliff to rescue the dog.

Having had the direction to the next stop pointed out our happy band proceed thereto, and are given a Union Flag. Apparently only British subjects are allowed to go near the treasure, and as it is assumed that all true Britons know all about their national flag, two Cubs are required to show the correct way to fly it, and two others to point out which crosses are which. Having proved their nationality, further ground is covered until someone is encountered who gives them a collection of leaves which they are required to name (no one seems to know exactly how this fits in with the plot, so I'll leave you to work it out for yourself).. At the next point the names of the leaves must be written down from memory. They have been warned about this, so it is quite fair.

Next a nature trail leads to a spot where a semaphore message will be received, and to which a reply must be given. At the last point a Jungle Dance is asked for, performed, and so to the treasure.

All this has brought in quite a lot of Star Work, and has done away with any impressions of a school-like atmosphere which was probably present under the old system. Points are, of course, awarded at each "stop," and while the results are worked out the Cubs eat sandwiches and drink pop.

The other two years' competitions were run on similar lines, and brief details are given below.

The story for the second attempt was that the Cubs were sailors setting out on a voyage. They were inspected by the Admiral, and then set sail by compass, having first proved that they could use a compass. At the first stop the ship was attacked from the air, and ammunition had to be passed to the anti-aircraft gunner (ball throwing). At the second point the ship was wrecked on an island, and the members of the crew had to be lowered over the side (knotting), and supplies had to be carried ashore at the next stop (book balancing). After being captured by natives the Chief of the Island had to be amused (hopping, leap frog, skipping, somersault), and of course they had to eat. There being a shortage of home luxuries they had to make do with herbs. This required the naming of several leaves. The Chief became interested and asked what was their National Anthem. He also required to be shown their flag. It will be understood that these items were done at different points, the examiners showing the results to the Chief later. Finally the Chief invited them to make their home on the island, and lairs were constructed of diverse types and varying degrees of ingenuity.

For the third effort the Cubs went to the moon in a space ship. The ingredients were much as before, running repairs involving knots, following of trails on arrival on the moon, and so on. The scope is endless. I once had a bright idea of using the circus as a theme, and thought up all sorts of ways of introducing animals, the big top blowing away, and all sorts of things. No one took any notice of course, but if anyone ever does think of using the idea I would be awfully bucked if you would let me know.

D. L. N.



LUUVETEAU!

SPECIAL PACK MEETING X - A VISIT BY THE QUEEN

Opening: Grand Howl and Prayers.

Active Game: E.g. Witch doctors

Assemble for Procession: Inspection taken here.

First Star Work: - Pack recite "God Save the Queen., - two verses.

First Star Game: Making and flying Union Flag - race. (The Union Flag pasted on cardboard was cut up into a jig-saw, one set for each Six and also one stick.

Each Cub, in turn, came out and put one piece into position; or, alternatively corrected one piece he thought was wrongly placed. Last player put in the stick to indicate the correct way to fly the flag. Points were also given for correctness.)

Second Star Work: Procession - to take the form of skipping round the room.

Then came the time to await the Queen's arrival. *Game:* Message carrying.

Each Sixer given a message to pass to the second and so on to the last Cub in the Six. (He gives the message he has received.)

Song: Bits of paper (to tune of Free Jacques).

Bits of paper (2).

Orange peel (2).

Make the place untidy (2).

Pick them up (2).

Charades: Each Six to act something to illustrate either an accident or safety first.

Second Star Work: Signalling.

(Pack divided into two. Each side to signal "God Save the Queen," each Cub signalling one letter. First side to finish correctly was the winner.)

Game: Making a necklace.

(String and large beads provided for each Six. One Cub from each Six to run out, thread one bead and then run back in his place. Other Cubs repeat, in turn, until all beads have been threaded. Last Cub to tie the ends with a reef knot.)

The Queen has now arrived.

First Star Work: Bowing to the Queen - Book balancing.

(Cubs in turn, from each Six, come forward with a book on their heads and bow to the Queen (knees bend) then return to their places. Last Cub from each Six presents the necklace.) Points awarded for posture.

Sports: The Queen now attends some Cub sports. The sports included the following items.

1. Cork race. - (Each Cub of a Six to remove a cork from a bowl of water with his teeth and run back to his place.)

2. Stepping stone race. - (Each Cub of a Six to walk forward a certain distance using two plant pots as stepping stones. One pot is moved forward and then the foot placed on it and the second pot is moved, etc.)

3. Through the ring race. - (A ring is made from a rope by knotting the ends together. Each Cub puts it over his head and steps out of it and passes it to the next boy of his Six.)

4. Continuous cricket. - (Cubs divided into two teams - one boy batting, the others of his side stand down the room. The other team consists of a bowler, who must not move from his square opposite the wicket, and the rest are fielders. The bowler bowls to the first batter who stands in front of an improvised wicket. Runs can be scored by running from the wicket to the side wall and back. Fielders must send the ball back to the bowler who continues to bowl whether the batter is in his place or not. If he hits the wicket the batter is out. He is also out if the ball is caught directly from a hit by him. The next player must immediately take the place of the batsman who is out, as the bowler continues to play the ball. He may- even get the next batter out before he arrives at the wicket. When all the side are out the fielding side now become the batters.)

Yarn.

G. FIELDER,

Asst. Ak. L., N.E. Lancs.

PACK NIGHT - XII

OPENING HIS EYES

Pack night is the night we are privileged to bring B.-P.'s message to a number of small boys.

For us - a hectic night.

For them - fun, excitement, training.

For the newcomer - the night when he first catches a glimpse of Scouting, followed by successive nights when he has "his eyes opened to greater knowledge of the Jungle paths and where they lead." There is much to learn, solid meat to be consumed, and if Pack Night is to be the most exciting of the week the meat, which is sometimes tough, must have the relish of progress, interest and adventure.

Progress. - Does it always mean a night when he has advanced further along the Jungle Trail? Achievement encourages a small boy to further effort and helps him to tackle those things which seem difficult.

Charts. - The slower boys and sometimes the younger boys are helped if the Star Tests are split up into "stages of achievement" which encourage him to further effort with the tests he finds difficult, and keeps the edge on his enthusiasm. This is easily done if the mixed packets of gummed circles or stars are used, each stage consisting of three steps. For the first three steps passed he sticks a brown circle, in the appropriate place for the fourth, fifth and sixth a yellow, and so on till the silver star at the end is reached.

It provides many chances for words of praise and encouragement to Akela and a feeling of progress achieved by the slower boy every time he completes a stage.

Difficult Tests. - For any test a Cub finds particularly difficult there can be a separate chart - an Everest chart or a frog in the cream chart (the B.-P. yarn) - where he can put his name and climb up a series of stages to the summit and then stick a coloured circle in the appropriate place on a Star Chart. Every Pack Night he can stick something on a Progress Chart is a satisfactory one.

A Continuing Progress. - Sometimes a Cub seems content to sit back awhile after gaining his first Star and because of this often fails to gain his Second. Is it because he has got to the end of one set of aims and is satisfied for a time? Did he start off with the idea that the aim of every Cub is to get both eyes open and become a fully trained Cub, not a half-trained one before he goes on to the Scouts? Did he write his name on both the First and Second Star Charts the day he was invested? It helps him to realise that the real job is to complete both. At the end of the Second Star Chart there are three more spaces - for the two badges and the Leaping Wolf?

A small boy who was very fond of eggs was given a pair of bantams for his birthday. Next morning he rushed down to see if the hen had laid and was bitterly disappointed to find such a small egg. He thereupon went to his father's egg collection, took the ostrich egg, printed in large sprawling letters, "Keep your eyes on this and do your best" on a card and put them near the nest! Let us follow suit.

How does it feel to be Geoffrey - eight this week, who arrives at his first meeting to find some older Cubs passing a skipping test. He can do that, says so and proves it, but is told, "You don't have to do that till Second Star, - he can do it but somehow it isn't going to count for him yet - it's puzzling and very disappointing - he can do it, why can't the charts show he can? He can understand "You're not a full member of the Pack yet. When you have been invested and really are a Wolf Cub, you can put a tick against it on the Second Star Chart, and if when you have your First Star you can show that you can still do it you can stick on the coloured circle. Jolly good being able to do some of your Second Star test work already." How different he will feel! Small boys minds are very logical and sometimes the ways of grown-ups very mysterious and complicated to him!



LITTLE BROTHER

Progressive Scouting. - Slow boy - quick boy. What about the one who has both stars and some badges? A useful lad - what can we give him to do? Help to teach others? Yes, but what? Simple things or things that will help his progress in the Troop - such things as knotting, signalling, compass, flag, etc., so that they will be fresh in his mind when he goes up and both the Pack and he are benefiting. Has he got the badges which will help him in the Troop - Swimmer, First Aider, Observer, Homecraft (a real backwoodsman's badge? Has he thought of them that way? When he goes to a Jamboree, he'll need to know how to sew on a button, mend and darn and wash and iron his tie if he is going to be a credit to his Contingent - or his Troop when he's camping. Give him a vision of Scouting and he won't be wasting a moment but be preparing for the great day when he will be a Scout.

The Pack Night of the presentation of his Second Star - when he got both eyes open - did we remind him of the purpose of Cubbing - preparation for Scouting?

Have we given him the Pack's copy of *Scouting for Boys* to read or has his future P.L. when coming to make friends with him, lent him the Patrol's copy? That's the time for him to read it! At any rate for the first time! He will lap it up and see Scouting B.-P.'s way.

Then that never-to-be-forgotten Pack Night when our once-upon-a-time newcomer leaves his outgrown Cub jersey on the Council Rock - as Kaa leaves his outgrown skin - and emerges in the khaki shirt of a Scout - do we feel he goes on ready to - progress immediately along the Scout Trail - and for the greater independence and individual responsibility expected of a Scout?

It's a long way from the day he joined - truly a little blind Cub still a bit wobbly on his legs - an eight-year-old. It has been a long path through the Jungle with some; rough and some steep places, sometimes a wrong turning - but eventually he's there at the end of the Jungle path and we see him go, steady of purpose and ready to tackle the foothills and mountains of Scouting... and our job is accomplished.

The vision is always ahead.

E. HARROWING.

MY SCOUTING STORY - IV

By P. B. NEVILL

This year - 1914 - it was the turn of the Norwegian Scouts to visit us in Enfield and they arrived on the Friday before war was declared. When the party reached Enfield we expressed some surprise that they had come, whereupon Pastor Gasmann replied, "But there will be no War." Unfortunately he was wrong, for three days later the war was upon us; our plans were naturally completely upset. During the first week the Norwegian Scouts were to be the guests of our boys staying in their homes, while we had arranged several trips to London, and then we were going down to the Isle of Wight for a week's camp together. All our kit had already been sent on by train, but camping on the Island was immediately prohibited by the Government, so we hastily made arrangements to camp on a farm near Enfield, but our equipment was somewhere on the way south and could not be traced. We were told that it had probably been put into a siding somewhere to allow the passage of military traffic. This was awkward, and there seemed only one thing to do and that was to send someone on a Scouting expedition, so I asked Haydn Dimmock, by now an A.S.M., to go off down the line to make enquiries at all the stations until he could catch up with it. This he eventually did and arrived home in triumph with everything intact.

We spent a great deal of time in trying to find out how we could get the Norwegians home. They had come on a British line to Hull, and these ships had stopped running. The only way open was the Norwegian line from Newcastle.

We learnt that some ships were leaving when they were able to get away at night, but there was no guarantee that they would sail. It was difficult therefore for us to send our visitors up to Newcastle just on the chance of their being able to sail, so "Dim" had another journey, this time to the North, with instructions to contact the District Commissioner, asking him to wire us when it was expected that a ship would leave. This had to be done quite early in the morning so as to give us time to get the Norwegians to London in time to catch the train. He was then to arrange for the Norwegians to be met and to be put up for the night, or for such time as necessary. As we also had to find the money to send them home by this other route the whole visit was carried through under considerable strain but it was a success in spite of all our difficulties, and the bank balance was adjusted eventually when the shipping company sent us the money for the cancelled return journey.

The war soon found us with plenty of jobs to do, guarding railway bridges, reservoirs, and other similar things. The Troop however came into action even before our camp was over. Bodies of troops were being moved constantly towards the East coast, and a great number passed our camp site. Many an urn of tea was carried up to the roadside, to refresh the weary soldiers. It was nearly all foot slogging in those days.

We were soon inundated with requests from the military, police and other organisations for the help of Scouts, and to deal with these we obtained the use of an empty shop in the town, which we made our H.Q. Each Troop took charge of this centre in turn and maintained a number of Scouts on duty every day so that we could send them out at a moment's notice.

It was easy enough to staff this during the holidays, but somehow we managed to keep the centre open right through to the end of January 1915, when demands fell off, and it did not warrant regular attendance.

The log-book kept shows a great variety of jobs carried out: helping the army authorities by acting as guides, and directing soldiers to their billets, sending out notices for the Civil Guard, helping the Soldiers and Sailors Family Association, collecting clothes for these people and for the Belgian Relief Committee, helping to find homes for refugee children, mending their boots and shoes, and many other jobs. Hundreds of hours of voluntary service were put in by the Scouts.

One interesting entry in the log-book records that two Assistant Scoutmasters and two Scouts went to the help of four ammunition wagons which had broken down owing to the collapse of the horses; men and beasts were supplied with drinks, fresh horses borrowed from a farmer, and the waggons sent on their way. Very early the next day some of the Scouts got up and went to where it was known that the convoy was being billeted, and took the borrowed horses back to the farmer.

Two of the biggest jobs carried out by the Enfield Scouts were the assistance given in the running of the night canteen at the Enfield Small Arms Factory and to the Waltham Abbey Gunpowder Factory.

In the first case it was thought that the men on night shift would be able to do better work if they could be served with refreshments during the night, and Lady Laurence collected a band of ladies who undertook to go down to the factory each night in the week to run this. Scouts were called in to help. They were responsible for the boilers, keeping a constant supply of boiling water, and helped take the trollies round the factory to the various shops. A rota was worked out so that each Troop took one night in the week and supplied one Scouter and six Scouts. This party were supplied with passes, and went to the factory about eight or nine o'clock; they then turned in to sleep, in a tent supplied by the authorities; later when the weather got colder a small wooden hut was put up for us with bunks.

The Scouter was responsible for seeing that the boiler was on by 1a.m. and working to a careful schedule it had to be filled no less than six times, the last was at 3.45 in order to provide washing-up water. As soon as the rounds were finished the Scouts turned in again for what remained of the night, leaving the factory in time to get home for breakfast. This work was continued without a break for nine months, by which time a canteen had been built, and proper arrangements made for feeding the workers.

The other case was a request from the Waltham Abbey Gunpowder Factory for Scouts to assist in the seasonal work of barking trees, one of the processes in the manufacture of gunpowder. This came in the school holidays, so we were able to get a party together. The boys were camped on a farm, using the buildings. They went off in the morning with sandwiches, and a hot meal was ready for them on their return in the evening.

In 1914 an old school friend of mine, Kingsley Lester, died. He and his two sisters were devoting themselves to social work in Bow, in the East End of London. The reports they issued from time to time came my way. One day I read in one of these that they were wanting someone to start some work amongst the boys in their neighbourhood, who incidentally caused them considerable annoyance and damage to their buildings. Having been down to Bow more than once to see Pinchback's Troop at work, I realised that these boys were in far greater need of Leadership than those in my much better district of Enfield. The Lesters' appeal therefore seemed irresistible.

This was all the more so because in the early days of the war I had done my best to enlist in the army, but everywhere I was turned down on the grounds of poor eyesight. As a last effort I had been along to the R.A.M.C. but even they refused to have me. Here, therefore, was something I could do which was difficult and seemed worthwhile.

So off I went to Bow. The Lesters let me have the use of a small back room in one of two houses they had in Bruce Road. This I turned into a bedroom, and a small extension into a bathroom. The two rooms on the top floor had been knocked into one, and this we used for our Scout work, sometimes using the hail, that had been named after their brother, Kingsley Hall, for games.

The 22nd Poplar started in February 1915 with eight of the toughest youngsters I had ever seen. They were all boys who had been caught for making a nuisance of themselves to the work being carried on at the hall.

It was a very uphill job, the boys coming from very poor homes. When calling on parents, the conversations usually took place on the doorstep - it was never easy to get inside the homes - but if you did you found them bare and comfortless, a wooden table, a chair or two, and perhaps a mattress on the floor in one corner.

The boys had no regular pocket money, so the collection of subscriptions, even of the smallest amount, was a great difficulty. The only way to get the boys into uniform, in return for the odd coppers they brought along at irregular intervals, was to supply it when they were ready for enrolment, and these were kept at the H.Q. so that they had to change into it for Scout meetings.

Life was getting strenuous, I was still responsible for Enfield, and things were not easy in that district. The 3rd Enfield at the Ponders End Congregational Church had closed down, and as they were very anxious to get it going again, I undertook to run it until they could find someone to take it over, while a small Patrol we had at a village near Enfield called Botany Bay, lost its Lady Scoutmaster, and this meant a weekly visit, if it was not to be closed down.

In May of this year I was staging an entertainment in aid of the funds of these three Troops, and this was given in the H.Q. of the 3rd one Saturday and in Kingsley Hall, Bow, the following week. These shows helped us to run a week's camp that summer for the three Troops together, with three Scouts from my Holiday Patrol. This was a Patrol of boys who were away at boarding school, and could only meet, therefore, in holiday time. My idea was that by keeping the interest of these boys in Scouting I should be able to produce Scouters from amongst them when they left school. But the war prevented this from maturing; it was also responsible for a rise in prices, for the food bill for the week worked out at the sum of 5s. 10d. a head.

One story of the 22nd Poplar days is worth recording as it had a great deal to do with my remaining in East London. It was my custom to give a few pence to one of the Scouts who took it in turn to act as orderly, on leaving the H.Q. in the evening. He had to spend this in buying some bread, milk, and other small articles of food and bring them along with him to the next meeting, so that he and I had a simple meal before parade. The Scout had to keep an account of what he had spent, and produce the book to me with any balance he might have in hand. This was a useful test of the First Scout Law. Honour was not a strong point with these boys, and they delighted to tell tales about each other, with a view apparently to getting the other chap into trouble.

I soon cured this however by the simple expedient of pretending to be interested, and then asking the tale-teller what kind of punishment he would consider should be meted out to the culprit. Having told me what he thought was suitable, I would agree with him, but go on to inform him that I considered that people who told tales of others with a view to getting them into trouble, were every bit as bad if not just a little bit worse than the chap who they were telling on, and I therefore would mete out to the tale-teller the punishment they had devised. It is wonderful how quickly tale-telling was stopped.

There was one of my Patrol Leaders, a red-headed fish boy, who, when acting as Orderly, was never able to account for all the money I had given him. The excuses he manufactured - for I soon came to realise that they could not all be true - were wonderful. "The money had been lost as he had a hole in his pocket," "He had accidentally dropped it down a drain," "Some big boys had knocked him down and taken it from him" or simply "I have left the money at home." When you sent him to get it, he returned in due course to say "That he could not get in as his parents were out!"

This and many other small problems, such as the reason given for a Patrol Leader not turning up on Parade, that "He was playing Red Indians in the street," made me wonder if after all I was not wasting my time in Bow, when I could be doing other work which would be of more direct benefit to the war effort.

One particular wet and miserable night, when I was more than usually depressed, looking forward to a poor turnout, I alighted from my bus in the Bow Road and plunged down the dark and dismal street on my way to my rooms in Bruce Road. I had not proceeded far when I noticed a small damp figure standing under the dim light of a street lamp, looking in my direction. As I drew near I saw that it was the cheery face of my difficult Irish Patrol Leader, with a smile right across his face. When he spotted me he ran up saying: "I knew you would come sir," and turning fell into step with me, rather belatedly sheltering under my umbrella. "You see," he said, "me and John had a bit of a harguement, John said you would not come tonight, the weather being so bad, and I said you would, and it ended in a fight."



3RD ENFIELD TROOP RE-STARTED IN 1915 BY P.J.N.

Anyhow I bet him that you would come, and I came to meet you." He led me back in triumph, there was a full turnout that night, as every one turned up to see who would win.



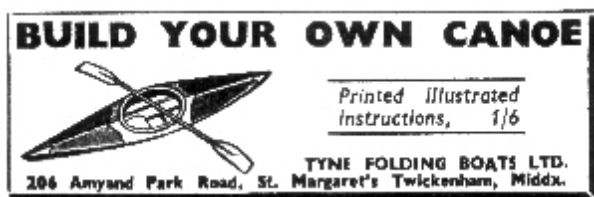
KINLESLEY HALL, BOW, H.Q. 22ND POPLAR, AFTER BOMB DAMAGE, 1916

The trust of that little East-End kid held me to the work I had undertaken, but as more responsibilities came my way, I handed over the running of the Troop to one of my Senior Scouts.

The H.Q.'s *Gazette* at this time ran a page called "Our Scoutmasters' Conference," and from time to time I was drawn to write to the Editor about the subject then under discussion. There had been a number of letters on the question of slackness in saluting, and as this was something I had views on, I put them on paper. At the end of the letter I said, "I cannot shut my eyes to the fact that many Scoutmasters do not teach their Scouts to salute. In my opinion it is the first thing to teach a boy on joining, and how simple too." I had forgotten this outburst, but was interested to come across it, for I have always considered that the question of teaching a Scout to salute was one to be dealt with *before* enrolment. A few minutes' personal instruction, and practice of saluting under several circumstances, such as when approaching his Scoutmaster, or saluting when passing another Scout, is all that is necessary, and it pays big dividends in smartness.

My spare time - there was not much of it - was being spent between Enfield and East London, Enfield gradually getting less and East London more. R. W. Pinchback had taken over the Commissionership of East London when Roland Philipps joined up, and I found myself helping him with his work. The training of Patrol Leaders was beginning to assume more than ordinary importance due to the large number of Scouters who had joined the forces. It was decided therefore to run a Patrol Leaders' training camp, for two week-ends. This was very much in my line, and I helped in the running of the course. Our main object was to put over to the P.L.s advanced Scouting and so help them with the running of their Troops, for by this time many Troops were without Scouters altogether. Stanley Ince was also helping with this camp, and it was the first time that I had come into really close contact with this pioneer of Scouting in East London.

(to be continued)



BOOKS

TIMBER!

Fun with Ropes and Spars, by John Thurman (Pearson, 10s. 6d.).

The Camp Chief has now provided you with a companion volume to his *Pioneering Projects*. It is a wonderful half guinea's worth. There are enough pioneering ideas in it to last even the very best of Troops a lifetime. Some are amusing, some are useful, all are imaginative.

Beside the ideas, ably illustrated with photographs and drawings by Ken Brookes and John Sweet, at the end of many chapters there are little suggestions for further ideas to be tried out, 53 of them in all and most of them new.

John tells you how to set about the job, suggests the use of models, advice on the care of equipment and, of course, that raises a point: you can't do good pioneering unless you have got some decent equipment, but equipment ought to be available for any Troop that needs it either of its own or in the District. Spars, ropes, lashings, blocks, these are the sort of things that Scouts can play with and the sort of activity that no other youth organisation offers. Doing this sort of thing keeps boys in Scouting. Becoming a school class or an imitation Sunday school drives them out.

Every Group should buy this book for its Scoutmaster.

R. H.

DONALD HANKEY

The Beloved Captain (Donald Hankey), edited by R. Selby Wright (Bles, 9s. 6d.).

This title will be known to many of my generation and I have re-read this collection of essays with tremendous interest and much joy. But do they, like the frontispiece and myself, date a bit? I think they do, but that is not to say there is no value in this reprint. Yet surely it would be a mistake to let a feeling of nostalgia blind us to the changes that have occurred in forty years. In those days all public school men, or nearly all, were officers and gentlemen, and these words were synonymous with the Christian virtues.

These essays well reflect the feelings of 1914-1916 before the holocaust of the Somme - "one of the saddest tragedies of human waste" - where Hankey was killed, and the full impact of conscription. We lost Roland Philipps and many others and the Boys' Clubs lost Hankey.

We know "they shall not grow old," but did those of us who do let the side down in those 1920s or did the holocaust consume all the best and brightest of the nation's leaders.

Is the art of leadership so simple? I have never found it so. During the years I have read many books and pamphlets and have still to find all the answers. And nowadays we have the impact of the Welfare State, we do not use the word gentleman, which occurs so frequently in this book, and the general idea is that we are all middle class with O.L.Q.

This is not to say that leadership is not necessary; it is even more vital than ever, but much more difficult to learn and exercise. Yet surely it has to function in the idiom of the time and we are now in '56 and not in '16. Nevertheless, the present day Scouter would do well to ponder on this - "His confidence was infectious. He looked at them and they looked at him, and the men pulled themselves together and determined to do their best. Their best surprised themselves. His patience was inexhaustible. His simplicity could not fail to be understood. His keenness and optimism carried all with them."

Had Hankey lived he would have found a field for his leadership in the Church despite his critical attitude - "Here were men who believed absolutely in the Christian virtues of unselfishness, generosity, charity and humility, without ever connecting them in their minds with Christ; and at the same time

what they did associate with Christianity was just on a par with the formalism and smug self-righteousness which Christ spent His whole life in trying to destroy. The chaplains as a rule failed to realise this. They saw the inarticulateness, and assumed a lack of any religion." This problem is still with us and is perhaps not the least of all our problems of leadership. Although I have enjoyed the book I would have liked to have had Mr. Selby Wright's advice in the light of his own experiences.

A. M. C.

CAVES AND SHERPAS

Men of Pierre Saint-Martin, by Jacques Attout (Werner Laurie, 18s.).

There are so few books (comparatively speaking) on caves that a new one is sure of a welcome. M. Attout was the Roman Catholic Chaplain to the group of Speheologists who made the by now famous descent of this celebrated cavern - one of the deepest in the world. All cavers will wish to read these quite enthralling pages and to enjoy the accompanying photographs, even though the translation reads a little awkwardly in places and the photographs are not more than adequate. But the book is a talc of courage and endurance in which Scouts took part and might well or these reasons be read with profit by those who (like myself) have no intention of climbing down into the earth.

R. H.

Visit to the Sherpas, by Jennifer Bourdillon (Coffins, 16s.).

We have been privileged during the last years to meet a number of Sherpas in the pages of our mountaineers and very attractive people they have seemed to be - a grave and gay, simple, friendly folk with their own dignified philosophy of life and their own self-sufficient ways. Mrs. Bourdillon, while husband Tom was away climbing in the Himalayas, decided to go and see for herself if all she had heard of these fascinating people were true. Here is the story, simply told, of the unusual weeks she spent alone among them. It makes pleasant and refreshing reading: and must content those of us who envy these travellers their strange rewarding journeys.

R. H.

FLOWERS

The Pocket Book of Wild Flowers, by David McClintock and R. S. K. Fitter (Collins, 25s.).

This book is well worth its price: in fact in these days it is remarkably inexpensive. Its size is large-packet; it has 344 pages, plus 64 admirable colour plates (showing 600 flowers) plus 48 black and white plates plus a number of line drawings; and the whole gives details of over 1,300 wild flowers of the British Isles.

The notes are brief but clear and the whole book is arranged to help identification: the small daisy head on each plate is a guide to size.

Whether you are the veriest beginner, or one whose eye is ever on the lookout for a wild flower new to you to be identified and become a part of yourself, you will find this book a treasure.

R. H.

TECS, ETC.

And Death Came Too, by Anthony Gilbert (Collins, 10s. 6d.).

Our author has virtually a corner in spinster ladies asking to be murdered - and she is always convincing. (One feels that it might be happening in the next street.) Sometimes I feel I'd like to read all Anthony Gilbert's books again just to be frightened by their persuasiveness. Fortunately in her latest, her nice, vulgar, active, garrulous solicitor, Arthur Crook, triumphs once again!

Always Say Die, by Elizabeth Ferrars (Coffins, 10s. 6d.), has tension and an unexpected twist to a moderately-probable plot. Nice for a lazy hour. Recommended for cat-lovers.

The Paper Chase, by Julian Symons (Collins, 10s. 6d.), is a crime story with a good involved plot but very unpleasant people. I prefer Mr. Symons in his pure-detection mood as in his two Bland stories.

Friends at Court, by Henry Cecil (Michael Joseph, 12s. 6d.), is a succession to Brothers In Law, the semi-documentary story of a young barrister up to the time he takes silk. Less compelling and idiosyncratic than the author's delightful crime stories, it nevertheless makes entertaining and easy reading for a leisure hour.

R. H.

SEX

The Facts of Life, by Dr. Roger Pilkington (British Medical Association, is.).

This pamphlet is one of the Family Doctor Booklet series published by the British Medical Association. It contains thirty pages and nearly as many amusing thumbnail drawings. It fulfils its title, that is it explains the facts of animal and human reproduction without any emotion save that of discovery; and may be recommended for enquiring minds aged say nine to thirteen. The author is a geneticist, well known as a writer and lecturer on sex education. In this pamphlet he does not attempt to go beyond elementary biology, but this is recognised in the I.H.Q. Statement of Policy on Sex Education and the Scout Group as the first stage in an ideal syllabus.

J. H.P.

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES

I.H.Q. APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Appointment

Headquarters Commissioner for Deep Sea Scouts - Rear Admiral (S) K. M. Lawder, C.B., O.B.E.

AGE RANGES

The Committee of the Council has decided to seek the advice of the Movement as to the desirability of altering the Age Ranges of the Wolf Cub, Boy Scout and Senior Scout Sections and a request for these views will be circulated in due course.

THE TRAINING OF PATROL LEADERS

The Chief Scout and the Committee of the Council have had under consideration the training of Patrol Leaders and, in view of the demand for training courses, have decided to introduce schemes of training for Patrol Leaders of Boy Scout Patrols and of Senior Scout Patrols. These schemes are, of course, supplementary to the training given their Patrol Leaders by the Scoutmaster and the S.M. (5).

Appropriate training handbooks have been prepared and issued down to District Commissioners, A.D.C.s (Scouts) and A.D.C.s (Senior Scouts).

It is recommended that District Commissioners should organise these courses on a District basis staffing them with qualified Scouters. Alternatively, a Scouter may conduct a course for his own Patrol Leaders. In the case of Senior Scout Patrol Leaders, it may be found useful to organise a course jointly with neighbouring Districts.

Additional copies of these handbooks can be obtained by any Commissioner, Scoutmaster or Scoutmaster (S) from the Scout Shops, price Is. 6d. post free for the Scout Handbook, and is. 3d. post free for the Senior Scout Handbook.

It is very much hoped that the introduction of these schemes of training and the publication of the handbooks will assist District Commissioners and Scouters in providing the training Patrol Leaders need to lead their Patrols successfully.

C. C. GOODHIND,
Administrative Secretary.

NOTES AND NEWS

APRIL COVER

This month's cover of the statue of St. George in Hyde Park, London, was taken by Stanley Newton.

J.I.M. NEWSPAPER

The Editor is looking for two Rover or Scouter sub-Editors to join his staff, who would be responsible for being, on alternate days, at the printing works to see the newspaper through the press and to bed. They would also be responsible under his direction for make-up of the paper. Like all other workers at the Jamboree they would be expected to pay camp fees.

Would any Rovers or Scouters experienced in this way, and who feel able to offer their services, care to write to the Editor?

BOUND VOLUMES AND INDEX

Bound volumes of THE SCOUTER for 1955 are now available at a cost of 16/- from the Scout Shop. An Index is also available at 1/6 per copy from the Editor. Even if you do not want a Bound Volume but are content to file your personal copies, you will find this Index invaluable.

This is the first Index which has been published since the war. It is being tried as an experiment and if successful - and only if - it will be continued in future years.

ADVANCED CLIMBING COURSE

Scout Alpine Club, Kandersteg, Switzerland. Course No.. 31. August 19th/29th. Special class for advanced participants. Cost Swiss Francs 135. Forms of application obtainable from the International Department, I.H.Q.

SCOTTISH CUB CONFERENCE

An invitation to the Scottish Cub Conference to be held in Glasgow on June 9th-10th is extended to all Scouters of the Cub section. The fee is 25s. Application forms from The Secretary, Scottish Headquarters, 44 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh. Closing date April 30th.

ROYAL TOURNAMENT 1956

The Organisers of the Royal Tournament have made available a quantity of tickets for the Dress Rehearsal and Private View performances, for use by members of the Movement.

The Dress Rehearsal will be on the evening of Monday, June 4th, and the Private View performance on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 5th.

There is no charge for these tickets but those attending are invited to make donations to Service Charities of 1s. per head. Scouters wishing to arrange for parties of Cubs or Scouts to attend either performance should apply for tickets to the Training Department, I.H.Q.

EPILEPTIC CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CAMP

The British Epilepsy Association will hold their third Children's Holiday at Eversley Hall, Brackley, Northants., from July 25th to August 10th. There will be 40 epileptic children attending the camp between the ages of 7 and 13.

Voluntary helpers are required to assist and for any Rover Scouts or older Senior Scouts interested, it would be a most worth-while task. There is no necessity for previous experience in this work. Further details can be obtained from The Welfare Secretary, The British Epilepsy Association, 136 George Street, Edgware Road, London, W.I.

EUROPEAN YOUTH GETS TO KNOW VIENNA

The Standing Conference of National Voluntary Youth Organisations has advised us that the Austrian Ministry of Education is conducting, during the summer holidays from July 16th to September 15th, a campaign "European Youth Gets to Know Vienna," and invites young people from other countries to

participate for one week, commencing Mondays, between the dates mentioned above.

The programme in Vienna will include visits to many places of interest. The cost, including lodging in a youth centre, board for six days, visits and train fare within the framework of the programme - but exclusive of the fare to Vienna - is 350 Austrian shillings (approximately £5).

Applications from Scouts who should be over the age of 15 years, together with a note of approval from their Group Scouter, must be made in the first place to the International Department, I.H.Q., by not later than April 26th.



"His spelling's so bad!"

FOUND

A Senior Scout beret plus Patrol Leader's hat badge has been found in Overhill Road, Clapham. Will owner apply to the Editor.

CAMP ABROAD

5th National Camp of Federation des Eclaireurs Suisses, July 24th to August 2nd.

A Patrol of ten British Scouts is invited to attend the above at Saignelegier (French-Montagnes). The Patrol will be the guests of the Swiss Scouts from the time of their arrival at the Swiss border until their departure.

The "party" rate fare London/Basle and return is approximately £8 10s. 0d.

Applications, which should reach the International Department, I.H.Q., by April 30th, are invited from Scouts over the age of 14 years and Senior Scouts. Preference will be given to those holding the First Class Badge.

SCOUT CANOE CRUISE, 1956

The Ninth Annual Scout Canoe Cruise will be held on the River Severn from Shrewsbury to Worcester, from August 18th to 25th.

If any of your Scouts are interested in joining the party write for full details to Canoe Cruise Secretary, The Boy Scouts Association, 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

.H.Q. SPEAKERS' VISITS IN MAY

- 1st Bangor Colleges Scout and Guide Club
2nd Midland Regional Chaplains' Conference (Birmingham)
5th Cheshire East County A.G.M.
10th Isle of Man Annual Dinner
11th Fettes College, Edinburgh
15th Manchester County A.G.M.
15th/16th N.E. Regional County Chaplains' Conference
17th East Cheshire Scouters' Meeting
19th/20th Durham County Camp
22nd Oxford University Scout and Guide Club
22nd/26th Tour of Scottish Counties
26th South Staffordshire A.G.M.
26th Salvation Army Scouters Week-end
26th/27th Buckinghamshire Rover/Ranger Conference

AWARDS FROM DECEMBER 21st, 1955, TO FEBRUARY 1st, 1956

"CORNWELL SCOUT" BADGE

B. Pound, Patrol Leader (Seniors), 38th Woolwich (St. Thomas'); A. M. Sansome, Patrol Leader, Old Church, 3rd Smethwick (122nd Birmingham).

"In recognition of their high standard of character and devotion to duty under great suffering."

"CORNWELL SCOUT" CERTIFICATE

B. Crawford, Scout, 6th Leith (Newbaven); D. Mitchell, Scout, 87th Nottingham.

"In recognition of their high standard of character and devotion to duty."

MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

V. J. C. Yorke, Assistant Scoutmaster, 4th Ventnor (St. Catherine's Homes).

"In recognition of his valuable services over many years. Despite a great handicap he has shown outstanding devotion to duty."

CERTIFICATE FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

Miss 3. R. Dunstone, Cubmaster, 1st Weston Green (All Saints).

"In recognition of her fortitude, cheerfulness and devotion to duty despite a great handicap."

I. Gilbey, Wolf Cub, 15th Ilford North (Coppice School).

"In recognition of his prompt action and presence of mind in jumping from a bus and attempting to stop a trailer, 20 feet long, which started to run away down a hill. He slowed the trailer sufficiently to prevent a bad accident in a busy shopping area, Chigwell, September 6th, 1954."

N. Hawcroft, Patrol Second, 5th Caterham (St. Francis).

"In recognition of his courage, fortitude and cheerfulness during operations which resulted in the removal of one of his eyes."

LETTER OF COMMENDATION MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

J. Brockwell, Patrol Second, 1st Farleigh.

"In recognition of his action in fighting his way through a severe storm and bad flooding to notify the Police of a house struck by lightning, July 17th, 1955, Yalding, Kent."

N. R. Jones, Patrol Second, 16th Epping Forest South (St. Aubyn's School).

"In recognition of his courage and cheerfulness during a long illness."

W. Montgomery, Troop Leader, 3rd Kirkham (Manor).

"In recognition of the manner in which he has put his Scout training into practice in many instances of rendering First Aid and assisting the Police."

A. Pearsall, Scout, Kyre Park (Hospital School).

"In recognition of his courage, fortitude and cheerfulness during a long illness."

GILT CROSS

J. E. Highmoor, Group Scoutmaster, 1st Newbiggin.

"In recognition of his gallantry in rescuing two children from drowning in the sea, Newbiggin-by-Sea September 6th, 1955."

J. Robinson, Acting Assistant Scoutmaster, 3rd Newbiggin.

"In recognition of his gallantry in rescuing a man from drowning in the sea and applying artificial respiration, Newbiggin-by-Sea, June 25th, 1955."

M. V. Wickremasinghe, Scout, Sitawaka Vidyalaya, Ceylon.

"In recognition of his gallantry in saving a woman from drowning in a river, Sitawaka, Ceylon, September 23rd, 1955."

J. R. Young, Scout, 1st Hampreston (Ferndown).

"In recognition of his gallantry in rescuing a blind boy from drowning in the sea, Mudford, Hampshire, September 6th, 1955."

SILVER WOLF

Che Muhammad Yusof bin Ahmad, M.B.E., Assistant Chief Commissioner and D.C.C., Malaya.

"In recognition of his services of the most exceptional character in Malaya over a period of 27 years."

BAR TO THE MEDAL OF MERIT

Derbyshire. - E. Fyre, G.S.M., 2nd Chesterfield.

Lancashire South East. - G. Wilkinson, G.S.M., 6th Horwich (Parish Church).

"In recognition of their further outstanding services."

MEDAL OF MERIT

Bristol. - D. C. Dando, C.M., 55th Bristol (St. Mary's, Fishponds). Buckinghamshire. - Miss M. K. B. Day, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Beacons-field District; E. 3. E. Powell, G.S.M., 1st Chenles.

Cambridgeshire. - P. R. Arthur, D.C., Cambridge.

Cheshire West. - Major G. Beavan, Acting S.M., Margaret Beavan Hospital, A.D.C., West Wirral; G. G. Hazlehurst, S.M., 1st West Kirby; F. V. Martin, A.D.C., West Wirral, Warden Overchurch Camp, Asst. D.C.C.; S. M. Procter, SM., The Leas (Hoylake); Mrs. M. R. Smith, G.M., 1st Heswall, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), West Wirral.

Derbyshire. - C. E. Cotgrove, G.S.M., 1st Horsicy and Kilburn; G. Harrison, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Ripley and Heanor District.

Durham. - L. Young, G.S.M., 1st Cockfield.

Lancashire North West. - J. Eastham, A.D.C., Fylde; E. Fallows, Hon. Secretary, Blackpool and District; R. J. Holland, G.S.M., 37th Blackpool (St. Paul's), D.S.M., Blackpool and District; A. F. Murphy, S.M., 3rd Blackpool, D.S.M., Blackpool and District; Dr. W. G. Southern, President, Duddon and District; Mrs. L. K. Walton, C.M., 1st Duddon and District (Dalton Church).

Lancashire South East. - Miss M. F. Naylor, C.M., 5th Urmston (Aquilifer); J. Rothwell, G.S.M., 1st Partington, D.C.M., Urmston and District; Mrs. F. Wilkinson, G.M., 6th Horwich (Parish Church).

Liverpool. - F. B. Wright, G.S.M., 7th Bootle.

London. - Lt.-Col. B. C. Bennett, J.P., R.A. (T.A. Retd.), R.S.L., 1st New Cross (The Greys), A.D.C. (Rover Scouts), Deptford; G. S. Campbell, Chairman, Hendon; A. F. Hails, Hon. Secretary, Barking; Mrs. A. F. C. Hammond, M.B.E., Vice-Chairman, Deptford; S. A. Kingsley, G.S.M., 27th Deptford.

Northamptonshire. - H. S. Martin, G.S.M., 1st Corby (Parish Church), A.D.C., Rockingham Forest and Corby District; L. C. Pell, G.S.M., 1st Weldon.

Northumberland. - J. F. Cattliff, A.D.C., Seaton Valley; R. 3. Graham, B.Sc., A.M.I.Mech.F., D.C.C.; S. L. Hall, SM., 75th Newcastle upon Tyne (Dilston); Miss K. MacDonald, C.M., 53rd Newcastle upon Tyne (Benwell Presbyterian), D.C.M., Newcastle upon Tyne; S. Watson, G.S.M., 23rd Newcastle upon Tyne.

Soke of Peterborough. - E. V. Fletcher, G.S.M., 25th Soke of Peterborough (Paston); J. W. F. Mason, Hon. Secretary, Peterborough; L. P. Voller, A.D.C. (Scouts), Soke of Peterborough.

Suffolk. - L. C. May, G.S.M., 1st Southwold.

Surrey. - H. C. Masham, A.S.M., 10th Croydon; G. T. Rowe, G.M., 23rd Croydon (1st South Norwood), D.C.M., Croydon (South and Upper Norwood).

Sussex. - A. B. Hunt, Lay Member, Brighton.

Yorkshire North Riding. - H. Caird, G.S.M., Presbyterian Church, York; J. C. Maycock, R.S.L., St. John's College, A.D.C. (Scouts), York; W. Usher, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Middlesbrough. Yorkshire West. - J. B. Boocock, D.C., Holme Valley, Asst. D.C.C.; F. Cockshott, D.C.M., M.I.Ex., F.A.I.B., Chairman and Badge Secretary, City of Bradford (South); F. Ingham, A.D.C. (Scouts), Elland.

Wales.

Cardiff. - Rev. A. 3. Adams, SM., 31st Cardiff, D.C., Cardiff South East; T. H. Hillard, D.C., Cardiff West (Canton).

Scotland.

Ayrshire. - Miss C. M. Austin, C.M., 29th Ayrshire (Kilmarnock, Old High Kirk).

Dunbartonshire. - A. Paxton, formerly G.S.M., 1st Dunbarton. Edinburgh and Leith. - J. Mr. L. Drummond, D.F.C., M.A., A.C.C. (Scouts); Miss E. M. Stevens, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Holyrood.

Glasgow. - H. W. Brooks, D.R.S.L., Southern Glasgow; Mrs. N. Clay, D.C.M., Eastern Glasgow.

Overseas.

Malta G.C. - J. Camenzuli, S.M., 1st Sliema (Bernard's Own).

Northern Rhodesia. - W. P. B. Soper, G.S.M., 1st Ndola.

Tanganika. - G. S. Burton, Area Commr., Dar es Salaam. "In recognition of their outstanding services"

**AWARDS MADE BY THE CHIEF SCOUT OF THE
BRITISH COMMONWEALTH AND EMPIRE ON THE
RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHIEF SCOUT FOR
CEYLON**

SILVER WOLF

C. P. Dharmakirti, Headquarters Commissioner for Wolf Cubs.

"In recognition of his services of the most exceptional character in Ceylon over a period of 39 years."

SILVER ACORN

Dr. R. L. Hayman, M.A.(Oxon.), Ph.D., G.S.M., St. Thomas' College, Gurutalawa.

"In recognition of his specially distinguished services."

BAR TO THE MEDAL OF MERIT

A. P. Cosmas, D.C., Kurunegala, Headquarters Commissioner for Relationships.

W. D. Perera, S.M., Kegalla Dombemada School, A.D.C. (Training) and Hon. Secretary, Kegalla.

"In recognition of their further outstanding services."

MEDAL OF MERIT

J. G. Arasaratnam, D.C., Jaffna; Rev. Fr. P. Cooray, O.M.I., G.S.M., St. Anthony's College, Ganegama; K. M. Mathew, G.S.M., American Mission College, Jaffna; J. N. Daniel, A.D.C., Matale.

"In recognition of their outstanding services."

LETTER OF COMMENDATION (GOOD SERVICES)

P. H. Peiris, J.P., D.C., Galle; B. P. M. Senanayake, D.C., Negombo; F. L. Fernando, G.S.M., Borstal Institute Group, Wattupitiwela; J. L. Tamby Raja, D.C., Matale; C. M. P. Wanigatunga, H.Q. Commr. for Public Relations and Asst. H.Q. Commr. for Wolf Cubs; C. A. Maartensz, G.S.M., 2nd Colombo; C. 3. Fredericks, G.S.M., Methodist School Group, Kalutara; S. W. Gunarwardena, D.C., Anuradhapura; Lt.-Col. S. D. Ratwatte, E.D., D.C., Kandy.

"In recognition of their good services."

WOOD BADGE COURSES 1956

In all Courses, age limits for the appropriate Warrant holders are as follows:

Pack Scouters, Eighteen years and over.

Troop Scouters, Twenty years and over.

Rover Leaders, Twenty-one years and over.

In each section, probationary Scouters of the appropriate age may be accepted.

Gilwell Park

Cub Courses (open to all appropriate warrant holders of eighteen years of age and over):

No. 142. Sunday, May 13th-Friday, May 18th.

No. 143. Monday, June 11th-Saturday, June 16th.

No. 144. Monday, July 16th-Saturday, July 21st.

No. 145. Monday, August 6th-Saturday, August 11th.

No. 146. Monday, September 10th-Saturday, September 15th.

Scout Courses (open to all appropriate warrant holders or Scouters on probation of twenty years of age and over):

No. 246. Saturday, May 26th-Sunday, June 3rd.

No. 247. Saturday, June 23rd-Sunday, July 1st.

No. 248. Saturday, July 21st-Sunday, July 29th.

No. 249. Saturday, August 11th-Sunday, August 19th.

No. 250. Saturday, September 15th-Sunday, September 23rd.

Rover Courses (open to all appropriate warrant holders of twenty-one years of age and over):

No. 15. Saturday, July 7th-Saturday, July 14th.

Scotland (Fordell)

Cub, 4 W.E. May 5th

Cub, Cont. July 23rd-28th Cub, Cont. August 25th-30th

Scout, Cont. June 30th-July 8th Scout, Cont. August 11th-19th

Apply: The Secretary, Scottish Headquarters, 44 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh.

Bedfordshire (Milton Ernest)

Cub, Cont. August 27th-Sept. 1st Scout Cont. Aug. 25th-Sept. 1st

Apply: Capt. S. Starey, Milton Ernest, Bedford.

Berkshire and Oxfordshire (Youlbury)

Cub, 3 W.E. May 26th

Apply: Mrs. M. Preston, Linden, Bath Road, Maidenhead, Berks.

Birmingham (Yorks Wood)

Cub, 3 W.E. June 9th

Apply: J. Hawtin, 31 Gillott Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Rover, 4 W.E. September 8th, 15th, 29th, October 6th

Apply: C. Raeburn, 36 Innage Road, Birmingham, 31.

Buckinghamshire (Wolverton)

Cub, 2 W.E. (Indoor), November 10th-12th

Apply: R. Saunders, 18 Marina Drive, Wolverton, Bucks.

Cambridgeshire (Abiugton, for East Aisglia)

Cub, Cont. May 18th-21st, commencing Friday evening *Apply:* R.

B. Herbert, Old Lakenham Hall, Norwich, Norfolk.

Cambridge, Norfolk and Suffolk combined (Shrubland Park, Nr. Ipswich) Scout, 3 W.E. June 2nd-3rd, 16th-17th, 29th-July 1st

Apply: Cyril Whitehead, 92 Westerfield Road, Ipswich.

Cheshire West (Overchurch)

Scout, 4 W.E. May 5th

Apply: J. P. Hindley, 10 Warwick Drive, West Kirby, Wirral.

Derbyshire (Chesterfield)

Cub, 2 W.E. (Indoors), May 4th (Assemble Friday evening)

Apply: J. E. Hale, 8 Chesterton Avenue, Sunny Hill, Derby.

(Ogston Hall, Higham)

Scout, Cont. May 19th-26th

Apply: H. W. Wright, 93 Simmondley Village, Glossop,

Derbyshire. Dorset (Weymouth)

Scout, Cont. October 13th-20th

Apply: Lt.-Cdr. H. Taylor, G.C., Hartgrove Retreat, Musbury, Axminster, Devon.

Durham (Brancepeth)

Cub, 3 W.E. May 19th (Whitsun)

Apply: A. Knox, 242 Park Road, West Hartlepool.

Scout, 5 W.E. June 9th

Scout, Cont. August 11th-18th

Apply: C. Rogers, Woodcroft, Sea View Park, Whitburn.

Hampshire (Tatebury Mount Hospital, Totton, Southampton)

Cub, 3 W.E. May 5th

Apply: Mrs. L. H. Robinson, 76a Waverley Road, Southsea.

Hertfordshire (Well End)

Cub, 2 W.E. May 18th

Apply: H. Warren, 27 High Street, Ware, Herts.

Kent (Buckmore Park, Rochester)

Cub, 3 W.E. May 26th

Apply: Miss Wigger, 126 London Road, Sevenoaks.

Scout, Cont. August 4th-12th

Apply: E. R. Bindloss, 43 Yardley Park Road, Tonbridge.

Lancashire N.E. and N.W. (Huntroyde Park, Padiham)

Scout, 3 W.E. May 12th-13th, 15th-21st, June 2nd-3rd

Apply: H. Burrows, F.C.A., Penarth, 16 West Park Road, Blackburn. Leicestershire (Ullesthorpe)

Cub, Cont. May 18th-22nd

Apply: Mrs. E. Pyc, Altery, Cowper Road, Burbage, Nr. Hinckley.

Liverpool and S.W. Lancashire (Bisham Hall)

Scout, 5 W.E. May 27th (omit June 17th)

Apply: F. Molyneaux, 326 Queen's Drive, Walton, Liverpool, 4.

London (Gilwell Park)

Cub, 3 W.E. May 5th

Cub, 3 W.E. May 26th

Cub, Cont. August 5th

Scout, 3 W.E. June 16th

Scout, 5 W.E. September 8th (omit Sept. 29th)

Scout, Cont. September 22nd

Apply: The Secretary, London Office, 3 Cromwell Place, London, S.W.7.

Manchester

Cub, 3 W.E. August 11th

Scout, Cont. May 19th-27th

Scout, 4 W.E. July 7th-5th, 14th-15th, 5th, 28th-29th,

August 5th-6th

Apply: W. H. Banning, Gaddum House, Queen Street, Manchester,

Middlesex (Elstree)

Cub, 2 W.E. May 19th (Whitsun), June 2nd

Scout, 3 W.E. Sept. 14th-16th, 21st-23rd, Oct. 5th-7th

Apply: J. A. Walter, Selwood, Cornwall Road, Hatch End,

Middx. Northumberland (Gosforth Park)

Cub, 3 W.E. May 26th

Scout, 5 W.E. Sept. 1st (omitting Sept. 29th).

Apply: D. M. Paulin, Boy Scout Camp, Gosforth Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, 3.

Surrey (Bentley Copse)

Cub, 2 W.E. May 12th (Assemble 4 p.m., 18th)

Apply: E. R. Alcorn, 27 Albion Road, Sutton, Surrey.

Cub, Cont. July 7th-11th.

Apply: Miss R. Guggisberg, 71 Tupwood Lane, Caterham.

Scout, 4 W.E. June 1st (Assemble 8.30 p.m. Friday first week-end only)

Apply: J. L. Moore, 28 Campden Hill Court, London, W.8.

Scout, Cont. July 14th-21st

Apply: N. J. Wilkins, 22a Chatsworth Road, Croydon.

Warwickshire (Stratford-on-Avon)

Cub, 3 W.E. (Indoors), January 12, 1957.

(Rough Close, Coventry)

Scout, 3 W.E. May 12th (including Whitsun)

Apply: P. W. Blandford, Quinton House, Newbold-on-Stour, Stratford-on-Avon.

Wiltshire (Salisbury)

Scout, Cont. May 19th

Apply: Lt.-Cmdr. A. E. Bickford, "Silver Birches," Hartmoor, Devizes.

(Monkton Coombe, Bath)

Cub, Cont. August 4th

Apply: Miss P. Baily, Boyers, Monkton Coombe, Bath.

Yorkshire, Central and West (Bradley Wood, Huddersfield)

Cub, 2 W.E. May 12th

Apply: Miss G. Barker, 17 Victoria Mount, Horsforth, Nr. Leeds.

Yorkshire, East (Gorsehill, North Ferriby)

Scout, 4 W.E. (including Whit-Monday). May 5th

Apply: Major C. J. Ingleby, D.S.O., D.L., J.P., Drewton Cottage, Muston, Filey, E. Yorks.

Yorkshire, North (Kirkdale)

Scout, 3 W.E. May 5th-6th, 19th-21st, June 2nd-3rd.

Scout, 4 evenings, May 10th, 16th, 24th and 30th.

Apply: C. F. Hale, The Grammar School, Scorton, Richmond,

Yorks. Yorkshire, South (Hesley Wood)

Cub, 3 W.E. May 26th (commencing at 10 a.m. on Saturday)

Apply: Miss M. Stephens, 3 Victoria Crescent, Barnsley.

Scout, 4 W.E. Sept. 1st (commencing at 10 a.m. on Saturday)

Apply: J. Dorgan, 1 White Lane, Chapelton, Nr. Sheffield.

Northern Ireland (Hilishorough)

Cub, 3 W.E. August 11th

Scout, 4 W.E. May 19th-20th, 26th-27th, June 1st-3rd, 8th-10th

Apply: Ernest Moore, Headquarters Office, 50 Dublin Road,

Belfast. British Scouts in Western Europe

Cub Cont. (Ostenwalde) June 27th-July 1st

Scout Cont. (Iserloho) May 26th-June 3rd

Apply: C. P. Carter, British Centre, Die Brucke. Hanover,

B.A.O.R. 5.

CLASSIFIED

COMING EVENTS

The 9th and 15th Stepney Groups present the "Stepney Gang Show" (by kind permission of Ralph Reader) at the Roland House Scout Hall, 29 Stepney Green, E.1, on Fri. and Sat., April 27th and 28th, and Fri. and Sat., May 4th and 5th, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets 2/6, 3/6 and 5/- (all numbered and reserved) available from the Box Office Manager, G. H. Fall, 259 Stepney Way, London, E.1. Special reductions for parties of organised youth on both Fridays.

1st. Braziers Park Reunion, May 5th-6th, at Youlbury, Boars Hill, Oxford. "Woodbadgers" in Berks, Bucks, Oxon and Wilts, not already on mailing list, can obtain details from Miss H. R. Shelah, 165 St. Peter's Road, Reading, Berks, *before* April 25th.

Manchester and South East Lancashire Joint Counties Rover Moot at Dunham Park, Cheshire, May 5th-6th. Inquiries to City of Manchester Boy Scouts, Gaddum House, Queen Street, Manchester, 2.

Welcome to Wiltshire for the Annual Rover Moot, May 12th-13th, at Warminster. Alfred Lynch, J. B. W. Toole, R. St. John Battershy and other speakers. All meals provided. Programme from Mr. R. T. Kemp, 31 Brittox, Devizes, after March 20th. (S.A.E. please.)

Huntingdonshire Rover/Ranger Conference, May 19th/20th (Whitsun). Details from Miss B. Warren, 3 Hill Estate, Houghton, Huntingdon. The Third North West Kent Rover/Ranger Conference, Erith. June 2nd/3rd. Theme: Along the Broad Highway to a Wider World. Details from Mr. P. Jessett, 99 Brampton Road, Bexleyheath, Kent. Numbers limited.

Shropshire Rover Moot, June 2nd-3rd. Scouters and Senior Scouts welcomed. Application forms and programme from Ian Myatt, 46 Coronation Crescent, Madeley, Salop. S.A.E. please.

June 23rd/24th Gloucestershire presents the Moot of the Year. Mad dogs and Englishmen. Apply for details to Moot Sec., Bruce Rhodes, 14 Cheltenham Road, Winchcombe, Glos.

Kent (Buckmore Park, Rochester). Scout continuous, August 4th/12th. Scouters who wish to may bring their Troops to this Course. The Troop camp will be supervised by the Training Team whilst the Scouter takes the Course. *Apply:* E. R. Bindloss, 43 Yardley Park Road, Tonbridge.

EMPLOYMENT

The Church Army. Is God calling you to "serve the present age" to a greater degree? Keen Christian men 18-33 years of age, communicants of the Church of England, are needed to staff Mission Vans, Youth Centres, Hostels, Parishes. Write for details of free two-year (residential) course to Captain J. Benson, C.A., P.O. Box 420, 55 Bryanston Street, London, W. 1.

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Camping. City of Nottingham Boy Scouts Association camp site of 250 acres woodland and open country, near Sherwood Forest. Particulars from the Warden, Walesby Forest, Nr. Newark, Notts. Edinburgh: Is your Group visiting Edinburgh? Book at the Scout Hostel, Hermitage of Braid, Braid Road, Edinburgh, 10. For Brochure apply resident Warden.

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"Scout-inK" Catalogue. Group Record Systems, Certificates, camping cards and forms. Programme blanks and posters, all Group stationery. Stacy Ltd., 99 Kingsland High Street, London, E.8.

The Scouts Friendly Society offers excellent terms for endowment, whole life sickness and annuity insurance and has recently declared substantial bonuses. Descriptive leaflet will be forwarded on application. S.F.S., Roland House, 29 Stepney Green, E.1.

Austria, 17th Cheltenham camping near Salzburg, August 4th-18th, touring with own coach, 8 seats vacant. Those interested should write to H. E. Stone, 17 Grosvenor Place South, Cheltenham, Glos, enclosing G.S.M.'s and D.C.'s approval.

If you are camping on the shores of Morecambe Bay this summer, we have branches at Silverdale, Araside and Grange, and can cater for your needs. Inquiries invited to Camforth Co-operative Society Ltd., New Street, Camforth, Lancs.

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S. for B. 1909. Offers to Box 226, THE SCOUTER.

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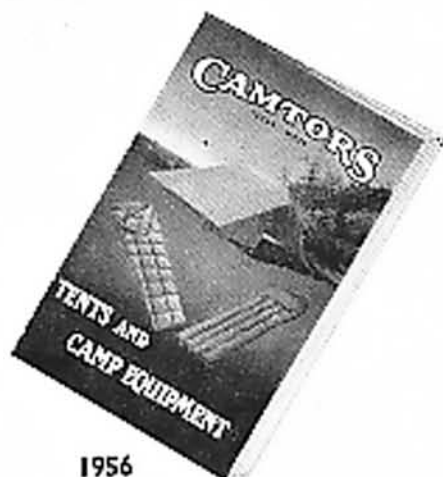
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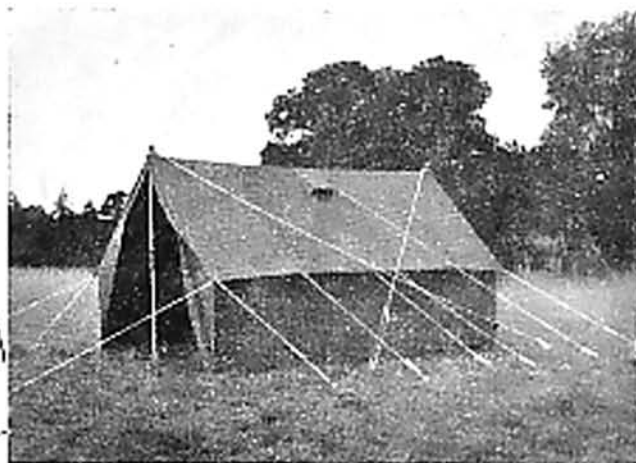
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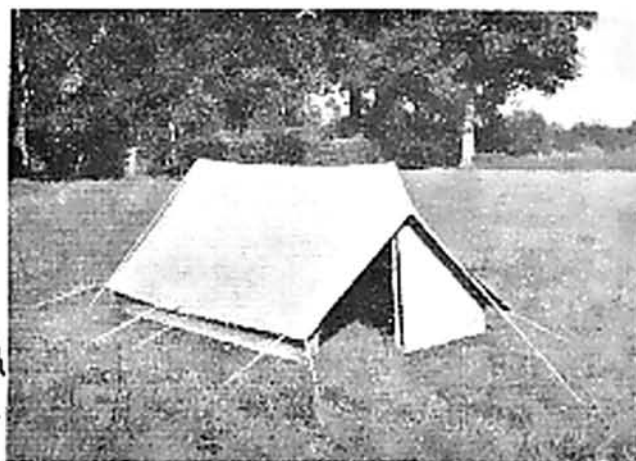
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