

THE

New England Steam Kettle

JULY 1934

THREE CENTS



PUBLISHED BY
ROVER SCOUTS
OF SCOTLAND AND TOC H
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

THE NEW ENGLAND STEAM KETTLE succeeds the NEW ENGLAND ROVER SCOUT (and Scoutland) NEWS LETTERS of which 24 were issued from October 1931 to February 1934.

The STEAM KETTLE aims to have hot water up to its neck while it sings merrily all the time. The fuel for its fire is provided by Robert S. Hale as chief offender, aided by Rover Scouts of TOC H and Scoutland and others who aim to enjoy themselves by trying to do their duty and help others and live the Scout Law.

Its contents boil over irregularly and may be procured at the Scoutland Trading Post, at TOC H, and at the Roston Council Scout Office, at three cents per copy. By mail five cents per copy, 50 cents a year. Reduced prices for several copies at one mailing.

THE NEW ENGLAND STEAM KETTLE, like the NEW ENGLAND ROVER SCOUT (Scoutland) NEWS LETTERS, is glad to sell its numbers and its equally (or almost so) glad to send them free to those interested. Our reward for what we do, comes chiefly from the appreciation of our readers.

Hence we shall appreciate greatly hearing from those who receive the letters, whether it be only a postal card confirming the address or something more and especially if it is something that will help make the STEAM KETTLE more useful or more interesting.

THE EDITORS.

THE NEW ENGLAND

STEAM KETTLE

SUCCEEDING NEW ENGLAND ROVER SCOUT (and Scoutland) NEWS LETTERS
of which twenty-four were issued from October 1931 to February 1934.

Issue No. 28

(No. 4 of the STEAM KETTLE)

July 1934



REGION ONE ROVER SCOUT ASSOCIATION FORMING

by

R. H. Nodine

Region 1, New England

Executive

First steps were taken towards the organization of a Regional Rover Scout Association at a meeting at Toc H in Boston June 13th, attended by representatives from ten Crews.

Robert S. Hale, who introduced himself as a "Free Lance Rover," opened the meeting and then was elected as Temporary Chairman. Regional Scout Executive Ralph H. Nodine, was present, representing the National Council.

Because no similar association has been formed in this country, this project presented the need for the National Council establishing general policies which could govern such undertakings, and so in advance of the meetings, the advice of Dr. James E. West, Chief Scout Executive, had been sought.

Dr. West telegraphed the Regional Executive as follows:

"CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF ALL INVOLVED IN INTER COUNCIL ACTIVITY OF YOUR ROVER SCOUT GROUPS LEADS US TO REQUEST COOPERATION OF ALL CONCERNED IN RECOGNIZING LOCAL COUNCILS AS THE BASIS OF ALL ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITY AND ORGANIZATION. CONTROL OF ROVERING ON THE SAME BASIS AS ALL OTHER ACTIVITIES UNDER AUSOICES OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA. ALL INTER COUNCIL ACTIVITY TO BE UNDER LEADERSHIP, SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF REGIONAL OFFICE, WITH COOPERATION OF A SPECIAL REGIONAL COMMITTEE ON ROVERING. THIS COMMITTEE SHOULD INCLUDE SOME ACTIVE ROVERS. ALL REGIONAL AND LOCAL COUNCIL ACTIVITY WILL CONFORM WITH NATIONAL POLICIES. ALL ACTIVITY IN THE REGION OF ROVERING. ON THIS BASIS YOU ARE AUTHORISED TO ENCOURAGE GROUP MEETINGS TONIGHT TO GO FORWARD IN SUCH WAY AS WILL DEVELOP A REGION ONE CONSCIUSNESS AND OPPORTUNITY FOR COOPERATION WITH REGIONAL COMMITTEE WHEN ORGANIZED."

Acting in accord with this message, the group voted that:

1. all actions taken at this meeting would be tentative and subject to confirmation by a meeting to be held in Boston, September 19, 1934, to which

every crew in Region One would be invited to send a representative.

2. The name of the proposed association should be "Region One Rover Scout Association - New England States."

3. The following Committee prepare a statement of articles of the purpose of the association:

Thomas Duncan, Brookline Crew
 Lee Fuller, Belmont Crew
 Brad Gove, Walker Crew
 Philip Emerson of Lynn
 Rod Speirs of Norumbega Council
 - Adviser

Expressions of opinion are solicited from Scouters and Rovers in regard to the proposed association.

REGION ONE ROVER SCOUT
ASSOCIATION
NEW ENGLAND STATES

Report of the Acting Secretary
Of the first meeting at Toc H,
June 13, 1934

The meeting began at 8:00 P.M. Delegates were present from the following crews: Brookline, Walker Memorial, Leif Ericson, Coeur De Lion, Jamaica Plain, Pioneer, Four Horsemen, Ellis Memorial, McLean Belmont and the Hecht House. Also present were: Ralph H. Nodine Regional Scout Executive of the Norumbega Council, who is acting in an advisory capacity to the Association and Robert S. Hale.

Robert S. Hale was elected acting Chairman, and Thomas Duncan, of the Brookline Crew, acting Secretary.

A brief summery of Rover Scouting in the New England States was given by Mr. Rod Speirs, who also spoke of the birth of

The present Association at the last New England Rover Scout Moot, and of the efforts he had made to obtain Dr. West's approval of the Organization. Mr. Speirs announced that the name "Massachusetts Bay Rover Scout Association", which had been the name chosen at the Moot for the new Association did not meet with Dr. West's approval, and that the name "Region One Rover Scout Association" has been suggested.

Mr. Ralph Nodine read a telegram from Dr. West giving his conditional approval of the Association. The conditions attached were that the Local Council be recognized as the authority in all inter-council activities, and that the whole be under Regional supervision. It was requested that all activities of Rovers in the Region be referred to as Region One Roving, and not as New England Roving. The group was urged to develop in such a way as would foster "Region One consciousness", and as would make for cooperation with the Regional Rover Scout Committee when the latter is organized.

A motion was then made and carried that the Association be names, tentatively, the "Region One Rover Scout Association, New England States".

A Committee was elected to prepare a statement of articles of the purpose of the Association. This Committee is composed of: Thomas Duncan, Brookline Crew; Lee Fuller, Belmont Crew; Brads Gove, Walker Crew; Philip Emerson of Lynn, and Mr. Rod Speirs as Advisor. A report will be given at the next meeting.

A motion was adopted whereby all motions made during the evening are to be regarded as merely tentative. The object of this being to allow the members of the many Crews not present to have an opportunity to express their views before

permanent decisions are made.

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Association on Wednesday evening, September 19th, 1934, and that arrangements be made for this to be a big meeting. Mr. Nodine offered the services of his office in having notices of this event sent to each registered Crew, and to have an announcement put in the Regional Bulletin.

A supper will precede this general meeting, at which the delegates having voted will meet for a business session.

This concluded the business of the evening, after which refreshments were served.

JOBS FOR THE ROVERS AT THE JAMBOREE

Some one asked me the other day whether I thought there would be jobs for Rovers in connection with the national Jamboree. I answered at once, "YES, I feel absolutely sure there will be lots of JOBS, for ROVER SCOUTS."

But as regards paid jobs, that is quite a different matter.

Scouting is a volunteer movement and a Rover no more takes pay for his Rover Service than a Boy Scout or Sea Scout or Cub takes pay for his Good Turns.

Of course a Rover Scout may work for pay, and he may even take pay for his Brother Scouts, as does an Executive. Several of our good executives have been chosen by Crews as members and invested as Rovers but as said in the pamphlet approved by the National Office of the Boy Scouts of America for our New England Roving.

"No member of the Brotherhood as such, demands or willingly receives pay for performing his duty or helping other

people. He regards any pay or reward only as something that will enable him to do, or do better, what he would do without pay if he could."

The question of when an invested Rover or a Squire planning to be invested should take pay for manual, clerical, or any other kind of labour is a matter for his own conscience to decide even if the work is done for his Brother Scouts.

We are experimenting in Scouting as the Movement grows. We have not yet come to the time when the Brotherhood of Scouts can completely take care of itself without employed men, and so long as it cannot find the needed volunteers, we shall have occasion to employ those who would be volunteers if they had other means of support, but it seems to me that while our Brother Scouts who are not invested in the Brotherhood of the Open Air and Service will not demand anything of us, we should look to it that Rovers set an example of volunteer and unpaid Service at not only the Jamborees such as those at Arrowe and Godollo and at Washington, but at Camporalls and Camporees and other Scout camps.

When I hear that at one of the big International Girl Scout and Girl Guide conferences, parties of the Rangers (corresponding to our Rover Scouts) paid their own travelling expenses and all other expenses to look after the older women delegates, I trust that this example is not necessary to guide Rovers as to what they will do, not only at Washington in 1935, but in other occasions.





Dear Brother Scouts -

As you have noted on the previous pages, steps are being taken towards the formation of a Rover Scout Association, and I understand that this association will undertake to exercise no legislative or administrative functions, but will be only for social purposes and exchange of information among its members.

Consequently it will have no Authority to control the opinions or actions of expressions of opinions of its individual judgements, as to which, if any Authority they will defer to, and play ball with.

The members of this association will naturally want to obtain all the information they can in order to judge wisely, whom to do team work with, and since they will undertake no legislative or administrative functions, will not try to dictate any policies or to censor any information about policies, and will confine themselves to exchanging information about both sides of conflicting policies, this gives me occasion to refer to some criticisms, (or since most of them have been so courteous

I had rather call them suggestions) in to some of the articles in our June and previous issues.

Some of these courteous critics seem to fear that the STEAM KETTLE itself is undertaking to speak for and assume authority over somebody else than itself.

I want to assure everybody that this in not the case, the STEAM KETTLE stands on its own bottom, and undertakes no control over those who call themselves Rover Scouts, nor over those who have been registered by the Authorities as Rover Scouts, not is the STEAM KETTLE controlled by any one except itself.

Some of the signed articles in the STEAM KETTLE may form time to time speak with whatever Authority the signer undertakes to exercise, but are put in by the STEAM KETTLE without any endorsement on its part and merely for the purposes of information.

The unsigned articles are likewise put in without endorsement, merely for the purpose of giving the information that such ideas can be held, whether or not sound and true, and one purpose of leaving them unsigned is to help the reader consider the merits of the ideas, without reference to who writes the article.

Thus in the June issue one correspondent thinks that I am so much admired and looked up to by young men, that there is danger of my misleading them.

To avoid that danger I do not sign all the articles I write, I also keep asking for controversial articles and I warn every one, including these young men, as well as those who have the Jehovah complex, that they should think for themselves and not depend on my say so any more than they take the say so of any person or any edition of a book merely because they hear it said or see it in print.

Of course, I do not mention the names of those whom I consider to have the Jehovah complex and I do not mention the names of the young men I consider Dumb Doras, because I am aware that I should be doing many of them an injustice.

Most of those who attempt to decide without giving full consideration to both sides, MEAN WELL, and forget that just because an opinion is condemned by a majority or even unanimously, does not make it wrong, nor does unanimous adoption make a wrong right. Every new idea and every right idea starts off in a nice little minority of one, which however is no proof that the minority is always right.

The ideas put forth in the STEAM KETTLE are put in there to stand on their merits without any further endorsement than of those who sign them and if any one thinks they will mislead anybody into wrong ideas or wrong course of action we ask for controversial articles to let the young men decide for themselves.

We regret but do not undertake to interfere other than by argument and occasional ridicule, with the young man who prefers to be a Dumb Doras and prefers to accept the orders of those whom we think are afflicted with the Jehovah complex.

Unlike those who are afflicted with the Jehovah complex we freely admit that we may be wrong and invite controversial articles instead of trying to suppress them, but I mention that the article on homosexuality was submitted to an expert whose business it is to convey information on this subject to boys and men and girls and women and who is employed by a large number of institutions to give talks and lectures on this subject. He considered it for some time, suggested one change which was adopted and said he approved

of it going in and thought it would do good...

I do not give the name, because I prefer to stand on my own feet and take the responsibility of putting it in. but what is there in the article that anybody except Mrs. Grundy has any objection to, or controversy with?

Mrs. Grundy has a considerable power and influence, but even if we are sometimes afraid of her, is it necessary always to cringe before her?

As regards the problem of Authority, and the Jehovah complex, I think every one agrees on the importance of team work, and of loyalty to those whom loyalty is due, and obedience to those whom obedience is due, and it seems to me that the arguers who spend their time advocating what everyone agrees with, are only trying to pull a red herring across the trail.

As soon as I, or as soon as a Boy Scout or man Rover, has decided what game he will play, has trained himself to obey the signals and has gone onto the field of play, he should obey promptly and without question, no matter what his opinion of the captain.

But until the Boy Scout, or man Rover, has decided to whom his loyalty and obedience are due, should he think for himself and try and make up his own mind? Or should he accept without question the dictum of the first person who comes along with a Jehovah complex.

My personal opinion is that until a boy or man has used his own mind to think as to whom he should be loyal to, and whose and which orders he should obey without question, he is in considerable danger of being fooled by people who have the Jehovah complex, and since I know I often have been wrong and rather expect that I shall not have always been right, I warn

boys and young men against these men with the Jehovah complex even to the extent of warning them against myself and asking for controversial articles further to warm them.

On the other hand some people disagree with me and since I do not believe in concealing anything from either men or young men or boys, here is a letter which I think wrong, and yet which I put in, not only because Lyscom Bruse is my personal friend and asks to have it put in with his name, but because I think the boys and young men should hear both sides.

Lyscom tells me I should not give to the boys and young men all the information that I think they are entitled to, that I should not give them all the truth, but only that portion which is uplifting and inspiring.

Nevertheless, it seems to me that it would take a Jehovah to tell what portion of the truth will do harm, and when anybody tried to inspire me, whether he be a minister of religion or a salesman I always suspect him of trying to hypnotize me.

But until Lyscom himself is convinced, I recognize that he himself has just as much right as has the child, to do at once and without question, what his superiors tell him to do, so long as he thinks he has superiors whom he should obey without question and without thought.

June 15, 1934

Dear Uncle Robert:

Knowing your own desire and flair for forthright and direct speech, this is written in that vein about the last issue of "THE STEAM KETTLE."

Leaving out my personal opinion, or attempting to do so,

1 - It strikes me very forcibly that the articles about authority are very much overdone. I suppose your object is to get young men to think for themselves and not swallow whole what may be said by men in authority or what tradition dictates. That is perfectly sound, but there are times when, for the sake of any organization as a whole, we must bow to authority, like it or not, for those responsible for the organization see a national or world-picture and we see but one small segment. It is like bringing up a child - of course we want to explain the reasons for many things but there are times when the child must do at once and without question what it is told to do.

Furthermore, it seems to me that there are many things which may be said between persons or in a group when one's attitude can be fully explained. The written word is easily and often misunderstood.

2 - That article on "Regular Fellow" is fine in intent, but I cannot see any reason under the sun why it is not possible to get across the intent of such an article without resorting to vulgarisms. They certainly do not add one iota to the force of an article rather, I believe, they detract. Certainly, call a spade a spade, but let's do it, especially when we are trying to get across a point to the young men of the type we want Rovers to be, in gentlemanly language. It is perfectly possible to do that and be absolutely vigorous and purposeful.

3 - That article on "Homosexuals" strikes me as being entirely out of line in such a publication as that which goes out to Rovers. Part of it is excellent, but what on earth place has that sort of junk in "Steam Kettle"? I know what your answer would be, or at least, rather think I do.

I know you have a passion for plain-speaking and the truth; all well and good, so have I and so have others. But, it is like the article I referred to earlier; trot out all that in the open if you want to, if it seems helpful or inspiring or to do any good, but keep it out of writing, where it can be readily misunderstood. I think your judgement was sound asleep or on leave of absence when you wrote that article and the one I referred to earlier.

Let's have the truth, but truth can be uplifting and inspiring; let's have the truth as contained in your articles expressed when some occasion arises and expressed verbally, rather than hauled in by the hair of the head, without provocation, and then expressed in writing, which. I repeat again, can be so readily misunderstood and misinterpreted.

"THE STEAM KETTLE" can be a splendid Rover organ, but articles like those - and this is my opinion - are going to class us as a bunch of "nuts" and not going to accomplish a single think.

We all appreciate what you have done and are doing for Rovering, but I would suggest you get out your good judgement and brush it up before you write any more articles like those for the paper.

Sincerely yours,
L. A. BRUCE, JR.
Scout Executive

As regards the rest of this issue, I have written a good deal of it, but whether my articles are signed or unsigned it should be clearly understood that this is not an official organ of the Rover Scouts or of anyone else.

The STEAM KETTLE intends to make up its own mind and not to let itself be bossed by anybody who had the Jehovah

Complex and for that reason expressly disclaims the right to boss anybody else or to express their opinion for them. When we say "WE" it is not the royal We and perhaps not exactly the editorial We, but We, or We Rovers, means only the people who think as do We do.

Yours in Scouting
ROBERT S. HALE

TO MONTREAL ON FOOT

A real Rover Scout guest was undertaken by the Scout Commissioner of Cambridge, I. V. Bockman, who set out on foot for the recent Rover Scout Moot at Montreal.

The 350 mile trip was long tedious and the going was extremely lonesome, as company was not plentiful and only a few cars stopped to offer the Scout Official a lift. He estimates he walked at least 200 miles.

Montreal in record time, and the Canadian Scout Officials turned out en masse to welcome the tired Cambridge representative.

Mr. Brockman reports that he enjoyed the trip immensely. He had glorious weather with not a drop of rain. The nights were rather chilly for a fellow travelling lightly, but he came through none the worse for the experience.

The twenty miles or more between the last two cities (St. Johns to Montreal) were the longest and most tedious.

This was all flat country and there was no view to take the mind off the feet.





REPORT ON THE THIRD NEW ENGLAND ROVER SCOUT MOOT Held at Camp Squanto, Near Plymouth, Mass.

A blast on the Kudu horn announced the official opening of this the third Moot of the New England Rover Scouts. The weather at the start was inauspicious, but soon gave place to glorious sunshine.

After several welcoming addresses by the Moot officials, Mr. Raymond Bowden of the Brocton Y.M.C.A. delivered an interesting talk on the Responsibilities of the Youth of America.

The rest of the afternoon was taken up in fraternizing between the different groups of delegates, and the setting up of camps and the cooking of meals.

At 8:00 P.M. the delegates gathered inside the main lodge of the Camp where Rod Speirs of the Norumbega Council led an enjoyable Camp-fire period. From whence to pup-tent and lean-to.

The program was opened on Sunday morning with a "Scouts Own" led by the Rev. Harvey K. Mousley of the South St. M. E. Church of Brockton.

This was followed by the formation of discussion groups which took up the following subjects:

"The Group System", led by Mr. Partridge of the Home Office;

"Training Squires", led by Mr. Forrest Newsom of Brockton, and

"Holding the Interest of the Older Rovers" led by Mr. Robert S. Hale of Boston and Scoutland.

THE GROUP SYSTEM IN SCOUTING:

It appeared to be the general opinion that some form of similarity of uniform should be adopted by each Group, so that each Unit could be recognised as part of its group on occasions when the entire Group met en masse. (By group is meant Cubs, Scouts and Rovers). A common neckerchief was offered as a suggestion in this instance. Another suggestion was the adoption of some common emblem to be worn at the back of the neckerchief.

It was strongly felt by the delegates that the Group System in Scouting was the ideal development, and was to be encouraged in every instance.

THE TRAINING OF SQUIRES

It was the opinion of the group that a Squire's training should start by reading such books as "Rovering to Success" by the Chief, and "Rover Scouting" by Griffin. It was pretty generally felt that the period of investiture should be sufficiently long, and the requirements for admission sufficiently serious to eliminate the fellow who did not have a really honest desire to become a Rover Scout. It was also strongly felt that the Rover Scout who sponsored the Squire for admission into the Crew should be responsible for his instruction in the Rover tenets.

HOLDING THE INTEREST OF THE ONDER ROVER:

This subject brought up the discussion of just when a fellow would cease to be a Rover when his interest lagged, or when business or domestic responsibilities made it hard for him to keep up a contact with his Crew. It was the opinion of some that there should be two branches of Rovers: Real active Rovers, and associate Rovers. By allowing membership as an Associate Rover to a fellow who, to give one instance, had married, and whose home duties kept him away from Crew activities, would allow him to retain his interest in the Crew, and would give him the chance to attend Crew functions when able.

In connection with Group Scouting, mimeographed copies of the following questions were distributed among the delegates:

1. What is the most effective way to start a Rover Crew in connection with a Troop

Without draining the leadership away from the Troop?

2. Just where should the Troop Committee and Scoutmaster function in the organization of a Crew in connection with a Troop?

3. Should a Rover Crew be organized in an institution where there is a Cub Pack but no Scouts?

4. What seems to be the most desirable period that a Squire should serve before being invested?

5. In a Rover Crew organized in connection with a Troop, what should the requirements for admission be for young men who have not been Scouts?

6. What are the advantages and disadvantages of having one Group Committee in an institution which will have general supervision over Cubbing, Scouting and Rovering in the institution?

7. There is some talk of creating an office of Group Commissioner who will have executive supervision of all groups within a given institution. Sometimes he will be the Chairman of the Troop Committee and at other times he will be their executive officer. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this plan?

These questions might well be used again at Crew meetings.

Over seventy Rover Scouts were in attendance at the Moot, representing thirteen different Crews, the Crews represented were: Pioneer Crew of Brockton; Ellis Memorial Crew of Boston; Leif Ericson Crew of Newton; Mansfield

Crew of Mansfield, Mass.; Brookline Crew of Brookline, Mass.; Belmont Crew of Belmont and Waverly, Mass.; Four Horsemen Crew of Cambridge; Montreal Crew from Canada; Toronto Crew from Canada; Hecht Crew from Middleboro, Mass.; Coeur De Lion Crew of Middleboro, and the Jamaica Plain (Mass.) Crew.

Perhaps the most important results of the Moot was the formation of the Region #1 Rover Scout Association. A fortunate circumstance was the presence at the Moot of Mr. Partridge of the National Council Office, who outlined the present status of the movement.

THE FUTURE OF ROVERING

(Address by the Reverend Harvey K. Mousely at the close of the Third New England Rover Scout Moot in Plymouth, Mass., on the 27th of May 1934).

Anyone who comes in contact with the Rover movement cannot help approving its ideals and program: personal growth for the individual, development of the fine philosophy of life, the inculcation of the social virtues. But the future of Roving depends upon the men who carry it on to fulfilment; it depends upon their maintaining a right spirit which might be listed under four heads.

1. The Spirit of Service. It is conceivable that Roving might succeed as a movement and flourish, but fail as a power, depending on whether we seek to smug berth in society or seek to impact a dynamic of real Brotherhood. Shall our goal be to build wealthy pretentious crews, or build noble character where men are?

We must not degenerate into a mere social club for our selfish enjoyment, though fun is part of the essence of the movement; we have important work to do for the world, namely, to give real Service to those who need us in any way.

2. The Spirit of Cooperation.

Rovering is an older branch of Scouting and we cannot afford to forget our duty to our younger brothers. Rovers have been trained, now they must train others. A Crew should make its first quest the successful leadership of a Scout Troop and Cub Pack. Of equal importance is our ability to cooperate with each other. We are individualistic by nature and our program makes this desirable, yet we can and must cooperate. What if we do not like an individual Rover? We are not there to marry him. We are Rovers to work toward common ends. Disagreements need must come for we are all human, but when they come let us show the true spirit by keeping frictions inside the crew until settled, and still work for our objectives with the fellow not entirely congenial to us. There is a room in a crew for many types of individuals and when we have learned to cooperate, each type will add interest and zest to our Brotherhood.

3. The Spirit of Independence.

This does not contradict what we just said on cooperation,. When you were a Boy Scout you acted as a Boy Scout, you thought as a Boy Scout, you understood as a Boy Scout; but when you became a Rover, you acted, thought and understood as a man. (Apologies to St. Paul). A Rover is a free and independent spirit in developing himself. He does not need to be goaded to go on hikes, develop quests, engage in service. The R.L. is but an adviser, not a man with a big stick.

The mate is merely to keep the crew posted on activities, an administrator. Each Rover is his own boss in creating a noble life; the crew is banded together to help each other, never to dictate or restrict freedom. Let's be men in reality, fellows, capable of doing our own thinking. The world is full of modern shibboleths to trap the unwary, but we can see behind the veneer of propaganda and reach the root of the matter. Our independence will assure us of being alert to world problems and not afraid of them. The fellow who thinks for himself get there first.

4. The Spirit of Pioneering.

There are now heights to be climbed, new vistas to be viewed, new thoughts to be created, new tasks to be performed. The world does not need another organization unless it is creative. We see plenty of fellows who go to conferences and camps, but only a few can be faithful and loyal throughout a lifetime. Only a few can take it on the chin and get to the top in a pioneering adventure. Rovers aim to develop creative leadership. Then let's not settle into a rut. Welcome new opinions, fresh ideas, not with an axe to grind but because we are ready to pioneer into untried fields. The dogma of tradition too easily cramps the style of a good movement. But we can grow traditions of being pioneers who never stop long enough to get rooted in one spot. After all, our great task is not to build an organization but to build men.

The future of Rovering is ahead of us. It is a great one if we can maintain the spirit of service, cooperation, independence and pioneering.

NEWS FROM THE DUTCH ROVERS

(Translated from De Huifker, the Dutch Rover Scout paper by a Dutch Scout now at Bates College Lewiston, Me.)

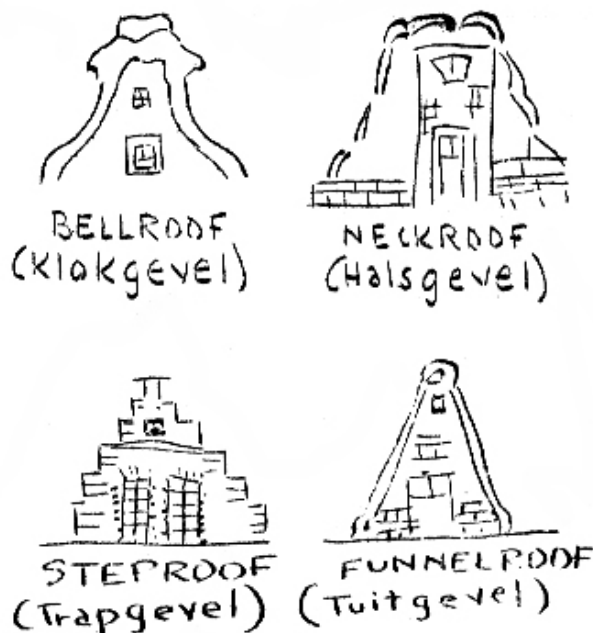
Amsterdam.

Amsterdam, the capital of the picturesque Netherlands, has received her name from the fact that the vicinity around her foundations were as the Dutch said, "Amestelle", which meant rich water. This beautiful capital, which now boasts of more than 800,000 inhabitants, was founded on the XII century. The country was the property of the Bishop of Utercht, but as the Bishop sided with the wrong party, in the political quarrels under William I, the land came under the rule of Gijsbrecht. In the XIII century (1240) this man's descendant, Gijsbrecht III, had a dam built, and many people are inclined to believe that it is from this dam and the river, Amstel, that Amsterdam got her name. However, as was seen above, it is not true, but it did have some influence on the name, as instead of being called Amestelle, it was called Amestelledamme. This city was granted certain privileges under Floris V, but in 1304, Amsterdam was captured by soldiers of a neighbouring Count, and was again reduced. Thus the history goes on, but I will not tire you with such dry facts, let us now proceed to the city itself.

The first map of Amsterdam was made by Sir C. Anthoniszoon. This map is quite a relic, and although not correct, it shows us approximately the size of the city during the XVI century. With this map was an extensive story of the State of Amsterdam during this time. We read of the "Hang-man" poles, of the old Slanting

Tower that is still standing today. (this tower is called "HET SCHREIERSTOREN" in Dutch.) the old city hall, which was built in 1648, was there, and also the spot where now the marble palace of Queen Wilhelmina stands. There was also a long description of the old Dutch roofs. This description is quite interesting, and I shall give you a short resume of it.

The following are the types of roofs.



As will be seen from the pictures, the windows grow constantly larger as they approach the street. Today not many wooden roof tops can be seen, yet the Dutch are trying to preserve those that are left. Often houses can be seen, today, that are so close together, that they look like one house, yet on further inspection, it is revealed that they are two separate houses. And that they only touch at the roof.

Much was said about the many gorgeous canals that flow snake-fashion through the city, but I feel that it would be trying on one who has never visited the city to tell them about them, so shall leave that out. However, let me add that Amsterdam is a city of many rich sights, and that it pays to visit it.

NEWS FROM THE SCOUT WORLD

JAVA: The Rovers of Java. Dutch East Indies, are planning to have a large Rover Moot in 1934.

POLEN: The Rovers are planning to combine with the Girl Scout Movement and to form Girl Rover Crews.

ENGLAND: Today in England, more than 41 universities and colleges have their own Rover Crews.

HOLLAND: The Chief-Scout of Holland is 70 years old. The Dutch are celebrating their 19th anniversary year, and also their chief's 14 years of Scouting. This man's name is Rambonnet. He became executive in 1920, and founded the Dutch Wolf Cubs at the same time. At the time of his appointment he was a rear-admiral in the Royal Dutch Navy. In Holland there are the following number of Scouts.

Jan. 1, 1930, 10,000

Jan. 1, 1933, 10,750

Jan. 1, 1934, 15,000

About a month ago, the Dutch Scouts, and English, celebrated the killing of the dragon by St. George. This adventure is a true symbol of Scouting, and is therefore highly celebrated in Europe. In Holland, one has conceived of the idea of having Sea Rover Scouts. Nothing as yet has come of this idea, but it is expected before long there will be several Crews of the new Rover. The idea is founded on the discovery that a Sea Scout really enjoys and learns real sea life when he has reached the age of 18. they plan to have a man's program for these Sea Rovers, and it ought to prove a great success.

SCOUTING IN SOUTH AFRICA

(by an Old Scout who is said to have served with B.P. in South Africa before Scouting was Organized and is now an "old scout" in Troop 30 Cambridge)

In Scouting in foreign lands, a Scout must be a very intelligent fellow, have good eyesight, and must be always on the alert. He must know how to read and write, as he should have with him a map of the country he is in. he should also have with him a small pocket compass and should know how to use it as he is liable to come across unknown parts of country.

The Scout must be continually on the alert for such dangerous things like big snakes and wild beasts, creatures which I have come across a good many times in my travels out there, he must be very cautious in going through woods or jungle, and should always have a large knife or axe to cut the brush down as he passed through. And if he should have to return through the same wood, he should mark the trees on the opposite side as he progressed, so as to leave a guide for him to find his way back. Should he get lost in the darkness before he reaches open ground, however, he should cut brush-wood sufficient to build a wind-break, and to sleep upon, as there are many poisonous insects such as tarantulas and scorpions.

In my time out in South Africa, as well as in Egypt, from Cairo to Khartoum, I saw many of my comrades die from the effects of the bites of these insects. This of course, was before the Boy Scout organization was thought of.

Another thing the Scout should be thoroughly taught is signalling; Semaphore and Mores-code lanterns by night, and

the heliograph by day, when the sun is strong enough to reflect the rays so that they can be read with the aid of smoke glasses.

WHY ROVER SCOUTS SHOULD DO
THE READING MERIT BADGE
WORK, EVEN IF THEY WON'T
WEAR THE BADGE.

Mr. Newton Baker, who delivered one of the main addresses at the National Council meeting in Buffalo, recently talked to the Brown University students, and pointed out that it was not enough to ask of a college graduate that he could read and write, but that a more important question to ask of him was, "Do you read and write".

It is only reasonable to assume that every college graduate can read and write and that every invested Rover can read and write.

And I have formed the opinion that the Seattle Rovers are mighty fine fellows, but when I get words that the reason we don't get an article from them for the STEAM KETTLE is that they are better mountaineers than editors, I hope they won't mind if I ask, "Do they read and write as much as they can?"

And likewise, having seen at least two Scout press clubs in action so that I think they likewise are mighty fine fellows, I wish that since they can write, they would write an article for the STEAM KETTLE telling how adult scouts can do service and have a mighty good time, without necessarily joining the Brotherhood of the Open Air.

Even if we all Can read and write, Do we read as much as would be worth while, and do we write often enough to our distant brothers in Scouting?

THE FIFTH SCOUT LAW

Some people obey the law because they are afraid of being punished and some obey because they are bribed by rewards and prizes.

But personally I hate to obey for either of these reasons, I prefer to obey only when I jolly well please to, or because I expect to get something by obeying that I shall have honourably earned, something that is neither a bribe nor a prize.

I used to work for the Edison Electric Illuminating Co., where we were told by our employers and told our employees always to be courteous, and think it may be interesting to Scouts to quote an editorial from that company's house organ of March April 1934, entitled,

THE PRACTICAL VALUE OF COURTESY

Just as the mate of the whaler "Polly Ann" remarked to his captain that he did not want praise, but "just servility," so it is with our customers. They're entitled to the commonest kind of civility at all times from all of our employees.

Our customers are of all kinds. We cannot choose and pick them according to our likes and dislikes, but must serve all alike. Some may be respectful of the fact that to have electrical service they must buy from us. They don't like it because they cannot shop around as they do for other things they need. Most of them are fine people and appreciate our service. A few do not, but they are all entitled to courteous, friendly treatment in all their contacts with us. A smile and a friendly word prevent many a row. Courtesy over the telephone is important. The speaker may be invisible, but the voice can irritate or please.

While the customer is not always right, it is better to give him the benefit of the doubt and not be too positive or discourteous in correcting a wrong impression on his part.

We expect employees to be always courteous in all their contacts with customers. We desire it because it is the right thing to do. discourtesy is too expensive a luxury for anyone, particularly a Public Utility.

One customer smarting from discourteous treatment may cause this Company many anxious moments and thousands of Dollars in expense. It takes only twenty customers to start a rate case, and fewer to start a movement for municipal ownership. Either may result in great expense and annoyance, the result of which are important not only to the Company, but to each one of the employees.

Being courteous pays well because it is the proper thing to do. being discourteous is an expensive luxury, with which we can well dispense.

SENIOR SCOUTING

Senior Scouting, for boys from 15 to 18, is, with the exception of the Pine Tree and Yucca Patrols and Sea Scouting, relatively new to this country but has been used in other countries and we recently received some copies on Norfolk Senior Scouting, obtainable from the Norfolk Scout Shop, 17 Colegate, Norwich, England, price seven pence, and the STEAM KETTLE has some copies which it will supply at 20 cents, which we heartily recommend for Troops which plan to keep their older boys interested until and after they reach Rover Squire age.

THE SOUT HAND SHAKE

The International Scout Hand Shake is the plain left hand shake adopted at one of the early Jamborees and presumably based on the custom in Eastern and Southern Europe and elsewhere that when a lady offers you her left hand, which is nearest her heart, she does you an honour.

I have never known a lady of Eastern or Southern Europe well enough to be offered this honour but remember it in novels such as those of Blanco Ybanex.

Different sections of the Scouts may also have their own sectional or even national hand shake as that in the United States the Cubs have their hand shake and the Boy Scouts theirs or any gang may adopt its secret or non secret signals. But when we started Rover Scouting in New England in 1930, we decided (with the approval of the National Office) that as Rover Scouts we would use the International handshake, and not try to bother with anything peculiar to ourselves since as Rovers we expected to meet Scouts form all over the world.

It is of course perfectly proper for a Rover to use the dropped little finger with anyone else who also likes to use it, but it seems a pity that United States Cubs and Boy Scouts should not, in addition to the handshakes peculiar to their little or own big group know and use the International Handshake used by Scouts all over the world.

NUMBERS

We would like to see Rover Scouting improve in numbers and in quantity as well as in quality and we think the easiest way to increase the number of Rovers of proper or minimal quality will be for these already Rovers, whether Squires or Invested, to set an example and to depend on the example they set rather than to depend on silver tongued oratory or high power salesmanship or advertising or Roving as such.

If we emphasize that there are a lot of fine fellows doing their best to do the right thing and to help other people, and who try to live the Scout Law, without having been registered as a Scout or invested as a Rover Scout, I think we shall grow faster in numbers than if we spend too much time counting numbers.

When I hear of either a troop or a council or nation boasting of how many Scouts or how many Rover Scouts it has registered, I am reminded of the circus posters,

Count them

Count them

100 Performing Elephants

Count them

Count them

And I wonder whether any decent self respecting elephant likes being advertised as one of a hundred performers.

We have no particular five year or ten year plan for getting any particular number of Rovers, the number of Rovers we want to get is like the proper length of a man's leg, which Lincoln said should be just long enough to reach from his kneed to the ground.

<p>PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR ROVERS</p>

There are two reasons for Physical examinations. One is to enable the Scout who is examined to keep himself healthy.

The other is to enable the camp or other institution Authorities to exclude the unhealthy Scout from camp or other activities which might injure the Scout causing financial loss to the Authorities.

When a Scout or other organizations give or request a physical examination it usually has both objectives in mind, of which the first may be described as promoting the ability of the Scout to take care of himself, while the second may be described as doing something for the benefit of the organization that requires the examination.

Now if we are going to promote the ability of the Scout to take care of himself, is it enough to give or require an examination and have the Scout feel he is all through until he is again required to submit himself?

I recently took a sort of census of Scouts who come to Scoutland by asking each of some 65 or so. Have you, within a year had a physical exam that showed you were healthy enough to go camping? The result was that about 80% said yes and 20% said no.

But as I went along I found that of those that said no, about half had had a physical exam at school, and thought it did not really amount to anything, while of those who said yes, if not most, had only had a school examination.

Now of course schools differ, and the quality of the examination given by school and other physicians differ.

But if Scouting is character training, does it really train the character of the

Scout to let him think that any examination given by any Authority, is necessarily sufficient? And that one having had any kind of examination by any Authority, he may wisely think that examination was a good one?

Or should he be encouraged to think that there are different methods of examination, and that even if he has been examined by some one, he would be wise at least to go to his dad or his S.M. and say, did that fellow who looked at my teeth and put a funny thing over my heart really know that I am healthy enough to go to camp?

Rovers are of an age when they are not required to take the school examinations, but it seems to me that in addition to the value to the Rover himself or being examined it will be a part of his Service to others if he spreads the idea among the boys (and his fellow Rovers) that he himself takes seriously the idea of keeping himself physically strong, and that in order to do so, he takes care to have a reasonably good physical exam once a year.

If the boys dad or S.M. assures him the school exam is enough, I think the boy is warranted in believing them.

But the Scout who does check up with his dad or S.M. is in my opinion not in the least a sissy, while the Scout or Rover Scout who fails to check up is in my opinion acting like a Dora who is Dumb in other respects than ability to repeat the words "I will do my best to keep myself physically strong".

Rovers can set an example by letting it be understood that they do not think it unmanly to be careful about their health and to have a physical examination once a year, like the man who took a bath once a year whether he needed it or not. How many S.M's. and troop committee men take the trouble to have their Scouts know

that they themselves have a physical examination once a year, or more if they need it?

I asked one of the National Health and Safety Committee about the National office, and was assured that every one there did have himself examined, and it seems to me that if not only the Authorities in the offices and these who write the bulletins, but also the Rovers, would make it a point of letting it be known that they were setting a good example, it would be helpful.

SCOUT LAND NEWS AND HOPE

As reported in the June issue, we are trying to get Scout Land away from being too much Uncle Robert, and as in the case of the Region 1, Association for New England Rovers, attempting to build up, not so much an Organization for its own sake, but a getting together of those who are interested.

For that purpose the STEAM KETTLE will publish various articles appertaining to Scout Land and will try to group them at the end, though we hope that the people who are most interested in Scout Land will also be interested in the articles that refer more to Rovering in general and that people who are interested in what we try to do at Scout Land.

Thus in particular we would ask all interested in Scout Land to note the articles on Physical examinations, and we suggest the importance of having not only The Health and Safety Committees of the Scout Organizations talk about Physical exams, but the importance of S.M's Troop Committees and also parents talk to and set the example of having physical examinations themselves, to get into the heads of the boys that when they come to

Scout Land, as when they go elsewhere than to a nursery or crèche it is THE BOYS that must take care of themselves.

OUR SISTER SCOUTS

Every now and then we are asked whether women are allowed at Scout Land, whether a troop can bring its sisters and mothers and whether Girl Scouts or Camp Fire Girls may camp there.

The answer is emphatically YES, the Girls and women are just as welcome at Scout Land as the boys and men, and it is our regret they do not feel like using it more. It is only the good sense of the girls and women that keeps them away on the occasions when the sexes do not want to mix and there is no Rule excluding them.

We are also very glad to say that Mrs. James J. Storrow, widow of the James J. Storrow for whom the most of Scout Land is named, has accepted active membership in Scoutland Inc. We will use her own words to say that she has done so as a gesture of Friendship between the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts, a gesture which we heartily appreciate and which we hope will lead to the finding of ways in which the Girl Scouts can use Scout Land more.

FISHING AT STORROW POND

In the past we have discouraged and practically forbidden fishing in Storrow Pond.

However, we have found in the years when the pond has had to be emptied (in specially dry summers) that there were some small pickerel and some nice horned pout, and that though these were all destroyed, yet the pond stocked itself again.

Hence until further notice we shall be glad to have Scouts fish there all they want.

Since we have no Rules and Regulations at Scout Land, there will not even be rule against dynamite. We don't think it is necessary to have any rules against Scouts bringing dynamite on to Scout Land, just as at Scout Land we have no Rules forbidding any one from poisoning themselves with poison ivy and no Rules against any one losing themselves in the woods.

But we shall be glad to have Scouts fish in Storrow Pond whether they catch fish or not.

This does NOT apply to Dunklings Hole also known as Worthingrons Pond, in which Mr. Worthington does not want any fishing to occur.

ORDERLY TROOP AT SCOUT LAND

Until further notice one cabin will be available free of charge to any troop desiring to act as orderly or Service troop for the week end. If the troop prefers to tent, tents will be available without charge.

The reservation must be made at least two weeks before hand, and must include the plans for Service, as to work on forest, to run a wide game, to work on roads, etc. The orderly troop chooses what it will do and how much but will naturally consult with the Ranger.

The orderly troop will be in uniform including shorts or breeches but not slacks. Hats not required.

Except for the wearing of the uniform and submitting its plans at least two weeks beforehand, the orderly troop will be free to do exactly what it chooses and to set what example it chooses to set to the other Scouts at Scout Land that week end.

It is, however, hoped that the orderly troop will make as part of its plans to invite its commissioner and executive as well as its troop committee to come out for at least one meal.

Either the Scout Land Flag or a special pennant will be supplied to the orderly troop to be flown during its period of Service.

The period of Service is not limited to the week end and especially during the summer the orderly troop may apply for a Service period up to a whole week.

THE FOURTH LAW

Every Scout presumably observes this Law, but I have often said modesty in not in itself a virtue, and is often, though not always a sign of the absence of virtue. The bug modestly hides itself in a rug while the shrinking violet does no good as long as it keeps itself concealed.

The point of this is that all through New England and elsewhere, there are Scout Organizations owning or controlling camp sites which the Scouts who control these sites would be glad to have their Brother Scouts use.

But unless it is made known that such sites exist the Scouts who control these sites do no more good than the modest shrinking violet. Hence I propose to put in the STEAM KETTLE, from time to time, notes of the camp sites controlled by Organizations that are willing to take the trouble of letting it be known that their Brother Scouts will be welcome.

That a Scout Organization will cordially welcome its Brother Scouts to its cam site, does not mean that the Organization will be able to do any more for its visitors than for its own Scouts, and often not as much, hence, visiting Scouts should apply

through the addresses given for further information, and the following list is only an incomplete list of sites whose organizations like to take the trouble to let it be known that they would like to give information as to the extent their Brothers will be welcome to visit and use the sites.

The following camping sites are not confined to the use of any one council but are open for use by all of the Brotherhood of Scouts.

Camp Hemenway in Tamworth, N. H.

Apply to Boston Council Scout Office, 38
Chauncey St., Boston.

Loon Pond Camp, Middleboro, Mass.

Apply to Boston Council Scout Office, 38
Chauncey St., Boston.

Camp Masasoit, Plymouth, Mass.

Apply to Quincy Council, Quincy, Mass.

Scout Land

Apply to Ranger, Carby St., Westwood.
Phone DEDham 1895R, for Westwood
and Dover or to R. S. Hale 939
Boylston St.

Nobscot, in Sudbury, Mass.

Apply to Norumbega Council, 259
Walnut St., Newton

Camp Quinahoxet

Apply to Cambridge Council
18 Brattle St., Cambridge Mass.

On June 26th, 1934, a meeting of the Rover Crews of Bridgewater, Mansfield, and the Pioneer Crew of Brockton was held in the Scout Cabin at the Brockton Fair Grounds.

Supper was served with Pioneer Crew as host at six thirty, after which a recreation period was enjoyed until dark, when a camp fire was lighted and a business meeting held.

Uncle Robert gave a short talk on competitive hikes, originated in England, and suggested the same for us.

A delegate from each crew of the Cape are to meet Uncle Robert at the Brockton Fair Grounds, Tuesday, July 17, at seven O'clock to discuss the same.

Twenty-three attended the first meeting among whom were Uncle Robert of Scout land, Mr. Humphries of Westwood. And the New Minister, Rev. Muirhead of the South St. M. E. Church of Brockton.

The next meeting will be held July 31st., the place to be announced later, probably at Loon Pond Camp of Boston Council.

George Evens
Sec. Pro-temp.

