

February 1955 9d

A black and white photograph of a snowy mountain slope. Two hikers are visible on the snow, one in the foreground and one further up. The snow is uneven, with some rocky patches and shadows. The overall scene is a high-altitude winter landscape.

The SCOUTER



BY APPOINTMENT BISCUIT MANUFACTURERS
TO THE LATE KING GEORGE VI

Huntley & Palmers

the first name you think of in

Biscuits

-second to none in

CAKES

THE KILT

Anderson — Cameron — Campbell
— Chisholm — Douglas — 42nd
Red Fraser — Hunting Fraser —
Gordon — Menzies — Murray
— Macbeth — Macdonald — Mac-
gregor — Macintosh — Mackenzie
— Macleod — Red Robertson —
Hunting Robertson — Scott —
Stewart of Fingass — Ancient
Stewart — Royal Stewart —
Hunting Stewart.

**IF YOUR TARTAN IS NOT
HERE PERHAPS WE
CAN GET IT FOR YOU**

Self-measurement forms supplied
and quotations sent without obliga-
tion

**ALL LEATHER SCOUT
SPORRANS**

S.M. 30/- P.L. 27/- SCOUT 22/-
STRAPS EXTRA



**SEND FOR OUR
SCOUT PRICE LISTS**

THE SCOUT STORE
(Glasgow County Scout Council)
21 ELMBANK STREET
GLASGOW

THE OLD and THE NEW



Veteran campers and beginners alike both know the unequalled excellence of Black's outdoor equipment which is now legendary throughout the Scouting world.

The greatest tribute to this excellence is the amount by which other camping outfitters imitate not only Black's products but also the presentation of the "Good Companions" Catalogue, which is now practically a standard handbook for campers. If you have not yet received your copy please send for it immediately to see what is in store for the 1955 camping season. Remember, it is the real "Good Companions" Catalogue you want, not one that is something like it.



BLACK'S GREENOCK

**TENTS—SLEEPING BAGS
RUCSACS—CANTEENS
STOVES—in fact the whole lot**

**THOMAS BLACK AND SONS (GREENOCK) LTD.,
SCOTTISH INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, PORT GLASGOW,
RENFREWSHIRE.**

Phone: Port Glasgow 41315

Branches:

22 GRAY'S INN ROAD, LONDON, W.C.1
Phone: HOLborn 5494

126 HOPE STREET, GLASGOW, C.2
Phone: CENTral 4007





THE OUTLOOK

Scouters everywhere will, I am sure, have been delighted to see in the New Year's Honours that Her Majesty The Queen had awarded the C.B.E. to our Chief Executive Commissioner. This recognition of Fred Hurrll's great services to the Movement over a period of many years is indeed cause for great satisfaction to us all, as well as for hearty congratulations to him.

Another Scouter whose name was in the Honours List is Mr. F. M. F. Payne, Assistant Director of Education in the Federation of Malaya. He is no doubt better known to most of us as Chief Commissioner of the Malayan Boy Scouts, an appointment in which he has done yeoman work in developing Scouting out there. He was on leave in England last year and not only took a refresher Wood Badge Course but helped the Gilwell Staff on more than one occasion.

Two other names in the Honours List which must have pleased Scouters were those of Lieut-General Whistler and Rear-Admiral Searle. General Whistler, who was made a K.C.B., was a good friend to Scouting in West Africa when he was G.O.C.-in-C. out there. He is now G.O.C.-in-C. Western Command at Chester where he continues to take an interest in Scouting. Admiral Searle many of us will remember as the Royal Navy's representative at Filey last September. He was awarded the C.B.

The Chief Scout's health, after a bad patch about Christmas-time, is, I am glad to say, improving. I hope, however, you will continue to leave him in peace while he is off duty. We want him back "fighting fit."

In the December "Outlook" I told you that General Sir Richard Gale had asked for our help for the British Scouts in Western Europe. A few days ago I received from Sir Richard a letter, dated January 2, 1955, thanking me for what I had written. It is very encouraging, and a fine example, that this Commander-in-Chief with his many very great responsibilities makes time to read THE SCOUTER so promptly after publication.

"LET'S get back to B.-P." How often, and rightly, we are advised to do that. Let's have a go here, on that thorny subject in Scouting - drill.

Quotation, of course, can, like statistics, be used to suit our own purposes. I find that many Scouters readily quote B.-P. on the evils of drill. (Scouting for Boys, fortieth edition, p.313.) Very few, however, seem to remember what B.-P. wrote about the necessity for drill! "Scouts have to drill to enable them to be moved quickly from one point to another in good order. Drill also sets them up and makes them smart and quick." And so on. (Scouting for Boys, p.214.) All italics are mine.

What about it? I know Scouts and Scouters have lots of other things to do; better things, as one newspaper stated when commenting on remarks of mine on this subject not long ago. But *do* we do enough drill? How often are the unfavourable comments we hear only too frequently about Scouts on ceremonial occasions unjustified?

By THE DEPUTY CHIEF SCOUT

Are not bad carriage, bad marching, bad saluting (some individuals saluting, others giving the Scout sign) and so forth only too common?

Putting up an indifferent performance on a ceremonial occasion is not only bad for the reputation of our Movement with the general public, it also deprives our boys of the joy which comes from the performance of a job well done and of the benefits which led B.-P. to write that "Scouts have to drill."

After all, drill isn't, as B.-P. told us, the prerogative of the Army. Nor is it a matter of bellowing commands and stamping the feet. Words of command should be no louder than is necessary to achieve the required results. One can, in fact, do without words of command altogether and get good results, and fun, from drilling by signs and signals of different kinds - torch, hand, drum, etc.

As for stamping the feet, when I joined the Army this practice was definitely forbidden. I hate the present-day habit of stamping the feet!

Drill can, in fact, be just as smart, if not smarter, when carried out quietly. Look at any good P.T. show when it comes into the arena. And what about The Gang Show? Isn't the drill of the big choruses magnificent? There is no bellowing of commands or stamping of feet there.

Should we not then regularly include a little drill in our programmes? I say "a little drill," because short spells of drill well carried out will produce the results required: too much drill produces all the evils B.-P. described. The teaching of drill as of any other subject requires from the instructor knowledge, commonsense, imagination, enthusiasm and understanding of his pupils. Above all, let us make sure, by practice and rehearsal, before any ceremonial occasion that everyone taking part knows exactly what he has to do and how to do it properly.

ROB LOCKHART.



"Please, Akela, how do you tie a double Matthew Walker?"

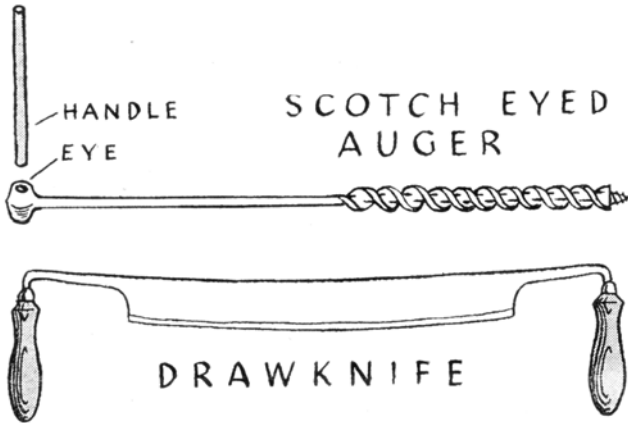
HURRYING FEET

2. JUST ANOTHER WAY - PIONEERING WITHOUT ROPE

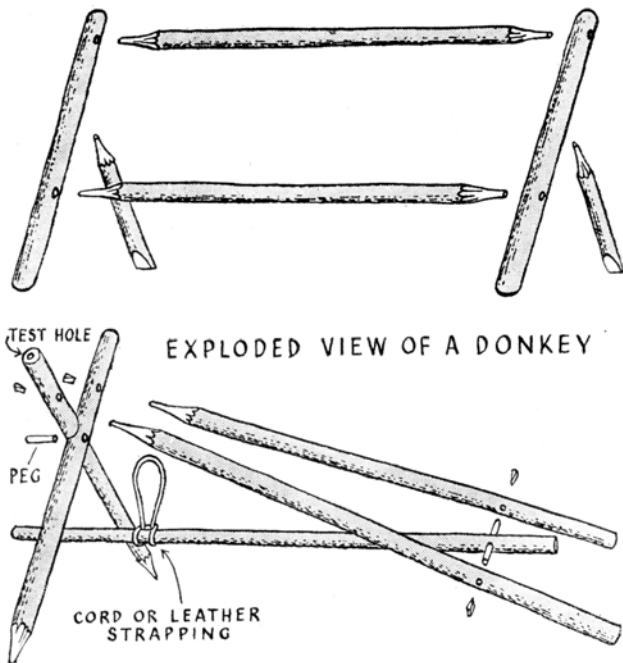
By CHARLIE BRAY, G.S.M. 86th Salford Troop

The Camp furniture you see here was made entirely without the use of lashings, and presents quite a sound method of construction for you to think about. There is nothing new in the idea - in fact I shouldn't be at all surprised to find that Adam made the first table in this fashion. The basis of it all is simply to bore a hole in one piece of wood, shape another piece of wood to fit into said hole and knock them together, wedging if necessary.

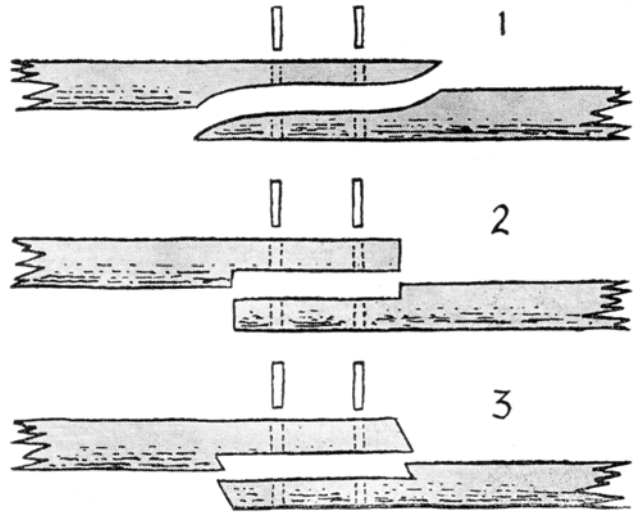
Obviously tools are essential, but they are cheap, and you certainly don't need many. Firstly you need a drawknife and a Scotch Eyed Auger about 1 1/2 in. diameter. These items cost about 10s. each.



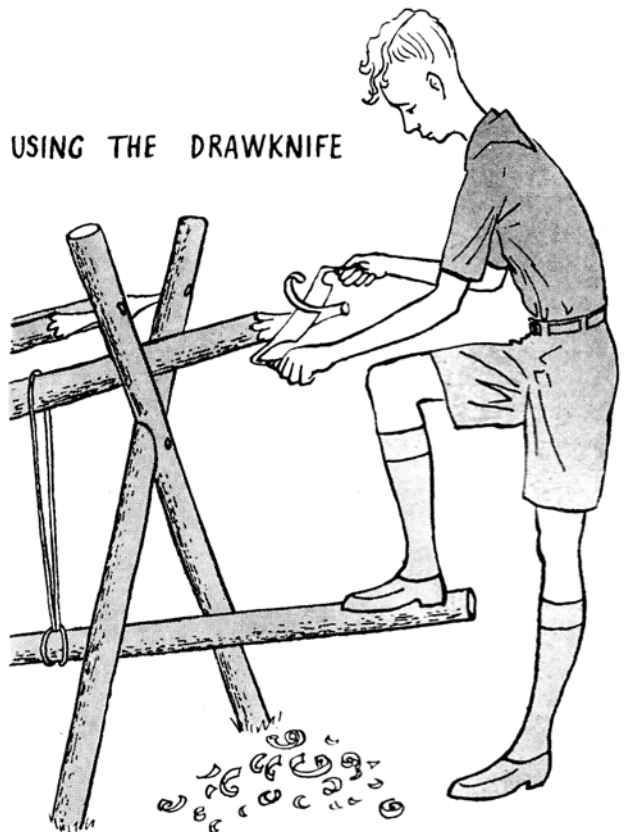
It may be obvious to most of you that to use a drawknife with any chance of success the wood must be held quite firmly so for a start we make a "Donkey" which is a form of Camp workbench cum vice. It is fairly simple to make and very easy to use.



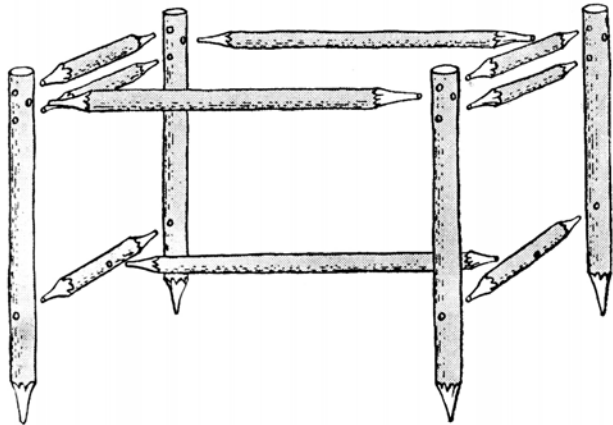
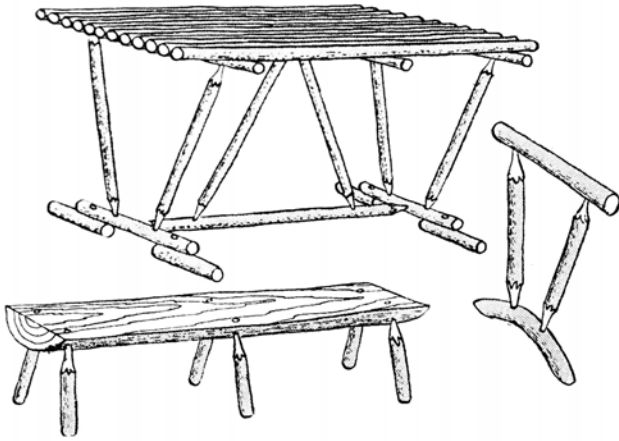
It is also extremely effective. A drawing of this taken apart is shown. The two pointed legs are about 3 ft. 6 in. long and 3 or 4 in. in diameter. About 1 ft. from the top a piece is taken out of each so that they fit into one another.



Those of you who at some time in the distant past have made a halving joint at school will doubtless fathom the technique. A hole is bored through this joint and a peg is knocked in and firmly wedged. Another hole is then bored in each piece about 2 in. above the joint and a test hole as shown in the top of one piece. For the rest of the Donkey you require three pieces all the same length which can be anything from 8 to 12 ft. Two of them are shaved down at one end as shown to fit into the holes bored into the legs.



USING THE DRAWKNIFE



Holes are bored through these about 2 ft. from the other end. A hole is bored through the other piece about 6 in. from one end. These three pieces are then joined together by knocking a long peg through the holes. The centre one should swivel on the other two, the shaved ends of which can now be knocked into the holes in the legs. A length of cord or strapping should be fixed on the centre spar as shown, and after wedging all the joints the Donkey is ready for use (see also p. 11).

It is used by passing the loop through the two long spars and over the piece of wood to be shaved which should then be resting in the cradle formed by the "V," of the legs, and the two long spars. The boy using the drawknife puts one foot on the centre spar thus pulling the wood firmly down to the Donkey, and works the wood to the desired shape by pulling the drawknife along it. This may sound a little dangerous, and some Scouters might have visions of boys with gashed tummies, but when you try this you will find that the control of this tool is such that accidents are very unlikely indeed.

Once the Donkey is in use you will find that Camp or Den furniture can be turned out with very little effort and a great deal of enjoyment. Much of the fun is in designing your own, so don't be afraid of letting the lads sort things out for themselves. I am giving examples of one or two basic constructions just to give things a start, but I've no intention of soft soaping the populace by providing loads of working drawings - Scouts for use of. Pioneering by the boys is much more fun, so give them the tools and the idea and let them get cracking.

* * * *

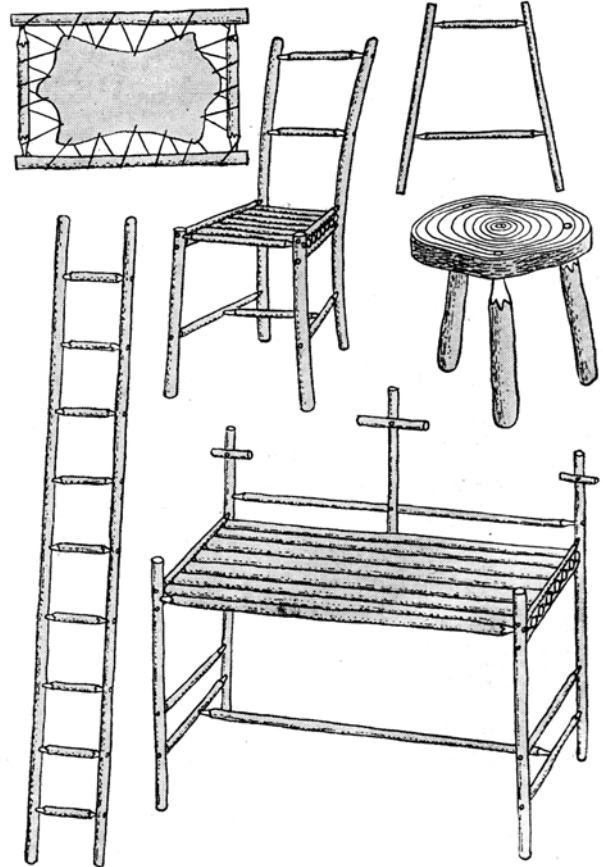
The following points may be worthy of consideration: - The height of a table is usually 30 inches.

The height of a chair seat is about 18 inches.

If you are making den furniture which is intended to be somewhat of a permanent nature be careful to choose timber which shows no signs of insect infestation, as a nicely established colony of "woodbugs" will soon chew their way through the rest of the den furniture. Just think of the calamity if they got into Skip's wooden leg.

Softwoods such as the pines and firs are easier to cut than most hardwoods, but tend to have rather a lot of knots for you to deal with. Incidentally, knots are best avoided, and you will work the drawknife much easier if there are no knots where you happen to be cutting.

Sycamore, lime, alder and horse chestnut work easily, but if you keep the tools sharp the harder timbers such as oak, ash, elm and holly can be cut without difficulty.



Thank you all for the hundreds of Birthday and Christmas cards and greetings that I received again this year. I hope that I have acknowledged them all, except one or two where no indication of the name or the address was given, but if I haven't, then please accept my apologies.

Once again the cards have been handed on to be used further in the making of calendars and other useful purposes.

Many of them were really lovely productions; all of them meant a great deal to me. So, thank you.

ROWALLAN

SCOUTING ON THE WATER

By TOM BROWNE

How often it happens that Sea Scouting is handicapped by having too much of the wrong sort of coastline. That is certainly true of a great part of North Wales which has over 200 miles of coastline but a very small Sea Scout population. Much of this coast is exposed, there are few good harbours which are not strongly tidal and in view of the difficulties of giving elementary boat instruction safely, all but the most experienced men have been discouraged from running Sea Scout Troops. If we could only bridge over these difficulties successfully we might be able to meet our founder's challenge in Scouting for Boys, that "the call of the sea is not sounded in the ears of our boys as it used to be" - and having whetted their appetites for fun and adventure afloat in safe and shallow waters, lead them on to wider adventures on the sea itself.

We have been trying experiments on these lines in North Wales over the past three years, and though we do not pretend that we have found any complete answer to the problem, our results, and even our failures, may prove helpful to other areas which may have similar difficulties to face.

In 1952 we began by bringing Neptune ashore at a county camp, and ran a form of obstacle journey on land using incidents with a nautical flavour. We called this "Round the World in Eighty Days." It was described in *The Scout* for May 14th, 1953, and only a brief outline can be given here. The score at each of the four incidents was given out of 10, and then subtracted from 25 to give the number of days on passage, so that if a Patrol obtained the maximum for each incident they would complete their world tour in 60 days. There were such things as the passing of a towline to the Flying Enterprise whose rolling foredeck was simulated by a table-top kept in fairly violent motion by strong-armed young Scouters; then there was an oil drum which had a small log attached to a sinker so that it lay at the bottom when the drum was filled with water; this represented a flooded stokehold which had to be pumped dry, and a fire lighted from the log which had been submerged. At another point they found that a steering chain had parted and had to be reshackled and the shackle wired, at the bottom of about 3 ft. of water; finally a cargo of precious liquid in an open drum had to be slung and hoisted from a ship's hold to a quay. After this contest we gave them a glimpse of the man-sized job of service towards which Sea Scouting could begin to lead; the work of the lifeboat men. They staged for us a complete rocket rescue drill, with some of the Senior Scouts enjoying the adventure of acting as the shipwrecked crew.

In 1953 we found a shallow bay and made our first venture afloat in our "Ditty Box Derby" - a series of races and obstacle courses for rafts built by competing Troops, with the absolute minimum of regulations and restrictions.

Then, in 1954 we went on to add kayak building and handling to our programme, but the response was not very encouraging, and on

the Whit week-end of last year, the continuous rain curtailed many of our planned activities. In three years we had not, we felt, made a very great deal of progress in spreading Scouting afloat, and there seemed to be two main reasons for our very limited success. First we needed activities in which more boys could join, so that all could share the fun; secondly we had not let the Scouters themselves experience this fun and sense of safe adventure of Scouting on the water.

This was the background against which we planned our first "Scouting on the Water" week-end for Scouters at Llangollen. There was nothing really new about the things we did, as you will realise from the brief summary given, but they did achieve their purpose of arousing interest among the Scouters. We began with the usual brief talk on aims and the formation of Patrols and then went into a series of games in which we carried, pumped, fished, threw, and did all sorts of crazy things with and in water, to everyone's enjoyment. Canoeing followed, and this was really a thrill on the tumbling waters of the Dee, embarked on a little apprehensively at first, but John Lee, the instructor, inspired such confidence that long before the end of the session they were playing "tig" in the wildest parts of the river with the greatest of zest and enjoyment. Then indoor work on nautical craftsmanship - rope work, wire-splicing, canvas-sewing and such like skills, followed by films on canoeing. Next day we used the canal to try out various ways of getting ourselves over, on, and inevitably in, the water, using rafts, runways, transporter trestles and so on. In the afternoon the Patrols competed in a water obstacle journey, controlling floating fires, dragging for moored and submerged mines, and discovering how unreliable a magnetic compass can be in plotting a position from the ends of an iron aqueduct.

And the result of it all? First, at the discussion which closed the week-end programme, a unanimous request for a repeat week-end next year, with fresh ideas to try out, and since then, a number of enquiries from other parts on the holding of a similar demonstration week-end. The real value of these activities may be just to spread new applications of old ideas which may help Scouters to interest and hold their older Scouts and thus reduce leakage. But I can't help thinking once again of B.-P.'s challenge, and hoping that this may, with further experiment and improvement, provide the sort of activities which will lead more Scouters and Scouts to discover the real satisfactions of Sea Scouting, and to raise the call of the sea, from its present piano volume, to sound at least mezzo-forte in the ears of our boys. Perhaps it may induce some to exchange their cowboy hats for the flat-topped variety, and if they do, I believe that they will find, as I did when I made the exchange nearly twenty years ago, that far from losing any of the real values of Scouting, their opportunities and horizons will be most surprisingly enlarged.



PATROL ANIMALS AND BIRDS

By MICHAEL BLACKMORE

XIV. THE CORMORANT

You can hardly describe the cormorant as a graceful or handsome bird when you see him on some rocky ledge by the sea. There he stands looking rather like a grotesque black gargoyle with his long hook-tipped beak pointing slightly upwards and his snake-like neck curving sinuously above his elongated body. His movements are clumsy and laboured as he waddles along the cliff-face on webbed feet, swaying from side to side and balancing himself awkwardly with the help of his stiff tar-brush tail. But when he dives below the surface of the water to hunt for fish all his ungainliness vanishes. Those webbed feet now act as highly efficient paddles and propel his body swiftly through the depths enabling him to carry out the most complicated twists and turns. Ugly and clumsy on land, the cormorant is a marvel of dexterity and speed in the underwater world. No wonder that the inshore fisherman often dislikes him for he is an expert competitor with a voracious appetite and can easily swallow a codling or conger-eel weighing well over a pound.

Cormorants are also very fond of flat-fish and although they can distend their gullets considerably they often find it difficult to gulp down a big specimen owing to its shape. In such cases the bird may be obliged to release the prey or bring it ashore and tear it into convenient pieces, but I have seen a cormorant overcome the difficulty by neatly folding a large flat-fish lengthwise and then choking it down inch by inch. An uncomfortable mouthful to say the least of it!

Cormorants will sometimes gorge themselves until they are too full to fly up from a flat surface. When this happens they either sit on the water or drag themselves on to a convenient perch where they will stand with outstretched wings and half-open beaks until they have digested their meal - an attitude which they also adopt frequently in order to dry their feathers after a swim. On one occasion I saw a cormorant resting on a sand-bank in an estuary after what must have been an unusually successful fishing expedition because when I walked up to him he was quite unable to launch himself into the air. He plodded heavily across the sand towards the water, flapping his wings wildly and stretching out his long neck to its fullest extent. Then opening his beak wide he suddenly disgorged the contents of his crop and immediately became airborne, leaving an unsavoury pile of partially digested fish behind him.



I was able to identify six flounders, two grey mullet and about a dozen sprats among the remains, not taking into account a large mass of other bits and pieces.

Like many other aquatic birds, cormorants nest in colonies. When they come into breeding plumage they acquire a patch of delicate white feathers on their thighs which helps to brighten their sombre appearance. Incidentally, although the birds look quite black from a distance, their body feathers have a metallic blue-black sheen and their wings are purplish brown; but you have to get close in order to see these iridescent hues and the breeding season is a good time because cormorants will then often let you approach to within a few feet of their nests before taking flight. I have even known a brooding female to sit tight while I walked right up to her. As I was too close for her peace of mind she suddenly jabbed at my leg with her sharp beak and luckily caught hold of my trousers instead of me! I dodged out of her way as fast as possible, but she hung on so tightly for a few seconds that I unwillingly dragged her off the nest which was an untidy pile of stinking seaweed containing three chalky blue eggs. A cormorant's egg, by the way, is about two and a half inches long and seems very small compared with the size of the adult bird whose total length is about three feet.

A visit to a large breeding colony is an interesting experience. The loosely built nests are placed close to one another along the wider ledges of the cliffs or perched precariously on the topmost pinnacles, generally (but not always) in some spot where the direct rays of the sun can reach them. In April and May both sexes perform a curious courtship display, stretching their necks over the nest and nibbling gently with their beaks against the neck feathers of their chosen mates. The female cormorant also has a special display antic during which she arches her head right back until it touches her tail. Then raising both tail and head she will flap her wings very slightly to attract the male's attention; but there are so many variations in the courtship movements of these extraordinary birds that I can only give a brief outline of them here. The sudden excitement that seems to run through the colony causing intense display activity is followed by long periods of comparative quietness during which several cormorants will fly off to sea leaving their nests unguarded. Among the birds that remain there are certain to be some who will seize the opportunity to pilfer the nesting material of their absent neighbours, but no sensible cormorant ever attempts to do this while the rightful occupant is at home!

Both parents take a share in incubating the eggs and feeding their sooty brown youngsters. You might think that the old birds would have a busy time feeding them, but there is often a long interval between meals. The clamorous pipings of the hungry offspring contrast strangely with the harsh guttural cries made by a fully grown cormorant, but even while the chicks are very small their high-pitched voices have a remarkable carrying power.

When an adult arrives at the nest, its yellow throat pouch crammed with fish, it lurches forward for a moment under the weight of its load. Then three or four swaying heads with gaping white beaks stretch expectantly upwards looking ridiculously comical on thin scrawny necks. Watch carefully and you will see that instead of putting the food inside the youngsters' beaks the parent opens its own bill wide and lets each nestling in turn plunge its head into the capacious throat pouch where it helps itself. It often surprises me that the old birds are able to stand up to this treatment for five or six weeks because the young have a habit of burying their heads completely when feeding and then tugging hard to extricate themselves.

From what I have written so far you might imagine that the cormorant is entirely a marine bird, but it also visits lakes and rivers. When I was on holiday in Ireland a few years ago I was taken to see a breeding colony on a lake several miles from the sea. Nearly all the nests were on a small bare islet about four hundred yards from the bank, though at one end of the lake a solitary pair of cormorants had chosen to build in the fork of an old leafless tree. I have not yet found any tree-nesting specimens in England, but when fishing on streams late in the evening I have occasionally noticed cormorants flying into trees to roost.

BE PREPARED

The second of a series of extracts from the book

By **RICE E. COCHRAN**

an American Scoutmaster

It is sub-titled "The Life and Illusions of a Scoutmaster."

When I rang the doorbell, a young lady of about five appeared. She announced, "Mamma can't come to the door. She's on the potty."

From the rear bathroom regions of the house there was a screech. A male twelve-year-old hurtled from the parlour, cast a sororidal glance at the girl, and ushered me in.

"The other guys aren't here yet," he said.

"We'll start without them," I said. "Got your rope? Good. Imagine you're trapped on a cliff ledge - no way to get up or down. Your Patrol lowers one end of a rope to you. Tie it around yourself so you can be hauled up."

"Well, let's see," he fenced. "How about a square knot?"

"Who is questioning whom?" was my riposte. "Tie whatever knot you think is right."

"Kids in the Troop say the other Scoutmaster used to give the Tenderfoot Test a different way."

"Ah. So that makes me a double-crosser?"

"The other Scoutmaster used to tell a kid, 'Tie a square knot,' or 'Tie a clove hitch.'"

I explained that there might be no one present, in time of actual peril, to tell a Scout what to do; that a part of Tenderfoot ability lay in knowing which knot to use.

Unconvinced but resigned, he drew the rope around him and began fumbling with it. I waited, wondering if Mamma had yet arisen from the potty and how she and I could face each other with *savoir faire*. I need not have wondered. Eventually I was to be vividly acquainted with the parents of most of my Boy Scouts, but this particular mamma never nerved herself to meet me.

In a moment the doorbell rang again. My knot tier flung the rope from him, dashed to the door, and returned with two more twelve-year-olds. Each was equipped with rope.

"Cinchy," said one of them when I described the hypothetical predicament on the cliffside. I was unsure whether his word was an epithet or an expletive, but it proved to be more along the line of a boastful adjective, because he rapidly tied the right knot around himself - a bowline.

I acclaimed his skill heartily. The other two boys, who had been making Laocoön-like motions with their ropes, looked aggrieved. "Whyncha say that was what you wanted?" demanded our youthful host, Lew Blodges. He was still seeking to mould me in the shape of the previous Scoutmaster.

I forbore to retort, but continued to pose other imaginary problems with ropy implications. A rowboat had to be tied up at a dock. A horse had to be tethered. Two ends of a broken tent rope had to be tied together.

This was my opening night in one of the many roles which a Scoutmaster must play. Since boys must master numerous facts and skills to become Tenderfeet, their test can easily seem a dreary catechism. However, few Scoutmasters give it that way, because they soon come to realise that Scouting should be utterly unlike school. It should be fun. Boys get surfeited with classroom atmosphere after spending five days a week in it. Even in the Tenderfoot Test, which is almost the dullest part of the whole Scout agenda, their examiner usually tries to make them feel that they are girding themselves for outdoor exploits rather than passing an examination.

Hence my little dramas in which they stood forth, rope in hand, as the central figures in scenes of crisis at lake or mountaintop or burning building. With their nimble imaginations, my three would-be Tenderfeet fancied themselves as the star performers, and leaped into each role with gusto. Knot tying took on urgency and practicality, instead of being an academic exercise.

The morning after my baptism of fire at the first Troop meeting, Reverend Stone had telephoned to say that there were three boys who wanted to join the Troop.

"Fine," I had said, reacting automatically. "I'll get together with them some night this week." Without quite knowing why, I was gratified.

"Tell all three boys to be at one house tomorrow night. If we don't get all the way through the Tenderfoot work that night, we'll meet another evening at one of the other homes."

Thus it was arranged. And the first operations had proceeded more or less according to plan. But, as so often occurs in the planning of Scoutmasters, flux set in.

While quizzing one of my three recruits on certain details with respect to the Flag, I noticed that one of the other boys had produced a comic book and now sat at my feet studying it. I spoke coldly to him. "Do you agree with what Jack says, Lew?"

Lew did not hear me. I nudged him with my foot. "Do you agree with Jack?"

He looked up. "Wouldja repeat the question, please?"

A clangour from another corner of the parlour revealed that my third neophyte had seated himself at the piano and begun to play "Chopsticks." While I addressed myself to Lew, Jack gravitated toward the piano, and in a moment "Chopsticks" had become a duet.

"I guess you're tired out, fellows," I said loudly enough to drown out the tintinnabulation. "Evidently you can't concentrate any longer. Let's call it a day."

There were groans and protestations, but I firmly took my leave, after agreeing to resume the test at Jack's house the following evening.

In the morning Reverend Stone phoned me again. "What happened last night?" he asked. "There's a story going around that you kicked Lew Blodges because he didn't answer a question.

I felt myself begin to radiate.

"Just goes to show that I'm a devil when I'm roused," I snapped. "Shall I resign as Scoutmaster?"

"You didn't really kick him, did you?"

"He deserved to be kicked."

The minister was a wise man, "Roll with the punches, Mr. Cochran," he advised, "Never let silly rumours make you mad. Anybody at the head of a group gets gossiped about by his group. . . Now, seriously, did anything at all happen last night?"

I told him what had happened. He apologised for troubling me, and there our conversation ended. That evening I met the three boys again, at the home of the McCalls, Jack's parents.

This pair of parents did not hide in a back room, but greeted me at the door and sat beaming in the parlour - vigilantly, I thought - as I carried on my cross-examination of the boys.

When Lew arrived he met my eyes with impassive calm. "Lew, did you tell your folks I kicked you?" I demanded.

"Gosh, no."

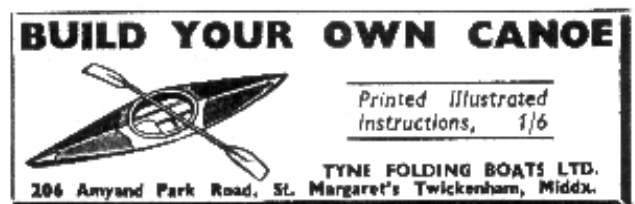
I waited. He said no more. "What did you tell them?" I persisted.

"They probably built it up in their own minds. I just happened to mention you sorta boosted me with your foot. You did, didn't you?" He glanced around at the others for confirmation.

"Yes, I did - very lightly. Why did you mention it to your parents?"

He stared at me in mild astonishment. "Did you want me to keep it secret? If you'd of told me to keep my mouth shut about it, I would of."

Seeing that Lew would be a tough witness to crack, and that the McCalls were studying me curiously, I decided to drop the subject. "I'm afraid you let your parents get the idea that I'm a ferocious man," I sighed. "However, let's get on with the Tenderfoot Test."



VISUAL YARNS

II. HALL-MARKS

By REV. E. J. WEBB

INTRODUCTION

We have noticed certain letters and symbols on the handle of a spoon, the inside of a watch, and the side of a silver pencil. They are the hall-marks, that guarantee quality.

The word "sterling" was formerly "easterling" and was applied to goods brought by men from the Continent (from the east), whose goods were known to be reliable and of good quality. Such goods became the measure of genuineness and value. These traders chose a good name before all else. "The evil that men do lives after them," says Mark Antony, but you see, the GOOD that men do lives after them and is not always "interred with their bones."

[Have a selection of items of cutlery with hallmarks on them.]

I. THE MAKER'S INITIALS

E.g. J. W. John Ruskin held that every article should bear the name of the workman who makes it so that he may be encouraged to do his best.

II. THE CRAFT

E.g. a Castle (for Edinburgh), a crown (for Sheffield), an anchor (for Birmingham), a leopard's head (for London). The old guilds and trade societies were very jealous of the honour of their city.

"I am a citizen of no mean city" (Acts XXI. 39). The fair name of our city is in our hands.

III. THE DATE MARK

E.g. Old English Capital "C" is the year 1834, a small old English "s" is 1910. The letter mark is changed every year.

"Lord teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." (Psalm XC. 12.)

IV. THE NATIONAL MARK

E.g. The Lion of England. English sterling was the highest standard in the old days.

"England expects that every man will this day do his duty."

V. THE ROYAL MARK

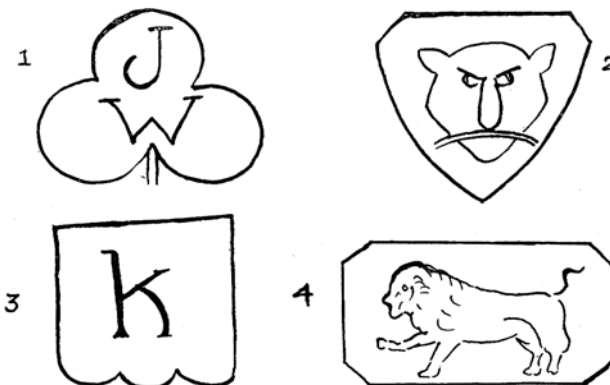
E.g. the head of King William IV. The sovereign's head has not been used for this purpose since 1890. Then the duty on silver was abolished so the duty mark disappeared also. (Do not tell the Chancellor.)

Its absence may serve to remind us of Christ the Unseen King. The head of the sovereign showed that duty had been paid. Have we paid our duty to God? "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's" (Mark XII. 17).

Nothing lives so long as a good name. The saying that a good name is rather to be chosen than great riches was a bit of ancient Jewish wisdom which nineteenth-century men felt so true that they had it painted round the inside of the Cotton Exchange, Manchester.

It is a reminder to business men, but we all need it.

When visiting some old castle we often marvel at the way the old stone stairs are worn away. It is a little enough thing to do - to run up and down stairs, yet it leaves its mark in the solid stone for centuries to come. Do not despise the day of small things. The things we do day by day, and the way we do them, will leave their mark. (Read 2 Timothy II. 15 - 26.)



The Secret of Successful Open-Air Meals

STAR FOIL



Nothing like a day in the open air for sharpening the appetite! Let's see what we have. Savoury sandwiches, rolls and butter, crisp salad and fruit, sausages cooked and wrapped in foil . . . delicious! All neatly wrapped and appetisingly fresh in STAR FOIL. Trifles and jellies, too — made, stored and served in STAR FOIL Dishes.



FREE RECIPE BOOK containing scores of exciting new ideas for using STAR FOIL. Send 2½d. stamp for postage.

STAR ALUMINIUM CO. LTD.
HOUSE-FOIL DIVISION, MARSTON ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON

Standard size STAR FOIL 2/3d.
Economy size 2/11d.
STAR FOIL Dishes 1/- and 1/8d.

BRITAIN'S FINEST BINOCULAR BARGAIN!



The LINDERMANN 'SUPERVUE' 12 x 50

Brand new and British made to stringent Lindermann specifications. Sturdy, extra powerful but light, with wide field of view. Centre focusing and coated optics. Ideal for sporting events and general viewing.

or £4 Dep. and 9 mon. inst. of £1.10.4 (incl. case)

CASH £14.17.6 plus 2/6 p/p HIDE CASE 30/- ex.

LATEST SERVICE PATTERN OFFICERS' LIQUID PRISMATIC COMPASSES

Beautifully made with stout, hinged brass case. External transparent rotary scale divided every 5 deg., figures every 10 deg. Interior contains a transparent edge dial divided into single degrees, mounted on a sapphire centre which floats in liquid on an iridium point. This remarkable compass has a steadiness which makes it ideal for taking bearings from boats, cars, aircraft, etc., and in the field. TODAY'S VALUE £14.



OUR PRICE £3.18.6 Plus 2/- post & pkg. Leather Sting Case 11/6 extra.

THE LINDERMANN 'SPOTSCOPE' 20 POWER POCKET MONOCULAR

For birdwatching & general viewing

A super prismatic monocular designed by leading British optical instruments manufacturers to give maximum viewing power with minimum weight. Beautifully finished, first class optical components. Length 6½", weight 9 oz. Ideal for general viewing. Easily carried in the pocket—at a price to suit the pocket!



£5.17.6 plus 2/6 post/pkg. Velvet lined leather case £1 ext.

POST ORDERS TO: S.C.1. Visit our showrooms—open all day Sats. (Thurs. 1 p.m.)



UNITED TECHNICAL SUPPLIES LTD.

29 TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, LONDON W 1 LANCeAm 1116

ORIENTAL ODYSSEY: NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1954

By PETER BADEN-POWELL

This is the story of a journey: not simply a twenty-four-hour hike, but a First-Class Journey in more senses than one, during which I covered some twenty-five-thousand miles in one hectic month.

I counted myself most fortunate, early last November, in being chosen as one of a party of eight British Members of Parliament to go on a goodwill mission to Japan and Thailand as a Parliamentary Delegation. But this brief account does not concern parliamentary activities: it deals with our most interesting adventure purely from the angle of World Scouting.

To begin with, four other members of the party told me that they themselves were former Scouts, which I considered a happy augury. As soon as our itinerary was known, it was arranged, through the kindness of Imperial Headquarters, London, that I should meet some of our Brother Scouts in the various countries where we should land in the course of our journey half-way round the world. I would, however, stress that parliamentary business had complete priority, whilst Scouting had to take second place and could only be done as and when time and circumstances so allowed.

At London Airport I was delighted to see and inspect the local Troop of Scouts, and our party received much valuable assistance from the B.O.A.C. Branch of the B.-P. Guild of Old Scouts. In this way we had a truly Scoutlike send-off, which was much appreciated by all of us, including the other three members of the Delegation who had not themselves been connected with Scouting.

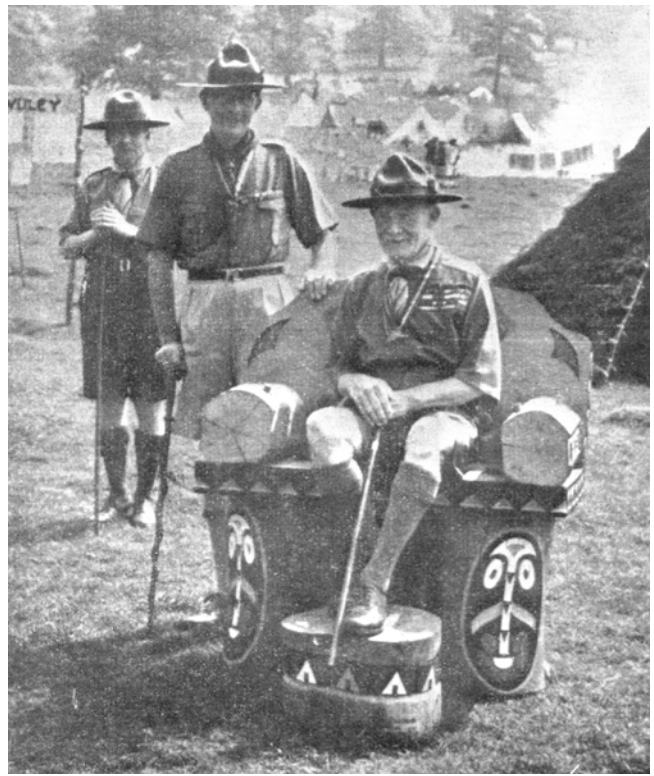
At our first port of call, Zurich, I was disappointed not to meet any of my many Swiss Scout friends; but in Rome, at ten o'clock at night, it was a real delight to be greeted by three old friends, Signori Mazza, Bellioni and Pirotta, who, with hardly a word of English between them, greeted me with warm left-handshakes and friendly smiles and wishes of "bon voyage."

On we went to Cairo where, in the small hours of the morning, I was handed a friendly, welcoming letter from the local Scouts. On our return journey a month later, however, I was extremely glad of the opportunity to have a few words with them (both Egyptian and British) and to hear through Major Wallace, District Commissioner Cairo, British Scouts in Egypt, of my former "Second" when I was Patrol Leader of the Owl Patrol in our Contingent at Arrowe Park in 1929.

Our next port of call, Basra, was a blank as far as Scouting was concerned; but at Karachi, as the plane taxied in on that hot Sunday afternoon, one of my colleagues said to me: "Look at your reception committee waiting for you here." I looked, and to my delight saw a Troop of Scouts, in uniform and with their flags; and a number of Scouters, including Mr. J. D. Shuja and one or two others whom I knew, were with them. Having shaken hands with each of the Scouters and all the boys individually, I gave them a few words of greeting and explained the purpose of my journey. They were in a great state of excitement, anticipating the arrival a few days later of Lord Rowallan, the Chief Scout of the British Commonwealth and Empire. I enjoyed a cheerful tea-party with the Scouters and Old Scouts present. Several of these Scouters very kindly also met me on my return Journey, and were still elated at having by then seen Lord Rowallan in the course of his long tour.

Later that night, at Delhi Airport. I was glad to have a chat with the Hon. Mr. Justice Vivian Bose (Chief Commissioner for Scouts and Guides), Shri Vaidyanathan (Secretary), and Shri Radha Raman (Scout Commissioner and Member of Parliament), and I introduced them to the rest of our party.

At three o'clock the same night, at Calcutta, when I believed it far too late to receive any Scout welcome, I was very pleasantly surprised when more than a dozen Scouters, all in uniform, trooped into the airport restroom, hung a beautiful garland round my neck and greeted me with great friendliness. They were engaged on a Wood Badge Course, and were camping near the airport.



IN REMEMBRANCE

The Founder: b. February 22, 1857. January 8, 1941

Lord Somers: b. March 20, 1887. July 14, 1944

The other members of our delegation joined us all for a cup of coffee, and we had a very cheery little party. It was delightful also to see several of these good friends again on my return journey, and at an equally inconvenient hour of the night.

Some four hours later, on arrival at Rangoon, I was glad to meet three of the leading Burmese Scout personalities, as well as one or two of the principal Guide people. Our stay there was regrettably short, as we had to hustle quickly off the aerodrome to make way for the King of Cambodia, who was there on a State Visit. I did, however, meet the Scout people again for a longer chat on my way home.

We flew on over Burma and Thailand, and landed at Bangkok. I did not then meet any Scout people, because I knew we were returning there for the second part of our adventurous journey, so would probably see them later.

And so on to Hong Kong, where Mr. Hudson, the Organising Commissioner, was present in uniform with Mr. Silvey (A.C.C. Sea Scouts), to greet me. He very kindly took me for a drive through the picturesque streets of Kowloon, and showed me over the magnificent new Headquarters Building, which has recently been completed and presented to the lucky Scouts of Hong Kong by the generous local Jockey Club.

We spent that night (Monday) in Hong Kong, and next day flew on to Okinawa, where an American military policeman to whom I spoke told me that he was a former Scout from Cincinnati, Ohio. After drinking the inevitable Coca-Cola, we took off on the last leg of our 10,000-mile journey to Japan.

We landed that evening at Haneda, Tokyo's fine airport, and were immediately confronted with a tremendous barrage of flashlight cameras. Before our eyes had recovered from the glare, I was greeted effusively by several of the leading Japanese Scout and Girl Scout personalities, and two beautiful bouquets of flowers were thrust into my already well-filled hands. The obvious warmth and enthusiasm with which these good people welcomed me was a real joy. I assured them that, although I was primarily on a Parliamentary Mission, I would, as and when time so allowed, lose no time in meeting them again wherever and whenever possible.

It was, therefore, with great delight that I was able to accept an invitation to lunch three days later with several of the principal Scouters. It was a novel experience for me to attend a Japanese lunch party, sitting cross-legged on the floor and using chop-sticks; and there, in the privacy of the charming Japanese room. I was able to have a good and informal conversation about Scouting matters generally. My Japanese hosts bestowed upon me their "Thanks Badge," and I felt deeply honoured to receive this, as well as the other small tokens they were kind enough to give me.

As we finished lunch, a telephone call came through requesting me to give an hour or two to the American Scouts in Japan. Two delightful American Explorer Scouts came and whisked me off in a huge service car to Pershing Heights, the United Nations Headquarters in Tokyo. Walking into this magnificent building, I was introduced almost at once to an American Major-General, who held out to me the left hand of Scout friendship. He in turn handed me over to a Sergeant, also a former Scout, and I was ushered into a small broadcasting studio with my two Explorer Scouts. One of them asked me a series of questions, to which I replied as best I could, and his questions and my replies were taken down on a tape-recording machine. At the end of this slight ordeal, my questioner asked me to give a five-minute talk on International Scouting. After a moment or two to collect my wits, I gave the required talk, which, when played back to me, sounded reasonably convincing. All this took about an hour, after which I went back to my Japanese friends, who, at my request, very kindly took me to visit Viscount Mishima, the Chief Scout, who was ill at home, and whom I would not otherwise have seen.

I had never before been into a Japanese house, so only then did I learn the custom of removing one's shoes on entering the building. I had previously met Viscount Mishima at the Jamboree in Austria in 1951, and it was a real joy to have a chat with him again. From his home, where I also had the pleasure of meeting his wife and family, we drove through the endless streets of the great, sprawling city of Tokyo to the home of Count Sano, the former Chief Scout. Count Sano is now eighty-six and more or less bedridden, but he was overjoyed to see me again. I had last seen him in 1929, at the time of the Arrowe Park Jamboree, when I had said that some day I hoped to visit him in Tokyo; so now, twenty-five years later, I was at long last able to realise that ambition. He assured me that the spirit of B.-P. has continued to live on in Japan, despite the troublous times of recent years.

The same night all the members of our Delegation went by train to Osaka, the "Manchester" of Japan, where one of the leading Government officials, himself the local District Commissioner for Scouts, thrust into my hands a copy of the Japanese version of *The Life of B.-P.* With the exception of the title page, I was, of course, quite unable to read any of it, but nonetheless I appreciated the gift. (I must do something about learning Japanese! They showed me at least how to write my name in their picturesque writing.)

We had a pleasant but necessarily brief stay in Osaka, and in Kyoto, the ancient Japanese capital; and it was quite amazing how many former Scouts I met, in every walk of life, and at every turn during our all-too-short visit.

Back in Tokyo, we had three more hectic days, during the last of which I was able to fit in breakfast with an American Old Scout friend of mine, and to keep the promised lunch engagement with the Girl Scouts of Japan. And what a charming and memorable occasion that was!

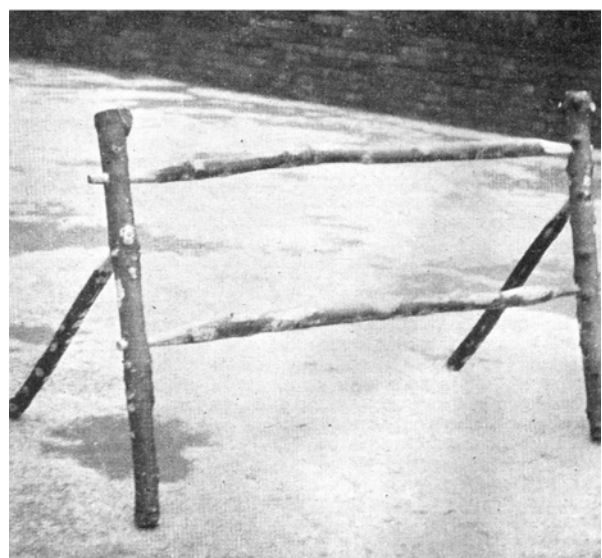
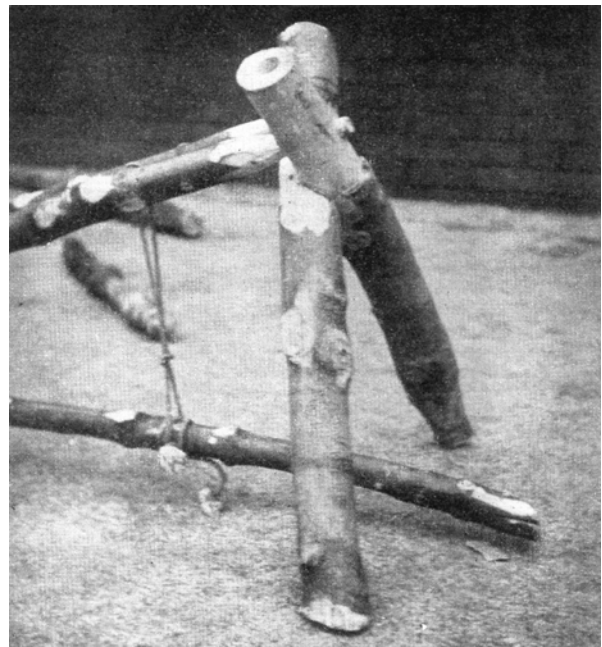
And then our Delegation came on to the second stage of our long journey, we returned by air to Bangkok, the picturesque capital city of Thailand. The Scouts of Thailand had then just concluded their National Rally, which was attended by some five thousand Scouts. Naturally I felt rather annoyed that I had not been able, through force of circumstances, to pay a visit to that great National event, but I remembered that I was primarily on a *Parliamentary* Mission and, therefore, Scouting was able to come into the picture only at odd moments. In Bangkok I met several of the principal Scout Commissioners but then only in their capacity as Parliamentary or business people, at official functions. I did, however, have the good fortune to meet many former Scouts, notably the Governor of the Province of Korat, whose "Second-in-Command" is today the District Commissioner for that part of Thailand.

One of the plain-clothes police officers with us also declared himself an Old Scout; and a Norwegian! American sanitary engineer, whom we met in Korat, said he was a former Scout, and, furthermore, that his home in Norway was at Skjak, the little mountain village which will ever live in Scouting history as the scene of the 1949 World Rover Moot.

Through the great kindness of the Prime Minister of Thailand himself, an aeroplane of the Royal Thai Air Force was placed at our disposal, and we were thus enabled to visit the lovely old town of Chieng-Mai in its beautiful mountain setting. Here, again, it was a joy to meet a number of former Scouts; and, one evening, whilst visiting the local "Constitution Fair," I met several Scouts and their Scouter on duty at the main gate. The Governor of Chieng-Mai, himself a former Scout, introduced me to this Scouter. At first he was quite nonplussed, but after a moment or two "the penny dropped," and his look of utter amazement was amusing to see!

We returned, in due course, to Bangkok, where each member of the Delegation enjoyed private hospitality for our last two days. My host, a delightful young Englishman living in Bangkok, had been a Wolf Cub in England in his youth.

And so the time came for our long return journey to England. We left the Far East with heavy hearts, leaving behind so many good friends, and especially, as far as I was concerned, all those past and present members of our great World-Wide Brotherhood of Scouts.



PIONEERING WITHOUT ROPE
(see p.5)



DITS AND DAHS

In the previous month's notes, no mention was made of sending practice or method of teaching. It is always far easier from a signalling point of view to send than receive as time taken out to remember the Morse symbol for one letter is not noticed when sending but is fatal when receiving, so the first emphasis is on receiving.

But you have to reach the stage of tuition in sending sooner or later, and it is preferable that the Scout is not just given a tapper to practise on his own.

The tapper should be held lightly in the thumb and first two fingers, the tension spring should be tight enough to ensure a quick return to the off (up) position without being too heavy to the touch, and the movement should be reasonably small. Start off with the boy doing a continuous series of dits, with a dot space between them. Then let him try a series of dahs, again with a dot space between. Then let him progress to a continuous series of dit-dah-dit-dah, etc.

A test of ability is, of course, to get him to send dah-dits continuously and to see whether there is any difference in rhythm. There should not be of course. Progression can be made into more complicated rhythms such as being a continuous GB signal.

It is not intended here to go into flag training since Morse by flag has little more advantage than semaphore and in any case, those troops who "do" Morse at the moment by flag are presumably sufficiently knowledgeable to be able to teach the Scout how to hold the flag and to do a figure-of-eight with it.

Progression to lamp work, the real out-of-doors instrument of signalling raises the question of equipment. Yet with a cycle lamp, a small piece of cardboard and some two strand wire to a tapper, a signalling lamp is made. Wire one end of each strand to each side of the tapper with one end going to the top contact of the battery. The piece of cardboard is cut to the shape of the top and placed under the screw-down switch. The last end of wire is attached to the case of the torch. Thus depression of the tapper key causes the light to flash. Or for the lazy rich ex-army signalling lamps can be bought for 13s. 6d. It must be admitted in defence of these people that this ex-army lamp is a very fine piece of workmanship and can be used over a distance of one and a half miles in full daylight. So powerful are they that masks are needed and provided for night work.

The technique of receiving from a lamp needs some instruction. For instance, because of dazzle, one should not look directly at a lamp but slightly to one side of it. And it is found easier to read if the receiver hums under his breath the rhythm of the lamps. Thus if the lamp flashes short long short, the receiver makes a noise like dit-dah-dit or brr-brrrrrr-brr. Since he has already associated a rhythm with a letter he can immediately recognise the symbol. Sending also needs practice, since any attempt on either of the two lamps discussed above to send at buzzer speed will result in a blurred continuous light. The speed of each symbol is slower and as a result the time between symbols is shortened to obtain a comparable speed.

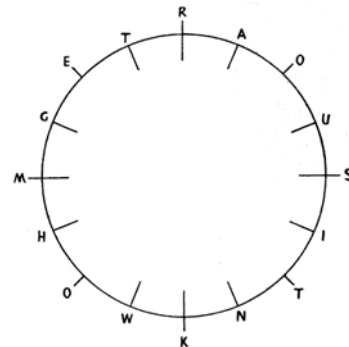
Each station in lamp signalling will require two or preferably three people, the writer who is usually the captain of the station and writes down or calls out the message to be sent, the reader who receives the lamp signal and calls out each letter for the writer, and the sender who gives general answers, etc., when receiving on instructions from the writer and also sends the reply. The first practice will demonstrate the necessity of all learning *and using* the phonetic alphabet.

Signalling Games.

1. We would refer Scouters to the New Gilcraft Series No. 2 *Indoor Games for Scouts*, Nos. 311-18.

2. *Touch Iron to Morse*, see the above games book No. 62. It will be found better if the Troop have to do some action, such as touch a wall before touching the object sent, no movement being allowed until the last letter is sent, and if not points for Patrol then let the first to touch drop out. A dry run of this game without Morse, if never played before would be advantageous.

3. *Compass Morse*. - A circle is drawn on the floor with 16 points and each point given a letter thus:



The game is played in relay formation, the Patrols numbering backward down the Patrol ensuring that there are the same number in each Patrol (i.e. the Patrol Leader may be Nos. 1 and 7). Either a fixed North or if your Troop is good at Compass a moving North (a Scouter standing on a Compass point makes that North). A Compass point is called out followed by a number in the Patrol whereupon the member of each Patrol with that number runs up, puts his foot on the Compass point and gives the Morse symbol in dits or dahs for the letter of that point. It would probably be wise to run this game in its first instance as a pure Compass relay if you are in any doubt as to your Troop's ability on Compass points.

4. *Morse Lotto*. - Sufficient cards for the whole Troop are prepared with 16, 25 or 36 squares (4 x 4 or 5 x 5 or 6 x 6) as the diagram, with letters inserted into each small square:

- 16 letters (first 15 letters of instruction plus one repeat).
- 25 letters (all letters less letter E).
- 26 letters (all letters and all numerals).

Each card is different. Sending cards as diagram are also prepared and the letters are sent singly in the order of the sending card on the buzzer. Each Scout marks the letter in pencil on his card with the number. The first Scout to have a line complete wins.

9	10	13	15	11
L	A	I	Q	Z
	4	14		12
K	B	R	T	C
1	8	7		
H	J	U	D	S
2		3	6	
M	P	V	G	N
				5
W	F	O	Y	X

SPECIMEN SCOUT CARD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
H	M	V	B	X	G	V	J	L
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
A	Z	C	I	R	Q	N	S	O
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
T	F	Y	D	K	W	P		

SPECIMEN INSTRUCTORS' CARD

The numbers are to check that the winner has received the correct Morse at the right time.

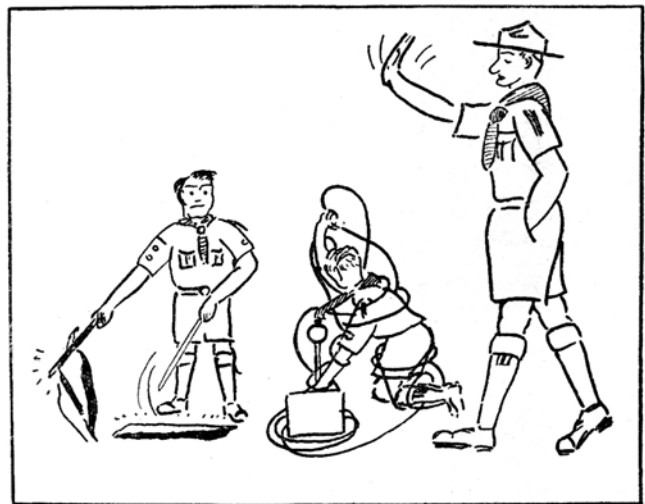
It will be found an advantage if these cards are marked out in Indian ink so that the pencil numbers are rubbed out and the cards used again.

5. Buzzer Compass. - Played exactly as No. 3 above but a letter being sent by buzzer, then the number of the Patrol called out, and the boy putting his foot on the letter and calling out the Compass point.

6. Kim Game Morse. A number of squares are marked out on the floor, each square being lettered and an object is placed inside it. The Troop then memorises the letters and their objects. The objects are then removed and the game is played in the same way as for Compass Morse. It is suggested that the game is only played in the first instance with about 12 squares in order not to over-complicate it. It can be played by:

1. Calling out object and the boy giving the Morse symbol.
2. The letter sent on a buzzer and the object called out.
3. The letter put into the squares after the objects are removed, or the letters are changed halfway through.

7. Captured Signaller. - A Patrol game. Signaller starts about 25 yards away from the Patrol in line, he signals one letter then calls out letter. Those that received it correctly take one jump forward. He then sends two letters, with two jumps forward for two letters received correctly or one jump for one letter. This is repeated for three or four letters. Then on signal the Patrol rushes forward to touch the signaller. The first person to touch him takes his place and the game is restarted.



"Never mind: I got them on the telephone"

8. Signalling Kim - Patrols split up and half of each Patrol goes to receiving station. The other half of the Patrol play a Kim's game as a team on say thirty objects. These objects are memorised, written down and sent to the remaining half of the Patrol by signalling. The Scouter can give the receiving half of the Patrol practice in sending by requesting further details of objects, i.e. what colour was the pencil? This can be played by covering and uncovering white paper so do not let lack of equipment stop you.

MONCHU

OUR DISTRICT

By A.D.C.

In my post this morning was a copy of the local paper that circulates in the Munton Magna area, and on the front page are the portraits of the two Scouts who are to represent Munton Magna at the Canadian Jamboree. They look like good Scouts, and I hope they are, because I helped to choose them.

"To avoid any suspicion of favouritism," the D.C. wrote to me three months ago, "I want you and a couple of other fellows who are strangers to Munton Magna to come over and make the selection..."

Tea and buns were laid on in the D.C.'s cosy front room to hearten us for our task, and when we had sufficiently stuffed ourselves we rang a little bell and the first boy came in. A good type, obviously, with plenty of badges and an excellent record and a pleasing personality. Well-grown, well-fed, well-spoken. Certainly, if we chose him, he would not shame his District among the Scouts of the world.

We made copious notes about him on the three pads which the D.C. had thoughtfully provided, and then the next Scout came in. Well-grown, well-fed, well-spoken, with a pleasure personality....

It was a hideous task, because with very few exceptions one of the fourteen Scouts whom we interviewed that even inc could have gone to Canada and not let Munton Magna down. We chose the two we thought the best of a very good lot, taking into consideration their Scouting record, their appearance and manner, their health, the way they answered the few general questions we had time to ask them, and their camping experience.

On my long journey home in a country bus I could not help feeling proud of an England whose social and educational set-up could produce, in a small District like Munton Magna, fourteen boys of that quality, and I could not help being Movement that could make the fourteen into Scouts.

Did England produce boys like that in the old days, and did we make them into Scouts like that, when I started as a Scoutmaster a quarter of a century ago?

I tried to think who was the best of my Scouts in my first Troop. . . and, maddeningly and illogically.

I remembered only the pale eager face of Jack Harvey.

The night he came to my Bethnal Green Troop we had decided to increase from four to six Patrols, and put a notice in the window of the mission inviting recruits. Among the dozen who came was Jack Harvey, half-starved, unwashed, wearing a stained light-blue jersey with a gaping hole in the front, ancient shorts of indeterminate hue, and an old pair of plimsolls through the points of which his toenails could be seen.

Yet Jack Harvey was the first choice of all six P.L.'s to "make up their numbers" and they had to draw lots for him in the end ere crown-ups he looked a revolting object, but the boys of his own street knew him for a hero and a gentleman, and to be a hero in your own street is the supreme test of a man's Jack was with us three years in that first Troop of mine, and never achieved Second Class or a complete uniform, but he sticks in my mind as the nearest I have met to a perfect Scout.

Character and personality cannot be expressed very clearly in hut Jack, on the rare occasions when he had a penny to buy a paper of chips, liked sharing them round better than eating them. It was always from the tent he happened to be in that you would hear all the singing and laughter on a dreary wet day in camp. It was always Jack who carried the lame Scout's the long march back to the station.

I took four Scouts to the 1929 Jamboree at Birkenhead, and Jack was not one of them. Somehow we did not feel he would in. When we got back to Bethnal Green station, however, on a night when the rain was coming down in torrents, Jack was to meet us with that indescribably jolly grin of his, to help us home with our kit.

Maybe, even in this happier England of 1955 there are still some quite good Scouts who don't go to Jamborees.

FROM 25 B.P. ROAD

THE GILWELL LETTER

You will remember that after the death of King George VI just three years ago, a fund was launched to commemorate his life of service. A considerable sum of money was raised and a body, The King George VI Foundation, was set up to administer it.

It is with pleasure I am able to announce that the Foundation has informed us that the Association is to receive grants totalling £50,000 from its funds. The grants are as follows:-

Long Term capital grant for endowment	£40,000
Short Term grant to be spent over five years	£2,500
Initial capital grant	£2,500
King George VI Commonwealth Bursaries	£5,000

The main object of these grants is the expansion of the Association's existing facilities for the training of leaders and potential leaders. This will be achieved in the following ways.

The Long Term and Short Term grants will provide financial assistance towards the cost of extending existing facilities for the types of training mentioned above, the introduction of new courses, and for experimental courses.

It has been estimated that the Short Term grant plus the interest from the Long Term grant will yield an annual sum of approximately £2,100 per annum over the next five years for these purposes. Counties have been invited to put up schemes and those for the 1955 grant are being considered now.

The Initial Capital Grant is intended and will be used for additional equipment to enable additional facilities to be provided at the Scouters' Training Centre at Gilwell Park, and at the Fordell Camp and Training Site in Scotland.

During the next five years, commencing April 1955, *the Commonwealth Bursaries* will provide a sum of £1,000 annually for sending selected leaders to study and work with Boy Scouts in other parts of the Commonwealth and Empire. The intention of this particular form of grant is that the selected leaders will be even better fitted than previously to contribute to leadership training within our Movement in the United Kingdom.

While on the subject of grant aid I want to draw the attention of Scouters to two funds which exist at I.H.Q.

Firstly, the Poor Groups Fund which, as its name implies, is available for helping poor Groups. Its main purpose is to assist towards the purchase of essential equipment but it can also be used for helping poor Scouts with the cost of uniform.

Secondly, the Frothblowers Fund. For many years past the Ancient Order of Frothblowers have made an annual grant to the Movement expressly for the purpose of financially helping poor Scouts who could not otherwise afford to go to camp.

Very few applications have been received for assistance from these two funds during the last few years. As I said about one of these funds two years ago, one explanation may be that we have few poor Groups or Scouts and another - much more likely - that Groups, Districts and Counties have their own arrangements for this sort of help. But we do hear of Scouters putting their hands into their own pockets and I want to emphasise that there is no reason why they should do so to provide essential items of equipment or to ensure that a boy goes to camp while these two funds exist.

The Grants Department will be only too pleased to answer enquiries and to consider applications sent in through Commissioners.

An entry for your 1955 diary. *Boy Scout - June* 13th-18th. once again, the pageant play devised and produced by Ralph Reader will be staged in the Royal Albert Hall.

An order form will be in THE SCOUTER for April but you will no doubt want to make up your parties and book coaches before then, hence this reminder.

A. W. HURLL,

Chief Executive Commissioner.

The crack of dawn on Sunday morning and Gilwell sounding rather like a speedway meeting proved to be the 4th Harrow Rover Crew coming to do a job of work.

I do not often refer to particular Troops or Crews, for obvious reasons, but in these days when some Rover Crews seem to find it difficult to collect more than half-a-dozen enthusiasts it is refreshing to find a Crew which for over thirty years has had an average membership of fifty. I know that they have special advantages in theory, but in practice what they really have is a first-class Rover Leader in the person of Jack Beet and a tradition of enthusiasm and standards of membership. You cannot just belong to the 4th Harrow Crew. You have to prove yourself throughout a fairly long probationary period, and part of the probation, very properly, is to show that you are willing to undertake a job of work for somebody else.

I mention the Rover Leader because he is widely known as one of the principal stars of "The Gang Show" and, perhaps because of that, he is not so widely known as a consistently successful Scoutmaster and Rover Scout Leader. For many years he was a Deputy Camp Chief in Middlesex and he and I ran many courses together. Underlying the tremendous fun that always pervades him is one of the most acute appreciations of Scouting that ever anyone I have met has had.

But to return to the story: the job I had for the Rovers was to start lopping a very large and dying oak tree. It meant taking off about sixteen limbs, each about forty feet long with an average circumference of two feet six inches, the whole job to be done at about twenty feet above the ground. I thought they might get six or even seven limbs down during the day, but their tradition is such that once they start on a job they finish it. This particular assignment was finished in the lamp light of the motor-bicycles which had brought them along.

During the day I talked to most of the Rovers, and one young man intrigued me tremendously. He went to bed at 3.30 a.m. on the Sunday morning, having been to a party; he was in church at 7.00 a.m., at Gilwell soon after 9.00 a.m.; he put in his full quota of work and was intending to go that evening to his Scout Troop's Carol Service. On Monday, of course, he was going back to work for a rest.

My real reason for telling you all this is to give the lie to those who accept too readily the obvious excuses for failure. Here are some of them: no time: there are evening classes, and there are girl friends. Well, I didn't check on every one of the Rovers in the 4th Harrow Crew but I can assure you that most of them look as though they have girls, and look very well on it; the vast majority are studying for their careers, and a considerable number of them are helping to run Scout Troops. They find the time to be enthusiastic Rovers simply and solely because their Crew matters to them, it is a privilege to belong to it, and it is a Crew worth belonging to.

I have every sympathy with the Rover Leader who is struggling along in difficulty but I do think that the Rover Leader who sets his sights a little higher than a Crew consisting of two chaps on National Service, one middle-aged loyalist, and a couple of chaps who turn up in civvies three times a year will stand more chance of success.

Frankly, I would like to see every Rover Leader who cannot within a year from now have at least ten active Rovers in his Crew give it up as a bad job because, believe me, it is a bad job if he cannot do as much as that.

B.-P. told us, and it has been quoted often enough, that "Rover Scouting is a Brotherhood of the Open Air and Service." "Brotherhood" means having enough chaps for a bit of communal good fun to be possible; "Open Air" means what it says, and "Service" means doing something, individually and collectively, for other people. It is still a very fine formula and the pity is that so few people seem to try it.

JOHN THURMAN,

Camp Chief

LUCK OF THE MONTH

By THE EDITOR

New Year's Day. - With the year one minute old, listen to the bells. Try to remember verses about New Year bells but can only remember two.

Lying, in bed awaiting sleep, invent a new game. You need six bells of any kind so long as they have different pitch and tone. To each you assign a letter, say a, e, h, r, s, t. Ring each bell and announce the letter it represents. The Patrols hear this two or three times. Then ring out simple words which the Patrols have to try and write down, such words as: hat, the sea, hash, see, steer, rather.

Later - Nice to see youth work recognised in the New Year's Honours List: our own Fred Hurl (C.B.F.) as well as Basil Secretary of the Army Cadets (O.B.E.).

Henriques (who gets a Knighthood) and Bill Newcombe, the We stay in the television news I see, for the first television bride, Miss Janet Turner, is a Cubmaster and her bridegroom-to-be, Barry Steel, a Scoutmaster.

You know I can hear B.-P. chuckling!

January 3rd. - Cost of printing blocks have gone up: printer's wages are going up: paper is going up again. I can honestly say that since I began editing in October 1944, not a thing connected with the job has gone down in price!

January 4th. - Snow, deep, plump, bulging. I am told (not having television myself) that Senior Scouts doing forestry work at Chalfont Heights appeared in a week-end Children's News Reel.

January 5th. - Today took up stamp-collecting, a hobby which till now has never attracted me, but which suddenly I think I might enjoy and which anyway will be a healthy counterpoise to much reading and writing. (Overseas readers, kindly note!)

January 6th. - Twelfth Night - a traditional date in my old Troop for discussing plans for Easter week-end. I've always thought that from the Scouting angle the next three months are the dearest of the year, but planning for more exciting days ahead keeps the flames of interest and enthusiasm flickering at least.

All the lovely Christmas cards that have (literally) covered my office walls must come down, but the friendships they betokened remain.

Lunch with a 16-year-old Troop Leader from one of our public schools who has both enthusiasm and charming good manners, both of which I have a weakness for. Rudeness, ill manners, lack of consideration for others and general loutishness are regrettable always, but distressingly so when (all too often) they appear in older Scouts.

January 7th. - With all the rising costs mentioned above, we have regretfully decided that the colour on THE SCOUTER covers is a luxury we can no longer afford.

January 10th. - A shepherd's-warning-morning. Don Sutherland writes to me about his appeal in THE SCOUTER last September for clothing, under the auspices of "Save the Children Fund":

"The goods have been pouring in during the past month as so many Groups have made the collection their Christmas Good Turns. I have already packed and despatched 4,988 garments, plus a large number of what are known as 'intimate female garments' whose names I could only guess at. In addition 4 cwts. of clothes were sent direct to our packers, and I have received about £10 in cash."

January 11th - interested in sales figures of Scouting for Boys.

Up to March 30, 1954, the Boy's edition, first published in 1932, had sold 748,792 copies. Earlier records of the complete edition disappeared in the blitz, but between March 30, 1938, and March 30, 1954, 138,082 copies were sold.

January 12th. - We're on television again. Mac of Gilwell and friend of his appeared in "Find the Link": the link this time was that they both sang at the then Mr. Winston Churchill's wedding!

January 13th. - Re-reading the five foolscap pages of comment on, and footnotes to, our December SCOUTER by our official critic, I decide to share two extracts (as follows) with our readers:-

"If Scouters from the C.C. downwards, took the trouble to teach the Promise and the Law properly, there would be no need for Jack Skillen to end his paragraph 'What a lesson for us all.'



NATURE SCRAPBOOK: (3) NEST OF SANDWICH TERN

How many Scouters could truthfully say that they had taught their Scouts to do their best to do their Duty to God, and the Queen, and to obey the Scout Law? How many Scouters from the C.C. downwards, set an example to their Scouts by going to Church or Chapel at least once every Sunday, if it is physically possible for them to do so? How many Scouters get their Scouts to promise to do this all their lives? How many really teach their Scouts the true meaning of the word 'Promise?' How many can truthfully say that they know their Scouts are doing their best to carry out this Promise, not only when they are in uniform, not only when they belong, actively, to the Group, but when they have left (for any reason whatsoever), so that they (the Scouters) know they will carry this Promise with them all through their lives? This is what B.-P. meant, and it is for us, to whom he has flung the torch, to see that his Desire is carried out."

"First Attempt." - A glorious yarn. It reminds me of a boy I had in the 7th Bromley in 1912. We went for our Summer Camp, for the second year running, to Southwold. Victor, who was a wool-gathering kind of boy, only just caught the train at Shortlands, by being flung into a carriage by a porter as the train was moving. At Southwold, he was nearly drowned, by getting out of his depth - he could not swim - in an unexpected hole. On the return journey from Holesworth to Liverpool Street, we were in a non-corridor coach. I was not in his compartment, but was told about it when we got to London. I felt my hair standing up! While the train was travelling at its best speed, Victor had leant out of the window and the door had opened. The others just managed to pull him back before he fell out!"

January 14th. - Reading with pleasure a history of the first forty-five years of "Scouting with St. Mary's Group, Twickenham." A sixty-four page booklet called *Scarves of Green*, it has been affectionately written by the present Scoutmaster, Donald Simpson, and has well-selected photographs. Already many who remember those early days have gone from us: any long-standing Group which would wish to get its history on to paper should begin now - especially with fiftieth birthdays coming along in the not too far distant future.

January 17th. - Johnnie Walker was telling me about one of his Seniors, Bob, who was due to go on his Venturer Hike last week-end - the worst week-end of the winter - and insisted on taking his hike tent to camp in, refusing all suggestions of barns. Said Bob "I'm not having anyone say that I got the badge the easy way." Which reminded me of something that Dr. A. E. Morgan once wrote: "Many leaders of youth fail to get a response from boys because they pitch their demands too low."

January 19th. - Quotation from a new detective story, *The House is Falling*, by Nigel Fitzgerald: "It's not much use to expect other people to appreciate what may be good in us, if we don't try to see what's good in them."

REX HAZLEWOOD.

6. CAVING IN GIBRALTAR

Well, what do you think of it, boys, I've made arrangements for a party of Rovers to visit St. Michael's Cave," said the R.S.L. at one of the Crew Meetings. Immediately, full attention was focused on Mr. McKillop. Cisarego stopped talking, Garro put the Crew Accounts to one side, Baldachino suddenly woke up from his undisturbed nap, in fact, the R.S.L. had dropped a bomb shell. "Are you serious, Mac," said the A.R.S.L. "After all, we haven't had any real adventure since we went to our last camp in Spain, and any more camps in that country are not permissible at the present." "Yes, boys, it's about time we started on more outdoor activities. We will begin our programme by visiting St. Michael's Cave." "Where shall we meet, Mac, and at what time?" "Well, if you all agree, we will make our rendezvous just below the Y.M.C.A. Day, Saturday, hour, 3.00 p.m., and don't forget to resurrect your oldest clothing from the bottom of your chest." "Fine, Mac, I will tell my girl not to come for me this Saturday," said Palmier.

St. Michael's Cave (Upper)

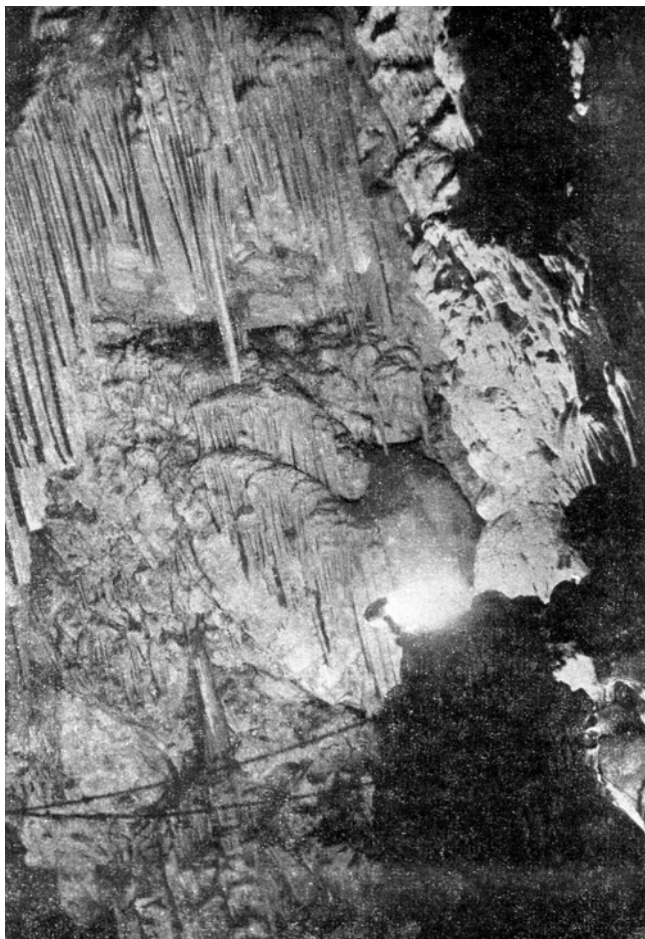
The fifteen members of the 2nd Gibraltar Crew met as agreed just below the Y.M.C.A. at 3.00 p.m. Saturday. Orlando and Tito were full of apologies in coming fifteen minutes later than the appointed time. "A buena hora vienen estos dos gandules," said Ernie in the vernacular. "Por poco itos vamos sin ustedes."

We set off going through Alameda Gardens, Water Catchments, past the Police Post and took a short cut up Mediterranean Road. At exactly 4.00 p.m., we arrived at St. Michael's Hut and Mac handed over the pass. We were supplied with two R.E. guides, to whom we owe many thanks for their eager interest in informing us on all aspects of caving and anecdotes connected with the Cave.

St. Michael's Upper is 1,000 ft. above sea level and is so called from the similarity of its appearance to that in the mountain "Gargano del Apulla," where St. Michael is said to have appeared. The entrance is small, but within is a species of lofty hall 220ft. long, 90 wide and 70 high, supported by stalactite pillars 5ft. in diameter. (N.B. tites and mites: As water trickles through the tiny cracks of limestone it dissolves the lime in the carbonic acid gas which it carries, and takes the lime along with it in the form of calcium carbonate [CaCO₃] or calcite. When it reaches an open space like a cave, it drips; and if the drip is slow enough to allow part of the water to evaporate, a little calcite is deposited at the place where the drop falls, and stalactites are formed, according to the way the drop falls, as daggers, or curtains, or flows over slopes. Where the drip meets the floor a stalagmite pillar will grow up towards the formation which is growing from the roof. Eventually both stalactite and stalagmite may join, to form a single column.) A stalactite grows one inch in sixty-four years. St. Michael's Cave is actually 2,000,000 years old, this true statement has been found out by measuring the stalactites and calculating the approximate age of each.

We were shown the entrance to Leonora's Cave, which is said to be connected with North Africa going right under the Mediterranean Sea, the Barbary apes are said to have made their way from Africa to Gibraltar by means of the cave. Incidentally, during the last World War, two officers who entered the cave, never returned. St. Michael's was used as an ammunition dump during the last war, but was opened to the public soon after the war. Actually, St. Michael's Upper was opened to the public on July 23, 1867, by the then Governor Airey, C.C.B. There is a painting in the Gibraltar Museum which shows the Governor and his officers drinking a toast to the cave while sitting on the stalagmites. The Upper Cave looks in appearance like a Gothic Church or huge organ. Two unique features of the cave are that the temperature is always constant and that the cave has no echo. The Upper Cave is described by Pomponius Mels, a geographer of the Augustan age, who says "This mountain (Calpe), with wonderful concavities, has its Western side almost opened by a large cave, which may be penetrated many hundreds of feet into the interior."

Explorers have penetrated far into this cave and have discovered a



STALAGMITES AND STALACTITES

long series of smaller caves, great quantities of fossil remains (including human skulls, bones and teeth), have been discovered; among them bones of goat, ox, ibex, and indeed all kinds of mammals; remains of birds, fish (chiefly tunny), and reptiles; stone axes and daggers, armlets and anklets, worked bone needles, spoons and hairpins; flint knives and chips, querns, rubstones, charcoal, sea shells, shell work, barnacles, and remains of jars and amphorae. The Upper Cave deserves a visit by those who haven't previously seen it.

St. Michael's Cave (Lower)

While the Upper Cave has its lofty and rather safe halls, the Lower Cave is completely different with its narrow openings and passages and not to say the least, its dangerous pitfalls. The Lower Cave was discovered in 1942, while drilling in the Upper Cave. The drillers encountered a hollow spot, and eventually hit on the cave. Just outside the tunnel leading to the cave was the following notice:

"ALL VISITORS WHO ENTER THIS CAVE DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK" One Rover, A.B., remained outside the cave in case we didn't appear at a certain time. The rest of us entered the tunnel for some distance and followed our guide down through a trap door, descended a perpendicular flight of steps and entered into a chamber 120 ft. in perimeter. From then on we crawled, one at a time, through a hole 3 ft. in diameter. Once through, a singular view of limestone rocks of all shapes and colours appeared, as if by magic, before our very eyes. Further on we encountered our first rope, which took us 15ft. down a steep and smooth rock face. "Yo no bajo," said Albert, "Ay, si mi madre se enterase." "Venga hombre, no tengas miedo," said Mac.

On we went, Sometimes climbing other times crawling up and through the natural formation of limestone rocks, very probably formed by water erosion, i.e. the constant flow of water through very narrow or even solid rocks (mainly limestone) which after a very long period of time are transformed into a labyrinth of underground passages.

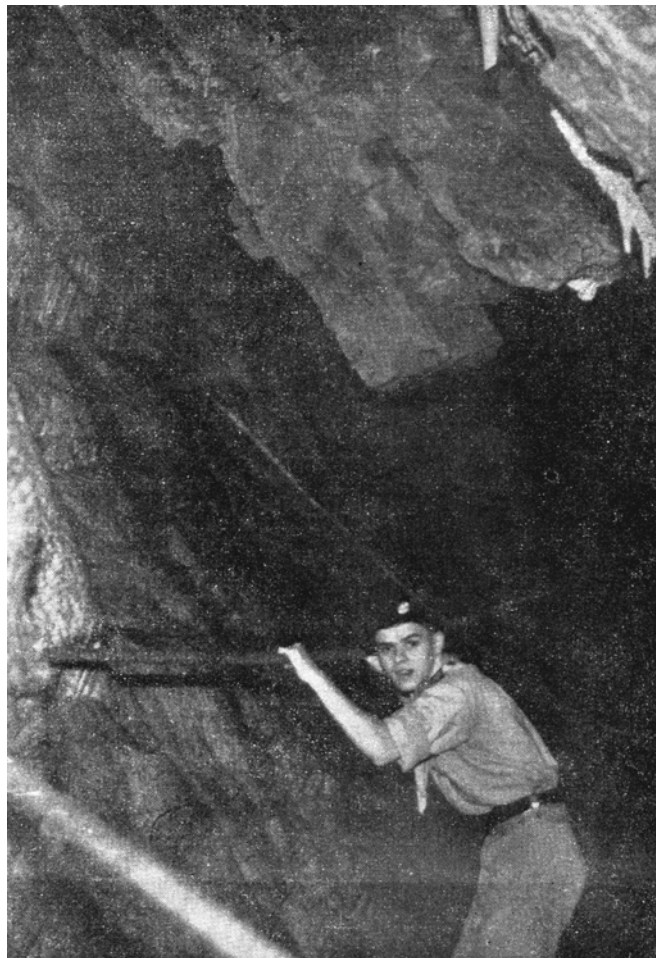
Soon we reached a place where two thick ropes were stretched, the other side was 30ft. away and down below awaited a 150-ft. drop with ugly looking promontories sticking upwards like sharp daggers. Our agile and safe crossing would have put the Gibraltar Defence Force in the shade (no insult intended). Once across, we had to tackle a 50ft. descent with the help of ropes and a little patience on our part. We had reached a narrow aperture in the limestone, which we again had to slide down with a thick, slippery rope. We continued our rather tricky progress and took a turning right and then left and over a wide stalagmite, and finally after having covered quite a distance since we first set out, half an hour ago, we arrived at what is called "El Lago," a 40ft. deep lake. Seeing is believing, so the saying goes, what we saw was really wonderful. The lake looked like an oasis on a moonlight night in the Sahara; of course, there were no palms, but the beauty of the lake had its effect on us. The return journey was uneventful, except for one thing which I should mention. Near the entrance of the cave, we saw a loose stalactite and asked permission from the guide to take it with us. Permission was granted and the stalactite, over three feet long and with more than 24,000 years to its credit, hangs on the wall of our H.Q., a constant reminder of our adventure.

A. TRAVERSO,
Hon. Secretary, 2nd Gibraltar Rover Crew.

In my article I have used a few Spanish phrases. Below is the translation into English:-

- "A buena hora vienen estos dos gandules" (Spanish).
- "About time too, you lazy hounds" (English).
- "Por poco nos vamos sin ustedes" (Spanish).
- "We nearly left without you" (English).
- "Yo no bajo."
- "Ay, si mu madre se enterase" (Spanish).
- "I won't go down there."
- "If mum found out" (English).
- "Venga hombre, no tengas miedo" (Spanish).
- "Come on man, there's nothing to be afraid of" (English).

A. T.



"HOLD TIGHT, TONY!"

CAVING FOR ADVENTURE

By **ALBERT WINSTANLEY**

Most Rovers and Senior Scouts who frequent the Yorkshire Pennines of C raven, will be familiar with the three peaks of Whernside, Penygent and Ingleborough, but how many know of the underworld tucked away in odd corners of their limestone terraced slopes?

Here are innumerable caves and pot-holes which give to the region a touch of mystery and certainly add to the interest that a visit brings. Many of the major caves and pot-holes, of course, require ropes, ladders and other elaborate tackle, but there are plenty that can be explored with ease by the visiting Scout or Rover, and this little tour is an ideal introduction to the Yorkshire underworld.

There is excellent camping at Stainforth or Horton-in-Ribblesdale, both villages being perfect centres for caving. At the side of the New Inn at Horton-in-Ribblesdale, take the road that keeps the Ribble company on the left. This road is followed to High Birkwith where it finishes at a barn and a gate over a bridge.

The stream bed under the bridge is usually dry, and if this is followed upwards to its head, the low entrance to High Birkwith Cave is seen. After a few yards' crawl over limestone, with one or two small pools of water to negotiate, one quickly gains height and a small waterfall is seen and easily climbed. The way is then comfortable, and the cave ends in a long narrow lake which turns directly right, the roof meeting the water.

This cave communicates with Old Ing Cave which is in a field behind Old Ing Farm nearby, although a through route has never been made.

On leaving the cave, regain the footpath on the left of the gill and turn left at the gate opening on to the "green" road.

Immediately to the right at the next gate across the road are the Calf Holes - twin pot-holes some thirty-five feet deep with an impressive water all pouring into one of them. The water engulfed by Calf Holes comes to light at Brow Gill Cave which is reached on the surface in ten minutes or so.

Follow the pathway to the first gate on the left, near a barn. Go through the gate and make your way to a small clump of trees near a ruined lime-kiln on the left, just below a mass of limestone clints. Brow Gill Cave is at the side of the old kiln and is certainly the finest cave in the area for those being introduced to the sport for the first time.

Its impressive entrance is some fifteen feet high and the way for some distance is by wading in the stream bed. A word of warning - beware of the limestone rocks and pinnacles standing in the bed of the stream; they are razor-edged.

Then comes a spell of hand-and-knee work and a few yards of crawling, after which the cave opens out into a huge and lofty chamber where the floor is littered with great rocks tumbled in profusion. This underground cavern now leads to a "letter-box" squeeze through a narrow fissure, and gradually the roar of an unseen waterfall is heard. Soon comes a damp spray and, as the fissure comes to an end, "Waterfall Chamber" is reached. From some twenty feet above, a waterfall pours down, the immediate rocks on the right of the fall being covered in white and yellow calcareous deposit. The noise in the confined space is deafening.

It is possible to reach the top of the fall by an easy rock climb that leads upwards just before the fissure you have squeezed through comes to an end.

Above the fall, the way is determined by the amount of water in the stream although there is a through route to Calf Holes.

As you retrace your steps and the cave entrance is regained, the view of the stream flowing down the gill to eventually join the Ribble is a striking one. You will, I know, I agree that your introduction to the underworld of Yorkshire has been a good one. Perhaps you will be fired by enthusiasm to explore more of this strange land (there are over two hundred other caves and pot-holes in the area).

Back at the camp site, washed, refreshed, and in dry clothes, inner man well satisfied, and comfortably sitting round the camp fire, there will come that sense of achievement and the happy thought that there is 'something' about this caving that is exciting and totally different from anything experienced in the open.

A few last words of warning, however, before you go. Do NOT go alone, have at least four in the party, including an experienced leader - accidents happen in the most simple cave. Go in old clothes and have a dry change; you WILL get wet. Have good lights and spare bulbs for your torch or lamp. Take candles and matches, they are invaluable for cave work, and above all, plenty of food - it is hungry work. Lastly, may I wish you good cave hunting.

ROVER ROUNDABOUT

Many years ago when a large building estate was nearly complete just outside London, my Group was transported one evening, lock, stock and barrel, to a new mission hall, where, by putting on our latest show we had hopes of encouraging the local lads to join the Scouts. The week before Xmas I paid another visit to the same hall, where about sixty blind folks and their guides sat down to a dinner, which for the past nine years has been organised by the Rover Crew. It was not easy to find out the story, but I gathered that at the first meeting only five people came along, but they were not dismayed and persevered. After a little while the local blind folk got to know the club and every month now finds a crowd of happy smiling faces, thanks to the good turn started by the Crew. Actually the organisation side has been taken over by a lady whom they interested in the work and the Crew are now virtually back-room boys, but make no mistake these happy folk are quite able to entertain themselves. It will be a long time before I forget the radiant faces as those able to play the piano or accordion led their blind friends in the sing-song after the turkey and plum pudding.

The December News Sheet for Rovers sent to me by the Woolwich (London) District is worth consideration by all of us:

Why do so many Senior Scouts leave to join the forces at 18 years of age and are not heard of again in Scouting?

This question has been considered by a number of representatives of the London Rover Council and the London Senior Scout Committee, and a report on this is published in the December issue of the London Leaflet.

I know that you will all agree that this is a most important problem so I make no apology for reproducing "The Reasons" and "The Remedies" as published.

The Reasons

- (1) There is no Rover Crew for them to join.
- (2) They do not want to become Rovers.
- (3) They change their views on life whilst in the Services.
- (4) They have "had enough of Scouting."
- (5) Senior Scouting has not yet been fully accepted in some districts, and therefore many boys have not really become Senior Scouts.
- (6) There is no liason between Senior Scouting and Rovering, therefore these young men are ignorant of the aims and ideals of Rovering.
- (7) "Rovers do nothing but talk. There is not enough activity."
- (8) The intangibility of Rovering in comparison with the definite training programmes of the other Sections of Scouting.
- (9) Senior Scouting (and we regret the Queen's Scout Badge) is often regarded as an end in itself, instead of a preparation for Rovering and life.

The Remedies

We believe it is important that Senior Scouts should become Rovers before they enter the Forces, and that a time limit of say four to six months be set to achieve this, To this end:

- (1) We should continue and increase our efforts to promote more worthwhile Rover Crews.
- (2) If there is no Crew attached to a Group, a Senior Scout of that Group should be encouraged to join another Crew in the district. This may tend to divide his loyalties, but we believe that this plan will eventually lead to more Crews being formed when Rovers return.
- (3) The Group, through the G.S.M., R.S.L. and individual Rovers should keep in close contact with the serving Rover while he is away.
- (4) The Group must endeavour to have a place ready for the Rover on his return and a definite job for him to do.
- (5) The interest of those who do not wish to continue active Scouting could be retained by encouraging them to act as part time Instructors, Group Committee men, or where this is not possible to join the B.-P. Guild.
- (6) Rover Crews where established must ensure that their programmes are WORKING programmes and designed to cater for the young man of 17 plus as well as the older man.
- (7) We suggest that Rover Crews might occasionally invite the Senior Scout Troop, or picked older members of it, to join with them on a hike or a discussion, thus making a Senior Scout's acceptance into the Crew a progression rather than a definite step.

You will all agree that this is a matter that concerns every Rover and a problem which can be solved only by the help of every Rover in every Group.

I wonder whether many Districts pass on this sort of information to the ordinary common or garden Rover in the Movement? I feel sure that this is the way in which we can make our fellows feel that they are responsible members of a section which has got, and should be made aware of, a Duty to the future members of the section. Now get talking over these findings.

ROVER COMMENTS, the Hertfordshire Christmas Number News Sheet, has also the right idea, as far as putting the Rover gen in is concerned, for it contains a page on Form RS.L. and, what is more, a copy of the form itself. Now I bet that has shaken a few folks who have been in and out of the Forces without even having heard of the existence of the forms. Certainly Frank Churchill, the A.D.C. Rovers, Barnet, Potters Bar and District is doing a grand job in editing this lively news sheet which I see costs the Rovers nothing, thanks to the generosity of a few good friends of Rovering.

ROVER STIR, a publication sent me by the 1st Saint Ives (Hunts) Rover Crew, shows that they have a very live and well-conducted Group, in which the Crew is undoubtedly a strong centre. What is more in my humble opinion the fact that the Scouters of the Group are members of the Crew not doing jobs in the Crew, but as members simply, is as it should be. But how often it is not, because somebody thinks that there is no place in the Crew for the fellow who holds a warrant.

I was much encouraged last month, when invited to go to an evening run by the Rovers in an adjoining District. They had invited the Senior Scouts to spend the evening with them and it was a revelation to many of them, I am sure, to see that Rovers can do as much as they can when it comes to roughhouse games. My job was to give them a yarn on the possibilities of Rovering and to encourage them to throw in their lot with us when they became old enough. You know this should not be, if each one of us spoke quite naturally of the Senior finishing his training as a complete Scout within the framework of the Crew. Too often we forget that our full title is that of Rover Scout. It will be just the same in the future if we use the term Seniors when we should say Senior Scouts. Our strongest point over many other organisations concerned in youth work is the Group System, where we keep contact with the boys from Cub age right through. Make sure that everyone in your Group realises it and then the Crew indeed will reflect the strength of your Scouting. I have yet to see a second-rate Group with a strong Rover Scout Crew.

JACK SKILLEN.

41. SENIOR SCOUTS' FIRE DRILL

It was the West Sussex Annual Get-together Week-end for Senior Scouts, being held as usual at the West Sussex Education Committee's Centre at Lodge Hill, near Pulborough.

The "Scouts Own" had just ended, and the notice board stated that the next of the day's activities was the "West Sussex Fire Brigade."

Most of the Senior Scouts expected, I think, to find outside several fire appliances, with turntable escapes and gushing hoses, etc., but to their surprise and perhaps momentary disappointment they found one van and two men of the Fire Service: I say momentary disappointment because by the end of the morning they all felt, I am sure, that they had learned a great deal more which was of use to themselves than if they had just watched an ordinary demonstration of how the Fire Service operates.

They were taken to some outbuildings, from which clouds of dense smoke billowed forth. This represented a burning building, inside which, they were informed, people were trapped and it was their job to get them out. However, before they dashed wildly into the smoke, they were given instructions as to the method of tackling such a task properly.

They were to operate in pairs and as this first part of the drill was to be carried out without any breathing apparatus, they would have to move with the utmost speed. First the door was unfastened and the first person to enter would ensure that number two was ready (a damp handkerchief which helps to filter the smoky air can be tied round the nostrils), then the door is opened and after entering is closed again.

The first one will then turn to the right (decided before entering) and the second to the left, both keeping to the wall and moving close to the floor. This for two reasons is important, the smoke is thinner at a lower level, and if there are any people trapped they would probably be unconscious on the floor.

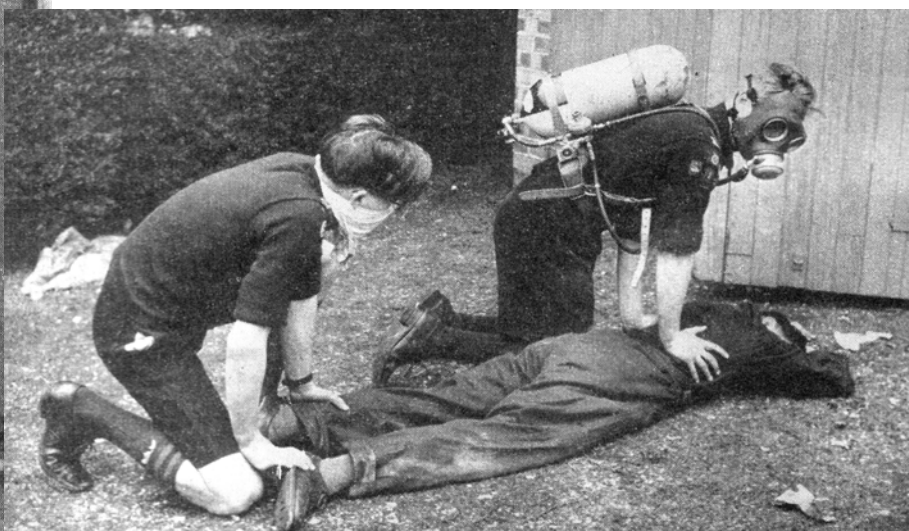
The rescuers should continue round the wall until they meet. If they have not found anyone, they should then carry on round gradually getting closer to the centre on each round.

In the event of one of them finding a "body" he should clap his hands to bring his assistant to his aid, and then as quickly as possible get the persons out into the air, and then apply artificial respiration.

The instructions over, the Scouts were ready to "have a go," and into the smoke-filled building they went to rescue the "body" specially put there by the fireman who was wearing breathing apparatus. Some of them were only in there a few seconds but others were so long that they themselves nearly had to be rescued, but they all came out in the end quite safely, and with their "body."

The last part of the exercise was in the use of the breathing apparatus; this was demonstrated to the Seniors and some of them put it on and carried out actual rescue drill, carrying out bodies in the correct manner. They also tackled a small fire with an extinguisher. This experience they all agreed was very valuable in the event of such an emergency arising, and although as they walked back to their lunch at Lodge Hill they still had a very strong smell of smoke in their hair and clothes, they had enjoyed this novel experience very much.

In concluding, may I add that this is a thing which nearly all groups could lay on for their Seniors at some time in any old garage or shed - all you need is plenty of smoke and a "dummy" - even if it is your S.M.!



JUNGLE DAYS - II

We were having a finger painting session in the Den when John, six-foot Senior Scout, looked in to ask if he could borrow the pump from a Cub's bicycle outside. Christopher, the owner, looked a little doubtful and I hastily assured him "It's all right - he's one of our Scouts," and added when John had vanished, "It seems only a little while ago that he was a Cub like you." "What! That man?" gasped an incredulous voice. Strange how the years which stretch like eternity before our Cubs are telescoped for us as we look back. Can it really be seven years since John, a solemn and quiet recruit, made his Cub promise? And Bill and Roger, our newest Cub instructors, how short a time it seems since they themselves held out grubby paws for inspection. Now, with cheerful patience they help this new Pack, which is yet the same Pack, and at camp leap to relieve the Old Wolves of water buckets with true Scout courtesy. Yet they were such unremarkable Cubs, neither more patient nor more thoughtful than the rest. Perhaps this very rascal Bobby, whose paint-laden fingers are even now creeping towards the neck of the nearest Cub, will one day be a pillar of strength to the Pack.

I was involved the other day in a friendly argument about the advantages, or otherwise, of having Cub Instructors. I personally owe them a debt of gratitude - from Grey Wolf, seasoned C.I. lent by a neighbour Pack to guide my first faltering Jungle steps with pitying tolerance, to Chil and Rann, Mowgli and Kim, all of them beyond price - and infinitely better at teaching semaphore than I! I have never divined their secret method - I only know that Cubs left to them for a week or two emerge knowing the semaphore alphabet, while left to me they dither for months.

Not that I always found them an unmixed blessing. I suffered before I discovered that although that pretty Guide may mean that you have an unlimited supply of Scouts ready to help with the Pack it is unlikely that the Pack will receive their undivided attention. Scouts or Guides - but not both! I found too that the more they have to do, the more use they are - though of course it would be wrong to leave them to carry out tasks beyond their years or expect them to spend too much time on Pack affairs. Now I always begin with the words "The Troop and your Patrol must come first - but do let me know if you can't come." And they usually do.

Sorting out gear before Pack started the other night I saw, from the Den window, a policeman leading in a boy by the hand, followed by a subdued looking Pack. All Akelas will know how my heart sank! "Now what have they been up to?"



"It's from the Reds. I didn't know they cared!"

But it was only a new recruit being brought by his father. I implored Father not to appear again in uniform without due warning.

A conversation with another C.M. the other day left me wondering if there is anything in Cub Scouting more disheartening than the good Pack attached to the bad Troop? To send trained, enthusiastic Cubs up into an undisciplined mob, knowing that all you have taught them will soon be forgotten and that, even if they don't drift away altogether, that carefully nurtured spark which might one day have become the flame of the Scout Spirit will certainly be extinguished. It is doubly hard for those of us who have a sneaking feeling that we could run a better Troop ourselves. We probably could run a more efficient Troop but (I speak now to those of my own sex) I very much doubt if we should produce better Scouts. When a boy goes-up he throws off the last apron string and, however smartly he may obey us, our presence in authority over him does not help his self-respect. Scouting is, after all, a male Movement and we, however indispensable we think we have become, are here on sufferance. Ours the task, when S.M.s fail, to chivvy with infinite tact G.S.M.s, Sponsoring Authorities and D.C.s until something is done.

To have a good G.S.M. is one of the greatest gifts a C.M. can ask, but a good Rover Crew is a very great help too. Only those Old Wolves who are themselves fortunate in belonging to a complete Group can appreciate the bliss of a Crew whose "Service" embraces the Pack. Has the lock of the Pack box gone wrong? Do we need a "proper" plank instead of an upturned form? I wistfully mention the fact aloud as the Crew assembles - and behold, next week a decrepit form has been transformed into a most efficient plank, the Pack box is soundly locked again. The Pack think it's wonderful too. The very newest recruit remarked, in the light of the District Cub Camp Fire, "We're the chieftest Pack here, Akela!" and when I gently chided this over-patriotic outburst and inquired why he thought so, "Well, OUR Rovers built the fire!" Failing Rovers though, a good Senior Scout Troop or Patrol might be a very good substitute from Akela's point of view!

Of course, having a Rover Crew cuts both ways, as I realised not long ago when I found myself up to the elbows in flour, demonstrating the making of doughnuts and bread rolls to a Crew who had decided to take their cooking seriously. They reverted the next week to cooking rabbits on a spit.

One day, at a County Conference or Cubbers' Palaver, I am going to make an entrance with sandwich boards reading "Down with District Activities for Cubs!" The only Districts where I have had time to devote to real Cub Training have been those where District events were confined to about two a year, e.g. Sports and a Camp Fire. But I am all in favour of Cub Scouter foregathering fairly frequently (say alternate months) to dispatch a little business, keep up to date with District news and natter over problems.

What are the qualities of a good Akela? I would place iron nerves and a strong stomach near the top - especially for outdoor activities. Wending our way to the site of the District Camp Fire the Pack discovered a very dead rat lying in the middle of the lane. They examined it with interest and I had just succeeded in dragging them away when the coach bringing another Pack came along, a wheel went right over the corpse and it exploded with a most revolting noise - a sound which haunted me for days afterwards. Not so the Cubs! It made the day for them and they examined the wheels for traces with scientific zeal. Which only goes to show that horror is where you find it.

William, our Totem Pole, now proudly wears two purple ribbons among the white ones which stand for Cubs now in the Troop, and he bears a replica of the Queen's Scout badge made for us by one of the Crew. Visitors look curiously at the purple splendour and the Pack take great pleasure in informing them that they stand for ex-Cubs of the Pack who have gained their Queen's Scout badge. They take a proprietary interest too, in the progress of our C.I.s towards that same goal and, as they step across the dividing line at the Going-up Ceremony, clutching their newly presented Scouting for Boys, I know they go with the intention that a purple ribbon shall hang there for them one day.

RAKSHA.

THE GAMES CHEST:

CUBS

BUTTONS

1. STITCH IN TIME

Gear: For each Six - piece of stout cloth or felt; large button needle with large eye; length of cotton; thimble.

Purpose: Practice for Homecraft Badge.

Teams play in relay order, Sixer at head, Second at rear. Gear on chair at some distance. On word "go" Sixer runs to chair, threads needle and secures cotton to material. Rest of Six in turn put one stitch in button. Second fastens off. First Six with button securely fixed wins.

MARY SMITH.

2. TIDDLY-BUTTON

Gear: For each Six, one large and one small button. A hat or tin.

Purpose: Patience and just for fun.

Sixes in relay order. Sixer holds buttons. Hat or other container at some distance. On word "go," Sixer "tiddle-winks" small button with large until it jumps into hat. Brings back to second Cub and so on down Six. First Six to complete wins. MARY SMITH.

3. MORSE BUTTONS

Gear: Four large and four small buttons for each Six.

Purpose: To learn Morse.

After a suitable preliminary period of instruction in part of the alphabet, arrange Sixes in relay formation.

In front of each team, and at the other end of the Den, place a chair, or mark a square on the floor with chalk, and on it put the eight buttons.

Old Wolf calls a letter, and the first of each team must race up and arrange that letter in Morse, using the bigger buttons for dashes and the smaller ones for dots. First correct letter wins point for Six. Cub returns to back of team, and No. 2 takes his place.

When the Sixers know enough letters themselves, they may stand by the chair, or square, and check the rest of their Sixes.

This game should sometimes be played with that part of the Pack which is learning Morse, while the rest are doing something else. When Cubs are sure of the first group of letters, let them try with a few new ones added.

A. M. DOUGLAS.

4. TWOS

Gear: As many pairs of buttons as there are Cubs!

Purpose: Training in alertness and observation.

Old Wolf, having paired off sufficient number of buttons (and it does not matter if several pairs are the same sort of button) calls Pack into relay formation, and places one pile of buttons in a chalk circle at the other end of the Den, and scatters the others all round the room.

First part of the game is a straight relay - each Cub running to circle and picking up one button. Points are given to winning Six, and then the whole Pack is let loose to find a pair to its button. First Six with all buttons paired wins further points.

A. M. DOUGLAS and ERICA GRAHAM.

5. SIXER'S NECKLACE

Gear: Enough buttons to have two of the same type for each Cub. A short length of cotton for each Six.

Purpose: Observation, use of fingers.

Cubs line up in Sixes as for relay race. Each Cub is given a button. At the word "go," the first Cub runs forward and finds the partner to his button from a pile at the bottom of the hall, returns to his Six and the next Cub runs forward. Whilst the second Cub is looking for his pair, the first one threads his two on to a piece of cotton, by which time the second Cub should have returned, who in turn threads his two on, and so on. The first Six to finish, with the Sixer wearing a complete necklace, is the winner.

JAGOO and W. N. PAUL.



"I would like to speak to the Cubmaster, please.."

6. BUTTON HUNT

Gear: Various types of buttons.

Purpose: Observation training.

The buttons are hidden around the room and the Cubs working in Sixes hunt for these for a given period of time. Points are awarded, e.g. plain button, 1; linen, 2; fancy, 3; gilt, 4, etc. The Six with the highest number of points wins.

GB. ML.

7. BUTTON SEMAPHORE

Gear: A piece of fine string and a set of coloured buttons for each Six. Set should consist of six different colours, i.e. green, black, white, orange, red, yellow, violet, pink, and so on.

Purpose: Signalling practice and perseverance. Sixes in relay formation at end of hall.

Opposite end on a chair (one for each Six), are the buttons and string. Akela signals beginning letter of colour and first Cub runs up and threads button of this colour on the string. Akela signals another colour and so on until each Cub has had a turn. Akela need not wait for first Cub to return before sending second button colour and so on. Each Cub has to wait for the previous Cub to thread the button. Six back with all buttons threaded on string are winners. (This is a good way to memorise the more difficult letters in semaphore.)

MOLLY BOLTON.

8. BUTTON COMPETITION

Gear: Box of assorted buttons enough for each Cub to have at least six. Tray or lid for each Six for winning buttons.

Purpose: Fun.

Cubs sit on floor in Sixes. Akela deals out buttons and calls or signals for a certain sort. Each Cub chooses one from his collection and puts it in front of his pile. Akela judges these and the best is put into the Six tray.

Suggested types: Biggest, darkest, smallest, palest, prettiest, shiniest, bluest, greenest, etc. Buttons made of leather, glass, stuff, wood, bone, brass, tin, etc.

Winner is the Six with the largest number of winning buttons.

ERICA GRAHAM.

BOOKS

SOME YOUNG PEOPLE

Some Young People: a Study of Adolescent Boys and Girls, sponsored by King George's Jubilee Trust and compiled by Pearl Jephcott (George Allen and Unwin Ltd., 12s. 6d.).

King George's Jubilee Trust, to which the Scout Movement owes so much, set up a Committee about 1949; "(a) to consider the membership of the youth organisations and to ascertain how this membership is distributed over the adolescent period; to analyse the duration in individual membership; to ascertain the causes of unsatisfactory leakage; and to recommend methods by which this might be reduced; (b) to ascertain what proportion of the adolescent population is not attached to any youth organisation; to discover the reasons for its not being attracted to youth organisations and to make recommendations as to how young people who might benefit might be attracted either to existing organisations, or to new types of organisations."

This book is the result of the Committee's deliberations for five years, and had been eagerly awaited by the Boy Scouts Association. It had been hoped that it would help us in our "leakage" investigation by giving us comparable figures for other organisations on a nationwide basis. These hopes have not been fulfilled, for the book contains almost nothing at all under heading (a) above, and no valid statistical information under either heading.

The method adopted by the Committee was to ask a small research staff to investigate seven small areas - two in London, one in Nottingham, and four villages in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire - and to gather the opinions, first of adolescents themselves and secondly of adults who knew them and their backgrounds; 939 young people of 13-17 (537 boys and 402 girls) were considered. This is far too small a sample on which to base any general conclusions, and makes the book far less valuable than, for example, the study of young people in Birmingham published a few years ago under the title of "Eighty Thousand Adolescents."

But while we may be disappointed that this book does not fulfil the expectations aroused by the terms of reference of the Committee, it is nevertheless full of interest for the opinions expressed by Miss Jephcott and the other investigators, and it is a pity that King George's Jubilee Trust could not publish it at a lower price than 12s. 6d.

The report is easy to read, and refreshingly free of the appalling jargon of some professional reports. The research staff, particularly in Nottingham, evidently went to endless trouble to gain the confidence of the young people, and to get them to talk. We could all read it with advantage, even if much of it only confirms what we knew already.

It cannot, however, be said that the compilers of the report have solved the problem of getting the industrial adolescent into a youth organisation. Indeed, it would not be unfair to sum up their investigations by the following quotation, where they are referring to the way in which a number of these young people spend their leisure time:

"A few programmes were indicative of time well spent, but many showed the aimless activity of those who had little purpose. The lives of these young people were so anchorless, and so few had an actual hobby, that one wondered whether even the perfect club would interest them."

J. F. C.

RELIGION

The Daily Life of the Christian, by John Murray (S.C.M., 7s. 6d.).

This is admirable. Indeed, if it had included one further chapter, this time on the daily devotional life of the Christian, it would have been excellent.

As it is, it is one of the sanest and most readable books of its kind we've encountered. Your reviewer admits frankly that if he had been given this at eighteen, and had had the sense to act upon it, he would have been saved from more blunders than he dare count!

The book visualises the Christian in his everyday situations and relationships - at his work, in his home, in his amusements, etc. It sees him falling in love, getting married, becoming a father.

It contemplates him as a member of a local community; as a citizen in the Welfare State, and as a Britisher. And in each of these responsibilities it offers a wealth of accumulated wisdom.

The opening chapter, on the Christian at his Work, ought to be made compulsory reading! It says so much that is quite first-rate. Here is the kind of thing many of us have been aching to put into the hands of school-leavers, and of the lads just about to finish their National Service. Yes, but it's more than that! A good many Scouters could read this chapter with personal profit!

The same enthusiastic commendation might be made of the chapters on the Christian at Home, and on the Use of Sunday. They're packed with sound judgments.

All in all, this is a book for every Scouter who takes the First Promise seriously. As he faces the endless moral problems that arise in his Group, he'll find it invaluable. Whether it's the perennial problem of the rival claims of home or of the Movement; or his Lady Cub-master's headache as to whether she's wise to become engaged to that attractive young atheist; or his personal perplexity as to the claim (if any?) his dormitory suburb has upon him - here is judgment so sound that it cannot be ignored.

But oh! that the Epilogue had been extended, to offer practical guidance about the place of prayer and Bible reading in the daily life of the Christian!

WILFRED WADE.

LEISURE READING

Tibetan Marches, by Andre Migot (Hart Davis, 18s.).

The title of this pleasant book can refer equally to the borderlands of China and Tibet where Dr. Migot ventured or to the forced marches he made in his arduous journey. Of the book itself it is probably sufficient to say that without any doubt it ranks high in the many excellent books about Tibet and that it is beautifully translated (as one would expect) by Peter Fleming. But I must tell you something about the author and cannot do better than quote from the translator's brief and admirable introduction:- "He served in the First World War as Medical Officer to a battalion of infantry, being awarded the Croix de Guerre. For ten years thereafter he carried out researches, both in the laboratory and at sea, into marine biology, in his spare time making a reputation as a mountaineer in the Alps and Pyrenees. From 1925 to 1938 he practised medicine in France and then bicycled to India, where he continued the studies of Oriental religions which have always engrossed him. When war broke out he was posted to a Military Hospital at Dyon, and during the German Occupation of France worked as a doctor in Paris. After the war he went to Indo-China, where the story of Tibetan Marches begins."

A remarkable man, you see: and his compassionate lively book contains some remarkable adventures. At one stage he was stripped by bandits of everything he possessed: "everything had gone - all the money for my journey, the gold bars, the U.S. dollars, the Chinese dollars, the pounds sterling: my clothes, underclothes, sweaters, shoes, raincoat, camping-kit, blankets, sleeping-bag, Leica films, medicine-chest, books, revolver, carbine, ammunition."

And then: "The Chinese Inn-Keeper and I, left to our own devices, took one look at each other and roared with laughter. The bandits had taken his gown and left him with nothing but his underclothes, which were not in the best of repair. My costume consisted of an ancient pair of trousers, a very thin shirt and a pair of socks; as the excitement ebbed away, I began to shiver, for it was still only March, and up in the Mountains the early mornings were bitterly cold."

It should be added that the author is very interested in and attracted to Buddhism and was in fact initiated into the Karmapa sect.

There won't for some time it seems be many traveller's tales of any quality coming from China and Tibet. So we are doubly fortunate to have Dr. Migot as a companion even if we do not share his spiritual enthusiasms or his rose-coloured spectacles for gazing at Tibetans. He has provided us, too, with some beguiling photographs taken as he went his strange and arduous way.

R. H.

DEAR EDITOR

What would you do C(hu)M?

DEAR EDITOR,

In reply to your correspondent who asks whether he should accept his son into his own Cub Pack or no, I should say "No."

I think that I can speak with some authority as no less than six of the Cubs in this Pack have parents who are Group Scouters.

We have found that not only does it cause a good deal of embarrassment to both the boy and the parent, but in order to avoid any small possibility of there being any appearance of favouritism the boy is subjected to a stricter degree of both testing and efficiency than he would otherwise be.

I must say that in the case of my assistants they do act very fairly, they never give any private tuition at home, do not pass them in any star tests, or inspect their Six if he is a Sixer.

Having three Packs in the Group makes it possible for us to have him in the Group and at the same time apart from "Mum."

The Cub, too, feels more free in his actions and able to be the Cub he wants to be.

I would advise my brother Old Wolf to resist the temptation to take Jimmie under his wing and let him work his own passage in the same way as the rest of the Pack, and who knows but he might bring home some new ideas?

ERIC J. HORSE,

Cubmaster, 1st Ilford North.

DEAR EDITOR,

I can sympathise with Mr. and Mrs. Sharp of Belfast because without any word to me, my son at 8¼ years joined the Pack of the Group of which I was then S.M. and now G.S.M.

However, they can take courage because it has all worked out very well and I have just had the pleasure of presenting my son on behalf of the CC. with the Queen's Scout Badge nine years later.

Throughout his Cub and Scout career I have made it a point never to take him for a test and never to give him greater facilities for training than those which were available to the other boys. In this I think I have sometimes been a bit unfair to him, but in this way the tag of "favourite" has never been nor can be applied.

I can therefore recommend Mr. and Mrs. Sharp to take their boy into their own Pack, if he wishes to join it (how disappointed he would be if he had to join another Pack!), and always ask other Scouters to take him for tests of any kind, even if, as I have done, they have to enlist the aid of Scouters of other Groups to maintain impartiality.

The ladies can be rather soft-hearted, as we all know, so that Mr. Sharp will have to keep an eye on his A.C.M. in this respect - a difficulty with which I did not have to contend because my wife was not a Scouter.

C. L. Loan,

1st St. Austell.

Capless Cubs

DEAR EDITOR,

The suggestion made by the Town Commissioner of Southampton in his letter in the October issue, that hats might be omitted from Scout uniform altogether is, I think, even more applicable to Cubs.

The cost of replacement of Cub caps more than other parts of the uniform is an expense which some parents seem reluctant to meet. The reason may be that caps are lost too frequently, or that they all too soon become unpresentable due to shrinkage or other reasons, or that parents nowadays do not regard a cap as an essential item of dress. Whatever the reason may be, the result is that a capless Cub cannot display his 1st or 2nd star badge.

I doubt whether the Cub cap appeals very much to a small boy as it is similar to an ordinary school cap and from past observation I am inclined to think that once the attraction of a new uniform has worn off he regards the cap and also the garter tabs as quite useless except for giving points at inspection.

In the absence of caps I suggest that Old Wolves could turn their attention to encouraging better groomed hair.

It is interesting to notice that the boys of at least two public schools (i.e. Westminster and Christ's Hospital) do not now wear any hats in the streets but they can, of course, be distinguished by their ties or other dress.

DAVID C. PEGRAM,

Rover Scout, 3rd Putney.

More Heresies

DEAR EDITOR,

I've fairly "put the cat among the canaries" - haven't I? By a curious coincidence the perfect answer to Mr. Dunkerley is printed on the opposite page to that which carries his letter. I refer to the delightfully human and understanding letter over the signature of Mr. Lionel S. Pope.

These two letters, read together, throw into strong relief diametrically opposed outlooks on Scouting.

One school of thought regards the Scout Movement as primarily an instrument of Uplift through which they can force their ideas of "what is good for the boy." "Good, strong honest-to-goodness discipline" - make the little blighters toe the line. "Big Brother" knows what is good for them.

There is another outlook, however, which is very ably expressed by Mr. Pope. It is the outlook of people who are in Scouting simply to help the boys to play the game of Scouting in their own way.

I have no doubt that his discipline - self-discipline - is every bit as good and that he gets the deeper things of Scouting across much more effectively.

I don't think that Mr. Dunkerley has read my article with either an open mind or understanding heart.

I have been experimenting with Scouting for thirty-five years and, I hope, not unintelligently. One of my "findings" is that over-insistence on dress regulations is one of the causes of leakage especially among 'teenage boys. There are too many people in the Movement who interpret Scouting in terms of District Rallies and the like whereas, in point of fact, Scouting is half a dozen boys frying sausages in the lee of a dyke.

All I am suggesting is that it would help us to hold the older boy if we modified Scout uniform to some degree and also modified our ideas as to what constitutes a full-dress (ceremonial) occasion.

In my view the ordinary Troop Meeting does not - yet many Troops insist on full and correct uniform and meticulous inspection. It is the boys' own Meeting so let them come and enjoy it in their old clothes if they want to.

A Church Parade or District Rally is quite a different matter. My experience is that, when called upon, the boys will always rise to the occasion.

May I assure Mr. Dunkerley that I am not the "exhibitionist" which he portrays. I am merely one who is constantly observing Scouts and, in the light of my observations, trying to find solutions to some of the problems which face us. Sometimes we have got to weigh two desirable ends one against the other and decide which will yield the biggest dividends. I won't allow my Scout thinking to be circumscribed by platitudes, taboos or even P.O.R. If I think that the wisdom of some long accepted principle is doubtful I'll say so. I may quite well be wrong, but nothing but good can come from thoughtful discussion.

In this particular instance I think that the good of the boys is being forgotten in the desire of some of us to make a splash with the public. If you drive "Johnny" out of the Troop by nagging about uniform, or anything else, one thing is certain - you'll never make a Scout of him. If you retain him, with all his faults, there remains a chance of success. Some of us are apt to forget that the making of a Scout is a long process.

Just turn back to the December SCOUTER and read Mr. Lionel Pope again.

JOCK NEISH,

County Commissioner, Angus.

Rover/Ranger Conferences

DEAR EDITOR,

Now that we are on the threshold of a new year with the prospect of many Rover, and Rover/Ranger Conferences before us I feel inclined to air a few views on the topic. Each year, I find, that my diary appears to become more crammed with conference dates. After some of these, the thought often strikes me as to how little attention and forethought on the part of the organisers is given to the selection of a suitable theme and of ensuring the comfort of those attending.

With the advent of the new season of local, county, and multi-county conferences it would repay those who arrange these things to consider in every detail their plans, before they even start to advertise the fact that they are going to hold a conference. So that this criticism will not seem entirely unconstructive I will endeavour to mention some of the items which might merit further consideration.

1. Themes. I have before me as I write, a leaflet advertising a conference with a theme of Citizenship. On going through my files there appear more of these decorous sounding themes, such as: "Leadership," "Leadership and Service," "Responsibility," to quote but a few. I plead here for a little originality of thought in future selections.

2. Talking points. Instead of being talked at by well meaning speakers on some of the above themes, what a change it would make for the company to be split up into groups for the purpose of discussing some pre-selected aspect of the conference theme and then reporting back to the whole assembly. This would give all those attending an opportunity of contributing. The present, usually adopted, system of a limited question and discussion time is completely absurd.

3. Catering. This is indeed an important point in conference management. It is surprising how many conferences are allowed to grow to such proportions that the meals must be arranged in first and second sittings. This is highly undesirable to say the least.

Here I would like to congratulate those who succeed in avoiding such a deplorable situation, and in this regard the 1954 Ranger/Rover conference at Pudsey was a particularly praiseworthy effort. Comfortable hostel accommodation and facilities for the reception of late arrivals are points which are often neglected. These items, mentioned above, are all points which are essential requirements for a well organised conference (I do not mean over organised).

If conference organisers will examine with great care their plans, and if finding these wanting have the courage to scrap them, then we will have fewer conferences but those that survive will be, I consider, guaranteed success.

T. H. HILL,

Hon. Rover Secretary, North-East Manchester.

Waltzing Matilda

DEAR EDITOR,

I have been asked on many occasions since I arrived here, by Scouts and Scouters, the meanings of the several Australianisms that occur in our well-known folk song "Waltzing Matilda." As it seems to be of some interest I thought you might like to have a note on the matter.

The title and refrain "Waltzing Matilda" has nothing to do with dancing a lady. It means "walking the swag." "Waltzing" is a "jazzed up" distortion of "walking" (a common occurrence in Australian slang), and "Matilda" is the name affectionately given to the "swag" or blanket-wrapped bundle of belongings much as we talk of an old car as a "Liz" or "Tin Lizzie."

"Swagman" is a tramp or a sundowner. This latter term indicates his aim (usually successful) of reaching a farm house or homestead by evening where he is, of course, given a meal and shelter.

"Billabong" (aboriginal) is a lake, known in some parts as a "lagoon."

"Coolibah" (aboriginal) is a rather unbeautiful species of gum tree. "Billy" (modified aboriginal) is, with perhaps a frying pan, his only cooking utensil, and used for making his tea.

"Jumbuck" (aboriginal) is a sheep. In the song, probably a lamb.

"Squatter" is an owner of a farm or station (as the larger grazing farms are known). The term arose as he (or his ancestors) went inland, found suitable country, probably completely unexplored, and just set up his farm without formality or payment. In later years the Government recognised their ownership by right of discovery and development.

"Troopers" are mounted policemen. Needed in the outback because of the great distances to be covered. These days they use Buicks!

I might add that, with the exception of the last, all these terms are still in common daily use, especially in the country. If an Australian asks you to come on a hike, he might well say "How about a Waltzing Matilda?"

JOHN SURROCK.

(Dr. Surrock is a D.C. from New South Wales. - R. H.)

B.-P. in the North

DEAR EDITOR,

The Rev. Pickering's article in your December issue stirred up memories and I looked for an old Log Book to find "Saturday, September 12, 1908. Reached home about 8.30 p.m., walking back part of the way with a Patrol of Baden Powell's Boy Scouts."

The Leader of these boys, five or six, had just returned from The Humshaugh Camp. I was asked to be Scoutmaster but said No. However, within a month the man they had pressed into that job came to me and said, "You've got to come and help me with these Scouts," and so I became "Adjutant" to the 5th Wolverhampton. This was before the days of the A.S.M.

F. LLOYD PARTON,

Wolverhampton, Staffs.



"Can I help you across the road?"

NOTES AND NEWS

FEBRUARY COVER

This month's cover is by Mr. D. V. Jude and shows three Senior Scouts on the snowfields of Mickledore on Scafell Pike in the Lake District.

BISHAM CAMP SITE

Pound Meadow, a six-acre Thames-side camping ground, near Marlow, is again available to Scouts in uniform exclusively. Grid. Ref. 41/843846. The site can be reached by road or river and is indicated by signboards.

Scouts in uniform may camp without asking the Warden's permission, if space permits, but if a site is to be reserved application should be made to R. Ives, The Bungalow, 9 Gypsy Lane, Marlow, Bucks., who will send full details. (Tel. No. Marlow 1072.) A booking fee of 5/- per ten campers per week is charged. P.C. forms or hike permits are required.

GLIDING COURSES

With the co-operation of the Surrey and Army Gliding Club, two Courses for Scouts have been arranged at Lasham Aerodrome, Nr. Alton, Hants., and at a cost considerably below that payable by the general public.

The Easter Course will be from Saturday, April 16th, to Saturday, April 23rd, and the Summer Course from Saturday, 6th August, to Saturday, August 13th.

The Course fee has been fixed at £8 15s. 0d. and will include all flying charges, temporary membership of the Club, all food and insurance. Any Scout between the ages of 14 and 18 years at the commencement of the course may apply. Each course will be limited to twelve in number. Early application is advised as indications are that these courses will prove most popular.

Further information and application forms can be obtained from the Training Department, Imperial Headquarters, 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

DITS AND DAHS

We very much regret that owing to a printer's error the author's pseudonym "Monchu" was inserted in the last but one line of his article in the January issue. This is not the symbol for "full stop"!

THE SCOUT

Next week (February 25th) "Focus on How Scouting Began," a yarn which every boy in the Movement should read.

Beginning March 4th: "In Search of B-P.": two Scouts look for traces of B.-P. in London.

Beginning February 18th: "Quicksands," a serial tale of Scouts and adventure by Arthur Catherall.

Every week until Whitsun "How to Get Your Second Class Badge in Twenty Weeks."

*Take "The Scout" and be better Scouts.
6d. weekly.*

CASUALTIES UNION

The Casualties Union are once again holding their Annual Open Competition in Diagnosis and First Aid for the Buxton Trophy. Full details can be obtained from the Competition Secretary, Casualties Union, 8 Woodcote Park Avenue, Purley, Surrey. Closing date for entries is March 21, 1955. Regional elimination rounds will be held on Sunday, July 10th and the final on Sunday, October 2nd.

THE ARUN KAYAK RACE, 1955

The Sixth Annual Arun Kayak Race will be held this year on June 19th. Twin seater kayaks start at Pulborough - Class A: Senior Scouts 16-18 years. Class B: Rovers and Scouters over 18. Single-seater kayaks start at Houghton Bridge: this is an open class for over 16. Both races finish at Littlehampton. Camping facilities will be available at Pulborough. Full particulars and entry forms available after April 1st from the Hon. Secretary, Sussex Sea Scout Committee, 29 South Street, Upper Portslade, Sussex.

CLIMBING COURSES

The following courses will be held at the International Scout Chalet, Kandersteg, during 1955:-

Course No. 28 - 17th/27th July.

Course No. 29 - 14th/24th August.

Further details and application forms can be obtained from the International Secretary at I.H.Q.

I.H.Q. SPEAKERS' VISITS FOR MARCH

5th	Durham County P.L.s' Conference
7th	St. Albans Local Association Dinner
23rd	Holker County Secondary School Speech Day
25th	Civics Clubs, Repton School
26th	Commissioners' Meeting, Derbyshire
26th/27th	Nottinghamshire County Conference
26th/27th	Lincolnshire Cubmasters' Conference

SOMETHING FOR SENIORS

The Cyclists' Touring Club, in collaboration with the Central Council for Physical Recreation, are running a Cycling Adventure Course from Saturday evening, May 28th, to Saturday morning, June 4th, at Newfield Hall, Malhamdale, in the Yorkshire Dales. The cost, including meals, accommodation and excursions, will be £5. Further information can be obtained from Dept. C.A.C., Cyclists' Touring Club, 3 Craven Hill, London, W.2 (Tel.: Paddington 8271).

ADDITIONS TO I.H.Q. FILM LIBRARY

The Way To Adventure. A well-constructed documentary showing how the Senior Scouts and Rovers of King's College, Taunton, planned and carried out an adventurous expedition among the remote Cairngorm mountains of Scotland. Recommended for encouraging Seniors and Rovers to indulge in the more rugged type of camping. Sound film in black and white. Running time twenty minutes. Hire charge 10s.

You Call Yourselves Scouts! An exciting story of how two Scouts, wrongly accused of robbing an orchard, set about to expose the real thief and clear the good name of Scouting. A well-produced short, silent film in black and white. Running time fifteen minutes. Hire charge 4s.

The latter film was made by the Bristol Amateur Cine Society with the active co-operation of members of a local Troop who played most of the characters. The idea of local amateur cine clubs and Scouts getting together with the view to making films with a Scouting content is worth exploring in other parts of the country where clubs or societies exist.

Another amateur "Scout" film made under somewhat similar circumstances, with the self-explanatory title *First Class Journey*, may be hired from the Essex Education Committee (Film Library) County Offices, Chelmsford, at a charge of 7s., for periods up to one week. It is a sound film in black and white with a running time of ten minutes. There is no copy of this film held by I.H.Q., and all applications should be direct to the address given above.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The International Bureau have just published a little booklet *Boy Scouts in Five Continents* at 2s. 6d., which gives the various badges and details about them. There is an introduction and some photographs. They have also published at 1s. paper and 2s. mounted on board *Scout Badges of the World* which will be very popular for notice boards I should think. Both the above can be obtained from 132 Ebury Street, London, S.W.1.

AWARDS FROM 4th NOVEMBER TO 1st DECEMBER, 1954 "CORNWELL SCOUT" BADGE

A. Riley, Senior Scout, 22nd Fairfield (Alder Hey Hospital).
"in recognition of his high standard of character and devotion to duty under great suffering."

“CORNWELL SCOUT” CERTIFICATE

J. Wilson, Patrol Second, 4th Fife (Cardenden).

“In recognition of his high standard of character and devotion to duty.”

CERTIFICATE FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

J. E. Lotter, Troop Leader (Seniors), 1st Sliema (Bernard’s Own), Malta, G.C.

“In recognition of his prompt action and resourcefulness in fighting an oil fire in a restaurant. Despite the danger from fire and fumes he continued the operation until the blaze was brought under control, Sliema, Malta, G.C., 4th June, 1954.”

LETTER OF COMMENDATION (MERITORIOUS CONDUCT)

I. J. Conibear, Scout, 3rd Hastings (Central).

“In recognition of his action in saving a young woman from drowning in the sea, Hastings, 30th August, 1954.”

A. Jones, Patrol Leader, 70th Portsmouth (1st Drayton).

“In recognition of his prompt action and presence of mind in rendering First Aid to a Scout who was impaled through the leg on an iron rolling, Farlington, 16th October, 1954.”

GILT CROSS

R. Carr, Assistant Scoutmaster, 1st Chitton Moor.

“In recognition of his gallantry in rescuing a boy from drowning in the sea and applying artificial respiration, Sunderland, 9th August, 1954.”

J. A. Havard; I. S. Lloyd, Queen’s Scouts, 3rd Aberystwyth.

“In recognition of their gallantry in rescuing a child who was being swept out to sea in a rubber dinghy. Despite a strong current and an off-shore wind they swam after the dinghy and succeeded in getting the child to shore, New Quay, Cardiganshire, 7th June, 1954.”

G. Pugh, Group Scoutmaster, 2nd Royal Fitham.

“In recognition of his gallantry in rescuing a boy from drowning in the sea despite a strong ebb tide, Morecambe, 26th August, 1954.”

A. Titchmarsh, Scout, 15th Harlow.

“In recognition of his gallantry in rescuing a boy from drowning in the River Stort, Harlow, 4th August, 1954.”

W. Winch, Patrol Leader, 11th North Leeds (Harehills Avenue Methodist Church).

“In recognition of his gallantry in rescuing a boy from drowning in the sea, Hunmanby, 3rd August, 1954.”

LETTER OF COMMENDATION (GALLANTRY)

A. D. W. Kemp, Scout, 1st Stanstead Abbots and St. Margaret’s.

“In recognition of his prompt action and presence of mind in saving a boy from drowning in the River Lea, St. Margaret’s, Hertfordshire, 18th September, 1954.”

BAR TO THE MEDAL OF MERIT

Dorset. - Miss P. De Lannoy Edwards, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Isle of Purbeck, A1st. Ak.L.

Lancashire North West. - W. A. Connor, G.S.M., 40th Blackpool.

Lincolnshire. - G. N. Beaulah, Hon. Secretary, Spilsby, Skegness and District.

Middlesex. - A. E. Smith, G.S.M., 6th Brentford (Black Wolves).

“In recognition of their further outstanding services to the Scout Movement.”

MEDAL OF MERIT

Birmingham. - H. D. Bridgwood, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Smethwick.

Buckinghamshire. - E. R. Bates, D.C., High Wycombe; F. R. Baxter, M.S.F., A.C.C. (Handicapped Scouts); N. F. Hurst, S.M., Swiss Cottage, D.C., Long Crendon.

Dorset. - H. E. Batterson, G.S.M., 5th Parkstone; A. G. Benstead, S.M.(S), 1st Hamworthy; Miss G. J. Bignell, C.M., 1st Radipole, D.C.M., Weymouth; Miss S. I. Coles, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Weymouth and Portland District, Asst. Ak.L.; Mrs. P. F. Francis, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Dorchester Rural District, Asst. Ak.L.; J. H. Hayes, A.C.C. (Wolf Cubs), and Ak.L.; S. F. James, D.C., Wimborne and Cranborne Rural District; H. W. H. Julian, Chairman, Borough of Poole District;

Mrs. C. M. Longfield, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Shaftesbury and Blackmore Vale District; J. H. Waterman, D.C., Dorchester Rural District.

Lancashire South East. - J. S. Ingham, Instructor, Heywood.

Leicestershire. - W. G. Seal, D.C., Hinckley.

Lincolnshire. - A. Weedall, A.C.I.S., Hon. County Secretary and A.C.C. (Wolf Cubs).

London. - Mrs. G. C. Fox, C.M., 17th East Ham; Mrs. D. G. Morey, D.C.M., East Ham; A. B. Randle, G.S.M., 11th Forest Hill (St. Saviour’s); S. Schaffer, S.M., 1st Forest Hill (The Foresters); F. H. Smart, G.S.M., 13th Stoke Newington; F. Webb, D.C.M., East Ham.

Manchester. - J. B. Grange, A.D.C., North Central.

Shropshire. - G. A. R. Bowyer, A.D.C., Wrekin, Asst. D.C.C.; R. W. Cowdell, G.S.M., 1st Madeley; Mrs. U. Cross, C.M., 23rd Shrewsbury; J. Gough, SM(S) and G.S.M., 2nd Wellington; F. J. Tippet, S.M., St. Oswald’s School, Ellesmere, DCC.; C. C. Wilde, G.S.M., 3rd Madeley.

Somerset. - Miss G. K. Francis, C.M., 4th Weston-super-Mare, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Axe District.

Warwickshire. - W. A. Bown, G.S.M., 1st Stockingford, A.D.C. (Scouts), Nuneaton District.

Wales.

Carmarthenshire. - E. E. Beadle, A.C.C.

Northern Ireland.

Belfast. - H. J. F. Grainger, G.S.M., 65th Belfast.

“In recognition of their outstanding services to the Scout Movement.”

LETTER OF COMMENDATION (GOOD SERVICES)

Dorset - H. H. Cox, Hon. Secretary, Weymouth and District. *“In recognition of his good services to the Scout Movement.”*

AWARDS FROM 2nd DECEMBER TO 29th DECEMBER, 1954

“CORNWELL SCOUT” CERTIFICATE.

J. R. Bower, Wolf Cub Sixer, 1st Langton Matravers; D. How, Wolf Cub, 12th Morden.

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

LETTER OF COMMENDATION (MERITORIOUS CONDUCT).

M. Coley, Patrol Second, 93rd Bedfordshire (Christ Church, 5th Luton)

“In recognition of his courage and cheerfulness under great suffering.”

GILT CROSS.

P. Wood, Senior Scout, 28th Cardiff (Dc La Salle School).

“In recognition of his gallantry in saving a boy from drowning ill 0 lock, Pershore, July 26th, 1954.”

BAR TO THE MEDAL OF MERIT.

Birmingham. - H. V. Hughes, D.C., Small Heath.

London. - H. F. Brazier, G.S.M., 79th North London.

“In recognition of their further outstanding services to the Scout Movement.”

DIM SAYS “THANK YOU”

The Editor has most kindly given this space so that I may thank the hundreds of my friends who wrote such friendly and encouraging letters on my retirement from THE SCOUT through ill health in June last year. I sent a personal acknowledgment to each of these friends, but if I should have missed anyone I hope I may be forgiven. Then there were countless messages of good wishes relayed to me through friends at I.H.Q. to which it was impossible for one reason or another to send a reply of thanks. Finally, I want to record my grateful thanks to all who have contributed to the Special Retirement Gift Fond which the Committee of the Council launched. I have been deeply touched by the response from abroad and the Commonwealth and Empire. Thank you each and everyone for this practical appreciation of my service to the Movement.

F. Haydn Dimmock.

MEDAL OF MERIT.

Birmingham. - A. F. Griffiths, Chairman, Sub-Committee, Birmingham.

Buckinghamshire. - R. J. L. King, G.S.M., 1st Chesham. D.S.M., Chesham Bois; F. Prior, G.S.M., 7th High Wycombe (Trinity); J. F. Wege, A.D.C., Chesham District.

Durham. - G. Crompton, D.C., Seaham and District.

Gloucestershire. - Miss I. I. Mitchell, C.M., 29th Gloucester (Brockworth); E. N. Taylor, Hon. Treasurer, Gloucester District; W. D. Vaughan, G.S.M., 29th Gloucester (Brockworth).

Lancashire South East. - Mrs. I. M. W. Hagreen, C.M., 5th Middleton.

Lancashire South West. - A. F. Russell, Hon. County Secretary.

London. - Major J. W. Baines, M.B.E., G.S.M., 2nd Westminster (St. Michael's), A.D.C. (Scouts), City of Westminster; A. C. Hammond, S.M.(S), 41st Beckenham (3rd West Wickham), A.D.C., Beckenham and Penge; Miss E. E. Hart, C.M., 48th Beckenham (9th West Wickham); R. Henderson, G.S.M., 46th Beckenham (West Wickham Methodist), D.S.M., Beckenhath and Penge.

Middlesex. - F. Bamping, G.S.M., 3rd Acton, A.D.C., Acton; J. R. Gilliland, S.M.(S), 12th/18th Acton, A.D.C. (Senior Scouts), Acton; R. J. Lynch, A.D.C., Acton.

Nottinghamshire. - D. A. Hewitt, AssI. City Commissioner (Scouts), Nottingham, Asst. D.C.C.

Staffordshire South. - Mrs. W. A. Challoner, A.D.C. (Wolf Cubs), Walsall.

Yorkshire East Riding. - H. W. Handley, D.C., Hull (South West); H. A. Pritchett, G.S.M., St. Aidan's (South East Hull), D.C., Hull (South East).

Yorkshire West. - J. H. Billing, Vice-Chairman, Shipley and District; Miss E. R. Ellison, A.C.C. (Wolf Cubs); R. W. Grimley, A.D.C. (Rover Scouts), City of Bradford (West Division); W. Packer, S.M., 1st Pudsey (Parish Church); J. E. Shawe, B.Sc., G.S.M., Fulneck Boys' School, A.D.C., Farsley; E. M. Tregoning, M.A., Ll.B., Hon. Secretary, Brighouse; Rev. G. H. Whittaker, G.S.M., 4th Ilkley (Baptist Church); G. Wilson, formerly ASM., 4th Bradford West (Belle Vue Grammar School).

Northern Ireland.

Belfast. - T. Nolan, A.D.C., North Belfast.

"In recognition of their outstanding services to the Scout Movement."

LETTER OF COMMENDATION (GOOD SERVICES).

Dorset. - W. J. Blanchard, Hon. Secretary, Borough of Poole.

Lancashire South East. - R. B. Barnes, formerly G.S.M., 17th Prestwich (Heaton Park Methodist).

"In recognition of their good services to the Scout Movement."

SCOUTING EXHIBITION

"From Mafeking to Modern Times"

By courtesy of Selfridge Ltd. and with the valuable and active assistance of its Display Department this interesting event will be staged by the Publicity Department, I.H.Q., at the Exhibition Centre of this world-famous departmental store in Oxford Street, London, in April.

Commencing on the Tuesday of Bob-a-Job Week (April 12th) it will be open free of charge to all visitors on week-days until St. George's Day (April 23rd). As this period covers at least part of the Easter school holidays it is hoped that Scouts and Cubs will take full advantage of this opportunity of bringing their parents and friends to see Scouting presented in a unique form amidst unusual surroundings.

Besides the many exhibits on view there is to be a wide variety of practical demonstrations given by teams of Scouts drawn from London and the Home Counties. These will vary from day to day. A miniature cinema will give non-stop performances throughout the run of the Exhibition which will be visited by each morning and afternoon by well-known celebrities.

Please start spreading the news around NOW!

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES

CHIEF SCOUT'S COMMISSIONER

The Chief Scout has appointed Sir Ralph Mortimer, OBE., to be one of his Chief Scout's Commissioners.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

The Annual Meeting of the Council of the Boy Scouts Association will be held on Wednesday, July 20th, 1955, at 11 a.m.

NATIONAL ST. GEORGE'S DAY SERVICE

The National St. George's Day Service will be held in St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, on Sunday, April 24th, 1955.

PATROL LEADER'S BADGE

Supplies of the cloth Patrol Leader's Badge, for wear on the beret by Scouts and Senior Scouts, details of which were announced in November, 1954, are now available, price 9d., and can be ordered from the Scout Shop by Local Association Badge Secretaries.

CYCLING TESTS

The Committee of the Council has decided that the Cycling Proficiency Test of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents may be accepted as qualifying for Parts 2, 3 and 4 of the Cub Cyclist Badge, and Part 3 of the Scout Messenger Badge.

COMMISSIONERS' DINNER

A Commissioners' Dinner, open to all Commissioners, will be held on Friday, April 22nd, 1955, at the Strand Corner House, Charing Cross, London, W.C.2, at 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. Tickets, price 17/6 each, may be obtained on application to the Administrative Secretary at I.H.Q.

PAN-PACIFIC JAMBOREE 1955-56

This Jamboree will take place at Clifford Park, Wonga Park, Victoria, Australia, from December 28th, 1955, to January 9th, 1956, and a contingent of six Scouts (preferably Queen's Scouts) and one Scouter is to be organised to represent Great Britain. It is hoped to arrange for the contingent to go out via Suez at the end of November and return via Panama after a visit to New Zealand, at the end of February. As a consequence of certain funds being available the cost to each member of the contingent will be only £150 for the trip. Any Scouts or Scouters interested should get in touch with the Overseas Secretary at J.H.Q.

FOUNDER'S BIRTHDAY

A short Scout and Guide Remembrance Service will be held at the Founder's Memorial Stone in Westminster Abbey at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 22nd, 1955, when wreaths will be laid by a Scout, a Guide and a member of the B.-P. Guild of Old Scouts.

CANCELLED WARRANTS

Joseph Edmond Thompson, formerly A.S.M. 1st Stakes Hill Group, Havant, has failed to return his warrant, despite application having been made by Imperial Headquarters.

C. C. GOODHIND,

Administrative Secretary.

WOOD BADGE COURSES 1955

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 Scouters, Twenty-One years and over.

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

Gilwell Park

Cub Courses

No. 134 Monday, March 21st—Saturday, March 26th (Indoor)

No. 135 Sunday, May 22nd—Friday, May 27th

No. 136 Monday, June 13th—Saturday, June 18th

No. 137 Monday, July 4th—Saturday, July 9th

No. 138 Monday, July 18th—Saturday, July 23rd

No. 139 Monday, August 8th—Saturday, August 13th

No. 140 Monday, August 22nd—Saturday, August 27th

Scout Courses

No. 236 Saturday, April 16th—Sunday, April 24th

No. 237 Saturday, May 14th—Sunday, May 22nd

No. 238 Saturday, June 4th—Sunday, June 12th

No. 239 Saturday, June 25th—Sunday, July 3rd

No. 240 Saturday, July 23rd—Sunday, July 31st

No. 241 Saturday, August 13th—Sunday, August 21st

No. 242 Saturday, August 27th—Sunday, September 4th

No. 243 Saturday, September 17th—Sunday, September 25th

Rover Course

No. 13 Saturday, July 9th—Saturday, July 16th

Applications to: Camp Chief, Gilwell Park, Chingford, E.4

London (Gilwell Park)

Cub, 3 W.E. May 14th

Cub, 3 W.E. July 2nd

Cub, Cont. August 8th—13th

Scout, 3 W.E. April 9th (incl. Easter)

Scout, Cont. August 13th—20th

Scout, 5 W.E. Sept. 17th

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

Scotland

Cub, 4 W.E. May 21st (Rowallan)

Cub, 4 W.E. June 4th (Fordell) (omitting June 11th/12th)

Cub, Cont. July 25th—30th (Fordell)

Scout, 5 W.E. April 23rd (Rowallan, last we at Fordell)

Scout, 5 W.E. April 16th (Fordell)

Scout, Cant. August 6th—14th (Fordell)

Apply: The Secretary, Boy Scouts Association, Scottish Headquarters, 44 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, 2.

Birmingham (Yorks Wood)

Cub, 3 W.E. June 11th

Scout, 5 W.E. April 23rd (alternate week-ends)

Apply: (Cub) 3. W. Hawtin, 31 Gillott Road, Birmingham, 16. (Scout) C. Raeburn, 36 Innage Road, Birmingham, 31.

Bristol (Woodhouse Park, Almondshury)

Cub, 3 W.E. June 4th

Apply: A. C. Hone, 6 Greenacre Road, Knowles, Bristol.

Scout To be arranged.

Apply: W. G. Webber, 2 Ableton Walk, Sea Mills, Bristol.

Cambridgeshire (Abington) for East Anglia

Scout, 3 W.E. April 9th (incl. Easter, omitting April 22nd/24th) assemble on Friday evenings

Apply: R. B. Herbert, Old Lakenham Hall, Norwich.

Cheshire W. (Overchurch)

Cub, 3 W.E. May 14th (incl. Whitsun)

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

Derbyshire (Birchfield, Hope)

Cub, 2 W.E. March 25th—27th (commences 7p.m. Friday)

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

Durham (Brancepeth)

Scout, 5 W.E. June 4th

Scout, Coot. August 6th—14th

Apply: C. Rodgers, Wooderoft, Seaview Park, Whitburn, Co. Durham.

Cub, 3 W.E. July 9th

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

Herts (Well End)

Cub, 3 W.E. June 11th

Scout, 2 W.E. April 1st (incl. Easter, assemble Friday)

Apply: Harold Warren, 27 High Street, Ware.

Kent

Cub, 3 W.E. June 4th (Tovil)

Apply: O. C. Simmons, 127 Upton Road, Bexley Heath.

Scout, 4 W.E. April 30th (incl. Whitsun) (omitting May 14th/15th) (Sevenoaks)

Apply: F. I. Peters, 22 Warren Wood Road; Rochester.

Lancashire N.W.

Cub, 3 W.E. Feb. 12th (Mowbreck Hall)

Apply: Miss M. M. Lloyd, 8 Sunny Bank Ave., Bispham, Blackpool.

Cub, 3 W.E. March 5th (Great Tower)

Apply: R. Waters, 72 Queen Street, Barrow-in-Furness.

Lancashire S.W. and Liverpool (Bispham Hall)

Cub, 3 W.E. May 7th

Apply: P. Walmsley, 52 HaIshall Road, Birkdale, Southport.

Scout, 5 W.E. June 4th

Apply: C. F. Booth, 21 Fullwood Park, Liverpool, 17.

Middlesex

Sea Scout, 3 W.E. June 3rd (Osterley)

Cub, 3 W.E. 4th June (SA. Youth Centre, Sunbury)

Scout, 3 W.E. May 6th (Elstree, assemble Friday evenings)

Scout, 3 W.E. Sept. 16th (Elstree, assemble Friday evenings)

Rover, 3 W.E. June 4th (Flstree)

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

Norfolk (Old Lakenham Hall)

Cub, 1 long W.E. May 27th (Whitsun)

Apply: W. J. England, 17 Churchill Road, Norwich.

Northamptonshire (Thrapston)

Cub, 3 W.E. April 2nd (alternate week-ends, indoor) Apply: M. H. Lamb, 117 Headlands, Kettering.

Nottinghamshire (Walesby)

Cub, Coot. April 8th—12th (Easter) Indoors

Scout, Coot. June 11th—19th

Apply: 3. N. Davey, B.S.A. Headquarters, Shakespeare St., Nottingham.

Surrey (Bentley Copse)

Cub, 2 W.E. May 21st (incl. Whitsun) Assemble 4 p.m., 27th

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

Scout, 3 W.E. June 10th (assemble Friday evening)

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

Scout, Coot. July 9th—16th

Apply: Rev. L. F. Whitlock, The Vicarage, St. James Road, Purley.

Sussex (Brighton)

Cub, 2 W.E. May 28th (incl. Whitsun)

Apply: C. H. Goddard, 48 Milton Drive, Southwick, Sussex.

Warwickshire (Rough Close)

Rover, 3 W.E. June 11th

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

Worcestershire (Kinver)

Scout, 5 W.E. June 11th (omitting July 2nd)

Apply: David Fleming, 24 St. Peters Road, Pedmore, Stourbridge.

Yorkshire Central (Bradley Wood)

Cub, 2 W.E. May 21st (incl. Whitsun)

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

Scout, 5 W.E. August 27th (omitting Sept. 17th)

Apply: John E. Wilson, Grinkle Dene, Linton, or. Wetherby.

Yorkshire South (Hesley Wood)

Cub, 3 W.E. May 7th

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

Scout, 4. W.E. June 11th (assemble 10 a.m. Sat.)

Apply: J. Dorgan, 1 White Lane, Chapeltown, Sheffield.

Wales S.E. (Miskin)

Scout, 5 W.E. April 23rd

Apply: J. P. Garrett, Buckland, 313 Kings Acre Road, Hereford.

Cub, 3 W.E. April 2nd

Apply: Miss E. M. Jones, 37 Grosvenor Street, Canton, Cardiff.

Wales S.W.

Cub, 3 W.E. Feb. 12th (indoors) (Porteynon Youth Centre, Gower)

Scout, 5 W.E. June 4th (Silver Cross Camp, Penllergaer)

Apply: Frank Thomas, 57 Glamor Road, Swansea.

These pages will prove a life-long treasure to all keen-minded members of the Movement

B.P.'s OUTLOOK

Selections from the Founder's contributions to the "Scouter" from 1909 to 1940

All scouts will want to own a copy of this fascinating book, which contains a full commentary of scouting affairs that will be passed on from generation to generation. A delightful selection of B.-P.'s original sketches is included. The preface is written by Lord Somers, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C. (Chief Scout of the British Commonwealth and Empire, 1941-1944).



For Feb. 10th publication
2nd edition

6s. net
(6s. 6d. post free)

From your Scout Shop
or in case of difficulty at
post free rates direct from
the publishers.



**C. ARTHUR PEARSON
LIMITED**

Tower House, Southampton
Street, London, W.C.2

CLASSIFIED

COMING EVENTS

The City of Oxford Association presents "Lucky Dip 1955" (a Gang Show with songs and sketches by Ralph Reader, including some from the 1954 Gang Show) on March 16th - 18th and 21st - 25th at the Clarendon Institute, Walton Street, Oxford. Tickets and full information from R. J. Austin, 13 Weldon Road, New Marston, Oxford.

1st Chesham Bois Scouts present "Our Show - 1955," a new revue written by Ralph Reader, at Pioneer Hall, Bois Lane, Chesham Bois, for nine nights. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, March 17th, 18th, 19th, 24th, 25th, 26th, 31st, April 1st and 2nd. Tickets numbered, 3/6 and 2/-. Order forms from Mr. F. E. Davies, Lynthorpe, Waterside, Chesham, Bucks.

"Coopers Capers." The 11th Stepney (Coopers' Company's School) Troop announce their 7th Annual Show. Many new songs by Don Sutherland. Dates: April 22nd, 23rd, 29th, 30th. Place: Roland House Scout Hall, Stepney Green, E.1. Tickets (all reserved) 3/6, 2/6, 1/6. Early application advised to "Coopers Capers," 17 Glenavon Road, London, E.15.

2nd North-West Kent Rover/Ranger Conference, June 11th and 12th. Watch for further details.

Senior Scout Expedition run by Oxford University Rovers, Dartmoor, July 30th - August 13th. S.A.E. to N. Napper, Hertford College, Oxford.

Sussex County Rover Moot, September 17th - 18th in Haywards Heath area.

EMPLOYMENT

The Church Army offers a Free Two-Year Course of Training, with small allowance, to suitable keen Christians, between the ages 18-33; Church of England Communicants. After training, a salaried post is found as an officer in the Church Army (Mission Vans, Parish Workers, in Youth Centres and Men's Hostels, etc.). Apply to Captain J. Benson, 55 Bryanston Street, London, W. 1.

Merchant Navy Training School, Overseas House, Brooks Bar, Manchester.

Youth required to train in the making of high-class frames for Oil Paintings, and in other aspects of the Fine Art Trade. Apply by letter only to Gladwell & Co. Ltd., 68 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.

Greenwich Congregational Church requires Free Churchman as Warden-Caretaker. Help and accom. provided. Scouter preferred as Troop needs help. Married couple for part-time considered. State salary reqd. Only qualifications: faith, hard work as part of team, and Scout spirit. Apply "Warden," Rothbury Hall, Blackwall Lane, S.E.10.

ACCOMMODATION

Why Not Camp in Wales? Excellent camping facilities for large or small units on beautiful estate purchased by gift from South Africa Aid to Britain Fund. Close to finest sea and mountain scenery. All equipment available for hire if desired. Write for full details to: The Warden, Rhowniar Youth Camp, Nr. Towyn, Merionethshire.

For your summer camp come to Silverdale, seaside and lovely country, ideal for a real Scout holiday. For particulars of good camp sites write to Mr. Roscoe (Grocer and Provision Merchant), 18 Emesgate Lane, Silverdale, Nr. Carnforth, Lancs.

Cornaa Beach and Valley camp sites. Every amenity. Particulars from Shimmin, Glen Mona Stores, Ramsey, Isle of Man.

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

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.

Devon. Furnished flat to let. Five miles from Lynmouth. Sleep six. From £5 5s. 0d. weekly. Lugg, Caen House, Goodleigh Road, Barnstaple.

A.S.M. and Guider marrying late March require urgently unfurnished accommodation London Area. Box 197, THE SCOUTER.

Australian S.M. requires board Dudley (Worcs.) or neighbourhood. Box 196, THE SCOUTER.

Scouters (or potential Scouters) who are in need of a home in London and are prepared to serve Scouting in East London and take a share in the life and work of Roland House, are invited to write for terms to the Honorary Warden, Roland House, 29 Stepney Green, London, E.1.

Holidays ahead. Come to lovely Lyme Regis. Bed and breakfast, or bed and breakfast and evening meal. Good food. Terms moderate. Children welcome. Scouter's household. Hallett, 6 Kingsway, Lyme Regis, Dorset.

PERSONAL

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

Cord Shorts by Dover have been reduced in price for the next 3 months to enable you to buy now ready for the season ahead. S.A.E. for patterns to Ossie Dover, "The Cycling Tailor," 160 Kensington, Liverpool, 7. Phone: Anfield 1683.

Theatrical costumes and accessories. Costumiers to the London Gang Show. Special rates of hire to Troops for all productions. West End Costumes (Peter Dunlop) Ltd., 18 Tower St., W.C.2. Temple Bar 6806. Theatrical and fancy-dress costumes. Artistic, fresh, colourful. Moderate charges. Black Lion Costumes, 25 Sommerville Road, Bristol, 7. Phone 41345.

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

May we help to dress your show or your chorus? Large selection of shirts, scarves, etc. Please send stamped addressed envelope for complete price list of costumes available to 33/52nd Epping Forest South Groups, c/o 142 Clayhall Avenue, Ilford, Essex

Wild Life. A 16 mm. sound or silent film depicting the wild life of the British countryside. Particulars of hire from Secretary, L.A.C.S., 58 Maddox Street, London, W.1.

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

Wanted 1954 "The Scout" Annual. G. A. Francis, 65 Hillberry Crescent, Warrington, Lanes.

Raise Funds Easily. Sell hand-painted plastic brooches. Terms "Sale or Return" show 50% profit. For samples write Dept. SS, 312 Hamilton Street, Atherton, Manchester.

Heating by gas-fired infra-red heaters. Cheapest warmth for halls, etc. Write for details of special offer to Scout Organisations, The "RayHeat"ing Co. Ltd., Leatherhead, Surrey.

Scouts. Why not organise a Paper Salvage Drive. We buy newspaper, magazines and cardboard cartons flattened and tied in bundles. Write for quotations and collection arrangements to: Richardsons (Salvage Merchants) Ltd., St. Ann's Wharf, King Street, Norwich. Tel.: 21865.

"Scout-Ink Catalogue" No. 35. 32 pages illustrated. Group Progress Records: District Records: Certificates: Camp Bank Cards and Forms: Envelopes and Postcards: Posters: Programme Blanks: Letter Headings: Duplicated Magazines: Receipt Books: Compliment Slips: Birthday Cards: Rubber Stamps: Badges: Armbands: Rosettes: Nametapes. Send postcard to Stacy Ltd., 99 Kingsland High Street, London, E.8.

Cub Scouters. Would you like a holiday in Holland with opportunities to meet Dutch Cubs and Scouters? Details of proposed mixed party, September 3rd/17th, from Mr. L. R. Moncrieff, Flat 9, 15 Honor Oak Road, London, S.E.23.

Rover Scout Mills is now able to arrange at Lloyd's insurances for Group Headquarters at advantageous rates. Inquiries invited. 123 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

Pennants and Badges. Send now (enclosing 21-d. stamp) for our 1955 illustrated brochure to: P. & R. Publicity, The Broadway, Pitsea, Basildon, Essex. A speedy and prompt service.

STAMPS

Requests invited from general collectors for approval selection of fine used and mint stamps. Albums, accessories and new stamp catalogues in stock. Approval selections can be sent overseas against a minimum deposit of £1. Prompt and courteous service. P. F. Gray, 4 Old Palace Road, Weybridge, Surrey.

FOR SALE

Ex-Army Nissen and other buildings available. Also, manufactured buildings. Universal Supplies, Crabtree Manorway, Belvedere, Kent. (Erith 2948.)

Duplicators/Typewriters. Mod. terms. Warranted machines delivered free anywhere. Verney Clayton, M.C., Market Rasen, Lincolnshire.

Western Electric 16 mm. sound movie projector. In perfect order. Excellent value. £55. G. Pink, 5 Green Walk, Manchester, 16.

23 ft. Airborne Lifeboat with all equipment less sails. Decked. Cheap for quick sale. Lying Gloucestershire. Poole, 35 Tobysfield Rd., Bishops Cleeve, Glos., or Stevenson, 45 Hatchetts Drive, Woolmer Hill, Haslemere, Surrey.

DUPLICATING AND TYPEWRITING

All classes of duplicating and typewriting neatly and accurately executed by Guider. Prompt delivery, special terms to Scouters. Alert Typewriting Bureau, 1 Peasemars, Gillingham, Dorset.

Advance Duplicating Service. Prompt accurate work. Mod. charges. Scouters 1000 discount. 5 Warwick Av., S. Harrow, Middx. Byron 4730.

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

Classified advertisements, 4s. per line. Box Nos. Is. extra. Notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths included under "Notes and News" for a like fee.

**Ideally suited for
your TROOP H.Q.**



As made and supplied to:
10th HAYES (BOTWELL HOUSE) SCOUT GROUP; 1st
FITTLEWORTH SCOUT GROUP; 5th BEBINGTON SCOUT
GROUP; 2nd DENHAM SCOUT GROUP; 2nd SOUTH RUISLIP
SCOUT GROUP; 36th MITCHAM SCOUT GROUP; HOLMER
CHURCH SCOUT GROUP; 1st SAWBRIDGEWORTH SCOUT
GROUP; 2nd HIGHBRIDGE SCOUT GROUP; 36th EPPING
FOREST SOUTH BOY SCOUTS; 1st REDLYNCH SCOUT
GROUP

Brochure on request

HARDUN & SONS LTD.
HORTON ROAD · WEST DRAYTON · MIDDX.
Tel. : West Drayton 3621/2/3/4, 3761/2 and 3088/9



Be Prepared - Be Refreshed!

Coca-Cola adds to the pleasure of any outing. Its sparkling taste is so delicious — its cheerful lift is so refreshing. Enjoy a 'Coke' now.

"Coca-Cola" and 'Coke' are registered Trade Marks of The Coca-Cola Company



**SIGN OF
GOOD TASTE**

CAMPING

1955

PIONEER TENT

Full size Patrol tent, doors at each end with lace fitting. 12" canopy over each doorway extending down to eaves. Large ventilators in roof, 6" double eaves. Size: Length 10ft., width 8ft., height 7ft. with 3ft. walls. Complete with valise, pegs, lines and mallet. Jointed upright and ridge poles packed in separate hessian valise. Weight complete 60 lbs. Material: 8 oz. green Certent-proofed cotton duck.

PRICE

£24 19s. 6d.

Throw-over Flysheet £7 12s. 9d.



Nothing but the best is good enough

SEASON



DOUBLE FOUR TENT

The tent for the larger Patrol of eight Scouts. Extra length 12 ft. with specially strong ridge pole. Two laced doorways, extra large ventilators in the roof, 6" double eaves. Size: Length 12ft., width 7ft. height 6ft. with 3ft. walls. Complete with valise, pegs, lines and mallet. Poles packed in separate valise. Weight complete 76 lbs. Material: 10 oz. green-Certent-proofed cotton duck.

PRICE

£26 9s. 6d.

Throw-over Flysheet £9 17s. 6d.

Reminder! It's New!!!

"It's Time for A Story"

A new book of yarns for Cubs by J. B. Gearing, known to readers of the 'Scouter' for his series of articles "Akela, Stories for the use of." This volume is a welcome successor to the "Akela's Yarn Book" which is now out of print.

PUBLICATION DATE FEBRUARY 20th

ORDER YOUR COPY NOW!

PRICE 5/- each (POSTAGE 4d.)

Imperial Scout Shop

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS 25 BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1
50 MOORGATE, LONDON, E.C.2 ● 62 THE HEADROW, LEEDS ● 20 WORKING STREET, CARDIFF
183 CLAPHAM MANOR STREET, S.W.4 ● 20 RICHMOND STREET, LIVERPOOL ● 104 HINDES ROAD, HARROW
19 GREEN LANES, PALMERS GREEN, N.13 ● Also at Local Association Shops and Agents