

A black and white photograph of two Scouts with large backpacks standing on a stone wall, looking out over a valley with a river and a tent.

THE SCOUTER

9^D

FEBRUARY 1954

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THE OUTLOOK

What a triumph the Royal Tour has been and it has been grand to see in the newsreels Scouts and Guides, Cubs and Brownies and to hear the stories of their activities and services. I received the script of a broadcast given by the Governor of Jamaica, Sir Hugh Foot, who, you will remember, was himself invested as a Scout at the last Camp Fire after the close of the Caribbean Jamboree. In it he tells some grand stories of the journey through the island. At one place there had been a terrific downpour and the water was streaming out of the gutters in cascades. There was a policeman who had been given the post where he was to stand and there he was determined to stand in spite of a jet of water which was accurately aimed at the back of his neck just below the helmet. In a few seconds he was drenched from head to foot and through to the skin, but there he stood strictly to attention with a happy laugh on his face. Another is best quoted in Sir Hugh's own words - "Just outside Linstead we came round a corner and there was no one at all in sight except one small Boy Scout. He looked only about two feet high. Apparently he had been left at his post when everyone else ran back to the town for shelter. He, too, was looking as wet as he could be, but there he stood on duty absolutely alone in the deserted road. He was determined to hold his post come wind come weather. When the diminutive, drenched, but erect figure came suddenly in sight the Duke gave a delighted cry of admiration, and the Queen leant forward to give the little chap a special wave.

It was little scenes like that that made tears of happiness - and pride - come so often to one's eyes." And again the Scouts got a mention for their efficiency in lining the route in Kingston itself and the - people of Jamaica a tribute for their courtesy and perfect behaviour. But perhaps the loveliest story of all is the story of what took place all over the island, due to one of those strange cases of telepathy which no scientific theory can explain. As they passed little groups in the countryside or drove through the little villages and towns or through the crowded streets of Kingston, one murmuring chant seemed to rise spontaneously to all lips. At first the Governor could not catch the words, then they became plain - "Sweet, sweet Queen, sweet Lady." Surely no greater tribute could be paid than these simple but lovely words, coming from the hearts of the coloured people whose forefathers were slaves in the sugar plantations. She is their Queen as much as ours.

This was, perhaps, the only opportunity they will ever have, in their lives of seeing her. Their loyalty found, as the loyalty of others is finding, its opportunity of expression on this tour, and ought we not to be thankful that we, as a Commonwealth of Peoples, have one at our head who is capable and worthy of inspiring such loyalty wherever she goes.

By THE CHIEF SCOUT

The Queen, and His Royal Highness, were deeply impressed by the strength and quality of Scouting in Jamaica and Donald FitzRitson, the Island Commissioner., received a telegram from the Governor, as did Mrs. Farquharson the Island Commissioner for Girl Guides, conveying the congratulations of the Queen on the part they had played in the ceremonies of welcome.

By the time this "Outlook" is in print your thoughts will be turning, if they haven't already turned, to camping once again. I hope you aren't going to leave it till the last minute and then have a frantic nub round to try and find a site. and perhaps be satisfied with ad hint.

Do you run your Troop according to the Patrol System? You would certainly answer "Yes" to this question. but who decides on where you are going to go?

You or the Court of Honour? Are they consulted or are they just told? Are you going to go back to the old spot? It saves a lot of trouble, doesn't it? No need to worry about the lay-out: you know all the tradesmen and it saves such a lot of time.

Or, are you going to break new ground; camping overseas perhaps, so as to give your Scouts an opportunity of realising that they have brothers in other countries? Whatever you do, make up your mind in time.

If you are going overseas consult the International Department at I.H.Q. or S.H.Q. so that they may have a chance to make proper arrangements. If you are camping at home let the local District Commissioner know as soon as possible, so that he may be able to ensure that the site is a good one, and give you the help that be. I know, is only too anxious to give.

Make sure your P.C; Form is filled in in plenty of time. Remember that for you it is only one, but for a busy District Commissioner in one of the more popular areas it may well be thirty or forty or even more, and if he doesn't receive them until the last minute he is perfectly entitled to be annoyed.

The 5th Scout Law has a particular application in this respect.

What about your equipment and gear?

Are the tents you folded away after a wet camp last year rotted?

What about the guys, do they need renewing?

There is so much that you. can do yourselves and that the boys will enjoy doing, if only you make plans in time.

"A Scout is thrifty."

WHAT about a Progress Programme for the Scouts, similar to the Coronation Year Progress Certificate? Did all your Patrols gain the Certificate last year? What about getting them to pull up their socks and have a go in 1954, just to show that they are not as lazy, and that you are not as complacent, as your D.C. thought you were? Have you ordered your copy of *The Scouter for the Group*, and made arrangements so that Headquarters Notices are not missed as they have so often been in the past?

If you are a Commissioner, what about calling the attention of your Scouters to these points at every opportunity? It is your job to see that the Scouts or the Cubs, or the Rovers for that matter, in your District are getting the opportunity for making the most of what Scouting can provide. Have you a really weak Group? If so, is it better to allow it to struggle on, always being a burden to the other Groups in the District, or would it be better just to close it down and cut your loss? What about the new housing areas? Are you in touch with the Local Authority about the possibilities of Scouting in them?

I have a lot of visitors at Rowallan - men from overseas who have been back to their old homes in this country. Most of them get in touch with local Scouts, and most of them, I am glad to say, are impressed with what they have seen. Where there is criticism, it is generally of the lack of enthusiasm for Scouting. What about your District or County? Do people look upon Scouting as an essential part of the life of the community or is it just "another nuisance"?

One final word about Bob-a-Job. It is time you got down to planning this. We have had criticisms in the last year or two from people who have been pestered by Scouts coming along and asking for jobs. In certain bad cases where someone has given a job and paid well for it, they are immediately inundated by Scouts smart and Scouts dirty, Scouts courteous and Scouts discourteous. Let's make sure that there are no such occasions in 1954. I hope that Commissioners will see that Local Associations allocate areas to the different Groups, and that the Group Committees and Group Scouters get together and try to get jobs allocated beforehand so that Patrols and Sixes do not overlap.

Let the Group Committees, and particularly the Old Scouts, be brought into this organising job. They will be only too willing to do it and with proper organisation not only will there be no annoyance caused but more jobs will be available for the boys to do.

By the way, the Boy Scouts of Alberta go their intelligence Service going, found out who my tailors' and what my measurements were, and I received, just before Christmas, at the hands of their Provincial Commissioner who was passing through Prestwick on his way home from his visit to this country, the most magnificent buffalo coat of the kind that is worn by the Mounties in winter, perfectly tailored to fit. It is made from the thick fur of the neck and shoulders of the bufflilo, soft and only, shading from almost black to grey-brown. As I write I am reminded of the very hard spell in 1947 after an open winter till the New Year. It was hard frost last night, but I am ready for it and with my ten-gallon hat from Stetsons and the buffalo coat from Alberta I shall create a sensation when the family go skating!

I quoted in my "Outlook" for November the story of Alice Lowe, and now there is a sequel, a letter to the *Come limes* from a Margaret Graham who visited an old lady on Christmas Day and as she was very infirm was surprised to find her kitchen beautifully decorated with holly and festoons. On inquiry she found that three Scouts had knocked on her door the evening before and asked to be allowed to do this for her. She enjoyed their company and kindness, all the more so, perhaps, because the boys were quite unknown to her. The next morning there was a parcel on her door-step from them. Doesn't it do your heart good to know that these things are still happening? What an answer to those who are always quoting the juvenile delinquents and trying to make us believe that the youth of today is rotten to the core.

Another cutting from the *Daily Telegraph* tells of twelve Scouts who saw the New Year in on the top of Snowdon and greeted it with prayer on the cairn at the summit. Scouting is a very wonderful thing.

ROWALLAN.

THE OBLIGATION OF THE B.-P. GUILD TO HELP THE ACTIVE MOVEMENT

B.-P. once wrote: "If we look forward into the not very far off future we cannot fail to visualise an immense development lying before our Movement as our numbers of Old Scouts continue to grow. When it comes to comprise millions of men in our population, all in touch with the Movement and with each other, and all actuated by the Scout Spirit and sense of Goodwill and Service, what will it not mean for the promotion of Scouting in the country, and what will it not mean for the loyalty and steadfastness of a solid proportion of the nation?"

If as is hoped as a result of last month's article, many Scouters are encouraging the formation of Guild branches in their areas, then they have a right to expect something in return. Branches will have definite responsibilities towards the Active Movement and will do their best to honour their. In what ways can they help?

The branch should not be looked upon as a recruiting ground for Scouters; any idea that this is the case will make many potential old Scouts hold back. Most members have too many ties, business and family, to be able to devote full time to Scouting. Nevertheless, joining the Guild has in many cases reawakened interest and has resulted in the taking out of a warrant; and if a man retains his interest in Scouting by being

a Guild member he is more likely, when his personal affairs become less pressing, to return to the Active Movement.

It is felt strongly that a Guild branch should not be asked to do work which can, and should more properly, be done by a warrant holder; the Scouter is the man who is responsible for the development of character and initiative in the boy. There are, however, many duties, administrative and organisational, which have to be undertaken, and which may prevent a Scouter from devoting his whole time to his primary work; it is mainly these for which members of the Guild might accept responsibility. It must also be remembered that a good branch will probably be doing some service to the community in addition, which will absorb apart of its time and effort.

There are, broadly speaking, two types of members in the Guild. Firstly, there are those who have a certain amount of spare time (usually the younger members and those last out of Scouting), and can give practical help at Scout meetings, teaching some subject at which they are expert, acting as badge examiners, or perhaps helping at annual camp. Secondly, there are those who, because of their family and business responsibilities, are unable to give real active help in the day to day working of the Group. They can, however, probably spare a certain amount of time to serve on sports

meetings and concerts in the role of judges, or ushers, or programme sellers; and everyone should be able to dig out unwanted possessions for jumble sales for the benefit of Scout funds. This category will also probably include men holding responsible positions in the community who should be able to assist by obtaining help or concessions from public bodies or leading citizens.

It must be remembered that the branch will always be fluctuating,

Some of the younger members who are giving active help will later find that their private responsibilities are becoming greater, and that they will have to give up, at any rate temporarily.


Some of the older members, on the other hand, as their families grow up and their businesses become more firmly established, may find that they have more time to spare and can play a greater part in branch activities.

The branch secretary is responsible for watching this, and for keeping a list of those available for work and of the manner in which they are prepared to act. He will keep the Group informed of the situation so that the G.S.M. may plan his programme accordingly.

The above has dealt mainly with the relations between a Group and a Guild branch affiliated to it. What has been said applies equally to the District branch, which will maintain close touch at District level and be prepared to help in any way that the D.C. may require, either in District activities or in some Group which has no branch.

A keen and well organised branch can be of real help to the Active Movement, especially if it receives encouragement from the Scouters in its area. Once mutual trust and confidence is established, Scouting must benefit in the long run

E. E. MOCKLER-FERRYMAN.

 <p>CAMPING ABROAD THIS YEAR?</p> <p>GOOD!—but may we remind you that the cheaper accommodation on trains and boats is very much in demand for the summer months, and in some cases is already FULLY BOOKED UP.</p> <p>DON'T DELAY!</p> <p>An enquiry places you under no obligation, and we do not charge booking fees. Apart from specialising in TRAVEL business we understand the SCOUT point of view too.</p> <p>Write to:</p> <p>CONTINENTAL EXPRESS LTD. Passenger Dept. 5 HOLBORN VIADUCT, LONDON, E.C.1 and mark your letter "for attention of G.S.M. Marsh"</p>		<p>FEATHER FILLED SLEEPING-BAGS EX W.D. NEW, DARK GREEN 5' 9" x 2' 10" TAPERING TO 2', WEIGHT 5½lb. plus 1/- postage 70/-</p> <p>NEW EX COMMANDO RUCSACS RUBBER LINED INSIDE ZIP POCKET 70/- plus 1/- part post. pack.</p> <p>MESS TINS Ex Army Stocks, used, but in sound condition 1/6 11d. postage</p> <p>EX W.D. KNIVES, AS NEW 4/- 3d. postage</p> <p>TARTAN NECKERCHIEFS NOW AVAILABLE</p> <p>THE SCOUT STORE (GLASGOW COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL) 21 ELMBANK STREET, GLASGOW Phone: CITY 6362/3 Grams: SCOUTCRAFT</p>
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Col's Christmas Competition

MY CHOICE

By
THE CHIEF SCOUT

It wasn't easy to decide on ten only out of the twenty articles, but this is how I made my choice:-

1. Chalks are essential, as everyone in charge of a Troop will have discovered. They come into so many games for marking the floor and for drawing on a blackboard. (See later.)

2. No, a very nice extra, but far from essential.

3. No. I wish no one had ever invented whistles. By the way, how did the ring come to be at the wrong end?

4. Yes, invaluable for games of many different kinds.

5. Yes. However bare and "austerity" the hut may be, proper standards of cleanliness must be set from the beginning and dust-pan, brush and broom are essential.

6. No, sit on the floor. Might come in useful for games, but not essential.

7. Well, I do like it to give the young P.L.'s a chance, but it is too early really in the season for camping with inexperienced boys.

8. Yes. Some sort of cupboard is essential to store the gear in and to keep the place tidy. Think how useful too it will be as an improvised blackboard. It isn't a piece of Sheraton or Chippendale and if it does get a bit mucked about with chalk it can always be scrubbed down, rubbed over with sandpaper and given a lick of paint when the three months are up.

9. Again well - very useful no doubt, but it can be done without. Notices can be pinned to the door of the cupboard.

10. Essential. Flag-break and Flag-down and the flying of the Flag during Troop meetings must start from the beginning.

11. Not really necessary. Arms can be used perfectly effectively and a staff and a scarf will make the signals distinguishable even over long distances.

12. Yes, a thousand times yes. B.-P. must be present, in spirit at least, at Troop meetings.

13. No. This pair look a pretty expensive one anyway, and in the early stages bird-watching can be done from a distance or stalking encouraged to get close.

14. Yes. Don't we always emphasise that knotting should be taught with a rope and not with the odd piece of string which the boys will have in their pockets. And can we really do lashings that will stand up to rough work with all sorts of bits of string? I shall cut it into suitable lengths.

15. No. Very nice for the D.C. when he comes round or for parents who drop in to see what little Willie is expected to do, but quite superfluous on other occasions.

16. Don't let's forget that the boys in Scouting came before the administration. The P.L.'s at any rate are almost certain to have a notebook of some sort in which they can keep records of progress, etc., until the three months are up. We have got to keep the boys rather than keep details about them.

17. Yes. I wondered for some time whether I should choose 17 or 19. but 17, I thought, at this stage was more practical, and very useful for training the P.L.'s.

18. Yes. There is always the chance of cuts or other damage, and I must have some means of dealing with them. I am sure it would be wrong not to have a First Aid box.

19. While it would be very useful and keep the interest of the P.L.'s who love using a prismatic compass, on the whole I prefer 17 and can't have both.

20. Yes, of course. Lashings, trestles, games - you can't get on without staves.

I don't suppose you will all agree with me, but if it has made you think as hard as it has made me, you should be able to keep those boys even without the help of one or two of the things which you are being allowed. It has been lots of fun anyway.



"Excuse me, you don't happen to know the way out of this cave, do you?"

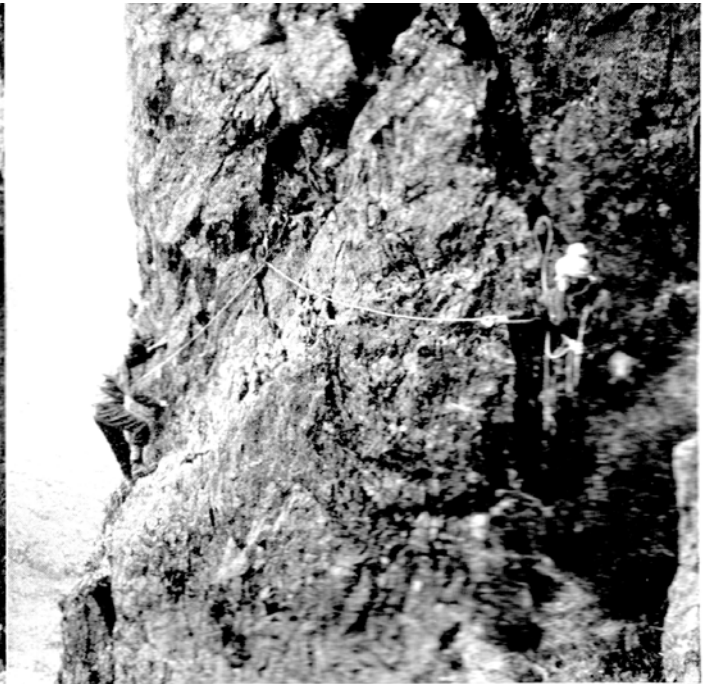
The Prize Winners

ALTHOUGH there was a record number of entries (including entries from Australia, New Zealand, Mauritius, Hong Kong, Malaya, Korea, Germany, Holland, Canada, U.S.A., British Guiana and South Africa, and from P.L.'s to County Commissioners) no competitor chose the same ten as the Chief Scout. But 28 competitors chose nine, although among themselves their nines were different nines! Vouchers have been awarded, therefore, to the following:-

Senior Scout R. McHugh, 9th Wimbledon; **Patrol Leader R. J. Silk**, 4th Wolverhampton (Grammar School); **Troop Leader H. Robertson**, 2nd Barrhead, Renfrewshire; **R. Jamieson**, 4th Reddish, Stockport; **J. Lewis**, 8th Kidderminster; **M. E. Tapley**, 4th Cheshunt (Grammar School); **E. N. Fensome**, 3rd St. Albans; **A. B. Statin**, 15th Brighton (St Mark's); **D. C. Russell**, 75th Bristol; **1st Dingley Senior Scouts**, Yorkshire; **I. A. Sims**, Teddington; **G. A. Woodhart**, 30th South West Cheshire (Wedgwood); **Rev. A. F. Le Dieu**, 1st Leverstock Green; **S. C. Booker and R. K. Lowe**, Homchurch; **T. L. Richniond**, 1st Shirley, Warwickshire; **G. Garforth**, 2/31st Kensington; **A. H. Twidle**, 1st Horsham; **R. J. Gunning**, 2nd Cleveleyk (St. Andrews); **J. C. W. Thornton**, 48th Scarborough; **D. Dymond**, 6th Dagonham (St. Mary's); **R. F. Page**, 15th Wallasey (St Nicholas'); **Patrol Leader I. Brown**, 2nd Portobello; **5th Ruislip Rover Crew**; **Patrol Leader D. Andrew**, 73rd Coventry; **J. P. Ruxton**, 26th Gloucester (King's School); **B. Wollnough**, 19th Croydon (St. Peters); **R. F. Lear**, 73rd Coventry; **6th N. W. Leeds Seniors** (Leeds Modern School).

Everyone seems to have enjoyed the competition. The Editor has asked me to think out another one for Christmas. So goodbye till then.

COLIN LEVERIDGE.



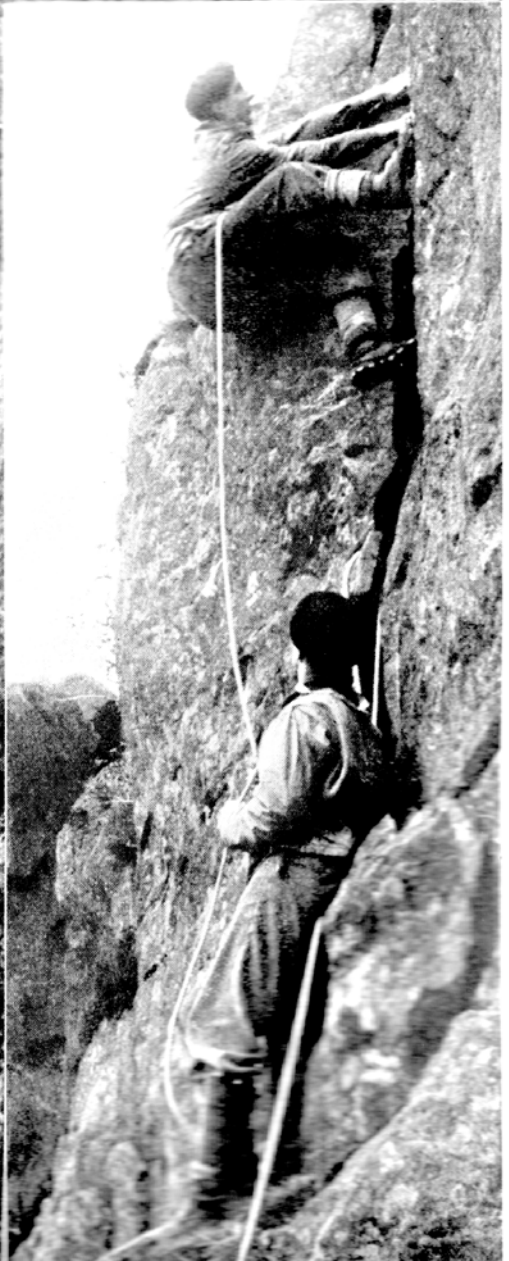
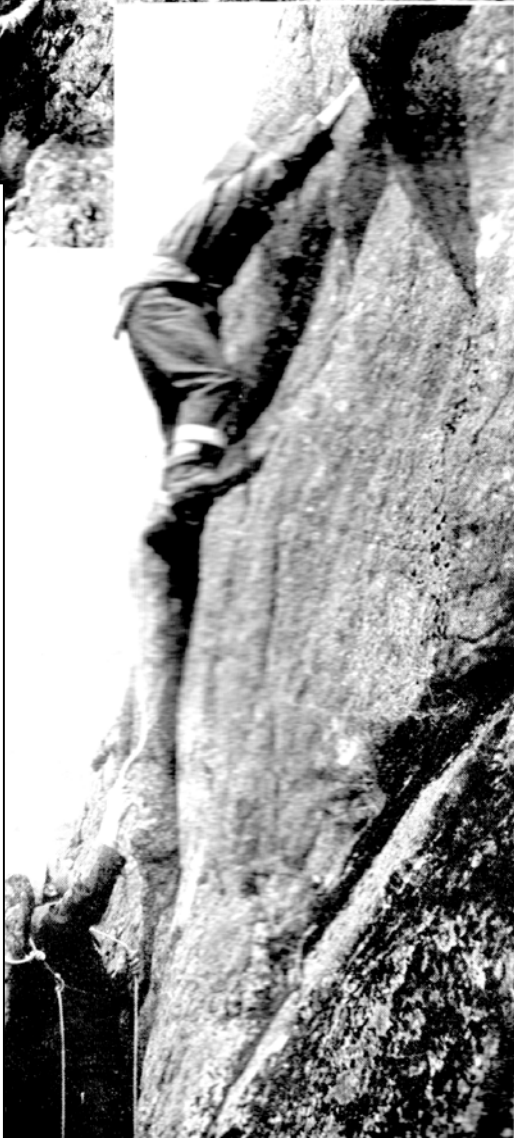
ROCK CLIMING

Top (left): Here the leader has reached a safe stance and has belayed himself to a convenient spike of rock and is bringing up No.2, keeping the rope just not in tension between him and his second.

Top (right): This picture shows the use of a running belay to protect the leader on a horizontal traverse. The belay is formed by passing a rope sling over a convenient spike of rock and use is made of a snaplink to ease the passage of the main rope through the belay. In the event of a fall by No.1 he will only swing from the belay and not from No.2, who, it will be noted, is also belayed.

Bottom (left): No.2 is firmly wedged in a secure stance and is belayed also, while No.1 leads a difficult pitch.

Bottom (right): A climber on "layback." This method of climbing is very strenuous and is used for ascending steep cracks that are too narrow for the insertion of a boot. Note that No.2 is belayed to a spike of rock on the edge of the crack and is watching carefully the progress of No.1 whilst paying out the rope.



BEING British, and Cornish at that, the Senior Scouts of the Launceston Troop are only really happy when messing around with boats and water.

Unfortunately it is possible in Cornwall to be far away from the sea, and although distances may not be great, the almost complete lack of public transport makes it very difficult to do much travelling.

It is, therefore, always a problem to find an activity that will satisfy this innate love of matters nautical. This year, however, the problem was solved when the Seniors decided that they would like to spend the summer exploring Dozmary Pool and the surrounding moors.

This 38-acre pool which is almost in the middle of the moor, is a stark, desolate stretch of water, and at first glance appears dull and uninteresting. A little research, however, reveals a wealth of legend and mythology connected with it. The mere presence of such a large expanse of water in a superstition-ridden moor has naturally given rise to many old wives' tales and we were interested to hear at the beginning of the expedition that the pool was bottomless; that it was only three feet deep; the pool was dead; the pool was full of trout and eels; the pool never dried up; the pool did dry up; and that there was a whirlpool in the centre which disgorged its swallowings in Fowey Harbour thirty miles away. This surprising diversity of information concerning the pool naturally provoked much interest among the Seniors, and it was decided to investigate and disprove or prove as many of these old tales and legends as possible.

Three groups were formed; one to build a canoe, one to study the flora and fauna, and the other to study the prehistoric remains that litter the pool area.

During the very wet spring much time was spent in preparing for the first expedition. The local Cornish library was invaded and all references to the pool were carefully noted down and classified. This itself was no mean task and several school exercise books were filled with facts, fiction, natural history, archaeology, climate and tin mining.

The boat builders progressed slowly but surely, and soon we had a very presentable canoe, very broad in the beam and almost impossible to capsize.

All this preliminary preparation created much interest in the school and among parents and local historians. This was all very gratifying and soon we began to feel akin to a minor sort of Public Schools expedition to the North Pole. One thing about starting a concern like this is that nothing can stop it; if it had rained and snowed all the week prior to the first camp we should still have gone rather than admit defeat or lack of resolution to our large group of arm-chair observers and commentators.

The canoe having by this time been completed, it was decided to hold a preliminary camp over the Whitsun holidays, and survey the pool, making a careful record of its depths and dimensions.

This work was done under extreme climatic conditions, Dozmary being just under a thousand feet above sea level, and exposed to the full force of the S.W. winds. It was bitterly cold and all work had to be done fully clothed with extra scarves and long trousers.

Like the born optimists we are, shorts and swimming gear were taken- never did clothes look more incongruous and out of place!

S. S. S. SENIOR SCOUT SCRAPBOOK 30. DOZMARY POOL



The result of this first expedition proved that the pool, far from being bottomless, was, on the average, between three and four feet deep.

The second and principal camp was held during August in weather that could not have been better.

Blue skies, high temperatures and plenty of water to fall into when scientific research became a little too arduous and exhausting. The camp started a fortnight after the end of term, the Seniors converging on Dozmary from all corners of Cornwall. Some hiked a dozen miles over the moors, some came by bicycle and two stalwarts came from Penzance in a Royal Blue bus.

These latter had created quite a stir amongst the bus passengers by labelling all their luggage **DOZMARY POOL EXPEDITION 1953**; this and their scientific conversation apparently convinced even the bus driver of their scholarship and importance!

Each of the three groups having spent considerable periods of time doing research pre-Paration for the expedition, knew exactly what to do on reaching the pool. The naturalists made a good start by finding a pair of Heron which although very shy formed a perfect picture as they flew slowly backwards and forwards. There were many types of sea birds also, in addition to a comprehensive selection of land ones. The archaeologists explored various hut circles and tumuli, and also spent much time paddling around the perimeter of the pool looking for flints. Flint is not native to this granite area, so that any flint that is found points towards it having been brought there by prehistoric man. We were not lucky enough to find anything we could identify as a definite arrow head, but we did find several pieces of flint. The boat builders helped here by using their craft in the deeper water with glass-bottomed biscuit tins. We found these a great help. The bottoms were cut out of ordinary biscuit tins and a sheet of glass glazed in their place. With them we were able to break through the surface ripple of the water and gaze without strain at the pool bed.

One day, when quite a considerable wind was blowing, we discovered that work in the pool was impossible owing to mud and peat on the bottom being disturbed. This was a wonderful opportunity to build a raft, and soon, with the help of half a dozen oil cans and a dozen Scout staves, a very presentable raft was sailing an erratic course across the pool.



CAVING - II

By **A. L. BUTCHER, B.A.**

It was quite a feat to get on the craft in the first instance, and an even greater feat to keep a balance and ward off attacks from the jealous canoe. In the evening of this day the Seniors hiked to Brown Willy, the highest mountain in Cornwall, from the top of which we could just see Dozmary in the far distance.

Needless to say, the pool is haunted, but not haunted by. a normal ghost by any means, for this ghost has the distinction of being haunted himself. In his worldly life his name was Tregeagle, and, according to the various versions of the legend, he was a pretty bad character even for the 16th century.

He was apparently a most unjust landlord, and a very cruel parent; his daughter and wife dying as a result of his diabolical temper. When he died some of the land he had owned became the cause of a dispute and the case went to court. Unfortunately a deadlock arose because the only man who could settle the problem was Tregeagle and he was dead. Imagine 'everyone's horror when the local parson who practised black and white magic brought Tregeagle back from the dead and produced him in court as a witness. Unfortunately the parson was rather limited in his magical powers and could not send this spirit back from whence it had come. It was a wonderful opportunity for the forces of evil, who saw a really wicked soul just ready to be picked up. But these in turn were foiled by the forces of good who saw the possibility of making Tregeagle repent for his past sins. Alas, Tregeagle had been such a wicked man in his lifetime that the forces of good were unable, as they usually are, to beat the forces of evil and a deadlock again ensued, the force of evil puffing one side and the force of good the other.

At last it was suggested that Tregeagle, for his sins, should be banished to nearby Dozmary Pool and set the task of emptying it with a limpet shell. To make matters worse it was stipulated that the shell should have a hole in the bottom. If Tregeagle should rest for more than a season from his task the devil would have the right to claim his soul. Naturally the devil was not too satisfied with this arrangement and does his worst to stop Tregeagle from working by chasing him with his headless hell hounds. We did not see the spirit or the hounds, but were troubled with the local farm dogs who would eat anything from soap to flour.

The camp lasted eight days, eight days of perfect summer weather, with eight Senior Scouts who were doing something really useful, and doing it well because they were obviously enjoying every minute of it. There was very little about it that one would recognise as a Scout camp, all food was cooked on a primus, and there was a complete lack of the usual camp gadgets, and as most of the time was spent around or in the pool, Scout uniforms were not much in evidence. It was this informality and the fact that the camp had a definite objects, and was not just another Scout camp, that made it so interesting and enjoyable.

R.J. STURLEY,
G.S.M., Launceston College Group.



MOST cavers, if their keenness for this pastime lasts more than a year or two, develop special interests. Some go in for photography, some become interested in one of the many branches of geology, others become amateur surveyors and a few take to studying the fauna of caves. These interests are naturally based on previous knowledge and tastes; but underground applications need special techniques.

Cameras need to be well protected. I have found an army-surplus 10 in. by 3½ in. by in. water-tight steel ammunition box very useful. Cameras should also be small and light; a folding "620" or a good one of smaller size is most suitable. A number of cavers are getting very interesting and successful results on 35-mm. colour film. Colour transparencies, as most people are beginning to realize, are the ideal medium for illustrating one's enthusiastic descriptions of the underworld. It is amazing what a range of colour exists in caves which one had imagined were merely grey or brown. Light from flash-powder set off by touch-paper is still the most economical for big subjects but is being superseded by flash-bulbs in other cases. The generally dark coloured walls of a cave, however, do not reflect much light, and the amount has to be double or treble what would be needed at home.

The most obvious subjects for photographs are stalactites and stalagmites, and one never tires of trying to get really good pictures of these beautiful and often fantastic encrustations. But there are many other equally worthwhile subjects: the shapes of water-bored tunnels, crystalline pools and action shots on rope-ladder pitches, for instance.

A sketch-map of the layout of a cave has innumerable uses, whether it is drawn merely from memory or based on a careful survey. A good job can be done with a small liquid-filled prismatic compass and a "metallic" tape. There are very many interesting questions which can be answered when a survey has been made: Whereabouts is the far end of the cave in relation to the surface above it? How near does it approach to other known caves? What is the difference in level between the stream in the lowest parts of the cave and the surface systems with which it may connect? Some of these problems lead to other tracing methods.

To ascertain where a stream flowing into a cave eventually returns to daylight the easiest way is to introduce a powerful colouring agent and then to watch all resurgences. Fluorescein powder dissolved in water can be recognised by its bright green fluorescence after very great dilution. A concentrated solution can easily be prepared if a small quantity of alkali such as potassium carbonate is first added to the water. One has to be careful where one introduces this dye, however, because although it is quite harmless to man and beast people object to having their water supplies coloured bright green. Permission should be asked, and then as little dye as possible used; a few ounces go a very long way.

The plan of a cave very often follows a zigzag pattern with almost right-angles between passages, and as most caverns are in limestone this draws one's attention to the fact that the joint-system is frequently rectangular. In considering how caves originated one is led to the conclusion that probably it was water seeping along the microscopic cracks which gradually dissolved the rock and opened up the way for flowing water. This also exerts an erosive action by means of the solid particles which it carries along. That these processes are still in action is obvious in most caves, but the evidences of past action are less obvious.

There are, in fact, several features to look out for.

Flowing water produces a ripple-shaped marking on the limestone floor and walls of a cave. The steeper facet faces downstream as can be seen in the photograph taken in Giant's Hole, Castleton. In Ogof Ffynnon Ddu in South Wales these ripple-marks prove the fact that at one time the water flowed up one of the passages. This is not so surprising when one realises that in past ages valley floors were higher than they are now and that at the end of glacial times there was a great deal of water which no doubt entirely filled many cave systems. Even now also many caves fill up in times of flood, and the water circulation passes through, sometimes up, sometimes down, passages which are normally relatively dry. Water following a horizontal joint tends to produce a lens-shaped tunnel as in the Swine Hole (Peak Cavern, Castle-ton) while it is full of water. If, however, there is a flow only on the floor we get a narrow passage which is gradually deepened as in Giant's Hole.

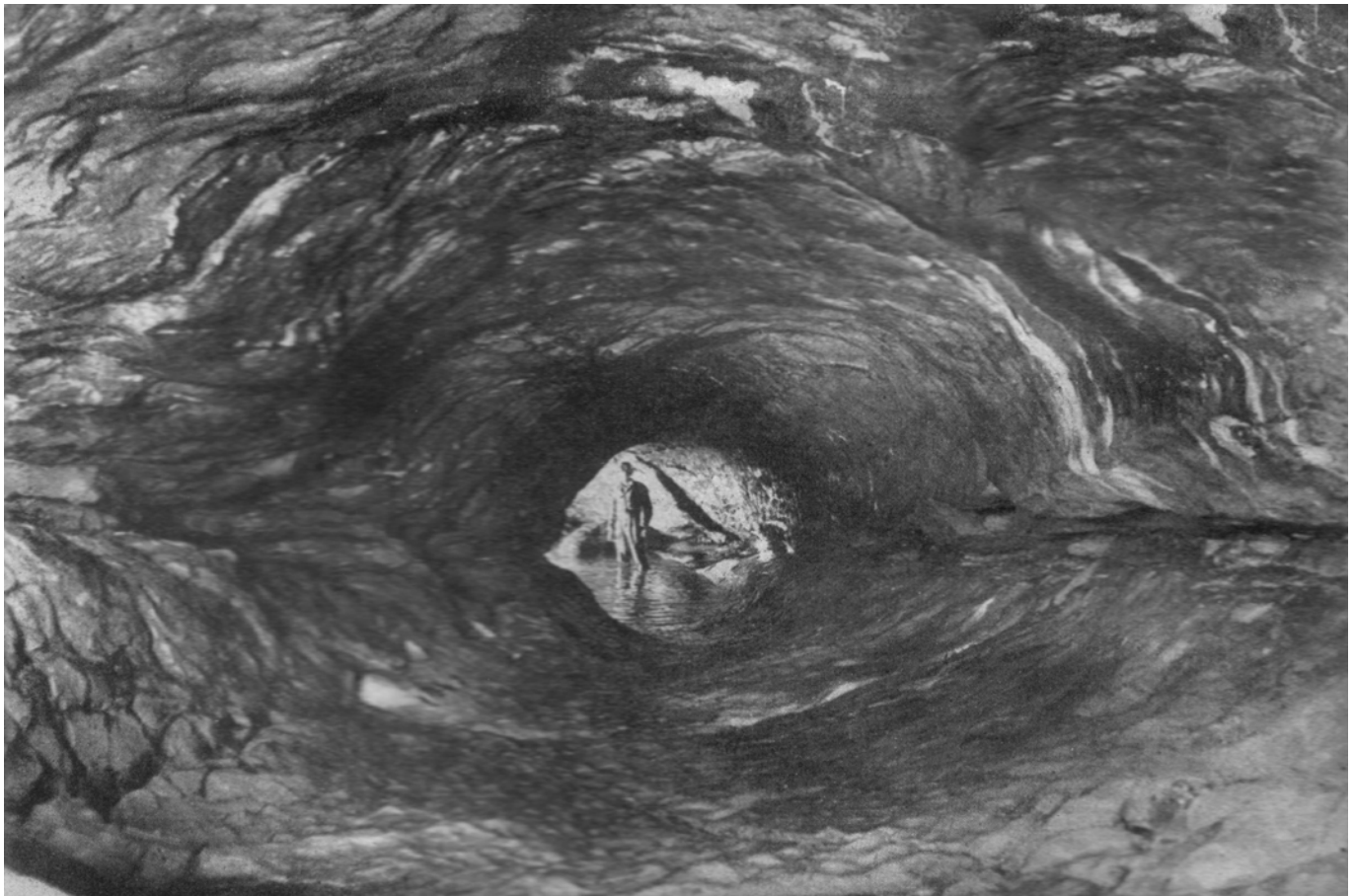
Fifty years ago cavers could break new ground merely by exploring the holes which were open to all who dared or cared to penetrate them. Now to find a new cave-series takes thought and hard work. One may be lucky enough to sit down and happen to notice a draught coming from a small hole, as the discoverers of Lancaster Hole did. It is true that they were on the look out for this kind of thing, but merely moving a few boulders led them into a pitch of 110 feet and thousands of yards of passages. That is what one dreams of discovering. On the other hand, many of the recent discoveries have been the result of intelligent digging. When a stream disappears among the boulders forming its bed or into a shake-hole (a conical depression), any vertical joint in a nearby rock-face may have the beginnings of a cave system at its foot.

Such places have provided many hours of fruitless labour, but also occasionally a way into such exciting discoveries as the caverns of Upper Easegill on the boundary of Westmorland and Lancashire. It is important before undertaking excavations to obtain the permission of the farmer and afterwards to leave nothing that could be a danger. If digging in a cave reveals anything which might be of archaeological interest an expert should be informed before further disturbance is caused.

Since the War exploration of water-filled passages has been made possible by frog-man suits. The Cave Diving Group has developed its own specialised training scheme, and its caver-divers have penetrated many passages which before could only be guessed at. In Wookey Hole and in Peak Cavern new chambers have been reached, and the divers walked for over 300 yards totally immersed in one tunnel before emerging.

The most specialised of the scientific side-lines of caving is "biospeleology." Perhaps to most people the darkness of caves would suggest an absence of any form of living creatures; but Brigadier Glennie and his niece, Miss Mary Hazelton, have together listed over two hundred species in British caves. Useful information as to their distribution can be collected by any caver who has the eyesight and deftness to catch specimens, and then these two experts are always pleased to give advice and to identify specimens.

I have mentioned only the chief activities to which caving may lead. In all of them a map of the cave in which you are particularly interested may be useful. Simple surveying, therefore, I would recommend as a valuable contribution to the caving community. To anyone who has his eyes open and has an inquiring disposition there are innumerable problems and unlimited possibilities for research in caves.



TROOP NIGHT

A SCOUTER'S MISCELLANY

The old D.C., and the younger man who was now to take his place as the Chief Scout's representative in the district, turned up their collars as they came out into the winter rain.

"Well, that's the lot. What do you think of it all?"

"Frankly, I'm terrified - and depressed."

The older man smiled, "'twas always thus. Mind you, they always seem to be at their worst when you drop in like that."

"It puts your feet hard on the ground, anyhow, after the philosophical flights of some conference speakers!"

For several weeks they had travelled round, visiting every Troop in the District and introducing the new Commissioner.

"Isn't it astonishing how utterly different they are!"

"Yes indeed. But wasn't it the Founder's idea that Scouting was to reach every possible boy without direction from the top?"

"You mean, that local interpretations of the game are natural and right?"

"Yes, that is all right. Differences there must be. In a Movement dependent on personal leadership, there are bound to be widely different standards and achievements."

The younger man stopped to light a pipe. "How then do you judge? In fact, how can you tell a good Troop night?"

They turned into the house of one of them.....

"That's not an easy one! You see, if you want an answer that's any use, it must apply to any Group."

"That's practically impossible. There are big Troops and little ones, new ones and old ones; rich ones and poor ones. So what?"

"The test is.... Consistency."

"Sounds stodgy! Go on."

"I suggest there are four consistencies which ought to be obvious in any Troop night if it's a good one. The first is - consistency with the Law and Promise."

He busied himself with the coffee.

"You see, Honour comes first in both. Now, to take only a little thing perhaps, it's not uncommon to see otherwise, and it's an infectious disease. For that matter we saw a game of the 'scavenging hunt' variety a couple of weeks ago which depended on a minor, but actual, breach of the Law - an invasion of private rights - done in the name of Scout enterprise."

"I know what you mean.

"Duty to God and duty to the Queen - well these show in the atmosphere and standards. Did you notice that the 2nd didn't have prayers at all?"

"Was that shyness?"

"No - I don't think so. Just indifference. The sense of duty the matter simply isn't there."

"What about the other duty?"

"We're a citizenship Movement, and that means service. If we're not prepared to give service, we shouldn't pretend. The Queen sets an example of personal service which is an inspiration at all times; even a kid can understand that. Yet old Simpson in the 5th for example hasn't been in uniform the last two times I've been round: he's got plenty of sane; he just can't be bothered and he's kidded himself into thinking it doesn't matter."

They stirred in the sugar as they reflected on the good results of little pieces of service.

"Loyalty sticks out in that pride of Patrol and Troop you sometimes feel, and friendship shows at once in meeting with other Scouts.

Taken together these make a magical combination, and show as high morale."

"What about Thrift - of time for example? We have seen several meetings start late - some very late - and nobody seemed concerned. And we saw the 7th play that touch-rugby game for forty minutes out of the sixty available for their whole programme."

"You agree with me, then - consistency with the Law and Promise in big things and in little things, comes first? Otherwise the Law and Promise is just a Tenderfoot Test and the Investiture Ceremony a piece of red tape."

"Yes, that's fair. What's your next consistency?"

"Consistency with B.-P.'s training material." He opened *Aids to Scoutmastership* at a marker and read out, "The Scoutmaster gives to the boy the ambition and desire to learn for himself, *by suggesting to him activities which attract him*, and which he pursues till he, by experience, does them aright. (Such activities are suggested in *Scouting for Boys*.)' Is that not a perfect guide to the good Troop night - the creation of opportunities for Scout activities? Now you take the 4th last Friday... did you see any boys being 'attracted' by activities suggested by their Troops? Correction...did you see any activity?"

"No, but every Troop takes a night off from training every now and then. Perhaps they were just relaxing?"

"They've been relaxing since last January then!"

They both laughed. "Yes, I see what you mean. I was interested in that Troop that met in the school. That S.M. - what was his name? - Oh yes. He had actually created the impression among his boys that the Scout tests and badges meant 'work' and that they had to do some 'work' before they could 'play' and enjoy themselves."

"Quite. There's a distinction which would have puzzled B.P., I fancy! Actually, it's quite common nowadays. Signalling's the outstanding example - they put it over as a dull grind. You never see boys actually using signalling in the open."

"What about the 11th?" "Now they're most interesting. This year they're a gym team. Last year they were a concert party. It's a pity they can't get a balance into things. There's nothing wrong with gyms, or the Troop show - obviously. But the Scout training material is bigger than these. For that matter look at the 8th. Now their S.M. is a genius. He absolutely fascinates his Scouts. But he's a menace. He goes mad about some stunt. This year it's boating - last year it was hill climbing. He enthuses about the thing. The imagination he puts into it is terrific. The Troop works up to a frenzy of excitement, then he drops it like a hot brick. He loses boys every time he changes stunts. He's like the man who was so busy looking for pearls with which to adorn his speech that he lost the thread on which to string them."

"I see what you mean, and I know that when a Troop creates opportunities for boys to progress in their Scouting, and the Scouters use the technique of attraction and incentive so skilfully exploited by B.-P. - you get the right setting and the right reaction."

"Yes that's it. And that brings us to Consistency Number Three - with the Founder's training method."

"I thought you'd come to that - the Patrol System."

"We haven't time to argue about what it is, but we might think of consistency with it as a test of a good Troop night. Take the 1st for example - how do you assess them?"

"Quite frankly, I thought the S.M. did far too much. You remember when they had those sixty or so Scouts all sitting round the hall while he stood in the centre and lectured them on how to tie a sheet bend?"

"Exactly. He's an excellent instructor; but he just can't grasp that that's not the way it's done. His P.L.'s are just what you'd expect - devoted rabbits. When they're out on their own - like that District competition last year - they're hopeless. They're entirely dependent on him and he loves it!"

"Then there's the 14th. I notice they have 'officers'!"

"That's right, and it's not just another name for Scouters. They really are officers, and they behave like officers. They give orders! Their P.L.'s are excellent N.C.O.'s in consequence. You see, to pretend to be giving real responsibility to your P.L.'s while actually withholding executive authority from them, is to make a farce of the Patrol System, and yet that in varying degrees is what about half of our Scoutmasters are doing."

"Effective Patrol working is tied up with training, isn't it? I mean, if the standard of individual Scout training is at such a low level that the P.L.'s have neither the knowledge nor the experience to instruct and lead their Patrols on Scout enterprises, the thing breaks down to some extent."

"I entirely agree, and that's why the next time young Thomson grins at you and says 'Of course, we don't bother too much about tests; we get on with the real Scouting!' I hope you'll tell him what I told him!"

"One thing I noticed - in how few of the Troops did we see the Patrols meet first and carry through their own preliminaries of subs., attendances and whatnot before the Troops rallied."

"Quite, and how seldom after Prayers and Flag do you see the Troop break off into Patrols again so that the P.L.'s can make their arrangements. Usually you'll hear the boss-man say 'I want to see so-and-so and so-and-so about their Second Class. Troop meets next Friday as usual. Troop, Dismiss!' Whereupon the youngsters cluster round him or clear out. Funny - they don't seem to see the inconsistency. So many people talk about the Patrol System - so few make it work."

"I entirely agree about Number Three. What's next?"

"Fourth and lass. I think, is - consistency with the rules. Scouting is a game, we keep saying, and like all games it has its rules. Unlike most simple games, however, Scouting is frequently played in ignorance of its rules - and occasionally with calculated disregard!"

"P.O.R. meaning 'Press on Regardless'?"

They finished their coffee.

"Yes. It's a pity, isn't it? But it's the boys who are let down when they find themselves at a Jamborette, say, with their badges on the wrong arm - looking foolish. And you'll see many a P.L. and Second whose stripes have little consistency with Rule number whatever-it-is!"

"Yes, we have met three Scouters studded with yellow, green and red service stars."

"And there's that clear and desirable rule, too, which says what standard a boy must be before he can be appointed Troop Leader. I met two in the last three weeks with three stripes up who didn't qualify. And so it goes on endlessly. All our rules, grave and trifling, have been gathered together to pass on things found essential and desirable over more than forty years of Scouting. Rules are essential to keep a big Movement on an even keel."

Its a simple matter to look at the bits affecting the Troop Scouters. It's a matter of Troop tradition and good Scout-mastership after that - and it shows up at Troop night."

WHY SCOUTMASTER'S GROW OLD QUICKLY..!



"That's very interesting. Your yardstick for a good Troop night, then, is to see whether it is consistent with the Law and Promise, the Founder's training material, the Founder's training method, and the Rules of the game?"

"Yes, and that goes anywhere at any time."

"And it's a standard which the wee Troops can achieve very often when the big show fails."

"In fact, if you want to place your finger on Scouting's health, you must visit the ordinary Troop night - not the District Rally nor the County Camp - and certainly not the Jamboree or the Gang Show and the rest: and if you find at your Troop nights that the Scouting is not in accordance with these fundamentals - then look out that it is not so far removed from *Scouting for Boys* in spirit and material as to be a breach of trust to the boys, their parents and the Movement. It's happening all over the place and doing untold harm"

"flint's pretty definite! But I see what you mean."

"Furthermore, it's a formula that calls for the finest leadership we can find. I think it was Masefield who said:-

"It is good to be out on the road and going one knows not where,

Going through meadow and village, one knows not whither nor why.'

But it's useless being out on the Scouting trail in that frame of mind. To run a good Troop night you've got to know where and why you are going. But that's your job now to watch and encourage.

One last thing - the boys are the same as ever. The Scouters are the only trouble! Good-night."

IAN B. RODGERS

PATROL ANIMALS AND BIRDS: II. THE BADGER

By MICHAEL BLACKMORE



I was driving with a friend one night along a quiet country lane when he suddenly jammed on his brakes and shouted: "What on earth is that object? - it looks like a small bear!" A greyish animal stood blinking in the glare of the headlamps about fifteen yards ahead and I immediately recognised it as a badger. Its heavy thick-set body was a good deal larger than that of a terrier dog. It also had short legs and

a stumpy tail, but its most prominent feature was the two black stripes running down its white face.

Although the badger certainly does look rather bear-like at first sight he belongs to the stoat family, of which he is our largest representative. He is quite a common animal in the West Country and also in many of our southern and midland counties wherever there are suitable woods; but you meet very few people, even in badger-inhabited localities, who have ever seen one alive except in a zoo. This is because the brock (to give him his old English name) is a shy nocturnal creature. During daylight he sleeps in his deep burrow or "set," as his den is generally called. Badgers are great diggers and their winding tunnels often extend fifteen or twenty feet below ground. A really ancient set may go even deeper, and where there are seams of earth or soft sandstone running between layers of hard rock, colonies of badgers have lived secure for countless generations. Unfortunately they suffer some persecution in places where their sets can be excavated with a spade. Trained dogs are sent down the holes to hold the badgers while the diggers carry out their work, and this so-called sport is usually practised on the plea that the animals destroy poultry and lambs. But Mr. Ernest Neal, a naturalist who investigated the charge very carefully, has come to the conclusion that reliable evidence of such damage is rare. (I recommend every Scout to read his fascinating book *The Badger*.)

Only an occasional "rogue" (generally an old badger with worn teeth) takes to killing poultry and lambs. The normal diet consists of young rabbits. Rats, mice, slugs, acorns and various roots. I have sometimes found the prickly skins of hedgehogs turned neatly inside out near a set - evidence that badgers will accept such fare when they come across it. In several places in the West Country I have also seen the scattered remains of wasps' nests in hedgerow banks bearing the tell-tale claw-marks of a hungry brock.

Nest, grubs, and adult wasps are eaten without any harm being done to the attacker, whose thick coat and tough internal parts give ample protection against stings.

Badger-watching is a fascinating pastime though it requires much patience and absolute stillness on the part of the observer. You must also be careful to choose a vantage point where the wind blows *towards* you as you face the set because although the badger is rather a short-sighted creature he has keen ears and an even keener sense of smell.

The slightest unfamiliar sound or trace of human scent will keep him at home. Young badgers (which are born in February or March as a rule) are somewhat less suspicious than their parents and I have watched cubs come within a few inches of me before they realised that the motionless object lying in front of them was a human being.

When watching the set I often climb a tree for the sake of good all-round observation, but in many places you can get excellent results by lying on the ground as long as you remember to study the direction of the wind.

The best time to watch badgers is during summer when the nights are short because the brock comes out early then in order to satisfy his large appetite before dawn. In June and July he usually leaves home just as the light is fading and sometimes he may emerge even before the sun has set. One old badger I got to know quite well seldom bothered to use his set at all on hot days. I came across him several times on a bed of dry bracken on a lonely hillside. Evidently he preferred the warmth of the sun to the dampness of a burrow, and owing to the slow and rather ungainly manner in which he used to shuffle through the undergrowth when I disturbed him I think that he must have suffered from rheumatism, which might well have accounted for his unorthodox habits.

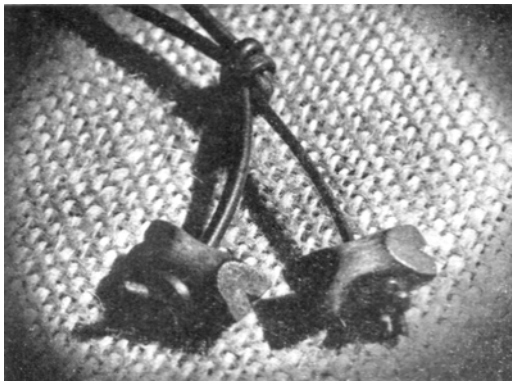
Another badger I knew disdained to use a set at all but lived in a derelict tunnel that had once been a manganese mine. I shall never forget the first time I found him there, for it gave me as much of a surprise as it must have given him. I was exploring the mine one afternoon with the help of an electric torch, when suddenly I heard a peculiar grunting sound in the darkness some distance ahead. I went forward very cautiously for several yards until I came to a part of the mine that had been flooded with rain, and on a narrow ledge above water level at the side of the tunnel stood a large badger whose weight I guessed to be about forty pounds. I felt rather uneasy as I crawled along the ledge to get a closer view of him in case he decided to attack me; but evidently he thought better of it, for he plunged into the water with a mighty splash and quickly swam away out of sight.

Next time I visited the mine I found the badger lying on a huge bed of bracken and grass. Rather than face the water again he made up his mind to bolt the other way and trotted towards the , hushing against me as he passed. The tunnel was only five feet wide and he could have given me a nasty bite in the leg if he had felt so inclined; but he was an inoffensive creature and only wanted to get out of my way as quickly as possible. I have never heard of a badger attacking anyone' unless absolutely cornered.

After watching badgers for many years I can say that the only complaint against them which I have verified personally is that they will occasionally indulge in a rough-and-tumble among growing corn and other cereals. Being playful animals they enjoy a good romp, but even if they sometimes choose a cornfield for their games the damage is never serious enough to rent reprisals. Apart from the rare case of the poultry-killing rogue mentioned earlier in this article, the brock deserves a good reputation. He is one of our oldest and most interesting native mammals, and if you are prepared to spend a few hours watching him you will find your patience well rewarded.

Photos by Eric Hosking

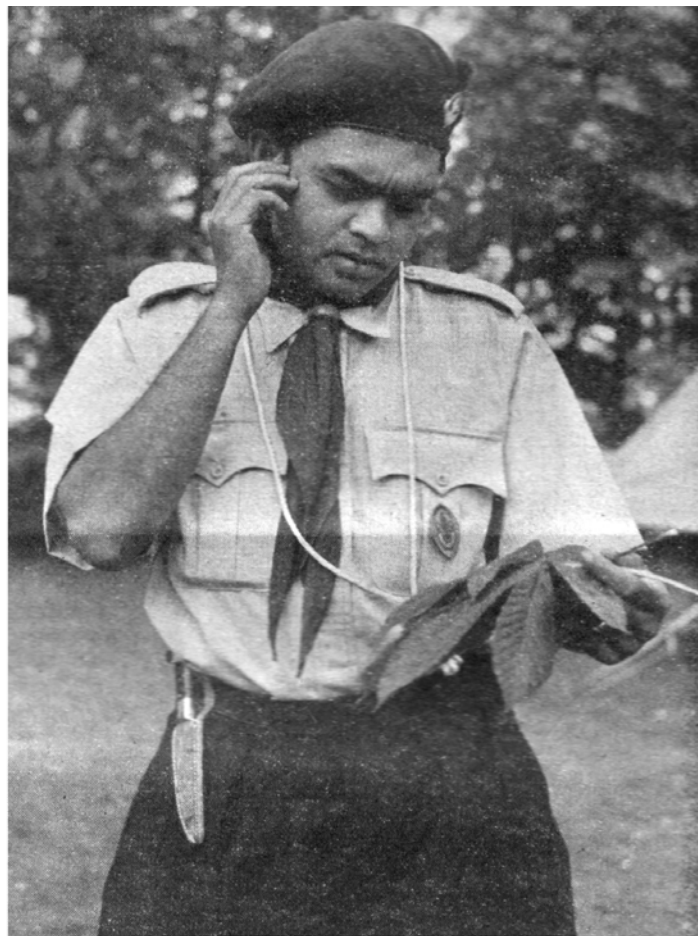




THE WOOD BADGE

On a later page will be found a list of this year's Wood Badge Courses.

The three pictures below are of Gilwell Park, two (taken by Bryan Douglas) of members of a course in action, the other (taken by Ted Wood) of the Scouts' Own at last year's Gilwell Reunion.



NEW OVERSEAS COMMISSIONER

Dear Brother Scouts,

For some time I have felt that a fresh brain and a younger man is required as Overseas Commissioner to deal with Scouting policy and problems in the British Commonwealth and Empire. Where such great constructional changes have taken, and indeed still are taking, place. For it must be remembered that, although the Boy Scouts Association in the self-governing nations is affiliated to the International Bureau, whose new Director, General Dan Spry, we heartily welcome, the Overseas Commissioner is frequently asked by them for advice on day-to-day matters, and details of practice in other countries, particularly in Great Britain. He is, moreover, responsible to the Chief Scout and the Executive Committee of the Council for the efficiency of the Overseas Branches in the Colonies.

So I have asked the Chief to allow me to hand over this dual responsibility at the age of 65, and after nine years in the appointment. My successor from February 1st is Sir George Beresford-Stooke, K.C.M.G., who has been Assistant Overseas Commissioner for the past six months, and has been a Scout for several years, latterly as Governor and Chief Scout of Sierra Leone. He is 57 years of age. Jam sure that you will give him a great welcome.

In the first war he served in the Royal Navy; he then joined the Colonial Administrative Service, serving in Sarawak, Kenya, Mauntius, Zanzibar, Northern Rhodesia, and as Chief Secretary of Nigeria. On completion of his term of office as Governor of Sierra Leone, - Sir George was appointed Second Crown Agent for the Colonies in London. Lady Beresford-Stooke is a very keen Guider, and a personal friend of the Chief Guide.

So after work at I.H.Q. (in Room 13!) since 1927 (except for military service in the war) and 24 years membership of the Executive Committee, I write this farewell message of thanks and goodwill to all my friends in the Movement - at I.H.Q., in the Counties, Overseas Branches and International.

My wife and I recall with much pleasure the many friendships we have made in Scouting, and I am most grateful to her for never failing help and encouragement.

The Chief has been good enough to invite me to be a Chief Scout's Commissioner, and I will thus be ask to keep in touch with the progress of Scouting.

And I am continuing with my spore-time activities on the Berkshire County Council and Commission of the Peace.

Good Scouting to you all.

Yours very sincerely,

Granville Walton.



SIR GEORGE

HOW CAN WE RUN A SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION?

By J. J. PYCHES and K. R. R. WILSON,

G.S.M. and S.M.(S) of the 11th Taunton (King's College) Scout Group

II. General Preparations

ASSUMING that the idea of your scientific expedition has now been both "born" and "sold," the detailed planning must next be tackled. The success of the expedition will greatly depend on the quality of its organisation. You will naturally decentralise it as much as possible. Apart from the valuable training this gives, no one man in this sort of project can possibly cope with all the work himself. But good co-ordination at the top is essential if all is not to fall into confusion. We found a dyarchy of two co-ordinators the most satisfactory arrangement. "1 i/c" dealt with the overall planning; "2 i/c" carried out the detailed organisation of all activities "in the field."

A large part of "1 i/c's" work must of course consist of supervising and co-ordinating the efforts of those in charge of finance, food, equipment and health. He must also see that all necessary general training in mountain camping, safety precautions, signalling, etc. is undertaken. Further information regarding all these topics will be given in later articles. In addition he must himself attend to the following matters:-

(1) **Scientific Field- Work.** - Experts and suitable tasks have to be found. This is not nearly as difficult as it sounds. An enormous amount of detailed field-work in many subjects still remains to be done, even in this country. Many research students in botany, geography and archaeology will welcome help on a variety of projects. The assistance of semi- or even unskilled labour, providing it is reasonably intelligent and mature, is often of the greatest value in such tasks as lake-sounding, the surveying of river profiles, meteorological research, the tracing of Roman or pre-historic remains, or various types of detailed ecological survey.

The educational benefits gained by participation in such projects are obvious, and the fact that they are "original" makes them far more inspiring and worthwhile than would otherwise be the case. The right sort of letter to the appropriate departments of one's local university, or to "Oxbridge," or to the university nearest the area to which one wishes to go, will usually be given courteous attention and a helpful reply. Universities will also often allow research students to borrow equipment for tins sort of project; but be sure that it is insured. Having selected your tasks, some preparatory training must be undertaken in the subjects concerned; the appropriate masters in the local grammar school will normally be very glad to help in this, especially if some of their boys are going. If the Group is a school one, the whole problem is of course even easier to solve, as all sorts of additional contacts and facilities will be available.

(2) **Local Education Authority Grants.** - Owing to the present educational economies, grants to help boys to take part in expeditions of this sort are fairly difficult to get, but some counties still make them. Write to your Education Officer in the first instance.

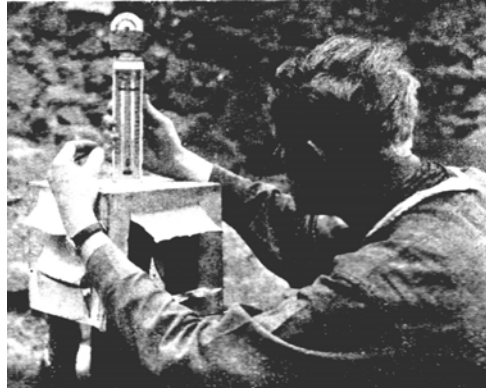
(3) **Travel.** - If the expedition numbers twenty-five or more, it is possible to persuade British Railways to arrange a through "brake-third" (half passenger coach; half guard's van) at no extra cost than the ordinary fares (at the reduced Scout rate). This will be transferred from train to train during a cross-country journey, and loading and unloading can be done by the expedition. Moreover the equipment travels with you and need not be elaborately packed. The method is thus well worthwhile for any but a short journey. The initial approach should be made to your station-master about six months beforehand.

(4) **Permission to Camp.** - Do not forget that even - an inhabited area is usually owned by someone.

Apart from the demands of common courtesy, fishing and shooting rights may be affected by any intrusion. The County Council Offices, or possibly the local clergyman, of the area to which you are going will be able to advise you about the extent and ownership of the estates involved.

(5) *Costing*. - This should be done as early as possible, so that all may know how much money they must find (or earn). But do not tie yourself down too much. It is impossible to foresee all the contingencies in the way that one can for an ordinary summer camp. Our last expedition, which lasted three weeks, cost £9 per head, excluding fares; but this included the hire or purchase of well over half the equipment taken.

(6) *Insurance* - No special insurance, beyond the normal appropriate policies sponsored by I.H.Q., is needed for expe-



ditions of this sort, even if they include rock climbing (under a qualified instructor), providing they take place in this country.

All these preparations constitute a formidable list. They will of course, be spread over nine months or a year; but in this lies one of the chief dangers.

The pull will be a long one, and morale may well flag in the middle reaches, when the first enthusiasm has worn off, and the expedition itself still seems far away. The important thing is to plan the "build up" as a whole, and by ceaseless prodding of every department, to make sure that the necessary momentum and drive is maintained at all stages.

Such are the principal problems which must be dealt with by the first of the two co-ordinators. The many and extensive responsibilities of the second will be described next month.

Talking Points (2nd Series)

ALL ABOUT PROGRESS

ALL ABOUT PROGRESS OUR Group has just been counting up its Proficiency Badges. We made the total come to something quite satisfactory, and we allowed ourselves to feel just a little pleased; of course, we said, we hadn't got enough First Class badges yet, but *then*, who has? On the whole, we weren't grumbling. Because, like everybody nowadays, we believe in Progress. We have Targets, too; the idea is that you get your Tenderfoot in so many weeks, and your Second Class so many months after that, and by the time you are fifteen, you've got your *First Class* and you can go into the Seniors with your eye set firmly on Queen's Scout. And it works too - occasionally, and with due allowance made for the Law of Diminishing Returns.

Seriously, of course, every Group has got to do it. There is no truer maxim in Scouting than that "nothing succeeds like success" and if the boy has a clear ideal and example before him, and can see that it is perfectly possible for others of his Patrol to be First Class Scouts, there's a good chance that he will do the same when his time comes. And nothing I may say hereafter is to be construed by anyone who reads it as meaning that I don't believe in the Badge System, or in the idea of going all out to get as many of our boys as well and fully trained as possible. When I hear a Scouter say "There's too much emphasis nowadays on Badges - I believe a boy can be a thundering good Scout and stay a Tenderfoot all his life!" I grow a little suspicious; a tiny doubt creeps into my mind, a doubt whether that Scouter just excusing his own slackness. For, if a boy is a thundering fine Scout, he may well want to escape from being a Tenderfoot isn't all his life. Oh yes. I believe in progress all right. I haven't given it a capital P this time, because I believe in it more without one.

But you can't add up the number of First Class badges your group has gained without also discovering those that it hasn't gained. And unless you are a very Administrative and Clerical sort of G.S.M., you will begin putting names to the numbers, and noticing that whereas John and David have got their First Class, Alan and Michael haven't. And you begin wondering why.

I have just been doing exactly this, and I have come to the conclusion that a good many boys remain Second Class because they like it that way. (Did I hear somebody say a tiny doubt is now creeping into his mind too, a doubt whether this Scouter isn't just, etc.? Perhaps I contradict myself - very well then. I contradict myself!) I am quite certain that to become a First Class Scout, one has got to put one's Scouting fairly high up on one's list of priorities; to become a Queen's Scout, it has to be very near the top indeed. And there are some boys who just don't put it there.

They are the boys who enjoy some of the things we do, but not all; the boys who have a consuming interest in model railways or puppetry or something else for which there really isn't much room in the Scouting programme; the boys who are brilliant cricketers, or practising like mad in the hope of consolidating a place in the School rugby XV. They joined the Scouts, perhaps, before they discovered these interests, and now they carry on Scouting in a sort of half-hearted way, saying "Sorry, Skip, I can't come to that week-end camp; there's a Swimming Gala on Saturday night" or "Oh, no, I shan't be on the Night Operation; you see, I mustn't get tired before the match to-morrow." What exasperation these people cause to their Scouters, and how much tidier it would be if they just said quite frankly "I'm afraid I'm not prepared to do this job properly; I'll resign, and spend my time on the things that really interest me." Then, when we next counted up our percentage of boys with First Class, it would be a lot higher, and we should be making Progress - with a capital P.

Yes, it would be tidier. But I cannot say too vigorously that it would be utterly and completely wrong. Perhaps these boys are not full-blooded Scouts; but they are full-blooded people, which is more important. And we cannot afford to let a boy drift away from Scouting for any reason, if we really believe in Scouting. The boy who stays a Scout for four or five years must have absorbed something of the Scouting spirit and ideals, and may yet absorb more of it; there must be some feeling of loyalty to a worth-while thing which keeps him a member even if his attendance record is full of holes and his badges still what they were when he was twelve! We cannot tell our Senior Scouts to Look Wide, and at the same time feel ruined and shocked when one of them fixes his eye on an object bend our own horizons. We must regretfully strafe our desire to speed him on his way out of the Scout Troop into the Cricket Club or the Army Cadets; and we must help him in every way possible to make good in one without leaving the other. If somehow he can find time to get his First Class and even something more, good for him; but if not, let us keep him as he is, and let us even feel a little proud that with a world of new ideas and opportunities opening around him he still wants us. On paper, he may be a blot on our Progress Chart: at meetings he may be an administrative problem; but Scouting is big enough to take little things like that in its stride.

I hope all your Patrols qualified for the Coronation Year Progress Certificate. But if the Rattlesnakes just fail to make it because Algernon had a cross-country run on the day you had hoped to pass him on his Felling Axe, try to be sympathetic.

Personally, I should boil the little blighter in oil.

G. S. M.

A FEW hours before I caught the plane for Australia I was watching Dodie Smith's near classic *Dear Octopus* on television. I expect you will know the play and remember how it builds up to that moving moment when the eldest son, called upon to propose the toast of the evening at his parents' golden wedding, instead of doing just that proposes a toast to the family- "That Dear Octopus that you can bend, you can stretch, you can go away from and come back to - but what you must never do is to break it." Well, I was leaving my family for some three months and that's never a thing I do with very much pleasure - yet I was going once more from my own little octopus into that great world-embracing octopus of our Scout brotherhood.

How many times as I flew rapidly out here did those words "You can bend it - you can stretch it but you must never break it" re-echo through my thoughts. The very elasticity of Scouting has enabled it to spread over the world's six continents, infinitely adaptable to conditions as variable as our own close-knit island home - the mountains of Switzerland, the deserts of the Middle East, the jungle of Malaya, the incredible cosmopolis that is Singapore, and not least the immensity that is the Australia I now write from.

The two skippers of the Constellation I flew in were old Scouts and proud of it, one from Manchester, the other a Londoner, both doing a sort of adult P.L.'s job, leading and encouraging their Patrols to do each his own job as part of a team. Good Scouting in action - sound, cheerful and effective.

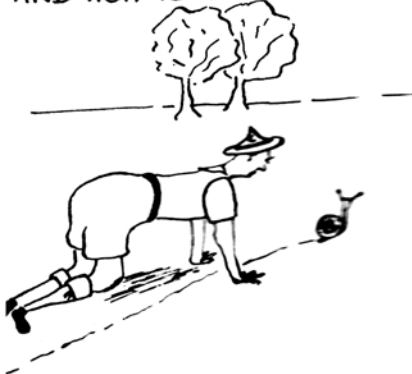
In Singapore I spent a few hours in camp with a Senior Troop. Rarely have I seen better camping: look where I would I just couldn't fault them. Never before have I been served with fresh coconut milk poured from a nut that seconds earlier was growing gracefully at the top of a sixty-foot palm. When my thirst became too obvious to conceal, a small Scout literally walked up the tree, gathered the nut and ministered to my needs.

Later to a twelve-course Chinese dinner with the Singapore Scouters - hard on the waistline but dear to the memory. Such friendliness and hospitality are worth even the boredom of long-distance air travel.

Now I am back in Australia and waiting as I write for the arrival of the candidates for a Scout Wood Badge Course - the same course that has served Scouting so well the world over; the same course that some of you are signing on for Gilwell 1954. Book early - I'll be back there to greet you. Whatever reasons you may find for not taking this Wood Badge Course, put them aside in favour of the supreme reason that through your training you can take part the more effectively in the spread of this great game of Scouting throughout the world, serving at home and overseas the ever-growing number of boys who turn to it as their fathers did before them. The stronger it

becomes in the founder countries, the easier it will be to spread it wider yet. Your personal contribution matters else's through as much as anyone training you can offer your mite to the growing strength of a unified brotherhood, not, let me add, for the sake of Scouting but rather to the glory of God and the benefit of His children.

THE SECOND CLASS BADGE AND HOW TO PASS IT.



..FOLLOW A TRAIL HALF-A-MILE LONG...

JOHN THURMAN,
Camp Chief.

FEBRUARY 22nd is a date that is familiar to every Scout and Old Scout and I am sure that at this time millions of boys and men throughout the world are remembering with gratitude our Founder and his wonderful gift to-us. As Scouters, it is our responsibility from time to time to remind those we are privileged to lead of our Founder's full and happy life, and I hope that at every Pack and Troop meeting at this particular time the yarn will be about B.-P.

Of course, we know that every Scout before his investiture is expected to know something of "the adventurous life and achievements of the Founder" but there are so many exciting stories in his long and varied career that they cannot all be told to the recruit. In any case, the stories of his adventures bear repetition and, as you know so well, the value of an occasional yarn about some aspect of B.-P.'s life cannot be overemphasized. We must remember, too, that with so many new and absorbing experiences our younger Scouts' memories are apt to be a bit short. This was evident during the recent Christmas holidays. A couple of Scouts visiting I.H.Q. were seen to be inspecting the bust of B.-P. which stands in the entrance hall. They examined it very closely and then, with equal interest studied the inscription below it- Their curiosity satisfied, one remarked to the other: "I wonder if he died a natural death?" Now these Scouts did not appear to be much beyond the Tenderfoot stage and I have no doubt their Scouter had told them about B.-P. but they confirm, I think, that if we are going to infuse our Scouts with the spirit of B.-P. we must continue to talk about him. In three years' time we will be celebrating the Centenary of our Founder's birth and the Jubilee of Scouting. These celebrations will be much more real to our Scouts if they are well informed about him.

IN March, 1952, I reproduced in this column the announcement of the Director of the International Bureau that 1957 was the Centenary and Jubilee Year and that the main celebration would be a combined World Scout Jamboree and Rover Moot. At that time 1957 sounded a long way ahead but it is well to remind ourselves that two of those five years have passed and if the next two pass as quickly as the last two seem to have done it will not be very long before we are talking about "next year's celebrations!"

As you know, last August the International Conference accepted our invitation to act as hosts to the world at this important Jamboree and Rover Moot and steps are already being taken to find a suitable site. I hope, too, that in every Group steps will be taken to ensure that our Scouts will be worthy hosts and representatives of B.-P.'s country. World Scouting knows very well that the Movement began here and will expect much of our Scouts. Let them not be disappointed.

WHILE thinking -about the 1957 World Jamboree, we must not forget that there will be one next year - in Canada. I very much hope that Great Britain will be represented by a fine Contingent at this third World Jamboree to be held in' the Commonwealth and Empire. The previous two were held in this country. Now it is Canada's turn and we may be sure it will be a wonderful experience for our Scouts. We have not yet received details of the exact location of the Jamboree in that vast country nor of the dates, but we may expect them within the next few weeks and an- announcement will be made as quickly as possible. In the meantime, we have been investigating the question of transport so that as large a party as possible of European Scouts can be got across the Atlantic as cheaply as possible. I hope it will be possible for you to know the total cost of the trip per Scout within the next month or two.

I hope every Group and District, if they have not already done so, is making plans for raising some money to help Scouts to attend this Eighth World Jamboree. No Scout who is qualified should be prevented from enjoying this wonderful experience because he may not be able to find the whole cost himself; of course, it will be expensive, but given the will and enthusiasm, I am confident we can raise a large and first-class Contingent.

A. W. HURLL,
Chief Executive Commissioner.

LUCK OF THE MONTH

By TILE EDITOR

February

Already hungry Time has eaten most of February away - February "fill dyke" as it is called but not with reason for in reality, as the records show, it is a rather dry, cold, hard month, boasting occasional clear, icy days with sunshine thin as string. But its snowdrops and celandines and primroses are cause enough for happiness.

Usually too when I think of February I think of Shrove Tuesday, but Lent comes late this year - nevertheless now is the time to think of Easter week-end plans, and the later Easter should find many campers abroad. But even a late Easter week-end is not for the Tenderfoots: let them wait for Whitsuntide. Easter is for those with some experience, even if their experience only began last year.

Ideas for the Month

For all of us, to remember B.-P., especially perhaps during the week containing his birthday, February 22nd.

For the Cubs Mary Smith has devised a quite splendid Special Pack Meeting which you will find on p. 52.

For the Scouts, there should be a yarn about B.-P. himself or about the early days of the Scout Movement. And do they know the B.-P. yell? This was first used at the Copenhagen Jamboree in 1924 and goes:-

B.-P., B.-P.,
Baden-Powell, Baden-Powell,
Chief! Chief! Chief!
Rah! Rah! Rah!

"B.-P. is said slowly and distinctly. "Baden-Powell" also. "Chief, Chief" slowly and the third "Chief" drawn out - Cheeeef - with staccato emphasis on the final consonant. Conclude with three "Rahs" each louder than the preceding one. And for the second line see Question (3) in the Quiz below.

Both Senior Scouts and Rover Scouts might like to try their hand at a small Quiz [see p.61 for Answers].

1. "Maybe it's because I'm a Londoner" - had B.-P. any claim to be one?
2. How long did the Siege of Mafeking last?
3. What is the correct pronunciation of B.-P.'s name (i) to rhyme with garden or maiden, (ii) to rhyme with bowl or howl?
4. What were the first words of Camp Fire Yarn (I) in the first edition of *Scouting for Boys*?
5. When was B.-P. (i) proclaimed Chief Scout of the World, (ii) given a peerage?
6. What would these names have n~ to B.-P.? - Haig-Brown, Pax, Olave Soames, Calgaic?
7. The famous "fortnightly pans" began Scouting:: how many were there, and when was the first published?
8. Before he began the Scout Movement, B.-P. was a professional soldier: what was the highest rank and position he achieved?
9. From what two books of Rudyard Kipling's did B.-P. take ideas for the Movement?
10. When is B.-P.'s centenary? What other anniversary will the same year celebrate?.

And perhaps the Rovers might have a discussion on "the art of leadership as exemplified by B.-P.'s life and character."

All of us should remember our Founder in our prayers this week: turn to Prayer 81 in *Prayers for Use in the Brotherhood of Scouts*.

Our Contemporaries (2)

"If the Government were to pay £800 a year to every man who guaranteed to -keep just one boy out of Borstal, it would actually save money."

(*The Observer*, 10.1.1954).
B. Faithfull-Davies.
REX HAZLEWOOD.

OUR DISTRICT

By A.D.C.

I HAVE cogitated a good deal before telling this story, because it is rather like confessing to a murder, the murder of a good Scout.

I'm sure, too, that such a thing could not happen in these well-organised days. However, here goes!

The other day I was in Birmingham, which I suppose is the easiest city in England in which to get lost, and as pathfinding in cities is not my strong point, I soon managed it.

So I walked into a tobacconist's shop, and as I entered I noticed, with the hawk-like eyes of a good Scout, the name written over the window, in letters a foot high. P. B. L. SMITH.

My mind shot back twenty years to my old Troop H.Q. in Bethnal Green, which Hitler later turned into a much-needed open space, and I saw myself on a Friday evening inspecting my four Patrols, the Eagles, the Owls, the Curlews and the Swifts.

The Eagles were all there, the Owls lacked only Ginger Taylor, who was in hospital having his adenoids removed. The Curlews were all present and correct except for Skinny Ashman, working late according to his P.L. who was an optimistic type, or gone to the flicks according to his Second, who was a cynic.

"Where is Pete Smith?" I asked the P.L. of the Swifts.

"Gone to Birmingham," said the P.L., "they went sudden, as his father got a job."

I was sorry, for thirteen-year-old Pete was one of the best and brightest of the younger boys, with a natural taste for Scouting. I remembered how he had revelled in the summer camp, and how he had pulled his weight all the time in the jobs that had to be done.

"If you can find out his address in Birmingham," I said to the P.L. of the Swifts, "I'll write to the local Commissioner and see that he's fixed up in a Troop there."

The door-bell clanged as I walked into the shop, and a fellow with glasses came from the back parlour to serve me. Just faintly could I see a resemblance to Pete Smith.

"Why!" he said, "if it isn't Mr. Bugface! Come in and meet the wife!"

His wife went to make a pot of tea, and Pete Smith told me that he had enjoyed some of the happiest times of his life in my old Troop. "I always meant to join another Troop when I came to Birmingham," he said, "but I somehow never got round to it."

I did look in at a Troop one evening, but it was a dud show, and I didn't go again. Then I'm afraid I got in with rather a tough lot of kids, and I was had up in court for stealing lead from a church roof.. I'm pretty sure that wouldn't have happened if I had kept on with Scouts.

Evidently his life of crime had not lasted long, and he had done very well in the war and was now a respected and respectable citizen, with a boy and a girl of his own, and the boy was a Wolf Cub.

If he had not been so nice to me it would have been easier to forget that by my negligence I had murdered a robbed a boy good Scout, all that Scouting can give in the years when it could have given him most. Robbed the Movement, I suspect, of a useful Scouter,

All because, though the P.L. of the Swifts gave me Pete's address, I forgot to write to Birmingham.

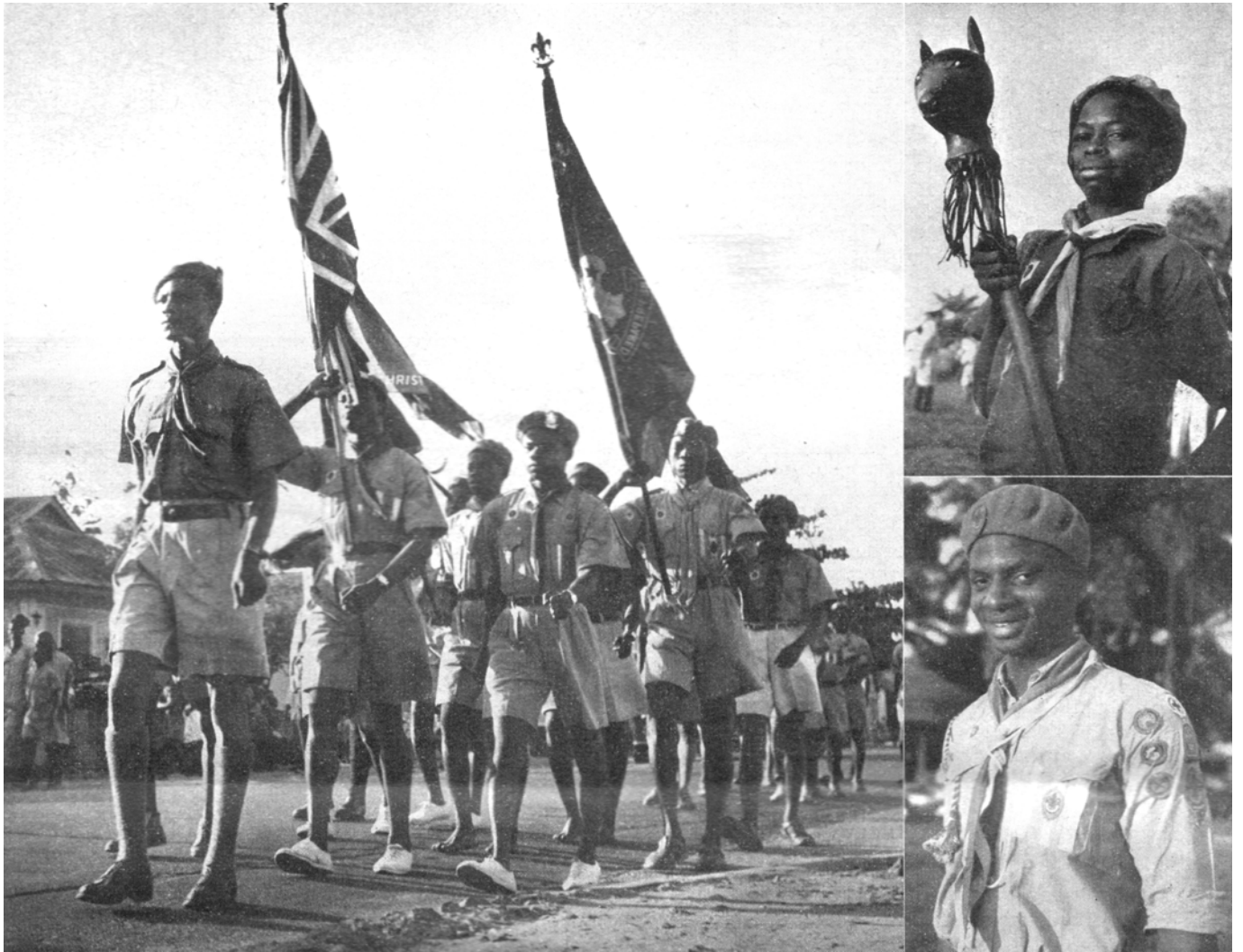


FLEUR DEL YS SAYS

Are you using the Patrol System in every way possible, in every possible, place and time?

Because

It was die best way B.-P knew of developing initiative and self-reliance in boys, which, is one of the aims of our training.



THESE PHOTOGRAPHS WERE TAKEN AT THE OPENING OF THE BADEN-POWELL MEMORIAL H.Q. AND HOTEL IN NIGERIA, AND SHOW THE HEAD OF THE 600 SCOUTS IN PROCESSION, A LOGOS WOLF CUB, A NIGERIAN QUEEN'S SCOUT, AND THE CHIEF SCOUT, SIR JOHN MACPHERSON, PRESENTING A QUEEN'S SCOUT CERTIFICATE



LETTERS TO A YOUNG ROVER - II

Dear DAVID,

Thanks for your long letter from the Canal Zone, and I am glad to hear that your fellow-soldiers are "an awfully decent crowd on the whole" because it means, as I have always suspected, that you are rather a decent bloke yourself. I think one of the best of all stories outside the New Testament is the one about the young man who had travelled many weary miles over the desert and arrived towards evening at the gates of a strange city.

"What sort of folk live in this place?" he asked the gatekeeper. "What sort of folk lived in the city that you came from?" asked the gatekeeper.

Tired as he was, the young man's eyes lighted up. "They were grand people," he said, "noble and honourable and kind."

The gatekeeper smiled.

"Then that's how you'll find the people here," he said. So, if you've found friendly faces among your fellow-soldiers, I am glad to think it means that you have been friendly and like a good Scout yourself. Having now buttered you up a bit, however, I will proceed to "tick you off," because there is one paragraph in your letter that I do not like at all, the paragraph where you criticise the local Egyptian population so sweepingly, saying that they seem to be "a lot of so-and-sos."

You have promised to try to obey the Scout Law, and the fourth law, if you remember, tells you to be a "friend to all," and *all* includes the Egyptians and everybody else. It is not worthy of you, at nineteen-years-old, and after three weeks in Egypt, to casually dismiss a whole nation as "a lot - of so-and so`s." No doubt you have taken the opinion at second-hand from some of your fellow-soldiers, who are perfectly at liberty to hold it, *if they are not Scouts*. A Scout, however, never generalises about a nation or a class or a colour or a creed. He just *mustn't* say he dislikes Jews or black men or Scotsmen or Sussex men or Income Tax Inspectors or Egyptians. If, after long acquaintance, he finds that an individual Egyptian or an individual Income Tax Inspector is a nasty type, he is quite entitled to say so, but he *must* not generalise.

It is natural for any group of human beings to suspect and be prepared to dislike any other group that differs from itself. That is the basic reason for all wars and all class-conflicts and all race-conflicts. That is why that fourth Scout law is of such vital importance for peace.

I want you to come back from Egypt with one very precious possession, the memory of *an* Egyptian friend. I imagine that with conditions as they are in the Canal Zone today you have far less chance of fraternising with the local population than we had in the 1939 - 45 war, but even so you are bound to come into contact with Egyptians, and sooner or later, if you make the best of your chances, you'll be able to get at least on "smiling" terms with one of them. A smile, by the way, is the only international language that can't be mistranslated.

When I was in Egypt from 1942 to 1945 I made it my business, as a Scout, to make Egyptian friends. Egyptians were not popular with the British in those days, for though they were not enemies, they were not very warm allies, and they seemed anxious to make as much money as they could out of us soldiers. I used to have to pay four shillings in an Egyptian shop for a seven penny tin of British-made boot polish, and, in fact, we were "stung" all round.

Endeavouring to be a good Scout, however, I tried to see a reason for this, and I soon found it in the fact that the standard of living in Egypt was abominably low, so that to them even a British private seemed to be almost a millionaire. We seemed "fair game" to them, just as I am afraid in England since the war a few needy hotel-keepers in England have felt that the Americans were "fair game" for them!

So I managed to forgive the boot-polish, and always went out of my way to be particularly pleasant to any Egyptians I met, speaking to them not as a "Lordly white man" addressing an "Arab slave" but as a citizen of a great nation addressing with respect the citizen of another nation that was great when my ancestors wore woad. Speaking to them, in fact, as brother to brother.

I made two friends, an officer in the Egyptian army who had a delicious sense of humour and a great admiration for Shakespeare, and a young chap who worked as a porter at Cairo G.H.Q., who in politics was a revolutionary of the most lurid type. Yet they were both real men, with manly virtues and noble instincts, and when I think of "Egyptians" and am perhaps a bit annoyed at the way their Government is behaving, I remember Yussuf Ali and Mohammed Hussein, and hate dies out of my heart.

Don't ever believe anybody who tells you that any other nation, as a nation, is "impossible." In the late war we had to fight Germans and Italians, and there can't be fighting without a certain amount of hate. But no Scout could ever hear without protest what was sometimes said, that "there was no good German but a dead German," "no good Italian but a dead Italian." One of my pleasantest memories of the war is 'of a week I spent at Alexandria waiting for the ship to take me home to be demobbed.

I shared a tent with a major who had fought all through the Italian campaign, and we were waited on by a German prisoner who acted as batman, and had also fought, on the other side, all through the Italian campaign. In the heat of the day I used to lie on my bed in the big tent listening to the major swopping yams with the German batman about the battles they had fought, and yams, too, about their wives and families and homes and hopes. When I think of Germans I try to remember that decent kindly batman.

Yes, I think my most precious possessions gathered during the years have been the mental pictures of men of other nations and of other races whom I have discovered to be human like myself.

Get to know one man of any nation really well, and you can never hate that nation again, or despise it.

But the Germans, you will say, were responsible for Belsen, the Kikuyu torture women and children, the Russians. . . yes, I know all that. There is a brute and a God in every man, and every nation has blots on its escutcheon, but friendliness in the Scout way brings out the God in other men, and kills the brute.

And when your travelling days are done, and you come home to England, your obedience to the fourth law must not cease, for harmony at home is just as important as harmony in the greater world.

Even in my own forty-odd years of life I have seen that harmony growing. There is not the class-hatred that there was at one time; the Churches are working together more than ever before, and even in the political field I think there is less bitterness than there used to be. If our great nation is to play its full part in shaping a better world in this new Elizabethan Age, however, you and your generation must make Britain a still friendlier place. Try and see the other fellow's point of view, even when you are sure he is wrong, and above all don't question his sincerity or his motives.

Think your Church is the best Church, but remember that Christ the Jew thought highly of a certain Samaritan. If you axe an "employee" when you have finished your army service, be loyal to your fellow-workers, but try and see the bin's point of view when there is the threat of conflict, and be brave enough to explain it to your pals. If you're a boss, on the other hand, don't forget that being a boss carries a lot of privileges and that those privileges must be paid for by duties properly performed. A good boss who appreciates his workers and gets their trust is worth his weight in platinum.

When you have chosen your political party, too, be loyal to it don't forget that your highest loyalty to it is to be honest, and when your colleagues seem to you to be narrow-minded and unfair and bigoted, don't be afraid to put the Scout point of view.

The world would be a better place today if my generation had not spent so much time wrangling over things that didn't matter, and had given all its energies to fighting poverty and ignorance and disease. Make up your mind to leave the world a friendlier place than you found it, and don't forget to get that smile of yours ready for the next Egyptian you meet!

Yours always,

A.D.C.



R.H. PANTOMIME COMES OF AGE

By A.D.C.



IN the year 1927 some good Scouts living mostly in the northwest of London wanted to do a good turn for their brothers in the east of London, and so the "Roland House Players" put on a pantomime, *Cinderella*, to raise funds for Roland House Scout Settlement. It was the beginning of one of the heftiest and longest of all good turns, for on December 29, 1953, at the Guildhall School of Music, Victoria Embankment, I was able to watch the twenty-first of these pantomimes, *Humpty-Dumpty*.

The Editor has asked me to write about the pantomime and "say something about Roland House."

All the older Scouters, of course, know about Roland House, but maybe to some of the youngsters it is just a name, so I had better explain that it is a block of eighteenth-century buildings in Stepney Green where lived before the 1914 War Roland Philipps, whose work in East London in those early formative days of the Movement can never be forgotten so long as there is a Scout left us the world. Roland, aristocratic and wealthy, chose to give the best years of his short life to the boys of the poorest part of the world's greatest city. In that almost treeless and quite fieldless waste of grim grey streets he and his friends built up a Scout organisation as good as any in the world, and proved that the boy of the slum, given a chance, could be at least as good a Scout as the boy from the public school or the village or the "posh" suburb.

Roland was killed in France on July 7, 1916, but left his house and some money "for the use of the Movement," and in the thirty-seven years since then Roland House has been the focal point of Scouting in East London.

It is not merely that generations of young men have used it as a hostel so that they could "lend a hand" with local Troops. It is not merely that generations of boys have used the Garden Hall for meetings and P.L.'s Parliaments and shows. It is not merely that there is a boys' dormitory, or that in the long dining-room the East London Standing Committee and other committees have planned for East London Scouting as a whole. Only a Scouter who has worked in East London Scouting can fully realise the significance of Roland House.

This isn't the place to write my own autobiography, but I must place on record that in the years from 1928 to 1940, when I served in a small way as a G.S.M. in Bethnal Green and an A.D.C. in Stepney, there were many dark days when I should have wanted to throw up the sponge if I had not had the cheery fellowship of Roland House to fall back on, the wise counsel of Stanley Ince, and that little chapel, which was once a coal-cellar, to which to descend to pray for help.

All through those years and right up to the present time these Roland House Players have helped keep Roland House going, but this (shame upon me!) was the first of their pantomimes that I had seen, though it won't be the last, for if *Humpty-Dumpty* is a fair sample, they are too good to be missed.

It was a genuine "old-fashioned" pantomime, clean, bright, tuneful and original: a pantomime, as pantomimes should be, devised to please children of all ages. I thought the troubadour and "leads" excellent, and the comedians first-class: the dumb "Mr. Wolsit" with his uncanny resemblance to Benjamin Disraeli, Millicent Muffin, who knew how to get the audience to sing much better than most pantomime dames in these genteel days, Brix, Morta, and the Earl of Stepney Green. The girls were pretty, the production and stage management of a very high order, and Harman Howland's music a joy.

A rattling good show, a much better show to which to take your children than most professional West End productions, so what about it next year? There were a few empty seats, and there ought not to be.

Why not make a note in your diary to send for tickets, in November, to 29, Stepney Green, E.1? Or if you can't take your own family, why not do a double good turn by buying tickets and returning them for the use of East End Cubs and Scouts?

There were a lot of small boys in the audience the night I was there, and they revelled in it.

A good show by fine people for a great cause!

Left: The accordionists rehearse. Left to right: Eeddie Denford (Mr. Wolsit), Phil Smart (Morta), Wally Sparks (Millicent Muffin), Jerry Ward (Brix), Donald Row and Brian Slater.

Right: The producer (Pat Moran) runs through with Wally Harold Page (a wandering minstrel).



ROVER ROUNDABOUT

THIS month is indeed a Roundabout and a page of snippets at the beginning of the year I feel is most appropriate. It certainly proves that the Section is on the march towards the live and forceful entity which we all have hoped for since the trials and tribulations engendered by the war and its aftermath. My old friends from Barnet, Herts., who regularly send me their "roving comments" sheet, hearten me by the news that they are widening their scope to the County and that every two months we shall be having a wider picture of Roving in that delightful area, one worthwhile hiking in if you want new territory to explore, as those fellows listed as new holders the Ramblers badges probably know so well. If ever there was a more pleasant way of gaining a badge, which gives me great pleasure to see on the old green epaulet, lead me to it.

A friend of mine who is a Toc H member passed on their Journal to me this month and lo and behold here is some Rover news: the 87th B.-P. Rover Crew, Nottingham, combined with the Branch to run a Bonfire Night to which some foreign students living in the area were invited. I'm glad, it stated, that Guy Fawkes and his bonfire was explained to them before the proceedings actually started otherwise I feel some alarming reports would base been circulated to the more unenlightened parts of the world. But apart from all that here's a chance for Rovers to contact students in the area where you live.

H.M.S. Glory and the Deep-Sea Rovers are now round about Malta and the news that their Captain was interested enough to give them an inspiring yam on St. Paul whilst they were in St. Paul's Bay, remarking in passing that he was learning the ways of the Navy at the age when most of them were enjoying their young Scout life, makes one pleased to know that there are Senior Scout Troops in so many of H.M. training establishments these days. Some of our talking points have borne fruit in the way of letters. One cryptic remark from Birmingham says: "Some 'bod' says Roving ends at 21; that's just when it starts."

Reading tells me that but for the Scouter Rovers they would have no Crew: as soon as a Squire comes in he is applying for a warrant, and his refreshment from working always with the boys is gained from the man's outlook in the Crew - a very worthwhile point. Again, if we do not keep Crews in existence by this Scouter personnel what is there to attract the young fellow who comes out of the Forces.

Woolwich District Rovers worked at the local Handicapped Scouts' "Agoonerie." They got (through their service job at the local hospital) a male State Registered Nurse to go to camp with them to help out professionally; his contact with them led to his investiture at the camp and in a short space of time Roving will be strengthened by his help in Woolwich. Incidentally they have their own film unit in Woolwich. How about a few keen photographic types doing the same thing in your area; it will be a fine record and Groups and District affairs would benefit by the showing of films, at their meetings, and the cost spread over a team would not be too severe on the pocket.

A year or two back I went up to Oxford's Halloween party and had a marvellous weekend. Now I have received a few notes on last year's "do" and the report is that practically all the southern English and Welsh University Scout and Guide Clubs were represented. After the Saturday evening's jollification, Sunday morning brought a Scouts' Own conducted by the Oxford Club's unofficial chaplain, The Rev. Cyril Tucker, of Wadham College. Now Oxford feel that this is a worthwhile get-together for the University types and they hope that other clubs will join up with them next year. If you have a young Rover "going up" to one of the 'varsities see he knows about the clubs. I feel it is as important as the National Service fellow's briefing for his Service Crew chances whilst away from home and associates.

A note re a Rover-Ranger night hike casts doubts on the advisability 'of such activities in the minds of some of the Rover purists. This, I feel, is the ideal talking spot for this month and having thrown in the gauntlet - what does your Crew say?

The City of Bradford Rovers have been busy out at their camp site and the resulting chapel is a proof of their worthwhile work. They organised a weekend for their younger brothers and the dedication of the chapel was made part of the programme. A large beech tree which splayed into three branches was an ideal background for the altar symbolising the Trinity, and there is no doubt that God can seem very real and near to us as we use these wonders of nature linked with the service of man's hands to the morning worship on our camp sites. I have often used such a chapel for a Rover Investiture and have no doubt that the atmosphere created in such surroundings helped not only the young man being invested but all those who took part in the proceedings.

The brotherhood of the open air is indeed very real on those occasions and is a very fitting start for a seriously-minded fellow. When the Rovers who designed and built this very lovely place look back

to the hours they spent in creating it will give them a well deserved thrill and will help them over many a doubting period.

"Skip" Haycock, known to Cornwall and Devon Rovers so well, has written to me from Pembroke Dock, the scene of his present labours. He avows that there are no Rover Scouts in the Army: he sees the R.A.F. who to him are 100 per cent Service Crew minded, but no Army fellows. Now there is a Crew den adjoining the Grand Cinema, Pembroke Dock, where R. S. L. Weatherall will be waiting any Tuesday evening to welcome them. Get in there, you Army types.

Now to start the New Year. I have a few copies of the War Office Rover Crew programme. If you want one on which to base your own programme in the Crew, send me an envelope addressed and stamped and we will do the rest. Good Rover Scouting during 1954: make it a year of consolidation and write and tell us how you get on. Your bright ideas may help a struggling Crew to stand firmly on one leg at least.

JACK SKILLEN.



[Photo by the Yorkshire Observer]

SPECIAL PACK

MEETINGS – II “B.P.”

(Here is a suggestion for a 1 ½ hour (preferably outdoor) Special Pack Meeting based on the life of our Founder, up to the Siege of Mafeking. I have used only well-known games to show how these may be adapted for a special purpose. Yarns are outlined in “boy” language. The whole programme can readily be varied or expanded. For further details, see Baden-Powell by E. F. Reynolds and B.-P.’s Life in Pictures.)

AFTER the usual opening ceremonies, Akela might take up the theme as follows:-

We’re going to do something *special* tonight. Does anybody know who founded The Boy Scouts Association? It was Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell. He was then a very famous General but he started off as a boy at school just like everybody else.

School

He was born in 1857 - nearly a hundred years ago - and when he was thirteen he went to Charterhouse which at that time was still in the City of London. The Charterhouse boys were always having scraps with the nearby butcher boys of Smithfield Market. They used to have terrific fights and would throw things at each other over the School wall. Let’s play a game on that.

GAME - CHARTERHOUSE v. SMITHFIELD (Bean Bag Rugby).-
Gear - 1 Bean Bag.

Pack. divide into 2 teams. Each team defends “base” 30 or 40 yards apart. C.M. “kicks off” by throwing bean bag into the air. Cubs throw to each other in attempt to hit base and thereby score goal. Only allowed to move 3 paces when holding bean bag. Must pass as soon as tackled (touched) by other side.

India

After leaving school, B.-P. joined the army as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Hussars and was posted to India. He had a lot of fun out there and in particular was very keen on acting and disguises. One time in the middle of a regimental concert there was a great how-d’ye-do because a General had arrived unexpectedly. Now Generals are terribly important people and the Colonel of B.-P.’s regiment was very nervous but invited the General to sit by him in the audience. It turned out to be B.-P. in disguise! The Colonel was angry, I can tell you! We haven’t time to disguise ourselves, but I want you to see how much you know about the other chaps in the Pack.

OBSERVATION GAME

Pack form 2 lines facing each other. Each Cub looks intently at opposite number for a few seconds. Turn back to back and each makes some small change in appearance, e.g. undo button, roll sleeve another bay. On given signal, face each other again and each Cub has to say has to say what his opposite number has altered.

A favourite sport in India was “pig-sticking” The hunters on horseback would chase a pig and try to spear it with a lance. It was very difficult and exciting because the ride would take them through jungle, Swamp, high tussocky grass, streams, and so on. More often than not, the rider came a cropper without ever catching the pig.

GAME – “PIG-STICKING.” – Gear – 1 sheet of paper per Cub; 1 medium-sized hoop per Six.

Each Cub makes a paper dart. Then the Sixes fall in in relay order. Hoops held up at shoulder height by Old Wolves at a distance. Darts in heaps on line about 2 yards in front of hoops. On “Go,” all Six make “backs” except rear Cub who leapfrogs to front, runs to line and aims paper dart through hoop (1 try only). Runs back to front of Six. Second Cub ditto. Six to finish first plus largest number of darts through hoop wins.

South Africa

After India, B.-P. was sent out to South Africa where there was trouble with the native tribes. There he heard the Zulu chant which he gave to the Scouts later as the “Een-gonyima Chorus.” Of course, this is really a Scout yell and we Cubs shouldn’t be doing it, but as this is a very special occasion, I think we might try it just this once. The Zulus used to sing it to their Chief.

EEN-GONYAMA CHORU. - See *Scouting for Boys*.

Another exciting thing happened during this Campaign. You’ve all seen my Wood Badge, haven’t you? Did you ever wonder why it took this form? Well, this is the story. Dinuzulu was a very important native chieftain. He had a necklace of beads exactly like these on my Wood Badge. One night, B.-P. crawled through the enemy lines, stole the necklace from around Dinuzulu’s neck and got back again to his camp without being caught. Do you think you could do that?

GAME – “DINUZULU’S NECKLACE.” - Play as “Sleeping Pirate” or “Stealing the Keys” (*Games for the Pack*, p. 116).

India Again

After that, B.-P. had all sorts of adventures. He acted as a spy for the Army in foreign countries, he served in a war in Ashanti (that’s the Gold Coast). Then he was sent to take part in another war in Matabeleland (now known as Rhodesia after Cecil Rhodes). Well, they settled *that* war and B.-P. went back to India again. He thought the usual Army drill of those days awfully dull so he used to liven things up for his own men by teaching them tracking and stalking - in fact, many of the things *you* will do when you become Scouts. He got permission for any of his men who passed certain tests to wear a special badge. Can you guess what it was? It was just like the Scout Badge - a fleur de lys (*like this*). He chose that because it was always used to show where North was on a map and, if a soldier was to track well, he had to know how to use a compass. Later on, when he founded our Movement, B.-P. used this same arrowhead badge for the Boy Scouts.

GAME – “COMPASS BLIND MAN’S BUFF” (*Gilcraft’s Cub Games*, p. 29).

Mafeking

Now we come to the event that made B.-P. famous all over the world; the Siege of Mafeking. It was during the Boer War which took place in South Africa when the Boer or Dutch settlers tried to drive the British out. B.-P. was in command of Mafeking, which is on the border of the Transvaal. It was just a little town in the middle of a plain, but it was important as it controlled the railway. B.-P. set to work to fortify the town. He had about sixty little forts erected round the place, joined together by trenches. But, apart from this, they had hardly anything to defend themselves with - very little ammunition, only a few extremely old and out-of-date guns - and not much food. Yet they withstood a siege of seven months - from October 11, 1899 to May 16, 1900. Most of the time they had to bluff the Boers into thinking they were stronger than they were, and B.-P. was very clever at thinking up new dodges to surprise them. They made their own hand grenades out of potted meat tins filled with dynamite and one soldier used to sling these at the enemy from the line of a fishing-rod! Let’s play a game of being besieged and see if *we* can keep the Boers out as well as B.-P. and his men did at Mafeking.

GAME – “MAFEKING”

Pack form circle with hands on each other’s shoulders. One Six outside circle endeavour to barge through into centre. Time limit. Change Sixes.

STAR WORK IN SIXES. Activities to do with Siege, e.g.:

FIRST AID - Treatment of injured. Gear - Slings and bandages.

BALL THROWING - Hand grenades.

BOOK BALANCING - Natives carrying boxes of dynamite.

SIGNALLING - For help, supplies, position of enemy, etc.

KNOTTING - Old Wolves are Boer prisoners and must be tied up securely!

There were so few men to defend the town that Lord Edward Cecil formed the “Mafeking Cadets” which all the young boys joined. They used to take messages and do all manner of jobs to relieve the grown men for defence duties. The game we’re going to play now is almost exactly the same as one that B.-P. played in Mafeking with the Cadets.

GAME – “MESSAGE RELAY,” - Gear - Message in envelope for each Six.

Jack and Dora

Pack in relay order all round field (1 of each Six in each group). On "Go" each Sixer opens and reads message (all should be different but same length, e.g. "Enemy attack expected midnight tonight at No. 47 Fort") and returns envelope to C.M. Message passed verbally round field. First Six to deliver back message *correctly* to C.M. wins.

Well, the siege went on and on until they had eaten practically all their food. They ate the horses and the cats and the dogs and even put any insects they found into soup! Then at last, on May 16, 1900, Mafeking was relieved by 2,000 men sent by Lord Roberts. GAME – "THE RELIEF OF MAFEKING." – Gear - Bean Bags. One Six in centre are Boers (armed with Bean Bags). Rest of Pack are relieving column. On "go" column try to rush through to other end of field. Boers "bombard" them with bean bags. If touched by bean bags, members of column are considered dead and become additional Boers for next assault.

Closing Yarn

Now I guess you're all pretty tired. So gather round and make yourselves comfortable and I'll tell you a story. A true one - about B.-P. I could talk to you for hours and hours about what a hero he became after defending Mafeking for so long, how thousands of boys wrote to him and how, later on, when he came home, he decided to show boys how to do some of the exciting things he used to teach his soldiers. That was how Scouting started and, later on, Cubbing. It grew and grew until now there are Scouts in practically every country in the world. He died in Kenya in 1941 and was buried at Nyeri (where all the Mau-Mau troubles are going on that you read about in the papers). But if you ever go to London and go to Westminster Abbey, you can see a memorial stone to him. It is near the West door at the foot of the screen of St. George's Chapel - St. George, the Patron Saint of Scouts.

But tonight I thought you would like to hear a true story of one of his exciting adventures as a spy.

B.-P. was once sent to a country where the mountain troops were said to be wonderfully efficient. His instructions were to find out all about these troops and how they managed to move themselves and their equipment in such mountainous country. Well, he timed his visit to the mountains for when the army manoeuvres were on. He put up in a small village in the district and pretended to be on holiday. He went out walking and sketching every day (B.-P. was very clever at drawing), but didn't see anything out of the ordinary. There were plenty of troops, but nothing special about them. However, one evening he saw a new kind of soldier coming through the village with three pack mules and he guessed that here was one of these special mountain troops he wanted to learn about. So he got into conversation with the man in the friendly way one does on holiday and discovered that a mock battle between the special troops was to take place the next day on the side of a high peak called the Wolf's Tooth. Well, B.-P. decided that this was what he wanted to see.

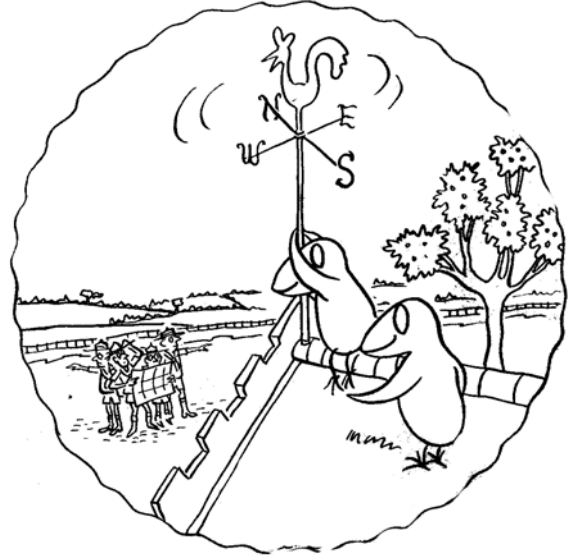
But how to get there without being noticed?

The manoeuvres were very secret indeed. No one at all was allowed to watch: and to make certain of this, there were sentries posted on each road out of the village so that no one could get through. So B.-P. waited till it was quite dark and, when the inn-keeper thought he was safely asleep, he stole out of the house and, dodging behind hedges and crawling along ditch bottoms, he managed to elude the sentries and get out of the village.

It was a starry night and the steep craggy mountain stood out as a splendid landmark to guide him. It would have been a difficult climb even in daylight. There was no path, only goat-tracks. Myriads of little streams trickled down the mountainside and made the going slippery.

Wherever there was a level bit it was all bog that sucked and squelched at his boots. And sometimes there was sheer rock face that had to be climbed, where one faulty step would have sent him hurtling hundreds of feet into the valley below.

But somehow, B.-P. managed to make it and reached the summit just before daybreak. He could see the twinkling camp fires of the troops so knew he had come to the right place. At daylight the troops began to move. Small parties set out in different directions and started to climb.



B.-P. was very pleased. Now, he thought, I shall have a wonderful view of everything that is going on. Then he noticed that the little parties seemed to be closing in. Horror of horrors! Surely he couldn't have chosen the exact spot they were going to attack! He lay there in an agony of suspense until he saw that a group of officers were climbing up to the place where he was hiding. Surely they couldn't have seen him!

Well, he had to make up his mind quickly. With great courage, he stood up boldly, took out his sketchbook and began to make a drawing of "Dawn among the Mountains." The officers were very surprised to find him there and were most interested in his drawing. They invited him to have breakfast with them and soon they were all drinking coffee together as calm as you please, and B.-P. was passing round his chocolate and cigarettes. The officers, naturally, started talking about the day's campaign. B.-P. was clever enough not to appear too interested, but just made a few polite remarks. This, of course, made the officers keener than ever to tell him all about it, and soon they had out all their maps and were explaining to B.-P. everything he wanted to know! Then they left him to get on with his sketch! Needless to say, he didn't do any more drawing but instead had a most wonderful view of all the proceedings and saw how the men and animals and guns and supplies were lowered down sheer drops in the mountainside with special secret equipment. He had a lot to report when he returned to England!

Now it is time to close and I thought as it has been a special evening we would close in a special way.

There was a Queen on the throne of England when B.-P. was at Mafeking. It was Queen Victoria. And we have a Queen on the throne today. Shall we sing, in honour of them both, the first and third verses of "GOD SAVE THE QUEEN?"

Flag Down

Closing Prayer

May I suggest some such simple expression of thanks as the following: "O God, we thank Thee for all the happiness we have had today. We thank Thee, too, for the life of our Founder and for all the joy he has given to us through our Cubbing. Help us to do our best as Cubs as he always did his best as a soldier. Keep us ever loyal to our Queen as B.-P. was loyal to his Queen. And above all, keep us ever loyal to Thee and help us to be Thy true soldiers, for Jesus Christ's sake." Amen.

Extra equipment, not essential but of great value:-

Portrait of B.-P.

Map of Africa, showing Ashanti, Matabeleland, Mafeking, etc.

Pictures of Zulus.

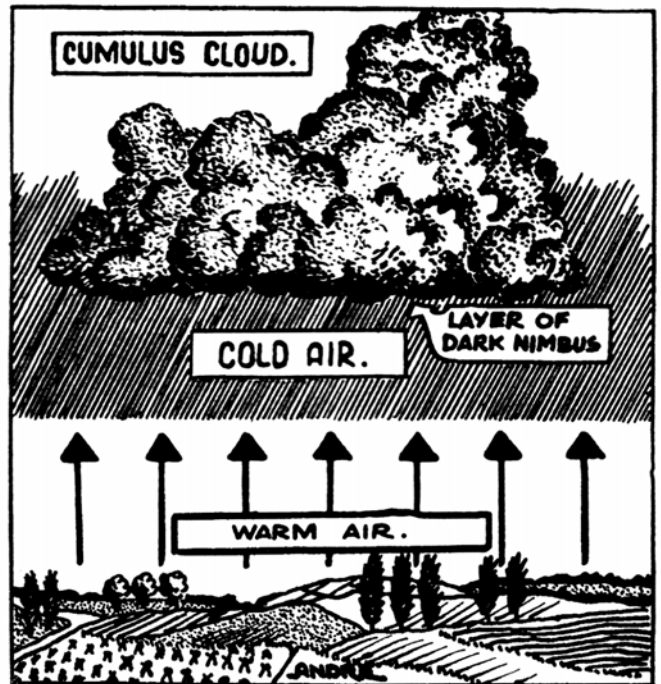
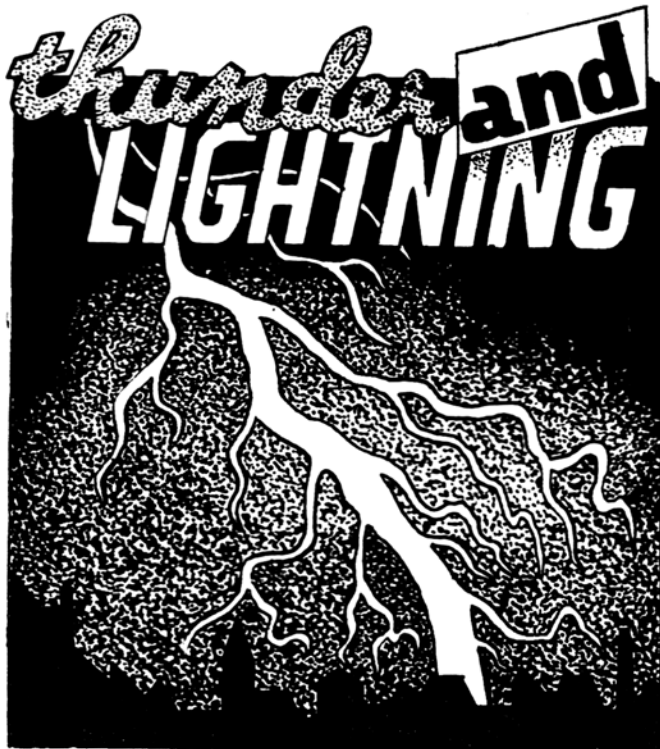
Materials to dress up as Zulus for "Een-Gonyama Chorus."

Sketch map of Mafeking (see end papers of Baden-Powell by

E. E. Reynolds).

Scout Badge, or drawing of one.

MARY SMITH.



If we observe a thunderstorm at night, we will notice that lightning shows itself in many forms and shapes. The principal forms will be picked out straight away: the vertical impulse between clouds and earth and the impulse from cloud to cloud.

Let us look for a minute at the first one. Have you ever stopped to think that lightning striking downwards must hit the earth or an object on the earth somewhere? Everyone of us knows that sometimes a lonely farmhouse, a tree or a barn is hit; also that at times people or cattle are killed by lightning. But if every vertical lightning flash would have such a result, there soon wouldn't be any buildings or living humans or animals left.

On one occasion during a heavy thunderstorm between the hours of 9 p.m. and 4 a.m. an average of thirty lightning flashes per minute, or 1,800 per hour, was counted. A total of 12,600, of which at least half travelled from cloud to earth. It would be impossible to work out how many of such discharges take place in a whole year all over the country, but it wouldn't be far off one million.

This will show you that although many things will be hit by lightning, only very, very few hits result in fire or death so there is no undue cause to be frightened by thunderstorms.

Now what causes a thunderstorm? To answer this question we must know that there are two kinds: (1) the heat storm, and (2) the frontal thunderstorm.

The heat thunderstorm is caused by strongly heated air, which rises quickly from near the ground; breaking through the higher layers of cold air, and then as huge cloud masses (cumulus) works itself higher and higher to about 40,000 feet. The heat thunderstorm is a real summer phenomenon, and is usually only a local incident. It does not break the weather up, but helps to restore the equilibrium of the atmosphere by effecting a considerable vertical exchange of air.

A frontal thunderstorm indicates a sudden change from warm to cold weather, and is heralded by an over casting sky from south or south-west, with thickening Cirrostratus clouds, supplemented later by low Altostratus clouds, which are clearly cut off in front by a big curve. This is in reality a straight line, which we see in perspective.

As Soon as this curve is above us, it begins to rain - harder and harder - together with gusts of wind. It is caused by warm air, lifted from near the ground by the incoming stream of cold air, which has an average speed of about twenty-five miles per hour.

The frontal storm usually lasts only about ten minutes, and after the storm the wind has changed from south to west.

Until quite recently it was thought that lightning could be compared with an ordinary electric spark. However, with the aid of some ingenious cameras with rotating lenses, this was found to be an entirely wrong supposition.

If the difference in voltage between two clouds or a cloud and the earth is big enough, a so-called leader-discharge takes place, developing millions of volts in about one millionth of a second, and acting as a pathfinder for the big discharge which is to follow. The leader discharge tries to follow the path of the least resistance, in jolts and jerks, not in one straight line, for every time new air masses have to be overcome. When the earth is reached the big mass of electricity can rush freely to start from the ground and so back upwards. The real discharge which we see as lightning runs therefore from the earth upwards. This happens with such a speed that it can only be photographed but never seen. The first kinder-discharge reaches about 31,250 miles in a second, while the following ones vary from 1,875 to 18,750 miles. There are many discharges after the first main discharge, each one preceded by private pee-discharge. There are, therefore, moments between the different phases of one flash of lightning - sometimes of nearly 1/2 second - when one cannot see anything. This explains the flickering appearance of lightning.

Consider for a moment picture (3) on the next page: in (A) we see the so-called sprinklers in a lightning flash. This is the vertical branching of the flash, which forms at the bottom a fire-curtain. (B) shows what is called a "screw-flash," which, of course, is caused by the local resistance of the atmosphere. In (C) we see a fireball, which is as big as a fist or football, and of which we know next to nothing. It slowly sails through the air, sometimes suddenly disappearing or sometimes exploding with a terrific bang. (D) are small blue flames, called St. Elmo's Fire, which is a small electric brush-discharge to be seen on a house, tree, bicycle handle or tent.

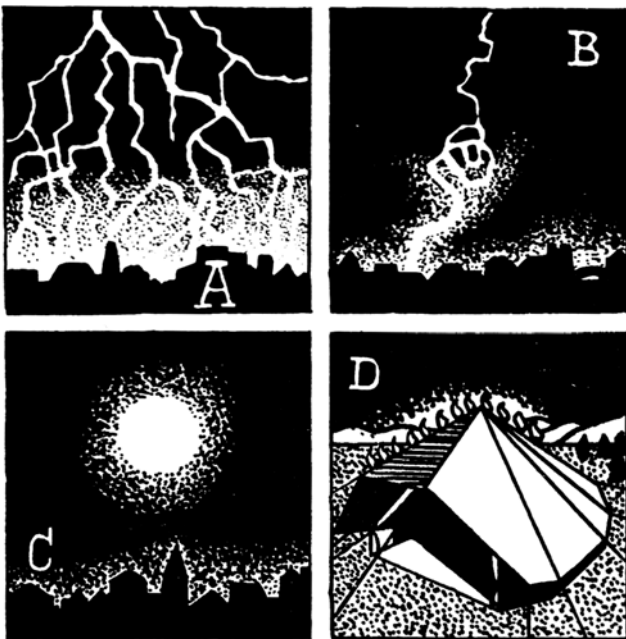
The amount of electricity is so minute that there is no danger of fire or burning.

Now the fourth picture is extremely important. It answered the question, what to do in a thunderstorm. First of all, try to get indoors if possible, but (2) stay away from the fire-place. If lightning strikes the house, it is most likely to strike the chimney, as this is the highest point.

TRAINING NOTES

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

2. THUNDER AND LIGHTNING



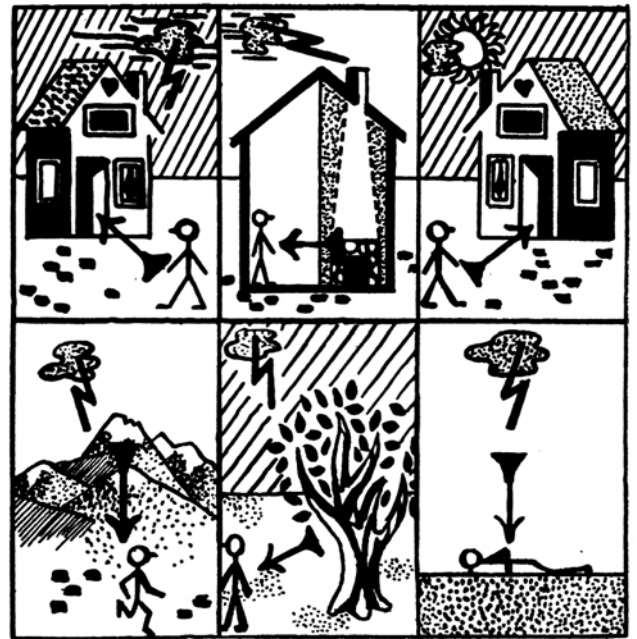
(3) Never go outside just before or after a thunderstorm. If you are caught out-of-doors, avoid (4) high ground, and (5) tall trees, especially if they are rough-barked. Nearly six times as many oaks are struck as beech trees. (6) If you are in flat, open country, lay down flat on the ground, however wet this might be.

Up till now we have been talking a lot about lightning, but what about the thunder, which often frightens people more than the actual lightning, but which in itself is quite harmless. Now what is thunder?

The answer is simple: lightning leaves behind a wake of heated air. The sudden expansion of this air creates a train of wavelike vibrations that radiate in all directions.

Three of these vibration centres are shown in our next picture (A). The reasons that thunder "rolls" are: (1) lightning follows a zig-zag path, which means that the aforementioned sound waves have to travel different distances, although they are created at the same time; (2) usually - as we have seen previously - there is a quick succession of discharges from one cloud; (3) the sound is reflected by other clouds, hills, mountains, etc. (B).

It is easy to judge the distance between the thunderstorm and yourself by counting the seconds between the time you see the lightning stroke and the time you hear the thunder. If you know that the speed of sound is approximately one mile in five seconds, you just divide the number of seconds by five, which gives you the distance in miles.

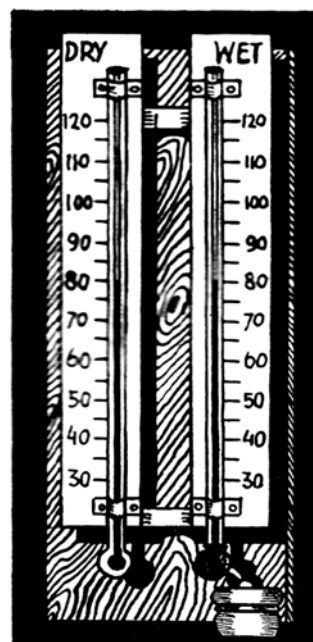
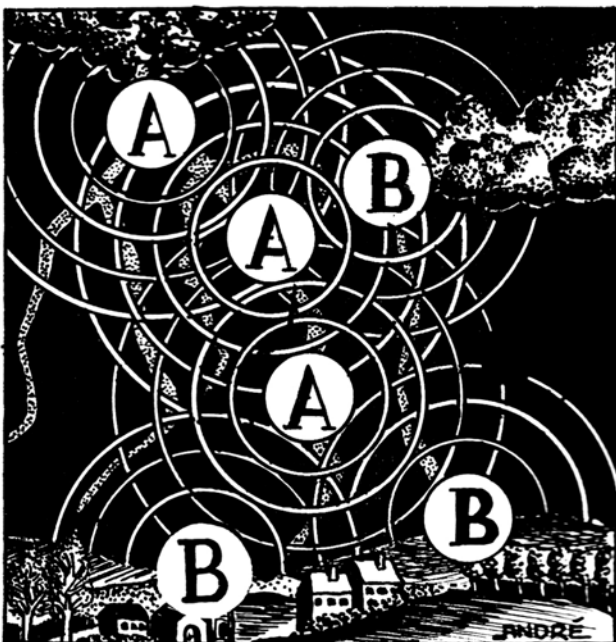


The thunder frequency varies from about five days a year in places like the Shetland Isles to about twenty days in eastern England.

It might be extremely useful to be able to forecast thunderstorms while you are at camp, for instance. Now how are you going to do this? It is, of course, quite simple to predict a storm when the appropriate clouds are forming, as long as you know how to recognise these clouds. It is more difficult, if you are not satisfied with this, and want to forecast storms *before* you can see any clouds. To this end you will have to ascertain the dew-point of the atmosphere. We use for this purpose a hygrometer, which consists of an ordinary (dry-bulb) thermometer, and a wet-bulb thermometer. The latter has a piece of muslin wrapped round the bulb, which is kept damp by means of a wick leading to a small water container. Owing to the evaporation from the muslin, the wet-bulb thermometer stands normally lower than the dry one. If you keep a record of this difference, you will find that when the air is saturated with moisture, this difference will be nearly zero (rain is likely), while when the air is very dry the difference will be well marked. If in the morning your record shows a small difference, you know that the air has plenty of moisture, and if a hot sun goes with this there is a great chance that you will get a local thunderstorm by the late afternoon.

To predict the course a storm will take you must watch the altocumulus clouds, which are usually found near a storm. They will give you a pretty good idea of the direction and the speed of the actual storm.

J. ANDRE DE JONG.



BOOKS

FOR LEISURE PEA DING

The Sunburnt Country: Profile of Australia, edited by Jan Bevan (Collins, 1 5s.).

It was a delightful idea on the part of the Society of Australian Writers in England to compile this book as a tribute of loyalty and affection to Her Majesty the Queen, as she starts on her tour. The Chairman of the Society, Professor Gilbert Murray, O.M., has written the Introduction, and each succeeding chapter is contributed by an Australian in England, most of them bearing names easily recognised in this country, such as Chester Wilmot, Cohn Wills, Russell Braddon, Jack Fingleton, Cohn MacInnes and Eric Partridge.

The ignorance of most of us about Australia is abysmal, and in sad contrast with the knowledge about England which all Australians seem to acquire at birth.

Here in this book is an opportunity to absorb a great deal of the atmosphere of Australia. It is in my judgment very faithfully described. Facts and figures have been largely excluded. The Editor at as "an outline sketch, something which we hope will enable a stranger to recognise the subject without further introduction if they ever meet in person, and something which may show the friend or relative a new aspect of a familiar face. As in all sketches, a lot of details have been blithely left out and others, in which the artist happens to be particularly interested, put in with almost superfluous care." On the whole the result is successful, but I confess that three of the later chapters are over-congested with names.

I think my favourite chapter is Judy Fahlon's article on "The Australian Woman," in which she describes the Australian "Mum." As she says: - "The Australian 'Mum' is indeed the pivotal point of the Australian home, but metaphorically she rarely steps beyond the threshold. It is the custom for the family to go home and 'ask Mum,' rather than for her to step out into the world and tell them." The chapter contains a characteristic story about a letter received by a prisoner of war, by Russell Braddon: - "Mail came from my sister. It said: - 'Dear Russ, Mums puddings are still as lumpy as ever. Oodles of love from us all. Pat.' I read it over and over. If 25 words were all the Japanese would allow our folk to write, then that letter told me all I wanted to know - that the family did not accept that I was 'killed' as posted: that the old household jokes about my mother's to understand what Australians are like. Get this book from the rather abandoned cooking still flourished: that home was still home." Australia has an important part to play in the future of the British Commonwealth and Empire, and we should take much more trouble

J. F. C.

Bandoola, by J. H. Williams (Rupert Hart-Davis, 15s.).

This is another book by the author of *Elephant Bill* and those who enjoyed that book will find this equally interesting. Colonel Williams spent a great part of his life-time in the forests of Burma, and probably there is no man living who knows more about elephants than he does. But it is not only a book about elephants; the author has used the life history of that mighty elephant whose name is the title of the book as a thread on which to string a series of reminiscences of a period and a life which has now passed away, never to return.

The hypercritical may object that there might have been fuller and more detailed accounts of the ways and habits of elephants, that the story may in places become a little disconnected, and that his animals - for he writes of many other animals - sometimes seem to think too much like humans; but it is a fascinating book and anyone who picks it up will find it hard to put down.

For a book of 250 pages in large print it may seem expensive; but it is beautifully produced and the eight illustrations in colour are superb. And what a delight it is in these days to read really good type!

Read it for enjoyment in such leisure as any Scouter may have; but Akela will surely read with the thought of the Cubs in mind.

Here will be found material for many a talk, though a few of the characters who add liveliness to the book can hardly be considered models for the young.

But here, above all, is a living picture of many of those characteristics who have led adventurous men and women of our race to live lives of service and sacrifice in distant lands, the courage and steadfastness which can face loneliness, discomfort, and appalling danger alike with patience and high endeavour, the love and understanding of the creatures of the wild, the mingled sympathy and firmness in dealings with the men of simpler races, and the quiet modesty with which these things are told. D. F. M.

Sold for a Farthing, by Clare Kipps (Frederick Muller Ltd., 5s.).

Mrs. Kipps speaks of this story of a sparrow as "an intimate friendship, extending over many years between a human being and a bird." She tells the story simply, yet no one could deny that it is an unusual one and, from a scientific point of view, amazing, as Julian Huxley states in his eulogistic Foreword.

The author, with her wide variety of interests and very living faith, writes with sympathetic understanding about this sparrow which lived for twelve years, and the book, which contains some excellent photographs, is beautifully warded (as when she says "I like a background of silence on which to hang my thoughts.")

The older Scouts, as well as Scouters, especially those who are bird lovers, could hardly fail to enjoy it.

BETTY MELVILLE SMITH.

Swastika at Sea, by C. D. Bekker (Kimber, 15s.).

Those who find the other man's point of view irritating should leave this book alone but there is much of interest for both laymen and professional seamen which, so far as I know, has not hitherto been made public.

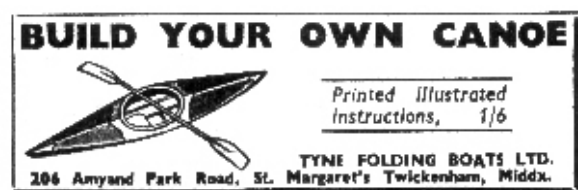
Although the miscellaneous extracts from conversations cannot be considered accurate records, they often reveal, as no doubt they are intended to do, the state of mind of the speaker at the time. In Chapter 8, e.g., The Yellow-Green eye reveals the consternation, amounting at times almost to despair, which radar in our aircraft, even in its early stages, produced in the submarine command and the desperate efforts to counteract it from 1942 onwards.

One has become accustomed to accounts of surface raiders sent out singly, relying upon finding fuel and stores at secret rendezvous and 'whilst the sinking of unarmed or even defensives by armed merchant ships requires little skill or audacity, one cannot but admire the strategic skill and daring with which the raiders *Atlantis*, *Pingain*, *Kormoran* and half a dozen others were commanded before they met their fate.

The account of the *Scharnhorst*, *Oneisenean* and *Prince Eugen* "running the gauntlet" through the Straits of Dover is well told and the security measures which enabled the secret of the operation to be well kept are a good illustration of how to trust no-one.

But the lesson to be learned from this interesting book is the danger of allowing a dictator with no knowledge of naval affairs and naval strategy to dictate the employment of ships. Raeder gave way to Hitler, and resigned. Dornitz took full advantage of the ban on building or repairing heavy ships and with implicit obedience to the Fuhrer's orders built the much needed submarines as far as he could. But as time went on he nevertheless completed the *Tirpitz* and repaired the *Scharnhorst* and other ships without losing his liberty and his job. The "no unnecessary risks" order also died a lingering death in spite of the emphasis given to it at birth. And it was, no doubt, a total disregard of that order, which, to the very last, whether in ships, submarines, "negroes," or "heavers," inspired the officers and men of the German navy to show such fine discipline in defeat.

R. H. L. B.



The Impossible Adventure, by Main Gheerbrant (Victor Gollancz, 16s.). Everest is conquered and the story of that great Coronation Year achievement still echoes around the world. And almost like a whisper in comparison comes another story of outstanding courage and determination.

It was in May 1949 that a French soldier and poet, Main Gheerbrant, together with three companions, set out from Colombia, South America, to explore the Upper Orinoco and to be the first white men to reach the Amazon from across the famous Sierra Parima. The journey was to take them two years.

It seems incredible in these days of easy and swift communications that a tribe of people could remain completely isolated from the rest of the inquisitive world. This the Guaharibos (of almost Stone Age civilisation) succeeded in doing by the simple expedient of killing off anyone who came near them - until Gheerbrant and his friends took it into their heads to undertake this seemingly impossible adventure.

How they survived this and other hair-raising ordeals make truly fantastic reading. It is a most gripping yarn vividly told by a man with a real thirst for adventure.

To quote his opening paragraph, "When I search my memory for the real genesis of the Expedition...I have to go back to a certain afternoon when the street leading to 'La Hutte' - the emporium supplying all that the hearts of Boy Scouts in Paris can possibly desire - seemed preferable to the street leading to the Lycee, where my schoolfellows were even then mumbling their way through their lessons."

Profusely illustrated with photographs this book is especially recommended for Senior Scouts and Rovers.

E. G. W. W.

Jungle Cowboy, by Ross Salmon (Hodder & Stoughton, 15s.); *True Cowboy Tales*, by Ross Salmon (Frederick Muller, 6s.).

Mr. Salmon went to South America after serving in the Royal Navy during the war (where he had a brilliant record) and became a cowboy on one of the great ranches in the remote areas. Here, he became a manager and an expert in cattle raising and ranching in the near-proximity to primitive Indian tribes.

This is his account of his real adventures by a man who has the gift of putting his story simply and 'convincingly. All through the book there is the feeling that here is a modest man telling a genuinely exciting story and it can be well recommended to all who like reading books of experience in a romantic and adventurous setting.

Mr. Salmon's second book is a refreshing and welcome addition to boys' adventure stories. The fact that the stories are true makes them all the more remarkable and this book can confidently be recommended for all boys from 10 years upwards. The stories will also nuke excellent yarns for Troop meetings and Camp Fires.

G. F. W.

What Do You Mean by Reunion? by C. B. Moss (S.P.C.K., 6s. 6d.).

Scouters who run open Troops and who try conscientiously to interpret the Scout Promise to their boys, will be well aware that their task is made more difficult by the divisions of Christendom.

They may well wonder why progress is slow in healing wounds which the Christian Church can ill afford to bear. If they read the Rev. C. B. Moss's book they will at least gather something of the complexity of the problem for the book itself is a reply to another book on this subject by the Bishop of Derby indicating that within the Anglican Communion itself there is sharply divided opinion on the way to proceed.

Mr. Moss puts forward the suggestion that the most fruitful advance would be made if interest were transferred from the nature of the Ministry of the Church on which in recent years discussions among the various denominations have centred, and instead he suggests that more consideration should be given to the nature of the Church itself.

This would bring very much more into the picture the whole question of relationships with the various Continental Churches, reunion with whom might well come sooner than reunion at home.

This point of view is not without interest to Scouters because of the international connections of Scouting, and particularly in view of the many links we have with Scandinavia, and Mr. Moss's book provides in passing quite a lot of information which those who camp abroad might well imbibe.

In his final chapter on the Future Mr. Moss makes a salutary point when he suggests that the first step towards the reunion which Anglicans must make is greater mutual understanding among themselves and that this ought to lead to greater loyalty. Scouters from their experience in this particular field will know this to be wise advice. They will also agree that you cannot get very far with any subject without knowing what you are talking about or without understanding the meaning of your terms so that Christians really must make the effort to understand what the Church to which they belong teaches. Given mutual confidence and sound doctrine their experience as Scouters will instinctively tell them that administrative arrangements can usually be made.

EVERARD SAMPSON.

SCIENCE FICTION

First of all we have two novels:-

Star Man's Son 2250 A.D., by Andre Norton (Staples Press, 9s. 6d.) describes the quest for a lost city by the sole survivor of a civilisation destroyed by atomic war two hundred years before. The city he is trying to find is supposed to be free from the deadly poisonous radiation, which had destroyed the rest of mankind. This imaginative story, well illustrated by Mordvinoff, is most awful but one cannot help but be fascinated by the strange world in which it is set.

Foundation, by Isaac Asimov (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 10s. 6d.) probably the best known writer of science fiction, is a futuristic study of politics and philosophy. In it the psycho-historian, Han Sheldon, controls a group of people trying to prevent 80,000 years of anarchy in the Julatic Empire by his prophetic powers. I enjoyed this book thoroughly and recommend it to anyone who likes a thought-provoking book.

Now three anthologies:-

Prize Stories of Space and Time, edited by Donald Woliheim (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 10s. 6d.) is a collection of stories of every kind of science fiction. These are most entertaining and I liked especially the story by Leigh Brackett describing the bit Martian City of Shandakor, and the last days of its existence. Also, I enjoyed the delightful little anecdote about the professor who believes in a nonexistent planet, Demeter, and how he convinces the President of the International Scientific Association of its existence despite the disbelief of all the other members of the Association. A really first class selection of entertaining stories.

The Golden Apples of the Sun, by Ray Bradlax (Rupert Hart-Davies, 10s. 6d.) is an anthology of extraordinary tales by one of the most imaginative writers of today. Unfortunately, his poetic imagination totally escapes my comprehension. There does, however, seem to be contained his ornate style some depth of meaning waiting to be understood by someone more intelligent than I.

In *Invaders of the Earth*, edited by Geoffrey Conklin (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 10s. 6d.) there are fourteen exciting stories of the invasion of our planet from other planets, and outer space. The main story is the script of Howard Koch's and Orsen Welles' dramatisation of H. G. Wells' *War of the Worlds*. This was broadcast in 1938 and caused mass hysteria with its authenticity throughout America. After reading of all the terrible things that happen to the earth when it is invaded by strange and fearful beings, I decided to book a seat on the first trip to the moon!

MICHAEL HURLL.

City, by Clifford Simak (Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 9s. 6d.) consists of eight "legends" about man long after man has disappeared and the dogs and the robots have taken over. Unusual, much more credible than one would imagine, curiously exciting.

R. H.

IN BRIEF

Ship Recognition - Warships, by Laurence Dunn (Coles Ltd., 12s. 6d.). Flags, Funnels and Hull, Colours, by Cohn Stewart (Gales Ltd., 6s.). This small handy book is of the greatest value to anyone interested in recognising types and classes of R.N. ships.

Only to-day I read that in Exercise "Mariner" carrier-borne aircraft attacked a battleship under the impression that it was a cruiser. This type of mistake was often made in wartime and is quite inexcusable. The second small book makes merchant ship recognition easy for the layman. This is a large subject and over 460 shipping companies are represented in this book. **H. W. S. BROWNING.**

Passe-Partout for School and Home, by Frederick T. Day (Newnes, 8s. 6d.). The author, well-known for his coloured papercraft, has made a fresh endeavour to introduce the art of picture framing and novel decorative work with the many varieties of Passe-Partout now available. The illustrations are particularly clear and the text easy to follow. Cubmasters wishing to use this material for handicraft sessions will find the book excellent. **M. H. L.**

The Shadow of Spain, by Geoffrey Trease (Basil Blackwell, 3s. 6d.). This book contains three plays, one of which is exclusively for girls, but the other two are eminently suitable for most Scout Troops. Mr. Trease needs no introduction to any Scouter who knows anything at all about children's literature and his plays are within the scope of the amateur child performer, while the stories are good, clear and well written.

The production of these plays should not create any great complications and there is no royalty or permission required if performed by school children. **G. F. W.**

How Animals Move, by James Gray (C.U.P., 16s.) contains the Royal Institution lectures of 1951: not altogether easy reading but unusual and well illustrated.

Majola Wind, by Felix Peltzer (Hammond, Hammond, 10s. 6d.) is unusual for two reasons: it has for its setting an imaginary international youth in Switzerland and is illustrated by sixteen pages of most lovely photographs. The translation has a vaguely foreign accent and the story is rather romantic here and there but I think Senior Scouts and Rangers especially those interested in the air will like it and I hope you will bring it to the attention of any you may be in touch with.

The Latter Days, by P. R. Reid (Hodder & Stoughton, 15s.), continues the story of Colditz from 1942 to 1945. Those of you who read the same author's *The Colditz Story*, which dealt with the years up to 1942, will wish to read the rest of the remarkable story.

Hornblower and the Atropos, by C. S. Forester (Michael Joseph, 12s 6d.). The Hornblower addicts will need only to know that another story about this extremely likeable sailor of Nelson's time is available and to rejoice accordingly. Others who do not yet know Hornblower in his career from midshipman to peer of the realm should try their hick with this happy adventure of his career at a time when he was Captain H. All the charm and skilful story-telling and detailed knowledge of those days is again here with us: Mr. Forester persuades us into belief - as magically as Conan Doyle did years ago with a Mr. Holmes.

How to Explore Churches, by Kenneth A. Lindley (Educational Supply Association, High Holborn, W.C.1., 5s.). I would like to recommend this most interesting book to all who realise that Scouts can be encouraged to explore and investigate - especially Senior and Rover Scouts - by learning something of their local surroundings. This book of 80 pages has excellent black and white illustrations and small lists of "Things to find out" and "Things to do" at the ends of most of the twelve chapters. Written primarily no doubt for schools, this book has much of interest to all Scouts and especially those of church-controlled Groups.

THE SCOUT LAW

II. A SCOUT IS LOYAL...

Not in the gilt and scarlet, train and tabard,
Not in the howling plaudits of the mob,
Not in the sword that rattles in its scabbard
Nor even in the heart's quick thrill and throb;
Not in the brave words hurled from every hurting
The petty politician's newest plan,
Not there the spirit that is true and trusting,
Not there the fine, high loyalty of man.

Rather where hands grown weary still defend,
Where noble anger rears to guard - a friend,
Where ears are strained to hearken and obey
Deaf to the fumbling factions of the day,
Where lips are slow to quarrel or complain,
Hearts staunch in an eternity of pain.

JAMES FITZSIMONS, S.J.

OUR TROOP

WE have been without a D C for the past six months and credit is due to the Local Association that it has kept all Groups going. District activities have been of a social and money raising nature, but the president felt that even if there was no actual lead on the Scouting side, we should at least celebrate the Founder's birthday by a District Service.

The only District Scouter is our District Rover Leader, to whom the job was banded. Bill made arrangements, and in due time notices came round to the effect that Footswick District Boy Scouts would hold a "Scouts' Own" service in the local park on Sunday afternoon, February 22nd, in memory of Lord Baden-Powell. The Mayor and Councillors would be present, and music would be provided by the Municipal Band.

1st Footswick Pack and Troop, whose hail is just round the corner, came early to help with the preparations. The bandstand looked resplendent in a new coat of cream and red paint; something like a milk bar. Bill was trying with the help of a couple of Rovers to fix up a public address system, the speakers of which were mounted on large boards labelled "Bobby's Bebop Boys" in white on a blue background. The band was arriving in twos and threes, tripping over the D.R.L.'s wires as they climbed into their stand. Nearby was a dump of wooden benches. These were our job, and under the D.R.L.'s shouted directions we set them in a semi-circle, facing west, about five yards from the bandstand.

The final touches were being made as V.I.P.'s began to arrive. The L.A. Secretary shepherded them to their seats on the benches, while the hundred and fifty Cubs and Scouts who were there by this time were seated on the ground behind them.

The less said about the service the better. There were three speeches about what a wonderful man B.-P. was what a good thing Scouting was, and how all citizens should support the Local Boy Scouts Association. The D.R.L. who acted as M.C. began. leading the Lord's Prayer by saying "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not . . ." before he realised something was wrong. A vocalist in the band gave a rendering of "Trees."

Personally I think that the boys sitting on the ground behind the filled benches, and having to look into the sun, behaved very well. If a Scouts' Own has been rightly described as a gathering of Scouts to worship God in a simple manner when they are unable to attend church, this wasn't one.

As we were stacking the benches after the Mayor and Councillors had gone I heard one new recruit ask the Scout who had persuaded him to join the Troop, "How often do we come to one of these shows?"

STRAIGHT EDGE.

DEAR EDITOR

Pack Holidays

DEAR EDITOR,

At the Dorset County Scout Headquarters, North Square, Dorchester, we have excellent accommodation for Pack Holidays or for members of Scout Troops, particularly Senior Scouts who may like to make this their headquarters while hiking in Dorset, or passing through the district.

Bunks with mattresses, electric light, latrines and facilities for cooking are available, and the charge is one shilling and sixpence per head per night. A special price is made for over twelve in number.

There is a resident caretaker and local Troops welcome a visit to their Dens.

The Headquarters Committee feel that although some Troops and Packs have made use of these facilities many more would like to do so if this information were known to them.

Application for accommodation and any further particulars may be had from the Hon. County Secretary, at the Headquarters.

P. TORY STEHR (Mrs.),
Hon. County Secretary

Forty Years Ago

DEAR EDITOR,

What pleasant memories were awakened by the extracts in November's issue of *The Scouter* from "The Headquarters' Gazette" of 1913.

In my case it was the reference to the camp being held in Belgium in 1913, which was so interesting. I was A.S.M. of the 11th Greenwich Troop, and with several hundred Scouts from various parts of the country, we took part in that camp.

The cost of the camp, if I remember rightly, was 21s. 6d. per head, and what did we not get for our money. Believe it or not, it included transport from London to Ostend and back, rail tram to Groenendyk Place, all food, trips to Bruges, Dixmude and the Ghent Exhibition where we gave demonstrations of Scouting, and a visit to Brussels, including a night's hospitality in a Boys' College. We were inspected by the Chief Scout of Belgium, and met the famous Burgomaster Max when we were shown over the Hotel de Ville.

The success of this camp was largely due to the organising ability of two Scouters, brothers, from Sawbridgeworth, whose name I have forgotten.

HAROLD G. REED,
Jersey C.I.

DEAR EDITOR,

What wonderful memories your November "Luck of the Month" brought back to me. I am only a young Scouter in the eyes of I.H.Q., but I was enrolled seventeen and a half years ago, and have enjoyed continuous Scouting ever since.

If only we were morally brave enough to get back to the type of programme outlined in *Early Days* (14), I am sure we could overcome the lure of the cinema and football matches and other attractions that prevent us from doing Scouting of the type that appealed to me as a boy.

Today, we have so many demands on our time, domestic and administrative, that we tend to overlook the fact that boys are still ready to be attracted by a programme that would cover Troop night, and week-ends down at the "Den." Do we spend enough time training our P.L.'s to bear the sense of responsibility of duty "To those under them," and are we Scouters giving those P.L.'s, to the best of our ability, all the help and facilities we can to do Patrol Scouting, with the wonderful lure of the den, and the Saturday afternoon get-together, followed by a brew-up and those experiments with twists, kabobs and dampers, followed in the evening by an interesting programme of training and recreation?

But I am forgetting; those days were when boys had nothing better to do or attract them; it was easy then, and so it is to-day if only we make the effort, and have the courage to see it through.

P. C. WILBY,
Late S.M., 10th Ipswich.

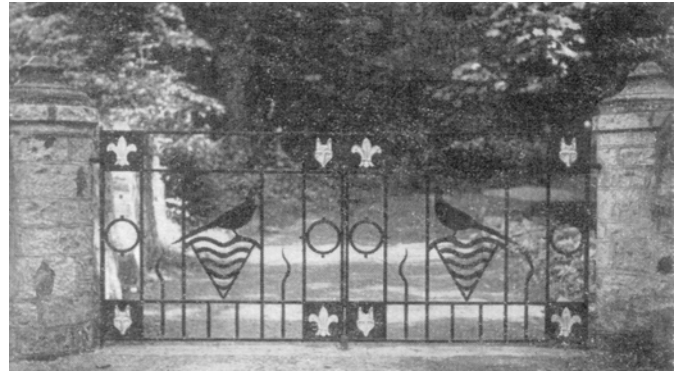


Photo by Edinburgh Evening News

WHERE IS THIS? (2) (*Answer next month*)
January's photo showed the sign outside I.H.Q.

Rover Service

DEAR EDITOR,

Our Crew, as do most, makes an annual summer trip. We want to do the same this year, 1954, but would like to combine enjoyment with a job of work. So if you know of anyone who could use the help of the Crew, and can offer camping facilities, we would be very grateful.

We feel that there must be somebody we can help, and at the same time enjoy ourselves; the only problem now is to find them.

We have planned to have the trip for a fortnight starting on June 21st.

PETER T. GARDRED,
Secretary, University of Bristol Rover Crew.

Camping

DEAR EDITOR,

Like S.M.(S) Ellis, we have found that Scout uniform is far from ideal for many of the activities outside a Senior Scout camp, especially if these take place in winter, at night, or in mountainous country. In particular, shorts are too cold at high altitude or in strong wind, and scarves are too warm for climbing in close weather.

Accordingly we have three forms of dress at camp. Scout uniform and camp dress are used in the accepted senses, and in addition we have mountain dress. The latter is any suitable form of clothing, provided it is tidy and provided that no part of Scout uniform is visible. It is here that we disagree with Mr. Ellis. Part uniform is no uniform: either a Scout is in full uniform or he is in plain clothes. If he is wearing the latter, then the authorised form of identification is the button-hole badge. To admit any other is to invite slipshod dress on all occasions.

A. JACKSON,
S.M.(S). 17th Hendon (Mill Hill School).

Appointment of Troop Leaders

DEAR EDITOR,

May I associate myself with S.M. Eric Tilly of Birmingham who wrote about under-15-year-old Troop Leaders.

How gratifying it is to a Scouter to see one of his boys - under 15 - "giving" back, as T.L., some of the knowledge and enthusiasm which he himself has been receiving since "Coming-Up" from the Pack. Most Scouters will, no doubt, readily agree that (even in spite of their own abilities) the most invigorating ideas for stunts and activities come from the "Boys." How well will this be enhanced if the Troop has its own "Boy" leader. But, surely he must be one of them; their own age?

There are two important considerations. Firstly, the choice of boy must be a careful one. Secondly, he must be allowed to do HIS job and not to become an A.S.M. at 14 ½!

ANTHONY V. KEMS',
Late S.M. 8th Canterbury (Methodist) Group.

WOOD BADGE COURSES 1954

Gliwell Park

Cub Courses

No. 127 Monday, March 15th—Saturday, March 20th (Indoor)
No. 128 Sunday, May 9th—Friday, May 14th
No. 129 Sunday, May 30th—Friday, June 4th
No. 130 Monday, June 21st—Saturday, June 26th
No. 131 Monday, July 12th—Saturday, July 17th
No. 132 Monday, August 2nd—Saturday, August 7th
No. 133 Monday, August 23rd—Sunday, August 29th Scout Courses
No. 227 Saturday, April 3rd—Sunday, April 11th
No. 228 Saturday, April 24th—Sunday, May 2nd
No. 229 Saturday, May 15th—Sunday, May 23rd
No. 230 Saturday, July 3rd—Sunday, July 11th
No. 231 Saturday, July 17th—Sunday, July 25th
No. 232 Saturday, August 7th—Sunday, August 15th
No. 233 Saturday, August 14th—Saturday, August 28th. (To be held in the Lake District. Scouters (5) specially invited)
No. 234 Saturday, August 21st—Sunday, August 29th
No. 235 Saturday, September 11th—Sunday, September 19th Rover Courses
No. 11 Saturday, June 12th—Saturday, June 19th
No. 12 Monday, July 26th—Monday, August 2nd
Conditions of entry: Applicants for all Courses must hold an appropriate Warrant and have reached their twentieth birthday at the date of the Course. *Applications to:* Camp Chief, Gliwell Park, Chingford, E.4.

London (Gliwell Park)

Scout, 3 W.E. April 17th (assembling Saturday mornings)
Scout, 4 W.E. May 7th (assembling Saturday mornings except first week-end when assemble Friday evening)
Scout, 5 W.E. Sept. 11th
Cub, 3 W.E. June 5th Cub, 3 W.E. June 26th
Cub, Cont. July 18th—23rd
Apply: The Secretary, London Office, 3 Cromwell Place, S.W.7.

Scotland (Fordell)

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

Berkshire and Oxfordshire (Youlbury)

Scout, 5 W.E. May 1st
Apply: A. C. Murdoch, 8 Kenilworth Avenue, Oxford.
Cub, 3 W.E. June 12th
Apply: Mrs. M. E. Preston, Linden, Bath Road, Maidenhead, Berks.

Birmingham (York Wood)

Cub, 3 W.E. June 12th
Apply: J. W. Hawtin, 31 Gillott Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham 16.
Scout, 5 W.E. April 24th (omitting May 8th—9th)
Apply: C. Raeburn, 36 Innage Road, Birmingham 31

Buckinghamshire (Chesham Bois)

Scout, 3 W.E. May 7th (commencing Friday evenings)
Apply: F. W. E. King, Rexview, Chesham Bois

(Calfont Heights)

Cub, 2 W.E. June 18th (commencing Friday evenings)
Apply: Saunders, 18 Marina Drive, Wolverton.

Cambridgeshire (Abingion)

Scout, 5 W.E. May 1st
Apply: R. B. Herbert, Old Lakenham Hall, Norwich.

Cheshire West (Overchurch)

Scout, 4 W.E. May 22nd (Inc. Whitsun)
Apply: J. H. Vernon Milton, 178 Liverpool Road, Great Crosby.

Derbyshire (Ogston Hall)

Scout, 3 W.E. June 4th (Inc. Whitaun)
Apply: H. W. Wright, 93 Simmondley Village, Glossop.
Cub, 3 W.E. June 26th
Apply: J. E. Hale, 8 Chesterton Avenue, Sunny Hill, Derby.

Dorset (Blandford region)

Scout, Cont. Sept. 25th—Oct. 3rd
Apply: Hon. County Secretary, County Scout Headquarters, North Square, Dorchester.

Kent (Buckmore Park)

Cub, 3 W.E. July 3rd
Apply: Miss I. Wigger, 126 London Road, Sevenoaks.
Scout, 4 W.E. May 8th (omitting 22nd—23rd and (Inc. Whitsun)
Apply: F. J. Peters, 22 Warren Wood Road, Rechester
(Upton and Training Ship *Arethusa*).
Scout, Cont. April 17th—25th—Sea Scouters specially invited.
Apply: E. R. Bindloss, 43 Yardley Park Road, Tonbridge.
Lancashire N.E. (Hunroyde)
Scout, 3 W.E. May 29th (Inc. Whitsun)
Apply: H. Burrows, Penarth, West Park Road, Blackburn. Lancashire
N.W. (Wood Top, Goosnargh)
Scout, 3 W.E. May 29th (Inc. Whitsun). Scout, 4 W.E. Oct. 1st L
Apply: T. G. Gregson, 44 Broadgate, Preston.
Lancs. S.W. and Liverpool (Bispham Hall)
Scout, 3 W.E. April 16th (first week-end only assembling Friday evening, omitting 24th/25th)
Apply: C. E. Booth, 21 Fulwood Park, Liverpool 17.
Cub, 3 W.E. June 26th
Apply: Peers Walmsley, 52 Halsall Road, Southport.
Leicestershire (John's Lee Wood)
Scout, 3 W.E. April 17th (omitting 24/25th)
Apply: T. M. Walters, Granby Buildings, Granby St., Loughborough (Ullesthorpe).
Cub, Cont. June 5th—8th.
Apply: Mrs. Pyc, 4 Cowper Road, Hinckley.

Manchester (Ryecroft)

Scout, 5 W.E. April 24th Cub, 3 W.E. June 19th
Apply: W. H. Banning, Gaddum House, Queen Street, Manchester.

Middlesex (Elstree)

Scout, 3 W.E. May 14th (assemble Friday evenings)
Scout, 3 W.E. Sept. 3rd (assemble Friday evenings, omitting weekend (11th—12th)
Cub, 3 W.E. June 12th
Apply: J. A. Walter, "Selwood," Churchill Road, Hatch End.

Norfolk (Old Lakenham Hall)

Scout, 3 W.E. May 29th (Inc. Whitsun)
Apply: W. J. England, 17 Churchill Road, Norwich.

Northamptonshire (Overstone, Nr. Northampton)

Scout, 5 alternate week-ends May 15th
Apply: B. J. Douglas, 4 Stanton Avenue, Spinney Hill, Northampton.

Northumberland (Gosforth Park)

Cub, 4 W.E. May 8th
Apply: Miss Peel, 9 Eaglescliffe Drive, Newcastle on Tyne 7.
Scout, 5 W.E. Sept. 4th
Apply: D. M. Paulin, Gosforth Park, Newcastle on Tyne 3.

Nottinghamshire (Walesby)

Cub, Cont. April 1 6th—20th
(Near Nottingham)
Scout, 4 W.E. May 15th (Whitsun week-end at Walesby)
Apply: J. N. Davey, 38 Arno Vale Road, Woodthorpe, Nottingham.

Somerset (Bridgwater)

Cub, 3 W.E. March 13th (indoor)

(Stogursey)

Scout, 4 W.E. June 12th
Apply: H. D. Sleigh, 13 Charmouth Road, Bath.

Staffordshire North (Meir Scout House and Kibblestone)

Cub, 3 W.E. April 24th (final week-end at Kibblestone)
Apply: Miss F. L. Smith, Mill End, Audley, Stoke-on-Trent.

Staffordshire South (Beaudesert)

Scout, 5 W.E. Aug. 28th (omitting Sept. 18th—19th)
Apply: J. K. Davies, 57 Coffins Road, Wednebury, Staffs:

(The Mount Wolvehampto.)

Cub, 4 W.E. Oct. 2nd (indoor)
Apply: Miss D. Overton, 92 Lower Villiers Street, Wolverhampton.

Suffolk (Shrubland Park)

Cub, Cont. June 4th—7th (Whitsun)
Apply: Mrs. H. I. Addis, Coppings Corner, Bacton, Stowmarket.
Scout, 4 W.E. Sept. 11th
Apply: C. Whitehead, 92 Westerfield Road, Ipswich.

NOTES AND NEWS

FEBRUARY PHOTOGRAPHS

This month's *cover* is by Dermot James, of Dublin, and shows Luggala Lake and the screes of Knocknaclughole, Co. Wicklow, from Murdering Pass. The photographs on page 36 by J. R. Edwards were taken on Snowdon Group Courses and any Senior Scouts interested in learning to climb might care to attend one of the courses (see "Coming Events" on p. 62)

The photograph on page 44 is by Stanley Newton.

GILWELL PARK

Commissioners' Course

The following Course has been arranged:- No. 87. March 6th—7th, Gilwell Park.

The Course lasts from 3.30 p.m. Saturday to 4.15 p.m. Sunday.

Wood Badge Part I

Papers relative to Part I of the Wood Badge are obtainable from Gilwell Park. The fee for the Course is 4s. Applicants should state whether they wish to enter for the Cub, Scout or Rover Course. S.M.(S) and A.S.M.(S) should normally take the Scout Course.

Unfurnished accommodation offered to married couple (no children). Employment wife only as working housekeeper, annexe **Gilwell Park. Temporary Assistant** Camp Warden required at Gilwell Park from mid-March to mid-October 1954. The post is resident, single man only considered. Duties will be to assist with the running of the camp site generally and to help in the Providore. Wage £3 per week plus full board and own room.

Resident Under-Gardener required; single man only considered. Novice taken for training under experienced Head Gardener. Wage up to £3 per week plus full board and own room.

Applications for all Courses, etc., above to: The Camp Chief, Gilwell Park, Chingford, E.4.

I.H.Q. SPEAKERS' VISITS

21st Feb. Derbyshire Rover/Ranger Conference Charles Wood
22nd Oxford City B.-P. Commemoration Dinner Col. J. S. Wilson
23rd Oxford University Scout and Guide Club Col. J. S. Wilson
27th Manchester Wolf Cub Palaver K. H. Stevens
27th—28th Pembrokeshire County
27th—28th Conference F.H. J. Dahi
Baptist Scout Guild Conference, Gilwell Park L. R. Timmings
28th Midland Sea Scouts' "Cag" Capt. H. W. S. Browning
13th March Presbyterian Scouters' and Guiders' Conference, London J. F. Coiquhoun
20th—21st Norfolk County Conference J. F. Coiquhoun
20th Bradford Rover Dinner Brig. J. J. Sloan
20th Liverpool and S.W. Lancashire Cub Conference E. Dennis Smith
27th—28th East Cheshire Cubmasters' Conference Mrs. H. I. Addis

B.-P. Guild Visits

26th Feb. Folkestone Annual Dinner Lord Baden-Powell

DUTY TO GOD COURSE

A Methodist "Duty to God" Course will be held at the Bermondsey Settlement (ten minutes from London Bridge), on March 6th and 7th. Accommodation available. For full particulars apply to the Rev. Peter Morley, Bermondsey Settlement, Farncombe Street, S.E.16.

HEREFOROSHIRE JAMBOREE

Will readers please. note that the above Jamboree arranged for August 1954 has now been postponed until 1956.

FILM STRIP

The National Parks Commission have produced a film strip on the Lake District, the first of a series on the National Parks of England and Wales, which describes the topography of the area. Copies are obtainable, complete with Lecture Notes, from the Sales Offices of Her Majesty's Stationery Office or through any bookseller at the inclusive price of 5s. (postage 1 ½d.). The Notes can also be obtained separately at 6d. each plus lid, postage.

CLIMBING COURSES

The dates for the climbing courses to be held at Kandersteg, Switzerland, in 1954, are as follows:- No. 26: 18th—28th July. No. 27: 15th—25th August.

Fees: 125 Swiss francs when staying in the Chalet; 115 Swiss francs when camping in the grounds.

Particulars and forms of application can be obtained from the International Commissioner, Imperial Headquarters.

HERMITAGE OF BRAID

Scouters are reminded that the City of Edinburgh and Leith Boy Scouts Association have a Scout Hostel, The Hermitage of Braid, which is open to all - Cubs, Scouts, Rovers and Scouters Further information can be had from Scout County Headquarters, 30 Rutland Square, Edinburgh.

CAMP SITE

There is a camp site at Ashley Clinton, New Milton, Hampshire, which is popular for Scout camps. There is no charge for camping but the owner, Miss F. Clinton, wishes to restrict the use of this site if possible to town boys from poor homes.

PHYSICAL RECREATION

During the summer, the Central Council of Physical Recreation is arranging a number of Courses and Coaching Holidays for Youth Leaders. These cover a very wide field including table tennis, lawn tennis, sailing, rugby league and association football, weight-lifting, canoeing, fencing, Judo, cricket, gymnastics, basket-ball, archery and riding. Full details can be obtained from: The C.C.P.R., 6 Bedford Square, London, W.C.1.

ANSWERS TO LUCK OF THE MONTH QUIZ

1. Yes; he was born at 6 Stanhope Gardens, London.
2. 217 days.
3. The Founder once wrote a little verse which goes like this:- Man, Matron, Maiden,
Please call it Baden,
Further for Powell,
Rhyme it with Noel.
4. "I suppose every boy wants to help his country in some way or other."
5. (i) 1920; (ii) 1929.
6. His headmaster at Charterhouse; the of his house in Hampshire; the maiden name of the lady he married; the name of the ship for his Baltic Cruise of 1933.
7. Six; January 1908.
8. Lieutenant General; Inspector General of Cavalry.
9. The Jungle Books (Cubbing): Kim (Kim's Game).
10. 1957; Scouting's Silver Jubilee.

NOVEL AND UNUSUAL H.Q.s. - II



This old Railway Station is the Headquarters of the 3rd Chalkwell, Bay Sea Scouts. The Headquarters is always open house to any Groups, and many have already enjoyed visiting the 3rd Chalkwell Bay in the past. Further interesting information could be obtained from the Group Scoutmaster, Mr. E. F. Bentley, 2 Cliffsea Grove, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.

MR. HAYDN DIMMOCK

Mr. Haydn Dimmock writes:- I have been with *The Scout* for forty-one years. For thirty-six of these years I have been the Editor, proud of the fact that B.-P. appointed me to this position.

I had planned to continue in the Editorial chair until the Jubilee/Centenary year - 1957, but for some time my health, which has never been of the best since receiving wounds in World War I and aggravated by pneumonia contracted during the 1929 Jamboree at Arrowe Park, has been causing my doctor and my family much concern. So I feel the time has come for me to retire and make way for a younger man.

It will be realised that this was not an easy decision to make for my work has been a glorious adventure. I can only hope I have carried out what B.-P. asked of me on the day he appointed me Editor - that the paper should carry the Spirit of Scouting to the boys and keep it alive in their hearts. If I have succeeded in that I can ask no better reward.

Though I shall be leaving *The Scout* at the end of June I shall continue to run the Soap Box Derby, and, as opportunities come along, to make visits in the way I have done in the past, so you have not heard the last of me.

F. HAYDN DIMMOCK, *Editor "The Scout."*

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES

I.H.Q. Appointments and Resignations

Resignation

Overseas Commissioner - Colonel Granville Walton, C.M.G., O.B.E., D.L., J.P.

The Committee of the Council places on record its deep appreciation of the outstanding contribution which Colonel Walton has made to Scouting.

Appointment

Overseas Commissioner - Sir George Beresford-Stooke, C.M.G.

Chief Scout's Commissioner

The Chief Scout has appointed Colonel Granville Walton, C.M.G., O.B.E., D.L., J.P., 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 28th, 1954, 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 25th, 1954.

Founder's Birthday

A short combined Scout and Guide Remembrance Service and laying of wreaths will be held at the Founder's Memorial Stone in Westminster Abbey at 11 a.m. on Monday, February 22nd, 1954.

Air Scout Badge

The Committee of the Council has approved the introduction of an Air Scout Badge to be worn on the left breast above any service stars and medal ribbons.

This badge may be worn by all Air Scouts, Senior Air Scouts, Rover Air Scouts and Scouters in charge of any of these sections.

Supplies are now available from the Scout Shop, price 6d. each and should be obtained through Badge Secretaries in the usual way.

C. C. GOODIIND,
Administrative Secretary.

BOOKS ON CAMPING

The following books on camping are published by I.H.Q.:

For Scouters:

Standing Camps (6s.).
Scout Camps: a Book for Scouters (5s.).
Camping Abroad (4s. 6d.).
The Camp Fire Leaders' Book (5s.).
Outdoor Cooking (4s.).
Camping Standards (9d.).

Every Scout should possess:

The Patrol Goes to Camp (Patrol Series No. 5 1s.).
Backwoods Cooking (Patrol Series No. 17) 1s.

CLASSIFIED

COMING EVENTS

Chesham Bois Scouts present "Our Show 1954" their 21st Revue. Music and sketches by Ralph Reader. At Pioneer Hall, Chesham Bois, for nine nights. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, March 25, 26th, 27th, April 1st, 2nd 3rd, and 8th, 9th and 10th. Tickets 3/6 and 2/- from F. E. Davies, Lynthorpe, Waterside, Chesham, Bucks.

Cardiff (S. Wales) Second Cub Scouters Conference, 34th April. Speaker: Mrs. H. Addis (I.H.Q.). Accommodation supplied. Applications to Miss E. N. Jones, 37 Grosvenor Street, Cardiff.

Wiltshire Senioree 1954. April 10th—11th at Wardour Castle, Tisbury, Nr. Salisbury. Apply details from Mr. A. C. Httckney, 32 Wyndham Road, Salisbury, Wilts.

S Stands for Snowdon, and also for Senior Scouting; The Snowdop Group will run a programme at Llanberis throughout the Easter school holidays. It will be open to Seniors and Rovers; both tuition and leadership being available for beginners and others. There will also be facilities for general outdoor Senior Scoutcraft, and Badge work. Campers select their own dates; the charge for a full week will be 25s. Those staying less than a week will pay 4s. per day. The charge covers the cost of food. Registration forms are now available from The G.S.M., The Rectory, Llafiferis, Caerns., N. Wales.

Midland Counties Rover Moot 1954 - It's "Knowledge for Service" at Rough Close, Coventry, on 29th—30th May. Speakers include: Brigadier Sir John Hunt, C.B.E., D.S.O. ("Everest Hem"), Ralph Reader, M.B.E. ("About those Rovers!"). Jack Skillen ("RoverRoundabout"). Displays, Exhibitions, etc Send a stamp now to Moot Secretary, Barrie Clark, 23 Wordsworth Road, Coventry, for details.

Thee Counties Rover Moot in Herefordshire. Provisional date June 1 1sh—13th.

Bristol Rover Moot 1954, June 12th-13th. Good speakers. Full details from D. Chandier, 452 Fishponds Road, Fishponds, Bristol.

Keep this date dear - June 26th—27th. Wessex Rover Moot, Poole Park, Dorset. Interesting details later.

EMPLOYMENT

The Y.M.C.A. invites applications from men between 21 and 30 to train as General Secretaries. Qualifications and experience required in religious, social, educational and physical activities with youth.

Write giving full particulars to Personnel Secretary, National Council of Y.M.C.A. 's, 112 Great Russell Street W.C.1.

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

Professional Association in West End (Baker Street) requires office junior, some experience or straight from school. Full training given in office procedure. Scout preferred. Wages £2 15s. Od. p.w. to commence. Hours 9.15 a.m. to 5.45 p.m., no Sats. Apply in writing to The Secretary, G.B.D.O., 50 Nottingham Place, W.1.

Young Rover (21) seeks interesting employment with responsibility. All genuine offers considered. Write BM/DTFY, London, W.C.1.

PERSONAL

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

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

Camp Pennants made to your own designs, 8 in. x 4 in., 15s. per doz. Prices decreasing with larger quantities. Two colour on good quality felt. Samples on request. Graves, 114 Shakespeare Avenue, Hayes, Middlesex.

Wanted - a Scoutmaster Is there a Scouter living or working in or near Holborn who would be prepared to take on the job of S.M. of an old established and flourishing Troop? There are A.S.M.'s but none with sufficient time to take on the S.M.'s job. Please write to the Group Scoutmaster, 8th Holborn, Mr. A: Ransley, 55 Blenheim Terrace, London, N.W.8.

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 Street, W.C.2. Temple Bar 6806.

France: Camping tours by truck to beautiful Dordogne Valley arranged. Group or individual enquiries welcomes. S.A.E. Box 177, *The Scouter*. This year have your Annual Camp at Silverdale, the beauty spot of Morecambe Bay. I can find you a good camping site and- also supply you with groceries, provisions, etc. Goods delivered on to the site. Early application is necessary to ensure getting a good site. F. Roscoe, G.S.M., 14 Emesgate Lane, Silverdale, Lancs.

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

Camping, Nottingham Boy Scouts Association. Camp site of 250 acres~ woodland and open country near Sherwood Forest. Particulars from the Warden, Walesby Forest, Walesby, near Newark, Notts.

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? Skyhigh uniforms. Blue and red shirts - fluorescent dresses, etc. Send S.A.E. for new list - 33rd/S2nd Epping Forest South Boy Scouts, 142 Clayhall Avenue, Ilford, Essex. "**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.

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.

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

Rover has been able to arrange with Lloyd's Underwriters specially reduced premiums for private and commercial motor insurance for warranted Scouters. Apply Rover Scout Mills, 59 - 60 Cornhill, E.C.3.

FOR SALE

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

Trek Carts!!! Tubular steel, unused, rubber-wheeled. Paratroop hand trucks. Particulars *free*. Only £5 ISs. Od. Greens, 347 Albert Street, Lytham.

16 mm. Victor Greyline sound or silent projector. In perfect condition. Only 200 his. running time. Complete with speaker and transformer £150 or near. offer. Also spare set of valves inc. P.E.C. projector stand. Portable screen. 3 in. lens. Speaker lead. Can be viewed by appointment. A. H. Day, 268 Tomswood Hill, Barkingside, Lifford, Essex. Phone: Hainault 2284.

Three side drums, 13 1/2 in x 10 in., brass shells, £25 or nearest offer. T. Carter, 32 Snow Hill, Melton Mowbray, Leics.

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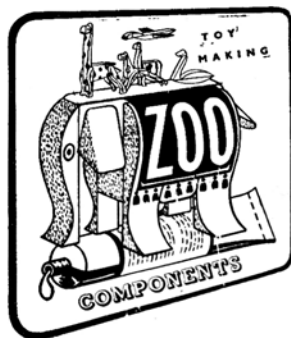
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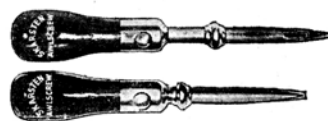


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DUAL PURPOSE QUILT/SLEEPING-BAG

Size 6 ft. by 5 ft. Square quilting. Will fold into bag size 6 ft. by 2 ft. 6 in. 1 in. overlap on edge allows quilt to be made into temporary bag with blanket pins or press studs or permanently stitched. Colour green, approx. wt. 4½ lbs.

Kapok filled, covered spun rayon one side, taffeta other side. 55/- Postage and packing 1/6 extra

Feather filled, covered printed cambric both sides. 98/6 Postage and packing 1/6 extra

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Details of Titcraft and Folbots are given in our Catalogue. They range from the Titcraft "Coracle," a lightweight folding Dinghy at £12/10/0, to the Folbot 2-Seater Canoe complete at £40/11/0. A canoe hire service is available for those who do not wish to purchase. Send S.A.E. for our Catalogue and details.



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EX W.D., NEW, DARK GREEN 5' 9" x 2' 10" TAPERING TO 2', WEIGHT 5½ lb. plus 1/- postage



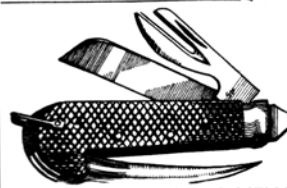
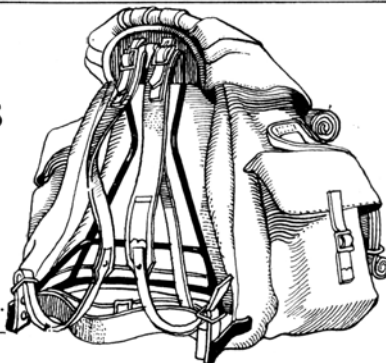
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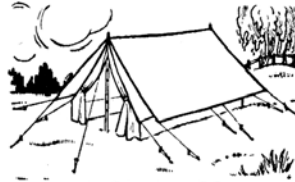
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Size: Length 6' 6", width 4' 6", height 3' 6" with 9" walls.

Improved lightweight green Egyptian cloth, with all accessories, packed in valise of own material.

Price £5 5 0



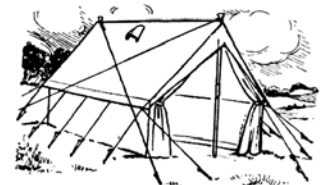
HIKE-FLY

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

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

Price £7 7 0

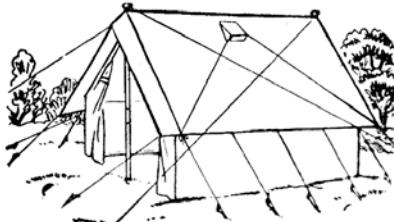
With 12" canopies each end— Price £8 2 0



PATROL TENT

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

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



PIONEER TENT

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

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

CAMPING

1954

For this season we are proud to announce further price reductions while still maintaining our high standard of quality.

Our tents sell on their merits—carrying the usual Scout Shop guarantee of satisfaction.

TENTS

1954 features in our range

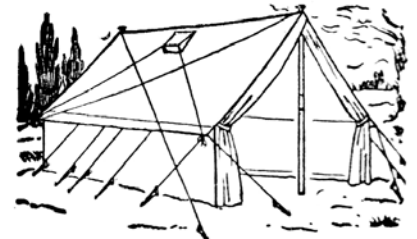
• PROVED & TESTED

• PRICES REDUCED

• IMPROVED CLOTH

• IMPROVED FITTINGS

• SEND FOR OUR LIST



DOUBLE FOUR TENT

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

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



RUCSACS

Fifteen models to choose from, to carry kit for the short hike or the summer camp. Eight models with frames and seven without. From this range you will find just the rucsac to suit your needs.



SLEEPING BAGS

Pal-o-Mine, standard. Down filled, length 6' 6"—weight 3 lbs. 10 ozs. £6 18 6

Good Companion, standard. Down filled, length 6' 6"—weight 3 lbs. 8 ozs. £5 8 0

Sleeping Quilt, 6' 3" x 5', feather down filled, easily made into an ideal sleeping bag £3 7 6



AXES

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

Leather case for Gilwell hand axe, with belt loops 6/6

Felling axe, high grade steel heads severely tested. 2 1/2 lbs. 20/3

4 1/2 lbs. 27/-



STOVES

Radius No. 20. 1/2 pint paraffin stove in tin box 35/-

Radius No. 42. 1/2 pint petrol pressure stove, packed in tin box which acts as windshield 31/3

Meta Stove No. 75. Rapid boiler, using the well-known Meta solid fuel, with stand, saucepan, tea infuser and egg holder 18/6



CAR BADGE

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

Price 10/6 (Postage 6d.)



Orders to the value of 50/- and over are sent carriage paid within U.K.

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20 RICHMOND STREET, LIVERPOOL

104 HINDES ROAD, HARROW

19 GREEN LANES, PALMERS GREEN, N.13

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