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The South India Boy Scout

VOL - IV -

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THE SOUTH INDIA BOY SCOUT

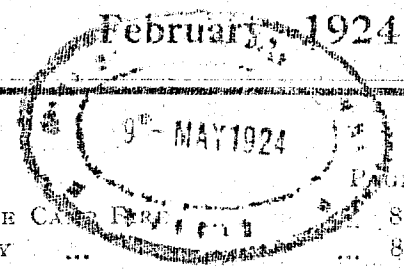
Official Organ of the Boy Scout Association of the Madras Provincial Area.

Vol. IV, No.

February, 1924

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
THE GREY OWL'S HOOT ...	73	ROUND THE CAMP FIRE ...	84
THE EDITOR'S IMPRESSIONS ...	74	ASTRONOMY ...	85
ON TEACHING THE SCOUT LAW ...	75	FIRST REUNION OF THE I AND II ...	87
BETLES—II ...	76	MADRAS TRAINING TROOPS ...	88
A CHEMICAL WIZARD'S STUNT PRO-GRAMME ...	78	NEWS FROM THE DISTRICTS ...	89
TO SCOUTERS OVERSEAS ...	79	TANJORE DISTRICT SCOUT RALLY ...	90
QUEER SENTINELS ...	81	ALL-INDIA NOTICES ...	91
SCOUTS' CORNER ...	82	PROVINCIAL NOTICES ...	92
SMILES ...	83	PRINCIPAL SCOUT OFFICERS FOR THE PRESIDENCY ...	92



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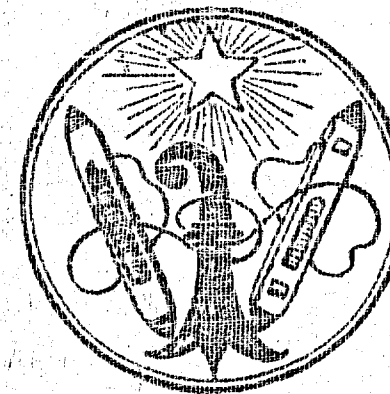
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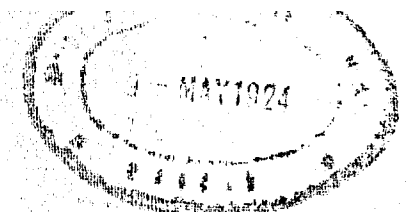
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THE SOUTH INDIA BOY SCOUT

Vol. IV]

FEBRUARY, 1924

[No. 4

The Grey Owl's Hoot

Our beloved Chief writes a charming letter to Scouters reminding them of the great Rally for the Prince of Wales in 1922, and calling on all who possibly can to respond to the Call for the Jamboree of 1924.

Camp sites are being booked in Wembley Park and Troops are sending in their entries from all parts of the world, but we have so far not heard of any Indian contingent. Lone Scouts and Scouters from India are going, but we could have wished that this great presidency had had its own contingent, even half a patrol of Indian Scouts. Ceylon we understand is sending one.

In his letter the Chief points out how much these big gatherings of Scouts and Scouters do for the movement in creating enthusiasm in the rising generation of Scouts, attracting public attention and interest and perhaps, most important of all, in bringing together Scouts and Scouters under the happiest of conditions for the purpose of knowing one another and exchanging ideas on the playing of this great 'Game of Scouting for Boys.'

We are very delighted to hear that some of our Tamilian Scouters are translating into their language Scouting books and that others are writing original articles in the vernacular. This is a most important work and a very real help to the movement. To all who are helping us so nobly by their literary efforts, in both English and Vernaculars, on behalf of the Chief we hoot a grateful hoot of thanks.

'Who's Who'? That is just what we want to know in Scouting in South India. Is it bashfulness that keeps you back brother Scouters? If so please accept the assurances of the Grey Owl that you will be doing a real good turn to the movement in South India if you will fill in the 'Who's Who' form and send it along as soon as possible. (See provincial notices.) We should have nearly a thousand trained Scouters in the Presidency but only slightly over 350 have received warrants and

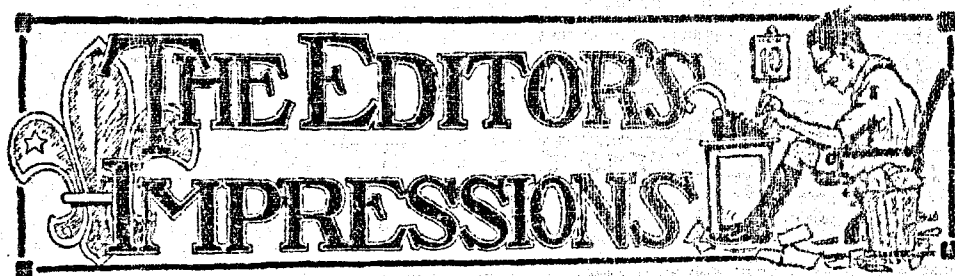
only just over 100 have taken the trouble to fill in the 'Who's Who'. Please do your little to help in completing our records.

It has been most refreshing to see the happy interchanges of hospitality among the troops of the Madras City. Will our up-country friends see what they can do on this line. Alternately one troop being 'At Home' to the others for Scouting games and light refreshments. Lay stress on the latter. Let them be very light so that no troop may feel unable to take part because their last hosts did things on such a lavish scale that they feel afraid to ask them to partake of their humbler hospitality. The fare as far as Scouting games are concerned should be as good as you can possibly provide; here keenest competition to provide the richest fare is to be greatly encouraged. A week-end camp for troops in different towns would also be helpful.

We see that our youngest Sister in the movement, (or should we say Brother) the Cochin State Association, have been having great times during their Scout week. We are gratified that one of the birds from the 'Blue Jay' Camp, Guindy, had a claw in this, and we gather a fairly large one too.

The Crow's nest in the Museum is fast becoming a feature of Madras Scouting. We have heard that the compound was famed for its snakes and it is rumoured that a gathering of Guindy Blue Jays and Snakes met there in a most sociable manner round a Camp fire. What strangely bewitching things do happen round Scout Camp fires. A few days later we had the great pleasure of listening to yarns round another Camp fire in the same compound from the Provincial Commissioner for Burma. It was good to meet him and to hear of our brother Scouts in that fair land. We enjoyed his visit.

GREY OWL.



DEAR BROTHER SCOUTS,

I cannot say I have the bump of poetry very well developed, but I am giving you on this page a little thing that has struck my 'funny-bone' so to speak, and I am passing it on to you as I feel sure you will like it. The author, Joyce Kilmer, a young man of great promise, was killed in the Great War. It is fairly obvious that 'Only God can make a tree.' But as Scouts I think this little poem will help us realize a little more than we did before, the wonders of tree life.

Some thousands of years ago there lived a man—a king, who had grown up as a shepherd boy amidst the beautiful trees of God. He would have been a good Scout, for it says of him that he was 'ruddy', and 'good to look upon.' In fact, he must have been a Scout for he was not afraid to come to the help of his people in the face of overwhelming odds in the person of a giant who came up against them. And even when this boy became a king he did not forget his love for the trees but was always talking about them, so much so that when he wanted something to which he could compare the man who was blessed of God, he could think of no higher comparison than this, that 'He should be like a tree planted by the rivers of water'.

The other day I saw the picture of a tree through which a whole roadway had been cut, with room enough for a carriage and pair to pass through. It was one of those beautiful Douglas Firs, or Sequoia Pines of British Columbia. It may surprise you to know that some of these trees were just beginning life when William the Conqueror

went over to England. Each of these firs took a thousand years to make, but unfortunately it does not take very long to cut them down, and if the Government had not interfered, I'm afraid there would have been none left by now.

Nor is man the only enemy of the trees, there are hundreds of insects, which all unseen are eating out of the heart of great trees all over the world, and, but for the birds, the tree's very good friends who help to do away with these objectionable insects, we would not have had so much jungle on the face of this earth. And without jungle you know we cannot live, for we want it under the cooking pot, on the hearth, in the engine, and in hundreds of places where we could not possibly do without it. So Scouts,—hats off to the birds.

A TREE

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree;
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast
A tree that looks at God all day
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;
A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;
Upon whose bosom snow has lain
Who intimately lives with rain
Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

Joyce Kilmer

they were in Madras. The watering was bad, the pruning was bad, and if at any time a branch had to be cut off, it wasn't the fault of the cutter that the tree did not die. This is most undoubtedly due to the general ignorance of tree life. Most people have little idea that plants are living beings, and can suffer, and receive severe shocks, and die of neglect just like animals. You Scouts are going to be the public's spoon, and it lies with you to help mould the attitude towards trees of the people around you, so that they will not be treated otherwise than they should be, as one of God's marvellous works.

On Teaching the Scout Law

BY GILCRAFT

'No, Sir, a Scout is only a brother to half the Scouts in the world, because the Law says he is only a brother to every other Scout.'

Whether this rendering of the fourth Scout Law was one actually given, or whether it is the outcome of an exuberant Scouter's imagination, we cannot say.

The foregoing will, however, serve to illustrate the importance of ensuring that a boy really grasps the true meaning of the Law and Promise.

We will not debate the question as to whether a boy can grasp an ideal or not, but endeavour to face the most difficult of problems which faces us in all boy work—that of connecting the abstract with the concrete. Word perfection is of secondary importance when compared with a complete understanding, so we will deal with that first.

Roland Phillips has shown us how simply the Law can be put to enable our P.L.s. to pass it on, but his book further makes a suggestion—why not have your own series of letters to a P.L.? Boys love receiving letters (who doesn't?). The suggestion calls to mind the Scout Master of an East London Troop who did this with splendid results. Last post every Saturday evening each P.L. would receive a letter dealing with one Scout Law. This gave him all Sunday to re-read it—whilst Monday was the P.L.'s instructional night, and the finishing touches could be put to the lessons taught. The Scout Master used all sorts of concrete examples. For instance, he used a metaphorical brick as his example of the second Law. In the fourth Law he gave an imaginary conversation between the respective sons of a dustman and an earl who were both Scouts, and so on.

The ideal way of teaching the Law is, of course, through the eye. The film 'Tenderfoot Tim' proved this very effectively. We cannot all get the use of a cinema, but it is possible to find suitable plates in books, and pictures for the club-room wall which bring home the meaning.

As we have said before, mere word perfection is of secondary importance, but it can be

attained in a number of ways, the least interesting of which is to sit down and learn the Laws off by heart. The required lesson in concentration is very desirable, but how parrot-like the result! There is one Troop which insists on each Tenderfoot doing handicrafts in connection with the Scout Law. The Troop largely exists by the sale of articles it makes, so that woodwork being Billy's hobby he makes a footstool. With a suitable instrument heated in the fire he burns out the Scout Law on top of the stool.

Result:—

- (1) A Scout Law *absorbed* (not learned by rote).
- (2) Good propaganda for the person to whom the stool is sold (usually Billy's father or mother).
- (3) Money *earned* for Troop funds.

Can you beat it?

The same idea can be carried out in different ways according to each boy's particular ability; illuminated scrolls, embossed leather, repousse metal work all offer the right opportunity: usually the Law has to be given briefly because of the number of words—e.g. 'a Scout is loyal,' 'a Scout obeys,' and so on.

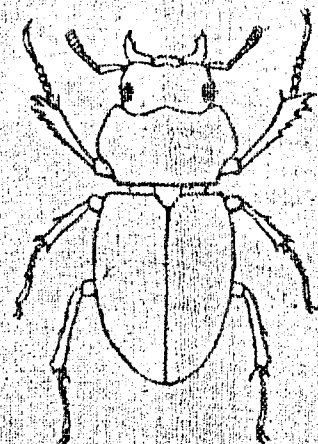
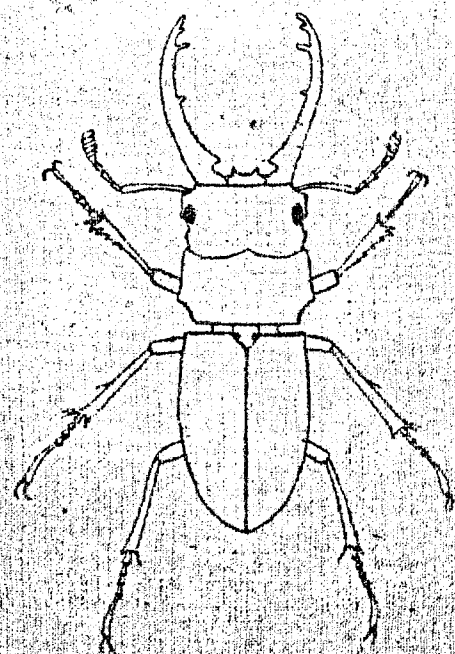
The Scout Law and Promise should always be repeated (not read) at Scouts' Owns, but we must avoid the depressing habit of throwing the Law in the teeth of the boys at every possible opportunity. If you are constantly saying 'a few kind words,' your boys will stand and look at you with an apparent air of reverence, but their minds will be wandering away and your words of wisdom will be lost—'a diamond on a heap of coke.'

Occasional cheery bright yarns on each of the Scout Laws—with heroic and humorous examples with which the boys can sympathize—can do much, but you must be careful in your enunciation, for you don't want your recruits coming along and saying, in response to a request for the ninth Scout Law, 'Please, Sir, a Scout is hefty.'

Remember in all your talks to boys that they are boys, and remember that most important of Scouters' Laws—'A Scouter is interesting.'

Beetles.—II.

A little practice will soon enable anyone to recognize many different kinds of beetle one from another, but it is not always so easy to group them in any regular order. One of the easiest groups to recognize is that which contains the Stag Beetles, Dung Beetles, Chafer Beetles, etc. This group can be distinguished from all others by the antennae or feelers, the last three or more joints of which are broader than the others and usually more or less leaf-like. In other groups the antennae may be clubbed at the end, or saw-like throughout, but experience will soon enable you to distinguish them.



STAG BEETLES, MALE (LEFT) AND FEMALE (RIGHT)

The Lamellicorn Beetles, as this group is called from the distinctive structure of its antennae, are divided into three families. In the first two the enlargements of the last few joints of the antennae are comparatively thick; in the last they are thin and leaf-like. But beetles of the last family are much more abundant than are those of the other two families put together.

The grubs of the first two families feed upon wood, burrowing in dead tree trunks, etc. In one of these families, the Stag Beetles (Lucanidae), the grubs are provided with an organ at the base of the second and third pairs of legs with which they can make a

slight squeaking noise. In the other family, known as the Passalidae, the third pair of legs is used for squeaking only and is so small that at first sight the grub appears to have only four legs altogether instead of six. The Passalidae are uninteresting looking flattened parallel-sided shiny black beetles; they live in decaying timber and are rarely seen unless specially looked for. The Stag Beetles are more often seen and are well known on account of the extraordinary antler-like jaws of the male, which are often half as long and maybe as long, as the body. Both Stag and Passalid Beetles are usually of large size.

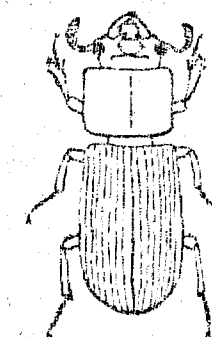
never very small; but they live chiefly in the moist jungles of the hill country and are rarely met with on the plains.

The remaining family, Scarabidae, in which the last few joints of the antennae bear thin leaf-like expansions, is much larger and more abundant and requires further sub-division. It falls into two groups which may be termed Dung Beetles and Chafer Beetles respectively, and each of these falls into a number of sub-families.

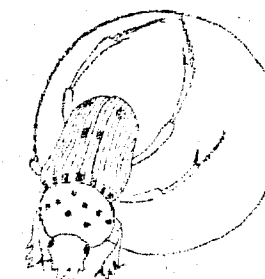
The best known of the Dung Beetles is the ball-rolling Scarab, held sacred in ancient Egypt, of which there are several species common in India. Often they may be seen

in the neighbourhood of animal excrement toiling along with their balls of unsavoury food. But however unsavoury this food may seem to us they are most useful scavengers and do their good turn daily by their disposal of it, thus helping to keep the earth clean for us. How interesting are their habits was

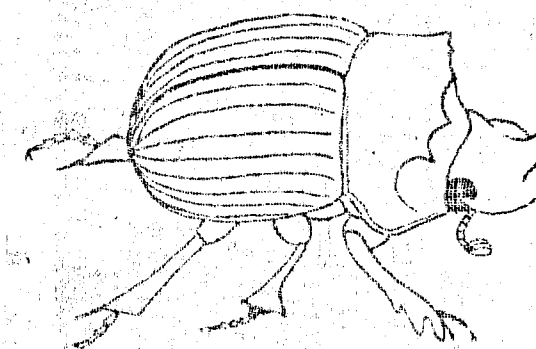
they eat the leaves and flowers of living plants. The Rhinoceros Beetle described



PASSALID BEETLE



BALL-ROLLING SCARAB



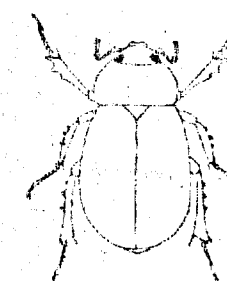
ELEPHANT DUNG BEETLE

last month is one of the largest of them. Smaller, but often very numerous and therefore very destructive, are the Cockchafer and other brownish or blackish beetles so like them as to be almost indistinguishable except by a specialist, though really belonging to another sub-family. Their grubs live underground, eating decaying matter. The beetles also live underground during the day; but at night they come up and fly off in

shown long ago by the great French amateur naturalist, J. H. Fabre; more recently they have been further studied in this country by R. W. G. Hingston who describes them in his book *A Naturalist in Hindustan*, from which the accompanying picture of a ball-rolling Scarab is taken.

Almost all the larger and commoner Dung Beetles have the broad shovel-like head and front legs of the ball-rolling Scarab. Some have the head armed with one or more horns, like those of the Rhinoceros Beetle but often relatively longer and more slender. In some species the mother keeps watch over her young till their development is completed, after which she may live on and produce another brood.

The Dung Beetles, as already noted, are scavengers of waste animal matter. The Chafer Beetles are scavengers in the grub stage only, and then of decaying vegetable more than animal matter; in the beetle stage



CHAFER BEETLE

search of flowers or leaves among which they often do great damage. Some of them, not the true Cockchafer, however, but some of the other sub-family, are beautifully coloured in different shades of glossy green.

The Rosechafers are usually broader, and somewhat flatter beetles than the Cockchafers. They are often handsomely coloured in green, brown, or red; but they too are often very destructive.

A Chemical Wizard's Stunt Programme

BY CHARLES D. TENNEY

With the five stunts given here and a fairly glib tongue, any boy can keep an audience well entertained. Try it. Perhaps you can establish yourself as a chemical wizard of subtly perplexing powers. In any case, you are pretty certain to draw a barrage of curious questions pleasantly flavoured with respect.

The short program will cost you little aside from the time put in in practice. And time is nothing to a wizard, of course. Practice, however, means a lot to him. Be sure you get in enough to insure your programme running smoothly before your audience. And keep your patter running as you practice. Think up what you want to say, and as you work, give your imaginary audience an eloquent 'talk' with plenty of smiles and flourishes.

Here are the stunts, beginning threateningly with frost at any season, ending gloriously with a pitcher full of patriotism.

Frosting Glass in Summer

Partially fill a small bottle with spirits of camphor and label it: 'CONCENTRATED COLD—Manufactured by JACK FROST, INC.—Shake well before using.' Cork the bottle tightly until ready to show the trick.

Then tell your audience various wonderful properties of the liquid and finally claim that you can produce frost with it, no matter how hot the day may be. Prove this statement by pouring a little on a sheet of glass. In a few seconds, beautiful white crystals will form, producing an effect similar to the fantastic trees and landscapes that decorate our windows on frosty mornings.

Spirits of camphor consists of solid gum camphor dissolved in alcohol. When poured on the glass, the alcohol evaporates, leaving behind a thin, irregular layer of solid camphor. The glass should be fairly cool for the best results.

Water to Wine and Back

This is the chemical trick most frequently met on the stage. There are several ways in which the effect may be accomplished, but the following, in addition to being one of the best, has the advantage of utilizing materials obtainable at home.

It is based on the fact that phenolphthalein (don't try to pronounce it!) is red in the presence of alkalis, like ammonia, and colorless with an acid such as vinegar. Now you might wonder what particular use this terrible substance has which would find it a place in the home, but it is an excellent laxative and as such is the principal constituent of the widely-used medicine, Phenolax. The phenolphthalein may be separated from the medicine by crushing one of the tablets in ordinary denatured alcohol, allowing the solid matter to settle, and then pouring off the clear solution of phenolphthalein.

The apparatus you will need for the trick is a transparent pitcher and a glass tumbler. In the pitcher, mix one tablespoonful of white vinegar, one cup of water and two or three drops of phenolphthalein solution. In the glass, place one teaspoonful of pure ammonia water. Both liquids are crystal clear, but don't attempt to drink them!

To perform the trick, pour a small amount of the liquid from the pitcher into the glass. As an excess of alkali is then present, the phenolphthalein turns wine-red. Now, to change the wine back to water, pour it into the pitcher, where the additional acid will decolorize the red liquid.

The Magician's Thermometer

You have probably noticed that when tincture of iodine is spilled on starched clothes, a blue stain results. Now the formation of this color is characteristic of starch and iodine—in fact, the chemist uses it as a test for starch in various foods. Such color changes are common in chemistry, but the unusual thing about this one is that the color is destroyed by heating and restored by cooling.

Make a clear solution of starch by stirring half a teaspoonful in a pint of boiling water, allowing it to cool and pouring off the clear, upper liquid. To half a cupful of this solution, add one drop of tincture of iodine. Too much iodine will make the liquid appear black. Then fill a small bottle with it and cork tightly.

Now place on a table before your audience two vessels, one containing water which is nearly boiling hot and the other ice-water. Place the bottle in the hot water and the blue

liquid will be decolorized. Show it to your audience, then place it in the cold water, and the blue will slowly develop again inside the bottle. This can be repeated as long as the temperature of the water is sufficiently high or low to make the change.

You can show your audience both before and after the trick that there is no possible way in which anything else could enter the bottle.

Magic Water from 'The Fountain of Youth'

On a clean sheet of white cardboard, draw or trace the outline of a woman's face. Then go over the lines with India ink, paint the lips red, the eyes blue and the hair gray and allow it to dry. Then paint the cheeks and the hair again with the colorless solution of phenolphthalein prepared for the water-to-wine trick. In addition, fill a clean bottle with a mixture of equal amounts of ammonia water and plain water.

Show the picture to your audience, calling their attention to the fact that the woman represented is old and gray. Then dip a handkerchief in the ammonia and smear it over the picture. The cheeks and hair of the woman become red and she apparently regains her girlhood. But in a short time, the red fades away because of the evaporation of the ammonia. The girl has grown old again. Repeat the treatment and explain that a

friend has discovered the Fountain of Youth sought by Ponce de Leon and the other olden explorers and has been kind enough to send you a bottle of the magic water, constant applications of which will give perpetual youth.

It is best to stay far enough away from the audience that they will not catch the odor of the ammonia.

Pouring Red, White and Blue from the same Pitcher

For this trick, you will need three glass tumblers and a transparent pitcher. In the first glass, place three drops of phenolphthalein solution in a third of a cupful of water. In the second, dissolve a teaspoonful of magnesium sulphate (Epsom salts) in a third of a cupful of water. In the third, mix a drop of tincture of iodine in a third of a cupful of water. All the solutions will be colorless.

In the pitcher, make a mixture of half a cupful of clear starch solution with two tablespoonfuls of ammonia water.

Then arrange the three glasses in order and pour equal amounts of the liquid from the pitcher into them. In the first glass, a red solution will be produced; in the second, a milky white liquid; and in the third, a clear blue liquid.

—American Boy

To Scouters Overseas

BY ALFRED W. PICKFORD

At the close of a wonderful tour of 45,700 miles, during which Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Kenya have been visited by invitation of the Scout authorities, and with Bombay, Colombo, and Zanzibar as ports of call, I have tried to give some return for all the kindness shown to me by drawing up these notes on points which have struck me during my visits. There is nothing original in them, for the suggestions offered are to be found in the official publications, but it is hoped that nevertheless they will be found of some use.

Speaking generally, the position is that while the Dominions have organized splendid Associations with splendid material in the shape of hefty boys, keen Scouters, and a lot of supporters, the number of Boy Scouts is

woefully small. It has to be remembered in this connection that any policy which involves marking time means that thousands of boys will for ever miss this most valuable form of training. This condition of things is in most places to be ascribed to one of two reasons, and sometimes to both.

(a) Lack of faith in the colossal possibilities that lie before the Movement, sometimes coupled with a failure to realize that the Scout system of training has been correctly described as a *revolution* in educational method.

(b) The absence of sufficiently energetic and effective propaganda designed to enlighten the general public as to the aims, methods, and potentialities of the Movement, and to enlist its interest and support.

Because the system is new—or at least new in the form of its application—it is obvious that, however much the behaviour and demeanour of Scouts may have impressed people favourably, the public cannot really understand the reasons for the qualities it admires in Scouts unless opportunities are laboriously and energetically made to explain the system to it, so as to convert passive sympathy into active support.

I have addressed nearly three hundred audiences during my tour, the majority non-Scout audiences, and I do not exaggerate when I say that not 5 per cent. of those addressed had the faintest conception of the real aims, objects, and methods of Scout training. This in one sense is discouraging, but, on the other hand, it was encouraging to find how genuinely interested people were when they had the wonderful possibilities, international, imperial, national and individual, placed before them. I venture to urge this aspect of the matter on the serious attention of all concerned, especially Commissioners, on whom rests the onus of rallying the public to the active support of the self-sacrificing men and women in immediate charge of the Cubs, Scouts and Rover Scouts.

The governance of the Movement may be divided into three parts—foundation, organization, and training detail.

The *foundation* is the Scout Promise and Law, basic, fundamental, and requiring no modification anywhere within the Empire.

The *organization*, comprising the devolution of authority through Commissioners, Councils, Local Associations, and Troop Committees, needs, in my opinion, only the most trifling modification—a conclusion forced upon me in the teeth of a prior conviction that the organizations in the Dominions required quite special treatment. I have found no exception anywhere to this conclusion—a wonderful testimony to the inherent soundness and the elastic character of the organization as laid down by the Chief Scout.

The *training detail* is concerned especially with the tests for badges, and here a good deal of modification is required. Imperial Headquarters will always be glad to receive suggestions for adapting these to local needs. Remembering that the badge system is based on the desire to draw out zeal and industry for the formation of character, and only assists technical training indirectly, it will be realized that while the qualifications

may, and indeed should, be adapted to local needs, the standard should not be lowered.

Before going into detail I should like to add that I have been greatly impressed by the universal loyalty felt towards our great founder, and by the evident desire of the Oversea Associations to be in the closest touch with the parent movement as represented by Imperial Headquarters. This unity of sentiment is most encouraging, showing as it does a realization that the Movement in all parts of the Empire is bound together, not by dry rule and regulation, but by that intangible but supremely powerful agent which we call the Scout Spirit. On the Scout Spirit and through the Scout Spirit all Scout training must be carried out if it is to be successful.

Scout Promise and Law.—The words 'do my best' are sometimes omitted. The phrase is most important, for it is idle for human beings of any age to promise unqualified obedience to the high a code. I suggest that before a Scout invests his attention should be drawn specially to three points:—

1. That he is only asked to do his best, so that however often he may fail he can always try again.

2. That the Law is binding on all Scouts, whether grown up or still boys.

3. That the Law must operate at all times, whether in or out of uniform. For this reason it is altogether wrong to ask a Scout a question 'on his honour as a Scout.' His honour is at all times his Scout honour.

For somewhat the same reason I think it is a pity for Scouts or Scouters to subscribe themselves in their letters 'Yours scoutingly,' 'Yours in the cause,' etc. We are normal people who should avoid abnormalities, and the usual subscriptions, 'Yours sincerely,' 'Yours very sincerely,' 'Yours fraternally,' etc., completely cover the sentiment we want to express.

It may also be well to explain to the Tenderfoot that Scouting has, broadly speaking, two sides—the Form and the Spirit—and that he is not a sportsman if he takes the Form (uniform, games, camping, and the fun generally) and takes no account of the Spirit (the constant endeavour to obey the Scout Law). He can be told that bread and jam tasted best when eaten together!

(To be continued.)

Queer Sentinels

Men are not the only creatures who post sentinels to guard against danger and attack. Nature has gifted many of her wild things with the same sense of precaution. Many a settler in South Africa can tell of the almost uncanny intelligence shown by the baboons in guarding themselves from man and leopards. They form a regular garrison, place sentinels at different points, and relieve them several times during the night and day. If an enemy is sighted, the sentinel with his savage 'woof-woof' raises the alarm.

The tarpans or wild horses of Central Asia have also this intuition for protection. As the herds browse along, the stallions go some distance ahead of the files. Few living things have the remarkably piercing sight of the tarpans. On a stallion seeing the tip of something unfamiliar in the distance it trots forward to reconnoitre, with head held high and tail streaming out. At this the files halt. If the inquisitive sentinel stops suddenly, and begins to crop the grass, the herd moves onward. But if the stallion flings up his hind quarters, turns, and with a peculiar shrill neigh warns the troop, all instantly wheel and gallop away, the stallions in the rear.

Many birds have the same habit of posting guards. Starlings always have a sentinel on watch while the flock feeds on the ground. When the sentry takes flight the entire flock immediately rises into the air, each bird wheeling and twisting in perfect time with the leader.

The beaver is the sharpest sentinel of the wild—sharper than any human being, however expert. The beaver picket sits motionless on the roof of a lodge, or other high point allowing a wide view all around. The lightest and smallest unaccustomed sound startles it. It sits upright with a warning sound 'Churr' and the same second its mates turn their eyes upon it intently. The sentinel sits listening, and it is almost impossible for the softest footed and most cautious woodman to surprise the animal.

Smack goes the picker's tail as it dives into the water in alarm, smack, smack, smack, up and down the waterway, as other beavers repeat the warning to dive into safety, and to those below not to rise to the surface. In a second or so the surface is left bare, with only the ripples giving signs of life beneath. Nature then has a fair amount of success

when trying to protect her own from man and other enemies. But in a way she also tries to protect man. The most singular instance is that of the peacock in India. The presence of a peacock more often than not indicates that a tiger is somewhere at hand. The beautiful stately bird seems to fascinate the tiger, and sometimes one of them will accompany a flock of peacocks, padding softly alongside them, without attempting to harm one of them.

Occasionally in the country places a stray peacock finds its way into the street; then unless the bird is accompanied by its known owner the effect is magical. Everyone flies into the nearest house. Innumerable lives have been saved in country districts by the folk having so taken cover on seeing a peacock, and on many occasions the tiger has been shot successfully.

—From *The Captain*.

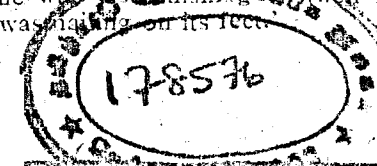
To Make Sure

A man walked into a grocer's shop and handed the assistant a paper containing some white powder. 'I say' he said, 'what do you think that is, just taste it and tell me your opinion' . . . The grocer smelt it then touched it with his tongue. 'WELL, I should say it was soda' he said. 'That's just what I say was the triumphant reply.' But my wife said it was rat poison. 'You might just try it again to be sure.'

Deduction

'I'll explain deduction' said the young student airing his knowledge in the home circle. 'In our backyard for example is a pile of ashes. By deduction that is evidence that we have had fires going this winter.' 'By the way John' broke in his father, 'You might go out and sift the evidence'.

The small boy came home greatly excited, 'Mummy' he said, 'I have just seen the blacksmith making a horse.' 'Nonsense' said his mother 'men can't make horses.' 'But I'm dead certain of it' said he, 'because he was sweating when I arrived, and was making on his feet.'



CUBS' CORNER

CONDUCTED BY L.M.B.

MY DEAR FELLOW-CUBBERS,

THE VALUE OF GAMES IN CUBBING.

1. Perhaps their chief value is that they provide an outlet for the superabundant energy of young life. Activity is essential to its well-being and happiness; and if our Cub Rallies are to be a success, we must reckon with this ceaseless activity, which is ever seeking to express itself. Therefore the greater part of the time that we have our Cubs with us, should be given up to games.

2. The boy is most natural when at play. Games, therefore, give us excellent opportunities for observation of character. As one watches them at play one sees the boys as they really are. I have in mind one boy, who, apart from being very dull at his work, gives no trouble in school, but on the playing field he shows himself to be possessed of a boastful, discontented and over-bearing spirit; whereas other boys who can be very tiresome in school, show themselves at Cub Rallies to be ever ready to help and display an initiative that speaks well for their future success.

3. Games are very important factors in the process of character training. They teach courage, self-control, confidence, unselfishness, quickness of thought and action, initiative, perseverance and many other desirable qualities.

In a game where courage is needed one should keep a look out for the more backward Cubs—those who hold back for fear of being caught—and seek to urge them on to venture.

Boys who have little self-confidence should be helped by giving them little responsibilities in a game, such as sending them out to lay tracks or hide a treasure. For the first time it is better to trust such a boy with another who has more confidence, but by degrees he will learn to do it himself.

Perhaps self-control is the most difficult lesson any of us have to learn. A Cub who can keep smiling and happy when his side has been beaten or when a game, other than the one he wanted, has been selected, has made a good step forward in this difficult achievement.

Team games are excellent training for Cubs. The tendency of most small boys is to be selfish and to want to play for himself, but he soon learns to play for his side and not merely for self. My own Cubs frequently beg for football and I often let them play first, because it gives them so much pleasure and secondly, because it teaches them to work for the good of the team.

Perseverance is not usually a marked characteristic of Cubs but this, too, can be learned by games. One should however, I think, avoid with Cubs those games which are too great a tax on their powers of perseverance for once their interest in the game is lost there is not very much value in it.

So by constant watching, by wise choice of games, we can do much to mould and influence the young lives entrusted to our care.

Wishing you good success,

I remain,

Yours in the Great Brotherhood,

L.M.B.

How the Giraffe got his neck

Now Cubs, did you ever hear how the giraffe got his neck? I daresay not, because he does his best to keep it a secret, and gets very annoyed if folk start talking about it; because you know, it always reminds him of his chief failing—too much meddling with other people's affairs. No two of the animals

could get together for an afternoon tea chat, but the giraffe would want to know what they were talking about; and though they used to say insulting things about purposely for him to hear, he never seemed to mind. When the members of the provincial council of the animals met together, unless they posted a special sentry, they were almost certain of being interrupted by a rustling in the bushes where the giraffe's head could be seen poking through, all eyes and ears. Things came to a head one day when he was caught listening to an intensely private and confidential discussion between Mr. and Mrs. Lion. Mr. Lion was so annoyed that he stamped his foot and cried 'Oh who will rid me of this pestilent beast!'

Now some of the animals of course came to hear about what the lion had said, and they decided to carry favour with him by teaching the giraffe the lesson of his life. But no one could catch the giraffe and he had a kick on him that could have sent most of the animals to the moon and back, so whoever was going to tackle the giraffe had to go about it cautiously. The jackal as usual provided the brains for the enterprise, while the muscle and brawn was contributed by our good natured duffer Bruin the bear, while Jumbo consented to give a helping hand if necessary.

An empty cave with a small opening was found, and inside this every day at a certain hour, Doo the Jackal, Bruin the Bear, Chuk-Chuk the Baboon, and several other animals used to stealthily meet together. Meanwhile they saw to it that the giraffe came to hear

about these meetings, and though he pretended to be not in the least bit interested, they knew that that would fetch him. So Jumbo the elephant hid himself just outside the cave to wait. Sure enough barely two days after who should he see but the giraffe with his head just inside the opening of the cave, straining his ears to catch what was being said, and so intent on the delicate business that he never heard Jumbo come up until he got a push that sent his head right into the cave amongst the plotters, where Bruin at once seized it.

Then began a struggle royal; the other animals joined Bruin and they all hung on, waiting for Jumbo to get to work properly and give him the 'paddy-whacking' of his life from outside. Unfortunately however, Jumbo was out of the business, for just then a nasty little fly had gone up his nose, and though he had sneezed himself to pieces the fly was only half-way out and had a long way yet to go. At last after a terrible tussle the giraffe managed to tear himself free and take what was left of his head away. And what a sight he looked! His poor neck, which had borne the brunt of the whole fray, was stretched beyond all recognition, and though he put his head against a tree and pushed till it nearly went through, he couldn't get it in again. And worse still the awful stretching of his neck seemed to have affected his voice, for it was entirely gone; so much so that from that time other animals left him quite alone, for, as they said, it didn't matter what he heard, because he could never tell a soul about it.

Smiles

The teacher put a question to the pupil which he couldn't answer.

A boy beside the pupil whispered to him: 'The teacher is an ass.'

The teacher, observing this, called out:— 'Don't tell him. He ought to know it himself.'

A colleague of Dr. Crum Brown, the Edinburgh Professor of Chemistry, once came to him in great distress.

'We cannot pass this man,' he said: 'he is quite illiterate.'

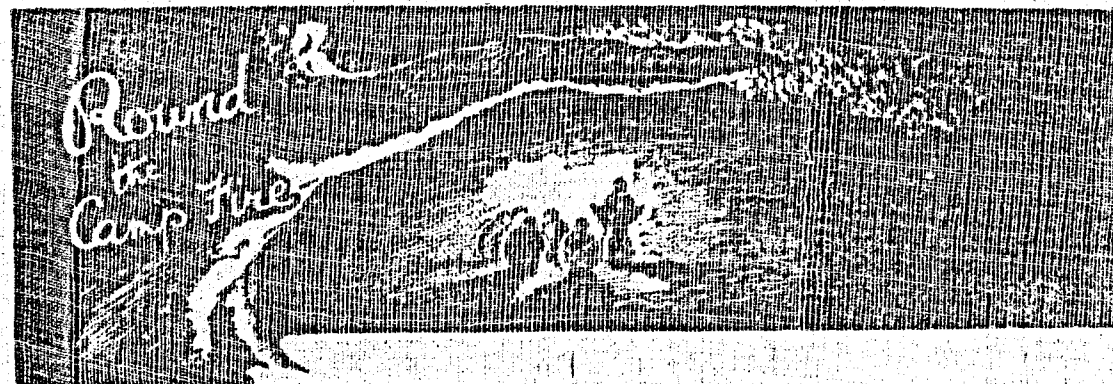
'What?' said Dr. Brown, ready for a discussion. 'If the fellow can cure a sick man, are we to keep him back because he is not a literary man?'

'But he can't spell,' said the horrified colleague: 'he spells "proceed" with one "e".'

'From what place does he come?'

'From Ceylon.'

At once Dr. Brown flashed back: 'That explains it. That's the land of the Cingalese.'



The Four Wise Ministers

There was a certain king of Benares who had four very wise ministers, and when he wanted to put a heavy tax on his people they advised him not to do so. This made the king very angry and he stripped the ministers of all their wealth and honours and sent them out of the city.

As the four ministers were walking away from Benares, they came upon a track recently made by a camel and began to talk about the animal. They were still talking about it when a merchant came up and said that he had lost his camel. One of the ministers asked him if it was not lame in one of the legs; another wished to know whether it was not blind in the right eye; the third enquired if it had not a very short tail; and the fourth asked if it was not suffering from some stomach trouble.

"Yes," said the merchant eagerly; "you describe it better than I could myself. Where did you see it?"

"We have never seen it," replied one of the ministers. "But there is its track on the road."

"Why you know it better than myself," said the merchant angrily. "You must have found it and sold it. I shall complain to the king."

This he at once did, and the king recalled his four ministers and threatened to punish and imprison them if they did not confess the truth. If you never saw the camel, the

king said, "how could you tell it was lame or blind, or short tailed, or suffering from some disease?"

"I noticed that it left only three footprints," said the first minister, "and I concluded it was lame in one leg."

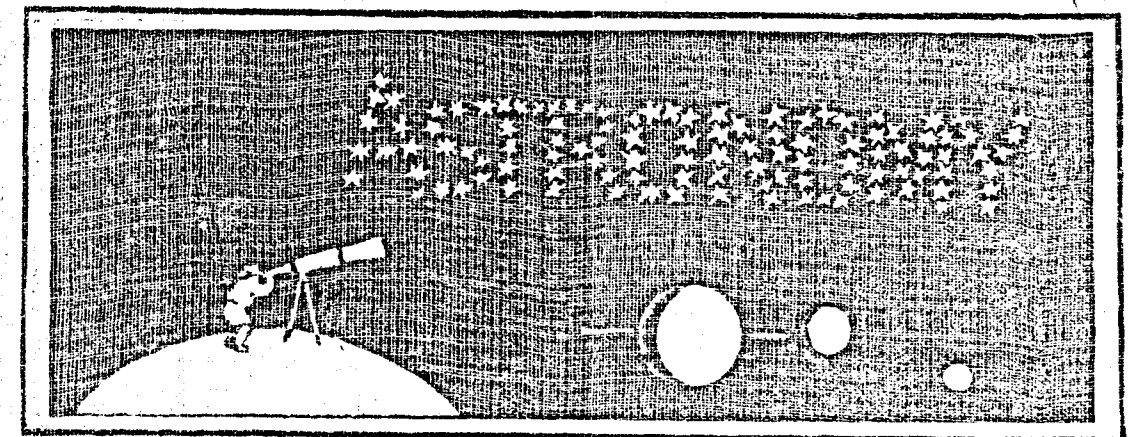
"And I saw," said the second minister, "that the leaves of trees on the left side of the road had been eaten, while those on the right side were untouched. So it seemed to me that the animal was blind in the right eye."

"Now and then," said the third minister, "there were faint specks of blood in the track of the camel. These appeared to have come from mosquito bites, so the camel must have had a very short tail, and was therefore unable to brush the insects away."

"I observed," said the fourth minister, "that the camel's two forefeet were pressed firmly into the ground, while the sound hind foot scarcely touched it. I concluded therefore that the hind legs were drawn up by some pain in the animal's stomach."

On hearing these explanations, the king was overcome with admiration for the wisdom of his four ministers. When four men of your wisdom advise me not to impose a tax," he said, "I ought to have followed the advice. The tax shall at once be taken off, and if you will forgive me and enter my service again, I will always be guided by your counsel."

—From the *Child's Book of Stories* (C. E.)



(Continued from page 39)

As you look at the stars you will notice that most of them twinkle while here and there you will come across a star shining with a steady light. This is one of the ways of distinguishing fixed stars from planets, the latter being the steady shiners.

By fixed stars we mean those stars which remain in the same relative positions to one another year in and year out. They are the stars which form our constellations and are very, very far away. The stars which shine with a steady light however are not fixed. If watched closely it will be seen that they seem to wander in and out among the fixed stars. For this reason they are called planets from the Greek word meaning 'wanderers'.

The fixed stars shine by their own light and are billions of miles away. They are suns, many of them being bigger than our own sun. The planets however have no light of their own and merely reflect the light of our sun just as the moon does.

The following is a list of the planets, their distances from the sun and the number of their moons, and days in their year:

NAME	Mean distance from the sun in millions of miles	Number of moons	Days in year
Mercury	36	...	87.969
Venus	67	...	224.7
The Earth	93	1	365
Mars	141	2	686.98
Jupiter	482	9	4332.6
Saturn	884	10	10759
Uranus	1780	4	30687
Neptune	2780	1	60127

The following are notes regarding them for the month of March, 1924.

Mercury is a morning star for the first part of the month and an evening one at end, on the 31st it sets at 7-30 in the evening.

Venus is an evening star throughout the month, and is in Aries but towards the end of the month will be found near the Pleiades. She is very bright just now and will be seen quite near the moon on the 9th March.

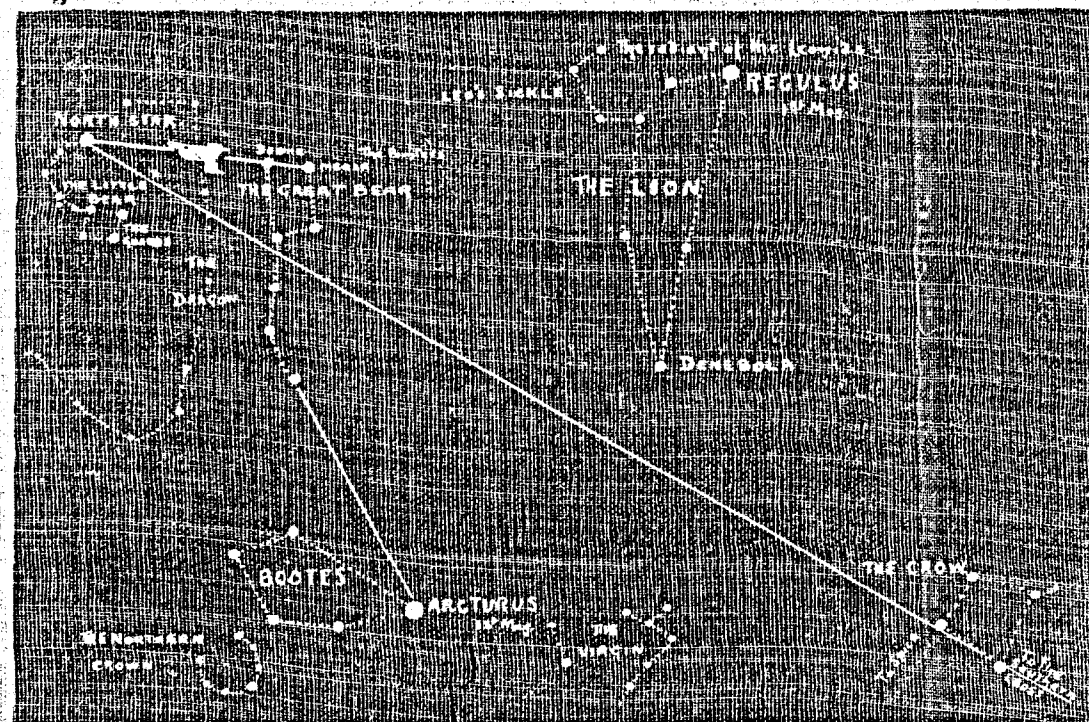
Mars is a morning star throughout the month and will be distinguished by its ruddy glow.

Jupiter is a morning star and does not rise till about midnight. Saturn will be found in Virgo not far from Spica.

Uranus is an evening star and sets very early in the evening.

Neptune however can be seen every night in the constellation called Leo and is quite near to Regulus.

In addition to the two kinds of stars we have referred to there will be seen on most nights several what we call Shooting Stars; now shooting or falling stars so-called, are not really stars at all. Whereas the fixed stars are billions of miles away and shine by their own light being suns themselves, the planets are only millions of miles away and shine by reflected light, and the so-called falling stars are only a few miles away shining only by the heat generated through their rush through our atmosphere. They are small bodies of matter flying through space at an enormous speed which get caught in our atmosphere and as they pass through it they get first red hot, then white hot, and then are changed into vapour, it is in their white hot state that we see them and they appear to us like falling stars. Their correct name is 'Meteors', and thousands would fall on the earth daily if it was not for the protection that our coating of air gives us.



MAP No. 3. MARCH TO MAY

This air extends up only about 200 miles above the earth so that all shooting stars are within a comparatively near distance. You know if you pick up a shot which has been fired by a revolver or gun it will be found to be hot, too hot to hold. This heat was generated not by the explosion of the gunpowder but by the friction of the bullet against the air. Had its momentum been still greater it would have become not only red, but ultimately white hot. This will explain to you the real nature of meteors. Some of them are only small fragments but now and then great bodies rush into our atmosphere and we see very big meteors and sometimes they even come right down to the earth making great holes therein. Near the home of my childhood was one such and I have a photograph of a boy over 5' 6" high standing with his hand on one obtruding almost 6 feet from the ground while it is said in America that there is one there so huge that they are now actually mining in it for the minerals it contains.

A vast number of these fall upon our earth daily and but for the welcome envelope of atmosphere which surrounds and protects us by retarding their progress we should have a busy time dodging these missiles.

Although meteors may be seen almost every night there are special seasons when they may be definitely expected and such meteors are called after the section of the heavens where they enter our atmosphere. One such group is the Leonids which enter our atmosphere in the sickle of Leo (see map) and they always appear to radiate from that point, that is their tails wherever we see them, if produced would extend to the sickle of Leo. These Leonids fall in November and I shall have more to say about them later. I only mention them now as we have the constellation in our map this week.

In our map No. 3 we now have another section of six hours or a quarter section of the sky, and the best known of all the constellations in the heavens is to be found in this, namely, the Great Bear. Practically everybody who knows any stars at all knows this constellation and many people know no others. Its chief use of course is for the purpose of finding the North Star, the two pointers Dubhe and Merak being the most direct means of finding the North as is shown in the map. But it is also useful for finding other constellations, for example, the line join-

ing these two stars if produced South, to practically the same distance as the North Star is to the north, will lead you to the famous constellation of Leo, the Lion, and it is interesting to note that these are the almost exact counterparts of two well-known constellations on the opposite side equidistant from the North Star, Cassiopeia being about the same distance as the Great Bear and the Square of Pegasus the same distance as Leo. If you imagine two lines taken through the two top stars of the body part of the Bear and produced through the North Star about the same distance you will find in the angle on the opposite side the constellation of 'Cassiopeia.' This can be seen early in the evening just now as Cassiopeia and Square of Pegasus are setting just as the Great Bear and Leo are rising.

The Constellation of Leo has in it the radiant point of the Leonids which will be found in the sickle handle. The chief star of course is 'Regulus, the little king.' Denebola is a star of second magnitude and a line connecting this with Arcturus forms the base line of an equilateral triangle with Spica as

the apex. Also it will be seen that the tail of the Bear if produced in an arc, will lead you to 'Arcturus' the chief star in the constellation of the Bootes. I always use the arcing of the tail to suggest the name of the star. This is one of the stars Job and other writers in the Bible refer to. The Northern Crown is a very pretty little constellation. The Latin name is 'Corona Borealis.'

The Little Bear can now be seen, the last star in its tail being the North Star itself. The Crow or as it is sometimes called Spica's Spanker, is a very easily distinguished constellation; the top two stars point direct to Spica, the chief star in the Virgin which is of special interest just now as Saturn will be found near this, not quite so far away from Spica as the Crow is on the other side. The Crow is also useful in leading us to the Southern Cross the Queen of the Southern constellations, the line shown in our map, if produced south will lead you to the uprights of the Cross, which by the way are simultaneous stars and therefore most useful pointers being always due north and south of each other.

First Reunion of the I and II Madras Training Troops

In response to an invitation sent out by the Scribe to the Members of the above Troops, residing in and near Madras (about sixteen in all), as many as twelve came to a Camp Fire in the Museum Grounds on February 29, 1924 at 8-30 p.m. just one year after the Guindy Camps.

The Proceedings commenced with a speech by the Scribe welcoming the Campers and the reading of a message from S. M. Wilson, to the Scribe, sent some time previously. The Scribe announced the glad news of the appointment of Mr. Wilson as Camp Chief at Gillwell and proposed that a congratulatory message might be sent from the Guindy Camp Fire circle to S. M. Wilson at Gillwell. This was heartily approved of by one and all and then a most successful impromptu programme of Camp Fire items was gone through.

The Swazi dance by a Guindy Crow and a Gillwell Owl, the Sneeze Yell started by Owl, the songs 'London Is Burning', 'John Brown's Body'—and Wilson's favourite—'Three Wood-Pigeons' were rendered very well. A few Camp Fire games by the Gillwell Owl puzzled the Campers. The 'You Must Be An Ass' caused much merriment, as also the camp chronicle to the building up of which

every one round the Camp Fire contributed a word each in turn.

Owl, in making a few remarks laid stress on the fact that the two Madras Training Troops had a very great responsibility, and hoped that the Ist and IInd Madras Training Troops would ultimately be like the I Gillwell Park Troop, having for members all those trained in authorized Training Camps in all parts of the Madras Presidency.

The Guindy Crow with his usual hospitality, provided coffee and biscuits and the Campers provided all the fun.

One of the Woodpackers who is going home shortly was commissioned to convey personally to the Camp Chief the greetings of the Guindy Campers. The Scribe was also authorized to write a message of congratulation to the Camp Chief on his well merited elevation.

After a very solemn prayer by Owl, and the singing of 'Good Night' and the National Anthem, the reunion Camp Fire came to a close.

OWL,

MADRAS, Scribe of I and II Madras,
March 1, 1924. Training Troops.

'News from the Districts'



5th Secunderabad (Mahbub College) Troop.—In January the Scouts, working by turns, felled a tree about 1½ ft. in diameter in the College compound. It was their first attempt and it took them about three hours. On the 1st instant they prepared the College grounds by marking and chalking the lines for the Annual Sports which were held the next day. On the Sports day itself the Horse Patrol sold tea, the Lion, aerated waters and the Peacock, eatables to the visitors and made about Rs. 5 which will go towards the Troop Fund. On the morning of the 8th instant Inter-Patrol competitions were held. Of the parents who were invited only two were kind enough to be present. The D.C. looked in when the competitions were in progress, bringing with him one of the parents, and watched the contests. He greatly appreciated the work of the Scoutmaster and the keenness of the Scouts and hoped that such competitions will in future become a regular feature. Mr. Chidambaram (Scoutmaster, 1st Secunderabad) kindly acted as judge. Sweets were distributed as prizes at the close.

1st Secunderabad Pack.—January was entirely spent in training for First Star Test, which has been completed. There are now seven First Star Cubs. The Pack meets regularly on Fridays and Sundays at 8 a.m. in the Mahbub College grounds. The Cubs are now learning Semaphore and they are keen at it. Monthly individual competitions have been introduced from December last and marks are allotted for games, Cub tests, discipline, attendance, etc. With a view to make it easy to purchase equipment such as caps, etc., which the Cubs do not at present

possess, an Equipment Fund has been organized and the Cubs have now collected a small amount.

C. R. C., 1st Vepery

On the 8th March the Scouts of the First Vepery Troop (C.R.C. High School) enacted a small drama entitled 'The Kayal Gang' written by a Rover of the same troop.

The plot is quite simple, and the play is written in Tamil, and is intended to spread the knowledge of the main principles of scouting. Baboo, the boy here, while yet a recruit is reported to the A.S.M. for disobedience to his father. On the A.S.M. pointing out to him that he has thereby violated the seventh Scout law, Baboo pleads ignorance and promises to behave properly in the future. But later on the A.S.M. meets Baboo's father who complains to him of the boy's frequent absence from home without reason.

The A.S.M. promises to enquire into the matter, and learns that the boy is engaged in endeavouring to bring to book a notorious gang of robbers known as the 'Kayal Gang'. With the assistance of the Rover Master Baboo manages to enter the gang as a member. Without exciting the suspicion of the gang he manages to keep up communication with his Scoutmaster with the result that the whole gang is ultimately arrested and brought to trial. Baboo is set honourably free with full recognition of the part played by him, and on his pleading, the punishment of the robbers is considerably lessened.

The whole plot is interwoven with dialogues, songs, and comic turns. The scenic effects were very realistic, and the make-up quite apt.

Mr. Justice Venkatasubba Rao, who presided expressed the hearty wish that the play would have such an effect on every parent present, that if his son was not a Scout he would not rest till he had become one.

From A.S.S.

5th Royapettah

Friday, the 15th February 1924, will be a red letter day for the fifteen boys of the 5th Royapettah, Wesley College School House Troop, for it was on that day that they had the good fortune to be admitted to the great brotherhood of Scouts by Mr. A. J. Leech, District Commissioner of the Madras District Boy Scout Association. Rev. J. O. Cochrane of the Wesleyan Mission presided and in the presence of a number of visitors, among whom were Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Neill, the enthusiastic patrons of the Troop, Mrs. Clayton, Mr. Stowell of Bellary, Mr. M. Nathar, Assistant District Commissioner of the Madras District Boy Scout Association and Scouters and Scouts of the neighbouring Troops, a very interesting programme was gone through.

After saluting the Flag the boys who were in Patrols—the Cats and the Hounds,—played games like Jump the Stick, Relay, Leap Frog, Ball Tag and Whip Tag. They next proceeded to erect the Flagstaff. As the District Commissioner said the work of both was very good, but inasmuch as the Hounds finished the work earlier than the Cats the former were declared to be the winners. Following this the Investiture was held by the District Commissioner assisted by the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster of the Troop as Assistant Scoutmaster and Troop Leader respectively and by the Cuckoo Patrol Leader of the H. G. T., Madras Christian College School Troop as Patrol Leader. At the close of the Investiture the District Commissioner addressed a few words to the newly invested Scouts

advising how they should work in the Troop and emphasising on them the necessity of working for the honour of the Troop and the school to which they belonged. The Chairman also invited the attention of the Scouts to importance of keeping their honour bright and untainted and advised them to work for it.

The vote of thanks proposed by Rev. J. E. Neill, the ringing cheers to the new Scouts and to the guests and 'God Save the King' brought a very pleasant function to its close.

The Omalur Scout Troop

Remarks of the District Health Officer, Salem, about the Omalur Scout Troop which rendered service in the car festival and cattle fair held at Mecheri from the 20th to 24th February, 1924:—

The arrangements at Mecheri were carried out very satisfactorily. Very useful work was done by a dozen Boy Scouts from Omalur and their Scoutmaster. As there was cholera infection in some of the hamlets of Mecheri, the services of the Scouts were utilized to patrol these hamlets and report about any attacks of cholera or other infectious disease. The Scouts were also useful in supervising the work of coolies supplying water to the water pandals, in keeping back the crowd during the processions and also in explaining to the people the various posters (from Health Council, Madras) which were exhibited in a special pandal.

I am sure the Boy Scouts will be a very valuable aid in all festival arrangements.

(Sd.) N. K. TAMPI, B.A., M.B., B.C.,

S.I.,

O.H.O., Salem.

February 27, 1924.

Tanjore District Scout Rally

The District Scoutmaster for the Tanjore District, Lapwing of the Blue Jay Troop, writes: 'It was suggested by Mr. C.D.S. Chettiar, District Educational Officer and Vice-President of the Tanjore District Scout Council, that a Scout Rally might be held at the time of the Educational Exhibition at Tanjore. The opportunity given was taken without hesitation and a Rally was held at the Sivaganga

Gardens, Tanjore, on Saturday, February 16, at 8.40 a.m. Seven troops were represented at the Rally each by one or two patrols of Scouts—1st Aiyampet (Chandra), 2nd Mannargudy (Findlay College), 1st Papanasam (Victoria High School) 1st Tanjore (St. Peter's), 2nd Tanjore (E.L.M.), 1st Tirukappalli, and 1st Tiruturaipundi (Bhilwa).

A good number of leading officials, headmasters and teachers of the various schools in the district, a large gathering of ladies and a vast crowd numbering over 2,000 people had assembled to see what Boy Scouts could do as this was the very first occasion of their public appearance in Tanjore Town. Mr. R. Littleha's, Director of Public Instruction, our chief visitor was already in the grounds to witness a Girl Guide Rally which just preceded ours. He came up to the flagstaff accompanied by the District Commissioner, Rao Sahib P. Rajagopala Aiyar, M.R.Ry. Rao Bahdur N. Krishnaswami Aiyengar, President, District Scout Council, Mr. V. Guruswami Sastri, Honorary Secretary, and Mr. C. D. Chettiar. The District Scoutmaster who was the officer in charge of the Rally was introduced to him. Soon the Rally call was sounded and the Scouts rushed forth from their hiding places with deafening patrol cries which ceased all of a sudden at a signal and the Scouts came to the alert. The flag was unfurled and saluted. The Director then inspected the troops and as the Scoutmasters were introduced, made kind enquiries of them regarding their troops. On the signal being given the Scouts charged for the yarn with very loud yells. The Director said he was not going to make any speech but would simply tell them that he was immensely pleased to be in their midst that morning and that he was eagerly looking forward to seeing a fine display. The troops then broke up for displays.

Each of the troops that took part in the

Rally had its own share of the items which made up the display and they were all 'such good bricks.' The items consisted of signaling, knot-tying, bridge-building, flagstaff with staves, use of staves for improvising tents, camp-loom for mattress-making, aerial ropeway for transporting passengers across wide streams, first aid (mock accidents were created), fire-lighting, and some interesting games. When the displays were over the Director said that he was very glad that the hopes he had expressed at the commencement were completely realized, congratulated the Scouts and exhorted them to greater activity. The District Commissioner then thanked the Director in a short speech. With the singing of 'God Save Our Ind' and 'God Save the King' the Rally came to a jolly close.

This Rally has been possible only through the kindness of Mr. C. D. Chettiar, our Vice-President who so kindly arranged for the free boarding of the Scouts for two days and gave us such a lot of other help, and the untiring efforts of the Secretary of the District Council who took a very active interest in organizing it and was present even at our rehearsals ever ready to help us with useful advice. I thank the Scoutmasters for their willing co-operation but for which the Rally could not have been the success that it was. I trust that the public would have sufficiently well understood the value of scouting and would extend greater sympathy and help to us than they had been doing in the past.

All-India Notices

Headquarter No. 27

Dated, the 22nd February, 1924

68. His Excellency, the Chief Scout for India and Burma, has made the following awards:—

Silver Cross for Gallantry

22nd January 1924. Scout Kanchai Kishore of the United Provinces Association, who, at great personal risk, rescued a brother Scout from drowning in a river, and restored life by artificial respiration.

Medal of Merit

19th February 1924. Manshi Nawab Ali, District Scoutmaster of Port Blair, for his exceptionally good work in the cause of the Scout movement in Port Blair and to whose energy and administrative ability the progress in Port Blair is indebted.

Certificate of Merit

21st February 1924. Scout Chander Singh of the Marwar State Scout Association.

who was instrumental in rescuing one, Rawat Mali, from a precarious position on the top of a hut; the hut, to which Scout Chander Singh had to swim, was surrounded by deep water as the result of a sudden flood.

69. The following Warrant has been issued:

Central India

Captain P. L. C. Webster ... Provincial Commissioner, Central India.

70. The Census is now in the press and will shortly be ready for issue. Will Provincial Commissioners please intimate to the General Secretary how many copies they will require. Price Re. 1 per copy.

71. The Chief Scout is very anxious that the circulation of *The Scouter* should be

increased—not for financial reasons but because it is the only opportunity he has of communing with Oversea Scouters. It has been pointed out that the magazine is of great assistance in keeping those abroad abreast of new developments and in reminding them of first principles; it is also of value in that correspondents submit many valuable hints and suggestions to the benefit of the cause. The subscription is only 4 shillings a year. It is suggested that Provincial Secretaries should bring this paper to the notice of their Associations and impress their office-holders with the obvious advantages to be obtained from its perusal.

(Sd.) G. F. DEMONTMORENCY,

General Secretary,

All-India Boy Scouts Association, India.

Provincial Notices

Re: Scouters' Who's Who

The Provincial Commissioner is exceedingly anxious to have a complete record at Headquarters of every Scouter and Cubber in the Presidency of whatever rank irrespective of whether they are at present in active scouting or not. A form has been forwarded to all District Commissioners for circulation to their Scouters and for return in due course. So far only about hundred of these have not been received and some have not been sent in because the men for whom they were intended are not at present in active scouting. Would District Commissioners and Scouters who have not filled in this form kindly do so immediately and if any have mislaid their

forms, on receipt of a post card addressed to the Provincial Commissioner, Post Box 67, Madras, will send one.

Training Camps

It has been brought to my notice that notices have been inserted in the public papers regarding Training Camps without any reference to Headquarters, and in one case even without any reference to the Commissioner in the District. Will Scouters kindly note that Training Camps can only be sanctioned and arranged by Headquarters. By this of course it is not desired to discourage the holding of ordinary Camps which is very desirable and these remarks only apply to Training Camps for Scouters.

Warrants Issued

Scoutmaster—

177. Mr. V. P. Ramaswamy, Coonoor.

Assistant Scoutmaster—

61. Mr. N. Devanesan, Coonoor.

Cubmaster—

21. Mr. William K. Thabasa, Sawyerpuram, Thanevelly District.

Troops Registered—

149. Overton Training School, Pasumalai, Madras.
190. Wild Rose, Municipal High School, Coonoor, Nilgiris.
305. 5th Royapettah, Wesley College School House.

130. 1st Saidapet, Teachers' College.
119. 1st Vepery, C.R.C. High School.
128. 1st Tondiarpet Rama Anjanaiya.
84. 1st Conjeevaram, Pachaiyappa's High School.
134. 3rd Chintadripet, Zion Church.
144. Madras College.
161. 1st Madras Rovers.
304. St. Mary's Kallars, Madras.
143. St. Mary's High School, Madras.
303. Board H.D. School, Vayittiri, Malabar.
301. 3rd St. Thomas' Mount, Adi Dravida Bullock Lines.

300. 3rd Saidapet, Elavatsky Memorial School.

Wood Badge Course Part I (Theoretical)—

Mr. C. H. Hudson.

Howard Oakley

Provincial Commissioner

Principal Scout Officers for the Presidency

PROVINCIAL

Provincial Chief Scout and President—
H. E. Lord Willington, G.C.S.I., G.C.L.E., G.D.B.
Vice-Presidents—
Raja of Parlakimedi.
Zamindar of Sivaganga.
Mr. J. F. Richards, I.C.S.
Provincial Commissioner—
Mr. F. Howard Oakley.
Assistant Provincial Commissioners—
Rev. W. Evans, S.P.G., Tinnevely.
Mr. M. V. Venkateswaran, M.A., Madras.
Mr. Manjeri Ramier, B.A., L.T., Calicut.

Joint Honorary Secretaries—
Mr. K. Sanjiva Kamath, B.A., B.L., Madras.
Mr. A. Ramaswamy Mudaliar, M.L.C., Madras.
Honorary Badge Secretary—
Kahn Bahadur Muhammed Sadulla Badsha Sahib
Bahadur, 'Thaxted', Randall's Road, Vepery,
Madras.
Honorary Treasurer—
Capt. T. W. Barnard, Government X-Ray Institute,
General Hospital, Madras.

DISTRICT

Anaimpur
Commissioner—
Mr. C. Obi Reddi Garo, B.A., B.L., First Grade
Pleader.
Assistant Commissioner—
Mr. Y. V. Appaji Rao, First Grade Pleader.
President, District Council—
Mr. A. R. Appaji Rao, First Grade Pleader.
Honorary Secretary—
Mr. Srinivasulu, B.A., B.L.

North Arcot
Commissioner—
Mr. M. Schnurman, Voorhees' College, Vellore.
President, District Council—
Mr. W. Vijayaragava Mudaliar, M.L.C.
Honorary Secretary—
Mr. Thomas Harris, B.A., L.T.

South Arcot
Commissioner—
Mr. M. G. Parthasarathi, President, Taluk Board,
Vridhachalam.
President, District Council—
Mr. R. Sitarana Reddiyar, President, District
Board, South Arcot.
Honorary Secretary—
M. R. Ry. R. K. Venkopal Nayudu, Chairman,
Municipal Council, Cuddalore.

Bellary
Commissioner—
Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliar, M.L.C.
President, District Council—
Mr. C. Bahaji Rao, B.A., B.L., High Court Vakil,
Bellary.
Hon. Secretary, Local Association, Bellary Town—
Mr. S. Narasimulu, M.A., Pleader, Bellary.
Honorary Secretary—
Mr. K. Brahman Sastry, Bellary.

Chittoor
Commissioner—
Mr. A. Devanarayana Mudaliar, Chittoor.
President, District Council—
Mr. T. V. Ranga Acharyar.
Honorary Secretary—
Vacant.
Honorary Assistant Secretary—
Mr. P. T. S. Ram Rao Garo.

District Commissioner—
Mr. A. Devanarayana Mudaliar, Chittoor.
District Secretary—
Not yet appointed.

Coimbatore
Commissioner—
Mr. T. H. Bhatyacharyar, Vakil, 'Daisy Lodge',
Coimbatore.
President, District Council—
Rao Bahadur J. A. Ramalingam Chettiar, B.A.,
B.L., President, District Board, Coimbatore.
Honorary Secretaries—
(1) Rao Sahib C. S. Rathnasabhapathi Mudaliar,
President, Taluk Board and Chairman, Muni-
cipal Council, Coimbatore.
(2) Mr. K. S. Vaidyanatha Aiyar, M.A., L.T., Princi-
pal, Government College, Coimbatore.

Cuddalore
Commissioner—
Mr. P. S. S. Ramayya, Board High School, Nandalur.
President, District Council—
Mr. A. P. S. S. Ramayya, B.A., Collector of Cuddalore.
Honorary Secretary—
Mr. S. Sarvothama Rao Garo, B.A., L.T.

Ganjam
Commissioner—
Zamindar of Kallikota, President of District Board,
Ganjam.

Godavari
District Commissioner—
Vacant.

Guntur
District Commissioner—
Not yet appointed.

South Kanara
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Assistant District Commissioners—
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Association.
(2) Mr. Padmanabha Kamath, Karka.
(3) Mr. K. Anand Rao, Board High School, Udipi.
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Rao Bahadur N. Subba Rao.
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Kistna

A. KISTNA, EAST

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Vacant.
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(2) Mr. V. N. Krishna Rao, B.A., L.T., Tanuku.
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Vacant.

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Mr. J. F. Thaddaeus, Office of the S. I. U. C.,
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Hyderabad.

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Honorary Secretary—
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Vakil.

**Honorary Secretary, Local Association, Tiruchirap-
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உதயபுரம்.
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6

12

DEATH

19

1. Dwelling. 7. Something we cannot do without. 11. Desires for earning the carpenter's badge. 13. Nearly always seen in a camp. 16. Passes one thing to another. 18. Something we should treat with respect and care. 19. Rhythmic. 20. Affirmative. 22. What we say when one one treads on our toes. 24. A kind of Gull. 29. A member. 27. One whom we all love (initials). 28. Mother. 31. What we do at bed time. 32. To throw a ball up. 34. A high rank in office (initials). 34. At the end of a letter. 35. What we are inside, not outside, at the end of a mysterious game. 35. A province in India (initials). 37. Confidential. 38. Who are you? (signaling term). 39. Be careful. 41. A necessary part of a sailing boat. 43. Probably the first word you ever said. 43. Just like that. 44. A well known king who had a passion for gold. 47. What every man is. 47. A distinguished order (initials). 49. Related to the cartoon. 51. A beverage (portalled). 54. The supreme plant. 55. Impersonal/possessive pronoun. 56. Same as 54. Across (cartation). 57. Not you. 58. A beverage in the east much used in the west. 61. To be. 62. Hindu. 63. Plural pronoun. 64. Rhythm. 66. To store up. 68. What all Scouts should do to other Scouts. 68. Hang out.