

NO. 7, VOLUME X.

APRIL '30.

The South India Boy Scout

The Magazine for all Scout Workers, Officers and Boys.

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL
of the Boy Scouts Association : Madras Province

SCOUTERS' & ROVERS' SECTION

Managing Editor : P. S. NARAYANSWAMI, D. C. C.

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THE BOYS' SECTION

Editor :

G. T. J. THADDAEUS, D. C. C., A. L.

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Commissioners who attended the 1st Commissioners' Course in the Provincial Scout Training Centre, at Coonoor (1st to 5th April '30) and some of the visitors who visited the camp on the last day. Lt. Col. L. L. Porter to whom the Training Centre owes so much, is seated in the centre. [*"Madras Mail"*]
Courtesy of]

wrong kind of education regarding the Movement. That the value of the tests lies in their application to situations and not in exhibiting them to order can become evident only by demonstrating realistic situations from experience and not purely from unnatural imagination and without undue artificial emphasis on the tests. At one demonstration, a party of scouts, in a situation, where it was dangerous (if it happened in real life) for them to be seen over a certain eminence, communicated with another party not very far off by whistle and semaphore flag signals. They thought they were demonstrating the resourcefulness of the scouts, but the lay people who looked on thought differently of scouts. The demonstration not only failed in its purpose, but produced the result contrary to what the simple test-mastering folk expected. Not only imagination is needed to plan educative demonstrations, but experience also is needed a great deal more—though 'experience' does not mean the number of service stars worn but means the plentitude of occasions for acting as scouts in obedience to the scout law and in accordance with the scout training. Such experience alone can, together with imagination give matter for demonstration of the tests and not mere book lore along with perhaps a crude imagination which is all that some of our test demonstrations at recent rallies show as lying behind them. Advertisement cannot do much unless the goods are first rate, and until we have first rate scouting, we cannot have effective rallies.

A camp fire with a varied programme including a yarn by a distinguished visitor and with provision for one or two short speeches by the Commissioner and persons connected with the Movement expressing their sentiments on the occasion will form a fitting conclusion to the entire programme. Too often, camp fire programmes have been found to be either too monotonous and too serious on the one hand or too frivolous on the other. A well balanced programme requires much forethought and a certain amount of preparation. The songs should not be too many and should be accompanied by action and movement. Other stunts must be well organised and not haphazardly carried out. Every one participating must have a definite part to play and must play the part correctly. Humorous characters of the type of the old fashioned court buffoon who is, in season and out of season, trying to be funny have no place in a scout camp fire. Indeed it should be remembered that a scout camp fire is very different

from an ordinary stage performance or a variety show, or a fancy dress competition. Self-expression, spontaneity, resourcefulness and simplicity of make-up and costume are the educative factors that lie behind the camp fire idea.

The speeches must be short and the boys should be able to understand and appreciate them as much as the visitors, though they may be addressed mainly to the visitors: In the same way, if any speech is addressed to the scouts or scouters, it should be such as can be interesting to the visitors and can be appreciated by them. A simple prayer told from the heart and not by heart will mark the close of the rally.

So much for the composition of the programme. But the composition of the programme is not everything in a rally. There are other and equally important matters which require attention and preparation—for instance, admission to the rally grounds. Nothing spoils a rally as the unrestricted rush of a crowd which eventually does not enjoy itself nor lets others enjoy, but hinders work on every side for everybody. Admission should therefore be restricted by invitations and tickets.

Rover scouts can be entrusted with this work as also with the other arrangements in connection with rally grounds. Not only the distribution of invitations, the reception of guests and the admission of ticket holders can be done by Rovers, but other matters such as care of the stores, transport, decorations, lighting and supervision of sanitary and other arrangements can also be efficiently attended to by Rovers, if the Rover training that they have received is of the proper kind.

No amount of fussy preparation over however long a period will be equal to definite, well-understood and co-ordinated preparation, even if it be a short time before the rally. When a rally does not go off well,—or at least, is full of annoying situations, it is in nine cases out of ten due to one man being burdened—or burdening himself with much more than what he can efficiently undertake. A rally should be understood to be as much an affair of team work as the game of Scouting itself and every one concerned—from the ne joined tenderfoot to the old Gilwellian Coe than sioner—has his own part to play in the and should understand and play it, not or suggest it to others to play it for him. improve this



Wolf Cub Competitions.

THE Competition may be held indoors or out. Packs will be tested as follows, and in the following subjects :

1. Grand Howl.

2. Inspection.

(neatness and correctness of uniform, cleanliness, etc.)

3. Impromptu acting.

The whole Pack, under Sixers only. The Judges will choose a subject (such as Red Indians, scenes from the Jungle story, Good Turns, etc.) There will be five minutes in which to arrange parts, etc., and five minutes to act.

4. Impromptu modelling.

One Six to be chosen by the judges, who will bring all materials—plasticine or clay, match boxes, chalk, wool, pins, etc.), and will give the subject, such as a street scene, jungle scene, camp, etc.—Fifteen minutes will be allowed for modelling.

5. Usefulness test—sewing on buttons.

One Six, to be chosen by the judges, who will bring all materials.

6. Surprise Tenderpad Tests.

Rules governing the Competitions.

1. Certificates will be awarded, either I Class or II Class, to all Packs that come up to the standard set.

Note:—In future, the Totem Pole will not be awarded to any one Pack, but will be kept for use at Association functions only.

2. Competing Packs will be visited at their own Headquarters sometime between . . . dates will be arranged with the Cubmasters concerned.

NOTES.

Above competition has been organised in Westshire. It is the custom for the visit each competing Pack at headquarters, since the county area

is fairly large and scattered. It is difficult for the Packs to meet at one place and so the arrangement followed gives the Cub Commissioner a chance to visit Packs in their own homes in more or less normal conditions.

Note the scheme of awarding 1st and 2nd class certificates, instead of a silver trophy.

Impromptu acting.—The Sixers were told to act something about the knights of old—whole Pack to perform. The results in most cases, were extremely good and varied. They killed dragons and rescued fair ladies. One Pack had a wonderful double wedding (almost perfect in detail); another had a funeral; another a bull fight; another the death of King Arthur and the throwing away of Excalibur. (Some Cubmasters were aching to offer their advice and help but in almost every case the Sixers led excellently).

Impromptu modelling.—A box of junk was given to one Six, who were told to make a shop in a quarter of an hour. Results showed team work and imagination, and much variety in way of shops.

Sewing on of buttons.—Each Cub in one Six was given two buttons and a piece of cloth. All the Cubs seemed to like this test and do it well.

Surprise Tenderpad test.—A Sixer, number three of Six, and the last tenderpad were given pencils and paper and told to draw

(a) for Sixer—A Cub keeping the second law;

(b) for No. 3—A Cub showing how to keep his Promise of Duty to God;

(c) for Tenderpad—A Cub doing a Good turn.

They were all told that it was ideas which were required more than perfect drawings.

While they were drawing, the rest of the Pack had a game of "Bombs"—questions, such as "Who is the Chief Scout?", "What does "D Y B" mean?", "What big family

do we belong to?"—same questions to each Pack. Doing it as a game put them more or less at their ease.

[The above idea has been borrowed from "The Scouter" which has been publishing such interesting competitions month after

month. Our Akelas and Associations might very well adapt these ideas and have Association Cub competitions in their own

areas. We would be happy to publish accounts of such competitions for the benefit of the whole of the Province. (Editor—S. I. B. S)]

The Cub Wood Badge : Part I - 1929-30.

Study 3.

11. Answer EITHER (a) or (b) of the following :—

(a) How can an A. C. M. best set out to help Akela in the running of the Pack, and how can he prepare himself to help? (for A. C. Ms.)

(b) How would you encourage your A. C. M. supposing you had one, to get a real understanding of Cubbing and to help in the running of the Pack? (for C. Ms.)

12. How would you encourage (a) cleanliness, and (b) politeness, in your Cubs?

13. Reply briefly to the following :—

(a) Give your ideas as to the methods which should be adopted to promote friendly

relationship and smooth working between the various sections of a Scout Group,

(b) What part would you suggest that the G. S. M. and the other Scouters of the Group might take in the life of the Pack?

(c) In what ways should the Scouters of the Pack help the Troop through their Pack work and otherwise?

14. Describe a typical programme of activities for a fine day in a Cubs' Camp and also for a wet day, giving a specimen menu for each of the two days' meals.

15. Set down quite frankly any comments, or suggestions which you consider might help to improve this theoretical course.

The Rover Wood Badge : Part I - 1929-30.

Study 3.

11. What direct training and opportunities do your Rover Scouts receive with a view to helping them to live up to their motto "Service."

12. Give particulars of the (a) outdoor, (b) indoor activities of your Rover programme.

13. What are your views on :—

(a) Warranted Scouters' becoming Rover Scouts in addition.

(b) Rover Scouts remaining attached to their Rover Scout Crew after taking out a warrant in the same, or another, Scout Group.

(c) Keeping in touch with Rover Scouts whose duties preclude active association with the Rover Scout Crew.

14. Describe briefly your ideal Rover Leader.

15. Set down quite candidly any comments or suggestions which you consider might help to improve this theoretical course.

The Scout Wood Badge : Part I - 1929-30.

Study 3.

11. "By the term 'Scouting' is meant the work and attributes of backwoodsmen, explorers and frontiersmen." Explain how far the general training in your Troop is in keeping with this statement.

12. Explain the purpose of the Group System, and show how it helps to make clear the relationships between C. M., S. M. and R. S. L., Cubs, Scouts and Rover Scouts.

13. What steps would you take to keep in touch with :—

(a) the parents of Scouts.

(b) those in the neighbourhood interested in Scouting.

(c) other organisations for juveniles.

14. Outline briefly, giving headings and sub-headings only, a progressive course of training in Observa-

tion; assume that you have a series of 10 Troop Meetings with a 20 minute period in each to be devoted to the topic.

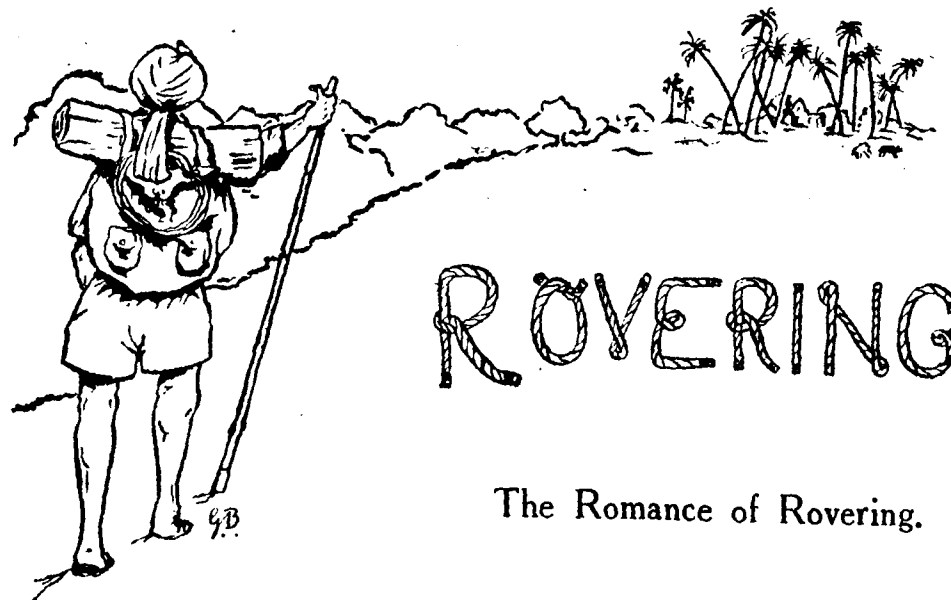
15. Comment briefly on :—

(a) 'The standard of a badge test must be that of effort made rather than proficiency shown.'

(b) 'Sometimes we are inclined to be slack about outward discipline because we know the ultimate aim of Scouting is inward discipline.'

(c) 'The Troop should not contain more than 32 boys.'

16. Set down quite frankly any comments or suggestions which you consider might help to improve this theoretical course.



WHEN first the title of this article was suggested to a Scout friend, he turned round and asked, "What! Romance of Rovering!" as if in serious doubt whether Rovering can really have any romance attached to it. One can well understand the romance about the Knights of the Round Table or to St. George and the Dragon, but to talk of the romance of Rovering—that was un-imaginable! But if only one will look back far enough, he will soon understand how there exists plenty of the romantic about the Rover Branch of the Scout Movement.

When and how did Rovering begin? Why was such a branch started? What vicissitudes has the Rover Movement passed through since it was first thought about? These are interesting subjects to discuss and in our attempt to find answers to these queries, we shall get sufficient evidence to prove that there is a romantic aspect to the Rover Scout Movement, and that the title is more than justified.

Scouting was invented by the Chief Scout for the boy of twelve. The methods adopted by the Movement are for boys of that age and will be appreciated by them more than by the boy of nine or the young man of nineteen. Look at any of the tenderfoot tests. Try and teach the young man of nineteen to tie the tenderfoot knots. He may be interested to learn them, but he will not exhibit that zest and enthusiasm which you will see in the boy of twelve alone. Those who run Scout troops will know quite well with what keenness the boy tries to mas-

ter the troublesome knots and to feel that he has qualified for the Scout badge. Or take the first class test. The journey is quite the right test of endurance and observation for the boy of fifteen, but when it comes to the young man of nineteen, he certainly would like something very much more strenuous.

Naturally then, a boy who was passed the Scout age begins to feel that the troop, the life in which he had thoroughly enjoyed only a few years back, does not have all the attraction which it once possessed for him. He begins to realise that he has out-grown the stage of tying knots and of playing in the company of boys of eleven and twelve and that he would either like to leave or do something more to his taste. But in spite of all this, he was anxious not to break away from the Movement altogether. What could the Movement do for such boys who were growing up into manhood? This was a new problem and it needed immediate attention or these young men would "rove" away from the good influence which the Movement had exercised over them up till now.

Within four years of the starting of the Boy Scout Movement, this question had become so pressing that Uncle Elwes, Editor of "The Scouter" tackled the subject in the columns of the magazine. Several articles on this subject were published in the Scouter and the matter did receive attention everywhere. Troops of "Senior Scouts" had been formed in certain places, notably in Australia at

Melbourne. Finally in November 1911, it was announced that the Scouts' Friendly Society had been formed to meet this need—to retain seniors in the Movement and to attract young men who had never been Scouts before. This Society was registered in 1914.

Then came the Great War. The war was a great destroying agency. It extracted its toll of the lives of millions of young men from every corner of the earth, young men who, if they had lived, would have contributed to the making of the future world. The war destroyed—but it also created, and hastened the growth of several world-wide movements, which, but for this great catastrophe, would have taken ages to bear fruit. The war gave the "big push" to the Rover Scout Movement which it so much needed.

Mrs. E.K. Wade, in her book, "Twenty-one years of Scouting" has this significant passage:—

"Five years in the life of any organisation may not be very long, but in the life of a boy it is: and those who had left their Scout troops at the age of seventeen or eighteen, gone on service and survived, had left the greater part of their boyhood behind them when the Armistice came."

Many of these talked of returning to their troops which had not lost touch with them during the days of war. They did feel quite keen on Scouting, but could they be grouped with the boys who had come up from the Cub ranks? Here was the necessity for Senior Scouts. At the Commissioners' Conferences at Matlock Bath and Dunblane, the same themes were discussed. There was the urgent necessity for some scheme which would take in the boy of seventeen and above and retain the older Scouts under good influences.

What could be done with the older boys who were coming back wanting to do something for their troops?

The Rover Movement, almost as we know it now, was the outcome of it all. The Chief who had schemes known as "Service Scouts" and "Scouts of Commerce" entrusted this work to Col. Ulick de Burgh. He soon published a little green pamphlet setting out the scheme in detail and appealed for its sympathetic consideration by those interested in the work. This was done and the Movement spread fast. Various names were suggested for the new Branch, but that one proposed by the Chief, viz., "ROVER" was

universally adopted and has been stuck to ever since. One feels that no other name would have suited half so well.

A word about the term "Rover" may not be out of place here. Have we referred the word in the dictionary? It means to wander without settled destination. Originally it signified (archery) shooting at casual marks with range not determined, and this is exactly what the young man does when he is past Scout age. He roves away from all those things which

influenced him as a boy and begins to wander aimlessly, and that is why the Chief calls his book "Rovering to Success" and the aim of the Rover Movement is to help the young wanderer towards success in life.

In November 1919 a special Rover number of the Scouter was published and the Chief's book, mentioned above came out in 1922. The same year, the Movement lost its great leader and exponent, Col. de Burgh, and the Chief wrote, "We have lost dear old de Burgh, but we have gained the Rovers".

Rovering has made great progress during the last seven years, and although at the start, several had entertained doubts as to the success

Is Scouting abstruse work?

1. If our Motherland can claim one thing of every one of her sons, I think, it is the willingness to serve as a guide to the oncoming generation. That every individual's experiences and experiments may differ in life is the very reason that it is up to every citizen to pot out and hand on advice to the oncoming generation.

2. Pretty common and unanimous ought to be the four principal needs of life to every citizen with which Scouting concerns itself. Character, Health, Serviceability and Hobbies. Every one ought to be able to benefit the younger generation by his experiences. Will he avail of this opportunity afforded by the Scout Troop?

3. Scouting is, therefore, the institution to pool out experiences of the elder generation in behalf of the younger. It is a duty which the elder generation owes the country.

4. It is no abstruse work. Do not be scared away by shows put up. They are meant to be mere shows—some scenes of spirited life not necessarily of much utilitarian value. Their value does not lie in the results but in the employment of the Young to please the Elders so that both generations can come together. In essence, real Scouting is *Principled Life*.

of this branch, subsequent developments have more than proved that the Rover Scout has come to stay. It has spread to India and Australia and numbers are still on the increase everywhere. There is a Rover Commissioner and a Committee at Imperial Headquarters to deal with all the problems pertaining to the Rover Section of the Boy Scout Movement. At Gilwell there is a special course for Rover leaders and the Camp Chief is only too willing to render any assistance to those who ask for it.

The Jamboree of 1920 has seen the triumph of the Rover Scout. The Movement tries to discipline a young man from within, which alone will enable him to exercise discipline over others and Rovering stands for Service. Who was responsible for the discipline at the Jamboree Camp of 50,000 boys and youngmen from 48 nations of the world. Not the policeman or the soldier—not the man who goes with a baton or a rifle in his hand but the Rover Scout with his thumbstick and the smile, the latter not even the rain and the mud could wash away. And who did all the work in the camp—not servants. It was the Rover Scout who sacrificed his annual leave to come and work in camp, in many cases not even being able to see and enjoy all the good things which took place in the arena and elsewhere. Who will not respect the Rover Scouts who availed themselves of their fortnight's leave prior to the Jamboree, came and worked getting the camp ready for occupation and then went back to

work a day or two before the Great Event started? Yes, the Jamboree proved to the world that the Rover Scouts have come to stay and to contribute their share in building up the future world.

But the problem of the working of the Rover Branch is still not finally settled—it will probably never be settled. The problem of the boy of twelve may be said to be practically the same all over the world—be he European, American, Indian or Australian—but the young man's problems are different in different countries. The nature of the service which a Rover Scout can render in England or the problems which he has to face there are so different from the Indian young man's questions. The Committee realises this and the Rules for Rovers are elastic and are only meant to guide and not to be carried out to the very letter of the law. Most Rover Leaders know this and are trying to find their way to solve the problems which face them every day.

After having read the whole of this article, my friend referred to above may yet ask, "Wherein lies the Romance of Rovering?" My answer would be, in the history of the Boy Scout Movement as it grew from the acorn sown at Brownsea Island in 1907 to the mighty oak at Arrowe Park in 1929, in the history of every well organised troop of Boy Scouts and in the life of every member of such a troop as he grows up from boyhood to the status of a young man.

G. T. J. Thaddaens.

The Play Aspect of Scouting.

Camp fire stunts:

The camp fire is a novel and special feature of our boy training. It is as important and helpful to us as camping itself. The very thought of the fire conjures up old reminiscences of a camp and transports us to those happy moments when we sat around the flickering flame and applied ourselves to very many things serious as well as jovial, like one family of a primitive tribe. The exciting walk through the woods in the dewy morning, the enterprising and appetising dishes of the hard-earned breakfast, the smart signalling, the laborious bridge building and above all, the thrilling stalking game just before night fall,—these and other similar items of the programme loom large in our imagination when we think of a camp we have attended with our boys. They have really gained a warm corner in the heart of every individual scout, but,

after all that has been said and done, what he actually loves most is not so much those items as the camp fire and all its romantic and mysterious associations. Why he is so partial towards it is not so easily explained. It seems a natural and inborn thing with him to be so passionately attached to it, just in the same way as all boys are attracted towards play in sand or water. And so, no boys' camp can ever be recognised as really good and successful if it does not include a well-arranged camp fire programme which crowns all the other activities of the day. Camp to the boys means camp fire, and it is the latter that in a way sets up the tone of the former and renders it romantic and charming to the boys.

While the camp fire is so important a factor in our scoutcraft and campcraft, it is rather regrettable to find that due attention is not devoted to it. In many cases, it seems to be

done in a slipshod and spasmodic manner. No careful preparation is made beforehand, and the programme as judged by its all-sided effect upon the boy, is far from satisfactory. Then again, emphasis is misplaced more often than not on one particular type of activity. Some scouters lay all the stress possible on yells and songs, as if the entire success of the night depended on them alone. In other instances, the camp fire is turned out a kind of gymnasium and the scouts summoned up to give proof of their physical strength and acrobatic proficiency. There is also a third type of camp fires where too much of sacred songs and moral admonitions are given so that the whole programme savours of nothing short of a Church Parade. But an ideal camp fire is believed to have all these types of activities on a moderate scale, well mixed up and balanced, with a view to producing a healthy and moral effect on the campers. No doubt it is true that the chief and fundamental object of the camp fire is the recreation of the boys tired after the day's activities. Nevertheless, the basic principle of the Scouts' character training has got to be held uppermost in the mind of the Scouter and any stunt which is likely to throw it to the background must be piously guarded against. Positively, the whole item of recreation should be so planned and adjusted as to conserve that best mental and moral results possible.

In this connection, it is not superfluous to fix our attention awhile on another important feature of the camp fire, which for some reason or other has fallen into disuse. It is nothing else but the instruction item, or rather the Camp Fire Yarn, as it is called in scouting. We are really taken by surprise when we look back upon the first epoch-making scout camp held at Brownsea Island and note how the Chief thought it wise and necessary to spend the nights in instruction on scout subjects to be practised in the mornings. Hence, we would do well to look up to him again and base our present work on the past, even as was chalked out by the founder. Let us take a note of his lesson to make the camp fire not only a centre of recreation but also a school of instruction and carefully spin out stories and yarns on scout topics, quite similar to those embodied together in Scouting for Boys in India.

Now as to the stunts themselves, a few general hints may be offered as to how they can be organised and carried on successfully.

First of all, there ought to be the play spirit, or rather, the emotional phase of it ruling and pervading all the activities. It means in other words, that there should be plenty of fun and mirth by way of stirring up the emotion and buoyancy of spirits of the boys. Let the camp fire afford the disciplined boy a good chance to give free vent to his bottled up energy and vigour. Dances, yells and several social games may be relied on to help us in this direction.

Secondly, special effort should be made to include as many mass and group items as possible so as to develop a kind of *esprit de corps* among the scouts. The whole day engages them in occupations conducive to toning up the patrol spirit. It is essential that at least the camp fire should be availed of to furnish such events as would help to instil a corporate and troop spirit in them and make them feel that they are one and all united in one and the same troop, though divided by patrol grouping and interests. The gathering around the fire should needs assume the form and nature of a Happy Family as we say in the Cubs. This entails that only those items that call for united and joint effort must be encouraged, and all those of individual and self-glorifying nature are taboo.

Thirdly, somehow or other the camp fire has a tremendous power to stir and tone up the imagination of the boy. Hence from time immemorial, fire and story-telling have been associated together. Pantomimes, dramatics, and charades are some other suitable items that would adequately make for the exercise of the mental and imaginative faculties. They may take the form of individual or collective stunts.

Fourthly, all sorts of strenuous stunts must have no place in the programme. Especially with regard to the dances and games, this rule must be strictly enforced. Scouts have come to the camp fire after food, and hence it is quite unhygienic to strain them either physically or mentally. It is imperative that all stunts are of an easy, light and happy-go-lucky character. Games of chance are preferable to those involving superior strength or violent exertion.

Lastly, it is very necessary that the whole night's programme is capped up with one or other items of devotional exercises. We will have to wind it up with a short, common and undenominational prayer, in a language which appeals to the boy, so that he may go to bed with a feeling of gratitude to the Creator for the very happy time he had had in the open.

(JIM.)



Physical Training (P. T.) Three Deep.

The usual way of playing this game in which the players get together in pairs in a circle and one of them being chased by "it", jumps in front of any pair is so well known that further description seems unnecessary. Instead of playing it in the same stereotyped way, let us introduce some of these variations and thus make it quite a new one every time we meet for the game session.

(a) Two deep is better than three deep formation for a small troop of scouts. Form a single circle in place of the double and play as in Three Deep.

(b) The players stoop down and give back as the runner approaches, pursued by "it". The scout who is jumped over exchanges places with the runner, and is in turn chased by "it".

(c) Partners stand side by side facing the center of the circle with arms locked and outside hands on hips. The runner chased by "it" takes refuge by locking his arm with that of any one of the pair, whereupon "it" gives chase to the other third player.

(d) A double circle must be formed as in the ordinary Three Deep game. Then get the scouts on the inner circle to face about and form the cages by holding the hands of those on the outside. The hunted runs into a cage, whereupon the player on the inner circle must lose hold and run to escape the capture.

N.B. Let the circles for these games be formed as wide as possible so that scouts may have plenty of exercise in running.

Recreational or Rest-Giving (R. G.) Medley March.

Let the scouts assume the three deep formation. Let those on the inside circle make a right or left turn. When the signal is given, the scouts on both circles march forward in opposite directions. At the second signal,

they all come to a dead stop and listen to the orders of the S. M. which may be like these. 1. Tell the new partner your name, nick-name and grand-mothers' name. What is your address, present, past and future? 2. Walk skip or crawl around the new partner. 3. Imitate cry of any animal such as donkey and make S.M. laugh. 4. Talk fast or laugh or weep. In this manner the number of things that scouts may be called on to do is almost unlimited. It all depends on the ability and imagination of the scoutmaster.

Sense Training (S. T.) Blind Animal Stalking.

Blindfold a scout as the Animal and let him stand in the center of a clearing, preferably one strewn with dry branches or leaves. The other scouts are stationed around him within a radius of ten or twelve paces.

The game commences when the latter crawl near enough to touch him without being heard. But when the Animal hears a sound, he points to the spot from which he supposes it to have come. When he points in the right direction towards the approaching scout, the latter takes his place and relieves him, and so the play is carried on until every one has had a chance of stalking as the Animal.

Test Teaching (T. T.) Capture the Signaller.

Line up the scouts across an open field and let the signaller who is to be captured stand about thirty yards in front, in the direction in which the scouts will have to march after correctly deciphering the code. The signaller sends a letter, and then calls it out. All scouts who have correctly taken it down may make one Standing Jump forward. Next he sends a word of two letters; those who receive it without mistake may take two jumps. Similarly words of three and four letters are sent, followed up with three and four jumps. When those receiving the last word finish up the fourth jump, everyone breaks and runs. The one who captures the signaller first will have the honour of signalling in the next game.

Camp Fire (C. F.) Dumb Crambo

One patrol of scouts go outside the camp fire circle. They are actors, while the rest stay on as the audience and put their heads together to choose a verb or noun which the actors have got to show by pantomime. Suppose the word "rat" has been

(Continued on page 224.)

The Young Delinquent.

(The following is the first of a series of articles on the reclamation of young delinquents. Our readers probably are aware of the fact that the writer Mr. K. Palmi has been one of our earliest Scout in the Province and represented Madras in the Olympia Jamboree. He has now taken up work for improving the lot of the unfortunate youngsters who have stumbled in their path for want of a helping hand and is competent to tell us the methods employed in such noble work. Editor : S. I. B. S.)

The modern researches in Criminology have proved that the old idea that the child's wrongdoing is due to inherent wickedness, which could only be driven out of him by the severity of punishment inflicted, has been fallacious. Some believe that criminality is usually inborn, that its presence can be detected by the configurations of the brain or measurements of the body, and that, since it is inherent, it is for the most part likewise incurable. But again modern researches which are now almost universally accepted show that there is no such thing as a criminal class, differentiated by anomalies of physique. So, it must be concluded that most of the so-called criminals are normal persons.

We find then a large number of cases begin their career as children. When it is believed that crime is only a symptom—a mental symptom—with a mental origin—we must fight not symptoms but causes. Why did the child commit any crime at all? That means, we must first and foremost study the delinquent as an individual. We must study the child's present situation such as the true nature of his offence, his personality and his environment. It may be that the child is mentally defective, or some specific defect such as physical or psychical may have caused the final outbreak. But it is more often the bad influences that surround him, the home, his companions, and the lack of supervision by his parents that contribute to the outbreak. So, a good deal of delinquency among children could be prevented if we paid adequate attention to the spare-time activities of boys, as the recreational phase of child-life is the most crucial. Most of the boys find their recreation in evil companionship, bad surroundings, gambling, smoking and drinking. Here comes the Boy Scout Movement to help the lads. It receives boys and girls who are in search for recreation and gives them such a training that supplements education, and through games and Tests and other activities the boy's spare-time and his

energies, which might have otherwise been misdirected, are usefully spent. So, by establishing recreational institutions such as Boys' Clubs for youth, and keeping the boys under the control of trained Probation Officers or Scout-Masters, it is possible to reduce the number of crimes among the children.

Crime has always been a problem of youth. There are at present nearly 650 boys in the Certified Schools and about 600 lads in Borstal institutions, and nearly Rs. 33 lakhs are being spent on jails and convict settlements. It is regrettable to find that a very disproportionate amount is being spent on after care work and on settling them into normal ways of life. According to Jail Report for 1928, about 6,000 persons were put to jail for sentences less than one month. The remedy to decrease the number in prisons and Certified Schools is simple—application of well thought-out Probation system. The following from the report by the Departmental Committee on the Training, Appointment and Payment of Probation Officers in England, will show how the Probation System in England has been a great success:

"The marked decrease in the prison population, and in the number of committals to Reformatory and Industrial Schools which has taken place during the last few years may be attributed partly to the increasing use of Probation. It is hardly necessary for us to point out that probation is extremely economical compared with the cost of keeping persons in prison, or of maintaining boys and girls in Reformatory and Industrial Schools. We do not advocate the use of probation merely because it is inexpensive, but we wish to lay great stress on the considerable saving to public funds which is likely to follow from the use of probation in all suitable cases."

So, the delinquents' career can be checked if healthy recreational institutions such as Boys' Clubs, Rovers' Clubs, Scouting, etc., are increased and encouraged, a well thought-out Probation system is introduced, intelligent after-care work is undertaken by the trained Probation Officers, and intensive individual treatment is given. Then, there is little chance for youthful offenders to develop into habitual offenders—offenders who spend a major portion of their time in correctional institutions of the state.

(P)



For Scouters.

Scribbler is indebted to the "Scouter" for the following scrawls and in placing them before his readers wishes to state that he has always felt that what is good for any one should always be shared by him with other brother workers in the field and it is in this spirit that he invites the attention of his readers to the topic "The Scoutmaster and his Assistant."

The S. M. and the A. S. M. must be in constant communication, apart from the regular meetings of the Group Council; and only if the A. S. M. is taken into the S. M.'s confidence, only if he feels he is really trusted, will he give of his best. When the S. M. makes an important decision and announces it first to a boy, and the A. S. M. gets the news second-hand, it is not to be wondered at if the A. S. M. loses his enthusiasm.

Exaggerated ideas about rank came as a heritage of war, along with physical jerks, military uniform, and other things which are no essential part of our system. What is wanted for the S. M. and the A. S. M. is co-operation and a common aim.

It may well happen that the A. S. M. is trained and the S. M. is not; that the A. S. M. has been a Scout and perchance a Cub, whereas the S. M. is a newcomer to the movement. The S. M. is put where he is because of his age, his experience of life, his manner with boys, or even because he is well in with the Headmaster or the Manager!

So he is made the responsible officer from the point of view of the District Commissioner, the Local Association, the Group Scout Master, the parents, the boys, and the public; but this gives him no right to snub his A. S. M. or to keep him in the background.

All adults working in a troop are out to turn their boys into decent and useful citizens, and

to use the Chief's methods: and this can only be achieved if they work together.

In extreme cases the officers are pulling the boys in different ways; from the point of view of mechanics this leaves the boy where he is; but to continue our metaphor, if the boy is weak he will be torn limb from limb, and it will be bad for him that he joined that Group.

Generally, however, the Scouters will pull the same way, but often they do not pull together, and thus much energy is wasted.

In the usual way the A. S. M. is a younger man than the S. M. and this may give him certain advantages for influencing boys; and if, in such a case, the S. M. will use his experience, and the A. S. M. his youth, and if they work together for the development of their boys' characters along the right lines, they will achieve great results.

But it is possible for the S. M. to be jealous of the popularity of his A. S. M.; he does not see that this popularity is natural, and does not make the best use of it!

We will take the case of an S. M. who has one A. S. M. Each must know beforehand what the other intends to do, and have an opportunity of criticism.

Programmes for the year, the month, the night, the week-end, the annual camp, must be examined together and discussed together, and as far as possible receive the approval of both.

Then the work should be shared out, so that the A. S. M. has a good portion; care being taken that the A. S. M. has some share of the lime-light and appears to public, parents and boys, as the trusted colleague of the S. M.

Then there are present problems to be discussed, such as the attitude to adopt towards certain boys who are at the moment difficult—

it is particularly important for adults to present a united front in such cases.

Any decisions which the S. M. is called upon to make with regard to the Local Association, the Controlling Authority, or the parents, should be talked over with the A. S. M. if possible; even if the S. M. has to act contrary to the opinions of the A. S. M. he will have gained by hearing those opinions and the A. S. M. will feel more confident from having been consulted.

If the S. M. has an orderly mind—which all scouters should have—and files his correspondence and keeps his books, the files and books should always be open to the A. S. M.'s inspection.

As well as the future and the present, there is the past to be talked over; the S. M. and his Assistant will gain by considering together the meetings and camps that are over, wherein they succeeded and wherein they failed.

They will be able to draw useful conclusions that will help in the future. It may be said that all thoughtful people do examine their past work; that is probably true of the thoughtful, but such thought is tremendously stimulated by discussion and by hearing the ideas of another.

In addition to the ways of co-operation above mentioned, it is most advisable for every A. S. M. to have one or more definite tasks.

Records should be in the S. M.'s hands, and an outsider should be treasurer, but there may be a library, camp fund, uniform fund, some saving scheme, or some group property which is specially allocated to the care of the Troops; one or more of these jobs should be definitely put into the A. S. M.'s hands—and left there.

There should be no interference, though the S. M. is ready to give advice if it is asked.

If the A. S. M. fails he can try again or have a different job. Where these jobs are not technical and require no special aptitude, turns should be taken if there are two or more A. S. M.s; experience is thus gained and each is thus prepared for being an S. M. one day.

Of this training (of the A. S. M. by the S. M. three examples are given at random:—

In every troop meeting the A. S. M. should take one of the games; the S. M. and the A. S. M. should alternate in telling yarns to the Troop; and (perhaps the most important) the A. S. M. should sometimes take Troop Prayers and should take his turn at giving the talk at the Scout's Own—then in the absence of the S. M. this important part of our work will not be neglected.

If the S. M. makes the A. S. M. take his place and encourages him to overcome his shyness this will go far to ensure the continuity of the Troop."

(Scribbler).

Outdoor Programmes.

(Adapted from the "Scouter")

THE normal Troop should plan its weekly meetings for out-of-doors, and should not look forward to any indoor meetings at all. This is possible in our country where the weather for the major portion of the year is fine, though for a few months it is very hot. It may be argued that the responsibility of looking after the whole lot of boys would then be a little too heavy for the Scouter, but any Scouter worth the name will have his Patrol Leaders doing most of the work, while he only guides them wisely. The Troop will of course rally together at the beginning and the end of the meet.

The usual advice that troop meetings should be divided up into twenty minute intervals is workable only indoors and may not at all work in an outdoor programme. "Too frequently, an outdoor meeting is an exact counterpart of an indoor meeting, the only difference being that the walls of the room have become transparent. This is a waste of time and opportunity. There is enough in any real Scout outdoor subject to keep a boy happy and active for hours on end, let alone twenty minutes. Some kind of a formal opening is still necessary, as well as a closing ceremony which may or may not be peculiar to the particular Troop. In between, it is seldom necessary to deal with more

than one subject, although it is possible, and sometimes advisable, that the different Patrols should be engaged in different activities."

Camp training, Cooking, Stalking, Tracking, Pioneering, Nature Rambles, Wide games, Expeditions, Swimming and short journeys are only some of the many activities from which a selection can be made. Help in regard to the choice of subjects is provided by "Saturday Afternoon Scouting" by Stocks and "Scouting Out-of-Doors" and "Exploring" by Gilcraft.

The normal practice of one troop was as follows: (in England)

6 P. M. Assemble at Hd, Qrs: Inspection, etc.

6.15 P. M. Move off by Patrols to carry out some outdoor activity previously arranged, such as Treasure Hunt, Obstacle Race, Tracking, Taking plaster casts, Studying trees, etc.

7.30 P. M. Meet in some place (open space) previously named: Open air games Competitions, Outdoor Badge work.

8.30 P. M. Form Horse-shoe, The King: Prayers. Disperse.

With such a programme as the above, considerable practice can be obtained in Second Class and First Class work.

Here is another programme which, with some slight modification to suit local conditions and time, will give full occupation to your boys for full two hours and keep them interested and excited. Have just three Patrol Competitions in (a) Fire-lighting, (b) Knotting—real pioneering stuff with ropes and trees, etc., (c) Flagstaff erecting. The fires lighted to be used for brewing tea and preparing something to eat, as per Second Class Scout Test standard.

Here is a third programme which will show you how apparently simple things can be

elaborated into very interesting out-door programmes for the troop:

7 P. M. Treasure Hunt. The following were given: Leave Hut in Patrol formation. Scout Pace to tree quarter mile away. Follow nature trail to five tall pine trees clustered together. Here use compass and search for concealed Pirate Chart (compass directions are omitted). By aid of chart try to find treasure which Pirates (two Patrols) will defend. No Pirate is allowed within fifty yards of the treasure.

8 P. M. Return to hut. Inspection by Patrols. Demonstration of stalking and tracking outside, pointing out errors already revealed in the Treasure Hunt.

8.30 P. M. Surprise item. During the demonstration a Rover Scout was wandering about in full view of the troop. Suddenly, a rough looking customer crept up to him, hit him over the head, stunning him, and made off with the Rover's wallet. Each Patrol was asked to report on the occurrence for the use of the Police officer who was (in imagination) sent for.

8.55 P. M. Notices. Flag lowered.

In what ways you could help us.

1. Every Scoutmaster is serving for nothing, and devoting some time and energy solely out of a notion of self-sacrifice. If you could realise this and watch his work closely throw a timely "Well done" now and then, you will perhaps be putting heart into him.

2. If, in watching the doings of a Troop you perceive that you can help with your suggestions for more effective service, you are welcome. You can even take a place on the Troop-Committee if one is available and help this good work on. As a friend of the Scoutmaster you can serve the boys in countless ways.

3. Perhaps you will be able to see in course of time that you can yourself serve a few boys directly. If ever you get this idea, apply at once to the District Commissioner. He will prove a friend to you and post you with due measures to take.

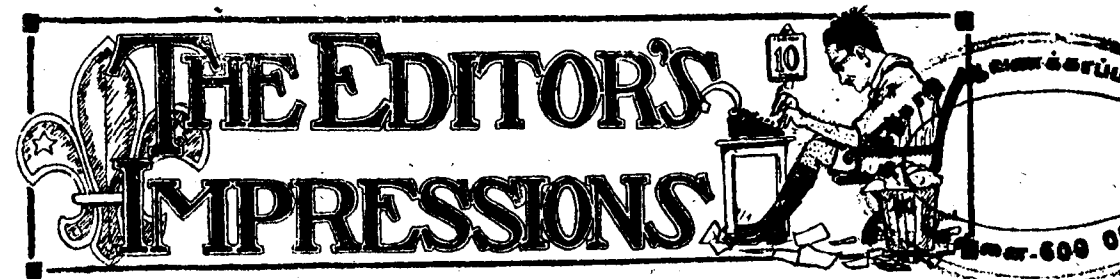
4. Finally Boy-Work is the noblest of service and one very vital to the interests of our land. Just ponder over this.

5. Do not imagine that Scout-Councils all over the Province are closely packed or are suffering from a surfeit of members actively interested in the work of these Councils.

6. Do not think either that the work is so abstruse as to require much technical knowledge on your part.

(Concluded from page 220.)

chosen. Then the actors are invited and told that the word chosen is a noun rhyming with hat. They then go out again, guess out the word and practise acting it out, everyone of them. Suppose they have selected "bat" and come again and pantomimed ball players swinging a bat. The audience must request them to go back by hissing and they will have to do so until the right word is guessed out. Thus the games goes on, and when the actors succeed, another patrol must be chosen to take their place.



Welcome:

WE extend to our new Assistant Provincial Commissioner Mr. E. Conran-Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., our heartiest welcome into the Scout Ranks. He has all these years been taking an active interest in scouts and scouting. We are proud that he is one of us now and wish him the best of Scouting.

Awards:

Our Readers all over the Province and outside will be very glad to hear that H. E. The Chief Scout for India and Burma has been pleased to confer the Medal of Merit on two of our foremost workers—Mr. K. Sanjiva Kamath, our Honorary Provincial Secretary and Lt. Col. L. L. Porter, O. B. E., v. D., District Scout Commissioner for Nilgiris. The Rev. Preston who as District Scout Master for British Cochin area did yeoman service for Scouting there has been awarded a Certificate of Merit. Every one in South India knows how much these gentlemen have contributed for the advance of the Movement in our country. We are sure that every one of our readers will join with us heartily in conveying to them our congratulations. May this be the beginning of many and higher distinctions in the future!

Stanley Park Scout Training Centre and Mountain Home:

With the opening of the Training Centre and Mountain Home in the old rifle range site in Coonoor, a very important and prominent landmark in the history of scouting in the Province has been established. The Training Centre has been named appropriately after our new Provincial Chief Scout who has expressed his interest in scouting so definitely when he presided over the annual meeting of our Association last month. The whole scheme took about two years to fructify and it would have been impossible but for the earnest and strenuous endeavours of Col. L. L. Porter and the munificence of many public spirited gentle-

men who gave liberally for the cause. The camp has been well equipped. Permanent shelters in the shape of 5 beautiful wooden huts with outhouses comprising patrol kitchens for wet weather, bathing room, latrines, have been provided and there is plenty of open and level space for games. Besides these conveniences, pure drinking water has been laid on and the whole place is in every way ideal for a party of boys to camp in absolute safety. The camping centre will be available for parties of Scouts (Cubs, Rovers and Scouters) for camping in. Rules and directions are being drawn up, setting forth the conditions under which the camping place can be used and will be published in the South India Boy Scout in due course. Started under such auspices, it is earnestly hoped that this training centre will be to Madras what Gilwell is to the Imperial Headquarters.

The Training Courses in the new Training Centre:

The first Commissioners' Course for the Province—the first of its kind in India also, we believe—was held at the Provincial Training centre at Coonoor from the 1st to the 5th of April. In spite of the time which could not suit many, 20 Commissioners from various parts of the Province, including Mysore and Travancore States, attended. The Course was conducted by the Deputy Camp Chiefs who had practical experience of such courses at Gilwell. On the first day of April, before the camp commenced, Lieut Col. L. L. Porter who was the moving spirit in getting the Camp into being, hoisted the Scout flag in the centre of the camp site. The camp was pronounced by all who attended, to be a great success. We hope they derived some real help in their work as Commissioners throughout the different Districts of our Province.

Publicity:

The movement in our Province, has not had much of publicity yet and many difficulties have been experienced in the way of such

work. The Optical Lantern and Moving Pictures are two of the best means of propaganda, in that they have a very strong visual appeal. To make this appeal more effective it is natural that we should have pictures and slides depicting scenes of Scout Activity in our own land. A number of kind friends have promised to make lantern slides for the Provincial Headquarters, provided they are supplied with photographs of scouting interest and negatives of such photographs. May we request our readers who are interested in photography and who might have such photographs or negatives, to send them to us, so that we might make a careful selection and prepare sets of lantern slides for effective propaganda in the province. The negatives will be returned intact.

Announcement :

We wish to draw the attention of our readers to the fact that there will be no issue of the South India Boy Scout in May in conformity with the usual practice, but the June number will be a double number with many new features. The holidays are the best time for long camps and tramps and we wish our readers very good camping and tramping.

Good Scouting,

Pharayanandwami

Editor.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"I never thought that a day's delay would matter very much," exclaimed a Scoutmaster indignantly when one of his requests was turned down as he had applied a day later than the appointed date.

Punctuality is a virtue for which our countrymen generally do not hold a high reputation, and if Scouting cannot remedy the weakness, we do not know what else can.

In all good faith, we mean to act as examples to our boys in every habit that goes to form character, and punctuality is the first business habit that should demand our thought and care.

In every unit in which the Scouter has been known to be punctual, the boys have also been punctual as a rule. The cure is so simple, and yet how few of us realise it and the urgency and importance of its application in our contribution to national progress through the self-perfection of the individual!

Punctuality is but one of the many business we have to virtues that to instil in our boys by example and precept. In correspondence, we want, besides punctuality, an intelligent understanding of the business side of the organisation.

If the Scouter dreads as a horror or treats as a piece of nuisance, the filling up of a

registration form or census returns, we need not be surprised that the boys keep no record of their scout activities, nor even a diary; and the Patrol Leaders have but hazy information to give regarding the composition and activities of their respective Patrols.

That this neglect is not entirely due to ignorance is evident from the briskness with which warrant nominations and badge indents pour into the Association Headquarters every day and the reminders which follow them.

No sooner is it ever known, though not officially announced by our own Provincial Headquarters, that a warrant of an apparently superior brand or a big name is available, than we have applications and nominations readily coming in. This only shows that in matters which affect our personal decorations we can be unusually businesslike in our methods, if we have a mind to!

But for the sake of the Association and for the sake of the boy, we do not seem to be equally businesslike. Secretaries and Commissioners have woful tales to tell of poor response and Scouters on their side complain of indifferent letter-head Secretaries and figure-head Commissioners!

Besides correspondence and returns, there is a more vital record, the full responsibility for which a good many of us do not appear to have

realised yet, or do not purposely want to recognise—namely, proper maintenance of accounts, of monies received and spent.

Few of us realise how little right we have to speak of expenses and grants when we cannot accurately provide the necessary figures—when we cannot even state, sometimes, exactly the number of boys in our own units!

How many of us, again, can show a continuously kept log of Group activities? Sometimes, we let a photographer do it for us once a year with the boys neatly arranged like medicine bottles on a chemist's shelf and hang it up in the Headmaster's room for the delectation of the visitors and inspecting authorities.

The more argumentatively inclined persons among us go even to the extent of defending this slackness by talking contemptuously of "Scouting on paper!" and consider themselves virtuous in not demeaning themselves to the level of such hypocrites who carefully maintain the records of their Groups!

And then, as for that delicate matter—the payment of dues prescribed by the Local, District or Provincial Association—and of bills for badges, and equipment, those who have had to do with collection and those who

optimistically and enthusiastically took on themselves the sale of Scout Diaries and Books, do not render a report very creditable to Scouters.

Exceptions there may be, but they have never been numerous enough to affect the general truth of the experiences indicated above.

Scouters do not appear to realise the reaction of all these on the work of the Association in spreading the Movement and introducing it to the lay public. They do not seem to understand that at this rate, eventually, it will affect them too and that the much prized decorations will come to convey an entirely different meaning from that, for the sake of which they were sought for.

It has been a hard struggle for Searchlight before he decided to write about this topic, especially in such a thankless and unkind manner. But he has felt that it would be immensely better for the matter to be out from one among ourselves, in time for the remedy to be applied before the lay public begins to talk of them; and so he craves the indulgence of his numerous readers.

Searchlight.

Answers to "?"

All queries should be sent in written clearly or typed on one side of the paper only, and enclosed in an envelope.

The name and address of the sender should be given, without which answers will not be published.

Queries should be short and to the point.

Questions of a controversial or personal nature will not be answered.

If a personal reply is required, sufficient postage in stamps will have to be sent along with the queries.

The Correspondence Editor does not hold himself responsible for the views of his correspondents, and reserves to himself the right of not answering any question.

(50) **Gopu** : Until our Scouters decide to be more business-like in their correspondence and in promptly furnishing the particulars required by Provincial Headquarters, any attempt at publishing a "Who's Who in Scouting" for the Province will be a failure. We can't agree with you that the 1928 effort was a success, for while many whose names ought to have been in did not respond, others whose connection with the movement was only a faint one found their names in print.

(51) **Redeur** : The knot is to remind the Scout of his daily 'good turn.'

(52) **Ibid** : A young man who has been 'received into' a Rover Crew is called a 'Rover Squire' till the time of his Investiture. He wears the Scout uniform with a green and yellow shoulder knot.

(53) **Ibid** : The manner of saluting with the thumbstick is : The Thumbstick is transferred to the left hand and a salute given with the right hand, just if there were no staff at all.

(54) **V. S.** : "Of course you will always rise and take off your hat, or if in uniform, stand at the alert, on hearing the National Anthem played." S. for B. (India) Page 262. The italics, which are our own, answer your query.

(55) **S. S.** : While passing a line of marching scouts, the Scout who passes them, whether in uniform or mufti, salutes first and column returns the salute as a body.

(56) **S. M.** : A Scout shows his respect to the dead in any manner he thinks proper and there are no definite rules regarding the kind of respect to be shown to a passing corpse. Please see also Rule 69, "Mourning".

(57) **Redeur** : If, as you say, Scouts are seen selling programmes at a public performance other than

their own. the remedy is for you to draw the attention of the Scouts and their S. M. to the rule on the subject and bring the matter to the notice of the Commissioner so that such a thing does not happen again.

(58) **Scouter**: The 'How' Book of Scouting is an official publication of the Boy Scouts of America. The price is \$ 1.00 and our official suppliers (see advertisement pages) may be able to supply you copies.

(59) **Ibid**: It is not necessary for one to have completed Wood Badge Part I before he takes the Part II Practical Course, but where a selection is to be made it is but fair that preference should be given to those who have completed Part I.

(60) **A Scouter-3**: You cannot have separate Patrols for recruits. If they are few they should find places among the Older Patrols, but if they are many, a Junior Troop may be formed. Please read the correspondence on the subject in *The Scouter*, October 1928 and following months.

(61) **S. V.**: The Commissioner is responsible for the efficiency of the holders of the badges and the secretary, local or district, has to keep an account of the badges, which belong to the Association, whoever may pay for their use.

(62) **R. G.**: While we are not aware of any rule definitely prohibiting the garlanding of scouts or scouters in uniform, the information that a scout wears

a rose with uniform only on St. George's Day should help you to make a decision.

(63) **Chandra**: Thanks for the group photograph you have sent us. Of course you don't expect us to publish every Group photo we receive! But please tell your cubs that the correspondence editor compliments them on their grin.

(64) **Chinnathambi**: writes to tell us that it was practice in Kim's game that helped him to discover the name and address and to communicate with the relations of a person who had fainted at a place some distance away from town. Acting on the clue that he was a merchant and bearing in mind a detailed description of the person, he went to the bazaar and succeeded in discovering his name and address while his fellow Scouts attended to the man, rendered him first-aid and revived him. The Correspondence Editor will be glad to hear of such scoutly good turns.

(65) **Teacher**: Write to your local Secretary or Commissioner to register your name for sending particulars of any Training Camp that may be conducted in your area in the near future, and meanwhile get into touch with a local Group and study its working.

(66) **Bhanu**: There is only one kind of Salute for Cubs, viz., the full salute. The half Salute does not apply to Cubs, even at Investitures or renewals of the Promise. Please refer to Imperial Head-quarters, Policy, Rules and Organisation, 1930 Edition.

Correspondence.

The Investiture of a Rover Scout.

Dear Editor,

I have read with interest the suggested form of investiture of a Rover Scout which appeared in the March number of the South India Boy Scout, as an adaptation of the one drawn up by the Chief Scout himself, to suit the Rover Crews in South India, and also the invitation to the Rover Leaders by the writer to send in their opinions to help him to bring out an acceptable form.

If one would take the trouble to compare the form drawn up by the Chief Scout with the one suggested for South Indian Rovers, one is struck with the enormous difference and the poor form the adaptation presents. The question is, why *should* we change the form suggested by the Chief, when the writer of the article himself agrees that no one can improve on that, and to me, as it is clear to the writer, the Vigil should stand in its entirety. But I would go further and say that the whole ceremony drawn up by the Chief is so beautiful and impressive that it should also stand in its entirety. Why does the writer want a table in the centre if that is not going to remind the Rovers of the Ancient Order of the Knights of the Round Table and the great ideals for which the Order stood? Then why should we eliminate the Sword the symbol of chivalry and unselfish service, from the ceremony?

As long as there is a Presentation of the Candidate by a Sponsor, why not it be, in the Chief's own words, where the ideal is vividly brought out? And where the relation between the Rover Leader and the Rover is that of an elder brother to a younger brother, rather than that of a superior, as suggested in the form for South India.

The Laving symbolises the washing away of past misdeeds. This is certainly not sectarian and not uncommon to India. The same with the vesting of the threefold Knot. The Buffet, that reminds one of the one tender point, so sacred to a Rover, "the Honour of the Rover Brotherhood" cannot be so easily dispensed with. And further the Charge, which is the final finishing touch as it were to the ceremony that reminds every one "to serve our fellows in the spirit of Him who was the Master Rover", should be given by some one whose very life is an inspiration to all and a dedication to the service of the BOY.

Now with regard to the association of the ceremony with the Order of the Knights of the Round Table and the Patron Saint, there is surely no harm in that, as the ideals of the Order of the Knights are universal and even if it is peculiar, there is no objection in others emulating their noble example. The Patron Saint may be changed to suit the Troop as in the case of the Vyasa Rovers with whom I am associated, their Patron Saint being "Vyasa", the great sage and seer of old.

The placing of sacred books, can be done and it has been the practice in our Crew, which has among its members, Hindus, Muhammedans, Christians and Buddhists, to place on the table, the Gita, the Quran, the Bible and the Light of Asia, at the time of the Investiture.

The fixing of the time for the ceremony at midnight may not commend itself to many. Early morning or evening, may be substituted. What is most important is the proper atmosphere. The Prayer of a universal nature as has been given by the Chief is certainly preferable.

I believe in a movement for boys like that of ours, we should strive for international unity and understanding and not separate ourselves except in the matter of language and local peculiarities. The example is set by the Chief himself who introduces his book "Life's Snags" to the world with a quotation from the Gita. Time will come when the Chief will be considered the Patron Hero of the Rovers, and then are we going to object to it because he was a Christian? These differences must go and they have gone, unless we unconsciously revive them now.

The Vyasa Rovers, whom I represent, are strongly of opinion that the original form by the Chief should stand as a whole. Let us not, in trying to adapt, alter radically such a beautiful and impressive ceremony so very well drawn up by one who knows the psychology of the Rover so intimately.

V. S. RATHNASABHAPATHY,
R. S. L. Vyasa Rovers, Adyar.

OUR TAMIL PAGE.

Glossary of some Scouting terms with their suggested equivalents in Tamil.

List III (April 1930)

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 55. Belt—கச்சை. | 69. Shirt—சட்டை. |
| 56. Boots—செருக்கோடு. | 70. Shoe—ஜோடி. |
| 57. Cap—குல்லாய். | 71. Sandal—செருப்பு. |
| 58. Coat—அங்கி. | 72. Shorts—அரைச்சராய், அரைச்சல்லடம். |
| 59. Garter—காப்பு. | 73. Shoulder Knot—தோள் முடி. |
| 60. Hand shake—கைகுலுக்கல். | 74. Shoulder Patch—தோள் ஒட்டு. |
| 61. Hat—தொப்பி. | 75. Stocking—கால் உரை, மேஜோடு. |
| 62. Haversack—சஞ்சி, புகிப்பொருள் பை. | 76. Shoulder badge—தோள் சின்னம். |
| 63. Horseshoe—குதிரைலாடம், லாடவடிவம். | 77. Stripe—பட்டை. |
| 64. Jersey—குத்துணி. | 78. Thumb stick—கவைக்கோல். |
| 65. Lanyard—சிறுநாண். | 79. Turban—தலைப்பாகை. |
| 66. Pocket—சட்டைப்பை, ஜேபி. | 80. Uniform—படைக்கோலம், படையுடுப்பு. |
| 67. Patrol Flag—அணிக்கொடி. | 81. Whistle—ஊதல். |
| 68. Scarf—கழுத்துக்குட்டை. | 82. Woggle—மிஞ்சு. |

திரிசாரணர்க் குழு.

(Rover Crew.)

III

(நேவில் துரையாடிகள் ஆங்கிலத்தில் எழுதிய சிறு நூலை யோட்டி தமிழில் எழுதப்பட்டது).

திரிசாரணத்தலைவர்.

திரிசாரணர் நல்ல தேர்ச்சி அடைவது அவருடைய குழுவின் அமைப்பைப் பொறுத்ததாகும். குழுவின் அமைப்பு அதற்குத் தலைமை வகிப்பவரைப் பொறுத்தது. ஆகையால் ஒவ்வொரு குழுவிற்கும் தகுந்த தலைவர் ஒருவர் வேண்டும்.

தலைவர் கையாளும் முறை யாது? சில சாரண ஆசிரியர் செய்வது என்ன என்று பார்க்கலாம். "திரிசாரணர் சிறுவரல்ல; வயதானவர்; குமரப்பருவத்தினர்; தமது பகுதியின் ஆட்சியைத் தாமே தாங்களே கையாடல். நம்முடைய பட்டையில் ஒருதிரிசாரணப் பகுதியையும் அமைத்தலில் தான் எவ்வளவு கண்ணியிருக்கும்!" என்று இந்த ஆசிரியர் எண்ணிவிடுகின்றனர். இவர்கள் இவ்வாறு தீர்மானிப்பதற்கு இரண்டு காரணம் கூறுவர். "பட்டையிலுள்ள குருநாயர் பகுதியையும், சாரணர் பகுதியையும் டெத்திவருவதற்கு இத்திரிசாரணர் உதவக்கூடும்", என்பார். இது ஒரு காரணம். "பட்டையைச் சார்ந்த சாரணரிற் சிலர் வயதேறியவுடன் பட்டையை விட்டுப் போய்விடுவார் அல்லவா? அவ்விதம் போகாமல் தடுப்பதற்குத் திரி

சாரண முறையே தகுந்தது. வயதானவர்களை எல்லாம் இதோ திரிசாரணதாக்கிவிடுகிறேன்," என்று சொல்லுவார். இது மற்றொரு காரணம். திரிசாரணப் பகுதி அமைக்க வேண்டுமென்று நிச்சயித்ததும் இவ்வாசிரியர் திரிசாரணச் சின்னங்களை வரவழைக்கின்றனர். அவை வந்தவுடன் தம்மிடத்துள்ள முதிர்ச்சாரணருக்குச் சின்னஞ் சூட்டி விடுகின்றனர். சின்னம் அணிந்ததே இவர்கள் திரிசாரணராகி விடுகின்றனராம்! இனி இவர்கள் தம்மனபோக்கின்படி நடக்கலாம்.

திரிசாரணப் பகுதியில் இவர்கள் புதிதாய்ச் சேர்ந்தவர்களல்லவா? அதனால் இவர்கள் ஆரம்பத்தில் இப்பகுதி முறையில் பற்றாத்தவராய் இருப்பர்; அவ்வற்ற ஊக்கங்கொள்வர். 'அணத்ச் செய்யவேண்டும்; இதைச் செய்யவேண்டும்; அப்படிச் செய்யவேண்டும்; இப்படிச் செய்யவேண்டும்' என்று வெகு ஆடம்பரமாகப் பேசி மனத்தோட்டை கட்டுவர். ஆயினும் தாங்கள் எண்ணியடியெல்லாம் செய்யமுடியவில்லையே என்று சிக்கிரத்திலேயே கண்டு கொள்வர். அப்பொழுது அவர்கள் ஆடு திருட முயன்ற காக்கையைப்போல்

திகைப்பர். முடிவாய் சில நாட்களிலோ, சில மாதங் களிலோ அவர்கள் முன் கட்டிய மனக்கோட்டை யெல்லாம் இடிந்து அழியும். ஆனால் சில இடங்களில் பெருகிய அமைப்பு மட்டும் அழியாது இருக்கலாம் என்றாலும் இத்திரிசாரணர் தமக்கெழுள்ள நேரி தவறி களியாட்டச் சங்கத்தினராகவோ (Sports Club) அல்லது தம்மையே மகிழ்வித்துக்கொள்ளு வதற்குத் தகுந்த வேறு சங்கத்தினராகவோ மாறி விடுவர்.

சாரணப் பயிற்சி யளிக்கும் வகையில் இத்திரி சாரணர் தமக்கு உதவி செய்வார் என்றல்லவா சாரண ஆசிரியர் மனப்பால் குடித்திருந்தார். அவ்விதம் உத வும்படி இப்போலித் திரிசாரணரை அவர் பலமுறை வேண்டினார். அவர் வேண்டுகோளுக்குச் செவி சாய்ப் பவர் திரிசாரணரில் எவருமில்லை. எனவே அவ ருடைய முயற்சியெல்லாம் விழலுக்கு இரைத்த நீரா கும். இதை அறிந்ததும் சாரண ஆசிரியர் மனம் வெறுத்துச் சொல்கிறார்: “திரிசாரண இயக்கம் தவறிய து. செய்கை அளவீற் பார்த்தால் அதனாற் பய னென்றுமில்லை.”

திரிசாரணப்பகுதி யையெப்பை விரும்பும், சாரண ஆசிரியரில் வேறு சிலருண்டு. இவர்கள் தம்மிடத் துள்ள வயதான சாரணரிடம் சிறிது அச்சக்கொண் டுள்ளவர். எவ்விதத்தில் என்று பார்ப்போம். இச் சாரணரிடத்தில் இவர்களின் வயதுக்குத் தகுந்தபடி சில புதிய எண்ணங்கள் எழுகின்றன. அவை ஒவ் வொன்றின்படியும் நடந்துபார்க்க இவர்கள் ஆசைப் படுகின்றனர். தாம் திரிசாரணராகலாம் என்ற எண்ணமும் பிறக்கிறது. சாரண ஆசிரியருக்கோ இவர்களைத் தனது பையனின்மீதும் இழந்துவிட மனம் வராது. ஆனால் அவர்கள் எண்ணத்திற்கு இணங்காவிட்டால் தாமதப் பிரிந்து போய்விடுவார் களோ என்ற பயமும் அவருக்குண்டு. ஆகையால் வேறு வழியில்லாமல் கடைசியில் வேண்டா வெறுப் புடன் அவர்களைத் திரிசாரணராகக் இணங்குகிறார் என்றாலும் அவர்கள் இஷ்டப்படி விட்டுவிடுவா தில்லை. அவர்கள் யாவரையும் தன் விருப்பப்படியே நடக்கும்படி செய்து அவர்களைத் தன் அதிகாரத்திற் குட்படுத்திக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று தன் குன் தீர்மானித்து விடுகிறார். அத்திரிசாரணரின் கூட்டத் திற்குப் போகிறார். அவர்களுடைய தோழராய் நிய மிக்கப் பெறுகிறார். பிறகு அவர்கள் சேர்ந்துள்ள அணி ஒவ்வொன்றையும் தன் மனப்போக்கில் ஆள்கிறார். தான் ஏககாலத்தில் சாரண ஆசிரியராகவும் திரிசாரணத் தோழராகவும் இருப்பதால் பையனின் பொது நன்மைக்கு ஏற்ற வழிகள் தனக்குத்தான் தெரியும் என்பார். “அதைச் செய்” “இதைச் செய்” என்று திரிசாரணருக்கு அடிக்கடி உத்தரவிட்டுக் கொண்டே இருப்பார். பொதுவாய் பருதியின் ஆட்சி யில் அவர் வைத்ததுதான் சட்டம்.

இப்படிப்பட்ட ஆட்சிமுறை அந்த ஆசிரியருக்கு நியாயமானதாகத்தான் தோன்றும். ஆனால் அவரை அண்டிநிற்கும் திரிசாரணரின் மனத்திற்குப் பொருத் துமா? யாராகட்டும் தமது மனத்திற்குப் பொருத்த

மற்ற காரியம் ஒன்றை உற்சாகத்துடன் செய்பவர் உண்டா? இல்லை. அதனால் இத்திரிசாரணர் ஒவ் வொருவராகவோ அல்லது யாவரும் சேர்த்தோ அச் சாரண ஆசிரியரைவிட்டு அகன்று விடுகின்றனர். எனவே “திரிசாரணர் ஒன்றுக்கும் உதவாதவர்” என்ற முறையீடு மறுபடியும் உண்டாகிறது.

மேற்கூறிய சாரண ஆசிரியர் இருவரும் “திரிசாரண இயக்கத்தால் ஒரு பயனுமில்லை” என்று குறை கூறு பவரே. ஆனால் இவர்கள் இந்தச் சித்தார்த்தத்திற்கு வந்தது வெவ்வேறு வழியால். திரிசாரணருக்குச் சுய ஆட்சி அளிக்க முயன்றவர் ஒருவர். அம்முறைக்கு நேர்மாறாக அவர்களைத் தன்னுடைய ஆட்சிக்குட் படுத்த முயன்றவர் மற்றவர். இந்த இரண்டு உதா ரணங்களும் ஏதோ மனோ பாவமாய்ச் சொல்லப் பட்டவையென்று எண்ணவேண்டாம்; அநுபவத்தில் அடிக்கடி கண்கூடாக் கண்டறியப்பட்டவையாம்.

திரிசாரணியம் மேற்கொல்லிய இரண்டு இடத் திலும் தவறியது ஏன்? பிழை திரிசாரணருடையது அன்று. ஆனால் சாரண ஆசிரியருடையதோ? அதுவு மில்லை. ஆசிரியர் தம்மட்டில் பிழை பட்டவரன்று. அவர் எடுத்து ஆண்டமுறைகளே பிழைபட்டவை; இருமுறைகளும் தவறானவை ஆனால் இவ்விரண் டில் ஏதேனும் ஒன்று சிறிசில இடங்களில் பயன் அளிப்பதுபோல் தோன்றும். அதனால் நாம் மயங்கி விடக்கூடாது. அப்படிப் பயன்படுவது மிகவும் அருமை; இது ஒன்றே இம்முறைகள் தவறானவை என்று எடுத்துக்காட்டுவதற்குப் போதுமான சாஷி யாகும்.

ஆனால் திரிசாரணியம் குற்றப்படாமல் நிலைப்பதற் குள்ள நல்ல முறை என்ன? மேற்காட்டிய முறை கள் இரண்டும் பொருத்தமற்றவை; ஒன்றுக் கொன்று மாறுணவை. ஒன்று கட்டுப்பாடு என்பதே இல்லாதது; மற்றொன்று அளவுக்கு மிகுதிய கட்டுப் பாடு உள்ளது. இவ்விரண்டிற்கும் நடுத்தரமாயுள்ள முறையே நல்லமுறை இதன் கருத்தைக் ‘கட்டுறவு’ என்ற ஒரு சொல்லில் அடக்கிவிடலாம்.

தொழில் முறையை எடுத்துக்கொள்வோம். வியா பாரிகளின் சிலருண்டு. இவர்கள் பல தலைமுறைகளாய் வியாபாரஞ்செய்பவர். பழைய வர்த்தகமுறைகளி லேயே பற்றுள்ளவர். “பாட்டனார் இப்படித்தான் செய்தார்; தகப்பனார் இப்படித்தான் செய்தார்; இது தான் வழக்கம்;” என்று சொல்வர். வர்த்தக முறையிலும் பொதுவாகத் தொழில் முறை யிலும் தற்காலத்தில் தோன்றியுள்ள மாறுதல் களையும் அபிவிருத்தியையும் அவர்கள் கருத மாட்டார்கள். நால் நிலைமைக்கு ஏற்றபடி அமையாததால் அவர்களுடைய தொழில் நன்றாக் கண்டபெறுது. இலாபம் குறைந்து கொண்டே வரும். கடைசியில் கடைசியை இழுத்துப் பூட்டவேண்டியது தான். தொழில் செய்பவர்களில் வேறு சிலருண்டு. இவர் நல்ல வாலிபப் பருவத்தவர்; ஊக்கமுள்ளவர்; உற்சாகக்கொண்டவர். இவர் எண்ணாது எண்ண மெல்லாம் எண்ணுவார். தேர்ந்த உபாயகளை எல்லாரு் செய்வார். ஆனாலும் அநுபவ அறிவு இல்லாதவர்.

எட்டுச்சுரைக்காய் கறிக்கு உதவுமா? ஆகையால் இவர்களுடைய தொழிலும் வளர்ச்சி பெறாமல் நாள் டைவில் அழிந்துவிடும். அப்படியானால் தற்காலத்தில் தொழில் எவ்விதமிருந்தால் அது வளர்ந்து செழிக் கும்? கிழவரின் அநுபவ அறிவும் குமாரரின் ஊக்க உற்சாகங்களும் தொழிலில் ஒருங்கு சேரவேண் டும்; இரண்டிற்கும் கூட்டுறவு வேண்டும். தொழில் முறைக்குரிய இக்கூட்டுறவு திரிசாரணியத்திற்கும் வேண்டியதே.

ஆகையால் திரிசாரணர் சிறிது அளவுக்குத்தான் சுய ஆட்சி வகிக்கக்கூடும். முழு ஆட்சியையும் தாமே தாங்க நினைப்பாரானால், மேலே சொன்ன வாலிபத் தொழிலாளரைப்போல் சீரழிய நேரிடும். திரிசா ரணருக்குத் துணையாவது திரிசாரணத் தோழனே. தோழன் தனது சாமர்த்தியத்தால் அவர்களை நல்லபிப் படுத்தக்கூடும். இத்துடன் சுயத்திற்கேற்ற புத்தி மதிகளும், உலகாநுபவமும் அவர்களுக்கு ஒருவர் அடிக்கடி அளித்துவரவேண்டும். அவ்விதம் அளிப்போர் அவர்களைவிட வயதானவராய் இருத்தல் அவசியம். அவர் ளிடம் அநுதாபங்கொண்டு அடிக்கடி நெருங்கிப் பழக்கக்கூடியவராயும் இருக்கவேண்டும்.

திரிசாரணருக்கு வேண்டிய இப்படிப்பட்ட உதவி யினைச்செய்பவர் சாரண ஆசிரியரே. இவர் குமாரருடன் சேர்ந்து உழைக்கவேண்டும். அதற்கேற்ற முறைகளை நன்றாய் அறிந்துகொள்ளவேண்டும். அது தம்மால் இயலாது என்று நினைப்பவர் இக்கடமையை மேற் கொள்ளுவதால் ஒருபயனும் உண்டாகாது. திரிசாரணப் பகுதி குருளையர், சாரணர் பகுதிகளைப்போன்றது அன்று. திரிசாரணப் பகுதியை நிர்வகிப்பது மிகவும் கஷ்டமானது. இதை அறிந்து, தக்கபடி நடந்து கொள்ளமுடியாத சாரண ஆசிரியர் அதற்குத் தகுந்த வேறொருவரைக் கண்டுபிடிக்க முயல்வேண்டும்.

திரிசாரணப்பகுதியை நடத்துக் கடமையைக் கொண்டவரை ‘திரிசாரணத்தலைவர்’ என்ற தனிப் பெயரால் அழைக்கிறோம். இவருக்கும் திரிசாரண ருக்கும் உள்ள உறவைத் தெளிவாய்க் குறிப்பது இப் பெயரே. ‘திரிசாரண ஆசிரியர்’ என்ற பெயரில் இவ் வளவு சிறப்பில்லை.

திரிசாரணத் தலைவருக்கு வாழ்க்கை அநுபவம் வேண்டும்; எல்லையற்ற இரக்கம் வேண்டும்; மிகுந்த பொறுமை வேண்டும். பொதுவாக அவரிடம் உயர்ந்த தன்மை குடிக்கொண்டிருத்தல் அவசியம். அவர் முக் கியமாய் உணரவேண்டியது ஒன்றுண்டு. அது என்ன? குமார் சேர்ந்துள்ள அணியானது சிறுவர் சேர்ந்துள்ள அணியைப் போன்றதல்ல. இவை ஒன் றுக்கொன்றுள்ள வேறுபாட்டை அவர் தெரிந்து கொள்ளவேண்டும். சிறுவர் தமது பருவத்திற்கேற்ற பரபரப்புள்ளவர். குமாரரோ ஆண்மையப் பருவத்தைத் தொடங்குபவர்; இப்பருவ வாழ்க்கையில் அவர்களை அடுக்கும் தன்பக்கள் பல.

இயற்கையாகவே குமாரருள்ள ஒருவன் மிகவும் உற்சாகமுள்ளவனாகவே காண்கிறான்; உயர்ந்த நெறி களிலேயே அவன் தன் மனத்தை நாட்டுகிறான். ஆனாலும் அப்படிப்பட்டவன், அவ்வப்பொழுது தனக் குத் தக்க புத்திமதிகளைச் சொல்லுவார் இல்லாது

போனால் தனது வாழ்க்கையையும், தன்னைச் சேர்ந் தோர் வாழ்க்கையையும் எவ்வளவு பாழாக்கிவிடுகிறான்? இப்புத்திமதிகளைச் சொல்லக்கூடியவர் திரி சாரணத்தலைவர். அவனவனுக்கு ஏற்ற புத்திமதிகளை எப்பொழுது சொல்லவேண்டுமென்பதை அவர் அறிந்து கொள்ளவேண்டும்.

மேலே சொல்லியதிலிருந்து நாம் குறிக்கத்தக்கது ஒன்று உண்டு. திரிசாரணப்பகுதியால் சிறந்த பயன் உண்டாகவேண்டுமானால் அதற்குத் தலைவர் ஒருவர் வேண்டும். சிறந்த பயனை அடைதல்தானே நமது கருத்தும்.

திரிசாரணத் தலைவரிடம் காணப்படுங் குணங்களிற் சிறந்தது பொறுமை. அவர் அறிவாளியாய் இருப்பா ரானால் தானும் ஒரு திரிசாரணனே என்று நினைத் துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்; தமது திரிசாரணருடன் வித்தியாசம் நினைப்பதில் கலந்துகொள்ளவேண்டும். தான் சொல்லவேண்டிய புத்திமதிகளை அளவு கடந்து சொல்லார். அப்படி ஏதேனும் சொல்லும்பொழுது, அவர் சரியான விஷயமொன்றைச் சொல்ல அது திரி சாரணருக்குப் பிடித்தம் இல்லாமற் போகும்; அப் பொழுது அவர் அதைச் சிறிதும் பாராட்டமாட்டார். அவர் இவ்விதம் நடந்து கொண்டால் திரிசாரணர் தாமதவே உண்மையை உணர்ந்துகொள்வர். அப் பொழுது தலைவர் சொல்ல வேண்டியதை ஏற்றுக் கொண்டுருக்கவேண்டுமென்று நினைத்து வருந்துவர். பிற்பாடு தலைவர் எண்ணப்படியே நடந்துகொள்ள முயல்வர்.

திரிசாரணத் தலைவர் திரிசாரணரின் காரியங்களில் அதிகமாகத் தலையிடக்கூடாது என்பது உண்மை; ஆனால் அவர் தனது ஆணையை வலுவில் செலுத்தக் கூடியசமயம் ஒன்றுண்டு. அது யாது? சரியான முறைகள் இவை, என்று எவ்வளவு எடுத்துச் சொன் னாலும் கேட்காமல் தனது திரிசாரணர் சாரணியத்தின் கருத்துக்கு மாறாய் நடக்கும்பொழுதுதான். அப் பொழுது அவர் பிடித்த பிடியை விடக்கூடாது. ஆனால் அவர் அவசரப் படக்கூடாது. தான் அவ்விதம் தலையிடுவதற்குத் தகுந்த காரணங்கள் உண்டா என்று முன்னதாக ஆராய்ந்துகொள்ளவேண்டும். இல்லை யெல், அவர் பல நாட்களாய் பொறுமையுடனும், கருத்துடனும், தீர்ந்த யோசனைபுடனும் திரிசாரண ரிடத்தில் வளர்த்துள்ள நன்மதிப்பு ஒரே நிமிஷத்தில் அழிந்துபோகும்.

திரிசாரணத்தலைமை சிறப்பாய் அமையச் செய் வதற்கு ஒரு சூட்சுமம் உண்டு. தமது தலைவரின் புத்தி மதிகள் நல்லவையே என்று திரிசாரணர் அநுபவத் திற் கண்டறியவேண்டும். அதற்கேற்றபடி தலைவர் நடந்துகொள்ளவேண்டும். தலைவரின் மதிப்பை முதலில் குழுவிலுள்ளோர் பொதுவாக உணர்ந்து விடு வார்களானால் பிறகு ஒவ்வொருவரும் அதைத் தனித் தனியாய் அறிந்துகொள்வது எளிதாகும். ஆகவே, திரிசாரணத் தலைவர் ஒவ்வொருவரும் தம்முடைய குழுவில் உள்ள ஒவ்வொரு திரிசாரணரின் அபிமானத்தையும் பெற முயற்சி செய்யவேண்டும்.

K. சம்பந்தம்

General Headquarter Notice. No. 72.

Dated New Delhi, the 13th March 1930.

318. The year under review has been one of steady progress, as may be seen from the latest census figures. There is no appreciable change in the financial position.

Three Indian State Scout Associations have been created and affiliated during the year under review.

During 1929, 7 Medals of Merit, 2 Certificates of Merit, 4 Silver Crosses for Gallantry and 4 Gilt Crosses for Gallantry were awarded by His Excellency the Chief Scout for India and Burma.

The All-India Boy Scouts Contingent which proceeded to the World Jamboree at Birkenhead represented practically every Province in India, the boys and men being drawn from as far south as the Malabar coast and as far north as Peshawar and Bannu. Several Indian States also sent their representatives. The Indian Contingent was sent in three batches—one batch under Mr. Venkateswaran representing the Bombay Presidency and its area, the second batch under Mr. Oakley of Madras representing Madras, the United Provinces, Bengal and any odd Scouts and Scouters who were travelling, the third batch under Mr. Hogg representing the N.-W. F. P., the Punjab, Bihar and Orissa, the Central Provinces and Hyderabad-Deccan.

The shipping companies helped the Contingent considerably by granting special facilities both with regard to food and sleeping accommodation and everything possible was done to make the Scouts comfortable and happy. Scout Kundan Lal of the Government High School, Kohat, having fallen ill on his voyage to England was left at Port Said in the Sailors' Hospital where the Medical Officer and nurses attended to him and gave him every possible comfort. He remained as an in-patient of the hospital and returned home in August last.

All the Units, and in particular Bihar and Orissa, were very well-disciplined bodies of boys. Mr. S. Ali Akhtar is specially to be congratulated in this connection.

Through the good offices of Major Julian Mr. J. H. Thomson the Scouts had a very happy ten days' tour in Scotland. They also spent ten days in Norfolk organised by Mr. F. L. Brayne, I. C. S. An extensive tour was also made in England and Wales. Everywhere the smart appearance of the boys was appreciated and the kindness and hospitality they received, especially in Scotland, made a deep impression upon the boys.

Khan Bahadur Ahmed Alladin of Hyderabad-Deccan is to be congratulated on his generous donation of £150 for the erection of the All-India Gateway—the finest Gateway in the Jamboree.

Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell paid three visits to the Indian camp. On the first occasion he presented the Jamboree Totem Pole; on the second occasion the Cenotaph flag; and on the third occasion the World Jamboree Standard as a token of the respect and esteem of the Boy Scout Movement for their brother Scouts overseas.

Messrs. Atherton & Co., of Liverpool, very kindly presented three bicycles for prizes in games competitions to the boys. The gift of Messrs W. & R. Jacob & Co., Liverpool, of 400 tins of biscuits which were used on board-ship on the journey home was very much appreciated.

At all times Imperial Headquarters officials were kind and considerate, and much of the comfort the Scouts enjoyed was due to their careful organisation.

On the whole, so far as the British public was concerned, the impression created by the All-India Contingent was excellent, and the Indian Contingent was considered certainly not inferior to any other Contingent which attended the Jamboree.

319. It is notified for general information that the Sangli State Boy Scouts Association has been affiliated to the All-India Boy Scouts Association.

320. His Excellency the Chief Scout for India and Burma has been pleased to appoint His Highness the Chief of Sangli as Chief Scout of the Sangli State Boy Scouts Association.

321. His Excellency the Chief Scout for India and Burma has been pleased to appoint the Hon'ble Lieutenant-Colonel T. K. Keys, C. S. I., C. M. G., C. I. E., as Chief Scout of the Administered Areas, Hyderabad-Deccan Boy Scouts Association.

322. His Excellency the Chief Scout for India and Burma has been pleased to make the following awards:—

Silver Cross for Gallantry.

Scout Jageshwar Prashad of Mahendra Troop, Nagod State. For saving the lives of pilgrims to the Kurduannath fair when bathing in a tank.

District Scoutmaster Sohan Lal Tiwari, Robertson Industrial School, Jubbulpore. For saving a coolie from being buried under debris of a collapsed house.

323. Copies of Scout Census are still available and can be supplied on demand.

G. CUNNINGHAM,

General Secretary,

All-India Boy Scouts Association.

Provincial Headquarters Notices, No. 25.

Dated 15th April 1930.

Correction to Headquarters Notices No. 24.

Dated 15th March 1930.

Under Head—Groups Registered—Coimbatore District.

Reg. No. 29. 12th Coimbatore to Read Reg. No. 30. 12th Coimbatore.

Groups Registered.

(Registration valid only up to 30th September, 1930).

Sections	Madras North District.	Sections
NORTH ARCOT District.	Reg. No.	
Reg. No.	1. 1st Vepery, M. C. T. Muthiah Chettiar's High School, Purasavalkam	C
26. 1st ARKONAM. C.S.M. High School...	S ...	
West Godavari District.	Reg. No.	
Reg. No.	28. 1st Tiruvarur, Board High School	 R
31. 1st Akidu, C. B. M. Higher Elementary School	52. 1st Valangiman, Board School	C
	53. 1st Valoothoor, Ayyampet	... S ...

Warrants Cancelled.

Madras South District.	Tinnevely District.
Scoutmaster.	Scoutmaster.
W. No. 46. S. Rajagopala Aiyer, 12th Triplicane, Hindu High School	W. No.
Assistant Scoutmaster	20 J. Pandiaraj, 8th Palamcottah, St. Xavier's college.
27. A. Manikkavasagam, 6th Royapettah, Paddison Hostel	
Ramnad District.	Trichinopoly District.
Assistant Scoutmaster.	Cubmaster,
W. No. 4. R. Raghava Aiyer, 1st Pallathur, A. C. High School.	W. No.
	2. Harold James Stoste, 12 Trichinopoly

Warrants Issued.

District Commissioner.	Ast. Rover Leader,
Madras: Rao Sahib T. S. Subramania Aiyer, M.A., L.T.	1 K. Venkatasubramanyam, 1st Ellore, Sanivarappetia.
District Scoutmaster.	Madras South Centre District.
Nilgiris: D. Sambasivam Pillai, Ootacamund	Scoutmaster.
Chingelput District.	W. No.
Scoutmasters.	48. A. T. Ramanujam, 1st Saidapet, Teachers' College
W. No.	Ast. Scoutmasters.
14. A. Manickavasagam, 1st Madurantakam, Wesleyan Mission Secondary School	W. No.
15. Samuel Andrew, 1st Tirumani, L. W. Settlement	34. P. Sundaresan, 4th Royapettah, Govt. Madras I Azam, Mount Road
16. P. C. Manickaraj, 1st Karunguli, Wesleyan Mission School	35. S. P. Chinniah, 6th Royapettah, Paddison Hostel
Ast. Scoutmaster.	36. C. Sampathkumaran, 3rd Royapettah, Wesley College
W. No.	
4. Chelliah Jebamoni, 1st Tirumani, L. W. Settlement.	Madura District.
Coimbatore District.	Scoutmasters
Scoutmaster.	W. No.
W. No.	25. N. Yegoam, 2nd Palni, Municipal High School
29. B. S. Krishnan, 12th Coimbatore, Municipal Higher Elementary School, Sukravarpet.	26. S. Krishnaswami Aiyer, 1st Periyakulam, V. M. High School
Ast. Scoutmaster.	27. R. Venkatachalapathy Aiyer, 2nd Periyakulam, V. M. High School
W. No.	28. R. Divakaran, 1st Pattavirampatti, Board High School
10. A. S. Ramarow, 12th Coimbatore, Municipal Higher Elementary School, Sukravarpet.	Ast. Scoutmasters
Godavari West & Kistna Districts.	W. No.
Rover Leader.	4. B. V. Lakshmanan, 1st Palni, Municipal High School
W. No.	5. J. Samiraj James, 2nd Palni, Municipal High School
1. K. Satyanarayana, 1st Palakol, Municipal High School.	

6. P. Aiyasami, 1st Periyakulam, V. M. High School
 7. Y. Nagabushnam Aiyer, 2nd Periyakulam, V. M. High School

Cubmaster,

W. No.

3. S. Venkateswaran, 3rd Periyakulam, V. M. High School

Nilgiris District.**Scoutmaster,**

W. No.

22. Frank C. Paulie, 15th Nilgiris, St. Joseph's College, Coonoor

Asst. Scoutmaster.

W. No.

3. Gerald Lincoln Carner, 1st Nilgiris, Brecks School, Ootacamund

Cubmaster.

W. No.

2. (Miss) Myrtle Richards, 6th Nilgiris, St. George's Homes, Ketti

Ramnad District.**Scoutmaster**

W. No.

21. Y. Srinivasa Aiyer, 2nd Ramnad, Raja's High School.

Rover Leader.

W. No.

2. M. Manthiranayagam Pillai, 1st Ramnad, Govt. Trg. School

Assistant Rover Leader.

W. No.

1. A. L. Seetharama Ayyangar, 1st Ramnad, Govt. Trg. School

Tanjore District.**Rover Leader.**

W. No.

5. R. Rajagopalachari, 1st Tiruvarur, Board High School

Assistant Scoutmaster.

W. No.

32. T. A. Srinivasulu, 6th Tanjore, Borstal School

Cubmaster.

W. No.

27. K. Mahalingam Pillai, 2nd Tanjore, Govt. Trg. School

28. E. V. Thiruvengadatha Aiyengar, 1st Pattukottai, Board High School.

Tinnevely District.**Scoutmaster.**

W. No.

22. S. A. Srinivasan, 1st Arumuganeri Elementary School

Trichinopoly District.**Scoutmaster.**

W. No.

20. N. Srinivasan, 13th Trichinopoly, 38 Chinnakadai Street

Assistant Scoutmaster.

W. No.

7. K. Chinniah, 13th Trichinopoly, Vanapatturai Street

The following attended the 1st Commissioners' Course held at the Provincial Training Centre Coonoor, from 1st to 5th April 1930.

- Mr. A. B. Shetty, South Kanara
 .. V. Govindan, Malabar North
 .. K. Rayru Nayar, Malabar North
 .. P. Kunhiraman Nayar, Malabar South
 .. V. C. Subbaya Gownder, Coimbatore
 .. P. Venkatesan, Anantapur
 .. T. S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras
 .. M. G. Parthasarathi Mudaliar, South Arcot
 .. M. K. R. Dikshitalu, Vizagapatam
 .. R. Krishna Iyer, Madura

- Mr. P. Punniiah, Nellore
 .. A. L. Narayana Rao, Vizagapatam
 .. C. Doraswami Aiyah, North Arcot
 .. D. Swami Doss, Nellore
 .. H. J. Ari Gowder, Nilgiris
 .. C. Venkataramana Aiyer, Chittoor
 .. R. M. Savur, Salem
 .. N. Venkatarama Aiyer, Salem
 .. A. Vasudeva Rao, Mysore
 .. K. R. Ramabadrana, Travancore

Provincial
 Scout Head-Quarters,
 P. O. Box 424, Madras,
 16-4-30.

C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar

Provincial Commissioner.

THE SOUTH INDIA BOY SCOUT

THE BOYS' SECTION.

BE STRONG.

Be strong!

We are not here to play, to dream, to drift;
 We have hard work to do, and loads to lift:
 Shun not the struggle—face it! 'tis God's gift.

Be strong!

Say not, 'The days are evil. Who's to blame?'
 And fold the hands and acquiesce—oh shame!
 Stand up, speak out and bravely, in God's name.

Be strong!

It matters not how deep entrenched the wrong,
 How hard the battle goes, the day how long;
 Faint not—fight on! To-morrow comes the song.

—Maltbie Davenport Bablock.

Science and Invention.

Digging Coal at the Surface.

It is not always necessary for miners to go deep down in the earth to bring up coal. Sometimes the coal is to be found quite near the surface, covered with a thin layer of earth and rock called the 'overburden.' This surface layer is loosened by a scientific process known as 'shooting,' liquid oxygen being used. A powerful machine known as a drag-line, which carries huge buckets, scoops off the upper portion of the debris. Then a huge shovel weighing sixteen hundred tons is used to dig out the coal itself. This shovel picks up enough material to fill twenty trucks and can lift it about eighty-five feet in the air. Huge as it is, this giant can be operated by a single man.

African Nitrates.

The nitrate beds in Chile have been and are a wonderful source of natural wealth. The prediction by an eminent scientist that the deposits might become exhausted, led to the discovery of the synthetic process of extracting nitrates. Nitrates are necessary for the manufacture of explosives in war. They are no less necessary to agriculture, being the best of fertilizers. Recently a region of mineral deposits similar to that in Chile has been found in South West Africa. This is a discovery of vast economic importance.

Silk from the Air.

Dr. Herbert Levinstein, speaking in London, made the amazing prediction that in a few years, cellulose, which is the raw material of paper, artificial silk and other substances will be obtained from the air, instead of from 'wood pulp.' Research has shown that cellulose and sugar come from the same chemical unit and since sugar has already been prepared from carbon-dioxide and water vapour existing in the air, it is quite possible that cellulose, too, will be obtained in the same way. This will be a great boon to the industrial world, as the Norwegian and Canadian forests from which wood pulp is obtained are being consumed at an alarming rate.

Electricity from the Sea.

An attempt is being made in Australia to obtain water-power from the sea. The waves run in and out of a channel cut out of the rocks, causing floats to bob up and down. These floats in turn work water-pumps which force the water into high tanks. From these tanks the water is pumped into turbines which drive dynamos and thus generate power.

Substitute-Sunshine.

Workers in the dark, such as mine-workers, are now being given artificial sunshine. At first this treatment was only for the sick, but lately it has been applied to underground workers. A sun-room has been installed in a hospital in an American town where workers are brought whose occupation prevents them from seeing the sun. The installation consists of a narrow moving platform equipped with six ultra-violet ray lamps. After a shower-bath, the men step on to the moving platform and ride through the cabinet. This lasts for a minute and the treatment is given three times a week. It is believed that by the general use of this apparatus, colds and other diseases of the respiratory system are prevented. The treatment acts as a tonic to the system and fortifies it against disease. In order to secure the best result, it must be taken regularly.

Train-Wireless.

First-class passengers on the trains from La Havre to Paris can now enjoy radio-music. Music and talks from different stations are tuned in at regular intervals. Passengers can hire a pair of headphones from the attendant and listen in.

Telegraphed Pictures.

Pictures are now being telegraphed from England to Germany at the rate of 1s. 4d. per square inch. The process by which this is done was described in THE TREASURE CHEST for May. So far the sending of pictures by wireless has been a private enterprise, but the system has now been adopted by the post office. The new public

service was inaugurated early this year by the Postmaster General in London who sent the first message accompanied by his photograph. It is expected that the system will be used chiefly for newspaper work, as it will be very useful for rushing press articles. It can also be used for transmitting cards in the sender's writing, legal documents, cheques, patterns and fashion plates. If there is sufficient demand, the Post Office hopes to extend the service to other Continental countries. The rates at present are high, but the fact that the post office has adopted the system is a sign that in future, the service will be cheap and easy.

The Hottest Flame.

A flame has been discovered so hot that it will cut through a bar of metal with the greatest ease. It is made by blowing finely powdered aluminium through a blow pipe. As the powder leaves the blow pipe it is met by a swift current of oxygen. When lighted the flame produces terrific heat.

Bakelite.

Bakelite is a new substance invented by a man named Backeland. A mixture of certain chemicals produces a resin, which looks like amber, but which is much harder. It can be sawn or drilled, and can be coloured to resemble ivory, tortoise shell, mother-of-pearl, ebony or polished hardwood. This resinous substance is called Bakelite, and it is extremely useful to electricians because it is a splendid non-conductor; it is non-inflammable, insoluble in water, and cannot be influenced by corrosive gases. For these reasons it is valuable not only for ornaments such as beads, buttons, umbrella-handles, brush-handles and combs, but also in the chemical trade.

Cosmic Rays.

Cosmic rays consist of an intense form of radiation coming from every portion of interstellar space. It has been discovered that these rays are able to pierce five hundred feet into the earth, and whereas the strongest X-rays can pass through only half an inch of lead, the cosmic rays will pierce eighteen feet. In the opinion of Dr. Millikan, the leading physicist of America, the continual birth of vast quantities of

energy in the form of cosmic rays points to the fact that the creation of new life in the universe keeps pace with death and decay.

A Radio Triumph.

An aeroplane, flying over New York at an altitude of 1,500 feet, was able to communicate by telephone with a ship 700 miles at sea. The voices came through as clearly as they would have done over a land wire.

British Helium.

Helium gas, which is needed for filling airships, has hitherto come from the United States, where it is found in natural gas. The Chemical Research Laboratory at Teddington, England, has discovered a means of extracting this gas from the monazite sands used in making incandescent gas mantles. Monazite occurs in abundance at Travancore, in India.

Paper from the Skies.

Cellulose is a wonderful substance contained in the air. It is composed of atoms of carbon, oxygen and hydrogen, and masses of small crystals. As we derive nitrogen from the air for explosives and fertilizers, so a never-ending supply of cellulose may be obtained from the air. Sugar and cellulose come from the same chemical units, and sugar has already been built up in a laboratory, from the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and the water vapour present everywhere. Cellulose is the raw material from which paper, artificial silk, and many other substances are made. It is quite possible that paper may yet be manufactured from the air.

Cotton—a Substitute for Wood.

Cotton can now be used as a substitute for wood. After passing through a new secret process, the effect is wonderful. The cotton becomes so hard that it can be used for making furniture, being sawn, carved, and polished just like wood.

More Wealth from Nothing.

Leucite, a rock of volcanic origin, found in great quantities in Italy is likely to be of great economic value to the country. This rock, hitherto considered useless, has been found

to contain valuable deposits of aluminium, which is being extracted on such a scale as to make Italy a leading producer of this metal. An alloy of aluminium, known as duraluminium, is largely used in making aircraft and as a substitute for copper in electrical conductors. Leucite also provides a very valuable manure, which will make Italian agriculture independent of foreign potash.

The Fly on the Wheel.

It has been discovered that the deadly tsetse fly which carries the germ of malarial fever, is itself carried from one place to another by motor car wheels. This question of spreading infection by motor transport is becoming important. There is no corner of Africa that can be safe from the disease, since motor transport has reached the outlying parts of the continent.

Chemical Warfare.

Dr. Levenstein's opinion on the subject of chemical warfare has given rise to much comment. He holds that gas is a more humane weapon than shell fire, since it disables men without killing them. But he seems to ignore the suffering and the permanent injury involved, as well as the fact that gas warfare will be employed against non-combatants, including women and children. The question now

arises as to the legality of the use of poisonous gases. When the Germans used chlorine gas and made a gap eight miles wide in the British lines, they were accused of having broken the rules of the Hague Convention of July, 1899. They, however, claimed that since the gas had been discharged from cylinders and not projectiles, as stated in the Convention, they were not in the wrong.

Flying Doctors.

Five doctors who lately attended the Pan-American Medical Association Convention did something unusual and interesting. Instead of taking the train, they packed everything into two Pan-American Airway planes, and started on a tour of Caribbean countries under the name of the 'Flying Clinic.' Their work was to spread a knowledge of the latest surgical and medical practices among the South American doctors who were unable to attend the conference. Other doctors are following their example.

The Alberta Travelling Clinic, consisting of two doctors, two dentists and four nurses, report that last year they performed 2,408 tonsil and adenoids operations, and extracted 2,775 teeth. In the remote parts of Canada medical facilities are so scant that the patients bring their own beds to the clinic.

(By courtesy of the "Treasure Chest.")

Etiquette for Juniors.

BY MISS MANNERS.

Letters.

THE manner of writing a letter is a clue to one's training and character. Therefore it is necessary to know the correct forms as well as to have the right ideas.

The materials for writing must be of good quality, for they have much to do with the impression (favourable or otherwise) that is made upon the reader. The ink must be good, pencils having no place in letter-writing. The paper must also be of a good quality, white being the preferred colour. A girl or woman may use tinted paper, but a man never.

Neatness and legibility are essential in a letter. Straight, clear-cut margins should extend down both sides of the paper. The margin on the left should vary from half an inch for personal letters to an inch or more for letters of business and for formal invitations and acceptances. The right-hand margin is necessarily uneven, but should balance the left-hand margin.

Do not crowd the lines of a letter too closely together, nor place them too far apart. Do not use ruled paper for letters. If you cannot write in straight lines, use a line-guide under the paper. This can be bought at any stationer's.

Social notes and letters should never be type-written. All business letters are preferably type-written. Newsy letters to friends, and long, semi-business letters to acquaintances when typed have begun to be considered correct, chiefly because of the greater ease in reading them.

Letter Paper.

Every letter must contain the address of the sender and the date. The sender's address may be printed or engraved, on paper used for business correspondence, about one inch from the top of the paper in the exact centre of the page. For social correspondence, the address is in the upper left or right corner.

Envelopes.

The address should be written legibly and neatly, not only for the sake of the appearance of the letter, but to insure correct and prompt delivery.

A return address should be written or printed in the upper left-hand corner of the envelope, or on the flap. This is a necessity from the point of view of the post office.

Beginning a Letter.

A friendly letter or note may begin with either 'Dear Karuna,' or 'My dear Karuna.' 'My dear' is slightly more formal than 'Dear.'

When writing a business letter, the full name and address of the person to whom the letter is written are placed at the beginning of the letter on the left side, on a line a little lower than the line of the date. Thus :

April 1, 1930.

The Manager,
'The Times of India,'
Bombay.

SIR OR DEAR SIR,

Each line of the salutation may either touch the margin (as above) or may be indented three typewriter spaces nearer the right. As :

The Manager,
'The Times of India,'
Bombay.

Body of the Letter.

A business letter should be clear, short and courteous. The opening sentence should contain the reason for writing, and the matter should be stated in the fewest possible words.

A social letter should be sincere and honest, and contain nothing that you are not willing the whole world should know. One must remember the danger of letters going astray, and falling into unexpected hands, and also the possibility that the recipient of the letter may show it to others. A social letter should contain in general what you would say to the person if you were talking instead of writing. No anger or malicious gossip should ever find its way into a letter. Above all, no letter should be sent anonymously, for that is done only by sneaks and cowards.

Closing the Letter.

For the business letter, 'Yours faithfully' is the most common form, sometimes following a polite closing phrase. As,

Hoping that you will find it possible to grant this request,

Yours faithfully.

It is considered rather old-fashioned to use the phrase, 'Believe me,' before 'Yours faithfully,' and 'I remain,' though sometimes used, is generally considered unnecessary.

'Sincerely yours,' is the proper ending for a letter to an acquaintance, 'Affectionately yours' to members of one's family or the closest friends.

Answering Letters.

Business letters must be answered as soon as possible after receiving them.

Social letters should be answered within a few weeks.

Curiosity a Sin.

Never read over the shoulder of a person who is writing.

Never read letters and postcards addressed to another, even though opened and lying about.

Never open a sealed letter belonging to another. This is a criminal offence, and could be punished with imprisonment.

If a friend asks you to deliver a note, he will leave it unsealed out of courtesy, but you must never read such a letter before delivering it.

[Next month the etiquette of invitations and acceptances will be discussed.]

(By courtesy of the Treasure Chest.)

Lines Worth Your thought.

Sow an act, reap a habit;
Sow a habit, reap a character;
Sow a character, reap a destiny.

Life is mostly froth and bubble,
Two things stand like stone;
Kindness in another's trouble;
Courage in your own.

A. L. Gordon.

He who knows not, and knows not that he knows not, he is a fool,
Shun him!
He who knows not, and knows that he knows not, he is teachable,
Teach him!
He who knows, and knows not that he knows, he is asleep,
Wake him!
He who knows, and knows that he knows, he is wise,
Follow him.

It is easy enough to be pleasant,
When life flows along like a song,
But the man worth while
Is the man who can smile
When everything goes dead wrong.
When the whole blamed world seems gone to pot,
And business on the bum,
A lifted chin and a two cent grin
Help some, my boy, help some.

For every ill beneath the Sun
There is some remedy or none.
Should there be one, resolve to find it;
If not, submit, and never mind it.

Gold in the Garden.

(BY AUNT EDITH)

"I wish our dog would scratch up a pile of gold in our garden," sighed Clarence. "He never scratches up anything but dirty old bones which he probably buried himself a month before. I suppose ours is not a fairy garden at all, and I am sure there is nothing fairy-like about the dirty old pond just over the hedge in the field there."

"There is gold in the pond, gold in the wood, and gold in the garden," murmured a soft voice mysteriously.

Clarence jumped up from the grass where he had been lying and peered sharply about him, but could see no one. "It must have been my fancy," he muttered to himself, "for I simply won't believe in fairies—that's

a girl's notion! "Gold in the pond, gold in the wood, and gold in the garden," he repeated to himself. "Well, I suppose I must set to work and dig."

Just then his sister Lilla came around the corner with her doll in her arms to where Clarence was lying on the turf under a bush. "Who were you talking to, Clarry?" she asked. "I heard you speaking as I came around the corner."

Then Clarence told her all about it: how he had been reading a Japanese fairy tale where the old dog digs up a pile of gold in the corner of the garden and makes his master and mistress—a very poor old couple—wealthy for life; what he had said and what he had heard the soft voice reply.

"Gold in the pond, gold in the wood, and gold in the garden," Lilla repeated softly to herself. "I wonder who it was spoke and what she meant?"

Lilla sat down beside Clarence under the bush, and they neither of them spoke for a while. Then Clarence said: "I know Dad would sell the old place if he could get an offer, but nobody wants it! I wonder if there is any gold in the pond? Let's go and dip it out, Lilla!"

"With a teaspoon or a shell?" queried Lilla with a twinkle, for the pond was large and deep. Then suddenly glancing up, she exclaimed: "Why, Clarry, look! 'Gold in the garden,' you are sitting under a bush that is smothered in gold—the golden broom that mother brought back from Scotland with her, and that she loves so dearly. She calls it her bush of golden memories, you know! And look, there is the gorse, golden, golden as can be; and—and—Yes, I know. Come, Clarry, come down to the Pond!"

Over the garden hedge and into the sedgy field they jumped. Yes, there was the gold again; the pond was covered with gold and white water-lilies, floating like fairy ships at anchor among their flat leaves.

"Gold in the pond," whispered Lilla, "and look, Clarry, at all the golden saxifrage around the edge. Plugs and king-cups grow in the rushy part, too, you know. Clarry, the field is full of gold!"

"But where do you find gold in the wood, Lill?" asked Clarence, loth that Lilla should be so easily satisfied and not sharing in her joy. Lilla thought just a moment, puckering up her eyes so funnily to think hard.

"Why, of course, Clarry, there is gold in the wood. The daffodils and crocuses in the spring, and all those goldy anemones that fall to pieces so soon if we gather them, and look so lovely if we don't, and buttercups and primrose—"

"And," broke in Clarence, "all those trees that blew down in the hurricane in the winter, Dad is going to sell them, and that will be money—if not gold, paper!"

He had quite recovered his cheerful spirits and lost his foolish desire for fairy gold; he had become infected with Lilla's enthusiasm for finding gold in the pond, gold in the garden, gold in the wood, and very pleased with himself for that last suggestion.

They strolled back through the field as they chattered, and as they re-entered the garden they saw a lady coming in at the garden gate. "The rich lady at 'Keewaydin'," whispered Lilla as they ran forward to meet her.

"Good morning," she said gaily, "here comes a beggar at your gate craving gold from your rich store. Do you think your mother will give me any?"

"But you are not a beggar," said Lilla shyly. "You are the rich lady at 'Keewaydin,' and my mother is poor. She has not much money," she added, looking very puzzled.

"Not any gold?" exclaimed the lady. "Oh, my dears, you make a great mistake! Why, look around your garden, and at water lilies in the pond."

"Oh, yes, yes!" interrupted Lilla, looking very excited and feeling very relieved. "Gold in the pond, gold in the garden, and gold in the wood. How funny that you should come for gold." Then Lilla told her all about Clarence and the fairy voice, and she was so interested.

"Yes," she said impressively, "money is not riches, only wealth, you see; that is why I called myself a beggar. I have a new house, I know, but it has no memories in it, no gold as yet in its garden, no Lilla and Clarry; no mother and father, no one but my lonely self. All my riches have flown away from me, and that is why I call my house 'Keewaydin.' I can watch the sunset sky. Now come along and ask your mother to let me have a few of your water lilies. I have a real live princess coming to dinner with me to-night, and I want my decorations to be all gold and white. I should like water lilies to float in bowls. Do you think your mother will spare me them?"

"Rather!" replied Clarence, "and I will take the punt and gather them."

Of course mother said "Yes," and as their new friend departed with her gold she promised to bring the princess next morning to see the pond, the garden, and the wood. As she walked to the gate with Lilla and Clarence she recited this little verse to them:

Gold may buy a garden.
And gold may pay for seeds,
And gold may purchase service
To keep it free from weeds;
But not the gold of Croesus
Can purchase sun and rain,
Nor fill a heart with patient zeal
To clean and garner grain.
The life which glads the garden
Is a gift from God above.
And all He asks in payment
Is the golden gift of Love.

(The "Madras Mail.")

To the Boy who reads this.

DEAR JACK,

Very likely that isn't your name, but I must have something to call you by, as I want a chat with you. What about? Why, Kim's Game, and "Blind Pirate," and Knot Tying, and Ambulance Work, and going to Camp and a lot of other things. About Scouting, in fact. You know, you miss a lot because you are not a Scout.

Nothing doing? Then you don't know much about Scouting, old chap; that's evident. For it's a grand game. Or perhaps you know that there is something in it, but you have never troubled about it for yourself? Well, let me tell you a little about how we play the Scouting game.

Be a Man.

First of all, if you looked in at a Scout Troop Meeting, you'd find that a large part of the evening was given to games. Boys under eleven, of course, go to a Cub Pack, where it is nearly all games; though in the Pack there are plenty of other interesting things to do, which help to make good Scouts later on. But fellows over eleven go to a Scout Troop where games still have a big place—mostly games which help to make you active and alert, for a Scout is a fellow who can

keep his eyes skinned, and see all that there is to be seen. The games in a Troop go well, because everyone tries to put his best into the game, and to remember that a game is most enjoyable when everybody enjoys it. I mentioned two of the favourite games when I began, but there are a lot more. And there are heaps of other things to do as well, because a Scout is a fellow who is learning to look after himself and to be an all-round "handy man." It is not much fun to be a boy of the sort who needs a nurse to look after him, is it?

Learn To Do Things!

So Scouts practise cooking—then there's no bother about grub when you go to Camp, only the fun of cooking it, ending in a meal you thoroughly enjoy because it is cooked properly. You learn to tie knots as they should be tied—ever seen anyone's parcel come open as they went down the street, because that knot slipped? That doesn't happen to a Scout. Do you know how to tie a horse up to a tree, so that he can't get away and yet you can loose him in half a second when you want to ride off? Or how to tie a chair knot, for lowering a person down from the upper window of a house on

fire? Then there's Ambulance work; you can get a Badge for that, besides being able to do the right thing at once if you, or anyone else, gets hurt. Of course a Scout learns all about the Union Flag, because he's proud of his Country, and his King.

If you've got a hobby, such as Photography, you can bring that into Scouting, too. You can get Proficiency Badges for most hobbies providing you know enough about your subjects to pass the tests! That's a good thing too because you have to buck up and master your subject instead of just playing at things like some chaps do.

Among Friends.

"Sounds all right," perhaps you are thinking, "but I don't much fancy going among a crowd of twenty or thirty strange chaps, where I am a 'new boy'—the only one who doesn't know the ropes." Well, the Chief Scout thought of that when he started Scouting and a Scout Troop is made up of *Patrols*—each consisting of six to eight boys—the Wood-pigeon Patrol, the Otters, the Bulldogs and so on. One of the boys who knows the game well is the Patrol Leader and arranges the Patrol doings and all that sort of thing. So you will not find yourself just one new chap among a lot of strangers; you go at once into a Patrol and from the very start you have a Leader and half a dozen special chums to see to it that you share all the fun and help you on with your Scouting. And when the Scoutmaster is arranging things for the whole Troop, the Patrol Leaders meet as a "Court of Honour" to help him.

In Camp.

There are heaps of other things I should like to tell you about, only there isn't room here; when you join a Troop, you'll find it all out for yourself. But I say, Jack, I must tell you a bit about camp; that's the jolliest part of all; living out in the open; sleeping in a tent. No, I don't call that sort of thing "roughing it," for you soon learn to make up your bed so that it's quite as comfortable as your bed at home; and there are any amount of camp gadgets you can

make for yourself. Camp is a very comfortable place, indeed, for Scouts who "know the game."

There will be the camp for the whole Troop in the summer, and probably your Patrol Leader will arrange some week-end camps for your own Patrol as well.

In camp you can pick up a lot of Scouting knowledge, learn to find your way across country with a compass, and without it; how to put a temporary bridge or build a shelter for the night. Then there is swimming and woodcraft—in fact the days seldom seem long enough for all you want to crowd in, but the best of all is when you gather round the Camp Fire for a sing-song at the end of the day and listen to a yarn of adventure or heroism while the sparks fly upward.

Happy! Healthy And Helpful!

Everyone knows the Scout uniform now-a-days. It looks quite as smart as best clothes, and is far more comfortable; it is meant for working and playing in, not as something you put on in order to sit still and look pretty. But it means something, too; and so does the Scout sign.

For one thing, it means that you are one of a big brotherhood, spreading all over the world, all trying to help one another to play the Scouting Game, not only the part of it that I have been talking about but the bigger part as well. For Scouts, *real* Scouts, are decent chaps because they are trying to keep the Rules of the Games—that is, the Scout Law. And the Scout Law is the finest Law a fellow can have. Scouting is not a thing that is all for yourself, either. Nothing is much fun if you try to keep it all to yourself. And so Scouts are always on the look-out for chances of doing a good turn to somebody else; this is a point of honour.

And now, Jack, will you make up your mind to do the thing which will enable me to sign myself.

Your Sincere Brother Scout,

GREY WOLF.

(I. H. Q. Pamphlet.)

First Steps in Flying!

BY SIR ROBERT BADEN-POWELL, BT.

(On whom a peerage has been conferred).

The First Steps in Flying.

EVERY Scout I meet with nowadays seems to want to be an airman, and I don't blame him. But before you can be a flier you've got to learn a good many steps towards flying.

A lot of these steps can come into your work as a Scout; the Airman's Badge gives you a good lead and a good training in the right direction.

One of the very first things if you are going to be an airman is to know something about the air; and a good way of finding this out is through kite-flying.

Have you ever read "Danny Again"? It is a book all about the adventures of Wolf Cubs. One of the stories—and it is founded on fact—tells how a Wolf Cub went up on a kite in the Isle of Wight and broke loose and sailed away across the Solent and landed eventually in the grounds of Netley Hospital. Some flight!

My brother, who is an airman, began many years before aeroplanes were invented by ballooning and kite-flying. He was so fond of ballooning that I called him a balloonatic (which is the short for bally lunatic). But he also went in for kites such as would lift a man high up into the sky.

I remember going to dine with my brother one night when he was camped with his regiment near Aldershot.

He had been flying his kite up to a late hour before dinner, and not having time to pull it down and dismantle it he left it flying with the string made fast to a stake.

In the darkness a sentry found the string straining away up into the sky. He took a big haul on it, but with only small effect. So taking a turn or two of the string round

his arm in order to get a firmer hold, he gave a big pull.

This was resented by the kite, which "zoomed" upwards towards the moon and lifted the soldier well off his legs into mid-air.

Not knowing what was happening to him, the sentry began to yell like a bull, and we all hurried out of the mess tent to find him dangling, greatly alarmed at his adventure but in no way damaged.

With frequent practice in kite-flying, a Scout will get to know about the best balance and shape for kite wings, and the variations of wind, air-pockets, etc.; and this is all jolly useful knowledge, much of which cannot be learnt from books.

Then he must get to know all about the build of the different kinds of aeroplanes, and also know the names of their different parts and what are their uses, and finally have a good knowledge of the airplane engines.

Scouts can do and have done a great deal of useful work by knowing the different parts of the flying machine, and how to handle them when on the ground, especially in the matter of anchoring the machine by means of ropes and tent-pegs over the fuselage and lower planes, nose, and blocking the wheels with logs and stones, and protecting the engine, propeller, cockpit, and so on, from the weather, and keeping the crowd from touching or interfering with important parts of the rigging.

Over and over again airmen have been thankful for the help of Scouts trained in this way when they have had to make forced landings.

(The "Scout")

Henry Ford—The Man and His Methods.

BY S. N.

PROBABLY the most widely known fact about Henry Ford is that he is the world's wealthiest man, and of all facts about Henry Ford probably the least interesting. I have come across several interesting newspaper estimates of Ford's riches. One paper put it somewhat prosaically as five hundred and fifty million dollars. Another went out of the way and engaged in a tortuous mathematical process and concluded by announcing the discovery that Ford's wealth, if spread in a line of dollars across the Atlantic, beginning from New York, would reach Liverpool and that there would be a few thousand dollars left after that, the latter presumably for distribution among the unemployed dock workers of Liverpool. It is not worth while examining the accuracy of such estimates for it leads us nowhere.

Probably the least known fact about Henry Ford is that the minimum wage in the Ford works is six dollars a day, that more than 60 per cent of the workers get more than that. Many will say why shouldn't Ford pay that when he can afford it? It is not so. Wages are high in the Ford works, not because the industry is making enormous profits. Ford claims that the business has prospered because he pays the right (which to us seems a high) wage. He does not believe in high wages as a piece of philanthropy or trade unionism. He is as a matter of fact opposed to both. He believes paying reasonable wages is sound business policy. Among his workers are two hundred thousand men, who are also customers of the Ford Motor Company—they all own cars. "There can be no true prosperity," says Ford, "until the worker upon an ordinary commodity can buy what he makes." Ford has analysed the jobs in his works and has found some of them could be managed by blind men, some by dumb and so forth. He has employed only men suffering from defective organs at these jobs; and the works are not the worse for it. He has scattered his works all over one portion of rural America.

Wheels are made at one place, nuts and screws in another, and the glass parts at a third. He did this rather suddenly, when he found that the magnitude of the factories and the business was fast paralysing the transport and traffic facilities of Detroit. These various parts of the motor car are brought together by an intelligent system of land and water transport, the cost of which is practically negligible. This scheme of decentralising the industry and distributing the factories in rural areas provided substantial subsidiary (and in some cases primary) occupation for a section of the rural population and eliminated all the evils of a factory town with its concomitant creation of slums.

Ford rarely discharged a workman save in cases of exceptional inefficiency or dishonesty, which rarely happened. Ford believes that no trade union leader will ever come between a sensible businessman and his workman, and it is his view that labour leaders are people who lead workmen to hell. He believes in a eight hour working day not only because it is humane, but also because it secures the highest efficiency in work while it gives a workman time to live in addition to making a living. He employs women workers, only if they are widows or unmarried or have husbands who cannot earn and he prefers employing aged women to young because the latter can get jobs easily and he pays them the right wage. Ford keeps a close watch on his workmen's standard of living. In factories situated outside urban areas the workman is kept in touch with the rest of the world, by telephone, radio, the pictures and the automobile. There is no such thing as working overtime in the Ford works and if any man did work overtime he is asked to explain why. Henry Ford has one principle guiding him throughout and that is this: that next to achieving high quality in production, paying reasonable wages to the man who produces is the great secret of business success. Ford, by the way, has no secrets anywhere in his business and there is no process in the

Ford works, however original, that the world is not allowed to observe or even copy.

Probably Ford's greatest business achievement was his gradual lowering of the cost of production, a benefit which he gradually transferred to the consumer. In addition to increasing the world's purchasing power, he has a tremendous faith in cheapening the cost of the things purchased and his solution for the problem of the world's poverty is high wages and low cost of production. This is not as vicious a circle as people generally imagine.

From the time Henry Ford, as a boy dreamt of the horseless carriage and created a mild sensation by driving through the streets of Detroit in his first gasoline buggy nearly half a century ago, up to the time he achieved in the Ford works the capacity of manufacturing 8,000 cars a day, it has been his one purpose to knock down the cost of production till the market widened and the automobile was financially within the reach of every honest working man in America. This he achieved, by lowering the cost of the raw material put into the car and putting in as little of the raw material as he could, without impairing the strength of the car, and today, according to Ford, there is not a cent worth of raw material in the Ford Car that is not necessary. "About fifty dollars worth of raw material," says he, "is transformed into twenty horse power mounted on wheels."

His method was as usual simple, to go back to the sources. He found at a certain stage that he was consuming one-fourth of glass produced in America. He purchased a glass factory forthwith and found to his amazement that by introducing more up to date methods of manufacture, he could get better glass at considerably less cost and, what was more, with very much less waste. The same thing happened with coal, timber, steel and a hundred other things with the result that one fine morning Ford found himself owning railways, steamships, coal mines, quarries, hydro-electric power sources, timber forests and a thousand other things all incidental and necessary to his single industry, motor car making. He has several

thousand acres under flax cultivation to supply the daily needs of his industry in the manufacture of his well known artificial leather. "Up to December 1925, the Ford works had, through cars and tractors, added to the world nearly three hundred million mobile horse power or about ninety-seven times the potential horse power of Niagara falls." People have come to call this the age of the machine. Ford would rather call it the age of power or the dawn thereof. He wants to know why a man should do imperfectly and slowly what a machine can do uniformly and quickly. "The function of the machine," says Ford, "is to liberate man from brute burdens and release his energies to the building of his intellectual and spiritual powers for conquests in the fields of thought and higher action. The machine is the symbol of man's mastery of his environment." If ten Ford tractors could plough thousand acres in eleven days, that is to say, do the work that would have required one thousand men and five hundred oxen, is it not idle to talk of the dangers of unemployment that will result from mechanising agricultural operations? Ford denounces the theory that machines by replacing men, will cut off the working man from the means of his livelihood as execrable economics and he refutes it in the light of experience in his own factories.

He believes that with sound management success in business is inevitable. By sound management he does not mean red tape or elaborate organisation, which are his pet aversion. He only means there must be men of vision at the helm of departments and not men who are obsessed by false notions of business organisation. Another feature of the Ford business is the declaration of war against waste. In every department there are devices with which to eliminate waste and to deal with the waste which the devices have not succeeded in eliminating there is a salvaging department, which alone earns over 20,000,000 dollars a year. "But," asks Ford, "why should we have so much to salvage? Are we not giving more attention to reclaiming than not wasting?" Ford finds new uses every day for every one of the by-products of which

there are thousands in the Ford factories. Ford attributes his success in introducing newer methods in the factories to his tendency to break away from tradition. He believes that tradition is the worst enemy of industrial progress and says that economics can be had in almost any line of manufacturing, if only the will to get away from tradition be strong enough. Ford's life and work have been a systematic breaking away from tradition and all his achievements a series of departures from traditional methods. Ford wonders why people look with disfavour on big business and is amused at the agitation for laws against big business combines. He has hard things to say of legislators who cry hoarse and talk of protection from the menace of business. The real big business according to Henry Ford is the one which enables the workman to enjoy the profit which the marketing and the making of the product brings in the form of just wages and all other business is not big business but small business suffering from elephantiasis.

Ford's view of education is interesting. He talks of a Persian visitor to his works that had taken several American degrees as having been educated away from life and adds that the gentleman could do very little that a gramophone could not do and that it cost more to keep him than to keep a gramophone. The Henry Ford trade school is today nearly 800 strong with 5000 on the waiting list. Each student on the average, gets a scholarship of twelve dollars a week, not to mention a hot lunch at noon. A week in the class room and two weeks in the workshop is their timetable and boys are chosen not for their brilliance, as for their orphan or needy state. The school cultivates in the boys love of work, skill in the handling of machines, selfreliance and selfrespect, the last being a matter on which Henry Ford lays considerable stress. The school is self-supporting, for the school workshop produces Ford parts, which are bought by the company, if they pass the necessary quality inspection. Most of the boys take up jobs in the Ford works after their schooling though there is no obligation of that nature and very few go outside for work, and little wonder.

Henry Ford runs a first class hospital in Detroit and the institution is in the charge of some of the best physicians and surgeons in America and is run on the most up-to-date lines. It is not for the rich, who can take care of themselves. It is not for the poor either, of whom the government hospitals take care. It is for the middle classes and Ford's idea was to bring efficient and high class hospital service and the costliest medical and surgical treatment within the reach of the self respecting middle class man whose means are limited. The hospital is well-staffed and the six dollar minimum wage prevails there as elsewhere. Like many other Ford enterprises the institution is self supporting. Asks Ford, "Why should there be need for a hospital? Cannot most of these diseases be prevented? ... Some day somebody will bring about a condition which will make hospitals unnecessary." Ford, whom few excel in clear thinking holds that money is often mistaken for business and proceeds to define the function of the stock market in industry. "Industry is not money; it is made up of ideas, labour and management, and the natural expression of these is not dividends, but utility, quality and availability. Money is not the source of any of these qualities though these qualities are most frequent sources of money." He would deal severely with the stock exchange and points out the dangers of stock dealers being in charge of industries. "We further hold, however, that strings on a business held by those not engaged in it are hindrances, because it often compels the business to become a money maker and not a commodity maker," says he. His opinion about stock speculation is stated with considerable sarcasm: "But stock speculation is not without value; some really good men lose at it and in consequence are compelled to go to work."

Such is the man and such are his methods. It has often been said that America is another name for opportunity. It is also said that every man born in America, if he toils and has his head about his shoulders, has a good chance of ending in the White House. Henry Ford himself observes "... a generation ago there were a thousand men to every opportunity, while

to-day there are a thousand opportunities for every man." We all have looked upon America with a great deal of wholesome envy. Edison started as a newspaper boy on the American railroad and worked his way till he is what he is—the most honoured man in America which celebrated

the silver jubilee of his incandescent lamp a few days ago. Edison is to-day something more than a great personality—he is a great principle. Do we not hear of the Edison method and the Edison process?

(By courtesy of "Voice of Youth.")

The Pigeons of Venice.

IN one of the upland valleys Italy, shut away from the rest of the world by the high, white peaks men call the Dolmites, there lived, about five hundred years ago, a little boy named Leonardo. He dwelt in a tiny hut with his black-eyed peasant mother, fed the pigeons and milked the goats each day, and in the evening, the pleasant summer evening that spread rainbow-coloured draperies over the Dolomite peaks, he lay in the shadows under the plum-tree, thinking about his brother Vittorio, who was a soldier down in the great city of Venice.

"I wish brother would come home," he said to his mother one morning as they ate their breakfast of macaroni and mountain bread, "because he always tells such wonderful things about the city. Some day I mean to go there and be a soldier too."

His dark eyes gleamed as he spoke, and he sat very straight in his heavy oaken chair, as of course a soldier ought to do.

Everybody knows that wishes do not always come true, but sometimes they do, and when that happens the whole world seems brighter and lovelier than it seemed before. The next afternoon as Leonardo was turning the goats into their enclosure he gave a shout so joyous that even Armando the weaver, in his shop at the other end of the village, heard and ran to see what it meant. He soon found out, for he saw Leonardo hurrying toward a man who was moving along the highway. Vittorio, the soldier brother, was coming home, coming back to the mountain village with many a tale of the splendid city beside the Adriatic, and perhaps with a goody that would taste very sweet after the coarse fare of weeks and months.

Far into the night the brothers sat and talked together, talked of places and gliding gondolas, of great lords and ladies, of soldiers moving in splendid uniforms about the Piazza of St. Mark. They talked of Carnival time too, of the merry pranks the people played on each other, of the procession on the water and the presents given to the Doge.

"And sometimes," Vittorio exclaimed proudly, "they are very splendid. Sometimes they are of gold and silver, and of silk stuffs brought from the Indies."

Leonardo sat silent for a minute. He knew little of present-giving, for in the mountains where he lived there was no money to spend on such things. But always when he made his mother a garland of flowers on her birthday she seemed so happy about it that he thought it must be very lovely to bestow gifts. So he said softly: "I should like to send a present to the Doge. It would seem like doing something for Venice. But I have nothing to give."

"Wait until you are a man and can be a soldier," the big brother answered. "Then you will be doing much."

The next morning he was up at daybreak. Vittorio had only two days' leave, which meant that he must start back at noon, and his mother had promised that Leonardo might go with him to the edge of the village if he finished his tasks in time. So he milked the goats before there was a bit of stirring about the hut, and led the geese from their pen to crop the green grass on the hill-side. Then he cut some grass and threw it to the old horse that was their most prized possession, and by the time his brother came from the hut he called to him: "I have only to feed the pigeons yet."

Vittorio smiled and stood watching as the boy whistled to the birds.

The gentle creatures flew up at Leonardo's call, and as he scattered crumbs to them, he thought again of the great Carnival at Venice and the gifts that would be made to the Doge. He wished that he too might join that throng of givers, but he possessed nothing but his pigeons, and a bird would seem a very poor present to offer a ruler. But he happened to think that the schoolmaster had once told him that it is not the cost or the beauty of an offering that makes it precious, but the goodwill of the giver, and that a beggar's portion may be a lovelier gift than that of a prince. The schoolmaster was very wise. He could both read and write, which only a few could do in that day, so anything that he said must be true; and the memory of the words brought an idea to Leonardo that made the boy's eyes dance.

"Vittorio," he exclaimed suddenly, "I have thought of something."

Vittorio wondered what excited his brother so.

"Well?" he asked as he walked near.

"Will you take a pair of pigeons back to the city with you?"

"A pair of pigeons," the soldier repeated. "Why?"

"I want to send a present to the Doge, and I have nothing else," he answered. "But the birds are so gentle I am sure he will like them. They are fine carriers, too."

Vittorio smiled. Being in the army of the Doge, he was pleased that his brother showed such loyalty to the master he served. It meant that he would probably grow up to be a good soldier, and in those days nothing was considered finer than that. So he answered pleasantly: "Of course I will, Leonardo, if you are sure you can give your pets. I will ask my captain, who knows the Doge well, to take them to him and say that they are the gift of a mountain boy."

Leonardo's eyes sparkled with delight. It seemed a glorious thing that he too might give with the rich and great; so he selected

the handsomest pair in the covey, birds of a soft grey, with shadings of blue and purple along their delicate wings, and he and Vittorio made a rude cage in which to carry them to the city.

Then they walked together to the edge of the village, and Leonardo watched his brother go along the road that wound down to the low country. He waved goodbye until Vittorio passed from sight, then went back to the hut, happy in the thought that he was doing something for Venice.

Many months passed. It was September when Vittorio went away, and now the blossom time had come and hills were bright with touches of summer. All through that long period Leonardo wondered much about the pigeons, but no word came from his brother; for letters went only by courier in those days, and poor folk could not pay for the carrying. But he was sure the birds had reached the Doge, for Vittorio had promised and a soldier never broke his word.

Then one day in the autumn, when the brightness on the mountains had faded to bronze and grey, and squirrels were stocking their houses as nuts dropped in the woods, Vittorio came back. He looked older and graver than the year before, and some worrying thing seemed on his mind.

"It is just to say good-bye," he said, as the grey haired mother stroked his hands and Leonardo looked at him with loving eyes. "The war has begun, and we soldiers of Venice must sail away to Candia for the fighting."

Leonardo's eyes grew wide, and tears came into them as he exclaimed: "If only I were old enough to go with you and help serve our glorious city of St. Mark!"

The big man laid his hand lovingly on the dark head.

"Never mind, brother," he said. "You have already done much. I gave your birds to my captain, who took them to the Doge, and the Doge is proud of them because they are splendid carriers. So Dandolo, our general, will take them along with the army to bring back news of the war. And now good-bye. When the fighting is over, I will come again."

He mounted his horse and rode away and two pairs of dewy eyes looked after him as he went.

The days that followed seemed very long to the two who waited in the highlands. They knew that the army had gone, and that away on the eastern island perhaps the fighting had begun. But what of the fate of the Venetian hosts, and what of the son and brother who has sailed under the standard of the Lion? As to that they could only hope and wonder.

Slowly, slowly dragged the day, but no word came back.

One morning, while Leonardo and his mother prayed and waited in the mountain cabin, down in Venice in the splendid Palace of the Doges, the Council of Ten sat and pondered. They talked much about the absent army, wondering if victory or defeat had been its share and while they wondered there came a fluttering of soft grey wings.

"Pigeons!" some one called. "See, they are carriers;"

The dignified assemblage broke up in excitement, for they knew the tiny birds were messengers, and the men hurried to read the missives fastened to their crimson feet.

"They come from Dandolo," said one of the nobles, bringing news of the war!"

"From Candia!" another exclaimed. It cannot be that they have flown so far!"

But it was true, for upon reading they learned that the Venetian army had been victorious and the soldiers would soon sail home in triumph. The tiny birds had flown all the long leagues across the sea to carry the glad news to the waiting people.

Up in the hut in the Italian highlands Leonardo and his mothers still watched and wondered, when one evening a few days later Armando, the village weaver, came by on his way home from the city. He was greatly excited and called to them as he stopped at the door.

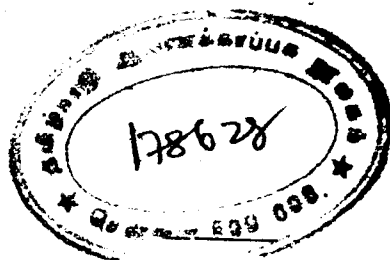
"Rejoice," he said, "for the war is over!"

"How do you know?" the mother asked. Are the soldiers back?"

"No. But the pigeons brought the word, and everyone is glad."

"Pigeons! Exclaimed Leonardo. "My pigeons! Then after all I did some thing for Venice."

And he spoke the truth. So much did the message mean to the anxious people that the law-makers said they would always keep the birds, they and their young and their children's young. And although hundreds of years have passed since then, still the grey-winged creatures fly about St. Mark's Square, and the people love and feed them. For they know they are descended from the pair sent to the Doge by a mountain boy, Leonardo's pigeons, that long ago flew across the wide seas, bringing word of the victory of the Venetian hosts.



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THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE, ADYAR, MADRAS, S.

Printed by The Kitchener Press, Messrs. Read & Co., 21, High Road, Triplicane, Madras
and Published by P. S. Narayana Wami, B.A., L.T., 4/19, Adiyappa Mudali Street, Vepery P. O., Madras
for the Provincial Council of the Boy Scouts Association, Madras.