

The South India Boy Scout

The Magazine for all Boys, Scout Workers and Officers.

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION: MADRAS PROVINCE



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INSTRUCTIONS TO SELECTED APPLICANTS FOR THE WOOD BADGE COURSES.

- Dates:** SCOUT WOOD BADGE COURSE: 10th May to 20th May (Inclusive).
CUB WOOD BADGE COURSE: 20th May to 25th May (Inclusive).
- Place of Assembly** Scout Course:—Chingleput Station 2 P. M. 10th May 1935.
Exact location of Cub Course:—Chingleput Station 2 P. M. 20th May 1935.
Camp spot: The Campers will be met by Chingleput Scouters and Scouts and taken to the Camp Spot from the Station.
- Equipment:** SCOUT COURSE: 2 sets of complete uniform.
Head dress:—Scout Hats, Sola Topees or Turbans (Khaki)
Foot-wear:—Some form of foot wear is essential—Indian sandals preferred.
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A set of mathematical instruments.
Pencil and eraser.
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2 bits of cotton rope each 6 yards long and 1/4 and 1/2 inches thick respectively.
- Important:** One Back-Pack with slings of the regulation pattern for the First Class Journey. Every Camper must have one of these. The campers are particularly informed of the fact that they cannot undertake the First Class Hike without the Back-Pack.
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THE SOUTH INDIA BOY SCOUT

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL
of the Boy Scouts Association : Madras Province

Vol. XV. No. 7.

MADRAS, APRIL, 1935.

PRICE 4 AS.
RS. 2/- PER ANNUM
POST FREE

Outlook.

(DR. G. S. ARUNDALE.)

I hope that every scout and girl guide is preparing to enjoy a happy and a helpful day on May 6th next, the occasion for the celebration of His Majesty the King Emperor's Silver Jubilee. Where the enjoyment can take place with other scouts or guides so much the better. But each scout and guide can be happy and helpful by himself or herself.

I am very much afraid that some people will entirely ignore the day, because they believe that to celebrate it would be unpatriotic to India. You will probably find some of these people in your locality—fine people, really full of love for India, yet with this strange idea.

The principle of kingship is of immemorial antiquity in India. As has the Saint, so has the King, his great place in the life of the people. And though few, if any, of you have seen our Emperor, and he is white and not brown, yet he represents an eternal principle of essential importance in all true government. Last month I wrote of his eager interest in, and solicitude for, India. And I wrote that he would probably have done much more for India had he not to observe constitutional usage as a constitutional monarch. He is India's true friend, and it is, to say the least, discourteous to ignore an outstanding event in his life. Those who have decided to ignore the Silver Jubilee may be Indian by birth, and are doubtless India in aspiration. But I wish they could be more Indian in spirit, be more steeped in India's age-old traditions. We should be far nearer to India's goal of self-government were we able more truly to incarnate the soul of India.

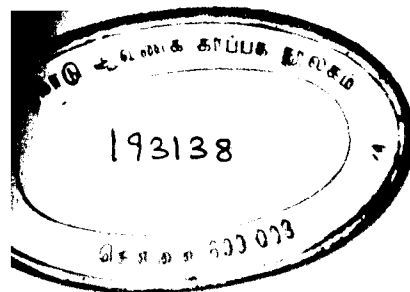
As scouts and guides you are able to be free from this narrowness. You are no less patriotic because you off respect to the

Emperor. You are all the more patriotic because you honour a principle essentially Indian, be the incarnation of the principle who he may.

There is no disloyalty to India in honouring the Silver Jubilee. But there is disloyalty in all that makes for separateness, in all that is mean and petty, in all selfish pride of caste, of faith, of race, in all provocative speech and unmeasured language, in all intolerant depreciation of those who happen to be our antagonists, in all crudeness and vulgarity. Scouts and girl guides love India and are eager to become worthy of their citizenship. But since, being scouts and guides, they see more clearly and truly, they are able to take nobler views of life and to perform more gracious actions, than those who are too small to be friends with their opponents or to seek every possible occasion for happy and unreserved co-operation.

The Silver Jubilee is an occasion for paying homage to a great principle, and for an expression of that solidarity of life which is so much more true than all the differences which separate us. Let us take advantage of it while we may. Such occasions come but rarely. And I make bold to predict that as they grow older scouts and guides, looking back upon their earlier years, will be thankful that they had the intuition to enjoy a festival commemorative of the essential brotherhood of us all—a festival of Royalty, of a Royalty without, reminding us of our own individual Royalty within.

But the world is for the time being going through experiences which deaden many of those finer feelings and principles so vital to beautiful and brotherly living. All the more reason for the flower of the world's youth to remember these in their lives!



For Britain's Youth.

NEVER has interest in youth and in the juvenile organisations of the country been so stimulated as by the inauguration by the Prince of Wales last week of the National Thankoffering, King George's Jubilee Trust. Addressing the Lords Lieutenant, Lord Mayors, Mayors, Lord Provosts and Provosts from all parts of Great Britain and representatives of all branches of religious life, he stated that he had ascertained that nothing else would give the King and Queen so much pleasure as the devotion of the thankoffering to the welfare of the younger generation.

Sir Iain Colquhoun, Lord Lieutenant of Dumbartonshire, who is also a Chief Scout's Commissioner, summed up the unanimous feeling when he said that the Trust would bring into the immediate foreground of many voluntary organisations vistas previously viewed in far perspective, and open up for them a hundred avenues of approach, that hitherto were closed paths, to golden opportunity.

Points from the Prince's address included:—

"The first step is to evoke and encourage those interests latent in every one which will steady youth in its difficult days and strengthen its maturity. Whether in or out of employment, the girl or boy who is facing life for the first time needs some provision for a fruitful leisure. There are over half a million boys between the ages of 14 and 18 who are drifting into manhood without an outlet for their natural high spirits and ambitions.

"There is no sadder sight in the world than aimless and dispirited youth; on the other hand, there is no more heartening sight than children who have been grouped together and helped by some voluntary juvenile organisation which gives them amusement as well as physical and mental training. Those who are fortunate enough to be members of such juvenile organisations are no longer aimless individuals, but should make fine citizens.

"In the responsible positions that all of you present this afternoon hold you know not only of the existence of our great juvenile organisations, such as the Boy Scouts, the Girl Guides, the Boys' Brigades and Clubs, the Young Men's Christian Association—only to mention a few of them—but how most of them have proved their worth over a period of years by helping girls

and boys to grow up with the ideas and the ideals that make a nation great.

"I suggest the establishment of a fund or a Trust, to be known as King George's Jubilee Trust, whose work will be, not to engage in new juvenile organisations, but to help to extend in the localities you represent the work and the activities of the existing and proved voluntary organisations. These juvenile organisations operate throughout Great Britain and employ various methods for training and influencing, and are therefore able to appeal to, girls and boys of all tastes. Because they have branches in all parts of the country they are able to study local conditions and requirements.

"In some places these organisations are able to get adequate financial support, but in many districts the extreme poverty of the community not only prevents much activity but makes membership for many children impossible without financial aid from some national source. That is where King George's Jubilee Trust can help these organisations to increase facilities for physical recreation and games, for the practice of hobbies, the pursuit of interests, and the cultivation of abilities which in so many children only await their outlet.

"The Trust could provide for the extension of camping and for other forms of healthy holidays, and also to give many a growing boy some of the chances for enjoyment and self-training that are at present denied him. The Trust will be able to strengthen the hands of those, well known to you in your own localities, who are working with girls and boys, often under great disadvantages and with far too little support.

"Can we in this year increase the work of the great juvenile organisations themselves while we are establishing this fund, or Trust, that will in future stand behind them? Should we not have achieved something if by the end of this year we could say that, not only had we established King George's Jubilee Trust, but also that the opportunity of those enjoying membership of the juvenile organisations had already been increased, and that this National Thankoffering would from the outset be associated with that spirit of public service and devotion to the welfare of others which the King has personified throughout his reign?" (Cheers.)



Thought for the Month.

We are not too old to remember the things that impressed us most pleasantly in our youth and that we can look back to as having helped and moulded us for the future.—H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

Scout Commissioners' Conference 1935.

THIS year the Scout Commissioners' Conference held in connection with the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Boy Scouts Association, was a unique one, in that the Conference was attended by a large number of District and Assistant District Commissioners and Secretaries of District Councils and Social Associations, unlike the previous years, also the Conference was held not in a building but in the open air, under the spreading Banyan tree, not the Chestnut tree which is one of the attractive features of the Besant Scout camping centre, Adyar. This is truly characteristic of the

Scout movement as the *Brotherhood of the Open air*. The interest shown by the delegates that attended the conference, in the deliberations was indeed enlivening. Dr. G. S. Arundale our host who could not be present at the Conference due to indisposition, sent the following inspiring message which was read.

"I wish you a very successful conference, for upon you so much depends to make our world Brotherhood movement the power it must be in India. You know that my hope for the future lies with India and the great commonwealth to which she belongs. Every-

thing that can be done to strengthen her must surely be done; and what better service to give her than the Scout Brotherhood. I am sure that as you meet, you will be thinking of our great Chief, Lord Baden-Powell, and will be sending him thoughts of reverent gratitude. I am sure, too, you will be thinking of Annie Besant, whose heart was given to India, and whose name is honoured throughout the Scout world."

Capt T. W. Barnard, the Assistant Provincial Commissioner, who was proposed by K. Sanjiva Kamath and seconded by Rao Bahadur R. Krishna Rao Bhonsle presided over the Conference and proved a successful president and in his absence Rao Saheb R. Krishna Iyer,

—abolish competitions. People at the top should endeavour to bring the Scouters together—discipline should be maintained—character and efficiency not one at the cost of the other and that they must go together.

Assistant District Commissioner Messiah Doss who read a paper on "If I were a Commissioner" said that the Commissioner should make it a point to visit the groups and encourage the publication of magazines, vernacular literature on Scouting, Rallies, Refresher courses, Scout camps and Patrol Leader Scout camps, Library for the Commissioner and Scouters and the Religious outlook.

In the discussion that followed the following points were mentioned. That a Commissioner



Besant Scout Camping Centre, Adyar.

District Commissioner, Madura, and Mr. M. G. Parthasarathy Mudaliar, District Commissioner, South Arcot (not at the same time) presided. District Commissioner K. Venkataswami Naidu welcomed the delegates to the Conference on behalf of the Madras District Commissioners.

Assistant District Commissioner C. Krishna-swami Chetty who read a paper on "advantages and disadvantages of Scout competitions" emphasised the need for Scout Competitions. To consider the effect on boys, setting a good example by Scouters—and to lose with dignity.

In the course of the discussion, in which several took part the following points were mentioned. Encourage inter-troop competitions

should run his own group. Be a right kind of leader—Resign and keep out of the movement if you cannot work. Personal example—Boys' point of view—Training camps for non-school masters—Scouting is not military.

"District Commissioner M. Srinivasa Iyengar of Chingleput led a discussion on "Propaganda and Social service" and emphasised the need for doing propaganda on behalf of the movement and take advantage of, in this connection the press and platform. Pamphlets, magazines, talkies, Scout songs, Radio speeches, Rallies and Processions and Social Service by Rovers while Camping out—silent work—the Boy himself was the best propaganda. Scouting not

a social service organisation, but a character building movement—regulating the pedestrian traffic, were some of the points mentioned by the others.

District Secretary Kumaraswami Iyer of Madura speaking on "Scouting is the most vital and Nation-building activity" of India said East and West have met in the Scout Movement and that Scouts should emulate the example of the great Heroes of India.

A very pleasant and useful day was thus spent in the camp much to the enjoyment of all present and we hope and trust to the benefit of future Scouting in our Province.

The Vyasa Rovers who are in charge of the camp site, were the servants of the Conference.

V. S. RATNASABHAPATHY,
*Provincial Organising Secretary and
Secretary of the Commissioners' Conference.*

Cub's Page. ZUCHY.

By THE OLD WOLF OF POLAND.

Zuchy is the name of Polish Wolf Cubs. It is a funny name, but it means "a brave boy."

I am sure that only a few of you will know where Poland lies. But those of you who have got the Collector's Badge and collect stamps must have heard something about this country. There is a white Eagle on Polish stamps and the inscription "Polska", which means "Poland."

Now about the Polish Wolf Cubs, Zuchy." We have lots of snow, ice and frost in Poland. None of our boys wants to have a meeting in a club-room. They all want to go out in the snow. Each meeting is a sort of snow-game.

The Cubs make snow-men, build snow-castles and flight with snow-balls. They make Polar Expeditions and build houses of snow like the Eskimos.

They also make nice little feeding places for the birds, because you all know how difficult it is for birds to find food in winter.

And have you ever tried Tracking in snow? What fun it is.

But the nicest thing is to have a little sledge, or skates or skis. You bring them to the Pack meeting, and the time you spend there is just one great big joy.

Our Cubs know dozens of games which are played on skis, skates or sleighs by Sixes or whole packs.

Many of our boys make their own sleighs or skates. The sleighs are quite small ones, which you ride standing upright and pushing yourself with the help of two poles.

In the spring we have some exciting games. The Cubs turn into Robinson Crusoes, sailors, fire brigades and police-men. Each of the games (which goes on for several months) is ended by getting badges. Our badges are always connected with games and the cubs can win a Robinson Crusoe Badge or a Sailor Badge.

We know you like to be Mowgli and other animals from the Jungle.

The Zuchy who number 40,000 send you a hearty Grand Howl.

Can you Count a Minute?

Can you count a minute? Why, yes, you say, that's easy. It's sixty seconds.

A little while ago, a Policeman was giving evidence against a motorist who was charged with driving much too fast, and the policeman offered to count a minute to prove how fast the car was travelling.

Well, the car was exceeding the limit, but the policeman had so little idea of how long a minute was that the car-owner could not be fined.

Go and stand in front of a clock. Look carefully at the minute hand and, having

decided that it is at a certain point, shut your eyes and count what you consider to be a minute—sixty seconds.

If when you open your eyes, you find that the hand has passed to the next minute and that you don't realise you have been counting far, far too slowly, well you will be a very lucky person.

If you can't tell the time, make yourself a cardboard clock face, drawing in the hours, and fastening on the hands with paper fasteners. You will then be able to practise telling the time without harming a real clock.

Your Six Box.

If you are a Sixer, and want to be a really good one, you will do your best to help Akela.

One of the ways you can help is by taking charge of your six box, and making sure that it is always tidy and in order, and that none of the things is lost.

You will probably find that your box contains knotting ropes, books for book balancing, a ball, chalk, pencils and a pad of paper, a box of plasticine, some crayons and a set of flag and signalling cards. Make a neat list of all these things, and pin it inside the box.

Each week, before you go home make sure that all the contents are put back tidily, and that they are all there. If anything is missing, or if all the chalk is used up, or the ball has burst (as balls sometimes do) tell Akela, so that she can replace whatever is wanted before the next meeting.

If you are clever you can paint or stencil some Wolf Cub heads on your box for decoration, or your might cut out a picture of a jungle scene from a book or paper, and paste this on the outside of the lid. *"The Scout."*

Bandage Race.

Here's a Test Game to serve as a reminder of bandage tying.

The patrols stand in relay formation with the Tenderfoot opposite his Patrol at the other end of the room. The first Scout in each Patrol holds a triangular bandage, and on the word "Go!" runs up to the "patient", who is the Tenderfoot, and ties a large arm sling on his right arm. A "checker" gives him the O. K., and he immediately removes the bandage, runs back to his Patrol and hands the bandage to his second man. He in turn runs up and ties a large arm sling on the left arm. So the game goes on, with a list of bandages something like this:

Large arm sling on right arm; large arm sling on left arm; head bandage; right knee bandage; left knee bandage; foot bandage; hand bandage.

If necessary the "patient" can have a list of the bandages, and give the instructions to the Scout as he arrives. In this way he will have no time to think ahead.

The Patrol Leader should make sure the bandages aren't skimped, for this would be bad training.

THE COMPASS.

These verses will help your Cubs to find and to remember the four chief points of the compass.

The sun each day to East doth rise;
And if I stand and point
My right arm to the East,
I find the North before my eyes.
The North in front; the South behind;
And on my left the West,
Where sets the sun each night.
So North, South, East, and West I find.

A Bird's Eye-view of Scouting in India.

(BY DR. F. DE MELNER, D.C.C.,

Co-President and International Commissioner, Boy Scouts Association, Hungary.)

None could ever attempt to say after just a few weeks in India, to know every detail of the movement in this vast country. Anyhow it might be of some interest to the readers of this magazine to know some of the impressions gained by one who has 23 years of experience in Scouting, has seen Scouting in practically every European country, North America and Australia.

The first and certainly outstanding impression is just a re-assurance of previously gained information. Scouting certainly appeals to the boys in India just as to the boys in practically

every other part of the world. Though it means sometimes breaking away from old habits, the majority of the boys realise very soon that Scouting brings them more and new ways of self-improvement, besides keeping the veneration for old traditions. So, for example, I was much impressed by the displays of Indian sports, Camping, Hiking, excursions afford a better opportunity to see more of this splendid old country and to visit the many places of historical interest.

Scouting is actually backed by many of the most important men in different lines of life,

because they all realise the importance of our movement for the future of India. Scouting in India is building bridges across century-old crevasses between men and men and is definitely aiming for better understanding and co-operation. The future welfare and development of the country depends largely on this fact. The new, oncoming generation, the well trained Scouts, with their broader views, more education, better trained bodies and spirits are to act as pioneers, where some of the elder ones are much handicapped by the atmosphere of distrust of old days.

The Movement had to overcome difficulties of some kind in practically every country. The straight forward mind and the definite persuasion to work for a good cause enabled the Scouts to overcome most of them. Why should India stand behind?

She is certainly not standing behind, but much has to be done. The movement has just only touched the fringes of the Youth. Most of the Scouts are pupils of the schools. They will have to forget that their splendid Scouters are also usually their Schoolmasters. And Scouting will have to try and find men in other lines of life to cope with the legions of boys who are not students.

The marvellous coast and rivers in India afford wonderful opportunities for Sea Scouting. Despite this fact, I met comparatively few

Scouts interested in this kind of Scouting. Why do not Indians take to this? I have no doubt they will do excellently after seeing the splendid crowd on board the I. M. M. T. S. "Dufferin."

Older boys are doing and could do still more good work by getting trained in Fire Brigade Work, or joining efforts for the Village Uplift Movement. I was much interested in learning about this work done by the scouts in the Punjab.

One of my surprises was to find that Scouts in one part of India knew so little about the happenings of the other parts while a certain exchange of experiences would certainly prove to be most useful for all concerned. After all, it would save the trouble of experiencing where others have already achieved some kind of a result, it would give new ideas and impulses and last but not least improve the feeling of being members of the same big Brotherhood.

My two companions and myself had a splendid reception in every part of India we came across. We are certainly tremendously grateful for this lavishly extended courtesy, kindness and hospitality and carry the happiest memories with us.

We are leaving India with sentiments of gratitude and the best wishes for the further successful development of Scouting.

Sea Scouting.

(Extracts from an article from the *Bombay Scout*, March 1935.)

What is a Sea Scout?

First let us establish this fact firmly in our minds—a Sea Scout, in many respects, is no different to any other Boy Scout. He must follow the same Law and subscribe to the same Scout Promise, if he is going to follow the teachings of our great Chief Scout, Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, who says of himself, "I was first a Sea Scout".

From this it may be said that it is only the activity which he pursues that makes him a Sea Scout. While his brother the Land Scout, (the term "Land Scout" is used only for the purpose of making the statement clearer) follows the trail of the backwoodsman and the plainsman, the Sea Scout, shall we say, "Goes down to the sea in ships". To be a sailor? Oh no: but to acquire, through water activities, the manly and character making qualities, that are so essential to good citizenship.

Having then decided that all Scouts are brothers of the same organisation, and that the same ideals are going to guide them through their Scouts life, whether it be on land or sea, the question naturally arises, "How does a person start to organise a Sea Scout Patrol. Troop or Rover Sea Scout Crew?"

First Steps in the Organisation of Sea Scouts.

At the present stage of Sea Scouting, too much care cannot be taken in the formation of new units, for it is the manner in which you start that will, perchance, mean whether you will have a unit of "real" Sea Scouts or just another group of boys, sailing the many waters of the country.

Past experience has taught us that the urge for Sea Scouting in groups of Scouts already formed comes in one of three ways:—

1. To organise a Patrol of Sea Scouts in an existing "Land Scout Troop";
2. To turn the whole Group into a Sea Scout Troop;
3. Or to form the older boys into a Rover Sea Scout Crew.

The Sea Scout Patrol Idea.

The Patrol method has many advantages. It maintains a direct association with Scouting; it permits its members to remain with the sponsoring Troop; it can be initiated with as small a group as four or five boys; it encourages a slow, steady, healthy growth, and may eventually develop into a larger group—a Troop. It permits the Scoutmaster to learn gradually the technique of Sea Scouting, beginning on a basis with which he is already familiar, namely, the Patrol System.

The Sea Scout Troop.

In very occasional situations it may be advantageous to begin with a full troop organisation. Here proper leadership must be available, under the supervision of a strong Group Committee. Very good work has and still is being done in Sea Scout Groups sponsored by Yacht Clubs which have elected Group Committees from their membership and have provided boats and equipment for Sea Scouts. Great care, however, must be taken when starting as a whole "Troop". It is a much more difficult undertaking than starting with a single Patrol.

The Rover Sea Scout Crew.

Here again we have a different angle altogether, as we are dealing with the young man whose outlook on life has changed with his growth. A great many people contend that Sea Scouting is a game for the older boy or young man. While that is not actually the case, we find it has, however, a definite appeal to the older fellow. This is very desirable as the problem of older boys dropping out has always been a serious matter in Scouting. Sea Scouting can help greatly to stem this tide, and thereby retain them as Rovers and adult leaders. All the high aims and ideals of Rover Scout Service can and should be carried out, whether as Sea Rovers or otherwise.

Leadership.

Leadership in Sea Scouting, as in all Scouting is one of the most important factors making for success. The first qualification one must possess is the love of boy life. The man with Scouting experience has a decided advantage

over one without such training. It is not necessary for him to have at the beginning a knowledge of water lore or boats, provided he is willing to study to make himself as proficient as possible in the realm of watermanship. This study can be made while actually at work with the boys, through the proper reading and putting into practice of the theories found in the books on Sea Scouting.

Although in no sense is a Scout Troop to be considered a naval training unit, nevertheless, it must be borne in mind that discipline is most essential and that safety is a prime factor in Sea Scouting.

Group Committee.

Because Sea Scouting most frequently originates as a Patrol within a Troop, it is necessary for the Scoutmaster to present the subject to this Group Committee for approval. Occasionally it is helpful, although not essential, to add an additional member to this committee, presumably a man who is especially interested in boats, ships and sailing. If organising a new Troop, a sponsoring Committee is necessary and must be formed before operating as a Sea Scout unit. The duties of a Group Committee can be found in P. O. R.

In places where no Local Association exists it is the duty of the Group Committee to adopt special bye-laws for Sea Scouting. In places where there is, it is its duty to make the bye-laws. In either case these bye-laws must be presented for approval to Provincial Headquarters.

Bye-Laws for Sea Scouts.

The following bye-laws have been found to be quite adequate in governing a Sea Scout Group and are presented here as a suggestion. The Sea Scout Committee may deem it advisable to add to or alter them to suit local conditions:—

The Sea Scout Committee shall appoint some competent person to examine all boats before use by any Sea Scouts under their control and no Sea Scout will use any boats unless a "Boat Certificate" has been issued by said Committee.

No boats shall be used by Sea Scouts unless person in charge holds a "Charge Certificate". Examiners for Charge Certificates shall be nominated by Sea Scout Committee and approved by District Commissioner and Local Association.

No Sea Scouts shall form part of a boat's crew unless he can swim fifty (50) yards in shirt, shorts and stockings and undress in the water.

No boats shall proceed out of area laid down by Committee. In the case of Scouts or Rovers wishing to go on long cruises overnight or otherwise, they must first obtain permission of Sea Scout Committee. Application must state nature and duration of cruise.

No boat shall be under way after dark unless proper lights are carried by the said boat.

No rig other than that stated in the certificate shall be used and no increase shall be made in authorised sail area.

The maximum number certified for any boat shall be taken to mean the maximum number she may carry under oars for short distances only. The maximum and minimum number she is to carry under sail shall be defined by the examiner.

All boats under oars shall carry at least one spare oar and boat hook.

All boats should carry a bailer and be fitted with a painter and proper means of anchorage.

When boating in open water a life belt must be carried for each occupant of boat.

All boats provided by Local Association for use by Sea Scouts shall be inspected by Sea Scout Committee to see proper care is being taken of said boats.

All boys wishing to be Sea Scouts must present written permission of their parents.

Charge and Boat Certificates.

The Boat Certificate referred to in the Bye-laws is a certificate of Sea worthiness issued by Provincial Headquarters on the advice of the local Sea Scout Committee or its appointed examiner and is to be renewed annually.

The charge certificate is issued to a person in command of any craft used by Sea Scouts to show that he is capable of taking charge of same under any conditions.

No Group of Sea Scouts should be permitted to operate without the use of these certificates.

Village Rover Scouts Camp, Kothapalli.

A combined camp was held on 29th to 31st March 1935 for the first time near Kothapalli of the Village Rover Scouts and Recruits of Rajipet and Paramalla villages of the Sarjana Circuit in a beautiful mango grove situated amidst a few lofty and gigantic cocoanut palms in the centre, under the cool and pleasant shade of which huts were manipulated by the Scouts with stems, leaves and weeds. Adjacent to this Tope there is a big and spacious well which provided perfect facilities for swimming and life-saving practices.

The "spirit of brotherhood" which the Scout Movement fosters and infuses in all its loyal adherents is simply miraculous and powerful, especially in that it eradicates the stains of "Untouchability" which the other organisations in this country have proved almost impotent to do so with all their strenuous efforts in this direction. This spirit was very prominent in the camp under report. These young men of differing sects (with high caste majority) manifested a real feeling of brotherhood in their movements with one another without a symptom of superiority and inferiority complexes not only in their Troop activities and in games, but also in the rural reconstruction work that was executed during the camp in the most backward localities of Mala and Madiga Bastis which were probably repugnant to them before their enrolment into this Movement.

These Scouts acquitted themselves very creditably in all their activities under the

supervision of some Scoutmasters from Medak and Sarjana who volunteered their services on this occasion, and all combined together rendered invaluable help in the organisation and carrying on of the camp and in practical instruction and sharing in the Scout practices and also in the Camp Fire items which enthused the village folk very much indeed. The illiterate masses were educated by means of conversations and magic lantern lectures on the necessity for sanitary for sanitary measures against the dissemination of infectious epidemics.

To recapitulate all their beneficent activities to ameliorate the backward conditions to some extent during that short stay, I may say in a sentence that the chief work in the village consisted of practical efforts such as drainage of stagnant water, disinfection of wells and cess-pools by sprinkling Paris Green Powder and spraying Pesterine, cleaning of garbage and debris, filling in the pits with earth and stones etc. In this connection, it is fair and reasonable to acknowledge with thanks the invaluable help which the young Patel of Rajipet and Kothapalli (Hanumantharao Panthulu) gave ungrudgingly in furthering the Scout activities on this occasion.

In conclusion, there is no hesitation in saying that the whole atmosphere then seemed very congenial to the spirit of mutual understanding that existed among the campers and that through this Scout Spirit the Camp was a great success.

A Participant.

The Old Wolves Council. West Madras.

The Old Wolves Council had their Annual Tea at Brixton House on 10th March at 5 p. m. After music and light refreshments, the Secretary A. V. Ramanjulu read the Annual Report. He traced out the successful work they had adopted for the year and the increased co-operation from the people especially ladies who are evincing a great interest for the prospective citizens. He also pointed that their Local Association has retained the all Madras Cub Cup which I Vepery held and now IV Perambur holding it. He then pointed out about sending in the pick of the branch for the Wood Badge

Training and earnestly appealed for more co-operation from the public and from Scout Officers.

Mr. Nawaj then proposed the Toast of the Council to which Mr. Banchandrapal replied. As the Chairman Mr. Banchandrapal thanked the ladies and gentleman who were present and pleaded for an increased number of active helpers. After singing the National Anthem the function came to a close.

Among those who were present were Captain and Mrs. Ponnappa, Miss Theobald, Mrs. Kullekaran, Mrs. K. O. Anothony, Miss Saraswathi, an Miss (Dr.) Gajpathy.

Correspondence.

Sir,

The Rover Scout movement is quite a new establishment in South Africa for Indians. We have formed one in Durban and I think it is one of the first step in South Africa and there is a reputation in front of us if it turns out a success, therefore we would like to communicate with our brothers in India. They would have all the qualities of a scout so if we could get in touch with them we would be able to bring it to a success. Being a scout is not so essential but carrying out our duties is essential, and also to make friends with other Rovers and finding

out from them their activities and also in good time we would be able to give our activities to them.

I would esteem it a very great favour from you, if only you could introduce me to any Rover Scout Secretary it might not be verbal but let it be by letters. If possible please let him have my address, and induce him to write to me of his appreciation of the movement. Thanking you, sir,

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
J. D. NAIR.

The Local Scout Association, Tuticorin. 9th Anniversary.

ON 16th March 1935, Local Scouts and Scouters had a day of crowded engagements and a rich and varied programme.

The day began with a route march. Nearly 500 Scouts and Cubs assembled at day break at the S. A. V. High School and after a cup of coffee wended their way in procession through the principal streets of Tuticorin, their youthful spirit being roused to the highest pitch by the music of the local cinema band and itself finding a natural expression in melodious scout songs.

They all reassembled again at 3 p.m. in the Evans Park where there was the usual Grand Rally of the Scouts. Thanks to the generosity of His Lordship Dr. Roche S. J., the Bishop of Tuticorin, the Scouts, Cubs and Girl guides. Girl guides participating in the Anniversary celebrations for the first time—were provided with a refreshing treat. By 4-30 p.m. the elite of the town had mustered in large numbers and at the top of them all Mr. Bryant, I.C.S., Sub-Collector of the town had turned up. The

guests were treated to tea. The annual business meeting of the association took place.

Mrs. Jenkins' Cup Competition.

After the hoisting of the Union Jack there was the usual March Past, at which the Scout Salute was received by Mr. Evans, President of the Local Association. A few tests in handicrafts, signalling and firelighting were held in connection with the award of Mrs. Jenkins' Cup worth Rs. 150 newly presented to the Association. The award of the Cup was primarily based on an assessment of the year's work of every Scout Troop. The inspection of the Troops in their schools and the judging of the tests held at Evans Park were all done by a pannel of judges.

At 6 p. m. the public meeting began with the reading of the Annual Report by the Secretary. Mr. V. R. Ranganatha Mudaliar M. A., L. T., the District Educational Officer delivered an instructive address on "Scouting." The 1st Tuticorin Troop attached to the St. Xavier's High School, Tuticorin, was awarded the Cup.

Elder's Point of View. Boy Scouts.

[The following speech is the full text of Mahamahopadhyaya S. Kuppuswami Sastriar, M.A., I.E.S., Professor of Sanskrit, Presidency College, Madras, at the recent Annual Meeting of the Madras South Local Scout Association, Mylapore, with the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sydney Burn, I.C.S., in the chair :—Editor.]

I have been accustomed to think in terms of the ancient classical culture of India, and following that groove, I should like to say a few words to-night on the Scout movement. Our friend, Rao Bahadur Krishna Rao Bhonsle, reminded us that this great movement was founded by Lord Baden-Powell somewhere about the year 1908. As a confirmed classicist, I should like to hold a somewhat different opinion and I should like to fancy that the real great founder of the movement is God Himself. All of us are familiar with the central idea in the Scout movement—to train the boys to be good citizens of the great world, not only to be good citizens of the great Indian Empire but to be good citizens of the world. I should like to fancy that this forms the central idea in Incarnation as known to Indian culture and Hindu religion. I should like to fancy that God chose to incarnate Himself in this world simply for the reason that He could not find an opportunity to enjoy the privilege of being a great citizen of the world elsewhere and it was his desire to function as the best and the greatest citizen of this world that induced him to incarnate Himself in this world.

Thinking again in terms of ancient classical culture, I should like to make some further observations this evening with reference to the Scout movement and to the ideas behind it. We are all familiar with the Avatars of Krishna and Rama. Anybody who has carefully studied the various episodes connected

with Krishnavatara could easily see that the incarnation of Krishna was dominated by scout spirit. From his boyhood to his middle age, Krishna illustrated in his life what I should like to characterise as the genuine scout spirit. Many of us may be familiar with the story of Kuchela and Krishna and with the references which that story contains to the scouting activities of Krishna and Kuchela in their Gurukula, the residential school where they received their early schooling. Again, Krishna in his middle age, had various opportunities to play the role of a great scout in his capacity as Parthasarathi—Arjuna's charioteer.

In this connection, I should also ask you to fancy that Rama and Laksmana are to be regarded as ideal scouts, worthy of being remembered by all boys and all those who are interested in the Scout movement. I am reminded of an oft-quoted Sanskrit verse which reads when transliterated :

"Agratah prushtathaschaiva parsvathasoha mahabala!
Akarnaburnadharvanau rakshetam Ramalakshmanau"

This deserves to be memorised as an inspiring hymn. It may be rendered thus :—

"In the front, in the rear, and on the flanks, may Rama and Laksmana guard us—the two mighty Divine Scouts with their bows drawn and ever alert and ready to offer succour and rescue to those who stand in need of them!"

Can you think of a more proper thing than to organise a group of scouts and name it after Rama or Laksmana? Can you think of a more appropriate hymn for scouts than the Sanskrit verse cited by me? Take this hymn as my humble contribution to this association of scouts.

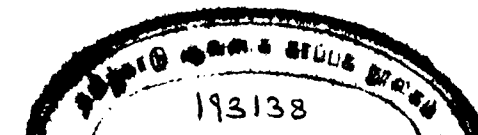
Military Training and the Scout Movement. A Wrong Impression which is Gradually Dying.

Misleading Statements of Prominent Men.

(BY RAO BAHADUR R. KRISHNA RAO BHONSLE, I.S.O.)

"I fail to see any connection between Military Training and the Boy Scout movement. Most of the popularity and usefulness of the Scout movement will disappear, if the movement were to be interpreted at aiming at Military

Training."—These remarks published in a recent issue of *The Madras Mail* were made by the Provincial Scout Commissioner of Madras the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiar, at the Hindu College, Masulipatam.



I may state that by making this emphatic statement in unequivocal terms, he has done a timely 'Good-turn' to the movement. It requires repetition at all Scout meetings. Because, not a few apparently have the idea that the Scout Movement is partially a Military Movement.

The Uniform.

The thing that lends colour to this misapprehension is, I think, the fact that Scouts wear a uniform. But fortunately this false idea which has had such a tremendous grip on the public is gradually dying. Srimant Sirdar D. C. Mazumdar of Baroda said, as President of the First Maharashtra Physical Culture Conference held at Poona, that the object of the Scout movement was to give the boys some military training, which in times of necessity can be called into requisition.

I then wrote to *The Madras Mail* of 1st June 1927, stating that there was no 'Military' training at all in the movement. The idea of the military aspect of Scouting is still lingering in the minds of some. They ventilate the usefulness of this aspect in so many forms. Here is one.

Principal J. C. Rollo of Mysore was reported to have recently made the following remarks:—"In looking up the literature on Scouting, I am surprised to find the military idea bulked in the origin of the Scout Movement. Though there was no definite military drill, a Scout Corps was intended to form an intelligent and subsidiary course to the army, if necessary. Scouts exercised in signalling, camping, reconnoitring, etc. A vast change has since come over the movement and we hardly think of the military idea. The central idea is simple, viz., of 'respecting and helping our neighbour'. Still it occurs to me that there is something in the military association that is worth keeping up. There is still some justification for considering that Scouting must continue to be a necessary part of patriotism and of national feeling.

A Day Dream.

Secret of Success.

If Scouters are asked to state what they regard as the secret of success in running a Pack, Troop or Crew, they will probably make many different declarations. One refers to discipline; another swears by camping; a third emphasises development of character; and a fourth will pay homage to hobbies and

A Wider Brotherhood.

We now think of internationalism and try to adapt ourselves to generous new ideals. Such an idea prepares a means to give all that one has for his own particular country, while at the same time it relates him to a wider brotherhood. We need a preparation of that kind. War, it is hoped, was finally finished with, but we are by no means sure that we are free from that danger.

It is desirable that our University should now give some training that will fit them and prepare them to turn themselves into soldiers and leaders of soldiers when the need arises in the defence of their Country and the Empire of which that country is a loyal part. Most Universities have provided some such preparation in the University Training Corps. Mysore has no such Corps. Considering the lavish expenditure involved in the scheme, I am afraid that it will be long before that training comes into being here. Scouting comes as near as possible to the preparing and making of a true soldier. They could develop something of a soldierly attitude and spirit."

More Harm than Good.

The intentions of Mr. Rollo and those of his thinking may be good but if some Hindu parents who are orthodox and conservative without progressive ideas and without moving with the times are made to feel that there is or will be something 'military' in the Scout movement, that feeling will do more harm than good and check the popularity of the movement which is gradually spreading. I may state at once that though the movement is non-military, it is not anti-military.

The "Madras Mail".

The attention of our readers and the public is drawn to the Imperial Headquarters Pamphlet—"Is Scouting Military?"—Editor.

handicrafts. To A a carefully prepared programme is the desideratum; B will insist on games; C sums up his opinion in the single word "finance." You will hear X and Y speak vaguely of the romance of Scouting, or of the mysterious force called the Scout Spirit. These are all vital matters, whose neglect will not fail

to produce incalculable harm. But still, they seem to leave untouched the only fundamental element, the very *raison d'être*, of Scouting. To me the secret lies in the need for concentrating almost our whole attention on the boy, an obvious and essential requirement which is hardly realised in its full strength, and which is frequently forgotten or brushed aside. Some years ago the Chief Scout of the World proposed the toast of the "Boy" at a Conference of Scouters. Unless we are consciously wakeful, it is difficult to keep the truth unfaded in our memory, that we belong to the Boy Scouts. We the elder brothers are apt to think and act from the adult point of view, in terms of what we like, or what we believe boys will like, or even what we intend boys should like. It cannot, of course, be denied that there is legitimate scope for all these guiding principles; a Scouter should know what would create enthusiasm in boys; he

should also occasionally educate their tastes, coaxing them to love and honour what he knows to be the highest and best. And if he remembers simultaneously that Scouting is a game for boys and boy-like men, that it is the boy that shall by right occupy the front rank in the arrangement, all will be well with him. If he undergoes further technical training, it must be to lead the boy more effectively than before; if he studies new Scout books or exciting prose fiction, it must be with a view to make the knowledge available to the boy in some easy, simple and dramatic form; and if he dreams of journeys, exploration, camps and camp fires, a group of lively boys should fill his vision. Dedicating his spare-time reading and reflection thus to the service and upliftment of the boy, a Scouter will certainly set himself on the only path towards success.

"Mysore Scout"

One Step Further.

IV

Fortunately of late, we have found out a term, which includes all the warranted ranks in the movement—namely the word "Scouter". That itself is a sign that we are marching ahead in the right direction but the importance of the term does not lie in the use of it but in the understanding of its meaning and implications. It is not my purpose to trace the etymological derivations and its variations but suffice it to say that it represents to-day a certain amount of cordiality among the ranks. It is not again my purpose to say anything about the conditions that existed in the beginning of the movement, for I was not there then.

Of late, invidious distinction is being made, in certain quarters, of the terms as "Assistant Scoutmaster, Cubmaster or Rover Scout Leader" not excluding of course the "Assistant District Commissioner or the Assistant Provincial Commissioner." Any way there is a tendency to put the assistant a step below in one's estimation. We give credit to the man on the top and neglect the assistants, who in fact are the men behind the scenes. An occasional pat on the back and a sincere word of encouragement would of course stimulate the scouter for higher endeavours and greater plans.

The Scoutmasters, by which I mean all those who hold responsible warrants for the units concerned, do not give as much responsibility and respect to the ideas of their assis-

tants as is expected of them. There cannot be two scoutmasters for the simple reason that we do not want to divide the loyalty of the boy or make two people yoked unnecessarily together. But it is absolutely necessary to have helpers, not only to maintain continuity of work, but also to divide the work. Therefore it is evident that a scouter is asked to be an assistant not because he is inferior in ability to the scouter concerned but because there may be many more who would be able to help or assist the scouter in running the troop or the unit concerned. In fact we call him an *assistant* because he can *assist*. But when it comes to practice, the story is different. The assistant is not usually given responsible work, or shall I say allowed to plan out activities or initiate new ideas, just because he is an assistant. Even supposing he is allowed to do it, his work is not usually acknowledged publicly or before the boys.

We should not for a moment forget that the assistants are expected to carry on the regular work in the absence of the Scoutmasters and so, they should be as capable as the Scoutmaster himself to maintain continuity and uniformity of work. This ability can be acquired only by experience—experience gained by actual work under proper guidance. Naturally therefore we expect the scoutmasters to give as much work as possible to assistants and help them to gain the necessary experience.

Let us now see the position of the scouters in the Local Associations or Councils. The condition is equally bad. Of course experienced people alone are the proper persons to put the ideals of the movement before the public. To-day the scout movement is so well known that it needs no publicity at all. It is now essential that we ought to show that we have justified our claims and the best method of demonstrating the fact is to show the public how the movement has created local leadership and how it has drawn out material full of promise from unexplored resources in a particular locality. During the committee stages of work, at least so far as I can gather from the reports of several provinces in India, the same personnel is made to be responsible for the entire work of the association. In my opinion it is due to the fact that the Commissioners or the executives generally do not get as much liberty as they ought to in these matters. These committees are formed to help the Commissioners, composed of those who have first hand knowledge of the subject, and who can devote as much time as is necessary for the subject. But in reality the same people are elected again and again in various committees so much so, they defeat the very purpose of the committee, as they have very little time in the midst of their regular engagements. The Commissioner should therefore manage to divide his work in such a way that the maximum amount of effort is put forward by minimum number of people for maximum results. It is now necessary to

stress that these committees need not be limited to Executive Committee members or those who are already members of the association. It should always be open and provide opportunities for outsiders to come in.

Another point that strikes me as necessary is to make the committee as small as possible for, the common practice is to elect every member available on the committee. If we are prepared to serve on the committee in toto, why should we not deliberate and decide upon things without forming ourselves into committees. It is just a waste of time if the proper spirit is not understood.

These things can be eradicated easily if all the members of the association take an active interest in the movement, but it is not usually the case. We will, however, discuss this separately next time.

The next step in the progress of scouting is to decentralise more and give real responsibility to those who come to help us. This can be done only :—

(1) By making assistants feel their worth and helping them to find themselves.

(2) By making use of the privileges accorded to the Commissioners and roping in more people who can give expert help.

(3) By being businesslike in our methods and not be guided by what is called "personal considerations". (S).

The Scout Rally.

THE Scout Rally is the community expression of Scouting. It rallies the enthusiasm of the scouts and their leaders. It helps them to realise that Scouting is wider than the walls of their club room. A good rally results in stimulating interchange of ideas, and provides interesting objectives, spurring each troop to greater activity. It promotes scout advancement and scout efficiency.

The Rally should be of equal significance to the community. If the rally is open to the public, the programme should be planned so as to capture and hold the interest of the spectators, and should be designed to demonstrate the practical value of Scout Training and the fact that boys enjoy the scout programme while "learning by doing." If the rally is public it should be educational and spectacular, for the benefit of the onlookers. The public will

judge from such exhibitions the leadership ability of the local or district associations and the various officers, both association and troop, of the area and, the discipline, self-control, efficiency, team work and leadership qualifications of the scouts, and lastly the value of Scouting as a great national programme for boys.

Upon the thoroughness of the preparations and the effectiveness of the committees in charge, depends the success of the rally. A rally can never be a last minute affair and measure up to scout standards. It requires careful planning, effective leadership, and a schedule of preparations which are strictly adhered to.

That excellent compilation "The Rally Book" (Boy Scouts of America) gives details of various types of rallies and splendid suggestions for

the various items in rallies. The following events which have been taken out of that book may be found suitable for use in our own rallies :—

Life Line Contest.

Team—One patrol.

Equipment—8 pieces of 3/8 inch rope or larger rope each 3 feet long.

Regulations—1. Patrols stand at starting line in file. Each scout has one rope. This they must not bend or twist until starting signal is given.

2. At starting signal, each scout ties his rope to that of his adjoining team mate with a square knot. The front man of the file walks forward with the end of the rope and ties it to a sack of sand placed about 20 feet away, using a clove hitch and his team mates haul it across the starting line.

3. The sack should weigh at least 50 lbs. The scout who ties rope to sack is not allowed to haul.

Judging—The team that gets the sack across the line first is the winner, but one wrong knot disqualifies.

Rope splicing.

Team—One scout.

Equipment—Five 4-ft lengths of 5/16 inch hemp or manilla rope and a large nail or marlin spike for each scout.

Regulations—Scouts shall do the following : Short splice, long splice, and eye splice. Each splice must have at least three tucks. When last splice is finished, scout stands and calls "Time!"

Judging—The first scout who makes all these splices correctly, is the winner. One wrong splice disqualifies.

Patrol Obstacle Race.

Team—8 scouts, also 4 scouts to act as markers.

Equipment—No special equipment required.

Regulations—1. The markers shall be placed at points 10, 20, 30 and 40 yards from the starting line. They shall face the start, except the marker No. 3, who shall have his back to the start, and stand in a crouching position, with stiff knees and hands off the ground.

2. Runner No. 1 shall run around the Marker No. 1 without touching him, shall pass between legs of Marker 2, shall jump over Marker 3 in leap frog style, shall run round Marker 4 and shall return to starting line to

touch off Runner No. 2. Each runner proceeds as above.

3. Touching off shall be done by slapping the outstretched hand.

4. Marker No. 2 shall not be allowed to jump up in order let the runners pass under him. Both feet must remain on ground.

Judging—(a) Runners who "jump the touch off" shall disqualify their teams. This also applies to stepping over the line.

(b) It is allowable to touch the Marker No. 1 with the shoulders in running round him, but touching him with the hands shall disqualify team.

(c) If Marker 2 jumps up (does not keep both feet on ground) and if Marker 3 bends his knees, this shall disqualify team.

(d) Time shall be taken when runner 8 crosses the finish line. The team that properly completes the race shall be the winner.

Group Knot Tying Contest.

Team—Nine Scouts—7 who tie knots and two (Nos. 1 & 8) who assist.

Equipment—Five ropes at least 1/8 inch diameter and not over 5 feet long.

Regulations—(a) The scouts shall fall in, in file and stand at the Alert until signal is given. The ropes must lie entirely on the ground.

(b) At signal, No. 1 who holds a scout staff at "Ground staff", brings it to Horizontal position and faces No. 2 who will tie his rope to the staff between the holder's hands with a clove hitch. No. 3 ties his rope to No. 2's with a square knot. No. 4 ties to No. 3's rope with a sheet bend knot. No. 5 ties to No. 4's with a fisherman's knot. No. 7 ties the free end of No. 6's rope around No. 8's body with a bow line. No. 9 shall stand one yard from the file until after all of the above knots are tied and then shall tie a sheep shank anywhere he may select on the ropes between 1 and 8.

(c) All knot tiers excepting 9 shall, as soon as they have finished their knots, retire behind a line at the rear. No. 9 shall, after finishing his knot, go in the opposite direction to a line 10 feet beyond No. 1. This shall be the end of the event.

Judging—Judges may pull rope taut if necessary to determine if knots are properly tied. Tier must complete his knot. One knot wrong will disqualify team. This shall be considered a Patrol event. The first team to properly comply with the requirements, wins.

(Continued on page 137.)

Club Room and How to Decorate it.

(BY ROVER AMAR SINGH, TOURIST.)

It is often complained by Scoutmasters that troops are started with great zeal, but soon the interest dies away in boys. In the beginning they attend the meetings regularly, but they soon get tired.

The reason is plain; Scoutmasters cannot establish and maintain a permanent interest in them. The routine work hangs heavy on boys and for want of variety they discontinue attendances.

If a Club Room is started half the interest is established. Boys would take pleasure in coming over to their club room and would willingly add more to their own as well as to their fellow-scouts' interest. If you once start, I am sure, boys themselves would do their best to carry on the work of the club room nicely.

I suggest here a few important items about the Club Room and its Decoration.

1. Room.

First of all you require a room to start your activities in. It must be a commodious and a well ventilated one and should in no case be so small as to be insufficient for holding indoor meetings. If it is repairable, repair or get it repaired and whitewash it. Remove all extra things which you do not require.

If you cannot get any room, show your handicrafts skill with Carpenter's Tool Box and raise a Wood-Cabin. But be cautious "Rains not allowed inside".

2. Furniture.

Don't make your Club room the Secretariat office. You need only one table, one or two

chairs, two almirahs (one for stock and the other for the Library), seats for scouts (preferably blocks of wood cut out of a tree) and a long table for papers and magazines. This is sufficient in the beginning and more furniture may be added when the need arises or the budget allows.

3. Stationery.

A Scout is thrifty of course but he must realize that his standard is above the common.

Don't give a poor show of your stationery; honour and standard depend upon it as well. It won't cost you much to get your stationery printed with your Troop name.

As for the office requisites, such as waste paper-basket, ink-pot stand, pen-rack, paper-tray, blotting-pad, paper-cutter, etc., prepare them yourself out of tin, wood or cardboard. You should know that many boys in your troop know how to make them.

4. Progress Chart.

As soon as the troop is started fill in the names, etc., of the boys in the progress chart of the troop. Hang it on the wall and visit it every month. Also keep a complete record of each member separately or in the troop register.

5. Posters and Pictures.

Don't make a fuss of "hanging"; select decent pictures of Great men, Scout activities including your own, on Health, on Cleanliness, Social Service and such others which exhibit a nice show to all.

But never forget to hang a photograph or a picture of "OUR CHIEF". He must be

present in every Club room. You would feel that he is in the habit of sending "Wireless Interest".

Also remember that a notice board must wait outside your room.

6. Models and Handicrafts.

Here is the Museum of your handicrafts. Let the boys show their ability and handicraft spirit in their own Club room.

Encourage them in all ways—never discourage. Let some prepare models of ships, huts, engines, bridges, etc., etc. Others who are interested in leather work, cardboard work, wire work and wood work, give them a chance to reveal their talents. Boys with artistic taste may produce their works of colour and brush.

If there are Meccano and Hornby Train enthusiasts let them show their engineering skill. Stamp and coin collectors would do a great deal to add to the interest in the Club room. Boys would take a great deal of interest in wood-craft. If you encourage them and give them new ideas you would see how they pounce upon this hobby.

7. Tool Box.

No Club-room is complete unless there is a Tool-box for "Hobby Devils". If you cannot buy all tools at once, begin adding one by one to your first lot. You can buy some second-hand tools also, which sometimes prove to be superior to new ones.

A list of important tools, both of carpenters and smiths' can be had from any tool-seller. A cobbler would give you the idea of his tools.

Also keep a box to collect "found-out" screws, rivets, nuts, nails and other such things. These may seem to be of no real importance, but sometimes we need them badly.

8. Ambulance Outfit.

Whereas every scout is expected to keep a first-aid box, no Club room should be without it. No one knows, just how you may be required any moment for a good-turn to dress a wound, to relieve ache to a sprained leg, or to attend to some one in case of illness or accident with troop.

Keep a separate shelf for all of your medicines and dressing material. Label every bottle and box and in no case should any bottle be left open.

Your First-aiders would give you the idea as to what to keep; and you yourself should also take the trouble of going through some first-aid and ambulance books.

9. Library.

Everybody would like the idea of keeping a Library. Give charge of the books and magazines to a scout who should keep all accounts of the library. Form your rules of lending books and let every member of your club take advantage of your Scout Library.

If your funds allow, subscribe for scout and general papers which you think would prove useful to your scouts. Also you can keep the School magazines and papers at your Library Table.

Encourage boys to write articles and compile books. It would give them a great deal of pleasure and this hobby of literature would prove to be very useful in their after life.

10. Meetings.

Hold meetings weekly and let the boys run them. You only give them suggestions and preside if they ask you. Give them instructions if they need and suggest to them new things to do.

Take them outside often, on hikes, to museums and zoos, to bazaars for Social Service, to factories, etc., etc. to improve their general knowledge.

I have touched upon all the main points in this article how Scoutmasters can be successful in establishing and running their troops. I would be too glad to hear from brother Scouts on this matter. My address is, The Fort, Gujrat (Punjab).

(Concluded from page 135.)

Chariot Race

Team—Five Scouts (four horses and a driver)

Equipment—A scout neckerchief.

Regulations—A neckerchief is set up wigwam fashion by each team on a line 30 yards from the starting point. At the start the front pair of horses clasp hands. The rear pair clasp inside hands and hold on to belts of front horses with outside hands. The driver holds on to belts of rear horses, one with each hand. They race down to the end of the course, and as they pass over or circle the neckerchief, the driver picks it up with his teeth, without releasing his grip with either hand. They then return to the finishing line.

Judging—The first team to cross the finish line without any of the above grips being broken, is the winner.

(Some more items—next issue)

A Suggestive Order of Service for the Initiation of New Scouts.

[The following is from the pen of Kenneth C. Sparrow, B.Sc., A.K.C. in "Scouting", Birmingham. We commend it to the notice of Christian troops. Can we hope that Scouters belonging to other religions will devise some such service for the use of their scouts?—Editor, S. I. B. S.]

Order.

1. PRAYER (*All standing*).
2. HYMN (*All standing*).
1st and 2nd verses of "Take my life".
3. ADDRESS (*All seated—on floor*).
4. INITIATION CEREMONY
(*All standing*).
5. Scoutmaster's TALK (*All standing*).
6. HYMN (*All standing*).
7. BENEDICTION (*All standing*).

Explanation.

1. *Prayer.* A suitable prayer from *Prayers for use in the Brotherhood of Scouts* (I.H.Q.); or a *Treasury of Prayers and Praises for use in Toc H*.

2. *Hymn.* If possible get the words of the hymn printed on small cards, which can be given to the Scouts before the Service. They may be placed in the breast pocket of the shirt during the actual Initiation Ceremony.

Here are the words:—

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee:
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise
Take my will and make it Thine;
It shall no longer be mine:
Take my heart, it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne.

3. *Address.* This should be given, if possible, by the Padre of the Troop, the scoutmaster of another Troop, or by some interested friend of the Troop. The speaker should be told *beforehand* that his talk is not expected to last more than ten minutes, and a non-scout should be given some information about the initiation Service.

4. *Initiation Ceremony.* At some time before the evening on which the Initiation Ceremony is to take place, it is essential that the Scoutmaster has a quiet talk with the initiates so that they may understand the

significance of the Ceremony, and will understand the part which they themselves are to take in that Ceremony.

Patrol Shoulder Knots should be given to Patrol Leaders *before* the actual Ceremony. The hats of the Initiates, together with the necessary badges, are placed on a small table in front of the position to be taken up by the Scoutmaster. It should be the privilege of the Assistant Scoutmaster to make all preparations for this Ceremony—the arrangement of the Club Room, the issuing of instructions to the Patrol Leaders and Patrols, and the assembling of the Troop.

The Troop Flag (if possessed) should be placed across the table so that when the Tenderfoot is making the Scout Promise, he may place his left hand on the Troop Flag, whilst he stands at the alert and making the Scout sign with his right hand. This symbolises a new loyalty—loyalty to the Troop. The Troop Leader will hold the Union Jack throughout the Ceremony.

N. B.—It is a mistake to dip this flag when the Promise is being taken.

Ceremony.

Scoutmaster.—"Patrol Leader..... bring forward the Initiates of the..... Patrol."

Patrol Leader.—Gives suitable instructions to bring his Initiates into the position indicated on diagram.

Scoutmaster.—".....reading or repeating name puts the candidate the questions as given in "Scouting for Boys", and gets the appropriate responses and finally says—"Will you say after me, as a pledge of your sincerity and fidelity:—

"I promise.....Scout Law? (All Scouts standing at "Half Salute")."

Scoutmaster shakes hands with the new scouts with the left hand, giving them a welcome such as: "We trust you on your honour to keep this Promise. You are now members of the great brotherhood of Scouts."

The Assistant Scoutmaster presents the new scouts with hats and staves. The Scoutmaster presents the badges and the Patrol Leader pins on the Patrol Shoulder Knots.

Patrol Leader: Having received a sign from the scoutmaster, gives suitable instructions to get his new scouts back to the Patrol.

N. B.—In some Troops, before the new scouts return to the Patrol, the new scouts give a full salute to the Troop, the Troop giving an answering salute; and the Scoutmaster calls for three cheers for the new scouts.

5. *Scoutmaster's talk.* This should not take more than three minutes, and should be used by the Scoutmaster to remind the Troop of the significance of such a ceremony—the keeping of the Promise and Law.

N. B.—This talk may very well be followed by "The King".

6. Hymn:—

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasured store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee (Amen)

7. *Prayer.* If possible, a Prayer, specially prepared for the occasion.

8. *Benediction* to be pronounced by an Assistant Scoutmaster.

(Slightly adapted).

Games.

Chain. This game can continue for quite a time, each player in turn repeating the chain of phrases made by his predecessors, and adding something new for himself. Anyone who blunders in the repetition or fails to add a new link which is satisfactory to the rest of the players drops out of the game.

The leader starts off by saying, for instance: "I have a nail."

And the second person may go on:

"I have a hammer which hit the nail."

After this, "chain" might gradually grow as follows:

"I have the box which holds the hammer which hit the nail."

"I have the workshop containing the box which holds the hammer which hit the nail."

"I have the garage which stands by the villa adjoining the workshop containing the box which holds the hammer which hit the nail."

"I have the car locked up in the garage which stands by the villa adjoining the workshop containing the box which holds the hammer which hit the nail."

New Health.

A BETTER-THAN-PAPER CHASE.

By D. E. WIBBERLEY.

A well-organised paper-chase is always popular in most Scout Troops or Rover Crews. But, since most Scouters find the preparing of the paper a nuisance, and its use as a trail is a source of untidiness much to be deplored, I would like to pass on to my fellow Scouters a suggestion for a better alternative to paper.

Buy from your chemist a pound or two of "raddle" (likewise called Venetian Red or Red

Ochre) and use it to lay a trail by sprinkling it sparsely on the ground with the use of a sort of small scoop at intervals. It has the following advantages over paper or maize (Gilcraft's alternative):

1. It is inexpensive (1 lb. at 3d. a lb. will lay a trail of 2 or 3 miles.)

2. Unlike paper, does not require any preparing.

3. It shows up very plainly, on wet or dry mud or grass.

4. Unlike paper it will not blow away.

5. Unlike maize, birds are not likely to destroy the trail.

6. Rain does not wash it out.

7. It does not disfigure the countryside, only small quantities being used.

8. Any imaginative youngster in the Troop will be fired to further enthusiasm since its similarity to blood stains creates the impression that the chase is a real hunt.

9. The hares are not burdened to the extent they may be with paper or maize.

Any Scouter who takes advantage of this suggestion will find that a chase thus organised will be very successful, especially if an extra spice is put into it in the following way. Buy a pound or two of naphtha or camphor balls; arm the hares with about 16 or so each, and the hounds with about 8. At an arranged spot at the end of the chase the hares put a sign, previously decided to mean "We are ambushing ourselves in the near vicinity", and a pitched battle takes place. If the hares hit a hound he is "dead," and the hounds have to hit a hare three times before he is killed. So ends an exciting chase.

—The Scouter.

Kim's Knotting Race.

Here is a variety of Kim's Game which should prove popular with the Troop. Get a fairly thick length of cord, and in it tie the six Tenderfoot knots, finishing up by making the length of cord into a loop by tying the two ends in a reef knot. Then hang it on a hook and allow all the Scouts to look at it for one minute, provide them with similar pieces of cord, and tell them to tie the knots in the order they were in on the cord.

Having done this, the Scouts are to run with them to the Scoutmaster, the first entry with all the knots in the correct order and properly tied wins.

It is best to let each Patrol choose one or two Scouts to represent it. *"The Scout."*

(Collected and sent out to the Wolf Cub Pack each moon by Brown Tip).

Kho-Kho

This—a really new game—comes from the Gujerati country, and it is splendid for giving plenty of exercise in a small space. The Pack divides into two sides, runners and chasers. The chasers sit on the ground in a line, facing

alternately to the right and left, with two yards between each. The chaser at the head of this file is "IT." The runners are standing at the other end of the file, and IT chases them round the file, of sitting chasers. After making one circuit of the file, they are allowed to break through the file from one side to the other at any gap; but it is important to remember that *IT may never break through the file nor change his direction.* Whenever IT wishes, he may change places with any other chaser. To do this, he touches him, saying "Kho-Kho," and the new IT runs out either to his right or left, *but on that side of the file to which he is facing,* while the old IT sits in his place. The science of the game lies in frequent changes of IT at such moments as the new IT may easily catch a runner passing in front of him.

Each runner drops out when he is touched: and when all have been caught the sides change places. That side wins which takes the shortest time to catch all its opponents; or, alternatively, a time limit may be set. No runner or chaser may go beyond the boundary, which should be (at the most) about ten yards on each side of the file.

Running A Troop.

The Troop meeting: After the Investiture, keep the new Scout's interest alive by encouraging to peg away at his Second Class Test. Your job is to see that he has chances to progress. Every Troop meeting should show an advance in every boy's knowledge. Let us take a specimen evening.

The meeting is timed to begin at a given hour. Scouters should be there in good time to see to any preliminaries. Patrol Leaders, especially the Duty Patrol Leader should also be there. Punctually at the time arranged Patrols should be at their places, ready for inspection. An Assistant Scoutmaster or Troop Leader should attend to this. The Duty Patrol Leader has already seen that the flag is ready for breaking. The Troop Leader stands by the flag. The Scouters are in position..... "Alert", "Salute", Up goes the flag or it is broken. "At Ease".

Now for the Inspection—a golden opportunity to get the true relationship between scouter and scout. Let us follow the Scouter taking the Inspection.

S.—"Good evening, George" (Salutes)

G.—"Good evening, sir." (Springs to the alert and salutes)

S.—"Glad to see that you are taking the Pathfinder Badge, one of the King's Scout

Badges, Public Service—splendid! I have a large scale map you can borrow. How did you get on at your school football last Saturday?"

G.—"We won, sir: two—nil"

S.—"Good, that's splendid: keep on winning."

G.—"We'll try, sir."

(George now goes to the "at Ease" position as the Scoutmaster passes on to the next boy)

The same procedure is followed, with a personal question or two, noticing any defects in cleanliness or uniform, and admonishing kindly as: "Boots rather grubby, Charlie, not up to our standard quite, eh?"

C.—"No, sir, sorry; had to hurry to get here in time; did an errand for mother."

S.—"Bad luck! two points only this time. Try hard not to let your Patrol down. A little extra ginger and you'll do it."

And so on to each boy, with a friendly word and a smile. Firmly point out anything wrong, and give a word of encouragement or praise if deserved. This simple procedure establishes a family atmosphere that develops a thorough understanding between the boys and the Scouter, a true realisation of the relative position between Scouter and Scout and a discipline which never breaks down.

(The "Scouter").

Value of Signalling in a Scout's Training.

(BY "GILCRAFT" IN THE "SCOUTER.")

"SIGNALLING practice, while it is educating the boy's intelligence, is at the same time giving him valuable physical exercise hour after hour in body-twisting and arm-work, and in training the eye, but it is a practice which should be taken out of doors, so that it does not degenerate into a mere indoor exercise devoid of utility, purpose or romance"—Aids to Scoutmastership, p. 82.

In the same book the Chief Scout lists signalling as an exercise which develops the quality of energy that goes to the building up of bodily health and strength, and which also inculcates the quality of intelligence that helps to make character.

The reason why signalling has always been included in the Second class and First class tests and its development further encouraged by the Signaller badge, is undoubtedly that its practice is of real and lasting value to the Scoutmaster in his endeavours to secure the advance of his scouts in body, mind and character. This particular point requires more thought and analysis these days when the practical value of the exercise does not appear, at first sight, to be of much use as it was twenty-five years ago. I do not believe that this is a true statement of fact, but more of that another time.

To learn to be a proficient signaller requires real, hard concentration. In the beginning considerable effort is necessary—effort which amounts in the majority of cases to a painstaking grind. Despite this there is sufficient in the history and practice of signalling to appeal to the imagination of any boy. The romance of codes and of long-distance communication does not fade with the discovery of the fresh marvels of science such as wireless and television. After all, are not these two modern inventions born out of signalling as well as of electric forces? Adventure, romance and imagination are all catered for in this one activity.

From the Scoutmaster's point of view, the fact that here is a test that does require something of stickability is of great value in his task of encouraging his Scouts to train themselves, and consequently their characters—though the less said about that to them the better. Besides

concentration and stickability it is necessary for anyone who desires to be an efficient signaller to have keen observation and alertness of mind and body; all these four qualities are essential to the First Class Scout. Signalling strengthens the co-ordination of eye, ear, brain, arm and hand. It requires a certain finish—the stance, the angles, the grip, the movement of the arms, the tapping of the key, the calling of letters by their proper names (phonetics), and the use of procedure signals and special signs. This all makes for exactness; the any-old-how will do boy fails and a good thing too.

But signalling is not an individual practice, and consequently the value of co-operation and mutual help is quickly appreciated. Consideration for the other fellow must be the first thought of every sender of a message; this concerns his style, his background, his rate of sending and many other factors. Station work provides good training in discipline, self-control and team spirit.

There is still another value worthy of definite mention. Signalling can be used to encourage handcraft. Flags, buzzers, and even heliographs can be hand made. Semaphore arms and signal lights can be constructed for Headquarters and communicating lines rigged between room and room, and even between house and house, as has frequently been the case. An ingenious toy for flashing semaphore signals by the use of bulbs lighting up the flags at different angles is on the market. Here is a suggestion I have received for another similar indoor signalling stunt.

A picture is painted showing a battleship or a trawler with a Coast Guard station or another ship in the distance. A pinhole is pierced at the masthead and another at the shore station or in the second ship. The picture forms the lid of a box and a bulb is fixed behind each hole with a long flex to each. Partitions in the box secure the non-leakage of light. Triangular or quadrilateral contests between a number of ships can be worked with equal ease.

The hall-mark of a good signaller is smartness and intelligence which in itself is sufficient reason for every Scoutmaster to take the trouble to encourage signalling in his troop.

"The Special Meeting."

How many Akelas have read the articles that come out from time to time in the Scouter about "Special Meeting." Most probably have not seen them, and hardly know what is commonly understood by a special meeting.

The general principle of a special meeting is that the Cubs do some journey in imagination. It is not probably what little boys can do nowadays. It may be the re-enactment of a journey of exploration long ago of a country which is

now fully explored. It may be a visit to an object of interest at a place which is beyond the range of where they can really travel. There are many other things suitable, which you can think of.

It is best to suggest a special meeting to the Cubs at the end of the previous meeting, and decide what it is to be. Then let the Cubs' imagination take charge as far as it can, only supplementing it when it fails to act. Do not aim at realism or accuracy. You are not teaching historical or geographical accuracy. You are practising a bit of team work. If a ship conveying the Cubs from Karachi to Colombo, happens to get wrecked near New York, watch and join in the rescue work, and then go ashore with them and enjoy a visit to the United States. Do not suggest that it is a round about route. If man-eating tigers are met in the streets of London, be careful not to get eaten yourself.

But be prepared to fill in complete blanks. At first you will have to supply most of the initiative. Be prepared with a story. As it catches on, do not correct, but fade out and let the Cubs' own imagination run riot. Fade in again if things flag.

Let them dress up as best they can. If they decide at the previous meeting who they are and where they are going, it gives the enterprising ones a chance to rig themselves out.

Rambler's Badge.

(BY A "RAMBLER")

II

(Continued from last issue.)

IN the previous talk on Rambler's badge I have pointed out the essential requirements of the Rules. We will now consider how we can prepare ourselves for the badge so that we will find it not only a piece of scouty work but also a pleasure to the Rambler.

Anybody and everybody cannot undertake a ramble. Of course, rambling in the open air will be beneficial to all but there are some who should not exert themselves in any way, especially by undertaking long walks. Therefore it is best to consult a doctor before deciding upon a ramble, in the case of those who are physically weak. The doctor, of course, will be in a position to say how many miles such a young man could travel without endangering his health. This precaution is necessary so as to avoid later calamities. But it would be found that most of the Rover Scouts are healthy and they can, without any difficulty, bear the strain of the travel.

For the purpose of detailed discussion we can divide the subject under the following heads:—

A little apparatus helps. A few Scout staves and a little sacking make an excellent ship, and give the Cubs quite a lot of fun preparing. But stick to make-believe. Do not have real knives or real axes taking part in the expedition. You never know what turn events may take.

You start on your journey from let us say Lahore. You begin by going to the "Station," where one Cub sells "tickets." You then pass the barrier, where one Cub is examiner, and finds a wrong "ticket" or two. Then the "train" arrives, consisting of Cubs saying puffpuff. One is guard. You go off in it, and arrive somewhere where a meal is required. You "buy" or "cook" it, and "eat" it, and perhaps someone misses the train. Every Cub frequently changes his character. First he sells "tickets," then he becomes the "guard's van." Then is the food vendors' stand on which the tray rests and so on.

What does it teach. Quite a lot of things. First they learn to enjoy using their imagination. Then they do quite a useful bit of team work. Further in preparation they do quite a number of odd jobs and use ingenuity. If possible you have a small real meal which has to be got ready, just a bite or two of some sweets. You have not time for more. You can also bring in the following of a simple trail, etc.

(Adapted from the Punjab Scout Bulletin.)

Equipment.

Food.

Ramble.

Shelters.

Log of the Rambler.

Using the Log.

The Future of the Rambler.

A few points of interest to be noted.

A mere perusal of the above list would undoubtedly point out that they are not water-tight but are interdependent and therefore while discussing one subject we have to remember the co-relating items.

Equipment.—Of necessity, the equipment should be such that the Rover Scout can carry himself without any difficulty or fatigue.

The best method of carrying the Rambler's equipment is in a Ruc-sack, on your back. The haversacks worn on the shoulders are not convenient for long journeys as they tend to put the whole weight on the collar bone and weigh you down on one side. Further they impede the movement of the legs. The ruc-sac

that you choose should be of strong material usually of light canvas with the shoulder loops stitched well. The shoulder loops should be broad and neither too soft nor too thick. If the straps are too soft they roll into a thin rope or if they are too thick will stand out as leather straps and press the collar bone. There are however saddles but they are not necessary for the Rambler. If these straps are provided with adjustable buckles they would be of immense use. The average price of such a ruc-sac is between Rs. 3/- and Rs. 5/-. You can get the same made in your own locality easily if you could explain the thing to the tailor, or better still show him a sample. The type of ruc-sac which is best is that which has a special pocket to hold the Notebook and pencil, so that you may take this out without disturbing the things inside.

Clothing: Uniform.—Uniform is necessary for various purposes. The uniform is the most convenient form of dress for walks. Secondly it carries a certain amount of respect and popularity with it. There is no need to carry anything except the necessary shirt, shorts, belt, scarf and badge. There is no need to wear the scarf, and shoulder straps on the road. All the badges should be well stitched to avoid loss.

Thumbstick is essential and it should be just the height to give support to your arm. The usual height is fixed by cutting off the stick at the bottom leaving the top notch just 6 inches to 1 foot below the shoulder. It should be strong and light, and should be fitted with a metal tip at the bottom so as to give a hold on slippery ground.

Footwear is a very easy problem in India. We are not accustomed to the use of western type of shoes. Indian sandals are the best but slippers are bad for long walks as they strain the toes. Lace up or plain sandals are good. It is not necessary to wear the hose for we are used to bare feet. The climate where such equipment is necessary is rare in India except near the Himalayas. Footwear of some kind is absolutely essential as the Rambler may have to walk in thorny places, or where there are insects, or over gravel.

Avoid wearing new shoes before the ramble for they would leave foot sore and may even make it septic by exposure and dirt. Some people prefer canvas shoes but they should be aired well before use or they tend to be wet, sticky and smelly.

A serviceable knife, and a whistle would be useful.

Change of clothing.—The set of uniform is enough for two days or a week-end. A dhoti, a clean shirt and towel is enough for a change. The same clothing can be washed as often as we like in this climate. While walking, some kind of support is necessary for the scrotum and the usual Indian type of underwear is therefore essential.

Bedding.—A paliass is very useful. A paliass is nothing but a light pillow case of 6 feet by 2½ feet. It can be filled at any time with straw or dry leaves.

A thick bedsheet and a very light woollen shawl would be sufficient for bedding. Pillows should be avoided.

Light.—Two match boxes, a good hurricane lantern, with a new wick and good glass, two candles, and a cheap battery light are enough. The lantern should be light but capable of giving good light. The junior model is the best. For torches, heavy and costly torches however useful, should be avoided. Its length should not be more than the length of your notebook and its thickness not more than 2". Single cell battery is the best.

Toilet.—a small mirror preferably a metal one, and a comb are enough. Shaving set, and requisites may be taken. Soap when taken should be wrapped in oil cloth or paper. Usually greengram powder would be more useful for all purposes and more healthy.

Scouting.—A map of the country for reference.

A compass, preferably one with a luminous dial.

Notebook, eraser, and pencil, one or two foolscap papers, and a few envelopes are useful.

Medical.—A small bottle of Tincture Iodine or iodine pencil.

Zambuk ointment.

A roll of bandage, a small quantity of cotton.

Utensils.—All of aluminum or such light material.

1. Small vessel for boiling two ollocks of rice or more. (1 ollock per head).

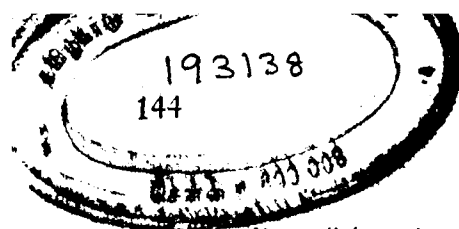
2. Two lids, one small just the size of the vessel and one big to be used as baking pan.

5. An aluminum ladle.

4. Two small aluminum vessels of ½ measure capacity.

5. A bag made out of canvas preferably completely waterproof and with handles. You can get collapsible canvas buckets for nominal prices from Army Surplus Depots.

(To be Continued.)



SOUTH INDIA BOY SCOUT.

[APR.

Rover Scouts.

"OLD BULL" has shown us how we can spend our holidays in summer joyfully, i.e., with our kit on our backs, independent of coolies, trains, and motors, we can penetrate into the towns and villages and experience the joys and delights which the untrodden higher heights of the Himalayan mountains can give to us.

The weather is getting pretty hot and the nights warmer. The towns and cities have a closed, unhealthy sort of atmosphere, so every one like to go out into the open and breath God's fresh air. The best way to go out is to go on a scouting hike, "marching along, singing the song, side by side." Then and only then one will enjoy nature and its beauties.

In scouting hikes, every one is supposed to bear his own burden. You can't have a heavy kit on your back, and walk. So your aim must be to take as light a kit as you possibly can. Do not take things without which you can do. Keep down to essentials. Below are given the requirements of an average hiker.

To avoid dullness in your hikes, you require a companion of your own nature and temperament. Choose a lively chum, who will be a willing helper, and faithful to you.

Inform the District Scout Commissioner for the area where you propose to go. He will help you in any way he can. Having done this, attend to your kit. You require bedding and shelter for the night. A light tent is of value in hikes. It is best to have your own tent and be independent. Make one. It is not difficult. The simpler the design, the fewer pegs will it require. Complete single fly tents with pegs and poles weighing about 2 seers and sufficient for two hikers can be bought which will help you to a great extent. Two bivouac sheets supported by thumb sticks make an excellent tent and can be shared in carrying.

More harm is caused by ground-damp than is done by wet weather. So a good ground sheet is essential.

For bedding you don't require much in summer. A blanket according to the place where you are going and a bag of ordinary strong cloth about six feet long and two feet wide will do. The bag can be filled in with grass or leaves and it will form a very comfortable mattress. Provision against rough weather is a necessity. If you have a water-proof coat, take it along. It won't add much to the weight, and will help you greatly.

A change of clothing is essential. Take a spare shirt and shorts. The shirt and the water proof coat should be kept on top of your kit. The Chief Scout writes in "Scouting for Boys":—

"You often get wet through walking, and you will see tenderfoots remaining in their wet clothes, until they get dry again, no old scout would do so as that is the way to catch fever and get ill. When you are wet, take the first opportunity of getting your wet clothes off."

So when your shirt gets wet, and whenever you get a chance, change it and put the wet one in the sun on your back to dry. Moreover you will require a sleeping suit, as you cannot keep your uniform clean otherwise.

A note book, a pencil, etc., will form your personal gear. Soap is a necessity. You may take a tooth brush with you, otherwise most of the Indian trees will supply you with the best tooth brush. A camera is handy as well as an invaluable item of the kit. It will give records that will last for years. They are not heavy. You can keep one into a small pocket. You should not forget a life line, knife, and axe.

One great point that a Rover scout should take care about, to ensure his endurance, and being able to go on the march for a long time, is his boots. One who gets sore feet with much walking becomes useless. You should therefore take care to have good, well fitting, roomy boots and stout ones, and as like the natural shape of your feet as possible, moreover the feet should be kept dry if they are allowed to get wet, the skin is softened, and very soon gets blistered and rubbed raw, wherever there is a little pressure of the boot. The feet get wet from perspiration as well as from outside. Therefore to dry this, it is necessary to wear good woollen socks.

I should not forget an enamel mug and a plate. They are easy to clean and there is no chance of breakage. This brings us to cooking food. One can easily buy tinned food but there is no fun in this. There is more pleasure in cooking than one can dream of. Cooking gear is not so heavy. A small degchi, a frying pan, a spoon and a garvi are enough to cook a simple but a wholesome meal. A few bags will be very handy for carrying your food stuffs in.

All these articles can be packed in a ruc-sac. You need not go in for an expensive one or you need not buy at all. Make one for yourself according to your design and need. You can also use the bag mentioned in the bedding gear in place of the ruc-sac. Empty the bag when you want to pack your kit and fill it when you turn in for the night.

Now try this, and if you require more help, write to Provincial Headquarters, we will help you with advice and also with itineraries of likely hikes across the mountains.

(Adapted from the Punjab Scout Bulletin).

THE SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING-EMPEROR.

At a meeting of the Provincial Executive Committee of the Madras Provincial Council of the Boy Scouts Association held on 6th April 1935 under the presidency of the Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiar, Provincial Commissioner, the following proposal for the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty the King-Emperor was approved.

6th May will be celebrated as the Scout Day by all the 18,000 Boy Scouts, Cubs, Rovers, and Scouters in the Presidency.

In this connection the District Scout Councils and Local Scouts Associations are requested to arrange a programme of their own and celebrate the occasion.

The following suggestions may be considered in drawing up the programme :

Groups should meet in their respective Headquarters at 8 A.M. on Monday the 6th May 1935 for Group parades after which a meeting may be held of Scouts under the presidency of the Scoutmaster or some one chosen for the occasion who will address the Scouts. Then the meeting will pass a resolution wishing happiness to Their Majesties.

Then the Scouts will break off and move by patrols or small groups and undertake Good Turns campaigns such as visiting hospitals, Cherry cleaning, Feeding the poor, entertaining children, etc.

Afternoon to be devoted for sight-seeing and helping the Local Committee in the various items connected with the celebrations.

The District Commissioners may undertake the arrangements of a Scout Rally preferably a Joint Rally of Girl Guides and Boy Scouts. Advantage should be taken of this day to plant trees at the Scout Headquarters, camping centres, etc.

It is suggested that Scouts should enjoy themselves by going to Pictures, Theatres, etc., holding entertainments and camp fires or over-night camping or the camping out programme, may be held on Saturday, the 11th and Sunday, the 12th May 1935 if the dates are found more convenient.

Arrangements may be made by Scout Associations in Hill Districts to light a Chain of Beacons on the night of the 6th May 1935.

A report of the celebration activities by Scouts may be sent to the Provincial Headquarters for information.

Editorial Note.

As usual, there will be no issue of the "South India Boy Scout" in May. There will be a double number of the Magazine in June. Look out for special new features.

Managing Editor, S. I. B. S.