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WORLD SCOUTING

On 29th November, the Director sent the following telegram to Sir Winston Churchill:

On the occasion of your eightieth birthday six million scouts and scouters of the free world send you their greetings gratitude and good wishes.

The following reply was received from 10 Downing Street:

"The Prime Minister is deeply touched by the kind message which you sent him on behalf of the Boy Scouts International Bureau. It gave him great pleasure to receive it".

FOR OLD WOLVES

The Cub's Third Year (10 - 11)

The third and last year a Cub enjoys in the Pack should be the best year. Yet there is a danger that the Cub Scouters will look on a Two Star Cub as having reached his peak of achievement, and he will be very quick to appreciate this attitude and will begin to feel that there is nothing left for him in the Pack but to fill in time.

Actually his appetite for achievement is greater than ever at this age and if he is disappointed now he may tend to become disillusioned with the whole Movement because it doesn't move.

One of Akela's first concerns should be the older boys, not only to hold but to further the interest, by offering them new and wider spheres. The younger Cubs are keen enough and more easily satisfied, as we have seen, but the older boy needs more thought if not more attention.

The graph of Cubbing should rise all the way in a steady ascent of the Going Up mark, not take a downward curve or even keep on the level, once the Second Star is gained.

We must not use too much revision as a means of keeping the older boy employed. True, he has a lot behind him which must be kept fresh in mind, but this should be done by further development rather than by doing the same old things over and over again. The Cub programme is big enough to keep even a precocious boy fully occupied for three years without the smallest encroachment on Scouting preserves.

But the Cub whose progress we have been following is a very average fellow; he achieved his One Star during the first year and his Two Star during his second, each of these adorning his cap before the Service Star appeared on his jersey. Only then is he a full-blown Cub and a full member of the Jungle.

Our Cub also gained one Proficiency Badge. We preferred him to go all out for his Second Star than to be side-tracked by the second badge. This has the added advantage that he now has the Leaping Wolf as a very important aim still ahead of him. The second Proficiency Badge needed for this should call for real effort and give him a grand sense of achievement.

But let us first consider the general Pack Programmes and background, as seen through his eyes and measured by his growing requirements.

The ordinary life of the Pack, its ceremonies and traditions, its routine and frequent variations, have all become part of his life. He should now be helping to strengthen those traditions, even to create new ones.

The Jungle background will have become a habit too, but it will no longer be so attractive. He will join in the Jungle dances with more toleration than enthusiasm, unless they are brightened up with variations, or the older boy is given a part which calls for some real acting.

He will be much keener on other sorts of imaginative adventure. Special Pack Meetings or games and activities in which he can become a jet pilot, a spy, a Red Indian or a deep-sea diver. (The Red Indian is not there in any spirit of "Which of these is out of place in this category?" A Red Indian or a Cowboy can hold his own with any modern adventurer.)

Especially, now, will the Cub enjoy getting OUT to do these things. He should have much better powers of observation than the younger Cubs (if we have not been wasting these two past years) and a better friendship with Nature. He should be able to give an example in road courtesy and should really appreciate all wide games, tracking, lair-building and treasure hunts to the full. He should pull his weight at any expeditions, sports, district events or joint activities with the Troop, and the latter will serve to sharpen his interest in Scouting.

Yarning will never lose its appeal if the yarns are varied and of an adventurous nature. Acting, singing, making things and all such important auxiliaries to the Pack programme will still be welcome provided they give the older boy the opportunity to contribute something better than he has done before and to show some originality.

Games will still be as important as ever but, though he will show more toughness and energy in playing them, he should also be expected to show more self-control and team spirit. The "alert" at start and finish and a scrupulous fairness should now be habits, and in these things he should set an example.

But work there must also be - real productive work. Once the Leaping Wolf is achieved, the Cub should feel it a challenge to earn more Proficiency Badges, and varied ones. One of each colour would be a good aim for a start. He should realize that the Old Wolves have little time for this specialist work, although many of the foundations have been laid in the Pack programmes. He

should be keen enough to do some work for himself at home; and how pleasant for both parent and boy to find that Mum is the right authority for the Homecraft Badge and that the Gardener is just Dad's cup of tea! Best of all, if the boy is invited to Akela's home some evenings for special work, which will probably include tea and biscuits and time for the Cub to tell Akela all about Scouting. The special link with Akela is most important now in encouraging the boy towards co-operation and common-sense.

It is very largely by the example of the senior Cubs that the standard of the Pack will be set: example in keenness and discipline but more especially in the matter of the Law and Promise. These should now mean to the boy much more than they did before, and the renewal of the Promise on St. George's Day and at the Going Up Ceremony will be no idle repetition. Not for a moment should he be allowed to feel that he has outgrown the Promise, as he has nearly outgrown his jersey. His Good Turns should be regular and useful; he should be allowed to say a prayer sometimes to close the Meeting, or at Cubs' Own; he should have occasional special duties with the Flag; he should make the Law his own law.

At first this business of being an "example" may take the form of swank, but, if nobody is impressed, that phase will not last long. It is our expectation which will produce results as much as any other factor at this stage. It is better to expect too much and be a little disappointed than to expect too little and let the Cub be disillusioned. If we expect rowdiness and trouble-making he will undoubtedly play up to us, just as much as he would respond to our expectation of co-operation. They seldom disappoint us.

If the boy has already proved his worth as a Second he may be in the running for a Sixer. Small responsibilities will go with the second stripe, which will help him to develop himself more than anything, provided his activities are not limited to this. At first he may tend to be bossy with his Six, but that too will pass under Akela's treatment and example in his or her own leadership. He must not be allowed too much authority and must not be confused with a Cub Instructor even in a small single-handed Pack. He can, for short periods, help his Tenderpads with knotting or any of the simpler tests (if you are certain he really is helping them) but he cannot be expected to throw a ball patiently to and fro to would-be ball-catchers for ten minutes at a time, or to act as a mark in games which he is longing to play himself. The Sixers are not only there to help the programme along; it should be for them to enjoy and their performance should be the best contribution to the evening.

As a member of the Sixers' Council the boy will feel much more responsible for the Pack activities even though he only has a voice in such matters as the venue of an outing, the planning of a Pack Good Turn or the rules of a new game.

All this, and all the other real activities, should be giving the boy a growing appetite for (if not a taste of) the greater realism of Scouting. For the sake of Scouting alone he should not be allowed to grow too big for his boots, or the transition will not be so easy. As a Senior Sixer it is particularly important for the Old Wolves to see to it that his head and feet are not outsize.

Now that the long-anticipated goal of Scouting is within sight (and no Cub's sight is longer than about a year) the boy should realize that everything he does is preparing him for Scouting; every achievement, physical or mental, a step along the road. He should know the GSM and SM as friends whose leadership he begins to covet. As Going Up time approaches, this bond should be strengthened and his future PL may also visit the Pack and be encouraged to "show off" as much as possible - for this won't be very much!

(Acknowledgements to Mrs. H. Addis in "Jamboree")

THE CENSUS FOR 1954

The figures received by Transvaal Head-quarters are given below. They are group totals, all ranks.

| District | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| (Country) Standerton | 131 | - | - | - |
| Alexandra | 280 | 602 | 402 | 595 |
| Bushbuckridge | 34 | - | - | - |
| East Rand | 182 | 242 | 71 | - |
| Ermelo | 129 | 146 | - | 127 |
| Far East Rand | 262 | 475 | 74 | - |
| Germiston | - | - | 95 | 129 |
| Heidelberg to Nigel | 105 | 92 | 109 | 35 |
| Johannesburg Central | 159 | 156 | 123 | 199 |
| Johannesburg West Central | - | 167 | 77 | 287 |
| Letabe | 25 | 97 | 176 | 169 |
| Louis Trichardt | 411 | 544 | - | - |
| Marico | - | - | - | 75 |
| Middelburg - Sekukuniland | 500 | 755 | 189 | - |
| Orlando | 466 | 722 | 475 | 592 |
| P.P.Rust) | 357 | 296 | 296 | 369 |
| Pietersburg) | - | - | - | 71 |
| Potchefstroom | - | - | - | - |
| Pretoria | 1253 | 1431 | 1653 | 1150 |
| Rustenburg | 414 | 277 | 369 | 317 |
| Sibasa | - | - | - | 347 |
| Vereeniging - Evaton | 817 | - | 437 | - |
| Waterburg | 287 | 296 | 157 | 132 |
| West Rand | 291 | 368 | 145 | 99 |
| Western Transvaal | 394 | 899 | 650 | - |
| Witbank | 82 | - | 68 | 77 |
| Zoutpansberg | - | - | 587 | - |
| Total - all ranks | 6579 | 7565 | 6153 | 4770 |

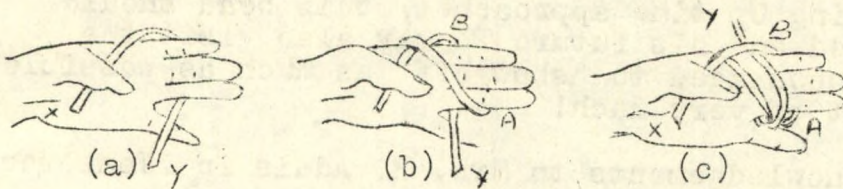
THE PATROL LEADER'S PAGE

WOGGLES

You'll find that most of your fellows are keen on a standard troop or patrol woggle but haven't many clues on how to make one. The Turk's Head is a very easily made woggle, and there are two methods of making it.

The first method is as follows:-

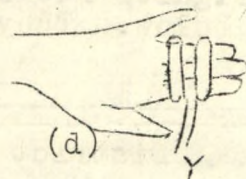
- (a) Take a turn round three fingers of the left hand holding the standing end X with your thumb.



- (b) Bring the end Y over X and down the back of the three fingers.

- (c) Now bring Y over strand A and under strand B.

- (d) Turn the hand over and it will look like this -



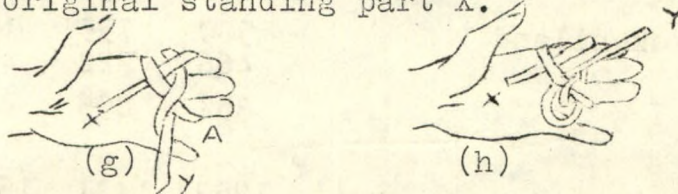
- (e) Pull strand C over strand D.

- (f) Slip end Y under D and over C.



- (g) Pull up and turn the hand over palm up again.

- (h) Bring end Y under strand A so that it parallels the original standing part X.

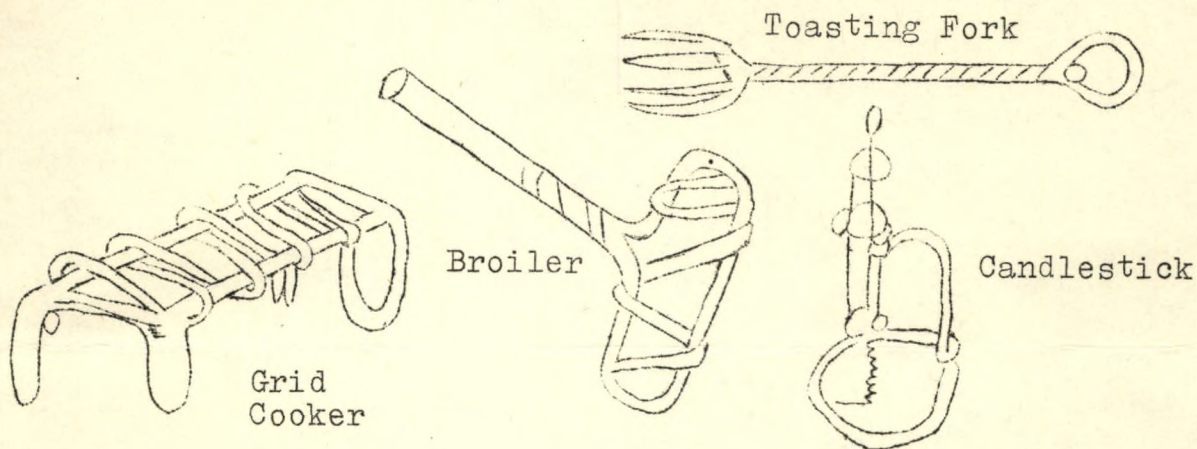


This gives you a one-strand Turk's Head.

From "The Transvaal Scouter"

(To be continued)

SOME GADGETS MADE FROM WIRE



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

I urge upon Scouters that the more important quest is to ginger up the joyous spirit of scouting through camping and hiking as the habitual form of training for their boys - and incidentally for themselves.

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES

SOME OF THE BOOKS YOU MUST HAVE

What they are about

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Scout Membership Cards | Record of work from Tenderfoot up to Queen's Badge |
| Complete Troop Registers | Names of Scouts, Troop Finance Pages and Proficiency Badge Scheme |

VISITS BY ORGANIZERS

As you might know, there are only two Scout Organizers in the Transvaal. Applications for visits to Camps, Rallies, etc., should be made to us in good time to enable them to fit in your item in their general programme.

COMING EVENTS

Training Camps

May: 6th - 8th: Patrol Leader's Course for the whole of Pretoria District at Walmansthal near Pretoria.

June: 19th - 25th: Scout Wood Badge Course at the Gilwell Grounds, Roodepoort.

July: 2nd - 7th: Cub Wood Badge Course at the Gilwell Grounds, Roodepoort.

Rallies

Pretoria District competitive Rally at Vlakfontein - 10th September, 1955 (Cubs and Scouts).

Bob-a-Job

1st - 7th April: for particulars please inquire from The Secretary, African Boy Scouts Association, P.O. Box 8356, Johannesburg.

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