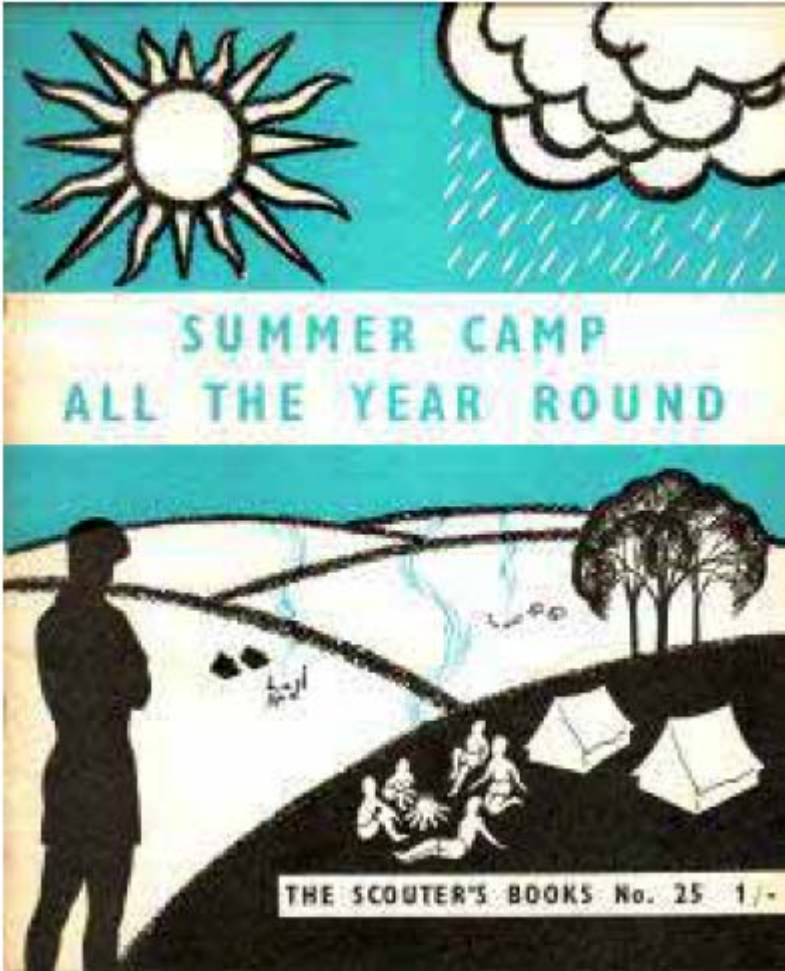
SUMMER CAMP ALL THE YEAR ROUND



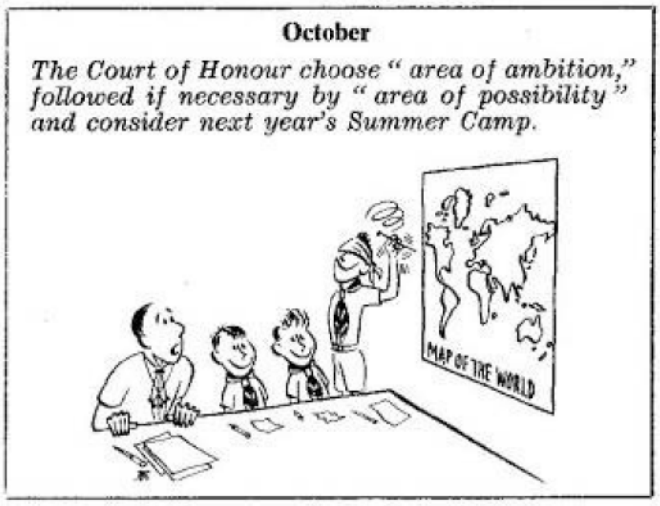
THE SCOUTER'S BOOKS No. 25 1/-

INTRODUCTION

Camping, it has been said, is by far the most important Scout activity, not only because in a way camping is the essence of Scouting, but because it is one of the very best ways of teaching boys how to live together; they learn to work and play with each other and for each other. Here, too, if we are willing, we can see the Patrol System at its best, under conditions, if we will permit them, where the Patrol Leader and his Patrol can live as an entity. Ideally it is the Patrol Leader (himself once trained in the same way), who will show, with his assistant the Patrol Second, his Patrol of six or seven boys how to pitch a tent, build and use different types of cooking fires, cook meals, make themselves comfortable and how to succeed in becoming what a trained Scout is: an explorer in miniature.

The Summer Camp should be the climax of the Scout's training year, when the Troop lives together for a week at least, better still ten days, best of all a fortnight in the open air, learning from and about the countryside, learning to be self-dependent, self-reliant, able to look after themselves away from refrigerators and electric stoves and all the modern paraphanalia of living.

" Able to look after themselves away from electric stoves "



A Court of Honour should always have an Agenda prepared by its scribe: it is good training for the future businessmen as well as the present Scouts! In October their main item should be "next year's camps," which (and this is what we are here concerned with) includes of course the Summer Camp.

The C. of H. will be wise, on this occasion to invite the Scouter and even the A.S.M.s to be present for consultation as needed, for there may be obstacles not at once observable by enthusiastic 14 year olds!

The Scouter will remind them that such things as cost, availability of transport, and practicability must always be considered – and whether he'll be running the camp alone (or with some A.S.M.s, Auxiliaries, Old Scouts or what have you) – which means that it's not

quite as easy to make 'decisions in October' as we're suggesting. Nevertheless we must aim at the ideal even if we can't always achieve it . . .

So what must the camp have?

swimming facilities? angling? bird life? opportunities for forestry? for making rafts?

It will presumably be in our own country (or won't it?). Will it be a standing camp, or a camp to which the Patrols make their own way, planning their own different routes?: this is well worth trying.

'When' will be fairly easily decided – although adult holidays and adult availability must be considered as well as schoolboy vacations.

But Where?

This will depend largely on "with what intention?"

It is to be hoped that the Scout Camp which was *just* a holiday has disappeared: a Scout Camp is a camp where friendship, fun and frolic are joined by adventure and definite, planned and available training in the Scouting skills. And most C. of H.s should, therefore, consider among other things, the Troop's training needs. Pioneering? First Class Journeys? This badge or that?

They should be reminded that a good camp site should have: –

1. Water and wood.
2. Accessibility (transport, equipment, and supplies).
3. Soil and vegetation.
4. Space and ground for games.
5. View.
6. Privacy.
7. Elevation and drainage.
8. Protection (from wind, storms, and sun).

Perhaps if the Troop is very young or isolated from other Scouts, or the Scouter is short of help, a camp at Gilwell Park may attract (swimming pool, Providore, wonderful Camp Fires, hundreds of other Scouts, fantastic hospital, trips to London, opportunities for badge work . . .), or some other Headquarters Camp Site (details of which you can get free from Scout Headquarters), or some such County Site as Buckmore Park in Kent (which has a heated *indoor* swimming bath as well as attractive woodland Patrol sites and opportunities for meeting Scouts, especially foreign Scouts, and a sympathetic Warden) . . . ? Seaside? Riverside? Lakeland? Mountain country? Farm site? Near or far? . . .

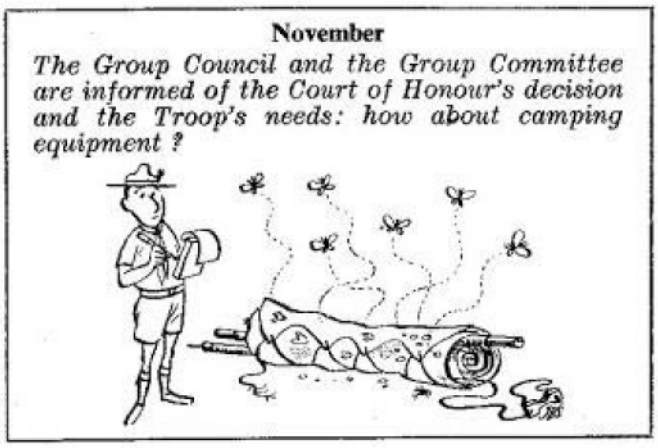
But the decision has to be made so that money can be saved, transport arranged, letters written, parents informed, etc, etc.

And the sooner the better . . .

A competently functioning Group Committee meets monthly: at the November meeting the Scouter should be prepared to put forward on their behalf the Court of Honour's hopes for next year's Summer Camp. He will outline what he will try to do to make the hope become a reality and will expect to have the Committee's support for his plans. It is now that a well-run informed Committee will prove its value – when its members ask the *correct* questions!

Will the cost be borne entirely by the Scouts or is this a case for a subsidy – because of distance or because it is abroad perhaps – from Group Funds? And how about equipment? Does some need replacing, mending? Are there enough tents (and enough kinds of tents) and

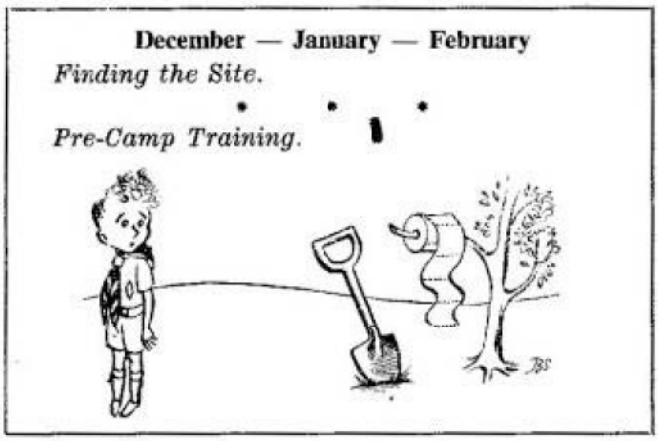
axes and cooking pots and groundsheets and rope and all the rest available? If not, now is the time for the Scouter to list the Troop's needs and the Committee to budget for them.



The Scouter will, before the meeting, therefore have (a) checked himself, with his P.L.s or with the Group Q.M. if there is one, the state of all existing equipment, (b) seen that it is all properly packed away or stored, dried, greased, etc., or whatever should be done, (c) have a list of the equipment he needs for next year's Summer Camp, ticked if it is available and underlined (or otherwise indicated) if it isn't – as yet. (Guiding lists will be found in *Camping Standards).*

* * *

At this stage, the site may be definitely settled, e.g. the Troop may be returning to a previous known and much liked site; or going to a H.Q. or County Site. But equally (or perhaps more likely) only the type of camp (sea coast? riverside? hill country?) or the desired county will have been settled. The exact site where the tents will be erected and the smoke ascend from the wood fires has yet to be found. This should be the constant pre-occupation (this – and already bringing camp training in some form into routine programmes) of the Scoutcr during the next three months.



Camp sites are found in any one of the following ways: –

1. By another Scouter's knowledge and recommendation of a site. (A pre-knowledge of a desirable site can influence a wise Court of Honour's views!).

2. By visiting the county concerned and searching oneself. (Quite a pleasant occupation for a week-end with a car and a companion or two if great distances are not involved but uncertain of result of course).

3. By consulting the local D.C. of the place to which the Troop wish to go, writing to him by means of Scout Headquarters, c/o 25, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1, giving number of Scouts involved, probable date of camp and type of site desired if possible. *A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.*

The ideal camp site should have a good draining soil (gravel is the best), be on level ground, have wood and water available, be not too far away from essential stores (although in this age of dehydrated foods this is less important for a one or two nights camp) and have as good a view as you can get.

Most land which is worth camping on, belongs to someone: so see that you get permission to camp.

* * *

Something to do with camp should appear in every Troop programme, because Scouts who do not camp are not Scouts; they may be an excellent boys' club wearing uniform, but camping is the basis of Scouting and in its way is as important as the Law and Promise, and the Good Turn. These are the Big Four of Scouting!

We believe that *before* he actually goes to camp the boy should at least know: –

(a) How to pack his belongings. The "bag within a bag" method of packing is easily the best, and Scouts should be encouraged to use it. Demonstrate packing rucsac, using bags and making bags. (Give each Scout six weeks to get a supply of duffel bags made, or polythene bags).
(b) How to make a blanket bed.
(c) How to build and light a simple fire.
(d) How to tie a slip-reef.
(e) How to use camp latrines.

He should know these things not only so that he will not be a burden to his Patrol, but because of the self-confidence these facts give him.

The use of camp latrines, is, for the Tenderfoot, the most obvious and often the most alarming deviation from life at home. He is, therefore, a wise Scouter who in the first yarn about life in camp – about what there is to do on arrival, gadgets, fire-making and the like – talks about the hygienic arrangements of the camp; and it comes quite naturally if camp is likened to a home where bed-room, kitchen, bathroom and lavatory all have to be designed and arranged. There is an opportunity here for the Scouter to say something about cleanliness, stripping for the early morning wash, rigging up a shower, etc. An opportunity also to say something about health and how every sensible fellow knows that it is a necessary part of life to get rid regularly of the waste material that the body doesn't want. Here, of course, a good model of latrines, showing clearly how they are constructed, is invaluable. (Scouters are always asking for ideas for the Senior Scout programme; well here is one: to make a set of such models). The boy likes something he can see and finger. It is not difficult then for the Scouter to explain that a covering of soil should be added to the pit the Scout has been using and that the pit should always be left as clean as he himself would like to find it. Here, too, is the place to indicate that toilet paper should be replaced in its container (model, please) and that the "Vacant" or "Engaged" card (or "Danger" or "All Clear," or whatever sign is

traditional with the Troop) should always be used as should the bowl of water for washing one's hands after using the latrines.

All such information before the camp is not only valuable as part of a boy's education but often relieves his mind. He had been, consciously or unconsciously, wondering a little about these things and now he knows, and the strangeness is already beginning to change into the familiar. May we here advocate the use of trowels, one for each compartment, for soil scattering? They are not expensive and are easily used in a confined space, which is not true of some of the unwieldy and dangerous implements we have sometimes been confronted with on occasions.

* * *

The following will also help: Yarns about past camps.

Photographs of past camps as part of Patrol, Den or Troop Room decoration: here familiarity breeds assurance.

The making of a model camp as a Patrol Competition. (Give Patrols a supply of plasticine, pipe cleaners, straw, postcards, a reel of thread, and scissors. Patrols, using anything else they may have available or are able to find at the time, must make a model camp site, complete with tents, kitchens, latrines, etc. Afterwards the P.L.s must attempt to justify the details and layout, etc., when each model is displayed and discussed. A great deal of camp-craft can be taught in this way).

Give each Patrol 10 minutes to write down six helps towards healthy camping. The Patrol Leaders read out ideas which the Scouter should do his utmost to praise. He should make sure by the end of this project that every Scout knows such things as, e.g.,

(i) It is easier to clean the bottom and sides of a billy if soap is rubbed on it before use.
(ii) A Scout should wash his hands thoroughly before handling food – preparing, cooking or serving,
(iii) It is easier to clean a porridge dixie with cold water,
(iv) Always put on water for washing-up before you begin a meal.
(v) The wash-bowl with soap and water outside the latrines is meant for use.

Learn a couple of dozen of the best known Scout Songs and yells. (See *The Gilwell Camp Fire Books,* Newnes & Pearson, two volumes, 12/6d. each, or the 5/- Rucsac edition of a selection which every Group should possess).

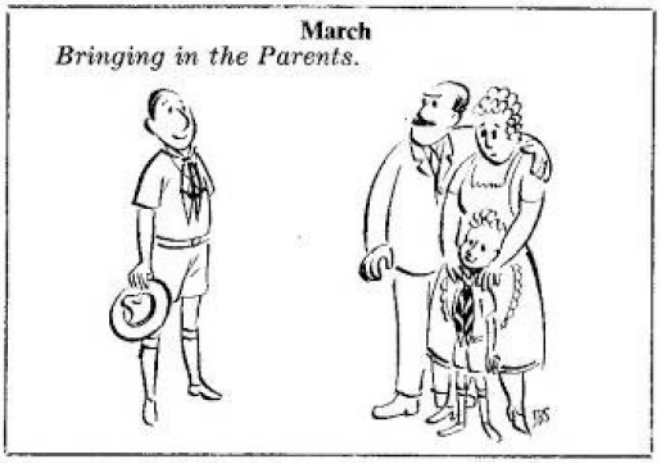
Cooking of simple dishes: demonstration by Troop's best cooks using butane heaters or primus stoves.

Finally encourage every Scout to own a copy of *The Patrol goes to camp* (in the Patrol Books series, so only a bob!). *Editor's Note: Free in The Dump for download.*

By now your camp site should have been settled and the site booked – *in writing.* This month, this fact should be reported to the Group Committee to whom the Scouter will report proposed dates, method of transport and cost and these must be agreed. A circular should be sent out to parents giving:

address of site;
date of camp;
method of transport;
cost of camp;
details of camp savings bank (if any);

general intention of camp;
list of Scout's personal kit;
visiting days (if distance, etc., allows).



Accompanying it should be a camp consent form. Parents should also be reminded that, although attendance at Summer Camp is not a condition of membership of the Troop, nevertheless it is expected that Scouts will attend, and highly desirable – if they are to benefit fully from being Scouts – that they should.

The consent form should be on these lines: –

We .....
being parents of .....
of the ..... Troop give our consent to his attendance at this year's Summer Camp at: .....
.....
From ..... To .....
and will see that the camp fee is paid previous to the beginning of the camp and that our son has the kit on the list sent to us. We should be grateful if you would note that our son .....
.....
(room for any special disability, etc.)
(Signed) .....

(It is particularly important that parents are given a chance of letting the Scouter know that their son is liable to sleep-walk or bed-wet or is allergic to eggs or shell fish or more seriously (although this the Scouter will know already) is asthmatic or diabetic. But it is important that *all* the Scouts at a camp should recognise that these things exist and it is an opportunity to be understanding and helpful and kind).

By the way, see that the time and date of your visit is known beforehand; that is an obvious courtesy.

Visits to some parents may be necessary, for the Scouter should not spare himself to get all his Scouts to Summer Camp.

A very large proportion of the parents of your Scouts are notably wholehearted supporters of Scouting, grateful for all it tries to do, friendly, helpful, co-operative people. They will ask

sensible and practical questions with the idea of helping their son to become a keen and proficient camper – this has always been our experience, but there are, of course, the others.

Let us give you four examples: –

1. The "Camping? – good thing – toughen him up" type of father.

2. The possessive molly-coddling, – "I cannot bear to think of my little boy without me" – type of mother.

3. The "we-hope-to-visit-our-son-every-day-in-camp-as-we-shall-be-staying-close-by" type of father and mother.

4. The "he-can-go-if-he-wants-to: he'll-get-no-help-from-us" type – neglectful, uninterested but not hostile parents.

You will have to use tact and charm with all. Tell them the home truths and reassure them as necessary.

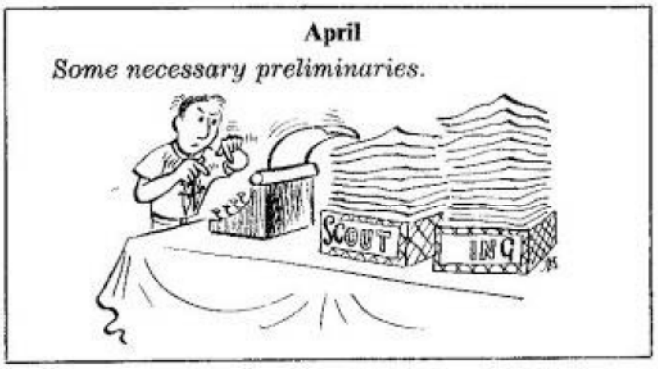
To return to our four examples: –

1. Emphasise that the boy will be trained to look after himself in any emergency. It is the green 'un ("as you, of course, as an old soldier will know") who is uncomfortable in camp: the trained man knows a thing or two. He will be looked after, but every opportunity will be given to him to learn from his own mistakes. (It will be necessary to insist that the list of personal camp requirements is an essential one, but maternal pride will no doubt come to your rescue here),

2. Emphasise that the boy will be cared for and looked after properly. Let the parents know all the sensible arrangements made in advance with the doctor, etc., and show them menus, photographs, etc. Stress that one day the boy will have to leave home, and that it will be better for him to go armoured with all the confidence and happy experiences he has gained from Scouting.

3. Explain that Scouting aims to inculcate self-reliance. The boy will be one of a team playing together and must be left to play on his own initiative.

4. With these parents you will do your best to explain what Scouting is trying to do, but they will not really be interested. It is with the boys of such parents that the Scouter is only too truly *in loco parentis* and will do all he can to help such a youngster, of whom it can be said with all reverence that Scouting and Scout camps are indeed a godsend to him.



No *Scout* can camp without the permission of his District Commissioner. Permission is given on Form P.C. and this form is obtainable from Scout Headquarters by D.C.S or L.A. Secretaries from whom a Scouter obtains it. *Please get such a form and study it.*

* * *

Incidentally, before your own D.C. signs your P.C, if he is a good D.C. he will have checked the following points:

(a) Is the proposed site on the list of restricted areas for Scout camps?

(b) Has the Scouter visited his site, obtained necessary permission, and made arrangements for food, wood, water and transport?

(c) Is he fully cognisant of the rules *(P.O.R.* 327-331) governing boating and bathing?

(d) Ts he aware of the cheap rail facilities and has the necessary application been made?

(e) In the case of poor Groups, is he aware of the funds for assisting poor boys to camp?

(f) Have he and the P.L.s read *"Camping Standards"*?

(g) As regards any non-Scout adults proposing to attend the camp, has the Scouter considered his responsibilities under Rule 73(i) and as to the presence of women in the camp?

(h) Has he, in consultation with the Court of Honour, prepared an outline programme?

(i) Has he secured parents' or guardians' signatures to the second part of the Parents' Permission to Camp forms, including an authority to sign a "permission to operate" certificate in urgent cases of illness or injury?

1. Write to the nearest-to-the-camp-site doctor, parson or minister, and shops, giving details of Group, camp address and O.S. map reference, dates of arrival and departure and estimated numbers, and courteously hoping that their co-operation as necessary will be forthcoming. (If food orders are being obtained in the camp-district a date by which the shops, etc., would like to receive the first orders should be asked for; methods of payment settled; and to what extent goods can be delivered on or near the site).

2. It is worth while arranging for an account to be opened at a local bank, rather than carry large sums of money about in camp. An alternative method is to "bank" actual money with your main suppliers against the bills which will eventually accumulate.

3. Some Troops – those with a District or County or H.Q. camp site within reasonable distance – are able to camp regularly. An ounce of practice is worth a ton of theory! A week-end camp for P.L.s at Easter, a camp for Tenderfoots and others at Whitsun are much to be desired.

Plan the menus and send off food orders to suppliers. Three points should be remembered when choosing menus (which should be planned by the Scouter in consultation with the Group Quartermaster and the P.L.s).

Food habits have changed considerably in recent years. (See e.g. an interesting article in *The Scouter* for July 1963); the affluent society and its counterpart, the supermarket, has made a wider range of food-buying possible in most homes; the wide range of canned and packaged foods are not only excellent, but are sophisticated; travel abroad has extended the tastes of many of our families.

Boys, given the right encouragement, soon become most proficient and ambitious cooks as the National Camp Cooking Competitions have ably demonstrated.

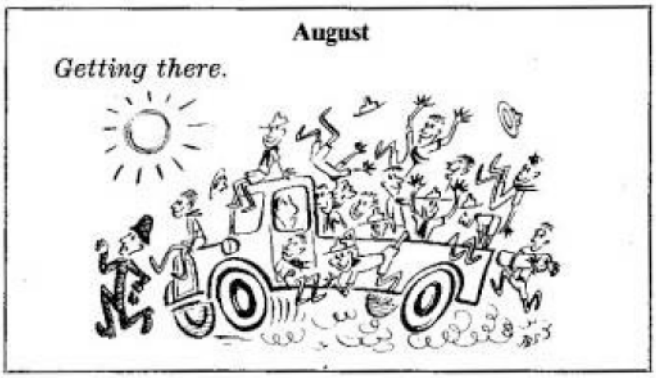
Dietetics has advanced since Scouting began and the early camps were held and the need for a balanced diet is now accepted and understood.

For suggestions for menus and for a selection of camp recipes we recommend to you *The Scout's Cook Book* (B.S.A. 1/- plus postage) and *Camp Catering and Cooking* (Brown, Son & Ferguson 5/6d. plus postage): either of these can be obtained at any Scout Shop.

Briefly: menus for breakfast should consist of fruit juice or a cereal or stewed fruit (or even porridge if the Patrol thinks that cleaning porridge billies is worth it); a main course of a selection of bacon, eggs, sausages, tomatoes, kippers, haddock; and honey or marmalade 'to top up.' A good breakfast in camp is essential whatever our custom for the rest of the year, and a hot drink is imperative.

The midday meal or the evening meal can be the "main meal" of the day, as the day's programme allows and the other meal should be of the "high tea" type. (There's much to be said for having this – consisting of salads, soups, cheese, cold meats, fruit – at midday and having a dinner at 6.30 or so.) A mug of milk as "elevenses" will carry on what most boys now enjoy in their normal life.

Remember: a Scout camp where adults cook for the boys is only half (no, only a quarter) of a Scout camp. It can become for almost any Scout an art and a delight and something which will accompany him as a permanent aid through life, when much of his other Scouting has been forgotten.



The following points are worth noting: –

1. Make the earliest start possible – there is much to do on arrival.

2. The Camp Banker should collect Scout pocket money for safety, leaving just small change for the journey.

3. During travel by train the P.L. should, of course, be responsible for the safety and good behaviour of his Patrol.

With railway stations closing, alternate methods of transport will often have to be considered, e.g. by coach or lorry (if the latter see the Scout H.Q. Pamphlet *Travel by Lorry).* Don't take it for granted that a train is running or a station still exists because it did some years before!

Avoid week-end travel if at all possible, although the Scouter's leave will no doubt have to be the deciding factor.

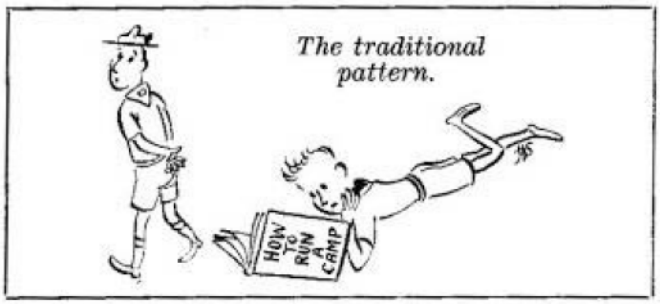
Order of Procedure on arrival will depend, of course, upon the circumstances – the weather, help available, the site, the time of day. But generally speaking this order of events is advisable:

1. Scouter with P.L.S decides where the Scouters' tents, the Patrol tents, the kitchens, the main stores and the latrines are to be located.

2. Erect tents and dig latrines,

3. Fetch wood and water and get Patrol fires going.

4. Prepare meal.



The traditional pattern of a day in a Scout camp is:

1. Rise, light fires, wash.
2. Cook breakfast.
3. Prepare for inspection.
4. Inspection.
5. Flagbreak, morning prayers, notices and mail.
6. Morning programme.
7. Lunch.
8. Rest Hour.
9. Afternoon programme.
10. Evening meal.
11. Prepare tents, etc., for night.
12. Camp Fire and Evening Prayers.
13. Visit to tents by Scouters.
14. Lights out.

Further enlightenment as to ideas and projects must be sought in a companion volume to this one called *Summer Camp Programmes* but remember: it is the Scout's chance to pass his tests that arc best passed in the open air; to have courses in open air badges; to try practice hikes for his First Class Badge in unknown country or actually (by prior arrangement with your home D.C.) to take his First Class Journey test. There is endless variety of games, projects and training for the Scouter who will think and plan ahead.

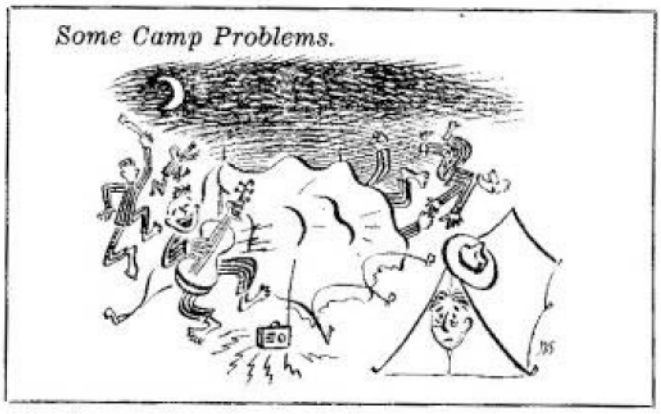
A note must be added on Rest Hour, which should be immediately after lunch has been eaten and the washing up done. It should be strictly adhered to, for growing boys, with all the open air activities and vigour of camp life, need it. This is the time for writing postcards, or writing up the log, or reading, or even having a nap. B.-P. instituted it as long ago as the Brownsea Camp: he knew what he was doing.

As to books, it is worth while having a small, special box made (there is sure to be one good workman in wood in the Group, a parent or otherwise) to contain a small library of books for taking away to Summer Camp. They should, of course, be reference books that the boys can borrow. What they are must be left surely to individual tastes of the Troop, but they should certainly provide books for bird recognition, flower recognition, and possibly books on trees, insects, fungi, etc. If pioneering is usual then pioneering books would be necessary.

1. *Lights out.*

That campers do not sleep easily on the first night of camp is fairly general. On succeeding nights boys, if they have been given a lively, varied and energetic programme, will be ready for bed and sleep soon. But on *every* night the "silence in tents" rule which should come with "Lights Out" should be rigidly enforced. For this the co-operation and understanding of P.L.s is absolutely necessary and this should be a never to be neglected part of their training.

Ragging in tents for between one tent and another) should never be tolerated: it can lead to damage and unhappiness and is contrary in any case to all ideas of Scout self-discipline.



It can also lead, perhaps quite unintentionally, to sexual activities, just as conversation after lights out can easily lead to sexual talk. It is idle to pretend that such things cannot (or do not happen): boys of Scout age are naturally interested in sex. Which is all the more reason why the possibility should be faced up to by the Scoutmaster when training his Patrol Leaders and that their wholehearted co-operation is engaged. Incidentally, the custom of a Patrol Prayer read by the P.L. just before "lights out" is a positive contribution to the right moral atmosphere.

2. *Health of Scouts in Camp.*

Scouters are strongly advised to read the chapter on this subject in W. Watkin Williams' book *First Aid and Ambulance Work* (B.S.A. 8/6d.). Obviously this is of the first importance. The only points that can be usefully made here are as follows: –

1) A carefully-arranged, *properly-labelled* First Aid Box and a minimum of bowls and towels reserved for first-aid and illness are a priority for any camp.

2) We have already emphasised that you should know the address and telephone number of the nearest doctor to the camp and that he should have been informed of your being in camp (with exact address and a map reference).

3) The commonest complaints in camp are constipation (which a well thought out diet can do much to prevent); headaches, caused largely through overtiredness; and colds (which aspirin and quinine and warm drinks and a day in bed will usually cure). Incidentally, socks with shoes should not be worn in camps – sandals or plimsolls are much healthier. (And perhaps homesickness should be listed as a "complaint," too).

4) For anything beyond this, the Scout should be put to bed and the doctor called.

5) The Scouts can help themselves by being reminded of the peril of sunburn and that axes and knives are potentially dangerous weapons.

6) All small cuts and grazes should be washed and treated at once.

3. *Swimming.*

Each year boys, some Scouts, are drowned. Let it not be one of yours. The rules designed to prevent drowning are the result of vast and long experience and should without exception be strictly enforced.

4. *Misdemeanours.*

Boys have been sent home from camp but only the most serious – indeed criminal – circumstances could justify it. Scouts are not saints: if they were they wouldn't need Scouting. They're pilgrims along the way, perhaps, and they'll need, from time to time, advice and encouragement and trust. If a Scout steals, the Scouter should ask himself "*Why* is he stealing?" and so to other offences, such as lying or damage to property or trespass or the excessive disobedience which is a kind of mutiny.

In any case the Court of Honour should be brought into this in what one might call its judicial capacity. There should be sympathy but not softness in considering all sides of the question: the good of the offender is equally important with the good of the Troop and how best the future of both can be helped is the basic question to be answered. For most disciplinary offences "points deducted" is probably sufficient – especially if it is made clear to the young offender that by extra effort on his part in one way or another the points might be won back. Often the Court of Honour will suggest some not too excessive deprivation: the offender himself might be asked to suggest a punishment to fit the crime.

In passing one must add that given the right tradition and proper atmosphere and discipline, troubles in camp ought to be rare: they will often be of the "punch up" nature or some such trouble as surreptitious smoking or comparatively minor moral lapses. They can be often most usefully dealt with by Skip having a quiet word with the boy *or boys* concerned – not a sermon they will resent but a 'man to man' chat on the realistic basis.

5. *Smoking.*

In spite of medical opinion this is a problem not always easy of solution when home support may not be forthcoming, especially with older Scouts. But it should be discussed with the Court of Honour and the decision arrived at should be enforced. If it can be prohibited it should be: this may mean some temporary self-sacrifice on the part of Scouters and others, but this should not be too much to require. Smoking in uniform out of camp should be absolutely taboo: our public image demands it, apart from many other good reasons.

6. *Alcohol.*

Should not be permitted in a Scout camp.

7. *Bad Language.*

This is not so easy a problem as it may once have been when any swearing was punished by a mug of cold water poured down the sleeve! But the tradition and atmosphere of the Troop can do much and good example is, of course, paramount. Possibly a quiet word to the Scout concerned is the best course, better than blowing the offence up out of all proportion.

8. *Transistor Sets.*

See (more or less) smoking! – especially as regards out of camp practice.

9. *Courtesy in the Countryside.*

Obey the Country Code.

10. *Homesickness.*

Anyone who has suffered from homesickness, and most of us have at one time or another, can know what an awful feeling it is. And when a young Scout suffers from it we have got to be as sympathetic as possible and help him over it. He needs a little sympathy, a little extra attention perhaps for a few hours and usually he is well again.

It is often the second or third day at summer camp that it occurs when the first novelty has worn off and Mum and Dad seem a long way away. Prevention is better than cure and these things will help: –

1) If the Scout has been to week-end camps.
2) If the camp is a reasonably long way from his home because he knows that nothing can be done then.
3) And most important: if the camp is well planned with plenty of organised games and activities to keep him from moping and thinking.

Of course, you mustn't be too friendly and encouraging so that he becomes full of self-pity. On the other hand you mustn't be indifferent because the small boy inside him can be feeling very wretched indeed. We have found that a bar of chocolate or some toffees while you talk is a great help. All men of whatever age can be managed through their stomachs!

Parents' visiting days are apt to cause this complaint to develop, especially with young boys, and it is, therefore, a very good idea to limit your parents' visiting days, if you have them at all, to a day very near the end of camp. A boy is also less likely to feel homesick on such an occasion if he is able to do some camp activity rather well in front of his parents. His pride then will do the trick.

We have both known boys from camps near at home who have taken the law into their own hands and walked off and gone home. We have also known them come back a little shame-faced the following day. If this happens don't make a fuss of them. Treat it as something fairly natural and just carry on where you left off. After all our job is to help the boy and it is sometimes necessary to stretch a long way to do it.

11. *Dress.*

Camp dress, of whatever form, belongs to the strict confines of the camp as laid down by the Scouters and the Court of Honour and has no place at any time outside that area. Much harm is done to the good name of Scouting by the few thoughtless Scouts venturing into a village or seaside resort garbed like escapees from a circus or something left over from a festival.

The only proper dress out of camp is correct uniform but when in camp there is great virtue in wearing camp dress for occasions such as Camp Fires and during the ordinary run of activities in the camp. The camp hat, the camp shirt and, presumably, some sort of shorts to go with the upper garments do add to the gaiety of the occasion and, additionally, the mere fact that Scouts are wearing camp dress in camp helps to ensure a greater degree of smartness out of the camp as uniforms can be kept neatly folded with their kit, which is as it should be.

12. *Sleep Walking.*

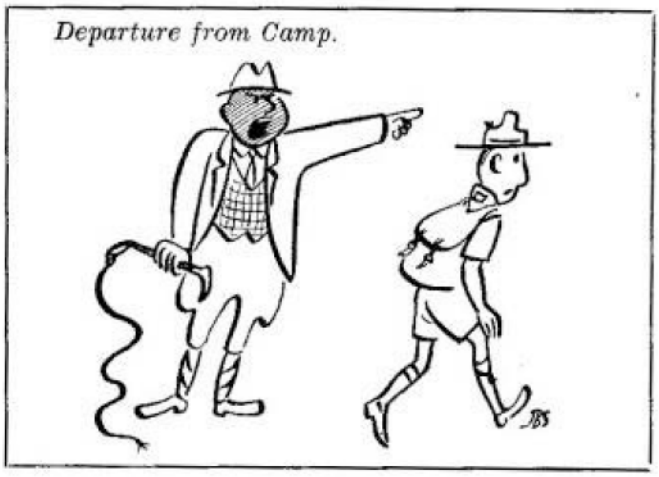
Sleep walking isn't very common, but it does seem to be commoner amongst Scouts than one would have thought, going on our own experience. It usually happens in the nervous, highly-strung boy, especially if he is undergoing some additional strain, an examination maybe or some domestic trouble at home.

If a boy is liable to sleep walking a large meal just before he goes to bed will tend to encourage it. It isn't true (a) that it harms a sleep walker to wake him up, or (b) that they never hurt themselves. On the other hand it is best if you can lead the boy back to bed and tuck him up in his blankets. It is nothing to get alarmed about unless it recurs constantly.

13. *Pocket Money.*

A maximum amount should be agreed by the Scouter and the Court of Honour in consultation and should be a part of the information about the camp sent out to parents. It

should include sufficient for daily tuck shop (if the camp has one), for presents home, for a little spending money on a day's outing. It should be within the capacity of every Scout. It should be strongly emphasised to parents that under no circumstances may a Scout take more than the permitted amount.



Order of procedure on departure.

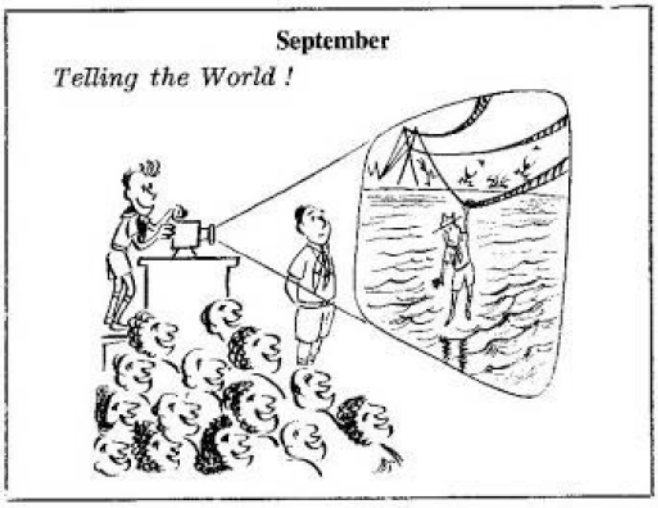
D-day minus 1: – Pack anything that will not be required again this camp; take down any tents no longer necessary; prepare labels for return journey (if not prepared before camp began!); demolish gadgets and kitchens. Burn all rubbish possible.

D-day: the last camp meal should be of the simplest (eggs and fruit for example) so that packing is not delayed,

Fill in fireplaces and pits.
All pack personal kits.
Take down and pack Patrol tents and remaining gear.
Fill in latrines.
Take down Scouters' tents and pack.

B.-P. said "Leave nothing but your thanks." But don't forget the *thanks* (a) when leaving the site, (b) on returning home, to write thank you to *all* whose help you needed or might have needed, e.g. doctor, parson, postman, shopkeepers.

Two of your General Editor's pleasantest memories are these: – Busy with many affairs the then Headquarters Commissioner for Air Scouts visited the first National Air Scout Camp in Avington Park, Hants., in error the day after the camp ended: although directed to the site, he reported afterwards that he was unable to discover where exactly the campers had camped! The then Chief Scout, Lord Rowallan, visited the fifth National Air Scout Camp – where the camp was being held for the second time at Dunstall Hall in Staffs. He said to the owner: " I hope the Scouts leave the site as good as they found it." "As good?" said Sir Bertram Hardy, "they leave it a great deal better." Please forgive the personal anecdotes – but they illustrate what ought to be.



1. "The Camp Report." On a certain evening in early autumn the parents are invited to the Headquarters where a reunion of all who were at the camp will take place and the report on the summer camp is given. The best person to do this (it has been proved many times) is a witty and intelligent Troop Leader. Failing that, the Patrol Leaders may yield one or two more confident youngsters. The Scouter is wise if he confines his own share to a brief, factual prologue and epilogue. Such an evening can these days be enlivened by good colour slides on a large screen and, of course, a film of the camp if you are so fortunate. (It doesn't need much fortune: the writers of this book had a summer camp filmed by an A.S.M. – in black and white it's true – back in 1930). A display of the results of camp activities (plaster casts, carvings, badges won, etc.) and still photographs ("blown up" if possible) should be on display.

2. If you have a Scout Magazine, an account of the camp should appear in it so that the friends of the Group and all the parents (not only those invited to the Camp Report Evening) shall know about it.

3. A cyclostyled report by the Scouter to the parents, as an alternative to (2). This will, of course, be almost purely factual and there is no reason why such a document should not be given to parents on Camp Report Evening to study at their leisure. (A copy of such a report would also go to the Group Committee as a matter of courtesy). It is interesting to record that this is what B.-P. did after the Brownsea Camp.

4. An account of the camp in the local paper may or may not be possible, but it ought to be! (Here is where a District Public Relations Officer and properly appointed Group Public Relations Officer can show their work.)

However it arrives on the editor's desk, such an account should be paragraphed as follows:–

(i) Where and when the camp was held; the number of boys; the name of the Scouter in charge,
(ii) A resume of the general programme,
(iii) A brief mention of an outstanding incident and expedition.

Remember to be brief and factual.

5. A Camp Window Display provides Scouting with some of its finest publicity. In a large town such a display may have to be organised by the District Commissioner or his delegate

on behalf of all the Troops. In a small town with just two or three Troops it will be best to co-operate if possible: if only one Troop can provide material, then that Troop should not hesitate to act on its own. What is needed is a shop window in a public thoroughfare which the owner, out of the kindness of his heart or his interest in or connection with the Scout Movement, will give up for a week. It is very good publicity for him, too!

The display should be arranged by someone who knows his job. The essential ingredients of the display will be: – selected photographs, properly enlarged, of the current year's camps; maps showing with red tape and little numbered labels where the Troops camped; any exhibits arising from camp activities. Other items suggest themselves – an unpacked kitbag, a camp programme, a book or two – but these will be merely decorative. The display is essentially to advertise the fact that from your home town all the Scouts went camping and to show by photographs (and, of course, drawings if you have artists) the nature of that camping.

It is sometimes grumblingly said by Scouters that the public (and even the parents) don't know what Scouting is. Why not give them a chance to find out?

October

But this is where we all came in.