

## News of the Boy Scout Troops

### Program for Patrol Meet Problem for the Leader

Place and time for the patrol meeting are things you have to plan with all of the members in your patrol, a thing everybody has to agree upon before they can be put into effect.

But on the other hand, what is to happen at the selected place and hour and how, is entirely up to you as a patrol leader to plan. You may have your assistant or some of your other boys help you in the planning but it is your job to make the decision.

How you prepare and lead your patrol meetings is a test that will show if you have leader abilities or not.

There are a few other things that also go into the making of a patrol meeting, so we might just as well consider them systematically. Study this outline of things that every patrol meeting ought to have in it.

1. Business—Collecting dues, making of records. Reports of last meetings in patrol and troop.

2. Instruction in scout tests, merit badges, new songs, stunts, etc.

3. Work—On patrol equipment, on the den, for good turns, for the earning of money, for the patrol or troop funds.

4. Planning of hikes, camps, good turns, work, etc.

5. Recreation period of fellowship and fun. Discussions, singing and telling or reading of stories, relation of incidents from school life, hikes, games.

6. Ceremonies—for opening and closing.

All of these things will make any meeting interesting if the patrol leader knows how to put them up to the boys in the right way, that is, if he has planned for all the details in advance.

### R. G. Watts Leads Drill for Vista del Lago Troop

With recall blown at 7:25 p. m., Vista del Lago Troop 12's meeting was called to order at 7:30 p. m., last Wednesday night. We had an excellent drill led by Scoutmaster R. G. Watts, which was followed by the usual inspection. Inspectors were Scoutmaster Watts and Senior Patrol Leader H. Wilkins. A business meeting followed lasting fifteen minutes where business of both patrols was discussed. Closing ceremonies consisted of flag salute, and we were dismissed. Our troop had a cabin in the woods near Des Plaines river where both patrols go on overnight hikes.

—Ed Joyce, Troop 12 reporter.

### North Shore Scouts Plan Anniversary Week Program

Myron C. Rybolt, scout executive of the North Shore Area council, reports the plans for the Twentieth Scout Anniversary week, February 7-13, are well under way. One of the events of the week will be a mobilization of scouts in each town. Sometime during Anniversary week, each scoutmaster will be notified to assemble his troop in uniform at a central location. There will be a prize awarded by the council to each troop which assembles within a certain length of time.

Other features of this birthday week are troop father and son dinners, scout church service, troop attendance in uniform at church services, scout window displays, stunt nights for parents, scouting programs in schools and anything else appropriate the troop may plan. Scouts wear their uniform all Anniversary week, in and out of school. —Reporter Bill Lehle, Troop 4, Wilmette.

You can't hurt a smile by cracking one.

### Lost Interest

"Lost interest" as an excuse for dropping a Scout from a troop is most often a smoke-screen which hides the real reason.

Boys do not join troops for no reason at all. Why do they join? Do we know each boy in our troop intimately enough? Each Scout presents a different problem. Do we have the same approach as far as he is concerned or do we take him into consideration?

The great mortality among Scouts occurs in the Tenderfoot class. Since one has to be ready to pass the Tenderfoot requirement before he joins the troop and is dropped a Tenderfoot, one of several reasons must obtain. Let us consider one or two:

1. Lack of mental capacity on the part of the boy. True in only about one in five hundred cases.

2. Lack of hikes, overnight camps, outdoor meetings.

3. Failure of Scout to keep sufficiently in advance in Scout advancement of his young associates.

4. And how many other real reasons back of "lost interest" can you think of?

### Scout News Hounds to Get Badges Next Week

The new badges will be here next week for the Boy Scout Press club reporters of the North Shore Area council. They are red quills sewed in silk on khaki cloth which are to be worn four inches below the left shoulder seam by those who earn them. All reporters who have already qualified by writing twelve articles for the Scout page will be presented with the new badge at the next Court of Honor. The Press club slogan is "A news report from every Troop every week." Is your troop living up to the slogan? —Reporter Bill Lehle, Troop 4, Wilmette.

### Seven New Scouts Boost N. S. Enrollment to 1,236

Since the first of the year new scouts have continued to enroll in the North Shore Area council. With seven new members, the council total is now 1,236.

James Donahue, transferred from Troop 12 to Troop 2, Wilmette; E. M. Joyce, transferred from Troop 20, Buffalo, N. Y., to Troop 12, Wilmette;

LeRoy Kidder, transferred from Troop 17, Winnetka, to Troop 14, Winnetka; Tony Corso, Troop 25, Glencoe; Philander Dostal, Troop 23, Glencoe; George O'Brien, Troop 23, Glencoe; David Jenkins, Troop 32, Highland Park; and David Inman, Troop 34, Highland Park.

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