The Xmas "Toy Shop" Scheme

We are glad to note that the Lonies are taking an active interest in this annual Christmas Good Turn. The honor of being the first Lone Scout "Toy Shop" to enroll goes to the Lonies at Belmont, Ont. who have planned to get busy at once. If there are any others who are working on this Good Turn (and we hope you all are) and who have not yet told us about it, do not fail to write to Lone Scout Headquarters and let our Commissioner, Capt. John Furminger, know what you are doing.

"Good Turn" Service

A blind man stood on a busy street corner while automobile traffic passed swiftly by. Frequently he would tap the pavement with his cane—evidently hoping to attract the attention of other pedestrians who would assist him to cross the dangerous intersection. It was at the close of a business day and everyone seemed to be very occupied and in too much of a hurry to reach home to give any thought to the blind man. Fortunately, a man passing in the opposite direction, stopped, looked back, retraced his steps and offered to help the blind man across the street. The crossing safely accomplished the blind man tapped his way along the other side of the street while the man who had proffered his help turned back and continued in his own direction. As he did so the writer noticed a small Trefoil in his coat label, the emblem of Scouting worn by Scouts and Scouters on their civilian clothes throughout the country.

Such incidents are commonplace, and no Scout should find it difficult to carry through the Daily Good Turn program.

A Scout Choir Good Turn

The Boy Scout Choir of Christ Church, Hartlepool, when camping this summer gave their services to the local church, which lacked a choir, provided music for the wedding of a daughter of the farmer on whose land they were camping, and formed a guard of honor outside the church.

How Many Scouts in South Africa?

There are 14,516 Scouts of all ranks in the Union of South Africa—in Cape Western, Cape Border, Cape Midlands, Griqualand West, Natal, Transvaal, Orange Free State and S. W. Africa.

A Prizewinner

In a recent issue of this paper statistics were published of the number of Boy Scouts and Leaders, etc., in the British Isles, and we offered a prize of any article in the Scout Catalogue to the value of one dollar, to the first Lonie who sent us the correct total of the Scouts in the British Isles, compiled from the figures published.

We are glad, therefore, to be able to state that this prize goes to Lone Scout Robin Salmon, of Erin R. R. No. 2, Ont., who sent us in the correct figure and whose letter was the first that we received.

If Robin will let us know which article he would like from the Scout Catalogue we will mail it to him at once.

Incidentally we were sorry to hear that Robin has been suffering recently with the chickenpox, and we hope he has now fully recovered.

'Peg Scouts Supervise Playgrounds

Winnipeg Rover Scouts this summer kept open a children's wading pool and several city playgrounds which otherwise would have closed for lack of funds to provide supervisors.

Edmonton Scouts' First Aid Record

A first-aid competition record was made this year by the 2nd Edmonton Scout Troop. Its team won the Junior Leonard Shield for Alberta, and the Wallace Nesbitt Jr. and J. R. Gaunt Intermediate first-aid trophies for the Dominion.

If you are not a Boy Scout you do not know how much fun you are missing. The paragraphs printed above will give you some idea of the many activities in which Boy Scouts take part all the year round and we believe that you too would like to take part in fun such as this.

Perhaps you live in a place where there is no Scout Troop, so why not become a one Scout? Any boy between the ages of 12 and 18 (inclusive) can join this branch of the Boy Scouts Association. Particulars will be gladly sent to you if you will write to The Lone Scout Department, The Boy Scouts Association, 330 Bay St., Toronto 2, Ont.—"Lone E."

Royal Christmas Cards Have Been Chosen

Thousands of people will receive Christmas cards from members of the British Royal Family this year.

The King has followed his usual custom of having some scene from England's history used on his Christmas card. This year he has chosen a reproduction of a painting by A. D. McCormick, entitled, "Sir Francis Drake Explains His Plans To Queen Elizabeth," the original of which is in the King's possesion. The accompanying greetings read: "Christmas Greetings and all good wishes for the coming year."

Queen Mary again shows her partiality for garden studies. There are two garden pictures painted by Edith Andrews, on her card, with the inscription: "With all good wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Bright New Year."

The Prince of Wales has chosen a view of old London Bridge, and the Duke of York has selected a breezy seascape illustrating an incident in naval history—the mutiny of the "Bounty," in 1787, and the setting adrift of Lieutenant Bligh and his loyal men.

The Princess Royal also has chosen a garden study.

A Christmas Carol

"What means this glory round our feet,"
The Magi mused "more bright than morn?"
And voices chanted clear and sweet,
"To-day the Prince of Peace is born!"

"What means that star," the Shepherds said,
"That brightens through the rocky glen?"
And angels, answering overhead,
Sang, "Peace on earth, good-will to men!"

—James Russell Lowell, in Poems.

"God has made every man fit for his work."—Ruskin.

The Symbol

By Anne Ryan

On a high inaccessible peak stood an
old castle inhabited by monks.
Valleys lengthened away from it on
every turn,
The hemlocks no matter how tall they
grow, only swept as a boiling
sea of green in the winter winds
beneath the craggy summit.
And the first thin falls of the river
flowed like a grey wound from
the side;
All the sky was visible, a great dome
traced with patterns by a mighty
finger.

It was the eve of the Nativity.
On this night in the stone halls there
were early tapers coming, and
chill, sandaled feet.
In the vaulted refectory with their
food before them all smoking
with a watery fragrance, the
monks sat waiting for something, a signal perhaps, a sign,
A bundle of straw rested beside each
place.
All the old monks, their chins on their
scapulars, appeared to take the
same attitude, doubtless from
ennui of repeating worn customs
Endlessly while their thoughts were
as eagles for God.
And the young monks were waiting
too,
They watched the windows eagerly,
The dusk became greyer and faded.

When on the rim of the world the
moon will rise, or the first great
star,
A novice will point to it.
Only then will supper commence
Each looking sideways from time to
time at the symbol of straw.

275,000 Newspaper Volumes

In the new British Museum Repository at Hendon, England, are 275,000 bound volumes of newspapers.

Turning Radius of Cars

Drivers who are familiar with the turning radius of cars often avoid embarrassing circumstances.

Note New Sleeves

By HELEN WILLIAMS.

Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished With Every Pattern

Slim lines and modishness.

The cross-over bodice is slenderizing and smart. Another slimming quality is the pointed seaming through the hips. And you'll like the sleeves. They are given interesting fulness, set into deep armholes.

Black rough crepe silk is splendid for all-around occasions.

Dark hyacinth blue velvet would prove a charming medium.

Soft woolens are also suitable.

Style No. 3304 is designed for sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48 inches bust.

Size 36 requires 4 yards 39-inch with ½ yard 4½-inch ribbon.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS.

Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 15c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; wrap it carefully) for each number, and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

Ancient Persian Relics Found

Relics of an ancient era have been unearthed in Persia. A place at Tepe is said to belong to the period from 226 to 661.

3,500,000 Dodge Radio Tax

England has about 3,500,000 license-tax dodging owners of radios, according to a recent estimate.

Sunday School Lesson

December 18. Lesson XII—Christian Standards of Life—Phillippians 3. 8-14. Golden Text—If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.—Luke 9: 23.

We set out on those studies in October to discover the Christian standards of living, and to follow these in daily life. We pause now to gather up the results of our discussions in what our topic suggests as the ideals of the true Christian.

In the first place we set down the importance of cultivating the Christian spirit and attitude by devotional practices. Can our religious life be maintained at its best without such cultivation? Is it spasmodic or regular nurture that will keep it in best condition? Note the value of a regular time and a more or less regular regime in devotional exercises. Yet variety is needed, too. Rest and quiet, meditation and reflection are often needed, as well as reading and study.

Then in the most intimate of all human groups, the family, we saw that the Christian would of necessity manifest his very best self, the Christian spirit of good will and service toward all in the group, whether as parent or as son or daughter or brother or sister or employed help in the home, and also toward all others who came into any sort of relationship with the family on business or social relations. Is it easier or harder to be at one's best in the home? Is there not a temptation to let familiarity breed contempt? Do not the dearest we have often get the brunt of our most unchristian behavior? Can we not guard against that by having a sort of compact in the family circle, an ideal of happy good will and unselfishness in the life of the home?

What will be the ideals of the true Christian with reference to self-control, both for himself and for others? Is it a truly Christian attitude if one decides on sobriety for himself, but determines to do nothing to make most probable the sobriety of the nation? Has the individual Christian any obligation for his fellow's well-being? So long as we have restrictive laws governing the use of intoxicants, what is the Christian's duty? Should we study so as to make those restrictive measures as helpful as possible? Can we as Chrisians take any but one attitude toward the use of intoxicants for beverage purposes? Education must go hand in hand with legislation.

What will be the Christian's attitude toward people of other races, and all that affects our relations to them? Believing that God is the Father of all men, we can think of the people of other races only as brothers. What will be the ideals of the true Christian on the matter of war and peace? Can we hope for world peace apart from a spirit of mutual understanding and good will among the nations and races of the earth? That being so, will not the Christian set himself to understand and appreciate other peoples and races, and to promote such mutual respect and appreciation as will ensure world co-operation and peace?

What are the ideals of the true Christian in business? Does it not mean that the Christian principles of good will and service will be the controlling motive in all his business relations? The motive of gain has been replaced by the motive of service. Note that this Christian demand is just as real to the employee as to the employer. Emphasize the fact that the Christian's whole life of business is to be motivated in this way. He cannot buy exemption from these basic principles of the Christian life by making large subscriptions to religious projects. He will make such subscriptions as he is able, but he will understand that he is doing religious service in all of his work and business. In the light of this, what is the Christian's ideal with reference to the use of money? In all these matters—with reference to the use he makes of his abilities and opportunities, his time, his money, his business, the Christian's ideal is one of stewardship.

"Did the Mayor show presence of mind when the Town Hall caught fire" "Yes, he cancelled the fireworks display arranged for that evening."

Arranging Holiday Greens

With the approach of the Christmas holidays most people like to decorate their homes to reflect the cheer of the season. In days gone by the use of Christmas greens was lavish. Yards of laurel and ground-pine streamers and bales of berried holly were put about the larger houses. To-day one must be more conservative, owing to the smaller size of homes and because the ranks of native evergreens and berried shrubs are beginning to show the effects of wholesale cutting. One must travel unfrequented paths to find holley and laurel in any abundance. Restraint should be exercised when gathering greens for Christmas decoration. If one leaves at least half a patch of ground pine, natural increase will replace that which was taken. Laurel should rarely, if ever, be gathered for such temporary uses. By cutting it we are lessening the chances for bloom, and surely the flowers of the laurel during May are more desirable than a bouquet of its green leaves, handsome as they may be. When cutting berries, it is no more trouble to cut branches of a size suitable to our needs than it is to lug away a great portion of the shrub, only to discard most of it upon reaching home.

In smaller rooms the most suitable use for berried or green-leaved branches is in "planted" arrangements or in vases. To construct a planted arrangement a metal-lined basket or some other watertight container is needed. This is filled almost to its top with pebbles, sand, or earth. This filling supports the branches, and when moistened tends to keep them fresh. Small pieces of fir, balsam, or hemlock may form the body of the display, with bittersweet, black alder, or barberry branches for accent. An unusual and rather 'modern" display is possible through the use of blue spruce branches and well-berried mistletoe. This combination of blue-gray, pale green, and white is effective and different. After the branches and berries are in place moss may be used to hide the filling.

If these displays are given water quite often, they will remain fresh and green long after the holiday season. Each branch used in displays of this type should be chosen for its good form and for the number of berries it holds. Here again, it is more economical to select our material while cutting, thereby doing the least harm to the shrub.

Farm Queries

Henry G. Bell, B.S.A., Dept. of Chemistry, O.A.C.

Address All Letters to Farm Editor, 73 Adelaide St. West, Toronto. All Answers Will Appear in this Column. If Personal Reply is Desired, Enclose Stamped and Addressed Envelope.

H. S.—What is the best variety of barley? Would sod plowed up last fall be good for barley?

2. How deep should the land be plowed for peas? Should they be sown early or late in the spring?

3. Do you recommend white blossom sweet clover for pasture? Does it make good pasture for all summer?

Answer.—1. The Field Husbandry Department, Ontario Agricultural College, have the following to say regarding your questions: The best variety of barley for general use in Ontario is O.A.C. No. 21.

Sod plowed up last fall should work down into a good seed bed for barley in the spring of 1933.

2. Land should be plowed about ordinary depth for peas. They should be sown as early as the land works well in the spring.

3. White blossom sweet clover is best for pasture in Ontario. It is a heavier yielder than yellow blossom. There is one thing to keep in mind regarding sweet clover and pasturage, and that is that the sweet clover tends to go to seed about midsummer. After seeding it is pretty woody, subsequently, the pasturing quality deteriorates.

J. C.—I have five acres which had been sod land for 12 to 15 years. This field was plowed and two acres of good corn have been grown. Then it was summer fallowed and sown to wheat. The piece was top-dressed with manure and 200 lbs. superphosphate per acre was added for the wheat. A fine piece of wheat was harvested last summer. I plowed the stubble in the fall and next spring I wish to seed this ground to alfalfa. Will you direct me to the proper manner of seeding? Also, had I better test the soil for acid condition? Can I take the frozen lumps thaw them in the house, and get a satisfactory test?

Answer.—If your field is fairly well drained you should have a good seed bed for alfalfa. I would recommend having your soil tested for acidity. Your Agricultural Representative can do this or he can supply you with a Reacto Soil test set with which you can make the test yourself. You could make the test on samples that were thawed out, but it would be better to wait till the frost is out of the soil. Take a test at about 3 inches deep. If your soil shows acid indications, the chart will tell you how much lime to apply in order to put the soil in good condition for the growth of legumes.

Excellent stands of alfalfa have been obtained by seeding the alfalfa with a crop of barley, probably a bushel and a peck to the acre of barley, with the quantity of seed that you wish to apply. From 12 to 18 lbs per acre of high grade alfalfa seed should give the crop a good stand. Excellent results have been obtained by applying two bags of 2-12-6 fertilizer to the acre when seeding with alfalfa. This plant food gives the plant an early, vigorous start and the potash is very beneficial to the young growing crop. Results we have obtained in tests throughout the province throughout the past three years indicate that top-dressing the alfalfa with a prosphate-potash fertilizer such as 0-12-10 or 0-12-15 at the rate of two bags per acre the second year of its growth is a profitable practice. See that the soil is thoroughly prepared into a good smooth seed bed before the grain and the alfalfa seed are sown.

Livestock Notes

Prevent the loss of valued animals. Have your horses treated for bot removal, during December or January. The adult bot flies quit their egg laying in September and any grubs hatching therefrom will have reached the stomach of the horse by the end of November. Colic, unthrift, and sometimes death are caused by bot grubs attached in great numbers to the stomach wall. Every bot grub that gets away in the dung, during the early summer will transform into an active horse annoying bot fly that will make you wish that you had done something to destroy the grubs during the winter, when they were feeding in the stomach of the horse. If every horse owner would kill the bot grubs there would be no bot flies. This pest is costly now and will become more so in the future if the horse owners neglect its control. The control — soak the bot fly eggs that are attached to the hair with a two per cent. carbolic solution. This will prevent their hatching. This should be done during the period of egg-laying, June to September. In December or January have your veterinarian administer a carbon di-sulphide capsule to each horse, to kill the bot grubs in the stomach and the round worms in the small intestine. Watch your horses and colts improve in condition after treatment.

Dont Forget the Mineral Matter

The early covering of general over Ontario in mid-November this year. Earlier than usual by several weeks. This early snow covering has shut off the contact between our domestic animals and mother soil. The soil with its minerals, lime, potash, phosphorus and iodine is responsible for the normal nutrition of our animals. But the snow has come early and this will cause, in many districts, the cows to chew bones, the pigs and other young animals to be rickety, the new-born pigs to be hairless, thick-throated and weak, and the egg shells from the poultry to be thin and soft. All this may happen before spring, coming on as the mineral supply runs low. During winters of long duratio and heavy snow covering, some provision should be made to supply mineral matter to all classes of growing and producing animals. Failure to supply such will be reflected in losses on many farms next spring, in animals dead, crippled or out of condition. Expensive mineral mixtures are not needed, only in special cases. Make use of what you have at hand. Sod from the field, soil from the root house, hardwood ashes from the kitchen stove, bone meal and lime from the feed store and iodine from the veterinary, will save much and promote thrift. The soil minerals must be supplied by you as the animals cannot dig under the snow in search of them. Three hundred litters of pigs were lost in one county, during the spring of two years ago, due to lack of iodine in the feed and water of the pregnant sows. All could have been saved at a cost of 25 cents per sow. A little potassium iodine would have prevented much grief. Take time by the forelock that you may be saved from grief next spring.

The Rooks

The rooks settled; the rooks rose. The trees which they touched so capriciously seemed insufficient to lodge their numbers. The tree-tops sang with the breeze in them; the branches creaked audibly and dropped now and then, though the season was midsummer, husks or twigs. Up went the rooks and down again, rising in lesser numbers each time as the sage birds made ready to settle, for the evening was already spent enough to make the air inside the wood almost dark. The moss was soft; the tree trunks spectral. Beyond them lay a silvery meadow. A breadth of water gleamed. Already the convolvulus moth was spinning over the flowers. Orange and purple nasturtium and cherry-pie, were washed into the twilight. — From "Jacob's Room," by Virginia Woolf

MUTT AND JEFF— By BUD FISHER

Jeff Thought it was a Success