So now we turn to 1933 and wish all members of the Lone Scout Organization and all our fellow Scouts all over Canada a Very Happy New Year.

Everyone is optimistic that this new year will see a great improvement in times and conditions, and that it will herald a return to prosperity, and we certainly hope so.

One of the obligations of a Scout is that he is always cheerful, but it has been a little difficult of late, perhaps, for some of you. But with the New Year let us renew our efforts in optimism, and if each of us will do our bit to help in the return of the good times that we all so much desire, then before this year is done we shall see a big improvement.

So, once again, Lonies, let us all put our shoulders to the wheel, and make a new resolution that we will live as good Scouts should do and that we will do our best to be useful and helpful boys.

The above illustration shows three Oshawa Boy Scouts at work on their miniature model Napoleonic coaches in the wood shop of the Oshawa Collegiate and Vocational Institute

The Fisher Body Craftsman's Guild Competition

Many of our Lone Scouts will be interested to learn the following:

More than 20,000 Canadian boys have enrolled this year as members of the Fisher Body Craftsman's Guild and have started in to build miniature model Naoleonic coaches in an effort to win some of the $85,000 in awards which the Guild offers in this year's competition. Many thousands of boys will yet enter the contest. There remains still a month for the young craftsmen to send in their entries to Guild Headquarters in Oshawa, Ont.

Six university scholarships, worth $5,000 each, two to be exclusively for Canadians; trips to Toronto and the Chicago Century of Progress Exposition; and more than 140 awards in gold are offered.

In schools throughout Canada the work of the Fisher Body Craftsman's Guild has been explained to pupils between the ages of twelve to nineteen years. And in many instances, school groups have been organized to study the plans and specifications furnished free by the Guild, and to build from them a colorful miniature model coach.

Boys may enroll through any dealer in General Motors' cars, or write direct to the Fisher Body Craftsman's Guild, Oshawa, Ont. No enrollments, it is learned, will be accepted after January 15th.

So Lonies, do not delay, but let us show that the Lone Scout Department holds some Scouts who have ability and initiative. What splendid indoor recreation this would be for you during these long cold winter nights.

Why Not Be a Lone Scout?

Why not start the New Year right, by enrolling as a Lone Scout? Full particulars of this branch of Scouting may be obtained from The Lone Scout Dept., the Boy Scout Association, 330 Bay St., Toronto. If you are between 12 and 18 years of age (inclusive) you are eligible.—"Lone E."

Why the Stars Shine

The life of the sun may be only a hundredth part of the immense span assumed by the more optimistic astronomers. The possibility of this shorter period is explained by Thoedore Dunham Jr., noted American astronomer, in a paper read before the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. "Geologists tell us," he says, "that the earth must have been here for at least a thousand million years. But there are various astronomical arguments which lead us to believe that the stars have ages even a thousand times as great as this."

No source of energy with which we are familiar could provide so much heat for so long a time. Simple radiation would do only a short time. The burning of hydrogen and oxygen would not last the sun more than one-tenth of a lifetime of our earth. If the sun were made of pure radium, it would give out as much heat as the sun has given out since the earth was started, but it would be very unequally distributed over this period of time. For a few thousand years the sun would shine with a furious heat and then rapidly cool and become invisible.

"Only two possibilities remain," Dr. Dunham concludes. "The first is that matter itself is being transformed into radiant energy deep in the stars," which is the Jeans theory. On the theory of relativity the sun could well stand this loss and go on shining for many billion years.

The other possibility is that the stars were once composed entirely of hydrogen and that the atoms of hydrogen are uniting to build up the heavier atoms of other elements. In the process of becoming thus tightly packed, a small but definite fraction of the mass must be lost and its equivalent must appear as energy. If this is the source of stellar energy, the life of a star is 100 times shorter than if there were complete annihilation of matter.

The True Gentleman

Petrolia Advertiser-Topic—Venerable Archdeacon Ccott of Quebec, in addressing a body of students, stressing the necessity of being true gentlemen, drew from his pocket a well-worn New Testament, and emphasized his point by substituting the word "gentlemen" for the "charity" in St. Paul's famous chapter: "A gentleman suffereth long and is kind. A gentleman envieth not. A gentleman vaunteth not himself. A gentleman is not puffed up. A gentleman doth not behave himself unseemly. A gentleman doth not seek his own. A gentleman is not easily provoked. A gentleman thinketh no evil. A gentleman rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in truth." The same may as truthfully be said of a true lady.

Regulates Imports

Copenhagen.—A new currency bill was introduced last week in the Folketing (House of Representatives) regulating the import of 20 groups of commodities, representing two thirds of Danish imports, until March, 1934. The commodities include flour, grain, sugar, spun goods, jute, flax, hemp, oil, tires, dyes, motor vehicles, machinery, and electrical goods.

Goodness is beauty, beauty is goodness.

Sunday School Lesson

January 1. Lesson I—John Prepares the Way for Jesus—Mark 1: 1-11. Golden Text—Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.—Mark 1: 3.

ANALYSIS.

I. THE HERALD, Mark 1: 1-8.
II. STOOPING TO CONQUER, Mark 1: 9.
III. THE SUPREME ENDOWMENT, Mark 1: 10, 11.

INTRODUCTION—The six months' series of lessons beginning today presents the life of Jesus as given by Mark, the earliest Gospel. At first the church had no written record of the life or teachings of our Lord. Living so near the event, looking for his return immediately, they did not feel the need of it. When, however, the new faith spread into pagan communities, as the hope of an early return gradually died, a record became necessary. Paul, it is true, had been writing his letters to his churches—but they dealt with specific situations. Some sayings of Jesus had been collected also. But teachers and converts needed something more complete. Mark's Gospel was the result.

It was probably written at Rome near A.D. 70. The son of a mother whose Jerusalem home (Acts 12: 12) was a gathering place for the early church, Mark may well have known Jesu in the days of his flesh. A companion in missionary work of Paul (Acts 12: 25), later with Barnabas in Cyprus (Acts 15: 17-39), then a disciple of Peter (1 Peter 5: 13), associated once more with Paul in Rome (Col. 4: 10), Mark was well qualified for his task.

His Gospel was written to meet the needs of the time. The church was by now familiar with persecution. Rome was burned in A.D. 64. According to a trustworthy tradition, Peter and Paul were among Nero's many victims. This explains many things in this Gospel.

Jesus is the strong Son of God—truly human, yet conscious of a unique Sonship. Bearing his Good News, marking out the way of the Christian as the Way of the Cross, he came to a world that was waiting for a deliverer.

I. THE HERALD, Mark 1: 1-8.

Through the travail of centuries, Israel had come to yearn for the "Messiah" whose coming would deliver her from her oppressors and make her the mistress of the world. When, one day at Jordan side, the voice of prophecy, long silent, burst forth with the proclamation of a New Day, all Judea was stirred, . 5. John's denunciation of sin, his demand for a national and individual repentance angered the self-righteous, but awakened in the hearts of the spiritual minority a great hope.

Mark, evidently assuming that his readers know about John, deals briefly with this "Man from the Desert" whose dress and maner of life recalled that of the old prophets, 2 Kings 1: 8. Preaching a baptism of repentance, John definitely proclaimed himself the predecessor of some one unspeakably greater than himself. Baptism was one of the rites of admission to Judaism. Josephus, the great Jewish historian, says that if a man could honestly state that he was wholly dedicated to the service of God, John was willing to baptize him into that inner group which was to be the nucleus of the new kingdom of God.

John had the greatness of the man who for the work's sake, is able to step aside for some one greater. "My baptism," says John, "now about over, is with water, just a symbol. The Coming One will baptize you with 'Holy Spirit,' that is, with spiritual power which will really transform your characters."

II. STOOPING TO CONQUER, Mark 1: 9.

John's prediction is hardly uttered before it is fulfilled. "And it came to pass," that is, just about then, came Jesus from Nazareth. The news of John's preaching had spread north to Nazareth. Its demand for a spiritual regeneration echoed Jesus' own convictions. He would associate himself with John.

For Jesus the baptism was a rite of initiation. He had seen the vision of a new day. Vision called for action. "It becometh us to fulfill all righteousness," he said, Matt. 3: 15. To him "righteousness" was not merely the avoidance of evil; it was definite activity in making things better. Hence he would have a part in this new movement. His baptism was thus a public act of consecration to his Father's will. Also, while he would have no consciousness of personal guilt; nevertheless, so completely did he identify himself with the burdens and needs of his brethren that these burdens and needs, in some real sense, became his also. Did not something of that divine sharing show itself in Eugene Debs—quoted in Dr. Bowie's "The Master"? The friend of all weak and poor people, Eugene Debs once confessed, "Years ago I recognized my kinship with all living beings, and I made up my mind that I was not one whit better than the meanest of the earth. I said then, and I say now, that while there is a lower class, I am in it; while there is a criminal element, I am of it; while there is a soul in prison, I am not free." Jesus, completely self-forgetful, identified his spiritual fortunes, his very existence, with that of his brethren. In some such real sense he "became sin for us." A similar concern and self-forgetfulness on the part of his followers is what the world needs today.

III. THE SUPREME ENDOWMENT, Mark 1: 10, 11.

Identifying himself thus completely with the needs of his brethren, publicly consecrating himself to the carying out of his Father's will, Jesus received complete assurance, vs. 10, 11. Mark's account seems to indicate that this was the first definite intimation Jesus had regarding his mission. The method for the carrying out of it would be won after a further commitment later on in the wilderness.

The rent heavens, the dove, the voice of v. 11, were some of the ways in which the Old Testament rabbis believed that God made his will known to men. Thus, when a Jewish religious teacher wished to tell vividly what our Lord at his baptism received from his Father an assurance which made him fina[illegible] certain of his "call," the Jewish teac[illegible] would use these figures. See John [illegible]28-30; Acts 9: 3-7.

Certain now of his mission, conscious of his surpassing Sonship, knowing that he was now the channel of his Father's Spirit, Jesus leaves the carpenter's shop behind for ever.

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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.

W. A. B.—I have forty acres of rough gravelly land which I am very anxious to get seeded. It is quite rolling and a long way from the manure pile. Have taken off a crop or oats. I want to use it exclusively for pasture. Will you please tell me best way to handle it?

Answer.—We would recommend fairly early spring plowing of this land. Give it a top-dressing of barn manure if you can spare it and then supplement with about 250 lbs. per acre of a 2-12-6 fertilizer at the time you are sowing grain. Sow either a mixed crop or barley or oats separately and at the same time seed either to straight alfalfa or to a permanent pasture mixture such as recommended by the Field Husbandry Department, Ontario Agricultural College. This department recommends as its best permanent pasture, 24 lbs. seed per acre made up as follows: Alfalfa, 6 lbs.; Alsike, 2 lbs.; White or Dutch Clover, 1 lb.; Timothy, 3 lbs.; Orchard Grass, 6 lbs.; Meadow Fescue, 6 lbs.—24 lbs. This grass will make a good permanent sod. We would suggest that you have your soil tested for acidity. If it is sour, apply the amount of lime that is needed. This should be applied as suggested in the answer above.

M. S.—Would be glad of your opinion in regard to a point about fertilizing for potatoes. I cannot get sufficient stable manure, but can get a certain quantity of straw of different kinds, oats, barley and wheat. If this is spread to a depth of about six inches in fall and winter, then cup up with disk harrow in spring and plowed in after the soil is sufficiently dry, what would be the good or bad effects of such a course on a field partly friable clay loam, but mostly sandy loam?

Answer.—The application of humus which you suggest, by means of the straw of oats, barley and wheat, should be beneficial to both the clay section and the sandy loam section of your proposed potato field. It will open up the clay and give it better water-holding capacity. There is just one caution, and that is, apply fairly well rotted straw if possible, and have it plowed into the soil fairly early in spring. If you leave it till the ground is quite dry, there is danger of forming a mat between the layer at the bottom of your plowed furrow and the five or six inches of worked soil above. This mat wil tend to break the capilliary water connection. If the strawy manure, however, is applied early in the spring, it will have had time to rot and become horoughly incorporated in the soil.

R. R.—In your tests, what kind of fertilizers do you find best for turnips? I will likely use a fairly high clay field for this crop next year. It grew a good crop of oats last summer. What about manuring it this winter? Should I lime it for turnips?

Answer.—In 1932 co-operative fertilizer tests on turnips 0-12-10 fertilizer used at the rate of 375 lbs. per acre gave the highest yield, closely followed by 2-12-6 at the same rate. On heavy soils 0-12-15 gave the heaviest yield, again closely followed by 2-12-6. It would appear that your choice had better be made from the latter two analyses. You could well apply some well rotted manure during the winter or early spring, in which case we would recommend the 0-12-15 fertilizer, since you would be applying considerable nitrogen in the manure. Do not apply lime for turnips. General tests on this crop indicate that they thrive on slightly acid soil.

Save Loss By Preventing It

At this time of the year in looking over flocks and herds, one may wonder why unthrifty animals have been permitted to remain. The thrifty should not be handicapped by the presence of the unthrifty. During the winter period weakness shows up in those animals that are not physically sound, and more particularly in those with bad lungs. The animal with unsound lungs, which condition may be caused by chronic pneumonia or by lung worm infestation, show a fairly definite set of symptoms. They become unthrifty, do not feed well, usually cough, have a tucked up appearance, breath quickly, and frequently breathe with a jerking motion of the flanks, wool or hair covering becomes rough and dry. Animals unthrifty in the early winter will, if not given special attention, become crow bait before spring. Remove from the flocks and herds, those individuals that are likely to become unprofitable and save loss by preventing it.

Taking Refuge on the Farm

WELLAND PORT COLBORNE TRIBUNE.

Eight young men, members of the Winnipeg Canoe Cub, all sons of prominent Winnipeg business men, have gone into the wilderness northeast of that city, to trap for fur during the winter. They have found it impossible to obtain work in the calling for which they had been educated and trained, so they are reverting to a primitive occupation that has sustained many a pioneer in the early development of this country.

In other parts of Canada residents of cities who have seen their regular occupations disappear, have moved from population centres and located on land in the hope that they may maintain themselves without dependence upon charity.

The reports from some of these reversionists are encouraging. With the aid of small financial reserves they have established rural homes and are busy at the task of gaining a livelihood from the land. While there is sure to be a percentage of failure in this agrarian adventure, there will be a certain number who will become successful farmers.

These movements, enforced through the rigors of depression, will produce desirable results. Too many people had gravitated toward the cities seeking easier conditions than farm life provided. They discovered, however, that while there were paved streets, electric lights, theatres and other social amenities consequent upon community existence, there was merciless competition and inhospitality when a boom's collapse brought down the inevitable penalties.

In the city the loss of a job is an immediate personal disaster to the wage-earner who has no financial anchorage. On the land the established farmer can go on existing for a long time after his neighbor in the city has been reduced to dependence upon charity. That is why so many former rural dwellers are resorting to their old-time occupation.

Peace Within

Outside the world is dark and chill,
Inside my lights shine bright.
Outside the Autumn winds are shrill,
Inside there's peace tonight.
The house is still, the hour is late,
With all to love, and none to hate,
What cause have I to gibe at Fate?
Inside there's peace tonight.

Outside the storm clouds darker grow,
Inside there's peace and rest.
Outside the wild winds wilder grow,
Inside's all I love best.
The curtains shut out all the storm,
The room is cozy, light and warm,
Around my knees the children swarm.
Inside there's peace and rest.

—Somerville Journal

GENIUS.

"You crossed a carrier pigeon with a parrot?"

"Yes, so that if the bird lost its way it could inquire."—Gazzettino Illustrato (Venice).

10-Mile Speed Limit Enforced

Carrickfergus, Ireland, is rounding up "speeders" who exceed the town's limit of ten miles an hour.

If we do not know what the sorrow of penitence is, we have been living only on the surface of life—unmindful of its deep realities, unconscious of its grander glories.—E. D. Huntington

MUTT AND JEFF— By BUD FISHER

As Simple As One Plus Two Equals Three