Pets and Profit

Every Lone Scout should make some kind of plans during the year 1933 to get started in a program of pets and profits.

We are hearing constantly from Scouts who are starting in the poultry business with a setting of eggs under a hen, hatching out baby chicks, in order to start in the poultry game; others buy baby chicks and raise them; some buy a pen of chicks including 5 to 12 hens and a rooster; some Scouts are starting the business of raising ducks, turkeys, geese, pigeons or rabbits.

The fine thing about boys engaging in this kind of program is that it fits the game of Scouting in an admirable way. First of all, it gives interest and activity and at the same time trains in the management of pets. It also develops a splendid hobby for a Boy Scout, whether he lives on a farm, in a country village or in a large city. The by-product of a program of this kind is the actual possibility of earning money or making real profits from the business and through it a chance to express a Scout's part in the Thrift part of the Scout Program.

If you want to get all of the up-to-date information about these subjects we would suggest that you write to the Department of Agriculture, at the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ont., and state that you are a Lone Scout, and mention the particular pet you are interested in.

If you ask, the Department will send you bulletins, circulars and instructions on pet and poultry projects, etc., which you will find most interesting. Some of these pamphlets are the finest ever produced, having been written by experts in the various subjects.

We know of quite a number of Lone Scouts in this Province who have done exceptionally well in this way, and who through their own local societies have earned awards and have been able to exhibit their pets at the C. N. Exhibition and the Royal Winter Fair at Toronto, and have been given free trips to this city for that purpose.

We commend this suggestion to your very serious consideration, and now is the time to lay plans and get started for the coming season. Every Lone Scout should have an activity such as this, which is not only a hobby but also a useful and often profitable project.

Saskatchewan Lone Scouts

We are glad to note that our brother Lonies in Saskatchewan have been organized into Troops, such as we have in Ontario. There are at present 126 registered Lone Scouts in that Province, and the 1st Regina Rover Crew have taken on the task of directing the activities of the Lone Scouts for a period of four or five years. A Scoutmaster has been appointed for each of the four Lone Troops, and Assistant Scoutmasters assigned to supervise the activities of each Lone Patrol. We wish them every success.

Boy Scouts in New Radio Feature

A new and popular twice-weekly radio broadcast from CKGW, Toronto, features the hiking adventures of two Boy Scouts, Sonny and Sid. They are real Scouts, members of the 30th Toronto (St. Columbia United Church) Group, and were selected by competition for the roles. Their "fan" mail has made a new record for juvenile programmes from CKGW. Have you heard them?

Another Scout "V.C."

By unusual coincidence following the third award within a few weeks the fourth award to a Canadian Scout of the rare Cornwell Badge, the "V.C." of Scouting, was made to Scout Mydleton Mackenzie, of Victoria, B.C. The medal was given for exceptional, cheery fortitude during some twelve years of suffering following partial paralysis when 7 years of age. In spite of a useless, paining arm, Scout Mackenzie progressed steadily in Scouting, and on reaching 18 years assisted in running a Cub Pack or Scout Troop whenever his physical condition permitted.

Scout Ushers For Ontario Parliament

Boy Scouts will once again act as ushers at the opening of the Ontario provincial legislature, February 15.

Afghanistan Now Has Boy Scouts

With the latest addition, Afghanistan, there are now ninety-four different countries and parts of the British Empire in the Boy Scouts League of Nations.

We are always glad to enrol new members to the Ontario Lone Scouts, and if you are a boy between 12 and 18 (inclusive) and would like to belong to the World-Wide Brotherhood of Scouting, why not find out what it is all about? It will only cost you a 3c stamp to find out. If you write to the Boy Scouts Association, Lone Scout Dept., 330 Bay Street, Toronto 2, particulars will be gladly sent to you.—"Lone E."

Deaf May Now Hear "Talkies"

In Hollywood theatres all seats are wired for sound and the partly deaf are provided with ear-pieces and plug-in cord.

Sunday School Lesson

February 26. Lesson IX—Jesus Shows His Power—Mark 4: 35 to 5: 1-8, 18-20. Golden Text—For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.—2 Timothy 1: 12b.

ANALYSIS.

I. MASTERING LIFE'S STORMS, Mark 4: 35-41.

II. RECONSTRUCTING MANHOOD, Mark 5: 1-20.

INTRODUCTION — We have noticed some of the landmarks along the Costly Way which our Lord chose in the wilderness. First, he withdrew to Galilee, then he began to concentrate on a few selected men, then he began to speak in parables. Now he appears to be always seeking opportunities for privacy. He and his disciples must have some time alone. They must be freed from the distracting pressure of popularity.

I. MASTERING LIFE'S STORMS, Mark 4: 35-41.

One of these efforts to secure privacy came after a day's teaching at the lakeside. Worn out with the continued spiritual strain he said to his men, "Let us cross to the other side." To go ashore where they would bring about them the crowds, clamoring for exorcisms and healings. "Even as he was," without a moment's delay, they started off. With the inconsiderate, rude curiosity which makes the modern multitude push itself into the private hours of its heroes (Lindbergh, for example) the people scrambled into the little skiffs on the beach and made after him, vs. 35, 36.

In a moment the weary Master was asleep. Suddenly a terrific storm arose. Many travelers have described the suddenness with which, on the Lake of Galilee, a violent squall will sometimes lash the waters into fury and as suddenly subside. In the numerous ravines running into the upper part of the lake the winds from the mountains are caught and compressed. They rush with tremendous force through these narrow spaces, then, suddenly released, they whip the placid waters of the lake into a raging foam.

The Master, awakened by the alarmed and somewhat irritated disciples, turned upon them in astonishment, "Why are you afraid like this? Have you no faith yet?" (Moffatt.) Immediately the storm upon the sea and in their own hearts was stilled.

Verse 39 with its "Silence! Be muzzled!" expresses the current belief that storms were the work of evil spirits. Jesus uses the same word in driving out the demon in Chap. 1: 25. We know today that atmospheric changes are due to certain laws and conditions of Nature which can be clearly traced. Nevertheless we have reason for believing that above these laws which we have discovered there may well be other laws operating in way yet beyond our understanding. The Christian today, however, rests his faith, not on the confidence that God will remove all dangers, physical and otherwise, from his pathway, but that he will give him mastery over them. Through all of life's troubles, even death itself, he whose life is hid with Christ in God goes on conquering and to conquer. In that faith Jesus lived—and died. He inspires us with a similar assurance. He is still the Master of life's storms.

II. RECONSTRUCTING MANHOOD, Mark 5: 1-20.

Landing near a cemetery, Jesus and his little company were challenged by a madman. It was what we today call a case of delusioned insanity. The man believed himself to be possessed by thousands of devils. This terrifying creature, with the abnormal strength of his kind, rushed down, naked and screaming, to meet Jesus and his men. Accommodating himself to the man's delusion, the Master, with his powerful personal magnetism, undertook to cure him. Gradually out of the clamor and confusion, the poor, wild wretch was restored to reason and quietness.

The vivid account of the challenging demons, their appeals and bargainings, the permission to enter the swine all express the views of the time regarding demon possession. "But," as T. H. Robinson says, in his "St. Mark's Life of Jesus," it is possible that further study of the subject may tend to restore a more literal belief in evil spirits. . . ." If behind all reason and goodness there is a Good Spirit, why not behind all unreason and badness an evid spirit? We may not be much wiser than the ancients!

The onlookers believed that the devil went into the swine and in so doing were cheated out of their expected lodgings. It is possible that the continued horrible crying of the madman frightened the pigs into a panic, or the man himself may have dashed in among them. These suggested explanations of the pigs' behavior seem more in harmony with the situation than the inference of the bystanders which makes our Lord deliberately plan for the destruction of another's property.

The inspiring picture of this disordered personality now restored to sanity, usefulness, and his fellow-men is soon marred. When the news spread that he had been healed, the people of the neighborhood hurried in to see for themselves. Sure enough, there was the man (v. 15), but what about the swine? What cared they for persons when persons interfered with pigs and profits? This Restorer of men's minds and bodies had better leave. The Master has long since become painfully familiar with similar requests when brotherhood and business conflict.

The healed man, naturally enough, wanted to go with his benefactor. "No," said Jesus. "Go home to your own people. Witness for me there." Some day, perhaps, the disciples would return preaching the new kingdom. One man at least would be ready to receive them. Another bit of lonely sowing done, the unrested Master made his way back to his boat.

Friendship

He who wrongs his friend
Wrongs himself more and ever bears about
A silent court of justice in his breast.
—Tennyson.

"Authors used to write scenarios; but now they're used to write reports for stockholders' meetings."—Eddie Cantor.

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.

The Use of Fertilizers
(Part 2)

1. Can fertilizers injure the soil?
2. Can I lose or gain money by using fertilizers under present conditions?

1. Can fertilizers injure the soil?

We can conceive of certain injuries attending the misuse of fertilizer on the soil.

First, as we have already said, fertilizers are carriers of soluble plant food. They do not supply any large amount of organic matter or plant fibre. They do cause an increased growth of plant roots and thereby increase plant fibre in this regard, but where cultivated crops are grown frequently, this is not enough. Successful practical farmers rotate their crops so as to turn under green manures and in addition apply strawy barnyard manure to keep up the fertility of the soil. When suitable fertilizers are appjlied along with these practices, soils are materially improved in yielding capacity and in physical condition.

The Department of Chemistry through its demonstration experiments carried out throughout the province during the past four years has had an opportunity to study the effect of fertilizers and has accumulated a fund of information upon this point which speaks in no uncertain terms. To illustrate, here are a few quotations:

W. G. N.—"I followed potatoes with barley. We have had in three consecutive years an increase of 15 bushels to the acre and a splendid catch of clover. I figure one ton more to the acre of hay than where no fertilizer was sown. The clover takes deeper root and make a much heavier stand."

W. G. L.—"The plots of alfalfa fertilized last year (1930) are still in alfalfa (1931) and look to me to be about double the quantity of growth at this time compared to the rest of the field."

W. C. B. — "Regarding the crops growing on the plots that were fertilized last year, I might say that where the phosphate and potash was applied the stand is much heavier. Valuing the crop on the whole field of 17 acres at ten, I would rate the crops on the different plots at 13 to 14."

A. E. D.—"Re fertilized plots of last year I might say that they are seeded to red clover. There is a marked difference where no fertilizer was used—not so thick and not so good a growth."

Mrs. G. S.—"As to the crops grown on the fertilized plots, we have barley growing there this year and there is quite a difference where the fertilizer was applied. Averaging the general run at 10, I would place this at 12 to 15. The clover is very much better."

Where actual measurements were taken of residual or hangover effects, in one case, Mr. E. T., of York County, where 0-12-15 was applied to alfalfa in 1930 the fertilized plot in 1930 yielded 18,080 lbs. green weight, the unfertilized 8,880 lbs. In 1931, without further fertilizer, the fertilized plot yielded 13,280 lbs. and the unfertilized 11,040 lbs. In 1932, still without further fertilizer, the plot which received fertilizer in 1930 yielded 13,600 lbs. and the check 9,120. This shows a hangover effect for at least three years.

2. Can I lose or gain mneoy by using fertilizers under present conditions?

At the moment certain crops which for many years have given reasonable profit on the farm, such as wheat, are at discouragingly low prices. If the entire cost of the fertilizer is to be charged to the wheat crop at present prices there is not much argument in favour of doing much for the wheat crop. On the other hand there are certain crops that still show a nice profit on investment. For instance, top-dressing alfalfa hay with a high phosphate, high potash fertilizer at three bags to the acre represents an investment of $7.43 at prices for fertilizer quoted on the open market in 1932. This application made a gain of from 2800 to 3000 lbs. of cured alfalfa per acre. Surely, this gain was made at a profitable price, especially in view of the fact that the results of the application can be seen so favorably in next year's crop, if not in the third year's.

Again, in the 1932 demonstration tests carried out on potatoes which totalled 176 half acre blocks, whereon we tested six different analyses of fertilizer in 1932, charging up the fertilizer analyses at current prices, we find that the fertilizer applications range in cost from 21.7c per bushel to 13½c per bushel. The fertilizer which gave the greatest gain throughout, 4-8-10, cost 13.5c per bushel, if the entire cost be charged to the gain.

On turnips, on the thirteen different farm tests totalling 54 plots maintained in 1932, an average gain of 172 bushels was realized at a cost which, charged up to this gain, represented a cost per bushel of thre to four and a half cents.

Like profitable figures can be quoted for mangels, ensilage corn, sugar beets and certain other crops.

In regard to the grain crops, one must have in mind that the fertilizer not only increases yield but goes a long way toward a good catch of clover or alfalfa, which is usually seeded with grain in the Ontario farm rotation.

One of the most promising fields for return on fertilizers is that applied to pastures. In one test carried on in a good dairying centre for the last two years, the average carrying capacity for the unfertilized area of eight acres was 325 pasture days. On the same land when fertilized at a cost of $6.53 an acre, the carrying capacity was raised to 431 pasture days for four acres.

Tunics Are "In"

By HELEN WILLIAMS.

Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished With Every Pattern

A tunic dress with much youthful charm.

It's as interesting in the back as it is in the front. And aren't the sleeves darling the way they puff out from the armholes?

It can be made of rabbit's-hair woolen, wool jersey, crinkly crepe silk or crinkly crepe satin (using the both surfaces).

The original in brown crinkly crepe silk was used for the under skirt, with gray crepe used for the tunic. The collar was white pique. The brown is exceedingly lovely against the gray.

Style No. 3340 is designed for sizes 14, 16, 18, 20 years, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust.

Size 16 requires 3¼ yards 39-inch with ¼ yard 39-inch contrasting, with 2⅞ yards 35-inch for slip.

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.

New Building Scheme Launched in Britain

New York.—A special London cable to the New York Times says:

"Building societies in Great Britain, which correspond to building and loan associations in North America, with the blessing of the British Government, announce a new plan by which it is hoped not only to check deterioration in property but to bring immediate employment to many idle workers.

"There are 360 such societies throughout the United Kingdom, and they have accumulated a large capital on which there has been a decreasing demand during the depression for advances to finance building operations.

"It is now proposed to make loans to both members and non-members on exceptionally easy terms to facilitate repairs, alterations and improvements in house properties. This is regarded as the first step toward the resumption of building new houses with loans on easy terms to provide employment, a market for materials and a demand for capital."

Flowers

If, as life glides on, we miss some flowers,
Which once shed light and fragrance on our way,
Yet still the kindly compensating hours
Weave us fresh wreaths in beautiful array;
And long as in the paths of peace we stay,
Successive benedictions shall be ours!
—R. Wilton.

"What business are you in?"
"The film business."
"Ladies garments or moving pictures?"

A Liquid Asset

The above is a graphic illustration of what happened to one vacant lot at Salisbury, Mass., when high tides and stormy weather swept over the Atlantic coast.

Snowflakes

Gt. Britain imports food to the value of more than £400,000,000 every year.

Heel-prints are taken of all babies born in the hospitals in many American cities to avoid the risks of mistakes in identity.

A new "water-sport" being played in California is draughts. The outsize board is anchored, and the players recline on lifebelts.

Silver is now so cheap that it is now being used for making pots and other parts of the apparatus employed in making cetain foods and drinks.

Britain's oldest free church building is Horningsham Congregational Church, near Frome, which was built 360 years ago and still has a thatched roof.

Concealed cameras which take moving pictures of workers are being tried out in some Chicago offices. They expose at once any slackness on the part of the staff.

Airmen and climbers fitted with apparatus supplying oxygen can safely go to a height of nine and a half miles. Without oxygen the limit is just over four miles.

Machines which issue season tickets are being installed on London's Underground stations. They test and sort coins, print and date the tickets, and give any change necessary.

Room is getting scarce in the finger-print library at Scotland Yard, where there are now 515,000 finger-prints recorded. In the first year of the system, 1902, there were 1722.

Arctic exploration is not a profitable career. Even the most famous leaders of expeditions seldom average more than a few thousand a year in income after their expenses are met.

Of the 317,389 Civil Servants in British Government departments, 238,925 are men and 79,464 women. These figures also include 157,794 ex-Service men, 47,635 classified as disabled.

Members of the British Parliament who are persistently absent from the sittings of the House are liable to imprisonment in the Clock Tower at the order of the Speaker. The last time this happened was in 1826.

Arrests made by the Flying Squad of Scotland Yard last year numbered 600; in 450 cases the prisoners were violent, and 150 of them carried fire arms. The strength of the Flying Squad is less than forty.

Color blindness, about which very little is known, is hereditary and affects boys to a greater degree than girls. At the same time, people who are color blind are generally above the average in intelligence.

Acton, once known as the "laundry" of London because of the number of laundries it contained, is now developing in many other directions. In pre-War days there were 300 laundries; now there are only 133—but there are 270 factories engaged in other industries, ranging from the making of motor cars to toffee and lead soldiers.

Trans-Canada Non-stop Mollison Flight Plan

Vancouver.—Captain James Mollison, British flier, may be asked by leading Vancouver aviation men, to attempt a west-east non-stop flight across Canada this Summer with his wife, the former Amy Johnson. The proposal will be laid before the Department of Civil Aviation at Ottawa, through which the official invitation would be extended.

The Mollisons are reported considering a transatlantic flight to New York and it is urged that following this they will make a tour of Canada, including a leisurely flight west with stops at all cities on the trans-Canada air mail route, and return non-stop.

Creeds

What this troubled old world needs
Is less of quibbling over creeds,
Fewer words and better deeds.
—W. D. Nesbit.

Cook—"The tea is quite exhausted, ma'am."

Mistress—"I noticed that it seemed very weak the last time."