

WITH THE LONE SCOUTS

Is Spring Here?
This week we have had evidence in plenty that Spring has been "Just Around the Corner" or else that it has been "Just foiling us."
A Lone Scout of the "Hound" Patrol at Millford, Prince Edward County, has sent in to Lone Scout Headquarters a "peppy-willow" in full bloom, which he picked the other day.
Those of you who attended the Lone Scout Camp at Ebor Park in 1922 will remember Mr. Luck, the popular owner of the park. He tells us that at the end of December it was much greener than at the end of July, and he sent us a dandelion which he picked in the park on December 25th.
We also heard of a gentleman who saw a pair of starlings teaching a young one to fly in Toronto a few days ago!

What About the Birds?
All Lone Scouts are friends to the birds, and in spite of all the signs of Spring, we know that there is still more cold weather to come. How about arranging to feed your feathered friends? I heard of one Scout who made use of his discarded Christmas tree for this purpose, setting it up out of doors and trying all sorts of tidbits on it to which the birds thoroughly enjoy.
And incidentally, now is the time to prepare new bird houses for next year's tenants. Don't forget that Good Turn, Ladies!

A TROOP OUTING
The newly formed Unionville Troop, who were recently members of the Lone Scout Department, paid a visit to Toronto on December 23rd, for their Christmas Outing. They visited the Canadian Bank of Commerce Building, which is the tallest building in Toronto, and inspected it from cellar to roof. In the afternoon they all went to a "Show," and were afterwards entertained to supper, followed by games and entertainment by the 3rd Toronto Troop.
Here's a Good Motto For 1932: Always keep your tail wagging, even if you can only get the tip of it to work!

The Scout Census
Lone Scouts of this province will be interested to know that according to a recent census of the Boy Scout Membership of Ontario there are 21,752 Scouts in this province, including, of course, Troops and Wolf Cubs. Of this number 215 are Lone Scouts, and the above figures shows a very substantial increase over the figures returned a year ago. We are growing, Ladies! Let us see to it that we grow in efficiency as well as in numbers during 1932!

Particulars of the Lone Scouts of Ontario may be obtained from the Lone Scout Department, The Boy Scouts Association, 329 Bay Street, Toronto 2—"LONE E."

Experts Waging Parasite War On Corn Borer

Kept in Cold Storage in Winter for Massed Attack in Summer
Washington.—An initial shipment of parasites, part of an army that may number 500,000 before recruiting stops, will soon reach the United States as the spearhead of the 1932 offensive of the Federal Government against the corn borer, one of the most destructive foes with which American agriculture has to deal. Gathered by specialists of the Bureau of Entomology assigned to the laboratory at Hyeres, on the Mediterranean coast, this army of parasites will be released next August to meet the corn borer in the principal regions of infestation. During the winter this shipment, with the others that are to follow, will be kept in cold storage.
Extended surveys of native parasites showed that they killed less than 1 per cent. of the borers before the eggs state. So the Bureau of Entomology looked abroad for parasites that would attack the corn borer effectively. Studies began in 1919, not long after the corn borer was found in the United States. About twenty species have so far been discovered; these fall into two general classes—the wasp type and the fly type. An examination was made to determine whether these parasites were harmful to plants and whether they could attack one another. The tests showed that they were not harmful to plants.
Hyeres was chosen as being a central point for the collections. The staff of the laboratory includes two Americans and several Europeans; are employed on a part-time basis.
American experts at Hyeres quickly pass upon the advisability of the parasites gathered in the field by the collectors, and when a sufficient number are ready they are packed up and placed in cold storage on a steamer. They are then sent to Arlington, Mass., where the bureau maintains a receiving station. From there they are distributed throughout the corn-borer-infested areas.
When liberated the parasites are planted in colonies, to assure permanency in their warfare against the corn borer. About 750,000 parasites enemies of the corn borer have been liberated during the past year. Since the importations began, over a decade ago, more than 2,500,000 parasites have been liberated, and at least twelve of the twenty or so species introduced are known to have become firmly established.

Second French Plane To Fly Stratosphere

Paris.—A second French project to send an airplane into the stratosphere was disclosed recently.
Pierre Guerschals, aeronautical engineer, is secretly preparing a plane for a flight some ten miles or more above the earth, where Professor August Piccard last summer made the first experiment with balloons.
The Guerschals plane will be of 700 horsepower, capable of some 200 miles an hour. It will have a sealed durium cabin.
The plane will be larger and more powerful than the Farman craft, which has been prepared for a similar flight, as disclosed last week. The Farman plane will make the attempt as soon as weather conditions are favorable, but the Guerschals attempt will be delayed until spring.

The Cozy Season

The N.Y. Herald-Tribune.—One gift brought only by a Northern winter is the sense and mood of coziness. Where snow never falls, where wind never huffs and puffs against the frosted pane, they don't know what coziness is. It goes with the delicious greeting of warmth and with mellow lamp-light on book and apples. You feel it intensely when, coming home chilled and wet, you climb the last icy steps to be met by that first breath of the comfortable indoors. Something good is roasting in the oven—something substantial and savory. Already denuded by the stretching cat, the porcupine chair is waiting with open arms. The faithful furnace glows reassuringly. Dumplings! To get home on such a night is worth a winter.

Gold Findings in B.C.

Grand Forks, B.C.—Recent uncovering of ore running \$75 to the ton on the Gold Drop Mines in the Jewel Camp is said to be the most sensational find in boundary district mining in recent years. Picked samples are said to have run much higher. Several samples brought to Grand Forks have been running around \$30.
The ore was found in a high grade shoot containing telluride and free gold and is a parallel vein from which some 17 tons of ore running \$30 to the ton was recently shipped.
The new find has been inspected by P. B. Freeland, Government mining engineer, who states that ore of similar type has been found before in the district.

MUTT AND JEFF—By BUD FISHER

IT LOOKS LIKE I'LL EAT REGULARLY FROM NOW ON. I GOT JEFF A JOB WITH THE TELEPHONE COMPANY AND IF HE MAKES GOOD WE'RE IN SOFT.

WELL, JEFF, NOW THAT YOU'VE WORKED AT IT A DAY—HOW DO YOU LIKE THE TELEPHONE BUSINESS?

FINE, MUTT. MY JOB'S A SOFT SMAR, BUT THE TELEPHONE OPERATORS—THEY EARN THEIR DOUGH.

THE PUBLIC ALMOST DRIVES THEM GOOFY ASKING RIDICULOUS QUESTIONS. THEY ASK WHERE THE BEST TRIP IS SOLD—AND HUNDREDS OF OTHER QUESTIONS EQUALLY AS SILLY—IMAGINE—

WHY, SOME PEOPLE EVEN GO SO FAR AS TO ASK FOR THE RIGHT NUMBER.

Sunday School Lesson

January 17. Lesson III—Jesus and Nicodemus—John 3: 1-16. Golden Text—God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3: 16.

ANALYSIS
I. A SATISFIED SEEKER, 3: 1, 2.
II. AN UNHEARD-OF CONDITION, 3: 3-12.
III. GOD'S GIFT FOR ALL, 3: 13-17.
IV. HOW CHRIST JUDGES MEN, 3: 18-21.

INTRODUCTION—Jesus' first visit to Jerusalem created something of a sensation. Many "believed" on his name (2: 23), that is, believed that he was the Messiah, without any moral change. Jesus placed little confidence in them. 2: 24. In the case of one of them, however, he made an exception. I. A SATISFIED SEEKER, 3: 1, 2.

Nicodemus, a member of the Sanhedrin, is taken as an example of that imperfect faith. He knew about Jesus. The tremendous influence and the piercing light of his young preacher had appealed to his young heart and he had hopes of persuading him to give up his revolutionary theories and associate himself with the regularly organized channels of religion. He would be less dangerous there. So the Roman Catholic thought about Francis of Assisi. Nicodemus was not the "anxious enquirer." He came to discover whether he could come to some understanding with this popular young preacher, which would keep the Pharisees still in their loved position of religious leadership.

He came to Jesus by night (v. 2) perhaps because he did not wish to compromise either himself or his brother Pharisees until he was sure of this new movement. He began with a diplomatic, if somewhat patronizing, speech. He has been accused of cowardice, but surely, unfairly. If it was night that he came, at least he came to defend himself. It is true, passing any personal interest in him, but he defended him. He was satisfied with his own religion, but he was open-minded enough to seek further knowledge.

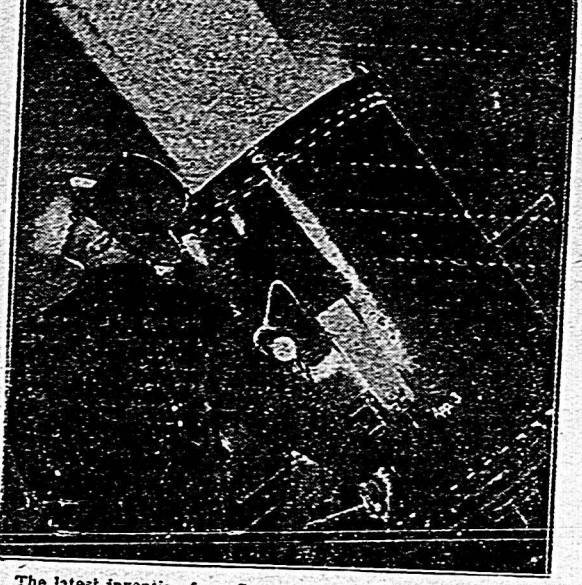
II. AN UNHEARD-OF CONDITION, 3: 3-12. Jesus never wasted his time on sham. With Nicodemus he went at once to the heart of things. Nicodemus and his associates were concerned about this new preacher's possible connection with the Messianic kingdom. Their own fitness for that kingdom was taken for granted. Were they not orthodox children of Abraham? They connected the kingdom because they saw external "signs." But the truth of his utterances had not gripped them.

Jesus shattered this complacency with one sentence, "Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God," v. 3. As mere physical birth does not make one a real Canadian. It brings up the high ideals of Canadian citizenship, neither did his Jewish birth make Nicodemus a member of the new kingdom. It was necessary to be a member of the kingdom of love and brotherhood, one had to be loving and brotherly. The Pharisees' religion was not love, our religion is love. Jesus, in speaking of a new birth, borrowed his figure from the religious and political language of his Jewish religion. It was said to be "re-born" in the new faith. The same term was used in the mystery religions which flourished in Ephesus where John was writing his Gospel. To be "born again" is not to experience some magical change; it is to commit ourselves so unreservedly to the Jesus way of living that the spirit that is in him will be in us also, changing our characters and our attitudes. We become so different from our old self—considering ourselves actually living a new life—that we can be spoken of as having been "re-born," "born from above."

Verse 5 refers to the Pharisees' refusal to submit to John's baptism of repentance. Unrepentant, they are not fit for the Christian brotherhood. Just as the wind is known only by its effects, said Jesus (v. 8), so the presence of the Spirit is recognized by the changed character of a man. The persistent incredulity of Nicodemus (v. 12) convinced Jesus that nothing was to be gained by continuing the conversation. John has now finished with Nicodemus, and dismisses him. He goes on with his discourse on God's Gift.

III. GOD'S GIFT FOR ALL, 3: 13-17. Verses 14-17 are probably reflections of the author rather than the words of Jesus. He discusses the very truths which Jesus suggested. Nicodemus could not understand. Not for the select few—the Jews—but for all who accept it, is God's gift of salvation provided. The Son of Man, rejected by the Jews, will bring salvation through his sacrifice (v. 14, 15). For this express purpose did God send his "only begotten"—literally one who is like no other son, v. 6. Eternal life is for "whosoever believeth." "Believesth" here is not an intellectual assent to a creed. It is a personal loyalty and devotion to a person to which never undergoes wastage or deterioration.—J. Ramsay MacDonald.

"Cloud Movie"



The latest invention from Germany is the "cloud movie." Here we see Dr. H. Mannheimer of Berlin demonstrating his machine which projects short films on clouds to a distance of 2,000 meters.

and "to be like Jesus" means the same thing.
IV. HOW CHRIST JUDGES MEN, 3: 18-21. The Jews thought Messiah was coming to judge the unbelievers. But if Christ's coming is not the motive of the Pharisees still in their loved position of religious leadership, it is the inevitable consequence. His coming compels men to take a choice. The stand they take shows them up in their true colors. If our deeds are evil, we shun the light because it shows up our true character. The man who has nothing to hide welcomes the investigation. He who avoids the light thereby proclaims that his deeds are evil.

New Treatment Used In Lettuce Seed Germination

New York.—Germination of lettuce seed although ground temperatures may be high by a new plan of seed treatment has been worked out by a division of the branch of the College of Agriculture of the University of California. Professor Borthwick has recently returned from Imperial Valley, Cal., where he demonstrated the results of his methods to the growers of that district.
Lettuce seed, it is explained, require for germination an adequate supply of moisture, good aeration and a low temperature. High percentages of germination are secured over a wide range of temperature from freezing to about 75 degrees Fahrenheit; between 75 and 85 degrees most varieties fail off rapidly in germination; at 85 degrees germination is almost entirely stopped in most varieties.

German School Boys Stage "G.B.S." Play

Hamburg.—German school children, especially boys, who have attained an age at which literature can be appreciated, are proverbially fond of the German classic, according to a correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor. They are well read in English classic and dramatic literature also. It is no uncommon thing for them to act the whole or a large part of a Shakespearean play at breaking up or on a similar fete day, and do it admirably. A new departure was recently undertaken by the sixth-form boys—primarily, as they are termed here—of the Hamburg Herder School. They ventured on a performance of G. Bernard Shaw's "St. Joan" in the translation by Siegfried Reinisch. The boys in their enthusiasm made no cuts and presented a play lasting over four hours. No one in the audience, which filled the large hall of the school to overflowing, appeared bored, however, but on the contrary. The services of a talented young actress, Barbara Schuchard, had been obtained for the parts, but otherwise all roles were given, and given admirably, by the boys. Scenery and effects and incidental music by the school orchestra were highly commendable. It was a performance that might have delighted "G. B. S." himself.

Bountiful Fruit Harvest In Southern Germany

The fruit harvest in southern Germany this year was large, according to a correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor. Cheap loans for the transportation and purchase of fruit have been granted. The shores on the German side of Lake Constance are an especially rich fruit region. In some parts of this land an interesting old custom still prevails. Until October 3, fruit may remain on the trees, but no longer, no matter how brightly the sun may shine. The fruit must be gathered before "Gallus Day," or anybody may take it. A proverb says: "When Gallus Day is past, whatever fruit remains hanging is mine."

Death in the Garage

The Montreal Daily Star.—The death toll from the inhalation of carbon monoxide gas in automobile garages is steadily mounting. A chauffeur is the latest victim in Montreal. The evidence showed that the windows of the automobile were tightly closed, as were the windows of the garage itself, while the door of the latter was almost closed. It does seem astonishing that so many people who are connected with the operation of automobiles fail to observe the most elementary precautions when handling cars in garages. Had the chauffeur in this particular instance taken care to open the garage window and door and the windows of the machine, he would probably be alive and well today.

Like the Widow's Cruse

"A book is like the widow's cruse of oil; you dip into it again and again, and the contents remain exactly what they were. Investment in books is a capital investment, the capital of which never undergoes wastage or deterioration."—J. Ramsay MacDonald.

Finances of Province of Ontario Are in Most Sound Condition

Though Provincial Treasurer's Report Shows Deficit For This Year, Government Are Making Every Endeavor to Have Balanced Budget Next Year

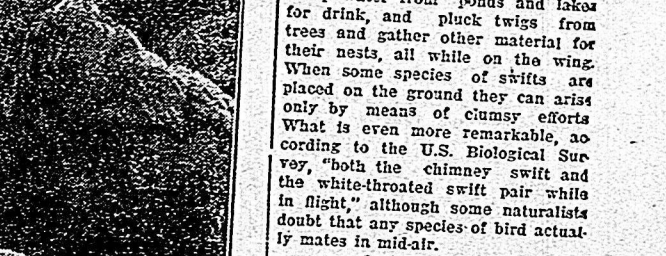
Despite the deficit as announced by Hon. A. E. Dunlop, Provincial Treasurer, the finances of the Province are in sound condition, and a readjustment of expenditures, and retrenchment all along the line will give the Government the opportunity of balancing its budget next year. This is one of the statements made recently by the Province's Attorney General, Col. W. H. Price, when he addressed 1500 Toronto businessmen, High Lights in Col. Price's speech are as follows:
"The Province will carry out its Debt Retirement Policy and will pay up to date and will, during the year 1932, pay up last year's instalment, and whatever deficits have accrued. The Province is determined to do this and balance its budget next year. There will be no more deficits. In order to make sure that this would be accomplished, not only have we decided to cut our Ordinary Expenditure, but the Province has placed a slightly higher license fee for motor cars and trucks so that this service itself will be self-sustaining."
"The finances of the Province are in sound condition. The taxation in Ontario is less than almost any other Province in Canada. The social services as well as the material benefits are no outstanding as to place Ontario in a class by herself. It is no time, however, to consider the expansion of any of these, there must be a marking of time, no matter how good a project there must be no more expenditure until we retrench and catch up. The citizen himself must be given a chance without fear of any more taxation or disability to go ahead and make progress. Ontario is behind her citizens in this."
"A habit has grown up in certain quarters of comparing the finances of Ontario with Quebec. People are told that Quebec's debt is much smaller and that they generally have a surplus. If those who want to discuss the subject desire to be honest about it and give the people the facts, they will tell them at once that part of Ontario's debt, amounting to \$135,000,000, has been advanced to the Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario for the purpose of carrying out their undertaking, and that the Province has back of that a utility owned by the public through its municipalities. They will also tell the public that we have invested over \$40,000,000 in the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway and that that is part of our Capital Debt, but that we own that road. They might also say that Quebec owns no Hydro Electric service and owns no Railroad and has not issued bonds for the purpose of construction of such assets."
"They might go forth and say that we have spent \$125,000,000 in Provincial roads and that Quebec's roads cannot be compared with Ontario roads. They are not as wide as Ontario roads, they are not as finely constructed and in most places they are not in any way as good."
"The financial structure in Canada is sound. Our Banks are evolving and performing their functions. True, they must assist in financing Canada and the Provinces. They must help to finance our municipalities and our big public undertakings. They must stand behind our municipalities although there has been over-expenditure. This function of our chartered Banks in Canada is being carried out in a very helpful way. I think probably they went too far, when times were good, in standing behind all public bodies in an attempt to work out a solution of our problems. It is idle, therefore, to say that, because there are such tremendous deposits in Canada, the Banks can do everything. There is always a limit to what credit can be given. The less the Banks have to do in raising money for Governments and Municipalities and other bodies the more will they help for the use of business and the help of our people in getting our business structure back to normal."

Climate and Life In Canadian North

The climate of the Canadian North does not adversely affect sea life, according to the records of the Northwest Territories and Yukon Branch of the Department of the Interior at Ottawa. During the winter much of the surface of the water is covered by approximately five feet of ice, which forms a clearly defined line of demarcation between the Arctic conditions maintaining above its surface and those in the water beneath, the result being that the general conditions in the Arctic waters are similar to those found in more temperate zones. These conditions are clearly reflected in the character of sea-life found north of the Arctic Circle. The herds of the sea mammals have not only supported the local inhabitants for many generations but have also entered the world markets. The fisheries, while as yet undeveloped, have long been an important factor in the domestic economy of the country. The supply of molluscs support many of the larger sea mammals, while the smaller varieties of sea life maintain the fish and some of the small mammals. The marine vegetation is plentiful and is drawn upon by all forms of animal life as an aid to their subsistence.

Follower of the Turf Interesting Facts On Bird Life

Humming birds, swifts, swallows and martins cannot walk or hop on a horizontal surface. Of these the humming birds are the most helpless on the ground, swallows and martins have small, weak feet, which are adapted only to perching and to clinging to perpendicular surfaces. These birds spend much of their time on the wing and it has been suggested that some of the swifts may spend the entire night on the wing at great heights. They seldom if ever alight on the ground and they capture insects for food, scoop water from ponds and lakes for drink, and pluck twigs from trees and gather other material for their nests, all while on the wing. When some species of swallows are placed on the ground they can arise only by means of clumsy efforts. What is even more remarkable, according to the U.S. Biological Survey, "both the chimney swift and the white-throated swift pair while in flight," although some naturalists doubt that any species of bird actually mates in mid-air.



Miss Dorothy Page, one of richest women in England and daughter of Lord Queensborough, is becoming prominent patron of the turf, having sunk about \$100,000 in recent bloodstock sales.

Indo-Chino Theatres Prefer French Talkies

The first talking picture theatre was opened in Saigon, French Indo-China, in the fall of 1929 and showed American films. This venture was at first a success, but although large crowds came to see the novelty, they could not understand the words and shortly lost interest. The theatre is now showing only French talkies.—U. S. Commerce Reports.

Rules For Citizens-to-Be

Buenos Aires.—Foreigners may become naturalized citizens of Argentina after two years' residence, provided they learn the Spanish language and have no "ideas" or doctrines opposed to the Argentine form of government, under a decree issued recently by the Government.

To Persia Modern Toys Traced

Detroit.—The first mechanical toys were invented by the Persians 700 years ago. Sir E. Denison Ross, professor of Persian art and literature at the University of London, stated in a recent lecture here. Ross said the Persians devised intricate toys early in the thirteenth century. Elaborate drawings of their devices are included in books illustrated by Persian artists, he said.

Better Times Are Here—Jeff Has a Job.

WHY, SOME PEOPLE EVEN GO SO FAR AS TO ASK FOR THE RIGHT NUMBER.