

WITH THE LONE SCOUTS

It is very probable that there are a large number of boys who read this column week after week, and although they are not Scouts, they very much wish that they could be. I would like those boys to realize that the Lone Scouts have been organized especially for them, and all that they have to do is to spare a moment to write a note to Lone Scout Headquarters asking for full particulars, and then they, too, can share in all the fun that Lone Scouting brings to all boys.

It is not very difficult, is it? Why not write that now, at once? The address is given below.

Lone Scouting Grows Apace

During this past week we have received applications for membership from over a dozen boys in various parts of Ontario. Five applications came from Colborne, four from Lucan and the others from Merrickville, Parry Sound and South River. We welcome all these recruits to our ranks, and we know that a good time is in store for them.

News From Overseas—More Scouts Down Under

Sir Kelso King, Chairman of the New South Wales branch of the Boy Scouts Association, attributes a very substantial increase in the number of Australian Scouts during 1931 to the visit of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell.

A Major First Aid Test

A motorcycle accident at a country crossroads in which two girls suffered broken legs brought an unidentified English Boy Scout a major test of his training. He acted immediately, and gave effective first aid with improvised splints and bandages.

Famous Admiral in Boy's Work

Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Roger Keyes, famous for his services during the Great War, especially in connection with the operations against Zeppelins, on St. George's Day, 1918, has become Assistant County Commissioner for Sea Scouts in Buckinghamshire.

Scouting Influence

An interesting incident demonstrating the results of Scouting as a character building and citizenship training organization is revealed in a report to the National Office of the Boy Scouts of America from the Scout Executive in the Philippines Islands, Mr. Ernest Voss. He stated as follows:

Yesterday, in Judge Vicker's court, here in Manila, Attorney Charles McDonough, while questioning a diminutive brown-eyed boy, asked: "And why are you here as a voluntary witness in this criminal case?" The boy proudly drew himself erect. "Because, Sir," said he, "I am a Boy Scout and I promised on my honor to do my duty to God and my Country, and to be trustworthy."

News From the Provinces

"Lone E" has received a letter from Mr. Robert F. Middlecoat of Hemmingford, Quebec, who was formerly a Troop Leader in a Troop in London, England. Mr. Middlecoat read about the Lone Scouts in a local newspaper and did not know that the Lones were flourishing so wonderfully in this country, and we can assure him that Scouting is very much alive in Canada and especially in our Province.

Perhaps some Lone Scout would like to write to Mr. Middlecoat, who has some interesting experiences to tell, and who would probably be able to give some very useful hints from his Scouting experience.

Lones Please Note:

On February 22nd, Scouts all over the world will celebrate the 75th birthday of the Chief Scout of all the world, Lord Baden-Powell.

A Thought For This Week

"The player who smiles most enjoys the game most."

How to Become a Lone Scout

Drop a line to The Lone Scout Department, Boy Scouts Association, 530 Bay Street, Toronto 2, and ask for particulars, which will be gladly sent.

Lone Scouting is open to boys between 12 and 18 years of age who are not able to join a regularly organized Troop, and is especially adapted for boys living on rural routes and small villages. Write to-day—"Lone E."

Sunday School Lesson

February 14. Lesson 311—Jesus and the Man Born Blind—John 9: 1-11; 30-32. Golden Text—I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life.—John 8: 12.

ANALYSIS.
I. THE BLIND MAN CURED, John 9: 1-7.
II. "I WON'T BELIEVE," John 9: 8-9.
III. WITH CHRIST, OR AGAINST HIM, John 9: 35-41.

INTRODUCTION—Chapters 7 and 8 show the gradual hardening of the Jewish hearts against Jesus. Many of his own disciples no longer walked with him. The shadow of the approaching crisis was already darkening his way. He knew that he could not be far off. The "man born blind" is a type of the Jews who received Jesus. The Pharisees in the story represent the prejudiced stubbornness of those whose hearts were hardened by Jesus' life and teaching.

I. THE BLIND MAN CURED, John 9: 1-7.

It is probable that the blind man was at the entrance to the Temple. On the Sabbath, however, he would neither be begging nor receiving alms. The rapidity with which the news of his cure spread suggests some religious festival—perhaps the Feast of Dedication, 10: 22. The "disciples" (9: 2) may have been the Judean group, and not the Galilean. Would fishermen be interested in the theological question?

The question which they are made to ask in the story indicates the two main views which the people of John's time in Ephesus held regarding trouble. The Jewish view—as old as Job's comforters—was that trouble is the punishment for the sin a man commits—the sin which his parents commit.

The Greek view was that in some previous state of existence a man did something wrong for which he is made to pay in his next incarnation. "Who sinned, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" v. 2. So strong were the old legalistic tendencies of the disciples, that the sight of suffering aroused, not the impulse to help, but the desire to discuss.

Jesus' answer (v. 3) did not mean that sin does not bring suffering for it does. He did mean, however, to discourage the tendency still among us to think uncharitably of suffering as punishment. Let a non-churchgoer, say, be killed in a motor accident on a Sunday and some one will be sure to say, "God's judgment!" We are not in a position to say. Our duty in such a situation is made clear by Jesus' reply to his speculating disciples, v. 3. "We are to ask, not 'Why do such things happen?' but 'What can I do to help?' So will the works of God be made manifest."

The elaborate process of wetting the clay—sealing the man's eyes, sending him to the Pool of Siloam, is symbolic. The clay symbolizes the act of creation, Gen. 2: 7. The Christian, the man whose eyes Christ has opened, is a new creation. Sealing the eyes means that our process of wetting the clay must be brought home to us. Siloam means "sent." John saw in the name a reference to Jesus Christ, "sent" by God. The command to "wash" is part of the sacramental tendency of this Gospel. Only after the rite of baptism does the believer enter fully into the new life.

II. "I WON'T BELIEVE," John 9: 8-9.

The story begins with the healing of physical blindness, but it soon shifts to the Jews who, in spite of the conclusive evidence, remain stubbornly unbelieving. They fastened upon the work involved in wetting the clay on the Sabbath, and made it the basis of the charge against Jesus, v. 16. "A man would not break the Sabbath," said some. "A bad man could not work a miracle," retorted another. So the controversy went on.

Failing in their purpose, the Jews degenerated into abuse, v. 24. They hated Jesus. Therefore they would neither see nor admit any good in him. What about our attitude toward the deeds of people whom we dislike?

III. WITH CHRIST, OR AGAINST HIM, John 9: 35-41.

Resourceful and bold as this man proved to be, he could not but have felt keenly his excommunication. His hope of employment would now be gone. He would be shunned as the outcast he was. One could imagine him moodily wishing that he had been left as he was, where he could at least have had society provide him his living. But, meeting Jesus, who, hearing of his punishment was probably looking for him, he found a friendship which more than compensated for any loss which his loyalty may have caused him. To him as to many another, beset by life's misfortunes, Christ became "all in all."

Jesus, summing up the meaning of the "sign," declares that his coming into the world is like a judgment, v. 39. No one ever comes in contact with him without being compelled to side with him or against him. The choice he makes determines his destiny.

"The capitalist system will last long enough for me and that's all I'm worrying about."—George Bernard Shaw.

English Misses At Lake Placid



Two young ladies aged twelve and eleven respectively are shown in a smiling mood at Lake Placid. They are Megan Taylor and Cecilia Colledge, representing the pick of British skaters.

Saved From the Sea

Are summer storms more dangerous than those of winter?

The contrary view is the general one. Yet figures just published show that during the four summer months of last year English lifeboats rescued 197 persons, while the rescues during the first four months of the year were 101. This seems to suggest that, in 1931, at any rate, summer was as bad a time for sailors as winter.

In all, the lifeboats rescued 289 persons from shipwrecks last year. They also saved twenty-six boats from destruction or helped them to safety. But rescue work was not carried out only at sea. A Whitey lifeboat was taken inland a few months ago to save flood victims.

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution now has a fleet of 131 lifeboats, of which 107 are motor lifeboats. Sixteen of the latter were added to the fleet last year—the largest number ever built in one year.

"Understanding" Fostered In Balkan Countries

Belgrade, Yugoslavia—Indications that better international relations are being fostered in the Balkans were recently demonstrated when "the National Defense," the most influential patriotic society in Serbia has launched a crusade for a better understanding between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

In addition to this appeal, issued and secretly circulated by the Yugoslav Agrarian Party and published in the Bulgarian press, also lays special emphasis on better Serbo-Bulgarian relations even at the price of significant concessions on the part of Serbia.

Stilton Cheese Once Quenby

London—England's famous Stilton cheese did not originate in the town of that name, although it did become famous there. What is today known as Stilton cheese was originally made at Quenby Hall by the Ashbys, who owned the place many years ago, and it was then known as Quenby cheese. An enterprising landlord of an inn at Stilton bought up large quantities of the cheese and made it famous under its present name.

Other Uses of Paper Pulp

The enormous use of paper for newspaper has overshadowed its many other vital uses, say the Canadian News Letter. Other uses include cement and flour bags, rug pads, curtains and blinds, serviettes, handkerchiefs, towels, delitas, cord, containers for food and drugs, packing cases, wallboard, cores, upholstery, drinking cups, plates, dishes and spoons. The paper milk bottle is meeting with favor in New York, although its use in Canada is at present negligible.

Sir Walter Scott And His Children

John Gibson Lockhart in "Life of Sir Walter Scott" gives us an interesting view of the methods employed by Scott in treating his children in their early days:

He had now two boys and two girls—and he never had more. He was not one of those who take more delight in a mere infant; but no father ever devoted more time and tender care to his offspring than he did to each of his, as they successively reached the age when they could listen to him, and understand his talk. Like their mute playmates, and the greyhounds, they had at all times free access to his study; he never considered their tattling as any disturbance; they went and came as they pleased their fancy; he was always ready to answer their questions and when they, unconscious how he was engaged, entreated him to lay down his pen and tell them a story, he would take them on his knee, repeat a ballad or a legend, kiss them and set them down again to their marbles or alpenpins, and resume his labor as if refreshed by the interruption.

From a very early age he made them dine at table, and "to sit up to supper" was the great reward when they had been "very good bairns." In short, he considered it as the highest duty, as well as the sweetest pleasure of a parent to be the companion of his children; he partook all their little joys and sorrows, and made his kind informal instruction to blend so easily and playfully with the current of their own sayings and doings, that so far from regarding him with any distant awe, it was never thought that any sport or diversion could go on in the right way, unless papa were of the party, or that the rarest day could be dull, so he were at home.—John Gibson Lockhart, in "Life of Sir Walter Scott."

From a very early age he made them dine at table, and "to sit up to supper" was the great reward when they had been "very good bairns." In short, he considered it as the highest duty, as well as the sweetest pleasure of a parent to be the companion of his children; he partook all their little joys and sorrows, and made his kind informal instruction to blend so easily and playfully with the current of their own sayings and doings, that so far from regarding him with any distant awe, it was never thought that any sport or diversion could go on in the right way, unless papa were of the party, or that the rarest day could be dull, so he were at home.—John Gibson Lockhart, in "Life of Sir Walter Scott."

Ground Glass Road

London—Glass roads in Czechoslovakia and colored roads in Scotland are the latest experiments to be tried by European highway engineers. All sorts of surprising materials have been tested in Britain recently—cast iron, molten stone, rubber, cotton, and wood—in the hope of finding an ideal track for motorcars.

Women of Holland

Voice Peace Sentiments

Amsterdam—The women of the Netherlands voiced their desire for peace and their hopes for the success of the Disarmament Conference at a large and enthusiastic public demonstration here recently.

The meeting was under auspices of the National Women's League of the Netherlands. Its aim was to clarify and to crystallize public opinion in support of the Disarmament Conference. Miss Soes Manas, prominent in the Dutch women's movement, pointed out the tremendous influence exerted by the women's peace movement, comprising 45,000,000 women in 56 countries.

War is dying. It dies because it cannot pay its way. It dies because, through the spread of education and the demand of commerce, no part of the civilized world can be suffered to engage in a life-and-death struggle with any other part.—David Starr Jordan.

Mount Vesuvius

Light Goes Out

Naples, Italy.—Mount Vesuvius, after centuries of quiescence, presented a new problem following fresh rumblings and explosions last week. The curious thing in connection with the event was the discovery that as soon as the explosions ceased, the crater, which always has been lit up at night by internal fires, was cold dark.

Natural scientists have begun an investigation to determine why. An observatory, a military police barracks, a convent, a railroad and a hotel on the volcano's side were shaken, but their quake-proof construction protected them, observers said. Attendees at the observatory after working through the night, learned little except that the epicenter of the quake was within, or under, the mountain and it apparently, affected only a small area.

French Pilot Tests Feasibility Of Air Line to Madagascar

Le Bourget, France.—Captain Ludovic Arrachart landed here recently after a trail-blazing flight to Madagascar and return with information which may presage regular mail and passenger service. The outward trip was accomplished in ten days, with stops along the dangerous Sahara route. The return trip took eight days.

Aviation authorities believe the projected line could be run without difficulty.

Compulsory Voting

Approved in Peru

Lima, Peru.—Compulsory voting for men between the ages of 21 and 60 was recently approved as part of the new Peruvian constitution in process of adoption by the constitutional congress.

The secret ballot also was approved. Voting will be optional for men over 60. Last week the congress rejected equal suffrage for women, but women over 25 years of age will be permitted to vote in municipal elections.

Good Trade Balance Reported by Bulgaria

Sofia—Bulgaria has a very "favorable" trade balance. During November exports exceeded imports by more than 100 per cent. Merchandise worth 712,000,000 leva or about \$5,000,000 was sent out of the country and products worth 351,000,000 leva were shipped into it.

The sums received from this excess of exports over imports all go to pay Bulgaria's debts abroad. Rigid regulations make it impossible to export money for private transactions.

Latvia and Estonia Lift Export Duty on Timber

Riga, Latvia.—In order to assist the Latvian timber exporters, the Latvian Government has abolished the export duty on various kinds of goods, and especially on pulpwood.

New Mineral Identified

Stanford University, Calif.—Prof. A. F. Rogers of the mineralogy department of Stanford University has identified a new mineral which he calls Sanbornite. He said it is a barium silicate never found before.

The new mineral was named after Mr. Frank Sanborn of the California Bureau of Mines. It is a lump of ore picked up in Mariposa County.

16-Year-Old Aviatix



Joy sticks are nothing new to Mary E. Sticks of Portland, Ore., who, after two years of instruction, becomes youngest aviatix in the northwest at sixteen.

20 P.C. Added to Import Duty By Norwegian Government

Oslo, Norw.—An increase of 20 per cent. on import duties was recently approved by the Storting.

An important provision authorizes the Government to exempt goods regulated by treaties and goods not produced by Norway.

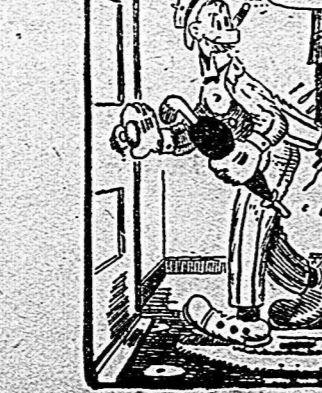
The estimated revenue from the new duties will amount to 2,000,000 crowns (about \$1,500,000) the first half year. The reason for the additional duties is the deficit in the last half year's budget. A royal proclamation was published, bringing the new scale into effect immediately.

TRUTH

If a crooked stick is before us we need not explain how crooked it is. Lay a straight one down by the side of it, and the work is well done. Preach the truth, and error will stand abashed in its presence.—Spurgeon.

"Glamour only makes husbands glummer. Be yourself, and as nice as possible."—Faith Baldwin.

MUTT AND JEFF—By BUD FISHER



'Twas a Dark and Stormy Night—!

BEFORE I TURN IN I'M GONNA HANG ON THE FEED BAG, COMING ALONG, JEFF?

I WOULDN'T GO TO A BANQUET IN THAT RAIN, BUT IF YOU WILL—I WASH YOU BRING ME A COUPLE OF EGGS—YOU KNOW—BOILED FIVE MINUTES, MUTT

THIS TRIPE IS DELICIOUS! OH, I ALMOST FORGOT ABOUT JEFF.

WELL, WHAT IS IT?

I WANT A COUPLE OF HARD BOILED EGGS TO TAKE OUT TONIGHT.

O.K. BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT 'TILL AFTER TEN O'CLOCK. MAME AND I DON'T GET OFF 'TILL THEN.