

The SNAPSHOT GUILD

WATCH YOUR BACKGROUND



The sky makes an excellent background for pictures of people. Posing the subject on a high rock, and using a color filter over the lens, increased the effectiveness and appeal of this picture.

IN YOUR snapshots of people do you ever run into "background" trouble? That is, do extraneous objects behind the subject tend to attract more attention than the real center of interest?

This, unfortunately, is true of many amateur snapshots. Too often many camera-hobbyists concentrate all their attention on the person they are picturing and forget all about what lies beyond. The camera, however, with its critical eye, sees all and records everything.

There are, in general, two types of backgrounds—those that are plain, and those that form a component part of the picture, the latter, commonly called "settings," might be a flower garden, a winding road, or any scene that may add interest or appeal. There should be a relationship between the subject and the setting, and the picture should be composed with this in mind.

Usually, the simpler or more neutral the background, the better the picture, and if you desire strict neutrality—use the sky. Place your

subject on the crest of a knoll, on top of a high rock, or even a fence to give enough elevation for a low angle shot. With no confusing elements to distract the attention, all interest is centered right where you want it. In making the illustration above, a medium yellow filter, commonly called a "K-2," was slipped over the lens, darkening the sky, and thereby separating the light tones of the figures from the background.

If any extraneous objects are behind the subject, eliminate them by either having the subject move, or by changing the position of your camera. Shooting from a higher or lower angle or moving slightly to one side may often be all that is needed to remove unwanted material from the field of view.

Remember that the inclusion or the exclusion of background material is just about as important as the person in the picture and should receive just as much attention. Pose your subjects against the sky, lawn, or other plain area and notice the difference in your next snapshots. John van Gulder

BRIDGE OUT!

By BARBARA BENEDICT

(Associated Newspapers.)
WNU Service.

IT WAS bad enough, Natalie thought, to be lost without meeting Chris Rhodes. Yet sight of his lean, straight figure as he rounded the trail was reassuring. All the fear that had gradually crept into Natalie's soul as night shut down and the terrible hopelessness of being alone overcame her, vanished as Chris rode slowly to meet her. His dark face was unsmiling and grave.

"Hello," she said, attempting lightness. "Mind telling me how far it is back to the hotel. I—rode farther than I intended."

"It's a good way," Chris reined in and removed his hat. He was a handsome youth, and rather mysterious. "I guess you're out of luck," he went on. "The bridge is out at Mile creek."

Natalie paled. "The bridge is out? But I came that way this morning!"

"There's been a cloudburst in the mountains. The creek swelled to abnormal height and carried the bridge away."

"Does that mean we're—marooned here?"

"I'm afraid it does."

"How long will it be before the bridge is repaired?"

Chris shrugged. "A day, possibly two."

The full significance of the situation struck Natalie with startling suddenness. Fifteen minutes ago she had experienced some of the horrors of being lost and alone in the great north woods. Now a real problem confronted her. She was with a man who, she had every reason to

believe, hated her. She knew nothing about him; he had no friends or relatives at the hotel. He might be—most anybody.

Even in the face of what might happen Natalie sensed a certain thrill. Whatever Chris Rhodes' ancestry, he was handsome and soft spoken and romantic looking. More over, he had been indifferent to all of Natalie's mild attempts at flirtation. She wasn't used to being shown indifference. Most men worshipped her.

Chris Rhodes was different. His attitude was cold and aloof. He failed to respond when she smiled at him.

Chris had dismounted and was removing his saddle. Natalie watched him in mild astonishment.

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Co-operation THAT COUNTS

There is perhaps no better illustration of co-operation between an industry and the people it serves than that of the implement industry and farming.

Its inception was the making available to other farmers the tools which one ingenious farmer developed to lighten his own labors and enable him to accomplish more in the always-too-short seasons.

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In the implement engineer, the farmer has had a partner ever intent on finding easier and more profitable ways of doing the jobs he has to do. The co-operation of the implement maker, in this respect, has transformed farming and made farm life pleasanter and more profitable—a co-operation that really counts.

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O.A.S.A. War Service Sport's Week

More than 25 different military training centres have benefited under the war service program of the Ontario Amateur Softball Association, since that association adopted the plan of distributing softball equipment to training camps.

The O.A.S.A. effort, in extra to that being done by the Sports Service League, the Ontario Athletic Commission and Citizens' Committees, although all four groups are co-operating to prevent any unnecessary overlapping in distribution of sports equipment.

To further this much needed war work, the O.A.S.A. is sponsoring a Home Service Sports Week, throughout the entire province, from August 4 to 9, and already has been assured of the whole-hearted support of softball groups in all sections of Ontario, who are operating special attractions during that week to raise funds. An objective of \$1,000 has been set, but it is hoped that this will be at least doubled before the close of the special week of play.

Among the military units who have received softball equipment from the Ontario Amateur Softball Association are the following: Veterans Home Guards at Windsor and Gravenhurst; Tradesmen Schools at various centres; 100th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, Guelph; Newmarket Training Camp; Camp Borden Military Camp; Internment Camps in Northern Ontario; Petawawa Military Camp; Canadian Army Trade School, Hamilton; Naval Barracks, Toronto; South Alberta Regiment, Altonara; 16-29 Saskatchewan Horse, Chippewa; Petawawa Active Training Camp; Elementary Flying Training School, St. Catharines; RCAF Training School, McMaster University, Hamilton; R.C.A.F. Cooking School, O.A.C., Guelph; Essex Regiment, Windsor; Irish Regiment, Toronto; R.C.A.F. Bombing and Gunnery School, Jarvis; 41st Battery, Simcoe; 102 Battery, Dundas; Niagara-on-the-Lake Training Camp; R.C.A.F. Bombing and Gunnery School, Pinguic; Essex Scottish Regiment, Windsor; 164th Battery, Guelph; Toronto Military Hospital; No. Wireless Training School, O.A.C., Guelph.

Famous Twin Tortoises First Ever Hatched Here

Miami's famous twin babies worth \$1,000 apiece are growing daily both in weight and value. The twins are two tiny Galapagos tortoises—the only babies of their kind ever hatched in America.

The tiny Galapagos tortoises have an interesting history. When they were hatched from two eggs that looked exactly like billiard balls they weighed two ounces. They were started out at first on a strict diet of choice red hibiscus blossoms, and now they eat daily, one half their own weight in lettuce leaves picked from the heart.

They have the dubious honor of belonging to a family of prehistoric age creatures that have never changed their size or shape from the beginning of time until today. In addition they are the longest-living creatures on earth, outliving the whale, elephant, parrot and all reptiles.

The twins are expected to double their weight annually for the first five years and then slow down their growth. When they become a year old, they will reach a weight of slightly over two pounds.

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