Our Uniform

To-day, as probably never before during our lifetimes, money is harder to obtain than we ever thought possible. Most people are hanging on tight to any cash that comes into their possession, and who can blame them?

There is not much money being spent on luxuries in these times, and for this reason Lone Scout Headquarters have not found it necessary to take on an extra secretary to sign and forward orders for Scout Uniform during the past few months.

Of course one can be a Scout without wearing a uniform, and we do not want you to think that it is imperative for you to have uniform when, perhaps, you cannot afford it. As long as you are a good Scout, living up to your Scout Promise and Law, we are satisfied.

We want, however, to keep before you the significance of the Scout uniform, and to show you how it has helped to a great degree in the romance of Scouting. The Scout Uniform is known and respected in all parts of the world and is a symbol of the ideals and activities for which our movement stands.

The general public has come to look upon a Scout as a boy who possesses better qualities of character and training than the average boy, and further, that he is a boy who is ready to help others and perform his duty readily and well at all time.

In the boy with the Scout hat, shorts and neckerchief they see the leaders of the future, and this uniform is something of which any Lonie can be justly proud, for it symbolizes the entire Boy Scout Organization, the "World Wide Brotherhood of Scouts," who will be the citizens of the future.

Every Lone Scout should, therefore, make it his ambition to possess a Scout Uniform, and he should obtain it if possible by his own efforts, and if necessary should purchase it one item at a time until it is complete.

The Christmas season is coming along, and it may be that some of you will receive gifts at that time. Let it be known that you would appreciate an article from the Scout catalogue, and so commence the foundation of your uniform in which you can take as much pride as any soldier of the Guards does in his dress clothes A real Scout will take great care of his uniform and look upon it as a trust

Duchess of Abercorn's Scout Test

When the Duchess of Abercorn opened a new Boy Scout Hall at Belfast by lighting a fire in the fireplace, she was given the Scout maximum of two matches. She proved herself a "good Scout" by using only one.

Recruiting

Probably each Lonie in Ontario knows several boys in his neighbourhood, who in his opinion would be benefitted by Scouting and who he probably would like to see enrolled as Lonies.

Maybe these boys would respond more readily if a letter was sent to them from Lone Scout Headquarters. If you know any such boys, will you not send us their names and addresses so that we can get into touch with them?

A personal word from you would also help a great deal.

Now Tibetan Boy Scouts

Troops of Tibetan Boy Scouts were discovered during a tour of the Himalayan mountain passes this summer by the Secretary of the Punjab Boy Scouts Association. Like Scouts elsewhere the Tibetan lads were performing many kinds of public service, including the building of protected springs where wayfarers can secure clean drinking water.

Promptness Averts Bridge Tragedy

The famous story of the Dutch boy who prevented a disastrous flood by plugging a hold in a dyke with his finger is recalled by the action of a Boy Scout, John Kirschel, of Southern Rhodesia. While fishing from a bridge over the Gwebi River the lad discovered a widening crack in a concrete pier. He immediately ran and reported, and the bridge was closed, averting probable tragedy. The Scout was highly commended by the government road department.

Deaf and Dumb Boys Become Scouts

Mackay Institute for the Deaf and Dumb now has its Scout Troop. The troop is sponsored by the Scouts of Trinity Memorial Church Troop

Are you a Lone Scout? This branch of Scouting is open to all boys between the ages of 12 and 18 years who live in small villages or rural districts and who are unable to attend the meetings of regularly organized Scout Troops.

For full information write to The Boy Scouts Association, Lone Scout Department, 330 Bay Street, Toronto 2.—"Lone E."

Champion Corn-Husker

Takes his job by the ears—and wins a championship! Carl Seiler of Galva, Ill., is "right there" when it comes to husking corn. He husked thirty-six and ninety one-hundredth bushels in eighty minutes.

Sunday School Lesson

December 4. Lesson X.—Living with People of Other Races—John 4: 5-10; Acts 10: 30-35. Golden Text—Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons.—Acts 10: 34.

ANALYSIS.

I. RACE PREJUDICE AND HUMAN NEED, John 4: 5-10.

II. A SNOBBISH CHRISTIAN'S DREAM, Acts 10: 9-19.

III. THE DIVINE INTENTION, Acts 10: 28-35.

INTRODUCTION—Countee Cullen, the young Negro poet, tells about a visit he once made to Baltimore:

Once riding in old Baltimore,
Head filled, heart filled with glee—
I saw a Baltimorian—keep looking straight at me.
Now, I was eight—and very small;
And he—was no whit bigger . . .
And so I smiled, but he—stuck out his tongue
And called me "nigger."

Although I lived in Baltimore
From May until December—
Of all the things that happened there,
That's all that I remember.

The Spirit of Jesus has always had to face snobbery — racial, social, ecclesiastical.

I. RACE PREJUDICE AND HUMAN NEED, John 4: 5-10.

Notwithstanding the inhospitality of the Samaritans (Luke 9: 51-53) meet Jewish pilgrims going north went through the province of Samaria, v. 4. Only the strictest of them, such as the Pharisees, went round by Perea.

At noon (the sixth hour, Roman reckoning) Jesus and his party came to Jacob's well. It was an unusual hour for a woman to come for water, v. 7. Was it shame, or the severity of her more respectable sisters that sent her there when no one was likely to be about?

The tired stranger asked her for a drink. Her surprise (v. 9) at being thus addressed reflected the relationships that existed between Jew and Samaritan. The Jew had a profound contempt for the Samaritan with his mixed blood and impure religion. Northern Israel had intermarried with the foreign conquerors, and had adopted pagan religious customs. See 2 Kings, chap. 17. Because of this the Samaritan offer to help in building the Temple was contemptuously spurned, Ezra, chap. 4. Resentment brought reprisals. Mutual hatred was the consequence.

The appeal of human need overcame the woman's dislike and suspicion. In helping a hated Jew, she received from him the sympathy and inspiration for a better life which she so sorely needed. It was the spirit of Jesus breaking down the separating barriers of race prejudice.

Peter's dream changed the course of history for the early church. The "scattering abroad" of believers during the persecutions resulted in the growth, in many foreign centres, of the new faith. Peter, on a superintendent's tour, found himself confronted with the question, "How is a Christian to act toward a Gentile?" Jews had always looked upon Gentiles as "common," aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, strangers from the covenant of promise," outside the pale. They ate "unclean food. Hence eating together, and consequently all social intercourse, was impossible. The Gentiles retorted by ridiculing Jews for their abstinence from pork.

II. A SNOBBISH CHRISTIAN'S DREAM, Acts 10: 9-19.

Peter's problem about food, his hunger (v. 10), wove themselves into the fabric of his dream. In the sheet (v. 12), he began to notice all kinds of creatures, clean and unclean. He was amazed to hear the voice, which he so well remembered, commanding him to kill and eat. He had broken many a Pharisaic regulation in his day—picking corn on the Sabbath, for example—but with food he was still a strict Hebrew. His abrupt refusal (v. 14) brought its emphatic and repeated reproof, vs. 15, 16. The Christian Jew was now to give up his old distinctions between meats clean and unclean. Any custom, no matter how useful in the past, which becomes a separating wall between people, must be removed. "This wall has no business here!" says the Nazarene Carpenter as he sees the wall which separates the members of his father's family in their own house. "Down it comes!" and with well-directed blows he swings his axe. See the vivid picture in Ephesians 2: 14.

When Peter was told that some Gentiles were at the door to see him, he said to himself, "There is the meaning of my dream." He made them welcome.

III. THE DIVINE INTENTION, Acts 10: 28-35.

Obedient to his heavenly vision, Peter set out for Cæsarea with the messengers of Cornelius. Realizing that his unheard-of action in going into a Gentile's home would certainly bring on a crisis in the church, he took with him several brethren from the church in Joppa. In Cornelius' house he made it clear to the assembled Gentiles that in coming to them he was breaking with a strict Jewish regulation. Nevertheless, he had done it deliberately (v. 29), "without gainsaying" means "without disputing or hesitation." God had shown him that they were all God's children, "brothers all."

"How did the accident happen?" to the statements neither side was "I can't make it out. According in any way to blame."

The brave and wise perform great actions not so much on account of the rewards attending them, as on account of their own intrinsic excellence.—Cicero.

Some Chemistry of the Farm

By Henry G. Bell
Assoc. Prof. of Chemistry, O.A.C.

What breed of dairy cow gives the most and best quality milk? If you're a dairyman you can surely answer this question with about a hundred reasons. What is the best all round breed of poultry for the average Ontario farm? You no doubt have definite opinions on this subject—opinions backed by many good reasons. But when you come to discussing the things that make up the feed of the cow or the hen, or the elements that are found in their products—or bodies or feed, the familiarity ceases. That is the reason for this practical, homely talk about things.

Elements

Have you ever heard a person talking about the elements in feed or in a fertilizer, and you have wondered just what an element is? Chemists have studied what things are made of, and they have found a total of 87 elements. An element is a substance that cannot be reduced to, or divided into two or more component substances. For instance, iron, or gold, or silver, cannot be broken up into other components than iron and gold and silver. They may be melted or changed into iron or gold or silver utensils, but they are still the same pure elements.

Compounds

There are other materials in nature. If red or yellow mercuric oxide is heated, oxygen goes off as a colorless gas, and metallic mercury remains. The mercuric oxide is known as a compound.

Nearly all things we come in contact with in nature are compounds. Very few elements remain unattached and pure in nature. Elements exist in three different forms, viz.: solids, gases, liquids. Here are some of the common elements belonging to each class:

Solids—Iron (Fe), Gold (Au), Silver (Ag), Phosphorus (P) (from which we get phosphoric acid), Potassium (K) (from which we get potash), Sulphur (S), Lead (Pb), Copper (Cu).

Gases—Oxygen (O), Hydrogen (H), Nitrogen (N), Chlorine (Cl).

Liquids—Mercury (Hg).

Chemical Symbols

So that it will not be necessary to write long names of substances each time they occur in a reaction, chemists have agreed upon certain symbols which are usually the first letters of the names of the elements. For instance, H always stands for Hydrogen, O always stands for Oxygen, N always stands for Nitrogen, P always stands for Phosphorus. If P were used to stand for Potash it would lead to confusion, therefore the first letter of the latin name Kalium (K) is used to denote potassium.

Acids and Alkalis

There are certain compounds which dissolve in water and which have the power of turning blue litmus paper to a red color. These are called acids. Some of the commonest in farm operations are: Sulphuric acid (H_2SO_4), Hydrochloric acid (HCl), Nitric acid (HNO_3) and Acetic acid (CH_3COOH).

Other compounds have the power of deadening the effects of acids. These are known as bases. Some of the commonest encountered in farm operations are: Limewater Ca (OH)2, Ammonia water (NH4)OH, Caustic soda (NaOH), Caustic potash (KOH). These substances turn red litmus paper to blue. Their action is said to be alkaline.

Chemical Reaction

A common illustration of chemical reaction on the farm is seen where acid soil is corrected by the addition of limestone. Calcium carbonate ($CaCO_3$) or limestone is readily dissolved.. This forms Calcium hydrate $CA(OH)_2$, which corrects the acidity of the soil. When acid phosphate is made phosphate rock is treated with sulphuric acid. This produces soluble or available phosphate, and calcium suluphate or land plaster. Superphosphate or acid phosphate as it used to be called, carries 16% to 20% available phosphoric acid (P_2O_5). Some folks are of the opinion that superphosphate is acid in its action, and that it makes the land sour. This is not the case. Superphosphate or acid phosphate is neutral in reaction. The calcium sulphate that it carries tends to liberate the potash of the soil.

Elements Are Combined to Form Compounds

The queston is sometimes asked, if nitrate of soda contains only 15% nitrogen, or 15 lbs. pure nitrogen to the hundred, why can't I buy pure nitrogen for my crops? One reason why pure nitrogen would be of on use for plantfood is that nitrogen is a gas, and is not taken up by the leaf or stem of the plant. Nitrogen must enter the plant through the roots, and that in a dissolved form. Thus, nitrate of soda when dissolved in water can be taken up readily by the growing plant. Let every farmer and gardener remember this fact, the plant cannot use pure elements. The animal cannot assimilate or take into its own composition pure carbon or oxygen or hydrogen or sulphur or nitrogen or phosphorus or calcium or iron. Plantfoods must be carried in compounds in the soil, in manure and in fertilizers. Animal feeds must carry the elements in compounds known as carbohydrates proteins, fats and alkied substances.

More of the common chemical compounds that farmers meet in their daily operations are.

Water—(H_2O), which composes 90 to 95% of farm crops (green). Water frequently contains dissolved calcium or magnesium carbonate which makes it hard. Hard water kills the power of soap to produce lather. Water may also contain compounds of iron potassium and sodium. Some of these may render the water unfit for domestic use. Other impurities of a bacterial nature more often render water unfit for farm use.

Sugar ($C_6H_{12}O_6$ or $C_{13}H_{22}O_{11}$), is found in the juice of sugar beets, in fruits and in the sap of the sugar maple tree and elsewhere.

Starch ($C_6H_{10}O_5$), is found in the kernels or seeds of all cereals, also in potatoes and artichokes.

Fat—Various forms, all built from C H and O. Fats are found in the oily part of seeds near the germ, in cream from which butter is made and in the flesh of most animals.

Proteins—Flesh and muscle builders containing C, H, O, and Nitrogen. The glutten of wheat, or the rubbery gummy part of dough is composed of proteins. Lean meat, hair, hoofs, horns, also contain protein.

Amino-acids—many of which contain C. H. O. N. and Sulphur. These amino acids are closely connected with proteins.

Bone — contains Calcium, Oxygen and phosphorus.

These fragmentary outlines of chemistry, basic to common farm products and phenomena, will be followed by discussions of specific problems, from time to time.

Rare Plant Species

One of the oddest plant species in the world has been rediscovered in Madera Creek, in the Davis Mountains of western Texas, according to Science News Letter, a Science Service publication (Washington).

Dr. R. A. Studhalter of Texas Technological College at Lubbock has reported this find to The Scientific Monthly. We read:

"The plant is known as Riella, and has been given the English name 'ruffle plant,' because of its peculiar structure. It consists of a slender stem an inch or so in length, with a thin transparent green wing growing out at one side and curling over its end. The graceful undulations in this green wing caused one American botanist to describe it as 'a ruffle standing on end.'

"The plant has thus far been found in only two States, Texas and North Dakota. It grows only in sheltered canyons either submerge in shallow water or just above water-level. Since water in this Western country is not always a certainty in any one place, the plant has been very elusive, disappearing from a known habitat and reappearing suddenly elsewhere. Close relatives are known from the old world, growing in the same type of habitat: sheltered shallow waters in semiarid regions. Here also it is an extremely elusive plant."

"Isn't Jack ever going to propose?"

"I guess not, he's like an hourglass."

"How's that?"

"The more time he gets the less sand he has."

Soviet Russia's New Railroad

The Soviet press are issuing rallying calls to speed up the completion of the new Moscow-Donbass railway which will form a direct connection between the capital of the Soviet Union and the Donietz Basin, Russia's richest coal region.

The work has not moved as fast as some Soviet editors think it should and they are outspoken in their criticism and explanations.

But in the end they express confidence that the mistakes made so far will be corrected and overcome in true Bolshevik fashion, so that "with the help of the public opinion of the whole Soviet Union," this railroad of paramount importance will be completed within the time limit set by the plan.

The great need for the railroad is plainly shown in Izvestia, official organ of the Soviet Government:

"Our industries require more coal every year. Developing at an unprecedented pace, they make ever-growing demands upon our coal-fields in general, and upon the Donietz Coal Basin in particular.

"In 1913, 25.2 million tons of coal were mined in the Donietz Basin. In 1931, this abundant storehouse of the Soviet Union gave us 50 per cent. more than in 1913. This is coincident with the increased exportation of coal from the Basin to the coal-consuming regions in general. The railroads now crossing the Basin, which lead to the cities of Voranezh and Kursk, are working under great pressure. Yet they can not cope with the task of transmitting the needed stream of coal from the Basin to the north.

"This lack has made it imperative to get a new outlet for the Donietz Basin's coal, and thus end the confusion and the congestion of freights on the two existing lines."

So the Soviet Government decided in April 1932, we are told, to begin construction immediately of a powerful double-track railroad, the Moscow-Donbass. The new line is to include a small railway, Valuiki-Ozherelye, built long ago, but to be completely rebuilt. The terminal of the Moscow-Donbass line will be the Nesvyetayevsky mines.

According to plan, the Moscow-Donbass railroad should be in working order by August 1, 1933, yet, Izvestia advises us:

"It must be confessed, however, that its construction proceeds unsatisfactorily. In July and August, for instance, only 28 per cent. of track building planned for these months was done. In the same period only 6.1 per cent. of the buildings planned had been completed.

"The situation is especially unsatisfactory in the Venevsky region, where only 17 per cent. of the construction work planned for these two months is finished. This is all the more reprehensible because the Venevsky portion of the road was to be ready for operation about October 1 1932."

Investia expresses considerable indignation that the Soviet railway builders are so "disappointingly unable to live up to the plan."

But, it candidly admits, there is a lack of technical equipment, the work is not sufficiently well organized, and there are certain labor difficulties. In this official organ's own words:

"Our heavy industries and the Chief Administration of Railroad Building have not supplied the builders of the road with even half the equipment which they undertook to provide."

Flea Market Boom

The price of a competent flea has risen to three dollars because of the falling off in transatlantic travel. All the Hecker fleas are of European origin, purchased from cabin stewards. He has traveled as far as Norfolk bargaining with ship employees for insects capable of making the grade. Belgian fleas learn quickest, according to Professor Hecker; French and Italian fleas are quite bright; English fleas slow of comprehension. "America is the land of my adoption," added Professor Hecker. "I have received honor and material reward in America. I would not allow any expression to escape me which might offend this dear land. I must, therefore, beg to be absolutely excused from discussing American fleas." In prosperous times, Professor Hecker has had as many as seventy fleas warming up in the bull-pen; to-day his reserve stock consists of seven aged ones.—The New Yorker.

The Novelist's Faculty of Invention

Fiction is digested experience, and a great novel is the reflection of a great man's sense of the world and of the people in it. It might seem from this to be a matter of indifference whether he conveys this discursively by trumpeting it through mouthpiece-characters and interpolated comment, or by presenting his sense of life pictorially and dramatically, making the characters and story the vehicle for expressing his profoundest reactions to experience. And in a sense it is indifferent. Only, if it is natural to a writer to express himself discursively, he had better think twenty times before using the novel as his vehicle. If discursive writing is his bent, then, whatever kind of writer he is, he is certainly not a novelist; and however beautiful, elegant, acute or timely his commentary, epigrams and discussions may be, the people in his book will go the way of all waxwork.

Carlyle could draw a portrait in a few sentences, even if it were only that of a man who had sat opposite him in a railway carriage or of someone he had read about, so that we now not only see that man (how tamely inexpressive seem engravings and photographs beside the text!), but are brought into touch with the very core of his being—at least as it was conceived by Carlyle himself. In addition to this unrivalled gift for vivid static presentment, he had also the power of revealing the dramatic clash of temperaments and aims, the incongruity between a man and his casual surroundings, and above all, everywhere and at all times, the novelist's sense of the inexhaustible picturesqueness and significance of detail. Carlyle could make the cut of a man's coat or the color of his shoe-heels seem profoundly symbolic. He could orchestrate the passions magnificently. Yet fiction was not his medium and he knew it.

Ruskin required a work of art, a castle, a cloud, a mountain, a tree, to release his imagination. . . . . And in discoursing he would show so vivid an apprehension of the honorable merchant, of the artist's intense experiences, of the noble gentleman, of the dignified mechanic, of the contented cottager, and also of the opposites of all these types, that it would seem he must have been able, had he chosen, to project them as living figures in a novel, expressing his vision of the world. But, like Carlyle, he could not invent.

Invention: that is the master quality of the novelist. A great novel, as I have said, is the reflection of a great man's experience of life; but it cannot be conveyed in the form of a novel unless the writer has this specific faculty of invention. He must be able to devise a constant flow of incidents which will exhibit his characters. This may seem a commonplace, but it is one usually overlooked by reviewers and entirely forgotten by many intelligent authors who take to novel-writing. . . . Reviewers and critics are seldom people with a talent for invention; on the other hand, they are usually appreciative of literary ability and cleverness. Consequently they overvalue those qualities to the prejudice of the story-teller's specific faculty, and they do not even discuss stories which exhibit that faculty. If those stories do not contain fine phrases or arresting comments.—Desmond MacCarthy, in "Criticism."

"This is the last time I shall bring this bill" said the enraged collector. "Thanks," replied the inpecunious debtor "You are so much more considerate than the other fellow; he said he was going to come again."

MUTT AND JEFF— By BUD FISHER

Cooking On a Short Wave Length.

BE SILENT

Be silent in the woodland ways
When tall trees sigh and dream,
And in the deep embowerd bays
The still white flowers gleam,
And let your listening ears impart
Their solace to your waiting heart.

Be silent when the starry night
Makes wordly things seem small,
And hearken with supreme delight
When mystic voices call,
And know that you, who stand as still,
Are subject to the eternal will.

Be silent when the children sleep
In calm and deep content,
And in their quiet breathing keep
Your love-born sacrament,
That so your own repose may be
Enfolded in serenity.
—A. B. Cooper, in Tit-Bits (London).

Never keep silent if a hurt can spare