A Good Report

We all like to have a good report made on our activities, whether of our school work or elsewhere.

We would like, therefore, to pass on to the Lone Scouts of Ontario the report which was made by the Assistant Provincial Commissioner, F. C. Irwin, M.A., to the annual meeting of the Provincial Council for Ontario, which was recently held at the Royal York Hotel at Toronto.

Mr. Irwin stated the "Lone Scouts don't get a fair chance to show their real growth because of the number of them (68 last year) who transfer to regular Troops, some of which are formed as a result of their activity.

In spite of this, however, they manage to do considerably better than to hold their own. Lone Scout Commissioner Furminger and his four "Lone Scoutmasters" are very proud of the accomplishments of their more than 300 Lones who plug away without the incentive of Troop meetings and personal contact with other Scouts.

Their record in meeting requirements in good turns, and in esprit de Corps is quite up to the average of that of Scout Troops."

We think that this is a very good report indeed, and we must see to it that our record in 1933 is even better.

Indian Wisdom

Just now, when every man and boy in Canada should be on his honor to try to keep up a good standard of health and endurance, to combat these days of difficulty with the best ability, it may be of interest to learn something from the stoic Red Indians.

The Indians invariably put down their wonderful feats of hardihood and endurance to the cold dip in the river every morning. In the best tribes, the Blackfeet especially, this morning "dip" was never forgotten. It was a tribal custom, just as it should be the tribal custom of every Boy Scout to get a cold bath or rub down every morning.

Just as the Scout has to pass his various tests of endurance—so the Indian boy had to go away by himself, with nothing but a spear or a tomahawk, and look after himself—by himself—for at least a month. During this time he had to hunt his own food, make his own clothes and moccasins from the skins of bears and other animals, cook his own food and keep away from his tribe. In fact he had to keep himself hidden from all human beings during his test of endurance.

Boy Scouts are not called upon to perform any such difficult tests, but they are expected to train themselves so that they will be capable of looking after themselves if necessary and if thrown on their own resources.

Scout Guests of Ontario Forests Departments

Ontario Scouts selected by Provincial Headquarters for special honors will be given a free week of camping and training in the Lake Timagami area, it was announced by the Hon. Wm. Finlayson, Minister of Lands and Forests, at the annual meeting of the Ontario Scout Association.

German Scouts Loyal to B.-P. Ideals

One of B.-P.'s last birthday gifts was a painting of a German Boy Scout, from the Deutsche Pfadfinderverband, the federation of German Scout associations. In presenting the picture Herr Plewe, German International Scout Commissioner, who was accompanied by the Secretary of the German Embassy, assured Lord Baden-Powell of the regard of German Scouts and of their earnest desire to work on the same lines as their brother Scouts of Britain and other countries.

Golfers to Wear Boy Scout Shorts

Boy Scout shorts and bare knees will be the 1933 style for male golfers. Official announcement to this effect was made by the International Association of Clothing Designers, in convention at Philadelphia.

Hon. Vincent Massey to Represent Canadian Scouts

The Hon. Vincent Massey, former Canadian Minister to Washington, will represent the Canadian General Council of the Boy Scouts Association at the annual meeting of the Boy Scouts of America, at Kansas City, Mo., in June.

Recruits to the ranks of the Lone Scouts of Ontario will be welcomed. All boys, between 12 and 18 years of age, are eligible to join, who are unable to become members of regularly organized Troops. The Lone Scout Department is operating for the special benefit of boys who live in small towns and villages or on rural routes. Why not find out more about it?

A letter to The Boy Scouts Association, Lone Scout Department, 330 Bay Street, Toronto 2, will bring you full particulars. Write to-day.—"Lone E."

Blackbirds and Spring

Dinah Lou has always maintained that a blackbird brings the spring. This opinion she doubtless borrowed from Ben King, as I distinctly remember being bribed, with an extra wedge of molasses pie, to read his verse to her. When a stanza made some special appeal, she would have me read it again and again, repeating each line after me. Then she would boldly appropriate a tune from one of her "camp-meeting" hymns, and set the words to music. Morning after morning, she musically asserted:

"down by mah cabin do'
Te sang an' flashed his wing,
An' Ah praise de Lawd ob glory,
Kaze mah blackbird fotch de spring."

Lucky and I had never been inclined to agree with her. We left that spring came in little ways—a few star-eyed bluets sprinkled through the grass, hepaticas and anemones in the woods. It was better that way, we decided. Half the pleasure in a change of season lay in watching the new one approach step by step—in going part way to meet it, and not in having it handed to you like a gift! It took days and days of rain to convince us that there might be something in Dinah Lou's theory.

Racing outside on the first sunny morning, we discovered several buds on the daffodils, and a sprinkling of bluets and yellow sorrel in the grass. In our bed of wild flowers which we had transplanted from the woods, from time to time, we found a single white violet open. A chattering noise made us look up and there in the mulberry tree sat a number of blackbirds, their iridescent heads gleaming in the sun. Lucy and I laughed. From out the kitchen window floated Dinah Lou's voice, chanting happily and triumphantly. "Ah praise de Lawd of glory, kaze mah blackbird fotch de spring!"—C.C.

The Lesson of King Canute

King Canutus, commonly called Knute, walking on the sea-sands near to Southampton, was extolled by some of his flattering followers, and told that he was a king of kings, the mightiest that reigned far or near; that both sea and land were at his command. But this speech did put the godly king in mind of the infinite power of God, by whom kings have and enjoy their power, and thereupon he made this demonstration to refell their flattery. He took off his cloak, and wrapping it round together, sate down upon it near to the sea, that then began to ow, saying: "Sea, I command thee that thou touch not my feet!" But he had not so soon spoken the word but the surging wave dashed him. He then, rising up and going back, said: "Ye see now, my lords, what good cause you have to call me a king, that am not able by my commandment to stay one wave. No mortal man, doubtless, is worthy of such an high name, no man hath such command, but one King which ruleth all. Let us honour Him, let us call Him King of Kings and Lord of all Nations. Let us not only confess, but also profess Him to be Ruler of the Heavens, Sea and Land."—From "Remains Concerning Britain," by William Camden (1605).

If we would build on a sure foundation in friendship, we must love our friends for their sake rather than our own.—Charlotte Bronte.

Glory is a shroud that posterity often tears from the shoulders of those who wore it when living.—Beranger.

Sunday School Lesson

March 19. Lesson XII—The Effects of Alcoholic Drinks—Proverbs 23: 29-32; Isaiah 28: 1-4; Daniel 5: 1-4. Golden Text—At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.—Proverbs 23: 32.

ANALYSIS.

I. A DRUNKARD'S CATECHISM, Prov. 23: 29-32.
II. A NATIONAL CANCER, Isaiah 28: 1-4.
III. A SLEEPING CENSOR, Daniel 5: 1-4.

I. A DRUNKARD'S CATECHISM, Prov. 23: 29-32.

Some one has named the Book of Proverbs a manual of conduct. It urges the virtues of perseverance, honesty, kindness, temperance. It warns against harmful habits, and emphasizes the value of wisdom.

By way of warning, the writer in today's passage gives in the question-and-answer method a vivid picture of a drunkard. Who is that fellow with his head between his hands, groaning, "Oh," "Alas"? (The Hebrew words translated in v. 29 as "woe" and "sorrow" are interjections not nouns.) The answer comes in verse 30: He is a drunkard—passing through the misery of returning sobermess. His interjections express the distress disaster, discord, self-reproach, disgust, disease—such as cirrhosis of the liver with dropsy, chronic inflammation of the stomach, fatty degeneration of the heart, and many other disorders frequently due, in whole or in part, to the slow poisoning of the continued use of alcohol.

Who is quarrelsome, complaining? The drunkard—who gets mad over nothing, wants to fight, then next day wonders how he broke his nose (wounds without cause).

Who has reddened eyes? The drunkard whose bleared eyes always "give him away"—the man who "seeks out" wine, v. 30. The ancient Romans used to make men drunk and then show them in all their disgusting ways as object lessons to their youth. "Seek out," in Hebrew, refers to one who diligently searches for knowledge. The writer expresses his contempt for the man who becomes fastidious in his tastes for "wines." If one wishes to be an expert, there are worthier fields of investigation open to him.

Verse 31 urges every one to keep out of temptation. It does not recommend a cowardly attitude to life, but it does say that temptation is not a thing to be met with a swagger. The man who deliberately walks into it is imperilling his own soul. Avoid the wine when it has the look that fools one; good color, sparkling, smooth texture ("moveth itself aright" means "runneth down smoothly").

No one, when he begins to drink, expects to become a drunkard. Therefore Proverbs adds, ultimately (at the last, v. 32) the drink, which now fascinates like a serpent, is also as poisonous.

II. A NATIONAL CANCER, Isaiah 28: 1-4.

They had always been hard drinkers in North Israel, and notoriously immoral. Fifty years before, Amos had hurled his denunciations upon them for their luxury and debauchery, see Amos 3: 12. 15; 4: 1; 6: 1, 6. Probably just previously to Isaiah's prophecy of doom, King Hoshea had made an alliance with the crafty ruler of Egypt and had revolted from Assyria. This political folly, together with the moral cancer of drink and all kinds of indulgence, was eating out the vitality of the nation. Its doom was certain.

In a figure of great beauty, Isaiah pictures Samaria with its ramparts, its white terraced streets, its circling towers rising about the surrounding valley, 1 Kings 16: 24. It reminds him of the proud head of a drunken reveler encircled with a wreath of flowers, v. 1. The long carousal now nearly over, they will soon be thrown to the ground.

The Lord will send his "mighty and strong one" (v. 2)—Assyria—to execute his wrath upon his disobedient children. In the wild sweep of hail, rain and torrent they ill be destroyed. In the universe there are great moral laws which cannot be broken with impunity. God is not mocked. Whatsoever a nation soweth, that shall it also reap. As quickly as June figs (a great delicacy) are eaten up, so will Samaria's destruction be accomplished, v. 4.

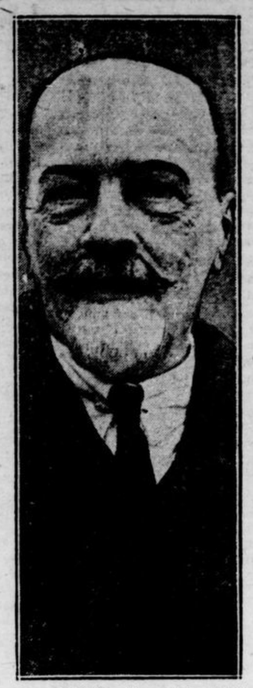
III. A SLEEPING CENSOR, Daniel 5: 1-4.

The Book of Daniel was written in a time of terrible persecutions, to encourage the Jews to hold loyally to their faith. The youth Daniel is held up as their example.

Chapter 5 tells of the great feast. Belshazzar drank and revelled even while the enemy was almost at the city gates. His pride caused him to disregard the court etiquette. It was usual for oriental kings to feast alone, or with only a few persons. Belshazzar feasted before a thousand, v. 1. With the Medes and Persians advancing against him, he cried, "Up with the cup, on with the dance!" Modern Belshazzars, surrounded by the gaunt spectres of economic chaos, poverty, misery, fail to hear the challenge of the times. Instead of devoting their available time and energy to averting tragedy, saving the suffering alleviating pain, clothing the naked, feeding the hungry, they give themselves to the usual round of silly social activities.

Not until he had tasted the wine did Belshazzar dare to profane the Temple vessels. Drink had weakened his faculty of self-criticism which tells a man that certain behavior is ungentlemanly or bad, such talk silly; which tells a girl that such conduct is unwomanly, or not becoming a nice girl. Science has revealed that the first thing a drink does is to send to sleep the censor who criticizes and therefore, controls our behavior. Belshazzar was still quite steady on his legs when he insolently, impiously advertised his badness and irreverence, v. 4. Continued drinking would soon affect his muscles. A man is drunk when his powers of self-control are diminished, even though there is no outward symptom. The British medical authorities, seeking a definition of drunkenness, say that a man is drunk when he is unable to perform safely the task in which he is engaged. Thus a man may be sober for walking purposes, but drunk for motor-car driving purposes.

Russian Duke Passes



Grand Duke Alexander of Russia, cousin of the late Czar Nicholas, passed away at Mentone, France, following a lengthy illness. He was 66.

Use the Jig-Saw Puzzle To Teach Geography

It has been suggested that the prevalent craze over jig-saw puzzles be put to a constructive purpose—that is, that instead of remaining a mere amusement and time-killer it be employed in the education of the people. The idea is that the puzzles be based on geography so that the devotees of the game may incidentally learn something about the physical features of their own and other countries. A start might be made with the scene of the dispute between China and Japan. This particular jig-saw puzzle might include Manchoukuo, Jehol and the contiguous parts of Northern China. It might be even extended to show the geographical relationship between Japan and the neighboring portions of the Asiatic continent into which the Japanese are making their present excursion despite the protests of the Lytton Commission and the League of Nations. Grownups as well as school children could thus become familiar with a portion of the world upon which the interest of mankind is now centred.—Toronto Mail & Empire.

THOUGHTS

Great men are they who see that spiritual is stronger than any material force; that thoughts rule the world.—Emerson.

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.

B. D.—I have some heavy clay and some black muck. The soil is sour. What kind of fertilizers would you put on this kind of land?

Answer—The first thing that is necessary is to see that the land is well drained. Next correct the sourness. In order to get at the correct amount of ground limestone or lime in other form that you should add, have your soil tested by the Reacto Soil test. Your Agricultural Representative has a supply of this test. If you are too far away from him, send a pint sample to the Dept. of Chemistry, O.A.C., and we will test it and will tell you the degree of acidity and how much lime will be necessary.

It is not only necessary to correct the acidity of the soil for the crops' sake, but if you add high phosphate or high potash fertilizers on a soil that is sour much of the phosphate and potash will be locked up in forms that are unavailable for plant use and you will not get the help from the fertilizers that you should expect.

The kind of fertilizers to use will, of course, depend upon what crops you are preparing to sow. For grain crops, if the soil is in fairly sweet condition and you do not have a supply of barn manure, it would be well to add about two bags of 2-12-6 per acre. If you have a supply of manure, in addition to the manure add about two bags per acre of 0-14-6 or 0-12-10. This fertilizer will not only help the grain crop including corn, but it will give the alfalfa or clover and timothy mixture that you sow a good strong start.

J. D. F.—1. How much have the prices of fertilizers and fertilizer materials been reduced since war time?

Answer—It is difficult to get definite figures that go back that length of time. However, we have succeeded in obtaining some and here they are:

Average Wholesale Dealers' Prices.

Year	5-8-7	2-12-2	16 Per Cent. Superphosphate
1914	$39.38	$26.98	$24.00
1919	99.25	54.93	41.63
1924	45.00	33.65	24.00
1932	35.80	26.46	17.40

By these you will see there is considerable reduction.

There is another matter to take into account. In 1921 Ontario farmers were buying 1-8-1 fertilizer at $48.50 a ton; 2-8-2 at $59.00; 2-8-4 at $65.50. In 1932 1-8-1 and 2-8-2 are barred from sale by the Dominion Fertilizer Act. 2-8-4 is quoted at $28.80.

Still another way to look at it,—a farmer in 1921 buying 1-8-1 at $48.50 was paying this amount of money for ten units of plant food. For one unit, then, he was paying $4.80. In 1932 he can buy a 2-16-6 fertilizer (24 units) for $38.75, or one unit for $1.62. Without multiplying illustrations, our point is that the higher analysis fertilizers that are now being sold provide the farmer wit' plant food at a great deal less cost per unit than he paid in pre-war or immediately post-war times.

2. Has fertilizer, in your opinion, come down in price corresponding to prices of farm crops?

Answer.—This question certainly cannot be answered in the affirmative if one has in mind the wheat crop, but for such crops as potatoes, sugar beets, tobacco, celery, onions and alfalfa, the margin between the prices of a decade ago and those that prevail at the present, is not so widespread. Fertilizers judiciously chosen can still be used with considerable profit on the crops we have named. If one takes into account the residual effect on the clover or alfalfa crops following wheat and barley, it is possible to use fertilizers with profit even at present prices of these cereals.

3. Do you think soybeans will be a profitable crop to grow in western Ontario?

Answer—There seems to be many indications that soybeans will fill an important place in the crops of the province. The soybean industries that are now in operation claim a large market for this grain and for the oil which is expressed from the beans. Tests show that soybean meal from which the oil has been expressed is a highly valuable source of protein for Ontario farms. The Field Husbandry Dept. of this institution has shown that good yields of high quality soybeans can be produced in Ontario.

4. What kind of fertilizer should I use on soybeans?

Answer—Little work has been done as yet regarding fertilizers on this crop, but indications are that a fertilizer fairly high in phosphate and carrying a medium amount of nitrogen and potash gives a vigorous growth of bean and a profitable increase of yield. Probably a 2-12-6 or a 3-10-5 fertilizer will do best on this crop at the rate of about two bags per acre.

R. P.—Would it still be profitable under present conditions and prices of grain and other farm crops, to buy good fertilizer?

Answer.—We have answered this question very largely above. We notice you mention "good fertilizer" by which we assume you mean medium high analysis fertilizers. Within limits the higher the analysis of fertilizer the cheaper is the price of plant-food per unit. But cheapness of plant-food units is not the only guide, of course, that one should exercise in choosing what fertilizers he needs. For instance, it would be folly to buy a high nitrogen, low phosphate and high potash fertilizer such as 5-8-7 for grain crops. For cereals, medium low nitrogen, high phosphate and medium potash is what is needed, such a fertilizer as 2-12-6 or 2-16-6. For root crops more nitrogen and potash with slightly less phosphate give good results. For instance, excellent returns have been realized in our fertilizer demonstration work from the use of 4-8-10 fertilizer on potatoes, applied at the rate of 750 lbs. per acre.

WARBLE GRUBS COMING UP.

These painful cattle pests are causing much suffering to many animals at this time of the year. Large live grubs under the skin and usually surrounded by pus, cannot be other than painful. A boil is painful to a human and likewise a warble grub is equally painful to a cow. A dressing applied to a warbly back, of some preparation that will kill the grubs and promote quick healing is a merciful and humane act. Mixtures of either orris powder or Pyrethrum powder with soap and water, one half pound of each to a gallon of water, will work wonders in giving relief to animals suffering from warble grub infestation. Many things can be used, with some good effect; as salt, tobacco, sulphur, or coal oil and pine tar. Watch closely and feel the backs of the cattle every week. The sooner the grub is treated, the less painful its presence will be to the animal. Dead grubs shrink and are then forced up out of the grub hole. Be kind to your cattle and rid their backs of the painful warble grubs. Every grub that you kill, will help reduce the number of flies that gad the cattle during the summer.

Lack of Vitamins Will Cause Soft Bones

Recent research has shown that diet is all-important in the early years of life. On it depend growth, sound teeth, strong bones, and a good digestion.

Mistakes in diet during childhood are not easily righted in later years, and some of the after-effects of bad feeding are incurable.

The deformities caused by rickets, for instance—bow legs and knock-knee are common examples—cannot be cured when the child is grown-up.

Lack of vitamin D, together with too little sunlight and exercise, are the principal factors concerned.

Milk, eggs, meat, vegetables and fresh fruit are five essential foods in childhood. The starches and sugars which fill up the gaps go to provide energy, but should not be given in excess.

Shortage of these important vitamins, A and D, which every growing child needs, can be made good by adding cod-liver oil to the diet.

A remarkable photograph of the Washington monument at the nation's capital snapped on Washington's birthday from an autogiro.

Night Flying Gaining U. S. Report Shows

More passengers are flying at night says Frank J. Carmody in a release from the Ullman Feature Service (Washington):

"Back in that period operators of various types of passenger service made much point of the fact that night flying was superior in many respects to daylight air travel. True some of the scenic advantages were sacrificed, but these were compensated by the increased smoothness of the air. It was recognized, however, that the argument carried too little conviction with the average man to give much hope for passenger-carrying after dark.

"Gradually, however, there came a change. Veteran daytime passengers in quest of something more novel in the way of aerial experience joined the mail pilots on their seemingly romantic hegira through the blackness of the night. They found it fascinating, smooth and safe.

"They discovered that following a night-lighted airway seemed to be a more simple, cut-and-dried process than navigation during the hours of daylight. Night flying was found too, to have the further virtue of compounding the airplane's speed advantage; a few-hour hop saving an overnight journey by other methods—or a single night's trip having the next business day intact.

"The result has been a steady growth in the number of passengers carried on night planes.

"A recent bit of evidence indicating that the passenger is entirely justified in his conviction of night flying's safety and utility is provided by one of the largest operators of such a service. For the fifth consecutive month he has completed his night-flying schedule 100 per cent."

Australia to Safeguard School Children

There will be more school patrols in Sydney, Australia, to ensure safety to children when leaving for their homes. he terrible number of children who are killed by motor cars and motor lorries has shocked the Australian Director of Education, and he will seek to reduce the figure. The fact that last year there were 8,200 street accidents to school children is sufficient to disturb the whole community. The heads of the Education Department derive some comfort from a comparison of the figures of previous years. They point out that in 1929 the accidents to school children in the streets numbered 8,700 and that therefore 1931 showed a reduction, contrasted with that year, of 500. In 1929 however, the accidents numbered less than 1,000 and an increase of 800 per cent. in six years is sufficiently dreadful to alarm all. A motor car speeding on its way, and temporarily hidden behind another car, is a menace met frequently. This, added to reckless and drunken drivers, means increasing danger not only to school children but to adults. It is believed that the school patrols, well drilled will save the lives of many children

Nature Note

A scientist has just discovered that plants grow better if the day is prolonged with artificial light. Further investigations prove that the plant which profits most from this treatment is the electric light plant.—London Punch.

FIDELITY

Fidelity in trifles, and an earnest seeking to please God in little matters is a test of real devotion and love.—Jean Nicolas Grou.

NATURE

The volume of Nature is the book of knowledge, and he becomes most wise who makes the most judicious selection.—Goldsmith.

MUTT AND JEFF— By BUD FISHER

Mrs. Mutt Takes Contract Bridge Seriously.

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