



ADVENTURE THAT'S SCOUTING!

★ Here's a ringing theme that is dedicated to the American boy and to every man who wants to help him. "Adventure — that's Scouting." It's the slogan for Boy Scout Week, to be celebrated throughout the land from February 6th to 12th, 1949. And it's more than that, — it's a wonderful watchword for the whole year.

There are all kinds of adventures — they range from rollicking fun to the serious moments in a ceremony: from a gay gang out on a hike, to the quiet companionship of a buddy; from the hard painstaking preparation for a demonstration, to the Big Show itself with its applauding throngs; from the unseen act of unselfish service, to the time when the whole unit is thanked for what they did when the "Emergency" came; from when a fellow's own gang first gives him a special job to do, to when he becomes a commissioned leader.

This theme belongs in the main stream of our thinking as we plan ahead.

Here's just a brief preview of some of the points

to be emphasized in the program:

1. *Adventure in Fun and Fellowship*

This year we're going to say "FUN" *out loud* and recognize that it has purpose and dignity. It's what every boy expects and must get.

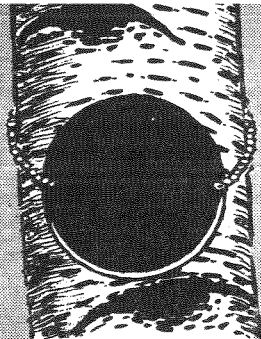
We'll place a high premium on fellowship too, and do all we can to create the environment for wholesome companionships, and for Senior Scouts of course, we include their girl friends.

2. *Adventure in the Out-of-doors* —

"Out with the Program." Out on the winding trailways where God has lavishly provided for those who would enjoy the freedom of the open, who would master the skills of the pioneer, explorer, woodsman or sportsman.

Here is where the basic skills of Scouting are best acquired and the soul satisfying experience of "rediscovery" becomes the goal and the right of every Scout.

(Continued on Page 31)



for SENIOR SCOUT LEADERS

← FOLLOW THIS TRAIL SIGN STARTING EACH ARTICLE

Christmas for Needy

Senior Scouting Service presents a Santa Claus Party For Needy Children* as the first of a series of packaged Unit programs. Like those to come, this outline is specific and comprehensive enough to definitely guide your thinking on the subject and yet not limit it. The program should be readily adaptable by the average Post, Ship, Squadron, or Outfit to fit local needs. See what your Unit can do with these programs — and then send us stories and pictures of the results.

In these times of booming prosperity do you think it's corny to talk about less-chance children and what one can do for them at Christmas time? Fact is that there is more boom than prosperity for most people. While there is a record low of unemployment, there is a record high of prices, and that makes thin pocketbooks for millions of families.

Little Johnny and Sally in these families don't understand the economics of the situation, and they won't know whether we're talking corny, but they will know it's a sad Christmas if people of good will don't do something for them.

As young men of good will, your Seniors are a group especially suited — regardless of lack of experience in entertaining youngsters — to do that something. If they bring this outline to life, Christmas will be far happier for more than the Johnnys and Sallys who take part.

I. At the three months' program planning meeting the Service Committee suggests a Santa Claus Party for less-chance children.

A. At a children's home on an evening just before Christmas with games, fruit, candy and presents.

B. For one family of small children at their home on Christmas Eve or early Christmas morning. Surprise to the children (not the parents) could be the highlight of this program.

C. For several selected children at the Unit meeting place. It's usually best to select your group from a list supplied by a church or a welfare agency. Avoid duplicating what some other group will do.

Let's decide this is to be for a selected group at the Unit meeting place. This gives the Unit more

**Hanukkah (The Festival of Lights) which occurs this year on December 27, is the opportunity for Senior Units of Jewish Scouts to give a party for less-chance children. Suggestions are given on pages 31-35 of the program guide, Jewish Holidays (Cat. No. 3621).*

control of the setting, decorations, the number to be invited, and the program. The other types of parties may serve best in other instances.

D. *When?* For young children, six and under, an afternoon program is much preferable. For those six to ten, a short evening program may have a more gala atmosphere. Christmas Eve is the most appropriate time for the party, but since many Scouts will plan to be with their families that evening, let's select December 23 at 7:00 P.M.

E. *Who is going to be responsible?* Although the Service Committee probably presents the suggestion it may be a joint responsibility with the Indoor Committee. The Service Committee takes major responsibility with the Indoor Committee. The Service Committee takes responsibility for collecting, repairing or making toys. The Indoor Committee takes charge of decorations and program.

F. *Cost?* The cost of a good party depends on the number of children and how the toys are secured. The toys, collected in advance, repaired and painted at a small cost, make an interesting work project for all the Seniors.

II. With the above plans approved by the Unit, the Committee completes the following at least two weeks in advance:

A. The Service Committee makes a collection of toys, books and games either on a neighborhood basis or through the sponsoring institution. Another way may be a Saturday morning show with a neighborhood theatre, or borrow 16mm. movie equipment and select a good film for children. Their admission is a used toy that can be repaired.

A house to house collection in a neighborhood is good if announced in advance, so toys can be gathered without bothering the homemakers.

The Committee schedules the Scouts to repair and paint toys. Have the entire collection and repair job completed so the decision can be made as to how many children to invite.

If the Committee prefers, it may run a money making project and buy new toys, candy, fruit and refreshments.

The Service Committee gets the names, ages and other information (such as a Santa letter) for the children who are to be guests. Wrap and label each gift separately so each child's name will be called more than once.

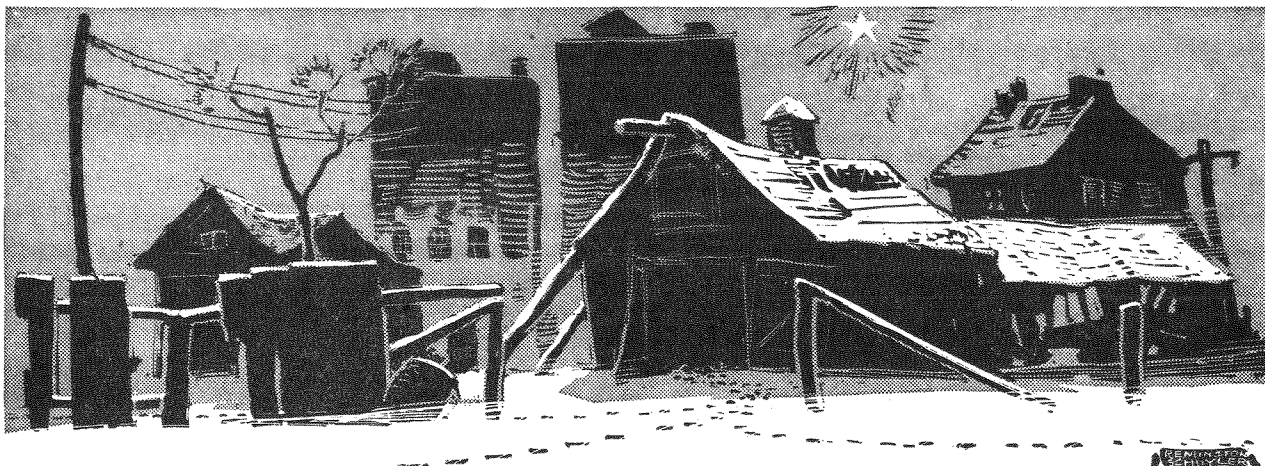
Have Christmas tree and meeting place deco-

Kids

The crowd is seated in a circle with no vacant chairs. The player who is without a chair starts walking around the circle telling a story about Santa filling up his pack before starting on his journey. "He put in a pretty little doll, a Scout knife," etc. As he mentions the names of articles the children bearing those names get up and follow him around the circle putting hands on the shoulders of the person immediately preceding. When the player who is telling the story mentions "Reindeer," each player makes an effort to get a chair, the storyteller among them. The player left without a chair starts another story.

7:00 P.M. — Opening Ceremony

Invite a Den of Cub Scouts in uniform to head the group in a Cub ceremony and a few songs.



rated. A "woody" Christmas motif may be chosen by Explorer or Outfit Scouts, a tree on the deck of the landship by Sea Scouts, and the Air Scouts may have a Santa arrive by airplane.

B. The Indoor Committee has all invitations delivered two weeks in advance.

Make the invitations colorful and Scout-like. Cut out green paper trees on folded paper, with invitations inside.

Select a good children's game leader. A Scout who has been a Den Chief may do well.

If possible, invite a nurse or a couple of mothers who understand young children to be hostesses.

Have the Program Committee's plan for the complete schedule finished. This Committee may want to invite a group of Senior Girl Scouts or other young ladies to work with them if both boys and girls will be guests.

The program may be as follows for children, six to ten:

6:30 to 7:00 P.M. — Pre-opening informal games and jaw breakers.

1. Pinning on Santa's Pack. The old game of pinning on the Donkey's tail adapted. The one who pins in his pack most nearly correct, wins a prize. As the guests arrive, each should make a try.

2. Santa's pack. Give all the players the names of certain things that would likely be in Santa's pack — doll, horn, knife, candy, orange, gun, tie, etc.

7:15 — Movies

A short Christmas movie such as:

"Christmas Time in Toy Land," color cartoon, 1 reel, 10 minutes, rental \$3.00; "Pop's Christmas," B & W Cartoon, 1 reel, 10 minutes, rental \$1.50; available from Association Films (Y.M.C.A. Motion Picture Bureau), 347 Madison Ave., New York 17, N. Y.; 19 S. LaSalle St., Chicago 3, Ill.; 351 Turk St., San Francisco 2, Cal.; 3012 Maple Ave., Dallas 4, Tex.

7:45 — Christmas Songs

Use good song leader or records.

8:00 — Santa Arrives

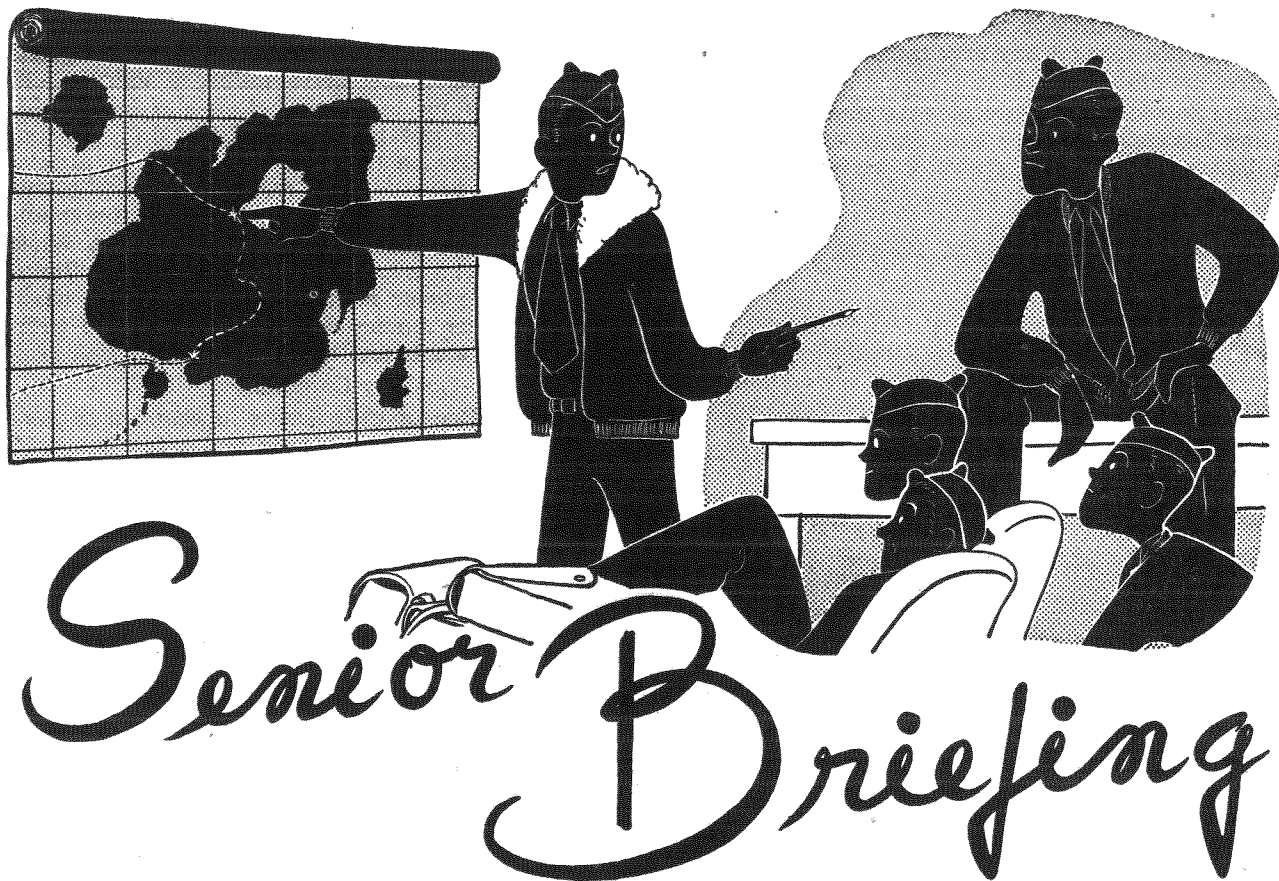
With large sack of fruit and candy. Distribute presents from tree by name. Give out fruit and candy. Fun with toys.

9:00 — Cub Scouts lead in closing ceremony.

III. On the day of the Party the Committee does these things:

The Indoor Committee will complete decorations and place presents around tree. Make last minute check on program items, movie projector, phonograph and records, game leader, etc.

The Service Committee will have guests picked up either in private cars or a bus from where they live. They will see that return transportation is available. They will assist Indoor Committee on program, and see that everyone has fun!



Senior Briefing

COLD FACTS

● Nine National Staff members were the "guinea pigs" a year ago last January in "Operation Zero," a week of snow-camping training at Saranac Lake, New York. The thermometer dropped down to 33° below, so it was real stuff.

Despite considerable previous experience, they learned plenty from their instructors, who had trained Arctic flyers in survival techniques during the war.

The aim of the expedition was to develop practical knowledge for Senior Unit and Troop camping. The results are found in a report, *Operation Zero*, a limited number of copies of which are available, one per Unit, from the Scouting Services, 2 Park Avenue, New York 16, New York.

A few of the cold facts from the report, quoted below, should be helpful to your Seniors in their own snow camp. The school vacation between the holidays offers time for such rugged experience.

A series of programs, each fun in itself, can be run during the winter months, gradually toughening and training Seniors to stand a survival camp in midwinter. Here is a suggested schedule:

1. Skating, skiing, and snowshoeing parties, nature trips, and winter picnics near home.
2. Recreational activities at Council camp, using

the permanent building as a base.

3. Several days at the Council camp with special attention to living in tents and shelters.

4. Camping where no permanent shelter exists, using tents, equipment, and accumulated knowledge on how to live comfortably.

5. Camping in improvised shelters, lean-to's, snow caves, snow houses.

6. Experience in construction and use of emergency methods of survival with minimum equipment.

The Operation Zeroists found that just the process of living in the open under snow and ice conditions, securing wood, cooking, washing, housekeeping in the open, became interesting in itself, and lacked the routine of camping in warm weather. Problems created by low temperatures and snow were unusual, and solving them became quite a game.

Yet the men felt that soon just the idea of camping in the cold wouldn't be sufficiently attractive and that emphasis should be placed on its recreational aspects — fishing, nature, skating, skiing, snowshoeing, tracking and trailing.

For help in your experiments on acquiring "snowhow," look up the local "Stefanssons" and "Brownes." You'll find them among hunters, trappers, ski troop and flyer veterans. Further help is available from the sound film "Winter Camping," which you can rent through your Local Council.

Some of the unusual facts among many learned by the Operation Zeroists follow:

Two-piece underwear is better than one-piece so that one may be removed without the necessity of complete undressing.

Socks should be worn inside of boots and not extend up the leg or turned down over boot tops. This prevents their becoming wet from snow and thus cooling the feet.

The parka is better than most outer jackets since it allows free circulation of air, removing moisture that otherwise would be cooling.

If boots can't be dried thoroughly, let them freeze. They will still be warm when worn with dry inner soles and socks."

The best way for trapping heat in a tent or shelter is to have a roof at about a 45 degree angle. This will reflect the heat downward. Even with a reflector type of fire, the wall in back of you reflects more heat than the reflector on the other side of the fire.

The three basic factors in keeping warm are:

1. Insulation of body warmth by dressing so dead air space exists both in and between garments.
2. Reduction of circulation of this dead air by wearing a water-repellent, wind resistant outer garment.
3. Keeping dry; avoiding dampening of garments by moisture which conducts heat away from the body.

RESERVATIONS

The Indians aren't the only ones who need reservations. Senior Scouts who want to go to Philmont in 1949 had better start planning and making reservations now.

There are 127,000 acres on this New Mexican ranch, owned and operated by the Boy Scouts of America. But accommodations such as horses, chuck wagons, burros, and bunk houses are not unlimited; they are assigned on a first reserved first served basis. The 1948 summer season was a sellout, and 1949 unquestionably will be, probably long before it opens on June 5th.

As a rough indication of costs, let's look at two groups of Seniors who had this high adventure last summer. One group from New York made the trip by train at a total cost of about \$150 per Scout. Another from Florida made it in school buses, with a side trip to Yellowstone National Park thrown in, for \$100. It all depends on the size of your group, how it travels, what it does at Philmont, and the efficiency of Unit management.

Next season the ranch trips will run on the basis of "outfits" of ten scouts and an adult advisor each. The outfit application fee will be \$20. The costs per Scout of the various trips are given below.

25 Cavalcades (3 for fathers and sons), 7 days, by horseback with pack string, \$35.

19 Kit Carson Treks, 8-15 days, backpacking, \$15-\$19.

23 Wagon Trains, 25 days, burro packing and horseback, \$65.

54 Expeditions, 14 days, burro packing, \$35.

3 Explorations, 14 days, field work in forestry, geology, wild life management, engineering, \$15.

Optional arrangements for Unit or Council camping may be made with the ranch management.

Philmont literature, a brand new movie, and application blanks may be obtained through your Council office. Get them now, and start planning, raising money, and making a reservation.

LOST

"Br-r-r-ing! Br-r-r-ing!" went the party line, and down came the receiver — or receivers. And this is what Mrs. Hanson at the farm end of the line said to her sister in town.

"Little Johnny Perkins is lost out here in Big Marsh. They've got a sheriff's posse, the volunteer firemen, and the Senior Scouts out looking for him."

". . . and the Senior Scouts . . ." Let someone, young or old, be lost in any part of these United States, and soon the Scouts are called, with Senior Scouts generally counted on as men because they are huskier and have better judgement than their younger brothers.

Hunting, fishing, camping, and picknicking seasons are "favorite" times for people to get lost. That is when folks venture into strange territory. This they are doing in increasing numbers as they have more money for cars and recreation trips.

Your Senior Unit can perform a community service by preparing to operate intelligently in possible searches for lost persons. You may even help to educate officials and other groups in this task if you approach them tactfully.

This preparation has been clearly outlined in the pamphlet *Lost* published by the Boy Scouts of America in cooperation with the American Children's Fund. A free copy is available to your Unit through the Local Council.

Contributors to this study of the subject made by Fred C. Mills, National Director of Scouting Services, are the F.B.I. director, state police, a public safety director, foresters, and Scouters experienced in the lost "business."

Here are a few of the questions they answer. Why do some lost persons try to hide or run away from their rescuers? Do small children act differently than old folks do when lost? What methods of signaling between searchers are used? What equipment should be carried? Are night searches useless? What are the straight-line, diagonal, staggered, and radial methods of searching?

The pamphlet is the most complete printed collection of ideas on the subject. The local sheriff or police chief might appreciate seeing it after your Unit has used it.

"Operation Missing Parachutist" described in the pamphlet is a training project that guarantees action and should be fun. Get *Lost*, free of charge from your Council.

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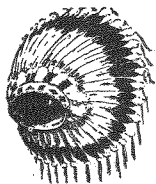
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Adventure

(Continued from Page 6)

3. Adventure in Special Events

Everybody loves a big show — all ages of Scouts get a thrill in performing. Let's put Scouting on display in every crossroads village, town and city. Showmanship and action with a purpose is our aim.

4. Adventure in Citizenship

Tangible acts of Service, and good citizenship, locally or world-wide, will be an important part of the total "Report to the Nation" to be featured again next year. Get ready for this report by recalling your service projects in 1948 and prepare your unit for the adventures in citizenship to come, by planning proper emphasis on community and world responsibility in your planning for 1949.

5. Adventure in Leadership.

The Unit leader, isn't he grand! Then we ought to say so! We'll do just that by providing an opportunity for parents, community leaders and all citizens who have the welfare of youth in their hearts to publicly acclaim these great men in Scouting.

In your own Unit you have the same opportunity to "build up" your leaders, your assistants and junior leaders. Their work deserves public expression of appreciation, and will be better for it.

Leadership activity is one of the best adventures offered in Scouting. It's full of satisfaction and it pays big dividends.

Next month you'll have more details, but perhaps you'll want to dream a bit about ways to make our 39th birthday a big success.

Planning can be an adventure, too.

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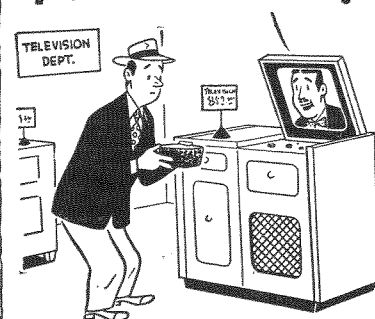
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