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With Maui's Girl Scouts

Swimming For Girl Scouts

(William Longfellow, of the American Red Cross.)

"It is a fine thing to have the Girl Scouts committed to a wholesome outdoor program, which emphasizes swimming as a vital factor. If every Girl Scout were a trained swimmer the influence in eliminating drownings throughout the United States would be amazing. A group of a tenth of a million people working toward any one end can accomplish wonders, and this effort exerted toward the elimination of drowning, would have special effectiveness.

"The Girl Scouts have taken definite stand on the encouragement of life saving efficiency of officers and girls. It is one thing to be in favor of a certain policy and it is something else again to be able to do anything about it, to prove you are in favor of it. It is not so difficult for Girl Scouts in Summer camps, to voice their approval of a universal swimming program, but as soon as fall, with its chilly winds and congealing waters comes upon us, with a return to school, then it is not easy to swim regularly and regularly to receive swimming instructions, and to practice faithfully, all of which is necessary if one is to be at home in the water as on land.

"If we are to be prepared for the hazards of an out of door program summer and winter, we must swim regularly, every month in the year, under the best sort of coaching.

"You know a swimming pool without swimming instructor is apt to cause unsupervised swimmers to lose their technique and develop bad water habit. By bad habits I mean faults of breathing and stroke a swimmer cannot recognize herself. One thoroughly trained coach on the edge of the tank can keep the whole tank full of people swimming correctly and constantly improving. That is one reason why we find the modern teacher coaching from the bank instead of from the water, where only one swimmer at a time can be taught and then not very effectively, because the teacher is too close to see the faults in the stroke."

(To Be Continued.)

News of the Troops

Many of the troops have disbanded during the Christmas holidays though some are holding their regular meetings. A few reports have come in.

Keokea

"Keokea, Dec. 16

"Dear Miss Seibert: "Our last meeting held at the school house on Dec. 13, in which a Girl Scout Christmas play was suggested. "The girls are working hard on their tests and many had passed it. "There will be no meetings during Christmas vacation. Wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

"HANNAH FONG, "Secretary of Calla Lily Troop."

Bird of Paradise, Troop 16

"Picnic at Maliko

"On Thursday afternoon, the Girl Scouts of the Bird of Paradise and Morning Glory Troops went out for a picnic with Captain Buell. Captain Johnson and several girls of both troops were not able to go.

"The Morning Glory Troop and their captain started at 2:00 p. m., and we, half an hour later.

"When we reached Maliko, the first thing we did, was to look for a place. After selecting a lovely spot, we began to make our salad. Some of the girls cut up the fruits, apples, bananas, pineapples and papayas, while the other girls went around looking for water and wood.

Soon a fire was started and potatoes were put in to cook. Zona Hansen started the fire and so she passed her fire and cooking tests.

"While we were working and chattering, we suddenly heard a whistle. We knew it was Miss Seibert and so some of the girls went to meet her. We were very glad to have her with us.

"After the salad was finished, we had our pictures taken. Then salad, mayonnaise dressing and sandwiches (girls brought from home) were served. We did not take any spoons with us and so the big butcher knife was used as a spoon. But we did have enough forks with us.

"While we were eating Miss Seibert

told us what some of the other troops were doing.

"After eating, we picked up the papers, put out the fire, packed up the dishes and started for home.

"When we got to the school several of the girls washed the dishes because we borrowed them from the cafeteria.

"We all had a lovely time and hope that Captain Johnson and the other girls will be able to go with us next time.

"The Bird of Paradise Troop sends Christmas Greetings to all the other troops.

"MARGARET TAM WONG."

Maunaolu Seminary

Maunaolu Seminary, Dec. 18.

"Dear Miss Seibert:

"Saturday about half past two, the Cup of Gold and Pakalana Troop left the school for a hike. The supper was prepared by the two captains, Vincent and Collins with the help of some of the girls. Each girl carried her own supper.

"We intended to hike a road supposed to lead to Haiku, but to our surprise we reached Hamakuapoko. There were cows on the way but we kept away from them as much as possible for some of us were frightened when some cows were driven towards us. When we came near a fence we were glad.

"Near Hamakuapoko the two captains asked if we were tired. We said we were not and suggested we hike on to the Maliko gulch.

"Two of the girls called on relatives at Hamakuapoko and then we started on again.

"We reached Maliko gulch about four o'clock. We did not go down into the valley but we sat on the hill near the Maliko bridge. Some of the girls had not seen the bridge before so we were glad that we were there.

"The girls liked to hear the echo and then all would laugh. The girls remembered a story told by Rev. Mr. DeKay of the "Golden Gloves."

"We were there not very long when two men crossed the bridge. Some of the girls were so excited for fear the men might fall from the bridge and it was nearing the time for the train to arrive. They had not seen any one cross that bridge before. Finally the train did arrive and all watched it cross the bridge. One of the girls said "Miss Collins, where does the train sleep" which made all of us laugh.

"After resting awhile we had our supper and then some of the girls hiked on down for ferns. Leis were made before we left. The Maliko gulch is certainly a beautiful place to hike.

"We took the long road coming home and stopped to see the Maui High School.

"The girls screamed, laughed, sang songs and played on the way. We rested several times before we reached the school.

"It was dark when we came home but we all found the right trail and we reached home about 6:45 after walking about nine miles.

"The girls took baths and later attended the Maunaolu entertainment. No one complained of being tired.

"DOROTHY B. KALOA, "Scribe Pakalana Troop 9.

Girl Scout Film

Tickets are now being sold by the various troops. The picture will begin showing on Maui, January 3rd. Watch the paper for the schedule.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!

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