

# News and Gossip of Interest to the Boy Scouts of the District and Vicinity

## TENDERFOOT SCOUTS TAKE EXAMINATIONS

### Interesting Tests Are Given to Fifty-five Boys on Top of Big Rosslyn Hill.

In the pungent smell of wood fires and broiling steaks was wafted to your nostrils by the sharp breeze yesterday, bringing a momentary vision of autumnal camps and hunting expeditions, you have to thank the fifty-five tenderfoot Boy Scouts who took their second class examinations atop of the big hill in Rosslyn.

From the time two buglers from Troop No. 41 sounded the assembly at 10 o'clock in the morning until the last fire had been doused in mid-afternoon, the biggest class of candidates ever put through a test at one time in Washington was kept busy showing their proficiency in scoutcraft.

A brief talk by Mr. Scott preceded the examinations, and he admitted he was surprised at the showing made by the boys, whose balances ran all the way from \$1 to \$75. He commended particularly on boys whose books showed regular frequent deposits, however small the amount.

Corporal Colpice and private Sterling, of battery F, and Corporal Carl and Private Bible of battery D, Third Field Artillery, next took charge of the scouts and gave them their tests in signaling, the boys being divided in four troops and each troop was given a particular test.

First of all came the test in hand signals, inspected by Dr. W. H. Leonard, acting field commissioner. Scoutmaster, Merritt Esari, of Troop No. 31, I. Ya Priest, of Troop No. 8, and C. E. Wise, of Troop No. 32, attended to other features of the work.

Head Scout Appetite.

Commissioner Martin kept an eye on what everybody was doing, but he did not pass on the work of any of the scouts until their fires were going. The staling of meat in the frying pans or as it hung over the coals was too much for him, and he paroled of a dozen choice bits "to see if they were done enough."

"Every piece I tasted was cooked, to a turn and potatoes were just right," said the Commissioner. "It came in at just the right time for a busy morning out in the open had given me a regular appetite."

Many of the scouts, having read in their manual that the meat and potatoes must be cooked in a certain way, but Commissioner Martin ruled that a frying pan might be used, as provided in the scoutmaster's manual. This did not make any particular difference, however, as no one failed on this test, and many scouts hold that they had rather have their meat cooked without the use of the tin.

Where They Built Fires.

An old golf bunker right on the crest of the hill furnished shelter for a dozen fires, while other scouts scattered through the edge of the timber where they were nearer a good fuel supply.

Fred C. Reed, Raymond Scagg, and other first class scouts of wide acquaintance, were present from 8:30 a. m. and gave some expert advice to the tenderfoot scouts. About the last of the tests was the test in signaling, which was given by Scoutmaster Taylor, in charge of Troop No. 47, climbed the hill. They were hailed with shouts and whistles from the different troops, joined them in a hike to Chain Bridge, which took up the rest of the afternoon.

## Examines Bank Books.

The first examination came when the boys were drawn up in lines four deep and President Nathan B. Scott, former Senator from West Virginia, examined their bank books to see that each boy had at least \$1 on deposit, earned by himself, as required by the scout law for second class scouts.

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## When and Where Boy Scouts Will Meet This Week

- Troop No. 10—Friday night, November 1, 8:30 to 10:30, at Ninth Street Christian Church, T. R. Pirie, scoutmaster.
- Troop 15—Thursday night, November 6, 7:30, at Ingram Memorial Church, Tenth and Massachusetts avenue northwest, I. W. Parlin, scoutmaster.
- Troop 17—Friday night, November 7, 7 o'clock, at Western Presbyterian Church, H street northwest, W. I. Simpson, scoutmaster.
- Troop 21—Saturday night, November 8, 7 o'clock, at Episcopal Parish Hall, Takoma Park, F. L. Harries, scoutmaster.
- Troop 22—Friday night, November 7, 7 o'clock, at Eighth and I streets northeast, C. Hackett, acting scoutmaster.
- Troop 24—Tuesday night, November 4, 7 o'clock, at Congress Heights, for quiz lesson, Scoutmaster.
- Troop 25—Thursday night, November 6, 7 o'clock, bugle and life lessons; Friday night, 7 o'clock, hand drill. The Rev. Merritt Esari, scoutmaster.
- Troop 26—Monday night, November 4, 7:30, at Naval Battalion for drill; Thursday night, 7 o'clock, quiz lesson; place to be announced, W. L. Woodward, scoutmaster.
- Troop 28—Friday night, November 7, 7:30, in one of the parlors of the Public Library, C. W. Killian, scoutmaster.
- Troop 32—Friday night, November 7, 7:30, at Iowa Avenue 30 E. Church, Tenth and Emerson northwest, The Rev. Clarence E. Wise, scoutmaster.
- Troop 33—Friday night, November 7, 7 o'clock, United Presbyterian Church, Georgia and New Hampshire avenues, Nelson A. Carter, scoutmaster.
- Troop 35—Friday night, November 7, 7 o'clock, at the home of the scoutmaster, 184 Kalorama road, Vernon Bailey, scoutmaster.
- Troop 36—Friday night, November 7, 7:30, at Kenilworth Church, Kenilworth, Captain E. Zettl, scoutmaster.
- Troop 40—Thursday night, November 6, 7:30, at Epiphany Chapel, Twelfth and C streets southwest, C. N. Filkins, scoutmaster.
- Troop 41—Friday night, November 7, 7:30, at the home of scoutmaster Jones, Bethesda, Md. E. E. Jones, scoutmaster.
- Troop 47—Thursday night, November 6, 7:30, at the home of scoutmaster Jones, Bethesda, Md. E. E. Jones, scoutmaster.
- Troop 1, Capitol Heights—Friday night, November 7, 7:30, at headquarters of the troop, Capitol Heights, E. H. Stanton, scoutmaster.

## These 41 Boys Are Now Second Class Scouts

Forty-one of the fifty-five boys who took the second-class examinations passed and are now second class Scouts. Signaling and oral first aid proved a stumbling block for the most of the remaining fourteen, and a little more study on these subjects will enable them to pass the examinations the first Saturday in December.

- Those who passed yesterday are:
- Troop No. 4: Percy Darcy, Roland Davis, Edward Brown, Barton White, Morris Weger.
  - Troop No. 5: Robert Peet, John Wood.
  - Troop No. 21: William Krohl, Ira Evans, Danola Stewart, Benjamin Davis.
  - Troop No. 24: Edward Richardson, George McKenna, Melvin Weisbrod.
  - Troop No. 25: Gracie T. Smallwood, Allen R. Whittington, Harold Walker.
  - Troop No. 26: Earl Kaestner, Carl Dwyer, Albert Fischer, Herbert Lugan, R. Roger Lugan, C. M. Fischer, A. D. Etienne.
  - Troop No. 29: Rodney Dennett.
  - Troop No. 40: Raymond Bauer, William Clammer, Raymond Norris.
  - Troop No. 42: Percival Hall, Jr.
  - Troop No. 43: Leroy Deitz.
  - Troop No. 48: Walter Earnshaw, Harry Stone, Reginald E. Lyon, Norman Blenkinship.
  - Troop No. 56: Earl Hasen, Alfred Sherser, Leonard Padgett.
  - Troop No. 51: Edward Pardoe, Vernon Roberts.
  - Troop No. 52: A. King Ridgeway, Truman Gensler.

## SCOUT LETTERS

### TROOP AND CAMP NEWS

Reported by the boys themselves, telling of their hikes, meetings, and various scout craft activities in which they are particularly interested.

To the Scout Editor:

Scout Commissioner Martin was the guest of Troop No. 24 last Tuesday night, and complimented us on our clubhouse and our drum and bugle corps.

On Thursday evening we took a "night hike" out to Good Hope Hill, and found it a very fine experience. First Class Scout Raymond Scagg, of Troop No. 42, was our guest on Thursday last week and spent the evening with us in various features of scoutcraft, and on Friday night we had a Halloween party. We roasted apples and sweet potatoes, and had a great time generally. SCOUT SCRIBER, Troop No. 24.

To the Scout Editor:

Troop No. 1 is giving a series of interesting lectures every other Friday at our headquarters, the Y. M. C. A., under the supervision of Dr. Ashley, our scoutmaster. We cordially invite every other troop to attend these meetings, providing one week's notice is given.

We are now trying to lease a piece of property on the Potomac about half a mile below the Chain Bridge, the site of old Camp Coffin. We have a large house which contains accommodations for fifteen boys, and we intend moving this to the new site if the lease is procured. Several scouts went up to Camp Coffin last week and spent two nights in the open, despite the cold. All had sleeping bags, and a big fire made the night very comfortable.

Mr. Martin, our new assistant scoutmaster, has stepped into the shoes of our old scoutmaster, Mr. Esari, very gracefully. A few of the troop will spend the Thanksgiving holiday at Colonial Beach, Va., and expect to make some excursions to the surrounding country, which is very rough.

CLEON THIBBETMORTON, Scout Troop, Troop No. 1.

To the Scout Editor:

A very enthusiastic meeting of this reorganized troop composed of the scouts of this troop and several others, was held at St. Andrew's Parish Hall on Fourteenth street last Thursday evening. Scoutmaster Taylor stated that he was greatly gratified at the response to a letter sent each scout early in the week asking every scout to present in uniform at this meeting. Twenty-five reported out of twenty-eight—a good showing. Mr. Taylor gave an outline of what he expected the troop to accomplish during the coming winter and what he hoped to be able to do for the troop. The officers of the troop as reorganized are as follows:

Scoutmaster, Mr. Hugh L. Taylor and Mr. Arnold Gumbell; Assistant Scoutmaster, Mr. Wise, president, Chauncey Brown; secretary, Elmer McCombe; treasurer, Terrell Henderson.

There will be three patrols as follows: Black Hawk Patrol, Chauncey Brown, leader; Harold Hursh, assistant; Golden Eagle Patrol, (others not chosen); Lightning Patrol, Donald Herron, leader; Fred Livermore, assistant.

Meetings will be held every Thursday. The troop will have four buglers and probably a drum corps later on.

SCOUT SCRIBER TROOP NO. 47.

To the Scout Editor:

It was a big Halloween for Troop No. 21 last Friday night, and we enjoyed it all the more because the program was a surprise to us.

We met at the home of Scoutmaster Harries and were taken by him to the home of Assistant Scoutmaster Gorman. On the way we were "held up" by masked cowboys who captured the tenderfoot scouts and initiated them. At the home of Mr. Gorman we found our instructors from the naval battalion awaiting us, dressed in costume. Petty Officers Miller and Nutty were made up as a colored couple, and Officers McMahon and Rooney as new scoutmaster and wife.

In a jiffy, a marshmallow roast, a jungle hunt with a costume parade, a bonfire, Howard Gaitley took first prize, being dressed as a girl in red. Lowell Davis as an old lady was second. The jungle hunt was won by Dennis E. Aleson, with Donald Stewart second.

Our regular "week end" was held on Sunday afternoon and drill was held in the dory and speed boat. D. C. M. Monday night Scoutmaster Harries and some of the scouts decorated the Takoma Lodge Masonic Hall for the grand visitation, so the school at the Takoma Lodge was in charge of Mr. Gorman. When the grand visitation was held on Tuesday night the Masons gave a vote of thanks for having decorated the hall. The said "It had never been done so well before."

Six of our scouts expect to pass their second class examinations this week, and if they do this we will have only two tenderfoot scouts in our troop.

SCOUT SCRIBER, TROOP NO. 21.

## President Nathan B. Scott of Continental Trust Co. Examining Bank Books of Candidates for Second Class Scouts



## Post Cards Illustrate 12 Points of Scout Law

A new series of twelve post cards, all printed in color and each illustrating one of the points of the Scout Law, has been received by Commissioner Martin, and now decorate the wall above his desk. On each card a scout is shown rendering some characteristic service, and the drawings are unusually well done.

The twelve paragraphs of the Scout Law, which cover the entire range of the scout movement, are:

"A Scout is trustworthy: A Scout's honor is to be trusted. If he violates his honor by talking a lie or by cheating, or by not doing exactly a given task when he is trusted on his honor, he may be directed to hand over his Scout badge."

"A Scout is loyal: He is loyal to all to whom loyalty is due: his Scout leader, his home, his parents and his country."

"A Scout is helpful: He must be prepared at any time to save life, help injured persons, and share the household. He must do at least one good turn to somebody every day."

"A Scout is friendly: He is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout."

"A Scout is courteous: He is polite to all, especially to women, children, old people, and the weak and helpless. He must take care for being helpful or courteous."

"A Scout is kind: He is a friend to animals. He will not kill nor hurt any living creature needlessly, but will strive to save and protect all harmless life."

"A Scout is obedient: He obeys his parents, scoutmaster, patrol leader, and all other duly constituted authorities and all other duties connected with his Scout life."

"A Scout is cheerful: He is cheerful in every circumstance. He is prompt and cheerful in his work, and he never grumbles at hardship."

"A Scout is thrifty: He does not wantonly destroy property. He wastes nothing, and he uses his opportunities to earn his money so that he may be able to help others in need. He is generous to those in need, and he helps to every object, and he works for pay, but he must not receive tips for courtesies or good turns."

"A Scout is brave: He has the courage to face danger in spite of his standing, up for the right, and in the face of threats of enemies, defeat, or death."

"A Scout is clean: He keeps a clean body and thought; he stands for clean speech, clean sport, clean habits, and the truth with a clean crew."

"A Scout is reverent: He is reverent toward God, his father, his mother, his religious duties, and respects the opinions of others in matters of religion."

These twelve laws are but an elaboration of the Scout Oath, to which every boy must subscribe before he becomes a Scout. The oath is: "I do my duty to God and my Country, and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; and to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight."

## Champion of World Making Fire Without Matches



FRED C. REED.

## WANTS SCOUTS' AID FOR POSTAL BANKS

Postoffice Department Head Sets Forth Possibility For Co-operation in Letter.

How the Postoffice Department and the Boy Scouts of America may cooperate for their mutual benefit is set forth in a letter from postmaster General Albert Sidney Burleson to James E. West, chief scout executive, explaining the postal savings system.

The Cabinet officer suggests that every scout spread this news among the boys and girls with whom he comes in contact, saying that will be one way of living up to their pledge to "do a good turn." The letter is dated at Mr. Burleson's office in the postoffice building in Washington, and reads:

"My dear Mr. West:

"Your letter inviting me to explain the postal savings system to the Boy Scouts of America has been received, and I am much pleased at the opportunity it affords of not only doing so, but of commending the excellent service of the postal savings system to your boys and the superb work they are doing for others and for themselves.

"I can conceive of no more praiseworthy object than the Boy Scouts have undertaken. What can be more commendable than an organized effort to develop the health, self reliance and manliness of our boys, to give them a few years will be shifted the serious affairs of our national life?

"I am specially interested in knowing the requirements that before a boy will be advanced to the grade of second class scout he must have earned and saved \$1, and that before promoted to first class scout he must have earned and saved \$2. These requirements are intended to encourage habits of thrift and economy among them. The Postal Savings System was adopted for the purpose of encouraging these same habits among persons of all ranks and stations in life. So the aims of the Postal Savings System and the Boy Scouts of America are strikingly alike in this important respect.

"I note that you have experienced difficulty in endorsing these requirements in instances where there are no savings institutions at the home of the Scouts. I am pleased that the Postoffice Department is prepared to furnish the facilities you have needed. We now have about 13,000 post offices at which savings deposits are accepted, and others will be added as demand for them arises.

"The Postal Savings System in this country has been in existence about two and a half years and approximately \$2,000,000,000 deposits now have to their credit \$5,000,000.

"Any person ten years old or over may open an account. The smallest deposit received is \$1, but anyone may

## WEEKLY MASS HIKE IN WINTER PROGRAM

All Scout Troops to Join in Tramp Over Country on Each Saturday.

A mass hike every Saturday, each one led by different scoutmaster and participated in by members of every troop in the District, is to be a part of the Boy Scout program in Washington this winter.

Not only will the hikes be open to boy Scouts, but they may be joined by any person in the city who feels that a few miles of "heel and toe" is what their system needs. The first one probably will be held two weeks from yesterday, and will continue throughout the winter.

The plan is to have each scoutmaster and his troop pick out a route for a hike, not to exceed five miles from the starting point, which must be at a point easily accessible from all parts of the city. A sketch of the route and the time it takes to cover it must be submitted to Scout Commissioner E. H. Martin two or three weeks before the hike, so that the route may be approved and properly advertised.

Nor will the selection of routes be left entirely in the hands of the scoutmaster, for if any other person knows of a hike that would prove interesting, he is cordially invited by Commissioner Martin to send in a description and sketch, which will be duly considered.

The plan of a mass hike has been followed in one of two other cities with much success, but never on such a large scale as we expect to handle here, said Mr. Martin yesterday. "It ought to give the average scout a much wider knowledge of the environs of the Capital, the task of finding and mapping out the route will call for a high degree of scoutcraft, and the plan will enable the scouts of the various troops to become much better acquainted with each other. As the Boy Scouts have no monopoly on the big out-doors we are going to open these hikes to their parents, big brothers, or anybody else that wants to take some good exercise, but the pace will always be set by an experienced scoutmaster, and the route will be selected so there will be no danger of overexertion."

All the veteran boy scout hikers of Washington are urged to set to work mapping out routes, and to forward them to Mr. Martin, in the District building, at once. Where the first hike will be, and what troop will have the honor of leading it, has not yet been fixed upon, and this honor should cause some keen competition right at the start.

The mass hikes would have been inaugurated sooner, but were delayed on account of the second-class examinations yesterday, and the first-class examinations which will be given next Saturday.

## MAKING FIRE

By FRED C. REED.

Champion firemaker of Boy Scouts of America, whose record of 31 seconds is best ever made by Indian or white man.

Carved by the sculptor's chisel on the enduring granite front of Union Station is the record of a boy Scout who has made the invention, and use, of friction matches a part of his work.

"Fire, the greatest of discoveries, enabling man to live in various climates, use many foods, and compel the forces of nature to do his work." The volcano, a lightning strike, or spontaneous combustion in some form, may have been the means by which primitive man discovered fire, but he tells it is, that as a means of producing life at will and to suit their convenience, our progenitors made fire by rubbing together two sticks in some form.

From the scout's point of view, fire is of particular interest, and the boy takes advantage of it in many ways. For cooking, signaling, and comfort in camp, fire means success, and the dependence on all occasions. Nothing more delights the heart of the scout than a roaring campfire with its appetizing fragrance, roasted potatoes in the ashes, and the cheerful singing on the cooling logs. It is around the campfire that the scout narrate their legends of scout lore, recite the incidents of the hikes, and mark up the good turns that are his count for merits later.

Fire Without Matches.

Friction matches are, of course, always available at the present time, and it is a test of good scoutship to build a fire in the open, using not more than two matches. Because we scout in the open, get close to nature, and accomplish much with the little at hand, one of the cardinal achievements of the scout is lighting fire without matches. For this purpose we copy from the Red Man his fire board, drill and socket.

A deep notch is cut in the side of the board that admits the point of the drill, which is held upright by the socket in the hand of the fire-maker. The bow-string is passed around the drill in such a way that sawing the bow produces great friction at the contact of the drill and fireboard; heat is rapidly generated and the charred particles fall into the hole in the fireboard, and blowing ignites the tinder, and the fire is made.

The flint and steel is another way of starting fire. Before the invention of the friction match, this seems to have been the favorite method. At least with the White Man, and the Red Man, and the Eskimo.

The outfit had the advantage of being carried in a very small space, and was one of the early methods of discharging fire-arms. The difficulty of kindling fire, in the early winter days, was so great, that they would go with a pot and bottom fire from some neighbor, perhaps several miles distant.

After the invention of fire arms, fire was often kindled by firing a charge of

## FIRST CLASS TESTS SET FOR THIS WEEK

Oral Examination to Be Held at Commissioner's Office; Other at Rosslyn.

First class examinations will be given under the auspices of the local council this week, the oral tests being given at Commissioner Martin's office in the District building and the outdoor tests at Rosslyn, where the second class examinations were held yesterday. Fully 25 applicants are expected, which will set a record for these examinations in Washington.

Among the things necessary for a boy to do to be a first class scout are swim sixteen yards, be able to send and receive sixteen words a minute by telegraph, or signaling, show a bank balance of at least \$2 earned by himself, be proficient in advanced first aid, make and read a map of a road or stream, and have a record of having successfully instructed at least one tenderfoot scout.

Most of the boys who will take this test have already qualified in the swimming requirement, but all of the other features will be covered in the coming examinations. This will be the largest class that ever took the first class tests in Washington at the same time.

## How Boy Scouts Are Doing Good in Many Paces

A little girl who got beyond her date while holding on to her money, at the home of her mother, was rescued by Homer Brammett, a second-class scout, who was compelled to take her to her home.

Carl Bilek, a Scout of Auburn, N. Y., recently saved a fellow scout, larger than he, from drowning, took plunge into a heavy river, and saved his companion struggling in the water.

Scouts of Harlan, Ky.—three canoe full of them—last month made a 200-mile trip down the Cumberland river to Burnside, Ky. They made a study of geology, zoology, and ornithology on the way.

The "Laugh-a-Lot" camp was recently established by the Boy Scouts of Moscow, Idaho, on the Potomac river. From the camp they visited the neighboring Indian reservations, forest reserves, mining camps, and cattle ranges.

Richard Harding Davis, the novelist, was host to Troop No. 1, of the District, at his home in Mount Kisco, N. Y. They stayed there ten days and did not leave until the next day.

Troop No. 1, of the District, recently held a picnic at the home of Scoutmaster Jones. The picnic was a success, and the boys had a very enjoyable time. The picnic was held at the home of Scoutmaster Jones, and the boys had a very enjoyable time.

## 400 Scouts Enrolled.

Approximately 400 scouts were enrolled in the new year, and the names have been received by Commissioner E. H. Martin, today.

The total enrollment for the year is 1,000, and the names have been received by Commissioner E. H. Martin, today.

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