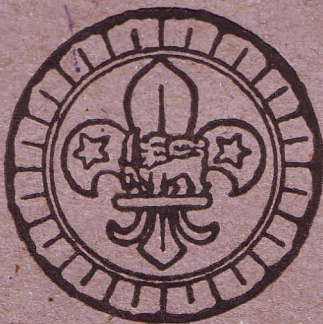


GUIDE TO SCOUT LEADERS



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GUIDE TO SCOUT LEADERS

by
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FOREWARD

The Sri Lanka Scouts Association is now working to a Development Plan which envisages not only improvement of the quality of scouting and increasing its numbers especially in the rural areas, but also in making scouting to play its role in the development of our country. It is therefore essential that scout leaders have definite guide lines in regard to the new techniques which are being adopted in the training of our scouts. At such a time it is indeed fortunate that Mr. G. A. de Almeida, at the instance of his District Commissioner, has come forward and compiled this very useful book. It covers numerous subjects which a Scout Leader deals with in his day-to-day scouting activities.

Year after year we get new people joining our movement as scout leaders and they in particular will find this book a useful guide as most of their questions are answered here.

This book fulfills a long felt need.

I congratulate Mr. de Almeida for producing this book and trust it will be widely used.

C. M. P. WANIGATUNGA
Chief Commissioner.

**COLOMBO DISTRICT SCOUTS BRANCH
ASSOCIATION**

151, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 3

INTRODUCTION

The majority of our Scout Leaders are handicapped with the paucity of Scout literature. It is hoped that the hints and pointers herein contained would serve as a Guide to Scout Leaders.

I am most grateful to Mr. G. A. de Almeida, A. D. C. (Development) for so readily and promptly compiling this valuable booklet at my request as a labour of love. I thank all others for the suggestions made and assistance given.

I am thankful to the Chief Commissioner Mr. Clarence Wanigatunga for the interest he took in this book and for deciding to publish this as a Headquarters publication, and also for having this book passed on to his Assistant Commissioners whose valuable suggestions have been incorporated.

I trust this "Guide to Scout Leaders" will be useful to Scout Leaders both young and old not only to maintain but also to raise the standard of Scouting in Sri Lanka.

**R. Bodinagoda
DISTRICT SCOUT COMMISSIONER
Colombo**

AUTHOR'S NOTE

I am greatly indebted to Mr. R. Bodinagoda, District Commissioner, Colombo for the suggestion to write these few Guidelines and the encouragement he has given me at all times.

I am also grateful to the Chief Commissioner and the Assistant Chief Commissioners for their very valuable suggestions which have been incorporated; and to my colleagues who have gone through the manuscript and offered their points of view, all of which I have taken into account.

To old stagers, there may be nothing very new, but to new Scout Leaders I am sure these pointers could be of value and will assist them to run their Troops a little more efficiently.

In all humility I dedicate this booklet to the numerous Scout Leaders of all ranks who perform silent and sincere service in the cause of the BOY and whose greatest reward is the satisfaction derived in service to the youth of Sri Lanka.

**G. A. de Almeida
A. D. C. (Development) Colombo.**

December 1973

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1. ACCOUNTS

Every Scout Leader has to be careful and methodical in the handling of Group/Troop funds, whether they be Job Week collections or proceeds of a Show or Play etc. put on by the Group/Troop. Whenever a Group/Troop decides to put on a Show or Play etc. prior permission should be obtained from the District Commissioner and a copy of the audited accounts should be forwarded to the District Commissioner, through the Assistant District Commissioner, not later than four weeks from the date of the Show or Play.

Group/Troop funds are normally handled and accounts maintained by the Group Committee. Where there is no Group Committee functioning the monies could be in the custody of the Scout Leader in charge until the formation of a Group Committee. All monies belonging to the Group/Troop are required to be deposited in a Current or Savings Account in a Bank. (In School Troops, however, until the opening of the Account, the monies could be temporarily deposited with the Principal). A member of the Group Committee is elected Treasurer to be in charge of the funds and the books of accounts. Proper accounts must be maintained of Group/Troop funds in whatever form they come in and such books of accounts made available to the District Commissioner or his nominee wherever called for. Disbursements of funds too should be through the Group Committee. When, for instance, funds are required for a camp, the Group Council through the Group Scout Leader or Scout Leader in charge should submit a proforma budget for the camp to the Group Committee to enable it to release the money. Within four weeks after the camp proper accounts of the money should be submitted to the Group Committee.

It is a requirement of P. O. R. 211 that a copy of the audited accounts of the Group/Troop be forwarded annually to the Branch Association. Needless to say, the Scout Leader will be relieved of considerable embarrassment and responsibility when monies are handled only by the Group Committee.

It has to be remembered that monies belonging to the Group/Troop are "public money" and every scout of the Group/Troop is entitled to inspect the accounts. It is recommended that a copy of the Audited Accounts be posted on the Notice Board for the information of all members of the Group/Troop. After every camp too the income and expenditure should be drawn up and made known to the Court of Honour and posted on the Notice Board for information. There should not be any secrecy in regard to Group/Troop accounts.

Special attention should be paid to see that Job Week collections, monies collected by way of sale of tickets etc are promptly accounted for and settled.

2. ATTENDANCE CUM SUBSCRIPTION REGISTER

At every meeting of the Troop, the attendance and the subscription received should be marked in a special book or register kept for that purpose. An ordinary square ruled exercise book could be used. Thus there will be a check on attendance and subscriptions paid and the amount due. A specimen of the Attendance cum Subscription Register would be:-

NAMES	1/7		8/7		15/7		19/7	
Robert Baden Powell	1	10	1	10	—	—	1	20
F. G. Stevens	—	—	—	—	1	20	1	10
G. Brooke Elliott	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	30
Vernon Grenier	1	10	1	10	1	—	1	10
J. H. de Saram	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	20
K. Somasuntharam	1	—	1	—	1	10	1	30
C. P. Jayawardana	1	10	1	10	1	10	1	—
E. W. Kannangara	1	10	1	—	1	20	1	—

This register is an important document and should be maintained by every Section of the Group by the appropriate Scout Leader or Assistant or Troop/Duty Leader.

3. BADGES

The purpose of the Proficiency Badge System is to encourage the boy to acquire and develop a taste for hobbies or crafts which will be a rewarding leisure time activity and which may sometimes lead to a career in life. The entire badge system is in itself a training in character and ".....forms one of the unique aspects of scout training. The aim should be to encourage effort rather than attainment". B. P. states in his "Aids to Scoutmastership"- "Our standards for badge earning is not the attainment of a certain level of quality of knowledge or skill but the AMOUNT OF EFFORT THE BOY HAS PUT INTO ACQUIRING SUCH KNOWLEDGE OR SKILL". It would, therefore, be seen that the Proficiency Badges are not just coloured patches to decorate the sleeves of the uniform shirts of Scouts. They denote that the Scout has made effort to acquire a knowledge and skill in the badge. In our own Sri Lanka, there are numerous instances where Proficiency Badges have paved the way for Scouts to build up a career in Public Entertainment, the Stage, Commercial Art, Forestry, the Navy and so on.

In the matter of Proficiency Badges quite a lot depends on the Scout Leaders and the manner in which they set about ferretting out the latent talents of their Scouts. Individual attention has to be paid to each Scout so that the Scout will acquire such knowledge and skill of the badge(s) suited to his own individuality. Badge hunting, therefore, must be firmly discouraged. It is best that the Court of Honour and the Group Council devise a general policy for the Group/Troop. Adequate instruction should be given to Scouts in badge work by Scout Leaders themselves or by enlisting the aid of adults proficient in the particular subject or by utilising Rover Scouts functioning as Instructors, so that when the Scout approaches the Badge Examiner, with the letter of introduction, there is no doubt that the Scout has acquired sufficient knowledge and skill in the requirements for the particular badge. Nothing can be more frustrating to the Scout and to the Examiner than to find that the Scout is even unaware of the basic requirements for the badge or that his skill or knowledge is far too scanty to recommend the

award. It would be more than an act of courtesy, if the boy is first instructed and examined in the requirements for the badge, before approaching the Badge Examiner. The form issued by the Badge Secretary should be used for this purpose.

Let us also keep in mind that the District Commissioner has the right under P. O. R. 125 (6) to withdraw the badge if the knowledge of the wearer is insufficient.

It would be a good general policy, if after winning the Second Class badge, the Scout proceeds to the First Class Badge and thereafter proceeds to acquire the skills and knowledge required for the badges that will gain him the President's Award. This is, of course, qualified by the Scout's natural aptitude in a special sphere, for instance Artist, Archeologist, Radio| Mechanic etc.

It has to be remembered that under Forward Plan 48 "A Scout who has come into the Senior Scout who is invested a Senior Scout shall be permitted to wear his Junior Scout Proficiency badges till the age of 16", so that the Senior Scout should qualify for the Senior equivalents of his Junior Scout Proficiency Badges as quickly as possible. Under Forward Plan 51, "the Senior Scout will not wear the Second Class Badge".

4. CAMPS & HIKES

It is a pity that the OUT in Scouting is often forgotten. Most of our troops engage in mere parlour scouting while the great out-of-doors is neglected. It is very important and desirable that Scouts should go on hikes and savour the thrills of nature - that is the greatest facet of scouting. Boys simply revel in hikes. Troops should hike into the countryside even once a term.

Camping under the canopy of the skies and stars is more or less the trade mark of scouting. This is the magnet that attracts boys to scouting. Camping is a must — under canvas and NOT within the confines of a Maha Vidyalaya. Camp is the place where the Scout Leader can assess the success or failure of

his training. Camp is also the place where the individual characters of the boys can be observed and noted for correction. Every Troop should camp out at least once a year. All troops should have a regular annual camp to which all Scouts will look forward.

It is a pity that patrol hikes and camps are so few and far between in most troops. Every encouragement should be given to patrol activity in camping and hiking. It must not be forgotten that this is also a very important facet of Scout training and will bring about a certain team spirit in the patrols and provide opportunities for Patrol Leaders to be able to prove their leadership.

Prior to setting out for camp, Scout Leaders and Assistants should personally visit the site and satisfy themselves that all aspects of camping can be satisfactorily carried out. Every minute detail has to be discussed with the Court of Honour and full information and location of the camp should be given to all the Scouts and to their parents/guardians. Scout Leaders and Assistants should plan out the camp to make it a success. No Scout should be permitted to attend camp without a letter of consent from the parent/guardian.

P. O. R. 332 (i) states — "No scouts may camp without the previous permission of their D. C.". Scout Leaders should make their application for a Camp Permit to the A. D. C. of their sub-district well in advance of the camp. It has to be noted that Camp Permits will not be issued unless Warranted Scout Leaders are in charge of the troop in camp. Cubs may not camp with scouts except with the specific consent of the D. C.

When a troop desires to camp outside the district, the local District Commissioner informs the other District Commissioner of this fact as under P. O. R. 125 (8) every D. C. is required to "exercise control over all visiting Scouts whether camping or not.....". When camping outside the District it would be an act of brotherliness to invite neighbouring troops for some common activity, say a wide game or campfire etc.

Bathing in the river, lake or pond in camp or during a hike must be strictly supervised to prevent accidents especially in the sea or river. P. O. R. 329 (i) lays down that "No Scout shall be allowed to bathe except under the personal supervision of the Scouter in charge of the party or some responsible adult appointed by him for the purpose", and 329 (ii) and (iii) lay down the precautions to be observed.

5. CAMPFIRE AND PUBLIC OCCASIONS

Campfires are wonderful occasions and are looked forward to by Scouts at camps, rallies, camporees, jamborees etc. The boys let themselves go and demonstrate their ingenuity and dramatic skills by the short acts they put on. Let us teach the boys to SING and not shout the words. Steam can be let off when the yells come in, but otherwise let us teach them to sing in some kind of harmony. In their exhibition of dramatics let the boys exercise restraint when it comes to acting the part of women. Drunken scenes are frowned upon and for a good reason too. Bawdy songs, or songs with double meaning and gambling scenes should never be permitted at campfires, whether public or not. Similarly derogatory references to religion or race, language should be ruled out.

When members of the public are invited to campfires Scout Leaders who do not know how to lead a campfire should never attempt to do so. The reason being that if the campfire is not up to standard, the public will be left with a very poor impression of Scout campfires in general. If the necessity arises for a campfire to be held in public, it is advisable that Scout Leaders invite a person capable of leading a campfire to assist them. Let us remember too that all songs should be rehearsed almost to perfection. Of course, in your own troop campfires it does not matter as the main thing there is for the boys to have a rollicking good time.

Let us teach our boys to give every preference to the comfort and enjoyment of visitors and invitees at our public campfires. After a public campfire, all scouts should remain at their places

until all the visitors have left the campfire circle. Every Scout Leader at a public campfire should take it upon himself to prevent unseemly, unscouty behaviour and hinderance to the public gathered there. Several others should be detailed to assist the Leader in this task.

Also at public campfires, let us remember to prepare the fire before hand. Do not pour kerosene oil on to the logs in full view of the public. The logs could be prepared and soaked with kerosene oil well in advance so that at the campfire itself the fire just roars and blazes.

When there is a function at your School or Troop, no permission is required from the District Commissioner for Scout participation, but when Scouts are required for a function outside the School or Troop, please remember that permission must be first sought and obtained from the District Commissioner through the A. D. C. of your sub district.

6. COMMUNITY SERVICE

"To help other people at all times" is the second limb of the Promise that we have all made and the BOY makes at Investiture. Every Scout should be reminded of this obligation at all times until "helping other people at all times" becomes second nature to the BOY. The importance of doing a daily good turn must be stressed over and over again. Scouting spread to the United States of America as a result of a British Scout performing his daily good turn in a soupy London fog. The daily good turn of the Scout matures into the service a MAN performs for his community.

Community Service, therefore, is as important to the Troop as a whole and the Movement in general, as it is to the daily good turn by the Scout. Every Troop must feel itself obliged to perform a Community Service Project either of a continuing duration or short term projects every term. Community Service can take many forms — one project continuously for the entire year or numerous small projects. It is part of the Scout tradition to be of service to the community. Indeed Community Service is

considered so important that the Forward Plan has made Community Service one of the requirements for the First Class Badge (F. P. 32). The President's Award will not be granted unless Community Service has been logged for 24 hours (F. P. 46). We should, therefore, impress upon the Scouts the importance of Community Service even after gaining the First Class Badge and the President's Award, and that the spirit of Scouting requires us to continue to be of service to the community at all times.

7. COMPETITIONS

Regular Patrol Competitions should be devised in consultation with the Court of Honour in order to infuse added zest and spice into the programme for the progress and upliftment of the efficiency and standard of the Troop and of the individual Scout. Points could be allocated for attendance, tests passed, uniform etc. and the weekly positions of the Patrols should be exhibited on a suitably designed chart. Of course, of necessity Patrol Competitions have to be for a limited period.

8. COURT OF HONOUR

The Troop should not become the Scout Leaders' show and the BOY relegated to the background. The Court of Honour is the powerhouse of the Troop and in our scheme of training a Court of Honour is a MUST. No Troop can function successfully unless the Patrol System is properly organised and the Patrol Leaders given their due place in the running of the Troop. There are very fine examples of Troops being run quite satisfactorily by the Court of Honour even in the absence of Scout Leaders. Scout Leaders should be present and watch from the sidelines, advise and guide when and where necessary.

It is the Court of Honour that sets the pace and tone for Troop Standards, discipline, maintaining traditions and so on. P. O. R. 239 lays down that Scout Leaders who may be present at a Court of Honour should act only in an advisory capacity. In fact all office bearers of the Court of Honour have to be Patrol Leaders, i.e. the Chairman who presides at a meeting, the Scribe or Secretary who records the minutes, convenes meetings and formulates the agenda. "The Court of Honour is responsible for

guarding the honour of the Troop, for arranging the programme of Troop activities and for internal administration, including the expenditure of troop funds.....". Scout Leaders do not vote at a meeting of the Court of Honour. They only advise. The Scout Leader has the power of veto but such power is seldom used. Forward Plan 26 (c) lays down that Seconds may be admitted as members of the Court of Honour if the number of Patrol Leaders is less than four, and the Scout Leader may be present in an advisory capacity. The same rule applies for Junior Scouts as well as for Senior Scouts.

P. O. R. 247 (ii) decrees that in a Senior Scout Troop "... all internal matters of discipline and administration including the expenditure of Senior Troop Funds.. and in the management of the affairs of the Senior Troop the fullest possible use must be made of the Court of Honour".

One of the first registers that the District Commissioner or his nominee will call for when inspecting a Troop is the Minutes Book of the Court of Honour.

In matters of discipline coming up before the Court of Honour, the presence of Seconds is not desirable. Again, Scout Leaders act only in an advisory capacity.

9. DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

All Scout Troops are expected to co-operate with the District when called upon to participate in common activities like District and Sub-district rallies, campfires, service projects, camporces etc. District and Sub-district activities are usually notified at the beginning of the year and Groups/Troops should fix their own events avoiding these dates. It must be kept in mind that the larger loyalty to the District should take precedence.

Every Scout Leader and Assistant should make it a point to attend Scout Leaders' Councils at District and/or Sub-district levels where they could air their views and difficulties and get new ideas from the more experienced Scout Leaders, Commissioners etc.

10. FLAGS

All flags, whether National, Scout or Patrol should be treated with respect. Scouts must be instructed in the proper method of flying the flags, the correct methods of carrying and so on. Do not allow flags to touch the ground.

At Murch Pasts, the National Flag is not lowered or dipped in salute to all and sundry. It is dipped in salute ONLY to the President of the Republic. The Scout Flag is dipped only to the Chief Scout of the Island, the Prime Minister, Ministers of State.

Flag Bearers do not salute in any form while passing the dais. Flag Escorts (if any) will turn their heads smartly to the right or left as the case may be. At a funeral a flag is carried furled and not unfurled.

It is desirable that all Troops should have flags of uniform size to be flown at public occasions like Jamborees, Camporees etc, that is, 4½ feet by 3 feet and the flagpole should be 7 feet high. If you do not have such flags or flagpoles please do get them NOW.

(See Forward Plan 68 (b) - (c) on Flags)

11. GROUP COMMITTEE

In terms of P.O.R. 202, the formation of a Group Committee is essential. In fact National Headquarters will not register a new Group/Troop unless the names of the Members of the Group Committee are also submitted along with the application for registration.

The importance of a Group Committee cannot be lightly stressed. It has innumerable advantages and every possible use must be made of the Group Committee. This is also an instance where members of the public can be given an insight into the purpose and function of the Boy Scout Movement vis-a-vis the national interest. The Group Committee should be chosen with care and be composed of parents, representatives

of the Sponsoring Authority (where applicable) and persons of standing and influence in the area of operation of the Group/Troop/Pack. 5 to 7 members will be just right.

The Group Committee "...will be responsible for Group property, and to assist the G.S.M. with finance, propaganda, and obtaining accommodation, camping grounds, adult help for the Group and employment for its members...". It could also assist in obtaining necessary equipment in the form of flags, camping gear etc. One member of the Group Committee (other than a Scout Leader) should be elected Treasurer to be in charge of the funds and the books of accounts. All disbursements of Group/Troop/Pack funds will be through the Group Committee and the Treasurer. The Group Committee should also attend to the business side of all Shows, Plays etc put on by the Group/Troop/Pack more especially when sales of tickets are involved. Where there is land belonging to the Group/Troop it is the Group Committee that should be directly concerned with it so that Scout Leaders are free to attend to the training of their Scouts.

The Group Scout Leader is a member of the Group Committee. It is not usual for other Scout Leaders of the Group to be members of the Group Committee.

12. GROUP COUNCIL

Every Scout Troop is a democratic body and every member of the Group has a say in the running thereof - the Scout through the Court of Honour, the Rover through the Crew in Council and the Scout Leader through the Group Council.

The Group Council comprises all Scout Leaders including Assistants and Instructors (if any) of all sections of the Group and meets informally under the Chairmanship of the Group Scout Leader or Scout Leader in charge. At these meetings matters pertaining to the policy and common objects of the Group are discussed, problems and difficulties of each section aired and solutions found, going-up ceremonies arranged, progress

of every section reviewed and evaluated, transfers (if deemed necessary) of one Scout Leader or Assistant made from one section to another and so on. One of the chief functions of the Group Council is to plan the programme of the Group for the year. By means of these meetings Scout Leaders of the different sections of the Group are brought closer together in the spirit of scouting and friendship and enables each section to find its place in the whole.

The Group Scout Leader or Scout Leader in charge being responsible to the District Commissioner and the Branch Association for the "state of health" of the Group will be in a position to keep himself informed of the overall picture of the Group at any given time by regular meetings of the Group Council. A Group Council, therefore, is very important and essential for the onward progress of any Group.

13. INVESTITURES

When a recruit is admitted into the Worldwide Brotherhood of Scouts, it is important that the ceremony should be short, simple and impressive. This is one day that the BOY will remember all through his life; it is going to be indelibly marked in his memory and due solemnity should be observed. On this day the BOY is going to make his Promise to his Scout Leader, his elder brother whom he probably hero worships, so that is wrong for the BOY to be invested by any other than his Scout Leader. The habit of inviting local bigwigs "to invest" the BOY is incorrect and should not be resorted to. Only the Scout Leader has the prerogative of investing the BOY, not even the Assistant or the Instructor under any circumstances.

Some Scout Leaders also make the unfortunate mistake of performing mass investitures in the presence of a large gathering, thus ruining the solemnity of the occasion. No more than perhaps three recruits should be invested at any one time. When more than one recruit is invested it is important that each recruit should make his Promise separately and invested separately. It is advisable that the investiture should be rehearsed earlier so that everything proceeds without a flaw on the day of days. The Forward

Plan gives a form of investiture which all Scout Leaders could follow with acceptance. It is also advisable that the investiture be conducted quite early in the day's programme of events so that the BOY is not kept on tenterhooks.

Boys by nature are strange creatures. They cannot stand still or pay attention for more than a few minutes — perhaps 15 or 20 minutes. Beyond that time they commence fidgetting and lose all interest in the proceedings. There should, therefore, be no long-drawn out ceremonies and "speeches". All badges, scarves, berets, etc should be ready when the investiture commences. At the termination of the ceremony the Scout Leader should bring the proceedings to a close with a short impressive talk on the significance of the day.

14. JOB WEEK, MEMBERSHIP FEE AND CENSUS

No Group/Troop is compelled to participate in Job Week but it is one way of earning much needed funds. It is also a method of instilling into the boys the dignity of labour and gives them "work experience". There is no set week of the year for Job Week, it is left to the District to decide when Job week for the District should be fixed. Scout Leaders will, therefore, know the dates well in advance and preparations should be made without waiting for Job Week to take them unawares. In your own Group / Troop all preparations may be made by the Court of Honour which can decide upon a minimum to be earned by their Scouts and offer a suitable prize for the highest collector and others above a certain set higher limit.

As Job Week approaches, even if your A. D. C. or the District Job Week Organiser has not notified you or given you the Job Cards for the Group/Troop, it is up to you as Scout Leader to contact them and obtain the Job Cards. Every Group/Troop must make Job Week a success, stepping up the target each year. When returning the Job Week Cards it is advisable for Scout Leaders to schedule them in serial order indicating the amounts earned on each card and the grand total earned by the Group/Troop.

Please remember that there is no District Quota now, but every Cub Scout, Junior Scout, Senior Scout, Rover Scout, Scout Leader, Instructor and Commissioner and Lay Member is required to pay to the Branch Association an Annual Membership Subscription, of which the Local Association will retain its quota and remit Rs. 1/50 per head to National Headquarters. (Of course Annual Membership Subscription of Branch Associations will differ from Branch to Branch). Therefore, when a recruit joins the Group/Troop, it is advisable to recover the Annual Membership fee for the year.

When remitting the Annual Membership fee to your Branch Association please send the money along with two copies of a schedule giving the names and designations of the persons concerned. The receipt obtained for the payment of the Annual Membership fee may be kept in your files for the audit of the Group/Troop accounts.

Census comes round in March each year. When the Census forms are issued, please fill, perfect and return them with utmost despatch so that there will be no delay in National Headquarters arriving at their figures. Let us co-operate with our District and National Headquarters by being a little more businesslike in our dealings.

15. MARCHING

Under the Forward Plan, marching has been made a requirement for Scouts. This important aspect of training should not be neglected. Marching clothes the boys with a definite smartness especially when they are in uniform. Marching also tends to correct posture. It is so refreshing to see Scouts in uniform walking along the road briskly, heads held high and swinging rather than just slouching along.

It is not meant that there should be an Army Parade type marching for hours, but say 10 to 15 minutes of Marching practice should be on the programme at every Troop meeting and Scout Leaders should inculcate into the boys that at Rallies, Guards-of-Honour and so on they should be smart, keep correct step, stand erect etc. Marching, let it be remembered, also instills a certain discipline into the boys.

16. PATROL SYSTEM

"It is important that the Scoutmaster recognises the extraordinary value which he can get out of the patrol system", states B—P in his "Aids to Scoutmastership". The Patrol System is a unique feature of the Scout Movement not found in any other Organisation. It took the genius of Baden-Powell to harness the natural gang instinct of the BOY for his own training. From the very first Scout camp at Brownsea Island in 1907 through the years the Patrol System has proved its success. The Patrol System is an essential ingredient in the Scout method of training in every section — Junior Scouts, Senior Scouts and Rovers. There are some Scout Leaders who labour under the misapprehension that the Patrol System would not work with Junior Scouts. But given half the chance to prove itself, such Scout Leaders would be astounded at the manner in which Junior Scouts would respond. Any Scout Leader, therefore, who does not believe in the Patrol System is in the wrong Movement.

In the formation of patrols it will be observed that boys with kindred interests and affinities tend to gang together (the natural patrol) irrespective of age. It is better to allow a boy to choose the patrol he wishes to be in rather than impose it on him.

In new Troops, Scout Leaders may appoint Patrol Leaders but in older and established Troops it is the Court of Honour that selects and appoints them, but certainly the Court of Honour will pay heed to the advice of the Scout Leader. In new Troops it is advisable that boys be tried out as Patrol Leaders in acting capacities so that the Scout Leader may gauge the leadership potential of his boys before appointing them permanently, or ratification by the Court of Honour when it is eventually established.

The patrol is the unit for work, play and discipline. Patrols should be encouraged to meet separately on non-troop meeting evenings and to organise patrol hikes, camps and good turn service projects and so on. Much of the Scout Leader's time and labour will be saved by the Patrol System — the patrols will be able to revise their knowledge of the requirements for the Junior Scout Badge, the Second

Class and First Class badges, thus ensuring peak efficiency of the whole Troop at all times. There is then the impetus given by organising and conducting regular Patrol Competitions where every Patrol will vie for the trophy. Patrol Spirit thus fostered will build up Scout Spirit which is the lubricator that keeps Scouting evergreen and eternal in the public eye.

Even though the Scout Leader may doubt the efficiency of his boys, the more responsibility thrust on them, the more they will respond. This is a proved fact in Scouting. "It is the character-training value of the Patrol System that.....is most important. The Patrol should be a real live factor in the Troop, not just a matter of form. The greater part of the boys' training should be done through the Patrol and the Patrol Leaders. Even if a Scoutmaster is doubtful about their efficiency, still he must delegate authority to them and give them some responsibility and opportunities of exercising leadership" (Gilcraft's "Boy Scouts").

Truly it has been said that "Patrol Leaders are the backbone of any Troop. The Patrol Leaders representing the Scouts in the Troop should have a real say in the running of the Troop and in its government and every Scout Leader should sooner or later realise this and welcome their views and advice". He must exhibit complete confidence in his Patrol Leaders. "A Scoutmaster who never listens to his Patrol Leaders, or who disregards them, will never make a success of his job" (Gilcraft's "Boy Scouts").

Finally, it is important that advance training be given to Patrol Leaders by means of the Scout Leader's Patrol comprising all the Patrol Leaders (and sometimes the Seconds) which will be a model Patrol.

17. PRESIDENT'S AWARD

When a Scout has completed all the requirements for the President's Award, (see F. P. 46) he has to be sent with his Log Book to the District Commissioner, through the A. D. C. of the sub-district, for the final interview. Before the Scout is

sent up, the Scout Leader should make sure that the Scout is really fit for this high award in all respects. It has to be especially noted that the final interview with the District Commissioner has to be before the 18th birthday of the Scout.

The Scout Leader must see that the record of Community Service done by the Scout is sent up to the District Commissioner as this record is required by National Headquarters for certain other reasons too.

18. PROGRAMME

The general programme must be planned well ahead at a meeting of the Court of Honour for a set period, perhaps for a term. Thereafter the weekly programme has to be detailed out by the Scout Leaders and recorded in a Programme Register thus ensuring progress. Once the Programme register is maintained, the Scout Leader, his Assistant and the Duty Patrol Leader will know what each has to do and what gear and equipment will be necessary for the execution of the day's programme. The highlights of the year's programme must be drawn up at the beginning of the year. It is useful to set a goal to be achieved during the year. The Programme Register must also show how much of the programme was gone through and observations made in order that the next week's programme may be suitably adjusted.

It is suggested that at the end of every term, there should be an evaluation of the programme and the achievements. A report should be sent to the District Commissioner through the A. D. C. at the end of each term giving a brief report of the progress made.

19. PROGRESS CHART

It is recommended that a Progress Chart for each Section of the Group - including the Pack, be maintained and exhibited showing the progress made by each Cub and each Six and Scout in each Patrol, so that the progress of the section and the Troop/Pack as a whole could be observed at a glance. The boys

will know where they and their Patrols stand and there will be an impetus for quicker achievement. The Progress Chart could be maintained by an Assistant Scout Leader or Troop Leader, if there is one. Every scout should have his own Progress Chart duly signed by the Scout Leader when passing the various tests. This will stand him in good stead later on and will also enable him to set his target and get his priorities right.

20. ROVER SCOUTS

Every endeavour should be made by Scout Leaders to retain Scouts of Rover age (18 — 24) within the Movement. Where there is no Rover Crew in the Group, such Scouts should be sent to the District Rover Crew for training (P. O. R. 274). Only when there is no District Rover Crew may they be trained under the supervision of the Group Scout Leader. It has to be kept in mind that only a Scout Leader who has himself been invested a Rover Scout can perform a Rover Scout Investiture. No Rover Squire or Rover Scout loses the membership of his own Group by reason of his attending the District Rover Crew for training.

The training and membership of a Rover Scout ends when he reaches his 24th birthday, but he may continue to participate in the activities of the crew until his 28th birthday if the R. S. L. and Crew-in-Council so determines it (Forward Plan 66).

21. SALUTES

The Scout Salute is used throughout the world but it is a matter of regret that Scouts and Scout Leaders here seldom greet one another in Scout fashion — Scout Sign in civils, Scout salute in uniform and the left handshake. This used to be the tradition among Scouts and Scouters of a bygone generation, which unfortunately is fast dying and it is for us now to revive and keep alive the tokens of our Scout life.

“The Scout Sign is given during the making or re-affirming of the Scout Promise irrespective of whether the head is bare or covered. All ranks when not in uniform may use the Scout Sign as a greeting instead of the form of the salute” (Forward Plan 6).

The first to see salutes irrespective of rank. The Scout salute is given (i) when in uniform, (ii) as a token of respect at the hoisting of the National Flag, playing of the National Anthem, to Scout Flags and funerals. On all Parades of a public nature, other than in Church, the Leader calls the Scouts to alert and he alone salutes.

When a Scout is not on Parade but is in uniform (with beret) he salutes; if not wearing a beret he stands at alert, when the National Anthem is played.

Generally at formal parades only Scout Leaders salute while Scouts stand at alert. Scouts riding bicycles do not salute but turn the head smartly to the right or left as the case may be.

The correct method of saluting should be taught to the Scouts so that sloppy movements are avoided. It has to be noted that under the Forward Plan Scouts and Cub Scouts salute in one and the same manner. Cub Scouts should, therefore, be taught to salute correctly with the three-finger salute and NOT the two-finger salute as had been the tradition prior to the Forward Plan coming into effect. The Salute stresses the fact that they all belong to one Movement and because they take the threefold Promise.

22. SENIOR SCOUTS

It is a requirement that there should be a separate Senior Scout Section in the Group to cater to the age group 15 - 18. In small Troops or new Troops it is permissible for Scouts of Senior Scout age to be with the Junior Scout Troop, if possible as a separate Senior Scout Patrol but adequate training should be given to them (Forward Plan 38). P. O. R. 167B provides for the formation of a District Senior Scout Troop for the training of Senior Scouts from Groups that are unable to provide Senior Scout training. Such Scouts, however, will continue to be members of their own Groups.

Senior Scouts do not wear the Second Class badge (F.P. 51) nor the First Class Badge after they have won the President's Award. “A Scout who has come into the Senior Scout Troop

or a Scout who is invested a Senior Scout shall be permitted to wear his Junior Scout Proficiency Badges till the age of 16" (Forward Plan 48). He should, therefore, qualify for the Senior Scout equivalents as early as possible. Upon winning the Senior Scout equivalents, the Scout does not wear the Junior badges.

Rule 40 of Forward Plan lays down the conditions required for Investiture of a Senior Scout. It is very important that the Senior Scout Investiture ceremony be observed instead of just passing the Scout on to the Senior Scout Section (or Patrol).

23. TESTS BY SCOUT LEADERS

Scout Leaders are entitled to test their boys for the Membership Badge, Second Class Badge and all the requirements for the First Class Badge bar the Journey Test. In these various tests Scout Leaders should endeavour to maintain a standard so that when the Scouts are awarded the various badges it could be taken for granted that they know their stuff and are competent. Instances are known where Scouts sporting the First Class Badges were found to be blissfully incompetent and unable even to repeat the Scout Law and Promise or demonstrate the bowline! This is a sad indictment on the quality of testing and training done by certain Scout Leaders - who are fortunately in the minority. The Scout Law and Promise are the foundations on which the Scout life of a boy is built. A Scout is expected to LIVE the Scout Law and Promise and if he does not know the Law and Promise and the meaning, there is no point in Scouting or in the continued existence of the Troop concerned. It is the duty of Scout Leaders to train Scouts to live up to the highest ideals of Scouting, to render assistance even without being called upon, to conduct themselves with discipline and restraint. This could be achieved only by the proper understanding of the Scout Law and Promise. A First Class Scout should be really FIRST CLASS and a President's Award holder should be the embodiment of all the ideals and traditions of Scouting. Therefore, let us one and all train our Scouts to understand the true meaning of being Scouts. Let us infuse into our charges that elusive commodity called "Scout Spirit"

24. TRAINING

The obligation is cast on every warranted Scout Leader to train himself for the due discharge of the functions of his warrant so that he would be in a position to impart adequate and proper training to his Scouts. In order to enable Scout Leaders to fulfil these obligations, a separate A. D. C. has been appointed for training and regular Training Courses are held for Pre-Warrant, P. T. C. and Refresher Courses. It is the responsibility of every warranted Scout Leader to follow the requisite training and to go up to the ultimate - the Woodbadge of the section he is interested in. Woodbadge holders too could profitably follow the Refresher Courses as and when organised.

Training Courses at District level are also regularly held for Patrol Leaders and it is incumbent upon every Scout Leader to send his Patrol Leaders and Seconds to these Courses. Not only will such training benefit the boys themselves, but it is the Troop ultimately that will be the total beneficiary.

25. TROOP LEADER/DUTY LEADER

F. P. 26 (g) states "That one of the Patrol Leaders serve as Duty Leader in rotation at regular periods". It is pertinent to observe that the Forward Plan does not speak of a Troop Leader for the Junior Scout Troop.

F. P. 41 (f) states "That a Troop Leader may be appointed provided he has the following qualifications :

- (i) Be over 17 years of age
- (ii) Have won the President's Award
- (iii) Have a knowledge of 'Scouting for Boys'
- (iv) Understand the Scheme of Badges for Senior Scouts

If there is such a Scout in your Senior Troop with all these qualifications there cannot be any objection to the appointment of a Troop Leader, but this could be obviated both in the Junior Scout Troop and in the Senior Scout Troop if Patrol Leaders take weekly turns as Duty Leader. It would be the Duty Leader's

duty to get all the required equipment and gear for the meeting of the Troop, erect the flagpole, have the flag ready for breaking, prepare the tea etc. In most Troops, the Duty Leader gets the Scouts round the flag at the commencement of the Troop Meeting. At the close, it is also the duty of the Duty Leader and his patrol to put away in their proper places the gear and equipment used that day and ceremoniously hand over the flag to the next week's Duty Leader.

It would be obvious that by rotation of Duty Leaders every Patrol Leader is trained in the proper running of a Troop Meeting among other things.

26. TROOP LOG BOOK

A good, preferably well-bound book should be purchased for use as the Troop Log Book. The Log Book contains the history of the Troop and should be maintained as such. It could be suitably embellished with drawings, sketches and photographs. Maybe there are budding artists in your Troop who could be made use of to contribute some sketch of a humorous incident and so on. The Log Book should contain records of Investitures, hikes, camps, details of the patrols, visits by important persons to the Troop etc. It should not be maintained like a diary.

27. TROOP MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Troop must be held on a specific day and time. Normally Saturday afternoons are most convenient to all, though in some School Troops it may be feasible to hold a Troop meeting after school especially if the School has only one session for the day. The days of the Troop meetings could be fixed by the Court of Honour taking into consideration also the convenience of Scout Leaders, and thereafter Troop meetings must be held on those fixed days.

Interesting and progressive programmes must be drawn up by the Scout Leaders. Activities that capture the imagination of the boys must be woven into the programme. Due ceremony has to be observed, such as the Opening and Closing Ceremonies

according to the traditions of the Troop. It is usual for Troop meetings to commence with a rally round the Troop or National Flag; flagbreak; a silent moment in prayer; marking of attendance; collection of subscriptions; a short talk by the Scout Leader - and on to the programme for the day. At the close, the Scouts rally round the flag, announcements made and the flag brought down. Every Troop must devise some solemn ceremonies for the Opening and Closing of Troop Meetings.

A specimen programme for a new Troop may be as follows :-

- 4.00 p.m. Rally.
- 4.05 p.m. Flagbreak, Prayers, Mark Attendance
Collect subscriptions
- 4.15 p.m. Game (a limb loosener)
- 4.20 p.m. Patrol Corners
- 4.40 p.m. Quiet Game
- 4.45 p.m. Explanation of Promise
- 5.05 p.m. Game (say, Crows & Cranes)
- 5.10 p.m. Explanation of first 5 Laws
- 5.30 p.m. Game (say, Mathew, Mark, Luke, John)
- 5.40 p.m. Knots - reef, sheetbend, bowline
- 6.00 p.m. Rough Game (say, breaking the bridge)
- 6.10 p.m. Close - Rally, short talk by Scout Leader,
Announcements. Flag Down. A moment of
Silence. Dismiss.

It is better to sandwich a session with games so that the boys have a chance of letting off steam. Week to week the programme must be progressive so that the boys become more and more efficient.

Patrols must be encouraged to meet separately on separate days in order to acquire proficiency in what they have learnt at Troop Meetings, for badge work and so on.

28. TROOP TRADITIONS

From the very commencement of a Troop, traditions should be set up and maintained by the Court of Honour. Traditions may take various forms - for instance all Scouts attend the last Troop Meeting for the month in uniform; annual vacation camp during the school holidays in April or August; Annual Parents' Day celebrations; joint meeting with a neighbouring Troop once a term and so on.

Traditions have a far reaching effect and a Scout in later years will remember with nostalgia the glorious traditions of his Troop.

29. UNIFORM

"Whenever uniform is worn in public it must be correct and complete" lays down P.O.R. 276. The Scout Uniform is distinctive and recognised the world over. Scout Leaders should see that their boys wear correct uniform with badges stitched in neatly in their correct positions.

Under the Forward Plan, a purple World Scout Badge is worn by all ranks on the centre of the left breast pocket. The Membership Badge (which is the present Tenderfoot Badge) is worn on the centre of the right breast pocket - with a green border for Junior Scouts; maroon border for Senior Scouts; red border for Rover Scouts and beige border for Scout Leaders and Commissioners.

(N.B. — The Scout Leader of each section wears the badge of the section)

The Patrol Leader's stripes should be worn on either side of the World Scout Badge. The Second's stripe is worn on the left of the World Scout Badge. The First Class badge is worn at the bottom of the left sleeve. The President's Award (which replaces the Queen's Scout Badge) should be worn on the left sleeve. (On winning the President's Award the Senior Scout shall not wear the First Class Badge. F. P. 46 (b)).

It is wrong for headgear, that is the beret, to be tucked under a shoulder strap. The beret is an item of uniform and has to be worn on the head. Let us instruct and insist that our Scouts wear the beret on the head or not at all. Let it also be impressed that berets have to be worn on the head with the uniform - not golf and fancy caps set at jaunty angles.

Let us remember to check the uniforms of the Scouts before they appear in public at a public occasion, let us not tarnish the image of the Scout uniform by permitting (ourselves and) the boys to wear all sorts of headgear and past Camporee Badges festooning their chests like Christmas decorations. This is all wrong. Let us put this right. Of course in a place like a camp Scout Leaders and Scouts may wear all the fancy trimmings they desire - except at parades and inspection. But at public occasions let us remember to be advertisements for Scouting in our uniforms. Let us also see to it that the uniforms are spic and span and well pressed. All straps and pockets should be properly buttoned and not pinned. It is not in the best interests of Scouting to see Scouts wearing uniforms which have apparently been rescued from the dirty linen basket!

Scarves which represent the honour of the Group/Troop should be worn properly and neatly, not like shawls draped over the shoulders. They should not be too long or too short - the tips of the scarf should just touch the top of the trowser.

Woggles are meant to keep the scarf in place. They are simple devices. Let us see that the woggles are scouty - not bits of twisted wire, or half a matchbox or a piece of plastic tooth brush case etc. Let there be some kind of uniformity in the matter of woggles, say from Troop to Troop and Patrol to Patrol.

30. WARRANTS

It has been laid down that no person should be permitted to be in charge of a Troop of Scouts or assist in it unless he holds a Warrant (or authority) from the Sri Lanka Boy Scouts Association. When an adult joins any section of the Group it is the

duty of the Scout Leader in charge (and/or the Sponsoring Authority in the case of School Troops) to inform the District Commissioner through the A.D.C. of such a person being nominated and that he is on probation for the requisite period. There should be the least possible delay in applying for Warrant for such person. Everyone of us in the Movement has to ensure that the wrong type of person does not creep into the Boy Scouts Movement in the guise of service to youth. The Boy Scouts Movement all over the world is extremely jealous in the choice of persons to lead the boys and to whom Warrants should be issued. No unwarranted person should, therefore, be permitted to be in charge of Scouts in camp or even assist in Troop meetings unless and until his antecedents are established and permission obtained from the District Commissioner or A. D. C. for the sub-district. No warrant will also be issued unless the Scout-Leader-to-be has had proper Pre-Warrant training.

The issue of a Warrant infers that the Sri Lanka Boy Scouts Association has trust in the holder thereof; that he is morally capable of being in charge of Scouts; that he is adequately qualified and so on.

There are certain duties, responsibilities and obligations cast by accepting the Warrant. The holder is bound to obey the rules of the Sri Lanka Boy Scouts Association and the Movement in general; to train himself adequately to discharge the functions attaching to the position mentioned in the Warrant; to co-operate with the District Commissioner and his team (including the Group Scout Leader or Scout Leader in charge, the Sponsoring Authority); to win and maintain the confidence of the parents and so on. Thus, the Warrant is more than an authority, it is a sacred charge and it is up to every holder of a Warrant to be worthy of the responsibility and trust, to discharge the functions and duties of his rank proficiently and with devotion to the cause of the BOY.

31. CONCLUSION:

A few general remarks :

Every Sub-district is in charge of an Assistant District Commissioner and it is to him that in the first instance you must address all your correspondence pertaining to your Group/Troop. Writing to the District Commissioner direct will serve no purpose as he in his turn will refer the matter over to the A. D. C. of the sub-district.

Let us remember that the 7th Law is "A Scout is co-operative". How many of us can say that WE are co-operative? Please reply all letters from District Officers promptly; please send in your returns and accounts on or before the due dates. It is not the correct thing for Scout Leaders to delay forwarding returns and replying letters - it is not the done thing in scouting circles. Let us co-operate with the district and assure ourselves that our district will be the first in the island to send in all the returns etc. to National Headquarters. Let us not be the cause for Headquarters to send reminders to our District Commissioner.

When scouts are sent out it is advisable that Patrol Leaders are held responsible for the conduct of the scouts, unless the Scout Leader or his Assistant is in charge, so that nothing may be done that could bring discredit to the Troop and/or Movement. Scout Leaders and District Officials should not hesitate to use their authority to curb over-enthusiastic Scouts especially in the matter of unscouty behaviour whether such Scouts belong to their own troop or to another.

Scout Leaders are requested to persuade their friends and colleagues in their workplaces to join the Branch Association as lay members. The membership subscription is Rs. 10/- per year. If it is possible for us to enrol say a 1000 lay members a year, the Branch Association will benefit to the tune of Rs. 10,000/- a year. Money is required to purchase camp equipment, maintain Camping Grounds, conduct Training Programmes and for various development work.

There is a vast untapped potential among the parents and guardians of Scouts. It will be a very good turn to the Branch Association if every scout is asked to persuade his parent/guardian/uncles/elder brothers and others to become members of our Branch Association. This will in turn help large numbers to be associated with scouting and take an active interest in all our work.

It is a pity that there are so few subscribers to "The Ceylon Boy Scout". Again Scout Leaders can help and enrol subscribers for "The Ceylon Boy Scout". Ultimately we benefit by printing more copies and publicising our ideals and projects.

Those of us who have offered to serve the BOY as adult leaders do so with a sense of love for Scouting, to repay to the Movement at least some of the benefits we have received from it. We sacrifice our time and leisure and oftentimes even dig deep into our purses for the sake of scouting. Nobody pays us for holding Warrants as Scout Leaders. If any Scout Leader is unable to discharge his obligations and responsibilities it is far better for him to surrender his warrant than continue to hang on to it and do nothing - the BOY it is who ultimately suffers and we should not allow that to happen.

Scouting is a game. Let us play it well. Let us play it in the way our Founder wanted it to be played. Let us band together to raise the standard of scouting in our Groups and in our Districts. Let us be alive to the responsibilities of our Warrants. Let us go forward with the Forward Plan to mould the BOY to be a dependable and patriotic citizen of Sri Lanka.

(B)

APPENDIX RULES FROM THE P. O. R.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

- 125 (6) To test the wearer of any proficiency badge in his knowledge of the subject, with power to withdraw the badge if the knowledge is insufficient.
- (8) To grant, at his discretion, camping permits to Scouts and Scouters of his District, and to supervise all camps held in his District, whether by his own or by visiting Scouts or Scouters.

DISTRICT ROVER CREWS

- 167A (i) The L. A. and D. C. may form a District Rover Crew, membership of which will normally be restricted to Rover Squires and Rover Scouts who are also members of Group Rover Crews in the District. In exceptional circumstances, however, a Rover Squire or Rover Scout may be a member of a District Rover Crew without also being a member of a Group Rover Crew.
- (ii) District Rover Crews must be registered at H. Q. as Groups.
- (iii) Warrants as R. S. L. and A. R. S. L. may be granted to scouters of District Rover Crews.

GROUP SCOUTMASTER

- 169 (ii) To encourage the development of a complete Group and to provide for the discharge of the functions it is important that a G. S. M. should be appointed even though the Group may at the time consist of one Section only. Where, however, the nature of the Group is such that it can never comprise more than one Section (as in some Schools or Institutions) a G. S. M. will not be appointed.
- (iii) It is most desirable that the G. S. M. should be a person not holding any other warrant, or performing any other functions in the group. Where a Scouter already holding a warrant in the Group is, in the opinion of the L. A. and D. C. the most suitable person to be appointed G. S. M. L. A. and D. C. must first make every effort to secure the appointment of some other person to relieve the prospective G. S. M. of his existing duties.

- (iv) In the absence of any person holding a warrant as G. S. M. in a Group of one Section only, the Scouter in charge of that Section will, so far as is appropriate, carry out the duties of G. S. M.; but if the Group comprises more than one Section, the L. A. and D. C. must select for this purpose whichever of the Scouters in charge of a Section is best qualified by character, age and experience.
- (vi) Where the Group consists of more than one Section, the L. A. and D. C. must consult the Group Council in regard to the appointment of a G. S. M. or the selection of a Scouter under (iv) to perform the duties of G. S. M.

- 173 The functions of the G. S. M. are as follows—
- (1) To develop in due course a complete Group unless conditions make this impossible.
 - (2) To exercise general supervision over all Sections of the Group and to co-ordinate their activities, while delegating the fullest amount of responsibility in their actual management to the Scouters in charge of them.
 - (3) To act as Chairman of the Group Council under Rule 201(ii) and to encourage co-operation between the Scouters of the Group.
 - (4) To secure the formation of a Group Committee under Rule 202 and to serve on it himself.

SPONSORING BODIES

- 179 (i) The following bodies are entitled to apply for a special registration of the Groups which they raise, and are then known as Sponsoring Bodies:—
Churches; The Salvation Army; Universities;
Colleges and Schools;
- 180 The effect of registration as a sponsored Group is as follows:—
- (1) The Sponsoring Authority undertakes the general support of the Group and endeavours to maintain its continuity.
 - (2)
 - (3) The Sponsoring Authority as such is not responsible for matters of Scout training, which are the responsibility of the G. S. M.
 - (4) The Sponsoring Authority undertakes the responsibility of nominating suitable persons to the L. A. and D. C. for appointment as Scouters of the Group. ...and no person may be considered by the L. A. and D. C. for such appointment unless so nominated.

TRANSFERS

- 199 (iii) No boy may be accepted as a member of a Group within two months of his leaving another Group or recognised boys' organisation in the same area, unless he has the written approval of his former G. S. M. or of the proper authority of the other organisation.

GROUP COUNCIL

- 201 (i) Where the Group consists of two or more Sections the Scouters of the Sections will meet regularly to discuss matters affecting the Group. Such meeting is called the "Group Council".
- (ii) The G. S. M. will be Chairman of the Group Council.

GROUP COMMITTEE

- 202 (i) A small Group Committee composed of parents of Scouts, former Scouts, representatives of the Sponsoring Authority in the case of a sponsored Group, and others interested in the Group must be formed in all cases to be responsible for Group property, and to assist the G. S. M. with finance, propaganda, and obtaining accommodation, camping grounds, adult help for the Group, and employment for its members.....
- (ii) The G. S. M. will be a member of the Group Committee.
- (iii) The Group Committee is not concerned in any way in the actual training of the Scouts or in the management of the Group Branch of the B-P Scout Guild.
- 203 Members of a Group Committee are appointed or retired by the G. S. M. subject to the approval of the L. A. and D. C. given, in the case of Sponsored Groups, after consultation with the Sponsoring Authority.

GROUP PROPERTY

- 206 A schedule of Group property must be submitted each year to the L. A. In the case of a sponsored Group the schedule should be countersigned by the Sponsoring Authority.

GROUP FINANCE

- 208 All money,, received by or on behalf of a Group or any Section of a Group, must be administered by the Group Committee acting in consultation with the Group Council and must be paid into a bank, Post Office Savings, or other similar account in the name of the Group operated by two members of the Group Committee.

- 209 Subscriptions paid by the Scouts themselves will be administered by the Section concerned, as will also any sums allotted to the Section for current expenses by the Group Committee in consultation with the Group Council. The accounts of Section funds, if kept separately, will be included in the annual accounts of the Group.
- 210 The G. S. M. must see that accounts of all moneys are kept, and any member of the Group concerned is entitled to inspect them. Such accounts must be audited by an independent and responsible person.
- 211 A copy of the Group's annual accounts, duly certified by the auditor must be submitted to the L. A.

TROOP LEADER

- 238 (i) A Troop Leader may, if desired, be appointed by the S. M. in consultation with the Court of Honour.
- (ii) The following qualifications are required —
- Ability to lead
 - Age not less than 15
 - Service as a Patrol Leader for at least six months
 - The First Class Badge
 - A general knowledge of "Scouting for Boys"

COURT OF HONOUR

- 239 (i) The Court of Honour is a body composed of the Troop Leader, if any, and the Patrol Leaders; Seconds may also be members, but their presence is not desirable in cases concerning discipline. The Scouters of the Troop, if present, should act in an advisory capacity only.
- (ii) The Court of Honour is responsible for guarding the honour of the Troop, for arranging the programme of Troop activities, and for internal administration, including the expenditure of Troop funds in accordance with Rule 234 (ii). It is also one of the methods by which Patrol Leaders are trained.

PATROL LEADERS

- 241 (i) A Patrol Leader is a Scout appointed by the S. M. in consultation with the Court of Honour or the patrol concerned, to take charge of a Patrol of Scouts. Although the first point to look for is qualities of leadership, it is desirable that the Scout should hold the First Class Badge.

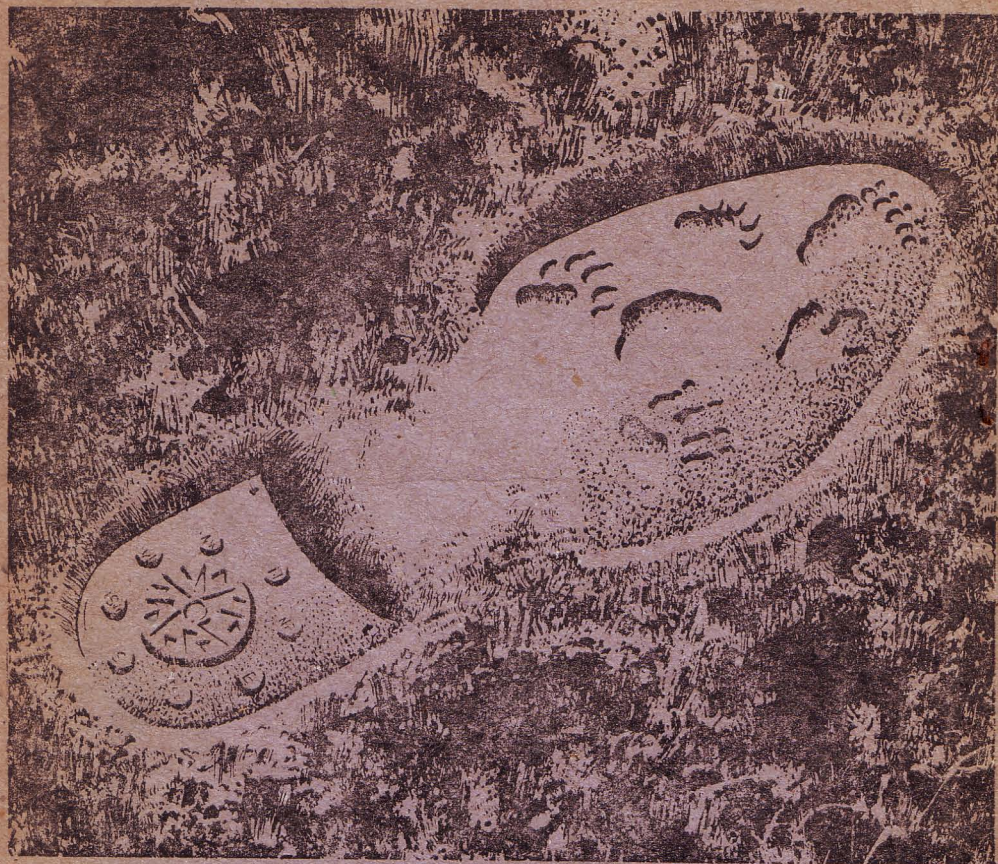
- (ii) The Patrol Leader trains his Patrol through activities at Troop, and Patrol meetings and camps.
- (iii) The Patrol Leader plans the activities for Patrol meetings and camps, with the assistance of his Second and subject to the advice of the S. M. and the Court of Honour.

- 242 (i) A Second is a Scout selected by the Patrol Leader with the approval of the S. M. and Court of Honour, to assist him and to take his place when absent. Although the first point to look for is qualities of leadership, it is desirable that the Scout should hold at least the Second Class Badge.

(Rules for Patrol Leaders and Court of Honour in the Senior Scout Section are similar).

ROVER AND ROVER SQUIRES IN GROUPS WITH NO CREW

- 274 (i) Where it is not possible to form a Crew in a Group, a former Senior Scout or Boy Scout of the Group who is of Rover Scout age, may be placed under training as a Rover Squire and invested as a Rover in the Group by the G. S. M. Such Rovers should carry out their training with the District Rover Crew, but if there is none they may be trained under the supervision of the G. S. M. The D. C. must ensure that the proposed training is adequate.
- (ii) A. G. S. M. wishing to take advantage of this Rule must first consult his D. C. who will satisfy himself that arrangements for the training of the Rover Squire and Rover and for the investiture of the Rover, are adequate.



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