



AMONG THE BOY SCOUTS—

By Ricardo de la Cruz*



CAMPING

(The "out" in Scouting)

"A Scout walks through the woods with silent tread. His eyes are keen and he sees many things that others do not see. He sees tracks and signs which reveal to him the nature and habits of the creatures that made them. He knows how to stalk birds and animals and study them in their natural haunts."

That is the "out" in Scouting.—Camping! One cannot read the above paragraph without feeling a sudden thrill pulsating in his veins. It depicts the inner program for which the Boy Scout Movement stands.

The month of March is come. Vacation is but a matter of thirty days away. What are your plans? What is the plan of every real Boy Scout?

Camping! The mere word, in itself, possesses an indefinable lure. It is the call of Nature, the call of the open camp-fire.

Scouting is not simply the passing of tests and the impressive investiture ceremonies. It has a greater "it," a greater attraction. Every boy of Scout age must have read of the wonderful stories about the heroic pioneers of the past of their glorious deeds and achievements, of their thrilling adventures in the open, of their life of incessant struggles. And as he reads these stories, the eyes of the boy kindle with an enthusiastic gleam, his bosom heaves violently in rhythm with the ominous beats of the tomtom, his entire body quivers with excitement. Scoutmasters, here is a challenge to your leadership!

Vacation time is come,—a deviation from the hum-drum of school-life, a departure from city standards. It is a time for planning and also, it is a time for carrying out those plans. Give

your boys a real "treat." Do you remember how your own heart used to beat tumultuously in answer to the call of the roaring camp fire? Do you remember the varied and useful experiences? Do you remember the thrills that you felt?

The Camping Program heralds forth a thunderous answer to the roving instinct of the boy. It offers great opportunities to the leader as well as to the boys that he leads. It gives each and every Scout the chance to execute whatever he has learned in Scouting. At the same time, it affords him the wild, care-free life in the out-of-doors, which has always been the subject of his dreams in school.

Aside, however, from training the Scout in the different phases of Scoutcraft, and from giving him a chance to realize his ideals of adventure, the Camp site serves as the training ground of a future citizen of the nation. It is the place where his useful traits are developed. Coupled with a guiding hand and lofty ideals, the Camp Fire,—kindled by brotherly love—warms, cooks, and finally, produces the finished product,—a citizen! From a weak, helpless boy of twelve emerges a Scout,—self-reliant, resourceful, cooperative,—a real boy, as deserving and as dependable as any citizen of today.

It will require much of the organizing and executive ability of a Scout leader in order to carry out successfully a camping expedition. Knowledge about the methods of dealing with boys and the method of learning to like them and of making them like you in return,—that is also an essential asset of the Camp Leader.

Very many parents are apprehensive over sending
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* Manager, Publicity Department, Philippine Council, B. S. A.

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ing their boys to camp. The Scoutmaster should know how to deal with this difficulty. Long, personal talks, explanations on camping,—its purposes and its good results,—are often helpful in these instances.

Careful planning is absolutely necessary. "Budgeting on the safe side," securing the required equipment, and above all, thorough physical examinations,—these prerequisites must be met before any troop should attempt to go to camp.

The last item especially—physical examinations—has been a sorely-neglected requirement. Very few Scoutmasters realize the vital importance of thorough physical examinations.

A recent case of a Scout having died in camp because of heart-failure is enough warning to any Scoutmaster to make him seriously consider the question of physical examinations. A mere scratch on the leg, or a sore tooth,—this may prove to be a fatal case of blood poisoning. How would you, Scoutmasters, feel if you had such a case in your troop while out in camp?

The Camping Program is the moulding of a boy's character. It is a serious undertaking, notwithstanding the fact that it is often alluded to as a program of "fun and frolic." It must have *enough* of the elements required to make it successful. *Enough*.—too much fire will burn a loaf of bread; very little fire will leave it half-baked. When a Scoutmaster

THE YOUNG CITIZEN
PANTRY*(Continued from page 68)*

Sort and wash the glutinous rice. Put in a native sieve to drain off the water. Sprinkle the lye over it and mix thoroughly.

Cut the banana leaves into the desired size. Wash, wipe and pass over the fire to evaporate some of the water and make it less brittle. Wrap the prepared glutinous rice and tie by pair. Put in a pot and cover with as much water as when cooking rice. Put weights on the top to keep them down and boil until the rice is cooked.

Remove from the wrapper. Brush the top lightly with butter and serve with *latik* or coconut meat and sugar.

hikes out to the country with his boys, he shoulders a grave responsibility. To go out thus would be to cook a certain food, or rather, to attempt to cook it. The Scout is the raw material. What he will be depends on the Scoutmaster.

The Camping Program is a well-prepared schedule of outdoor activities and fun, of an effective system of teaching the boys "how to do it." It is a well-balanced menu of boys and men, seasoned with high ideals of citizenship—self-reliance, resourcefulness, helpfulness, and loyalty,—cooked and boiled over the hearty embers of a grand and blazing camp fire kindled with comradeship and love.

(Note: For detailed information about camping, write to Philippine Council, B. S. A., P. O. Box 878, Manila, for

VACATION

At last vacation time is here. And now our school-work partly ends;

Without our books we hold so dear

We're out again to meet old friends.

Away to the fields to play the kites,

Or gather flowers by the brooks;

We know we spend the happiest life

As that we find in story-books.

Together with our playmates,
Our fishing hooks we throw

Into the quiet pond in the meadow

Where children use to go.

Then going home in the sunset
With the basket full of fish,
Mother and father are waiting
To cook our delicious dish.

When evening comes and the moon is bright,

We, children come out to play,
And after which we go to bed
and pray

For another pleasant day.

Oh, for the care-free life in vacation!

The thrills and perfect joys!
We know they'll make us
strong and healthy,

Pretty girls and winsome boys.

By A. C. Cancellor
Ligao, Albay

our pamphlet entitled MINI-MUM STANDARDS FOR BOY SCOUT CAMPS.)