A NEW STAR

A new star has risen over the Scouting horizon and is finding its place in the Troop constellation. It is the Explorer Advisor in the Troop. Let's focus the telescope of our attention on just what his position should be.

First, how is the Advisor chosen?

His selection is the responsiblity of the Troop Committee. In fulfilling it the committee consults with the Scoutmaster and the Explorers in the Troop. The Scoutmaster's recommendation should carry great weight because he and the Advisor will have to work side by side without stepping on each other's toes. The Explorers' opinions are significant since they are the "customers" ultimately to be satisfied. With the committee, Scoutmaster, and Explorers teaming up to recruit the right man, he can be recruited.

What are the qualities for a good Advisor?

He can be as young as twenty-one but should have sufficient background to supervise a program that will attract and hold young men. He needs an understanding of what makes young men tick. He must like them so much that he has fun associating closely with them. Yet he should have the solid judgment that comes with maturity.

To hold the respect of Explorers, he has to be a man's man. This includes enough know-how as an outdoorsman to suggest and approve plans for expeditions and cruises, some of which will be made by Explorers on their own. For information on technical activities of interest to his Explorers, he can call in outside experts.

Among other things, he needs a barrel of cooperativeness and a barrel of tact. How he uses these will be seen in his relationship with the Scoutmaster and his leadership of the Explorers.

How does the Advisor fit into the Troop?

The relationship of Advisor and Scoutmaster is unique in Scouter teamwork. They both have authority over the same young men, although at different times and in different programs. This demands that the leaders thrust aside any selfish interest in their leadership and keep foremost in mind the welfare of the Troop and Crew — meaning that of the Explorers.

The Advisor has charge of the Explorers when they are engaged in Explorer activities, the Scoutmaster when they are in Troop activities. Therefore, the leaders' cooperation must be on a most friendly basis, possible only when the committee has appointed two men who are congenial.

How does the Advisor work with the Crew?

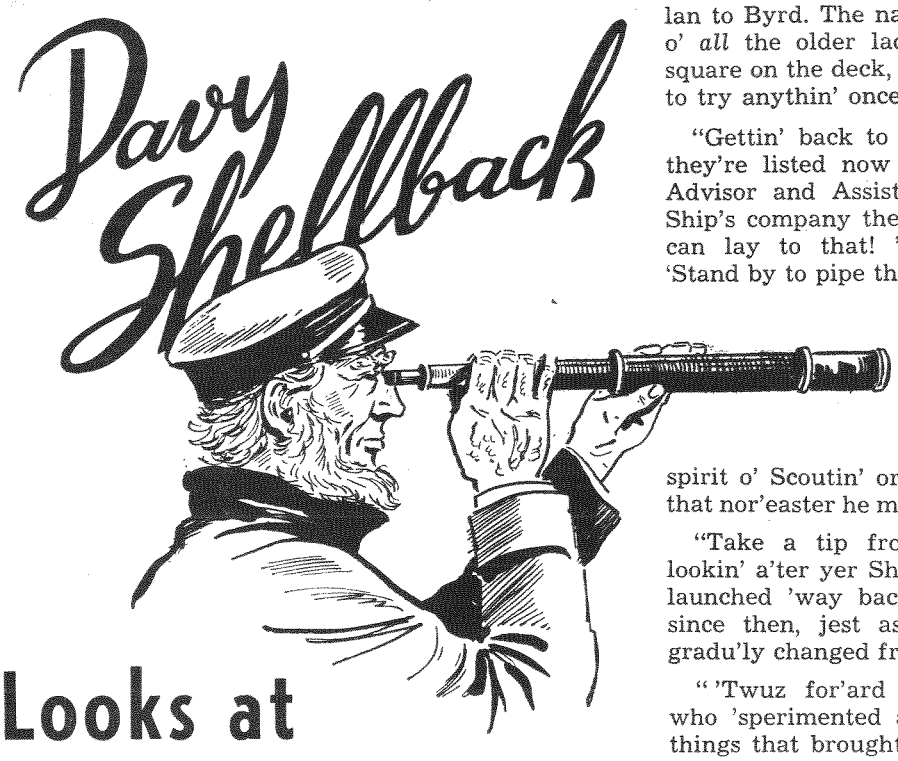
His first obligation to his Explorers is to see that they have a program supplementary to Troop activities, one that is distinctly on a young man's level. The maturing of the Explorer's interest should be stimulated and implemented by activities which make men of boys.

A major influence in this direction is the democratic process of the Explorers learning to plan and carry out their own program. The Advisor who subtly but aggressively leads them into practicing democracy in their Crews takes a great stride toward making them participating citizens.

Definitely supplementary to Troop activities is the social program, the parties and events primarily in which the girls take part. The Advisor's task may range from urging more socials to instilling in his Explorers the necessary good taste and knowledge of the social observances.

The Advisor should make sure the Crew schedule gears in with the Troop schedule and with the Explorers' responsibilities in the Troop. He does so by getting the Explorers to consult with the Scoutmaster, and to plan their own program well in advance. To keep them from spreading themselves too thin in Exploring, the Advisor needs to become familiar with the time commitments which his Explorers have at home, school, and church.

Further suggestions about the position of the Advisor in the Troop may be found in the *New Explorer Plan* pamphlet (Cat. No. 3217) and the *Explorer Advisor* filmstrip.



Looks at Exploring

"What'm I doin' with this spyglass?" Davy Shellback repeated. "Well blast my peepers, I been lookin' at this new Explorer Program. After what I heered 'bout it, I wanted a good look, ye can be sure.

"Why, do ye know I heered they wuz guttin' Sea Scoutin', slick as a cod on a cleanin' deck. Even makin' the Skipper walk the plank! An' the Mate along with 'im. Me bein' such a old friend of all the lads in Sea Scoutin', I breaks out me glass an' polishes 'er up an' looks Explorin' over from stem to Charley Noble.

"Matey, I want to tell ye I was pleased, powerful pleased, to see that most o' what I'd heered wuz jest scuttlebutt. The Sea Explorer Ship is the same old Sea Scout Ship with all 'er thirty-odd years o' traditions, an' with the Skipper an' Mate still stridin' the quarterdeck, proud-like as ye would expec'. Ye can trust to it, Matey, or old Davy wouldn't be standin' here on the dock. No sir, he'd be out raisin' more fuss than a nor'easter.

"Now 'bout that name o' Sea Explorers, here's somethin' Davy learn't on the side. For years Sea Scouts have been objectin' to bein' called Scouts. Sure they wuz willin' an' proud to be members o' the Boy Scouts o' America and to 'bide by the Scout Oath and Law. But they figured they wuz young men — an' that they've proved in many a disaster an' 'mergency. They wanted a name different than Scout, that bein' so close to Boy.

"Well fin'ly they've got their new name, an' a manly one too. The gr-r-andest v'yages in the history o' the sea wuz made by explorers, from Magellan to Byrd. The name Explorer jest fits the spirit o' *all* the older lads in Scoutin' — them standin' square on the deck, facin' bow on to the gale, ready to try anythin' oncet.

"Gettin' back to the Skipper and Mate, 'course they're listed now on the Ship's papers as Ship Advisor and Assistant Ship Advisor. But to the Ship's company they're still Skipper and Mate, ye can lay to that! 'Magine the O.D. singin' out, 'Stand by to pipe the Ship Advisor aboard!'

"An' the Senior Crew Leader on the papers, can be called the Officer of the Deck if yer Ship pleases. The p'int is all these officers and leaders had best do their duties in the spirit o' Scoutin' or old Davy is goin' to turn into that nor'easter he mentioned awhile back.

"Take a tip from this shellback who's been lookin' a'ter yer Ships ever since the first one wuz launched 'way back in 1912. Times has changed since then, jest as always, like sea goin' ships gradu'ly changed from viking longboats to clippers.

" 'Twuz for'ard lookin' builders and captains who 'sperimented an' took on new ways o' doin' things that brought progress. Even the oldest traditions wuz spankin' new oncet. Yer own Ship'd never git anywheres if she stayed becalmed.

"Matey, Sea Scoutin' kept up with the times, ye can lay to it, or there wouldn't be 21,000-odd Sea Explorers in nigh onto 6,000 Explorer Ships in this 'tomic age.

" 'Long 'bout 1944 most Ships set off on a new tack — puttin' more responsibility on the lads themselves, callin' on 'em to plot an' navigate their own course. 'Tis a democratic tack, Matey, an' powerful important in these days when some folks are wantin' to sail under a red flag. But it gives the young men a chancet at l'arnin' the ways o' democracy.

"It 'minds old Davy o' the time he wuz a 'prentice an' l'arnin' to stand his trick at the wheel. He l'arned to steer by takin' the helm an' steerin'. An' that's 'zackly how the lads'll have to l'arn to live democratic-like. Davy pulls his forelock most respec'ful to Skippers who've been runnin' their Ships democractic-like.

" 'Course 'tain't stric'ly in line with sea tradition, havin' the navigation done in the fo'cas'le; but by Jupiter, it's stric'ly in line with Scoutin'. Ye never want to ferget that all o' Scoutin' aims to make the lads into participatin' citizens, an' that means citizens o' a democracy.

"One more p'int, Matey, an' Davy'll stow his glass. 'Tis a p'int he's been dingin' at ye all these years. The minute a Ship tries to fit Scoutin' to sea lore 'stead o' sea lore to Scoutin', then the Ship is off her course and sailin' fast fer the shoals.

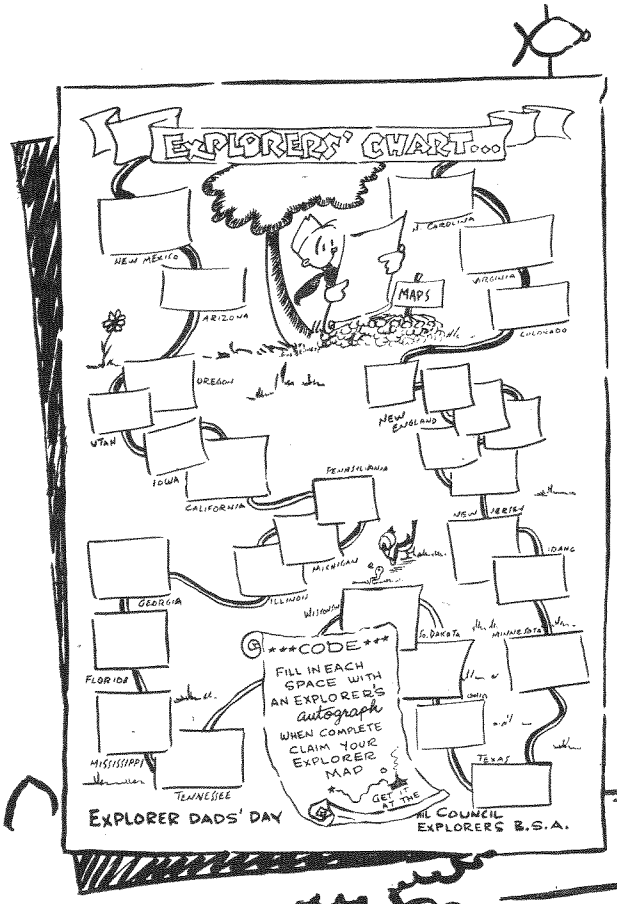
"Ye can be sartin' that Explorin' is savin' the best o' Sea Scoutin' traditions an' yet keepin' up with the times. An' that's why Davy Shellback's powerful pleased with what he's seen through the glass he's been holdin' on the Explorer Program."

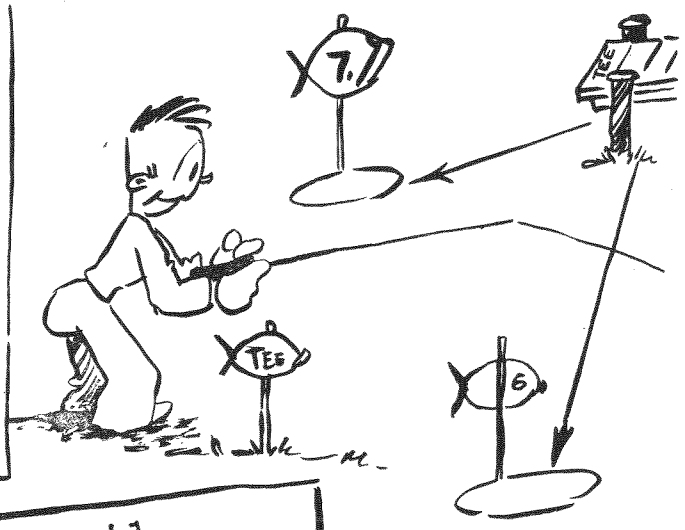
EXPLORER DADS' DAY

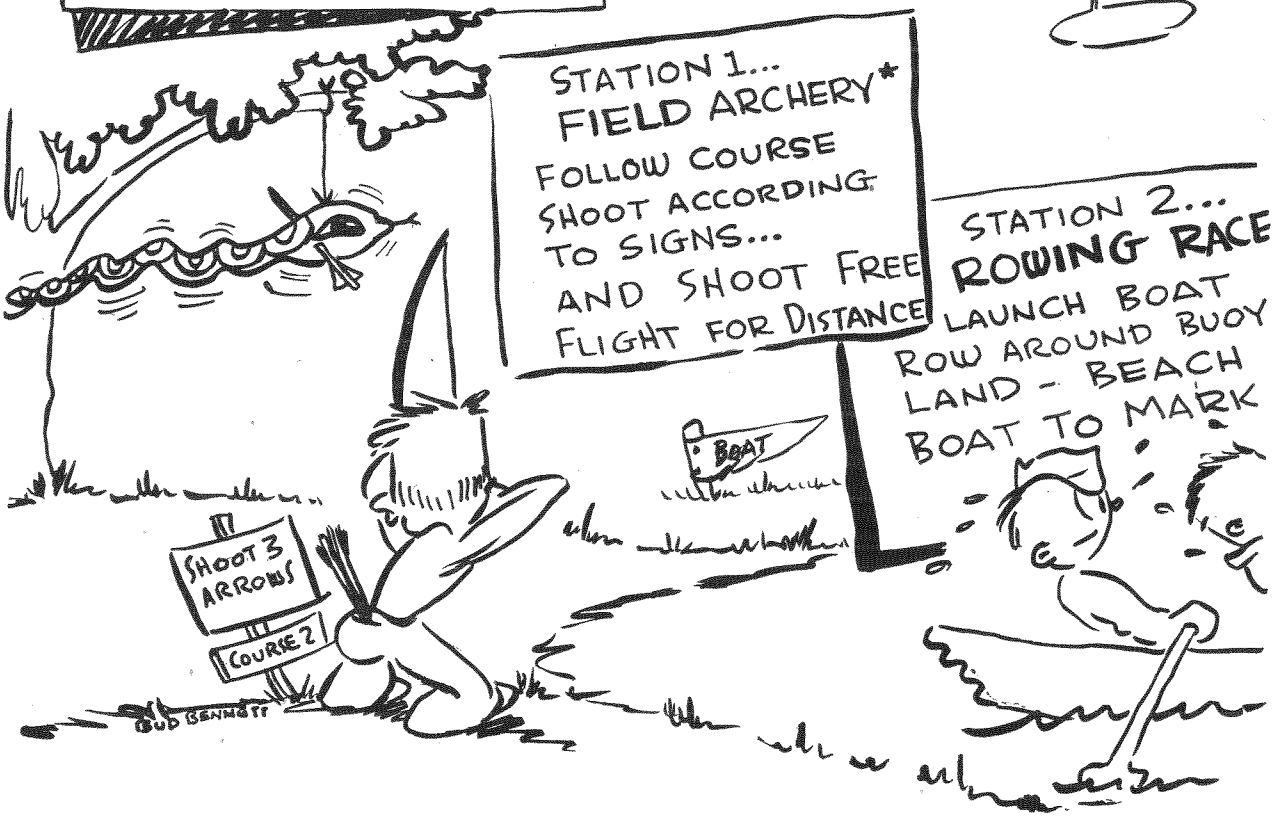
Can be run for dads of District or Council with Explorer Units manning stations. Or by a Unit for its dads with Crews at stations.

Allow time for "showin' and tryin'" events in the morning, with noon cook-out for dads and Explorers. Invite mothers and girls to watch contests in afternoon. Crews of contestants move from station to station on signal. Wind up with barbecue and big campfire with Tall Story contests and prizes.

Reprints are available from Senior Scouting Service, 2 Park Ave., New York 16, N. Y., showing Explorer's Chart, construction of Rifle and Moskeeto Ranges, and courses for Field Archery, Bait Casting Golf, Fly Casting Archery, and Safety Trail.







STATION 4...
RIFLE RANGE*
MOVING TARGETS
BUSTIBLES
STANDARD TARGETS
SAFETY TRAIL*
STATION 3...
BAIT CASTING
GOLF *
FLY CASTING
ARCHERY *
CROSS FENCE CORRECTLY
STATION 5...
EDIBLE WILD FOODS
FIND BY CREWS, ONE EACH: EDIBLE ROOT, NUT, FRUIT, GREENS, BERRY, SNAKE AND FISH.
STATION
BUILD A MONKEY BRIDGE
STATION 6...
MO-SKEE-TO *
(TRAP SHOOTING)
USE .22 CAL. SHOT-GUNS MADE BY GUN MANUFACTURERS
STATION 7...
CANOE TRAIL
LAUNCH - LOAD-PADDLE AROUND BUOY.
BEACH-
UNLOAD-
LASH PADDLES
CARRY ON
PORTAGE...
BUOY