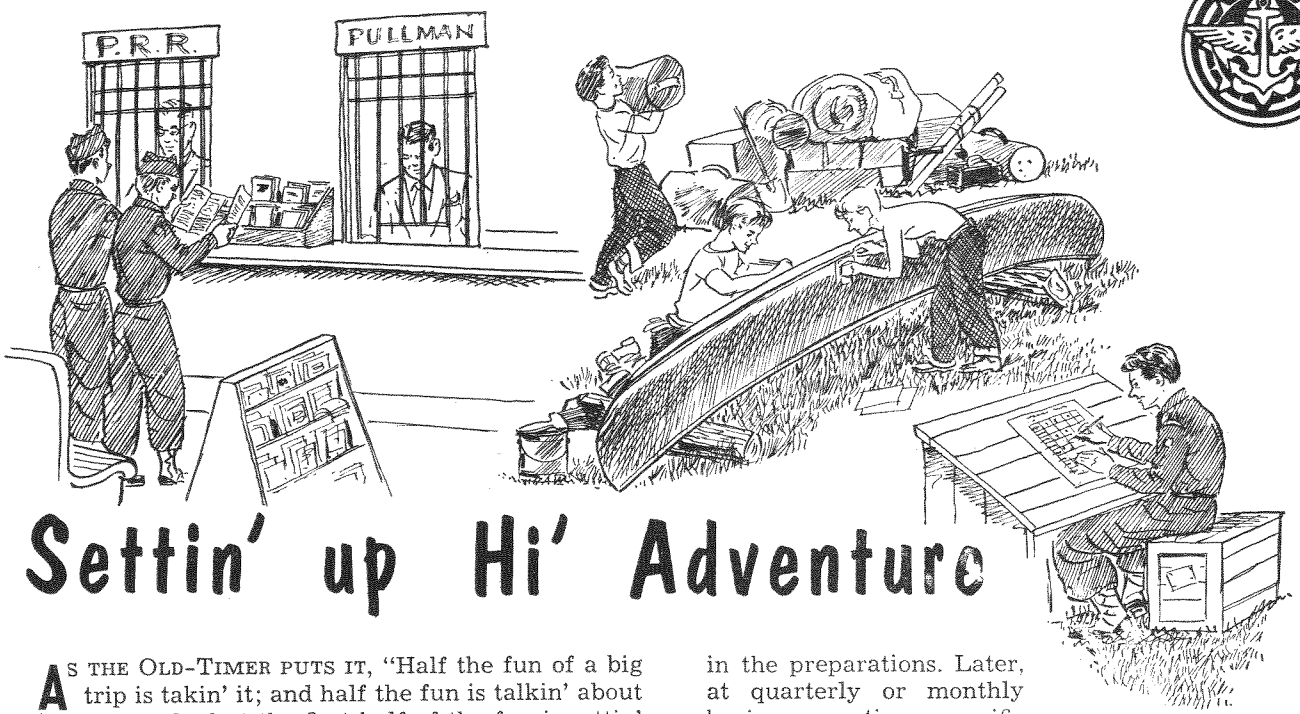


Settin' up Hi' Adventure

AS THE OLD-TIMER PUTS IT, "Half the fun of a big trip is takin' it; and half the fun is talkin' about it afterwards; but the first half of the fun is settin' up the trip beforehand."

Any trip extensive enough to be a high adventure practically demands months of careful preparation. That means NOW is the time to start work on next summer's highlight with the young-man appeal.

Further wise words from Old-Timer about a trip are, "In settin' it up, break it down into pieces and tackle 'em one by one." Of course, just what those pieces are is the first thing you must know. If your experience doesn't tell you, why not borrow from old hands at the game? Their experience on expedition planning has been boiled down in these books:

Tours and Moving Camps (Cat. No. 3734) 25¢.

Council and District Explorer Activities, pages 6-13, 46-47 (Cat. No. 3145) 40¢.

Explorer Manual chap 1, 16 (Cat. No. 3506) 75¢.

Tours and Moving Camps, recently revised, outlines in detail how your Explorers can plan a safe, worthwhile, and happy expedition or cruise. Seeing an over-all picture of the job at the outset will save time, money, and worry all the way.

Some major decisions to be faced are concerned with the destination and purpose of the high adventure, finances, reservations and permits, liability protection, leadership, program, commissary, equipment, health safeguards, transportation, and public relations.

These indicate that the total planning is no little job. But individual Explorers or teams of them can share definite assignments of the "pieces." Adult Unit Committeemen or dads can keep supervisory eyes on the various assignments. The Event Director and his adult advisor then coordinate the work of everyone, tying together the "pieces."

A necessary part of the teamwork is a time schedule, month by month, to nail down the steps in the preparations. Later, at quarterly or monthly business meetings, specific dates can be set for teams to report their next progress. At these meetings any unavoidable changes in the schedule can be made.

High adventure for thousands of Explorers in 1953 will be the National Jamboree in California or Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. Information on how to plan for either of these is available from your Local Council and in SCOUTING and BOYS' LIFE magazines.

Below are suggestions for a few months of a high adventure planning schedule. It is based on four teams or committees (Program, Finance, Transportation, and Equipment) preparing for the Jamboree.

NOVEMBER: *Program* — hold promotion meeting of parents and backers. *Finance* — make tentative budget; plan ways to earn and save money. *Transportation* — investigate methods, costs, and possibilities of side trips enroute. *Equipment* — take inventory of items needed and on hand.

DECEMBER: *Program* — take inventory of skills needed; plan training in new skills. *Finance* — make final budget; start collecting funds. *Transportation* — make reservation for travel and stops enroute. *Equipment* — start making equipment, including swap items.

FEBRUARY: *Program* — start new skills training. *Finance* — continue collecting funds; pay Jamboree registration fees to Local Council. *Transportation* — file Application For Permit to Conduct a Tour (Cat. No. 4419) with Local Council. *Equipment* — order items to be bought.

JUNE: *Program* — hold appreciation party with parents and backers. *Finance* — report on finances to date. *Transportation* — verify reservations. *Equipment* — pack up.

BLUE RIBBON EVENTS

Gerwitz

Sutphin

Whitten

Help! Help! Help! That's what you'll give thousands of Explorers and their leaders when you send in a letter about your best event. You'll get a Blue Ribbon certificate of thanks.

Champions

David Gerwitz received the James E. West scholarship of $500, awarded annually by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars for outstanding service and future study in conservation. Gerwitz is 15 and a Life Scout, Senior Patrol Leader, and Apprentice Explorer in Troop 66, sponsored by the Holy Name Society of the Catholic Church, Williamsburg, N. Y.

John W. Sutphin, 3d, was awarded a Certificate for Heroism in May by the National Court of Honor for saving a small boy from drowning. Sutphin is 16 and Apprentice in Post 64, sponsored by the Christian Church, Carversville, Pa.

Derrill G. Whitten received the Veteran of Foreign Wars scholarship of $500, given annually to a Scout or Explorer who has received an award for heroism and has an outstanding record in his community. Whitten received a Certificate for Heroism in March for saving a girl from drowning. He is 17 and an Eagle Scout and Explorer in Troop 54, sponsored by the Lions Club of DeQueen, Ark. He has been a Cub Scout, Den Chief, Patrol Leader, football captain and Honor Society member.

Induction Demonstration

By William Campbell, Advisor, Troop 14
Knights of Columbus, Bloomfield, N. J.

Our Blue Ribbon Event is a service we render our Local Council in promotion of the Explorer program. We put on our induction ceremony at Explorer Leader Roundtables. We have also gone into other Troops when requested to induct their new Explorers and help them get started on Exploring. Some of us are serving as leaders in our own Troop.

Service Project

By J. H. Blackmon, Scoutmaster Troop 34
Lions & Kiwanis Clubs, Augusta, Ga.

Our Troop definitely was not "on the upward trail." The Scoutmaster was backed by a good committee. The program was carefully planned but didn't seem to click. On looking into the problem we discovered there were twice as many older fellows as younger ones, and no younger boys were coming in.

We decided to approach our sponsors about sponsoring an Explorer Post. They agreed, but that wasn't the whole answer to our problem.

The young men now have a program of their own in the Post, and they have just finished their first service project. That completed the answer.

What was the project? Every Explorer recruited and trained in the Tenderfoot requirements a new Scout to take his place in the Troop. Results: Troop 34 is going strong again; that program planned for Scouts is really working the way it should. Post 34 with the good turn to their Troop got off to a start in their own program planning.

Salad Tossers

By Glenn Gibbons, Advisor, Post 2072
Lions Club, Buena Vista, Colo.

The Post gave a supper for all Explorer parents leaders, and committeemen and their wives. An Event Director and his committee made all the plans and prepared the supper. The salads were something special. Each Explorer prepared one for his family and guests. Prizes were given for the two best salads. The supper gave all the families in the Post a chance to get acquainted, and it resulted in a small profit used for a camping trip.

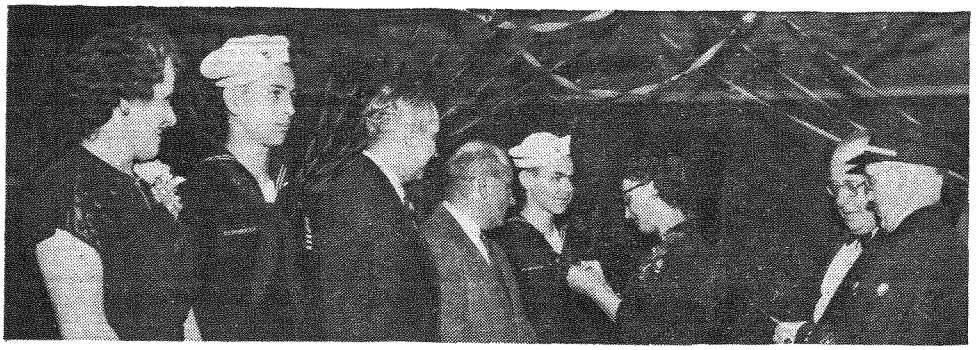


Photo by Owen Hjerpe

Pomperaug Council, Bridgeport, Connecticut, holds an annual Sea Explorer Bridge of Honor with all Ships in the Council participating. Individuals receive awards, and Ships receive Standard Unit ratings. Pictured above are Council officials and parents presenting Quartermaster awards to two young men. The sons have presented corsages to their mothers.

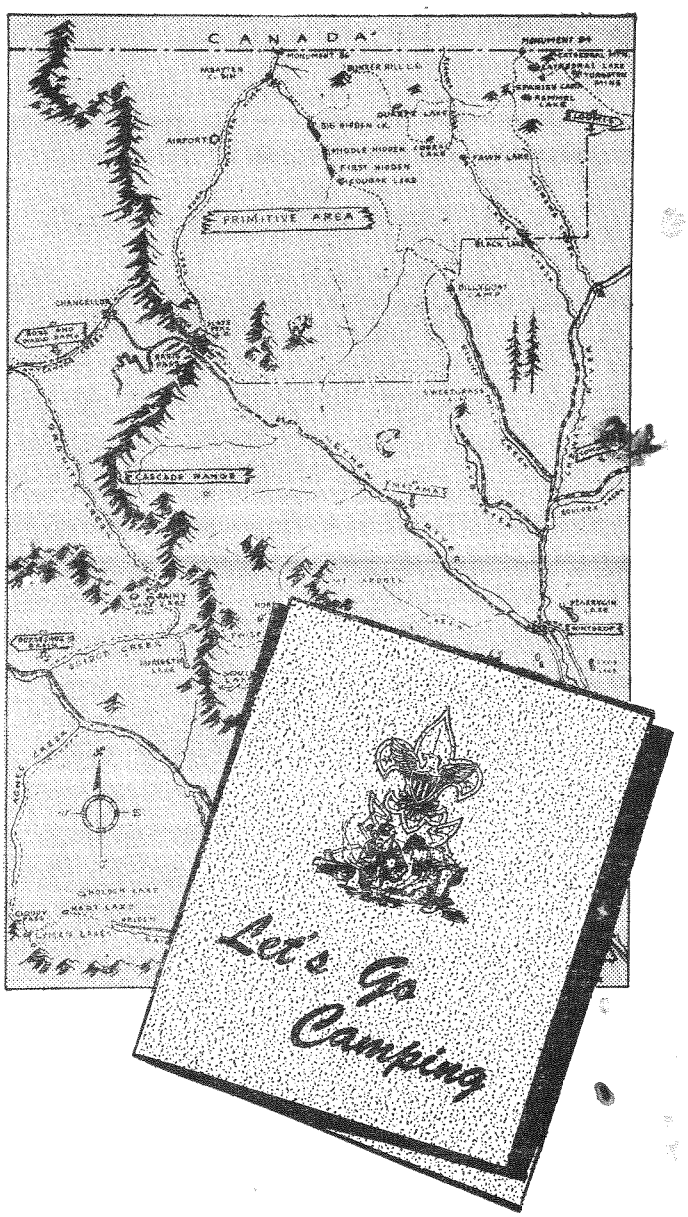
Hike Booklet

By Rev. Wendell Cone, Advisor, Troop 50 American Legion Post, Twisp, Wash.

Soon after we organized our Explorer Crew, the young men looked for some challenging activities. Most of them had gone with the Scouts on back pack trips of 90 to 100 miles in the Cascade Mountains. They decided to get together 35mm colored slides showing the Central Washington mountain country.

With these they worked out a program which they presented to various community groups. Two screens were used, one to project a map, the other to show pictures which were organized by trips. The Explorers encouraged people to take these trips.

It became apparent there was a need for a booklet showing this scenic back country. The fellows undertook the job of compiling the 40 pages and map called *Let's Go Camping* (see illustration). Fifteen pages of advertising paid the printing cost. We sold the booklet instead of giving it away for two reasons — so people would take care of it and so we could raise summer camp funds. People have been enthusiastic about the booklet. It is good advertising for the area and for Exploring.



Sweden Scholarships

As we go to press the winners of the Sweden scholarships were announced to be the following:

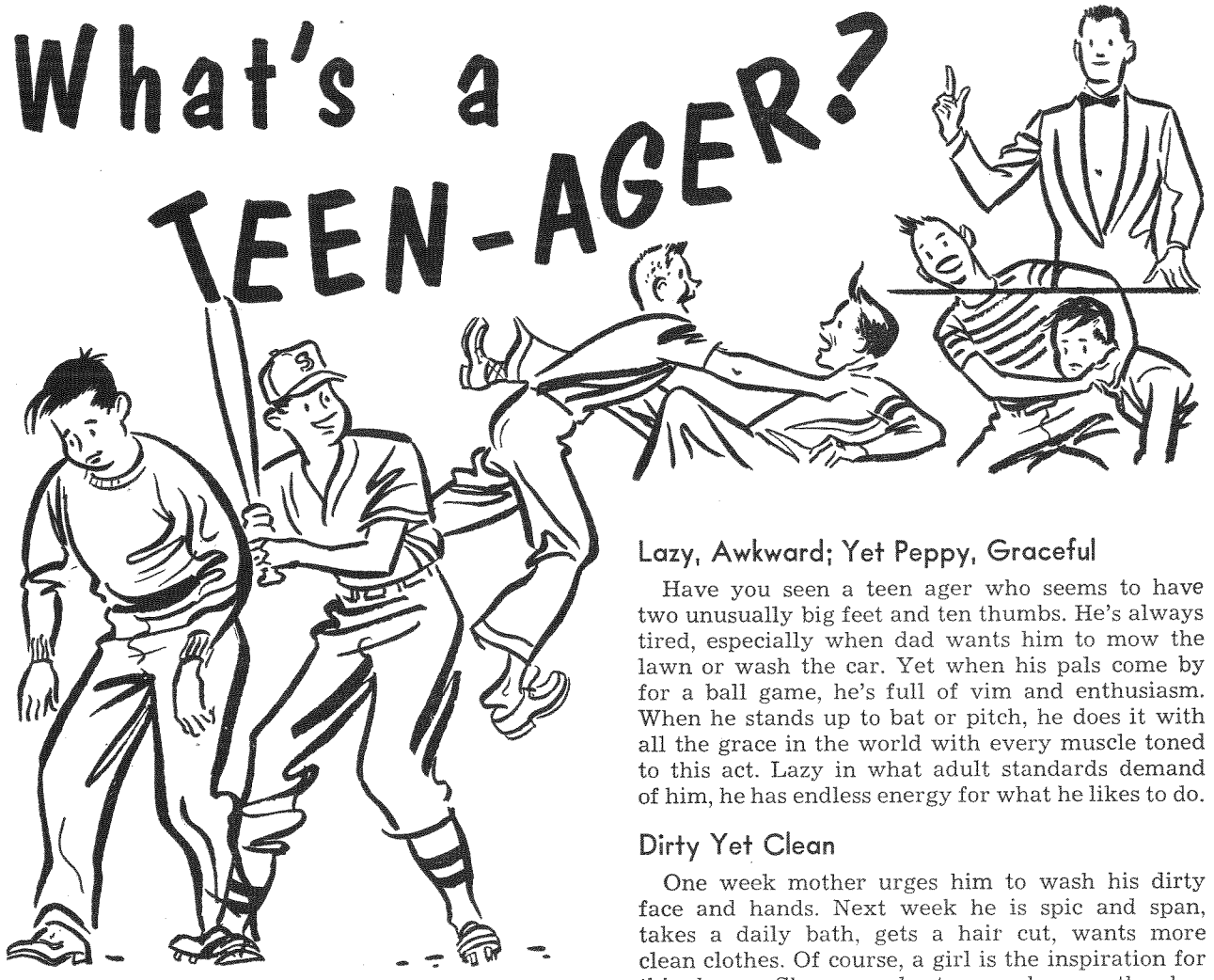
Lamar Evans, Post 45, sponsored by the Wesley Bible Class, Methodist Church, Bay City, Tex.

Louis W. Hart, Troop 5, sponsored by St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Little Rock, Ark.

Arnold Stierman, Advisor, Post 2, sponsored by Radio Station KDTH, Dubuque, Iowa.

A report of their trip to Sweden will be published after they return in November.

What's a TEEN-AGER?



By N. HAROLD WEST
Director, Explorer Service

ANY OF US ADULTS connected with Exploring need to stop looking at the forest occasionally and get a close-up of the trees. In a way we are conservationists — seeking to put young men to the best uses. We will do a better, more satisfying job of this when we examine these most valuable resources on which we spend so many hours and efforts.

In a forest we see many varieties of trees, for example, pine, elm, magnolia, birch. We can go on classifying and sub-classifying them according to similarities, yet no one has ever found two trees exactly alike.

It's the same with Explorers. We can think of them in Posts, Ships, Squadrons, or Crews. We can generalize about an age group's characteristics. However, we must remember that in spite of some similarities, Explorers have enough differences for each to remain a different individual from all others. With this pattern in mind, let us see "What's a teen ager?"

Lazy, Awkward; Yet Peppy, Graceful

Have you seen a teen ager who seems to have two unusually big feet and ten thumbs. He's always tired, especially when dad wants him to mow the lawn or wash the car. Yet when his pals come by for a ball game, he's full of vim and enthusiasm. When he stands up to bat or pitch, he does it with all the grace in the world with every muscle toned to this act. Lazy in what adult standards demand of him, he has endless energy for what he likes to do.

Dirty Yet Clean

One week mother urges him to wash his dirty face and hands. Next week he is spic and span, takes a daily bath, gets a hair cut, wants more clean clothes. Of course, a girl is the inspiration for this change. She succeeds at once where mother has striven for years.

Noisy Yet Dignified

Have you had a group of 14- or 15-year-olds in your house? Whatever they do, it's not long before there's a scuffle. Maybe a lamp or window gets broken. Naturally they are sorry but couldn't help it. Next day any one of them as Crew Leader, football captain, or class president is all business, very official, no horseplay. They're growing up but haven't struck a balance yet — even as some adults haven't fully matured.

Kids Today, Men Tomorrow

Yes, teeners still play with yoyos and water pistols, but in some ways they act like men. One 15-year-old was lying on the lawn with three other fellows. His dad called him to the porch for a bit of help.

Said the son, "Dad, do you know what we were talking about?"

"No, what?"

"What a mess the world is in. And we're getting it straightened out, too. When I finish helping you, we'll do some more about it."

Our Youth Problems or Youths' Problems

A little thought on our part makes us realize that our youth problems today are fewer than the problems that youth have. Check the list below and see which ones you had when you were a teen ager:

1. Thousands of men fighting and being killed and crippled, though we have not declared war.
2. Probability of two years military service at the age of 18.
3. Necessity of at least a high school education and often a college education for desirable jobs.
4. Importance of making a right choice of vocation in view of the specialization required.
5. Wide-spread corruption in offices of public trust.
6. Atomic warfare race.

Their Needs and Wants

Our close-up of the trees, brief as it has been, indicates that even the best specimens need and want help in growing further toward maturity. We see that youth are sensible as well as nonsensical. We know they are worried about their part in the most complex age in history, as well as the most complex age of their own lives.

You and I have an answer to their challenge for understanding advice and clean activities. We have Exploring. In this program young men can democratically decide what to do in four activity fields:

1. *Adventure in the outdoors.*
2. *Getting along socially with others.*
3. *Being of service to others.*
4. *Exploring lifework possibilities.*

They want a chance to walk side by side with men, do men's work, plan with men, give leadership with men, and feel they are really men. When we give them this chance through Exploring, we soon find there is more of the man than the boy in young men.

Some Helps For Us and Them

To aid us in continuing to look closely at our Explorers now and then, the experience of others is available. The following references are short and to the point:

From Boy Scouts of America, 2 Park Ave., New York 16, N. Y.:

Hints On Explorer Leadership (Cat. No. 3482), 25¢, chapter 1, 13 pages.

Handbook For Skippers (Cat. No. 3233), $1.50, chapter II, 9 pages.

From Central Atlantic Area Y.M.C.A., 45 Bleecker St., Newark 2, N. J.:

Toward Understanding Boys in Early Adolescence and *Toward Understanding Boys in Middle Adolescence* by Clarence G. Moser, 15¢ each, 6 pages each.

From Science Research Associates, 57 W. Grand Ave., Chicago 10, Ill.:

Let's Listen To Youth by H. H. Remmers and C. G. Hackett, and *Guiding Children's Social Growth* by Ellis Weitzman; 40¢ each, 48 pages each.

From Public Affairs Committee, 22 E. 38th St., New York 16, N. Y.:

Keeping Up With Teen Agers by Evelyn Millis Duvall, 25¢, 32 pages.

From Little, Brown and Co., Boston, Mass.:

Understanding Your Son's Adolescence by J. Roswell Gallagher, $3.00, 212 pages.

NOVEMBER PLANNING

GET OUT YOUR *Explorer Leader's Program Notebook 1952-1953,* turn to page 32, and look under the November calendar. The holidays listed there — Election Day, Armistice Day, Thanksgiving Day — suggest a variety of activities for Explorers.

November also offers plenty of outdoor action. In most areas late fall hiking and camping can be done with a minimum of cold weather equipment and minus insects. In many states November is the last month of the bass fishing season and also the middle of the waterfowl and upland game hunting seasons. Up along the Canadian border the ponds freeze over enough for the first ice skating. The cool evenings suggest indoor socials and hobbies.

Get Out the Votes

Election Day reminds us of the nation-wide Good Turn all members of the Boy Scouts of America will do before and just on November 4.

The general plan was explained in the lead article of September SCOUTING. This non-partisan drive to get out the vote includes an effort to hang a Liberty Bell on the door knob of every home in America.

Be sure your Explorers go all out to get out the voters. It will be an experience in participating citizenship for everybody concerned. The Nation will be watching the results. The total vote will be counted and compared with former national elections. Let's be proud of our job when the returns are in on November 4.

Thanksgiving

The old-fashioned American Thanksgiving brings to the fore the tradition of service in Exploring. Some Explorer groups assist other organizations in collecting and delivering food baskets, to see that no one goes hungry on this day. Some Explorer groups do the whole job themselves.

Many Units take this occasion to do a Good Turn for their chartered institution in appreciation of the institution's support.

Orienteering

By the time you read this, you will know who won the cross-country orienteering race in the Olympic games. Or didn't you know this Scouting game of racing with compass and map had become a part of the Olympics?

It makes a vigorous day's or half-day's program. If the course isn't too rigorous for dads, dad-and-son teams may compete. If the dads want to take it easy, they can act as officials. They'll still get lots of exercise in setting up the course, but it will be at a slower tempo. The course also can be set so Explorer-and-girl teams compete.

How to conduct orienteering contests is explained in *Council and District Explorer Activities* (Cat. No. 3145), pages 40-41. More detailed information is given in the *Sport of Orienteering,* available from the Silva Company, LaPorte, Ind.

Merit Badge Program Ideas

A crew or whole Unit of Explorers may find a common hobby among the Merit Badge subjects. When the gang goes to work together on a hobby, they have more fun and learn more.

Completion of the Star, Life, and Eagle ranks offers a project for individuals or groups. Anyone who cannot finish a rank by December 31, had better follow the realigned requirements to avoid completing projects that will become obsolete at the end of this year. This is explained in *Realigned Requirements for Star, Life, and Eagle* (Cat. No. 3034); in the June 1952 printing of the *Handbook for Boys,* and in the June-July issue of SCOUTING.

The Merit Badges required for the Emergency Service Explorer award suggest many hours of program activity. When a Crew or Unit decide they will all qualify as Emergency Service Explorers by a certain date, they can work out a schedule of progress in the requirements.

The new simplified Emergency Service requirements were given in the June-July issue of SCOUTING, and are also in the 1952 printings of the *Explorer Manual* and the *Sea Explorer Manual.*

Money From Babies

Fellows wanting to earn money for the Jamboree or other purposes often find baby-sitting a profitable source of income. The *Baby-sitters' Handbook* by Judy Flanders, published by Science Research Associates, 57 W. Grand Ave., Chicago 10, Ill., at 40¢, tells how to get started in the business or how to improve one's technique and income.

October BOYS' LIFE

While scratching your head with one hand for program plans, with the other hand turn the pages of the October BOYS' LIFE and you'll find:

"Carbide Cavemen" about Explorer cave explorers, "Listen in on the World" about ham radio listening award, "Leave It to the Pros" about forest fire fighting, and "Here's Exploring."

In the how-to line are a model plane, bike stand, dark room clock, rustic folding stool, model railroad station, pen and pencil sheath, Jamboree pack, skiing, and photography.

Explorer Leaders' Roundtable

District or Local Council Roundtables held in October will relate to November plans. Below is a suggested summary of an agenda. Remember that elected leaders such as Senior Crew Leader, Crew Leaders, and Secretary should attend with the Advisor, Assistant Advisor, and Unit Committeemen.

OCTOBER ROUNDTABLE AGENDA

TOPIC — Three-Month Program Planning.

MAIN IDEA — To get across by practice the methods of quarterly program planning in a Troop, Crew or Explorer Unit, using the *Explorer Leaders Program. Notebook.*

EXHIBIT — *Program Notebook.* SCOUTING Magazine reprint on program planning. Copies of Units' previous quarterly program schedules.

FEATURE — Motion picture "Colorado River Expedition" available through Local Council.

DEMONSTRATION — Filmstrip "Planning a Three-Month Explorer Program" available through Local Council.

PROJECT — Whole group plans a Unit or Troop-Crew program for Winter Quarter (December-January-February) following eight steps outlined in *Program Notebook.*

OPEN FORUM — Reports from selected Units or Crews who have used these quarterly planning methods.

By Dr. WILLIAM C. MENNINGER

National Committee on Exploring, National Court of Honor, National Executive Board. Eagle Scout, Quartermaster Sea Explorer, Silver Beaver, Silver Antelope, Silver Buffalo.
Former Skipper, Scoutmaster, Cubmaster, Council President, Topeka, Kansas.
His Sea Explorer Ship for three years held what now corresponds to National Standard Rating.

This message is an explanation to Skippers and other Sea Scouters as to the part Sea Exploring plays in the total Explorer Program.

A Message to Skippers

THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 400,000 EXPLORERS now in the program of the Boy Scouts of America. Of this number approximately 20,000 or five per cent are Sea Explorers. The remaining ninety-five per cent belong to the Air Explorer, Post Explorer, and Explorer Crew in the Troop programs.

As a member of the National Committee on Exploring, I can assure you that the committee is deeply interested in Sea Exploring. We cannot forget that this was the first and for about twenty years the only separate program for older Scouts. As such it made a great contribution in the lives of thousands of young men.

Sea Exploring, or Sea Scouting as it was called, has attracted a rather stable number of youth. Since 1935 the membership has hovered in the twenty thousands. Although many Ships are located inland, the bulk of them were along the coasts and waterways. Adequate as the program was for the young men enrolled, obviously Sea Exploring did not appeal to or meet the needs of thousands of other young men.

Leaders of the Boy Scouts of America felt obligated to extend the influence of the Movement's activities and ideals — particularly the ideals. The objective was two-fold; to keep the older Scouts in the ranks longer and to bring in other young men who had no previous Scouting experience.

To this end several major changes have been made during the last fifteen years. In 1936 Sea Scouting became a part of a broader Senior Scouting Program. Also included was Explorer Scouting with Explorer Patrols in Troops and separate Explorer Troops. In 1942 Air Scouting was introduced. In 1945 the system of Explorer Scout Advancement now called Recognitions, was set up. In 1949 the present organization under the term "Exploring" was established, including Crews in Troops and Explorer status for all Scouts at age fourteen.

The results in numbers and tenure have been gratifying. But the Explorer Committee and other members of the National Council are not resting there. They are constantly on the lookout for new ways of bringing young men into Exploring and keeping them longer.

Sea Exploring like the other branches of the Explorer family, depends primarily on its merits as a program and on the efforts of its leaders. We hope that all Skippers and Sea Scouters in America will double their efforts to improve their Ship's activities and get double the number of Explorers aboard.

Also we are hopeful that many more Sea Explorer Ships will be organized so that more young men can have the advantage of the program. Those of us now in the ranks can assist the officials in our Local Councils with the organization of new Ships. Better programs in existing Ships will also stimulate the interest of older fellows in forming their own Ships.

The backing of the community and of institutions which will serve as sponsors for Ships can be won by Sea Explorers giving civic service. With this should go an alertness toward public relations, letting the community know in a dignified manner through the press and radio what the Sea Explorers are doing.

I am sure that every Skipper is interested in seeing that every young man stays in the Scouting Movement as long as possible, in whatever phase of Exploring the young man desires. Our interest in youth comes first, our interest in a particular program second. All of us want to encourage young men to develop into good citizens by living the Scout Oath and Law through the Explorer program.

Good Sea Exploring to you.