INSIGHNIA, UNIFORM and FLAG Changes

By HERBERT W. LUNN
Assistant Secretary, Committee on Insignia and Uniform

SEVERAL RECENT CHANGES approved by the Committee on Insignia and Uniform are called to the attention of all Scouters.

Standardized Shoulder Insignia

Community Strips, State Strips and Unit Numerals will have a "new look" in 1954. A standardized insignia has been approved by the National Executive Board. Instead of the present complex system of six different color combinations for the six uniforms of Scouting — we will have just one — white lettering and numerals on a red background. Yes, this means that Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Explorers, Sea Explorers (2 uniforms), Air Explorers and all leaders will eventually wear standardized white on red shoulder insignia.

Now, don't rush for the new badges right away. It may be early 1954 before we can make the complete change, especially in Unit numerals, for our 3 million plus, membership. In some cases, as soon as the present supply is used up, the new will be made available this year.

For official inspections, both color combinations are correct while this change is taking place. We ask your cooperation in accepting such strips and numerals as your local distributor can supply.

Lettering of Community Strips

In order to clear up misunderstandings regarding the lettering of community strips, the following amended and up-to-date regulation governing this matter was approved.

Community Strips (Unit Personnel)

"All members of Packs, Troops and Explorer Units may wear an arc-shaped strip on the left sleeve of the uniform touching the shoulder seam, and lettered in white on a red background, with the name of the community in which the chartered institution is located. In some cases, as may be determined by the Local Council, the strip may be lettered with the name of the community in which the Unit meets if it differs from that of the chartered institution."

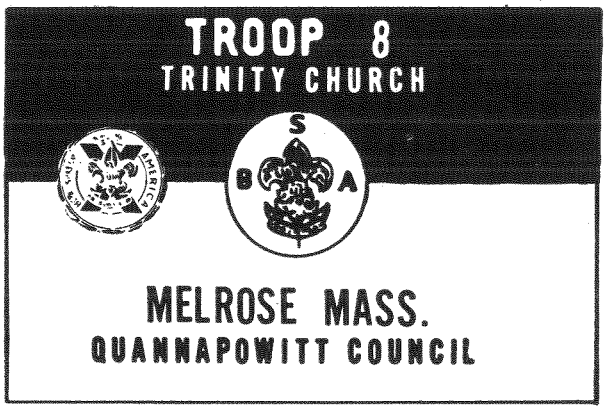
Local Council Shoulder Insignia

Local Council and District Scouters, (other than Unit Leaders, who wear their own Unit community strip), may wear a red strip, or patch, similar to the community strip, carrying the name of the Local Council.

The regulation reads:

Local Council Shoulder Insignia

"Local Council Scouters, including Commissioners and Executives, may wear a red strip or patch on the left sleeve of the uniform coat or shirt, touching the shoulder seam, carrying the name of the Council. The present sized strip to be used by Councils with short names and a larger sized patch by Councils with long names. All lettering will be in white. This insignia may not be worn by Unit personnel."



This is the new shaped Troop flag.

It will be noted in the above regulation that a District designation is not provided, as it is felt that District officials represent the Council in carrying out their responsibilities.

Silver Arrowhead Honor

The Silver Arrowhead is henceforth authorized for all Arrowhead Honor Awards, in connection with the volunteer training program.

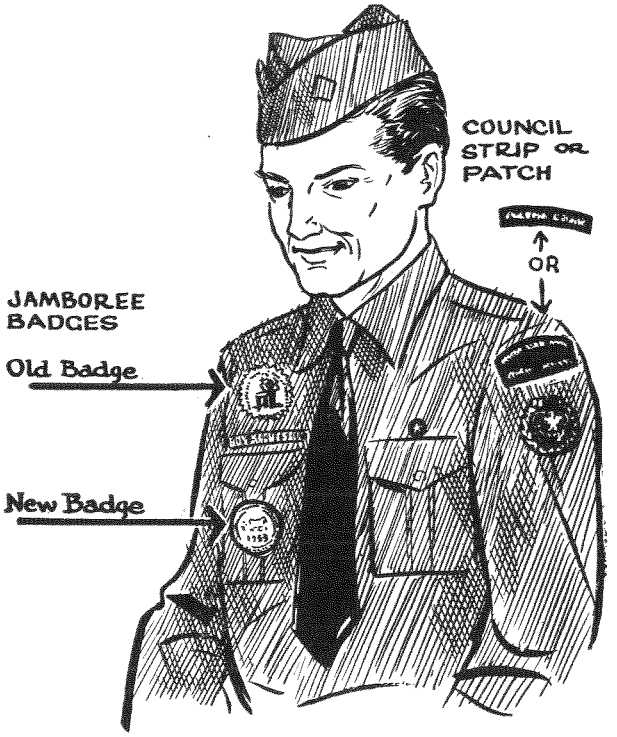
NOTE: This regulation eliminates the use of the Gold Arrowhead.

New Merit Badges

The approved designs for the new Merit Badges in Railroading and Geology are shown on page 7.

Modifications in Flag Regulations

From flag orders received, at the National Supply Service Division, it has appeared that Units, possibly because of illustrations used, have been under the impression that a flag to be properly lettered must include the name of the chartered institution and the Local Council. Actually, the lettering confined to the Unit name, number and location is all that is necessary and in most cases, more suitable because of the size of the flag. To clear up this mis-



understanding the following action was authorized governing our official flags:

(a) LETTERING OF UNIT FLAGS

PACK AND TROOP FLAGS — That, as a minimum, these flags be lettered with the type of Unit and number, the community and state. The name of the chartered institution and/or the Local Council, may be added if desired.

EXPLORER UNIT FLAGS — That, as a minimum these flags be lettered with the type of Unit and number, the community and state. The name of the Explorer Unit, chartered institution and/or the Local Council, may be added if desired.

(b) VETERAN EMBLEMS

In the interest of standardization and simplification, Veteran Emblems will be affixed on all Unit flags, midway between the top and bottom of the flag, and midway between the pole and the flag emblem.

(c) CRUSADE SHIELD

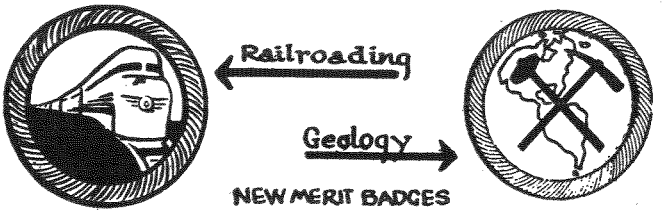
The 1951 Crusade Shield should be affixed to the Unit flag, to the right of the 1950 shield, nearest the edge of the flag.

(d) TROOP FLAG — (*Change of Shape*)

In order to standardize the shape of all Unit flags the elimination of the notch was authorized. In the future the Troop flag will be rectangular in shape.

"Hoe-Down" Vests

We have all been concerned with the growing tendency for personnel in many sections of the country to wear on formal or official occasions, a "hoe-down" vest of buckskin, invariably covered with patches and insignia of all descriptions. Letters from Scout Executives protesting the wearing of "hoe-down" vests, and questions raised by others, were considered by the Committee on Insignia and



Uniform. In order to clarify this situation, the following resolution was adopted:

"That the Committee on Insignia and Uniform records its DISAPPROVAL of the wearing of the so-called "hoe-down" vest with or without insignia, by Scouts, Explorers and Leaders on formal, official occasions where the uniform is prescribed. The "hoe-down" vest, or buckskin jacket is not part of the official uniform and should only be worn on informal occasions such as around a campfire. Scouts, Explorers and leaders participating in formal assemblies, flag ceremonies or religious services; or serving as ushers, orderlies or aides at large gatherings, should appear only in the officially prescribed uniform with insignia correctly placed."

Badge Swapping

Another problem in the field of insignia considered by the Committee was the increasing demands by mail and otherwise for the exchange, or swapping of badges of all kinds. There is a feeling among many of our men in the field that while we should encourage the swapping of novelties at Jamborees, we should definitely discourage the swapping of "restricted" insignia. The Committee therefore adopted the following resolution:

"That the Committee on Insignia and Uniform records its DISAPPROVAL of the swapping of badges and insignia which require the owner to meet specific standards or degrees of service such as badges of rank, office or achievement, or other restricted insignia."

Temporary Insignia

The Committee, after considerable discussion, reaffirmed its established policy concerning temporary insignia, that:

"All insignia, such as patches earned or won at camporees, canoe trips, camps, etc., shall be considered as 'temporary insignia' and shall be worn centered on the right pocket of the uniform, and that only ONE such patch or insignia may be worn, except for National and International Jamboree Insignia, prescribed for wearing on the right pocket during the Jamboree, which may be transferred to the space above the right breast pocket after the Jamboree. In this location only one Jamboree Insignia may be worn."

You are asked to encourage the use of a "trophy hide," or a blanket, as the proper place for exhibiting the various insignia earned or won during Scouting experiences.

In this connection it should also be remembered that the merit badge sash is to be used for Merit Badges only. The sash is not intended as a place for any temporary insignia or badges of rank.

THE EXPLORER PROGRAM

IN POSTS, SHIPS, SQUADRONS, TROOP CREWS:

1. ADVENTURING IN THE OUTDOORS.
2. GETTING ALONG SOCIALLY WITH OTHERS.
3. BEING OF SERVICE TO OTHERS.
4. EXPLORING LIFEWORK POSSIBILITIES.

SUMMER QUARTER

TWO POINTS OF EMPHASIS

It's characteristic of Explorer leaders to be proud of their program and wish to see Exploring reach more young men. We are proud of the many men who have given so much over the years to the growth of Exploring. We feel that you should know of the "Two Points of Emphasis for 1953":

I. *Organization of new Explorer Posts, Ships, Squadrons, and Troop Crews for:*
   A. Fellows never before in Scouting.
   B. Former Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts.
   C. Explorers now in Troops.

II. *Support these new and existing groups with:*
   A. District and Council Explorer activities.
   B. Explorer leaders Roundtables.
   C. Immediate leadership training.

You realize that the emphasis on these two points can be effective only when given within your Local Council and others throughout the country. It needs the support of everyone who is acquainted with Exploring.

Each Council has received a step by step plan to put across these points of emphasis. We know you Explorer leaders are alert to spread the good word on Exploring.

SUMMER'S FOR EXPEDITIONS

For Explorers the summer quarter is the season of high adventure, expeditions, cruises, and wilderness camps. It brings the yearly highlight for which there have been months of preparation.

This year Explorers will be on the move! They'll be going to the National Jamboree at Irvine Ranch in California, the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, the Region 10 Sommers Canoe Base in Minnesota, the Region 7 Explorer Landing in Wisconsin, and on hundreds of other smaller expeditions.

All organized parties of Explorers on extended trips beyond the areas of Local Council supervision must have National Council Tour Permits. The application for such a permit (Cat. No. 4419) is very helpful in making your plans. Get a copy from your Council office. Following are a few of the suggestions found in the application.

Able and trained leaders, the best guarantee for the success of any Explorer activity, are especially necessary on a tour. Experience has proved that adult leaders should be available in the ratio of one to every ten Explorers.

Some questions to answer in advance are: Whom to notify in case of accident? Where to cash travelers checks, money orders, bank drafts? What to do in case of accidental separation of party? Who will take charge in case leader cannot continue? How to meet appointments after breakdown or delay?

Leaders and Explorers should be impressed that by their appearance and actions the public will judge not only them but all Explorers and all Scouting.

PROGRAM HELPS IN OUR MAGAZINES

Outside the Explorer section of this issue you will find program helps on pages 6-7, 17-19 and 20.

In the May BOYS' LIFE are these program helps particularly suitable for Explorers:

Photo contest. Trips to national parks. Fishing fun. Gas model plane. Care of rifle. Purchase and care of knives. Boat mooring know-how. Making rain chaps. Swamp exploration. "Here's Exploring."

SUMMER INFORMALITY

The annual highlight is not the only summer activity. Suggestions for other events are contained on pages of the *Explorer Leaders Program Notebook,* shown at the right. Yes, the events themselves will likely be more informal than at other times of the year. Yet the same care in planning and running them is essential.

ASSOCIATE EXPLORER

Occasionally older Explorers are unable to continue as active Explorers but do want to continue their membership with the Post, Ship, Squadron or Troop Crew. For example, there are the fellows who go away to college. An Explorer may be an associate if he:

1. Is under 21 years old.
2. Attends at least one Unit or Crew meeting each year.
3. Has the permission of the Advisor.
4. Is guided in all other respects by the obligations of an active member.

"Forward On SUMMER QUARTER

JUNE, '53

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

June 14—Fag Day
June 21—Father's Day

JULY, '53

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

July 4—Independence Day

AUGUST, '53

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Aug. 15—Assumption Day

THINGS TO REMEMBER IN PLANNING

(Plan in May for June, July, August.)

1. The climax of whole year's program — summer vacation time. Hold the big yearly "Expedition Highlight."
2. Some Explorers work, are away, but those at home want to do something. Plan with them.
3. Summertime is opportune to try outdoor skills studied during winter months.
4. Have all meetings and events outdoors.
5. Obtain Merit Badges and Ratings.
6. Meet for one highlight monthly—an outdoor activity. This may be simple, but it will keep the gang together.
7. Schedule participation in District and Council Events.

LEADERS' COUNCIL NOTES

1. Check Unit Rating Plan progress in your Unit, pages 14 and 15.
2. Have Scribe complete Individual Record Sheet No. 4430 on each Explorer.
3. Plan Fall Quarter in August or early September.

"Liberty's Team" PROGRAM IDEAS

Outdoor

National Jamboree
Philmont
Swim Meet
Regatta
Nature Trip
Boating & Sailing
Archery
Fishing Trip
Photography Trip
Long Cruises
Historical Trip
Docks
Ports
Forests & Parks
Fish Hatcheries

Service

Model Plane Meet
Emergency Units
County Fair First Aid Units
Camp Leadership
Ushering
Trail Building
Canoe and Boat Demonstration Team
Help with Cub Scout Pack outings
Teach children to swim

Social

Water Ski
Song Fests
Campfires
Splash Party
Picnics, Mothers
Joint Social
Stag Party
Roller Skating
Canoe or Boat Party
Archery (co-ed)
Bowling
Scavenger Hunt
Bike Trip (co-ed)
Attend Baseball Game

Indoor (Vocational)

Airports and Air Bases
Naval Stations
Weather Bureau Observations
Radio Stations
Broadcasts
Power Plants
Factories
Manufacturing Plants
Gov't Offices
Community Offices
Boat Building
In August elect Officers and Program Planning Chairman and plan Annual and Fall Quarter Programs.

SUGGESTED EXPLORER LEADERS ROUNDTABLES

The Roundtable of your Local Council or District should occupy a regular spot on the calendar of your Explorer Leaders Council. All Leaders Council members are invited to the Roundtables. Included are the adults and young men elected officers.

JUNE

TOPIC — FIELD SPORTS

To plan community or district field sports event.

EXHIBITS

Equipment for Moskeeto, riflery, archery, fly and bait casting, fire by flint and steel or friction, canoeing, pioneering crafts.

DEMONSTRATION

Instruction and Crew competition in field sports.

FEATURE

Picnic dinner by families. Campfire with songs and stunts. Coach or sportsman ta talk on field sports as hobbies later in life.

JULY

TOPIC — DISTRICT SWIM MEET

To have a district swim meet more for fun and fellowship rather than competition or proficiency.

EXHIBITS

Prizes and awards (may be homemade and humorous).

DEMONSTRATION

Swimming strokes. Lifesaving from shore and boat. Canoe and boat safety.

FEATURE

Invite the public. Have businessmen and coaches as judges and officials.

EXPLORER BLUE RIBBON

You like Blue Ribbon Events, don't you? Others will like your BRE. Write us a letter about it and get a Thank You certificate. For photos used this year we pay $5.

VOCATIONAL

Airport Visit

By Richard D'Orazio, Sr. Crew Leader, Post 363
Madonna House, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Along with other Explorers from the Southern District of our Council we visited the Philadelphia International Airport. The greatest thrill of all was the chance to ride in a U. S. Air Force C-47. During the rest of the day we were shown everything from fire fighting equipment to the control tower.

SOCIAL

Reunion Party

By Frank Merriman, Skipper, Ship 100
American Legion, San Francisco, California

Our Ship participated in a regional camp on Catalina Island for Explorers from all over California. The next fall we decided to organize a party for all Explorer Units in northern California that had been at the camp.

Here are some of the arrangements made by the Ship's social committee. Decorated the club house. Borrowed a public address system from the Navy. Obtained refreshments from the mothers. Invited girls through the Girl Scout Council as dates for our Explorer guests. Quartered Explorer guests in Ship members' homes.

The program consisted of a dance, bridge of awards, and campfire. The latter was put on by three staff members of the Catalina camp who had come from Los Angeles to attend the party. The next morning we took our guests to church and then sailing on our twenty-foot boat.

About fifty guest Explorers attended this party, coming as far as a hundred miles. The event made the society page of the newspapers. We felt we had a better understanding of "A Scout Is Friendly."

OUTDOOR

Hawaiian Cruise

By Jerry Collins, Mate, Ship 25
Junior Chamber of Commerce, Honolulu, Hawaii

Twenty-five of us, mostly Apprentices, and two officers embarked for an overnight cruise from the home port to Pokai Bay, Waianae. We were aboard the *Cholita II*, a 35-foot power cruiser.

No docking facilities being available at Pokai Bay, we anchored 200 yards offshore and landed through the surf via inflated life raft. Two men were left aboard for anchor watch.

Camp was set up high on a beach beside a thicket of keawe brush. This furnished firewood and protection from the trade winds.

After a successful camp, we embarked for home and soon encountered choppy seas. Then the engines quit. In answer to distress signals, a Navy crash boat took the *Cholita II* in tow and docked us at

Fire Department, Red Cross, Explorers Cooperate on Emergency Service in West Frankfort, Illinois

EVENTS

SPRING QUARTER

Pearl Harbor. After securing ship, we returned home by bus.

All of us had passed the Ordinary Cruising requirement and acquired a hearty respect for King Neptune and his briny kingdom. Incidentally all of us hold the Swimming Merit Badge. We look forward to our next salt water cruise.

SERVICE

Emergency Service Pay-Off

By Hubert S. Speers, Advisor, Post 46
Second Baptist Church, West Frankfort, Illinois

Our Post works closely with the Fire Department in emergencies. We are listed on their callboard and are ready to mobilize, day or night, with emergency packs.

We have become familiar with the emergency equipment shown in the picture. With the firemen we have completed the Red Cross standard and advanced first aid courses. Last October we called a simulated emergency mobilization and practiced lost person search tactics.

A month later came the pay-off in our training. A small boy was lost in a rural area. His parents appealed to the sheriff and city police. They in turn called for help from the firemen and Explorers. Some of our Explorers found the boy in the woods about two miles from home, cold, hungry, but unhurt.

OUTDOOR

Pink Cloud Expedition

By Charles E. McGill, Committeeman, Post 13
St. Mary's School, Evanston, Illinois

Eighteen months ahead our Explorers decided they would like to go to Philmont Scout Ranch. One fellow was appointed Event Director for the trip. With the help of an adult counselor he gathered information about fees, transportation, and other expenses. Then the fun began.

Many evenings were spent choosing which trip would be the most fun. After talking to a local Explorer who had been there, they picked a wagon train trip. They took a period in August to allow more time to earn money for it.

Still they needed their parents' support, so they earned and put aside a little money without letting the cat out of the bag at home. Then came a parents' night. A Philmont movie was shown, and that same local Explorer told of his experiences.

When the Advisor explained what it would cost, you could see the parents' faces drop. Not one of them could hand out $150. Now the boys pulled out their Sunday punch. It wouldn't cost dad and mom a cent! They told of their earnings and plans for earning the rest. The meeting ended with the parents saying, "Hop to it son; if you can earn the money, you earn our blessing."

Man alive, how they worked! Caddying, paper routes, shining shoes at the country club, cutting grass at the cemetery, raking leaves, even laying bricks were a few of the jobs they did. It was hard work. Regularly they got together to talk over how things were going. Laggers were given pep talks, and slowly the money piled up.

Finally they made it. Nineteen Explorers and a leader climbed aboard their own car on the Grand Canyon Limited. For the next twenty-three days they would walk on a well-earned pink cloud at Philmont.

Six Explorers of Troop 44, English Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wis., received Pro Deo Et Patria awards from their Pastor, Rev. H. Juneau, at church service during Boy Scout Week. Next day three received Eagle awards. Four will go to National Jamboree.

COUNTY FAIR *Oasis*

By PAUL W. MOORE
Assistant National Director, Explorer Service

"COME RIGHT IN FOLKS! Sit in the shade and have a drink of ice water." This invitation was as welcome as an oasis in the desert. It came from the youngest barker on the parched, dusty fairgrounds. He represented the local Explorers who had noticed a shortage of shade and resting places at the county fair.

They decided they had a remedy. To it they contributed their time, skill, and courtesy. The materials were borrowed. They pitched a big tarp over a scaffolding. Inside were chairs, tables with Explorer literature and displays, a cot and a first aid kit. Right in the center was the water cooler to quench thirst free of charge.

Out front the American and Explorer flags fluttered in the hot breeze. Over the door was a homemade sign "Come In and Rest Awhile." This friendly greeting set the tone of good will that filled the place. It was the most popular gathering spot on the grounds.

The Explorers were busy inviting people in, seeing that they were comfortable, and answering their questions about the displays. The guests had friendly smiles and thanks for these young men who were giving them what they needed most at the moment — a place to sit down and a cool drink.

Two types of service

Novel as this idea may have been, it is only one way that Explorers can take part in such important gatherings of farm and town folks. There are two general types of participation in county fairs.

First, is the *exhibit* type which displays and demonstrates the Scouting program, its skills, activities, and ideals. Through this type, direct appeals can be made for more sponsors, leaders, financial support, and use of the program in rural areas.

The second type of participation is *service* to the public at the fair. The public sees the Good Turn and civic attitude in practice. Also evident are the discipline and teamwork learned through Exploring.

Exhibit or service activities may take a few hours, a day, or several days. Fair officials should furnish meals for Explorers who are giving service and may do so for Explorers putting on exhibitions. When Explorers stay overnight, quarters or space for camping should be furnished them. They should be under adult Explorer leadership.

A camp on the fairgrounds should be set up only if conditions and facilities are adequate for Explorer standards. Sanitation such as water supply, food storage, dust control, etc., must be carefully checked. Also it must be possible to close the camp during certain hours of the day and night.

Popular with Explorers and fairgoers is the demonstration camp where Explorers show their skills, cook meals, and may stay overnight. The latter is not necessary for good demonstrations.

Audience participation

Areas in the camp where the audience can try their skill after a little coaching are popular. Since rural people are familiar with rope, a rope yard is an attraction. The new back pressure arm lift artificial respiration is a worthy project for audience participation. Field sports such as canoe portaging, bait casting, buck-sawing, archery, fishing golf may be featured where there is room and provisions taken for safety. Folks will talk of the fun they had doing these things at the Explorer exhibit.

Explorers on service assignments may or may not live on the fairgrounds. They should not be expected to give demonstrations in their spare hours. Explorers often serve as grandstand ushers, guides, escorts, messengers, and information booth attendants. Service should be avoided that competes with the labor market, has commercial implications, or involves policing.

Get Explorers' help in planning such service and exhibit projects at your fair. They'll enjoy being in the public eye if the activity is on an adult level. And they'll come through with a better understanding of human nature, more poise, and the satisfaction of serving others.

Fireside chats

GOOD MANNERS

By N. HAROLD WEST
National Director, Explorer Service

Using Fireside Chats

Fireside Chats were introduced in the January SCOUTING as a way to get your Explorers to talk over their problems together — and as a way for you to get to understand and advise them better.

The pattern we suggest for a chat is:

1. *Introduction of the topic by a quotation, or brief story to stir the Explorers' thinking.*
2. *Free-for-all discussion led by the Advisor.*

The true story in the next column is offered as an example of how to introduce the topic of good manners. Tell the story in your own words; don't read it. If you know of an incident "close to home," use that instead. The easier it is for Explorers to identify themselves with the story, the more it stimulates their thinking.

The discussion leader's job is to get everyone else to think and talk. If he does it well, he draws out the shy fellows by directing questions at them. Also he tones down the "windy" ones by suggesting they wait their turn before speaking repeatedly.

Practically everything a discussion leader says can be phrased as a question. Occasionally he can make direct statements to summarize the conclusions already reached.

Prepare a set of leading questions beforehand to start the discussion, to keep it going, and to reach worthwhile conclusions. Such questions should lead to talk on both sides of a point. Phrase them so they can't be answered by a simple yes or no. Ask for reasons back of opinions expressed by the Explorers.

The best chats or bull sessions are informal. The opportune time for one may come unexpectedly. For instance the subject of manners may come up before a party when the fellows want to learn a few more of the answers about etiquette and courtesy. Or for the same reason the subject may come up *after* the party.

On the other hand a chat might be deliberately planned to follow a monthly unit meeting, or around the fireplace at a stag party in someone's home.

When one of your chats goes over well, outline it so it can be passed on to others. Send it to Explorer Service, Boy Scouts of America, 2 Park Avenue, New York 16, N. Y.

He Ate His Opportunity

The Advisor tells this story and adds something like the comments and questions following it.

Recently five men on a selection committee were choosing a senior high school student for a five thousand dollar scholarship to attend a foreign university and study engineering for three years. They narrowed their selections to three young men and invited them to New York.

From scholastic reports, letters of recommendation, and personal interviews the candidates rated closely. But it looked as though John had a slight edge. Then the committee and the candidates had dinner together. John ate like a glutton.

Yes, John missed out on his great opportunity.

Not all of us, of course, are candidates for five thousand dollar scholarships. But we are candidates for the approval of our friends, acquaintances, and even the strangers we meet every day.

We know good manners mean much to us. Then why do we so often neglect them? I have a few questions that may help us to answer that question. Let's talk it over and see how we can do more about our manners — or more *with* them.

1. What are some of the things that would happen around you if everyone stopped being courteous?

2. Why are we sometimes discourteous? (Because we're ignorant? Bashful? Forgetful? Unkind? In a hurry? Too busy?)

3. How can we overcome each of these reasons?

4. How does courtesy apply on tour in meeting the public and using such facilities of the National Parks?

This fireside chat might lead into an evening of discussion and demonstration of social manners with a dad and mother as coaches. For instance, discuss what parents expect of a young man who takes their daughter out for an evening. Discuss and demonstrate making introductions, asking a girl for a date over the phone, asking for a dance.

Helpful pamphlets on manners are:

Your Ticket To Popularity, Boy Scouts of America (Cat. No. 3020) 10c.

Where Are Your Manners? and *Dating Days,* Science Research Associates, 228 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 4, Ill., 40c each.

Popularity Plus, Pocket Book Jr., 35c.