CANNED HELP. *Hearing of the suffering of families in flood-ravaged Logansport, Indiana, last winter, Scouts from Troops 10, 22, and 42 of nearby Michigan City gathered 3,200 pounds of canned goods from friends and neighbors. Here is part of the load that was delivered to the Salvation Army.*

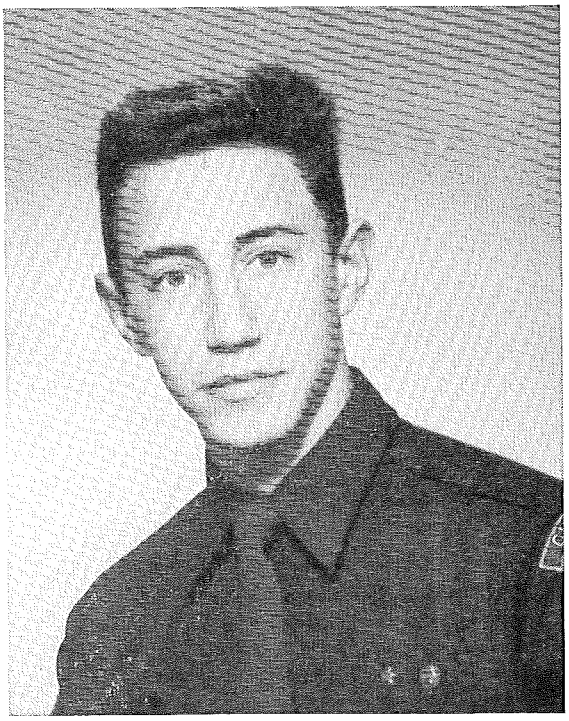
FIRST, FIND THE VICTIM. *Somewhere beneath that pile of clothing is a "victim" getting first aid from Scouts of Troop 21, sponsored by The American Legion, Mansfield, Pennsylvania. The team was one of many in a district first aid meet. It was a case of learning by competing.*

SCOUTS NOT CHAGRINED. The Frederick Doran family with five children was partially isolated by the Chagrin River flood in Ohio last winter. The Red Cross delivered a ton of coal as near as possible to the house. To add to the problem, Mr. Doran had a broken ankle. Twenty Scouts of Troop 130, Mayfield Village, and Troop 139, Mayfield Heights, solved the problem by toting the coal in sacks the last mile across muddy fields.

TORCH RELAY. The opening of the 1959 Pan-American Games in Chicago will feature a torch relayed by hundreds of Scouts over 2,220 miles from Mexico City, site of the last games. Boys of the Association of Scouts of Mexico will carry the torch 760 miles to Laredo, Texas, where an exchange ceremony will be held at the border on August 4. Older Scouts and Explorers will then relay the torch 1,460 miles across Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, and Illinois, arriving at Soldiers Field, Chicago, on August 26.

HE HAD LEARNED. Mrs. Frank Reuter probably owes her life to Johnny Meyers, a former Scout of Troop 85, Williams Air Force Base, Chandler, Arizona. When a live wire fell and started a fire, Mrs. Reuter started to turn a hose on the blaze. Johnny stopped her with the explanation that he had "learned in Boy Scouts that a person could be electrocuted that way."

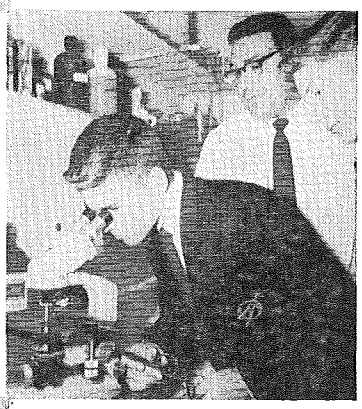
FOR BRAVERY. *When Scout Harold T. Murray, Jr., of Charleston, South Carolina, heard the terrified scream of a woman who had been bitten by a deadly copperhead, he quickly killed the snake and applied the proper treatment. For his courage and quick thinking he received a Congressional Young America Medal for Bravery. Now an Explorer, Harold is a page in the U.S. House of Representatives.*



Explorers learn distribution of disaster cases in Clarksdale hospital drill.

Rx FOR

Medical Post 2 practices reception of patients as one of its assignments in Coahoma County Hospital's disaster plan. Other assignments include traffic control and communications.



Laboratory projects comprise post meeting activities of New Jersey Medical Sciences Post 4.

Doctor and Advisor Seymour Werthamer works with Post 4 Explorers in laboratory of the Paul Kimball Hospital. Post meetings are held in the doctors' lounge nearby.

We know that 83 per cent of high-school age boys want more vocational information to help them choose and prepare for careers.* One result of this mandate is the provision in our new Exploring program of special interests for posts that desire them.

Two early samples of groups organized specifically on the basis of a career are Medical Sciences Post 4 of Lakewood, New Jersey, and Medical Post 2 of Clarksdale, Mississippi. Before seeing how they operate—using the term loosely—let's understand what a specialty is.

It is any field of activity that post members are especially interested in and concentrate their program on for a period of time. This includes vocations as well as hobbies and sports.

Medical science is a career field typical of professions that are broad enough to offer a variety of absorbing post activities. Likewise it acquaints young men with a variety of occupations within the profession.

"By the book" in Jersey

Dr. B. W. Gartlan, council Exploring chairman, organized Medical Sciences Post 4 in Lakewood "strictly by the book" (*Organizing an Explorer Unit*, No. 3144A). The staff of Paul Kimball Hospital enthusiastically agreed to sponsor the post. Five doctors formed the post committee; they held formal meetings monthly and informal meetings almost daily. Dr. Seymour Werthamer, pathologist, became Advisor and his technician, Edward M. Covitz, associate Advisor.

Guidance directors of two high schools furnished the names of boys with high grades and an interest in medical science or allied fields. The boys accepted an invitation to "a meeting that will be of interest to you." All but one enthusiastically signed up after hearing plans for the post, and others joined later. Only four were registered elsewhere as Explorers. One member became so interested that he dropped from the basketball squad.

Post meetings are on the first and third Tuesdays,

**From* A Study of Adolescent Boys *for the Boy Scouts of America by the Institute for Social Research of the University of Michigan.*

VOCATIONAL INTERESTS

Most Explorer posts are and will be successful without a special field of interest, but two medical posts illustrate the new specialty idea in Exploring.

alternating in the evening and afternoon. To introduce the activity for a meeting, the Advisor or a consultant gives a brief talk on the subject, for example, blood typing. At the previous meeting the subject has been announced and the boys voluntarily read up on it. After the talk they go to the laboratory to work an hour or two under supervision. Individual projects may be continued during the week by appointment to use the laboratory.

Among the consultants are several parents on socials and two veterinarians on raising white rats to sell to the hospital. Material donated includes film by a pharmaceutical association, used laboratory apparatus by a surgical supply company, and photographic equipment by a doctor.

The post is planning an exhibit of its activities at the state medical society convention next year. When a new wing of the hospital is dedicated, Explorers will serve as ushers, and an Explorer speaker will be on the program.

Down in Dixie

Medical Post 2 was organized by Exploring Chairman Reed B. Hogan. An administrator of the Coahoma County Hospital in Clarksdale, he readily obtained the sponsorship of staff members and employees, five of whom serve on the post committee. Dr. Winston Barnard became Advisor, and Paul Strode, Jr., assistant hospital administrator, became his associate.

The names of boys interested in the medical profession were obtained from the high school placement office. They meet two or three evenings a month. The first two meetings were spent inspecting the hospital and discussing medical ethics, so everyone understood that anything observed in the hospital was confidential.

Activities that have featured hospital staff members as consultants are these: operation of hospital and blood bank laboratories; talk on pharmacy as a profession; visit the hospital pharmacy; talk on nursing (girls were invited); complete demonstration of operating room procedure by surgical team; selected reels of "March of Medicine" motion picture series.

After training, post members served as assistants at a district first aid contest. During Boy Scout Week they put on an exhibit of home preparedness based on the government *Handbook for Emergencies* distributed last fall. On the social calendar was a dance at the Cat Cave recreation center.

The post takes part in the hospital's disaster plan and participates in drills. Explorers are assigned duties in communications, receiving patients, and traffic control.

Looking ahead

The new Exploring is too new to allow a firm prediction of what will happen to posts organized initially on the basis of a career field. The two medical posts were organized and are sponsored by groups within the profession. These groups are not likely to sponsor a post without a special interest or with one unrelated to the profession.

Individual boy's interests and membership are more likely to change than the post specialty. Young men will join and stay as long as their interest in the specialty continues. Each of these medical posts has only two or three members who feel sure they want to be doctors. Several of the original members have decided against entering the profession, but only a few have dropped out or transferred to other posts. Some are further testing their interest. Some stay on because of the fellowship, the leadership, and the intellectual stimulation of the program.

Organizers of these and other posts agree that posts with specialties can be sponsored by our traditional chartered institutions such as church, school, civic and club groups. These old stand-bys are doing just that according to reports. Some institutions with established posts find them turning to special interests. Other institutions are sponsoring new posts with a specialty, for instance a church sponsoring an aviation post in Clarksdale.

Meanwhile, industrial, business, and professional organizations can promote youths' interest in their fields by offering to sponsor special interest posts. The two hospital staffs in Mississippi and New Jersey give striking proof of that.