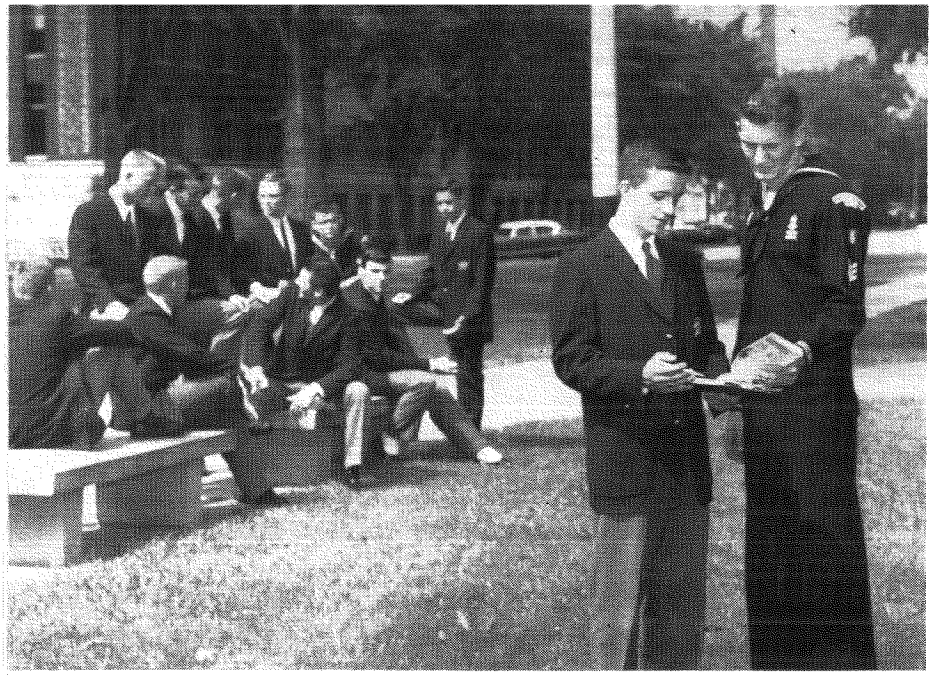

Steering committee, meeting September 1-4 on University of Michigan campus, included, left to right, foreground, Frank R. Bush, Jr., Seattle, Wash., conference chairman; Robert P. Zook, Burbank, Calif., social chairman; rear, seated, George H. Tierney, Jr., Shelton, Conn., secretary; Gilbert S. Maxson, Jr., Creve Coeur, Mo., publicity chairman; James E. Durham, Camillus, N.Y., electives chairman; Roswell Woodrow Hamlett, Jr., Durham, N. C., vice-chairman; standing, Robert D. Junnila, White Bear Lake, Minn., promotion chairman; Stephen Jacobitz, Grand Rapids, Mich., arrangements; Joe Johnston, Pensacola, Fla., exhibits chairman; Robert M. Jones, Lancaster, Texas, program chairman; Gary Hunter, Mount Vernon, Ohio, reception chairman; Robert D. Krieder, Sharon, Pa., skill events chairman.

EXPLORERS PLAN

First National Delegate Conference

By Explorer GILBERT S. MAXSON, Jr., *Publicity chairman*

GATHER 3,500 REPRESENTATIVE EXPLORERS on a big university campus, and you can bet they'll have themselves a blast. With the opportunity to deliberate and speak for youth, they'll also give the Exploring program new stature in the eyes of the members and the public.

All this will happen on the University of Michigan campus in Ann Arbor next August 26-30 at the First National Explorer Delegate Conference. Election as a delegate to this premier nationwide meeting of Explorers will be a much-sought honor.

Members of a steering committee (elected by their regions) have already set the pace for representative government in Explorer affairs by electing conference officers, selecting committee chairmen, and making the following decisions for the conference:

REPRESENTATION. One elected delegate from each of the 530 councils. One or more elected delegates from each of the 2,900 districts, based on Explorer membership. Only official delegates to attend. At least one adult to accompany each council delegation.

FEES. Registration, $5.00; and board and room, $25.00 per delegate.

THEME. Our Best Today—for a Better Tomorrow.

PURPOSE. (1) Interpret youth through Exploring. (2) Examine youth's potential, point of view, and ambitions. (3) Make Exploring a dynamic program of youth, for youth, by youth. (4) Enrich the program in every unit and cabinet for ever-increasing numbers.

UNIFORM. A uniformed conference: green short-sleeve shirt and long trousers is preferable for daytime, blazer and slacks for evening. No neckerchiefs, shorts, or T shirts. Sport dress for sports only.

SPEAKERS AND CONSULTANTS. Top-grade, national leaders in government, science, religion, education, sports, and entertainment to be invited through strategic channels.

PROGRAM FORMAT. Mornings: topic speakers followed up by small discussion groups of Explorers. Afternoons: skill demonstrations and competition; electives on Explorer unit operations and on career opportunities. Evenings: speakers, talent show by Explorers and professional entertainers, recognitions.

ELECTIVES. Cabinet and unit administration and activities; sixty-five career opportunities from astronautics to zoology.

(Continued on page 30)

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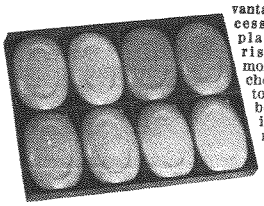

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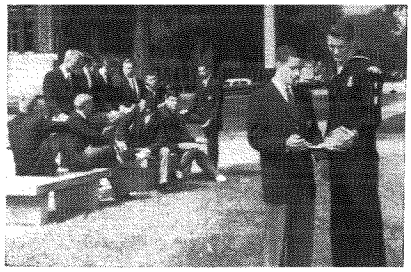
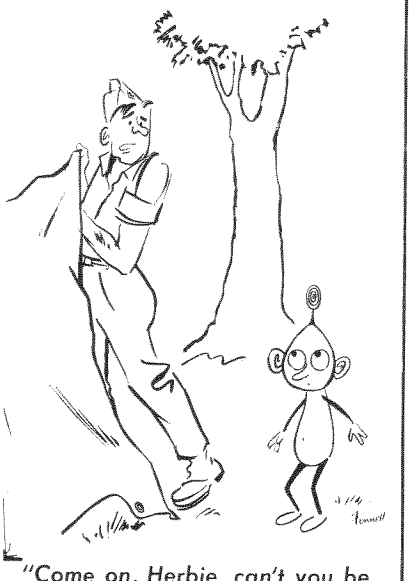


First National Delegate Conference

(Continued from page 24)

SKILL EVENTS. Related to the six Exploring experience areas, for example: social—music solos, humorous and dramatic readings, good grooming physical fitness — swimming, diving, tennis, golf, bowling; citizenship — debates, extemporaneous speaking, civics quiz, safe driving; vocational—electronics, navigation, photography; service — first aid, Civil Defense; outdoor—trapshooting, archery, bait casting, riflery.

High on the list of take-home values will be the ideas—acquired in bull sessions as well as the formal program — to apply in Explorer units, cabinets, and individual lives. Contributions to the Exploring program by this large but select group of members will come from the discussion groups as guides in future points of program emphasis. These are the "firsts" that make this first national conference a must for Explorers and Exploring.



"Come on, Herbie, can't you be serious for a moment?"

Das Pfadfinders Wort ist Wahr

WHILE IN EUROPE one summer I made a one-day stop at Zurich, Switzerland. Several years before, I had seen and admired a Swiss Scout belt and thought that this would make a fine memento of my visit. Unfortunately my stop was made on a Sunday and the local Scout office was closed.

I felt rather disappointed when my departure time came and I had yet to see any Swiss Scouts. As I was saying good-by to a friend in the railroad station, I saw a train carrying a party of Swiss mountain climbers pull into the station on the opposite track. In the group were two Swiss Scouts.

I quickly excused myself from my friend and rushed through the crowd to the Scouts. I reached them just as my train gave its final warning whistle. Happily finding that one of the Scouts could speak English, I rapidly explained that I would appreciate their sending me a Swiss Scout belt and two neckerchiefs.

The Scout estimated the cost to be about five dollars in United States currency. I gave him the money and my card and shouted my thanks as I ran for my train.

When I explained to my friend what had taken place, he shook his head and said, "Das ist a *goot* way to get rid of money in Zurich." This remark only caused me a temporary twinge of conscience since I was certain that the Scout Law in Switzerland was the same as in the United States.

About five months after I had returned home a package arrived from Switzerland. Opening it I found a Swiss Scout belt, two neckerchiefs, several insignia, and a copy of the Swiss Scout Law. Why the five month delay? Simple—the package also contained two hand-carved neckerchief slides.

C. J. Miller
Verdugo Hills Council
Los Angeles, Californa