

DISPATCH

A ROYAL RANGERS MAGAZINE FOR MEN

SPRING 1980

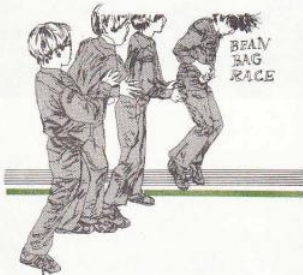


**A VARMINT'S REVELATION
THE STORY OF ROYAL RANGERS
KIWI KIDS
SERMONS IN SHOES
MAKE HASTE NOT WASTE**

DISPATCH

SPRING 1980

Vol. 16, No. 3



DID YOU KNOW?

From time to time, revisions are made in the Royal Rangers program by the National Council. In some cases, this information does not reach the leaders on the grass roots level until it appears in a revised handbook. Often this involves a long period of time. We hope the following information will bring all leaders up-to-date on these revisions.

Did you know—that there are two new awards for leaders. There is the “Leader’s Service Award,” and the “Outstanding Service Award.”

The “Leader’s Service Award” is a special achievement award for outpost leaders other than outpost Commanders (Lt. Commanders, Chaplains, Sr. Commanders, and Outpost Councilmen) who have demonstrated outstanding service in achieving the goals of the overall Royal Rangers program.


The “Outstanding Service Award” gives recognition to individuals who have demonstrated outstanding service or have made outstanding contributions to some area of the district Royal Rangers ministry. The District Commander or District Committee will carefully evaluate each request to determine if the scope of the service or contribution merits the Outstanding Service Award.

Did you know—that Rangers may now wear six rows of advanced awards (18) over the left pocket of their uniform instead of only four as in the past?

Did you know—that a Ranger must be 14 years old—must reach the top award in Air-Sea or Trail Rangers and must earn 19 advanced awards, (11 required and eight elective) to earn the Gold Medal of Achievement? That application for the Gold Medal of Achievement should be sent first to the District Commander for approval before sending on to the National Office?

Did you know—that Trailblazers and Air-Sea-Trail Rangers are authorized to wear a royal blue beret with their uniform? Pioneers will continue to wear the khaki caps. These new berets are available from the Gospel Publishing House.

Did you know—there is a National Ranger of the Year program? Regional Rangers of the Year will meet with a National Review Board each year. One of their number will be selected as National Ranger of the Year. The winner receives a limited college scholarship.

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STAFF

Editor: David Barnes, Assoc. Editor: John Eller, National Committee: Silas Gaither, Paul McGarvey, Johnnie Barnes, Paul Stanek.

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Our Cover: In the early days of the formation of Royal Rangers it took dedicated men and boys to get the program going. And, their dedication toward physical and spiritual challenges is what keeps them still energetic today!



It wasn't until I'd returned home from the Summer Pow Wow and was enjoying the evening service in church, that God answered my prayer to get something out of Pow Wow spiritually. Finally relieved of the burden of command of our Rangers, and the fast, hard pace of Pow Wow activities, God was able to impress me with what I had learned about myself and my Heavenly Father through our trying initiation into FCF.

God revealed to me in capsule form by my actions during these days of testing, just how I react to testing and trials in general. Though some trials last months and years, this one took only three days and as a result, I could study as if under a microscope the error of my reactions to God's way of making me like Christ.

Looking back I saw myself go through three definite phases of attitude toward

"My life is always occupied with a demanding routine of responsibilities symbolized by the heavy demands upon a Commander on a campout with a group of boys."

my trial and looking at my life in general, I see how these three phases have always been my way of dealing with the unpleasant realities of life.

My life is always occupied with a demanding routine of responsibilities symbolized by the heavy demands upon a Commander on a camp-out with a group of boys. Invariably, a trial enters to complicate things just as FCF initiation complicated being an outpost Commander at camp. As at camp, so in life, my first reaction was to think: "I'm intelligent. I'm a man. I'm tough. I can take it."

While this attitude may let you "grit your teeth and bear it" through a short episode, if the problem doesn't go away or gets worse, you become very frustrated.

The next step in a trial is usually physical weakening. There's nothing like short nights and active days at camp to simulate the effect of illness in life. In this condition, my attitude to a trial takes

the form of: "This isn't fair. It's unreasonable. It can't be God's will." So, as a result, I am justified in fighting back. And I rebel. I do anything to alter the situation. To somehow regain the feeling that I'm in control. "I won't stand for this, for I know it's unjust. I will defeat my circumstances." By the second day, I was looking for ways to get the better of my tormentors from FCF.

As in life, so in my FCF ordeal, I could not control my circumstances without violating my Christian ideals, so again frustration, but now add guilt.

In my final hours of trial as I sat on that lonely hill pondering God and looking deep into the starry night, I entered the third phase of how I handled all of my life's greatest problems. As I thought about the preceding events, it slowly dawned on me that men of FCF were really my Christian brothers. I recalled how repeatedly they had actually shown kindness even in the midst of humiliating tests. I slowly concluded that they didn't really want me to fail. Indeed, they wanted me to succeed and become an asset providing strength to the group. Then as in such a moment of life's trials, a calm warm peace settled over me. I was completely at ease to trust them and see the test through. How often in the past this final stage has seen me through hardship: "God loves me. He will not let me be destroyed. This trial will pass and I'll be the better for it. He is in absolute control of the circumstances and the only way I can be hurt is to leave the path He lights and stumble in darkness. So I'll trust Him completely and see this thing through unafraid."

What has God shown me? The first phase—"grit your teeth and bear it like a man"—is nothing but self-pride. The second phase—"this is unjust; and I will rectify things by manipulation"—is nothing less than self-righteousness.

The last phase is how God wanted me to approach the problems in life all along. "My loving Father God is in complete control. I can trust Him completely to lead me through one step at a time."

The walk of blind faith is really the one of deepest peace and it's the only way to face life's problems.

This practical truth was not learned through years of experience but revealed in amazing clarity when condensed into less than three days of FCF testing and initiation.

As a result of my experience, I have chosen the name Elk Heart to be my FCF name. Though sought by dangerous predators, the elk is brave and valiant in battle, quick to sense and avoid unnecessary danger, and always holds his head high, unashamed, as one of God's most majestic creatures should. May I always aspire to have and maintain the heart of an elk.



A Varmint's Revelation

by David Farmer

**"May I always
aspire to have
and maintain the
heart of an elk."**

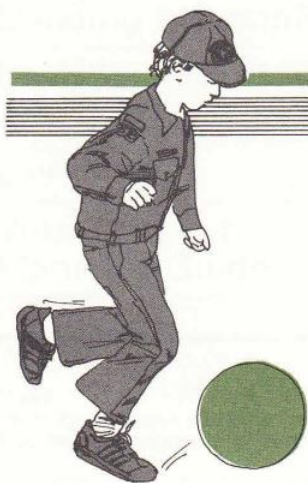
Get The Fun Going With These **IDEAS FOR LEADERS**



This issue's game ideas were submitted by Warren Bebout of Los Osos, California.

Kick Ball

Equipment needed: kickball, soccerball, volleyball, or basketball, an area larger than a baseball diamond.



Lay out a baseball diamond with 45 feet between the bases, and with the pitcher's box 20 feet from the home plate. Use a soccer ball or volleyball. If none are available, a basketball will do in a pinch.

Choose up teams as you would if play-

ing baseball. The pitcher rolls the ball to the "batter," who kicks it. Putouts are made when a batter kicks three fouls, a fielder catches any fly ball, or the runner fails to circle the bases ahead of the ball. The runner must try for a home run.

On a fair ball, not caught on the fly, the fielder throws the ball to the pitcher who throws to either the first or third baseman who then relays it around the bases. Each baseman must be standing on his base before he can pass the ball to the next base.

If the batter succeeds in beating the ball around the bases, he scores a run for his team. Three outs constitute an inning and nine innings make a game. Other variations of this game are:

First, this game may be played in an identical fashion except that the ball is put into play by the pitcher, tossing the ball to the batter, who hits it with his fist or forearm. The pitcher must deliver the ball with an underhand throw.

Second, the ball may be played by placing it on home plate and having the batter kick it.

Third, a fly ball that is caught is not an out. Rather, it is played as any fair ball.

Hot Puffball

Equipment needed: Balls to be made up for this event are made from tightly wadded up newspaper about the size of a softball, wrapped in wide adhesive tape for a tough

covering and also to give the ball some weight. Any other stuffing will do, but it must not bounce well at all. Make as many balls as there are players.

Instructions: Have the boys form a circle so that each player is at least an arm's length from each other on each side. Each boy is given a ball. Mark each spot where each boy is standing (using chalk if played indoors) so that each boy may return to his exact spot. The object of the game is that each boy is to get rid of his ball by throwing it to another across the circle or to either side of him and to get rid of his ball as if it were too hot to handle. He also tries to be one of the last two boys remaining in the game, who are declared the winners. They are to throw their ball accurately to other players so that they can catch it. They may leave their marked spots to catch any ball, but must return to this spot within 5 seconds, and then throw it to someone else. If two balls are thrown at once he must catch both of them. If he does not, he is out of the game as well as the player who threw it. In order to remain a player, each boy will throw accurately and catch any ball thrown to him. If it is a poor throw and is not caught, remember, both thrower and catcher are out of the game. One bounce is allowed when the ball is thrown, but the ball must be caught on the first bounce. The game is played until the last thrower and catcher make a mistake. This game may be played indoors or out and is a fast moving game with a lot of action. Try to keep it moving that way.

Disc Toss

Equipment needed: 9 cardboard discs, about 6 inches in diameter, 3 red, 3 white, 3 blue, and a waste-paper basket (can). (Point numbers may be painted on each.) A blackboard may be used by the Commander to keep a running score on the teams.



Instructions: Divide the outpost (unit) into 2 teams. Each boy on each team will take his turn in attempting to throw each disc, one after the other, into the basket placed 6 feet in front of him. The disc points count as follows: red counts as one point, white two, and blue three points. When all the boys on both teams have had 5 turns at throwing, the Commander adds up the team points, the highest being declared the winning team. Boys can take turns (one from each team) or one entire team can throw and then the other.

May Day Combat

Equipment needed: Tightly rolled newspaper, one for each team, each with a different color ribbon tied around it.

To play: divide the unit into 2 patrols or teams forming into opposing lines 12 feet apart. Choose a captain for each team. At a given signal, each team captain tosses his "missile" to a player on the opposite team whose name he calls out. The throw must be an accurate throw that the player can catch. If the player named fails to catch the "missile," he becomes a prisoner of the opposing team and must do battle for that team until released by catching the "missile" of his own team—if he has such good luck. Neither side can play while a prisoner is being taken or released. If all

prisoners on one team happen to get captured by the other team, a ransom may be effected by the captain for the return of all the prisoners he has that belonged originally to the opposite team. And then the game can continue. The game can be stopped anytime all the prisoners are captured by another team.

Bean Bag Race

Equipment needed: A bean bag for each team and a whistle.

Instructions: Any number of boys can play this game. Have the boys divide into two long, separate lines with an equal number of players, one boy standing behind the other as if to march. The first player in each line is then given a bean bag. At the blowing of the whistle (or some other signal) the front players run entirely round their lines and back to their places, quickly giving the bean bag on their return to the player standing next in line. This player runs in turn and comes back to his place, giving the bean bag to the player behind him. The race continues until the last player is reached. After he has circled the line and regained his place, he holds up the bean bag and the whistle is instantly blown. Whichever side finishes with the blowing of the whistle is the winner.



Bean Bag Relay

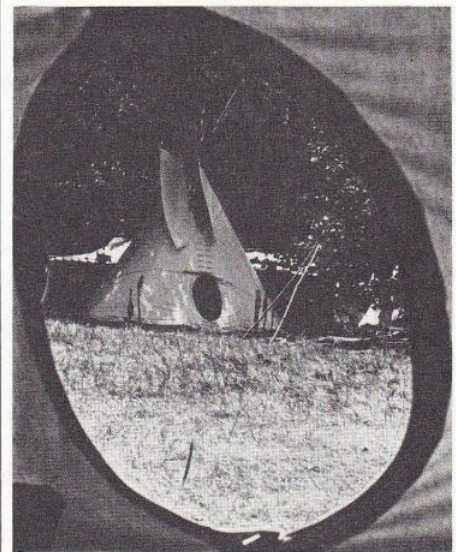
Equipment needed: Same as used in Bean Bag Race game.

Instructions: This game is a good one to follow the Bean Bag Race as you can use the same equipment. Begin by having the boys form in 2 long lines in the same way as in the Bean Bag Race. Let the front players, at the blowing of the whistle, pass the bean bag back over their heads to the player behind them, who in turn passes it back. When the end player is reached, the bean bag is passed forward until it reaches the front player, when the whistle is blown again. Players must not turn their heads or bodies, but must only look straight before them. If a player does so, his team must start over, which will possibly cause his team to lose the game. *

IT'S SPRING and summer is around the corner.

Be Ready for this year's NATIONAL F.C.F. RENDEZVOUS where, in the Cumberland Mountains in Crossville, Tennessee, F.C.F. members from all over the country will gather for spectacular fun and excitement.

SO, PLAN TO ATTEND



National F.C.F. Rendezvous JULY 23-26

THE STORY OF ROYAL RANGERS

A Dispatch Historical Review

In 1961 the decision was made by the executives of the Assemblies of God to begin a ministry for boys. This ministry was to be under the supervision of the Men's Fellowship Department. In the fall of 1961 Brother Howard Bush, executive director of Men's Fellowship contacted Johnnie Barnes, who was then District Christ Ambassador's President of the North Texas District, and requested that he come to Springfield to supervise the formation and development of this ministry.

In January of 1962, Johnnie Barnes moved to Springfield to assume this position. The first few weeks were spent developing the basic philosophy of the program, such as purposes, goals, activities, emphasis, and the organizational structure. Many different names for this ministry were submitted to the executives for consideration. During one of the executive meetings, Brother Charles W. H. Scott suggested the name "Royal Rangers." The group agreed and the program had its official name.

This ministry was divided into three age divisions. Ages 9-11 were called Pioneers, ages 12-14 were called Trailblazers, and ages 15-17 had a choice between Air or Sea Rangers. The local unit for each age group was called an "Outpost." The unit leader was called an "Outpost Commander," and his assistant "Lieutenant Commander." The outpost was divided into patrols with a Guide and Assistant Guide over each.

Johnnie Barnes spent the next few months tooling out the contents of Royal Rangers, which included the pledge, code, motto, advancement requirements, content of the handbooks, application form, charter certificates, membership cards, promotional brochures,

uniforms, badges, insignia, and awards. Commander Barnes was awakened one night about 1:30 a.m. with an inspiration which resulted in the design of the Royal Rangers emblem.

Six handbooks were prepared—the "Leader's Manual," "Pioneer Handbook," "Trailblazer Handbook," "Air-Sea-Trail Ranger Handbook," "Adventures in Camping," and an "Outpost Record Book."

While the handbooks were being prepared, a pilot outpost was organized in Springfield, Missouri. Valuable knowledge and information was gleaned by observing this group in action.

By October, 1962, the materials were ready and Royal Rangers was officially launched by announcements and articles in the *Pentecostal Evangel*.

Realizing that the success of this ministry depended upon trained leadership, in 1963 a Leadership Training Course was developed. Bob Reid was appointed National Training Coordinator, and became responsible for enrollment, grading, and processing of this course. (Later in 1965 this position was assumed by Paul Feller, in 1971 by Don Franklin, and in 1974 by Paul Stanek).

With the development of qualified teachers, the training course materials have been utilized for a classroom-type training course for leaders. Current courses are being conducted in most districts. Over 25,000 leaders have enrolled in the Leadership Training Course.

To upgrade teaching standards, a standardized certification program for LTC instructors was developed in 1976. To implement this program the first Instructor/Trainer Seminar was conducted in Springfield, Missouri, in 1976.

In the fall of 1963 the first issue of "Dispatch" magazine (a quarterly publication for leaders), was published. Also included in "Dispatch" was a weekly Bible study course, and a planning guide. This publication was designed to give leaders new ideas, devotions, and information.

For many years, Johnnie Barnes served as editor of "Dispatch." In 1974, this responsibility was assigned to John Eller. In 1977, "Dispatch" was enlarged and changed to a new format and David Barnes became editor. The magazine is now sent to all registered leaders rather than just to the Commanders.

The first District Commander's Seminar was held in Springfield, Missouri, in March of 1963, with 20 District Commanders in attendance. These men were commissioned by Brother Howard Bush in a very impressive ceremony conducted in the Assemblies of God Headquarters auditorium. Speaker for the occasion was General Superintendent, Thomas F. Zimmerman.

The first district-wide Pow Wows (designed for fellowship, training and evangelism), were held in 1964 with five

districts conducting Pow Wows. Today over 50 districts are featuring this district-wide event, with many reporting outstanding evangelistic results. One district reported that 143 boys were filled with the Holy Spirit during one council fire.

To encourage and give recognition for the district promotion of Royal Rangers, the Silver Eagle Award program for District Commanders was launched in 1965. The following year (1966) several District Commanders were presented with the Silver Eagle Award. Currently 85 District Commanders have qualified for this recognition.

Realizing the important role that the District Superintendents play in their districts, the decision was made in 1965 to involve these men more directly in this ministry. Each District Superintendent was given the title of District Chaplain. The inspirational and promotional assistance of these men has been very valuable to the Royal Rangers.

Due to an unusual interest for this ministry in Latin American countries, in 1966 a Royal Rangers handbook was translated and printed in the Spanish language. This ministry is experiencing an unusual growth in these countries as well as in many other countries around the world.

That same year (1966), the first group of Royal Rangers was organized in Australia. The group was located in Peter-sham, New South Wales. Under the leadership of Commonwealth Commander Will Thorne, groups have now been organized in most areas of Australia. A complete training program including NTC, NTT, and ANTC is being utilized, plus an active FCF program. In 1977 they conducted their first National Camporama with outstanding attendance.

Similar reports have come from other countries. For example, Venezuela reported over 1,200 in attendance at their first National Camp. At present 40 countries are utilizing the Royal Rangers ministry.

Many non-Assemblies of God who qualify, are using the Royal Rangers ministry. Two fraternal organizations (Congregational Holiness and Pentecostal Free Will Baptist), are utilizing Royal Rangers as their official boys program.

So many requests to include young boys in Royal Rangers were received that in 1966 the decision was made to develop a junior auxiliary for boys ages 7-8. The new age group was called Buckaroos, and the program was built around a western theme. A new handbook was prepared for Buckaroo leaders. The program was officially launched during regional Sunday school conventions that same year. This has become one of our largest enrollment age groups.

In 1968 the decision was made to add another division to the 15-17 year old



group calling them "Trail Rangers." This gave the older boys a choice of either Air, Sea, or Trail Rangers. The main emphasis of the Trail Rangers program is trail-type camping and survival techniques. A newly revised handbook and additional materials were prepared and made available in 1969.

Requests continued for the involvement of even younger boys, particularly for 5-6 year olds. Therefore, in 1977 the Straight Arrow program was launched. This program, with an Indian theme, has been enthusiastically received.

The program for college students entitled, "Chi Omega Rho" was born in 1972. There is an active chapter in both Central Bible College and Evangel College.

In 1966 another addition to the Royal Rangers program, the "Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity," was developed. This endeavor was designed to encourage advancement; to cultivate the very best in Christian example and service; the development of camping skills among older boys; to encourage leaders to complete the Leadership Training program; to stimulate Christian involvement and the preservation of historical primitive skills of our American forefathers. This fraternity, with its colorful ceremonies which feature members in buckskin shirts and coonskin caps, now has chapters in 50 districts.


Another milestone was achieved in FCF history when the first National FCF Rendezvous was conducted in Springfield, Missouri, in June, 1972. Over 200 delegates from all over the United States gathered to participate in the most spectacular event in Royal Rangers history.

During the bicentennial year of 1976, the second National Rendezvous was held in Dogwood Valley, Missouri. The colorful bicentennial theme and unexpected flash flood made it an event that will long be remembered.

In 1977 a new enlarged FCF Handbook was printed, plus a new booklet entitled, "FCF Chapter Officers Handbook."

A special Royal Rangers week in June 1966 was designated by the executives to give recognition to the Royal Rangers program. This was to become an annual observance. The dates were later changed to the first week in October.

Early in the beginning of Royal Rangers, the need for qualified men to assist in the promotion of the program was realized. A small number of special promotional assistants were appointed and given the title "Aides-de-Camp." Later the decision was made to appoint an Aide-de-Camp for each district and one for each region. In March of 1968, the first meeting of the National Aides-de-Camp Council was held in Springfield, Missouri.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE 

Nineteen hundred and seventy-one was the year "High Adventure" was born.

Prior to 1976, the District Commanders and Aides-de-Camp had separate annual conferences. In 1976 the decision was made to combine these two bodies into one National Council. Membership was expanded to include District FCF President, and District Training Coordinators. The council had its first combined meeting in Springfield, Missouri, in 1977.

To meet the need of more specialized training for leaders, in 1968 four National Training Camps were conducted in Missouri, Colorado, New York, and California. The camps were designed to give leaders the very best on-the-spot training possible. The response and benefits of these camps were so outstanding, that more camps were added the following year. There is now an annual National Training Camp located in each of the eight regions.

To meet the demand for even more outdoor training for leaders, in 1970 four National Training Trails were conducted. These training trails, which have expanded in recent years, continue to meet a very vital need in the training program.

As a logical sequel to NTC, an Advanced National Training Camp was added in 1973.

The demand for specialized training continued. National Canoe Expeditions were added in 1973. (These canoe expeditions were now being conducted by regions and districts.)

Then the National Aquatic Camp was added in 1976. The latest in specialized training for leaders was the first Winter National Training Camp conducted in the Colorado Rockies in 1977.

Junior Leaders Camp was introduced in 1972. Now many districts are conducting JLTC in their area. Some districts are conducting Junior Training Trails and winter camping events for boys.

Nineteen and seventy-one was the year "High Adventure" was born. This special publication for boys is being utilized to challenge boys in narrative form to higher ideals and greater spiritual dedication as well as providing them with worthwhile, exciting reading. "High Adventure" now has a circulation of over 40,000 subscriptions.

The top award for boys in Royal Rangers is the Gold Medal of Achievement. This outstanding award has been earned by over 500 boys.

Over 50 have earned the Medal of Valor by risking their lives to save others.



To meet the demands of a fast-growing program, many additional books were printed. There are now 15 handbooks to assist this ministry. The handbooks and training materials are also printed in Braille. A number of brochures, awards, training materials, and promotional materials have also been added. Currently, the Gospel Publishing House is providing over 250 Royal Rangers items.

A dream come true for Royal Rangers was the first National Camporama. It was conducted in 1974 at the beautiful Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Personalities included an astronaut, military and governmental leaders, and top Assemblies of God leaders. Bands, outstanding music and singing, and over 40 events made this a fantastic experience. Around 1,500 fortunate boys and leaders attended this event. The second National Camporama was conducted in 1978 at Farragut State Park, Idaho, with 2,000 in attendance.

From the very beginning the Royal Rangers ministry proved an ideal evangelistic outreach. Leaders discovered that the exciting feature of this ministry provides a golden opportunity for reaching boys for Christ. Outpost de-

votions, personal counseling sessions, and campfire services became the scene of boys accepting Christ as their personal Saviour. Annual reports show over 20,000 boys are won to Christ each year and over 7,000 are filled with the Spirit.

The main purpose of Royal Rangers from the beginning was to reach, to teach, and to keep boys for Christ. Our priority goal is evangelism—reaching boys for Christ. Second, the Christian development of boys through proper teaching, training, and involvement. Third is the conservation of boys in our churches, and for future leadership—thus creating a continuous cycle of man-boy involvement. However, we believe our goals must reach beyond the spiritual development of boys. Our aim is to contribute to the development of the total boy—spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially. A unique blend of spiritual, outdoor, recreational, self-reliance, achievement, and educational activities has assisted greatly in reaching these goals over the past 18 years. If the trend of this ministry continues, and we are confident that it will, Royal Rangers are destined to make a tremendous impact for Christ in the coming years. *

Parental assurance that New Zealand youths are "born with tools in their hands" seemed justified last January when the recreation committee of the Christchurch suburb of Aranui opened its summer vacation program to more than one thousand neighborhood children.

Old shipping crates, remnant lumber, and obsolete frame sheds, normally a community disposal expense item, were tossed onto a vacant lot. Each budding builder brought his own basic hand tools and was introduced to companions on any construction project of his choice—usually a "secret club house" or a bush-ranger's hut. The lone supervisor was a nonprofessional but versatile Kiwi handyman who "likes kids." Enthusiastic momentum carried morning and afternoon sessions for more than a month without red tape or paperwork, with minimum safety precautions and with maximum confidence in the safety judgment of the children.

A Yankee professional recreation director, touring this southernmost English-speaking nation, expressed dismay at the hazards of such group activity with an obvious lack of safety precautions. However, parents and supervisor alike assured the visitor of their confidence in their children's "good, common sense" and natural spirit of cooperative concern that still characterizes New Zealand's pioneering heritage.

"A few bangs, bumps, or scratches won't kill 'em," Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bretherton maintained. "We feel that it's better for Tony and Stephen to learn now, with their peers, to work safely and cooperatively."

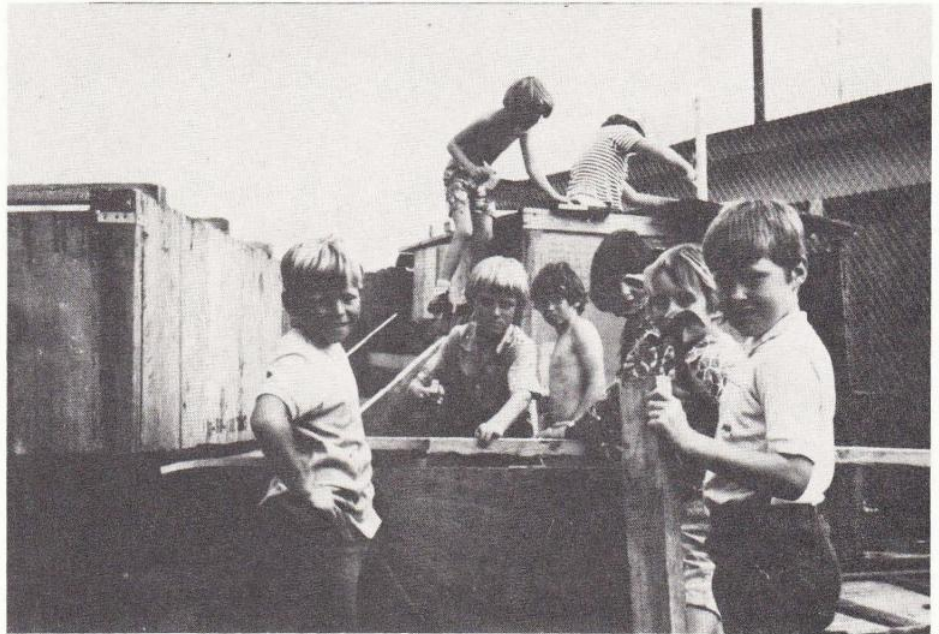
The American then expressed concern about the vulnerability of the committee, the site owner, and parents, to possible lawsuits for damages resulting from injury, attractive nuisances, and contributory negligence. The neighborhood seniors scoffed:

"We look at such suits as the cheapest sort of opportunism. You Yanks just might be suing yourselves out of the best opportunities and advantages your kids could enjoy. We prefer to teach our youngsters the pleasure, freedom, and satisfaction of self-responsibility. We just have a mutual, neighborly understanding that rules out fear of normal daily risks and damage suits. Such fears, if encouraged, could result in over-protection. That would deprive our children from learning the basic skills and attitudes that made the settlement of New Zealand possible—and which still keep us self-sufficient and confident of the future."

The Yank weighed this homespun wisdom that still characterizes so much of New Zealand life. He then pondered

Kiwi Kids Doin' What Comes Natcherly

By Brantford B. Benton



Old shipping crates, remnant lumber, and obsolete frame sheds, normally a community disposal expense item, were tossed on a vacant lot. These boys constructed them into useful items of their choice.

the insurance policies that now gulp nonproductive chunks out of most recreation budgets in the United States. The cacophony of hammers and nails, saws, hatchets, and youthful energy on that back lot in Aranui had orchestrated a

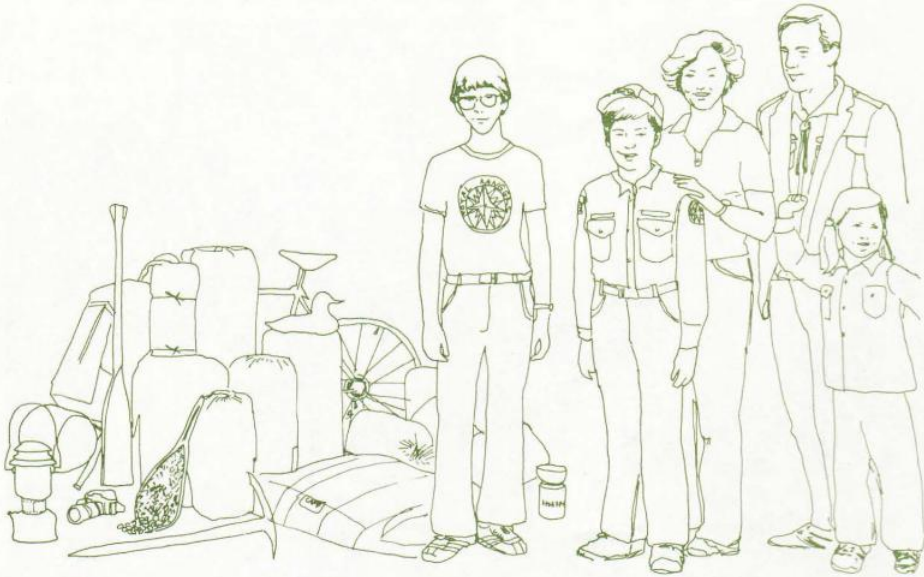
newly realized question:

Are the costs of protection against the ever-increasing American penchant for damage claims actually depriving our children of the very values we seek to provide? ★

Sermons In Shoes

Reflection on a
Royal Rangers Family Camp-out

By Kim Preston



“Through this Royal Rangers camp-out we have been strengthened in fellowship and feel so much more at home where God has placed us.”

Pulling into our assigned lot at the campground, we were greeted with a hearty, “Hello” from Milton Plaugher, our Commanding Officer in Royal Rangers. He was erecting his *ninth* tent. What a service to families who would be arriving after dark! I wondered how he had the strength to smile, but he was obviously READY.

We set up camp, enjoyed a hearty meal and then started out to hike the park to get our bearings. O’Leno was rich in green foliage. The quiet in the park was unusually peaceful tonight. Rambling down to the river we walked onto the outstretched swinging footbridge to stand and watch one of our families literally frolic in the water like a family of dolphins.

At 8:30 we joined the Park Ranger for a campfire film interpreting the aesthetic woodland around us. I especially enjoyed the close-up photographs of the flowers native to the area and the colorful underwater shots of the crystal clear

river we were scheduled to tube the next day.

Before taps, children showered and snuggled down in their sleeping bags, we gathered around the campfire for a relaxing cup of hot apple cider and conversation. We were involved in hearty fellowship when a Straight Arrow leader (of the female variety) squealed! A ferocious, savage fawn had slipped up on her and nuzzled her for a handout. We all had a hearty laugh. And the little fawn made her rounds to each of us, allowing us to pet her. Amazingly enough, she touched noses with me.

The sun seems to be overdue at dawn in the forest. The smell of bacon, sausage and eggs penetrated a beeline to my nostrils. Our C. O. was making his rounds while we were cleaning up. “Just wanted to let you know we’ll be leaving in 10 minutes.” People moving—what a job!

The river was cold as we made the plunge to get into our tubes and inflated

boats. The next three hours were enriching as we drifted down this aquatic highway through the deep woodlands the Lord had so lovingly created for our pleasure. Passing and being passed by our group, I heard laughter, counsel, sharing, and quiet worship. Fathers were conversing with their children.

We hadn’t been back at camp very long when the skies opened and the Lord in His unquestionable wisdom saturated the earth. This was my first experience at “group camping,” and I have to admit I was entranced by the group’s unquenchable joy—despite the elements. Rain literally flooded the tents, forcing some to evacuate to the cozy little cabins in the park.

We gathered as a group Saturday night under the shelter of a small open-air building. Our precious Pastor and Chaplain, Clayton Mulvaney, led us in group fellowship and songs. By the laughter heard for a mile, one could assume our spirits weren’t dampened in the least.

Sunday morning our pastor held a service, and three of our ladies shared a song they had unexpectedly put together for us. Couples shared from their hearts what this Royal Rangers leadership and staff camp-out had meant to them. One of the most touching testimonies came from Jim Miller, an Assemblies of God pastor’s son now serving the Lord in the Straight Arrows. Jim had been promoted with his corporation recently from Virginia to Florida. “It is difficult sometimes not to look back when our Father has moved us on. And in a church of 5,000 such as Calvary, it would be easy to feel lost in the crowd, longing for friendships so deeply rooted and left behind. But since we’ve made the decision to really climb aboard and work for our new church the distance has ceased. Through this Royal Rangers camp-out we have been strengthened in fellowship and feel so much more at home where God has placed us.”

The purpose of this Royal Rangers leaders family camp-out has been to build *esprit de corps* and to put into practice all these “sermons in shoes” we had been taught. And together we did accomplish just that.

MAKE HASTE, NOT WASTE.

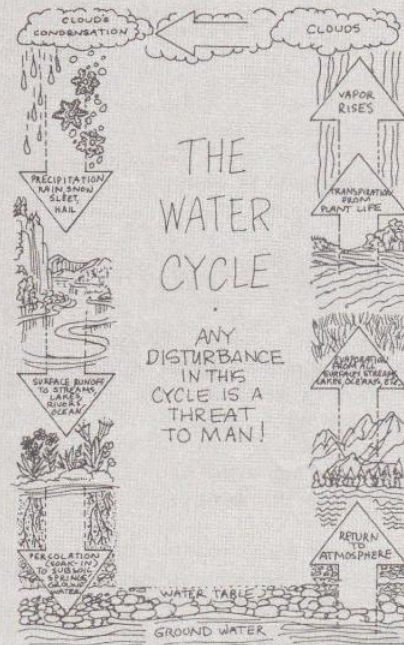
Get large sheets of poster paper, or white cards, and draw a replica of the charts illustrated here. Display the enlarged chart in your outposts "conservation corner."

Water's Importance. At most, we can live without water for only 3 or 4 days though we can live without food for up to 20 or 30 days. Clearly, water is very important.

Only 3% of the world's water is sweet. 97% of the world's water is salty water—no use for people to drink; or for watering crops.

But the sea is important too. For instance, Algae are small plants, and plankton

are small animal organisms, that live both in the sea and in the lakes. They provide the basic food for sea animals. They produce about 75% of the oxygen in the air.



Ask Yourself

These Questions. If the world's water became so polluted that the Algae and the Plankton were destroyed,

1. What would happen to the sea animals—the fish, whales, birds? For instance, only a few mg. of DDT per ton of water, reduces the ability of Algae to produce oxygen by half.
2. What, then, would happen to the oxygen content of the air we breathe?
3. What would happen to YOU?

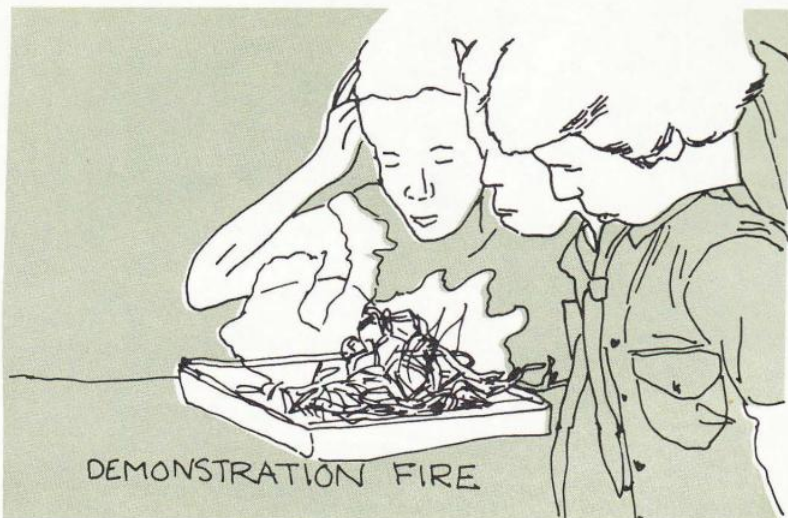
Thus, the Sea Gives Us Food . . . and Oxygen. It also gives us a comparatively even climate. It gives us beauty and pleasure, and much else.



RANGER GREENHORN'S 13 STEPS IN BUILDING A CAMPFIRE

BY JAMES WILSON
ASSOCIATE EDITOR
THE LONG RIFLE
MICHIGAN ROYAL RANGERS

- STEP 1. Split dead limb into fragments, and shave one fragment into slivers.
- STEP 2. Bandage left thumb.
- STEP 3. Chop other Fragments into smaller fragments.
- STEP 4. Bandage left foot.
- STEP 3. Make a structure of slivers (including those embedded in hand).
- STEP 6. Light match.
- STEP 7. Light another match.
- STEP 8. Repeat, "Royal Ranger is Alert, Clean, Honest, Courageous, Loyal, Courteous, Obedient, Spiritual, and then light another match.
- STEP 9. Apply match to slivers, add wood fragments and blow gently into the base of flames.
- STEP 10. Apply burn ointment to nose.
- STEP 11. When fire is burning, collect more wood.
- STEP 12. When fire is burning well, add all remaining firewood.
- STEP 13. After thunderstorms have passed, repeat STEPS 1-12.
THE END



THREE LITTLE PIGS

by Junior Massey
Chelan, WA

I know everyone here tonight has heard the story of "The Three Little Pigs," but through this story I hope to show how we need the full armor of the Lord. Without it we cannot stand.

You see the first little pig was in a big hurry, so he built his house out of straw. He didn't put much thought to this situation, so when the wolf came he blew down the house and ate the first little pig.

Now the second little pig did a little planning. He built his house out of sticks, thinking that it could withstand whatever the wolf might do. But we all know the wolf blew down the house and ate the second little pig. We might think of the second little pig as being lukewarm as a Christian, and God says that this kind of Christian He will spue out of his mouth.

Now, the third little pig knew that to keep that mean old wolf out, he would have to have a strong foundation as well as the walls. So he built his house out of bricks, when the wolf (devil, Satan) came along, he could not blow down the house, so he tried to encourage the pig to come out, but the third little pig knew the wolf was not to be trusted, so he was saved. We might say he had the full armor of God as his protection.

We should wear the full armor of God so we may be protected from all the evil things that Satan has to tempt us with, for without this armor of the Lord we would surely end up like the first two little pigs, and with it we will withstand whatever old Satan might throw or put into our paths.

TWO LITTLE MICE

by Don Francis
Chelan, WA

Scripture: II Timothy 4: 7, 8.

One night two little mice were playing on the cupboard. As they were playing, they both fell into a bowl of cream. They swam and swam. Finally one said, "It is no use we may as well give up and go to the bottom."

**Devotions
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Devotions**

The other said, "I will never give up as long as I live," so he swam and swam. Finally a lump began to form in the bottom of the bowl and soon it was big enough and hard enough for him to stand on and jump out.

Because he did not give up when it seemed impossible, he swam and as he swam he made the butter that saved his life.

A REAL CHAMPION

by Oral Melton
Wenatchee, WA
II Timothy 2:5, American Standard Version

A young college student was competing for the golf championship. He held a one stroke advantage over his opponent coming into the last hole. His next tee shot, however, rolled into some tall grass in the rough. While he was searching for his ball, he accidentally touched it with his foot causing the ball to move. No one saw it happen. He alone knew that he had broken a rule. Without hesitation he informed the officials of the infraction that carried an automatic one stroke penalty. As a result, he lost the hole. The match went into extra holes but eventually he won the title.

When he was being interviewed by sportswriter, someone asked why he called the penalty on himself.

"You can't really call yourself a champion," he said, "unless you play according to the rules."

God has given us rules in the Bible. He expects us to live according to the rules set forth in the Bible. It might be easier if we could make our own rules as we go along, but what kind of a winner would we be?

Prayer

Our Heavenly Father, help us to obey your rules in the game of life. In Jesus' name, amen.

LESSONS FROM A DYING BREED

by John Davis
Longview, WA

Purpose: To find what our standards for life are.

Extinction is a dreadful word. Like Donne's bell, it doesn't ring, it tolls. And it is tolling for the eagle now, which puts us in danger too. We're in danger of losing the living symbol of our highest standards: pride, honor, honesty. To lose the eagle would be sad. To forget him would be tragic. As Christians it's our duty to remember what these standards mean to our lives and our walk with Christ.

We start with pride. To do something of quality is a challenge these days. We should strive to do our very best. If its worth doing, do it right.

The test of honor and honesty is one that we should meet with heads held high. As Christians we set an example for the world to see. Where they are dishonest we cannot afford to be. We should stand with honor, our honesty above reproach, a witness of the life-changing power of our Lord Jesus Christ.

These standards are really an extension of our way of thinking, our way of life. They represent our convictions, pride, honor, honesty. They may be in danger. They may be impractical, but as Christians it's our duty to keep them very much alive.

BEING FAITHFUL

by David Holt
Chelan, WA

Scripture: Luke 9:26

Commander—relate the life habits of Barney the Beaver.

Barney lived deep in the forest and delighted in building dams in the creek that went through the forest.

One day a farming family moved into the forest and began to cut the trees and clear the forest to plant a large garden.

The farmer went to the creek and tore down the dam Barney had built. The farmer did not want the dam to block the water.

Each night Barney would rebuild the broken dam. This went on for many months.

One early morning the farmer's barn caught fire. A lot of water was needed to put the fire out. As before, Barney had

rebuilt the dam, giving the farmer all the water he needed.

The farmer and Barney learned to get along together.

We need to be faithful to the job we have to do, regardless of what some may think or do. In the end, faithfulness will always win out.

Let's form a friendship circle, and ask the Lord to keep us faithful to our family and Royal Rangers group as well as to Jesus Christ.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT TOMORROW

by Mark Behler
Wenatchee, WA

Scripture reading: Matthew 6:34; Proverbs 3:5.

Purpose: To let the boys understand the importance of trusting their futures to the Lord.

As I look upon my three-week-old firstborn son—his wide, innocent blue eyes looking up at me—I wonder what kind of a future awaits him. Will he find beauty and happiness? Will I be able to provide the type of environment that will help him grow sound mentally, physically, and spiritually? Questions, oh, how many questions.

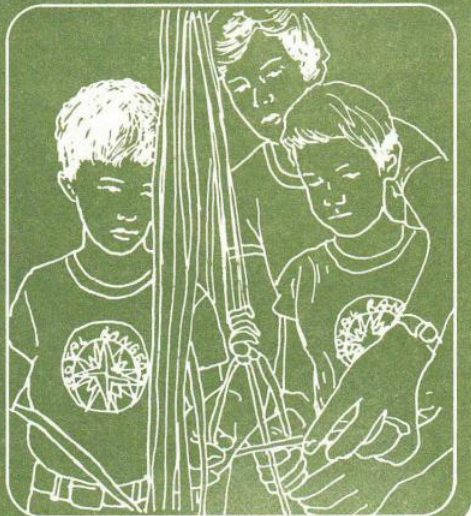
My parental concern is only natural, but it gradually turns to worry as I imagine the many obstacles he will have to face and overcome. Today's television, radio, and newspapers constantly report on a wavering world economy, an energy crisis that threatens to cripple nations, the rising demand for food, the ever-existing threat of complete annihilation by nuclear weapons, the pressures placed on teenagers, so on and so on. . . .

Instead of gazing at my son with happiness, I begin to feel hopelessness and sorrow.

Letting myself get overly involved in worries about the future is bad for my health. How can I expect to help my son in his growth if I let an unknown future affect my physical, mental, spiritual, and social well-being?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

**For Boys
For Boys
For Boys
For Boys
For Boys**



THE REAL EASTER LILY

By Lucille J. Goodyear

In Eastern countries it is not only prized for its floral beauty and medicinal value, but also for its food value. Some years ago the Japanese government made an analysis of the bulb's nutritional value and found it to contain over 98 percent nutriment matter. The bulbs are often boiled and eaten with sugar or cooked with rice. There is seldom a well-chosen menu which does not include the products of the plant in some form.

Its botanical name is "lillium candidum," while the Semitic name is Azucena. In Spain and in Latin American countries the flower is still known by that name. Azucena when translated from the Semitic means "Susannah," while in Spanish it means "white lily." Often referred to as the Bermuda lily, it is believed to have been brought to Bermuda by some flower-loving sea captain several hundred years ago.

In 1875, two blooming white lily plants were brought from Bermuda to Philadelphia and put in the care of an interested florist. In the course of a few years he was able to propagate the lily growth considerably, drawing the attention of other florists in that area. The ultimate introduction of the flower to the public was an immediate success.

It is truly an original American Easter symbol for it was about this time that Easter became widely celebrated in the churches of the United States. And, to decorate the altars and churches—the

white regal lily was widely used because of its form and coloring. Thus, it came to be called "the flower of Easter"—or "the Easter lily."

Looking at the splendor of the regal lily, with its pristine whiteness, its heavily perfumed trumpet form—one can readily understand why the sight of it immediately brings to mind the joyous season of Easter. It is one of our most significant symbols—symbolizing purity, light and hope, and is used to decorate homes, churches, as well as greeting cards and decorations.

Since its introduction to the United States almost a hundred years ago, the growing and marketing of this lovely lily has become a booming business, and in many areas it is now a home garden favorite.

Its actual existence has been recorded as far back as 2500 B.C., and perhaps no other flower has as many religious associations as does this flower, yet it actually holds no historical or legendary relationship to the Crucifixion or the Resurrection. Despite this fact, painters have depicted them as being the flowers placed at the crypt of the risen Jesus.

Among the Greeks and Romans it was held in high esteem, and in Egypt, India and Arabia it was the favorite flower of royalty and the wealthy classes.

It is one of the few flowers described in ancient Hebrew literature, as found in one writer's interpretation: "A white flower of sweet but narcotic perfume. It

has six petals and six stamen, and one pistil, representing the thirteen attributes of God. The heart of the flower is always turned upward and is often found growing among thorns, symbolizing the trust in Jehovah which His children should feel even amidst afflictions."

In the Song of Solomon, the lily is exalted above all other flowers. There are also frequent references to it in the Old Testament regarding its form being used to decorate the columns and other architectural points of the ancient temples. Lilies were also wrought on the great crown of King Solomon.

Centuries later the Italian painters, especially those of Pope Gregory's time, made frequent and lavish use of the flower in their religious paintings, usually to symbolize purity. Through use in such paintings, a legend arose which told of the lily having six petals and six stamen, representing the Twelve Apostles, while the single pistil was believed to be symbolic of the one God.

According to early-day medical journals, the lily plant was very prolific in its growth and in its medicinal properties, about twenty to thirty remedies were said to be derived from it. Among its many healing qualities was a "sure cure" for serpent bite and fungic poisoning. When the roots were boiled in olive oil the resulting substance was considered to be a miraculous hair restorative. No records show just how effective the substance was for growing hair! *



DID YOU KNOW?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Did you know—there is a national program for 3 and 4 year old boys and girls entitled "Rainbows"? This program was prepared jointly by the National Women's Ministries Department and the National Men's Ministries Department. For more information contact the Gospel Publishing House.

Did you know—we now have eight (8) FCF Territories instead of four (4)? Each territory now has the same geographical areas as a region.

Did you know—those wishing FCF wilderness status no longer need a sponsor to qualify? They may contact the district chapter officers direct about becoming a wilderness frontiersman.

Did you know—that the bronze training chief pins are no longer being issued? Instead a gold training chief pin (for certified instructor) and a silver training chief pin (for instructor/trainer) are now being utilized.

Did you know—that applications for the Medal of Valor should be sent to the District Commander for evaluation before being sent to the National Committee?

Did you know—that you are very important to the National Royal Rangers Office? They stand ready to assist you in any way they can.

Devotions For Boys continued.

Similar to a young boy's first day at school, when he peeks ahead in his new mathbook and sees page after page of very strange and confusing number problems, I too must trust my teacher's ability to guide me through each lesson—first this then that—one step, one day at a time.



Your Outpost Planning GUIDE

March

Theme-Rifle Marksmanship

1st Week

HISTORY OF FIREARMS. Show samples of flintlock and percussion rifles.

2nd Week

Demonstrate how to load and fire. Show samples of modern firearms (bolt action, pump, etc.)

3rd Week

Demonstrate how to load and fire.

4th Week

Discuss and practice safety in handling firearms. Demonstrate and have boys practice using rifle sling. Demonstrate and have boys practice the four basic shooting positions: PRONE, SITTING, KNEELING, STANDING.

APRIL

Theme-Gun Safety

1st Week

PROPER AMMUNITION. (show samples) Open Action—Demonstrate opening of different actions.

2nd Week

Demonstrate how muzzle should always be pointed in a safe direction. SIGHTING AND PROPER SIGHT ALIGNMENT. Show different types of sights (open, deep, scope, etc.)

3rd Week

SIGHTING PRACTICE with paige sighting device. SIGHTING EXERCISE using triangulation method. RANGE RULES

4th Week

PRACTICING AT A RIFLE RANGE

May

Theme-Hunting Safety

1st Week

DISCUSS HUNTING SAFETY with firearms: Proper clothing color, knowing target, pointing muzzle in safe direction, proper handling of firearms when crossing obstacles, knowing location of hunting partners, respect for nature and private property.

2nd Week

Discuss and demonstrate proper CLEANING DISCUSS plans for a day at the rifle range for shooting qualifications.

3rd Week

DISCUSS boys' strengths and weaknesses in the previous week's shooting practice.

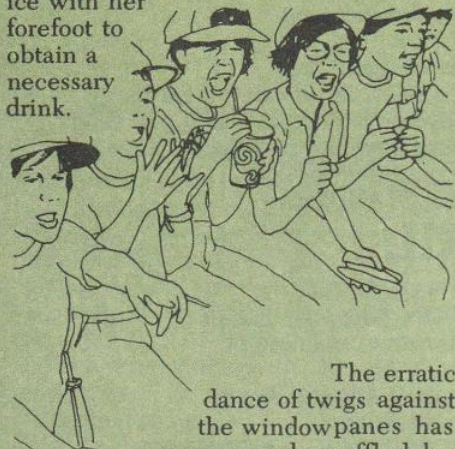
4th Week



SPRING

The Rebirth
of Nature by Grover Brinkman

A yellow dandelion emerges from the cold soil, pushing off a frosty mantle. Giant trees stripped naked by winter are showing rosebuds of pale green, changing their complexion. A doe, born frightened, delicately taps a thin wafer of ice with her forefoot to obtain a necessary drink.



The erratic dance of twigs against the windowpanes has a new sound, muffled by swelling buds. Spring is laying a rich green velvet over the white bathrug land. Dogwood is a-bloom, snowy blossoms against the dead forest.

All over the countryside, life is in a stage of vibrant new birth. A robin slithers under the multiflora hedge, hunting a safe nesting place. The sky has turned a deeper blue, and racing popcorn clouds seem whiter, fluffier, by comparison.

It's a good feeling!

Death to life. Cold to warmth. Drabness to beauty, not only in the physical landscape about us, but in hearts both young and old. It is a time of awakening, a quickening of the spirit.

This is nature's scheme of things. It's been going on since time immemorial and will continue down through the ages. Man changes many things, improving some, ruining others. But the rebirth of nature goes on and on, part of an eternal calendar.

Under the eaves, sparrows ruffle their feathers as they carry sticks and straw for a new nest. Icicles, pointing bony, arthritic fingers at the earth, slowly melt and disappear. The mercury in the thermometer takes an elevator ride upward.

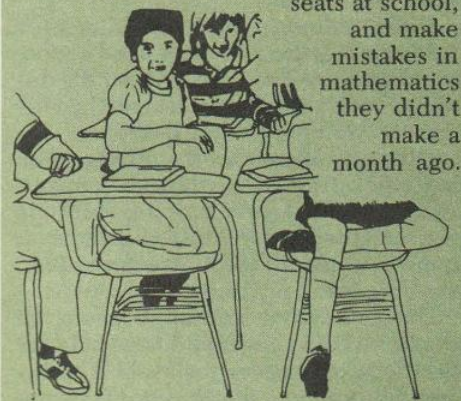
Youngsters reluctantly store their sleds, hunt up their footballs. A boy walks through a pasture, casting rod across his shoulder. Girls, who long ago discovered that boys throw snowballs at them, no longer fear the barrage for the snow is gone.

Winter is a season that spreads over two calendars, but Spring is content with one. Everywhere we look, new life is emerging. Eggs are hatching, tiny animals huddle close in subterranean furlined nests, waiting for strength to emerge from the protection of a den. Plants push tiny green tendrils from the chilly earth; the ground itself stretches

from its winter cramps, because it has been touched with new life.

A honey bee, still numb from cold, bravely samples the nectar of the dandelion; a flock of Canadian geese, honking their anticipation, push steadily into the North. Sap drips from a maple tree, and is turned into sugar over a cooking fire.

Boys, large and small squirm in their seats at school, and make mistakes in mathematics they didn't make a month ago.



What if we had no changing seasons? What if the wisdom of creation had passed up nature? What if the natural months of birth, growth, harvest and death, were unrealized?

It would be rather a humdrum existence, wouldn't it! But just the opposite is true. We live in an exciting, ever-changing world. If it is humdrum, it is only because we make it so. *

