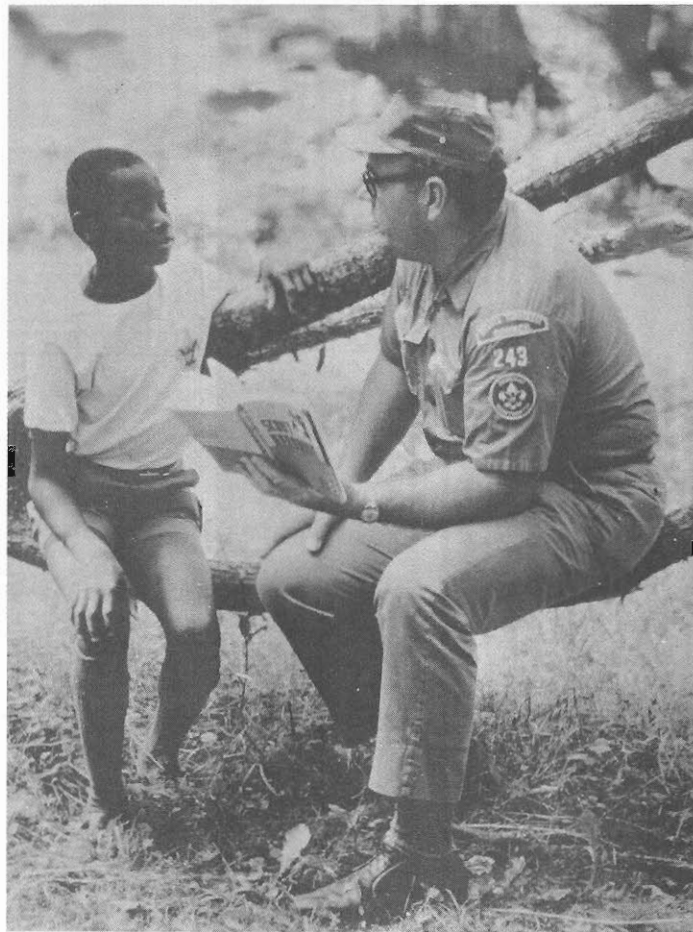


CAMPING SKILLS

No. 26-077

REPRINTED FROM BOYS' LIFE MAGAZINE





REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CAMPING SKILL AWARD

1. Present yourself to your leader before going on an overnight camping trip. Show the camping gear you will use (including food and shelter). Explain how you will use the gear. Show the right way to pack and carry it.
2. Go on an overnight camping trip.
 - a. Go on an overnight camping trip with your troop, patrol, or other Scouts using the same equipment. Carry it on your back for at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to your camp. After camping, carry it $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles back.
 - b. Pitch a tent correctly in a good place that you picked. Sleep in it overnight. Store it correctly after use.
 - c. Make a bed on the ground. Sleep on it overnight.
 - d. Follow good health, sanitation, and safety practices. Leave a clean camp.
3. Whip the ends of a rope. Tie a taut line hitch, bowline, clove hitch, sheet bend, and square knot. Show their correct use on a campout.

HINTS AND TIPS FOR THE OVERNIGHT CAMPER!

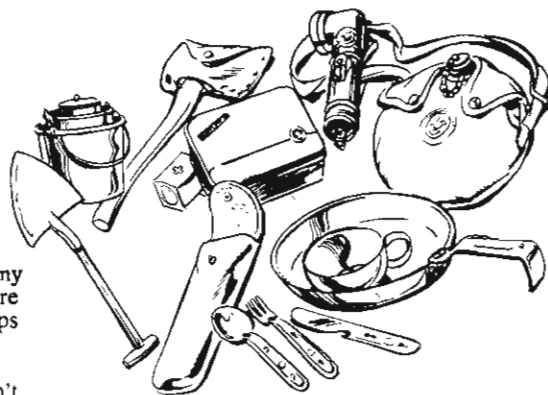


All good Scouts will probably go on many overnight camping trips this summer. Here are some hints and tips to make your trips easier and more comfortable.

Get well organized beforehand . . . and don't cram your pack with more stuff than you'll need. Start with your pack and see what you'll have to carry.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT:

Wear your Scout uniform and official shoes or other clothing suited to the territory. It's good to have a scout knife, matches in a waterproof container, canteen, first aid kit, axe in its case (*in your pack*), flashlight, a small notebook and pencil, a few safety pins. A pair of pajamas, an extra pair of socks, a sweater or a lumberjack, a poncho or rain coat. Put small items you won't use often in a ditty bag.



COOKING AND EATING GEAR—

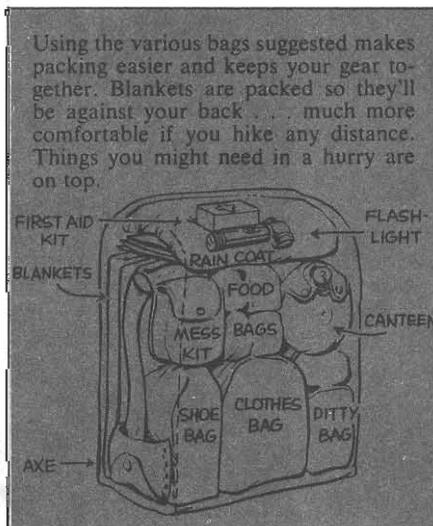
Plate, fork, knife, spoon, cup, etc., all in a canvas or plastic bag. Soap, towel, tooth brush and paste, comb, metal mirror—all in another bag. Toilet tissue, blankets or a sleeping bag, a small spade, tent.



LOCATING YOUR CAMPSITE:

If it's strange country, choose a spot for your tent that has a slight grade for drainage in case it rains. Near woods but not directly under a tree . . . on dry soil — avoid heavy grass . . . near swimming if possible but away from mosquito breeding swamp. Make a sketch of your camp; locate your tent spot, cooking area, latrine, etc. Pitch your tent and arrange a place to stow your food where it'll be safe from weather, insects and animals.

Dig a narrow trench latrine — at a distance from the center of your camp, dirt piled nearby for covering, paddle and paper handy.





PREPS FOR SUMMER CAMP

OK! WE'LL HAUL OUT THE TENTS. BUT I THINK YOU'RE PUTTING US ON.

IT'S NEARLY WINTER!

YEP! AND IT'S NOT A BIT TOO EARLY TO GET READY FOR SPRING AND SUMMER CAMPING.



I'M JUST REMINISCING!



THEY SPREAD OUT THE TENTS ONE BY ONE ON THE FLOOR. (THE LARGER THE FLOOR SPACE THE EASIER THE JOB CAN BE DONE.) THEN THEY CAREFULLY CHECKED THEM FOR RIPS, HOLES, AND MISSING OR PARTED ROPES AND TIES. THEY PARTICULARLY CHECKED THE CONDITION OF ANY GROMMETS. THIS IS IMPORTANT. SHARP EDGES OF WORN OR BENT METAL GROMMETS COULD CUT A ROPE AT A MOST INCONVENIENT TIME. ALSO, A MISSING GROMMET WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY RESULT IN A BADLY RIPPED SECTION OF MATERIAL.

SETTING GROMMETS IS EASY WITH THE OFFICIAL GROMMET KIT. IT'S AVAILABLE AT MOST SCOUT EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTORS.



COMPLETE INSTRUCTIONS ARE GIVEN ON KIT.

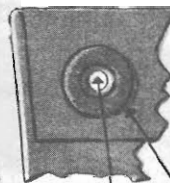
WATERPROOFING SPRAYS MAY BE FOUND IN MOST HOME-FURNISHING, HARDWARE, AND VARIETY STORES. FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

PUNCH OR CUT HOLE IN MATERIAL. PLACE EACH PART OF GROMMET IN FRONT AND BACK OF MATERIAL AROUND HOLE.

OR GET ORDINARY FIBER WASHERS AND SEW THEM IN PLACE WITH GOOD, STRONG MENDING THREAD.



LIKE SO...



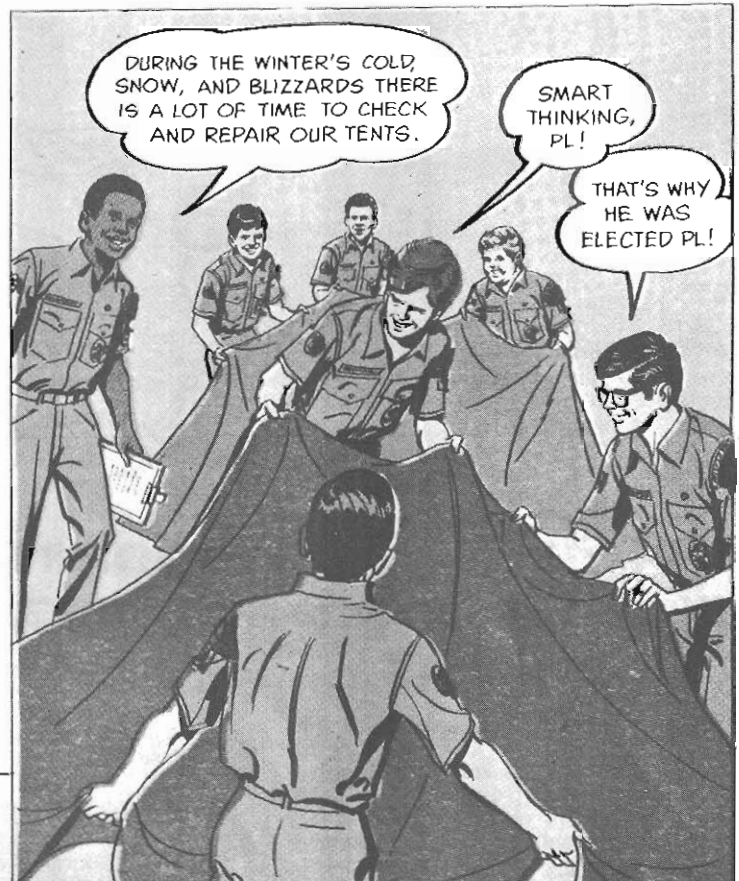
HOLE



GROMMET OR WASHER

STITCH TOGETHER THROUGH MATERIAL.

EASY TO IRON-ON PATCHES FOR ALL TENTS ALSO ARE AVAILABLE AT SCOUT EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTORS.



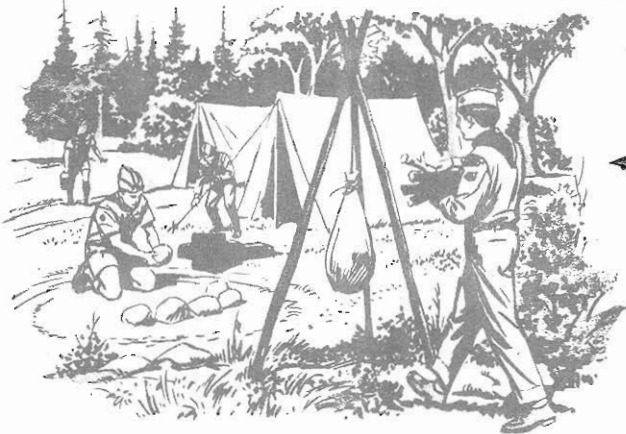
DURING THE WINTER'S COLD, SNOW, AND BLIZZARDS THERE IS A LOT OF TIME TO CHECK AND REPAIR OUR TENTS.

SMART THINKING, PL!

THAT'S WHY HE WAS ELECTED PL!

SCOUTCRAFT

YOUR FIRST CAMPOUT



CHOOSING THE SITE

LOOK FOR A FAIRLY OPEN SPOT WHERE THE GROUND SLOPES GENTLY SO THAT RAINWATER DRAINS OFF QUICKLY. GRASS-COVERED, SANDY OR GRAVELLY GROUND IS BEST. THE SITE SHOULD BE NEAR WOODS, BUT NOT DIRECTLY UNDER TREES. SAFE DRINKING AND COOKING WATER SHOULD BE NEARBY.



A LAKE OR A STREAM WILL PROVIDE WATER FOR WASHING MESS GEAR. BUT DON'T WASH POTS OR MESS GEAR IN THE LAKE OR STREAM. PURIFY THIS WATER BEFORE DRINKING.

DON'T DIG A TRENCH AROUND YOUR TENT. IT'S UNNECESSARY IF YOU'VE CHOSEN A SUITABLE, WELL-DRAINED SPOT.

DIG A STRADDLE LATRINE IN THE BUSHES DOWNWIND FROM CAMP AND AT LEAST 75 FEET FROM ANY WATER. SAVE ALL DIRT FOR LIGHT COVER AFTER EACH USE, AND FOR REFILLING LATRINE BEFORE YOU LEAVE CAMP FOR GOOD. REPLACE SOD.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CHECK YOUR SCOUT HANDBOOK, THE FIELDBOOK AND THE CAMPING MERIT BADGE PAMPHLET.

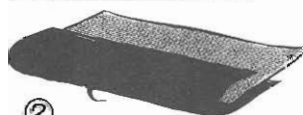


A COMFORTABLE GROUND BED



SMOOTH OUT BUMPS AND REMOVE STONES FROM YOUR SLEEPING AREA. INSTEAD OF DIGGING HIP AND SHOULDER HOLLOW, COVER YOUR BED AREA WITH LEAVES, STRAW, GRASS, OR PINE NEEDLES. PACK EXTRA PADDING WHERE YOUR BACK, HEAD AND MIDDLE THIGHS WILL LIE. SPREAD YOUR GROUND CLOTH OVER IT ALL. LAY YOUR SLEEPING BAG ON THIS—OR MAKE THIS BED SACK WITH TWO BLANKETS AND LARGE BLANKET PINS.

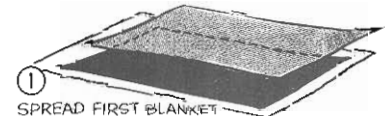
BLANKET BED SACK



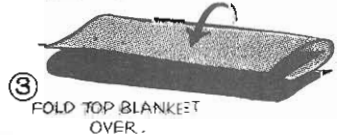
② FOLD BOTTOM BLANKET HALFWAY OVER TOP ONE.



④ FOLD BACK FOOT PART OF BOTH BLANKETS.



① SPREAD FIRST BLANKET ON GROUND CLOTH. THEN PUT SECOND BLANKET HALFWAY OVER THE FIRST.



③ FOLD TOP BLANKET OVER. ⑤ PIN TOGETHER TO MAKE SACK.

A SHEET OF POLYETHYLENE (A PLASTIC) 4-6 MIL THICK MAKES A GOOD GROUND CLOTH. OR YOU CAN USE AN AIR MATTRESS INFLATED JUST ENOUGH TO KEEP YOUR BODY OFF THE GROUND. OR USE A PIECE OF POLYFOAM 3" THICK BY 24" WIDE AND THE LENGTH FROM YOUR HEAD TO SEAT. A GROUND CLOTH HELPS INSULATE YOU FROM DAMPNESS AND COLD.

MAKE THIS HANDY POCKET LIST OF PERSONAL EQUIPMENT TO TAKE WITH YOU. CUT IT OUT, FOLD BACK TO BACK, THEN LAMINATE IT IN PLASTIC. CHECK OFF THE ITEMS WITH A GREASE PENCIL AS YOU PACK. WIPE OFF FOR NEXT USE.

CAMPOUT CHECKLIST

WEAR

- ☐ COMPLETE UNIFORM
- ☐ HIKING SHOES
- ☐ SWEATER OR JACKET
- ☐ RAINCOAT OR PONCHO

CARRY IN POCKETS

- ☐ SCOUT KNIFE
- ☐ MATCHES (IN WATER-PROOF CASE)
- ☐ HANKERCHIEF
- ☐ WALLET (INCLUDE DIMES FOR PHONE)

INDIVIDUAL TOILET PAPER

- ☐ COMPASS
- ☐ 2 or 3 BAND-AIDS

FASTEN TO OR INSIDE YOUR PACK

- ☐ REPAIR KIT (NEEDLES, THREAD, ETC.)
- ☐ EATING UTENSILS
- ☐ FLASHLIGHT (CHECK BATTERIES)
- ☐ SLEEPING BAG (OR 2-3 BLANKETS)
- ☐ WATERPROOF GROUND CLOTH

MOCCASINS OR SNEAKERS

- ☐ CLOTHESBAG WITH:
- ☐ EXTRA SHIRT
- ☐ EXTRA PANTS
- ☐ PAJAMAS OR SWEAT SUIT
- ☐ EXTRA HANKERCHIEFS
- ☐ EXTRA SOCKS
- ☐ CHANGE OF UNDERWEAR
- ☐ TOILET KIT CONTAINING:
- ☐ WASH CLOTH
- ☐ SOAP
- ☐ COMB
- ☐ HAND TOWEL

BATH TOWEL

- ☐ TOOTHBRUSH & TOOTHPASTE
- ☐ WASH BASIN (PLASTIC OR CANVAS)
- OPTIONAL ITEMS**
- ☐ WATCH
- ☐ SWIM TRUNKS
- ☐ CAMERA, FILM
- ☐ CANTEEN
- ☐ NOTEBOOK, PENCIL
- ☐ MAP
- ☐ FIRST AID KIT
- ☐ SCOUT HANDBOOK or FIELDBOOK
- ☐ MOSQUITO DOPE & NETTING
- ☐ LENGTH OF LINE OR ROPE

HOW TO PITCH A TENT

"Too many cooks spoil the broth," they say. Well, there's another similar saying that goes: "Too many tent pitchers spoil the tent pitching." It may be fun, when you get a new tent for the whole gang, to play around pitching it. But for efficiency you need two tent pitchers only and, when you're good at it, one fellow can do the job. Provided, of course, he goes about it in the right manner.

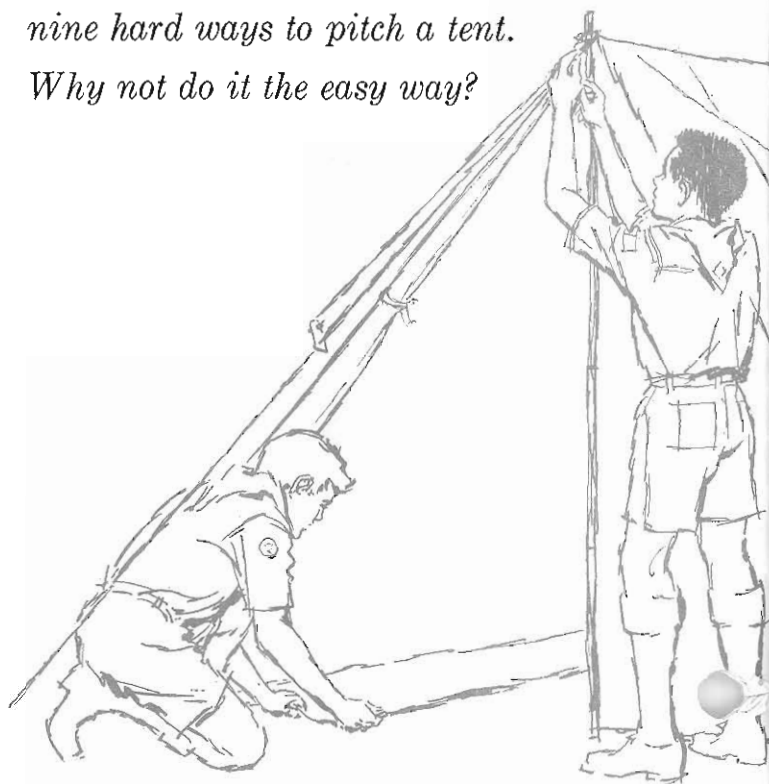
You start your camp making by picking a spot for your tent that's almost level and, preferably, slightly elevated above its surroundings so that you won't have to ditch the tent for rainy weather. Then get down on your hands and knees and go over every inch of the ground to clear away sticks and stones and hard bumps of grass.

Now unroll your tent and lay out tent poles and pegs. The poles should be exactly the correct height, otherwise the tent won't stand right. Unless you have permission to cut poles on the campsite, you'll have brought the poles from home—sectional aluminum poles for a lightweight tent, wooden poles for a heavyweight. Your tent pegs may be lightweight, of metal, or heavyweight, of hardwood, or cut on the spot from sticks about 1 inch thick, 9 to 12 inches long. For guy lines you may be using nylon line or light rope.

There's one main secret to quick tent pitching: Close the tent door before you do anything else—that is, tie up the door flaps. When that's done you're all set for the four steps shown in the four photographs on these pages.

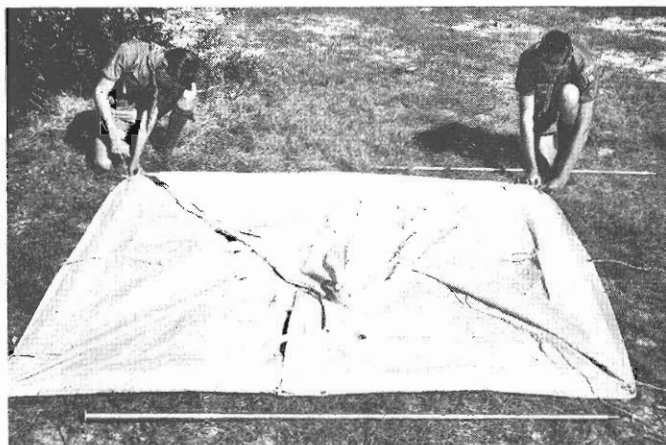
When you're finished, step back and look at your handiwork. If you're a good camper, the ridge should have little sway, the sides and walls should be smooth, with few wrinkles.

*There's one easy way and
nine hard ways to pitch a tent.
Why not do it the easy way?*



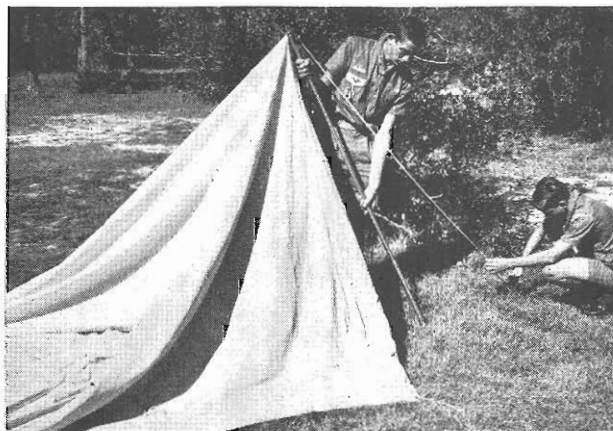
The Voyager tent uses two 6-foot poles and 15 tent pegs. It is 7'6" wide, 8' deep, 6' high.

By WILLIAM HILLCOURT

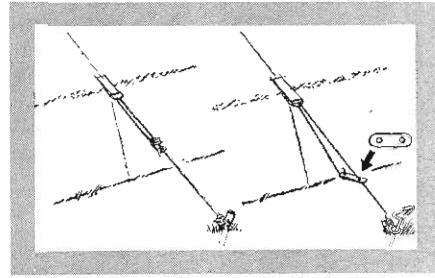


Peg down the two front corners so that the tent is facing the way you want it. Then peg down the two rear corners, making all floor corners right angles.

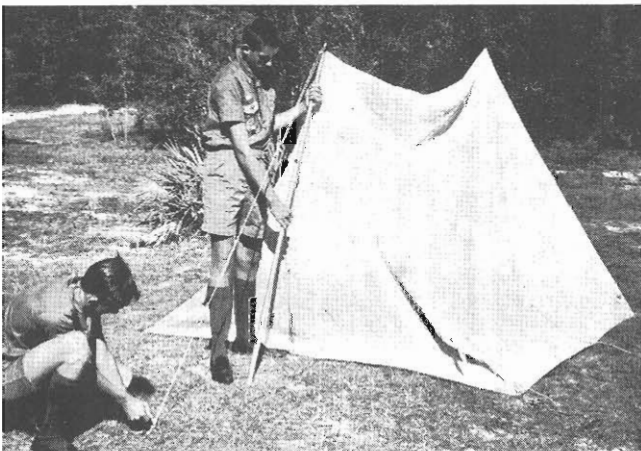
Have a buddy raise a pole at one tent peak and hold it in upright position while you put in a peg at a proper distance and fasten the guy line to it.



If you use wooden pegs, attach line with two half hitches, run line through ring or loop on tent and finish with taut-line hitch. It's even simpler if you use light metal pegs and have lines provided with metal rings and metal or wooden slides.



Now go around the tent. Peg the tent sides to the ground and put in pegs for the side lines (if your tent has them). Finally, tighten all lines.



Then have your buddy raise the other pole while you peg down the other guy line and stretch the tent ridge taut between the two poles.

THE PEDRO PATROL

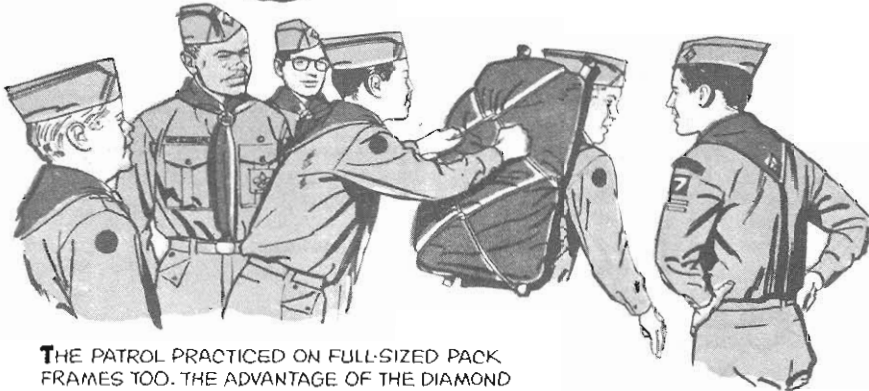
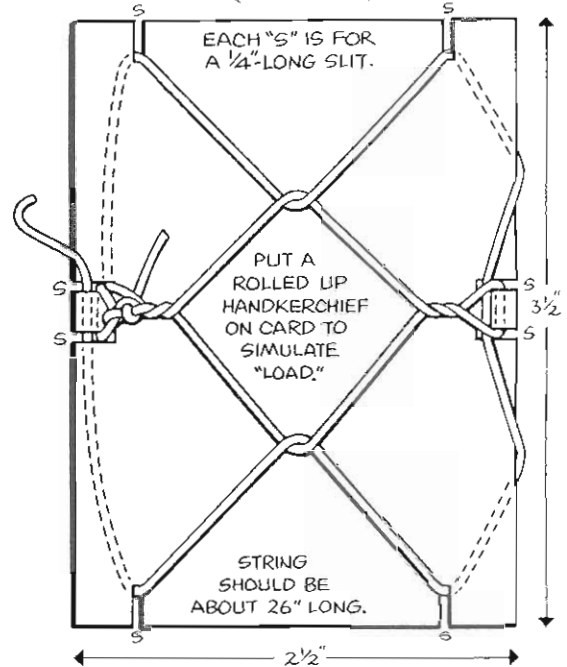
PACKS FOR CAMP



THE BEST LASHING TO SECURE A PACK TO A FRAME IS THE **DIAMOND HITCH**. SO WE COULD PRACTICE THIS HITCH WHEREVER WE HAPPENED TO BE, WE ALL MADE OURSELVES A POCKET-SIZE PACK FRAME OUT OF CARDBOARD WITH STRING FOR THE ROPE.

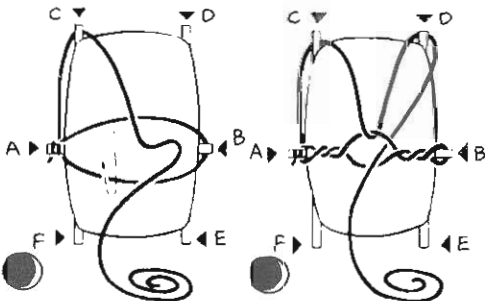


HERE'S THE POCKET-SIZE PACK FRAME P.L. SKIP IS TALKING ABOUT...
(ACTUAL SIZE)



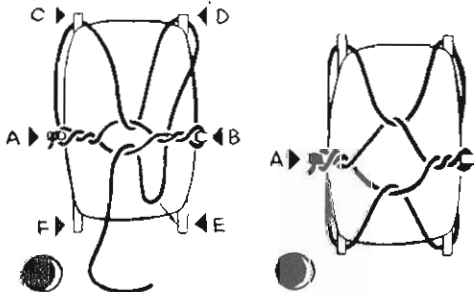
THE PATROL PRACTICED ON FULL-SIZED PACK FRAMES TOO. THE ADVANTAGE OF THE DIAMOND HITCH IS ITS EASY TIGHTENING. WHEN YOU PULL ON ANY SECTION OF THE LINE, EVERY OTHER SECTION DRAWS TIGHTER.

LAY YOUR SACK OR DUFFEL FLAT ON FRAME.



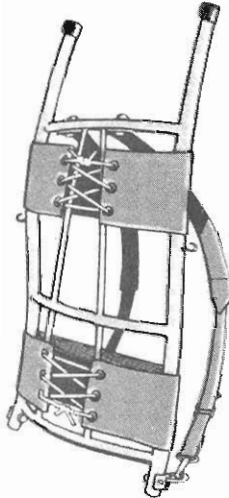
TIE ONE END OF ROPE AROUND PACK FRAME AT "A" USING A CLOVE HITCH. BRING ROPE TO "B" THEN BACK TO "A". TWIST THE DOUBLED ROPES THREE TIMES.

BRING ROPE TO "C". LEAD ROPE TO AND UNDER MIDDLE OF TOP DOUBLED ROPE, THEN TO "D". THEN BACK AND THROUGH THE "DIAMOND."

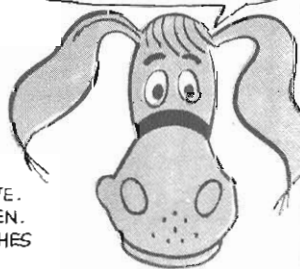


NOW LEAD ROPE TO "E", THEN BACK THROUGH "DIAMOND," THEN TO "F".

HITCH IS NEARLY COMPLETE. NOW PULL ROPE TO TIGHTEN. TIE WITH TWO HALF-HITCHES AT "A".



OUR NEW MEMBER, SID, IS ARTISTIC AND HE SHOWED HOW TO MAKE STENCILS TO DECORATE PACKS, TENTS, ETC., WITH PATROL TOTEM.



CUTTING A STENCIL:

FIRST, DRAW YOUR DESIGN ON SCRATCH PAPER. KEEP DESIGN SIMPLE. THEN WHEN SATISFIED, TRANSFER THE DESIGN IN THE PROPER SIZE ONTO STIFF CARDBOARD.



LEAVE A GOOD MARGIN OF CARDBOARD AROUND THE DESIGN. LAY CARDBOARD ON SCRAP CARDBOARD OR LOTS OF NEWSPAPER ON A FLAT SURFACE. CUT OUT THE DESIGN WITH A SINGLE EDGE RAZOR BLADE OR SHARP HOBBY KNIFE. BE CAREFUL. AFTER THE DESIGN IS CUT, GIVE THE CARDBOARD THREE COATS OF SHELLAC. ALLOW TO DRY THOROUGHLY BETWEEN COATS.

SURFACE TO BE STENCILED MUST LIE FLAT. STENCIL MUST ALSO LIE FLAT ON MATERIAL OR PAINT WILL SPREAD UNDER EDGES.



FLAT



ROUND

USE OUTDOOR LATEX PAINT SPARINGLY. APPLY PAINT WITH FLAT 1 1/2" OR 2" BRUSH, OR USE A ROUND STIPPLING BRUSH. DAB PAINT UP AND DOWN INTO STENCIL CUTOUTS.

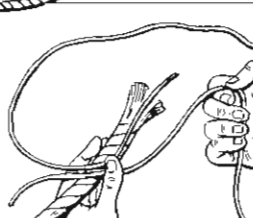
KNOW YOUR KNOTS

AND HOW TO USE THEM

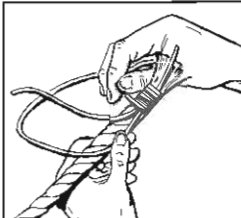
YOU CAN TELL AN OUTDOORSMAN BY HIS ABILITY TO TIE THE RIGHT KNOT AT THE RIGHT TIME. A SCOUT KNOWS SEVERAL KNOTS AND THE PURPOSE OF EACH. HE CAN TIE THEM IN THE DARK OR IN THE DAYLIGHT... HERE ARE THE TESTS OF A GOOD KNOT: 1. SERVES ITS PURPOSE. 2. HOLDS UNTIL UNTIED. 3. EASILY TIED. 4. EASILY UNTIED... TIPS ON KNOT-TYING: USE A SIX-FOOT PIECE OF $\frac{1}{4}$ OR $\frac{1}{2}$ INCH ROPE - NOT TWINE OR STRING! PRACTICE TYING EACH KNOT IN THE SITUATION IN WHICH IT WILL BE USED.



BEFORE TYING KNOTS
LEARN HOW TO
WHIP
A ROPE TO KEEP IT
FROM UNRAVELING



MAKE A LOOP OF TWINE
AND PLACE AT END
OF ROPE.



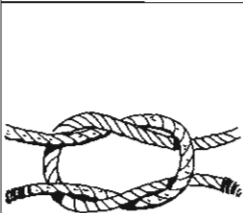
WRAP TWINE TIGHTLY AROUND
ROPE STARTING $\frac{1}{4}$ INCH
FROM ROPE END.



WHEN WHIPPING IS AS WIDE
AS ROPE IS THICK, PULL OUT
ENDS HARD. TRIM OFF TWINE
CLOSE TO WHIPPING.



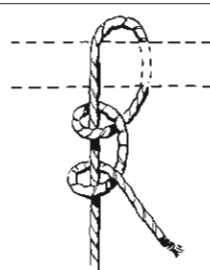
THESE ARE SOME USEFUL KNOTS



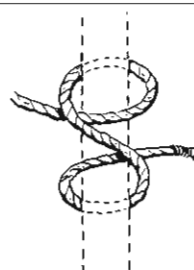
SQUARE KNOT
FOR TYING ROPES
OF EQUAL THICKNESS.
VERY USEFUL
IN FIRST AID.



SHEET BEND
FOR JOINING TWO
ROPES TOGETHER
OF DIFFERENT
THICKNESS.



TWO HALF HITCHES
FOR TYING
A ROPE TO A
POLE OR RING.



CLOVE HITCH
FOR SECURING
BOATS - FOR
LASHINGS.



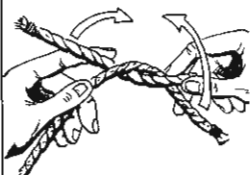
BOWLINE
FOR FORMING A
LOOP THAT WON'T
SLIP UNDER STRAIN.
EASILY UNTIED.



TAUTLINE HITCH
FORMS A LOOP
WHICH WILL NOT SLIP
WHEN ROPE IS TIGHT.

HERE'S HOW TO TIE THEM

SQUARE KNOT



TWIST LEFTHAND ROPE
END OVER, BEHIND,
UNDER RIGHT HAND ROPE.

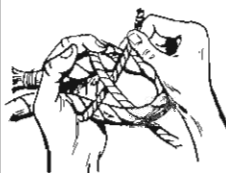


AGAIN TWIST SAME
END AS BEFORE...
OVER, BEHIND, UNDER.
LEFT OVER RIGHT -
RIGHT OVER LEFT!

SHEET BEND

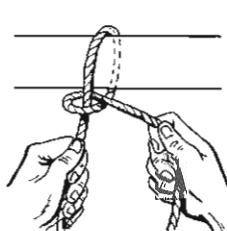


FORM A BIGHT (LOOP)
ON THE HEAVIER ROPE.
BRING OTHER LINE END
THROUGH LOOP, TWIST IT
OVER AND UNDER LOOP.

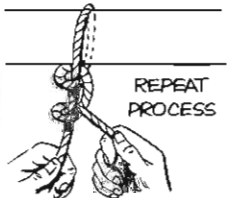


THEN BRING SMALL
LINE IN UNDER ITSELF.

TWO HALF HITCHES

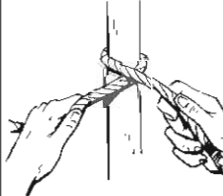


PASS ROPE AROUND
POLE. CARRY ROPE END
OVER AND UNDER AND
THROUGH LOOP
THUS FORMED.

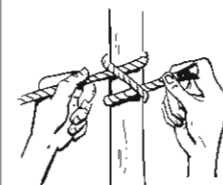


REPEAT
PROCESS

CLOVE HITCH



BRING ROPE END
AROUND POLE, LAY IT
OVER THE ROPE ITSELF.



BRING END ONCE
MORE AROUND POLE.
CARRY END UNDER
THE ROPE ITSELF.

BOWLINE

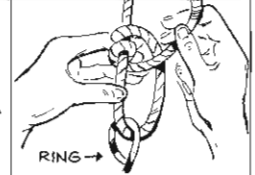


HOLDING ROPE WITH
FINGERS ON TOP, PLACE
END ON STANDING
PART. TWIST YOUR
HAND, CARRYING
END AROUND TO
FORM LOOP.



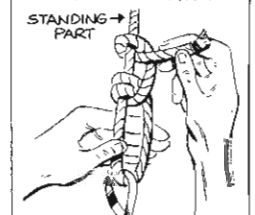
BRING END AROUND
ROPE DOWN THROUGH
LOOP.

TAUTLINE HITCH

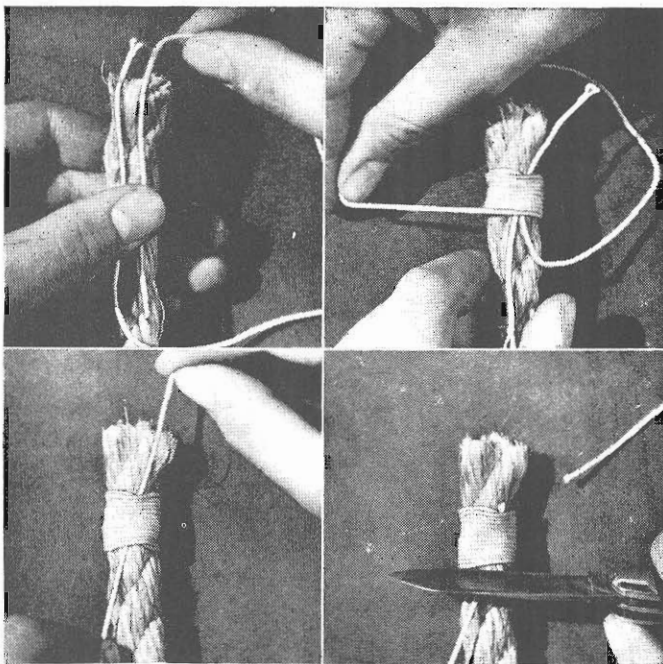


PASS ROPE THROUGH
RING.

CARRY ROPE END
AROUND STANDING PART
TWICE AND THROUGH
LOOP THUS FORMED.



REPEAT PROCESS ONCE
AND PULL TIGHT.

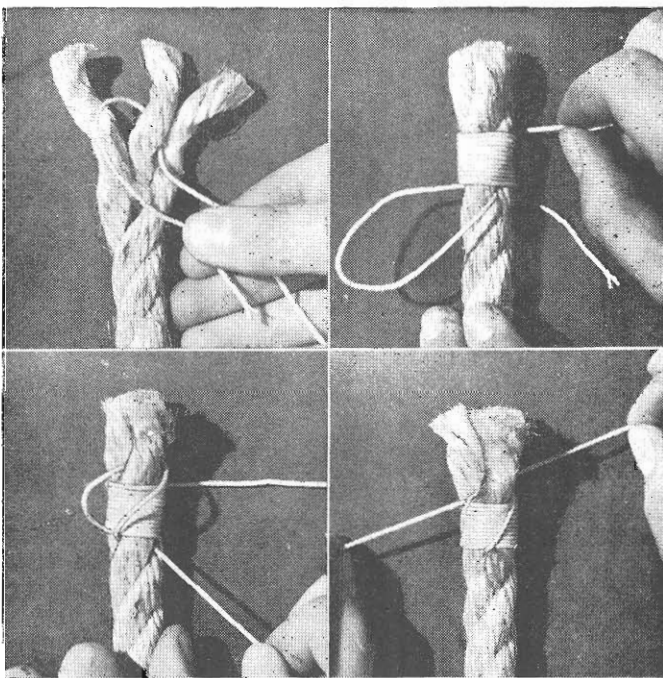


"AMERICAN" WHIPPING—Make a loop in a three-foot length of twine and place it at the end of the rope, one end of twine pointing in the same direction as the rope end, the other pointing the opposite way. Wrap twine tightly around rope, starting about one-half inch from the rope end. Continue until whipping is as wide as rope is thick. Pull the two ends out to either side. Cut off both ends of the twine close to the whipping.

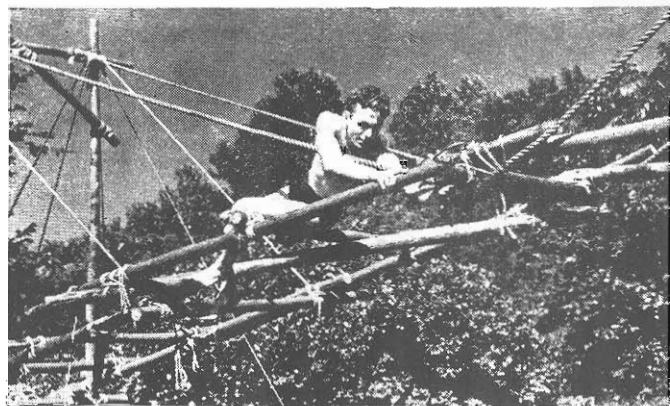
WHIP YOUR ROPES

By WILLIAM HILLCOURT

WHEN YOU WORK with ropes it is important to keep the ends from unraveling. You do this by giving each rope end a good whipping. Sounds like some kind of brutal punishment? It isn't. The word has nothing to do with what we usually mean by "whipping." It comes from an old Gothi word, *waip*, that means "to put a wreath around."



SAILMAKER'S WHIPPING—Unlay the rope two inches. Make a bight in a three-foot length of twine and place it around one of the strands. Relay the rope. Wind the twine tightly around the rope end for a sufficient number of turns. Carry the bight originally formed back over the end of the same strand around which it was laid. Pull twine ends tight and tie them with a square knot between the rope strands. Trim ends of twine.



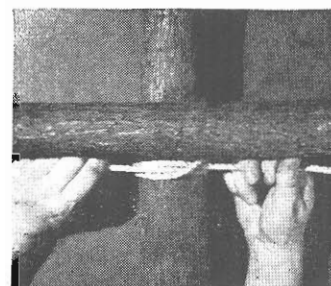
For Pioneering, Know Your

Square Lashings

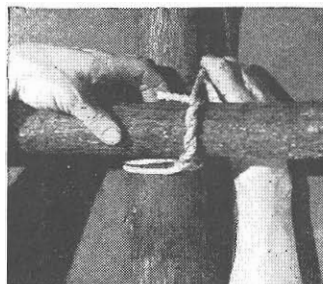
BY ROBERT STERLING

WHETHER YOUR pioneering project is a bridge or a tower, a raft or a runway, a bed or a kitchen rack, and whether you use logs or sticks, rope or twine, you'll need to know how to make a square lashing that will hold.

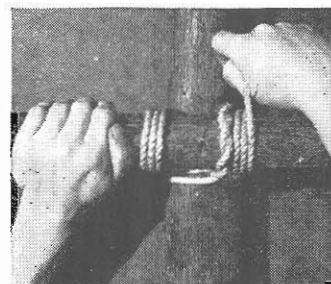
With the square lashing mastered, you can also finish up on the First Class requirement that calls for the making of a "piece of camp equipment requiring lashings." And when that is out of the way, you have a Pioneering merit badge to aim for.



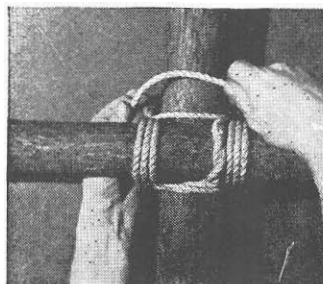
Start the lashing with clove hitch immediately under the cross piece.



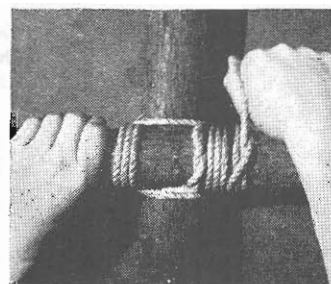
Twist rope end around standing part to secure it. Then start wrapping rope around cross piece and upright both. Wrap turns firmly.



Wrap with three turns. In laying them, the rope goes outside of previous turn around cross piece, inside of previous turn on upright.



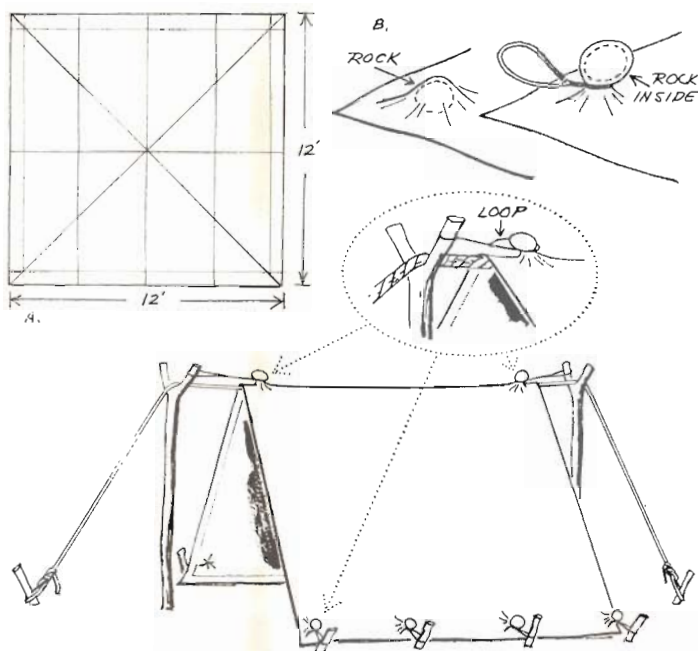
Now take two frapping turns between timbers to strain wrappings.



Then finish the square lashing with clove hitch around the cross piece.

THE POLYTARP

By RON ELY



The shelter you see illustrated is called a Poly tarp since it can be rigged in many different ways. It's only about four pounds and sleeps two boys comfortably. If you buy the polyethylene sheets from which it's made at a hardware or building-supply store, the complete tent should cost you about five dollars. If you scrounge discarded sheets from farm suppliers or building contractors, the cost will be negligible. The plastic comes either clear or in colors.

Here's the equipment you'll need: 12' x 12' square of four- or six-mil-thick polyethylene; 150 feet of $\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide adhesive filament tape (also called acetate-backed, glass-reinforced strapping tape) which comes in 60-yard rolls; 30-40 feet of #36 nylon twine (about 260-lb. test); 26 feet of rope (nylon braided is best) for tent ridge-line; pair of scissors; a yardstick; chalk to mark lines; and chalkline (string about 20' long).

Lay out your sheet of polyethylene on a flat, clean, dry surface. Be care-

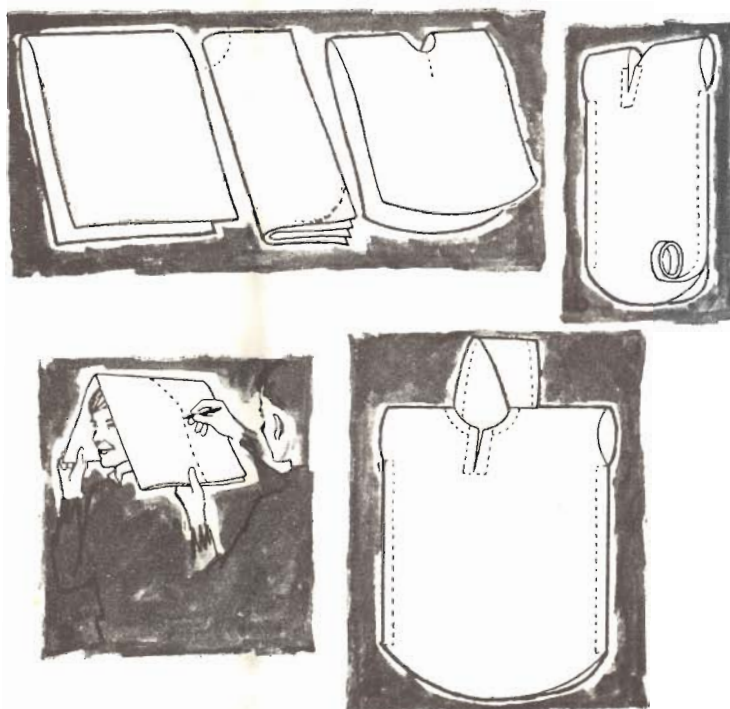
ful not to punch any holes in the sheet. (If you do, they can be patched up easily with a piece of filament tape or plastic adhesive tape.) The polyethylene must be dry and clean when applying the filament tape for reinforcing. With a yardstick, chalk and chalkline mark the lines along which the filament tape must be attached. Stick on the tape as shown in diagram A.

Now pitch the Poly tarp. You're going to need to attach ropes for guy lines, tent pegs, etc. The easiest way to do this is as shown in illustration B. Using two half-hitches tie up a wad of leaves or a smooth rock the size of a walnut in the plastic where you want the rope or peg to be attached. Then loop the twine around the plastic-enclosed rock.

In pitching the Poly tarp, the side of the polyethylene sheet with the filament tape attached to it serves as the inner side of the tent. Tie down tightly the ridgeline, all corners and at several points where the tent meets the ground. Allow for ventilation. Simplest way to pitch the poly tarp is shown at left. ■

POLYPONCHO

By RON ELY



Those are thunderheads ahead, buddy, and if you're on the trail without raingear, you're in trouble, real trouble! And that starts with "T," which rhymes with "P," which stands for—POLYPONCHO. Make your own and stay dry. Use the same technique followed to build the Poly tarp (see *Boys' Life*, March, 1967). Our materials: polyethylene plastic sheeting (six-mil thick), filament tape and $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch wide plastic tape.

Polyethylene sheeting can be begged from builders or building suppliers, or bought from these people or from many hardware or farm-supply stores. Buy $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch wide filament tape and plastic tape in almost any 5&10-cent store.

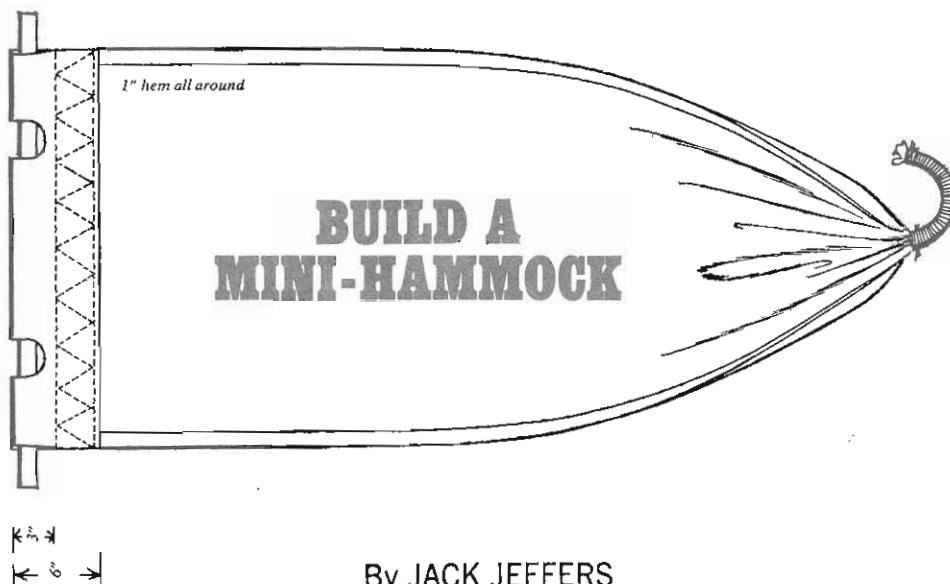
First step—how much polyethylene do you need? Stretch your arms out straight to the side. Have someone measure you from thumb-tip to thumb-tip. Next, have that same person measure your height from your shoulder to the top of your feet. With scissors cut one piece of polyethylene to your wing-spread width and twice the length measured (to cover your front and back).

Fold the plastic in half where your shoulders will touch, so that you have one length on top of the other. Next, fold that in half lengthwise (figure A). At the corner of the double fold cut out a quarter pie slice barely big enough to fit your head (about four inches in radius). Then trim the bottom corners round.

Next step is to take your plastic tape and seal the sides together (figure B). Leave room for your hands to stick through (about 12 inches). Reinforce the head hole and hand holes with filament tape, as shown.

You can fashion a hood by first making a paper pattern for your head from a double sheet of newspaper. Hold it so that the center fold is on top of your head. Have someone mark on the paper in crayon the right size to cover your entire head and allow the hood to be attached to the Polyponcho's head hole (figure C). Take the pattern, trace the outline in polyethylene and cut out the hood piece. Seal the hood's back with plastic tape and reinforce the front edge of the hood with filament tape. Attach the hood to the headhole edges with plastic tape (figure D).

If you omit the hood, cut only a two-inch-radius pie slice and a six-inch slit down the front center. Reinforce cuts with filament tape. ■



By JACK JEFFERS

Finding a really comfortable place to bed down on steeply sloping, swampy or rocky terrain is next to impossible with a conventional bedroll. But with an easy-to-make, fist-sized mini-hammock, you can sleep like Rip Van Winkle anywhere you find two convenient trees.

A hammock fashioned from nylon cloth—the material is available at most department stores—weighs about three-quarters of a pound. Drawn bowstring-tight between two trees, this specially designed hammock frees you from back and shoulder aches. And you won't have to worry about flipping over during the night, for the mini-hammock has a natural and built-in sag.

The nylon material should be at least 36 inches wide. (If you want a lot of room, get material that is 48 inches wide.) Figure your height plus three feet for the length. You'll also need to buy either nylon or Dacron thread and about 20 feet of one-eighth-inch nylon cord.

Turn in the edges of the nylon sheet an inch, hemming either on a sewing machine or stitching by hand. At what will be the foot end of the hammock, compress about eight inches of material and wrap it tightly with nylon string, al-

lowing the center to sag slightly. Twist back this end, and with additional string, permanently form a loop.

At the shoulder end of the hammock, fold over six inches of material. Using a rickrack stitch on the inside three inches of the folded nylon, leave along the top a three-inch hem open at both sides. About six inches in from the ends of the hem, cut two slots. These slots should be three inches wide and extend for 2½ inches into the hem. Use a buttonhole stitch—much simpler on a machine than by hand—on both upper and lower edges of the slot to keep the edges from fraying. Do not sew edges of the slots together.

Now you're ready to string it up. Find a straight stick 1¼ to 1½ inches in diameter and pass it through the three-inch hem, leaving two or three inches extended outward from each end. Attach nylon cord (use quarter-inch cord if you weigh over 175) where the stick is visible in the slots. Double a piece of cord and tie to the loop at the foot. Tie cords to trees and you're ready for bed—almost. Because nylon stretches, lie down in the hammock, then retighten the ropes.

Pitch the hammock so your body sags

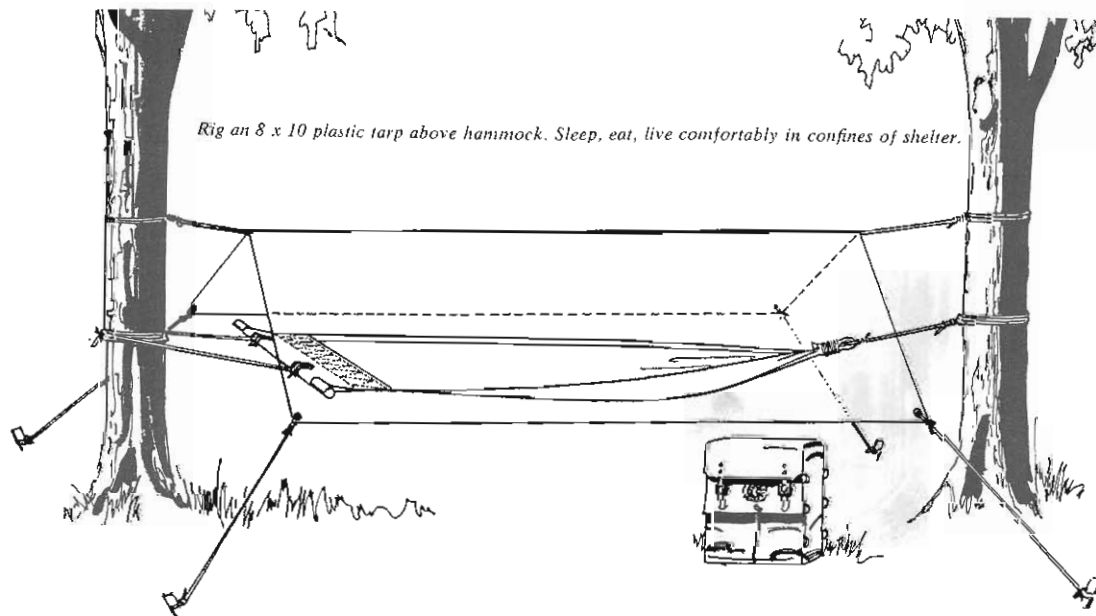
to within inches of the ground. Due to the nylon's elasticity, your body automatically sinks deeper in the center. Hence your center of gravity is below the level of the sides, practically eliminating the chance that you will fall out.

A plastic shelter erected overhead will protect you from rain and sun, and your gear can be stored during the day. Tie a stout string between the two trees (a couple of feet above the hammock) and use it for the center ridge for a plastic shelter. The corners can be tied to convenient trees or stakes, and the pitch can be varied with the weather.

If you're camping in an insect-infested area, a piece of mosquito netting or cheesecloth can be suspended from the support string to protect your head and arms. It can be attached with several small clothespins.

Because of the rapid heat loss through the bottom, don't use this hammock during freezing weather unless you construct a double bottom and insert a strip of polyurethane foam (or similar material) for added insulation.

If you like to go light and still live in comfort, leave your heavy tents and ground cloths at home. Take a mini-hammock instead.



CAMPCRAFT QUICKIES

PAUL BUNYAN AXMAN RECOGNITION

YOU CAN RECEIVE THIS EMBLEM AND THE CERTIFICATE THAT GOES WITH IT, BY HELPING ANOTHER SCOUT EARN HIS TOTIN' CHIP CARD. YOU MUST ALSO STUDY CHAPTER SIX IN THE **FIELD BOOK** AND, WITH A THREE-QUARTER AX, DEMONSTRATE TO YOUR SCOUT LEADER (OR OTHER QUALIFIED PERSON HE CHOOSES) THE FOLLOWING:

- ① CUT A LOG SIX TO EIGHT FEET LONG AND FOUR INCHES OR MORE IN DIAMETER INTO TWO-FOOT LENGTHS. THEN SPLIT THESE TWO-FOOT LENGTHS INTO QUARTERS.
- ② WITH OFFICIAL APPROVAL AND SUPERVISION DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
 - (A) CLEAR TRAILS OR FIRE LANES FOR TWO HOURS.
 - (B) DEMONSTRATE HOW TO FELL A STANDING TREE FOUR INCHES OR MORE AT THE BUTT. LOP BRANCHES, MAKE BRUSH PILE; CUT TREE INTO TWO-FOOT LENGTHS AND STACK.
 - (C) TRIM A DOWN TREE, CUT INTO FOUR-FOOT LENGTHS AND STACK; MAKE BRUSH PILE OF SMALLER BRANCHES.

NOTE: 1 AND 2B SHOULD BE DONE IN ONE OPERATION.

THIS EMBLEM IS NO LONGER PRESENTED WITH THE TOTIN' CHIP CARD.



THIS EMBLEM IS NEVER WORN ON UNIFORM OR JACKET. ATTACH IT TO YOUR TRAIL PACK OR BLANKET.

LASH TOGETHER
HANG WASH CLOTH

CHIPPEWA KITCHEN

A TRIPOD, MADE WITH DEAD BRANCHES.

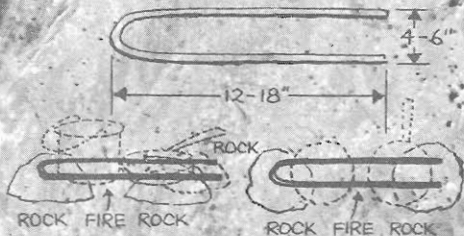
HANG UTENSILS



USE S-HOOKS MADE FROM COAT-HANGER WIRE.

PLANT THIS LEG FIRMLY. PLACE ROCK AGAINST IT. BY MOVING THIS LEG BACKWARD OR FORWARD, HEAT FROM FIRE CAN BE VARIED WITHOUT HANDLING HOT POT.

IF YOU HAVE TROUBLE KEEPING POTS OVER THE FIRE, OR IF THERE ARE TOO FEW ROCKS AROUND, USE A "U"-SHAPED WIRE (ABOUT 1/4-INCH THICK) TO HOLD POTS LEVEL.



COAT-HANGER WIRE IS NO GOOD FOR THIS USE.



HOW TO ENJOY

CLOTHING

IN COLD WEATHER, WEAR LOOSE FITTING CLOTHES IN LAYERS OR "SHELLS." KEEP IT DRY!



START WITH "LONG-JOHN," NOT TOO TIGHT.



NEXT A FLANNEL SHIRT, WOOL TROUSERS.



NEXT, A WOOL, TURTLE-NECK SWEATER.



ADD A LIGHT JACKET, WOOL CAP, HEAVY BOOTS.



FOR VERY SEVERE COLD WEATHER, OR WET, COLD RAIN, WEAR WATER-REPELLENT JACKET OR COAT OVER ALL YOUR OTHER CLOTHES; WEAR WATER-PROOF SHELLS OVER GLOVES AND GALOSHES.



KEEP YOUR FEET DRY.



WEAR HEAVY BOOTS--OR GALOSHES OVER LOW SHOES.

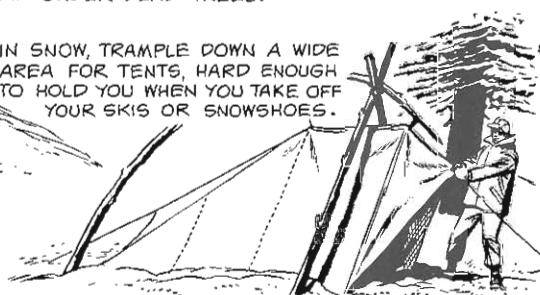


MAKING CAMP

CHOOSE CAMPSITE LONG BEFORE DARK--THE SIDE OF A HILL, IN A CLUMP OF EVERGREENS--A SPOT THAT'S NOT TOO EXPOSED. NEVER PITCH CAMP UNDER DEAD TREES.



IN SNOW, TRAMPLE DOWN A WIDE AREA FOR TENTS, HARD ENOUGH TO HOLD YOU WHEN YOU TAKE OFF YOUR SKIS OR SNOWSHOES.



PITCH YOUR TENT SO THAT OPEN END FACES FIRE. BANK SNOW AROUND TENT SIDES.

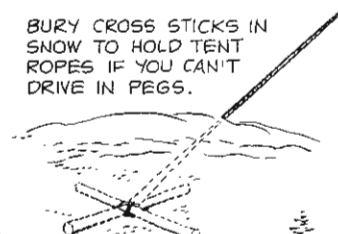


STORE UP PLENTY OF FIREWOOD. COLLECT TWICE AS MUCH AS YOU THINK YOU'LL USE.

COOKING

USE A HUNTER'S FIRE. DIG SNOW AWAY TO BARE GROUND, IF POSSIBLE. PLACE A "FLOOR" OF STICKS AND BUILD FIRE ON IT.

BURY CROSS STICKS IN SNOW TO HOLD TENT ROPES IF YOU CAN'T DRIVE IN PEGS.



KEEP A POT OF WATER ON FIRE AT ALL TIMES. HOT STEWS, SOUPS, HOT CEREAL, HOT TEA, HOT LEMONADE, AND HOT CHOCOLATE ARE BEST FOR WINTER CAMPING CHOW. SERVE FOODS THAT ARE HIGH IN ENERGY AND FATS. CARRY EMERGENCY CHOCOLATE RATIONS WITH YOU FOR ENERGY BUILDING.

BEDDIN' DOWN



A SWEATSHIRT WITH A BUILT-IN HOOD AND A PAIR OF TRACK PANTS MAKE A FINE SLEEPING OUTFIT. UNDRESS IN YOUR SLEEPING BAG--FIRST FLUFF IT UP WELL--IT'S THE AIR, NOT THE STUFFING, THAT KEEPS YOU WARM.

WHERE THERE'S A POSSIBILITY OF RAINS, PITCH TENT ON A KNOLL OR GENTLE SLOPE.



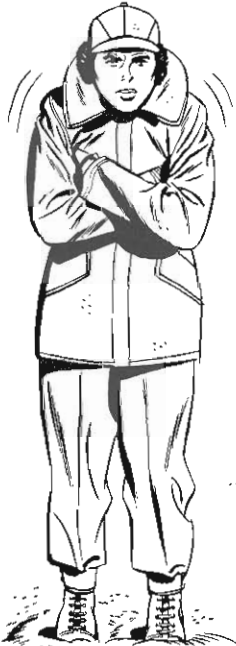
HAVE MORE UNDERNEATH THAN ABOVE: MORE LAYERS OF BLANKETS, OR SLEEPING-BAG, AIR MATTRESS, BROWSE-FILLED TICK ON TOP OF GROUND CLOTH.

WINTER CAMPING

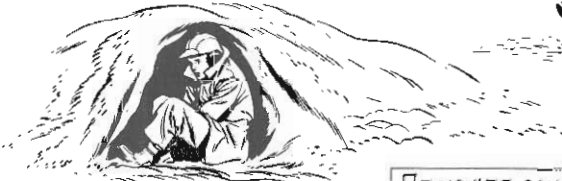
...IN SNOW OR FOUL WEATHER

ANYONE CAN DO FAIR-WEATHER CAMPING. THE REAL TEST OF A GOOD CAMPER IS IN KNOWING HOW TO BE COMFORTABLE WHILE CAMPING OUT IN SNOW OR RAIN. PLAN YOUR EXPEDITION CAREFULLY. WEAR THE PROPER CLOTHING. TAKE ALONG THE PROPER EQUIPMENT. KNOW THE COUNTRY YOU'RE GOING TO HIKE OVER.

SAFETY



BEWARE OF FROSTBITE! SYMPTOMS: INTENSE COLD, NUMBNESS, GRAYISH WHITE COLOR TO SKIN. AVOID FROSTBITE BY PLACING HANDS OVER EARS OR NOSE. WARM HANDS BETWEEN ARMPITS. IF YOU FEEL "WOODEN," GET TO SHELTER QUICKLY. IF FROSTBITTEN, COVER FROZEN PART WITH WOOLEN CLOTHING. PUT ON EXTRA CLOTHING; GET WARM QUICKLY. GET TO SHELTER; HAVE A WARM DRINK. SOAK FROSTBITTEN PART IN LUKEWARM WATER. DON'T USE HOT WATER BOTTLES OR HEAT LAMPS. DON'T GET CLOSE TO STOVE. DON'T RUB FROSTBITTEN AREAS; DON'T SHOVE FROZEN HANDS INTO SNOW. IF ONE OF YOUR GANG FREEZES HIS FEET BADLY, REMOVE HIS SHOES, WRAP HIS FEET WARMLY. LAY HIM DOWN WITH HIS FEET RAISED SLIGHTLY WHILE YOU CARRY HIM TO SHELTER. SEE A DOCTOR!



A SNOW BANK IS AN EXCELLENT WINDBREAK. WHEN IN DANGER OF FREEZING, DIG A HOLE IN THE SNOW, LARGE ENOUGH SO THERE'S AIR SPACE AROUND YOU. CRAWL IN; IT HELPS TO CONSERVE BODY HEAT.

DON'T GET OVERHEATED. YOU CAN FREEZE TO DEATH AFTERWARDS BECAUSE TOO MUCH SWEAT CONDUCTS HEAT FROM YOUR BODY, THEN FREEZES.



WHEN EXERCISING, REMOVE SOME OF YOUR OUTER CLOTHING, PUTTING IT BACK ON WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED AND DRIED OFF.



IF YOU'RE CAUGHT IN A BLIZZARD, MOVE AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE TO CONSERVE ENERGY AND BODY HEAT. KEEP CLOTHES DRY. DON'T PANIC, DON'T EXHAUST YOURSELF. GET INTO SHELTERED PLACE OUT OF THE WIND, KEEPING WARM AND RESTING. AS SOON AS WEATHER CLEARS UP, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO REACH SAFETY.

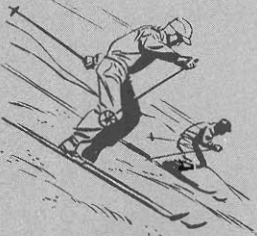


IF LOST, MAKE SHELTER OF EVERGREEN BRANCHES, BENT OVER TO FORM WINDBREAK. GATHER LOTS OF WOOD; BUILD A FIRE, KEEP IT GOING. RELAX AND WAIT-- YOU'LL SOON BE FOUND IF YOU DON'T WANDER AROUND!



IF YOUR PATROL GETS CAUGHT IN A BLINDING SNOWSTORM, TIE YOURSELVES TOGETHER. DECIDE THE BEST COURSE TO FOLLOW; HEAD THAT WAY. SIGHT FROM ONE LANDMARK TO ANOTHER. DON'T GET EXCITED; TAKE IT EASY AND YOU'LL SOON REACH CAMP.

THERE'S A LOT OF FUN IN WINTER AND RAINY-DAY CAMPING!



SKIING...



HIKING...



FISHIN' THROUGH THE ICE...



SKATING...



OR JUST SINGIN' IN THE RAIN!

SCOUT



Wet Weather Camping

BY JOE MARSHALL

An important part of camping is learning to live close to nature through all the normal cycles of seasons and weather. If you spend much time camping out, one of the natural cycles almost certainly will roll across your campsite in the form of life-giving, tree-restoring, fish-refreshing rain. How well you are prepared to live with nature in its soggy phase indicates your ability as an outdoorsman.

A shower can fall almost any time in almost any part of the country. Based on the average readings of all the U. S. Weather Bureau stations, only one place—Phoenix, Ariz.—is likely to stay dry. Since it is impractical for everybody to rush to Phoenix for a fall campout, it's a good idea to learn to prepare for rain.

Regardless of the climate where you live, rain is no reason to stay indoors. While not even the most ardent camper will say that spending much time outdoors in a downpour is a pleasure, the good camper knows how to take care of himself in wet weather.

Starting in the camp kitchen, a plastic tarp should be handy to cover the woodpile. Fire furnishes warmth to dry damp clothing and insures that best of all rainy-day remedies, a warm meal. Protecting your firewood should be a regular part of camp chores. Don't forget to anchor the tarp with rocks.

To be sure there is something to cook with that dry firewood, protect your food. Anything that might be ruined by water can be placed in plastic bags and stored under the cooking fly or put in a large waterproof bag and hung out of the reach of small animals. (Caution: Rain or no rain, keep food out of tents, especially in bear country!)

One source of plastic food bags is your local bread counter. Many varieties of bread are packaged in waxed paper and then

covered with a plastic bag. Check bags for leaks before you trust them in camp.

Bread bags can be useful to cover toilet tissue and isolate wet socks or other items that you may be forced to pack while they are still wet.

When you have taken steps to protect your food supply and firewood, make plans for snug shelter. Sleeping warm and dry is essential. When you are active during the day, a little dampness can be tolerated, but a wet sleeping bag, a dripping tent, or, worst of all, a small flood moving across the tent floor, makes sleep impossible. And after a wet, chilly, sleepless night, there are very few campers who can face the soggy morning with anything but dismay.

Wet-weather protection begins before you pitch your tent. Careful selection of your tent site is the most important single step you can take.

Pick a spot that will drain well. If possible, find a place on top of a small rise with drainage in all directions. If such a location can't be found, settle for a very gentle slope with drainage in one direction.

Choose an area with sandy or porous soil where rain will be absorbed quickly. Beware of pockets, shallow depressions, and any place where the ground is damp and the grass grows thickly. These are collecting points for water.

If you camp near a stream, be very sure you are well above the flood channel, even though the stream may have very little water in it when you arrive. In desert country, be especially wary of dry washes with flat, inviting stretches of sand—they can become raging torrents without warning. Although no water may fall on your camp, a distant thundershower can pour tons of water into a desert drainage system in a few minutes. Runoff is rapid and powerful enough to carry away an automobile. It is nearly impossible to sleep well with six feet of water swirling around your ears.

Once you are satisfied with your tent site, you can begin setting up a sound, rain-proof shelter.

If you are using a new tent, there is one bit of preparation to make before you leave home. A good tent is tightly woven and treated with a waterproofing material, but in the course of manufacture the fabric may stretch somewhat and invisible separations may occur in the fibers. When the fiber is wet, it swells and closes off the tiny openings, but not before some water has seeped through. Erect the tent before your camping trip and spray it with water. All the seams and small holes will close up and stay closed when the tent dries.


All fabric tents—except those coated with plastic—may allow a fine, almost invisible spray to penetrate when a hard rain strikes, but this will stop quickly if the tent has been properly seasoned beforehand.

If the roof over your head is seasoned and sound, you can devote most of your efforts to the bottom of the tent. The first line of defense is a ground cloth.

Many tents have completely waterproof vinyl-coated floors. If yours is one of these, you will not need a ground cloth. On the other hand, a tent with no floor or a floor made of water-repellent material will require a waterproof ground cloth.

Place your ground cloth under the tent floor, and when the tent is fully erected, carefully fold any excess ground cloth down and under itself until the edges of the tent





overlap the ground cloth slightly. This will help to keep rain from running between the ground cloth and the tent floor.

Heavy-gauge plastic makes a good ground cloth for a tent with a water-repellent floor. The plastic sheets are compact, lightweight, and inexpensive.

If your tent has no floor but does have a waterproof sod cloth at the bottom edge of the tent, erect the tent and place your ground cloth inside so that it overlaps the edges of the sod cloth. Any water that seeps under the edges of the tent will then run under the ground cloth.

For a floorless tent it is advisable to have a ground cloth of waterproofed fabric. Plastic sheets do not stay in position very well in a tent that has no floor.

If you do not have a ground cloth large enough to cover the entire floor of your tent, you can still keep dry while you sleep on a bough bed covered with a waterproof ground cloth. The only drawback to this is that you must often live in a tent with a muddy floor. Furthermore, in many areas you may not be allowed to collect boughs. A lightweight folding cot may be the answer in such situations.

An air mattress is waterproof, of course, and it will keep you out of the worst of the water, but often a portion of your sleeping bag will slip over the edge of an air mattress and become wet and muddy.

One method of avoiding seeping rain is to ditch the tent, but state and national parks forbid ditching, as do some private campgrounds, because careless ditching causes erosion. If you camp in an area where it is permitted, ditch only if there is no other way to stay dry.

Dig a square ditch 4 inches wide and 4 inches deep on the uphill slope flush with the edge of your tent. Similar ditches along the sides of the tent should lead the water downhill and around the tent. Sod removed from the ditch should be placed carefully on the outside edge of the ditch, and tent pegs can be driven into the inner wall.

When you leave the site, all sod should be replanted.

In wet weather you should be able to close the tent tightly against rain and gusts of wind. While most modern tents are made of fabric that sheds water and still allows water vapor from your body to escape, you should never use a heater in a tightly closed tent, especially in the rain.

Another type of tent, often the favorite of the backpacker and mountain climber, is the nylon tent that carries a vinyl coating. Such tents are wonderfully watertight, but they do not "breathe" well. In a chilly rainstorm, moisture from your breath will condense on the inside of the waterproof material and the least bump or gust of wind against the tent can create your own private rainstorm. It is also possible to close the entrances and vents of these tents so tight—if you're careless—that near suffocation can result.

When rain falls hard, it's much nicer to have a large tent that breathes than a small one that doesn't. Not only do you have more stretching room in a large tent, but you are less likely to have leaks from capillary action. Capillary action simply means: "Don't touch the tent." Any object pressing against the tent during a rainstorm will cause a leak in any but the vinyl-coated tents. A twitching tent-toucher makes a poor tentmate.

After you have taken every precaution to keep your tent snug and dry and free of mud, you should be prepared to face the rain yourself. Even though you eat well and sleep warm, it's no fun getting wet to the skin when you leave your shelter.

A rubberized or vinyl-coated fabric poncho or a raincoat with a hood are the best types of outer garment for the outdoors. Either will keep you dry down to your boot tops and even your pant legs will get less rain on them than they would if you wore a short jacket.

Perhaps the most rainproof outfit of all is a two-piece rain suit, a long jacket with a hood and waterproof trousers. The main disadvantage of a rain suit is that it is more difficult to get out of. Ponchos and raincoats are easy to slip out of, and to hang under a tent fly so they don't drip water all over the gear inside the tent.

Whatever your choice, rain suit or poncho, make sure it is sturdy, thoroughly waterproof, and has a vented section that will prevent condensation from forming inside the material. Condensation of body moisture can make you as wet inside the rain gear as the rain itself.

Another vulnerable area of your body in a rainstorm is your feet. Wet, cold feet make you feel uncomfortable all over, and wet socks can bunch up and cause blisters.

Your boots should be thoroughly waterproofed, especially along the edge of the sole. Better still, invest in an inexpensive pair of oversized stretch rubbers that you can pull on over the bottom portion of your boots to create instant shoebags.

Most effective footgear of all, of course, are shoebags or rain boots, although they are heavy and less satisfactory than the leather boots and short rubbers combination for long hikes.

Despite all your precautions, water has a way of seeping into your clothing if you are out in a really hard rain. Be on the safe side and bring a change of clothes and extra socks.

Wool clothing is usually best for camping in a late fall rain. Wool is warm, lightweight, and dries more easily than cotton. During warmer seasons you probably can get by with cotton, although your socks always should be wool.

Headgear is a matter of choice. A brimless cap makes it possible to draw a rain hood tight around your face—if that's what you want. Other campers prefer a broad-brimmed hat and forget about the hood. Still others find a billed cap handy. A hood will fit over it, and the bill will give your face some protection. This is particularly important if you wear glasses.

For other gear such as cameras, film, field books, notes, and field glasses, the ever-present plastic bags are the answer. In general, it's not good practice to expose your camera to the rain, but if you see a shot you must take, try to get under some kind of shelter and shield the camera as much as possible with your hands or body. Then put the camera back carefully in its waterproof container.

In the end you'll find that rainy-weather camping is nothing more than being prepared for all the natural cycles anytime you go camping. Waterproof bags, tarps, poncho, a well-prepared tent, and the knowledge of how to use them all will be standard equipment, and so will your increased ability as an outdoorsman.

THE PEDRO PATROL

A SCOUT FROM EACH OF THE FOUR PATROLS IN THE TROOP TOOK PART IN THIS RACE.

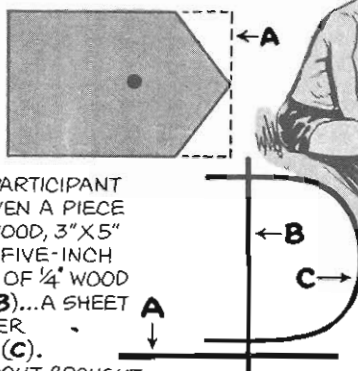


AT THE TROOP SWIM MEET

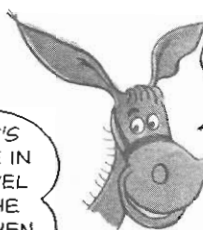
SAILBOAT RACE

FOR SWIMMERS IN WATER OVER THEIR HEADS.

EACH PARTICIPANT WAS GIVEN A PIECE OF $\frac{1}{4}$ " WOOD, 3"X5" (A)...A FIVE-INCH LENGTH OF $\frac{1}{4}$ " WOOD DOWEL (B)...A SHEET OF PAPER 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "X11" (C). EACH SCOUT BROUGHT A SCOUT KNIFE.



FIRST, WE CARVED THE BOAT'S POINTED HULL, BORED A HOLE IN THE DECK, INSERTED THE DOWEL MAST IN IT AND TRIMMED THE PAPER FOR A SAIL. THEN WE LINED UP FOR THE RACE.



I CONFINE MY SEASIDE ACTIVITIES TO COLLECTING SHELLS.



AT THE SIGNAL, WE PLACED THE BOATS IN THE WATER, JUMPED IN AND BLEW OUR BOATS TO THE FINISH LINE, ABOUT 40 FEET AWAY. TOUCHING THE BOAT WAS PROHIBITED.

MATCH AND CANDLE RACE

FOR SWIMMERS IN WATER OVER THEIR HEADS.

THIS WAS A TWO-MAN TEAM RACE, ONE MAN AT EACH END OF THE COURSE. THE NO.1 SCOUT HELD AN UNLIT WOODEN MATCH.



AT THE SIGNAL HE SWAM ABOUT 60 FEET TO WHERE HIS TEAMMATE WAITED WITH A MATCHBOX AND A CANDLE. NO.1 MAN ON REACHING HIM, STRUCK HIS MATCH ON THE BOX AND LIT THE CANDLE.



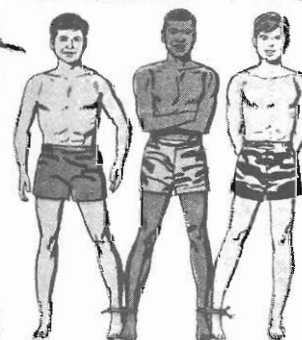
NO.2 MAN SWAM BACK TO STARTING LINE WITH LIGHTED CANDLE. FIRST ONE THERE WON. IF A CANDLE WENT OUT, THE TEAM WAS DISQUALIFIED.

FOUR-LEGGED RACE

FOR SWIMMERS OR NONSWIMMERS, IN WAIST-DEEP WATER.

THIS WAS A THREE-SCOUT TEAM RACE. TRIOS WERE LINED UP ABREAST. EACH TEAM WAS GIVEN TWO 2-FOOT LENGTHS OF $\frac{3}{8}$ " ROPE.

AT SIGNAL TEAM MEMBERS TIED THEMSELVES TOGETHER:



TREASURE HUNT

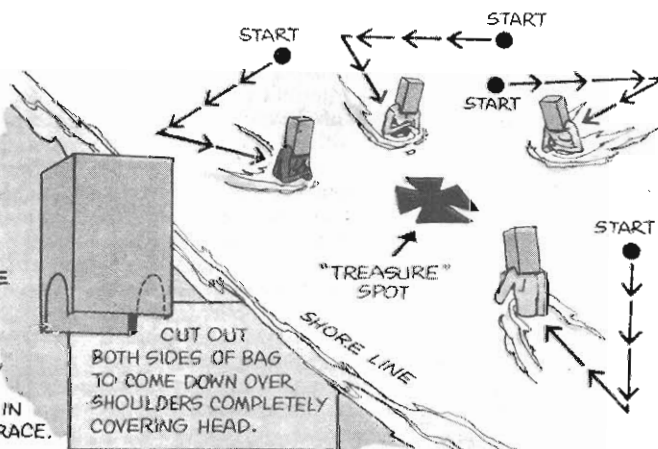
FOR SWIMMERS OR NONSWIMMERS IN WAIST-DEEP WATER.

EACH PARTICIPANT WAS GIVEN A COMPASS, A LARGE SHOPPING BAG, AND A CARD WITH TWO COMPASS COURSES AND THE NUMBER OF STEPS TO TAKE IN EACH DIRECTION.

THE JUNIOR LEADERS PREPARED THESE CARDS AND PLANTED THE "TREASURE" (PAINTED PEBBLES) IN ADVANCE.

EACH CONTESTANT WAS PUT IN HIS PARTICULAR STARTING PLACE. AT THE SIGNAL, HE COVERED HIS HEAD WITH THE BAG, FOLLOWED HIS CARD'S COMPASS AND DISTANCE DIRECTIONS TO THE "TREASURE" (ALL CARDS LED TO THE SAME PLACE AND DISTANCES WERE EQUAL). THERE, EACH SCOUT REMOVED HIS BAG, GAVE HIS CARD AND COMPASS TO THE REFEREE AND DOVE FOR THE "TREASURE."

WHOEVER PICKED UP THE MOST PEBBLES IN THE 3-MINUTE TIME ALLOTMENT WON THE RACE.



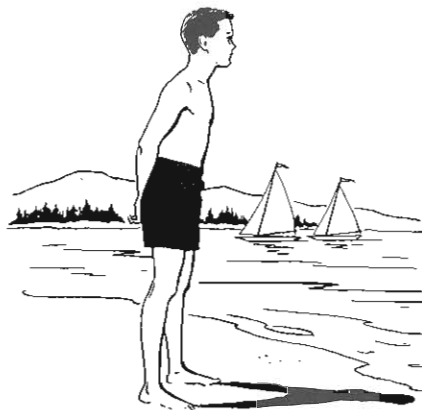
NO.1 SCOUT TIED HIS LEFT LEG AT THE ANKLE TO THE RIGHT LEG OF NO.2 WITH A SQUARE KNOT.

NO.2 TIED HIS LEFT LEG AT ANKLE TO RIGHT LEG OF NO.3 SCOUT WITH CLOVE HITCH.

WHEN KNOTS WERE TIED, THE TEAM SET OFF FOR THE FINISH LINE ABOUT 40 FEET AWAY.

FIRST ACROSS THE FINISH LINE WON—IF ALL KNOTS WERE PROPERLY TIED. INCORRECT KNOTS DISQUALIFIED THE TEAM.

LEARNING TO SWIM!



DON'T BE LEFT OUT OF THE FUN THIS SUMMER BECAUSE YOU THINK YOU CAN'T SWIM. ANYONE CAN LEARN TO SWIM AND EVERYONE SHOULD! SWIMMING IS MAINLY A MATTER OF OVERCOMING FEAR OF THE WATER. ONCE YOU REALIZE THAT IT'S ACTUALLY EASIER TO FLOAT THAN IT IS TO SINK, YOU'VE GOT IT MADE. STUDY THESE TIPS ON SWIMMING—THEN GET INTO THE WATER AND PRACTICE THEM...YOU HAVE TO BE IN THE WATER TO SWIM. GET SOMEONE WHO CAN SWIM TO GO ALONG WITH YOU. IT WILL GIVE YOU MORE CONFIDENCE AND IT'S A MUST SAFETY MEASURE.

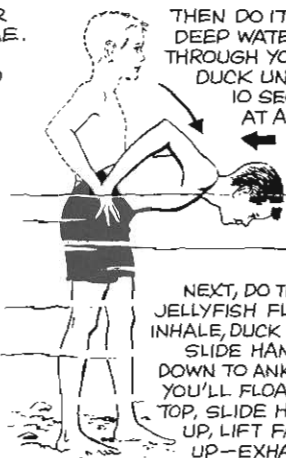


1

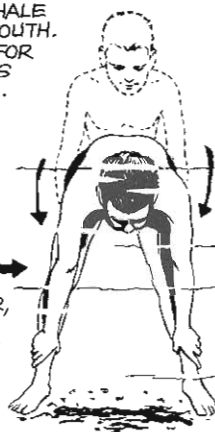
GET USED TO DUCKING YOUR HEAD UNDER WATER AT HOME. FILL A WASH BASIN, HOLD YOUR FACE IN IT FOR 15 TO 20 SECONDS AT A TIME.



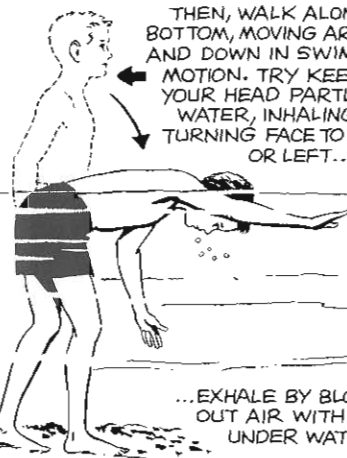
THEN DO IT IN WAIST-DEEP WATER. INHALE THROUGH YOUR MOUTH. DUCK UNDER FOR 10 SECONDS AT A TIME.



NEXT, DO THE JELLYFISH FLOAT. INHALE, DUCK UNDER, SLIDE HANDS DOWN TO ANKLES—YOU'LL FLOAT TO TOP, SLIDE HANDS UP, LIFT FACE UP—EXHALE.



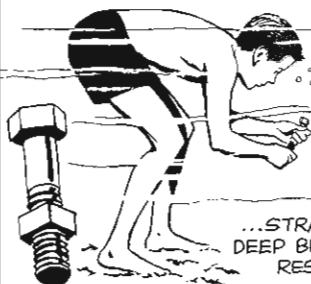
THEN, WALK ALONG BOTTOM, MOVING ARMS UP AND DOWN IN SWIMMING MOTION. TRY KEEPING YOUR HEAD PARTLY IN WATER, INHALING BY TURNING FACE TO RIGHT OR LEFT...



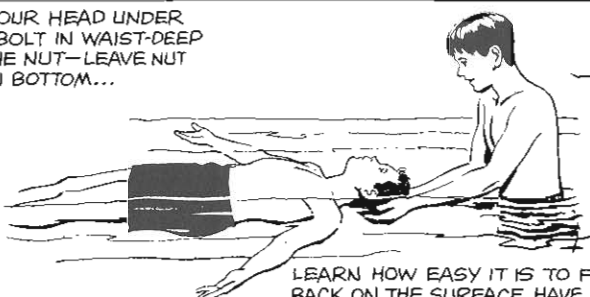
...EXHALE BY BLOWING OUT AIR WITH FACE UNDER WATER.

2

TO HELP YOU KEEP YOUR HEAD UNDER WATER, DROP A LARGE BOLT IN WAIST-DEEP WATER—UNSCREW THE NUT—LEAVE NUT AND BOLT ON BOTTOM...



...STRAIGHTEN UP, TAKE A DEEP BREATH, DUCK UNDER AND RESCREW NUT ON BOLT.



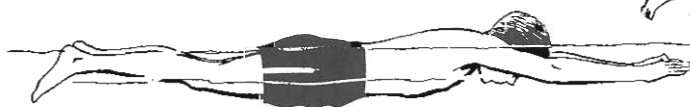
LEARN HOW EASY IT IS TO FLOAT. LAY BACK ON THE SURFACE. HAVE SOMEONE HOLD YOUR HEAD, LIGHTLY. YOU'LL BE SURPRISED TO FIND HOW BUOYANT YOU ARE. DON'T BE CONCERNED IF YOUR FEET SINK.



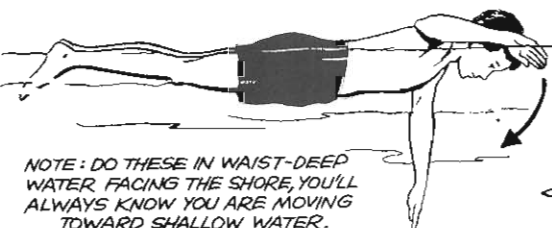
WALK OUT INTO HIP-DEEP WATER—FACE TOWARD SHORE... DUCK UNDER AND "WALK" TO SHORE ON YOUR HANDS (YOUR FEET WILL FLOAT TO THE TOP.) DO THIS ON YOUR BACK, TOO.

3

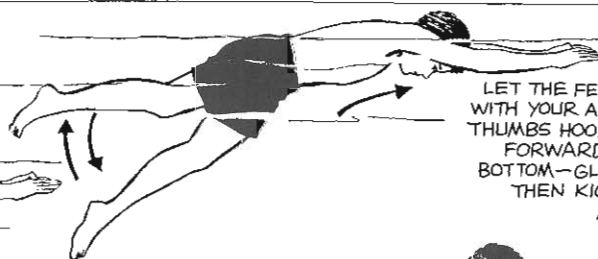
NOW YOU'RE READY TO REALLY SWIM. START WITH THE PRONE FLOAT. EXTEND ARMS—HOOK THUMBS TOGETHER. EXTEND FEET—HOLD POSITION FOR 7 TO 10 SECONDS, STAND UP AND REPEAT.



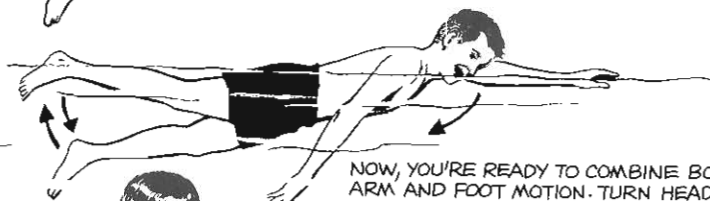
NEXT, DO THE SAME BUT NOW PUSH YOUR ARMS DOWN, ALTERNATELY. KEEP ELBOWS STRAIGHT. DON'T KICK YOUR FEET.



NOTE: DO THESE IN WAIST-DEEP WATER FACING THE SHORE, YOU'LL ALWAYS KNOW YOU ARE MOVING TOWARD SHALLOW WATER.



LET THE FEET GET BUSY NEXT. WITH YOUR ARMS EXTENDED AND THUMBS HOOKED TOGETHER, LEAN FORWARD, PUSH OFF FROM BOTTOM—GLIDE A LITTLE WAY THEN KICK YOUR FEET UP AND DOWN.



NOW, YOU'RE READY TO COMBINE BOTH ARM AND FOOT MOTION. TURN HEAD TO RIGHT OR LEFT SIDE TO INHALE, EXHALE WHEN HEAD IS UNDER WATER.



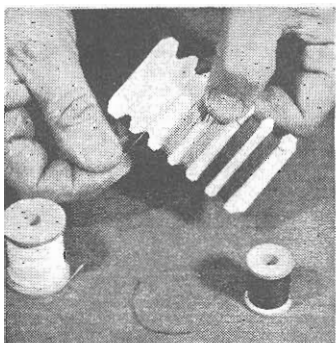
I DID ALL THOSE THINGS—AND KNOW WHAT? I CAN SWIM!

All the items of this well-stocked kit fit inside an eyeglass case.

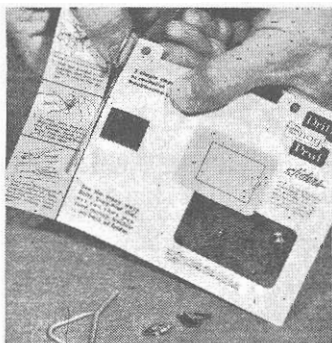
Personal Sewing Kit for Camp

By GLENN WAGNER

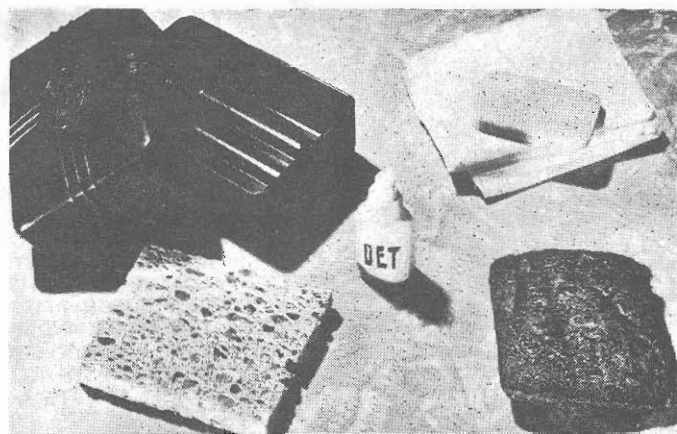
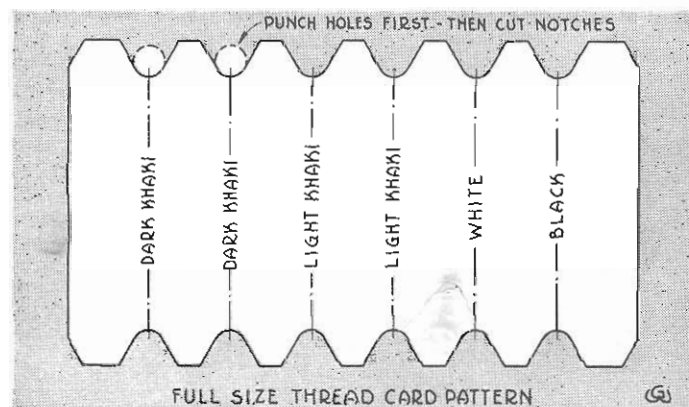
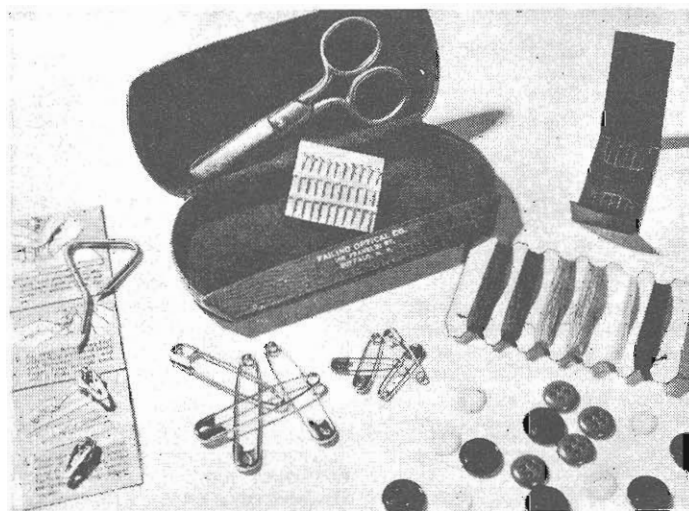
IT ALMOST ALWAYS happens while you're having a swell time camping out. You rip something, lose a button, or a zipper jams. But if you carry this combination sewing and repair kit in your gear you'll be ready for any emergency. To make one, start by locating a discarded eyeglass case. Then gather together these items: a small pair of scissors, about a dozen straight pins, four large and four small safety pins, an assortment of white and khaki buttons, a set of five assorted needles in a folder, a couple of zipper repair slides and repair tool. Make the cardboard thread card and wind an assortment of black, white, light, and dark khaki thread on it. To eliminate confusion, we suggest you pack the buttons and safety pins in a small wax paper bag (not shown in photo), fold over the top, and store it in the bottom of the case. Note we kept the zipper slide replacement directions to remind us—just in case.



Wrap card with 135 turns of light weight thread in various colors.



Snip the replacement directions from the zipper slide display card.



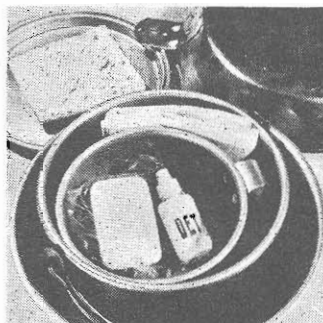
Kit: a $\frac{3}{8}$ x $2\frac{1}{2}$ x 3" cellulose sponge, Brillo pad, hotel-size bar of soap, four paper towels, 3cc plastic bottle of detergent, plastic soap box.

Washin' Dishes is Easy With This

DISHWASHIN' KIT

By SAM ROGERS

SURE ENJOYED THE meal—but now comes the inevitable: dishwashin'! So when you're the committee of one, here's a little (capsule-size) kit that will save both time and work to make the job easy. The kit can be packed in an ordinary toilet kit soap box, or carried inside your cook kit. Photos show the kit in use.



Items packed in cook kit; keep soap, Brillo, detergent in plastic bag.



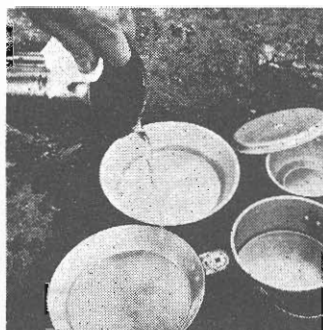
Worksaver idea: cover bottom of pan with soap before placing over fire.



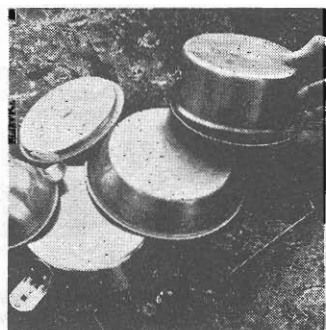
After use, black soot comes off easily with hot water, detergent.



Hard-to-get-at places clean easily with soapy Brillo pad, hot water.



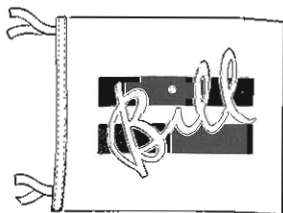
Don't like drying dishes? Scalding with boiling water is first step.



Then turn 'em upside down to drain. In a few minutes they'll be dry.



Get your patrol's expert fishermen to show the rest how it's done. Then go after the Fishing merit badge.



EVERYONE IN CAMP THIS SUMMER

MET A FRECKLE-FACED, tousle-haired fellow on the street the other day. He was about eleven years old, and in a brand new Scout uniform. He looked as if he might be the newest member of your patrol.

I got to talk to him. He was all excited. During our bit of a chat, out he burst:

"Summer camp is going to be swell!"

"How do you know?" I asked him. "You've never been to camp before."

"I just know. A lot of the fellows in my patrol have been, and they've told me all about it. Our whole gang is going, so I know we'll have fun."

OUR WHOLE GANG IS GOING! There's the key to the grandest camping experience you can imagine.

What are you doing about camping in your patrol? Is your whole gang going to summer camp? Is every fellow saving for his camp fees, helping to get equipment in shape, training in tent pitching, camp making, patrol cooking?

If there's a camporee scheduled in your district or local council, get into it quick—that's the smartest way to prepare for summer camp. If no council camporee is planned, have a smaller one—a camporette—for all the patrols in your troop. If that can't be arranged, simply challenge another patrol to a camporino—that's *bambino* for camporee—and get your senior patrol leader

to judge your camping abilities.

Whatever you do in the line of training, be sure to get all your fellows to camp this summer. That's what they joined for!

More people in the United States, they tell me, take part in fishing than in any other sport. They do it for fun and relaxation, because they enjoy matching themselves against a finny adversary, because they like "to get away from it all," because they drool at the aroma of a freshly-caught trout or bass sizzling over a stream-side fire.

May is the month for getting your whole gang excited about fishing. There's even a good possibility that your troop may have planned a special fishing event—a "fishing derby"—as the high-

light of the troop's activities for the month.

● If you have a couple of fishing enthusiasts in the patrol you'll have easy sailing—or fishing, I should say. Get them to bring their tackle to a patrol meeting. Have them demonstrate their gear and show the care of it. Have them teach the other fellows how to make lures—flies, bucktails, plugs, and spoons.

● Then go outdoors, in backyard or garden, and practice casting. The fellows with the know-how start by showing the others how to place a fly or a plug inside a bicycle tire, placed on the ground at a suitable distance, then give all the others in the patrol a chance to learn the trick.

● And finally take the whole gang fishing. Bring whatever

tackle you can manage to round up, but don't go all-out for the expensive kind. Bring a couple of cane-pole outfits as well, consisting of a limber pole, with line, hook, and sinker, and using natural bait.

● Be optimistic about your success: bring along what's necessary for cleaning and cooking your catch. Usual way of preparing fish is by frying in a small amount of butter or shortening. Try other ways as well: planking (as shown below) or poaching (add a tablespoon of vinegar to the water).

But be prepared with a lunch bag. Even the best fisherman, as you probably know, does not always come home with a full creel.

While you're out fishing you may have the chance to do a real patrol Good Turn.

● **CLEAN-UP**—Some time you'll probably come upon a stream or a pond in which some outdoor litterbugs have dumped empty beer cans or jars or bottles. Or you may find yourself on a lake shore or a beach on which a bunch of messy picnickers have scattered their debris. In a single afternoon, your patrol should be able to clean up such an eye sore and potential danger spot.

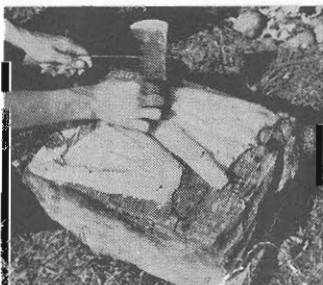
● **STREAM IMPROVEMENT**—Does your favorite brook run muddy? If it does you won't have much luck fishing in it, but you'll have a chance to do a patrol Good Turn. Investigate the brook upstream. Very possibly a stream-bank is being washed out causing the water to be filled with silt. To stop this, riprap the bank. That is, line it with a layer of stones. Or make a planting of willow shoots to anchor the soil.

● **LAKE IMPROVEMENT**—In parts of our country—especially the south—many ponds are being choked by weeds: water hyacinth, water chestnut, needle rush, alligator weed, and others. A hard-working patrol in a single day, by handpulling, can get rid of thousands of these noxious plants and help save the pond for a healthy fish population.

Your local conservationists would welcome the offer of your patrol for this kind of Good Turn.



PLANKING is one of the best ways to cook your catch. Prepare the fish by first cutting off the head, then slitting it down the back.



Open up the fish as you would a book. Clean and remove the backbone. Nail fish to plank with wooden pegs. Prop plank in front of fire.



Test the heat by placing a hand on the fish and counting slowly. You should be able to reach "8" before you have to pull your hand away.

FAMILY CAMPING—

Do you want this year's outings to be happy, not hard?

Ill never forget a family that camped near us a few years ago. They'd had no camping experience, but they thought they had discovered a surefire shortcut.

Their idea of family camping the easy way was to read one magazine article on the subject, clip out the equipment list that accompanied it, buy nearly everything on the list, and head for the distant campground.

Despite all the money they had spent, they didn't seem to have much fun. Their elaborate outfit contained several things for which they had no use, and it lacked a good many other items that could have made their camping easier and more enjoyable.

I'm not knocking lists. We have one that we use in preparing for every trip. But everything on that list has earned its place. Before we add anything new to the outfit, we test it out at home. Such pretesting is a good procedure not only for gear but also for meals.

In family camping the easy way, the idea is to have the equipment and food you need when you need it. You should neither lack essentials nor be burdened by things you'll never use.

The best equipment list and camping menu for your family are the ones you develop yourselves from reading, from talking with other campers, and from gradually widening your outdoor experience. The better you plan these and other aspects of your family camping, the easier and more enjoyable it will be.

By no means should you rush right out and buy a complete camping outfit. Keep in mind that you already own a good many things you can use. Some others you can make or rent. Perhaps you can even borrow some from camping friends.

Every family camper needs a way to keep track of his own clothing and personal gear. There's a lot to be said for laundry cases, or boxes of heavy cardboard. A suitcase isn't bad, but its rigidity makes it tough to stow in tight spaces. A soft container such as a duffel bag or knapsack can be stowed readily in a car or in camp. The wider any container can be opened, the easier you'll be able to pack gear into it and then get at the gear when you need anything.

We try to avoid clothes that must be hung up. It's no crime, however, to have a few items of clothing on hangers in a garment bag. We favor permanent-press clothing whenever possible.

Almost every experienced camper likes to have a hat with either a brim or visor for protection from the sun. Spray the hat with waterproofing and it will also protect you from the rain.

T-shirts and Scout shorts are popular and comfortable camping garb for most warm days. Even in mid-summer, though, we like at least one shirt apiece with long sleeves, and we want a pair of long Scout pants, dungarees or chinos. Long sleeves and trouser legs are protection if the day grows cool or the bugs start to bite or the sun begins to fry exposed skin areas.

We take summer-weight underwear in as many changes as we'll need between chances to do laundry.

Long ago we learned that family campers should be prepared for the weather to turn cold or wet—or both.

A windbreaker-type jacket is useful for every camper. So is a medium-weight sweater or wool shirt. And perhaps the handiest of all camping garments, as long as it's dry, is a hooded cotton sweat shirt. It's even good as a pajama top on a cold night.

Don't forget swimsuits. Some campers prefer to take two; then they never have to put on a wet one.

Moccasins or sneakers give fine service in a car or boat or around camp. But if you intend to hike off into the boondocks, have a pair of leather shoes (preferably ankle-high) with nonslip soles and heels.

Wool gym socks are hard to beat for hiking (or for keeping your feet warm on a cold night). For riding in a car or for around-camp wear, socks of the synthetic fibers are fine.

Unless you're camping when you're positive the nights can only be warm, choose pajamas of winter weight.

Each camper's personal toilet articles (toothbrush, comb, washcloth, and so on) can be rolled in a hand towel and held with a couple of heavy rubber bands.

Other pieces of desirable personal gear: small flashlight and extra batteries and bulb, compass, matches, handkerchiefs, pen and pencil, postcards, writing paper, envelopes (pre-stamped), outdoor book, reading book, religious book.

A few things I'd want to have with me most of the time are a pocketknife, sunglasses and wallet.

Though we have each member of the family keep his or her personal gear in an individual container, we like to have the entire family's rain gear in a separate bag. This bag is stored where it's quick to get at.

Camp sleeping comfort can be provided without a great deal of cost or effort. If you have good sleeping bags or are ready to buy one for each member of the family right now, the sleeping situation is well in hand. Otherwise, blankets will do a good job for as long as need be.

The minimum protection I'd want for summer sleeping in most parts of the country is two medium-weight wool blankets, and in mountainous or northerly areas I'd want three. Blankets plus a half-dozen blanket pins can be a good substitute for a sleeping bag.

Sleeping bag or blankets go atop an air mattress or foam-plastic pad. If your tent is like our first one and has no floor and no screening, use a sheet of oilcloth or plastic as a ground cloth under your mattress, and have a few yards of mosquito netting.

Later you may want to choose such refinements as folding cots (they're rather bulky to transport), sleeping-bag liners, and air pillows.

Besides personal gear, the camping family also needs a good many pieces of community property, roughly comparable to patrol gear in Scout camping.

We use a clipboard to hold certain of these items. There's a road map marked with our intended route, a copy of our menu, a list of food we'll buy, a chore sheet (sharing the work makes for easier camping) and a list of our equipment. Depending on the nature of the trip, the clipboard may also hold a topographical map, camp permit or reservation, fire permit and envelope containing stamps and postcards.

A tent (or tents) must have enough total room for all members of the family, and some extras for storage space. We make sure to pack all necessary ropes, poles, pegs and pole blocks (they're put under the main pole or poles, then withdrawn if rain threatens, thereby loosening the whole tent and allowing for temporary shrinkage). We take a burlap sack or scrap of rug for a doormat.



THE EASY WAY

By CHET FISH

Just take these hints, add your Scout skills — and go!

To protect the outside bottom of a tent floor from moisture and abrasion, lay a plastic sheet on the ground before pitching the tent. The plastic should be slightly smaller than the tent floor; then it won't catch and hold water that runs off the tent.

We pitch a 12' x 15' fly to foil sun and rain in our camp kitchen-dining-living area. And we can't forget its own poles, pegs and ropes.

Even if we're certain of finding a table and benches, where we'll camp, we like to carry a folding "kitchen" table of at least card-table size. An old card table covered with oilcloth is fine.

Cooking on wood or charcoal isn't nearly so easy as cooking on a camp stove with two or three burners. For family camping the easy way, it's hard to beat a stove that burns LP (liquefied petroleum) gas, which is compressed butane or propane. It is not advisable for the children to light or adjust these stoves, and adults should always supervise when children are using them. *Adults only* should replace and dispose of empty gas containers. The empties should never be put with burnable trash, because they can explode.

The choice in camping iceboxes is wide, and so is the price range. You needn't go in immediately for an expensive model. While you decide what's best for you, an inexpensive plastic-foam model will serve you rather well.

Eventually you may care to buy or build a fairly large and elaborate box that will hold all your kitchen gear. We prefer instead several smaller wooden boxes or pack baskets; they're easier to pack into a car.

However you choose to stow and transport your gear, here's a starting list that you can modify to fit your own needs. You may be surprised at how much you already own.

Three pots (eight-, four- and two-quart), large frying pan, carving knife, paring knife, long-handled fork, cooking spoon, drain spoon, medium-width spatula, one-quart plastic screw-top container for mixing foods and drinks, can openers (punching and cutting), hot-pot tongs, work gloves (better than pot holders), plastic tablecloth, plates (aluminum or plastic), plastic bowls, cups (enameled or plastic), plastic drinking glasses, stainless-steel "silverware," big salt-and-pepper shakers (not glass), insulated jug (two-quart), thermos bottle (one-quart), snap-lid plastic containers for leftovers, desert water bag (porous), galvanized ten-quart bucket (heat dishwater in it while you eat), square plastic dishpan, dishwater screen (removes food particles), detergent in plastic bottle (enough for dishes and clothes), sponge or dishmop, scouring pads, dish-dunking bag (old onion sack), bug-proof dish bag, dish towels, paper towels, clear plastic wrap, heavy-duty aluminum foil, a box of facial tissues, paper bags (disposable "wastebaskets").

Certain other pieces of gear, though not essential, may eventually be candidates for your family-camping outfit:

Folding aluminum table, folding aluminum chairs, folding stools, nesting cook kit, aluminum griddle, folding camp toaster, reflector oven, aluminum Dutch oven, stove-top oven, picnic basket, two plastic water cans (2½ gallons each), paper napkins, paper plates, air-mattress pump, and tent heater.

We like to have as part of our family gear a large

electric lantern and spare batteries and bulbs. A helpful addition, when the budget allows, is a lamp that burns LP gas. (Again, children should not handle or use gas lanterns.) Tip: Tape spare mantles to the bottom and have extra cans of fuel.

As for camp tools, the minimum you can expect to get by with is a sharp hatchet, a small spade, a garden trowel and a whisk broom. When possible I'd add a two-handed ax, file, whetstone, bow saw, trenching spade and house broom.

Keeping campers themselves neat and clean is easy if the family outfit includes washbasin, toilet soap in plastic soapbox, metal mirror, toothpaste, laundry bag, bath towels, clothesline, clothespins, toilet paper.

To be ready for minor medical problems, buy a good first-aid kit or make your own. We use a two-pound coffee can with a snap-on plastic top, to hold assorted adhesive bandages, adhesive tape, 3" x 3" sterile gauze pads, aspirin, water-purification tablets, poison-ivy dope, burn ointment, soap, mild laxative, suntan lotion, required prescription medicines, small scissors, tweezers, single-edge razor blade (wrapped), aerosol bug spray, insect repellent.

Clothing and camp gear occasionally need first aid too. Here's what we carry for such repairs:

Mending kit (thread, needles, safety pins, buttons), tent-patching cloth, rubber cement, air-mattress patch kit, assorted rubber bands, dozen assorted nails, claw hammer, spare shoelaces, longnose pliers with side cutter, adjustable pliers.

Other miscellaneous gear we like: extra rope (at least 50 feet), alarm clock, wooden matches (in friction-top can), candles, newspaper (several old ones for extra insulation under bedding in cold snaps, and for wrapping garbage), rainy-day garpes. Some campers we know have taken along a camera and portable tape recorder, to record the sights and sounds of their trips.

Also worth considering are a hanging signboard (with family name, hometown, state), binoculars, whistle (meal call), coloring books, crayons and toys.

Packing all your gear is a subject that could run for pages. Just a few tips:

Choose camping gear that's not likely to break or be crushed in packing or transporting.

Remember that what you want *first* at the campsite or en route must be packed *last*, or at least in a readily accessible spot.

Pack little or no gear in spaces that passengers will occupy; try to imagine what would happen to sharp or heavy pieces of gear if the driver had to make a panic stop. Be sure roof racks and any pieces of gear on them are fastened securely.

Place the spare tire and jack where they can be reached with a minimum of unpacking.

When the car is fully packed and all passengers are aboard, the vehicle should stand even—not tilted to either side or dragging its nose or tail. It may take practice to achieve this condition. So give yourself more packing time than you think you'll need.

When the family car heads out of the driveway, the amount of enjoyment that it will carry you to depends to a great extent on the amount of thinking and planning that has gone before. Knowing what you're doing is the key ingredient in family camping—the easy way.



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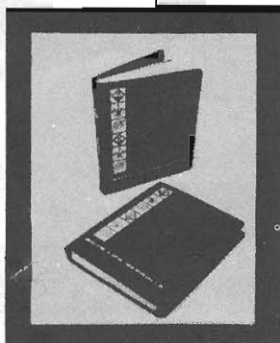


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