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100 SCOUTS FROM SUFFOLK COUNTY AT CAMP ROOSEVELT

Many Discoveries Made in Old Clay Creek Bed—Imprint of Indian Moccasin Found in Petrified Soil.

Patchogue, L. I., Aug. 20—Suffolk County's Boy Scout camp at Rocky Point on the Sound was an interesting place this week. Ninety-two Scouts spent the week in the tents of Camp Roosevelt, District Six of Greenport adding 21 boys under the guidance of Commissioner Shirley Newbitt.

The camp will entertain and be entertained for the balance of the season. Wirt Harris, the well-known war correspondent, lecturer and editor of the Travel Magazine, who will act as camp leader in animal and bird track hikes, bird study, etc. The Scouts have been highly entertained every night at the campfire with Mr. Harris's around the world experiences.

Sixty-four Red Cross medals have been won by Camp Roosevelt Scout hatchets who were successful in passing tests arranged by Physical Instructor John Burns. A bugling class is being instructed by Steward Platt of Harbport, who has developed many a hasty set of young lungs since the class started.

Candidates for leaderships have been studying daily preparatory to the leadership examination.

Patchogue's Headquarters Troop pulled off a surprise this week when it hiked all the way across the island, pulling their tent carts with them. They camped over night in pup tents near Yaphank, arriving the next morning fresh after their dusty trip. But the Greenport delegation also had a surprise as well as a camp record up their sleeve. Two of its members, Assistant Scoutmaster Myron Clark and Patrol Leader Ledden paddled by way of the Sound from Greenport to Camp Roosevelt, a distance of 37 miles, in a canoe. They made a landing on the beach to the welcoming yells of the entire camp which turned out to greet the boys.

Sixty-two sun-tanned Boy Scouts of Suffolk County are nearing the end of their first week's vacation at the camp. Those who must go home Monday will do so with regret, for it has been a wonderful week in many ways. There was not a homesick "fellow" in the camp when our representative left there after spending a day and night with the Scouts.

The first group of Scouts, which ended this month, the older Scouts will occupy the camp. So great have been the applications for admission that Director Cobb has had a gang of workmen recreating one of the barracks carted from Camp Upton, which, when completed, will allow over 120 Scouts to dine at one time in the mess hall, besides supplying additional sleeping quarters.

As it is, 12 tents, pitched on the crest of one of a hill from which one can see for miles across the Sound and the tree-topped hills of the North Shore, are occupied by Scouts from all points of the county. Mess is served in the barracks while the only other frame building in the camp is a small one for camp headquarters.

One hundred and fifty feet down a muddy trail is the clear green water of the Sound where, on a sandy beach, the Scouts have learned to swim under the direction of John Burns of the Red Cross. At stated intervals swimming lessons are given. Drinking water is to be had aplenty, for there are dozens of springs gushing forth cool clear water. John Burnett, the colored chef, is back again this year, much to the delight of the Scouts, for John's cooking is well known in Scoutdom.

The Scout museum is rapidly filling up with curiosities, for few, if any, of the Scouts ever forget to keep their eyes open for unusual objects, so much so that it seems to be the fad or rather a friendly rivalry among the Scouts to secure as much material as possible for the museum.

On the shore, just above high water mark and at the foot of a hundred foot hill, is a large clay bed. It has been a favorite spot since the camp opened, the Scouts digging out all that wind-blown clay modeling. While doing so they came across a large rock, imbedded in the clay, which excited their curiosity, which was not satisfied until they dislodged it. Their efforts were rewarded, for distinctly imbedded in the rock was the impaint of an Indian moccasin. The rock was immediately removed to the museum, where its history was explained by a geologist who claimed that some time in the distant past a redskin stepped on the rock which was, at the time, a piece of the bank, but through chemical or glacial upheaval became petrified and hardened into stone.

Saturday was a big day. The Suffolk County organization of the American Legion held its convention in the camp. The big wooden mess hall from Camp Upton had been erected and completed so that the war veterans could hold their meeting within its walls. In the afternoon the Scouts put on an entertainment for the veterans.

The writer was informed, before going to the camp, that the only way to fully realize what the Scouts were doing would be to live with them for a day or longer, so he accepted an invitation from County Director Frank C. Cobb to be the Scout's guest. Here is what happened at Camp Roosevelt.

At 6 o'clock a bugle awakens one from his slumbers on a comfortable cot.

At 6.30 another blast informs the sleeper that all hands are up.

At 6.45 another bugle summons the Scouts stand in front of their tents until the signal is given to march, when they fall into step and, with Physical Instructor Burns at the head, dash down the trail to the beach, where all hands take their morning dip.

Then comes setting up exercises. (Everybody does this, even the visitors.) Then into their scout suits and with cup, plate, spoon, etc., they march into the mess hall. Fruit, cereals, eggs, bacon, potatoes, coffee, tea, milk or cocoa are plentiful.

Each mess kit is washed and placed, by its owner, in a sun drying rack. For an hour tents are put in military-like condition for full inspection, which is rigid, for personal cleanliness is a feature of all Scout teaching.

Animal, bird and mineral studies are then in order, but the day we were there there was a dual athletic meet scheduled between the Scouts at Camp Roosevelt and the Nassau Scouts at Camp Upton, which, because of the rain in the morning was given over to trial races in preparation for the afternoon's events.

The Nassau Scouts were located four miles away, so it was agreed that the two camps meet half way. After a mile and a half hike along well shaded roads winding in and out the hills of the North Shore country the Nassau outfit was met. In a nearby field the two factions sat down to their noonday lunch, consisting of thick-cut bread sandwiches. The way those lads cleaned up was a caution!

After a good rest the games were held. Then down a long winding trail to the pebble-covered Sound beach and the swimming races were on.

After the swimming contest, and going back to camp via the road they came the boys tramped along the beach to Camp Roosevelt's bathing beach, where they stripped and went through their lifesaving exercises after which they dove into the cooling waters of the Sound.

If any fond parent has any fear that their boys might be drowned let their fears be stilled, for a better guarded bunch of bathers cannot be found.

Before being allowed to enter the water each boy must pair off with a "buddie." While in the water he must stay near his "buddie" and cannot go ashore without informing his "buddie." In this way a hundred boys can be kept track of, for it would be impossible for one or a dozen guards to keep their eyes on such a yelling, diving, splashing school of swimmers. Two boats are manned by other boys, who keep the swimmers inside the deep water line.

At 5 o'clock the bugle calls all hands "dress up" for supper. We had a hot dish of veal loaf with gravy, like "mother makes," hot potatoes, hot corn on the ear, plenty of bread and butter, two "pails" of fresh milk and chocolate pudding for dessert. Those who wanted second helpings could get them.

After the "dishes were washed" the boys had an hour to do as they pleased. Some wrote home, while others played various games or read. An indoor baseball is used and the diamond is one half the regulation size, but the rooters were just as noisy as if a big league game was on.

After they lined up the Scouts saluted the colors and Director Cobb invited the visitors present to inspect the boys with him. Walking between the two rows of upright standing Scouts he raised an occasional hand, and, after inspecting the fingernails, teeth, combed hair and a glance at the buttons, etc., passed on. The boys passed 100 per cent in their nightly personal inspection.

After the inspection the boys were free to do as they wished without leaving camp, for guards are posted and patrol the camp until 9 o'clock, when taps is sounded and all lights go out.

At the sound of the bugle the writer was not such to turn in, for, he believe he had had a wonderful day, and, though it was an every day occurrence to the hardy scouts of Camp Roosevelt.

"HAIL!

Somehow or other, during last week at Camp Roosevelt, the summer camp of the Suffolk County Council of the

CAMP TUOWDIM

Favored with fine weather and when other Brooklyn Scouts were setting sail for Camp Leeming, eight Scouts of Troop 75 journeyed eastward to their log cabin at Roosevelt, Long Island, for a 6-day camp. The name given to the camp for the time being, until the rest of the troop votes upon it, was "Camp Tuowdim."

Arriving at the cabin, bunks were arranged and bed sacks filled. Scoutmaster Henry Borrmann arrived shortly before noon and after preparing a hasty meal, work on the cabin was resumed.

When the cabin was first built last year, the roof was added a little too soon. It was found later to be so low that some of the Scouts could not stand upright in the back. This had to be remedied, so, on July 4, the necessary steps were taken to remove the roof, and, after adding new logs, an entirely new gable roof was attached. One of the logs put on was 20 feet long and about a foot in diameter, solid oak. With only four husklks there at the time, it took them all of six hours to drag that log to the cabin and then put in up in its place. The new roof was finished on July 5.

Last week the main objectives were filling in the three-foot space under the roof with additional logs and building a porch the full length of the cabin. The former was completed, but the latter was not, due to running short of lumber.

All the necessary work was done in the morning and the program for the afternoons included swimming and hikes. Senior Patrol Leader Robert Gottlieb left Camp Leeming especially to be with the troop's only camping session and assisted Mr. Borrmann in cooking, as did Assistant Leader Harold Thorpe. Thorpe's father arrived on Saturday morning to spend the week-end and Patrol Leader Alan Burtchell arrived on Saturday afternoon.

Council fires were held on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings. These did much to liven up things, particularly the last one.

The campers were: Scoutmaster Borrmann, Senior Patrol Leader Gottlieb, Patrol Leader Alan Burtchell, Assistant Patrol Leaders Harold Thorpe and Franklin Hoddefort, Scouts Thorpe and Franklin Hoddefort, and Scouts Alberstein, De Vorkin, Merkcon and Schmidt. Tests passed were: Schmidt and De Vorkin, second class fire-building; Merkcon, second class signaling, knife and ax and compass.

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