# Thirty Years of Scout Camping

By LUTHER E. PRICE

History of Glen Gray
and other Scout Camps
in Northern New Jersey

●

*With Memoirs of*

FRANK F. GRAY

FRANK F. GRAY

*from a portrait by*

HOWARD A. VANVLECK

*Scoutmaster of the Sir Robert Baden-Powell Troop*

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# SCOUT CAMPING

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*History of Glen Gray and Other Camps In Northern New Jersey With Memoirs of Frank F. Gray*

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By LUTHER EDMUNDS PRICE

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for the

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*Dedicated*

*to the*

*Founders, Campers and Supporters*

*of Glen Gray*

# *Foreword*

 OMPILATION of this camp history was prompted mainly by the Old Guard, an organization of campers, which is rooted to the beginning of Scouting in the Eagle Rock Council area. The Old Guard cherishes its tradition and is pledged to promote the best interests of Camp Glen Gray. Further, its membership reaches to camps in the pioneer period when Scout camping was in its infancy.

A logical preparation of the record required several lines of treatment. These included a general description of the camping region, both natural and historical, its adaptability and accessibility for Scout training, the quality of leadership and the types of camp life from the start to the present time. Memoirs of leaders and reminiscences of campers have an important part in showing the spirit of the camp. These are introduced into this historical sketch. The survey does not include a listing of all regulations in force from time to time or administrative details that belong to a general Scout Council history. All customary precautions were taken to safeguard the health of the Scouts. References to the most important regulations are made.

The compiler wishes to acknowledge the assistance of the Eagle Rock Council headquarters staff; to express his thanks also to many Scouters whose names are too numerous to mention; to the Old Guard and to the Glen Ridge Public Library.

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Since the above lines were written Lord Baden-Powell has passed into history. The prompt encouragement he gave to the compilation and publication of records in this Council area is cherished in grateful memory.

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# PART

# *Changing Patterns*

MONG THE SOCIAL PHENOMENA *of this century Lord Baden-Powell's creation of the Boy Scout Movement and its extension on a world wide scale will undoubtedly be ranked as one of the greatest contributions to the progress of civilization. The recent growth of dictatorship placed a check on the Scout Movement in totalitarian countries but produced a sharp distinction between their internal life and that of the nations enjoying the fruits of personal liberty.*

*This new war among nations with conflicting ideologies will continue perhaps for a long time until the forces of evolution bring about a readjustment. Some day there will be a dynamic crack. Meantime the Boy Scout Movement may have its greatest test. It has shown great vitality. Its final evolutionary status rests on many factors.*

*One factor of the highest importance is that the Boy Scout system is based on the principles of peace and good will. It has more and more directed youth to find happiness and cultivation in Mother Nature. Within the last twenty years there has been a meteoric development of camping. Millions of Boy Scouts have been trained in camps. A progressive increase is steadily going on. All forms of camping have also been stimulated to the benefit of our social structure.*

*Up to the close of the great World War relatively few Boy Scout Councils owned camps. Now the country is dotted with them. They are developing changing patterns to meet the needs of the time. A national mosaic is being laid. It furnishes additional interest for the social scientist.*

*Among the earliest camps, provided permanently for a Scout Council, was Camp Glen Gray in the Ramapo Mountains, Bergen County, New Jersey. It is the training retreat of the Eagle Rock Council which comprises the Montclair, Glen Ridge, Verona and Caldwell Districts. The region is a delight to the naturalist and also to the student of history. The area of the camp covers more than six hundred acres with a lake. Title to the property is vested in the Boy Scout Association of Montclair.*

*This compilation is designed to be a contribution to the national history of Scout camping. Memoirs are included as well as stories of Scout activities related by the boys themselves to give a complete picture of camp life at different periods. For many years the Eagle Rock region was fortunate in having a remarkable leader who left an indelible impress on Scouting and whose activities formed the ground work of camping in this area. His personality and character are bound up with the development of the camp life. This historical narrative has its logical start with this far-sighted leader*

# CHAPTER I
## UNCLE

A STALWART MAN in his early forties travelled in the land of his Scottish forebears in 1907 and 1908 when Sir Robert now Lord Baden-Powell was conducting his experimental camp at Brownsea Island in the English Channel and developing the Scout system throughout the British Isles. The traveller had not long since suffered a bereavement which led to his temporary retirement in the home of a clergyman on Long Island to seek relief and ease of mind. He was well cared for and in return he left an indelible impression on the clergyman's family amounting to a deep affection.

The visitor had previously been a master in a private military school on the banks of the Hudson and upon the severance of his connection with the school had received, as tokens of the affection of the cadets, a Bible, a piccolo and pieces of gold. The token of pieces of gold was continued for years after by the annual pilgrimages of cadets to their former master's new home in Montclair where he had established himself as an expert in the training of difficult boys in the public school system.* He had proved himself to be extraordinary in his handling of various types of boys from the problem or defection class through those of highly favored social conditions.

Not much of the school master's antecedents was known. He was reticent, and reserved but affable and communicative so far as his objectives were concerned. The main one was the development of boyhood into manhood with a true type of citizenship. Many years later it was found that his infancy and boyhood had been passed largely in Elmira, N. Y. and the environs of Syracuse with occasional trips to Scotland with his parents. He had pursued studies in Syracuse and later supplemented them with courses in his parents' native land.

It was this type of man who grasped the significance of the Baden-Powell system of Scouting. He was somewhat of a mystic with a strong psychic bent and knew that the most realistic phases of human life are those which cannot be seen. In other words, he relied on eternal verities rather than material expediencies. Just how far Frank Fellows Gray—he was the traveller—inspected Scout camps, particularly in England and Scotland, is not known. He certainly made an exhaustive investigation of the methods because when he returned to the United States in 1908 he was equipped with all of the published material on the Baden-Powell type of Scouting.

There has been some question about the early friendship of Mr. Gray with Baden-Powell. To be perfectly frank, a strong belief has endured that a tie existed between the founder of Scouting and Mr. Gray even at the birth of the movement. It is known that Mr. Gray had a military uniform and had received some recognition from the British Government. The fact that Mr. Gray had been a master in at least two military schools, lends credence to the inference that he had had previous military training.

For many years Mr. Gray, who was invariably addressed as "Uncle" by young and old, had been prodded with questions by enterprising Scout fathers as well as Scout mothers about his antecedents and training. He was adept in turning the questioners away with a feeling that perhaps it was none of their business to inquire into matters about which he was not disposed to talk. Despite this fact the belief spread that Mr. Gray had been an army officer or at least attached to an auxiliary branch. The compiler once heard an admirer of Mr. Gray who had had many social contacts with him even express an emphatic opinion that he had a strain of royal blood. This shows the element of mystery, or, if you will, interest, which surrounded Mr. Gray throughout his years in Montclair. That element was partly explainable for the deep interest that Scouts always had in him.

In this chronicle which contains memoirs and reminiscences of camp life within what is now the Eagle Rock Council jurisdiction it has been advisable to supplement Mr. Gray's own historical sketch of his camping projects with the reminiscences of the Scouts, as a pendant, to provide not only a better picture but a better understanding of Mr. Gray's work and its effect upon the boys.

Mr. Gray left too little in the way of memoirs. A research extending over many years has failed to disclose any record which will give a complete picture of Mr. Gray's life. Even as regards his age there was a mystery, an insoluble mystery, for the boys who kept asking their leader from time to time how old he was. This natural curiosity amused Mr. Gray and he would often respond quizzically "Not more than 100 years".

Mr. Gray did write voluminously on his work in an objective sense, not as a personal exploitation. He typewrote in the early stages of his Scouting work a little Troop paper known as the "News Letter". This was succeeded by the "Scout Bulletin" which lasted for years and the "Scout Gazette" with special issues in the camping seasons. He also contributed to national Scout publications and outlined 47 varieties of hikes for the Scoutmaster's handbook.

From time to time he prepared booklets ranging from small brochures or leaflets to year books of pamphlet size. Two of the latter were published in 1916 and 1918 respectively. In addition, he compiled a manual of Senior Scouting which comprised two sections one on the Merit Degree and the other on the Honor Degree with rituals. These manuals led to the adoption of Mr. Gray's Senior Scouting system by the Brooklyn Council. This system has been extended to many places throughout the United States. It is listed

at National Headquarters as the Senior Degree Honor Society and has ramifications in colleges and universities.

Regret has been expressed that the system lapsed in Montclair after the death of Mr. Gray so far as active administration is concerned. The spirit of the movement still exists among the old Scouts who are largely now in the roster of the Old Guard. In fact, the Senior Division has been virtually merged into the Old Guard by the process of evolution. It played a prominent part in the establishment of Camp Glen Gray and its development.

This now brings us to the organizing period of this narrative.

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## CHAPTER II

## LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

FTER his return from abroad which was presumably in late summer or early autumn of 1908 to continue his school work, Mr. Gray's activities expanded. A year's stay in Great Britain with occasional trips on the continent had refreshed and strengthened him for the work that lay ahead, more work probably than he should have assumed. Part of his tasks lay with school boy truancies, dealing with which was irksome to him.

Mr. Gray took an active interest in Y. M. C. A. and church work. He was a Presbyterian of the Scottish type. In addition, he was rising in the Masonic order. He had a fondness for ritual and ceremony which was reflected in his Senior Division development. He was constantly associated with boy life. Perhaps his greatest natural gift was his ability to diagnose the psychology of boyhood. His psychic insight seemed remarkable.

Mr. Gray has often been quoted as having said that there is no such demarcation as good boys and bad boys. Boys were just boys to him. He searched for their latent qualities. The problem boy was for him a matter of solution similar to working out a problem in mathematics or putting his psychic powers to a test. As a teacher in that field he won the admiration of school administrators. He had critics and in the pursuit of his work he stepped on toes. Mr. Gray was not a politician, certainly not a trimmer.

With such a character equipment he fitted in with the early development of Scouting and he went ahead quietly with his plans. In the pamphlet "Eagle Rock Scouting", published by The Montclair Times in 1937, it was described how Mr. Gray with the approval of Randall Spaulding, Superintendent of the Montclair Schools, and with the assistance of Miss Clara Gilnack, principal of the Cedar Avenue (now Nishuane) School had trained a group of boys first as pseudo-military cadets to be transformed into Scouts on the Baden-Powell principles. It was a procedure to stimulate their interest and imagination.

This group did some embryonic camping and trailing. The boys were taught to observe and think. Mr. Gray told them stories, often in parable or allegorical vein to develop their thinking and to draw deductions. This group became the nucleus of what has been regarded as probably the first Troop in the country organized on the Baden-Powell system of Scouting. The group was also the basis on which the Old Guard of campers was laid and from which the Senior Division plan was developed. The seed was planted in 1909 when the small Troop was finally organized.

Between March and October of that year was the main organizing period of the Troop. Mr. Gray never claimed that he had the first Scout Troop in the country. He sent a note to Emerson Brooks, founder of the Boy Rangers, stating that "nobody knows who had the first Troop". This note was typed in 1933.

Mr. Gray further stated in the note that the Troop organization was effected in October but made no mention of the preliminary training period when the particular group of boys thought their activities were along the lines of military cadets. The transformation into a small Scout Troop was a surprise to them. An examination of an old Scout card index that Mr. Gray prepared gives the names of the earliest Scouts in 1909. A fairly complete roster of the Troop from its start to date is being prepared by the present Scoutmaster Howard Van Vleck and Assistant Scoutmaster Malcolm Steer. They have assembled many records of historical value.

It was no casual or accidental happening that led the then Sir Robert Baden-Powell to visit Montclair on February 2, 1912, and bestow his name exclusively on Mr. Gray's Troop, an honor enjoyed by no other Troop in the world. On his last visit to the United States in 1935, Lord Baden-Powell certified to the christening by countersigning the original certificate given to the Troop and by bestowing a second blessing when Scoutmaster Lewis Wescoat took the boys to the Schiff Reservation.

Baden-Powell at the time of christening the Troop accepted the Honorary Scoutmastership, the certificate of which was signed by the patrol leaders who were Robert Cameron, Putnam MacDonald, Raymond F. Taylor, Joseph Ruth, Theodore Johnson and Charles Hollenbeck. Baden-Powell attested this certificate by signing his name on it.

In this narrative it does not seem necessary to discuss the possible claims of other Troops which may have adopted Baden-Powell's name after the distinguished founder of Scouting had visited them. It is, however, pertinent to bear in mind that Lord Baden-Powell regarded Mr. Gray as an outstanding exponent of his system in this country. His disciple had struggled for strict adherence to that system in the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America.

The illustrious soldier's visit also served another end. It brought to public attention here that Mr. Gray was pre-eminently fitted to uphold the principles that Lord Baden-Powell laid down. This was recognized in the Montclair Scout Council and soon after there was

a reorganization with Mr. Gray as the Commissioner. This was in 1913. He then devoted all of his time to Scout work and from time to time served on the National organization's committee on badges, awards and Scout requirements with frequent travels to different parts of the country.

This compiler once asked a few officials of the National body, who had often come into contact, to give their estimate of Mr. Gray.

"He was the salt of the earth" was the emphatic response of E. S. Martin, late editor of Scouting.

"He was a choice character", wrote Dr. James E. West, Chief Scout Executive.

Dr. George J. Fisher, Deputy Chief Scout Executive, in commenting on Mr. Gray's Scout services, wrote: "I knew Mr. Frank Gray very well. We served together for years on the National Committee on Badges, Awards and Scout Requirements. He was a unique character, very original and tremendously devoted to Scouting work. He was particularly interested in work for older Scouts but he likewise had a large part in the development of a Younger Boys Program, known as the Rangers, and cooperated very heartily with Mr. [Emerson] Brooks in developing the program and relating it to Scouting so that a boy who took the Ranger program looked forward to graduating into Scouting. Mr. Gray invested his life in Montclair and Glen Ridge in particular and laid the foundations for service to the larger area more recently under the jurisdiction of the Council."

In William D. Murray's recently published history of the Boy Scouts of America, the official publication, credit is given to Mr. Gray for being one of the earliest leaders in the Boy Scout Movement in this country. Naturally in such an important organization many claims are advanced and final decisions are not always prudent.

Baden-Powell was introduced at a dinner in New York in 1910 by Ernest Thompson Seton, founder of the Woodcraft Indians as the "Father" of the Boy Scouts. This was the General's response: "You have made a mistake, Mr. Seton, in your remarks to the effect that I am the father of this idea of Scouting for boys. I may say that you are the father of it or that Dan Beard is the father. There are many fathers. I am only one of the uncles, I might say."

With Baden-Powell listed as "Uncle" it was a logical honor that Mr. Gray should also have been called "Uncle" by Scouts and Scouters of his area. In each case it was the Movement that counted not the personal appellation. Daniel Carter Beard, as is well known, has long been called "Uncle Dan". To be a Scout uncle means something.

In the earliest years of his Scout work Mr. Gray did not present the massive frame of later years. He was more than six feet tall and rather lithe. Mr. Gray's hair was neutral in shade, did not strongly reflect light, was shaggy—windswept to some—and streaked with gray. He had a high forehead, straight nose, a rather deep upper lip, firm mouth and a strong jaw. There was often a humorous twinkle in his eyes.

Lord Baden-Powell at Schiff Reservation in 1935

Training A Patrol

His face indicated ruggedness and determination, something of the Scottish dour in expression, but lighted up with a sympathy and friendliness in social intercourse. Mr. Gray had deep convictions and was not inclined to compromise on matters he regarded important. He ran true to the Scottish tradition. Although a devoted American, he kept the ancestral fires burning.

Mr. Gray prided himself on his self control. That trait was a godsend for he was deeply sensitive but was able to conceal his emotions. He knew what it was to have a whispering gallery working counter to his peace of mind. In public speaking he was clear and incisive, never oratorical. He was abstemious in habits, loyal to friends, deeply sympathetic to under-privileged and defective children, bitterly opposed to petty gambling in schools. Sometimes he may have seemed headstrong in his crusade to protect boys—also girls—from evil ways. His natural reserve sometimes caused him to be misunderstood at times to his own amazement. He depended upon his actions, not words, to correct false impressions.

In character and personality he was built along the lines of a clan leader—a Scottish laird—except that he never married. Behind that fact may have hidden a closely guarded secret of his life. Without kith or near kin he had, during the later period of his life, many pangs of loneliness from which he sought surcease by his incessant labors in behalf of the rising generation.

To clear up some of the mystery surrounding Mr. Gray's early life the writer of this narrative has sought information from those persons who were acquainted with him long before he took up Scout work. The usual difficulty was encountered in that Mr. Gray had been characteristically reserved about his early personal experiences outside of his teaching career. He had taught at Bayville, L. I., Highland, N. Y., Honeoye Falls, N. Y., and later he was headmaster of the Fairfield Military Academy at Fairfield, N. Y., and finally at Stony Point, N. Y., before he transferred his labors to the Montclair schools.

During his years of teaching in New York state he apparently had a connection with the National Guard of the state. In his military experience he had accumulated medical and surgical training which was a valuable asset in the conduct of Scout camps. In addition he had acquired a wealth of experience in his trips to Scotland with his parents. That part of his life remains in obscurity.

The Rev. Wilbur E. Schoonhoven, at whose home on Long Island Mr. Gray stayed for a few weeks previous to his trip abroad in 1907, has shed some light on Uncle's earlier career. In a letter to the compiler last September Mr. Schoonhoven wrote:

> Regarding my fellowship with Frank F. Gray: it began in the Spring of 1892 when I was appointed as student supply pastor at Bayville, N. Y., where I found him as a member of the local Methodist church and acting as the Superintendent of the Church School.
>
> We took to each other at sight and from that time until I was stricken with illness in 1912, we visited back and forth, I gaining a constant admiration for the way he handled his young people. He made our parsonage his headquarters whenever he was in the Metropolitan area.

When he became interested in the larger Service of Scouting and war activities, I saw less of him but from time to time we corresponded. It was a great grief to see that stalwart figure so nervously shaken toward the last.

His background was Scotch. He never spoke freely of his parents. His father was unsympathetic with his boyhood aims, but his mother he adored. He always impressed me as having a great sorrow hidden away in his heart. He never coddled. He would ridicule the foibles of his pupils, but they would take it, realizing the great hearted, sympathetic manliness of his nature and admired his sterling qualities of character.

Postmaster General James A. Farley was one of his pupils at Stony Point, and I half suspect it was Frank Gray who inspired the little red-headed boy from the brickyards at Grassy Point to make something of himself.

[Mr. Farley did know Mr. Gray but is unable to contribute any information of real value to this history. In a personal letter to the compiler, he explained that he was a pupil in the grade school at Grassy Point when Mr. Gray was principal of the Stony Point School.]

I attended a service at the Bayville Church August 25 the bulletin of which I enclose because of the memory still green of his life and work there as a school teacher. Frank Gray was unique, a progressive builder of boys and men, and I shall never forget that wonderful tribute to the man and his work in that triumphant funeral service (1935 in Montclair).

In connection with this letter, Mr. Schoonhoven enclosed a copy of the bulletin of the Bayville, Long Island, Methodist Church, which was published on the occasion of its eightieth anniversary service last summer. This bulletin contained, as a feature on the front page, a copy of a poem composed by Mr. Gray when he was a member of the Bayville congregation (between 1890 and 1894). The poem follows:

## BY BAYVILLE'S WATERS

FRANK F. GRAY

Where within a land-locked harbor
Sailors find securest rest,
Where the white winged boats are lying
Safely on the bay's calm breast
There's a place endeared to memory
By the happy times I've known,
Hearts are true and friends are faithful
In that little harbor town.

When sometimes afar I wander,
From Long Island's happy strand,
Often I am lonely thinking
Wishing I were back again,
Back to see the great ships sailing,
Past thy smooth and sandy shore
Back again by Bayville's waters,
Back to hear their song once more.

The verses reflect a loneliness of spirit and the secret grief that followed him through succeeding years. He had determined on bachelorhood after a sorrowful romance—a romance that apparently was cut short by the passing of one so dear to him. His occasional remarks, dropped almost inadvertently, indicated that scar in his experiences. A frequent change of scenes helped.

---

## WAWAYANDA WATERS

*Song written for Y. M. C. A. boys camp and copyrighted. Accepted song at Wawayanda.*

When the glory of the morning
Tips the emerald with gold
And the silver sapphire ripples
With its jewel tints untold.

Then it is, mid Nature's beauties
That I love again to wake
In the splendor of the summer
By old Wawayanda's lake.

F. F. GRAY, 1908.

## CHAPTER III
## NOMADS

R. Gray was fond of traveling. He had plenty of that in his early camping projects and Scout activities. The period of 1910-1917 may aptly be described as the nomadic phase of Scouting in this area. By 1910, Mr. Gray's Troop was so well organized that the Mothers of the Scouts formed a Society to act as an auxiliary. This was the *mother* of Scout Mother organizations in the country. When Mr. Gray was first generally addressed as "Uncle" is open to conjecture but it was not later than 1912. His Troop had no distinct camping experience in 1910, but Mr. Gray himself went to camp with Y. M. C. A. boys at Lake Wawayanda near the New Jersey-New York border. Some Scouts may have been there but there is no available record to that effect. One of the boy campers was George W. Sloan now a member of the Upper Montclair Scout District Committee. He joined the Glen Ridge Scouts in 1911 and became one of Uncle's leading Scouts.

In 1911, Mr. Gray did conduct a Scout camp which in his memoirs he stated was the first of the kind in the country. It was on Dudley Island in Lake Wawayanda and lasted a week. Eleven boys attended—all from Montclair and all from his Troop. Among them was Howard Utter, Montclair's first Eagle Scout. Charles Hollenbeck, Bob Cameron and Put MacDonald, the "Big Four" of Mr. Gray's earliest Troop.

The following year the policy of having educational trips to historic places with occasional camping was inaugurated. Mr. Gray arranged one for a tour of Great Britain and Ireland. The party was small in view of the attendant expenses and the number of Scouts was of patrol size. In it were Howard Utter, Seward Collins, Arthur Eagles, Floyd Furlow, George Gillies and Ted Sullivan of Montclair and a Canadian Scout, Irving Mitchell, as well as a Hungarian boy, Stephen Czanak, who was killed in the World War.

The group with Mr. Gray departed from Montreal for Liverpool. The Scouts visited many historic places in Scotland, hobnobbed with fellow Scouts there and in England where they camped in Cumberland, visited Ireland and returned from Southampton to New York. The tour lasted six weeks. Mr. Gray wore the kilts of his clan and the boys adopted some or all of the Scottish attire. It was the gala trip of the period. Mr. Gray made it the basis of an illustrated talk which he gave to many Scout audiences in this country under the title: "The Flight of the Albatross Patrol". The tour represented considerable hiking and brief camping. Further mention of the tour will be made in the series of memoirs.

The overseas tour had an electrical effect. Many educational trips followed with incidental camping as well as overnight hikes. In 1913, Mr. Gray and Theodore T. Dorman, who became one of the outstanding leaders in Montclair Scouting, took a small group of boys to Bermuda. Mr. Dorman was then Scoutmaster of Troop 13.

Eagle Scout Howard Utter was also in the party. On the steamship voyage Mr. Dorman shared a cabin with Mr. Gray. Many years later—after Mr. Gray had passed on—when this compiler was gathering facts about Mr. Gray's career and was particularly anxious to get a picture of his early life, he asked Mr. Dorman whether or not in his long association with the Scout leader he had been able to obtain the information sought.

Mr. Dorman shook his head rather despairingly. "I bunked in the same cabin with "Uncle", camped with him scores of times and hiked with him in the hills and valleys," replied Mr. Dorman in substance, "but he was always the same, always reticent about his personal affairs. Not that I tried and failed. He was not communicative, that's all. We had our minds fixed on Scout work."

Mr. Dorman first learned Mr. Gray's age after the latter's demise in 1935. It was then disclosed that Mr. Gray was a native of New York state instead of Scotland. A supposition had prevailed that he had been born in or near Inverness.

In the Montclair Council records are many reports on educational trips, "corn roasts" on the "mountain" in the town and long hikes including those to West Point—lasting five days—Gettysburg, battlefields in New Jersey, trips to Washington, Old Point Comfort, Fortress Monroe, Philadelphia, Boston—Bunker Hill, of course.—Concord and Lexington. The boys probably had their fill of hiking in this period but they gathered experience for camping. The World War naturally added interest to the visits at battlefields. The boys brought many mementos back home. In this period hike wagons were used, especially by Mr. Dorman's Troop at first.

Scoutmaster George A. Hall of Troop 2, was frequently hiking and camping with his boys, some of whom started a log book of experiences but in the end it became more a portfolio of pictures with many snapshots of the earliest scenes at Glen Gray. Mr. Hall was a good representation of the old school type of Scoutmaster. So was C. Frank Cowley. These leaders were generally men who had had previous experience in the handling of boy groups in churches, sports and Y.M. C. A. circles.

Throughout this early period the foundations were laid for Scout training in camps. To preserve a chronological sequence a portion of Mr. Gray's memoirs prepared by him in 1932 when he was slowly dying at the Clifton Springs Sanitarium, N. Y., is introduced here. The context shows internal evidence of his palsied condition and undoubtedly was typewritten by other hands. A vein of humor runs throughout the narrative. Reminiscences of Scout campers in this period will follow Mr. Gray's memoirs.

## THE VOICES OF THE GLEN

1

All day long I hear the voices calling
From the dear old Glen;
Ev'ry day renews the growing longing
To be there again.
There the cabin and canoe are waiting
By the tree-clad shore,
While the voices of the Glen are calling
To return once more.

*Chorus*—Voices appealing call from the Glen,
Like the echoes of yesterday waking again;
Voices of wild things, of streamlet, and tree;
Soul of the Wilderness calling to me.

2

Long the weeks of weary looking forward
To those hours of Joy;
Slow the steps through weeks of work and study
To the longing boy.
Yet the time is no less surely nearing
When we hear again
All those well-known voices with their welcome
Echo thro' the Glen.

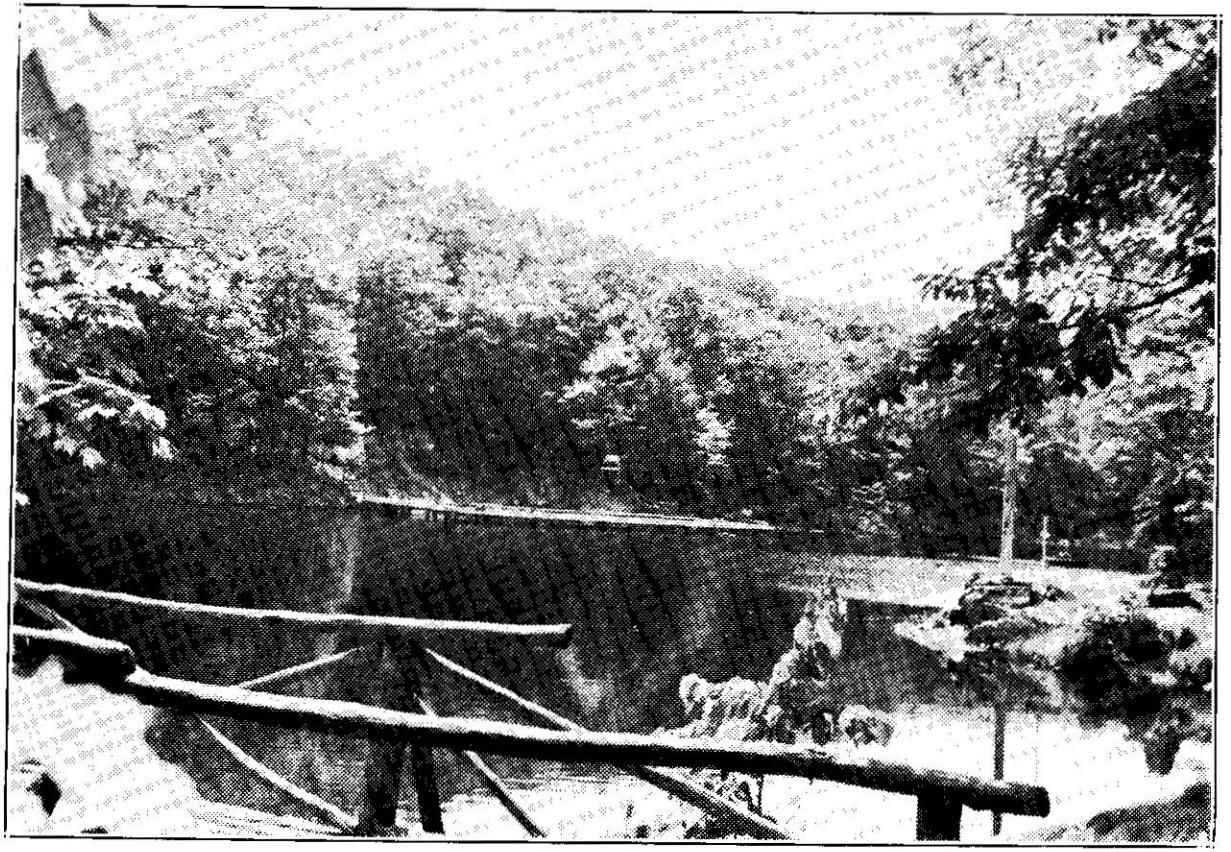
*Chorus*—(As for First Stanza)

3

Far away in other climes and countries,
Still those echos call;
Nature's notes with dear old voices mingling,
How I love them all!
How my heart is ever longing, yearning
To be back once more.
In the sunshine; or in campfire glamor;
By the cool, green shore.

*Chorus*—Voices appealing call from the Glen,
Like the echoes of yesterday waking again;
Call of the woods, of old comrades; and thee,
Soul of the Scout, ever waking in me.

FRANK F. GRAY.



Lake Vreeland

## CHAPTER IV

## FIRST PHASE

## MR. GRAY'S CAMPING MEMOIRS

*R. Gray began his memoirs under the heading of "Camp Glen Gray—The Story of Montclair Scout Camping".*

*"The camp is located in the foot hills of the Ramapo Mountains, three miles and a half from Oakland, eight miles from Suffern, and twenty miles from Montclair. This story covers from* 1911 *to* 1933."

*Mr. Gray then tells of his earliest Scout camps before the founding of Glen Gray.*

### (Lake Wawayanda)
### DUDLEY ISLAND, 1911

Since the introduction of Scout camping in 1911 the history of Scouting has been largely that of Scout camping. In that year Mr. Charles R. Scott wanted a camp started under the Y. M. C. A. auspices. At that time there were no Scout camps in the country. One was started on Dudley Island, a Scout camp. It consisted of five tents and eleven boys, all Montclair Scouts. The camp had been intended for other boys around the state, but they failed to materialize; so did the men. This left the camp entirely to Montclair. The two camps were somewhat over a half mile apart. Those from each visited the other on stated occasions but they lived entirely distinct lives. They spent eight days in camp and the expense was $1.25 each. There were some parents who found fault with the price.

The equipment consisted of an old boat and a tent borrowed from the Y. M. C. A. and four tents of a variety of styles brought by the boys. One was made by a boy and his mother and was the progenitor of a good many others in after years. "Put" McDonald and his mother were the makers and it lasted several years. It was made of muslin, unbleached. It was big enough to hold one, as were all the other home-made tents made later. There was good swimming from a flat rock at the end of the camp.

One piece of equipment was an old iron pot. We cooked and baked in that, and got a good many savory messes out of it, including "pirate pie", which was lemon dumplings with the dressing made on them.

The boys were all from Troop Four, as was the camp master.

### (Wanaque River)
### FORGE POND, 1912—1913—1914—1915

But Mr. Scott did not want us back a second year, and as the boys had had a taste of one year's camping, they wanted more. Howard Clegg directed us to a place in the Wanaque River where

an old dam had furnished water power for an iron furnace. The dam was washed away but quite a pond remained. Beside this twenty-one boys from Troop Four pitched their motley tents, many of them home-made and some dog tents that they had gotten from MacVicar's Academy where they were selling out their equipment.

Each boy brought his own dishes, which were for the most part Scout cooking kits, and each did his own cooking. Each boy was allowed a quart of milk a day and all the bread he wanted. He made cocoa and cooked eggs and a variety of things. A store was established where a variety of simple things could be bought. Certain things, like potatoes, were cooked in common; the camp master being the cook. He was also the whole corps of officers as well as instructor, for the boys knew nothing about camping except such as the few who were at Dudley Island had learned. There were as many new ones as old ones, and the old ones did not know very much about the work.

Then there was old friend sunburn. No amount of caution will cause young people to be careful. So we had our troubles with it.

The swimming was right along side of the camp, which was both convenient and easy of control.

We established a night watch system, the boys going in pairs for an hour at a stretch. This was not a watch for malefactors but for sickness or any other trouble that might arise in the night.

In June of this year the Scout Mothers of Troop Four held a cake and lemonade sale for the benefit of the camp. It netted $14.00 and was a big help.

## 1913

In this year we engaged a negro boy named John Turner as assistant cook and general roust-about. This was our first semblance of a cook. This year saw the introduction of the barrel hoop canoe. This canoe was made with barrel hoops for ribs, covered with canvas and painted. The famous "Duck and Bee", owned by Floyd Furlow was the first of a great generation of these canoes. In that and subsequent years they proved to be a great source of pleasure. Sails were added by a great many in the following year.

In this year Mr. F. K. Vreeland first appeared among us as a camper, a memorable event as it marked the first attention given us by an adult man. His connection with the camp proved a matter of great importance in subsequent years.

This year the boys from other Troops began to come in. These newcomers included Bryant Rogers, our first bugler. We now began to feel like a settled camp, although we did not own nor even rent the little piece of woods we occupied. We were just plain squatters on the land of the Hewitts.

We had visitors' day on Wednesday, when mostly the women came. We went to church at a little Methodist church in Wanaque, where the minister preached especially for the boys. And they were excellent sermons, holding the interest of the boys and filling his

church with others. He preached to us for two years. This year we remained in camp two weeks.

## 1914

This year saw sixty boys in camp. Howard Utter, who went up for week's solo camping, found the "Missing Link", on which he was striking ships bells. This led James Walker to give us a ship's clock. (Mr. James Walker was not the famous "Jimmie" of New York.) The clock was used in the general office and in camp for years. The missing link was used at camp for signals at last accounts.

The boys did a lot of baking that year. The Commissioner had a reflector oven with which the bakers took turns. Some very good messes were turned out.

Floyd Furlow became Mayor of Camp that year, and showed considerable executive ability. He was the first of a long line of mayors.

The start of the "big games" was made that year. They were not as elaborate as they became later on, but they included everyone in camp. They were played in the daylight at first, but later on were played at night (at Earle's Pond and Glen Gray). They developed courage, resourcefulness, endurance and leadership.

This year A. P. Heyer entered Scouting. He took the boys and their baggage from Montclair directly to camp. We had at first (1912) depended upon bicycles. In 1913 we took the Erie to Midvale and hired a horse to cart our stuff over. Our first equipment, in 1912, was two tin pails. We now had two barrels full and the rough boards for a floor to the headquarters tent, the latter donated by Mr. James Brooks of Glen Ridge. The boys from that village had begun to come to camp. That year we held camp six weeks. We got our milk and farm produce from a farmer and his son. The farm was run by the father and the grocery by the son. We kept the milk in an improvised ice box in the side of the river bank. It did very well.

The fleet was quite large, consisting of over thirty boats, many with sails.

## 1915

The camp increased this year to seventy-four boys. Our quarters were getting too small. But kind Providence took care of that matter, as will be seen later on. Up to this time the camp had been carried on under one man's responsibility. It had no backing at all. This year was to mark a slight change.

The boys took a good many hikes from camp. This year they included in their hiking a search for a new camp site. There were seventy-four boys in camp and we remained eight weeks.

But one day a stranger appeared. He went all over the camp and announced it first rate. But, he said, we should have to move off the camp site at once. It was one of the Hewitts. He was very nice about it, but firm. It really was the height of "gall" to squat on a

man's land four years and to bring a crowd of seventy-four boys up there. But we had no other way.

A Mr. Storm, who lived on a little farm just up the river and next to us, volunteered us the use of his field and we moved next day. But the field could not be used as a steady thing. It would not do. We knew that our camping on the Wanaque was at an end. This place helped us out for the remainder of the year however.

This year we had a new minister. The minister said he was going to preach on "The numer of P's in a pod", and could not change it for the boys. We had not asked him to change anything. Communion came the last Sunday of camp and the minister sent us word that he did not want us to come down. The conduct was absolutely perfect in and around church. So we had our own church, Captain Armstrong assisting at the service, which was very impressive.

Before we moved, Mr. Furlow furnished us with the material for a clam bake. Lewis presided. But he had not got his fire started in time and the bake was very late and it finished up by the people roasting the chickens over the coals.

## 1916

In the spring of this year Mr. Heyer and Mr. Vreeland started out to find a camp site. They found Durham Pond, which was secluded and some distance off the road, and recommended the place to us.

This was the first year of the redoubtable Lewis, the famous cook and man of all work, for the whole season. He got $10.00 and did just $10.00 worth of work. He cooked part of the things which the boys could not very well do alone, prepared pancake batter for the boys to bake, washed the big iron pots and did a variety of things worth his $10.00 all right.

And Joe Lawlor must not be forgotten. Wherever Joe camped there was a flag put up. He belonged to Co. K. N. G. N. J. He went with the company to the Mexican border and subsequently went over seas where he rendered distinguished service and whence he returned with a French medal and the rank of Captain.

The Heyer bus was a great help to the camp. It enabled us to go in a bunch. It made two trips a day at the making and breaking of camp, and brought and returned visitors on Wednesdays, which was visitors' day. And Mr. Heyer himself was a great help, especially in the early days of Glen Gray.

We started on the thirteenth of June. We were soon settled. Lewis, who went up ahead, had a kitchen put up which was our first building. He stole an old tumble down barn for wood.

Ben Heyer had a wireless telegraph which brought us news of the outside world. There was no radio-telephone in those days. We got the news of the ordering of the Troops to the Mexican border before it was in the newspapers; but the frogs were so noisy that it was almost impossible to hear the telegraph.

We spent several happy days at Durham Pond when word

came to us that we would have to get off. They had rented it to a man who had been caretaker, but who had been discharged. The men got busy and hunted up another pond. They struck a bargain with a man named Earle for a site on the wooded border of his pond. Here we had to break in anew when Lewis and Mr. Wheaton built a good kitchen. We built tables combined with seats and placed them under a pavilion which Henry Lang had given us in 1913. Thus we had a dining room. It rained nearly every day and camp got very muddy. Part of it was located over an old charcoal pit. But we managed to get along quite well.

Earle's Pond was the best swimming place we had so far had. We had a rule that every boy who could not swim must learn. We carried this out at Wanaque where the water was shallow, but at Earle's we had a shallow place for the "sink easies" and deep water for diving. Some of the boys built a diving tower on the dam.

This was the year of the great infantile paralysis epidemic and we were so isolated that a good many of the people wanted us to keep the camp going right on. The six weeks that we planned to hold camp were now up. But such pressure was brought to bear to keep the camp in session that we finally consented. Finding that our stay was in a sense forced, Mr. Earle immediately raised our rent from $10.00 per week to $40.00. There were 130 boys in camp that summer and we stayed thirteen weeks. We had no sooner decided to stay when the weather cleared and became beautiful. It had rained nearly every day before that. The remaining seven weeks were delightful. We placed a guard at the end of the dam and would not let an outsider cross. All of this sounds simple, but an immense amount of work was involved and the care and responsibility were a heavy load. But we got through by the goodness of God without a case of sickness of any sort except a boy who came up with malaria. On the 13th of September we broke camp after a stay of thirteen weeks.

Searching for camp sites now began in earnest. We searched all over Northern New Jersey. Howard Utter gave the use of himself and his car for a great deal of this, and A. P. Heyer drove his. We searched two years, beginning back at Wanaque. But the heavy work of searching began in 1916.

### *Comments on the Memoirs*

Arthur P. Heyer's autobus—called the Ark by Scouts—was one of the institutions connected with camp life for many years. It had an interesting history. The bus entered its Scout service as the result of an accident. An official of a fashionable sports club of Pennsylvania happened to mention to Mr. Heyer, at a time when he was looking for a substantial conveyance to take Scouts and their luggage to camp, that a Roget-Schneider machine of a very expensive type had met with an accident and had been ditched in Pennsylvania. He offered the wreck to Mr. Heyer on practically a gift basis.

Mr. Heyer immediately got busy, went to Pennsylvania and

rescued the machine from the ditch. It was brought to Montclair and rehabilitated. Its whole structure was so powerfully built that it could stand travelling on rough mountain roads. Mr. Heyer found that the main trouble lay in the clutch which he removed and substituted another. He built a covered top for the machine and prepared a stout seating arrangement. In the end he had an autobus that could carry thirty boys inside and on top in addition to their luggage.

This was not enough, however, because canoes and other large impedimenta required transportation, so he provided an 18 foot trailer at a time when a trailer was a novelty. The bus with the trailer was a picturesque sight at Montclair center when the trips to camp took place. The load was enormous and the noise was proportionate. Elbert Burdette was invariably the driver and every expedition was arranged skilfully under his direction.

Mr. Gray's reference to Mr. James E. Brook's gift to the 1914 camp marks the first introduction of Glen Ridge Scouts into the Montclair Scouts' camping history. There is nothing to show that Glen Ridge boys had been registered for the camp. Their participation at this time was more of a week-end visit than otherwise. The Glen Ridge organization, of which Mr. Gray was also Commissioner at that time, had no camping ground. Mr. Brooks was a Scoutmaster. In 1912 he and Scoutmaster John C. Van Duyne took some of their boys to Davey's Pond in Bloomfield for several days' camping. Eliot Dafter of the Glen Ridge Scouts made a map of this camp which was near Oak's Mill about a mile from Bloomfield center. The Glen Ridge Scouts also did some camping at Great Notch and the vicinity. Their chief participation in Mr. Gray's camps developed in 1916, the year of the infantile paralysis. From that time on the tie strengthened with corresponding financial support.

Mr. Brooks remembers that he visited the Wanaque River camps two or three times and that on one occasion he saw the Scouts had a black snake in a bag. The snake had bitten Gordon Kitchen's nose when he did not hold it expertly. Mr. Gray treated the injury successfully.

In the pioneer period of Scout camping some friction developed with the leaders of the Y. M. C. A. camps. Criticism of the Scout camps was based principally on the assumption that they were militaristic. This criticism disappeared when the Scout movement was better understood.

As a pendant to Mr. Gray's memoirs of his earliest camps, the experiences of several pioneer Scouts are incorporated next.

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## CHAPTER V

## PIONEER SCOUTS' MEMOIRS

### HOWARD UTTER

### Camper 1911—15

*No Scout had a closer friendship with Mr. Gray during the early period than Howard Utter, a World War veteran. When his old leader was working on the camp memoirs Howard frequently visited him and sometimes, if the physicians permitted, took him on short motoring tours. In 1937 this compiler received from Howard the following reminiscences of his early Scout experience:*

It is twenty years since I left Montclair Scouting to enlist in the Marines for the duration of the war and a lot has happened since, but my years in Troop 4 with Mr. Gray seem as fresh and vivid as though they were only just past. I will try to answer your questions first. My Eagle award was in the fall of 1915. The boys who went to Scotland were Arthur Eagles, Ted Sullivan, Seward Collins, a Canadian Scout whose name was Irving Mitchel, and myself. We sailed from Montreal and landed at Liverpool. Spent about six weeks touring the British Isles, camping for several days in Cumberland, hiking up Ben Lomond, visiting many beautiful and historic places such as Aberfoyle, Culloden, St. Andrews, Edinburgh, Melrose Abbey, Dryburgh, etc., as well as London. Also visited Ireland.

Mr. Gray knew where to go and what was worth seeing and tried, with some success, to impress us with the spirit and beauty of Old England. He considered himself a traveller as distinguished from a tourist, which latter he held in great contempt. Returned from Southampton on the Olympic.

[Howard did not mention Scouts Furlow, Gillies and Czanak as being in the patrol. Mr. Gray's records included them as being on the tour.]

The Baden-Powell christening I remember very well as Mr. Gray selected me to speak the words of welcome to Sir Robert and

I remember how scared I was before that great church full of people. And then, to make things worse, when it came time for Sir Robert to sign the document authorizing Troop four to use his name, the fountain pen Mr. Gray had given me proved to be dry and you can probably still see the scratches made by Sir Robert trying to write with that dry pen. I soon saw that it was hopeless and borrowed another from someone in the front row and when I shook it to be sure the ink would flow, it flew plenty and made a big blot on the platform carpet. There was enough left to sign with, however. Later he awarded first class pins to Scouts who were ready and I still have the old large sized badge he pinned on my coat then.

At Cedar Avenue we had regular meetings in the kindergarten room, seated on the floor in a semi-circle with Mr. Gray seated in a chair in front. He would come put-putting down Cedar Avenue from the west on his motorcycle, always coming slowly, and always right on time. We would have our regular meeting which often included a recital by each boy of good turns done during the week (errands run for Mother didn't count) and usually a short but extremely powerful and impressive talk by Mr. Gray on some point of the Scout Law or Oath. He had a wonderful ability in giving what was really a short sermon, but not preaching, and every Scout was intent and must carry some of that teaching still.

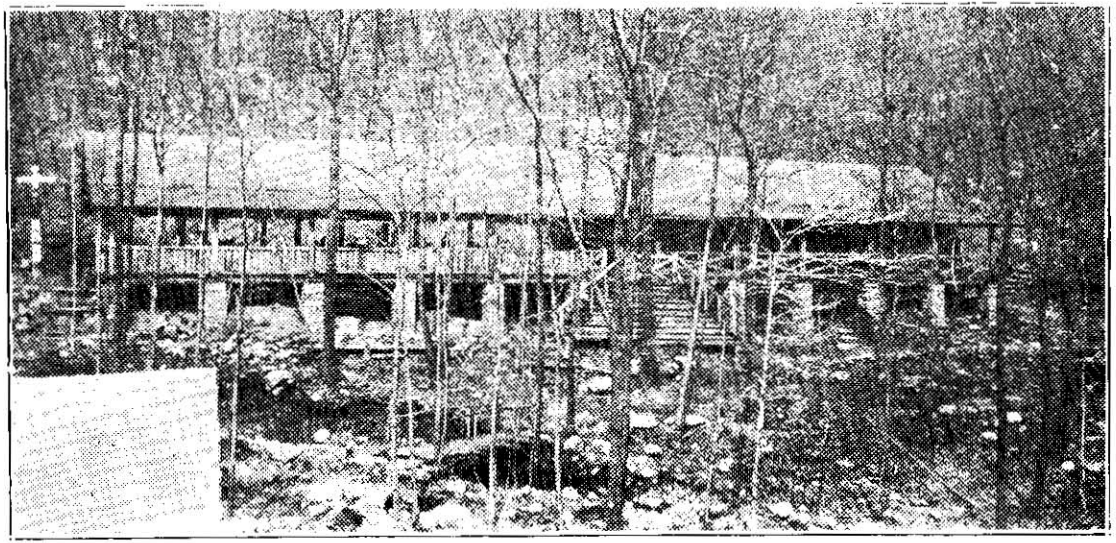
When weather permitted we would meet "under the big maple" over in the woods—now a park I believe. Mr. Gray emphasized out door work and woodcraft and preferred to have a game of stalking or trailing rather than baseball, etc. We took many hikes over the first and second mountains and of course the summer camp was the focal point of the year. My reason for joining the Scouts was to go to that 1911 camp on Dudley Island, Wawayanda Lake. We turned at the wrong lump of birches going in and wandered for hours trying to find that lake but what a time we had when we got there. Slept in our homemade pup tents, cooked our own meals, and no clothes allowed. Mr. Gray was a little ahead of the times in his belief in sunbathing and nudism. He was a bear for strength at that time and I remember his piling pack after pack on his back when the boys got too tired on a long hike.

## PUTNAM MacDONALD

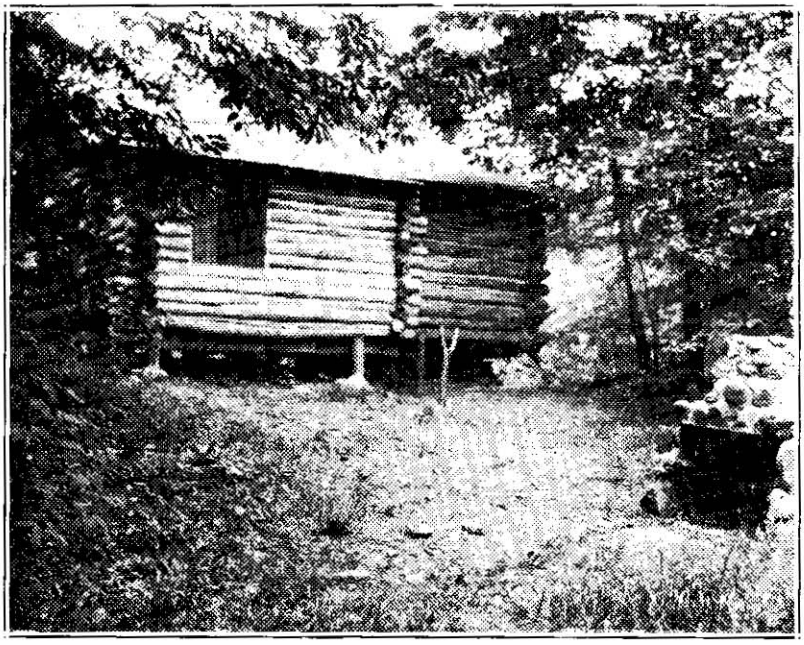
### Camper 1911—16

*Another pioneer Scout who enjoyed the warm friendship of Mr. Gray was Putnam MacDonald, a World War veteran, who was one of the "Big Four" of the Baden-Powell Troop in its earliest organization. This is Put's reminiscence of his first camping experience:*

I am afraid the memory of a week's time of a boy of thirteen has grown to forgetfulness at 42. Like Mark Twain's memory of certain events, clear as to what didn't happen but no recollection of what did. I remember a long walk from Brown's Hotel at Greenwood Lake to Waywayanda, in which we got lost in the woods, attempting a short cut; meals at Y. M. C. A. mess hall at which



Present Mess Hall



Typical Troop Cabin

In the last year of his camping Gifford was Mayor at Earle's Pond. There he initiated setting up exercises. Referring to the finances of the camps Gifford said, "At the end of the week when we were at Wanaque River each Scout was to turn over to the treasurer one dollar. That paid his week's expenses. Mr. Gray was very thrifty but he didn't pay much attention to the money side of things. I think some boys did camping under him at virtually no expense."

Gifford referred to the "missing link" used at camp by Mr. Gray. This article was a huge iron link of a chain such as was stretched across the Hudson River to bar the transit of British war vessels during the Revolution. Mr. Gray pounded the link with the head of an axe to sound the summons. He also used the ship's clock which was later installed at Glen Gray. The camps always had a night watch which became a tradition.

"We had camp songs," added Gifford, "but the musical feature was Mr. Gray's playing with the piccolo, Scottish airs principally. We were entranced also by his story telling some of which was hair-raising, particularly 'The Pickle Vat' which in the sequel caused him to show deep emotion. I have often wondered whether there was an experience in his life that had a realistic reason for his emotion."

## WILLIAM EVANS PRICE

### Camper 1916—1921

*This reminiscence covers the camps at Durham and Earle's Pond. At the latter place the Scouts were marooned on account of the infantile paralysis epidemic in 1916.*

The 1916 camp was pitched first at Durham Pond, a large but shallow lake located near Marcella, New Jersey. A small dam of stone blocks, built in a semicircular fashion, maintained the level of the lake, which was probably not more than ten feet deep in any place, resulting in a large growth of sea weed and water lilies over most of its surface. The lake seemed to be fed by very small springs and perhaps a minute stream; at any rate, the movement of water was not very rapid, and this, together with the presence of large quantities of iron compounds in the water, gave it a rather peculiar and brackish odor and taste.

The lake boasted a small island about fifteen feet in diameter, located a short distance from the dam. On this island was a tall tree, which gave a picturesque setting. Our stay at Durham Pond was very short. Within two weeks of the start of the season we were forced to move, as it was discovered that the person through whom Mr. Gray had arranged rental of the camp site did not own the land, and apparently was not vested with rights of any sort permitting him to lease it. [The property was owned by the family of Abram S. Hewitt, former Mayor of New York City. It was part of a manorial seat with Revolutionary War history, which will be described in a subsequent chapter.]

A few very vivid impressions of Durham Pond site were—the very cold spring located not far from the southwest shore of the lake which seemed colder than any spring water in New Jersey—a deer seen wading in the water on the west side of the lake, early one morning—camp fires at which Wesley "Trampas" Townsend, Floyd Furlow and Giff Walcutt proved themselves master raconteurs, amusing the camp with tall stories of impossible adventures in which they had claimed participation—the cook, Lewis, cooking bacon over an open fire near the cook shack, which was so dark inside that preparation of meals was very difficult during early morning—the road to Marcella, with second growth on both sides of the road (from these woods issued constant tinkling sounds of the cowbells, for it seems that the farmers set their cows loose in the woods)—and finally, the day we broke camp, a day of confusion and hard work during which the entire camp was moved a mile and a half through wood roads to the new site at Earle's Pond. The trail was so bad in most places that wheeled vehicles of any sort were practically impossible to use, so that all the material had to be carried or hauled at such effort that carrying might have been easier in the end.

Earle's Pond was deeper than Durham. On the northwest side was the earthen dam, rather long and high, which, together with its straight construction, made it a very uncertain bulkhead. It had numerous leaks and it is quite certain that Mr. Gray viewed its structure with some marvel and alarm. On the east side of the lake was a high hill with a bald rock top, from which an excellent view could be had of the surrounding country. On the south side of this hill, about a hundred yards from the lake (but fortunately screened by the forest) was a small lumber camp, in which life was apparently conducted on a rather primitive basis.

We were warned not to be too inquisitive regarding the lumbermen or their families, and this advice was apparently well based, because noises across the lake indicated frequent clashes during what were probably drinking orgies, and one evening the stillness was broken by a most unearthly shriek from the lumber camp, which will never be forgotten by anyone who heard it. We did not bother the lumbermen and they did not bother us. Mr. Earle rented boats to fishermen who tried their sport on the lake during week ends and holidays. Fortunately, these visitors were few in number and did not disturb us much. They did not seem to catch many fish.

At Earle's Pond, as at Durham, the tents were pitched on the ground. Board floors were unknown. Some campers used pup tents, which were so small that they could be used for sleeping only, and of course the camper had to sleep on the ground, as there was not sufficient height for a cot.

Giff Walcutt and George Sigler helped Cook Lewis in the cook shack, which was a sort of totalitarian state. Each camper had to earn his meal ticket by certain specified duties each morning. These duties were varied according to Lewis's needs. Sometimes we had to peel spuds, but more frequently the demand was for a certain number of armfuls of wood. The demand for wood seemed insatiable.

It seemed to us that the cook stove must be a blast furnace of no small dimensions. An individual camper might be required to bring in as many as six or eight armfuls of wood to earn his meal ticket. If, on appearing at the cook shack with an armful of wood, Lewis considered the latter scanty in any respect, the camper was forced to unload the wood in the wood box and receive no credit for the effort. Most of the wood was chestnut, as many dead trees of that variety were available near the lake. The wood was easy to cut with an axe, split well, and burned splendidly.

Mr. Gray impressed each camper with the desirability of owning a full sized axe. He had great contempt for short axes and hatchets, maintaining that their short sweep made them dangerous to the chopper, and practically forbad their use. We bought our long axes at the general store at Newfoundland, four miles away. Charlottesburg, which was somewhat nearer, had no stores and was apparently only a railroad junction.

Giff Walcutt owned a grindstone and sharpened axes for a consideration. Part of the latter was financial, the remainder consisting of physical effort, for the camper whose axe was being sharpened was required to turn the grindstone. Benny Rosoff, the camp clerk, kept the accounts and made the camp purchases. Benny also invented a pernicious type of association known as the Graft Society. Benny and one or two other boys would organize the society. Any members joining thereafter were required to produce a box of Nabiscos or other sweet crackers as an initiation fee. The crackers were eaten by the society, which appeared to have motives solely gastronomic. When the number of members of the society increased to a point where an insufficient number of crackers were available for each member, Benny disbanded the society and started a new one. Mr. Gray tolerated the Graft Society with an air of amusement, evidently figuring that through experience the campers would have an early lesson in economics and utopian schemes.

The camp season in 1916 lasted thirteen weeks. The length was accounted for by an infantile paralysis epidemic, which prevented opening of school at the usual time. Most parents felt it better to keep the boys in camp, away from congested towns where the malady might be contracted. The number of interesting incidents which occurred during this camping season was proportional to the length of our stay at Earle's Pond. Several of these happenings are worth relating.

There was the story of Leaky Sayles and the huckleberry pie. Leaky was a lad with a typical growing-boy appetite. To him, the generous meals seemed scanty, but he was particularly critical of the portions of pie served when that commodity was served. He voiced his complaints so persistently that finally Lewis evolved a scheme which was calculated to silence Leaky permanently.

Immediately following a generous meal, Leaky was escorted into the cook shack, and confronted with a super-sized huckleberry pie. He was told he would have to eat the pie. He sat down and ate, and ate, and ate. He was practically bursting, but about half the pie was still left. He was told to eat more. Finally, he burst into

tears whereupon the merciless Lewis and Sigler forced a half cup of castor oil down his throat as a chaser. Leaky went right to bed.

Campers took turns in securing and heating a large tub of water on an outdoor fireplace. This tub of hot water was used for washing dishes. Each camper provided and washed his own plates, spoons, etc. One day a very young camper, who apparently had been somewhat spoiled at home, decided that his job of heating the water was not sufficiently dignifying and neglected to do his share of the work. That day the campers had to wash their dishes in cold dish water, but the inevitable retribution was not long in coming. The negligent camper was seized and given a bath in the cold dish water, after it had been used by everbody for the conventional purpose. The change in attitude on the part of the young camper was gratifying, although the enforced ablutions were accompanied by a tearful exhibition.

Another youth camper who was considered to be in need of chastisement was unceremoniously aroused from his bed about 4 o'clock one morning and shanghaied to a water depot of the Susquehanna Railroad about two miles away. There his abductors tied his trousers over his head, placed him beneath the water spout, and turned the water on. The ensuing deluge provided so much amusement to the miscreants that they were oblivious of the approach of an automobile. In this car were the railroad section superintendent, and several members of his family, including members of the opposite sex, who were enjoying an early morning ride and tour of inspection. When the car was finally perceived, there was a hasty retreat on the part of all except the boy on whom the water was descending. He was rescued by the railroad superintendent, but not without some embarrassment on account of his lack of costume.

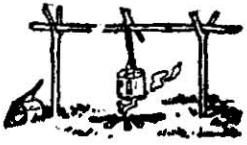
Apparently this incident resulted in a complaint by the authorities, and Mr. Gray had to spend one day away from camp to straighten up the matter. Mr. Gray was a good disciplinarian, and the culprits were subjected to no slight reminder of their guilt. Mr. Gray made it clear that they had missed jail sentences by an eyelash.

One day there was dissension in the cook shack hierarchy, resulting in a roaring battle between Messrs. Sigler and Walcutt. The ammunition was onions. No quarter was asked for the space of about fifteen minutes, after which lack of available military supplies ended the encounter. Neither of the gladiators turned out to be the winner, however, for Uncle levied a fine equivalent to the cost of the onions on both of them.

A camp tradition of this period was the night watch. The boys stood watch in pairs by the campfire. Each camper took his turn at the vigil. The watches lasted two hours, and it was an unpardonable sin to fall asleep while on watch. Time for the watch was announced by Uncle's ship clock, which rang the hours in nautical style through all the early years of camp. At the beginning and close of each watch, as well as once during its course, the pair of boys guarding the camp would tour the tents and make sure that all was well. They would spend the intervening time warming themselves at the fire,

putting wood on it when needed, and swapping yarns in a low voice. Uncle would not tolerate a noisy night watch.

Then there was the camp pound. This was repository for all lost articles. There were periodic auctions, at which careless campers redeemed their property at one cent per item. Each camper had an assigned number, which was inscribed on all of his belongings, so that identification of lost articles was simplified. It was amusing to note that certain campers never lost articles, while others were continually paying fines for the recovery of their mislaid property.



## OLD CAMP SONG

We're off to Wanaque
With boat and with tent
For the camp by the cool river side.
The woods and the summer
For camping were meant
And Wanaque's our joy and our pride.

## CHAPTER VI

## THE SCOUT EXILE

Prolongation of the camp at Earle's Pond on account of the infantile paralysis epidemic in 1916 resulted in additional amount of camp literature. This procedure was adopted not so much to interest the Scouts but to keep their parents and friends informed about conditions in the camp. The literature was mailed to the Scouts' homes and anxiety was relieved. It was a perilous period. Zones were established by communities to prevent ingress of possible disease carriers and permits or passes were necessary to traverse the zones.

When the originally planned period for the camp season had passed, Mr. Gray changed the title of his "Camp Gazette" to "The Scout Exile" which he explained was the "vacation edition of the Scout Gazette". The issue of "The Scout Exile" for September 6, 1916, contained the following items:

"Labor Day was quite as eventful for us as was the Fourth of July because more of the fathers were with us and there was more doing. We celebrated the Fourth (of July) by moving (from Durham Pond). The patriotic feature of the day was the fact that we had cleared out the road on which Washington had once marched with his Revolutionary soldiers and used it as a trail for our moving which we completed on the Fourth. The road is now lost and for-

"On Labor Day there were a number of fine hikes to points of historic interest. One of the parties, led by Mr. E. E. Weissenborn, went to a region full of caves used in the time of the Revolution. Mr. Malcolmson conducted another party by a different route to the same place."

This issue also had a reference to a "magazine of hilarity" started in camp by a group of Scouts who gave it the title of "Click Claque". Mr. Gray was amused by the publication because of its juvenility. He referred to it thus:

"Our neighbor, the 'Click Claque' had a bad spell recently. Its ravings are quite interesting and unique. It is a victim of anterior poliomyelitis."

Mr. Gray advised that it should be read after the second page which was the last one in the "magazine". The staff of the "Click Claque" consisted of Gordon Kitchen, Gifford Walcutt, Donald Waterbury and Walter Chase. The publication quickly went into oblivion.

E. W. B. Malcolmson was a young volunteer assistant to Mr. Gray. He joined Mr. Gray in camp the following year on the side hill near Glen Gray. Some of the boys then thought he was trying to assume some prerogatives which only Mr. Gray should have. They hatched up a scheme to give Mr. Malcolmson a shower bath or worse some night. Mr. Gray was watchful and suspicious. He sent a couple of his guardsmen—older Scouts—to thwart the plot which they did. More about Uncle's "guardsmen" will appear in another part of this sketch.

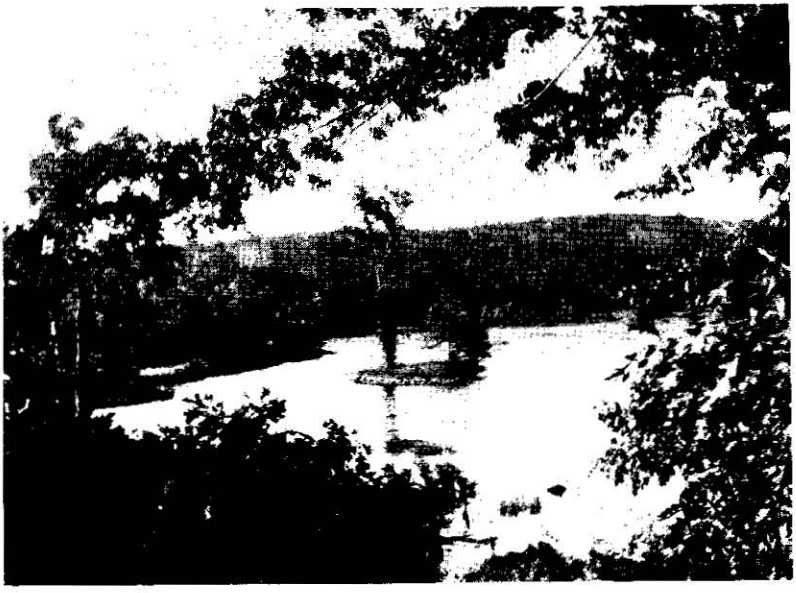
## REVIEW OF EARLY CAMPS

Between 1911 and 1917 Mr. Gray fashioned the main pattern of his camps. At first it was on a small Troop basis at Dudley Island. He was not yet a Commissioner. The next year he invited Scouts not in his Troop to attend and in 1913 when he was about to become Commissioner he broadened the camp to a "town" basis. This gradual expansion was expedient for experimental reasons.

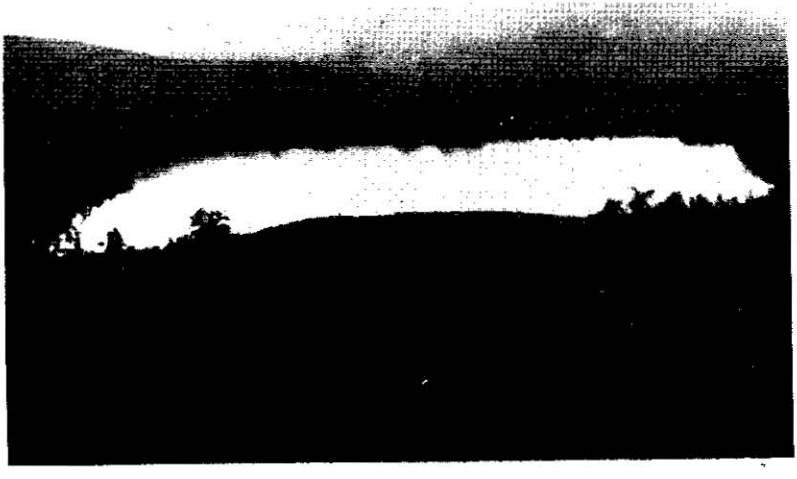
At that time there were very few real Scout camps in the country. It was the pioneering era and financial support was lacking. Public support had to be built up. In 1914 an announcement in The Montclair Times stated that Mr. Gray was returning home from a trip to Great Britain where he had gone to make an inspection of Scout work. This was undoubtedly a quick trip as he was on hand to conduct the camp in that year. The 1915 and 1916 camps indicated growing support and brought the Montclair Scout Council into line for camping on a sounder scale.

The camps were conducted on these general bases as shown by the early records.

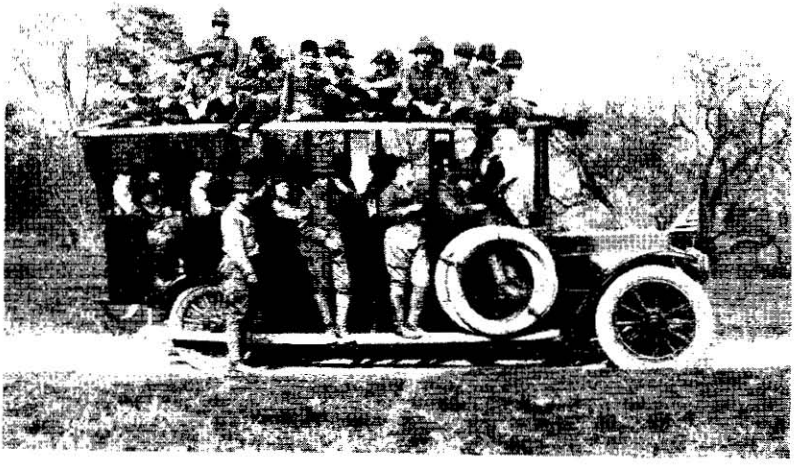
> The Scout Law is the governing code.
> The camp system is cooperative: "Ours, the parents and campers."
> Exceptions are not tolerated. No favoritism.
> The camp is not a nursery. Bringing of edibles by parents and friends is absolutely prohibited but fruits will be allowed as gifts.
> Use of tobacco by boys prohibited.



Durham Pond



Earle's Pond



A. P. Heyer's Bus—The Ark

Mary Post House

Sharing of duties required.
The camp to be run on the type of a small town government.
Good sportsmanship demanded. "Sulkers and whiners have no proper place in camp or anywhere else".
Adequate physical examination.

Mr. Gray was no martinet. The boys had considerable latitude for pranks and other outlets for excessive energy. He did insist on a night watch, however, and subjected the Scouts to rigid discipline, especially in ceremonials and rituals. These were always impressive when he conducted them and did not have the atmosphere of artificiality or mummery.

During the regular season of camping, Mr. Gray prescribed that every Scout must have his own tent. He insisted on segregation. Playing cards were barred on the principle that they might lead to petty gambling. He encouraged a pioneering spirit so as to give the Scouts full play in the development of self reliance. He studied the boys individually and formulated in his mind the best way of bringing out their latent qualities for citizenship.

In the year book of 1916 Mr. Gray epitomizes his ideas on the training of boys for citizenship under the caption of "The World Needs Men". He wrote thus: "Manhood is a quality of character; it is the finest spirit of humanityhood and knows neither age, nor size, nor condition. . . . A boy's manhood is not that of an adult. If it is real manhood to him, it must be the manhood of the boy. 'Mannikinhood' is not manhood. A boy's manhood is best developed through doing those things which he as a natural boy can properly do, by service and practice in his own sphere, in his own natural way."

It should be noted in this review of the early period that when Mr. Gray stated that there were no Scout camps in the country in 1911 he eliminated from consideration boys' camps such as were conducted at Lake Wawayanda under Y. M. C. A. auspices and elsewhere. He also eliminated the Silver Bay, N. Y., camp from August 16 to September 1, 1910, which was conducted by William D. Murray under the auspices of the newly formed Boy Scouts of

America and which was really a demonstration of Ernest Thompson Seton's ideas embodied in his organization of Woodcraft Indians. The campers lived in tepees and followed Indian customs. It was not a Scout camp according to methods and principles laid down by Baden-Powell at his first experimental camp on Brownsea Island in the English Channel. A Scout flavor, however, was given to the Silver Bay conference by the presence of W. B. Wakefield, who was associated with the Baden-Powell Movement in England. While at the camp, he outlined a training course for Scoutmasters.

There is nothing in the Montclair records to show that Mr. Gray went to the Silver Bay camp at any time during its progress. He was at Lake Wawayanda and was about to register his Troop with the Boy Scouts of America but he was not particularly interested in the Woodcraft Indians' type of camping and wanted to see the Baden-Powell principles incorporated in the Boy Scouts of America. He delayed registration for that season. His Troop was listed as No. 4 in the Montclair records as Scoutmasters for three other Troops registered earlier with the national organization. At that time no boys were registered, only Scoutmasters. Many of the latter had no Troops but were commissioned to organize them.

In the national history of the Boy Scouts of America, there is recorded a statement that a Mr. Quail had conducted a Scout camp in the summer of 1910 at Cooperstown, New York. Mr. Gray apparently had no knowledge of such a camp or its character.

## Picking a Permanent Camp Site

The question of getting a permanent campsite was raised in 1915 when President C. C. West of the Council pledged his financial support to the extent of $250.00 at the outset. Judging from the minutes of the Montclair Council, there was no camp committee until one was formed in 1915 with E. B. Carpenter as Chairman. All of the camping administration had been left to Mr. Gray who took the initiative before he became Commissioner in 1913.

A special camp bulletin was issued on June 2, 1916, announcing that the camp would be at Durham Pond about five miles from Charlotteburg and two and a half miles from the Greenwood Lake station. The post office address was Marcella. Heyer's autobus was to run to camp every Wednesday and also Saturdays, if necessary.

At a Council dinner on October 26, 1916, Frederick K. Vreeland, who was a Scoutmaster at that time, made an address urging the importance of acquiring a permanent camp site and putting an end to a nomadic policy. A limit of cost was suggested and the figure was $8000 at the start. Mr. Vreeland, T. T. Dorman, A. P. Heyer, Philip Goodell and Frank Hughes were appointed a committee on camp site. Mr. Vreeland was chairman. He made an energetic search and tramped over northern New Jersey. Mr. Gray, Mr. Dorman and Mr. Heyer sometimes accompanied him.

On November 21, 1916, Mr. Vreeland reported these sites as being available: (1) Macopin site, 102 acres, at $2500; (2) Longwood Valley farm, 67 acres, at $3600; (3) Ramapo Hills near Oakland owned by Mrs. Post of Rochelle Park; (4) A place near Ogdensburg, 40 acres, $2500; and (5) Musconnetcong River farm,

180 acres with a house for $2000. This place was 40 miles away.

Mr. Vreeland urged accessibility. He favored either the Ramapo Hills site or Longwood Farm. The investigation was continued intensively with the result that the Ramapo Hills site was endorsed and steps were taken to acquire the property which was done by a piecemeal process extending over several years. The site ranges from 600 to 900 feet above sea level and is about twenty miles from Montclair. As Mr. Gray's camps were in the Ramapo region or adjacent thereto, some historical features of the section will be touched upon next.

## THE HOLY WILD

From the grandeur of the mountain;
  From the quiet of the Glen;
From the brooklet's cooling fountain,
  Far from fevered haunts of man,
Comes a searching call; persuasive;
  Nature summoning her child
Back to calm; to rest of spirit
  In her heart—the Holy Wild.

On the rugged, tree crowned hill tops,
  Flash the banners of the morn
While the voices of the forest
  Celebrate a day new born.
O'er the many tinted waters
  Light the misty spirits wreathe
Everywhere the woodland perfume
  God's own breath—His creatures breathe.

Thus the day, till sunset grandeur
  Softens into twilight glow;
Gentle evening, like a mother,
  Soothes to rest the vale below;
And the pearly blue smoke rises
  To the birds' last evening song
As caressing zephyrs whisper
  To the treetop's leafy throng.

Then a strange, new world awakens,
  Glamorous with charm and awe;
And the campfire gleam discovers
  More than daylight eyes e'er saw,
Fathomless the magic embers
  As the leaf flecked blue above;
Spark lit, star lit, lake reflected,
  Resting in the palm of love.

Written in 1918. FRANK F. GRAY.

## CHAPTER VII

### Historic Setting

The suitability of the Ramapo Hills site for a Scout camp has been proved abundantly. Aside from its seclusion and natural beauty it is in a region of exceptional interest historically. The section with its iron ore mines and furnaces provided General Washington with his main arsenal for the Revolutionary War. It also furnished munitions for the Civil War and less importantly for the World War. Some mines are still being worked in connection with war defense. There is a vast store of ore left for emergencies. The old mine near Dover is particularly active now.

Millions of years ago the Ramapo Mountains, according to geologists, were a startling feature of the earth's surface. These mountains were represented as having been as high or even higher than the Rockies. The retreat of the glacial ice-cap northward shaved off the tops of the mountains, made them round and left them much as they are today. The movement of the glacier is still traceable on the hillsides and valleys.

Indian trails cover thousands of miles, following in many instances the routes of wild animals. Some of the trails are now transformed into highways. The most famous of these paths was the Minisink Trail with branches in the Ramapos. Its width was from two to three feet. The trail pursued a winding course from Minisink Island in the Delaware River to the ocean front. Throughout the region are many "Cannon Ball" trails so called because of the transportation of munitions in the Colonial and Revolutionary periods.

Glen Gray has its "Cannon Ball" Trail. Indian relics are often found. First the Cherokees roamed the region and then the Algonquins from whom the Lenni Lenapes or the Delawares, and Minisinks were descended. They called the mountains "Remopuck", now known as Ramapo, which means the land of round lakes, caused by the scooping out action of the glacial movement. Scores of these lakes abound in the region.

The Wanaque (or Wynockie) River, along which Mr. Gray had early camps, was regarded (before the construction of the Wanaque reservoir) by some admirers as the most beautiful in New Jersey. The name is derived from "winak" and "aki" meaning in Indian language "sassafras" and "land" respectively. Researches have shown that white traders, trappers, hunters and a few settlers began to penetrate into the Ramapo Mountains about the middle of the seventeenth century. It was a wilderness home of Algonquins who showed no hostility to the white men. Among the earliest traders were the Dutch.

The whites gradually acquired the land from the Indians and the records of these purchases provide the history of the period for about one hundred years. The purchases led to the discovery of copper in 1720 and later prospectors found what was to prove the greatest value to the colonies—vast deposits of iron ore of superior grade, easily accessible and adaptable for smithing and forging op-

erations. By 1740 the colonies had an iron industry, when the Ringwood Company was organized to compete with the mines of the mother country. A mining camp was established and became known as Ringwood. It became a good sized town comparable to a small industrial center today.

New interests acquired the Ringwood Company after the middle of the century and obtained a charter from the English government to operate as the American Iron Company. Baron Peter Hasenclever, of German descent but English trained in iron mining, came to the colonies to operate the company. He is reputed to have been the first iron master in the colonies and was very eccentric. It was he who made Ringwood the greatest iron center on this continent. Hasenclever founded the original "Forges and Manor of Ringwood" before he was recalled to England and tried on the charge of maladministration. The original Ringwood manor house was destroyed by fire.

The present Ringwood manor house is one of the most interesting mansions in the United States and is now a State museum with a park. It has been called a "Second Mount Vernon". General Washington visited there many times during the Revolution to supervise the supply of munitions. Martha Washington was also a visitor. From the forges of Ringwood Washington's armies got cannon, cannon balls, muskets, pistols, camp stoves, wagon wheel rims, axles, coupling pins, bolts, rivets, nails and the great chain that was stretched across the Hudson River at West Point to bar British warships from passing.

Robert Erskine, a young Scotch mining engineer and a graduate of Edinburgh University, who came to the colonies in 1771, succeeded Hasenclever as General Manager of the Ringwood iron industry. He espoused the colonists' cause, became an important factor in Washington's conduct of the Revolutionary War and was commissioned by Congress to be Surveyor General to all of the colonial armies. Erskine made maps of all northern New Jersey. General Washington, on the day of Erskine's death in 1780, was at Ringwood Manor. Two years later he returned to the Manor with Martha Washington to plant a tree at Erskine's grave. Erskine had been called the "Forgotten General of the Revolution."

Ringwood is about a three hours' hike from Glen Gray. The route covers part of the way that the soldiers of the Revolution took in going between West Point and Morristown. There are many soldiers' caves along the route.

In a region of such historic interest the Scout campers have a broad field for cultural recreation. Glen Gray is situated in a bowl of exquisite beauty, surrounded by heavy growth of woods of many varieties, with a lake that is a gem. The development of the Glen into a true Scout camp required years of effort and technical skill. It has been gradually expanded to meet the necessities of the times.

## THE MIDVALE TRAIL

(Adapted from "The Long, Long Trail")

There's a long, long trail a-winding
Into the land of my dreams
Where the whippoorwill is singing
In the white moon beams,
After long, long years of waiting
My happy dreams have come true
And at last my way I'm taking
O'er the Midvale Trail with you.

The Midvale Trail was once a public road across our section of the Ramapo Mountains but has not been passable except to pedestrians during the present century.

The whippoorwill is numerous in the Wanaque Valley and there are some on the Midvale end of the Trail.

F. F. G.

# PART II

## CHAPTER VIII

### Founding of Glen Gray

Mr. Gray's remaining camp memoirs will be woven into this sketch to provide a running account and to preserve a historical sequence although with some overlapping. It is to be borne in mind that he was handicapped in not having access to many records and at times unable for weeks to compose his material. Handwriting was out of the question. The best he could do was to typewrite and that very slowly. He would spend hours over a few sentences. This was explained by him in his relatively few private letters. He wanted, however, to make sure of leaving a personal account of his Scout camps. It is, therefore, important that his story be included fully in this record.

Following is Mr. Gray's own recital of how the site was selected late in 1916 and of the negotiations that ensued.

**How We Found The Present Site**

One evening in the Fall the committee on camp site held a sort of farewell meeting. We had searched every place we knew anything about, without success. The Commissioner remarked, "I always said that the good Lord had saved us a place over in the hills to the east if we could only find it." "Let us take a look at the contour map and see what there is to the East," said Mr. Vreeland. He did so and discovered the contour of the present lake. "There is quite a stream there," said Mr. Dorman, "I saw it when we camped near it on our West Point hike." We did not visit the spot right away, but Mr. Dorman and the Commissioner took a trip one afternoon to a point near by the future camp ground.

Later on Mr. Vreeland with a few of us went up and traveled along the future lake site. It was then full of woods. It required faith to see a lake there, but we saw it. Meanwhile Mr. C. C. West gave $250 as a contribution to a new camp. This was our first contribution before we adopted the new site. Later on Mr. Vreeland, Mr. Heyer, Philip Goodell, Arthur B. Miller and the Commissioner took a trip which covered several other sites. We took two days at it, and visited a place near Franklin Lake, the present site, and one in Macopin, one near Ogdensburg, where Mr. Vreeland cooked some delicious chickens over the open fire; and the old Earle's site near Newfoundland. None of these proved to be the place we wanted, but negotiations were subsequently opend with Lloyd and McNomee.

## 1917

In February arrangements were made with Lloyd and MacNomee to take over the section which was to hold the Lake and a section of the Panther Brook below it. A section of woods was also secured of Mrs. Hopper. The next month the clearing started.

### Restoring a Lake

Glen Gray was a wilderness at the start with a brook winding through the bowl after the Glacial period had carried away a lake and had left a marshy bed. The scene was picturesque with a wealth of natural beauty in many forms. Frederick K. Vreeland with a naturalist's eye and a pioneer's knowledge was enraptured. Forty-two species of trees were in evidence as well as countless display of floral treasures. Fringed gentians appeared from time to time in various spots and were the object of great admiration, particularly among the Scout Mothers later.

It was no wonder that Mr. Vreeland wrote that the Glen "is a little bit of Scout's paradise as nature made it. It is a place to which the Scout can carry his tent, his axe, and his blankets and pitch his own camp, chop his own wood, build his fire, bake his bannock and test his qualities of self-reliance and resourcefulness." The scene also did not lessen the Scout's spirit of adventure by the disclosure that no fewer than sixteen species of wild animals had been found. There were rattle snakes to be killed—and on a few occasions even eaten after an Indian receipe for cooking had been obtained from Mr. Gray.

As soon as the necessary purchases of land were made and options secured on other strips in early 1917, Mr. Vreeland as chairman of the Camp Committee set to work on the problem of restoring the lake. Many visits to the Glen and conferences ensued with engineers principally Walter Kidde and Arthur B. Miller. There was a debate on the location of the dam. It was suggested that it be built from the rock point, near the present camp fire location to the other side of the marshy bed. It was the shortest distance. The engineers vetoed this plan on technical grounds. They said the dam should be constructed at the end of the proposed lake near the hill road and it was so decided.

### Building the Dam

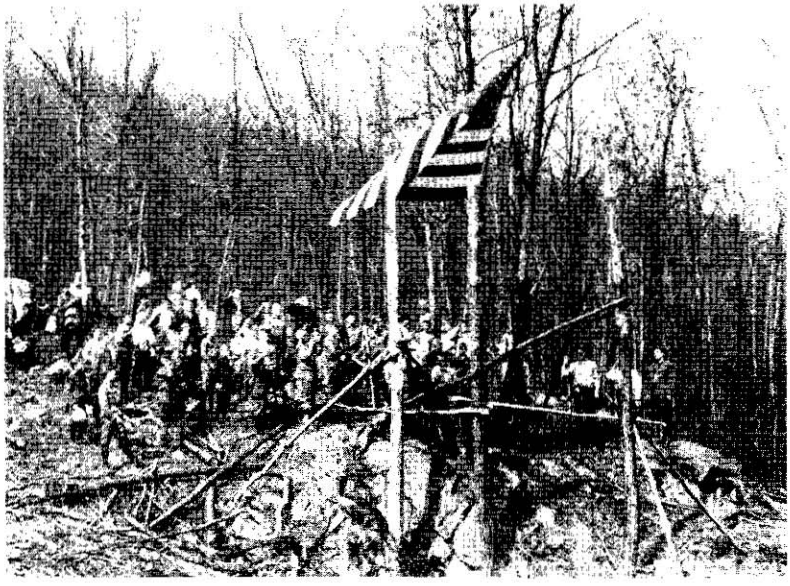
Mr. Vreeland engaged local contractors. Preliminary soundings had disclosed a bed of blue clay which was admirable for dam purposes. A core wall of concrete was started. The clay bed was found to be far short of covering the width of the dam. On either side of the clay bed were gravel and sand. The digging was continued for a depth of twelve feet in the hope of striking rock but it failed to find that footing.

At this point Mr. Miller persuaded Clemens Herschel, an eminent engineer, to visit the Glen to give his advice. He approved the

Old Ice House and Mess Shack

Building the Core Wall of the Dam

Fred K. Vreeland with Scouts



First Flag Raising at Glen Gray

location of the dam and showed that the seeping water in falling and rising on the sides of the blue clay bed would produce sufficient friction to make the damming effective. This view was supported by the chief engineer, Mr. Coburn, of a long established company which built many dams.

Professional workers were then obtained and the core wall was completed. Time has verified the decision of the hydraulic engineers. The technical difficulties were overcome only through the persistent efforts of Mr. Kidde, Mr. Miller and Mr. Vreeland to make sure that the lake would be restored on a sound basis. This is the story of how Panther brook with the aid of the watershed produced what is now Lake Vreeland, a gem of almost ten acre size. It should be added that the additional cost of the enterprise was underwritten by Mr. Kidde, Joseph Van Vleck, Jr., and Col. Isaac Lewis, the machine gun inventor, who advanced $2000 each. Many contributions followed when Mr. Heyer cooked a series of chicken and steak dinners. The Glen Ridge Scout organization also contributed $750 to complete the construction of the dam. In succeeding years gifts were made by the same organization for the upbuilding of the camp. The Scout Mothers of that borough also helped materially. Mr. Miller recorded these facts in his reports as Camp Committee chairman.

The Kidde-Miller dam received its baptismal name by virtue of the services of the two engineers, both of whom are distinguished in their professional field and are graduates of Stevens Institute of Technology. They have received well deserved honors also in Scouting. Mr. Miller received the Honor Degree award of the First Order. Mr. Kidde was the recipient later of the Silver Beaver for distinguished services to boyhood.

Development of Camp Glen Gray proceeded apace during the work on the lake and dam project in 1917. Mr. Vreeland kept a watchful eye on the preparatory process so that the tree and plant life could be protected. He was a stickler in conservation and preservation. "Woodman, spare that tree" was a mild reprimand for this particular naturalist. He fought "vandalism" and did not mince words in showing his displeasure. There were some exciting episodes during his chairmanship of the camp committee and even afterward.

Mr. Vreeland scoured the dense woods, blazed the boundaries of the purchases, bought some tracts or obtained options on them with his own funds to protect the camp from outside exploitation, planted several species of trees by the hundreds where they would serve a good purpose and had other trees thinned out after consultation with State Forestry officials. The shores of the lake were enriched with plants. Next he stocked the lake with fish.

Mr. Vreeland had decided talent with the compass in running boundary lines and prepared a series of maps, marked by a monogram of F.K.V. These maps are interesting relics of the early camp history.

## COMRADESHIP

There is no comradeship
  On earth so dear as that
Which springs of trouble shared,
  And perils, struggles, griefs;
Of journeys whereon we
  Each other cheer by day
Divide our burdens, joys,
  Hopes, confidences, trusts,
And thro' the chilly night
  Stand guard together, or
Partake the blanket's warmth;
  No comradeship like this,
With that which grows close
  Companionship in strife
Wherein we often shield
  Each other from the blow,
And, when the struggle rests,
  Bind up each other's wounds,
Or watch beside the cot,
  Till, in a mutual glow,
Our hearts melt into one;
  This, this is brotherhood in truth.

Composed in World War days. FRANK F. GRAY.

## CHAPTER IX

### Dedication of the Camp

Dedication of the Glen with the honoring of Mr. Gray by the bestowal of his name on the camp took place on May 19, 1917, without elaborate ceremony but with high spirits. It was forecast as a grand hike on the part of the Scouts with the hikers to converge on the Glen from any direction they saw fit. There was a motor ride of parents and friends. There was also the old fashioned going by train to Midvale and then hiking over the Trail, four miles. The trail route was not an easy climb for the uninitiated.

One energetic Scout Mother, who was fond of taking the trail over the mountains, gathered a group of boys for the journey. When they reached the Glen on the old wagon road at the westerly end of the lake bed the Scout Mother decided to wind up the journey by crossing the bed at the shortest distance to reach the Rock point. She guided her charges through the densely thicketed morass and tree growth and jumped the rivulets of the bed. It was hard going but it was fun. Incidentally, Frederick K. Vreeland and Arthur P. Heyer found that the tree growth was about as stubborn as accomplished axe men would care to tackle. The beech trees were particularly tough and seemed to be composed of rubber when they applied their axes in the work of clearing the bed.

Gleanings from the Scout Gazette portray the preliminary incidents and they are herewith presented. Thanks for preserving copies of the Gazette are due the hiking Scout Mother who trudged many times by day and night over the Midvale Trail.


## THE SCOUT GAZETTE

**Fouth Series, Number 28** **Friday, April 20, 1917**

The Camp Committee held an important meeting last Saturday evening, at which final arrangements were made for the property, plans decided upon for the dam, etc. From now on there will be frequent hikes there by the boys. There is to be one on Saturday.

**Fourth Series, Number 29** **Friday, April 27, 1917**

A very pleasing report came from the new camp site the other day, when the man sinking the test pile for the dam reported the discovery of a fine bed of clay under the proposed lake site. Just what we need.

A good sized party, including several men and boys, made a week end hike to the new camp site last Saturday, and report one of the pleasantest hikes held in a long time. The boundaries of the camp were located, and surveys made for the dam. There will be weekly hikes from now on.

The Spring Meet is to be held at the new camp site and is to be the biggest thing we have ever had, if all goes well. Everybody and his axe are invited. We want it to be the big Father and Son Hike of the season. Tell everyone, and be sure that he and his boys or father are there. And if the mothers care to come and bring their axes, they are welcome also.

**Fourth Series, Number 30** **Friday, May 4, 1917**

The Spring Meet, as announced last week, is to be held at the new camp site. The only exercises, or at least the principal ones, will be "axercises"; but then, that will be lots of fun. It is to be a great Father and Son Hike, as well as a follow up for the dinner of April 13. The Y. M. C. A. is to unite in the hike. You will hear more about it from time to time. Get your axe sharp. Fine chance for first class test.

**We have the deed! ..Mark the date:.. May 2, 1917.**

The place is ours. It is now "up to" the obys to show their interest by their efforts. There should be readiness to help in every way. Work on the dam has begun. There should be weekly hikes to the site. Troops should find out what they can do for the equipment. Ask us for ideas.

**Fourth Series, Number 31** **Friday, May 11, 1917**

Camp registration cards are now ready. Those going should register at the earliest possible moment, as plans must be made. Cards on request. Several have already registered. The first were from Glen Ridge.

Of course, you will be on the Great Hike next Saturday. Take train to Midvale; hike over the hills two and a half miles (it was at least four miles); auto or wheel by Pompton Lakes and Oakland, following parallel to river, turning to left when you see sign. Bring your father if you can. If not, come anyway. Bring lunch. Simple dedicatory exercises at 2 o'clock. Some will go up Friday an stay over. This takes the place of the regular field day. The Y. M. C. A. is joining with us in the hike. Take Erie from any Montclair station for Wanaque - Midvale, if going by rail. Ask for special camp bulletin. (It is understood that Mr. Gray had not hiked over the Midvale trail when this was typed. Some hikers estimated the trail at about five miles.)

**Fourth Series, Number 32** **Friday, May 18, 1917**

The big hike is coming on in great shape. Everything has been arranged for but the weather, which we cannot guarantee, not being the responsible part. Mr. Heyer's bus, (The Ark) will leave headquarters on Friday afternoon between three-thirty and four, for overnights, and about half past nine on Saturday morning for day travelers. The fare, for this time, will be a dollar for the round trip; fifty cents one way. If we have good success in stenciling it, we will print a sketch map of the route on the other side of this sheet. If you have read the gazette and

the special bulletin, you will be able to find the way. If you have not read them, it is your own fault. Look them up. That will be easier for you than it will be for us to repeat direction. See also newspapers.

This is not a copper plate map, and we do not guarantee the scale; but if you use it and your common sense together, you can find your way to camp.

**Fourth Series, Number 33 Friday, May 25, 1917**

The Great Hike last Saturday was a grand success. Fifty-five campers went up Friday afternoon, remaining over. The Coast Guard hiked up on foot. The bus carried a very full load up, and a much fuller load back, on Saturday, many went on wheels, and a string of autos, requiring a quarter mile for parking, took the rest. The day was perfect and everyone enjoyed it hugely. The dedicatory exercises were held at two-thirty, and were as impressive as they were simple. (The exercises consisted of flag raising and brief addresses by Scout officials.)

All Scouts interested in an expedition to the camp site soon, at which the surrounding mountains and caves will be explored, notify Jack Piquet at Headquarters.

The Camp Juggernaut has left for camp where it will serve as a Donkey Engine to hoist the campers' outfits into the Happy Hunting Grounds.

(This issue published by Jack Piquet as Mr. Gray had gone to the camp site to make preparations. Jack was a kind of daredevil editor whose material needed supervision. Mr. Gray exercised it. But Jack was very quick on the trigger when he had a chance to publicize).

**Fourth Series, Number 35 Friday, June 8, 1917**

**Jack Piquet, Editor**

The camp staff this summer will be: Director, Commissioner Gray; Assistant, Mr. Malcomson; Tutor, Mr. Henry Wheaton; and cook, Lewis. Other additions will be announced later.

Commissioner Gray is in Newport, Rhode Island, for two days, to visit the Montclair boys there. He will be back Friday night. (Mr. Gray went to Newport to stop boys under eighteen years old from joining the "mosquito fleet" of the Navy.)

**Fourth Series, Number 36 Friday, June 15, 1917**

The Commissioner went to Newport last week to call on the Montclair boys. He met 57 of them, and heard from several more that he could not see. They are a fine bunch. (Many of the boys were sent back home. This is told in "Eagle Rock Scouting.")

The State Engineer visited camp and inspected the dam work on Thursday. He expressed himself as pleased with the plans, the work, and the place. He expects to be in camp with us a little while this season, and it may be that the State Geologist and the Forester will also be there. If all the men who talk of coming are there, we will certainly have a good many men who are worthwhile meeting and knowing.

The Summer School should be remembered. It is under Mr. Henry Wheaton, of the High School. It affords a fine opportunity. If it comes up as well as the garden which Mr. Wheaton planted, it will surely be a big success. Help boom it. (This was Henry Wheaton who was for years treasurer of the Montclair Scout Council and who was a steady contributor to the upbuilding of the camp. His son Henry H., became one of the Scout leaders.)

# CHAPTER X

*Mr. Gray's Memoirs Continued*

**Vreeland's Troop Camps First**

While the dam building was going on in the late Spring of 1917 Mr. Vreeland brought his Troop 18 of Montclair to the scene to celebrate the entrance of the United States into the World War by holding a camp which was pitched down the hill a short distance from the dam. Mr. Gray comments on this and makes other references to the dam building as follows:

**The First Camp**

Mr. Vreeland established a camp for some boys of his Troop. This was only a temporary camp, but it was erected when the World War took in the United States, and it raised the first American flag to float over the new camp grounds. It was only a little flag, but it was a flag.

Mr. Heyer took a number of parties up to the grounds. The bus was a great sight, with boys inside, on the roof and in every nook outside.

Amongst the men who gave counsel on the dam was the famous engineer Clemens Herschel, Walter Kidde and Arthur B. Miller superintended the work. It was by Mr. Herschel's advice that the dam was placed where it is instead of further back at the point. Where it is it affords a good canoe harbor, and a good place for beginning swimmers, which otherwise would have been lacking.

The first work on the dam was done by natives; but the work was too intricate. Men who were used to such work were hired. They were a wild lot but they built the dam.

A site was selected for the regular season of 1917 about a third of a mile below the Glen while the main camp was undergoing construction. This temporary camp site on the slope of the hill had the Panther brook running past it to the east. The Scouts had their swims and water sports in the Ramapo River at the foot of the hill. They had a permanent camp clinched at last and eagerly awaited the season of 1918 when they could enter their new home and enjoy its luxuriant setting without the softening luxuries of a more civilized life. They wanted Mother Nature to mother them and not be "boy mannikins" as Mr. Gray expressed it.

## Season of 1917

Mr. Gray's comments on this season read as follow:

**First Camp on Regular Site. July-August 1917**

Meanwhile camping season came around. We could not camp near the dam, for the men were working there. At the last minute we struck upon a place on the side of the hill, where there was a fairly level spot, and pitched there. The site was pretty good, but there was no water there. We had to go to a spring at the foot of the hill to get drinking water and further down to the river to swim. We tried to dam up the brook but the water ran through the bottom as rapidly as it flowed in. So we continued all summer to go to the river to swim.

We sent over to Earle's and got our lumber and other stuff and set up the Lang Pavillion and had quite a dining room. It was pitched beside the camp kitchen, which was in the cellar of the thieves' den, which was located on a side hill, one end opening on the road.

**The Thieves Den**

This was a house which had sheltered as many as twenty-one thieves at once. Judging from the condition of the ruins each thief must have had an iron bed. These iron beds were put in the dam for re-enforcement. The booty seemed to be largely children's toys. When we first saw the house it was habitable, the next time we went up it was burned to ashes. The sight of the Scout uniform had evidently frightened them. But the cellar did us a good turn as a kitchen. The lower side opened on the road and Lewis cleaned out and set up our first cook stove which we brought from Earle's. The arrangement of having the tents at a distance from the kitchen kept us clear of flies in the tents.

So we spent a pleasant summer, despite the drawbacks. Company K was in camp at Pompton and Joe Lawlor was with them.

Joe Van Vleck was in camp with us, and worked on the dam, turning his wages back into the camp fund.

It had been intended at first to build the dam with native help but that turned out unsatisfactory so we got "professionals". After the boys had gone we pitched a row of tents back of the kitchen and the men lived in them until December. The core wall was finished, but not the fill. Enough of the latter was put in so that the gate was closed and the water was allowed to collect. But the weather was cold and the new lake was soon frozen over. In the latter part of the winter Lewis built a log ice house. A little later he built a kitchen. He cleared off a portion of the ice and party filled the house, but he had not lined the house nor used any saw dust. The consequence was when he went to get some ice in the spring his hay pile collapsed. The ice had entirely melted.

Mr. Gray's reference to Chef Lewis's building operations in the winter of 1917-1918 does not include a feature that particularly interested the Camp Committee. The Chef was a West Indian mulatto and had no love for the wintry cold of the Ramapos. While working on the ice house and kitchen Lewis pitched a "double barrelled" canvas tent and installed a stove inside. He had plenty of wood. It was an exceptionally cold winter sometimes the temperature being from ten to twenty degrees below zero. There was a coal shortage. The camp committeemen anxiously asked Lewis how he was faring in the cold. His response of "All right, I'se knows how to keep warm" gave them considerable relief.

In continuing his story Mr. Gray reverted to the dam construction and to Mr. Vreeland's services.

Right here we might as well say a few things about the dam and finances. Mr. C. C. West made the first contribution to the camp. Mr. Joseph Van Vleck was a large contributor and an advisor. Mr. Walter Kidde carried on the work of the dam when the money ran out, and he let it lie there for some time. If he had not, it would have

been a long time before the dam was finished. But he was paid off finally, and additional money was raised so that Donald Dickson was given the job of finishing the dam in 1925. For several years the boys brought a stone for the fill as the price of a swim. (Thousands of small rocks were deposited by the Scouts.)

Mr. Arthur B. Miller was the active engineer of the dam and the ice house and worked fifteen years as a member of the camp committee, resigning in 1932. Mr. Miller had a smile which was contagious.

Frederick K. Vreeland did work on the dam and on the lake. In fact it would be hard to find a place where he has not left his mark. The lake was very appropriately named for him.

The dam was called the "Kidde-Miller dam". The lake was called Lake Vreeland.

The early Scouts could "take it". When the 1918 season came around they scampered gayfully on the muddy, rocky slopes of the hills, enjoyed the coolness of the woods, endured the rain soaking which their tents did not fully prevent and relished their simple but ample "eats." The mess platform, with a canvass roof at first, near the dam was a far humbler and less enduring structure than the splendidly built log Mess Hall of today,—the work of skilled Maine lumber jacks. The same is true of the old hospital as compared with the present well built and equipped buildings.

As for the kitchen which Chef Lewis built and cooked in for a large crowd of ravenous Scouts, there is also an odious comparison with the spacious, modern kitchen which the Scout Mothers provided and which now has electric lighting and refrigeration as well as other facilities. Yet in spite of all these conveniences, this compiler has heard old Scouts remark: "Give us the old camp."

It was the reaction of their early lesson. "Don't be a boy mannikin, be a boy man," Mr. Gray would say. In the parlance of today, it would probably be, "Don't be softies."

# CHAPTER XI

## Seasons of 1918-21

This is Mr. Gray's description of the season in 1918:

This year saw our first regular camping on the new site. The tents had no floors and were scattered about the present site wherever we could find enough room to pitch one. We were not all supplied with cots, and one little fellow was awakened in the night by a spring breaking out in the midst of his tent, under his bed which, like a good many others, was on the ground. We had no dining quarters, although we had some tables. One day when we had an extra good dinner a shower came up. Our tables were scattered along the road and the brook. We got through our dinner somehow.

At the sound of the bugle the boys formed a long line with its head at the cook's window and were served in turn. When the call "Seconds" was given by the cook everyone who wanted an extra helping appeared before the cook's window for an additional supply. Later on a committee was formed and served from the corner of the dining room, when we got one.

But of course this could not continue. And when Mr. Kingsley Martin told us of a camp that wanted to sell out its equipment, we jumped at the chance. We got a big tent that looked like a small circus tent, several tables, chairs, and kitchen lamps, for $125 which we raised by tacking a little onto the board bill of each boy. We also bought a horse to haul it from the railroad station at Oakland, out of the savings through buying our milk at Sussex instead of the Valley. The dining tent proved a boon in rainy weather. It was put on a platform which was a continution of the kitchen floor.

Mr. Miller in 1932 wrote an interesting article, which was published in The Montclair Times on June 10, reviewing the history of the construction work at Glen Gray. In this article Chef (Herbert Arthur) Lewis receives credit for his hardihood during the severe winter in building the mess shack, kitchen, ice house, and digging a well so that the camp could have a supply of good water. Lewis had one mountaneer helper. The mess shack later received a wooden roof.

Lewis distinguished himself also in constructing a hospital on plans made by Mr. Gray in 1918. The cook was somewhat puzzled by what he called the "Dorman" windows in the roof. Were they named for Scoutmaster Theodore T. Dorman or was he the designer of that window type? Mr. Gray kept his faithful carpenter-cook guessing. He made his home in the hospital so that he could keep watch on any ailing Scout.

Mr. Miller in his article also touched upon an official flare-up concerning the dam when it was virtually completed. "About this time" he wrote "the selectmen of the town (Oakland) descended upon us with the announcement that our dam obstructed the public road, that our lake was even flooding a portion of it, and that they proposed to dynamite the dam and restore the road so that the

people could get to their property and wood lots above. A compromise was promptly effected whereby we agreed to build a road around the lake. The workmen were once more called in and the road built as at present.

"Mr. Dorman made a 'swap' at this time that was nearest to using the proverbial 'wooden money' that I have ever seen. He offered the workmen a large round cheese left over from the summer camp if they would blast and remove a ledge of rock or big boulder that was in the spillway from the dam. This was accordingly done and all parties were satisfied."

It appears that the workmen became attached to Mr. Dorman. When the latter was ill subsequently they were concerned, inquired frequently how he was getting along and wished to be remembered to him. He certainly gave them a good "deal" in the cheese to produce such solicitude.

Mr. Gray's story continues for 1918:

The building of canoes had stopped owing to lack of facilities at Earle's and distance from the water of our first camp. There were no facilities at the new camp for work of this kind. But this year the two Kidde boys, Walter and John, built a canoe each, at home and brought them to camp. The boys called them the "Kidde canoes" after the builders. This was enough to start the canoe building again, and when Mother Croft was put up by the mothers the boys built their canoes right there. Afterward when the new mess hall was in use, the old kitchen was turned into a workshop.

In 1918 the hospital building was put up. Lewis did most of the work. The location was beautiful. It was the only place of assembly we had and many a story was told in there when the weather was bad. There is a fireplace in the main room built by Mr. George Sigler. He built it as a contribution and many an evening was spent beside it.

## 1919

In this year, which was very wet, there broke out an epidemic of impetigo. It spread to nearly everyone in camp. The Commissioner discovered a remedy which stopped it before the season was over.

Lewis put a second floor into the ice house. In the winter it was used as sleeping quarters for hikers and in the summer as an office building.

## 1920

The camp had saved a little money and a wood roof was put up over the dining pavilion platform, and a very much drier dining room was result. The second floor was taken out of the ice house and a lining put in the entire building and stuffed with saw dust, making a very good ice house of it. (This was the last season for Lewis, the autocrat of the kitchen.)

## 1921

Nothing striking occurred this year except the Commissioner's sickness. He was taken out of camp in the mid season and was unable to return that year. The assistant camp director was also taken sick and had to go away for two weeks, leaving the camp to the boys. They measured up to it in fine style. Haldane Huckel became leader and conducted things like a veteran. One doctor came up telling the boys that they had diphtheria up there, which was untrue. Hal managed to keep things going until the assistant got back and the camp closed with flying colors.

[Haldane Huckel and also Lodge Staubach who drove the camp truck, received the thanks of the Scout Council for their services in this emergency. The camp had further difficulty this season because a new colored cook and his assistant proved unsatisfactory after a brief trial. Another colored cook, David Simmons, was engaged through the efforts of a Scoutmother. He cooked excellently in southern style. Simmons was succeeded by W. Lee Barbour who continued in charge of the kitchen for three consecutive seasons and prepared satisfactory meals—sometimes with de luxe touches. John Bloomberg was Barbour's successor and made a decided hit with the campers throughout his tenure of service. The food was always of good quality and was purchased generally at wholesale prices.]

In the early twenties the Scout Council adopted a regulation that Scouts must wear at least running or swimming trunks at all times except when swimming or during physical inspection. Heretofore Mr. Gray had pursued a policy of allowing Scouts to be garbed merely in a state of nature as it enabled him to keep constant watch on the physical condition of his charges. The policy had aroused criticism in which some Scout Mothers participated, and the Council decided to modify the policy to meet the objections of the critics.

Mr. Gray accepted the modification most graciously as he was always a strong supporter of the Scout Mother movement even in the face of high official disapproval elsewhere in the early period of Scouting. The development of the Scout Mother movement in this area was largely due to his foresight.

After the founding of permanent camp Mr. Gray intensified his work of bringing out qualities of leadership in the Scouts. A wider opportunity was offered to display their abilities in camp technique and to contribute to the camp literature. This feature will be treated next.

# CHAPTER XII

## Gazette Pictures of Camp Life

## Season of 1918

As a supplement to Mr. Gray's own narrative of the camps in this period the Gazette furnishes a running picture from the boys' standpoint. While Uncle supervised the camp paper its complexion assumed more and more the campers' own story of their life at Glen Gray. To conserve space salient features of the Gazette are only presented. There are, of course, many humorous comments in this portrayal.

Mr. Gray prepared the Camp Gazettes in 1918 with William Alexander Gardner as the principal assistant. The camp government consisted of Mayor Ralph Bowles, Commissioner Ben Rozoff, civic duties; entertainment, Charles Pattison, sanitation, Wentworth Huckel; police, Donald McCoy; pound master, Cecil Richardson; dog catcher, Edward Cone; admiral, Fred Foth; store keeper, Richard Heyt; postmaster, William Gardner; assistant, Alexander Gardner.

This was an imposing list of officials. In general the succeeding camps had virtually the same line up but the officials were not completely listed or their duties were shifted around under different titles.

As the World War was raging news from the theatres of action excited the camp. Letters came from E. W. Malcolmson, Alexander Ropes, Joe and Scott Trapnell, Lieutenant (later Captain) Joe Lawlor, Murray Kitchen and Robert Cameron, "all full of interesting matter concerning army and navy life and all opened by the censor. The letters were read at campfire".

"Robert Reid enlisted in the marines, which if rumor is correct, puts the 46th star in our service flag".

The Mogwoglums and Gunnysunks had terrific battles in their mountain fortresses over night and the former won. It was a twenty-four hour affair and the "dead" slept soundly the following night. Pattison led the Mogwoglums soundly and Mayor Bowles the Gunnysunks. It was a war game strategically planned with elements of suprise testing vigilance and resourcefulness.

There was a fleet of canoes; also several rafts, a converted "stone boat", Bill Gardner's battleship "Camouflage" and Kidde submarines.

Parker Mills was Chief Camp Librarian and Mark Andrews, Jr., his assistant. The camp had a branch of the Montclair Library.

Joe Burton's camp garden produced choice vegetables. The Huckel brothers, Mark Andrews, Jr., and Fred Foth comprised the church quartette. Their singing was admired.

Another ward was added to the camp municipality. Whitman Reynolds became leader.

Notice to parents: The camp is no picnic ground.

The Gunnysunks won the flag raiding game. Edward Vitalius of National Headquarters passed part of his vacation in camp and helped in Mr. Gray's office.

"There were 162 in the bread line last Sunday", not counting more than fifty visitors.

Put (MacDonald) of League Island and "the great and only Corporal Jack Piquet" dropped into the camp on furlough. All of the Big Four were with the colors. [They were the Big Four of the Baden-Powell Troop of which Mr. Gray was the Scoutmaster.]

There is one point to be emphasized here. Mr. Gray showed his strong psychic bent in talks with the Scouts in this and succeeding years. He dwelt on the necessity of the campers to train themselves so that they could meet the stress of an oncoming period when there would be a supreme test of their citizenship. He pictured a world revolution in the making, a radical change in the social and political conditions. These talks

left a lasting impression on the older Scouts who realize that world conditions at the present time confirm the predictions that their old leader made. Mr. Gray was convinced that the Boy Scout movement would undergo evolutionary changes but that its fundamentals must not be sacrificed.

The historic Cannon Ball Trail "is proving a popular hiking route".

Messages are being exchanged with Montclair by heliograph. The apparatus was made by Mr. Dorman. The camp operating station was called "Dorman Lookout" and "Dorman Rock". It was on the Alliger tract which furnished a magnificient view.

Lorne Barclay, Educational director in the Scout Movement, visited the camp. He send a telegram which arrived late.

"At last we have a **camp emblem, a real camp emblem".**

Canes for wounded soldiers are being made by some of the boys. "The wood here is handsome."

The season closed with the tenth issue of the Gazette in ten weeks, "the best camping season we ever had".

Mr. Gray closes with: "The furnace in which the new world is being shaped is working at fearful speed. . . . The true Scout is armed to meet it."

The camp bristled with war stories and war games.

## Season of 1919

The Camp Gazette at the close of the 1919 season issued a paper bound copy of all its issues that year and sent them to campers, subscribers and supporters of the camp. The first issue listed the "authorities and celebrities" as follows:

Imperial Despot, Frank F. Gray, Scout Commissioner
Assistant to same despot, Malcolm Graham, Scoutmaster
Second assistant, Ralph H. Bowles, Jr.
Mayor of Camp, Oliver Wentworth Huckel
Chancellor of Exchequer, Henry H. Wheaton
Commissioner of Public Works, Albert Weissenborn
Commissioner of Conservation, Walter L. Kidde
Tyrant of Ward 1, John Phillips
Ruler of Ward 2, Albert Monks
Czar of Ward 3, Donald Bowles
Emperor of Ward 4, James Wheaton
Grand Admiral, Alex Gardner
Pound Keeper, Edward Cone
Postmaster General, Bill Gardner
Chef and Mess King, Herbert A. Lewis
Transportation expert, Joe Burton

The above titles were not officially given but were meant to indicate the character of authority each person had. The staff of the Gazette was listed thus: William Alexander Gardner, editor-in-chief; Oliver Wentworth Huckel, assistant editor; the Rev. T. J. Van Duyn and Ed Cone, reporters. Mr. Van Duyn left a week later for his pastoral duties in New York.

For the Fourth of July celebration C. C. West and Walter Kidde of the Scout Council presented a set of fireworks to the camp. There were water sports followed by a stunt campfire at which Captain Joseph Lawlor was induced to relate his war experiences in Europe. A noteworthy feature of the camp was the formation of a Vigilance Committee to watch for any infringement of the camp regulations. This was a tieup with the Old Guard.

The issue of July 16 has a paragraph on the beauty of the camp at night. The paragraph runs: "Camp is a Fairy Land these moonlight nights. The (night) watch finds itself well rewarded by the glamorous beauty of midnight. 'In the green and silent valley' full of opalescent, ever changing glory. Every day and every night brings out some new beauty."

The camp had a bugle corps and orchestra. The whole body of campers took to singing. "Our Glen is made for music. There are some wonderful echoes".

Chef Lewis was producing superb raisin bread, buns and (who'd thunk it in the old days?) cream puffs. (A camp tradition is that Lewis cooked some worm-laden raisin pies which were relished nevertheless.)

Two soldiers of the American Expeditionary Forces arrived in camp to remain a week and to be succeeded by others. The camp had the war fever. Two Indian tribes, the Gunnysunks and the Mogwoglums, were engaged in a great war. Mayor Huckel was the chief of one tribe and Albert Weissenborn of the other. They started fighing on land and then they resorted to naval action. They yearned for airplanes.

Mr. Gray took the campers to the center of the earth with the aid of a Jules Verne story. "Some yarn that, and gives a fellow some idea of a little of what he may see if he is not good." A version of hell fire in Puritannical style.

Long hikes took place, to the Delaware Water Gap, West Point and other points of interest. Movies were being shown in camp by H. V. Shieren of the council.

"The water in the lake is as clear as crystal."

John B. Pratt of the Scout Fathers gave the camp a fine slide—"Just what we wanted".

"The display of lightning and the peals of thunder kept the night watch amused."

There was a big war game in the week of July 30. The Mogwoglums broke loose and attacked the camp in the middle of the night.

Mr. Gray issued a warning that parents should not ask for exceptions in the case of their sons. "The camp wanted no boys 'who could stay if they liked it'. This camp is run on a schedule and for a definite purpose," he added, in a hint to those who expected something of a nursery.

Needless spending and self indulgence are two crimes, the commissioner announced later, that he would not tolerate. He had been looking over the private canteen accounts. A check on spoiled boys.

"Oh for a big roof with a floor under it! The hospital will no longer hold the crowd on a rainy evening." (The campers had to wait a long time for such a building and endure being drenched in the meantime.)

"Everyone in camp had a dream and it was alike with us all. That was of a council hall big enough to hold the crowd at meal time and to provide a shelter when it rains". (An appeal for a mess hall. Again a long wait.)

A bell was rung whenever a visitor arrived or departed. It was a sign of hospitality. (The bell was formerly used at the Montclair High School and was donated to the camp.)

A complete bath in soap and water must be taken by each camper every day—entirely apart from swimming. All injuries must be reported at once.

**"Now we have a camp flag.** It is a deep green, with camp monogram, orange, in the center. Mrs. Edna Williams of Verona, made it especially for the camp."

"Family camping in the autumn is a new feature. Mr. Dorman tried it last year."

"When that new council hall arrives we will have another big celebration. Oh! How we need it!"

At the close of camp the boys were warned to prepare for the change in climate conditions when they returned home. They were advised to continue morning exercises and to take sponge baths in salt water. "Get all the light and air you can and avoid close rooms". Then followed more advice on the treatment of possible skin ailments. Mr. Gray always tried to deliver the boys back home in the pink of condition. Carelessness after camping produced surprises which are blamed on others not responsible. Physical examination at the beginning of camp was followed by close inspection until goodbyes were said.

## Season of 1920

In 1920 the first issue of the Camp Gazette appeared on June 30 and announced that the Erie Railroad had provided a new stop beyond Midvale which was called "Glen Gray Trail" and enabled hikers to reach camp more quickly. It was also announced that 38 campers had been posted on the "blacklist" for excessive expenditures at the camp store. Mr. Gray requested parents to set a margin of expenditure and emphasized economy. "A Scout is thrifty."

This was the list of camp officials in addition to Mr. Gray: Assistant leaders, Fred Thomas, Malcolm Graham, Joseph Van Vleck; Camp Clerk and Banker, William Price; Mayor, Albert Weissenborn; Ward leaders, Frank Lopez, R. Briner, Lawrence Sanders, J. Weir and Admiral, Lyman Hurlbut.

Thanks were given to C. H. Briner for providing the camp with the New York **Sun** which was selected as the favorite paper. "Now we will not be behind the **TIMES**" added the Gazette which had Nathan C. Price as its editor-in-chief for the season. His name was at the masthead after the first issue which was probably done partly by Mr. Gray. The Gazette was typed weekly with regularity and comprised eleven issues.

On the Fourth of July Chef Lewis started the celebration by setting off the reveille firecracker. Three Montclair Scouts, who were in the World War, and Theodore T. Dorman acted as officials of the day. "Skipper" Armstrong had charge of the night fireworks. Edward Valleau presented the camp with a new flag.

The Mogwoglums and the Gunnysunks had an exciting kidnaping game which ended in a tie.

Mountain Lake Scouts captured several rattlesnakes and gave them to Glen Gray for a snake feast under the supervision of the Senior Division. "This food when properly cooked is more delicious than squab or chicken" was the Gazette's comment after the feast. (Did the editor have his tongue in his cheek when he typed that comment?)

The Life Saving Corps was making a specialty of throwing life buoys. Howard Van Vleck won the prize for being the most expert. The corps was on watch at swims. (Howard Van Vleck is now Scoutmaster of the Baden-Powell Troop.) In the second half of the season Nathan Price was appointed Mayor.

The games of the season included fox and hunter, hare and hound, short hunts, kidnaping, flag raiding in three forms, treasure hunts, baseball, overnight games (war), shooting matches, tent raids, field meets and water sports.

"Campfires are rendered very beautiful lately due to the new moon which makes a silver path on the lake. There is a ceremony for throwing a stone at the golden setting sun to make golden ripples in the lake but why not have one for the moon?"

The camp had a tonsorial parlor, shaves ten cents, haircuts twenty-five cents. Visitors were invited also to look into the sanitary conditions of the camp.

Mr. Gray gave a talk on music at the Sunday night campfire. The finer grades of music were the most popular in camp. Mr. Gray played his flute at campfire as usual. The boys got keen enjoyment out of his playing and were inspired musically.

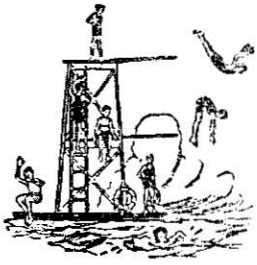
A Scoutmasters' course was being conducted. This training was intensive and was accompanied by nature study.

A bathtub presented to the camp by Mr. (William) Staab was placed in a fireplace made by the Scoutmasters. "Whenever one wishes a hot bath, otherwise than from a shower, all he has to do is to light a fire under the tub and fill it with water". (That tub became a humorous tradition of Glen Gray).

Joe Burton ran the camp vegetable garden which was very successful. Vegetables (sixteen varieties) were on sale to visitors. (Joe was a Canuck hill billy.)

"Health conditions of the camp are fine. 'Uncle' and the hospital squad have been diligent. Notwithstanding scandal mongers the camp is in perfect condition. The physical inspection that is part of the daily program shows many brown hides and healthy boys."

Captain Scully of the American Red Cross conducted a life saving course throughout the season.



Clan Cameron bagpipers visited the camp after getting lost in the hills. The kilties arrived as a surprise. (Perhaps not to Mr. Gray.)

"The camp never ends. It continues from one season to another."

Camp fire sings were held. Mr. Gray demonstrated the fact that human voices in unison sounded like an organ. The campers were put to the test as a proof.

Mr. Dorman conducted a clambake and Mr. Holland a corn roast.

The Camp Clerk enforced the "Blacklist" to the very end and gave notice that debtors must see the banker before they leave to make arrangements for baggage and transportation. Pressure was put on all who were lacking in thrift. The Gazette raved over the banquet at the end of the season. Only two campers reported a stomach ache the following day. Calling of the Old Guard took place at the "commendation fire". The camp paid honor to soldiers killed in the World War. The commendation camp fire was also called the friendship camp fire. It furnished the campers an opportunity to express their gratitude and to cement friendships.

## Season of 1921

The Camp Gazette appeared in the season of 1921 with Nathan C. Price again as the editor. It was announced in the issue of June 29 that the new shelter hall (Mothercroft) was used for morning assembly—the first time though the structure was not entirely completed. One end of the attic was being used as a hospital clinic. There Mr. Gray was temporarily quartered as he had had a serious attack of illness, the forerunner of his gradual decline later. For a time no Scouts were permitted to see him unless special access was granted in emergencies. Mr. Gray continued, however, in general charge of the camp and issued his instructions. Later he went several miles away to obtain complete quiet in a country home.

It was a trying season as Fred Anderson, the assistant executive, also became ill. Assistant Scoutmaster William E. Price was engaged as the Camp Clerk; Lyman Hurlbut was appointed Mayor; Edward Valleau was the Admiral of the lake; Lowell Pratt, the fire commissioner; and Richard

Briner, the conservation commissioner, the last two offices being added to the town system of government for the camp. The Gazette emphasized again that the Scout Oath and Law govern the camp.

The Mess Hall had been renovated and at last had a wooden roof in place of canvas. The Glen Gray Tonsorial Parlor was once more in operation. The blacklist system was also in force. Some new campers were puzzled. It was explained that if they overdrew their allowance in the canteen they would be blacklisted. Necessities were not counted. Thrift was emphasized.

The famous "Hornet", a small Ford truck formerly used by the Montclair Battalion in World War days, came into the camp's possession. It was so named by Nelson Pearce "because you never know where it is going to land and it has a sting in its tail".

(The Hornet lasted several years at camp and became almost junk when an old Scout acquired it, brought it back to life, took a summer's trip to Michigan in it with two other old Scouts and sold it at a profit. The visit in Michigan included a call on the "Hornet's mother" in Detroit.)

The games at camp remained much the same as in the previous year. On the Fourth of July Lyman Hurlbut's appointment as Mayor expired and Haldane Huckel assumed the office. Then the campers began setting off fire crackers. In the afternoon was a grand aquatic meet and in the evening there was a display of fireworks. A new camp custom of pouring the remains of the fireworks on the campfire was introduced.

An item in the issue of July 5 indicates that an "economy" wave had hit the camp with full force for the Gazette "notes that seventy-two applicants have asked for free board here" and then administers a shorp rebuke to all who seek to profit at the expense of others. This incident aroused the suspicion that some campers gave a humorous twist to the thrift point in the Scout law.

Early in July the camp was divided into two armies for an "alarm game" which was a modification of the overnight war game. The alarm was sounded at 4:45 a. m. Assembly was then played and the rules read to the armies. One army camped on the "Dorman Lookout" while the other was stationed on the right of the Midvale Trail. Several engagements took place and the "Dorman Lookout" army captured the most prisoners. The Gazette does not indicate that there was anybody killed.

Captain Kieb of the American Red Cross Life Saving Corps conducted a course. The camp had a senior and junior life saving corps.

Captain Joseph Lawlor, the World War veteran, arrived in camp to help run the camp for a brief period. Mr. Gray was recuperating rapidly. C. R. Jacobus of the camp committee also visited Glen Gray and rendered aid.

"False and slanderous reports have been made by some unknown people in Montclair concerning the health of the camp. It has been claimed that diphtheria was among the campers. This is absolutely untrue and the camp is in perfect condition." Dr. Fowler of Montclair was acting as camp physician and silenced false alarms.

Lyman Hurlbut's army won the second war game over Lowell Pratt's forces.

The camp had a vocal sextet and two orchestras.

Dr. Wirt W. Barnitz, a world traveller ,visited the camp several days and told of his experiences in globe trotting, particularly in Scandanavia and Lapland.

The last two weeks of camp gave "Old Boy Gloom" the complete knockout blow, according to the Gazette which also announced that new members of the Old Guard will be elected by the campers because of the illness of Uncle.

"Ornithology is one of the most popular 'ologies' in camp. We have every bird from a humming bird to an eagle in this valley."

Albert Weissenborn established wireless communication with the "outside world". Two minstrel shows were staged. Larry Sanders has returned from the moonlit beaches of Nantucket with his "heart trouble" worse than ever. This love note caused much merriment in camp.

Lowell Pratt was appointed Mayor the latter part of the season.

John Bowles opened a fortune telling business. Horoscopes are cast at a nickel each for the benefit of the Brendon tract fund. (The Senior Division was buying the tract to protect the watershed.)

The annual camp banquet was arranged in the usual festive style. Arrangements were made for the first Mothers' Camp—a big feature.

Nine issues of the Gazette covered the camp season which was successful in spite of handicaps.

Mr. Gray always had religious services in camp on Sundays. He also favored Scouts attending services in their own denominations. Among the boys in camp in the early twenties was a devout Episcopal Church boy from Essex Fells. A fellow Scout of Roman Catholic faith was there at the time. He wished to attend Mass but the nearest Catholic Church was in Midvale four miles away. He spoke of his desire to the Essex Fells boy friend who promptly agree dto accompany him over the Midvale Trail.

It was customary for a Scout of limited experience to have a companion on the trail journey as there was danger of getting lost in the dense woods or of meeting rattlesnakes. The two boys attended Mass in Midvale and returned to camp without a mishap. The Essex Fells lad was the Rev. John James Kirkpatrick, now rector of Christ Episcopal Church with the double parish of Bloomfield and Glen Ridge. Mr. Kirkpatrick does not know whether or not his companion entered the priesthood.

## Jack's Diary

From 1922 to 1926 the Gazette was largely prepared by the assistant Scout executives who recorded incidents in a Scout diary form such as "Jack's Diary". Jack was represented as a tenderfoot starting his camping career. He traced his experiences and the camp life in general for four seasons.

In 1927 Robert J. Shillinglaw became editor of the Gazette. The remainder of the staff consisted of Stuart Richardson, associate editor; Marcus Hatfield humor editor; Russell Barnum, business manager; Ronald Ives, Arthur Grimes, Donald Macnutt and Charles Richardson, Jr., reporters. A journalism class had been formed. Arthur Hart was added to the staff as a reporter.

At the annual camp banquet Mr. Gray was among those who made addresses. The Gazette had a banquet issue with contributions from Scout leaders with mimeographed copies of their autograph signatures. Nelson Pearce offered a silver cup for the best Scout advancement during the camp.

When the camp opened in the season of 1928 the Gazette announced that the Scout Mothers had given three canoes which were named by Mrs. Charles Hobein, president of the Scout Mothers. Water taken from the spring near Mothercroft was used at the christening.

The staff of the Gazette consisted of R. Sturdevant, editor; C. DuBuisson, C. Ogden, M. Arny, R. Carlee, G. Lewis and W. Sturdevant, reporters.

Camp was divided into two tribes, Pioneers and Buccaneers. Several games were played with the Buccaneers having the advantage. In addition to lake sports there were baseball, quoits, volley ball, rifle matches and flag raids as well as war and kidnaping games.

Ward leaders were announced as Robert Barr, Lester Reeves, Cameron Ogden and Robert Carlee.

The season was remarkable for the large number of brothers camping. There were five Carlees, two Griffiths, two Wings, two Sturdevants, two Sanderses, two Arnys, two Lawsons, two Davidsons, two Grimeses and two Barnums. Russell Barnum was the Mayor. His brother, Bob, was addressed as "Alias Mayor". He retaliated by becoming an Eagle Scout.

From 1929 to 1931 the camp publicity was confined mostly to occasional bulletins and newspaper articles. The life of the camp continued virtually in the same pattern. Throughout the Twenties there were war games but toward the end of the period they were virtually discarded

as having become too rough. Other activities took their place as the camp was gradually extended in a village system. New competitive systems were developing.

The war games varied in type during the Twenties. As a rule they were held at night and were interspersed with kidnaping adventures. Some of the war games lasted many hours with a minimum supply of rations.

A description of the type of war games played under Mr. Gray's supervision follows. It was written by an old Scout of the period.

## CAMP WAR GAMES

One of the most ingenious and thrilling contests developed by Uncle was the camp war game. During the earliest seasons at Glen Gray these games took first place among the activities enjoyed. They embodied so much courage, initiative, resourcefulness and military cunning that Mr. Gray felt that they were an important part of the training of a Scout at camp. After several years, the war games were discontinued, due to the objections of parents who felt that unnecessary risks were involved and to Uncle's illness. His supervision was deemed necessary.

Whenever Uncle acceded to the campers' demands for a war game, Glen Gray became imbued immediately with an air of tension and excitement. The game might last one or two days. The camp was divided into two opposite sides, and unfortunate was the sad camper who had a sore foot or for some other reason could not take part. Each of the armies was provided with food enough for the duration of the war and leaders were chosen.

To make the game more interesting, Uncle secretly appointed a traitor on each side so as to provide a fifth column aspect. When each side was ready, the armies sneaked out of camp and went to a secret site which had previously been selected by the general staff of each opposing force. Several hours later, actual hostilities commenced; the aim of each side was to locate the enemy camp and to capture men by various strategems.

Each camp was continually on the qui vive, day and night; raiding parties were sent out, and supplies and men were captured. Prisoners were taken to the home base and were tied hand and foot, unless they gave their word not to attempt escape. Most prisoners, thoroughly filled with the spirit of the game, refused such parole and resorted to various schemes to outwit their guards and to escape.

An escaped prisoner was a serious menace to the camp from which he escaped, for he would immediately return to his own camp, and possessing valuable information regarding the location and strength of the enemy camp, would very likely soon return with a raiding party to wreak vengeance on his former captors. At some time during the game, each of the traitors that Uncle had appointed did his best to lead the army of which he was a member into some prearranged trap.

Captures were effected by a scheme which had been agreed upon by the rival generals before the game started. One favorite method was to have each scout wear a knotted kerchief in his belt, and a man became captured when some member of the opposing army succeeded in grabbing and removing the kerchief. Practices such as tying extra knots in a kerchief were condemned as slick, and general contempt was expressed for any Scout who did not abide by the spirit of the rules.

Though rival Scouts were sometimes stung by yellow jackets, or suffered scratches and bruises, there was no case in which a Scout was bitten by a snake or suffered any serious injury. However, certain parents continued to object to the games on the basis of possibilities, much to the regret of many campers who considered them a valuable camp experience. Later a modified war game was introduced and was abandoned when the camp officials decided that the activity was getting too rough and requiring too much supervision.

Here is a description of the later war games in the reminiscences of Harold T. Cruikshank, Jr., who was a camper from 1927 to 1931:

My most vivid recollections relate to the war games and the night watch. I was on the eve of becoming a Tenderfoot when I went to camp. It was natural that the war games should have made such an impression on me. We kids, that is the youngest campers, were turned out of our cots at 2 a. m., given a pear, a sandwich and a "tail" and told to hike off in the surrounding hills. There we were to hide. The older Scouts then organized the war maneuvers.

They were to capture or rescue us and to take our "tails" which were bits of cotton attached to our clothes. It was great fun but it was rough. The games lasted many hours and we generally did not get back into camp until dinner time. We would generally provide ourselves with baked beans or other food to cook if we got hungry. I remember that the younger Scouts were told some tall tales about the Jackson Whites of the hill country and we were warned to be alert. The war games came twice a month. They certainly taught us to be vigilant, observant and self-reliant.

The night watch was a fine tradition and was valuable in several ways. It placed responsibility on the Scouts and made them the protectors of the camp for the time being. I remember one night when Dick Lydecker was on watch with me. We saw a light on the other side of the lake where no light was to be expected. There was some commotion. We summoned the assistant camp director and junior officials, including Norman Potter, I think. An exploration followed. The interloper was some hillbilly with a dog. He had peered into tents and disturbed the sleepers. The prowler was never caught. A squad of Rangers scoured the woods later to capture the man but to no avail.

Another fine tradition was keeping the campfire going all through the season and then at the end saving some of the charcoal to start the fire the next season. This and other traditions had a wholesome effect on the Scouts.

The camp had an esthetic side to broaden the cultural training. As has been previously indicated in the Gazettes, music had an important part in the spirit of the camp. This feature will be described next.

## CHAPTER XIII

### Song and Flute

Among the facets of Mr. Gray's mental equipment was a poetic flair which combined with his bent toward music resulted in his composition of a large number of camp songs. For some of them he composed the score of tunes which were suggested by Scottish airs and folk songs. He was meticulous in composition and knew the rules of versification. With a piccolo or another kind of flute he tested his compositions which were a feature at campfire gatherings.

During his school teaching years in New York state before taking up Scout work he entertained and instructed his students in the rudiments of music. The gift of a piccolo he had received from boys in a military school indicated the musical phase of his school work. This piccolo he prized as one of his best loved possessions. Mr. Gray was a member of the governing committee of the Jersey Boys Camp at Lake Wawayanda for several years and composed songs for it from 1908 to 1910. These songs were used for many years at that camp which was conducted under Y. M. C. A. auspices.

When Mr. Gray started his Scout camping along the Wanaque River he made a few changes in some of the Lake Wawayanda songs he had composed and phrased the wording to fit the Wanaque River region. Some of the Scouts caught a poetic fever from their leader and drafted songs which did not bear the marks of genius but were sung just the same. In the Scout records are evidences in Mr. Gray's handwriting that the youthful songwriters were getting lessons from their camp leader.

The song composition fever seems to have reached an acute stage on the Wanaque. George Sigler and others developed a "Tipperary" version of 1914, followed by "The Midvale Trail" adopted from "The Long, Long Trail". Then there was the "Old Camp Song" with Mr. Gray's initials attached. It began:

> We're off to Wanaque
> With boat and with tent,
> For the camp by the cool river side;
> The woods and summer
> For camping were meant
> And Wanaque's our joy and pride.

This song was changed to fit Glen Gray under the title, "We're Off to the Mountains".

Nelson Pearce had a touch of the song fever in 1921 when he changed George Sigler's song "It's a Long, Long Way to Camp Wanaque" to " 'Tis a Long, Long Way From Here to Glen Gray".

Lake Vreeland inspired Wentworth Huckel and others to write a song in its praise to the tune of "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny" which follows in part:

> Carry me back to Loch Vreeland,
> There on its banks we have camp fires that will live,
> There's where our thoughts oft return in the winter
> To the good talks our dear Uncle used to give.

There was also another song by Wentworth Huckel and others, sung to the tune of "Moonlight Bay". This was decidedly humorous and runs:

"We were hiking along
To Camp Glen Gray
When we met an old farmer
And heard him say

'Whar ye goin' thar boys
With all them packs
Don't ye know them heavy weights
Will break your backs?'

'Can't be bod'rin' wit' you
We're on our way
To Montclair Scout Camp
They call Glen Gray.
Believe us, Pop, it is **some** camp,
But once last year it was a little damp?"

Still another song from Wentworth Huckel "and others" was one sung to the tune of "Till We Meet Again".

When we come to Camp Glen Gray
How we hate to go away
As the summer days go by
All too swiftly do they fly;
Then we have to part with friends
As the camping season ends
Camp Glen Gray, we'll think of you
Till we meet again.

Wentworth Huckel's song fever must have come to him at least partly by inheritance as his father, the late Rev. Dr. Oliver Huckel, was a hymn writer of national reputation and was at one time president of the "Hymn Society of America". He translated Wagner's music dramas into English and also wrote a life of Wagner. It is also interesting to note that Dr. Huckel visited Glen Gray when Wentworth and the latter's brother, Haldane, were in camp. Their father wrote an article highly praising Mr. Gray and the spirit of the camp. He regarded the scenery of Glen Gray as resembling the natural beauty of a highland scene in Scotland.

Ted Eberhardt wrote a song in 1926 to the tune of "Smile Awhile". It runs:

Camp Glen Gray, your praise we love to sing;
Camp Glen Gray, what memories you bring.
'Neath the light of gold and green
Oh! what hours of joy serene!
Camp Glen Gray, your praise we love to sing;
Glad our hearts while joyous voices ring.
E'er our happy refuge be
Dear old Camp Glen Gray.

Mr. Gray composed many verses for "grace" before meals, and a camp memorial for "Taps". In a light vein he wrote songs for camp "celebrities". These included Theodore T. Dorman, Frederick K. Vreeland, Arthur P. Heyer and Captain Joseph Lawlor who won distinction in the World War. The brave soldier had assisted him in Scout work before the war.

## CHAPTER XIV

### Aides of Mr. Gray

During the first half of the Twenties the Old Guard and the Senior Division had been developed considerably. From their ranks Mr. Gray had been aided considerably in the conduct of the camp. There was steady volunteer help which supplemented the duties of the salary or paid assistant executives. Among the leading volunteers were Joseph VanVleck and Nelson Pearce, both of whom were Eagle Scouts and were active in the old guard and Senior Division. This is shown in the Gazette records.

Lieutenant Fred Thomas, a well trained assistant executive, succeeded in 1920 an energetic young Scout official, Tilghman H. Keiper, who served in 1919. Lieut. Thomas was called to an important executive position in the Rocky Mountain region and then Fred G. Anderson assisted Mr. Gray in 1921. J. E. Sellick became the assistant in 1922-23 and Theodore T. Schomeyer in 1924.

While Mr. Sellick was at Glen Gray he went on hikes in the surrounding regions and was impressed with the site of what is now Camp Tamarack about a mile away by trail from Glen Gray. Later Mr. Sellick went to the South Bergen Council and started a camp on the site that had attracted him. The South Bergen Council continued to use the site for several years. After the Tamarack Council was formed, taking over the South Bergen, the site was developed until now it takes a high rank as a camp and furnishes Glen Gray with competition. Tamarack has quite a large lake and water sports are a feature.

Dean Swift assumed the role of assistant camp director of Glen Gray in 1925 with Nelson Pearce to guide him in view of his inexperience with the camp needs.

Throughout the tenure of all these assistants G. Malcolm ("Pop") Graham had special duties as an assistant. "Pop" was a middle-aged bachelor with no prospect of becoming or desiring to become a benedict. He was sot in his ways, very neat and orderly in habits but was somewhat mystified by the angles of camp life. All of the campers called him "Pop". He was good humored but was inclined to be upset if matters ran contrary to his schedule or if some Paul Pry tampered with articles in his tent. As a result

"Pop" very naturally became a special target. If he had a can, for instance, to receive water, he would find that some miscreant had perforated the bottom and the water would be sprayed about. A grand climax, eclipsing all other episodes, happened near the close of his camping experiences.

"Pop" took his customary dip in the lake one day and then lay on his back and floated. He was particularly fond of floating because he was plump and rode the water well. Some of the campers pitched themselves into the lake with resounding splashes which so disturbed "Pop" that he turned over and lost his false teeth. He shouted in dismay, "I've lost my teeth" and beseeched the swimmers to dive for the dental equipment. It was hard luck for "Pop" but provided mirth and also an opportunity for the Scouts to show their skill in diving to recover articles. The search was difficult but it ended in success after a long hunt.

Then came the sequel. The campers arranged an elaborate mock trial. "Pop" was accused of polluting the lake by reason of losing his false teeth in it. It was a jury trial and the samp made an extraordinary stunt out of it. "Pop" was game throughout. He was convicted. The sentence was that he must always remove his artificial teeth before taking his dip or suffer the penalty of making speeches, singing or eating without the dental equipment.

Another incident showed "Pop" Graham in a different role. He was standing on the shore of the lake in his camp uniform watching the diving and swimming while two lifeboats hovered around with life-saving Scouts when a Scout made a deep dive. He came up with a bleeding head and shrieked. Without hesitation "Pop" leaped into the lake and went to the rescue. The lifeboat came up quickly and the injured youth was taken ashore. "Pop" was a good swimmer and proved it on that occasion with a heroic touch. The dangerous spot in the lake was remedied at once.

This was approximately the period in which the "buddy" system came into vogue. It required Scouts to dive in pairs and then look after each other's safety.

## CHAPTER XV

### Building of Mothercroft

During 1920 the Scout Mothers began preparations to provide a recreation hut which ultimately developed into what is now called Mothercroft. There is quite a story in connection with the enterprise. Mothercroft was not built for the Scout Mothers but for the boys.

As far back as 1917 Mr. Gray had yearned for a recreation building for the boys so that in case of rainy weather or for any other good reason they would have a comfortable retreat. When the old hospital was built it was frequently the place where the boys would congregate during inclement weather or for conferences. The hospital was not suitable for such purposes which again led Mr. Gray to express the hope that the situation would be remedied.

The Scout Mothers began to raise money to help him carry out the project. They gave various kinds of entertainment for their groups in Montclair and Glen Ridge. Among them were rummage sales which led the new Community Chest of Montclair to investigate the movement to see that the rules of the Chest were not violated. A considerable amount of money had been raised. It was a general fund from which contributions could be made. Glen Ridge had no community chest at that time.

There was a temporary hold up of the canvass but after investigation the Montclair Community Chest permitted the raising of funds to continue on condition that there should be no general solicitation outside of the Scout Mothers' groups. Meantime, construction had started. The concrete foundation had been laid and some of the woodwork done, particularly the flooring. Further construction was held up pending the investigation by the Chest.

When it was found that the concrete was being affected by the suspension and the building was really needed the ban was removed. The dedication took place in June 1921 but the building was not completed until 1922.

Frank H. Vreeland, who has designed the principal buildings of the camp, drew the architectural plans. The log cutting was done by professional woodsmen. White skilled workers did most of the construction. Scout Fathers helped as far as they were able. Some of the older Scouts also lent a hand. At last there was a recreation building which was first projected as a hut.

The name Mothercroft was suggested by one of the leading Mothers. The building has been so called since. The name signifies an enclosure such as a garden or pasture for tillage. There is no garden attached, but as the christening Mother remarked: "We have here planted the seed of happy boyhood for development into strong manhood." That was enough.

Coincident with the building of Mothercroft was the first of the Scout Mothers camps.

## Scout Mothers' Camps

The Scout Mothers have been an important factor in the development of Camp Glen Gray. It was fitting that full recognition not only should be given to their services but that they should share, in a proper way, in personally enjoying the camp. In the early autumn of 1921 the Mothers arranged with Mr. Gray to have a week of camping at the Glen. The schedule was based on what the boys' camp life was from day to day. There were differences, of course, but the Mothers raised the flag in the morning and lowered it in the evening. They didn't have a bugler but they could use a whistle. They had their swim, their songs, their story telling, their hiking and nature study, their camp duties and all the rest. It was an interesting experience to do what their own boys did. They also had a special camp emblem which Mr. Gray designed.

David Simmons, the camp cook, prepared the meals for the mothers. Mr. Gray was ill at the time but he outlined the program for the Mothers with Field Executive Fred Anderson to assist in carrying it out. Mrs. Jessie Ropes was Mayor of the first camp. She was one of the most energetic leaders of the Scout Mothers group.

On the one Sunday of the camp week, the concluding day, the program provided the chief interest. Many of the Scout sons had gone to camp to join their Mothers. In the evening all gathered on the Rock for the campfire service. Mr. Gray had prepared a special ritual which was read by Mr. Anderson. What he wrote follows:

## For Church

To the Worshippers on the Rock:

This circle is sacred ground. From it has gleamed not only the campfire but the faces of **your** boys, at worship after play which may be worship also). Not only has the flame risen here but also their voices; not only the blue incense but the incense of their own thoughts and their own prayers, often and often for their people at home. For every glowing coal there has been an equally gleaming spiritual gem.

This has been a centering place for all activities and all have finished with worship. Our boys could bring their sports and business and worship to the same place with no thought of profanation. And this is as it should be. It makes all of life a worship. Perhaps, they did not consciously realize all this, but they did realize it subconsciously, which is deeply.

We can realize it consciously and can live **with** them such a life of sibple, natural happy worship throughout the year as will take them safely through the mine-set field of experience and bring them back as pure and sweet and true as they were here. And I earnestly hope and pray that every one of them may so come back, a blossom without a blight, to expand in these woods and reflect the flow from this altar, till manhood receives in them its strongest "replacements" for the great battle of life and civilization. And I implore equal blessing on you who brought them into life and must lead them for a while.

Frank F. Gray

The Mothers had their week of camping at the Glen for the next four years. In that time Mr. Gray's illness had been developing and the camping was discontinued and replaced with periodic Mothers' days.

These Scout Mothers' camps received publicity on a national scale much to the surprise of the originators who did not realize the effect of the movement. The publicity had its inception in Mr. Gray's advice that the secretary of the Scout Mothers should send a report of the camp to the National Scout Headquarters. This was done after the close of the camp in 1923.

The report was sent to L. L. MacDonald, National Director of Camping, who in turn communicated it to E. S. Martin, Editor of SCOUTING to the effect that the Mothers had begun a movement which would emphasize the benefits of camping for other Mothers' organizations and promote appreciation of boys' camps.

A Sunday edition of the *New York Times* contained a description of the Scout Mothers' camps at Glen Gray. The story was taken

up by other newspapers and received attention in Scout publications. The Glen Gray Scout Mothers became the fountain head of information accessible to all Mother organizations who wished to develop a camping system. Just how extensive was the effect is open to conjecture but the National Scout officials were pleased that a new avenue had been opened for auxiliary work.

A diary of the Scout Mothers' camps was kept and the activities approximated those of their sons. In succession to Mrs. Ropes these were the Mayors: Mrs. Luther E. Price, 1922, Mrs. Van Ness De Lamater, 1923, Mrs. C. H. Briner, 1924, and Mrs. S. S. Bubb, 1925. Mr. Gray visited the camps every year, except the first when he was too ill. Mr. MacDonald was also invited but he sent his regrets that official duties prevented.

When the last Scout Mothers' camp was held in September, 1925, David Summons was engaged, as in the four previous years, to do the cooking. He had proved his worth and had always kept the camp scrupulously clean. The Mothers had used their expert eyes in every particular.

On the day before the Mothers' camp was to close, a Saturday, the Scout Fathers were to hold a barbeque. They wanted David to broil the steaks over a trench fire and prepare all the other accessories. So the Fathers went into a huddle with the Mothers and David. An arrangement was made satisfactorily. It happened to be a hot afternoon. After David dug the trench and did the cooking, he was exhausted but drank plentifully of coffee to keep going. The Fathers were well fed—how they enjoyed the apple pies at the end of the meal!

Meanwhile the observing Mothers were sympathetic toward David and consoled him. Then he confided to them that he had had a very disturbing experience near the end of the regular Scout camp. This is the story which is fully confirmed by George German, former Assistant Scoutmaster of the Baden-Powell Troop, one of the campers, who cited it as a most vivid reminiscence.

There had been a big explosion in the vicinity. A heavy rain had set in. David and his assistant had prepared a fine assortment of food for the next day with big apple pies. Everything was spread to serve breakfast quickly. Early in the morning David and his aide reached the kitchen. Peculiar odors issued. The cooks rushed through the door and espied a frantic wood pussy. Dishes and food had been upset. The damage was catastrophic to David and his assistant, the latter of whom ran out yelling and summoning the camp officials. The pussy was shot, but the kitchen was a mess.

"De Debel couldn't have done worse", exclaimed David.

The camp missed much of its usual good fare for a day or two and resorted to canned food. There was vigorous scrubbing. Food was approached gingerly. Imaginations were overworked. Time alone effected a complete cure.

Mr. Gray started to write a song for the Scout Mothers but on account of his continued illness never succeeded in completing it to his satisfaction. He had, however, composed an adaptation of a

Scottish tune for it. This is a part of the song as preserved by a Scout Mother:

My laddie has gone
To the heart of the hills
Where the green woods are waving
And sparkling the rills
Where the wild flowers are springing
'Neath the heavens so blue
And happy birds singing,
My laddie, for you.

In the note containing a copy of the stanza, Mr. Gray wrote: "Because of the cleft rock on the Point the boys chose 'Rock of Ages' as a camp hymn."

## CHAPTER XVI

### Expanding Construction—Uncle's Cabin and the Mess Hall

Following the building of Mothercroft, attention was directed to the need of a cabin for "Uncle" whose health was being affected by overwork and the necessity of climbing the hill to reach the hospital which he made his living quarters. It was known that he yearned for more privacy—a camp home where he could have his library and receive visitors and treat them to tea. After the summer camping he was in the Glen almost every week end looking after groups of boys. Some of these were building log huts. Winter camping was decidedly in vogue.

Henry J. Porter energetically set to work to promote the project for Mr. Gray's cabin. He donated part of his income for the work. Charles C. West contributed $350. The Scout Mothers also made a donation. Just when work was to begin, the treasurer of the Council reported there were some unpaid bills for "Uncle's" illness at the sanitarium and for medical fees. It was necessary to devote some funds to pay the bills.

Mr. Porter and the Scout Mothers again set to work to get further contributions and were successful. The cabin was made tight by insulating the roof, floor and walls with felt. "Uncle" added a porch out of his own funds. He had a camp home at last. The happiest period of his declining years was passed there. He established a library containing many books for boys which he was careful to peruse before the youngsters read them. He served tea for the older folk and sunned himself on the porch to receive visitors from time to time. Mr. Gray always took his tea plain—without sugar or milk. At camp mess he drank tea out of a bowl which interested the Scouts who wondered why he didn't use a cup. He scrutinized the bowl carefully when Lewis was the cook. Lewis was a little sloppy at times and had too much grease around.

After "Uncle's" cabin was built the next effort was directed towards finding a spring which would give the camp a larger water supply. Arthur B. Miller, the engineer, credits Mr. Porter with being a successful "diviner" without a rod. Tests were made and sure enough there was a good spring at hand. A mountaineer friend

of the Scouts, George Smith, dug the well. The tank and pump were given by the Scout Mothers who seemed always to come to the rescue when funds were needed.

Further development of the camp was not long delayed. The mess shack and kitchen had served their purpose in the early years but it was evident that Glen Gray must have better facilities. At a Council meeting in November, 1923, Chairman Miller of the camp committee read a letter from the Scout Mothers stating that they would provide a new kitchen if the men would put up a mess hall. Mr. Miller submitted an architectural plan drawn by Frank Vreeland who had consulted with Frederick K. Vreeland after an inspection of mess halls at several well established camps. The plan was approved and the Scout Mothers' offer accepted. Here again the Scout Mothers were challengers to keep the men busy.

The State Forestry department, as formerly, was consulted as to what trees should be removed, a step prompted no doubt by Frederick K. Vreeland's watchful eye on any denudation. The present site for the mess hall and kitchen was picked. It was estimated that the project would cost about $9600. Mr. Vreeland suggested that expert lumber jacks should do the log construction. The financing of the project delayed the start of the work. The Community Chest barred a "house to house" canvass but agreed to a personal appeal to those interested in Scouting. There was to be no publicity. The going was hard but the money was coming in.

In June, 1925, Philip Goodell, the treasurer, reported he had received $8842 in money and pledges. The masonry contract was given. Engagement of Maine lumber jacks, recommended by Chairman Miller, was approved. The foundation work had cost about $2000. During the winter of 1925-1926 construction of the mess hall and kitchen proceeded to completion and all bills were paid by spring. The canvass had been completely successful. Dedication of the building took place on June 5, 1926.

During this period Mr. Gray's health caused grave concern. He had received medical advice and had gone to the sanitarium at Clifton Springs, New York. He was urged to stay there until preparations were begun for the summer camp of 1926. Dean Swift was engaged to assist Mr. Gray at camp and Nelson Pearce's aid was also obtained. This arrangement proved to be highly satisfactory. The camp season ended with a surplus in the treasury. That surplus was needed to complete the purchase of the Brendon tract, an important strip of the watershed.

## CHAPTER XVII

### War Over the Watershed

This war was the most dramatic feature in the history of Glen Gray. It lasted for years. The issue of some battles being in doubt at times. Eternal vigilance was the price of victory in this case as it is of liberty in the national sense. An intelligence service was in operation from the time that the camp committee under Chairman Vreeland got a strong foothold on the region up Hill 41 to gain entrance into the Glen and acquire the bed of the prehistoric lake.

As in all wars, good leadership coupled with loyal cooperation of the allied forces, was necessary to win the war. When the original penetration in the site by the Scout forces took place there were several points of the utmost strategic importance to be taken. It was necessary to get these tracts piecemeal because among other things the sinews of war—money—were lacking.

Sometimes those in possession of tracts stubbornly held them and executed manoeuvers that complicated the situation. Unexpected obstacles developed. This was particularly true of the Ramsey tract on the crest of the hill north of the lake. Two Ramsey feminine heirs had possession and would not give up the land. The Scout intelligence department suddenly learned that agents for a projected bungalow colony had entered into negotiations for the tract of 158 acres.

Robert T. Pearce, president of the Scout Council, with a few colleagues got into action. The heirs told him that it was too late, that the bungalow colony agents had outflanked the Scouts and were to get possession. Fortunately Mr. Pearce was supplied with ammunition—money—and he emptied his pockets of lucre but saved his fountain pen and latch key. His colleagues did likewise. The heirs, after surveying the down payment began to retreat and finally surrendered. They insisted that the callers should keep enough change—as well as the fountain pens and latch keys—to reach home. This tract was a highly important strategic point to capture as the possible pollution of the lake woud affect the health of the Scouts. The battle was fought as late as 1926. Members of the Scout Council subscribed for the purchase of one or more acres of this tract.

Frederick K. Vreeland decorated Mr. Pearce with metaphors of praise. He said he had tried for years to capture the stronghold but had been repulsed repeatedly. It must have been a powerful defense in view of Mr. Vreeland's clan in a battle for what he dearly wanted. He had previously acquired a half interest in the Sanders tract which adjoined the Ramsey land. Later the entire Sanders property was captured through the Scout Fathers with the assistance of Vincent Mulford who gave $2000 in a lump.

Mr. Vreeland in making a report on the operations stated that the Sanders and Ramsey tracts "are all that is necessary to insure the complete protection of our watershed with the exception of a tract on the west slope of the ridge owned by the Rotten Pond estate which adjoins the Ramsey tract on the west."

Another battle of perhaps equal importance was fought earlier over the Brendon tract. This time the honors went mainly to the Scouts of the Senior Division. They had heard that a lumber company was trying to seize the property which lies slightly to the northwest of the lake and is part of the essential watershed. It comprised about twenty-five acres.

The Senior Scouts—some of whom were members of the Old Guard—under the leadership of Nelson Pearce, assistant director of the camp, and several others sprang to arms, organized their forces to raise the customary sinews of war. They made paper cutters to sell, went into the chocolate business and resorted to sundry other methods of defeating their opponents. They obtained a foothold on the property by getting an option but unfortunately they were unable to take title to the land because they were minors. The Community Chest of Montclair stepped into the picture and the paper cutter and chocolate business went to pieces.

Mr. Gray intervened and by the use of his own money acquired the title in trust for the Honor Degree. The camp management that season, through a strong arm system of economies exercised by Nelson Pearce, reaped a profit of more than $500. That brought a complete victory. Mr. Gray was reimbursed, so were one or two Scouts who lent all their savings and the Boy Scout Association took title to the property.

The Mary Post tract at the northwesterly end of the lake was taken by "bits". The absorbing process was effected by the accumulating of dimes—sometimes more—for the visiting campers to have the privilege of swimming in the lake. It was probably the most piecemeal process in the war over the watershed and the honors went to the Scouts themselves who contributed generously according to their means. The money raising recalls to mind an old patent medicine vendor's rhyme:

> Dimes and dollars, dollars and dimes,
> To be without money is the worst of crimes.

These were the principal dramatic features. The Hopper tract was quietly absorbed in 1920. So was the Leavitt property on the northerly and southwesterly sides through the efforts of Arthur B. Miller at a later period. Another Leavitt tract, an important part of the watershed, was acquired through a gift of E. Winans Robinson. Throughout this expanding period Mr. Miller has cited C. C. West, H. V. Schieren, Joseph Van Vleck, G. W. Weston and C. W. Littlefield as having rendered much-needed aid.

Mr. Vreeland in his report in 1926 introduced a humorous note in this phase of the camp history by stating: "While I am about it may I say there is one other property question which I would like to present to the Council. That is the old Joe Edwards' place. Old Joe Edwards is a thoroughly desirable neighbor, but he is not immortal. His house occupies a commanding site at the threshold of our camp property and it would be a pity to have it occupied by an undesirable neighbor.

"My thought is that the Scout Association might purchase the property, giving old Joe a life tenancy which can certainly not continue for many years. This will make our old friend wealthy for life and will give us an ideal site for a caretaker's house, which will someday be needed at the entrance to the property."

Old Joe proved to be a stumbling block to this camp expansion. He held out for better terms. The upshot was that he sold the property to a person not connected with the Scout organization. This sequal, however, has not been to the disadvantage of the camp. In the early period of Glen Gray old Joe had succeeded Joe Burton, another "hill billy" as the caretaken of the camp. In that period the hills around had scattered log cabins of the "Jackson Whites" whose seclusion from the stream of life was sometimes sought, it is believed, to escape from the strong arm of the law. The region, at any rate, had a fair quota of legends and mysteries. It was "spooky" enough to suit Scouts of imaginative bent.

## CHAPTER XVIII

### Uncle's Guardsmen

The war over the watershed shows the vigilance exercised by Scout officials and Scouts in the protection of the camp from exterior spoilation or invasion. That presents only a partial picture of the development of what may be called Uncle's Guardsmen over the history of his camps. Beginning with the experimental troop encampment at Dudley Island in Lake Wawayanda he formulated plans for an Old Guard of campers. In these boys he instilled the ideals of his conception of Scout camping. The members became auxiliary protectors of those ideals. By the time Glen Gray was founded he had a good nucleus for his Guard.

Along with the Old Guard he built up the Senior Division which operated largely through the Court of Honor and had its functions in camp. These two organizations kept a watchful eye on the campers from year to year. They cooperated with Uncle in providing protective measures and discipline.

Mr. Gray was a strict disciplinarian tempered with deep sympathy. His methods illustrated his uncanny knowledge of boy psychology. He used the morning assembly and the evening campfire as corrective means. He seldom made direct accusations and enforced discipline indirectly as a rule. When some of the boys were

violating rules, he would assign them, for instance, to the road repairing squad (chain gang). The leaders of that squad would see that the culprits got their lesson. There was never any rebellion at the discipline. Mr. Gray always commanded respect and affection.

The compiler found among his archives a typewritten page prepared some time between 1918 and 1920 which he had discovered by accident. It was the text of the "Constitution" of a camp prank society whose "terrorist" activities never disturbed Mr. Gray's peace of mind. The bark was far worse than the bite. The society's constitution reads as follows:

## Constitution

Resolved, that the name of this society be The Ancient and Instructive Order of the Ethiopian Pigment.

Resolved, that the purpose of this society be the nocturnal chastisement of undesirable or obnoxious campers; said nocturnal chastisement to consist in the punishment of said people at the hour of half past one in the night by the following means: the most complete and satisfactory immersion of said people in the cool waters of our beautiful lake; the treatment of said people with a very strong solution of sodium chloride to which ice has been previously added; the application to various parts of the body of sticky and slow flow-fluids, black or of other color, such as tar or paint, which cannot be easily removed; a rapid succession of blows from a board of suitable thickness, said blows to be inflicted on that part of the anatomy which is commonly known as the buttocks; and any other method which the members of the society shall deem expedient, efficacious, and necessary to the success of the rituals.

Resolved, that since the members of the society have been brought together by a feeling for a need of unity, and the necessity of brotherly love and affection, and the consideration thereby of the eradication and elimination of various blemishes existing in the characters of our associate campers, that no officers be necessary.

Resolved, that meetings of the society be held at such times when public sentiment seems to require them, in order to uphold the traditions and ancient standards of the sublime and mystic order.

Resolved, that under penalty of cruel and most violent punishment by unparalleled means, the inner affairs of the society be kept strictly secret by the members of the society, and that no person not a member of the society be allowed to hear directly or indirectly of any coming meeting of the order.

Resolved, that the countersign of the society be a rapid motion of the arm across the chest, and a corresponding motion of the flat, rigid hand in front of the neck; aforesaid movement to be executed with the right arm, in such a manner as to bring the arm into a position beside and parallel with the body, and with the forearm and flat, rigid hand extended in an upward and parallel direction, with the palm of the hand facing forwards; the next and final movement to be executed by the raising of the hand of the left arm to a position on the forepart of aforesaid right arm, with the flat and rigid palm touching aforesaid forearm.

Resolved, that members of the society known as the Honorable Order of the Mystic Dip be admitted to membership in this society upon application.

Resolved, that other new members of the society be admitted upon their unanimous election by the members of the society and installation by the sacred and most profound and ancient initiation rituals of the society.

The signers of this document—using blood-stained ink—were all high ranking Scouts of the Old Guard or Senior Division who

were really disciplinary instruments of Mr. Gray. From time to time other prank societies were formed but the underlying motive was to see that the rules of the camp were obeyed and "whiners" were to be trained to "boy manhood".

With the founding of Glen Gray the "calling of the Old Guard" became in some respects, the most impressive of all camp ceremonials. It takes place still at the end of the summer camping season. At first Mr. Gray personally selected new members but when he became ill, they were elected by the old members. Electioneering is absolutely barred. It would destroy all chance of election.

The actual "calling" takes place at campfire. Names of the newly elected members are announced from the principal points of the compass by members stationed on the hills. The echoing reverbrations produce an impressive effect. Senior members welcome the accessions around the campfire and lock arms with them. Singing of "Taps" and a benediction close the ceremony.

During the Twenties, camp honors were expanded. Membership in the Old Guard had limitations and it was necessary to give suitable recognition to many campers who had won their spurs. Then followed the Camp Letter, Tulip Leaf (senior and junior) and other awards. A further expansion of honors developed in the Thirties with the introduction of Indian lore and tribal features.

The older Scout reminiscences give a picture of some "guardsmen" who had the duty of camp protection but who lacked some of the camp ideals. These "guardsmen" figure quite distinctly as part of the camp life.

First, there was Joe Burton who in 1917 was engaged as the camp caretaker at a very modest salary. Joe became a hill billy by adoption. He was a French-Canadian, a Canuck, who used explosive language. What impressed the Scouts with Joe was his recital of stories about his connection with the one and only truly great circus. He seemed to have been a marvelous performer especially when he was sufficiently "loaded" to spin the yarns. The "loading" process brought about the termination of his caretaker duties.

Second, there was another Joe. This time it was "Old Joe" Edwards, a real hill billy. He succeeded the first "Joe" without an intermediate caretaker. "Old Joe" had a wonderful watch. He had owned it sixty years or more during which it had kept time without loss or gain. The Scouts kept Old Joe pretty busy pulling out his watch to tell them the time. In the end, he became a trifle displeased. Then the Scouts asked him about "rattlesnakes". That was a pet subject for he prided himself on being a killer of rattlers. He did have a good record in that line and rendered fine service thereby before Glen Gray was founded. Old Joe had a cabin and "patch" of garden beside the road which leads up Hill 41 to the camp. He paid his taxes by doing road work which is said to have made a WPA worker look like a speed artist.

Still another guardsman was George Smith, also a hill billy, who helped in the work of construction. He showed great deference to Scout Mothers.

J. Donald Dickson became the guardian of the camp property during the principal construction period. He was admirably fitted for the task and was a skilled worker in camp projects, in some of which he obtained the contracts. Mr. Dickson was popular with the Scouts and rendered good service in guiding them in their auxiliary tasks.

## Mayors

The Mayors were generally selected by the campers voting for their choices on slips of paper. Mr. Gray would draw the slips from a hat and announce the winner. It was a free election and unbossed.

## Camp Clerks

The camp clerks were chosen by Mr. Gray for their qualifications in accounting. The clerks assumed considerable importance in camp administration.

**Mayors**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1914 | Floyd Furlow |
| 1915 | Floyd Furlow and Donald Waterbury |
| 1916 | Gifford Walcutt |
| 1917 | (1) Joseph Van Vleck<br>(2) Donald Waterbury<br>(3) Wesley Townsend |
| 1918 | Ralph Bowles, Walter Kidde (first on permanent site) |
| 1919 | Wentworth Huckel, John Phillips |
| 1920 | Albert Weissenborn, Nathan Price |
| 1921 | Haldane Huckel, Lowell Pratt |
| 1922 | Hasbrouck Alliger, Ralph Rockhold (Ned Cruickshank ad interim) |
| 1923 | Nelson Pearce |
| 1924 | Douglas Pease, George Sanders, Carl Harris |
| 1925 | John Tritle, Russell Barnum, Robert Bubb |
| 1926 | Collins Hieselbrock, John Dippel |
| 1927 | Fred Blake, Harold Burrell |
| 1928 | Robert Barnum |
| 1929 | Donald MacNutt |

**Camp Clerks**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1914 | Charles Hollenbeck |
| 1915 | Stuart C. Dodd |
| 1916 | Stuart C. Dodd, Ben Rosoff |
| 1917 | Ben Rosoff |
| 1918 | Fred Foth |
| 1919 | Henry H. Wheaton |
| 1920 | William E. Price |
| 1921 | William E. Price |
| 1922 | Titus Fenn |
| 1923 | Stephen Hall |
| 1924 | Robert N. Hatfield |
| 1925 | Walter Buehler |
| 1926 | Richard Stewart |
| 1927 | Richard Stewart |
| 1928 | Russell Barnum |
| 1929 | Russell Barnum |

## CHAPTER XIX

### Mr. Gray's Closing Memoirs

Beginning with 1922, Mr. Gray's memoirs are condensed in a few hundred words in which he sketched the main events and refers to his successors in the direction of the camp. The memoirs close with an appreciation of Arthur B. Miller's article published in 1932 to which reference has already been made.

After 1922 Mr. Gray was not able to carry on the same amount of official burden as formerly. As Scout Executive, Scout Commissioner, and Camp Director, he did the major portion of publicity. In 1923 J. Walker McSpadden, an editor and writer, became a member of the Montclair Scout Council and subsequently did a large share of the publicity work. He wrote brochures on the camp which were printed with illustrations and were carefully prepared.

Throughout all of Mr. Gray's camping history there was a considerable amount of published matter in leaflet form. The mimeographed matter went into the homes of Scouts and Scout officials. These provided source material of value to this compiler in covering a large portion of the camp history.

The closing part of Mr. Gray's memoirs follows. It overlaps some features already mentioned, but gives Mr. Gray's own version in amplification of the history.

### 1922

### Mothercroft and the Scout Mothers

The outstanding event this year was the construction of "Mothercroft" by the mothers. They contributed $300 for a recreation center in bad weather. This had been one of our greatest needs and it has fulfilled its mission well. Entertainments have been staged there, church services, morning and evening assemblies, games and a great variety of things.

Mrs. W. T. Ropes was president of the Scout Mothers when the Mothercroft was built and gave it its name at the dedicatory exercises.

The women have been a great help to the camp, helping with money, boats, canoes, Indian outfits for the village, and numerous other things. Troop Four mothers furnished the pump for raising the water to the kitchen and the tanks up the hill.

In this season the men and boys built a cabin for the Commissioner, who was away at Clifton Springs Sanitarium. This cabin turned out to be one of the most useful buildings on the place. The boys came there to write letters and to read. Sometimes a boy would come for a quiet visit or for a little comfort if he were homesick or to talk over some personal matter. On rainy days they gathered around the Franklin open fire; in fine weather they sat upon the porch, which was never without a breeze.

In the winter of 1926-1927, the old dining room having given out, an elegant new mess hall was built. Maine woodsmen did the work and it was a masterly job. Mr. Henry J. Porter was chairman of the Finance Committee, followed by Mr. F. A. MacNutt, and Mr. [Miller] was the chairman of the construction committee, and Scout Mothers contributed. [Mr. Gray evidently had Arthur B. Miller in mind but the name was not typed.]

The building was completed and dedicated in June, 1927. The building is ninety feet long and ninety feet wide, and capable of seating 250. It has a large kitchen and bakery, beside a large store room in the rear. The entire building is of log construction, and it is the pride of the camp. The architect was Mr. Frank Vreeland.

In 1928 the Hansen Memorial building was put up. Like the other buildings it is of log construction. It houses the camp offices and was much needed. It has a broad verandah along the front and east sides, and is marked by a bronze tablet. Mr. (T. L.) Hansen was a great lover of boys and was a member of the council. The bequest was merely a note, but Mrs. Hansen would not listen to any suggestion to overlook it. It was Mr. Hansen's wish, and that was enough. (Mr. Hansen died suddenly after a surgical operation.)

Dr. F. K. Vreeland brought a good many varieties of wild flowers from the Adirondacks for the woods and the lake. We also stocked the lake with fish at different times. He also planted several hundred trees.

In 1930, 1931, and 1932 Indians were engaged to teach the boys Indian lore and craft.

Mr. C. L. Metz was in charge of the camp from 1928 to and including 1931, and developed the water features greatly.

Mr. H. McNeill Privette became camp leader in 1932 (the year of this writing) and conducted a very successful camp.

I do not know how I can do better than to close with the last paragraph of Mr. A. B. Miller's fine article in the Montclair Times of June 10, 1932:

"To anyone who will read between the lines, this little outline of construction work at Glen Gray may furnish the background upon which is built up the structure of the loving service and devotion to the cause of that group of men who have given their money, their time and so much of themselves in hearty cooperation to try to provide the best possible camp they could obtain for Montclair Scouting. It seems to me on looking backward that the remarkable unity and spirit of the Montclair Boy Scout Council was due in no small part to the duty of working together on securing contributions annually that kept us alive; and the funds for all of these fine individual projects in addition."

# CHAPTER XX

## Tree Life

## (Policy of Conservation)

The severance of Mr. Gray from active camp life marked the beginning of a new order. Old leaders were passing out. Some still remained and they were always on guard to promote the best interests of the camp especially a strict preservation of its natural beauty which had been emphasized over and over again in the camp publications. Some clash was bound to come in planning and it developed in perhaps a casual way. The motives of the new officials were good but some steps, in the opinion of the old, were not prudent. The story is best told in official reports, the first of which was addressed on July 16, 1929, to Frederick A. Macnutt, president, Boy Scout Association of Montclair, and reads as follows:

July 16, 1929

Mr. F. A. Macnutt, Jr., President,
Boy Scout Association of Montclair.

Dear Mr. President: Following is the report of the special committee comprising Messrs. Miller, Metz and Vreeland, detailed by the Executive Committee to consider, in consultation with Mr. Slater, the advisability of removing undergrowth and thinning trees on the camp site.

The Committee met, as arranged by Mr. Miller, yesterday, July 14th, at camp. Mr. Metz was not present . . . . One of the members drove all through Saturday night from the Adirondacks in order to attend the meeting.

The Committee found on arrival at camp that while it had been solemnly called together to consider a relatively minor question, a far more drastic matter had been already handled without its knowledge or sanction, and done in a way which the Committee considers most unfortunate; namely, the cutting of many trees below the dam which have hitherto been carefuly preserved to camouflage the unsightly structure of the dam and guard the approach to the camp.

It is difficult for us to speak in moderate terms of this outrageous vandalism. This matter is made the subject of a special letter to you.

With regard to the question particularly referred to the Committee, we found no one at the camp who could give us any definite information as to what was intended or desired, except in a general way that the tree canopy caused the tents to mildew. On this question our conclusions are as follows:

1. Any tent made of ordinary duck, pitched in the woods, inevitably mildews rapidly, unless water-proofed or mildew-proofed. If water-proofed tents are not available, ordinary duck may be easily made water repellent and substantially mildew-proofed by the well-known treatment with aluminum acatate solution. Detailed instructions for applying this treatment will be furnished by your Committee if desired. Nonwater-proof wall tents should always be pitched with flys. This is ordinary good practice.

2. The undergrowth in camp is not excessive. In fact it is rather sparse, and what there is, is necessary to keep the ground in moist and wholesome condition. If it were removed the soil would become dry and powdery, and when tramped by many feet would fill the air with clouds of dust, thus becoming a menact to health.

3. No general thinning of the trees would be effective for the purpose suggested unless carried to such an extent as to alter seriously the

nature of the camp. Such drastic measures certainly would be undesirable, and anything less would be futile for the purpose specified.

4. If there are individual locations where, in the judgment of those who use the camp, selective thinning is desirable such persons are requested to make definite and specific recommendations to your Committee, who will give these recommendations careful consideration to determine whether or not they are feasible.

5. The camp naturalist reports an unknown species of beetle devouring the trees near the camp site. He is requested to collect specimens of this beetle and submit them, with identification and recommendation, if feasible, to the undersigned.

6. It is recommended that a forestry squad of Scouts be organized and directed to undertake the following tasks under the personal direction of the camp naturalist, who will be responsible to the Committee for results:

A. To make a systematic search of the camp property for hickory trees infested by the hickory bark borer, remove and burn all dead hickories and foster the growth of living hickories in every possible way. The hickory trees are seriously threatened with extinction by this pest.

B. To inspect the pines on the top of the West Ridge south of the Midvale Trail, study their health and condition of growth and report on the advisability of removing any hard wood growth that may be unduly crowding the pines, giving them light and room for development.

7. It seems fitting, in view of the unfortunate occurrence above mentioned, to call attention to the fact that it has always been the rule of the camp, hitherto scrupulously regarded, that no living trees shall be cut except by specific direction and under personal supervision of the camp committee. An individual member has been detailed by the Committee to handle emergency cases without requiring a Committee meeting and he is always available for consultation.

In view of the flagrant violation of this rule, a full investigation is requested to fix responsibility. It is further recommended that the rule be given all possible publicity including publication in the Gazette. The forestry squad should be definitely instructed that they are not authorized to cut any living trees.

A word of explanation of the above findings may be in order.

It is clearly understood and realized that the Glen Gray Camp is not like the conventional run-of-the-mill Scout camp. It was founded on an ideal and those who have carried on its development have adhered consistently to this ideal. It is primarily a woods camp where life in God's unspoiled outdoors has been a dominant feature. It is thus distinctly different from the ordinary, mediocre, built-in-the-open camp. It is the best Scout camp of this type that the writers have seen, and our Council has always been proud of its distinctiveness. It has served in no small measure in developing the policy of National Headquarters to get Scouting out of doors, and it has established a standard that few have measured up to.

If there are any who desire a camp of the ordinary type with tents pitched in the open or surrounded by a few trees, they are in the wrong place. They should go into the valleys where such sites are abundant, and not attempt to mar the unusual, if not unique, features of our Glen. It is not always realized that a camp in the woods is distinctly different from one in the open, and if the woods are kept in natural condition it is exceptionally healthful. It is very easy, however, to render it unwholesome by misguided zeal.

Moisture in the woods is not unsanitary. On the contrary, it is Nature's method of keeping the woods clean and wholesome. Woods soil is not like the soil of the open fields. When allowed to dry, it is reduced to

an impalpable powder and in dry weather fills the air with a cloud of dust which is obviously not good to breathe. The natural forest cover and undergrowth keep it in normal moist and wholesome condition and prevent this result.

It may be of interest to note that this same idea of "cleaning up" appears periodically, every few years. Some years ago the experiment was tried. That summer was spent breathing dust. The experiment has not been repeated, and we hope it never will be.

## [Appeal of the "Old Timers"]

The second communication, dated October 22, 1929, was sent to the president and members of the Montclair Scout Council and reads as follows:

October 22, 1929

To the President and Members of the
Montclair Council:

Will you accept a word from three old timers who are keenly interested, as we have been from the beginning, in the Glen Gray Camp property.

Those of us who have been through the struggle of discovering, purchasing, planning, building and developing the Glen Gray Camp have a very keen realization of the uniqueness of the Glen Gray property, and a large appreciation of the unusual privilege that the ownership of this camp gives to the Montclair Scouts. The uniqueness of the camp lies largely in its natural features, and these we have always been zealous in preserving.

We have also a high appreciation of the earnest and energetic work our President has been doing in carrying the organization along, and we are fully conscious of his many problems.

From the very beginning it has been a problem to preserve a uniform and consistent policy in the development of the property and to avoid hasty or ill-considered exploitation. There have always been many people with ideas of their own as to development, but in every case these suggestions have been weighed carfully, first in the camp committee and then in the Council, before being put into effect. We are happy to say that for many years the result of these deliberations has always been a unanimous agreement, growing out of a harmonious discussion of the various viewpoints. It is our earnest hope that this same harmony of judgment and action may continue.

A further check and safeguard against permanent injury to the Glen has been the camp rule prohibiting the cutting of green trees except by order of the camp committee.

Changes in personnel must inevitably come in such an organization, and each change brings new viewpoints. The camp alone remains as a permanent fixture, and requires a consistent policy of development. An hour's hasty action may destroy the work of years.

Do you not think it would be wise at this time to adopt, as the policy of the Council, the following:

> No green trees shall be cut on the property of the Boy Scout Association of Montclair, nor any construction or development undertaken which may destroy or mar any natural feature of the Glen, except on plans prepared by the camp committee and approved by the Montclair Council or its executive committee.

It is believed that the members of the Council will be quick to appreciate the wisdom of putting proper checks and safeguards upon such important matters and will be as zealous as we are in preserving the Glen unspoiled for the Scouts of the future.

Very sincerely yours,

SIGNED: Charles C. West
Theodore T. Dorman
Fred K. Vreeland

These communications were followed by the Council regulations to insure that the camp property would be protected adequately from "vandalism" and to satisfy the "old timers" that a careful policy would be steadfastly pursued. State forestry advice was obtained again by Mr. Macnutt who was anxious to meet the desires of the "old timers". He was an energetic president, a staunch admirer of Mr. Gray and tried to reconcile those who held divergent views. There was unanimity, however, that Glen Gray should never become a run-of-the-mill type of camp.

Mr. Vreeland was a radical advocate in respect to the preservation of wild beauty in nature and was intermittently enjoying it in hiking and canoeing from the Gulf of Mexico to the Arctic Circle. It was inevitable that with the advent of new personnel in the late Twenties and early Thirties that there would be concessions to fit conditions.

Among the features that had passed was the Heyer bus system which had been in yearly operation from 1914. Mr. Heyer's famous dinners, which he had cooked for Council members and Scout fathers and at which many thousands of dollars were raised for the camp, were no more. That tradition is recorded in the Council minutes and embellished by Mr. Heyer being made an honorary member, in perpetuity, of the Camp Committee.

It was he who first portrayed in oil what Camp Glen Gray would look like when the lake and construction work were finished. As an artist, Mr. Heyer never made any pretensions but the painting "passed muster", its only decorative prize medal being general approval. The tall, smooth-shaven man of fair complexion did many things for the Scout organization and always enjoyed popularity among the boys as well as the men. No real Glen Gray history could be written without Arthur P. Heyer being in the picture as well as others of the old regime, and that includes many men who had the steady vision of what they wanted in the way of a camp.

## CHAPTER XXI

## UNCLE PASSES

### Review of the Twenties

An old French saying is to the paradoxical effect that the more things change the more they remain the same. While it is true that there have been many changes on the surface, the fundamentals of Scout camping have remained essentially the same. It makes no difference where a Scout camp is pitched it is still a Scout camp if the leadership is faithful and competent.

When Camp Glen Gray was established the pattern of the camp underwent changes. It is true that some earlier camps had a species of town government system with a mayor at the head, but the development had a larger field at Glen Gray. A ward system was in operation. The night watch was still kept.

The Scouts had a place of training from which they could not be evicted as they were at Durham Pond. In addition an Old Guard

of campers had come into being through Mr. Gray's personal selection as a reward for their camping ability. Then there was created by him another cooperative body, the Senior Division, which emphasized advancement and added a ritualistic feature to the camping season. There developed also the impressive calling of new members of the Old Guard at the close of the camping season. Election was the highest honor a new member or members could receive from the camp. When Mr. Gray's health failed and he could not make selections for the Old Guard that organization itself elected the nominees who had measured up to the requirements.

Mr. Gray was the personal director of all the camps up to the middle of the 1921 season when ill health led him to turn over the guidance for the remaining weeks to Field Executive Frederick G. Anderson who followed "Uncle's" injunctions faithfully. Mr. Gray was also absent part of the 1922 season by reason of illness. From 1923 to 1926 he personally directed the camp though his health was still affected. His partial disability caused so much concern that additional assistance was provided for him.

In this period there was a marked development in the camp life. The Junior Tulip Leaf organization was established in 1923 as well as the Junior Camp Letter, both honorary organizations. The Senior Tulip Leaf followed in 1924 in extension of the system of honors. They filled a gap in rewards because the Old Guard had few additions from year to year and many exceptionally good campers deserved recognition.

In 1927 the New Scout Executive, Claude L. Metz, assumed direction of the camp but Mr. Gray was on hand to supervise, and also to maintain the spirit of the camp. Mr. Metz shone at the water front. It was a carnival season of lake sports and for the development of life saving ability.

A similar situation prevailed in 1928 and 1929 with Mr. Metz in virtual directorship. Throughout this period the camp pattern remained much the same with a boys' government continuing in principles. The Senior Division, however, did not function as prominently. Mr. Metz found that he could not carry it on as it was conducted when Mr. Gray was more active. Still with "Uncle" in camp the Senior Scouts could commune with him. It was not the same when he was gone. The older Scouts had a deep affection for him. It was personal and could not be transferred.

Mr. Metz was sincerely interested in senior Scouting but his methods followed a different type. Several years before he came to the Eagle Rock Council as the executive he had met Mr. Gray. The latter had just received a letter from Lord Baden-Powell on senior Scouting. They had been exchanging views. Baden-Powell wrote his views on what seemed suitable to British youth. Mr. Gray gave his opinions on the kind adapted to American boys. Mr. Metz eagerly grasped the opportunity of having a talk with Mr. Gray on the exchange of views. Their conference lasted far into the night.

While the Senior Division holds no functions it still exists in spirit, many of its members are also members of the Old Guard and some are actually engaged in Scout work in this locality or

elsewhere. The Senior Division attended Mr. Gray's funeral in a body in 1935, acted as pall bearers and mourned at his grave in Mount Hebron Cemetery, Montclair. His spiritual leadership continues. It calls to mind these lines:

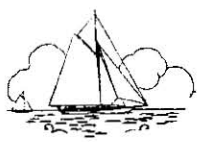
Let the fool prate of luck,
The fortunate is he
Whose honest purpose never swerves,
Whose every action serves
The one great end
Why even death itself stands still
And waits sometimes on such a will.

The spot that Uncle loved best in the declining years of his life was Glen Gray which was named in his honor and is truly his monument. The road up "Hill 41" with its "Thank-you-mams" was his path to an earthly Parnassus. During his retirement to the sanitarium in Clifton Springs, his thoughts always turned toward the Scout camp in the Ramapos.

Mr. Gray's last visit to camp was at the close of the summer season in August, 1930. Friends took him by motor car from Clifton Springs. He arrived the day before camp closed and joined the Scouts at campfire in the evening. He remained in his cabin for two nights and then Frederick K. Vreeland took him back to Clifton Springs by motor car. He stood the trips satisfactorily as the transportation both ways had been by easy stages.

From time to time Scout officials and friends visited the sanitarium to see Mr. Gray who was much pleased by the careful and vigilant treatment he was receiving. His strength was gradually being sapped and finally he was forced to take to a wheel chair with an attendant hand to move him when there was sunshine with pleasant weather.

Throughout his long illness the Scout organization and friends sought to provide him with comfort and relief from financial worries. He had the remnant of a small fortune but this was not touched except for small personal gifts. When he died he left about $10,000 in personal property, almost all in bank balances and in insurance. His will disclosed that he had bequeathed virtually all of his savings to the Boy Scout Association of Montclair. A few legacies of $100 each were left to the Kiwanis, Rotary and welfare organizations.



# PART III

## CHAPTER XXII

## THIRD PHASE

### Eagle Rock Council Period

### Claude L. Metz's Directorship

The new phase of the camp life developed clearly when the Eagle Rock Council was formed to taken in Montclair, Glen Ridge, Verona and the Caldwell districts in 1931. This union had been slowly coming on for several years. Glen Ridge had actually shared in Camp Glen Gray from the start because it had contributed thousands of dollars, directly and indirectly, to the project. The other districts outside of Montclair had not financially joined in the enterprise. A few Scouts from these localities had been in the camp life at times by special permission. When the Eagle Rock Council was formed there was a relaxation of the rules and then a general admission of Scouts from the Council area. All districts contribute now to the maintenance of the camp.

This spread of camp service brought about an enlargement of the personnel with more features of a professional and specialized character. Glen Gray naturally lost some of its earliest simplicity. It may be said that it became less of a family affair and more tribal.

Up to the new regime virtually all of the camping was done on the northerly or northeasterly side of the lake. As the years rolled by the north side's soil was being worn off the rocks and plants were ruined or damaged. Many log cabins had been built in the Twenties by Scouts. Within the last ten years the movement had been in the direction of troop cabins. Camping was extended to the southerly side of the lake. All of these changes brought about new features also in the camp life.

With the development of the National Scout organization through its merit badge and Scouter training systems the scope of the activities has been extended. Trained leadership has been sought. This has been a salient feature of modern scouting. The establishment of the Schiff Reservation at Mendham, N. J., with the opportunities it affords to both Scouts and Scout officials to develop technique has exerted a strong influence and supplements the training work at Glen Gray.

The entrance of many old Scouts into the professional field of the national organization and the increasing number of Scout alumni as Scoutmasters and Troop committeemen have also strengthened camp life. All year round camping is now the rule with a steady flow to Glen Gray. It is true that there was a fairly high degree of regular out of season camping at Glen Gray throughout the Twenties but it rose markedly in the Thirties owing to better housing facilities. The early Scouts "roughed it". Many camped in "lean-tos". The test nowadays lies in the quality of leadership at camp. Much depends on the type of personality, the magnetic and inspiring qualities of the camp director. Men of such endowment as Mr. Gray had are not easily found. Changing times also call for changing methods but the fundamentals of Scouting should always be there.

These observations are introduced principally to emphasize that Glen Gray has been conducted on these broad bases and that the camp life has essentially pursued the path that Mr. Gray followed. The camp traditions are largely preserved and its ideals kept always in view. The Scout law is still the law of the camp.

The transition period from Mr. Gray's active-directorship to the beginning of the Eagle Rock Council jurisdiction covered almost all of Mr. Metz's tenure of office—from 1927-1931. Mr. Gray was advisory director in 1928 and 1929. His chief role was to preside at camp fire. He was no longer able to entertain regularly with his flute. His personal movements were restricted by partial disability. Paralysis was creeping on. There was deep sympathy for the old leader. Naturally there was a desire to do nothing which would upset Uncle. The camp pattern remained essentially the same with the town government system, the Scouts as Mayor, ward leaders, and clerk. War games were modified. The camp was divided into Pioneers and Buccaneers. They had their contests. Lake sports were a feature.

In 1929 Deputy Commissioner Theodore T. Dorman organized the Montclair Unit of two patrols, the Eagle and the Albatross, which participated in the International Jamboree at Arrow Park, Birkenhead, England. There was preliminary training at Glen Gray. The expedition was successfully conducted by Mr. Dorman, who continued active in camp work at Glen Gray up to the last year or so when his health required him to conserve his strength.

All through his active Scouting career Mr. Dorman was a tower of support in camp training. With Henry J. Porter and Howard Van Vleck, Scoutmaster of the Baden-Powell Troop, he participated in the organization of three troops which joined in the National Jamboree at Washington in 1937. There was also preliminary training for these troops at Glen Gray.

Throughout all of the Twenties and the Thirties rallies were held at Glen Gray at times when the summer camp was not in session. Glen Ridge made regular use of the training retreat in this respect. Camp movies were shown quite frequently which increased interest in Glen Gray. Charles A. Hobein figured in camp life and showed new devices in pioneering equipment. National officials ranked Glen Gray as one of the premier Scout camps in the United States.

Mr. Metz's directorship had one highly distinguishing mark. It was his ability to defeat all others in camp in swimming, life saving, water sports, and games. He invariably took an early morning dip into the lake and railed at his lazy senior staff whose members were privileged by reason of their duties to remain later on their cots. He was ready for competition at any appropriate time.

During his first season in camp, 1927, he was going up Hill 41 when he espied a rattler at the roadside. He was in his motor car. Instead of driving on the snake the Chief, as he was then being called by the Scouts, jumped out and began the attack with small rocks. The snake was soon crushed and was taken into camp by the conqueror. The Chief received congratulations and then announced that there would be a rattlesnake feast. It was at the close of the season when the camp banquet would be held. A rumor spread that the rattler would furnish one of the choice dishes at the banquet. The editor of the Camp Gazette got busy and printed in the sheet with big lettering: "No Snake Steaks".

Chief Metz became increasingly popular in ensuing camp seasons, so much so that it was remarked that the pang caused by Mr. Gray's retirement was overcome by his successor's talents in camp life. The newer Scouts, of course, had not experienced the pang that the older ones did. To them, as the seasons passed, Mr. Gray was a legendary figure not touching their young lives.

New features were being introduced. At first Mr. Metz had tried some songs which were sung when he was an executive at Albany, N. Y. The camp did not want them. The boys called for their own camp songs. The Chief realized that he had slipped and immediately called for the singing of Glen Gray airs.

During the latter part of Mr. Metz's administration Indian lore and rites were introduced. To the older Scout officials this may have seemed something of a throwback to the time of Ernest Thompson Seton's Woodcraft Indians. It was natural, however, to take up an activity that was suggested by the history of the region, the presence of Indian trails and the finding of Indian relics. Hikes throughout the Ramapo region had always stimulated the imagination of the campers.

Real Indians began to visit the camp. Sherman Wing, who had made a study of Indian life and lore in the West, was engaged to initiate the Scouts into the mysteries of Indian rites and teach them the dances. Wananop, a Cheyenne, was also engaged. He had his regalia—warbonnet, warpaint and lots of feathers. Wananop proved to be a very substantial Indian, not of the lithe variety but portly. He enjoyed eats. His corpulence did not detract, however, from his ability to show how real Indians performed though he may have caused some amusement. He was stately, even majestic in his war dress. Early every morning he would start on an hour's run along the hill trails. He kept fit and evidently wanted to reduce. But he was always a real Indian in character.

The camp was divided into tribes—the Lenni Lenapes and the Piogumpians. They established their tribal council fires, practiced ceremonials and then performed on important occasions around the great fire at the main council ring. Competition between the tribes also took place in lake sports and other games. The field by the dam had been graded and was thereby made more suitable for sports. C. C. West, former president of the Montclair Council, agreed in 1929 to give $500 for camp playgrounds and this increased his many previous gifts to Glen Gray.

At the beginning of the Thirties there had appeared to be a diminution of camp news literature. The Gazette, which had blazoned its front page with the slogan of being "the oldest Scout camp paper in the United States", had passed into history. There were bulletins, of course, and some programs but the literary output was small, as far as this compiler is able to find. Montclair and other local papers occasionally had camp news.

Mr. Metz was not averse to literary productions. He was very fond of old books, the kind that has a value for a bibliophile. It used to be said of the "Chief" when he had disappeared temporarily:—"Go around to the old bookstores and you'll be sure to find him".

Mr. Metz' services as Scout Executive and Camp Director ended near the close of 1931 by his resignation to take the executive position in the Hudson County organization. Arthur B. Miller wished to be relieved of the Camp Committee chairmanship about the same time but remained on the committee. John Davidson, Jr., became chairman. He was trained in economics and rendered service of high value on the budgetary side of the camp which needed a more scientific system. The financing under the direction of Lubin Palmer was ably conducted.

The summer camps had generally been self-supporting and in some years had shown small surpluses which were used to get much-needed equipment. Latterly the maintenance cost had risen and it was necessary to have an effective check on expenditures by rigid economic planning. This is where Mr. Davidson did his most important work with the cooperation of Mr. Palmer and others of the Finance Committee.

In the early Thirties several Scouts of the present Eagle Rock Council area helped in blazing and laying the noted Eagle Scout

trail in Glacier National Park. These Scouts were experienced campers at Glen Gray. They were Bruce Swenarton, Fred Marston, Jr., and Chandler (Claude) Swanson of Montclair, and William H. Timbers of Glen Ridge.

Bruce Swenarton was the first to work on building the trail. He started in 1930. The following year Marston and Timbers joined the company of Eagle workers on the trail at Lake Bowman. Swenarton previously had worked on the trail at St. Mary's Lake. The building of the trail was of great benefit in many ways. It resulted in the saving of many thousands of acres from forest fires. Swenarton worked on the trail three seasons ending in 1932.

During the summer of 1940 Bill Timbers with his youngest brother, Harley, an advanced Scout, took a 12000 mile motor, camping and hiking trip over the continent. They visited and camped in Glacier National Park, ascended Mount Whitney and tried to reach the summit of Mount Rainier but without success. The chief guide at Mount Rainier is Clark Schurman, a Seattle Scoutmaster, who enjoyed camping at Glen Gray in 1919. When the Timbers brothers met him at Mount Rainier and explained their Scout connections he was delighted with the opportunity of telling how happy had been his experiences at Glen Gray as the guest of "Uncle".

## CHAPTER XXIII

### H. McNeill Privette, Scout Executive and Camp Director

### 1932

H. McNeil Privette succeeded Mr. Metz as Scout Executive and was the Director of the camp in 1932. He was also called "Chief" by the Scouts but he did not personally enter into the lake sports to the same extent as his predecessor, who frolicked in the water as a species of human porpoise.

The new director devoted much attention to the details of camp organization, to the tentage technique in which he was proficient and to the general pattern of the camp. Indian ceremonials were continued. There was a Tepee Village whose members performed at the camp fire with the "four wind ceremony" and Indian dances.

Camp news was recorded in "The Tulip Leaf" which appeared for the first time this season—1932. Its staff consisted of the following: Editor-in-chief, William Getzoff; Associate editors, Robert Lydecker, Robert Shepard and Thomas Bowen; Assignment editor, Colin Park; Sports editor, Robert Bowen; Business Manager, Thomas Bowen; Typist, Robert Lydecker; Printer, George Sawyer, and Reporters, Robert Wallace, Harry Messersmith, William Smythe and Kirby Brigham.

The paper was well mimeographed, had illustrations, editorials, feature articles, humorous quips and sports news. In its issue of August 21, 1932, it stated editorially: "The Tulip Leaf is listed as a camp improvement. A camp paper serves as a medium of expres-

sion for the campers themselves. If the copies are preserved they become a valuable souvenir and form an accurate record of camp activities. Thirdly, the paper does contain news. It also makes a project for those interested in journalism.

"One of its best uses is as a means for the promotion of finer camp spirit. All campers seem eager to receive and read a copy of the paper. If the camp desires the continuance of this paper, they should give the best cooperation of which they are capable."

The Tulip Leaf once administered a reprimand to "certain persons who ridicule it and thereby discourage its publication." This particular group also drew the paper's fire and ire for whispering at camp fire. The paper certainly acted as a curb on unruly spirits but the criticism was directed mainly to get the "goat" of the editors. A prank society of the season was the Royal Order of Dunkers. It was in line with the theatrical features of the camp stunts.

The camp was conducted on a patrol basis. There were eight patrols near the end of the season when William Wessel, the Assistant National Director of Camping, addressed the Scouts on the camps of the country. He expressed admiration for Glen Gray.

Leadership of the patrols varied but included Wilbur Herbert, Doug Wallace, John McMullen, Vin Arny, Wilson Golden, Donald MacFeeters, Robert Darben, Jack Kenney, Robert Lydecker and David Wilson. The two leaders last named took a group of Scouts to the Windbeam Forest Fire Lookout. From the tower they obtained a magnificent view of the country, which on clear days takes in a radius of fifty miles. The view from the Lookout at the Glen covers the metropolitan district.

One patrol went on an exploration hike. It was accompanied by an Indian, Wani, as a guide. The patrol blazed a trail through the woods with the Indian's sense of direction as a guide. This patrol later dramatized an Indian legend, called Lover's Leap, which was performed at campfire and vigorously applauded. Wani was able to flip a rope and tie knots at the loose end without using his free hand. He was also a remarkable swimmer.

Among the season's features was a costume day when many campers appeared in a large variety of costumes some of which were obtained through the courtesy of Theodore Wuerfel. The patrols gave a series of stunts at the campfire with a watermelon as a prize. Production of short plays was a feature of the season. It was probably the highest mark in theatricals reached in the history of the camp.

John McMullen gave an indication of his future career by playing a prominent part in aquatic sports. At one time he held seven camp records. He was the first Scout to earn the canoeing merit badge in the 1932 camp. John has finished his course as a midshipman at the United States Naval Academy and is now with the navy at Hawaii. This warning appeared in the Tulip Leaf: "Don't sleep near Mac unless you are deaf."

Mr. Privette encouraged The Tulip Leaf, which is still going strong, and developed publicity in the Eagle Rock Council area in other ways. He had a good voice for singing and led the campers

in their festivals of song. Horseshoe pitching and archery were among the season's features. The camp had previously obtained the services of an excellent chef, John Bloomberg, who was a fixture for the remainder of the Thirties. The Kiwanian visitors were ravenous over his pies. When John's professional work required living in California later, he crossed the continent to continue as chef at Glen Gray in the summers.

## 1933

Scout Executive Privette was the supervising director of Glen Gray this season with John Beam of Elizabeth assuming a large share of the actual direction of the camp. Beam was a senior at Tusculum College in Tennessee and had twelve years Scouting experience. He also had been Director of Camp Trinity.

Nelson Pearce was listed as an "Itinerant associate camp director". Ed Dupont assisted "Pop" Williams, the camp forester, in handicraft work. It was "Pop" Williams' first year at the camp. Bennett Engle was director of nature study and archery and Malcolm Arny had charge of the waterfront. Jim Donald had the quartermaster's job, David Wilson was storekeeper and Robert Lydecker, hikemaster.

The Tulip Leaf was prepared and edited by an unusually large number of campers consisting of John Beal, Robert Lydecker, Robert Shepard, Edward Du Pont, Fraser Allen, Alexander Beal, John Flowers, William Larson, Harry Messersmith, Vincent Arny, Thomas Bourn, William Smythe, George Hathaway, John White, Carl Meurk, James Apple, Henry Blauvelt, John Clark, Hugh Johnson, George Myron, Selwyn Townsend, and John Winslow. This rotation in the editors enabled a larger number to qualify for the merit badge in journalism.

Throughout the season The Tulip Leaf published these principal features:

The conversion of Uncle Frank Gray's cabin into a library following a talk that J. Walker McSpadden had with Mr. Gray at the Clifton Spring's Sanitarium.

Assignment of camp patrols to two main divisions, Red and Gold, with many contests between the two in water sports, baseball, archery and rifle shooting. John McMullen headed the Gold

division and Richard Lydecker, the Red. There was also a Blue division under Alexander Beal consisting of the Pioneers and Indians.

Nelson Pearce's leadership of the Royal Order of Flying Sea Horses and his guidance in the Tonco Coo belt ceremonies.

Development of the Pioneer Village and Charles McMullen's work in camp improvements.

Indian ceremonies under the management of Sherman and Fred Wing and George M. Riley, the pageant director.

Malcolm Arny's development of the waterfront system.

Blacksmithing in Woodville, directed by "Pop" Williams.

Invasion of the Girl Scout Camp Madeline Mulford by the Glen Gray Indians who entertained the girls with pageant, dancing and songs. The Girl Scouts responded with their own Indian dances and songs. Then they all danced together.

Alexander Imlay's discovery of a pileated woodpecker, a rare bird in this region.

H. T. Cruikshauk's attractive map of the camp.

The Camp Committee in its yearly report praised the Kiwanis Club of Montclair for doing a vast amount of repair work when the camp faced a shortage of funds. The club furnished the material and repaired the tent platforms and dock and repaired the Mess Hall tables so the boys might be seated in groups of eight instead of twelve.

The Camp Committee's report also showed that financial clouds overhung the season of 1933 owing to the number of unpaid bills. The year was started with an indebtedness of $1500. The report stated that sunshine came through the thinning clouds when a group of twelve men with the consent of the Community Chest passed the hat and raised $1200.

Glen Gray was used early this season as a training camp for 25 representatives from the various councils of New Jersey. The sessions lasted four days. J. P. Freeman, dean of the Training School of National Headquarters, requested the use of the camp.

Another interesting sidelight on the camp's year was a gift of $750 from the Scout Mothers of Montclair and Glen Ridge. Once more the Scout Mothers proved their value in an emergency.

The establishment of a Pioneer Village in 1933 was started by a group of advanced Scouts who wanted "to rough it more". The village became known also as Padigumpus, sometimes spelled Pattigumpus on the principle that Indians seldom used what was equivalent to "d" in their language. The name signifies "over the water". The village is on the opposite side of the lake from the original camping site where the Lenni Lenapes—"men among men" —dwell.

In the latter part of 1933 John Davidson, Jr., resigned as chairman of the Camp Committee on account of pressure of business. He was succeeded by Charles S. McMullen who devoted many months in camp to working on necessary improvements which culminated in his building the Mothers' Pavilion near the dam. His son, John, assisted him. The pavilion was much needed as it gives the Scout Mothers a place where they can rest and have a sociable time.

## Ernest McCoy, Camp Director
## Robert Blunt, Assistant

### 1934

Ernest McCoy, head of the physical education department of the Montclair High School and a former football and basketball star at the University of Michigan, took charge of the camp as director in 1934. He was assisted by another popular arrival, Robert Blunt, principal of the Cedar Grove School and a Scoutmaster. Mr. Blunt's role was the direction of the camp's program. The pattern of the camp remained much the same with the Lenni Lenapes and Progumpians as the main divisions and was conducted on the patrol basis. Participation in athletic features was extended. Nelson Pearce conducted several over-night hikes and assisted otherwise in the camp activities.

The door was thrown wide open for Scouts of the West Essex division of the Eagle Rock Council to be admitted to camp. The influx had begun in 1933 but the facilities did not permit full participation. Previous to this the West Essex Scouts had been going to Camp Wyanokie near Macopin in the Wanaque River valley, which had been leased from the Caldwell Young People's Camp Association, representing the churches of that community.

The Wyanokie camp property was purchased by the Caldwell Association in 1919. Its first trustees were Lynn G. Lockward, John Espy, W. H. Van Wart, F. B. Smith and R. C. Lockward. A dam was built and a lake developed for the camp to which were admitted boys and girls in 1920. A large log cabin was also constructed. For several years camping went on but was discontinued for financial reasons. Then the Boy Scout organization took over the property by lease which continued under the Eagle Rock Council jurisdiction. The property is being used by Scouts for short term camping. There are 105 acres in the site which is capable of attractive development when conditions warrant.

In this year Scout Commissioner Theodore T. Dorman praised the exceptionally high standard of Scouting that Camp Glen Gray had reached. In addition, the physical side of the camp had improved as the result of intensive work done by Chairman Charles S. McMullen and other members of the camp committee. Mr. McMullen had devoted many weeks of hard manual work in effecting improvements.

Furthermore, the 1934 season was a pronounced financial success in the midst of the national depression, eliciting the commendation of the Chief Scout Executive Dr. James E. West, in a letter to Scout Executive Privette.

At the annual banquet, a new feature was introduced by having the Scout Mothers participate, for which their president, Mrs. David B. Sutherland, expressed warm thanks in an address. The Scout Mothers, incidently, had a jolly time boating and canoeing on the lake.

In the twilight a silent blessing was invoked on Uncle Frank Gray whose condition at the Clifton Springs Sanitarium caused the deepest concern. A cheering message was sent to him. It was the last he received from a Glen Gray banquet. He passed away the following spring.

The records show that this was one of the best seasons during Mr. Privette's executiveship in the attendance at camp. There were 190 boy campers for a total of 517 weeks. This was largely due to the Camp Savings Plan instituted in the Troops of the Council. There was a substantial volume of publicity during the season, but the source material preserved at Council headquarters is scanty for 1934.

Scoutmaster O. K. Taylor camped his Troop 12 of Montclair on the Pattigumpus side of the lake this season. One night the Lenni Lenapes and Piogumpians waged a "terrific" battle with a surprising climax when the neophyte campers found that the battle had left them stripped of garments in an unusual initiation prank. The rival camp veterans stole away with the habiliments as booty. The yearling campers were well baptized in the lake.

## 1935

Glen Gray's season of 1935 continued on a patrol basis under Mr. McCoy and Mr. Blunt. The camp was in three divisions, the Piogumpians, Eagles and Lenni-Lenapes. The Piogumpians' meeting place was in the Pioneer Village. New members were initiated in various ways, one of which was to make the neophyte walk a quarter of a mile blindfolded. The Eagles had their Nest.

Initiation of new members consisted in part of an imaginary snake bite, which was treated with a solution of red ink, and of placing three logs, supposedly "babies", in an initiate's arms which soon, with their weight, bore him to the ground. Victims were also "branded" and pestered continually by imaginary beasts of the forest, including eagles, snakes, turtles and bees. Another of the initiates was forced to hold a can in which, he was assured, was a copperhead. "Pete" Cole acted as fire-keeper.

David Wilson, the nature councilor, was the chief of the Lenni Lenape tribe this season. He devised a ritualistic ceremony of initiation without much of a "scare" element. Sometimes members of the tribe were directed to sing solos for the entertainment of the neophytes. Then Dave would read ghost stories, after which there would be something of a feast.

All members of the camp staff were of Eagle rank. Pell Brown was mess sergeant; Ted Brown, director of Scout advancement; Boyd Dickerson, quartermaster; Alex Ross, librarian; Harold Dickinson, craftwork director, and George Gimbel and Donald Fraser, storekeepers.

George Gimbel as keeper of the Trading Post was described by The Tulip Leaf as resembling "a Persian cat" with a great deal of patience. "Day after day he stands behind the counter and listens to his customers verbally mutilating the slogan of the Gimbel and Fraser Laundry Company, wittily inserting in the place of

'wash' the word 'wreck' and other additions of a similar 'caliber'. However, don't pity him too much; just try to get a refund out of that guy!"

Keith K. Peaslee, assistant executive, was very active in camp in this period. He was called "Pete" and was decidedly popular. Pete asked Bob Blunt to go to the west end of the lake with him and help drag a large tulip tree which he had cut down, to a spot near the mess hall. The journey was long and strenuous but campers went to their assistance and carried the tree to the designated spot. There began the transformation of the tree into a totem pole. It was designed for the National Jamboree in 1935 which was cancelled because of the infantile paralysis epidemic. This was a severe blow to "Pete" and the pole received the epithet of "Peaslee's Folly". "Pete" had, however, the satisfaction of conducting a successful winter season of camping on a fully organized basis—a new feature.

When the Jamboree was held in 1937 Bob Blunt had the good fortune of seeing the pole taken to Washington where it was one of the features of the great encampment. The pole was then termed "Blunt's Success". Meantime "Pete" Peaslee had gone to the Herkimer Council in New York State as the executive. Before he left he conducted an experimental camp for poor boys in Glenfield Park, Montclair, that was a success. Many of the boys were able later to enjoy Glen Gray.

Pete was succeeded by Milton Wyatt, who was soon called to another council, and his successor was Ray Logan, who also accepted a tender from still another council. Both of these men figured in the administration of the camp and its activities. They covered the West Essex Division of the Council area. C. Dudley Moore was the Field Executive for Glen Ridge and also gave effective help to Glen Gray for many years. He directed many rallies and rounded up many campers for the regular summer seasons.

From 1935 to 1937 there was an extension of the camp activities in the way of sports with occasional competition with other camps. There was always, however, the fundamental program of Scout work and training on a patrol basis.

In the Tulip Leaf for July 28, 1935, we read: "At last the camp has found a game that they can play without getting razzed if they play poorly. That game is volley ball, and because of the fact that there's no real question of skill and no fear of being razzed every boy has a much better time."

The Lenni Lenapes and the Piogumpians, the two main divisions of the camp, were locked in keen rivalry. Bluntville, named for the associate director, came into existence. The Eagles had their Nest. Other sections of the Glen were soon to receive denominations as will be seen. Sometimes the Tulip Leaf appeared without carrying the names of the editorial board. The camp was evidently too busy with other activities than the literary variety.

In 1935 there was a prank organization in camp known as "The Shark Club". Qualifications for membership depended upon the expertness with which the candidates could bite or pinch while in the water. Tests were made on various articles and sometimes on

the bodies of unsuspecting swimmers. This club has done effective work in training younger boys in swimming and eluding pursuers.

Another organization called "The Royal Order of the Flying Sea Horses" began to function at camp in the early Thirties. Membership in this body depended upon the ability to do various kinds of stunts in the water. The principal organizer was reputed to be Nelson Pearce. The organization had a system of rules and regulations which were adapted as corrective measures for younger campers who needed special training.

Chairman Charles S. McMullen in his report of the Camp Committee for 1935 outlined a large number of necessary improvements. He urged the building of a new hospital as the old one was in a bad location. These improvements were made ultimately.

## 1936

### Ernest McCoy, Camp Director
### Robert Blunt, Associate

In 1936 the Tulip Leaf published its editorial board as follows: Editor-in-chief, Paul Mohr; assistant editor, John Whitehead; Literary Editor, Ted Simmons; Art Editor, Kant Draw (this name is suspicious and was adopted apparently to conceal the identity of the cartoonist and also to protect him from possible jeers). The Staff Adviser was Mr. Blunt. The camp was divided into seven patrols.

We read in the Tulip Leaf that Arthur Heyer deposited the charcoal of the previous season's camp fire and started the new season's camp fire. Director McCoy then announced that the only camp law was the Scout law. (This conformed to the tradition laid down by Mr. Gray.) An Indian brave next appeared and gave in trust to the camp the use of the lake, the forest and the hills, which tender was accepted by Mr. McCoy. Nelson Pearce, an Old Guard leader, was on hand to participate in the ceremony.

A large tent was erected near the dam for the accommodation of Scout officials and visitors. It was dubbed "Hotel Privette". It was a notable feature of the camp life and well packed with cots. As a result it was also known as "The Snorers' Retreat".

It was announced in the Tulip Leaf of August 9 that a new council ring had been built. The stone fireplace, laid in 1923 with stones in the form of a tulip leaf by Harold Ferber, "the man from

India who built to last", remained as did the stone chair constructed by Mr. Ferber for Uncle Frank F. Gray. An Indian ceremonial was held and a scroll describing the previous season's activities was buried by Director McCoy.

The editorial board of the Tulip Leaf underwent a change in the latter half of this season to provide a rotation of duties. Howard Sherman became editor. His assistants were Harry Gustin and "Mus" Bowen. Gerd Holborn had charge of the art work and Bob Blunt was staff adviser.

P. C. (Pop) Williams, the camp ranger, who had thoroughly established his popularity, directed all pioneer and woodcraft work. He promoted basketry and pack baskets were continually in demand. Bob Saunders and Don Hill had charge of the waterfront. Ted Brown took care of advancement, Leon Bowen of hike training, Dick Honaman of nature work in succession to Dave Wilson and Hal Dickinson of camp handicraft. The season's eats were so good that the campers lauded Bloomburg as "The best chef the camp ever had". The chef always took care to preserve his reputation.

Among the season's features were many swimming and athletic contests including a victory over Camp Yaw Paw. The tribe of Nehijas came into prominence. They beat the Piogumpians in a rifle match but the latter tribe turned the tables on them by taking the swimming meet.

During this period the leading bugler in the Eagle Rock Council was Robert Taggart, Jr., who participated in the principal ceremonials. His services extended over several years. Scoutmasters O. K. Taylor and George Taylor took an active part in camp life with their troops in this period. Their activities have continued year after year in the upbuilding of the camp.

Here are some personal items taken from The Tulip Leaf:

"The store started off with a bang; so did the assistant storekeeper (also librarian) Bill Soule who was seen in the car with a very nice girl."

"The strong man of the camp apparently was called 'Half Pint' Stiff. His Christian name proved to be 'Bert' and he had wavy locks of hair."

"Troop 12, Montclair, has more boys in camp than any other troop. They have had this honor for a number of years." Credit Scoutmaster O. K. Taylor.

## 1937

### Ernest McCoy, Camp Director
### Robert Blunt, Program Director

Mr. McCoy was the director and Mr. Blunt had charge of the program again in 1937. Bob Saunders once more was the chief at the waterfront, Mike Killian and Dick Honaman had the nature trail and museum duties. George Gimbel was the quartermaster.

The Tulip Leaf's staff consisted of John Whitehead, editor; Tom Connell, John Regan, Thomas Regan, Bob Rowe, Stewart Fish-

ler and Arthur Cart, reporters; Doug Stone, art editor; Nick Christy, Jack O'Connor and David Cutler, assistants. Bill Herdman was staff adviser. The camp had two main divisions or "tribes"—the Lenni Lenapes and the Piogumpians—who were again locked in tense rivalry for high honors.

Two rowboats were given to the camp by the Scout Mothers of Glen Ridge. One of the season's features in lake sports was the greased watermelon contest. Briefly the competition involved the ability to capture the melon from the opposing side and by swimming manoeuvers to place the melon in a boat at one end of the field of competition. The Indian tribes, as usual held ceremonials at their council camp fires. The senior staff beat the campers in baseball due to Director McCoy's "fireball pitching".

An extraordinary event was the visit of 18 Chilean Scouts for a weekend after going to the National Jamboree at Washihngton. The visitors sang their "peppy" songs one of which was learned well enough by the Glen Gray hosts so that they could sing it afterwards. The Chileans slept in Mothercroft and praised the eats. Many mementoes were exchanged. The neatness and courtesy of the visitors were highly regarded by the Glen Gray Scouts who presented pack baskets to them. The Tulip Leaf observed that the Chilean Scouts' attempts at learning life saving "amused many of us".

The patrols of the camp were developing interesting titles. There were the Snake Eyes, Pole Cats, Wood Pussies, Convicts, Cue Balls, Bottle Tops and Leaden Mallets. Certain Scouts received Senior Camper awards for outstanding work. These awards were made weekly and stimulated the spirit of efficiency.

A custom of rewards had been developed for those campers who were able after searching their own consciences either to accept or reject the belt of the Good Indian. If a camper was convinced that he had done his best to live up to the ideals of the camp he accepted the belt. If not, he would reject it, thereby showing his courage at any rate. This custom may be open to some criticism that the over-conscientious or excessively introspective camper might make a mistake in self-appraisal especially if contrasted to a less scrupulous and more ambitious or carefree Scout.

The editorial board of The Tulip Leaf in the latter half of the season was composed of John Whitehead, editor; Howard Sherman and Tom Connell, assistants, Henry Brosowski, reporter, Doug Stone, art director, and Bill Herdman, staff adviser. In a late issue Howard Sherman shifted to the art editorship and Ervin Dunn became a reporter. Don Crittenden, Graham MacPherson, David Bancel, Nick Christy, John Bungenstab and Stafford Owen also helped The Tulip Leaf.

The Lenni Lenapes, in English meaning "Men among men", had a fairly successful season in their contests with Pattigumpians. Bill Herdman entertained them with Irish songs, "Mus" Bowen and Dick Honaman rewarded the Piogumpians by displaying their talent as songsters. George Gimbel really puzzled the music critic of The Tulip Leaf whether his rendition of the famous song "Jesse

James" could be really classed as "singing". George made amends by telling a mystery story. Charlie Berthoud and Bob Schumann proved that they could *sing*. The latter rendered a Chilean ditty.

It is to be borne in mind that from the founding of Glen Gray all year camping had been going on. Many Scouts had built their individual cabins some of which were subsequently razed or dismantled. One was accidently burned without surrounding damage. Throughout the Thirties troop cabins were displacing the one man variety. In the latter part of that decade many troops of the Eagle Rock Council had cabins in the Glen.

In the case of Glen Ridge all of its troops had cabins. Troop One had a structure built at considerable expense. Troops Two, Three, Four and Five Scouts constructed their own cabins. The Glen Ridge District Committee recently transported its cabin from the South Orange Reservation to the southwesterly end of Lake Vreeland to be a training center. Homer H. Timbers, Alan W. Morrison and Robert Lydecker did considerable work in connection with this project. Charles McMullen of the Camp Committee also extended his aid in the use of a truck for the transportation.

Many kinds of entertainment, including puppet shows and bridge parties, were held in Glen Ridge to raise funds for the troop cabins. The building operation decidedly increased winter camping by the borough Scouts.

Montclair troops are also well represented in the way o fcabins. Those having their own structures are: Troops One, Two, Four, Five, Seven, Eight, Nine, Ten, Eleven and Fourteen. Troop Six is arranging to build a cabin with the help of the Kiwanis Club. There are also some cabins individually built.

Troop Three of the Caldwell District has the largest distinctly troop structure in the Glen. The cabin was built by the American Legion, the troop's sponsor.

The Tulip Leaf paid honor to the eight Scouts who went to the World Jamboree in Holland this year under the leadership of Scoutmaster Charles ("Chuck") Watkins of Troop 4 of Glen Ridge. The Scouts were Paul and Robert Gunther-Mohr, Arthur Heyer, Douglas Congdon, Edward Strother, Neil Wintringham, Douglas Gremmel and Edward Simmons.

Scoutmaster Watkins who became an Eagle Scout in California —Uncle Dan Beard awarded the badge—rendered fine service to Camp Glen Gray by developing steady all year camping by members of his Troop. He personally financed the building of a cabin which was later enlarged and turned into a troop rendezvous. Mr. Watkins is now an Assistant Scout Executive in Hackensack. One of his bays, Neil Wintringham, won the highest honors in the Glen Ridge High School at graduation and gained a scholarship at Cornell.

## CHAPTER XXIV

## 1938

### M. C. MacPherson, Scout Executive
### Julian D. Page, Camp Director

Coming to the closing years of the Thirties we find a different set-up of Council officials. Henry J. Porter retired from the presidency of the Eagle Rock Council in 1938 to preserve a rotating policy and was succeeded by R. Karl Honanman. Mr. Porter was appointed chairman of the Camp Committee. M. C. ("Scotty") MacPherson was obtained from a West Virginia Scout Council to serve as Scout Executive. Ray Logan was his assistant.

Mr. MacPherson rose from Scout rank to his professional status. He had plenty of experience in camping in Massachusetts during his Scout career. Later in the South his camping experiences developed uniqueness. His executive work spread over a wide territory, at one time touching three states.

Sometimes he did his "camping" in a motor car or a train with hiking as part of the program. When he entered upon his new duties in this council, the conditions led to the decision to have Julian D. Page, physical education director of the Essex Fells School, as Camp Director with Mr. MacPherson as the general supervisor. Ray Logan became assistant to Mr. Page. Bob Saunders resumed the waterfront job. Lee Stacy had charge of the nature trail and museum. George Gimbel was the quartermaster, Henry Bogardus, the bugler and John Bloomburg the chef. Bruce Brown and George Arfken were the storekeepers and Jack Bortell, the camp engineer.

The basis of the camp was the troop plan with patrols. Leathercraft was introduced under Charles (Chuck) Finley. John Whitehead became editor of The Tulip Leaf with Charles Berthoud looking after the art features. The Tulip Leaf, in describing the opening of camp, quoted Mr. MacPherson as saying that he hoped "We'd all go home five pounds heavier." The paper then comments: "Poor Russ Giannetti! He weighs 200 pounds already." As far as the record shows Russ managed to keep his weight fairly close to that limit by the intensity of his activities!

New construction was a feature of the season. It was a two story hospital of frame and concrete with ample facilities for the camp. The physician had his separate quarters. Frank Vreeland designed the structure. Dr. Ethan T. Colton, vice-president of the Council, supervised the technical arrangements and equipment. He had recommended the building of a new hospital. Chairman Henry J. Porter of the Camp Committee and Harold Huntley also attended to many details in which Jack Bortell participated.

This construction had its inception in a fund originally started by the parents of Ralph Davidson who died while active as a Scout. The Rotary Club of Montclair developed the fund so that there was sufficient money to erect the building. The Davidson fund was devoted to equipment. Scout Mothers assisted in providing equip-

ment. The hospital was dedicated to all Scouts of the Council who died in training. Dr. Colton supervised the health and sanitation features of the camp.

Sufficient money was also raised to repair "Sleepy Hollow" as the old hospital was called. This was the structure which had housed Uncle Frank Gray, and was built by the "redoubtable chef", Lewis, in the Twenties.

The additions to the camp and the new sections by this time had progressed to such an extent that the partitions of the site received a variety of names. The camp has such famous cities as Tokio, Berlin, Hamburg, Potsdam, Rome and Vienna. A new camp site was developed at the westerly end of the lake and was referred to as "not a Dam(n) site; this is a Boy Scout Camp."

Beavers had been introduced and a Beaverville was planned. Four beavers soon developed into eight beavers. They kept industrious according to the tradition of the species. Bluntville was extended until there was an Upper Bluntville.

"Scotty" MacPherson was achieving early distinction. He was credited with having defeated the horshoe champion, Mike Scillia, Scoutmaster of the Kiwanis Troop 6 of Montclair, who as a professional welder had managed to weld his horseshoes to the pin with a frequency that dismayed competitors.

The Troop basis of the camp was divided as follows:

Troop 1. Earl Germond
Troop 2. Bob Morrison
Troop 3. Jack (Rip) La Rue
Troop 4. Mike Scillia
Troop 5. William (Bud) Montgomery
Provisional Scoutmaster Donald MacFeeters

A newcomer to the camp as nature director was Carl Di Gennero.He had specialized as a naturalist and was a teacher in the Union City High School.

The Tulip Leaf's staff consisted of John Whitehead, editor; George Woodruff, assistant editor; George Gimbel, Bill Zinzow and Frank Ricciardi, reporters. Our old friend, Kant Draw, was the art editor.

Among the celebrities who visited the camp was Riley Scott, the wandering poet from Kentucky. He read, or recited, his poems to the campers and effected some sales on very moderate terms to "those romantically inclined".

A sensation of the season was the forcible immersion of the editor of the Tulip Leaf. He put it in Latin thus: "In aquam jaciebatur".

There was competition with Camp Tamarack whose site is only about a mile distant by woodland trail. "Scotty" MacPherson showed what he could do by covering the distance in eleven minutes. The Tulip Leaf does not report who was the timekeeper, but Scotty insists that the timing was correct. A large part of the trail is up-hill and winding. Later "Scotty" posted a record of ten minutes.

Glen Gray emerged from the season with victories over Camp Tamarack and Camp Yaw Paw which aroused great enthusiasm.

For the end-of-the-season banquet The Tulip Leaf produced a well illustrated issue with pictures of the staff leaders, of President R. Karl Honaman and of Scout Executive MacPherson. Many records were broken during the season and a large number of awards given. Al Peterson was one of the recipients as a Fire Builder. This is the highest award given by the staff and is bestowed weekly on campers showing outstanding work.

As an exhibition of the economy in the camp administration The Tulip Leaf says in one week when there were 118 campers and 31 staff members "only one box of matches, according to George Gimbel, was used". The report does not show, however, whether the box was large or small, but the presumption is that the storekeeper, being scrupulously exact, would have designated the size of the box if it had been large. He was known as "The guardian of the red ink."

At any rate, in that one week the campers had consumed 976 quarts of milk, 544 pounds of meat, 32 chickens, and 100 pounds of butter besides large quantities of bread, etc. There was one spot in the camp where matches were in frequent use. It was in the cabin of "Pop" Williams and the environs. The Tulip Leaf ran a series of features about the camp ranger and the clouds of tobacco smoke from his pipe. The editor and his assistants kept interviewing "Pop" who delivered his homilies aimed through clouds of smoke.

Next to his pipe as a recreation "Pop" is devoted to cribbage in the playing of which he breathes defiance to all comers. H. T. Cruikshank of the Camp Committee had a series of encounters, some of which extended as long as a week, with the ranger who remained still defiant although his opponent went away very happy the last time.

On one occasion after walloping "Pop" Mr. Cruikshank discovered that a cabin was being built at the far westerly end of the camp by an interloper, who was forthwith compelled to raze his structure. The camp committeeman was in the habit of guiding Scouts in their work for the merit badge in surveying and went over the camp boundaries in that connection. Hence the discovery. Credit cribbage also.

## 1939

### M. C. MacPherson, Director in Chief
### Julian D. Page, Camp Director

For the camping season of 1939 The Tulip Leaf issued at the start an Information Edition containing a map of Glen Gray and its principal features. It was drawn by Jim Gallaway. Julian D. Page entered upon his second season as Camp Director. Assistant Scout Executive Raymond Logan was business manager and Bruce Brown his assistant. John Whitehead was store keeper and David "Mus" Bowen quartermaster, assisted by William Rice, Edward

Wagenaar, formerly of the Ten Mile River Camp of New York, headed the waterfront staff. His senior assistants were William (Bud) Montgomery and Thomas Connell. Jack O'Connor was junior assistant. "Chuck" Finley acted as crafts director and "Pop" Williams, the ranger, again ran his basket—and smoke—shop.

The basis of the camp program continued on the Scout Troop plan. Each week campers were assigned to a provisional troop under the leadership of a Scoutmaster who planned and carried out an activity program. The Scoutmasters with troop designations were:

| | |
|---|---|
| Troop 1. | Warren Purn |
| Troop 2. | Malcolm Steer |
| Troop 3. | George Gimbel |
| Troop 4. | Donald Fraser |
| Troop 5. | John Huntley |
| Troop 6. | Richard Gibbons |
| Relief | Alan Conklin |

The bugler was again Henry Bogardus. Sidney Richardson was mess sergeant and Robert Honeyman headed the dishwashing staff. Many Glen Gray dishwashers have become Eagle Scouts and Robert is one of them. The job is a post of honor with a long tradition.

The Tulip Leaf's staff consisted of Howard Sherman, Editor, Warren Purn, Production Manager, and Howard Tober as an assistant. This was a smaller staff than usual but it did the work for a time. Editor Sherman was also librarian and chairman of the Court of Honor. The paper carried a few illustrated advertisements, particularly about the Trading Post, "the center of Glen Gray Financial Life." In other words, it was the Wall Street of the camp. Presumably New York took its place as another of the "Famous Cities" of Glen Gray as this was the year of the World's Fair. The Scouts were "het up" over the Fair for they made two trips to see "the World of Tomorrow". On the first trip the Scouts weathered a rain storm but that didn't matter. They had better luck the second time.

As the season progressed The Tulip Leaf needed some help, so Donald Margeson and Sidney Richardson were added to the staff. Jim Galloway continued his cartoon work. Finally William Abulo was added to the staff.

A new organization came into the life of the camp. It was the Knighthood of the Golden Scepter. Being dubbed a knight has a glamorous tradition but in the case of this new camp baby the tradition had a shock. Membership was limited to those who carelessly threw waste paper on the camp ground. Every offender was knighted and then compelled to pick up fifty pieces of wandering paper. John Huntley was the first knight of the Golden Scepter. Others were ushered into the Knighthood later. Unfortunately The Tulip Leaf reporter did not "follow up" and the full record of knights is not available for this record. This compiler is suspicious that some knighthoods were deliberately sought in the camp's hilarity. John Huntley has plenty of humor.

During the season energetic vigilance work was done by a group of campers who bore the title of Knights of the Bath. It was a corrective organization and pledged to secrecy regarding its membership. These knights prided themselves on maintaining secrecy. Their operations, however, were bold and "blitzkrieg"-like in execution. The members adopted disguises in apparel and their faces were partly or entirely masked.

The primary object of the organization was to see that campers obeyed that point of the Scout law which requires cleanliness. Mere swimming in the lake was not sufficient to meet the camp regulation about keeping clean. The campers had to wash themselves daily with soap and water. The knights detected some campers who were not doing this. They made swift descents upon the culprits at night to enforce the scrubbing act.

A group of campers on the Pattigumpus side of the lake issued a defiance later and prepared to combat any vigiliance work in their particular direction. This challenge was taken up by the knights who bided their time and struck the camp early one morning. The knights included many huskies who overpowered their adversaries and gave them a bath in the lake. This was more of a battle in fun and was not a punitive expedition for failure to obey camp regulations. The knights wanted to teach a lesson to defiers.

Another tradition crept into camp in recognition of "Peaslee's Folly" and "Blunt's Success". "Chuck" Finley was inspired to design a totem pole. He got the boys to work on it as a Troop project. It remains to be seen whether it will have a name of distinction. The pole is ten feet high and is erected at the entrance to the Troop camp in Beaverville.

Glen Gray and Camp Tamerack had two hot competitions in lake and field sports this season. Honors were about evenly divided in the first tussle but the Tamarack Scouts gloated over some contests and professed to have the edge on the meet which was held on their camp ground.

Later the Tamarack forces went to the Glen for a return meet. They were in a highly optimistic mood at luncheon and sang tumultuously in the mess hall. The hosts endured this ordeal with admirable courtesy but vowed in whispers that they would show the invaders something that could not be laughed off. They did show 'em by winning all the swimming and field events.

In this inter-camp battle Ross Worn distinguished himself by towing the greased matermelon between his long legs and enabling his teammate, Kuno Pfeiffer, to throw the melon into the boat. This event furnished the greatest satisfaction to the Glen Gray campers. The Tamarack boys bore the defeat with good Scouting spirit.

Glen Gray had been preparing for those major contests by holding a series of inter-troop competitions and also for the grand water carnival which was held at the end of the season under the direction of Ed Wagenaar assisted by Dick Gibbons.

At the opening of the carnival the Glen Gray Aquatette sang two selections in fortissimo style. The Aquatette consisted of John Huntley, Jay Dee" Page, Al Conklin and John Whitehead. This

performance was followed by the Docketts in precision dancing and John Bissell in a whirling Dervish act. Next was a mass scene of precision swimming by Glen Gray Sharkmen. George Gimbel, in turn, "rolled out his barrel". Specialties were shown by "Tarzan" Christy. David Dancel gave an exhibition of "Casey at the Bat".

An act of More Little Fishes was done by the Big Three of the Waterfront, the art of pugilism was displayed by Peterson and Giannetti and Chinese life saving was demonstrated by Al Conklin and Ed Wegenaar. There was a grand finale by the Sharkmen and the Aquatette.

The carnival produced waves of merriment and also bursts of applause over the aquatic art of the participants.

During the season Mike Scillia with Earl Germond organized squads and began the construction of an Aqua-Theatre for the new swimming area. A dry stone wall along the shore front was built. It stopped the washing away of the soil into the lake. The slope was cleared near the shore and a small area was provided for spectators.

This Aqua-Theatre is to be developed further by rows of low dry walls to form terraces and seating arrangements. The development is picturesque and is easily accessible. There was a heavy rain during the water carnival. The spectators were protected by canvas awnings.

As the finale of the season a banquet was held in honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Old Guard whose first members were selected by Frank F. Gray. The Tulip Leaf published a special banquet issue to celebrate the occasion. It listed as outstanding achievements of the season the installation of electrical appliances throughout the area; electric lighting in the main buildings; electric refrigeration in the kitchen; power equipment in the craft shop; electric pumps in the pump house to replace the gasoline kind; a chlorinator to purify the water and telephone service with a public phone in the lodge.

James Dunn and Harold Huntley did the principal work in connection with the electrification. They had the cooperation of Chairman Henry J. Porter of the Camp Committee, Scout Executive MacPherson, Ray Logan, Mike Scillia and Harry St. Clair.

## 1940

### M. C. MacPherson, Director in Chief
### John Hartwell, Camp Director

Following the twenty-fifth anniversary banquet of the Old Guard a movement was started to make the honorary body a more active organization and extend its usefulness to Glen Gray by recommending or undertaking projects for the betterment of the camp. Michael A. Scillia took a leading part in the movement and was elected president in January. Henry J. Porter became vice-president, Charles K. Richardson, Jr., secretary and Luther E. Price, historian. A constitution had been drafted by Lewis Wescoat after confer-

ences with the general committee. It was finally adopted at the January meeting and approved by the Eagle Rock Council. The plan is to hold several meetings of the Old Guard every year for the prosecution of its work.

Meantime the Eagle Rock Council officials were developing plans for a revival of Senior Scouting with the assistance of Scout Commissioner George A. Hall, the veteran Scouter who succeeded Theodore T. Dorman, Emeritus Commissioner. A special manual was prepared by E. Wilfred Congdon.

During the spring of this year an intensive campaign in behalf of Glen Gray was conducted. Camping continued on a wide scale with work on cabin projects. Many of the structures were improved.

John Hartwell was obtained from a West Virginia Council to become assistant Scout Executive and Camp Director. He was originally a Scout in Newark and later became connected with the Montclair Scout organization. His familiarity with Scouting in this area made him a happy selection.

Throughout the season of 1940 there was a tendency to return to old traditions, especially the continuous camp fire with modified night watches. The latter had been virtually discontinued for several seasons but the spirit of the Old Guard demanded a resumption of the protective and disciplinary night watch. Some camp troops established a watch in the Mess Hall where a fire was kept burning. Next season it is planned to have the night watch at the Council camp fire as in the old days.

Competition with Camp Tamarack resulted in victories for Glen Gray in the two meets with the waterfront events being the principal features. Tamarack found some consolation in winning the staff contests. This inter-camp rivalry is now well established and acts as a timulus to camp proficiency.

Among the season's activities rifle shooting and nature hikes were pronounced. There was the usual round of sports with soft ball a favorite. The end of the season found the camp in high spirits and well primed for the water carnival and the annual banquet followed by the calling of new members of the Old Guard. John Huntley was master of ceremonies at the carnival. The production was under the management of Ed Wagenaar, the waterfront director, assisted by Thomas Connell, Jack O'Connor, Ted Simmons and Hugh McCaffrey. The precision swimming of the Glen Gray Sharkmen evoked rounds of applause from the large number of spectators seated on the terraces of the Aqua-Theater. The events were generally run off to the accompaniment of sound music operated by Sidney Richardson. The Aquatette consisting of John Huntley, John Whitehead, Jack Williams and Bud Bergmann rendered spirited songs. There were canoe titling, various stunts, tap dancing. "Royal Albanian" life saving with King Neptune (Doc Albamonti) signifying his approval.

At the banquet the Mess Hall was crowded when a chicken dinner was served and several brief addresses were made, interspersed with singing led by John Huntley with Al Morrison chipping in. Beautiful weather crowned the day and night. The Old

Guard calling ceremony was deeply impressive. Many camp awards were made. Altogether the season had a most happy ending when Bill Cunningham with his bugle played taps.

The camp had a new chef, George Marshall, who with his assistant, Joseph Steinline, became very popular. They were excellent cooks and fully upheld the record established by the previous Chef John Bloomberg who was unable to leave his duties in California. Marshall and Steinline were obtained for the season from the Campus Club of Princeton University.

The Tulip Leaf's banquet issue was as elaborate as usual. Its listed staff at the close comprised: Dave Bancel, editor and president; Bill Zinzow, assistant editor; Sidney Richardson, "vice-president in charge of criticism"; Nick Christy, "vice-president in charge of vice"; Bill Wiles and Louis Gianiella, reporters and Pete Popenoe and Bill Marshall, as "other assistants". "The Sunday School" was described as the most popular camp song of the season.

An unique feature of the season's final camp fire was the presentation of a gold bracelet, with a suitably inscribed tulip leaf design, to Miss Catherine ("Kay") Phillips, by the Old Guard in recognition of her splendid services at the Eagle Rock Council's headquarters. The presentation was made by Michael A. Scillia, president of the Old Guard, whose history was reviewed briefly by David Wilson after the presentation ceremony.

On the following day, Sunday, which marked the breaking of camp two expeditions set forth from Glen Gray. One was a 100 mile canoe trip down the Delaware River from Hancock, N. Y., under the direction of Ed Wagenaar assisted by Jack O'Connor, Ted Simmons, Hugh McCaffrey, Tom Connell and John Huntley. The second expedition was an Adirondack hike under the direction of George Taylor assisted by Camp Director John Hartwell, Malcolm Steer and Pop Williams. While on the trip the hikers were entirely self-dependent. A week later, on Sunday, the two groups which were composed of many Scouts, returned to Glen Gray for a final get together and for an exchange of experiences.

In the technical features of the camp life this season the troops were the pivoting organizations. Whatever projects were initiated they were assigned to the troops. In this way the responsibility was placed on them for a smooth running of the camp routine and new development. The Old Guard under the leadership of Mike Scillia lent valuable aid in several directions, principally in the building of shower bath pavilions in Beaversville, Bluntville, Pattigumpus and Easy Street.

The most encouraging feature of the entire camping season was the enormous amount of volunteer labor which was put into the physical appearance of the camp. After check-up with the Scout Executive and the President of the Old Guard, it was estimated that in the spring of 1940 approximately six thousand man hours of labor were spent on the camp. In this work approximately fifty different men were engaged in the development of the new shower houses, the running of water lines, repair of bridges and flooring, erection of new tent platforms, repair of old tent platforms and the

development of a new water way circumscribing the playground enabling the campers to have greater use of that area for recreational activities.

An example of the agility of these men was expressed in the moving of a large two thousand gallon water tank from an old hotel in Caldwell, New Jersey, to a point some four hundred feet up the side of the south hill where it was tied into the main water lines and the lake and was later used to feed the wash houses on that side of the hill.

The season had the customary degree fun-making training. A new corrective organization was developed to deal with lazy or untidy campers. It was known as the Royal Order of Gentian Violet, operating with an antiseptic ointment which has more staying qualities than mercurochrome or iodine. When the ointment is applied it is not easy to remove. The backs and arms of the delinquent campers were tatooed.

The Knights of the Bath also continued their occasional activities to remedy the failure of some campers to use sufficient soap and water. Still another corrective organization was the Horizontal Engineers to deal with somnolent and lazy campers. The Shark Club also continued its work of promoting expert swimming. It had developed the group of Sharkmen who won admiration by their precision swimming.

"Sajheeste" was heard occasionally throughout the camp from Pattigumpus as the rally call of Troop 12. The boys made desert hats out of white painters' hats by adding a neck cloth, and built up a strong Troop spirit. They took a strong aversion to dishwashers and some of their neighbors in Bluntville. On one occasion a nightly visit to Bluntville brought the "Sajheeste" the special privilege of moving old Tokio, piece by piece.

Perhaps as part of the national defense program a "Super Highway" was constructed from Beaverville to Hamburg by the "chain gang". This latter place is not to be confused with the great German port which has been so heavily bombed.

Looking ahead to 1941. The road up "Hill 41" has already undergone a transformation. The work was accomplished through Mr. John Blondel, the chairman of a special committee for the purpose. Under his leadership the necessary funds were provided from many men interested in the camp. Mr. Crosby McGiffert surveyed the road, laid out the work to be done and gave general supervision to the project. R. Karl Honaman, president of the Council, publicly commended these men for their services.

## Dropping the Curtain

This narrative has now reached the point where Thirty Years of Scout Camping in the Eagle Rock Council area comes to a close and the curtain is dropped for scenes in the future—a future clouded with the agony of a most devastating war. Scouting is undergoing a thorough test in this crucible and time alone will show its real value and strength. In no particular probably will Scout training have

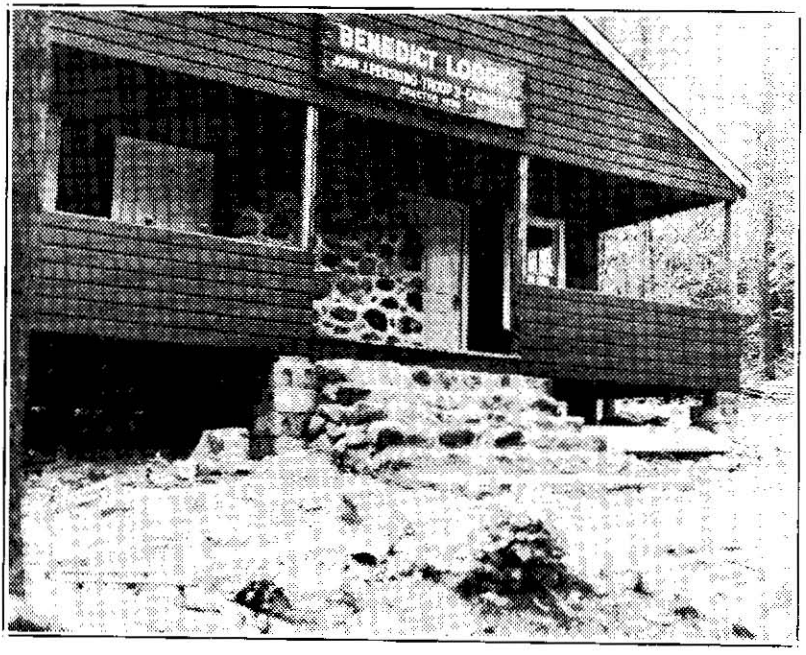
more value in this crisis than in camp life with its strengthening of mind and body. It has been truly said that the future of Scouting lies mainly in camping. Glen Gray will surely meet the test with the survival of the present spirit within the Council area. In stimulating that spirit the Old Guard has a definite task.

# ROSTER OF THE OLD GUARD

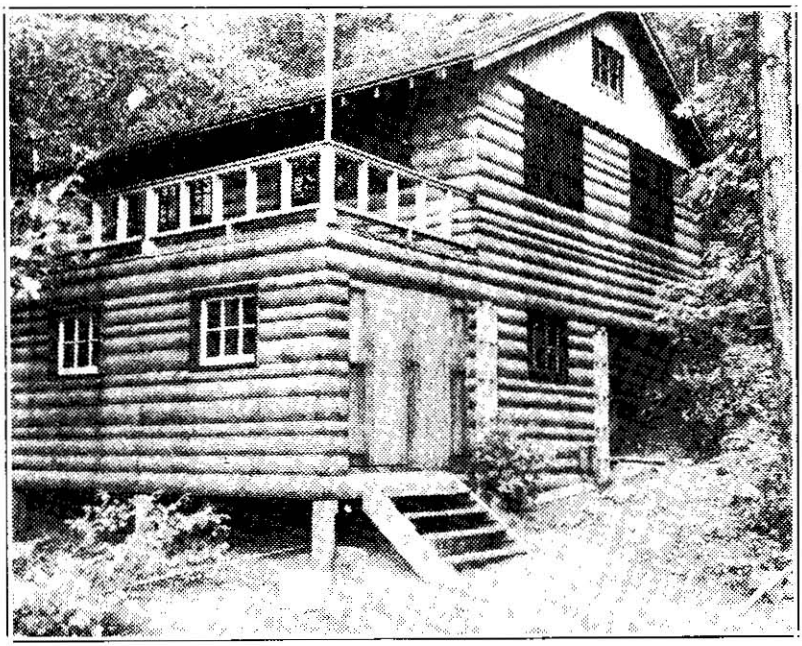
**Below is the roster of the Old Guard. Mr. Gray personally selected the members in the early period. Others were elected by Old Guard itself. In some cases the election was made as of an earlier date in view of the services rendered in those particular periods by men who contributed to the upbuilding of the camp. The roster is believed to be fairly complete though it is barely possible that there may be omissions through loss**

Hasbrouch Alliger
Francis Arny
Malcolm Arny
Edward Armbruster
John Barker
Roswell Barker
Robert Barnum
Russell Barnum
Charles Berthoud
Fred Blake
John Bloomberg
Robert Blunt
Henry Bogardus
Paul Bortell
David Bowen
Robert Bowen
Thomas Bowen
Donald Bowles
Ralph Bowles
Bruce Brown
Pell Brown
Ted Brown
John Bungenstab
Harold Burrell
Donald Bush
Charles P. Canham
Robert Carlee
William Cartmill, Jr.
Nicholas Christy
Frank Clark
John Clark
Dr. E. T. Colton, Jr.
Edward D. Cone
Alan Conklin
Thomas Connell
H. T. Cruikshank
Harold Cruikshank, Jr.
Ned Cruickshank
Dr. Burr Curtis
Edgar Davis
John Davidson, Jr.
Ralph Davidson
Douglas Dean
Richard Degenhardt
Harold Dickinson
John Dippel
James Donald
David Donald
Theodore T. Dorman
James Dunn
Edmund DuPont
Ray Elliott
Hugh Fisher
Howard Ford
Floyd Furlow
Gordon Gavan
Earl G. Germond
George German
William Getzoff
George Gimbel
William Golden
David Grimes
Capt. Stephen E. Hall
Elias Hansen
Carl B. Harris
John Harris
Robert Hatfield
Marcus Hatfield
Karl Hekler
Arthur P. Heyer
Charles Hobein
Gerd Holborn
Herbert Holland
Richard Holland
Charles Hollenbeck
Richard K. Honaman, Jr.
Robert Honeyman
Haldane Huckel
Wentworth Huckel
John Hudson
Harold Huntley
John Huntley
Dr. Lyman C. Hurlbut
Alexander Imlay
Richard Jacobus
Walter Kidde
Gordon Kitchen
Gilbert Klein
Joseph Lawlor
John Lay
Robert Lydecker
Richard Lydecker
Melville Lyman

Putnam MacDonald
Donald MacFeeters
Donald MacNutt
Bruce McBride
Ernest McCoy
Neil R. McLeod
Charles S. McMullen
John McMullen
William Marshall
Edward Mead
Arthur B. Miller
George Miner
Albert Monks
William Montgomery
C. Dudley Moore
G. K. Morrison
Robert Morrison
James Odegaard
Jack O'Connor
Cameron Ogden
Nelson Pearce
Herbert Peck
Albert Peterson
John Phillips
Thomas Pierce
Henry J. Porter
Norman Potter
J. Lowell Pratt
Luther E. Price
William E. Price
Nathan C. Price
H. McN. Privette
Robert Reid
Whitman Reynolds
E. Winslow Rice
William Rice
C. K. Richardson, Jr.
Sidney Richardson
Stuart Richardson
Lee Robb
Harry Robins
Ralph Rockhold
Harold Rogers
William A. Ropes
Lawrence Sanders
Robert Saunders
Michael A. Scillia
Robert Shepard, Jr.
Robert Sigler
William Soule
Fred Stanton
Richard Stewart
Corneille Strother
Alan Swenarton
Bruce Swenarton
Robert Taggart, Jr.
George R. Taylor
Osborne K. Taylor
George W. Tisdale
Howard Tober
William W. Turner
Howard Utter
Edward Valleau
William Vesterman
Howard Van Vleck
Joseph Van Vleck
Joseph Van Vleck, Jr.
Frank Vreeland
Harold Warnock
Donald Waterbury
Edward Wagenaar
Albert Weissenborn
Charles C. West
Lewis Westcoat
Dr. H. H. Wheaton
John Whitehead
Ted Whitmore
Joseph Wier
P. C. Williams
David Wilson
Louis Winters
Arthur Wolff
Pierce Wuerfel
Dr. Robt. Zimmerman
William Zinzow




Another Troop Cabin



Rotary Hospital

photo by Paul Parker

Facing the Future