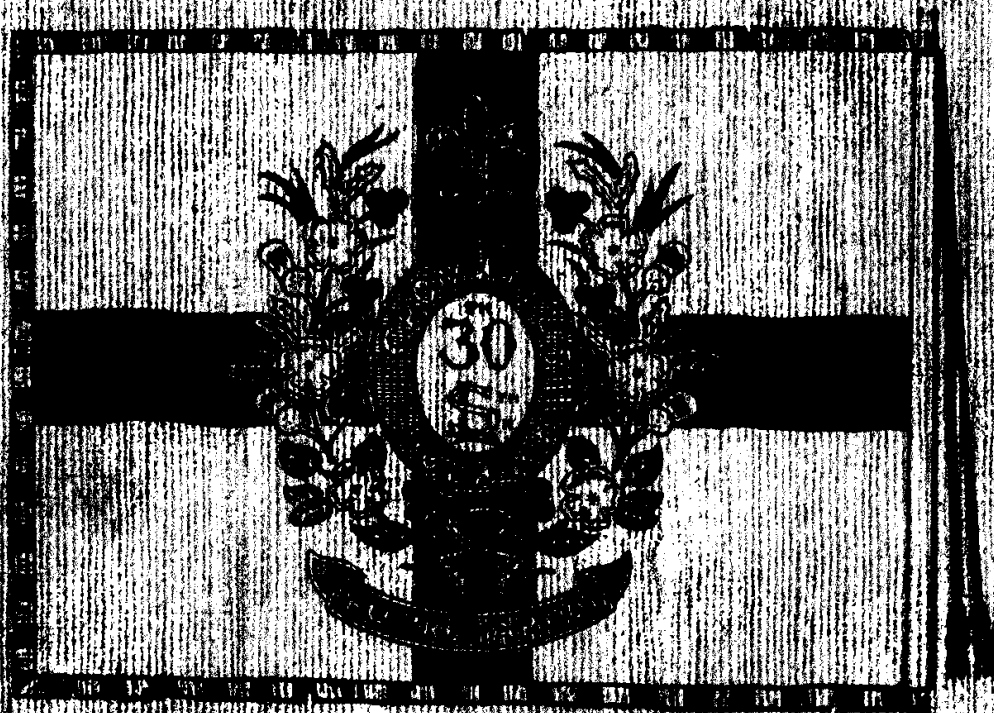


THE LOG OF "CROMWELL'S"



THE 5TH CAMBERWELL GROUP
OF
SCOUTS — ROVERS — CUBS

noe t7-50

THE LOG OF "CROMWELL'S."



A CONDENSED HISTORY OF THE GROUP
FROM ITS FORMATION TO THE PRESENT DAY.



HEADQUARTERS—

"THE RANGE," MILO GARDENS,

EAST DULWICH, S.E.22

A MESSAGE FROM SCOUTMASTER FITCH.

“COTTESMORE,”

153, LEIGHTON AVENUE,
LEIGH-ON-SEA.

January 20th, 1931.

DEAR BROTHER SCOUTS,

As S.M. of the “Cromwell’s” for twelve years I feel almost a proprietary interest in its welfare, and I write to greet you all and wish you well on the completion of twenty-two years of the existence of the Troop. May another twenty-one years find it still more flourishing and still a power for good in the district!

What a fine tradition is your inheritance! What a splendid lot of chaps those pioneers of the Troop were! They truly represented all that was best in the boyhood of their day, and like old Oliver Cromwell they placed *duty first* whatever happened. In those days Scouts were persecuted and jeered at by both boys and adults, and it needed no little courage to go out alone in uniform; but they won through prejudice and helped to gain universal recognition and approval for the Movement. They had no use for half-hearted methods and always took as their mottoes, “Do it with all thy might” and “Duty first.” The “Cromwell’s” always did everything a bit better than it was usually done, or they would not have existed to-day. You can take pride in your past history and we shall be proud to see you worthily upholding the traditions of the Troop and still adding fresh achievements and doing beneficent works to add to the long birch bark roll.

That you will be worthy of those who died in that awful war I feel sure. I hear that the “Cromwell’s” are starting a new era of activity and prosperity, and that you may make the past seem puny is my sincerest wish, and we “Old ’uns” will rejoice to see the seed which we sowed bringing forth fruit so abundantly.

Ever a “Cromwell” and Scoutiest greetings!

WALTER J. B. FITCH.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Chairman - - E. W. ROOM, J.P.

Hon. Treasurer - J. E. NEWMAN.

A. E. ODDY.

T. G. ROOM, M.A.

GROUP OFFICERS.

Group Scoutmaster A. E. ODDY.

Scoutmaster (Acting) W. BUCKLE.

Rover Mate - - S. W. JONES.

Cubmaster - - C. W. DAVIS.

Asst. C.M. - - E. F. ROGERS.

Roll of Honour.

OFFICERS AND BOYS OF "CROMWELL'S" WHO SERVED IN
THE GREAT WAR, 1914—1918.

- | | |
|--|---|
| S.M. D. A. COOKE, A.B., R.N. | SEC. C. HOLMES, Trpr., Westminster
Dragoons. |
| * „ W. J. B. FITCH, Staff Sergt.,
A.O.C. | † „ D. REID, Pte., 6th Essex. |
| „ F. W. H. SELBY, Sergt.-Major
R.D.C. | „ H. GEE., Trpr., Surrey Yeomanry. |
| † „ G. H. BEARD, Lt., R.F.C. | „ C. FITCH, Lt., M.G.C. |
| A.S.M. C. E. DOBLE, Flgt. Sergt.,
R.A.F. | „ W. MELLOR, Pte., H.A.C. |
| † „ S. J. KYNASTON, Corpl., 6th
City of London. | SCT. —. RYALL, Midshpn., Mercantile
Marine. |
| † A.C.M. D. F. G. SELBY, L/Corpl.,
H.A.C. | „ B. SHINKFIELD, Pte., Royal
Fusiliers. |
| † LDR. L. SHINKFIELD, Pte., Royal
Fusiliers. | „ G. WOOD, Mech., R.A.F. |
| † „ E. SHINKFIELD, Pte., Royal
Fusiliers. | „ —. TURNER. |
| „ J. REID, 2nd Lt., R.F.C. | † „ A. DAVIS, Senr. A.B., R.N. |
| „ V. COOKE, Corpl., R.E. | „ A. DAVIS, Junr. |
| „ V. BECKLEY, Gunr., R.G.A. | „ F. R. BOLTON. |
| „ L. MASON, Lt., Queen's West.
Dragoons. | „ W. A. GILLOTT, Trpr., 11th
Hussars. |
| „ A. MELLOR, Pte., H.A.C. | „ A. E. PAGE. |
| „ F. DEMONT, Sergt., R.A.M.C. | † „ —. PERROTT, Lt., 8th Essex. |
| „ R. GILES, Gunr., R.F.A. | † „ G. ROBERTS. |
| † „ J. H. DEAN, Rflm., Queen's West-
minster's. | „ W. KEOGH, Sergt., 6th City of
London. |
| „ J. E. NEWMAN, Rflm., K.R.R. | „ —. KEEBLE. [London. |
| „ B. DEMONT, L/Cpl., R.W. Kents. | † „ E. KENT, Pte., Queen's R.W.S. |
| † „ B. JENKINS, 2nd Lt., R.A.F. | „ T. BROWN, Mech., R.F.C. |
| „ H. GILES, Pte., Royal Fusiliers. | „ E. BROWN, Gnr., Royal Marines. |
| „ R. PURVER, Pte., 30th Lond. Regt. | „ S. WALTERS, Pte., 21st Cnty. of
London. |
| „ R. CHANNON, Pte., Royal Sussex. | „ S. LINE, Drvr., R.A.S.C. |
| | „ R. PLUMSTEAD, A.B., R.N.V.R. |
| | „ C. BUTCHER, Pte., Queen's R.W.S. |
| | „ G. WILD, Gnr., R.F.A. |
| | „ G. LONG, Pte., Queen's R.W.S. |

† Killed in Action.

* Mentioned in Despatches.

THE LOG OF "CROMWELL'S."

1908.

It was in 1908, eight years after Mafeking, that at an experimental camp for boys on Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour, Major-General Baden Powell sowed the seeds of Scouting.

The success of this camp inspired him to found the Scout Movement, and the rapid growth of the organisation can be gauged by the registration number of "Cromwells" who were formed early in 1909, and registered as the 30th South London Troop.

1909.

In January, 1909, five boys of East Dulwich, fired with enthusiasm engendered by the book, "Scouting for Boys," banded together to form the Hound Patrol, inviting Mr. D. A. Cooke to act as Scoutmaster, and Mr. W. J. B. Fitch as Assistant.

The names of the five stalwarts are as follows:—C. Fitch, V. Cooke, D. Reid, J. Reid, Baron de Beauregarde. The Troop was registered on April 20th, 1909, and the present-time uniform, consisting of a khaki shirt and blue shorts was adopted, together with a yellow scarf. So rapidly did the Troop progress that by September eighteen boys were on the roll, and three Patrols had been formed, viz., "Hounds," "Owls," and "Curlews." The present royal blue scarf was then adopted. The Troop was, as it still is, non-sectarian and self-supporting. It possessed no equipment and had no clubroom, and parades were held at the corner of Dekker Road and Woodwarde Road. After roll call the Troop marched to either Knight's Hill, West Norwood, or Streatham Common, and after a full programme of "Scoutcraft" marched back to Dulwich Village, where they more often than not adjourned to the tuck-shop for the convenience of the Patrol Leaders, who then marked up the registers and collected the subscriptions.

Happy and momentous meetings were held in the "Magic Circle" of trees

on the Dulwich and Sydenham Golf Links, no matter how inclement the weather. At night Chinese lanterns gave the only light, as fires were not permitted on that site.

Our first camp was held for three days on May 29th at Pickhurst Farm, Hayes, Kent. We borrowed tents from the St. Dunstan's Cadet Corps, and the camping kit was taken by rail to Bromley South Station, and then carried to the camping site on a stretcher.

Who can forget the Scoutmaster Price episode?

In July we acquired our first trek-cart presented by Patrol Leader Edwards and his father—which was afterwards known as the "coffin." It was first used to take over kit to a three-days' camp at Hayes on July 31st. As no tents were available the Troop slept in a barn, whilst the goods were kept under an "umbrella" bathing tent. This tent our camp log records as having been found one morning up a tree!

The Troop's first public appearance was at the Crystal Palace Rally on September 4th, 1909, when the Chief Scout was present.

Later in the same month we appeared at the first district parade at Casino House, when Sir Francis Vane, the Chief London Commissioner, inspected us. By this time efforts had been made to standardize the uniform in the movement. To the "Cromwells" was added a dark grey woollen Army cyclists' cape, worn when not in use rolled in bandolier fashion over the right shoulder. This, together with a black leather pouch, formed an integral part of the uniform for over ten years. It is interesting to note that Scout Greatwood still possesses one of these capes, which has been handed down from generation to generation.

On November 7th we held our first Church Parade at the Herne Hill Wesleyan Church, attended by 200 officers and Scouts from the neighbourhood, and the Mayor and Mayoress of Camberwell.

The Trustees of the Church were seemingly impressed by this parade, for our records state that on December 23rd the Troop commenced to hold a mid-week parade in the Church Parlour. A later record states that our rent for the first year was 10s. 8d.!

A copy of the second number of *The Cromwellian*, dated December, 1909, tells us that the first Christmas was celebrated then as now, by a feast of cakes and fruit, and a sing-song.

1910.

Easter Camp was held on March 25th-28th at Pickhurst Green Farm, Hayes, Kent, at an inclusive cost of 1s. 9d. per head. Excellent weather prevailed, and everyone enjoyed the holiday greatly.

Mr. Shinkfield, who visited the camp, presented us with a strong trek-cart which afterwards did good service for the Troop for over ten years. We unfortunately have no record of the fate of the "coffin." Presumably it was duly buried.

By the exercise of true Scout thrift and the canteen profits, we now became possessors of a bell tent.

The camping cost only 5d. per day per head—at which cost the present Scoutmaster is amazed—and in addition our accounts record a profit of 4s. 10½d.!!!

The 13th may be an unlucky day, and April a foolish month for a concert, but on April 13th we "nett"-ed the huge sum of £7 19s. 8d. after deducting £4 18s. 6d. expenses. The concert was held at the Constitutional Hall, and we were very much indebted to Mr. Claude Holmes, Sen., for his able stage management.

A large and well-equipped muster of Scouts paraded for the review by the Chief Scout at the South London District Rally in Court Lane on April 16th. Unfortunately, a heavy storm started soon after the displays had commenced, and the parade broke up after an address from the Chief.

An adventurous eight days' camp was spent by the Scoutmaster and a Patrol of Scouts at Westcliff-on-Sea from April 23rd-30th. In truth, we think it must have been the worst week of the spring, for it rained every day but one, and a very high wind prevailed. It was a rough and trying experience, but we read that all kept in excellent spirits, and like true Scouts retained the "Smile and Whistle."

At Whitsun ten stalwarts camped on the golf links for three days at a cost of 4d. per day—the concert apparently leaving the Troop finances sufficiently flourishing to defray the adverse balance, which the accounts shew at 5s. 1d.

We gave our first display of Scouting Games, Ambulance and Signalling on June 22nd, when we were invited to tea by Mr. and Mrs. Powell, a cousin of the Chief Scout, in the grounds of their house in Thurlow Park Road.

On July 2nd we attended the Camberwell Rally, held at the headquarters of the 21st London Territorials. The displays performed by the Troops were much

appreciated by the public, and the boys were reviewed by Sir W. Adair, the President of the Camberwell Association.

The last camp of the year was held during the August Bank Holiday from July 29th to August 1st at Pickhurst Green Farm, Hayes, Kent. We are proud of the historic note that the "camp was attacked by a party of the 1st Dulwich Troop, which was repelled."

The first Olympic efforts of the Troop took place on September 3rd, when the South London District Sports were held at the Herne Hill track. Our Troop was very successful in securing a large number of points, although the honours were mainly due to Scout G. Roberts, who won the junior quarter-mile race from scratch in 60 2-5-secs., and also came second in the mile.

The Troop won the Alderman Johnson Cup for Tent Pitching for the first time, the winning team, consisting of L. Shinkfield, G. Roberts, C. Holmes, E. S. Shinkfield, V. Beckley, C. Fitch, and S. Kynaston, receiving silver medals. The occasion was especially notable, for on this day Mr. F. W. H. Selby, father of one of our Scouts, kindly consented to instruct the Troop in ambulance and first aid work, and thus commenced a very long association with the "Cromwells."

During this month we commenced shooting practice at the range of the Alleyn's Old Boys' Club (which was later to be our headquarters). The boys paid for the ammunition used, the cost being 1d. per 7 shots. The accounts under date September 21st, 1910, show that tracking irons were purchased. These irons are still in existence.

On the first Sunday in November we held our Annual Church Parade at the Herne Hill Wesleyan Church, when neighbouring Troops were invited. It is recorded that our collection totalled 3s. 1d. We can only assume that some of the boys inadvertently offered their arrears of subscriptions!

1911.

Our birch bark for this year records that the Easter Camp was held at Pickhurst Green Farm, Hayes, attended by S.M. Cooke, A/S.M. Fitch, and ten Scouts.

In May the Troop was encamped on the Dulwich Golf Links, and took part in the South London District Coronation Rally. The Scouts formed a torchlight procession over the Links, culminating into a charge up the hill to where a gigantic

bonfire had been lit. On this historic day the Troop sent a first aid detachment to the Route of Royal Progress, when a certain officer of the Troop administered copious draughts of sal-volatile to an unfortunate patient.

August found fourteen members of the Troop in camp at Pevensey Bay. The weather was fairly good, and those present at this camp will remember the interesting visit to the coastguard station and to the Castle.

It is recorded that at this camp a certain member of the Troop who had arrived back from leave after "lights out," was found on parade the following morning to have his shoulder ribbons plaited and pinned with a brooch. Naughty! Naughty!

On September 18th we won the Alderman Johnson Tent Pitching Cup for the second time, and during the second Camberwell Rally the following month we won the Hayward Cup for tent pitching.

On October 26th we held our second Annual Concert at the Constitutional Hall, when we reaped a profit of £8 9s. 8d.

In December we lost our first Scoutmaster, Mr. D. A. Cooke, who left for Canada.

A.S.M. Fitch was elected Scoutmaster, with Mr. Selby as Assistant Scoutmaster.

It should be remembered that until this month the Troop had held its mid-week parade in the Church Parlour, Herne Hill, and Saturdays were spent entirely outdoors.

1912.

This year started well for "Cromwell's," for in January we took possession of our present Headquarters in Milo Gardens. Great activity and keenness were displayed by all to make the place habitable. Extensive alterations were made by working squads under the direction of A.S.M. Selby, whilst the interior decorations were provided by the boys' parents. It was then that the well-known ottoman and carpenters' bench were installed, having been presented by A.S.M. Selby, together with a fine kit of tools.

May we here pay tribute to the splendid services rendered by our neighbour and parent of two of our old Scouts—Mrs. H. Giles.

As warden of the key to the "Range" for a period of over sixteen years she rendered us a signal service, and her continued kindness in providing us with water

during these years, sometimes at great inconvenience, entitles her to a special mention in the history of "Cromwell's."

Mrs. H. Giles was presented with the Silver Swastika Thanks Badge by Scoutmaster Fitch in 1920.

The Easter and Whitsun Camps of this year were held in the grounds of "Inverlocky," Chislehurst, owned by Mr. Wm. Willett (of "Daylight Saving" fame).

This camping site was used by "Cromwell's" on many future occasions as will be seen from our log.

In June the Camberwell District Rally was held in the grounds of "Eastlands," Court Lane, when we won the Hayward Tent Pitching Cup for the second time.

On July 13th the South London Association Rally was held in a field at the bottom of Woodwarde Road, the Scouts being inspected by Major Meiklejohn, V.C. On this occasion we won the Alderman Johnson Cup for Tent Pitching for the third time, thereby winning it outright. It is interesting to record that the Cup is still competed for in the Troop as an inter-patrol trophy. During this contest the Troop was filmed, and the members had the pleasure of seeing their achievement on the screen at the "Imperial Hall," Grove Vale (now "The Pavilion").

August found us in camp on the Hythe Golf Links, a site where some of the Troops' happiest days have been spent. The Troop took part in the Hythe Cricket Week festivities when Patrol Leader G. Fitch carried off a prize in the fancy dress procession. His appearance as a "tenderfoot" will be remembered by all present.

On October 26th over 600 people attended our third annual concert at the St. Barnabas' Parish Hall, when the Troop performed the play, "Capt. John Smith" or "Pocahontas." The scenes depicting Sioux Indians of the seventeenth century in Virginia were an undoubted attraction. The costumes were made by the boys, under the able guidance of A.S.M. Selby. They were again worn from December 10th to 13th on the occasion of the great Scoutcraft Exhibition held at the Newington Public Hall, which was opened by the Chief Scout. In those days there were only twenty-one troops in Camberwell, comprising 720 Scouts, but each troop had a stall, so that a brilliant display resulted. On our stall, No. 1, we had many exhibits, including shoes made entirely by the boys under the style of "Cromwear House Shoes."

1913.

Our enjoyable camping experience at Chislehurst during the preceding year resulted in further visits to the same rendezvous during 1913, during one of which we held a spirited Scouting game consisting of an attack on the "Hardy's Own" Troop's camp at Green Street Green. We also encamped later on at the Golf Links where we indulged in extensive signalling operations with some newly-acquired Morse oil lamps and field telegraph apparatus, as a result of which we attained a high standard of proficiency in signalling and were able to give several displays to parents at our Headquarters.

Mr. Fitch had by this time been appointed "Divisional Assistant Scoutmaster" for Camberwell, and Mr. Selby had taken the rank of Joint Scoutmaster in "Cromwell's."

The Troop then, as now, comprised four Patrols, each with a Leader and Second, and seven Scouts. The Leaders and Seconds were:—

<i>Hounds.</i>	<i>Owls.</i>	<i>Curlews.</i>	<i>Ravens.</i>
LDR. F. DEMONT.	LDR. S. J. KYNASTON.	LDR. C. DOBLE.	LDR. D. F. G. SELBY.
SEC. B. DEMONT.	SEC. A. MELLOR.	SEC. W. MELLOR.	SEC. H. GEE.

It is noteworthy that each Leader possessed the 1st Class Badge and All Round Cords, and Ldr. S. J. Kynaston was a "King's Scout." The Troop also progressed well in ambulance work as a result of continual instruction from Scoutmaster Selby.

Each Patrol in turn specialised in one subject, so that we had an ambulance, signalling, pioneering and cooking section always available for displays and service at camp.

In April we won the Camberwell First Aid Cup, and on May 17th attended the fourth South London Association Rally at Brockwell Park. In June we also were present at the Camberwell District Rally when we won the Camberwell Tent Pitching Cup for the third time, and nearly won the District Flag Competition.

June 21st and 22nd were memorable dates for the Scoutmasters. They, among 100 officers (including Mr. Marcus Woodward, the famous naturalist, well known to all readers of *The Scout*) attended the Scoutmasters' Camp held at Holmwood. At this camp the famous "Periwinkle" Patrol was formed, Mr. Fitch being a Corporal and Mr. Selby the Ensign. We still retain a picture of their queer garb in our photograph album.

The log here informs us that the Troop frequently attended rallies of both the South London Association and the Camberwell District. Camberwell Troops at that time formed only one division of an Association embracing all South London. At the Association Sports held in Dulwich Park in July, many points were gained, thanks to the able training of Mr. Hawks (the father of one of the boys). In this year we had purchased a new trek-cart which enabled us to compete in the trek-cart competitions at these meetings. We proved extremely proficient in unlimbering it, transporting the component parts over an obstacle, and re-limbering.

It is worthy to record that this trek-cart is still in excellent condition and is used extensively. Old hands will no doubt be glad to hear that it is still hauled up the passage as of yore.

Our first "Camp Fire" at the Range, when the parents and friends were invited to an outdoor entertainment and display, was held on July 12th. This became an annual event and was enjoyed immensely by the visitors.

We can recall to mind the "Cherry Tree," and "Uncle's Rocket"; but best of all was the "bread" baked in the field oven, which must have caused a sleepless night to anybody who ventured to taste it.

The Summer Camp was again held at Hythe when Scoutmasters Fitch and Selby and about twenty-four Scouts camped on the Golf Links for fifteen days commencing August 2nd.

We had a welcome guest at the camp in Scoutmaster G. H. Beard (Dunmow) who was temporarily attached as an Instructor. The enjoyable camp fires at which we entertained a few Territorials from Shorncliffe Camp will be remembered by those present. At this camp many of the younger boys had their first view of an aeroplane when the machines took off from the military camp.

The Troop was well prepared for the local Carnival Week, as several had taken their Indian costumes used at the previous concert, and a number of prizes were carried off.

Records show that we attended the South London Swimming Gala at Lambeth Baths on September 18th and two days later we were runners-up in the Camberwell Scoutcraft Competition held in the grounds of "Eastlands," Court Lane.

Meanwhile we had been very busy preparing for another concert, which was advertised in an effective manner by the boys parading the streets with sandwich

boards. Our photograph album illustrates the originality of the posters which were designed and painted by Scoutmaster Selby and several of the boys.

The Concert (our fourth) was held on October 25th at the St. Barnabas' Hall, and the sketch "Brent's Dispatch," was performed by the Troop. During the interval we were presented by Lt.-Col. E. H. Leaf, R.E., with our magnificent colours, the gift of Miss N. I. Leaf, made of double silk, both sides being alike in design, and comprising the flag of St. George surmounted by the Troop's name on a gilt band, entwined with the Rose, Shamrock and Thistle. It is probably the most beautiful Scout flag in the country, and has always been greatly prized by the members of the Troop. The colours were worked entirely by hand by the donor, who unfortunately died before finishing her self-imposed task, and had to leave instructions as to their completion. The colours were consecrated early in the following year at the St. Barnabas' Institute, by the Rev. O. Eurich, then Curate of St. Barnabas' Church, and a keen supporter of "Cromwell's." A Bible Class run by him on Sunday afternoons was regularly attended by many members of the Troop.

1914.

Early in this year T. G. Room, the brother of one of our Scouts, and G. Duffield, a boy of nine, wished to join the Troop, and it was therefore decided to form a junior section to be known as "Young Scouts." Their uniform was that of a Scout, save for a royal blue tie, one and a half inches wide, in place of a scarf. Each youngster was equipped with a special short staff, a small haversack, and an old army wooden water bottle! The Wolf Cub Movement was being organised at this time, so Mr. Selby, who took charge of the "Young Scouts," adopted the title of "Cubmaster." He was assisted by Scout J. E. Newman, who was appointed Pack Leader, and their united efforts resulted in twelve keen Cubs appearing on the Roll when the Pack was officially registered on May 26th as "Cromwell's Cubs."

Easter and Whitsun again found us in camp at Chislehurst in glorious weather. One night at the Easter Camp, our store tent was raided by a few members of the Lancashire Territorials, who were stationed near by, but the raid was quickly repelled by a few stalwarts of the Troop.

It was at this Camp that "Aunt's" plum duff was ceremoniously interred. A song composed on that occasion was sung for many years to follow. It runs to the tune of a well-known ditty:—

"Oh! we do like our Aunt's plum duff,
Oh! we do like our Aunt's plum duff,
We don't like ham, lamb or jam,
And we don't like roly-poly,
But we do like our Aunt's plum duff,
We do like our Aunt's plum duff,
We do like our Aunt's plum duff,
Because it's rough, tough, stuff."

The homeward trek from these camps at Chislehurst when the hefty members of "Cromwell's" endeavoured to break previous time records, will be remembered by all the small Scouts who had to keep pace with them and also by one parent who made the attempt.

On June 13th of this year we attended the Review by H.M. Queen Alexandra and the Dowager Empress of Russia, at the Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall.

The Second Scoutmasters' Camp at Holmwood was held on June 22nd—23rd and on July 18th we held our second "Camp Fire" at the Headquarters.

Our Summer Camp was held at Walton-on-the-Naze to which we travelled by a "Belle" steamer from London Bridge.

Reminiscences of the camp were eclipsed by the sudden outbreak of the Great War. Mr. Fitch must have experienced great anxiety until we were safely on board to return, as at one time it was thought we should have to walk home!!!

The majority of boys being on holiday from school, little time was lost in offering our services to the local authorities. On August 5th two members of our Cyclists' Patrol were sent at an hour's notice on the Dover Road Patrol, whilst the remaining cyclists did local duty in carrying police messages, etc.

For the first three weeks we had about twelve Scouts continually on national service at Camberwell Town Hall. They camped in the front garden of the Conservative Club directly opposite. The boys were utilised as messengers, and also in connection with the Prince of Wales Relief Fund.

A trek-cart team also did useful work in collecting and transporting bedding, clothing, furniture, etc., for the Belgian refugees at the Dulwich Baths.

A Scout was sent as messenger and orderly for three months' service with a National Reserve Guard attached to the Royal West Kent Regiment. For this service he was afterwards awarded the 100 days' War Service Badge.

Before the end of the year we had lost both our Scoutmasters owing to their enlistment, Mr. Fitch staying until our Fifth Concert had been presented at the St. Barnabas' Parish Hall on December 5th. The Mayor and Aldermen of Camberwell attended this concert in recognition of our services at the outbreak of war. The Troop received an acknowledgment from the Mayor crediting us with having collected £5,000 by our distribution of appeals for the Relief Fund.

Many will recall the plays, "A Couple of Scamps" and "Britannia's Call," the latter being a vision depicting Scouts' services during the war.

Having lost Mr. Fitch and Mr. Selby, Patrol Leaders S. J. Kynaston and C. Doble were appointed Assistant Scoutmasters and Patrol Leader D. F. G. Selby Assistant Cubmaster.

1915.

Easter Camp, held at Chislehurst, was attended by about twelve Scouts with A.S.M. Doble in charge. The camp will be remembered for the heavy night frosts which made the morning wash very uncomfortable.

A.S.M. Doble then enlisted, and the Whitsun Camp was held by A.S.M. Kynaston at Chislehurst.

Meanwhile the Cubs had continued to prosper under the guidance of A.C.M. Selby, but when he also enlisted, Pack Leader Newman was left to carry on, assisted by Scout L. Room. The Pack now consisted of twenty-four Cubs, divided between three Patrols, viz., Red, White, and Grey Wolves, and it was considered necessary for the Cubs to have their own badges. Three tests were therefore composed, the badges consisting of green, red, and golden stars worked in coloured silks on a khaki background. The present Cubmaster still retains specimens of these badges which he gained at that time.

The Cubs contributed their war services by collecting silver paper, tin foil, rubber, etc., and from time to time large consignments were taken to the various collecting centres. Their first camp was held on the Dulwich Golf Links, and was attended by nearly a full complement of Cubs.

Owing to transport difficulties during the war and the difficulty of obtaining food rations, the August Camp for the Troop also had to be held on the Golf Links, but it continued as a standing camp for several weeks.

On October 30th we held our Sixth Annual Concert at the Parish Hall when we made a profit of £12 18s. 3d. The success was due entirely to A.S.M. S. J. Kynaston, who without the aid of senior officers produced a very good programme. The play, "My Turn Next," will be remembered by those present as having been extremely well performed. A.S.M. Kynaston enlisted within a few days of the concert, having served in "Cromwell's" from the beginning.

The Troop was now left without officers, and up to the end of the war the Senior Patrol Leaders successively took charge. B. Demont first became Troop Leader and took charge of the Troop. It was in November that the Leaders in consultation with our Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. E. Cooke, decided to invite Alderman E. W. Room, the father of three of the Scouts, to take the chair at future Troop Committee Meetings.

In making mention of these two gentlemen it should be recorded that Mr. A. E. Cooke, father of our first Scoutmaster, was Hon. Treasurer to "Cromwell's" from the founding of the Troop until 1920. Both he and Alderman Room did sterling work for "Cromwell's" throughout the war by the encouragement and support which they gave to the various Troop Leaders.

1916.

Scouting during this year was carried out under great difficulties. Parades were often broken up through air raid warnings, and camps were spoiled by the necessary absence of fires and lights after dark. We camped frequently, but seldom managed to get further afield than the Golf Links.

War Service occupied much of the parade time, and many tons of waste paper were collected for the Relief Fund.

The Cubs continued to make progress, and by July 9th, forty-four Cubs were on the roll, and what is more, forty-four Cubs who attended meetings regularly, no small task for the Pack Leaders who, however, received continual support from many of the parents, which, together with the regular words of encouragement received from Messrs. Fitch and Selby, assisted them greatly in their task.

The Cubs' Summer Camp was held early in August when Mr. Newman and Mr. L. Room took thirty-three boys to Lower Sydenham, where the use of the sports ground of the Yokohama Specie Bank, situated near the River Pool, was obtained.

Our present Chairman of Trustees will remember the visitors' day at the Camp when about fifty visitors accepted our invitation, and as most of them brought cakes for the Pack we were able to satisfy the needs of the hungriest Cub for the remainder of the camp.

Towards the end of the year we lost the services of Troop Leader Demont who enlisted in H.M. Forces, and his place was taken for a month or two by Leader R. Giles until he in turn enlisted.

1917.

Leader J. H. Dean now carried on the Troop for about three months, and during this short period did excellent work for "Cromwell's" and displayed fine organising ability, but at the end of this time he, too, enlisted, and on February 1st Pack Leader Newman was appointed Troop Leader, leaving Leader L. Room in charge of the Cubs assisted by Sec. S. Nash.

The log kept by Troop Leader J. E. Newman gives us a fairly complete history of Troop activities during the worst period of the war.

Throughout the year continuous war duties were undertaken by the Troop.

In April we enjoyed an unexpected visit from our Scoutmasters, Mr. Fitch and Mr. Selby, who were home on leave, and spent two delightful evenings in yarning to us round the camp fire.

On May 12th we started a week-end camp for Leaders and Seconds at Lower Sydenham, in conjunction with the 118th South London Troop. A few days later we won the Camberwell First Aid Competition, and on the 26th of the same month attended the South London Scout Rally at Southwark, when 3,000 Scouts were

inspected by the Chief Scout who greatly admired our Colours. The parade was followed by an impressive Empire Day Service at Southwark Cathedral.

Whitsun Camp was spent at Lower Sydenham, attended by twenty-three Scouts. Sentry duty was kept each night in case of air raid warnings. The Troop attended the Camberwell Rally in Dulwich Park on June 9th when we won many events. During the summer, besides training boys in swimming and pioneering, we continued our war service, and put in many Saturdays in helping on allotments. The meetings during the autumn were seriously interfered with by constant air raids.

1918.

On April 18th we were presented with a Silver Medal by Scoutmaster W. J. Davis, of the 118th South London Troop, who had for several years taken an interest in "Cromwell's." The medal was awarded to the smartest Scout in the Troop, and is still competed for quarterly, the holder at the time of going to press being Scout Didman.

On April 27th the Troop attended an Intercession Service on Peckham Rye.

Whitsun Camp was held at Lower Sydenham with S.M. Davis and his Troop. During the Saturday night a serious air raid took place. Bombs were dropped within a quarter-mile of the Camp, and we were able to witness an enemy machine brought down in flames.

Troop Leader Newman enlisted at the beginning of June, and Leader H. Giles took his place for a period of about two months. Then he in turn enlisted, and Leader T. P. Tolley took charge of the Troop.

Then hostilities, happily, ceased. We look back with pride on our beautiful Roll of Honour which shows that no fewer than fifty of our boys served with the colours, twelve of whom were called to Higher Service. We are also proud when we see against our Scoutmaster's name—"Mentioned in Dispatches." Good old "Uncle"!

During the latter part of this year a momentous change was made in the Cub Pack by the adoption of the official Cub uniform and regulations. Pack Leader L. Room then resigned, and the Pack was carried on by Leader Nash until at the end of the year we were joined by Miss M. Kearney.

1919.

In January Mr. Tolley was appointed Assistant Scoutmaster, and at the beginning of April was able to welcome back our old Scoutmaster Mr. Fitch, who lost no time in getting back to harness.

Easter found us under canvas at Lower Sydenham. Twenty Scouts attended the Camp, together with the two officers, and Messrs. Newman and H. Giles. Our log records that on the Easter Monday we enjoyed an exciting Scouting game in Wickham Woods with 128th South London Troop, gaining a brilliant victory over superior numbers. After the Camp Messrs. Newman and Giles were appointed Assistant Scoutmasters.

On May 9th we held a very successful dance at the St. Barnabas' Parish Hall, attended by many old boys and friends. We made the fine profit of £12 15s. This result encouraged us to repeat the dance on April 30th when approximately £13 was realised.

Whitsun Camp was attended by S.M. Fitch, the three A.S.M.'s and eighteen boys, at a new camping site at Langley Park. An enjoyable Scouting game was held with the 23rd South London Troop and despite heavy odds we came out victorious, although we suffered the loss of Leader Channon's belt!

The Memorial Service at St. Paul's Cathedral on April 12th in memory of those Scouts who had "Gone home" during the war, was attended by sixteen of our boys. The Chief Scout again took notice of our Colours, and "expressed great admiration of our neat and practical leather equipment."

During June a week-end Camp for the Cubs on the Golf Links was held, attended by sixteen Cubs.

The Troop was present at the London Scout Rally at Hyde Park when at 6.0 p.m. the gun boomed out the news that peace was signed. The magnificent speech of the Chief Scout will be remembered by all present.

A glorious and ever-to-be-remembered Summer Camp was held from August 2nd-16th at our pre-war site on the Hythe Golf Links. The Troop invited a patrol of the 1st Dulwich, and the party numbering thirty, enjoyed excellent weather. It was at this camp that we acquired the water tank, and that "Melon Day"—August 8th—was first celebrated. The Curlew Patrol, disgusted at receiving only a melon as prize for winning the camp sports, impressed their disgust

on us in such a way that even to this day we celebrate "Melon Day" at Summer Camp. Another notable event was the Scouting Game with the 1st Dover Sea Scouts, when in spite of superior numbers, we came out on top with ease born of long practice. During our absence Mr. F. W. H. Selby together with one or two Scouts who had been unable to attend the camp, repaired the roof of the headquarters.

In the same month he came back with us once more as Ambulance Instructor in preparation for the Camberwell Competition.

On October 7th a meeting of old Scouts was held with a view to forming the Rovers, and at a subsequent meeting it was decided to form a social and athletic club.

At the Camberwell Sports held during the year several boys distinguished themselves in running and later Leaders Tannett and G. Room reached the finals of the District Boxing Competitions.

The seventh Annual Concert on November 15th will be remembered both for the enormous crowd and for the splendid programme.

The outstanding features were the first appearance of "The Frisky Minstrels" and the play, "Simple Simon Simplified," in which Leader T. G. Room played the part of the German spy. (Even to this day an Assistant Commissioner for Cambridge blushes at the mention of the spy who escaped before his colleagues could make a presentation to him!) Over 600 people were crowded into the Parish Hall, and our net profit was £29. Our receipts amounted to over £50 so we suspect that "Uncle" must have been at work again.

A dance was held one month later when over £10 was realised. Mr. Lucke, our Treasurer, must have also had a busy time.

1920.

On January 1st, 1920, Camberwell became a Scout District on its own, and the Troop and Pack were re-numbered, the Scouts becoming the 5th Camberwell Troop, and the Cubs the 3rd Camberwell Pack. (We still, of course, retained our title of the "Cromwell's," Dulwich.) Both sections of the Group were flourishing, and about twenty-five Scouts and an equal number of Cubs were on the registers.

At a Trustees' Meeting held on January 2nd, A.S.M. Tolley reluctantly resigned for business reasons, and Mr. R. Channon, a former Leader who, after the war, had often attended meetings, undertook the duties of A.S.M. We spent a very busy quarter, Mr. Selby continuing his first aid classes, and A.S.M. Giles carrying on classes in carpentry.

A momentous occasion occurred on February 10th, when a re-union dinner of old "Cromwellians" was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall. We were able to meet old comrades who were in the Troop in pre-war and war-time days. Scoutmasters Fitch and Selby, and the Chairman of Trustees were present, and a memorable evening was spent.

The day of departure to our Easter Camp was fixed for April 1st, and the weather justified the date by raining continuously all day, and the departure was postponed. The following day twenty-six of us started off to Langley Park and remember finding the "Kennington boys" gaily performing a Robinson Crusoe stunt on the ground.

Whitsun Camp was again held at Langley Park, and this time we experienced glorious weather. Twelve Cubs, eighteen Scouts and three officers were present. During the Camp we played two enjoyable Scouting games with the 2nd Dulwich, winning both easily.

For Summer Camp we journeyed by lorry to the Golf Links at Hythe, where from July 31st to August 14th, S.M. Fitch and thirty boys spent a merry time. (We remember vividly the battle royal between Leader T. G. Room and S. Lucke.)

Our efforts at the Camberwell Sports held in June were very successful, and several members of the Troop represented Camberwell subsequently in the all-London sports. The Troop also gained third place in the despatch race.

During the year many recruits were enrolled and we now had five patrols, the Hounds, Owls, Curlews, Ravens and Wolves. At this time a great impetus was given to the movement by the International Jamboree at Olympia.

On October 16th a fine muster of Scouts appeared at the Camberwell Rally in Dulwich Park, when we were reviewed by Sir Francis Lloyd.

Our eighth and most successful concert was held at the Parish Hall on November 6th, when we held two performances. The success was due to the organising abilities of the officers, together with the keen support of all the boys, who presented "The Bravest of them all" or "The Missing Fisher," and also the

second frolic of the "Frisky Minstrels." Our profit from the two performances exceeded £55—a record that will take some beating—which was further increased by the receipts from several dances held in the same year.

At the end of the year the Cub Pack were without a Cubmaster (Miss M. Kearney having resigned) and the Raven Patrol took charge of the Cubs.

1921.

Easter Camp was again held at Langley Park, attended by thirty-two officers and Scouts. Soon after Mr. Fitch was taken ill, and removed from the district, and his resignation, after twelve years' service, came as a terrible blow to both him and us.

In April we won the Camberwell Relay Race, much to the envy of several local troops who coveted the honour.

Whitsun Camp was again held at Langley Park. It is recorded that the Troop had chicken for dinner! (We have read how to cook hedgehogs at camp, but never this!)

The Camberwell Sports were held in June at Champion Hill, and the Troop entered for nearly every event.

Summer Camp was held by S.M. Newman at Hythe Golf Links on a new site.

Towards the end of the year S.M. Newman, who had been carrying on without assistance, other than that of the Patrol Leaders, found it necessary to obtain a Scoutmaster to enable him to devote more time to his private affairs. Mr. Benke kindly volunteered to serve until the autumn, when we obtained the services of Mr. P. V. Bruckin as Scoutmaster, who was joined shortly afterwards by Patrol Leader T. G. Room, who became Assistant Scoutmaster, while his brother Mr. G. Room assumed control of the Cubs.

1922.

At Easter and Whitsun Camps were held under the leadership of A.S.M. Room.

This year we took a bold step and divided the Range into two, erecting in one half four compact dens—one home for each Patrol—and a keen competition was held to see who could decorate theirs best.

On March 18th we held our ninth Annual Concert at the Parish Hall organised by Mr. Newman, under the excellent stage-management of Mr. L. Room. A musical play produced by S.M. Bruckin, entitled "The Colonel in the Camp," was thoroughly enjoyed, and a farcical sketch entitled "Sanfari Sam," produced by S.M. Newman and performed by the "Beefy Boys" caused much merriment among the audience. At this concert we made a nett profit of £23.

Mr. G. Room having been compelled by business to abandon the Cubs, Leader C. W. Davis now re-formed them, and they increased steadily in numbers.

Summer Camp was held at Hougham, near Dover, by S.M. Bruckin, A.S.M. Room, A.S.M. D. H. Davis, and eight Scouts.

The party, though small, enjoyed the new camping ground immensely. We shall never forget the Church Parade at Hougham, the scramble down the cliffs of Dover for a bathe before breakfast, the cool way in which the S.M. greeted the member of the Kibbo Kift on Folkestone Warren, and, above all, "Gerry's" neat summary of the competition between the East Kent and the Co-operative Society's "Co-operabanc" for our fares:—

"Sixpence on that red East Kent,
Fourpence boys with us:
That's twopence saved on sixpence spent,
So board the Co-operabus!"

The Cubs had an equally happy week of camping at Maybury, Woking, with S.M. Bruckin, who now resigned from his position as Scoutmaster, and took up duties as Cubmaster, assisted by Leader C. W. Davis.

1923.

Easter Camp was held from March 29th to April 2nd at Chislehurst, attended by S.M. Newman, A.S.M.'s Room and D. H. Davis, and sixteen Scouts; while the Cubs, who had purchased a new trek-cart in the shape of an old Lewis gun carriage, visited Layham's Farm, Wickham.

A successful Whitsun Camp was also held by the Troop at Chislehurst under S.M. Newman and Mr. D. H. Davis.

This summer we found a camping site at Penshurst when Messrs. Newman, Room and Davis took fifteen Scouts under canvas. A.S.M. Room erected a rope

bridge over the River Eden which created interest and amusement for the boys when bathing. (Who was the person who took an involuntary bath from this bridge?) We visited several local places of interest including Tunbridge Wells, where, after taking the water, we re-named ourselves the "Iron-Insides"! The catering during the camp was excellently handled by A.S.M. Room, as also the field oven that was built in a rabbit hole. A pair of green shorts provided by A.S.M. Room for Scouts twice late on parade, were worn only by himself. On Bank Holiday Monday the British Legion held a sports meeting in the grounds of Penshurst Place. A.S.M. Room and P.L. Murray secured third and fourth places respectively in the open half-mile race. The camp ended happily in our having to travel home on the railway without tickets, these having been lost in the post.

During the summer of this year we added a new hut to our headquarters, doubling the accommodation, and greatly improving our facilities for games, instruction and displays. For obtaining this hut we are indebted to Mr. E. W. Room, and without his help and guidance the task of erecting it might well have proved beyond the powers of the Troop. The hut still stands, as firm and solid as when it was first built. During this year the Troop was carried on jointly by S.M. Newman and A.S.M.'s D. H. Davis and T. G. Room, none of whom was available for all meetings, but each gave what time he could. Towards the end of the year the C.M. moved from the district, and his A.C.M. was compelled by pressure of work to withdraw his services, and the Cubs were left for a short time leaderless.

1924.

In the early part of the year application was made to the Camberwell Association for a Scoutmaster, and we were fortunate in that the Association had Mr. V. G. Poirin, a Scoutmaster of many years' service in other parts of the country, standing by waiting for a job. Mr. Poirin lost no time in getting to work, and some measure of his success is the Concert, the tenth of our series, that he presented at the Parish Hall in Dulwich Village on May 10th. Several of the items were performed by individual members of the Troop, and they, and the play "A Very Good Turn," had an enthusiastic reception. Again we had great help from outside artistes, and the Dulwich Grove Orchestra proved themselves as good friends as ever.

Twenty-three members of the Troop attended the summer Camp at Hougham, near Dover, and the Troop was represented at the Imperial Jamboree at Wembley, and by one of its A.S.M.'s at the International Jamboree in Copenhagen. Shortly after the summer Camp Mr. A. J. Warren joined the Group as A.S.M., and Miss Berry and Miss Till were appointed C.M. and A.C.M.

In October the Troop formed a Guard of Honour at the wedding of Mr. Newman. This attendance of the "Cromwells," wholly unexpected by Mr. Newman, was a happy climax to thirteen years of continuous service. His marriage and his removal to Ealing made it impossible for him to continue his activities as S.M., and very reluctantly he resigned. But, is there anything we want to know, is there anything we want done, there, ever ready to help, is "Jack."

During the winter a series of whist drives served the double purpose of raising funds and enabling the Scouters to get in closer touch with the parents. At the end of this year Mr. Room, having moved to Liverpool, resigned his warrant.

1925.

Our eleventh Concert was produced on April 10th, in the Epiphany Hall, Bassano Street. The hall was well filled, and the Troop's potted pantomime, "Cinderella," to judge by the applause, made quite a hit.

The outstanding feature of the year was the zest displayed for camping. At Easter we pitched on our ground at Chislehurst, but at Whitsun sought fresh fields and pastures new at Morden, then a rural spot untouched by the hand of the spoiler (the L.C.C.!) Then at summer the Troop turned its eyes south-west instead of south or east. Since 1913 no complete summer Camp had been held out of Kent; this year the camp was pitched near New Milton in Hampshire, in a pretty dell with a pretty name—Becton Bunny. Two hundred yards away was the sea, and if that was not attraction enough, for the more energetic there was the New Forest not four miles away, whilst the more urban-minded could seek comfort in Bournemouth and Christchurch.

In this year the Pack surpassed all their previous efforts in the District Sports, and easily carried off the Cup presented to the winning pack.

1926.

In January 1926 the Rover Crew was formed under Mr. S. W. Jones, an Old Cromwellian, as Rover Mate. The Cubs meanwhile had been progressing, but unfortunately in this month they lost the services of Miss Berry. Miss Till carried on as C.M., assisted by the new Rover Mate.

The Troop had found the site at New Milton so much to its liking that it held the summer Camp there again. Whilst the Scouts were basking in the Hampshire sun, a party of the Rovers were enjoying a strenuous hundred mile hike in the Chilterns—Amersham to Gayhurst in North Bucks. Many are the tales told of this hike. There is for instance, the story of the District Commissioner in whose park they camped. He regretted that he could not supply the hikers with a little meat for their supper, but sent them off with his chauffeur in the Rolls two miles to the village and back, for *half a pound of steak!*

After the Troop Camp, we again found ourselves without a Scoutmaster, Mr. Poirin finding himself unable to carry on. Fortunately we had a very good friend in Mr. A. E. Oddy, father of one of the Scouts, who at very short notice stepped into the breach and became Scoutmaster, whilst in December two of the Patrol Leaders, G. Roberts and A. Allen, took out warrants as A.S.M., and rendered admirable service in that capacity.

1927.

In the early months of this year it was decreed by Imperial Headquarters that the Cub Pack and Rover Crew connected with a Troop, should adopt the Troop registration number and form with it a "Group." From this time the "Cromwell's" Scouts, Cubs and Rovers were known officially as the 5th Camberwell Group. Mr. Oddy became the first Group Scoutmaster, and is still "the power behind the throne."

For the third time the summer Camp was held at New Milton, and the Troop invited a party of Scouts of the 227th Liverpool Troop (of which a former A.S.M. of the "Cromwell's" had become S.M.) to join them. This Camp was remarkable for two extraordinary sunsets followed by two days of unprecedented wetness. Unfortunately, the second of these sunsets occurred on the last evening of the camp,

and the promised rain set in soon after midnight. The camp was struck in a deluge, and according to the railway company (which might, of course, be biassed) our equipment in its soaked state weighed just twice as much as it did when we had taken it to camp dry!

During the winter a successful series of dances was organized by the G.S.M. and the R.M.

1928.

Under Mr. Roberts (now become Scoutmaster) and the G.S.M. steady progress was made, and the enthusiasm and efficiency of the Troop compared not unfavourably with that of the romantic days before the war.

North-East (Walton), South-East (Hythe), South-West (New Milton): this year we completed our circuit and went North-West, and joined the 227th Liverpool in a camp at Plas Nantyr, near Llansantffraidglynceiriog in Denbighshire (yes, you are right, North Wales!) The camp itself was a quarter mile (thirteen hundred feet) above sea level, and on one expedition a party reached the half mile line. Of the "Cromwell's" a member of the Liverpool part wrote:—

"The Cromwell's went to Glyndyfrdwy
Whenever they got the chance,
And leisurely sipped their civilized tea,
And dreamed of a civilized dance;
Of the time to come, when the rustling pine
No more would soothe their rest,
When the butter would not be soaked in brine,
Nor the jam in wasps be dressed.
When the purple ling
No more would sing
With its restless biting flies,
When walls of brick,
Dependably thick,
Crude nature would disguise."

But we suspect that this is a gross libel, the outcome of a breakfast that did not agree with the author, or perhaps merely written spitefully because the "Cromwell's" so easily won the inter-patrol competitions!

During the winter months a further series of dances was held, again under the direction of the G.S.M., and the R.M., and their efforts were rewarded by useful additions to the Group funds.

Meanwhile the way of the Cubs had not been too smooth: in the early summer Miss Till had had to give up after some four years of splendid work, and the Rover Mate carried on the Pack unaided until a successor could be found. At the end of October Messrs. Newman and C. W. Davis returned to the fold to run the Pack, although the one had to make the journey from Ealing to run the mid-week meeting, and the other had only Saturdays free.

1929.

Both the Troop and the Pack continued to flourish, and at the end of the first quarter the Troop had three full Patrols and the Pack four full Sixes. Having stepped in at a critical time, when, for lack of Cubmasters, the Pack was in danger of dissolution, and having not only set the Pack on its feet, but restored it to full strength, Mr. Newman quietly withdrew, leaving Mr. Davis, now assisted by one of the old Scouts, R. Buckle, to carry on with a vigorous organism.

A most successful camp was held at Whitsun, when no fewer than forty members of the Group—Rovers, Scouts and Cubs—sought out our old site at Camden Park Road, Chislehurst. Some score Cubs obtained their first experience of a holiday under canvas, and eagerly voted afterwards for more.

Perhaps there was some truth in the rhyme after all, for this year the summer camp was pitched again on the banks of the Wuff at Becton Bunny. Several of the Scouts, starting from the camp, hiked for two days through the New Forest, and completed their test journey for the First Class Badge. Some of us turned our eyes north-west again, however, for a party of the Rovers took part in the World Jamboree at Arrowe Park, Birkenhead. This Jamboree was in celebration of the coming-of-age of the Scout movement, and we are proud to think that it ante-dates our own coming-of-age by well less than a year. After the Jamboree the Egyptian Minister of Education (the Chief Scout for Egypt) when returning via London, inspected both the Pack and Troop, and witnessed a display of our work and games.

A short time later, during a short Cub Camp at Addington, where a perfect camp site, Freelands Wood, was being opened up, we met a Scoutmaster who had journeyed from Australia to the Jamboree, Mr. R. R. Dunlop. He volunteered his services as Assistant Cubmaster during his nine months' stay in this country, and his cheery and energetic encouragement throughout that time had much to do with the Pack's continued prosperity.

1930.

A very enterprising display was held at the Range on March 27th: the Pack arranged a Sale of Work and Entertainment, which was attended by about seventy parents and friends. The success of the sale of work was in no small measure due to the invaluable help of Mrs. Davis, whilst the honours of the entertainment went largely to Mr. Dunlop. The Pack produced the sketches "Six and Seventh" and "The Nightmare Cubs." These efforts of the Pack were rewarded by nearly £5 being raised for Group Funds.

The melancholy tale of resignations of Scoutmasters through pressure of work goes on. No sooner is a Scoutmaster firmly fixed and the Troop running smoothly under his guidance, than his job is changed, or there are night-classes that he must attend. At the beginning of this year this fate overtook Mr. Roberts. His place was taken by Rover W. B. Buckle (who, like Mr. Davis, had been in the Group first as Cub and then as Scout), who had been acting as Assistant Scoutmaster.

These may seem but two more of a long list of appointments and resignations, and one might well wonder how, with such frequent changes of leadership and staff, any continuity is preserved. Certain it is that there is such continuity. The present-day "Cromwell's" run true to type. 1911—1921—1931: were it possible to see the three Troops together there would be no doubt of this. That each is called "Cromwell's" is no mere accidental identity of name. The same spirit animates all three. The Chief Scout, through "Scouting for Boys," started the Troop, and through "Scouting for Boys" and his tremendous and infectious enthusiasm, has the Troop and the whole movement continued. There are two reasons also why certain traits peculiar to "Cromwell's" should persist. One is the large proportion of Scoutmasters of the Troop who have served as Cubs and Scouts in the Troop. And the other is this: working unseen in the background,

but with its finger always on the pulse of the Troop, and always ready to give what help it can, is the body of Trustees of the Troop. Without it any of the many crises in the Troop's history might have proved fatal.

The camping season opened with a joint Rover, Scout, and Cub camp at Whitsun on Addington old golf links. A most enjoyable time was marked by frequent visits to the adjacent camp site at Freelands Wood. The C.M. and Rover J. Stevens will also remember chasing a mysterious incendiary off a neighbouring farm in the early hours of the first morning.

The summer was spent in outdoor activities, and several members of the Troop and Pack distinguished themselves both on the cricket field and on the running track at the District Sports. Later the three sections of the Group united in a pleasant camp at Penshurst, lasting from the Cubs' arrival at the end of July until the departure of the last Scouts and Rovers late in August. Several visits were paid to local places of interest, and by kind permission of Lord de Lisle and Dudley a party was shown over his historic castle, Penshurst Place.

In the latter part of the year the Cubmaster was fortunate in obtaining the assistance of Mr. E. F. Rogers of the 44th Camberwell Troop with the Pack, and at the same time, Mr. Farrar, an old "Cromwellian," came along to help the Scoutmaster by instructing the Troop in gymnastics and fencing.

And so we come to March 14th, 1931. To the outsider this history may present but a dreary record of a monotonous round of concerts and camps: for him who took part, the most coldly formal reference to a place or time conjures up visions of the glorious days that are gone, and, if he be of that true type of Scout whose ardour no lapse of time can damp, visions of the still more glorious days to come.

PROFIT BY THE PAST,
MAKE THE MOST OF THE PRESENT,
BE PREPARED FOR THE FUTURE.

WE SHALL GO
FORWARD