

Personally Speaking

EDDY THE EDITOR

While camping with the family on Cape Cod last summer, I took part in an interesting editorial conference. There were two in the conference — 10 year old Eddy, who was a neighboring camper, and myself. Eddy did all the talking and he talked with enthusiasm and conviction from his experience as a member of the editorial staff of the *Cub Reporter*, his Pack's monthly paper.

"It's put together by us boys" explained Eddy, "and boy, do we have fun! We go down to Mr. McClatchy's house and draw pictures and write the stories. Then we help print it on the hectograph."

Sure enough, there was Eddy's name, listed among the *Pencil Pushers* who (quoting the paper), "have done a great job in helping us round up the news and have put in hours of work drawing, tracing, copying and inking-in the art work." The staff consisted of a *Round-Up Chief*, *Assistant Rounder-Uppers*, *Pencil Pushers* and *Side-line Coaches*.

It struck me that there was a lesson in this for all of us. Boys can and do like to help run things, and they run things in a fresh, interesting way. It would have been so natural for Eddy's Cubmaster to turn to the adults in the Pack, and they would have done a nice job. But, recognizing the values that come from getting boys to do it, the adults became "side-line coaches."

The same is true of much of our planning and leadership of the Scout program. It might be easier to do it ourselves, but we build boys better if we set the stage so they, the boys, do a big share of the planning and carrying through.

It's the hard way. Just like democracy. Most anybody can be a dictator, but helping people to lead themselves calls for real genius. The kind of genius a Scout leader has to have, because that's the only way Scouting can work and really be Scouting.

Not that we should expect the boys to have all the ideas. Far from it. Especially in Cub Scouting, and even in the older boy programs, they need a lot of suggestions from us. But so much depends on the way we make our suggestions. Isn't the trick to put a problem up to them, draw out their best thinking, stir them with a bit of an idea, and see how far they can develop it before we expose more of our own plan?

The more they believe they sold us an idea, the more effort they will put into making it succeed.

Since listening to Eddy I've thought often of the many times I as a leader have failed to work hard enough to get others to do the leading. It's so easy and so natural to most of us to go ahead and do it ourselves. But when we do get boys to share the load, it's wonderful to see their enthusiasm, to hear them say, with Eddy, "Boy, do we have fun!"

Lex R. Lucas
Managing Editor

SCOUTING MAGAZINE is published monthly except August and bi-monthly June-July, and copyrighted 1949, by the Boy Scouts of America, 2 Park Ave., New York 16, N. Y. Reentered as Second Class Matter, June 13, 1946, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Scouting Magazine is edited in the Division of Program by the Editorial Service. Director of the Division of Program, E. Urner Goodman. Director of Publications, Editor, Lorne W. Barclay. Managing Editor, Lex R. Lucas. Asst. Managing Editor, Tom MacPherson. Art Director, Donald Ross. Production Director, Geo. W. Goddard, Jr. Associate Editors: Gerald Speedy, Cub Scouting; Ted Pettit, Boy Scouting; Ted Holstein, Exploring Scouting.

NATIONAL OFFICERS — BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Honorary President, Harry S. Truman. Honorary Vice-Presidents, Herbert Hoover, Walter W. Head. President, Amory Houghton. Vice-Presidents, John Sherman Hoyt, Frank G. Hoover, Francis W. Hatch, John M. Schiff, Kenneth K. Bechtel. Treasurer, Harry M. Addinsell. Chief Scout, Elbert K. Fretwell. National Scout Commissioner, George J. Fisher. International Scout Commissioner, Thomas J. Watson. Chief Scout Executive, Arthur A. Schuck. Deputy Chief Scout Executive, Pliny H. Powers.

EDITORIAL BOARD

William H. Pouch, Chmn., Albert E. Lowmes, Wheeler McMillen, E. W. Palmer, Harrison M. Sayre.

SCOUTING

OCTOBER, 1949, VOL. 37, No. 8

CONTENTS

★ FOR ALL SCOUTERS

Great Days!	2
Grins Vs. Grunts.....	4
Your Jamboree.....	5
Scouting the Country.....	6
Just A Minute.....	30

◆ FOR CUB SCOUT LEADERS

Now You Know.....	7
Know Your Neighborhood..	8
Program Planning Chart.....	9
Keeping Strong — Theme for November	10
November Den Doings.....	12
November Pack Meeting....	13
Uncle Charlie's Game Bag	14
Try Our Fun Night.....	15

✦ FOR BOY SCOUT LEADERS

Scouting Shorts	16
Standard Patrol.....	17
Help Him Grow.....	18
Roll Call.....	19
Making Camping Equipment	20
Planning for November.....	21
Trail Blazing.....	22
Investing Johnny Jones.....	24
Scoutcraft Game File	29

● FOR EXPLORER LEADERS

New Explorer Filmstrips.....	25
Exploring Your Questions.....	26
Explorer Party Notes.....	28

Cover Photo by Emil Brodbeck

Hallowe'en parties are fun — and insurance. It's easier to drop apples into water than to fetch the front gate down from the roof.

Follow the "Trail Signs" —

★, ◆, ✦, ● —
to find articles of special interest
to you.



OCTOBER

1949

Scouting

64
SSELL WEBSTER
R/D 1
LAFAYETTE MINN

6 50