

Boy Scout Activities

At Camp Sam-O-Set

By S. G. BROWMAN
Scout Executive

CAMP Samoset is the official Boy Scout camp of Lincoln and Marathon counties. It is located on Lake Clara, thirty-one miles northeast of Merrill, eleven miles east of Tomahawk and sixteen miles southeast of Rhinelander.

At the present time the equipment consists of army tents, a canvas covered wooden framed mess hall, a diving tower, a diving pier, and other materials necessary for scouting.

Plans are laid out for this summer to have from 120 to 150 boys in camp who will be from the cities and smaller towns of the two counties.

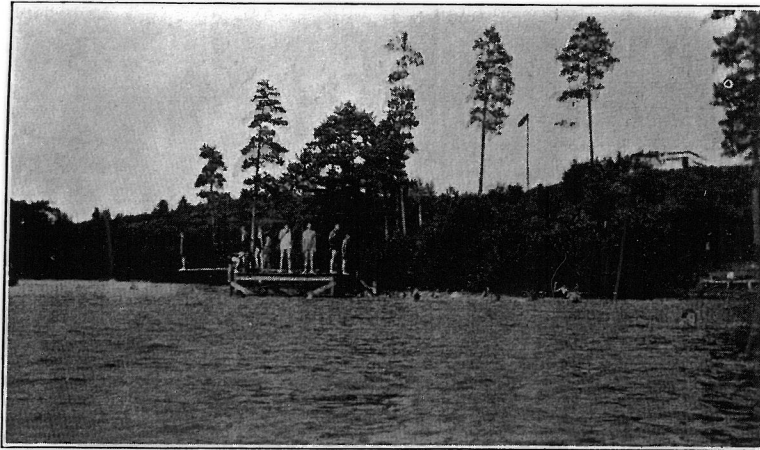
Among the activities are archery (playing archery golf) and leather handicraft, bands, pocketbooks, belts, neckerchief in which the boys are taught to make hat slides, archery wrist guides, and almost anything that can be made of leather. Most of these materials are made from scrap leather received from the local shoe factory.

Leather tooling and leather stamping are also taught. Many of the boys have made valuable articles from this scrap leather, finding it an activity that holds their interest. We are teaching basket making with reed, rattan and raffia. Along with this, flat woven basket braiding is taught.

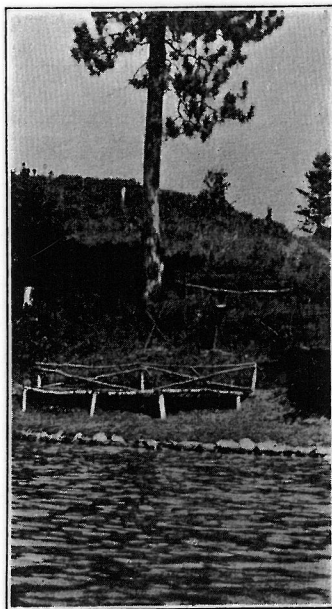
Wood carving as a handicraft teaches the boys patience and artistic ability. Many miniature Indian totem poles have been made by the boys that were real works of art. It is surprising what patience the boy will take in putting out a good job of wood carving.

Another item in camp handicraft work is one that has taken the country by storm, and that is Indian lore and Indian handicraft. Boys are taught the art of making Indian war bonnets, Indian costumes, from the fringed shirt to the beaded leggings, and also Indian bead work. Moccasins have been made by the boys and Indian designs, which is taught by Mr. Browman, Scout Executive of Lincoln-Marathon Council. A group of thirty boys now have their own costumes, and when they are arranged around the camp fire, make a very impressive scene and really look the part of the old type of Indian tribes.

In camp last year, out of the boys that came to camp, there were twenty-six boys



*The home of the Merrill, Tomahawk, Wausau Boy Scouts
Camp Sam-o-Set, on Lake Clara*



that could not swim. Before camp closed every boy in camp had passed his fifty-yard, first-class swimming test. Out of the group last year, nine of the boys passed their life-saving test. Many badge awards were given at the Court of Honor in both the first and second-class test, and also the Eagle Badge, the highest rank in scouting, was awarded.

Their outdoor activities include hikes, over-night hikes, snipe hunts, animal hunts, treasure hunts, swimming, volley ball, indoor baseball, horseshoe pitching and a Council Fire every evening. Also

a stunt night at which the parents and all the farmers around camp are invited.

An aquatic meet, in which all swimmers and divers participate, is held the last Sunday of every camp period.

A camp period consists of ten days of activity. Church services are held Sundays at the camp for the Protestants. The Catholic boys are brought to Tomahawk for early mass.

Able leadership for each department of activities is secured.

The buddy system of a pal for every swimmer is used during every swimming period. The boys

that have passed their life-saving test are used as life guards, and also the counselors of camp act as life guards. Life guard duty is furnished at every swimming period. No swimming is allowed without the life guards. Only swimmers that have passed the first test are allowed to use the boats. Only junior life guards are allowed to use the canoe.

The Call to Sam-o-set

As time slips by and summer creeps up, the "call of the open" gets more and more under our hides. Sleeping where the loon wakes you up in the morning is a privilege every boy should enjoy once at least and as many more times as possible. And then the swims, games, athletics, birds, trees and plants, as well as the great camp fire and the "eats," make a fellow want to step on the accelerator and hurry things along.

Every afternoon and evening has its free period, when a fellow can hop to his favorite pastime. Baseball, horse shoes, contests, tanglefoot, hothand and camp-fire stunts will spur everyone to action, whether he thinks he wants to or not.

Planning your boy's vacation of summer adventures, your interests are health, safety, wise leadership, wholesome recreation. We pledge you all of these things and want you to help your boy attend Camp Sam-o-set this summer. Remember, a real scout camp is more than a vacation, it is a school of manhood and citizenship, a builder of physical, mental and moral strength.