

CAMP SEQUOYAH
Asheville, North Carolina
1933

Report of
EDWIN M HOFFMAN
Assistant Director

NATURE LORE

Nature rambles were held every Sunday afternoon. They were quite well attended by both counselors and boys. Other rambles were held for specific objects such as mushrooms, photography of bird nests, collection of certain plants or insects, etc. Snake and turtle study interested a goodly number of boys. Two batches of little snakes born in the snake den proved of interest. This year the pets were better fed and taken care of than in years past.

More nature crafts work was done this year in (1) pressed flowers and leaves, (2) plaster casts of leaves and flowers, afterwards colored, and (3) insect collection. A good start was made on a large topographic map. This is all ready to proceed with next year, as the paper pulp is all around, and the board prepared for covering. This should prove a very worthwhile and interesting project.

The flowers and plants in the spaces around the Nature Den and also in some boxes were labled with notes of interest. The planting of shrubs, trees, and ferns around various cabins was fostered and good results obtained. A number of bird hikes were held but not so many as I had planned because of the delay in return of my bird glasses from the factory. Nature Notes and the "Bug and Bird Gazette" proved of lively interests to campers. It was a lot of fun to prepare this, and I believe it really stimulates interest and appreciation.

With an increasing number of both counselors and campers who are both interested in and intelligent concerning nature lore, the results are obtained not so much from formal instruction as by-products in all phases of camp life. The countless calls from various quarters "What is this?" or "Come quick and see this spider fighting a wasp!", and the great number of specimens dead and alive brought into the Nature Den by various campers, resulting in a few minutes examination and observation, or "Looking up in a book", the cultivation of an atmosphere of interest and appreciation throughout the whole camp, is after all, of the highest value. I feel that this year we have moved definitely in that direction.

Recommendations

1. As soon as camp policy will allow the expenditure, I hope the Nature Den will be completed. I am reluctant to bring back my valuable books or to have those of the camp in such a risky situation as last year. I would hate to estimate the damage done

to my own library, including some very fine books, by water leaking down from the Crafts Shop above.

Another reason, among a great many others, for having a Nature Den set aside definitely for this work is that we could enlarge educational results, I am sure, by putting the books and material on display where campers could be tempted to examine and read.

Still another reason I am eager to have a place set aside for Nature is that we may develop gardens about it. As it is now, some of the valuable plants we have growing are too often made the bottom layer of a trash pile by various campers dumping stuff off the Crafts porch above. If not that, they are the unwilling recipients of deadly foods, such as acids, plaster of Paris, etc., from the same source! I mention only these two rather urgent reasons.

2. I would most strongly urge that you do not hire men to cut and mow around the cabins where planting has been done and around "3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and "8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". The cabins 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, and 15 especially should be protected. I most earnestly beg that you do NOT allow any cutting to be done between 14 and 15 and between 14 and the Crafts Cabins. I, personally, will gladly look after that work when I return, rather than run the risk of having many hours of labor given in transplanting trees wasted. I think we have demonstrated beyond a doubt how much camp may be further enriched and beautified by cabin plantings. They have not yet begun to fit into the scene yet, but a few years will make a beautiful transformation.

3. Next year I would like to have during the first week an opportunity to talk to the whole camp about some of the opportunities for nature lore at Sequoyah. I believe I could make an evening's program in lobby or better still in the Council Ring of sufficient interest to justify this request. I do not want to do it to "boost" my part of the program unduly not at the expense of anybody's else, but as a guide to the campers. I would especially like to do it to stimulate interest in birds. For example, every year I find boys who go through the whole camp year and never yet are conscious of the bewitching beauty of the wood thrush chorus that glorifies every sunset at camp. I feel that if I can get a chance to suggest and guide and interest the boys early in the season, we can get some results in the lives of boys whom we do not "Strike fire with" otherwise.

RELIGIOUS EMPHASES

I dislike the expression "religious activities", and I don't know that "emphases" is any better. Perhaps we should use the term "Education in Religion". At all events, I feel that we have achieved some results this year. On the whole, I believe our Sunday Morning Services were better than ever before. With the exception of one or two "fillers" I think each man had a message. In all frankness, however, I feel that it would be better for us to hold a service of "meditative worship", using the wealth of material in our "Services in the Open", and omit any talk whatsoever than to feel that we just have to incorporate a talk as a part of the service.

Cabin Devotions has been rather thoroughly discussed by the staff so I shall not take it up here. I may say that personally it has been stimulating to me to work out the cabin devotions this year. Mr. Stone is working with me in regard to publishing the series.

I found, I might add also, a real interest on the part of older boys in the sections in "The High Calling" that relate to boys' problems. I wonder if for next year we might either use the booklet as published (that are now selling as long as they last at 25¢ over at Blue Ridge) or re-type a series, with some slight revamping. Whether we use them or not, I think some of our boys would be interested in obtaining copies if they were on sale at the Camp Store. I placed four there this year and found them rather quickly disposed of.

Morning Watch. I think there was good interest. Here again I think we need to guide them in their reading as much as we can.

Friendship Council. Without doubt we held some most worthwhile discussions this year. The discussion period has, to my mind, "made good" as a part of this service. The question of music for this service intrigues me. I did not find time to work much with that this past season, but hope to tackle it seriously next year. It has rich possibilities. I have some material in the process of creation now.

I do not believe our "Retreats" were utilized this year as they should have been. I confess to an almost complete ignoring of them and realize now that I missed something personally, as well as failing to utilize one of our tools for creating religious values.

MUSIC

The "musical afternoons" started this year I count a real outstanding success. There is a value in taking a "week" rather than having them just now and then or over too long a period. Possibly two series should be attempted. The "Glee Club" had the best year yet. I think we must avoid making it a burden, and I think we avoided that danger this year. I still feel it should be open to ANY boy who wants to sing, and not a picked bunch.

The Sunday Night Vesper Sings also were well received. Another innovation that offers rich possibilities.

The orchestra, I think, entered into camp life more than usual. I liked their playing during meals occasionally, ordinary meals, that is, and not merely special happenings.

Camp Singing. The best year we have had in that. The boys sang more this year, "Stunt Songs", camp songs, and "good songs" than ever before. I think we have proved the theory that many counselors leading singing is better than having it limited to one or two. Larry's work in singing in the lobby was commendable.

Recommendations

1. I feel that a better name than "Glee Club" should be found for our musical singing group. It is NOT a glee club. Here again we need to

get away from scholastic terms.

2. We must have a place to keep our camp music. There must be an understanding about this with the orchestra. Why cannot the orchestra keep their instruments and stands behind the piano and in the big cabinet space at the bottom of the music cabinet. Then let us use the upper part of the music cabinet for our camp music, having the music arranged in order, labelled, etc., so that we know where it is, for in that way it would be kept from being lost and torn up, etc. Whoever is Director of Camp Music should have charge of this and have a camper, probably, to act as music librarian.

3. A further recommendation concerning the "Sequoyah Singers" (Glee Club) is that they should sing for the Sunday morning services on occasion.

4. We should begin to build up in more usable and in more interesting form our Sequoyah songs. One of the finest things we did at our lamented Suwali was our development of camp music. One item in this was the making of camp song books, the individual project of campers. Covers could be made in the Crafts Shop; the songs could be printed (stenciled) in standard size and issued to campers. In this way campers would have their own camp song book for use and for memory both at camp and at home. We would promote our own peculiar Sequoyah song-lore as in no other way. Not only may words be printed, but music can be printed on stencil. This would prove of interest to some campers of musical ability.

Not for my own personal interest, but for whatever value it might be to camp, I wish the music to "Sequoyah, My Mountain Home" could be printed so the song could be used by the boys at home and at camp reunions as well as at camp during the summer. I do not think a photostatic copy would be very expensive, in small size. I could get an expert copyist to prepare a copy at Berea for a reproduction if desired.

5. I feel too that some new and less hackneyed music should be discovered for the "Official Sequoyah" song rather than that of "Maryland, My Maryland," One or two other could be improved upon also. If such a suggestion is of any value, I would gladly act upon it with slight encouragement.

6. We have discussed the matter of jazz in camp somewhat. I would suggest that this year the Director of Music confer with whomsoever is to lead the camp orchestra and set a policy in accordance with the general ideals of Sequoyah in regard to music. Such a policy might embody reducing the amount of jazz to at least 50% of the music played by the orchestra. There is a wealth of good music for high school orchestras that is as truly good music as that of a symphony orchestra and that is technically no more difficult than jazz.

A little jazz might well be permitted at camp, but for an orchestra to play nothing but jazz as was done last year is of doubtful value. I can conceive of many parents saying, "I cannot conceive of Sequoyah letting my son play nothing but jazz all year and not ever touching real music," etc. Boys like to play jazz (so do I) and some of them may be

perfectly content to play nothing but jazz. But I cannot imagine parents sending their boys to camp because they understand that they are to play programs of jazz all summer. I can imagine it influencing parents if they knew that their boy was to play something besides jazz!

I am well assured that the judgment of the boys themselves is not to be accepted as final in this matter. One of the most ardent performers in this year's orchestra assured me with all earnestness that "nobody in camp cares for good music. They don't appreciate it. They only want jazz". Yet in spite of that we had twenty or more boys leave a riotous playing of jazz in the lobby and come down to Chief's House for an afternoon musicale; And one of the finest boys in camp--Joe Crump--after having listened to an evening of jazz when the Junaluska girls were our guests, dropped down on the seat beside me, where in the pitch dark I was playing a Chopin nocturne, and as I finished said with a deep sigh, "Gosh! What a relief to hear some music after all of that jazz we had to listen to tonight!".....Other instances could be cited, but this is enough to indicate some of the grounds on which I base my recommendation.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Under this heading I may group some of the minor responsibilities I held and some miscellaneous matters.

Council Fire Programs. Without doubt we reached the peak in the quality of our Council Ring programs this year. We did not have enough of them, and for the first time in years, I heard boys regretting the fact that we did not have enough of them. This was due to the break-up of camp by the various sub-camps and also by the frequency of rain. I think the principal factor perhaps which brought about the improved quality was that we had a counselor, Mr. Ward, who felt a very special responsibility for them and who took much time to plan the programs. His use of cabin groups to prepare each one a certain feature worked out beautifully. The variety of programs we had this year, yet all coming within the canons of good taste and propriety of a real Council Fire program has been noteworthy. I feel that it has been a great advance to hold this part of the program as a major responsibility for an efficient counselor as was done this year. I shall not take time to comment on outstanding features or to review them, although my enthusiasm for the season would urge me to do so.

Lobby Programs. Here, too, we have seen a noticeable advance. I believe the "division of labor" for Council Fire and Lobby programs was a good one. It has made each one more unique.

Free nights. We had none too many. Such as we had were appreciated and used to advantage. This helped contribute to the ease and relaxed quality of our whole season this year.

Camp paper. The best we have ever had. This year the "War-Whoop" has approached what one could call a distinctively fine camp paper.

Campus games. We had a good season of inter-cabin and division group games. Volley ball is far superior to basketball. The games of "Pioneers and Indians" for the older boys and "Run Sheep Run" for the

younger boys proved to be a greater success than we even anticipated-- especially among the older boys.

Camp Meals. I have two recommendations to make concerning the dining room.

(1) Instead of having the waiters line up in the same order every week, so that cabins 13, 14, and 15, for example, have to wait till the very last to be served all season, why could not the waiters move up, or shift once every week, so that the same tables would not always be the last ones served. It is a small matter, but produces some irritation.

(2) I still feel that a definite code of "table manners" should be laid down to the counselors at the beginning of the camp season so we might work together on table manners. For instance, we succeeded very satisfactorily at our table in establishing the good manners of NOT sliding dishes the length of the table, NOT passing across or reaching in front of others, in waiting until all were served before eating, etc. Then, when our table was broken up, or often when we had "visitors" from other tables, we found for the most part very few who made any attempt to observe these amenities, either counselors or boys, I am persuaded it is NOT because they do not possess just as fine manners as the rest of us, but it IS because these things have not been mentioned that they do not bring "good manners" into a sufficient number of concrete observances.

Cabin Groups. I feel that some progress was made towards using the cabin group as a camp unit. I wish that we might make further progress. More time for cabin suppers (and why can't we have the cabin supper afternoon free from scheduled major events as much as possible?), more emphasis upon real camp cooking and cooking projects in cabin suppers, more cabin gardens, more council ring programs made by cabin groups, more cabin overnight camps (to nearby places, even coming back for breakfast)--all of these things can be developed, also the cabin totems, a good thing of the past at Sequoyah and worthy of revival.

INDIAN LORE

Although officially I had no definite assignment here, I tried to help, especially when it became apparent that the bottom was about to drop out. We have discussed this matter quite sufficiently, I believe. I only have a few things to suggest.

1. Since you have spent so much money and given Indian Lore such an important place in our program this year, I think it should continue to occupy a prominent place in the future. I would like very much to have a definite assignment to it next year, particularly in regard to the music, dance, and ceremonial part of it.

I have deep conviction that from the standpoint of creative education, Indian Lore offers us one of our very great tools at camp. Consider the fact that a group of fifteen to eighteen boys stuck with the Indian Lore group during the entire season and that they even assembled the day before the close of camp to discuss plans for next year, and consider also that the Indian Lore group held such antipodal characters as Mack

King and Bruce Edgerton, Lewis Jones and Joe Crump, Merrill Miller and Walter Stone, and you see that it does and must have a real appeal to our boys.

From the standpoint of creative experience, I am persuaded that there was nothing in Mack King's camp experience that meant more to him than Indian Lore. And the same holds true of Merrill Miller and Of Lewis Jones, each of whom, as you well know, presented a peculiar problem as to their interests.

I firmly believe that the experience Mack King had in working out his own interpretation of a "Woodchuck Dance" in Nana Bojou gave him one of his most complete satisfactions at camp. I thrill when I recall the gleam in the eyes of Bruce Edgerton when he came into the Council Ring as an Indian Hunter in the Dance of the White Caribou. Following one of the Indian Programs, I heard Lewis Jones say, "Boy, I hope we can go on with this next year." As far as giving an opportunity for creative imagination, for emotional expression, and for developing a sense of aesthetics, I am convinced that a boy would reap more from one Indian Lore program as we gave it, than from a whole summer of pounding a drum in a jazz orchestra, or from a number of athletic events, or from many other items in our camp program.

2. The Indian village offers us an unparalleled opportunity for Indian Lore. The Indian Lore group talk with enthusiasm of using it next year as we did not even begin to use it this year. I spent two nights with small groups up there and have some faint idea of how we can use it.

3. We want to go more deeply into Indian dances and music. This means the making of drums, masks, costumes, etc. We should also plan for more reports from the boys as to the significance of Indian Lore. I would like to see Indian Lore headed up in the New Nature Den, where, too, we could have not only wall and table space for nature pictures, exhibits, bulletins, etc., but also for Indian Lore, encouraging reading and study along that line. It could be done, and I want to ask for a chance to help do it!

The crafts and could be carried on very well as it is, so far as leather work, etc., is concerned. The rest of it, I fee, lends itself naturally to the Nature Lore.

Mr. Ward, David Liles, and myself have had most happy relationships in our Indian Lore work, and if good fortune allows all three of us again to return, I believe we can build up a great deal on what Chief Red Wing gave us. We have a chance to establish Indian Lore permanently on a high standard in Sequoyah right now.

I could go on to many other things, but this is enough. It has been a good year. The various trips did not destroy our unity as I feared they would. The new approach to the program worked excellently, and

the efforts at intelligent approaches to "behavior problems" both in the report system and in our own personal efforts, will I feel be touched upon at length by Mr. Ward.

I want to add one more suggestion before closing. That is, that next year we give more time in counselors' meetings to the approach to behavior problems; that we also discuss with older boys something of the "Mechanics" of emotional conflicts, etc., enlisting their intelligent cooperation as well as requesting fairness, courtesy, etc., as expressions of moral obligations on their part. I hope this year to continue my study along this line so that I myself can be of larger service than this year, if I return. What little opportunity I had to attempt this sort of approach has left me more than ever convinced of its soundness.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWIN M. HOFFMAN(signed)

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CAMP SEQUOYAH
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Report of C.E. Ward, Program Director

Previous to the opening of camp and even during the first week of camp so many items of program policy had not been worked out at all clearly with the camp director and other counselors involved that the Program Director had little opportunity to put anything into a very definite form and so the program took shape rather slowly. He felt that he had to feel his way and work to meet the situation as it presented itself.

With this preliminary apology for having little specific preparation made, I would next like to say that it was a real inspiration to work with a group of counselors who gave and accepted suggestions and cooperated in the changes of policy which were attempted so wholeheartedly. I think that the influence of the Counselors' Training Institutes played a very excellent part there. It was a year of transition in program policy which could not be handled in advance, but had to be ready to change as the opportunity presented itself.

I was pleased with the response of both counselors and boys to the free type of program. I made several trips about the campus in the mornings and found remarkably few boys who were not busily engaged in some activity of their own choosing. When another counselor suggested that he thought there was too much loafing this year I asked him to point it out to me and he came back later and said that he had just spoken from impression and that he had failed to find it when he tried to be specific about it. Of course we had the problem boys and we did not have the pressure methods to make them get into things and we had not yet learned well how to watch them and handle their individual cases, but even there they seem to have done as much or more than had been the case the previous year - at least it held more meaning for them.

We have only made a beginning, however, in working out our program around our cabin groups and to fill the needs of particular boys. Our counselors tend still to be more instructors of activities than cabin counselors. They need more training and more experience of the latter type. I suggest that we give the utmost care to selection of the cabin groups with respect to the way the boys can live and work together as a group, that we make these groups flexible enough to provide for early changes where misfits are discovered. Then we shall be in position to center so much more of the program about the cabin groups and thus give the cabin counselor a far better opportunity to know and help his boys. The instructional activities should be conducted in the morning and the afternoons should be left to be planned and carried out most largely by the cabin groups. Counselors must be given enough help to see what this means and be prepared for it. There are plenty of the finest camp experiences that can be carried on that way, but they will not be done if counselors persist in being instructors all day and in making announcements at dinner time to attract boys to their activity groups during the afternoons.

I would like to start at the beginning of camp to build up a sense of the cabin group as a distinct unit of the camp, so that a thing done by the group would stand out as a group project. The last few council ring programs were planned by assigning specific responsibilities to different cabin groups and it made for greater variety and interest in the programs. I had tried this out elsewhere where the cabin groups were better organized but had ~~hesitated~~ hesitated to try it at Sequoyah.

If I am back at Sequoyah next year I should like to have the responsibility for the council ring programs again (to be shared of course with the Director and Mr. Hoffman) and at the same time I would like to have permission to charter a tribe of the Woodcraft League for those who were sufficiently interested to qualify. ~~By~~ this I mean to arrange it so that those boys who made achievement in that line could secure and wear the ~~badges~~ insignia of their achievement as the Scouts, Riflemen, Life Saving, ~~and~~ and other national recognition groups have done. While this would be open to any camper, it would not be urged upon those who were not deeply interested in it.

Cabin suppers seem to need more training of counselors in their purpose, method and techniques. If it cannot be arranged so each cabin group can plan for their cabin supper whenever they wish it (and that is probably not very practical from the kitchen worker's view point) then a certain day for it would be set aside each week. Probably it would be best to go back to Monday for that. Certainly nothing else should be scheduled for that afternoon and evening. Wed. and Sat nights might well be lobby and council ring nights regularly, with Tuesday, Thursday and Friday open for hikes, cabin group plans, Indian Lore, or other groups.

The working out of program around the cabin groups would also provide for much more camper participation in program planning than is possible with our present methods, and that is desirable. Several matters of minor discipline and camp spirit would also be controlled more by the cabin groups in a natural manner under guidance of the counselor. The Directors might even call the cabin group leaders (boys) together to discuss certain practices of campers and discuss with them what ought to be done about it? Their recommendations could be taken before the camp as a whole and thus form a basis for camp rules on certain matters. At any rate it would tend to create a definite public opinion or disapproval of certain practices. This year these were handled with the individual boys and that is proper, but at times there was need of the understanding public opinion of the whole group to back up the efforts being made by both directors and campers. Although I know we have a fine group of older boys as aides, I may say that in several ways I am ~~beginning~~ beginning to question the continuance of aides or K.P.'s as at present. Have not thought this through to any recommendations?

It seems to me that our method of reporting activities still indicates an activity centered program, rather than a boy-centered one and it seems too much like the methods employed by the schools. Parents may seem to like it for that reason, but I am not at all sure we could not do a better educational job with the parents too if we trained them to look for a different type of emphasis from the schools. I tend also to react against the use of the word department to designate the various kinds of activity, so I may be entirely too cranky.

I wonder if you sent the annual activity reports of the boys to their parents this year. I hoped that you would not do it. I feel that when you study that through that it will seem to you that it is not good psychology and that the result may well be to cause dissatisfaction on the part of both boy and parent. The boys' achievements are bound to be centered somewhat along certain lines and when you place that on a sheet with all the variety of activities offered it tends to minimize what he has accomplished and in a sense may give a wrong impression of what he has got out of his camp summer - a thing which may offset entirely the other possible impression that we have a big program. I do not think I was ever a shirker, but I think as a boy I would not have cared to have that kind of report sent home. I doubt its value and I think that data is of most value in keeping the directors up to date on what a boy is doing while the camp is going on.

I favor reducing the routine reports to a minimum and having each cabin counselor charged with responsibility for seeing that his campers check their own activity and health habit charts each day so that these records will be available to see what activities a camper is taking part in. I would eliminate all gradings by counselors and instructors as we now conduct them - Have not been able to see where they serve any useful purpose to the boy. For the weekly reports would include only a few essential health habit items on which participation or D.K. would be sufficient checking (no grading) and would expect a brief paragraph written about the boy. These will be better in a way than some of the counselor's letters to parents. In special cases letters would need to be written occasionally also.

So I am not trying to get away from work for the counselors. In place of these routine reports I would require each counselor to write up a brief behavior observation report each day and hand it in as regularly as he does the health report. Mr. Stone's study this year showed us how poor we were at real behavior observation. We need practice and training in it and as we put it on a regular non-postponable basis we shall get the practice and learn to see the significance of the behavior that takes place about us. I am not wanting to ask for more work, because I had more than I did well this summer, but I would like to try to serve as a Personnel Director, unless a better one can be secured, to try to help us all learn these techniques of observation and reporting which are necessary to individual guidance. These reports would take no more time than our present routine reports and they would be more interesting and I think more valuable. Items from these reports concerning the behavior of any particular boy, good or bad, would be clipped or better typed off at the office and put into a cumulative record folder for that boy.

These cumulative record folders would make up a confidential file for the directors, but they could at their discretion bring data out of it for the other counselors to help with any particular problem.

In our treatment of behavior problems this summer, I feel that distinct progress was made in several cases. I feel that this could have been improved if more of the campers and counselors had understood in some cases just what was being tried. For this reason it would seem best to have some of the counselors meetings devoted to discussion of problems and questions concerning certain boys so that all may know how to cooperate in their treatment and especially in helping their groups to change their attitudes toward these boys and give them a chance. In trying to help Merrill get over the habit of knocking and razzing other boys, I took the others in my group somewhat into my confidence and so a better relationship was established and he was not aroused to this habit with them, but other boys who were accustomed to carry on a razzing match with him would carry it on and hinder his progress. Through discussion and not watching these particular cases, counselors of less ability and experience will be getting valuable training also.

While the physical tests do not concern program directly for much of the time, my own feeling concerning them is that we could make better use of them by using them at first to locate those for whom special development is needed, and then following these boys up individually and seeing that they were interested in and helped to improve their posture, build up their deficiencies or improve their skills. I do not favor using these reports for any kind of publicity, or detailed reporting to parents. In fact those boys who need special attention should be tested as often as needed to show their progress and thus encouraged to work for it, while it does not seem necessary to have the second tests given to all the campers - except those whose development is normal might be allowed to take them where they were interested in the growth made. Good development without becoming overly body-conscious should be our aim.

Ben and Matt might both carry responsibility for helping the deficient boys - Matt especially for the bodily development and Ben for the skills. Ben might use time now devoted to football instruction ~~xxx~~ etc. in seeking out and enlisting in improvement in fundamental physical skills such boys as Merrill, Mack, Gibson; and in this these men should have the understanding co-operation of all counselors. Some of that work was started this year with Mack and others, but there is room for more of it and our physical tests might well be a basis for it. They would be diagnostic in purpose.

The camp paper came to serve a better purpose with the plan this year, it seemed. It would probably have been more valuable if it could have been mimeographed so each boy could have had his own copy, but we feared that in such case the expense of each sheet would tend to cause it to be cut down to too small a space and we wanted all the freedom possible to get in all that could be given expression by campers and counselors. I think it went well and a good beginning along the right line was made. Fine

and thought still need to be given to make it more of a camper's paper - enlisting more campers in the writing of it. It would be good if it could be re-edited and published this winter and sent out to the campers. Think this would be a proper undertaking for the "Ye Old Sequoyan Club".

I was especially pleased with the fine response made by campers and counselors (and parents so far as I knew of them) to the elimination of the Honor Emblem Award System. It seemed to relieve the pressure I sensed the previous year and on the whole I felt that the group of campers were much freer, relaxed and happy than before. Several others about camp also spoke to me about that point so I think it was a real gain. Now that it has been eliminated the directors and counselors must look well to building up the demand for program features which will conserve all the values possible from the old system, without re-introducing the feelings of tension and emotion which have gone with the award plan. That can be done. These fine sweater emblems should continue to be available to the campers - in fact it would seem they could be sold as the pennants have been.

I think that some progress was made in Indian Lore program despite the difficulties encountered. I believe that this phase of camp program can be made to enrich the program in woodcraft, nature lore, and handicraft and that it can be carried on better another year, even if no Indian is present, if some of the older counselors can give some time to it. It rather gives Uncle Mike additional opportunity to teach music and Nature rather than take him from those activities; it also gives David added opportunity to teach crafts; and I find in it as much opportunity for woodcraft and campcraft direction as in any other way - another illustration of the fact that departmental lines may get in the way if rigidly adhered to. I am not sure that I favor forming a tribe of Indians who will be called that, but it may be better to have the Indian Lore open to any who are interested enough to take part in it at any time so they can get what they will out of it, but without feeling that they are joining or becoming something definite for the whole time. This freedom to come in or drop out of it is in accord with our free choice program also. Some will be real active members of the Indian Lore activity group while others will be marginal members.

I would recommend ~~that~~ ~~the~~ ~~counselors~~ ~~come~~ ~~to~~ ~~camp~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~beginning~~ ~~and~~ ~~that~~ ~~the~~ ~~period~~ ~~until~~ ~~the~~ ~~eight~~ ~~week~~ ~~period~~ ~~starts~~ ~~be~~ ~~definitely~~ ~~planned~~ ~~for~~ ~~a~~ ~~counselor~~ ~~training~~ ~~period~~, while of course carrying on the camp activities for those present. Those who are to go to the Counselors Institute at Blue Ridge would of course be away part of the time. So far as possible it should be our aim to have each counselor try out and learn as much as possible of the activity skill of every other counselor so that he could more wisely and interestedly guide his campers in their activity interests later on and if need be participate with a backward camper in order to enlist him in an activity he needs to develop. This ought also to get us a little away from the small bit of feeling of jealousy still evident once in a while when one activity seems to be more popular than some other. During this period ~~such~~ training for behavior observation can be given and general program planning be done.

THE PLACE OF RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES IN THE SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM
Edward H. Homer
1935

There is a poetic approach to religion far more valuable, more interpretative, and more meaningful than any other. Does the artist or the psychiatrist give us a more complete picture of the man? I think that it is the artist. The universe in which we live is not a great machine, but a great thought. Then if religion's values are entwined and enveloped in the poetic, in the artistic, in the realm of thought, where can these values be more completely realized than in a summer camp? It is there that nature is the artist and the poet, and great mountains stimulate thought. It is there that God is poetic and comes to us as expressed by the poet:

"I like God when He grows mad,
And splashes paint upon the sky.
I like God for his immense
And almost lack of common sense."

It is the duty of every camp to see that its campers do not have a two-month let-up from their spiritual training; in order that life's problems might be met with the full force of a well-rounded personality. The spiritual force and value of the Director and his counselors are more important in developing the boy or girl than any or all of the exact religious activities of the camp. Naturally the religious activities head is theoretically supposed to care for all the religious and spiritual needs of the campers. His place among a group of the right kind of counselors becomes almost obscure. Then we see that this project of training the campers in the spiritual values becomes a cooperative enterprise on the part of all of the counselors. On the hikes, at meals, in games, in study, in little "chats", in music, in all contacts the counselors have the high opportunity of placing another hot coal on the fire of youth. For after all, religion is life; and if we cannot have it as life, then much of its value is lost.

Then there are certain phases of the camp life especially designated to incorporate the spiritual forces. Besides the group of factors for spiritual enrichment listed by Hoffman I would like to add two.

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| Hoffman's: | A. Formal church services. |
| | B. Camp or cabin devotions. |
| | C. Grace at meals. |
| | D. Council fire services. |
| | E. Discussion groups or Bible Study. |
| Added: | F. Sanctuary retreats. |
| | G. Special cabin supper honor court. |

Let us consider briefly each of these as they should be and as factors in the camp program. The church service should be a joyful worship on Sunday with the campers participating as much as

possible. As little speaking as possible should be done. Campers should be encouraged but not made to attend. The cabin devotions can accomplish as much as the mother with her children on her knees, if they are properly conducted. I believe that an occasional "good-night" devotion could be effectively done with the whole camp together--particularly on some beautiful nights without light or fire. This would be the camp director's night to have a devotion with the campers. Grace at meals should be in varied form. A standard grace leads to too much uniformity and lack of feeling. The idea that all shall participate in grace is fine. Why not a silent grace from time to time? And to call on individual campers--who have been forewarned--would give them an opportunity for expression, which would be very valuable to them. Many boys have told me that the truth-seeking, "good-seeking" of the council fire services are more religion to them than anything else that they had ever known. That type of service, in my min, cuts deeper into the soul of a boy or girl, than any moral lesson from the lips of any individual. The direction that can be given only by a forceful personality is needed here more than in any other religious activity. The informal retreat in a sanctuary can mean much in a young camper's life. Meditation, being alone, and thinking will greatly enrich the lives of boys.

I believe that a well-directed, informal "honor court" or court of understanding for a cabin group can open up channels of social adjustment and spiritual enrichment which will mean happiness to the camper. The cabin supper time or any time when the cabin group is alone in the woods would be suitable.

In camp the religious emphases can be more far-reaching and more dynamic than the same emphases in ordinary life. The lives of the counselors count mightily here. Certainly camps have a contribution to make to the enrichment of a boy's spiritual life.

REPORT AND INVENTORY
OF
CRAFTS DEPARTMENT
FOR
1933

David L. Liles

CRAFTS

The crafts department has just closed another interesting and successful year. The total amount of work done probably does not quite reach the amount done the past year, but does surpass last years work in quality and neatness.

We were indeed fortunate in our instructors. Mr. Wood and Mr. Rynum made it possible for the boys to do some beautiful work in jewelry. Gilbert Johnston, Bill Howe and I helped a great many campers to make many useful and attractive things in leather and cord.

I would suggest that the large cabinet on the leathercraft side of the shop be fitted up with a glass window, so that the boys articles may be put in there upon being completed, and thereby have a continuous exhibit from the beginning of camp. In that way we may keep a great many of the most attractive articles in camp for a final exhibit, instead of having them scattered all over the country.

David L. Allen