

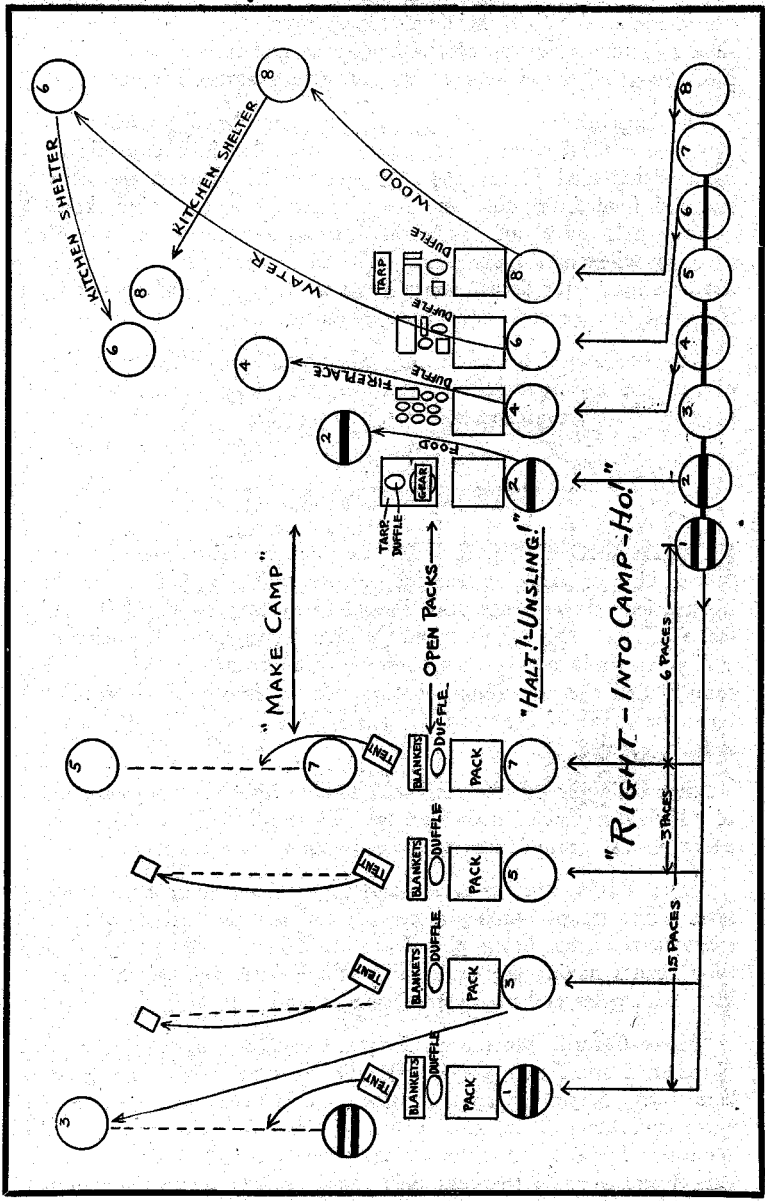
THE YUCCA CAMP

HARD AND FAST RULES can not be laid down for the making of camp, except for demonstration purposes. In the illustration, shown later, the Patrol is moving to the left, and we shall call this "Upstream." This being true, the kitchen equipment falls out of line, first, at the command "Right, into camp!" and the tent squad continues for a few paces, depending upon the shape of the opening, or the flats upon which the camp is to be erected.

After swinging off the trail and coming into line the command of "Halt!" is given, followed by, "Unslung!" This places the packs on the ground, straps down, in front of each Scout.

"Open Packs!" brings each Scout to one knee against his knapsack. The straps holding down the flap are unbuckled, and the contents removed, being placed just in front of the pack. The four Scouts having pup-tents, place these tents free of the blankets, with poles and pegs close behind them.

"Make Camp!" takes each Scout into action from the "Knee." Numbers 1 and 7 take positions just in front of their tents. Numbers 3 and 5, picking up their tents, carry them out about four paces and drop them, taking up positions directly in front of Numbers 1 and 7. Numbers 1 and 7 each untoll a tent. Numbers 3 and 5 grasp the rear point and stake it, while their part-



ners joint the poles and place them. Numbers 5 and 7 move to right side of their tent, staking that side. While Number 7 places the poles upright, Number 5 draws the tent taut and stakes the left side down. Both immediately face the next tent, carried by Number 5, and repeat the performance. Numbers 1 and 3 are doing the same, only from the opposite direction, with the other two tents.

The blankets are stacked just within the front pole of the tent, duffle bags placed just inside the blanket pile, and knapsacks stowed in rear corner of tent.

Number 1, taking position as before "Open Packs," issues instructions regarding position of flagpole, if any, Number 7 being told off for this. Number 5 prepares the council fire and gathers fuel, with the aid of No. 3, after the Scribe has entered the details of the trip, time, events, etc., in his records.

At "Make Camp!" the kitchen force goes into action also, with Number 2 in charge. Number 2 moves to the front of his knapsack, a little toward the next pack. After unpacking the Cooking and Mess Gear, he begins to cut up, or otherwise prepare, the food to be used for that first meal, having made out his menu before the purchasing of the supplies. He remains in this locality preparing food and issuing any orders necessary. Number 4, using his spade, is preparing the fireplace where No. 2 has chosen to have it. He stands ready to lend any assistance needed by Number 2. Number 6 has taken the largest pot and is after water with that one, and with any others in which Number 2 will need water for cooking purposes. Number 8 gets the brush or wood for starting the fire as quickly as possible, and secures heavier stuff later which furnishes the heat for cooking. He cuts, too, green forked stick and a cross-piece for hanging kettles, or for a tripod, depending upon the needs of Number 2. Number 4 lights the fire, builds it up for cooking, and prepares what portion of the meal is delegated to him. He keeps any utensils cleaned that Number 2 uses during the meal.

With water and wood on hand; Numbers 6 and 8 take the tarpaulin from Number 8 pack and erect the kitchen shelter facing the direction given by Number 2. In demonstration, this is erected first, but on the trail, the starting of the meal comes first, always!

AT HOME

IN YUCCA there is never a question as to whose duty any activity might be. If lights are to be handled from the switch-board—Number 5. If injury comes—Number 3. If a first aid drill—all Number 3s. If a message to be sent—Number 5. If property missing—Number 4. If a question on a certain camp in view for next vacation—Number 6. A tree unknown—Number 8. A broken chair—Number 7. Refreshments—Number 2. Speech—Number 1. We use them all. We work them all. They all work—and want to work.

The Scoutmaster never instructs: the specialist does that. The Scoutmaster never has to ask about something's being done: it's always done before-hand.

With Yucca, we find the mothers let the boys take part much oftener in camping activities because the boys no longer have to scour their own utensils, buy dabs of this and that for cooking, or have sore and rope-burned shoulders to nurse after awkward packs have been used.

DRILLS

DRILL A. TO PITCH TENTS.

Command—Open Ranks Ho. 1-2-3-4.

Senior Commands—Take Tents Ho.

Nos. 1-3-5-7 take tents from pack and come to alert. Juniors come to alert as soon as packs have been unshipped.

Senior Commands—Positions Ho.

At which time both ranks right face and march to camp-site that has been cleared.

Pitch Tents Ho. Squads 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8 pitch their tents. Time taken when all squads stand at alert in front of tents.

DRILL B. TO STRIKE TENTS.

Command—Strike Tents Ho.

Senior pulls up guy and front tent pegs. Junior goes to rear and pulls rear tent guy and pegs. Folds pole and helps fold tent ready for pack. Time taken when squads have reached line with tents folded neatly at feet and are at alert.

DRILL C. INSPECTION.

Command—Inspection Ho.

Blues break out ground cloths directly in front of tents. Senior and Junior each place full equipment on his half. Personal equipment, mess kit, etc. Time taken when all stand alert.

DRILL D. TO PITCH YUCCA PATROL CAMP.

Command—Pitch Camp Ho.

Senior Rank unpacks all equipment and lays his tent out ready for pitching. Junior Rank unpacks all mess gear and general equipment. Junior then assists Senior in pitching tent (for details refer to Drill A). Senior then ranges ground cloth in tent, Junior assisting. Juniors break out mess gear and place at fire trench. No. 8 man places light tarp in position for mess. Juniors then place numbered mess kits in position. Seniors Nos, 1-3-5 lash tripod and put hot water pail in position.

Time taken when Patrol is at alert beside tents.

DRILL E. TO PITCH FULL YUCCA PATROL CAMP.

As above Drill D, but with following additions: (1) Cooking trench, (2) garbage pits and latrines are dug. Hay beds are laid; fires are built in cook trenches.

Time taken when the water is boiling in the three vessels, cocoa pot, I pan and water pail.

DRILL F. TO STRIKE FULL YUCCA PATROL CAMP.

Fires extinguished, trenches resodded, and site policed. Leave sign.

DRILL G. TO FORM MESS LINE.

The mess being ready, No. 2 notifies all hands by the old cry "Grub Ho." Directed by No. 2, the pans are placed near the tarp. No. 1 heads the mess line, Nos. 3-5-7. No. 8 is now served, then Nos. 6-4 help themselves, and lastly the Junior helps himself. The portions are served under No. 2's eye.

Time taken when everyone is served.

DRILL H. WASH DISHES.

No. 8 having finished his meal, standing at the pail which is full of hot water, holds the swab and ladle. Line up as mess line and pass in regular formation. A stream of hot water and swab does the work in short order. Each one then marches to towel rack, made by staves lashed together.

