

Forward

319 So Park St.
Farmington, Minn.
May 4, 1942

Dear Dr. Ryneason -

It is with the deepest regret that I decline your kind invitation to join the Region Ten Scouters who will be privileged to attend the dedication of the Charles L. Sommers Wilderness Canoe Base. The budget for raising three small youngsters (two of them future Scouts and Scouters!) and taking a small part in financing our War Effort just doesn't leave any leeway for such participation!

In declining, I am haunted by memories of my own canoe trip with a "gang" from Cedar Valley Council, and I am certain that the ghost of that pleasure will condemn me severely for not availing myself of this opportunity to renew at first hand some of the noble resolutions which come so naturally under such perfect circumstances. No doubt you are acquainted with Ben Conger. If so, I'm sure he can tell you what I'm driving at!

While my part toward accomplishing this marvelous project has been miserably small, rest assured I intend to do more, for my highest ambition is to
(over - we have to conserve!)

make the portages again with my own Scouts as my companions. And, of course, part of realizing that ambition will depend on my sharing the responsibility of building and maintaining the Base camp. I promise you, you will hear more from me on that score.

Please pardon the length of this epistle, but memory does funny things to a man's pen, and ever since Dad Fitz gave me a chance to be in on the ground floor in this project my heart has been thumping with pride which has finally forced this expression of that emotion.

My deepest respects to that real Scout, Mr. Sommers, and wishing you continued success with our Base camp,
I am

Yours in Scouting

Bob (R.S.) Tancher



X. - Please read and
return
to Dr. Ryneason

Frederick U. Davis
824 Fourth Avenue S.W.
Faribault, Minnesota
May 7, 1942

It seems to me that an opportunity for unselfish service has come to the Scouts and Scouters of this area such as has never come before.

I wonder how many of us realize what a great man and what a great Scouter we have in this Region. Charles L. Somers is known nationally as one of the most valuable Scout workers and one of the best friends of boys in the whole United States. For years, he has given of his time and money to the good work of Scouting, and he has literally grown old in volunteer work and is recognized at the Home Office at New York as one of our national leaders.

And yet, we have such a man right here in our midst, working for us personally and to us known affectionately as "Charlie."

An opportunity has come to us to show our appreciation to "Charlie." There would be no Region X, as we know it, if it were not for him. He has been the Chief of our Region, our Chairman, since the beginning of Scouting in this part of the United States. He has been unusually interested in the development of the canoeing opportunities offered by our North Woods. And now a new canoe base has been established on our northern lakes, and it will be dedicated to Charles L. Somers. It will be formally presented at a meeting immediately after the session of the National Council, the date being May 16.



A last effort is being made by those in charge to raise enough funds so that this property may be presented to the Region and dedicated free of debt.

What a magnificent thing it would be if every Troop in the area could and would make a contribution of five dollars, more or less, to this effort. It would be a SCOUTING GOOD TURN PAR EXCELLENCE. It would not be appropaite to ask the Troops to contribute to the effort toward expansion on which we are now working and no such contribution will be asked. But here is a chance for each Troop to make a little sacrifice in Region X. Such an opportunity may never come again. However, if it is to be done, it must be done AT ONCE as all contributions must be in before May 14.

This would seem to me an opportunity to express meager appreciation to the efforts of a man who has labored willingly, freely, and unselfishly for you, personally.

Think it over, and, if I am right, go to it.

Yours in Scouting,

Frederick U. Davis, M. D.

May 13, 1942

Mr. R. H. Fancher
~~319 South Park Street~~
Fairmont, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Fancher:

Thank you very much for your very nice and
cordial letter regarding the Wilderness Canoe
Base Camp. We shall miss you a great deal but
I simply want you to know how much I appreciate
the friendliness and interest exhibited by you.

Here's hoping you can get up at a later
date.

Cordially yours,

E. E. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt

May 13, 1942

Cause Bore

Mr. W. D. Todd
George A. Hormel and Company
Austin, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Todd:

Thank you for your note. I am terribly sorry that the situation has necessitated your giving up the District Chairmanship. Although I have not seen as much of you as I should like, yet I have an idea that in the time to come both you and I will see more of each other. Here's hoping life will soon straighten out for all of us, but neither you nor I can set the date.

Cordially yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

ehrsbjt

May 13, 1942

Mr. Dudley Fitz
Fairmont, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Fitz:

K. Bentz has told me in how many ways
you have manifested an interest in the ~~Canoe~~
~~Base~~ and I want you to know how personally
grateful I am. I hope that you and I may
sometime have the pleasure of each other's
company on a trip up there and this note is
simply to send you a cordial thank-you.

Very truly yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

ehr:bjt

Canoe Base

May 20, 1942

Mr. Kenneth G. Bentz
1124 Minnesota Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dear K.:

I am deeply indebted to you and Ben and Harold for all the help you have given me in the months which have passed since we began to discuss this Canoe Base. There is no sense in my writing a long letter because you fellows know how happy I was last Sunday, particularly because Mr. Summers and Red Ludlow seemed so grateful.

There remains one item, and that is the raising of at least \$2500. I say at least that because we are going to need shutters for all the windows, the road is going to have to be fixed a little and so forth and so forth. What I wish you would discuss at your Friday conference is how I can best approach this problem. I am not at all convinced that the Council President in each Council is the best man to approach and since you men, through the Development Campaign, have become better acquainted with personalities I wish you would give me a little advice as to which men I should write to.

Then, also, K., I wish you would get in touch with Mr. Denning, who, I believe, was shepherding the photographer the day of the Canoe Base dedication. Mr. Beckman said that if a group of these pictures were sent to him, together with a little writeup, he would see to it that we had excellent national publicity both in Scouting Magazine and Boy's Life. He wants this material sent directly to him so that he can give it the necessary push. I think it would be nice, when you write to Mr. Denning, to ask for a copy of these prints for Beckman, copies for Summers, Red Ludlow, a Canoe Base scrap book, a set for you fellows if you wish and a set for me. I shall be very glad to pay for any or all of these sets and you may so inform Mr. Denning.

I think we also saw the need of a registration book for the Canoe Base and I wish you fellows would arrange for this. I would have it in loose-leaf form so that the whole book will not get battered around during the season but the Scouts and Scouters will be able to register on individual pages which can then be slipped in.

With the exception of the deficit, it was one of the happiest days of my life and again I want you to know of my personal feeling of indebtedness for the grand work you have done.

Most cordially yours,

H. DUDLEY FITZ
214 TILDEN STREET
FAIRMONT, MINN.

May 20, 1942

Dr. Edward H. Ryneearson
c/o Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minnesota

5-22

Dear Dr. Ryneearson:

Much was said about the job Hod Ludlow had done and how perfect the workmanship of the Finns was and how clever they were with the mixture of axes and "snoose". Well, there was no better job done by anybody in connection with the Canoe Base Camp than you did as master of ceremonies at the dedication.

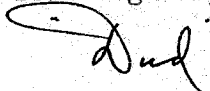
It was perfect, and I want to compliment and congratulate you on your handling of the entire session.

Many people had gone to considerable effort to be there, and you made it well worth the effort. I certainly am glad I was there. In fact, the three days I spent there will always remain with me a very pleasant memory. The two day canoe trip with my boy and then the dedication as the climax.

I need not say here what I think of this building, for I have already done that, but it truly is superb.

This letter also will serve as a reminder to you of a date you have in the Fairmont vicinity in October, when I hope to show you Camp Cedar Point and some ringnecks. Be sure to bring your boy. I'll be hoping mine will be available also. I look forward to it all eagerly.

Best regards, always,



H. Dudley Fitz

HDF:P

May 22, 1942

Causes 

Mr. E. Dudley Pitts
214 Tilden Street
Fairmont, Minnesota

Dear Dad:

Yours is the only letter I have received
but it is the letter I wanted most to get.

Incidentally, the splendid relationship
which so obviously exists between you and your
son was quite an inspiration to me. My boy
will not be ten until June but if, when he is
your boy's age, he and I have you and your
son's comradeship I will think I have been a
very successful father.

I am so glad we finally met and I have
an idea we will enjoy each other's company for
many years to come.

Cordially yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt

• May 22, 1942

Mr. Fred Woolverton
Albert Lea, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Woolverton:

Just a note to tell you how sorry I am that you were not at the Cancee Base dedication. We had a splendid ~~crowd~~ ^{crowd} and, while the weather wasn't what I ordered, yet everything else was perfect.

The purpose of this note, however, is to tell you what an outstanding job your son has done. His carving over the mantel, the maps which he has painted for the walls are but two of the many contributions he has made. We arrived Saturday night at midnight and an hour or so later he got up to go downstairs and work on his maps which he did until about three o'clock. He was up again at six and from then until ten o'clock that night he never stopped working. I know how proud you must be of him and I simply wanted you to know how grateful I am for what he has done.

Cordially yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



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FEBRUARY 8, 1910

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS
JUNE 15, 1916

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May 22nd
1942

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Dr. E. H. Ryneearson
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Ed:-

The Canoe Base itself, the whole Dedication Ceremony, and especially the presenting, done by a fellow named Reiersen and several other names, so far exceeded all my expectations that any attempt to express my feelings in mere words is beyond my capability. It was all grand - all greatly appreciated. To have my name associated with this great enterprise is, as I feebly attempted to state, "overpaying the account".

At the conclusion of the ceremony, I could not say a word to you or to anyone else - so my good wife (equally touched) and I walked down to the lakeshore and stood and viewed the beautiful shoreline and watched the waves. This, without saying anything to each other - our thoughts going back to Charles and Frank who camped many times on those same shores and loved every part of it; and of my son, Davidson, in the East, who had done the same, and of Elinor and her husband, Herman Otto, who at the last moment could not make the trip as Elly was coming down with a sore throat.

It was all unforgettable and my everlasting gratitude is yours.

I hear you had a fine Scout gathering on Tuesday evening. This, together with your most successful "Off the Plateau" campaign, puts Gamehaven on the map in great shape.

I hear Mrs. Ryneearson's condition is greatly improved. That's splendid news.

Mrs. Sommers, I am sure, joins me in everything I have written.

My best to you.

Sincerely and cordially yours,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Charles
Charles L. Sommers.

May 22, 1942

Mr. and Mrs. Hed Ludlew
General Delivery
Ely, Minnesota

Dear Hed and Mrs. Ludlew:

Just a note to thank you for your hospitality and kindness to me during the Canoe Base Dedication. I am sure both of you know how completely and totally happy I am and how personally indebted I feel toward you for having done such a grand job. As long as this building stands it will be there as a memorial to your personal interest and excellent ability. Mary and Martha also added tremendously to the pleasure of the dedication and I think you must have sensed how pleased everyone was.

I talked to Mr. Heckman, who, as you knew, is a very powerful man in the National Organization, and he said that Chief West had been tremendously impressed with what you had done. He also said that if you were anxious to stay in this building and administrative end of Scouting he felt sure the Chief would find a place for you in the building program which is to be instituted at Philmont; however, he also raised the question as to whether you might not prefer in the fall to have some experience as an executive and it is with decisions such as this that I can be of no help. Once you have made a decision, however, if there is any way in which I can do anything, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Most cordially and gratefully yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt

Chas. E. Ryne
May 26, 1942

Dr. Frederick U. Davis
824 Fourth Avenue S. W.
Faribault, Minnesota

Dear Dr. Davis:

Just a note to tell you
what a splendid letter I think you wrote on
May seventh and how glad I am that you sent
me a copy.

I do hope you and a
number of your friends will have the chance
to drive to this canoe base, for I assure you
that it far exceeds my greatest expectations!
It is both adequate and beautiful. If some
of the men who are interested in fishing would
like to go up there they not only would have a
good time but might be impelled to make a con-
tribution!

With deep appreciation, I am

Sincerely yours,

EHR:EH

E. H. Ryneason, M. D.

May 26, 1942

Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Sommers
1124 Minnesota Building
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sommers:

I think the thing that made the Cange Day Dedication such a fine affair was the fact that all of us sensed the happiness which we could share with the two of you. The most unforgettable part of the many contacts which I have made since November 1940 is the genuinely affectionate tribute which everyone extends to you. At no time in any part of the region did I hear anything but terms of highest praise.

I was terribly worried about the dedication ceremony itself and I was determined to be present personally in order to make sure that no one would degrade such a fine building in the memory of such fine people by a prolonged and sentimental sob-session. I have thought later that perhaps the ceremony was too informal but, on the other hand, it is an informal spot and certainly an informal gathering and I am delighted that the two of you, K Bentz, and Ned Ludlow seemed so happy.

Please know of my own personal everlasting devotion.

Cordially yours,

EHR:EH

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.



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May 29th
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Dr. E. H. Rynearson
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Eddie:-

On the Canoe Base financing, we believe it would not be wise to think of using the ~~new~~ manpower developed in connection with the Expansion Fund for helping us out on the Canoe Base at this time. Sometime this fall they might again be approached, but at the present time we are too close to the dates of the expansion campaigns.

We would suggest, however, that it would be fine for you to make up a brief but enthusiastic report on the Canoe Base Dedication, announcing that we still have \$2500 to go and suggesting that each Council Chairman on the Canoe Base Fund continue his efforts in behalf of the project. Copies of such a letter can go to the Canoe Base Chairman in each Council as well as Presidents and Executives. We still have some leads on some substantial gifts that we will continue to work on.

Cordially yours,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Kenneth G. Bentz
Regional Executive

June 15, 1942

Duluth News-Tribune
Duluth, Minnesota

Dear Sirs:

In your photographic section of Sunday, May 31, 1942, there was a page of pictures regarding the dedication of the Canna Base. As Chairman of Camping and Activities for the Boy Scouts of America of this Region, I happen to have been very active in that project. I am wondering whether you have a few copies of this page which I might have. I should like to send one to my mother and one to my brother and so forth.

Certainly those of us who are interested in the Boy Scout work appreciate your splendid cooperation and publicity which you have given.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

E. H. Ryncarson, M. D.

chr:bjt

H. DUDLEY FITZ
214 TILDEN STREET
FAIRMONT, MINN.

June 16, 1942

Dr. E. H. Rynearson
c/o Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minnesota 2-23

Dear Ed:

Some of the Kodachrome pictures I took at the Canoe Base dedication were very good and some not so hot but I am going to impose the whole lot on you. They are going to you via parcel post together with a Vuescope. If you have or have access to a projector that will be much the more satisfactory way to see the pictures - your Rochester Eastman dealer doubtless would run them for you - but for more convenience I sent with the pictures a Vuescope. You insert the kodachrom in the slide, look in the glass eye, put your finger on the button on the top back of the slide and presto you see what there is to see. If the bulb burns out or the battery dies read the instructions on the inside of the box's cover.

Wish it were possible to stand by your side while you look at the pictures and tell you where they were taken. Most of them were taken on the trip "The Jeep" and I took the two days before the dedication. The two young Scotchmen for instance are the Canadian Rangers on Bayley Bay where we entered the Quetico Park. The falls are Lousia Falls on Lake Agnes and so on around. Look em over and shoot em back. I want to send em up to "Hod" to see and I want K. Bentz to see them also. I understand "Hod" is taking some Kodachrome pictures himself so I am going to give him the pictures of his kiddies and also a Vuescope so he can see his pictures where there is no electric current which is necessary with a projector.

Next fall when you come over for the pheasant hunt at evening we will project this set of pictures and review pleasantly the whole dedication.

There are some of the films that at first you will think are "blank". Study them close and you will see many fish about 20 to 24 inches long. The water was clear and they could be seen plainly down in the water. The camera only registered their outline. Good light is required for Kodachrome pictures and as you will recall the day of the dedication was dark and dreary.

Trusting all is well with you and yours and looking forward to when again we meet, I am

Sincerely yours,



H. Dudley Fitz

HDF:KK

CEDAR VALLEY AREA COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



June 17, 1942

Dr. E. H. Rynearson,
c/o Mayo Clinic,
Rochester, Minn.

Dear Dr. Rynearson:

We are enclosing check for \$1.00 as a contribution toward
the canoe base from Robt. Wolgamot of Troop 5 of Albert Lea.

Yours very truly,

F T Woolverton

FRED T. WOOLVERTON,
Area Camping Chairman

June 23, 1942

Mr. H. Dudley Fitz
214 Tilden Street
Fairmont, Minnesota

Dear Dud:

Thanks so much for sending me the Kodachromes. I hate to deprive Ned and E. Bents of the pleasure of seeing them at once but Paul and Mabel Wetland were out last night and looked at them with the Vuescope and all of us want to delay sending them to you until we can have a gang together and look at them with Paul's projector and screen. I'll send them back to you just as soon as we are finished with them. This note, then, is just to thank you for your thoughtfulness and to tell you that these pictures are indescribably lovely.

I'll make a date with you to take this canoe trip together some time for I can't think of a better companion. Please know also that my son Bob, who was ten years old Sunday, and I are certainly going to accept your invitation to come to Fairmont during the pheasant season. The Clinic is too busy for me to take a vacation this summer and I am figuring on taking a little time off in the fall.

Cordially yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



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July 10, 1942

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Dr. E. H. Ryneearson
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minnesota

My dear Dr. Ryneearson:

This is a very belated recognition of what everybody has referred to as being an outstanding service on your part.

I am referring to the very splendid service that you rendered in putting through the Canoe Base Camp. I want to congratulate you most heartily.

One of the regrets that I have is that I was unable to attend the dedication. However, I was greatly pleased to hear that so many found it possible to take part. I was glad particularly that Dr. West, Mr. Jesse Lasky and others joined in the company.

It was a delightful thought on your part that this base camp should be created and that it should be dedicated to our good friend Charles L. Sommers. It was a well merited tribute. He has meant so much to Region Ten over the years. It cheered him greatly.

On the evening that I arrived in St. Paul, preliminary to the opening of the Annual Meeting, I thought Mr. Sommers looked quite weary, so much so, that he did not stay to a dinner meeting, of which I was host, of the Executive Staffs of the St. Paul and Minneapolis Councils and of the Regional Committee.

However, I never saw a man recuperate more quickly and more delightfully than he did, as the Annual Meeting got under way. It was a great occasion for him, for many things that he had hoped for over the years came true.

7-14

Dr. E. H. Rynearson

-2-

July 10, 1942

The Regional Committee and the representatives of the two local Councils did a magnificent job.

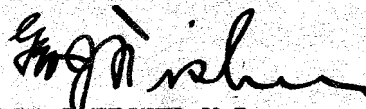
I think I enjoyed more this last Annual Meeting than any other, from the point of view of being at ease, knowing that the good and valiant Scouters of Region Ten would see the thing through. I am sure you already have had a great deal of satisfaction from the part that you had in the affair.

Some day I would like to see the base camp. They tell me the buildings have been beautifully and skillfully built and I hope when I do visit the camp Charles Sommers will be in the party.

I hope the base will be used by a large number of Scouts and that it will contribute to the effectiveness of Scouting in the entire Region.

For this monumental service we do wish to express to you our sincere thanks.

Yours very sincerely,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



GEORGE J. FISHER, M.D.
Deputy Chief Scout Executive

GJF/CM
encl.

July 14, 1942

Dr. George J. Fisher
2 Park Avenue
New York City, New York

Dear Doctor Fisher:

Thank you very much for your very nice letter of July 10. It was a great pleasure for me to have had the opportunity of honoring our mutual friend, Mr. Sommers. I was, of course, pleased with the surprising attendance at the dedication. Twenty-eight boys from this Council returned Sunday from the ~~camp~~ trip and Paul Netland, our Executive, reports that these new facilities have greatly increased the opportunities for boys to enjoy this experience.

Please give my kind personal regards to Chief West and Mr. Beckman.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

ehrsbjt



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



INCORPORATED
FEBRUARY 8, 1910

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS
JUNE 15, 1916

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July 23, 1942

Dr. E. H. Rynearson
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minn.

Dear Dr. Rynearson:

It was not possible for me to stay over and attend the dedication ceremonies of the Charles L. Sommers Scout Canoe Base on May 17. But I have just read with great thrill the transcript of the record.

Mr. Sommers has been a great leader and we are all indebted to you for your leadership in the development of this much deserved recognition — the Charles L. Sommers Scout Canoe Base.

It was a great pleasure for me to see you at St. Paul and I hope later we may have further opportunity to get better acquainted.

Yours for Victory,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
Division of Program

Lorne W. Barclay

Lorne W. Barclay
National Director of Publications

LWB:AM

July 29, 1942

Mr. Berne W. Barclay
2 Park Avenue
New York City, New York

Dear Mr. Barclay:

I enjoyed very much meeting you, too, at the time of the National Meeting and I am sorry you missed the canoe base. Some time you will have to come up ~~and take this trip~~ as I think it is one of the greatest trips in the world.

Cordially yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt

July 29, 1942

Mr. Kenneth G. Bents
1122 Minnesota Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dear K.:

It's been a long time since either of us has written to the other. Sometime we'll have to discuss raising the rest of the money for the Canoe Base but I am not going to discuss that at this time, although I do have some ideas.

What I am writing about is what Paul Netland discussed with you and that is that some of the scouts here, including Sam Haines, Haidew Keith, the local chairman of cubbing, the Netlands and the Rynearsons were planning on spending a week at the Canoe Base. Paul says that the Canoe Base may be closed, which is quite probably the proper thing to do, and if it is closed I think we'll still go up close to the base and spend a week. This brings to mind, however, one point that I have always forgotten to mention and that is insurance on that building. I presume, of course, that we have it insured but I just wondered how the policy read as regards a caretaker. I am also wondering what ideas you and Ben and Ned have regarding the storage of equipment and so forth.

This gives you a general idea of what I am thinking about.

As always, most cordially yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt

August 3, 1942

Mr. Kenneth G. Bents
1124 Minnesota Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dear K.:

Thanks so much for your nice letter of the thirty-first. I, too, want to keep this welcome news regarding the completion of funds for the Canoe Base a secret. I want to keep it a secret because quite a few Councils, including Duluth, haven't kicked in at all proportionately and at the dedication they stated that they wanted to have the opportunity of raising quite a bit more money. For this reason, I believe I shall simply write to a few of them and tell them that it is my ambition to be able to announce at the Annual Regional Meeting next fall that the Canoe Base is paid for and that I shall appreciate their setting up a special Committee in order to finish their contribution at this time. This I shall follow up later in the fall and, as you know, we shall be able to use any extra money we get.

I do not know what to say about Mr. Sommers' suggestion about a Regional Committee Meeting. It might be a good way to start off the fall program, but since I am going to get up there on the nineteenth I would have a hard job making it on the fifteenth. If you and Mr. Sommers think it is a good idea and are willing, would there be any chance of calling the meeting for the eighteenth and nineteenth? Then I would simply stay on, for if the base stays open, the Haines, Nettletons, Keiths, Grays and Rynearsons expect to stay there until Sunday morning, September 27. This crowd would not arrive until after the Regional Committee had left on the nineteenth if that date seems favorable. This is just a suggestion and I shall be interested in your reaction.

Cordially yours,

E. E. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



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INCORPORATED
FEBRUARY 8, 1910

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS
JUNE 15, 1916

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NORTHEAST WYOMING

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TELEPHONE CEDAR 0659

July 31st
1942

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BEN F. CONGER, DEPUTY REGIONAL EXECUTIVE
HARRALD S. ALVORD, DEPUTY REGIONAL EXECUTIVE

Dr. E. H. Rynearson
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Eddie:-

I was just writing you when your letter came in about the Canoe Base.

I was writing to report the good news that the Canoe Base is now entirely paid for. Mr. Sommers, as usual, makes it possible because he has raised some additional money on the side. This additional money is being used to ease other items in the Regional Budget so that we can pay off the loan and clear the Canoe Base account. I do not believe that we should broadcast this news to the field; there are still some plans on foot to raise some money toward the base and we still should have more money. We could spend \$200 to good advantage on the road, and we will probably need some funds with which to make the place ^{secure} for the winter.

Ludlow and I are studying on the problem of winter storage. There are several plans under consideration. We might lock up the building and have the caretaker living at Seeley's or Kirk's make occasional trips over. There is also some discussion of closing the road into the ^{place} in September, making the cut-off at Hibbard's Lodge with a gate. Both Seeleys and Kirks are interested in getting this done if they can work it out with the Forest Service.

I think if you can plan your trip up there in September, we ought to arrange to have someone there until that time and then participate in the final arrangements for winter storage. ^{you can}

Mr. Sommers is very much interested in having a Regional Committee Meeting up there in September - around the 15th. Of course travel would be a handicap, but I would like to go ahead with it.

Attendance seems to be holding up pretty well. We have prospects of four good weeks in August.

the Insurance does not require a resident caretaker.

Cordially,

Kenneth G. Bentz
Regional Executive

"DO A GOOD TURN DAILY"

"BE PREPARED"

f-cc Notland

August 7, 1942

Mr. Kenneth G. Bents
1124 Minnesota Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dear K.:

Thank you very much for your letter and for the enclosure of Mr. Sommers' letter to the Council presidents. I quite approve of your effort to have the Annual Regional Meeting at the time that the executives are there and I can only hope that you and Mr. Sommers will understand that my previously made plans will prevent me from attending. I speak at the Wisconsin State Medical Society meeting on the fourteenth and fifteenth and then, as you know, I am planning to drive to the Cance Base on the nineteenth. Will you please make that change in your records, for in your letter you state, "I am hopeful that arrangements can be made for you to use the base as you suggest, September 27." Our plans are to leave here on September 19 and to return home on the twenty-seventh. If you decide that the Cance Base should be closed after the executives' meeting, then, of course, we will go someplace else and please do not let this little trip of ours influence your decision as to the closing of the Camp.

I do hope that Mr. Sommers understands that I could not drive to the Cance Base for the twelfth and thirteenth, be in Wisconsin for the State Meeting and then go back to the Cance Base. The reason I mention this twice is because I will take second place to no one in my loyalty to Mr. Sommers and I am always anxious to be wherever he is.

Cordially yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt



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BEN F. CONGER, DEPUTY REGIONAL EXECUTIVE
HARRALD S. ALVORD, DEPUTY REGIONAL EXECUTIVE

Dr. E. H. Rynearson
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Eddie:-

I am enclosing a copy of the letter just released by Mr. Sommers announcing the Regional Annual Meeting for Saturday evening and Sunday, September 12 and 13, at the Canoe Base. He doesn't expect a large attendance but hopes that a number of members of the Regional Executive Committee will attend.

I am hopeful that arrangements can be made for you to use the Base as you suggest, September 27th, but that will depend somewhat on what arrangements we can make for storage and care of the equipment. It might be that we will have to stack the canoes in the lodge room. It might be also possible to arrange to have someone stay over to keep the Base open and function through the period you want it. We will see what we can do.

Cordially,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Kenneth G. Bentz
Regional Executive

f

Dr. Rymearson

August 3rd
1 9 4 2

A PERSONAL LETTER TO SCOUT COUNCIL PRESIDENTS

Region Ten has much to be thankful for; much to be proud of. It has been particularly great to have had a part in the developments of the past few months.

Much has happened. For one thing we have played host to one of the finest National Annual Meetings ever held. Another has been the "Off the Plateau" Expansion Program which has made it possible for each Council to take the first big step toward increased service. Each Council has or will shortly have an increased professional staff. I personally believe we are right now in the strongest position we have ever been in, to get off that Membership Plateau.

The war, of course, complicates our work and increases our responsibilities. The increase of staff itself presents many new and varied problems - problems of administration, of finance, of personnel. But knowing the fibre of our men, both volunteer and professional, I have no doubt but what we will win our way through.

In analyzing plans for the Fall, we have come to the conclusion that two important meetings should be called. We have weighed evidence both ways - with restricted travel in mind. We, too, have a job to do and it's of paramount importance to the welfare of the youth of our area.

First: We announce the Annual Scout Executives' Training Conference. It is to be held this year at the new Region Ten Canoe Base near Ely, Minnesota, September 9 to 12 inclusive. We hesitated somewhat about deciding to hold this meeting at a point 300 miles from the Twin City area but finally decided to go to the Canoe Base for these reasons:

1. The only cost to our professional men will be \$5.00 for meals. The men will bunk in tents at no extra cost.
2. Car parties can be made up so that only a few cars need be taken.
- Or 3. Bus and train service can be had to Ely at a cost under what hotel costs would be elsewhere.
- And 4. The Canoe Base is new and every Scouter should see and enjoy it. It's there to use. It will provide excellent recreation during free time.

The National Council is making a real investment in this conference. Seven National men will participate:

E. Urner Goodman, National Director, Division of Program
O. D. Sharpe, Asst. Director of Personnel and Director of Registrations
E. H. Bakken, National Rural Scout Director
M. M. Ammerman, Circulation Manager of "BOYS' LIFE"
Kenneth G. Bentz, Regional Executive
Ben F. Conger, Deputy Regional Executive
Harrauld S. Alvord, Deputy Regional Executive

We believe every professional man in the Region without exception should attend. It is an investment of time and money that is, in my judgment, essential to a planned program for this fall and winter. It is the one training session that our professional men partake of that gives them needed instruction and inspiration to face the big job we all have to do this fall.

Secondly: Many Scouters have expressed a desire to see the new Canoe Base. We have therefore decided to call the 1942 Annual Regional Meeting for September 12 and 13, Saturday evening and Sunday. We will join the Executives for their closing dinner Saturday evening, September 12, and will spend the greater part of Sunday, September 13, seeing the Canoe Base and discussing the work ahead.

All Council Presidents and members of the Regional Committee are urged to be present. All Scouters are welcome and are urged to come. Car parties will be made up for the drive on Saturday, or if you prefer, bus or train service is available to Ely where you will be met. I urge you to plan this trip. It will be a vacation trip with a real purpose. A penny postal is enclosed for your prompt reply. Don't say "No" - say, "I'll really try to make it".

Never in history has it been so important that we who are in vital key positions in Scouting keep steady - informed - loyal to our Scout jobs as now. We are counting on you.

Sincerely,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Chas. L. Sommers
Chairman, Region Ten



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

● ● ● GAMEHAVEN AREA COUNCIL ● ● ●

HEADQUARTERS: ● 115½ FIRST AVE., S.W. ● ROCHESTER, MINN.

September 9 , 1942

Dr. E. H. Ryneearson
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Ed:

Our chairmen are as follows:

✓ Mr. Dave McDonald -- Winona Clinic -- Winona, Minn.
Mr. Art Peterson -- Lewiston
Mr. Frank Schleich -- St. Charles
Mr. Bruce Allman -- Minnesota City
Mr. Donald Duerre -- Wabasha
Mr. F. M. Williams -- Byron
Mr. M. M. Williams -- Dodge Center
Mr. W. Bratrud -- Stewartville
Rev. Rogers -- Kasson
Mr. C. J. Jackson -- Red Wing
✓ Mr. A. T. Sriver -- Cannon Falls
Mr. John Wilde -- Mazeppa
Mr. E. J. Lampe -- Chatfield
Mr. A. I. Olson -- Lanesboro
Mr. Bill Heitner -- Preston
Mr. Odel Lee -- Mabel
Mr. Geo. A. Todd -- Harmony

Other men in Winona are as follows:

Mr. J. Christopher -- Prospects
Mr. Jim McConnon -- Initial Gifts
Mr. Kenneth E. Chick -- Publicity
Mr. K. A. McQueen -- Solicitations
Mr. Kenneth Nissen -- Audit
Mr. Vic Gilbertsen -- Council Publicity Chairman

Other men in Red Wing are as follows:

Mr. Paul Gravis -- Prospects
Mr. Vic Johnson -- Initial Gifts
Mr. A. O. Bandelin -- Publicity
✓ Mr. T. R. Wilcox -- General Solicitations
Mr. Paul Wintervold -- Audit

Then of course your other two key-men, Jim O'Connor and Dan Prinzing.
These are from reports received up to date.

Paul O. Netland
Scout Executive

pon/kw

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

September 16, 1942

Dear Mr. . . . :

This letter is being sent to you since you are the President of your Council, together with a statement of the contribution which your Council has made to the Charles Sommers Wilderness Canoe Base Camp. As you know, this camp has been utilized this summer and has really remade these canoe trips. The boys and their leaders have, for the first time, had an opportunity of having their own site and the associations which will be established there will do a great deal not only for Scouting but for the lives of those who meet there.

There is still time before our Annual Meeting and I hope to be able to stand up at the Annual Meeting and announce that the Canoe Base is finally and completely paid for. Several of you have told me that you are dissatisfied with the contributions that your Councils have made and that you hoped to appoint special committees to rectify this matter. Will you please take just a few minutes of your time and write me a note telling me what plans you have outlined? I hate to be a pest and I can promise you only that this will be the last time that, as Chairman of the Camping and Activities Committee, I shall solicit any funds.

Cordially yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D., Chairman
Camping and Activities Committee

chr:bjt

September 16, 1942

Mr. Kenneth G. Bents
1124 Minnesota Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dear K.:

Thank you for sending me the keys. I promise you I shall take good care of the Cance Base and I am not afraid of the work entailed in opening it up.

Paul told me of the grand conference you had. What do you think of the enclosed letter, which I propose to send to the presidents of those councils which, after discussion, you and I may feel have not done what they should in the Cance Base fund. I know, for example, that the president of the North Star Council, whose name, I believe, is Dunning, told me that they wanted to raise quite a bit more. Perhaps it should be sent to the presidents of all councils.

Sincerely,

E. H. Ryderson, M. D.

chr:bjt
enc.



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1942

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DR. E. H. RYNEARSON
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

DEAR EDDIE:-

I AM ENCLOSING THE KEYS TO THE SOMMERS' CANOE BASE. ONE IS TO THE FRONT DOOR AND THE OTHER IS TO THE CASH DRAWER WHICH CONTAINS KEYS TO THE OTHER PADLOCKS AROUND THE PLACE.

I AM SORRY THAT IT DID NOT WORK OUT THAT WE COULD KEEP THE BASE OPEN; I COULD FIGURE NO WAY TO DO IT. HOD IS INTERVIEWING COUNCILS THIS MORNING AND WILL NO DOUBT HAVE EMPLOYMENT FOR THE WINTER BEFORE THE DAY IS OUT. I THINK HE WILL GO TO BEMIDJI.

YOU WILL HAVE SOME HARD WORK GETTING THE CANOE BASE IN SHAPE. IF YOU COULD GO UP A LITTLE EARLY WITH SOME HELP, IT WOULD BE BEST.

WE JUST CLOSED A VERY FINE CONFERENCE AT CAMP TONKAWA. I HAVE A LOT MORE CONFIDENCE FOR THE FUTURE SINCE THE MEETING. PAUL'S DESIRE TO LEAVE IS DISTURBING, BUT I PRESUME WE WILL BE ABLE TO FIND THE ANSWERS ONE BY ONE IF THEY DON'T COME TOO FAST.

CORDIALLY,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

KENNETH G. BENTZ
REGIONAL EXECUTIVE

F

September 30, 1942

Mr. Kenneth G. Bentz
1124 Minnesota Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dear K.:

I am enclosing the keys to the Canoe Base. With them go the thanks of all of us for the very splendid visit we had up there. The only mistake was that the Lord got his weeks mixed up. This is the week's weather which the Lord had promised us, for, as you know, we had one week of virtually solid rain and snow.

First, a word or two about the Canoe Base. Hed had done his usual splendid job of closing it up. Everything was in perfect shape and I was particularly pleased to see the way in which the canvas had been cared for. I have only a few suggestions to make. First, that all dish cloths, sacks for carrying utensils and so forth should be thoroughly laundered at the end of each season. As a very slight gesture on our part we picked up all of these cloths, sacks and so forth and are having them laundered and will return them to your office. Second, I think that all shutters should be hinged because it is impossible to put on and take off nailed shutters without injuring both the shutter and the casing. Third, the lock on the toilet building is quite feeble and, since all of our supplies were stored in there, they will be very easy to get at. As a matter of fact, I do not think it is possible to lock up any building so that it cannot be entered rather easily. If I really wanted to get into that supply room it would take me all of five minutes.

This brings me to my next suggestion, and that is that I believe we ought to have a stout log fence at the top of the road which could be so situated as to prevent anyone's driving down to the Base. This at least would prevent anyone from carting away canoes. I know that this would require the approval of the Forestry Service but I think that if they were given keys to the gate and keys to the Base Camp, with the understanding that they also might store anything there that they wished, they might be willing to give their consent.

My next suggestion is that we obtain from Mr. Sommers an adequate portrait for the fireplace. There is a smaller portrait in the office but I would like to see a big one for the fireplace. Also, the wooden name plate across the fireplace, "Charles L. Sommers," looks like the plastic stuff that you buy in the five and ten. It is not until you really examine it that you discover it is wood. I'll bet anything Hed Ludlow could take a hot iron and burn this up some so that it receives an antique appearance. Either that or simply put in a new log with Mr. Sommers name on it.

As a result of this visit I am going to compose another letter which I shall send you in a few days for your reaction.

Mr. Kenneth G. Bantz

-2-

September 30, 1942

Finally, please tell Hed again for me what a thrill it is for me to see this marvelous building and how grateful I am to him for all that he has done to make it so effective.

Most cordially yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt
enc.

October 2, 1942

Mr. Kenneth C. Bentz
1124 Minnesota Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dear E.:

There is one thing I forgot to mention in my letter to you, and that is that Mr. Neal Kirk is quite willing to have his man visit our Canoe Base Camp at least once a week and make sure that everything is all right. He said that the charge for this would be "\$15.00 or \$20.00 for the year." I told him that this would have to come through your office and he suggested that he would like to have the address where this man, whose name is George, could send a postal card once a week or could get in touch with someone if an emergency should arise. I think this is a very good idea.

I would also like to express my preference for Kirk's resort over Hibbard's. I think the atmosphere is better, Hibbard's, it seems to me, emphasizing the liquor angle of vacations more than seems wise. Kirk is quite willing to have all of the boys' mail sent in care of him and it just seems to me a better place for the parents of our boys to stay than at Hibbard's. Ask Ned what he thinks about this.

Love and kisses,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt



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DR. E. H. RYNEARSON
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

DEAR EDDIE:-

IT WAS SURE GOOD TO HAVE YOUR TWO LETTERS REPORTING WHAT MUST HAVE BEEN A VERY INTERESTING TRIP TO THE CANOE BASE. YOUR LETTER SEEMED TO INDICATE THAT YOU HAD A GOOD TIME IN SPITE OF ALL THE DIFFICULTIES YOU MUST HAVE ENCOUNTERED. I AM SENDING A COPY OF YOUR LETTER TO LUDLOW SO THAT HE CAN HELP US STUDY THE SUGGESTIONS YOU MADE.

I WILL BE GLAD TO PRODUCE YOUR LETTER ON THE CANOE BASE ANYTIME NOW. MR. SOMMERS AND MR. BEAN ARE NOW PLANNING A REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING, OCTOBER 30 AND 31 IN MINNEAPOLIS - SO ANY LETTER YOU SEND MIGHT WELL GIVE THAT DATE AS A DEADLINE.

CORDIALLY,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

KENNETH G. BENTZ
REGIONAL EXECUTIVE

1122½ MINNESOTA AVE.
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
OCTOBER 6, 1942

TO: KENNETH G. BENTZ

DEAR K:-

DR. RYNEARSON CERTAINLY STRUCK A WEEK OF WEATHER, DIDN'T HE? HE DIDN'T SAY HOW COMFORTABLE THEY KEPT UP THERE. ALL THAT WEEK I THOUGHT OF HIM AND WAS WONDERING IF HE WAS REALLY THERE OR NOT.

THE REASON ALL THE SHUTTERS WERE NOT HINGED IS BECAUSE I BOUGHT ALL THE SHUTTER HINGES I COULD FIND IN ELY AT THE TIME. THERE WERE NO MORE. IF I HAD HAD MORE TIME I PROBABLY COULD HAVE LOCATED SOME MORE BUT YOU KNOW HOW MUCH TIME I HAD - I COULD HAVE BEEN THERE INSTEAD OF WONDERING WHAT TO DO WITH MYSELF IN ST. PAUL THAT NEXT WEEK HOWEVER.

SHUTTERS WERE NOT PUT ON THE TOILET BUILDING BECAUSE I DIDN'T THINK IT NECESSARY AT THE TIME. THESE COULD BE ADDED. AS TO THE LOCK, I HAD NO IDEA THAT IT WAS SO FEEBLE. I "BLACKED OUT" THE STOREROOM IN THE TOILET BUILDING SO NOBODY COULD SEE ITS CONTENTS. IF THEY WOULD BREAK A WINDOW TO GET IN THERE I THINK THEY WOULD BREAK SHUTTERS TO GET IN ALSO.

I THINK THE ROAD GATE WOULD BE A VERY GOOD IDEA IF YOU CAN GET IT DONE. BUT I DON'T THINK SO MUCH OF THE IDEA OF PAYING MR. KIRK \$15.00 OR \$20.00 A YEAR TO HAVE HIS "CARETAKER" TO LOOK AFTER IT. HE WAS AFTER ME ALL SUMMER TO DO THIS. IT'S SO MUCH MONEY IN HIS POCKET - WHY SHOULD HE BE SO ANXIOUS TO DO THIS? LAST WINTER MR. KIRK'S "CARETAKER" DISAPPEARED SOON AFTER MR. KIRK LEFT THE PLACE AND WASN'T THERE ALL WINTER - I KNOW BECAUSE I LIVED A THOUSAND FEET FROM THERE. I DON'T KNOW IF MR. KIRK KNEW IT OR NOT BUT HE LET PEOPLE KNOW THERE WAS ONE THERE ALL LAST WINTER BECAUSE OF HIS INSURANCE POLICY. IF GEORGE WERE THERE HE WOULDN'T BE SOBER LONG ENOUGH TO GO OVER FOR A LOOK AROUND THE PLACE.

I KNOW DOZENS OF PLACES UP IN THAT COUNTRY WHERE PEOPLE ARE PAID AS HIGH AS \$100 FOR THE WINTER TO "LOOK OVER THE PLACE EVERY WEEK" AND THEY DRAW THE \$100 WITH NEVER A TRIP TO LOOK THE PLACE OVER. GRANTED ALL PLACES AREN'T LIKE THAT BUT AS LONG AS THE FORESTRY HAS THEIR EYE ON THE PLACE I DON'T THINK ANYTHING WILL HAPPEN.

I SUPPOSE AFTER I'VE SAID ALL THIS NOW THAT SOMEONE WILL BREAK IN AND STEAL A LOT OF THINGS. IT'S LIABLY TO HAPPEN ALL RIGHT BUT I DON'T THINK ANY PAYMENT OF MONEY FOR "WATCHING" THE PLACE IS GOING TO HELP THINGS ANY. AS FAR AS NOTIFICATION OF IT BEING BROKEN INTO I THINK THE FORESTRY WILL HEAR ABOUT IT AS QUICK AS ANYONE AND THEY CERTAINLY WILL DROP YOU A CARD IF SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENS. I THINK MR. KIRK HARPED THIS \$20.00 IDEA INTO EVERY ONE OF OUR GUIDES AT DIFFERENT TIMES THIS SUMMER.

A BURNING PROBABLY WOULD TAKE THAT "MANUFACTURED" LOOK OFF THE "CHARLES L. SOMMERS" SIGN. IT'S A GOOD IDEA.

HIBBARD'S LODGE IS A NICE PLACE UNTIL YOU GET TO KNOW THE HISTORY OF THINGS AND THE INSIDE DOPE. I THINK KIRK'S IS THE SAME WAY EXACTLY AND I THINK DR. WOULD AGREE AFTER HE HAD BEEN AROUND LONGER. THERE IS NO LIQUOR AT CANADIAN BORDER LODGE - OF COURSE TOO FAR AWAY. SEELEY'S IS A DECENT PLACE BUT NOT VERY GLASSY.

I WONDER IF I HAVE A GROUCH ON TODAY - SEEMS AS THOUGH THIS LETTER LOOKS THAT WAY.

* * * * *

HOB



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DR. E. H. RYNEARSON
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

DEAR EDDIE:-

I AM SURE HOD LUDLOW WON'T MIND MY SENDING
YOU A COPY OF HIS LETTER, MOSTLY ON CLOSING THE
CANOE BASE FOR THE WINTER.

WE ARE WRITING THE FORESTRY SERVICE FOR THEIR
RULING ON THE GATE.

CORDIALLY,

KENNETH G. BENTZ

F

October 20, 1942

Dear K.:

In your streamlined Regional meeting I doubt very much whether you are going to have time for any detailed presentation of the Canece Base situation; however, I do hope that I could have five minutes, during which time Mr. Sommers could be out of the room, in which I could say a few words.

As I to understand from your September 25 summary of the contributions to the Canece Base that the Minnesota Valley Council gave only \$14.00 total, that the North Star Council gave only \$71.00, that the Headwaters Council gave only \$25.05 and so forth? If this is true, then they should be ashamed of themselves and they should be given the opportunity to redeem themselves by contributing funds which will be used for the construction of the entrance gate, improvement of the road, construction of a more suitable spot for the pitching of tents, deck facilities and so forth.

I shall appreciate any suggestions you may give me.

Cordially yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt



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KENNETH G. BENTZ, REGIONAL EXECUTIVE
BEN F. CONGER, DEPUTY REGIONAL EXECUTIVE
HARRALD S. ALVORD, DEPUTY REGIONAL EXECUTIVE

DR. E. H. RYNEARSON
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

DEAR EDDIE:-

THE REPORT OF COLLECTIONS ON THE CANOE BASE BY COUNCILS WHICH I SENT YOU DOES REVEAL THE FINAL FACTS, AND, AS YOU SUGGEST, SOME COUNCILS DID VERY POORLY.

ACCORDING TO PRESENT PLANS, WE ARE GOING TO SHOW SOME CANOE TRIP PICTURES FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE INFORMAL DINNER, AND IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AT THAT TIME FOR YOU TO MAKE A REPORT ON THE FINANCING. WE COULD QUITE EASILY COOK UP A REASON FOR HAVING MR. SOMMERS CALLED OUT IF YOU WOULD WANT TO WORK IT THAT WAY. I AM VERY MUCH AFRAID OF ATTENDANCE, HOWEVER - IT DOESN'T LOOK NOW THAT WE WILL HAVE ALL COUNCILS REPRESENTED.

WE ARE GOING AHEAD WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ENTRANCE GATE. AS A MATTER OF FACT, IT SHOULD BE DONE NOW. SO FAR WE HAVE MADE NO ARRANGEMENTS WITH ANYONE TO SERVE AS CARETAKER - THAT SEEMS TO BE A STICKLER.

I AM SURE GLAD YOU CAN BE UP WITH US FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

CORDIALLY,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

KENNETH G. BENTZ
REGIONAL EXECUTIVE

COUNTY AUDITOR

Lake County
Two Harbors, Minnesota

October 22, 1942.

Mr. Kenneth G. Bentz,
Regional Executive
Boy Scouts of America
1112 Minnesota Building
St. Paul, Minnesota.

Dear Mr. Bentz:-

The NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 28, 64-9, forfeited to the State of Minnesota August 2, 1937, pursuant to Chapter 278, laws of 1935.

This forty may be appraised by the State and County Board appraisers if the County Board wishes to sell it. The land is then offered for sale and sold to the highest bidder but not for an amount less than the appraised value.

If you care to purchase the land, let me know and I will present your request to my board.

The title is the same as a quit-claim deed. A better title may be had by contacting the owner and obtaining a deed from him after you purchase the land at the land sale. Title may be quited in court.

Yours very truly,

(signed)

PAUL W. NELSON,
County Auditor.

COPY



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



NATIONAL OFFICERS

INCORPORATED
FEBRUARY 8, 1910

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS
JUNE 15, 1916

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HERBERT HOOVER, HONORARY VICE PRESIDENT
COLIN H. LIVINGSTONE, HONORARY VICE PRESIDENT
WALTER W. HEAD, PRESIDENT, ST. LOUIS, MO.
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DIVISIONAL COMMITTEE
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NATIONAL OFFICE
2 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y.

DIVISION OF OPERATIONS

REGION TEN

MINNESOTA NORTH DAKOTA SOUTH DAKOTA
EASTERN MONTANA NORTHWEST WISCONSIN
NORTHEAST WYOMING

OFFICE
1124 MINNESOTA BUILDING
ST. PAUL, MINN.

TELEPHONE CEDAR 0659

OCTOBER 24TH
1 9 4 2

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DR. E. H. RYNEARSON
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

DEAR EDDIE:-

I AM PLEASED TO ENCLOSE COPY OF A LETTER FROM
LUDLOW REGARDING HIS TRIP TO THE CANOE BASE.

I AM ENCLOSING A COPY OF A LETTER FROM COUNTY
AUDITOR OF LAKE COUNTY REGARDING OUR POSSIBLE
PURCHASE OF THE FORTY ACRES PLOT ADJOINING US ON
TOP OF THE HILL. I AM WRITING HIM TO GET SOME
NOTION AS TO WHAT THIS LAND MIGHT REASONABLY BE
WORTH.

CORDIALLY,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

KENNETH G. BENTZ
REGIONAL EXECUTIVE

F

November 10, 1942

Mr. Hed Ludlow
1122½ Minnesota Avenue
Benidji, Minnesota

Dear Hed:

I have kept every letter you have ever written me and this one is the best one yet. It is full of really valuable suggestions and represents a tremendous amount of thought on your part. It is not, however, a letter which I can answer now, because I must mull it over in my mind during some of these long winter evenings. I can only say this, and that is that I still hold to my original hope that sometime, somehow, some way, we can arrange our Regional finances so that we could have you stationed there as a full-time, all year round supervisor of year round activities for Senior Scouting. You and I both know that we cannot do this now but it is what I would like to see.

Please know that I know that that is really your Canoe Base and I am sure you know how grateful I am.

With kind regards to your charming wife and daughters, I am

Cordially yours,

E. E. Ryncarson, M. D.

chr:bjt

HEADWATERS AREA COUNCIL

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



1122 $\frac{1}{2}$ Minnesota Avenue
Bemidji, Minnesota

Dear Dr. Ryneearson:

I was up at the canoe base not long ago, as you probably have heard, and put in a log gate across the road. The weather was PERFECT. In fact nicer than I saw it all summer. Just the right temperature every day and not a ripple on the lake. I never have seen the lake so still. No I'm not razzing you about the weather you had when you were there. It was awful wasn't it. I thought of you often during that week. It certainly wasn't very pleasant.

I have just been thinking of the canoe base and it's possibilities for next summer. As strictly a canoe base next summer it might be a flop as a worth while project because of it's limitations as used in the past. It might not even pay to open it for just canoe trips alone.

Why not make the Charles L. Summers Canoe Base a SENIOR SCOUT RENDEZVOUS for the entire season. Have two or three men at the base as staff men all season prepared to put on a Sea Scouting program, an Air Scouting program, and an Explorer Scout program besides the canoe trips. Let Scouts come any date they wish, stay one day or all summer at daily, weekly, or monthly rates and leave the base at any date he wishes.

What about transportation? I beleive if an interesting enough program is presented to the Scouts with no set date as to when they might arrive--no set camp period, they will find a way to get to Ely. At Ely make arrangements either with a private party or one of the Outfitters as a Scout headquarters. At this spot we could have some packsacks available and a place for them to check their good clothes etc. They would repack their camp clothes in the packsack and hike out to the base. In case they arrived in Ely at night we could arrange for a place for them to sleep, a tent set up someplace or something.

2.

Upon arrival at the base they could wait for the weekly canoe trip to start, they could pick up added camp equipment and alone, with their own group of two or three, or join up with others at the base and pick their own program. Have available some Air Scouting projects which might be worked out, some Sea Scout projects, or some Explorer Scout projects.

There some excellent trails leading out to many places. Last summer I was out on a canoe trip and at Kekekobic, another fellow and I walked a trail back to Fernberg Lookout--22 miles. It was nice country and an interesting hike.

A guide, instead of guiding a canoe trip, could guide a two, three, day or week hike trip. A guide could take some Sea Scouts out on a sailing cruise instead of a canoe trip. "Lost aviator" hikes (part of the Air Scout program) could be sponsored. Model airplanes might be worked on. First Aid, advanced signaling practiced, advanced swimming, special canoe and boat instruction, fly and bait casting instruction, advanced camp cooking instruction,--there's no limit. Give the Senior Scout anything he wants and plenty of it.

More blazed trails could be worked out in the woods. Bill Trygg, the U.S. Forester, would be glad to help on special projects and information etc.

I think lots of Scouts, especially those of Sr. Scout age have jobs or at least part time jobs and there will be more of them next summer. A set camp period keeps them from attending. If they had a camp to go to where they could come and go as they pleased it might answer some of their problems. Of course the canoe trips would have to be run largely as they have been in the past but if two or three Sr. Scouts with the proper qualifications might take a canoe out for two or three days by themselves. This was done by several groups last year but it has never been advertized.

There is still the problem of getting the groups of ten or twelve from Ely to the canoe base for the regular canoe trip. Why not upset the set schedule of starting on a Monday morning and, if the group desires, let them all hike out to the base, picking up packsacks in town, ~~loading~~ checking their access luggage, and hike out with a stop over on the way to camp over night, at a pre-arranged camp spot where tents could be supplied and food cooked. A day and a half would make an easy hike for any of them. They would start their canoe trip whenever they arrived at the base.

It also might be possible, with the proper application, to get the use of a School Bus to bring them out from Ely.

I have suggested some of these things to Mr. Bentz along with the idea of combining the next years Acquatic School and the Eagle Trail into a special low cost camp at the canoe base. They could hike out from town, work four hours a day on digging ditches along the road, putting a log rail around the parking area, fix up the camp grounds, (which certainly needs it) repair and paint canoes and equipment, make trails in the woods, etc. The rest of the day would be a real course in Acquatics similar to that at Fairmont (which I understand wont be in operation for sure next summer) along with a speial side course for those qualified as possible guides for the season.

Supposeing 30 attended the course. Out of that group four might make and like to be swampers for the summer. The 30 could devide up into four patrols with the "guide" as the cook for each patrol. He would get actual experience at cooking in the open for a group of campers. Thus no cook would be hired. Some meals could be in the canoe base and all eat together with the four "Guides" responsible for the meal. With proper leadership I ~~think~~ don't think those eating the meals would suffer any bad effects. The "guides" would also get further special training.

Those not ~~expecially~~ interested in Acquatics could work on other special projects of special training.

Being that Capt. Fred Mills and Lew Hall from the national office probably will not be available I think we could do a fair job of it with the men in our own region. Namely, Harry Bartelt, Carl Chase, Windt Hartman, along with Les Nell, (a Scouter on the staff at the acquatic shhool at Fairmont) Parley Tuttle, one of our Sr. canoe trip guides, and several other possibilities.

There will be lots of work available up north next summer. A special project might be to take those interested out and show them a Spruce from a Balsum and then give them an oppertunity to get a job cutting pulp or box lumber in some of the camps close by.

There are lots of ways, it seems to me, whareby we could make our canoe base hum next summer if put to the boys in the right way.

4,
I'm learning a lot here in Bemidji. It's good experience for me. I like it a lot.

Why don't you come up deer hunting? I'm going to try and get over to Vermilion hunting if I can find the time.

I hear Paul Netland might be going in the armed services. Is he going soon?

Well, what do you think of my "castles in the air" anyway?

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hod".

December 1, 1942

The Kirks
640 Waveland Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Kirk:

Thank you for your nice card. At the time we left up there I wrote to the Regional Office and told them that I thought there were several programs: one, that we could have a full-time caretaker; second, the construction of a gate; third, the possibility of having your attendant make periodic trips to the Camp for a small charge or possibly they would want to have a combination of these measures. You may remember that at the time we left I told you that I was acting only in an advisory capacity and that if the Regional Office wished to have George make these trips either they or I would write you to this effect. At the Regional meeting in November, I was told that they had decided to erect the gate and not to have any caretaker in attendance and I thought perhaps they had written you to that effect. In any event, I wish you would get this word to George as I would not wish to have him make these trips without expectation of being paid.

I cannot tell you how much it means to me, interested as I am in the Cance Base, to have you people such friendly neighbors. I guess none of us knows what 1943 holds for us but if we do open the Cance Base next year I most certainly will take much pleasure in urging the parents of the boys to stay with you.

With kind personal regards and best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

E. H. Rynearson, M. D.

chr:bjt



*IT'S FUN!
AT KIRK'S LODGE ON MOOSE LAKE—
IN THE SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST—
ELY, MINN.*

2356-A.

1122 1/2 Minnesota Avenue
Bemidji, Minnesota
December 5, 1942

Harold F. Pote
Director, Division of Personnel
Boy Scouts of America
2 Park Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Pote:

You have my letter of November 28th. Not having heard from you, I hope this reaches you before you do answer my letter.

I have been thinking of what I wrote you and am wondering if you would get the impression that I was loosing interest in the work I am now doing and that I expect a change right away. This is by far from the case.

I will carry on to the best of my ability here at least until spring at which time it is the understanding that I take over the Canoe Base again. The plan is that I run the Canoe Trips for the summer and then return to Bemidji to carry on again.

I just wanted to let you know how I felt about this type of work for two or three more years and don't want you to get the impression that I am ready to quit most any time--far from it.

Sincerely yours,

Horace J. Ludlow

1122½ Minnesota Avenue
Bemidji, Minnesota
November 28, 1942

Harold F. Pote
Director, Division of Personnel
Boy Scouts of America
2 Park Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Pote:

First, for your convenience, I'll review my Scouting experience since attending the National Training School--the 72nd school ending April 30, 1941.

May 1, 1941 I started work under K. Bentz in charge of the Region X Canoe Trips. The winter of '41 and '42 I had charge of the construction of the Charles L. Sommers Boy Scout Canoe Base. Last summer was in charge of the canoe trails again and September 15, 1942 started as Field Scout Executive for the Headwaters Area Council being stationed here at Bemidji where I have carried on since then.

To come to the point, I am a square peg trying to fit into a round hole, I do not fit my job and as you might well realize it isn't too easy to continue under the circumstances especially now when there are so many jobs open to one nowadays. I am interested in Scouting more than anything else however.

I was told that if I received two or three years of experience in regular field work that I would have a much better outlook for the future and that then would be the time to specialize in something that fitted me better.

I can well understand this and in itself it is inspiration enough for me to go through with it. However when one thinks of all the men who could do a much better job at what I am doing it makes one wonder which is more important--a man who is in his place for the betterment of Scouting (which is as it should be) or a man who is in his place for the experience at the expense of Scouting. If you think I should continue as the later, I'm willing to go through with it and do my best.

My ambition for the future is not that of one with a high salary but that of a decent living at which I enjoy and at the same time contribute something worthwhile for the good of Scouting. If I should never earn more than \$2500 (with similar living costs) of today) I would be satisfied. In fact possibly even less than that.

I have not talked this over with A.Mattoili or anyone else because I did not see where they could help me any. It might be well however if Matti and K.Bentz received a copy of this letter. If you think it best, I'll see that they get a copy.

Do you have a place for me which would fit me better? What do I have in mind? Of course I liked my past work in connection with the Canoe Base but as a place there is now limited to a few months in the summer there are problems there. I have thought I might enjoy work at Philmont but I am unfamiliar with what ones job might be there. I have thought I would like ~~and~~ would fit work in Health and Safety but of course I would need further special training which I would be willing to take. I would like special work in Alaska but not in the capacity in which I now serve. Perhaps there are other places which I might fit of which I have no knowledge but which you know of.

I had always hoped that the Canoe Base might grow into something of a year-round camp but I see it's limitations.

Being that I have been placed where no other executive has been located as part of the "expansion plan" I can see where the "plan" would fall to pieces if I were to leave here without someone taking my place and as Rowell has just left this would not be an easy thing to do. Of course I intend to carry on and will continue to carry on if you think best. However I'm hoping you will find a spot where I might be of some good instead of where I feel I am at the expense of Scouting.

If there is no such spot, I have no present intentions but I'm afraid other work will become more and more of a temptation.

Sincerely yours,

Horace J. Ludlow

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Home Office: 2 Park Avenue, New York, N. Y.

FOR INTRA-ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS

TO: Mr. Horace J. Ludlow
Field Executive, B. S. A.
1122 $\frac{1}{2}$ Minnesota Avenue
Bemidji, Minnesota

DATE: December 7, 1942

SUBJECT:

Dear Hod:

No, the reason I did not reply to your letter was because I was in the field when it arrived. I have your second letter this morning and want to assure you immediately that I interpreted your letter exactly as you would like me to interpret it. I could write you a lengthy reply, but I believe all the reply you care for is confidential assurance from me that I am pretty much in agreement with the contents of your letter and will do my very best to help work out something for you in line with your interests. In the meantime, I am sure you are going to keep steady and get that experience.

Kindest personal regards and best wishes.

Sincerely and cordially yours,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
DIVISION OF PERSONNEL


H. F. POTE
Director.

HFP:GME

C. H. DUNNING

Princeton.

Dr. Ryerson

Dear Mr. R.: Just rec'd from a weeks
absence & find I must raise \$1500-
on our Phillips Contribution - I'll check
with our Chmn. on the Sommers fund
today. I really know little about it.
as I'm a new President & there are so
many things to push that I am
rather bewildered.

See you at 50 & 50

Regards

