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**Empire News
and
News from Abroad**

1st Blandford Troop B.P. Boy Scouts (Page 141)

Amid scenes of great rejoicing and excitement (resulting in a sleepless night) the above troop commenced camp on June 18th, 1910. Lord Portman has kindly allowed us to camp on a part of his beautiful estate as long as we wish. As a result of our recent sale of work, we have seven bell tents, one for each patrol and one for the Scoutmaster – eight in all. We have had a busy time. On June 23rd nearly thirty boys were sworn in as Tenderfeet by the Scoutmaster, Col. Salkeld and Dr. Daniells also being present. We have had church parades to Bryanston, St. Mary's and Durweston churches.

Several Scouts have passed for several proficiency badges, which will be awarded very shortly. The Tenderfeet are now being trained for second class, and the examination will be held next week. Besides this, of course, we have done a lot of scouting attacks, &c. On August Bank Holiday about thirty Scouts marched into Badbury Rings, about seven miles away, under Senior P.L. Squibb, and indulged in scouting manoeuvres.

A most interesting event happened on August 3rd. A tea was held at the camp to celebrate the coming of age of the Scoutmaster (Warrant Scoutmaster F.R. Smith). Lord and Lady Portman honoured him by attending the tea, and others present were Capt. H.H. Beever and Mrs Beever, Mr. and Mrs. Webb and Miss Clinton of the Committee. After tea, Scout Fiander, the youngest Scout, presented the Scoutmaster with a silver-mounted walking stick as a token of esteem from the Troop. Mr. Smith suitably replied, saying how proud and pleased he was, and Capt. Beever spoke of the good work the Scoutmaster was doing for the Troop.

Thanks are due to Lady Portman, who sent a mutton pie for each Scout and others who sent good things. Also to Mesdames Carter, Brown and Spencer for waiting on the company. On August 17th the Scouts did a good turn for Dr. Barnardo's Homes at a fete at Charlton on their behalf. The Scoutmaster has received a nice letter thanking him for the help rendered to a lieutenant of the Boys' Brigade in Somerset, whom two Scouts showed through the woods near the camp on a dark night when it was raining hard. He stated that when thanked both boys said they were doing their duty. The Scouts also collected among themselves for the 73rd Battersea Troop, as they heard a letter read from a newspaper saying that they were in great financial difficulties. The Scoutmaster received a nice letter of thanks in reply, which he read to the boys. The strength of the Troop is 56, and the average number in camp was 45.