

Sutton Coldfield

Dear Friends:

Great fun today! The Queen is going to visit us. She and Phillip just went by on the main road but we are not going to the main arena to see her because we have been informed that she will visit the campsite next to us! We, of course, will all be there cheering like mad.

We have had remarkable weather - sunny days and chilly nights but no rain. The English consider it a drought.

Yesterday we spent a wonderful time with a group from England and Turkey. We were invited to tea, supper, and a campfire. They danced Turkish dances and we responded with a square dance done very well, too.

Later - - - We just saw the Queen and Duke - oops - Prince Philip now, and are the boys all excited. They were all able to get pictures and she was most lovely. It was worth the trip.

Many of us have had slight colds but the good weather will soon clear these up.

We found that the English doctors are paid per boy per day so at first everyone was going to the hospital but now our own doctors check first before we send the boys up for first aid. They are all well considering the great deal of travel and change of environment.

Just now a quaint lady from Holland came in to rest her feet (there are loads of people). She and Wes are talking coins.

Just like all Jamborees we have hundreds of visitors. The thing that amazes me is the Scouting Ladies. They are fully uniformed and actively participate in the Scouting activities and Training Courses. They swap patches etc. just like the boys, it's so much fun to watch. I have never seen so many different uniforms and am amazed at the little need for conversation among the boys. The language barrier is overcome by smiles, signs and laughs. Even our own boys are hard to recognize - they wear tams and all types of shirts, pants, etc. They would come home in a barrel if we would let them.

Later - evening - The Leaders were invited over to the Indaba for a Campfire. This is a separate camp on a kind of co-educational basis. They have a women's camp and a men's camp and a central area. The Troops are formed with both sexes who meet in the central area for program, feeding, etc. They, of course, are strictly supervised and are all adults (most married) and do a very fine job of Scouting. The campfire that we were invited to was composed of about 1000 people and featured folk dances from many countries. Lady Baden-Powell was present and spoke to the group. She looks quite spry and active and was interesting to meet. After the campfire we went back to one of the Troop Areas and they had their own campfire. The wife of one of our British Scoutmasters is in the Troop so the invitation came through him and his wife.

Although things appear casual there is a great deal of quiet control. You just don't stay up after Taps, etc. At the Indaba we never saw a couple alone and all of the activities were strictly Scouting.

We are planning to invite a Troop in for dinner and a campfire soon.

What a world this is here at Sutton Coldfield - groups and groups and groups of Indians, Finns, Swiss, Germans, Africans, Chinese, etc. etc. all marching and singing all day long; all in costumes and uniforms with hundreds of different headgears. We are all well and having a wonderful time.

Sutton Park

Forget where I was on the last epistle but I don't remember telling about our tour. Tuesday we went to Mansfield - a small mining area. Actually our group went to Kirkby-on-Ashby but we got off at Mansfield and were met by cars to take us to Kirkby. Here we were divided up with French Scouts and assigned to guests in small groups. We were taken around in several ways - some went on walking tours (cars are scarce), some went as a group and were entertained by the Rotary club and some just were taken into homes and shown around town. Believe it or not

Page 2 missing

Butterfield

Forgot where I was on the last episode but I don't remember telling about our four. Tuesday we went to Butterfield - a small mining town. Actually our group went to Kirby-on-Ashby but we got off at Butterfield and were met by cars to take us to Kirby. Here we were divided up with French Scouts and assigned to guests in small groups. We were taken around in several ways - some went on walking tours (cars are scarce), some went as a group and were entertained by the hotel club and some just were taken into homes and shown around town. Believe it or not

hundreds. We did all well and having a wonderful time. Nothing all day long; all in costumes and uniforms with hundreds of different What a world this is here at Butterfield - groups, groups and groups. We are planning to have a group in for dinner and a campfire soon. All of the activities were actually scouting. Although things appear casual there is a great deal of quiet control. You

campfire. The wife of one of our British Scoutmasters is in the Troop as the After the campfire we went back to one of the Troop Areas and they had their own spoke to the group. The looks were very and active and was interesting to meet. and learned folk dances from many countries. Lady Baden-Powell was present and Scoutmaster. The campfire that we were invited to was composed of about 1000 people actively supervised and was all white (most married) and do a very fine job of who meet in the central area for program, feeding, etc. They, of course, are camp and a men's camp and a central area. The Troop is formed with both sexes This is a separate camp on a kind of co-educational basis. They have a women's Later - evening - The leaders were invited over to the Indians for a Campfire. home in a parcel if we would let them.

recognize - they wear hats and all types of shirts, pants, etc. They would come and be amazed at the little used for conversation among the boys. The language the boys, it's so much fun to watch. I have never seen so many different uniforms the Scouting activities and Training Courses. They swap patches etc. Just like we is the Scouting ladies. They are fully uniformed and actively participate in Just like all leaders we have hundreds of visitors. The thing that amazes of people). She and her are talking about.

Just now a young lady from Holland came in to meet her foot (there are loads one was going to the hospital but now our own doctors check first before we send the boys up for their trip. They are all well considering the great deal of travel We found that the English doctors are paid per day so at first every- up. Many of us have had slight colds but the good weather will soon clear these lovely! It was worth the trip. are the boys all excited. They were all able to get pictures and she was most Later - - - We just saw the Queen and Duke - cops - Prince Philip now, and responded with a square dance done very well, too.

We were invited to tea, The English consider it Yesterday we spent We have had some will all be there others have been informed that by on the main road but Great fun today! Dear Friends

Butterfield