

How to Construct a Vacation Camp for a Family or Colony



An Ideal Camping Colony of Canvas Cottages

"GLAD I haven't to worry over the ways, means and location for the summer outing. I solved that problem several years ago," remarked a young professional man, whose family of growing little people demands country life and outdoor exercise at this season.

"How? By learning to make tent life at the seaside comfortable and inexpensive. Don't know anything that can beat it for attractiveness—at least my people think so.

"I have a four-room tent cottage within a short distance of the surf; the expense is slight, and we have the advantage of living in our own home.

"This year several congenial families have joined us in renting a piece of ground. They will also erect their canvas homes, and an ideal camping colony will be established.

"The cost of the food supplies will be divided, congenial companionship will be assured, and the entire expense of our summer outing brought down to an amazingly low figure."

He that holds fast the golden mean And lives contentedly between The little and the great, Feels not the wants that pinch the poor Nor plagues that haunt the rich man's door.

WHEN the young professional man quoted began to work out the problem of an inexpensive summer home, he decided upon a camping outing at the seashore. To rent a suitable location upon the beach was easy. As the family was smaller than now, he began with an A tent. Year by year, the size of the canvas home was enlarged, until it now comprises a four-room dwelling, with dry board floors, rainproof roof and sides and many of the conveniences of the city home.

PROFITED BY EXPERIENCE

Experience No. 1, this was marked. The next season the tent—a double one this time—was pitched upon a knoll, so that special arrangement for drainage was not needed.

In the early experiments it was found that, while A tents are easier to pitch, wall tents are more commodious and are well worth the extra trouble. The cheapest quality of 7x7 tents can be purchased for \$4 or \$5, the cost running up to \$10, according to the weight of canvas. Tents can be rented for from \$1 to \$5 a week, but it is better to own one from the beginning, without attempting to rent even during the test period.

As to utensils, bedding and other furnishings, experience also brought some valuable lessons, to which due heed was paid.

That beds of pine and balsam boughs make pleasant descriptive reading, but are decidedly knotty, brittle and uncomfortable to the uninitiated, was one of these lessons. It was found better to fill the bed tickings with hay or straw, secured from a neighboring farm—and this advice applies, whether the tent home is at the seashore or in the mountains.

There should be at least two blankets for covering each bed, for use during cool nights; and a rubber blanket to place beneath the bed if it is to rest upon the ground. A galvanized iron pail of generous size should be provided for carrying water, and in this a number of kitchen utensils may be packed at moving time.

For the kitchen there should be tin plates and cups, a broiler, a frying pan, two kettles, two coffee pots—one ready for emergency, if the nose of the other melts off—knives, forks and spoons, a small charcoal burner or oil stove for inside cooking in stormy weather, an old oven slide—or one borrowed from the kitchen range of the winter home—to place over piles of stones for campfire cooking.

When it is possible to pitch the tent where firewood can be obtained, a small cookstove is more satisfactory than any of the makeshifts.

THE FURNISHINGS

There will be little need to change the general character of the simple furnishings from year to year, but as each season adds its experience, and the family, perhaps, grows, the canvas home is likely to increase in roominess and comfort.

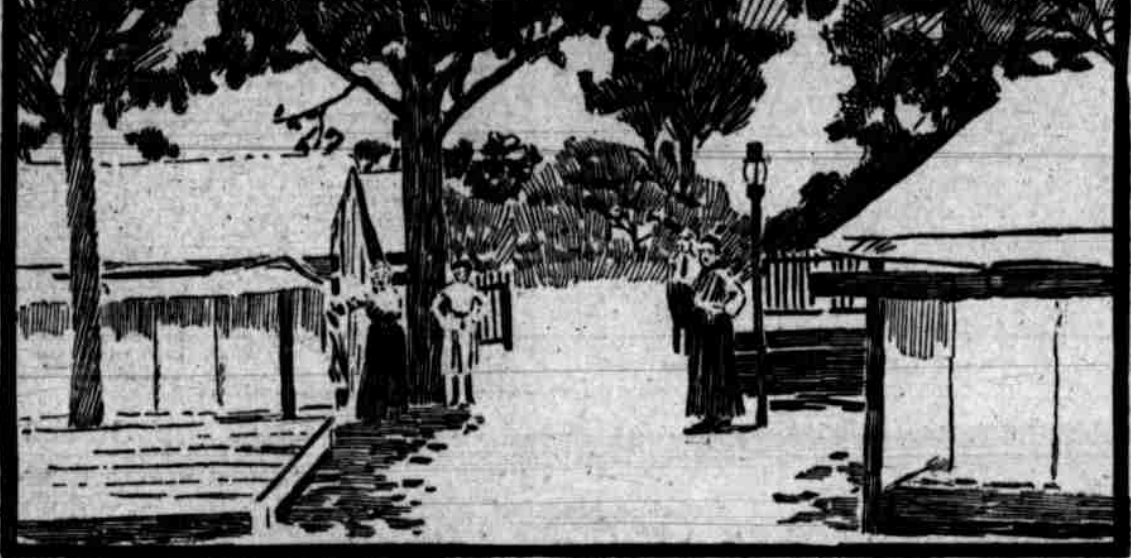
When the tent reaches the dignity of a two or three room house, a tight, smooth board floor will be a necessary convenience.

One of the simplest plans for constructing this—especially for a portable home to be removed at the close of vacation—is to secure several lengths of heavy scantling, about 1x4, as long as the width of the tent. This scantling should be set about six or eight feet apart. For a two-room tent, 12 feet long by 13 wide, three twelve-foot lengths of scantling will be necessary, set eight feet apart, one at each end and one in the center.

This, ready, on the outer ends of the scantling bolt



Finished Houses and a Floor



Dining Apartment in a Two Roomed Family Camp



The Sleeping Room

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both dining room and kitchen, with a little corner adjoining the bedroom and sitting room partitioned off for a dressing room.

One may enlarge the floor space and stretch the canvas sides so that a three or four room cottage is provided. The professional man quoted above, however, found that the most satisfactory plan, and the cheapest in the end, was to provide two good-sized rooms for the main house and pitch a little A tent adjoining to serve as a kitchen.

By this plan, the odors of cooking were kept from the living and sleeping apartments, and more space could be given to bedroom accommodations. A canvas awning can be stretched between the dining and the cooking tent. Some tenters stretch awnings over the front door.

Here, then, is a comfortable and sufficiently commodious summer home, easily kept. Vegetables and fruit supplies, milk and butter may usually be had from surrounding farmers; if there is no butcher shop in the neighborhood, meat may be sent on certain days from the city.

It is easy to imagine that a camp colony, formed of a number of congenial families, may enjoy a pleasant and health-giving vacation in this way, their members returning to the city invigorated for the coming days of business and school.

FINDING WORK FOR THE AGED AND INFIRM



DO CRIPPLES make better employees than the physically perfect? Affirmation, to a considerable extent, comes from a Western philanthropic experiment.

Since May 1, when it was organized, more than 300 crippled men and women have made application for employment to the Chicago Cripples' Employment Bureau, an adjunct to the Chicago Board of Charities, and positions have been found for seventy-five. It is thought that, within a short time, nearly all will be provided with supporting employment.

It was without hope of great success that the unique experiment of such a bureau was determined upon, and results already attained are vastly encouraging. Employers, as a rule, speak well of help obtained through the bureau, and the unfortunates made happy by it are loud in its praise.

Opened as the result of suggestions for providing means of self-support for the aged, the lame, the halt, the blind and other afflicted persons, it is proving a veritable oasis of hope and help for the nomads of industry, who, either through physical disability or wasted opportunity in youth, find themselves without means of livelihood.

WHEN it was announced that the Chicago Bureau of Charities had opened a department for the express purpose of securing work for unfortunates, a remarkable rush ensued of persons anxious to secure the benefits of the novel and commendable municipal enterprise.

Resembling the last muster of a shattered, beaten regiment, they have hobbled haltingly through the swinging doors and put down their names "in the book"—the lame, the maimed, the aged and infirm.

After the bureau had started it was determined not to limit its good work to cripples, but to extend a helping hand to all who, through physical affliction, were unable to compete, without assistance, with their fellows in the rush for employment.

The need for such agency has long been felt by the charitable workers of Chicago, as it has by those of every other city. They realized that many crippled persons, though largely dependent upon charity, their relatives or the municipality, would become self-supporting, could suitable occupations be found.

That there were plenty of such occupations the projectors of the plan felt confident; certainly there was no lack of needy persons to fill them. After the bureau had started it was determined not to limit its good work to cripples, but to extend a helping hand to all who, through physical affliction, were unable to compete, without assistance, with their fellows in the rush for employment.

All that was required was an intelligent, systematic clearing-house arrangement to bring the two together. Of the applicants for whom positions have been found so far, one man with a paralyzed right arm, one man an attendant in a physician's office, three one-legged men got jobs as watchmen; a feeble-minded lad discovered that he could fold paper in a box factory, and was employed at that work. A man whose right leg was

Hugo Krause, Organizer of the Bureau

missing was employed in a factory where the hands alone are used, and one whose left leg was missing was trusted with the work of operating a small machine run with one pedal.

Even those for whom work was not found at once went away happy with the assurance that everything possible would be done to find employment for them. Some elderly persons said the promise was the first gleam of sunlight that had come into their lives since they had reached the autumn of their days.

Hugo Krause, organizer and director of the bureau, is enthusiastic over the results already achieved, and regards such work as a most useful feature of municipal enterprise.

"The theory that in a highly complex fabric of civilization there are many ways whereby the prescribed activities of even the most deplorably deficient victims of misfortune and fate may be utilized to profitable advantage by society is here receiving ample and convincing demonstration," declared Mr. Krause.

"Sympathizing friends of this venture asserted that it would prove a failure because they thought employers too impatient and coldly practical ever to risk their affairs in the hands of those who are lacking in limb or faculty when they can readily secure the service of able-bodied employees.

"So far from this being the case, I find, from correspondence with prospective employers of my charges, that certain deficiencies present a decided virtue in the eyes of the most practical of men.

"For instance, one employer writes me that he desires deaf persons to work in the sewing room of his glove factory, because deaf people are not addicted to wasting time through the exchange of repartee or persiflage.

"Another desires to employ one-legged or legless boys because such boys will not spend part of their time in chasing each other about the shop in boyish games.

"By the same token, we may presume blind girls would be highly eligible to positions calling for paper folders, because they would not be tempted to waste their employers' time in primping or in reading novels.

"Carrying the idea still further, it is in no wise a prosopopoeia supposition to hold that legless men would be preferable to their more fortunate brothers in positions of a sedentary character, because such men would not be tempted to 'rush the beer can.'

HONESTY IS INSPIRED

"These are only a few of the many reasons which might be adduced why certain deficiencies hold practical virtues.

"The greatest intrinsic value of physical deficiencies in the eyes of employers, however, lies in the fact that the consciousness of inferiority and dependence for livelihood on the holding of the job immediately at hand tends greatly to inspire honesty and faithful painstaking on the part of the employe.

"He knows that his tenure depends on his faithfulness to duty, and upon the kindness and indulgence of his employer. Should he be discharged, the probability of securing another self-supporting position are highly precarious.

Facts That are Told in Figures

THE Swiss Alpine Club has just issued statistics of accidents which took place in the Alps last year. One hundred and seventy-two climbers perished, but, considering that the tourists numbered 150,000 the death roll is regarded as low. Most of those killed were Swiss. The Germans come next, and after them the French, Austrians and Italians. Only five English tourists perished. Fatal accidents do not take place on the highest summits, but on mountains which are not regarded as difficult to climb.

A recent wedding in Brittany was celebrated according to old customs of that country. The festivities lasted five days, and entertaining the 2000 guests cost nearly \$6000.

The founder is an industrious fish, and lays 7,000,000 eggs in a year.

The prison population of India is only thirty-eight per 100,000 inhabitants. Sixty years ago there were 150,000 children at school in India. Now there are over 4,000,000.

Belgium, where public libraries are almost unknown, has 150,000 public houses. That means one public house for thirty-six inhabitants, or one public house for twelve men above 17 years of age, the publican included. During the last fifty years the population has increased 50 per cent, and the number of public houses 238 per cent.

If there were but one potato in the world, a careful cultivator might produce 10,000,000,000 from it in ten years, and thus supply the world with seed again.

Vienna is to have the largest and finest illuminated fountain in existence. The illuminating power will equal 500,000,000 candles. It includes twenty-seven immense reflectors capable of giving seventy variations in light effects every seventeen seconds.

To protect an invention all over the world it is necessary to take out sixty-four patents in as many different countries, the estimated cost of which is \$5000.

The number of horses slaughtered for food in public abattoirs in Germany during 1905 was 15,322 more than in 1904, the numbers being 96,834 in 1905, against 81,512 in 1904.

In strong contrast with the uncertainty about the population of China is the exactness of the figures given for the population of Japan in the Japanese blue book for 1905, which has been printed in English by the Japanese Government. The population of the islands constituting Japan proper is 47,823,702, and that of the Islands of Formosa, 3,820,225. Japan comprises 130 main islands and nearly 500 small islands, making the name "Island Empire" peculiarly appropriate. The total area of these islands is about 181,000 square miles. It is noted that there is a close approximation to equality in the division of the population between the two sexes.

In all, 240,000 different species of insects are known to exist on the earth.

The highest mountain in the moon is thought to be at least 25,000 feet in height; that is 500 feet higher than Mount Everest.

Quill toothpicks come from France. The largest factory in the world is near Paris, where there is an annual product of 20,000,000 quills. The factory was started to make quill pens, but when these went out of general use it was converted into a toothpick mill.

Chinese coffins are made of flimsy light wood, ten inches thick. It is calculated that 2,000,000 feet of timber is utilized in the manufacture of Chinese coffins.