

WHILE IN OR NEAR THE FOREST:

Never toss away burning matches; never let anyone throw down lighted cigars, cigarettes or pipe ashes.

Never start a fire in the woods among leaves, dry wood, or against a log, or against any tree, whether it be dead or alive.

Never start a fire in the moss or peat of a dry bog. It may smoulder for days, and at last break out in open flame.

Never leave a fire until it is surely *out*.

Never start to burn brush or stumps in a clearing in a dry time, or on a windy day, and never leave a fire burning in a clearing. Stay with it until the fire is completely *out*.

Fighting a Big Blaze.

But while an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure, what is a Boy Scout to do when he sees a forest fire already under way?

By that you probably mean a fire too big for one person to extinguish. Let us remember that the biggest blazes in the forest *started with a few sparks* that any boy could scuffle out in a couple of minutes. But when a fire actually commences spreading along the "forest floor" of dried leaves and needles and twigs it requires quick action and plenty of skilled help. If there is a fire ranger in the district get into touch with him at once by telephone or other means, or tell the nearest railroad agent. The ranger will gather assistants and organize them into a fire fighting brigade much as the chief of a city department marshalls his men about a burning house. Skilled forest rangers, given plenty of helpers, can overcome any but the most violent and