

THE HAMILTON TIMES

MONDAY, APRIL 20, 1908.

MR. R. A. THOMPSON.

The Liberals of the County of Wentworth are fortunate in having no disturbing element in their midst and in having two men who have wisely and well represented them in the past in the Local House and who are able and ready to represent them in the future in the same capacity. The other week the Liberals of South Wentworth unanimously renominated Mr. Daniel Reed as their standard bearer, and on Saturday last the North Wentworth Liberals had the pleasure and satisfaction of again unanimously adopting Mr. R. A. Thompson, their former member, as the candidate for the Ontario Legislature in the coming campaign. While the Tories are divided and quarrelling among themselves, even the county organ refusing to endorse Mr. Thompson's political opponent, on the Liberal side all is harmony. There are no disgruntled or dissatisfied electors to be pacified. The records of Messrs. Thompson and Reed are before their constituents like an open book, so that he who runs may read. They are both men of their own class, who have lived and gone in and out among them for many years. They are known as neighbors, good neighbors, who by their honesty, industry and perseverance have been fairly successful in life, and been enabled to reach a position where they can be of benefit to the people among whom they live. Both have been already successful at the polls. Both have beaten the men who are now their opponents, and the probability is that they will easily beat them again. Both have made their mark in the Legislature. Mr. Reed has done good service for his constituents in this session in the matter of the Beach and Saltfleet Local Option cases. Mr. Thompson, unfortunately, was laid aside by sickness during the closing weeks of the session. In fact, he was stricken down while preparing his speech on the budget. Although not pretending to be a financial critic, his annual speech on matters brought up in the budget has come to be looked forward to with considerable interest. He has a wide grasp of Ontario public questions, and his especially affect the farmers, and the Liberal side of the House always hear him with pleasure, while the Government dread his exposure of its bungling and mismanagement. He is a hard-working, painstaking representative, ever ready to further the interests of the farming class. Now that Toronto is to have double representation (this is one of Whitney's ways to swamp the farmer vote) men of Mr. Thompson's stamp are more than ever needed to look after the agricultural interests of the Province.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Thompson's health is not yet as good as it might be. This circumstance should make it all the more imperative upon the Liberals of the riding to see that his interests do not suffer in consequence. They should redouble their efforts to secure his re-election. The Liberal party is in much better shape now than it was at the last election. Whitney has been found out. He goes to the country with a bundle of unfulfilled pledges. Wentworth has suffered at his hands in the matter of the Beach and the Saltfleet Local Option. The Local Tory candidates are both beaten men, put up because nobody else wanted the job, and the party is far from united in the face of the campaign. Yet the Tories will die hard. They will fight with desperation—no doubt about that. The Liberals' only course is to see that not a vote is lost through carelessness, neglect or over sanguineness. If they do their full duty Messrs. Thompson and Reed will again represent them at Toronto. But their full duty must be done.

THE TEACHERS TAKE ACTION.

The Toronto Public School Principals' Association has already taken action to show the feeling which exists among well-informed educators against the Government's folly in abolishing the entrance examinations. Teachers feel the need of some method of ascertaining whether pupils are fitted to enter the High Schools. The Association has resolved to ask for the establishment of a Provincial senior fourth class examination, the passing of which would entitle students to attend any high school, collegiate or continuation class in Ontario. It is suggested that 40 per cent. be required on each paper, and 80 per cent. on the whole, the confidential report of the teacher being also taken into account. A systematized and reasonable curriculum should be laid down for the entire Province, and uniform examination papers should be provided by a board of examiners under the careful supervision of the department.

This proposal is practically one for the restoration of the High School entrance examination. It is a protest—the protest of common sense—against the iconoclasm of Departmental anarchy. It is but an indication of what educators are feeling and thinking all over the Province. Perhaps Mr. Whitney is not ready yet to take this "very short curve" and get back to reasonable conditions; but the sooner he becomes reconciled to that course, the better for both teachers and pupils. Any man to whom may be committed the interests of the Ontario school system ought to have at least intelligence enough to prevent him from sacrificing the educational interests of the pupils to an effort to make a little cheap party capital.

"President Roosevelt is about to close the mails to anarchistic literature. He is right." And the anarchist will indulge in something as nearly like a laugh as he can, and buy a few envelopes.

HOW THEY SQUIRM!

The situation created by the action of the South Wentworth Temperance Voters' League in presenting to Mr. Ham. Regan, the Tory candidate for the Legislature in that riding, a request that he pledge himself to vote for the repeal of the three-fifths clause in the Local Option Act, by which Whitney places the League at a disadvantage before the law, is causing the machine, its candidate and its organ, the Spectator, a good deal of anxiety. Mr. Regan appeals to the organ to help him to a way of escape, and the organ flounders about pitifully. It's course was at first directed toward abusing the League and challenging its right to put awkward questions to Mr. Regan. It charged the League as being "unreasonable," and alleged that its request was spider-like—that there was "a good deal of spider and fly" in it. Later it was brought to appreciate that it is really not so very unreasonable for those South Wentworth voters to object to legislation which makes them inferior before the law, declaring that it shall require three of their votes to be equal to two of other people's! "But, then," it urges, "why make a row, and cause Whitney and his candidate, Mr. Regan, annoyance about a little matter like that?" Its defence of Whitney is not in those very words, of course, but they express its meaning. There are other issues, it pleads; why not think of them, and not try to judge Whitney by his three-fifths vote legislation?

The Spectator's pleading is quite touching; but in addressing the men who present the case to Mr. Regan it speaks to a constituency that is dealing with a personal matter, and one by which Whitney's character, his good—or bad—faith in other regards may be judged. Whitney pledged a fair, honest, progressive administration of the license law. He was to lift it out of politics, free it from the taint of party, and give the temperance people a fair deal. He has proved untrue to every pledge. He has prostituted it to party ends, succumbed to the spoilsman, and deliberately loaded the dice against the temperance men, whose support he got by promising more than Ross would promise, by deliberately making a law declaring that three temperance votes should equal only two liquor votes. In other words, that two liquor men should have as much power in law as three temperance men. This was protested against in the Legislature in vain. Deputations of outraged electors pleaded for justice, without result. The Opposition moved to secure the repeal of the odious clause, but Whitney was obdurate; he would not admit that three local option votes should be as good as three votes of any other kind; and he rung up his majority to a man to vote down the amendment, and the organs, the machine in the county, and Mr. Regan approved. And every candidate of Whitney enters the contest as the supporter of this three-fifths injury.

Mr. Regan cannot rid himself of this load. The three-fifths clause and Whitney cannot be dissociated; they and their candidate are a trio. The Spectator may abuse, insult, whine or wheedle as it will, it cannot put the South Wentworth victims of Whitney's deceit and legislative outrage off the track. They know that this is their turn, and they know, too, that even if Regan promises, to try to save his bacon, Whitney is not to be depended on as to any pledge he may be forced to give. He has been tried and found wanting.

WATER ON THE MOUNTAIN.

The consideration of how best to supply water to the residents on the heights is causing a good deal of discussion. From Brookville, Ohio, comes the report of a small waterworks system, supplying about 1,200 inhabitants, a description of which may contain some suggestions. The equipment consists of two 25-h.p. New Era single cylinder gasoline engines, with 11½x18 in. cylinders, operating four cycles, which are each belt-connected to an 8x10 in. triplex single-acting Smith-Vaile pump having a capacity of 300 gal. per minute at 50 r. p. m. The water is distributed through approximately three miles of pipe, having at present 111 service connections. The distribution is by pneumatic pressure, maintained at 50 to 80 pounds on the mains, when the pumps are not in operation, by compressed air in two storage tanks 8 feet in diameter and 36 feet long. There have been no interruptions to the service, which has always been satisfactory, the engines giving good service and being readily started even when cold. The bill for gasoline has been \$125.26 a year.

THE LAW AND THE GRAFTER.

All in good time we have obtained a judicial definition of the never meaning of the word "graft." The word may now be carried from the dictionaries of thieves' slang into the standard lexicons of our language with the dictum of no less an authority than that of the Supreme Court of Idaho to establish its meaning.

The decision to which we have reference was rendered by the court in a case arising out of a suit for libel, brought by Governor Gooding against a newspaper, which was charged with saying that "Gooding and graft have become so thoroughly known as synonymous terms, that the rank and file will have no more of it." It was contended, on behalf of the defence, that a reasonable construction must take into account that the word is capable of being read without a meaning which reflects in an actionable way upon the person to whom it is used, and that it is not part of the duty of the court to read into the language used as a sinister mean-

ing when another interpretation is naturally open to it. This plea, however, had no effect with the court, which declared that it was unable to find any definition or general use of the word "graft," which would indicate an innocent act or motive on the part of a person designated as a "grafter." It regarded the meaning of the word in the connection in which it was employed, as being sufficiently established by recent usage as to have no doubt of the intention of the writer, or the sense in which it would be accepted by the reader.

The original meaning of the word "graft" is well known in its relation to horticulture and surgery. When we pass out of those fields, however, the term carries with it a certain degree of odium, and the Idaho Supreme Court was very clear in expressing its opinion of its use, declaring, "To charge one with being a grafter has a tendency to impeach his honesty, integrity and reputation." The court was still more explicit, and ruled that "to graft" was "to steal or to swindle."

Minnesota Supreme Court has also given us a definition of the word, perhaps not quite so evil in its significance, but still leaning toward the view of the Idaho Court. Its words are: "Graft is commonly used to designate an advantage which one person, by reason of his position of superiority, influence, or trust, extracts from another." A contemporary has called attention to the fact that at some of the colleges and universities in England, to "graft" signifies to be especially studious, to work hard; but, however this may be, the verdict of the Americans, as well as the judgments of these State Supreme Courts, recognize the term to convey to people on this side of the pond, the idea of working some one else—and of doing so without being over-scrupulous as to whether or not the rules of meum and tuum are rigidly regarded in the process.

THE LATE MR. MURRAY.

In the death of Mr. Alexander Murray Hamilton loses a citizen who did a great deal to promote his city's business interests, and who ever had its highest social and moral welfare at heart. Mr. Murray was, indeed, a fine type of gentleman and one whom every citizen learned to honor and respect. He spent most of his long and useful life in Hamilton, and, even after his retirement from active business life, his familiar figure and kind face always brought pleasure to his hosts of admirers. His illness was brief, and in the fulness of well spent years he has gone to his well earned reward. The Times extends to his relatives heartfelt sympathy.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The people of Cobalt are not feeling very kindly toward the Ontario Government for bleeding the town and district of revenue while doing nothing by way of aiding it to secure fire protection, water service, and that sort of thing.

In 1897 our trade with Great Britain amounted to \$89,935,040, having increased about \$24,000,000 in 20 years. Last year it amounted to \$208,745,193, having increased \$110,000,000 in 10 years. That is a fairly good showing for Laurier's regime.

The discomforts of an ocean voyage will be greatly minimized if the pitching and rolling of vessels can be abolished or reduced, as is proposed to be done by the adoption of a steam-driven gyroscopic apparatus with which experiments have been made in Germany. In England, also, experiments are being made, and it seems probable that the principle involved in the very interesting toy may be made to accomplish wonders in the way of steadying vessels.

Those Tory organs who affect to regard the figures of revenue and expenditure as being out of proportion to the country's business, should cast their eye over the returns of the Canadian banks and railways. Bank discounts increased from \$226,960,482 in 1897 to \$639,970,696 last year. Railway traffic similarly increased nearly 300 per cent., while our total trade increased in the 10 years about \$400,000,000 as against an increase of \$90,000,000 in the 13 Tory years preceding!

The Ottawa Citizen seems to be rather envious of Mr. Archie McNece, of Windsor, who, it says, some years ago secured a franchise of fishing privileges in James Bay for payment of \$10 a year. Has it ever inquired how much Archie will take for the franchise? It was regarded, some years ago, as a pretty good joke. Our contemporary might get even by purchasing, for a good round figure, the right to shoot polar bears within a thousand metres of the North Pole.

The Vancouver Province finds the statement of Sir Hibbert Tupper's advocates that he "is the one man in the Conservative party, in Vancouver, who is capable of properly representing this city in the Federal Parliament," rather too much to swallow. It declares that the assertion is too sweeping, and casts discredit upon the party. It even denies that "he stands in a class by himself." One of these days there will be an execution in Vancouver for lese majeste.

The Victoria, B. C., Colonist, the Tory organ of the Pacific Province capital, rebukes the party for its bad tactics in antagonizing the Liberals in carrying out great works for the country, particularly the National Transcontinental Railway, and it promises to do what it can to put the Tories right in that matter. Our contemporary will fail;

the Tories will not be put right. The party still harps on the same string. Its leaders are given up to a policy of obstruction, fault-finding and abuse. It seeks power only by slander. What could one journal, even were it able and convinced, do with such a gang?

The Toronto Mail and Empire seeks to excuse the disgraceful lobbying of the session of the Legislature just closed, by saying that "it brings the reader's mind back reminiscently to the other times and other manners of the Ross regime in this province." That, of course, is a product of the Mail and Empire's imagination. There was one session in which lobbying did become a nuisance, a few years ago, when an effort was made by the Tories to purchase the control of the Legislature by buying up a number of members like cattle on the hoof for so much a head, cash in envelopes. Those with long memories probably have not forgotten that a prominent feature in the disclosures and legal proceedings which followed the handing over of these envelopes to the Speaker was the manager of a leading Tory paper in Toronto, of whom the Mail and Empire may prefer to say little in this connection.

OUR EXCHANGES

A Good Medium.
(Belleville Intelligencer.)
Somebody in Hamilton lost a cat, advertised in the Times and the cat came back. This undoubtedly proves that the Times is the best advertising medium in Canada.

Unfair Competition.
(Montreal Gazette.)
It has been deliberately resolved that the right to enter into government-aided and untaxed competition with electric power producers is within the list of municipal privileges and special sanction has been given to by-laws to secure the end.

The Gerry-mander.
(Hon. A. G. MacKay.)
"There never was a more unfair, a more subtle gerry-mander than the one of the Whitney Government. There never was a gerry-mander which gives such an absolute lie to every statement made in its favor. I don't care what feature of that gerry-mander you take up, you cannot find any principle laid down by Mr. Whitney that he has not deliberately and unnecessarily violated."

Lacked the Courage.
(Goderich Signal.)
Hugh Clark, M. P. for Centre Bruce, stayed away from the House when the vote was taken on the Preston amendment to make Toronto's representation six, instead of eight members as proposed by the Government. Mr. Clark had the courage to vote against the amendment, but he lacked the courage to vote against the Government's proposal of doubling the representation of Toronto.

Whitney Makes the Money Fly.
(Toronto Star.)
The total expenditure of the Province in 1903 was considerably less than \$5,000,000. The ordinary expenditure, last year, as appears by page 4103 of the Public Account, was \$7,144,400. The Appropriations for 1908 call for practically the even \$8,000,000. Thus the increase in outgo in the five years is roughly 60 per cent., as against an increase of 38 per cent. in the expenditure of the Dominion Government during the five years ending with 1907.

They Still Oppose It.
(Victoria Colonist.)
If the Conservatives join issue with the Liberals in regard to the promotion of great enterprises, they make these enterprises the issue of the campaign. That is why the Liberals have achieved such a success at the last general elections for the Dominion. The Conservatives permitted themselves to be regarded as opposing the construction of a National Transcontinental Railway. So far as the Colonist is concerned, it does not propose to permit that the considerations involved in the latter shall be obscured by permitting the Liberals to represent the Conservatives as being opposed to the former.

MAYOR STEWART WARNED.
To the Editor of the Times:
Sir,—I wonder if Mr. Stewart, Mayor, understands what he is talking about in his Hydro power. He does not see Hamilton would have to pay for the land from Niagara to Hamilton, and all the expenses of poles and the keeping up of said line, as Toronto would only have to pay from Hamilton to Toronto, and any place from here to Toronto that would use any of the power it would help Toronto. Don't you see where we would be? Half a million in debt for a thing that we don't need at any price. Every ratepayer in the city should condemn the thing, and he would be giving Toronto a benefit that Hamilton would have to pay for. He better take care before it's too late. How Toronto would laugh at the stupidity of it. No wonder they were offering Toronto cheaper than Hamilton. A word to the wise is sufficient. And then we have already a power that is second to none, and has done more for Hamilton than any other power company that has ever come into Hamilton, and you would see how Toronto would take away our manufacturers. That's what they are working for, so beware before you burden Hamilton with over half a million. Don't let this waiting until Hamilton commits itself, and the idea of forty years' contract to burden the next generation. They would curse the Council for ages—it would ruin Hamilton. Beware! Beware!—James Gallowsay, 238 Hunter street east.

JUVENILE TEMPLARS.
There was a good attendance of members at the weekly meeting of the International Juvenile Temple, I. O. G. T., held in the C. O. O. F. Hall on Saturday afternoon. Mrs. D. B. Smith, S. J. W., who presided, was assisted by Nellie Morrison, C. T. pro tem. In the course of business A. H. Lyle, Grand Treasurer of Canada, gave a short and much appreciated address. A short programme was also presented. Among those who took part in it were Mrs. F. W. Amrose and Lizzie Smith. Next Saturday, June 27, will see the election of officers.

Tuesday, April 21, 1908

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BINBROOK

started seeding. The hard frost and dry, cold weather has very hard on the wheat and clover.

Mrs. Robert Evans is still under the doctor's care.

It is the intention of the Cemetery Committee to appoint a day in June to clean up and beautify the cemetery. All who wish are invited to take part.

Building operations have already started in the village. Mr. George Buss is repairing his residence.

Mr. William Dougherty, who has bought out Mr. Almer Johnson, has moved in, and intends to keep a meat shop this season.

The contract was let on Monday evening last for leveling roads in S. S. No. 3, Mr. Geo. Whitwell and Mr. Sam McMurray secured the job.

VAST ARMY SCHEME OF CHINA.

Frenchman Hears She May Enroll 40,000,000 Men.

A Frenchman, who has been making a study of the Chinese army, warns Europe that it is not inevitable that within ten years China may be able to oppose to the white nations of the world a thoroughly drilled and equipped force of 40,000,000 of soldiers. It is quite certain, he thinks, that it would have the biggest army in the world, at least 6,000,000 men ready to mobilize at short notice, and equal in courage, drill and equipment to any European troops.

This 6,000,000 minimum is provided for by present plans. The increase to the maximum figure would require but a little more effort, a draft on the wealth of population which is trivial when spread out thin over so vast an empire. The writer fears that, stimulated by their own remarkable performances in army making up to date, the Chinese colors may make a change in their plans at any time and may do it without taking Europe into their confidence.

The new Chinese army had its inception about 1889, when the late Marshal Ma issued an order abolishing the red umbrellas which the Chinese soldiers used to take into the field with them. Ma was an able organizer, and the sort of soldiers that were produced under his management were revealed to Occidentals in 1900, when the capture of the Taku forts took place.

Fighting Chinese soldiers previous to that encounter had been little better than massacres; but the defenders of the Taku forts and those of Tientsin and of Chain Hui Kan, armed with modern rifles and having Armstrong and Krupp ammunition, fought not only with desperate bravery, but with discipline. They gave pretty nearly as good an account of themselves as an equal number of European troops would have done.

When China caught her breath in 1900 she realized that she was the only one of troops worth having. Rejecting the plan submitted by her British adviser, Sir Robert Hart, for the creation of a miniature army of four divisions to be developed in the course of ten years, the Lien Ping Pu, or council of war, boldly adopted a scheme of evolution which would seem startling in any country.

It contemplated the creation of twenty army corps of two divisions each, each division comprising two brigades of 10,000 men, a battalion of artillery and one of cavalry, a battalion of engineers and a battalion of supply train. Each brigade was to be composed of four regiments of three battalions of 300 men each.

A scheme of local recruiting was adopted, with a period of active service of nine years, to be followed by seven years of reserve with a month's drill each year. The creation of twenty-five schools of cadets with a capacity to furnish 4,000 officers in the first year, and an annual contingent of 1,500 thereafter was also decreed, and a primary levy of 500,000 men was made.

The viceroys of the various provinces were further ordered to include in their budgets a sufficient tax for the support of this force. No exact estimate of the revenue needed was to be made, however, until the Government had 800,000 men in active service and 4,000,000 reserves.

It used to be the way that things ended with talk in China, but times appear to be changed. There are actually at the present time, according to the French authority, 420,000 men, armed and drilled in modern style, organized into fifteen army corps with capable officers.

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This arm. They are working night and day, and it is said that they can turn out 3,000 guns a week.

A very important detail is that the new army is regularly paid. A serviceable uniform has been adopted for the troops. Zouave trousers are tucked into half boots. The soldier on parade wears a neat tunic with a belt, but on active service he is clad in a flannel shirt, over which he wears cross belts to carry his knapsack and cartridge case.

The men are of fine physique and the health in the army is said to be excellent. They are as easily fed as the Japanese. They are completely disciplined, and with the Chinese indifference to death, which has been displayed under the most disastrous conditions, it seems as if they might make man for man prove equal to the best European troops.

There is a fair supply of field and mountain artillery, and the supply of Krupp siege guns is steadily increasing. There are 7,000 cadets at present in the military schools, and 900 pupil officers, as they are called, are receiving higher instruction in ordnance, strategy and tactics at four superior schools. A military academy which is to occupy somewhat the position of our own war college, is being organized at Peking.

The Frenchman estimates that the expense of an army on the basis of a million active and seven million reserve soldiers will not involve an increased burden of more than five cents a head on the population of China. Even so poor a people, he thinks, can stand this, and the Government and people have grown so proud of the army that he sees no hope of any slackening in its development. "This is the real yellow peril" is the conclusion that he draws.

GAY WINTER LIFE IN NORWAY.

Lads and Lassies Outdoors by Day and Night.

A writer for a German paper who has been stopping in Christiania gives a surprising account of the liberty accorded to the young people of Norway, especially the girls. After receiving the rite of confirmation the girls receive what he calls *Schlusselfreihheit*, or key freedom; their parents literally hand over to them a night key involving complete liberty to come and go as they please day and night.

Though the period of *Schlusselfreihheit* comes in the early teens, the beneficiaries have no scruple about enjoying it to the fullest extent. Will or without male companions they go off winter and summer on long country trips, week-end parties usually, which start on Saturday afternoon, when the half day sessions of the schools are over and the offices close up and last until Monday morning.

All through the country for the length of a day's journey from the capital there are ski huts, in which the pleasure parties take refuge over night. Rich families own their own ski huts, sometimes several of them in various directions; but the greater number are owned by farmers, who rent them out at the rate of \$1.60 to \$2.60 a month. Just outside of Christiania is the Holmenkollen, which is to that city what what Bronx Park is to New York, only more so. It is a great hill about 3,250 feet high, so near to Christiania

that its abrupt cliffs seem to look down over the houses in the suburbs.

Parties go out by day to get the glorious view of sea and shore from the summit. They go out in the evening and spend all night there to watch the northern lights and the sunrise.

A trolley line runs to the top of the mountain and the stunt of walking up has become so commonplace that nobody thinks of doing it any more. The company issues for one crown, about 27 cents, a ticket good for all day rides. The cars are equipped in winter with means of carrying skis and bobbeds; so nobody rides down, at least in winter time. There are great sloping reaches of snow on which the bob sledding is superb.

There are dozens of stag parties, and almost an equal number made up of girls, perhaps a majority—boys and girls, young men and women, tramp together.

There is a total absence of attempts at gallantry: the girls are as independent as the men. They expect none of the small attentions and courtesies that an American girl would look for, and they get none.

In winter time the skis are invariably taken along. Sometimes bobbeds are taken too, if the country to be traversed favors their use. Skates are often taken too. Each individual has provisions for a day or two, and sometimes the tea making apparatus is divided evenly as to weight.

The costume is picturesque, woolen caps of gay colors give a brilliant effect to a snow landscape over which they are dotted, when viewed from a distance on a sunny day. Warm sweaters, generally white, are worn by men and women alike, the men wear knickerbockers and leggings; the girls' skirts coming a little below the knee, and leggings too. The shoes of both sexes are built strictly for business purposes.

When the hour of rest comes, the whole party takes to the ski hut and all sleep in their clothes on beds of pine needles. In summer the early sunrise finds them afoot again. In the winter the start is made hours before dawn, and the objective point of the morning is often some height from which the coming light is hailed with song.

The climate of southern Norway greatly favors the outdoor winter life. Early in December the country becomes thickly covered with snow, which practically remains until the spring. The thermometer hardly ever rises above freezing point, and the chances of rain are negligible. Snow is not taken seriously by the skiers and the cold is seldom so intense as to be dangerous.

It is on the Holmenkollen that the international ski contests take place every year, bringing English, German, Swiss and French competitors in constantly increasing numbers. There are events for men and women and boys and girls of all ages, and young people come from all parts of Norway without chaperone or guardian, and spend several days on the ground to take part in them.