

## HE PAID A VISIT TO "TREASURE ISLAND"

Account of Trip Written Especially  
For Boys' Own London Tiser.

Editor Boys' Own Tiser:

Picking up a daily paper one day last week, I noticed a paragraph about a lady organizing a treasure hunting expedition to Cocos Island. I thought that perhaps a word or two from one who has seen this famous island might be of interest to some of your readers.

Cocos Island is a small island in the Pacific, about 600 miles off the west coast of Panama, and about three degrees north of the equator and is the property of Costa Rica. The island was first brought into prominence by Stevenson, in his famous book "Treasure Island," and one can get a very accurate description of it there.

There is a legend in South America that Captain Morgan, the famous buccaneer, or as some books call him, Black Morgan, used this island for his headquarters for repairing his ships and storing his booty.

During the late war one of the duties which fell to the British navy was to search and patrol every island in the Pacific, and Cocos is only one of many hundreds.

Leaving Panama one evening we arrived at Cocos just after dark the next, and dark in the Pacific is dark; one cannot see two yards ahead.

In order to get our bearings to enter Chatham Bay, the only safe anchorage there, we put on a searchlight and it was one of the prettiest sights I ever saw when that circle of light played on the famous Great Banyan tree, several hundred feet about us, while all around was pitch black. Here it was, according to the book, that Morgan lived under its branches. It is the highest point of the island, and from its shelter one can see miles to seaward on either side.

In the morning I went with A. N. Other in a canoe we had, and landed on the beach, and we were on the famous Treasure Island we read so much about as boys. There is a lovely beach, just the place one could imagine Morgan's men wading out waist deep and unloading kegs of brandy, bales of silk, etc., from their boats.

We made our way round and up the hillside, through creepers and bushes, with giant cactus and coconut palms all around us, until we came to the banyan tree at the top. From the tree to one part of the beach there is still a clearing down the hillside used by Morgan's men for their camping ground. The last record of a trip done by Morgan was to Lima, in South America, where he sacked and burned the town, taking amongst other things the Gates of Lima. These gates, which were the cathedral gates, were of solid gold, crusted with jewels. When last seen Morgan's ships were headed towards Cocos, but a great storm came up and he was never seen again, and no one knows whether he reached Cocos or perished on the way out. Standing under the great banyan one can picture the scenes as described in Treasure Island, and can see what a splendid lookout Morgan had, both to seaward and over his own men. Looking around the island one can see traces of the different expeditions which have been to the island, but have had little luck. Here and there are places where they have been digging, while in one little cave we found sledge hammers and crowbars. In another part of the island is a little store of food and a well, placed there by the Costa Rica government to aid shipwrecked sailors. The only life on the island is some small pigs, monkeys and lots of birds. We did not find anything suspicious on the island, so at sunrise we said goodbye to "Treasure Island." This is a true account.

## MR. SULMAN, EX-M. L. A. FOR CHATHAM, TO SPEAK

Combined Trail Rangers of Askin  
Church Plan Great Things.

The Trail Rangers of Askin Street Church are holding a joint lecture on April 25. The speaker will take for his subject, "The Islands of the Southern Seas." The speaker is very well acquainted with his subject, having traveled extensively in the regions he will speak on.

### IN GREAT LUCK.

"Mister," began the seedy-looking man. "I haven't got no home and—"

"No taxes to pay," interrupted the man addressed, "no coal bills; no worry lest the landlord raise your rent. Permit me to congratulate you."

"I have no job and—"

"Lucky chap! No danger of getting fired."

"But I'm serious, mister. I have no money and—"

"No temptation to spend it foolishly on able-bodied beggars. Why, you're the very child of fortune. Good-day."

## TAYLOR STATTEN SENDS WORD TO THE BOYS OF LONDON

TAYLOR STATTEN is "The Big Chief" of boys' work in Canada. He is the originator of the C. S. E. T. plan, and is regarded as one of the most outstanding figures in boys' work in the world today. There are thousands of boys in Canada, a great number of them being in London, who count it a great privilege to have heard and to have come to know Mr. Taylor Statten. Mr. Statten is secretary of the National Boys' Work Board, and this article was written by him from Calgary expressly for The Boys' Own London Tiser:

"Last night while meeting with the Alberta Provincial Boys' Cabinet, I first learned of 'The Boys' Own London Tiser.' News of its publication has spread to Edmonton and Calgary, and the boys of both these cities are considering following your lead. This morning I received a copy from Mr. Houlding, and I want to congratulate you on your splendid publication. It is a winner. The boys of London have always been about two jumps ahead of those of other cities, and while the 'Toronto Boys' Own Tely' nosed you out in this special enterprise, you are now demonstrating to all other cities in Canada of the size of London that such a paper is possible.

During the past two months I have visited the maritime provinces and all the western provinces with the exception of British Columbia. I have never seen such enthusiasm over boys' work as is evidenced in every city and town throughout the Dominion. I was in the office of a big businessman in Calgary yesterday, who is giving a large amount of time and 'oodles' of money to the Tuxis Boys and Trail Ranger work. I asked him how he became interested, and his reply was that everybody seemed to be talking about boys' work. He went to one of the meetings and heard Mr. Forgie, the Alberta boys' secretary, was impressed with his earnestness and his ability, and also with the progress that had been made, in the Tuxis boys' movement, and he volunteered to assist. He claims that it has brought more joy and satisfaction to him than anything he has ever done.

On Wednesday last, I met a member of Parliament for Alberta, who has decided to give several months to promoting C. S. E. T. throughout the province in a volunteer capacity. He has seen what this thing has meant to the boys of his community; in fact, he claims that it was the boys who were instrumental in electing him to Parliament.

The Alberta Boys' Parliament is the best training in citizenship organization that I have seen. Thirty-seven boys came from all over the province and transacted business that has materially helped in promoting the C. S. E. T. work.

When Mr. Forgie came out here eighteen months ago, there were but sixteen communities in which C. S. E. T. groups were organized; now there are 101, so you see that while you are doing your best for boys' work in London, it is also spreading all over Canada.

I talked with a man yesterday, who had been at the farthest north 'Father and Son' banquet, in the Peace River district. There are several Trail Ranger Camps and Tuxis Boys Squares up there.

The following poem indicates the spirit of those who are doing this work in the West.

### —A SLOGAN.

Bite off more than you can chew,  
Then chew it.  
Plan for more than you can do,  
Then do it.  
Hitch your wagon to a star,  
Keep your seat, and there you are.



TAYLOR STATTEN.

## ON THE SIDE.

### AS THE SAYING GOES:

Small things amuse small minds, but there's another saying about things having far reaching consequences.

The oak tree that sheltered Charles Stuart from pursuers made it possible for the Stuarts' to return to England.

The steam of Watt's kettle helps us ride the Hurn and Bruce instead of a prairie schooner. Reading the ads in the Boys' Own Tiser save you money.

### ON THE SIDE.

Hymie Wilensky—"Gee, I've got a cold in my head."

Archie Cherrin—"Glad to know you've got something there."

"Do you suppose there ever was a human being who didn't talk about his neighbors?" I asked the cynical man.

"Yes," he said.

"Name him then."

"Robinson Crusoe."

Teacher—"Give me a sentence from a dead language."

Pupil—"What will you have."

An Ohio bachelor recently died, says the Southern Lumberman, and left his former girl, who gave him the "cold shoulder," \$100,000. This is one instance of gratitude in this cold world at least.

### IS DANCING PROPER?

Recently we have enjoyed a very distasteful controversy between the Ministerial Alliance and the board of education on the subject of "Dancing in High Schools." We have heard this question discussed at great length by the above bodies, so possibly it would not be out of taste to hear what students in London and other districts think of high school dancing.

It has been proven without a doubt that if the boys and girls of today want to dance they will dance. We think that dancing under good supervision and indulged in by respectable persons is a good healthy pastime. The superintendent of schools in Chicago, Ill., Dr. Peter A. Mortenson, says that only 3 per cent of the student bodies is responsible for the degrading effects dancing is supposed to have in schools. The other 97 per cent are perfectly above suspicion. Superintendent Mortenson goes farther and says, "The greatest force for good in the modern educational system is the sentiment and public opinion of the main student body."

Fred Bennett, the Chicago boy leader, is quoted in the Chicago Daily News as saying: "If a boy's father, principal or teacher, tells him dancing or anything else is not what it should be, he gets sore, but if one of his fellows says it is all wrong he ponders on the subject." The same psychology is observable in girls, according to the young philosopher. "If a girl's mother tells her her skirt is too short she laughs and says that all the girls wear 'em. If the teacher tells her she gets sore, but if I tell her—well, she thinks it over."

Expressly noting that 97 per cent of the high school pupils are "normal, sensible young people," the Daily News says editorially: "Youth is impressionable, and the bad example of even a small element is likely to have undesirable effects. Rational recreation is essential, but it is notorious that the line of propriety is often overstepped at dancing and other parties." It apparently thinks that it is up to the students to decide for themselves what is proper and what not.

We wish to stand on record as being entirely in favor of allowing student bodies and other organizations of the like, to govern their own affairs on this question. It is a pleasing "sign of the times" to note that our board of education indorsed the idea of our students' union in allowing them to conduct their "At Home."

### BOYS' COUNCIL CHAMBER.

The proposition of meeting in the local council chambers by our Boys' Council is being widely discussed at the present. We note that the Boys' Council have discussed this at their last meeting, but so far have not given out anything for publication.

A precedent for this may be found in the city of Toronto. Mayor McQuire of that city said he was greatly pleased to welcome the future "legislators" of the country to the Toronto council chambers.

Sitting in the "seats of the mighty" should encourage the young men of the Boys' Council to greater deeds through being associated with the great men of the past in this ancient council chamber of ours.

Question—How strong is the Salvation Army in Canada?

Answer—The Salvation Army in Canada has over 1,200 field and staff officers and 400 corps.

Question—Who wrote the "Anne" books of Prince Edward Island?

Answer—Mrs. Ewan Macdonald. "L. M. Montgomery" is the author of the popular "Anne of Green Gables" books.

## GAME SUITABLE FOR GROUPS

Conducted By R. P. LIDDLE, Y. M. C. A. Staff.

### Mr. Leader, Try These Games at Your Next Meeting.

#### I SEE, I TASTE, I FEEL, I HEAR, I SMELL.

Test 1—Give each player a few seconds to observe articles on a table.

Test 2—Let each taste a number of things.

Test 3—Let each reach into a bag and feel objects.

Test 4—Count words while someone reads a paragraph.

Test 5—Smell various substances. Each player keeps a record of his test. He writes this down at the end of each.

#### CENTER CLUB BOWL FOR TEAMS.

An Indian club is set up in the center of each circle. When the leader gives the signal one person from each team attempts to bowl the club over by using a small ball. The

ball is then passed to the second player, who takes his turn. This continues until everyone has had three turns. Scores are kept, and the circle having the highest score is pronounced the winner.

#### OBSERVATION RACE.

Contestants, blindfolded, stand with their faces to a wall. Back of them, along a track, over which they are to run, hats, handkerchiefs, books, etc., are placed. At a signal from the starter, the players tear the bandages from their eyes, and race down the track, taking care to mentally note all objects along the line. At the finish all stand with backs to the course until they have made reports to the judges. The winner is he who reports correctly upon the greatest number of articles in the order that he passed them. This can be played in teams.

#### USE FOR PIECES.

Save odd bits of ribbon so that when your silk blouses rip in the seam you can use the ribbon for reinforcing. The advantage of this is that the ribbon needs no hem and is neater than the ordinary patch.

#### FOR TENDER MEAT.

Fowl, veal and mutton can be made quite tender by putting it in a heavy brown paper covering for the fore part of the roasting. When the meat is nearly roasted the paper should be removed so that the outside can brown.

#### FOR STALE BREAD.

If you would restore a loaf of bread to its former fresh condition wrap it in a wet cloth for a minute, then remove the cloth and put the bread in a slow oven for about 20 minutes.

#### RESTORING COLOR.

When color has been destroyed by acid apply ammonia to neutralize the acid, then saturate with ether or chloroform and the color will usually return.

#### RIVAL BIDDERS.

The clergyman's eloquence may have been at fault, still he felt annoyed to find that an old gentleman fell asleep during the sermon on two consecutive Sundays. So, after service on the second week, he told the boy who accompanied the sleeper that he wished to speak to him in the vestry.

"My boy," said the minister, when they were closeted together, "who is that elderly gentleman you attend church with?"

"Grandpa," was the reply.

"Well," said the clergyman, "if you will only keep him awake during my sermon I'll give you a nickel each week."

The boy fell in with the arrangement, and for the next two weeks the old gentleman listened attentively to the sermon. The third week, however, found him soundly asleep.

The vexed clergyman sent for the boy and said: "I am very angry with you. Didn't I promise you a nickel a week to keep him awake?"

"Yes," replied the boy, "but grandpa now gives me a dime not to disturb him."

#### SINGLE-TRACK MIND.

"When is your daughter thinking of getting married?"

"Constantly."