

COSTUME COMMENTS

Designed to give pointers to the OA member, this column devotes this month's space to an article from the "Order of the Arrow Handbook."

Improvised Materials

Costume and properties for your lodge ceremonies can be as expensive or inexpensive as you wish to make them. If you wish to start off modestly and experiment with cheaper materials before going into costume making with genuine leather and other expensive items of ornamentation, you can use many materials found right in your own home.

Any ordinary cloth, old shirts, or suits, scraps or pieces of broadcloth, old draperies, curtains and various upholstery fabrics can be used in vests, leggings or shaps by the simple process of a little cutting, sewing, dyeing, or fringing. Pinking shears are most useful for cutting a toothed edge so that cloth will not unravel.

Remember that the Indians did not always have prime materials on hand, and many of them took old cloth shirts and dyed them a bright color and wore them as proudly as the chief with the alaskan war shirt. Applique colored cloth onto your costume, particularly onto the leggings and breechcloth, and you will get a fine effect. Pieces of old metal can be worked into arm bands and other decorations. Bells can be made from empty shotgun shells, casings, or thin metal rolled into a cone shape.

Pieces of fur, even ermine scraps or unused tails, can be obtained from your local furrier. Maybe your mother has an old beaded bag or dress that can be used to get desired effects. Check on the stockyard for cow or calf teeth.

Remember that the Indian improvised and even copied from the white man when he saw something that he liked. You will find that imagination is your biggest asset.

Success comes in CANS...

Failure comes in CAN'TS...

OUT OF THE POUCH

As every Golden Sun member has a pouch containing something secret. This column is devoted to revealing the secrets of successful camping.

Waterproofing

Paraffin offers a simple way of waterproofing one's own materials. Smooth and iron out the cloth to be waterproofed, then take a lump of paraffin and rub it thoroughly into the fiber until it is colored white with the wax--then press it in with a warm (not hot) iron. If the moistened finger makes the characteristic "popping" noise on the iron, it is too hot and will vaporize the paraffin away. Cover the entire surface this way.

Another method is to dip the cloth into paraffin dissolved in turpentine by keeping warm in a mixing vessel in very hot water.

(1945 edition of the Boy Scout Handbook)

Cooking Potatoes

A safe way to cook potatoes is to use tow fires. First dig out a hole larger than needed to hold potatoes--line it with small stones, if available. Build a fire in the hole to heat the stones. Then this fire dies down--put in the potatoes, cover them with damp earth--then on top of this build an 18" criss-cross fire and let it burn down. Start these potatoes an hour before meal time and cook other parts of the meal on the same fires as your potatoes "bake".

(1945 edition of the Boy Scout Handbook)

VARIOUS LAST(?) WORDS

Imagine what various Lodge-officers might be heard to say on their deathbeds if they were to use their "pet" expressions.

HERB KIBBALL, "You're absolutely right." or "Why shouldn't we when....."

TON MORGAN, "Hi ya' fellers"

Vice-Chief Doug Janky, "Hey you twink!"
Sundail Editor, ED DELVIN on his way to the National OA conference, "You're all a bunch of farmers".