

11/25/38 Harry Chandler, Bob Newell, Dwight Taylor, Ed Tree,
Blaine Carlson and myself placed the Troop 51 Honor Plaque
at the head of Grove Creek on the face of mt. Pimpanogas.
This copper plaque with the names of all previous honor
hikers inscribed thereon will be retrieved by the chosen
honor scouts of Scout Troop 51 sometime in the later part of
February, when they will, beside getting ^{the} plaque, participate
in a three or four day winter camping trip into this
area ~~with~~ depending on nothing that can not be carried
upon the back. Drove to the mouth of Grove Creek
arriving at 8:40 A.M. After examining ice pond created
from the impounded waters of the seasonal dam placed
at mouth, harnessed packs and left mouth of canyon proper
at 8:57. Soon found that we were coping with true
winter temperature when our pocket thermometer registered
22° F. Coupled with the frigid breezes blowing down
canyon from the snow covered Pimpanogas in the background,
found ourselves drawing on gloves or adjusting ear flaps of
our head gear. Dwight was the proud possessor of a
wonderful and tunket adorned skull cap, but found
only to soon that it did not survive its purpose here and
so with a little ingenuity fashioned for himself a
protective headgear with his scout neckerchief. Ground
frozen solid and snow confined mainly on the south side
of the canyon. Deer tracks in evidence even at mouth of
canyon. Nothing stirred in the way of bird or mammal
life no doubt due to the freezing conditions still prevail-
ing here at this early hour. Being refreshed and
invigorated by the morning breezes we soon put
space between our advancing party and the car we
left behind. Observed first deer at 9:10 A.M. on north
side of canyon. It seemed to be standing alone among
a small group of birch trees but in a few minutes
five others presented themselves. They had been bedding
down on this exposure and on our approach left very
unconcerned and worked west around point of ridge
to west exposure of mountain side. One large buck
controlled our attention and his activity and manners
were observed for some time. These deer were observed
on north side of canyon between the lower trail in the bottom
of the canyon and the upper trail leading west from the
first switchback. When the buck was first observed it
was following in back of two ♀'s ^{west} toward the second
switchback on the uppermost trail and as they approached
the ridge it allowed the two ♀'s to investigate as to what
might be on the other side. Instead of following its mates