

HAVE YOU EVER SLEPT IN A TENT?

Lots of people haven't. What would you do in one? Well, the writer of" your book has had experience of sleeping in tents with boys of your age, while he operated a camp owned by the Pioneer Boys.

Tents usually have the following parts, two tent poles, a ridge pole, the flaps, the walls and oftentimes are covered with a tent fly. Ropes, of course, are essential in keeping the tent standing erect and in position once it is raised. Some tents are fastened to rope poles that are secured between two trees and run the length of the tent, so that the tent ropes can be tied onto these poles. Others are fastened to stakes driven into the ground. Using poles are

the best, as oftentimes the rain softens the ground and the stakes pull out too easily. Here are a few reminders for you to remember when you go on that first trip and sleep in a tent.

- 1- While it rains or your tent is still wet from it raining, don't touch or rub your fingers on the canvass of the tent. Why? That's the best way to make the tent leak, and you will soon notice a small drip start where you did touch it.
- 2- When it starts to rain, loosen the tent ropes slightly, so that when the ropes get wet and they shrink, it don't pull up the pegs, or break the ridge pole.
- 3- Not so loose that if the wind blows, the tent will come down.
- 4- If you don't have the wood slides that permit you to make the ropes tight or loose, then use the sheep-shank knot, for shortening the ropes, and they are easily untied when needed.
- 5- After your camping trip, make sure not to store the tent away while it is damp. Open out to dry and fold properly.
- 6- Keep your cot or blankets far enough away from the wall of the tent at night, so they don't get damp through the canvass.
- 7- If it's warm weather, raise the walls or sides of the tent, let the air circulate through the tent.
- 8- Don't hang towels or wet bathing suits on a line in a tent.
- 9- If you are camping in a damp location, lay your underclothing under your top

