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JAMES SHOEMAKER
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TREASURER
WILLIAM EHRICH
S. P. LEADER

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

TROOP 80

CHURCH OF THE ADVENT, 33RD AND MERIDIAN STS.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

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D. MCWORKMAN
J. E. SHIDELER
R. N. WILLIAMS

Neveda Canyon Camp

Aug 7, 1935

Dear Mother + Dad

Bill and I came up to camp Monday and have been enjoying a swell time. The night before last we went to bed at 7 and got up at 7:30 then in the afternoon we took a 3 hour nap so 15 hours sleep out of 24 is not so bad. We got 12 hours again last night and I sure feel fine today.

I have just come back from a hike to one of the rocky cliffs near here. I went up through a canyon picking some red raspberries on the way. There are lots of raspberries around here and yesterday we had them mixed with jello. When I got up the canyon a little ways I saw a grouse but I didn't have the gun so no meat on the table. I went farther on up the canyon then climbed up the side of the mountain to get on some big rocks. I was near the top when I saw a deer only a few feet away. I watched it for a while and it finally
(over)

went over the mountain and down the other side
I went a few feet ahead and I saw another one
which followed the path of the first. In a tree
that had been burned there was a hollow place
in which a bird had a nest. I looked in and
saw one little bird in there. I couldn't tell what
kind it was. When I finally got to the top of
the rocks I could see for miles in every direction
you can't imagine the thrill you get being able
to see ~~so~~ much country. The last three days
have been ideal. Not too hot but warm enough
to go without a shirt. The nights up here in
the mountains get pretty cool. I have 5 thickness
of blankets over me and it isn't any too much.
We have slept with blankets on all summer so
you know the nights are cool but you sure
can sleep.

The other night I heard a lot of noise outside
from my bed and the next morning I went out
to see what had been causing all the racket.
I saw a big pack rat. They look something
like a regular rat only the hair is longer
and they have big heads and ears. I couldn't
get at him with a stick so I got the gun and
shot him. No more rats. They carry away anything
that you have around loose, silver, potatoes and
other food. He had started to build a nest in
a place we keep food in.

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one chewed a little hole in one of my cotton blankets but didn't hurt it much.

Bill just came back and told me about a canyon he just came back from. He says it is the best yet and we are going to take the camera and go back this afternoon.

There is a big rim rock that runs along the top of the mountain back from Nevada Canyon. We were up there one day and expect to go back again soon. On the far side of this rock there are two sheep camps and there has been a big bear getting the sheep. There are government hunters up there now trying to get him. That is only about 5 ~~feet~~ miles from our camp.

Bordy and Paul built an ice box in the side of a hill. They lined it with stones and it keeps the food plenty cold. Up to this time we have had trouble keeping our milk but in this ice box it keeps for 4 or 5 days.

(over)

I figured up yesterday and I don't think the trip will cost over \$50 per rack. That is sure a small sum for a vacation like this. I hope I can bring you out here some day because I know you would enjoy it. There are lots of pretty rocks out here but you couldn't haul any one home if you came.

We are going to bring Bill's cousin Alfred Van Camp back with us and he is going to Shortridge next fall. We are going to ship two suitcases and two cots to make the load lighter. I think we will be able to get every thing else on.

I expect Paul and Gordy to ride up on horse back this evening and bring the mail.

Well it is only three more weeks from Saturday until we start home. This summer has sure gone fast but I think it is the best one I have ever had.

your loving son

Fred

P.S. Had french fried potatoes last night and sure were good. Tell Marjorie I will write here when I get time and some more news to tell.