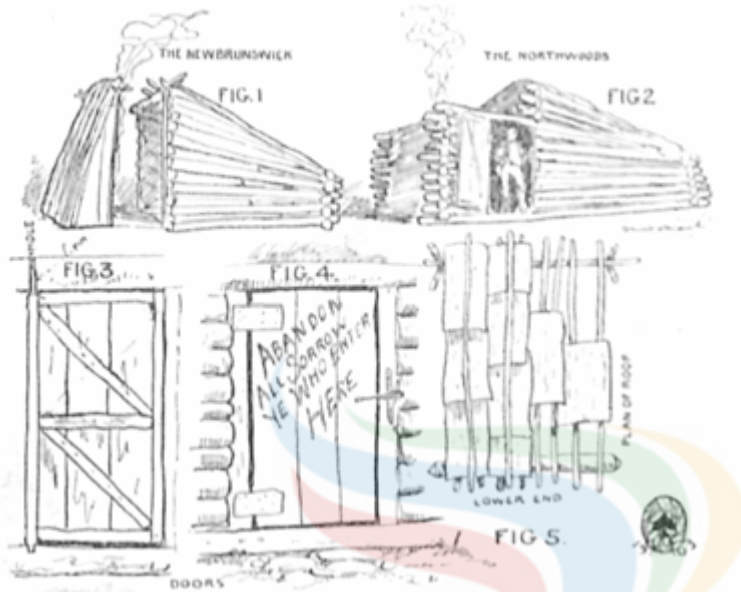


# HOW TO MAKE A WINTER CAMP

By DAN BEARD



A MORE ELABORATE CAMP

THE blustering March wind is blowing, swaying the evergreens and swishing the naked branches of the other trees; people say the weather is disagreeable, but these are the folks who only venture out of doors when it is necessary to go to business by day and the club by night. The real outdoor people enjoy themselves in all sorts of weather, and only stay indoors when necessity compels them.

All nature-lovers who can get away at this time of the year have armed themselves with field-glasses, cameras and note-books, and are flocking to the woods to meet the first returning birds and greet the advance guard of plants which are even now pushing aside the dead leaves and thrusting their pale green heads above the still frosty ground. This is the season when we most need

A COMFORTABLE CAMP

while in the woods, one which affords some shelter from wind and storm. Such a camp should be built of small logs "chinked" with mud and moss, but it may be an open front, modeled on the plan of the old reliable lean-to, known as the Adirondack; to this should he added a wind shield.

(Ground plan of shack and shield 6 x 12 feet or larger.) See the New Brunswick, Fig. 1.

The wind shield is made of green fir logs split in halves, with the bark or rounded side of the slabs outside. The slabs lean against a horizontal pale, and the latter rests in the two forks of two uprights, as may be seen by the illustration, Fig. 1.

is shown by the illustration of the North Woods (Fig. 2) ground plan (8 x 14 feet, or as much larger as the party may demand). This is also open camp, but there is a log fence around the open end of the shack, with a doorway.

THE DOOR

may be made of boards, if they are to be obtained, or of slabs of wood, or even the bark of trees, properly nailed to a well-braced frame (Fig. 3).

The old backwoodsman's door hinge was made of an upright pole terminating in a long pin at the top and a short one at the bottom, the pins fitting into auger holes in the logs, as shown in Fig. 3; the hinge rod can be put in place by first slipping the long pin in the hole bored through the top log and then dropping the short pin in the short hole in the bottom log. Even a novice will understand that the pins must be sufficiently smaller than the holes to allow them to turn freely.

If the two pins at the rods of the hinge rod are well oiled with sweet oil, vasoline, bacon fat or grease of any sort they will be found to move with little friction. After the rod is in place nail the door to the hinge.

In case you have no tools for boring holes, Make hinges of old bits of leather, soles of old shoes or folded pieces of canvas (Fig. 4).

This makes a rude, rude doorway, but if my readers are of old American stock they may know that their own ancestors were content with a deerskin or an old blanket portiere. The proper idea is to make the best house and doorway of which your limited time and tools will admit.

THE BIRCH-BARK ROOF

is so easily understood from the diagram (Fig. 5) that it probably needs no further description. The reader may see by the illustration that the pieces of bark are laid so as to break joints and also to overlap like shingles; it may also be seen that they are held in place by being weighted down with additional poles laid on top of the bark. Birch bark is an ideal material for the roof; however, almost any bark which can be obtained in suitable-sized pieces will answer the purpose. But even more essential than a roof for shelter is

THE CAMPFIRE,

and a man or boy who can build one in the forest, without the aid of matches and when everything is sodden and water-soaked, is entitled to wear fringe on his leggins and wamus, for he has earned for himself the title of the "Real Thing," the true Buckskin Man.

Somewhere about 1827, the very first box of friction matches was sold, and it brought over five dollars; the same amount of money now would buy enough matches to stock a store.

It was many years before these almost indispensable little fire sticks came into general use, and even as late as the sixties it was not uncommon in rural districts to see upon the mantel a combination tin tinder box and candlestick enclosing flint, steel and punk, while below the mantel, in a sheet-iron cylinder, hung a lot of "sulphur matches"—i.e., pine slivers, about the dimensions of slate pencils, which had had

their ends dipped in melted sulphur. These sulphur matches could be ignited by contact with a flame or live coal.

It is well to know these things, for accidents on the trail are liable to put one back to the primitive position occupied by our grandparents, in which case remember that striking the back of your knife against the sharp edge of a flinty stone will produce sparks. What next concerns us is how to make a flame from a spark after the latter is produced. All who have experimented with flint and steel know that the sparks are of no use unless we have

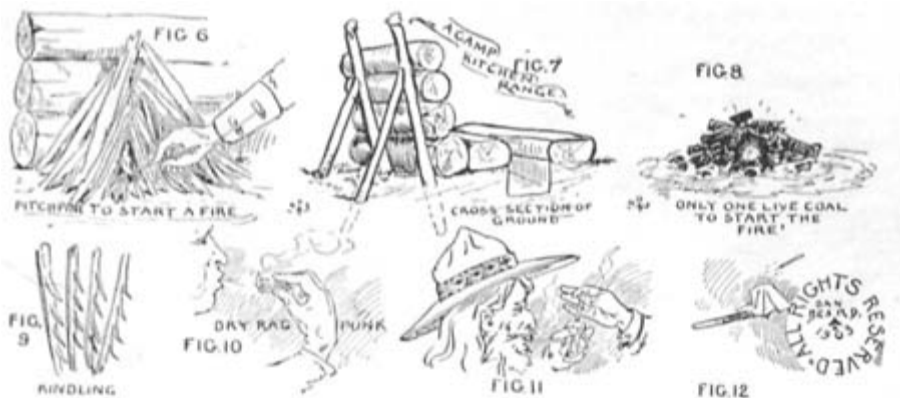
GOOD PUNK.

Charred cotton rags, raw cotton, paper soaked in a solution of black gunpowder and water, baked cotton wood and baked fungus, when perfectly dry, make good punk, and should be kept in tightly corked bottles or horns, otherwise these things are liable to absorb moisture and become worthless.

When you catch a spark in a charred rag, fold the rag over and over and blow the spark into a flame, as in Fig. 10. From the flame you can ignite a match made of a sliver of a pine knot (Fig. 9), and with this "match," taper or kindling ignite similar ones piled up tepee from, with larger sticks outside (Fig. 6), and thus start your fire. Punk must be blown into a flame, and from the flame a candle, or the pine match, or a bunch of dry leaves can be used to light the fire. But even after one has secured a flame one must know

HOW TO BUILD A FIRE.

Every man and every woman in this whole broad land thinks that they know how to build fires, but sad to relate, there is not one in a hundred who can do it successfully without a Sunday edition of the newspaper, a can of kerosene and an armful of kindling wood. Even then they frequently fail. It





so that each glowing side is warmed and encouraged by the other.

I have often heard it said that you cannot

LIGHT A PIPE WITH A CIGARETTE,


but this is a simple trick to perform. Cover the pipe bowl with a piece of soft paper (Fig. 12). grip the bowl so as to admit no draught except through the hole burned in the center by the glowing end of the cigarette (Fig. 11). It is possible in this manner to light the pipe with a burned match which is still red hot at the tip.

If you have candles in camp, candlesticks can be made of "any old thing." Take a potato or a turnip, cut one part flat for the bottom, make a hole for the candle, thrust the ends of a bent twig into one side for a handle (Fig. 13.) Drive three nails into a block of wood, or if you want a chandelier it may be made as shown by Fig. 14. Or you may use a wad of clay or mud (Fig. 16), or cut a cross in the top of

is safe to say that no domestic servants are masters at this art.

After a fire has a good start it will burn under very unfavorable conditions, *but it must be started properly.* Fig. 6 shows the wood so heaped that there will be a draught. As soon as the pitch-pine kindling in the center is ignited larger wood can be gradually added to this, until you have a fire of any size you choose. Fig. 7 shows a diagram of

A CAMP KITCHEN STOVE

There is nothing new in this for the accomplished and seasoned camper, but it may be of service to the real tenderfoot, and for his information it may be well to explain that the wind guard (Fig. 7) piled against the stakes is green wood. the ash-pit need not necessarily be as deep as the one shown in the cross section. The flattened logs each side of the pit are arranged thus , a wide space at the one end for pots and pans, a small space at the other end for the coffee or tea pots. With such a fireplace, anything cookable can be prepared for your table.

Charcoal will ignite by contact with a glowing ember, and if you have but one live coal and can rake from the ashes a handful of bits and clean charcoal (Fig. 8), by carefully heaping the dead black embers over the live coal you will soon have a fire. The combustion may be hastened by blowing on the embers.

Two smouldering logs can be made to burst into flames by pushing them together

a tin can (Fig. 21), Push the points down and fit in the candle (Fig. 20). If you have no candles and need a light, a torch can be made by binding slivers of pine knots over the end of a stick, with a bunch of moss for a spreader (Figs. 17 and 18). Or the old Indian birch-bark torch (Fig. 19) may be used

But if it is a lamp you wish, make one by binding, with wire, string, or tongs, a handle on a tin can; fill the can with almost any sort of grease. Use raveling of canvas, the dry inner bark of cedar or chestnut, an old grease-soaked rag or unraveled string for a wick, and pull it through a nail hole in the top of the can Fig. 22).

Figs. 23, 24 and 25 explain themselves; and now, if you suffer with cold feet, eat raw food and stumble about in a dark camp, it is because you do it for the fun of the thing.

