

REPORT OF CAMPING COMMITTEE
TO GENERAL BOYS' DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE
MARCH 7, 1933

The Camping Committee held a meeting on Feb. 3 at which time matters of camp policy for this summer were determined. It was decided to operate Camp Kern for eight weeks, the same as last year, opening June 20 with a week for boys from the Community Clubs; then three 2-week periods for boys who can pay the entire fee; and closing with a week period ending Aug. 15 for colored boys. In addition there will probably be two week-end groups of men entertained at camp before the boys appear on the scene and one group after the boys leave.

After considerable discussion it was voted to charge the same fee as in past years, namely, \$16.00 for 14 days with \$1.00 discount credited as interest to those in the Camp Savings Club, and \$1.00 discount where the fee is paid before June 15. The reasons for this decision are these:

1. Camp Kern has not broken even in the past.
2. The Camp fee has been low in the past as compared with other similar camps. In practically all cases, transportation cost is extra; at Camp Kern transportation both ways by special bus is included.
3. Unless a very drastic reduction was made in the fee, it would not make a noticeable difference in enrollment.
4. If a great reduction was made it would mean the elimination of a paid leadership and reliance on volunteers and a cheapening of the whole camp program.

Since our meeting a study of 31 YMCA camps has been made which bears out our thinking regarding fees.

(Cite facts from Camp Edwards Study)

As we get closer to camp, adjustments may yet be made if local conditions necessitate. We can always come down a little but it is hard to go up.

Savings Club - There are now 36 depositors in the Savings Club from the various boys' groups. In addition there are 25 Community Club members making deposits. These numbers will be increased considerably when the local situation straightens out.

Promotion - The committee felt that camp promotion should be built around schools to a large extent in order to take advantage of the friendship factor. Boys like to go to camp with their friends, boys they know. Posters, camp folders, and registration cards will be used when the right time arrives.

A camp reunion was held during Christmas vacation and last Friday night the Camp Kern Carnival attracted about 300 interested boys and parents.

REPORT OF CAMPING COMMITTEE
Camp Kern Parents Meeting
April 4, 1933

The Camping Committee held a meeting on February 3 at which time matters of camp policy for this summer were determined. It was decided to operate Camp Kern for eight weeks, the same as last year, opening June 20 with a week for boys from the Community Clubs; then three 2-week periods for boys who can pay the entire fee; and closing with a week period ending Aug. 15 for colored boys. In addition there will probably be two week-end groups of men entertained at camp before the boys appear on the scene and one group after the boys leave.

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2. Unless a very drastic reduction was made in the fee, it would probably not make a noticeable difference in enrollment.
3. If a great reduction was made it would mean the elimination of a paid leadership and reliance on volunteers and a cheapening of the whole camp program.
4. Camp Kern has not broken even in the past

Recently a study of 31 YMCA camps has been made which bears out our thinking regarding fees. (Cite facts from Camp Edwards Study)
But as we get closer to camp, local conditions seem to dictate some adjustments.

The Suggested Plan - Give a \$2.00 discount for cash on all fees for 2-week terms paid before June 15, and \$2.00 interest on two-week term savings deposits. This would act as a reduction of \$1.00 per week. Boys who stay over will be given the \$2.00 discount for later terms if paid before the term begins. In order to come out we must run at capacity. Capacity is 65 boys for 3 terms - about 200 boy terms.

We need, especially this year, the organized help of all Camp Kern parents in the promotion of camp. Parents and boys who have been to Camp Kern have always been our strongest boosters because they know the values of the camp experience.

Will you be willing to help us in these ways:

1. Give us the names and addresses of 5 families who have boys of camp age who could send them to Camp Kern.
2. See these parents and tell them of the camp and its program.
3. Keep in touch with the Camp Director and let us know how we can help through personal visits, phone calls, letters, camp folders, etc.

We Plan to do these things:

1. Circularize all prospects - parents and boys with camp folders (two kinds).
2. Visit elementary schools with camp motion pictures and short talks on camping.
3. Display camp posters in all elementary and Junior High Schools and Churches.
4. Get names of additional prospects from principals and teachers and ministers.

CAMP KERN HIGHLIGHTS
SEASON OF 1933

Camp Kern opened its 24th season of camping for boys on June 20th, having already entertained the Y M C A Business Men's Gymnasium Club and the Sluts Class of Grace M. E. Church on the two previous week-ends. Then followed eight busy, happy weeks with the camp operating at capacity or beyond, beginning with a one-week term for members of gangs enrolled as "Y" Community Clubs, following with three terms of two weeks each for "Y" boys and their friends, and ending with a one week term for members of the Fifth Street Y M C A. *and a week-end period for Y M C A men.*

The attendance this summer was practically the same as last summer in spite of the times and the competition of the World's Fair. The meal count was 13,206. This encouraging result was due in part to some intensive sales promotion in which several members of the camp staff participated. The Dayton Children's Bureau, directed by Miss Merle McMahon, sent 15 boys to camp during the summer.

A marked expansion was made in the craft program under the direction of Robert Craven. Mr. Craven taught the construction of bows and arrows, model boats and gilders, fibre weaving, horncraft, and rope making. Sam Ziegler developed many projects in leather, featuring stretch belts, lanyards, and tooling with an electric pencil. Don Arverard headed the beadwork, tilecraft and plaster paris craft groups. Herman Graman was in charge of the camp engineers who worked on major outdoor construction projects.

Several new games were introduced to camp by Roger Sutton and Karl Harter and proved very popular. Included among these was combination ball which is a combination of football, basketball, volleyball, and soccer. Informal group games were used especially with the younger boys. Tournaments were held in tennis and ping-pong, while a coaching school was organized to coach tennis, basketball, baseball, volleyball and track. The swimming program under Edward Hieck included swimming meets each term and teaching swimming to beginners. Thirty-five out of forty non-swimmers learned to swim at camp this summer.

Dramatics coached by James Harris revealed hidden talents in several boys. Beginning with a patriotic play given July 3 - "A Hero for Liberty" then followed a revival of "Tom Sawyer", and then the climax production of the summer - "Robin Hood". The last two were given on the outdoor stage before large audiences. Evening programs around the campfire saw the use of pantomime in charades, Indian ceremonies, and brief character sketches. Music under the direction of Don Arverard made its contribution through the evening sings, the camp orchestra and special music at the Sunday Chapel Service.

The boys camp ceremonial, developed last year - "The Christian Friendship Trail" was revised and repeated three times during the summer. It developed as an impressive ritual based on the symbolism of the Y M C A triangle.

Improvements in the camp physical equipment helped make the season enjoyable. A new composition roof was laid on the Council House after the foundations were rebuilt, all dead wood was trimmed out of the camp trees, the septic tank drained and cleaned, a new Council Ring built, and permanent benches constructed at the swimming area.

This report would not be complete without mentioning the great part the entire camp staff played in making the camp season the success it has been.

A willingness to learn, a thoroughness to the last detail, a high sense of responsibility, and a complete harmony with each other made this staff distinctive and enabled it to render a real service to the boys of Dayton.

CAMP KENN STAFF

Director
Ralph D. Reehm

Robert Craven - Director of Crafts
James Harris - Director of Dramatics
Jack Leicht - Bugler - Store Manager
Robert Graham - Truck - Purchasing
Torrey Adams - Service

Senior Counselors

Walter Clippinger - Editor of Paper
Donald Emverard - Director of Music
Roger Sutton - Athletic Director
Edward Rieck - Swimming Director
Sam Ziegler - Leathercraft
Karl Harter - Ass't Athletic Director.