

June/July 1929

ALICE MARY KIMBALL  
FORTY-SIX KING STREET  
NEW YORK

Tuesday

My dear Laura Gilpin:

Mrs. Rippin liked very much the younger types you photographed for us, and so did I; and I think we shall have no difficulty placing them with art editors. In fact, we have already placed one of the littlest Scouts you photographed with Children, a Magazine for Parents. The older ~~my~~ girls we did not like so well for pictorial purposes -- that is to say, editors are not likely to use them, so great is the obsession on a more or less conventional prettiness. The older types, too, seemed not to have quite as interesting expressions as you got on the younger girls -- perhaps they are more self-conscious subjects.

We liked especially the wistful little girl, the younger one, which you sent in the first batch; and a laughing freckled little creature ~~whithmuth~~ -- I think she wasn't in the GS Uniform -- which bothered Mrs. Rippin a little -- also that bobbed haired one with the piquant profile which came along the last. There are three which I do not believe we can get over with art editors at all -- the girl sitting in a tree, beautiful composition, but the girl herself isn't the type that the art editors will take; and that nice-looking, reliable girl who came in the first batch; also the older girl of whom you sent us two studies. These girls are really very fine types

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of our first-rate Girl Scouts; and to one who isn't hipped on a certain kind of looks, as art editors seem to be, they have real beauty. It is only the fact that we have to make out with editorial prejudices which makes them less valuable to us than the others.

I don't know whether or not you could afford to replace these three pictures by types which editors might be more likely to take. ~~amamamamamam~~ If you can, we would be very glad, and you can do it quite at your leisure, waiting till you see a model which you can get hold of easily. The ~~piquant~~ piquant, the laughing and roguish, the vivacious seem to do better with art editors than the more reliable-looking, serious-minded girls who are the joy of the Girl Scout leaders. And if you want to make a picture fool-proof, add a dog to the piquant little girl, or maybe a pretty younger child she is taking care of, or you can have her feeding a bird or looking at a birdsnest, or a wasps' nest, or any "nature study" object. It would do no harm to have two girls, both looking at the same thing.

Send us the bill anyway, whether you can afford to make the replacements or not, and the check will soon come to you. I will report to you as the photographs are placed.

Sincerely,

Alice Mary Kimball