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CHAPTER 4

AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS



1934-1948





nly one month after returning to the United States from their first trip to Europe, Isabel and Monroe founded the American Youth Hostel Association on March 16, 1934, with its headquarters in Talcottville, Connecticut, the town where Isabel grew up. Their statement of purpose was, "To help all, especially young people, to a greater knowledge, understanding, and love of the world by providing for them Youth Hostels, bicycle trails, and foot paths in America, and by assisting them in their travels here and abroad."⁴⁵

To help advertise and bring in donations to the new, penniless organization, the couple planned a two-month adventure to Europe for the first group of youth hostellers. They would travel from July to September 1934 through Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Holland, and Switzerland.⁴⁶ After returning home to the United States, Isabel wrote, "That fall found us look-

ing for our first hostel, determined to open it at any cost. This time we travelled by car; but even so it was often rugged and simple hostelling. Evidently, our own pockets would need to supply the wherewithal to start the thing in America. We must therefore conserve every cent. We ate frugally, and at night slept in the car or on the ground."⁴⁷

By December 27, 1934, the first hostel was established and dedicated in the Schell Chateau Mansion in Northfield, Massachusetts. "The decision to make the Chateau, which is one of the show places of the Connecticut valley, the American center for the movement was born of many things. In the first place, it is as near like the Castle Altena, the original hostel of the world, as any building in America. Secondly, it was chosen because Monroe had lived in Northfield, graduating from Mount Hermon [located near Northfield] before he attended Wesleyan University; and third because it is easily accessible to the Berkshires, the White Mountains, and the Green Mountains."⁴⁸

The excitement of the youth around the area was almost instantaneous. During the first week of operation in the Chateau, "250 boys and girls of high school and college age spent a five-day Christmas vacation there, and during the next two months 1,000 more visited it—this even during the winter, when rugged living really is rugged."⁴⁹

By June 1935, when the lease on the Chateau ended, the Smiths moved the headquarters to 88 Main Street in Northfield, to one of the oldest historic homes in the town. It was originally built in 1795, and at one time housed the town's first post office. The huge home and barn would house the Smith family, AYH headquarter offices, the house parents and their family, and enough beds for 60 overnight guests.

Schirrmann Travels to USA

As part of the dedication for the new headquarters and hostel, the Smiths planned to bring Richard Schirrmann, the 1909 founder of hostelling, from Germany to Northfield. They would



Isabel Smith aboard the S.S. Albert Ballen in 1935



First AYH Hostel located in the basement of the Northfield Chateau Mansion



Smiths home and the Richard Schirrmann AYH Hostel on 88 Main Street in Northfield about 1936



Richard Schirrmann & Monroe about 1934



Isabel aboard the S.S. Statindom in 1936

name the hostel, the *Richard Schirrmann International Hostel*, in his honor. Invitations were sent to President and Mrs. Roosevelt, [only Mrs. Roosevelt could attend], but, the Nazi regime would not grant Richard a visa. Letters were written back and forth, and finally Isabel traveled to Europe to see if she could personally persuade the government to grant him a visa.

"I went to the headquarters of the Nazi regime," Isabel recalled, "and told them that I wanted to bring Richard back with me to the States. They said, well, they were very sorry, but he could not leave the country. Their leader was not there, so they wouldn't be able to do anything about it. I said, 'Well, now, let me make a note of this, because President Roosevelt is expecting us. I will tell him that Richard can't leave the country, and the reason he can't—is that you can't get permission from your Head?' I said 'I'll just jot this down,' and I did. 'But,' I said, 'you know, in our country, if we had an impasse like that, we would use the telephone, and we would call the Head.' They looked dumbfounded, and they finally said, 'Well just a minute.' Of course, I speak enough German that I could understand what they were saying. They were saying, 'This has gotten to be a very embarrassing situation. What shall we do?' And on and on.

"Finally the result was that I got permission for Richard to go. But when I contacted Richard, he said, 'Oh! I didn't think I could possibly go. I've turned in my ticket, and I don't have anywhere-withal to get on the ship and go with you.' I said, 'Well, I will see what I can do about that.' I told him, 'I want you to come with me to the ship.' And we came to the ship. I asked if I could see the Captain. A very nice gentleman gave me an interview, and I told him that I wanted to take Richard on the ship that was sailing at midnight. I said, 'I'm awfully tired, I've had a big day. But if there isn't any way that you can manage to get Richard passage, come and waken me before the ship sails, and I will stay behind.' He said, 'I'm very sorry that it happens this way, but we can't take any passengers without tickets.' So I went and lay down in my bed, and at ten minutes of twelve the Captain came in, and he said, 'It's all right, you can go.' I said, 'How marvelous! What happened?' And he said, 'Well, I advanced the money personally.'



Monroe, Isabel & youth hosteling in Germany

"The vessel on which they were traveling was the *Volendam*, of the Holland-American line, and while it was crossing the Atlantic Isabel faced another difficult task—that of getting Schirrmann to write out a speech in advance. The National Recreation Congress was meeting soon in Chicago, and Monroe had promised that Schirrmann would speak; Isabel would translate. For all his international interest, Richard had never learned more than a few words of any other language than German. Since he always spoke from the heart, without notes, in a rather flowery German, instant translation was difficult.

"Isabel told him, 'You know, Richard, my German isn't very good. I would like it if you would sit down and write out all that you are going to say and let me have the text so it will be easier for me to translate.' 'Oh, you'll do beautifully,' he said. 'No, I won't, Richard, I need to have that script.' They compromised on his terms. All the



"My mother Isabel had immense courage"



Isabel, Monroe & Richard Schirrmann at stone fireplace behind Northfield Youth Hostel in 1935

way across the ocean he talked and talked while Isabel wrote and wrote and then laboriously worked out a translation.

"They arrived October 1, 1935, and Monroe was on the dock in Hoboken to meet them. They left for Chicago that very night by car, Isabel well prepared for the conference. Speaking to the audience there, Richard poured out his soul in rapid German, and naturally enough, not one word resembled anything Isabel had written. She guessed there were not five people in the audience who understood him, but by some strange process the message got through, and the listeners were fascinated."⁵⁰

On Richard's return to Germany, because of his ties with the United States, a militant Nazi was asked to guard his home (the Altena hostel), "and given instructions to make Schirrmann's life intolerable by every means including physical violence." The Nazis invited Richard to a conference on the pretext that he was to give a talk, and instead beat and attacked him with tear gas, nearly blinding him.⁵¹ The next year, in September 1936, Richard again needed to pass through the German border for a youth conference in Denmark, however, this time the Germans would not give him permission. Jonathan related the following: "My mother suggested

that she and Richard take a bike ride through a German checkpoint manned by German soldiers. Once past the checkpoint they would be past the reach of German restriction. My mother stopped at the checkpoint and said that she and her husband would be returning to the United States and she showed her passport and papers. Speaking English and having the appearance in every way of being an American, she was able to convince the soldiers to let her pass through. She then motioned for Richard to hurry up and positioned herself in such a way as to have him pass by on her far side, and thus avoid examination. Richard smiled and waved to the soldiers as he passed through undetected. Had he been stopped it would have been immediately apparent that he was a native German, as Richard spoke essentially no English.

"I thought of how my mother had immense courage to do this, for if the design had ever been revealed, she would have been punished as an accessory to Richard's escape. I expect that the punishment would have been more severe than I can imagine. My mother was courageous, yet very modest. She was not one to tell this story as she was inclined to minimize her exploits. Further, though my mother never said that Richard was her husband, I think that she may have re-



Stephen, Monroe, Betty & Isabel biking together in Northfield in 1935



Isabel & Monroe dancing in the Northfield Youth Hostel in 1938



Isabel skiing on a cold winter day

flected on the experience as one in which she was less than proud of, as it would tarnish her reputation of complete honesty.”⁵²

The Growth of AYH

By the winter of 1935, less than two years after being established, a local newspaper reported on the growth of the AYH chain of hostels: “Stretching through Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont is a 500-mile chain of 35 hostels located not more than 15 or 20 miles apart. The distance between them can be covered comfortably each day over trails or highways, either on foot or by bicycle. This chain has been in operation since June, and to date nearly 2,000 youth have tramped or hiked over the loop through these three New England states.”⁵³ (See image 4.63 for New England trail map)

On one of Isabel’s trips through this New England chain she wrote of a “lovely night” and a “raw misty day:” “We were traveling close to the route that today is the original New England ‘loop’ of youth hostels. Night found us in a forest, and a wet fall forest is hardly an appealing

spot for a night’s camp, especially if you’re a little tired of sleeping on the ground and the car is full of luggage. The road grew rough and rougher. Wet leaves swished against the car. Then suddenly there was an opening, a bit of pale gold sky showed close to the horizon, and in dark outline against it—a tiny shack! Here is a bit from my diary written that night before the log fire in the cabin. ‘I’m sitting at a wobbly table lit by a poor piece of an oil lamp that Monroe reconstructed from some discarded bits he found about. Here again I feel loved of Heaven. And what dull mortal could feel otherwise? A fairy woods, a wide view of blue mountains, lit by a strip of happy gold for day’s farewell, an open hill’s crest of grass (very green and wet and soft for one’s feet), this bare cabin with unlocked door to welcome us that reveals to our amazed eyes a bed with springs (our coats and blanket from the car make perfect bedding), this table and two chairs—all specially for us of course. Even if there had been no little sign by the door saying, ‘Hikers and skiers here in the forest, welcome. Just sweep up and leave the wood box filled when you go,’ we would have known we were welcome—the shack so clearly was meant for us! Our own angel had once again leaned out of Heaven, and had



Isabel, Stephen, Monroe & Betty biking about 1938

stretched the gold strip of sky to lure us here. Assurance was doubly sure when the little road down, which I just ran thru' the wet trees, led to a trim clean pool, deep enough for diving, sandy bottomed for the toes, fresh smelling as rain. And in the rain, a caressing little rain, we had our swim before supper. What country for a youth hostel trail! What a spot for a youth hostel!"⁵⁴


In only a few years, American Youth Hostels grew rapidly. In 1933 seventeen hostellers traveled on the first trip to Europe. In 1934, the trip increased to 34 participants. In 1935 there were 161, and by 1936 there were 827 American Youth Hostellers that had traveled to Europe that year.⁵⁵

In addition, in 1934, the year AYH was founded, there was only one hostel. Just four years later there were 209 hostels around the nation, with 34,782 overnights recorded for the year of 1938. In 1947, two years before Isabel and Monroe left AYH for Youth Argosy, there were 2,580 overnight stays that year at the *Richard Schirrmann International Hostel* [the Smith's home in Northfield], 20,983 AYH passes issued, 185 chartered hostels with 3,516 beds and 57,000 overnights

registered, which was one quarter of all hostelling for all youth hostels worldwide.⁵⁶

AYH Knapsack

In 1936, the first quarterly issue of the *AYH Knapsack* was published by Isabel and Monroe as editors. The book contained designated routes and locations of hostels around the United States and of sponsored trips around the world. These booklets were almost entirely illustrated, designed, and typeset by Isabel. Over 400 individual sketches, and numerous articles by Isabel were included in these booklets from 1936 to 1948.

"You see it's not just our dreaming, nor Money's wonderful determination, nor my love of beauty, nor courage, nor cash (of which there has been rather little), that has made hostels here come true. It is because at every step of the way we have felt God's love making bright our path! Our hearts are deeply grateful that we have been vouchsafed the privilege of helping God make a lovelier world, grateful that a heavenly Presence came and led us by the hand."⁵⁷ 



Winifred (sister), & Monroe on left, Isabel 4th from right, with youth hostellers June 1936



"It's not just our dreaming ... that made hostels come true. It is because ... we have felt God's love making bright our path!"

(Chapter page)

4.1 AYH logo

From original 1938 AYH poster
Ink drawing



4.2 Two young hikers AYH logo

1936 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.3 Two hikers AYH logo

1938 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.4 Girl on bike AYH logo

1940 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.5 Three young hikers
First advertisement poster for AYH
Ink drawing



4.6-4.12 AYH silhouettes
1936-1937 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.13 Hosteler hiking
 1936 AYH Knapsack
 Zinc etching

4.14 Hostellers biking
 1936 AYH Knapsack
 Zinc etching





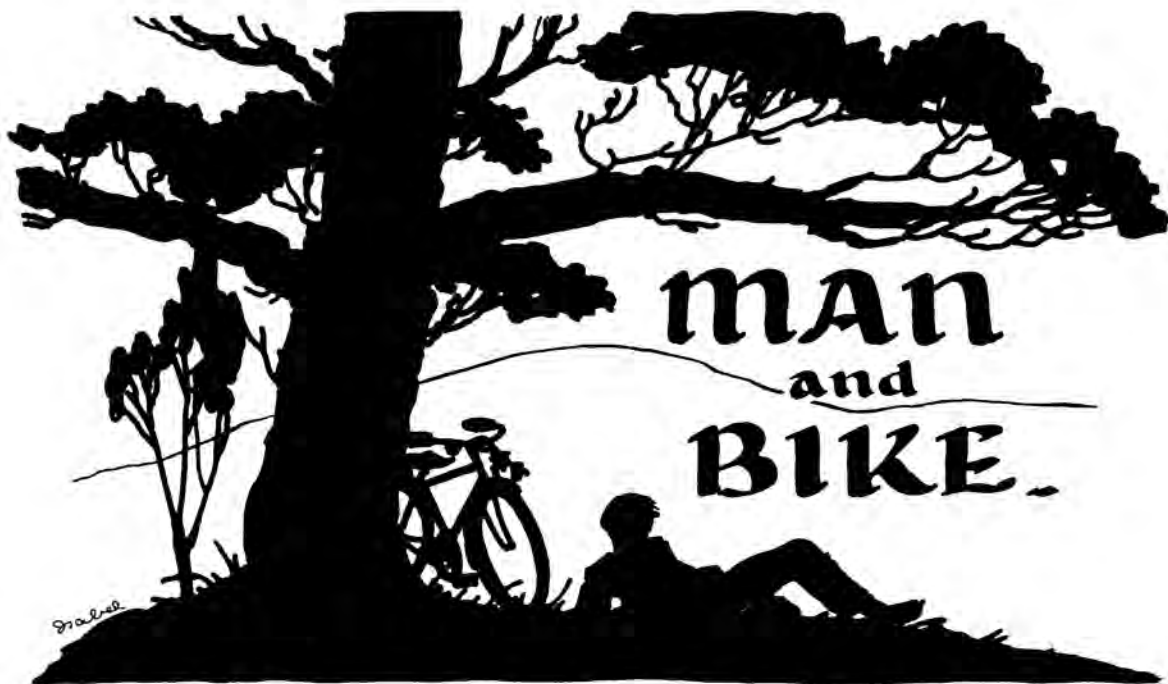
4.15 Waving goodbye
1936 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.16 Fireplace singing
1936 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

(Facing page)
4.17-4.19 Biking silhouettes
1936 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching





"How many miles to the sun?" he smiled
 In answer to my "Where are you going?"
 Lilacs were caught in his handle bars,
 His pedals were mud, his eyes were stars,
 His hair was blowing.

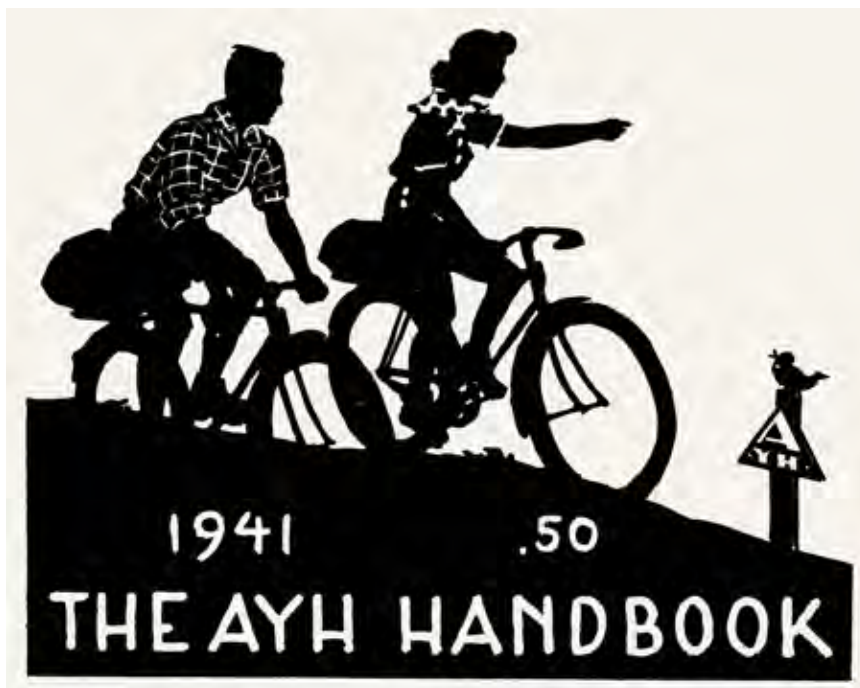
What could he find in clouds that were piled
 As black as night in the early morning?
 The daily paper, punctual, furled,
 Lay on my stoop with news of the world
 And doubtless a warning.

But under the oak beside his bike
 The man lay down and the storm was over.
 Grass turned yellow and branches blue...
 After a while he laced his shoe
 With heads of clover.

Where was he going? What was he like?
 The sun came out in a burst of sprinkling.
 He sprang to his bike. I see him still...
 Taking the turn and topping the hill,
 His spokes are twinkling.

Marion Strobel.

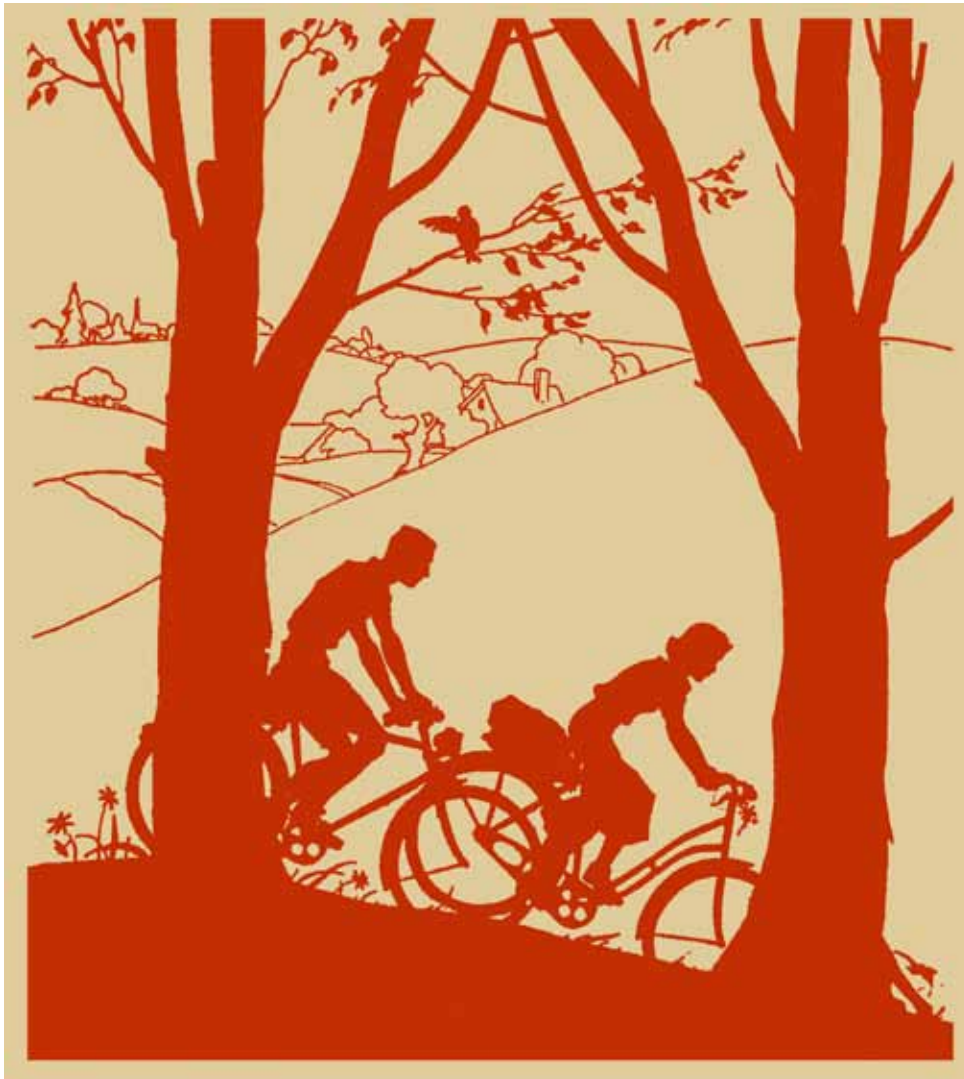
4.20 Man and Bike
 1943 AYH Knapsack
 Zinc etching



4.21 Two bikers
1941 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.22 Girl on bike
1941 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.23 Two bikers going downhill
1937 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.24 Two bikers loading gear
1937 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.25 Two bikers resting under tree
1944 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

BEFORE STARTING, HAVE



THE GUIDE TO YOUR HOSTEL NEEDS
NEW 1940 AYH HANDBOOK

4.26 Before starting
1940 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.27 Be fit, have fun!
1942 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



The rolling earth stops
As I climb to the summit,
Then like a plummet
It suddenly drops...

Down, down I go -
Past rippling acres;
Hillsides like breakers
Over me flow.

Wildly alive
I hail the green shimmer
Fresh as a swimmer
After the dive.

Like banners unfurled
The skies dip and flourish --
The keen breezes nourish,
While the bright world
Is a ribbon unrolled
With a border of grasses;
And tansies are masses
And splotches of gold.

Still I whirl on --
Startled, a sparrow
Darts from the yarrow.
Flash -- and is gone --

Louis Untermeyer.

(From *Challenge* by Louis Untermeyer. Used by permission
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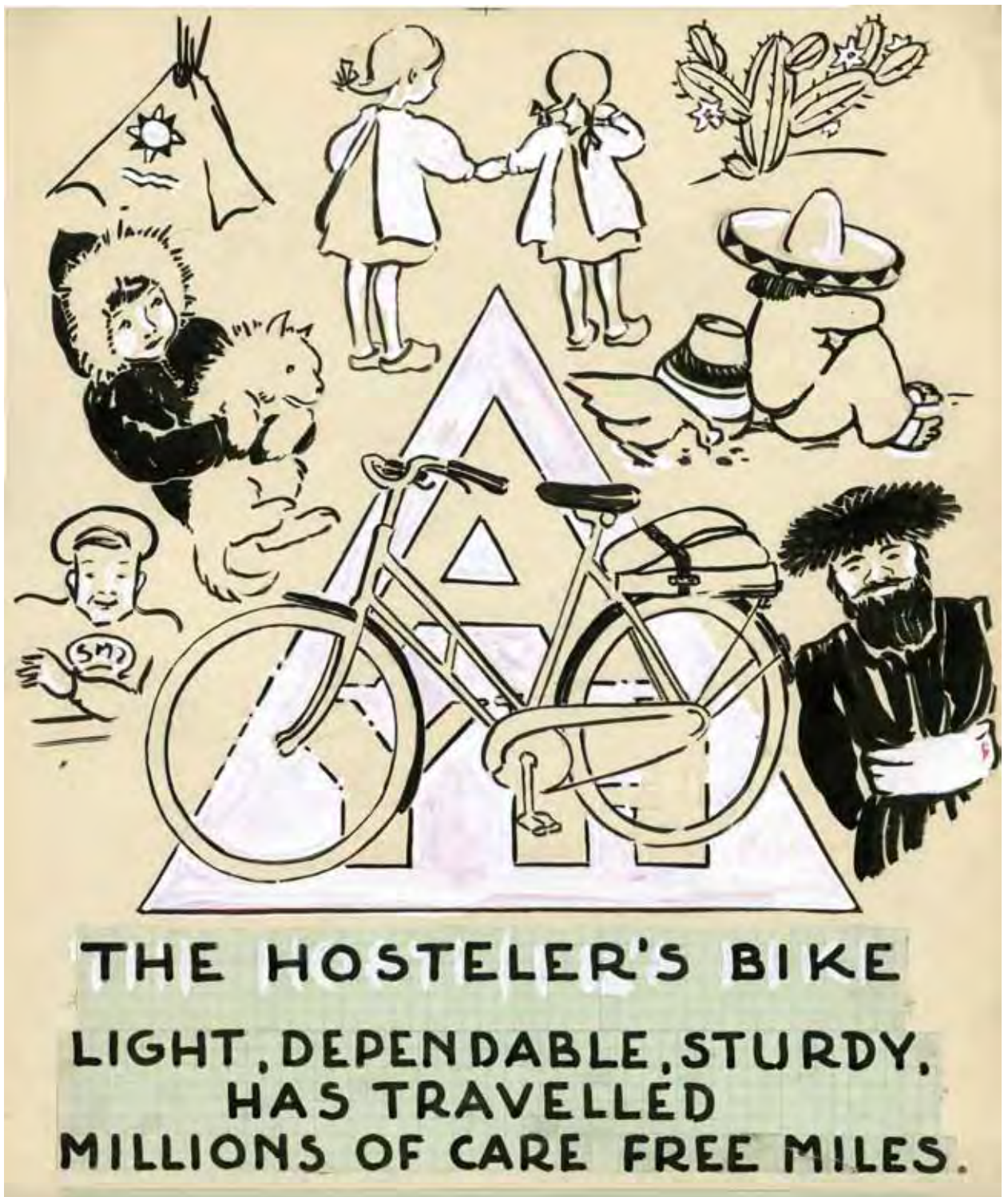
4.29 Girl standing with bike
1940 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.30 Two on hill top
1947 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.31 Boy and girl bikers
1940 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.32 The hosteler's bike
Original 1941 AYH sketch
Ink drawing



4.33 Two bikers
1938 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



WOOD SMOKE BY THE WAY

4.34 Hosteler cooking
1938 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

4.35 Biking landscape
1938 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching





GO WANDERING !

4.36 Go wandering!
1938 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



LONG HORIZONS

4.37 Long horizons
1938 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.38 Downhill skiers
1940 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

4.39 Skier
1946 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.40 Cross-country skiers
1946 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.41 Two skiers
Original 1939 AYH sketch
Ink drawing



4.42 Three skiers
1939 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.43 Two getting ready to ski
1941 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.44 Young skiers
1940 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.45 Horse & sleigh
1943 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

(Facing page)
4.46 What went you to see
1937 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



What went you, hosteler, for to see?
A sign or wonder-thing maybe?
Some marvel or a holy sight
As clerks in chronicles do write?
For you have done and come again -
Now tell us plain.
I saw the sky from rim to rim
Full-filled with light up to the brim
As though it were a mighty cup
To God's lip holden up.
I saw a river and a down,
A harbor and a little town,
A marshland blue with irises,
I saw all these.
Saw too a sedgey pond where lay
Lillies like anchored stars that Day
Had ravished from the summer night
And kept them there a-light.
I saw a hillside gold with furze,
And wild-rose banks and junipers
Distilling fragrance pungent sweet:
I saw a path that called my feet
To go with it as any friend
To heart's desire at the end.
Sooth all of these! But mid them all
Did nothing wonderful befall?
No miracle?
Yea, but I have no word to tell
Of the great thing that happened me -
I saw the sea!
Oh wide and blue and infinite!
League upon league of space and light!
I think that down this sapphire floor
One might walk straight to Heaven's door
And lift its golden latchet-bar,
Nor find it far,
Or very strange, as one would guess,
After such earthly loveliness.
Poor hosteler, is this all your store
Of tales to tell? Is there no more
Than this that any man might show?
Yea all is told. How should you know
That I have looked on Beauty's face
And being far from men a space
Have found at springs of Quietness
The hands that heal, the hands that bless,
Have known the sun and wind and trod
The holy earth and talked with God!

Arthur Ketchum



4.47 Hosteler with knapsack
1940 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

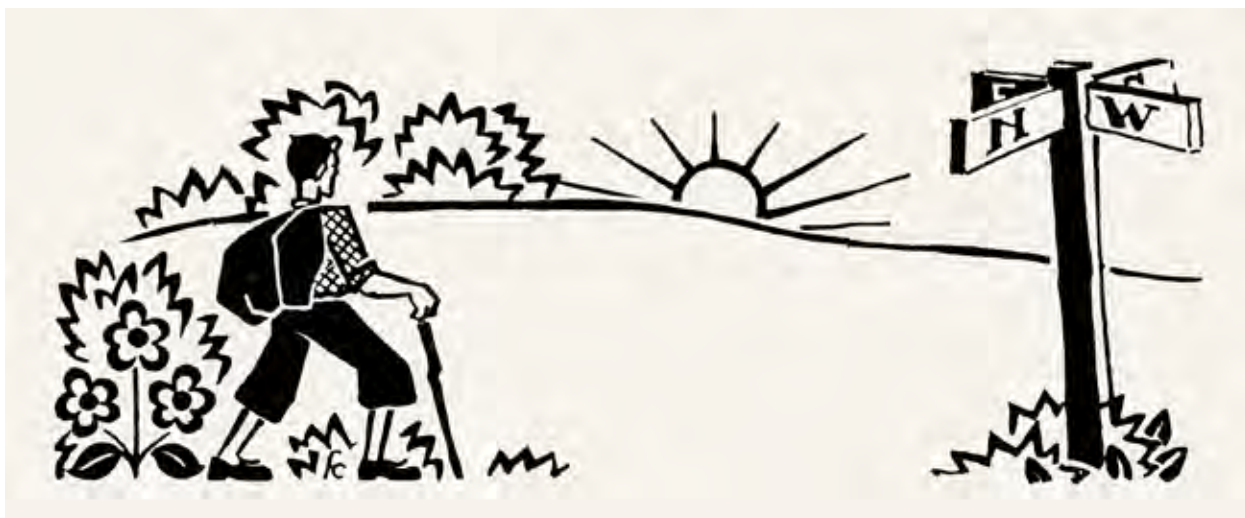


4.48 Two young hikers
1936 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.49 Two hostellers
1942 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

4.50 Hiker
1938 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

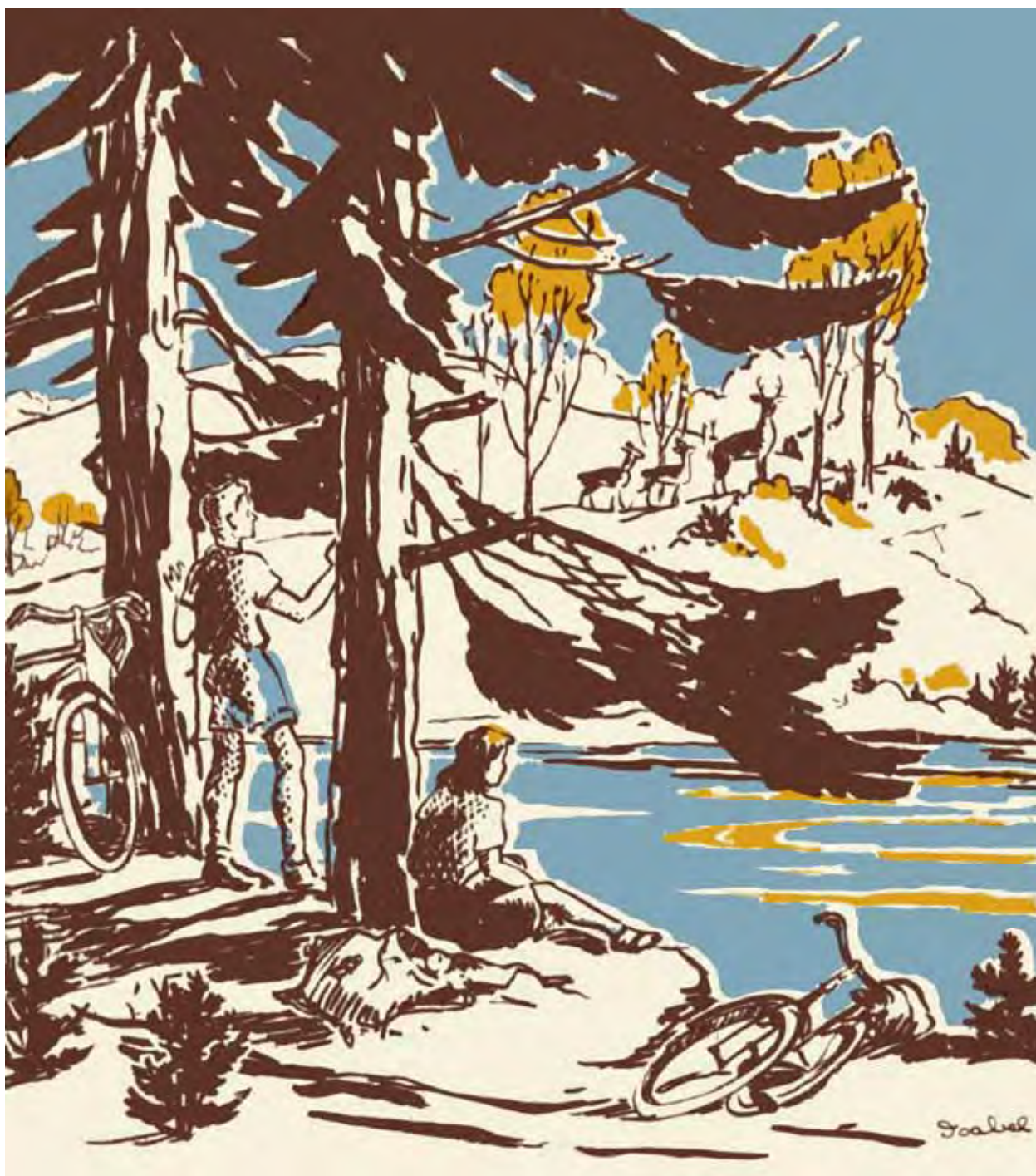




4.51 Hostelers resting
1945 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.52 Relaxing in stream
1938 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.53 Mountain lake
1948 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.54 As it should be
1945 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

(Facing page)
4.55 The thrill of new trails
1938 AYH advertisement
Zinc etching





HOSTELING

Hosteling means a lot to me.
It is a knapsack stuffed not too neatly
with just enough to last a week or so;
it is a pair of walking shoes and a
pair of legs swinging along at a pace
that is never tiring, never hurrying;
it is a rut-filled road in a country that
is really God's.

Hosteling is homey hostels and their
cheerful house parents, it is the odors
of clean hay and fresh turned earth;
it is roads that lead everywhere and
nowhere. Hosteling is adventuring, it
is travel at its best.

Hosteling is people too. It is the Vermont
farmer with his great talk of weather and
crops, three nurses from Cleveland who
shared their freindship as well as their salt,
the woodcarver at the post office in lower
Waterford, the Brooklyn boy who was as
amused by my accent as I was at his;
the artist putting bits of beauty onto
canvas, the musician with whom I lunched
atop Mt. Mansfield's 4000 feet... Hosteling
is the friendliness of new faces.

Hosteling comforts a rebellious spirit
and shows it what is truly good; it feeds
a hungry body with a pure simple food
and a hungry mind with a pure simple
philosophy. Hosteling is life at its kindest
and best.

Hosteling really is the thrill of new trails.

John W. Burks.
hosteler.



4.56 Hosteling
1944 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



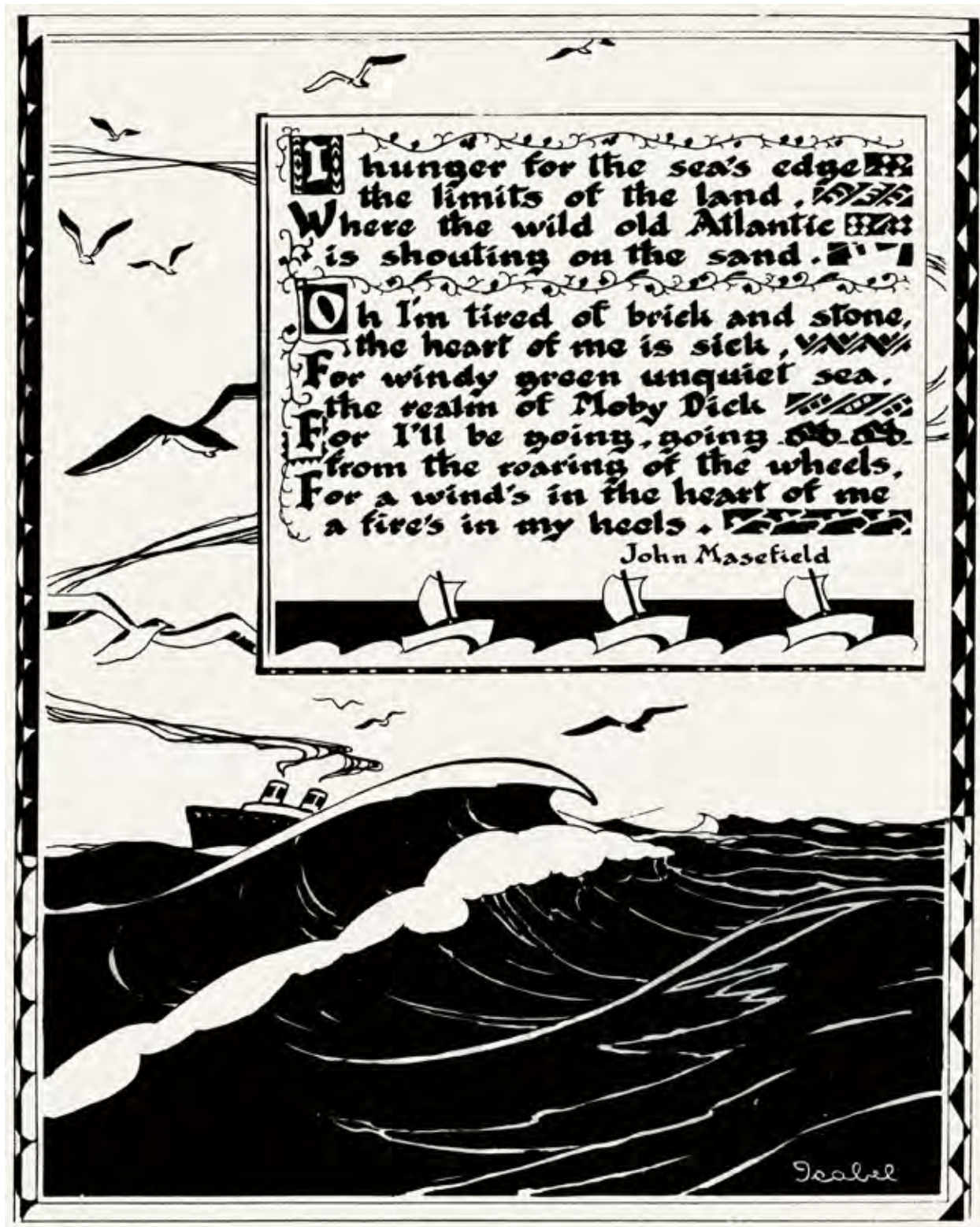
4.57 Steamboat
1936 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.58 Two on steamboat
1937 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



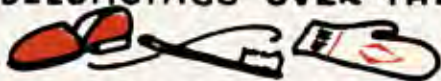
4.59 Friendship
Original 1938 AYH sketch
Ink drawing



4.6o Hunger for the sea
1938 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

GEORGIE GRUMBLE, HOSTELER MALUS.

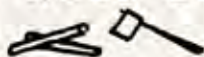
WAS IT YOUR GROUP THAT STREWED THEIR BELONGINGS OVER THE COMMON LIVING ROOM ?



WHO BORROWED THE HOUSE PARENT'S DISH TOWEL AND RETURNED IT BADLY SOILED ?



WHO USED UP THE WOOD SUPPLY AND DIDN'T REPLENISH IT ?



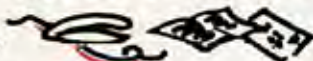
THE BUNK ROOM, MEAT WHEN YOU CAME, WAS NOT ATTRACTIVE WHEN YOU LEFT.



THE BLANKETS WERE SO CARELESSLY FOLDED THAT THE ROOM



LOOKED BADLY. LITTER WAS LEFT ON THE FLOOR.



YOU DID NOT MIX WITH THE LITTLE GROUP FROM THE MINING TOWN.



YOU CRITICIZED AND COMPLAINED.

WE MISSED IN YOU THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AND FRIENDLINESS BY WHICH THE REAL HOSTELER IS KNOWN.



22* 21* 20* 19* 18* 17* 16* 15* 14* 13* 12* 11* 10* 9* 8* 7* 6* 5* 4* 3* 2* 1*



IT IS TOO BAD THAT **GEORGIE GRUMBLE** IS EVER FOUND IN OUR HOSTELS. **H**OWEVER A LITTLE SHIFTING FROM THOUGHTLESSNESS TO CONSIDERATION TRANSFORMS HIM. **I**F YOU ARE A **GEORGIE GRUMBLE** HOW ABOUT A RIGHT ABOUT FACE



A. Y. H. ?

JOHN GOODFELLOW, HOSTELER BONUS.

OTHERS LIKE TO HOSTEL WHERE YOU HAVE BEEN.

HOUSE PARENTS HOPE YOU'LL COME BACK SOON.

YOU TOOK THE INITIATIVE IN GOOD HOSTEL
PROCEDURE.

DIDN'T

WAS 10 O'CLOCK

NEEDED A WOOD

FRIENDLY TO THOSE NEW GREEN HOSTELERS.



YOU SHOWED THEM THE ROPES AND

MADE THEM FEEL AT HOME.

YOU DIDN'T MAKE EXCUSES WHEN YOU WERE ASKED
TO PLAY, OR COMPLAIN ABOUT THE PIANO.

YOU NOTICED THAT BROKEN CHAIR



AND MENDED IT.

SPIRIT AND THE

FOR YOUR BEING THERE.



OTHERS CAUGHT YOUR

HOSTEL WAS BETTER

HAPPILY FOR HOSTELING

MANY JOHN GOODFELLOWS ARE FOUND WITHIN

ITS RANKS. IN THIS YEAR OF 1943 (OUR

YOUTH HOSTEL IMPROVEMENT YEAR) FINE

HOSTELERS ARE MORE THAN EVER NEEDED. IN

IMPROVING OUR HOSTELS

AS HOSTELERS

YEAR THE



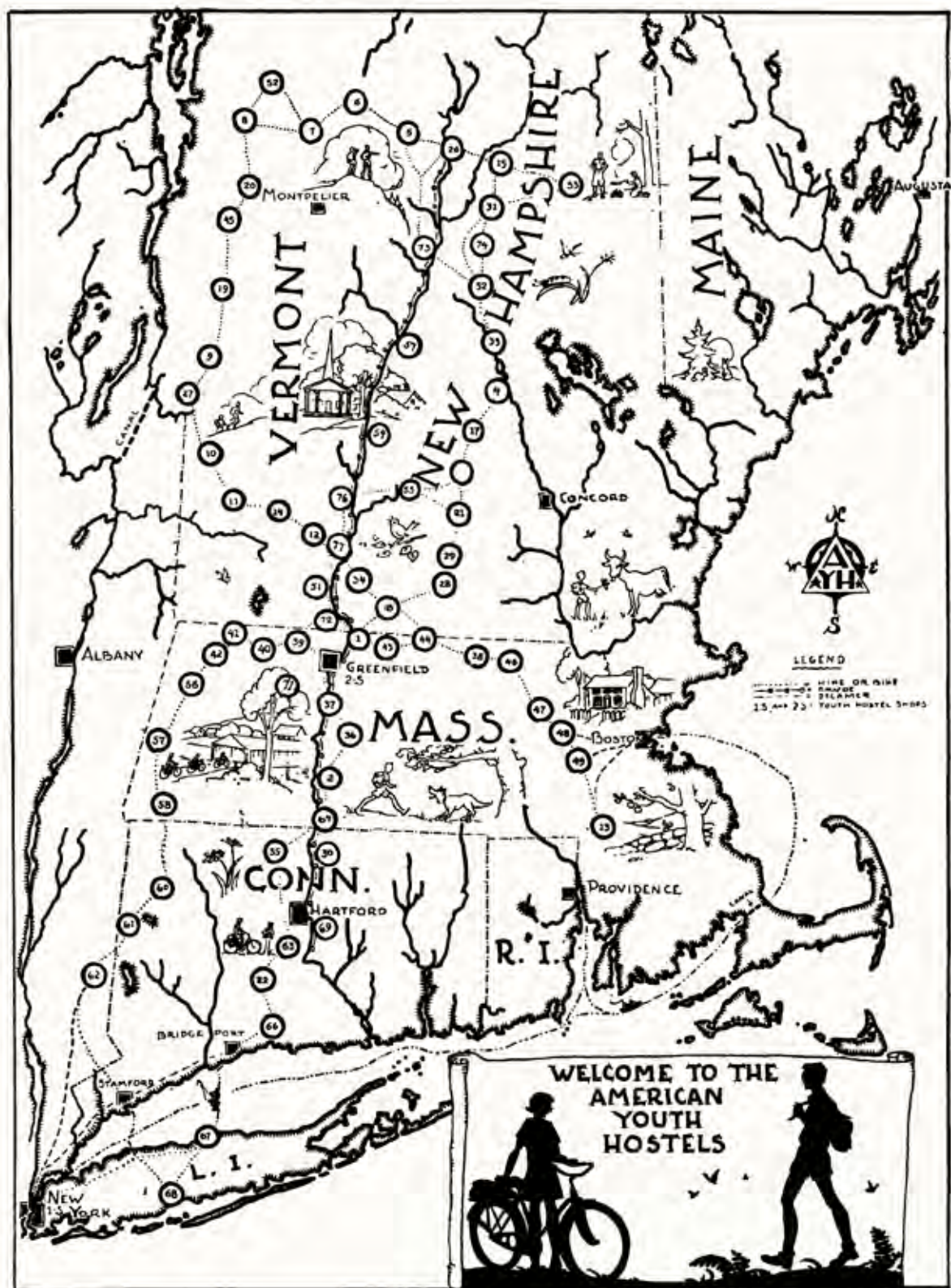
TOO

LET'S IMPROVE

AND MAKE THIS

BEST YET FOR

AYH.



4.63 New England trail map
1936 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

(Facing page)
4.64 United States map
1936 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.65-4.67 AYH route maps
1937, 1942 & 1941 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.68 New England home
1936 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

4.69 Oige, Ireland youth hostel
1947 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching





4.70 Mountain hostel
 1941 AYH Knapsack
 Zinc etching

4.71 Vermont hostel
 1941 AYH Knapsack
 Zinc etching





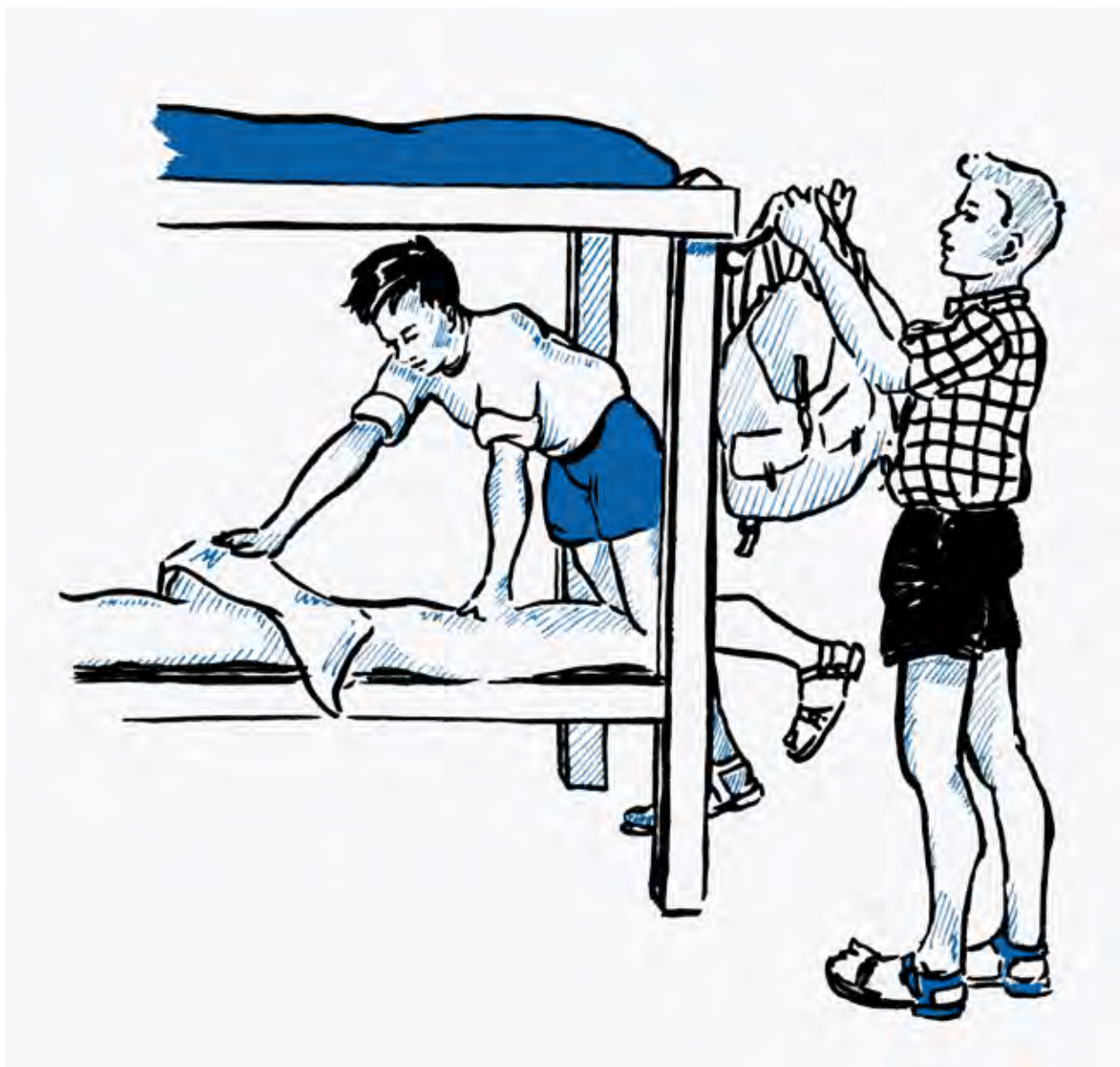
4.72 New England hostel
1948 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.73 Northfield, MA headquarters
1943 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

4.74 Meredith, NH farm camp
1943 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



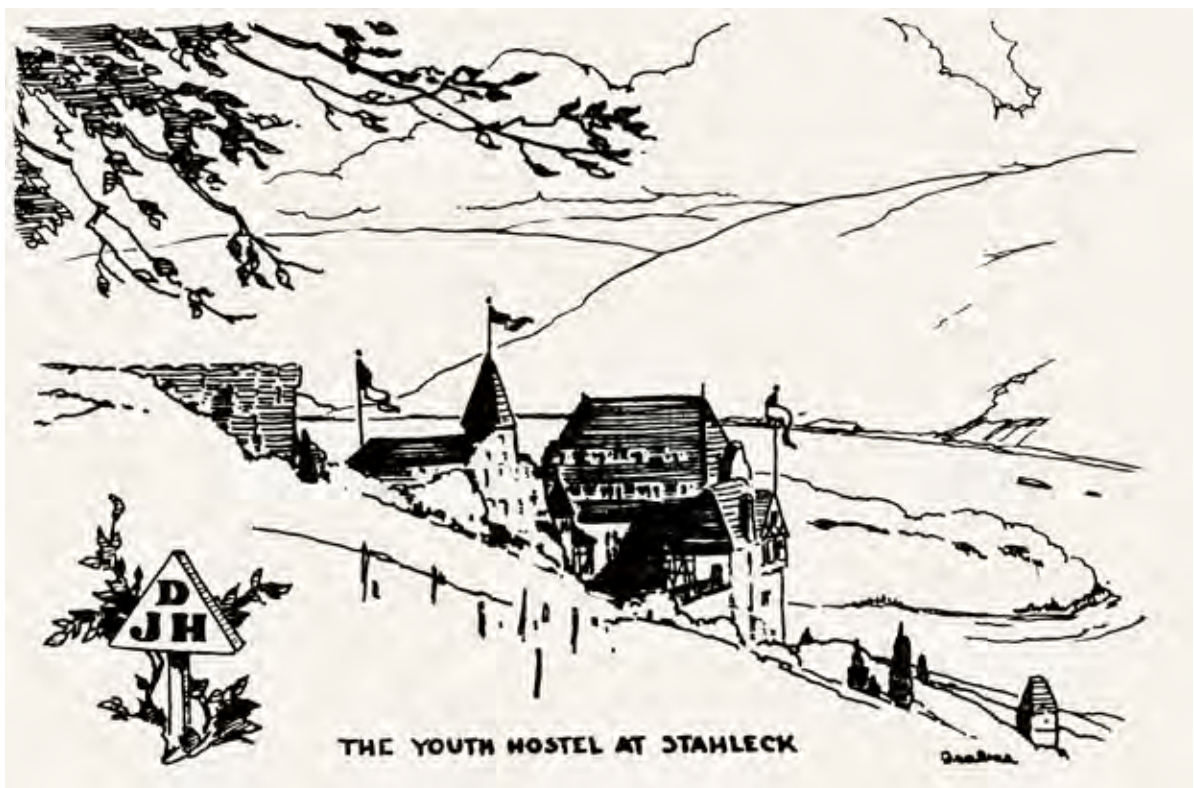


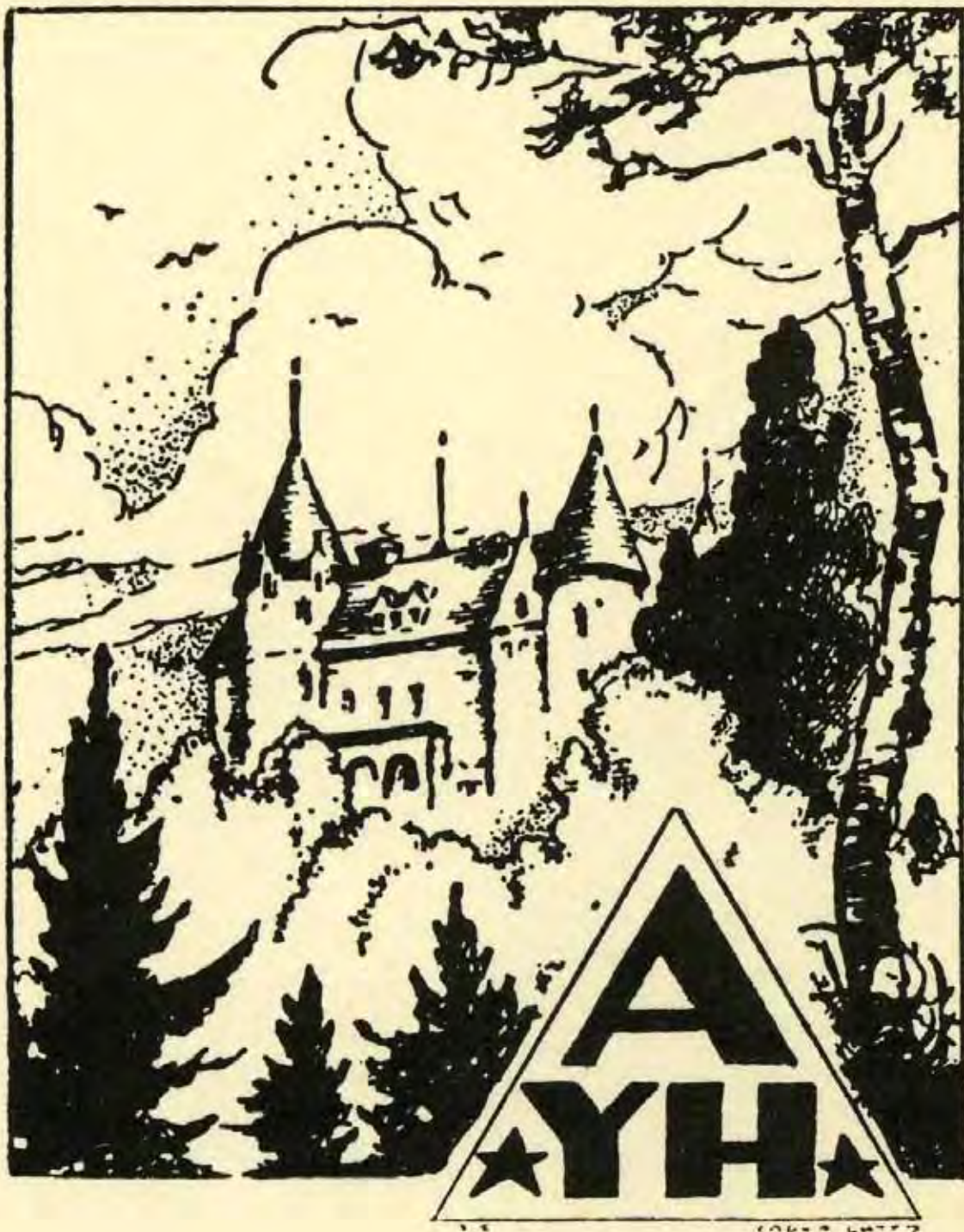
4.75 Boys making beds
1942 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.76 Cove castle hostel
1946 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

4.77 Stahleck, Germany hostel
1948 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching





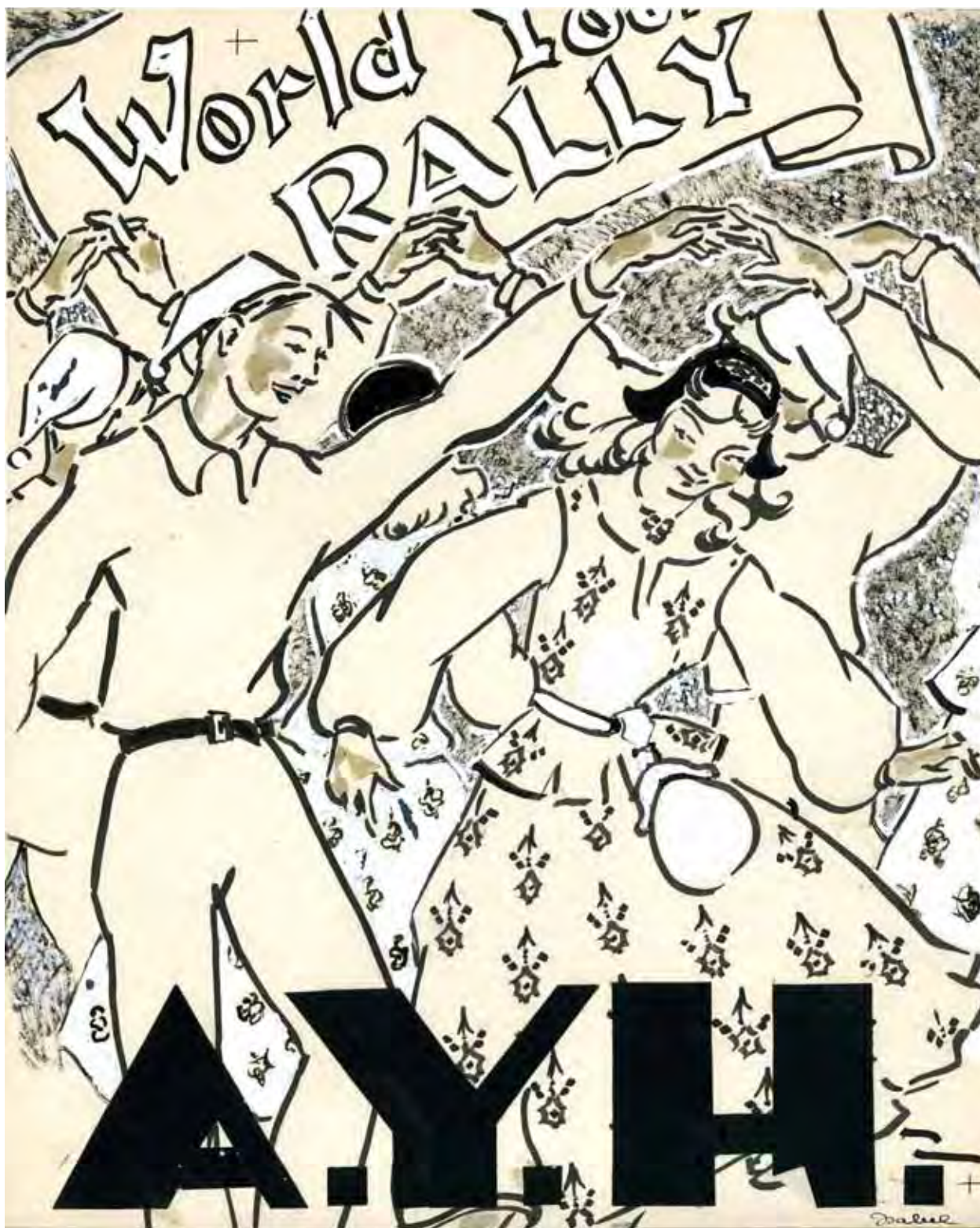
4.78 Schell Chateau castle hostel
(First American hostel)
1946 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.79 Youth Rally
1948 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

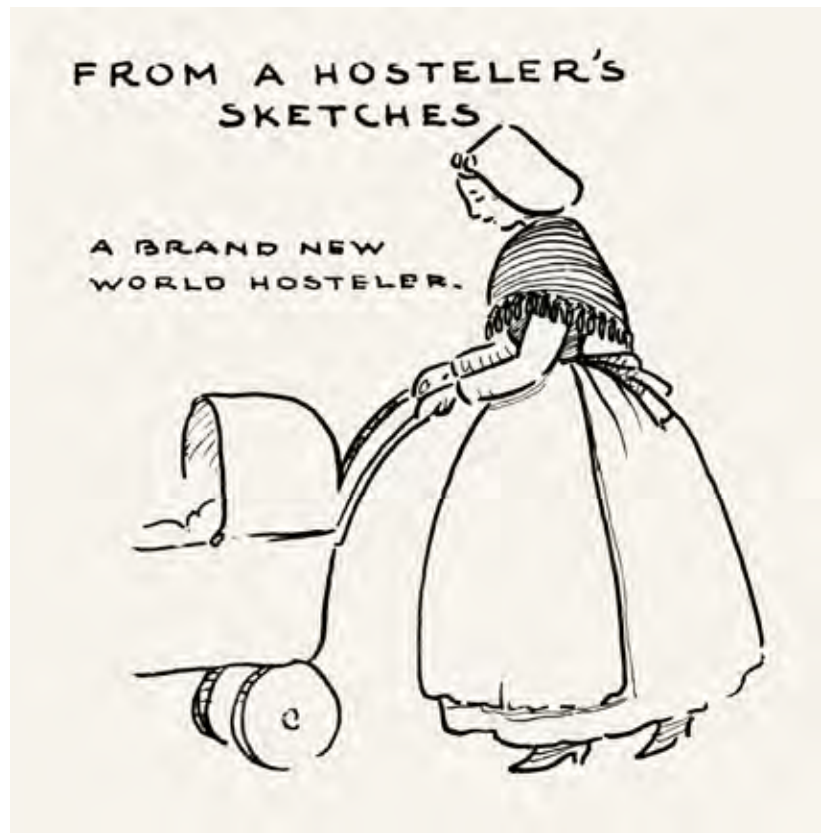


4.80 In Ireland
1948 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.81 World Youth Rally
Original 1948 AYH sketch
Ink drawing

4.82 From a hosteler's sketches:
A brand new world hosteler
1947 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.83 Music at the conference
1947 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching





4.84 Charming villages
1947 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.85-4.88 Hosteler's sketches
1947 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching










4.89 The herring catch
Isabel's sketchbook
Ink drawing



4.90 Improvement year
1943 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

A House Mother Prays at Twilight

Let there be laughter, gentle words
 and singing 
 Under the shelter of this roof tonight;
 May tender thoughts 
 from heart to heart go wining
 Beneath the candle-light.

These whom I love
 may wander far hereafter
 But this good night is mine
 to make them strong -
 And who can measure
 all the power of laughter
 Or tell the strength of song ?

Lucille Hargrove Reynolds



4.92 A house mother's prayer
 1938 AYH Knapsack
 Zinc etching



4.93 Fall Knapsack cover
Original 1939 AYH sketch
Ink drawing



4.94 Take a look at the world
Original AYH 1942 sketch
Ink drawing



4.95 Two hostellers stop for lunch
Original 1942 AYH sketch
Ink drawing



4.96 AYH Handbook
1939 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

AYH 1942



SPRING



SUMMER



AUTUMN



WINTER

AYH HEADQUARTERS, NORTHFIELD, MASS. 1942

4.97 Seasons
1942 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



A.Y.H.

KNAPSACK

SPRING 1941 VOL. 6 NO. 1



SPRING AIR, BIRD SONGS,
SUNNY SKIES - ALL CALL
"GO HOSTELING!"

(Both pages)
4.98-4.99 Spring air
1941 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.100 Peace
1945 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

(Facing page)
4.102 Checkerboard
1941 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



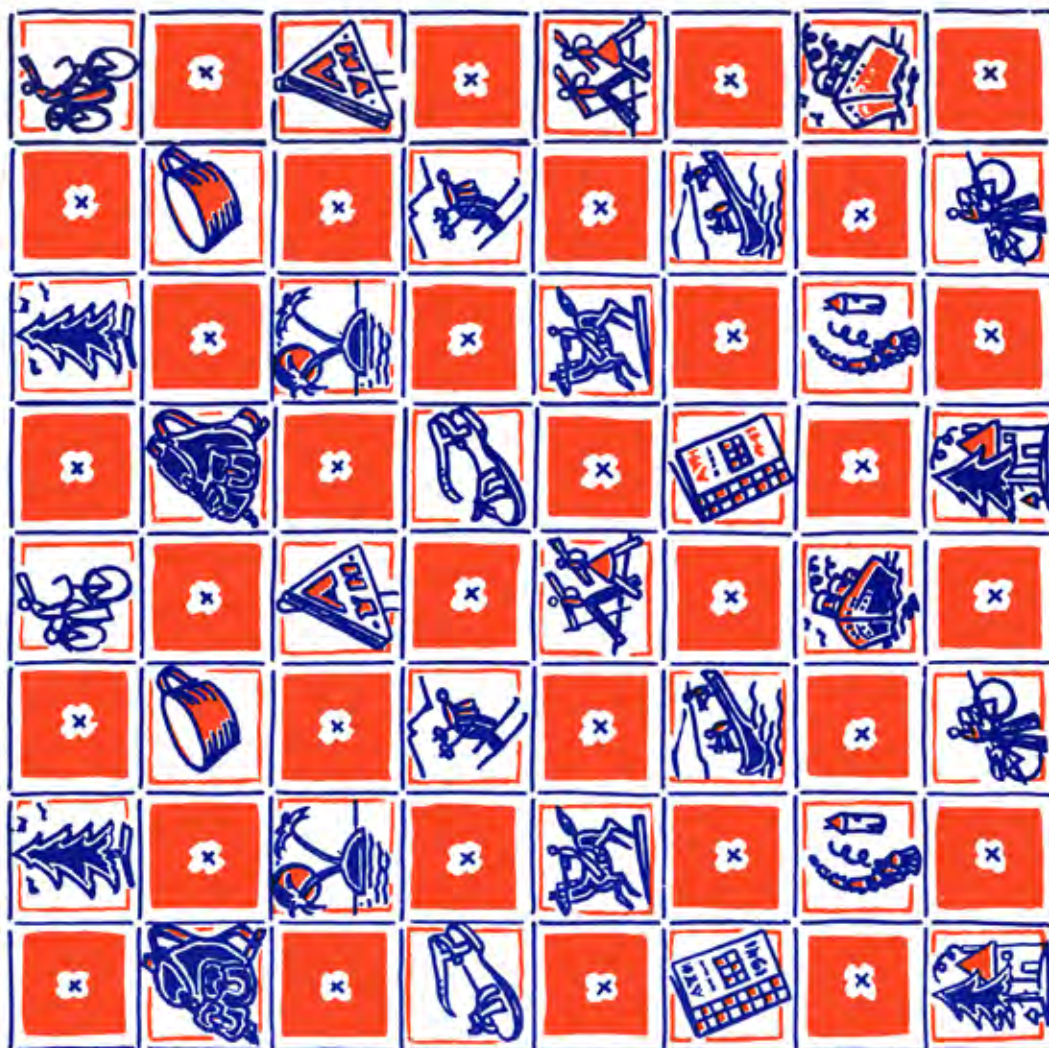
4.101 AYH hostels
1940 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

AYU HANDBOOK

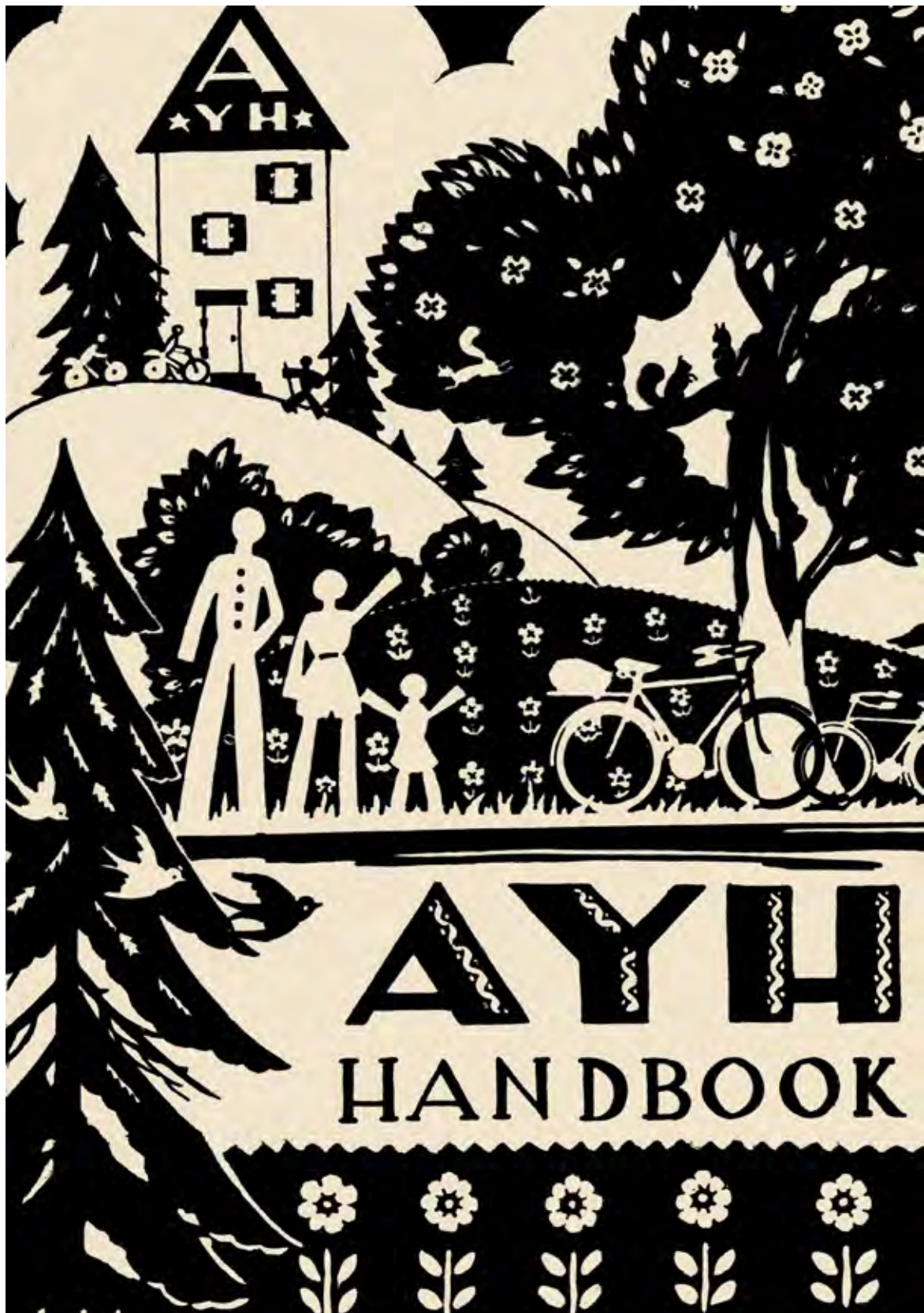


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AYH INC., NORTHFIELD, MASS.



Open your handbook flat and use it for a checker board. You can use pennies or nickels and pebbles for checkers. *Isabel*



4.103 AYH Handbook
1944 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.104 AYH welcome
1944 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

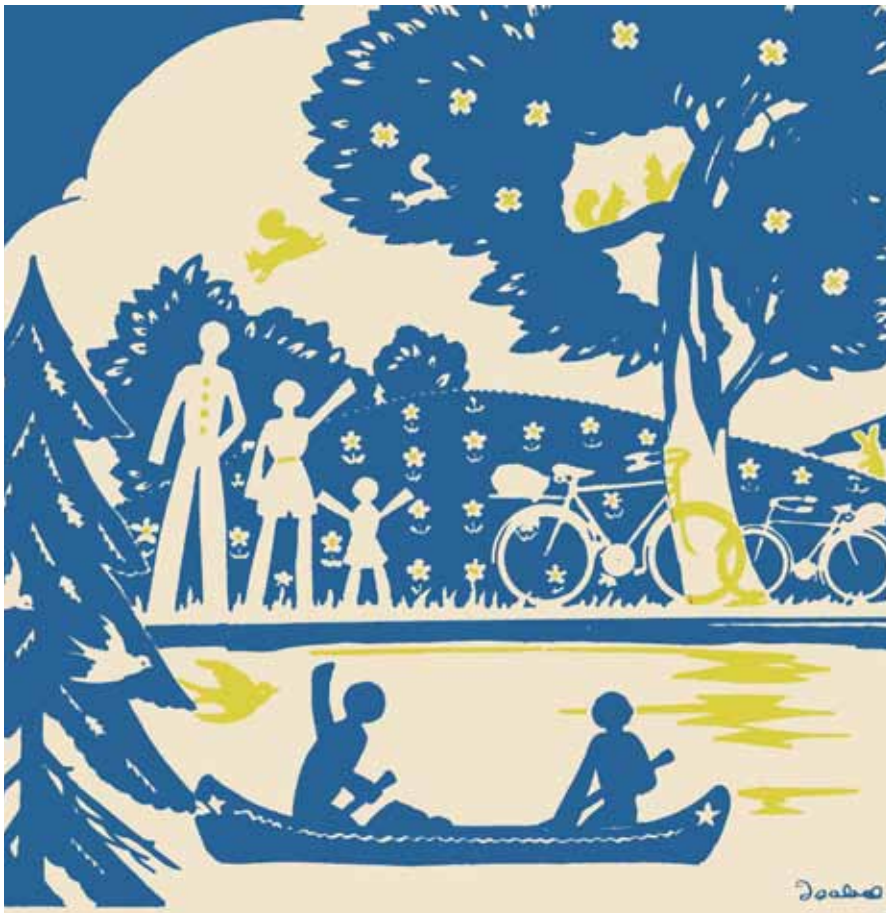


4.105 Farm camp
1943 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.106 Hostelers
1943 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

4.107 Fixing a hostel
1944 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.108 Canoeing
1944 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.109 The joys of...
Original AYH poster
Paper cutout

4.110 Youth hostel world
1940 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.111 Use handbook
1941 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



(Both pages)
4.112-4.123 AYH stick figures
1940 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching





4.124 Just hostel
1944 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

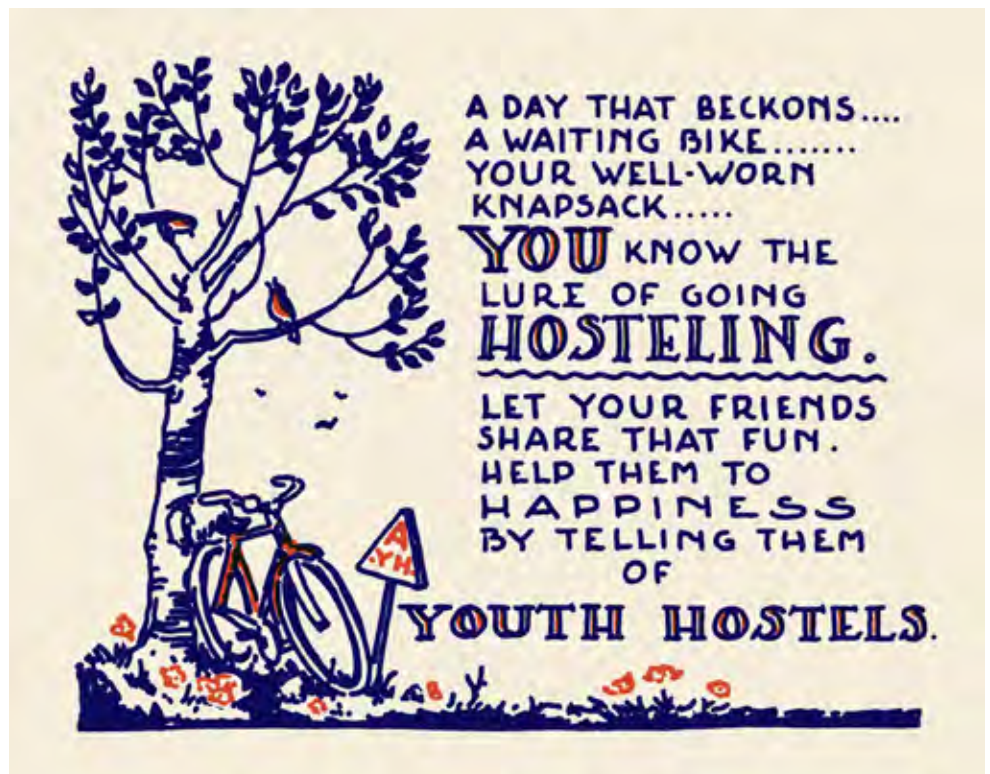


**PUT AN AYH HANDBOOK
IN YOUR POCKET**

4.125 AYH Handbook
1940 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.126 Going hostingeling?
1942 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.127 A day...
1941 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching

T

he two young men set off on foot which was after all a better mode of travel than the gig, as the weather was very cold and very dry.

! Better than the gig! When were travellers by wheels and hoofs seen with such red-hot cheeks as these? When did their laughter ring so upon the air?

! No man in a gig could have such interest in the milestones. No man in a gig could see or feel or think like merry users of the legs. How as the wind sweeps on, upon the breezy downs, it tracks its flight in darkening ripples on the grass, and smoothest shadows on the hills! Look round and round upon the bare bleak plain and see even here, upon a winter's day, how beautiful the shadows are! The loveliest things in life, Tom, are but shadows; and they come and go, and change and fade away as rapidly as these!

from *Martin Chuzzlewit* by Charles Dickens.



(Both pages)

4.128-4.129 To all merry users
1938 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



**To all merry
users of the legs ~
a very jolly Christmas !**



From

Doabel and Monroe.



4.130 Happy hosting!
1944 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.131 Toy soldiers
1942 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.132 Christmas cards
1944 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



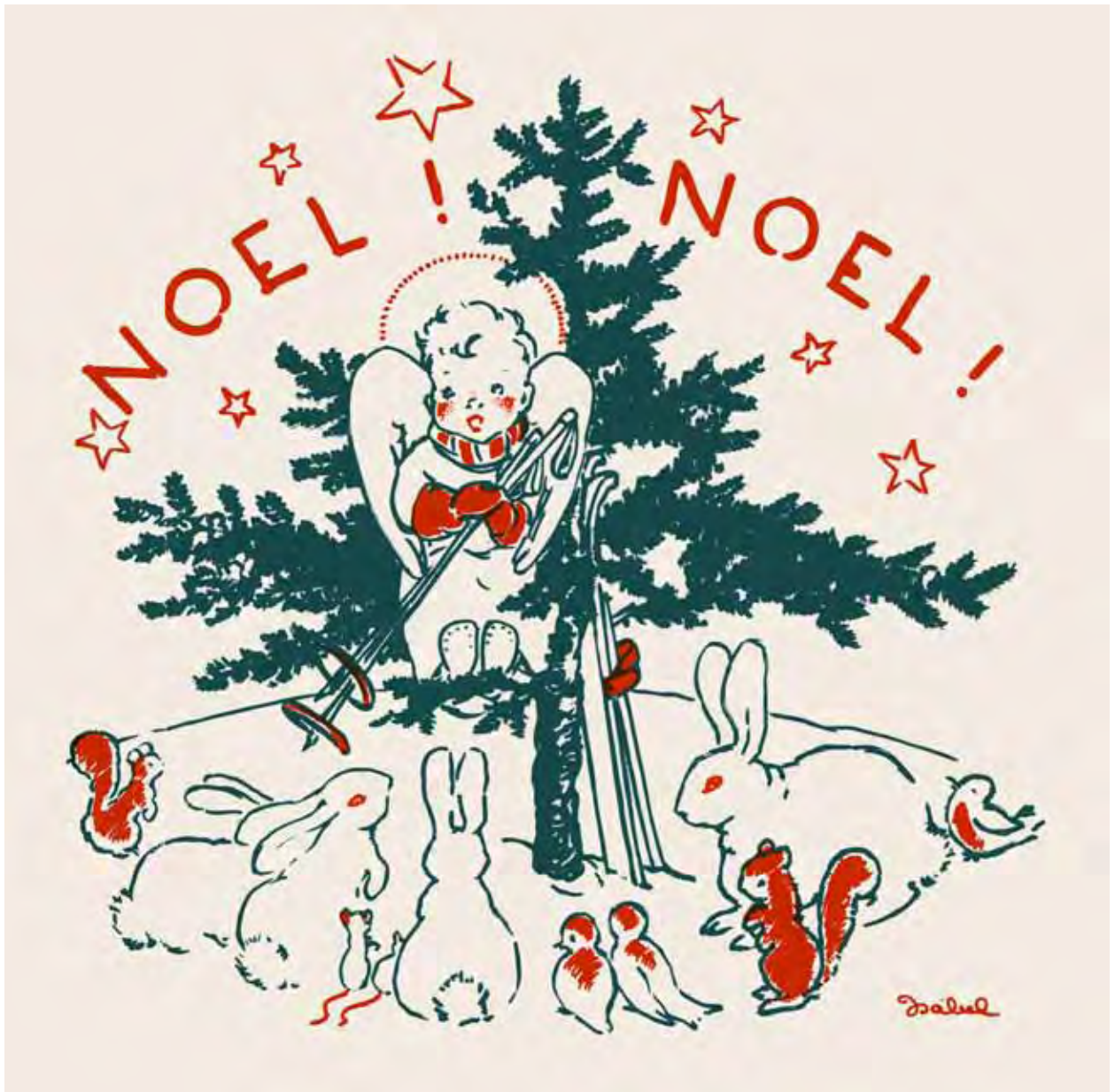
4.133 An invitation
1944 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.134 Christmas wreath
1943 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.135 Christmas mice
1941 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching



4.136 Noel, Noel
1943 AYH Knapsack
Zinc etching