

53. COMPUTER WORLD

This month we've had a chance to learn a little about computers. You've seen that they're good for a lot more than playing games, and maybe you've gotten a glimpse of what the future will be like in the Computer Age before you. By the time you are adults, your homes will probably be controlled by computers. Computers will control the temperature by turning on the furnace or air conditioner, wake you in the morning with soothing music, turn on the lawn sprinkler when sensors say the ground is dry, and control a robot that does the house cleaning. At work, no matter what your job is, there will be some kind of computer there to help you. Thousands of uses for computers that we can't even imagine now will be everyday stuff by the time you are men.

Sounds great, doesn't it? It will be. Computers are surely going to change the way we live. But they won't change what we are - human beings with a need to love and be loved, to be useful, and to get along with other human beings. That's why I think the Scout Law will be just as important 50 years from now as it is today. And that's why it's important now, while you are young, you begin to learn to live by the Scout Law. Let's remind ourselves of what that means by thinking about each point of the Law as we repeat it. (Lead Law)