

#C 1948 TWL -When We Were Lads

by- Samuel Lee Willis 08/09/02

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I recall when we were lads; We were poor but we didn't know that. Living on an Island with water all around, God provided for us the best he could find. Flounder, oysters, shrimp and conch; clams, mullet, hog fish and scallops galore. Tell me, what more could a poor boy hope for?

Soon it's time to go to school; there we met friends both girls and boys. There we would learn to read and write, to add, subtract, multiply and divide. Oh! how we were getting up in life. We learned a few games, and things like that, but we didn't have money for new ball and bat. Gloves we shared with our friends when they were out and we were in. Hand me down ball, and a broken hand me down bat; but we didn't mind, for a nail would fix that. We wrapped the ball with Monkey Grip Friction tape; and you should have seen how the ball was wrapped, it really looked good until the ball was hit. That's when the "Old Monkey", lost his grip, When the ball was hit; it went sailing through the air, with the black tape trailing; like a tail on a kite.

We had no gym like other schools, no politicians to plead our cause. An outdoor concrete slab for a court, was all we had. There we would run and we would play, with the wind and the rain in our face. We had no lights, just a rubber ball so we practiced till dark or time to go home.

There's a game tomorrow night they say; in a brand new gym, on a hardwood floor with a new leather ball. Everything calm, no wind or rain; but we'll be ready to do our thing. I hope you don't think that we like to brag, but when we take to the court, they'll know we're there. Most of the time we look for a win. If someone got to lose it, might as well be them.

Life didn't stop way back then, for we kept in touch with our friends. We would meet at church to worship and pray, study the Bible and God's Holy Word. But, we still go to a game or two; You see, we have grand-kids, and we want them to enjoy the game like we old lads used to do. God bless the memory of days gone by and the good times we had in life. There's one thing no one can take away; the memories that still linger from day to day. Every now and then, when we get the chance; We relive moments of glory from the past, and the good times we had.

When we were Lads.