

TENT POLES

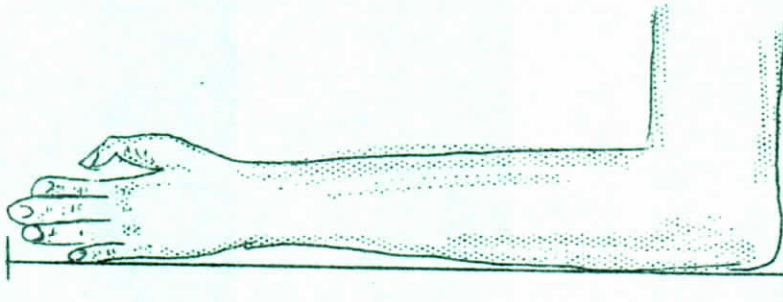
T

You might go with your father to find the poles for your tent. You might hold the pole while he measured it. You needed 9 poles all together.

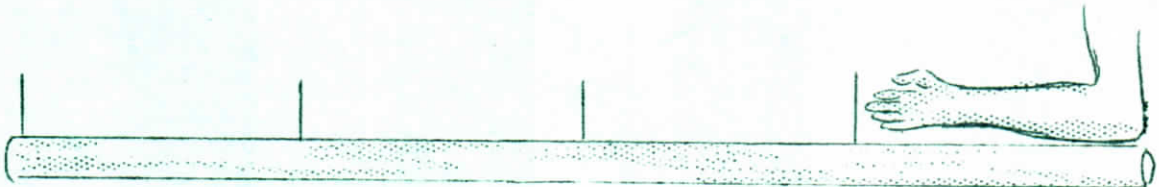
6 poles must be 6 feet long

3 poles must be a little longer - about $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet

Your father did not have a yardstick or tape measure. He measured with his arm from his elbow to the end of his fingers.

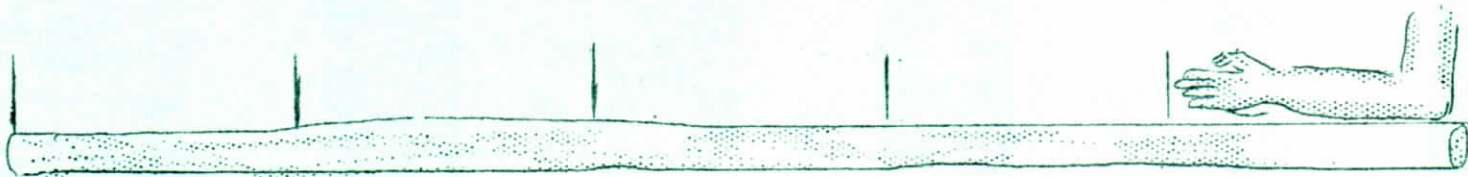


This distance was called a cubit. It is about 18 inches long.



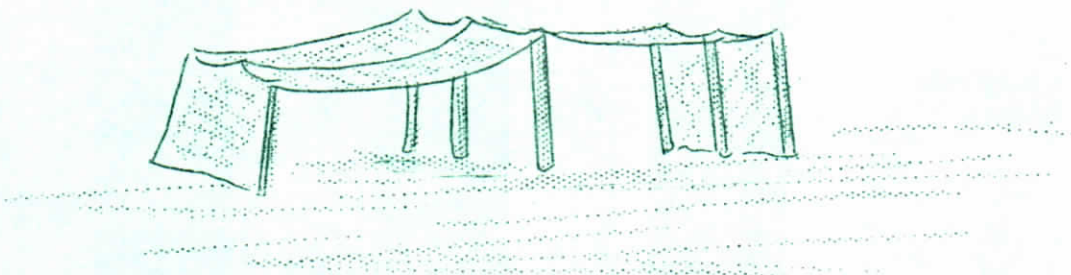
For the shorter poles he must be able to put his arm down 4 times on the pole.

TURN CARD OVER



For the longer poles he must be able to lay his arm down 5 times along the length of the pole.

The 3 tallest poles were placed in a row in the middle of the tent. Then three of the shorter poles were put in a row on each side. The tent cloth was stretched over the top.



Other pieces of tent cloth were hung to cover the sides of the tent. In the daytime you rolled up the sides of your tent. Then you felt a little breeze but you still had shade. At night you rolled down the sides of your tent. Then you were shut inside with your family. It felt snug and safe all closed up in your tent.

Of course you needed ropes and pegs just as we use today, to fasten a tent to the ground.