

STRENGTHEN LIBERTY THROUGH ADULT LEADERSHIP IN SCOUTING

As the Boy Scouts of America celebrate their 40th Anniversary with the slogan, "Strengthen Liberty", an adequate supply of adult leadership presents as great a problem as it did when the organization was first started. There are ever-increasing numbers of youngsters who wish to get into Scouting, and there are many areas where the movement has not, as yet, been initiated. Without the cooperation of parents and leaders in working with the youth of today, what would happen to the citizens of tomorrow? These are the boys on whom we are depending to strengthen liberty.

It must be fun to be a leader in Scouting because they always look so happy, and seem to get so much satisfaction from working with the boys in the community. It seems that the things we enjoy most are the things that we don't have to do. That is the reason that many Scouters in the Pennsylvania District, 20 of whom are Ecustans, give unselfishly of their time and efforts. They are enjoying the greatest satisfaction that can come to any person—that of being of service to others. Scouting isn't compulsory for anyone. Nobody has to be a leader in Scouting—like any other hobby, it is voluntary.

Some day these boys are going to grow up and take our places in the community. Let's hope that they have good training while they are young. There are many things that influence boys for good or bad, and it is up to us to see that they reflect the best of the good influences. Scouting helps to do that.

How do you know when you help a young fellow get a grip on himself, to stay on the right track, to grow up decent and strong, and make good? Maybe you'll never know for sure. But some day—sooner or later—some young man will come around to say:

"Gee, thanks! Maybe you didn't know it at the time, but you helped me a lot when I was a boy, and if it hadn't been for you and the Scout Troop, I don't know what I would have been today. Gee, Mister, I sure thank you for what you did for me."

As all Scout leaders know, time and time again the boys come to them to seek their advice and ideas on their various problems. No greater contentment can come to an adult than to know that young people have confidence in their council and judgment.

Every boy should be a Cub Scout, A Boy Scout or Senior Scout, according to his age. But every boy in our community can't belong because there are not enough adult leaders. More men are needed—and women too in Cub Scouting—who are willing to give some time and leadership skill.

If you are interested in this great organization, the Boy Scouts of America, volunteer your services and take an active part in their program to "Strengthen Liberty" in 1950.