

Scouts Observe Thirtieth Anniversary February 8-14

Movement Brought To America Result of 'Good Turn' Rendered Business Man in London in 1910

Since Then Scouting Taught To Total of 9,000,000 Men, Boys

Organization Designed To Serve Both Youth and The Community

An American business man groped in a London fog three decades ago, and from the mist a boy appeared and inducted him with the germ of a movement which is to be celebrated February 8-14 as the 30th Anniversary of the founding of the Boy Scouts of America—an organization which has penetrated every state in the union and has told part of its story in the citizenship of nearly 9,000,000 men and boys.

The story reflects the ageless search for an organization which would function with and for boys, to serve both youth and the community. It unfolds with touches sometimes dramatic, sometimes prosaic, not unlike the evolution of other ideas which have become integral instruments of modern civilization. It began with primitive man who developed a ri-

SCOUTING BECKONS ALL BOYS

SCOUTING



When the Boy Scouts of America celebrates its 30th birthday on Thursday, February 8, all of the 1,330,000 Scouts, Cubs and Scout leaders will rededicate themselves to the service motive which has characterized the movement for three decades. Scouting offers adventure, fun and achievement—attractive to all boys—through the democratic life of the Scout troop and patrol, as essential ingredients in its character-influencing program for the boys of America.

tual for the training of his youth. It found encouragement in the ancient Greek and his games, and it enjoyed adult patronage as boy groups in England under Charles I. Many years passed before an unusual mixture was evolved—a leader of men schooled in the business of destroying mankind romanticized military training in an effort to make better citizens of his soldiers.

That officer was Robert S. S. Ba-

den-Powell, in charge of the South African Constabulary. He recognized that his men lacked character values; they knew nothing of pioneering, of the outdoors, of the things he believed essential for the full life. Ordinary processes of military training did not fit them for life in South Africa. To improve them as individuals and as members of society, he developed a scheme of group activity with emphasis on the outdoor life.

Strangely, England's youth assimilated his views as he expressed them in booklets. Possibly, the attraction was because youth's inherent love for a uniform. Nevertheless, he revised his program to suit boys and incorporated in it the somewhat similar views of American youth leaders. The Boy Scouts were therefore established.

How Movement Came To America—One of Baden-Powell's early Scouts was on the alert when an American business man, William D. Boyce, found himself lost in a London fog. He aided the visitor, but instead of accepting a gratuity, he explained that he was a Boy Scout and could not take a tip. He had merely done a "good turn"—a chance "good turn" which transmitted the Boy Scout program from England to America. The English Scout, whose name has been lost to record, introduced Mr. Boyce to Baden-Powell, and the two conferred on several occasions, discussing the Scouting Program.

Mr. Boyce was a Chicago publisher interested in boys. He had employed as many as 30,000 boys in magazine sales forces, and long had hunted for an organization which would furnish them with recreation and moral development. In Baden-Powell's program he saw the answer. He recognized that Baden-Powell had incorporated in his youth program a basis for instruction and moral incentive. Its distinctive features—the Oath, Law, Motto, Uniform and Badge, the Troop and Patrol, and close association with a respected leader, could attract youths and inspire self action among them. He returned to this country, therefore, with a trunkful of literature and a head crammed with ideas and ambition.

Among those he interested was Co-

lin H. Livingstone, a banker and descendant of Dr. David Livingstone, the man who was hunted on Henry Morton Stanley's famed trek into Africa. Other men were drawn in with Boyce and Livingstone, as they secured partial absorption of similarly-minded youth groups. On February 8, 1910, they realized the incorporation of the "Boy Scouts of America" under the laws of the District of Columbia.

Incorporation offered protection. More important at the time, it invited mobilization and cooperation of all youth leaders, such as Daniel Carter Beard, who had established "The Society of the Sons of Daniel Boone," and Ernest Thompson Seton, originator of the "Tribe of Woodcraft Indians." Both organizations contained some of the outdoor features incorporated in the planned program for the Boy Scouts of America, and Baden-Powell admittedly had used their theories in developing his program, with the result that the predominant characteristics of each were pooled to complete a balanced program.

First National Council

A committee on organization got to work with Mr. Livingstone as chairman, and by November 1910 the official letterhead named 35 members of the first National Council. Included were the names of Admiral George Dewey, Jacob A. Riis, Henry Van Dyke, John Wanamaker, General Leonard Wood, Daniel Carter Beard, Colin H. Livingstone, William D. Boyce, Hamlin Garland, William Howard Taft, Ernest Thompson Seton and David Starr Jordan. On January 2, 1911, James E. West, a young Washington lawyer, opened the National Office of the Boy Scouts of America in the Fifth Avenue building, New York City, with an assisting staff of seven persons.

The selection of Dr. West as Executive Secretary—he became Chief Scout Executive within a short time—was a stroke of genius. An orphan at 6, he became leader of boys while in an orphanage, directing their work, play and education. He worked his way through high school and graduated from law school at 25. Despite his youth and a physical handicap he was respected as a social worker and helped obtain for Washington a juvenile court, promoted the Washington Playground Association, and was secretary of President Theodore Roosevelt's first White House Conference on the Care of Dependent Children. When he accepted the office of Executive Secretary, it was to be temporary, lasting six months. The half-year has never ended for him.

First Handbook Published

With its executive office established, the Boy Scouts of America got underway. The first edition of its Handbook for Boys was published. Since then more than 6,300,000 copies have been distributed. The first edition, as the last, contained the essential elements of the Scout program. To encourage development of character and training for citizenship it emphasized five points: the boy as an individual and as a member of Patrol and Troop; leadership by trained volunteers; activity based on recognition for achievement; a carefully geared structure in organization, and ideals of service as expressed in the Scout Oath and Law.

Wide interest resulted, although few people had an honest understanding of Scouting, its aims and purpose. Nevertheless, volunteer workers became interested and Troops sprang up here and there. Tales spread and communities listened. Spontaneous growth came from pioneering. The first annual report, published in 1911, hinted of the fertile field for such a program. It reported that 5,072 Scoutmasters and 600 Assistants were at work. Thirty Scouts had already earned 86 Merit Badges for achievement.

The start was immediate, and never to be forgotten in Scouting annals is the organization's first decade when Troops began with a leader and a few boys, gained the sponsorship of Troop Committees, and developed Local Councils supervised by Scout Executives. Desperate months passed before such progress could be reported, before the 10th annual report disclosed: 270 first class and 151 second class Councils with 32,345 Scoutmasters and Assistants supervising the activity of 378,800 boys. Thousands of boys were participating in organized camping programs which became a recognized phase of Scouting. Distinctive literature was produced, starting with the Handbook for Boys. Merit Badge pamphlets followed, and "Boys' Life" became the official magazine for Scouts.

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Nine Million Present and Former Boy Scouts and Their Leaders Will Join in Celebration of Scout Week This Year

Most Important Week on Scout Calendar; Program of Activities

President To Speak

Boy Scout Week, February 8 to 14 this year, is the most important week in the Boy Scout calendar and nine million present and former Scouts and leaders will join the celebration which this year has as its theme "Scouting—The American Way."

The Scout Program with its Patrol method and other group action features is a "school for citizenship." Since Scouting provides for democratic group decisions and group action, the celebrations throughout the nation will be greatly varied. Each Troop will celebrate the birthday anniversary in accordance with its own plans.

Radio will play an important role in the Boy Scout Week celebrations linking together, if only for a short time, the Scouts in the great rural areas with those in the cities and towns.

The high point of the week's observance will be a nation-wide broadcast from the White House, Thursday evening, February 8, at 10:30, in which President Roosevelt, as Honorary President of the Movement and himself an active Scout leader, will talk to his "fellow Scouts and Scouters" as well as the millions of friends of Scouting.

Speaking also during the Presidential broadcast will be Walter W. Head, of St. Louis, president of the Boy Scouts of America, who will speak from Detroit, Mich., where he will be attending a dinner of Scout leaders. Mr. Head will speak briefly and then introduce the President of the United States and at that point the broadcast will switch to the Nation's Capital.

A feature of the White House broadcast will be the annual rededication by the nation's Scouts to the Scout Oath which is the guiding principle of Scouting.

At the conclusion of his address, President Roosevelt will ask the Scouts, listening in every part of the nation as well as in all of its possessions, to take the Scout Oath or Promise led by Dr. James E. West, Chief Scout Executive and Editor of "Boys' Life" who will be "cut into" the broadcast from Miami, Fla.

Sunday Is Reverence Day—Sunday, February 11 will be Scout Reverence Day and in thousands of churches of every denomination there will be Scouts attending special services. More than half of the nation's 43,368 Cub Packs, Boy Scout Troops and Senior Scout groups are sponsored by the churches and synagogues of America. Scouts of Jewish faith will hold their special service Friday evening, February 9, and Saturday.

Special emphasis will be placed upon the twelfth point of the Scout Law which reads, "A Scout is Reverent. He is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties, and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion." Scouts will wear their uniforms.

speakers who will give first-hand accounts of what Scouting means to them.

Hundreds of Troops and Cub Packs will have special "parents' night" meetings in which the parents will be participants in some of the activities. Other Troops will have their meetings during Boy Scout Week set aside for Troop Reunions with former members returning to renew acquaintances and for an evening of fellowship and fun.

CONGRATULATIONS
BOY SCOUTS!
May You
Always "Be Prepared"

MOTORISTS—Are You Prepared?

The wise motorist is the one who looks ahead and is prepared to meet all emergencies. So why not YOU be a wise motorist and let us check up on your car? Stop here today.

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The Eighth Scout Law:
"A SCOUT IS CHEERFUL"

He smiles whenever he can. His obedience to orders is prompt and cheery. He always renders cheerful, competent, efficient service. So do we in serving our customers with TEXACO PRODUCTS.

Harrison Oil Co.

Boy Scout Week
February 8 to 14

Don't "Scout"

The 30th anniversary of Scouting presents a reminder to leave the Scouting to the Scouts. Don't waste time and energy looking around for merchandise. Just stop in to see us. We'll feel that we have done a "good turn" by giving you the benefit of our service—and you will save money, too.

Belk - Tyler Co.



Ninth Scout Law:

"A SCOUT IS THRIFTY"



Scouts are taught to save wise and to spend wisely. The teaching of thrift is right in line with the great motto of Scouting: "Be Prepared".

It so happens that the Scout principles of Thrift, Trustworthiness, Friendliness are also the principles of the Guaranty Bank and Trust Company. We extend sincere congratulations to local Scouts and the Scout leaders for the splendid progress that is being made. We wish them continued success in this great work.

Guaranty Bank & Trust Company

WILLIAMSTON

HAMILTON



The Seventh Scout Law

"A SCOUT IS OBEDIENT"

He Is At All Times Obedient To What Is Required of Him

And in our business we observe this rule. We are obedient to the public's demand for smoother, quicker, more efficient service. We are obedient to the demand for only food of the best quality.

CENTRAL Cafe

(Affiliated with Central Cafe in Elizabeth City)

BOY SCOUT WEEK

FEBRUARY 8 TO 14



We Stock and Sell Boy Scout Equipment

WE ARE OFFICIAL HEADQUARTERS FOR BOY SCOUT UNIFORMS AND SUPPLIES . . .

UNIFORMS, FIRST AID KITS, BOY SCOUT KNIVES, CAMPING EQUIPMENT, HATCHETS, TOILET KITS, CANTEENS AND ALL OTHER OFFICIAL SUPPLIES.

Congratulations to All Martin County Scouts

Margolis Brothers