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THE BOY SCOUT MOVEMENT

OUR STATE LAGS BEHIND

The Boy Scout movement is getting under way in every civilized country of the world. In America its development has been especially rapid; it has grown to such proportions that the general public is without a proper appreciation of its magnitude and scope. With a total membership of approximately 700,000, it is highly significant that the organization involves a paid leadership of only 827 men as scout executives and field workers.

The Value

You may send a boy to school but his playmates will educate him, said Emerson. It is a matter of common observation that the gang impulse is at its highest in boys of the early teen ages. A University of Chicago study traces 90 percent of sentenced delinquents in Chicago to these gangs. Left to themselves they may turn to stealing, vice, or disorderly conduct. But when the ganging habit is taken hold of and consciously directed by capable, high-minded leadership, as in the Scout Movement, it may be turned into a means for developing good citizenship, good habits, and a proper regard for the rights of others in these boys of today who are tomorrow's citizens.

There is no movement having greater possibilities for good. The do-good-turn-daily idea is as catching as the measles once it is started. When Troop 1 of Kannapolis, North Carolina, discovered that all the members of a family were ill they adopted them during their illness, carried them wood and water, cleaned up the yard, and did the cooking, cleaning, and nursing.

Boy Facts

America has 25,000,000 boys under 21 years of age. North Carolina has 700,000 and each year 28,000 graduate into citizenship. What influences have shaped their lives?

That the American home is in an unstable condition is indicated by the fact that our divorce rate is six and one-half times as much as the average of the 17 leading civilized countries. We have 72 per 100,000 of population—Switzerland is next highest with 32, and then France with 23. Is the school helping out the home in its duty of moulding character? The U. S. Bureau of Education finds that of every one thousand pupils that enter the first grade, only 111 finish high school. And irregular attendance results in a school time waste of about 25 percent. Then the church? Only one boy in three goes to Sunday school and half of these attend less than half the time.

What Scouting Stands For

The tremendous expansion of the Boy Scout movement indicates that it is meeting an unfulfilled need—that of supplying the idealism and the values neglected by home, school, and church. And this in a way that is play, not work, for boys. Every boy becoming a Scout pledges himself as follows: On my honor I will do my best—

1. To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law.
2. To help other people at all times.
3. To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

And the Scout Law is positive; there is nothing negative in scouting. It says that a scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent. These principles inculcated in boys are active forces for good. The movement needs encouragement in North Carolina.

Utah Leads

The table shows that Utah leads the states in promoting the Boy Scout Movement with 173.9 Boy Scouts per 10,000 population. The reason for her high stand is to be found in the influence of her churches which have set themselves the task of applying at first hand a social religion through all available service agencies. Idaho follows, and Wyoming, California, and Connecticut are next in order. Florida leads the Southern states with 49.2 Scouts per 10,000 population.

North Carolina

North Carolina ranks forty-third among the states with only 20.1 Boy Scouts per 10,000 population. Of our 5,420 Scouts, 3,043 are under a First Class Council, 306 under a Second Class Council, and 2,071 are under no Council at all. We have 143 troops, 255 Scoutmasters, and 76 Assistant Scoutmasters. The twelve Scout Councils of the state are as follows: Buncombe county, Catawba River District, Charlotte, Cherokee District, Greensboro, Raleigh, Tar Heel District, Tuscorora District, Uwharrie District, Winston-Salem, Southern Pines, and Wilmington.

Relatively, Southern Pines seems to be doing the best work in promoting scouting. Her two troops have a total membership of 52 which is one scout for every 19 inhabitants. Uwharrie District, with one Scout for every 98 inhabitants, is next highest in this particular. Charlotte, with \$18.26 per scout, is spending most money in behalf of the movement. —Edgar T. Thompson.

BOY SCOUTS ARE DIFFERENT

W. A. Anderson, associate professor of sociology, asks in North Carolina Agriculture and Industry, State College of Agriculture and Engineering publication, if you have noticed that a new sign is beginning to replace the "No Trespassing Allowed" sign of which "practically every farm has several on its premises," the new one being the old with an addendum, "No Trespassing Allowed. Boy Scouts in Uniform Welcome."

No, we had not; Professor Anderson's word is taken for it that we have been overlooking something. Professor Anderson writes about "The Social Contributions of the Boy Scout Organization," dressing the subject in orthodox terms of sociology and analyzing it. That which he has observed has a powerful significance, and the statement of it is one of the most illuminating things that has ever been said about the Boy Scouts.

We like it best without explanation or analysis. The farmer who has been trying by sticking up warning signs to protect his property and his feelings from vandals, bidding all the world to keep off, is beginning to draw a line, to make a reservation and an exception, not for individuals but for an entire organization; one that numbers, in America, more than half a million members. He is proclaiming to the world not only that his order to the public to keep off his land has been limited in scope as a result of his observation and experience; he goes further and extends a hospitable invitation to all and sundry Boy Scouts in uniform who may pass that way.

A fact of profound eloquence. The general public becomes less regardful of property rights, not more so. The multitudes that are always rushing around, penetrating every nook and corner, will take anything that is not nailed down. They rob the blossoming fields and wreck the blossoming trees, nor does this ignoring of meum and tuum stop with the esthetic. Time is coming when the only way to protect a farm along the highway from utter spoliation will be to have it guarded with a plenitude of sawed-off shotguns.

The Boy Scouts are different.—Greensboro Daily News.

A CITY IDEAL

A city, sanitary, convenient, substantial, where the houses of the rich and the poor are alike comfortable and beautiful; where the streets are clean and the sky line clear as country air; where the architectural excellence of its buildings adds beauty and dignity to its streets; where parks and playgrounds are within the reach of every child; where living is pleasant, toil honorable and recreation plentiful; where capital is respected but not worshipped; where commerce in goods is great but not greater than the interchange of ideas; where industry thrives and brings prosperity alike to employer and employed; where education and art have a place in every home; where worth

PERMANENT PRINCIPLES

If we work upon marble,
It will perish;
If we work upon brass,
Time will efface it;
If we rear temples,
They will crumble into dust;
But if we work upon immortal souls,
If we imbue them with principles,
With the just fear of God
And the love of fellow man,
We engrave on those tablets
Something which will brighten all
eternity.

—Daniel Webster.

and not wealth gives standing to men, where the power of character lifts men to leadership; where interest in public affairs is a test of citizenship and devotion to the public weal is a badge of honor; where government is always honest and efficient and the principles of democracy find their fullest and truest expression; where the people of all the earth can come and be blended into one community life; and where each generation will vie with the past to transmit to the next a city greater, better, and more beautiful than the last.—Mayo Fesler, Bulletin of the Baltimore City Club.

WHERE OUR MONEY GOES

"Only one in ten people in the United States brushes his teeth, but we consume enough tobacco per year to pay off the interest on the National debt," says Mrs. Christine Frederick in the September, 1924, issue of the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science. She goes on to tell us that whereas America's new wealth created during the century 1800 to 1900 was 88 billion dollars, during the decade 1910 to 1920 it was 135 billion dollars.

"We sold more goods to the world (39 billions contrasted with 35) in this decade than in the entire 19th century; and we mined a billion tons more coal, smelted twice as much copper, made three and one-half times as much steel, and spent one and one-half billion dollars more upon our schools. We match a decade against a century and the decade wins!"

What We Buy

"Every year the Nation spends 15.5 billion dollars for food, 33 percent of which is for meat. The clothing stores get 7.7 billion dollars; automobiles take another 3.5 billions, while candy and soft drinks are getting 1.5 billions. The 35,000 confectionery stores of the country sell 18 pounds of candy per person to the people of the United States—a rise of 300 percent in a few decades. Candy and soft drinks comprise about 6 percent of our food bill."

The Cost of High Living

Sometimes comparisons are odious but they make us pause to consider, nevertheless. The following table taken from Mrs. Frederick's article shows what the average American spends annually and what he buys. Automobiles, candy, perfume, and ice cream rightly ought to have places in any civilized country, but not to the neglect of higher and more enduring values.

Some Comparisons

Average annual expenditures per inhabitant in the United States, as exhibited by Mrs. Christine Frederick in the September, 1924, Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science (Vol. CXV, No. 204).	
Luxurious foods.....	\$45.00
Government expenses.....	30.73
Joy-riding, races, pleasure resorts.....	27.00
Religious work.....	1.29
Automobiles and parts.....	21.00
Public schools.....	10.00
Candy.....	11.00
Eggs.....	.90
Advertising.....	11.00
Pianos, organs, phonographs....	2.20
Perfumery and cosmetics.....	9.00
Health service.....	.11
Jewelry.....	5.00
Professional and Scientific Instruments.....	.52
Near-beer.....	4.15
Dentifrices.....	.22

Ice cream.....	3.00
Professors' salaries.....	.08
Diamonds.....	2.58
Books.....	1.10
Patent medicines.....	2.10
Typewriters.....	.57
Firearms and shells.....	.51
Fountain pens and steel pens....	.19

—Edgar T. Thompson.

THE CHURCHWOMEN HELP

At the request of Mrs. Le Grand Everett, member of the board of public welfare of Rockingham county and editor of a paper published by the Women's Missionary Societies of the Methodist Church, the Commissioner of Public Welfare recently outlined a program whereby the women of these societies may cooperate with the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare in its work for North Carolina. This is a program which can be carried out by women belonging to societies of any religious denomination and it is printed below in the hope that it may prove suggestive to church women interested in public welfare.

"The women of the church societies in their social service activities can best cooperate with the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare in its program by interesting themselves first of all in public welfare work in their own counties," writes the Commissioner. "There is nothing that helps and stimulates a county superintendent of public welfare more than active popular interest in and support of his work; and without it, the work can never be all it should be. I feel that the church women can be depended upon to give this. A brief outline of the ways in which they can cooperate follows:

"1. Inquire as to the program of your county superintendent of public welfare with special reference to dependent, neglected and delinquent children, and find out in what ways you can help to carry it out and develop it. If the officer is efficient, he will welcome such aid and will be glad to suggest ways in which the church women can help him. If there is no public welfare officer in your county, set about getting one.

"2. Look into the juvenile court in your county. See if the juvenile court judge is a man who is really interested in children and understands them, and if the probation service is adequate. Discover the weaknesses of your juvenile court and try to remedy them.

"3. Visit your jail, county chain-gang, and county home. Note their condition, if they need improvement and how. See that these institutions are clean and free from vermin. Find out whether women prisoners confined in the jail are allowed proper privacy. Work to have all women prisoners

under the supervision of women. If there are any children in your county home, call the fact to the attention of your county superintendent of public welfare officer or notify the State Board so that they may be removed. Probably your society already holds religious services and entertainments upon occasion at the county home and jail. You can brighten the days of the inmates by taking them some of your old magazines. Though many of them can't read, they enjoy looking at the pictures.—Public Welfare Progress.

A FARM CREED FOR 1925

A wise man profits from his own experiences; a wiser man profits from the experiences of others.

During the past years the farmers of North Carolina have had much experience in over-production, a poor selection of crops, in inefficient marketing, in the payment of excessive interest rates for production credits, in the payment of exorbitant time prices for supplies, in a lack of diversification of crops and soil conservation; and in not producing on his own farm those foods which are so necessary for the health and happiness of his own family.

Let's begin in this good year of 1925 to remedy some of these defects and start with the following as a creed:

1. I will produce enough vegetables, fruits, corn, wheat, oats, cowpeas, soybeans, cows, hogs, poultry, and cattle to amply supply the needs of my own family and farm.

2. I will raise such money crops as are best suited to my soil and environment and as I can most profitably market in my home markets; and will combine with my fellow farmers in such organizations as will enable me to enter the larger markets of other states and countries.

3. I will keep enough cattle and plant sufficient legumes to enable me to make my land richer at the end of each year than at the beginning and thus lay the foundation for a steadily growing prosperity.

4. I will combine with my fellow farmers in the organization of such associations as will create efficient marketing facilities, insure reasonable credits and enable me to buy my supplies at cash prices.

5. I will buy nothing which I can raise on my farm and pay cash for such supplies as I must have. To do this, I will practice rigid economy. When necessary, I will borrow money at 6 percent in order to pay cash for supplies rather than pay 80 to 90 percent excess prices for time purchases.

6. I will work with my neighbors in every possible way to make my community the best possible farm community so that there will be inducements for my boys and girls to remain at home and make agriculture their profession. If this program could be initiated on every farm in North Carolina during 1925, it would be the beginning of a solid and steadily growing prosperity such as has been achieved by few people and it can be achieved only by those who have the common-sense, the grit and determination to conquer adverse circumstances. But what a glorious achievement it would be!—N. C. Market News.

BOY SCOUTING IN THE UNITED STATES

Number of Boy Scouts per 10,000 of population, December 31, 1923. Based (1) on House of Representatives Document No. 354, 68th Congress, 1st Session, the Fourteenth Annual Report of the Boy Scouts of America, and (2) the Bureau of the Census Estimates of Population of the United States for 1923.

Forty-two states outrank North Carolina. Southern states ahead of us include Florida, Texas, Georgia, Maryland, Virginia, Louisiana, Alabama, and even New Mexico. We are considerably below the average for the United States which is 40.2 Boy Scouts per 10,000 of population.

Edgar T. Thompson

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Rank	States	Total Number	Scouts Per 10,000 Pop.	Rank	States	Total Number	Scouts Per 10,000 Pop.
1	Utah.....	8,295	173.9	25	Ohio.....	23,808	38.9
2	Idaho.....	5,612	119.4	26	New Hampshire....	1,723	38.6
3	Wyoming.....	1,765	83.2	27	Illinois.....	24,572	36.1
4	California.....	24,700	64.9	28	Minnesota.....	8,870	35.8
5	Connecticut.....	8,708	58.9	29	Wisconsin.....	9,770	35.7
6	Washington.....	8,416	58.7	30	Delaware.....	804	34.5
7	New Jersey.....	18,687	55.2	30	Nevada.....	266	34.5
8	Montana.....	3,365	55.0	32	Missouri.....	11,836	34.3
9	Rhode Island.....	3,429	54.7	33	Vermont.....	1,200	34.1
10	Oregon.....	4,471	54.3	34	West Virginia.....	4,736	30.5
11	Arizona.....	8,416	51.6	35	Texas.....	14,948	30.2
12	Nebraska.....	6,704	50.2	36	South Dakota.....	1,925	29.3
13	Florida.....	5,155	49.2	37	Maryland.....	4,203	27.9
14	Colorado.....	4,843	48.9	38	Georgia.....	8,099	27.1
15	Iowa.....	11,943	48.3	39	Virginia.....	6,276	26.2
16	North Dakota.....	3,190	47.4	40	Louisiana.....	4,663	25.2
17	New York.....	50,284	46.3	41	Alabama.....	5,487	22.2
18	Pennsylvania.....	41,737	45.8	42	New Mexico.....	801	21.5
19	Michigan.....	17,619	44.3	43	North Carolina.....	5,420	20.1
20	Massachusetts.....	17,561	43.6	44	Arkansas.....	3,051	16.8
21	Kansas.....	7,797	43.3	44	Kentucky.....	4,127	16.8
21	Oklahoma.....	9,374	43.3	46	South Carolina.....	2,791	16.0
23	Maine.....	3,157	40.7	47	Mississippi.....	2,769	15.4
24	Indiana.....	11,788	39.1	48	Tennessee.....	4,615	15.1