

BOY SCOUT NEWS

This particular issue is about books and, in particular, about the Reading Program of the Boy Scouts of America. We found out, long ago, that boys like to read; that they tend to read what is available, whatever that may be; that widened reading habits have to start with a boy's interests; that destiny has often hinged on what is read.

You may not know it, but Luther Burbank found in the Lancaster, Mass., public library a book by Charles Darwin on the "Variation of Animals and Plants under Domestication." This chance meeting determined his life work and started him on one of the great unselfish careers of service — which are the epic of America.

In the Fall of 1939, Dr. James E. West and Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, over nation-wide radio hook-ups, invited people everywhere to nominate for the first ten books on a Boy Scout Bookshelf, the best books they knew.

From the millions of radio listeners and from 15,000 workers with boys who were invited by letter, 725 different titles were nominated. The top 50 of these were submitted to a technical committee of 35 librarians, educators, and Scouters. Their findings, after being endorsed by the National Reading Committee were submitted to the National Executive Board and officially approved. From time to time by a similar process other books will be added to this list.

The first group of books selected for the Boy Scout Book Shelf includes: The Bible, the Boy Scout Handbook, and the following other ten titles: Abe Lincoln Grows Up, by Carl Sandburg; Boys' Life of Theodore Roosevelt, by Hermann Hagedorn; Captains Courageous, by Rudyard Kipling; Huckleberry Finn, by Mark Twain; Ivanhoe, by Sir Walter Scott; The Last of the Mohicans, by James Fenimore Cooper; Microbe Hunters, by Paul DeKruif; Tom Sawyer, by Mark Twain; Treasure Island, by Robert Louis Stevenson.

Long winter evenings, cold, rainy or snowy days give most of us considerable more opportunity for reading; so, let's take advantage of it. The other day, on a visit to the Roanoke Rapids Library, we were considerably impressed to find so splendid a selection of really swell books for boys of Scout age. Some of the best adventure we've seen in many a day plus a world of information on various merit badge subjects that Scouts can use to good advantage.

Just as a thought: Why not arrange a visit to the library by Troops, a sort of "Tour" so to speak. We're confident that the Librarian, Miss Atley, would be only too happy to show us around and explain just how a library really works.

And, while we're on the subject, the next three months would be a fine time to start working on that Reading Merit Badge. You'll find the requirements in your Scout Handbook.

They tell us that was a right noble Christmas hike that Troop 144 took last Saturday. To Weldon, by way of the River, wasn't it? And just who was it fell in the Canal anyway? Some Scouts seem to be "all wet" most of the time.

Don't forget that Scouter's Club meeting next Monday evening.

There's a Training Course for Patrol Leaders and Assistants this week end. That's one way of starting off the New Year right. A good Patrol Leader is a joy to behold and a very present help in

time of trouble. We need more of 'em.

And, just a thought in closing: "Books are the compasses and telescopes and sextants and charts which other men have prepared to help us navigate the dangerous seas of human life." — Jesse Lee Bennett.

NEWS OF 1942

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negroes drown in a mill pond at Jackson. Julian R. Allsbrook and Edward L. Travis announce their candidacy for the State Senate at the Democratic primaries held here. S. W. Smith of Warsaw, Va., James Penny of Kenensville, N. C., and Sterling Harris of Roanoke Rapids injured in auto crash between Weldon and Garysburg. Second annual Country Fair held by the local Woman's Club at the Armory Friday, February 27. Municipal Building selected and fitted up as a Defense Control Center. J. C. Shannanhouse, deputy Commissioner of Revenue, here to assist taxpayers with their income tax through March. Retread rationing begins. Negro farm chairman for "Victory Gardens" elected at meeting of the County Negro Extension workers. Air markers in Halifax area to be destroyed to prevent guiding enemy planes. Defense leaders say first black-out test a success. Washington Day dinners for Democrats are slated. During the drive for books in Halifax County 1839 books were collected. Theodore Ray winner of Kiwanis Club 4-H Pig project.

February 26 — E. J. Horton and Raymond Pope, two soldiers from Fort Monroe, Va., arrested in city

for the theft of a car. M. E. Bennett, local white man, became the first local resident to be fined for violating the black-out ordinance. Bicycle owners told to observe all traffic laws now that they are considered a vehicle. M. Eugene Starnes, Assistant Halifax County Farm Agent, resigns to accept job with Roanoke Farms. County teachers study sugar rationing plans. Miss Ella Mae Lassiter, of the Roanoke Rapids Hospital, accepts commission with the Army Medical Corps. Kiwanis Minstrel to be given here March 19-20. Dr. A. D. Frank of E. C. T. C. is principal speaker at Forum held at high school library. A Leonidas Hux appointed explosives licensing agent for Halifax County. The Roanoke Rapids Ministerial Association makes arrangements to sponsor the movie "Golgotha." Driving classes for school bus drivers established. On April 17, 18 and 19 city will be hosts to about 2000 Boy Scouts at a Camporee which will be made up of boys from twenty-four counties in Eastern Carolina. Miss Sara Crawford Towe made the Dean's list at Duke University for the spring semester. Slim Sitchings, veteran director of local Kiwanis Club Minstrels, arrives to begin rehearsals. Teachers issue sugar rationing cards.

March 5 — Far reaching agriculture survey conducted here. P. C. Luter, local police officer, enters race for Sheriff of Halifax County. Nutrition classes slated to start in city; program planned at mass meeting of local women. Volunteers wanted for service in civilian defense control center at Municipal Building. City elections to be held on Tuesday, May 30. Veteran members of local Woodman of the World are honored at meeting. Members of Roanoke Rapids Merchants Association set Tuesday night for annual banquet; Edmund Harding will speak. Local Lions, their wives and several guests held their seventh annual Charter night at the First Baptist Church with D. Mac Johnson of Enfield as principal speaker.

March 12 — C. A. Wyche elected president of Roanoke Rapids Merchants Association for coming

year. Airport is talked of at meeting of officials here. Halifax County's third highway fatality occurred in South Weldon when Dollie Jones was struck by an automobile driven by a Fort Jackson, S. C., soldier. The twelfth annual Girl's Hi-Y conference will be held in Weldon. Engineers favor a dam on the Roanoke River for a Power Plant after survey. Work proceeds on N. Y. A. center in Scotland Neck. The Roanoke Rapids Girl Scouts celebrated their seventh birthday on the 30th; anniversary of the organization March 12. Deleoin F. Green of Weldon is appointed chairman for the Halifax County Salvage For Victory Committee.

March 19 — Accidental shooting takes life of popular Romano star, Erwin Riggan, when a .22 calibre rifle went off while he and a friend were target practicing. Civil court adjourns because of a lack of sufficient work for the first week's session. Rex Carter and Nathan Reynolds, faculty members here, enlisted in Navy program as instructors. Members of the Halifax County Medical Society held their regular meeting here Friday night. Rev. Daniel Lane, pastor of the First Methodist Church and secretary of the Rotary Club, was elected as official delegate of the Rotary International Convention at Toronto, Canada. War Relief Drive nets \$13,341.26 in city. M. G. Mann, of Raleigh, general manager of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association and the Farmer's Cooperative Exchange spoke to the Cotton Cooperatives in Halifax March 19.

March 26 — A. Leonidas Hux, Clerk of the Superior Court of Halifax County announced his candidacy to succeed himself in the Democratic primary. Gov. Broughton announced as one of speakers at Scout Camporee here April 17th. One pedestrian is killed; two are hurt by automobiles near here. Sugar rationing will start on May 7th. Fund to be set up for work on Roanoke River estimated at \$1,349,750. County schools start finals on May 8th; city schools to start closing on June 8th. Members of Roanoke Rapids Auxiliary Police announce

they will sponsor a Victory Dance in the new Armory building on Friday night. Local debators meet Tarboro and Greenville teams Friday. City Commissioner J. Byron Gurlley called to active duty in the Signal Corps of the U. S. Army. Examination of all white school children for defective eyes completed and work gotten underway in the Negro schools. More than 100 delegates from eastern Carolina gathered in Weldon on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of last week for the annual Girl's Hi-Y conference.

Local Church Has High Rating With Mission Offering

The Seventh-Day Adventist in the United States have set for themselves a goal of forty cents per member per week for missions. The local church meeting in the little chapel on Fourth Street near Jefferson Street has for the first eleven months of 1942 an average of 61c for the full membership.

Besides this good mission offering the church sent in to the conference office a tithe fund of \$589, which goes for the support of the ministry. All of their freewill offerings are given beyond the tithe, this being a general practice through out the world.

Also during these eleven months this small group built and paid for all of the following: their chapel building, chairs for seating it, a good piano, an oil heater and other improvements. They have given us a fine example of what can be done by earnest endeavor and cooperation. Weekly meetings are held though the pastor can be with them only on the fourth Sabbath.

NEW YEAR'S SERVICE

Rev. Edmund Berkeley announces that there will be a New Year's Service held at the All Saints Episcopal Church Friday morning at 10:00 a. m. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.



Please, lady, if you don't have to have it, don't take it with you.

We're not telling you how much luggage, or what luggage you can carry with you. You can let your conscience be your guide, but every inch of space on a bus is vital to America's war effort. There are people riding on the coach with you who are helping shape the destiny of you and your children. They, too, have baggage, important baggage. Some of it perhaps

equipment or papers and records, the rapid transit of which is most urgent.

You see any space that is taken up by baggage you do not absolutely need may delay for many hours the transfer of baggage whose mission is important.

We know that you, as do all the rest of us, want to do all you can to quickly win the war. One way we can do this is by conserving precious baggage and seating space on America's motor buses

for people and luggage having an active and important role to play in the war effort.

You can help us serve America better by making your travel plans well in advance, traveling in the middle of the week, and carrying little or no baggage.

We think that you will agree that any inconvenience you may encounter is small compared with the sacrifices now being made by members of our armed forces —all to guarantee you freedom of travel in the future.

WITH US, AS WITH YCJ, UNCLE SAM COMES FIRST CAROLINA TRAILWAYS