

BOY SCOUTS 30 YEARS AGO

CONTRIBUTED

Promptly at 2 P. M. on Saturday in the year 1915, the Boy Scouts, 23 strong, started away from the Presbyterian Church on their first hike, and what was later discovered to be the first time any of the boys had ever slept out of doors.

As the boys marched through town, led by Scout Master Moshery, and J. T. Chase, cook, several automobiles joined in behind the boys, forming a small parade and lending dignity to the whole affair. At the corner of Roanoke Ave., and First Street, the boys were picked up by the various automobiles, and carried to a point within two miles of the camp, from which point the boys marched to camp, arriving there at 3:30 P. M. Activity began at once. The boys were divided into four squads, one squad for tent erectors, one squad to bring spring water, one squad for cleaning the camp grounds, and one squad to gather fire wood. At the end of an hour the tents were erected, the camp was clean, the drinking water was on hand, the fire wood had been secured and the kitchen and stove had been erected.

It would not take more than three guesses to determine what was next on the program; a good swim of course, and as Roanoke River was low and clear, the day warm and the water cool, the boys dirty after the hike, and there being plenty of soap and towels, you can well imagine it was a clean and hungry set of boys that appeared in camp at about 6:00 P. M. for supper.

All laws, rules and formulae must be laid aside when it comes to figuring on the capacity of a boy's stomach, and when twenty-three are to be fed, it seems almost necessary to cook everything in sight. For supper, about one bushel of Irish potatoes were fried, one large ham sliced and fried, several pounds of sausage cooked, several pounds of beef prepared, several pounds of bacon consumed, and about 36 loaves of bread, and a large cooking pot of coffee. Every boy had all he wanted, and was helped anywhere from two to eight times to a heaping plate full. Boys can certainly eat. If there is any doubt in your mind as to this, ask the ladies who prepared this enormous supper.

After supper each boy washed his own dishes, the cooking dishes, and cleaned up the camp again. Next on the program was the securing of live bait from the nearby Green's Creek for the lines that were later to be placed in the river. Never was there more fun. Everything from whales down to sharks were caught according to the reports echoed through the woods from the boys, the whale being the big catch of a pike three inches long, a shark being a craw fish. About an hour and a half of this secured bait enough to bait the lines. The larger boys set the lines in the river, while the smaller ones made a tub of ice cold lemonade in camp.

An average boy can ask at least one question per minute, or sixty per hour, therefore, twenty-three boys can ask 1380 questions per hour. All of these boys being far above the average, the record per hour easily ran near the 2000

questions per hour mark. As far as can be determined, every question asked was answered.

Sad to relate, when the fishing lines were drawn in, not a fish was caught; so no fish were fried, but Mr. Mosher had anticipated this alarming state of affairs, and had provided plenty of provisions for the next day.

At about 11:15 P. M. beds were made and at 11:55 (five minutes of 12) all boys were in bed. All fishing lines having been taken from the river and packed away, as there was to be no fishing on Sunday.

Boys can be put to bed, but sleep is a delusive phantom on the first night in camp. Several extremely wise and accurate statements were made by the younger boys about bed time in respect to the utter darkness of the woods, the roar of the river, and the ever present thought of mother at home, and the older boys could easily imagine a stump was a monkey with glaring eyes. Sleep conquered in the end, and all were quiet.

Just one boy awoke at 5:00 A. M. Sunday, and he soon had the whole camp aroused. Strange to say, every boy awoke hungry. Again squads were formed, and soon all was in swing. A water bucket of finely cut up potatoes were boiled, using the ham bone of the evening before to season them, seventy-eight eggs were fried, the bread melted away and the coffee was extremely good. Out of seventy-eight eggs, only one was found to be extremely evil, and that evil egg will be remembered for a long time by the cook. After each boy had washed his face and hands only, the above breakfast melted away like butter on a hot stove.

After breakfast the camp was given another cleaning and every thing put in place in anticipation of the visitors we hoped to have, and who did not fail us. Just before Sunday School started the boys were lined up and each was handed a tooth brush, cup of water and tooth powder, and each boy was properly instructed in the uses of the tooth brush, the need of the care of the teeth and a 15 minute tooth washing took place.

Sunday School was started at about 9:30 A. M. Sunday, and after prayer and the reading of the 23rd Psalm, remarks were made by the Scout Leader. Mr. Chas. Welsh, Sr., at this time gave the boys a most interesting and instructive talk. After singing America, the Sunday School was dismissed. About eight boy visitors had joined us, and while dinner was being cooked by the many willing ladies who had come to camp, the boys were taken on a walk down the river.

Every boy, grown up boys as well, can readily imagine how these boys wanted to go in swimming. How few of us there are who did not slip away when we were boys and plunge into the rivers, and swimming pools around our various homes on Sunday, and are we any worse for so doing? However, not a boy went in swimming on this Sunday. One boy got wet to be sure, he fell in. The boys argued their cause well, but the Scout Master was firm.

Butter Supplies Less This Month

Butter supplies this month are slightly less than in January, according to the Raleigh District Office of Price Administration. Last month we made away with three million pounds of butter daily, but estimates show February's supplies at two hundred thousand pounds a day less.

The lowered quantity of butter, plus the reinstatement of lards, shortening and cooking oils to the point list, put margarine in greater demand, making it necessary to raise the value of margarine to three Red points a pound.

Dinner consisted of soup, one bushel of sweet potatoes fried, bread and watermelons, and the remaining provisions. After dinner the camp was cleaned, the whole equipment packed and about 4:30 the homeward start was made, where we arrived at about 5:00 P. M.

The record in the Sunday School was as follows. 3 boys 9 years old, one boy 11 years old, 2 boys 12 years old, 6 boys 14 years old, 8 boys 15 years old, and 3 boys 16 years old. Ten boys reported belonging to the Baptist Sunday School, 6 boys to the Methodist Sunday School, 3 boys to the Presbyterian Sunday School, 1 boy to the Episcopal Sunday School, and 3 boys who attended no Sunday School. Forty persons in all attended the Sunday School we held and nearly 100 persons visited the camp during the day.

The following donations are hereby acknowledged by the Boy Scouts, and Scout Master, Mosher, with many thanks:

W. D. Tillery, 25 yards of duck for tents; Patterson Store Co., 26 yards of duck for tents; Hancock House Co., 26 yards of duck for tents; Rosemary Supply Co., 24 loaves of bread; Rosemary Drug Co., 12 tooth brushes; Roanoke Pharmacy Co., 12 tooth brushes; Dr. T. W. M. Long, First Aid to the injured; Roanoke Mills Co., 2 dozen towels; J. M. Jackson, 450 pounds of ice (delivered); L. G. Shell & Co., cooking utensils; M. E. Dorsey, tent poles and stove irons; J. A. Moore, 45 yards bag cloth; Taylor & Collier, donation of groceries and meat; J. G. Butts,



LOCAL NEWS of TROOP ACTIVITIES of INTEREST to SCOUTS and SCOUTERS

Pot Luck Supper Banquet:

The Annual Pot Luck Supper Banquet for Fathers' and Sons will be on Friday night at the Junior High Building in the High School Cafeteria. The program will be under the management of Ted Speight, chairman of Camping and Activities Committee of the District. According to Chairman Speight the entire program will only last one hour and a half, starting at 6 p. m. and being over at 7:30, in time for the local high school basketball game between the local team and Weldon. Each Scout and Cub that attends the banquet has been requested to bring sufficient food to feed himself and visitor. Drinks will be furnished by the Activities Committee of the district.

The annual Church Sunday for the Scouts of the city will be held on Sunday, February 11, at 11 a. m., at the Episcopal Church with the Reverend Edmond Berkley

bottle hair tonic; J. J. Williams, watermelons.

Appreciation and thanks have been voted the following persons by the Scouts for the many attentions shown: Mrs. C. A. Wyche, Mrs. G. B. Crews, Mrs. Wm. F. Horner, Mrs. L. S. Mosher, Mrs. J. T. Chase, Mrs. Job Taylor, Miss Holiday, Mr. C. A. Wyche, Mr. G. B. Crews, Mr. Smoot, Mr. J. M. Jackson, Mr. Chas. Welsh, Sr., Mr. Job Taylor, Mr. E. H. Ricks, Mr. M. E. Dorsey.

Mr. S. F. Patterson has donated two hundred dollars (\$200.00) towards the uniforms for the boys. The organization is undenominational, and every boy in town is welcome to join. The plans for next year provides for a week in camp, and the work this winter will be mapped out towards this end.

No organization in the towns can accomplish more good than this Boy Scout movement, and under the efficient leadership of Scout Master, Mosher, the boys will be benefited in many ways. Mothers and fathers should urge their boys to join the Scouts, and inform themselves of this one of the greatest movements of modern times.

preaching. Scouts through the nation are asked to attend Church services together on this Sunday in observation of the 35th anniversary of Scouting in America. It is hoped that every Scout and Cub in the city will attend the services at the Episcopal Church on Sunday.

Scout Radio Program:

Several radio programs have been arranged for the Scouts and Scouters during the next week, by the Public Relations Committee, with MacRae Faison, chairman, and the local radio station. The Radio Program will start with a short talk by MacRae Faison on Wednesday, February 7, at 6:40. Sunday, February 11, at 6 p. m.. Troop 142 will have charge of a 15 minute radio program. Monday, February 12, W. H. Pruden will have a short talk at 8:55, and on Tuesday, February 13, Clyde Liske and L. B. Brown will have charge of a 15 minute radio program. It is hoped that all scouts will arrange to hear as many of these programs as possible.

Scrap Paper Drive Success:

Although the weather was unfavorable for the collection of scrap paper by the scouts of the city, a great many more scouts than was needed turned up Sunday afternoon at the Girl Scout Hut for the city-wide collection of paper, and successfully completed the drive regardless of the slight rain that continued to fall during the drive. Although the collection was not as large as former drives, the people were again convinced that the scouts would collect their waste paper if they would cooperate and save it for the regular drives. The tonnage of this collection will be used towards the General Eisenhower awards that will be given during May to Scouts and Cubs who have collected 1,000 pounds of paper, and the troop awards that will go to all troops that collect an average of 1,000 pounds for each scout in their troop. Scouts and scoutmasters are urged to keep records of the number of scouts and their names that participated in the drive on last Sunday.

THE LEVON THEATRE Weldon, N. C.

"Motion Pictures Are Your Best Entertainment" PROGRAM WEEK OF

FEBRUARY 11, 1944

SUN.

Donald O'Connor Jack Oakie

THE MERRY MONAHANS

MON. - TUES.

Frank Sinatra - George Murphy

STEP LIVELY

WED. - THURS.

Ann Sheridan - Alexis Smith

THE DOUGHGIRLS

FRI. - SAT.

Rod Cameron - Fuzzy Knight

OLD TEXAS TRAIL

AND Tom Conway

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