

Woodlawn Scouts Have Good Year

(By DOROTHY SKINNER WILLIAMS)

With the end of the school year comes the end of the scout year, and this is the time for each scout troop to take stock of its accomplishments during the past months. Although the individual scouts may vary as to the benefits they have received according to the time and effort they have put into scouting, none of them closes a year's work without some real gain in personality and knowledge.

Scouting today is not, as someone unfamiliar with scouting might think, merely group play. Instead, it is a carefully studied and worked out program to occupy the energy of young people with worthwhile activities. Its purpose is to help develop in a young person who is psychologically rather insecure at this time of life, real loyalties to God, his country, and his fellow-men. Also, it attempts to develop in the children an ability to work, as well as play, with others in a cheerful and well adjusted way.

Girl Scout Troop 3, comprised of girls from the Woodlawn section of North Wilkesboro, and under the leadership of Mrs. Cecil Adamson, has had an especially productive year in scout work. The majority of its members have spent the year working on projects, which will qualify them to attain the rank of First Class Scout. As the Girl Scout Handbook expresses it: "To be a First Class Girl Scout is a high honor and a privilege. It should mean that you are not only an all-round sort of girl but that you are prepared as well to be of real service in at least one field." These "fields" of which the scout book speaks, are program fields:

WOODLAWN GIRL SCOUT TROOP HAS GOOD RECORD



Here are shown members of the Woodlawn Girl Scout troop. In the background is the stage set for production of a marionette show, "Little Red Riding Hood." left to right in the picture are: front row — Ellawee Gore, Velma Soots, Louise Lambert, Grace Grider, Mary Hall; standing — Madge Hall, Betty Jo Griffin, Lena Grimes. Shirley Royal, troop member, was not included in this picture.

Agriculture, Arts and Crafts, Community Life, Health and Safety, Homemaking, International Friendship, Literature and Dramatics, Music and Dancing, Nature, Out-of-Doors, and Sports and Games.

A scout given the opportunity to choose her year's activities from these fields according to her own interests and abilities. The system is similar to that employed by colleges. That is, a scout chooses the field in which she is most interested as her "Major," and she does concentrated work in this field. She then chooses a certain number of other fields in which she is interested for her "Minors."

Despite which activities the scouts choose, however, every leader must keep two aims in mind: first, to encourage the native interests of the scouts; and second, to determine the weaknesses of the individuals in the troop. When she has discovered these weaknesses, it is the duty of the leader to create and stimulate in the scouts an interest in new ideas and experiences which will broaden and enrich the

scouts. Back in the fall, when the program for Troop 3 was being set up, most of the girls seemed to have a real interest in Homemaking. The leaders discussed the needs of the girls and decided with the consent of the troop that "Homemaking" would be the "Major Field" of the troop for the year. Do not think that the rest of the year was spent doing tiresome household chores! Instead, every phase of Homemaking was pursued.

A good homemaker must know the rudiments of clothing. Consequently basic mending and cleaning of clothes were discussed and applied. Then, approaching the subject from another angle, Mrs. Richard Bason from Spainhour's store, was invited to make a talk to the troop on how to plan an attractive, suitable, and economical wardrobe for girls of this age. She pointed out to the scouts the importance of using their minds as well as their eyes when they are shopping. She brought along an inexpensive suit, a short-sleeved sweater, a skirt, a blouse, a little silk tie, and a suitable

piece of costume jewelry to illustrate her theories of "thoughtful buying." By inter-changing just these items, the scouts could be well dressed on any occasion and yet have the variety of clothes that all girls desire. She also advised the girls on their choice of cool combinations according to the color of their skin, hair, and eyes.

At another meeting a hairdresser was invited to discuss suitable hair styles for girls. She stressed the importance of cleanliness of hair and skin, especially at this age. Then to illustrate her ideas on becoming hair styles, she cut and set the hair of one of the scouts right at the meeting. She urged the girls to strive for a neat, clean, and natural look, and suggested that keeping the hair achieves this look. Since her visit, almost every one of the girls has had her hair cut short and has dispensed with permanents in favor of soft, rolled hair.

Cooking, of course, is an essential in homemaking. Besides learning the meaning of cooking terms such as "broiling," "baking," and "simmering," the scouts discuss-

ed well balanced meals and became more cognizant of foundation foods necessary for good health. They "cooked out" on "buddy burners," small self-made stoves, and at another meeting made dozens of cookies which they took to the patients in the T-B hut. Also, they toured the Coble Dairy Plant to learn the processes through which milk goes.

In studying for the Good Grooming badge of Homemaking, the scouts discussed the importance of healthy teeth. Subsequent to this discussion a group of the scouts paid a visit to the dentist to have some urgent work done. One meeting was spent learning how to properly clean windows, woodwork, books, and to improve other methods of housekeeping. It is inevitable that the girls will be better house keepers, now and later, because of just these few months of enjoyable "work."

Some of the minor fields which Troop 3 worked upon were Music and Dancing, Sports and Games, and Literature and Dramatics.

Work upon this last field climaxed the year and resulted in a party

given by the troop for other (Continued On Page Seven)

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