

CHANGES EXPLAINED BY LEADER —

Merger Of Nantahala, Pisgah Councils To Further Scouting

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ment was young.

Vast Machine

Recently, in order to bring Scouting to all, national headquarters put a vast machine into operation on a national scale. By dividing the 12 regions into areas, rather than city, councils administered by paid, trained professionals, many villages received adequate leader training and Scout facilities for the first time. The operation is called "The Green Umbrella."

Here is how we got there, what Nantahala Council provided for Girl Scouts, and what its merger into Pisgah Council means.

Financial Change

The first change to affect the community will be financial. In the following paragraphs I want to show you in Franklin what demands Pisgah Council will make, how they must be met, and how the United Fund plays a bigger part in Girl Scouting than in past years.

Last June, leaders in Franklin heard of "The Green Umbrella."

Our Region VI, in Atlanta, administering North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, wrote to Nantahala and Pisgah Councils (from Waynesville north) The regional director explained that Pisgah was strong and capable enough to administer double its present area. On the other hand, Nantahala was understaffed, oversimplified, and could not provide sufficient leadership. A request was made to merge the two together into one area council.

Group Strong

There was no question which one would take over the administration of Girl Scouting in the Western Carolina area. Pisgah's superiority meant the dissolution of Nantahala Council, of which we were justly proud. Council members did not appreciate the request. The Nantahala group was strong. Franklin was providing excellent leadership and troops were growing. The Macon community had 15 adults, all trained, eight troops on the Brownie and Intermediate level, a new senior troop and two-thirds of the council board members. The latter voted and assisted in sending a member to the training school in New York, another to camp in Colorado. Council program included a three-day camporee, two workshops, awards ceremonies, two leadership courses in Murphy and Franklin in 1959.

Much Lacking

But, we in the council knew there was much lacking in its program. Being the majority group in Franklin, and trying our best to bring Nantahala Girl Scouts a fine program, we were unable to bring Scouting to the four counties which had none. In the first place, each of us held three offices, in the council, neighborhood (community), and a troop leadership simultaneously because there were not, and still are not, enough willing individuals to go around. Our leaders were trained, but by Mrs. Tanla Rollman, of Waynesville, because Nantahala Council could not afford to pay a professional worker to train leaders. The council has been completely supported by Franklin for several years, even though Chero-

kee and Sylva were members (Murphy being new in 1960). Nantahala owns no camping site, no camping equipment, no training aids, no library, no vehicles, no office, and no trained personnel. Many well-known residents in Franklin have been working with your girls and providing out of their own pockets such essentials as crafts, transportation for both girls and adults, registration fees (often time when a girl could not afford it), refreshments and awards until the United Fund came along.

Some Improvement

Nantahala Council then was a very small operation. But, all of us who love its associations thought we were doing a good job with the tools we had. The financial situation was improving constantly. Franklin bought tents and cooking utensils literature, and began long-term planning. They selected adults to take advanced training, girls to attend national camporees and visit historic monuments, such as Juliette Low, the founder's home in Savannah, Ga. We council members in Franklin only hoped the leadership could be sustained until these aspirations were accomplished. Women in your community, Mrs. Carl Cabe, Mrs. Gilmer Jones, Mrs. Harvey Price, Mrs. Russell Cabe, Mrs. Robert Carpenter, Mrs. Pete Arms, Mrs. Margaret Roper, Mrs. Roy Kinsland, Mrs. James Bleckley, Mrs. Katie Mays, Mrs. John Bulgin, Mrs. J. H. Fisher, and Mrs. Neil Seabock, were in favor of all ventures that would provide secure Scout government. The girls needed to know that the Girl Scout organization was going to increase camping opportunities, skills, travel, and vocational training. Once before the council had become weak through lack of leaders. Once informed of the merger plans, Franklin neighborhood was willing to endorse whatever means benefitted Girl Scouts and Brownies most. If Pisgah could provide better facilities, if the region thought the two councils would produce better Scouts, we would be as fine a district as we had been a council.

Misgivings, Too

However, we had some misgivings too. Nantahala Council had no red tape and few restrictions. In the past, when we wanted to go camping, we simply collected our gear, handbook, and junketed out of town about five miles. When we had had enough out-of-doors, we came home. Pisgah Council, with 2,000 members to Nantahala's 200, did not and could not

operate that way. A troop had to inform Asheville several months ahead of camping plans, take out insurance, take this, include that. And, could an office in Buncombe County serve Murphy in the winter? or board members from Franklin made many trips to Asheville?

Many Assets

On Sept. 19, 1959, Mrs. Theodore Grant, national field staff, and Mrs. Harold Clark, regional committee, did their best to explain away our many doubts. Pisgah had many assets such as an established camp at Brevard, which was nearer Franklin than Asheville. Films, training aids, travel opportunities, budget planning were available. And, most of all, the services of a college graduate, a trained professional, we had needed so badly, and an office to which to direct correspondence and registrations were there.

As the visiting leaders completed the discussion, our minds kept returning to one subject, budget. Finances . . . How much did Pisgah Council want from us? Where will the money come from? A paid professional's salary. We couldn't raise that much! Pisgah would request all donations for Girl Scouts from United Fund? What will we use to run our troops? Nantahala Council had a glimpse of new vistas and empty purses. The merger was going to cost us something. At the October Council meeting, the merger did not pass.

Writes For Help

Nantahala wrote to the region for more help on arriving at the right conclusion. The Atlanta office cleared up our money worries. Pisgah, they explained, would ask to present a budget for each neighborhood. Then, that council would plan how to meet the expenses. Nantahala digested this information and met again in January. Three neighborhoods voted in favor of the merger and one cast a negative vote. We had considered, through many discussions, both sides of the problem. By realizing that "you pay for what you get," Franklin hoped its affirmative vote would improve

Girl Scouting in this area and initiated a petition to join Pisgah Council.

Petition Accepted

In April the petition was unanimously accepted by the Pisgah board, an action which helped our self-confidence. Nantahala Council met for the last time on May 6 to appoint delegates to the Pisgah council conference on May 12. Last measures of the old organization included acceptance of Pisgah's proposal to place the Girl Scout share of all United Fund donations in the general administration of Pisgah Council from which the district would receive appropriations. We selected two adults, one from Cherokee and one from Murphy, to take courses at Camp Edith Macy, near New York. Funds for their training had already been allocated and would not revert to Pisgah Council. Members also made plans for a dinner meeting on June 25, where Nantahala Council will be dissolved and the first district business conducted. Mrs. S. B. Sneed, Nantahala president, becomes district chairman and automatically is seated on the Pisgah board of directors.

Catching Glimpses

Girl Scouts themselves are beginning to catch glimpses of the activities our new association will hold. They receive training films quickly and read about workshops in dancing, weaving, nature, and leadership. Pisgah seniors held a "Luau dance" that was the talk of the Asheville young set for weeks. Several of them were candidates for "all-States Encampment", held in wilderness areas each year. One was planning to attend the Chalet, the most famous of Girl Scout hostels in Switzerland. Another troop showed slides of their dream trip to the Cabana, a Girl Scout camp in Mexico, come true! Those Scouts were from Brevard. Our Scouts decided they could do anything Brevard Scouts could do and applied for a commission to make a braided rug for the Chalet in Switzerland! Linda Henderson and Winnie Gregory attended a na-

ture workshop sponsored by Pisgah. These seniors acquired not only information on conservation, but met girls who attended the roundup in Colorado last summer.

Budget Drawn

A budget for 1960-61 for the Nantahala District of Pisgah Council is being drawn up by the financial committee. Soon we will be able to inform you what part of the budget Franklin should assume. We will also be able to report exactly what services Pisgah Council will bring to Franklin during the next year. Never before have the finances been itemized so carefully or apportioned so fairly. Franklin will be the headquarters of the district, the professional worker will be here, for

Franklin has the most Girl Scouts and needs the most service.

Franklin women interested in Girl Scouting have worked all year for this merger with Pisgah Council because they think Girl Scouts in Franklin will benefit and because the region requested the merger they feel sure the community will back it as it always has. The stepped-up program will cost Franklin several hundred dollars more. Girl Scouts are assuring that the money will create better-trained young women than ever before. You can see the improvement already. Very soon you will be able to see the changes too and this kind of pioneering will give you even more pride in Franklin womanhood, the type who wears a green beret, a yellow tie, and a badge sash "a mile long."

WOULD THE MEMBERS OF YOUR CIVIC CLUB LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE MAN WHO COULD BE THE NEXT CONGRESSMAN FROM THIS DISTRICT?

Your club members, like everybody living in the 12th Congressional District, have a right to know, have a right to see a candidate and have a right to ask him questions.

Many civic clubs have invited me in the last six months to talk to them. When I have had the time, I was delighted to do so. In the last 3 months, however, the requests for speaking engagements were so heavy that, unfortunately, I had to turn down more than half. However, I will be very happy to talk to your group or civic organization at any time when I don't have an engagement and will answer any and all questions without holding back.

I do not make political speeches when invited to speak to civic groups, but confine myself strictly to answering non-partisan questions concerning our district, our nation, or world affairs.

If you are interested, please write to Box 140 in Waynesville.

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We salute the Travel Council of North Carolina

The Malt Beverage Industry in North Carolina salutes the Travel Council for its fine work among its members and others concerned in promoting a spirit of friendly hospitality toward visitors traveling within our state. Through its membership in the Travel Council, the Malt Beverage Industry has played a vigorous role in this respect.

Travel is big business in North Carolina. In 1958, out-of-state travelers spent 218 million dollars in North Carolina. Out-of-state cars traveled 1.5 billion vehicle miles. Out-of-state travelers accounted for over 65% of all travel expenditures in North Carolina in 1958. And, travel has increased 135% in North Carolina in the last 10 years.

In joining with the Travel Council in welcoming the out-of-state traveler, we point out that the big majority of our visitors come from areas where the legal sale of beer and ale has been permitted for many years. It can be reasonably assumed that those areas in North Carolina receiving the greatest benefits from out-of-state travel business also subscribe to the legal control system. The outmoded laws of prohibition in some sections of our state are not in tune with the hospitable atmosphere expected by the visitor coming from other sections of the country where such laws have long been out of favor.

Is your county doing all it can to welcome this most important and growing source of outside revenue—the out-of-state traveler?

North Carolina Malt Beverage Control Institute

P. O. Box 2473 RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A DRY COUNTY!