Boy Scouts Planning To Celebrate Their 46th Anniversary February 6-12

National officials in Washington, D. C., many governors at their state capitals, and heads of local communities throughout the nation will help four. million members of the Boy Scouts of America launch their Four-Year Program known as "Onward for God and My Country" in ceremonies during Boy Scout Week, February 6 to 12.

Boy Scout Week marks the 46th anniversary of the organization. Since 1910 more than 24,500,000 American boys and adult leaders have been identified with Scouting. Membership now stands above the 4,100,000 mark with a total of 104,000 Scout units.

The new program will provide for an increasing number of the boys of the nation experiences and values that will help them to meet their future more adequately prepared.

"As Scouting influences the lives of three million boys today," says Dr. Arthur A. Schuck, Chief Scout Executive, "we must help them to the realization and acceptance of God as the guiding power of the universe. We must interpret and find additional methods to help a Scout in his own religious life to fulfill his obligation to God as stated in the Scout Oath and Law.

"Scouting experiences," he continues, "must help the boy to understand his country and its ideals, its opportunities, and its customs, and to understand the values of our democratic system and what it has

meant to the people of America. It must give him such opportunities that he can help to carry out those ideals and character traits expressed in the purpose of this "Onward for God and My Country" program."

The theme of the new program is illustrated by a painting of George Washington in prayer above the heads of a Cub Scout and Explorer. The original painting is to be presented to President Eisenhower, or his representative, on February 8, the birthday of the organization.

Famed reproductions of the painting are to be presented at state capitals throughout America to governors or other state officials acting for them. These reproductions will be accompanied by a brochure interpreting the program.

Twelve outstanding Explorers, older boy members of the organization, have been selected as representatives of the nation's twelve regions to go to Washington as participants in ceremonies launching the new program. They will visit the white House, the F.B.I. headquarters where they will be guests of J. Edgar Hoover, have lunch at the Capitol, and visit George Washington's home at Mt. Vernon.

At a breakfast in Washington during Boy Scout Week, attended by about 125 leaders representing the Senate, House of Representatives, and national organizations, each young man will be seated next to the Congressman from his own area.

Before the distinguished group, they will make a "Report to the Nation" on Scouting's accomplishments in 1955 and its Four - Year Program.

Each of the nation's 538 Boy Scout Councils were asked to name one Explorer for the honor of representing Scouting at the ceremonies in the nation's capital. Consideration for selection was an outstanding record in Scouting and school work, appearance and ability to speak. Because the emphasis of this Scout birthday is "Duty to God" each Explorer selected holds one of the religious awards or has earned the Hornaday Award for distinguished service in conservation.

Other outstanding Explorers will participate in ceremonies at state capitals and at city halls and town observances.

The twelve "Report to the Nation" Explorers will also visit Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, for ceremonies at that historic site and to inspect the area where the Fourth National Jamboree of the Boy Scouts of America will be held in July, 1957.

Garden Time
BY ROBERT SCHMIDT

Most garden soils in North Carolina require heavy fertilization in order to produce good yields of high quality vegetables and flowers. Also the soils are generally deficient in organic matter. When good stable manure was plentiful it was not difficult to keep up both the fertility and the organic content of the garden soils, but with the decline in the horse population, the city gardens at least have lost their principal source of organic materials.

Plant food in the form of salts of nitrogen, phosphorus and potash can be adequately supplied by mixed fertilizers commonly called "commercial fertilizers." These are made up of various inorganic and organic materials and sold according to specific formulas such as 5-10-5, 6-8-6, 8-8-8, etc. These figures mean that in a 6-8-8, formula for example, the mixture contains 6 per cent available nitrogen, 8 per cent available phosphoric acid and 8 per cent available potash. Two hundred pounds of such a mixture contains somewhat more available plant food than a ton of stable manure but furnishes none of the valuable organic matter, beneficial bacteria and minor elements supplied by manure.

Commercial fertilizers are made up of concentrated salts and must be used carefully. If they are allowed to come into contact, with germinating seeds, roots or leaves they may cause severe injury. Therefore, they should be thoroughly mixed with the soil in the garden or well watered in when applied on top as in lawn fertilization.

Most fertilizer recommendations are given in pounds per acre which

may be confusing to a gardener having a few 25 foot rows. He does not usually have a pair of scales handy. But he can easily obtain a tin can holding one pint or a measuring cup holding one-half pint. A pint of commercial fertilizer weighs approximately one pound. So if the recommendation in the bulletin is

1,000 pounds of an 8-8-8 fertilizer, per acre it would mean approximately 2 1-2 pounds per 100 square feet which would be 2 1-2 pints by measure. For 25 foot rows spaced 2 feet apart that would figure 50 square feet or about 3 cups of fertilizer per row. An acre contains 43,560 square feet.

Payments For VA Benefits Are Tax-Free And Need Not Be Reported As Income

According to Walter J. Sochacki, Officer in Charge of the Goldsboro Veterans Administration Office, payments for Veterans Administration benefits are tax free and need not be reported on Federal income tax returns.

In addition, Sochacki said, dividends and proceeds from GI insurance policies are exempt from taxation and need not be reported as income.

Sochacki included among the tax-free VA payments:

Education and training allowance for veterans of the Korean conflict period who are in school or training establishments under the Korea GI Bill.

Subsistence allowances paid to World War II veterans training under the original World War II GI Bill

Subsistence payments made to disabled World War II and Korean conflict veterans training under Public Law 16, the Vocational Rehabilitation Act.

Disability compensation and pension received by veterans for service - connected and non-service connected disabilities.

Grants to seriously disabled vet-

erans for homes designed for "wheel chair living."

Grants for motor vehicles to veterans who lost their sight or lost the use of their limbs.

World War I emergency officers' retirement pay.

Sochacki said that VA death benefits to families of deceased veterans also are exempt from taxation. They include death compensation and pension, indemnity and all GI insurance payments.

Small Forced Air Curers Available

Smaller forced air curers, adapted for aromatic tobacco curing barns, are now available says R. H. Crouse, extension agronomy specialist at N. C. State College.

These small curers may prove to be boon to the "one-acre" grower. Crouse says that the smaller curers are interesting many small growers who have not used curers in the past because of the higher cost of the larger equipment designed for the two to four-acre barns.
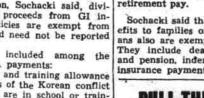
The agronomy specialist says that all aromatic growers have been asked to use a recommended curer which will furnish a 90 to 100 de-

gree, thermostatically — controlled heat, and one that will also have a uniform distribution of air with a fan capacity of 3,000 CFM for the 20 by 20 by 10 feet barns.