

The Eagle

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A NOTEWORTHY BIRTHDAY

We salute the Boy Scouts of America on its 45th birthday, now being observed during Boy Scout Week, Feb. 6 to 12.

Since its founding in 1910 the organization has enriched the lives of over 22,750,000 boys and adult leaders. Truly Scouting represents a living cross section of American life.

Boys of every race, religion and economic background are attracted to Scouting. Today we find 2,700,000 boys in its ranks. Add to that impressive figure the 960,000 adults of good character who give generously of their time and talents to serve as leaders of units, Merit Badge Counselors and in many other capacities. There is hardly an American family that has not felt its influence.

Dr. Arthur A. Schuck, the Chief Scout Executive, a leader in the organization since 1913, feels that it is of vital importance to train the boys of today to be ready for positions of leadership as they grow to manhood.

"Strong character, participating citizenship and physical fitness," he says, are needs of our boys and young men who are served by the program of Scouting in cooperation with the home, the school, the church, and all other community institutions actively interested in training our future citizens."

Scouting's purpose, stated in the Federal Charter granted by Congress in 1916, is to promote the "ability of boys to do things for themselves and others, to train them in Scoutcraft, and to teach them patriotism, self-reliance and kindred virtues."

Every member of the nation's 95,000 Scouting Units is indeed "having some kind of experience that is adding to his equipment to meet the problems of adult life."

It is that training that we heartily endorse on this noteworthy birthday.

BEST ON RECORD

As 1954 approached its end, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, which compiles elaborate statistical studies of health, stated that the "health of the American people has been the best on record."

In reporting the findings, Newsweek said that during the first 11 months of the year the tuberculosis death rate dropped 20 per cent over 1953, and that from influenza and pneumonia 25 per cent. Slight reductions were recorded for heart, artery, and kidney conditions. And the death rate was also lower for diabetes.

There were 50 per cent more cases of measles and whooping-cough than in 1953. But the death rates were very low.

The point of all this is that the health of the people gets steadily better—and the average life expectancy gets steadily longer. Over a period of years, the gains have been spectacular. And there is hope that medical science may be on the verge of subduing killers which are now thoroughly understood, such as cancer.

Such progress is of enormous importance to everyone—our lives are literally at stake. And it is important that the facts be made known as widely as possible—for those who favor socialized medicine or some variant thereof have, deliberately or not, tried to make it appear we get inadequate medical care, and that government intervention provides the only answer.

In no other major nation are the health standards as high as in ours. That is an achievement of free medicine—not politically-biased medicine.

MADE — NOT BORN

"Suckers are made — not born." That is the moral of an article by Nathaniel L. Goldstein, who recently completed a 12-year tenure as Attorney General of the State of New York, which appears in The Exchange magazine for December.

Mr. Goldstein describes the activities of "boiler room" stock salesmen and promoters. He points out that a crucial current problem is the securities frauds originating in Montreal, where enormous profits are promised in uranium and other mineral stocks. And then he provides an "investor's guide" which could profitably be followed by every stock-buyer—whether his investments run to small sums or large.

The guide includes these rules: Make sure you are dealing with a responsible brokerage house and avoid glib telephone salesmen; take any prophecy of a future run-up in the stock as a warning something is wrong—honest dealers aren't fortune tellers; get reputable advice on the prospects of any concern in which you are urged to invest; remember that oral statements by the salesman are not binding; insist on a witness when a sales pitch is made—the swindler always insists on talking to his intended victims alone; don't buy securities in a hurry on a high-pressure approach—think and inquire about them.

The securities industry, along with state and federal agencies, is working hard to expel and expose the few parasites in its rank. But so long

as suckers exist, gyp artists will be at work taking them to the cleaners. The real and lasting cure is intelligent action on the part of investors themselves.

A BANNER YEAR FOR MEAT

The meat industry has never been in a better position to satisfy the meat-buying wants of the public. That statement was made as 1954 neared its end by a top official of the American Meat Institute. The industry, he added, has been able to keep supplies in pace with the steadily mounting population which has now reached 163,000,000 and it would appear there is little danger of its not being able to produce enough meat within the foreseeable future.

The figures are certainly impressive. It is expected that during 1955 some 26,000,000,000 pounds of meat will be produced, for a new record. Every type of meat is in plentiful supply. Pork is to be especially abundant in the near future, due to the heavy fall pig crop, which was 11 percent greater than that of 1953. The 1955 spring crop, also, will be substantially larger than that of 1954.

There is nothing static about the meat business. As the spokesman for the Institute said: "The meat packing industry is facing up to the challenge of doing its part in continuing to provide an adequate supply of meat at reasonable prices for the American people. Moreover, the industry continues to devote intensive attention to extensive research directed toward improvement in processing, packaging, and distribution of products in order to be of greater service to consumers and livestock producers and to obtain better earnings which it must have for progress."

The cuts of meat we want will be available when we want them—and competition will see to it that the price is right.

BIG CHANGE IN ATTITUDE

The public attitude toward chain stores has undergone a great and salutary change in the last 20 years.

In the '30s it was argued that the chains would destroy independent merchandising. A punitive federal chain-store tax was proposed. A number of states adopted such taxes on their own hook.

Experience has conclusively proven that the independents had far more vigor and competitive spirit and ability than those who feared for their existence realized. The proportion of the total retail business done by them and by the chains has changed little over the years. Both kinds of stores are major employers. Both make enormous contributions to our well-being and our living standards. Both are good citizens.

Many of the states which passed special chain store taxes have repealed them. The present-day attitude toward the question is found in a statement made recently by the Indiana Commission on State Tax and Financing Policy. It recommends that Indiana's graduated chain-store tax be abandoned. And it quotes testimony from representatives of the Associated Retailers of Indiana which holds that "the former feeling of bitterness on the part of independent stores toward the chains . . . no longer exists" and that the special tax "in its nature is inequitable and unjustifiable."

That is good news—for retailers, consumers, and all concerned.

GRASS ROOTS OPINION

MEDFORD, MASS., MERCURY: "Add two more R's to the traditional three of reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic to round out today's education. To their credit and glory, 16 and 17-year-olds on the New York Times Youth Forum named the two R's as responsibility and religion. The true goal of education, according to these amazing youngsters, is to make people Americans and make them aware of their land and its opportunities. And yet there are people who despair of this generation!"

PETALUMA, CALIF., ARGUS-COURIER: "We have not gained very much, if anything, if the federal taxes go down while state and local taxes go up."

BISHOPVILLE, S. C., MESSENGER: "A news release coming out of Washington tells us that an early Senate hearing was promised today on advertising mail delivered to homes without carrying any specific address. Such mail has been called 'junk mail' by many people disgusted with receiving this type of mail."

TSCONCIDO, CALIF., WEEKLY TIMES-ADVOCATE: "The free market, governed as it is by the natural law of supply and demand, is the only kind of market that brings maximum benefits to all concerned. It is a lot better to rely on that market than it is on the mouthings of politicians who, when they're out, yell about high prices and when they're in set up costly bureaucracies to control prices."

In those vernal seasons of the year when the air is calm and pleasant, it were an injury and sullenness against nature not to go out and see her riches, and partake in her rejoicing with heaven and earth.—Milton.



YOUR LOCAL BOY SCOUT COUNCIL NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

BEHIND THE SCENES IN AMERICAN BUSINESS

—BY RENOLDS KNIGHT—

NEW YORK, Jan. 31 — The United States Savings and Loan League, fastest-growing of financial agencies concerned with the nation's home building boom, predicts a fast start this spring, a good summer, and perhaps a little slackening off next fall and winter in residential construction.

Americans are still moving into the suburbs. Mortgage money is still plentiful, both from government and from private savers. Children of the great birthing boom of right after the war are growing up and crowding their parents into bigger homes. More persons have incomes that allow them to own their own homes. That's the League's summary of favorable factors.

On the minus side: Building has taken care of much of the pent-up demand for housing. Fewer new households are being formed than in the years just passed. Income expansion for many segments of the population has about ended. Some cities have persistent unemployment; the jobless are broke and the jobful are hesitant to spend. Still, balancing all factors, the League believes 1955 will match the 1,215,000 dwelling units built in 1954. And that was one of the industry's best years.

PROGRESS IN FOOD — Because agriculture is the world's oldest industry, there's a tendency to think of it as "so" in its ways. In this country, a least, the reverse is true. Food production and distribution methods are highly efficient and on the lookout for new ideas.

A case in point is the nine-year-old program of state farm experts and the A & P Food Store to encourage production of higher quality yams in South Carolina. County agencies and Agricultural Extension Service workers coach 4-H Club members in the best production practices. Each year the food chain buys a carload of the winners' yams, and gives them

a trip to New York as a prize.

Best record this year was a \$661.90 harvest on one acre. The boy's average yield was 365 bushels of yams—170 bushels of them U. S. No. 1 grade. Average per acre yam production throughout the nation, of all grades, is 90 bushels.

The young visitors to New York see their carload of yams unloaded at 1 a. m., then at 10 a. m. the same day visit a supermarket and watch the piles of ruddy yams being transferred to shopping carts. The sights of the big city occupy the rest of their visit.

THINGS TO COME — If your zipper sticks when they return from the laundry or the cleaner's, a new zipper lubricant, spread on with a little wheel, may be what you need . . . Robert's Rules of Order have been reduced, as far as possible, to slide rule form. A presiding officer can match up eight basic questions about 36 possible motions, and read off whether the member is out of order or whether a question can be debated or must be voted upon at once . . . A soap dish substitute consist of one magnet to be affixed to the bathroom, another to be shoved into the cake of soap . . . This summer it will be possible to get a lawn sprinkler which will turn the water on and off while you are on your vacation.

FIRE HAZARD ELIMINATED — Carol City, the new Miami suburb where houses are priced "at cost" will be the nation's first major housing development to have 100-ampere wiring throughout.

This innovation means that the homeowner can use any number of electrical appliances he wishes without fear of blowing fuses or starting fires.

Julius Gaines, president of the Gaines Construction Company, builder of the 10,000-home community, says the installation will add \$400,000 to building costs. It's worth it, he says, in elimina-

AMERICA BY 1975

(Report No. 25)

America by 1975 will have an increase in consumption of natural gas ranging from 50 per cent for residential nonheating to 320 per cent for residential heating. The National Association of Manufacturers cites the report of the President's Materials Policy Commission of June 1952 in pointing out that the average increase of all natural gas consumption will be 138 per cent.

In addition to residential use of natural gas, commercial use will increase 150 per cent, industrial use 100 per cent, pipeline fuel and lost in transmission (which amounts to only 5 per cent) 133 per cent.

(Report No. 26)

America's Southern states by 1975 will double their use of pulpwood, according to an official of the International Paper Company.

The National Association of Manufacturers cites a recent speech in Atlanta, Georgia, by J. E. McCaffrey, vice president of the International Paper Company, in outlining the needs that will be imposed upon her pulpwood industry of future hazards.

MORE COSTLY CREDIT — Every year about this time the New York State Bankers Association holds its midwinter meeting in New York. Just as regularly the New York Federal Reserve Bank buys the members a luncheon. Most times their host, the president of the Reserve Bank, just says he's glad to have them there.

This year the president, Alan Sproul, said the Federal Reserve System meant to let credit tighten up a bit. He said this course was justified by the upturn in business, which no longer needs the stimulation of easy credit.

It's a far piece from the Hotel Commodore in New York to most little businesses and farms scattered over the land, but this news is meant for them too. It's unlikely that any good customer will be at his local bank. However, he find he can't borrow for his needs may run into a stricter definition of needs, or even a little higher interest cost.

BITS O' BUSINESS — Commodities rose last week in New York markets on fear of war in the Far East. . . Steel mills last week operated at 84 per cent of capacity a yield of 2,019,000 tons of ingots and castings. . . Farmers' cash receipts in 1954 were 4 per cent under 1953's, said the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Mr. McCaffrey said that where the South uses approximately 14 and one-half million cords of pulpwood in 1952 it is expected to need 30 million cords in 1975 . . . an increase of 107 per cent.

"This is," he warned, "in addition to anticipated increases for lumber, poles, and all other products."

McCaffrey spoke before the Southern Pulpwood Conservation Association annual meeting.

Gaston Gets Big Blow-Up In N. C. Magazine

The January 29 issue of State Magazine, mailed out recently to local subscribers, has unusual interest for Gaston county people. This is the Gaston county issue—a 56-page edition packed with stories of Gaston towns and industries, and favored with many advertisements from Gaston firms.

Of particular interest is a news story called, "Gaston Didn't Wait For Outside Help," written by Bill Sharpe and telling of the fast growth of industry along the Catawba river. Another interesting story is called "Town-Studded Gastonia," a history lesson about Gaston's towns, written by Paul Pleasant.

The Gaston issue will be incorporated in another book by Bill Sharpe. He has already covered 36 counties of North Carolina in his first volume.

Driver Training For High School Teachers

PALEIGH — Professional driver training, including classroom work and behind-the-wheel instruction, will be offered North Carolina high school teachers in a special series of courses set to begin February 7th.

The courses are free. All necessary textbooks and study materials are provided at no expense to teachers. Every regularly certified high school teacher with a valid driver's license, a good driving record and who is in good health is eligible for the training, according to Joe C. Noe of the State Department of Public Instruction.

The sessions will be composed of 20 hours of classroom work and 12 hours of behind-the-wheel instruction. Teachers completing the full course will be awarded a certificate qualifying them to teach classroom and in the car phases of driver education in North Carolina schools.

The training courses were previously offered by the Department of Public Instruction through summer sessions at colleges throughout the state.

Approximately 224 teachers qualified in last year's summer training classes.

Application blanks and additional information may be secured by writing to John C. Noe, Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh.

Opening date for the training

and meeting place are given for the following counties: AREA 8: Catawba, Lincoln, Cleveland, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, Rowan, Stanly, Union, February 16, Lincolnton High School, Lincolnton.

Milk Production To Be Greater

The milk production and supply in 1955 and 1956 will be greater than in 1954 in North Carolina as well as the nation as a whole, according to Dorris D. Brown, extension farm management and marketing specialist at State College.

More milk is expected because of the more cows, high production of milk per cow, low beef salvage value, and a diminishing opportunity to shift to pork production, experts say.

But the demand for milk and dairy products this year will exceed than likely take care of any expected increase in production in this state.

Brown says that in most areas of North Carolina the farm price for Grade A milk will be slightly lower in 1955. Excess supplies during the spring season are likely to force down prices, somewhat.

He predicts that feed prices are likely to be slightly higher, but still favorable for continued heavy feeding, and pastures and rfoage supplies are likely to improve in North Carolina.

Post Peeling Machine Is Boon To Fence Building

Stone, himself, has already constructed his own chain peeler at a total cost of \$28 for materials. The machine is in operation and doing a good job, Gray says.

The forestry specialist points out that setting the bark off fence posts was always one of the biggest and most time-consuming jobs in putting long life home-crown pine posts.

This inexpensive machine seems to have that problem licked, Gray feels.

It takes one man from eight to 10 minutes to peel a post by hand.

Gray says that several farmers wanted one of the machines right away and are making plans to build them.

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Efficient gas has been tested by marketing research technicians of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, to speed the ripening of matons in storage.

BUILDING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW



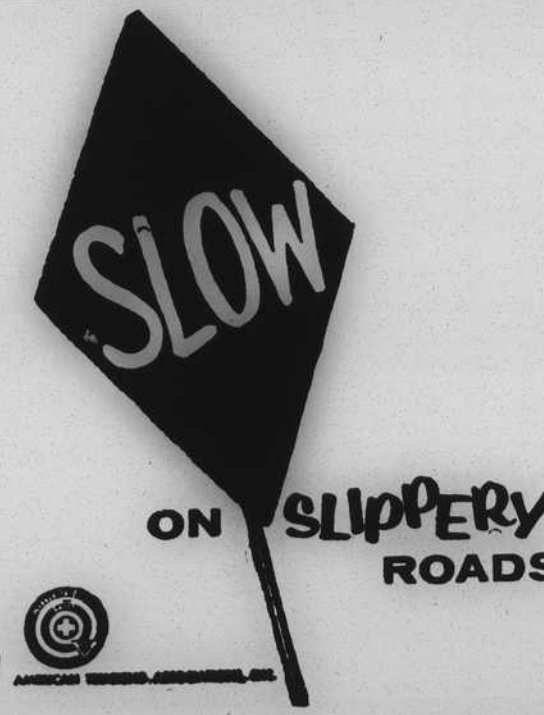
Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Explorers and leaders now number 3,000,000. They are "Building for a Better Tomorrow" with the help of Scouting.

STRENGTHEN THIS GREAT MOVEMENT BY GIVING IT YOUR ACTIVE SUPPORT

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA!

CHERRYVILLE NATIONAL BANK

West Main St. Cherryville, N. C.



Raleigh, N. C. (Special)—This is the time of year when many drivers get that sickening and helpless feeling which comes when they put on their brakes and the old car just slides blithely along the ice or snow-covered street. It's an experience no one likes and one no motorist need have, according to J. T. Outlaw, Exec. Vice-Pres. North Carolina Motor Carriers Association.

"If you have trouble controlling your car on slippery streets, don't blame the weather," Mr. Outlaw said. "Chances are it is high time for a reappraisal of driving habits. Safe driving on slippery streets requires drastically reduced speeds. Most people slide down some, of course, but few people slow down enough to have full control over their ve-

hicles under all conditions. Maximum safe speeds range from as low as 10-15 miles an hour or even less on ice—to a possible 35 miles an hour on packed snow.

Mr. Outlaw emphasized that "the control of your car depends on the traction between the road surface and your tires. This traction is greatly reduced by snow, ice or rain and you can't expect to be able to control your car at dry-pavement speeds."

"Remember, too," he asked, "that maximum traction is obtained just before the wheels begin to slide whether in stopping or starting. To take advantage of this fact, make your stops and starts gradually. Thus, you can minimize the likelihood of being involved in an accident and of getting stuck."