

SHIP, SHIP AHOY! BOY SCOUTS FORM REAL SEA BRANCH

The Sea Scouts, a branch of the Boy Scouts of America, have made their appearance in Portland, two ships' crews of nine boys each, having been recently organized, the first among the boys of the James John high school with Arthur B. George as the Sea Scout master, and the second among the boys of the Jefferson high school with Elmer Norman as Sea Scout master.

A boy must be at least 15 years old and weigh at least 112 pounds before he is eligible to enter the Sea Scouts.

CREW HAS UNIFORMS

At least two of each boat crew must be first class scouts and in the sloop

class; four must be in the schooner class and at least six must be in the barkentine class. The boys are taught all the things there are to know about a ship and are advanced in classification as they progress, as follows: Sloop, schooner, barkentine.

The St. Johns crew members already have their uniforms, which are very neat and attractive, being built along the lines of the sailor's uniform. They held a rally in the gymnasium of the James John high school and the ceremonies were conducted from the improvised ship, which had been made by placing ropes in the form of a ship.

TAKE OATH

Flags and pennants were flying from the bow and stern and passengers were taken on and off by means of a real gang plank. Short addresses were made by the Portland scout executive, James E. Brockway, and Scoutmaster George.

The oath of the Sea Scouts is: "On my honor I will, as a cabin boy, do my best to learn swimming and always be prepared to render aid to those in need in connection with water accidents; to make it my practice to know the location of the life saving devices on every ship I board; and to mentally outline my responsibility to maintaining order for myself and shipmates in case of emergency; to be vigilant and cautious, always guarding against water accidents; to cooperate with the responsible authorities for the observance of all regulations for the conduct and safety

of boats and ever to seek to preserve the motto of the sea: "Women and children first."

HAS SPECIAL APPEAL

"Sea Scouting dates back to the earliest stages of the scout movement in this country," said Mr. Brockway. "But the quickened interest in all ship and sea activities now manifest from coast to coast made it seem advisable to the national council to develop the Sea Scout program more intensively and extensively."

"Especially is that true here on the Pacific coast. The government considered for a time the organization of junior reserves, but later decided to place its stamp of approval upon the Sea Scout movement and to lend its support to the education of boys in maritime matters through its channels."

"The program has a special appeal to older scouts, as it gives the boy a practical training and develops in him an intelligent interest in boats, ships and seaways, doing for him on water what land scouting has done for him in the woods. Its general methods and its goal are identical with those of regular scouting. Like regular scouting it is devoted to the spirit of service and good citizenship making."

The state training school at Chehalis is quarantined for smallpox and scarlet fever. Forty cases of smallpox are reported.

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