

The Gold Hill News

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Scouting Considered High In Character Building

The American boy's urge to do things is largely responsible for the

phenomenal growth of the Boy Scouts of America during the past three decades, the National Council of the organization believes. Although adults look with favor upon the character-building aspects of Scouting, the 12 year old is primarily interested in joining a lively bunch of his contemporaries who seem to spend most of their time hiking, camping, performing spectacular Good Turns and playing exciting games.

Records of the past three decades have well established the character values of Scouting. More than half of the Rhodes Scholars from the United States have been former Scouts. So have half the cadets at Annapolis and West Point. Private organizations who hire many young men frequently consider attainment of Eagle Scout rank as the equivalent of two years in college. The Army and Navy Air Corps give special preference to high ranking former Scouts because they are presumed to be serious minded, responsible and alert.

Despite the solid basis for adult

approval of Scouting, there is good reason for the enthusiasm of the boys themselves. The movement's whole program is predicated on the idea of "learning by doing." To promote respect for the United States Flag, a color ceremony is part of troop meetings, and an important part of the tenderfoot requirements is a knowledge of correct flag usages.

Self-reliance is developed on hikes in the woods, where — under the eye of senior scouts and adult leaders — the beginners learn to pitch their own tents and cook their own meals. Tracking and path-finding games are exciting sport, and they teach the boys to be observant. Contests in first aid, knot tying and bridge building keep them alert and ready for the day when their knowledge will be of serious use to the community.

The idea of service is kept before the boys throughout their years as Boy Scouts. The daily good turn is a keynote of the program. Advancement to higher rank requires evidence that the youngsters have lived up to the Scout Oath and Law since joining.

Typical of the sort of Good Turn that appeals to the boy's dramatic sense is the distribution of Thanksgiving baskets, ushering at public functions, and assisting in rescue work. Preparation for such tasks instills an eagerness to perform other, less exciting jobs. Active participation in Scouting from his 12th birthday until he is 16 or 17 often has a profound effect on a youth's adulthood.

Southern Pacific Places Order for Track Fittings

A. D. McDonald, president of Southern Pacific, announced recently that the railroad has placed orders for approximately \$800,000 for track fittings bringing its total current expenditures for new rail, track materials and equipment to \$17,400,000.

The fittings, which include angle bars, track spikes and bolts, tie plates, etc., are for use in laying 40,000 gross tons of new rail, purchase of which, at a cost of \$1,800,000 was announced late last month.

Other items in the \$17,400,000 program, orders for which have been placed in the past few months, include 20 new locomotives of the "Daylight" type, costing approximately \$3,500,000; 2,540 freight cars at a cost of more than \$7,800,000, and 51 air conditioned streamlined passenger cars of various types at a cost of approximately \$3,500,000.

Also included are commitments for the company's portion of the cost of the new \$2,000,000 streamliner "City of San Francisco," now under construction for joint operation by Southern Pacific, Union Pacific and Chicago and North Western Railroads between San Francisco and Chicago, McDonald said.

"BUY SOMETHING BRITISH" WEEK URGED ON PORTLAND

Portland's mayor recently urged support of Great Britain in the European war and proclaimed a "Buy Something British" week.

The proclamation said: "The courageous British depend on supplies which they purchase in the United States . . . In order that Britain may have dollar exchange to purchase American supplies it is necessary that we reciprocate by buying some things which Britain is able to sell."

BATTERY TERMINALS

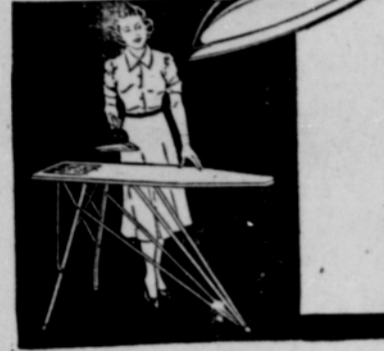
A coating of vaseline will protect the battery terminals against corrosion, according to the Emergency Road Service of the Oregon State Motor association.

Mississippi leads in percentage of motor vehicles registered from 1938 through 1939 with an increase of 13.4 per cent.

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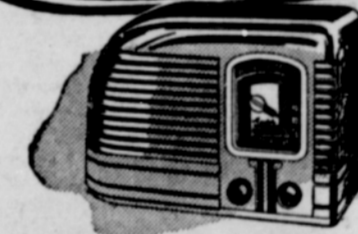
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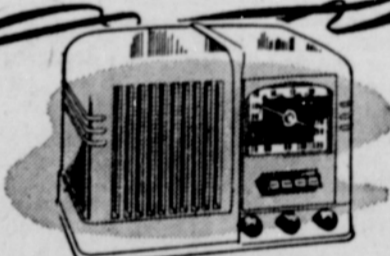
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