



READY TO GO — Shown shortly before departure are the members of Boy Scout Troop 7, Medford, who left June 19 on a week-long trek down the Rogue river to Gold Beach. Addressing them is Bob Hawkins, Troop Scoutmaster, who, along with Leo Taylor and Al Moyer, led the group of 22 boys down the river. The group started the

# Medford Boy Scout Troop Hikes Along Rogue River to Agness

Twenty-five local Boy Scouts and their leaders completed late last month a 54-mile hike down the Rogue river from near Galice to Gold Beach. Sponsored by the Methodist church, Medford Troop 7 journeyed the first 60 miles to the "jump off point" by automobile. The point is located at the beginning of the Rogue river trail, several miles west of Grants Pass. At this point the boys, all 10 to 14 years old, started the trek down the trail with their 23-pound packs. The Rogue river was first encountered at Whiskey creek, at which point the travelers reportedly began to feel the depth and the grandeur of the canyon. Scoutmaster Bob Hawkins describes the area in saying, "The peaks towering more

than a mile along the banks of this foaming, descending river give you the feeling of exclusion from the outside world." The Scouts first camped at the "Slate Slide shelter," the first place wide enough to camp the group comfortably. Here, according to Hawkins, the boys swam and fished and had a regular "Scouting time." As the Medford tribe followed the river toward the ocean such places as "Wash Board narrows," "Windy chute," "Black Bar lodge," "Horse Shoe bend," "Kelsey falls" and "Kelsey creek," were observed. Where Kelsey creek enters the river, the caravan camped for the second night at the spot known as Kelsey canyon. While they were searching for a suitable swimming hole, the boys found an eddy behind a huge rock in the river. Find Swimming Spot From all indications, Hawkins said, they had found a spot, perhaps, previously known only to the bears as their bathing spot. He added,

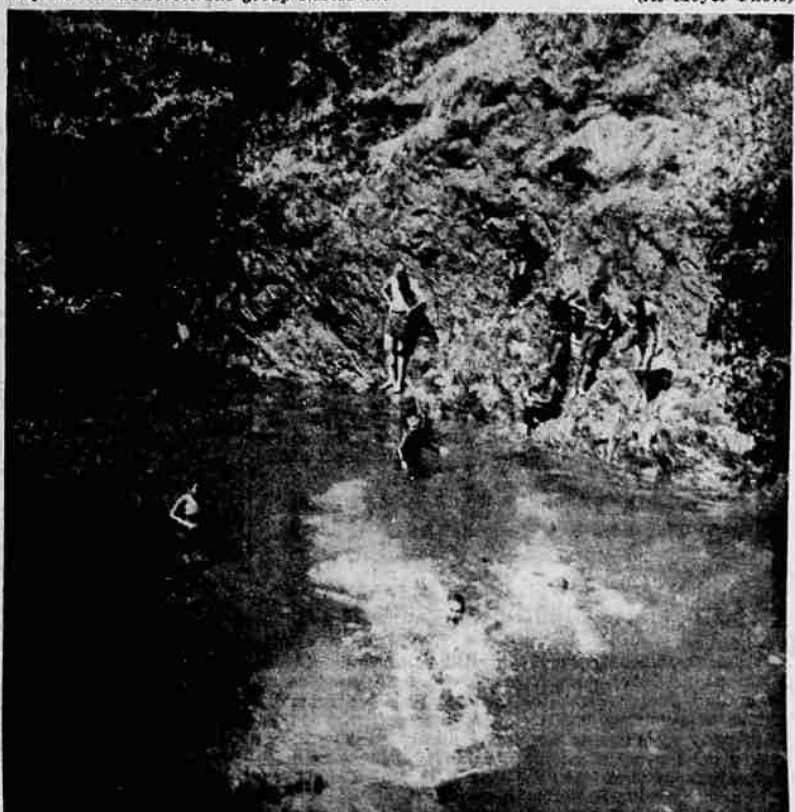
"... at any moment (we were) expecting to be chased out by bears." Next morning, the Scouts moved on to "Battle bar," declared the scene of the last big Indian battle in the Rogue river area. Soon they hiked on in to Zane Grey's famed hide-a-way, "Winkle bar." According to reports, all that is left standing from the river's wrath is the cook shack, the wood shed, and pieces of the guest houses. Moving on, the group noted "Missouri bar," then "Tucker flats," where they spent two nights and a day swimming and relaxing in Mule creek. After resuming the trail below Marial, they approached "Inspiration point," where visitors walk along a trail hewn out of the cliffs that make up the gorge. Scouts say that a one-foot rise in the water level at Grants Pass causes a 10-foot rise or more at this point. Here the river narrowed down to less than 20 feet across. Placer Operation Onward, the caravan came to "Blossom bar," the scene of one of the biggest placer mine operations man has even encountered for gold, according to the Scouts. All that now remains, however, are rusted pieces of metal.

Interrupting the trip about this time was a "drop in" visit by Dr. Deak Miller of the Paradise Bar lodge, who came "winging his way just above the tree tops and our heads and landed his little, but powerful, Piper Super Cub on his private landing strip hewn out in the bottom of the canyon," Hawkins reported. Time was taken out of the schedule to talk with the flier. Late in the evening on the fifth day, the hikers came across water running out of the hillside near the trail. It was here that the delegation decided to camp for the night. Zane Grey Retreat According to a map, they had stopped at "Sollitude bar," another of Zane Grey's famous retreats. Here the river constituted frothing, foaming white rapids. The Scouts said they had good luck in fishing, since the fish were hungry

and would bite most anything. After starting out the next day the Scouts came across "... a turmoil of rocks" which eventually gave way to better ground. For the next few miles, according to the participants, the trail led them through "... green glades which were covered with wild rhododendrons and blackberries." The Scout leaders said the boys took a detour through this area to partake of some of the berries. Shortly, the hikers came to the trail's end and then hiked along the road through Illahe and to Water's creek camp ground. A chicken dinner was awaiting the Scouts when they arrived a short while later at the Lucas Resort ranch operated by Mr. and Mrs. Lucas. The boys camped there for the night. Board River Boat The next morning, Sunday, June 26, the Medford residents boarded a chartered river boat for the final trek of the journey to the sea. All of the Scouts agreed that "it sure beats walking." The trip from Agness to Gold Beach is called "very exciting" by the Scouts. In Gold Beach, the boys

were met by their parents at which time they began their trip by car home. Scouts making the trip include Darrell Wells, Mike Minnis, Warren Rolis, Danny Thomas, Melvin Taylor, Wayne Taylor, Dean Hall, Richard Moyer, James Moyer, David Doolen, David LaFever, Vern Beardslee, Paul Lewis, David Stevens, Dan Hawkins, Jerry Hobbs, Rickey Howell, Ray Reid, Don Slater, Stan Hobbs, Forest Young and Greg Faulkner. Also participating were Leo Taylor, committee chairman; Al Moyer, father of two of the Scouts; and Hawkins, Scoutmaster.

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"SCOUTING TIME" — Pictured during a time of diversion are several members of Medford Boy Scout Troop 7 who completed a week-long hike down the Rogue river to the coast last month. They are swimming in Mule creek, a point about half way down the river trail. This is one of several places where Scoutmaster Bob Hawkins said the boys had a regular "Scouting time." In many parts of the trip, the boys discovered that the river narrowed down with a rocky canyon enclosing them. Although in many places the water was too rough and fast, the hikers did find several places to swim along the way. (Al Moyer Photo)

## Nephew of Local Woman on Plane

Mrs. Jack Roth, 346 North Front st., Medford, said Saturday her nephew was one of the 58 persons aboard a Northwest Airlines plane which crash-landed off the Philippines coast Wednesday. Her nephew is Dr. Kline R. Swygard, a professor of political science at Oregon State college, who has reportedly been hospitalized in Clark Air Force base, Manila. Swygard was heading a round-the-world study tour with teachers from across the nation. At the last count, 56 of the 58 passengers had been picked up. The extent of the professor's injuries, if any, are not known.

## 4-H Club News

**MYH 4-H Club**  
The MYH 4-H club held a barbeque supper June 30 at the Mitchel residence. Several food demonstrations were given by club members. Georgia Mitchel made seasoned, grilled hamburgers, potatoes were fixed and baked by Doris Young, and Ilene Mitchel demonstrated punch using orange sherbet. Andrea Smith prepared apples for baking, and Susan Hall fixed a salad. Evelyn Young demonstrated homemade ice cream. The regular business meeting was dispensed with to allow time for the demonstrations. Evelyn Young, Reporter

## Water District Board Plans Appeal

Portland - (UPI) - The Richland water district board plans to appeal a Federal District court decision charging it with discrimination. Attorney for the district, Harold Burke, said he had been directed by the board to go ahead with an appeal against a decision made here by Judge William East. The decision charged the district with discriminating against a Portland Negro couple, Mr. and Mrs. Rowan Wiley. The Wileys' home in the Richland district was heavily damaged this month by fire, which police said was the work of arsonists. **LOSES SLEEP, MONEY** Yonkers, N. Y. (UPI) - Mrs. Mary Depalma told police Thursday sleep wasn't the only thing she lost when she dozed off watching the Democratic convention on television. Burglars climbed through her bedroom window and stole \$25, she said.

## Electrical Energy Use Trend Higher

Salem - (UPI) - Sales figures of private electric utilities shows an upward trend in use of electrical energy by Oregon consumers through May of this year, Public Utility Commissioner Jonel C. Hill said Thursday. The residential average of kilowatt hours sold was 768, up 8.63 per cent over May, 1959. Average revenue was \$9.90 a customer - an increase of 10.74 per cent. Total sales were \$8,659,700, a 13.40 per cent increase over last year.

## Westside Hayburners

The Westside Hayburners 4-H Horse club held their regular monthly meeting at the home of Bonnie and Mary Cheney July 14. Bonnie Cheney reported on the Hayburners 4-H Playday July 3 at the fairgrounds. The next meeting will be held at the home of Roxie Terry Tuesday, July 26, at 10 a.m. Different 4-H horsemanship tests will be taken by the members and record books will be checked. The meeting was adjourned and refreshments served. Bonnie Cheney, Reporter

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