

Scoutmaster, Boys Become Buddies

The history of the Boy Scout movement, 51 years old this year, has always been dependent on young, able men like Robert F. Abbey of Klamath Falls.

Abbey, a Copco employee, is scoutmaster of Klamath Falls Troop 100 which was organized as an Oregon Centennial troop and was invested by Gov. Mark Hatfield at the capitol two years ago.

Like many other scout leaders, Abbey had a background in scouting and has sons of his own in the organization.

Abbey's scoutmaster was Carol Howe, now a Klamath County state representative.

"Mr. Howe was a wonderful



MICKEY RONNINGER
Boy Scout

scoutmaster and leader, and I feel that other boys should have the same fine experiences I had in Boy Scouts," Abbey said.

Abbey's 46 boys obviously look to him as a strong, adult influence, but they still like their own system of self-discipline. Abbey explains that the boys themselves elect from their own ranks junior leaders whose duty it is to help supervise.

"That's why our troop is such a success," Abbey said.

But most of all, Abbey has kind, thankful things to say about other adults involved in his scout troop. They are members of the sponsoring Peterson School Parent and Patrons and the scout troop committee.

"The committee told me to call on them whenever they can be of help, but they have never tried to impose their ideas on the troop's program, he said. "They have let the troop follow the program set up by Scout Headquarters with no interference, but when we need transportation to summer camp or a camporee there are always more than enough cars available.

"We have even had people change their summer vacation plans just so their boys could be in scouting events."

As for personal feelings about scouting, Abbey said, "I don't think anything can take the place of the feeling I get camping with the boys. They tell me things I'm sure they haven't even told their parents.

"We have a warm, personal relationship and there is nothing more you could ask," he said.

Abbey backs up his love of scouting with real work and time. He admits Mrs. Abbey's experience as a Cub Scout den mother has probably made her



TROOP 100 clusters around its scoutmaster, Robert Abbey, during a meeting at Peterson School. The scouts look to Abbey for leadership, but they also elect junior leaders who share this responsibility.



TRIANGULATION SIGHTING, familiar to all GIs, gives young scouts practice in rifle sighting. Left to right are Cornel Tuter, Robert Abbey, scoutmaster, Tony Faast, and Cliff Bennett, Troop 100.

Oregon Grapes Grown, Only 1 Official Flower

OREGON STATE COLLEGE — Although there are five species of so-called Oregon grape in the state, only one of them is the official state flower.

If a person doesn't know the difference, chances are he hasn't the state flower in his flower garden, according to Dr. Helen M. Gilkey, retired curator of the Oregon State College herbarium. Oregon state flower was selected as the state flower in 1899, some 40 years after Oregon became a state on Feb. 14, 1859.

All the Oregon grape species more tolerant of the time he spends with his scouts.

Almost any evening may find Abbey at home working with scouts on passing requirements or counseling on various merit badges. Saturday mornings scouts take over at the Abbey home where they devote time building pioneer projects such as miniature signal towers.

Troop 100 represents six schools in the area and a large number of churches. About 95 per cent of its members were active in the Cub Scout program.

have compound leaves made up of leaflets. These also have yellow flowers and blue grape-like berries.

But here's the difference: The state flower grows as a rather large shrub, up to 10 feet, compared to others in the state which are only about two feet high.

Besides being bushy, it has glossy green leaves which are divided into five to seven spiny leaflets. The flower cluster, which is branched and re-branched on the state flower, is larger. Oregon grape is known either by the genus *Berberis* or *Mahonia*. Either is correct, Dr. Gilkey said.

The state flower grows in the Douglas fir woods and margins of it and in thickets where there is plenty of rainfall in Western Oregon and Northwestern Idaho and points from Washington to British Columbia.

Long-leaved Oregon grape grows in higher altitudes. It differs from the "state" one in having a simple flower cluster with nine to 15 leaflets. It isn't as tall and the leaves aren't as shiny.

In early history, Oregon grape was made into a popular tea and was the chief ingredient in a famous spring tonic called "Pfundler's Oregon Blood Purifier."

In a more concentrated solution, the roots were used in medicine as a cathartic, stimulant to the kidneys, in dyspepsia, dysentery, typhoid fever and malaria.

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