

Modoc Area Sees Heavy Scout Gains

Attention on Successful Program Focused by Current Financing Drive

By BOB LEONARD

THE purpose of this corporation shall be to promote through organization and cooperation with other agencies 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 using materials which are in common use by boy scouts, by placing emphasis on the scout oath and law for character development, training in citizenship and physical fitness.

To this end, first set up at the inception of the American Boy Scout movement, have 325 adults in the Modoc Area council strived since the council's beginning on May 1, 1936.

Drive in Progress

At that time the area showed a total of only two scout troops and a registered scout roster of 188 boys. Now, only five years later, there are 21 troops and over 800 scouts in the four southern Oregon and two northern California counties.

Nearing completion today is the third annual Boy Scout-Girl Scout-Camp Fire Girl fund financing drive. Goal set is \$6000 to carry out the three groups' program for 1941. All Klamath Falls is behind the campaign to further expand the already fast-growing activity calendar of all three.

In 1936, with a brief and abortive attempt at a scout council here in 1927 the only thing upon which to base plans, Dwight Gilchrist was promoted from assistant executive of the Inland Empire council at Spokane to the post of scout executive in the Modoc Area council.

Large Index

Through his work and the excellent cooperation of basin men and women has the council grown to where it now has one of the largest indexes of troops per 12-year-old boy population in the entire United States.

Gilchrist entered professional scouting directly upon his graduation from Washington State college in 1928. He served as assistant area leader in Spokane until his transfer here.

Credited largely in helping him build the local council are K. G. Klahan, Sid Eliot, Howard Boyd and a host of other volunteer workers who each year help in directing the many scout activities.

Comprising the Modoc Area council are Klamath, Deschutes, Lake and Jefferson counties in Oregon and Modoc and part of Siskiyou counties in California. Serving boys from this area is one of the outstanding features of scouting the world over — the Boy Scout camp, which for this council is Camp Makualla on the shores of Crescent lake.

Camp Objective

One of the main objectives this year is to build Makualla into a class A camp. Rated as class B, the camp needs a permanent hospital building, showers and an adequate swimming raft for top rating.

Founded in 1936 during the first year of the Modoc council operation, Makualla drew 34 scouts from Klamath Falls. In 1940 103 local boys thronged the camp during the summer months.

Part of the scout program is the development of youths under scout age. To do this scout leaders in the past decade have begun the formation of cub packs, for lads 9, 10 and 11 years old. With a ceremony based on jungle tales, boys have a set achievement program which ties in with education. The tots may earn awards for handling a rope, simple wood carving, and making collections of items such as stones, stamps, etc. Interest is kept alive by the use of secret codes and signaling systems.

Eagle Top Goal

Awards for regular scouts are made in the form of merit badges which are earned by passing tests in specialized fields such as camping, cooking, weather, farming and others.

Top goal of all scouts is to become an Eagle, which demands a boy earn 21 merit badges among which are approximately 10 required awards. Few tenderfeet ever attain the coveted Eagle award but the Modoc council counts 15 since 1936.

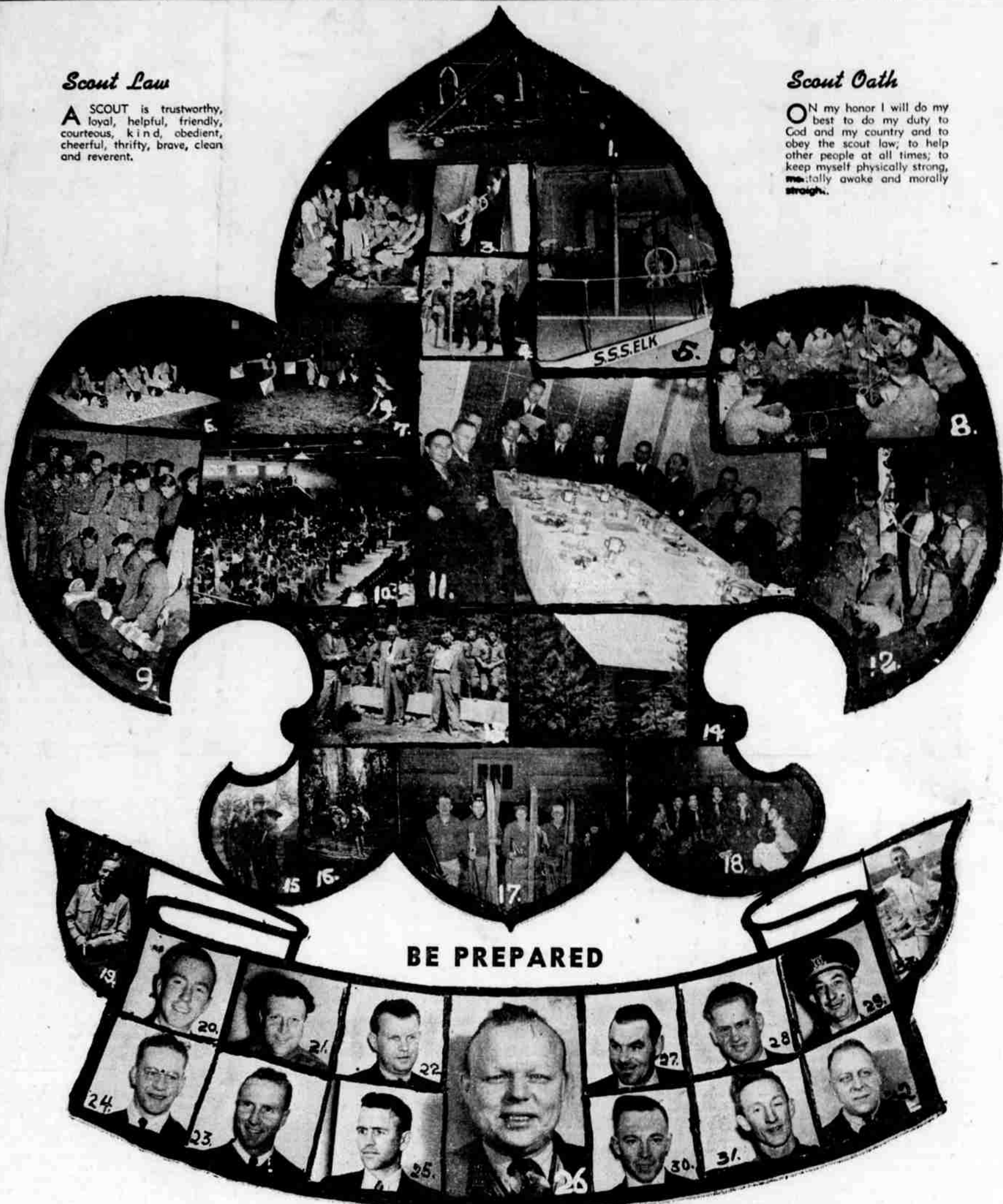
Character building, physically, mentally and morally stimulating is the Boy Scout movement. Its remarkable growth in Klamath Falls and southern Oregon is a credit to the community and to the basin.

Scout Law

A SCOUT is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

Scout Oath

ON my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the scout law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.



BE PREPARED

Nature Trail Out at Moore Park Presents Spring's First Blossoms

By MARGARET F. SMALL

Everyone will want to see the wild flowers and their markers along the Nature Trail at Moore park. The flowers are just beginning to bloom and the Camp Fire Girls are placing signs near the new blossoms bearing the common and the botanical names for those who wish to use the proper appellation.

The first flowers to bloom in the park, as elsewhere in this region, is the Indian biscuit. The Indians really used a portion of this plant in their biscuit making and here is an authentic recipe: Gather tubers of the Indian biscuit, dry them and remove the outer coat. Grind to a powder. Moisten the powder, make into cakes and bake. Does that sound like an appetizing bread?

Since the sagebrush buttercup, pansy violet and parrya, three of the earliest and loveliest of the wild flowers, do not bloom near the beginning of the trail, they have been planted there so that all may easily see them. Other signs placed this week are yellow bell and gooseberry.

Many interesting legends are told concerning wild flowers. Pliny stated that persons eating buttercups are so convulsed

with laughter that they can scarcely control themselves. Also that if the buttercups are not washed down with bits of pineapple juice sprinkled with pepper and dissolved with date wine the unfortunate consumer may "guffaw his way into the next world in a very unseemingly manner." Many varieties of this flower however are poisonous.

When Jupiter changed Io into a heifer he deemed common grass unfit food for the lovely lady and created great numbers of violets for her nourishment. When Io died, violets sprang from her grave.

A violet was Napoleon's emblem and also the national emblem of the Greeks. When Napoleon returned from Elba, violets were scattered in his pathway.

The town of Grasse, France, has been called "The Sweetest Spot in the World" because tons of violets are cultivated and made into perfume there. Yellow bells is the first to bloom and is one of the most beautiful members of the lily family. Parrya honors Captain Parry a British explorer who first discovered it in his search for the Northwest Passage.

THE extraordinary photographic enterprise above is the result of an idea evolved by local scouts and their executive, Dwight Gilchrist. The pictures, depicting various activities and personalities in scouting, are formed in the shape of a first class scout badge.

Arthur Bremer of The Herald and News staff made the design. The pictures were all taken, developed and printed by local scouts, led by Rollo England. The scouts also fitted them into the design.

The feature is timely, for this weekend the final work is being done on the Boy Scout-Girl Scout-Camp Fire Girl financial drive.

Each picture in the design is numbered. The picture identification:

1. The engineers of Troop 4 build a bridge for the circus.
2. Troop 6 feeds the inner man.
3. Bob Holmes, camp bugler, sounds Reville.
4. Patrol inspection at camp.
5. Ship's company aboard S. S. Elk.

6. Troop 8 and artificial respiration.
7. Troop 5 tells all.
8. Troop 3 does it stuff.
9. Troop 1 works until the doctor comes.
10. Massed Scouts and colors at the circus.
11. A meeting of the district committee.
12. Troop 9 does a little 'chiseling.'
13. Laying the cornerstone at Camp Makualla, Crescent Lake.
14. Completed lodge at camp.
15. Retreat at camp.
16. Senior Scout pack horse trip.
17. Troop 11 ready for winter sports.
18. Cub's Grand Howl.
19. Dwight E. Gilchrist, Scout executive.
20. Milt McAuley, Troop 1.
21. Lloyd Carter, Troop 4.
22. W. S. Sweet, Troop 6.
23. Bill Boyer, Troop 3.
24. Willis Robinson, Troop 5.
25. Harold Ashley, Troop 8.
26. Howard J. Boyd, District Commissioner.
27. Bill Burgess, Troop 9.

Snow Surveyors Finishing Work in Towering Crater Lake Area

CRATER LAKE — Accompanying Arch Work of the soil conservation service to Crater lake this week were Frank B. Harper and Jack G. James.

Harper and James are from the division of information for the soil conservation service from the regional office in Spokane, Wash. They are obtaining pictures and information of the snow survey work done in Oregon.

From here James is going with R. W. Childrith and G. F. Sturdevant to the Seven lakes. It is a 14 mile trip on skis into the lakes. There they will take the final snow course for this season, and James will take pictures of their activities. Work and Harper are going on to Medford.

Before coming here they took courses at Aneroid lake and Anthony lake. While at Anthony

lake they met Oregon's winter snow queen and her princesses. The queen was very interested in the snow survey work.

The final stream flow forecast for Klamath basin will be announced at the sixth annual meeting of the southern Oregon water forecast committee on April 8 at Klamath Falls.

HAS BEENS

NEW YORK, (AP)—Three actors in the play, "Life With Father," will be replaced Monday because they are too old. They are Bobby Schenck, Ronald Reiss and Richard Simon, aged, respectively, 9, 12 and 17.

"Outgrew their roles," says the management.

HISTORICAL THEFT

GREEN BAY, Wis., (AP)—Apparently lured by high scrap metal prices, thieves stole the bronze tablet from a boulder at Red Banks near here, marking the spot where Jean Nicolle, explorer, landed in 1634.

Censorship likely will keep the German people from learning too much about the lend-lease bill. What they don't know may hurt them.

Klamath Boy Sees German Plane Crash

Harvey Childers, With Canadian Army, Watches Spitfires Bag Bomber

ADVENTUROUS Harvey Childers, 26-year-old Klamath Falls youth, had just returned home from chaperoning a boatload of cattle to Singapore when he hurried to Canada and joined the Canadian army. A short time later his unit was transferred overseas.

He is now a gunner stationed "somewhere in England" with defense forces preparing to meet the if and when invasion of Adolph Hitler on the British Isles.

Harvey is the son of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Childers of 5139 Bristol avenue.

Following is a letter received from him by his father:

Somewhere in England
February 21, 1941.
Dear Daddy:

I think it's about time I wrote to you. I've written to all other members of the family so here goes. There isn't an awful lot to tell about things over here. Personally, I don't think much of the country or most of the people. They are a way behind the times in most things. I've even seen farm houses where the walls are thatched with straw and the roofs are of straw. No one seems to know what speed is. They go merrily along taking their own sweet time at whatever they're doing.

I've had my first taste of war a couple of weeks ago, or rather I should say I saw my first bit of warfare. I and a couple of the other fellows were out walking on a Saturday afternoon when we saw six Spitfires after three German bombers. Just before they got to us one of the Spitfires dove on a bomber and machine-gunned it, killing the pilot I guess because the bomber started almost straight down and directly toward us, or so it looked. I didn't take any chances but dove into a ditch and laid face down expecting its load of bombs to go when it hit, but it had already dumped them, I guess, because it hit about 300 yards from us but nothing happened except pieces of the plane were flying all over the place. Believe me a plane sure makes a hell of a noise when it's coming straight down with both motors roaring.

We jumped up and ran over towards the main part of the plane and came across one of the Germans about two or three hundred feet from the plane and, believe it or not, there had been five Germans in the plane and the nearest one to it was at least 50 feet away. Needless to say all the Jerries were dead; two were all cut up by machine gun bullets as well as being all smashed up.

I took the helmet off of one of them and he was a great big fellow. I should say he was probably 6 feet 6 inches tall and must have weighed about 230 or 240 pounds. Then I took a parachute out of one of the others; it was damaged but I'll send you a little piece for a souvenir. I'm sending the helmet to Clarence and he'll send it down to Raymond to keep for me; he'll let you see it.

The day before yesterday a German plane came over and dove down and machine-gunned the street about a half-mile from here. We could see the plane and hear the guns but I don't know whether anyone was hurt or not.

A German plane went over about five minutes ago and dropped a bomb a mile or two away because it sure rattled the windows; but you get used to it and don't pay much attention to them unless they hit pretty close.

Did you or Raymond get any deer. I got a letter from Mom which I'll answer in a day or two but she didn't say whether you got any or not. Boy, but some steak or jerkie would taste good. How was duck hunting and how's fishing? Are you catching any? Try and find time and write me a letter. I sure would like to hear how you all are and what you're doing. I close now, so love,

Your son,
Harvey.

EMBARRASSING

INDIANAPOLIS, (AP)—Lieut. Edward F. Moore, who drives a sound car from which he tells motorists how to avoid traffic accidents, reported an accident to headquarters.

It was a collision between an automobile driven by John L. Yarlring, 70, of Shelbyville and the police accident prevention bureau's sound car driven by Lieut. Edward F. Moore.