



Our Friends The Trees



FOREST OF LONG LEAF PINE Photo by U.S. Forest Service



FOREST RANGER AND VIRGIN FOREST Photo by U.S. Forest Service

BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

EVERY INCH A TROOP

One hundred scouts at the Westfield (Mass.) Sanitarium for Tuberculosis compose Troop 4, which has the distinction of functioning as a troop 24 hours a day, the boys eating, sleeping, working and playing together as a unit. These lads march to their meals; on patriotic occasions they carry the flag to the sound of music. They go to school a few hours each day, but the greater part of their time is consumed in out-of-door activities in which scoutcraft plays a vital and most interesting part. The troop sleeps in the open in a shelter especially made for the boys by the men patients.

As to the twelfth law, "A scout is reverent"—these boys say their prayers in common morning and night. The boys kneel together and remain kneeling until each group, Protestant, Catholic and Jew, has recited its devotions. Three chaplains, representing the three faiths mentioned, are in attendance at the sanitarium.

As to the eighth law, "A scout is cheerful; he smiles whenever he can"—these boys have become famous in the institution for their pluck and spirit of happiness. In the words of one of the chaplains, "Nearly every child at the sanitarium is cured, but we have had two deaths within the past few months. Both boys who died were members of Troop 4, and to the end each played his part 'every inch a scout.' Their cheerfulness throughout their illness was so marked that the other patients would come in not only to visit the boys, but to bolster up their own grit and courage."

The boys have built a dam on the grounds to bank water in a swimming pool. Only a few of the stronger boys, however, are allowed to undertake swimming. In basketry, Troop 4 is extremely skillful. In 1921 at the Eastern States' exposition, the boys received a blue ribbon in recognition of the excellence of their work. The scouts' good turns are often manifested in their thoughtfulness for one another. For instance, these boys are much devoted to papers containing scout news. When such papers arrive, the scouts make a grand rush for this section, but the boys always pass it first to anyone of their number who happens that day to be confined to bed. A passerby can see the boys eagerly going over the items, and hear such a remark as, "Look here! See what these fellows are doing!"

"Although these boys can never become first-class scouts in actual rank," continues the chaplain, "for the rules of the doctor forbid their taking hikes or attempting scouts' pace, etc., in true scout spirit they can reach the top. In their work, the boys like to keep in mind this thought on how to play the game:

"For when the One Great Scorer comes To write against your name, He'll write not what you've lost or won, But how you played the game."

SCOUTS WIG-WAG EXPERTS



Showing the receiving end of a continental code wig-wag signal contest, a favorite pastime enjoyed by the boys.

PROTECT COAL REGION

The fifth annual report of the Anthracite Forest Protective association, with headquarters in Hazleton, Pa., heart of the anthracite coal district, bears a picture of a fine looking group of scouts and under it this title: "Scout Forest Patrol. These Hazleton boys rendered valuable services in distributing literature to passing motorists on Saturdays and Sundays during the forest fire season."

A REAL BOY SCOUT DAD

"Troop No. 8 has a dad who is 100 per cent for scouting," says the East St. Louis (Ill.) Scout Herald. "When his boy joined the troop, this dad said: 'Now, son, remember, Friday night is for scout work only. The boy had recently been offered a \$10 bill to play in an orchestra Friday evenings. When he asked dad about the matter the latter said: 'Boy scout training will mean more to you, son, than that \$10, and dad knows.'"

A FEELING OF SECURITY

You naturally feel secure when you know that the medicine you are about to take is absolutely pure and contains no harmful or habit producing drugs. Such a medicine is Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, kidney, liver and bladder remedy. The same standard of purity, strength and excellence is maintained in every bottle of Swamp-Root.

It is scientifically compounded from vegetable herbs. It is not a stimulant and is taken in teaspoonful doses. It is not recommended for everything. It is nature's great helper in relieving and overcoming kidney, liver and bladder troubles.

A sworn statement of purity is with every bottle of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root.

If you need a medicine, you should have the best. On sale at all drug stores in bottles of two sizes, medium and large. However, if you wish first to try this great preparation send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention this paper.—Advertisement.

Daily Dialogues.
Don—Statistics prove—
Juan—Yes, anything you please.—
Detroit Free Press.

SQUEEZED TO DEATH

When the body begins to stiffen and movement becomes painful it is usually an indication that the kidneys are out of order. Keep these organs healthy by taking LATHROP'S GOLD MEDAL HAARLEM OIL CAPSULES.

The world's standard remedy for kidney, liver, bladder and uric acid troubles. Famous since 1896. Take regularly and keep in good health. In three sizes, all druggists. Guaranteed as represented. Look for the name Gold Medal on every box and accept no imitation.

EYES HURT?

Don't burn or sting your eyes, and to relieve inflammation and soreness, use MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS FOR CHILDREN. Sample mailed FREE. Address MOTHER GRAY CO., Le Roy, N. Y.

ARRANGED FOR THE WITNESS

No Need for the Kunnel to Trouble About That Part of the Proceedings.

An attorney in a small southern town, upon entering his office early one morning, was surprised to find an old woman as a client. He greeted her and she returned his salutation, following it closely with a question. "Kunnel, kin you write me a will?" "Certainly," he replied. "That's my business."

"Wal, you knows Mandy, don't you?" she asked.

"Don't believe I do," he replied.

"Wal, Mandy she's ceased and done left a farm and no kinfolks and no will. All dem children ovah dere 'cross de river is claimin' kin wid her, and Ah wants you to write me a will so Ah kin git dat farm."

The lawyer was amazed at the nature of her business, and explained the penalties involved in compounding a felony. He clinched his argument by telling her the will would be void without a witness.

"Dat's awright 'bout de witness, Kunnel," she said, with a smile. "Ah's done paid Deacon Smith fob bits an' a chicken to witness it."—Judge.

Sense of Duty

There is no evil that we cannot either face or fly from—but the consciousness of duty disregarded. A sense of duty pursues us ever. It is omnipresent, like the Deity. If we take to ourselves the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, duty performed or duty violated is still with us for our happiness or our misery. If we say the darkness shall cover us, in the darkness as in the light our obligations are yet with us. We cannot escape their power nor fly from their presence. They are with us in this life, will be with us at its close; and in that scene of inconceivable solemnity which lies yet further onward we shall still find ourselves surrounded by the consciousness of duty, to pain us where ever it has been violated and to console us so far as God may have given us grace to perform it.—Daniel Webster.

CAUGHT IN PASSING

Many a charity fund owes its success to a competition of vanity.

What most churches need is ministers who are able to waken men.

A woman can't help admiring a man if he tells her she is good looking.

Prejudice is very useful. It sustains political parties and keeps one watching the other.

By JOHN DICKINSON SHERMAN

TREES! Trees! Trees! Everybody seems to be talking trees these days—and not only trees but forests and forest conservation and reforestation and a national forestry policy and tree-planting and every other phase of the subject, from the practical to the sentimental. These are of course fitting topics for nationwide discussion along about Arbor Day time. In fact, there are many indications that the American people are getting awake to the fact that a country without trees is "baldheaded and bonedead" and it is high time that they got busy on the nation's forestry problem.

President Harding is strong in his belief that a national forest policy is necessary, as is shown by his letter to Representative John D. Clarke of New York, chairman of the agricultural committee of the house, which held extensive hearings, had a bill drafted and sent it to him for an expression of his views.

The President's letter says in part: "The federal government has made fine progress in its scheme of forest reserves, the development of methods of forest protection against fire and insect and plant pests, in promoting reforestation and methods of timber conservation, and in its research looking toward improved methods of timber utilization. Some of the states have formulated state programs along the same general lines and of recent years especially there has been a steadily growing interest on the part of private owners of forest lands. I am very glad, therefore, that the committee on agriculture feels that we have come to a time when definite provision should be made for larger co-operation between the federal government, the states and the private owners, with a view to working out a national policy covering the growth, protection, conservation and use of timber."

"When we remember that substantially one-fourth of the national area is forest land or potential forest land of little or no value save for timber production, the need of such policy becomes apparent. Already we have consumed or destroyed sixty per cent of our original timber wealth, and we are now using timber at a rate four times as fast as we are growing it. Millions of acres which were once covered with fine forests and which are suitable only for the growing of timber are now entirely barren. Prosperous communities built up while these virgin forests were being harvested have disappeared, transportation lines have been torn up, and social and industrial decay has followed. The growing of timber is the most practical use to which these lands can be put, and population and industry of these regions may be restored only by restoring the forests. To this end both federal and state governments may well lend every proper encouragement."

"As we have consumed our forest growth nearest to the centers of population and industry it has become necessary to ship the timber needed for constantly increasing distances at steadily growing transportation cost and inconvenience and with consequent increases in the price of lumber. This has added to our difficulty in meeting the housing problem and is bound to mean lower standards of housing and less adequate farm improvements. These are vital matters, striking directly at our sources of national strength. Regrowth of our forests on cut-over lands which are most suitable for that purpose in the more populous portions of the United States is therefore highly desirable.

"It is interesting to note that probably 150,000,000 acres of forest land, or nearly one-third of such land in the country, is owned in small parcels by farmers. . . . It is desirable and proper that federal and state governments give the maximum

encouragement to timber growing of this sort, especially by making available the information needed to grow the character of timber best adapted to the respective regions, by making tree planting material available at the lowest possible cost, and by concessions in taxation which would justify the farmer in setting aside some of his higher priced land for this purpose.

"The draft bill which you have presented contemplates co-operation between national and state authorities to protect timber from fire, the federal government to bear a part of the expense. . . . I heartily concur in the policy of inducing all the forest states to pass satisfactory protection legislation, by providing that the secretary of agriculture may withhold co-operation with them in forest protection unless the requirements which he shall propose are adequately met.

"The taxation of privately owned forest lands is a matter of state policy and varies widely in different states. . . . and it is suggested that the secretary of agriculture be given ample authority to study the taxation policies of the several states regarding timber lands and growing timber, together with their particular effects upon reforestation and to collaborate with proper agencies of the states in devising improved methods of taxing forest lands adapted to their conditions.

"Being firmly convinced that national leadership in conserving, protecting and encouraging the growth of our timber resources is absolutely necessary, I feel that legislation along the line proposed in the draft which you have submitted represents an important step in the perfection of a truly national forest policy."

Col. W. B. Greeley is head of the forest service of the Agricultural department, which has charge of the national forests. These number 149 in 25 states and contain 156,837,282 acres. The forest service runs the biggest lumbering and grazing business in the world. Forester Greeley, in his last annual report, has this to say, among other things:

"The problem has two main features. The first feature is the rising cost of timber products, which is due primarily to heavier transportation charges from more and more distant sources of supply. The cut of lumber is decreasing in all the Eastern states; in practically ever state west of the Great Plains it is increasing. The large sawmills of the country are in full migration westward to the last great virgin timber supply on the Pacific coast. During the past thirty years the pines of the South have been the mainstay of the densely populated Central and Eastern states for softwood lumber. Their cut is dwindling. Every year scores of sawmills are dismantled.

"The second feature of our forest problem is the unproductive condition of immense areas of land which are not adapted to agriculture. The amount of unproductive land left in the wake of the sawmills or abandoned by the farmer has assumed enormous proportions. Our merchantable timber is being cut at the rate of four or five million acres annually, and enormous areas of logged-off land have accumulated which are not fit for cultivation but on which little or no new timber is being grown. What to do with unused and unproductive land is one of the most fundamental economic and social problems of the United States.

"The use of these vast areas of nonutilizable land for growing successive crops of timber would insure ultimately a supply of forest products adequate for all national requirements. It would go far toward maintaining a virile rural population and stable rural communities in the regions of inferior soil and limited agriculture."

Minnesota affords a concrete example of the foregoing generalities. Twenty years ago Minnesota was at the top of the lumber-producing states. Now it sends out of the state \$30,000,000 a year for

timber products and hauls lumber 1,000 to 2,000 miles from the west and south.

It would take a book to tell all of the activities of the country in respect to our friends the trees. Here, however, are some of the many:

The United States senate has appointed a committee which will this summer take a trip through the northwest to make a survey and recommend a conservation and reforestation policy. Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi is chairman. He says it is a crime for the government to delay longer in talking action.

Arbor Day this spring will see the planting of millions of trees. In addition many of the states will have a "Planting Week" in the fall, which is the best time to plant several valuable kinds of trees. Texas and Alabama led off with Arbor Day on February 22. Rhode Island will be the last to celebrate, on May 11.

Arbor Day originated in 1872 with J. Sterling Morton of Nebraska, afterward secretary of agriculture under Cleveland. Charles Lathrop Pack, president of the American Tree association, calls upon all good Americans to begin to get ready for the celebration of the Arbor Day Centenary in 1972 by planting trees now.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs, with its nation-wide membership of 2,500,000, will carry out a "National Garden Week Campaign," April 22-28, in which Arbor Day plantings and the planting of "Trees for Remembrance" are urged. Mrs. John D. Sherman, chairman of the department of applied education, is in charge of the campaign.

The American Tree association of Washington, D. C., is a new organization. Mr. Pack, after three years of endeavor to unite the foresters in a national forest policy, withdrew from the presidency of the American Forestry association and founded the new organization, which will devote all its energies to secure nation-wide planting of trees by the people. He is a man of means and a tree enthusiast who has made a scientific study of forestry. He is identified with the "Hall of Fame for Trees" and with the "Trees for Remembrance" movement. He was chairman of the National War Garden commission, 1918-19, and is author of "The War Garden Victorious." The association has no initiation fee and no dues; planting a tree makes the planter a member and entitles him to an engraved certificate and a place on a national honor roll to be featured at the centenary in 1972.

Mrs. Harding was awarded the first membership certificate, as she planted the Armistice elms in Washington. The association has just brought out two books by Mr. Pack: "Trees as Good Citizens" and "The School Book of Forestry." The principal purpose of the former is to simplify the problems of those who would grow shade trees; it covers all phases of the subject. Mr. Pack has also organized the American Nature association, which has begun the publication of the Nature Magazine, which is devoted in part to trees.

The Boonville, N. Y., high school has planted 1,000 pines.

Various New York cities have ordered over 2,000,000 trees from the state conservation commission; Glens Falls takes 300,000.

The Illinois Forestry association, under President Henry C. Cowles, is drafting legislation providing for farm forestry courses in the state college of agriculture and for forestry demonstrations at the state experiment station.

Each post of the Woman's Relief Corps, G. A. R., will plant in 1923, a memorial tree for Clara Barton.

W. T. Cox, state forester of Minnesota, has planted 30,000 trees along highways; the program calls for trees along the 7,000 miles of the trunk highway system.

The California redwood lumbermen have decided to place their forests under scientific forestry management; this means that these forests will be perpetual.