Scout Shorts

SCOUTING IN ACTION. These Scout Shorts pages are a cross section of our program in action. Announcements, information, healthy examples of good Scouting. We welcome good items and pictures.

EXPLORER ADVISOR Walter J. Hoyt, Jr., admires ten Eagle and eighteen Silver awards presented at a single court of honor to members of Troop 40 and Post 2040, sponsored by Third Ward "Mormon" Church, Sacramento, Calif.

CAPS OFF. Boy Scouts, Explorers, and Scouters in uniform, when uncovered, carry their caps tucked over the belt on the right side folded once so the cap insignia may be seen from the front.

POPULAR MERIT BADGES. What are the most popular badges earned by Boy Scouts and Explorers? Top three in 1955 were Home Repairs, 74,115; Cooking, 64,591; First Aid, 64,509. Since 1911, First Aid, Firemanship, and Personal Health each were earned by more than a million boys. Personal Fitness replaced a combination of Personal Health and Physical Development in 1952.

TEN PER CENT. Fulton, Mississippi, population 1,200, has 72 Cub Scouts and 34 Boy Scouts and Explorers. Adding their leaders you'll find that over 10 per cent of the town is active in Scouting. Not a bad record in view of the fact that in the average community the number of eligible boys (ages 8-16) is less than 8 per cent of the population.

WELCOME WAGON. When the Welcome Wagon lady in Wycoff, New Jersey, calls on a new family that has Scout-age sons, she leaves a Scouting letter with them. It lists the three packs, three troops, and one post in the town of 7,000 population and invites the new boys and their parents to visit them. The number of units has increased steadily with adequate leadership.

JUVENILE NONDELINQUENTS. Centinela District Chairman Edwin Dean, Los Angeles Area Council, felt that too often the vast majority of boys who are not delinquent receive little public recognition. Therefore he organized a dinner for over a hundred boys in his district who had achieved the Life Scout or Explorer Gold awards. Sponsored by business and civic leaders, the dinner was devoted to good food and good fun.

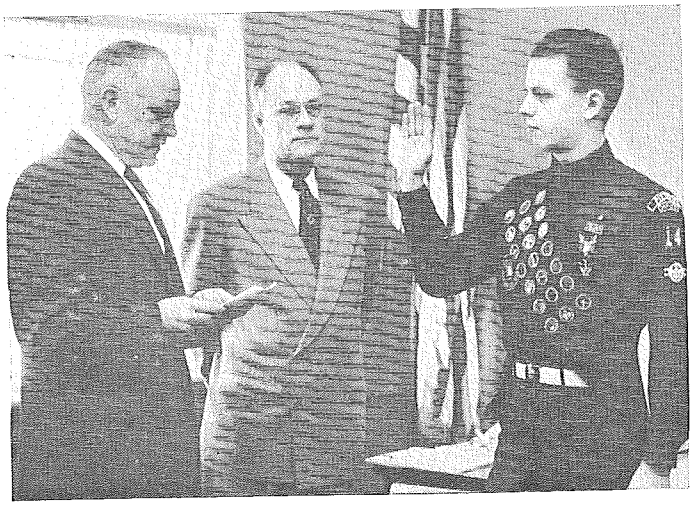
Photo by Philadelphia News

TROOP 31. ***First troop in a Puerto Rican neighborhood in Philadelphia gets under way as Scoutmaster Pablo Adorno presents Tenderfoot badges to new Scouts. The pamphlet*** **What Is Boy Scouting?** ***was translated into Spanish for boys' parents, many of whom spoke little English. Troop 31 is sponsored by the Friends Neighborhood House of the Quaker Church.***

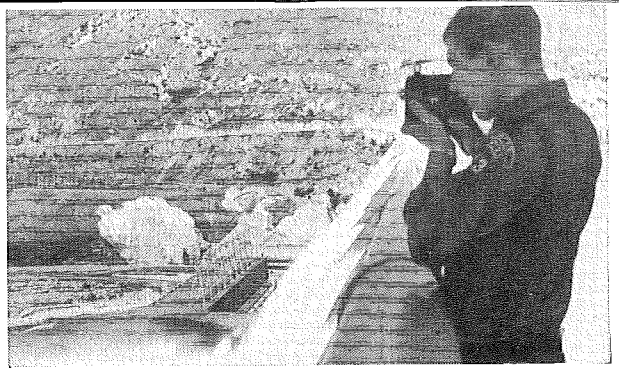
HIKE A MONTH. Scoutmaster Paul Eason in August, 1951, started a tradition of at least one hike every month for Troop 12, First Methodist Church, Tupelo, Mississippi. Last report put the record at fifty-nine months, including at least ten overnighters every year.

MAYOR FOR A DAY. ***Explorer William C. Walden IV takes oath of office in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, city hall as full-time Mayor Harvey E. Lake looks on. Fourteen other Explorers and Scouts also held city offices for the day. Asked how he stood on salary raises for city employees, Mayor Walden stated he would put that on the next day's agenda.***

Photo by Berkshire Eagle

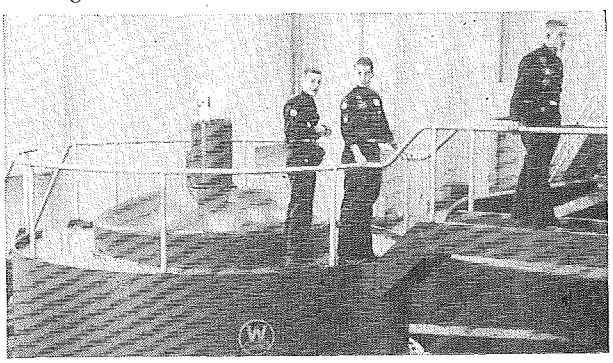


4,625 UNITS. ***Lions International received a silver Scout statuette for sponsoring, 4,625 packs, troops, and Explorer units, more than any other civic organization. Receiving the award is International President Humberto Valenzuela, right, of Chile, from the Boy Scouts of America National Director of Civic Relationships George K. Meyers.***



ABOVE: An Explorer from Oklahoma gets a picture of power distribution facilities, one of the powerhouses and a spillway at Grand Coulee Dam.

BELOW: Explorers from Kansas, Oregon and Massachusetts inspect the north powerhouse at Grand Coulee Dam from the top of one of the generators.



ABOVE: An Explorer pauses on the visit to a Weyerhaeuser Lumber Company forest to count the annual rings on a giant Douglas fir log.

BELOW: Breakfast at the Portland, Oregon, Area Council Training Center featured two items of interest to Explorers, namely girls and food.

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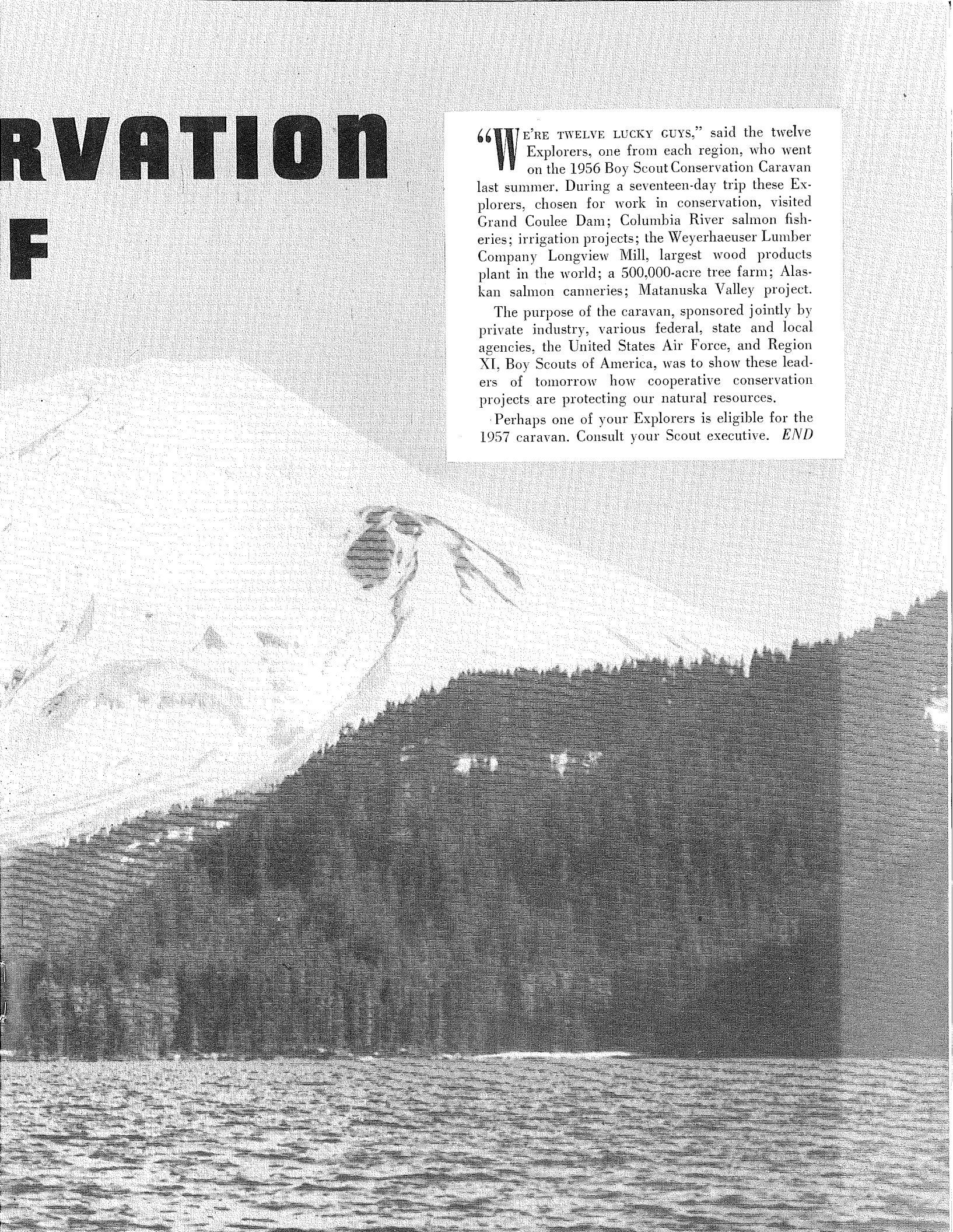
"WE'RE TWELVE LUCKY GUYS," said the twelve Explorers, one from each region, who went on the 1956 Boy Scout Conservation Caravan last summer. During a seventeen-day trip these Explorers, chosen for work in conservation, visited Grand Coulee Dam; Columbia River salmon fisheries; irrigation projects; the Weyerhaeuser Lumber Company Longview Mill, largest wood products plant in the world; a 500,000-acre tree farm; Alaskan salmon canneries; Matanuska Valley project.

The purpose of the caravan, sponsored jointly by private industry, various federal, state and local agencies, the United States Air Force, and Region XI, Boy Scouts of America, was to show these leaders of tomorrow how cooperative conservation projects are protecting our natural resources.

Perhaps one of your Explorers is eligible for the 1957 caravan. Consult your Scout executive. *END*