

Indian Lore

To Boy Scouts, Indian lore is a fascinating subject, and Indian names are attractive. Because of a deep interest in Indian traditions, various Boy Scout Councils in Iowa have adopted Indian names.

Hawkeye Area Council

Prior to 1952, Boy Scouts of Iowa, Johnson, and Washington counties were organized as the Iowa River Valley Council. Boy Scout activities began very early in this area, with one of the first troops in Iowa at Iowa City. Prominent citizens in the Scouting movement in this Council through the years include Wilber J. Teeters, R. G. Popham, Elmer W. Hills, Harold Vestermark, D. C. Nolan, John B. Snow, and Merrit C. Speidel.

Dean Emeritus Wilber J. Teeters, a longtime leader of the Boy Scout movement in the Iowa River Valley Council, pays a high tribute to Eagle Scouts. At the first meeting of the freshmen class each year in the College of Pharmacy, it was the Dean's custom to ask the questions, "How many of you fellows have been Boy Scouts?" and then, "How many are Eagles?" "Invariably," says the Dean, "leaders of the class throughout the years were found to be among those Eagle Scouts."

The Iowa River Valley Council throughout its history was fortunate in having able and enthusiastic adult leadership, and more than 800 active Boy Scouts were enrolled in this council in 1952 when it was consolidated with the Waubeek Area of Cedar Rapids to form the Hawkeye Area Council.

Scouting in the Waubeek Area became a matter of widespread community interest with the formation of the Cedar Rapids Council in 1925. Two neighboring cities — Marion and Mt. Vernon — were included in the original organization, and Shellsburg was soon admitted. By 1928 the Council embraced all of Benton, Linn, and Jones counties.

Under the leadership of Fred Poyneer, chairman of the Camping Committee, and with the aid of a gift of \$1,000 from Howard Cheery, in 1930 a very desirable camping area was obtained a mile north of Waubeek. Hanford American Legion Post of Cedar Rapids assumed leadership in developing Camp Waubeek for the Boy Scouts. Here as elsewhere, Scouting was difficult during the depression years. But there were prominent citizens who had faith in the Boy Scout movement and who had the courage to carry on. Among the souvenirs still preserved by the Council in its bank vault are two or three cancelled notes — one for \$1,200 signed by prominent Scout leaders.

In 1937 Harry M. Gage, president of Coe Col-

lege, was elected to direct the activities of the Boy Scout Council. Under his leadership the Cedar Rapids Area Council was first incorporated. In 1941 the name Waubeek Area Council was adopted.

In 1943 C. Harve Geiger, another president of Coe College was named president of the Council. During the years 1944 and 1945 Rollo Pickford (whose three sons had become Eagle Scouts, and who himself has been referred to as the ranking "No. 1 Scouter") served as president of the Council. A ten-year camp development program has resulted in many improvements. Under this program the city of Cedar Rapids has authorized the use of Ellis Bath House as a Sea Scout Base for a period of 25 years. Funds were obtained to improve the Boy Scout Camp and to build a swimming pool, and the Elks Lodge of Cedar Rapids gave \$1,500 to provide an administrative building and lodges at Camp Waubeek.

In 1946 Fred Poyneer, as president of the Waubeek Area Council, continued to promote the program of camp development which he had initiated in the earlier days of the Council, and gave additional impetus to the new ten-year development program.

In 1947, he was succeeded by Ray L. Short, a man of wide experience in Scouting, both as a professional Scouter and as a volunteer. Mr. Short served for two years, and it was during his

tenure as president that the constitution of the Waubeek Area Council was rewritten, amended, and ratified.

Joe Markey succeeded Mr. Short in office. It was during his term that Camp Waubeek opened its new swimming pool. In September of 1950 Owen Tisdale took over the reigns as Council president, finding himself in a Council that ranked high with Councils of Region Eight.

With the recent consolidation of these two former Councils, the Hawkeye Area Council now embraces an area of about 400 square miles and a population of almost 225,000. There are 3,800 boys registered in the Scouting program — 2,030 Cub Scouts, 1,703 Boy Scouts, and 121 Explorers. Allin Dakin, Administrative Dean of the State University of Iowa, is Council president, and Olaf Slostad, former Scout Executive of the Waubeek Council, has been named Scout Executive of the Hawkeye Council. The new organization offers wider opportunities and the enthusiasm of some 1,400 volunteers promises "to bring more boys into Scouting and more Scouting into boys."

Mesquakie Area Council

Boy Scout activities in Clinton County began with the work of individual units, prior to the close of World War I. In 1919 action was taken to organize the Clinton Council. Among the leaders in this movement were George W. Dulany, Jr., Louis Iten, Rev. J. S. Leamer, and William T.

Oakes. The Clinton Council operated for the benefit of Scouts within the city of Clinton until 1928, when there was a reorganization and an expansion to include Scout activities in the other communities of Clinton and Jackson counties. The name was then changed to the Clinton Area Council.

In 1930 Louis Iten contributed \$2,500 for the purchase of a camp site and an additional \$2,500 for development purposes. A beautiful wooded area of 41.3 acres near Maquoketa, to be known as Camp Iten, was purchased, and a dining hall was erected. Additional facilities were later provided by funds contributed by the Rotary, Kiwanis, and Lions clubs, by the Chamber of Commerce, and the American Legion Posts throughout the Council area.

In April, 1933, the Clinton Area Council was consolidated with Northeast Iowa Council, with Owen W. Babcock as Scout Executive. This consolidation continued until 1936 when Clinton and Jackson counties withdrew, and again resumed the name Clinton Area Council. The first president of the newly-organized Council was George T. Peckham, Jr. Roy M. Lang served as Scout Executive.

In 1939 a new charter application changed the name to the Mesquakie Area Council. In 1946 this Council was incorporated. The name Mesquakie is an Indian word for Fox, and is therefore

symbolic of one of the Indian tribes that once roamed eastern Iowa.

Some of the men who have served as president of the Council through the years are: Peter Matzen, R. N. Hows, Sr., T. J. McLane, Sr., George W. Dulany, Jr., A. P. Brant, H. D. Richardson, O. D. Collis, George T. Peckham, Jr., Dr. J. A. Cornell, H. D. Barnes, E. M. Warner, Judge W. A. McCullough, A. E. Meyer, George J. Fischer, Howard W. Mollenkamp, and Dr. J. M. Newton.

Scout Executives who have served in this area include: O. O. Pearce, F. R. Kleeberger, Clyde D. Findlay, O. W. Babcock, Roy M. Lang, E. R. Cristman, E. E. Hoisington, and F. Duane Tooley.

The Scouting program of the Mesquakie Area Council is one of continuing interest and growth. Its contribution to character-building and community-building is well established. About 115 Scouts have attained the rank of Eagle Scout, and 20 adults have received the Silver Beaver Award. In 1952, under the leadership of Scout Executive Tooley, there were 13 Cub Packs, 19 Scout Troops, 2 Sea Exploring Units, 1 Air Exploring Squadron, and 6 Explorer Posts — a total of 41 units. There were 1,062 youths registered for Scout training and 402 adults assisting in the program. The finance budget for the current fiscal year is \$11,738, raised chiefly through the Clinton Community Chest, and through independent Scout campaigns in other parts of the area.



Archery at Camp Theodore Roosevelt



Sergeant Floyd Council Scouts Visit Sioux City Air Base



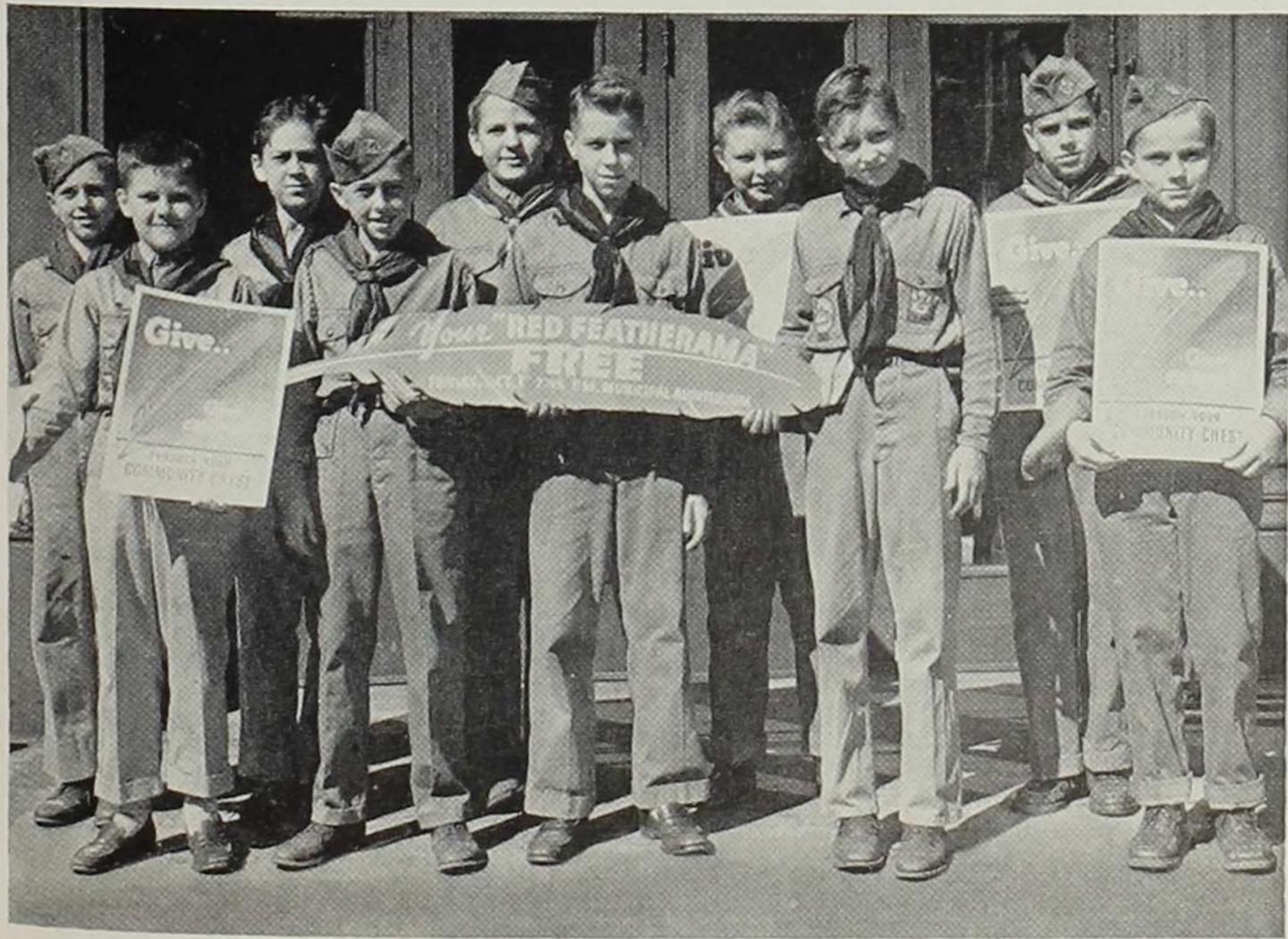
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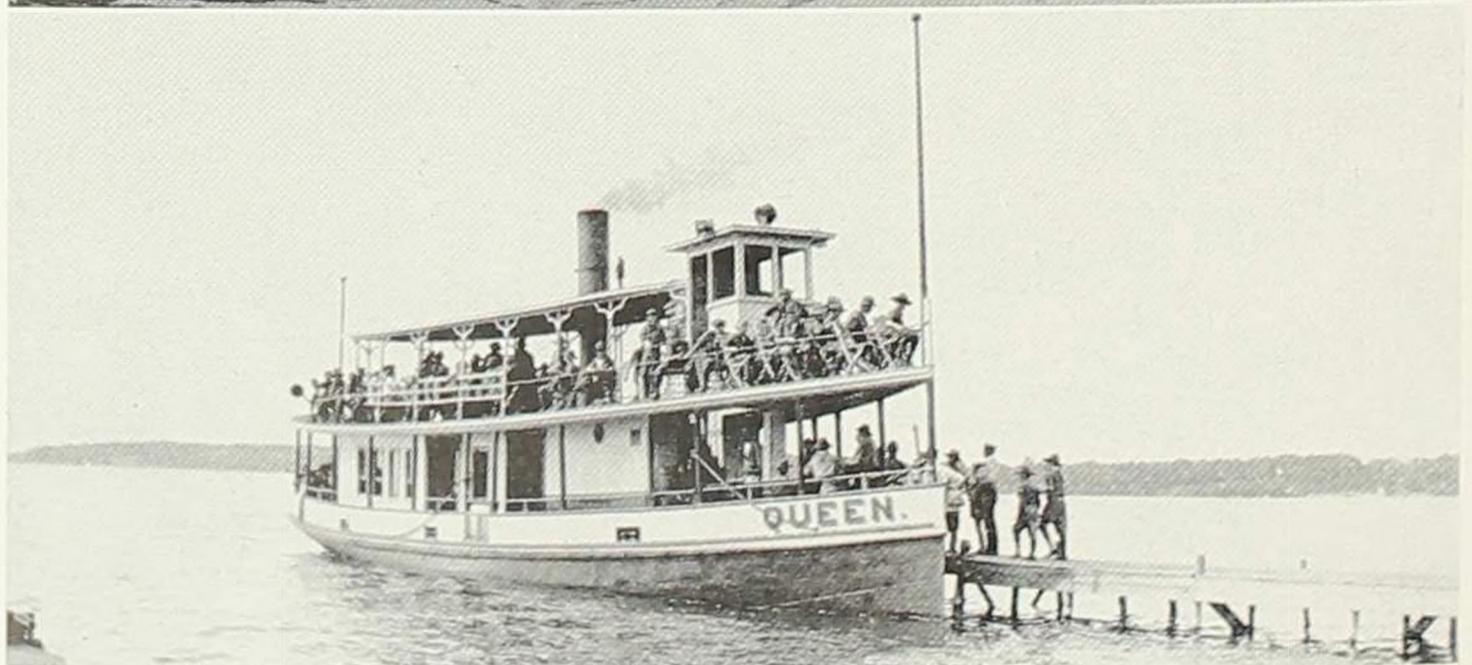
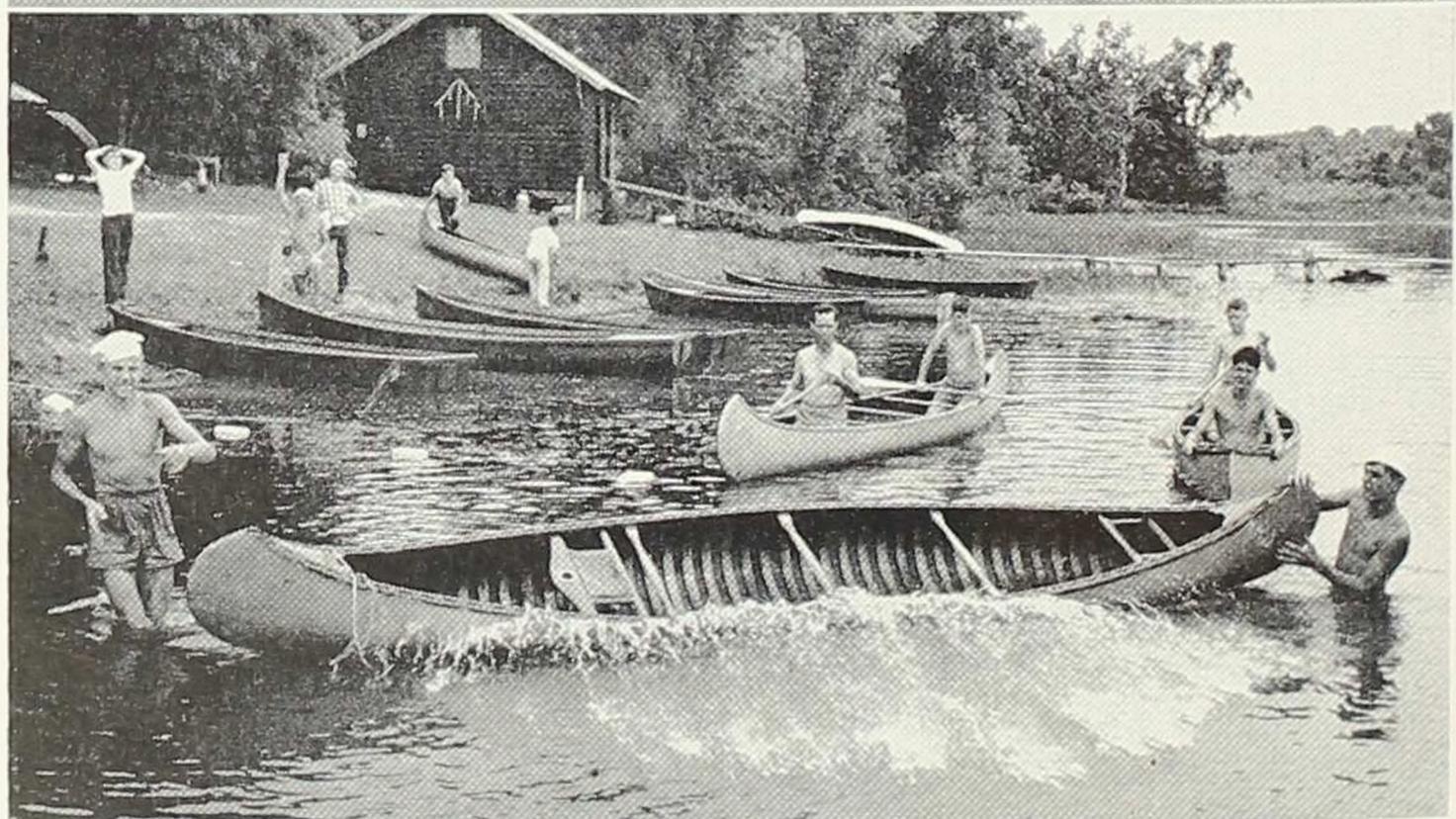
Hawkeye Council Scouts Worship at Cedar Rapids



Community Service Performed at Mason City



Burlington Scouts Assist Community Chest Drive



*Top: Northeast Council Scouts Bound for Adventure Island
Middle: Boating at Camp Wapello in the Southern Council Area
Bottom: Prairie Gold Council Scouts on Lake Okoboji's Queen*

Wapsipinicon Area Council

Early in 1919 a group of forward-looking Waterloo businessmen secured the services of Ray L. Short, then a Field Representative of the National Boy Scout Council, to assist them in organizing and securing a charter for a Waterloo Boy Scout Council. Prominent among the men interested in this movement were George W. Wood, George E. Pike, John W. Gwynne, H. G. Northey, C. F. Alstadt, J. W. Rath, W. F. Parrott, E. R. Shoemaker, R. L. Hoxie, John Hansen, Frank Benedict, Edmund Rausch, and Bert Wilford. Following the organization of this Council, Mr. Short was employed as the first Scout Executive in this area.

Neighboring cities and towns, seeing the advantages of organized Scouting, soon became interested, and the Council rapidly expanded to other communities of northeastern Iowa. Among the leaders in other communities who became active in this movement were Dr. W. A. Rohlf of Waverly, Walter Voorhees of Cedar Falls, Rev. E. W. Benbow of Grundy Center, and Dr. P. E. Stuart of Nashua.

Among the pioneer Scoutmasters who gave inspiration to the new movement were Bert Wilford and L. R. Roehke of Waterloo, Dr. Hugh S. Buffum of Cedar Falls, Ava Norton of Independence, and Dr. J. R. Albright of Grundy Center.

From 1922 to 1930 Arthur F. Jury served as

Scout Executive. During this period an extensive expansion program was put into operation. In 1929 the Wapsipinicon Area Council consisting of eight counties — Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Chickasaw, Fayette, Grundy, Howard, and Winneshiek — was organized.

The first Scout camp was located at Devil's Backbone in Delaware County, and was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Waterloo. Another early Scout camp on the Wapsipinicon River near Brandon was called Ingachook. In 1924 the present camp site in Bremer County near Waverly was purchased by the Kiwanis Club, and a new Boy Scout camp called Ingawanis was established. This camp has been expanded and developed until at present it comprises 135 wooded acres with eight troop camp sites, two of which have permanent winterized headquarters cabins, one of these made possible by Alfred Ward in memory of James Elliott, a prominent Scouter of Independence. A modern pool with filter equipment was a part of the improvement.

Victor Allen came to the area as Scout Executive in 1930, and, despite adverse conditions of the depression years, succeeded not only in holding the Council together but in expanding its activities.

W. G. Fulton succeeded Mr. Allen in 1941. With financial conditions improved and with the aid of a \$5,000 grant from the Frank Phillips Foundation, the Council was able to expand both

in personnel and equipment. It was during this time, too, that additional camp facilities were made available.

Hugh F. Rader assumed the duties of Scout Executive in October, 1945. Under his leadership Scouting advanced steadily until the Wapsipinicon Area Council was serving more than 3,900 boys and some 1,300 Scout leaders.

During the years between 1926 and 1952 leading citizens of the area have served as presidents of the Council. Among these have been Edmund Rausch, Gus Thode, Bruce F. Gates, E. S. Estel, Ray S. Paul, Reno Reeve, and Roy M. Rook. Much of the success of Scouting in the Wapsipinicon Area has been due to the leadership and cooperation which these men have given.

The Wapsipinicon Council embraces an area of almost 5,000 square miles of rich Iowa land. It has a population of about 232,000. Approximately 400 boys have been awarded the Eagle badge by this Council. Silver Beaver awards have been presented to 39 adult workers. In 1950, 114 Boy Scouts from this area attended the National Jamboree at Valley Forge. Scout enrollment under the leadership of Scout Executive J. D. Armstrong has now reached 4,205 — 1,896 Cubs, 1,960 Boy Scouts, and 349 Explorers. The financial budget for 1953 is \$55,539. Thus Scouting in the Wapsipinicon Area contributes its full share as a character and community building project.

Winnebago Area Council

Scouting in the Winnebago Council area has been a progressive and ever-advancing movement. There was a local interest in Scouting in Mason City as early as 1912. The following year there were Boy Scout camping activities along the shore of Clear Lake. In 1916 a Boy Scout camp was maintained at Tanglefoot near Clear Lake. By 1917 organized Scouting had become a community enterprise. The original charter of the Mason City Council was issued in 1920, and two years later the first Eagle Scout badge issued by this Council was awarded to Scout Allin Dakin—now president of the Hawkeye Area Council.

By 1923 this Mason City Council had expanded its sphere of influence to embrace a county-wide area, and was then called the Cerro Gordo County Commission. There was at that time a Scout enrollment of 324 members. Under the leadership of Scout Executive Fred Thomas a campaign was instituted for a marked increase in the enrollment—with a goal of 440 members. In 1925 seventy boys from Worth and Hancock counties joined the Council, and in the spring of that year plans were made for a Scout cabin at Camp Theodore Roosevelt near Ventura Heights on the shore of Clear Lake.

The year 1926 was outstanding in Scout activities. Under the leadership of Scout Executive J. C. Underwood, Scout membership enrollment in-

creased to more than 600, with 70 adult volunteer leaders. With the widening scope of Scout activities, the name North Iowa Council was adopted. In 1928 nine counties — Butler, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Mitchell, Winnebago, Worth, and Wright — were consolidated to form the present boundaries of the Council.

From 1932 to 1937 there was a steady advancement in Scout enrollment under the leadership of Scout Executive Charles B. Knouse. In 1935 there were 43 troops with 846 Scouts enrolled. During the year 1936 a total of 1,096 boys enjoyed Scouting privileges of the North Iowa Council.

In January, 1937, Earle K. Behrend assumed the duties of Scout Executive, serving the Council until 1944. During these years advancement was made in new areas of Scouting. It was at this time, too, that the name "Winnebago Council" was adopted. The year 1939 marked the first definite step toward troop camping. Twenty-three troops attended camp as troop units, with their own troop leaders — a total attendance of more than 375 Scouts. During that year fully 1,567 boys were registered as Scouts and Cubs in 59 troops and packs in the Council, and each year renewed efforts were made further to increase Scout enrollment. In 1941 a \$5,000 grant was received from the Frank Phillips Foundation for an expansion of the Scouting program of the Winnebago Council.

From 1945 to 1949 James Norfolk served as Scout Executive. In 1948 it was estimated that 21,000 boys and men had enjoyed membership in the local Boy Scout Council since its organization — each of whom had been directly benefited and strengthened by the Boy Scout program. The magnitude and far-reaching effect of the Boy Scout movement in Iowa is attested by the large number associated with Scouting in the Winnebago Council.

Among the stalwart citizens who have served as president of the Council in recent years are F. C. Heneman, Ralph Loyd Jones, Dr. J. L. Pauley, M. C. Lawson, Jay M. Tubbesing, Herb Ohrt, and Hughes J. Bryant all of Mason City, and Dr. A. L. Miller of Charles City.

The present Boy Scout program of the Winnebago Council, under the leadership of Scout Executive Peter S. De Jong, is one of encouragement. There are now more than 3,400 boys and young men enjoying the benefits of the Boy Scout program, and more than 1,200 adult volunteer workers — a tribute to Scout workers and friends of Scouting in the Winnebago area.

In all four areas, where Indian names have been used to designate the various Councils, Boy Scouts have achieved a proud record. The red man who once roamed Iowa was justly proud of his prowess as a hunter, his courage as a warrior, and his skill in tribal games. These Indian names

stand as a constant reminder to all Iowa Boy Scouts of the close relationship between their own ideals and those of the Indians who sojourned in Iowaland in bygone days.

JACOB A. SWISHER