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"SURE, WE'LL FINISH THE JOB!"

Across the Nation the Boy Scouts adopted a new motto: "The war is over, but our work is not."

Though the war was over, the country still needed finances. In order to raise the necessary money, it was decided that there should be a fifth and final Liberty Loan drive, this time to be known as the Victory Loan. The Secretary of the Treasury, Carter Glass, again called on Boy Scouts to assist in the campaign.

In Dayton, as in the rest of the United States, Scouts responded to the appeal. The boys placed posters which shouted, "Sure, we'll finish the job!" throughout the city. They worked from door to door, helping to secure thousands of subscriptions. By the end of the last campaign, Scouts across the Nation had sold some \$400,000,000 worth of subscriptions an average of nearly \$1,000 per boy.

During the year 1919, Daytonians were becoming aware of changes that were to revolutionize the face of America during the twenties. There was the feeling of relief after the war, a tendency to let go and have a good time. Automobiles became more and more commonplace. The small, aging wooden street cars were replaced with those constructed of steel.

A new kind of music began to find its way to Dayton from the South, from Kansas City, from Chicago; the strange music known as "jazz."

There was much talk of prohibition, soon to go into effect, and it was rumored in Dayton's department stores that women's skirts were soon to get even shorter than six inches above the floor, then considered fashionable.

In this growing atmosphere of change, Scouting in Dayton and the surrounding area continued to expand and develop at a tremendous rate. Interest in Scouting began to take effect

in Darke County, where Herschel Krickenberger began organizing the first Troop. Late in 1919, Treaty Troop No. 1 was officially chartered. Soon Krickenberger had to obtain permission to operate his Troop with double the normal number of boys. For several years there were more than sixty members of Treaty Troop 1, and the number sometimes exceeded seventy.

Toward the end of the spring of 1919, the Dayton Council held its second weekend of camping at Triangle Park. Called the Spring Jamboree, the event gained much newspaper publicity preceding the big weekend. Because of the large number of new Troops started during the year, problems of organizing the event were much more difficult than in the year before. John Haien suggested that Troops compete with each other during the jamboree. The spirit of competition would not only provide spectators with a real show of camping skills, but also simplify the problem of discipline in so large a group. The idea proved to be a good one, and by the end of the weekend, it was clear that competition would remain a part of Scouting in the Council.

Also held in the spring of 1919, was the second organizational meeting of the young Council. New officers were elected, new responsibilities delegated the various committee members, and the program for the coming year outlined. Fenton Bott was unanimously chosen to serve as president, replacing Fred Rike. Ralph DeWeese, Stanley Krohn, and Emil Metzger were named as Vice-Presidents, Neil Eyer as Secretary. Chester B. Spies was given the responsibility of directing rallies and expositions for the year. Rabbi Lefkowitz agreed to study the problems of the boy not yet old enough for Scouting. The Cub Scout program would not be supplying an answer to this need for many years to come.

C. H. Comer, former Chairman of the Liberty Loan Committee, was designated to work out publicity angles for the Council, and George Marshall Jr. would be Chairman of the Camp Committee. With organization once again settled, the Dayton Council was ready to go ahead with another year of progress. Fenton Bott, the new president, was a very active civic leader, especially interested in work with handicapped children. Through his efforts, Scouting for such children began in Dayton, and eventually there were whole Troops of handicapped children who passed their tests in wheel chairs, on crutches or in hospital beds.

Bott was skilled at handling meetings. Perhaps the feeling of dignity that his looks seemed to give him helped. He had an uncanny knack of recruiting important persons of the community to serve in Scouting. After he had been president for awhile, serving on the Council

Executive Board seemed almost a way of acquiring "status" in Dayton, for when on the Scout Executive Board you were in the company of top civic leaders of Dayton.

"Le Ballet Foret" was so successful in 1918, that Fenton Bott decided to use it in 1919 as a means of raising money, and so it was again held on John Patterson's estate. The recital was a big success and more than two thousand dollars were raised. John Patterson arranged to have motion pictures taken of the program and the movies were shown at downtown theatres and at the National Cash Register Company.

More financial support was needed, not only in the Dayton Council, but in all the Councils of the nation. The National Council itself needed additional financial resources to meet the demands of its staff and to keep up with the rapidly increasing number of local Councils.

President Wilson kept in close touch with the Boy Scouts and was convinced of the importance of the movement. In May, 1919, he issued a proclamation which set aside the week of June 8 to June 14 as Boy Scout week. He urged Americans to get behind the Scouting movement and to support it in any way that they could. Scout Week was to be not only a time set aside honoring the Boy Scouts for the service they had performed, but also a time when an all-out appeal would be made to Americans asking their help so that the Scouts could continue their work. "Anything that is done to increase the effectiveness of the Boy Scouts of America will be a genuine contribution to the welfare of the Nation."

During the winter of 1918-19, a little fellow by the name of William Perkins had continually asked A. W. Payne of the West Side YMCA to organize a Troop of Boy Scouts, without much satisfaction.

Then one night William attended the old Midget Theatre on W. Third Street where an East Indian mystic was answering questions from the audience. The youngster thought of the thing nearest his heart, and asked whether or not Mr. Payne was going to form a Boy Scout Troop. The audience laughed, the mystic said "yes" and, as if by telepathic inspiration, A. W. Payne made his own decision that night, and began to plan for the Troop.

On July 1, 1919 twelve boys gathered in the YMCA, at the corner of West Third and Charter Streets to organize Troop30.

The original Troop included: Charles Moore, Harold Caesar, Theodore Ross, Randolph Taylor, William Gillespie, Robert Hickerson, Charles Higgins, John Brown, James Buckner, Herman Lewis, Herschel Guy, and as you might imagine, William Perkins.

The first civic act recorded for the troop was the placing of a tablet at the home of Paul Lawrence Dunbar, the great Negro poet, on North Summit Street, June 27, 1921. This tablet bore this inscription:

"Because I had loved so deeply,
Because I had loved so long,
God in His great compassion
Gave me a gift of song."

Although the season in 1918 at Camp Pershing was very successful, there were drawbacks to that set-up. The land was only on loan to the Council and this limited the amount of development and work that could be done. The Council needed a permanent camp built on land of its own. Robert Patterson tackled this problem, working through the Dayton Rotary Club, by then actively backing Scouting in Dayton. Eleven acres of land were purchased. The new camping area was located on Markey Road, across from the Camp Pershing site.

Immediately the Council went to work preparing for the 1919 summer camping season. Scouts spent much of their free time at the new reservation, clearing away underbrush and building a road. Clearings were made for campsites and a dam was thrown across the creek, a lodge constructed at the camp. Many members of the board spent their weekends cutting wood and fitting stones for the new building. By the end of June the camp was ready for its first season.

Even before work on the new reservation was completed, Scouts all over the city were working to earn money for their time in camp. In April they delivered more than 18,000 new directories for Bell Telephone Company. They saved money from their paper routes, mowed lawns, and by the time the summer finally came, hundreds of the boys were able to spend a few weeks at camp.

During the war years, it seemed as though almost anything provided an excuse for a parade. The love of parades was still firmly entrenched in Dayton in 1919, and the Fourth of July event of that year brought out one of the largest crowds on record. Under the glaring sun, more Scouts marched through the streets of Dayton than ever before.

Late in 1919, Scott Pierce and a small group of interested men wanted to form a Scout Troop at Fairview School. They invited Perle Whitehead, the principal, to attend one of the committee meetings. He became interested and before the meeting was over he agreed to serve as Scoutmaster of the new Troop until a permanent one could be found.

There were no training courses for new Scoutmasters in those days, and when Perle Whitehead took over the Troop, he went through the same procedure of learning as the new Scouts. He had to run the Troop pretty much by trial and error, but it was soon clear that he was a natural leader of boys. He found that the more he became involved in his work with the boys, the more he enjoyed it. It wasn't long before he began hoping that the Committee would not be able to find a permanent Scoutmaster. Luck was with him for he remained Scoutmaster of Troop 6 for several years and his reputation as a leader soon spread throughout the Council.

Perle Whitehead had spent his childhood in an area southwest of Germantown, Ohio, known as Brown's Run. He grew up on a farm and even while he was still in grade school he began to show the ability to get things done which was so much a part of his character in later years. He organized the first YMCA for rural boys in America with a membership of seventy farm boys meeting in the Brown's Run Farmers' Alliance Hall. He won recognition among the other farmers of the area as a boy by raising more bushels of corn per acre than any other boy in the county. He won the Perry Cleveland centennial essay contest while at Germantown High School that brought him a cash prize and a trip to the site of the Perry Monument in Lake Erie near Sandusky, Ohio. At the age of seventeen he was teaching a rural school on his own in German Township-The Moyer School & The Bickel School. Afterwards, he attended Otterbein College from which he was later to receive an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree.

As a result of his pioneering in "Y" work for farm boys, he was asked by the boys' work secretary of the Dayton YMCA, Carl B. Kern, to join his staff. He served here until the United States entered World War I, when he enlisted and was shipped overseas with the Red Diamond Division where he served until the end of the war. He had been married only a short time before he went overseas. His first child was born while he was at the front in France. When he returned from Europe, he took over as principal of Fairview School in Dayton and after his first taste of Scouting, he became one of the most important figures in the development of Scouting in the

Miami Valley. Concurrently with his principalship of the Fairview School, he directed the youth activities of the Irwin-Springfield Street Mission in what was then a low-income area of the city.