

Boy Scouting in Lindsay was very much in the limelight recently, when a large rally was held in the High School, an event which recalled to mind the puppy days of Scouting in Lindsay.

It is reported that the first troop of Scouts was headed by a Scoutmaster named Stewart Soanes, whose father is reported to have operated a fish stand, or store, on Kent Street, where McCarty's Jewelry store is now located.

For many years one son Harry was nicknamed "Fish" Soanes by school chums and he is remembered as a young man who played first base for the Lindsay baseball team, the Red Birds, in the closing years of the team.

The second Scoutmaster was a very well known gentleman by the name of Alex Clarke, a merchant tailor who was dubbed "Billy Sunday" by the late Dick Butler because he conducted a popular sing song in the Academy Theatre for several seasons on Sunday nights at the conclusion of church services.

This semi-religious service proved to be very popular and Alex. Clarke, always a neat dresser, stood up before a large screen and led the gathering in a popular and somewhat voiciferous sing song as the words were placed on the screen.

It was a cosmopolitan audience and the response to the leader's appeal for dollar bills on the collection plates "and not all nickles" was generally generous. It was the only Sabbath Day service for many people.

This gentleman, Alex. Clarke, was in many respects a very colorful individual. He was a first class tailor. He bit in politics on the Liberal ticket. He was for a time field man for the Children's Aid Society, and a newspaper scribe and subscription canvasser for the Daily Post and also for the Watchman-Warder and as a result was widely known and he was also familiarly known in the Manilla district where he at one time resided.

He was the originator of the annual Scugog River excursion boat picnic down the Scugog River to Pleasant Point, and also organizer of car rides for the residents of the Home for the Aged.

In these various capacities he served faithfully and well. He was a man who had his "ups and downs", but was able to remain on top and was able to help others, especially those in less fortunate circumstances than others who had to struggle and scrape to make a living. Undoubtedly

many readers will now recall this versatile gentleman who was in some respects a crusader.

John Hornsby, another Scoutmaster, accomplished a great deal when he was leader of the Lindsay Scouts in the pioneer days of the organization in Lindsay. He was a Scotchman from the old sod across the Atlantic Ocean. He was a dedicated Scoutmaster and believed in neat attire and in the wearing of the uniform at important events and when on parade. He was by profession a leader and by avocation he was an architect. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church and he became ruling Master of the Masonic Lodge. He played an important role in the Boy Scout Organization in Lindsay and District.

Incidentally the Lindsay Troop had a very fine band in the early years of Scouting and one memorable occasion was the trip to Toronto where the Lindsay Scout band received the applause of hundreds along the parade route.

For many years the Girl Guides have been an important unit in Lindsay, dating back to the days of Awilda Tavener, Margaret Groves and Alma Sandercock and others. It was a big day for the Guides when they had a home in the Armory where they had plenty of room to manoeuvre, hold regular meetings, special events and play games. The Guides also received a big lift when Cass Haugh became District Commissioner and another fine worker was Ruth Nesbitt, as was Mrs. Doris Allely.

Girl Guides are going strong in Lindsay and district today, with considerable credit going to the local District Commissioner Mrs. Arthur Lloyd of Lindsay.

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Hon. Leslie Frost has had innumerable experiences and an untold number of interesting incidents during his busy career. In his address at the Brotherhood dinner a few nights ago he referred to his introduction to a listening audience over the ether waves, and via television. At the time, in 1953, he was surprised when his friend, Dr. Hall of Little Britain, reported he heard the Premier and saw him on the "one eyed monster" in his living room at Little Britain. Following that early broadcast there followed countless numbers of appearances on TV across land, water and air in many parts of the world.

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What vintage has an automobile got to be to be classed as an antique and consequent-

ly be in the priceless category? Stanley Dayton, of Little Britain, has a horseless carriage which dates back 35 years. It is a Ford and when he took "Lizzie" out for a run early in 1969 it ran just like clock work and purred along the concession lines at Little Britain like a Persian kitty. The flivver receives an annual sponge bath and a good rub down and except for the cleaning of the points on all four spark plugs and pouring a pint of oil into the lubrication apparatus and a gallon of gasoline into the tank—nothing else matters. The owner has turned aside a number of very tempting offers for the jalopy but for sentimental reasons no money has changed hands. The Ford Motor Company would love to own the old contraption, but Mr. Dayton religiously shakes his head in a negative manner.