

Financing, usage make future of camp dubious

One of the most beautiful nature camps on Ontario is up for question as an ad hoc committee of the Wellington District Boy Scout Assoc'n. investigates the financing and useage of its facilities.

According to Don Rennie, the District Scout Executive "The Wellington District Boy Scouts of Canada are definitely not going to dispose of either the Scout Service Centre or the Barber Memorial Scout Camp if the District Council can conceive of some way to handle the administration and operating costs of both properties."

Concern over three areas of scouting business resulted in a meeting of the Wellington District Council of the Boy Scouts of Canada, last Tuesday, January 19, which was held at the Scout Service Centre on Harris Street.

Persistent rumours that the association was planning to sell the centre or get rid of the scout camp because of financial problems has sparked controversy and many scouters and leaders feel that it would be a great loss to the District Association if such a necessity became a reality.

Much activity The Barber Memorial Scout Camp, situated almost directly behind the Ontario Reformatory in Guelph has been the centre of much summer activity for many other organizations besides those affiliated with scouting and, for many years it was necessary to book well ahead in order to find accommodation on a summer schedule.

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alike participating in a long weekend of outdoor activity.

Sad loss

"It will be a sad loss to this community" said one past leader of a Rockwood group and he could recall how some of the village cubs and scouts had scrimped and found ways of making money to contribute their share to the early building of the camp. One leader recalls the camp with only an old railway car as the kitchen facilities, whereas now, today, the camp boasts a beautiful big building with a walk-in cooler and other marvellous facilities which were accrued by the united effort of various scouting associations in the district putting on drives to raise money. It also has several small cabins and is now an established modern-type camp.

Although many leaders feel a direct affiliation with the Barber Memorial Scouting Camp it actually does not belong to the Association as a document dated July, 1953, clearly states that, if the land being used as a camp is no longer required or used by the scouts for one year, the land is automatically to be returned to the estate of Charles Wesley Barber.

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Origin of camp

The property when donated by the Barber Estate was for the use of scouts in Guelph and Wellington County and was to be known as the Charles Wesley Barber camp grounds and the municipal taxes, improvements and assessments were to be paid by the scout association.

To date, the association has spent a total of \$15,000 on the property which costs an average of \$508 a year to maintain. The service centre, also under consideration, is an old church which was purchased for \$27,000 and, as of January of this year, a balance of \$12,000 was still owing.

Apple day

Another matter of conjecture discussed at the January meeting was in regard to the annual Boy Scout Apple Day proceeds and it was passed that the entire net profits of apple day would be deposited in the bank until the advisory committee makes its report in May. Such proceeds had previously been divided amongst approximately 26 groups with a small remaining balance deposited in the operating account for the District Council.

Tell people about service available

People should be made aware of service available through the county's department of Social and Family Services, committee member Pat McKenzie of Acton said at a meeting Friday.

Deputy Reeve McKenzie made his point during a discussion about nursery schools and the fact the county would make the facility available for a mother who could not work without it or for mothers on the welfare roll wishing to work.

The idea is to help keep those who are not on the roll off and to get those now on it off. Mr. McKenzie told the committee he never realized such a service was available.

The committee agreed to notify the board of education, Children's Aid Society and the municipal offices in the county after the director told the committee none of the cases receiving help of this nature had been self-initiated.



THE MOVE OF ROCKWOOD fire brigade from their old quarters into the spanking new fire hall revives many memories. This is an old picture of a brigade social function. Recognize anyone?

Girls in Rover crews are on trial basis

A question regarding female membership into the Rover Scouts raised by members at the 1969 National Rover Conference has resulted in many young women being admitted into a number of crews on an experimental basis.

Now, however the option is open for all Rover crews of the Boy Scouts of Canada and, in an endeavour to determine how wide spread is the demand for mixed membership and also to assess its value to roving, a National Council representative said that subject to the approval of their individual local councils, all Rover crews may admit young women in the age range of 17 to 23.

a light gray blouse, dark gray skirt, red beret, and a red tie or the group neckerchief.

The policy of the Rover Scouts has always been that of service and, referring to the new innovation into scouting policies, Mr. Clark said that some experimental crews have designed and are conducting their programs around community activities and self-improvement with others working on inner-city projects or providing assistance to local packs and troops. The introduction of girls into what

was formerly considered a "young men's area" has initiated mixed socializing with parties and dances on the Rover Scout's weekly agendas.

Not too fast As one Girl Guide Leader so aptly put it "The Girl Guides and Boy Scout's Associations are about the only ones left these days where the girls can be girls and the boys just plain boys. We could be sorry if we accept this new change too readily without giving it our complete consideration."

V.O.N. canvass in Wellington

The Victorian Order of Nurses and Homemakers is holding a house to house canvass in those areas of Wellington county outside Guelph and Fergus during the month of February. The letter campaign which was held in previous years has been increasingly unsuccessful. Mr. Cameron, chairman of the Ways and Means committee of the board states "People no longer read their mail or they set the envelope aside meaning to read later and then they forget."

Have deficit The Victorian Order is in a deficit position largely because both United Appeals and campaigns have failed to reach their objectives.

The Victorian Order carries a daily patient load of around 300 patients, which is approx. the same size of the hospitals in Guelph. This is administered over an area of 1450 square miles and includes the county of Dufferin. In addition to the number of patients there are families receiving homemaker service for social reasons, such as desertion of the mother.

"People expect such a large organization to be supported largely by the government," Miss Gibbon, the district director observes "This, however, is not

the case. The Provincial government supports our Home Care program only."

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Safety talks

Accident prevention officers from the Ontario Provincial Police visited the junior school at Ontario School for the Deaf in Milton last week, to conduct safety lessons for the students. A total of 250 children sat in on the lessons conducted by Const. Tom Penrice of Milton OPP and Const. Peter J. Campbell, accident prevention co-ordinator for No. 3 District OPP.

L.O.L. euchre winners named

Winners of prizes at L.O.L. euchre at Crewsons Corners on January 23: Ladies' high, Mary Britton 127, ladies' low Jeanne Kidd 74, Men's high Gerald Teneycke 126, men's low W. Britton 70. Lone hands Gerald Teneycke 9, door prize Jas. Jesseman.

Asks snow consideration

Reeve Tom Hill has asked Esqueping township residents, when clearing their drives, give consideration to where they put snow. "Some residents with front end loaders have been trying to pack it into the bank left by the snowplow. This builds out onto the road and is rock-hard to run into." He explained further, it's not

only snowplows he's worrying about, but a car that has moved to the side of the road to let another pass, might hit this "shutment". This also applies to snow thrown from a drive onto the road.

"A car hitting this goes skittering all over. It's better if people lift their load over the top of snowbanks."

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