

The Grapevine

ARCHIVES

Memories of Fruitbelt

King's Scout Recipients



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1947(?) RECEIVE COVETED AWARDS-Scouting has boomed at Jordan since Scouts and Cubs were started a year ago. Friday night the group held its first father and son banquet with more than 50 boys present. Two King's Scout badges, highest class in scouting, were presented. The lads are the only Boy Scouts in the Fruit Belt district to hold this award. Shown here at the presentation are, left to r'ight. Scoutmaster William Jones, Patrol Leader Bill Jones and Patrol Leader Bob Bowen receiving the coveted awards from District Commissioner Stanley Gibson, Beamsville. Mr. Gibson holds the first Scout certificate given in North America, issued direct from London, England, in 1910. (Photo by Sinclair)

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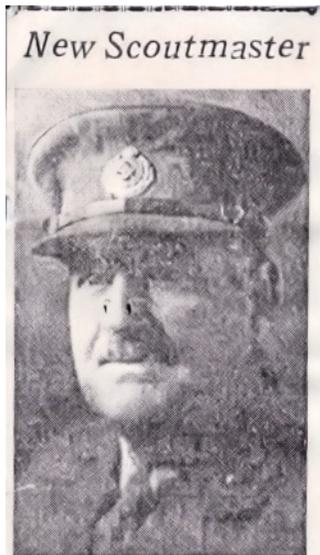
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Scouts Reorganized: New Fruit Belt District

NEW TROOPS IN FORMATION STAGE THROUGHOUT DISTRICT

1945: The Fruit Belt District takes in all troops between Fruitland and Beamsville - new officials appointed - new plans under way.

Field Commissioner "Scotty" Fleming was a busy man early this spring, bringing together representatives of the various Scout committees in the district. Finally after laying the ground work, a meeting was held in the Winona School and a new Scout District emerged to be known as the Fruit Belt District.



Col. G. R. Chetwynd, M.C., D.C. M., who has taken charge of Grimsby Troop of Boy Scouts, succeeding James Baker.

The Rev'd E. A. Brooks, of Grimsby, was elected Chairman of the District Committee, and Mr. John Holder of Grimsby, Secretary Treasurer.

From the unanimous recommendation of this Committee, Mr. Stanley Gibson of Beamsville, was appointed District Commissioner by Scout Headquarters and he has proved that the appointment was a very happy one. His efforts have been tireless, his reception excellent and

worth while results are now assured, with several new troops in the formation stage throughout the district.

Next was the appointment of a District Scout Master and Mr. Jas. Baker has been released by the Grimsby Committee when recommended by the District committee for this post. On the release of Scout Master Baker, the Grimsby Committee prevailed upon. Col. G. R. Chetwynd, M.C., D.C.M., of Grimsby East to take over the local troop.

Col. Chetwynd who has recently taken up residence in this district, brings with him a wealth of experience in scouting. His first Scout Master's Warrant was granted in Derbyshire, England, in 1907. In 1908 he received a warrant as Commandant for the London Area. Since 1913 he has been connected with the Royal Canadian Engineers permanent force.

Col. Chetwynd also brings other talents to the community having received the Canadian Drama Award, granted by the Canadian Drama Society in 1945. Other hobbies include photography.

The local Wolf Cub Pack remains under the capable leadership of Mr. Cyril Mote, with Mrs. Erwin Phelps and Mrs. Gladstone Mogg ably assisting him. The results obtained by this Pack have been excellent and the committee members are loud in their praise of its leaders.

As noted in the last issue of *The Independent*, a new Scout Troop and Wolf Pack has been formed at Grimsby Beach, also sponsored by

the Grimsby Lions Club.

Group Captain Dowie, O.B.E., acting Scout Leader of this new troop has been very active. of late, and reports that the organization

meeting of this new Troop and

Cub Pack was well attended with seventeen scouts and eleven new cubs out. Cyril Moat of the Grimsby Pack was out to lend a hand and District Commissioner S. Gibson arrived with Jack Hodges, King's Scout of Beamsville, M. Potter, Rover Leader and Jim Carthew.

Group Captain Dowie reports that offers of assistance in organizing this new venture have been most encouraging and further requests the support of Grimsby East people when the boys go out on their first venture on Apple Day, October 12th.



Group Captain Dowie, O.B.E., who has assumed charge of the new formed Grimsby Beach Troop of Boy Scouts and Wolf Cubs.

A History of Scouts and Guides in the Niagara District (1910 to ~1941)

The first Scout Troop in Grimsby was formed in 1910 by Major Harry Baker and the late Linus Woolverton. The first Girl Guides in Grimsby was organized in 1918.

The story of the beginning of Scouting is well known, - how during the privations and strain of the siege of MAFEKING the boys of the town got out of hand. Colonel Baden-Powell used the dangers and the hardships that beset them as a motive power for good, and organized the lads into a body of fearless public spirited, disciplined "SCOUTS," who rendered really useful service to the beleaguered garrison. Since then the stimulation to national service has been the best proof of the need of such training, and girls too have claimed to have a share in it.

The great new game of adventure and service quickly found enthusiastic players among the boys and girls of Canada many of whom inherited from pioneer forefathers a natural aptitude for campcraft, tracking, swimming and winter sports. In 1909 the year when King Edward VII called for a rally at the crystal palace in London, a boy Scout troop was organized in Beamsville by the Rev. Wilkinson and to the Niagara Belt belongs also the honour of sponsoring the first Girl Guide company in Canada. The first St. Catharines company was organized in 1909 by Mr. A. H. Malcolmson. and was registered in England in 1910 by Miss Agnes Baden Powell, first president of the Imperial Girl Guides Association.

Under the term "SCOUTS" our founder holds up for hero worship the best among explorers, pioneers and frontiersmen. He has given Scouts and Guides a motto, (BE PREPARED) and the slogan "Do a good turn every day." Every children's "gang", must have rules and he has given his "Gangs" a set of Laws - a code of chivalry which includes

a selfless sense of duty and the guidance of religion.

The Scouts of Beamsville were organized, as above mentioned, in a great Scout year, the year 1909. In 1931 they were reorganized by Captain Furmenger, a M.C. of the Great War, with James Carleton as Scoutmaster and Gerald Woodland as Assistant. In 1936 Mr. Bolton took over the troop with Milner Potter as Assistant. The next year Mr. Potter took charge, assisted by Gerald Woodland and extended his activities by forming the Dunnville troop. Then at the call of the World War he volunteered for the R.C.A.F. and left his group.

Scouting in Grimsby began in 1910 with Major Harry Baker as first Scoutmaster and Mr. Linus Woolverton as the active and deeply interested promoter of the movement. By a happy coincidence Major Baker's first post in the South African Police was at Mafeking and his active outdoors life in South Africa initiated him into the many skills and crafts which Colonel Baden-Powell had learned there before him. Three of the boys of that first Grimsby troop were honored by being selected to join the party going to the coronation of King George V in 1911, Fred Scott, Gordon Burland and Roy Calder. Many of those boys responded to the great call and volunteered for the Great War, as did their Scoutmaster. Under Scoutmaster H. M. Crawford activities developed included rifle-shooting, life saving, first aid and camping which became part of the year's programme. Unfortunately records show a break after 1919 but in 1934 Mr. L. A. Bromley, a veteran of the Great war became Scoutmaster. Assisting him includes names known honourably in Grimsby. The present Scoutmaster, J. W. Baker has a large keen troop to

Dedicate Scout Troop's Colours At Vineland

Vineland, March 16, 1948

In a special service at the United Missionary Church, the Vineland Boy Scouts were presented with their colours which were solemnly dedicated in an impressive ceremony at which the Rev. Norman Kelly, of Jordan Station, officiated. The service was preceded by a colourful parade from the Vineland School, headed by St. Catharines Kilie Boy Scout band. Troops of the East end of Fruit Belt district taking part in the parade included Guides, Scouts and Cubs from Grimsby, Grimsby Beach, Beamsville, Vineland and Jordan. In charge of the parade were District Commissioner Reginald Jackson, of the St. Catharines

district; District Commissioner Stanley Gibson, of the Fruit belt district; District Scout Master James Baker, and Cub Master Cyril Mote.

During the service the troops were congratulated on their fine appearance by District Commissioner Gibson. The true meaning of the term, 'A good Scout', was discussed in an inspiring address by the Rev. H. A. Beech, who was in charge of the service. "As Scouts you can do very little to keep bombs from dropping on us, but you can do something about present day indifference towards Christianity and the Church, and the wholesale disregard for the Sabbath."

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whom he brings the best things Gilwell has to offer. It is thus initiative and unwearied effort that this Scout Guide week has been so thoroughly carried out.

A pack of 50 cubs was organized with Mr. Cyril Mote as Cubmaster and assisted by Mrs. E. Phelps and Mrs. H. G. Mogg.

Scouting in Winona was organized in May, 1921 by Rev. H. A. West and that summer the boys had their first camp at the beach. Winona Scouts are fortunate in enjoying the active interests of Brigadier Armand Smith.

A rural division is apt to be unaware of its fellowship with the outside world. We have been fortunate in several opportunities to see something of wider Guiding. In 1935 St. Catharines and Grimsby joined in taking a party of Guides to the rally in Toronto at which the Chief Scout and Chief Guide were given a send off to their new home in Kenya. In 1938 one of the four Canadians chosen to attend the tenth

world conference at Adelboden in Switzerland was from, Grimsby. Thinking Day cables from "thoughts" are exchanged with the Guides of Bermuda. Last year the Brownies sent a contribution (of their own money to the Polish Brownies Handbook and the Grimsby wolf cubs sent handclasps of good fellowship to the dutch wolf cubs by a donation towards new scout books.

