

civilization and the development of character. Abundant physical play is desirable for all forms of growth and indispensable to the best and highest forms of that growth—physical, moral, emotional and intellectual. The feature of Scouting is that everybody plays the game. A feature of modern sports which needs to be corrected is that a few professionals play the game and the bulk of the people look on. The frequent stirring of the emotions by watching play without participation is believed to be deteriorating. Scout methods and Scout training are directed so that the boys will get the best out of a good thing and check any inclination to abuse it.



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Scouting games  
occupy an important  
place in the Scout  
Program, and in  
Scouting everybody  
plays the game.

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## V. THE PLACE OF SCOUTING IN BOY LIFE

ALL thoughtful men recognize in some measure the need for something more to be done for boys. A few men more thoughtful than others have tried to meet the need by Scouting. What a happy assurance of greatness for our country it would be if the men and women would take ten minutes a day to sit down and think what good character is—how much of it the boys they know have—how much of it they need—and how the full possession of it may be brought about in them all. The three great agencies which influence and help to mould the character are the home, the school and the church. Scouting is not intended to displace or replace any of these. It comes to complement their work and round it out. It tries to do for the boy and provide opportunity for the boy to do for himself, what these have not, so far, been able to accomplish.

There are only about 1,000 school hours in the year. The average boy is awake, wide awake and watchful, for about 4,475 other hours a year. The Scout Movement plans that the boy shall occupy himself and enjoy himself in useful activities to the fullest extent in some of those hours. We all know the old adage: "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do." We admit that prevention is better than cure. Scouting is preventive as well as positive and constructive. In modern life, children in towns particularly share less and less in doing