

LARGE GAINS BY THE BOY SCOUTS

A Twenty-five Per Cent Increase in Montreal

Membership There is 2,292—Expansion in Various Phases of Activities and Outlook Bright, Executive Secretary Reports.

An increase of twenty-five per cent in membership is recorded in the annual report of the secretary of the Montreal Branch of the Boy Scouts' Association, Canada, presented to the branch at its annual meeting by E. Russell Paterson, assistant provincial scout commissioner and executive secretary of the local branch. The report announces very satisfactory progress along all lines, and is notable for the fact that the solution of many long standing scout organization problems is recorded.

Total Strength 2,292.

A census taken in June of the present year shows that the total strength of the Montreal Scouts is 2,292, as compared to 1,821 in 1921 and to 1,834 in 1920. Census figures were as follows:

	1920	1921	1922
Scout troops	44	89	82
Wolf cub packs	24	9	6
Scouts	1,617	1,491	1,400
Scout officers	104	98	9
Cubs	638	220	122
Cub officers	33	12	6

Total strength . . . 2,292 1,821 1,834

An appreciable increase is also reported in the number of proficiency badges gained by the boys, as well as in the number of first-class tests passed. Total badges gained numbered 1,581, as compared to 1,237 last year, and total first-class tests, 567, as against 384 last year. The most popular badges this year were: Laundryman, 168; missionary, 167; fireman, 128; athlete, 118; interpreter, 102; cyclist, sixty-nine; handyman, sixty-eight; swimmer, sixty-one; ambulance driver, fifty-eight; and master-at-arms, fifty-eight. Scouts completing their first-class tests during the year numbered twenty-seven, while twenty-one first-class

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scouts became King's scouts. All-round cords were issued as follows: Green, for scouts holding six badges, fourteen; red, for those holding twelve badges and qualifying by other tests, fifteen; gold, for those holding eighteen badges, fifteen. Wolf cub badges issued numbered 138, the most popular being: First-aid, thirty; signaller, twenty-three; collector, twenty-two; house orderly, eighteen; and athlete, fourteen. First stars granted were: v.v.v.v.v., one; and second stars, sixty.

Mr. Paterson opens his report by stating that "the report presents a year ago showed a steady but not outstanding expansion of our movement, and emphasized rather the progress that had been made in solving problems of internal economy, looking

to the ensuing year for a more rapid growth. The wisdom of this strengthening the foundations before extension has been amply justified, for the anticipated large growth in numbers has taken place during the past year, and the organization of the association has been found quite competent to absorb the increase, so that the new shares the efficiency of the old.

Wolf Cub's Activities.

The greatest growth in numbers has been the wolf cubs, whose activities are assuming a position of increasing importance in the movement. The quality of their work, as shown by their day and proficiency badge record, has been very thorough. Their contribution to the programme of the outdoor display on July 10 was one of the most popular items produced. Sixty-five cubs attended a combined camp for ten days during the summer, and for the second time at Cushing. The excellence of the report of cub work is due to the efforts of the wolf cub committee, with its efficient secretary, H. M. Jockel.

"One of the most significant directions of expansion has been in co-operation with the Protestant Board of School Commissioners. The introduction of scouting in the schools of Montreal has been a question that has received careful study on the part of the board, who finally gave it their official sanction. A meeting of school principals was held on February 8, attended also by Dr. Robertson and Mr. Stiles, our chief and assistant commissioners. It was there agreed that whatever trained scoutmasters could be provided, these should be recommended to and appointed by the board, and official school troops organized under the supervision of the school principals. H. A. Lordy, provincial secretary, gave his entire time for three months to organizing work in the schools, with the result that approximately 100 scouts and 100 wolf cubs were enrolled in school units before the summer, most of the scouts being trained in small groups by Mr. Lordy personally for expansion into complete units this autumn. School troops and packs will come into being from now on, just as quickly as qualified officers are available to lead them.

"Two other significant fields for extension have been opened up through the appointment of Catholic and Jewish advisory committees. The former was organized with the approval of the authorities of the Roman Catholic Church, and has already secured the co-operation of the Knights of Columbus. This committee is steadily working towards the establishment of scout troops in the Catholic parishes, and awaits only trained officers and Jewish committee also has plans for the organizing of new Jewish units as soon as leaders are available.

Old Scouts' Club Formed.

"Another phase of the expansion of the movement's activities during the past year has been in the organization of Old Scouts' Clubs. Twelve months there were two such clubs, the 8th (Outrigger) club, and that formed among the students of McGill University. Five others have been organized during the year, namely, clubs formed of ex-scouts of the 11th, 12th, 14th, 18th and 21st troops respectively. The total membership is 268. Each club is experimenting to discover the activities best suited to such organizations, but all have a very friendly feeling towards the movement, and a desire to assist in any way possible, especially in connection with the participation of troops whose name each club bears. The coming year should see important developments in the club movement, both in its relation to our association and in the service it will render to the community.

Trained Officers Needed.

"We acknowledge with gratitude the assistance of our work given through the co-operation of the Protestant Board of School Commissioners, both in approving the scout programme for use among their scholars, and in allowing many troops the use of their school gymnasiums; the authorities of McGill University in allowing the use of the stadium for the display, and in affording accommodation for the officers' training course in the Engineering Building; the Presbyterian Settlement Board in again allowing the wolf

cubs the use of their camp, equipment and staff at Cushing; the Montreal press in affording space for scout news."

The report closes as follows: "The outlook for scouting in Montreal is distinctly bright at the present time. Large fields for expansion are open to us, and while we hope for a continual increase in the efficiency of our machinery, the organization of our association is working smoothly. Probably never before has there been such a sincere spirit of co-operation among our officers and committeemen. The greatest need at the moment is for more trained officers of the best type of manhood, and as these become available, scouting will take a larger and larger place in the community as a movement for the training in character and citizenship of all sorts and conditions of boys."

DETROIT POLICE RAID "DOPE" DEN

Allege Discovery of Connecting Link With Drug Supply Ring in Montreal.

Detroit, Oct. 14.—A comely young white woman stood beside a negro before Judge Heston in the Recorder's Court, both charged with violating the narcotic drug laws. Police testified both had been arrested in a house in the St. Antoine street, that had been fitted up in Oriental splendor as an opium den. Evidence also was introduced to prove an alleged direct connecting link between the Detroit house and a "dope" supply ring in Montreal. The prisoners were Thurlow Shook and Rose Campbell. They entered pleas of not guilty and were remanded for trial.

Police testified that several rooms in the St. Antoine street house were fitted out with Oriental rugs, hangings and furnishings. Soft couches, piled with pillows, invited dreamy sleep. There were opium outfits, together with thirty-five grains of drug found.

A letter from "A. Washington, 18 St. Cecile street, Montreal," was found in the possession of Shook, the police testified. This letter stated that the writer could supply all the "bricks," turkey and white stuff that was wanted, and quoted prices for opium, morphine and cocaine. "They are after us here," the letter continued. "If you pay car fare, I will bring the stuff to you or will express it to Windsor at your risk."

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MURDERS OVER POLITICS HAVE STIRRED LISBON

Lisbon, Portugal, Sept. 20.—(A. P. by mail.)—Two recent political assassinations in the streets of Lisbon have aroused the people of this turbulent city. The authorities are accused of failing to afford protection to individuals, and the newspapers are calling upon the government to do something, else Lisbon will become more

and more isolated from the provinces where already the city is led as a dangerous centre of disorder.

The latest crimes took place within three days of each other, and in the heart of the city. Neither victim is expected to live. One was a civil revolutionist known under the nickname of "Avante." He is accused of having denounced some of his former comrades who advocated very extreme measures. He was crossing the street at night, near the docks, when an automobile suddenly stopped near him. Two men jumped out, one stabbed

him with a dagger, and then both fled in the car.

The other victim is Sergio Principe, a Lisbon merchant, who is accused of forsaking his old ideal in favor of the working classes, and who is said to be the secretary of the Patronal Association, an organization strongly opposed to the syndicates and the unions. Principe also was stabbed while walking on the street in front of his store, and his assailant escaped. Both men had received letters of warning, written in blood, and signed "The Red Legion."

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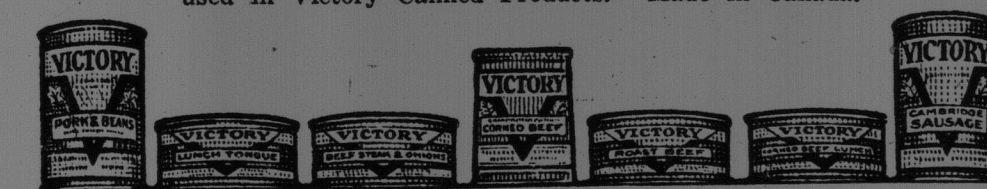
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