

BOY SCOUT SERVICE

I. Tim. 4:12

We are always glad when it comes our time to have the Boy Scouts with us. This is the second time we have had this privilege since coming to Columbus.

We are using for our text... "Let no man despise thy youth and as our subject the "Scout Oath." I want to give special emphasis to these words in the Oath. "I will do my best to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight."

I want it understood that we are all Boy Scouts today. If any one says to you to day "what are you?" then you should answer, "A Boy Scout of course." I heard a good joke on one of my good Baptist friends the other day. It was a good Baptist friend telling me. The story goes that this good Baptist went to the P.O. to buy a Defense Bond. The man at the window said: "what denomination of bond do you want...meaning size of or amount of" Baptist of course, was the reply..So Scout of course is our reply to day.

I. I will keep myself physically strong. This is a fine aim to do. It is our duty unto God to do it. In the Bible we have this question... "Will a man rob God?" We usually think of this as meaning only will a man rob God of money? But it has a wider meaning than that. It means robbing Him in any realm of our total life. Under normal conditions if a boy has the possibility of 100 units of work during his life time ..for God and he abuses his life to the point that he can only deliver 75 units...you can see that he has robbed God of 25 units or 25% of his life. "I will keep myself physically strong."

How are we going to do this?

a. By doing certain things....Eat properly and sleep about one third of the time. One boy said that this was expressed wrong. He said instead of saying "Eat properly and sleep" about one third of the time it ought to be, "Sleep properly and eat one third of the time." But all of us know that if we just eat and sleep we will grow flabby. We will not have much wind. We once had an old colored woman as our cook. That was when our boys were small. We came in from church one day and found a baby boy eating raw dough. Mrs. Wroten spoke to her about and the cook replied..Law-a-me

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Missus Wroten, let de child eat it for raw dough will make him long winded." But it takes something more than raw dough or any sort of food to make one long winded and strong. It takes exercise. Play ball, mow the yard, walk, run, jump, plow...if you get a chance..

b. Then we are helped in our strength possibilities by leaving off certain things...It makes me sad to see little boys on Saturdays smokong cigarettes on the streets...do not ever take the first drink if you have not up to now...It weakens your will power, makes you a dangerous driver, and also makes you a slave. I heard of a man who had become a slave to drink.. a friend said to him it will interfere with your business. The drunkard replied.. "If drinking interferences with your business quit your business." "I will keep myself physically strong."

*Sam McC*

*Chief*

II. I will keep my self mentally awake. Your mind is the head light to your body. One boy said of another..."If the mind is the head light to the body it must be that Ransom Jumper has his bulb broken. You want to keep your mind bright and shining...You are not going to do that by reading muddy, dirty magazines, or by indulging in smooty jokes. It must be fed by things that will clarify it..give it food that will construct it rather than tear it down. If you want to do this it can be done. You have wonderful opportunities in your Church, School, Home, and Scout life.

*picture of the sea and a ship.*

If times become worse and grow from bad to worse and you are robbed of these fine opportunities by the world Bandits even then you can keep your minds awake. May I give you a page out of my own life? It is a rare thing that I do this but I believe that the time calls for it now. When I was a boy opportunities were poor. Walked two and a half miles to school..to teachers that did not know how to diagram a sentence..some sentences..At 15 I was in third reader and had neither father nor mother...But some how God gave me an urge to get to where I could teach school like my father had done. When I got started I could not get my consent to stop until I finished College and went to Seminary...No one gave me one single penny..You can keep your self mentally awake under very poor circumstances

"I will keep myself mentally awake." *110 yrs ago 3 or 4 -  
garaged 1st B.S. troop in Delta Council*

III. I will keep myself morally straight....This quality you must have if you really succeed. If you have a strong body and a strong mind and add to that real religion you are bound to amount to something in the world...Some of you may have *to* war if it goes on very long...at any rate it is going to be your job to rebuild the world after the bandits and pirates are silenced.

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I want you boys to come to the chancel and face the audience and give the entire oath...I want you to speak out loud, and say it with a meaning deeper...if possible...than you have ever said it before.

now let <sup>new</sup> members come forward as  
we sing -

