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July 28 1991

Frank A. Smith

# Year Book

of the

Rome Council

Boy Scouts of America

1920

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First Troop Organized 1910

Council Established 1917

Council Incorporated 1920

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Edited by  
G. W. Guyer, Scout Executive  
Rome, New York

## NATIONAL COUNCIL

(250 members)

Hon. Woodrow Wilson,  
Honorary President  
Hon. William H. Taft,  
Honorary Vice President  
Daniel Carter Beard,  
Honorary Vice President  
Colin H. Livingstone, President  
Milton A. Mc Rae, Vice President  
Arthur Letts, Vice President  
Mortimer L. Schiff, Vice President  
Benjamin L. Dulaney, Vice President  
George D. Pratt, Treasurer  
Daniel Carter Beard,  
National Scout Commissioner  
James E. West, Chief Scout Executive  
Dr. George J. Fisher,  
Deputy Chief Scout Executive



JAMES E. WEST  
Chief Scout Executive

## ROME COUNCIL

Dr. J. L. Golly, President	A. M. Lovier, Treasurer
Arthur P. Knight, Vice President	O. A. Betts, Commissioner
L. T. Gregerson, Secretary	G. W. Guyer, Executive
C. H. Halstead	James A. Spargo
M. A. Kent	Dr. Chas. Bernstein
L. S. Spear	H. W. Barnard
Hon. F. S. Baker	J. J. Russell
Hon. H. C. Midlam	D. W. Wardwell
George Bowers	Prof. G. R. Staley
C. H. Simon	P. C. Thomas
M. J. Larkin	Henry Ernst
Thomas Hughes	A. P. Engelbert
W. M. Arthur	F. H. Merry
R. M. Fraser	
W. O. Jones	
Frank Mertz	
John Boylan	
T. J. Connell	
F. W. Kirkland	
Prof. W. M. Lowerre	
Prof. Chas. Lanigan	
Henry Semo	
B. Levitt	
Lyle Howland	

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr. J. L. Golly, Chairman

Arthur P. Knight	L. S. Spear
L. T. Gregerson	C. H. Halstead
A. M. Lovier	O. A. Betts
M. A. Kent	G. W. Guyer

COURT OF HONOR

Moss A. Kent, Chairman  
Prof. W. M. Lowerre  
Prof. O. A. Betts

TRAINING COMMITTEE

A. P. Knight, Chairman  
O. A. Betts  
Edward Davies  
F. J. Vanderpool

ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

L. T. Gregerson, Chairman  
C. H. Simon

FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. M. Lovier, Chairman  
H. W. Barnard  
C. H. Simon

CAMP COMMITTEE

A. P. Knight, Chairman  
L. T. Gregerson  
A. M. Lovier

HEADQUARTERS SECRETARY

Miss Pernal M. Fox



CHARLES A. GAMMONS  
National Field Scout Executive

Mr. Gammons has general supervision of Scouting in the second district, which is composed of the states of New York and New Jersey. He is well fitted for this work, having had ten years' experience as County Y. M. C. A. Secretary in this state, Executive Secretary of the Hampden County Improvement League for two years, and was associated with Mr. H. B. Endicott, Food Administrator of Massachusetts during the war. Mr. Gammons with his Deputies are at present organizing many new Councils in the district.

## THE SPIRIT OF THE BOY SCOUT MOVEMENT

By DR. J. L. GOLLY

President of Rome Council

Every boy has within him as a hereditary gift, the traits of his ancestors who were forced to use their animal instincts in the preservation of life. Advancing down through the ages, the boy has lost gradually the necessity of using these gifts of God because of the environments of this day of civilization. However, the spirit still remains to do the things which our forefathers did in order to build America and American men.

The Boy Scout movement is inviting and accepting that spirit and striving to give the boy a vent to his restless animal nature at a period in life when it is developing without the boy's ability to conceive its true form, and directing this spirit into action that will be helpful to the boy and an aid to the progress of future civilization.

Scouting with its broad scope, unhampered by religious restraint and dogmatic skepticisms, being accepted by, working in closest harmony with all the churches and having passed unscathed the stage of experimentation shows the boy the grandeur and wonders of Nature as God would have him and teaches him the workings of the Golden Rule as it applies to all things made by God and especially his associations with his fellow.

It instills a desire for leadership without oppression shown so often in the gang of the street, and a desire to make himself physically strong to meet the demands which life will impose upon him, mentally awake so as to take his place in the world, and morally straight to follow the true instincts of his conscience and the will of God with a true knowledge of property which is law and order.

It is anticipating the future with the thought that in ten years our boys of today will be the men of tomorrow deciding the problems of home and state. Thus the co-operation of all and above all, the parent, is needed to assist this great program in reaching out to all the boys of this glorious country and instilling in them the true ideas of Americanism with the love of God. This spirit is international, endeavoring to place the boys of the world on an equal footing as to desires and motives and thus become one of the greatest factors in the league of peace among nations.

We are endeavoring to show and to give Rome and our surrounding community all that Scouting means with the assistance of our own great National Scout organization located in New York City, under a copy of whose charter we act as a first class Council, recognizing that its scope and power is limited only by the reception it receives from the fathers and mothers of the boys of this nation.

Scouting in Rome with this instilled spirit will grow and develop just as fast as the mothers and fathers of our boys appreciate the opportunity they have of making their boys into the men their hearts would desire and put their time and thought back of the movement and make it their duty to grow with their boys.

## OUR COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE

*Making "Honor" the Watchword*  
By O. A. BETTS

Scout Commissioner, Rome Council.

When the Rome Council of Boy Scouts of America was organized three and a half years ago, little did we realize that it was the eve of a period that was to usher in such golden opportunities for service—years in which we might instil into the minds of the youth of our community the lessons of patriotism and duty—duty to God and their country, the fundamental tenants of the Scout law.

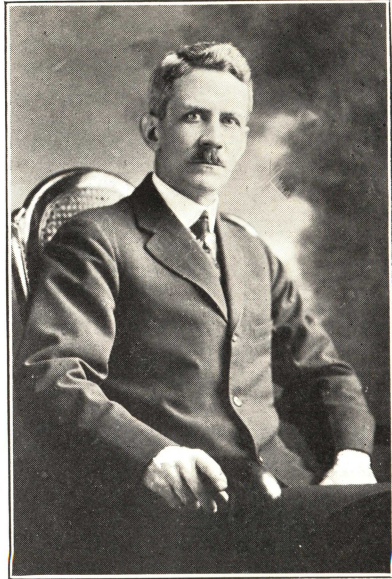
Looking back upon this period fraught with so many doubts and fears, we recall how cheerfully the Scouts responded to every call. Whether the selling of Liberty bonds, bearing dispatches for the Government Committees, working War Gardens, or performing various tasks assigned by the community, they faithfully discharged their duty.

The Boy Scouts have proven themselves a distinct community asset and municipal authorities everywhere are taking it upon themselves to see that they receive the proper support that they merit, asking nothing more in return than an honest endeavor to keep their pledge to the Scout Law and their allegiance to the Flag.

The Boy Scout movement has spread to practically every country on the globe. It is "The World Brotherhood of Boys", the psychological strength of which is to be found in its organization as a body. The knowledge that he is one of over 400,000 boys in the nation, one of 32 boys in a troop, one of 8 boys in the patrol makes a Scout lift up his head and march with a firmer tread, morally as well as physically.

A Scout first pledges himself to a code of HONOR. "*Upon my honor I will do my best,*" not his half-best, but his whole-best. Therefore, it is the first duty of Scout leaders to keep constantly before the boys a clear conception of what honor means—the honor of character which must control his private acts as well as his secret thoughts. Such a task is a sacred obligation that calls for leadership of the highest type.

Rome is to be congratulated on possessing a Council of the First Class with a well organized working personnel, each individual member of which labors with a zeal highly commendable to himself and with incalculable benefit to the Scouts of the city.



O. A. BETTS

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF  
SCOUT EXECUTIVE  
G. W. GUYER

*To the Rome Council, Boy Scouts of  
America, Rome, N. Y.*

GENTLEMEN:

I have the honor to herewith submit to you my report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1920. This brings to a successful close the fourth year of operation of the Rome Council, Boy Scouts of America.

It is interesting to note the gradual increase in number of troops, scouts, leaders, advancement and efficiency of our movement. We have grown in the past four years from 5 to 19 troops, from 130 registered scouts to 421 and from 8 officials to 42. The advancement in scouting has been remarkable and shows the strength of our individual troop leadership. Four years ago we had but 7 second class scouts, 3 first class and no merit badges. Today we have 71 second class, 54 first class possessing 564 merit badges, 18 star, 5 eagle and 2 veteran scouts. This is an advancement of 9 first class, 14 star, 2 eagle scouts and 404 merit badges in the past year. This increase in scout advancement indicates interest and activity on the part of the troops and a great deal of time and energy on the part of the Examining Board and Court of Honor.

I wish here to give credit to whom credit belongs. It is the scoutmaster and his assistants who are putting this wonderful program for boys across and to them we must and will gladly give the credit. We have at this time the most efficient group of men of strong character leading our troops that we have ever had and we are in need of more such men for the many boys in our city who are waiting for this program.

It is very encouraging to report the increased interest shown the past year on the part of the churches in their boys' work, troop committeemen are becoming more active and scouting is receiving its place on the church program. We are also receiving the best co-operation from the different institutions in the city, the Salvation Army Boys' Club is looking after three of our troops, the Y. M. C. A. is giving the use of their swimming pool, instructing and giving tests in athletics, swimming, pace, life saving, etc.

The Examining Board met regularly twice a month with the exception of July and August to give tests in first aid, signaling, merit badge subjects, etc.



G. W. GUYER

The Court of Honor held fifteen meetings during the year, twelve private and three public. One hundred eight tenderfoot, 45 second class, 21 first class, 404 merit badges, 13 life and star and 2 eagle badges were earned by our boys and presented by the Court of Honor.

At the beginning of the year a course of instruction was given to a class of scoutmasters and prospective scout leaders. Eight lessons were held with an average attendance of eighteen. Our Training Committee have just closed an eight-lesson course of instruction for leaders, the average attendance being twenty-eight. Several courses in signaling and first aid were held for boys during the year which were very successful. Demonstrations, rallies, field day, 10th anniversary celebration, troop contests, bird study contest, swimming campaign, troop entertainments and demonstrations, scoutmasters' conferences, camping, and community good turns were the important features of the year.

We were very fortunate in being able to send two of our boys to the National Jamboree held in London, England, and also having the honor of being one of two first class Councils in the State of New York to be represented at the Eastern States Exposition held at Springfield, Mass.

It is gratifying to report the fine work accomplished by our Executive Committee recently in securing a camp site for the boys of Rome. This camp will more than double the efficiency of our work. We are also very fortunate in having the New York State Conference of Scoutmasters here in May, 1921.

You are to be congratulated upon the excellent Executive Committee you selected to look after the details of the Council. This committee has met regularly every two weeks with many intervening meetings, spending from two to three hours every meeting discussing and planning the future of our citizenship. This committee was nearly one hundred per cent. present at every meeting.

I wish to express my appreciation of the fine co-operation I have had from the men who have given so much of their busy lives to this most important work of making real American citizens of our boys. Councilmen, troop committeemen, scoutmasters, assistant scoutmasters, instructors and examiners, 116 men in all, and to my very efficient secretary, I thank you and look forward to still a better year in 1921.

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. GUYER,  
Scout Executive.

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#### CAMP REPORT.

Camp Russell, our Council camp at White Lake, was opened this year on July 3rd and closed on August 21st.

Willis B. Day was secured as camp director, Joseph Heritage, camp physician; William Spice, quartermaster; Roger Newcomer, director of scouting; Henry White, cook, and Donald Velsey, swimming instructor. Older scouts acted as tent leaders.

The camp this year was entirely a training camp for scout advancement, emphasis being placed on the instruction of scout craft and the passing of tests. Every scout was given special instruction in swimming and a fine American Red Cross Life Saving Corps was organized, eight of our boys passing the test

One hundred twenty different Rome Scouts were in camp; sixteen of these were used as leaders. The average stay was two weeks. Six completed their second class work, twelve their first class, twelve their life and star, one eagle and a total of two hundred twenty merit badges.

In addition to the camp at White Lake, Troop 16 camped a week north of Rome, Troop 9 a week on the Golf Club grounds, and Troops 1 and 12 had several week-end camping trips.



SCOUT MASTERS AND ASSISTANTS

Standing left to right, Edward Davies, Hamilton Bradley, A. P. Knight, H. W. Ernst, Ralph Siccareno, G. W. Guyer, Lorren Bailey, E. G. Whitmeyer, E. A. Grogan, Jr., Patrick Redmond, Arthur McKevitt.

Sitting left to right, Yates Lansing, Verne Barnett, Willard Francis, T. H. McKevitt, Edward Bronson, William Stretton, Walter Roberts, D. K. Johnston, Howard Bielby, W. O. Jones, C. K. Douglass.

## THE SCOUTMASTER

*By* SCOUTMASTER A. P. KNIGHT

When it is all summed up there is just one thing in this life that everyone is straining and working for and that thing is called happiness. People have different ideas of happiness. Some are satisfied with a full stomach, the hunter calls himself happy when he has a full bag of game, the farmer wishes for a big crop, the school boy longs for the vacation time. We are all after the thing which brings us happiness; usually it is for ourselves alone and we can never be satisfied. We spend great sums of money trying to find happiness, summer resorts, fishing trips, the theater, automobiles, etc.



There is one kind of happiness although it does not cost money, yet it is the greatest of all pleasures and that its the giving of one's time and thought in the service of others. The scoutmaster knows this real happiness because his time and thought is spent in the training of boys. He must set aside one evening in every week for his troop meeting and must let nothing interfere with his being with his troop on that night. If he does nothing else, this in itself is at times a real sacrifice. This is only a small part of his work. He has under his charge 32 boys between the ages of 12 and 18, those almost impossible years. He has no actual authority over them as does the school teacher. He must by his personality alone keep law and order. His only means of restraint or punishment is the denying of privileges. He can in extreme cases expel a scout from the troop, but in so doing he admits himself a failure in handling of that boy.

Imagine, if you can, under these conditions a meeting of 32 bundles of nervous energy, 32 steel springs all wound up ready to fly in all directions at once. Perhaps you know what four boys can do in the way of an imitation of an earthquake; now multiply this by eight and you have the latent possibilities of the average troop meeting. All this stored up energy held in check as the trigger holds the dead fall, and the slightest touch brings pandemonium.

How is it done? By having a systematic program, something to be done every minute. Each meeting is planned out ahead with not a small amount of forethought. This is another part of the Scoutmaster's job. He must have outlined before hand just what is to be done and he must provide for 32 boys to do it. Part of the meeting time is taken up in instruction classes and with the varied work in scouting it is no small matter to so organize these classes that no one shall be idle.

The Scoutmaster being the leader, he necessarily should know considerable about scouting himself, if he wishes to hold the proper respect of a scout to a Scoutmaster. That is another one of his jobs, to learn scouting and if he does not take to it or has had no previous training that would actually fit him for Scoutmastership, his job is much more difficult.

As most of the scout work calls for the great out of doors and can be done in no other way, such as cooking, fire building, hiking, tracking, nature study, bird study, scout pace, etc., the Scoutmaster must take his troop on hikes in the woods where they can get close to nature and learn to care for themselves as did the cave men. Real scouting can not be done otherwise so this constitutes another of the Scoutmaster's duties. He must give up one afternoon a week, some take Saturday and some Sunday afternoon in the fall and spring to take the scouts out on hikes.

How many of us realize what it means to give up the only free time in the week for the sake of training boys. Sunday afternoon naps, automobile rides, picnics, and Sunday papers are quite enticing when compared with dressing in a Scoutmaster's uniform and taking a five-mile hike, especially if you do not

to see where our boys had fought for our liberty. We also were able to decorate a number of cemeteries, both American and French.

During our homeward voyage, which started August 23 and ended September 4, everyone was busy either with scouting classes, essays, or the painful occupation of "feeding the fish." Upon our arrival we were taken to Hotel Commadore, where the prizes were awarded and the Jamboree officially closed. We then received our discharges and were free to go to our homes.

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## NEW CAMP FOR ROME BOYS

For the past three years the Rome Council, Boy Scouts, together with the Councils of Utica and Ilion have owned and operated a scout camp at White Lake. Mr. S. T. Russell was the donor of this camp. During this time the camp has developed and grown and now is one of the best in the state.

Camp Russell is 42 miles from Rome and due to the distance our boys were limited to the eight weeks that the camp was open during the summer. It has been the feeling on the part of the local Council for some time that Rome should own and operate a camp for her boys that would be available the year round, opened for a certain period during the summer for scouts and other periods for the use of the other boys' organizations of Rome. During the remainder of the year it would be available for over-night, week-end and vacation camping. In order to use a camp for boys the year round it must be within hiking distance.

Scouting being an outdoor program the Rome Council felt that they should take the initiative and get a camp that would be under their general supervision but would be available for all boys. The camp committee with the aid of the executive committee surveyed very thoroughly all of the territory within a thirty-mile radius of Rome and after many weeks of searching found a most desirable spot fifteen miles north of the city.

With the aid of a good friend of the scouts we were able to purchase one hundred fifty acres of land and a lake about three-quarters by a half mile. The land is nearly all forested, making an excellent place for the teaching of scout craft. The lake is composed of spring water having an underground inlet and outlet. It lies in a basin on the top of a hill and the bank around it is covered with trees, spruce, aspen, birch, beech and maple, which makes it a beautiful spot. Suitable buildings will be constructed and ready for the opening of the summer camp season of 1921.

Every boy in Rome should start at once a camp savings account so that he might spend at least two weeks in a camp that will be his own. Camp thrift stamps can be purchased at headquarters for ten cents each. Start a book at once.



HAMILTON BRADLEY

AN ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
MOHAWK VILLAGE

At Eastern States Exposition  
Springfield, Mass.

By HAMILTON BRADLEY

The Eastern States Exposition invited the Boy Scouts of America to build a Mohawk Village on the Exposition grounds for the purpose of demonstrating scout craft. Two scouts were to be chosen from first class Councils in each of the ten eastern states. The Exposition was held September 18-26 and I appreciate the privilege of being the representative of the Rome Council, Rome being one of the two Councils chosen to represent New York State.

I left Rome on Friday, September 17. After arriving in Springfield I was conducted by a scout to Scout Headquarters and to the Exposition grounds, the camp being in charge of Director Wessell, who put us to work preparing the various huts for occupancy. This done, we set about placing our exhibits in the long house.

By Saturday evening everyone had arrived and all were pretty well acquainted by the time supper had been served, after which we gathered around a camp fire, sang, joked, and listened to instructions from the director until it was time to turn in, taps being blown at 9:30.

Promptly at 6:30 Sunday morning we were awakened by the clear notes of a bugle and given seven minutes for dressing before assembly, flag raising, and setting up exercises. Following breakfast the scouts went to various churches in the city or to church on the Exposition grounds.

Sunday passed as an easy day for us but Monday morning we began work in earnest, some built bridges, huts and others built a signal tower. All these things were done for demonstration work. While these activities were going on in one part of the field, in another a few boys would be tying knots, making fire without matches, doing first aid, and some cooking, in fact about everything a scout is taught to do was demonstrated.

In the afternoon we would vary our program somewhat by playing games, boxing, wrestling and making plaster of paris prints of leaves and various other objects, for the benefit of the public. Then the week was spent and we all left with happy memories of the pleasant time we had while there in the interest of scouting.

# EAGLE SCOUTS



MADISON JACKSON



EARL VANDERPOOL



ARTHUR KNIGHT

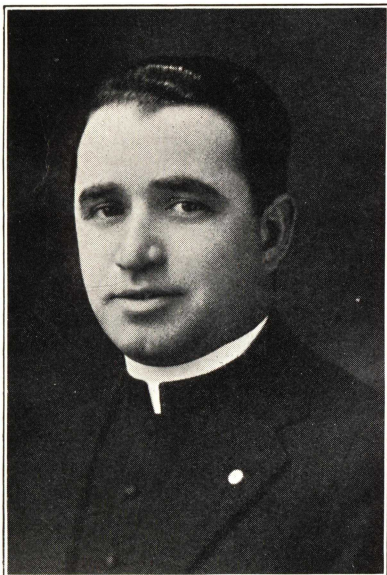


HAMILTON BRADLEY



MARLOW ABRAMS

The eagle scout badge is awarded to any first class scout qualifying for twenty-one merit badges. These twenty-one badges shall include first aid, life saving, personal health, public health, cooking, camping, civics, bird study, pathfinding, pioneering, athletics or physical development, and any ten others.



REV. JOHN F. WHITE

keener appreciation of the aims, the ambitions and aspirations of his fellows, and thus create a respect for his neighbor which can have no other result than a more united and harmonious nation—a real *united* United States.

The method employed and the means used in attaining this much to be desired end have already been the subjects of articles in the *N. C. W. C. Bulletin*. Any opponent of scouting who read these articles and still remained antagonistic to this movement must, indeed, stand greatly in need of its beneficial and beneficent program, so that he too may know what it means to “see the other fellow’s way of looking at things” before pronouncing judgment.

The National Catholic War Council gave careful and studied consideration to scouting before it adopted the program. The cardinals, archbishops and bishops of the Catholic Church who have approved and recommended the movement can be credited with having the spiritual interest of Catholic boyhood and manhood uppermost in their minds. Our Holy Father, Benedict XV, surely would never have bestowed the Papal blessing upon this movement unless he had been absolutely certain that in it the faith and morals of millions of American boys would be absolutely free from every possible danger and contamination.

These facts alone seem all convincing, and yet there are some who oppose the movement with all the force and vigor of men who are convinced that their judgment is infallible and their pronouncement final.

It is hard to understand the attitude of these men, because every argument they have advanced in support of their position has been refuted by the practical—not theoretical—experience of every man who has given scouting a fair chance and who has given of his time and of his energy in carrying out the scouting

## SCOUTING AND OUR CHURCH

Of all movements which have as their object the benefiting of the boy, none has attracted more attention and caused greater comment than that which today is doing so much real good for Boyhood in America, and which is daily enlisting hundreds of boys under the banner of the Boy Scouts of America.

The Boy Scout Movement is not something new and untried. For ten years, earnest, honest, unselfish and sincere men have been giving their “all” to develop in the American boy that spirit of self-reliance, of manliness, of loyalty, of broad-mindedness, of toleration and tolerance which will insure a better understanding and a

TROOP 1—FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Troop Committee

C. H. Halstead Dr. H. J. Teller Joseph Kalk

Commissioned Officers

Howard N. Bielby.....Scoutmaster Lloyd Bellinger....Asst. Scoutmaster
Lorren Bailey.....Asst. Scoutmaster Jack Duncan.....Asst. Scoutmaster

TROOP 2—WILLETT SCHOOL

Troop Committee

Prof. Charles T. Lanigan A. M. Lovier Hon. E. L. O'Donnell

Commissioned Officers

Hamilton Bradley..Asst. Scoutmaster Arthur McKevirt...Asst. Scoutmaster

TROOP 3—SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Troop Committee

Henry W. Wengatz Joseph Keating O. A. Betts

Commissioned Officers

H. Verne Barnett.....Scoutmaster Yates Lansing....Asst. Scoutmaster

TROOP 5—FIRST M. E. CHURCH

Troop Committee

Arthur Hollis T. E. Gilbert E. W. Stafford

Commissioned Officers

C. K. Douglass.....Scoutmaster Raymond Adey.....Asst. Scoutmaster

TROOP 6—ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Troop Committee

J. H. Farr George A. Ellinger Albert E. Ellinger

Commissioned Officers

E. A. Grogan, Jr.....Scoutmaster
J. Leroy Connick...Asst. Scoutmaster Francis McDonough.Asst. Scoutmaster

TROOP 7—INDEPENDENT—(Meeting at Salvation Army Boys' Club)

Troop Committee

Dr. Michael Levitan S. M. Stevens Benjamin J. Beach

Commissioned Officers

Walter L. Roberts.....Scoutmaster William Stretton...Asst. Scoutmaster

TROOP 9—FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Troop Committee

T. Clayton Mowry Frank Jewell Albert Hooke

Commissioned Officers

H. L. Schroeder.....Scoutmaster Harold Fisk.....Asst. Scoutmaster

TROOP 10—ST. PETER'S CHURCH

Troop Committee

T. J. Connell John J. Boylan William Cahill

Commissioned Officers

T. H. McKevirt.....Scoutmaster Jack Priesendorfer..Asst. Scoutmaster