BOY SCOUTS BEGIN LONG CIVIC EXPEDITION

CLINTON, IOWA, STARTS A NEW SCHOOL FOR PATRIOTISM

BY J. C. VANT HUL, JR.

General Secretary, Clinton Chamber of Commerce

CLINTON, IOWA, is sending two hundred Boy Scouts on a big hike through several mid-western states culminating in a specially privileged visit at Yellowstone Park. Slowly, but surely, the truth is dawning upon the commercial and civic organization leaders everywhere, that commerce and industry can best be carried on by those who have an abiding faith in the solidity and greatness of our country, its institutions, and its tremendous resources. The commercial organization of today realizes at last that the promotion of civic ideals comes first, and the prosecution of commercialism must take second place, because a community can only continue to do business successfully if it is first made a good community in which to live.

Small wonder, then, that the business and professional men of Clinton grasped the opportunity to give two hundred of its brightest and most competent lads a summer vacation that will combine recreational and educational opportunities of a most practical and valuable nature. For several summers past, its Boy Scouts had enjoyed camps, hikes and all the things that pertain to scouting, in the territory contiguous to the home grounds. But with the development of the highways, and the universal use of motor cars and trucks, came the suggestion that this year they be given a chance to really see something of the great central western section of the United States, and Yellowstone

National Park was proposed as the objective point.

After months of preparation, two hundred of the nearly one thousand Clinton Boy Scouts have been finally selected for this gigantic expedition. Moreover, fifty of the leading business and professional men of Clinton are going to be boys again for the time being, and are taking their vacations by serving as drivers for the boys, and lending their cars for this trip.

Fifty passenger cars and five huge trucks, loaded to capacity with all the numerous things necessary to maintain the party on the six weeks tour, will depart from Clinton. The caravan will carry complete commissary and camping equipment. It will have a moving picture department and will film scenes as it goes. A wireless telegraph and telephone outfit will be carried. A traveling press bureau will be taken along. Doctors, nurses, chaplains, mechanics, cooks are included in the executive personnel, and the boys will be taken care of every minute while away from home.

The party will camp at night at some place where excellent camping facilities are available. A great many communities are planning special entertainment for them. Pains will be taken to instruct them on all the historic and special features of territory traversed. Several days will be spent in the famous Black Hills territory, and the boys will be given a special lecture on the Bad Lands by Professor

O'Hara, president of the South Dakota State School of Mines. Many side trips to important points in the Black Hills are planned with Deadwood as the base. The bureau of national parks is placing special guides at the disposal of the party and will take them into places in Yellowstone that few tourists are privileged to enter. The commissioner of Indian affairs is making special preparations to show the boys the real everyday life of the Indians on the Pine Ridge reservation. They will be given every opportunity to study and observe at first hand all the things that have contributed to

the present development of Iowa, South Dakota, Wyoming and Nebraska, and should come back to Clinton with a greater appreciation of the resources of these great central states.

The party will travel in military style. Strict rules and regulations will be observed throughout.

A complete history of the trip will be written up and made available. It is believed that this enterprise will stimulate other communities to do likewise and will result in a general movement to give the growing generation an opportunity to see and learn to know "America First."

BOSTON'S WORTHY PENSION ENDEAVORS

BY PAUL STUDENSKY

New Jersey Bureau of State Research

THE Boston Finance Commission has been engaged during the last few months in a noteworthy endeavor to establish a sound pension system for the employes of Boston. At present, the policemen, teachers, firemen and laborers are the only ones who enjoy pension provisions. The first group is covered by a double system consisting of a non-contributory pension from the city and of an actuarially insolvent annuity fund which is supported by contributions of teachers and which was compelled because of lack of funds to pay smaller annuities than originally promised. The other three groups are covered entirely by non-contributory systems. All these provisions are quite in line with the unsound pension laws which have been placed on the statute books of the various states before realization of the need of scientific procedure in this matter had dawned upon administrators, legislators and employes. In endeavoring to establish a pension system for

the employes not now provided for, the commission has, therefore, turned away from these bad precedents and has set to an examination of the best pension accomplishments of various states of recent years.

It framed a bill with the technical assistance of the New Jersey Bureau of State Research, with Mr. George B. Buck acting as actuary, covering all the employes of the city with the following exceptions: (1) present and future teachers; (2) present policemen, firemen and laborers.

The teachers were excluded in view of a division of opinion among them. A large proportion of the teachers led by the high school group presented a petition to the commission in favor of being included, whereas the sentiment of elementary teachers was largely in favor of being excluded and treated separately, if at all. The policemen, firemen and laborers have until the last moment expressed no opinion on the subject. The commission thought