

CAMP
SEQUOYAH

C. WALTON JOHNSON, DIRECTOR
ASHEVILLE, N. C.

"A REAL CAMP FOR REAL BOYS"
IN "THE LAND OF THE SKY"
ASHEVILLE, N. C.

COL. L. L. RICE, DIRECTOR
MAYLAND, TENN.

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LEXINGTON, VA.

HONOR EMBLEM TESTS, HIKING

August 29, 1930

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Attached to this letter you will find my reports on the Honor Emblem work and Hiking. Also, I have attached a few suggestions which do not involve the work I headed up.

I have thought over all of this considerably and believe that I am right on some of it. However, all suggestions are for your approval and if you don't like any of them, it is all right with me.

Had wanted to get out to see you before leaving but am going to be so busy that I don't think I will be able to make it. Will leave on or around Sept. 6 or 8.

As always,

Your sincere friend,

Chas

August 29, 1930

Reports

These reports cover work completed at Camp Sequoyah which involves Hiking and Honor Emblem work with recommendations for this work next year. A few miscellaneous suggestions are also attached which do not involve above mentioned work.

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Report No. I includes Honor Emblem work

Report No. II includes Hiking

Report No. III includes Miscellaneous Suggestions

Respectfully submitted by:

C.W. Gordon, Counselor in
charge of Hiking and Honor Emblem
work.

Report No. 1

Honor Emblem Work

First year:(recommendations for changes in the first year cards)

Under Mental training:

In no. 1. If Pioneer handbooks are to be used next year, new copies should be secured. Two copies are not sufficient for a group of boys to work with. Personally, I do not believe Pioneer handbooks suitable for the work.

In no. 4. Contributing to the Warwhoop does not bring particularly good articles, as most boys care nothing for this kind of work. Why not drop this as a requirement and make it voluntary, leaving it up to the Warwhoop staff to make the assignments of articles. In this way, a boy will know that he has been picked out to write an article and will give more time and thought to its preparation.

Under Physical training:

In no. 2. Because of having dropped the Maroon and Gray contest, would think it best to leave out the sentence, "participate in at least 16 athletic contests" and substitute, "active participation in athletic contests".

Under Devotional training:

In no. 5. If Morning Watch is supposedly voluntary it should not be an Honor Emblem requirement or should read "keep the Morning Watch regularly". However, I am in favor of the former, as I believe that all devotionals at camp should be of a voluntary nature.

Under Service training:

In no. 5. This should be struck out as it runs counter to the idea with which a contribution of that kind is made.

First year:(Suggestions)

1. Your idea about teaching a boy the proper use of a knife would make a good addition to the requirements. Might also include the usage of an axe.

2. As a second year boy knows about Sequoyah hiking, why not take no. 5 under Special, listed on the second year card and insert it on the first year card. This change will be important in that organized hiking can be introduced to the new boy who needs it most. This requirement would require a pamphlet written especially to fit into Sequoyah hiking.

3. If you have a larger group of boys in camp next year, the counselor in charge of Honor Emblem work will have to have some assistance. Bill Blair would be good in this in that he is dependable and likes the work.

4. Boys should be encouraged to work as hard as possible the first month. They did well this past summer, but could do better.

Second year: (recommendations for changes in the second year cards)

Under Woodcraft and Campercraft:

In no. 10. This chapter in comrades handbook is not so good. If possible, a substitute would be better.

Under First Aid:

In no. 4. This is a good treatment of first aid. Need some new copies of the Comrades handbook.

Under Special:

In no. 5. Transfer this requirement to the first year card.

In no. 6. This is poor as the Comrades handbook pp. 53 54, 78, 79 bear on some other subject entirely. Also, why cut off the Kephart reading when the subject goes on a few pages longer?

In no. 10. Both of these chapters are unnecessary. "Nature Hobbies", chapt. 12, is covered in first year work. Chapt. 13, "Our Native Trees" is unnecessary in that it is covered in the nature study requirements. Both of them are repetitive so why not strike it all out and put in a substitute.

In no. 9. According to Mr. Francis, this should read: Make a bow, 6 arrows, and score 90 in archery, using 30 arrows. Be at least 30 yards from the target.

Report No.2.

Concerning Hiking and Suggestions

Note: Following is a schedule of the hikes and trips taken this summer. Indications are made as to the boys who made the trips.

Suggestions:

1. Every boy before going on a long hike like the Mitchell trip, should be made to go to the infirmary and have his feet examined. There were some boys who should ~~never~~ made this hike because of bad feet.

2. Before any over night hikes are held, every boy should be shown in camp how to roll his blanket, how to dress for a hike, how to make his bed on the ground, etc. Heretofore, they have been told but not shown.

3. Along with the articles a boy brings to camp, be sure that they bring a good drinking cup.

4. While wonderful hiking spirit was displayed on the Mitchell hike, the crowd was too large. There should never be over 40 boys on this hike as it is too much responsibility to care for more than this number.

5. Have all arrangements made far in advance and try never to let anything interrupt. Too much delay causes disappointment amongst the boys which is justified.

Report No. 3.

Miscellaneous Suggestions

1. I found that many boys parents had given no indication as to when their sons would arrive in Asheville, causing much confusion and disorganization at the station. Would suggest: (1) In your letter to parents, prior to opening of camp, insist that they advise when and on what train their sons will arrive. (2) Enclose in this letter some ribbons (preferably camp colors) asking that the boys wear them on their coat lapel. This mark will enable a counselor to locate Sequoyah boys at once. As it is, it is very difficult to pick strange boys out of the mass of them at the station. (3) With each carload of boys coming to camp, have the counselor give the taxi driver a list of the boys names in the car. The driver can in turn give the list to whoever is in charge of the office. This will simplify all the checking up on numbers transported by taxis.
2. Camp should be in better shape for opening--that is the equipment. Many boys told me that they noticed that the counselors were busy on things which should have been completed before they ever came to camp. This is a legitimate "kick", and I think too much time is spent by counselors working on equipment rather than program. Of course this work must be done, but not after camp starts--it slows everything up when all ought to be in high gear.
3. I believe the idea of letting the boy choose just what he will follow while in camp is excellent. However, all activities of the camp should be orientated and every boy required to attend instruction. Make this last at least a full week. This orientation would include athletics or field work of any kind in order to give the instructor a chance to determine what a boy needed in an athletic way. Example: If someone could have watched Ferris Cann play tennis or baseball at the first of the summer, then the office would not have received so many of those "why" letters from the home folks.
4. All cabin floors should be scoured thoroughly with a mixture of Lysol and water prior to camp opening. This will relieve the floors of any infectious germs and put the floors in a good sanitary conditions
5. This has been said to you before by many of us. It is repeated for emphasis. It would mean so much to the boys to have you chum with them more. I have often heard them say that they missed your presence about camp. They are very fond of you and are enthusiastic when you have been around.