Abstract

The investigation attempted to describe the growth and development of Boy Scouting in the public elementary schools in the division of Ilocos Sur from 1970 to 1975. More specifically, it tried to answer the following questions: (1) What was the growth of Boy Scouting in terms of number of registered troops and registered Boy Scouts? (2) What are the development of Boy Scouting programs and activities? (4) What were the problems of Boy Scouting encountered by Scoutmaster?

The Methodology

To describe the growth and development of Boy Scouting in the public elementary schools in the division of Ilocos Sur from 1970-1975, the questionnaire techniques were used to gather data. To verify the data gathered, the investigator interviewed school heads and pursued the records and pertinent documents filed in the Office of the Provincial Scout Executive.

The questionnaire was constructed with the guidance of the thesis adviser and committee members, was tried out on ten Scoutmasters, was refined and duplicated and then administered to 136 Scoutmasters through the division of Ilocos Sur. All of them returned the properly filled-up questionnaire. The data were organized, analyzed and interpreted.

Findings:

1. **On the beginning of Boy Scouting.** Boy Scouting in the division of Ilocos Sur began with Commonwealth Act No. 111 as reported by 102 (79 percent) of the teacher-scoutmasters; 21 of 16 percent claim that they organized the Boy Scout troops with Department Order No. 12, series 1960; while 3 or 2 percent, with Presidential Decree No. 460.

2. **On the Growth of Boy Scouting.** There was a remarkable yearly increase of registered troops in the division of Ilocos Sur.
The number registered troops increased at a rate of 3.65 over the five-year period while the number of Boy Scouts increased by 20.75 percent. Scoutmasters increased in number as a result of new units of troops registered. There was no increase in the number of district, institutional and provincial commissioners.

3. **On the Development of Boy Scouting.** In-service training were held yearly. The Wood Badge Course, at a requirement for appointment as Scoutmaster, is a superior international training course. Ilocos Sur Council ranked to Manila Council in the number of trained Wood Badgers.

Training program were held for commissioners of all ranks. There was no in-depth training for scout leaders, though.

The objectives of the Movement were fully carried out as reported by the respondents.

Advancement as a way of promoting the Boy Scouts to a higher rank had been very slow. Unit leaders were not always aware of advancement activities to merit promotion.

Motivations for joining the movement was strong. Funds were, however, limited. Scout uniforms were relaxed to reduce costs.

Community services rendered include directing the flow of traffic, emergency service, cleanliness drives, reforestation, pest eradication, cultural programs, and anti-drug campaign.

4. **On the problems of Boy Scouting.** Registration of Boy Scouts was not much of a problem since Scoutmasters remedied the problems arising in connection with official registration.

Newly appointed male teachers who did not have previous training in scouting met problems. In schools where there was no male teacher, the position was given to female teachers.

Funding the program of activities was a perennial problem. Fund raising drives yielded barely enough funds. The yearly support for the program came from sustaining membership fees, donations of civic-spirited citizens, and proceeds from benefit shows or popularity contests.

Parents met difficulty in financing their sons who become members of a Boy Scout troop.
The most common problem with barangay officials was their regarding Boy Scouting meetings as a waste of time. With municipal officials, the problem was the improper use of the Scouting Program.

With school officials, Scoutmasters met the problem of lack of proper cooperation and supervision of the Boy Scout Program.

Conclusions:

1. Boy Scouting in the public elementary schools of Ilocos Sur had its legal roots in Commonwealth Act No. 111 when the movement became independent from that of the Boy Scouts of America.
2. A steady increase in membership, in the number of troops and scoutmasters is a sigh that the movement is recognized as a major force in the building up of useful citizens.
3. The training of Scoutmasters and Scout Commissioners was well planned and effectively carried out.
4. The objectives of Boy Scouting were derived from the national program but emphasis was laid on the meeting of local needs and problems.
5. Scoutmasters overlooked some vital aspects of Boy Scouting, namely advancement. Activities for advancement were limited due to the lack of funds or of leadership skills of Scoutmasters.
6. Motivating forces for joining the Boy Scout movement were; the scout uniform, merit promotions, and interesting and practical activities.
7. The Boy Scout Program in the elementary schools was beset by a number of problems.

Recommendations:

1. Presidential Decree No. 460 should be given more meaning and should be enforced to the letter. School officials and the Provincial Scout Executive should be models in effecting reforms in the program and enhance its effectiveness in nation building through human resource development.
2. The position of General Education Supervisor for Scouting should be created in each school division. This office will supervise scouting activities, prepare and execute plans for the training of scoutmasters, oversee the program of activities of scout troops with the coordination of the Provincial Scout Executive, manage division wide scouting activities, purchase and distribute at cost scout uniforms and paraphernalia, supervise the raising of funds, keep
books of accounts of troops, and prepare curriculum materials for scouting as a curricular offering.

3. The District Field Coordinator should hold an item equivalent in rank to that of a Guidance Coordinator. He should be appointed to this position if he has completed a leadership training course and can demonstrate proficiency in organizing in-service training for scoutmasters, direct district level camporals, and teach scoutcraft.

4. Teachers who train in scouting leadership courses should receive either stipend or service credit or both for attending and completing a training course. Transportation expenses to and from the training venue should be borne by the local council.

5. In-service training in scout leadership should be attended by barangay lay leaders, school administrators, municipal officials, and the out-of-school youth. This will pave the way for the Boy Scouting program to operate the barangay level.

6. Scoutmasters should keep an up-to-date record of troop members and activities in the school, at the district office and in the Provincial Council Headquarters. Objectives should be framed at the beginning of the school year and plans to carry them out should be approved by the District Field Commissioner.

7. Activities for the advancement of Boy Scouts should be given more emphasis and attention to that more Boy Scouts will get promoted to the next higher rank at the end of the school year. Activities like services, scoutcraft, athletics including cycling and swimming, and cultural or literacy-musical shows should be added to the programs for advancement.

8. Scouting should be made less expensive on the part of the parents. Uniforms should be revised and made simpler to exclude patches and headgears. A white T-shirt, short pants, neckerchief, socks and robber shoes, a buri hat, and a belt with buckle should suffice. Registration fees should be kept to a minimum of 50 centavos or completely abolished. Classroom scouting activities for all boys should be strengthened.

9. No substitute or new teacher who has not been trained in scouting should be assigned as scoutmaster. All male teachers should undergo the Wood Badge Course while all school heads should finish the Commissioners Course.

10. A “Scout Corner” of every school library should be equipped with books, periodicals, and other print media and documents on Boy Scouting.

11. The Provincial Scout Executive should coordinate all activities. Permits to raise funds in any form should be obtained from proper authorities and given at any time of the year to all Scoutmasters. He should properly account
for all local scout funds, supervise all activities from the procurement or purchase of uniforms to the holding of fund-raising drives and camporals. He should meet the Provincial Council regularly and should hold the Annual Council Meeting before the end of the year.

12. Fund raising drives in favor of Boy Scouting should be made a year-round activity. Soliciting contributions and selling of raffle tickets should be permitted by the proper authorities. The help of Filipinos who return home after a long stay abroad should be tactfully sought. Civic-spirited donors should be given appreciation awards during scout programs.

13. Further research on the congruence of goals and outcomes of the scouting program and the attitudes for parents towards Boy Scouting should be undertaken.