

WIDENING MY WORLD

Each day as I think about it, it has become more aware in my mind that I must take advantage of each experience situation that I meet. Possibilities are at every turn; opportunities knock at every door; situations arise every day. And, even as they come, they also eventually pass. If I am to experience these opportunities I must take advantage of them while they are here.

Each day my world is widened, my horizons are broadened. Some of the situations that help me grow and learn happen to me. But many I have to make happen. Others I have to take advantage of. The conclusion has come to me that I am approximately 50 per cent responsible for what I am.

This is not an easy decision to honor. It is not easy to face up to the fact that I am a great deal to blame for my many mistakes and my few successes. The fact of sin and evil present in the world is not my fault. But I cannot blame the world for my participation in sin and for my mistakes and failure to enhance my personality.

I am interested in Scouting and because of this deep interest I have become very active in Scouting. Many opportunities have been opened to me in the past and new ones are opened all of the time. I am by far a better Scout and Scout leader than I was almost three years ago, ten times better. This is because I have chosen to make use of each opportunity as it came. Even my position as Editor of this paper, be it a responsibility, has also widened my world, broadened my horizons.

But my personality is not yet finished and it shall not be until I have passed away. The only logical conclusion to this idea is that shall have to continue to widen my world as long as I live. This is another decision that is not easy to honor. It means a dramatic responsibility to myself and to everyone else. It is something I must not forget.

For your sake as well as mine, especially if I am to continue in Scouting, I must continue to attend every camping trip, camporee, summer camp, training course, work project, chapter meeting, lodge pow wow, etc. If I am to become a better Scout leader to help widen the worlds of others, I must continue to widen my own. If I am to do it, at least 50 per cent of the work is up to me.

I write this article for you; especially for the younger readers. It is seldom that the young people of today can learn from the experiences of others. But I believe that this is one of the main purposes of communication--for people to be able to participate in the experiences of other people. By the way, what you learn from this article is about 50 per cent up to you.

Kent D. Knee, Editor

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