

W. D. BOYCE DEAD; CHICAGO PUBLISHER

Was a Hunter of Big Game and
a Picturesque Figure in
Life of Community.

INCORPORATED BOY SCOUTS

Founder and Publisher of The Sat-
urday Blade and The Chicago
Ledger, Weeklies.

Special to The New York Times.

CHICAGO, June 11.—William D. Boyce, publisher, big-game hunter and picturesque figure of Chicago life for many years, died tonight in his bungalow home atop his twelve-story Boyce Building, 500 North Dearborn Street. He was within five days of his sixty-ninth birthday.

More than a month ago Mr. Boyce, who was founder and publisher of two weeklies, The Saturday Blade and The Chicago Ledger, became ill of pneumonia, and since had lain critically ill. He was conscious almost to the last, and at his bedside were his wife, Mrs. Mary J. Boyce, and his two daughters, Mrs. Dickinson Bishop of Ottawa, Ill., and Mrs. James S. Parker of Los Gatos, Cal. A son, Benjamin S. Boyce, died two years ago.

The body is to be taken to the Chicago home in Ottawa, Ill.

Mr. Boyce was born in Allegheny Pa., on June 16, 1860. In 1881 he began his Chicago career by becoming an advertising solicitor. A few years later he attracted attention by announcement of plans to erect on Dearborn Street, just north of Madison Street, the second twelve-story building to make its appearance in Chicago's downtown district. Here he housed his weeklies.

In 1909 Mr. Boyce gained world-wide attention by launching a "balloonograph" expedition into the wilds of Africa, taking for the first time air-view pictures of jungle animals and native life. In after years he led a second expedition into Africa. In the course of his wanderings he visited practically every country on the globe.

From his publications and other business ventures Mr. Boyce is reputed to have amassed a considerable fortune.

On Feb. 8, 1910, Mr. Boyce incorporated the Boy Scouts of America, after having come in contact with the work of the Boy Scouts in England under the guidance of General Baden-Powell. A vast nation-wide organization grew out of a chance meeting by Mr. Boyce, with a young English scout who guided him when lost in a London fog.