



Associated Press

As John S. Jordan, Explorer Scout, reached to shake President Nixon's hand after presenting him with a box containing medals representing the Scout oath, law and slogan, the top of the box snapped shut on the President's thumb. Hence the expression.

Boy Scouts Present Nixon With Set of Gold Medals

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (UPI)—President Nixon told a group of 15 Boy Scouts at his White House office today that all the problems scouts were working on, including the energy shortage, "fortunately, are problems of peace."

The Scouts came to the White House as part of the observance of the group's 64th anniversary celebration.

Cub Scout Thomas Caughey, 9 years old, of Maopac,

N.Y., presented Mr. Nixon with a 1974 membership card as honorary president of the Boy Scouts of America.

Explorer John S. Jordan, 17, of Oaklyn, N.J., gave Mr. Nixon the first set of gold medals by the Whittnauer Mint, representing the Scouts' oath, law and slogan.

The President was told that one-third of the nation's youth were in the Boy Scout and Girl Scout movements.

"I'm glad to hear this or-

ganization is growing and concentrating on the problems of today," Mr. Nixon said. "Fortunately they are all problems of peace."

He noted that the youths he was meeting would not be drafted in the armed forces any more. But he told them would volunteer for military service.

Among the scouts at the ceremony were Kevin Hyde, 17, of Fulton, N.Y. and William Lee, 15, of New York City.