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 * THE BOONE SCOUT *
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AGAIN WE PROFIT by the facile pen of Mrs. James R. Spraker, who in the following statement clears any confusion that might exist regarding the connection of the Prime Minister of Great Britain with the Boone family,

IN JANUARY, 1957, Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain appointed a new Prime Minister named Maurice Harold Macmillan, whose mother Helen (Belles) Macmillan was an American, a daughter of Dr. Joshua Tarlton Belles (b 1826) of Kentucky and Indiana, whose step-mother was Dorcas Saunders (#334 "The Boone Family"), a grand-niece of Daniel Boone. Helen Belles (b 1856) had met and married Maurice Macmillan, the publisher, in Paris, France, living there after in England where she died in 1936.

THE RELATIONSHIP of the new Prime Minister to these well known Kentucky families was screened by the curators of the Filson Club of Louisville and the librarian of the Kentucky Historical Society and clearly presented in the Louisville (Ky) Courier-Journal of January 12, 1957, but in republishing the material some papers unfortunately omitted the key fact that a certain John Belles (1781-1839) of Kentucky was married twice. Thus confusion immediately arose as to the Boone ancestry, if any, of the Prime Minister.

TO PUT THE MATTER simply, the Prime Minister is not a Boone descendant, as he is the great-grandson of John Belles and his first wife, Artemisia Tarlton, while it was John's second wife, Dorcas Saunders, who was the Boone descendant, being the granddaughter of Elizabeth Boone Grant, a sister of Daniel. But Dorcas was also the great-grand step-mother of the Prime Minister and so that branch of the Boones who descend from her daughter are related to him. Miss Helen Hutchcraft of Paris, Kentucky, a descendant of John Belles as well as of the Boone family, confirms the information in the Louisville Courier-Journal article.

THOUGH SEPARATED by the Atlantic, wider then than now, an intimate association existed between the English and American branches of the Belles family, Mrs. Macmillan returning at frequent intervals to visit her relatives in Kentucky. Of her two sons, Daniel heads the Macmillan Publishing Company in London, and the other is now Prime Minister of Great Britain. According to the press, he recently sold the American branch of the Publishing Company for one million pounds. How can one doubt his American heritage!

AS AMERICANS, we may well be proud that the British Queen and her counselors have entrusted their highest office to a man who has ancestral roots in American soil; as Boones, we may take pride that in this international relationship, at least one branch of our family can claim kinship to the illustrious Prime Minister.