

Tenderfoot to Queen's Scout

The Canadian Boy Scout's Handbook of Tests



Based on 1955 Revised Edition

Originally Compiled By F.E.L. Coombs.

This electronic legacy edition by Canadian  Sea Scouts Homeport

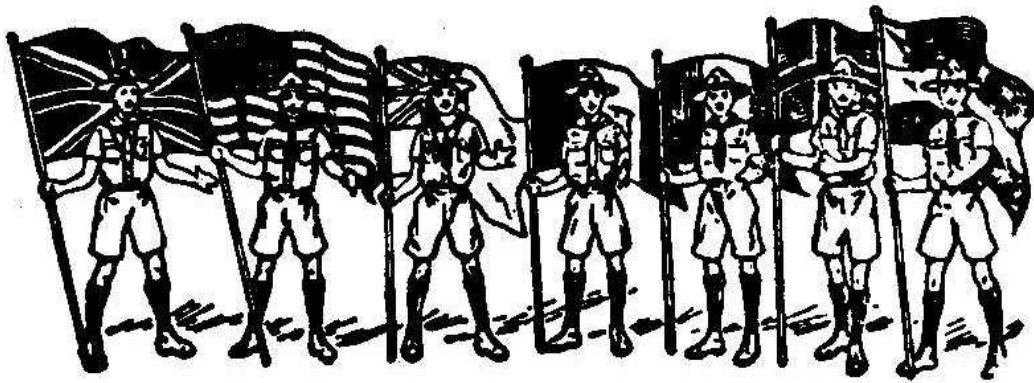
<http://www.seascouts.ca/>



LORD BADEN-POWELL OF GILWELL

Founder of The Boy Scout and Girl Guide Movements

Born Feb. 22, 1857 - Died Jan. 8, 1941



Chapter I

TO THE NEW SCOUT

To become a Boy Scout you do not merely hold up your hand and say, "I want to be a Scout". You must be 12 years of age (except you are a Wolf Cub between 11 and 12 recommended for admission by the Cubmaster and Scoutmaster). You must learn and understand the Scout Promise and Law and the significance of the Scout motto "Be Prepared," and must master and pass the six other Tenderfoot Tests. This accomplished you "make the Scout Promise" in front of the other boys of your Troop in a solemn investiture. Only then may you be called a Scout and wear the Scout Badge and uniform.

You expect that being a Scout will be lots of fun, - fun at Scout meetings, fun playing outdoor games, fun hiking and camping. You know it will be fun to learn to do a lot of different things with rope - knotting, splicing, lashing timbers; fun to make the right kind of fires and pass camp cooking tests; fun learning to know birds and their calls, and to follow animal tracks. All that!

You know you will be able to wear the smart Scout uniform, and that sometimes you may march in parades - on Remembrance Day, Dominion Day, Victoria Day, or such special occasions as a visit by the Chief Scout for Canada or other distinguished person; or if not marching, helping the police and soldiers line parade routes, or giving first aid to people who faint or are hurt.

Scout Service

Scouts not only have fun. They render valuable public service of many kinds. During the depression years of 1929 to 1936, when so many Canadians were unemployed, Scouts helped the Red Cross and other relief organizations in most useful ways. They collected clothing in great quantities; they sponsored or assisted at "Vegetable Matinees" in movie theatres, and gathered fruit and vegetables in rural districts; they placed "Scout relief barrels" in gro-

cery stores with placards inviting customers to "Buy Something for a Needy Family." During a flood at London, Ont., in 1937 Scouts directed street traffic and aided the police in rescue work. They helped prepare the armouries for housing refugees, assisted in emergency kitchens and entertained homeless children with games.

In the devastating floods, both in Manitoba and British Columbia in 1949 and 1950, Scouts gave yeoman service which earned them high praise from municipal and provincial government officials. At Toronto, when the S.S. Noronic burned at its dock with a loss of hundreds of lives, Scouts of that city put in a total of 4,160 hours in a great variety of useful tasks.

For many years Boy Scout Toyshops across Canada supplied thousands of Christmas gifts to the children of new settlers in the West and needy families elsewhere. At Easter certain Groups have collected quantities of eggs for children in orphanages. In addition to such special projects Scouts have acted as ushers at scores of conventions and public gatherings; have operated First Aid posts, information booths and Lost Children bureaus at fairs and exhibitions. Even more spectacular perhaps, are the hundreds of deeds of heroism and life saving by Boy Scouts recorded at Canadian Headquarters.



Community Good Turn



Good Turn to Brother Scouts

During World War II Scouts performed many kinds of national service for which the government thanked them. They collected vast quantities of needed waste paper, iron, aluminium, etc. In some communities Scouts took complete charge of salvage drives. When there was a serious shortage of medicine bottles for military hospitals they gathered hundreds of thou-

sands of good used bottles. They put up Victory Loan posters, and acted as office boys and messengers at Loan headquarters in hundreds of communities.



They gathered clothing for the war-stricken countries, and acted as messengers, first aiders and junior fire fighters in the Air Raids Precautions organization.

Nor did they forget their Brother Scouts of bombed Britain and invaded Europe. For British Scout Victory gardens they collected and bought large quantities of garden seeds for four successive years. Through the Canadian Scouts' Chins-Up Fund, they made a gift of \$25,000 to the War Distressed Scouts Fund; expended \$17,873.54 on providing 76,000 Scouting books for the Scouts and in the languages of Poland, France, Norway, Czechoslovakia, The Netherlands and Greece; made a gift of \$1,200 to the International Bureau of The Boy Scouts Association and gave \$320 to Displaced Scouts in Europe. In addition to these detailed sums the Scouts of Toronto raised and expended \$22,558.09, to bring the expenditures of this fund to a grand total of \$66,953.14.

All these things were done by Scouts too young to enlist. It was estimated that 100,000 older Scouts and former Scouts served in the Canadian Army, Navy and Air Force. And they made excellent soldiers, sailors and airmen. Their Scouting taught them how to take care of themselves in the open, day or night, and many of them attained high rank in the forces.

Maj.-Gen. D. C. Spry, C.B.E., D.S.O. (Former Chief Executive Commissioner of the Boy Scouts Association in Canada and now Director of the Boy Scouts International Bureau in London) was formerly a Wolf Cub, Boy Scout, Rover Scout and Rover Mate and Scouter. Scores of Scouts won decorations for gallantry including three Victoria Crosses, by Lt.Col. C. C. I. Merritt, Major C. F. Hoey, and Hon. Major John W. Foote. Many laid down their lives that you and your fellow Canadians might have a free democratic country to live in.

That is the kind of an organization you have joined as a Boy Scout. You have a wonderful tradition of service and efficiency behind you, and it will be your solemn duty to see that the good name of Scouting is never sullied by conduct unbecoming a Scout.



Chapter II

SCOUTING-A WORLD BROTHERHOOD

When you become a Scout you become something more than the member of a Patrol and Troop in Canada - you become a member of the world's greatest organization of youth, for there are Scouts in practically every country from tiny landlocked Luxembourg in Europe to such immense countries as India and Pakistan. In fact in nearly every free country the Boy Scout Movement flourishes.

At four year intervals there is held a World Scout Jamboree, when many thousands of Scouts from many different countries are brought together for two weeks of camp fun and demonstrations of one another's camping and hiking methods, and for great march-pasts with flying flags and bands before thousands of spectators.

Canada has sent delegations to several of these World Jamborees, including the 1929 Coming-of-Age Jamboree (Scouting's 21st birthday) at Birkenhead, England; the 1933 Jamboree in Hungary; the 1937 Jamboree in Holland, the 1947 Jamboree in France and the 1951 Jamboree in Austria. In 1955, Canada was host country to the 8th World Jamboree, when 11,139 Scouts from all parts of the world camped at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

One of the splendid features of the World Scout Jamborees is their spirit of friendliness, notwithstanding that so many of the boys cannot speak one another's language. They get along by signs and gestures and much joking and laughing; and always manage to understand each other when it comes to swapping crests and buttons and items of Scout kit used in their different countries.

This spirit of friendliness toward brother Scouts you will find should you some day travel in foreign lands. The boys may not be able to speak English or French, or other language you may know, but when they see your Scout badge they will greet you with a smile and the Scout salute and will want to help make your stay pleasant.

During World War II, after the landing of British and American Troops in Europe on "D-Day", former Scouts in the Canadian army related how warmly



they were welcomed by French, Belgian and Dutch Scouts, many of whom had carried on their Scouting underground during enemy occupation. They acted as guides and messengers and gave every assistance to the liberating armies. Many of them had carried on heroically during the occupation years when Scouting was banned and when many Scouts and Scoutmasters had lost their lives through loyalty carrying on.

Canadian Scouts exemplified the true spirit of the World Brotherhood when they assisted the bombed out Scouts of Great Britain, and provided help for Scouts in many European countries, even some who had during the bitter war years been our enemies. That spirit of brotherhood is still being carried out in post-war years, the latest evidence being the sending of several thousand Scout staves to the Boy Scouts of Greece, whose ravaged countryside could no longer provide them.

It is a wonderful thing for any Scout to realize that in lonely cottages on the Scottish moors, or beyond the Arctic circle, or beneath tropical skies, there are "Brother Scouts", believing in the same ideals and playing the same game, and all working for the same thing; world peace and the brotherhood of man.

Lord Baden-Powell, our Founder, commenting on the organization of the League of Nations in 1920 wrote:- "There is another league of nations growing up, and that is the Brotherhood of the Boy Scouts." And that is exactly what you have joined as a Scout, a league of nations comprising boys of many races and colours and creeds all bent on building a brotherhood which will eventually abolish war.

Chapter III

THE MAN WHO STARTED SCOUTING

In the middle of the last century a lad of 12 at Charterhouse, an English school, was more interested in an adjacent stretch of woods, "The Copse" than in his studies. Years later he wrote: "It was here I used to imagine myself a backwoodsman, trapper and scout. I would creep about warily, looking for trail signs and observing rabbits, squirrels and birds.

"I set snares, and when I caught a rabbit I learned to skin, clean and cook

him. And since there were 'Redskins' about- that is, school masters looking for boys out-of-bounds—1 made small non-smoky fires."

Some years later, during the Matabele war in Africa, the schoolboy, now a young cavalry officer, was out scouting to locate an "impi" or regiment of native warriors. With him was a Zulu tracker. While crossing a grassy plain they came upon the footprints of native women. The tracks pointed to some hills. They followed, and presently their alert eyes discovered in the grass to one side, a tree leaf. They picked it up, and identified it as from a kind of tree they had earlier seen growing near a native village.

The leaf was damp. They sniffed it and recognized the smell of native beer. From this they deduced that the women were carrying pots of beer, with the tops covered with leaves.

The leaf lay ten yards from the trail. No wind had been blowing since 5 a.m. It was now 7. "Thus we read the news," recounted the young officer, "that during the night a party of native women had taken beer to the enemy hidden in the hills. The women would have reached there about 6 o'clock. The men would probably start drinking at once, as the beer goes sour quickly; and they would by the time we approached their hiding place be getting sleepy." All of which' proved true, and the reconnoitering expedition was a complete success.

The young officer was Robert Baden-Powell, later Colonel Baden-Powell, the "Hero of Mafeking," and still later Lieut.-General and Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell; and it was out of such a life of adventure-fighting the wild mountain tribesman of the Indian frontier; tracking wild boars and tigers in the jungles of India; reconnoitering in wars with African tribes or hunting wild buffalo, elephants and rhinos in West Africa, the Sudan and Central and South Africa; and finally the South African war of 1900-02, when he discovered as commanding officer during the famous siege of Mafeking, that boys could take their place beside men in dangerous situations,-it was out of such a thrilling story-book life of adventure and outdoor fun that "B.-P." evolved Scouting. Or, as he always called it, "The Game of Scouting for Boys,"-a boys' brotherhood of the outdoors, for fun, and as a sound preparation for a useful, healthy and happy life.

And it was out of Baden-Powell's life experiences and thinking that he evolved the Scout Promise, with its emphasis on Honour and Duty to God; the Scout Law, the motto Be Prepared the Scout tests and the Scout uniform and hiking equipment, including the staff and the Scout hat, the Stetson which was worn by the Canadian Mounted Infantry and Artillery in the South African war, and later by the South African Constabulary, (which B.-P. organized), and by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Such was the rugged outdoor type of man who started the Boy Scout Movement.