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## The Boy Scouts Association.

WHAT IS IT?

(By Sir Rider Haggard, K.B.E.)  
H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Chief Scout for Wales, appeals in the "Daily Telegraph" for a sum of £200,000 or more to meet the necessary expenses of the Boy Scouts Association.

Why should the public, even in these hard times, give an instant and a most generous response to this appeal? As one known to many boys throughout the world and who is humbly connected with the movement, I will try very briefly to answer the question. First of all, what is this Organisation which since the year 1907 has grown to such vast proportions principally as a result of the inspiration and energy of the Chief Scout, Sir Robert Baden-Powell? It is an organisation which aims at including as many as possible of the lads of the Empire, and its object, broadly, is to inculcate in the hearts of those lads all that is high, honourable, pure, good and true by instruction, discipline (especially self-discipline), and the observation of natural things in the open air. Every Scout promises in his honour—that noble, far-reaching but indefinable quality—to do his duty to his God and his King, to help others in every way possible, and to obey the orders of those set over him. In short his gospel is that of Love, Service and Charity, as opposed to that other gospel of Hate, Cruelty, Destruction, and all that these entail, which is now at its evil work in so many parts of this tormented world. The means by which these aims are advanced are very simple. Boys are joined into bands and companies according to their ages under trained Scoutmasters. The qualities of imagination and romance which, however much they may be sneered at, are great qualities, are encouraged in their hearts, thereby teaching them to love all high and nobly-aimed adventure and to seek it throughout the world. Here it should be borne in mind that without imagination and romance the Empire would never have become what it is and that already, in large or small degree, they exist in every lad. The Association draws them out and nurtures them, that is all. Loyalty, another great quality, is also taught to the budding Scout, loyalty to the God who made him; loyalty to the cause of the stricken and the suffering, loyalty to the country that bred him and the principles of his ancestors which have lifted it into the forefront of the nations, and lastly, but not least, loyalty to the best instincts of his soul as opposed to the baser instincts of his flesh.

Such—as I think—are the principal objects of the Boy Scouts Association, and I believe that all right-minded men and women will agree with me that they are good. Now what has this movement achieved? It has made clean, courageous men of thousands who otherwise might have drifted, and in many instances would have drifted into very different courses. During the war some twenty-three thousand of Land and Sea Scouts took a share in the protection of their country, and all who saw them at their work, and all who have done, must be proud of it and them. More than one hundred thousand who once were Scouts, or Scoutmasters served under arms and of these ten thousand died doing their duty. To certain of these ex-Scouts came great and well-deserved honours. Who, for instance, can read without emotion the tale of John Travers Cornwell, V.C., who indeed was faithful unto death, and because "he might be wanted" stayed by his gun upon the "Chester" amongst the fallen, although himself mortally wounded and dying? And he is but a sample of many, known and unknown.

This is what the Scouts have done, or some of it, in our recent struggle to escape destruction and slavery, and the ancient steadfastness of our race in the end we did escape.

But should the Association, therefore, rest upon its oars and cease from training youth to "be prepared"? Are all the perils past? Have England and the Empire no further need

for courage and devotion? Surely the answer is that it cannot rest because perils are not past, but still threaten from every quarter. Whatever some may think, while man is man there will be wars, and the jealousies, ambitions and desire for plunder from which war springs; for alas! the League of Nations with its high ideals does not yet control the earth.

Still in considering this aspect of the Association, namely that in the future as it has done in the past, its numbers may be called upon to assist in the defence of their hearths and homes do not let us make a mistake. Do not let us suppose that its objects or its principles are primarily connected with war. On the contrary, if the fundamental doctrines that guide the boy scout prevailed, there would be no war. Primarily the organization is one to promote human kindness and thereby to prevent war which arises from human hatred.

Another of its objects is to tie the Empire together in the bonds of brotherhood. In short it interprets the spirit of the old Roman maxim and by being ready for battle, yet seeks Peace and thus helps to ensure it.

Moreover there are sundry kinds of war, of which perhaps the worst at the present moment is that which is known as "Class-hatred," whereof the most terrible results that the world has ever seen, are to be found in Russia at this hour. Let us face the facts. There are many who wish to extend this dreadful system to our own and other lands; further they have great power, being like all revolutionaries, active and unscrupulous. Also they have their own organizations for influencing youth. Have not many of us seen vanloads of children travelling the streets of London, waving red flags and singing songs, whereof probably they do not know the meaning, many of which children within a few years will grow up into confirmed communists, sworn to the overthrow of law, order and religion, as it is intended that they should do.

The Boy Scouts are not of this fellowship. They are sworn to the maintenance of law, order and religion, and for this reason their organization has a claim upon the support of every upright man and woman. Because this is so, also, it has many enemies, secret and declared, most of them secret. As we have learned of late, the Bolsheviks know the power of money and supply it without stint to promote unrest and revolution. Cannot we do the same, to promote peace and contentment, international, national and private?

Let us never forget that the Boy Scouts Association, by educating youth to tread the paths of righteousness when it attains to manhood and exercising the authority of citizenship, is no mean public insurance against terrible and world-wide evils, and remembering this, let us be prepared to pay the premium on that insurance.

This is the truth and no good ever came of blinking the truth however fashionable this may be—and never was it more so. Therefore I submit to all who agree with this statement

that almost as a matter of duty they should support H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' Appeal on behalf of the Boy Scouts Association to the utmost of their power.

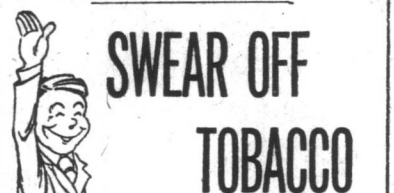


**BUSINESS AND THE BOY.**  
He never had the time to spend in play. Or give much thought to him who bore his name; He'd hoped his son would learn the proper way. And never cause him sorrow here or shame; He hasn't time to talk with him at night. He thought the boy was getting on all right.

He had a business which required his To lose his money would not do at all. Mistakes would happen if he were not there. So quickly does the market rise and fall: Though others could be trusted with his boy. Others his business surely would destroy.

Dollars are things a man can count and feel. The bank accepts them, and the merchants, too: Buildings are solid things of brick and steel. And good to own and very fine to view. Men count the worth of labor when it's done— But who can count the value in a son?

The business prospered, but the boy was lost— Others had failed to fill the father's place. The man is rich, but oh, the sorry cost! The son has come to ruin and dishonor. Oh fool, who guards his business day and night. Yet blindly hopes his boy will be all right.



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**Labor Federation Denounces Soviet.**  
Organized labor throughout the world is urged to raise its voice in protest against the "ruthless persecution and slaughter of labor unionists" in Soviet Russia in an appeal issued at Washington by the American Federation of Labor. "Let the Soviet savages know what labor of the civilized world thinks of their bestial system," the appeal declares. "Let every labor organization in the country respond." The federation's statement declares that after "tricking" labor into supporting the Soviet regime, Trotsky and Lenin began "carrying out their threats of extermination of the leaders of labor and peasant parties and also of so-called 'hostages'."

"The offence of the labor unionists was very clear," said the appeal. "they are fundamentally opposed to the so-called government set up by Lenin and his handful of associate dictators. As far as is possible under that ruthless tyranny organized labor of Russia is everywhere in a state of full revolt."

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The truth is, I was almost a wreck. "But it certainly is wonderful how quick I began improving after starting on Tanlac. Why, my appetite soon returned and everything I ate began to agree with me. I have taken seven bottles of Tanlac now, and am enjoying the very best of health. I never have an ache or pain, my nerves are as steady as a clock. I sleep like a child, have gained ten pounds in weight and feel like an entirely new person. I never will be able to praise Tanlac enough for what it has done for me."  
Tanlac is sold in St. John's by M. Connors; in Paradise, by Mrs. Martin E. Byrne; in Upper Gullies, by Heber Andrews; in Portland, by H. C. Haines; in St. Joseph, Salmonier, by Mrs. J. Gushue; in Marytown, by Exploits Valley Royal Stores, Ltd.; in Flat Islands, by William Samson; in Jamestown, by Christopher Haines, and in Lewisporte by Uriah Fraake. —adv.

**DREARINESS.**  
It is a cold and clammy day as I proceed to write these lines; the skies are desolate and gray, no sunlight on the water shines, and round my cabin by the bay a bleak wind from the ocean whines. Oh, such a day as this, I know, inspired all sad old songs of yore; on such a day poor Edgar Poe embalmed his loved and lost Lenore, and Tennyson, knee-deep in woe, bewailed his Hallam gone before. And all the dirges men have known were born on such a day as this, when cold winds through the chimney moan, and rain gusts at the windows hiss; and I would give a silver bone if I could think of joy and bliss. The rain gusts do not fall on me, for I am sheltered from the storm; the bleak winds blow in from the sea, but I am safe and snug and warm; why don't I chirp a song of glee and swat my lyre in proper form? "Be still, sad heart," the poet wrote, "and cease repining, right away; the sun, you think, has lost its goal, and ne'er again will shed a ray; but back of clouds remote the good old orb is bailing hay." Long fellow thus, as I recall, shook off the tendency to sigh; "into all lives some rain must fall, if one man's wet, the next one's dry, so let me have your parasol, and I'll return it next July."

**Palestine's Future.**  
(From the Westminster Gazette.)  
Sir Alfred Mond, who returned to London last night, from Palestine, in an interview with a Central News representative described Palestine as a basket of jewels. "There are immense possibilities there," he said. "The country is in a terrible state of neglect—the legacy of the Turkish misrule. I can only describe it as a basket of jewels, or a glorious estate which has been let down by centuries of neglect. The Turks cut the timber down and never troubled to afford care. They slaughtered animals, and

the land had been left to itself. These areas which have been cultivated under European methods have demonstrated how productive the soil is."  
"Everywhere during my visit I listened to the grateful thanks of the people to the British Government. I am the bearer of a letter to Mr. Lloyd George from the Jewish Council of Jerusalem thanking him for the San Remo declaration. Capital and labor are needed to-day in Palestine. They are the pressing needs and will, I am sure be met. There are huge public utility schemes under consideration, and a government loan of several millions is to be floated for these. There will be ample security for capital and interest in the railways and the hydro-electrical works to be constructed. Sir Herbert Samuel has done a wonderful work there, and is trusted both by the Arabs and the Jewish population."  
"One thing I would say, and that is to warn British traders. The Germans are making desperate efforts to recapture their old market there. Before the war they had the monopoly. British traders must be awakened to the possibilities of a great and growing trade with Palestine. The seeds must be sown now before the Germans again get the monopoly. When I came away there was a large German ship discharging a cargo of cement for works in Palestine. I want to see British traders there, and the people want to see British goods."

Why not compete in the Big Bread Baking Competition to be held at Carbon near on Thursday, the 7th of April.

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