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### SCOUTS AND SCOUTING

Lt.-Col. Lorne Ross has, from his experience gained in the present war, considered it advisable that all of the men in his Battalion should be trained in the art of scouting, and has appointed Lt. M. N. Marsden in charge of a section.

A section of scouts consists of thirty-two men, namely, eight men per company, who will impart as much of their knowledge as possible to the men in their respective companies.

Lt. Marsden was selected as he has had considerable experience as a scout, he having served as scout and despatch rider in the Matabele War of 1896, Mashona War of 1897, and the Boer War, 1899 to 1902.

The qualifications a scout must have are endurance, stamina, cunning and bravery. Many a man will make a good soldier who will never make a good scout.

The lines on which the men will be trained are practical. They will be taught to take advantage of cover, and which cover is most suitable; to see without being seen; to make a field sketch, also to read a map correctly. He will be taught how to use a compass both by day and by night. He will also be shown how to make a comprehensive report on roads, rivers, bridges, etc. Part of his training will include the theory of the rapid destruction of bridges and railways.

In organizing for active work one of the eight scouts in each company is selected and is called scout observer. His place is to be with the officer of the company and assist him in observing and directing fire. Scouts lead the men at night to and from the trenches to their billets in the rear. As despatch runners, etc., their special training enables them to observe quickly

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and immediately grasp the exigencies of a given situation. Thus it can be readily seen that the men's lives very often depend entirely on the scout who is with them. Further articles on the subject of Scouts and Scouting will appear from time to time, which will, no doubt, prove interesting and instructive reading.

### RESULT OF A LAUGH

In the Palace Cinema, Aintree, Liverpool, a soldier, Corporal Robert Beck, of the Army Service Corps, who had been rendered a deaf-mute in Flanders, had his hearing and speech restored. He was watching a humorous picture in which was featured "Billy Ritchie," whose antics made him laugh immoderately. Suddenly he felt a burning in his throat and a curious sensation in his ears. Then he heard a shout, and to his surprise found it was his own voice. He grasped the arm of one of his comrades. "Come on out," he exclaimed, "I've got my voice again."

### UNSUSPECTED TALENT

During an interval in company drill last week a C.O. Company, thinking to give aspiring "rankers" a chance to show their ability, asked for volunteers to do some battalion and company drill. At once stepped forward a smart-looking youth, who proceeded to do "some" drilling that opened the eyes of all present. The young man seemingly had every detail of company and battalion drill at his finger ends, and handled his command with all the nerve and assurance of a veteran, much to the joy and satisfaction of his C.O., who, himself one of the most capable of officers, is quick to appreciate similar merit in others. In answer to a question, the youthful instructor gave Prince George as his former training ground.