

## The Boy Scout Movement

Why B. C. Citizens Should Support It.

(By J. Lockington).

Ten years ago in the Liverpool Gymnasium, England, the writer had the privilege of hearing Lt. Gen. Sir Robert Baden Powell, K.C.B., outline his Boy Scout plan, which was briefly: A work and play scheme to interest boys, to develop character, to give self-reliance, to make good citizens and to do all this on the right principles of truth, honor and service.

As the plan of "B. P." became more generally known and tried, many parents, teachers and clergymen—who love boys and their enthusiasms, and who thus keep their own hearts young—began to see what a wonder-working plan it was and how successfully it gripped and maintained the interest of their boys. The home, the school the church had all had their schemes—partially successful or not wholly despairing—of controlling the boy at the age of his restless activities and they recognised in B. P. a leader who had seen a vision of possible world wide usefulness among boys.

His broad-minded, fresh and original plan appealed to their enthusiasm as it has appealed to many other thoughtful men ever since. They have been delighted to follow his vision, and to help him to realise his ideal. His plan, in little more than ten years, has developed into a system of world-wide success, attractive to boys everywhere, for it makes them manly and trains them in the practical adaptabilities and pursuits of life. It has become the greatest of all educative influences, welcomed by the boy.

The system catches the boy, grips him, holds him and uses all his superabundant energies in pleasing play-tasks and occupations such as he loves. It is continually and practically educative and brings out what is best in him, physically, mentally and morally, for he steadily improves his sports and games, he steadily strengthens his own character by his individual and team work and he unconsciously develops his innate power for unselfish good and right action, because his oath binds him to truth, honor and service for others.

After passing his preliminary scout tests—and qualifying as a second or first-class scout, he sets out with great joy to win one, four or more, proficiency badges. These coveted decorations make him rank as a King Scout and are worn on the right arm of the well-known uniform. They are awarded after examination and shew practical and versatile knowledge of handicraft subjects, chosen by the wearer, or by his Scoutmaster. The qualities necessary for the winning of these badges—perseverance, emulation, and self-education, inspire not only to successful life work, but prepare and train the student to accept in manhood the duties and responsibilities of citizenship.

National greatness is the growth of national truth, honor and service—and it is because Canada has seen the vision during the War that it will support from coast to coast this work of good citizenship training. Read the Boy Scouts' Association's excellent manual, "Handbook for Canada" and learn all about the work, then send your yearly subscription, two or five dollars, to any one of the executive committee.

The local Executive Committee for Vancouver and District are: President, Brig.-Gen. V. W. Odlum, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., 474 Granville Street; vice-president, Mr. A. McCreery, 322 Richards street; District Commissioner, Lt. Col. W. D. S. Rorison, M.C., 207 Hastings W., assistant district commissioner Mr. F. W. Bates, Chesterfield, N. Vancouver; Committee, Mr. G. A. Campbell, 500 Beatty street; Mr. G. S. Harrison, Union Bank, Hastings and Seymour; Mr. J. Lockington, Vancouver Grammar School, 1409 Beach Avenue; Mr. C. G. Pennock, 597 Hastings W.; Mr. G. Rorie, C.A., 626 Pender W.; Rev. N. Sykes, M.A., Chesterfield School, N. Vancouver; Treasurer, Mr. H. C. Chiene, C.A., 626 Pender W.; Secretary, Mr. C. R. B. Parkinson, 411 Carter Cotton Bldg.

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