

right and left, putting things into the book, just as I found them."

This modest statement, though it represents honestly General Baden-Powell's estimate of his own efforts, does not accurately represent the facts. For besides assembling the best and most useful ideas of many "fathers," he gave the ideas usable form in the direction of service, and by doing so added a wholesome application of the principle of self-disciplining and cheerful subordination to moral law. Ideals of personal honor and high self-imposed obligations had been promoted by others. To these, however, General Baden-Powell gave more definiteness. He made them more attractive by emphasizing that they were to be cultivated for service rather than for self, and by showing concretely how that service could be performed. Such a practical application had hitherto never been attained. This was his contribution. It was the work of a genius. In it we have the backbone of the Boy Scout movement.

FORMATIVE PERIOD IN AMERICA

Shortly after the publication of "Scouting for Boys," leaders in this country of what by 1909 had become the Boy Scout movement, seeing the necessity for adequate instruction and guidance for boys in America, became actively interested in the formation of an organization here. As a result of the effort of these men an organization was perfected, and on February 8, 1910, was chartered in the District of Columbia as the Boy Scouts of America.

Not one of the men responsible for the incorporation of the movement felt himself to be expert in work with boys. Accordingly, they undertook to secure the ad-