

*Private Bills*

Because of the association of many hon. members of this house with boy scouts over the course of time it is perhaps fitting that we pay tribute at this moment to the contribution made by the late Lord Baden-Powell. In closing my remarks I should like to draw to our minds a statement he made in what he intended to be his last message to boy scouts throughout the world which I believe sets out many of the concepts of that organization as he conceived them in his mind. It might be well for us to reflect upon them and to bring them again to our own minds at this time. I wish to read a portion of the last statement he made to the organization, commencing approximately half-way and continuing to the end:

I have had a most happy life and I want each one of you to have as happy a life too.

I believe that God has put us in this jolly world to be happy and enjoy life. Happiness doesn't come from being rich, nor merely from being successful in your career, nor by self-indulgence. One step toward happiness is to make yourself healthy and strong while you are a boy, so that you can be useful and so you can enjoy life when you are a man.

Nature study will show you how full of beautiful and wonderful things God has made the world for you to enjoy. Be contented with what you have got and make the best of it. Look on the bright side of things instead of the gloomy one.

But the real way to get happiness is by giving out happiness to other people. Try and leave this world a little better than you found it and when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate you have not wasted your time but have done your best.

"Be prepared" in this way, to live happy and die happy—stick to your scout promise always—even after you have ceased to be a boy—and God help you to do it.

**Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford):** Mr. Speaker, I am sure that all hon. members are very glad to see the necessity of this amendment contained in this bill. To a great extent it shows that the assets of the boy scouts association have grown in this country in the last 45 years. The corollary, of course, is the great growth of the organization itself.

The two hon. members who have preceded me supported this bill and pointed out many things which are complimentary to the boy scouts association. I do not wish to repeat what they said but there are some further observations I should like to bring to the attention of hon. members and indirectly to the country at large. Like the previous speakers, I was a member of the boy scouts organization and I have no hesitation in being a strong protagonist of the movement. First of all, I think the boy scouts organization can be a great help in the world at the present time not only from the national point of view but from the international point of view; this affects us all very much.

As we all know, no country in the world lives unto itself today. We are not an island. The international character of the boy scouts has already been pointed out. It is organized in 57 different countries of the world and it does a very great deal to bring about international understanding among different races, cultures and religions at an early age in people's lives. This is a very important thing, Mr. Speaker. When we get older habit patterns and prejudice are set in our minds. If we can form the right habit patterns and the right attitude and feeling toward people in other countries at an early age those habit patterns are not easy to change. This is one of the great contributions of the boy scout movement.

Every year they have international jamborees and young people from 12 to 18 years of age have the opportunity to associate with people of the same age in other parts of the world. It is a wonderful opportunity to create mutual understanding which lasts all through people's lives.

We all have great interest in the work of the United Nations and in our ultimate aspirations toward one world. I can think of no organization that does more to further those aspirations of everyone in general, as I have already said, at the proper age level, than does the boy scouts.

I do not think I could add to what has already been said regarding the fine work that the organization does for Canada itself. I believe the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka pointed out the excellent work the organization does to prevent young people falling into the trap of juvenile delinquency. As our society changes, and particularly as it changed during world war II and after, we find that quite often both parents go to work instead of just the proverbial breadwinner, the father of the family. Because of this factor in our society at the present time some of the discipline and training formerly given at home are not given there perhaps to the same extent as they were in the past. The fine character building and disciplinarian training that the young people get in the boy scouts organization help to give them moral values which they must have later in life. It also provides them with the necessary disciplinary training.

In other countries of the world, Mr. Speaker, in most other NATO countries, as a matter of fact, compulsory military service for teenagers at some period during that time of life provides a great deal of the discipline. Of course, in other countries with which we are not associated, such as the totalitarian countries, military training of one sort or another goes on for a much longer period. However,