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## The Young Woman and Her Problem

By Pearl Richmond Hamilton

### GIRL GUIDES

Many requests have come to this department for information concerning the organization known as Girl Guides. Women in towns see the necessity of interesting young girls in the towns. One woman writes: "We want to keep our girls off the streets." I know of no organization that would be more helpful to young girls. The Girl Guides movement is a patriotic organization and must in time be as important as the Boy Scouts. At present there is no organization in Western Canada. There are a few clubs doing the work, but no definite organization here. I believe Eastern Canada has an organization with headquarters in Toronto. This is something for our women's organizations to think about.

At present I have the handbook for Girl Guides at hand. It is written by Miss Baden-Powell and Sir R. Baden-Powell. This convinces the reader that Sir Baden-Powell must have considered this organization as important as the Boy Scout organization. The following I quote from this book. This is written on the title page "The handbook for Girl Guides or How Girls Can Help Build The Empire, by Agnes Baden-Powell in collaboration with Lieut.-Gen. Sir Robert Baden-Powell, K.C.B."

The Girl Guides is an organization for character training which has been started much on the lines of the Boy Scouts' movement in principle but differing in detail.

Its aim is to get girls to learn how to be women — self-helpful, happy, prosperous and capable of keeping good homes and of bringing up good children. The method of training is to give the girls pursuits which appeal to them, such as games and recreative exercises, which lead them to learn for themselves many useful crafts.

This training has been found attractive to all classes, the restraining influence is a character training for the mothers of the future men and women. The Girl Guides movement extends not only to most parts of the British Empire but to many foreign countries as well.

The girls are encouraged to cut out and sew their own skirts and knickers, also haversacks, stretcher-slugs, flags, etc.

The Guide's law binds girls to be loyal, kind, obedient and cheerful. Most of the time is spent preparing to carry out things under difficulties. Badges of promotion are given. The motto of the Girl Guides is "Be Prepared." Here are some of the duties:

**Be Womanly.** Under this head Miss Baden-Powell urges girls to be real girls—not ape men.

**Be Strong.** A Guide is taught how to take healthy exercise, plenty of open air, good wholesome food and drill work.

**Be Handy.** Know how to do useful things in the most economical manner.

**Be Good Mothers.** A girl guide is taught how to bring children up to be honorable useful citizens for the British Empire. Britain has been made great by her great men, and these men were made great by their mothers.

Girl Guides are taught wood craft, open air duties, endurance, tending the injured, saving life, hospital duties, home duties, care of children and patriotism. A Girl Guide would rather lose her life than her honor.

### Guide Laws.

- (1) A guide's honor is to be trusted.
- (2) A guide is loyal.
- (3) A guide's duty is to be useful and to help others.
- (4) A guide is a friend to all, and a sister to every other guide, no matter to what social class the other belongs.
- (5) A guide is courteous.
- (6) A guide keeps herself pure in thoughts, words and deeds.
- (7) A guide is a friend to animals.
- (8) A guide obeys orders.
- (9) A guide smiles and sings.
- (10) A guide is thrifty.

In woodcraft the study of animals and nature, girl guides begin a study

of birds and animals that will interest them for life.

Girl guides are interested in camping, rendering first aid, learning good literature, playing healthy games, in fact, it is all a splendid training for girls—the very best I know to make a good woman.

What's a good woman? An angel of light. Toiling for others from morning till night. Bearing her gifts to the cottager's door, honored and loved in the hearts of the poor. Greeting the weary with soft loving words. The friend of the children, the flowers, and the birds. There's love in her glances, there's balm in her smile. Her lips breathe no scandal, her heart knows no guile.

To sum up—the whole object of the Girl Guide's organization is to seize the girl's character in its red-hot stage of enthusiasm and weld it into the right shape.

This is an opportune time for forming the Girl Guide's organization in Western Canada. I wish there were one in every town. Miss Baden-Powell's address is 116 Victoria street, London, S.W.

A splendid summary of their object is in this—one of their songs:

### Daughters of Britain.

Be prepared, true Guides of Britain,  
For the things that are to be,  
For the chapters to be written, as the  
rolling years shall flee,  
'Tis to-day we make to-morrow, fear-  
ing nought what'er betides—  
From the past new courage borrow,  
for the honor of the Guides.

### Refrain.

Be prepared, true Guides of Britain,  
be prepared for what may be,  
To you belongs the Empire world that  
rules on every sea;  
Then march to meet the future, fear-  
ing nought what'er betides—  
Be strong for truth and Empire, for  
the honor of the Guides.

Be prepared to aid the weaker, to be  
numbered with the strong,  
And for duty's path a seeker, stem to  
overcome the wrong;  
To our comrades ever loyal, ever ready  
in our place—  
Gallant Guides of courage royal, for  
the honor of the race.

Be prepared! In bygone ages hero  
sire's our Empire made;  
Watch we lest her future pages at our  
hands may be betrayed.  
Hail our country alma mater, nor of  
present glories brag;  
Strike to make our Empire greater, for  
the honor of the flag!

### THE SIGN ON YOUR FOREHEAD!

If you want to serve your country, whether it is as queen or maid servant, you must be efficient—that is, good at your work, you must be trained.—Elbert Hubbard said:

"I put no enemy into my mouth to steal away my brains." He was often asked the question: "How do you find time to do all of your work?" In the last few years of his life he had attained the height of his power to work.

We like to keep old age in the distance and this is possible if we make our work a pleasure. For fourteen years Elbert Hubbard wrote one Little Journal a month, each one of which required a vast amount of study and reading. He wrote nearly every bit of each issue of The Philistine, averaged seventy-five lectures a year, besides writing much for other magazines and advertising propositions.

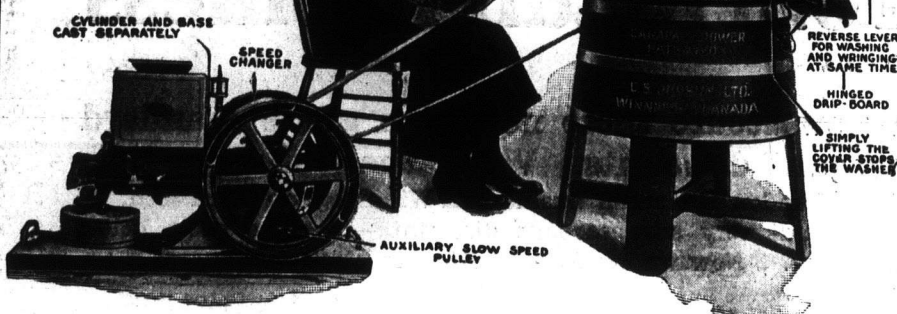
Besides all this he managed and built up the Roycroft Shops. Work with him was a pleasure—he believed that work was the greatest blessing of mankind. It is said that his presence among the shops was an inspiration—his personality so permeated the atmosphere that everyone wanted to work. Idleness is contagious — so is ambition. "The reward that life holds out for work," he said, "is not idleness nor rest, nor immunity from work, but in-

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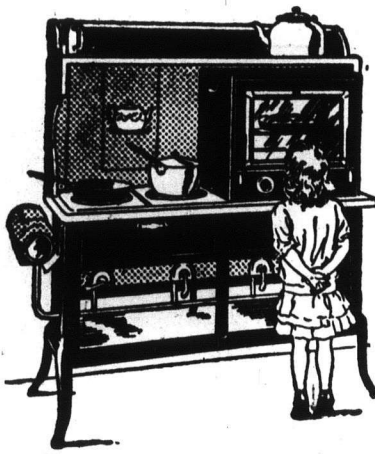
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