

America have their laws of honor; the Zulus, the natives of India, the European nations—all have their ancient codes.

The following are the rules which apply to boy scouts, and which you swear to obey when you take your oath as a scout, so it is as well that you should know all about them.

The scouts' motto is:—

#### Be Prepared,

which means you are always to be in a state of readiness in mind and body to do your DUTY.

Be prepared in mind by having disciplined yourself to be obedient to every order, and also by having thought out beforehand any accident or situation that might occur, so that you know the right thing to do at the right moment, and are willing to do it.

Be prepared in body by making yourself strong and active and able to do the right thing at the right moment, and do it.

#### The Scout Law

1. A Scout's Honor is to be Trusted. If a scout says "On my honor it is so," that means that it is so, just as if he had taken a most solemn oath.

Similarly, if a scout officer says to a scout, "I trust you on your honor to do this," the scout is bound to carry out the order to the best of his ability, and let nothing interfere with his doing so.

If a scout were to break his honor by telling a lie, or by not carrying out an order exactly, when trusted on his honor to do so, he may be directed to hand over his scout badge, and never to wear it again. He may also be directed to cease to be a scout.

2. A Scout is Loyal to the King, and to his officers, and to his parents, his country, and his employers. He must stick to them through thick and thin against any one who is their enemy or who even talks badly of them.

3. A Scout's Duty is to be Useful and Help Others. And he is to do his duty before anything else, even though it gives up his own pleasure and comfort or safety to do it. When in difficulty to know which of two things to do, he must ask himself, "Which is my duty?" that is, "Which is best for other people?" and do that one. He must Be Prepared at any time to save life, or to help injured

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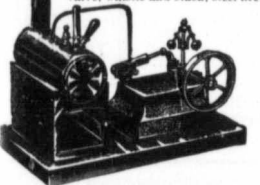


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persons. And he must try his best to do a good turn to somebody every day.

4. A Scout is a Friend to All, and a Brother to Every Other Scout, no Matter to What Social Class the Other Belongs.

Thus, if a scout meets another scout, even though a stranger to him, he must speak to him, and help him in any way that he can, either to carry out the duty he is then doing, or by giving him food, or, as far as possible, anything that he may be in want of. A scout must never be a Snob. A snob is one who looks down upon another because he is poorer, or who is poor and resents another because he is rich. A scout accepts the other man as he finds him, and makes the best of him.

"Kim," the boy scout, was called by the Indians "Little friend of the world," and that is the name every scout should earn for himself.

5. A Scout is Courteous: That is, he is polite to all—but especially to women and children, and old people and invalids, cripples, etc. And he must not take any reward for being helpful or courteous.

6. A Scout is a Friend to Animals. He should save them, as far as possible, from pain, and should not kill any animal unnecessarily, for it is one of God's creatures. Killing an animal for food is allowable.

7. A Scout Obeys Orders—of his parents, patrol leader, or scoutmaster without question.

Even if he gets an order he does not like he must do as soldiers and sailors do, he must carry it out all the same because it is his duty; and after he has done it he can come and state any reasons against it but he must carry out the order at once. That is discipline.

8. A Scout Smiles and Whistles under all circumstances. When he gets an order he should obey it cheerily and readily, not in a slow, hang-dog sort of way.

Scouts never grouse at hardships, nor whine at each other, nor swear when put out.

When you just miss a train, or some one treads on your favorite corn—not that a scout ought to have such things as corns—or under any annoying circumstances, you should force yourself to smile at once, and then whistle a tune, and you will be all right. (N. B.—Since this rule first appeared in print a great many scouts, old and young, have written to me saying how useful it has been to them.)

A scout goes about with a smile on and whistling. It cheers him and cheers other people, especially in time of danger, for he keeps it up then all the same.

The punishment for swearing or using bad language is for each offence a mug of cold water to be poured down the offender's sleeve by the other scouts. It was the punishment invented by the British scout, Captain John Smith, three hundred years ago.

9. A Scout is Thrifty, that is, he saves every cent he can, and puts it into the bank, so that he may have money to keep himself when out of work, and thus not make himself a burden to others; or that he may have money to give away to others when they need it.

#### BOY'S PRIZE LETTER

Sumberg, Sask.

Dear Campers;

This is my first letter to your Club, I like to read the boys' and girls' letters. My father takes the Canadian Thresherman and Farmer. I go to school sometimes, but I haven't went lately; I am going to school this winter. I am in the third grade and I am ten years old. Our teacher's name is Miss Rusten. I have two brothers and three sisters; one of my sisters and one of my brothers are twins and the other two of my sisters are twins.

We have seven horses and three colts, one cow and two calves, one rooster and three chickens, ten pigs, two dogs and one cat.

I hope my letter will jump over the waste paper basket and win a prize.

I will tell you about a runaway we had when I was a little fellow. My father had three horses hitched on to a binder and he stopped to put some twine in the binder box and the horses run with the binder and it just whizzed by the corner of our kitchen and then they went through a gate and cut one post and ripped about sixteen yards of fence down and then they ran down a hill and tried to jump over a pig pen but they couldn't, so they stopped there. By that time the binder was so badly broken that it was no more good. Well, I think my letter is long enough so I will close for this time. Wishing your Club every success, I remain, yours truly, William G. Stacey.

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