

# HAIL TO BOY SCOUTS Grant's

Birth of a Great Movement which Began in England and Has Gained a Foothold in the United States.

By ROBERTUS LOVE.



BOY SCOUT AT WORK.

Boy, are you a boy scout? No? Then you'd better get busy and be one, for the boy scout movement has begun to percolate through the forty-six states and the several territories of the grandest republic that ever flashed a flag to the heavens.

Just now, while young America is looking forward to the celebration of Independence day and old America is preparing a few weeks earlier to pay tribute to the boys of '61, it is fitting that the boy scout movement, which teaches morality through modified militarism and inculcates patriotism through the play soldier business, has

Novel Idea Which Tends to Develop Boyish Lads into Manly Men—Bodies of Scouts to Be Organized in Every State.

We know now that war is what General Sherman said it is, and we have no desire to shut up the ledgers, lock up the grocery store, close down the pickle factory and don the habiliments of martial combat just for the glory of the thing.

But when we were boys each of us hoped some day to excel Napoleon or Washington or Grant or Lee or Stonewall Jackson as a leader of fighting men in the imminent deadly breach.

This progressive world of ours has worked along to healthier, saner and safer ideals. Boys will be boys as always, but today some of those who used to be boys have devised a method of venting military enthusiasm which tends toward the development of boyish boys into manly men.

And the boy scout movement is the method.

Primarily out of the needs of boyhood, but incidentally out of the Boer war in South Africa, the boy scout movement has evolved. General Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, one of the conquering heroes of that struggle against the heroic riflemen of the veldts, is the originator of this movement, which began in England and has just begun to spread in the United States. General Baden-Powell after he quit fighting took a look in at the English boys and conceived the notion that he could organize them into a great army of peace, with military

## Road Bill

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SEC. 4. That said Bureau of Public Roads shall consist of three commissioners, to be known as "Commissioners of Roads," who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and the President in making said appointment shall designate one of said commissioners as chairman, and they shall each receive a salary of four thousand dollars per year. Said commissions shall employ such agents and servants as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act and shall make such rules and regulations as may be necessary for cooperating with the various states and territories and civil subdivisions thereof, under the provisions of this act, and shall make such rules and regulations as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of this act in general. But said commissioners shall in all things be under the supervision of the secretary of agriculture.

SEC. 5. That at any time after the ratification of this act any state or territory or any county, township, or other civil subdivision thereof may apply, through the persons having jurisdiction over public roads therein, for aid in the permanent improvement of construction of any public road or section of road located in said state or territory; and if the said commissioners shall consider said road or section thereof of sufficient importance to be entitled to the cooperation of said bureau they may aid the said state or territory or civil subdivision thereof in the permanent improvement or construction of such public road or section thereof to the extent of one half of the expense thereof, the other half to be paid by the state or territory or civil subdivision thereof in which said road or section of road is located. Said commissioners may, in their discretion, give said state or territories or civil subdivisions thereof credit for labor, material, and machinery used in said work; provided, that no money shall be advanced by the United States under this act for any road work except as the actual construction progresses, and no payment or payments made before the work is finished shall exceed seventy-five per centum of the work actually done. The said commissioners of roads shall not cooperate with any state or territory or any civil subdivision thereof, under the provisions of this act, in the permanent improvement or construction of any public road or section of road until said state or territory or civil subdivision thereof has provided for the payment of its portion of the total cost of the work to be done, to the satisfaction of said commissioners, and until said commissioners are further satisfied that said road or section of road on which said work is to be done is a permanent public road which will be kept up and maintained by the local authorities without regard to further aid from the United States.

SEC. 6. That the foregoing section shall not be construed as prohibiting the said commissioners from conducting such investigations and experiments as to the construction and improvement of roads as they may deem advisable, either with or without the aid of the local authorities; but is intended to apply only in cases where aid is granted by said commissioners in such permanent improvement or construction of public roads as will be a permanent and substantial benefit to the community in which the road or section of road so improved or constructed is located.

SEC. 7. That whenever any public road or section of road which is used as a rural mail route shall be permanently improved or constructed under the provisions of this act,

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the said commissioners, in addition to such general statistics as they may prepare and publish concerning same, shall prepare and publish special statistics showing, as far as possible to what extent the cost of said improvements borne by the United States and the cost of maintenance over and above the amount which will be reasonably expected to be paid by the local authorities will be offset by the increased efficiency of said road as a rural route, and the consequent saving to the government by reason thereof.

SEC. 8. That the lawful expenditures and disbursements of said bureau for aid in cooperation with any state or territory or civil subdivision thereof and all other lawful expenditures and disbursements for the operation and maintenance of said bureau shall be paid by the treasurer of the United States upon the requisition of said commissioners, out of the appropriation made by this act, and any future appropriations which may be made to carry out the provisions of this act.

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ERNEST THOMPSON SETON, GENERAL FREDERICK D. GRANT AND GENERAL BADEN-POWELL (ON THE RIGHT) WITH A BOY SCOUT.

discipline not too severe for comfort, so that they might spend a considerable part of their time in God's great outdoors and learn some of the field tactics which come in handy when there is a real war.

### Not Primarily Military.

It cannot be denied that the original idea of the general was to teach the young British idea how to sprout in bristling fashion, ready later on to be a virile force for the upholding of the empire. But the Baden-Powell beginning has developed a still more practical thing—the inculcation of personal honor, fraternal feeling and manly habits of acting and thinking.

So the boy scout movement comes to the United States, after more than 200,000 English boys have been organized and drilled, as a peace proposition rather than a war measure. Edwin D. Horsfield of Edinburgh planted the seed of the boy scout propaganda in this country at Springfield, Mass. He organized the boys of the Young Men's Christian association into a company based upon the Baden-Powell plan, with offshoots suggested by experience. These are the fundamental principles:

A scout's honor is to be trusted. A scout is loyal to his country and his employers. A scout's duty is to be useful and to help others. A scout is a friend to all and a brother to every other scout, no matter to what social class the other belongs. A scout is courteous. He is a friend to all animals. He obeys orders. He smiles and whistles under all circumstances. He is thrifty. This is the pledge he takes:

"I will do my duty to God and my country. I will do my best to help others, whatever it costs me. I know the scout law and will obey it."

Some professional moralist might manufacture a better code of ethics for American boys, but he doesn't happen to have done so.

And you mustn't imagine that this set of principles turns any of the boys against the movement. It does not. There is much in the scout plan that

begun to gain a foothold on United States soil and to march through Georgia and the rest of the states.

Brother, you and I, who are cavorting around the edges of forty and still feeling the friskiness of boyhood and beneath the visible surface, must confess that we envy the boys of 1910. They didn't have the boy scouts in our days in the delectable kingdom of Boyville. We had to shift for our selves, finding our fun independently. We played "bull ring" and "three cornered cat" when we wanted the real strenuity of things outdoors, and we had to do our own organizing for the sport. Frequently there was a woeful lack of organization, and when the old solid rubber ball, wrapped tightly with a thin layer of yarn, plunked us in the plexus we sometimes resented it with instinctive, which method was inelegant and unmanly, no matter what may be said as to the desirability of the manly art of self defense.

The trouble was we lacked discipline. The boy scout propaganda teaches discipline. It teaches the universal brotherhood of boys. It teaches boys to be just and generous to each other and works toward the elimination of the "gang" idea, so that the south siders will not lie in wait for the west enders with an arsenal of brickbats.

### Did You Never Train?

Millions of American men now in life's prime recall that old piece of verse in McGuffey's Third Reader which began something like this:

Oh, were you ne'er a soldier,  
And did you never train  
And feel the swelling of the heart  
You ne'er can feel again?

When you and I were boys, particularly if we lived in the border states or on the edges of the Mason and Dixon line, we used to divide according to the "Reb" or "Fed" sentiment and do sham battling that sometimes developed into something perilously near to a shambles, which the dictionary tells us is a place for slaughtering meat. We did such things simply because every boy who has red drops in his arteries must have some means of working off his military enthusiasm.