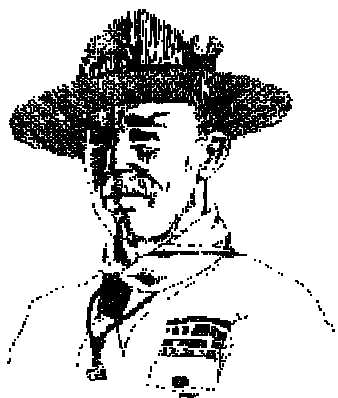


The Story of “B.-P.”



Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell 1857-1941 Founder of the Boy Scout Movement Chief Scout of the World

If you want to understand Scouting completely, you must know something about the man who founded the Boy Scout Movement, one of the most real “boy-men” who has ever lived— Lord Baden Powell of Gilwell, Chief Scout of the World, affectionately know to all Scouts as “B.-P.”

Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell was born in London, England, on February 22, 1857. His father was the Reverend Baden Powell, Professor at Oxford. His mother was the daughter of Admiral W. H. Smyth. His great-grandfather, Joseph Brewer Smyth, was born in America but joined the British forces during the American Revolution and eventually settled in Eng-

land. Baden-Powell was thus the descendant of a minister on one side, and of an adventurous colonist of the New World on the other.

B.-P. as a Boy

His father died when Robert was about three years old, leaving his mother with seven children under fourteen years of age. There were often hard times for the large family, but the mutual love of the mother for the children and of the children for their mother always carried them through. Robert lived a glorious outdoor life with his four brothers, hiking and camping with them in many parts of England.

In 1870, B.-P. gained a scholarship to Charter-

house School, which shortly after his arrival moved from London to Godalming, Surrey in the heart of the country. He was not an especially outstanding scholar—but he was one of the liveliest. He was always in the thick of it when something was going on in the school-yard, and soon became known for his ability as a goal-keeper in the Charterhouse soccer team. His dramatic abilities were highly appreciated by his fellow students. Whenever called upon, he would pu on a performance that would have the whole school in fits of laughter. He was also musically inclined, and his gift for sketching later made it possible for him to illustrate his own writings.

B.P. in India

At 19, B.-P. passed the Army examination and immediately accepted a chance to go to India as a sub-lieutenant, to join the 13th Hussars, the regiment which had formed the right of the cavalry line in the famous

“Charge of the Light Brigade” in the Crimean War. Besides performing excellent military service—he was a captain at the age of twenty-six—he won the most desired sports trophy in all India—that for “pig-sticking”, wild

boar hunting on horse-back with a short lance as the only weapon. You will realize how dangerous this sport is when you know that the wild boar is often spoken as “the only animal that dares drink at the same water hole with a tiger”.

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The Story of "B.-P.", reprinted here, is from *Scouting for Boys* by Robert Baden-Powell, the World Scout Brotherhood Edition, available for purchase at the Boy Scout Shop.

Fighting in Africa

In 1887 we find B.-P. in Africa, taking part in the campaigns against the tribes of the Zulus, and later against the tribes of Ashanti and the Matabele warriors. The tribesman respected him so much that they gave him the name of "Impeesa", the "wolf-that-never-sleeps", because of his courage, his scouting skills and his amazing tracking abilities.

Baden-Powell's advancement in rank was almost automatic, so regularly did it occur, until suddenly he stepped into fame. It was the year 1899, and B.-P. had risen to Colonel.

Trouble was brewing in South Africa. The relations between the British and the government of the Transvaal republic had reached the breaking point. Baden-

Powell was directed to raise two battalions of mounted rifles and proceed to Mafeking, a town in the heart of South Africa. "Who holds Mafeking, holds the reins of South Africa" was a popular belief which proved to be true.

Recommended readings:

Scouting for Boys and any of the many more complete biographies of Lord Baden-Powell.

The Siege of Mafeking—>Hero

War came, and for 217 days—from October 11, 1899—B.-P. held Mafeking in a siege against overwhelming numbers of the enemy, until relief forces finally fought their way to his help on the seventeenth day of May, 1900. Great

Britain had been holding its breath through these long months. When finally the news came: "Mafeking has been relieved", it went with mad joy. Look up Mafeking in your English dictionary, and you will find next to it a word cre-

ated on that wild day from the name of the African town: "maffick"—meaning "riot-like" celebration.

B.-P., now raised to the rank of Major-General, found himself a hero in the eyes of his countrymen.



Scouting is Born

It was as a hero of men and boys that he returned to England from South Africa in 1901, to be showered with honors and to discover, to his amazement, that his personal popularity had given popularity to his book for army men—*Aids to Scouting*. It was being used as a textbook in boy's schools.

B.-P. saw a great challenge in this. He realized that here was his opportunity to help the boys of his country to grow into strong manhood. If a book for men on scouting practices could appeal to boys and inspire them, how much more would a book written for boys themselves!

He set to work adapting his experiences in India, and in Africa and many other parts of the world. He gathered a special library of books and read of the training of boys through all ages—from the Spartan boys, the ancient British, the Red Indians, to our own day.

The World's First Scout Camp—1907

Slowly and carefully B.-P. developed the Scouting idea. He wanted to be sure that it would work, so in the summer (August) of 1907 he took a group of twenty boys with him to Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour for the first Boy Scout Camp the world had ever seen. The camp was a great success.

"Scouting for Boys"

And then, in the early

months of 1908, he brought out in six fortnightly parts, illustrated by himself, his handbook for training, *Scouting for Boys*—without dreaming that his book would set in motion a Movement which was to affect the boyhood of the entire world.

Scouting for Boys had hardly started to appear in the book shops before Scout Patrols and Troops began to spring up—not

just in England, but in numerous other countries.



B.-P.'s Second Life

The movement grew and grew and had in 1910 reached such proportions that B.-P. realized that Scouting was to be his life job. He had the vision and faith to recognize that he could do more for his country by training the rising generation to be good citi-

zens than by training a few men for possible future fighting. And so he resigned from the army where had become a Lieutenant-General and embarked upon his "second life" as he called it—his life of service to the world through Scouting.

He reaped his reward in the growth of the Scout Movement and in the love and respect of boys around the globe.

(Boy Scouts of America was founded in 1910, see back page for the Legend of the "Unknown Scout")

World Brotherhood

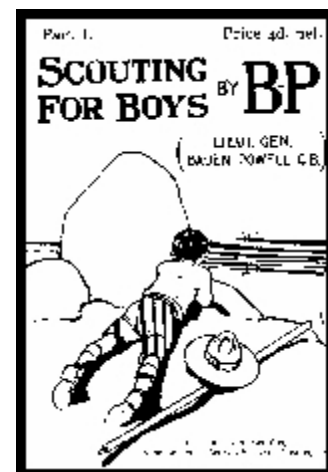
In 1912 he set out on a trip around the world to meet Scouts in many countries. This was the earliest beginning of Scouting as a World Brotherhood. World War I came and interrupted this work for a while, but with the end of hostilities it was resumed, and in 1920 Scouts from all parts of the world met in London for the first international Scout gathering—the first World Jamboree. On the last night of this Jamboree, on

August 7, B.-P. was proclaimed "Chief Scout of the World" by the cheering crowd of boys.

The Scout Movement continued its growth. The day it reached its twenty-first birthday and thus became "of age", it had mounted to more than two million members in practically all civilized countries of the earth. On that occasion, B.-P. was honored by King George V, by being made a

baron under the name of Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell...Yet to every Scout he will always remain: "B.-P.", Chief Scout of the World.

The original World Jamboree was followed by others—in 1924 in Denmark, 1929 in England, 1933 in Hungary, 1937 in Holland. At each of these jamborees, Baden-Powell was the main figure, greeted tumultuously by "his" boys wherever he went.



The Story of “B.P.” (continued)

But the jamborees were only a part of the effort for a World Brotherhood of Scouting. B.-P. travelled extensively in the interest of Scouting, he kept up a correspondence with Scout leaders in numerous countries and continued to write on Scouting subjects, illustrating his articles and books with his own sketches.

B.-P.’s Last Years

When finally, after reaching the age of eighty, his strength began to wane, he returned to his beloved Africa with his wife, Lady Baden-Powell, who had been his enthusiastic helper in all his efforts and who herself was World Chief Guide—a Movement also started by Baden-Powell (for Girl Scouts).

They settled in Kenya, in a peaceful spot, with a glorious view across the miles of forest towards snow-covered Mount Kenya.

There B.P. died on January 8th, 1941 — a little more than a month before his eighty-fourth birthday.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

The Legend of the Unknown Scout

American businessman, William Boyce, was lost in a London fog and late for a business appointment. Out of the fog came a boy in uniform who offered to guide Boyce to his appointment, and did—and then refused a tip because, as he explained, he was a Scout, and Scouts did not take payment for good deeds.

The legend is that Boyce met later with the founder of Scouting in Britain, Lord

Baden-Powell, and then carried Scouting to the United States, incorporating the Boy Scouts of America on February 8th, 1910. The Scout was never identified, but is instead honored in Scout lore as the “Unknown Scout.”

Sketch of the “Unknown Scout” statue, a copy of which is located in downtown Indianapolis at the Boy Scout Headquarters on Meridian Street.



The Origins of Cub Scout Pack 46 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church

Pack 46 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church was first chartered in February 1968 with then Pastor Father Joseph G. Grothaus as the Executive Officer. The first Cubmaster was Russell L. Johnson, Committee Chairman Joe Smith, Committee Members Robert Gorman,

Ray Kiechr, Frederick Meissen, and Bart Besinger, with many other parent volunteers.

There were 59 boys registered as the first Cub Scouts of Pack 46. A few years later, Boy Scout Troop 46 began.

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