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BOY SCOUTS

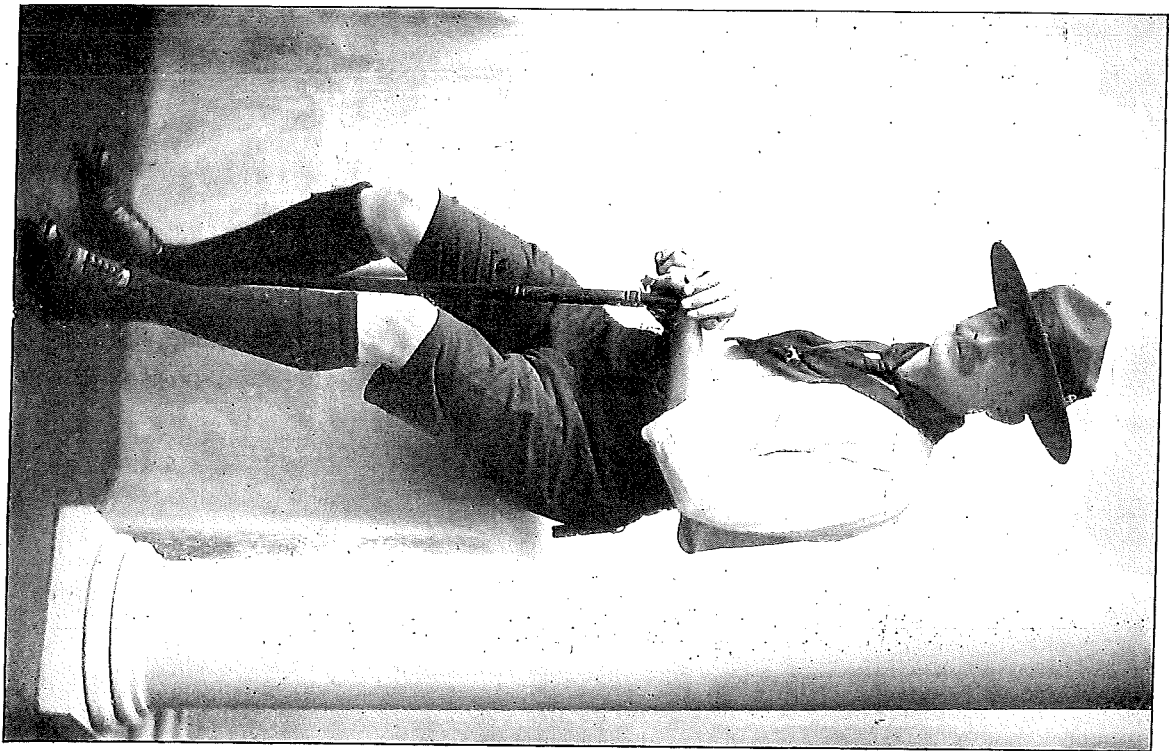
and what they do.

Illustrated



Imperial Scout Exhibition 1913

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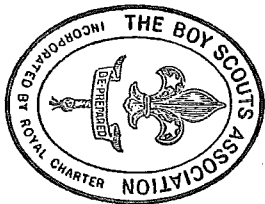


The Chief Scout.

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Boy Scouts

and what they do



As illustrated at the Imperial Scout
Exhibition and Rally held in
Birmingham, July, 1913:—
with an introduction by
the Chief Scout.

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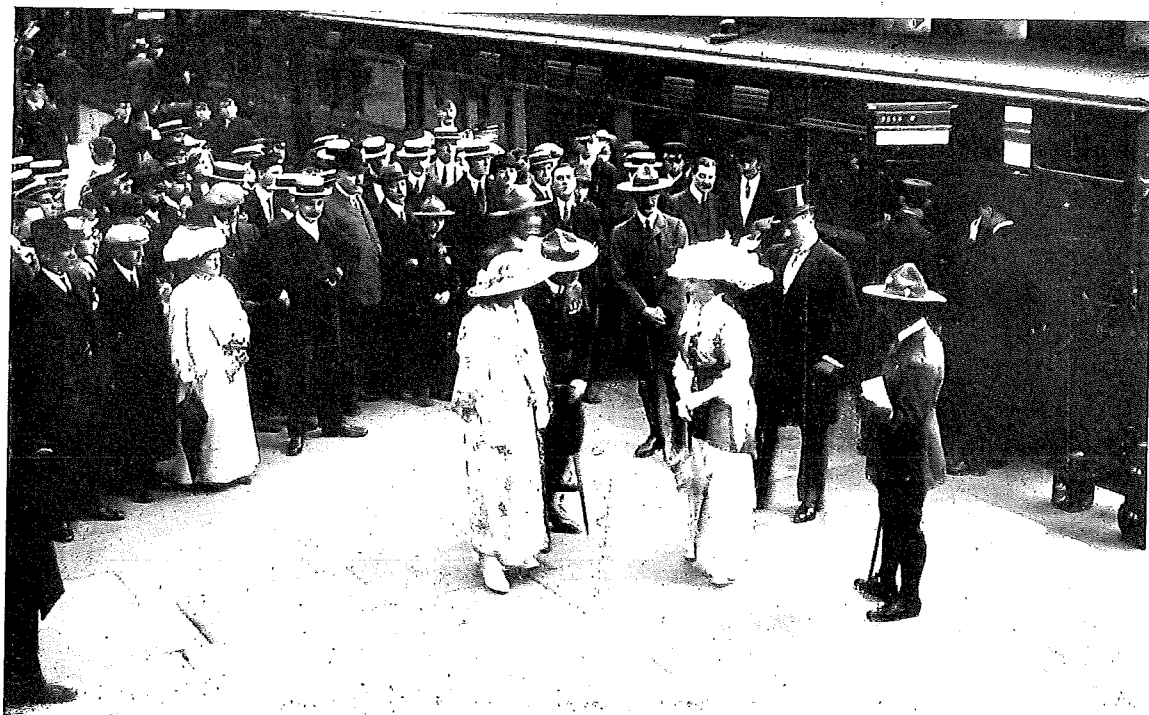
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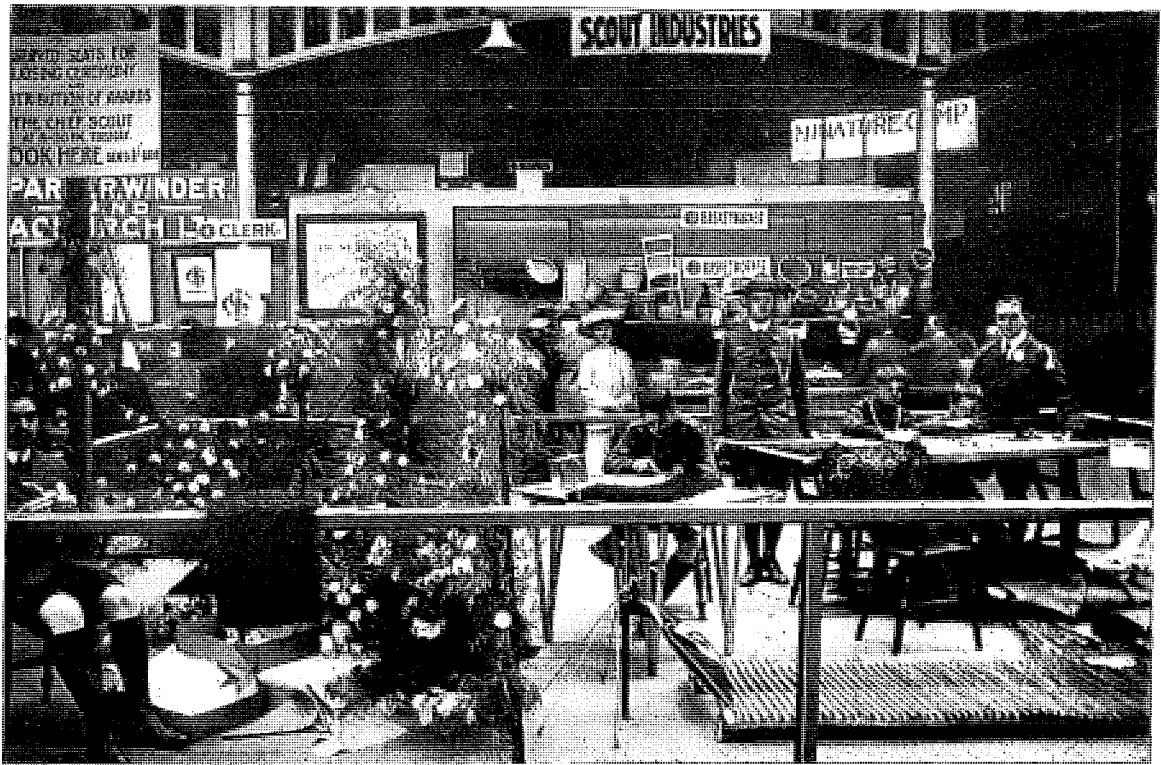
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LORD HAMPTON,
 SIR ROBERT BADEN-POWELL, H.S.H. PRINCE ALEXANDER OF TECK,
 LADY BADEN-POWELL, H.R.H. PRINCESS ALEXANDER OF TECK,
 COL. E. A. WIGGIN.

THE ARRIVAL AT THE GREAT WESTERN STATION, BIRMINGHAM.

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Scout Industries' Section Making artificial flowers, mats, bedsteads, hammocks, and many other things.

THE INNER SIDE OF THE SCOUTS EXHIBITION AT BIRMINGHAM.

BY THE CHIEF SCOUT.

"There doesn't seem to be a ——— thing that these boys can't do," was the expression used by a working man visiting the Boy Scouts Exhibition at Birmingham in July, 1913.

And his statement only put into so many words the feeling of men of all kinds who saw the remarkable show. It was, in fact, at once an eye-opener and an inspiration.

To the public it showed generally what the Scout training means; that it is not a form of military instruction, nor is it a Sunday school. It is a school for developing the qualities of manliness, industry, unselfishness, and those many other points which go to make good citizens. It therefore attracted a general sympathy and closer interest.

In regard to us who are working in the movement, it exceeded all our expectations in showing what boys are capable of doing if only they are given the ambition.

It was therefore an enormous encouragement to us all to continue and increase our effort.

To the boys themselves it revealed the fact that they are now not only members of a numerous brotherhood, but also of a band of clever handicrafts

men, and that it is expected of them that they will develop their powers in this direction. It will be a fresh incentive to Scout activity on their part, and therefore of considerable educational value.

Thus, the Fire Brigade demonstrations for which a large number of teams were entered, showed very good work under the able direction of Captain Wells, R.N. In perfecting themselves at this, the boys' moral aim is that of saving life, of helping others in distress at the cost of hard work, and of running risks on their part. They have to submit themselves to a rigid discipline and a smart drill; but it is not the mechanical drill of soldiering, it is more that of the football field where each individual has his separate job, using head, hands, and energy in co-operation with his mates for the success of the whole. Therefore, both as a moral and physical educator, Fire Brigade work is a valuable instrument.

So, too, in almost identical terms is the practice of bridge-building of which there were many excellent displays. So, also, the demonstrations of practical Ambulance and First Aid work.

Of models of bridges there were also a very large exhibition, and these in their way were educative in giving the lad an interesting subject to plan with his brain and to construct with a neat hand and skilled fingers.

The same may be said of the model aeroplane exhibits, of which also there was a very large and very excellent show. Wireless telegraphy and electricity, generally with its home-made instruments, evidently

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Scout McLennan
Who won First Prize for Piping



Scout McNab.
Who won First Prize for Highland Dancing

appeals to a very large number of boys, and is a valuable medium of education, since it develops study of natural science, particular neat-handedness, patient application, and a knowledge which is bound to be of service to the lad in later life.

The acting, chorus-singing, and dancing, of which so many performances were to be seen in the theatre, were all of educational value in their way, such as in the discipline of rehearsal, in the learning of parts, in the repression of self-consciousness and awkwardness, and the development of self-expression, and so on.

The farm exhibition, the garden, the kitchen, the blacksmith's shop, the house-repairing stall, among many others, showed the valuable results in technical training, that can be attained through giving boys the ambition to learn and work for themselves, instead of trying to drum knowledge into them.

The one short-coming to which I might draw attention was the want of a disciplinary hand on the onlookers at the boxing and wrestling. These contests were of really a very creditable order, and were naturally a very popular show with the thousands of young visitors to the exhibition. Every movement was followed with the greatest keenness by the onlookers whose cheers or groans showed how they were swayed by the doings of the performers. But it should have been otherwise. With a Master of Ceremonies properly appointed, the audience should have been kept in absolute quietness during the bouts. Apart from such attitude being fairer to the performers, it is the best possible lesson in self-

restraint for the lads to repress their personal feelings under a sense of discipline : it teaches them the elements of fair play, in giving neither combatant encouragement or depression, and it is an antidote to that which I look upon as one of the worst features of a crowd looking on at football, viz., the surrendering of one's own individual judgment to be swayed by the mass around one. For this is the way to hysterics and panic, and to being led without thinking for oneself—a road which our countrymen are too prone to follow just now.

I think the exhibit which struck outsiders the most forcibly was that of the Missioners', the Social Service work, where a humble home-interior was shown with the old woman being tended and helped by Boy Scouts. This appeared to many to be an ideal scene and they were apparently very surprised to hear that it merely represented what is in reality quite an active and wide-spread branch of Scout-work.

It gave an inkling of the truer religion that underlies the movement, the practice instead of the preaching which makes religion active and real in the boy's life. The doing of good turns to others is the base of all forms of religion, and its practice by the Scouts enables us to prove that we take no note of differences of class or creed.

The Rally, at which close on 25,000 boys were assembled for review by H.R.H. Prince Arthur of Connaught, was an inspiring display of good order, discipline, and loyalty.

Among the many striking features:—

One was the solid rear rank behind the boys



Practising Gymnastics in Camp

composed of the men who are working the movement— those patriotic fellows who give up their leisure and their energies to making better men of our rising generation, doing their work unostentatiously behind the scenes but none the less effectively and gloriously.

In the ranks of the lads stood brother Scouts not only from Scotland and Ireland, but from Oversea Dominions, and from other lands. From far away Shanghai a smart, efficient patrol was present, while from Spain and France, Hungary and Sweden, and other Continental nations came contingents.

It needs no great stretch of imagination to see in this the promise of a closer bond between the future of our Empire across the Seas, and a stronger guarantee of future peace between the nations when their men begin to look upon each other as members of one brotherhood instead of as hereditary enemies.

B. Mason Power

Foreword.

This book does not pretend to give a full account of all that took place at Birmingham during the great Scout week in July, 1913.

It would take an edition the size of the "Encyclopedia Britannica" to do that!

This is merely a brief survey of what took place, with a few incidents that came to the notice of one individual there, and he not a very observant one at that!

Nor can any mention be made of the names of those men to whose faithful work the success of the event was entirely due.

If it were attempted this book would look like a Directory!

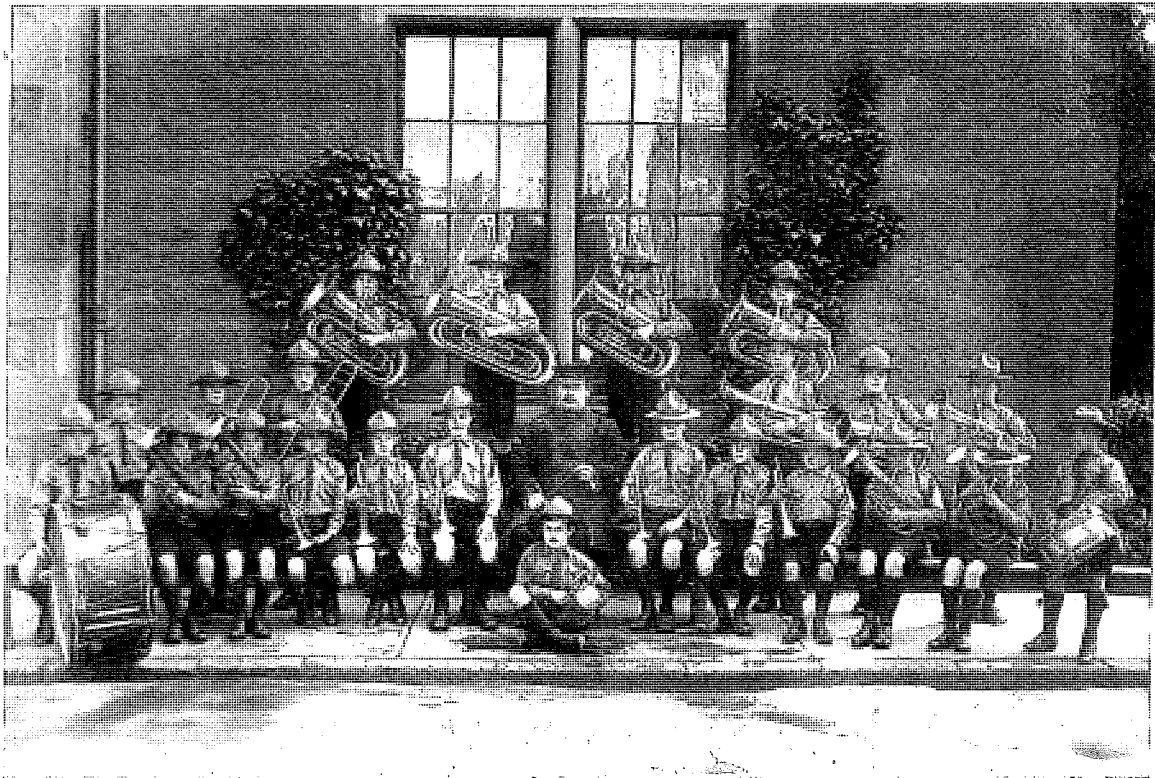
Everybody concerned worked like a Trojan.

The Chief Scout expressed his thanks to them for having done their duty, and that is all they expect.

The Chief Scout, the Editors of the "Headquarters Gazette," the "Scout" and the "Birmingham Daily Post" and various others, have written interesting accounts of what took place.

Many of the following pages have been taken from them without any further acknowledgment being made.

Having admitted the many short-comings beforehand (which, by the way, is better than leaving them to be found out afterwards), we will go straight ahead with our subject.



The Perthshire Band, which carried off the Band Prize.

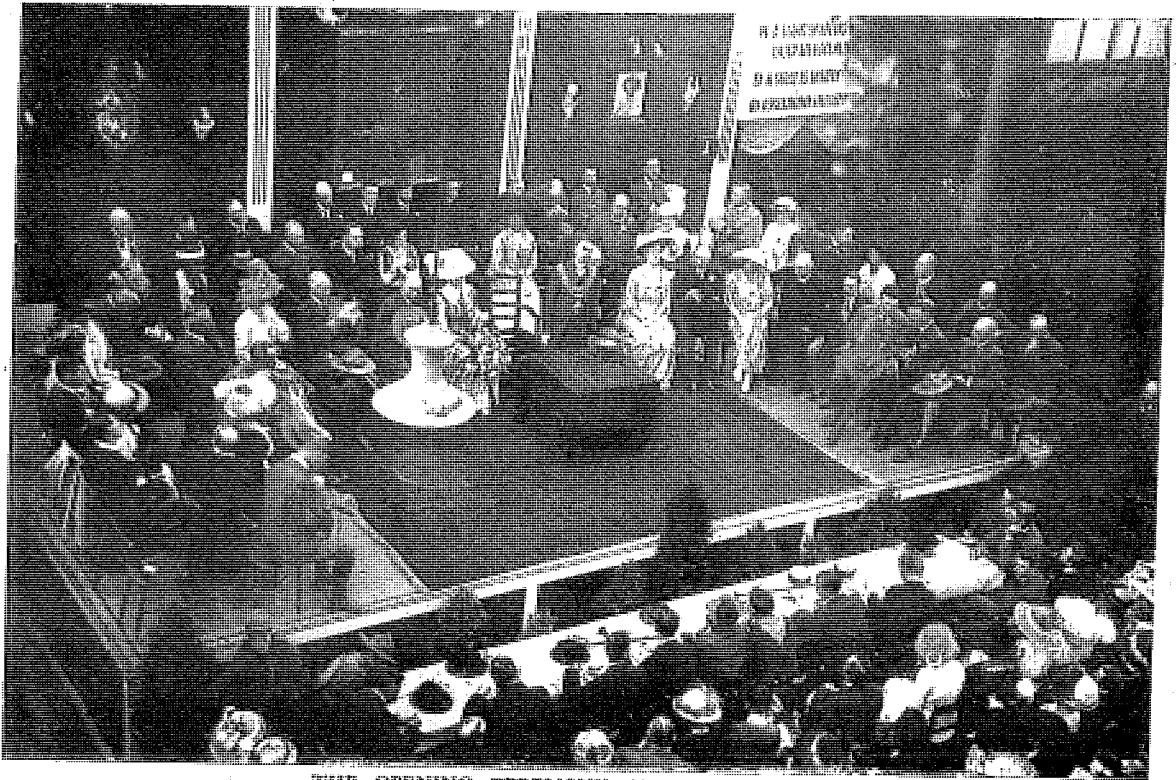
The Editor of the "Headquarters Gazette" blows in.

I arrived at Birmingham late on the Tuesday evening before the Exhibition, and made my way at once to Bingley Hall, expecting to find a scene of bustle and confusion, and that we should have to work all night. To my great surprise, however, I found the Exhibition practically complete, and in order. On making inquiries I was told that, for the last few days, the Committee and officials had worked early and late, volunteers had slaved with their coats off, peers and other members of the nobility had been seen scrubbing and engaged in various lowly tasks, and the result of this spirit and enthusiasm, together with the plans laid carefully beforehand, was now on view. Bingley Hall, on the eve of the Exhibition, appeared a splendid example of our Scouts' motto, "Be Prepared."

The Scouts Themselves.

Birmingham, under leaden skies, is not a cheerful town; and a less promising exterior than that of Bingley Hall it would be difficult to imagine. A depressing back street, brick walls, and smoke-laden atmosphere. Yet to this unattractive pivot-point came Scouts from sunny lands across the sea, from all corners of our own kingdom, from Highland valleys, and from Yorkshire dales, from the green fields of Ireland, and the high hills of Wales. They came with their many-hued uniforms, their upright manly bearing, their sunny smiles, and their irpressible enthusiasm, and lit up the streets of Birmingham till the desert ways blossomed as the rose. How much the presence of the Scouts themselves contributed to the success of the Exhibition, and its charm and brightness, was strangely shown on the Rally day, when very few Scouts were in Bingley Hall, and none in the streets outside. The hours seemed to drag, and all seemed dead until the evening, when the Troops marched in again, and soon all was humming, as before, with a gaiety that was infectious.

Another impression one received was one of wonder at the endurance of the human boy. Up at four or five in the morning, after a few hours of broken sleep in camp; busy at camp duties till noon; then the journey from Perry Hall Park to Bingley Hall; and, lastly, the long hours in the stadium, in the theatre, at display-stalls, or as helpers in the various sections; this, too, till ten o'clock at night, with a hasty meal snatched, in some mysterious manner, at an odd interval during the day. Yet no one seemed weary. From the ever-genial Exhibition Commissioner himself, and the imperturbable Secretary, down to the smallest Scout, there was that amazing calm amid multiplicity of detail that gave the most delightful sense of repose amidst complexity such as no other Exhibition of equal magnitude has ever produced, to my knowledge before.



THE OPENING CEREMONY AT BINGLEY HALL.
(Notice the "Daily Scout" reporter on the extreme left of the reporters' table).

The Opening Ceremony.

Bingley Hall, Birmingham, was full of Scouts, and friends of Scouts, on Wednesday, July 2nd, when Her Royal Highness Princess Alexander of Teck, accompanied by His Serene Highness Prince Alexander, came to declare the Exhibition opened.

Punctually at 2.30, their Royal Highnesses mounted the platform, on which were many Scout officers, and other friends of the movement.

The Lord Mayor, in welcoming the Royal guests, said :
" I want to draw your attention to the very hearty welcome we all give you."

Princess Alexander of Teck next declared the Exhibition open, and then, amid real Scout cheers and great applause, the Chief stood up to propose a vote of thanks to the Princess.

What the Chief Scout Said.

Scouts said Sir Robert, whatever their age and size, were always doing other people good turns, but they did not always have good turns done to them, especially when they began, and he thanked their Royal Highnesses for doing them a very big good turn by coming to the Exhibition.

Prince Alexander, he said, was the forerunner of the Boy Scouts ; for, in the days of the Matabele War, the Prince wore out his leggings, and fought through the rest of the campaign with bare legs !

He said that the present was the first exhibition at which boys had received prizes for work done, not in school, but in spare time, and it showed England what the Boy Scouts could do if they tried.

In conclusion, the Chief Scout referred to the world-wide brotherhood of Scouts, "a brotherhood which knows no distinction of country, class, or creed."

The vote of thanks was seconded by Colonel Wiggins, Commissioner for Warwick, who said he did not know whether Prince Alexander had tied a knot in his tie that morning, but, if so, he was certainly entitled to shake it out for having done such a good turn in coming to the Exhibition.

Prince Alexander's Speech.

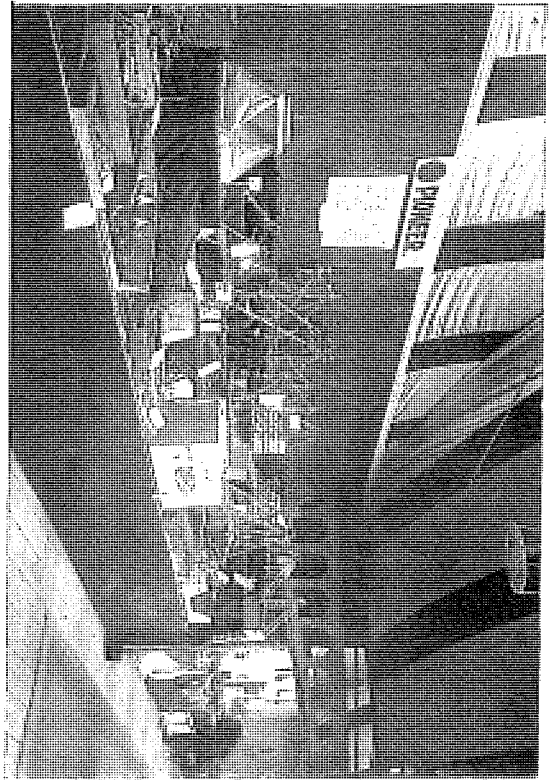
A hearty welcome was given to Prince Alexander, who referred to the pleasure it gave him to show his sympathy with the Scouts. That Exhibition, he thought, was a wonderful one, and it marked an important step in the development of the future usefulness of the Scout movement. It showed that it was of value in modern times by teaching boys handicrafts, doing what used to be done in the land when there was the apprenticeship system. No Scout ought to be numbered among the "Never Nevets."

Our Empire has been built up by individuals full of pluck and industry, using their talents on behalf of the nation, and he claimed that the Scout movement was training boys to be such individuals. It had been well said that a Briton was honest, clear in mind, self-reliant, courageous, considerate of the claims of all, and, above all, a lover of justice—and that was the ideal of the Boy Scouts.

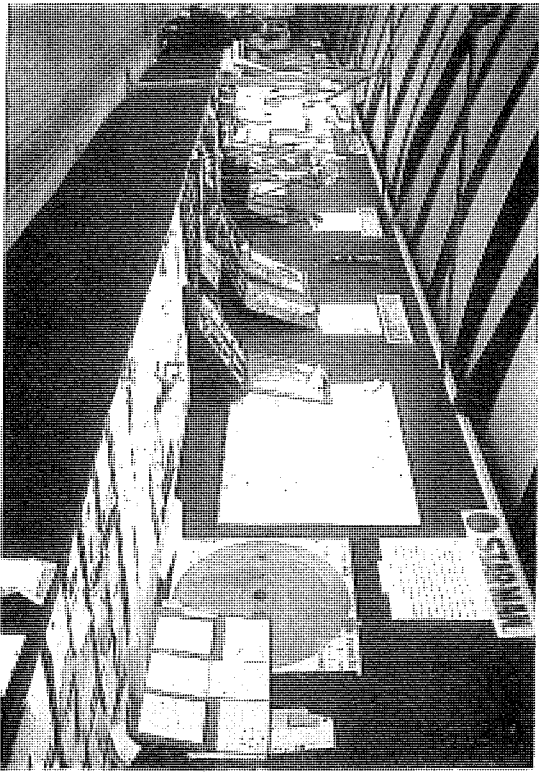
Thanks Badges were then handed to their Royal Highnesses by the Chief Scout, and the party then proceeded to make a careful tour of inspection of all the Exhibition, guarded by a stalwart patrol of Scouts from the Scout Farm at Buckhurst.



Prince Alexander Speaking



The "Pioneer" Exhibits.



Some of the Exhibits. Starman—Prospector—Signaller.

The Object of Scouting.

It will be seen that the work done by the Scouts in Bingley Hall might come under the following headings:—

Handicrafts. The Chief Scout says about these: "I am very anxious to extend the development of handicrafts among Scouts in all parts of the country." So Scouts were seen showing their skill at

Carpentering.
Basket-making.
Farming.
Engineering.
Plumbing.
Printing, and a number of other
useful trades.

Character Training, or the work designed to train boys in perseverance, hardihood, pluck and skill.

The First-Class Badge.
Pathfinding.
Handy-man work.
Pioneering, and the like.

Public Service. The Scout is taught to be always ready to assist his country and his fellow-men. He promises on becoming a Scout "On my honour I will do my best to help other people at all times."

Ambulance.
Fireman.
Friend to Animals.
Interpreter.
Signaller.
Missioner.

Health. The Scout is shown how to keep himself fit, and taught that fitness is essential for success in life.

Horseman.

Gymnast.

Boxing.

Quarterstaff.

Wrestling.

Fencing.

General Training. A Scout should be ready to turn his hand to anything from cooking a dinner to felling a tree.

Musician.

Marksmen.

Telegraphist.

Stalker.

Stearman.

Cooking in the open and at home.

Prospector.

Surveyor.

Farming.

Ambulance Work.

About a thousand boys entered for the Ambulance Competitions, and the head of the section was at work from early in the morning until late at night supervising the various teams.

In the picture he is seen watching a boy apply an oxygen apparatus, while in the background is a well-known London surgeon who gave up the whole week to judging in this event.

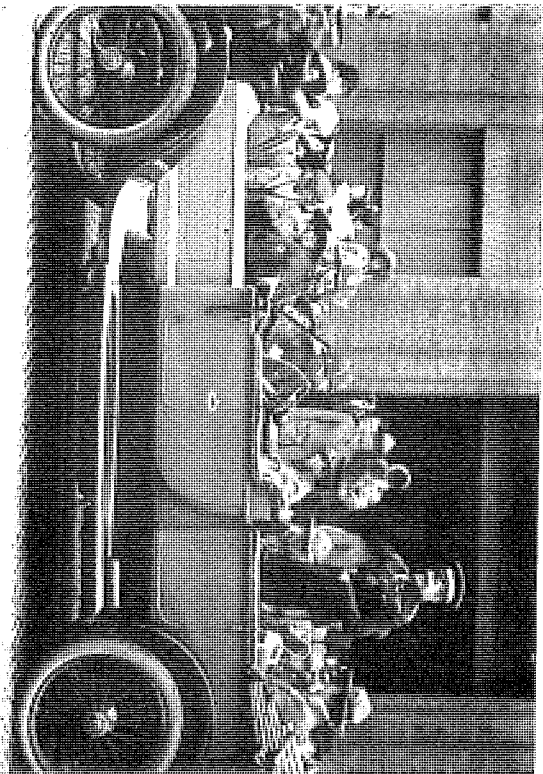
There was a small hospital erected both at the Exhibition and at the camp for actual use, and the matron of



The Ambulance Section



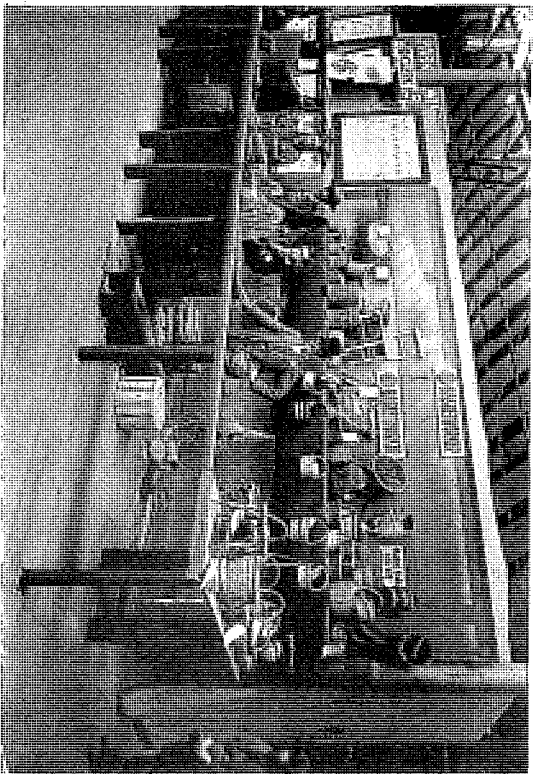
The head of the Ambulance Section and five helpers.



Prince Arthur and the Chief Scout leaving the Exhibition



The Leather workers' Section. Skins tanned by Scouts. Boots made and repaired by Scouts.



The Basket worker Section

the Queen's Hospital very kindly found nurses, who were on duty there the whole time.

Prince Arthur looked inside the Bingley Hall hospital while he was there and saw lying on the bed a young Scout who had been taken ill, and had subsequently to be removed to the General Hospital. He was too unwell to be able to take any notice of the visitors, and lay there with eyes shut. Somebody, however, said to him, "The Prince has come to see you!" Even in his pain the little fellow did not forget his duty as a Scout, but, although almost unconscious, he feebly raised his hand to his forehead in the Scout salute, and opened his eyes for a moment to see the Prince looking down on him with that pleasant smile which made him so popular with every boy he passed that day. The little lad then turned over and shut his eyes again, too ill to take any interest in what was going on.

The health of the great army of Scouts during the whole week was remarkable! There were the usual cuts, sprains and bruises, but only three boys were left behind in hospital at the end of the time, and in each case the illness must have been contracted before the boy left home.

One youngster from Dorset had a bad stomach-ache before he started, but would not tell his mother for fear of being left behind! He developed a mild attack of appendicitis, but soon got better without an operation being necessary.

The Missioner Section.

Alongside of the hospital at the Exhibition there was a beautifully fitted-up bedroom, where Scouts were to give

demonstrations of sick-room nursing and the like : the latest appliances in the way of beds, bowls, washstands and the like were there in spotless array.

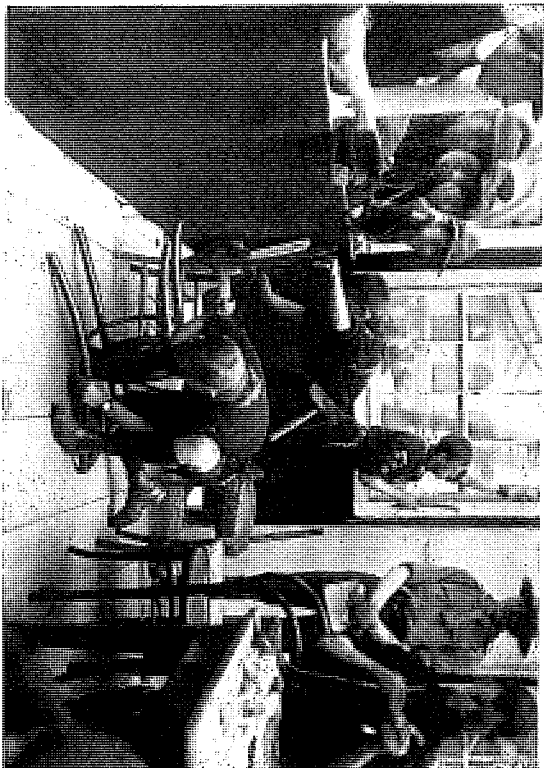
The Chief Scout came and looked at it. "Not realistic enough," he said. Next time he passed that way he looked on with a smile of approval at the wonderful transformation that had been effected by the indefatigable head of the Missioners' Section. In place of the clean, trim little sick room was a dirty, untidy garret; the little furniture in it was meagre and broken, while the floors and walls left much to be desired in the way of cleanliness.

On a makeshift bed in the corner was an old woman looking very sick. Then a patrol of "Missioner" Scouts appeared on the scene: one seized a broom and swept out the room; the next made up the fire with some fuel he had procured and made her a cup of tea; another mended the rickety table, bed and chair, making them at any rate serviceable, while a fourth straightened out the bedclothes, propped the old lady up, and did his best to cheer her until the tea was ready. The change from the miserable state the place had been in, to the comparative comfort in which it was left by the boys was indeed a tribute to their training as Missioners.

Having given their demonstration, the place was restored to its original state of chaos, and another patrol came and looked after the old lady, who seemed to enjoy receiving the unaccustomed attentions as much as the boys enjoyed giving them !



"Ivy Cottage," where the Scouts turned chaos into order.



"Ivy Cottage." Mending chairs, adjusting window sashes, repairing electric lamps

Ivy Cottage.



This was a dwelling which caused the careful housewife to gasp when first her eye fell upon it. The chairs were broken; the windows smashed, the gas mantles damaged, the electric wires fused, the window sashes would not work, the blinds had gone wrong, the crockery was broken, the door-lock was out of order, and nothing was right that could be wrong!

But at a signal a Patrol of Scouts were turned loose into the cottage.

It was wonderful what a change came over the scene. The Patrol Leader took a glance round and told off each of his Scouts for a definite job.

One mended the chairs;

Another, with glass-cutter and putty knife, glazed the broken window;

A third set to work with screw-driver and pliers and repaired the damaged lock;

and so on.

They hammered and screwed, twisted and glued, until, in about half-an-hour, the whole place was ship-shape.

How was it these boys could do all these things?

The secret lay in the little round badge on their arm depicting a hammer and paint-brush crossed—the "Handyman's Badge."

To earn this a Scout must be able to paint a door or bath, whitewash a ceiling, repair gas fittings, ball cocks, tap washers, sash lines, window and door fastenings, replace gas mantles and electric light bulbs, hang pictures and curtains,

repair blinds, fix curtain and portiere rods, blind fixtures, lay carpets, mend clothing and upholstery, do small furniture and china repairs, and sharpen knives.

How do they learn?

To answer that one cannot do better than to quote from an article written by Mr. Basil Clarke in the "Daily Mail" of October 9th, 1913. It describes the work of the special classes that are held to teach Scouts such things, and is entitled:—

"Making a Handyman."

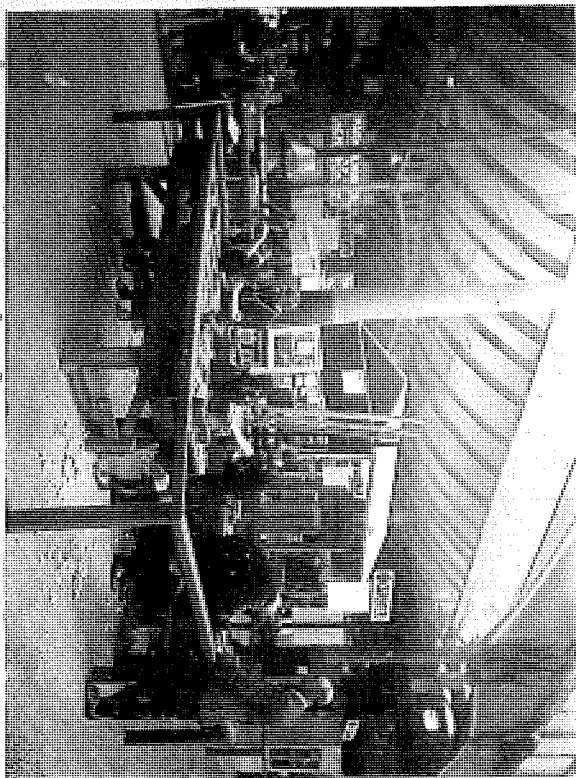
He was outwardly a normal boy—round and cheery—and he whistled as he walked. But he was a new type of boy none the less.

I wanted to get from a certain north-eastern suburb of Manchester to another which is across the fields and more to the north, and I asked him the way. He answered: "It's not very easy to find. You must go by the lane. I'd better draw you a map."

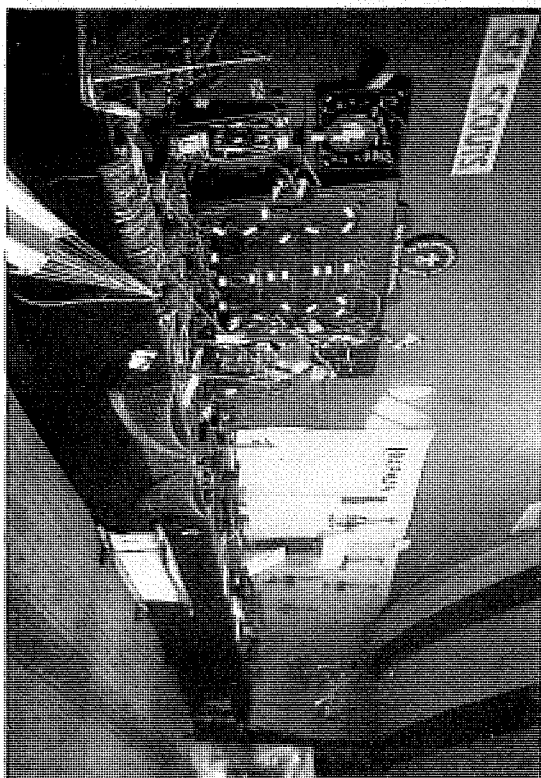
With that he produced a pencil and a bit of paper. "We're here," he said, "at the school," and he made a square on the paper. From that point he drew me an excellent field map. "Here's the tannery. Here's the match works. Here you cross the River Irk," and so on past the chemical works, the weaving shed, the fishing pond, and the workhouse, and to my destination.

And then, with something of an artist's pride in his work, he drew a little "north point" in the corner of the map and handed it to me.

The small map-drawer was a member of the "handyman classes." This I found out by a few questions. And some days later, from things he told me, I was able to find



Scout Carpenters.



Sea Scout Exhibits.

other handy-men in the making. It was in the evening in a big red-brick school in Blackley, in Lancashire, the master of which, Mr. Ben Wilde, seems to have been endowed with an uncanny gift for knowing just the jolly boyish things that a boy wants to learn and which at the same time are good for him to learn. He has a class for boys in camp cookery, for instance, another in pathfinding (my small guide was a member of this class), another for joinery, another in leather work; one for swimming and life saving, and lastly one that he calls specifically a "handy-man" class.

It is an extraordinary sight to walk into a classroom and see from thirty to forty small boys looking eagerly on while a teacher cuts up beef steak or neck of mutton, potatoes and vegetables for a camp stew. In this class they learn how to light a fire, which is not always the simple task it sounds; how to make "damper" of flour and water as they make it in the Australian bush; how to prepare and cook a rabbit, or a hotpot, or a soup. Forty boys attend this camp cookery class every week.

Then there is the leather workers' class, which, oddly enough, is even more popular than the camp cookery class. It has an attendance of nearly 100 boys a week. Here they teach a boy to sole and heel his own boots, to patch a split boot, to make a leather hinge, to repair anything from a stirrup leather to a school-bag.

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Pioneers and Pathfinders.

The "pioneer" class, again, comprises many boyish delights. Here you may see small boys solemnly "cutting

down a tree" in the school yard or in the classroom. The tree is a length of telegraph pole, maybe, sunk into a round hole in a gigantic block of wood. Or you may see them building a model bridge of thin three-foot rods and string. When they have got the intricacies of that model fully into their heads they will go out into the country and build a real bridge, perhaps across a stream, with real poles and real rope.

Of the pathfinder class the chief work is map-reading and drawing, route-sketching to guide a stranger, and learning the entire geography of the district. These boys go out on Saturdays with compass and chain learning the elements of surveying. Or they visit, say, the Ship Canal and learn all that Manchester's shipping means to the place. Any of these boys will tell you in an instant where is the nearest place to get a doctor or a motor-car, a telephone or a fire alarm; how many horses there are in the district and who owns them; what time the local post office shuts and where you can get a telegram away after this office has shut.

The swimming and life-saving classes attract some 130 boys a week; the "ambulance and nursing" classes nearly as many. To watch small boys making beef-tea for invalids, gruel for toothless grannies, milk and barley water for babies, might make one smile were it not for their immense seriousness in these tasks. I was assured that many of the members of this class do really valuable work in homes of invalids where comforts and means are few.

And lastly is the handy-man class. The course here comprises all sorts of useful things besides carpentry and iron working. One night a master painter from the district will come into the school and show the boys how to paint

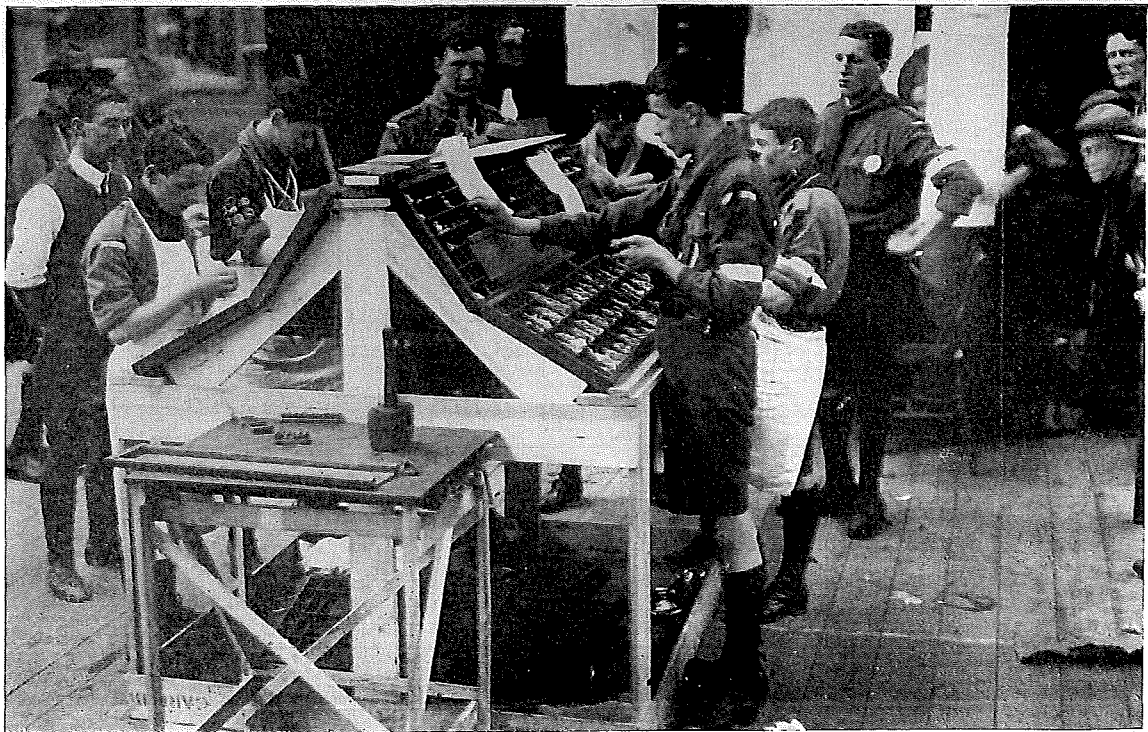


Scene of the Buckhurst Boys, these strapping lads with their tanned arms and faces game from the Scout Farm, where they are taught farming in all its branches.

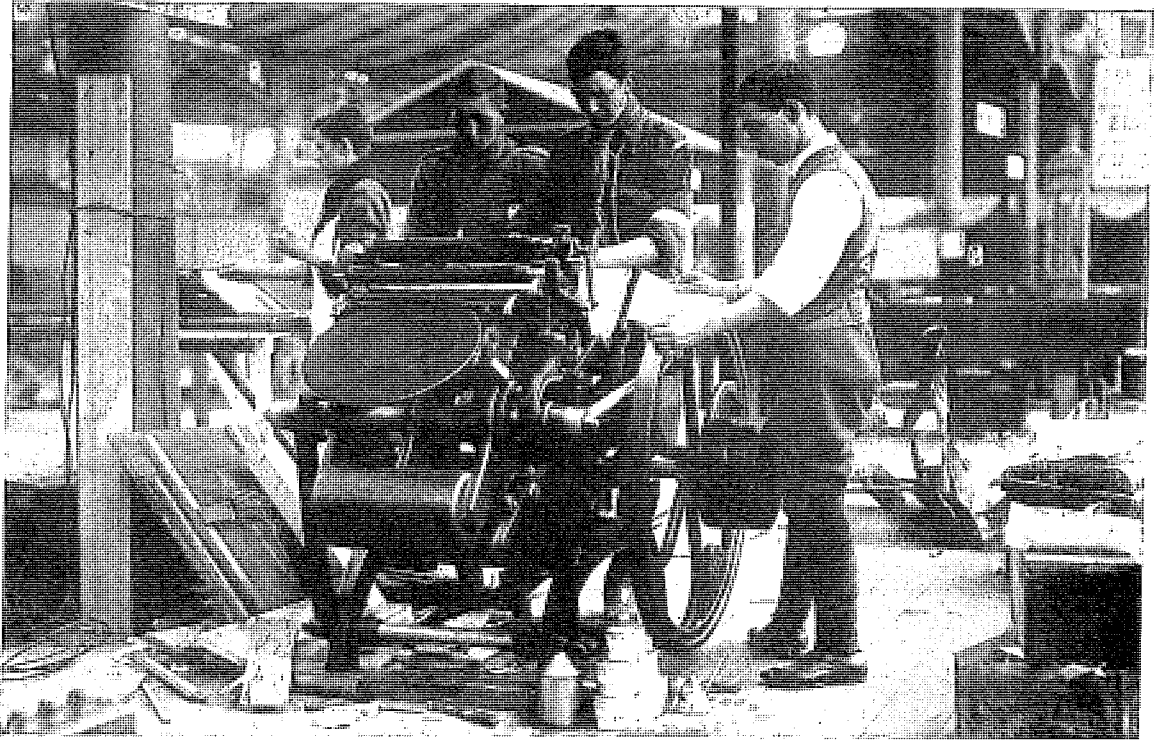


The Camp Model, made by the Wolverhampton Scouts.

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"The Daily Scout." The Compositors at work.



Printing the "Daily Scout."

a door or a skirting board; how to mix paint and how to put it on. Next week perhaps will come a paper-hanger, and the boys will paper a room or "wash" a ceiling. Next week maybe there will be a visit to the blacksmith's shop. On another night the tinker's man may come and expound the mysteries of soldering and pot-mending, and after him perhaps the tailor to show how a torn coat may be patched or how a pair of football "shorts" may be cut out.

A Growing Movement.

Of all the many points that struck me as novel and good in a tour of this remarkable night school the chief one was the keenness of the boys to attend such classes. They come voluntarily, of course, and in their own time, and pay a shilling for each class they attend. Some of the boys are still attending day school. Others are at work. For some of the classes, there are more applicants than vacancies, and in view of this fact, the Manchester City Council have lately decided to hold similar classes in a different part of the city—for one school for handy-men is proving quite insufficient for Manchester's needs. And when one sees school-boys, especially in working-class districts, yawning drearily through geometry lessons and the like and rushing eagerly, even in their leisure hours, to classes in cookery, joinery, and handyman-ship, it makes one wonder whether these subjects might not with value be substituted for some of the more elaborate things a working-class boy is now taught—as a rule only to forget. For after all, it is these homely, useful arts rather than geometry that are likely to fall in his path in later life.

"The Daily Scout."

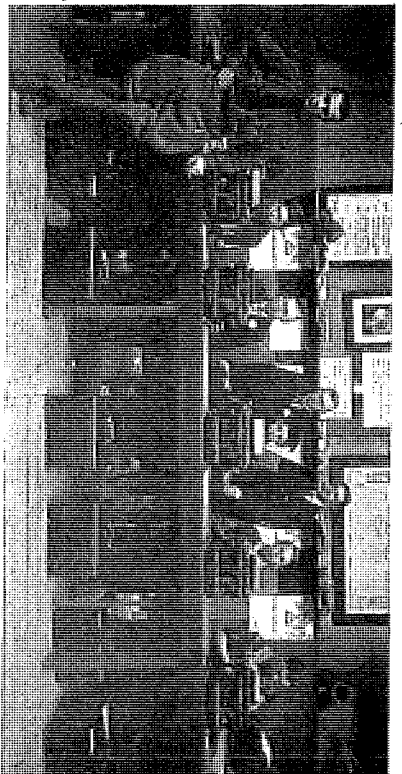
The Printer Scouts, by way of showing their practical knowledge, edited, printed, and sold a daily paper for the week. They had their staff of reporters, editor, sub-editors, composers, machinists and sellers, who all worked hard and produced a most creditable little news-sheet. "The Daily Scout" was sold for a penny, and went like "hot cakes." The supply was often unequal to the demand, and so keen were people to obtain copies, that enterprising speculators are said to have resold copies at a profit of 1,100%. One of the "Daily Scout" reporters, by the way, was offered three good positions by different people who had watched him at work. Nor was this the only case of its sort, for various cute employers looked round, and picked up some very promising lads for their works and offices, giving them positions from which they had every prospect of rising rapidly.

Scout Clerks.

Coming from part of the hall was the incessant click of the typewriters. It was the clerks' section where Scouts were being put through their paces for the various qualifications necessary to win this badge.

To pass for it a Scout must pass a test in handwriting, hand-printing, typewriting (or as an alternative to typewriting, shorthand), writing a letter from memory on a subject given verbally five minutes previously, and simple book-keeping.

There were many Scouts who had made themselves quite experts at shorthand and typewriting with a view to getting better positions later on, and several of these boys were given positions by people who visited the Exhibition, and were impressed by the smart way in which they worked.



The Clerks' Section.

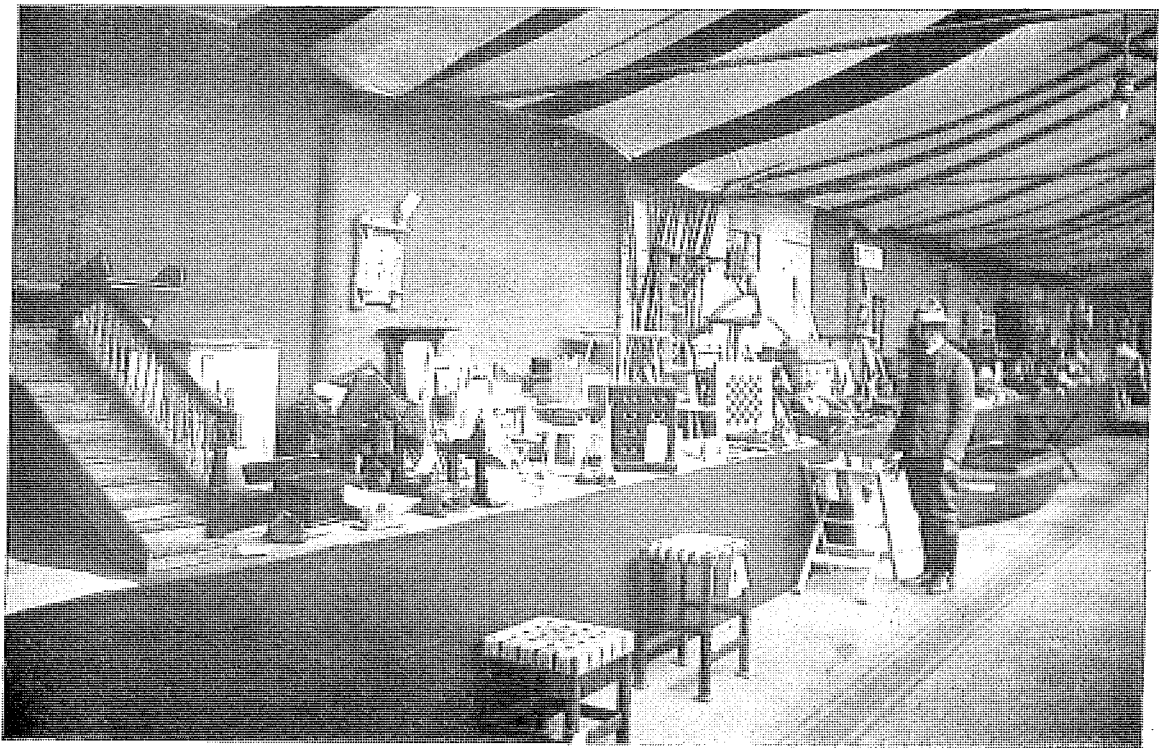


The Prehistoric Scout on the War-path.



The Camp Kitchens.

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The Carpenters' Exhibits.

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There is one little incident worth recording, *not* typical of others, but as showing the ingenuity of a Scout, although one scarcely knows whether to praise or blame the boy concerned.

The head of the section was away snatching a few moments for a well-earned meal, when an "important personage" hove in sight, inspecting the various boys at work as he went along. An official hurried up, and pointed out to the man who had been left in charge, that there was an empty typewriter, and that somebody ought to be at work there.

When the "important personage" appeared on the scene, there was a small Scout about twelve years of age, working away on this typewriter at a furious rate, typing about 120 words a minute.

The distinguished personage looked at the boy with some wonder, and passed on, much impressed by the Clerk's section. The inquisitive official, however, went round behind the typewriter to see whether the boy was as accurate as he was speedy, and found that his manuscript read somewhat as follows:—

2&3-4959 8 unuyyoyry yyoFGHJKIU anandjifingut
gut tnyvu u axtgdgworitruCCCCdhn ãndhht thbe
thbeht ehbheht thh

The Scout Mottoes.

With all the earnestness and thoroughness of the Boy Scout, there is a note of laughing philosophy running through the organisation which takes the edge off the worries that have bothered grown-ups, whose boyhood belonged to a sterner generation. The mottoes around the walls of the Exhibition are exhortations that laugh in the face of sorrow, and are eloquent of the spirit that is behind these bare-armed, bare-kneed boys, who turn London suburbs into prairie land with their swift imagination, and replant the streets of Birmingham with the oak, the ash, and the thorn of old England. The mottoes are in green and yellow—the Scouts' colours—and are all put before the boys by their versatile Chief Scout. They read :—

“Be a brick.”

“Pass it on.”

“Try whistling.”

“The oak was once an acorn.”

“Smile all the time.”

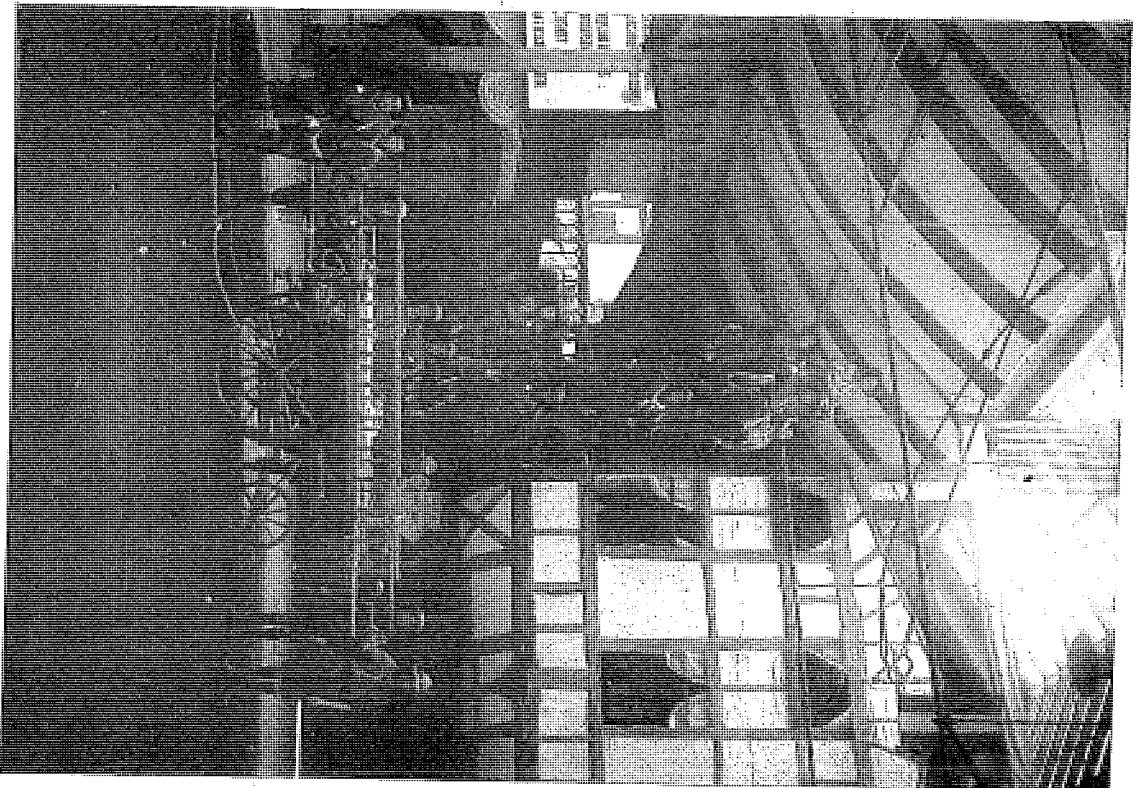
“Stick to it, stick to it.”

“Don't stand with your back to the sun.”

“Don't shoot the musician, he's doing his best.”

“Softly, softly catchee monkey.”

“When the cat's away, the mice will play” (the little rotters!).



A corner of the "Stadium," showing the tower from which the Scouts jumped, and the house from which many gallant rescues were made.

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Fire-fighting Scouts. A Perthshire Troop at fire drill, with their little motor-tender.

The Scout Law.

On each side of the band-stand was a great placard bearing the Scout Law—a code of living followed out by hundreds of thousands of boys from the States in the West, to China in the East—from the Northland of Norway to Australia, New Zealand, and Chili in the South; when they became Scouts they promised on their honour to do their utmost to carry it out.

1.—A SCOUT'S HONOUR IS TO BE TRUSTED.

That is to say, if a Scout says, "On my honour it is so," it *is* so.

2.—A SCOUT IS LOYAL TO THE KING, TO HIS OFFICERS, HIS COUNTRY, AND HIS EMPLOYERS.

This is the very essence of good citizenship.

3.—A SCOUT'S DUTY IS TO BE USEFUL, AND TO HELP OTHERS.

In other words he must BE PREPARED at any time to save life, or to help injured persons, and to do a "good turn," to somebody every day.

4.—A SCOUT IS A FRIEND TO ALL, NO MATTER TO WHAT SOCIAL CLASS HE MAY BELONG.

A Scout is never a snob; he accepts the other man as he finds him, and makes the best of him.

5.—A SCOUT IS COURTEOUS.

6.—A SCOUT IS A FRIEND TO ANIMALS.

7.—A SCOUT OBEYS ORDERS.

Whether these orders are from his parents, patrol leader, Scoutmaster, or anyone placed in authority over him, he must obey orders instantly, and without question.

8.—A SCOUT SMILES AND WHISTLES UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.

9.—A SCOUT IS THRIFTY.

10.—A SCOUT IS PURE IN THOUGHT, WORD AND DEED.

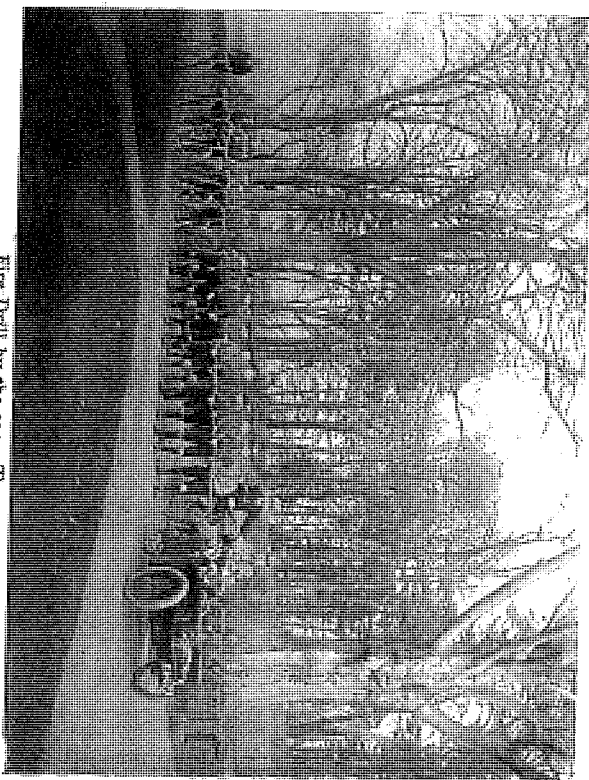
The Naturalist Section.

It would be impossible to describe the exhibits in this section as a whole, but one sent by a young miner Scout from Penrhywlaertg, Ystradgynlais, Swansea Valley, may be taken as typical. There were quite a hundred samples of plants and flowers indexed with a thoroughness that left nothing to be suggested. A collier lad, one would imagine, has not much leisure or opportunity to couple a thorough course of botany with his ordinary work, yet this lad's specimens, each marked with its habitat, show that he has found time to wander round the hedgerows, woods, waste ground, old gardens, marshes, shady banks, and hay-fields in search of them. Here is a sample of his complete knowledge. The elder flower is given its botanical name—*Sambucus nigra*—and also its local name, Ysawen, whilst the familiar honey-suckle is shown botanically as "*Lonicera Periclymenum*," and locally as "*Blodau'r Mel*," with the note that it makes a good ornament for skin diseases, which seems to prove that the Boy Scouts that go racing merrily over the open spaces of our cities are getting all the complete thrills that science can afford, as well as the joy of youth and the pleasure of a whole world waiting discovery.

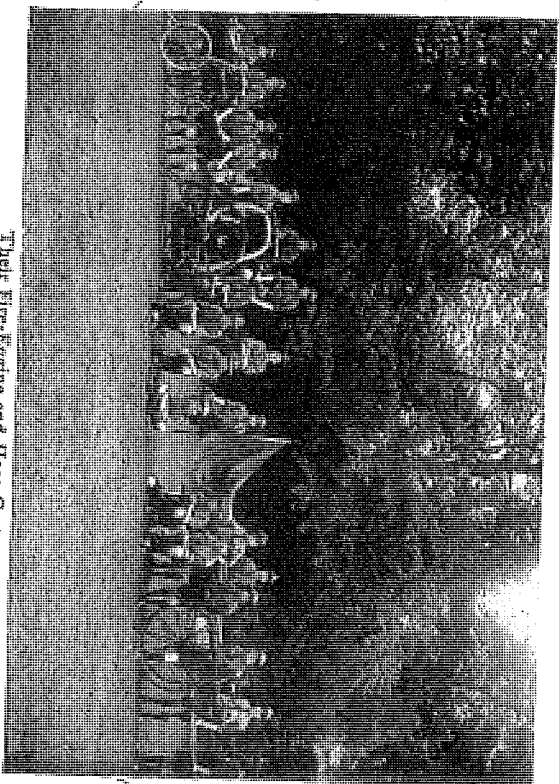
The Gentle Art.

The show, perhaps, that attracted more attention than any other was the boxing. Which was not surprising considering it was Birmingham!

There were many black eyes and bleeding noses to be seen, but it is all to the good as long as it helps to make the boys plucky and game.



Fire Drill by the same Troop.



Their Fire-Engine and Hose-Carts



The Blacksmiths at work at their forge.

This is what Mr. Harry Cleveland, the well-known referee, said about the boxing:

“The material is there, also the keenness and the thorough spirit of sportsmanship, which prevails among the lads must influence in the best possible way amateur boxing. Intense rivalry is associated with the desire to win honourably, and, up to now, I can state conscientiously that in no single instance have I witnessed the slightest deviation from the true principles of fair play during the run of the Competitions at Bingley Hall.”

There is one yarn that must be told before we leave this subject. A lady Scoutmaster wrote a letter to the Secretary, which he has, I believe, kept as one of those priceless possessions which come one's way but once in a lifetime. I forget the exact words, but it was somewhat as follows:

“I am pained and surprised to find that Scout _____, who was in for the boxing competition, has returned with a black eye. Will you kindly tell me the umpire's name and address, and what he was doing when this happened?”

Scout Cooks.

There was a neat little kitchen, with gas stoves and pots and pans, kettles and basins, and the like.

Every two hours a patrol of Scouts was turned loose, and, being provided with certain materials, proceeded to cook themselves a good square meal.

Hashes and stews, vegetables and pies, tarts and puddings, and all sorts of good things were turned out, and, what is more, they were all eaten! For when the meal was ready, the boys laid the table, and one of their number deftly “dished up,” brought forward the various courses, and

waited on his companions, all this being part of the work that has to be done correctly before the Scout can wear the little gridiron on his sleeve—the badge of the Cook.

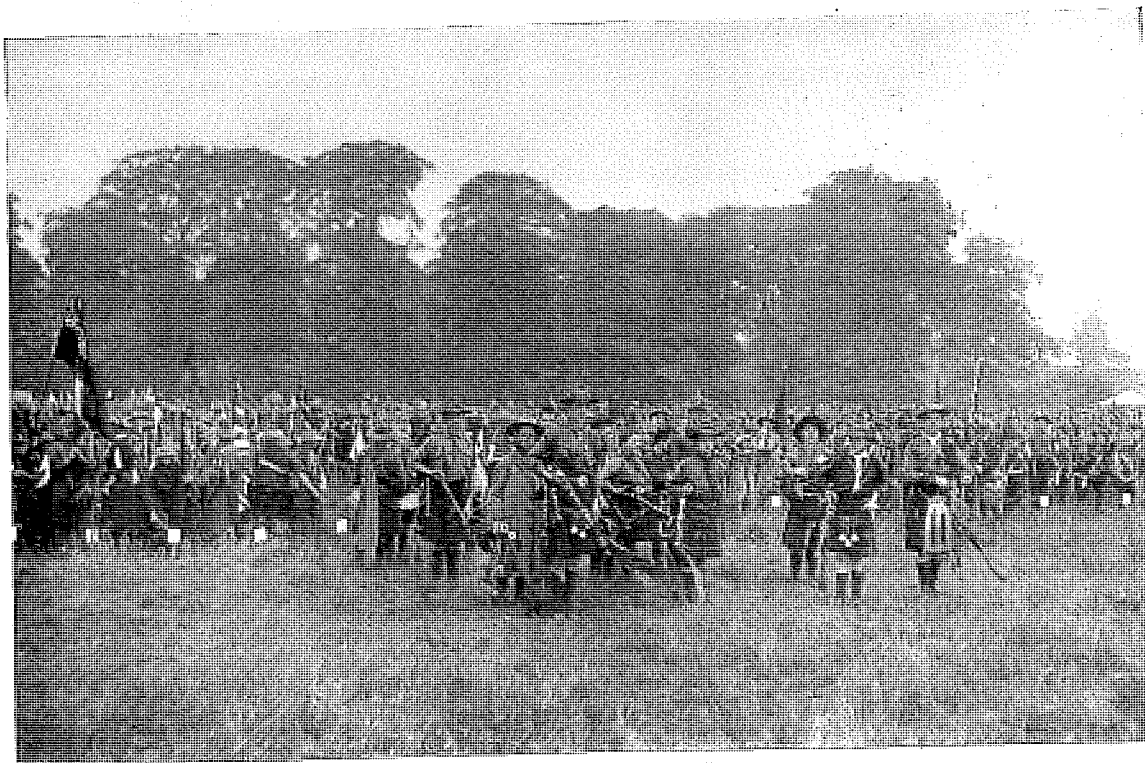
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Blacksmiths.

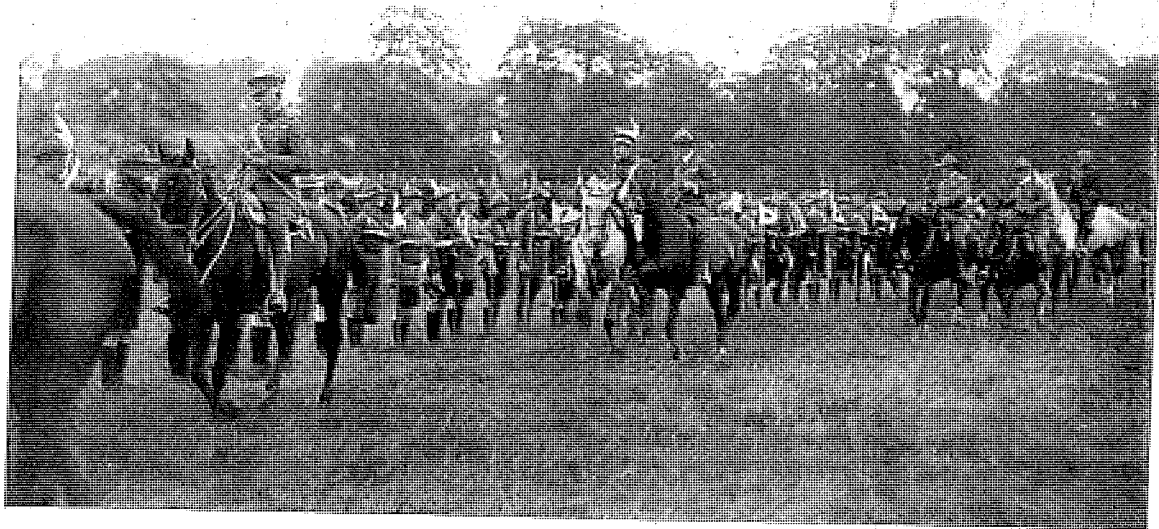
In the Blacksmiths' section was a little forge surrounded by anvil, hammers, and the usual paraphernalia of the smithy.

All day long there was the musical ring of the hammer on the anvil, as sturdy Scouts, with turned-up sleeves and flushed faces, forged horseshoes and various other useful things, heedless of the sparks that flew out from the red-hot metal.

This is, indeed, a most useful craft for boys to have a knowledge of in addition to their own trade, especially for any who intend to go overseas later on.



Some Scottish Pipers at the Rally



Sir Herbert Plumer. H.R.H. Prince Arthur The Chief Scout The Chief Commissioner The Deputy Chief Commissioner
of Connaught. (Sir Robert Baden-Powell). (Sir Edmond Elles). (Colonel Ulick de Burgh).
The Inspection.

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Before the Rally.

□

Thirty thousand Scouts, gathered from all parts of the earth, were reviewed in Perry Hall Park on Saturday by His Royal Highness Prince Arthur of Connaught, before a huge gathering of spectators. The Prince, with his equestrian, arrived at Snow Hill Station shortly after one o'clock. A guard of honour was drawn up on the platform, consisting of lads from the Scouts' Farm, Sussex. The Prince, who wore the undress uniform of the Scots Greys, was received by the Chief Scout. Then followed an inspection of the guard of honour, after which His Royal Highness and his equestrian, escorted by the Chief Scout, drove in a motor-car to the Grand Hotel. En route, the Prince was loudly cheered by large crowds. At the Grand Hotel His Royal Highness was the guest at a luncheon party. After lunch the Prince drove to Bingley Hall, and was conducted round the Exhibition, for which he expressed high admiration. He was specially interested in the motor-car which the Scouts presented to their Chief and his wife on the occasion of their wedding, and the handsome silver cup, which was sent on the same occasion by the Scouts of America.

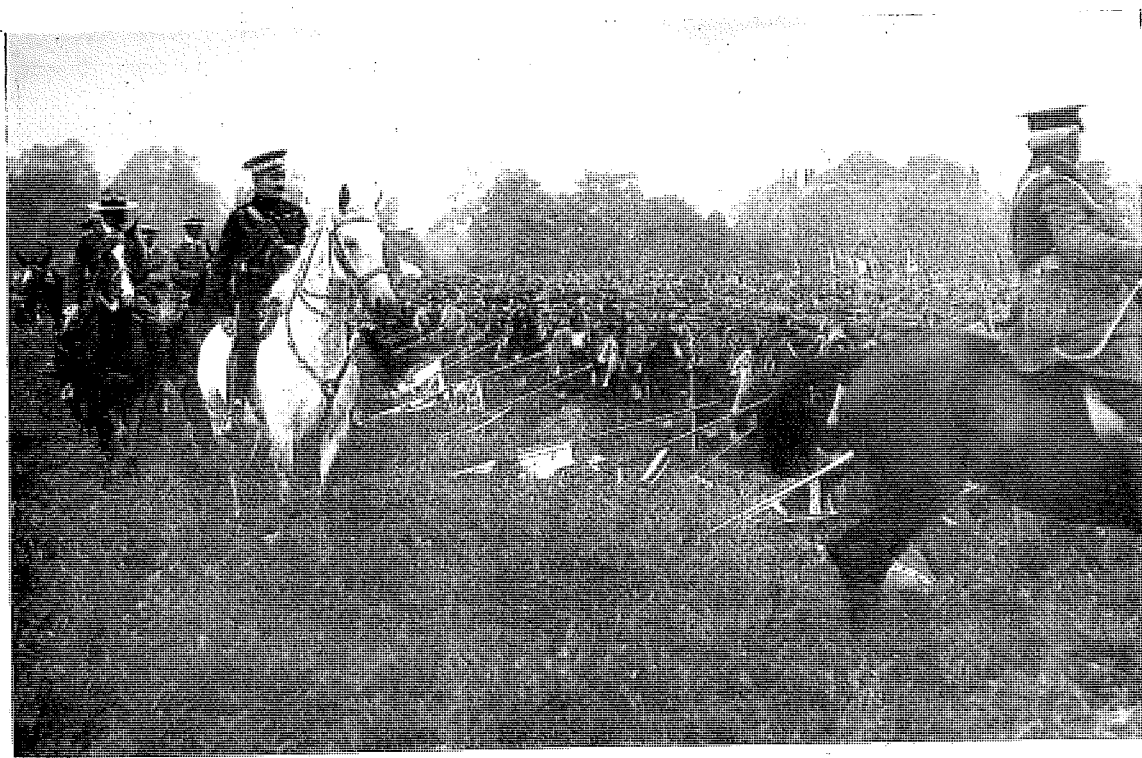
The Scene in the Park.

Those who were present in the park during the afternoon will not readily forget the splendid spectacle they witnessed. The morning had broken grey and forbidding, and it looked as though the review would be carried out under dripping skies. But shortly after mid-day the rain clouds melted away,

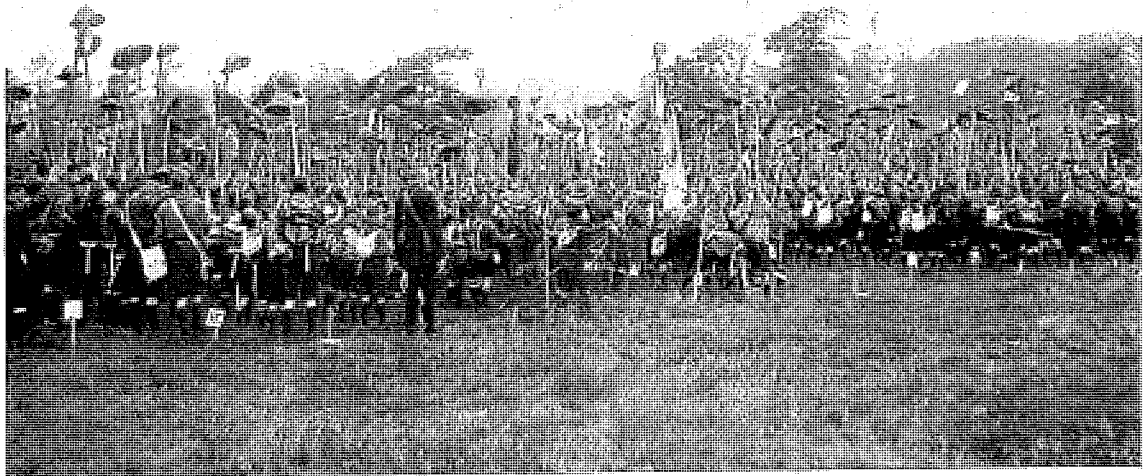
and the gathering took place under ideal conditions. No better spot could have been chosen for the Rally than Perry Hall Park. The gentle, well-wooded slopes with which it is surrounded made a charming background for the picture on which the eye rested when the last troop had marched on to the ground, and taken up their position. The "gathering" itself was a wonderful sight to witness. Shortly before three o'clock the spectators caught the sound of fifes and drums, of bugles, and the skirling of the pipes; and then, from each side of the parade ground the Scouts marched on, and the Rally had commenced. Troop after troop, with banners and flags waving, made to their positions, and it was not until nearly an hour had passed that the foreground was filled in, and the picture was complete. The great feature of the Rally was its cosmopolitan character. Not only was every part of the United Kingdom represented, but Australia, South Africa, Canada, Gibraltar, and the Straits Settlements; the United States, France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Poland, Sweden, Holland, and China. The representatives of these widely separated countries had with them their national, as well as their troop flags, and these made brilliant points of colour against the fresh green of the background, and formed a striking contrast to the khaki-coloured mass. The most prominent and beautiful flag of all was that carried at the head of the Shanghai troop—a dark blue flag, on which was worked a great golden dragon, a present to the troop from the Chinese ladies who had made it.

The Inspection.

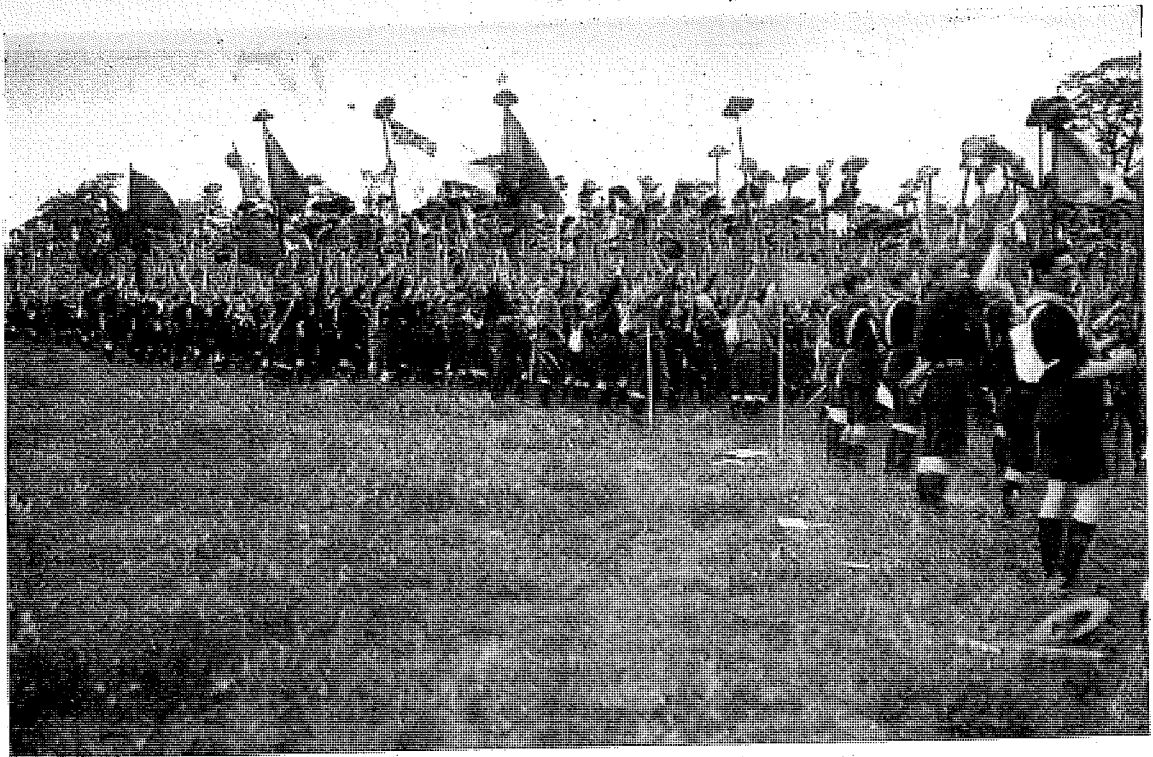
It was shortly after half-past-three that the Prince rode on to the parade ground, attended by his equerry, and accompanied by the Chief Scout, the Chief Commissioner,



The Inspection.



Hats on Staves Three Cheers for the King



Three Cheers for Prince Arthur

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The Rush.

the Deputy Chief Commissioner, and the Commissioner for Wales. Sir Herbert Plumer was in command of the Rally. Immediately the Prince appeared the Scouts, who had been at ease, sprang to the alert, the Royal Salute was signalled, troop flags were lowered, the band played the National Anthem, and all ranks saluted. The troops came to the alert again, and a delightful picture was presented for just one moment, as all flags were raised before the order to stand at ease was given. This, indeed, was one of the most impressive sights of the afternoon.

Whilst the inspection was in progress, the public were entertained to music by the pipers, the Rifle Brigade band, and the band of the Perthshire troop, whose miniature kettle-drummer was the cause of much merriment.

His Royal Highness first inspected the King's Scouts and Life-savers, and then passed on to inspect the various divisions. Each division came to the alert, and saluted; and then, as it seemed to the sightseers, without any signal or order being given, hats were doffed and raised aloft on the poles, and a tremendous outburst of cheering came from those 25,000 lads. It went from right to left of the line, and then back again, and produced such a thrilling volume of sound as has seldom, if ever, been heard in Birmingham before.

The Charge.

The cheering broke out afresh when the inspection was concluded, and the Prince rode back to the saluting base. Then came the sight of the afternoon. There was a moment of silence, and this was broken by the Scouts' call on the bugle, followed by the charge. The King's Scouts and Life-savers sprang to the alert, and then the whole parade dashed forward at top speed, waving their flags and poles,

the while each troop yelled their particular patrol calls at their loudest, producing an effect that was weirdly fascinating. At the line of the King's Scouts and Life-savers the rush came suddenly to the halt, and then to the alert, the tremendous volume of sound stopped on the instant, and the silence that followed was so intense as to be almost material. This was the climax of the afternoon; it was a dramatic conclusion to a great gathering.

Sir Herbert Plumer rode forward, and called for three cheers for His Majesty, and the call was responded to by a thunder of cheering, accompanied by the rolling of drums. The Prince next congratulated Sir Herbert Plumer on the Inspection, and the Scouts on their display. Before the Prince rode off he was greeted with another outburst and cheering from the Scouts and public combined, a compliment he acknowledged by saluting.

The scene when the Scouts broke up and dispersed, some troops to their camp, and others to various destinations, was as interesting as anything that took place during the afternoon. Troops crossed and recrossed as though a giant tattoo were in progress, and the air was resonant with the notes of the bugle, and the rolling of drums. Above all was heard the wild music of the pipes, as the Scots moved up to their quarters in the camp.



At the Rally. A good view for a short Scout



Prince Arthur's Smile Prince Arthur. The Chief Scout.

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THE KING'S MESSAGE.

After the great Rally on July 5th, the Chief Scout received the following telegram from Buckingham Palace, in reply to a loyal greeting dispatched to His Majesty :

"Am commanded by the King to congratulate you on the success of the Rally at Birmingham, and to thank you and all the Boy Scouts there assembled for your kind and loyal message."

CHARLES FITZMAURICE,
Equerry-in-Waiting.

A Cosmopolitan Camp.

The Overseas Dominions and Foreign Countries were invited to send two patrols to the Exhibition, and took up the idea with great keenness.

Austrian Poland came first as regards numbers, sending a contingent of over a hundred sturdy lads; while for long distance the Dragon Patrol beat all the rest, for they journeyed for six weeks from Shanghai in order to be present.

There were also Patrols of Scouts, or representatives from—

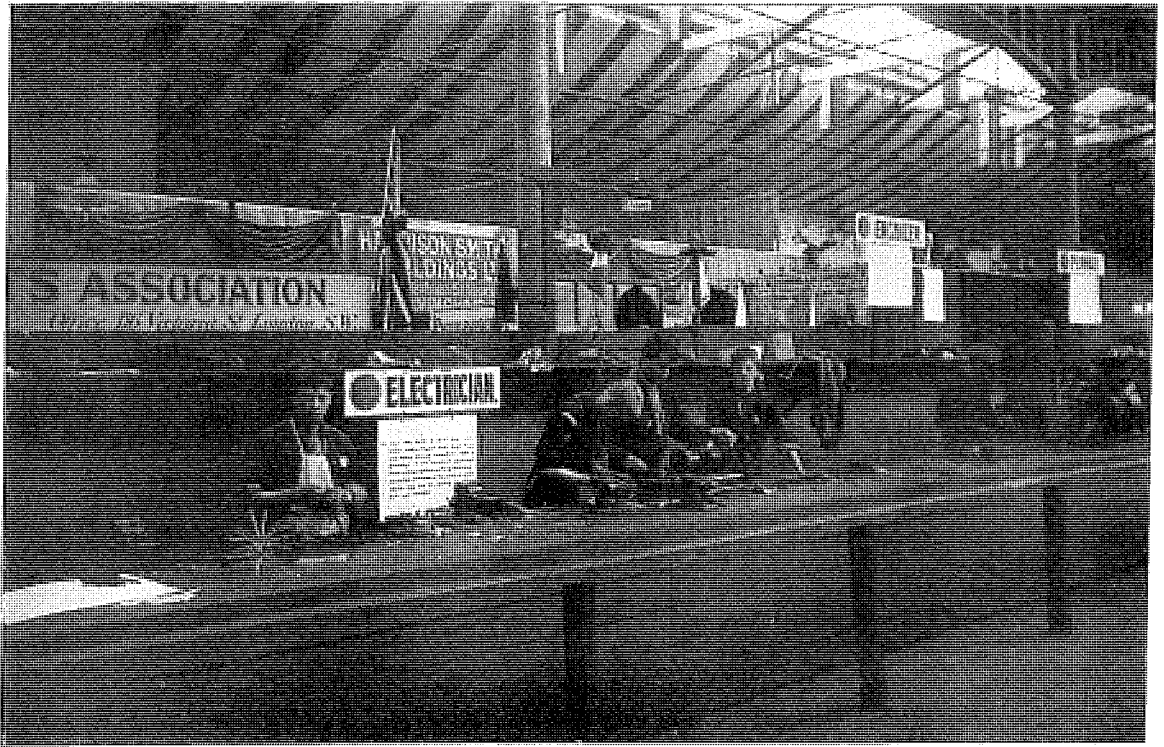
Canada,
Australia,
South Africa,
India,
Gibraltar,
China,
France,
Poland,
Hungary,
Spain,
Norway,
Denmark,
Holland,
United States,
Belgium,
Sweden,
Italy,
Bohemia.

The Camp was indeed a cosmopolitan spot, but to the casual observer there was little difference between the boys—the uniform was the same, they all wore the same Scout badge, although in some cases the familiar *Miscar-de-l'ys* had somewhat assumed the shape of the German Eagle, or some other emblem denoting the nationality of the wearer. Above all, there was the all-pervading Scout spirit of cheeriness and comradeship, which was common to Scouts irrespective of their nationality, language, or creed.



Mr. C. C. Branch. The Rev. R. Wimbush. Mr. P. W. Everett. Mr. C. W. von Roemer. Mr. Knight. Sir Edmond Elles. Col. E. A. Wiggin. Lady Baden-Powell. Mr. Basil Walker. Major Ely. Mr. Eric Walker. Mr. J. Crompton. Mr. Sharsroft. Q.-m. A. Ridley. Mr. Goodban. Mr. McNab. — Capt. Labouchere Hillyer. Col. Ulick de Burgh.

A Camp Group



The Electrician, the Engineer, and the Plumber Sections

Wireless.

Boy Scouts have taken up Wireless Telegraphy with great keenness, and there are now a large number of troops with their own wireless apparatus and a staff of operators. Some have fixed stations, while others take about with them portable apparatus which they can erect and get into working order in a wonderfully short time. Several troops in various parts of the country brought their apparatus to Birmingham, and stations were erected at Bingley Hall, at the Edgbaston Reservoir two miles away; at Perry Hall Park which is about four miles from the Hall, and at various other places in the neighbourhood. These were all in touch with one another and messages and orders were sent between these places by the Scout operators.

The Inquisitive Newspaper Man.

A newspaper man in search of a story lighted upon the Perry Hall camp, and thus describes his encounter with a Scout from north of the Tweed, who, like most of his countrymen, was sparing with his words. However, this does not seem to have affected the length of his story, for he dragged a few words out of the canny Scot and filled up the remaining space at his disposal with his soliloquies on them.

"I approached a boy who was leaning on a railway bridge at Perry Hall Park where thousands of Scouts are encamped. He had a dozen or so badges on his arm, shields as I thought for his vaccination marks. I asked him politely what they signified, and with a diffident air and a Scots accent, he explained that the badge bearing a cock's head meant he was proficient in the management of

poultry; the forked-lightning badge signified an acquaintance with electricity; the grill denoted his talent for cooking; the rose, his knowledge of horticulture; the crossed guns, his ability to score 60 out of a possible 100 at 50 yards with a miniature rifle; the harp, his musicianly achievements; and the—but there I interrupted the Napoleonic narrative.

“‘You seem to know a great deal,’ I said. ‘Perhaps you can tell me the true story of the Boy Scouts.’”

“‘Weel, sir, I canna tell ye, on’y it’s just g-r-r-rand!’”

“So I left him watching and waiting to do a good turn to the railway points.

“All the same, I think I got the story of the Boy Scout from him. If you take his phrase, ‘It’s just grand,’ and you apply it to the motives and the growth of the Boy Scouts, you will not be far wrong.”

A Bold Experiment.

Those responsible for the Imperial Scout Exhibition made a bold experiment when they persuaded a large number of people in the neighbourhood of Birmingham to allow Boy Scouts to the total number of over a thousand to be billeted upon them for the week; but the experiment proved successful in every way, practically the only complaint being that of a hostess who regretted that the boys did not eat as much as she had expected. Tents, summer arbour, lofts, coachhouses, and many other places were called into use to house the boys, and among the whole of the contingent receiving hospitality, there was not one boy left behind on account of ill-health.

Message from the Spanish Scouts.

“The Spanish Scouts feel great pleasure in being among their brothers, the splendid English Boy Scouts.

“At this great meeting of boyhood we feel that there is something grand, something really inexplicable, something of which the purpose will be to contribute materially towards universal fraternity.

“The work commenced by the celebrated General Baden-Powell is so great, that we—the most modest of all in numbers—fired with his grand idea, have given a great proof of energy unknown up to now in our country, by creating in less than one year our patriotic association, and coming to this great Rally in Birmingham to represent 8,000 Spanish Scouts.

“Spain and the whole world owe an immense debt of gratitude to the illustrious creator, Baden-Powell, and to the great British Empire which has so magnificently followed his lead.

“In the name of Spain we cry with enthusiasm, ‘Long Live England!’”

A Cambridge Scout's Account of the Event.

“The camp was at Perry Hall Park, two miles from the city, and what a grand sight it presented, with its rows on rows of tents. It was fine. On our arrival, after putting our beds right, my chum and I went to a large tent and wrote post-cards home. Then we found the canteen and had some tea. It was the largest tent I have ever seen, and they gave us a splendid tea—plenty both to eat and drink.

"The Exhibition at Bingley Hall was very interesting. The boys printed a paper called 'The Daily Scout,' which gave a record of events at the Exhibition, including reports of speeches at the opening ceremony, results of sports, etc. I brought a copy home with me. The concert given by the Lord Mayor's own troop was very good. Every badge was represented by a stall. The 'Daily Mirror' elephant was there, and we saw, too, the Chief Scout's wedding present, a beautiful motor-car.

"What fine trams there are at Birmingham! They are electric, and go very quickly. I had a lot of rides on them, and I wished we had some like them at Cambridge.

"The review on Saturday was the greatest thing of all. Prince Arthur and B.P. inspected 25,000 of us. I shall never forget how we all put our hats on our staves and cheered till we were hoarse.

"In the evening we went in the Exhibition and saw the displays and the fountain. We got back to camp at half-past ten, after an interesting and jolly day. We met several Birmingham boys, and, although they talk rather funny, they were very friendly, and if they ever come to Cambridge we will give them a good time. I like Birmingham; it must be nice to live in a busy city.

"I was sorry when Sunday morning came and we had to say 'Good-bye.' We gave them a good cheer when the train steamed out. Half-way home we sang hymns to the accompaniment of a comb and paper. We kicked up a big noise. I arrived home at half-past one. It is good to be a Scout."

What Birmingham thought of the Scouts.

The following letter was received by the Chief Scout from the Lord Mayor of Birmingham :

Dear Sir Robert,

"Before you leave Birmingham I should like, on behalf of the citizens, to express their appreciation of the excellent conduct of the Boy Scouts during their stay in the City. Considering the very large numbers attending the Rally and the Exhibition, I think it is noteworthy that no trouble of any kind has occurred. In fact, the bearing of the lads is a first-class testimonial to the excellent training they have received under your organisation. I trust that the gathering has met with all the success that you desire.

Yours very truly,

ERNEST MARTINEAU,

Lord Mayor of Birmingham."

How Sunday was spent.

Sunday proved to be a by no means uneventful day at the Scouts' big camp at Perry Hall. Arrangements had been made for holding a church parade in camp, and under the direction of Lord Hampton, these were carried out satisfactorily, although rain somewhat curtailed the services held in the open. The Nonconformist Scouts had a service in one of the marquees, and the Roman Catholics attended Mass in good numbers. The Jewish boys went into Birmingham to public worship. There was a large attendance at the Church of England service, held at 11 o'clock.

At the close of the service, the Chief Scout inspected the boys present, after which he addressed them. Having expressed his pleasure at seeing so many Scouts present, Sir Robert said he congratulated all who took part in the previous day's review on their conduct. Prince Arthur of Connaught had been much impressed by it, and wished him to tell them that he was very pleased with all he saw. What struck Prince Arthur most was the way the Scouts stood—they bore themselves like old soldiers. The charge and everything else were well done. The boys were punctual in their places. He had also heard they had been behaving themselves well whilst in camp. He was pleased to be able to say these things to them. It was different from three or four years ago. It showed that Scouts had learnt discipline.

He had noticed them in the streets, and seen how they behaved as all Scouts should, and was very pleased to see it. He wanted them to go on as they were doing. Let them make themselves capable of being Scout patrol leaders, so that they could take on other boys, and make them into good Scouts, too. If they did that they would be helping the movement, and helping him by spreading the movement.

Sir Robert then thanked the boys for their beautiful present of a motor-car to his wife and himself on the occasion of their marriage. It was a delightful thing to get a present from so many thousands of Scouts. Their thanks were due to Lord Glanusk and his staff for the way in which the camp had been provided for. It had entailed a tremendous lot of hard work.

Afterwards Sir Robert Baden-Powell gathered around him the Scout-masters, and briefly expressed his appreciation of their work. The attendance, he said, had exceeded all expectations.

An inspection of the foreign detachments of Scouts concluded the morning's events.

At the Cathedral.

Yesterday afternoon the Cathedral Church of St. Philip was crowded with Scout contingents, when a special service, at which the Bishop (Dr. Wakefield) delivered an address, was held. During the service the Scout's hymn ("Father of all, we come to Thee") was sung, and at the close the National Anthem.

The Bishop said the first object of the service was to give the Scouts a welcome on behalf of the religious bodies of the city. "You have had a welcome from the civic authorities," said his lordship. "We give you welcome believing that your movement is making for the true moral greatness of this land. We welcome you, and all connected with your movement, because we are certain that, if it is carried on in the right spirit, it makes for a fit, a disciplined, and a self-sacrificing British and Imperial manhood." The movement, so far, had succeeded so well that it had secured an amount of criticism which came only to the successful. Those things which were unsuccessful were left alone by critics. To him their first attraction lay in their keenness; he had a horror of indifference. The world cried out for interested people, people who were determined to use the fullness of their activity in the cause of righteousness. We needed interested people in our civic life, so that the good government of the town might be ensured. We needed interest and keenness in our religious life, so that each religious body might labour not only for its own advancement, but for the general well-being. We wanted people who felt they were ready to work for God and mankind. The next thing which attracted him was



The Scouts from Poland



The Genial Camp Commandant. Lord Glanusk, Commissioner for Wales.

their discipline. Having to do certain things at a given moment, and in a particular way, was an immense help for life. It gave the habit of discipline. "I cannot imagine you fellows," said the Bishop, "becoming, in the days that lie before you, men who slouch and prop up public-house walls, or who smoke and spit about the streets. We have too many of that kind in England, and I am only too thankful to feel that you are being so trained that, God grant it, that will never happen to you." Another thing which attracted him was their helpfulness. A refined and disciplined nature must be helpful. Politeness, after all, was only the helping of a fellow creature; it must come from desire to show respect, to be of use. A respectful bearing and the proper treatment of age were things which, he was perfectly certain, they were qualifying for. Then there was their spirit of comradeship. In doing their own jobs, and developing their own gifts, they came to see that there was something in the other fellow, and so comradeship grew. Again, there was their law of self-sacrifice. It was the law of Christ; let them study Him, and they would understand what true self-sacrifice meant. Through Him they could help the world. Let them look up, not down; forward, not backwards; out, not in. Let them "lend a hand." He felt they were under God in all they did. Might the great rally help them to make progress, and might each one of them be the stronger for the time they spent in Birmingham.

The lesson was read by the Rev. S. M. Berry, of Carr's Lane Chapel.

What the Chief Scout thought of it all.



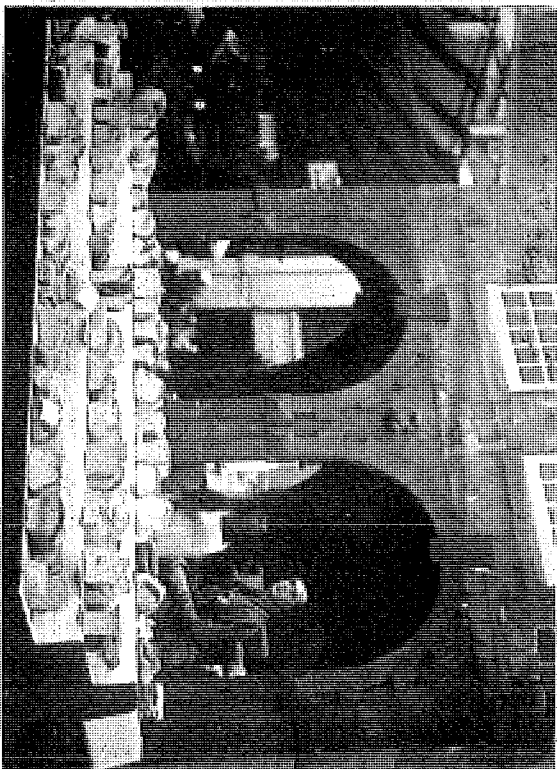
The whole thing was a remarkable success, and marks a big step in the progress of our Movement.

The Exhibition was a wonderful show, and was a surprise to everyone, whether in the Movement or outside it. It proved what boys can do, if you only give them the ambition to work for themselves.

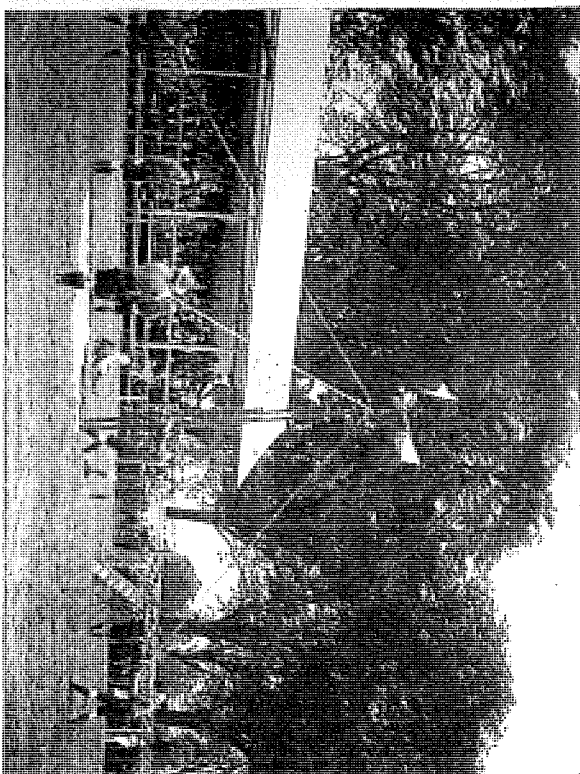
It showed the boys what standards of excellence can be obtained, and what they have to work up to before they can consider themselves in the first flight.

To the public it was an education in showing the results of the Scout training upon the boys; and these were as evident outside the Exhibition as within it. The behaviour and appearance of the boys in the streets, and in their camps and lodgings, drew praise and sympathy from all quarters, from the Lord Mayor downwards.

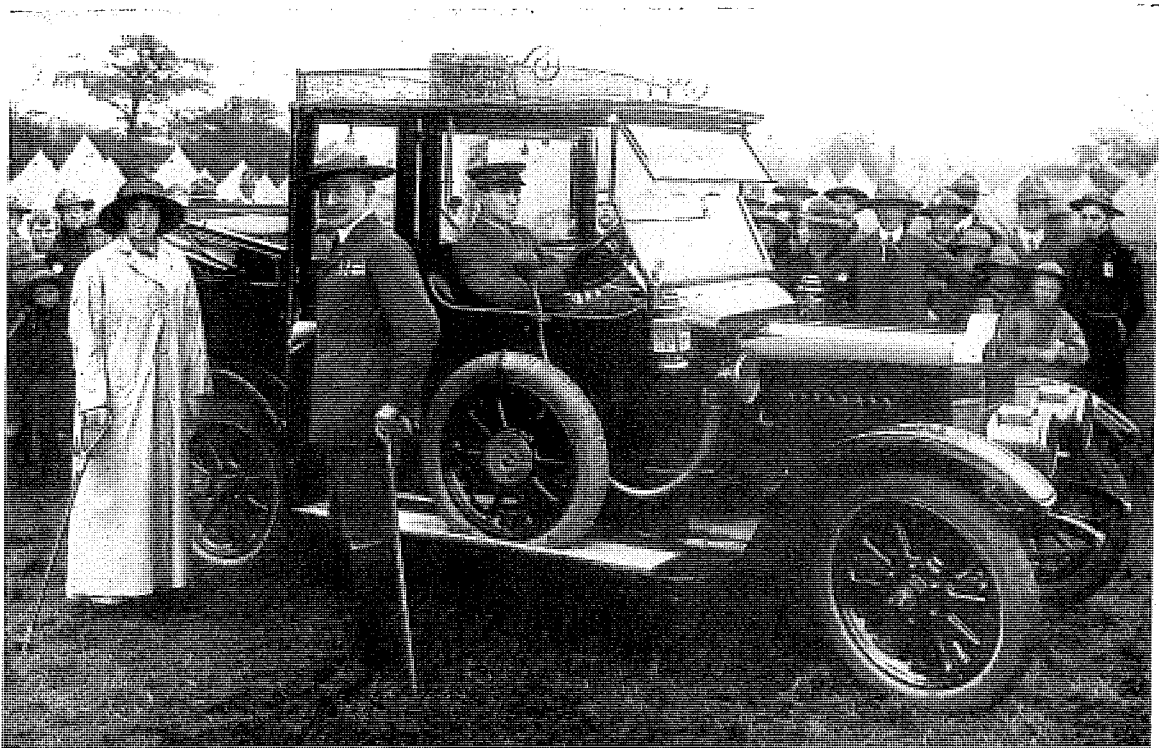
The Rally, as a spectacle, was all that could be desired and amply repaid the trouble expended on its preparation. It evidently impressed the vast crowd of spectators who witnessed it. Not the least striking feature in it was the presence of so many oversea detachments in the ranks. Representatives from almost all the British Dominions and Colonies were there; and also many smart contingents from



The Cook-house, where many appetising meals were cooked by the boys every day.



A Signalling Tower.



The Car presented by the Scouts as a Wedding Present to Sir Robert and Lady Baden-Powell.

Continental countries, such as Poland, Hungary, France, Italy, Spain, Norway, and Sweden. This must have brought home to the onlookers the possibilities which lie before the Movement in bringing about a closer personal touch between the different branches of the British race, and a better understanding and sympathy with other nations through the comradeship of our brotherhood.

The Chief Scout's Message to the People of Birmingham.

"Before leaving Birmingham at the close of the Boy Scout Exhibition, I should like to say to the people of Birmingham how grateful I am for the very kindly support which they, each in their degree, accorded to the Scouts; from the free-spoken mechanic who, in summing up the Exhibition, said, 'There doesn't seem to be a ——— thing that these kids can't do,' to those who so generously allowed the boys to camp in their grounds—all seem to have shown the kindest sympathy towards us. They appear to have recognised the fact that the Scout Movement is one intended to help the boys by a practical education, on the top of their school instruction, to get a fair start off in life. It is the want of some method to that end in the present national system which allows so many of the poorer lads to drift into unemployment and unemployableness. Our efforts in this direction have already met with an unexpected amount of success, and we are therefore endeavouring to expand our work among the poorer classes in the great cities.

"The Boy Scouts are non-military, non-sectarian, non-political, non-class, and have therefore received the sympathy

of every kind of supporter—some in most unlooked-for quarters.

“In Birmingham we have between 3,000 and 4,000 Boy Scouts; we ought to have twice that number, and could easily have them to-morrow—the boys are eager to join—if only we had the men to organise them. That is our present need. Men are coming into our brotherhood by hundreds elsewhere, but in Birmingham they are a little behindhand at the moment. I have, however, every hope, after this exhibition of what the boys can do for themselves, the men of Birmingham will come forward to help them.

“It only means a little sacrifice of time, which would otherwise be thrown away on golf, or watching cricket or football, to do a grand work for one’s country, and the future generation in a way that is full of attraction and interest the moment it is taken up.

“I should indeed be glad to hear from those who care to join us through the Commissioner for Birmingham, Lord Hampton (Wareley Court, Kidderminster).

“ROBERT BADEN-POWELL.
“Birmingham, July 9.”

Sea Scouts.

The impression left on one’s mind by the display on the Edgbaston Reservoir by the Sea Scouts was that they would be useful lads to have about in case of misfortune at sea. They seem to know just what should be done in an emergency, and, further, just how to do it.

Within about two hours, one saw ships capsize, and their drowning crews rescued by swimmers and boats; lads fall overboard, and promptly pulled to safety and resuscitation, by first aid; crews of sinking ships saved by the aid of the rocket apparatus, and the breeches buoy; and, to complete the programme, a combat for the possession of a whale. Indeed, a thoroughly comprehensive list of events.

The principal feature of the display, of course, was the inspection by the Chief Sea Scout, Admiral Lord Charles Beresford. Many who were unable to see much of the display expressed themselves content to have had a glimpse of the great sailor.

Lord Charles arrived at the Reservoir soon after four o’clock, and was enthusiastically cheered by a large crowd. He at once stepped into the motor launch *Albatross*, and accompanied by Sir Robert Baden-Powell and other Scout officers, made a tour of the fleet, which was divided into three parties in different bays of the Reservoir.

He returned to land for tea, and at five o’clock set out again, accompanied in the launch by Sir Edmond Elles, Chief Commissioner; Lieutenant Hordern, R.N., and other Scout officers.

The launch took up its position in the centre of the Reservoir, and at the signal given by Sea Scout Helms (a

possessor of the coveted "Silver Wolf" decoration) the three divisions of the fleet closed in around the Chief Sea Scout. The scene was remarkable when Lord Charles Beresford stood in the stern of his launch and addressed the Sea Scouts, who clustered round in about fifty boats.

"I am very proud to be here, as Chief Sea Scout, to inspect you, to appreciate you, and to give you a few of the views which I hold with regard to the excellent institution which you have taken up," said Lord Charles. "They must remember, he went on, that the inclination of all British people was towards the sea. The sea was our frontier, and we came from a race of sailors. These Scouts were trying to learn the tricks of the sea, and the tricks of the sea require independence of action, readiness, resource in time of danger.

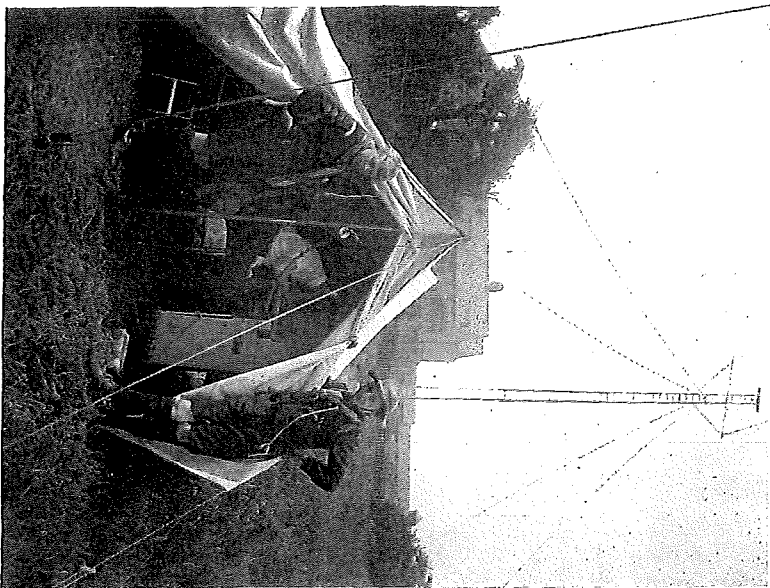
They must always be ready and prepared, and always endeavour to help the weak. There was a great deal they could learn on such a piece of water as they were on that day, and one of the most important things was how to swim, so that they could save a comrade, if necessary.

"Remember all lives are precious," said the Chief Sea Scout, earnestly. "Do what you can to help people along in life, endeavour to help those who are weak, and those who are poor. Always be kind and sympathetic to those below you, and respectful to those above."

The Sea Scouts then gave ringing cheers for their distinguished chief, and rowed smartly back to their bays to commence operations.

The Chief Sea Scout took the keenest interest in the proceedings, and when he returned to the landing-stage he was enthusiastically cheered.

"They've done splendidly," he remarked to one of the Scout officers.



The Sea Scouts' Wireless Station.

Sight-Seeing.

In spite of the crowded nature of the week in Birmingham, the Scouts who came from so far were determined not to miss the opportunity of seeing the sights of this famous metropolis of the Midlands.

Large numbers of them formed themselves into parties and were conducted over the Art Galleries and the University, and some of the biggest manufactories and works. On every occasion they were treated with the greatest kindness by the Directors, and in several cases took their departure the happy possessors of little mementos and trophies of their visit, and expressing their delight at the hospitable way in which they had been entertained. In every case the Directors themselves wrote to express their admiration of the way in which the Scouts had behaved and the great interest they took in everything.

News by Wireless.

The Scouts who edited and printed the "Daily Scout" in the Exhibition were in wireless communication with the Camp and the Sea Scout Camp, both some miles away in different directions, and were able to print the latest news "from the front."

Prizes.

£100 was given by a London Daily paper for prizes in the Ambulance Section, £20 of this was given to the best troop for the purchase of a regular Ambulance Equipment, and £80 was put in the hands of a trustee on behalf of the two best individual Scouts. The money is being expended in helping them to start their careers, one as a Mining Engineer, the other in the laboratories of the Clinical Research Society.

Apprenticeships.

Many useful and valuable prizes were given by public-spirited newspapers, firms, societies and individuals for the

numerous competitions. In a good many of the sections, the winners were awarded with free apprenticeships with well-known firms, which had been offered by the Directors.

A Professional Man's Opinion.

A Surveyor who has a large business in Birmingham, after looking at the Exhibits in the Surveyors' Section, came up to the Secretary and asked if he could be put in touch with one of the Scout Exhibitors. He wished to take him into the office and teach the boy surveying at his own expense.

Over 90,000 people visited the Exhibition Rally and Sea Scout Display.

(From the Chief Scout's speech at the Scoutmasters' Conference in Bingley Hall):—

"On no other occasion in the history of the world have representatives of a Boys' Organisation gathered together from so many Countries...."

An Incident.

A jolly Irish Scout turned up at the Exhibition—he appeared to have come "on his own," at any rate he arrived alone a day too soon and without telling anyone in Birmingham, but he felt sure he would find a shake down somewhere. He just went up to the Secretary and said: "I've come—can I do anything to help you?" "Yes," he was told, "some Scouts from abroad have turned up rather early. Just find them and see if you can make them feel at home." They were the Shanghai boys, and by a strange coincidence the Irish Scout was going out to Shanghai to start work in a business there in a few months time.

Before he left Birmingham that Irish boy had half-a-dozen friends who were going to look out for his arrival at Shanghai and give him a welcome, and he had already signed on as a member of the 1st Shanghai Troop.



Lord Charles Beresford
(The Chief Sea Scout).

Sir Robert Baden-Powell
(The Chief Scout)



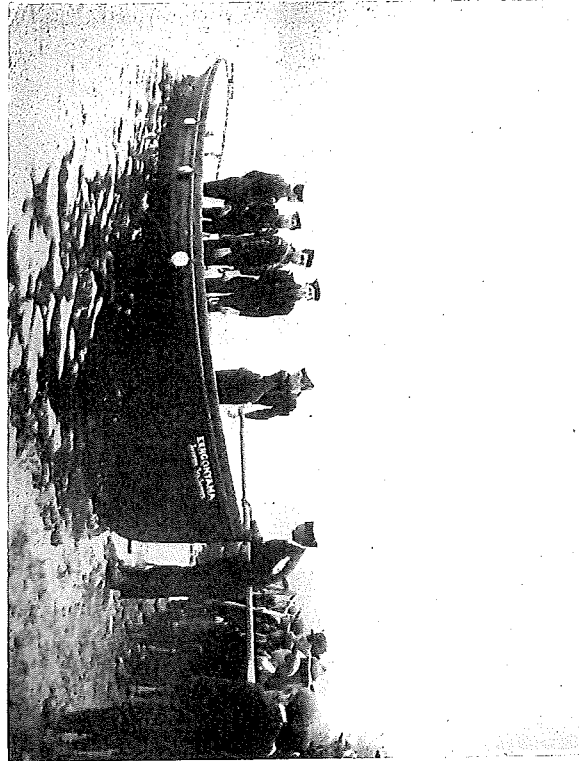
A group of Sea Scouts. Note their wireless station in the background.



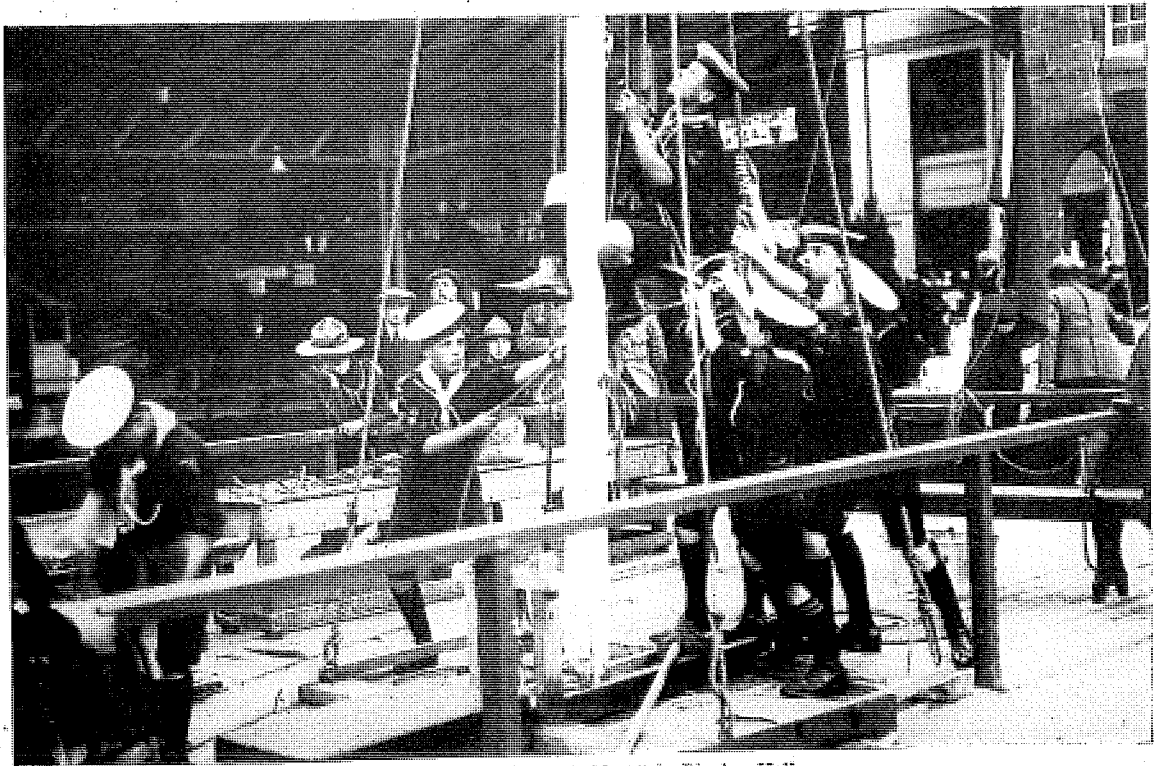
A Sea Scout signalling outside Bingley Hall

Original in the Boston University Libraries' Howard Gottlieb Archival Research Center

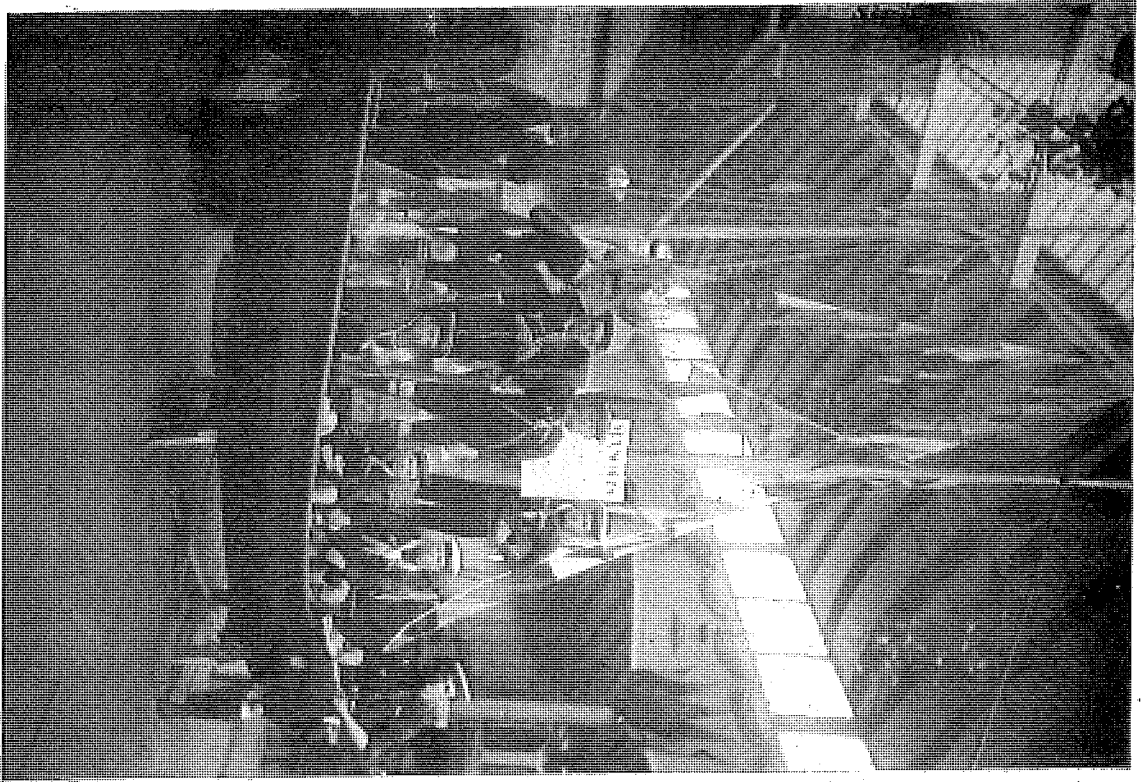
Some Sea Scouts at the Reservoir.



Original in the Boston University Libraries' Howard Gottlieb Archival Research Center



The Good Ship "Crow's Nest," in Bingley Hall.



A more distant view of the "Crow's Nest,"
A boat built by some Birmingham Scouts in the foreground.

Original in the Boston University Libraries' Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center