

# PART BOY SCOUTS OF WORLD WILL PLAY IN GREAT EUROPEAN CONFLICT

Much Interest Is Evidenced Concerning Possible Action of About Three Hundred Thousand of These Youthful Warriors—They May Become Valuable Aids to the Embattled Nations From Many Points of View.

New York.—How great a part will Boy Scouts of the world play in the great war of nations staged in Europe? That they will play some part has been demonstrated already. Hardly had the Germans invaded Belgium than there came the report across seas that Belgian Boy Scouts to the number of about 30 had captured several German spies and escorted them to headquarters. A few days later this report appeared:

"The Germans are using Boy Scouts as spies, according to reports from Belgian army officers. Complete plans of the Dutch fortress at Maestricht were found on a German Boy Scout."

Nor is this all. That Europe had conceded the possibilities of the Boy Scout organizations in time of war was demonstrated when, some years ago, the French Peace society invited Sir Robert Baden-Powell and 6,000 Boy Scouts to "invade" France and march on Paris. It was merely a whimsical way of showing the friendly relations existing between the English and French nations.

But soon after the announcement was made there came a terrific protest, principally from military men. The invaders were termed as "boy spies of Britain," and the fact that the march was finally permitted did not lessen the hostility to it in certain quarters.

Organized essentially in the interests of the boys themselves and without the idea of war, these young scouts may become valuable aids to the embattled nations. Those who believe

## HAS LIVED IN WASHINGTON



Mrs. Adolph Miller.

Washington.—Mrs. Adolph Miller is the wife of Doctor Miller, one of the members of the new federal reserve board. Mrs. Miller has already spent one winter in Washington for her husband before his selection as a member of the new board was assistant secretary of the interior department. The Millers are natives of California.

## MOTOR COMPANIES TO PAY

House of Lords Says They Must Keep Up Roads Which They Use.

London.—The select committee of the house of lords agreed to the principle of the Middlesex county council's bill and for the first time established the precedent that motor omnibuses shall pay directly for the maintenance of roads.

The bill enables the Middlesex county council to require motor omnibus companies to give access to their books and make returns of the mileage run by their cars on the new Great Western road and to charge the companies three-eighths of a penny per car mile toward the expense of maintaining the road.

This clause, which was strenuously opposed by the omnibus companies, has already passed the house of commons.

It was stated in evidence that damage to roads by motor omnibuses has cost the Middlesex county council some hundreds of thousands of pounds.

this point to the statement accredited to Major General Wood that "practically all wars have been fought by boys."

French and English scouts have played an indirect part in the war. In the former nation they have been detailed to carry provisions to the sick and wounded, care for old women, helpless men and children, and aid in reaping the crops upon which the men at the front must depend. In the latter nation they have been detailed to guard bridges and, on occasions, aid the police in preserving order.

Everything in the Boy Scout's training appears to have fitted him for war. He can march, find his way through dense woods, signal to his comrades either by the telegraph or the signal flag, pitch a camp and generally rely upon himself. He can swim, shoot and run probably with more swiftness than a heavier and older soldier.

No less an authority than Ludwig S. Dale of New York city, one of the national authorities on the movement and a close friend of Baden-Powell, has declared that in time of war the Boy Scouts' drill work and training in signaling would fit them for military service.

Of the Boy Scouts in Europe, England has more than any of her sister nations. Her organization is 200,000 strong. Germany comes next with an organization of 50,000, drilled in the same way, although they go by the name of "Pathfinders." Austria-Hungary has 15,000 scouts, and her enemy, France, has 8,000. Russian Poland alone has 8,000 scouts, the total number in the empire not being known. Servia has 4,000 scouts.

Scandinavia, which, of course, is not in the war, has 30,000 Boy Scouts. The remainder of the European nations

About six years ago, Baden-Powell, the English military man, upon learning that out of England's 3,000,000 boys few more than a quarter of a million were enabled to have proper care and training, began to think seriously of trying to be of aid. Mere money had been tried before in various "uplift" endeavors. There must be something new. Thompson Seton, the writer of animals' haunts and habits, had seen the necessity for the same thing in America and he had been experimenting. He had called the groups of lads he had gathered together and trained in woods like "The Woodcraft Indians." Dan Beard, then an editor, evolved another society called "The Sons of Daniel Boone," afterward "The Boy Pioneers of America."

It is really difficult to pin the badge of honor for first thinking of the scheme upon any one man, but it was General Baden-Powell who, with fine experience as a constructionist, set about the practical plans of the Boy Scout movement.

He had shortly before the organization was conceived, published a text book on the subject of scouting for soldiers. This book was utilized by various boys' clubs and private schools with a surprising degree of interest, so its author was encouraged to devise some wide-reaching plan for all boys, whether belonging to clubs, going to private schools or living in the top of a tent or on some lonely farm. The general, a colonel of the Boer war, under Lord Edward Cecil, then got together some English

Boys in Surrey. He told them something of what the boys in Mafeking, Africa, had done during the struggle in the Transvaal, how Lord Cecil had talked to them of scout tactics, drilled them, and, giving them uniforms, made them, the proud messengers of the handful of weary men on the long advance line of Mafeking.

The general needn't have told his young audience how eager for duty these heirs of their fathers and elder brothers the British boys on the veldt were, as they rode on bicycles from fort to fort with messages, acted as orderlies, and never once shirked the dangers of a real firing line in a real war. The boys, as they listened, to the story of '99 and the African plains were bubbling over with desire to learn not only something of camp life during a battle, but the secrets



of nature which their big brothers told them were hidden in the woods and streams of "Merry England."

Baden-Powell's idea was to "teach the boys to teach themselves character." The word "scout" to young America suggests Fenimore Cooper and forgotten Indian trials, but young England has Kipling as a reminder that the frontier is still a pride in their king's endeavor, that exploring and colonizing is one of England's policies, and that border life is just as stirring and as necessary for the glory of the union jack as when Sir Walter Raleigh lived. Feudal knights too, and chivalrous scouts of peace are heroes held before them, and there is little doubt that knight errantry in all its romance and color has had much to do with the propaganda of the movement in Great Britain.

Nearly all the training in all countries is given out of doors. Stars and moon, rain and sun, birds and butterflies, each have their part in the new knowledge gained. Tracks and tracking are studied and to become even a "tenderfoot" in the language of the scouts, a boy must prove, among other things, that he can trail in 25 minutes an obscure track half a mile long. Before he can rise beyond the "tenderfoot" stage he must show that he can make a fire out in the open, using not more than two matches and there be able to cook a certain amount of meat and potatoes without other cooking utensils than his "billy can."

London.—A missing son, who is entitled to a fortune if he claims it, is mentioned in the will of Mr. William Rouse Whittingham Upjohn, of Guestling Hill, near Hastings, who died in London last May, leaving £46,185 gross.

He directed that if his trustees receive no claim from his son during the seven years following his death, nor any reliable information as to the existence of his son or any children of his, they are to presume that his son died in his father's lifetime without leaving issue.

Marion, Ky.—A young Marion man announces the invention of a process for solving the fuel problem. By means of a special motor and generator he claims his ability to produce pure hydrogen gas from a decomposition of water at the low cost of two cents per cubic foot.

## IN CHARGE OF BRITISH TROOP TRAINS



An American railroad man is directing the work of transporting British troops on the Great Eastern railway in England. He is Henry W. Thornton, who went from New York recently to take charge of the affairs of the Great Eastern.

In a letter to George D. Blau of New Castle, Pa., he writes:

"It is a wonderful but terrible experience for me. Terrible, not that we are in danger personally, but because it is pathetic to see the chap you dined gayly with last night pick up his rifle, kiss his family good-by and calmly join his colors.

"The railways of England have been taken over by the government, but are operated by the existing staff and men. An executive committee of general managers acts as a medium between the war office and the roads and issues the necessary instructions for movements. We have worked out all our mobilization schedules and are the troops. We are doing our job on the Great Eastern splendidly, and I am proud of my gang. They are up on their toes and act like a bunch of Americans. The entire outfit is pulling like one man.

"I saw the German ambassador off yesterday. He is Prince Lichnowsky. The princess, his suite and about two hundred Germans accompanied him. It was a pathetic and historical sight. Many people were on hand. The ambassador and the princess arrived by motor. They passed between the rows of people to the platform, where the train started in absolute silence. There was not a hiss or 'boo.' Not a foot moved. There was nothing but a deadly, uncanny silence."

## STICKS TO HIS POST



Hon. Myron T. Herrick, American ambassador to France at the time of the outbreak of the war, though he has been joined during the past week by his successor, whose appointment was made previous to the start of hostilities, was the only diplomat to remain in Paris after the French government removed its headquarters to Bordeaux. Mr. Herrick has been requested by the United States government to remain at the Paris embassy for a time, until his successor can get the run of affairs, and he has consented to do so, believing he can best serve the interests of the United States by remaining and looking after the welfare of Americans. Many banking institutions which have the money of Americans on deposit would have transferred their cash if he had not remained. In the event of the surrender of Paris Mr. Herrick, as the representative of the most powerful neutral power, will be of great help to the French. At present he is here, and Robert Bacon, the former ambassador, Mrs. Herrick is also remaining with him in Paris. She has been ill, but according to recent dispatches is recovering. Mrs. Herrick is a native of Dayton, Ohio.

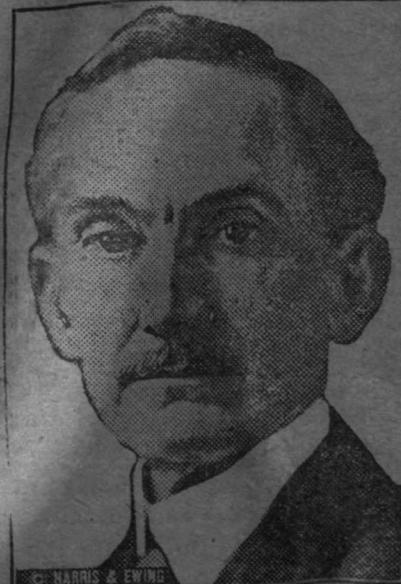
## NATURAL BORN FIGHTING MAN



Winston Churchill, first lord of the British admiralty, has all the stamp of genius and high daring, and has crowded more into his forty years than any man of his day. He has been through five wars; he has written seven books, one of them being the biography of his father, which ranks among the first half-dozen in the English language; he was first elected to the house of commons as a Conservative, but has been a Liberal minister of the crown for nearly nine years, and he has proved himself one of the most active and powerful as well as sagacious and far-seeing of modern English statesmen. He has journeyed in most parts of the world, spent long months in the saddle, and yet by some process that must be called genius combines the literary style of a ripe scholar with the voracious habits of a man of action. This country he knows well, both by reason of his relationships and his visits here, especially his lecture tours which he undertook after the Boer war when at about the age of twenty-eight.

The key to his character is that he is a soldier. He is a natural born fighting man. He is a true Churchill, very different from his cousin, the present duke of Marlborough, whose heir to the dukedom he was until the birth of the two sons of the present duchess, still remembered as Miss Consuelo Vanderbilt.

## NEW ADJUTANT GENERAL'S RECORD



Gen. Henry P. McCain, the new head of the adjutant general's department of the United States army, has had rather an interesting experience. He was an infantry officer and was serving in Alaska when the Spanish war began. He was sent on the first expedition to the Philippines, and had only engaged in the first brush the troops had in the islands when he fell sick of the fever that affected so many of the Americans when they first went to the tropics. He was invalided home, and had concluded that his army career was over, as he saw little hope of promotion in the future. Then congress passed a law which provided that appointments to the adjutant and inspector general's departments should be by competitive examination. As they say at West Point and Annapolis, McCain began to "bone" for that examination. Being a student, and having been taught how to study at West Point, he was able to pass the best examination and was selected for the adjutant general's corps. He has been to the Philippines twice and served with Gen. Leonard Wood in fighting the Moros.

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