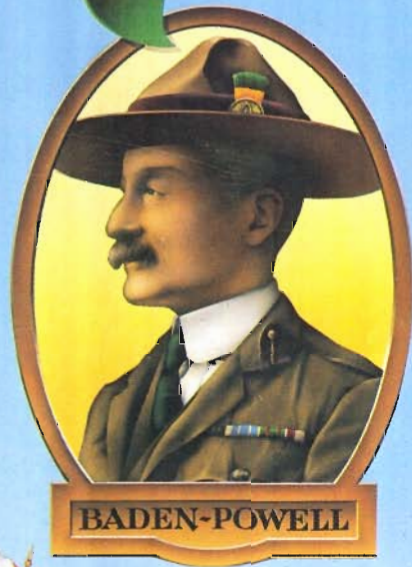


# SCOUTS!

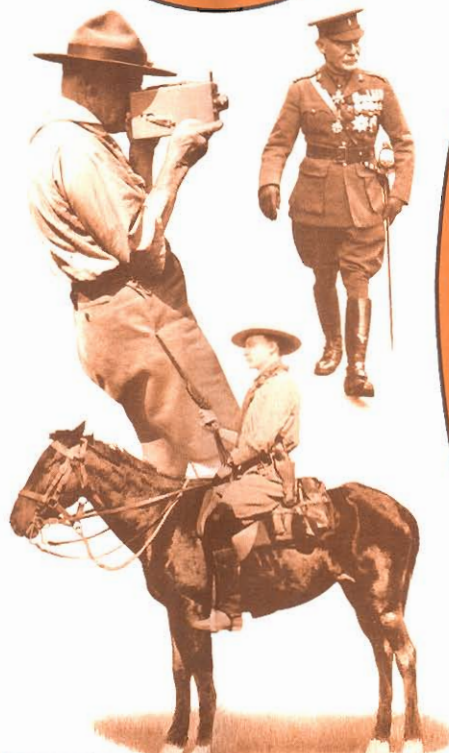
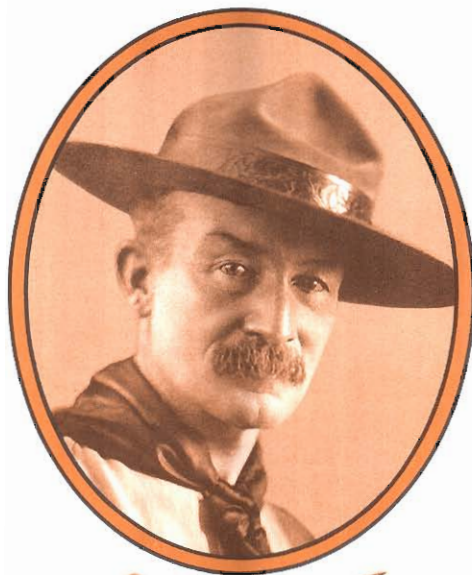


A  
CLEAR HORIZON  
FILM

THE RISE OF THE  
WORLD SCOUTING MOVEMENT



# A ONE HOUR DOCUMENTARY FILM ON THE LIFE OF



**T**oday the image of the Boy Scout hiking and camping, always prepared to do a good deed, is familiar to everyone. But few realize that the rise of the World Scout Movement is a rich and compelling story that ranges from the playing fields of Victorian England to the battlefields of World War II. The Founder of Scouting was only four years old when his father died. But under the influence of his ambitious mother he rose through the ranks of the British military to first achieve world fame as the Hero of Mafeking.

**D**uring 1908 Lt. General Robert S.S. Baden-Powell built character in British youth. To his spontaneous growth of an international movement, he was acclaimed 'B-P' the Chief Scout of the World. Soames, a shy, naive young woman who, through marriage Olave emerged at his side as World Chief Scout to promote Scouting as a Brotherhood for Women.



# OF BADEN-POWELL AND THE ORIGINS OF SCOUTING.



Baden-Powell published a handbook intended to his surprise "Scouting for Boys" touched off the movement of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides who World. Four years later Baden-Powell met Olave who was 32 years his junior. Shortly after their Chief Guide. Together they travelled the globe World Peace.

The film places Scouting against the social and political matrix of the twentieth century. Queen Victoria, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Adolf Hitler and Shirley Temple are among those who weave their way into the story of Scouting. Historic newsreels, rare archival film and B-P's own home movies bring alive the era of Baden-Powell and the origins of Scouting. SCOUTS! is a celebration of the potential of youth that documents the triumphs and tragedies of the Scout ideal. It is a film that will captivate any audience — whether or not they have taken the Scout Oath.



A PRODUCTION OF  
CLEAR HORIZON FILMS INC.

# SCOUTS!

The  
RISE OF  
THE WORLD  
SCOUT  
MOVEMENT



Narrator  
**JOHN NEVILLE**

Written by  
**DAVID RAIN & MICHAEL D. MURPHY**

Music  
**TOM BORSHUK**

• 16 mm  
Colour 56 Minutes •

Produced & Directed by  
**MICHAEL DANA MURPHY**

Made with the co-operation of The Baden-Powell Family  
The Boy Scouts of America  
The Boy Scouts of Canada  
The World Organization of  
The Scouting Movement  
The Scout Association of  
The United Kingdom

Released World-Wide by

*CineVisa*  
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# CBC special tells Boy Scouts founder's story

By Bill Anderson

TORONTO (CP) — Though they have outlasted the British Empire they were created to uphold, Boy Scouts today have an image that suggests it's time to write their history as well.

A CBC-TV special called *Scouts*, to be broadcast June 11, successfully tells the tale of the Boy Scouts, although its upbeat tone, thanks to the participation of the movement's founders, is suspect.

Coincidentally, the film comes to Canadian television just after publication of a book on the subject by American author Michael Rosenthal. In a review of *The Character Factory*, *The New York Times* says Rosenthal describes scouting as trivial and negative, riddled with class prejudice and sexual stereotyping.

However, Canadian producer Michael Murphy, who made the film in 1984 for Clear Horizon Films of Toronto, takes a more charitable approach in *Scouts*, and convincingly shows that behind their image as earnest do-gooders and resourceful firefighters, lies an odd, interesting story.

The story of the Boy Scouts is essentially that of Lord Robert Baden-Powell, a shy officer in the British Empire who preferred the independence of cavalry scouting to the dull regimens of army camp routine.

Serving throughout India and Africa, Baden-Powell was an unknown commander approaching his 50s when the Boer War began in South Africa in 1899, plunging England into a murky struggle that left it disheartened and searching for heroes.

It found one, says the program, in Baden-Powell. His company of men was under seige in a South African town. Rather than wait for the enemy move in, Baden-Powell used tricks and deceptions such as placing phoney mines and moving men about so as to appear a larger force.

To lift morale, the occasional actor would conduct comedy shows "while the Boers looked on from the hills." and Baden-Powell's antics caught on back home, with newspapers calling him a hero.

ceremonial post.

Disgruntled but still looking to serve the Empire, Baden-Powell rewrote his own military manual on cavalry scouting to make it appeal to British boys — whose sloppy upbringing, it was thought, contributed to losses in South Africa.

Disguising his character-building purpose behind games and codes, the show says Baden-Powell "created a child's kingdom to prepare youth for the trials of the adult world, and to allow adults to escape them."

It's publication in 1908 caused a sensation, with boys felling trees in parks and lighting campfires across

the land.

The show interviews scouting veterans and Baden-Powell's surviving family, which gives an impression the effect of the movement is being overstated.

However, by appealing to boys' desire for adventure, the movement did grow rapidly, although problems soon arose of girls wanting to join.

"Baden-Powell feared the inclusion

of girls would turn many boys away from the movement," says the show. "However, he did feel that women had an important role to play as efficient homemakers and cheery companions."

Hence the Girl Guides were created and given over to the stewardship of his sister Agnes, who called her parallel handbook: *What Girls Can Do to Help Build the British Empire*.

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- \* July 8 — Trafalgar Village  
125 Cross Ave., OAKVILLE
- \* Aug. 6 — 150 West Drive, BRAMPTON
- \* Aug. 20 — Pure Food Building  
Canadian National Exhibition
- \* Sept. 9 — To be announced.

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PARENTAL  
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# An interesting peek at scouting's history

BY JOHN HASLETT CUFF

The Globe and Mail

Among the most interesting facts to be learned from the television documentary *Scouts!* (tonight at 8 on CBC) is that the movement's founder, Lord Robert S.S. Baden-Powell, was a big fan of Peter Pan, and he fell in love with a 22-year-old woman when he was 54.

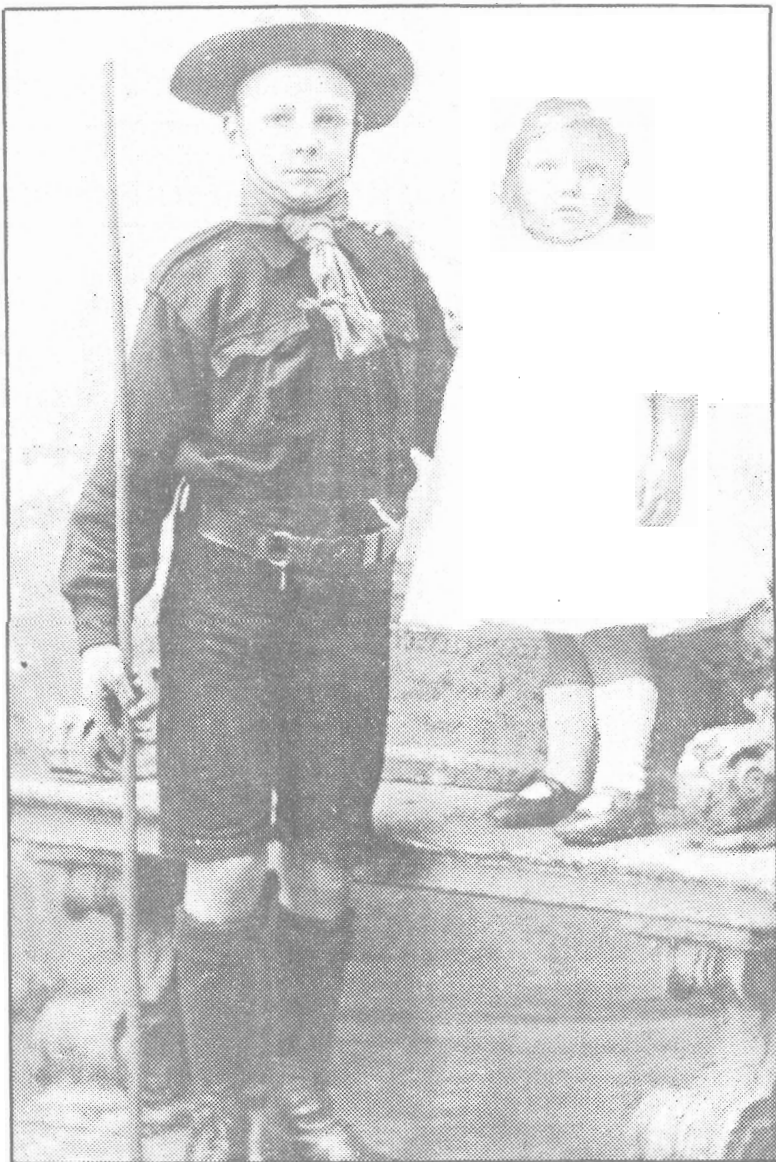
The romance seems out of character for the bachelor and career soldier who originated the Boy Scouts. But he was careful to keep the shipboard romance a secret for six months while touring the world to promote scouting. Then he made it official by giving her a scout ring and announcing the engagement. Happily, the marriage proved durable and produced three children.

Toronto producer/director Michael Dana Murphy spent three years and \$400,000 researching the film, which dovetails the life of Baden-Powell with the growth of scouting since 1907. It is based on some 35 hours of rare newsreel and home-movie footage, spliced with interviews of members of Baden-Powell's family and veterans of the earliest days of scouting.

As a young man, Baden-Powell yearned to be an actor, but his stern, ambitious mother redirected him into the army. He was a bright and hard-working soldier who distinguished himself as a "scout" — an advance man for the troops — as well as the "Hero of Mafeking," a siege during the Boer War which made him a celebrity back home in England. Out of these experiences came a military handbook that he eventually used as raw material for a popular magazine series called *Scouting for Boys*.

From the outset his intentions seemed honorable. He hoped to promote social harmony and self-reliance through camping and lifesaving skills in an England suffering from the decline of its empire and the handicaps of a rigidly stratified society. The first experiment in scouting (1907) brought together 20 boys of different backgrounds for a fortnight of camping and woodcraft. Two participants in that historic occasion are interviewed, both still glowing with the fondness of their memories.

Subsequently, scouting spread



Young scout poses with the girl he pulled from the path of a runaway horse circa 1909: research took 3 years.

around the world. In North America it gained corporate support and served propaganda purposes as well. During the First World War, scouts helped raise money for defence (in the United States) and acted as sentries and message carriers on the home front (in England).

The film is well organized and full of interesting footage. To its credit, it tries to deal with criticism of scouting for the movement's allegedly militaristic bent. While there was a certain moral rigidity and quasi-militaristic approach at the beginning, Baden-Powell underwent a transformation from soldier to genuine

peacenik, especially after the pointless horror of the First World War. Always an individualist, fundamentally opposed to regimentation, his central aim in promoting scouting until his death in 1941 was to encourage brotherhood and harmony throughout the world. But as the film reveals, the best intentions can be bent out of shape; in Germany, the scouts quickly were converted into Hitler youth brigades.

*Scouts!* is probably the best single, compressed record of the movement, and much of the footage has never been seen before. It's worth a look.