

AMONG THE BOY SCOUTS

RURAL SCOUTING

By HORACIO OCHANGCO *

Boys of the country must be good citizens just as well as boys of the town. Boys of the country need guidance, fun, character, self-reliance, caution, strong bodies, and willing hands and hearts as much as those of the city. Well, Scouting is for the country or rural boy just as much as for the town boy. Its program fits the needs of the country boy to the highest degree. Boys are boys. They need companionship and steering.

A lone country boy can have this through the Lone Scout plan, by which he chooses some man in his neighborhood as his Counselor and then he begins his romp into the field of Scouting.

Every Lone Scout is asked to select as much as possible one of the most outstanding and finest men to be his "Friend and Counselor." It is because we want him to get help from this man, first in passing



his tests, such as Tenderfoot, Second and First Class, and to sign his papers for the application for Merit Badge Examination, and also to have the help of this man to set up a community committee of three men to be in charge of the work of Merit Badge requirements.

The farm boy does not need an outing, but he does need to have his eyes opened to the advantages which he has as a resident of the farm.

He needs to see that in working with soil, plant, and animal he is co-operating with the forces of Nature and that such a combination is what resulted in the marvelous products developed by Burbank or the mighty inventions of Edison.

First Aid to man and beast in a section where medical or surgical help is scarce should be an appealing field to any live, wide-awake farm boy.

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THE SCOUT OATH

By RICARDO DE LA CRUZ *

"On my honor, I will do my best:—

1. To do my duty to God and my Country and to obey the Scout Law;
2. To help other people at all times;
3. To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight."

Above is the Scout Oath, one of the main foundations of the Scouting Movement. Before any boy can be registered as a Scout, he has to take this Oath,—and he promises to live true to it throughout his life.

In the Scout Oath the three important duties of a Boy Scout are clearly outlined namely; his duty to God and to his country, his duty to others, and his duty to himself. This embraces all that there is for a man to do,—if he is to be *what a real man ought to be*.

When a boy is being initiated into the greatest man-boy organization in the world, he makes the Scout Sign and then recites this Oath. But he does not merely *recite* it. He repeats it slowly, letting each word sink into his heart, there to remain forever.

And when on certain occasions, he is tempted to do wrong, he cannot help but pause and ask himself: "Am I living true to my Oath?"

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The farm boy probably has little leisure time, but Scouting can tell him to save time in doing the farm work which he has to do.

The Merit Badge Work covers all kinds of farm crops and activities, from raising chickens to landscape gardening, barn-building, dairying, and innumerable other subjects.

Rural Scouting plans for Lone Scouts getting together for organization of Tribes, Farm Patrols and even for Rural Troops. It covers every need. So to you, Mothers and Fathers of the farm or rural sections—if you are interested in good citizenship and in your own boy,—give him a chance to be a