

APPENDIX III

THE PRESENTATION OF A ROVER SCOUT

THE SELF-EXAMINATION OR VIGIL

As one grows older, time passes more and more quickly. Comparatively speaking, life only lasts for a short time and is soon away.

1. Am I making the best use of the life that God has given me?
2. Am I frittering it away, in doing nothing that counts - that is, wasting it?
3. Am I working at things that are not doing good to anybody?
4. Am I seeking too much my own enjoyment or money-making, or promotion without trying to help other people?
5. Whom have I injured or hurt in my life? Can I do anything to make amends?
6. Whom have I helped in my life? Is there anyone else I can help?

The Rover Scout Section of the Scout Movement is described as a "Brotherhood of Service", so if we join it we shall get the opportunity of training for and of doing service in many ways that would not have been open to us otherwise.

1. Am I joining the Rover Scout Section only for the fun I can get out of it?
2. Am I determined to put real self-sacrificing Service into it?
3. What do I mean by Service?
4. Do I really think for others, rather than for myself, in my plans or undertakings?
5. What kind of Service am I best fitted to do - at home, at work, and in my spare time?

Service is not for spare time only. Service should be an attitude of life which will find outlets for its practical expression at all times.

We get no pay or reward for doing service, but that makes us free men in doing it. We are not working for an employer, but for God and our own conscience. This means that we are men.

As the success of our Service will depend to a great extent on our personal character, we must discipline ourselves in order that we may be a good influence on others.

1. Am I determined to try and give up bad habits acquired in the past?
2. What are the weak points in my character?
3. Am I absolutely honourable, truthful and trustworthy?
4. Am I loyal to God, and to the Queen, my Country, my family, my employers, those under me, the Scout Movement, my friends and myself?
5. Am I good-tempered, cheery and kindly to others?
6. Am I sober and clean-living, and clean-speaking?
7. Have I pluck and patience to stick it out when things go against me?
8. Have I a mind of my own, or do I allow myself to be carried away by the persuasion of others?
9. Am I strong-minded enough to keep off temptation - to gamble, to drink, to harm a girl or woman?
10. If I am weak in some of these things, do I resolve here and now, with God's help, to do my best to correct them and chuck them up?

May God give me strength to go forward henceforth a real man, a true citizen, and a credit to my country.

THE INVESTITURE

The Investiture as outlined by the Founder is printed in full, but in order to assist those who prefer to leave out some of the ceremonial part, this is printed in italics. It should always be performed by the Rover Scout Leader, but if this is impossible, a Scouter who has himself been invested may take his place.

It is suggested that it adds to the impressiveness of the occasion of the Rover Scout Leader has a copy of the ceremony bound in a suitable cover. He should, however, know it by heart.

A fitting close to the Investiture is to finish with prayers. Suitable prayers can be found in the book *Prayers for Use in the Brotherhood of Scouts*, obtainable for The Scout Shop.

The Ceremony can be held, like the Vigil, in a church or chapel, in the open air, or in the Rover Scout den. If it is held in the Rover Scout den it has been found that it comes best at the end of an evening's programme.

The investiture should never be held in public: it is a solemn exercise of the Crew's corporate life.

THE INVESTITURE CEREMONY

Note: *If it is not desired to use the ceremonial parts of the Investiture, the portions printed in italics may be omitted.*

The young man, after self-examination, is brought before the Rover Scout Crew, the Crew being in uniform, and stands with his two sponsors, one on either side, before a table, which is covered with a St. George's Cross, upon which is set a ewer of water and a basin and napkin. The Rover Scout Leader stands facing them behind the table, and, calling the candidate by name, says:

Leader: Have you come with a desire to become Rover Scout in our world-wide Brotherhood?

Candidate: I have.

Leader: In spite of any difficulties you have had in the past, are you now determined to do your best to be honourable, truthful and straight in all your dealings; clean in what you think; in what you say; in all that you do?

Candidate: I am.

Leader: Have you carefully thought what you are doing with your life?

Candidate: I have.

Leader: Do you understand that Service means that at all times you will be good-natured towards all other people, and will do your best to help them, even though it may not be convenient or pleasant or safe for you, and that you will expect no reward for so doing?

Candidate: I do.

Leader: Do you understand that by becoming a Rover Scout you are joining a Brotherhood in which we want to help you carry out your ideals, and in which we ask you to obey our Rules and carry out our motto of Service for others?

Candidate: I do.

Leader: *In ancient times it was the custom of those about to become Knights to be layed with water, in token of the washing away of past misdeeds and as a sign that they were determined to commence afresh. Are you willing to give such a sign, here in the presence of us all?*

Candidate: I am.

(The candidate, or if more than one, each in turn, thereupon places his hands together over the basin; one sponsor takes the ewer and pours water over them, while the other takes the napkin and dries the candidate's hands.)

Leader: Understanding these things, then, I ask you to renew (or make*) your Scout Promise, bearing in mind that you are expected to interpret it not from a boy's point of view, but from that of a man.

(The candidate advances and at the same time the Rover Mate steps forward with the Group Flag in his hands and lowers it between the Rover Leader and the candidate, who takes hold of the Flag with his left hand and makes the Scout sing with his right.)

Candidate: On my honour, I promise that I will do my best-
To do my duty to God, and the Queen,
To help other people at all times,
To obey the Scout Law.

The Rover Scout Leader then takes the new Rover Scout by the left hand and gives him a buffet on the left shoulder with the right hand, saying:

Leader: I trust you on your honour to keep your Promise and give you the buffet which the knights of old received to remind you, as it did them, that you have one tender point, namely, your Honour: nothing should be more quickly felt than an imputation against it.

After which the Rover Scout Leader fastens on the new Rover Scout's shoulder knot and presents him with his badges, saying:

Leader: In this shoulder knot of yellow, green and red, you see the representative colours of the three sections of our Brotherhood (into which I now welcome you*) - let it remind you of your duty to your younger brothers, and of your responsibility, as a Rover Scout, to set them at all times an example worthy of your best self.

The Crew close in round the new Rover Scout, shaking him by the hand and giving him a welcome.

* These words are for use if the Squire is not already a member of the Movement.

APPENDIX IV

**THE SCOUT PROMISE AND LAW
INTERPRETED FOR ROVER SCOUTS
BY THE FOUNDER**

THE PROMISE*On my Honour*

Your honour must be a very sacred thing to you, a thing that will rule your conduct as a man. It means that you can be trusted implicitly to do what you know is right or what you agree to undertake.

I promise

This particular promise is a solemn undertaking, not to be made lightly even by a boy, still less so by a man. Therefore, think it over carefully before embarking on it.

That I will do my best

This means that though circumstances may hinder you from doing it as completely as you would wish, you will, at any rate, try your utmost.

To do my duty to God

What is your duty to God?

To put it briefly, it would seem to be to try in the first place to realise the nature of God, and, secondly, to develop and use, for good purposes only, the body which He has entrusted to you, to develop the talents of mind and intelligence with which He has endowed you and, especially, to cultivate by continual practice the spirit of love and good will to others, the part of Him which is within you, that is, your soul.

And to the Queen

That is, to your country, under the leadership constituted by the will of the majority.

To help other people at all times

This putting into constant and active practice the divine law of loving your neighbour as yourself.

To obey the Scout Law

To obey the Scout Law does not mean to sit down passively in a state of goodness, but to improve your own character and actively to practise Love (which underlies the Law) in all your daily doings.

THE LAW

The term "Rover Scout" stands for a *true man* and a *good citizen*. The Law for Rover Scouts is the same as for Scouts, in wording and principle, but has to be viewed from a new standpoint—that is, from that of a man. In both cases the principle underlying the Scout Law knocks out Self and shoves in Good will and Helpfulness to others. Don't take this as instruction in Piety, but as direction to Manliness.

A Scout's Honour is to be trusted

As a Rover Scout, no temptation, however great or however secret, will persuade you to do a dishonest or a shady action, however small. You won't go back on a promise once made.

"A Rover Scout's word is as good as his bond."

"The Truth, and nothing but the Truth for the Rover Scout."

A Scout is loyal to the Queen, his Country, his Scouters, his parents, his employers, and to those under him

As a good citizen you are one of a team "playing the game" honestly for the good of the whole. You can be relied upon by the Queen, as head of the Empire, by the Scout Movement, by your friends and fellow-workers, by your employers, or employees, to do your best for them—even though they may not always quite come up to what you would like of them. Moreover, you are loyal also to yourself; you won't lower your self-respect by playing the game meanly; nor will you let another man down—nor a woman, neither.

A Scout's Duty is to be useful and to help others

As a Rover Scout your highest aim is SERVICE. You may be relied upon at all times to be ready to sacrifice time, trouble, or, if need be, life itself for others.

"Sacrifice is the salt of Service."

A Scout is a friend to all, and a Brother to every other Scout, no matter to what country, class or creed the other may belong

As a Rover Scout you recognize other fellows as being, with yourself, sons of the same Father, and you disregard whatever may be their

difference of opinion, or caste, creed, or country. You suppress your prejudices and find out their good points; any fool can criticize their bad ones. If you exercise this love for men of other countries you help to bring about international peace and good will, that is God's Kingdom on earth.

"All the world's a Brotherhood."

A Scout is courteous

Like a knight of old, as a Rover Scout you are, of course, polite and considerate to women, old people and children. But more than this, you are polite also even to those in opposition to you.

"Whoso is in the right need not lose his temper;
Whoso is in the wrong cannot afford to."

A Scout is a friend to animals

You will recognise your comradeship with God's other creatures placed, like yourself, in this world for a time, to enjoy their existence. To ill-treat an animal is therefore a dis-service to the Creator.

"A Rover Scout has to be big-hearted."

A Scout obeys orders of his Parents, Patrol Leader or Scout-master without question

As a Rover Scout you discipline yourself and put yourself readily and willingly at the service of constituted authority for the main good. The best disciplined community is the happiest community, but the discipline must come from within, and not merely be imposed from without. Hence the greater value of the example you give to others in this direction.

A Scout smiles and whistles under all difficulties

As a Rover Scout you will be looked to as the man to keep your head, and to stick it out in a crisis with cheery pluck and optimism.

"If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
. . . you'll be a man, my son."

A Scout is thrifty

As a Rover Scout you will look ahead and will not fritter away time or money on present pleasures, but rather make use of present OPPORTUNITIES with a view to ulterior success. You do this with the idea of not being a burden, but a help to others.

A Scout is clean in Thought, Word and Deed

As a Rover Scout you are expected to be not only clean-minded, but clean-willed; able to control any sex tendencies and intemperances; to give an example to others of being pure and above-board in all that you think, say and do.

There is to the Scout Code the eleventh Law, an unwritten one, namely, "A Scout is not a fool." But this, I should hope, would be unnecessary as a code for Rover Scouts. Still, as a Rover Scout, you have to remember that in crossing the threshold from boyhood into being a man you are no longer learning to carry out the Scout Law, but are actually using it for guidance of your conduct in life. More than this, you are now in the responsible position of giving an example to others, which may lead them to good or evil, according to whether or not you model your conduct on the Law, and how far you carry out that Promise which you have made, on your honour, as a Rover Scout, to give out good will and help to all.