

servants are plentiful," she explains, "but they are utterly untrained. Many have not even been inside a house before. If I did not know the best ways of doing what should be done, I could never run the large household we have."

A different type of pioneering and another form of community service faces Girl Guides in the Far East. Like tiny frontier outposts of a richer life for girls, troops of Girl Scouts and Guides are dotting India and the Archipelago.

Although these are only a few of the opportunities for helpfulness as well as actual life saving that we might bring forward if we look closely, we find that it was not only during the Great War that opportunities for real achievement came to Girl Scouts. Those days, perhaps, served most of all to open our eyes to the richly varied opportunities that lie before us for helpfulness to our families and to our communities. And they taught us, finally, that any kind of healthful, useful, happy living is, in a way, service to our country.

SECTION 2

THE GIRL SCOUTS LAWS

The Motto:

Be Prepared

Every girl wants to help her country. One way to do this is to become a Girl Scout. A Girl Scout learns how to live in the open, how to shift for herself, and how to look after her own health. Because of her knowledge and pluck, she is able to do useful work in the world.

She trains herself by action, by observation and by thought, and prepares herself so that when the need arises she may be helpful and daily—

Do a Good Turn

The Pledge:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands; one nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The Promise:

On My Honor I will try:

To do my duty to God and my country
To help other people at all times.
To obey the Girl Scout Laws.

This binds the Girl Scouts together as nothing else could do. It is a promise each girl voluntarily makes; it is not a rule of her family nor a command from her school nor a custom of her church. She is not forced to make it—she deliberately chooses to do so, and experience has shown that she fulfills her promise.

THE GIRL SCOUTS LAWS

I. A Girl Scout's Honor Is to Be Trusted

This means that a Girl Scout's standards of honor are so high and sure that no one would dream of doubting her simple statement of a fact when she says: "This is so, on my honor as a Girl Scout."

She is not satisfied, either, with keeping the letter of the law, when she really breaks it in spirit. When she answers you, she means what you mean.

Nor does she take pains to do all this only when she is watched, or when somebody stands ready to report on her conduct. You can go away and leave her by herself at any time; she does not require any guard but her own sense of honor, which is always to be trusted.

II. A Girl Scout Is Loyal

This means that she is true to her Country, to the city or village where she is a citizen, to her family, her friends, her church, her school, and to those for whom she may work, or who may work for her. Her belief in them may be the very thing they need most, and they must feel that whoever else may fail them, a Girl Scout never will. And she is not only loyal to people but also to the highest ideals which she knows.

III. A Girl Scout's Duty Is to Be Useful and to Help Others

This means that if it is a question of being a help to the rest of the world, or a burden, a Girl Scout is always to be found among the helpers. She must try to do at least one good turn to somebody every day, but she doesn't stop at that—the more she does the more she sees to do.

IV. A Girl Scout Is a Friend to All, and a Sister to Every Other Girl Scout

This means that she has a feeling of good will to all the world. She feels a special responsibility toward the very old, toward the little children, toward the unfortunate and the sick and helpless. As a Girl Scout she has been especially trained to help.

The Girl Scout finds a special comrade in every other Girl Scout, and knows how to make her feel that she need never be without a friend or a helping hand as long as there is another Girl Scout in the world.

V. A Girl Scout Is Courteous

True courtesy is a sign of real consideration for the rights of others. A Girl Scout will be on the lookout for a chance to do many good turns, and she makes every effort to do them in a pleasant, tactful way.

VI. A Girl Scout Is a Friend to Animals

All Girl Scouts are kind to all animals, and are always eager to protect them from neglect or hard usage.

VII. A Girl Scout Obeys Orders

This means that she should obey those to whom obedience is due. It makes no difference whether she is cleverer, or older than the person who may be elected or appointed for the moment to give her orders; once they are given, it is her duty to obey them. And the curious thing about it is that the quicker and better she obeys these orders, the more quickly and certainly she will show herself fitted to give them when her time comes. The girl or woman who cannot obey can never govern.

VIII. A Girl Scout Is Cheerful

No matter how courteous or obedient or helpful a Girl Scout is, she must also be cheerful under all circumstances.

If she will smile when obeying orders or when annoyed, it will help her to carry on. "As Cheerful as a Girl Scout" ought to become a proverb.

IX. A Girl Scout Is Thrifty

This means that a Girl Scout is a girl who is wise enough to know the value of things and to put them to the best use. Money is a very useful thing to have, and a Girl Scout plans ahead and saves money for the time when she may need it, either for herself or for others.

One of the most valuable things we have in this life is time. Here again she plans ahead so that she may get the most out of her time and use it to the best purpose. Neither does she waste the time of others by being late.

X. A Girl Scout Is Clean in Thought, Word and Deed

It is a safe rule for a Girl Scout not to read things nor discuss things nor do things that could not be read nor discussed nor done by a patrol all together.

THE GIRL SCOUT SALUTE



The salute is a sign used by all Girl Scouts throughout the world to denote friendliness and loyalty. The idea of the sign has come down to us from the days of chivalry when armed knights greeted friendly knights whom they met by raising the right hand, palm open, as a sign of friendship.

The Girl Scout salute is given by raising the right hand to the temple, the first three fingers extended and the little finger held down by the thumb. Like the trefoil, the three extended fingers represent the threefold promise. The arm should be swung up straight from the side, bending the elbow but not extending it sideways. The wrist should not be bent, and the palm should be in the same direction as when the arm hangs by the side. This insures uniformity.

The half-salute is used commonly as a sign of greeting among Girl Scouts and is made when the hand is held shoulder high.

When to use the salute. Girls who have passed the Tenderfoot test and who have been enrolled, may use the salute. Girl Scouts may salute each other whether they are in uniform or not, using the full or half salute.

1. When Girl Scouts meet for the first time during the day, whether comrades or strangers and of whatever rank, they may salute each other, using the full or half salute.

2. If in uniform, a Girl Scout stands at attention and salutes the flag when it is hoisted or lowered and as it passes her in parade. If not in uniform, she stands at attention but does not salute.

3. When in uniform and in ranks at a public demonstration a Girl Scout stands at attention and salutes when "The Star Spangled Banner" is played, but she does not salute when she is herself singing. In ordinary gatherings when the anthem is played a Girl Scout stands at attention but does not salute.

4. When repeating the Girl Scout promise, a Girl Scout stands at salute.

5. If in uniform, a Girl Scout should return the salute of a Boy Scout. She does not salute the police or military officers unless they salute her first.