

Boys'
Life
Brigade.



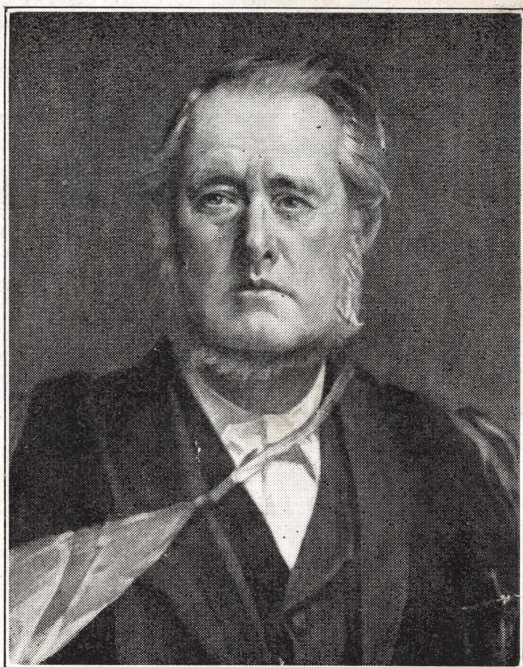
'21 YEARS'

1899 — 1920.

Dr. J. B.

PATON,

*Founder
of the
Boys'
Life
Brigade.*



PRICE: FOURPENCE.

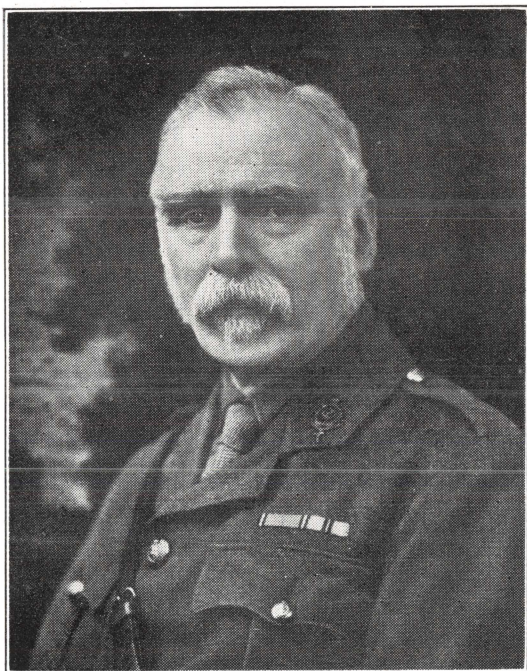
THE BOYS' LIFE BRIGADE

FOUNDED 1899.

(Incorporated).

OBJECTS—

To Lead Boys to the Service of Christ, and to train them for an Active, Disciplined and Useful Manhood.



President: SIR ALFRED PEARCE GOULD, K.C.V.O., F.R.C.S.

Vice-Presidents:

Maj.-General A. H. E. Campbell	Rt. Rev. Bishop Welldon, D.D.
H. G. Crosfield, Esq., J.P.	President of Baptist Union.
Surg.-Gen. Sir G. H. J. Evatt, K.C.B.	Chairman of Congregational Union.
Rt. Rev. the Ld. Bishop of Hereford	Moderator of Presbyterian Church of England
Sir James Reckitt, Bart.	President of Primitive Methodist Conference.
Joseph Ward, Esq.	President of United Methodist Conference.
	President of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference.

Chairman of Council:

Mr. George H. Cook, J.P., L.C.C.

Treasurer:

Mr. J. H. Silley, O.B.E.

Hon. Secretary:

Mr. J. P. TONKIN.

Hon. Financial Secretary:

Mr. A. E. Tasker.

Brigade Secretary:

EDWARD COOKE.

Headquarters: **56, OLD BAILEY, LONDON, E.C.4.**



THE BOYS' LIFE BRIGADE.



IDEAS are the things that count in the world, especially when linked to ideals. The Idea of the Boys' Life Brigade was born in the mind of Dr. J. B. PATON, of Nottingham, twenty-one years ago. The Idea was good, but its Ideals were better. The use of arms by existing Brigade Movements, made it difficult for many Christian bodies to adopt these systems. Dr. PATON, recognising the value of the Brigade idea, sought to harmonise it with the true Christian ideal of Him who came that we might have life, and have it more abundantly. "To Save Life" became the motto of the new movement, and its purpose to inspire the Boy with belief in the sanctity of his own life and that of others. Its objects were defined thus :—

"To lead our boys to the service of Christ ; to train them for an active disciplined, and useful manhood ; and to promote habits of self-respect, obedience, courtesy, and helpfulness to others, and all that makes for a manly Christian character. These objects shall be sought chiefly by means of drill—not associated with the use of arms—and with instructions and exercises in the saving of life from fire, from drowning, and from accident."

The Sunday School Union welcomed the idea, and under its auspices the Boys' Life Brigade was launched. It "got going" at once, and for 21 years has justified the hopes of its early promoters. Despite the birth of larger and more spectacular movements, it holds its own to-day, has its peculiar place in organised boyhood, and its special witness in the Church of Christ.

Companies exist in all parts of the United Kingdom, in Canada, and others are in prospect in South Africa. Between twenty and thirty thousand boys are in the movement. One hundred thousand, perhaps one hundred and fifty thousand, old B.L.B. boys are living testimonies to the value of its training. 25,000 past and present officers and boys volunteered to serve in the Great War. One of the first V.C. awards was made to a former B.L.B. boy for saving a comrade by a process of rescue he had been taught in the B.L.B.

The B.L.B. Programme is comprehensive, and aims at reaching the Boy complete. Its organisation is adaptable and elastic. Its Scouting Section is an example of its readiness to meet particular demands, while there is being formulated a separate and distinct organisation intended to minister in a special manner to the younger boys. The Girls' Life Brigade, one of the most successful of modern girls' movements, is an off-shoot of the B.L.B.

The B.L.B. seeks to train the boy's body, mind and spirit for service for God and Humanity. There is no nobler service. The task of the officer is not an easy one. It is oftimes most difficult. But nothing that is great is ever easy. And in this service "the most that we can do is the least that we dare do."

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I trust the Annual Meeting at Birmingham will realise that we have a part to play in making our boys that they may become God-fearing men into the enjoyment of a fuller, worthier life than we have.



Mr. J. H. SILLEY, O.B.E.
B.L.B. Treasurer.

The BOYS' LIFE BRIGADE'S CO

Programme of MEETINGS September 10th,

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th.

EBENEZER CHAPEL, STEELHOUSE LANE.

7 to 9-30.

- (a) RECEPTION BY MAJOR AND MRS. A. THRUSSELL.
WELCOME TO OFFICERS by SIR DAVID BROOKS,
G.B.E., J.P. (Deputy Lord Mayor), Rev. F. A. REES
(President Birmingham Free Church Council), and
Rev. C. B. WILDBLOOD (Secretary Birmingham
Sunday School Union).
- (b) MEETING OF ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th.

8-45 a.m.

Assemble Tram Termini, Navigation Street,
(Cotteridge Car), for visit to Bournville
Works, by invitation of Messrs. Cadbury
Bros., Ltd. On return, visits to some of
the principal buildings of the City.

2 p.m.

TWENTY-FIRST BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON
at LIBERAL CLUB, COUNTY BUILDING,
CORPORATION STREET.
Tickets, 2/6 each from Secretary.

3 p.m.

B.L.B. ANNUAL MEETING in COUNCIL
HOUSE, VICTORIA SQUARE, (by permission
of Lord Mayor).



Mr. EDWA...
Brigade



SAGE:—

gham will be very successful in making us all
g our Country a better place to live in, by
aring, manly men, who shall lead their fellows
n is the common lot of Englishmen to-day.

ALFRED PEARCE GOULD.

COMING-OF-AGE.

MEETINGS at BIRMINGHAM,
11th and 12th, 1920.



Mr. J. P. TONKIN,
B.L.B. Hon. Secretary.

5-30 p.m.

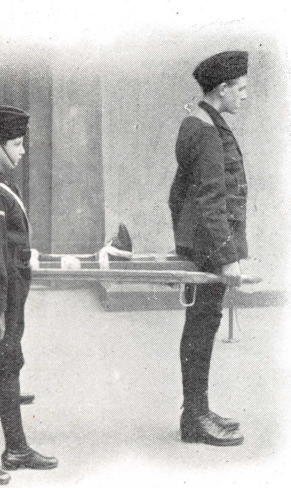
TEA AT EBENEZER CHAPEL, STEELHOUSE LANE, by invitation of Birmingham Officers.

6-30 p.m. CONFERENCE. Address by—

G. R. THORNE, Esq., M.P.,
On "BOYS AND CITIZENSHIP."

JOSEPH HOOD, Esq., J.P. will preside.

D COOKE,
Secretary.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th.

9-50 a.m. SPECIAL SERVICE for B.L.B. Officers at Carr's Lane Chapel, conducted by Rev. S. M. BERRY, M.A.

10-30 a.m. Assemble VICTORIA SQUARE for UNITED CHURCH PARADE.

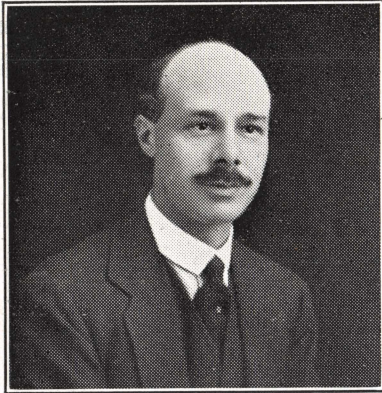
11-0 a.m. UNITED SERVICE at BRISTOL HALL, BRISTOL ST. Preacher: Rev. J. H. HIRST, (Chaplain, Birmingham Battalion)

3-30 p.m.

Y.M.C.A. DALE END.
ADDRESS by Rev. JAMES HARTLEY, on
"Religious Training in the B.L.B."

4-30 p.m.

TEA at Y.M.C.A., by invitation of the Birmingham Adjutant, followed by informal Conference on the "JUNIOR SECTION."



Major A. THRUSSELL,
Commandant Birmingham Battalion, B.L.B.

BIRMINGHAM

AND THE

“B. L. B.”

IT is appropriate that a movement that was born within the Midlands should celebrate its coming of age in the Midland Capital. Thus Birmingham welcomes the B.L.B. with a special heartiness.

It is many years since the first B.L.B. Company was formed here. Years before other and more extensive movements were launched, the B.L.B. was witnessing for its own ideals. Its progress was not rapid, and it did not thrive so well here as in other places. But to-day the prospects are promising. While the War wrought sad havoc among local companies, so that in the Spring of 1919 only three survived, with a membership of 60 boys, there has since been a rapid and healthy revival, and the three companies have become 14, and the 60 boys are now 600. An active campaign is in operation to reach 1,000 boys. This is going to be done.

The past year has been a busy one. Apart from Company activities, the Battalion have organised district Church Parades, a Town Hall Display, Shield Competitions for Drill and Ambulance, Summer Rally and Sports, and a United Sea-side Camp of over 300 strong. At this Camp Officers and W.O.'s agreed to fore-go smoking. A smokeless camp was the result. Others please copy!



Captain D. L. FINNEMORE,
Adjutant and Hon. Secretary.



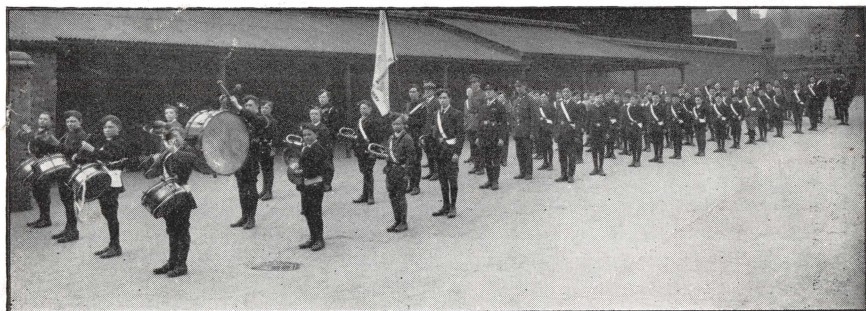
Rev. J. H. HIRST,
Battalion Chaplain.



Birmingham Champions:—1st Birmingham Company.



Birmingham B.L.B. Officers at Abergele, 1920.



A. Birmingham B.L.B. Company "In Column of Route."

BOYS' LIFE BRIGADE :
Birmingham Battalion.



President : THE RT. HON. THE LORD MAYOR.

Treasurer : NORMAN BIRKETT, Esq., B.A., LL.B.

Chaplain : Rev. J. H. HIRST.

Commandant : A. THRUSSELL (Major B.L.B.)

Adjutant and Hon. Sec. :

D. L. FINNEMORE, M.A., (Captain B.L.B.)
41, Temple Row, Birmingham.

Hospitality Secs : { H. TURNER (Captain B.L.B.)
 { J. STEPHENS (Lieut. B.L.B.)

In charge of Stewards : H. SMETS (Captain B.L.B.)



A 'B.L.B.'
SMILE.

AN ACTUAL
CAMP
PICTURE. . .

Birmingham's 'B.L.B.' Chorus.

We are the Boys of the B.L.B.
Ready to right the wrong ;
Playing the game for all to see
Life's sunshine and song ;
Giving a hand to a pal who's down
Helping in the time of need ;
Striving for the glorious crown,
Following the Christ's great lead.

—H. SMETS (Captain B.L.B.)