

The Little Captain of the Scouts

US : 1915 : dir. : Thanhouser ? Silent : ? min
 prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:
[Leland Benham](#)
 Adult cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	∞	M	⌘	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
5562	0.5	0	0	341	-	-	-	-	-	No	unseen

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Benham:

"Leland was very much "the Thanhouser boy" from his seventh to eleventh years. His father, Harry Benham (1886-1969) was a Thanhouser star, together with his mother, Ethyle Cook (1880-1949) and kid sister Dorothy. He was generally teamed, though, with one or both of two other little girls: Marie Eline ("the Thanhouser kid") and Helen Badgley ("the Thanhouser kidlet"). From 1916 Leland and family left to work for other companies.

He was an intelligent, grown-up looking child, and presumably a useful mimic, since in June 1915 he won third prize in a Charlie Chaplin

impersonation contest at a Chaplin night at Murray's restaurant, New York."

[no listing in "Classics of the Silent Screen", "A Pictorial History of the Silent Screen", "Silent Movies: A Picture Quiz Book", "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. A pound to a penny the title character is female. Leland Benham was 10, and made a dozen other films that year alone. His first known screen appearance was aged 6 in the 1911 "**DAVID COPPERFIELD**", and later works included "**THE CRY OF THE CHILDREN**" (12), "**THE CHILDREN'S CONSPIRACY**" (13) and "**A MOHAMMEDAN CONSPIRACY**" (14 – nothing to do with the World Trade Centre). Boy Scouts featured as the heroes of many British one and two reels several years before this.

See subject index under **SCOUTS & SCOUTING / YOUTH MOVEMENTS** and [SILENT CINEMA](#).