

Scotty of the Scouts

US serial : 1926 : dir.

Silent : ? x ? min

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

[Ben Alexander](#)

Adult cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	KBytes	Ω □ € Z ♀	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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[no listing in "Classics of the Silent Screen", "Hollywood in the Twenties", "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", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "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. It is always surprising how few films were based on the Boy Scout movement, despite its international success in the 20th century and the staunchly establishment virtues it strove to inculcate. Most of the titles date, as this one, from the 1920s and 30s – **"SCOUTS TO THE RESCUE"** (39) was another matinee serial, for example, with an ageing Jackie Cooper. So far as an outsider can judge, the ethos of the American movement seems to have been more rugged and bare-knuckle than in the UK, where it originated, and had as much to do with the frontiersman spirit of the Pony Express riders as anything else. Perhaps it is simply that the American continent was more recently tamed, so that a native tradition of authentic trailblazing was still fresh in the national consciousness. At any rate, there seems little of Baden Powell in some of these early American scouting titles.

Nicholas Benton Alexander III was now 15, and with a name like that (he was born in Goldfield Nevada) you just know he arrived in the world with a fair amount of cutlery between the gums. Ben Alexander had a striking pensive countenance, and although he enjoyed few leading roles – chiefly in **"PENROD AND SAM"** and **"BOY OF MINE"**, both in 1923 from Booth Tarkington stories – he had notched up forty films by the age of 15 and is still fondly remembered by students of the cinema of boyhood.

See subject index under **SCOUTS & SCOUTING**, **SERIALS** and **SILENT CINEMA**.