

# THE BOMBAY LION

21st JANUARY 1957

## GOOD SCOUT: GOVERNOR PUNDOLÉ

Our District Governor Lion Noshir N. Pundole is known to many of us as a very polite and refined gentleman. But few of us know that it is due to the sound foundation of a very long and celebrated career in the Scout movement. Lion Pundole has been a good Scout all his life. Ideal of service and readiness for action thoroughly imbued by the hard way in scouting has made him what he is today.

Polite but firm, shrewd but sincere, this sprightly young leader has been very successful in laying sound foundations of true Lionism in India. His slightly grey hair speak for his ripe experience in public life. The glow on his face indicates his yet young spirit in the service of humanity. His sweet and unfolding oratory has convinced his audiences of the cause he has been working for. That ever present smile on his face inspires hope and encouragement in his fellow workers.

We give below at length his career in the scout movement, because it is an inspiring account of an unselfish devotion of the precious youthful years to an equally noble cause.

Very few personalities in Bombay Scouting have to their credit so many memorable achievements as Scouter Noshir N. Pundole. He is the only figure, in the whole State of Bombay, who has risen from the rank of a Cub to that of the State's Chief Commissioner.

Pundole joined the Scout Movement as a Cub in the 33rd Bombay, in the year 1926. By sheer dint of ability and perseverance he rose step by step, in the Pack and in the Troop respectively. He was appointed Asst. Cub Master in the 33rd Bombay in the year 1939. Scouter Pundole is a born leader and appears to have a special gift of collecting funds for a good cause by thousands and lakhs. The organisation of a grand public show called "It's all Yours" in 1943 was his first endeavour in this direction. From this show he realised an attractive amount of money and launched a fund for the widows of Indian Soldiers for which cause he collected over Rs. 1,50,000/-. (Remember Lions, to make use of this genius for our multi-fold projects!)

In 1947 he was appointed the District Cub Master of the Bombay Boy Scouts Local Association which post he held for nearly two years. In 1945 he attended the Second All-India D.C.C. and Ak. L. Course at Coonoor. In the same year he was appointed the Hon. Treasurer of the Bombay Scouts Association, Bombay Province. This young Hon. Treasurer, by hard work and



laborious efforts in arranging shows, concerts and by collecting donations, realised a net sum of more than Rs. 25,000/- for the Association, at the time of its Silver Jubilee celebrations.

About the same time he successfully completed his Rover Scout Wood Badge and the Scout Wood Badge too. Thus he was one of those few Scouters who have to their credit Wood Badges in all three sections of the movement.

He was appointed Assistant District Commissioner for Cubs of the Bombay Boy Scouts Local Association and during his regime Cubbing in Bombay made rapid strides. Scouter Pundole is keenly interested in this section of the movement.

### He Wins Stars

In 1947 he was appointed as an Assistant Akela Leader for the Bombay Province and was awarded the Medal of Merit for his meritorious services to the movement. The year 1948 appears to be an important year in the Scout career of Pundole. It was during this year that he was appointed the Hon. Provincial Secretary and Assistant Provincial Commissioner for Cubs. For his specially distinguished services to the Boy Scouts Movement both in the executive and administrative fields of activities, he was awarded the Silver Star and was given the Honorable Charge of a Deputy Camp Chief too.

### He Leads Them Across the Continent

In 1950 Scouter Pundole was appointed the Leader of the Indian Boy Scouts Delegation to Second National Jamboree of the Boy Scouts of America held at Pennsylvania. At the National Jamboree, members who formed the Indian delega-

tion under Scouter N. N. Pundole's leadership gave an excellent account of their standard of efficiency in scouting. They visited most of the important parts in the States and also visited important European countries. During his stay in London, Pundole attended a Wood Badge Course at Gilwell.

On his return from U.S.A. in October 1950, he played an important part in bringing about the amalgamation of the Boy Scouts, Hindustan Scouts & Girl Guides Associations respectively at a State level.

### He Unites Them

The 7th November 1950 is a Red Letter Day in the history of Indian Scouting. The Boy Scouts & Hindustan Scouts Associations were amalgamated and a new National Scout Organisation under the name of the Bharat Scouts & Guides came into being. His polite firmness made it possible for Scouting in this State to progress at a good speed.

On 6th April 1952, the Bombay State Bharat Scouts & Guides successfully completed its ad hoc stage and it became a duly constituted State Association. Shri Pundole was unanimously elected the State Commissioner (Scouts) for the State of Bombay. He mooted the idea of the Scout Week Celebrations and it was on account of his guidance and lead that the First Scout and Guide Week was celebrated with greatest enthusiasm all over the State of Bombay. His idea of the "Khari-Kamal" was welcomed in all corners and ever since it was put into practice, the financial position of the Association has improved.

### They Honour Him

On 20th May 1955, Pundole was unanimously elected the State Chief Commissioner and now Bombay can claim to have the youngest of the State Chief Commissioners, who has climbed the highest rung of the Scout ladder having put his tender pad on its first one in the year of 1926.

On 3rd February 1956, Shri Pundole organised the first Lions Club in India — The Bombay Lions International Club — and was elected its President. He was largely responsible for the success of the Bombay Club and helped to organise a Second Lions Club in Bombay — The Lions Club of (North) Bombay — on 28th November 1956.

Pundole has received from Chicago the Extension Award and the Merit Award. On 29th November 1956 when the First Lions District was formed, the International President himself appointed and declared Pundole as the Acting District Governor.