

called "Fianna Éireann". It took a couple of months to get that much done. It was out of that small group of boys, who were invited out on scout marches, that the Fianna were formed.

We made use of Baden Powell's scout book for training them. We had no old soldiers to give instructions. At that time, no one in the movement would speak to an ex-soldier; it would be regarded as treason. It was not the same as afterwards, when ex-soldiers came into the movement. We could not afford to pay an instructor. Therefore, it had to be begun at scratch. The boys loved playing at soldiers. After a time, sluaghs were formed.

I was more or less political mentor to the Countess at that time. She was groping at first. She read, and read, and read. Her sister, Eva Gore-Booth, had that sentimental, dreamy love for Ireland. They were in George Russell's and Yeats' set, and formed a sort of Culture club. The Countess Markievicz attended a big meeting in the Rotunda, for the establishment of Sinn Féin; and then Griffith told her to join the Gaelic League. She asked him: "How could I work for Ireland?" He said: "Join the Gaelic League". She joined the Cúig Cúigi, but it was not enough. So she found what she wanted in the Inghiníde. Then it seemed the right thing, to her direct mind, to begin founding an army of boys, who would grow up to know what they were fighting for. The Inghiníde always taught history. They always had that idea of physical force. Maud Gonne founded the Inghiníde because the I.R.B. or other nationalist societies would not admit women. Neither could women join the Celtic Literary Society. Of course, she was always friends with them all. She felt no resentment. It was a lucky thing that we had our own organisation, because we were independent, and not a branch of anything. We were able to do what we liked, with the