

Changed Utterly side, SEAMUS and Constance

CONSTANCE: *(enters a hat shop to buy some ribbons. She is smoking. As she's buying from the shopkeeper, she talks to Seamus, a young boy)* What is your name?

SEAMUS: James Kavanagh. *(aside)* She's smoking! Sure and I have never seen a woman smoking before!

CONSTANCE: Would not Seamus sound nicer?

SEAMUS: I think so.

CONSTANCE: Will you promise me that you will never answer to any other name but Seamus in future?

SEAMUS: *(aside)* Now what would an English woman be saying that for?

CONSTANCE: Have you ever heard of Wolfe Tone, Robert Emmet, the Manchester Martyrs?

SEAMUS: Yes I have.

CONSTANCE: Would you not like to be like one of them?

SEAMUS: I think so.

CONSTANCE: Good, now will you join the Irish National Boy Scouts? It's just for boys like you.

SEAMUS: No, I would not.

CONSTANCE: Why would you not?

SEAMUS: Because it's just like the Baden Powell scouts.

CONSTANCE: No, this is quite different. You're mixing up the National Boy Scouts with the Baden Powell Scouts. They are not the same at all. This is for true Irish boys.

SEAMUS *(aside)* Why should I believe a single word this English woman is saying!

CONSTANCE: So will you come to the meeting tonight?

*(Seamus is non-committal. Constance exits)*

SEAMUS: I do go to the meeting. I promise to work for the Independence of Ireland, never to join England's armed forces, and to obey my superior officers. We learn map reading, topography and military strategy, boxing and first aid, swimming, running and camping. We're trained to shoot by Madame Markievicz with a small Lee Enfield rifle when out of doors and a large air rifle when indoors. Madame places a great stress on safety. She won't tolerate any of us messing around with weapons. We can't even point them at each other even in fun. I must say I like it like that. It makes us proud to be a part of it all.