

Matilda.



AN OFFICIAL TREASURE BAG OF GUIDERS' INFORMATION FOR
VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.

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NOTICES.

MATILDA.

The Editorial Committee is anxious to receive any suggestions from readers which will enable them to know how "Matilda" can be made more interesting and helpful to Guiders. Contributions for the August "Matilda" should be in not later than Friday, 19th July.

OUR BROWNIE PAGE.

Something old, something new,
Something magic, something true,
Singing in plenty, a story to tell,
And something to make you happy and well.

"ACROSS THE SEAS."

Miss Heap, 31a St. Mary's Street, Oldham, Lancashire, would like to write to another Brown Owl.

Will anyone interested please communicate at once with

MISS E. PAYNE,
Head of Post Box,
Leura, Toorak, S.E.2.

(N.B.—A correspondence of the above type has proved most helpful and enjoyable mutually, and quite recently an Australian B.O. who was visiting England saw quite a lot of her correspondent.)

NOTICE TO BROWNIE GUIDERS.

A Singing Games and Ceremonies Afternoon will be held for all Brownie Guiders on Saturday, August 3rd, at 2.45 p.m. Place of meeting will be published in Tuesday's "Argus" and Wednesday's "Age," the week before. It is hoped that as many as possible will attend.

ADRIENNE PALING,
Head of Brownies.

BROWNIE GUIDERS' LIBRARY AT HEADQUARTERS.

Thanks to some gifts and to penny contributions from members of some of the Brownie

Training Classes, the Brownie Library is growing. All Brownie Guiders are welcome any of the books, provided they return them within a month of the date of taking-out, otherwise a fine of 9d. will be collected.

Country Brownie Guiders who would care to borrow from this library are asked to send a stamped and addressed envelope to **Miss D. Sedgfield**, 129 Marshall Street, Ivanhoe, N.21, who will let them have a list of books to choose from, and post the books asked for.

Please send in suggestions for books you would like to be added to the library.

AN APPEAL.

Please be careful to enter any book you borrow, and to re-enter it still more carefully when returned.

Children's Stories and How to Tell Them (Bone) has been missing since before March, 1929.

The following have been taken out and not entered since March, 1929.

1. Six Fairy Story Game Songs (Cartledge);
2. Stories for Character Training (Cabot);
3. Book of Stories for the Story-Teller (Coe). This last has been taken out without being entered since 6th May.

Will the borrower's kindly enter any of the above-named books as soon as possible, or return them?

D. SEDGFIELD.

Dear Miss Paling,

I should like to let you know that I am in direct touch with several very poor families, who are suffering severely from the effects of the unemployment, etc. If any Brownie Guiders are collecting left-off warm clothing, shoes, etc., or any other useful articles which they wish to distribute, I suggest that they get in touch with you, and I will let you know where to send the things. With Brownie wishes, Yours, etc.,

BROWN OWL.

(N.B.—Miss Paling's address is 130 Finch-Street, E. Malvern, S.E.6.)

A Handcraft and Nature Lore Afternoon was held on June 1st. Unfortunately, lack of space prevents us from publishing the amusing account which we received.

WHAT CAN BE DONE WITH STRINGY BARK.

BY HENRIETTA C. WALKER.

Ever since Australia fell into the hands of the white man, stringy bark has played an important part in its domestic history. Thousands of serviceable roofs have been made from it in its raw state. It has been stripped and twisted to make ropes, halters, traces and ties of all

sorts, and it has been roughly woven into useful floor mats. Of recent years it has been stripped and plaited, and subsequently made up into a great variety of bags, baskets, chair-seats, flower holders and floor mats of many kinds.

One of the great charms about this work is that the worker can go out into the bush, and from a piece of waste bark evolve something that is not only good to use, but very good to look at. Moreover, she can evolve it without much exertion or the possession of any great degree of skill. If she acquires this last qualification she can, of course, astonish herself by proving what very beautiful things can be made from this apparently unlikely material. It possesses almost endless possibilities, and this is why bark work, as a craft, is something well worth the attention of all intelligent young people.

The raw material is rarely far to seek. Stringy bark is almost always found on the foothills and in patches in most timbered districts. It is distinguishable by its straight trunks and matted looking bark. In many districts it is confused with messmate, but though messmate bark is useable, it is not nearly as valuable as stringy bark. The best way to prove stringy bark is to take a length of bark three or four feet long and try lifting up the inside flakes with a blunt knife. If it comes up easily and strips in long strips, it is the right bark. Messmate bark is much shorter and rougher, though when it is old it will often strip without much difficulty. Broadly speaking, the bark of the mountain ash is the only one that gives as good results to the worker as stringy bark.

Young spindly saplings give the best bark for the worker, so nothing very important has to be sacrificed in order to provide plenty of material. The saplings should be cut into six-foot lengths and then tapped all over with the back of an axe. The bark can be easily stripped from the sapling. To get the useable bark away from the rough bark, take a blunt knife and lift up the inner layers or white or yellow bark. Raise it slowly with a series of gentle jerks, a very little experience will make you adept at the work. As soon as the rough bark begins to come away with the smooth the stripping process has been carried far enough. The next process is to re-strip the bark, and the thinner you get the strips, the better will be your work. The strips may be wide—half an inch, possibly, so long as they are thin and comparatively soft. The quality of the stripping depends to a great extent on the use to which the subsequent work is to be put. Quite coarsely stripped bark, for instance, serves for large plant-holders or fuel baskets, but fine stripping is essential to the success of carrying bags or baskets.

It is at this stage that the bark should be

coloured, if colour is desired. If only small quantities are desired vegetable dyes—tea, coffee, walnut juice or lichen—can be used with success. These dyes are impracticable if larger quantities are needed, but dyeing bark is such a very simple matter, and the ordinary household dyes are so easy to use that no difficulty will be experienced in securing good results. As the same time, it is well to bear in mind that natural bark presents a wide range of colour, and these natural shades are always delightful.

To make the plait, take sufficient strands to make a plait about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch wide. It is always an advantage to have a smooth end to the plait, so it is best to start the plait by doubling the bark over a hook or nail. As the plait thins out supplement it with fresh strands—always adding them on the left hand side. Leave a long end out, and plait this end in, as the plait continues. It is most necessary that the strips should be added in this way, as it ensures a right side to the plait.

When a few yards of plait have been made, all loose ends should be clipped from its wrong side and, if the plait is then pressed with an iron, or run through a mangle, it will be all the nicer to make up. The plait should be firm, but not stiff, and supple, without being slack. Once the art of plaiting has been mastered, the worker will find no difficulty in making it up into baskets, thermos covers or the like. A sail needle or extra large darning needle for sewing together with hank twine, which is more satisfactory in every way than raffia.

We would advise any Guiders who would like further information on stringy-bark work, or other simple crafts, to procure the booklet, "Profitable Hobbies," by Mrs. Walker, who has so kindly written the above article for us. The booklet has very helpful illustrations, and contains more detail than Mrs. Walker was able to give in the limited space of this article. "Profitable Hobbies" may be obtained at Robertson & Mullen's or at the Bungalook Depot, 80 Swanston-Street, Melbourne. Price 1/3.

BIRDS OF THE OPEN AVIARY.

By "Birdlover."

1. YELLOW ROBIN.

As it cannot be from his size, it must, presumably, be through force of character that the Yellow Robin is Chief, or President, of our bird community. Though the attitude of superiority and the deference shown by all the other little birds are common to all the Yellow Robins, they are more pronounced in the case of one of them, who was one of the first to reciprocate friendly advances, and who, for some reason or other, early acquired the name of Lloyd, to which he has answered ever since. All Yellow Robins are contemplative, quiet, fearless and peaceable, but Lloyd sets a high standard in all

these qualities. Perching sideways on a tea-tree stem, in that characteristic habit which his tribe affects, with the sunlight filtering through the leafy lattice on to his golden breast, Lloyd can be seen for long periods of time together, overlooking all that is going on around his domain of the Bird's Bath, occasionally shifting his position, darting for an unwary grub or lazily dropping to splash his wings in the cool water.

Where animals all show arrested attention by pricking their ears, Yellow Robins, and, indeed, most birds, having no protruding ears to prick, substitute a swift tilt of the tail when anything interesting to them takes place. No matter how dreamily unobservant Lloyd may appear to be, as he sits brooding in the shade, at the slightest whistle up jerks his tail, while that round, bright, intelligent black eye allows nothing that may follow to escape him.

Though Lloyd is no glutton and no bully, he sees that his claims to recognition by the other robins, wrens, tits, and various other little birds, are not allowed to be overlooked, and though they may all feed about on crumbs, meat or sugar, in his presence should some attractive morsel, such as a fat spider, take his fancy, none ever ventures to dispute his right when he drops, fanlike, with wings extended in a graceful volplane, to possess it.

The dark, quiet, depths of shade under the thickly-growing coastal tea-tree have been the favorite haunt of Yellow Robins for so many generations that heredity, no less than individual experience, has perfected them in threading their rapid flight unerringly between the maze of stems and twigs. Here they find, not only appropriate surroundings for their homes and interests, but a secure haven of retreat from larger birds of prey or other enemies. To see the skill with which Lloyd can dart zigzaggingly, like a streak of yellow light through a miniature forest of slim trunks, scarcely more than a few inches apart, with hardly perceptible beat of wing, dodging one and skimming past another, without effort or mistake, or the brush of a feather, is a feat at which to wonder and delight.

Regularly in early Spring, when the new, resplendent gloss of Lloyd's yellow vest and green-grey coat more than ever satisfies the eye, he becomes very attentive to his little mate, feeding her with any titbits which may be thrown him before he swallows any himself, and driving hurriedly away any bird intruders which approach her. She, indeed, seems to thoroughly enjoy exercising her sway over him, and even if a choice morsel be thrown close beside her, she will not deign to pick it up herself, but, with a series of little squeaks and a fluttering of her wings, will wait for Lloyd to pick it up and put it into her beak.

They both share the work of building the neatly made cup-shaped nest of strips of bark and pieces of moss, and when the eggs have been hatched they both attend to the young ones with equal devotion, bringing them to join the community at the bath as soon as they leave the nest, and showing no nervousness whatever when the youngsters follow them to our outstretched hands, and thus learn from the very first to inherit the confidence which their parents have acquired.

Lloyd still takes pride of place in all the "confabs" and activities of the Open Aviary, and though his friendship can now be counted in years, he shows no signs of loss of vigor or of beauty since the days when he first became tame. As I write he faces me a few yards away, upon the bough of a Sweet Bursaria, the brown of its clusters of seeds showing off to full advantage his beautiful yellow breast, while his intelligent eyes are watching the pea with interested curiosity. In such constant and unobtrusive companionship lies the charm of many of our native birds, but with none is it more closely identified among all the inhabitants of the Aviary than with little Lloyd, the Yellow Robin.

WHERE'S THAT SMILE!

B.O., looking for new Brownies, to a little girl in the street, just Brownie age:—"Would you like to come and play games with the Brownies?"

Shy Little Girl: "Yes," turning to little brother: "Will you come, too?"

On B.O.'s explanation that Brownies were all girls, the little girl said to her brother, "Do you mind that?"

Little Brother, shaking his head: "No"!!

MY NATURE DIARY.

June 5th—

While inside to-day, the shrill cry of a Shrike-tit came through an open window. So I whistled in return, and the next moment, curiosity caused the pretty caller to fly swiftly into the garden, where I was able to admire the handsome olive-green bird, with his yellow breast, black crest, and black and white face.

June 8th:—

There is beauty in the sight of the bare limbs of trees outlined against a clear sky. Now that the leaves have fallen, I like to saunter and "read the character" of leafless trees. Each kind has its own method of branching, and it is interesting to guess the names as I pass. To-day I noticed the even, conical outline of the Plane, and the tall, straight trunk of the wind-swept Lombardy Poplar.

June 9th:—

I have started to feed the birds, now that the cold weather is here, and they come eagerly for the food which I place on a special table for them. Among the visitors are thrushes, blackbirds, starlings, doves, sparrows and scrub-wrens.

June 13th:—

To-night the sky was wonderfully clear, and the stars were lovely to watch. Virgo, the Virgin, was overhead at 10 o'clock, and Sagittarius, the Archer, lay below the Scorpion. The Southern Cross was upright at 8 o'clock, but by 10 o'clock had swung round to the West, like the hand of a clock.

June 15th:—

This morning I noticed a cock sparrow, with a feather in his bill, showing that the sparrows are building already. At this time of the year the cock sparrow's black tie is concealed with a grey down, which wears off as the Spring approaches. In a park at St. Kilda I was surprised to see a dainty Willie Wagtail, and high up in a Silky Oak a pair of Doves were nesting.

RANGER PAGE.

METROPOLITAN RANGERS.

A miserably cold and wet night did not deter some sixty odd Rangers and Guiders from attending their fourth combined Ranger night on 25th June, meeting in the P.G.A. Room at the Presbyterian Girls' Hostel in East Melbourne.

The subject for the evening was an address on Citizenship.

After the business of the evening was over Miss Cameron, Head of Rangers, who opened the meeting, introduced Miss I. D. Marshall, M.A., who was the speaker for the evening.

Miss Marshall arrested our attention from the beginning with a very moving description of how that book, "Into Your Hands, Australians!" came to be written. What a challenge it is to us Australians! The men who fought and died in the last war, and one in particular, on account of whom the book was written, were overwhelmed with the tragedy of war. They were fired with the ambition to come back and show us how to live—to show us how our country should be governed—how WE could govern it.

They have gone—it is in our hands to do their work.

Miss Marshall gave most of us, I think, an absolutely fresh viewpoint on her subject—a very practical and interesting one. The smaller duties of citizenship were not omitted, and were told with most delightful humour.

Miss Marshall paused many times to allow

her audience to subside from helpless laughter to fairly subdued chuckles.

We were given an example of how preferential voting is done—we realised how much each vote counts; that, and the ballot that followed, were very helpful. We visited the "polling booths" in the next room, where a very firm "policeman" directed the more inexperienced of us. We voted on five present-day writers (Mary Grant Bruce, Ethel M. Dell, L. Montgomery, Gene Stratton Porter, and Edgar Wallace), whose merits were set forth in the approved style; and then we anxiously waited until the scrutineers finished the counting. Our Australian authoress, Mary Grant Bruce, topped the list.

Five Ranger Guiders, representing the candidates, mounted the platform and made suitable speeches.

We were rather thrilled to learn that the ballot originated in Australia, and was known as the "Australian ballot."

Miss Marshall gave us some useful hints on how to run a debate, which is decided for our next meeting, Saturday, 17th August, at 8 p.m., the subject chosen being that "The White Australia Policy is justifiable."

Miss Hamilton, of Hampton, then proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Marshall, and after it was seconded by Miss Mills, the vote was carried with applause.

It was a very well spent and jolly evening, and well worth the few dampening showers and cold feet we experienced.

Dear Miss Irving,

Our Committee yesterday was considering the best means of augmenting the very inadequate supplies of our Comforts Cupboard, and some of the members suggested that perhaps the Girl Guides might be able to help us.

With the advent of winter our Association is hearing of so many cases of distress among those people who are suffering from the series of droughts which have been experienced, particularly in the North and North-Western Mallee. Such families are not of the class or type who would appeal for charitable help in the ordinary way, which fact entitles them to the consideration of our Association.

Many mothers of large families are faced with the problem of clothing their large young families without any money being available for the purpose, and we have had numbers of letters, appealing for worn shoes and clothing, which can be made over for children to wear to school. We therefore feel justified in sending you this letter.

Do you think through the medium of your journal you could make the foregoing facts known to your companies? We should be so grateful for any parcels of outgrown and worn garments, and also should greatly appreciate

gifts of books, dolls, and toys, tray-cloths, cushion covers, scrapbooks, etc., for our Christmas distribution to the many outback mothers and children who would otherwise not participate in any Christmas cheer.

In consequence of this distribution being managed entirely by voluntary helpers, we are anxious to get well ahead with our preparations.

Thanking you in anticipation of your interest,
Yours sincerely,

LIZZIE F. MITCHELL, President,
JESSIE S. FRASER, Pres., Yarra Branch.

We have received the above letter, and hope any Guiders who are able to respond will communicate with the Country Women's Association, 60 Market-Street, Melbourne.)

APPOINTMENTS.

District Commissioner.

Brighton, Mrs. Millikin, Mulgoa-St., Brighton, S.5.

Division Secretary.

South-Eastern Suburbs. Miss M. Greene, Pemberton, Toorak-rd., S.E.2.

District Secretary.

Carlton and Brunswick. Miss P. Schreiber, 1 Molesworth-st., Kew, E.4.

Fitzroy and Collingwood. Miss A. Lewis, 26 Miller-st., East Brunswick.

Stawell. Mrs. Paton, Campbell-st., Stawell.

Captains.

1st Camperdown—Mrs. Robertson.

1st Clunes—Mrs. Ryan.

1st Kew—Miss L. Williams.

1st Korumburra—Miss J. Shapland.

7th Malvern—Miss M. Sprague.

1st Mentone—Miss B. Perry.

1st Parkville—Miss L. Tulloh.

Lieutenants.

1st Camperdown—Miss G. Errey.

7th Malvern—Miss G. MacKinnon.

1st Nyah—Miss A. Burkitt.

Brown Owls.

3rd Kew—Miss M. Stokes.

1st Winchelsea—Miss M. Birrell.

Tawny Owls.

7th Malvern—Miss E. Lardner.

Ranger Captains.

3rd Camberwell—Mrs. Slattery.

NOTICES OF EVENTS.

TRAINING.

TRAINING CLASSES.

Guiders should communicate with their Commissioner before attending classes, and every one who has not previously been nominated must bring a Nomination Paper signed by her

Commissioner.

A charge of 3d. per night is made, to cover expenses of lighting, etc.

Notices of Training Classes, etc., are published in Tuesday's "Argus" (and in Wednesday's "Age," and are posted on the Headquarters notice board.

Training classes are held, unless otherwise notified, at Girl Guide Headquarters, 60 Market Street, at 7.45 p.m.

GUIDE TRAINING.

The 5th Training Course, 1929, will begin on Friday, 26th July, and will be in charge of Miss Moore.

TRAINING WEEK.

A Training Week-End for Brownie and Ranger Guiders (over 18 years of age) will be held from 30th August to 3rd September inclusive; the Ranger Training will be taken by Miss Cameron and Miss Moore, and the Brownie training by Miss Paling.

This will be followed by the 18th Training Week, for Guiders and prospective Guiders (over 18 years of age) from Wednesday, 4th September, to Thursday, 12th September, inclusive; the training will be in charge of Miss Bush and Miss Nethereote.

The place will probably be within easy reach of Melbourne, and will be announced shortly.

Applications, accompanied by a deposit of 5/ (and if for the week-end, stating which Course is to be taken), should be made in writing to the Secretary, TRAINING DEPARTMENT, at Headquarters, not later than 10th August. Deposits will not be refunded unless withdrawal of application is made a fortnight before the beginning of the week end, or week. Guiders may attend both the week and the week-end, if they wish.

MERLE BUSH, Head of Training.

HANDCRAFT.

Guiders whose Companies have been specialising in Handcraft Work will be interested in the Students' Exhibition to be held by the Arts and Crafts Society of Victoria from 31st July to 14th August. Prizes are offered in several sections. Entries should be sent immediately to the rooms of the Society, 9th Floor, 323 Bourke Street.

A visit to the exhibition would give plenty of ideas on original handcraft work to Companies who have not yet reached exhibition standard.

COMING EVENTS.

The St. Kilda and Caulfield District are holding a display and exhibition of Handiwork on Thursday, August 8th, at 7.45 p.m., in the St. Kilda Town Hall. Admission 1/-. Guides and Rangers 6d. Tickets may be had from any of the Guiders in the District, or from Miss L. Kelly, Commissioner, or the District Secre-

tary, Miss Margaret Patience, 16 Mason-ave, Elwood, S.3 .

The Colours, which have been kindly presented to the 1st Traralgon (St. James') Ranger Company by the Misses Majendie, will be dedicated by the Bishop of Gippsland at St. James' Church, Traralgon, on Sunday, 11st July, at the morning service. Any Guides or Guiders who are able to be present will be cordially welcomed.

GIRL GUIDE HEADQUARTERS.

Price List.

(Postage extra on all orders).

Books.

Annual Report, 1929	9d.	Girl Guide Movement (pamphlet)	4d.
Australian Flag Cards	1d.	How to Run Wolf Cubs	2/3
Australian Flag (pamphlet, inc. card)	3d.	How to Run a Patrol	1/-
Birthday Books—G.G. (suede)	5/-	How to Tell Stories to Children (Bryant)	6/-
Birthday Books—G.G. (Cloth)	2/6	Hygiene Jingles	4/6
Brownie Games	1/3	Imperial Camp, 1928	2/6
Brownie Handbook	9d.	Knot Book—Boy Scout	1/6
Brown Book for Brown Owls	3/3	Knotting and Splicing	2/-
Brown Magic	2/6	Lefax Refill	1/9
Camp Book—Boy Scout	2/-	Lefax Insets	
Camp Cooking and Catering	3/6	Knots, Hitches and Bends	4d.
Camperaft for Girl Guides	3/6	Indoor and Outdoor Games	4d.
Character Training in the Wolf Cub Pack	2/-	Route Sketching	4d.
Company Record Book	3/6	Camp Fires and Camp Cookery	1/6
Company Roll Books	9d.	Letters to a P.L. (Scouts) on 1st-Class Test	9d.
Cub Games	2/6	Letters to a P.L. (Scouts) on Scout Law	9d.
Diaries	6d.	Letters to a P.L. (Scouts) on Tenderfoot	
Drills for G. Guides	1/3	and 2nd Class	9d.
Easy Guide to Southern Stars	2/-	Mauve Book of Games (Ext. Br.)	1/6
Extension Branch	1/-	Membership Cards—Guide and Ranger	
Fiction—Bunch, a Brownie	4/6	(to fit pocket)	5d.
Peg, Lieutenant	3/6	Maps and How to Read Them	1/3
Geraldine, a Ranger	5/-	Night Sky	1/-
Lone Guide of Merfield (Mrs. Lillian Pyke)	5/-	Pamphlets (for propaganda)	1d.
The Guide Camp at Heron's Bay	4/6	(What are Brownies? What are Rangers?	
Tales for the Brownies	3/6	How Shall I Help my Daughter? Scout-	
Teddy's Year with the Fairies	3/6	ing and Guiding in Education. Girl-	
Bridget's Fairies	2/6	Guiding—a Training in Parenthood).	
Tales for Brownies (Blackwell)	3/6	Patrol System	9d.
Flower Legends	2/6	Potted Stories to tell Scouts and Cubs	3/6
Foxlease Book	1/6	Pow Wows for Wolf Cubs	1/3
Games—Behrens	2/3	Parent's Consent Forms (books of 24)	10d.
Davidson	1/3	Patrol Roll Books	4d.
Trotter: Team Games	1/6	Pioneering and Mapmaking	2/3
60 Indoor and Outdoor Games	9d.	Play Work Book	4/6
Games for Rangers and Cadets	1/6	Post Cards—Princess Mary	5d.
Girl Guides' Annual (Collins)	7/6	The Chief Guide	5d.
Girl Guiding—Official Handbook	2/6	Proficiency Badge Certificate Booklets (to	
G.G. Badges, and How to Win Them	4/6	District Secretaries only)	6d.
G.G. Prayers and Hymns	9d.	Quartermaster in Camp	1/6
Girl Guide Laws	9d.	Rangers (Guiders' Handbook)	1/6
Guide Law—Illustrated Wall Card	1/6	Rules, Policy and Organisation, 1929	1/3
Guide Law (Short Readings and Prayers)	9d.	Saints of the Flag (R. Heath)	9d.
Guiding for the Guider	9d.	School Companies and Cadet Corps	6d.
		Scouting Out of Doors	2/-
		Second Trail	6/6
		Steps to Guiding	9d.
		Surveying and Mapping	1/6
		Talks on Ambulance Work	2/-
		Transfer Forms, per book of 25	2/-
		Transfer Forms, single	1d.
		Union Jack Saints	2/-
		Wolf Club Handbook	2/6
		Magazines.	
		The Guider (for Guiders and Commission-	
		ers) per year, incl. postage	6/-
		The Guide, per year, posted	15/0
		The Guide, per copy, weekly	2½d.
		Matilda, per copy, posted	4/-
		Matilda, per copy	6d.
		Postage on odd copies	1d.
		The Guide, last year's odd copies	1d.

Music.

Action Song: Girl Guides Marching on the King's Highway	2/6
Country Dances (single), large variety . . .	1/-
Country Dances (bound), Introduction to C.D.	6/-
English Country Dance—Graded Series, Volume III	4/6
Country Dance Tunes, Sets 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, per book	4/-
G.G. Prayers and Hymns (Tunes)	2/9
G.G. Song Book	2/6
G.G. Song Book (words only)	9d.
Songs for Girl Guides (Walford Davies) . . .	4/-
Brownie Taps	1½d.
Taps	1½d.
The Children's Song (Kipling)	6d.
More Than Twice 55 Community Songs . . .	9d.

Equipment.

Bandages, plain white triangular, full size	9d.
Bandages, Triangular, printed	1/-
Bayonet Hooks (for Guiders' Uniforms) ea.	3d.
Belts—Brownie	1/6
Guide	2/-
Guider	4/-
Guider (English make)	6/-
Buttons—Black, per dozen	2d.
Brown, per dozen	6d.
Chinstraps	4d.
Coekades—Brown Owl	1/9
Captain	1/9
District Captain	1/9
District Secretary	1/9
District Commissioner	1/9
Divisional Commissioner	2/9
State Executive	2/9
Colours—Brass-jointed Pike	11/-
Trefoil for Pike	10/6
Australian Flag	22/6
Union Jack	30/-
Wall Bracket—to hold Flag when not in use	21/-
Ranger Trefoil	15/9
Carrier for Colour (leather)	4/6
Cord for knotting—natural, blue, red, 2 yds.	3d.
Emblems—Brownie, ready worked	7½d.
Guide, felt, with red ring, ready worked	10½d.
Guide, felt, plain	2d.
Guide, transfer	1d.
Brownie, transfer	1d.
First Aid Cases, all prices, from 5/- to £3/3/-	
First Aid Outfits, for Patrol or Company, in brown canvas case, for carrying	£1/1/-
First Aid Outfit, in leather, case, to fit on belt	5/-
First Aid Outfit, in rubber envelope, for pocket	2/-
First Aid Emergency Dressing, "Sanax," for the pocket	1½d., 3d. and 6d.
Gloves, brown gauntlet, all sizes	13/11

Hatbands—Guide (official G.G.)	2/6
Guide, stamped G.G., ready to work	1/-
Plain Silk	6d.
Ranger (official Trefoil)	2/6
Hats—Stitched Cotton (new pattern)	5/-
Guide, linen, stitched	4/-
Guide, felt	6/9
Guider, small shape	8/-
Guider, English fur felt	25/-
Brownie (rush)	2/-
Ranger (small shape)	8/-
Haversacks	4/6
Knives, with one blade and marlinespike	2/-
Lanyards—Linen, white	9d.
Brown (for pack leaders)	1/-
Leather Covers for R.P.&O.	3/-
Munition Cloth, brown or navy, 36in., yd.	1/4
Name Tapes (1 line) to order, 3 doz.	3/6
Names Tapes (2 lines), to order, 3 doz.	7/6
Naturscope, for magnifying Nature specimens	5/6
Overalls—Guide—all sizes below:—	
Sizes. Neck. Slve. Lgth.	
in. in. in.	
0 12½ 16 34	
1 13 16½ 36	
2 13½ 17 39	
3 14 18 42	13/6
4 14½ 19 45	
5 15 20 49	14/6
6 15½ 21 52	
Overalls—Brownie, lengths 24in., 26in., etc., to 36in.	6/-
Patrol Flags, plain	6d.
Patrol Flag Poles, 6ft.	1/9
Patrol Flags, transfer for emblem	2d.
Paper Patterns, all sizes—Overalls, G.G.	1/3
Brownie Overalls	1/-
Guider's Coat and Skirt	1/6
Pouches	1/6
Safety Chains	9d.
Signalling Stick—tapered, 2ft. 9in.	9d.
Shoulder Knots, all colours	2½d.
Snake-Bite Outfit (Lauder-Brunton)	1/-
Stripes, P.L. or Second, each stripe	1d.
Swivels	6d.
Ties—Guiders', pale blue, brown, saxe	3/-
Red, green,	3/6
Navy	4/6
Ties—Guide (pale blue, red)	9d.
Guide, triangular (other colours)	1/-
Brownie, triangular (brown)	9d.
Whistles	1/3
Writing Pads, with Badge	1/

Badges.

Obtainable only through Commissioner or District Secretary, unless there is neither, in which case they are only obtainable direct from State Secretary.

Owing to lack of space part of the above List will be held over till next issue.

Matilda.



AN OFFICIAL TREASURE BAG OF GUIDERS' INFORMATION FOR

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2nd VICTORIAN GUIDERS' CONFERENCE.
13th JULY, 1929.

The Conference, which was held in the Flat Room at the University of Melbourne, by the courtesy of the Melbourne University Council, was opened by Mrs. C. H. Edmondson (Acting Division Commissioner for the Eastern Suburbs), who, on behalf of the Deputy State Commissioner, who was unable to be present at the afternoon session, welcomed the Guiders, who attended from all parts of the State. She said that all must benefit from this meeting, as the country Guiders often brought a freshness and breadth of outlook, while the town Guiders, with more opportunities for inter-change of ideas, might help the country ones, too. Mrs. Edmondson compared Guiding, not to a statue—finished and beautiful, but lifeless—but rather to something living and growing—a young child or a young tree. The tree must sink its roots very deep before it can grow very high, and will, during the progress of its growth, need watching, training, pruning and lopping off. The same may be said of the growing Guide Movement. We might all be compared with gardeners whose aim is to help the young seeds to grow, and a tiny seed may grow into a giant tree.

Mrs. Edmondson then welcomed the Guiders, and suggested that, as it was a Guiders' Conference, they should elect their own chairman, so she called for nominations. Several were submitted, and Miss Vida Walter (9th Geelong) was elected to the Chair. The questions on the agenda paper were then dealt with in order:—

1.—BROWNIES.—Can Recruits be taken into a Brownie Pack before the age of eight?

Miss Paling (Head of Brownies) asked what Guiders had found by experience. Several Guiders said they thought one could do more with children of 7 and 8, as they were much keener at that age than later. One Guider takes the names beforehand, but does not take the children into the Pack till they are eight. Miss Paling drew attention to the fact that, as a Brownie is a little girl who is learning to be a Guide later, it is really a matter for the Captain's opinion on this. If Recruits are taken into the Pack before they are 8, these Brownies will be ready to go on to Guides before they are 11, so the Captain and Brown Owl need to agree on this point. A recent issue of "The Guider" had dealt with this question, and it was there recommended that Recruits should not be taken into a Pack if under 8. (See also R.P.&O., Rule 30).

It was agreed that in special cases an exception might have to be made, in consultation with the Commissioner.

The matter was finally put to the vote, and a majority voted that no change be made in the age (8) for Brownie Recruits.

GUIDES.

1.—Should a Patrol Leader be able to take her Patrol out on a Saturday afternoon, provided that the Captain is satisfied that she can be trusted to act as a true Guide, and that no travelling will be undertaken, and that a programme beforehand and report afterward should be handed in?

Miss Hayman (1st Sandringham) spoke on this subject, to open the discussion. She said it depended largely on local conditions. If these are suitable, and the Commissioner and the Guiders' parents are agreeable, and the Guiders are willing to give the time necessary for the supervision, it can be done successfully. In her Company such outings have been found quite satisfactory, but had taken place only in winter, as she considered the summer-time had extra difficulties beyond a Patrol Leader's scope. In each case, the Captain visited the Patrol at some period of the outing, as a pre-

caution, not in the sense of an inspection. These outings were a good preparation for the First Class Half-Day Hike, but details need to be worked out separately in each District.

Discussion arose as to whether the Patrol Leader or the Captain should obtain the written permission of the parents for their daughter to go in charge of the P.L.

After discussion, it was agreed that it finally depended on the discretion of the Captain as to whether she allowed one or more of her Patrol Leaders to take the responsibility of these individual hikes.

2.—How to arrange Corner Time for a Patrol that has Second Class Guides, Guides almost Second Class, and newly-enrolled Guides.

Discussion arose about the differences between "Group Time," "Patrol Time," "Patrol in Council," "Corner Time." It was agreed that it depended on the stage and type of Company, as to whether one used only Patrol Time for the teaching of test work, or whether it was better to have the test work done in groups. In any case, Patrol-in-Council, the Patrol "committee" meeting, must not be left out, as it was the preparation for the Court of Honour meeting.

3.—Is the acquisition and wearing of badges which are easy of attainment by certain Guides who have had special education (e.g., Cook or Toymaker badge by a girl in Technical School), and is probably of higher standard than that set for the test, considered as "pot-hunting," or should the Guide take the test and wear the badge as a sign that she has special knowledge, and can use it?

Miss Swinburne opened the discussion by saying that the gaining of badges in such cases was quite justifiable, and in accordance with the purpose of badge work generally. Guiders needed to be sure that Guides had really done all the work required by the syllabus, and not just taken notes on it. A Guide who won a Proficiency Badge should keep up her practice in the work; this could be done at Company Meetings, and Captains should provide this opportunity in the programmes. A Guide who holds a badge should be determined to apply the knowledge it implies.

4.—How are Companies coping with Ranger-Age Guides when there is no Ranger Company in the District?

Some Guiders had had to ask the older Guides to leave, as they were upsetting the Company for the younger Guides. One Guider had formed a Senior Patrol, which was working for the First Class Badge, and also helping the others with some of the Second Class work. Another Guider had made one older Guide into Company Leader, another into Company Secretary, and thus given them responsibility; later a Ranger Company was formed, which they could join. One Guider had had girls from 11 to 21 in her Guide Company, with the result that the younger ones began to leave. The subject was raised of Guides reaching "Ranger Age" and not wanting to go on from the Guide Company. One suggested that the Captains of the Guide Companies in a District might meet and discuss what was best to be done to keep the older girls in the movement without spoiling their Guide Companies. It was agreed that, as Guiding was meant for girls of 11 to 16, the Companies should not be spoiled for girls of these ages, and that if necessary it was better to put the older ones out of the Company. These girls often joined up again when a Ranger Company was formed, and in any case they had had some Guide training.

RANGERS.

1.—(a) The problem of girls who wish to join the Guide Movement between the ages of 14 and 16.

Miss Moore (1st Canterbury Rangers) said that, in industrial districts, a girl of 14 might be quite ready to be taken into a Ranger Company, and a girl of 14 or 15 in these districts would be too old already in development for a Guide Company; it

depended a great deal on the type of girl. Miss Campbell (Fitzroy Rangers) thought it would do no harm to let such girls join a Guide Company for 6 or 12 months. Miss Hamilton (1st Hampton) thought it a help to the Ranger Company if the recruits had been Guides first. It was suggested by Miss Bartus (1st Melbourne) that the time spent by the girl in a Guide Company might be wasted as far as the girl's own development was concerned; but that it was good for such girls to be given definite hard work, and to feel conscious of their seniority, as a stage, beyond being Guides; girls who were already earning their living needed this stimulus.

1.—(b) At what age should a girl join a Ranger Company?

Concerning girls already in Guide Companies, Miss Moore said that, although it was hard for the Captains to lose the older girls, who were reliable and helpful in the Guide Company, they should be allowed to pass on, for the sake of the younger ones coming along, ready to take responsibility as the vacancies occurred. It was a matter for the Ranger and Guide Captains concerned to discuss each girl individually; it was important to have this definite link between the Guide and Ranger Companies. The Commissioner should be consulted in all cases where it was thought a Guide under 16 should go on to Rangers.

2.—What is a "District Ranger Company?" What are its difficulties, its advantages and disadvantages?

Miss Morton (East Melbourne and Richmond District Rangers) opened the discussion by saying that a District Company was a good idea in a District where no one Company could supply a sufficient number to support a Ranger Company, but that such a Company should be looked upon merely as temporary, to provide for the older Guides from the other Companies until such time as they could start their own Companies of Rangers in connection with the separate Guide Companies, to make the sequence of "Brownies—Guides—Rangers" complete. Some of the difficulties of District Companies were the arranging of Church Parades (Rangers might meet centrally and then go off to join their former Guide Companies); sometimes the girls from one Guide Company would form a clique within the Ranger Company, instead of "mixing" with Guides from other Companies; it might involve some of the Guides having to come long distances to meetings.

Some of the advantages were:—the Guides are not being lost to Guiding when they grow too old for Guides; they gain a wider outlook by mixing with members of other Companies, they learn to pull together, and get the team spirit.

Miss Campbell (Fitzroy Rangers) thought it was a pity to consider a District Company a temporary measure. A bigger Company was more satisfactory than several small ones; it gave a wider outlook from the point of view of citizenship; was less likely to become cliquey than small Companies attached to a definite body (Church, etc.)

The Conference adjourned for tea in the Club House.

N.B.—The account of the Evening Session of the Conference will be published in next "Matilda."—Ed.

TRAINING.

Training Classes.

The 5th Course of Classes on **General Guide Work** began on Friday, 26th July, in charge of Miss Moore.

A Training Class for Ranger Guiders is to be held during the afternoon of Saturday, 17th August, at the Fitzroy Gardens (if wet, at the P.G.A. Room, Presbyterian Girls' Hostel, Gipps Street, East Melbourne). The programme will include Long Distance Signalling, Knotting, and Running a Team Game. Those who

come are asked to be prepared with a Game they could run.

A Brownie Guiders' Class (Elementary) is being held on Tuesday evenings, in charge of Miss D. Hóltz. There will be only one other elementary class this year.

Training Week.

The 18th Victorian Training Week for Guiders and prospective Guiders is to be held at Government Cottage, Macedon Upper, from 4th to 12th September, inclusive; fee 30/-. This will be preceded by a Training Week-End for Brownie and Ranger Guiders, from 30th August to 3rd September inclusive. Although entries closed on 10th August, there are still vacancies, and further applications should be made immediately to the Secretary, Training Department, at Headquarters.

MERLE BUSH, Head of Training

CAMPING.

Seaford Holiday Home.

The Y.W.C.A. Holiday Home at Seaford is available for parties of Guides in charge of their Guider. Permission Forms and other information should be obtained from Headquarters before Guiders make any arrangements.

"Pegersham," Healesville.

Through the kindness of Miss White, "Pegersham" is available for parties (not more than eight) of Guides in charge of a Licensed Guider, or for Guiders and their friends. Permission Forms and other information must be obtained from Headquarters before any arrangements are made.

Camp Equipment.

The following Camp Equipment is available for hire by Licensed Guiders from Headquarters, at the stated charge for duration of camp. Application for equipment must be made to Headquarters, if possible, six weeks before required. **No order can be dealt with if received later than three weeks before the beginning of the camp.**

Applications for equipment will be dealt with in the order received. Carriage and freight from storage depot in Kew to the camp and return is to be paid by applicant, and any loss or damage is to be fully covered by her.

Tent Poles, set of 2 uprights, 1 ridge, 1/6 set (16 sets; ridge 12ft., uprights 6ft.; 3 sets, ridge 14ft., uprights 7ft.)

Cubicle Poles 1/6 dozen (12 poles 8ft.; 26 poles 7ft.)

Tent Pegs 3d. dozen (500 Tent Pegs, 300 Brailing Pegs).

Tents 7/6 each (1 Tent 8 x 10, with 2 doors, to be used as Store Tent only; 9 tents 8 x 10; 1 tent 10 x 12; all complete with flys.)

Kitchen Shelter (Fly, 14 x 14) 3/-

Puncher (for making eyelets) 1/-

MERLE BUSH, Head of Camping.

OUR BROWNIE PAGE.

“Something old, something new,
 Something magic, something true,
 Singing in plenty, a story to tell,
 And something to make you happy and well.”

Dear Brown Owl,

In answer to your letter in last month's "Matilda," I feel that this is a great opportunity for Brownies to do a combined pack good turn.

One Paek was told of the distress you spoke of, and it was arranged that each Brownie should ask mother for a "something" out of her grocery cupboard to make up a parcel for a poor family. The following week everyone arrived with an extra big smile and the "something" which ranged from salt and John Bull Oats and tea, showing that each mother had given according to her means. A week later the same system was adopted with left-off clothing and, although the result was not a very large parcel, as most people have already answered the many appeals of this order, still it was quite worth while.

I sincerely hope that every one of the 30 Packs in Melbourne will do its bit in this way—just once, anyway—and at once.

Best wishes,

ADRIENNE PALING,

Head of Brownies.

N.B.—Parcels marked "Lady Forster Appeal, North Port Railway Station," may be sent carriage free from any station. Anyone who has any difficulty with this should communicate with Miss D. Stringer, 14 Grandview Grove, Upper Hawthorn, E.3. Tel. Haw. 3445.

EXTENSION GUIDES.

Some of the Guides of the 2nd Heidelberg (Austin Hospital) Company have now passed the Second Class test, and are working for their First Class, and for this are needing the following books:—

Black Beauty (Anna Sewell);
 Pip (Ian Hay);
 Treasure Island (R. L. Stevenson);
 The Little Duke (Charlotte Yonge);
 Pollyooly (Edgar Jepson).
 We of the Never-Never (Mrs. A. Gunn);
 The Little Black Princess (Mrs. A. Gunn).
 The Call of the Wild (Jack London);

If any Companies could spare copies of any of these books, the Company would be most grateful. They could be sent to the Captain, Miss Embling, Windella, High-street, Malvern, S.E.4.

Subscriptions would be most acceptable for any or all of the following:—"The Guide," "The Guider," and "Matilda."

POST BROWNIES.

It is just at the Brownie age that a cripple or invalid child first begins to realise that she is different from other children. Her little friends, her little sisters and brothers, now go off to a wonderful place called school, and are away all day, but the wee cripple must stay at home alone. Of course, everyone is as kind as kind can be, but when mother is busy and everyone else away all day, the days do seem terribly long sometimes. All the Mondays are very much like the Tuesdays, and the Thursdays not very different from the Fridays. Nothing much ever happens! When you can't run about and go to school and play with other folks, how can it?

But to seven small people in Victoria something most exciting has been happening. One day someone came from Outside, and began to unfold a wonderful scheme called Brownies, and suddenly everything looked different. Somehow each one had found a whole new world, a world of gay companionship and adventure, of imagination and beauty, of usefulness and service. They no longer felt that they were useless little cripples; each one of them was now going to be "brave and helpful, like the Knights."

The Post Brown Owl lives on a hill away in the Western District. She is a very wise owl, and sends each child the most delightful Brownie-ish letters "for her very own self." The local Brown Owl is the person who has the joyous job of telling the little girl about Brownies, and of explaining everything to her and to her mother. The Post Brownie joins her own local Paek, and becomes a member of a Six. Although she cannot attend Paek meetings, it is always best that she should be made to feel, really and truly, one of the Paek.

O Reader, have you "Guided" so long that you have forgotten the first glory it gave to your days? The glory of striving, the glory of fellowship. Do you remember how you felt when you returned your first salute to a stranger? For the sake of your own first days of Guiding, go and search out a little cripple or invalid child, that she, too, may have this new full life. She needs it more than you did.

When you have found a child who fulfils the necessary conditions:—

- 1.—She must be over eight and under Guide age;
- 2.—She must be prevented by her physical defect from attending Paek meetings, but not be mentally deficient;

either send her name and address to the Post Brown Owl, Girl Guide Headquarters, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, or, better still, go to the local Brown Owl and tell her about the child, and take her with you to see the "would-be" Brownie, then she can write to the Post Brown Owl, giving her full particulars, such as name, age, address, name of District Commissioner,

Paek to which the child will be attached, the name of the illness, and any other details she thinks it would help the Post Brown Owl to know.

The Post Brownie family is still a very little one. Will you please help us to grow?

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SERVICE.

Through the Y.W.C.A. throughout the world an effort is being made to collect data with reference to living costs of employed women. This has both a national and an international significance, it concerns migration, actual value of wages received, nature of food in relation to climate, health of women and national standard of living.

The result of such an enquiry can be satisfactory only when based upon the actual accounts kept over a suitable period. It is only within groups such as the Guide movement and others, where a measure of goodwill can be obtained, and where the effort will be seen as true service, that we can hope for success.

Those who are in charge of the enquiry are working hard to prepare account books that will be simple and clear. Three Guiders have volunteered already to keep these account books. If any Guiders or Rangers are interested they may obtain full details from Miss Swinburne without committing themselves in any way.

All other countries are making the enquiry, and it is our sincere wish that Australia should show her earnestness and sincerity by responding to the desire for real knowledge expressed by the World Conference of the Y.W.C.A., and the International Labour Office at Geneva.

ST. ARNAUD NEWS.

Dear Matilda,

It is such ages since any news has been sent to you from our district that you will have almost forgotten us. Do you know, Tilly dear (you don't mind me calling you "Tilly," do you? I'm sure it sounds more confidential.) Well, do you know, we have been so ill that I was afraid we would not recover, and that you would be receiving our obituary notice at any time.

The illness was due to loss of leaders—that prevalent complaint in the Guiding world, but just when we felt at our worst we heard that a new star was about to appear in our Guiding firmament. It seemed too good to be true that a Guider was actually coming to us, because for a long time past our Guiders had either been leaving the district, or they were too busy or too ill to carry on. But here was a "really truly" Guider coming to us, and thrill of thrills, with Foxlease and Waddow experiences as well.

Since the reconstruction of the Guide Company it has been presented with a Union Jack,

the dedication ceremony was performed by Archdeacon Morgan Taylor.

We have a prospective Brown Owl, and when she is ready we hope to have Brownies in the District once more. The Rangers have been carrying on, but they feel the lack of intercourse with other companies.

At present we are all busy preparing for a novelty show, to raise funds for our Guide Hall. You will hear more about this later. Yours, etc.,

D. McLEAN,

District Commissioner, St. Arnaud.

THE CHILD NURSE BADGE.

Commissioners and Captains will have noted with interest that in future the Child Nurse Badge for Guides is to be awarded in accordance with the syllabus published in Rules, Policy and Organisation; see Victorian Supplement, 1929.

The home training and the care of children from two to five years old has received far less attention in the past than has the care of infants. Knowledge of the care of infants is rightly regarded as essential and paramount in importance; but the scarcity of literature, propaganda and organisation on behalf of the "toddlers" is due entirely to lack of time and funds, not in any degree to an idea that it is unnecessary. Indeed, it is very necessary and important to continue and develop beyond the age of two, the teaching of the Health Centre sisters, and to bring into our homes the ideals of kindergarten training. Through the Guide badge we have an opportunity for work of great value. We can spread knowledge, and we can form sound public opinion upon the importance of knowledge. We must look for what we need, but the training of the kindergartens and the advice of Health Centre Sisters are readily available for us. A supply of useful books is already on order from England (see below).

The Child Nurse badge should rank with Ambulance and Sick Nurse in respect to the time and attention given to it. In some ways it is even more important, because it concerns a matter in which Guides often exercise full responsibility. The care of sick people may depend largely upon carrying out directions and keeping to a time-table, but girls often take full charge of children between two and five without any direction, rule or warning to guide them. Telling lies, empty threats and frightening, sips and tastes, making children show off, disregard of the effects of cold and fatigue, are faults in the management of children that are absolutely rampant. We need a first-rate tradition—let us make it.

Training for Guides.—Special classes should be arranged for Child Nurse Badge, or special evenings set apart for study. One

instructor might be asked to take the whole syllabus, or two or three might be asked to take a few classes each:—A Kindergarten Teacher for "kept happy and good through self-control and occupation"; including the best kind of plaything; a Health Centre Sister for clothing, cleanliness, rest, exercise and general routine and hygiene; a Doctor for diet, particularly for children of four and five; and, perhaps, an experienced cook. I am not suggesting that all these are necessary for every course, but I wish to help each District to find what the guides will need by inviting the generous aid of those who already have suitable training.

In country companies, a guider and her second-class guides could meet to study books and prepare a perfect volley of questions to be sent to me by post—indeed, if any groups wish to study by correspondence I will gladly send questions and advice on each section of the syllabus.

While special classes are in progress, many jolly and interesting things can happen at Company meetings.

Sewing and washing have too often been neglected in preparing for this badge. Life-long habits of cleanliness and neatness, development of self-respect, and the attitude of strangers towards a child depend largely on the "nurse's" knowledge of elementary sewing and washing. These can very well be undertaken at Company meetings. Begin with competitions for "remembering thimbles" and "threading needles." Discuss best kind of thimble, needle and thread. Give out fastenings of different kinds, and allow a certain time to attach them to pieces of cloth. Have ready perfect samples of each. Arrange competitions and discussions, and then let all try again. A hem with elastic inserted (including ideas on "thrifty" elastic and its proper looseness for children) should be part of this section. The general idea should be "running repairs," including darns.

Washing should be actually practised. Most companies can arrange to have hot water, even if it means a fire out of doors. Use of apron, rolling sleeves, neatness and method are all important.

Cooking should be practised, too—some may be done at the Company meeting; some practised at home and brought to classes.

All these subjects may be used to employ a group of advanced guides, training them to work alone, to overcome difficulties, to explore, and find out. If the work is written down and given to Patrol Leaders, and if Guiders have prepared carefully what will be required, satisfactory work can be done in a short time (20-25 minutes).

Let Guides try first, to find out how much

they know. Then check by a correct sample to find out how much more they need to know. "Learn by Doing" is our watchword.

Guides should know a number of nursery rhymes, and know each one right through. "Mother Goose" is a good addition to the library.

Diet:—When diet has been taught at the special classes, guides can cut from magazines and mount pictures of the food required, or draw the things on cardboard for themselves, colour them and cut them out.

Routine: Daily routine should be one of the subjects taken at the class. Make a cardboard clock-face. Divide the company into pairs—a nurse and a child. Announce the age of the child for the evening. Place the hands of the clock. Show a card for "a.m." or "p.m." blow a whistle. The "nurses" immediately begin to set the children to the proper occupation for the time of day.

The Test:—A leaflet on the Child Nurse Test will be prepared in accordance with the syllabus.

Books:—**Leaflet on Diet:** Procurable on application from Prahran Health Centre, Malvern Road and Clarence Street.

Healthy Childhood. Dr. Mary Weston. Priced (about) 4/6. On order from England to H.Q.

Children from Two to Five, by Edith L. Maynard. Price (about) 9d. On order from England to H.Q.

G. H. SWINBURNE,
Head of Tests and Badges.

ARTIST BADGE.

Useful suggestions for Artist Badge are now available at headquarters. They include:—A list of certificates that may qualify for certain sections.

Suggestions for time and type of test.

Interpretation of Section 3.

G. H. SWINBURNE,
Head of Tests and Badges.

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

Mrs. Faulkner, the Divisional Commissioner for the South-Eastern suburbs, entertained the members of the local associations of the Division at her home on July 18th. Mrs. Faulkner reported on the satisfactory progress of Guiding in the Division, much of which was due to the help given during the year by the local associations. Miss Bush gave an interesting address on the origin and development of the movement.

Lady Allen, President of the Toorak and Armadale L.A., and Mrs. Plowman, Vice-President of the Oakleigh and Murrumbidgee L.A., both thanked Mrs. Faulkner for the opportunity she had given their fellow members to meet Miss Bush, and to learn more about the activities of the other districts.

BIRDS OF THE OPEN AVIARY.

2.—THE SUPERB WARBLER.

Not, as it may be thought, because they warble superbly, is this name given to the family of little birds commonly known as Blue Tits, Blue Bonnets, or Blue Wrens, but because they belong to the class of "Warblers" and are, by virtue of their plumage, indeed superb. It is true they can warble very daintily—who has not heard with delight their joyous little trill?—but it is not equal to that of some of their relatives, the Reed Warblers, for instance, who, though lacking gorgeous feathers, can excel in song.

In a tangle of prickly acacia, so close to the ground that the bracken and heath hid it from view, was the grass-woven nest from which Jimmy, a little Superb Warbler, first looked out through the round opening in its side, at the wonderful world around him. And let no one be so superior as to say that even a little Blue Tit with nothing to show but a cavernous mouth, and few stubbly feathers on his paunchy little body, has not the sense to appreciate the beauty which surrounds him; or to deny aesthetic taste to birds which keep their song in tune or, like Jimmy's parents, who chose the loveliest spot in the Open Aviary in which to build their nest, and then crowned it with several bits of greenest moss in which to stick a single small crimson feather, dropped by a passing red-browed finch, thus giving a tiny splash of colour to delight their eyes, even as it did mine.

Young Jimmy, I must confess, did not at first match the beauty of his home, and between him and his two sisters there was little to choose. During their infancy, in ugliness and in a voracious capacity for food. By some early mischance in the nest, however, or perhaps through an earlier imperfection in the egg, it soon became apparent that the sad distinction was Jimmy's of possessing only one foot, and instead of a second set of four clever toes, he had nothing but a straight stick of a leg with which to help balance his plump little body. Despite this deformity, he thrived rapidly with the others, and when they made their first appearance at the Birds' Bath he already showed great skill in hopping about and, with assistance from one wing, in coming to a balance on twig or bough. In their first plumage there is very little difference between the two sexes, but while the little hen birds remain in the same modest grey garb all their lives, Jimmy, as we shall see, becomes later on very much "a bird of a different colour!"

Lloyd, the yellow robin, and several white-browed wrens, were at the Bath when Jimmy and his relatives arrived, and they were soon accepted into the friendly community without any advantage being taken of his unhappy lameness.

The summer slipped by, as all summers do, too quickly for man or bird, and Jimmy's father, with most of the other grown males, put off their showy jackets and caps of blue and black, and for a season mixed unostentatiously with the clan in a common uniform. During the winter Jimmy became very tame, and was, perhaps, our most regular visitor, taking food from our hands without the least fear. He seemed to make a point of showing off how little he cared for the loss of a foot, and would come prop, prop, propping along till he reached the bath, when with a spring he landed on the edge, balanced himself on one foot and the stump, and leaned down to sip the water which he loved. But his great show-piece was a Blondin feat, in which he took especial pride. Near the bath is a thin rope, hanging slack between two tea-tree posts—part of the fixing for a hammock—and when Jimmy was called near this spot he would invariably fly to the rope, and though it swung and shook, and his poor stump slipped off one side and then off the other, he would stick to it till at last he got a firm poise, and then give a long warble of triumph and satisfaction.

As a rule the young male Superb Warblers do not change plumage during their first year, but remain bachelors, and unadorned, until the second Spring, but perhaps because he was hatched very early in his year, and was thus nearly twelve months old when Spring came round, young Jimmy proved an exception, and one day in early August he arrived with a blotched and ragged appearance about the head and shoulders. In two days more a sprinkling of black and blue feathers appeared, and was soon followed by a complete cap and jacket of bright blue, transforming him into a resplendent little beau in full nuptial attire. During the busy, happy days which followed, our hero's dazzling coat caught the sun, and his high-pitched warble caught the ear, as bravely as any of the others, and before very long he had captivated a little admiring bride. A proud and attentive spouse was he, guarding her jealously, indefatigable in finding her food, and always ready to parade for her admiration his gifts of beauty and song.

Through the bright days of early summer, when the sun sparkled on green and bronze and red tipped shoots of boughs, when wildflowers still lingered in the sheltering scrub, and there seemed no need for more delight, many a further debt of happiness did we incur from the momentary flash of colour which Jimmy, or one of his similarly bonnetted cousins, lent to the surroundings with sight-arresting contrast or satisfying harmony.

One morning, towards the end of summer, Jimmy, with several of his kin, in whose company also were a couple of wrens and the pertest of little thornbills, were prospecting about near the bath for remnants of crumbs, when all were

started into alarm by the loud notes, beautiful in themselves, but charged with dread for all small birds, of a Butcher-Bird near at hand.

"Fly! Fly!" piped Jimmy to his companions, who lost no time in darting for the protection of the tea-tree. Another second, and Jimmy, too, would have been safe in that kind shelter, but owing to his lame leg and to the fraction of time expended in giving his shrill warning, his doom was sealed. With arrow-like flash of wings the Butcher-Bird swooped upon him, and Jimmy was borne aloft to quick and horrible destruction.

Poor, brave, beautiful little fellow. what a sad, untimely ending to your short but happy life! The bath will never again reflect your brilliant blue, the rope on which you did your Blon-din act sways useless in the breeze. and though other Warblers come and go, we never see one without a sad and affectionate thought for lame but gallant Jim.

ABOUT BOOKS.

Do Guiders, generally, realise that there is an abridged form of the Girl Guide Handbook which can be bought by the Guides for 9d.? It is called "**Steps to Guiding**," and contains all of Girl Guiding that the girl of Guide age needs; the sections which are not included being those dealing with the Brownie and Ranger branches, and Guiders.

A good text book on First Aid is a welcome addition to the Company or Patrol Library. The St. John Ambulance Association's handbook is excellent, but so abbreviated that it is not satisfactory for the use of the Guides themselves. We recommend, therefore, the "**Gil-craft Talks on Ambulance**" (price 2/-), by Dr. W. L. Stephen. The book is very clearly and brightly written, and makes the subject as attractive and thrilling as it should be when taught to the Guides. Every Guider would do well to handle this book. It is in the H.Q. Library, and is also for sale at the Guide Equipment Depot.
—F.V.B.

PLEASE NOTE!

Equipment.

There seems to be some misunderstanding regarding the price of haversacks. These are on sale at the Equipment Depot at 4/- each—not 2/6, as some purchasers seem to think. For Guides who wish to make their own haversacks, paper patterns are on sale at 3d. each.

The Second Class Test pamphlet will be on sale at the Equipment Depot in the second week in August.

Accounts.

It does not appear to be generally understood that Headquarters cannot run credit accounts

for town Companies or Guiders. The keeping of the 350 odd accounts of Country Companies, Packs, prospective Guiders, etc., now takes practically all Miss Sweeting's time. Also, from a financial aspect, we need more and more cash customers and less credit accounts, as we have to pay monthly accounts for the goods we buy.

For Sale.

A country Guider who has given up Guiding wishes to sell her uniform. Any Guider who is interested may see it if she will apply to Miss Barfus at Headquarters.

Found.

A Ranger Tenderfoot badge, with initials on back, was found by Mr. J. Kollosh, of U.S. Cars, in one of his Belgrave cars recently. The owner may have the badge on identifying it at Headquarters.

Cookery Books.

Some time ago Mrs. Mountain, District Commissioner for Fern-tree Gully, very kindly offered a number of copies of her **Cookery Recipe Books** to any Local Association which would like to dispose of them for the benefit of their funds. A number of these books is still available, and District Secretaries may have any number on payment of postage. The books are usually sold at one shilling each.

Annual Sports.

The Richmond and East Melbourne District will hold its second Annual Sports Day early in October. They announce that the Country Dances for competition will be "Hey, Boys, up we go," and "Oranges and Lemons." "Hey, Boys, up we go" is a square set for four, and "Oranges and Lemons" is a dance for eight Guides.

APPOINTMENTS.

District Commissioner:—

Croydon—Mrs. Ian Cameron, Calmora, Croydon.
Mornington—Mrs. W. W. Leggatt, Aulua, Mornington.

WARRANTS.

Captains:—

1st Heidelberg—Miss B. Bedgood.
2nd Prahran—Miss C. Broadhurst.
2nd Preston—Mrs. Frost.
1st Skipton—Miss E. Elder.
4th South Yarra—Miss J. Inglis.
5th Victorian Lones—Miss R. Mackie.
1st Terang—Miss M. Williams.

Lieutenants—

1st Alphington—Miss M. Sharwood.
1st Mordialloc—Miss M. Whitaker.
1st South Yarra—Miss F. Thompson.

Brown Owls:—

1st Clunes—Miss M. McDonald.
1st South Yarra—Miss E. Rushworth.