

Mark Bush

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Matilda.



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

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GUIDERS' CONFERENCE.

EVENING SESSION.

Dr. A. E. Floyd talked for half an hour to the Guiders about teaching others to sing. He said that everyone must envy the Guiders their opportunity of increasing the intelligent happiness of other people, and that getting the Guides to sing was one way of doing this.

Dr. Floyd recommended the use of a tuning fork to give a definite note (C or A), from which any other note could be gauged. People were usually better singers than they thought, and it was to be remembered that, when a number of people sing together, the virtues appear, while the vices seem to disappear.

Sea-Chanties, like "Billy Boy," were interesting to sing, but some were quite difficult to learn, and different books gave different versions of the tunes. It was best to choose an easy tune, and then to give the Guides confidence for their singing. A helpful device for teaching the tune was to "point the music in the air" with the hand, showing the relative position of the notes to be sung. Dr. Floyd thinks it better not to attempt to make the singing perfect as one goes along, but to get the whole idea of the song first, and polish afterwards gradually.

Dr. Floyd recommended some books which would be useful to Guiders: The Chanty Book, Part 1 (Curwen); Twice 55 Community Songs (9d., at H.Q.); Terry's Nursery Rhymes, Books I, II and III, which contained delightful new settings of old nursery rhymes. Rounds are the quickest way of teaching part-singing.

Parry's "Jerusalem" was really meant by the composer to be sung as a solo for the first verse, with full chorus for the second verse. This method should be applied to many songs, and was a better idea than everyone singing all the time. Alternate verses could be sung as solo and chorus.

Dr. Floyd explained that the attitude of the singer's mind affected his singing. We needed to have in our minds the pictures of beautiful tones which we wished to produce—and then to make the singing as much like that as possible.

Summing up his most interesting and helpful talk, Dr. Floyd said: "Give the girls the note—have the song in your own mind—and if you are all in agreement that you want it to go straight—it WILL go!"

The Guiders' enthusiastic applause proved their appreciation of this talk.

CONFERENCE SESSION—Continued.

The Deputy State Commissioner, Lady Chauvel, was in the Chair for the evening session. The rest of the Agenda was dealt with:—

GENERAL.

1.—What do you consider is the etiquette to be observed on the occasion of a visit by a Commissioner, a clergyman, visiting Guider, member of the L.A., or other friend, to your Company?

Miss V. Walter (9th Geelong) spoke on this question, stressing the necessity for making the visitor feel at home. She thought that the Commissioner should be given some sort of a welcome to show the Guides were glad to see her. The Commissioner would probably prefer the Company meeting to proceed without interruption, but she should at least be consulted about this—not just put in a corner

for the rest of the evening! If the clergyman visited her Company, she usually asked him to open the meeting with a prayer.

It was suggested by one Guider, who is also a Commissioner, that two Guides should be sent outside to meet the visitor—one to bring her in, and the other to run on ahead and warn the Company of her approach; otherwise the visitor was liable to be left standing while the warning took place.

2.—What should be the attitude of the Guider in regard to the Commissioner visiting the Company?

It was agreed that, if the Commissioner is to be the friend and helper of the Captain, she needs to be in touch with the Company and its work, and when she visits, it is as a friend, to encourage and help, rather than in a spirit of criticism. Guides should be made to feel that her visit is a special thrill, not an ordeal. The Commissioner should be received with the respect due to her position, and at the same time with the utmost frankness, cordiality and friendliness.

The Chairman here referred back to a previous discussion, during the afternoon session, on Question 4 of the Guide section, dealing with the subject of Ranger-age Guides, in a District which has no Ranger Company.

Miss Cameron (Head of Rangers) spoke about the inadvisability of Ranger Patrols attached to a Guide Company. It had been found in practice, both in England and here, that a Ranger Patrol hampered the younger Guides of the Company, in their development of leadership, and was also a hindrance to the members of the Ranger Patrol and their development as adults.

Lady Chauvel urged the need of forming more Ranger Companies, and drafting the older girls into them.

The agenda was then proceeded with:—

3.—The general public frequently complain about Guides in uniform being seen out after ten o'clock at night. Are we being careful about this?

It was agreed that sometimes Rangers or Guiders in uniform may be mistaken for Guides. The important thing was that anyone in uniform should not attract attention to themselves by unseemly behaviour. It was advisable that one should avoid being out late in uniform, when possible.

4.—Is the feeling against the wearing of lanyards by Guiders general?

An animated discussion took place, giving the advantages of and objections to the wearing of lanyards, but when put to the vote, a large majority decided for keeping the lanyard as part of a Guider's uniform, as laid down in the rules.

5.—Seaside Hikes and the Protection of the Tea-tree.

Miss Hayman (1st Sandringham), appealed to Guiders to help the authorities to protect the tea-tree—particularly the young plants—along the foreshore. To replace the diseased trees, young trees had been planted, but picnickers were very careless and even Guiders had been found playing in and out among the tea-tree and treading down the young plants. It was against the law to pick any part of the tea-tree, and Miss Hayman asked Guiders who used the foreshore for their Guide hikes to call the Guides' attention to the need for care.

This finished the Agenda, and Lady Chauvel asked Miss Irving to speak about several things in connection with the Equipment Depot at Headquarters.

The new style of Guide hat was first discussed, while a sample, obtained from England, was passed round among the Guiders. There was much discussion as to the respective merits of the old and new styles. It was finally agreed, on Lady Chauvel's suggestion, that Guiders should consult their Companies as to whether they would like to change to the new style of hat, and that they should pass the information on to the Commissioners. Meanwhile Headquarters would make enquiries about prices of local manufacture, etc.

Lady Chauvel asked Guiders whether they would prefer to have a local rule that Guiders' hats should be turned down all round, all the year round, and not just in summer. When put to the vote, a small minority voted for this, so no alteration was proposed.

Miss Irving drew Guiders' attention to the fact

that chinstraps were no longer recorded in the Rules as an item of a Guide's uniform, so they need not be worn, though uniformity was advisable throughout a Company, and it was known that some Companies preferred to wear them to keep their hats on.

A suggestion had been handed in that Friday night was not a suitable night for the holding of Training Classes, as it did not suit many Guiders. It was explained that classes are held on Mondays as well usually, and that the days could be arranged to suit Trainees, if their wishes were known beforehand.

A suggestion was sent in that Half-Hour Classes should be arranged at Lunch-Time. It was suggested by Miss Swinburne that a Trainer might be available for 1½ hours one day a week at lunch-time, to answer questions, etc., for Guiders who liked to come to Headquarters then.

Lady Chauvel said that the idea would be considered, and details of arrangements would appear in "Matilda."

Miss Swinburne then spoke to the Guiders about a scheme initiated by the National Conference of the Y.W.C.A., and taken up by the Pan-Pacific Conference, in order to find out the value of women's wages from the point of view of migration. The scheme had the interest of the Geneva Labour Office, and of the English Migration authorities.

In order to have some definite information about Australian conditions of work and wages for women, the Y.W.C.A. are preparing sets of special books and records, which women are to be asked to keep, to show, under certain headings, their detailed expenditure. They were looking for volunteers to undertake this for the purpose of the enquiry, and it was thought that some Guiders might be willing to keep such accounts as a definite piece of service. The records, etc., would not be ready for about three months, but Miss Swinburne would be glad to hear from any Guiders who would offer to help in this way.

Lady Chauvel, summing up the Conference, said that whereas 180 Guiders had attended the 1928 Conference, over 200 had come to this one, and it was gratifying to see so many Guiders take this opportunity of helping each other, and gaining hints for themselves. She proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Walter for her Chairmanship during the afternoon session, and this was carried with applause. The Conference was then closed.

FIRST-CLASS TEST.

First Class is at last "coming to the front" among our Victorian companies. We need, most of all, **experience**. Guiders who will really tackle the matter, think it over hard, and find out what is best will do a very good deed for Guiding in Victoria—a deed that may "spread" finally far beyond our own State. Let us not ask so much "What must we do?", "What has everyone else done?", but rather try something ourselves, and see if it will work. The older countries look to us as pioneers, have we forgotten that?

The ideal of becoming a First Class Guide should be the driving force of our companies. The use of definite knowledge for character training is one distinctive feature of the Guide movement; the tests for First Class have been chosen because of their opportunities for training, the need for using the knowledge Guides have obtained. A Guide must have character, initiative, alertness, she must have practised individually and be really responsible for what she undertakes.

Practical Suggestions.

1. Be sure that every Second Class Guide knows the list of First Class tests.

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."

On Saturday, September 28th, at 2.30 o'clock, the Rev. G. Cox, Guide Lecturer in Natural History at the National Museum, Melbourne, will talk to Brownie Guiders. It is hoped that every one will attend. All Guiders, whether Brownie, Guide or Ranger, are invited also.

A pack leaders' afternoon and evening has been arranged for Saturday, October 12. Miss Paling and Miss Thewlis will be in charge, and will meet pack leaders of Melbourne and suburbs at 3 p.m. at Heidelberg station.

ADRIENNE PALING, Head of Brownies.

2. Take one thing at a time. The whole First Class test looks something intangible, and hard to tackle; look at one clause, and one only—it becomes surprisingly easy.

3. Develop Group Work. We tend to treat our companies and patrols too much as units. To establish our company spirit and our patrol unities is the first step, but when that is done we must take the next step, or we shall lose what we have attained. The next step is individual initiative. Arrange activities for individual Guides or for small groups—Provide books for obtaining information on History of the Movement (Guiding for the Guide, ps. 7-13, and Annual Reports). Allow Guides to mount pictures and look up information.

Local maps with quarter miles marked can be used for judging distances. Guides can make paper compasses and practise with them, and make small maps round their own hall. For walking two miles they can begin with short distances and gradually work up until they can do one mile out and one mile back to the hall in half an hour.

4. Prepare indoors for outdoor work, so that the Guides are waiting eagerly for a field day—when they can practise what they have learnt. Allow plenty of time for patrols to discuss plans for a field day and make preparations. Make sure that Guiders handle Natural History books for themselves.

Useful Books.

Bush Boy's Book (Donald McDonald);
Easy Guide to Southern Stars (Orr);
Nature Studies in Australia (Gillies & Hall);
Flashlights of Nature (Grant Allen);
Useful Birds of Southern Australia (Hall).
The very best of wishes, and may Victoria soon show many First Class Badges, well won and worthily worn.

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

BIRTHDAY PARTIES.

9th Geelong.

On Friday, July 26th, 1929, this date being the nearest Friday to the Company's Birthday—July 25th, a party was arranged to celebrate the occasion of the company attaining the age of five years. The function was held in St. Andrew's Sunday School Hall. St. Paul's Guide Company, Christ Church Guide Company, and the Rangers who were formerly guides in our company were invited.

The programme, which included games, country Dancing a Guide competition, sing-song and supper, seemed to be thoroughly enjoyed by all.

As our Guides had for some time been making articles for the Bethany Babies Home, each patrol displayed in their Corners many dainty garments and original toys which they had finished. Captain and Lieutenants also had a Corner, and exhibited many curios as well as goods for the Babies' Home.

The following were the articles sent to the Babies' Home:—11 woollen balls, 4 dressed dolls, 5 rattles, 2 bonnets, 1 pair of shoes, 1 picture book, 4 singiets, 7 jackets, 1 tin baby powder, 5 cakes of soap, 2 face washers, 2 feeders, 1 pair of gaiters, 1 quilt, 2 petticoats 1 dress.

A beautiful birthday cake was given to the company by Mrs. Robertson.

After supper Miss Stringer, Captain of the Christ Church company, presented the prizes to the Guides who had been successful in winning "Jump the Carpet" and the "Jumbled Word Competition."

Joyce Smith, on behalf of the Christ Church Guide Company, thanked our company for the enjoyable evening they had spent, and presented us with a book for our library. One of the St. Paul's guides also thanked us for the enjoyable time they had had, and handed us a garden syringe for the Guides' Gardens around the Church. Our former Lieutenant, Mrs. Hill, who was unable to be present, sent us a guide book for the library. Taps and the National Anthem brought the evening to a close.

1st Murrumbeena.

The 1st Murrumbeena Girl Guides held their third birthday party in the Murrumbeena State School on Saturday evening, 17th August. About 80 persons, including parents, friends and representatives of the Local Association Executive, 1st Oakleigh Guides and Rangers, Oakleigh Brown Owl, 1st Carnegie Guides, and 2nd East Malvern Guides joined in the fun.

The hall was prettily decorated with iceland poppies and gum by Miss Ingram (one of the Executive), who also added to the sweetness of the evening by bringing along a big box of chocolates and another of snowballs.

The Commissioner was welcomed by a Guard of Honour, after which Dr. Springthorpe read the annual report. Then followed games and competitions and country dancing, the central factor of the evening being a horseshoe ceremony, when three girls were invested as Patrol Leaders.

Supper was provided by the Guides' parents,

during which the room was temporarily darkened, the three red candles alone lighting up the birthday cake, and then the singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem brought the happy gathering to an end.

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS BUILDING FUND.

In response to the Appeal for funds for the new Imperial Headquarters Building, £63 17/ has so far been contributed by Victorian Guides, and further promises bring the amount up to £104 13/-.

The Executive Committee cabled this month to the General Secretary, asking if a staircase (£100) could be reserved as Australia's gift, but the cable in reply stated that there were no longer any staircases available, and we are awaiting a letter with suggestions as to what parts of the building are still needed, and we hope that we shall be able to announce next month what is suggested.

The following is a list of the contributions and promises which have been received. Interim receipts have been issued by us pending receipt of the individual certificates which will be sent from England when the total sum is sent.

Contributions for Bricks, etc.

	Paid.	Promised.
1st Ararat Co.	£1 0 0	
1st Broadford Co.	1 0 0	
1st Bruthen Co.		10 0
1st Camperdown Co.	2 6	
2nd Camperdown Co.	12 6	
1st & 2nd Camperdown Packs		12 6
3rd Camperdown Pack	5 0	
3rd Camperdown Pack	5 0	
Casterton District	1 0 0	
1st Derrinallum Pack	10 0	
1st Derrinallum Co.		1 10 0
Digby L.A.	10 0	
Digby Guides & Rangers	5 0	
Ferntree Gully District Companies and Packs	1 5 0	
1st Moe Co.		12 6
1st Moonee Ponds Co.	12 6	
1st Moonee Ponds Pack	2 6	
1st Mornington Co.	10 0	
1st Mornington Pack	2 6	
Mrs. Edward Manifold (stair)	2 10 0	
Pakenham District	1 15 0	
Portland L.A.	1 10 0	
St. Arnaud L.A. (step)	2 10 0	
St. Arnaud Co. (step)	2 10 0	
1st Sale Co.	10 0	
Miss Isobel Stewart	5 0	
1st Stratford Co.	1 0 0	
Sandringham & Hampton District	17 6	
Terang L.A.	5 0 0	
1st Terang Co.	7 6	
1st Up. Beaconsfield Pk.	5 0	
1st Williamstown Co.	10 0	
1st Yallourn Co.		£2 0 0
	£27 15 0	£5 5 0

Contributions to General Fund from Victoria.

	Paid.	Promised.
1st Armadale Rangers	£1 2 6	
1st Altona Co.		10 0
Barwon Division		not specified
Bendigo L.A.	1 1 0	
Cheltenham District		not specified
1st City of Melbourne Co.	1 8 6	
Clunes L.A.		£5 0 0
Sth. Camberwell District	5 5 0	
1st Drouin Co.	2 0 0	
East Melbourne and Richmond District		20 0 0
Echuca L.A.	2 2 0	
2nd Essendon Co.	2 6	
1st Footscray	7 6	
Perntree Gully District	3 1 0	
Hawthorn District		not specified
1st Horsham	1 1 0	
1st Kyabram Co.	1 0 0	
1st Kyabram Rangers	10 0	
Kyabram L.A.	1 0 0	
Kew District		not specified
1st Kerang Co.	1 0 0	
1st Lakes Entrance Co.	10 0	
1st Lancefield Co.	10 0	
Northcote District		5 0 0
3rd North Melbourne Co.	2 6	
North Melb. District	2 12 0	
Northern Division		3 0 0
1st Omeo Co.		1 1 0
Swan Hill District	3 0 0	
Stratford L.A.		1 0 0
2nd Toorak Co. (St. Catherine's)	2 0 0	
1st Toorak Paek	6 6	
2nd Warrnambool Co.	6 0 0	
1st Wonthaggi		not specified
TOTAL—	£36 2 0	£35 11 0
	Payments.	Promises.
Bricks, etc.	£27 15 0	£5 5 0
General Fund	36 2 0	35 11 0
	£63 17 0	£40 16 0
Total		£104 13 0

—SYBIL H. IRVING.

NATIONAL MUSEUM NATURE LECTURES.

It was quite by accident that Miss Paling happened to be at the Museum one Tuesday when Rev. G. Cox was giving one of his Tuesday afternoon lectures, but she found it so very interesting and helpful that she has told all her friends about this opportunity for Guiders to increase their knowledge of and interest in the nature lore which forms so important a part of our Guide test work but which Guiders often feel themselves quite incompetent to deal with.

I myself went to the lecture on Insects, and I did wish more Guiders and Guiders had been there. Mr. Cox is so interesting, because he himself is so interested, and we as Guiders need to have our own interest aroused before we can make the Guiders keen. It is so dreadful to hear

Guides say, "Oh! The nature study! I'll never pass that—I hate it!" We know this is an unnatural feeling, caused, I am afraid, by the subject being "taught" from the wrong angle, and I do think that Guiders should seriously make an effort to work up their own enthusiasm and increase their knowledge (the two are really inseparable—one depends on the other). The nature work is our "weak spot," and when there are so few opportunities, comparatively, of getting the nature lore ourselves, should we not show our appreciation of these guide lectures by attending them if we are free? The lectures at present are held from 3 to 4 every Tuesday afternoon, and the syllabus is published up to 24th September, but it is probable that, if the public gives sufficient proof of appreciation, the authorities may extend the series.

Rev. G. Cox is willing to arrange lectures at other times for special parties. —F.V.B.

BIRDS OF THE OPEN AVIARY.

3.—The White-Eared Honeyeater.

A commotion in the gum saplings one Spring morning, in which the shrill cry of the Euna-lated Honeyeaters blended with the louder anger of the White-Eared, told that something interesting was afoot, and an explanation of the hub-bub was immediately sought. Where the domain of the Birds' Bath falls suddenly to a Melaleuca-fringed creek, the excited flight of a number of little birds marked the spot of the disturbance, and there on the projecting bough of a low gum tree clung a large Pallid Cuckoo, crouching against the bark, with one drooping wing, and apparently in pain and trouble. Backwards and forwards flew honeyeaters, tom-tits, yellow-robins and other birds, always angry at the presence of one of these ostracised members of the bird family, and now keen to take advantage of this one's seemingly crippled helplessness, hitting at him with wing or beak, and uttering cries of opprobrium and challenge. The Cuckoo snapped feebly at each little foe as it sped past him, thus keeping them at arm's length, but he made no effort to escape, and when the eagerness of the onslaught showed signs of abating his weakness seemed to increase, and he would flutter to a new spot, or more helpless attitude. This only encouraged his attackers to renewed activity, and it looked as though the poor creature was going to have a far from peaceful ending.

Suddenly from a little distance up the creek came the call of another cuckoo, not the monotonous plaint with which they generally vex our ear, but a quick, interrogating cry for its mate's whereabouts. Immediately it was heard the sick cuckoo sprang alert, made a savage peck at the nearest honeyeater, and flying without a trace of his recent disability, threw forth an answering call. Straight to him in her swift, dipping flight came his mate, and as she approached he joined her on the wing, and together they disappeared in the buoyant sunshine. Was it only imagination, or, as discern-

ment dawned upon me, did there come from the flying couple a little chuckle of mocking triumph over such easily gulled creatures as the honey-eaters and myself. While the malingering male had been enticing away the attention of the proprietors of the neighbouring nests, his lurking mate had selected unmolested a suitable place for her unloved foundling!

To confirm this reading of the plot presented no difficulty, for in that portion of the Aviary nests were few, and we could discard as unlikely the Yellow Robin's, the half-finished completion of little sticks which was the absurd apology for a Wood Swallow's nest, and also that of a Scrub Wren, half hidden in the rubbish on the creek bank. The only other known nest, and by far the most likely repository, was that of the White-Eared Honeyeater, and sure enough, lying there beside the two pretty pink splashed eggs for which it had been built, was found the large creamy-colored egg of the heartless intruders.

A fortnight or so before this date the White-Eared birds had divulged the secret of their abode by regularly lying in wait at the stable for the daily return of its pony occupant, upon whose back they eagerly pounced, and began rapidly to fill their beaks with the loose, soft hairs of his shedding winter coat. Clinging to the pony's back or sides, they soon collected a goodly supply of hair, and with this away they sped to line their nest.

In many places, of course, where White-Eared Honeyeaters abound, there are no horses or cows available, and so some other lining for their nests must be adopted, but go on horseback to any locality in the scrub in nesting time, and in a few minutes a White-Eared (and a White-Eared alone of all the birds) will alight upon the horse's back.

Our particular pair of honey-eaters whether they noticed the addition to their clutch or not, did not seem to make any fuss over it, and the mother-bird continued her sitting with patient perseverance. She and her mate paid regular visits to the Birds' Bath, where they drank and splashed among the other birds with great enjoyment, and then sitting for a while in the shade, they shook and preened their feathers, displaying the black of their heads and throats, which shone in vivid contrast with the bright white patches behind the ears from which they derive their name. Presently, with one of their musical liquid notes, away they would fly, she to her nest and he to pry, and peer, and probe, for food for both, amongst the bark and leaves of the surrounding trees.

In the fulness of time the young were duly hatched two legitimate little squirmers, and the ungainly intruder twice their size. The parent birds showed equal concern for each occupant, and though the foundlings' mouth was always wide agape, and his cries more insistent than those of the rightful heirs, nothing was discernible but a strict impartiality—and he received neither more nor less than his equal share. As

he rapidly outgrew his foster brothers, however, the poor parents, while providing their true offspring with enough nourishment, had to work overtime to supply the voracious stranger. In a little time it was plain that the frail nest would not long suffice for all three youngsters, and sure enough, before long the cuckoo was found in sole possession, and his two ill-used companions were sprawling on the ground beneath. Fortunately the fall was short, and some dried grass had broken its shock, while the care of the old birds, which was in no wise relaxed, had made them as comfortable as possible by pushing together the rude resemblance of another nest. The parents continued to attend to the wants of the occupants or both upper and lower storey, but in spite of their care one of the legitimate young, perhaps injured after all by his fall, soon sickened and died. The ants, finding his body, his little brother had to move, once more, but fortunately he had become partly fledged, and so was able to flutter and struggle to the shelter of a tea-tree's stem. There, in the near vicinity, he remained for some days, carefully provided for by his parents, and rapidly improving his growth of feathers. In the meantime the cuckoo grew prodigiously, and his appetite increased in proportion. Now indeed were the White-Eareds kept busy. No time now in the early morning for the sweet-voiced matins with which they were wont to welcome the sun. No time at midday nor at evening now for lazy dalliance at the bath, a hasty dip for health and cleanliness' sake is all they now allow themselves. Morning, noon and evening, their ceaseless search for food occupies all their time, and with faithful affection they never spare themselves, nor seem to grudge their labors.

By the time the foundling left the nest and clumsily fluttered into neighboring bushes the rightful heir, whom he had jockeyed out of house and home, was able to fly very well, and as he and his foster-brother generally took opposite directions in their short erratic flights the poor old birds had added troubles in longer journeys and the perplexity of keeping each youngster's whereabouts in mind. The little honey-eater was the first to reach full independence, and before long he disappeared to fend for himself, leaving no trace of his presence near the scene of his babyhood. It is pleasant to think, however, when a glossy, green-coated bird, with white patch behind his ears, flies past, or with clear, rich note awakes the echo of the hillside, that this, perhaps, is the same little chap, grown big and strong, and, maybe, all the more resourceful, because of early hardships and ill-treatment.

A day soon came when the cuckoo, feathered now in soft dappled grey, and bigger than both foster parents put together, began taking longer flights, till presently, being in no need of their care, he threw of their guardianship and sailed away to the scenes and habits of his gypsy kin.

The two old honey-eaters were soon again

sunning themselves in the tree tops, enjoying well earned respite and relaxation at the water's edge, and practising all their musical accomplishments, as though no upsetting intruders like young cuckoos ever disturbed their joyful existence.

RANGER DEBATE.

The August meeting of Rangers from the Companies in the metropolitan area took the form of a debate, the subject being "That the White Australia Policy is Justifiable." Miss Cameron, Head of Rangers, was in the chair, and Miss Derham very kindly adjudicated.

The debate was opened on the affirmative side by Miss M. E. Mills (1st Surrey Hills), followed by Ranger Lorna James (1st East Melbourne), upholding the negative side. The "Affirmatives" were supported by Rangers Hazel Parmento (1st East Kew); Sheila Brown (3rd Kew), and other speakers.

The speakers supporting the "Negative" were Rangers Rebecca Isaacs (1st Fitzroy), Edna Jones (1st E. Melbourne), Alice Winch (1st Melbourne), and Hazel Gross (1st E. Melbourne). Other Rangers contributed to the discussion.

After the opener and her opponent had summed up, Miss Derham gave some very helpful comments on the debate from the "technical" point of view, and announced that, in the awarding of points, the negative side had won by 384 points to 323.

The speakers had obviously given much thought to the preparation of their matter, and the debate proved most interesting and helpful in suggesting new points of view on this much-debated subject.

TRAINING.

6th Course of General Guide Training Classes will be held on MONDAYS, from 30th September to 11th November inclusive, at Headquarters, at 7.45 p.m. This will be the final course for the year.

Ranger Guiders' Training Classes.

The course of classes planned for Mondays during October has been altered, and will now take place on Fridays, beginning 20th September. The first two classes (20th and 27th September) will be only for those who have not previously attended a Ranger Training course. The four Fridays in October will be open for any Ranger Guiders or prospective Guiders. The syllabus will be published shortly.

Training Week.

The 19th Victorian Training Week of General Guide Training will be held from 31st December to 7th January, 1930, inclusive. Further details will be announced later.

Brownie Training.

The final Brownie Training Course for the year will be a morning one; details of dates and place will be announced shortly.

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," Healesville, 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.

For list of camp equipment available for hire from Headquarters see list in August issue.

NONE of the equipment, however, will be available during December and January.

Indoor Camp Test.

In order that Guiders who have not a Camper's Licence may take their Guides away to furnished or unfurnished houses, the Executive Committee has approved of an Indoor Camp Test.

Before sitting for this Test, a Guider—

- (a) must be a Warranted Captain;
- (b) must be recommended by her Commissioner, who will do so after consultation with the Head of Camping;
- (c) must have attended a Victorian Training Week or Training Camp;
- (d) must have attended training course in Indoor Camps by the Head of Camping or Guider appointed by her.

The Indoor Camp Test will be taken by the Head of Camping or Guider appointed by her. The certificate will be signed by Guiders' own Commissioner, and the Head of Camping.

It is proposed to hold the first course, beginning in October this year. The Course, consisting of four weekly classes, will be held at Headquarters. Any Guiders may attend the Course, but only those eligible under above conditions may sit for the Test. Dates of classes will be advertised in the daily press, and on Headquarters Notice Board.

Details of the Test may be obtained from Headquarters.

Summer Camps.

The following Summer Camps have been arranged, and will be held near Frankston. Further details will be sent to Commissioners.

Combined Guide Camp, 6th to 13th January, 1930. Commandant, Miss Moore.

Combined Guide Camp, 2nd to 9th January. Commandant: Miss Nethercote.

Combined Ranger Camps, 26th December to 2nd January; 3rd to 11th January. Commandant, Miss Barfus.

Campcraft Week: 18th January to 25th January inclusive. Commandant, Miss Bush.

MERLE BUSH,
Head of Camping.

HEADQUARTERS' TRAINING LIBRARY.

It does not seem to be generally known among Guiders that there is at Headquarters a Reference Library containing already over 300 books, pamphlets, reports, songs, dances, plays, etc. Up to the present there has been no charge for books out, and no time limit for their return. The cost of the books is met by Headquarters. The library is kept up to date with books recommended in the various English Guide publications, supplemented by Boy Scout literature of general interest, as well as books on nature lore, Australian legends, etc. Guiders often find it convenient to borrow a book before buying a copy, to make sure it contains the information they require.

Country Guiders may borrow books if they defray the postage.

The following is a list of the books at present in the Library. The list of magazines, music and songs will be published later.

S. H. IRVING.

LIBRARY LIST.**Boy Scout Publications.**

The Boy Scout and His Law.
 Boy Scout Tests.
 Boy Scout Complete Signalling Instructor.
 The Boy's Book of Swimming.
 Good Scouting.
 How to Run a Troop.
 Hike and Trek.
 Knotted and Splicing Ropes.
 Look Straight Ahead.
 Letters to a P.L. on the Tenderfoot and Second Class Tests.
 Letters to a P.L. on the First Class Test.
 Letters to a P.L. on the Scout Law.
 Letters to a Wolf Cub.
 Maps and How to Read Them.
 The Night Sky.
 Pioneering and Mapmaking.
 Points for Patrol Leaders.
 The Quest of the Boy.
 Scouting Sketches.
 Scouting and the Adolescent.
 The Scout Commissioner's Handbook.
 Scouting Out of Doors.
 Surveying and Mapmaking.
 Saturday Afternoon Scouting.
 Scout Prayers.
 Talks on Ambulance.
 Tribal Training.
 The Wigwam Papers.

Camping.

The Boy Scout Camp Book.
 Campercraft for Girl Guides.
 Camping Out.
 Camp Cooking and Catering.
 The Quartermaster in Camp.
 Standing Camps.
 What to Expect in Camp.

Fiction.

The Golden Age.
 The Lone Guide of Merrifield.

Games.

Brownie Games.
 The Girl Guide Book of Games (Behrens).
 Girl Guide Games and How to Play Them (Davidson).
 Competitive Games.
 The Mauve Book of Games.
 Recreative Games.
 A Book of Games for Rangers and Cadets.
 Scouting Games.
 A Book of Games for Scouts.
 Sixty Indoor Games.
 Team Games (Trotter).
 Gilcraft Book of Games.

Girl Guide Publications.

The Ambulance Badge for Girl Guides.
 A Book on Rangers.
 The Extension Branch.
 The Book of Drills.
 The Girl Guide Laws.
 Girl Guiding.
 Guiding for the Guider.
 Hints on Girl Guide Badges.
 Hints for Second Class (N.Z.).
 The Patrol System.
 Rules, Policy and Organisation (1922 to 1929 incl.).
 Scouting for Girls.
 Saints of the Flag.
 Short Hints on Company Management.
 Steps to Girl Guiding.

General.

Australian Museum Bird Postcards.
 Australian Girl Guide Diary.
 British Red Cross Society—Junior First Aid Manual.
 Junior Nursing Manual.
 Junior Health Manual.
 Hygiene and Sanitation.
 Annual Reports (Victoria), 1927-1928.
 Annual Reports—1919 to 1929 (incl.).
 The Cambridge Conference.
 Camp Prayers.
 Catholic Girl Guide Prayer Book.
 Foxlease.
 Girl Guide Prayers and Hymns.
 The Guide Law—Reading and Prayers.
 The Guider (Mrs. Osborn Hann).
 The Imperial Camp, 1928.
 The Imperial Camp, 1926 (Log Book—F. E. Salmon).
 Kinebook—6 knot charts.
 Lefax Notebook Insets:
 Indoor and Outdoor Games.
 Knots, Hitches and Bends.
 Route Sketching.
 Camp Fires and Camp Cookery.
 Mariner's Compass Card.

(Part only.)