

Matilda.



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

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News, articles, stories, etc., for inclusion in "Matilda" should be forwarded to the Editor, c/o. Girl Guide Headquarters, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, C.I, by twenty-third of the month.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Miss Irving, our State Secretary, has just sailed for a six months' visit to England, the Executive Committee having granted her leave of absence on half-salary as an appreciation of her consistent work and interest during the years she has been in office. It is realised also that her present trip, during which she will see as much Guide work as possible, will be of inestimable value to Guiding here on her return.

The Executive Committee appreciate very much indeed the help Miss Purnell is giving by acting as Honorary Secretary during her absence.

The Executive Committee wish to congratulate Miss Margaret O. Brown on the award of the Eagle Owl Diploma. This is the highest qualification to be gained by a Brownie Trainer, and we are all very proud of having an Eagle Owl of our own, and know it will be a very great help to Brownie work in Victoria.

R. E. FAULKNER.

"A GUIDE MUST KNOW THE WOOD-CRAFT SIGNS."

It was after the discussion on Woodcraft signs, a discussion that had threatened to last the whole afternoon, that the Guider found herself in the wilds of the Public Library.

"Tracking," she murmured to the important-looking but kindly individual behind the high desk. "I should like to see a standard reference book on the subject."

"Tracking!" echoed the puzzled but still helpful keeper of that section.

"Tracking," said the Guider, a little less hopefully.

"Ah yes! tracking." He studied the Guider for a moment thoughtfully. "Tracking—yes, there are many books; you will be wanting something quite elementary, no doubt, something very simple," and he wandered to a row of massive volumes entitled "Replicas of the

Footprints of Prehistoric Animals". The Guider's courage, which had fast been waning, now came back.

"No, not that kind. Not dead tracks. I mean tracks that are made, you know, Indian signs on trees and paths, the woodcraft trail."

Ah, now we had it. "Of course," the librarian beamed. "Of course there is a splendid book, or, rather, two books," and he laid before the Guider two little paper-covered books, those familiar books that have opened the door to woodcraft to so many boys and girls.

The librarian had other books, of course. He had the many histories of the American Indian, and the Woodcraft books of Seton and Kephart were there; but it was to Sir Robert Baden Powell that he turned for reference when asked for an authority on tracking.

It was rather enlightening to the Guider, for had not Girl Guiding been quoted that very afternoon, and whole chunks of it had been torn to pieces. "Who sets tracks on the right nowadays?" "Is a blaze made by a 12-year-old ever satisfactory?" "Do we use that new way of turning to the right with an arrow? Or do we think it utterly wrong?"

All very interesting from the Guider's standpoint, but what of the Guide?

Perhaps we can never teach that elusive thing that is called the "love of nature," but we have in tracking a wonderful chance to put our Guides in contact with a game that must be played out of doors; and a few of them will feel that love. Accuracy is important, of course, and new ideas have their place; an arrow must mean the same thing to the layer as it does to the follower of the track, but it is easy to forget that the ability to follow a track correctly is not an end in itself. It is only opening the door to an intelligent love of the whole outdoors.

And woodcraft is so easy. The door opens of itself to the child. The romance of the secret sign draws the recruit, and it is just there that we Guiders have to watch that we keep the thrill of the game, and do not in our zeal for the latest and correct thing gently shut that door.

Coming home from the library a recent picture came to the Guider. A small recruit to be tested for tenderfoot, rather shy and too well coached by her conscientious Patrol Leader. Every question had been prepared, for every answer word perfect. At last woodcraft signs were all that was left of the test. "What do you like best about Guides?" said the Guider, as they searched for sticks and stones in the garden. "Tracking, of course," came the abstracted answer, as a heavy stone was induced to remain on a comparatively small one. "Why?" the Guider asked the question, though she knew the answer. Surely all Guides like that part of the test best. It is so different from anything we do at school or anywhere else.

"Well," the little recruit was gaining confidence now that the test was so nearly over. "Well, I wasn't thinking, and I don't think I do like it best now, but before I joined Guides I always wanted to track, and Marjorie and me, we made up a whole lot of tracking signs, and we used to scout everywhere.

One day Marjorie put a mark up a tree like this, and I didn't know it meant she was up the tree, and I looked everywhere, and I could not find her."

Suddenly the little recruit came back to earth. What was she doing? Here in the middle of being tested she was telling this strange grown-up all about made-up signs and arrows on trees, which everybody knows is not done "in Guides". Hurriedly she tried to impress the probably disapproving Guider with her knowledge.

"Of course, I would never do that now. My leader says only to practise the correct signs, because you have to do them again for second class. Captain sets a track, and you have to follow it." Carefully she brushed away the sticks that had formed the "wrong sign" that had gone up the tree in the wrong way. "Anyway, I don't like tracking best now, our leader showed us how to make a morse flag out of silk, and I like signalling best now."

Happily the child went home, the Guider said she knew her tenderfoot very well indeed, now she could work for second class and then Badges, but far far away in the distance the Guider heard the door to the love of woodcraft shut.

D.H.

THE LAWS OF COPYRIGHT.

We would like to draw the attention of Guiders to the following extract from an article by Mr. Kenneth Curwen, which appeared in the March issue of "The Guider."

Copyright is a very difficult and complicated question, and it is natural, perhaps, that it should not be fully understood by many.

The underlying principle, however, is a quite simple one. No one has the right to copy the work of another man without his written permission, until fifty years after his death. There can be no copyright in an idea, but only in the words or notation in which that idea is expressed. In a musical work the principle is carried rather farther, for not only the notation of the music is protected, but the actual performance in public of the musical sounds of a written work is covered. In a dramatic work the public speaking of the written words is likewise protected.

It is quite fair that this should be so. Composers could not live if anyone could use their work, nor could publishers pay for the printing of works if anyone might copy them, and there would then be no rapid spread of ideas and no variety of choice available. Each little group of people would be limited to the writings and tunes they could themselves produce, and progress would be very slow.

But many people quite innocently think they can buy a piece of music and copy it on the blackboard for a class to learn, or even make their own written or stencilled copies. It is much cheaper than buying copies, but if everyone did the same it would soon become far more expensive. Quite recently a school teacher wrote to a firm to ask for specimens of school songs. After a few weeks some of them

were returned with a letter to say that the rest would follow as soon as the necessary copies had been made for the school. There was no attempt to deceive, and the correspondent evidently thought his action quite reasonable.

Enquiries are being made in Melbourne, and we hope to be in a position to publish further details in our next issue.

GUIDERS' CONFERENCE.

The 3rd Victorian Guiders' Conference will be held on Saturday, 19th July, 1930, at the University of Melbourne, by the courtesy of the Registrar.

The Conference will take the same form as last year, beginning with luncheon at 1 p.m. in the Cafeteria in the University Grounds. There will be Conference sessions in the afternoon and evening, and it is hoped that many Guiders will take this opportunity to meet and discuss any matters which they may wish.

In order to make definite arrangements about seating accommodation and meals, it will be necessary to know the approximate number of Guiders who will be able to attend, and Guiders are asked to let their Division or District Commissioner know. Railway Concessions will be available for Guiders travelling singly or in parties.

All Guiders in the State, whether able to attend the Conference or not—are asked to send in, through their Commissioner, subjects for the Agenda, and any other suggestions.

Further details will be published in the "Sun" and "Argus" (Tuesdays) and the "Age" (Wednesdays).

E. H. PURNELL, Hon. State Secretary.

TRAINING.

Training Classes:

Guiders should communicate with their Commissioner before attending Classes, and everyone who has not previously been nominated must bring a Nomination Form signed by her Commissioner.

A charge of 3d. per night is made to cover expenses of classes.

Notices of Training Classes, etc., are published in Tuesday's "Argus" and "Sun," 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 4th Course of General Guide Training will begin on Monday, 16th June, and continue for about eight Mondays. Guider in Charge: Miss D. J. Thewlis.

Brownie Training.

The next course of Brownie Guiders' Training Classes will begin on Tuesday, 1st July. Guider in Charge: Miss M. Alenson.

Ranger Training.

The next Course of Training for Ranger Guiders will begin on 3rd July. Guider in Charge: Miss Barfus.

M. E. BUSH, Head of Training.

ASTRONOMER—"Proficiency Badge."

Few people realise what marvellous things have been discovered about the stars, and what deep interest lies in even a simple study of their names, character and movements, yet, by using one or two books, a Captain or Lieutenant could work with her Guides for the Astronomy Badge, and every one of them would soon be eager to pass beyond the limits of the test.

A special subject such as Astronomy is often particularly suitable for a Lieutenant to undertake with a small group of Guides. Some preliminary talks by a friend who knows the subject, if they are illuminating but simple and exact, may arouse in Guides a sense of the possibilities before them.

Books Recommended:

For general knowledge: "The Wonders of the Stars," McCabe, 3/3.

Essential for Identification: "Easy Guide to Southern Stars," Mrs. Orr, 2/-.

For the causes of day and night, seasons and tides: "Federal Geographies" Grade 7 (used in all State Schools); Grade 8, section 2. Most atlases contain a page of diagrams to illustrate seasons, eclipses, etc.

Legends.—Legends are interesting to explain the names of stars, or as stories that people believed in olden days when they watched the wonder of the sky that they had no means to understand, but legends should be used late in work for astronomy, and only after the Guides have begun to learn the reality. Guides want real knowledge, and a mixture of legend and truth bothers them if it is introduced too early.

Telescopes.—An electric torch is useful, for the eye can follow the beam of light far into the darkness, and identify more readily any particular stars. Cardboard tubes, such as are used for posting documents, may represent telescopes; they give a clearer view of any constellation by isolating it from the others. Seafaring men or amateur astronomers sometimes possess small telescopes, and such people are usually delighted to demonstrate to others who share their interests.

Suggestions for Working.—1—Make sure that Guides understand at least eight points of the Compass, and can find any one of them readily in daytime (Girl Guide Diary, pp. 153, 213; Bush Boy's Book, Chapter 19, p. 250, Team Games, p. 36).

2.—Find the South at night by means of the Southern Cross, and identify the three other main constellations that swing about the pole (Easy Guide, Map 2). Notice carefully the varying positions at different times of the same night and at the same time in different months.

Draw a circle with two diameters at right angles to one another. Imagine the twelve hours as on a clock face, and mark points where the diameters touch the circle, as 12, 3, 6 and 9. Provide something to represent the Cross. It may be only a stick, or it may be a proper

model made by Guides. Consult "Easy Guide," p.14, and learn positions of Cross in February, May, August and November. Choose a certain hour (9 o'clock, for example), and, placing the Cross in various positions, always pointing the long diameter of the Cross to the centre of the circle, ask Guides to estimate the time. The Cross takes two hours to travel between every hour number on the imaginary clock face, for it completes the circle every twenty-four hours.

The method given in the diary is more complicated, but is more accurate, and is free from extra risk of error. Guides must understand clearly that all estimations they will be able to make are approximate only—but if they check their estimates they will learn how to make them more nearly accurate. Unless instruments are used, every additional step or process makes additional opportunity for error, and therefore constant practice with simple methods is generally better than aiming at immediate accuracy with complicated methods. This applies particularly to finding the South by the Cross, not so much to estimating time of night; therefore use the method for finding the South that is given in "Easy Guide" rather than the one in the Diary.

"Five thousand years ago the Southern Cross was visible from the Baltic, and it is now on its return journey from the South, to appear again above the European horizon."—From "Flags of the World" (W. J. Gordon).

This may possibly explain why some Southern constellations ("Easy Guide," map 30), were recognised and named in ancient days; compare map 30 with unasterisked names on p. 13.

3.—The signs of the Zodiac could well be studied after the Polar constellations. (Easy Guide, pp. 7-9, and various maps). From these Guides should learn to estimate the time if they know the compass point, or the compass point if they know the time. All other stars and constellations can easily be placed in their relation to the signs of the Zodiac.

4.—The newspapers publish every day, under Shipping and Weather, the time of high tides, the times of the rising and setting of plants and other facts. Plants may be identified by watching these times.

Pictures.—Photographs of astronomical phenomena are often seen in illustrated papers. Books with coloured plates, such as "The Story of the Heavens," by Sir Robert Ball, may be borrowed from a public or a private library.

Excursions.—The Melbourne Observatory is open for visitors every Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Parties of four will be conducted over the Observatory in the evening if application is made in writing to the Chief Astronomer, Melbourne Observatory, South Yarra, S.E.1. The Astronomer will appoint the evening, and it is important that the whole party be strictly limited to four. Larger parties up to twelve in number are occasionally conducted through the Observatory in the evening, but the times available for these parties are booked six months ahead.

G. H. SWINBURNE.

RANGER PAGE.

Rangers, have you got an old autograph book? I have been reading one lately, and it was very interesting, but I wondered what many of the writers who wrote therein would think of their thoughts and promises now. And yet I suppose if you could get all the autographs you ever wrote in, and gathered the thoughts and resolves, you would get a very good idea of your code of life through the years. Every nation has had a code, every society. Every girl has one—sometimes pleasure and self play a big part. Of course, as Rangers we are proud of our Guide Code—the Guide Laws have come to us—the best ideas—from so many sources. Do we think enough about them? This is the Washington State Girls' Code—

"We believe in the joy of living,
Active leadership wherever our influence can help,
Scholarship and service,
High standards of character,
Increasing vision as we go along,
Noteworthy effort for constant improvement,
Giving our best to work and play,
Truthfulness in word, thought and deed,
Obedience to the guiding voice within us,
Natural expression of our natural selves,
Good sportsmanship,
Looking our best, acting our best, attaining our best; for out of these come the durable satisfactions and glorious joys of life."

I like it, don't you?

How is the Nature Work to some; but I hope soon the Nature Joy of all? This is the time to particularly notice the trees; at no time do we see the shape so well; and have we noticed the trees which have lost their leaves. The Jacarandah seems this year to have put on an extra leafy coat. The berries are well worth noticing; not just the striking holly for decoration purposes, but do you think the berries are extra full and beautiful this year? The Pittosporum is also very fine; if you have time to visit the Botanical Gardens for a search, you will be surprised at the number of different kinds.

Somebody asked what Autumn tints were, and when we tried to explain, they didn't seem so wonderful, but a walk round the nearest parks and gardens made us wonder if the glory of the garden is not in autumn.

Talking of trees, what does the Ranger Test mean—"Know six trees by their leaves, flowers, fruit and twigs, and be able to recognise them at fifty yards distance"? First of all, it is not an examination at which you may be failed. It is to help you to learn the ways to recognise a tree, and other trees, and help them to become old friends. Therefore we will need to have been acquainted at least a year, because so much may happen in a year. We note the flower it has, the seed, the fruit, the leaf at different seasons, and the twig, especially if there is a bud; these will be brought to the pow-pow (the test). During our observation we will find that there are many differences in trees of the same family, or with similar names, e.g., Eucalyptus (white gum or ironbark); Oak (English or silky). So be careful to get the right name. The test will be

practical as far as possible. You will be interested checking your observation and knowledge and receiving further information to make our friend more interesting. As leaves from different trees sometimes look very alike, and often there are freak leaves, no single leaf should be given as a catch. As our observation should go on at all times possible, it is better to make acquaintances in your own locality. Trees at fifty yards often look alike. We see a tall, graceful trunk, boughs branching near the top, leaves are long and pointed; it may be a gum or an acacia, or some other similar tree; we can say it looks like a gum or an acacia, and go a little nearer to see some other characteristic, to be sure. Of course, there are some trees quite easily recognised at fifty yards, but some of the Australian ones are very alike. And may these friends introduce you to many other friends.

These cold mornings, when some of us are jibbing with our cold baths, it is interesting to notice that the sparrows seem to be doing so also; the Indian minahs and the starlings and blackbirds still stick to it, but do not linger so long. Did you see in the paper that the tnokk-paltora, the aboriginal name for the long-lost Australian night parrot, is reported to have been found in South Australia? This bird has been thought to be extinct for years. A special expedition lately sent in search for it spent weeks searching in Central Australia. What must have been the thoughts of the scientists when they learned that, some days before, at one place, some black girls and boys set fire to some porcupine grass, drove out a parrot, caught it and ate it—the priceless night parrot! Some day we will hope to see this, one of the rarest Australian birds.

And now, Rangers, you know that the country is going through a very difficult time, and if ever people needed a jolly, helpful, considerate friend, they need it to-day. You who are just coming into community life are perhaps seeing the hard side, but let there be no self-pity; it is the sign of non-success. It may be true, or may not, but it is a fateful element of weakness in any mind; whatever you do, do not pity yourself. If you lose, be a good loser—take your blows. Why should you not have your full share of the hard knocks. And some of the knocks at present are hard—not only for ourselves, but for our family and friends; and so let us be a little more jolly, a little more helpful, and a little more considerate.

SHEILA M. CAMERON, Head of Rangers.

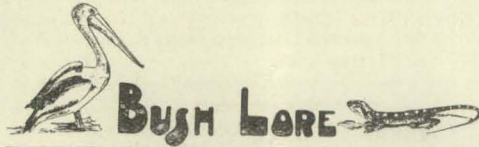
FIELD NATURALIST CLUB.

On July 17th and 18th the Field Naturalist Club of Victoria is holding an exhibition in the St. Kilda Town Hall, to celebrate its jubilee.

Sixteen sections of natural history will be exhibited, including sea-weeds, pond life, plant-life, shells, insects, geology, sea-life, marsupials (living), reptiles, bird-life, aquaria, wild-flowers, animal life, and aboriginal implements, etc.

This exhibition should prove of great interest to Guiders, who would find much useful information in any branch of natural history. Experts will be in charge of each section.

J.H.



BEFRIENDING BIRDS AND ANIMALS.

In the Ranger star there is a clause which reads as follows: "Must have tamed a wild animal or bird herself. (This does not mean keeping it in a cage, but teaching it to come for its food at certain times.)"

I wonder if many Rangers have attempted this, or whether it is thought to be too difficult. It is not nearly so hard as it appears, for animals and birds are quick to respond to any kindness shown them.

The best way of encouraging a bird or animal is to provide food, and, particularly in the case of a bird, plenty of clean water. Care must be taken to see that the creature is not exposed to any danger, through coming for its meals; as an animal becomes tame, it loses much of its natural wariness, and thus falls an easy prey to its enemies, the worst of which is probably the cat.

Food placed in the open will invariably draw birds, especially in the winter time, and after a while they will come regularly, and wait about if the meal is late in appearing. Thrushes and blackbirds are quite easily encouraged this way, and for Rangers who cannot expect these birds, there is always the wary sparrow, who is ever on the look-out for something to eat.

Country districts afford ample scope for the taming of wild creatures, and kookaburras, grey thrush, yellow robins and others, have been known to make delightful bush pets, through kindness and consideration. The value of taming an animal lies in the useful knowledge thus gleaned about its wild ways; this can never be observed in the caged creature, which is deprived of freedom, its greatest charm.



These photos of the squirrel (referred to in the May "Matilda") show how even in town a wild animal may be tamed, and taught to

come for its meals. The first picture shows the squirrel feeding quite fearlessly from the writer's hand.

Notes on the taming of birds and animals by Guiders would be welcomed for "Bush Lore".

On various walks through Toorak, I have seen the grey squirrel, but then I was not very interested in Nature and her children.



I was sorry when one crossed my path just lately that I was too far away to see much of him. A few days later I saw him again, this time crossing the road. He did look quaint, as he took two or three springing bounds with his long, soft tail flowing behind, and then sat up, inquisitively alert. It was an inquisitive attitude, for was not his tail a note of interrogation? He was a pretty blue-grey colour, with brown tinging his chest and hindquarters.



His beautiful tail might almost have covered his little body.

The squirrel entered a garden, and his destination proved to be an old oak tree, which I suppose is a good friend to the little gentleman and his family, supplying them with winter stores.

L.W., Lieut., 2nd North Melbourne Rangers.

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.

PACK LEADERS' DAY.

This is an account of a very pleasant gathering we had in the grounds of Mrs. Andrews' home at Burwood on Saturday afternoon, May 31st, 1930.

Four Pack Leaders and Brown Owl Brown started from the Malvern Town Hall for Burwood, where we had the pleasure of meeting five other Pack Leaders from other districts, and Brown Owl Paling. We walked about half a mile from the tram terminus to our destination, a paddock adjoining the home grounds of the above.

On arriving there, and being a bit chilly, Brown Owl Paling suggested a game of five sticks to warm us. Then we had a game of finding lost fairies (small coloured pieces of paper) glued to sticks which were lying on the ground. We practised semaphore signalling for the first class Brownie test, while two other Pack Leaders lit two fires to boil the billies.

Being very impatient, we signalled to the fire keepers "Tea, please." This made no impression, however, so we waited patiently. We soon began to shiver, but Brown Owl Brown came to our rescue with a very warming game, then a practise in remembering a message:—"3 lbs. bananas, 11 doz. grapes, 2½ carrots, and a bucket of Maples syrup to be left at third house on the left-hand side of the road."

After all this we settled down to our tea, but we were troubled by the smoke when the wind kept changing. One billy of water was smoked, as there was a lid missing, but the other was quiet alright. We had a very enjoyable meal, after which Brown Owl Brown told us a story.

We then packed up our belongings and started for home, everybody much happier than when they left home, because they had made new friends amongst their sister guides.

PEGGY RASON.

Pack Leader, 6th Malvern Pack.

In order to raise the funds of our Pack, we Brownies of the 1st Oakleigh Holy Trinity Pack decided to hold a Pack Meeting in the garden of our Commissioner's home, on Saturday, 17th May, and to charge our friends a small sum to visit us. When Saturday came, all the clouds which had been so gloomy all the week, had completely vanished, and the sun was bright and warm. We really could not have had a brighter day—No! not even if the Fairies had ordered it for us.

At 2.30 we had an enrolment ceremony, and six recruits were magiced into Pixie Brownies, and at 3 o'clock we began our Pack meeting.

Our Variety Stall, which was tucked away in a nook in the garden, seemed to attract our visitors so much that they almost bought all our stock, and left such a lot of pennies behind them. But then we had some of the 1st

Oakleigh Rangers acting as gate and stall folk, so perhaps that is why we raised such an enormous amount of money. Can you guess how much Brown Owl has to put in the Bank for us? £8 something.

OAKLEIGH BROWNIE PACK.

WARRANTS.

Division Commissioner:

Hamilton and Coleraine—Mrs. Keith Davidson, Kenmuir, Tarrenlea, via Coleraine.

District Commissioners:

Lancefield—Mrs. Ingram, Springmount, Lancefield.

South Yarra—Miss Barbara Buckland, corner Glen Rd. and Turnbull Av., Toorak, S.E.2.

Toorak and Armadale—Mrs. Thorold Fink, St. George's Road, Toorak, S.E.2.

Wonthaggi—Miss M. E. Cawthorn, Technical School, Wonthaggi.

District Secretary:

St. Arnaud—Miss E. Hall.

Captains:

2nd Camperdown—Miss V. Brett.

1st Caulfield—Miss Iris McKenzie.

15th Geelong—Miss A. Hall.

Nyah District—Mrs. Nisbet.

1st Orrvale—Mrs. Hicken.

Lieutenants:

7th Ballarat—Miss D. Bunce.

3a Geelong—Miss R. Seward.

1st Horsham—Miss Amy Newton.

1st Mentone—Miss E. M. Downe.

Brown Owl:

1st Prahran Pack—Miss F. L. Weickhardt.

Tawny Owl:

1st Mornington Pack—Miss Grace Stone.

Company Registration:

1st Binginwarri Company.

Pack Registration:

1st Stanhope Pack.

CAMPING.

A Conference of Guiders holding the Camper's Licence, Quartermaster's Certificate, or Indoor Camp Test Certificate, will be held at Headquarters on Friday evening, 18th July, 1930, at 7 p.m.

ERRATA.

We regret that in our last issue the date of Empire Day was wrongly printed as May 26th instead of May 24th.

PRESENTATION TO THE STATE SECRETARY.

Rangers, Guides and Brownies all over Victoria are grateful to Miss Embling for organising for them the presentation that was made to Miss Irving before she sailed for England, as a token of the love and appreciation of all she has done to help Guiding in the State during the years that she has been our Secretary. "Matilda" feels that country districts that were not able to send representatives to Headquarters to say goodbye to the State Secre-

(Continued on Page 8.)



(All correspondence should be addressed to Miss E. E. Moran, Winter Street, Malvern, S.E.4.)

LONE GUIDERS' CONFERENCE.

Sherbrooke, 3rd-5th May, 1930.

Once again we, the Lone Guiders, were given an opportunity of meeting, and this year Miss E. E. Moran held the Conference from 3rd-5th May at Kaioota, Sherbrooke, through the courtesy of Mrs. Morton.

There is one advantage about our uniforms which is particularly noticeable on occasions like this. They are so distinctive (I nearly said conspicuous) that it is quite easy to pick out one's sister guides, even on a crowded railway station. Consequently Miss Mackie, Miss Gillett, Miss Sears and I naturally drifted together on the Flinders Street Station, and had already started to discuss Lone problems when we were welcomed at Kaioota by Miss Moran, Miss Slutzkin, and Miss A. Cross.

On Saturday morning we settled to our business of exchanging ideas, comparing systems, and bombarding Miss Moran with all manner of questions.

There has been some discussion lately as to whether State Badges and Hat-bands should be provided by Company or Central funds, and remain the property of the buyer. This would mean a severe drain on any funds and, taking into consideration the fact that Lones have very little opportunity of wearing uniform, it seems rather inadvisable to make them a necessary part of the uniform. The following suggestions were made and agreed to.

State Badges.—These should be provided by individual Guides if desired, not by Companies.

Hatbands.—Plain bands to be worn by Guides. Two or three registered G.-G. hatbands could be provided by each Company for special occasions, such as Rallies, Camps, etc., and could be loaned to those attending, but would remain the property of the Company.

Badge Secretary: Miss Slutzkin has agreed to become Badge Secretary, and Badges, Belts and Service Stars can only be obtained from her on receipt of application forms, a copy of which will be sent to each Captain.

Company Reports: When reading the Quarterly Reports, Miss Moran suggested several alterations be made to the old form, and also suggested that these be sent to her half-yearly instead of quarterly.

Inter-Company Competition: It was decided to run a Nature Competition between the companies with the idea of fostering Company spirit, and making Nature study more interesting to the Lones. The details of this are to be left to the Guiders and Patrol Leaders, but further particulars will appear in the June issue of "Lucy".

"Lucy": The management of the Lone Magazine is undergoing some changes, as Miss Slutzkin is now acting as editor, and she and Miss Moran are forming a Committee of three (the third to be added at their discretion). Miss Moran stated that it would help very much with the running of the magazine if all payments were made in advance, with the orders.

We were very fortunate in receiving a visit from the State Commissioner, Lady Somers, who motored up to Sherbrooke on Saturday morning, and quite thrilled us all by praising our Company letters and our scenes!

Some of the Company letters were decorated with most attractive sketches, illustrating the different branches of Guide work, as well as being merely decorative. They made me wonder whether we, who cannot draw, should advertise for "sketches for brightening lonely lives."

We were sorry so many of the Lone Guiders were unable to attend the Conference with us, as we had a list of interesting subjects to discuss, and also because Sherbrooke itself is such a beautiful spot. We had quite an exciting time in stalking a lyre-bird, which lead us a long way round through the forest, but felt sufficiently rewarded when we did finally come in sight of it.

Mrs. Mountain very kindly invited us to Grendon, and we were very grateful to Miss Moran for the happy week-end. We even had a camp-fire, which I nearly forgot to mention.

E.K.W.

Presentation to the State Secretary (cont.).

tary on Monday, 2nd June, at 3 o'clock, would like to know the result of those little circulars, which, unknown to Miss Irving, sped round Victoria, inviting Rangers, Guides, Brownies, Commissioners and Members of Local Associations to take part in the presentation. The suggestion met with such a quick and delighted response that, although no Ranger, Guide or Brownie was allowed send more than 1d., or 3d., the attractive blue bag, decorated with a bunch of violets, and streamers of red, blue and brown, which was handed to Miss Irving by Lady Chauvel, the Deputy State Commissioner, contained a bank draft for £55, and over £2 in English silver.

And to have something that she might keep as a memento of the occasion, Miss Irving was given a framed testimonial, most appropriately designed by a Victorian Guider.

R.M.S. Maloja, 4/6/30.

Dear Guides,—

I cannot tell you how much I appreciate your thoughts for me, and the wonderful and tangible expression of your good wishes. I shall have intense pleasure in spending that money so that it will give me contact with Guide people on the other side of the world, and I do hope that I shall be of more use to you when I return than I have been during the last few years. Thank you again so very much and my very best wishes to you all.

This from SYBIL H. IRVING.