

*Hubb Bush,*

NOVEMBER, 1930.

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# *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.1., by twenty-third of the month.

#### HEADQUARTERS NOTICES.

Will Guiders please note that the Equipment Depot will be CLOSED from midday on Saturday, 20th December. If it is impossible for country Guiders to shop before this, an appointment should be made for Monday, 22nd December. The office will re-open on 14th January. We shall be grateful if orders are sent as early as possible in December.

Attention is drawn to the decision of the Executive Committee that no credit will be given after 1st January. Approximate cost should be sent with the order. This will also apply to badge orders and magazine subscriptions. This decision was arrived at after much thought. At the present moment the monthly accounts for badge orders and equipment for country districts amount to about £400, and it was agreed that this was an unnecessary burden for the Association to carry.

EDITH H. PURNELL,  
Hon. State Secretary.

#### MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

of the Girl Guides Association, Victoria,  
22nd October, 1930.

Present: Her Excellency The Lady Somers (Chair), Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Pearse, Misses Cameron, Swinburne, Purnell.

Miss R. Hamilton has been co-opted as a member of the Committee, in recognition of her long and valuable services to the Guide Movement in Victoria.

It was reported that Miss Hatty Alexander had agreed to act as Secretary for the General Committee appointed in connection with the Chiefs' Visit, and it was decided that all correspondence in connection with the Rally should be sent to Miss Alexander at Headquarters.

Miss Swinburne's resignation as Head of Tests and Badges was regretfully accepted. The Committee wished to record their appreciation of the valuable work done by Miss Swinburne in this department.

It was decided to send a letter to the St. John Ambulance Association, the Baby Health Centres Association, and the Society for the Welfare of Women and Children of Victoria, thanking them for help both in teaching and testing the Guides.

In accordance with a recommendation from the Honorary Treasurer and the Finance Committee, it was decided that, from the 1st January, no credit would be given, all orders to be accompanied by the approximate cost.

EDITH H. PURNELL,  
Hon. State Secretary.

#### MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS AND BADGE SECRETARIES.

The following report was presented to the Commissioners' Conference for confirmation and discussion.

The only point upon which opinion was divided was the responsibility for the badge certificate. Many Commissioners think that the certificate should be given to the Guide with the badge, some agreed with the decision of the Secretaries' meeting. The matter is referred to all districts for further discussion and future decision.

A meeting of Commissioners and Badge Secretaries was held on August 12th at the Presbyterian Hostel. Twenty-three districts were represented. One of the main subjects discussed was ORGANISATION OF ROUTINE WORK OF TESTS, arranging dates, passing on information to examiners, etc. It was suggested that letters or personal interviews with people who are asked to act as examiners are preferable to telephone conversations, because it is best to keep a record of correspondence and to make it possible for examiners to see the whole scheme of the test when they are first approached.

Secretaries should send—

- (1) The Syllabus from "Rules, Policy and Organisation," including notes from Victorian supplement.
- (2) General leaflet of hints.
- (3) Note of any book on the subject generally accepted as the standard for Guides.

N.B.—Stamped envelopes should in all cases be enclosed for reply.

Commissioners or Secretaries could also offer to call on examiners or ask them to tea. It is interesting for examiners to meet one another, and possible to explain the general idea of tests to two or three together. Suitable dates could then be arranged.

Some districts could perhaps make more use of Guides as typists or assistant secretaries on occasional evenings at busy times of the year. Guides could at least address and stamp a supply of return envelopes, and enter letters in the postage book. One or two general types of letter could be drawn up and typed.

Districts use different means for obtaining

signatures of certificates. If examiners have to send results and then wait to receive certificates and post them back, extra postage is needed. If certificates are sent when the examiner is told of the number of entries at least one week before the test, there is the chance that if any Guides do not win the badge the certificates may go astray.

**Note.**—Since the Conference it has occurred to me that this difficulty would be surmounted if certificates and dockets were numbered. When a secretary procures a book of certificates she could mark each docket and certificate with corresponding numbers in red ink or blue pencil; for instance:—

II. (number of book);

I. (number of certificate).

Writing to the examiner ten days before the test, she would say: "I have received six entries for the — test, arranged for —; I trust it is still convenient for you to hold the test on that date. The names of the Guides are: — — — — —"

I enclose six certificates to be filled in or returned blank, according to your judgment of the Guides. — —

"I shall be glad if you will let me know at once if you wish the Guides to bring anything prepared to the test. We do appreciate your kindness in helping us all so much." This is one of the regular letters that could be prepared in advance.

For some tests longer notice for preparation of work to be brought to the tests may be required.

When the certificates are received from the examiner, the secretary will fill in the dockets in the book, and file carefully for future use any blank certificates that are returned. Signed certificates are then sent or taken to Headquarters, and when returned to the secretary are sent with the badges to the Captains.

**Who should keep the certificate?** It was finally agreed that the Captain should keep it among the Company records.

The badges for the Guide.

The certificate for the Captain and Company.

The docket for the district.

The certificate is the only accepted evidence that the badge has been issued; it is often convenient to write upon it remarks that are of use to the Captain, but should not be seen by the Guides; it introduces sometimes an element of competition rather than a standard; if the Captain keeps it the badge becomes the possession of the Company as well as the achievement of the Guide.

Some people thought it might be difficult to change the procedure in companies where Guides are accustomed to receive certificates. This is, of course, a matter of local arrangement.

Districts had different plans for thanking examiners. Some secretaries send a note after each test, some at the end of each year. All thought it best to write at the beginning of each year to ask examiners if they would be willing and able to act again.

Other subjects discussed were:—

**Arrangement of dates.**—Some districts "scatter" tests through the year, some group them. Scattering is probably better for Guides,

but means much more constant work for secretaries.

**Preparation for tests.**—Captains are responsible for finding people to help Guides; they should apply to secretaries or commissioners if they do not know of anyone themselves, and it is generally best to ask the Commissioner informally if she will be glad for the person suggested to help the Guides. The Commissioner should know the people in her district who are interested, because she may meet them on other occasions and be able to thank them and speak to them of their work. Also, she may know someone who has already offered to help Guides in a special subject, and is waiting for an opportunity to do so.

**Text Books** suitable for Guide badges and files of notes were to be seen at the meeting.

**Limitation of number of tests.**—Regulations should be as few as possible. If Captains show Guides what preparation is necessary, and interest them in thorough practice and in finding out all they can, the matter of numbers of badges will probably adjust itself. The general spirit and atmosphere of the district are the best means of checking badge hunts. One company kept a card for each Guide who won a badge, and arranged that each one should sign once a month to show that she had done something practical in the work of the badge. If she had not she gave in her badge until the matter was rectified.

**Information.**—Captains should allow Guides to know what badges may be won by circulating the syllabus out of "Rules, Policy and Organisation" (last year's copies may be used if alterations are marked) or by making a list of the names of badges.

Secretaries could pass on to examiners articles from "The Guider" or "Matilda"; a special copy of "Matilda" might be procured by the district for the badge secretary so that the articles would be ready to hand. The information in the badge files will be published in "Matilda" from time to time.

**Co-operation.**—Opportunities for Guiders and examiners to meet are desirable. Examiners could be asked to Guiders' meetings to speak on special subjects, and answer questions.

**Practical Tests.**—How can we increase the proportion of practical work for tests? Are two attendances desirable, or should Guides bring more work prepared to such tests, as cooking? Practical questions for tests were suggested.

**Appointment of examiners.**—The co-operation of societies who sent instructors and examiners to help Guides is greatly appreciated. Commissioners, however, are not in any way bound to use members of these societies if they are able to make other arrangements. Non-professional people are often extremely interested, and may prove to be excellent for teaching and testing Guides. They sometimes understand what to expect from Guides better than professional people who are accustomed only to professional standards.

At the end of the meeting Afternoon Tea was served by 3rd Kew Rangers.

G. H. SWINBURNE.

## GIRL GUIDES' ASSOCIATION.

### Annual Meeting.

Lady Somers, who is State Commissioner of the Girl Guides' Association in Victoria, presided at the annual meeting held in the Melbourne Town Hall on 12th November.

The report presented by the hon. secretary, Miss Edith Purnell, revealed satisfactory progress has been made by the association during the past year. There were 1240 new recruits. A number of badges had been issued, including 18 first-class to Brownies, 465 second class to guides, and 86 second class badges to rangers. In addition, 1886 proficiency badges had been gained by guides and rangers for a wide variety of subjects, including 141 cook badges, 117 child nurse, 149 domestic service, 57 homemaker, 161 laundress, 82 needlewoman, 57 sick nurse and 217 thrift badges; 126 warrants had been issued, and 11 ranger companies, 22 guide companies, 22 Brownie packs and 12 local associations had been registered during the year. During the summer over 500 guides had camped. This was a decided increase on the number that camped last year.

Reports from brownies, rangers, lone branch and extension branch all revealed a steady increase of membership.

The financial statement presented by the hon. treasurer, Mr. R. R. Treloar, disclosed a satisfactory credit balance.

Rev. D. A. Cameron, Moderator-General for Victoria, in moving the adoption of the annual report and balance-sheet, emphasised the tremendous use the girl-guide movement was to the girls in the community. Mrs. a'Beckett suggested that the guide law, and particularly the guide promise, might well be broadcast, in that they embodied the essential sentiments required in all good citizens.

The Director of Education, Mr. M. P. Hansen, said that if he were asked to say which was the greatest and most important development of the present generation he would definitely say the boy scout and the girl-guide movements, for these movements trained the individual not to seek selfish ends, but to serve others; they inculcated a sense of loyalty and stood for a development of character in the highest form.

Other speakers included Lady Chauvel, Mrs. N. Brookes and Lady Allan. At the election of office-bearers, Mrs. T. Fink was elected to the executive, whilst the retiring members, Mrs. F. W. Faulkner and Dr. Florence Cooper, were re-elected.

## VICTORIAN POST BOX DEPARTMENT.

Head of Post Box: Mrs. Hamilton Sleigh,  
33 Walsh Street, South Yarra, S.E.1.

Since the Post Box was taken over in March, 1930, thirteen requests have been received from Guides seeking to be placed in communication with Guides overseas, only one request has been made, seeking correspondence in another State. No applications have been received from overseas, or interstate Guides who desire to correspond with Victorian Guides.

From this it will be apparent that the Post Box is not being made use of to any great extent, which is disappointing, as it should be a means of bringing Guides together all over the world, and thus furthering the general ideals of the movement.

It is extremely difficult for the Keeper of the Post Box to increase correspondence without the assistance of the Company Captains to point out to their Guides the pleasures and advantages to be gained by correspondence with Guides who lead entirely different lives to their own.

At the present time the Guides write to the Post Box desiring to be put into communication with other Guides, the Post Box writes to other Post Boxes, giving the names and addresses. The Post Box then does nothing further in the matter, and it is impossible to know whether the Guides get into touch with each other.

It seems that a scheme could be devised whereby the Post Box could know the results of her efforts.

## EQUIPMENT REPORT.

### Head of Equipment—Mrs. E. Pearse.

The year 1930 has been a difficult one. The increased tariff and the financial depression have greatly affected the small shopkeeper, and this, of course, applies to our Guide Equipment Depot at Headquarters.

We have done our utmost to keep the cost of equipment down, and in many cases have had to give up importing from Headquarters in England. Wherever we have been able to accept an Australian quotation, we have done so, in the endeavour to circulate money in our own country, and give employment here.

The business done at the Equipment Depot has grown considerably in the last twelve months. The number of orders received from country districts was 1,397, which number does not include the 3,477 other letters received by Headquarters for the same time. This means a great deal of work in the Equipment Depot, as quite apart from the parcelling, there is weighing and despatching to be done. We call your attention to this fact, and would ask for as much consideration as possible. We find it very difficult to send off a large parcel of equipment at a moment's notice in answer to an urgent telegram saying that an Enrolment is being held the next evening, and the required equipment must be there. Our Depot opens for "over-the-counter" business at 12.30 p.m. This means that our mail orders, letter-filing, dusting, tidying, unpacking of stock and ordering must all be done before mid-day.

We are now stocking several new lines in the hope of making things easier for the Guides, and increasing our own turnover. We have shoes and stockings in several qualities, and the new Christmas cards will shortly be on sale, in plenty of time to catch the overseas Christmas mail. Later on we hope to be able to supply something really serviceable in ties; these may be a little more expensive, but will

be made of proper tie material, which we have put on order.

We thank all Guiders and Guides who have done kind things to help us, and we ask for your generous support over this difficult period of trading.

#### EQUIPMENT DEPOT—NOTICES.

This year we are stocking a new Guide Christmas Card, designed by a former Guider—price 3d. each, including envelope to match.

We have also Calendars with the same sketch on, for 6d. each.

There are also Brownie Christmas Cards as stocked last year—price 1d. each.

We have new Guide writing pads, price 1/9, and envelopes to match at 4d. per packet.

The Girl Guide Diaries for 1931 are now available, price 1/- without pencil, and 1/6 with pencil.

Suggestions for Christmas presents are Hiking Capes, which are made of very thin rubber, and fold into a small envelope 5in. x 3½in. They are very light, and have proved very useful in sudden showers.

We now stock three grades of black stockings: Cashmere at 4/, Lisle at 2/11 and 2/3.



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

#### Stop! Look! Read!

The Lone Guide Library is sadly in need of new books. The Librarian would be very pleased to hear from anyone who has any books suitable for girls of Guide age. Of course, Guide stories are the kind that Lones like best, but they will be most grateful of any suitable additions to their Library. Would anyone interested please get in touch with the Librarian, Miss Emily Rousseau, 16 Balgonie Street, Northcote, N.16.

**Lone Captains, Please Note!** The Librarian has some copies of "The Guide" for circulation. Captains wishing to have them should apply to her.

#### OFFICIAL ACCEPTANCE OF BENDIGO GUIDES' HIKING GROUND.

Wednesday, October 15th, was a glorious spring day, which was specially appreciated by the Bendigo Brownies, Guides and Rangers, for whom it was an eventful occasion. On behalf of all members of the movement in Bendigo Lady Somers, the State Commissioner for Victoria, officially accepted the deeds of the five acres of land which had been generously given by the Hon. H. Keck, M.L.C., to be used as a hiking ground.

The Brownie Packs and Guide and Ranger Companies made their way to the ground during the afternoon and had tea in company "corners," which were later inspected by the visitors.

At 5 p.m. a "rally" was sounded, and the packs and companies smartly formed into horseshoe formation round the Union Jack, which had been hoisted before tea.

Miss M. Hoffmeyer, District Captain, was in charge. Mrs. L. Lansell, Divisional Commissioner, Mrs. H. N. Butt, District Commissioner, Mrs. W. J. Miller, President of the Local Association, Miss M. Bush, Miss Barfus and Miss Broadhurst were present, also members of the Association and a large number of parents and friends.

Lady Somers, who was accompanied by His Excellency, Lord Somers, Captain Spier, the Mayor and Mayoress, and representatives of the Council, was met on her arrival at the hiking ground by Mr. H. Keck, Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Butt, who conducted her along the newly-made road—the work of the Guides and Scouts—to the hillside, where the Guides were waiting in Horseshoe.

After Lady Somers had taken the salute, she was welcomed by Mrs. Lansell, who expressed appreciation of all that she had done for guiding in Victoria. Mr. Keck handed over the deeds of the property, and said that he was delighted to present the Bendigo guides with a hiking ground. On behalf of the Bendigo association, Lady Somers said how much pleasure it gave her to accept Mr. Keck's generous gift, especially as she believed that this was the first piece of land to be given as a hiking ground. It was an ideal site, and she was sure the Guides would treasure and love it. Our faces must have expressed our happiness and joy in the lasting gift, made by Mr. Keck, not only to us, but to youth in years to come, for he looked so happy and seemed to understand all that we felt. Lady Somers then handed the deeds to Mrs. Butt.

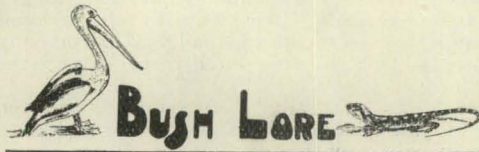
The Dean of Bendigo, the Rev. D. Haultain, who was in charge of the Scouts present, offered two short prayers of thanksgiving for the ground which had been given for the good of youth. The Guides then sang the National Anthem.

Lady Somers admired the beautiful view from the top of the hill, which she graciously consented to name "Somers Hill." In the dim distance were the misty hills, the cloudless sky above, and below, gleaming like silver, was the Spring Gully Reservoir, to the west lay Bendigo, looking like a city of dreams.

The Brownies and Guides formed a Guard of Honour as the Vice-Regal party left the ground at sunset, and as they drove away three cheers were given. J.T.

Granny: "DO tell me about the Brownies and what they do!"

Brownie (whose father is a Mason): "We won't talk about it just now, Granny, it's rather Masonic."



### Birds and Their Nests.

This month we have two excellent contributions from readers of "Matilda," and it is hoped that other Guides will follow the example and send in interesting Nature notes. In a letter accompanying her story, the first contributor makes the suggestion that a description of nests and eggs, with probable nesting sites of some of our birds might be of use to Guiders; remarking that she used to imagine all birds built on the very tops of trees, out of harm's way.

This, after all, is quite a natural conclusion, and it is only after the bird-lover starts to observe birds during the nesting season that she realises what a great deal of difference there is between one bird's nest and another.

Quite briefly we will run through the various types of nests, beginning with the simplest form, in which the bird makes no attempt to construct any home for the young ones. Such is the case of the curlew, which uses only the bare ground to lay its eggs on. The dotteral, a shore bird, goes a step farther, and scrapes a little dirt together. A proper ground-nest made of grass in a hollow or depression is that of the pipit or ground lark. Cockatoos, parrots, owls and kookaburras use a hollow in a tree, the eggs being laid on decayed wood. Eggs in this case are always white, as they need no protective color, being screened from sight.

The first attempt at a real nest off the ground is the pigeon's, made on a branch; it is just a simple platform of sticks, through which the white eggs may often be seen. The magpie also builds a stick nest, but it is a bigger affair, and is usually placed at the top of the tree. The next type of nest is suspended from the branches of a tree or bush, and is of two kinds. One is the open cup-shaped nest of the honey-eater, and the other is the domed or roofed nest of the tit-warbler, which is lined with feathers. They are made of such dainty material as fine grasses and rootlets, often being ornamented with spiders' web and mosses.

Some birds tunnel into the ground, and then construct a nest at the end of the tunnel—such are the diamond bird and kingfisher. The house swallow makes a nest of mud stuck on the wall of a building, or against the trunk of a tree. The swift, on the other hand, being unable to alight on the ground, must pick up all nesting material in the air. The sea swift of China makes a nest completely of saliva from the mouth, and this nest is regarded as a delicacy by the Chinese, and is eaten at their feasts.

There are other birds which always build in colonies, among which are babblers and fairy martins—the latter constructing quaint bottle-shaped mud nests on the sides of quarries and

under bridges. The last type is the floating nest of water weeds, made by many water birds, such as the grebe. In some cases the eggs are covered with weeds when the bird leaves the nest.

This very brief list will serve to show what a variety of bird-nests there are, and in the future it is hoped to go into the matter in detail. J.H.

### A BRAVE BIRD.

I thought there should be chats' nests in a certain paddock, dotted with low scrubby bushes. There were many chats flitting about with their busy, fussy call, so I crouched quietly under one of the bushes and waited. Presently a smart little father-chat hopped about quite close to me. I "froze," and soon he darted into one of the bushes. I followed, and there was a rather frail nest with three tiny young ones—feathered, but not able to leave the nest. My attention was then drawn by father chat, who became most agitated, and was fluttering along the ground with his poor broken (?) wing. I followed him a little way, then thought I would return to the nest, and see what he would do.

I sat nearby, and the antics of that bird were amazing. He fluttered and hobbled, dragged his wing, went on all sides of me, approached to within three yards, and used all his clever bird intelligence to draw me away from his precious home. Once he took a tiny flight over the nest, to see that all was well. This lasted about a quarter of an hour, then I decided to follow him. He lured me about fifty yards across the paddock, then suddenly he flew, and away, with a flirt of the tail that most plainly said: "You simpleton! Fancy being deceived by that!" M.H.

### BIRDING.

"For the river calls and the road calls, and oh! the call of a bird!"

October seems to be more especially the month when the bush calls us to come and see her birds; when one visit is but the whetting of the appetite for more.

The opportunities for bird-study are so much greater now, for the birds are busy nesting; at least, the greater number of them are. The advantage of this is that your feathered friends will remain in the same area for some weeks, and you will be sure of seeing them there.

First you have to find them—or, rather, see them—and that is not as easy as it sounds. Let your outing be for "birding," and nothing else. Do not try to combine a bird afternoon with a picnic; it will not be really successful. Take one companion with you, a tried friend who will not want to talk, and who will not be offended if you ask her to be quiet! Observe strict silence from the moment you reach the fringes of the bush until the time when you leave it, on the homeward journey. You will scarcely believe what a difference this makes.

Perhaps you are walking along a fairly open stretch of track, with nothing very promising

in view, and here you think is a chance for a chatter before the next "birdy" patch of country. Next time try this stretch in silence, and you will be surprised. I was out in the open the other afternoon, and through following this rule was able to find a little tit's nest right on the track, in quite an unattractive piece of country. Had I made a noise in approaching, the birds would have been well away, and the nest passed unnoticed.

Besides, in the bush your voice carries, and birds have a very keen sense of hearing, so that they will hear you coming quite a long way off, and take to cover. A very soft whisper is allowable when you have some information on what you are studying, and you want your companion to know. Perhaps you might want to discuss a marking on the bird, or point out its position.

Try and walk as quietly as you can, and here rubber-soled shoes are a help. You need not "stalk" all the time, because that would take too long, and for bird observation I prefer "freezing." Try the two methods, and compare them for yourself. Usually there are so many sticks on the ground, and we are so eager to reach our quarry, that "crack" they go, and the bird flies on a bit further. Nothing daunted, we follow on, with the same result. Now if you pick a "birdy" patch of bush—and these are best found near water—creep into it, and then "freeze" beside a tree trunk; the birds, instead of flying away, will come closer.

The other day two of us tried this, while white shafted fantails flew near, and brown-headed honey-eaters searched for food in the branches above our heads; silver-eyes, too, and a rufous-breasted whistler were very close; and small tits flitted restlessly about. It was well worth the ten minutes' "freezing," in spite of mosquitoes!

Some days are better for bird observation than others. A warm rainy day is splendid, for then all the birds are busy looking for food. An added advantage after rain is that the ground is soft, and the leaves and twigs damp, and so there is very little noise when walking. Warm spring days are splendid, but when it is too hot, the birds are not about so much, nor on windy days.

Keep your eyes wide open all the time, and be on the alert. Watch the movements of the birds, and ask yourself the reasons for them. In this way you will soon find out a great deal, and once you have learnt the meaning of different moves, you will always know what to expect. This is especially important in finding nests.

E.S.

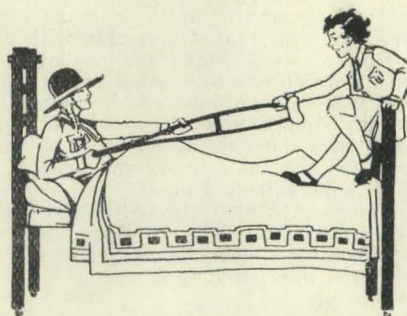
#### JUMBLE SALE.

On December 1st a Jumble Sale is being held in the Fitzroy Town Hall.

This is being organised by the Guides and Guiders of the Fitzroy and Collingwood District in order that no Guides need be denied the opportunity of camping this year.

Anyone who would like to assist by sending parcels of old clothes should ring Windsor 2009 or W 3842.

Large parcels will be collected, small parcels may be left at Headquarters.



#### EXTENSION ECHOES.

##### 1st VICT. POST GUIDES.

Flinders Street Station presented a busy scene on Friday, 19th Sept.; 1st Victorian Post Guides were off to Pegersham, Healesville, for the week-end. Porters met the various suburban trains by which Guides were expected to arrive—crutches are sometimes a bit awkward to manage up and down steps, and so are wheeled chairs. The journey up gave us a chance to get to know each other, and it was a happy family that bundled into Captain's car for the final stage of the trip.

We were quite a large party; indeed, Pegersham wouldn't hold us all. There were Captain and Miss Campbell, six Posts, and four Baloo. (If you don't know what a Baloo is, ask the next Post Guide you meet!) Also there was our noble Q.M.—the Tawny Owl of 1st Healesville Pack, who came every day to carry out her important duty.

It is wonderful what can be crowded into three short days. That first afternoon there was the excitement of settling in, a wonderful car-ride to soak in some of the beauty of the hills, and in the evening our first Camp-Fire—and bed.

Saturday morning, after prayers and colours, the Guides were driven out to Mrs. Carl Stephen's home for morning tea, at her kind invitation. That afternoon provided one of the biggest thrills of all—a visit to Captain's home. At afternoon tea we made the acquaintance of Chota (her dog) and the kittens, and then came a wonderful tour of inspection. We saw the room in which the Company Letter is written, the duplicator, and all the rest that goes to the making of the letter, including the view from the window. We saw the lambs and horses, and some actually had rides on the ponies.

On Sunday we all attended the service at the Presbyterian Church in the morning. After dinner 1st Healesville Company and Pack visited us, and an enrolment took place—Alma and Dot, two recruits, being enrolled as Guides, and one of the Balooos as a Ranger. Later we packed into the two cars, and were driven along a wonderful mountain track to a picnic-ground, where we boiled our billies, and had a second afternoon-tea. The drive home on that glorious spring evening, and the wonderful view of the lake down far below, with the rows of hills

beyond, and above all the glory of the sunset-sky, are memories that will remain with us always. Guides' Own, round the fire after tea, made a fitting climax to another perfect day.

There was the usual bustle of breaking Camp on Monday, but finally all were safely piled into the train—though it did have to wait a few minutes for an unruly wheel-chair, propelled by a perspiring Baloo!

It is noteworthy that the only First Aid required during Camp was an Aspro for some dejected-looking flowers, and some sticking-plaster for a punctured tyre.

### CAMPING.

If applications warrant it, a **Camcraft Week** will be held at "Hendra," Mount Eliza, from 19th to 26th January, 1931, inclusive.

The Camp will be open to any Guiders who wish to attend for general Camcraft Training. The fee for the Camp will be 35/-. Applications, accompanied by a deposit of 5/-, should be made to the **Camping Secretary, at Headquarters, not later than 17th November**, and the envelope should be endorsed "**10th Camcraft Week.**" Deposits will not be refunded unless withdrawal of application is made a fortnight before the beginning of the week.

Guiders are advised that, as Training Camp life is strenuous, they should not apply if unable to take part in camp routine.

A limited number of Warranted Guiders, with previous camping experience, will be tested for the **CAMPER'S LICENCE**, on the recommendation of their District Commissioner. Candidates for the Licence Test are asked to come on **16th January**, and to stay two days after the camp, in order to have the necessary training in pitching and striking camp.

EDITH H. PURNELL, Head of Camping.

### TRAINING.

If applications warrant it, the following training weeks will be held during the summer vacation:—

**21st Victorian Training Week**—for General Guide Training—from **Tuesday, 30th December, 1930, to Wednesday, 7th January, 1931**, inclusive, at **MORONGO Presbyterian Girls' College, GEELONG**, through the courtesy of the School Council. Guider-in-Charge:—Miss M. E. Bush.

A **Brownie Training Course** will be held at the same time and place. Guider-in-Charge: Miss M. O. Brown.

**22nd Victorian Training Week**—for Guide and Brownie Training—from **Monday, 12th, to Tuesday, 20th January, 1931**, inclusive, at **Tulse Hill, COLERAINE**, through the courtesy of Mrs. Arthur Corney.

This Week is planned primarily for Guiders in that part of Victoria, but other applications will be accepted if there are any vacancies. Guide Trainer: Miss M. E. Bush;

Brownie Trainer: Miss M. O. Brown.

The Fee for each will be 30/-.

Applications, accompanied by a deposit of 5/-, should be sent to the **Secretary, Training Department, at Headquarters, not later than 17th November** (and not 5th December, as was stated in error in October MATILDA). Deposits will not be refunded unless withdrawal of application is made a fortnight before the beginning of the week. Guiders applying for Training at **Morongo, Geelong**, should state whether they wish to take the **Brownie or the Guide Course.**

MERLE BUSH, Head of Training.

### WARRANTS.

#### Ranger Captains.

2nd Geelong—Miss F. Deans.

#### Captains.

1st Balwyn—Miss A. Bennett.

4th Camberwell—Miss D. Hansford.

1st Daylesford—Miss N. Shellard.

1st North Fitzroy—Miss M. Drury.

8th Victorian Lones—Miss E. Gillett.

#### Lieutenants.

1st Bena—Miss V. E. Ferris.

#### Brown Owls.

1st Elsternwick—Miss P. M. Knight.

### REGISTRATIONS.

#### Companies.

8th Malvern.

8th Victorian Lones.

#### Packs.

1st Yallourn.

### LET'S BE BROWNIES.

Brownie Guiders will meet on Tuesday evening, 2nd December, at 7.45, in the P.G.A. Rooms, Gipps Street, East Melbourne.

Bring your own rug, also, if possible, a Brownie handcraft, made by one of your Brownies during the year, and we'll have an impromptu exhibition.

R.S.V.P. as soon as possible, enclosing 6d. in stamps for supper to The Brownie Secretary at Headquarters.

ADRIENNE PALING, Head of Brownies.

### THE YOUNG CHILD.

A series of lectures is being held at the University of Melbourne under the auspices of the Council for Mental Hygiene. Each lecture will deal with an aspect of the development of the child.

The aim of this Course of Lectures is to stimulate interest in the understanding of young children, and to secure appreciation of the importance of healthy mental development during childhood.

There will be lectures on Nov. 20th, 27th, and December 1st. Fee for Course 2/6, or 1/- for a single lecture.