

Matilda.



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

HEADQUARTERS, VICTORIA . . . STATE GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MALVERN
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EDITORIAL.

Dear Readers—

"Matilda" has lost the new blue coat, which she only wore last December. Unfortunately, it made the paper too expensive, and, as there is no profit, it had to go. I think this number will be as useful and full of Guide news of Victoria as ever. Since the last number several interesting Guide events have taken place. The Guide film, "Girl Guides to the Fore," has been in many parts of the State—twice in Melbourne and suburbs—first by courtesy of Hoyt's Ltd. at the Richmond picture house. Unfortunately, this was in the middle of the Police strike, where, by the way, several Guiders helped in the canteen; and the second time on April 5, at the Armadale picture house by courtesy of Mr. Snider, when about four hundred Guides saw it. During the visit of the fleet a hundred Guides watched the march past from the Treasury steps, where they had an enclosure, whilst just over four hundred visited the Hood, and on the following day fifty more went all over the Repulse. Camping has gone steadily ahead in the State; two camps have been held for Guiders who wished to work for their campers' licenses. For the first we were tremendously lucky to have Miss Prior, who was Head of Camping in 1922; the second was held at Kyneton. Then in January there was a big camp at Harcourt for Guides, and in May there is to be a similar Guide one at Murndal—the home of Mrs. Winter-Cook, District Commissioner of Hamilton and Coleraine. For those in Melbourne and suburbs a Guide Sports Club has been started for inter-company games, either hockey, basket-ball, or rounders, and possibly cricket in summer.

At the Training Classes in Melbourne there have been several classes on Tuesday mornings for those wishing to work for 1st-class, and two Friday night classes have been given up to Brownie work.

When the Dr. Barnado Guides (the second lot) arrived in Melbourne on their way through, a party of Guides and Guiders took them to the Zoo.

The Guide office now boasts of a lovely roll-top desk, which gives us much more room. It was very kindly given to us by Dr. F. W. Morton. The desk is also fitted with a black-wood clock, pincushion, and tray, and a perpetual calendar and letter scales, the gifts of the Macedon Conference orderlies to their Quartermaster, to stay on the State Secretaries' desk for ever.

Mrs. Behan, our late Head of Examinations, has, unfortunately, been compelled to resign from the strenuous task, and Miss R. Hamilton, our previous State Secretary, has taken her place. Miss de Bavay became Head of Lones when Mrs. N. Brookes went to England. The rest of the news, including Miss Robinson's farewell, you will find further on.

With Guide Greetings,

The Editor,

J. W. HOGARTH.

KYNETON GUIDERS' CAMP.

"Kyneton, Kyneton; change here for Redesdale and Mia Mia lines!" so chanted a railway porter, and twenty or so Guiders, with their luggage, tumbled out on the platform, bound for the Campers' License Camp at View Farm, Kyneton.

What luggage! Suitcases of all sizes and descriptions, carry-alls, bundles of blankets rather resembling the outfit of a swagman, strange knobby parcels which might be mistaken for canary cages, but which are in reality bunches of storm lanterns tied up in brown paper.

Everything and everyone is stowed away at last in the four-in-hand drag which is to convey the party to the camp site, the near-side leader heaves a sigh as he glances back over his blinkers and sees the mountain of luggage, thinking of the hills ahead.

"All aboard?" "No, not quite;" there, leaning nonchalantly against a telegraph pole is Henry! Henry, the two-wheeled Bucephalus of the 1st Bendigo Company, without whose presence no Northern District Guide Camp is complete, and there is not an inch of vacant space in or about the drag! A brain wave and a desire to put the 3rd Law into practice strikes a Guider at the same time, and she resigns her seat in the drag, or as much of a seat as she is occupying, to her neighbour, and mounts the noble steed. The procession then starts—the drag in front, and Henry, with his gallant Guider, bringing up the rear.

After a drive of about four miles into the country the camp is seen picturesquely situated in a hollow fringed by willows, the actual camp boundaries being the Cobbar Creek on three sides, and, for the fourth a steep, grassy hill, which was found later to be an excellent place for tobogganing for those who had little respect for the back of their skirts and who regarded darning as a pleasant pastime.

The camp site is easily seen; to reach it is another matter, the only means of entrance being a large log, the springboard variety, as noticed when a number of Guiders decided to cross at the same time, with a hand-rail which leans away from one as though, wishing to emphasise the guiding principle of independence.

No one minded the somewhat primitive camp doorstep one bit, but the Q.M. was heard to heave a sigh of relief when the copper, after being carefully assisted over by a stalwart Captain and the kindly driver of the drag, was landed on the other side in a perfect state of repair.

Soon the camp is in a state of great activity; there is a sound of many voices and of hammering; the commandant is everywhere at once, giving directions and lending a helping hand; a group of campers is seen on a certain spot, hats are off, sleeves rolled up, tongues and hands are busy, there is much convulsive flapping of canvas, another tent is up, and two or three more campers are sure of a roof over their heads.

At last a well-defined horseshoe of tents is in place, with the commandant's as the central pivot, balanced by the Assistant Commandant's,

flying the pennant of the English Campers' Club on one side and the Q.M.'s on the other. Tent pitching is hungry work, so "come to the cook-house door," sounded on the Q.M.'s whistle, was a welcome sound that evening, and everyone did justice to the good meal which had been prepared by the advance guard of Guiders, and so the camp began.

Those who know tell us that a Guider's Training Camp is always strenuous; the one at Kyneton was no exception to the rule. From the time "Reveille" sounded till the last whistle was blown at night there was always "something doing," except during the rest hour from two to three o'clock in the afternoon. The camp was divided into four patrols, namely, Dodo, Willow, Cricket, and Mushroom, the orderly work being done by them in rotation.

Then there were lectures on camp-craft given daily by the Commandant, the making of gadgets for patrol corners, tent pitching and striking, and nearly every afternoon a hike or scouting game was planned to prevent the camp becoming "Rutty."

The weather is always an important factor in any outside activity, and it may be best described during those days of camp as decidedly playful! One day would dawn bright and warm, with blue sky and the singing of birds; before the order of "all bedding outside tents" could be carried into execution, clouds would have gathered and the brilliancy of early morning would be turned to sombre greyness, bringing out to perfection the vivid green of the willows and the warm colouring of the hills behind; very soon the sun **might** be out again, the alternative being a thunderstorm and a perfect deluge of rain.

The first storm took us unawares, and soon figures, minus stockings and plus mackintoshes, might be seen with any tool that came to their hands doing a little compulsory tent trenching.

One morning the rain came at breakfast-time; soon the cook-house floor was of a consistency of the porridge which had been served out a little earlier; everyone sought shelter in their tents except a happy few, who crowded under ground sheets hoping to keep themselves dry and the fire from going out, neither ambition being realised to any great extent.

The Dodos were the unlucky cooks; they stuck to their posts, seeing in the situation, no doubt, a wonderful opportunity for perfecting themselves in Law No. 8; and very soon after the rain had stopped the whole camp was enjoying hot coffee, and bread and butter and marmalade, and no one minded the wetting in the least except some tomatoes, who preferred to fall to pieces and disappear from sight rather than indulge in mixed bathing with the bacon. Much more might be written about the camp; there was the visit of a head of bullocks, when one of them, wearing a red coat (and tie) showed a party spirit by tearing down the flagpole, from which all day was flown the Union Jack. No Guider will forget the horrible moment of suspense when, having with much care and labour finished digging a trench fire-place and lighted a fire in it, the question is asked: "Will it draw?" through the rather lumpy chimney of stones and mud with a jam tin atop; the "Guides' Own" on Sunday afternoon,

with thunder grumbling a bass accompaniment to the singing; and camp fires—beautiful, big, Cobb House ones, when the spirit of the night and the spirit of our purest ideals, may be joined with us, as we sat watching the logs turn to glowing embers with the sound of running water in our ears.

It is easy to write of many things, but hard to put into expression the best of all, that indefinable **something**—the spirit of the camp; it is one with that other which lies at the heart of all true Guiding, and without which all the training and organisation and fun counts for little; some might call it good fellowship, others the losing of self for the sake of the whole; another, devotion to duty or the call of an ideal; it is all these and more; it is the spirit of true religion, simple and undefiled, which flows from the service of all Goodness as the river rises from the spring.

J.A.



CAMPING.

Important.—The following extract from the Book of Rules, 1924, is reprinted here for the benefit of Guiders:—

Camp permission forms are essential in all cases—holiday homes, schools, empty houses, etc., included. Such permission will, in the interest of parents and girls, only be given to warranted captains who hold the Camper's Licence, and who satisfy their Commissioner that they can be trusted with the care of the girls, and uphold the Guide Movement in the eyes of the public. The Commissioner in whose area the Camp is to be held must invariably be informed in good time beforehand. No camp of more than 50 in number is permitted, unless the sanction of Headquarters has first been obtained.

The Camper's Licence.—Only the holder of a Camper's Licence may take her Company to camp. Examinations for this test may be held only by Camp Advisors (see Rule 42).

The Camper's Licence is to be obtained from the Captain's Camp Advisor and must be signed by: (1) Guider's own Commissioner;

(2) Guider's own Country Camp Advisor, on recommendation of Camp Advisor, who passed her in the test and gave her a Certificate.

Guiders are also reminded that their Camp sites must be approved by the Camp Advisor before the Camp is held—the Camp will also be visited whilst standing. The Camp Advisor

in whose area the Camp is held should recommend the withdrawal or suspension or endorsement of the Licence. The final endorsement to be left to the State C.A. In the State the Camp site should also be visited previously and during Camp by the Local Health Officer, or, failing him, a medical man.

State Rule.—All Camp sites must be inspected before and during Camp by the Local Medical Officer.

CAMPERS' LICENCES TEST—VICTORIA.

Those with * have not got Captain's Warrants, and so have no Licence yet:—

G. Swinburne, 1st Hawthorn; C. Brown, 1st Toorak; F. Barfus, 1st Malvern; M. Bush, 1st Bendigo; M. Brake, 2nd Hamilton; N. Hawthorne, 1st Kerang; B. Weston, 1st Camberwell; F. Salmon, 2nd Camberwell; K. Stredwick, 1st Kyneton; Sister May, 1st Wonthaggi; M. Howlett, 1st Kyneton Rangers; C. Warren, 1st Sale; D. Morton, 2nd Victoria Lone; J. MacDonald, 1st Wannon; J. Anderson, 1st Woodend; M. Sinclair, 2nd Malvern; F. Meadway,* 1st St. Kilda; M. Blackwell,* 1st Sassafras; H. Murry, 1st St. Arnaud; J. Gillespie,* 1st Swan Hill; M. Maconochie, 1st Victoria Lone; A. Embling, 1st St. Kilda; N. Mackenzie,* 1st Merbein. N. Oldfield*.

NEWS OF DISTRICTS.

Camberwell and Mont Albert.—The District Commissioner reports that a local Association has been formed, consisting of 65 members, who are all keen about Guiding.

A Guide Display is to be held in the Camberwell Town Hall on May 2. By this means the Committee, Guiders, and Guides are hoping the people in the district will take more interest in the Movement. The Countess of Stradbroke has consented to be present.

The examinations will be held locally in future. The following ladies are acting as honorary examiners:—Dr. Roberta Donaldson, Dr. Ruby Townsend, Dr. Winifred Kennon, Matron Laughlan, Miss Miles, Mrs. Boyce Gibson. We will be pleased to hear of girls over 21 years willing to train as Guiders. Miss A. Taylor, Whitehorse Road, Surrey Hills, Hon. Secretary.

Hawthorn and Kew.—Commissioner: Lady Best. The District is now fully organised. The Executive Committee has undertaken the responsibility of all tests for proficiency badges within the District, and is busy with preparations for a rally to be held on Trinity Grammar School Sports Ground (through the courtesy of Mr. Shann) on May 3, at 2.30 p.m. The State Commissioner (the Countess of Stradbroke) has kindly consented to be present at the rally.

Bendigo District.—The Bendigo Branch of the Girl Guide Movement was materially assisted by an American Tea—so-called—but run on very much more ambitious lines—given by Mrs. Leonard Lansell, at Lanselltown, on Novem-

ber 24. Assisted by a willing band of workers, a fancy stall was well stocked before any outside gifts arrived, thanks to the generous help of Mrs. Lansell, who provided all materials, afternoon tea, etc. The produce stall was also overflowing, although such was the interest taken that much more might have been disposed of.

The Girl Guides, under Miss Bush and Miss James, gave a display on the lawn during the afternoon. The funds have benefited to the extent of £60/0/9, for which I am sure we are all most grateful to Mrs. Lansell.

Hamilton and Coleraine.—The Annual Meeting of the Hamilton Branch of the Hamilton, Coleraine and District Association of Girl Guides took place on November 29, and that of Coleraine Branch on December 5. Both reports and balance-sheets were very satisfactory.

All the Captains of the District and the Brown Owls are able to report well of their doings, and all the Company balance-sheets are on the credit side.

During the year the Guide Movement in the District has grown very much. In January of last year we only had the 1st Coleraine Company, and the 1st Hamilton Company started in February. During the year two more Companies and a Brownie Pack have been added to Hamilton, one small Company at Wannon, with Brownies attached; one small Company at Tahara, with Brownies attached; one Brownie Pack at Coleraine. Quite recently two Lone Patrols at Monival have started (attached to the 2nd Hamilton Company), and one Company at Macarthur, which has just been added to the District. The Guiders are all working well. The spirit is excellent. All the Companies take in the "Gazette" and "Matilda," and find both papers most helpful in keeping them in touch with Headquarters in England and Headquarters in Victoria. Proficiency badge examinations took place three times during the year and the percentage of passes was high. The District is now looking forward to the Camp for Guiders and Guides which is to be held in May at Murndal. M. Winter-Cooke, D.C.

Mildura and District.—Had a very successful Continental—the programme including:—March of the Guides, headed by the Mildura Pipe Band; Brownie Item, by Nichols' Point Pack; Exhibition of Deportment, by Mildura Companies; Brownie Game, by combined Mildura Packs; Dance, by Mr. McPherson's pupils; Signalling Display in Morse; Girl Guide Game; Song, "In the Gloaming," by Muriel Blount; Basket-ball Match, by Inter-Company; Camp-fire Ceremonial; and many other interesting items.

Skipton and Beauford.—Have had their Annual Meeting, at which the same office-bearers were elected. Miss Lewis has again generously offered to pay the rent of the hall for the 1st Beauford Company for a year.

Ballarat and District.—Are steadily going ahead.

Note.—District Secretaries are asked to forward their District news reports **not later than first of June, 1924**, for the June number.

WARRANTS.

The following are entitled to Warrant Brooches:—

Captains:—Barfus, Sinclair, Jerram, White, Swinburne, Weston, Stephenson, Anderson, Montgomery, Rivers, Salmon, Bush, Holland, Warren, Wilson, Hawthorne, Brake, Punshon, Lambert, Cameron, Davies, F. Cox, Bullough, Wakefield, Riddell, Short, G. Smith, Harris, Embling, Murray, Brown, C. Lee Gow, Maconochie, Palmer, McDonald, Morton, Thomson, C. Loder, Guyett, Russell Metcalfe.

Ranger Captains:—Weston, Davies.

Brown Owls:—Hall, Metcalfe, Wakefield, Stringer.

DIVISION MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS.

Proficiency Badge Tests—November, 1923.

	Pass	Fail
Athlete	1	—
Authoress	—	2
Ambulance	13	4
Cook	3	6
Child Nurse	—	—
Domestic Service	4	2
Embroiderer	2	—
Health	3	—
Home Maker	3	1
Handywoman	2	—
Knitter	15	3
Laundress	10	—
Musician	1	1
Needlewoman	1	19
Photographer	1	—
Sick Nurse	10	2
Signaller	2	1
Swimmer	1	—
Scribe	—	1
Toymaker	1	—
	73	43

As the Police Strike caused the postponement of several of the Tests, which could not afterwards be arranged for, a few Tests did not take place at all. It is hoped that the candidates will re-enter for the April-May Tests.

Uncontrollable circumstances have unfortunately made it impossible to announce the actual results of the Child Nurse Test; the list will be available shortly. Meanwhile it may relieve anxiety to mention that all except one candidate (Heidelberg) passed.

The quality of work submitted for the Needlewoman Test was startlingly poor. The candidates have been informed as to which part of their work failed, as a guide to future efforts. The Badge is such an important one that we should make every effort to improve the standard of work submitted in future. Captains will

be interested in the following summary of the Examiner's report:—

Needlewoman's Test.

(For the information of the 19 Candidates who failed)

Calico specimens clean.

Most candidates didn't show knowledge of **position of gathers** in back of knickers. In some instances pleats were shown in places of gathers—very little indication of "stroking." In most cases gathers were hemmed into band instead of being "set" into it. Ends of band were seamed, although raw edges were left for placket or hip openings.

Buttonholes very weak. Stitch incorrect; a face between stitches too great; round end was inside instead of outside, and in some instances a very coarse thread was used in place of the blue cotton, which was of the correct thickness for the material.

In the **Pattern** Test, the failures are due to the fact that the candidates placed the patterns on the material in such a way that the weft threads would run from top to bottom of the garment instead of the selvedge threads.

HARCOURT NORTHERN DIVISION CAMP.

From January 21 to January 28 35 Guides and Guiders lived one all-too-short week under canvas at Harcourt Reservoir. The Horseshoe of tents, with the Union Jack in centre, facing the clear stretch of water with hills beyond, Mt. Alexander and Mt. Barker in the background, made a very happy home for us, our only regret being when the time came to strike our tents. Miss Hogarth was Commandant of the camp, and Miss Barfus Quartermaster, and the Northern District is very grateful to them both for giving us such a splendid camp. The camp included Rangers from 1st St. Arnaud, with Miss McNaughton, Lieut.; Guides from 1st St. Arnaud, with Miss Murray, Captain; 1st Bendigo, with Miss Bush, Captain; 1st Maldon, 1st Kerang, also Miss Anderson, Captain 1st Woodend, and Miss Gilfillan, Brighton. Inspection, Colours, Prayer were held each morning, and Orderly work, games, competitions, nature hikes, "Gadgets," all had their place in our programme. A special nature ribbon was awarded each day, and some of the collections were very interesting, and Miss Hogarth showed us how to get some very excellent casts in plaster of paris of bird tracks.

A "despatch running" game round the Reservoir proved most exciting, and one afternoon we climbed Mt. Alexander, from which a fine view was obtained.

Visitors' Day brought a number of friends and parents of Guides, including Mrs. Guidice, District Commissioner for Bendigo. All seemed very interested in all they saw of the camp, more than one expressing the wish that they too could stay and share the camp life. At evening came the best time of all, when we gathered round the camp-fire in a circle of gum

trees, near the water side. There we sang Guide songs, and had camp-fire yarns, and perhaps more than ever realised our share in the Guide Sisterhood, as we stood together to join in singing "Taps" and thus to end our happy day.

M.E.B.



NOTICES.

There will be one or two more Brownie Evenings at the Training Class (probably Friday night) before Miss Hogarth returns to England, in July. Anyone wishing to have notice of these should inform the office at once.

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A Camp will be held at Murndal, Hamilton, for Guides in charge of a Guider, from May 20. Anyone wishing to attend should write to Mrs. Winter-Cooke, Murndal, Hamilton, Commandant, or Miss J. W. Hogarth, Camp Advisor.

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Credit accounts may be opened by Country Guiders—the accounts being payable in the middle of the month.

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Those acting Captains who are without District Commissioners should apply to Headquarters for a "Paper" to do for their Warrants and necessary forms; those with Commissioners apply, of course, to her.

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Companies wishing to hold parades, field days, etc., with one or more other companies, should first obtain their District Commissioner's consent. If there is no District Commissioner from their Divisional, and if there is not either, permission must be obtained direct from Headquarters (see under heading of Camping also).

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If any Company has a Registration Certificate from Imperial Headquarters or State, and their Captain is not in the Warrant list; or if any Warranted Captain has not got her Company registered (large green certificate), and her name on the Warrant list, or if any Warranted Captain is omitted, will she please inform the State Secretary at once.

Captains with District Commissioners or District Secretaries are reminded that no badges are issued from the office except through their D.C.'s or D.S.S. They will save themselves a great deal of trouble and time by not applying to the office first.

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If there are any older Guides or Guiders willing to "lend a hand" at parcel wrapping, etc., in the office, they would be most welcome.

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Guiders wishing to have goods forwarded—when next in stock—are specially requested not to ask, next time they write, for the same thing without saying that they have ordered it before, as they usually end by having two lots sent, as we do not know if the order is the same or additional (and we all get so cross with each other!!).

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The office does not issue Belts, Badges, or Hatbands, or other registered equipment unless the signature of the Captain of the Company is enclosed. Guiders would save their Guides much disappointment and trouble by remembering this. When there is a District Commissioner badges are obtained through her or the District Secretary.

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Captains who have not had Registration forms for the annual fee or registration of individual Guides (and enrolment cards) should apply to the office.

GUIDERS' TRAINING WEEK.

The State Chief Commissioner has very generously offered the use of Government Cottage, Macedon, for another Guiders' Training Week, and the week will be held from Saturday, May 24, to Saturday, May 31. The training will include Company Management, Guide Games, Drills, Ceremonials, Specimen Guide Evenings, Badge Work, etc.

Applications, enclosing a deposit of 5/—, should be made as soon as possible to the Head of Training, Miss Herring, Janet Clarke Hall, Parkville. Applications will be taken in the order in which they are received, preference being given to those who have not already attended a training week. The fee for the week will be 30/—.

Lady Stradbroke's help in lending Government Cottage again will be deeply appreciated by the Victorian Guiders, for there is now a real "Guiding" tradition connected with the Cottage on Mount Macedon.

TRAINING CLASSES.

First-class work and Country Dancing will be taken on Tuesday morning on the following dates:—April 1, April 8, April 15. The classes are open to all Guiders.

PRESENTATION TO MISS ROBINSON.

In December of last year a circular was sent to the Victorian Guiders who had come in contact with Miss Robinson, inviting them to join in a tangible expression of our appreciation of her work among us. Nearly ninety Guiders responded to this invitation, and it was later arranged to give a Farewell Party on March 13, in order to afford these Guiders an opportunity of handing the Sunset Box to Miss Robinson and saying a personal farewell.

Forty-five Guiders gathered at "Burnham," kindly lent for the evening by Dr. and Mrs. Morton. The evening passed happily with a Guidey programme, after the presentation had been made. This took the form of a beautiful toned-wood chest in brown and gold colouring—the "Sunset Box"—filled with 69 gifts from nearly 90 Guiders. Miss Robinson is to take out two parcels every day during the voyage, to remind her of those for whom she has made it possible, nay, imperative, to "carry on." On a card inserted in the box appear the following lines (Kipling again):—

" . . . 'twasn't merely 'this an' that (which all the world may know),

'Twas how you talked an' looked at things which made us like you so."

" Good-bye—good luck to you."

It is not possible to measure what Miss Robinson's sojourn here has meant for Guiding in Victoria. Not only have we gained a practical knowledge of the great game, but also that deeper understanding of the true Guide spirit which she has the gift of imparting, and whose inspiration alone can bring us "Vision, Peace, Power."

"Of all affection, the silent part is best; of all expression, that which cannot be expressed."

F.V.B.

S.S. Ormuz,

March 20, 1924.

Very dearest Guiders—

You have given me a very difficult task to say "thank you" for that wonderful Sunset Box and the beautiful flowers and fruit you filled my cabin with. You are all very, **very** naughty, but very, **very** nice, and it was so good of so many of you to come and say good-bye to me on the boat. I just hated saying good-bye to you all—oh, why is Australia so far away from England? But you will write and tell me all the Guiding news, won't you? I shall look for the days that the Australian mail is due.

At the lovely party you gave me on Thursday I said "that I shall always feel that I partly belong to Victoria," and I would like all the Guiders who were not at the party to know that; it's a very big part of me belongs to Victoria, and always will. I was very, very happy all the fifteen months I was with you, and I only wish that I could have done more to help you. But I know **you** are going to keep the Guiding flag flying in Victoria in spite of any difficulties that you may have to face; and re-

member, please, to ask me about anything (that is, if you can wait for three months for an answer). Remember what the Chief Scout says—he wouldn't give twopence for us unless we keep smiling; it is difficult sometimes I know, but we who have seen the vision of Guiding know that Guiding is going to do just ever such a lot to keep peace and happiness in the world; so it's worth while to keep smiling and stick to it, isn't it?

My love to you all,

Yours ever affectionately,

(Sgd.) E. KATHLEEN ROBINSON.

P.S.—Please forgive this rambling letter; I have not got used to the boat yet! but I will write again.

"FORM FOURS."

A Volunteer's Nightmare.

If you're volunteer, artist or athlete, or if you defend the Home,
You sacrifice "ease" for "attention," and march like a metronome;
But of all elementary movements you learn in your Volunteer Corps,
The one that is really perplexing is known as the forming of Fours.

Imagine us numbered off from the right; the Sergeant faces the squad,
And say that the odd files do not move—I never seem to be odd!
And then his instructions run like this (very simple in black and white)—
A space to the rear with the left foot, and one to the right with the right!

Of course, if you don't think deeply, you do it without a hitch,
You have only to know your right and left, and remember which is which;
But as soon as you try to be careful you get in no end of a plight,
With a pace to the right with the left foot, and one to the rear with the right!

Besides, when you're thoroughly muddled, the Sergeant doubles your doubt
By saying that rules reverse themselves as soon as you're turned about;
So round you go on your right heel, and practise until you are deft
At a pace to the front with the right foot, and one to the left with the left.

In my dreams the Sergeant, the Kaiser and Kipling mix my feet,
Saying "East is left and Right is might, and never the same shall meet!"
In my nightmare squad ALL files are odd, and their Fours are horribly queer,
With a pace to the left with the front foot, and one to the right with the rear.

—From "Some Verse," by F.S.

COMPANY NEWS.

All news to be in for next number by June 1.

1st Sale (St. Paul's).—Company is progressing steadily, majority passing 2nd class. We are glad to welcome several new recruits this year. We are all proud of our first half-dozen proficiency badges! The Church Decorators' Guild is manned entirely by Guides, and the company helped them with harvest festival decorations.

1st Hamilton Pack held their first meeting Saturday, April 12, 1923. The Pack is full—thirty-three. Eighteen are working steadily for 2nd class. On October 31 they gave an entertainment in the Temperance Hall. The programme was based on Brownie work and games. On Saturday, November 11, the Pack held a picnic. Saturday evening, December 15, the Brownies had a party and Christmas Tree. After six week's holiday we have all settled down to learn to "lend a hand" during the coming year.

1st Woodend.—On March 1, the programme for the Woodend Guides was a hike to a paddock about three-quarters of a mile from headquarters. The patrols chose their corners; an afternoon similar to one in camp was held. Dinner was cooked by a representative from each patrol (three), and was served at 6.30 p.m. A campfire was held and the day was finished by the singing of Taps.

1st Woodend Pack.—On February 23 a large gathering of parents took place, when the Commissioner of the Woodend District (Mrs. Brookes) invested the first Brownies. A guard of honour was made by the Guides for the Commissioner.

1st Kyneton G.G.—In January last the 1st Kyneton Guides held their first camp, about four miles from Kyneton. The camp was under the direction of Miss Stredwick, Captain, and Miss Howlett, Q.M. The first day was showery, but the spells of fine weather were sufficiently long to allow of the tents being pitched by 6 p.m. On visiting day about 40 parents and others came out, and appeared much impressed by the evident enjoyment of the Guides in their outdoor life. On Sunday morning the Rev. M. Carmichael conducted a short service. Great interest was taken in the camp. The end of camp came all too soon, and a very happy party drove home, full of plans for the next camp.

1st Victorian Cadet Corps, which is attached to the University, has been on holiday during the long vacation. The first reunion of its widely-scattered members was at Port Melbourne, when they were shown over H.M.S. "Hood." Later on the same day they went to swell the throng that gathered on the pier to cheer Miss Robinson as the "Ormuz" bore her away. Regular company meetings will begin again immediately.

1st Coleraine journeyed to Wannon for a Field Day. A campfire was held, at which we had the pleasure of having the company of a 1st Malvern Guide. A very successful Guide evening was held, the proceeds (£4/10/-) to go towards procuring books for a library. We are always anxious to grasp every crumb of information that "Matilda" throws out from her haversack.

1st Swan Hill.—Parades recommenced after summer vacation, several new recruits making a full company. Our District Commissioner, Mrs. Knox Chapman, has recently undergone a dangerous operation, but I am glad to report she is now well on the way to recovery. Miss Gillespie was able to attend Kyneton Camp.

1st St. Arnaud.—The Guides are busily engaged in working for a bazaar or a like affair to help swell the Company's funds, and also towards the much-desired clubroom. Miss Murray and some Guides went to Kyneton Guiders' Camp.

1st North Melbourne.—Our flag was dedicated on Sunday, March 23. The Rev. Mr. Long gave a most impressive address. The State Secretary and a number of visiting Guiders and Guides were present. A number of our Guides helped at a fete held on Saturday, March 29.

1st North Melbourne Pack.—Our Brownies are doing very well. Two have passed their 2nd class, and are now working hard for their 1st class, as they are most anxious to pass this before going into the Guide Company.

1st Malvern.—Our numbers have dwindled to less than half of last year's, as many of these are joining either Guiders' Training classes or Lone Companies. One of them, a P.L., has become a P.L. in the Lone Company; we are proud to count how many of the Lone P.L.'s are former 1st Malvern Guides. We have already four recruits, and hope to fill some more gaps in time.

1st Mornington.—Miss Hogarth enrolled nine Guides on the evening of March 14. The girls are working hard for a concert, in order to secure Company funds.

1st Toorak.—On February 25 we had an enrolment, and invited the mothers to visit the company. The following Monday Miss Hogarth spent the evening with us, and a very interesting programme was enjoyed. Saturday, March 8, was spent at Brighton, where we had lunch and played scouting games in the ti-tree. The most important event of the year, so far, has been the trip to Port Melbourne, on March 18, to visit the "Hood," where we spent an exciting morning.

1st Kerang have been on vacation until March, because of the heat. We have heard a lot about plaster tracks from Nelly O'Shea, who went to the Harcourt Camp, and intend to go on a hike to add to the Ibis track.

1st St. Kilda.—Work in the Company is going on steadily. The Brownies are now separated from the Company, and meet on Saturday afternoon. Miss Hipwell is Brown Owl, and already has quite a good-sized Pack. Some of the Company went to the Guides' House at Cowes for a week at Christmas, and greatly enjoyed themselves. Miss Hogarth came one evening and enrolled four recruits, and then presented Miss Freda Meadway with the Lieutenant's warrant. She finished the evening with an improvised campfire.

2nd Malvern-Toorak College.—During the final term of 1923, baby clothes were made by the Guides for the Children's Hospital Auxiliary. This term toys are being collected for a free kindergarten. A "halfpenny scheme" for

raising Company funds has been acted upon, whereby Guides give in to the Treasurer any stray halfpennies, such as change from tram fares, etc. It is marvellous how this mounts up. Since the beginning of the school year over 5/- has been thus received. We have entered into correspondence with a Scotch Company, the 43rd Edinburgh, which is most interesting.

1st South Melbourne Company has been going for nearly a year, and all the members are very keen. The Company has given two displays for Company funds, and hopes to give another shortly. Thirty Guides went down to H.M.S. Hood. All members have got their Tenderfoot and many have their 2nd class, and are working for Proficiency badges. We are very keen on rounders, and are quite willing to challenge any other Guide team.

3rd Malvern.—Last year the patrols made over £10 out of the shillings which they were given to trade or invest. They have purchased a basket-ball, cobbler's outfit, staff for colours, and have decided to present all badges to the Company. We took charge of the tearoom at the parish bazaar, and made over £21. During last year five girls passed St. John's First Aid, and 19 Proficiency Badges were gained. Our 1st Lieutenant, Miss Mary Boynton, has left us in order to train as a children's nurse.

1st Ballarat are busy working for Needlewoman, Child-nurse and Gardener's Badges. They are also getting parcels ready for Seamen's Mission, Babies' Home at Brighton, and the Free Kindergarten. All are very keen.

1st Heidelberg.—In January we had a short, but impressive, ceremony for the dedication of our Colours, which had been bought by the girls themselves. We hope to celebrate our fourth birthday next month by inviting some poor little children out and giving them a party. The majority of the girls are working for the badges necessary for 1st class. We have recommenced basket-ball, and are keen to meet other Guide teams. A Ranger Patrol is also starting, attached to the Company.

1st Surrey Hills.—The Company is now working for 2nd class. A Patrol competition brought in over £7 for Company funds in November. In the display given by the City of Camberwell Girl Guides, the Company will do ambulance work.

1st Bendigo.—Mrs. L. V. Lansell presented the Company with a Union Jack, and we were able to use it for the first time at our first camp at Harcourt in January. We are very grateful to Mrs. Lansell, and appreciate very much her thoughtfulness. Eighteen Guides went to Harcourt to the camp held for the Northern Districts, and enjoyed it so much that we are all looking forward to another. At the first parade after camp we had a visit from Miss Hogarth and Miss Barfus, and enjoyed the happy evening they gave us, and we are hoping that we will have another visit from Miss Hogarth before she leaves Australia.

1st Mildura (High School) Company.—Just commenced, after vacation. We are now a registered Company of twenty Guides and several Recruits. We held a Guide picnic on the N.S.W. side of the Murray River. A Guide social held in St. Margaret's Hall recently was well attended by Guides and Scouts and their officers and friends.

2nd Mildura has 26 Guides and four Recruits. They have held two Guide picnics this year. A class has been formed from this Company to learn eurythmics.

3rd Mildura (High School) has been working temporarily with No. 1. Their numbers have been considerably depleted, so many Guides having left school or gone to Melbourne.

1st Merbein has seven Guides, and, following upon a recent enrolment held there, ten Recruits were added to their Company. Miss Mackenzie attended the Guiders' Camp at Kyneton, and has returned filled with enthusiasm. She is training as her Lieutenant a Patrol Second from No. 1 Coy., who has left school.

3rd Brunswick G.F.S.—On February 7 the girls were enrolled by Miss Hogarth. There were only nine of us then, but now we have three more. The last week-end in February we spent with other Guides at the Y.W.C.A. House at Seaford. On the morning of March 18 we went over the H.M.S. Hood. We went to the dedication of the Colours of Miss Wakefield Coy., North Melbourne, on March 20, and look forward to the time when we can gaze with pride at a flag of our own.

The four following Companies are all working hard for the rally, and are training keen recruits:—

1st Hawthorn.—Raised £7/10/- for the Company funds by a display on December 6. They had a real camp fire, with carols and Christmas stories in the starlight, for the last meeting of the year.

1st Kew.—Joined with parties from five other Companies in a week-end at Seaford, to bid Miss Evans good-bye and give her their good wishes.

3rd Hawthorn are 40 strong.

2nd Hawthorn.—Miss Mathieson has just taken charge as Acting-Captain. We wish her all success.

2nd Victorian Lones.—The Company has now about 20 members, under Patrol-Leaders Misses Hughes, Wilson, Moran, Hawkins. We are sorry Miss C. Brown is leaving the Company, and we wish her every success in her new sphere of work. Seven members of the Seagull Patrol, Chelsea, were passed for their Tenderfoot by Miss Brown. They were enrolled by Miss Sinclair at Aspendale, in the beautiful garden lent us for the occasion by Mrs. E. S. Hughes. The Colours of the 1st St. Kilda Company were kindly brought for us by the Captain and Patrol-Leader, J. Harper. Tuesday, March 18, was a memorable day for the Seagulls, and Leaders Hughes and Wilson, E. Malvern, who enjoyed the privilege, with so many Victorian Guides, of visiting H.M.S. Hood.

Fitzroy (St. Mary's).—On February 26, at the wish of Rev. C. C. Barclay, a meeting was held in St. Mary's Hall, with the object of starting a Guide Company there. Miss Sinclair spoke to the girls about Guiding. There were eighteen present, and the evening was spent in games and sing-song. Miss Meadway and P.-L. Harper, 1st St. Kilda and P.-L. Hawkins, 2nd Malvern, came to "lend a hand." There are now four leaders in training.

1st Wannon and Brownie Pack have moved into their new clubroom, and have it nearly furnished. The two patrol leaders having passed their Brownie Medallion Test, we are well off for life savers. In December the Company had a stall at the Wannon gymkhana in aid of the Hamilton Hospital, making £12/10/- clear. On December 22 we had a field day with the 1st Coleraine Coy. Our former Captain, Miss Palmer, resigned at Christmas, as she was leaving Wannon. We are very sorry to lose her, but hear that Macarthur has profited. The Guiders and some of the Guides hope to go to the Western Division Camp at Murndal on May 21.

2nd Hamilton.—Hurrah for Camp. We are looking forward to our first Guide camping experience in May, when there is to be a district camp at Murndal, with Miss Hogarth as Commandant. Quite a number of us are going. This year we have two Lone Patrols at Monivae, about five miles distant, and sometimes we can manage to drive out on Saturdays and have meetings together. All the patrols are very keen. Each one tries hard for the most original corner, so our hall looks real Guidey, although it does not belong to us; but we are looking ahead, and when the eventful day arrives that we have our own clubroom "Mathilda" will get a special notice of the fact!

1st Victorian Lones now consist of five Patrols. Several Lones have passed Tenderfoot and been enrolled this year, and others are working for 2nd class and even 1st class tests. We made £2/5/- through the sale of calendars at Christmas time, and with it bought Lone Tenderfoot badges for the Company; since then one Leader has been selling tomatoes, we hear, with great success. From April 25 to May 5 the Company are holding a "holiday camp" in a house at Sherbrook.

1st Tallangatta.—On May 19, 1923, Miss Robinson and Miss Hogarth visited Tallangatta to start our Company. Thirty recruits joined. We worked steadily on till December, when Miss Hogarth enrolled 35 recruits. Meetings are held in the evening; it is difficult to do much out-door work, but we have enjoyed one hike into the bush. An effort in the form of a salmagundi was held during the spring, and we cleared £7. The older Guides managed an afternoon tea stall at the Returned Soldiers' Sports, raising £19 for the soldiers' funds. It was our first public appearance, and much interest was created. We held weekly meetings of the Court of Honour, and all are working hard for 2nd class. Miss Perry, 1st Lieut., has obtained her badge. The Commissioner, Mrs. Butt, inspected the Company on March 18. Her visit was marked by a social evening and presentation of Guide knives to two Guides who are leaving to go to Melbourne. The Commissioner expressed her delight at the progress made since her last visit. She was especially impressed by the smartness and alertness.

1st St. Arnaud Rangers.—Almost ready for 2nd class, and the interest is well maintained.

1st St. Arnaud.—The Guides are working for a bazaar to augment Company funds, also for the all-necessary clubroom. To take the place of Patrol corners, each Patrol has secured a den, in the shape of an old shed, etc., around the town. These they are decorating according

to their own ideas, and are using them for corners.

1st St. Arnaud Pack spent a very pleasant afternoon on Saturday last at the residence of Mrs. Dunkley, District President, when they had a peanut hunt in the garden. A prize was given to the Brownie who had found the most.

3rd Hamilton has been running since November. Owing to the departure of Captain, Miss Sheahan, and Lieut., Miss Pittard, we have now Acting-Capt. Miss Marshall, and Acting-Lieut. Miss E. Heinrichs. There are 26 keen Guides in Company; 23 are working hard for 2nd class. Being a school Company, we are working hard for our stall for the high school fete, which takes place on April 3. We are all looking forward to the camp to be held at "Murndal" in the holidays.

2nd Ballarat Grammar School.—It was arranged at a Guiders' meeting, held on April 7, that Miss Mills should, for the present, be Captain of the Company, in place of Miss Guyett, and also of All Saints' while Miss Harris is away. Miss Watson is now Captain of the High School Company during Miss Ling's absence. We are hoping that a new Company will shortly be formed at Clarendon Presbyterian Ladies' College, and will help to swell our numbers.

VICTORIAN HEADQUARTERS.

Training Classes for Guiders.

An evening class and a morning class are held in the Young Women's Christian Association Hall, Russell Street, Melbourne, as follows:—

TUESDAYS, at 10.30 a.m.: Miss Swinburne.

FRIDAYS, at 7.30 p.m.: Miss Barfus and Miss C. Brown.

SECOND-CLASS NATURE STUDY.

Much discussion has arisen at various times as to whether domestic animals and birds are eligible to be included in the "six birds, plants or animals," and their life-histories for the Second-class Test.

At a discussion at a meeting of Trainers, it was agreed that it is hardly likely that even town Guides would not be able to find something apart from these to observe. Even in the heart of the city one finds sparrows and pigeons, and our many beautiful public parks, reserves and gardens—some in the city itself—offer many trees and flowers, birds, and even animals (such as squirrels) for observation.

F.V.B., Sec., Trainers' Meeting.

HEADQUARTERS PRICE LIST.

Books.

Aids to Scoutsmanship	3/-
Baby of To-day	6d.
Basket-making at Home	2/-
Brownie Fairy Book	5/-
Brownie Handbook	9d.
Campcraft Book, by Miss Prior	3/6
Campfire Yarns (well-bound)	5/-
Character Training in Pack	2/3
Christmas Cards	2d.
Cookery for Boy Scouts	1/1
Cub Book	6d.
Cubbing	1/3
Drill Book, 4th Edition, 1922	1/6
Flower Legends	3/-
First-class Tests	5d.
First Steps to Scouting	6d.
Games—Behrens	2/3
Cub	3/-
Davidson's	1/6
Scouting	2/3
Trotter's Team	1/6
Guiding the Guider	1/-
Guiding Book	8/6
Guide Laws	9d.
Girl Guides' Book	8/6
Girl Guides' Badges, and How to Win Them	5/-
Girl Guiding	3/-
Girl Guide Movement	4d.
Girl Guide Prayers and Hymns	9d.
Health Badge Book	5d.
How to Run a Troop	2/3
How to Run Wolf Cubs	2/3
How to Run a Patrol	1/-
Knot Book	1/6
Look Straight Ahead	3/3
Lone-craft	3/6
Lloyd's Scout Manual	5d.
More Plays	2/3
Maps, and How to Read Them	1/3
Matilda, No. 4,	9d.
post free	10d.
Membership Cards (with Law and Promise)	5d.
Original Recitations for Scouts	9d.
Oxford Conference	1/3
Poppies and Prefects	5/-
Parents' Consent Forms (per doz.)	4d.
Patrol Roll Books (pocket size)	4d.
Patrol System	9d.
Physical Training	1/3
Postcards—Princess Mary	6d.
Lady Baden-Powell	4d.
Pioneering and Map-making	1/3
Plants and Trees	2/3
Pow-wows for Wolf Cubs	1/6
Proficiency Certificate Books (to Dist. Secs. only)	4d.
Record Books (Company)	2/3
Rules, 1923	1/3
Rules, 1922	6d.
Scout Drill Book	1/3
Scout Fire Brigade	1/3
Scout First Aid Book	1/3
Scouting Games	2/3

Seventh Annual Report	1/3
Six Plays	2/3
Southern Stars	2/3
Scout as Handyman	1/11
Scout Tests	6/-
Scout Camp-book	2/3
Scout Signalling	2/3
Scout Surveying and Mapping	1/6
Star Tests for Wolf Cubs	6d.
Steps to Guiding	9d.
Surveying for Boy Scouts	2/3
Tracking and Stalking	2/3
Totem Talks	1/6
Training Girls as Guides	1/6
The Tenderfoot	9d.
Tramp Camps	1/3
Tribal Training	5/-
Union Jack Saints	1/9
What Scouts Can Do	3/-
Wigwam Papers	2/3
Wolf Cub Handbook	3/-

Magazines.

The Gazette, for year, post free	7/-
The Guide, for year, post free	14/2
The Guide, odd copies	2½d.
Matilda, for year, post free	3/4

Music.

Be Prepared (Official Guide Song)	1/6
Brownies of the Wide, Wide World	2/6
Brownie Songbook	3/-
Brownie Songbook (words only)	9d.
Country Dance	8d.
The following are in stock:—	
Black Nag	
Gathering Peascods	
Goddesses	
Selenger's Round	
Girl Guide Songbook	3/-
Girl Guide Songbook, words only	9d.
Song of the Brownies	3/-
Student's Songbook	3/6

Equipment.

Bandages, plain white triangular	9d.
Buttons, black bone, per doz.	5d.
Belts, sizes, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36—	
English	7/-
Guider	4/-
Guide	2/-
Brownie	2/-
Camp Beds	22/6
Chin-straps	4d.
Cockades—Brown Owl	2/3
Captain	2/3
Dist. Captain	2/3
Dist. Commissioner	2/3
Div. Commissioner	3/3
State Executive	3/3
Colours—Brass-jointed Pole	11/-
Trefoil for Top	10/6
Colours	22/6
Complete, mounted on pole	42/-

Cord for Knotting, 2 yards	3d.
Drill Uniform (navy), from	£5/5/-
Great Coats, prices on application	
Gloves, gauntlet, all sizes	13/6
Hats—Guide and Guider, felt	8/6
linen	4/9
Brownie, rush	2/-
Hat Bands—Guide, official	2/6
plain silk	1/-
plain cotton	9d.
Ranger, official	2/6
Cadet	9d.
Knives, with marline spike	3/6
Lanyards	9d.
Munition Cloth, navy, for overalls, 36in. wide, per yard	1/4
Munition Cloth, navy, for blouses, 30in. wide, per yard	1/2
Munition Cloth, brown, 36in. wide, per yard	1/4
Pouches	9d.
Patrol Flags, ready to embroider	9d.
Patrol Flag Sticks, 6ft.	2/-
Patterns, all sizes, for overalls	1/3
Patterns, all sizes, for blouses	1/

Overalls—

Sizes.	Neck.	Slve.	Lgth.		
in.	in.	in.	in.		
1	13	16½	36	..	..
2	13½	17	39	..	..
3	14	18	42	..	..
4	14½	19	45	..	..
5	15	20	49	..	..
6	15½	21	52	..	..
Signalling Sticks, white	8d.				
Signalling Sticks, blackwood	1/-				
Safety Chains	1/-				
Shoulder Knots, white or coloured	2½d.				
Stripes, Patrol Leader and Seconds each	1d.				
Swivels	6d.				
Transfers, for Patrol Emblems	1½d.				
for Patrol Flags	4d.				
Black Felt for Emblems	2d.				
Ties—Guide triangular (pale blue, red)	1/-				
Brownie triangular (brown)					
Guiders, navy, brown, green, saxe and pale blue	2/6				
Union Jack (6ft. x 3ft.)	22/6				
Whistles	1/3				
Australian Flag (6ft. x 3ft)	22/6				

Badges.

Only obtainable through District Secretary, unless there is none, when they are obtainable direct from State Secretary.

Brownie Recruit Brooch	6d.
2nd Class	6d.
1st Class	6d.
Proficiency	4d.
Committee, silver	4/-
Cords—Divisional Commissioner	10/-
District Commissioner	6/9
Examiners	1/-
Executive Council	4/-
Guide, 1st class	1/-
2nd Class	6d.
Tenderfoot, brass	6d.
Proficiency	4d.
Hostess, patrol	6d.
Lone Guide Tenderfoot	1/-
Ranger Tenderfoot	1/-
2nd Class	6d.
Stars	6d.
Service Stars—Brownie, Guide, Guider, Ranger	6d.
Service Stars—Five-year	1/6
Secretaries—District	1/-
Divisional	1/-
Tassels—Area Director's	1/-
Warrant Brooches—Brown Owl	1/4
Captain	1/6
Lieutenant	1/-
Tawny Owl	1/4
President's Sash	4/-

Registrations.

Local Associations	2/-
Guider Warrant	6d.
Company Registration	2/-
Guide Registration	6d.
Secretaries	1/-
Study Circle	5/-
Lone Guide Companies	1/-
Cadet Corps	2/-
Guide Annual Fee	3d.

Postage Extra on all Orders, unless otherwise given.

