

M. C. Bush

Matilda



AUGUST, 1941.

VOL. XVIII.

No. 2.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Minutes of meetings of the Executive Committee of the Girl Guides' Association of Victoria:—

June 18.

Present: Lady Chauvel, Mesdames Fairbairn, Littlejohn, Pearson, Robinson, Misses Cameron, Russell, and the Secretary.

Reported that a total of 56,741 garments had been sent to England from the Guide War Appeal, of which 48,103 were for children and 8,638 for seamen.

That on account of shortage of material, at a meeting of the Central Association it had been decided that the tacking room should be open on three days a week only.

That instruction in camouflage netting would be held in the Meeting Pool on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5 to 9 p.m.

That the painting of the Guide House roof had been completed.

Agreed: That further leave of absence from the Guide War Appeal should be granted to Mrs. Littlejohn.

July 3.

Present: Lady Chauvel, Mesdames Faulkner, Blackwood, Blair, Orr, Robinson, Tate, Misses Butt, Moran, Purnell, Russell, Swinburne, and the Secretary.

Reported: That Mrs. Buckley had been chosen as Area Commissioner for the 6th Country Area.

That a total of 58,943 garments had been packed to date from the Guide War Appeal, 50,102 being for children and 8,840 for seamen. That for the year ending June 30, £5,116/6/- had been received. That the War Appeal Committee was compiling a report similar to that printed last year.

That approximately 130 were present at the Pioneer Party to celebrate the twenty-first birthday.

That Miss Purnell was going to Hyderabad, India, as a Guide Trainer for two years.

That a number of members of the Movement were now proficient at netting and that groups were being formed in Districts.

Agreed: That the resignation of Miss Drury as Convener of the Guide House Committee be accepted with regret.

That a Thanks Badge be given to Mrs. Willis, of Yarram.

That the resignation of Miss P. M. Russell from the Executive Committee be accepted with regret.

That realising the help we receive from the Baby Health Centres Association in connection with Proficiency Badges, we should put a notice about their appeal for funds in "Matilda."

Routine and financial business was transacted.—M. E. Bush, Secretary.

WARANTS AND REGISTRATIONS.

Secretary: Clunes Division, Miss B. Rogers.

Captain: 10th Geelong, Miss N. Henderson;

1st Richmond, Miss W. Cozens; 1st Warrnambool, Miss A. McLean; 1st Wentworth, Miss N. Jerrom. **Lieutenant:** 1st Wentworth, Miss J. Clifford. **Brown Owl:** 1st Northcote, Miss B. Watt; 1st Warrnambool, Miss B. Quinton. **Pack:** 1st Dimboola.

Cancellations.

Captain: 1st Gardenvale Company, Miss A. E. Warr.

BABY HEALTH CENTRES' APPEAL.

The appeal being held during the months of July and August for the maintenance of the Baby Health Centres' activities will strike a sympathetic chord in minds of any Guiders or Guides who have had friendly help from the sisters in the Health Centres in training and testing Guides for badges. We also have cause to be grateful for the use of rooms for meetings.

The work being done for Baby Health is necessary at all times, but especially at present, when so many of the fathers are going abroad. The Baby Health Association is making its first appeal since its inception 24 years ago.

It is hoped that some Guiders who read this paragraph, or who notice the accounts of appeal in the daily press, may feel able with the help of their Companies to make some effort for it. If everyone who realised the benefit to the community of this work would do a little, even the purchase of one of their attractive little Baby Buttons, the success of the appeal would be assured.—E.G.R.

AHOY! BOAT FOR HIRE!

S.R.S. Akuna is available for hire on Saturday afternoons. Here is something different for the Company or Pack outing for a children's birthday party. Charges: 6d. per head, with a minimum of 7/- for afternoon.

For details, get in touch with—

MISS F. L. WEICKHARDT,
105 Stanhope Street,
Malvern, S.E.4.

Learn to manage a sailing boat under safe conditions on the Albert Park Lake.

Anyone wishing to learn or have the young boy or girl of the family taught this fascinating recreation, get in touch with—

MISS F. L. WEICKHARDT,
105 Stanhope Street,
Malvern, S.E.4.

BUNGANA, OCEAN GROVE.

Geelong District Camp site available for hire during camping season. Hire, 2/- per head per week.

For particulars and equipment, apply—

MISS EDITH LEIGH,
Valley Road,
Highton, Geelong.

“Matilda”

An Official Treasure Bag of Guiders' Information for Guiders of Victoria, Australia.

Price: 3/- Per Year; 4/- Posted. Single Copies, 6d. each.

Editor: E. H. PURNELL, 10 Hermitage Road, Geelong.

Contributions should reach the Editor not later than the 18th of each month.

VOL. XVIII.

AUGUST, 1941.

No. 2.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF GUIDE

To all Guides everywhere I send my loving thanks for the kindly sympathy that you have all felt for me when our Beloved Chief Scout was called to Higher Service. Messages bringing your generous good thoughts to me in my time of grievous sadness have come from all corners of the world, and for these I am grateful indeed.

He left you a message of his own, when he died, and you will all be taking that to heart I know. He cared about you so much and loved you Guides as much, I think, as he did the Scouts; and in that term I include all members of our Movement—Rangers, Guides, Brownies (especially the Brownies!) and he was so proud of the success that you are making of it all. And he thought so much for you, planning in his wisdom all the jolly health-giving activities and things for your good. And he *trusted* you all so greatly, feeling sure that you would carry out his suggestions with a will.

And so, in the future that we look forward to, when the war is won, you have got another task awaiting you. Out of the havoc wrought by war we have got to create a new sort of world—where the principles of Our Guide Law are uppermost and all the evil things of today are cast away. So with your hearts full of love for the Chief, who has gone, can you redouble your efforts in your Guide activities, and in this way show your gratitude for his life that was spent so richly in the service of others? I am coming back sometime to join hands with you again. When the present heavy weight of sadness is lifted from my heart I shall look forward to returning to my homeland and seeing you all in Britain again and playing my part as your devoted Chief Guide once more.

OLAVE BADEN-POWELL.

Chief Guide.

—From The Guider.

PIONEERS' PARTY.

This year Guiding in Victoria had its twenty-first birthday, and on Saturday, June 28, the Pioneers—those who were enrolled in the first five years of Guiding in Victoria—gathered at the Union House, University of Melbourne, to celebrate the occasion. About 130 Guiders and former members of the Movement were present.

During tea and the free time which followed, the phrases one heard most often were "Do you remember the Training Week at Macedon when . . .?" "Were you at . . .?" "Why you're . . . aren't you?"

After dividing into Patrols the Company meeting began with Miss Moran as Captain

and Lady Chauvel as visiting Commissioner. Roll Call Drill and Horseshoe were performed with extraordinary feats because of the very large Company and the small space.

At Patrol Time we compared old photographs and log books and chatted about early times. Later a selection of photographs showing the growth of Guiding and some of its milestones was shown through the epidiroscope, taking us back to days of much longer skirts, white shoulder knots, and hats that were really different.

Mrs. Linton (nee Mis Gwyneth Davies), who was Lieutenant of the first registered Company in Victoria, 1st Heidelberg, spoke of their early days when Mrs. Brady came out to Australia and offered to start a Guide Company at Heidelberg. In those days all equipment had to come from England, and the parcels were long and eagerly awaited, and when the badges arrived they were prized possessions indeed. Heidelberg's first public appearance was at the arrival of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales in 1921, when the public was embarrassingly interested in the small band of Guides with their trefoil banner.

Mrs. A. Yencken (Miss Joyce Russell), Captain of 1st Skipton, which was registered the same year, added her story of their beginnings.

Miss Russell and her sister had been Guides at school in England, and were inspired by the example of Old Girls who were Guiders and were often mentioned in the school magazine, to be Guiders some day themselves. On returning to Australia they longed to bring the fun of Guiding to children at Skipton, and the extreme youthfulness of the Captain and Lieutenant seems to have been no handicap as very soon there was a large Company of very enthusiastic Guides. For some time Skipton solved the badge problem by embroidering trefoils on pieces of material which were then pasted on cardboard and safety pins attached to the back. The Company flourished, and like Heidelberg is still in existence.

Mrs. Basil Hall, District Commissioner of Geelong 2, who was present, was an original member of a very early Company started in Wales in 1908. This was one of the Companies which sprang up without encouragement after enthusiasts had read about Scouting. It was for these unofficial Girl Scouts that the Chief Scout had to invent a game and so we have Guiding. Mrs. Frank Faulkner was later a member of this Company in Wales.

Below is a list of those who signed the book giving the date of their enrolment.

Those Who Were Present at the Pioneers' Party.

- 1908—Mrs. Basil Hall.
 1909—Elizabeth Macfie.
 1911—Mrs. Faulkner.
 1919—Mrs. Shave (Alcie Alenson).
 1920—Mrs. Badenach (Skipton), Mrs. Houston (Skipton), Mrs. Blackwood, Mrs. Foster (Betty Bedggood), F. V. Barfus, M. E. Bush, Mrs. Linton (Gwyneth Davies).
 1921—Decima Hansford, Jean M. Jeffrey, Mary Greenshields (Alenson), Mrs. Scorgie (Cannington), Ruth Purnell, Margaret Hooper, Thelma Tallent (Hooper), Mollie Macmorran, Jean Macmorran, Jess U. Boyes, Dr. Florence Cooper, Mrs. Leggatt (Dorothy Andrews), Lilla Brockelbank, Sheila M. Cameron, Daintrey Gillett, Mary Butt, Mrs. Tate (Val Hall), Miss Elsie Morres, Lady Chauvel.
 1922—Kathleen Stredwick, Mrs. White, Nancy White, Estelle Carter, Lorna Brand, Leila Tulloh, V. A. Townsend, Margaret Bail, Gwen Swinburne, Mrs. Kidder (Hazel Ludlow), Mrs. Coutts (Elsie Armstrong), Dorothea Waud, Margery Herring.
 1923—Mabel Ferguson, Netta Gavin (Harrison), Amy Embling, Ena Allan, Jean McLennan, Beryl Morison (Armfield), Isabel Noble (Ward), Peggy Sedgfield, Adrienne Paling, Jean D'Helin, Elizabeth Booth, Doris Morton, Sylvia Card, Annie Ball, Joan Alston, Elizabeth Sutherland, Nell Thomson, May Freeman, Hazel Gross, Enid Bunning, Meg Lester, Madge Lester, Mrs. Ahon, Ethel Batten, Margaret Moore, Elsie Sydes, Eveline Gillett, Olive Wright, Lilly Koska, Elaine Moran, M. G. Lummis, Sheila MacLeod.
 1924—Mary Browning (Lambert), Jean Johnson, Gladys Onians, Queenie Willison (Ahon), Dr. Mildred Hutchings, Lucy Johnson, Alice Dunkin, Phyllis Reid, Laura Duff, Edith Leigh, Milda Dewdney (Breach), Jean Woodman, Jean Brown, Ethel Kerr, Joan Brown, Louise Bakewell, Sydney Foott, Mrs. Potter, Beatrice East-Almond, True Nethercote, Edith Purnell, Connie Buckle, Phyllis Birch, Mrs. Black (Dora Engel), Lee Appleby.
 1925—Helena Wilson (Dunn), Elaine McCaghern, Elsie Plowright, Lena Cornell, Gwen Critchley, Mary Caspar, Miriam Lenox, Dorothy Berwick, Marjorie Nicholson, Phyllis Dannatt, Winnie Robertson, Ruth Short, Dorothy Jordan, Dorothea Holtz, Gladys Ogilvie, Grace Logan, Alison Moffatt, Winifred Coombs, Ruth Seward, Frances Osborne (Gregory), Mrs. Springthorpe, Elizabeth Alfred, Dr. Meredith Ross, Mrs. Leura Munro, Myrtle Russell, Lyli Anderson, Viti Fletcher (Robertson), Dorothy Sedgfield, Marie Morris, Lillian Flannery.

Progress is the result of self-development.

MISS E. H. PURNELL.

Miss E. H. Purnell has accepted an appointment as Guide Trainer for two years in Hyderabad, India.

We will miss Miss Purnell very much indeed, not only as a member of the Executive Committee, on which we find her opinions and advice so valuable, and as Editor of "Matilda," but for her helpfulness to the Movement in so many ways. "Matilda" will miss her specially just now, having enjoyed her editorship for the past 18 months.

Those of us who have worked with Miss Purnell for many years know how much she has given to Guiding in Victoria. We are very grateful to her, and would like, in giving her our good wishes, to give her also our warmest thanks and appreciation. We are happy to know that she will be continuing to help the Movement in another part of our Empire. We wish her "Good Guiding" in India, and shall always be interested to hear of her and her work there.

SIBYL CHAUVEL.

GUIDE HOUSE CONVENER.

We are so sorry that Miss Drury has found it necessary to resign as Convener of the Guide House Committee.

Miss Drury has been associated with the Guide House since its inception, first as Bursar and then as Convener, and her untiring interest has helped materially to place the affairs of the Guide House in their present satisfactory position. We are most grateful to her for all she has done, and thank her very much.

We are glad that Mrs. F. W. Faulkner has consented to act as Convener, and we all welcome her to this new position.—Sibyl Chauvel.

GUIDE WAR APPEAL.

The total number of garments packed to date is 60,733, of which 51,423 are children's, and 9,312 seamen's.

It is very nice to be able to say that Mrs. Euan Littlejohn is returning to her work, as Convener of the Guide War Appeal on August 1; we will all be very glad to welcome her back again.

Miss P. M. Russell has resigned as Honorary Secretary of the Guide War Appeal, as she is undertaking full-time war work. Miss Russell has been Secretary of the War Appeal Committee since its formation, and has given a tremendous amount of time, energy, and enthusiasm to it. We will miss her very much, and want to thank her very sincerely for all she has done to help us. We all give her our very best wishes for her future work.

SIBYL CHAUVEL.

Coleraine Old Girl Guides have formed a Circle for the purpose of helping the Girl Guide War Appeal. Twenty-one Old Guides

have joined and already have made several garments.

The members are all girls, who are busy at various jobs during the day, and are glad of the opportunity to work together for this worthy war effort.

The small Parish Hall on Circle night is a cheery spot, as the Old Guides work round a huge log fire. They are fortunate to have two dressmakers among the members, and although there is much chatter, which even the sewing machine can't drown, the busy fingers get through the work. Before setting out along the dark country roads for home, the "Mess Patrol" serve a cup of tea and biscuits.

The Circle is hoping to have an effort after winter to raise some money for the Guide War Appeal.

CAMOUFLAGE NETS.

The making of camouflage nets has been going along steadily. One is finished, and a second is nearing completion. Instruction is given on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 9; also on Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 5. Ten people have been passed as instructors, and have been assisting in the teaching of new-comers.

We are hoping that depots will be started very soon in several Districts where these instructors live, if Commissioners find it convenient to open them. Very little equipment is required, and practically no expense. Besides being a matter of national urgency at present, netting is a handicraft that Guides will always find useful.—M. R. Fairbairn, on behalf of the Netting Committee.

GUIDERS' CONFERENCE.

This year the conference will be held at St. Stephen's Church Hall, Church Street, Richmond, on September 27 from 3 to 10 p.m. The programme will aim at combining business with pleasure in an effort to compensate for the cancellation of the Guiders' Dinner. As we shall have the use of a very nice kitchen, we propose serving afternoon tea and biscuits at 3d. per person, and for those who stay for the evening session, a cup of tea will be sold for a small charge. Guiders to bring their own food.

So far, 12 interesting questions have been received, which will be published in "Matilda" if space permits. Full details of conference will appear in September issue—so please take note of them, as we want to avoid sending circulars.—O. G. Knight, Chairman.

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS IN TIME OF WAR.

The Red Cross stands for the desire of mankind to alleviate human suffering as far as possible. Those who serve under the Red Cross emblem throughout the world are pledged to this common ideal, to the exclusion of all political, racial, or religious differ-

ences. The International Red Cross Movement comprises:—

1. The International Red Cross Committee, an independent body which administers the Geneva Convention, whose essential characteristic is its absolute neutrality, and which is entrusted with the maintenance of fundamental Red Cross principles.

2. The League of Red Cross Societies, an association of National Societies banded together for purposes of practical co-operation and mutual assistance in times of peace.

3. The whole body of National Societies, numbering 63 in all, representing, prior to the present war, a membership of more than 30,000,000. These Societies are independent, voluntary bodies, enjoying the recognition of their respective governments, which promote and encourage their humanitarian work. Behind them stands the great force of public opinion, which supports their work because of the realisation that it aims at giving practical expression to the finest and most unselfish impulses and aspirations of humanity.

The majority of these National Societies were equipped and ready to operate when war broke out on September 3, 1939, since it is an obligation upon them, as continuously functioning organisations to be ready to act in any emergency whether general in character or confined to any one country. For, while it is the primary function of the Red Cross Societies to act as an auxiliary to the Medical Services of the armed forces in time of war, they are permanently in action for "the improvement of health, the prevention of disease, and the mitigation of suffering throughout the world."

It was not until the nineteenth century that a new order and a new standard of care for the sick and wounded of the fighting forces was introduced. "The Times" had sent William Howard Russell to the Crimea, and his historic despatches, which were published on October 12 and 13, 1854, compelled the Government to take action. The then Secretary for War, knowing that Sisters of Mercy were nursing the French wounded, acted on a suggestion that women should be sent to the Crimean hospitals. He wrote to Miss Florence Nightingale, asking her to organise a band of nurses to take with her; his letter crossed one from her offering her services. She left London with 38 women five days after her appointment, arriving at Scutari three weeks later. Her story, and the story of the service rendered by this noble band of women, has inspired thousands of women throughout the world.

Henri Dunant, a Swiss banker and philanthropist, equally a pioneer for voluntary aid in war time, once said that his work was inspired by that of Florence Nightingale in the Crimea. Henri Dunant's vivid account of the trials and suffering of the wounded of both armies in Lombardy during the Austro-Sardinian War of 1859 was published in 1862. He was impressed with the absolute need for pre-war organisation of auxiliary welfare workers who would provide volun-

tary first aid, and he urged in his pamphlet the need for voluntary assistance to aid the sick and wounded in time of war. Henri Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross, worked and organised with this ideal in view, and when in 1863 the International Committee of the Red Cross was formed, the leading people of many countries were interviewed and supported the movement. In the same year, an International Emblem was chosen, and as a compliment to the founder and to his native country of Switzerland, the Red Cross on a white background was chosen. (The Swiss flag is a white cross on a red ground.)

In October, 1863, an International Conference was held in Geneva, which was attended by 62 delegates, representing 16 Governments. At this conference a treaty was drawn up, subsequently approved, and eventually signed by 25 Governments.

It was revised by further meetings in 1906 and 1929, whilst its provision regarding the sick and wounded and prisoners of war was extended to the Navy at the Hague Conference of 1907. It is one of the most human agreements ever made between civilised nations, and it has been signed by nearly every country in the world.

This year of 1941 the Red Cross has brought comfort to many homes in many countries. A Message Service has been organised, and messages are daily being sent by people of all nationalities to their relatives overseas, through the medium of the Red Cross Message Service. This Service is established at the Red Cross Headquarters in each capital city in Australia. The following list of countries which have been proclaimed for postal purposes as enemy or enemy-occupied territories gives one an idea of the International scope of Red Cross. The Message Service may be used in respect of Germany (including all possible possessions) and Bohemia, Moravia, Czechoslovakia, occupied Poland and the Free City of Dantzig. Italy (including all possessions), France in Europe (including Corsica), and Algeria. French Morocco, Tunisia, French Somaliland, and the Principality of Monaco. Belgium (but not including the Belgian Congo, Mandated Territory, Ruanda and Urundix). Denmark (excluding Greenland, Iceland, and the Faroe Islands). Norway, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania and the Principality of Lichenstein. The Netherlands (but not including the Netherlands dependencies). The Grand Duchy of Luxemburg. The Channel Islands.

The only way in which relatives may ascertain details of the place at which a prisoner is held and whether he is wounded, sick or well is by applying to the Red Cross Bureau for Prisoners of War, Missing, and Wounded. There is a Red Cross Bureau of this nature in each capital city of the Commonwealth attached to the Divisional Headquarters of the Red Cross in each State.

The Australian Red Cross Society receives periodical reports from the International Red Cross Society in Geneva regarding the treatment of Australians in prison camps abroad.

These reports are already being received regularly, and the Red Cross Bureaux for Prisoners of War, Missing, and Wounded are sending details of such reports to relatives who have made enquiries.

The International Red Cross representatives who have access to prison camps are allowed to speak with prisoners personally without witnesses. The right to do this is one of the provisions of the Prisoner of War Code. Two delegates of the International Red Cross have recently visited prison camps in Germany, and have made their reports, which have reached the Australian Red Cross Society. The delegates made some criticisms, but, generally, speak well of the way Germany is treating her prisoners. The delegates were free to enter any camp, and to speak to any prisoner without a witness. They were driven by a chauffeur of the German Red Cross, with petrol supplied by the Army.

One feels a sense of thankfulness for the humane service rendered by the International Red Cross Society, and by the Red Cross Societies of each country, to all those in need, and to those who have suffered and are suffering as a result of war. Not only is service rendered to our sick and wounded service men, but to the civilian population. Particularly women, children and the aged are cared for. All find a haven under the Red Cross on the white ground, and we have reason to believe that even in enemy occupied territories men, women and children are working quietly to alleviate suffering, and finding inspiration in the service and aims of the Red Cross.—G.M.L.

BRITISH SCOUTS IN TIME OF WAR

Many Duties and Responsibilities.

(From the Department of Information).

In peacetime, Boy Scouts are trained in self-reliance to fit them for the tasks of peace. To-day, Britain at war is testing the value of this training to the full.

The fearful raids over London and Britain's great cities called on all who were able to help on the civil front. Scouts showed astonishing courage and versatility, and their work soon made it possible to release thousands of men for national service in other spheres.

During one London raid, for example, four Scouts were assisting a paralysed man from a house when bombs began to fall close to them. They laid the man on his back and sheltered him with their bodies as the bombs screamed down. A few hours later, the same four boys were supplying hot drinks to 400 people in a church crypt. The next night they forced their way half-blinded into a bombed ammonia factory to turn off the plant.

Hospital Work.

At one London hospital a Troop of Scouts

has been on duty since the outbreak of war. During months of inactivity they stuck to the job until one night, without warning, bombs rained down all over the district. From 2.30 to 7 a.m. the boys worked without ceasing, carrying stretchers across the open courtyard to the wards.

The hospital authorities then asked that as many boys as possible should report each night and put a sleeping ward at their disposal. A little later, older Scouts were carrying stretchers and those under 16 filling bottles and bowls, tabulating clothes and helping in the casualty wards.

It was not long before they had more responsible tasks—operating telephone switchboards, undressing new casualties, assisting in blood transfusions and the stitching of wounds, and even helping in the operating theatres.

"Be Prepared."

On the other hand, much of the Scouts' work in wartime has been sheer routine and hard work without excitement. One London Troop maintained a night guard in a big shelter for 12 months before there was a raid. And yet, within an hour, a canteen staffed by Scouts was serving hot drinks and snack meals to shelterers. They were living up to their motto.

In rural areas, hundreds of Scouts are helping on the land, replacing men in the harvest season, working in forestry camps, collecting medicinal wild plants which, formerly, were imported from European countries.

Younger Scouts are indefatigable door-to-door collectors, and, in the first year of war, rounded up the tremendous total of 35,000 tons of paper which was re-pulped and used again.

Night Jobs.

A nation-wide scheme for fire-watching was evolved by Scouts in response to Mr. Herbert Morrison's appeal in January. Patrols of six and eight under a leader watch in their own districts and link up with other Patrols to make a complete check.

Air Scouts.

A new development in British Scouting is the formation of Air Scouts—boys from 11 to 16 who will be given the opportunity of learning the theory of flight, navigation and mechanics. This will fit them to join the Air Training Corps at 16 with a good preliminary knowledge. Their uniform is grey shirts, dark blue shorts, stockings and beret, and, needless to say, the new branch drew thousands of applications within the first few hours of its formation. When these boys ultimately reach R.A.F. training camps, their training as Air Scouts and in the Air Training Corps will shorten their courses by many weeks.

Guarding the Thames.

Thousands of Sea Scouts, who spent uneventful years learning morse, flags and sema-

phors on the old Polar ship, "Discovery," anchored in the Thames, came into their own when the blitzkrieg burst. They were equipped with bicycles for carrying urgent messages. They were used to signal from pier to patrol boats, from patrol to hospital ships; they were appointed to guard landings.

Yet, despite these varied activities, boys still have time to study. When Scoutmasters were called up, thousands of Patrol Leaders took over the running of their Troops, aided by correspondence courses prepared by the Boy Scouts' Association and distributed on a nation-wide scale. This education in the responsibilities of administration under rigorous conditions is invaluable training for the future.

SOWING THE SEED.

By LORD BADEN-POWELL (from "The Council Fire," July, 1940).

I read in the Bombay Scout Gazette for February this sentence:

"The long-expected war has come at last with all its devastating calamities, and it cannot be helped.

"The Scout Movement, an institution of Peace and Service, pledged itself to serve its generation, tried its utmost through its different organisation, but failed. . . ."

I am sorry, but I do not quite agree that it has failed.

On the West Coast of Africa, in a place then known as the "White Man's Grave," I met a missionary who told me that the average life of his predecessors in that spot had been four years, and he expected that this would be about the length of his own life there.

I started to argue with him: why waste the life and knowledge he possessed in trying to convert a few illiterate natives, when he might be employing his talents more usefully, for a long term of years, among his own heathen fellow-countrymen in the slums of England? But he felt "called" to this work, and said that though he would not live to see the fruits of his labours he was sowing the seed which would ultimately ripen and produce good fruit in due season.

The beginnings of any great development must naturally be small. The Christian religion itself started with only a tiny group of men who had faith, and from them, after some hundreds of years, it spread through Europe; and only now, two thousand years later, is it beginning to make its appeal to untutored peoples about the world.

Scouting and Guiding are by comparison as yet in their early babyhood: they have to grow for many generations before they can have gained sufficient hold on the minds and

action of men generally to secure peace. But we are on the right road, and already showing the way. Only a sprinkling of Scouts and Guides about the world have as yet reached man's estate, but they are well distributed among the different nations. The seed has been widely sown. More and more boys and girls are growing up in their thousands to be the parents of yet more Scouts and Guides in their millions.

Most of us who have been sowing the seed will not in the nature of things be here to see the harvest; but we may well feel thankful, indeed jubilant, that our crop is already so well advanced as it is, considering the very short time that has elapsed since its original sowing.

But it means that if that harvest is eventually to come, our job in the meantime is to see that the growing crop is adequately tended, that the boys and girls now in our hands have the higher aims of Scouting and Guiding so instilled into them that these become their principles for their lives; and not only for their own lives, but for the lives of the children whom they ultimately bring into the world.

But this instillation cannot be done by preaching; it can only be impressed through example and through such steps as appeal to youth instinct and temperament.

Hence Scouting and Guiding!

Patience is needed at this stage on the part of the trainers. Patience is hard to practise; you are eager to see immediate results; but I think patience can be acquired if you look forward to the ulterior aim and realise how necessary must be the intermediate steps. But one blessing about training Scouts and Guides is that even while the ultimate aims may seem as far off as the moon, you are all the time giving Happiness, Fresh Interests and Character to each individual whom you are privileged to have as your disciple.

I have heard Scouters and Guiders lamenting that they cannot find enough war work for their children, but I should not worry too much about that, valuable though such work is.

You are, or can be, preparing them for helping in the greater cause of peace.

Look forward. The existing world war-quake is a man-made catastrophe, and can only be redeemed by man. Our present generation is out to effect this by defeating force by force. On the next generation will lie the duty of bringing about peace through peaceful actions.

When I was at school our class was shown a picture of a stormy day, with angry clouds and driving rain and trees bending to the gale.

The master asked if any boy could point to a peaceful bit in the picture. There was one little spot of blue sky showing through a rift in the clouds. I was adjudged the win-

ner, and for the next few days I carried myself with a most offensive air of superiority.

But that incident has often recurred to me since with reassuring effect when clouds look black, whether they be clouds of war, or of bad luck, or of misunderstanding; one knows that they will roll by in the end, and the serene sunshine of heaven is constantly above them all the same.

So when the present war-clouds roll by the sunshine of Peace will supervene; and all the more readily if the next generation has meanwhile been prepared to promote it.

No one knows what form Peace will take. Federal Unions, Economics, resuscitated Leagues of Nations, United States of Europe, and so on, are variously suggested, but one thing is essential to general and permanent peace of whatever form, and that is a total change of spirit among the peoples, the change to closer mutual understanding, to subjugation of national prejudices, and the ability to see with the other fellow's eyes in friendly sympathy.

But although it will be difficult to get men of the present generation entirely to change their spots, we Scouters and Guiders have two great assets to help us in impressing these ideas on the minds and actions of their oncoming successors. First, we have young and mouldable minds to deal with; and, secondly, the war, instead of hampering us in our work, actually gives us object-lessons with which to ram home our points.

The appalling suffering of their own fellow-Scouts and Guides in other countries will touch all Scouts and Guides very nearly, and will excite their fuller personal sympathy and friendship for them.

Friendships can be more fully developed, if Scouters and Guiders set their mind to it, through increased interchange of correspondence, pen-friendships, visits, hospitality to refugees, study of maps and histories of other countries, and by reminding the boys and girls that we are all children of the same Father, whose direction to us is "Love your neighbour."

Hatred born of war, and revengeful feeling, will naturally be weeds in the path with many young people.

But as your plants grow up from the seeds which you have sown labelled "Broad-minded outlook," "Love," and "Desire to bind up the wounds of war," such weeds will eventually be choked, and Goodwill and Peace will be your harvest!

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- "Girl Guide Courier," Western Australia.
- "Le Trefle Rouge et Blanc," Switzerland.
- "Te Rama," New Zealand.
- "The Canadian Guider," Toronto.
- "The Council Fire."
- "The Waratah," New South Wales.

A QUESTION OF VALUES

From "THE GUIDER," May, 1941.

On Easter Sunday I had lunch with a German schoolgirl aged not quite ten years. When she was ten days old I carried her from a Berlin nursing home back to a Berlin nursery, and for eighteen months I looked after her, speaking to her in English because her mother hoped that she would grow up bi-lingual. She and her family have lived in England now for six years.

"We," she said, "are the most important people in the world."

"We, Sonja?" her mother asked. "Who do you mean?"

"We," she repeated, "the British."

After lunch I walked with her family across the common where small Cockney boys were playing football. The sun was shining, the almond blossom was out, and, although that particular district had been raided fairly heavily, there was very little sign of war.

"What are you all going to do with the world afterwards?" I asked Sonja's elder sister.

"I'm going straight across the Atlantic to make a pile of money; I'm sick of Europe."

"That's all very well. But I didn't ask what you would do with yourself. What about the world?"

She looked blank, at that. "Ask father."

Her father, an elderly much travelled man, smiled.

"Peace aims? Don't talk peace aims yet. First win the war, and throw all your energy into that. When you fight a ruthless enemy you must yourself be ruthless."

"No—Vati! If that, why do we fight? Then we descend to their level."

I was interested to see that young cynic who had been an ardent Nazi schoolgirl, later an enthusiastic Communist student at the Sorbonne, still had ideals left, although at present she professed loyalty to no *ism*.

Her father laughed, "Well, if you must have peace aims, then we must educate the German race. If necessary, Germany must be occupied for sixty years—until the last man or woman who remembers Hitler is old and useless, until the last baby born to-day is civilised."

"Don't you think," I asked to test him, "that even then, if another Hitler arose, they would all follow him? Isn't it inborn in the race to follow like sheep whether the leader be good or bad?"

"Nothing is inborn," he replied. "If you took a thousand British babies aged one year and distributed them in German homes, and a thousand German babies of the same age and distributed them in British homes, in fifteen years you would have nine hundred and ninety-nine British-born, 100 per cent. Germans, and the same number of German-born civilised Britons. Everything depends on education."

My bus came along at the moment and I had to leave the discussion unfinished. But all the

way home I thought of it. Small Sonja's statement in the unmistakable voice of the English school-girl certainly seemed to prove her father's point.

"We, the British, are the most important people in the world."

Are we? Are the Germans? Is not Sonja herself very nearly one of the most important people? Not quite, because she is almost too old and set in her ideas. She is a disciple of the creed of race already. Maybe the cause was pre-natal; certainly nobody spoke the word in her nursery when I ruled over it! Maybe, on the other hand, she is a victim of the prevailing fashion in her English school. Whatever the cause, she has almost missed the chance of becoming a person of great importance because her views are already dangerously prejudiced and intolerant. She may still have a chance—if someone can be found to mould that rapidly hardening mind, and make it more pliable, before it is quite closed to suggestion. But such people are few to-day. We are, most of us, too busy with war work to have time to discuss the future of the world and a new philosophy with ten-year-old schoolgirls.

Who, then, are the most important people in the world to-day? Not Sonja's grown-up sister, who is working hard to help Britain's war effort, and who says, blatantly, that she will stay and see it through and then go off and enjoy herself. Not her father, who, brilliant though he is, is putting so much energy into his work that he will probably be too tired to think after the war, and who considers that action is more necessary now than thought. Not you, or I, who, believing in an ideal, are prepared, if necessary to die for it. Not the thousands of British, Polish, Greek—yes—and German boys who are dying daily in defence of their beliefs. No, the most important people are those who are most easily forgotten in every nation except when an anti-bombing slogan is required. They are the people who still attend kindergartens or junior schools the world over. The people against whom it is the final sin to wage war, the people who must not be allowed to suffer, who must not be maimed or killed. But *why* must they be preserved? Why are they so precious? Why, throughout history, have we always tried to protect them? Is it simply because they are children and helpless, and therefore objects of sentimental idolatry? Or is it, perhaps, because with every generation hope is born anew in the world? Is it because, with every new and innocent mind that develops there is the chance, the hundredth chance, that it may be the one which will lead humanity a little further on the road to wisdom? I like to think so. I like to believe that by now we have grown out of the phase of sentimental baby worshipping, and that we see in the child the citizen of tomorrow. Surely nothing else explains evacuation? Then why, in God's name, have we no time to discuss matters of importance with the people who are content to label children, whose creeds are often so disconcertingly revealing? How do we dare deny them, and, ignoring their need, turn aside to "matters of more importance"?

I know that, writing in *THE GUIDER*, I shall be accused of preaching to the converted. I accept the accusation thankfully, and hope that my accusers are, on the whole, right. But I still feel justified in doing so, for more and more often nowadays one hears young Guiders saying, "I have not time, now, for my company or my pack."

We are called upon to serve our country, and God knows, it is vital that we should do so. We have to fling our every effort into the nation's cause in order that civilisation may survive. But, having won the war, how much farther shall we live to a cause if our heirs are unfit to inherit to win the peace? It is not enough to give our lives to a cause if our heirs are unfit to inherit our victory. It is not enough to die for an ideal if the ideal must perish with us because we failed to pass it on to our successors.

Sonja has still a chance to rank as an important person; she may yet learn to look beyond the frontiers of race if someone will show her how to adjust her vision. Remember, at her age, her sister was an ardent Nazi, later she became a Communist, now she is throwing herself into work, later she intends to be an egoist! She has gone too far on the path of cynicism to be much use to the new world, because nobody was ready to guide her in the right direction while she was growing up. Her little sister may go the same way. On the other hand, she has ten years in which to learn; if she is lucky, somebody may pilot her safely past the rocks of *Isms* out into the open sea.

Who is to prepare the heirs of the future, if we, who stand between the intolerance of the past and the wider consciousness of the new world, have no time for them? Is it not our grave responsibility, who are struggling in Britain's cause, in defence of her ideals, to look beyond the boundaries of the present and the frontiers of the nations, to the horizons of eternity and the panorama of the world? In serving our country we must also serve the world. In serving the world we are also servants of the generations who are yet unborn.

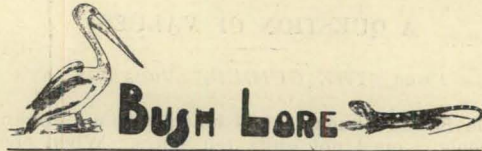
Now, as the stress of total war grows greater, it becomes increasingly vital for us to hold clearly in our minds the vision of all that we are fighting not only to preserve, but to create. While putting everything we know into the united physical effort of all the enlightened races of the earth, we have to remain unshaken, mentally and spiritually, by the jangle of the shattered reeling world about us. Whatever comes we have to guard our minds from the infection of war-time gossip, in order to keep them stable and sane that when the children come to us hungry for food and comfort and hope we can give and give again.

Remember:

The Wise

*Are still the keepers of their proper peace,
They are the guardians of their own tranquility.
Those who can maintain tranquility to-day,
and remain steadfast to their avowed purpose,
have in their keeping a greater trust than perhaps
they dimly guess. They guard the security
of humanity.*

—MARGARET TENNYSON.



Editor: Ina Watson.

ORCHIDS.

From now on is the time to look for orchids. I had an enquiry the other day as to why an orchid was different from other flowers. The preface to Pescott's "Orchids of Victoria" sets this out very clearly, and I make no apology for summarising it.

There are two main differences. First, the labellum, or lip, which is simply a petal that has developed differently, and often assumes remarkable forms.

The second is that though the orchid has reproductive organs the same as other flowers, these have joined into one part, called the column. At the base of this are sticky surfaces on which the pollen must fall, and also the "bags" which hold the pollen, and wonderful are some of the means which Nature has provided for fertilisation.

The two main groups are epiphytes—which means living on trees, and terrestrial, or ground orchids.

The tree orchids are not parasites, because they do not live on the sap of the trees, but use them as a support and gain their living from the air and the rain. We have only four or five varieties in Victoria. One of them we can find at Ferntree Gully, in the Dandenong Ranges. Although small it has a very clinging, sweet perfume.

But there are numbers of the ground orchids (over 130 Victorian varieties), and it is these we know best.

Although pollen is produced in large quantities, very few orchids grow from seed, mostly by increase of the tubers.

Within the last few years, an orchid has been discovered that lives entirely underground—even the blossom is below ground. They grow in association with the roots of the ti-tree, and very few plants have yet been found.

THE MERLE AND THE MAVIS.

Although the plants, animals, and birds brought into Australia by people coming from Europe have proved a very mixed blessing (even, as with the starling, becoming a menace to our native fauna), I am sure there can be few complaints about these two birds that have settled down so happily round our gardens.

The blackbird and the thrush belong to the same family, and though they look different when fully grown, the babies of the blackbird are spotted like thrushes, thus showing their common origin.

Their lovely singing is a constant delight to us. The thrush is content to stay in

domesticated safety, but the blackbird has penetrated into the "bush." Even the lyrebird has learned his shrill chattering alarm note, and imitates it occasionally.

Although habits generally are similar, there are differences which it is interesting to watch for. The blackbird, for instance, raises his tail on alighting, and seems to carry it higher than the thrush, whose silhouette shows a straight back, with the tail well down in line.

They both build stick nests, the blackbird's lined with grass and the thrush (remember the "u" in thrush and in mud), the eggs of both are a greenish blue with darker spots.

They are both unerring when it comes to picking the exact spot where a worm is working, and appear to give a little jump as they dig their beak down into the ground. I have forgotten who it was, writing of the thrush, said:

"And in their spotted throats are hung,
The vesper bells of God."

A NEW BOOK.

For those who are interested in fungi, there is a new book, price 2/6, called "Victorian Fungi," written by Mr. Willis, of the National Herbarium, and issued under the badge of the Field Naturalists' Club. While at first glance it seems rather technical, it is well illustrated, and the common names are given in many instances.

A QUIZ.

(Answers Next Month).

1. Why do birds put their heads under their wings when they go to sleep?
2. Why do some trees have catkins, and why do they come before the leaves?
3. Where does an insect have its bones?
4. How could you tell a snake from a lizard?

The Sign Post

Editor: Marjorie Nicholson

What do we live for if it's not to make life less difficult for others?

—George Eliot.

BUILDING.

Everybody enjoys building. From earliest infancy we build.

The baby builds his houses of blocks, the older child builds sand castles, or erects

himself a shelter from available odds and ends, and is as proud as a monarch when he can crawl in and seat himself successfully in the shelter.

Then there are the people who make life's work, building. They build houses, palaces, or cathedrals. Some of these cathedrals in the old world represent the patient perseverance and skilled building of centuries, and are the admiration and wonder of all. And we are building—every one of us—we can't help it—we are building **character**.

What do we mean by "character"? It is the way we behave in certain circumstances, the way we accept and react to troubles, joys, difficulties, happiness, or sorrow in ourselves.

Here is an old fable about St. Thomas, who was the Patron Saint of Builders. Gondoforus, King of the Indies, said to St. Thomas: "Build me a palace, more magnificent than the Roman Emperor's. Here is great treasure of gold and silver. Let it be ready when I return."

"Oh, King, it shall be done!" said St. Thomas, but when the King returned he found that St. Thomas had given all the money to the sick and poor. Then Gondoforus said that St. Thomas should die by slow torture! Before the executioners began their horrible work, however, a strange thing happened. The King's brother had a dream, and he said: "I have been in Paradise. Angels led me to a glorious mansion built of silver and gold and precious stones, and they said, 'Behold, the palace St. Thomas has built for Gondoforus, King of the Indies!' On hearing this, the King ran to unlock the Saint's dungeon himself, and after that he spent all his wealth in doing good.

"We are building every day
In a good or evil way,
And the structure as it grows
Will our inmost self disclose.

"Build it well what e'er you do
Build it straight and strong and true
Build it clean and high and broad
Build it for the eye of God."

—L.J.E.



Believe It Or Not.

A Concert.—Many Packs have held successful concerts to aid the Guide War Appeal. This month we congratulate Second Yallourn Pack because the Brownies organised the whole concert by themselves; Joan McKay, the Elf Sixer, sent the following delightful account of the affair.

The Elf corner of the Second Yallourn Pack held a concert on May 17 for the G.G. War Fund. The admission was one penny. The children paid a penny extra for a biscuit and a drink. Afternoon tea was served to the adults for sixpence. The concern consisted of choruses, solos, recitations, and a little play about Miss Muffet and the spider, and everyone present said it was a great success. We collected £1/12/6.

QUIZ.

The following questions do not properly constitute a quiz, nor will the answers be found on the following page, but it will not be a waste of time to ponder over them for a moment. They are a basis for taking stock of the state of affairs in the Pack:—

A Happy Pack.—Are the children getting fun and laughter? Do they love the meetings and are they regular? Do they trust B.O. and T.O., and are they at their ease with them?

Discipline.—Do they obey their signs? Are they noisy sometimes or all the time? Is it their discipline, or is it B.O.'s? Are they good at their ceremonies or do they giggle?

Individuality.—Is B.O. interested in the Pack only, or in each individual Brownie? Does she know something of their tastes? Are they given some scope for their different wants and needs, or do they all do the same thing in the same way at the same time? Do they have any choice in what they want to do? Are only the noisy ones attended to?

Imagination.—Do they ever act, or play pretending games? Does B.O. play with them? What sort of good turns does the Pack do? Do they have stories? Do they think, or does B.O. do it for them?

Courtesy.—Is a guest made to feel at ease? Is B.O. or the Pack the hostess, or both? Are the Brownies' manners just put on for the occasion, or do they show courtesy to B.O. and T.O., and a little to each other?

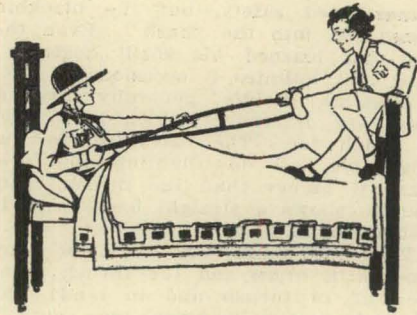
Health.—Are the windows shut, especially after a game? Is B.O. interested in the health of the Pack, or does it bore her?

These questions have been adapted from an article written some years ago by Miss Rhys Davids.

BROWNIE LIBRARY.

The Brownie Library now consists of 102 books with a total number of 75 subscribers. At the end of the financial year there was the sum of £2/2/3½ in hand, some of which will be spent shortly on new books.

Miss Heseltine has resigned from the post of librarian and a new librarian will take up her duties at the end of the financial year. Miss Heseltine leaves the little library in excellent order, and sets up a high standard to maintain.—V.A.T.



Editor: Sydney Foot.

BEING A BALOO.

Someone has asked, "But what is a Baloo?" and as she is such an important person in Post Guiding, it might be as well to let you all know just what she is.

In the Extension Branch there is room for nearly everyone who wants to help—there are the Captains and Lieutenants and Brown and Tawny Owls, and then each Company has (or would like to have!) a typist and an illustrator for the Company meeting. In camp we make grateful use of people with camping experience, and nurses and massage students who help with the first-aiding, and people who are good as Q.M.'s. In addition to this there are Guides and Rangers who come and act as "legs" and pushers. Then, of course, there are the people who help with transport—those with cars who are always so good to the people who simply **can't** get to rallies or services under their own steam, and those Rangers and Guiders who act as pushers for prams and chairs.

Well, all those people are Extension helpers, but there is still another type of person who hasn't been mentioned, and that is the Baloo. She may be a Guider or a Ranger or an older Guide or a Tawny—in any case she is a person with a certain amount of Guide knowledge who has some free time each month or each fortnight, when she visits a Post Guide or a Post Ranger or a Post Brownie. It is best, if possible, if she comes just after the "Post" has received her monthly Company meeting—which comes to her in the post—because then she can explain any parts the Post can't quite understand, and help her in answering the competitions—not, of course, by **doing** the competitions for her, but by writing the answers out or explaining any wording which isn't quite clear, and possibly sending the Company meeting on to the next person on the list. It does make such a difference, both to the child and her mother, if they know that someone who knows about Guides is there to answer questions.

And it makes such a difference, too, if the Post Captain knows there is someone Guide-y to do the explaining the other end.

Because it's often very hard to write down everything so that it sounds interesting and still makes sense to the new recruit, who has never heard of Colours or Sing-song or Roll-call or Second-class or Taps!

The reason **why** the Baloo is so called is a rather nice one—and if you read Kipling's *Jungle Tales* and see just how good Baloo was to Mowgli, in the way of explanations and help, you will know the reason why, and perhaps you may feel that you would like to be just such a friend to some Post Guide or Brownie who misses some of the joys and excitements of active Guiding.

Herb Growing.

If any Post Company would like to start a herb garden, in order to grow herbs to send overseas, they can get supplies of plants from me—Miss Foott, 108 George St., East Melbourne.

Herbs take up very little space, and this would be an interesting form of service, especially for older Guides or Rangers.

LONES.

Dear Guiders,—

Miss Fowler who corresponds with a Lone Guider in New Zealand has passed on to me a report of a Lone Guiders' Conference held in Wellington in April, and it has so much information that we can apply here, that I am going to quote parts of it, in the hopes that it will help my own Guiders. Anything I quote will be in italics. Here are some general notes.

"The Commissioner will appreciate if Guiders would:—

"1. Give her some indication if circular folders, minutes of Guiders meetings, etc., are appreciated. Suggestions for improvements or alterations would be readily considered.

"2. Keep her posted with the names of senior Guides and Rangers who may be suitable as future Lieutenants.

"3. Notify her when Lieutenants are not doing their work. This is not disloyalty, but is necessary in the interests of the whole Branch.

"4. Notify her when a girl has not replied to the Budget for three months.

"5. Send her one Budget every three months, with a small report on the progress of every girl.

"6. Notify her when Budgets have been held up or not returned.

"7. Notify her about the issuing of warrants. Three good letters are needed before Captain's warrants are issued. For their warrant Lieutenants must be completely responsible for one Budget. Captain should send this letter to Commissioner and also report if Lieutenant has been regular and reliable in her work.

"8. In the event of an accident get someone to notify Commissioner that she is unable to send out the Budget. (It must be remembered though that good Lieutenants and Patrol Leaders can often carry on.

"9. Give plenty of notice when resigning."

I add two more to this:—

10. Answer all her letters promptly, remembering to reply to the questions she has asked.

11. Date letters, and always begin by quoting the date of the letter they are answering.

"Captains must not take into their Companies recruits whose names have not been received from the Lone Commissioner."

If they know of a girl who wishes to join their Company because of a sister or a friend, they should send the girl's name to the Commissioner, who will send her the application form in the usual way.

Captains should also notify the Commissioner immediately a girl resigns, so that the vacancy in the Company can be filled.

"Do not enrol by post unless the Commissioner has been notified. She may be able to arrange for some active Commissioner or Guider to take enrolment. The enrolment service is most important, and the child should be able to look back upon it as a memorable occasion."

It must be realised, however, that nothing is worse than leaving a girl waiting indefinitely for enrolment. I have an excellent Enrolment by Post Budget sent to me by a Guider, which can be adapted and used if circumstances necessitate it. Guiders should tell me when a girl is ready for enrolment, and I shall investigate the possibilities of her being enrolled actively, before resorting to the Enrolment by Post method. I would also like to be told immediately a girl has been enrolled, as I send each one a personal letter for this occasion.

Having given a list of what the Lone Commissioner expects of her Guiders I think we should turn the tables and discuss what a Guider expects of the Commissioner. I would be glad of any suggestions whereby I could be of any help. I have been given this position so that I can try to solve difficulties and problems, and generally make the lot of the Lone Guider happier and easier. I do beg of you to make use of me.

I have a very extensive Guide library which I am willing to lend for reference at any time. I am compiling a series of letters in training with suggestions of how to teach various subjects in an interesting way, and will be glad to do the course with anyone who feels she is stale and would like some fresh ideas. I also have a collection of scrap books and cuttings from various sources which I have compiled with the idea of their being useful at any time, and some Budgets which I can exchange with anyone who asks for them.

You will by now have received the notes on the Conference we held at the Gathering, and I hope you will find many things helpful in the subjects discussed. I have not by any means exhausted the New Zealand report yet, but will continue it next month. I am tremendously interested in these discussions because I have learnt to understand what the Guider has to contend and cope with, and it is only by realising her problems that I can ever hope to be of any use.

M. R. FAIRBAIRN.

Camping and Training

Elaine Moran

TRAINING COURSES.

Brownie Refresher Training.

Three refresher classes for Owls will be held on September 17 and 24 and October 1 respectively. It is hoped that all Owls who have not attended a class recently will keep the dates free. The Guider-in-Charge will be Miss A. Searle.

Brownie Elementary Training.

A course of six classes and one outdoor day for new Owls will commence on Thursday, October 2. It is most important that Owls should attend the outdoor day on October 25, in order to obtain the full training. The Guider-in-Charge will be Miss H. Gross.

Guide Elementary Training.

A course of nine classes and two field days will commence on Tuesday, September 9. The field days will take place on September 27 and October 4, and it is most important that they should be attended as the course is incomplete otherwise. The Guider-in-Charge will be Miss S. MacLeod.

Details.

All evening classes will be held at the Guide Office, 60 Market St., at 7.55 p.m. sharp. A fee of 3d. per class will be charged. Equipment: Sandshoes, note book, pencil. Guiders who have not previously attended classes must bring signed nomination forms from their Commissioners. It would help if intending trainees would notify Miss B. Macartney at H.Q. beforehand.

First Class Testing for Guiders.

A testing day for Guiders has been arranged for September 20 in the following sections:—Estimations, Compass, Life-line, Knowledge of Neighbourhood, Mapping. Guiders will be tested in the "Half Day's Hike" section on October 11.

Guiders who wish to be tested on either of these days are asked to notify Miss B. Macartney at the Guide Office in writing **not later** than September 6. They should state:

1. Which tests they are ready to do.
2. Whether they can come in the morning.
3. Full particulars of "neighbourhood" boundaries, if they wish to be tested in this section.

A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed for reply. Details will then be sent to candidates.

SUMMER TRAINING WEEKS.

Two Training Weeks are being planned for the holidays next summer. One for Guiders and one for Patrol Leaders. What is hoped is that Guiders and Patrol Leaders from the same Companies will come.

The syllabus is being worked out in such a way that the Guiders will know and understand what has been planned for the Patrol Leaders; and each group will tackle the same activities and discussions from its own angle.

The only successful way in which a Patrol Leaders' Training by any other Guider than their Captain can be given, is when the Captains concerned know and approve of the programme. Otherwise the Patrol system is short-circuited, and when the Leaders return to their Patrols they are hampered, either because they have learnt things or because their Captain, through not understanding, does not allow them enough scope, nor give them further help on the same lines.

Guiders' Training Week.

At the Guide House from December 27 to January 3. Guide and Brownie Training will be given. Fee will be between 25/- and 30/- according to the number attending. Fare from Melbourne: Rail return 5/9, bus 1/3. The Guider-in-Charge will be Miss E. Moran and the Brownie Trainer, Miss A. Searle.

Patrol Leaders' Week.

At the Guide House from January 17 to 24, 1942. Patrol Leaders should: (1) Be Second Class; (2) have at least one year's Guide service; (3) be not more than 15 years of age on July 1, 1941. The fee will be 22/6. Fare from Melbourne, rail return 3/10, bus 1/3. The Guider-in-Charge will be Miss S. MacLeod. Applications must be made on special form obtainable from Miss Macartney at the Guide Office. (Please send stamped addressed envelope).

Applications.

For both Training Weeks should reach Miss B. Macartney, Guide Office, 60 Market St., Melbourne, C.1, not later than November 21, 1941. Five shillings deposit should be sent with application; this will not be returned if withdrawal is made later than three weeks before the beginning of the training. If rail ticket is required from Melbourne at concession rates the money for this must be sent, too.

N.B.—Patrol Leaders: If six or more are travelling in uniform from a country station to the Guide House a special concession can be obtained. A special form should be asked for when application is made.

SUMMER CAMPS.

Guiders' Campcraft Training.

Training and Testing for the Camper's Licence and Quartermaster Certificate. Refresher training for seasoned campers. All the latest ideas of sanitation and Scouting games. If you have no camping experience whatever, come and learn all about it. If you have been camping for years and are possibly in a rut, come and get some new tips. December 26 to January 3; fee 22/6 to 30/- (according to numbers). Fare from Melbourne, rail return, 5/9; bus 1/3. The Guider-in-Charge will be Miss C. Broadhurst.

Combined Guide Camps.

Two Combined Guide Camps will be held under canvas at the Guide House during the summer. There will be vacancies for 32 Guides at each of these camps. The dates are: December 27 to January 3, and January 5 to 12.

SUPPLEMENT TO MATILDA. August 1941.

Girl Guides Association
Victoria.

60 Market Street,
MELBOURNE. C.1.

Miss E. H. Purnell as you will read in Matilda, is going to India soon as a Guide Trainer for two years. So that Guiders may have an opportunity to see her before she goes, we have asked her to be at Headquarters on Wednesday, 13th August between 5 and 6.30 p.m.

We are also giving Miss Purnell a small gift with our good wishes. Those who would like to share in this, are asked to leave a penny at Headquarters before or on the 13th.

We hope you will be able to come to give Miss Purnell your good wishes.

M. E. Bush.

1. Not more than six Guides or five Guides and one Guider may apply from any one Company.

2. Guides must be under 15 years of age on January 1, 1942.

3. Guides must have had at least one year's Guide service.

4. Applications must be made on special application form, and must be in not later than October 16, 1940.

Please send stamped addressed envelope for Application Form to Miss E. Reeve, Assistant Camping Secretary, 13 McKinley Ave., Malvern, S.E.4.

Combined Ranger Camp.

Because of the uncertainty most Rangers are experiencing at present of getting time off for camps, and the difficulty of knowing some time ahead, it has been decided not to hold a Combined Ranger Camp this summer. Last summer the number of Rangers was too small to warrant holding the camp site free again this year. Any Rangers who are unable to join a Company Camp, and who are anxious to qualify for the Pioneer or Campcraft Badge, are asked to write to Miss Moran, and if possible arrangements will be made for them to join a camp.

OPEN WEEK-ENDS.

Vacancies.—September 19 (20); November 21 (20); August 15 (2). Any Guider wishing to take her Guides on another date may apply, and the Company will be accepted should another withdraw.

Camp First Aid Test.

A course of lectures will commence at the Guide Office on Monday, August 11, at 7.55

p.m. There will be five lectures and the examination on the sixth night. Full particulars of preliminary qualifications will be found in P.O.R., Rule 70, page 162. Nomination forms are obtainable from Miss Harrison, 126 High St., Glen Iris, S.E.6.

GUIDE HOUSE GROUNDS AND GARDENS WORKING BEES.

The next three working bees will take place on the following dates:—August 9 and 10, at the Brownie Cottage; September 13 and 14, at the Brownie Cottage; October 11 and 12, at the Brownie Cottage. Because we are using the Brownie Cottage for these three working bees, space will be limited, so applications are invited as early as possible. Would each person writing in enclose her 5/9 for train fare, stating what time she intends to travel and 2/6 as deposit for food. In future there will be definite charges of 10/- and 10/9. Those coming on the early morning train on Saturday will be charged 10/9 as full cost, and those on the afternoon train 10/- as full cost. Send your applications to Miss C. Broadhurst, Girl Guides' Association, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, C.1.—Clara Broadhurst.

BROWNIE COTTAGE FETE.

October 18.

Underline this date on your calendar as the Brownie Cottage Committee proposes to hold a fete at 457 St. Kilda Road, the resid-



"Quality you can TASTE!"

BROCKHOFF'S

"Oven-crisp" **BISCUITS**

B. 826

SHELTER

It is easy enough to take cover when it rains—if you happen to be near cover.

The best "cover" from life's rainy days is a bank account. **BE INDEPENDENT!** Build yours up in the—

STATE
SAVINGS BANK
OF VICTORIA

221 BRANCHES — 387 AGENCIES
Head Office, Elizabeth Street, Melb.
N. R. WILLIAMS, General Manager.

ence of Mrs. Broadhurst, who has kindly put the grounds at our disposal. There will be stalls of all kinds and fun for everybody. Admission—6d. for adults and 3d. for children. Proceeds are for the Brownie Cottage.—Debbie Bradshaw, Acting Secretary.

GUIDE SHOP.

There are two new books available:—

6th Biennial Report, price 1/6. This comes out every two years, and gives a report of world Guiding. This copy unfortunately has been cut down very much this year because of the world situation, but what is there makes very interesting and inspiring reading.

The New Guide Company, price 1/-. This small book will be useful to new Guiders especially, but it will also interest the Guiders who have been going some time as it covers the following chapters:—The Child Training, Uniform and Organisation, Preliminary Meeting, Guide Uniform, Company Management, Testing and Teaching, and a very good article on games.

We have also been able to acquire **Compasses**. These are 3/6, plus postage. These are not like our old stocks which came from France and Germany, but are made in America and the design is different, but they are quite reliable and are well worth having.—Clara Broadhurst.

**YOUR CREDIT
IS GOOD—
USE IT AT**

Christies Pty.
Ltd.

- ★ FURNITURE ★ CARPETS
- ★ LINOLEUM ★ RADIO
- ★ PLAYERS ★ PIANOS
- ★ SPORTS GOODS

TRADE IN ■

Your old furniture, player piano or radio will be accepted at its full present day value as part payment on any new requirements. Trade in and save at Christies.

Christies Pty.
Ltd.

96 ELIZABETH STREET
Central 4526.

214-218 BOURKE STREET
Central 8022 (3 lines)