

M. E. Bush.

Matilda



JULY, 1942.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meetings of the Executive Committee, held at the Guide Office on 21st May and 4th June, 1942.

Present, May 21st: Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Bakewell, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Pearson, Misses Cameron, Moran, Ritchie, and the Secretary.

Present, 4th June: Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Blackwood, Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Robinson, Misses McKellar, Moran, Swinburne and the Secretary.

Agreed:—That Questionnaire asking for details of war work done by Guides should be sent out with the Annual Report Forms.

That all money held by the Association from disbanded Companies should be put into one Savings Bank account and that it should be invested in National Bonds.

To put notice in Matilda regarding the need for recruits for the Women's Air Training Corps, and the fact that instruction in Wireless Telegraphy is provided by the Corps.

To give publicly to the Y.W.C.A. Special Wartime Services Appeal.

That it was considered impracticable for the Association to run a Holiday Home for Children.

To publish a further notice in Matilda regarding the Defence Department Clothing.

To accept the invitation from the Rotary Club for a representative to attend the Rotary Luncheon during Youth Week.

To put a notice in Matilda in reference to Guiders helping at After-Raid Rest Centres.

That Mrs. Faulkner should call on the Head of the American Army Nurses to extend a welcome from the Association to any Girl Scouts who were among the Nurses.

Reported.—That on account of shortage of material, the War Appeal should cease on 30th June.

That the meeting of Ranger Guiders to discuss the Home Emergency Service syllabus was to be held on 17th June.

That word had been received that ten cases from the War Appeal which left here in November had arrived safely in England, making a total of 60,000 garments which had arrived.

That clothing had been supplied to a family of mother and four children evacuated from Malaya.

That Lady Dugan had written a letter to Guides in connection with National Savings, that the letter was being published in Matilda, and copies for all Guides were being sent out with the Annual Report Forms.

Routine and Financial Business was transacted.

M. E. BUSH

WARRANTS AND REGISTRATIONS.

CAPTAIN.—2nd Hawthorn, Mrs. Haig; 1st Kingsville, Mrs. McGrath; 1st Northcote, Miss

E. Harvey; 1st Wentworth, Miss J. Clifford. LIEUTENANT.—1st Drouin, Miss M. Rowley; 1st North Fitzroy, Miss B. McNea.

BROWN OWL.—9th Geelong, Miss O. M. Smith.

TAWNY OWL.—1st Poowong, Miss N. Hayward.

CANCELLATIONS.—Captain: 1A Brighton, Miss W. Lucas; 4th Brighton, Miss E. Medcalf; 1st Parkdale, Mrs. D. Miller; 1st South Melbourne, Miss M. Newell; 1st Wentworth, Miss N. Jerrom. Ranger Captain: 3A Geelong Rangers, Miss R. Purnell. Lieutenant: 1st Wentworth, Miss J. Clifford. Ranger Lieutenant: Brighton District Rangers, Miss D. Nichols. Brown Owl: 3A Geelong Pack, Miss J. Rankin. Tawny Owl: 1st Rupanyup, Miss C. Kinsella.

"THE GUIDE" AND "THE GUIDER" SUBSCRIPTIONS

Allowing for letters taking up to six months nowadays to reach England, we must post our order for renewal of subscriptions to these Magazines, not later than the end of July—preferably sooner.

The subscriptions are: The Guide—16/6 per year; The Guider—6/3 per year.

If you wish to start a new subscription or to renew your present one, will you help by sending, very soon, the required amount to the Guide Office, Melbourne. We are not able to provide a stock of spare copies, and unless you order ahead in this way, it is unlikely that you will be able to obtain copies.

F. V. BARFUS.

HERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY!

Help swell the Lone Branch Funds by attending the Annual Meeting of the Lones Association on Saturday, July 11th, at 3 p.m., at 236 Kooyong Road, Toorak, and buying something useful at the "Bring a gift, buy a gift" Opportunity Stall.

All are Welcome
SO
THIS MEANS YOU.

CANCELLATION OF BROWNIE GAMES AFTERNOON

The Committee regrets any inconvenience which may have been caused owing to the cancellation of the Brownie Games Afternoon which was advertised in last month's "Matilda" for Saturday, 27th June, 1942.

This cancellation was brought about owing to lack of suitable grounds but it is hoped to hold a similar Fixture later in the year, of which due notice will be given.

G. ROACH,
Hon. Secretary,
Brownie Cottage Committee.

“Matilda”

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

Price, 3/- per year. 4/- Posted. Single Copies 6d. each.

Editor: Mrs. GUY BAKEWELL, 4 Stoke Ave., Kew, E.4.

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

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JULY, 1942.

No. 1.

THE STATE COMMISSIONER

The Guide Movement will be glad to hear that the State Commissioner, Lady Chauvel, is recovering after her illness. She has been very much missed and our best wishes go to her for a complete recovery.

EDITOR.

GUIDE WAR APPEAL

Contributors to the Guide War Appeal and workers all over the State have already been notified of the closing of the Guide War Appeal and its activities, owing to the effects of rationing.

A report and financial statement will be published later in the year, when matters are finalised.

Meanwhile there are many garments still to come in, for which material or wool has been issued to various groups, and it would help enormously if finished articles could be sent in soon. As long as we have any of the goods, we shall continue to pack them for England, and the sooner we have them, the more likely are they to reach their destination in time for the coming winter.

M. LITTLEJOHN.

CAMOUFLAGE NETS

When I last wrote on the subject of camouflage nets, I explained that owing to the difficulty of getting twine, the C.W.A. had been forced to limit the numbers of workers and depots. This was very disappointing as we had hoped to make camouflage netting a definite and combined Guide War effort, to supplement the work of the Guide War Appeal.

So it is with great pleasure that I can say that owing to the C.W.A. now being able to obtain what they hope will be an unlimited amount of sisal hemp, there will no longer be a restriction on the numbers of workers.

It should be realised that new depots can only be issued with the sisal hemp, which though a little more cumbersome to use, is just as effective, and has the advantage that the nets do not need roping. Also as the sisal hemp will be all we shall be able to get eventually, we may as well get used to it sooner as later.

We hope that there are many who would still like to learn, and that those we have already taught will support us by renewing

their efforts, so that our contributions will be substantially increased.

At the time of this going to print we have returned 400 nets. We thank those who have worked so steadily during the year we have been in existence. At the same time there are probably many nets made by members of the Association that have not been recorded in our book, which can be found in the netting box at Headquarters. If anyone lets me know any time they have taken nets down to the C.W.A. I can enter them myself. It would be nice to have the record as complete as possible.

Instructors are always at Headquarters on Wednesday afternoons, or lessons could be arranged by ringing there and booking a more convenient time. There are several depots so it should be easy for new workers to join with the nearest one to her home.

There is always a net cast on at Headquarters, so that anyone experienced who has an hour or so to spare, can do a few rows at leisure.

M.R.F.

DEFENCE DEPARTMENT CLOTHING

In June, Matilda the work being done in salvaging discarded military garments for children's clothing in time of evacuation, was mentioned.

A depot has now been opened in Craig's Buildings, Elizabeth Street, and helpers are urgently needed for unpicking, sewing etc. Bundles will be sent freight-free both ways to anyone who would sew these garments.

HELP AT AFTER-RAID REST CENTRES

Guiders will already know that After-Raid Rest Centres are being established in all suburbs, for the help of people who have lost their homes by bombing, until they are rehabilitated.

At present there are in most places no separate arrangements for children, though in some cases special annexes for children are being provided.

It is suggested that Guilders might offer to help at Centres, especially with the children. Some of the Rangers might help also.

This seems to be a job that needs doing, and our Guide training prepares us in many ways to deal with children under emergency conditions. Guiders willing to assist in this way should offer their help through the local municipal authorities.

M. E. BUSH.

DISTRICT NEWS.

Geelong Guides Pets' Parade.

A Grand Pets' Parade was organised by Geelong Guides, Rangers, and Brownies to raise money for the Guide House Caretaker's Cottage.

The afternoon proved a huge success and many hundreds attended the Parade. Prizes were given for various sections, such as Best Family of Pets, Dog Best Barker, The Cat with the Longest Whiskers, Smallest Pet, and many others. The pets brought along to the Parade included rabbits, cats, birds, guinea pigs, fowls, a lamb and dogs of all sizes and kinds.

The Rangers had charge of a mixed stall and 10th Geelong organised the Hot Dog Stand, which was soon sold out.

A Pony Cart was very popular with the children and did a roaring trade.

The financial result was far beyond our expectations, for the sum of £16/2/6 was raised. It was then decided to donate £5 to the funds for the Caretaker's Cottage and another £5 to endow a day for the Guide House. The balance to be given to the Geelong Hostel for the Fighting Forces.

Minyip.

Minyip Guides attended the Anzac Day ceremony at the Memorial Hall. After everyone was seated all were asked to stand and remain standing during the colour ceremony, when the Guides entered, led by the Colour Party, who took up a position at the foot of the stage. All the Guides then stood at the salute and the gathering sang the National Anthem, after which the Colours were broken. The ceremony impressed the public very much.

1st ROSEBUD BROWNIE PACK.

Flying Up Ceremony.

A lovely day—bright sunshine—blue sky and happy, smiling faces, when Guides and Brownies met to celebrate Jeanie Flying-up to the Company. First, the Golden Hand ceremony which showed how truly our Brownie had tried to Lend a Hand in the Pack and at Home, and as well she received a star for her three years' service. Four Brownies were given their Golden Bar Badges and a Two-year star for Noreen! Well done, Brownies!

After that Pack Leader read us the story about the little girl who was so anxious to win her Golden Hand, she forgot to be a Brownie, till by Lending a Hand in unthought of little ways—being unselfish, kind, and thoughtful for others, she had won it without knowing!

"We're the Brownies, here's our aim," blithely we sang as we danced, and the time had come for Jeanie to wave her wings. Brown Owl pinned them on—A salute—a smile—a hand-shake—"You go with the good wishes of the Pack."

"Fly-up and prosper" and away flew our

Brownie.

Bluewren P.L.: "By what right do you come?"

"By the right of my wings."

Captain: "Welcome to 1st Rosebud Guide Company."

Next, the Golden Bar Brownies said "Goodbye" to the Pack and were welcomed to the Company by Captain.

Grand Owl to show how pleased we were and Fairy Ring—such a small one—and if Brown Owl had any sad thoughts she kept them to herself, they were a jolly little Pack).

Company dismiss! What next? Games, then Tea! Captain made us a lovely cake with pink and white icing and three golden leaves for three years' Brownie Service. Then Jeanie cut the cake, while we all sang lustily, "For she's a jolly good fellow"—only it should have been Brownie of course—Brown Owl signalled "Goodbye Brownies, be good Guides," so ended a Golden Day.

Our golden day is ended—

Oh happy, happy day—!

The sun is slowly sinking

We can no longer stay!

We always will remember

To Lend a Hand each day!

The Guiding Star is beckoning

And we must haste away!!

THEA. CAMPBELL WALKER,

Brown Owl, 1st Rosebud Pack.

CYCLE CORPS

16th Geelong, St. John's. This Corps which was formed in January has a membership of 15, each Guide has either won her Cyclist's Badge or is ready to be examined.

The training is making good progress.

Each Guide has her own First Aid Kit to carry on her bike.

Two Guides has been allotted to each Sector Warden, as far as possible. This means that 6-7 Wardens can use the Guide Corps for messenger service, or for "victims" in mock air-raids.

The Corps meets every Saturday for ½ hour before Company Meetings.

"Rise up, For the Day is Dawning."

"Rise up, for the day is dawning," sleepily sang a member of the Caulfield District Cycle Squad as she was rudely awakened from her slumbers by the shrill call of an alarm clock at 6 a.m. one Saturday morning.

The stars still twinkled through the bedroom window as she quietly—ever so quietly—crept out of bed, stifled the impulse switch on the light, groped for her uniform, and gratefully thought of many games of "Midnight Alarm" in the dark of the Company Hall as, without bother, she knotted her tie with a reef and adjusted her badge in its proper place. Keeping in mind the instructions: "Do not disturb your family!" she felt for her haversack, ready packed except for food, silently made her way

to the kitchen, took her ration from the safe, let herself out of the back door, released her iron steed from its stable and took to the road just as the first rosy flush of dawn spread over the sky.

The same thing was happening in numerous other homes, and a few minutes after 7 a.m. the Caulfield District Cycle Squad fell into formation outside the Caulfield Town Hall, and moved off on their "Breakfast Bike Hike." The Guider in charge rode alone in front, behind came the two divisions—the Spitfires to port, and the Hurricanes to starboard, each led by its Sergeant with its Corporal at the rear—nothing so common as P.L.'s and Seconds in the C.D.C.S. The route led along North Road, across Dandenong Road and on towards Lysterfield, and after a 9½ mile ride, a halt was called for breakfast.

The fire was soon alight, and in record time the majority of the Squad was polishing off, with great gusto, an appetising meal of bacon and eggs. Those who strayed from that popular breakfast menu experienced minor difficulties—a certain egg cooking in the ashes caused much hilarity—but after an hour's halt all were ready to move on.

The road home led through Glen Waverly, where a stop was made while several layers of woollen jumpers were removed, as the sun was fast gathering strength, making riding warm work.

A little later there were several nerve-racking moments when the Squad found themselves in the midst of a herd of cows, but in single file it cautiously nosed its way through, keeping a sharp eye on the vicious looking horns on all sides. For several miles after that it was alternately bike then hike, as the hills were steep, but the morning was so perfect that no-one minded the occasional hike. It was, however, thirsty work, and a halt at the roadside dairy made a welcome break, especially when the generous dairyman brought forth a large bucket filled to the brim with delicious icy-cold milk, and invited the cyclists to help themselves. They took him at his word and in the twinkling of an eyelid the bucket was empty.

Into formation once more, and shortly after 11 a.m. the home town of Caulfield came into view, and the Squad, after a 22 mile ride, dismissed, weary but still full of the joy of the morning

B.E.W.

THE GUIDE HOUSE

Not much news this month, except that the house has now been let a month; that the response to the Guide House Appeal has been extraordinarily generous, and amounts are still coming in; that there was a Brownie Cottage working bee at the end of April, and two more in May, and a few Guiders took their vacation holiday of ten days in the Brownie Cottage, and an Old Guide Group spent the

long week-end of King's Birthday there. Booking include a Camping Department Working Bee on 11th-12th July, and a Gardening Bee on 25th-26th.

If you want to endow a day in July (£5) you have only nine days to choose from: 7th, 8th, 11th, 13th, 16th, 18th, 24th, 29th, 30th. The other days are endowed by the following donors:—

1st: Camperdown District; 2nd: Rochester Company and L.A.; 3rd: 1st Coburg Patrol Leaders (part day); 4th: Corryong District; 5th: Mrs. J. K. Pearson; 6th: Phyllis Salmon; 9th: H. S. Officer, Esq. and 1st St. Kilda Guides; 10th: Miss M. L. Drury; 12th: 3rd Caulfield Company; 14th and 15th: Mrs. Euan Littlejohn; 17th: 8th Hawthorn; 19th: Croydon District Guides and Rangers; 20th: 1st Krowera Company; 21st: 1st Brighton Company; 22nd: 1st Nyah District Pack (½ day); 23rd: Qualcast Pty. Ltd.; 25th: 2nd East Malvern Pack; 26th: 4th Brunswick; 27th: 2nd Brighton Beach; 28th: 2nd Elsternwick Company; 31st: Mrs. J. J. Storrow.

—M. Littlejohn.

GUIDE HOUSE GROUNDS AND GARDEN

This is a reminder that there will be Working Bees at the Guide House on the week-ends July 25th-26th, and August 22nd-23rd. We will stay at the Brownie Cottage, and we hope to arrange transport to leave Melbourne on the Saturday soon after midday. The cost for everything will be 10/-. We hope to have a good response to this request for workers, as it is most important that the Guide House Grounds and Garden should be kept in good order. Will you send your applications to Miss C. Broadhurst, 457 St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, S.C.2, fully a week ahead of the date with a deposit of 2/6.

HOW WILL EVACUATION AFFECT OUR COMPANY?

The Evacuation Area (2)

Do you remember the Chief's words about turning every difficulty into an opportunity?

We are having some difficulties now with our Companies, with the brown-out and having to change our times of meeting; but what opportunities some Guiders have made of these difficulties! Opportunities for outdoor meetings and real practical scouting, and for giving the Patrol Leaders real responsibility.

What opportunities will arise if your Guides are evacuated? Surely it will be a marvellous chance for them to enjoy country life and get to understand and appreciate the countryside. You can make a lot of that, it is right into your hands.

If there is no Company for them to join near their country home, how are you going to keep in touch with your Guides by post and still make the most of your opportunity?

(1) Time, This may be a "catch," Resolve

to devote all the time previously spent on preparation and running of Company Meetings, Hikes, Court of Honour, etc. You should be able to produce a copy of a Company Letter for each Guide every month if you plan your time well.

(2) Company Letter. Each Guide should receive a personal note from you, it need not be long but should include a personal remark or two applying only to that Guide. In addition each Guide or group of Guides if they are near together) should receive a copy of the Company Letter containing activities for everyone. These they will carry out in groups if possible, otherwise singly, and send in their reports to you.

The Company Letter should include a list of all the Guides and their new addresses and any news about them.

3) Setting out. This is important. If it is clear and simple it will appeal. Do not use many words of explanation but put things clearly and concisely in short sentences. Allow plenty of space. If time permits introduce some appropriate tracings of simple drawings, e.g., Guides, trefoil, animals, woodcraft signs, campfire, etc. Better a couple of lines straight to the point, with simple drawings and lots of space, than a whole page of close writing or printing. Have no hesitation about quoting bits from Guide books and papers if they will help! Use carbon paper and save labour. If a kind friend will type or duplicate your Company Letters so much the better. Be sure and discuss it with Lieutenant and any Leaders left, and all take a share in it. You will find it is fun!

(4) Activities. Make use of the outdoors opportunity. Concentrate on outdoor things. Aim at increasing observation, self-reliance and awareness of the world around. Do not worry about elaborate preparations. Give simple things within the scope of Guides. Remember that the Chief Scout taught by the "discovery" method. Give the Guides things to discover, give them things to do that can be done in Patrols, in pairs, or by single Guides. If you are writing once a month include enough practical activities for four Saturday afternoons. Remember that the Guides will be slower than if you were there to help them. Remember that it is the spirit of Guiding that has to be kept alive. Do not point morals but keep the Law before them. Include slogans and questions such as "Did you smile when you were sent to bed last night?" "Have you done your good turn for to-day yet?" Give reminders about keeping their badges shining bright and wearing them.

Some suggestions for outdoors:—Finding out about the weather—different ways of knowing whether it is going to be fine or be wet. Keeping weather forecast diaries with columns for date, signs observed, forecast, and (later) result. Finding out the names of distant mountains, their height, and distance away. Finding tracks of birds and animals. Draw tracks

of horses trotting, cantering and galloping and get the Guides to discover which is which from observation. Trying different types of fires (see Hiker badge). Practising hike cooking, (see Pioneer badge). Keeping country log books, with accounts of things seen and done, drawings, and snaps. Keeping up standard of Scout's Pace by regular practice. Stalking, e.g. rabbits, magpies, etc., give them something to find out about each. Making a collection of things from list given by you, e.g. a small grey feather, something small red and smooth, three kinds of seeds, insect eggs on a leaf, a leaf with a hairy back, etc. These would vary according to the age and experience of the Guides concerned, but it is better to have them too simple than too complicated.

An excellent way to train Guides to become observant is to give them details to find out for themselves and then describe to you, e.g. "what kind of bird do you see most frequently round the house? What sort of beak has it got? How does it fly?" or "are there any little blue flowers growing in the paddock? How many sorts can you find? How are they different from another another?" Further suggestions:—Practising signalling over a distance. Naturalist and Gardener badges. Health Rule records kept over a period. Message practice: Guides memorise a message when they get up in the morning and write it down at night and compare with the original. If you give them some graded messages to begin with they can make up their own later. Inspection: Did you clean your shoes this morning? Are your nails clean and short? Have you any holes in your stockings?—any buttons missing?

To make variety, inspection questions can be on a separate folded piece of paper sealed with stamp paper, to be opened at the same time and date by everyone.

Continuing salvage collecting. Helping locally if possible. In any case saving silver paper, cotton reels, used stamps, etc.

(5) Answers. Give a date for answers to reach you by. Give some things in every letter that require action and a definite report. If funds permit, enclose stamped addressed envelope with Company Letter.

You might find it useful to enclose a questionnaire covering the month's activities, to be filled in and returned to you. Remember to mention the answers received in the following month's letter. However, do not be disappointed and discouraged if you do not receive answers. Children are not used to writing letters and they may have no-one to remind them. The main thing is to keep on yourself!

ELAINE MORAN.

The Reception Area (1)

Will you try to imagine for a few moments that you are a small child who has to leave the city and go away to the country with lots of other children. You will not like doing this, because it may mean leaving mother and

most of your previous belongings. If you are shy, and do not make friends easily, you may rather dread meeting the people with whom you will live until you can go back to your home again. Just think what a thrill it would be to you if some of the Guides of the district to which you have been sent should be at the station to meet you.

I am going to try to tell you a little bit about the way in which Guides in Reception Areas can lend a hand and make the city visitors feel more at home in the country.

They can start to prepare before evacuation takes place, by helping to make palliasses, and filling them with straw. Many of these will be needed, as it may happen that a whole train load of evacuees have to stay overnight in a town before being billeted around the countryside. Probably each shire will have its own idea about the size of palliasses required, so it would be necessary to consult the local authorities when offering this assistance.

When the children are taken from the train, they are almost certain to be given a meal immediately, and there will be lots of opportunities for Guides to prove themselves "A friend to all." It may be that there are some children who are frightened, so Guides should be especially useful here in talking to them and being friendly, and may also be able to help by feeding the younger ones. On most evacuee trains there will be a certain number of infirm adults, and possibly some blind people, and these will all be very grateful for any help which is given to them.

Probably in each Reception Area there will be committees formed to arrange about feeding the evacuees when they arrive, and I would suggest that two Guides should be attached to each committee. They could be responsible for keeping up the wood supply for the coppers, and also do any messages that may be necessary.

Next month, I hope to tell you a little more about the way in which country Guides can help in the evacuation scheme. Z.A.F.

CHILDREN'S PLAY-TIME

HELP FOR RECEPTION "PARENTS"

By Dr. A. G. Scholes, Organiser, National Fitness Council of Victoria, 58 William Street, Melbourne, C.1.

For happy homes filled with the laughter of healthy children there is no better recipe than that of filling leisure hours with safe and suitable play.

The "naughty" child is in many cases the child who has no interesting occupation. Children generally need some stimulation for their ideas, and this we must provide in a Play-box.

Several things need to be considered in filling the Play-box. Although there are certain things that appeal equally strongly to

both girls and boys, as children get older it will be found that on the whole girls tend to like some things that have no appeal to boys, and vice versa. It has also been found that unless the child is provided with occupation suitable to his development, he will either misuse the material or else not use it at all. **The amount of space** available both for playing in and for storing the play material is also important.

It is not necessary to spend a great deal of money on elaborate equipment. The child gets his enjoyment from the things he makes himself. Therefore it is necessary to provide creative and constructive materials.

The following are suggestions for Play-boxes for:

Girls.—4 to 8 years.

Dolls; material for doll's clothes, such as scraps of dress materials, sewing cotton, several large-eyed needles, scissors, clothes pegs for dressing as dolls. Children love dressing up and a collection of old clothes, shoes, hats, old curtains, table cloths, etc., will provide endless opportunities for play. Material for scrap books from old brown paper ironed out, or white shelving paper clipped or sewn together; also magazines for cutting out pictures. Plasticine or modelling clay; paints and paint brushes; crayons and colouring books and skipping ropes. Books should include those that the children can read themselves, and those that the adult will read, such as, Dr. Dolittle, Peter Pan, The Secret Garden.

Boys.—4 to 8 years.

Carpentry materials, paint or enamel for painting wood work, wooden blocks. Packing cases outside provide opportunity for climbing; ropes; reins. Constructive toys such as meccano or tinkertoy and colouring materials as for girls.

Girls.—8 to 12 years.

Materials for dressing up. Wool and needles for knitting; sewing; drawing materials; jig-saw puzzles. Books are most important. Suitable ones are: Black Beauty, Huckleberry Finn, Treasure Island, Robin Hood, Wanda the Wild Pony, Tales of Girls' Schools and Domestic Life.

Boys.—8 to 12 years.

Carpentry materials, paint and brushes, simple jig-saw puzzles made with a fret saw. Waste materials such as cotton reels, match boxes, cardboard, tins etc. for constructive work, paper crayons, paints. Stories of ships, aeroplanes, cars, school stories, adventure and brave deeds.

If a child has a hobby try to encourage it. Children enjoy collecting things, and many hobbies of this type are easy to provide for and are valuable.

In considering the place where the children will be able to play and keep their playthings, it will make things much easier for all if the child can have some place of his or her own. He can be encouraged to keep it tidy, but the adult must never throw away what appears to be rubbish.

FOLK DANCING AND SINGING GAMES

The National Fitness Council has arranged a Club Leaders' Course of English and Continental Folk Dances, and Singing Games, at the City Newsboys' Hall, 111 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, every Wednesday evening at 7.30 p.m. from 1st July to 26th August.

Enrolment fee is 1/-, which covers music and script, and should be paid to the National Fitness Council, 58 William Street, Melbourne.

MORE SEALED ORDERS FOR A PATROL.

These can be prepared by a Guider or the Patrol Leader.

The Patrol divides into two groups of 3; or else into two pairs with the Leader helping the recruit with tenderfoot. Groups or pairs referred to below as "A" and "B."

Each group receives a set of 5 sealed orders. These are identical except in the order and times they are to be opened. No. 5 is opened at the same time by both groups.

These are the orders:—

A Group.—Order 1.

B Group.—Order 3.

(Outside) Open this at the corner of Brown and Murphy Streets, at 2.30 p.m.; B 3.0 p.m.

(Inside). The Flagpole at the War Memorial needs new halliards and our Company is going to donate them. How much rope should we get?

Follow this route and make a map:—Turn N. at the corner near the Presbyterian church and walk to the crossroads. Take the lane S.E. for 40 yards to a gate on your left. Enter the gate and cross the paddock. Go to the tree in the N. corner.

A Group.—Order 2.

B Group.—Order 4.

(Outside). Open at—A, 2.55 p.m.; B, 3.25 p.m.

(Inside) 8 pts. if your answer was 34ft. rope; 1 less for every foot out. The pole is 17ft. and allowing for tying up, approximately double the height of pole is needed.

Your route should have been: High Street, Melbourne Rd., Brown's Lane, Penny's Paddock. Take 2 pts. for each correct turning, or 10 pts. altogether if you are now at the Blackwood Tree near Curtis's Dairy. Did you mark the N. on your map and some scale or the time it would take to follow it? If so, I point for each. Total, 20 pts.

A Group.—Order 3.

G. Group.—Order 1.

(Outside). Open this at Curtis' Dairy at—A, 3.0 p.m.; B, 2.30 p.m.

(Inside). Go to the nearest pillar box. What time would you have to post here to catch the morning delivery in Melbourne?

Don't look at your watch! Write down what time you think it is—then compare with your watch!

Collect the following: A red seed box. A live insect or grub in its nest. A white flower with at least six petals, not growing

in a garden. An abandoned bird's nest; 2 kinds of feathers.

Make a list of the things in your pockets or on your belts.

A Group.—Order 4.

B. Group.—Order 2.

(Outside). Open this at—A, 3.25 p.m.; B, 2.55 p.m.

(Inside). 1 pt. if you went to the pillar box at the corner of Rose and Sweet Streets. Catch mid-day clearance 12.15 p.m., 1 pt. 5 pts. if you judged the time exactly right, 1 less for every minute out.

Inspection.— $\frac{1}{2}$ point for each Guide for:—Your own handkerchief; a clean handkerchief or bandage in sealed envelope; pencil; notebook; cord on belt; 2 pennies for emergencies; knife. Total, 14 points (2 Guides).

A Group.—Order 5.

B Group.—Order 5.

(Outside). Open this at 3.30 p.m.

(Inside). Go to the Patrol Corner in Mr. Smith's paddock. If you are first back start making a woodpile and build the fire. When the others return compare your collections and take 1 pt. for each thing you all agree is correct. Total, 6 pts.

Total for the day, 40 points. (Pairs—43 $\frac{1}{2}$ points if in groups of 3 Guides).

Winners make the cocoa!

Losers make the damper!

Good Luck!

—"Kurwin."

REMARKABLE PRODUCTION RECORD

By Jack McLaren, Australian author at present in England

The first thing I saw on entering a certain famous British shipyard the other day was a large group of men building two ships on one slipway.

At another slipway others were laying down the keel-plates of a ship to follow the one that had been launched from the slipway that very morning.

In the river nearby, workmen were busy fitting out a newly launched tanker of 10,000 tons with everything from engines to mosquito-netting on the door of the wireless cabin. This tanker would be way across the ocean in a month—high-speed work that, in view of the crucial need for ships in the battle of the seas. It leaves no time for a trial run as in peace time.

The riveters have had to learn to work in the blackout, a most difficult task. In the great sheds the fitters and other expert workmen have to do much of their fine work in restricted lighting. Snow has often to be swept away from the outside jobs—and much of the work of building a ship has to be done out of doors—before work can begin.

Though much of the work is standardised, the men have to adapt themselves to many new methods. Many men who left shipyard work years ago have returned to make good the labour shortage. Some of these find the work

hard at their age, but they carry on. One I talked with had a small baker's shop, and another a milk round; their businesses are now being run by their wives.

Repair and alteration work makes a great demand on the ship-building services in some yards. Many men are engaged in fitting new bows and sterns to ships that have been partially shattered by bombs or gunfire, and in re-plating the vast damage caused by torpedoes.

They have, too, to stiffen ships for gun-seats and instal paravane mine-sweeping apparatus and other protective gear. They also carry out such tasks as converting trawlers into mine-sweepers, working on as many as a dozen at a time, and turning out one such converted craft every seven or ten days. All this means long hours and hard work.

At one place they are building half a ship. Completed, it will be floated off, towed to a distant dry dock and joined to the other half, portion of a 7,000-ton tanker which was torpedoed in the Atlantic. Not a man in the yard has any doubt that the new half will stand up to the long sea-going tow, or that the final work of joining the two portions will be done without a call for serious modifications.

As in so many other British industries today, women work in the shipyards. They range from general labourers in the sheds to girls in charge of trolley riveting forges. I saw a girl of 17 driving a drop-hammer and 12 women hard at work painting the inside of a hull with red lead.

These shipyard workers cannot get away from the knowledge that bombs or torpedoes may in a few moments send to the bottom of the sea their skilled and patient work of months. But they don't work any the less carefully on that account. Ships are turned out in some yards at the rate of a 10,000 tonner every four months, and the speed of production is far in advance of anything ever known in peace time.

—From the Department of Information.



(Editor: Elsie Sydes).

Rain, Rain and Still More Rain!!

What a dreadful day! How often we hear that remark these days, especially now we have to fetch the meat and generally do more-foot-slogging. If I know the person well enough I explain that I know I'm a bit of a nark but that I like this kind of a day. It has been raining hard and has lifted a little and everything is washed so clean and the air is extra fresh and the hills look near

and dark, with here and there a soft cloud resting upon them. The clouds themselves are dark and rolling, perhaps racing before the wind, perhaps more gentle. Where there is distant green it is green and in the absence of the bright sun the whole country side is a delight of soft lights and shades—subtle variations that are entirely lacking in the glare of summer. A friend I was with the other day when the wind was being rather unkind, quoted the following: It may be incorrect, as she was not too sure of it, so if you have heard it before and we've got it wrong, let us know. Here it is—

"Sunshine is delicious
Rain is refreshing
Wind is invigorating
Snow is exhilarating."

It's all a matter of outlook, so if you'll promise to speak kindly of the weather in winter like a jolly good G.G., then I'll do my best when the summer comes.

The Dingy Swallowtail.

Why don't we get more contributions from our Guides AND Guiders? Here is one from a Guide who was lucky enough to catch one of these beautiful butterflies in her garden.

"This butterfly came as a stranger to our garden during the summer. As we had not seen one like it before, we followed it to see where it would rest. It was most noticeable that it frequented the neighbourhood of the orange trees more than any other plant of the garden. During the late summer we saw several more in the garden.

The body is mainly black with fine yellow stripes, the end of the abdomen being completely yellow. The wings shade from black near the body to grey with many white blotches. These are small and round along the edge of the upper wing, while on the lower wing the blotches along the edge are blue and reddish-orange. The lower wing markings are much clearer and more brilliant and near the bottom of each lower wing is a decided spur."—Joan Cleaves, 1st Castlemaine.

Old Lady Moth.

Unfortunately this is not the season for this insect either, but all Guides should be familiar with it and will be able to keep a double look out when it comes again. We had several in the house last summer—you know they are harmless in the house. A particularly lovely specimen sat on the window sill—it was not wind-blown or weather-beaten or whatever it is that takes the first fresh bloom off moths and butterflies. If you look closely at a "new" one like this you will see it is covered with a glossy fur of a brown color, and that there is a beautiful ribbed effect on the wings. At the end of each rib is a tiny white dot. Then there is the conspicuous "eye" on the wing and this is worth a close look. It is a blue with paler edging making the centre almost grey and the lower part has a velvety black patch, this and the

blue part being edged with a rich orange brown. It is really a work of art.

Two Ideas for Bush Rambles.

If you are taking your Guides out for Nature Study now make the quest FUNGI. These are growing everywhere now and are most attractive; I'm sure the Guides will love them. I'm not going into names here, because frankly they frighten me. The handbook says such things as the color of spores and other intricate things decide the species, but I think if you get hold of old copies of *Wild Life*—July 1940, and April 1941, being two good numbers. I said fungi at beginning of this, but there are mosses and lichens of great variety and beauty too.

Wattles is the second quest. Let your Guides see how many kinds they can get to know this season, noticing the different kinds of leaves, blossoms, and seedpods they have and the different shades in the colouring. Also there is a great range of time in the flowering period, some very early sorts, others very late.

Look Out for—

Robins fighting over their territory.
Magpies driving off their young.
Sparrows cleaning out their nests.
The first cuckoos in August.
The white-fronted chat, which builds very early.

BROWNIES

Report Forms.—The familiar yellow forms which we get each year, turned up last month once again. Several days before you read this in *Matilda*, the forms will have begun their journey through the hands of your District Commissioner to the Divisional Commissioner, and thence to Headquarters. When they are filed at Headquarters they constitute a permanent record of the state of affairs in every Pack in Victoria for the year ending May 30th, 1942.

Don't look on these forms as a nuisance, for they help each of us to take stock in a way that we might not otherwise do, and I hope you have thought to put an abbreviated copy of your completed form in the Pack records.

That space at the bottom of the form which asks for "Pack activities, Holidays, etc.," is too often left vacant. No event is too trivial to mention, Mothers' Days or Enrolments, or anything out of the ordinary programme is noted with interest by the ones who study the reports.

When you copy in the ages of your Brownies it will be a good opportunity to consider the stage each Brownie has arrived at, and to resolve to set about moving on those who are "growing up." That reminds me of a few lines from a rhyme by a Brown Owl on that very subject.

When I reach eleven
Up to Guides I'll have to fly.
Then comes a time for me to say
"Dear Brownie land! Goodbye!"
I'm glad I joined the Brownie band
I'll always try to lend a hand.

Ball Throwing.—The Pack meets with two tests of ball throwing. Roughly speaking, for Golden Bar the Brownie must be able to throw the ball against a wall and catch it, or alternatively, she throws it 6 (six) yards, so that it can be caught, and then catches it when returned; and for Golden Hand she throws it accurately to land 10 (ten) yards away.

Not all Brownies enjoy throwing balls and it often takes awhile to find the games that will help to give the practice which produces the required result. Throwing the ball in each of these tests is a means of acquiring control, encouraging quickness of hand and eye, and a fairly accurate sense of pitch.

It has been found that it is often easier to begin with bean bags which little fingers can grip. The following game is an example:

Buns for the Bear.—Brown Owl or Tawnee takes up her position in an imaginary cage with a "railing" some yards away. The Brownies in turn throw her a "bun," which may be a ball or bean bag. Gradually the "cage" is moved till it is the full ten yards away.

Patriotism.—Brown Owls may be interested to read the confession of Cecil Rhodes as to his aim in life. At the age of 24 he said:—

"It often strikes a man to inquire what is the chief good in life. To one the thought comes that it is a happy marriage, to another great wealth, to a third travel, and so on; and each seizes the idea and works more or less for its attainment. To myself, thinking over the same question, the wish came to **render myself useful to my country.**"

Each of us is the best judge of our sphere of usefulness, so a resolution from each Brown Owl to develop and improve her work with her Pack is surely her very best way to "render herself useful to her country."

—V.A.T.

The Sign Post

Editor: MARJORIE NICHOLSON.

Learn something useful every day, so that when the time come for you to help others you will have a store of knowledge ready to put to useful service.

A Scout smiles and whistle under all difficulties.
—By Gilcraft.

Don't be put off the meaning of this law by the humorist who says it is impossible to both smile and whistle at the same time. He is wrong; you can smile with your eyes and whistle with your mouth quite easily! I told you before of a smile that saved a man's

life, and you know for yourselves what a wealth of encouragement there lies behind the smile of someone you respect and like.

Good temper and cheeriness are knightly virtues and come as a result of self-discipline. Many people are happy, cheery and content by nature without any effort on their own part. Others are not so fortunate and have to watch their tempers and fight against attacks of low spiritedness which assail them from time to time.

I have a fellow-feeling for the last, because I am built rather that way myself, and so I realise the difficulty that some of you have to keep smiling.

I wonder if any of you have been to a hospital for cripples. If you have, like me, you must have been astonished and rather ashamed by the cheerfulness of its inmates. I have seen boys and girls strapped in most uncomfortable positions, suffering great pain, and yet not only with smiles on their faces, but songs on their lips, and all intent on cheering up anyone that was worse off than themselves.

Some of you who read this will, I know, be labouring under difficulties of this kind, and I thank you for the example you give to us all.

Others of you will have your difficulties, which are not so great; don't worry about them, face up to them like men with a smile on your lips, and you will find that they are not so very hard to bear.

"If you are in the habit of taking things cheerfully, you will very seldom find yourself in serious trouble, because if a difficulty or annoyance or danger seems very great, you will, if you are wise, force yourself to laugh at it, although I will allow, it is very difficult to do so at first. Still, the moment you do laugh, most of the difficulty seems to disappear at once, and you can tackle it quite easily. Good temper can be attained by a boy who wants to have it, and it will help him in every game under the sun, and more, especially in difficulty and danger, and will often keep him in a situation where a short-tempered fellow gets turned out, or leaves in a huff.

History is full of the stories of men and women who joked in the face of danger in order to keep their courage up. This refusal to give in is, perhaps, a special characteristic of the British race, but I have seen it equally well demonstrated in other peoples, too. To smile in the face of defeat, whether in games or more serious matters, is one of the best tests of character.

So you see that this law says that a Scout has grit and courage. He does not grouse; he does not make excuses; he does not blame others if things go wrong. He tackles any job that comes to hand willingly and cheerfully. There is something of what we call the Scout spirit in this law; it is not so much what we do that matters, as the way we do it.

It is a happy coincidence that cheerfulness begins with the same letter as that of the badge, which, next to the Bronze Cross, is

the highest honour that Scouting can give to any boy—the Cornwall Scout Badge. It is an exceptional award in respect of pre-eminently high character and devotion to duty, together with great courage, endurance or gallantry.

Lastly, I would again remind you that, while cheerfulness and courage go hand in hand, both can be of real service to other people. We may not feel ourselves to be very brave, but we can always be cheery and help that way.

Let us all try then to echo the prayer "that bearing about with us the infection of a good courage, we may be diffusers of life, and may meet all ills and cross accidents with gallant and high-hearted happiness.

RANGERS

Minutes of The Victorian Ranger Committee Meeting Held at Headquarters on Thursday, 28th May, 1942, at 6.30 p.m.

Present.—Rangers, Joan Drowley, Lillian Elliott, Esme Welstead, Beryl McNee, Elsie Kemp, Grace Harris and Greta Roach.

Apologies were received from Greta Richardson, Margaret Shaw, and Daisy Gregory.

Lillian Elliott was elected to the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Business Arising Therefrom.—A report on the Swimming Sports was read by the Convenor. The winners were 3rd Melbourne, with S.R.S. "Invincible" 2nd, and St. Kilda District 3rd. This fixture was not a success, as only five companies attended and it resulted in a loss of 18/3½.

Country Dance Party.—The Convenor, Elsie Kemp, reported that 58 Rangers and friends had attended this fixture and that a profit of £1 was made. The financial statement was read and received by the committee.

Profits on Fixtures.—The Secretary reported that three Companies had expressed the desire for the nett profit on Fixtures for the year to be given to the Guide War Appeal. It was unanimously decided to carry out this suggestion.

Donation to Guide House Appeal.—In accordance with the majority of replies received from Companies with regard to a donation to the above Appeal, it was decided to give £1 from the committee's funds.

Finance.—The balance in the bank is £6/13/4, 2/6 of which belongs to the Thank You Fund, and was passed for immediate payment. Refunds of £1/13/8 and 7/- were received from the Convenors of the Swimming Sports and Country Dance Party, respectively. An amount of 11d. was passed for payment as a refund for postage in connection with Divisional representation.

Date of Next Meeting.—Thursday, 18th June, 1942, at 6.30 p.m.

The meeting then closed.

—Greta Roach, Secretary.

Calling All Rangers.

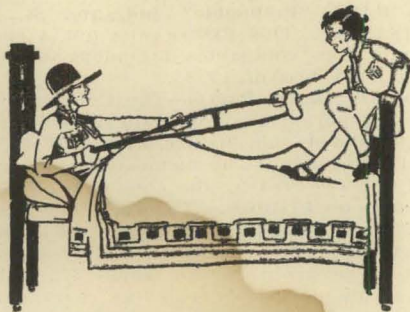
The Extension Branch is endeavouring to bring Guiding as actively as possible to the Post Guide, Brownie or Ranger. A Baloo is a Ranger or Guider or someone who is no longer doing active Guiding, who will assist the Post Captain by visiting a Post Guide—or Brownie—as regularly as possible, help her with the test work, and generally keep her in touch with news of Guiding. At present there are several Post Guides, Brownies and Rangers who have no Baloo, and we are therefore publishing this appeal to all Rangers.

If you would be interested would you get in touch with Miss Joan Alston, 5 Struan Street, Toorak, S.E.2.?

Helpers (in active Guiding or otherwise) are urgently needed in, or near Yarragon South, Maffra, Giffard West (via Sale), Richmond, Camberwell, Ormond, Prahran and West Brunswick—(Post Guides). Ascot Vale, Pascoe Vale and Brunswick (Post Rangers). Brunswick, South Melbourne, Gama, North Fitzroy, Richmond, Natimuk, Braybrook and Kensington (Post Brownies).

Will YOU help?

RANGERS! Do you ever require a fully equipped First Aid Case for Week-ends, Camps, etc.? If you do, the Ranger Branch has one which it would be pleased to hire to you for the cost of 6d. per day. The case is kept at Headquarters, but the Ranger in charge of it is HAZEL SAMPSON, 26 Pole Street, Seddon, W.11., from whom further particulars may be obtained.



Editor: Sydney Foott.

The Extension Guiders' Conference was held at 41 Spring Street on 30th May, 1942. In the afternoon the following were present:—Misses Bush, Alston, Tuxen, Shaw, Luke, Cozens, Couch and Williams.

Routine business was dealt with first and the offer of a Union Jack was considered. It was decided that 5th Post Guides at "Yooralla" Hospital School were to have it.

The first session was "Is Guiding a Game" and "Testing by Games Only." We discussed using "Girl Guiding" and "Boy Scouting" more and being as simple as possible.

It was thought that testing by games was

much more fun than testing by any other means. Though in the case of very sick children or children in respirators the mere fact of being tested was sufficient excitement and thrill without it being a game also.

Afternoon tea was followed by a session on Patrol games for Posts and Extension (Hospital and Institution) Companies.

Everyone swapped ideas and some very good games were suggested. The fact that the postal laws in Australia don't allow anything to be written in the company meetings (monthly letters) makes the playing of patrol games very difficult. However, this can be overcome by the Guides sending their answers under separate cover to Captain or having answers that are cut out, numbered, or in some way indicated except by writing.

Various individual company problems were then discussed.

In the evening Miss Foott and Misses Jean and Betty Preece were also present.

The discussion on testing by games was continued and was followed by a discussion on Extension Alternative Badges. It was decided that it was useless and quite contrary to the use of a badge for an Extension who was physically unable to do a badge to pass it by theoretical knowledge only. It was far better for her to do a badge which included things which she could do, or at any rate, use.

It was emphasised that part of a badge or test should NEVER be cut out but an alternative incorporating the same training and uses should be used.

Alternatives and badges for children doing their 1st Class without the use of either hand were then discussed, and it was found that there were quite a number of badges of interest and use to such children.

If anyone wants copies of the games discussed, badges and alternative tests, they can get them from MISS ALSTON, 5 Struan St., Toorak, S.E.2.

3rd Victorian Post Guides.

Since the outbreak of war, this company has collected £2/14/6 for the Air Ambulance and the Guide Christmas Tree. Each Guide when writing to Captain sends some used stamps, silver paper or other waste in the envelope to make the weight up to just under the ounce—1st Class judgings! Every few months they send a large parcel of only waste products. Most of them collect for the local Red Cross or school, but the things sent in go to the Children's Hospital, as a "thank you" for all it has done for many of them. some jumpers, etc., go there too.

The Company has knitted 76 jumpers for the Guide War Appeal and the Children's Hospital, most of them for 10-year-olds; 12 singlets, 10 scarves, 25 pairs of long spiral socks, 1 seaman's jersey (24oz. of wool), also 130 mixed garments (in the first year), hand-sewn or machined 42 girls' skirts and bloomers—296 garments in all.

LONES

As the Annual Meeting of the Lones Association is drawing near—you will see a notice of it elsewhere in this issue—I am continuing my appeal made last month for all districts to (1) appoint a member and (2) to keep her subscription up-to-date. This is 2/6 a year, payable at each annual meeting. The member's own L.A. should be responsible for the paying of this subscription.

This month I am speaking to the country people. As it is the country which is most concerned with Lones, one would have expected more support from them. There are many districts who have given us members, and several of these are up-to-date in their subscriptions, and we are grateful for their support. In fact, two of them, Dimboola and Echuca, have paid for the coming year.

Those who have paid for the year 1941-42 are as follows:—Mildura, Annuello, Broadford, Kerang, Rupanyup, Hamilton, Kyabram, Berwick, Portland, Hopetoun.

The subscriptions of these members come due again this month, and Mrs. Jardine, 780 Canterbury Road, Surrey Hills, would be glad to receive them by the 11th, or as soon after as possible.

There are some other districts whose subscriptions were paid up till July, 1941, but not since. They are: Moe, Curlwaa, Dareton, Merbein, Seymour.

I feel sure that this was merely an oversight, and that it would only have needed bringing to the notice of their L.A.S. to have been rectified. Am I too optimistic to hope that this may be remembered when they are sending this year's subscriptions?

There is alas, another list—a black one this time—of districts who have not paid any subscriptions at all. They are: Hastings, Castlemaine, Casterton, Shepparton, Nyah West and Nhill.

If they will send their subscriptions for this ensuing year we will feel we have made contact with them.

These members have a wonderful opportunity to further the interests of Lones in their areas. I always send the names and addresses of Lones in each district and would be glad to hear of any way in which they have been able to help the girls mentioned. Two or three lately have been able to arrange for enrolments on request, which have been a tremendous boon to the girls concerned and their Captains.

An active Company in another district "adopted" some Lones nearby, and arranged for them to come into the town for their Company Birthday Party. Still another invited some Lones to spend part of their school holidays in their town, as guests of several of the girls, during which time the Captain hoped to test them in some practical work.

All this shows what can be done to link

up Lones with their active sisters, and how worth while any effort can be that brings them more into touch.

I am confident that having described a bit of what Lone members can do, those districts who have not yet appointed a member at all will hurry to do so. If you haven't seen your district mentioned in this article or that of last month, it means you are not yet represented. So how about it? I have said I shall not be satisfied until every district in Victoria is represented on the Lones L.A. I go further than that and say until each district has a financial member.

—M.R.F.

GUIDE SHOP

Rationing as applied to Guide Equipment.—

As Matilda goes to Press we are still waiting to see how clothes rationing will affect our Guide equipment. Until the situation is clearly defined, the policy of the Guide Shop is that coupons must be presented for material, hats and stockings. We are hoping to obtain some reduction in the rationing scheme whereby lesser number of coupons will be required for these items—if prospective clients wish to wait until this is decided, they may place their orders, and these will be sent when it is quite clear as to what is required. But those clients who are ready to place the ordinary number of coupons for these articles will be served with these goods immediately; but it must be clearly understood that coupons can not be refunded if by any chance we should obtain some reduction in our ration.

The position regarding Guide Blue Material is acute. By the time Matilda is distributed, we may not have any material left, with only a faint possibility of obtaining further supplies. Therefore we urge all Guiders to have a good round-up in their districts of all guide overalls. England is in the same predicament and there they stress the fact that although it is impossible to have uniformity in uniform, we can still insist on cleanliness, neatness, and smartness—as much as the uniform will allow! The Guide Shop would be grateful if districts who find they have a surplus number of secondhand uniforms, would send them to Guide Headquarters where they would be sold to those districts who have less—you would get the price paid for them.

Brownie Overall material is still available, but will not last much longer. Brownie hats, once the present supply is finished will not be obtainable. Guide hats are still stocked, and at present there is no limit to supplies.

Increase in Prices

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Brownie Recruit Badges | 8d. |
| Brownie Emblems | 8d. |
| Shoulder Knots | 4d. |
| Guide Hats | 6/6. |

—CLARA BROADHURST.

TRAINING and CAMPING

(Elaine Moran).

Commissioners Urgent!

Are there any Guiders or prospective Guiders in your District who should be attending an elementary course of Guide or Brownie training?

It is most important in these days that Guiders should undergo a thorough training before working with Pack and Company.

We will be arranging a course of classes to start in August or early September, should there be the applications. However, before finalising place, time and day, we are anxious to know which Guiders may be attending, so that we can make arrangements that will suit everybody. At present, with everyone so busy, it is advisable not to decide on a certain day and time in case it does not suit prospective members of the class.

Will you therefore please help by writing in, or asking the Guiders concerned to write in and apply for the class? Applications should reach Miss B. Macartney at the Guide Office not later than 1st August, 1942. Please state any evenings, times, etc., that are definitely unsuitable.

Guiders' First-Class Tests.

Two test days for Guiders will be held in August and September. Subjects to be covered as required:—Estimations, Compass, Lifeline, Walk, Knowledge of Neighbourhood, Map Reading, Sketch Map, Hike. Other tests will be arranged if required. Guiders requiring to be tested should write to Miss B. Macartney at the Guide Office, stating which tests will be required, not later than 14th JULY, after which details will be sent to candidates.

Candidates for the Knowledge of Neighbourhood section should send boundaries of their areas.

Evacuation Training.

Classes will be arranged as necessary for Guiders who would like to help in preparing to run their Companies under evacuation conditions. See article last month and in this number, "How Will Evacuation Affect Our Company?"

Commissioners and Guiders interested are asked to write to Miss B. Macartney at the Guide Office not later than 1st AUGUST.

Age of Guiders.

Commissioners are asked to note that nominations for Guiders under 17 years of age cannot be accepted for Training Classes or Correspondence Training. The age recommended for Lieutenants and Tawny Owls is eighteen years, but in special circumstances Guiders of seventeen years will be accepted for training.

SALUTE TO HAWAII'S GIRL SCOUTS.

All of us have reason to be proud of the Hawaiian Girl Scouts for their splendid work after the attack on Pearl Harbour. They had been training for possible emergencies for more than a year, according to Miss Charlotte Whittaker, Executive Secretary of the Hawaiian Girl Scout Council, who was in the United States when war came. All Senior Troops, she said, had been trained in first aid, mass feeding, care of young children, assistance in evacuation of civilians from danger zones, and organising messenger service to outlying plantations and communities.

That they did their share when the time came is shown by the following letter from the Field Secretary of the Hawaiian Girl Scout Council, Miss Marie Wolfe:

"I know it will please you to know that I had calls and letters from the country telling me what they are doing. Poanilo girls are doing Red Cross work part time and helping in the school garden part time. Kohala girls have turned out en masse, and the senior girls are doing all the typing and clerical work for the police and military set-up, and there is a lot of it, too, since so many permits are required for everything now. Both Pahola and Naalena Scouts are having play schools for the children while their mothers do the big jobs."

Mrs. Fritschi, Commissioner of the Honolulu Council, writes that during the first week of the war, the Girl Scouts, working in four-hour shifts, served meals to Boy Scouts on emergency duty. Now they are collecting and washing bottles for blood storage, rolling bandages, and knitting.—From "The Girl Scout Leader."

LISTENING GROUP TALKS

The Australian Broadcasting Commission has drawn our attention to their current Listening Group Talks, "A.R.P. and You." These are heard from 3LO and 3WV every Monday from 8 to 8.20 p.m. E.S.T. The first of the series was heard on June 15th, and the last will be on August 17th.

Anyone can form a Listening Group, four or six people are enough to start a Group. After listening to the broadcast the subject matter is then thrown open for discussion. The A.B.C. is anxious to co-operate by receiving any comments which in turn will be passed on to the speakers.

The A.B.C. supplies for the use of listening groups printed programmes of the talks, which contain full synopsis of each Talk, questions for discussion, and suggested reading lists, Group enrolment cards, report forms for comments, criticisms, questions, etc., when the Group desire it, and if at all practicable scripts of the talks may also be mailed to the groups in advance. Unless otherwise stated all this material is supplied free of charge.

Further information will be supplied on application to "The Organiser of Listening Groups," A.B.C., Box 1686, Melbourne, Victoria.

Patrol Leaders' Page

Do you remember when Winnie-the-Pooh gave Eyeore a "useful pot to keep things in" as a birthday present? How many Patrols have a useful box to keep things in, not given to them as a present, but made and decorated by themselves? It really is just the thing you want for your patrol possessions and equipment. It is also one way of keeping the 9th Law—thrift in the longer life that those possessions will enjoy, and thrift too in time when you want a piece of rope or a pencil in a hurry. Now is the time too when we all want to try and keep that 9th Law even harder than we have ever done before.

A patrol box is not difficult to make. All you require is a large wooden box about 2ft. by 1ft. (ask your grocer and see what he can do for you), a hinge with which to attach the lid, a clasp and padlock. Paint the box (it may be necessary to sandpaper it first) and get your patrol artist to paint the emblem on the top, or, if you like, stick on a picture with clag. The box is then ready to receive your possessions.

These possessions can be collected gradually, but do not think that you have to make them all yourself. A good P.L. will see that each Guide in the patrol takes a share. It is their box too, and they will be thrilled to help you furnish it. In days gone by patrols have been able to have their equipment all matching, for example, it has been possible to make cases, wallets and cushions all in red cesarine for the Robins, blue for the Wrens, and grey or brown for the Koalas. Now, with rationing, this is out of the question, and Guides will have to use anything they have, and probably use their ingenuity in improvising when they find that they have not. It is still possible though, to applique your emblem or to embroider your patrol name on the outside of the article.

Do you own a patrol billy? It could live in the box complete with its cover. I hope it has one, it makes all the difference to your comfort (and to the comfort and the tempers of your fellow-travellers!) when returning from a hike in a crowded tram or train. Then there is the patrol First Aid kit, another thing you need for hiking, and may require too at a company meeting. I am not going to mention any more hike equipment now, as we will be going into it more fully another month, but any that you have could be kept in the box.

Do you own mending and badge cleaning outfits? They are quite simple to make and so useful. The mending kit would require scissors, a few needles, and some cotton and darning wool wound on to cards, one or two buttons too, in case Mary Jane lost one just

before her enrolment was to take place. Perhaps you think a badge cleaning kit is unnecessary, and that every Guide should clean her badge before leaving home. So she should, but what about the Company Colours? The trefoil at the top of the pike will need a polish before it is used. Be sure and put a little brush in this kit in addition to a polishing rag, otherwise the brasso clogs all the cracks and grooves and you will get a nasty greenish white deposit.

Then you will have the games to play with your recruits that we spoke about last month. They will need a corner in the box. And what about somewhat similar games for your Second and First Class Guides? The patrol books will take up another corner. Have you covered them, and marked them with the patrol name?

Then there are a whole lot of what we might call oddments that are always useful to have, things like paper, coloured pencils, scissors and rope. By this time you will probably find that the box is getting full, and things will be apt to get rather muddled unless there is some system. Keep your papers fastened together with rubber bands, your pencils and scissors in small tins (they can be painted in the patrol colours) and your rope in a bag, and all will be well.

A Patrol Chart for Second Class is another good idea. Get a piece of cardboard and rule columns down it, one for each portion of the Second Class Test, and write the name of the section at the top of each column—or else draw a picture to represent it. Rule more lines across the cardboard, one for each Guide in the patrol, and write their names down the left hand side. Then as each girl passes a section she draws in her emblem in the appropriate square. It would be as well not to make this until after you have discussed at Court of Honour if you are going to do the Old or New Second Class in your Company, otherwise you may find it necessary to alter your columns.

If you have nowhere to keep a box, or if you want an additional container, a wall pocket is very useful. Make it of material, just a large bag with a flap over cover, like an envelope, run a stick along the top to keep the bag taut, attach a cord to hang it up by, and there you are. Your possessions will fit into the bag instead of, or as well as, into the box, and it can be kept on a shelf in the Company cupboard.

Your patrol equipment will never be completed. You will be adding to it and replenishing it all the time. Cardboard flags and games wear out and will need to be renewed, books will want re-covering, and mending materials will have to be replaced. Be firm, insist that it is always in good con-

dition, keep your eye on it and ask Betty to make another Union Jack, and Jean to do another copy of the Law as soon as the old ones show signs of wear and tear. We spoke before of the necessity of a Patrol being well turned out as regards their uniform, care of possessions is just as important. Remember too to see that bags and bandages are taken home and washed as necessary.

These are just a few suggestions for you to try out with your Patrols. Winter evenings are a good time for getting to work and making your equipment. Probably you have some of these things already, and I am sure that you will also have others that I have not mentioned. Leaders, will you help one another? Will you talk it over with your Guides and decide which of your patrol possessions has been the most useful and helpful? Then write in to "Tul-Kara," c/o Matilda, Girl Guides Association, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, C.1., before the end of July and describe it. The best suggestions will be published on this page in the September issue of Matilda so that all Leaders may hear of them. Do see how many of you can do a good turn and help another Patrol or Company! Don't mind if your idea does not seem very new or original, it helped your Patrol, so why shouldn't it help another one?

—"Tul-Kara."

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