

M. C. Bush.

Matilda

OCTOBER, 1942.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Meetings of the Executive Committee, held at the Guide Office on 20th August and 3rd September, 1942:—

Present, 20th August:— Miss Cameron (chair), Mrs. Bakewell, Mrs. Blackwood, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Springthorpe, Misses McKellar, Ritchie, Swinburne, and the Secretary.

Present:—3rd September: Miss Cameron (chair), Mrs. Blackwood, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. Springthorpe, Miss Holtz and the secretary.

Reported.—That Lady Chauvel was unable to do any active Guiding for some time and had asked Miss Cameron to be Chairman of the Executive Committee for three months.

That the State Commissioner had accepted Mrs. Faulkner's resignation as Deputy State Commissioner with regret; the Committee expressed great appreciation of all that Mrs. Faulkner had done for the Guide Movement.

That Mrs. Springthorpe had been chosen as Area Commissioner for the 2nd Metropolitan area.

That Mrs. Blackwood had agreed to act as Chairman of the Finance Sub-committee during Lady Chauvel's absence.

That Lady Chauvel had agreed to the suggestion that in the absence of a Commissioner for Rangers, the Ranger Branch should be run by Miss Cameron and Miss Moran, with a Committee of Ranger Guiders.

That Miss Moran had agreed to be the Association's representative on the Central Committee which will be associated with the Women's Land Army.

That a letter of thanks for messages and flowers had been received from Lady Chauvel.

That Miss Holtz had agreed to be Commissioner for Brownies.

That Miss Cameron and Miss Bush had attended the Ranger Conference.

That Miss Cameron had had a meeting of Ranger Guiders, at which the following arrangements were made:—

- (a) Bi-monthly meetings for Guiders to be held;
- (b) Miss Broadhurst agreed to be Chairman of the Ranger sub-committee.
- (c) Mrs. Knight agreed to be representative of Ranger Guiders on the Committee arranging the Guiders' Conference.
- (d) Miss Harrison agreed to speak on Rangers and the Home Emergency Service, at the Guiders' Conference.

That Lady Dugan had kindly consented to be present at the Annual Meeting.

That Miss Hoffmeyer agreed to be Convenor of the Chief Scout Memorial Fund.

That Mrs. M. P. Fairbairn had agreed to be

Convenor of the Commissioners' Conference Committee, with Misses Coles, Mitchell and MacLeod as members of the sub-committee.

That Mrs. Pearson had kindly offered to make her home available for the Conference.

That permission had been received from the Rationing Commission for us to sell hats and uniforms coupon-free.

Agreed.—That letters asking for direct subscriptions to the Association be sent.

That the Annual Meeting should be held on 23rd October, and The Commissioners' Conference on 22nd October.

That the award of a Thanks Badge to Mrs. Campbell, of Nyah, be approved.

That Miss Swinburne and Miss Holtz be asked to form a sub-committee to arrange the Guiders' Conference.

That the syllabus of lectures arranged by the committee for To-day's Youth Problems be put on notice board.

To approve the proposed alterations to the Ranger Committee by-laws as submitted by the Ranger Committee.

That literature relating to A.B.C. Listening Groups be put on the notice board.

Routine and financial business was transacted.

—M. E. BUSH.

WARRANTS AND REGISTRATIONS. . .

Captain:—1st Huntly, Miss L. Tucker; 4th Hawthorn, Miss P. Bushnell; 1st Lockington, Mrs. H. Vise; 3rd Melbourne Rangers, Miss S. Foot; 1st Metropolitan Cadets, Miss S. MacLeod; 2nd Mildura, Miss E. Norman.

Brown Owl:—2nd Burwood, Miss J. Smith.

Tawny Owl.—2nd Burwood, Miss B. Molyneux.

Companies:—1st Merlynston.

Cancellations.—Captain, Miss Burgess, 1st Coburg; Miss B. Goldie, 2nd Hawthorn; Miss D. Smith, 5th Caulfield; Mrs. Sturgess, 1st Yarragon.

Lieutenant.—Miss B. Goldie, 1st Hawthorn.

Brown Owl.—Mrs. C. R. Campbell, 1st Nyah Pack; Mrs. Ganly, 8th Geelong Pack; Miss I. Hirst, 1st Chilwell Pack.

Tawny Owl.—Mrs. D. Fox, 2nd Yallourn Pack.

Only the Master shall praise us, and only the Master shall blame;
And no one shall work for money, and no one shall work for fame;
But each for the joy of the working, and each, in his separate star,
Shall see the Thing as he sees It, for the God of Things as they are.

—KIPLING.

"Matilda"

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No. 4.

THE GUIDE HOUSE

The Brownie Cottage enjoyed being full again, with some Guiders holidaying there during the last week in August; and 4th Malvern Guides had a lovely week's camp at the beginning of September, while 2nd Brighton Guides (Firbank) enjoyed a long week-end later in the month. Of course everything is lovely in the bush now, and these lucky people were delighted with their holidays.

We omitted in the last issue to publish the names of those who had endowed days in September, so here is the list—do you realise that each endowed day is a "thinking day?"

September 1st—Kerang L. A. and Hamilton and Coleraine Division; 2nd—1st Canterbury Pack; 6th—Yallourn, Moe, Morwell Guide and Brownies, and 3rd Carlton Co.; 7th and 8th—Miss Grace Black; 9th—1st Warragul Co.; 13th—In Memory of Mrs. McKay Shaw; 14th—Casterton District; 15th—1st Girgarre Pack and Co., and 1st Port Campbell Co.; 16th—Tatura Guides and Brownies; 19th—In Memory of Fay Colechin; Williamstown and Altona District; and Victorian Commissioners; 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd—Camberwell South District; 23rd—also St. Arnaud Rangers and L. A.; Oakleigh and Murrumbeena L. A.; 24th—Murrumbeena L. A., and Victorian Guiders' Committee 1938; 25th—Victorian Guiders' Committee 1937; 26th—Victorian Guiders' Committee 1939; 28th—1st Glengarry Company and Pack; 30th—Box Hill District.

You can work out which dates are still free in September!

Here is the October list; it has nine blank dates:—

1st—1st Melbourne Rangers, and Bendigo District; 4th—1st Hampton Co.; 5th—Merbein Company and District; 8th—Lone Branch; 9th—South Yarra Guiders and friends; 10th—Heywood L.A.; 11th—Warragul Rangers, and In Memory of Fay Colechin; 12th—Brighton L. A. in appreciation of Mrs. Cobb; 13th—4th East Malvern Co.; 14th—1st Shepparton Co.; 15th—Shepparton District Co.; 16th—1st Baxter; 18th—Lucy Kumm; 19th—Mrs. Charles Buckley; 21st—S. R. S. Invincible; 23rd—1st Avenel Co. (part day); 24th—Florence Baird; 27th—1st Port Campbell Co.; 28th—Terang L. A.; 29th—Terang L. A. and 1st Cowes Co.; 30th and 31st—Terang District.

—F.V.B.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE

We have received the following additional names:—

A.A.N.S.—Sisters Helen Faulkner, Ann Hamilton, Avril Horder (Traralgon), Beulah Broomfield (Glengarry).

A.T.S., England.—Miss Geraldine Pennefather (Berwick).

A.W.A.S.—Mrs. Ethel Rees, nee Pentland (Traralgon); Misses Margaret Cook (Croydon), Estelle Callahan (Minyip), Betty Willoughby (Bendigo).

V.A.D.—Misses Margaret Cohen, Jean Iser (Bendigo), Ruth MacCubbin (Traralgon), Dorothy Nicholl.

W.A.A.A.F.—Misses Kathleen Styles, Winifred Coventry (Croydon), Joan McGilp (Minyip), Jeanette Cohen (Bendigo), Joyce Bell, Ruby Cobbledick, Shirley Layton (Traralgon), Margery Price, Dulcie Payne (Geelong).

W.R.A.N.S.—Miss Clare Kinsella, Telegraphist (Rupanyup).

—M. E. BUSH.

BENDIGO GIRL GUIDE CYCLE CORPS

Eight Guides have now completed their tests and others are nearly ready. Armbands are being applied for.

With the co-operation of several friends an Adventure Game was held. The Corps met at The Den when a message was received that a certain house was bombed and that there were casualties and incendiaries to be dealt with. The Cycle Corps went to the rescue and afterwards were given a map showing where to go next and mending of punctures took place. Finding their way to a difficult junction, roads had to be mapped and compass points given after which a difficult route, indicated by compass points, had to be followed until a Guider was found who gave them a map indicating a section of the city to be guarded. Along this route a relay message was sent and finally telephoned, when word came back to dismiss. The inevitable "fifth columnist" appeared in the form of a small Guide who excitedly told the waiting cyclist, "You have to come in here and telephone." The cyclist had no knowledge of this and unwisely let herself be led astray—slight confusion resulted, but all ended well. The game took about 2½ hours and covered a great deal of the city.

—M.H.

WOMEN'S LAND ARMY

Land Army work is typical Guide work, and there is room in the ranks for many keen Guides.

The work is hard, often dirty, it may roughen the hands, the hours may be long and the conditions not always ideal, the organisers have not yet learnt how to control the weather, but to counteract that there is the thought that here is a worth-while job—providing both the services and civilians with food. There is no glamour in this work.

The factory girl will have to give up watching the clock—on a farm the job must be done regardless of the time—the shop girl will not always appear spick and span—the business girl will be jolted out of her accustomed routine.

As farm work depends on seasons, there are periods when many hands are required—alternating with slack seasons, thus some girls will become seasonal workers—perhaps on a poultry farm, from July to November—then fruit picking till March—after that they may be needed for flax work and later for pruning.

In most of the land work there is variety—for instance, in the poultry work, there is the packing of incubator trays, testing of eggs, caring for chickens, gathering, grading and packing eggs, growing green food for poultry and feeding them, repairing cases and pens.

In the flax industry, girls may be working in the paddock spreading, turning or picking up, or she may be stacking, deseeding, feeding rollers or grading in the mill. In some cases, girls may live in hostels and be required to help with the work or even take turns with the cooking.

Younger girls are more suited to some types of work. In the flax fields the continuous bending is less tiring to the younger members; but in all industries, leaders are required who can help to mould the younger girls into useful links in the service, acting as Matrons in hostels—as leaders in work, or leading the girls in sport, handicrafts, recreation or patriotic activities. Trained Guides and Guiders with camping experience would be a great asset.

In some industries—such as dairying, land girls prefer working in ones or twos. Other girls enjoy the companionship to be found in such work as fruit picking with its sing-songs at night—skits on members of the gang—jokes and laughter. Whether living in homes or in hostels, the accommodation is supervised—a reasonable wage as well as keep is also guaranteed.

Do not make the mistake of thinking that land work is light. One recruit for a poultry farm, on being told that a good part of the afternoon was spent in egg gathering said that she hoped there was real work to do. Perhaps she will feel differently when she has finished her first gathering of three or four thousand eggs, helped to push the trolley to the shed and unload it.

Then there is the heat, the rain, the dust, insects and the aching back and limbs. That first week on the job is very hard and many girls think they will not be able to stick it—but soon the stiffness wears off and the difficulties become jokes. Perhaps, like the flax girls, they will have a competition to see who can find the longest thistle in her sheaf instead of moaning about the pricks.

You may not know much about rural work, but if you are prepared to learn and game to stick to the job during the early difficult stages then there is a welcome for you in the ranks of the Land Army. Maybe too, you will come to know the Good Earth and through this gain a deeper understanding of life itself.

—MARY WHITE.

THE GUIDE FILMS.

Have your Guides and Brownies and Rangers seen the film of Our Chalet—the Guides' own Chalet in Switzerland, given to us by Mrs. Storrow, whom some of us met at the Jamboree here? It is a perfectly delightful film showing the Chalet and the lovely country round about.

Another film the Guides would love to see is the one showing the Princesses at Windsor Castle.

If you are interested in Sea Rangers, or would like to know more about them, you could hire the film called, "A Day at Sea," showing English Sea Rangers in training on the "Implacable."

"The Baltic Cruise" is particularly interesting to Guides of the present generation, who will not have seen the Chief Scout in person, for it shows him and the Chief Guide at various stages of this epoch-making cruise—several years ago, but still intensely interesting.

Another film available is Swedish, and shows many interesting items taken during the World Conference; the film centres round Rattvik and Stockholm, and you will love the peasant costumes and dances, among lots of other views.

Following are details, in case you wish to hire any:—

Our Chalet: 1 reel, 20 minutes, 7/6 hire.
Princesses: 1 reel, 5 minutes, 2/6 hire.
Day at Sea: 2 reels, 40 minutes, 7/6 hire.
Baltic Cruise: 6 reels, 105 minutes, 12/6 hire
Swen: 3 reels, 60 minutes, 12/6 hire.

And don't forget the Guide Gift Week film, which is available, free of charge; apply to the Federal Secretary through our own Headquarters.

In case you want the films, but cannot obtain a projector, we have one which we can hire to you for 10/-; we may even be able to supply an operator, though this is not always possible.

F. V. Barfus.

BROWNIES.

The Brownie people crouched in a tight little circle, heads close together, discussing what they'd do and how and when: for this was their Pow Wow. Week after week the Pow Wow met and its plans took shape in the world, as good turns and Brownie smiles. Once a year the Owls flew away to Pow Wow with all the other Owls, but because they were old and liked big words they called it a Conference.

This year the Brownie Guiders Conference is being held at Guide Headquarters at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 6th November, and just as an absent Brownie leaves the Pow Wow incomplete, so will every Brown Owl or Tawny leave a gap if she isn't present; so will you try to come? If there is anything you would like discussed let Miss H. Cross, 39 Kooyong road, Armadale, S.E.3, know by October 24th.

D. HOLTZ,
Commissioner for Brownies

The new Commissioner for Brownies is welcomed by all who know her and have worked with her. Her many and varied duties have given her special opportunities for a thorough knowledge of the Guide Movement.

We welcome her as a hard worker in the interests of the Brownies and indeed all the movement. Miss Holtz is a District Commissioner, Trainer, and a Camp Adviser.

When a Brownie leaves us for the Guide Company, we know that her Captain will expect her to be different from a raw recruit. If we have done our part well in the Pack, there are several good things that Captain has a right to expect.

The Brownie, should already understand what it means to belong to a small group, so should take her place in the Patrol right away.

In the Tenderfoot Test the Knots, Flag, and Promise and Good Turn, will already be familiar. The same applies to courtesy, and discipline, and the Brownie should know how to play fair and win and lose with a good grace.

The foundations of wood-craft and compass laid in the Pack will be a great help. From "describing" to "discovering" in Nature, and from "cut finger" to advance First Aid. From "clean nails" to the "health rules" and so on all through the tests.

Of course, if our Pack is dull, and our Brownie has mastered nothing of value, yet has lost the first thrill of Guiding—we can expect the Captain to feel that she would have preferred her to the rawest of raw recruits, with enthusiasm still untarnished.

GUIDERS AHOY!

Have you heard of the great work done by the Missions to Seamen for the men of the Merchant Navy?

If not, then it is time you did.

There is a branch of the Mission in Flinders Street Extension, close to the wharves and very handy for the men whose ships tie up in the river or the Victoria docks.

There, men who come ashore for leave after the hardships of dangerous days at sea, can find a home during their stay; for there is a hostel where they get a bed and breakfast at a low fee, a comfortable reading room, a library, and a lounge is being prepared.

As it is necessary that the running expenses should be kept as small as possible, most of the work is done by voluntary helpers.

Helpers are urgently needed to make beds on Saturdays and Sundays. Can you help us?

One Guider is making the beds on Saturday between leaving her office job at 12 p.m. and running a company in the afternoon.

There can be any number of beds from three up to thirty, so she would be glad of one person to work with her and two others to do it on alternate Saturdays.

If any of you can manage to squeeze in this extra service will you get in touch with—

F. L. WEICKHARDT,
165 Stanhope Street, Malvern, S.E.4.
'Phone—U.1261.

VICTORIA LEAGUE BUSH LIBRARY APPEAL

Have you a book that you can spare for the children of the outback parts of Australia? Or can you collect one from one of your friends or anyone living near you?

The Bush Library Committee of the Victoria League has appealed to the Guides to help it collect books for children from 4 to 14 years which it sends in libraries to the far back Bush schools. Nearly 4000 books were sent out last year and many letters have come from teachers and parents telling of the pleasure and profit the children receive from these books. This year for the first time books have become so hard to get that the Committee has regretfully had to make the exciting bundle smaller.

How about it Guiders? Will you tell your Guides about it and see how many you can collect in the Company.

Books can be left at 60 Market Street or if the collection is too large and you ring Mrs. Faulkner, Windsor 4855, transport may be able to be arranged for it.



RANGER CONFERENCE, 1942.

The 14th Victorian State Ranger Conference was held on Saturday, 22nd August, 1942, at Girl Guide Headquarters, Melbourne.

Miss M. Bush, State Secretary, was in the chair. Approximately 65 Rangers attended, representing 13 Companies.

Four subjects were discussed during the afternoon, and the following decisions arrived at:—That the formation of a Ranger V.A.D. Company was not considered practicable, and that if Rangers desire to do this form of service it was felt that it should be done in connection with local V.A.D. Companies. Several queries arising from Home Emergency Service Training were discussed and many helpful suggestions received. That the formation of a Club in the city for ex-Rangers at present in the services or doing war work was not considered necessary and could not be classed as an alternative to the Guide War Appeal. It was suggested that Rangers work to raise money for one of the following:—Nursery School, Free Kindergarten, Upkeep of a Bed in a Military Hospital, Armoured Ambulance or Fund for Incapacitated Soldiers. That Rangers be asked to become "Uniform Conscious" and that make-up is considered in order if used with discretion.

At the Business Meeting the Treasurer (Margaret Shaw) read the Financial Statement which showed a credit balance at 30th June, 1942, of £7/14/-. Nine Companies have contributed to the Thank You Fund through the Ranger Committee for the year 1st July, 1941, to 30th June, 1942. Thus, the sum of £1/2/6 was paid into this fund. Reports on fixtures held during the year, the "Matilda" sub-committee, and the Ranger First Aid Box, were read and adopted.

A report on the Prisoner of War Fund was read and showed that up to date £20 has been paid into this Fund, with a further £6/10/- in hand. It was decided that the Ranger Branch would support the Prisoner of War Fund during the coming year, but that 3rd Melbourne should be responsible to the Victorian Ranger Committee for this fund.

The Conference was addressed by Margaret Shaw on behalf of the Ranger Committee on the advisability of altering the by-laws subject to the approval of Companies and the Executive. The following alterations were

suggested:—That by-law No. 8 regarding Divisional Representation be deleted and also No. 10. If Divisional Representation is dispensed with it is felt that it will not be necessary to have such a large committee in the future and, therefore, it was suggested that By-law No. 2 be altered to read:—"The Committee shall consist of a Chairman who shall be the Commissioner for Rangers, Secretary, Treasurer, and six ordinary members. Four shall constitute a quorum."

Voting for fixtures to be held during the six months January-June, 1943, resulted as follows:—

Country dance party.

Some form of combined meetings to help with H.E.S., including outdoor training.

To Miss Bush go our thanks for her valuable help and advice on this occasion.

—G.R.

MINUTES OF THE VICTORIAN RANGER COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT HEAD-QUARTERS ON FRIDAY, 4th SEPT., 1942, AT 6.30 P.M.

Present.—Miss Broadhurst (in the chair), Rangers, Margaret Shaw, Daisy Rackham, Greta Richardson, Ethel Preston, Beryl Mc-Nee, Lillian Elliott, Joan Drowley, Esme Welstead, Greta Roach.

An apology was received from Elsie Kemp.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Business arising therefrom:—

Ranger Conference.—A report on this was read by Lillian Elliott and showed that approximately 65 Rangers were present, representing 13 Companies. A profit of 7d. was made on this fixture. The Conference recommended that By-law No. 8 regarding Divisional Representation be deleted, also No. 10; and that By-law No. 2 be altered to read: "The committee shall consist of a Chairman who shall be the Commissioner for Rangers, Secretary, Treasurer, and six ordinary members. Four shall constitute a quorum." The secretary reported that these alterations had already been approved by the Executive and that the matter would now be sent to the Companies for consideration.

After the report had been accepted by the committee a discussion was held and im-

provement suggested for the next Conference. It was proposed by Margaret Shaw and seconded by Daisy Rackham, that the committee should suggest at least some of the discussions for the next Conference. It was also felt that Companies should be urged to see that speakers are provided with full details of their subjects before attending the Conference.

Prisoner of War Fund.—The Conference decided that 3rd Melbourne should still continue to be responsible for collecting the money for this fund, but that monthly reports should be submitted to the Victorian Ranger Committee. A further £1/10/- has been received since the Conference.

Ranger Dinner.—The Convenor, Greta Richardson, reported that after making numerous enquiries she had been unable to obtain a satisfactory quotation. The Committee felt that in view of this and the Government's appeal for austerity it would not be justified in holding a fixture of this type at the present time.

It was decided to replace this with an evening designed to help Companies with their H.E.S. training. Portion of the programme to be devoted to drill, and a speaker of general interest to be provided.

Fixtures for 1943.—"Some form of combined meetings to help with H.E.S., including outdoor training." It was decided that this fixture would take the form of two training days, one to be held in March, and the other in April, 1943. Margaret Shaw to be the convenor. Country dance party—May—Joan Drowley.

Finance.—The Treasurer reported a bank balance of £7/14/- and an amount of 2/6 in hand. The payment of £1/1/- to the Thank You fund passed by the Conference was confirmed by the committee.

It was suggested that £2/10/- was sufficient money for the committee to have in hand and that companies should be circularised for their opinions and also be asked for suggestions as to how we could use the balance of the money to the best advantage.

It was reported that two members of the committee, Margaret Shaw and Lillian Elliott, had represented the Ranger Branch at the Girls' Friendly Society Annual Meeting on Monday, 17th August.

Owing to the present shortage of stencils and paper, it was proposed by Joan Drowley and seconded by Margaret Shaw, that only financial Companies and the Commissioners for Camping and Training and Extensions should receive circulars—the circulars to be typed by carbon.

Gipton Committee.—Two nominations to be asked for on the next circular.

Date of Next Meeting.—Friday, 13th November, 1942, at 6.30 p.m.

The meeting then closed.

GRETA ROACH, Secretary.

FOR RANGER LEADERS ON PURITY.

There was once a man who was the "life

and soul of the party" to a depressing degree. The gag which raised the greatest laughs was, "Thank God I'm pure." This was said with a simpering expression and never failed to send his friends into roars of laughter. Well, it's an easy thing to laugh at and an easy thing to be smug about, and very few people seem to be able to carry it off naturally.

What is purity exactly? Well, it means unadulterated, and the example that leaps to the mind is water. Water is pure when it is in its natural state, and there you have the answer. To be pure is to be natural. Human beings are naturally good; a baby is not born evil, but it is life that adulterates it as it grows older, if it is not sufficiently strong-minded to withstand the easy temptations. In choosing between good and evil, a human being chooses between instinct and the desire to be popular and one of the bunch. One is afraid of being laughed at for a "goody goody" and so one becomes a traitor to that instinct which has lately been portrayed by a lively creature called Jimmy Cricket. Well, Jimmy Cricket sometimes slipped up, as our instincts sometimes do, but on the whole he and they could be trusted.

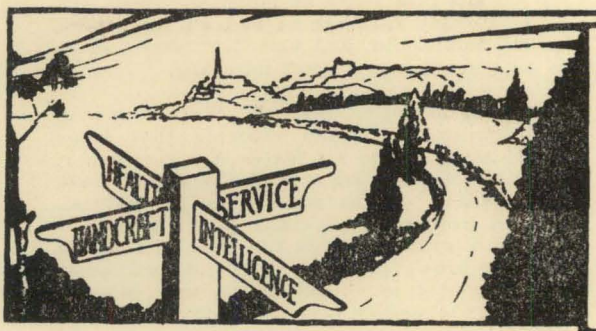
To a child, right and wrong are white and black, and there is no mistaking them; to an adult, a great deal of grey creeps in and it is something of a task to make up one's mind whether the particular shade of grey is strictly neutral or has a bias towards the darker side. There must be grey because one has to live in the world as a human being and not on top of a column like Simon Stylites, but it is only an adult who can be honest about the degree of greyness.

This may seem heresay, but it is not what you do but how you do it and why you do it and whether your motives are strictly honourable. The field of morals, which this Law covers, is a wide one and is ploughed by different people in different ways; what may be moral for one person can be immoral for another. It is no sin for a Mahommedan to have several wives, but in this country bigamy is considered immoral. Convention is the criterion by which these things are judged, and convention is the direct descendant of the tribal laws which were enforced for the safety and health of our very remote ancestors. Animals are, in their natural state, strictly moral. The lion does not desert his mate and the lioness does not desert her cubs. They have jungle laws which are born of their instincts and which they obey for the safety of their kind. Only domesticated animals disobey or have lost that instinct and man is a domesticated animal who uses his emotions to suppress his inherent purity.

It is not so difficult to keep this law, though. Do the right as you honestly see it, even if it turns out that you were mistaken, provided you were honestly mistaken. Hurt no one and remember that beauty is easier on the eye and tongue and ear than ugliness.

—Martin Barnes, "The Guide".

The Sign Post



Editor: MARJORIE NICHOLSON.

I have often wanted to hear exactly what goes on at "Patrol time," but usually both P.L. and patrol become too self-conscious if they know the Guider is listening to the general conversation. Like the Guider who was being tested for her warrant—the Commissioner walked around to the various patrols during Patrol time and the Guides were either looking through their diaries or just passing a piece of rope from one to the other. The Commissioner said, "And what are you all supposed to be doing?" to which the P.L. replied, "Oh, nothing! Cap. told us she was doing her warrant and whatever happened, to look busy—look as though we were doing something. So you see the mistake the Guider made and "missed out" on her warrant. We were having an out of door meeting the other day and I happened to be sitting with my back towards one particular patrol and I was some distance from them, but the breeze was blowing their voices towards me and this is the general discussion I overheard:

Beryl: Where is May to-day?

P.L.: Oh! She's got the measles!

Beryl: Oh! goody. I'd just love to see her with spots all over her—(followed by much laughter!)

P.L.: Now I would like to see if you all have these things in your pockets: clean handkerchief, note book and pencil, box of matches, piece of string, etc.

Anne: Ooh! I asked Mum for a box of matches to-day and she said: "Oh, I know you. If I give you a box of matches you will be striking them all the way to Guides." I think I would too, 'cos I love matches.

P.L.: Goodness! What law would Anne be breaking?

Patrol: The ninth.

P.L.: Would you all look in your pockets and see if you have got a piece of string?

Mary: Why do we have to carry all these things?

P.L.: Well! You never know what Captain might spring on us and you should always carry these things if you want to be a useful Guide.

P.L.: Who has their health books made?

Beryl: Oh mine is nearly done, but I can't get many pictures. My sister brings home books, but they are mostly film books. The only pictures that are any good she cuts out for herself. She won't let me have any!

Jane: Why don't you sneak them when she's not looking?

P.L.: Oh! That would be nice! Don't you know the first Guide law? That wouldn't be at all a Guiding thing to do

P.L.: Anne, supposing you were coming to guides with Beryl and both eating lollies and one got stuck in Beryl's throat. What would you do?

Anne: Ooh! I'd force it down! No, I'd force it up! Gee, you should have seen my little brother when he swallowed a safety pin. It was open, too. Mum had to feed him on solid stuff.

Beryl: Oh, my little sister and your little brother are funny when they go out together, aren't they? Yes, they are both nearly two now!

P.L.: To get back to choking. How would you force the sweet up?

Anne: Oh, I'd bang her between the shoulders and it would probably come bouncing out. Anyway, she shouldn't come to Guides eating sweets.

P.L.: Is that all you would do?

Anne: Oh, no! If I couldn't reach it with my fingers, I think by that time it would have dissolved enough not to do much harm.

P.L.: Beryl, will you come and tie Jane's ankle. She has just sprained it. Much tying? Wait on. Who is coming to the hike on Saturday?

Patrol chorus: Ooh me!

P.L.: Who can bring a billy? What would you like to cook, etc.?

And please remember to have all of those things I mentioned for your pockets. You just might need them. And bring some mending threads too. Someone usually tears their stocking. You all know where to meet.

Beryl: P.L. I'm finished tying Jane's ankle. How does it look to you?

P.L.: Oh! It could be a wee bit firmer.

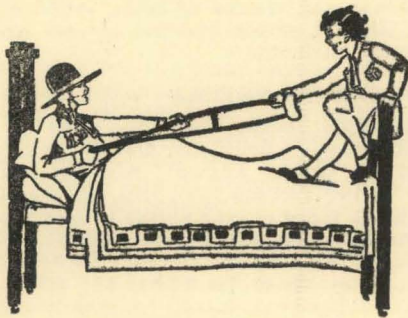
Now, Jane, supposing I got a snake bite. What would you do?

Jane: I'd grab off your tie, not mine. Oh! We learn all about that at school.

Yes, well you just show me how much you have learnt.

Just then Lieut. blew her whistle for a game.

However, it gave me a chance of hearing just what goes on and get an idea of where to help and where to learn.



Editor: Sydney Foott.

ANY OFFERS?

For sale or to let—one Post Guide Company. This is most urgent, as we have 12 small Post Brownies who have become Guide age and are thrilled at the thought of being Guides. Just think of it—to be one of the great sisterhood of Girl Guides, to wear a uniform, to belong to a patrol—instead of being one of a pack—it is so much excitement.

And these Brownies can't go up to a Post Company if there isn't a captain. All the Post Companies are full, there's no room for anyone else, so what's to become of these Brownies?

Post Guiding isn't a thing that can be "skimped"—it does mean work and effort on the part of the Guider, and it means a tremendous repayment to the Guider in the form of having made a worthwhile contribution to Guiding.

Post Guiding is one of the forms of Guiding where one draws really handsome dividends. It means so much to the Post Guide—she is thrilled when she passes her tests and even more thrilled when she gets her uniform and is enrolled.

So that no one takes on this job and then feels she has been thrust into a job without fair warning, here is a brief outline of the work involved:

A monthly "company letter" consisting of six or eight pages, covering the usual type of work and play of a normal company meeting.

The answering of letters from Post Guides in the company (very pleasant if frequent!)

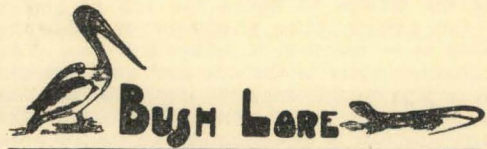
Arranging tests, or testing Guides.

If possible, arranging periodical meetings of Guides who can move about.

If, after reading this, any Guider or Ranger feels that she would like a really worth-while job, please write soon to Miss Alston, 5 Struan Street, Toorak.

There must be some people interested in Guiding whose present work or responsibilities prevent their having active companies. Post Guiding can be done in one's own time—it does not involve a regular weekly meeting, and of course one collects any helpers one can, in the way of typists and illustrators and visitors.

There you are—an opportunity for service. Who answers?



(Editor: Elsie Sydes).

SUNDEWS AND ORCHIDS

Well, have you seen the Sundews? I went out on the 2nd September and they were up in their pretty little patches—a lovely reddish color and some with flowers. I expect your Guides all know the little white flower belonging to this flat species of sundew. I say "flat" meaning the one that grows close to the ground as distinct from the tall growing variety. But are there only **two** kinds? Leach has it that there are ten species in Victoria. And the sticky leaves? Yes, they close over any insects that are unfortunate enough to get caught and then the plant feeds on them. The Guides can easily see this for themselves.

The little harbingers of Spring are plentiful now too, and in the Bendigo and adjacent districts where it grows, the Fairy waxflower is making a beautiful show.

How is your orchid list? On the 2nd September we found two or three patches of Greenhoods—situated at the foot of a tree in each case and a very pretty sight. We also saw the Snake orchid, a member of the diuris family, a plain yellow one but none the less attractive. The Hyacinth orchid blooms in the hot weather—December and January, so look out for it then.

TREES AND THEIR FLOWERS

We all gaze in wonder and admiration at the flowering peaches and plums and it is no wonder, for we grow them for the superb beauty of their flowers. But do we see the flowers on the elms? What always strikes me is that to-day there are no flowers, and tomorrow the whole tree is covered with the reddish brown blossoms. Being small they come out all unbeknown to us and the bare boughs are transformed, but if you are not on the watch you will pass them by! And what comes next? The seeds—flat green discs—what we call "hops."

Watch the elms now and you will see these "hops" grow and fall. Several trees have female flowers and long dangling male flowers or catkins. "Matilda" has talked about these before, so will just remind you now to look at the poplars, willow and birch families and hazel and walnut if you have any of these growing. The white poplar which is very common as a street tree is covered with catkins or "lamb's tails" so your Guides can study these. And while they are looking they will see the beauty of the trunk and limbs of this beautiful tree. The white trunk rivals the birch but of course the little "lady of the forest" holds her own with her delicate foliage.

THE RANGER PAGE.

Early in 1942 a committee, consisting of Lillian Elliott, Beryl McNee and Margaret Shaw, was appointed by the Victorian Ranger Committee to see that Ranger news was printed monthly in Matilda.

A Ranger page HAS appeared each month, but there is a dearth of contributions from the Ranger companies.

If this page is to serve any useful purpose it should contain articles and news from the Rangers — not only from the Ranger Committee. There are so many experiments being made to-day in Rangering that news of real interest should not be hard to find — don't wait for another company to contribute, be the pioneers yourselves!

—M.S.

DOING OUR BIT.

When grown-ups rush around to do
War-time jobs the whole day through;
Packing-out the house at nights,
Snuffing the offending lights,
Father's joined the L.D.V.,
Mother's in the A.R.P.,
Brother's a munition worker—
Used to be an awful shirker—
Any jobs that I can do?
Yes, I think so—just a few;
Looking after Grannie more;
Light the fires and shut the door;
Dust and sweep out all the rooms;
Go to town to buy new brooms;
Taking out the dog for walks;
Listening to the wireless talks;
Taking letters to the post;
Making cakes and buttering toast;
Cleaning all the silver clocks;
Knitting jumpers, scarves and socks;
Sharpening pencils when they're low;
Placing apples in a row;
Cleaning celery for tea;
Hanging up the back door key;
Fetching water from the wells;
Boiling eggs still in their shells,
Giving carpets a good brush;
Close the gate with gentle push;
Pegging clothes out on the line,
When the day is bright and fine;
Oh! there's heaps of things to do—
Many jobs for me and you.

—By P.L. Barbara Hand, 25th Halifax
Co., age 11; from "The Guide."

AND MISS BARFUS SAID:—

"Make the first sentence snappy, so it'll catch their attention, otherwise they mightn't

read it, and then they'll never know about the Library, and that would be a pity—"

IT WOULD TOO!

Do you know that there is a Guiders' Lending Library at Headquarters, where for 3d. you can have the joy of reading all kinds of fascinating things that you didn't know before, and that will give you lots of help in your Company or Pack?

Metropolitan Guiders, call in and see how it works. Country Guiders, write to the Librarian, who will send you any information you want.

Librarian.—Miss C. Rogers, 1643 Malvern Road, Glen Iris, S.E.6.

CAN YOU AFFORD TO MISS THIS?

We shall be ordering "The Guider" from England this month. Notices have been sent to subscribers to ask if they wish to renew. There has been an excellent response, showing how these Guiders who already know the paper realise its worth.

Maybe there are others who do not yet know it, but would like to become subscribers. There is the difficulty of expense, but perhaps a birthday or something similar might give the incentive to take it. Those who do take this magazine are well repaid by what they get in the way of interesting and encouraging matter.

Occasionally we have room to reprint some of the articles in Matilda, but there is not enough space to spare for much.

If the price (6/3 per year, posted direct from England) is a difficulty, could two Guiders perhaps share? Subscriptions are payable in advance (one year).

Do you ever see "The Council Fire?" Your school-girl Guides would love to translate the French articles, and most of it is in English, with very interesting photographs of the places where Guides are still functioning. "The Council Fire" fits in very nicely with what you tell the Guides about international Guiding and what they learn in connection with the World Flag. The subscription is 2/6 per year.

GUIDE HOUSE GROUNDS AND GARDEN.

A Working Bee has been arranged for October 31—November 1.

It is hoped to arrange transport, leaving town soon after mid-day on Saturday and coming home on Sunday evening.

Cost for transport and food will be 10/-. Please send applications accompanied by a deposit of 2/6, to G. Thurgood, at the Girl Guide Office, not later than October 21.

TRAINING and CAMPING

(Elaine Moran).

TRAINING YOUR LEADERS.

There are ways of teaching, and ways of teaching! The way the Chief Scout wanted us to use was the one that would so arouse the pupil's interest that she would be so intrigued and enthusiastic and athirst for information, that she would learn without any trouble because she was keen. The Chief called this "to educate from within rather than to instruct from without." The Guider's job is not only to be able to teach in this way, but to show the Patrol Leaders how to do it too.

Let us take Signalling. From the very start the Guide (or recruit) should be active. At no time should there be any sitting in corners "learning me morse" off by heart. Morse is a code, very much used to-day, and as such has an irresistible appeal to the average Guide.

The most up-to-date method—Morse Code by rhythm—is to be found in the Girl Guide Diary 1942, pages 32-33. All other methods are considered obsolete at Headquarters.

At your Leaders' Training, treat the Leaders as though they are your Patrol. Have activities that will be useful to them for Patrol Time. Even if they have passed their Second Class Test they will enjoy the games, to play a game is to understand it better than just having it explained, and it will brighten up their test work.

Many Companies have sets of cards with a picture, and the Morse symbol of initial letter of the object at the bottom. Example: Picture of cabbage with Morse symbol of C—dah di' dah dit—underneath. Patrols could make these as they are invaluable in teaching.

(1) Pictures spread round yard. Guides in centre facing P.L. P.L. has signalling flag, buzzer or torch. Explains carefully a Dah and a Dit. Makes sure every Guide knows difference. P.L. signals letter very slowly with the exaggeration on the Dahs. Guides run and find appropriate picture, recognise it by the Morse symbol, and translate this into ordinary letter. They then run and find something beginning with the letter and bring it to P.L., saying at the same time the letter in Morse. Example: Picture of a Lion, with Di' Dah Di' Dit, written underneath. Guides run away, winner brings leaf, etc., to P.L. and says "Di Dah Di' Dit."

(2) Pictures as for (1). At one end of the yard is a chart bearing Morse symbols and corresponding phonetic letters. Example: Di' Dah—Ack. P.L. signals letter, Guides run to find picture, then to phonetic chart. Return to P.L. and state: object in picture, Morse symbol and phonetic letter. Example: Rose, Di' Dah Dit, Robert.

Another variation of this game is to have the first Guide to bring the correct answer,

signal the next one. Both games can be played indoors in bad weather.

(3 Several sets of letters of the Alphabet. Guides sit in circle and cards are dealt. Each Guide turns up card in turn as for "Grab." When two similar letters are turned up the first Guide to say the phonetic name of the letter wins both piles.

After playing these games, Leaders divide into two sides or pairs. Each pair works out a further variation or another game to play with the cards. These games are then played in turn. After this ways of improving all the games are discussed. Leaders should then be allowed time to write the games down in their Patrol Games books.

"Kurwin."

GUIDERS' SUMMER TRAINING

If the number of applications warrants it, a special course for Guiders will be held at the Brownie Cottage and under canvas nearby, from 11th to 18th January, 1943. The course will be a combined Campcraft and Training Week. Fee between 22/6 and 30/-. Fare from Melbourne 5/9, bus 1/3. Guiders nominated by their Commissioners will be tested for the Camper's Licence. Guiders attending should be not younger than 17 years. Training available will be general Guide or Brownie Training or Campcraft Training. Application forms are available from Miss B. Macartney, Hon. Training Secretary at the Guide Office. (Please enclose stamped addressed envelope.) Completed application forms, accompanied by deposit of 5/-, should reach Miss Macartney by 23rd November.

If Guiders are doubtful about attending because of uncertainty of holiday dates, they are asked to make application and state that they are not absolutely definite. Should they have to work at the last minute deposit will be returned. Except for this reason or for illness deposits will not be refunded if withdrawal is made later than 28th December, 1942.

Mr. Churchill said recently: "We have to think of the future citizen, in addition to the business of defending our country."

Youth organisations must continue for their work is vital to the future of the nation. The success or otherwise of your Guide Company or Brownie Pack depends almost entirely on YOU. So, if you can possibly get away, come to this Training-Campcraft Week and get the battery of ideas and outdoor scouting charged up. You will enjoy the complete change and your Guiders will not be the only ones who benefit!

LAND WORK CAMPS

Any members of the Guide Movement who are 15 years and over, and who are physically fit and who will have some spare time between Christmas and the end of January are invited to apply for a Land Work Camp. If suitable arrangements can be made, these Camps will be held, though it is early yet to make arrangements, when the growers do not know what sort of crops they are going to have. If you

are uncertain about your holidays put in a tentative application!

Applications should be sent to Miss Harrison, 126 High street, Glen Iris, S.E.6. Please state age, company, camping experience, if you own or can borrow a hike tent and a bicycle. Include a stamped addressed envelope. Further details will be sent to applicants, and it would be appreciated if applications were sent in straight away.

LONES

Is the Court of Honour held regularly in your Lone Company? And have you been able to make it of practical use to both yourself and the Company? It is the most important link and could be made as effective in Lones as in active Companies. In "Page for Patrol Leaders" you will read "The Court of Honour is a committee formed within the company itself for purposes of jurisdiction and administration, and should be the most important council in connection with the company."

No business can be run successfully without an administrative centre; an executive, committee, board of directors, council, executors or trustees—call it what you will. In their hands lie the decisions and responsibilities concerning the affairs entrusted to them.

Just as no man should have to bear on his own the entire responsibilities of his business, so no Guider should have to run her Company completely alone. There should be some governing body to which she can refer, someone to whom she can turn for decisions and suggestions. In Guides we call this body the Court of Honour.

It should be easy to run the Lones Court of Honour similar to active lines. I will sketch for you one which has recently come to me which I think will be helpful. Its Agenda is as follows:—

- Court of Honour Promise.
- Minutes.
- Business Arising from Minutes.
- Financial Statement.
- Reports from Patrol Leaders.
- Captain's Talk.
- Suggestions for Patrols in Council.

Taking these headings in order I will give you an idea of what they contain:

The Court of Honour is signed by each Patrol Leader, and the response is signed by Captain.

Minutes.—These are made up of a summary of Captain's Talk in last C. of H. in which she pointed out that it was not too soon to prepare the patrols for their contributions to the Christmas Budget. This is followed by the findings of the reports from Patrol Leaders, and the Patrols in Council. For instance. "Leader of Koala Patrol reported that May and Winnie liked the Nature page particularly, and want to study native flowers." Or again "Leader of the Gumnuts Patrol reported that as Alice only received her mail twice a week there was often a delay in receiving the Budget, and could this be taken into consideration

when marking points for punctuality?"

Business Arising.—Such things as tests passed, service stars gained, special mentions etc., could also be discussed at this point. Or this entry is a good sample of business arising from previous Minutes. "Referring to the letter Captain had received from Joan, who had had to give up Guiding for the present, owing to special work at school, it was agreed that each Patrol take turn about in writing to her so that she can keep in touch with the Company."

Financial Statement.—It is very important that every Guide should know how the finances of the Company stand. This is a realistic age, and children like getting down to fundamental facts, even if it means pulling a cherished toy engine to pieces to see how it works, or pulling up a plant to see if it is still growing. They should understand that a Lone Company cannot run without funds, and so realise the importance of paying their subscriptions regularly. They should be prepared to suggest a way out, if the expenditure continually exceeds the receipts, and not leave it to the generosity of the Captain to meet the deficiency. They may have some bright ideas for raising funds, either by individual effort, or in patrols.

Suggestions for Patrols in Council.—Captain may invite criticism of the Budget, provided she is prepared to accept candid comments thereon! Such queries as "Is it too long, too short, too much work, not enough news" might bring forth illuminating replies! There are so many things a Captain wants to know to ensure her Guides getting the most possible joy out of the Budgets. One answer to such a query in a Court of Honour sent to me some time ago read "I think the Budget is just about perfect." Which must have been a very satisfactory state of affairs for Captain!

The set-up of this Court of Honour is a good idea. It is in a loose leaf folder. There is a copy for each Patrol Leader of the page "Patrols in Council." At the top are the following instructions "Will each Patrol Leader take out the page marked with her name, and discuss with her Patrol the questions set down on it. On receiving their answers please write a summary in the space below each question; sign and date it, and return it to Captain. The results of her findings will appear in the next Court of Honour."

Captain will then place the pages back again in the folder, so that next time the Court of Honour goes its round, each one may read the findings of the others.

Suggestions are also invited for the programme for the ensuing three months. Still quoting from the specimen C. of H. Budget one girl had suggested that the subscriptions be raised 1d. to meet the increased postage. Another had asked what is the usual size of a Lone Company, which shows they were learning to co-operate and think things out, and not take everything for granted. This after all is just the result we are looking for in giving them Guide training.

—M.R.F.

Patrol Leaders' Page

Last month we spoke of Court of Honour and Patrols in Council, this month we are going to think about Patrol Time, it is another important item in a Company's programme. It is a time when you, as P.L., are entirely responsible for your Patrol, a time when you keep each Guide amused, occupied, and really doing and learning something; a time when Mabel, who is working for First Class, Betty and Nellie who are nearly Second Class, and Sue, the new recruit, are all kept busy. Its not quite so easy as it seems at first sight, is it? But its not so difficult as it seems at the second one either, but it does require thought and preparation beforehand.

At the Court of Honour you will have asked Captain for the length of time you want in Patrol Time and can plan your programme accordingly. Remember you only want the time in which you can keep your Patrol properly occupied, if it is too long Patrol Time has been known to degenerate into a gossip or a game of tiggly! At first five or ten minutes may be enough, but soon, as you become more experienced and gain in confidence, the time will lengthen until it increases to half an hour or more. Don't worry if you feel that you can only cope with fifteen minutes and the Poppy Patrol have asked for thirty, say that you only require the fifteen minutes. Captain will understand and will plan her part of the programme accordingly by adding something for your Patrol while the Poppies have their extra quarter of an hour.

Having decided on this, the next thing is to get in touch with your Second before the meeting and to arrange the details of Patrol Time. Beside helping you to arrange this she will want to know what parts she is to teach so that she can make her preparations beforehand—brush up her own knowledge if necessary, collect any equipment she wants, and also think of an interesting way of presenting the knowledge or of revision games to play.

I have seen Patrols who seem to think that Patrol Time consists of retiring to one corner of the hall with books or little pieces of cord. Not a bit of it! Get your Patrol really doing things practically. Show your recruits how to hoist the Colours, and to apply a triangular bandage, and so how to use a sheet bend, clove hitch and reef. Incidentally too the recruits will realise why they wear triangular ties, and that they can be used for practices. It is quite easy to wash and iron them before the next meeting. And why stay inside? It is much better to erect the flag pole properly in the

church grounds or the vacant paddock next door. Many Companies have been meeting outside this winter, and with daylight saving we will soon be having evening meetings in daylight too.

We said before that Patrol Time should be organised so that every member of the Patrol is kept happily occupied. You will see that this needs a little arranging and also means that several things are taking place at the one time. Let us imagine that in addition to you and your Second, the Patrol consists of Mabel who is working for First Class, Betty and Nellie well on with Second Class, and Sue the new recruit, all of whom we have mentioned earlier, in addition there are Joan and Alison who are newly enrolled. Mabel is training Sue for the Tenderfoot as part of her own First Class, so takes her outside and they lay a track together to teach Sue the signs. Your Second shows Joan and Alison how to put on a large arm sling, by the time they have each done one Mabel and Sue are back, and Joan and Alison set off with them to follow the track. Your Second then practises the Lifeline for her own First Class. While this is all going on you go out with Betty and Nellie and show them how to erect a flagpole and hoist the Colours. None of that is very difficult really, is it? Just need a little thought beforehand—thought on what to include, who will teach what, and what equipment to bring. It's no good, for instance, deciding on lifeline practice if you do not remember to make sure that a member of another Patrol has not taken the Company lifeline home to practise with.

Then there are the days when because of rain or other reasons it is not possible to get outside. The Patrol will still need practical occupations which I am sure you can think out for yourselves on the same lines as the ones which I have suggested for out of doors. A supply of Patrol games is always a useful possession, and a good occupation for any spare moments. We have mentioned Flag Jig-saws and Word Building with Laws in earlier Matildas. What about Morse Grab for Second Class people? You need about four sets of alphabets, cut up into little cardboard squares with one letter on each square. The cards are dealt round to the Guides who keep them in a heap, face downwards, in front of them. They turn them up one at a time in rotation and place them on a second pile beside their first ones, this time face upwards. As soon as two cards the same appear the first Guide to say the Morse for the letter takes both piles and adds them to her own unturned cards. It

is really just like a game or ordinary Grab, you have all played that, haven't you? Remember to say the morse in dahs and dits! As a variation you can play it repeating the phonetic name of each letter in place of the morse.

This is what "The Guide" magazine says of a Patrol Leader and of her responsibility towards Patrol Time:—

"You see it is being a Guide which matters

most of all. You lead your Patrol best by what you are, by what you think important and by what you expect of yourself as well as of them. What is your standard of discipline? You do not allow yourself to be absent unless it is a question of duty which keeps you, do you? Even then, you would do your utmost to hand over the Patrol plan to your Second as well as sending an apology for absence to Captain."

—TUL-KARA.



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—

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