

M.E. Bush

Matilda



MAY, 1943

"Matilda"

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

Price, 3/- per year. 4/6 posted.

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Correspondence should reach the Editor not later than the 26th of each month.

VOL. XIX.

MAY, 1943.

No. 10.

BADEN-POWELL MEMORIAL FUND

JULY 31st.

Does July 31st mean anything to you? Maybe not, but I want you to make it mean something, and through you, may it mean something to your Rangers, Guides and Brownies.

You see, it was the day on which, in 1932, Our Chalet was opened. How much does that mean to you? Never been there? Never likely to go? Well, you never know! But does that mean that you won't stir yourself to take your share in the grandest idea for international peace and understanding that has yet shown a light to the world.

The Chief Scout knew that you must start with the children if you wanted to get an idea going. The idea of international understanding was so dear to him and he worked so hard to mix up the boys and girls of the world, in camps and rallies and through correspondence.

Then, one day, somebody else caught his idea, knew that deeply in every girl is the home instinct, and so gave the idea a practical background. That somebody was Mrs. Storrow, a far-seeing and generous friend of Guiding. She announced that she wished to build a home for the Guides of the world. Great was the hunting and discussions and variety of decisions about the site, led by Miss de Herrenschwand, whom we know as "Falk," Guider-in-Charge of Our Chalet. Finally, a lovely spot was chosen near Adelboden, in the south of Switzerland, and there our home was built—a wooden chalet, with sloping roof, overhanging eaves, and endless windows looking out over snow-capped mountains and green valleys.

Outside, on the high flagpole, flies the World Flag, richly blue, with its golden trefoil, symbol of the loyalty of the children of the world to a great and good ideal.

July 31st is to be another peak period in your efforts for the Chief's Fund. Get the children's thoughts outside their own Companies and Packs and help them to realise that

their Thank-You to the Chief is for the chance he has given of international understanding as well as the thrill of their own Guide life.

Stories of the Chalet will be published later, to help you make it live for the Guides.

M. Hoffmeyer, Convener.

RINGS OF COLOUR.

Watch the Rings of Colour at Guide Headquarters! Every £100 given to the B.-P. Memorial Fund sets another coloured ring glowing on the chart, forming an ever-growing multi-coloured frame to the Chief Scout's portrait.

Red, blue and yellow rings surround the old Chief now. The Chart-Painter has a full palette of colours and is always available, so KEEP HER BUSY. Who will be the one to complete the fourth £100 and send the Chart-Painter flying for brush and a lovely green colour?
R.D.

BRIGHT IDEAS SYNDICATE.

When is your Company or Pack Birthday? Are you going to make it a celebration for the Chief this year? You can make up lovely festivities and ceremonies to make it a special birthday. Will you send in the story of what you do to help the Chief's Fund on that day?

The largest amount received from one Company so far is £10/10/-. Can you beat it?

Hamilton held a "Mother and Me" Evening and the result was £1 for the B.-P. Fund.

Brighton Beach Guides were enterprising, too. Their Flower Show brought in £3/8/- for the Fund.

LIST OF GIFTS TO APRIL 16th, 1943.

Previously acknowledged	£355	2	6
3rd Melbourne Rangers	1	1	6
Mrs. J. Pettigrew	0	16	0
Yallourn Girl Guide Assoc.	2	8	0
"Mother and Me" Evening, Hamilton	1	0	0
Kerang Girl Guide Assoc.	2	2	0
1st Carnegie Guide Co.	9	0	0
Sgt. L. Niquet, A.W.A.S.	1	0	0
Sig. V. D. Jordan, A.W.A.S.	0	15	0
1st Alphington Guide Co. (Cert).	1	0	0

1st Pakenham Guide Co. (Certs.)	3	0	0
Miss L. Hooper	0	10	0
W.A.A.A.F. Old Guide Group, Pt. Cook	0	10	0
Miss D. McKinnon	0	10	0
1st Ivanhoe Guide Co.	0	14	0
Mrs. F. W. Faulkner (Certs.) . .	5	0	0
Mrs. K. M. Davidson	0	10	0
Miss A. Paling	0	10	6
1st Brighton Beach Guide Co. . .	3	8	0
2nd Carlton Guide Co.	0	15	0
1st Horsham Guide Co. (Certificates)	2	0	0
Grand Total at 16th April, 1943,	£391	12	6

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Receipts. Please read CAREFULLY.

To save postage, receipts may be obtained at Headquarters on application. They will be posted only if stamped and addressed envelope is forwarded.

Contributions and progress totals will be acknowledged in "Matilda" each month.

You will receive a Give-Lend Voucher when your final amount comes in.

1. Make out cheques, postal notes or money orders to Girl Guide Association.
2. Address letters to Secretary, B.-P. Memorial Fund, Girl Guide Association, 60 Market St., Melbourne, C.1.
3. Please send money in round sums of pounds and shillings (not pence).

M. Hoffmeyer, Convener.

NATIONAL FITNESS.

Guiders; are you in need of help or inspiration for the training of your Brownies, Guides or Rangers? If so, the National Fitness Campaign classes will supply the material you require. The syllabus covers a course of fourteen weeks, and includes exercises for Deportment and Physical Development, Team Games, Singing Games, Rhythmic Work, Folk Dancing, and Swimming, also most helpful lectures on Class and Club Management and Leadership, Music and Movement, The Influence of Physical Activities, Nutrition and Digestion, and The Rules of Health.

The course welcomes Voluntary Leaders in all Youth Organisations and as the class fills quickly it is necessary to be early with applications for enrolment. The next general course will commence on Tuesday, 7th September, and run for fourteen weeks, and will be held in the Teachers' Training College Gymnasium, at the University.

Also for Youth Movement Leaders there is to be a Folk-Dancing Course at the National Fitness Council Rooms, Public Library Buildings (entrance Latrobe St.), commencing on Monday, 7th June, at 7.30 p.m. This course has been organised so that each session is complete in itself, and leaders will be able to commence teaching in their own groups immediately. This course requires a subscription of 2/-, which covers the cost of all music and script for the English, Scottish and Continental

Folk Dances. Application for membership should be made to the Secretary, National Fitness Council of Victoria, Public Library Buildings, Melbourne, C.1, but should firstly be endorsed by Miss Bush at Headquarters.

—F.E.B.

LADY HUNTINGFIELD.

We very much regretted to hear of the death of Lady Huntingfield. We remember with gratitude the very practical help which Lady Huntingfield, as our State President, gave to Guiding, particularly in keeping us in touch with the Companies in country Districts. She invariably asked to see the Guides in any towns she visited, and through her contact with these different groups, she was able to inspire a keener interest in Guiding throughout the community.

Lady Huntingfield followed the progress of Guiding in the State by keeping in regular touch with the Executive Committee and the State Council, and many Guides know of her keen interest in the many Guide Camps she visited. We shall long remember Lady Huntingfield with gratitude and affection.

LONES

Dear Guiders,

I wonder how you are getting on with the Target Month Handcraft Stall which we decided on in March? Have any of your Guides made a start with anything yet? You will keep in mind, won't you, that everything is to be sent to me by the end of June, so as to be ready and priced in time for the annual meeting on July 10th.

You will have explained, of course, that if the girls are too busy with their school and home duties, and feel they cannot spare any time to make anything any other way in which they can contribute to the Target will be equally as welcome. I have heard from two Guides already who put a little self-denial box in a conspicuous place, and are saving their pennies towards a War Savings Certificate. They will probably have other ideas of ways to help swell the funds if the project is kept well in their minds. I would be pleased to hear of any of them, which might be helpful if passed on to other Companies, so do let me know by next month what everyone is doing. It would be so nice if the Lones' contribution to the B.P. Memorial Fund were something worth while!

M.R.F.

Lones Local Association

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT GUIDE HEADQUARTERS ON APRIL 13th, 1943.

Present: Mrs. Fairbairn in the chair. Mesdames Higgs, Harley, Jardine, Miss McWilliams, and the Hon. Secretary.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Keble and Mrs. Hull.

Minutes.—The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Business Arising.—Mrs. Fairbairn reported that at a recent Guiders' meeting it was decided that there was not sufficient time in which to do anything in connection with Guide Week so far as the B.P. Memorial Fund was concerned. The Guiders preferred having a Target Month and suggested that perhaps Lone Companies might have a handcraft stall at the Lones Local Association annual meeting, if the L.A. were agreeable. This suggestion was discussed by the meeting, and it was suggested that as the L.A. had previously decided that another instalment should be sent to the Memorial Fund, a combined stall might prove to be a happy way of raising the money. It was therefore proposed by Mrs. Higgs, seconded by Mrs. Harley, that "the Lones L.A. combine with the Lone Guides in holding a stall at the annual meeting, proceeds of which will go to the Lones Target Month for the B.P. Memorial Fund." Carried.

Reports. The Treasurer reported a bank balance of £18/18/3, of which £8/11/5 was held for the Ranger Camp Fund.

Gift. The Commissioner reported that the Lone Branch had received the promise of a gift of £2/10/- from Lady Stradbroke. It was decided that a letter of thanks should be sent to Lady Stradbroke.

Ranger Camp Fund.—It was suggested by Mrs. Jardine that the sum of £8/11/5, which was being held in trust for this fund, should be used to buy war savings certificates. It was decided to defer the matter to the annual meeting.

Equipment. The Equipment Secretary reported having issued one Tenderfoot badge, one warrant badge, and five Service stars since last meeting. There was now a credit of 13/4.

Correspondence. The Commissioner reported having received a letter from the Hon. Sec., who tendered her resignation because of her husband's transfer to another State. This resignation was received with regret.

On the motion of Miss McWilliams, seconded by Mrs. Harley, it was decided that the Commissioner write to Mrs. Hull, asking her to be the new Hon. Sec. Carried.

It was decided that Commissioner should write to all Metropolitan Commissioners, telling them about the Target Month and of the Lones L.A. annual meeting, and asking for their support.

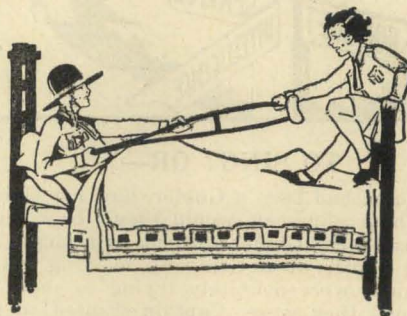
Payments.—The following amounts were passed for payment on the motion of Mrs. Higgs, seconded by Miss McWilliams. Commissioners' expenses £1/4/4, Treasurer's expenses 4/5. Total £1/8/9.

Badge Work.—Mrs. Jardine reported that Miss Jardine, who had kindly assisted the Lones L.A. by supervising the work of the Booklovers' Badge, had recently married, and would no longer be available to help with this

work. This meeting congratulated Miss Jardine on her marriage, and asked that a vote of thanks be conveyed to her for her assistance to the Lones Branch.

Annual Meeting. It was decided to hold the annual meeting on Saturday, July 10th, at 2.30 p.m. at the home of the Commissioner, 236 Kooyong Road, Toorak. It was decided that the programme consist of the business of the annual meeting, a guest speaker, a stall for the B.P. Memorial Fund, and afternoon tea. Each committee member was asked to bring a contribution for afternoon tea.

The meeting was then closed.



EXTENSION BRANCH NEWS.

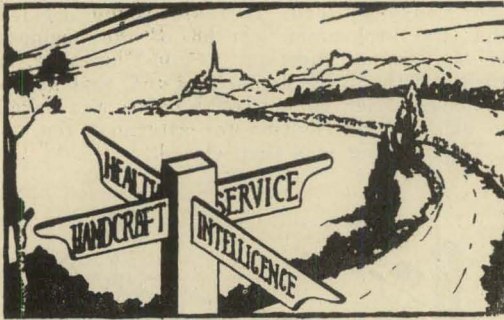
2nd Heidelberg Guide Company held their third birthday party in April, and judging by a letter from one of the Guides, it was the greatest success. Here is what she says; "We all enjoyed the birthday party, especially Miss Broadhurst's pictures of the Swiss Chalet and Life on a Sea Rangers' Ship in England." We were pleased that Joan Mills could be enrolled that night too. Captain made us an exciting birthday cake; instead of paper around the cake there were tracking signs made of cherries and nuts, and on top with the candles there were three tents of paper."

5th Post Rangers met together with 1st Caulfield and some of 2nd Caulfield during March. Their meeting place was the Victoria Gardens, and they found many lovely spots. During the afternoon Gwen Smith was enrolled as a Ranger by Miss Britten, Commissioner for Caulfield. Most of the Rangers had an active part to take in the enrolment ceremony. Gwen's P.L. read the enrolment prayer—another one read the names of all absent members, and another read Margaret Tennyson's "Vision." Then came Gwen's own little bit.

Last year 5th Posts grew vegetables so successfully that they were able to sell them and donate £1/10/- to the Prisoner of War Fund. This year they are going for their Cooks' badges in a "big way." It was felt that cooking rather than gardening was something in which the more handicapped could join.

Two Rangers in 1st Post Ranger Co. have raised 5/- in two months for the B.-P. Memorial Fund. And all they did was to save their pennies and halfpennies!

3rd Post Guides collected gift coupons and either exchanged them for War Savings stamps or, if that was not possible, collected "gifts" of soap and so on and sold them for the Fund. They raised the price of 3 War Savings Certificates in this way.



TO SING? OR—?

If Melba had been a Guider, how her Guides would have sung—or would they? How much depends on the Guider's talent as a singer?

Once I was at a Company meeting where the Guides were definitely trying to show me how good they were. Captain wanted to impress me, I think! But never have I experienced such agony as during the last item—a sort of grand finale, when Captain said "One, two!" and every Guide sang in the key of her choice, at the tempo that expressed her feelings of the moment (very energetic, I assure you) . . . Captain must certainly have been music-deaf.

Have you ever read the introduction or preface in the particular songbook you use? It usually contains some really practical and easily applied hints for amateur conductors like Guiders, and it is a pity not to accept this advice, which is all included in the price of the book. If you have *Camp Fire Singing*, that red book, you will find excellent advice from an expert. Miss Tobitt's in "The World Sings" is also expert help.

Both unison and part singing are definitely team work, and the cheery Company referred to above was instead making the singing an individual race. Every team must have a leader; if Captain can't sing, it is still possible for her to be the leader provided she can get someone else in the team to give the keynote and keep the singers to it.

But songless Guiders are surely in the minority, and we do want the majority to have singing companies. Comradeship and good team-work, as in singing together, is good character-training (discipline, self-control); and happy singing in clean air helps us with our first Health Rule.

Read the words of the experts. But here are a few hints from an amateur:—

1. Be the leader of your team, which means you must provide them with the note they

are to start on, BEFORE they start. This need not make you either shy or conspicuous.

2. You really must give them the tempo—the speed for the singing. There are several ways of beating time without making it look like a gymnastic exercise. Do you remember Miss Martin's way, or have you seen Dr. Floyd leading a team? Miss Shanks led 120 Interstate singers and kept them all in time with one finger moved almost invisibly on her knee—but then we all knew she was our leader, and that she would give this help if we watched her. Work out this idea with your own Guides—you can have a Company "patent."

3. Don't advertise that you know nothing about music, by starting a song "off" with "1—2." Why not say "Ready-set-go" if you must say something? But why not get the concentrated attention of the singers, and give them the start with your "patent" sign? Training in concentration builds self-control.

4. Do avoid song-sheets at a campfire! Looking down is not a good position for singing, and you can't "see the beat" if you are looking at the paper or book. Simple songs such as Guides sing can be learnt a few lines at a time; sing them the song first (they like you, so will not laugh at your voice—it sounds funnier to you than to them) and then teach them the words of the first verse. The other verses they can learn elsewhere, at another time.

5. Guides are youngsters, and like jolly songs with action—those silly ones about the crocodile and campfire smoke and the worm on the pillowslip; teach them lots of these—even the shy ones (who feel like Captain about singing in public) will join in these, because even if you can't sing in tune, you can make little noises and do the actions, and have fun. But Guides who in this way come to enjoy singing will want something more musical as well—they get good music teaching at school, and some Guides may teach the Company some of the songs learnt at school. Don't forget that folk-songs never die because they are the expression of some of the things that last through life. The folk songs that can be sung in two parts—the youth and the maiden; the pirates and the innkeeper; the keeper and his boy—are attractive to youngsters, and there is a large variety from which to choose.

6. Remember that a song is like a story—it is meant to tell you something. Therefore the words must be intelligible (gabbling obliterates the meaning), and the telling of the story must be more or less dramatic, according to the subject. The well-known wooden expression on the faces of singing Guides surely shows that they are not telling anybody anything, and are probably unconscious that there is anything to tell.

7. And, lastly, don't ask for "Guide songs." What ARE Guide songs? Surely they are simply the songs that Guides sing—folk

songs, nonsense songs, song that they learn from Scouts, from soldiers, from the wireless, from Captain, from another Company. Captain will, as the team leader, help the Guides to choose songs worth singing (and these include nonsense songs, of course).

"But where do I find them?"

Ah! The answer to that heartfelt wail is another story! Ask the Singpost Page Editor if you really want to know. —Yabinga.

"MY COMPANY" or "THE GUIDES" ?"

"I am running the 1st Whoop Whoop Company now," or "my Company is doing such and such a thing!" How often do we hear this said? The statement is probably made in all innocence, but there is always a certain danger that it may be true. Have we the right to even think, much less talk, of my Company or what I am running? Surely not. A Guide Company is run on the Patrol System (any country joining the World Association has to promise to conform to this as well as accepting the Promise and Law) and is accordingly run by the Guides themselves through the Court of Honour and not by the Guider.

It is the Law and Promise and the Patrol System that makes Guiding different from any other Youth Organisations, it is THE means by which we give our training in character and citizenship. The Chief Scout said: "The Patrol System is the most important element in the Girl Guide training, and it is, as far as I know, the only step so far made available towards educating girls practically in two points which have long been missing in their upbringing—namely the sense and practice of self-discipline and responsibility."

One of the first steps towards this training is in the election of Patrol Leaders. The manner in which they are chosen varies a great deal, there is no hard and fast rule, provided only that they are elected by the Guides themselves and not by the Guider. Captain will have talked it over with the Guides and they will have decided on the method they want to adopt.

There are, unfortunately, a few Companies in which the Guider or Guiders choose the Patrol Leaders. Why is this so wrong and so totally against the Patrol System? First and foremost it does away with such a tremendous amount of character training. Let the Guides learn to weigh up and consider the qualities necessary for a Patrol Leader, let them decide which girl has those qualities and qualifications, and, having chosen, let them learn to follow loyally the Leader they have themselves appointed. Think of the value of all this in a wider sphere in later life. It is as well for Captain to talk over the qualities required in a P.L. with the Company before an election; drawing out their ideas, and, if necessary, supplementing them, and stressing also that it is not their best

friend that they are voting for, but the girl who will make the best Leader for the Patrol.

Sometimes a Guider is afraid that the Guides will not choose wisely, but this fear is nearly always groundless. The Guides know each other far better than a grown-up can ever hope to know them. (Often Captain and Lieutenant think that a foolish choice has been made, but in nine cases out of ten the Guides prove to have been right). They know the girl they can follow best, and anyone will follow more loyally a Leader they have chosen themselves than one who has been foisted upon them by an outside authority.

In the tenth case, where the Guides have made a mistake, no lasting harm will be done if the appointment is not "for the duration" of the Leader's life in the Company. Anyway, mightn't the Guider make a mistake too sometimes? Having chosen their Leader, even if she proves a failure, the Patrol must back her up and follow her for the length of her appointment. Think of the character training in that, and how much they will have learnt! They will not make a wrong choice again! The length of time for which Leaders are appointed is decided on by the company. Usually an election takes place each year. A more frequent election is apt to upset the smooth running of the Company, as the Patrols are just beginning to show the result of the P.L.'s extra training and experience when a change takes place.

The most obvious advantage that anyone will see from annual elections is that it gives the Patrol a chance to get rid of a Leader who has not come up to expectations. It also encourages other Guides to complete their Second Class and so become eligible for election, and finally, a change in Leadership gives other Guides training as Patrol Leaders, training and responsibility that B.-P. considered to be the best character training obtainable in a Guide Company. At this point someone will say "You cannot expect a girl who has been a Leader to take off her stripes and badge and go back to being an ordinary Guide!" I agree that it is hard, it takes some grit and some doing, but from practical experience I can say it has been done, and done successfully. Think of the character training in that. The Guide who can do that and continue as a keen and loyal member of a Patrol will be well equipped to stand up to setbacks in later life. After it has happened once in a Company it is never so hard again, the tradition having been built up that a Leader does sometimes return to her Patrol as a Guide and a new Leader takes her place.

Even in a brand new Company the recruits should elect their own Leaders right from the start, but they will not be such long appointments. Divide into Patrols at the first meeting, and let the recruits appoint two of their number as the first P.L.s. These P.L.s might change weekly for the first two months so as to give everyone a turn, after

that Leaders might be chosen for two months, then for six, and then perhaps for the whole year. We sometimes find difficulty in using the Patrol System with new Guides, that is one way in which it could and should be introduced to the Company.

Then there is the Patrol Second, she is chosen entirely by the Patrol Leader (see P.O. & R., rule 8); no one else has any say or can interfere in the matter. Her appointment is for the same length of time as that of the P.L.; after the next election the new P.L. (or the old one if re-elected) can choose again. Never in any circumstances should the tradition grow up that the old Second automatically becomes Leader when the old P.L. leaves. That is absolutely wrong. A girl might be an excellent Second, yet would never make a Leader. If would mean that the previous Leader, having chosen the Second, would have the sole choice of the new Leader, the Guides having no say in the matter at all.

As I have said several times already, the Patrol System is THE system on which a Guide Company is run, not ONE of the systems which may be used. Do we all use it to its fullest extent? Without hesitation I would say that not one of us does! It sounds a little sweeping, but I am sure that I am right! Why don't we? Because we forget or don't trust our Guides? Feel that we can run things better and quicker ourselves? Or why is it? Let us, each one of us, go away quietly alone, or Captain and Lieutenant together, and think of ways in which we can make the Patrol System a real and vital force in the Companies in future. How about it? Let us remember too that 1st Whoop Whoop Company may seem to us to be running very successfully, and it may, it is true, be a very successful girls' club, BUT with an incomplete Patrol System it is not a Guide Company. Sheila MacLeod.

TRAINING AND CAMPING

Elaine Moran.

GUIDERS' TRAINING CLASSES. GUIDE ELEMENTARY TRAINING.

If applications warrant it, a course will commence at the Guide Office on Wednesday, 9th June, at 7.45 p.m. Guider in charge, Miss A. Sides. Fee 4/-. payable in advance, or at the first class. Application forms are available at the Guide Office (or by post) from Guide Office, 60 Market Street, Melbourne (please send a stamped addressed envelope). Miss Macartney, Hon. Training Sec., Girl Forms should be completed and returned by 27th May. This course is for unwarranted Cap-

tains and Lieutenants and for new Guiders; it will consist of 12 classes and 3 outdoor days. Uniform is worn at all Training Classes. Equipment required is note-book, pencil and sandshoes.

BROWNIE ELEMENTARY TRAINING.

If applications warrant it, a course will commence at the Guide Office in July. Application forms are obtainable at the Guide Office or (by post) from Miss B. Macartney, Hon. Training Secretary, at the Guide Office (please send a stamped addressed envelope). Forms should be completed and returned by 20th June.

GUIDE REFRESHER TRAINING.

If applications warrant it, a course of special classes for Guiders will be held at 7.45 p.m. at the Guide Office:—

22nd June—Knots (Miss Barfus).

29th June—The Guide Law. Guides' Own (Miss Swinburne).

6th July—Signalling, latest methods.

13th July—Nature Observation from the Guides' Outlook.

20th July—Drill and Ceremonial (Miss Hoffmeyer).

27th July—Brightening up the Company Programme (Miss Moran).

3rd August—Patrol Leaders and Patrol Time (Miss MacLeod).

Guiders may attend the full course, or separate classes. The fee is 3d. per class. Guiders should apply before 8th June to Miss B. Macartney, Hon. Sec., at the Guide Office, stating which classes they expect to attend.

GUIDE FIRST-CLASS TRAINING.

It has been found impracticable to commence Guiders' First Class training until August. It is hoped to hold a course commencing on 13th August at the Guide Office, with three outdoor days included. Applications should reach Miss Macartney before 30th July.

INDOOR CAMP TEST — PACK HOLIDAY PERMIT.

Warranted Guiders, whether in country or metropolitan districts, who are interested in taking the training for these permits this year are asked to write to Miss Harrison, Hon. Camping Sec., 126 High Street, Glen Iris, S.E.6.

Before taking the training a Guider must have a signed nomination from her own Commissioner, and certain preliminary qualifications must be attained. Guiders should study the detail of the qualifications, training and tests, which will be found in the following places:—

Indoor Camp Test.—Victorian Supplement to P.O.R., 1941-42, page 57.

Pack Holiday Permit. — P.O.R. 1939, Rule 32, pages 38-39, and Victorian Supplement 1941-42, page 57.

The Rangers' Page.

Ranger Conference, 1943.

This year the Victorian Ranger Conference will be held in July. Watch next month's "Matilda" for details of the date and place.

Would you kindly send any subjects you wish discussed at the Conference, together with your list of suggested fixtures and nominations for the 1943-44 Committee to Miss Flora Craven, 17 Dean Street, East Kew, E.4, by the 20th May, 1943.

Note.—The Victorian Ranger Committee.—The Victorian Ranger Committee, which meets approximately every two months, consists of a chairman, and eight other members, including a secretary and treasurer. Their duties are to run fixtures held during the year.

No Company can have more than two representatives on the Committee at the same time, but you can send in more than two

nominations. If you wish to nominate Rangers from other Companies you are asked to send in the person's written consent with the nomination. In the case of nominations for the Secretary, the person nominated must have at some time served one year on the Committee.

Subjects for discussion.—All subjects discussed this year will take the form of debates.

Watch next month's "Matilda" for detailed programme. Flora Craven, Elsie Kemp, Conveners.

RANGER PRISONER OF WAR FUND.

Total amount collected to date, £47/5/1.

Receipts are being held for the following Companies to save postage:—2nd Caulfield, 3rd East Malvern, 5th Vict. Lones, 8th Vict. Lones. B. McNee (3rd Melbourne)



PACK RECORD BOOKS.

Now that May is here, Brown Owls will be receiving, from their Commissioners, Annual Report forms. Those yellow forms, so often greeted with groans, and sometimes even pushed into a corner and forgotten, until the Commissioner has to ask for them, because she is unable to complete the District Report until she receives the reports from all the Packs and Companies.

Why is it that these annual reports are such a bugbear to Guiders? It can't be lack of time, because it only takes half an hour to fill in all the necessary information, and most people can find a spare half hour during the week. Is it perhaps that the Pack Record Books are not kept up to date, and much research has to be done to put these in order before even beginning on the report? Get out the Pack Record Books now and check them, so that you will be ready when that yellow form arrives.

First the ROLL book. Are all the Brownies' names, addresses and ages properly entered? You will find it easy to keep count of a Brownie's age, if you put in the date of her birth (e.g., 16/2/35) then you can always calculate her age in years and months.

Next comes the Pack REGISTER. This contains all the dates of details of each Brownie's life in the Pack; when she joined, passed the recruit test, when she was enrolled, dates of Service Stars, Golden Bar, Golden Hand, if

she was a sixer or fiver, what Church she attends, and any other information Brown Owl needs. This book may be ruled in columns, or planned on the "one page to each Brownie" system.

At the bottom of the report form there is a space for "Remarks, Pack activities, etc." Your PROGRAMME book should help you with this, for in it you will find the dates of any picnics, revels or outings the Pack has had, records of good turns, or the concert they organised. All these things can be noted in the Programme book as well as the record of each meeting held during the year. A page to a meeting is the usual way of planning this book. As soon as possible after the meeting write into the book exactly what was done at the meeting, giving times for each item, names of games, ceremonies and story, what test work was done, subject and decisions of Pow Wow, and anything else interesting that happened. Some Owls write the proposed programme on one page and on the opposite page the programme as it actually happened. This method is very helpful in finding any faults in the planning of programmes. Some Packs keep a Log book in which a detailed account of any happenings or special meetings, is written. This is an interesting book to have, but is not a necessity.

The last of the Record Books is the ACCOUNT book. It is most important that this should be accurately kept. If Tawny is

good at figures it can be one of her jobs. Take one page for receipts, and on it enter all amounts received; the weekly pennies, any donations, money for uniforms or proceeds of concerts, etc. On the opposite page enter all expenditure; on badges, stationery, postage, handcraft material or equipment, or any money paid out of Pack Funds; docketts for all these amounts should be kept. To balance the accounts, under the expenditure list write "Cash in Hand" and the amount you have left after all accounts have been paid; add this up. This total should equal the total of the receipts page. If it doesn't, check all amounts until you find the mistake. Balance the Pack account book regularly, and it will be less likely to go wrong. When this has been done rule those pages off and begin fresh Receipt and Expenditure pages. At the top of the new Receipt page put down the amount of the "Cash in hand" from the previous Expenditure page, and carry on as before. Once a year make out a statement of Pack receipts and expenditure for the year, have it audited and send a copy to your Local Association before their Annual Meeting.

If your Pack hasn't a complete set of Record books, set to work now, and remedy this. For the Roll and Register, exercise books can be ruled as required, a small note book is satisfactory for a Programme book, and a cash ruled notebook, for the Account book.

Can we all make a special effort this year to send the yellow forms back to our Commissioners in good time?
D.H.

IDEAS.

Ideas this month come from North-Eastern Division.

Inspection. Library books.

The Pack has decided to give some books to the Library of the Children's Ward of a hospital, and Brown Owl wants to make sure the books are in good order before they are sent away.

Magic Brownies into Books and Brown Owl proceeds with the inspection, making sure there are no soiled pages with fingerprints or "dog-ears" (hands, finger-nails, etc.); that the binding is intact (reef knot); that the brown paper cover is put on properly and not soiled or creased ((uniform, tie, belt); and that the title of the Book (Brownie Badge) is put on straight and clearly. Brownie chooses the title of her favourite book.

Pack Leader collects the brown seals (pennies) which represent the numbers the books will have in the new library.

Brown Owl packs the good books in a box and labels them ready for delivery.

Magic the "Books" back into Brownies and Tweenies and suggest that they begin saving books and comics.

This serves as an introduction to a good

turn, and helps to teach the Brownies how to take care of books. My Pack has taken several bundles of books to the Children's Hospital and have thoroughly enjoyed doing it.

—A.C.

Nature Hunt.

The Brownies are paired off and each pair is given a slip of paper with the names of 12 or more different leaves, flowers, etc., written on it. The Brownies are then given 15 minutes in which to collect the objects in their list, within a certain distance of the meeting place. The first pair to return with a complete collection receives 3 points for their six.

Game.

Brownies form a circle with Brown Owl in the centre. Brownies sing to the tune "The more we are together."

"Have you ever seen a Brownie do this way and that way,

Have you ever seen a Brownie do this way and that.

Do this way and that way, and this way and that way,

Have you ever seen a Brownie do this way and that."

When "this way and that" is reached in the first line, Brown Owl begins an exercise, and all the Brownies do what she does. When the last "this way and that" is reached Brown Owl points to a Brownie, who takes her place in the centre and does a different exercise.

PLEASE NOTE!

The Lones will hold a Target month in July—to take the form of a Handcraft Stall at the Annual Meeting of the Lones L.A. at the home of Commissioner Mrs. M. R. Fairbairn, 236 Kooyong Road, Toorak, on Saturday, July 10th, at 2.30.

Everyone is welcome to this "Bring a Gift, and Buy a Gift" Opportunity party. This is your opportunity—to learn more about Lones, to help Lones, and to buy some nice useful gift which will help yourself.

CLEANING RAGS.

The Australian Comforts Fund, 185 William Street, Melbourne, is appealing for more cleaning rags. So long as the cloths are clean it is not necessary that they should be ironed or cut up. Labels and bags can be sent to anyone needing them, and if addressed from any station they will be carried free. If one or two districts would combine and send their rags to a suitable centre a truck could pick them up.

The A.C.F. was very pleased with the amount collected by the Guides previously. Please note the address: 185 William Street, C.1.

Executive Committee

Meetings of the Executive Committee held at the Guide Office on 18th March and 1st April, 1943.

Present 18th March—Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Littlejohn, Misses Cameron, Holtz, Maling, MacLeod, Moran, Swinburne and the Secretary.

1st April—Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Springthorpe, Misses Cameron, Holtz, MacLeod, Moran, Ritchie and the Secretary.

Reported that Miss Cameron had agreed to accept the position of Headquarters Commissioner.

Agreed that the resignations of Mr. W. D. Gillespie and Dr. W. J. Tuckfield as Trustees of the Camberwell North Guide property and the nominations of Mr. A. C. C. Holtz and Mr. W. R. Dimmick as new Trustees be accepted.

That the rules governing the tenure of committee members of the Guide House Committee be suspended for the present and reconsidered at a later date when the necessity arose.

That approval be granted to Sister Julian to hold a Quiet Day for Church of England Guiders on April 10th.

That the reports on Camping, Training and Country Development be received.

That bonds and certificates belonging to the Baden-Powell Memorial fund be held by the Commonwealth Bank in the name of the Girl Guides Association "B" account.

That a progress chart of subscriptions to the Fund be put on the notice board at headquarters.

That 31st July, the date of the opening of Our Chalet and Company Birthdays, should be dates for special contributions to be made to the Baden-Powell Memorial Fund.

That a report on the Associated Youth Committee be accepted.

That a letter of sympathy should be sent to Lord Huntingfield from the Association.

To hold a meeting of Commissioners on Thursday, 29th April, at 2 p.m.

To grant a Thanks Badge to Mrs. Foott, of Nhill.

That the Guide Office should close at 5.30 p.m., and at 12.30 on Saturdays.

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

21st BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

The 3rd Malvern Company is celebrating its "coming-of-age" with a concert to be held in the Holy Advent Hall, cr. Wattle-tree and Koo-yong Roads, Malvern, on Friday, 14th May, at 8 p.m. Admission 1/-. Children 6d. Proceeds for the B.-P. Memorial Fund. Do come and help swell the Fund!

Congratulations, 3rd Malvern!

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Rationing Commission, Mitchell House,
Cr. Elizabeth and Lonsdale Streets,
Melbourne, C.1.

Dear Madam,

The Rationing Commission proposes to conduct a "Hand Back Coupons" campaign from May 2nd to the end of the Ration year (June 5th). The purpose of this campaign is to give those people who have coupons to spare a patriotic motive—they can hand them back unused as an individual and valuable contribution to the war effort.

No coupons will be sought from those who really need them. It is hoped to make an intensive appeal in the first two weeks in May. It is considered that the public will then be able to see clearly just how many coupons they can spare without foolishly depriving themselves of essential garments. (This is the reason why the appeal is being made late in the ration year; as you are probably aware, it has always been the policy of the Commission to ask people not to buy clothes unless they need them.)

The Commission appreciates that this appeal must depend largely on the co-operation of the women of Australia for its success, just as the introduction and successful carrying through of rationing has depended upon the co-operation you have given.

We would be glad if you would bring the attached points before your members for discussion or, if you publish a journal, bring them before your members through that channel. Yours faithfully,

J. B. Cumming.

Acting Director of Rationing.

THE LADY HUNTINGFIELD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, realising the high esteem in which the late Lady Huntingfield was held by all sections of the Victorian people, called a public meeting with the object of arranging for a suitable memorial.

At this meeting, at which Lady Chauvel represented the Guide Association, it was decided that a scholarship for the training of Welfare workers would, in view of Lady Huntingfield's fine work for the community, be a suitable memorial. All present agreed to bring this fund before the notice of their organisations.

Lady Huntingfield while our President during her time in Victoria, showed very keen and practical interest in Girl Guides, especially in the country districts. Anyone who would like to contribute to this fund are asked to send their contributions to the Guide office.

—M.E.B.

OUR FOUNDER, LORD BADEN- POWELL, SAID:

"Scoutmasters do not let themselves go. It would be a great thing if they would only introduce schemes, however out of the way, because that is what the boy wants. He wants anything new. He has got a wild imagination that will take in almost anything that the Scoutmaster can imagine. I adjure you to keep up your imagination as much as you can, and employ it for developing games for boys. Also, I think it is a very essential thing to carry out the Patrol System to the utmost. That is to say, to give your Patrol Leader his full responsibility — more than you would at first care to do. It does not matter how far you go in giving Patrol Leaders responsibility. Try and see. Give them most important jobs to do, and see what they do, and you will find that in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred they will do them all right. We are suffering from being tied in too much. The wretched boy is naturally supposed to be a young villain from the very first, and you have got to suppress him. I do not believe it is so at all. Young obstreperous fellows out of the slum or out of the highest—the same thing seems to cure them."

HAND BACK COUPONS.

In making its appeal to hand back coupons, the Rationing Commission does not ask anyone to make foolish sacrifices. The appeal is addressed to those people who have an adequate supply of essential clothing and thus have coupons to spare.

Rationing started off with inequalities which were beyond the powers of any Commission to solve. Some people had built up full wardrobes while others through no fault of their own had very little clothing stocks. The rationing scale is severe on those who had little clothing, but it may not have the least effect on many people for a long time—for them probably not at all if they buy wisely and to a plan. Thus there may be plenty of people ready to give back coupons if they understand the useful purpose it would serve.

Every garment you buy has to be replaced if clothing reserves are to be maintained. Every garment you buy means a few more man hours, a few more machines kept working in civilian production instead of war production.

So you see what it means if, instead of spending coupons on unnecessary clothes you hand them back to the Rationing Commission. Manpower, materials and shipping space are resources which must be used to the full in the war interest, not on non-essential production.

Every coupon handed back helps our reserve

of manpower. The more unspent coupons the higher will be our reserves. It's not when you spend your coupons that matters, it is whether you spend them or not.

In England, the "Battle of Supplies" is well approved, and thousands of people gladly return coupons. Australians are not less patriotic than our overseas kinsmen in the opinion of the Commission. It wants to give them an opportunity to show it. What England can do we can do.

Send back those coupons you don't NEED. Don't hesitate.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

We have received the following names:—

W.A.A.A.F.—I. Greenaway, V. Quirk, C. Woodward, O. Beckingham.

A.W.A.S.—D. Hayward, J. Groenewoud, S. Pattard, J. Emmett.

W.R.A.N.S.—M. Bird, W. Bingham, G. Harris.

A.A.M.W.S.—F. Fullerton.

A.W.L.A.—O. Anderson, J. Eades, D. Bradshaw, E. Henderson, J. Higgs. M.E.B.

GUIDE OFFICE AND SHOP.

OFFICE HOURS:

Week-days: 9.30 to 5.30.

Saturdays: 9.30 to 12.30.

WANTED TO BUY.

Wanted to buy, pair of S.H. Brown Kid Gauntlet Gloves, suitable for wearing with Guide Uniform, size 6 preferred. — E. M. West, Traralgon.

FOUND.

Found at Guide Headquarters after Red Cross Meeting on December 2nd, one Girl Guide Hat, scarcely worn. Name K. Summerfield under band. Would anyone knowing the owner please collect? —M.E.B.

WARRANTS AND REGISTRATIONS

to 24/4/43.

District Commissioner.—Geelong No. 1 District: Miss E. M. Leigh.

Captain.—1st Hawksburn: Miss J. Arthur.

Lieutenant.—2nd Richmond: Miss H. Driver.

CANCELLATIONS.

Captain.—Miss M. Long, 11th Geelong; Miss G. Kendall, 1st Rupanyup.

Lieutenant.—Miss M. Morton, 1st Bentleigh; Miss L. M. Cronin, 4th Camberwell.

Patrol Leaders' Page.

Well, Leaders, how did the knot practice get on last month, and are you ready to tackle the rest of them now? Here are a few points to help you with the other six. They are mostly hitches this time. Do you remember what a hitch is? If not, look up last month's Page and you will soon find out.

Clove Hitch.—This is the knot you will use when you attach the guylines to your flag-pole in camp, because it will stand a steady downward pull. Can you tie it in two different ways? For instance, you may want to put it over the top of a post, but you cannot use either end of the rope, only the middle (tie up the two ends to something else and then you won't be tempted!) You would have to do it by this method if you were attaching a cord to sticks to make a fence round your seedlings. The other method is used when you have the end of the rope free, but the top of pole is out of reach. Try both ways and make quite sure you can do them. Is this a safe knot to use when you want to tie up Fido? Remember a dog may wriggle about on the end of the lead so jerk at the rope well when you are trying it.

Do you think that a round turn and two half hitches would be safer for Fido or not? Try it out too and then decide. Have you realised that the two half hitches really form a clove hitch round the rope? They need not be pulled up tight against the pole, the knot jams just as well the other way. This makes it useful for hanging up a meat safe, or any other object, to a bough far above your head. Throw the rope over the bough twice to make your round turn, and tie the half hitches lower down where you can reach.

Timber Hitch. This is very useful for towing a car. It is easy to tie, holds as long as there is a strain on it, and loosens as soon as the strain is slackened. That is its great advantage in towing work. Think of the oil and grease you avoid.

Packer's Knot. Here is one knot that you can often tie with string. It is used for tying up parcels. Get Captain to show you the two different ways of ending it off. One you would use if you wanted to tie up a bundle of bandages to the Company cupboard, just to keep them together, but can be quickly and easily undone. The other method is used when you want to tie up a parcel securely to go through the post, you would use it when sending a parcel to Father who is overseas with the A.I.F. You would not want it to come undone on the way, would you?

Sheepshank. You all know that this is for shortening a rope, but do you know too that it can be used to strengthen a weakness in

a rope by taking the strain off the weak part?

Square lashing. This is most useful, and quite simple to do. It is used to fasten two sticks together at right angles and you will use it for gadget making in camp. You will need two sticks and a piece of thick string, or two poles and a rope, the thickness of the string or rope increases according to the thickness of the sticks used. Start with a clove hitch round your upright stick, place the other stick above the clove hitch, and in front of and at right angles to the other stick. Take both ends of the string (one end will be quite short) and twist them together. This keeps the clove hitch firm. Bring the twisted string up in front of the crossbar, behind the upright stick just above the crossbar, in front of the other side of the crossbar, and behind the upright stick just below the crossbar. Follow this same course three times, going inside your previous turns each time on the crossbar, and outside each time on the upright stick. Pull your string very firmly and tightly at each turn. Now wind the string three or four times round between the two sticks. These are called frapping turns, and pull the lashing tighter. Finish off with a clove hitch round the crossbar or round the frapping turns and poke in the end of string with a marline spike. This all sounds a little complicated, but get some sticks and string and try it out. You will find then that it really is quite simple. I have given you very full directions because I want you to try it, so many Guides are frightened of a square lashing just because they know nothing about it. Get the Patrol to bring sticks and string to the Company meeting and make a shoe rack, or, better still, make a plate rack on your next hike.

Now, having revised all the knots yourselves, the next thing is to use them with your Patrols in an interesting and practical way. Here are some activities to try out, see if you can think of some more for yourselves.

1. Let your Patrol erect a flag pole. You will need a pole, rope cord and string, and some small sticks to act as pegs. Make a small ring of thick string, leave one end long, and attach it to the top of the pole by the same method as you whipped the ends of a rope in last month's Page. Choose a long piece of cord for your halyards, pass one end through the ring and pull the rope through until both ends are the same length. Join them together with a reef and fasten them round the pole with a clove hitch. Attach three more pieces of rope to the pole (at about the centre) with clove hitches to form

the guylines which will hold the pole in position. Stand the pole up, put in three pegs at a little distance from its base and spaced equally around it, attach the guy lines to the pegs with round turns and two half hitches, and there is your flag pole. A flag used for hoisting usually has a loop of rope at the top of the hoist known as a toggle, and another piece of rope, a couple of feet in length, attached to the bottom of the hoist, this is called the strop. Tie one end of the halyards to the toggle with a sheet bend, and the other end to the strop with either a sheet-bend or a fishermans. Then pull on one halyard and so hoist the flag. Be sure and pull the halyard that sends the toggle up before the strop, otherwise your flag will be upside down. Borrow a flag to practice with, or else improvise with a duster or tea towel. It is not much use making a flag pole unless you hoist a flag of some sort, is it? If you want to include square lashing too you can lash a small piece of wood on to the pole to fasten the ends of the halyards round, instead of fastening them to the pole with a clove hitch. This piece of wood is called a "cleat."

2. Your Patrol is going mountaineering

and each Guide must be roped to the next for safety. What knots did you use?

3. A Boy is lying unconscious in a smoke-filled room on the ground floor. A Guide is at hand with a rope. How does she rescue him? Don't just say how it should be done, try it and see if it works.

Make sure that your Patrols are all absolutely sure of all their knots and can tie them quickly without fumbling, then try them with all eyes shut. You never know—a sudden storm gets up in camp during the night and your guy lines need tightening or your car breaks down in the darkest street and has to be towed home.

There are lots of other knots you can learn if you are interested, but a thorough knowledge of the Tenderfoot and Second Class knots will give you a fairly comprehensive assortment to choose from in moments of need. Remember, a good knot is easy to tie, easy to undo, and holds firmly for the purpose for which it is meant. If it slips you have either tied it incorrectly or are using it for the wrong purpose. Find out which it is, but don't blame the knot!

"Tul-Kara."

