

MATILDA

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MARCH, 1956.



Sea Rangers of S.R.S. "Cerberus" bringing the Australian Flag ashore in a spectacular Australian Day Ceremony at Frankston.

Block by courtesy of "The Age."

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Also Sox for Guides and Brownies. All sizes from: 7, 3/6; 8 and 9, 3/9; 10, 4/9; 11, 4/11.
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NEW COMMISSIONERS.

Mrs. M. Gibson, D.C., Swift's Creek; Mrs. O. Brewster, D.C., Leongatha; Mrs. J. May, term as D.C., Fitzroy, extended; Mrs. J. Philp, D.C., Bairnsdale; Mrs. J. W. Nash, Div. Comm., Western; Mrs. B. Johnston, D.C., Yallourn; Mrs. O. J. Harland, D.C., Malvern; Mrs. J. Jenkin, D.C., Daylesford; Mrs. T. Hobday, D.C., Nhill.

RESIGNATIONS.

Mrs. Hutchings, D.C., Stawell; Mrs. McIntosh, D.C., Heyfield.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS, 5/12/55 to 31/1/56

From Packs.—1st Lilydale, £2.

From Local Associations—South Yarra, £2/2/-; Beaumaris, £2/2/-; Arawata, £2; Geelong Trefoil Guild, £1/1/-.

Individual Donations—Miss D. Coles, £5/5/-; Mrs. W. H. C. Hughes, £2/2/-; Mrs. K. Jaggard, £5/5/-; Miss P. Wittcn, £1/1/-.

War Memorial Fund—Laminex Pty. Ltd., £5.

STATE COMMISSIONER'S DIARY

So much water has flowed under the bridges since last I wrote that it's difficult to know where to begin, but I should like to thank you very, very much for all your friendly letters and warm messages. I am deeply conscious of the fact that the honour which came to me was really for the Guide Movement as a whole, and I wish there were some means by which we could all share it. By the time this appears in print I shall, I hope, have acknowledged all your letters and telegrams.

So many people mentioned their delight that the Scout and Guide Movements had been honoured simultaneously, and also that the wonderful Australia-wide work of Miss Merle Bush had been recognised. Miss Bush, as most of you will know, is still in London, and is currently assisting Miss Barfus at "Our Ark," and she wrote: "I would like you to know how very kind and generous in their greetings Guiding friends have been to me here, thus expressing their interest in our Guiding overseas. I have had such very nice letters and messages already from so many at Commonwealth Headquarters, and Miss Commander (Overseas Department) has arranged a Victorian celebration tea party at Headquarters on Friday. They are all so warm in their appreciation of Australian Guiding, and, of course, it is that to which the award has been made."

Those of you who have not already done so will be very sorry indeed to hear that our Commonwealth Chief Commissioner, the Lady Stratheden and Campbell, has resigned her office on account of ill-health. Word came this morning from Miss Anstice Gibbs, who is holding the fort pending the election of a successor to Lady Stratheden in May, that she is now making a wonderful recovery from an operation, and for that we must be thankful; we will all miss her friendly counsel.

And the Scout Jamboree has come, flourished and passed into history. Everyone knows how appalling the weather was, and will have realised the heavy burden that fell upon the organisers; but they rose magnificently to the occasion, and, rain or no rain, the 17,000 boys were having a wonderful time when I visited them on what was to have been Guide Day, 31st December. Any Guides who had doubts as to the advisability of cancelling their "Day"

would have breathed a sigh of relief if they'd seen the arena, ankle-deep in gluey mud—it would have been quite impossible to carry out our programme. I went across to the hospital, which had, one way and another, some 70 members of the Movement on the staff, under the direction of Miss Venie Harrison and the Matron, Miss McKay. They were astonishingly cheerful under conditions that must have been trying, to say the least—the tented wards, the duckboards, the gum-boots and the eternal rain conjured up picture of war-time casualty clearing stations in the wilds of New Guinea, but nobody seemed to mind. We have received most appreciative letters, commending the conduct and diligence of all concerned.

Talking of New Guinea, Mrs. C. O. Fairbairn and Miss Margaret Fowler are doing a good turn for the Brownies of Papua-New Guinea by collecting, for despatch to them, pictures of children in other lands. They would be grateful for any material you could send (Guide and Brownie picture are especially important, but others are welcome, too) to Miss Fowler at 727 Dandenong Road, Malvern. Some of the overseas Christmas cards are especially useful.

Margaret Currie-Miller

QUEEN'S GUIDE MESSAGE

Copy of letter received by State Secretary.
The Governor's Office, Melbourne, C.I.,
19th December, 1955.

Dear Madam,

I refer to the visit by the Queen's Guides of the Girl Guides Association of Victoria to Government House in October last.

His Excellency the Governor has directed me to inform you that the message of loyalty received by him on that occasion was transmitted to London for the pleasure of Her Majesty the Queen.

Advice has been received from Buckingham Palace, asking you to convey to the State Commissioner and members of the Girl Guides Association of Victoria the sincerest thanks of the Queen for their kind and loyal message, which Her Majesty deeply appreciates.

Yours faithfully,
Official Secretary.

THE GUIDERS' MEETING

LAST DAY FOR "MATILDA"

CONTRIBUTIONS,

1st OF EACH MONTH.

Please note urgently.

TRAINING NOTICES

COUNTRY TRAINING WEEK-ENDS.

The following country training week-ends are to be held within the next few months:—

Camperdown—21st-22nd April, Brownie and Guide Training. 19th-20th May, Brownie and Guide Training.

Applications, stating requirements for training and accommodation (if any) to be sent to Mrs. J. A. Bell, Junr., Rydal Farm, Camperdown, at least one week before the training week-end.

Echuca—21st-22nd April, Brownie and Guide Training. 26th-27th May, Guide Training only.

Applications, stating requirements as above, to be sent to Mrs. C. K. Hyett, Wharparilla, Echuca, at least one week before the training week-end.

Stawell—21st-22nd April, Brownie and Guide Training. 19th-20th May, Brownie and Guide Training.

Applications, stating requirements as above, to be sent to Mrs. Clapperson, D'Alton Street, Stawell, at least one week before the training week-end.

GIPTON TRAINING WEEK-ENDS.

Guide Guiders are invited to attend training week-ends to be held at the Gipton Camp Site. Attendance will be on a day basis only unless special request is made.

Dates—17th-18th March, 19th-20th May.

CAMP SITE NOTICE.

Campers please note—The site at Mt. Moreton will be closed to camping until the new grounds are ready. Notice of this will be put in "Matilda."

The property will then be known as **WHITLAM PARK.**

INVITATION TO W.A. TRAININGS FOR 1956.

Western Australia would be very pleased to welcome Overseas and Interstate Guiders at the following trainings in 1956:—

General Training—1st-4th June.

Camping Week-end—21st-22nd April.

Apply to the State Secretary, Girl Guides Association, 156 St. George's Terrace, Perth, W.A.

TRAM FARES

For some years now, through the courtesy of the M.M.T.B., members of the Guide Movement, other than Leaders, have been entitled to travel at concession rates. In view of recent queries, the Board has kindly re-affirmed the regulation—"Girl Guides in full uniform are permitted to travel at children's fares, irrespective of age. This does not apply to adult officers." The regulation is on page 64 in the Fares and Sections Booklet, which is issued to all drivers and conductors.

I should appreciate it if Guiders would convey this information to the Guides and Rangers in their Companies.

FROM INDIA

(Copy of message from Miss G. Samuel, Exchange Trainer from India, soon to visit Australia.)

St. Christopher's Training College,
Vepery, Madras, S. India,
2nd December, 1955.

Dear Friends,

I send you my best wishes for a very happy Christmas and all joy and peace in the year to come. I am looking forward to meeting you all and working with you.

I would like to repeat to you the message which our great poet, Rabindranath Tagore, gave to the Scouts many years ago. I expect you know that he was a great poet and thinker, and founded the International University known as Shanthiniketan, which means the "Abode of Peace." A renaissance of Indian art, dancing and culture, had their origin in Shanthiniketan. The message goes as follows:—

"For you need never grow old—like these trees, which, because they are firmly rooted in the soil, renew their youth every year. Like these, if you are established in a deep and profound relationship with the soil of humanity, the sap of youth shall never fail you. I want you, to love this earth and all that is in it, not ignoring the least little thing, and to make your love perfect with understanding. Then your life will naturally flower in joy, and the earth will be richer with the fruit of your service. You have to be constantly on your guard against the danger of sinking into your narrow individual selves and of parting with love and joy to purchase success."

Yours in Guiding,

(Signed) G. R. SAMUEL.

WILLING SHILLING DRIVE, 1956

Dear Guider,

The Association throughout Victoria will take part in a Willing Shilling Drive to be held from Saturday, 14th April, to Saturday, 21st April, and it is hoped that every member of the Movement will co-operate.

As you know, funds are needed for the whole Movement, and, as our policy is to earn rather than to solicit money, the Willing Shilling Drive will have many advantages apart from the obvious financial aspect. It will bring Guiding to the notice of the public and will particularly demonstrate the value of service to others.

What a grand opportunity there will be for BROWNIES—to lend a hand.

GUIDES—to keep in a practical sense their promise to “do their best” and to keep the third law: “A Guide’s duty is to be useful and to help others.”

RANGERS and CADETS—to carry their service into a wider world.

Funds collected will be divided one-half to Headquarters and one-half to the Division. The Division’s share of the amount raised will be used just as the Division decides. Headquarters’ share will assist in providing personnel for the Training and Camping Departments in order that Guiding may be further extended throughout the State.

Fuller details and printed matter will be available from your Division and District Commissioners a little later.

May we count on your fullest co-operation?

Yours sincerely,

SHEILA MACLEOD
MABEL COOPER,

Assistant State Commissioners.

THANK YOU !

To all who helped in the organisation of “Guide Day” at the Jamboree we tender our thanks. We realise that many people willingly devoted a lot of time and effort to helping to prepare the displays, and we greatly regret that the programme had to be cancelled because of the rain. The spirit of goodwill and teamwork will remain.

OF INTEREST TO L.A.’s.

L.A. Conference, 12th June, 1956

Empire Day Stall.

Now that we have begun our 1956 activities, we hope that all Association members will join to make our Empire Day stall a big success. Most important is our handkerchief competition, in which your entries will be sold on the stall on Friday, 25th May.

Prizes of £3/3/- each will be given to the competitor who enters: (a) The best handkerchief; (b) the most original handkerchief.

Closing date for entries will be announced in April “Matilda,” and the Melbourne daily press during April.

Judging will take place at Guide Headquarters and the entries will be displayed there prior to Empire Day.

We also are making a big appeal to you and your friends for gifts of home-made cakes and jam to be sold at the stall.

Guide funds could receive a splendid contribution from the stall if you will help us this year.

[Footnote.—Perhaps you received some very attractive handkerchiefs as Christmas gifts. Would you give us one of them to sell? These handkerchiefs would not be entries in our special competition, but they would help to swell the number we hope to have for sale on Empire Day.]

Mrs. COLMAN BURKE { Conveners.
Mrs. J. M. EDDY }

THE WORLD CHIEF GUIDE

Lady Baden-Powell arrived in Montreal, Canada, on 12th August, where she received a very warm welcome from members of “her family” of all ages, before leaving for Niagara-on-the-Lake to attend the Boy Scouts’ 8th World Jamboree.

She will be travelling in Canada until 21st October, when she crosses the frontier into the United States to continue her tour of North America, and plans to be present at the Girl Scouts National Convention at San Francisco which opens on 1st November.

She is not expected to return to her home at Hampton Court until April, 1956.

GUIDE DAY AT THE JAMBOREE

Thinking of the Jamboree held by the Scouts in December-January last naturally brings thoughts of rain and hail and of mud, but Scouts and Guides know how to smile under all difficulties, and despite the weather the Jamboree was a wonderful event.

Some Jamboree functions, naturally, had to be cancelled, including the "Guide" Day. However, the President of the Scout Association in Victoria, Sir Edmund Herring, decided to hold the official luncheon planned to precede the display, and fourteen representative Commissioners and Guiders accompanied the State Commissioner, Mrs. D. Curtis-Otter, and the former Chief Commissioner for Australia, Mrs. C. O. Fairbairn.

The special guests at the luncheon were the Chief Scout for Victoria, His Excellency the Governor, Sir Dallas Brooks, and the State President of the Girl Guides Association, Lady Brooks, who were both in uniform.

Other guests at the luncheon were predominantly women. Among them were Colonel E. J. Bowe, Matron-in-Chief of the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps, Colonel K. Best, Director of the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps, and the wives of the Commissioners and Scouters who held administrative posts at the Jamboree, and who were specially thanked by Sir Edmund for "lending" their husbands for the period of the Jamboree. After a very palatable luncheon, which by the way had the touch of the woman's hand, some of the guests were driven to the hospital, the responsibility of the Girl Guides. Noticed about the hospital were some of Melbourne's leading physicians and surgeons and dentists. It may have been worth while to have been a little bit sick in order to spend a few hours in the hospital!

The guests assembled to watch His Excellency the Governor of Victoria take the salute at the March Past of some fifteen thousand Scouts, a glorious spectacle made so colourful by the flags of many countries fluttering in a strong breeze under a blue sky!

After the march the Jamboree was officially opened by Sir Dallas at the request of His Excellency the Governor-General, Sir William Slim, Chief Scout of Australia, who had been prevented by the weather from performing the ceremony himself on the previous day.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR GREETINGS

were exchanged with His Excellency the Governor of Victoria and Lady Brooks; Chief Commissioner for Australia, Miss E. Manning; Arendsen & Sons; Australian Red Cross Society, Victorian Division; Miss F. V. Barfus; Miss P. Barr; Miss E. Ballard; Ballarat Local Association; Bertram Bros.; Buckley & Nunn Ltd.; Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Ballantyne; Miss M. Burr, New Hebrides; Camperdown Division; Miss M. Cooper; Country Women's Association of Victoria; Mrs. J. Coutts; Mrs. Borg Dingli; Mrs. I. Denton; Equipment Department, Commonwealth Headquarters, London; Exchange Press; Miss M. Fowler; Gestetner Pty. Ltd.; G.G.A., New South Wales; G.G.A., South Australia; G.G.A., Queensland; G.G.A., Tasmania; G.G.A., Western Australia; Girls' Friendly Society; Gippsland Western Division; Miss B. Godson; Miss D. Greenwood; Miss H. Gross; Good Neighbour Council of Victoria Miss D. Hayman; Miss S. H. Irving; Jones Bros. Pty. Ltd.; Kerang Division; Mrs. H. Krohn; Miss A. Lee, Singapore; Miss N. Lee; Lones Section; Miss Shirley Luke; Made in Australia Council; Maxey, F., & Son Pty. Ltd.; Miss F. Mitchell; Miss E. Moran; Miss V. McKay; McKellar Press; Overseas Department, Commonwealth Headquarters, London; Mrs. E. Page; Mrs. A. Pearson; Mrs. A. G. Rylah; Mr. A. G. Rylah; Miss V. Sherriff; Singletons, G. C., & Co. Pty. Ltd.; Mrs. R. H. Street; Mrs. M. L. Smart; Miss G. Tennent; United Nations Association of Australia, Victorian Division; Victoria League; Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Wallace; William Caulfield & Sons Pty. Ltd.; World Bureau; Mr. and Mrs. H. Watson; Young Women's Christian Association.

(Continued from previous column)

A display of folk dancing and singing by Scouts from Nauru, and a hunting corroboree by Australian "aborigines" closed a very happy day at the Jamboree. And then it rained!!!

For ourselves, and for the Association we represented, we appreciate very greatly indeed the courtesy and consideration in every detail of our hosts, the Boy Scouts Association.

RANGER PAGE

TOWN GAS

When we turn the little gas tap and put a lighted match to the jets, we know exactly what will happen; a blue flame will instantly appear, to cook our food or boil our kettle. But do many of us know **how** it happens or how we came to use gas as a fuel?

Early Days of Gas.

Originally gas was employed only for lighting, and a young Scotsman, William Murdoch, was the first to make any great use of it. During his experiments Murdoch filled a teapot with coal, sealed down the lid, and placed the pot in the heart of the kitchen fire. The coal inside the teapot began to bake, and, as carbonisation proceeded, a smoky grey gas came out of the spout. To the end of the spout Murdoch had fastened a thimble, in which he had punched some holes. He put a lighted spill to the smoke coming through the holes in the thimble, and this produced a steady yellow flame. From this simple experiment he developed the idea of producing gas for lighting purposes. By baking coal in a sealed oven and conducting the gas through 70 feet of copper tubes, Murdoch succeeded in lighting his cottage in Cornwall, England. That was in 1792. It was the beginning of "Town Gas" as it came to be called.

London's streets were first lit by gas in 1807. Melbourne saw its first gas light in 1847, but it was not until the middle of the 1850's that we had it in the streets. However, towards the end of the 19th century, gas as an illumination appeared to have been superseded by electricity; but already thoughts were being directed to utilising gas for other purposes. A German, von Bunsen, had devised a method of burning a mixture of gas and air, which produced a blue, non-luminous, non-sooty flame of intense heat. (We all have Bunsen burners on our gas-rings and stoves.) This invention opened up a vast new field for gas as a fuel—for cooking, for space and water heating, for refrigeration—and it is as a fuel that gas is so indispensable to-day.

Modern Production of Gas.

The chief raw material for Melbourne's gas is black coal from New South Wales, enriched with refinery gas from the Standard-Vacuum Oil Refinery at Altona. The coal is crushed

and raised to bunkers above the retort houses, where it is passed slowly downwards through vertical firebrick retorts, heated externally to a temperature of 1400 deg. C. While the coal is being baked, the gas is led away by pipes at the top of the retorts, from where it starts on a complicated cleansing process. The gas, a heavy brown smoke, passes first to the condensers, where it is cooled and relieved of a lot of its tar. It passes in turn to two large vessels filled with screens and grids, where it is "washed" and "scrubbed," losing thereby its ammonia and the remainder of its tar, then on to a purifier to remove the hydrogen sulphide. After drying, the gas is now colourless and invisible. But it has an unmistakable odour. The smell in town gas could be removed along with its other impurities, but it would be dangerous to do so, for then you would not know when there might be a leak in your gas pipes at home or a tap left on, until someone entered the house to find you asphyxiated by the carbon monoxide in town gas! Incidentally, gas is lighter than air, so a window opened at the top will soon let out any gas there may be in a room.

Storage and Distribution.

The cooled, washed, scrubbed, purified and dried gas is measured and carried by large pipes to the gasholders, which you may see in some suburbs. A gasholder is like a huge upturned canister, with the open end in a tank of water below ground level. This "canister" is free to rise to a certain height, so that its lower, open end is still in the water, which provides the necessary seal to prevent the gas escaping. Gas piped into the cylindrical holder and the pressure cause it to rise; thus the holder rests on and is supported by the gas within it. An outlet pipe leads the gas away to the booster and governor house.

Many years ago the weight of the holder provided sufficient pressure to push the gas along the mains to the houses, but the demand for gas has increased so greatly that it has been found necessary to increase the pressure. Hence the "booster," which delivers the gas at a higher pressure to the governors. A governor is a mechanism that is sensitive to any variations of demand for gas in its par-

(Continued on page 10.)

PATROL LEADERS' PAGE

Is this the first time you have read the Patrol Leaders' Page?

It may be if you are a newly elected Leader, but, of course, many of you are experienced Patrol Leaders who have been working and playing with your Patrols for some time. Whether you are a "brand new" Patrol Leader or an "old hand," this page is for you, and we do hope you will make it yours. If you have any thoughts at all about it, do let us hear about them—a letter to the Editor of the Patrol Leaders' Page, c/o Guide Headquarters, 20 Russell Street, will always find us, and we do like to have your opinions.

If you have just been elected Leader of your Patrol, you will be bubbling over with enthusiasm for the job that lies ahead of you, and you will be making plans for all the exciting things your Patrol can do together. Whether "old" or "new," you will be anxious to make your Patrol an especially keen one, so you must start straight away.

First of all be enthusiastic yourself—enthusiasm is like "measles," very catchy—and I think you will find that, if you are bright, cheery and keen yourself, your Patrol will soon become so too. Don't forget that the members of your Patrol want to enjoy themselves, so go out and "do" things. It's much more thrilling to go outside and play an exciting stalking game together than sit in your corners studying a stalking chart. Much more fun to really practise First Aid on one another than to quietly chat or read about it. Don't be afraid to try other ideas and to introduce new activities. Sometimes it is hard to find a new or different way of doing things, but we hope that this page will give you new ideas from time to time. Meanwhile try to read "Philippa, P.L.," or "The Lone Wolf Trail." These two books are written specially for Guide Patrol Leaders, and I'm sure you will find in them many exciting new suggestions to try with your Patrol.

OUR AIM.

What are your aims in your Patrol?

You want all your new recruits enrolled; you hope to get several 2nd Class badges; you want more outdoors activities; you want to help renovate your Guide Hall, or do you

aim to go camping? Write your aims down, and read them often. Now plan your programme so that week by week you step nearer your aims. Are your Tenderfoot Guides in the doldrums? Try to make a point of doing something new every Patrol Time. Games are best for teaching, and practising signalling, knots and stalking.

B.P. is for Baden Powell and for "Be Prepared," and be punctual, and, as one small Guide said, "be posh." (I meant well-groomed, she explained.) Are you always an example to your Guides in grooming and punctuality? Remember to look for these points when you inspect your Patrol prior to Company inspection. Ties should be hemmed, clean, pressed, folded to the right width and length, knotted neatly and tied behind with a reef-knot. (Any stray ends?) The beret should be at the correct angle. Badges should sparkle. Do your Guides clean the heels of their shoes and their belts? Check for clean handkerchiefs, ground-sheets, cord. No bulging pockets, please.

Proficiency Badges.—The knowledge that she can earn Proficiency Badges when she has 2nd Class spurs many a Guide on to win her 2nd Class Badge. Keep these badges before your Guides as the rewards of good work. To make the names and work of the badges familiar to all, there is an amusing game—Acting Badges (team games for Girl Guides). Another is Jill of All Badges, in which a Guide mimes the test work covered by the badge. The first to call the name of the badge takes her place and mimes another badge.

PATROL NATURE LOG BOOK COMPETITION

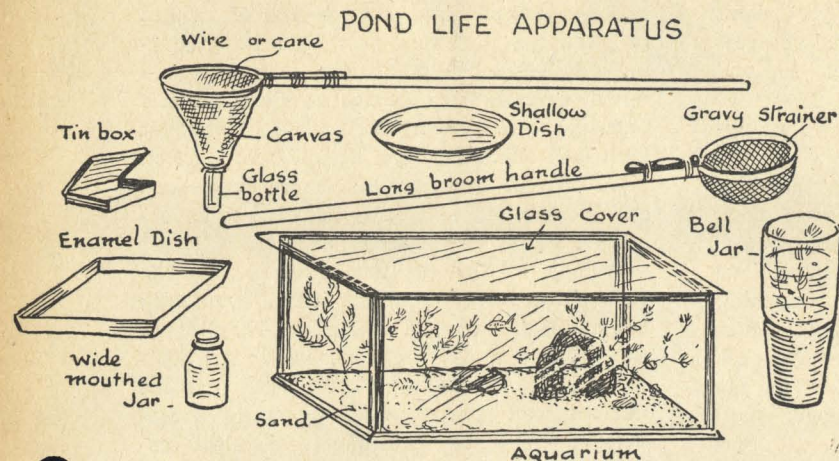
Closing Date, 30th April, 1956.

All books to be sent to "Nature Log Book Competition," Girl Guides Association, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne.

Make this competition a success and send in a book from your Patrol—you still have time.

SORRY, NO SONGS YET

The inclusion of songs has been delayed because of copyright, and may have to be abandoned altogether.



(produced by permission of Australian Broadcasting Commission.)

A pond net may be made with fencing wire bent into a six-inch circle, a piece of art muslin or cheesecloth threaded on the wire, a bottle fastened in the apex, and a handle. By holding it up, the catch can be inspected. Pour into a jar of pond water filled to the widest part; add some pond plants and a few animals. The water should not be changed; refill with pond water occasionally. If green plants coat the jar, put it in a shaded place and add pond snails, which eat the green plants. Some sand and charcoal in the bottom will often be useful. Avoid overstocking. If the water becomes cloudy, siphon some off with a rubber tube, and add pond water. If anything dies, remove it.

PATROL NATURE LOG BOOK (5)

(The ideas for these articles came from Mrs. J. Gorvett and "The Guide," by whose courtesy we have been able to adapt them to our own needs.)

The Pond in the Park.

The Robin Patrol were spending the afternoon in the park, getting material for their log book.

"What's the good of us all going to the pond?" asked Caroline. "Jane's the only one with a net."

"I'm hoping to see some water birds," said Jane, the Patrol Leader. "I know there are a couple of waterhens nesting in that patch of reeds they've railed off."

"The water buttons might be in flower,"

said Susan, "and perhaps we shall find some other plants there. You can see what the poplar and willow are like, Caroline."

Just then Jane joined the group. "If we go up quietly we may see quite a lot of animals. They all seem to go to the middle once the pond has been disturbed."

So the Robins crept up quietly to the pond and scattered round the edges.

"What are those things going round and round in the middle?" asked Elizabeth.

"They're whirligig beetles,"

said Jane. "Can you see the pond skaters gliding about over the top? I bet you couldn't do that."

"Nor could you," retorted Elizabeth. "And I don't suppose you could stay under water as long as most of the animals here. There's a large beetle coming up for air now."

"Let's see," said Jane. "That's a diving beetle. Shall we catch him and have a look at him at home?"

While Jane was busy with her net, Patricia had hauled a large piece of wood out of the water. She was looking at it carefully, and had already found two snails and a caddis fly larva, or "water-casemoth" as some people call it. "Do you want these, Jane?" she asked. "I'll take the caddis," Jane replied. "Oh, good; I love these ones that make cases of snail shells. You might find some adults by looking among the bushes, you know."

So, while Jane and Elizabeth went on dipping in the pond, Patricia started searching the bushes nearby. She found the delicate skeleton of a fly on a leaf and took it over to Jane.

"Do you know what this is?" she asked.

"That's the cast skin of a mayfly. I don't think there's another flying insect that moults. Look, here's a young one out of the pond. It's called a nymph."

"Don't they use mayflies for fly-fishing?" asked Elizabeth.

"Yes," said Jane. "My father calls them

(Continued from previous page.)

duns and spinners. The flies die after they've laid their eggs on the water, and that's when the fish rise for them. Personally, I don't think the fishing flies look much like the real thing—but the fish seem to think so, and that's all that matters I suppose."

"Do they only copy mayflies for fly-fishing?"

"Oh, no," said Jane. "They use stone-flies and caddis-flies as well. But most of them are found in streams and rivers, not ponds."

Patricia went back to the bushes, and Jane to the pond. They hadn't been searching much longer when Jill came along and suggested it was tea-time. "Let's show each other what we've found, and one of us can write an account of what we've done. Will you do the first one, Susan?"

"Shouldn't we each write accounts of our own particular living things?" asked Susan.

"Yes, but I think we want a record of Patrol activities as well—descriptions of the methods we have used and the places we've been to—to go with Sheilah's maps."

"All right," said Susan.

"We'll take turns in writing descriptions of Patrol naturalist activities. I'll start and you can finish."

(Continued from page 7.)

ticular district. For instance, every gas-supplied house is using gas in the morning for breakfast and baths; after breakfast the demand for gas eases off, to rise at lunch-time and again very greatly when the evening meal is being prepared. The governor adjusts the flow of gas to meet this variable demand.

Most of Melbourne's suburbs are supplied with gas by this low-pressure system with boosters, but new extensions are using the latest high-pressure system. Gas is stored at high pressure in specially constructed holders, passed along the mains at high pressure, and each house (or factory) has its own governor on the inlet side of the meter.

The Future.

Melbourne's gas supply is now mainly under the control of a public body—the Gas and Fuel Corporation of Victoria. This forward-looking organisation has great plans for the future. At Morwell it is building a huge plant to produce gas from brown coal briquettes. Ordinary gas production re-

quires the best anthracite coal, but the Lurgi process, developed in Germany, will enable us to use our almost limitless supplies of brown coal for gas-making. By the end of 1956 it is estimated that this plant will be producing 15,000,000 cub ft. of gas each day, and it will be carried to Melbourne by a 103-mile pipe-line. At present Melbourne uses about 39,000,000 cub. ft. a day. By 1975 the Morwell plant will be producing far more than that, and Victoria will be free of the need to import black coal for gas-making purposes.

It may be thought that electricity is the fuel of the future, and that it will eventually eliminate the demand for gas. This is not so. Many manufacturers prefer gas for heating in various industrial processes, and the flexibility of gas appeals to many householders. Also, the gas industry is most economical in its use of coal—in the production of gas it makes available, in some form or another, a much greater percentage of the energy in coal than does coal-derived electricity. Also, after the gas has been obtained from coal, the residue, coke, baked in retorts, is used for fuel, and what were formerly regarded as waste products—sulphate of ammonia, sulphur, benzole, tar and its numerous by-products—are now almost as valuable to the community as the gas itself. Town gas has a long future—probably until the atom is harnessed to deliver heat and power in an economical and easily controlled form.

**DON'T FORGET
YOUR...**



COMPACTOID
first aid kit

Small, Medium, Large — at THE GUIDE SHOP

BROWNIE PAGE

3d.
AUSTRALIA JANET YEATES
STAMPS FOR
BROWNIES
SO DON'T THROW THEM AWAY

Stamps come from far and near, and from all sorts of unexpected places, but the envelope reproduced above tells its own simple story. I do not know who Janet is, or where she lives, but she is evidently determined that her stamps will not be thrown away. She also wants Brown Owl to know they are her contribution to the Brownie Pack's collection.

Then Brown Owl or Tawny Owl, in the final sorting, have thriftily re-used the envelope, marking its contents clearly for me to see.

There may be many "Janets" in your Packs and Companies, so please give them every encouragement. This little Brownie's effort will, I hope, encourage all my readers to make 1956 a better year for the Stamp Department.

LORNA E. CUZENS,

Hon. Organiser for Stamps.

GISBORNE BROWNIES LEND A HAND

At our Christmas "Break-up" this year, as the choice of the Brownies, we held an entertainment. We put on two plays, "Under the Greenwood Tree," and "Brownies' Duty to Our Queen," and several songs. As a final item we had a huge red bon-bon drawn on stage by three Bush Brownies, with Santa Claus sitting on one end. He told the Brownies to pull the cracker, and at the moment it parted a sweet little fairy rose out of the bon-bon and helped Santa Claus distribute gifts to all parents; these had been made by the Brownies. The Brownies then donned gold paper aprons and gold bows on their hair and served supper to all present.

The entertainment was in aid of the Franks-ton Orthopaedic Hospital, and we were happy to be able to hand over a cheque for £10/11/6. The Brownies themselves did this; they also repeated the entertainment for the little patients at Mt. Eliza and had a happy time doing it.

A BROWNIE AT THE JAMBOREE

We spent a couple of hours at the Jamboree—they were not exaggerating about the mud.

A Brownie was with us, well fitted out for stormy weather in gum-boots, raincoat and a cute little hood.

We had to walk a long way after we parked the car, and her little Brownie legs found it hard going. Before we were over the crest of the hill, on our downward trek to Clifford Park, she panted along, saying, "Such a long walk—I'd like to see where all this mud is; we've heard so much about it."

It was not long before she saw it, slid in it, and pulled hard to keep her gum-boots from sinking up to her ankles. She was very much impressed by the boomerang entrance, and then she spotted the fire station, which seemed to amuse her greatly—"Just as if we could have a fire in THIS weather."

Saw some Indian Scouts in spotless white, in direct contrast to some of the muddy figures. Had a look in their tents, which were beautifully dry, the floor spread with nice clean straw.

Margaret said, "What lovely ornaments they have on their gateways, and was especially taken with the Tasmanian one."

Most of the time we could not take our eyes off the path in case we slipped in the mud, so, of course, missed much of the surroundings. As I overheard a Guide saying, "It was really a Mud-Joree." But, Mud-Joree or Jam-boree, hundreds, if not thousands, of Brownies and Guides went out to Clifford Park to catch and share the indomitable spirit of the Scouts of the Pacific—and the World.

"MATILDA"

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

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MIS-ADVENTURE HITCH-HIKING AND BEGGING How Has Their Country Failed Them ?

Miss Dell Hayman, Blue Cord Diploma, Leader of G.I.S. (Aust.) team in Malaya and former State Secretary for Victoria, has written from England:—

“Enclosed is an extract from the last newsletter of the Agent-General for Victoria in London, Sir John Lienhop. I imagine that any visiting Australian would endorse it. I have written to him and told him that introduction cards are no longer given to Guide members who intend hitch-hiking when abroad.

Most Girl Guide Headquarters ask for introduction cards, and Miss Barfus will not take anyone at OUR ARK without one, but it is more the outside public that is being imposed upon in the name of Australian Guiding. The stories I have heard would appal you.

Six years ago it was amusing to see Australian occupants of cars; now they are so numerous and the decorations so often objectionable, that one wonders about the outcome.

These young people (some are Guides) boast that they ask—some say demand—free rides, plus board and lodging, on the strength of being Australians. One hotel manager in France told me that two of them stayed four nights because he thought it unsafe for young girls to be on the road at that time (recent murder of an English girl hiker on his mind). He knew they were Guides; he thought they might well have offered to pay him something. They boasted that they had been all over the place without paying at all, and that lorry drivers usually paid for their meals.

I have seen Australian flags pasted on to bulging rucksacks, and vulgar, slogan-decorated cars.

One party had a taxi from which the World Flag floated. On one side was a Victorian State Badge, in colour, and a white painted figure of an unclothed lady against a background of the Sydney Bridge; on the rear was a painted banner, “Australia—here we come.”

The other side was hidden, but anyone portraying that lady in Melbourne would have been “run in.” The car contained one boy and three girls, all dirty, dishevelled and noisy, a number of Chianti bottles, and a heap of ruck-

sacks and other impedimenta.

Once a Guide Badge was framed in the different badges of continental beer.

I cannot recall seeing the young of any of the other Dominions behaving in this way.

The season is nearly over now, but I do hope that before the next lot strike Britain something can be done. I suggest that all Girl Guide Associations on the continent be circularised and urged to insist on introduction cards, and that all members of the Movement get this well impressed into them before leaving. I know they are still turning up at Commonwealth Headquarters without cards.

The Youth Hostels can—and do—insist, but the worst cases bypass the Youth Hostels, I am told, and perhaps our members do too.

You can have no idea of the number of these hitch-hikers. There have already been paragraphs in the papers, and general dissatisfaction.

Sir John Lienhop's Statement:

“I appreciate the adventuring spirit which usually prompts these escapades, but I am convinced that the prestige of our State and of Australia in general is suffering as a result. Young men and girls—especially girls—from Australia are getting a reputation here as unashamed beggars of lifts from motorists. Most motorists give them lifts cheerfully, but a minority are highly annoyed, and I have received complaints from a number of English people in this regard. The practice is undoubtedly growing, and so is the reaction against it by many intelligent and substantial people here.

“I am not saying that young people should never seek lifts in an emergency, but a cult has grown up of calculated riding on the cheap, which is giving people a strange idea of the morals of young Australians.

“I would also like to appeal to the rowdy Australian exhibitionists who are touring Britain in ever-increasing numbers in battered old cars and taxis, covered in vulgar signs and, unfortunately, Australian flags. Again, one can only admire the enterprise of young men and girls who earn enough to buy an old London taxi and use it to see this country;

but they bring discredit and disrepute to their home country when they turn their cars into disgraceful circus carriages covered with signs and drawings which scandalise and annoy many good residents. I ask that the young people show a little quiet pride in themselves and their country and travel about with a demeanour and in dress that does Australia credit. I am sure parents in Australia can do a lot to discourage this increasing practice.

"We have plenty of excellent young people as ambassadors here, thousands doing well in businesses and the professions, and a few achieving lasting fame."

"RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HOSPITAL"

Jamboree? Yes, I believe there was one going on round us. Actually I was one of the 75 Rangers and Guiders on the staff of the hospital there, but somehow never seemed to find time to go and see much of it. But I read all about it in the newspapers! How we guffawed at the picture of a highly decorative L.C.M. knocking in the "last peg" on the evening preceding J Day. We were all still panting from the exertion of moving mountains of heavy equipment out of three marquees to make enough room to move most of it back again and transform the marquees into hospital ward, casualty theatre and office. Not only that, we were faced with a similar task on the morrow to equip two more wards and a recreation tent. "Last peg," huh!

Funny about that recreation tent—took us almost a week to find time to fit it up, and then came a rush of ailing Scouts, and we turned it into a ward. After that we took our recreations out of doors in macs, sou'westers and gumboots.

The hospital had 65 beds always ready, as well as the emergency ward with a 20-bed capacity, a casualty theatre, X-ray unit and dental clinic. Although we had a steady stream of casualties, most of the minor cases were treated at the aid posts in each sub-camp. Only about 300 cases were actually hospitalized, and none of them was really serious. There were broken bones, throat and foot infections, mumps and chicken pox, 'flu, appendicitis, two cases of pneumonia among the Naruan boys, and plenty of tummy upsets due to incompatible mixtures of ice-cream, soft drink and hot pies.

The seven doctors, five of whom "lived in" for the duration, Matron and her 15 nursing sisters, and two dentists and their nurse were

admired by us all. In that awful weather, despite rain and mud and the fact that camp life was new to many of them, they remained always calm, always patient, kind and efficient.

The St. John's Ambulance men and three ambulance drivers worked ceaselessly. A smart R.A.A.F. ambulance was abandoned when the roads bogged, and a rakish looking land rover named Genevieve sped out at all hours of day and night to bring in patients.

The Guide personnel did a splendid job. The ward orderlies were plunged into work entirely new to them, but managed extremely well and fully satisfied Matron and her staff. In their white gowns and caps they looked most impressive, and we all called them "nurse" very respectfully. The cook and mess patrols not only fed us well, but maintained such a high standard of service in the mess tent that, except for the absence of the flowers, one might have imagined oneself in a first-rate restaurant. The cooking was done in a mobile cooker by an army cook, known to all as "Sarge," who turned out to be, not only a good cook, but a most willing, helpful all-rounder. The office staff remained calm whilst dealing with constant telephone calls, enquiries and visitors.

The wet weather made everyone's job harder, but naturally the camp patrol was most affected by it. Little parties of them were constantly to be seen through rain which dripped, drizzled, poured, cascaded, or just plain came down—trenching, trenching, and trenching! They scraped away mud, scattered sawdust, practised crochet stitches on the tent ropes, and, just as it looked as though they were running out of jobs, down would come the rain and out they would sally again to dig more trenches.

Although arena events were cancelled, we managed to sandwich in some social life, and its tempo speeded up so much that before the end we were feeling the need of a social secretary to handle our many invitations.

Looking back, the Hospital at the Jamboree meant, for me, plenty of hard work, lots of fun and definitely an experience I'm glad to have had.

—Q.E.

COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS

After full consultation between the countries of the British Commonwealth the title of "Imperial Headquarters" was changed to "Commonwealth Headquarters" at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 8th June, 1955.

GUIDES OF AUSTRALIA

CONGRATULATIONS TO 1st KYOGLE, N.S.W., FROM VICTORIA.

AUSTRALIAN GIRL GUIDE COMPANY
WINS HIGH AWARD.

Walter Donald Ross Trophy for 1954.

"It gives us very great pleasure to let you know that, by a majority of votes, the judges have decided that the above Trophy should go to AUSTRALIA for the magnificent work carried out by the Guides of the 1st Kyogle Company, New South Wales, in connection with the floods in that area. The judges commended the Company for taking on a not altogether pleasant task and carrying it out with such thoroughness. Perhaps you would kindly pass this message on to them.

In the absence of the Director, who is away on tour in Burma, India and Pakistan, I should like to convey the warm congratulations of the World Committee, who have ratified the decision of the judges."

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) I. FERRIS,

General Secretary, The World Bureau.

* * * *

At the 13th World Conference the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts held at Oxford, England, in July, 1950, it was decided to accept the very kind and generous offer of Mr. Walter Donald Ross, of Vancouver, B.C., Canada, of a trophy to be awarded annually to a Girl Guide or Girl Scout Group for service or outstanding achievement, not for individual heroism, fortitude or technical skill, which are normally covered by Guide and National awards.

The trophy is known as the "Walter Donald Ross (Vancouver, B.C.) Perpetual Trophy" and is a large and very beautiful cup, which is kept at "Our Chalet," Adelboden, Switzerland. The names of the winners are engraved on the trophy, and the winning group is presented with a smaller replica to be kept by them in perpetuity.

Applications for the award are judged by an ad hoc committee of three, of different nationalities, but able to meet.

The 1st Kyogle Girl Guide Company was formed in 1927 and had 18 Guides at the time of the February, 1953, floods.

The Guides met as a Company the morning after the flood had receded (22nd February), leaving such tragic devastation.

All clothes were black with silt and mud. Washing was the first need, and it was this great need that appealed to the Guides.

They decided to work in groups, mostly in twos and threes, in patrols wherever necessary.

On the first day Mrs. Paterson, District Commissioner, set the example by collecting washing from several homes, taking it to the Central School residence, where there was plenty of tank water. She washed and ironed for a week. Two Guides helped her scrub and clean the clothes sufficiently to proceed with the boiling, for everything was quite black. Several other ladies did likewise, accepting the offer of the Guides' assistance. They all reported to me on the perseverance of the girls to carry on despite tender hands and utter weariness. They scrubbed, washed and cleaned for a week, carrying back the ironed clothes, etc. People who received help from the Guides said how pleased they were with the Guides' work, and realised that it was their Guide training that fitted them to help wherever they saw a job to be done.

Each group of Guides did a different job—Some scrubbing walls, going messages, minding young children.

The Church Service arranged for Thinking Day and the Camp Fire and Tableau function to be held had to be abandoned, but the Thinking Day pennies (25/6) were collected and forwarded. The initiative was taken by the Guides themselves after the first day. Each Patrol Leader organised her own Guides, and they went to her if in doubt as to what to do.

The Guides replaced all exercise books and school sewing material lost in the flood. This help was given to all the flood victims in the High School at a cost of £15 from their funds.

—From "The Waratah."

A REPORT OF THE AWARD OF THE
WALTER DONALD ROSS TROPHY TO
1st KYOGLE, N.S.W.

Here are details of the work done by Guides of two of the four Patrols, all of whom worked equally hard:—

Swallow Patrol:

Annette Felton—Monday: Washing. Tuesday: Washing. Wednesday: Washing and ironing. Thursday: Washing and cleaning O's and C's houses, Fawcett Street.

Roma Daley—Washed Monday morning at school. Helped on flat Monday afternoon. Helped clean Mrs. E's house and three others, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday.

Nancy Lattimer—Helped on flat all day Monday. On Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday helped on flat, cleaning four houses and washing.

Robyn Batterham—Washed Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning and helped on flat, cleaning outhouses on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Mrs. E's house and four others.

Canary Patrol:

Dell Davis—Helped clean out garage all the week.

Beverley Jenkins—Washed and ironed at school all the week.

Kae Crawford—Washed at school all the week.

Daphne Farrar—Helped clean B's house out; minded Mrs. B's children for six days.

Patsy Williams: Helped clean out her own family's house all the week.

The general standard report of 1st Kyogle Company includes:

Recently the Guides have given £7/10/- to the Brown Owl of the 1st Tabulam Brownie Pack to provide the material for uniforms for eight little aboriginal girls who are joining the Pack. Their action has been much appreciated by the Matron of the Settlement and others concerned, as it will give the little coloured girls an opportunity to mix with white children of their own age. To meet this cost the Guides organised socials and made an average of £3 per social.

THANKS BADGES (from page 16).

Mr. R. Shepard, all of Nathalia; Mr. Gallpen, Extension Section; Miss A. M. W. Brotherton and Miss A. C. B. Cherry, of Castlemaine; Mrs. W. Allan, Mrs. A. Morrison, Mrs. L. Ray,

POST BAG

Dear "Matilda,"

What splendid news!! At long last a "Post Bag" for "Matilda." Many a time have I been frustrated in wanting to write to "Matilda," only to remember that "The Guider" had a "Post Bag," but, alas! not "Matilda."

I hope the innovation will prove to be a huge success; but I realise this can only be so if we, the readers, co-operate by using this column to air our views and news! So here is a beginning.

This perennial question of holding the 16-year-old Guide until she reaches her 17th birthday and can be trained as a Lieutenant or Tawny Owl! We are told that the 16-year-old is not sufficiently matured to undertake responsibility, and should go on to a Ranger Company. Quite true; but the percentage of Ranger Companies is very low, and it is also quite possible that Ranging does not appeal to all Guides. Rather than allow a good prospective Guider to leave the Movement, could we not allow some elasticity regarding age?

In the first paragraph of the Introduction to P.O. & R. our Founder has clearly stated that "the following pages contain RULES, not Regulations," and then goes on to explain that Rules are "guiding lines for players in a game," and that Guiding is not a science nor a military code to repress individuality and initiative!

I am not convinced that the modern girl of 16 years needs to be shielded from taking responsibility. For many years in our schools the prefect or counsellor system has delegated responsibility to girls of that age and even younger. Are we looking wide enough on this particular problem?

I would mention that I realise that it would be necessary for the 16-year-old to be under the leadership of an experienced Captain or Brown Owl.

Yours, etc.,

YOUTH MOVEMENT.

Mrs. B. Milne, Mrs. P. Ashmead, Mrs. M. McLaren, Mrs. G. Elliott, Mrs. R. Wiggins, Mrs. V. Gust, Mrs. A. Apps, and Mrs. Reid, all of Yallourn; Miss M. Corby, Warragul; Mrs. Tiver and Mrs. Jaggard, of Bandiana.

WARRANTS AND REGISTRATIONS REGISTRATIONS.

1st Riddell Pack, 1st Mortlake Pack, 2nd Castlemaine Pack, 4th Mitcham Coy., 2nd North Geelong Coy., 1st Glenorchy Coy., 1st Box Hill Ranger Coy., Mortlake L.A., Coburg L.A.

WARRANTS.

Commissioners:

Mrs. R. F. F. Harbison, Div. Comm., Upper Murray; Mrs. T. C. Vogel, D.C., Cudgewa; Mrs. L. E. McCollm, D.C., Corryong.

Captains:

Miss J. Baglin, 3rd Williamstown; Miss F. Ritchie, 1st Arawata; Mrs. C. Battista, 2nd Bairnsdale; Miss J. B. Popjoy, 1st Dandenong; Mrs. G. Lovett, 1st Narbethong; Miss M. E. Pettigrew, 1st Herne's Oak; Miss S. Metsar, 3rd Fitzroy (Estonian); Mrs. A. J. Sumpter, 1st Trafalgar; Mrs. N. J. Eyles, 1st Puckapunyal; Miss M. Watson, 1st Montrose.

Lieutenants:

Miss J. Marlowe, 1st Wangaratta; Mrs. E. A. Graham, Yallourn Ranger Coy.; Miss G. A. Akers, 1st Herne's Oak; Miss W. Ustick, 1st Footscray; Miss A. Pari, 3rd Fitzroy (Estonian); Mrs. W. G. Pearson, 2nd Morwell.

Brown Owls:

Miss S. Jephcott, 3rd Brunswick; Mrs. J. L. Pearson, 1st St. Margaret's, Berwick; Miss R. Burden, 1st Dumbalk; Miss B. Francis, 1st Wodonga; Mrs. G. M. Kentmann, 2nd Wangaratta; Mrs. M. W. Marklew, 1st Yarrunga; Mrs. I. McIlvena, 1st Healesville; Mrs. M. Buckley, 4th Brighton; Mrs. L. Parke, 1st Trafalgar.

Tawny Owls:

Miss M. Mollison, 3rd Brunswick; Mrs. N. Marlowe, 1st Yarrunga; Miss T. McKinley, 1st Ringwood.

CANCELLATIONS

Miss S. Jephcott, T.O., 4th Brunswick; Mrs. J. Nash, D.C., Coleraine; Miss A. L. White, Capt., 1st Colac Rangers; Mrs. C. Hutchings, D.C., Stawell; Miss M. Orr, Lieut., 2nd Red Cliffs; Mrs. D. Fox, D.C., Yallourn and Herne's Oak, and Capt., Yallourn Ranger Coy.; Mrs. E. Wicks, D.C., Timboon; Miss F. G. Brown, Capt., 2nd Swan Hill; Miss G. Hurst, Capt., 2nd Footscray.

THANKS BADGES.

Thanks Badges have been awarded to Mr. W. Abrue, Mr. W. Robertson, Mr. J. Sandow,
(Continued on page 15.)

*There is no ~~IF~~
about it!*

There are people who say: "I could save money IF" But there is no IF about it when you plan to save by the budget method.

Budget your income . . . deposit part of your earnings to your savings account BEFORE you start to spend the remainder. Pay yourself first — that's the secret of saving.

When you have acquired the habit of paying in regularly, your progress towards financial happiness is helped considerably.

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