

# MATILDA

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Vol. XXXIV.—No. 10.

JUNE, 1956.



## OUR STATE COMMISSIONER

Mrs. Curtis-Otter attended the Investiture at Government House on 15th May to receive the insignia of O.B.E. from His Excellency.

We renew our congratulations and send our warmest thoughts and regards at the time of this culmination of the honour awarded her. Her son, Iainn, looks justly proud of this signal honour.

—Block by courtesy of "The Age."

# EQUIPMENT DEPARTMENT

HOURS—9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Week Days.  
Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon (Holiday Week-ends excepted)

## CLOSED FOR STOCKTAKING

The Equipment Department will be closed for stocktaking on THURSDAY, 5th JULY, 1956.

### SOMETHING NEW IN YOUR SHOP

THE NEW RAINPROOF SUIT—Junior Navy, crease resisting; does not need dry cleaning. Just clean with a warm damp cloth. Hip-length Jacket, beautifully cut, zip front and three zip pockets. Smart Skirt, also proofed to match jacket, tailored by "Slim Ray."

JACKET, stock size, £5. Specially cut to your measurement, £6.

SKIRT, stock size, £2/19/11. Specially cut to measure, £3/10/6.

MATERIAL for above Suit, 25/6 per yd., 42 inches wide.

NEW GUIDER SHOULDER BAG, lined with tartan, £2/5/6. Unlined, £2/2/-.

### BOOKS

Standard Bearers .....	4/6
The Baden Powell Story .....	8/6
Australian Nature Wonders .....	1/6
The Pack that Ran Itself .....	8/6
The Story of the Girl Guides .....	9/6
Scout Family Robinson .....	8/6
Judy, Patrol Leader .....	5/-

### ALSO NEW

All GUIDE and BROWNIE TIES will be cut from the new improved, pre-shrunk cotton material. Blue, Green, Red and Yellow, all at 3/- each.

THE GREY RANGER BLOUSE—New pre-shrunk cotton material, will launder beautifully. Price, 23/6 made up. Material, 6/11 per yard.

Lincoln Mills' ALL-WOOL NAVY BLUE PULLOVERS, from 38/6 to 48/6. All sizes.

BROWNIE WORLD BADGES, 2/-.

BROWNIE CAPS—As soon as present stocks are exhausted, the new improved Brownie Cap will be a match for the new Tie. Price, 6/-.

BROWNIE HATS, improved, with a brown lining, 10/6.

We have a fine range of GREETING, GIFT and BIRTHDAY CARDS in stock. 6d. to 2/3.

B. J. RAWSON, Manageress.

## "MATILDA"

23rd May, 1956.

Dear Readers,

Thank you very much for responding so well to our request for prompt payment of subscriptions; it will keep our affairs straightforward and businesslike, and has created a feeling of energy and goodwill that is stimulating for us all.

Actually, 1000 copies were ordered for May—an all-time record; this includes 89 new subscriptions, so it cannot be maintained unless all former subscriptions are paid before the "trust month" is over. Do let us keep it up!

Thank you again, and all good wishes.

Yours, truly,

D. COOPER, O. KNIGHT, G. SWINBURNE,

Acting Editors.

## STATE COMMISSIONER'S DIARY

It is difficult to believe that a year ago I was writing this diary in the air, en route for the Federal Council Meeting in Adelaide. Now I am busily packing up for Hobart, where the 1956 meeting is to be held. The talk of our Chief Commissioner on her recent visit to New Guinea, and talks by the international visitors, of whom you were told last month, will open a wonderful "window on the world," and I hope you may all be able to look through it, too. It all promises to be full of interest, including the hard work—six-hour sessions for each of three days. The large agenda includes no less than the Federal Constitution, Finance, the Status of Papua, Representation at World Conferences, Hitch-hiking, Founder's Centenary and Visit of Chief Guide, with Awards, Publicity, Uniform, Post-Box, Thinking Day Cards . . . and many other matters. We plan to tell you about the main decisions as soon as possible.

The highlight of April was, of course, the visit of Admiral the Earl Mountbatten and the Countess Mountbatten, the "fabulous pair" as they are so rightly called. My husband and I had the honour of being asked to the State dinner at Government House, as well as to the State and Lord Mayor's receptions, and, with Misses MacLeod and Cooper and Mrs. Sharpe (who took the place of Miss Macartney, who was unable to be present), I was at the reception for Countess Mountbatten given by His Excellency the Governor and Lady Brooks. It was interesting to meet, at all these gatherings, ladies well known to us in Guiding, who were present as representatives of other women's organisations, a practical reminder that Guiding is an integral part of our daily lives, not something to be kept for uniformed occasions.

It was particularly noticeable that, at all the gatherings for the Mountbattens, there was an effervescent air, as if these two vital people carried everyone present with them into a world where difficulties are a welcome challenge—something to be overcome purposefully and then forgotten. As the war-time tag had it, "The difficult will be done immediately; the impossible takes a little longer."

By the time this appears in print the Willing Shilling Drive will have passed into history.

Early reports give great hopes that it has been a success, and, if this proves to be so, then it is a happy augury for the future. We went away to a flying start through the co-operation of His Excellency the Governor and Lady Brooks, who invited a dozen girls (Brownies, Guides, Rangers and a Cadet) to Government House, and arranged for press photographers to be present. The result of this happy co-operation was the appearance of excellent photographs in two metropolitan newspapers at the beginning of Willing Shilling Week—publicity of the best kind for us and directly attributable to the interest taken in our Movement by our State President and the Chief Scout for Victoria. Miss Peg Barr was in charge of the party. All the members looked very smart, and very happy, too, as they went on their way with the crown pieces presented by their host and hostess.

There have been two meetings—one of the Empire Youth Council (which works throughout the year to perfect the plans for the Empire Day Youth Celebration) and the annual meeting of the Dandenong Local Association—a very happy affair, with a splendid Guard of Honour to greet me, and the fun of seeing a birthday cake cut when the business of the meeting was over. It is evident that in Dandenong there is a particularly happy relationship between the L.A. and the various Packs and Companies.

Once again there was a splendid attendance at St. Paul's Cathedral for the St. George's Day Service. Apart from the special significance of this service, Scouts and Guides alike enjoy joining in familiar and well-loved hymns, led by the wonderful Cathedral choir.

Members of the State Council will have learnt, with sorrow, of the sudden death of Mrs. W. Knox, our good friend of many years' standing. Mrs. Knox was aboard ship en route to England when her death occurred. We will miss her friendly and practical counsel at our meetings, which she attended regularly.

. . . And now to Hobart to renew old friendships and make new ones, and, above all, to work happily together for the ideal of Guiding.

*Margaret Currie-Ober*

## GUIDERS' UNIFORM

Three alternative uniforms may now be worn by Guiders in this State. As there appears to be some confusion about details, particulars of each are listed below. Will District Commissioners please bring this to the notice of their Guiders at the next District Meeting?

- (1) The Australian uniform—navy skirt and pale blue shirt; brown tie for Brownie Guiders and navy tie for everyone else. The new H.Q. jacket is for use with this uniform, but plain navy jumper or cardigan may be worn.  
(N.B.—Brownie Guiders do not wear gold ties with pale blue shirts, nor are white shirts worn with this type of jacket and skirt.)
- (2) Navy blue coat and skirt or navy coat frock, with white shirt. Ties are of different colours, according to the position held — Division Commissioners, saxe blue; Ranger Guiders, official Ranger red; Guide Guiders, Company colour; and Brownie Guiders, brown or gold, according to the colour worn by the Pack.  
(N.B.—A pale blue shirt is not worn with the coat and skirt or with coat frock.)
- (3) Blue overall (H.Q. pattern) worn with same ties as in (2). In summer short sleeves are optional.

Guiders should buy blue shirts and overalls, or material and paper patterns for same, at the Girl Guide Shop in order to obtain the official colour and style.

SHEILA M. MacLEOD, Assistant State Commissioner.

## TRAINING NOTICES 2nd Series, 1956

### GUIDERS' TRAINING CLASSES.

These courses will be held at Guide Headquarters, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne. All applications to be sent to Miss N. Lee at Headquarters. Fees to be paid at the first class.

**Brownie**—Commencing Wednesday, 6th June, at 7.45 p.m. Guider-in-charge: Mrs. A. Sharp. Fee, 4/6.

**Guide**—Commencing Tuesday, 5th June, at 7.45 p.m. Guider-in-charge: Miss S. MacLeod. Fee, 7/6.

**Ranger**—Commencing Thursday, 7th June, at 7.45 p.m. Guider-in-charge: Miss C. Broadhurst. Fee, 4/6.

### RANGER-GUIDERS' WEEK-END, Guide House, 15th and 16th September.

A week-end has been arranged for Ranger-Guiders who would like to have training in various sections of the Ranger Star work or anything else which they feel a need. Would you please send in your suggestion and needs, and they will be attended to?

The fee will be 20/-, plus fares, and all applications should be sent to Miss Norma Lee, Training Secretary, by 14th August. Further details will be forwarded on application.

## GUIDERS' CONFERENCE, 1956 Melbourne University, August 11 and 12

Theme: Knowledge in itself is not enough.

The cafeteria at the University Union will open specially for us between 12.30 and 1.30 p.m. on the Saturday, and will serve a hot meal at a cost of approximately 6/-. This has been arranged to give Guiders an opportunity for a "get-together." Do come along and meet old friends and make new ones.

Hospitality will be arranged for country Guiders if necessary. Will Guiders requiring hospitality please write AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to the Hospitality Convener, c/o Guide Headquarters, stating their requirements—e.g., time of arrival, accommodation required, and date and time of departure.

## THE SOMERS COUNTY SCOUT AND GUIDE ANNUAL BALL

will be held at  
CAULFIELD TOWN HALL  
on THURSDAY, 2nd AUGUST, 1956.  
Tickets --- 10/-.  
Mrs. E. J. Ayling. BY 1016.

## THANKS BADGES

Reported that Thanks Badges had been awarded to Mrs. J. M. Andrew, Yallourn; Mr. J. H. Tweedale, Maryborough; Mrs. S. Coleman and Mrs. W. Cheeseman of East Brighton.

## THANK YOU, MISS McKAY!

A fire-screen for the Baden-Powell Hut at the Guide House is to be purchased with the donation of £10 from Miss V. McKay, Matron of the Hospital at the recent Scout Jamboree.

## GUIDE GUIDERS' WARRANT TEST SIGNALLING

In future Guide Guiders taking the Captain's or Lieutenant's Warrant Test will not be required to pass a test in both Morse and Semaphore Signalling, as previously. They will be expected to signal and read a message by one method only; but it is hoped that they will have a working knowledge of the other.

## ALTERATIONS TO P.O. & R.

(From January "Guider.")

### Rule 61—Guide Boatswain Badge.

Page 37—Delete syllabus and substitute the following:—

1. Manage a dinghy single-handed.
2. Row a boat with others.
3. Use the following knots:—Reef, bow-line, clove-hitch, sheet-bend, round turn and two half-hitches.
4. Throw an unweighted line 12 yards.

N.B.—Before working for this badge a Guide must be able to swim 50 yards, in accordance with Rule 106 (1).

## BADGE SECRETARIES' CONFERENCE

A Conference for Badge Secretaries will be held at Girl Guide Headquarters, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne (just opposite the State Theatre), on Wednesday, 18th July, from 2 to 4.30 p.m. District Commissioners are invited to attend. Questions for discussion should be sent to the State Secretary at above address before 4th July. Please mark the envelope "Badge Secretaries' Conference."

SHEILA M. MacLEOD,  
Assistant State Commissioner.

## GUIDERS' SINGING GROUP

This Group has been formed of all Guiders who enjoy campfire singing. So, if that includes you, please come and join us. We plan to hold regular monthly "singing nights" and are hoping for a good response.

The next meetings will be held on Monday, 2nd July, and Thursday, 2nd August, at 7.45 p.m. at Guide Headquarters. Leader: Miss P. Barr.

## COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE, 1956

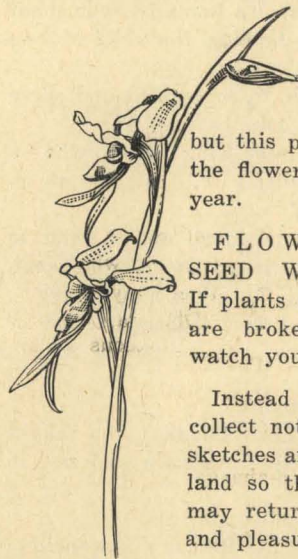
Plans are well in hand for this year's Conference, commencing on Friday, 29th June. To those of you who have sent in your requests for accommodation, do please let us know in good time if there is any change in your plans, either for staying the night or for meals required. This is very important, because always at the last minute other people find they could come, and we could accommodate them if only you would let us know.

Tasmania is to be the guest State represented by a Commissioner at this year's Conference. Our new Chief Commissioner for Australia (Miss Manning) is to be with us too, giving us a grand opportunity to learn more of a wider field of Guiding.

CYNTHIA MORELL, Convener.

## A MESSAGE—

### Know and Guard Our Bushland Flowers



A bunch of wildflowers gives pleasure for a short time only, but this pleasure will reduce the flowers to be seen next year.

FLOWERS LEFT TO SEED WILL INCREASE. If plants are trampled, they are broken or killed — so watch your step.

Instead of picking flowers, collect notes with dates and sketches and treat your bushland so that next year you may return to it with pride and pleasure.

The Native Plants Preservation Society of Victoria will be glad to answer questions from any who wish to make the best of the plants in their district.

Secretary, Miss Waddell, 3 Denham Place, Toorak, S.E.2. BY 1676.

**A flower in the bush is worth two in the hand.**

And so our wildflowers are protected by the law of our land as well as by our own knowledge and good sense.

## A GUIDE LAW CEREMONY FROM INDIA

(For the Guides of Australia from  
Miss Samuel)

**Mother India:** Who are you, happy maidens,  
all in blue?

**G.G.:** We are the Guides of the Bharet Scouts  
and Guides, your daughters, Being Prepared  
for service. Our ten-fold law guides us in  
the right path.

**M.I.:** Who are your lawgivers? Are they not  
also my children?

**G.G.:** Yes, O Mother, and from our glorious  
past we evoke their mighty names.

**Law 1:** I speak of Honischandra, the great  
king of old, the soul of honour, who gave up  
everything he had so as to keep his word.  
"A Guide's honour is to be trusted."

**Law 2:** I speak of Punna, the faithful Rajput  
nurse, who allowed her own son to be killed  
that her royal charge might be saved.  
"A Guide is loyal."

**Law 3:** I speak of Pandita Ramabai, who spent  
her whole life in helping the child-widows  
of our country.

"A Guide's duty is to serve God and serve  
her country and help others."

**Law 4:** I speak of Great King Akban, who by  
his generous friendship with all set us an  
example of friendliness.

"A Guide is a friend to all and a sister to  
every other Guide, no matter to what coun-  
try, class or creed the other may belong."

**Law 5:** I speak of Prince Dharma, eldest of  
the Pandanas, who was courteous to all,  
great and small.

"A Guide is courteous."

**Law 6:** I speak of Lord Buddha, who taught  
us to love all God's creatures and not to  
hurt a living thing.

"A Guide is a friend to animals."

**Law 7:** I speak of Prince Rama, who went into  
exile for 14 years in implicit obedience to  
his father's word.

"A Guide is disciplined and obeys orders."

**Law 8:** I speak of Princess Sita, who went  
cheerfully into the forest to help her hus-  
band and endured the hardship happily.

"A Guide is brave and smiles and sings  
in all difficulties."

**Law 9:** I speak of Thirwallnuar, who taught  
us to be thrifty by picking every grain of

(Continued next column.)

## CHAIRWOMAN OF THE WORLD COMMITTEE

Travelling from California to Scotland for  
a meeting of the World Committee, she looked  
in to see us on the way. It is a way they  
have in the "World."

Mrs. Alan Means, of California, Chairwoman  
of the Committee of the World Association of  
Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, spent a fortnight  
in Australia on her way to Scotland.

After visiting Brisbane and Sydney, she was  
in Hobart at the time of the Federal Council  
Meeting, and Victorian Guide folk welcomed  
her to Melbourne on 3rd May.

The Ambassador for U.S.A. and Mrs. War-  
ner, the Premier of Victoria and Mrs. Bolte,  
the President of the National Council of  
Women and the President of the Country  
Women's Association, Sir Angus Mitchell and  
Mr. Nicholls, representing the Boy Scouts  
Association, were among the guests at a late  
afternoon reception to Mrs. Means at the  
home of Mr. and Mrs. S. McKay. A telegram  
was received from the State Commissioner,  
who was still in Hobart.

Mrs. Means had already that day held a  
press conference, lunched at Parliament  
House with the Premier, and toured the  
Olympic sites.

In replying to Mrs. McKay's welcome to  
her, she challenged us whether we had all seen  
them ourselves. Though she had so few days  
with us, Mrs. Means had already been deeply  
impressed and touched by the spirit of unity  
and immediate friendliness, as among Girl  
Guides and Girl Scouts in all countries.

Our State President, Lady Brooks, enter-  
tained Mrs. Means during the morning of 4th  
May.

Mrs. Means spends several months each  
year visiting the countries of the World As-  
sociation, and it has been a great delight to  
have her with us. Her "other interests" are  
golf, fishing and shooting.

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rice with a golden needle.

"A Guide is thrifty."

**Law 10:** I speak of Arundathi, whose purity  
has won her a place among the stars.

"A Guide is pure in thought, word and deed."

**Mother India:** Well met, Guide Law. I rejoice  
in your service, and may you live long to  
serve your Motherland

## Girl Guides on the Island of Tonga



**Princess Mata Aho, present Commissioner of Tonga;  
Bishop Rogers, of Roman Catholic Church where Guides were invested;  
Mrs. A. E. McKay, Assistant Commissioner.**

Recently there passed through Melbourne on her way to live in Shepparton Mrs. A. McKay, who for sixteen years lived in Tonga, where her husband, a Methodist minister, was Chaplain to Queen Salote, whom many of us remember as a vivid personality at the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

Mrs. McKay was Assistant Commissioner to Princess Mata' Aho (which means Face of the Sun), who is the niece of Queen Salote. Guides and Scouts were started only about three years ago, and have been enthusiastically maintained.

Tonga is only a very small island (probably not much bigger than our Phillip Island in Westernport Bay). There are 15 Guide Companies, including 10 Roman Catholic Com-

panies. Most of the Guiders are Tongan and very keen. They use the same P. O. & R. as we do, and obtain their uniforms from Fiji. Guiders are warranted from Commonwealth Headquarters in London. Guide uniform is a junior navy cotton dress buttoned down the front, and the official belt and tie of Company colour; no hats, no socks, brown sandals.

Guides were greatly thrilled when they paraded with the Scouts during the visit of Queen Elizabeth II to Queen Salote on her way to Australia in 1953.

Mrs. McKay now lives at the Methodist Parsonage in Maude Street, Shepparton, and would always be interested to meet any Guide folk.



—Block by courtesy of "The Age."

### FIRST CLASS INDEED

It is a proud moment for Heather McLaren, 7c Prahran Company (Victorian School for Deaf Children). The Division Commissioner, Mrs. Ramsay, is pinning on her uniform the Blue First Class Badge and the All Round Cord.

Heather is deaf, and has been a pupil at the School for six years. It is the first time that any girl in the School has won these awards. Heather has also heart trouble and she has been three times a patient in hospital during the two years that she has been especially working for her First Class Badge. She has gained the Observer Badge and the Health Badge, in place of the clauses for swimming and life-line.

With two Patrol Leaders of the Company, Heather went to the Footscray Kindergarten and Creche during term holidays to learn Child Nursing, and the three Guides went to the Footscray St. John's Ambulance Association to learn Home Nursing and First Aid. For All Round Cords, Heather gained Home-maker, Gardener, Collector, Laundress and

(Continued next column.)

### LET GUIDES BE GOOD NEIGHBOURS

The Good Neighbour Council of Victoria, through its many affiliated organisations, renders a real service to the New Australian in our midst. And, as Guides, we too are sharing in that service.

At naturalisation ceremonies, Guide and Ranger Companies and their L.A.'s sometimes help with the tea party, which gives the friendly touch to a rather solemn occasion.

In one district they combined to help the Mayor with a supper he had provided for about one hundred New Australians. Mrs. Bolte was present at the ceremony, and afterwards expressed her appreciation to the Guides.

Some Ranger Companies have visited New Australians in hospitals as part of their service. They have brought them gifts of flowers and fruit. Where language was a difficulty, greeting cards containing good wishes in five different languages were presented with a smile!

The Good Neighbour Council is very anxious for our Guide Movement to be linked up with every country branch, and suggests the appointment of local Guide representatives. ....

Companies and Packs can do something very worth while by inviting and welcoming girls of other countries to their meetings and sharing Guiding with them.

A new branch of Good Neighbour has recently been opened at Belgrave. Our help and co-operation there would be much appreciated.

In these various ways we can do our bit towards making New Australians feel at home amongst us. What a wonderful opportunity to practise international friendship and understanding!

L. HOOPER,

Guide Representative G.N.C.

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Hostess Badges, and she has the Little House Emblem.

The ceremony was strangely moving to the onlookers. It was carried out in complete silence, except for the excited sounds of joy from the Guides of Heather's Company, who are proud of her achievement. The Captain, who is Heather's mother, gave the orders by lip-reading and sign language. The only words were spoken by Mrs. Ramsay, who, after pinning the badges on her arm, congratulated Heather and extended her left hand in the Guide greeting.

—Acknowledgments to "The Age."



# PATROL LEADERS' PAGE

## COURT OF HONOUR

Last time we talked about Patrol in Council. Another important duty and privilege that you have is your membership of the Court of Honour. A Guide Company cannot run properly without a regular meeting of the Court of Honour, which is its executive committee: that is, the body responsible for seeing that the running of the Company is satisfactory to all its members.

The Court of Honour is made up of the Captain and Lieutenants and the Patrol Leaders, with the Patrol Seconds invited on special occasions. Have you ever read the section in the Guide Book of Rules that deals with the Court of Honour? It is the business of the Court of Honour to discuss all matters concerned with the running of the Company—camps, hikes, outings, parties, etc., and to decide just how they are to be run. Court of Honour should also make the decisions about the spending of Company funds. It discusses any problems or matters of Company discipline that crop up; and, lastly, there is the important responsibility of recommending whether a Guide should be passed on the final stage of her Second or First Class, the Promise section.

To do all these things properly, you will realise that the Court of Honour needs to be a properly-run meeting. We will discuss in detail some of the particular aspects of running the Court of Honour.

### The Agenda.

When we discussed Patrol in Council, this was mentioned, so let us take it first. The list of matters to be considered is called the Agenda, and this is always sent out some time before a committee meeting. As well as the business arising from the previous meeting and the P.L.'s reports and Patrol requests, such matters as the plans for a Company hike may appear on the agenda. It is obvious that the P.L.'s need to know of such things before the meeting, so that they may discuss them with their Patrols and come ready to express the opinions of their Patrols at the meeting.

Next month we will look at a typical agenda paper and see how the meeting is conducted and the business of the meeting recorded.

## Recipes.

Last year, in the Patrol Challenge, you had a "cook out," and some of you invented new recipes and sent them to us. It is hiking time again, so you may like to try some of them.

**Apple Dumpling.**—Peel and core an apple, then cover it with damper. Take a tin with a lid and punch a hole in the bottom and in the lid. Put the apple in the tin, with a green stick threaded through the hole in the lid, the apple and the hole in the bottom. Place tin in the hot coals. It will act like an oven, and the apple will cook nicely. (Waratah, 8th Ballarat.)

**Cheese Potatoes.**—Bake potatoes in the ashes. Cut the potatoes in half and scoop out the middle, refilling with grated cheese. Return the potatoes to the side of the fire to heat the cheese thoroughly. (Skylark, 1st Rosebud.)

**Baked Fish.**—Wrap fish, seasoned with pepper and salt, in wet greaseproof paper and several layers of wet newspaper or brown paper, and bake in the ashes. This method of cooking is probably well known to many of you for baked apples or steak and onions, but it did seem worth repeating here in this new adaption. (Thistle, 1st Belgrave.)

**Something for Your Patrol Box.**—Perhaps one of your most difficult tasks as a Patrol Leader is to make the Law and Promise "come alive" for your Recruit, and then to help her to "grow in understanding" as she progresses to Second and First Class.

A Promise and Law Scrapbook is a useful Patrol possession. Members of the Patrol (including Recruits) collect stories or pictures that tell of people doing their duty to God, or the Queen, or keeping one of the Laws. If the Patrol approves, the cutting, story or picture is added to the scrapbook. A good way to make your book is to adopt the loose-leaf principle, by covering two pieces of stiff cardboard with decorative paper. Punch two holes in one side of each board and thread cord or ribbon through the holes. Your sheets of paper are punched in the same way and threaded on to strings. In this way you can add more pages as you need them, having lined sheets for writing, coloured sheets for mounting pictures, and drawing paper for original illustrations. (Continued on page 12.)



## AN OVERNIGHT HIKE

By LEONORE WILLS.

Have you ever tried an "Overnight Hike" in the true sense of the word? We hadn't! After the fun of the Adventure Camp organised by the Ranger Committee, it was decided by a group of ten Land and Sea Rangers to attempt a similar hike with packs.

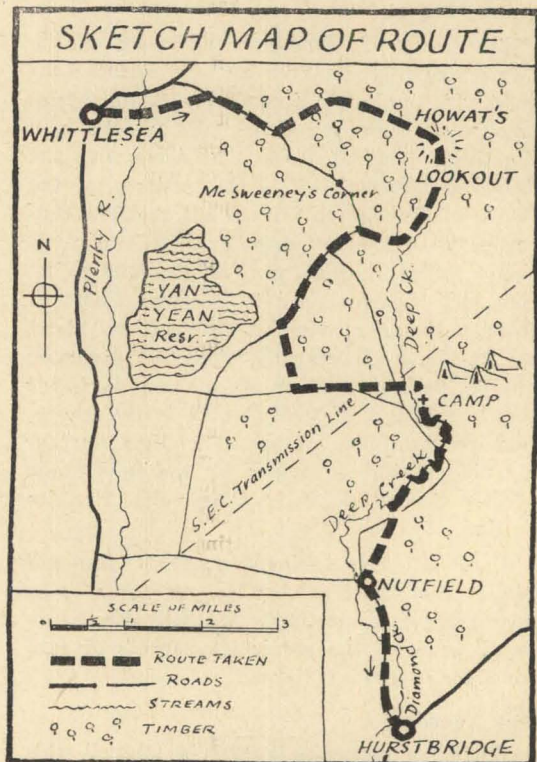
After a couple of short meetings, our plans were clarified—menus arranged, a rough idea gained of what "community" kit each hiker would carry, and the route planned from an Army Ordnance Camp of the Yan Yan district (scale, 1 inch to 1 mile).

In making out the menus, it was essential to keep in mind that our food must be the type that would replenish the energy we would use, so our larder was well stocked with fats and sugars; we were sorry we had not included sultanas and raisins.

In stowing our kit we strove to keep our packs to the minimum weight of 25 lbs. apiece, so that most of us left behind an extra jumper and a second pair of woollen socks. In spite of our efforts, one pack weighed 42 lbs.! This was mainly due to a heavy type of sleeping bag and a hasty, last-minute assembly of personal kit, but its carrier was a very strong girl, and, of course, her pack was on a frame. When asked if the weight was too great, her reply was "it was an experience"! However, no other pack weighed more than 32 lbs. (inclusive of frame), and the lightest at 27 lbs. was carried quite happily without a frame.

(Note by Page Editor—It is advisable for a girl to have a frame for any pack over 20 lbs.)

We planned to leave Melbourne by a 7.15 a.m. train to Whittlesea on a September Saturday, to walk from Whittlesea east to Howat's Lookout, and then south to Hurstbridge to catch the 5.10 p.m. return train on



Sunday. Most of our route would take us across country, with compass bearing as our only guide, but part of it was on the roads and part on tracks—if they happened to go in a direction that suited us!

Arrived at Whittlesea on that September Saturday, we took our bearing across the golf course for the timbered area of Howat's Lookout. By mid-morning we were in an excellent position overlooking the Yan Yean, and we stopped to eat some fruit. According to plan, we reached Howat's Lookout for lunch. We were now 1691 feet above sea level, having climbed for 650 feet, and had a glorious view over the surrounding countryside. Lunch

finished, once again we took our bearings, now directed south towards Hurstbridge. The compass direction indicated that we would pass close to a house which we used as a landmark; but, as the descent from Howat's Lookout was very rapid (about 1200 feet in a mile) and the trees and folds of the ground often blocked our view of the house, it was necessary to check our bearings every few hundred yards.

Having descended the hill, we came to a road, which we followed for a while, till we realised we had missed the turn-off of a smaller road, which would have led us back to Deep Creek, where we had planned to spend the night. We were rather off course, and it was getting late, so we studied the map and took a new bearing. We got on to another road, which led us almost to Deep Creek, and there, with half an hour left of daylight, we found a suitable camping spot. After consulting the owners, we set up camp and prepared dinner. We went to bed early, and more than one of us regretted that extra woollie we had so ruthlessly discarded because it weighed ten ounces. The night air in September can be very cold.

Next day we decided to follow the Deep Creek for as long as possible, for it would ultimately take us to Hurstbridge. We walked in the creek bed (there was only a tiny trickle of water in the middle), and realised the error of our ways in omitting that second pair of woollen socks. Two pairs of woollen socks inside heavy walking shoes would probably have prevented those blisters, and would have made the going much easier on the rocky creek bed.

After a while we decided to leave the creek, and took a compass bearing for a short cut to Nutfield (Linton's Bridge). Here we discovered that the trickling creek, along the bed of which we had been walking only an hour earlier, had turned into the very swift Diamond Creek. From there we followed the road into Hurstbridge, arriving with twenty minutes to spare before our train was due to leave.

On going over the route, we found we had hiked a total of twenty miles, fifteen across beautiful timbered country and approximately five miles by road. We all agreed we had shared an experience that will never be forgotten, and hope that, in the near future, we can pass on to our Companies and Crews just what we learnt from our experiment.

## RANGERS, YOUR HINTS AND CAMP RECIPES WANTED

Some of you have probably worked out some particular ideas for saving weight in hiking kit. You may have some unusual and exciting hike or camp recipes, or you may have hints on other aspects of Rangering that many Rangers would like to know about. Write and let us publish them in these pages. Of course, your tips and recipes must be ones that you have tried out and found good, and the recipes must be **unusual**, not the ordinary kabob, etc., etc. With your co-operation we could include a hint or recipe each month. Just write to the Guide Office, but mark the envelope "Ranger Page," so that it goes directly to the people concerned.

## RANGERS SING

At last our hoped-for permits are coming through, and we plan to publish one song or hymn each month until the end of the year.

"Jacob's Ladder" is a negro spiritual. It is very easy to pick up the melody and rhythm, but the second part needs to be learnt, too, so that the value of the harmonies comes out. It is a happy spiritual, and should not be taken too slowly, but neither should it be jazzed up. Be careful not to swoop the intervals, but step round them cleanly.

From "A Book of Negro Songs," reprinted in "Matilda" by permission of Janet E. Tobitt, music consultant to the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.

1. We are climbing Jacob's ladder,  
We are climbing Jacob's ladder,  
We are climbing Jacob's ladder,  
Soldiers of the cross.
2. Ev'ry round goes higher, higher.
3. Sinner, do you love my Jesus?
4. If you love Him, why not serve Him?
5. Rise—Shine—Give God glory!
6. We are climbing higher, higher.

**JACOB'S LADDER** *Negro Spiritual*

We are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, We are  
climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, We are climb-ing  
Ja-cob's lad-der, Sol-diers of the cross

## THE OLYMPIC YEAR PATROL CHALLENGE

### PART II.

1. Miniature Olympics—Find your Champion!

(a) Javelin Throwing.—See who can throw the “javelin” the furthest (Olympic style, please!) using a match as the “javelin.”

(b) 100 Yards Open Breaststroke.—Race your Patrol the length of your hall. Competitors may put one foot only “on the bottom.” The result will be the appearance of a hopping race, the arms moving as in the breaststroke.

2. Some of our visitors will come from Switzerland, a country renowned for mountain rescue work.

(a) Your Patrol is called out for rescue work. Rope yourselves together, making sure that everyone uses a suitable knot, which she ties herself. (We suggest a bowline or double overhand at each end, and double overhands in the middle. Do you know why?)

(b) Improvise a stretcher to carry your patient (one of your Patrol) back down the mountain track to your village, a hazardous journey. (This means carrying your stretcher up and down steps or stairs, or over two forms or appropriate furniture.) Are you still roped together?

(c) On arrival at your village, take your patient to the doctor (Captain), who will make sure your patient has been properly treated for shock.

**Note.**—Part I of this Challenge appeared in May “Matilda,” and copies of it can be obtained from the Guide Adviser, c/o Headquarters. There is still time for Patrols to enter for the Challenge if they wish to.

P. BARR, Guide Adviser.

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### PATROL LEADERS' PAGE (from page 9.)

**The Lone Wolf Trail.**—How many of you know this book? Every P.L. should have a copy, so get one now, either for yourself or for the Patrol Box. It is a book written especially for P.L.s, and is full of ideas for teaching and practising test work, games to play in Patrol Time and exciting outdoor activities. Available at H.Q. Shop. Price, 3/-.

## THE WAY OF THE BROWNIES

### THE STORY OF THE REVELS.

At Orthopaedic Hospital, Frankston,  
April, 1955.

Picture 15.

The Revels were arranged by the Mornington Peninsula Division, and the Packs which took part were Rye, Sorrento, Rosebud, Dromana, Flinders, Moorooduc and Mornington—approximately 120 Brownies.

We called them “Wonderland” Revels, and Alice sent out the invitations to each Pack in “looking-glass” writing. When the Brownies were assembled, the Frog Footman gave each one a tablet to grow smaller. The White Rabbit distributed cards with pictures of Pig Baby, Watch, Cheshire Cat, Caterpillar, etc., and these divided the Brownies into groups for games. As they came through the doorway, a model of the Brownie Cottage was ready to hold the 6d. each Brownie had brought. An hour was spent playing games in groups taken by the various Guiders, who were dressed up as Alice, Mad Hatter, White Rabbit, Frog Footman, etc. Then followed afternoon tea and a story. The picture was taken at story time. Then Fairy Ring and a Grand Salute to our Division Commissioner, Mrs. Jane, who was meeting the Brownies for the first time. After going through the doorway again, each Brownie ate another biscuit to return to her original size as she went home.

I think there were ten Brownies at the Orthopaedic Hospital at that particular time. They were all on trolleys, and we were able to move them from group to group, and they joined in the games where possible. At that time there were three spinal cases, which meant that they were flat on their backs. The Brownie in the pram in foreground on the right is Desma Milros, who had both legs burn in a fire in Greece, and has now learnt to walk with two artificial legs. There was a big write-up in the paper—you may have seen it. Unfortunately, she seems to have dropped out of Brownies. At least two of those in the picture have joined up with active Brownies and two with Post Brownies.

—GWEN BUCKLAND.

\* \* \* \*

“We can expect all from Christ when we have given all to Him.”

## GUIDES' OWN IN THE BUSH

N. Kirsner.

As I was driven the three miles along the Walhalla Road, Mrs. Staff, the District Commissioner for Moe, pointed out to me with pride the wooden notices nailed below the fingerposts at every road junction. On them, in white chalk, was printed in large letters "To Guides' Own." This was to direct the bus-loads of Guides coming from the Central Gippsland Division, from Moe, Morwell, Traralgon, Yallourn, Herne's Oak, Newborough, Tragalgar and Yarragon to the paddock on Mrs. Staff's farm.

When we reached the farmhouse, we left the car, and, with other Commissioners, climbed into the farm utility and bumped a further half-mile across the paddocks to the spot chosen for the Guides' Own. About 150 Guides were already there, their blue uniforms a bright spot among the green grass and trees close by the river.

The World Flag was already flying, an emergency tent pitched, and the Guides were chatting in District or Company groups.

Soon after our arrival the girls formed a horseshoe with the World Flag at the open end and the Commissioners alongside. The service commenced with "God Save the Queen," then with the opening prayer:

"The Lord thy God, walketh in the midst of thy camp; therefore shall thy camp be holy, that He see no unclean thing in thee."

Some of the following prayers were read by a Guider, and the Bible reading by the only Queen's Guide in the Division, Janet Apps of Yallourn.

It was my privilege to arrange this service, and at the request of Mrs. Staff to address the Guides on the dual subjects of "Thinking Day" (which was three days previously) and "What is a Guides' Own?" as she knew that few of the girls had ever attended one before. The blending of these two ideas into a theme on the far-reaching importance of the 4th Guide Law formed the basis of the address. As I spoke to the girls, they sat in the mild sunshine, with a soft breeze carrying my words toward them, the tree behind me gently moving, the sky clearing from a cloudy morning. It was a perfect setting for a Guides'

Own, and every child appeared to take her part, singing with joy and conscious of the presence of God in the beauty of the countryside around us.

After the service the Guiders went back to their groups, and while they munched light refreshments, I wandered from group to group, chatting to the Guiders and Guides. I learnt of the mixed nationalities of the Newborough Company, of the pride of Yallourn in their Queen's Guide, and of the keenness of all of them. As the Guides had been promised a swim, soon a queue formed, and, when ready, wended its way for three-quarters of a mile across the paddocks to a safe bend in the river. As they went off with their lifesavers, billy tea arrived for us Guiders, and we sat in a merry group exchanging experiences and anecdotes, until it was time for Mrs. Staff to lead me back across the fields, this time on foot, to her car, thence back to Moe.

The bathing parade was followed by a camp fire, and then the return journey by bus to their respective Districts.

To take a part in such an occasion was a privilege and a moving experience, giving one a true feeling of the unity of our purpose in Guiding.

\* \* \* \*

### MISS GWEN HESKETH

Miss Hesketh arrived back in Australia in the middle of December, and spent a few days in Sydney on her way back home to Tasmania. Some of us were lucky enough to meet her, and to hear about her six months in Korea, and for those of you who weren't able to meet her, here is an extract from her last letter from Korea:

"We now have 52 Commissioners in Korea. I had a most interesting time in finding and training Commissioners and Guiders. Miss Chung, a young, attractive Guider on the staff at Headquarters, came with me as interpreter. Nobody even in the biggest town had heard of Girl Scouts, and so we had to begin at the very beginning to interest them, then train. Chunjoo was the last town we visited, and now we have 13 Commissioners there."

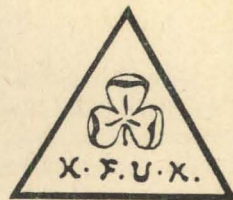
—"The Waratah."

## GOLD TREFOIL, BLUE TRIANGLE, RED CROSS



These two Badges, Y.W.C.A. Girl Guides of Denmark and Norway (K.F.U.K.) are a sign of the way the two Associations are inter-related in several countries of Europe. Wherever this occurs, the national Guide Association and the Y.W.C.A. Guides and any other recognised ones there may be, form a joint National Committee for united purposes and World Association membership.

Miss Margaret Moore, of the Girl Guide State Council of Victoria, in herself represents inter-relation of three great Associations.



How would you like to be introduced to the Queen, and have afternoon tea with her, and on the way to England and the Queen, to fly into Athens, visit Delphi and the Argos, with its wealth of historic places? These are some of the things Miss Moore told us about when she gave a report on her recent trip at the meeting of the State Council.

Miss Moore has been an indefatigable voluntary worker for many years, for Girl Guides, Red Cross and Y.W.C.A., in which she is a member of the National Council for Australia. She told us how in Greece she was able to enjoy meeting the members of these organisations, and how sometimes they were inter-related, especially where Y.W.C.A. groups find keen Girl Guide Leaders.

Miss Moore was immensely impressed with the amount of voluntary service given by the women of Greece to their own people. She found this very heartening, for Greece has suffered so many tragedies that it is good to know so much is being done within the country itself, as well as from outside. She visited the new Y.W.C.A. building which has been financed from the Queen's Fund. The Queen of Greece, with a committee to help her, administers a fund which comes from a tax on entertainments. The committee decides which worthy cause in turn shall benefit.

The Y.W.C.A. does much educational work and is responsible for the only School of Social Studies in Greece. The Red Cross is responsible for the standard of nursing throughout Greece, and runs three hospitals.

Tourist arrangements are well organised; the conductors of two trips were women. They were really interested in their subjects and enjoyed telling of them, and one gave her time free as a patriotic gesture.

In London Miss Moore attended the Ranger Pageant opened by Princess Margaret. She

arrived just on time, and had to run the gauntlet of the Guard of Honour. Our Chief Ranger looked very charming in her uniform, and took a great interest in the displays of the three branches of Rangering—Sea, Land and Air.

The Annual Council Meeting at St. James' Palace, presided over by the Princess Royal, was a very august affair; the number of silver cords and silver cockades was almost overwhelming. At the end of the meeting, moving to the courtyard, the Princess "opened," if that is the term, the new mobile training van. The Princess herself said that she did not know how you described the ceremony for such an occasion. Very appropriate, now that Victoria has her own mobile training van.

Miss Moore often visited Miss Barfus at "Our Ark," and told us of the inspiration of the service offered by the people in that remarkable hostel, where Guides of all nationalities come to stay. On the mantelpiece of the dining-room there is a stand of miniature National Flags, which are changed according to the peoples in the house. "Our Ark" is really two old houses of the time of Queen Anne. In her reign her ladies-in-waiting lived in them.

At the Y.W.C.A. World Council Meeting Dame Leslie Whately, Director of the World Bureau of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, came down especially to visit Miss Sylvia Vispaa, previously Chairman of the Guide World Executive Committee, and Y.W.C.A. General Secretary of Finland. While there Dame Leslie was able to meet a great number of Y.W.C.A. delegates who are also active in Guiding.

The climax of the trip came just before leaving England, when, with the National Council of the Y.W.C.A. of Great Britain. Miss Moore was invited to Buckingham Palace

(Continued next page.)

## GUIDES OF AUSTRALIA

International Camp, W.A., 1950

### OLD FRIENDS IN MALAYA

Guiders and Guides who camped with the Malayan Guides during their visit to Western Australia in 1950 will be pleased to hear that Mrs. A. G. Kirkwood met most of the Singapore Contingent during a visit to Singapore recently. They are all well and are still interested in active Guiding. Helene Chiang and Seoh Seoh are preparing for the Guide Training Certificate (Blue Ribbon); Miss Lee Kim Toh is now Mrs. Tan and has a dear little daughter named Vicki; Marhamah (of Saucer Dance fame) is as lovely as ever. She also has a small child. Nancy Chong is working in an office and Jacqueline McGeikie was in the throes of her final examination as a teacher. Miss Kirkwood did not see Jumilah, but was told she is also married, with a small family.

They all wished to be remembered to their various friends in Western Australia.

—From "W.A.G.G. Courier," March, 1956.

Note.—This camp was the first International Camp to be held in Australia.

The ship that carried the Guides from countries of Asia came into Fremantle harbour with the Guide World Flag flying from the mast. The Guide Camp was only one part of the visit. Groups were entertained in private homes as far apart as Albany and Busselton and other inland towns, and spent several days in Perth as well.

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(Continued from page 14.)

for afternoon tea with the Queen. The Queen was very interested to meet Australians and to hear about Australia. It is a great strength to us to know how close to us Her Majesty feels.

The whole trip was one which served to make one rejoice again in the fellowship which is Guiding, and in the link of service through the great associations which unite so many different people, separated by such vast distances, into so close kinship.

## HITHER and YON

Miss Greta Roach was at the party for Mrs. Means. It seemed a long time since we had seen her, for she had just returned from two months' Brownie training in New South Wales—"not quite as far as Bourke," but a long way inland and in the Riverina and North to Lismore. And the country of the floods? Folk are wonderful, but their lives are geared to the thought that the floods may come again.

As they make their homes livable (once more, they do not buy fixed carpets—only rugs. Beds are of chromium, which will not rot nor rust; all new building in Maitland is high up on the hill. . . .

Her visit to Grafton recalled the Jacaranda Festival, and we remembered the time about three years ago when the Guides of Greece asked for a dance from Australia that they could learn for Thinking Day.

We sent them the dance of the Jacaranda Festival, and a picture of the avenue in full bloom.

\* \* \* \*

Georgina lives at Daru in Papua. She is a native of the country and she is blind; but she is employed in domestic work and she reads Braille. Books are sent to her regularly from the Braille library in Melbourne.

\* \* \* \*

Mrs. S. McKay has resigned as Convener of the Guide House Committee. Great appreciation was expressed to her for the time she had devoted to Guide House and for her energetic and resourceful and imaginative leadership. Mrs. McKay has accepted the position of Convener of the House Committee for Headquarters.

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations to Miss Venie Harrison, Captain 3rd East Malvern Ranger Coy., and former District Commissioner, on her appointment as President of the Methodist Ladies' College Old Collegians' Association. We wish Miss Harrison a very happy year in this important office.

\* \* \* \*

"We must live by conviction, not by public opinion."—Rev. C. Roberts.



## “DEAR BROWN OWL”

Many of you have watched a Brownie make a salad as part of her First Class Test. But how many of you have seen a salad made from green crepe paper, put on a cardboard plate, and decorated with cut-out slices of tomato, green peas, sweet corn, or anything else suitable that may be found in an old magazine?

This is how a Post Brownie makes a salad. And by making a parcel of it and posting it to Brown Owl, it deals with yet another part of her First Class Test.

Many of the tests have to be adapted to suit a Post Brownie's disability, and even then it can be quite difficult for her.

Not every Post Brownie can reach First Class. Many of them are badly handicapped, and when they do get their First Class Badge you may be sure it has been nothing less than a supreme effort.

Judy was one. Judy got her First Class early this year. After many months in bed it was the first summer that Judy could swim and ride her bright new bike whenever she liked. Even so, she found time to complete her First Class Test.

Last year it was Margaret. She was often very ill. Nevertheless, she got her First Class even though it took many months to complete.

And, maybe, later this year there'll be Margaret Ann. She hasn't the full use of her arms. Nevertheless, Margaret Ann is very keen to get her Brownie Wings, and so fly up to Guides like the other two.

Both Second and First Class Tests take a Post Brownie much longer to do than an "active" Brownie. Even so, these tests are always a game. And each Brownie knows that it is up to herself to play it well.

Post Brownies have one meeting every month. The "meeting" is sent through the post in the form of a Budget—one goes to each child.

The Budget is like a small magazine. It is illustrated and crammed full with all the many things Brownies like to do. Games and test work are kept to a suitable size, and so, when completed, it is easy for the Brownie to post it back to Brown Owl.

Often an enrolment of a Post Brownie will take place at her home. Sometimes it is combined with a birthday party, and is a gay affair. Otherwise, with doctor's orders, it has to be very quiet, with only the parents and Brown Owl. Nevertheless it is made a memorable day for the child.

The enrolment of a Post Brownie in the country is handled by the Brown Owl of a Pack nearest to the child. And often she is taken to the Pack meeting for this great moment.

Whenever possible, a Post Brownie is encouraged to attend an active Pack meeting. This gives her a deeper understanding of the Brownie world. She learns to feel and to know the companionship of other Brownies.

And she finds also that she is not the only one with a strong sense of magic—the magic of "make-believe" that can be found only in a Brownie Pack.

And often this same magic will find its way into Brownie letters. In a Post Pack the letters are the most important thing. Sometimes they arrive promptly. Then again they may take weeks. Nevertheless, the letters come.

And it is then the words "Dear Brown Owl" become very familiar and the most loved phrase of any to a Post Brown Owl.

NELL HUTTON.



## EDITOR'S MAIL BAG

Dear "Matilda,"

Re "Youth Movement's" question of holding the 16-year-old girl till she is old enough to train as a Lieutenant. Is it necessary to hold the potential Guider during that time? Admittedly, in an absence of two years she would have developed other interests, but that would make her so much more desirable as a Guider, and, if she is really interested in Guiding, there should not be great difficulty in getting her back. In any case, one could always keep in touch with ex-Guides (potential Guiders) by asking them to Company hikes as a group, to help at a particular function, and ex-Guides are invaluable for laying trails or other preparations for wide games.

I agree with Youth Movement that 16-year-olds should not be shielded from responsibility, but it's a matter of how much responsibility. No girl under 18 years is competent to share with the Captain the responsibilities of running a Company. I have heard of a Company run by a 17-year-old Lieutenant acting as Captain, but that does not nullify my previous comment. No Commissioner should permit it; it is not fair to the girl herself, however willing or able she may be; it's not fair to the Guides; it's not fair to the parents; and it's not fair to the Movement as a whole. Of course, such a thing has occurred, because we are all so obsessed with numbers. We must keep up the number of Guides in Victoria, in Australia, in the world. It doesn't matter if 80 per cent. of those numbers haven't realised that Guiding is outdoor adventuring and striving all the time for something a little further on. To so many of them Guiding is merely the wearing of a uniform and playing team games in a hall, and even the enrolment is important only because it is the first time she wears her uniform.

How I hate that phrase, "We must keep up our numbers," and all it means in "holding" potential Guiders, failing to close a hopelessly inadequate Company or leaving a good one to the mercies of a youngster.

Yours, etc.,  
EX-GUIDER.

## NEW COMMISSIONERS

Mrs. J. Vaux, D.C., Oakleigh-Chadstone; Mrs. M. Gibson, D.C., Swift's Creek; Mrs. O. Brewster, D.C., Leongatha; Mrs. J. May, extension of term as D.C., Fitzroy; Mrs. J. Philp, D.C., Bairnsdale; Mrs. J. W. Nash, Div. Comm., Western; Mrs. B. Johnston, D.C., Yalourn; Mrs. O. J. Harland, D.C., Malvern; Mrs. J. Jenkins, D.C., Daylesford; Miss M. Beaumont, extension of term as D.C., Parkville-Carlton; Mrs. J. R. Price, D.C., Caulfield.

### Resignations:

Mrs. E. Campbell, D.C., Nyah; Mrs. M. Smallbone, D.C., Sale; Mrs. C. Hutchings, D.C., Stawell; Mrs. McIntosh, D.C., Heyfield; Lady Horwill, D.C., Glen Iris-Ashburton, from May, 1956; Mrs. K. Davidson, Div. Comm., Western Division.

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"It is not enough to hand on to our children the values and ideas which have produced the world of to-day. We must rediscover the sense of personal responsibility for what we do, both as individuals and as a community, and with it that integrity of faith and purpose which alone can support its burdens."

—From "Illustrated London News,"  
5th Nov., 1955, by Sir Arthur Bryant.

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



**COMPACTOID  
first aid kit**

Small, Medium, Large — at THE GUIDE SHOP

## HELPING THE LEADER TO LEAD

The standard of a Guide Company depends, to a very large extent, on the ability of its P.L.'s. These P.L.'s can achieve their best only when given responsibility and the training to take such responsibility. Therefore, although the standard of the Company does depend upon the Guiders too, it depends not so much on what they are giving to the Company as a whole, but on how they are helping and training the P.L.'s to become real leaders.

The P.L.'s in any Company vary from year to year. At times we have girls with great natural ability, and at others those who are very much weaker. But even the weakest of leaders must have some quality or qualification which has made the others choose her for a position of responsibility. It is our job to foster and encourage these latent qualities and to give the new leader more of the necessary qualifications, just as much as it is our job to help the natural leaders to become even more proficient.

It is because each girl's needs vary according to her individual character and ability that it is possible only for a person who knows her well—such as her own Captain or Lieutenant—to give her the particular help she most requires. District or Division P.L.s' Trainings are a great asset, and, by the mere fact of the exchange of ideas and the numbers attending, can be a real inspiration, but are always an addition—and never a substitute—for the training of P.L.'s in their own Company or by their own Guiders. On the other hand, it is possible to get on without District or Division P.L. activities.

There are a number of routine things in which every P.L. in every Company will need help in varying degrees, such as revision of her own test work; how to teach; making test work interesting and exciting for others; how to organise and run Patrol Time (not a very easy task when all members of the Patrol are usually at different stages); how to represent the Patrol—and not herself—at Court of Honour, and how to draw out their ideas at Patrol in Council; organisation of hikes; drill and Patrol equipment. Most leaders need checking from time to time on their own appearance and uniform; help in keeping their roll books correctly; and discussions on coping with difficulties within their own Patrols. Let

us always remember that this P.L. (of whom we are asking such a lot) is still a child, and as such needs help with her own test and badge work. She is a keen Guide, and wants to get on herself, and, as a leader, she should always keep ahead of her Patrol in knowledge.

The vital question is, of course, how are we to fit P.L.s' Training into an already overfull programme of activities? Everyone—Glider and P.L. alike—has interests and responsibilities apart from Guiding. Even in connection with the Company there are, in addition to the ordinary meetings, hikes, camps, Court of Honour, District Guiders' Meetings and the inevitable testing, all to be fitted in somewhere. This time problem is something we have to work out for ourselves according to individual circumstances; but it might be possible to use some of the following suggestions:—

A week-end camp for Leaders is invaluable; apart from ordinary training sessions, the Glider and Leaders really get to know one another and one another's abilities, and so many ideas and confidences can be exchanged over a washing-up dish or during a moonlight or early morning hike.

A P.L.s' hike will, to a lesser degree, achieve the same results.

An extra evening may sometimes be fitted in, or perhaps Lieutenant and the Seconds can run the Company while Captain spends the evening with the Patrol Leaders.

Those Companies who give up one meeting for Court of Honour often find a Leaders' Training can round off the evening.

These are the regular times of training for all P.L.'s, but each individual Leader should feel she is free to go to Captain for extra help and advice in any emergency.

Companies of different types need running in quite different ways, but in all cases the following hints are quite worth remembering:

Patrol Leaders cannot be expected to fill their posts well without help and instruction.

The highest form of leadership consists in keeping in the background yourself, while you draw out the talents of those you wish to lead. Gradually you must get your Leaders to understand leadership in this light also.

(Continued on next page.)

## TRAVELLING COMMISSIONER, PACIFIC AREA



Miss Mildred Mode of U.S.A.

—Block by courtesy of the "Age."

Miss Mildred Mode, Travelling Commissioner, Pacific Area, arrived at her headquarters in Manila, the Philippines, on 29th November. From the end of August until her departure for the Philippines she worked at the World Bureau to familiarise herself with Guide and Girl Scout work as carried out at world level and to learn about the countries she will be visiting. She so became a most valuable member of the World Bureau team, with her quick grasp of essentials, endearing personality and delightful sense of humour.

During her three months in London she was invited by the Girl Guides Association of Great Britain to attend, amongst others, a conference on Overseas Training, and she spent a few days at three of their training centres. Miss Mode was very appreciative of these opportunities and facilities which were afforded to her, since some of the territories in her area are represented in the World Association through Great Britain.

Miss Mode has commenced her tour of duty in New Zealand at the end of December, followed by a month in Australia, and from there she has been invited to go to Borneo. We believe her area covers something like 9000 square miles, comprising Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Australia, New Zealand and islands of the Pacific to mention a few countries by name.

(While in New South Wales Miss Mode attended three Thinking Day Ceremonies, visited Bowral, and was entertained privately by members of Headquarters.)

—From "The Waratah," March, 1956.

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(Continued from previous page.)

Training character is a slow job and needs infinite patience. Don't be disheartened if you have failures at first. They are an essential part of the process.

Never force any change on your Company before the Leaders understand it. It is better to postpone a reform than try to enforce it without the wholehearted co-operation of the Patrol Leaders.

Keep in close touch with your Leaders, and show them that you trust them. Always be ready to give them help when they want it,

but never interfere when they are trying to do things for themselves, or do anything that will undermine their authority with their Patrols.

Have the courage to stand aside and let the Leaders make mistakes. Until they do they will learn nothing. When they do so, be ready to help them to profit by the lesson—without saying "I told you so!"

Remember we cannot set ourselves too high a standard in anything we do; and it is those who expect a lot of their Guides who get a lot from them.

"TUL-KARA."

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## YOUR BANK IS THE STATE SAVINGS BANK

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**Every mother should encourage her child to open a State Savings Bank Account . . . .**

Children are naturally eager for responsibility, eager to imitate Mum and Dad, and the most thrilling way to teach them thrift is to encourage them to have their own State Savings Bank Account. Teach them to "save up" for that new tennis racquet, bicycle or whatever it is they have set their minds on.



**Be Thrifty Today and Secure Tomorrow!**

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