

AK 5/5/67
The Government of Victoria gave a reception at Parliament House yesterday afternoon in honor of Olave, The Lady Baden-Powell, when about 500 guests were present.

The Deputy Premier (Mr. Rylah) and Mrs. Rylah entered Queen's Hall with the guest of honor. Some others with them were the Lieutenant-Governor (Sir Edmund Herring) and Dame Mary Herring, the Chief Justice of Victoria (Sir Henry Winneke) and Lady Winneke, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress (Cr. and Mrs. Ian Beaurepaire), Mrs. J. E. Price, Mr. and Mrs. R. Risson and Mrs. R. A. Buntine.

The Minister for Fuel and Power (Mr. Reid) was present with Mrs. Reid. Mrs. Reid was in a dress and coat of magenta, deep green, blue and black patterned chiffon.

Mrs. C. O. Fairbairn was present with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Russell, of Beaufort. Mrs. Russell topped a peacock-green and white silk frock with a straight coat of peacock-green Thai silk.

Lady Angliss wore a coat of cerise silk and wool, and her small Breton hat was of navy blue lacy straw.

A high, back-waisted coat of currant-red Thai silk was chosen by Mrs. Tom Ramsay to match her felt helmet.

Mrs. Frank Woods and Mrs. J. R. Darling arrived together.

The guests included members of the State council and members of the State executive of the Girl Guides' Association of Victoria.

AK 5/5/67 In honor of Lady B-P

THE Governor of Victoria, Sir Rohan Delacombe, and Lady Delacombe will be hosts to more than 100 guests at an afternoon party in the State drawing-room of Government House late today, in honor of Lady Baden-Powell.

Guests will include the Victorian State Commissioner of the Girl Guides' Association, Mrs. J. R. Price, and Dr Price, assistant State Commissioners, Mrs R. E. Gray and Mrs Osborn Shave, president of the Australian Boy Scouts' Association, Lt.-Gen. Sir Edmund Herring, and Lady Herring, the chief Boy Scouts' Commissioner for Victoria, Mr R. W. McKellar and Mrs McKellar, and Sir Edgar and Lady Coles.

BROWNIES

AK 29/4/67
AID

CHIEF GUIDE

Dozens of tiny Brownies whisked the luggage of Lady Baden-Powell, World Chief Guide, away from waiting Customs officials at Essendon Airport yesterday.

"When I see my family of brownies and guides I simply gravitate towards them," said Lady Baden-Powell as she dropped her baggage to greet the milling crowd of brown and blue uniforms.

Customs officials hastened to escort the brownies as they conscientiously carried the luggage through the correct channels.

Lady Baden-Powell, who says she is 78 and proud of it, is making her fifth visit to Australia since her involvement with the guide and scout movement in 1914.

"I have a foot in both camps," she explained as a number of scouts moved forward to welcome her.

The purpose of her visit, she said, with a smile, was to "put oomph into the Australian girl guide movement," and to meet both the new generation of brownies and guides and the men and women who had built up the movement in Australia. Her last visit was in 1958.

AK 4/5/67 Lady B-P

When the child Olave St. Clair Soames walked by the hedgerows of rural Dorset at the turn of the century, she little dreamed that nearly 70 years later she would be one of the world's globe-trotting jet-set.

Now as Lady Baden-Powell, 78, world chief guide, and vice-president of World Scouting, she has the freedom of many cities and has been honored by dozens of nations, from Sweden to Japan.

On her fifth visit to Melbourne this week, she showed herself still erect and enthusiastic.

Her brown eyes flash when she talks about the world-wide success of the scout movement, and roll heavenwards when she speaks of scouting as a "great force of good in a world full of evil."

Her vast "family" of guides and scouts call her Lady B-P. She pronounces it Baden-POOLE. She used to call herself their "mother." Now she says "grand-mother."

It all began in 1912. Her father took her on a cruise to the West Indies.

"The only interesting person on board," she wrote to her mother, "is General Baden-Powell, the scout man." By the time they reached Jamaica she and the scout man were engaged. They were married the following October.

Lord Baden-Powell, hero of the South African War, died at his second home in Kenya in 1941, a few weeks before his 84th birthday.

Until the end of the war, Lady Baden-Powell confined her travels to the British Isles. But on St. George's Day, 1945, she was in Paris to attend the scout and guide celebrations of the liberation of Paris, and by the end of that year had visited 16 European countries.

She is speaking the truth when she says that wherever she goes she is greeted by throngs of Brownies "with shining eyes and little arms outstretched."

Angela O'Connor



Lady Baden-Powell