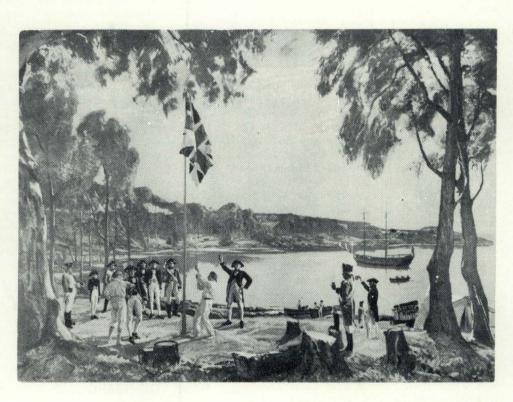
MATILDA

Vol. 43-No. 7

JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1966



-Block by courtesy of "The Good Neighbour".

THE FOUNDING OF AUSTRALIA

Painting by ALGERNON TALMAGE

FROM THE STATE COMMISSIONER

1st Nov.: The culmination of months of co-operative effort under the leadership of Mrs. N. E. Richards, of our State Council. and her Committee - a most successful Book Fair. In all corners of the State you gathered together books that could be spared, they were transported free of cost by the Victorian Railways through the good offices of the Honourable the Treasurer, they were collected and sorted and priced under our new roof, 14 Russell Street, over many hours by many hands, and finally assembled on this day in the Lower Melbourne Town Hall. They were sold to a large and appreciative buying public to our mutual satisfaction and to the gain to our Appeal Fund of approximately £1000. Congratulations on vet another shining example of happy hardworking co-operation by our own members and the friends who joined them to help us.

5th and 10th: Meetings with Advisers and Region Commissioners were both of great interest and importance.

6th: An historic occasion — the opening of the Senior Branch Sailing School at Sandringham. Congratulations to the whole Senior Branch and its Adviser, Mrs. A. G. Rylah, on achieving this possession that will give so much in fun, training and the fostering of friendships to countless numbers of girls and congratulations to the Committee on the ship-shape condition of the building and on the excellence of their arrangements for the opening.

I had the most exciting privilege of christening the Heron yacht — naming her, as was chosen most appropriately, "Annrylah".

15th: The Lady Mayoress, Mrs. Ian Beaurepaire, graciously received our call.

16th: Miss Peg. Barr set off on her flight to Thailand, where she will spend six weeks' training on behalf of the World Association.

18th: Another successful appeal function arranged on behalf of the State Council by Mrs. R. Renshaw Jones and her Committee — a card party in the Australian-American Centre.

22nd: A morning coffee party with a difference in our own Training Room — Mrs. R. E. Gregory and Mrs. C. Osbourn Shave provided a meat expert as guest speaker, to our own and our families' future, as well as to the immediate benefit of the appeal.

This was followed by a buffet luncheon with Mrs. R. D. H. Townsend and her Commissioners of the West Metropolitan Region, whom we were delighted to have arrange their end-of-year "get-together" at Headquarters.

24th: Mrs. Richards kindly invited me to the delightful coffee party that she gave in the Executive Room to thank her helpers with the Book Fair. It was a pleasant, intimate opportunity to thank everyone, and particularly Mrs. Richards, for leading this tremendous effort on behalf of the Association also.

24th-29th: During a short visit to Adelaide, for personal reasons, I was able to speak to their State Commissioner, Mrs. Black; State Secretary, Miss Muir; and our ex-Victorian friend, Miss Shirley Long, now on the South Australian Headquarters staff.

30th: This end of the year is certainly hard on the diet! Mrs. S. McKay and her Public Relations Sub-Committee gave a truly magnificent luncheon party in the Training Room to enable us to thank Press, Radio and T.V. representatives, as well as our own representatives to other organisations and voluntary helpers in the many aspects of Public Relations work, for all their help during this particularly busy appeal year. Thank YOU, Public Relations, for this opportunity, which was exemplary of the excellent job you do continually for the Association.

And now, as 1965 enters its final month, it is time for me to look ahead and wish you well for the New Year of Guiding that will have begun when this number of "Matilda" reaches you.

Joyce E. Price

HAVE YOU HEARD . . .?

That "Matilda" has been forced to follow the upward trend? From May, 1966, **THE SUBSCRIPTION FOR "MATILDA" WILL BE** \$1.50 **PER ANNUM.** Individual copies will cost 15c.

This increase is regretted, but we are sure you will all realise the necessity for it.

MATILDA

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RABBI H. M. SANGER

Talk given at the Annual Meeting, Girl Guides Association, Victoria, 1965

A well-known archaeologist (C. W. Ceram) explained some of his principal ideas in a booklet which he called "Yestermorrow". Yesterday is gone, tomorrow is approaching fast, and today—even as we think about it—is becoming yesterday.

The future begins today. I would like to talk a little to you about ourselves, as yesterday's Australians, who grew up in yesterday's conditions, and are concerned with tomorrow's citizens of this wonderful country. We all know what this Girl Guide Movement is meant to do — equip the people who will be tomorrow's citizens with skills, fitness, intelligence and character — and if they experience and practise comradeship and service amongst themselves, this is education at its best.

Education has a threefold purpose — for living, for understanding and for participation.

Education for Living

We all have a rather guilty conscience when we think of the world we have helped to create. However, we may teach some of the lessons about living we have learnt.

The Headmaster of a great school recently had the clever idea to get some of his former graduates together after 25 years and ask them, "What do you wish you had known when you were young, in your teens?" One said, "I wish I had known how hard it is to change my habits once they were formed, for then I would have been more careful about those I did form." Another said, "I

wish I had known that all worthwhile things require time, patience and hard work. I used to believe in lucky breaks, to hope for the chance that comes if you wait long enough, but now I know that opportunity comes to those who are prepared for it, or at least prepared to make the most of it by a well-rounded education." Another said, "I wish I had known more about the law of reciprocity. You do reap what you sow, in life as in agriculture. I wish I had known that there can be no friendship without knowing how to be a friend, that you cannot hold responsibility without having earned it by service." Another said, "I wish I had known that my parents were not nearly so foolish as I thought." This last is something many of us have experienced ourselves, but how many of us are quite aware that our parents really did have often the same prob-Iems as we face? Do we realise that those who grew up during the First World War. became adults in the world of the First World War, are very little different from those who grew up during the Second World War and had to do the same things all over again.

One's parents are not as different from one as one fondly imagines. I appeal to those of you who are parents — we should help our young people growing up now, and stop them running around demanding to be understood, automatically suspecting that they are misunderstood, that they are outsiders, onlookers, condemned to be drifting on through life (although a good many do that). It is true we are only young once, but we can remain immature indefinitely.

This Movement has so much to offer. There is only one alternative to irresponsibility, and that is to be responsible, to accept one's duties - "the duty to God and the duty to the Queen". We are all under orders, no matter how old we are or how high we advance. Scientists, technicians, business men, etc., we are all under orders. we must all do our best because we know that thereby we are making the best of ourselves. This is not just part of the Guide Promise, but one of the questions of the day; training in excellence is one of the demands of our age. Computers and machines are learning to do the ordinary work of many people, and the future belongs only to those who are highly trained and versatile. The apple on the tree can ripen by itself, but a human being has to reach maturity by some effort.

There was a young artist aged 27, who had just completed his first work. It attracted much attention. A journalist asked him how long it had taken him to paint the picture. The artist said, "Twenty-seven years. Every day I have lived, everything I have ever learned, was the preparation for this work."

Effort goes into every achievement, and that is perhaps the best we can teach about preparation for living.

Education for Understanding

Napoleon was once showing a noblewoman over one of his palaces when an old man, carrying a heavy load, approached the door. The Emperor drew the lady aside and said to her, "Respect the burden". This is something that needs to be learned by everyone.

There is a burden that parents bear. Parents would like to do everything they can for their children, but sometimes are unable to do it. They need the understanding of their children for the burden they bear. There is a burden that teachers bear. Teachers are one of the most taken-forgranted sections of the community, among the least paid and the lowest privileged, vet they are the people who prepare the citizens who will be this country's nation tomorrow. There are burdens that other people bear anonymous people, old people whose lot has never been so important as today, because we have inherited from medicine and social services the dubious gift that nearly all of us

live longer than our grandparents. There is a burden in old age, and this is something for young people to know about, to respect the burden of old age. I see far too few young people entering old people's homes to entertain them, being concerned with older people, with pensioners and their often miserable existence, taking them for drives and outings.

The Girl Guide and Boy Scout Movements are amongst the most international Movements. We should be at least among those who have understanding for new settlers, for those who find it difficult to speak a new language overnight, or to accustom themselves to new ways at once. There are many ways of helping and befriending these people. Never say, "Let George do it", or "Let the State look after them". That is both immoral and irresponsible.

You profess that you want to help other people at all times, and I have just given you a few cases where that little voluntary additional effort can take the rough edges out of living. We must also have understanding for those who are different — in background, race or religion. Understanding people who are different is the world's only hope for the future. If only we can learn in time, before we all go up in steam, that "he who needs me is my neighbour". Try to understand that.

Education is, lastly, preparation for participation

I should not talk about this here, because you do participate - in so many things, from the collecting of litter to all the many other collections and citizenship efforts in which you participate so wonderfully and enthusiastically. However, there is something general to be said. We must teach our young people that all society is just participation. The whole of citizenship is just participation. There are the "loners" in every society: sometimes the handicapped, sometimes the geniuses, occasionally the criminals and very frequently social misfits. It is our task to bring participation to them. Your Movement can teach it because it is based on team work, and today team work is everywhere — in research, industry and commerce, even in space exploration, which is team work par excellence. But beyond team work, society is based on the law. The difference between civilisation and the jungle is just the law. You have the Guide Law, by which your Movement stands and falls, and you know therefore that there must be a law. Always influence young people in this direction and emphasise that laws are necessary. Don't say the easy phrase, "We don't believe any longer in black and white". Then what do we believe in? A muddy, slushy grey that everything fits into? Then morals don't mean anything! But a world where laws are obeyed, that is a world that is safe, just as traffic only becomes safe when traffic rules are obeyed. The world becomes a safe place when laws are obeyed because then the world becomes a road where every signpost is in order and every signal light functioning.

So many parents are not very sure of what principles they themselves believe in; there are so many who can't say "No", but always want to be "pally" with their children, at no matter what cost of conviction or principle. If only they knew that what they are doing is depriving their children of emotional security, of feeling at home in the world because there are enough traffic lights to make the world safe. These parents add to the fears in a world where there are quite enough fears already.

A great artist has just departed from Melbourne - Marlene Dietrich. We have admired her for many things, among them the miracle of the youthfulness that belies her years. Some time ago she was asked what was the secret of that youthfulness, and she replied that it was "optimism and trust". If only we can give that to the young generation that is growing up - optimism that there is still something to be achieved, and trust that the world is still to be lived in in safety. If we can give them this, and if the Guide Movement can help in this, then indeed "yestermorrow", where we are at the present moment, will become a very fulfilling future.



It has been left to our generation to discover that you can move heaven and earth to save five minutes and then not have the faintest idea what to do with them when you have saved them.—C. E. M. Joad.

JUBILEE RALLY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Many exciting events have been happening in Jubilee year in Western Australia.

Scrolls (sheets of cartridge paper written in gold ink, tied with red and blue ribbon, and wrapped and sealed in gold cardboard cylinders) were introduced to the Guides, Brownies and Rangers and Cadets of Western Australia at Division rallies, special nights in Companies, Packs, Crews and Flights. One was taken to all the Southern Divisions of the State and then through the southern suburbs of Perth; the second scroll went on a trip right through the north of Western Australia and then to the northern suburbs. The trip to the north was partly by chartered plane when members of the Senior Branch took a trip there.

At the Jubilee Rally at the Claremont Showgrounds well over 2000 members and friends of the Guide Movement attended (despite the football grand final!). An exciting part of the Rally was the Pageant, showing the growth of Guiding in W.A., from the first meetings to Djindunga (Camp in the West). Other activities at the Rally were a March Past, a Brownie Corroboree, and all sorts of camping displays. The Senior Branch and the Guides, too, put on special displays, and the day ended with a large and happy campfire.

On Sunday there were special services in all the main churches in Perth and in many suburban churches also. Later on there was Open Day at Paxwold, the State Training Centre and Campsite.

The Senior Branch helped here by serving cool drinks for both the Saturday and Sunday were warm days.

The Rally was a great success, and many Guides of today are looking forward to the next Jubilee Rally — it just needs another 50 years!

—Lexie Walker, S.R.S. Centaur, W.A.

("Matilda" was delighted to receive this contribution direct from Western Australia).

GUIDING IN LABRADOR

To give you some idea of the scope and possibilities of Guiding and Rangering in Labrador, it might be a good idea to give you some short history, or story, of Labrador, and the Moravian Mission in Labrador as all three Companies in the north — Makkovik, Hopedale and Nain — are Moravian Companies.

The first missionaries to the Eskimo arrived on the coast on the last day of July, 1752. This, however, was not the first Moravian contact with the Eskimos, for Mission work had begun in Greenland 19 years earlier, but here, in Labrador, it was not at first successful, and the pioneers were murdered.

After the Peace of Paris gave Labrador to the British Empire in 1763 a number of missionaries went out, and in 1769 a grant of 144,000 acres of land was made to the London Moravian Branch, which then made Labrador its chief concern and formed a trading company with a small shop.

For some 150 years the Mission owned its own sailing vessel, the "Harmony", making its annual dangerous voyages across the Atlantic, with missionaries and stores. Now communications are more frequent, with airmail in winter and m.v. "Trepassy" in the summer, with flights by the Department of Health Air Ambulance taking out and bringing home patients, both winter and summer.

There is a commercial radio station at each settlement, and in Nain the local missionary has a station for transmitting services along the coast.

Nevertheless, it is still a hard life. For the missionary there are still rough and exposed journeys by motor boat to minister to the people at their fishing places. In winter these journeys are often by dogteam, although these are giving way to flights by mail plane and trips on the local coastal boat. Although summer comes to Labrador it is only for three months of the year; it is mostly winter with ice, snow, blizzards and fog.

This, then, is roughly the land that our Brownies, Guides and Rangers live in.

For years the idea of some organisation for the girls had been talked about and hoped for; something that was interdenominational and international; and something which would help them to take their place in the world to meet the inroads of civilisation, which we knew would catch up with Labrador sooner or later. When it did come, it was rapid and bewildering, and found most of the Eskimos, especially those in the north, unprepared for it.

The first difficulty was finding someone to take on the job (I am writing from now on of the settlement at Nain), as the teachers at the time knew nothing at all about Guiding; in an unguarded moment I casually let drop the information that I had had a Guide Company in the Royal Victoria Dock area of London, England.

Finally, I agreed to start a Guide Company and teach the school teachers the "art" or game of Guiding, with the view to handing over the Company to one of the teachers in a year's time, as we hoped eventually to have the local people running their Guides.

At that time there were a number of girls of Guide age who either had not been to school or who had to leave school early, and also many who could not understand or speak English. Therefore it was decided to translate the Guide Laws and Motto—in fact, the whole Tenderfoot Test—into Eskimo and the other Guide work as needed.

In October, 1955, the first meeting was held to explain Guiding and to find out who wished to join. There were 18 girls to start with, and they were divided into three Patrols — Robin, Sparrow and Forget-menot — with an acting Lieutenant and an acting Captain. Headquarters in St. John's supplied literature and information, and also sent messages of good luck.

To begin with there was a different Patrol Leader each week in an effort to find leaders, and it worked out fairly well. After enrolment, which was in March of the following year, an election for Patrol Leaders and Seconds was held.

Following the formation of the Guide Company the smaller girls pleaded to be allowed to join, so it was decided that it was time to start a Brownie Pack so that the little girls did not feel unwanted. So a Pack was started as well.

The problem of uniforms was, from the start, a big one. It was important that the

girls felt that they belonged to a worldwide sisterhood, and that they were wearing and doing exactly the same things as other Guides all over the world. There was a lot of poverty and the girls could not afford to buy ready-made uniforms.

So the material was bought, and the Guides were helped with the making of them. They were charged \$5.00 for the complete uniform which could be paid up gradually. They also made their ties at first, and then the 1st Happy Valley Guides sent 18 new ties as a gift.

With the Brownies the situation was the same, although here it was agreed that the Brownies' parents should help to make the uniforms; that the Brownies should pay only a dollar each, but that the uniforms should be handed on to other Brownies as they went on to Guides.

In the following spring the subject of camp came up, but without much enthusiasm at first, as most of the Guides had been born and brought up in tents, and so it was no novelty; also, campfires were just something to cook on. However, plans were made and a camp fund started, and in July, 18 Guides went to camp at Kauk. They really enjoyed their first organised camp; there were many snags, but things straightened out all right.

So on through 1956 and 1957. Classes in First Aid, Home Nursing, Child Nursing were started, and Guides began to work for Homemaker, Cook, Needlewoman and Laundress Badges first, and then later on other badges.

In the fall of 1957 everyone from another community moved to Nain, bringing about 20 new Guides and Brownies. It was not possible to have so many Guides, and so a Ranger Company was formed.

So now there are three groups working side by side — Brownies, Guides and Rangers — and each now has their own Guiders.

The Guides and Rangers together held a Basket Party to raise money for making a tent and going to camp. Canvas was bought, and the Guides and Rangers in four groups sewed the tent together, following a picture of a tent in a catalogue.

Guiding and Rangering in Labrador is not easy. In the first place there is the language problem to cope with, then the distances between each Company and the Headquarters in St. John's. But it is all worthwhile, for Guiding plays an important part in the life of the community.

-By Dorothy Jupp, from "The Guide".

MEETING OF THE WORLD COMMITTEE

The 38th Session of the World Committee was held in London, at the Headquarters of the Girl Guides Association of Great Britain.

The World Council usually meets once a year to see that the business of the WAGGGS is being carried out according to the decisions made by the World Conference and to give advice to the World Bureau. The last meeting also discussed preparations for the Conference in Japan. The Committee will meet again this month.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

The first-ever International Guide Meeting was held in Italy organised by the National Organisation of Italian Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in Florence.

The theme of the meeting was "Nature, Inspirer of Cultural Values", and it attracted over 300 Guides-Girl Scouts from 15 European countries. Amongst the visitors to the meeting were Contessa Guiliana de Carpegna, founder of the Guide Movement in Italy, and Mrs. Ferris, General Secretary of the World Bureau.

Another "first-ever" was the international camp organised in Madagascar — 820 Guides/Girl Scouts from all over Madagascar, as well as visitors from many parts of the world, after a week of working and playing together, left for home having forged new international friendships and a better understanding of other people's way of life.

* * *

The 5th All-Pakistan Camp will be held this month in East Pakistan. Two hundred Guides will fly from West Pakistan to join 800 in East Pakistan for a 12-day camp.

The programme of the camp includes camperaft, gadget making, folklore, handicrafts and campfire sessions, food preparation and dramatics, while five days have been reserved for sightseeing trips to other cities of East Pakistan.



A VERY SPECIAL DAY

As they expect to do each year, the Girl Scouts celebrated their birthday. What was unexpected was that a fiifty-third anniversary, traditionally not marked by silver or gold, turned into a golden day. Girl Scouting went to Washington.

It went in answer to three invitations. The first, received exactly one week before the event, came from the First Lady. It was for our National President and National Executive Director to call on her at the White House. But not alone. They were asked to bring a group of girls engaged in the Senior Aide projects, of which Mrs. Johnson had heard.

Long distance telephones had barely begun ringing from New York to the girls' councils when the second invitation came. It was to visit Mr. Sargent Shriver, Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, and his staff and to show our new film, "Open Your Eyes".

The third invitation came when word of the coming event reached a member of the Congress from one of the girls' home states. The word spread and, in addition to all else, appointments were hastily made for each girl to meet a Senator from her state.

What came to be called "Operation Washington" could not be done in one week — except by Girl Scouts. Six days later, Mrs. Price, Miss Wood, three Headquarters Staff members, and seven Senior Girl Scouts from as far away as Texas and Minnesota were in Washington. They were joined by a Senior from the District of Columbia and, to represent the other three age levels, a Cadette assisting in a Washington service project, and a Junior and a Brownie who were being served by a project.

The group was chosen to represent a wide range of service, from conservation to teaching English to Spanish-American first-graders.

Every Council that was asked to arrange for a girl to come responded enthusiastically. The girls arrived on schedule, their uniforms flawless, their gloves snow white, and, above all, their poise and ability to speak for Girl Scouting perfect.

They did not need to be told that they represented all their sister Scouts. They did themselves, their Councils, and this whole great organisation proud.

The hour with our Honorary President was made a glowing one by her graciousness and her genuine interest in Girl Scouting. Mrs. Johnson not only talked with each girl, but had already read the story of all their projects, which had been sent to her. As a girl was introduced, Mrs. Johnson immediately commented on her project and asked to hear more about it.

Mrs. Price presented Mrs. Johnson with a print of "Open Your Eyes" and a leather-bound book (green, of course) inscribed with her name as Honorary President and our theme, "Girl Scouting—A Promise in Action". The book tells the full Girl Scout story in text and pictures.

After luncheon at the International Club came the visit to the Office of Economic Opportunity, the showing of the film, and then a most interesting conference with Mr. Shriver. He, like Mrs. Johnson, asked many questions about the service projects.

The appointments on Capitol Hill had to fit into a complicated schedule, but each appointment was kept on time.

A small incident at the Office of Economic Opportunity symbolises the whole event in Washington. One of Mr. Shriver's staff referred to the work with under-privileged pre-school children by its official name, "Project Headstart". One of the Seniors engaged in such a project said, "We call it Girl Scouting".

Girl Scouting it was, at its best, on this very special day.

-From "Girl Scout Leader", U.S.A., June, 1965.

*

Life is hard—by the yard; By the inch—it's a cinch!

SENIOR GIRL SCOUT ROUND-UP IN U.S.A., 1965

Report from Australia's Guider Representative, Miss M. Coleman (N.S.W.)

At the first thought of a trip abroad one becomes very excited and thrilled at the opportunity, then, as time draws nearer, and the haste of preparation quickens, one realises with forceful reality just what a tremendous responsibility it all is, to represent one's country, to be on one's best behaviour, to create an image of an Australian.

Such was my lot when I flew into Los Angeles to represent the Girl Guides Association of Australia at the Senior Girl Scout Round-up to be held in Idaho. Prior to this I was to receive hospitality and to work with a Girl Scout Council for four weeks.

For two days Los Angeles was my world—busy, modern combined with the Spanish past, and, of course, Hollywood and Disneyland. The next experience was a train trip for 34 hours, which took me to Lubbock (which was to be my centre) in west Texas. Here is the Headquarters of the Caprock Girl Scout Council, who were my hostesses. I arrived at midnight (the train was four hours late) in the pouring rain, and the welcoming party had by necessity been reduced from some 40 odd, I'm told, to about a dozen. However, the T.V. cameras remained.

Lubbock is new and modern, has something like 175,000 souls with a fine community spirit and civic pride. It is the centre of the cotton growing area, and because of this is rapidly expanding and wealthy. During my time there I travelled widely and stayed with many families within a radius of about 300 miles, visiting other cities and towns, speaking to many groups of people belonging to various organisations and groups. I found this very interesting, if a little exhausting, and was very impressed with the friendliness of the people and of their interest in life in Australia.

One was expected to be a fund of information on all matters — from T.V. frequencies to the prices of the latest fashions in women's clothing; details of farming land; and most difficult of all, what do teenagers do on dates? All this was somewhat of a strain, being on show 24 hours a day, mind-

ing my manners, being pleasantly polite and interested in all sorts and types and endeavouring to ask intelligent questions as required.

On one occasion, whilst visiting a country area, I was called upon without notice to occupy the pulpit!

I attended many meetings of several organisations, including, of course, Girl Scout Board meetings, and was surprised to find that many of these were held in conjunction with a meal and, on enquiry, found that this was the usual thing because people were so busy and frequently on many Committees, and this was the only way of getting them together. I was told of some groups which meet at 6.30 a.m. for a breakfast meeting. (Thank goodness I was not asked to one of these!)

In addition to Girl Scout activities I had the opportunity of spending considerable time visiting and "sitting in" on various agencies related to Child Welfare matters. This was in Los Angeles and later in San Francisco, as well as at Lubbock. Of these, perhaps the most interesting was the Juvenile Traffic Court, where a teenage jury operates to pass judgment and issue punishment on the offender. (A driving licence may be obtained at 14 years in Texas.) These juries consist of six members aged from 16 to 18 years and take their part very seriously in considering traffic violations and accidents. Traffic violations among teenagers have been reduced by 25% since this system was introduced.

I also had an opportunity of visiting the Guadalupe centre which provides a basic health programme, welfare and recreational facilities for children and their families, to meet the needs of mainly Latin-American people who live in the area. I visited some of their homes and found the standard of living was very poor indeed.

After four hectic weeks of having at least three and sometimes four official functions each day, I flew to Spokane in Washington State, where all international staff members of the Senior Girl Scouts Round-up were to have three days' orientation. This brief but exciting experience was perhaps the highlight of the trip. We were 67 adults from 42 countries, with basic aims and ideals of Guiding and Scouting, indicating the worth

of an international organisation. In between sessions, in true Guide fashion, we had time for singing and dancing, and this added to the joy of making friendships quickly and sharing with each other something of our own countries' colour and traditions.

From Spokane we were moved by bus some 60 miles away to the delightful lakeside mountain setting of Farragut in northern Idaho. An area of some 5000 acres was transformed into a city of canvas accommodating 12,000 people. About 200 of these were international representatives, for in addition to the adults already mentioned many countries had been invited to send girls in the 16 to 18 years' group.

Everything about the Round-up was big. The organisation, the planning, the spectacular arena events, the despatch of food from a central store, and the facilities available. There were tape recorders, visual aids, film and book library, recreational material. No expense was spared to provide an all-round experience in living and working for the participants. The programme was full and exciting, and each Patrol of eight girls had the opportunity of selecting their own activities and planning their time. The proportion of adults to girls was high, by our standards, but each had a very real and special job which somehow fitted into the complexity of the whole. My special assignment was to be a nature and conservation consultant. As such, I was expected to stimulate interest in the subject, by practical demonstration and discussion, debates, etc., as well as to conduct groups on the delightful nature trails which had been marked out, some through woods, others through moorlands and climbs to high points from which the magnificent panorama of the whole campsite could be seen.

The general consensus of opinion was that it was a wonderful success and very worth while — an exciting adventure of both mind and body.

Following the Round-up I spent a week in San Francisco — a wonderfully cosmopolitan city on a very small peninsula. It consists of incredibly steep hills, terrifying cable cars, and, I'm told, drug addicts. Whilst some of the time was spent in more official Girl Scout functions, and also in contacting Child Welfare agencies, I did spend some time with

an Australian friend, now married to a San Franciscan who knew every inch of the city.

Finally the day of leaving arrived, and I arrived home to a bleak, wintry Sydney Sunday morning. This was certainly a contrast to the warm sunshine and 90 to 100 degree temperatures of Texas and Idaho, but nevertheless a welcome sight. (To return to work the following morning was even more of a come-down, but a joy to be able to have toast and marmalade for breakfast instead of pancakes, syrup and cream and, at last, to have a good cup of tea!).



IN AMERICA . . .

No doubt many of you have heard bits and pieces at least about our trips to America and you will have an idea of what I am going to tell you — my impressions of the activities in which we participated.

While Trudy and I were staying in Long Beach, California, we saw a great deal of Girl Scouting, and were able to compare it with Guiding in this country. Contrary to popular belief, Scouting is not as "glamorous" as you might imagine. A lot of hard work is needed on the part of each Girl Scout to raise money to maintain the large numbers of professional people involved in Scouting. Few units meet in halls or other centres — we found most meetings were held in the Scouter's living-room, with the girls rarely wearing their uniforms.

A popular activity in the summer is day camping. These gatherings are held every day for a week or fortnight in a local park or reserve; the girls come daily and cook their lunch. Activities include craft, singing, skills, etc., and are extremely well attended. Sometimes these camps are held by the water, and swimming and boating are the main activities. These camps are extremely good — they keep the girls occupied during

the long summer vacation, and keep up their interest in Scouting.

The regular camps are held continually on established sites, owned by the governing Council of the district. The girls stay for two weeks, and then another group arrive. The camps are maintained by full-time, professional staff - mainly college students. Various activities are held - craft, hiking, etc. Sometimes the girls sleep in tents and sometimes just under the stars, sometimes in a dormitory. There is usually a mess hall, staffed by a full-time cook, so the girls only have to serve at the tables and clear up afterwards. Considering the ages of a large number of the campers this is most practical. As most Girl Scouts live in the big cities where camp sites are rare, this is practically the only type of camping available.

All the large department stores have Girl Scout Departments, where all necessary equipment can be purchased. Also the Girl Scout Association offers various scholarships to colleges, etc., for its members. This is made possible because of a Government grant to the Association and the efforts of four million Girl Scouts — which accounts, too, for the financial backing of the large number of professional Girl Scouts.

Scouting is a valuable asset to the American girl — if she is applying for a job or college entrance, etc., she generally receives more consideration if she is able to state in her application that she has been a Girl Scout.

Perhaps you are wondering if I have forgotten Jamaica? No, I haven't! In Jamaica, Guiding is almost the same as in Australia, and so I have not described it in any detail. The Jubilee Camp we attended there was most enjoyable, especially the international campfires and the pageant tracing the history of Jamaica's 50 years of Guiding.

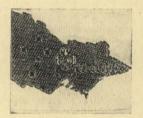
I think Trudy will heartily agree with me in saying that our experience was so very worth while; it broadened our ideas and knowledge of Guiding and international understanding. And it made us realise how lucky we are to live in such a wonderful country and to be able to be members of the great international family of Guiding.

-Robyn Riddett.

EAST-WEST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Readers of "Matilda" will be interested to know that at the Conference to be held in Hawaii in 1966, Kay Patterson, of New South Wales (an Australian representative at the Juliette Low Camp at Our Cabana in 1963), has been asked by the Girl Scouts of the United States of America to help on the staff of the Conference Discussion Groups.

We were especially interested to know that, if Kay could not go, Janet Cole, of Victoria, was next in line.



PUBLICATIONS

The Publications Sub-Committee, chaired by Mrs. C. D. Barratt, has begun its task of bringing out handbooks and pamphlets designed to help Victorian Guides.

This column will bring you news of these and other books you can get to assist you with your particular job.

"The Why and How of Local Associations"

For those who are either forming a new L.A. or helping new and nervous office-bearers, and for all who are wanting to solve any problems associated with their L.As., this new booklet is a "must" on every Commissioner's and L.A. President's desk.

As well as covering the formal procedure of a meeting, and explaining the purpose of L.As. and their Constitution, the book gets down to tintacks on answering problems: How to propose a motion and rescind one; what the Badge Secretary does, how to plan and run an Annual Meeting; etc.

Now on sale at the Guide Shop for 3/- (30c) this book can help both you and your office-bearers. Why not get them each a copy?

—J.M.



REPORT ON "ZODIAKEN '65" CAMP

Held at Barseback, Skane, Sweden, Y.W.C.A. Guide Association of Sweden

I was the only Australian representative to attend this camp.

It was attended by 1200 Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from the Scandinavian countries, Finland, Germany, France, Mexico, Canada, Scotland and Australia.

Campsite

The camp was on the edge of the forest overlooking a long stretch of white sand and the sea between Sweden and Denmark. The sub-camps or villages were in small clearings in a tall pine forest and were named after the signs of the Zodiac.

Activities . . . Official Opening

All assembled in front of the large flagpoles with the sea and Copenhagen as the background. About 50 Swedish standards were carried on and then the Swedish Scout Hymn was sung. Miss Ingrid Fogelstrom, the Camp Chief, addressed the gathering and the Governor officially opened the camp.

The 12 flags were then broken for the first time, and this was a very spectacular ceremony. It was rather overwhelming to realise that the Australian flag was "all for me". We were then welcome to "Barseback" by the owner of the castle, and the Camp Church bell was dedicated by the Camp Chaplain. This was later sent as a gift to a mission in the Congo. Following the ceremony representatives of each country attended a traditional Swedish Midsummer Dinner. Later the same evening the representatives were invited to a reception at Barseback Castle.

Campfires

The Opening, Midsummer and Closing Campfires were combined ones held at the central campfire circle overlooking the sea (and held in broad daylight!). These were really international and tremendous fun. On other nights smaller fires were held in villages.

Midsummer Festival

On Midsummer Eve a long pole called a Maypole is decorated with flowers and leaves,

and in the late afternoon it is placed upright, and young and old do traditional dances round it in national costume.

Excursions

Groups had day trips by coach to places of their choosing. The "foreign" guests had a wonderful day touring the typically Swedish parts of the south of Sweden.

Food

This was really wonderful. Breakfast consisted of porridge or cornflakes, bread and cheese and tea or coffee. For morning and afternoon break there was juice (apple or rosehip) with buns or rusks. Dinner was a similar meal to ours in Australia, with plenty of fish foods, ham, and new potatoes cooked with dill. Supper was an open-sandwich meal with a large variety of breads and crisps.

Weather

The camp enjoyed almost perfect weather, with long hours of sunshine (about 19 or 20 hours per day). It was quite pleasant to reacquire some of my suntan that so quickly disappeared in Britain.

Special Visitor

There was great excitement when Miss Signe Dreijer, Director of the World Bureau, arrived at the camp to spend a couple of days. It was her own Guide Association in her own country and she was fondly known as "Piggen".

Tracks

These were "trips into space" or activities available to groups three times day. A lot of organisation had gone into this, and campers were offered the following:—Astronomy, Hiking, Pioneering, Primitive Cooking, Mission, Sea Scouting, Volleyball, Gym. and Athletics, Illuminated Track and International. The latter was manned by the overseas people, and each country had a post where something typical of their country was shown or taught. I had a number of books and items from Australia and showed the Guides how to throw a boomerang.

General Report

Prior to the camp I spent a glorious week's hospitality on a Swedish farm. At the invitation of the Swedish Association I also attended part of a combined Scout and Guide Confirmation Camp held in a chalet high in the forest-covered mountains, and also a special training camp in Orienteering, Pioneering and First Class Hikes. In Sweden the

hike involves 24 hours following compass and map, sleeping in a bush shelter and cooking without utensils!

The camp was a huge success, and certainly an experience never to be forgotten. Those of us who were not Scandinavian were known as the "foreign" guests and were cared for by the Guest Department, who did a really wonderful job acting as interpreters, showing us their country and customs, and making us feel so welcome that we were all very sorry to leave Sweden.

-Alice Small (N.S.W.).



GENERAL REPORT OF THE CAMP OF THE FOUR WINDS

Held at Joutsa, Finland, 1965

Participants

Approximately 750 from Finland and approximately 80 representing 16 countries, including five Australian representatives.

Campsite

The camp was situated on a peninsula a few miles from Joutsa, Central Finland, and the four groups, called "Winds", all had a lake frontage. There were many trees on the site, and the central area had the flagpoles in amongst the trees.

Activities

Each Wind had its particular interest, i.e., Sea-Rangering, Guiders' Training, Campcraft, Music and Drama, and was divided into eight villages of approximately 24 Guides.

Sessions were held each morning and afternoon for the Finnish Guides on their particular interest, while displays, talks and demonstrations on Finnish history, culture and folk traditions were arranged for international guests. The opening campfire took the form of the traditional midsummer night in Finland, which was the lighting of a bonfire on the lake, folk dancing and singing in national costume.

A separate campfire was devoted to items by the internationals, which included folk dancing and songs from the various countries. We performed a corroboree depicting a kangaroo hunt.

For the closing campfire, each Wind did an item, showing some of the things which had been done in the interest groups. From the central fire beacons were lit and taken back to the Winds and the villages.

The opening ceremony was the meeting of the four Winds, and the welcoming of international guests, while the closing ceremony was the parting of the Winds to spread the friendship and knowledge gained all over the world.

Interesting outings were arranged to a typical farmhouse and to Jyvaskyla, a large industrial town.

One of the main features of the camp for international guests was twice being able to have a sauna, which we all agree is one of the best ways of having a bath.

Comments

Although most of the Finnish Guides did not speak much English, they made us very welcome and were very helpful. A group of interpreters made sure we were at the right places and passed on messages for things that concerned us. The meals were different, but good, and as a whole the camp was very well organised and enjoyed by us all.



"GIRLS IN BROWN DRESSES"

Girls in Brown Dresses
With Bright Yellow Tie-zes.
Badges all shine on
Our Brownies-all Sizes.
Belts all a gleaming
And Shoes neat and clean
These are a few of my favourite Things.

-With apologies to "Sound of Music".

JOTTINGS FROM THE NOVEMBER EXECUTIVE MEETING

Australian Guide Gatherings: Discussions centred round possible All-Australia and International Guide camps, as far ahead as 1970 to allow for the necessary planning.

Uniforms: A Sub-Committee is to be formed to take care of all the questions regarding uniform for all branches.

Annual Subscriptions to Headquarters: Following the vote taken through the Movement agreed that these be increased to 6d. (5 cents) per member per unit meeting.

Building and Appeal: Discussion regarding progress of the Building Appeal and the possibility of preparing plans for the new Headquarters.

Senior Branch: Discussion regarding their participation in training parachute jumping!

Guide Club at University: This to be formed under the auspices of the Trefoil Guild.

Were these all the matters we discussed?

Well, there WAS the matter of the appointment of Australian Advisers; discussion re the time and place of future Annual Meetings; finance and the use of the Association's Seal in connection with securities held; reports from the Public Relations, Training, International, New Commissioners' Property Committees, etc.

DECEMBER DOINGS AT THE EXECUTIVE

Despite the nearness of Christmas, the Executive Committee met in December with almost as long an agenda as for any other month

The usual inevitable subjects of finance and the H.Q. Building Appeal had, of course, high priority.

Uniform, too, was well to the fore.

Other subjects calling for decisions were: The Editors' Conference/Training in 1966. Costs of "Matilda".

Several matters regarding the fast-developing Trefoil Guilds.

Camping — and approval for interstate visits.

International report and the 1966 World Conference.

Continued foot next column.



-Block by courtesy of the "Sun".

CITY'S NEW ARMS

Melbourne is to get this new coat of arms. Changes from the present design are:

Two lions from the armorial bearings of the man after whom the city was named — William Lamb, the second Lord Melbourne will be added to the arms as supporters.

They will wear black mural crowns — the symbol of local government — around their necks.

A gold mural crown will be added to the demi-kangaroo at the crest to provide some special distinction.

The sperm whale on the top right-hand side of the shield will change places with the bull on the lower left-hand side to give a correct heraldic balance.

The three-masted ship in full sail on water will be on the right-hand side on the same level as the whale.

The changes in the coat of arms were approved recently by the City Council's General Purpose Committee.

The Committee will seek approval for the City Council to petition the College of Arms in London for the alterations.

DECEMBER DOINGS AT THE EXECUTIVE

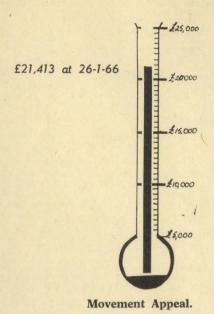
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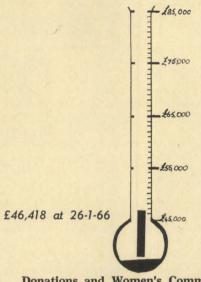
Representation of the Movement at the 1966 Australia Day ceremony.

Leave for Victorian Advisers. Etc., etc.

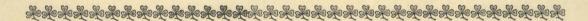
And, finally, there was a list of dates for meetings which will, before the New Year has really got under way, take our diaries right through to December, 1966.

BUILDING APPEAL





Donations and Women's Committee Efforts.



COLOURS PARADED

Although Wodonga could fairly be said to be an army town, with large military establishments at nearby Bandiana and Bonegilla, to the Guides went the honour of being first to have their Colours laid on the altar at the newly built Church of England.

St. John's, Wodonga, was dedicated by the Bishop of Wangaratta on Saturday, 5th November, 1965, and the following afternoon a special Youth Service was held in the Church.

Two Colour Parties of Guides paraded the National Flag and Company Colours into the new Church, where they were reverently laid on the altar during the service.

Some 300 young people and their parents attended, and the turnout, bearing and demeanour of the Guides was a credit to the Movement.

The Rector, Rev. A. R. Clark, has thanked the Guides for their valuable assistance at this special inaugural Youth Service and has invited them to hold their Thinking Day parade at St. John's.

STAMPS

Here is one of the new decimal currency stamps which will be issued this month.

Parcels of stamps should be posted to 12 Cowderoy Street, St. Kilda, S.2.

—LORNA E. CUZENS, Hon. Organiser for Stamps.



-Block by courtesy of the "Herald".

COMMISSIONER AND RANGERS

From Kiewa Valley (the Ranger Unit I thought I would have to close after their Captain left!), the Commissioner writes:

"During the year we have had a number of people come to speak to us — we had a lass to show us how to make shoulder sprays and another evening, prior to a trek up to Bill Hill fire tower (a 20-mile hike), we had a man from the Forestry Commission to show us how to make maps and use a compass properly. His talk was very helpful to the girls.

When we made the trip to the fire tower the next day the man on duty allowed us up into the tower itself. I must admit we were very shaky by the time we got to the top, but it was well worth the effort. We were shown the various telescopes and how they pin-pointed the site of a fire, and also the instrument used for measuring the speed of wind. We could see where the recent fire had been on Spion Kopje, and the girls had fun identifying the various mountains, as well as looking down into our own valley. The telescope brought things so close that we could see the cars running along the road.

One night we had an outside adjudicator for a debate on 10 o'clock closing for hotels.

Another evening we attended a local play, and more recently we had two icing demonstrations (on the second evening the Rangers iced a cake which one of them made).

Three weeks ago we drove the 18 miles over to Bright Gap, leaving here 15 minutes after everyone finished work and arriving at Bright about 7.15 p.m. It was during the week of celebrations for the Bright Autumn Festival, and we visited a really wonderful historical exhibition and a display of antique table settings. As you probably know, Bright has a very exciting history, and among other things we saw a model of the gold dredges and some of the tools used by the diggers, a piece of Chinese tapestry which had hung in the joss-house at Harrietville. samples of gold and garnets, old manuscripts (one of which was a diary kept by the teenage daughter of the first editor of the Bright newspaper — it was delightful), one of Edison's first gramophones with a cylinder instead of a disc, and a symphonium that a girl played for us. When we had soaked up all the information we could hold we went

to the gardens and cooked our dinner in the fireplace before setting off for home.

(Adviser's comment: They seem to have done an awful lot between 7.15 p.m. and dinner time!).

We attended the Chief Commissioner's Rally in February and were billeted by Moorleigh Rangers, having them for a return visit on the holiday weekend in June.

I forgot to mention that we did our Willing Shilling effort as a group. I borrowed my husband's panel van and we loaded it up with ladders and mountains of rags and buckets and sponge mops, and went window cleaning. We did eight houses in one Saturday afternoon.

In the second part of the year we plan to spend one meeting a month visiting places of interest. We hope to have instruction in how to handle a boat safely and in home nursing, and to do some handcrafts for a stall in December. Oh, and perhaps get a miner to show us how to pan gold for ourselves."

(Adviser's comment: I might add that this enterprising Commissioner, who is determined the Unit shall not close until she finds a Captain (and how we wish her well) asks me if I have any more ideas to send her!).

-A. RYLAH.

"FLY-UP" BALLET

The magic world of ballet was brought to the Girl Scouts of Limberlost Council (Fort Wayne, Indiana) on their Fine Arts Day during Girl Scout Week. The programme danced by the Fort Wayne Ballet Company included "The Legend of the Ten Candles", written and produced in honour of Girl Scouting. This original ballet interpreted the traditional fly-up ceremony in which a Brownie Girl Scout becomes a Junior Girl Scout.

This was the fourth year the Limberlost Council held a Fine Arts Day. In the morning Girl Scouts could observe classes and view special art displays at the Fort Wayne Art School. History came alive for the girls at the Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Museum and at the Lincoln Museum, and the Fort Wayne Art Museum prepared special exhibits for the Girl Scouts.

—From the "Girl Scout Leader", U.S.A., October, 1965.



STEPPING STONES

These talks, given at the Commissioners' Conference, 1965, are printed in "Matilda" for the interest and information of those who were not able to be present.

Miss Sims, Brownie Adviser, told of stepping stones through a piece of swampy ground which she remembered from her childhood. Some of these were firm, some slippery, some required skill and some courage to negotiate. She said that, similarly, there were "stepping stones" throughout a child's life in the Brownie Pack. The first was a firm one, that of being brought into the "family" atmosphere of the Pack, where all the children were working and playing The Guider should realise the together. value of building up a feeling of friendly helpfulness in the Pack and would find it better to keep the family small (preferably not more than 18 in number), so that each child can feel herself to be an important member of her Brownie family. In this way the individual children's needs are catered for: they develop a sense of security; and with this comes a feeling of freedom - the children are free to try things for themselves and pluck up courage to try and reach the next stone, which is the Brownie Promise, made upon enrolment. Between the first and the second stone there is usually a period of nine or ten weeks, during which the child learns, along with tying her tie and washing up, to become a part of the family.

She is helped to gain an understanding of the Promise and Law from the Guiders, through discussions and example; from the other Brownies through games; through Pow-Wow when she learns to listen to and discuss other people's ideas; and through the Pack ceremonial which helps her to show honour and respect for the work others have done. It should be impressed on her, too, that she is taught to tie her own tie as a

first step in looking after herself, while washing up is one way of carrying out the Brownie Promise to help at home.

Badge work could perhaps be thought of as the next stone. Usually the child is introduced to various aspects of this from the day she joins the Pack — she doesn't wait until she has her Golden Bar before she learns how to treat grazed knees!

In Golden Ladder the standard is set for her by the Guiders; in Golden Bar, the stepping stone is being willing to make effort and decision; in Golden Hand, it is the willingness to accept a challenge. Golden Hand proves that the Brownie is sincere and that the Promise and Law have meaning for her. The tests are intended as an encouragement to the child, an inducement to go on learning and be a better Brownie thereby.

Another stepping stone is friendliness. Firstly, the girl is a member of the Pack — she learns about other people's ideas and thoughts, and then gains some understanding of other countries and ways. One of the things which thrills Brownies is the knowledge that children in other countries all over the world are making a similar Promise and keeping a similar Law. This may seem a small point, but it can be a stepping stone towards international understanding right through life.

The next stone is that of self-government. The Pow-Wow should be the Pack Council meeting, the business meeting, where the Brownies say, for instance, whether THEY wish to attend Brownie Revels or not and then learn to abide by the majority decision. Pow-Wow should never be just a time for talking or gossip. This is the time when ceremonies should be worked out, and ceremonial itself is a stepping stone which gives Brownies the thrill of seeing their own plans carried out, and helps them to honour other people for the work they do or the position they hold.

Outdoor activities are yet another stepping stone, leading to an awareness and an appreciation of the out of doors.

Stepping stones, of course, must lead somewhere, and Brownie stepping stones should lead to the Guide Company. They should be challenging, enticing the Brownie to move onwards, testing her courage, helping to give balance to her outlook — mental, physical

and spiritual — and a sense of values. Ultimately, it is hoped, that they will lead to a helpful and useful life in the community.

"STEPPING STONES THROUGH THE GUIDE BRANCH"

Miss Bunning said that, as in the Brownie Branch, the first "stepping stones" in the Guide Branch had to be firm and sure. Usually it is thought that a girl of Guide age can be ready to make the Promise within four or five weeks of joining the Company. After that, Second Class is generally taken as the next step, though some Guides don't ever reach this. Testing and tests are only part of Guiding — tests have their place, of course, but the spirit of Guiding is more important. Some girls have very little inclination to do test work, and it should be left to them to decide which tests, if any, they want to do. This point applies particularly to First Class and Oueen's Guide work. It is hoped that the Guide Branch stepping stones will eventually lead the girls on to Senior Branch; even if this is not the case, they will help them to become better citizens. In Tenderfoot and Second Class the girl is judged on the amount of effort she has made, i.e., there is an individual standard. After Second Class, Guides have the choice of three courses — to simply learn to be good Guides without doing any further Tests; to work for selected Proficiency Badges; or to go on to become First Class and, possibly, Queen's Guides. In the latter two tests a set standard is required, and it should always be remembered that not every girl has the time, inclination, ability or perseverance to reach this standard. The Secretary to Advisers at Headquarters can supply on request minutes of a Conference of First Class Testers at which a uniform standard for the First Class Test was discussed.



SEA RANGER GATHERING

The first-ever international Sea Ranger Gathering was held on the Thames, Great Britain. Girls from Belgium, Denmark, Eire, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Malta, Scotland, Sweden and Switzerland joined their counterparts from Great Britain and spent the week with them boating and sight-seeing. A lunch was also arranged with Lady Baden-Powell.

SEND ME A LINE! Ideas for Practising Life Line

1. Target Practice

Draw a large target on the wall numbering the innermost circle 5, the next circle 3 and the outside circle 1. See how many you can score in four tries with the life-line.

2. Coconut Shy

Place a tin on a convenient wall or fence post. Can you knock it down with the rope three times out of four?

3. Pyramids

Build a pyramid with six empty tins. How many can you knock down in four turns?

4. Breeches Buoy

One Guide (sailor) stands against railings representing ship's rail. Ship is on rocks near shore. Life-line thrower (coast-guard) throws line which sailor ties to railings (does this Guide need practice in tying a round turn and two half hitches?) and comes ashore hand over hand.

5. Contaminated Ground

The ground within 12 yards of the fence has been contaminated and may not be walked on. Throw your life-line so that friend may send you a basket of food.

When you become really proficient perhaps you could throw the line between the rails of the fence.

6. Bedding Roll Across Stream

A stream can give great fun. Using a lifeline, can you get a bedding roll across without touching the water?

Now try a jug of water which must not be spilt.

-By Jean Dixon, from the "Guide".

GUESSING RELAY

Have a dozen or more small articles each capable of fitting under a paper cup — e.g., cotton reel, gum-nut, plastic toys, etc. Give the Brownies a couple of minutes to look at them placed in a row along the floor. Then place plastic cups over and divide Brownies into their Sixes. At the call of each object, the first Brownie in each line races to where she thinks it is, replaces cup (even if the object is discovered), and returns to her Six to the back of the file. The objects gained by each Six can be kept on the floor in front of the Six and beans given to the winning Six.

—Mrs. E. J. Turner, Brown Owl, 7th Malvern Brownie Pack.

NATTERING? SHARE IT . . .!

Have you ever sat in a Training Class and just when you are getting into a good old "natter" with your neighbour you are drawn to order and training goes on?

This, of course, is a necessity in a Training Class, but, following a recent Regional Training, several Brownie Guiders stood at their car doors long enough to discuss whether some good couldn't come out of this "nattering", and could it be channelled into something worth while?

Result — four Guiders from two adjoining Divisions formed a Committee, with the blessing of the respective Division Commissioners. All Brownie Guiders in the Divisions concerned were invited to a "Handcraft Day" — each Guider was asked to bring at least one piece of handcraft. On the day, Guiders were free to talk, look, take notes, or just admire. Material was supplied, and all were given the opportunity to give vent to their artistic talents.

During discussion over lunch (supplied by an L.A.) the experiment was voted a success and another day planned. It was suggested this should be teaching aids and games, working on the same principle of everyone contributing. This day proved to be just as successful. We are all getting to know each other — those with ideas are very happy to be able to share them, and we are getting all the "nattering" out of our systems. If you are feeling out on a limb, if you are in a rut or feeling void of ideas, or even if you would just like to get to know other Guiders in your area we suggest this as a very enjoyable solution.

—Brownie Guiders, Cooper and Brighton Divisions.

HONEYEATERS

I think that the native birds which are quickest to feel the coming of spring are the honeyeaters. In Melbourne suburbs it is the greenie or white-plumed honeyeater. At Cowes, in September, there were five other honey-birds busily feeding on banksia, wattle and grevillea flowers. These were the large olive-green white-eared honeyeaters; the yellow-winged, with black and white plumage; the dainty spinebill with curved beak; the big spiny-cheeked honeyeater; and the two kinds of wattle birds.

—J.H.

SPIRITUAL VALUES IN THE COMPANY

Happiness may be unnecessary to human existence, but if we are to make life from mere existence there must be a purpose running like a thread of light throughout our days. The pursuit of happiness may be long and arduous, or joy may come unbidden.

Joy is a gift for youth. It is a moment of untrammelled ecstasy, leaving the senses keyed to their finest appreciation of the world around. Joy may follow achievement or the completion of creative work. It may come from the giving of oneself to serve others. We achieve our greatest results when we are happy. Happiness makes us more aware of the needs of others. We are physically and mentally stimulated to give of our best.

I think that one of the most important contributions that Guides can make to the world is the irradiation of happiness.

Unless there is a happy atmosphere in the Company, the Guides will not stay. So the creation of an atmosphere in which Guiding can flourish is the first task of a Captain. It is through the spiritual values of the Company that the Guide will absorb a code of behaviour and make a gradual progress towards a well-balanced adult life during her years in the Company.

These spiritual values are defined by the Law and the Promise, which must be living in the Company. The Guides are helped to love God, and to appreciate the work of the Creator in the world around. They are encouraged to train for service in the world and to begin with simple activities now. Try to give them an appreciation of beauty and a desire to produce their best efforts, and to be self-critical, to do things thoroughly and reach a high standard. Seek opportunities to make them think for themselves and develop their initiative.

One of the most important tasks is to see that the Guide feels accepted. Try to teach tolerance and understanding within the Company, and, through co-operation and mixing with other Guides, try to make them friendly and interested in other people. Every opportunity should be taken to enable the Company to meet overseas Guides, and international games and activities help to create an awareness of the similarities and differences in lives of other Guides, and

with knowledge comes understanding and love.

A child coming in at 11, either as a new recruit or an ex-Brownie, is usually a fairly stable person. She has begun to move around fairly independently. She usually has sufficient poise to shop, to talk to adults, to travel alone. She is able to look after herself fairly well. She can dress herself, care for her belongings and take a share in home duties. But at first the child of 11 likes to maintain a similar relationship to the Guiders as she enjoyed at Brownies or at home. It is to Captain or Lieutenant that she turns for approval, that she comes with her story of what happened during the week, or to show that she can now tie the knot or say her Law. For about six to eight months the Guide seems to enjoy this relationship, then gradually her focus changes. She begins to think the older Guides are wonderful - she usually admires and seeks the approval of her Patrol Leader. At this stage she is a very keen member of the Patrol. At 13 or so the focus changes again. She does not care greatly what Captain thinks any more she is no longer so strongly influenced by her Patrol Leader. The only thing that matters is the approval of her own age group - the gang.

If they wear long socks, so must she. If the fashion is pony tails, or Elvis Presley, she must conform.

It is this age that usually provide the problem children. They have new interests and outlook, and their enthusiasm is spasmodic. One moment they are keenly interested in their Guiding — the next the interest focuses elsewhere. It is during this period that some girls drift out of Guiding, as it does not fulfil their needs at that moment. It is important for the Guide Captain to be alert to this frustration in her Guides' enthusiasms and to meet it with correct help. A Guide must feel needed and have some definite responsibility in the Company, and this is often neglected because the girl concerned is unreliable.

Even when the Guide is going through this age, when she produces her most aggravating behaviour, she must feel that the Guider still likes her and wants her despite the fact that she knows the Guider disapproves of her actions. One must condemn the deed, and not the child.

Sometimes the girl of 14 matures so quickly that she can no longer feel at home in the Guide Company. That is the moment to help her to move on to Rangers. But usually by the time she has reached 14 she has begun to develop a feeling of responsibility, and enjoys taking on the job of leadership. She is interested in helping the younger girl and likes the feeling of being treated more as an adult. As she reaches the stage of being a thoroughly capable and responsible Leader, it is probably time to send her on to the Ranger Company or out into new fields— and begin training the next.

—M.W.



CONSERVATION OF FLOWERS

To be aware of a small wildflower growing by the side of the road and not pick it or step on it is a good thing, but to be aware and not see it is rather sad. We are all happy to see little globs of colour here and there, but have you taken time out lately to become really acquainted? How long has it been since you have gotten down on your hands and knees and looked a buttercup right smack in the face? How many petals, tubes, dusty hairs, does each blossom have? You needn't know the long, formal names to become acquainted; just take time to look and admire all the work that went into the creation of this flower. Some are so complicated that even a Committee couldn't put them together!

Conservation and admiration go hand in hand. The more you see and understand, the more you will want to preserve and protect.

> —From Santa Clara (U.S.A.) Girl Scout Leaflet.

THINKING DAY CEREMONY FOR BROWNIES

Brown Owl stands beside the Toadstool with a flashlight in her hand. Her Pack, assumed to be 24 in this instance, form a Pow-Wow circle, each Brownie having a flashlight, the room is darkened.

Brown Owl: Today is Thinking Day and the Chief Guide's birthday. Birthdays are days of lights and candles, and as we light our flashlights we will think of Brownies and Guides in other lands who have made the same Promise as we have. My flashlight reminds us of the Guide Promise, because Brownies started through Guides.

(In turn the Brownies light their flashlights, each one saying the appropriate country remembrance.)

France: I light my light for France, where Brownies are called Jeannettes and Little Wings.

Norway: I light my light for Norway, the land of the midnight sun in summer.

Australia: I light my light for Australia, where Brownies are keeping Thinking Day in lovely summer weather.

India: I light my light for India, where Brownies are called Bulbuls.

Holland: I light my light for the Dutch Brownies, who live in a land of windmills and canals, and where Princesses have been Brownies and Guides.

Switzerland: I light my light for Switzerland, a land of beautiful mountains and lakes, and where Brownies can ski.

New Zealand: I light my light for New Zealand, where Thinking Day is nearly over and Brownies are now going to sleep.

United States: I light my light for our Brownie Scout friends in the United States.

Fiji Islands: I light my light for the Brownies in the Fiji Islands, where they wear fawn uniforms and no hats or shoes.

England: I light my light for all Brownies in England, where Guides and Brownies first started.

South Africa: I light my light for Brownies in South Africa, where some of them are called Sunbeams.

Greece: I light my light for Greece, where some Brownies are still cold, hungry, homeless and unhappy. Canada: I light my light for Canada and all the Brownies in that country.

Finland: I light my light for Finland, where Brownies often see the Northern Lights.

Wales: I light my light for Wales, where Brownies love to sing.

Italy: I light my light for the sunny land of Italy, where Brownies can often meet out of doors all the year round.

Sweden: I light my light for Swedish Brownies living between Norway and Finland, some of them herding reindeer.

St. Helena: I light my light for St. Helena, one of the world's loneliest islands and for the tiny group of Brownies there.

Scotland: I light my light for Scotland, where Brownies often dance to the bagpipes.

Gold Coast: I light my light for the Gold Coast, where there are many dark-skinned Brownies who live in the land where the cocoa comes from.

Pitcairn Island: I light my light for Pitcairn Island, where Guides and Brownies make beautiful baskets to help pay for their uniforms.

Denmark: I light my light for the Brownies who live in Denmark, the land where Hans Andersen wrote his fairy tales.

Brazil: I light my light for Brazil, a hot country where Guides and Brownies wear navy blue uniforms.

Egypt: I light my light for Egypt, where Brownies can see the River Nile and the Pyramids.

Brown Owl: We have lit our lights to show we are thinking of Brownies all over the world, and we have brought our shiny pennies to help all those less fortunate than ourselves. We must also remember all those Brownies in hospital, the Post Brownies or Lone Brownies, the blind and the deaf Brownies, and those in cripple homes or leper hospitals. They have all taken the same Promise as we have. Let us say our Promise all together and think of all these Brownies.

(All say the Brownie Promise.)

-From the "Canadian Guider"



Thinking Day AN IDEA FOR THE PACK

On floor large Brownie World Badge. Candles: coloured photo of the Chief Guide and the Founder.

Each Six from own Corner skips into a circle singing to tune of "We're the Brownies, Here's Our Aim":

"We have come on Thinking Day
To greet our friends from far away."

Brown Owl, Tawny, one from each Six and youngest Brownie light candles. Brown Owl lights a large candle, and says, "Birthday greetings to our Chief Guide."

Pack sings: "Happy Birthday to you."

Tawny: "We send greetings to Guiders all over the world."

One of the Elves: "The Elves send greetings to Brownies in . . ." (their chosen country).

Each Six follows and the youngest Brownie says: "We send greetings to Brownies all over the world."

All stand. Salute and say:
"To Brownies near and far away
Our greetings on this Thinking Day."

The evening can end with a story, songs and one or two games with an international flavour, e.g., "Find the Badge". The Brownies sit, in Sixes, in a ring, each Six numbered.

In the centre Brownie Badges (from the H.Q. sheet), each mounted on a separate card.

Brown Owl says: "A badge with a bird on it — Number . . . 2."

Number 2 in each Six runs round the ring, in at her own place, picks up a badge as described and takes it to her Six, who shout the name of the country.

"Goodnight" is said in another language.

—M. Weatherill (from the "Guider").



NEITHER FISH NOR FOWL

ONCE UPON A TIME . . . what a fascinating beginning that is, and illustrates the point I am going to make very nicely! Well, once upon a time in the bad old days (or the good old days, depending on how you look at it) young people in their teens were regarded and treated as children — pleasant adjuncts to their parents, but too callow to be regarded as personalities in their own right.

The drastic changes that have taken place in the status of the teenager (and the very term was unknown 20 years ago, when they were simply "children") are still probably too recent to be viewed in their proper perspective, but I don't think I am exaggerating when I say that they have been the cause of a major upheaval in our whole social environment. The basic initiating and perpetuating cause was undoubtedly the vast expansion of our economy which put, and continues to put, spending money into the hands of young people on a scale undreamed of by their parents — a scale in fact that is often sufficient to make them financially independent long before they are sufficiently mature to be what we might term emotionally independent.

Commercial interests were naturally quick to turn their attention to this new source of income — in fact, "turn their attention" is perhaps too polite a term for what has become a relentless pursuit — and whether the result of their efforts has been the rendering of service or outright exploitation the effect has been a further forcing of young people towards adult status, and I use the word "forcing" in the same context as a nurseryman does when he speaks of bringing a plant to unnatural and premature flowering.

Progressive youth organisations have adjusted their programming methods to this altered tempo, sometimes lagging behind current trends, sometimes actually anticipating them; in this field I believe the Senior Branch of the Girl Guides has very effectively managed to remain "tuned in" to the atmosphere of the generation it is currently serving, and their various projects as well as their method of presentation are geared to

appeal to the young adults rather than the older child.

And there perhaps lies a danger — a blind spot that we would do well to scrutinise more closely.

Not every child grows up to be what we could regard as a genuinely "adult" personality, but, on the other hand, every adult retains in her make-up something of the child. Many grown people who relinquish activities they feel are too "young" for them find they experience a simple and refreshing delight if they are again precipitated into participation by force of circumstances table tennis, dancing, country dancing, childish games, or the ago-old magic of "once upon a time . . ." When I tell a Brownie-age story to a mixed group of young people the Brownies may enjoy it, but to a certain extent it is nothing out of the ordinary for them; it is the Rangers who say in tones of faint surprise, "Gee, I loved that".

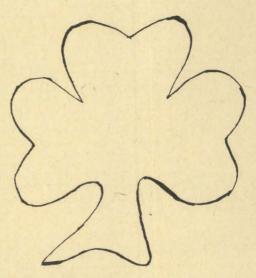
Rangers are neither children nor adults, and most of their inner conflicts stem from that duality of personality. We provide them with charmingly adult uniforms and present them with a programme of training that is designed to lead them towards the acceptance of adult responsibilities and service for others; let us not forget the other half — the half that is still a child.

I believe that many of our Senior Branch Guiders and Trainers, too, are sometimes quite pardonably influenced by the mass of propaganda that insists today's teenager is a young adult to the extent that they feel it would be a social gaffe to treat her occasionally as a child, and yet it is in this occasional return to the uninhibited relaxations of childhood that a youngster can find release from the tensions that her "forced" early maturity have laid upon her.

Given the right build-up — which often means scrapping the programme and allowing spontaneity to have its way — Rangers will play the wildest "Guide" games with a hilarity and lack of restraint that to a trained eye should tell its own story. "British Bulldogs", silly team games, crazy competitions, challenging commando-type exercises . . . at

the right moment and in the right atmosphere they serve a purpose of which is perhaps beyond our power to assess. I believe the relief is somewhat analogous to the comforting balm the wise Guider applies to a raw surface when she sometimes forbids, corrects or admonishes a CHILD instead of leaving a "young adult" without prop or stay in a bewildering world by saying, "You are old enough to decide that for yourself". Not many adults are as serious, didactic and conscientious as our Rangers when they are busy at being adults; not many children are as unrestrained, noisy and generally crazy as our Rangers when they are busy at being children. Let's give them the chance to be

-A.F.R.



FOR THINKING DAY?

An attractive candlestick can be made by tracing this Trefoil on to three-ply wood or balsa wood ½in. thick and cutting it out with a fretsaw. If using balsa wood, make sure that the stem of the Trefoil lies along the grain of the wood, not across it, or it is likely to break off easily.

Half a cotton reel — the small, thin kind — makes a good holder for a birthday cake candle. This should be fixed to the Trefoil with a strong cement or glue. If desired, the Trefoil can be decorated and then given one or two coats of clear varnish.

-MARY LAMBE.

INVASION AT FLINDERS NAVAL DEPOT

It was warm and humid when 140 members of the Senior Branch entered the confines of H.M.A.S. Cerberus, or Flinders Naval Depot as it is generally called.

We were met at the gate by Third Officer Robinson, and the buses and cars were directed to the WRANS quarters. Here we were met by more WRANS, who supplied each Ranger and Cadet with a programme of the events, which included challenge matches in softball and basketball. After a cup of coffee or tea teams were called and positions sorted out by discussion; then we sallied forth to take up the challenge. The basketball team had quite a long hike to the gym, where, under the leadership of Sandra Norton, and despite the coach (or was it because of her?) the Senior Branch was defeated. (Skipper Preece-Brown, of S.R.S. Anzac had appointed herself coach of the basketball team!). It was a different story with the softball team. Jenny O'Malley was captain and led the Senior Branch to victory. There were all types of protests flying when the umpire started to coach the opposition! Unfortunately, the pitcher of the S/B team can't have liked the catcher, as she hit her twice on the face. But was this good pitching or poor catching? Fortunately, it was the final innings and the catcher was later passed as medically fit.

After the games the teams all showered and then came down for lunch — eaten out on the lawns in the sun. At 1300 (1 p.m. for landlubbers) we split into three groups and set out to see things. One group made for the wharf, where they boarded an SAR (Sea/Air Rescue launch). After starting out slowly down Hanns Inlet a warning was given to hold on, as we picked up speed and went down the channel, out into Westernport Bay. Some of the girls unwisely took their seats in the stern, and before returning to dry land could almost have been wrung out.

Next in the round was a tour of the Depot. The Protestant and Catholic Chapels, the Zoo, the picture theatre, finishing at the indoor swimming pool, where an aqualung diving display was put on for our benefit. As it is necessary to be a good swimmer to be a good diver, and to love the water

like a fish, one section of the display was three members of the group begging like seals to be fed — and they were, with apples, carrots and oranges. Have you ever tried eating under water, or riding a bicycle along the bottom of a swimming pool?

Last, but no means least, was the showing of some naval films; members of the S.R.S. Anzac and S.R.S. Melbourne were thrilled to see their ships being refuelled at sea, as well as some of the other ships of the Royal Australian Navy.

Unfortunately, all good things must come to an end, and at last we were back in the hall for a drink and "sticky" buns and cake. The WRANS were thanked by Barbara Huddle, and it was time for goodbyes, back to the buses and home. As we were leaving at least one WRAN was wearing a Sea Ranger's hat.

Many thanks are due to the WRANS and the Royal Australian Navy for organising such a wonderful day for the Senior Branch.

-P. daF.



COMMUNITY AID ABROAD

The 2nd Traralgon Guides have been working hard in order to raise money for Community Aid Abroad. We spent several weeks preparing for a teenage social. After two weeks of selling tickets and making posters we were thrilled to find we had the sum of £23/6/3 profit. The social was a roaring success, both socially and financially. A cheque for the money we had raised was presented to the Secretary of the Traralgon C.A.A. group at our next Guide meeting.

Several weeks later, Mr. E. Fleming, well-known Traralgon surgeon, was the guest speaker for Traralgon C.A.A. Mr. Fleming has recently returned home after having spent three months travelling and working voluntarily at a medical centre in Pakistan. Ten of our Guides joined the C.A.A. ladies to serve a curry and rice supper after another successful evening.

—Lynette Matthew, Patrol Leader, 2nd Traralgon Guide Company.

PHILIPPINES JUBILEE

The Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Girl Scouts of the Philippines are being held from May, 1965, to May, 1966; one of the highlights is the International Camp, to take place early in 1966 in Quezon City. Member countries of the WAGGGS have been invited to send delegates to this camp, the programme of which will be focussed on the sharing of experiences and knowledge of cultural heritages.

The Charter of the Girl Scout Movement in the Philippines was signed on 26th May, 1940, and the history of the Movement was depicted in a pageant given during a rally for 25,000 girls. President Macapagal has declared 1965-66 Girl Scout Year in the Philippines, and two special service projects, one on "Healthy Homes for a Progressive Philippines" and the other on Community Beautification with the planting of flowers will be carried out during that time by the Girl Scouts.

* * *

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

The Girl Scouts of the Philippines celebrated its Silver Jubilee on 26th May, 1965. Twenty-five years were marked and the significance of these years measured by a perspective of the achievements of the past as a basis for our outlook and aims for the future

The past years have been momentous and thrilling years for us. We had passed through the normal teething troubles of our infancy and we can rightly say that we have now reached the stage where this organisation of ours — which our Founder, Mrs. Josefa Llanes Escoda, with our leaders and our many volunteers, as well as professional workers, have built up through strenuous and dedicated efforts — has become a national force, a national Movement representing the youth in all parts of the land.

Our membership has grown tremendously from a mere handful in 1946 to a total strength of 127,705 adult and young members today. Girl Scouting has spread throughout the country; local councils have been organised in almost all provinces and more are waiting to be admitted to our

organisation. In carrying out the lofty objectives we have dedicated ourselves to in our beginning in 1940, and the universal principle of the Promise and Laws of the Scouting Movement, the organisation has devoted itself to the training of girls — developing them into fine women with high moral values, exercising their duties as citizens actively and intelligently. In carrying out this programme it has been responsive to the needs and problems of Filipino girls, fashioning new ideas, new methods, new directions, if need be, to reach the requirements of modern youth.

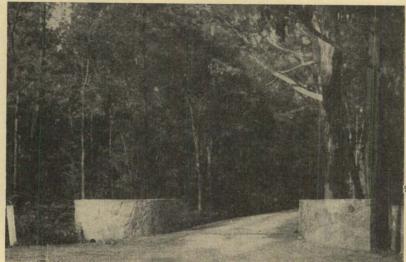
We can therefore be fittingly proud that our organisation has come of age and into its own. But it is not for us to preen our feathers, because we must move on. Our organisation, because it is of and by youth, should continually, consistently, unceasingly build for the future.

Our theme for the Jubilee year is significantly, "Wisdom from the Past — Faith in the Future." On the foundation of our the future. Let us pursue new challenges, achievements, let us aim for the summit of new horizons while at the same time reaffirming our beliefs, our ideals and our objectives. Let us reach out for more girls, let us expand and strengthen our leadership training programme among them, let us make the Promise and Laws a more vibrant force among the youth.

As we celebrate our Silver Jubilee anniversary we have launched two nation-wide community service projects — one on beautification with the planting of Dona Aurora blossoms; and another on sanitation to improve living conditions in rural areas — as our "thank you" gesture to the nation which has accepted Girl Scouting as part of the community. We shall have our national encampments, and we look forward to hostessing an international camp as one of the highlights of our celebration. These and many other important events that are planned will mark anew significant advances of our Movement.

We have great cause for enthusiasm to look forward not only to our Jubilee year, but to the years ahead. Let us carry on to wider horizons and turning a fresh page in our record book look ahead to our golden years.

> —From "The Girl Scout" of the Philippines.



BRITANNIA PARK

At the time of writing this — early December — we have no Warden at Britannia Park, but we hope that by the time you read this in February we will have found just the right person to look after our property. In the meantime, Miss Jermyn is very kindly giving us most valuable help, by doing many of the jobs usually done by the Warden. I know all the Q.Ms. coming into the house and cottage will be most grateful to her for having the stoves lit and the water hot for their arrival. We are most grateful, too, to all those Guiders who have co-operated by looking after themselves as much as possible.

The lining of the B.P. hut has been completed. Mr. McLerie has done a very good job there, and we hope that everyone will think that the lining has improved the hut and that more people will use it. A third of the cost of it has been met by the remainder of the Tartandi money. If you think back you will know that three major things were done at Britannia Park with the Tartandi money: (1) The new Chapel: (2) the new main entrance walls; (3) help towards lining the B.P. hut. Almost all our members in Victoria are pleased with what we have done with the money, and I am sure that for many years to come those three things will give great pleasure.

The Committee has decided to defer the painting of the interior of the hut until 1966,

and now, as you read this in 1966, you will be thinking of planning your activities for this year. We hope very much that many of you plan to support Britannia Park both financially and actively. The Committee proposes to have two "Wooding Bees" this year — one in the autumn and one in the spring. Also a mid-week day for L.As. and Guiders (who are such good painters) to do the inside of the B.P. hut. A tentative date for this is Wednesday, 20th April. Final dates for all these activities will be published in the March edition of "Matilda".

Since writing the last report two more L.As. — Koonung Heights and West Heidelberg — have been up to do some work for us on the property. One lady said she had never done any painting, but found to her surprise that it was quite fun and that really she was quite good at it. She doesn't propose to tell her husband, though in case he hands over the family paint brush.

This year 1966 will be a busy one for this Committee. There is always a lot to do to one house, let alone three. Not to mention all the other parts of the property. But if we continue to get the help from members of the Movement AND from friends of Guiding, as we had last year, much will be achieved. The Maintenance Fund, for instance, has made all the difference to us because, instead of having to budget on the

proverbial shoestring, we have been able to do some of the things which, though not ESSENTIAL to life up there, are helping to restore the place to its original charm.

The Committee wish to thank the following for their generous contributions to the Maintenance Fund during the month of November.

1st-Preston Division.

2nd-3rd East Brighton Pack.

3rd-Nunawading Trefoil.

4th-Cheltenham L.A.

4th—Hawthorn L.A.

5th-Moorabbin District.

6th-1st Victorian Post Trefoil Guild.

8th-Mrs. R. E. Gray.

10th-2nd Blackburn Coy.

11th-Clayton District.

12th-Caulfield L.A.

13th-Maidstone L.A.

14th—Newtown-Chilwell District.

15th-Miss E. Bunning.

16th-Newtown-Chilwell District.

16th— 2nd Syndal Pack.

17th—Caulfield L.A.

18th—Healesville L.A.

19th—Central Murray Division.

20th—Natimuk-Noradjuah District.

23rd-2nd Ashburton Pack.

24th—Geelong Trefoil Guild.

25th—1st Euroa Coy.

26th—1st Oakleigh and South Oakleigh Packs.

27th-Merri Division.

28th-Nunawading District.

29th—Tawonga District.

30th-East Malvern-Gardiner L.A.

Don't forget your . . .



COMPACTOID first gid kit

Small - Medium - Large

As supplied to, and recommended by, your Association AT YOUR GUIDE SHOP



Guide Campsite at "Talindert"

-Block by courtesy of the "Terang Express".

Bus loads of Guides and Brownies and family parties attended the informal opening of a wonderful campsite for the Otway Region of Guides.

The campsite is at "Talindert", the property of Sir Chester and Lady Manifold, near Camperdown.

The Region Commissioner, Mrs. J. O. Tait, thanked Sir Chester and Lady Manifold for all they are doing for Guiding, and declared the campsite open. Lady Manifold invited all the visitors to inspect the gardens, and the Guide Commissioners enjoyed afternoon tea in the equipment hut with Sir Chester and Lady Manifold, Mrs. C. O. Fairbairn, Miss Binns, official guests and the Camp Committee.

Mrs. J. Bell presented a Guide "Thanks" Badge to Mrs. C. B. Manifold, of "Milangil", for her help during the Plan Evergreen over the past three years. The day concluded with the singing of Brownie Bells and Guide Daylight Taps.

A Patrol from Noorat Guide Company were camping in one part of the grounds, and visitors inspected their site and various camp gadgets with real interest.

The equipment hut was once the golf club-house for the Camperdown Golf Club, and Sir Chester has had it repaired and painted an attractive deep green. Septic tanks and a shower will appeal to Guiders, and the hut also has an open fireplace, making it suitable for summer camps. Charts of wild-flowers and birds found in the area hang on the walls of the hut and a camp stove near by provides hot water.

Local Associations in the Region, Guides and Brownies have contributed funds for the camping equipment, and this will be added to as more funds are available.

The Otway Region extends from Winchelsea to Port Fairy, and this beautiful campsite will be a great asset to Guides in this Region.

TO MRS. H. E. BOLTE THE AWARD OF THE BEAVER

Excited, affectionate enthusiasm swept through the State Council in December as our President, Lady Delacombe, presented the Beaver to Mrs. H. E. Bolte.

Our great pleasure in welcoming Lady Delacombe was enhanced when we realised that she had made her visit for this important occasion.

The secret had been well kept, and until the last few moments Mrs. Bolte was the only one in the room who did not know what was to happen.

The citation read and the presentation made, cameras flashed and applause broke out. Mrs. Bolte was a little overcome, but after a few minutes she spoke with charm and modesty.

Mrs. Bolte said that Guiding has always been such a joy and stimulating inspiration to her that she felt she did not deserve recognition for anything she had been able to do. She had always got far more out of Guiding than she could possibly have put in, and her faith in Guiding would always remain very close and dear to her.

No record can express the spirit, sympathy and understanding with which Mrs. Bolte has imbued all she has done. In 1919, Jill Elder joined the 1st Skipton Company. Skipton is among our pioneer Companies and has a great tradition.

She became a Patrol second, and, through many progressive appointments, has been a devoted Guide and Guider. When District Commissioner for Meredith she formed a Ranger Company, and resigned only because of her many commitments when her husband became Premier of Victoria.

Mrs. Bolte has been a member of the State Council since 1949 and was a member of the Executive Committee for 10 years.

On her travels through the State as wife of the Premier, Mrs. Bolte has never missed an opportunity to promote Guiding, and whilst abroad she has been a splendid ambassador for the Movement. She has always found time to support State Guide functions, and, through her, Victorian Guiding has been keep to the forefront in the community.

When the State Council decided to launch a public appeal for our War Memorial Building Extension Fund, Mrs. Bolte graciously consented to be President of the appeal; she has devoted a very great amount of time to the promotion and organisation and gained generous support from the public.

With deep gratitude and appreciation we express our congratulations and very best wishes to Mrs. Bolte.

-G. Swinburne.



NEWS FROM NATHALIA

A large crowd honoured Brownie Leader, Miss Betty Hutchins, when she was recently awarded the Certificate of Merit. The award will be presented by the Governor in May,

As Miss Hutchins entered the hall she was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. The Division Commissioner announced the award, stating that the Nathalia Pack had been formed in 1947 and Miss Hutchins had been with the Pack since its inception.

The District Commissioner for Scouts said the Scouts of the District, too, were proud of the distinction gained by Miss Hutchins, who had had such a successful Pack. The Shire President spoke also, commenting that it was a special occasion for Miss Hutchins and her family and for the Shire.

The Local Association President made a presentation to Miss Hutchins, and the evening concluded with a musical programme and a delightful supper.—From the story in the "Nathalia Herald".

AUSTRALIAN NATURE SERIES

A new series of nature books has been published. The junior ones (7 to 9 years) are: "Birds in Your Garden", "From Flower to Fruit", "Insects" and "Leaves".

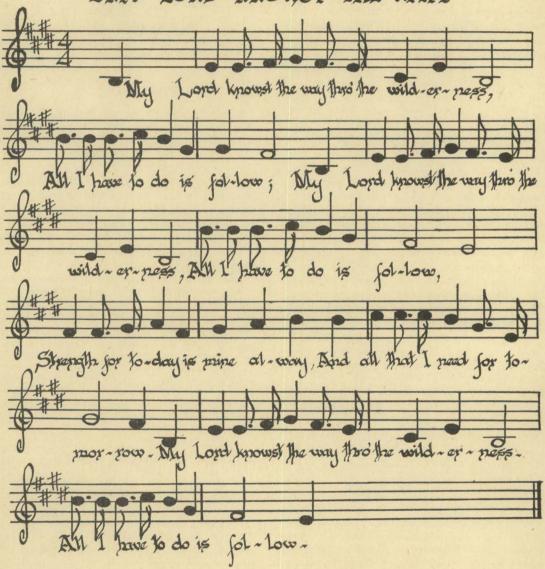
The senior ones (10-12 years) are: "Saving Our Wildflowers" and "Water", Book 1. Others were being prepared and were to be published early this year. Valuable for nature tests, Naturalist and Bird Watcher Badges; attractive yet inexpensive.

—J.H.



CAMPFIRE SONGS

MY LORD KNOWST THE WAY



"Matilda" has endeavoured to locate copyright for the song, "My Lord Knowst the Way", but has not been successful. The Editor would appreciate any information regarding the composer/author that the correct credits may be given.

BENALLA DISTRICT GUIDES' MYSTERY HIKE

Early Saturday morning found three Captains, three Lieutenants and 80 Guides, their bicycles loaded with billies and hike equipment, milling around the Guide Hall door waiting for the map and instructions of their day's adventure. As each Patrol deciphered the instructions they could be seen pedalling off in haste in the direction of "Morago", two miles out of town on the Broken River, the property of an L.A. member and mother of three Brownies. The map was left on the door for parents to follow later in the afternoon by car.

As the Guides arrived at the site each Patrol Leader was given the following sealed instructions:—

"Your Patrol is a party of explorers stranded in unknown territory. You have reached the borders of a foreign frontier, where you must encamp while spying out the land.

"1. Take possession of a chosen area — away from any other encampments — and cord it off with the aid of string or rope joined with correct knots.

"2. Hang up your food in your Patrol larder.

"3. Lay a trail from your encampment to your water supply so that your Patrol will not lose its way, keeping away from trails laid by other encampments.

"4. Collect firewood and make a woodpile.

"5. One of your Patrol lay a fire. (When ready, P.L. is to report to a Guider to see it lit before cooking your meal.)

"6. Make a gadget showing some squarelashing to keep your caps, plate-bags and other belongings off the ground.

"7. Improvise a flagpole and hoist your Patrol Flag.

"8. In your Patrol Notebook make as many observations of the birds and plants at the frontier as you possibly can.

"Ten points for each Section and points for organisation, speed and efficiency."

When they had finished we hurried round, with not a little curiosity! What we found was really encouraging. Here was the Patrol System at its best. Patrols had been fully

occupied the whole time. There had been absolutely no copying of next door neighbours. Improvisation and imagination had been used to the full. We do not pretend this so-called Adventure Day contained the peak of highly coloured mysteries and surprises, but in addition to its abstract issues of resource and ingenuity it did call for practical all-round Second Class knowledge, and we were able to pass a great many tests, all at the same time, with the Guides hardly realising they were tests. The main thing is that what pretence there was the Guides enjoyed tremendously.

It took us about two hours on the site all told. By 2 p.m. you should have seen them - ties off, blouses hanging outside skirts, knees covered in mud, all thoroughly happy. We called up all the Patrol Leaders and told them they had exactly one hour to tidy up their fires, their meal centres, and the members of their Patrols before Commissioners, parents, L.A. members and City Councillors were due to arrive, for there was to be the presentation of a Queen's Guide Badge to Margot Paez. At 3 p.m. precisely, when all the Guides assembled round a big campfire built by the Guiders, we could hardly believe our eyes. Our Division Commissioner, Mrs. Noble, remarked on how tidy and wellturned-out the Guides looked. Hats off to our P.Ls!

After the presentation the Guides were given time to show all the visitors around their encampments, then everything had to be cleared away, before all assembled round the campfire again for campfire songs. The Guiders, going around the whole site after the last car and bicycle had disappeared, had the biggest surprise of the whole "mystery" hike — not one piece of paper, nor piece of string, nor piece of fruit skin, was to be seen to mar the loveliness of the surroundings where 80 Guides had been!

—Y.B.



""" NOTICES

TRAINING DEPARTMENT

Training Certificates

Congratulations to Mrs. N. Launder, 1st Vermont Pack, on gaining her Brownie Training Certificate, and also to Mrs. M. Geddes, 2nd Bellfield Company, on gaining her Guide Training Certificate.

We are very happy to welcome these two new members to the Victorian Training Team.

Overseas Appointment

Miss Janet Thomas (Brownie Trainer) has been appointed Brownie Trainer in New Guinea for two years. We wish her every success with this challenging assignment.

Interstate Trainings

N.S.W. and W.A. would be happy to welcome any Victorian Guiders to their trainings. Types and dates will be given on application to the Victorian Training Department.

Easter Training Week, 1966
A Residential Training Week for Brownie, Guide and Senior Branch Warranted and Pre-Warrant Guiders will be held at Britannia Park, Yarra Junction, from Friday, 8th April, to Tuesday, 12th April, 1966.

Nominations for this training should be sent to the Training Department by 21st March, together with the fee of \$8 (£4). (If, for any reason, Guiders are unable to attend after being nominated, fees will be refunded if written notice is given at least seven days before the training commences.)

Please Note: It has been found that a great deal of valuable training time is lost in the collection of fees, finding change and collecting forms at the beginning of a new training course. We, thereore, seek your co-operation in using the following procedure in 1966:—

Nominations should be made on the blue forms and should reach the Training Department at least 10 days before the course begins. THE FEE FOR THE COURSE SHOULD BE SENT WITH THE NOMINATION.

A receipt and acceptance card will be sent to each Trainee four or five days before the course begins. Nominations will be accepted in strict order of receipt.

Classes are to be limited in the number attending, but if sufficient extra nominations are received, and a Trainer is available, another class will be arranged. In this case the Guiders concerned will be notified.

The same procedure will be followed in the case of country trainings. Numbers accepted are to be limited to enable the Trainers to work more effectively.

HEADQUARTERS COURSES

1st Term, 1966

Fee for all the courses at H.Q. will be 75c (7/6) and should be sent with the blue nomination form.

GUIDE GUIDER COURSES

Pre-Warrant

Tuesday, 1st, 15th and 29th March, 26th April and 10th May (five days). Sessions of four hours each (10 to 12 AND 1 to 3). Nominations close 18th February.

Thursday, 24th February, 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st March; 21st and 28th April (eight weeks) PLUS an outdoor day (5.45 to 7.45 p.m.). Nominations close 14th February.

Warranted

Wednesday — five sessions.

1.30 to 3.30 p.m.: Miss Watson.

2nd March: International/Commonwealth Knowledge.

16th March: Patrol System.

30th March: Ceremonial.

27th April: Advanced Knotting/Pioneering. 11th May: Teaching Through Games.

7.45 to 9.45 p.m.

2nd March: International/Commonwealth Knowledge.

16th March: Ceremonial.

30th March: Advanced Knotting/Pioneering - Miss M. Mellor.

27th April: The Age Group - Miss Y. James.

11th May: Teaching Through Games.

(GUIDERS MAY ATTEND THE WHOLE COURSE (FEE 75c) OR INDIVIDUAL DAYS (FEE 20c).

Nominations for afternoon or evening sessions close 18th February.

BROWNIE GUIDER COURSES
Pre-Warrant
Tuesday, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March;
5th, 19th, 26th April; PLUS an outdoor day
(7.30 to 9.45 p.m.). Nominations close 18th
February.
Wednesday, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th
March; 6th, 20th, 27th April (10.30 to 1).
Nominations close 18th February; 3rd, 10th, 17th,
24th, 31st March; 7th April (10.30 to 1).
Nominations close 18th February; 3rd, 10th, 17th,
24th, 31st March; 7th April (10.30 to 1).
Nominations close 18th February; 3rd, 10th, 17th,
24th, 31st March; 7th April (10.30 to 1).
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Nominations close 18th February; 3rd, 10th, 17th,
24th, 31st March; 7th April (10.30 to 1).
Nominations close 18th February; 3rd, 10th, 17th,
24th, 31st March; 18th, 18th, 25th, 19th, 19

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the recipients of the following Awards:— Thanks Badge:

Mrs. L. Giles, Pakenham.

Local Association Long Service:

Mrs. J. D. Coates, Shepparton.
Mrs. C. R. Royle, Shepparton.
Mrs. S. Parris, Nagambie.
Mrs. S. Hunt, Nagambie.
Mrs. Pollard, Nagambie.
Long Service (Uniformed Members):

Miss W. Cozens, Richmond (Silver Knot). Mrs. R. E. Weatherly, Streatham (White Knot).

APPOINTMENTS

Region Commissioner:

Mrs. W. H. Chamberlain, North Metropolitan. **Division Commissioners**

Mrs. M. R. Dean (new Division, Eltham area); Mrs. N. D. McIntosh, Wimmera West.

District Commissioners:

Mrs. P. H. Koop, Alexandra; Mrs. J. Cameron, Grenville; Mrs. N. R. Smith, Rutherglen; Mrs. M. S. Waite, Glengarry; Mrs. F. S. Grimwade, Broadford; Mrs. M. J. Smallhorn, Brunswick East; Mrs. H. R. Jackson, Pascoe Vale; Mrs. L. H. Carey, Mrs. H. R. Jackson, Pascoe Vale; Mrs. L. H. Carey, West Reservoir; Miss M. Fuller, Belgrave; Miss J. M. Ray, Hobson's Bay; Mrs. N. Guppy, Beaumaris; Mrs. E. Craigie, Yanakie; Mrs. F. H. Neeld, Invergordon; Mrs. J. Pearce, Black Rock; Mrs. A. B. Connard, Hampton; Mrs. D. I. Platt, Mitcham; Mrs. M. Gow, Sprinfigeld; Mrs. A. S. Arney, Wantirna South; Mrs. S. C. Peterson, Montmorency; Mrs. L. Marshall-Wood, Fitzroy; Mrs. E. K. Simmons, Templestowe; Mrs. J. M. Oliver, Irrewarra Irrewarra.

RESIGNATIONS

Division Commissioners:

Mrs. F. W. S. Greig, Berwick; Mrs. G. W. Silverwood, Keilor.

District Commissioners:

Mrs. I. C. Jephcott, Corryong; Miss J. Rentoul, Geelong City; Mrs. A. G. Robertson, Beaumaris; Mrs. G. Stafford, Hamilton; Mrs. F. H. Neeld, Katamatite; Mrs. A. R. Dutton, Black Rock; Mrs. H. Jenkins, East Reservoir; Mrs. A. E. O'Connor, Hampton; Mrs. M. Stewart, Irrewarra; Mrs. M. Hands, Murtoa; Mrs. J. Mitchell, Woomelang.

WARRANTS

Captains:

Mrs. I. J. Armour, 1st Warragul; Mrs. D. Rance, 1st Longwarry; Mrs. J. Woolley, S.R.S. Parramatta; Miss J. Stewart, 1st Stanhope; Mrs. R. Kellett, 3rd Syndal; Miss L. S. Boxall, 1st Nhill; Miss L. Risstom, 1st Pascoe Vale South; Miss B. F. E. Martin, 1st Ripplebrook; Mrs. G. Cook, 2nd Templestowe; Mrs. G. West, 1st Port Melbourne; Mrs. T. Moses, 1st Nauru; Mrs. W. H. Dunn, 1st Alphington; Miss R. Spillman, 1st Albert Park; Mrs. K. Farrall, 4th Moorleigh; Mrs. R. Green, 1st Moorleigh; Mrs. C. C. Cross, 1st Katunga; Mrs. G. Parkes, 1st Rosebud; Mrs. A. Leaver, Moorleigh Ranger Coy.; Miss M. G. Coupar, 1st Mernda; Mrs. D. Weatherill, 1st Whittlesea. Mrs. I. J. Armour, 1st Warragul; Mrs. D. Rance, Whittlesea.

Lieutenants:

Mrs. A. Routley, 1st Lake Boga; Mrs. A. Cook, 5th Camberwell; Miss L. M. Fauvel, 1st Pascoe Vale South; Mrs. N. Collett, 1st Vermont; Mrs. J. Brash, 2nd Vermont; Mrs. L. A. Hatton, 2nd Templestowe; Mrs. J. Surry, 4th Moorleigh; Mrs. F. Rowswell, 2nd Moorleigh; Mrs. F. W. Sadlier, 1st Yarra Glen; Miss S. Hunter, 1st Mitcham; Miss E. A. Williams, 1st Edithvale; Miss G. Baker, 1st Orbest: Miss J. Schuback, 1st Orbest: Miss B. Schuback, 1st Orbest: Miss B. E. A. Williams, 1st Edithvale; Miss G. Baket, 1st Orbost; Miss J. Schuback, 1st Orbost; Miss B. Wilson, 1st Rosebud; Mrs. J. Sutherland, 3rd Nunawading; Mrs. R. Judd, 1st Moorleigh; Miss J. Lawrence, 1st Whittlesea; Mrs. R. Hovey, 11th Ballarat; Mrs. J. Haywood, 1st Nhill; Miss S. Russell, 1st Springvale North; Miss V. Weight, 3rd Williams, 1st North, 1st North liamstown

Brown Owls:

Brown Owls:

Mrs. L. Taylor, 1st Lascelles; Mrs. F. A. Ansell, 1st Donvale; Mrs. L. Mulhallen, 1st Nhill; Mrs. L. Barker, 4th Syndal; Miss A. McSwiney, 1st Wangaratta; Mrs. W. D. Allan, 2nd Eltham; Mrs. O. J. Stevenson, 1st Numurkah; Mrs. L. A. Turner, 2nd Vermont; Mrs. J. Duckworth, 1st Vermont; Mrs. P. McB. Ferguson, 1st Eltham; Mrs. C. Roos, 1st Karingal; Mrs. G. L. Nankervis, 9th Bendigo; Mrs. J. Pryde, 1st Boolarra; Mrs. W. D'Alton, 2nd Montmorency; Mrs. C. L. Smithwick, 1st North Ringwood; Mrs. R. Hodson, 1st Tullamarine; Mrs. J. Popple, 1st Mernda; Mrs. J. Hiskins, 1st North Sunshine; Mrs. G. A. Livingston, 2nd Jeparit.

Tawny Owls:

Mrs. W. J. Pell, 1st East Doncaster; Mrs. A. Rudd, 4th Syndal; Mrs. R. S. Mason, 1st East Keilor; Mrs. B. H. Henwood, 1st Ripplebrook; Mrs. D. C. Blaikie, 2nd Eltham; Mrs. M. D. Haywood, 2nd Vermont; Mrs. J. Surry, 4th Moorleigh; Mrs. D. R. Feather, 2nd Mt. Waverley; Miss N. Burrows, 1st Stanhope; Mrs. van der Werken, 1st Drygdale, Miss R. Hogan, 4th Robinyale; Mrs. J. Drygdale, Miss R. Hogan, 4th Robinyale; Mrs. J. Drysdale; Miss R. Hogan, 4th Robinvale; Mrs. J. Hoffman, 2nd Benalla; Mrs. S. Heddle, 1st Mernda; Mrs. M. Lewis, 2nd Jordanville.

WARRANTS RETURNED FOR CANCELLATION

Captains:

Mrs. K. J. Roy, 1st Longwarry; Mrs. D. G. Lyon, 1st Ripplebrook; Mrs. P. Young, 1st South Oakleigh; Mrs. J. Platt, 1st Vermont; Mrs. R. W. Allott, 1st Tarago; Miss J. Eller, 1st West Reservoir; Mrs. P. Taylor, 3rd Glenroy; Mrs. J. Roberts, 1st Newcomb; Mrs. R. H. Davies, 4th Jordanville; Miss L. Miller, 1st Jordanville; Miss S. Page, S.R.S. Derwent.

Lieutenants:

Mrs. R. Medlicott, 1st Traralgon; Miss L. Risstrom, 1st Pascoe Vale South; Mrs. N. Johns, 1st Vermont; Miss M. J. Fraser, 3rd Surrey; Mrs. K. Hindson, 2nd Maidstone; Mrs. G. West, 1st Port Melbourne; Miss N. Lupton, 1st Newcomb; Mrs. D. F. Andrews, 1st Glenthompson; Mrs. B. Sorrell, 2nd Glenroy.

Brown Owls:

Mrs. H. A. Harrison, 3rd North Ringwood; Mrs. O. Sengotta, 3rd Glen Waverley; Mrs. W. Sierocinski, 1st Noble Park; Miss F. Grove, 1st Fiery Creek; Mrs. N. Parkhill, 1st Moorleigh; Mrs. I. Trist, 5th Williamstown.

Continued on page 215

FROM THE GUIDE SHOP

PLEASE NOTE . . .

Commissioners, Guiders, Badge Secretaries: New Proficiency Badge Certificate Books are now available for Company and Pack use. When ordering, please state which book you require -Guide Badges may not be issued on Brownie Certificates and vice versa.

11

11

NEW—			
Brownie Diaries	4/-		
Brownie Charms	2/9		
Girl Guide Adventure Books-			
The Monkey Puzzle, No. 1	9/6		
Blue Goose East, No. 2	9/6		
Victorian Swap Badges—	0,0		
3 new designs—Bottle Brush,			
Heath, Teatree	1/-		
The Caravan Man — Delightful,	1,		
complete chapters suitable for			
Brownie story telling	9/6		
The Guide Promise Card	9d.		
Hints on Girl Guide Badges, No.	90.		
	3/6		
25—Artist, Photographer	3/0		
	1/0		
The Guider monthly	1/9		
The Guide weekly	1/3		
The Brownie weekly	1/-		
The Senior Branch News,	41		
monthly			
Magazines with training pages, ch			
badge work, songs, games, ideas			
Individual copies are available in			
Guide Shop, and subscriptions			
available through Gordon & Gotch,			
511 Little Collins Street, Melbour	ne.		

WARRANTS RETURNED FOR CANCELLATION—Continued from page 214

Tawny Owls:

Mrs. T. Hardie, 4th Balwyn; Mrs. J. Ferguson, 3rd Glen Waverley; Mrs. R. S. Durrell, 3rd Glen Waverley; Mrs. J. Duckworth, 1st Vermont; Mrs. L. A. Turner, 2nd Vermont; Mrs. A. E. Duncan, 2nd Oliver's Hill; Miss S. Hill, 1st West Reservoir; Mrs. J. A. Short, 2nd West Reservoir; Mrs. F. R. Ellis, 2nd Preston West; Mrs. J. Pryde, 1st Boolarra; Miss J. E. Abbott, 2nd Beaumaris; Mrs. W. D'Alton, 1st Montmorency; Mrs. P. Roberts, 3rd Moorleigh Moorleigh.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

Received with gratitude:

Whittlesea L.A.; The Shell Company of Australia; Malmsbury L.A.; Geelong West L.A.

Page Alter to 3 Brownie Uniforms

ALTERATIONS TO PRICE LIST

3	Guide Skirts	38/-
5	Lanyard Line	4/6
5	Shoulder Bags	45/-
7	Pack Holiday Forms	3/6
7	Story of the Brownies	1/-
7 & 8	Proficiency Badge Books	1/6
8	Parents' Consent Forms	3/-
10	Readings and Prayers for	
	Guides	3/6
10	Emergency First Aid	17/6
11	Guide Notebook (large)	2/-
11	Australian Guide Diary	3/6
11	"Matilda" Covers	8/6

44/-

2/6

1/-

Guide Processional Hymn ...

Brownie Games (Knight) ...

"MATILDA" ADVERTISEMENTS

In view of the volume of interesting material of service to Guiders, and the limited space available, but realising that insertion of notices, etc., could be of service also, it has been agreed that this facility be provided as under-

From 1st May, 1966, "Matilda" will accept small advertisements, notices, etc., which may be submitted from ANY source.

Cost will be 5 cents per word, and this should be sent with the copy.

Telephone numbers, uniform measurements, dates, etc., count as one word.

The Editor reserves the right to refuse any advertisement and no responsibility can be accepted for information given in any advertisement.

NOTE: Notices of local annual meetings (e.g., for Regions, etc.) and similar functions will be advertised without charge up to 30 words (five lines). Any additional words will be charged at the normal rate of 5 cents per word.



-Block by courtesy of the "Benalla Standard".

An International Picture

Visiting Korean Minister, Rev. Mathew Kim, joins in the fun with Krystyna Toper and Anna Omielczuk at a field day held at Benalla. The parents of both Krystyna and Anna were born in Poland.

