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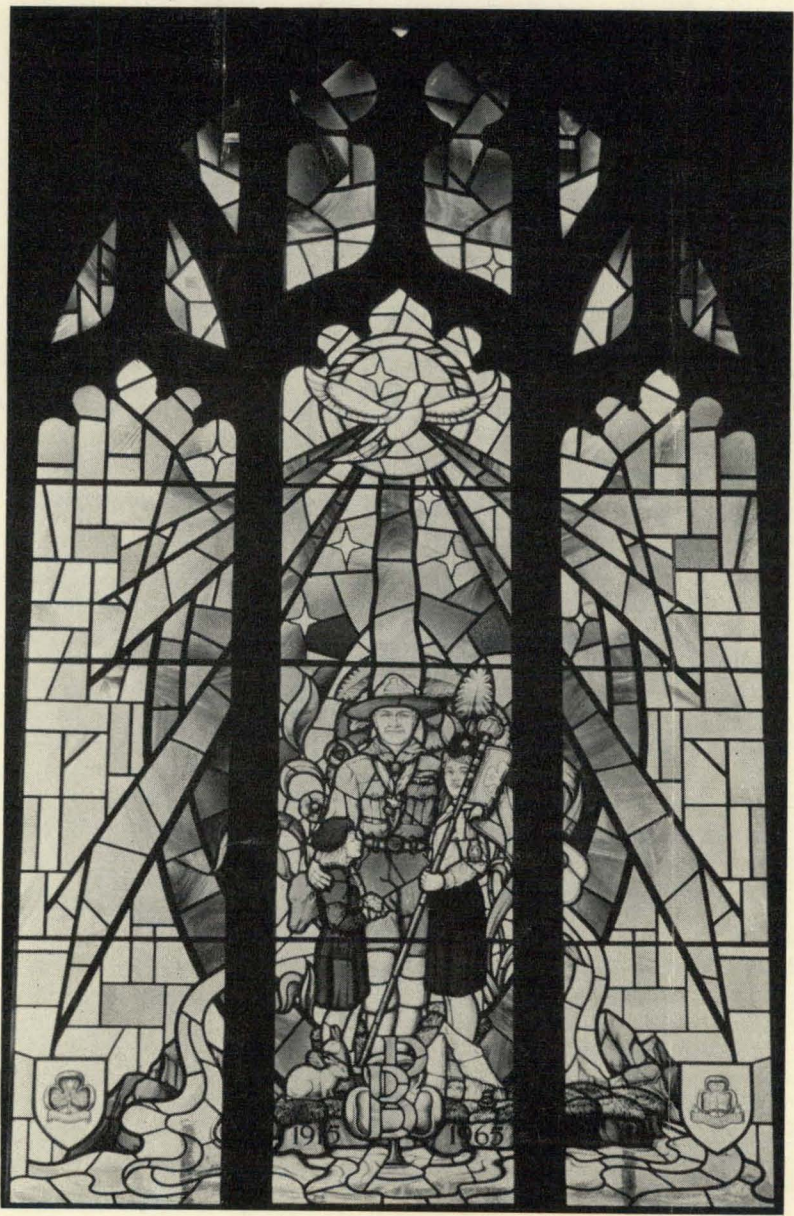
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MATILDA

AUGUST, 1967

VOLUME 45

NUMBER 2



FROM THE STATE COMMISSIONER

With all the events of interest in this month of Conferences I will first tell you of the important decision for the whole Association taken by the Executive Committee at a special meeting on 29th and subsequently approved by the State Council. This is that, in view of the fact that the tenders called for the plans to alter and integrate the recently purchased building with our premises at 20 Russell Street were more than twice the estimate given to us at the time of purchase, it will be more advantageous, in all respects, for both the present and the future, to re-build. On the basis of the thorough investigations, that I have assured you were being pursued constantly, it has now been decided to erect a building, for our own use only, over the whole site — to consist of a full basement and two floors, with foundations adequate to allow for upward expansion if and when required. The target for the Building Appeal Extension Fund that we attained with the generous help of the public and our friends of the Women's Committee will not, as you would guess, be sufficient for this project, but our Honorary Treasurer, Mr. R. E. Gregory, who has always advised us so faithfully and well, is confident that it is within the resources of the Association to repay the necessary additional money that he has been able to borrow for us, most advantageously, within the next 10 years. SO, if anybody is wondering how to place that Cents for Service money that is not really required in the

ON OUR COVER . . . Commemoration with a Difference

For two years Guides at Holy Trinity Church, Failsworth, saved and worked for money for a donation fund to commemorate the Guide Company's jubilee year. Their dream eventually came true when a stained glass window was dedicated at a special Service.

The window depicts Lord Baden-Powell with a Guide and Brownie on either side of him. The window was unveiled by the present Guide Captain. A bronze and oak plaque was also donated to commemorate the event.

—Photo "Oldham Chronicle" and the "Guide".

District, or if you are so happy with this decision to build a thoroughly efficient H.Q. building to aid Guiding throughout the whole State (as I'm sure you will be when we can let you see the final plans) that you would like to make a further special effort to help, well we could perhaps repay that debt in less than 10 years.

3rd-9th: Most of Victoria was wrapped in fog during this time, but in spite of it Camberwell Local Association celebrated its Diamond Jubilee right royally — Mrs. Gray and Mrs. Shave attended; Country Women assembled from all parts of the State for the Annual Meeting and Conference of their Association, to which we are always officially invited, as well as sharing members with both interests; and we had a record attendance at our own now biennial State Local Association Conference. Mrs. Gray, who has undertaken the leadership of Local Associations over the last five years, was more than happy with the interest, enthusiasm and participation in this day, and she and the Local Associations, who were responsible for the programme and arrangements, deserve our warm congratulations as well as our thanks. The International repercussions from their gifts to L.A.'s in other member countries of the World Association will continue for years to come.

Nor were Division Commissioners from most parts of the State deterred from coming to H.Q. for their quarterly meeting.

9th-11th: It was a privilege to represent you at the splendid reception given by H.E. the Governor and Lady Delacombe at Government House to celebrate the Queen's birthday.

For the first time, Commonwealth Youth Sunday Services were held on this weekend. The National Fitness Council, now responsible for the organisation of this celebration, must have been happy indeed with the central services and the splendid response to the one held in St. Paul's Cathedral. This weekend has come to be accepted as the date for the Ranger Branch Conference-Camp, at which activities for the year past are reviewed and plans made for the next year. Added to the pleasure of getting together this make it always an important event in the Ranger calendar, but this year it had particular significance in that the

Continued on page 43

MATILDA

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ASSISTANT STATE COMMISSIONERS: MRS. R. E. GRAY, MRS. C. OSBOURN SHAVE
EDITOR: MISS MARGARET SHAW.

COMMISSIONER'S CONFERENCE, 1967

CHARACTER, LEADERSHIP AND TRAINING

By Dr. P. G. LAW
(Victoria Institute of Colleges)

Can Character Be Developed?

I am tempted to ask this question because of a provocative statement made by a doctor in Queensland that "sport does not develop character."

Modern science is leading us more and more towards a behaviour-ist view of personality. According to such a view we are what our genes, our physiology generally and our environment make us. Given a specific situation, our immediate response is dictated by these factors rather than by an individual choice of action; although we might appear to be making a decision, our decision is a foregone conclusion because of the interplay of responses by mind, emotions, glands and nerves that are **pre-conditioned**. Free-will, according to this view, is a myth. There are experiments by Pavlov and others to demonstrate how responses can be conditioned by previous experience, and there are the frightening results of "brain washing" to show that human beings are not exceptions to the findings of Pavlovian-type experiments.

What if we were to accept all this fully? Would this mean that we should sit hopelessly awaiting whatever fate might hold in store for us and then make no effort to help ourselves in the face of impending disaster? I do not believe that it means this at all.

Let us assume, for the sake of argument, that the behaviourists are right, that we can work only within the limitations imposed by our inherited mental and physiological characteristics and that our responses can be conditioned by previous experience. I believe that within these limits we **still** have

an extensive field of manoeuvre, because I do not believe that the mental, emotional and physiological reactions produced by any particular stimulus do anything more precise than provide a **general** set of operating conditions. They cannot fix uniquely a single resultant action that is **invariable** for that set of circumstances. Further, one must not forget the important part played by previous experience, namely, environment, in the form of repeated habit-forming practices, and all kinds of deliberate conditioning. Even if the individual is strictly limited in his behaviour by such previous experience his teachers and leaders can determine the form that his early conditioning will take.

Here, I think, lies the answer to the question: "Can character be developed?" If by character we mean, amongst other things, the ability to maintain an attitude of mind in the face of considerable opposition, then it **is** possible to develop character, although the ways and means of doing it might not, when fully analysed, look or sound as petty or as morally impressive as the explanations assumed by past generations to account for the ends achieved.

Take a soldier on a parade ground. He can be taught by constant repetition, by boring, drudging repetition, by disciplined, hammered-in repetition against every personal inclination, to keep marching round and round with a heavy pack on his back, to rest for a few minutes each hour, then to rise, although apparently exhausted, and continue on again when a word of command is given. Later, in retreat from battle, amidst the din and confusion of a bombardment, he will go through all these motions almost automatically, providing the repetition of his original conditioning has been extensive enough. Viewed thus, is the magnificent behaviour of a famous regiment heroic or

merely adequately pre-conditioned? Frankly, I don't think it matters so long as the end result is admirable.

There is no doubt that it is possible to condition people to withstand all kinds of physical hardships, emotional pressures and mental stresses. All that it is necessary to do is to assess adequately the conditions for which you are training people and then to devise exercises that will produce the required result in the face of the specified stress or pressure. One can be trained to get up early in the morning, or to face unflinchingly cold water or tropical heat, or to bear certain levels of pain and discomfort, or to present for exams without losing one's head, or to confront difficult people or situations, or to stick to a set of prejudices or principles in the face of conclusive contrary arguments.

What is less obvious is whether, if you have been trained to withstand one situation, you can survive in another. Is there any "transfer of training" across into a situation **not** closely similar to that for which the training was designed? I believe there **is** such transfer, although the results in the new situation might not be exactly as one might have predicted. Also there are limits to how different the **two** conditions might be in order that transfer of training between them shall occur. For example, it is well known that a person trained purely to withstand great physical stress might fold up quite quickly under mental stress. Nevertheless, one of the great benefits of stress training of any kind is that it shows a person the true — and often very great — extent of his endurance with consequent increase in his self-confidence.

Character can be trained, whether the behaviourist psychologists are right or not. Children subjected to toughening courses—by sport, by Scouting, by school discipline, by tribal tradition, by any one of the numerous methods adopted throughout the history of man by different societies — are better able to cope with emergencies or withstand misfortune as adults than those not so trained. Let us not therefore argue about why a particular kind of training works: let us just note that it does work and use it if we wish to achieve a certain result.

Guide training is very comprehensive training. It is designed not only to impart knowledge, to strengthen physique and to train skill, but, more importantly, to inculcate attitudes of mind and to develop self-confidence.

Any form of training has two results — it produces a specific result and a general result. Training in bush-walking has the specific results of developing stamina and the ability to travel from place to place through various kinds of country; its general benefits are an appreciation of nature and an increased self-assurance. The specific results are those at which a course generally aims; the general results crop up as a sort of bonus. In the long run the general benefits are often more valuable than the specific ones, just as in education the valuable part is what remains long after you have forgotten all you have been taught.

Given, then, that character can be trained, what is the point of choosing an outdoor environment for the training arena? Character can be trained in the classroom, or in the home. Why go out into the bush and the country? Why choose specific training in a lot of small skills whose values are related mainly to this outdoor environment?

Is it because man has always had a yearning to remain close to nature? Does one feel closer to God in the bush than in the city? Or does an outdoor arena simply offer more **varieties** of tasks and testing exercises? I cannot answer this, but there is certainly something in man that makes him crave adventure by pitting himself against the forces of nature. A famous mountaineer, Wilfred Noyce, wrote a book called "Wings of Adventure", in which he attempted to analyse the reasons why man embarks upon adventurous pursuits. He suggests a definition of adventure: "A novel enterprise undertaken for its own sake", and quotes C. K. Chesterton, who said, "I think the immense act has something about it human and excusable; and when I endeavour to analyse the reason for this feeling I find it to lie, not in fact that the thing was big or bold or successful, but in the fact that the thing was perfectly useless to everybody, including the person who did it."

Then there is the person who believes in purification through pain, the "hair shirt"

or "sackcloth and ashes" approach, the person who does things because they are unpleasant in order to subjugate the physical and elevate the spiritual being. Cherry Garrard, the Antarctic explorer, had this in mind when he said, "Polar exploration is at once the cleanest and most isolated way of having a bad time which has ever been devised."

A third school is the one that believes a person should prove himself, "show that one can do something one thought impossible." "More, by mastering and toughening himself so that he can extend his limits far beyond what he thought possible, a man has at the back of his mind that he is on the way to mastering the world!"

Whatever it is, a few people seek vigorous physical adventure while countless millions participate vicariously in the adventures of others. Seventy thousands watch 36 adventurous athletes on a football field; the English-speaking world watches daily the progress of one man sailing alone around the globe. The death of five men in Antarctica in 1913 produced a legend that has had more influence on British youth than almost any other single story in English literature.

The value lies not in the vicarious nature of the exercises: it would be much better if more people participated. The moral benefit arises from the purity of the motives of the true adventurers and the sheer quality of the human characteristics that their exploits demonstrate. Man is at heart an idealist, and here is idealism untarnished.

I have spoken to Guides and to Scouts on various occasions concerning leadership, and do not wish to repeat myself here. However, I should like to summarise some of the precepts for leadership and refer to them in



relationship to the current lack of leaders for Guiding and Scouting.

- (1) Leadership is not born, it is **made**.
- (2) A leader in one field may not be a successful leader in a different field.
- (3) To be a leader in a field one must have outstanding competence in that field.
- (4) Leadership requires training.
- (5) People with certain egotistical and authoritarian traits of personality are unsuitable as leaders.
- (6) No leader is perfect.

If we are short of leaders we must make do with the material at hand while exerting every effort to attract more and better material. If the material at hand looks mediocre, let us by good training more than make up for this initial lack of quality.

1. **Train in competence.** A leader must be better at most of the jobs in his field of leadership than most of his followers. If he is, he will gain the respect that competence engenders. Even a person of unremarkable personality can, by achieving high competence, go a long way towards effective leadership.
2. **Train in leadership.** Most of the axioms of leadership are well known. There is no need for any leader nowadays to learn by trial and error. He should be **taught** his job, then he should be given practice in it **under supervision**, just as one is taught in any other practical field.
3. **Train in communication.** A lot of the skill of leadership lies in the ability to communicate ideas, plans and details generally to the followers. Adequate communication is **fundamental** to good leadership and the ability to communicate can be trained.
4. **Choose with care and reject without pity.** There are some people who will never make good leaders. They are, strangely enough, not the quiet, reserved, unprepossessing people, who often can be made into fine leaders, but rather the aggressive, "strong" personalities, whose egotistical natures and aggressive authoritarian characters make them incapable of democratic leadership no matter how they are trained. These people are dangerous and should not be given positions of leadership. At the opposite end

of the scale are the timid, insecure, self-derogatory, weak personalities who also are poor material for training. Those at each end of these two extremes — the hawks and the rabbits — should be culled out ruthlessly from any training course.



Leadership of the Young

Leadership must be closely related to the attitudes of mind and the objectives and motivations of those being led. "You can lead a horse to water, but you cannot make him drink" is a wise old proverb.

How close can older people come to really understanding the thinking of the younger generation? The failure of so many modern parents to retain the confidence and respect of their adolescent children indicates the basic inability of the parents to exercise such understanding. In general one tends to analyse the thinking of others in a specific situation by referring to how one would feel, oneself, in the same situation. A woman of 40, attempting to understand a modern teenager, will almost certainly hark back to her own adolescence and from memory try to reach for guidance from her own experiences at that age. But her patterns of thinking 25 years ago were undoubtedly substantially different because the whole environment, with its accepted scales of values and its social pressures, was quite different then from what it is now. The leader of young people thus faces an extremely difficult problem right at the beginning. The solution lies in understanding, sympathy, tolerance, together with **close and constant contact** with the young people and their problems.

The problems of young people are, I believe, much greater today than they were in my youth. In this period of rapid change, traditional values and traditional behaviour are being ruthlessly questioned and the lack of uniform acceptance of so many old conventional patterns produces an atmosphere

of uncertainty in which the adolescent flounders around seeking a firm foothold. Further, the number of alternatives open to young people is much wider than in my youth and decision making is correspondingly more difficult.

Most people are incapable of analysing a complex social situation and try to avoid situations in which they must make personal decisions. A great deal of neuroticism is the result of inability to resolve conflicting demands made by such complex situations. The desire to avoid individual decisions is, I believe, the reason for much of the conformity today and why young people prefer to adopt behaviour patterns of some group with which they can identify themselves. They are faced with a dilemma in which on the one hand they are rebelling against existing codes and patterns and, on the other hand, they are searching for some secure precepts to which to cling. They solve this dilemma by ultra-conformists' behaviour within the accepted patterns of a group identified with some form of rebellion.

The Girl Guide Movement provides a possible solution, with its offer of a sense of belonging and a down-to-earth code of practical and sensible behaviour. One must be careful, however, to ensure that the overall image of the Movement is not old-fashioned, not fusty, not redolent of an age that is past and that its objectives are towards the development of new patterns in keeping with a rapidly changing world rather than the enforcement of attitudes and concepts that have passed and can never be recovered. Only by progressive and, indeed, radical thinking can it hope to survive.



GUIDES OWN

I know we are all deeply sorry that Mrs. Fairbairn was not able to be here speaking to you today. She is very disappointed, and I was quite sure she will be thinking of us just now. In speaking of Mrs. Fairbairn we usually tell our members of the Movement that she was our State Commissioner before Mrs. Price took office; that she was the first Chief Commissioner for Australia and is at present the Vice-President of the Girl Guides Association of Australia; that she has held office in so many Guiding spheres over the years that it would be impossible to enumerate them; but what we DON'T say is that her Guiding flame burns with a brightness and steadiness that is rarely matched; that it has kindled countless other flames — and not only has it kindled them, but it has helped to keep them burning by its very warmth and intensity.

—P.G.

"FLAME KINDLES FLAME"

For those of you who may not have heard of the 18th World Conference in Denmark, June, 1963, I feel a short description, accompanied by extracts, would perhaps be of some interest as the theme was the same as this Conference.

It was held on the beautiful island of Funen (Hans Andersen's country) at a sea-side resort called Nyborg.

The first evening at dusk in the beautiful garden we assembled in Horseshoe formation each carrying an unlighted torch. Facing us was the Princess Benedikte (acting for her mother, the Queen, who was sick), and with her was the Chief Commissioner for Denmark. The Princess, aged 19, very sweetly welcomed us as representatives from 56 countries and then gave us very simply the theme. The Chief Commissioner then lit the Princess's torch, saying these words, "The Source of Light. The Spirit of man is the Candle of the Lord, lighted by God and lighting us to God." From her torch she lit the Chief Commissioner's. The Chief Commissioner then walked to the nearest delegate to light her torch, saying, "Man needs Light. We bow to the Light Divine that burns within every living soul, the Light that is

joy and blessing and peace unending, the Light that is wisdom all knowing, the Light boundless, tideless, spaceless, unto that Light Divine we bow." (Hindu saying.) We then passed our flames from one to another until all was silent and bright. We prayed silently and then sang Taps. With the atmosphere of Holy Light surrounding us we went quietly to our beds to be ready in the early morning for the official opening.

Strengthening the Flame

There is a Flame which assumes all the shapes breath gives it, is heightened or enfeebled as the air impresses it. It breaks up, re-unites, sinks and rises again, but the mighty Blast only blows to enliven, and never to quench the Flame. Love is the Breath, our Hearts the Flame."

—Bernes.

Carrying the Flame Alight

Not for myself but for the age unborn
I caught the fire from those who went before,
The bearers of the Torch, who could not see
The goal to which they strained. I caught
their fire

And carried it, only a little way beyond.
But here are those who wait for it. I know,
Those who will carry it on to Victory.
I dare not fail them. Looking back I see
Those others . . . Their arms outstretched . . .
Pointing to the future.

—Alfred Noyes.

To Whom to Pass the Flame

'Tis the Human Touch in this world that
counts,
The Touch of your hand and mine,
Which means far more to the fainting heart
Than shelter and bread and wine:
For shelter is gone when the night is o'er,
And bread lasts only a day,
But the touch of the hand and the sound of
the voice
Sing on in the soul always.

—Spencer Michael Free.

With these thoughts before us let us remember the part we are playing as members of this wonderful Movement in Australia. We are helping in our small way with the building of this young nation. How proud we are to have this opportunity and how serious is our responsibility, because, although I

used the word "small", the way I feel it could be "mighty".

It has been said to develop a country it needs man and woman's brain-power, and they must be trained in Higher Education. An African teacher once said, "Train a man and you train an individual; train a woman and you train a nation!" As members of a Movement whose aim is character building we must recognise the essential values which are needed to keep our flame burning.

The language of the heart is the same all over the world in joy, sorrow, pain, desire, love and hate. However deep down we dig into the history of mankind we find either as individuals or as nations we have fallen or risen according to inability or ability to overcome the frailties of mankind. It doesn't matter whether it be conquests, positions and swell of millions, it has fallen into decay.

One realises and notices lasting impress is through the life of saints, sages, founders of religion, photographers, poets, etc. The good and the brave. Enlightenment doesn't come from extensive study, learned discussions or through intellect — it comes from grace, the mind turned away from evil. To have learnt self-control and be at peace with the world. Some may believe worldly possessions make people happy. Maybe this is so for a short while. It is in giving one finds essential values, not through possessions, and, of course, through faith and prayer.

How little we people know or understand the tremendous medium in prayer. To believe and to pray for wisdom, guidance, understanding and to possess such faith as to know to ask is to receive. Through selfless service the divine spark of truth is born and burns as a bright flame and in due course we may reap the harvest of the spirit, love, joy, peace, kindness, fidelity and greatness. This is what we need to be of valuable service to the children as living examples. You may think this purely idealistic. Remember we aim high in this Movement. In great humility I assure you I have known many whose faith has carried them through everything and their light has given much happiness, sympathy, wisdom and understanding to all those who have needed their help.

What Do Our Young People Need?

I think the following may help:—

1. Education in its widest sense in the humanities and technical knowledge.
2. Recognition of their talents and the opportunity to develop them.
3. Understanding from and by adults.
4. Security and the common bond of their own age group.
5. Adult example. (I believe the lack of this is the cause of so much distress.)
6. Self and group discipline.
7. A sense of proportion between spiritual and material values.
8. Opportunities—
 - (a) For worthwhile services.
 - (b) To develop leadership into a sense of responsibility.
 - (c) For creative thinking. To develop as a whole person. To develop sympathy and understanding for other peoples and cultures.
 - (d) A sense of humour. To have fun.
 - (e) To feel needed and treated justly.
 - (f) To understand the value of knowing how to discriminate.
 - (g) Simplicity and love of nature.

We as members of this most wonderful Movement are here to do our best for the rising generations, so we must endeavour to understand their needs and do our best, which I am sure will keep our flame burning brightly to kindle on. You will be thinking, how very difficult.

It is said you learn to speak by speaking, to work by working, to run by running.

If you want to love the Lord you go on loving Him more and more. Begin as a mere apprentice and the very power of love will lead you on to become a master at the art. There is only one Pilot Light.

In conclusion, I give you an old Irish blessing:—

May the blessing of light be on you, light without and light within.

May the blessed sunlight shine upon you and warm your heart till it glows like a great peat fire, so that the stranger may come and warm himself at it, and also a friend.

And may the light shine out of the eyes of you, like a cradle set in the windows of a house, bidding the wanderer come in out of the storm.

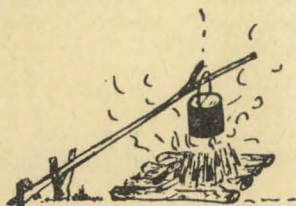
And may the blessing of the rain be on you—the soft, sweet rain. May it fall upon your spirit so that all the little flowers may spring up, and shed their sweetness on the air.

And may the blessing of the great rains be on you, may they beat upon your spirit and wash it fair and clean, and leave there many a shining pool where the blue of heaven shines, and sometimes a star.

And may the blessing of the earth be on you—the great round earth; may you ever have a kindly greeting for them you pass as you're going along the roads. May the earth be soft under you when you rest out upon it, tired at the end of a day, and may it rest easy over you when, at the last, you lie out under it. May it rest so lightly over you that your soul may be off from under it quickly, and up and off, and on its way to God.

And now may the Lord bless you, and bless you kindly.

—Irene Fairbairn.



"FIRE'S BURNING"

"Flame Kindles Flame" was the theme chosen for the Commissioners' Conference held at Marybrooke this year. This gave food for thought as to how the spirit of Guiding has spread, and is continuing to spread, around the world. The international spark was there, with the Patrols named after 12 full member countries.

Over 170 Victorian Commissioners arrived, "cool, calm and collected", despite the home

fires being left and the forethought always required. Marybrooke was supposed to be full, but who was it who shared that twin room with Mrs. Price, our State Commissioner? We were pleased to learn that it was Mrs. Renshaw Jones, to be our next State Commissioner.

Those who had made that special effort to arrive on the Friday were rewarded by the challenging address given by the guest speaker, Dr. Philip Law. His thoughts on leadership and the development of character, drawn from his wealth and breadth of experience, did not fall on deaf ears. His reminder that it was better to seek out good leaders than "make do", and have short waiting lists, was a consolation to some of us!

It was good to welcome Mr. R. McKellar, State Commissioner Boy Scouts Association, and his wife that afternoon.

The flame, having been lit by Mrs. Price at the official opening, was constantly kindled by Mrs. C. Osbourn Shave and Mrs. R. E. Gregory in the training sessions; and fuel was added to the glow by the Branch Advisers throughout the weekend. Then our Advisers were officially introduced, and we welcomed Mrs. W. H. Chamberlain, the new Ranger Adviser. It is always good to be able to picture a face at the end of the telephone and a person belonging to each of that list of names in the front of "Guiding Personnel". They really are quite approachable after all!

Commissioners were reminded of the need to encourage the feeling of responsibility through the Brownie Pow-Wow and the spirit behind "Drill and Ceremonial" at a Guide meeting. Thank you for those pointers on the Queen's Guide and First Class Badges, Miss Bunning. It is easy to get into a rut and miss out on the opportunities to strengthen a high standard as well as broaden the knowledge and ability of our Guides.

Of course it would be impossible to cover the whole scope and potential of Rangering, but horizons were widened at Burnham Beeches, where Rangers presented ideas for successful children's parties and aesthetically pleasing dried floral arrangements. Mrs. C. Walker introduced more hints on the smooth running of a campfire. It is important to

have a number of suggestions for songs and to sing the right song at the appropriate moment. Also, do teenagers normally model their own self-made clothes with such taste and poise, and provide an able compere? Yes, this Rangering does have possibilities! The film was good, too. "That's for the birds!" was heard as one Scottish Ranger was seen gliding over the highlands, but others felt a "bird's" life would not be all that bad! Mrs. A. G. Rylah certainly added fuel to her fire to the very last.

Patrols picked up the challenge of introducing themselves and dropped the "slogan", "Always be dignified", but did maintain individual senses of humour. Lights were brought out from under bushels as "Pa Kissed Stan" in an endeavour to point out that India does have a neighbour country! Having regained composure, we were delighted to further our knowledge of the Movement in other countries. Mrs. Price and our Victorian Team who attended the 19th World Conference held in Japan last year relayed a few of its highlights. What an appropriate theme they had — "Love through knowing and understanding"! Our basic "opportunities" do seem to be the same from country to country.

Peg Barr showed us another way of lighting the flame successfully in her introduction to campfire. Yes, there are some who just mouth the words, but it doesn't matter what sound comes out when there are good singers about!

We were indebted to Mr. P. G. Heard, who gave up an evening so that we should see and hear the excellent film, "Into a Wider World" — more wider horizons.

We were all very sorry not to have Mrs. C. O. Fairbairn with us on Sunday morning, also Mrs. R. E. Gray, and sincerely hope that their recoveries are speedy. However, our Guiders' Own is always special, and we are deeply grateful for the way Peg Barr conveyed Mrs. Fairbairn's address.

Everything seems so simple when done by those who know how, and this was illustrated by Miss Florence Christian in the "hot seat" with her advice on chairing a meeting. Knowledge and experience are important, but that little pink pamphlet telling "how" is a great help! (Available from the

Y.W.C.A.'s National Headquarters in East Melbourne.)

Mrs. Price summed up the Conference in terms of what is needed for a fire to burn well. She referred to the necessary fuel gained through our Advisers, the resin of knowledge, the oil of fun and how one may learn by doing; how powerful breezes blow and present a challenge to those tending small fires, and how a number of small fires, if given sufficient encouragement, will make one big fire. We were well aware that this was Mrs. Price's last Conference as State Commissioner, and realised how our "fire" in Victoria has been so well kindled and fueled with the devoted attention she has given it at all times.

—A.W.

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HAIL AND FAREWELL!

It is with regret that we announce the resignation of Mrs. C. D. Barratt as Chairman of the Publications Sub-Committee as from 31st May.

Mrs. Barratt, who initiated this Sub-Committee three years ago, has done a splendid job, and to her we extend our warm appreciation.

We welcome as her successor Mrs. P. McMillan, who has been a member of the Sub-Committee since its inception. To her we say a sincere thank you for accepting this position, which, we trust, she will find most rewarding.

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Buckingham Palace.

8th June, 1967.

Dear Mrs. Price,

The Queen has commanded me to ask you to convey to the Queen's Guides of Victoria Her Majesty's warm thanks for their kind message of loyal greetings which, as Patron of the Association, the Queen received with great pleasure.

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN CHARTERIS.

Mrs. J. R. Price,
State Commissioner,
Girl Guides Association,
Victoria.

FROM THE STATE COMMISSIONER

—Continued from page 34

Rangers were saying farewell to their Adviser, Mrs. A. G. Rylah, and welcoming to her place Mrs. W. H. Chamberlain. I greatly appreciated the privilege of speaking for the Rangers in trying to express their thanks and those of the Association to Mrs. Rylah for a job magnificently done, while knowing that, for her, the best thanks will be evident in the lives of the Rangers and Ranger Guiders who have experienced her influence. With justification, Mrs. Rylah is looking forward to a small rest from Guide activities, having just resigned from the Captaincy of her Guide Company after 31½ years' service, maintained while occupying a variety of other positions and holding a Camping Certificate and a Guide Training Diploma.

14th: A relaxed day at Britannia Park, surveying the property and gardening with Mrs. Gray and members of the Kew L.A.

16th: It was a pleasure to spend time with some of our trainers over a buffet dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Gregory, but we had to try to persuade ourselves that we were rejoicing for Queensland rather than being sad for ourselves, as the occasion was a farewell to Mrs. Ruva Nielsen, who is about to leave Melbourne to live near Brisbane.

17th-18th: The celebration of Iceland's National Day at the home of the Consul-General for that country, Mr. R. Renshaw-Jones, and his wife, your State Commissioner-Designate, sent me off with a good start to a very enjoyable weekend in the Gippsland Region for the opening of the spacious, well-equipped Foster Guide Hall. As so often happens, this has been achieved by courage as well as by hard work on the part of the people responsible for Guiding in the area. An overnight break at Yarram with Region Commissioner, Mrs. Davies, added to my enjoyment of the trip.

20th: I was delighted to be included in a most important event — the inaugural meeting of the Victorian Work Party under the chairmanship of Miss Margaret Shaw. I'm sure that you will all give them all the co-operation they desire and deserve in the interesting but exacting task that they have undertaken.

21st: Another extraordinary meeting resulting in great possibilities for the future —

under Miss Broadhurst's experienced hand, members of the Boundaries Sub-Committee and Travelling Commissioners discussed plans for the Inner Melbourne areas.

The happy outcome of my discussions with Mrs. Urquhart is that Barwon Region now has a Region Commissioner, a happy day for that area and for all of us.

22nd: The special meeting of the Building Sub-Committee of the Executive Committee, which started off the recommendation which has now become the decision for our future Headquarters Building. We have fitted in the ordinary meetings for Executive, Finance and Boundaries as well as these extraordinary ones.

23rd-25th: And we have relaxed at, worked at, been informed at, been stimulated by and enjoyed, the Annual Commissioners' Conference at Sherbrooke. Congratulations to the Conference Committee on achieving everything that everyone could wish through their planning and organisation.

28th: An all too brief call at Headquarters from Mrs. J. R. Black, State Commissioner for South Australia, reminded us both of the discussions that will take place at the Australian Executive Meeting in August. Whatever one's responsibility in connection with any Guiding event there is the certainty that one will also be surrounded by goodwill and friendship.

Joyce S. Price

PRAYER

Father, we thank Thee that, just as in the heat and dust of the town we may remember the coolness and cleanness, the silence and peace, of the country, which lieth all around us unseen, with its birds and flowers, woods and stream — so in the turmoil of our hurrying lives, in the midst even of pain and failure, we may remember that beyond and all around is Thyself, quiet and cool, trusty, beautiful and brave in whom is our Hope and our Stay for ever. As watchmen look for the morning, so do we look for Thee, O Christ. Come with the dawning day, and make Thyself known unto us, for Thou art our God forever. Amen.

BANKSIAS

From one of our pioneer Guiders, F.V.B., has come an interesting question.

She would like to know what are the correct names of two banksia trees — one near Brownie Cottage and the other at Gipton.

The Herbarium and Miss Jean Galbraith have been most helpful, and we thank them. They think the tree at Gipton is *Banksia grandis*, a West Australian variety. Does anyone know how it came to be there?

As there is still some uncertainty about the banksia at Brownie Cottage, it would be best if F.V.B. obtained a fresh leaf from this tree, and a flower if possible.

It has been suggested that Guiders and Guides be asked to refrain from writing on the bark of these trees, or otherwise spoiling them.

—J.H.



WATCH YOUR TONGUE!

Did you know that in ancient Rome the rose, although regarded as the emblem of love and joy, was also the symbol of silence?

On festive occasions that required "silence" a rose was suspended above the dining-table to remind the guests that the conversation throughout the meal must be carefully chosen, and no secrets given away. *Sub-rosa* — that is, "under the rose" — today still means, "Keep a watch over your tongue."



WILDFLOWER — NATURE SHOW

To be held by the Society for Growing Australian Plants and the F.N.C.V. in the Lower Town Hall on 28th, 29th and 30th August, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Come and see wildflowers from the bush and from gardens; snakes, spiders, shore life; gem polishing; cave stalagmites; bats and parrots; also films.

Adults 25 cents, children 10 cents.

STRZLECKI BROWNIE REVELS

THEME:

"When you pass down Misery Mile
You never see a Brownie smile.
Through the Arch of Discontent
A dreary, dismal day is spent—
Stop by here and frown a while
As you climb on Grumpy Stile".

THEN A SIGN — "To Sadness Pool":
And then . . .

"If you think this is Sadness Pool
Then you are an April Fool.
Of sadness a Brownie is not fond,
This is really Happiness Pond.
Drop in your cents and you will see
Our lovely Garden of Gaiety".



Brownies converged on Yinnar Reserve when Boolarra and Yinnar Districts combined to stage Brownie Revels for Strzlecki Division.

At the assembly area the Brownies formed up for the grand parade down a tree-lined walk called "Misery Mile", through the Arch of Discontent and over Grumpy Stile to Sadness Pool.

Being April Fool's Day, Sadness Pool turned out to be Happiness Pond, into which each Brownie dropped a few cents before entering the Garden of Gaiety.

Chief Brown Owl for the day marshalled the children into a huge ring, where they performed the progressive dance, "Hello, Friend Brownie".

Yinnar District Commissioner welcomed the guests and, in opening the Revels officially, the Region Commissioner spoke of the link the Brownies make in the World Movement.

Then followed an hour of fun among gay umbrellas and brightly coloured banners, depicting games groups of laughing clowns, rainbows, gollywogs, dancing girls, sparklers, top-hats, etc.

Each Brownie wore a miniature of one of the emblems, which had been painted by a team of artists from Boolarra.

After afternoon tea, served by Guides, the Revels concluded with Brownie Ring and Brownie Bells.

A sum of \$11.90 from the pool collection will be donated to the upkeep of Brownie Cottage.

GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

World Association Trainer for Afghanistan

We have just received an S.O.S. from the World Director in the hope that someone in Australia may be free and able to accept an appointment as a World Association Trainer/Adviser in Afghanistan.

The Advisory Panel for Promotion is writing to several other countries also to investigate their possibilities of helping the World Bureau find and possibly release one volunteer or staff member who could take up an assignment in Afghanistan **for nine to twelve months as soon as possible**. The World Bureau is also considering assigning two people, either working together, or their assignments following each other, in which case each assignment would be of a shorter duration. Therefore you may find someone who could give less than nine to twelve months, and this would be very helpful.

Following is a brief background which has been sent by Miss Signe Drejer, World Director:—

Background in Brief

My visit to Afghanistan in November, 1965, was followed up by a visit by Mlle. Monnier, our Assistant for Promotion, in November, 1966. Guiding in Afghanistan is still in its very early stages of development. It was started by the Boy Scouts in Afghanistan and is still under their leadership. The Headquarters of the Boy Scouts, from where the Girl Guide activities are also directed, is in the newly erected building of the Ministry of Education in Kabul.

There are quite a number of Girl Guide Units located in schools, particularly in Kabul, the capital city. Three Girl Guide Leaders, primary school teachers and released from their teaching jobs, were working as "Advisers" from the Boy Scouts Headquarters. They were given training by the Boy Scout Advisers, but inadequate for a Girl Guide programme. Recently we heard that they were no longer working in the Boy Scout Headquarters. The Leaders in the

local school units are very young and inexperienced, but most eager to learn.

The very able Chief Commissioner of the Boy Scouts is most anxious that a programme be developed suitable for GIRLS, and that a National Girl Guide Organisation be established.

The country has been slow in developing a raised status of women, and this has had its effect, and will probably still have, on the recruiting and training of young women as Leaders. Furthermore, the country is poor, with very limited means also in such fields as transportation, is extremely cold during six months of the year, wild, mountainous, but very beautiful. The population is of very mixed background, but most friendly.

The Assignment

The person/s we are looking for must have, in addition to good experience in Guiding/Girl Scouting, ability to share her knowledge and skills through simple methods understood by people far removed from the modern world, but extremely friendly and eager to learn. She should be English-speaking, but a knowledge of French would be a help, as quite a few people have French as their second language. The indigenous language is Farsi, also spoken in Iran.

Thanks to consent given by Fellesradet For Speiderpiker I Norge that part of the money collected by the Girl Guides of Norway through their Speiderjobben be used for this project, and also thanks to contributions received for promotion of Guiding in Afghanistan from other Scandinavian countries, the World Committee was in the fortunate position to know that sufficient provision was available for this assignment. Therefore the World Association will take financial responsibility for—

- (a) Return fare from the home country to Afghanistan.
- (b) Salary: Approximately £100 per month, subject, however, to negotiation with the candidate and her Girl Guide Association. (Contributions towards retirement/pension/superannuation schemes, where applicable, will also be subject to negotiation.)

- (c) Living expenses during the assignment.
- (d) Insurance: The Trainer/Adviser would be covered by the World Association's insurance scheme.
- (e) A uniform allowance.

As already said, the World Committee considered this assignment in Afghanistan among its first priorities, and I would be so grateful if you, as soon as possible, could give me at least an indication if you see any possibility of suggesting and/or releasing someone for this assignment.

* * *

If you are interested in this position, please send details to the Training Adviser before the end of August.

* * *

On an old stone, dated some 200 years ago, in an English country cemetery:

"If your nose is close to the grindstone,
And you hold it there long enough,
In time you'll say there's no such thing
As brooks that babble and birds that sing.
These three will all your world compose—
Just you, the stone, and your poor old
nose."

—H. Ingle Sheels.

DANGER!

Air Your Sleeping Bag

The following excerpt from a recent issue of "Coresearch", the C.S.I.R.O. staff journal, will speak for itself to all members of the Movement:—

A 16-year-old boy died recently in a sleeping bag that had been dry cleaned with perchlorethylene in a commercial unit.

The bag was received from the cleaners in a roll and put straight into the car boot. It was unrolled inside a hike tent and the boy slept in it for eight hours. He did not regain consciousness and was in convulsions when found. Autopsy showed death was due to cleaning solvent.

The sleeping bag had not been properly aired, and there was sufficient residual perchlorethylene to cause death. All sleeping bags need thorough airing after cleaning and again before being put into use. The filling is bulky, and removal of the final traces of solvent is a slow process. The unaired bag is particularly dangerous in the confines of a small hike tent.

—W. J. Hallam, Safety Officer.



CAMBERWELL DISTRICT 50th ANNIVERSARY

Uniforms through the years and, in centre, from left, Mrs. J. M. Bridge, Miss D. Holtz, Miss D. Hansford, early Guides in the District.

—Photo by courtesy "Eastern Suburbs Standard".

TRAINING PAGES



THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE GUIDE LAW AND PROMISE

When we discuss these principles in our Units and at our Conferences, do we slide over the more difficult or unpleasant aspects of some of the problems involved, or do we present the realities as we see them?

It is in this spirit that we bring you, reprinted from the "Australian Presbyterian Life" magazine, the story of . . .

THE MAN WHO DEMANDED EXPLANATIONS FROM GOD

I walked today through the slums of life, down the dark streets of wretchedness and of pain. I trod today where few have trod and as I walked I challenged God.

I saw the sots in the bar-rooms. I saw the prostitutes in the dance halls. I saw the thieves as they picked pockets. I saw men and women devoid of life, living in worlds of sin, and above the din I whispered:

"Why, God, why?"

I walked today down the lanes of hate, hearing the jeers of bitter men, hearing the names as they cursed and spat — "Dago", "Nigger", "Kike". I saw the dejected men they stoned.

I felt the anguish of their cries. I saw them as they slapped the lonely, as they turned their backs on human needs. Snarling, growling were the fiends of hell. These, God called His sons! Gasping for air, I cried: 'Why, God, why?'

Dregs of War

I walked today through war's grim dregs—over fields of blood, over graveless men. I saw the dead, the crucified, the headless, the limbless, the pleading, the crying. I saw the pain, the waste. I smelled the odour of rotted flesh.

I saw the children gathered round — watching, naked, hungry, weeping, diseased, dirty — the baby trying to nurse from a dead mother. The ruins — the agony — the despair! Disaster — disaster all around!

Blinded with tears, I fled down these streets. I stumbled, then stopped. I shouted:

"Why, God, why? Why do you let man sin, hate, suffer?"

"Unmerciful Father? God, art Thou blind? Art Thou wicked and cruel? God, canst Thou watch and do naught? Why must this be?"

The world grew silent. I awaited reply. The silence was heavy. I started to tremble. I waited long — half rebuking, half fearing. Then I heard from close behind me:

"Why, man, why?"



OUR QUEER LANGUAGE

When the English tongue we speak,
Why is "break" not rhymed with "freak"?
Will you tell me why it's true
We say "sew" but likewise "few";
And the maker of a verse
Cannot cap his "horse" with "worse"?
"Beard" sounds not the same as "heard";
"Cord" is different from "word";
Cow is "cow", but low is "low";
"Shoe" is never rhymed with "foe".
Think of "hose" and "dose" and "lose";
And think of "goose" and yet of "choose",
Think of "comb" and "tomb" and "bomb";
"Doll" and "roll" and "home" and "some",
And, since "pay" is rhymed with "say",
Why not "paid" with "said", I pray?
We have "blood" and "food" and "good";
"Mould" is not pronounced like "could",
Wherefore "done", but "gone" and "lone"?
Is there any reason known?
And, in short, it seems to me
Sounds and letters disagree.

—Author Unknown.

SHOULD A CHRISTIAN BE INTERESTED IN POLITICS?

You sometimes hear it said that politics are a "dirty game" and that this is not the kind of thing with which Christians should be concerned. Nothing could be further from the truth.

First, it is necessary to get straight the Christian attitude to the world. Some boys and girls who undergo a dramatic conversion are encouraged to disassociate themselves from worldly things. They no longer go to the cinema or to dances, they give up smoking, they become increasingly careful about the kind of people they choose for their friends.

There is a sense in which Christians are rightly called to be "other worldly". An over concern with the amusements and interests of the world may create an obsessive desire for selfish pleasure, and life becomes increasingly lived as a superficial quest for sensation. In this sense a Christian has to beware of "the world, the flesh, and the devil".

This point of view must not lead to a desire to escape from the responsibility which living in this world imposes on every human being. It is in this world, here and now, that we are called to live out our Christian obedience. As the Bible reminds us, God so loved the world that He sent His Son into it.

A party which tries to evade this worldly responsibility is a travesty of Christianity, for man's relationship with God has to be worked out in terms of our relationship with our fellow-men here and now.

First of all, then, young people should be encouraged to take an intelligent interest in the world in which they are growing up. This not only means a lively appreciation of the discoveries of science, but also the exhilaration which comes from meeting new kinds of people in new situations which modern travel can give. A man cannot claim to love God whom he has not seen, says St. John, unless first he learns to love his neighbour whom he has seen.

Concern for the neighbour has long been a key fact in Guiding and Scouting. Now community service has become an important element in most youth organisations and in many schools. Schemes such as the Duke

of Edinburgh's Award scheme, community service volunteers, and Voluntary Service Overseas give ever wider opportunities for the experience of neighbourliness.

Christian Aid Weeks and similar campaigns now introduce boys and girls to the more complex economic problems which face the world, and there are many practical things which they can do in response to need as they begin to understand it.

The big problems of war and peace, of the fair distribution of the world's goods, and of social and international justice cannot be solved by goodwill and voluntary effort alone. They require political action, both through international organisations such as the United Nations, and through national governments. In the democracies, governments operate through a party system, and it is impossible to work effectively in politics other than through the party machine.

No political party has the monopoly of Christian virtue. Allegiance to a party may often bring a real strain to the Christian conscience, but there is no avoiding this plain fact. In the modern world it is difficult to fulfil the Divine command to love our neighbours as ourselves other than through politics. Far from being a "dirty business", it is one of the major channels through which we express our obedience to God.

—By Edward Patey, Dean of Liverpool, England; printed by permission.

DEAR EDITOR,

With Cents for Service Drive over and discussion taking place in Units on how their share will be spent, a point which has mystified me at this time each year has come to mind again. This money is earned in the name of Guiding, to promote Guiding, yet so often it is used to provide a Good Turn for a worthy cause. In my eyes this is dishonest. Those who "employ" the Brownies and Guides are under the impression they are supporting the Girl Guides Association and not some worthy cause, of which THEY may not approve. I would appreciate the opinions of Guiders on this question, as I feel sometimes I perhaps have the wrong slant on the Good Turn in our Movement. With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

"M.B.P."

THE RANGER AS A PHOTOGRAPHER

—Continued from last issue.

A Horse of a Different Colour!

If you can take black and white photographs there is no reason why you should not be able to shoot good colour pictures, in fact many scenes that would have been rather dull in black and white will be enriched and enlivened by the effect of contrasting colours — provided you remember a few basic rules that apply whether you are using 35 millimetre (35 mm.) or any other size colour film designed for making either “transparencies” (i.e., colour slides) or colour prints.

A dark slide — which may range from one where the colours seem lifeless and “murky” to one where you have to peer to identify anything at all — means there was not enough light admitted to the film at the time, which, in turn, means you used either too fast a shutter speed or too small an aperture . . . or both! One of the commonest causes of this is failure to set both the camera **and the exposure meter** (if you are using a separate one, many are now built in) to the ASA speed of the film you are using. An exposure meter is a very clever thing, with a lot of tiny light-sensitive cells that enable it to say to you, “At the shutter speed you have set me on, for a film with the sensitivity (ASA speed) you have set me for, I see with my little eye enough light for an opening of f8 to give a perfect picture”. And it will be so. But if the poor thing is still set for the black and white film you were using last week it’s no use getting cross with it! Sometimes, of course, the meter will say its little piece, ending up with “. . . I don’t see enough light for you to take the picture at all”, in which case you can slow the shutter speed on the camera and ask it again, but if you get the same answer, then it’s no use clicking the shutter — the picture will be too dark. (If you don’t have any sort of exposure meter and are setting your camera from the instructions that came with the film, then read them carefully and obey them.) A too dark picture is called “under-exposed” because the film was not exposed to sufficient light.

A picture that has been **over-exposed** is easily identified by its washed-out colours and general flatness, and the fault again lies not with your exposure meter, but with your use of it. Some shots, notably beach or snow scenes, have far more light than you realise, but your exposure meter will still give you an accurate reading.

One catch with an exposure meter is that it can only estimate the **total** light that it “sees”, so what if you want to take, say, a person with a very bright background. She may be sitting with her back to the light, and if you adjust the exposure to the total light in the picture her face will be black, or at best deeply shadowed. In such a case take a meter reading with the meter held only a few inches from her face — this will cut out most of the background glare and in the resultant picture she will come out perfectly, though the background will naturally be over-exposed. This is unavoidable with ordinary cameras, but it helps to highlight the focal point of your picture, and is not a bad thing.

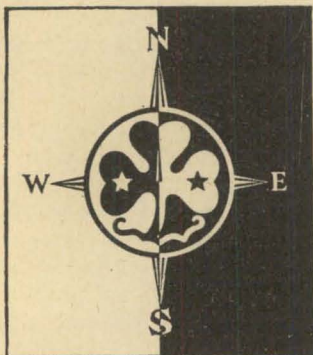
Colour Films

Colour films are sensitively balanced for particular kinds of light, and when the wrong film is used the picture will have poor tones and hues. If you use a “daylight” type of film for taking pictures indoors with artificial light you must use **blue-coated flash bulbs** to adjust this.

Different makes of colour film tend to emphasise different colour combinations, and trial and error will decide which make suits you and your camera best. (A most interesting demonstration of this was seen on the night when various Rangers showed the slides they had taken of the Dunk Island trip; apart from all the “personal” pictures there were many instances where everyone had taken the same picture at the same time from the same place, as where there was just one break in the trees on the climb to Mt. Kootaloo to photograph the resort, or when the bus stopped in Brisbane to show the University, or photographs of Beaver Cay from the island boat at anchor — we found after a while that we could tell which film had been used (Kodachrome, Ferrani, Iiford, etc.) by the emphasis on blues (**deep** blue sky, glorious water colour) or browns (warm, sunlit stone, tempting sands) or

greens (striking lawns and foliage, clear, green tints in the water) or even reds. I never saw the differences between the various makes of film so strikingly demonstrated.)

—M.C.



JUST ONE MORE

"The Council Fire" was born in 1926. It was a small baby (only four pages), but strong and healthy. It was lucky to have two competent "Nannies", Mrs. Mark Kerr and Dame Katharine Furse, who searched the world for suitable food in the shape of articles, and so it grew bigger and bigger like all healthy babies, and was a joy to many admiring grown-ups.

Like many of its generation it suffered grievously during the Second World War from under-nourishment and also from being cut off from many of its friends, but with the longed-for peace it started once more on the upward path, making new friends and becoming fatter and fatter as the years went by.

Now our little baby of 1926 has passed its 40th birthday and the saying goes, "Life begins at 40." BUT, and this is a big BUT, "The Council Fire" needs the help of many new friends if it is to fulfil its purpose, which is to serve World Guiding and Girl Scouting.

As reported in the January-March, 1967, issue, a group of delegates to the 19th World Conference considered the future of our world magazine, with reference to the rising costs of production and distribution (printing, blocks, postage and so on). Nobody wanted to put up the price of "The Council Fire" to meet present costs; everybody thought it ought to pay its way.

The only answer to the problem is to increase circulation (at present approximately 9000), which means finding new subscribers.

So we are appealing to you **personally** to help us.

If you answer this appeal you will help our Movement in two ways:

1. Financially. Because at present the magazine does not pay for itself and the money saved could be used for many urgent needs. If we doubled our readership to 18,000 we could even make a profit, to be devoted to promoting Guiding/Girl Scouting in many lands.

2. The news of what is being done and being thought in our member countries would reach a wider public and to help to further international understanding.

So will you help us?

"Just one more", as the World Chief Guide so often says — just one more subscriber to "The Council Fire" this time. Is it too much to ask? —The Editor.

"The Council Fire" is published quarterly in January, April, July and October. Subscriptions are arranged through Gordon & Gotch Ltd., Melbourne (phone 62 7061).

AUSTRALIAN TRAINERS OVERSEAS

Australian Trainers range far afield — latest to go overseas is Mrs. A. E. (Laurie) Sharp, of Victoria, who is spending several months as the guest of the South African Association. She passed through Sydney early in June en route for Johannesburg, which she reached after a marathon 21 hours in the Qantas plane — and felt immediately at home in her surroundings because, as she commented in a letter, ". . . so much Cootamundra wattle in flower and so many fine parks of eucalyptus" — this in addition, of course, to the very warm welcome she received from her hostess.

Her comprehensive itinerary covers a great deal of territory, and on her return Mrs. Sharp will be as greatly in demand for talks about South Africa as she has been for talks about Nauru, which she has twice visited as a Trainer. What a contrast — the lovely little island of Nauru so far away in the Pacific — and the great Republic of South Africa, with its cities, its fascinating history and its wonderful game parks.



DRYSDALE GUIDE DEBUTANTES

All former Guides of the Company, these girls made their debut at the 1967 Ball and were received by Mrs. A. Rylah and the President of the Bellarine Shire, Cr. R. Aitken (a former Scout). Girls wore individual frocks and carried royal blue and gold posies framed in a golden Trefoil. The Ball Committee was a group of 1963 Guide debutantes who have now formed into a Trefoil Guild. Present Guides of the Company assisted with the supper.

Rayna Deeth, Hon. Sec.,
Drysdale Trefoil Guild.

—Block by courtesy of "Geelong Advertiser".

* * *

You may fall down many times, but you aren't a failure until you say "Somebody pushed me!"

RANGER BRANCH

CONGRATULATIONS to Lorraine Dearri-cott, of Nunawading Land Rangers, on completion of the Full Ranger Service Star.

—A. F. RYLAH, Ranger Adviser.

* * *

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

Received with gratitude:

Miss D. Coles; Mr. and Mrs. J. Eddy; Repco Ltd.; Mrs. M. Young; Middle Brighton Local Association; McKellar Press Pty. Ltd.; Coats Paton (Aust.) Ltd.; Apex Belting Pty. Ltd.; Mrs. S. McKay; Mr. E. Hughes; Mrs. R. C. Wallace; Mrs. A. Stone; Mrs. L. A. Hucker; Oakleigh Local Association; Orrvale Local Association; Syndal North Local Association; Wades Selected Meats Pty. Ltd.; Thomas C. Lothian Pty. Ltd.; Arnott Brockhoff Guest Pty. Ltd.; Mrs. B. K. Douglas.

* * *

Horse sense dwells in a stable mind.

PUBLICATIONS '67

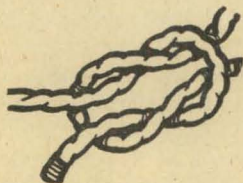
The Publications Sub-Committee has been meeting for some time now — and counts among its achievements the Guide and Brownie diaries, the completion of a book on the history of the Movement in this State (now on sale in the Guide Shop), together with various revisions, designs and re-printings.

Much of the success of the work of the Committee has been due to the time and effort given by the Chairman, Mrs. Joan Barratt, and we of the Publications Committee thank her for all she has done. Joan has been Chairman of the Committee since its inception and has guided it through the early days of planning.

Now she feels that the time has come to hand the work on to other hands, for hers are more than fully occupied with other activities within the Movement.

The hands ready to carry on the work belong to Mrs. Judith McMillan, already well known to Guiders and Commissioners. Judith has been a member of the Committee since its beginning and has contributed much to the work and to the pleasure of that work.

The Committee welcomes Judith as Chairman, and looks forward to further achievements in Guide publications in Victoria.



JULIETTE LOW'S GOD-DAUGHTER U.S.A.

A letter has been received from the U.S.A. advising us of the death of Mrs. Choate. Mrs. Choate was the god-daughter of Juliette Low and was an active member of the Movement from 1915 until her death. She was National President of the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. from 1920-22; later served as a member of the World Committee as Chairman of Our Chalet Sub-Committee and as a member of the Western Hemisphere Sub-Committee. We sympathise with the Girl Scouts in the loss of this devoted member of their Movement.



ARCTIC QUEBEC DIVISION, CANADA

The following is an extract from a letter just received from the Commissioner of the above Division:—

“Delighted to hear you are interested in Arctic Quebec Division. We are 10 Packs and Companies spread throughout remote areas of this Province, and at least six are out of touch except for very irregular mail services during the winter months — and during freeze-up and thaw — in the spring and fall.

“You speak of Brownie Packs ‘of the Air’ — I gather this means that the children are isolated one from the other. This is not the case with us. Ours are in settlements, living together close by, but cut off from other settlements by many hundreds of miles and very erratic mail services. There is no contact between Companies and Packs in the north, so all correspondence goes through me — with a monthly newsletter passing along news of Company and Pack activities — who has the newest baby, who has been ‘twinned’ with others here around Montreal.

“The idea of this was to give the northern girls others to write to so they could learn about Guiding in other parts and also to make it possible for them to come down to camp with their ‘twins’ who sponsor their fees and help supply uniforms and camping equipment. We can usually only bring down two to four a summer because of the restrictive air fares. Our northern airways usually donated two free passages each summer. . . .”

—Ishbel Steche,
Australian International Commissioner.

A FRIEND IN NEED

Linda came to Australia to take part in the All-Australia Camp at "Kindilan" in Queensland. With her travelled Nadine, who had to come to the hospital for a check. Nadine had earlier been in the hospital after injuring her spine and leg in a fall from a tree in Nauru.

Linda was the only person in Brisbane who could speak Nauruan to Nadine, and because of this she missed many of the camp's activities.

However, Linda was able to spend a day at the camp, to have evenings occupied with Guide activities, and to meet the World Chief Guide at the Brisbane Airport.



Nauruan Ranger, Linda Jose (right), and Nadine Dake, 5, whom she visited daily at the Brisbane Children's Hospital. —Block courtesy "Courier Mail", Brisbane.

QUEEN'S GUIDE BADGE

It has been brought to "Matilda's" notice that the three McKenzie sisters of Box Hill have not achieved a "record" as mentioned on page 12 of the July issue.

In the 1950's, Robin, Rosemary, Patricia and Jocelyn King, of 4th Malvern Company, won the badge.

Be grateful to your enemies — in a long-range movement towards progress a kick sends you further along than a pat on the back.

* * *

Religion is like a bank. The more you put in the more you have to draw upon.

KNOW YOUR COMMITTEES



PROPERTY SUB-COMMITTEE

The Property Sub-Committee consists of the State Secretary and three other members who were appointed by the Executive Committee. You may be interested to know that, of these four people, three are members of the State Council, three have had considerable active Guiding experience and two are lawyers.

The Sub-Committee meets on the first Tuesday in each month to consider any questions or problems which have come to the attention of the State Secretary or are referred to the Sub-Committee by Districts, Divisions or Regions for advice and assistance.

Our work covers all kinds of property matters from the purchase of land or buildings to leases or licenses from local councils or public authorities, such as the Victorian Railways, Department of Crown Lands and Survey, or State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. Sometimes a transfer or lease is obtained from a friend of the Movement. All of this means that we must make sure that the local groups understand exactly what they are undertaking. Frequently we

approach Councils and Government Departments on behalf of local groups with regard to their needs.

On occasions we receive enquiries from groups which are endeavouring to raise funds to build or buy a hall and which are not aware of the Association's Building Pool Fund; in such cases we are able to refer them to the relevant Sub-Committee for information.

Over the years we have had problems arising from the fact that local Trustees, who were appointed to buy or lease land, have died or moved away from the district. We have been able to overcome these difficulties because all titles and leases are now taken in the name of the Association, which then executes a deed acknowledging that it holds the land on trust for the local group.

The members of the Sub-Committee are glad that, through this work, they are able to help local groups avoid the pitfalls involved in acquiring land, and they are playing a small part in assisting local groups to obtain meeting places and campsites for the children.

STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN!

✓✓✓
STOP: Are you a Guide? Have you carried out your Guide Promise today? My Promise is that on my honour I will do my best to do my duty to God and the Queen, to help other people at all times, and to obey the Guide Law. Pausing a moment or two makes one realise the Guide Promise must never be taken lightly. I want every Guide to sit quietly for a moment and ponder our Promise.

LOOK: Around you at this very moment are a number of individual girls interested in Guiding. Are you doing everything you can to make this camp a really happy event? By consideration and concern for others, we achieve true happiness. Is there some little way that you can do extra to add to the enjoyment of those about you? Joyfully go

about your camp chores without a grouch, making every minute a treasured memory. Help your leaders to enjoy the camp just as much as you will and, above all, carry out their orders at once.

LISTEN: Listen to the wind in the trees, the birds in the sky, and the voice of nature as spring breaks over this wonderful land of Australia. Be thankful for the heritage of this land to which you belong, and do your utmost to uphold and extend the precious freedom of thought and deed that belongs to us of Australia. It is by your acts and your deeds that you prove to the world that the Guide Promise is not just empty words. At all times be proud to say, "I AM A GUIDE!"

—Talk given by Guide Prue Wright, of 2nd Red Cliffs Coy., at a Camp Guides' Own.

W

Do Mrs Gray

LOCAL ASSOCIATION — WORLD-WIDE INTEREST

Tuesday, 6th June — Victorian Local Association Conference Day — and the eager-beavers from Templestowe (Conveners), Nunawading (luncheon), and Bulleen and Doncaster (morning and afternoon tea) arrived early for a hard day's work, hoping the thick fog would not discourage the delegates. They were well rewarded, however, by the attendance of 590 Local Association members, plus many Guiding personnel.

The day began with morning tea. Then, after the National Anthem and Prayer, Mrs. Jocelyn Howlett (Chairman for the morning session) introduced Mrs. Renshaw Jones, member of the Executive Committee, and wife of the Consul-General for Iceland, who spoke to us about her recent trip abroad, and declared the Conference open.

Mrs. Joyce Price, speaker for the morning, gave great pleasure to us all in sharing her experiences at the World Conference in Tokyo last year.

Discussion groups followed — what a hub-bub, as everyone contributed their ideas and got to know one another better! Afterwards Group Leaders reported back over the "roving mike".

Our Advisers were then introduced by Mrs. Gray, and they answered questions with understanding and skill.

Lunch — Nunawading did a wonderful job providing soup, sandwiches and salad, and cakes, followed by tea and coffee. During lunch the theme of the Conference, "Local Association — World-wide Interest", was highlighted by a display of gifts from over 200 Victorian L.A.'s to be sent to L.A.'s (or their equivalent) all over the world. These gifts created a great deal of interest. There were many hand-made articles — tablecloths with Guide emblems, wall plaque with Guide Hall and gum tree in clay, map of Australia carved in wood and set with gemstones, and many, many more.

1.30 p.m.: All seated, please. Mrs. Unthank (Chairman for the afternoon session) introduced Mrs. Shirley Farrow, International Representative, who spoke on "Your Gifts and Their Destination". Afterwards, Mrs. Rylah and Mrs. May gave us information

and advice about Rangers and the Trefoil Guild.

Miss Betty Macartney, State Secretary, then directed questions from the Question Box to the appropriate people. No time for all the questions, but those left will be answered by mail.

The afternoon speaker, Miss Helen Rose, for the National Safety Council of Australia, described the project being undertaken by Guides and Brownies in illustrating the potential dangers round the home and ways of overcoming them. Miss Rose showed us large pictures of some of the danger spots, and explained the role of the National Safety Council in bringing an awareness of these before the public.

In conclusion, Mrs. Osbourn Shave summed up the Conference very ably, and the delegates left for their homes in many parts of Victoria, far and near.

☆ ☆ ☆

The minute Mrs. Gray suggested the title for our Conference and popped the question, "How do you think we can focus attention on widening our horizons?" it seemed natural to think of sending messages and gifts to other L.A.'s across the world. Of course, I wasn't too sure whether L.A.'s existed as such in other parts where Guiding is practised, but it was great fun finding out. The International Commissioner for Australia and Mrs. Farrow were able to supply addresses for many of our parcels, and Headquarters in other countries agreed to receive several gifts and send them out to suitable groups from there. For instance, 10 parcels were sent to South African Headquarters for distribution, and altogether there were 45 addresses for other countries.

Having found that it was a practical proposition to send parcels, the next step was to see if our L.A.'s were interested, and the response was immediate. Promises came in at once and kept right on coming. There were very few enquiries — the few suggestions about souvenirs seemed to touch off all the inspirations needed, and the most interesting and varied goods commenced to arrive. Certainly they all had the Australian flavour, and I shall try to recall some of

them for those who were not able to attend the L.A. Conference, at which they were displayed.

The four dolls in a box were dressed two as Guides and two as Brownies, with their uniforms an exact replica of those our girls wear. I'm sure whoever receives them will be delighted to compare them with their own uniforms. There were several charming tablecloths — one of organdie with hand-painted designs of gum blossom, kangaroos, lyrebirds and many other typically Australian flora and fauna, all most delicately portrayed, and tea-towels in similar, bolder designs. A linen covered minute book, pink with blue-green gum leaves, hand-worked, which was to be sent from Kew, Australia, to Kew, England.

Someone whose hobby was poker-work had made a three-legged stool with the seat the shape of a map of Australia, and the States and capital cities marked out. I wonder who will get to sit on it? And I wonder, too, whose meeting will be called to order with the bell from Port Fairy with their coat-of-arms on the top? Will each member of some L.A. stir their tea with the delightful silver spoon topped by a lyre-bird? I'm sure the box of mounted gemstones will arouse great interest — I longed to handle these myself and read the message that went with them. There was no time for this, though, at the Conference, nor to look through the scrap-books which quite a number of L.A.'s had

prepared, though I'm sure their pictures will speak eloquently of our way of life to their recipients. Recipe books, coin collections and dozens of exciting looking gifts made up the wonderful total of 260 parcels, and now, as they are sent off, we sit back and wonder who will be reading our messages, how far will our gift travel, and, best of all, of course, will we have a reply?

—L.B.

ERRATA

I wish to apologise for the mistake made in the July edition of "Matilda", when I suggested that some L.A. members might like to stay overnight at Guide House when they go up for Azalea Day, and that the cost would be 8 CENTS per 24 hours. The charge is 60 cents per person per 24 hours.

CONGRATULATIONS to Templestowe L.A. for the splendid way in which they convened the State L.A. Conference. It was a great pleasure to work with them. All are busy people with young children, but they managed to cope with the work of preparing for what turned out to be a record attendance.

Congratulations also to Bulleen and Doncaster, who served the teas to double the number of people they were expecting. This goes for Nunawading, too, because, until a couple of days beforehand, they were expecting to cater for 300 instead of 640, and they never turned a hair!

—Patricia Gray.

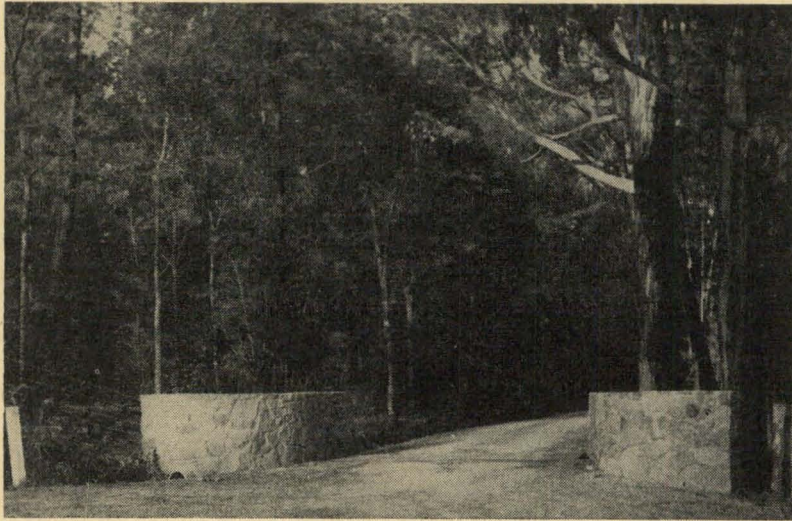
3rd NOBLE PARK BROWNIE PACK

Following a suggestion made at the recent Brownie Guiders' Conference, Melbourne, the 3rd Noble Park Brownie Pack are now enjoying making a project about children of other lands. Choice of country is up to the individual Brownie and results to date show each is doing her best. Several Brownies have already handed Brown Owl neat and clever projects, such has been the enthusiasm in this idea designed to stimulate the children's interest internationally. Ideas along this line are limitless. We've held Pack meetings using a certain country as the theme for the night, e.g., Japan. Greet each other with a bow and a national hello. Go into Brownie Ring through Palace door —

Emperor (Brown Owl) already there. Tawny and Pack Leader, on each side of doorway as guards, inspect shoes to be left outside. Collect subs. in two genuine rice bowls. A deep bow was used as a sign of silence or attention on this night. Naturally, project of Japan was displayed on this night.

Pack intends reading, finding out and doing as much as possible about our sisters over the seas. We have a wonderful advantage, as so many of our neighbours have come from these countries and are proving to be willing helpers and advisers. Pleased to know that we are eager to learn of the children and customs of their homelands.

—Brown Owl.



BRITANNIA PARK

Found

This is a special plea to Guiders who nobly take Guides and Brownies to stay at Guide House and Brownie Cottage. So many articles of clothing are left there — mostly under bunks and beds — that it is impossible to enumerate them in "Matilda" and, although they are brought to H.Q., very few are claimed or even enquired about. Not a good example of thrift? Guiders, will you please check whether your Duty Patrol has swept under the bunks and beds?

L.A. Azalea Day, 20th September

As well as rhododendrons and azaleas, as mentioned in last month's "Matilda", we would welcome hydrangea plants for the garden. The Committee is working very hard to get the places ready to receive the plants. Preston East and South Croydon L.A.'s have been very brave and busy getting themselves enveloped in blackberries, honeysuckle and ivy. Just ask them what a clinging vine is? Kew L.A. have gone a step further and have already planted six azaleas and a lovely big rhododendron. They have staked a claim to that little spot in the gully and have called it the "Kew Gardens"—which sounds MOST promising!



Mr. McLerie has started the concreting around the pool and hopes to be finished in a few weeks' time. After that some landscaping will be done, and we hope that by next summer it will be looking beautiful again.

There will be a working day at Britannia

Park on 19th August, and we would be grateful for all the help we can muster on that day. This is for general clearing up around the place.



L.A. members may be interested to know that they may stay at Guide House or Brownie Cottage at any time midweek when the houses are not booked for the children or for training, and in view of the mistake I made in the last "Matilda" re charges for L.A.'s I had better give here a full list of correct charges:—

For members of the Movement (this includes L.A.'s)—

Brownie Cottage, 50 cents per person per 24 hours or part thereof;

Guide House, 60 cents per person per 24 hours or part thereof.

Friends of the Movement may book at the following rate:— Either House, \$4.50 a day.



Our sincere thanks to the following people who have so kindly supported the Maintenance Fund during June:—

3rd Boroondara (South Camberwell) Division.

4th—1st Morwell Coy.

7th—1st Numurkah Coy.

8th—1st Doncaster Coy.

12th—1st Leongatha Pack.

19th—North Kew L.A.

22nd—3rd Yarraville Pack.

23rd—Yallourn-Hearnese Oak Guides.

24th—Yinnar L.A.

25th—12th Ballarat Pack.

FROM THE GUIDER OF 5th BRIGHTON PACK

5th Brighton Pack held a Brownies' Own in the Chapel at Britannia Park. Each Six wrote their own prayer. I thought you might enjoy reading them, as they express the joy the children are receiving from Britannia Park.

"Thank you, Lord, for our trees, the flowers and honey bees.

Thank you for dear Brownie Cottage and all the fun we have.

We thank you for sunny days, the night and the moon so bright,

And for our parents and Guiders, too, who tuck us in each night."

—By the Elephant Six.

"We thank Thee for these sunny days at Brownie Cottage

And for the friendly Brownies there,

For creeks and forest picnics,

For the Guiders so glad to help us with our everyday problems."—By the Seal Six.

"We thank Thee, Lord, for quiet rest.

We thank Thee, Lord, for sunny days and for our lovely food.

We thank Thee, Lord, for trees and plants And for our pets and other animals too."

—By the Bear Six.

As you have probably guessed, our "theme" was a circus!

MATHS OLYMPIAD FOR BALKAN COUNTRIES

School children from Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Rumania, Turkey and Yugoslavia took part in the first Balkan Mathematics Olympiad, held at Predeal in Rumania in July and early August.

Each country "fielded" a team of eight pupils, who all took two written tests containing mathematical problems included in the syllabus of each of the participating countries. Three prizes were to be awarded for the best answers.

This first Balkan Olympiad — to be held in future every other year — is organised by the Rumanian National Commission for Unesco in co-operation with the Ministry of Education and the Mathematical Society, as part of the programme of cultural and scientific co-operation launched recently by the National Commissions for Unesco of the Balkan countries. —Unesco Features.

EXECUTIVE FIGURES — JUNE, 1967

Figures — yes, such a lot of figures were discussed at the June Executive Meeting — and I thought you might like to hear about some of them. . . . Financial figures, of course — with talk of mortgages for Guide halls in certain circumstances . . . with confirmation of the use of the Association's seal for documents concerning both our general funds and the superannuation funds for the staff employed at H.Q.

Catering figures — with thoughts of how many would be attending the Commissioners' Conference at the end of June — the programme of "Flame Kindles Flame" sounds as though it might provoke some fiery discussions!

Movement figures — for we have been able to appoint new Commissioners for all parts of the State, and it is always good to have new leaders and colleagues.

Hall figures — if that is the right phrase for trying to see who might be coming to the Association's Annual Meeting in October and trying to ensure that all our arrangements get started early.

Ranger figures — this was Mrs. Rylah's last meeting with the Executive as Ranger Adviser, and it was very interesting to compare the situation of the Ranger Branch when she took over in 1962 with the situation existing today. Did you know that the number of Ranger Units in that time has more than doubled, and that the number of Rangers and Cadets has increased accordingly? We do congratulate Mrs. Rylah on the time, thought and talent that this result means she has given to the Movement and in particular to the Ranger Branch.

Figures — yes, all interesting, but so much more when we think of all they mean in what people are doing and achieving.

* * *

If radio's slim fingers can pluck a melody
From night—and toss it over a continent or
sea;

If the petalled white notes of a violin
Are blown across the mountains or the city
din;

If songs, like crimsoned roses, are culled
from thin blue air—

Why should mortals wonder if God hears
prayers?

—By courtesy of G. McComas, 3DB.



CAMPFIRE SONGS

KUM BA YAH

The following actions to "Kum Ba Yah" have come to us from the U.S.A. They were introduced to Victoria at Camp Katyramo by Mrs. Kinter, an American Girl Scout Leader, who was one of our visitors at the camp:—

First Verse:

Kum ba — roll hands around one another quickly.

Yah — lift hands up, palms turning outwards.

My Lord — sweep right arm downward.

Kum ba yah — roll hands again, lifting hands upwards on "yah".

Repeat three times — then

O — make "O" with thumb and forefinger of right hand.

Lord — sweep right hand downward.

Kum ba yah — roll hands and lift hands upwards, as before.

Second Verse:

Some — with clenched fists, right hand beats down on left hand.

one's — first finger of right hand is lifted up.

crying — both forefingers point to eyes.

Lord — sweep right hand downward.

Third Verse:

As for second verse, but on word "singing", forefingers point to mouth.

Fourth Verse:

As for second and third verses, but on word "praying", fingertips of hands touch together to make an arch.



Kum Ba Yah, well known to most Guides, is printed in "Chansons de Notre Chalet", available from the Guide Shop. Price, 45 cents.

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO ARE AT HOME

O GOD,

It is so easy

to live a sheltered life in a big city
to see so many people and to be touched
by as few lives

it is so easy

to walk through a crowd and be concerned
for no one.

There are so many messages

from radio, television, newspaper,
hoarding

telling me everything but the one message
I should hear . . .

so many saying Buy, buy,
telling me to buy things for myself.

That so often

there is nothing left to give.

Selfishness comes so easily

Apathy dulls so quickly.

Teach me to live in the city

Expose me to needs,

the needs of the hungry

the needs of the sick

the needs of the oppressed

the needs of the destitute

the needs of the ignorant.

Make me sleepless on my innerspring
mattress

Press upon me the claims of Christ

Show me His compassion

So that I cannot settle for untroubled days

or the false protection of comfort

but will discover life made finer

by a troubled conscience

and sacrifice.

—From "Presbyterian Chronicle".

NOTICES

TRAINING DEPARTMENT

Headquarters Courses (Third Term)

Brownie Pre-Warrant (Daytime), 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., commencing 3rd October.

Brownie Pre-Warrant (Evening), 7.30 to 10 p.m., Wednesdays, commencing 4th October.

Brownie Golden Hand (Daytime), 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., Wednesdays, commencing 1st November.

Guide Pre-Warrant (Daytime), 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursdays, commencing 5th October.

Guide Pre-Warrant (Evening), 5.45 to 8.15 p.m., Wednesdays, commencing 20th September.

Singing Group, 7.45 to 9.15 p.m. (Headquarters)

Thursday, 10th August; Wednesday, 13th September. (This is an informal group which meets together monthly to learn new songs and sing old favourites. All Guiders welcome.)

Decentralised Courses (Third Term)

Cheltenham: Guide First Class (Daytime), 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesdays, commencing 17th October.

Rosebud: Brownie Pre-Warrant and Guide Pre-Warrant, Weekend, 12th and 13th August.

Further details regarding these courses may be obtained from the Commissioners' Newsletter or on application to the Training Department.

GUIDERS' CONFERENCE

As advised through the Commissioners' Newsletter some months ago there will be no Guiders' Conference this year. Plans are now in hand for the next Conference, which will be held in the first half of 1968, and we would be glad to hear from any Guiders who would like to help in any way. Anyone interested in assisting is asked to contact Miss Barr, c/o Headquarters.

ENQUIRIES RE CIVIL DEFENCE BADGE

Both the Civil Defence Department of the Premier's Office and the Civil Defence School at Macedon complain of a series of enquiries re this badge.

Guiders, please channel any enquiries through Mrs. Thompson, the Secretary to Advisers, at Headquarters. She will have on hand any pamphlets available from them, such as that on fall-out and suggested foods to store in a shelter. Do not worry busy people at the two offices named above.

Could I further suggest that you do not consider encouraging your Guides to do this badge unless you are in touch with a well-informed competent instructor who is up to date in this subject. The badge is not one that I think many Guides would be in the position to try.

—E. BUNNING.

RANGER GUIDERS' "GET TO KNOW YOU" WEEKEND

Guide House, Britannia Park

15th to 17th September, 1967.

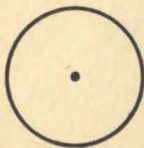
Ranger Guiders, this is your chance to relax and get to know each other.



WANTED! 100 **outsized** Brownie Uniforms for "Pageant '67", to be worn by Rangers!

If you can help please write to:

Miss V. DeCrespigny,
550 Centre Road,
Bentleigh,
Victoria.



CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE

Mrs. W. A. Lalor (Papua/New Guinea)

The crash of a light aircraft on 30th June brought to a sudden and tragic close the life of the Territory Commissioner for Papua/New Guinea, Mrs. W. A. Lalor. She was, at the time, on one of her frequent visits to Packs and Companies in the Territory.

Not only Papua/New Guinea, but Guiding throughout Australia, has suffered a loss, for Mary Lalor was, as Territory Commissioner, a member of the Australian Executive; over the years she attended many Council Meetings and Executives, and her practical wisdom, her breadth of vision and her self-effacing spirit combined to make her a valued delegate and friend. The Territory, and especially Guiding in the Territory, had

first place in her heart, but she appreciated the problems of Australian Guiding in their varied aspects, and her advice was based on the knowledge born of experience.

Mrs. Lalor's connection with Guiding dated from 1954, when she became a District Commissioner. Three years later she became a Division Commissioner and a member of the Territory Executive Committee, and in 1963 she was appointed Territory Commissioner and Chairman of Executive.

She gave of her best to Guiding, travelling widely, bringing the friendship of Guiding to remote areas, helping Guiders and Commissioners with their problems, and, above all, inspiring and drawing people to the Movement. Additionally, she gave countless hours to the Guide Office in Port Moresby, at one time acting as Secretary for a period of six months in an honorary capacity.

To her husband, on whose encouragement and unselfishness she so greatly relied in her Guiding work, the Movement sends its sympathy.

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

When the World Chief Guide, Lady Baden-Powell, G.B.E., accompanied by the Australian Chief Commissioner, Mrs. M. A. Buntine, O.B.E., and the Northern Territory Commissioner, Miss Jean Tucker, arrived at Darwin they were met at the airport by Darwin Division Commissioner, Mrs. A. Atkins, and Mrs. J. Collins, Public Relations, who acted as aide during the Chief's Darwin visit.

Lady Baden-Powell entertained the press, radio and T.V. representatives to a lively interview immediately on arrival prior to driving direct to Howard Springs. Here more than 600 Guides, Scouts, Cubs and Brownies from many distant parts of the Territory, including Katherine, Batchelor, Roper River and Elcho Island, were assem-



bled to see the Chief officially open the new Woorabinda Campsite Hut. She drove through the camp area in an open jeep to the cheers of the assembled youngsters and their parents and friends, who had worked so hard to make this a wonderful day to remember.

The Ice Cream money collected by Darwin was then presented by the six Aboriginal Brownies, who had been flown in the 300 miles by the Administration to share in this great welcome.



Although the Chief Guide's plane was not scheduled to land at Tennant Creek, many of the Guides and Brownies were certainly able to share in her visit. One car load drove all the way to Alice Springs and back just to welcome the Chief at the airport — a distance altogether of 650 miles. Two Guides also saw her at Camp Kumanka in Queensland, the remainder were all taken out to the airport by their Commissioner and Brown Owl, who had arranged with the Civil Aviation Authorities to have the lights of the Beacon Towers lit. They were also able to speak to the pilot of the plane by radio and send a message of welcome to the Chief.

Mrs. Buntine spoke over the radio and passed on to the group waiting below the Chief's love and thanks. All felt they had been in touch and celebrated their Chief's closeness to them by holding a picnic the next day.

—Story and block from "Adventuring".

CANCELLATIONS

—Continued from page 63.

Pedersen, 10th Geelong; Mrs. P. J. Florance, 1st Pakenham; Miss A. Waterworth, 1st Wycheproof; Mrs. K. W. Ross, 1st Benalla.

Brown Owls:

Mrs. E. Brown, 1st Doveton; Mrs. A. Stevens, 2nd Ascot Vale; Mrs. A. M. Betts, 1st Portarlington; Mrs. E. R. Parr, 2nd Camperdown; Miss E. Phillips, 1st Tatyoon; Mrs. B. J. Sanders, 1st Fiery Creek; Mrs. J. Hewat, 2nd South Oakleigh; Mrs. D. G. Pritchard, Beechworth; Mrs. G. Robertson, 1st Morwell East; Miss M. T. Bavin, 1st Avoca; Mrs. E. A. Greenwood, 1st Ferny Creek.

Tawny Owls:

Mrs. K. Day, 1st Doveton; Mrs. S. Heddle, 1st Mernda; Mrs. A. F. Percy, 1st Whittlesea; Mrs. H. G. Ball, 3rd North Balwyn; Mrs. H. W. Collins, 3rd Canterbury; Mrs. R. Malone, 2nd Kilsyth; Mrs. R. Whitelaw, 1st Mt. Macedon; Mrs. J. A. McAra, 2nd North Waverley; Mrs. L. Evans, 1st Boronia; Miss M. Phillips, 1st Tatyoon; Mrs. C. Dickens, 1st North Balwyn; Mrs. J. Metcalf, 2nd Dareton.

District Secretary:

Mrs. L. E. Gray, Coburg.

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS to the recipients of the following Awards:—

Long Service Awards:

Uniformed Personnel—

Mrs. G. Burnell, Mentone
(Gold Ribbon).

Mrs. G. A. Veitch, Box Hill
(White Ribbon).

Local Association Members—

Mrs. I. Burnett, Colac.
Mrs. E. E. Ryder, Tawonga.
Mrs. M. Loudon, Tawonga.

Thanks Badges—

Mr. C. A. Mangan, Moe.

APPOINTMENTS

Region Commissioner:

Mrs. C. Urquhart, Barwon.

Division Commissioner:

Mrs. J. W. Every, Goulburn Valley.

District Commissioners:

Mrs. J. Podbury, Geelong City; Mrs. M. J. Graham, Maryborough; Mrs. P. Miles, Wangaratta; Mrs. J. B. Sanderson, Wodonga; Mrs. C. J. Drummond, Bethanga; Mrs. S. G. Gerring, Spotswood; Mrs. M. Esler, Moorabbin South; Miss S. McKay, Great Western; Mrs. G. McI. Marshall, Ouyen; Mrs. F. S. W. Gay, Cockatoo; Mrs. Jack Burgmann, Katandra West; Mrs. W. S. Pittaway, Hazelwood; Mrs. K. C. Bethell, Doncaster West; Mrs. I. S. Doggett, Glen Waverley; Mrs. L. C. Berkin, Edenhope; Mrs. L. R. Robinson, Reservoir East; Mrs. A. Houston, Merriam; Mrs. K. J. Richards, Gunbower; Mrs. S. R. Vincent, Toora; Mrs. J. H. McRobert, Tallangatta; Mrs. M. S. A. Swan, Traralgon; Mrs. I. I. McErvale, Camperdown.

RETIREMENTS

We acknowledge with gratitude the service given by the following Commissioners whose terms of office have now drawn to a close:—

Division Commissioner:

Mrs. W. S. R. Henning, Wannong River.

District Commissioners:

Mrs. E. J. Bowran, Tallangatta; Mrs. R. M. Donovan, Wangaratta; Mrs. E. H. Chapman, Dunkeld; Mrs. R. T. Porter, Hazelwood; Mrs. R. J. Mason, Campbell's Creek; Mrs. A. G. Williams, Camperdown.

RESIGNATIONS

Thanks are also due to the following Commissioners who have had to resign:—

Mrs. D. H. Smallwood, Spotswood; Mrs. B. M. Watson, Sunshine; Mrs. F. G. Janes, Montrose.

WARRANTS

Captains:

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Lieutenants:

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Brown Owls:

Mrs. T. V. A. Walter, 2nd Horsham; Mrs. N. Dilasser, 1st Scoresby; Mrs. H. G. Ball, 3rd North Balwyn; Miss E. Storer, 1st Solway; Mrs. I. D. Schmidt, 1st Bunyip; Mrs. C. S. Pictor, 1st Kynton; Mrs. H. Ricke, 2nd Heatherdale; Mrs. G. Butcher, 3rd Chadstone; Mrs. J. A. Bennett, 1st Ouyen; Mrs. J. E. Gunn, 4th Box Hill; Miss M. M. Price, 1st Myrtleford; Mrs. B. Howes, 4th Traralgon; Mrs. T. R. Treloar, 3rd Noble Park; Mrs. C. Dickens, 1st North Balwyn; Mrs. L. Lock, 2nd North Balwyn; Mrs. L. R. Burch, 2nd Waverley North; Mrs. H. G. Lyell, 1st Watsonia; Mrs. M. J. Starkie, 1st Glenthompson; Mrs. A. L. McKenzie, 10th Ballarat; Mrs. T. A. Hand, 1st Karingal; Mrs. N. Allbutt, 1st Queenscliff.

Tawny Owls:

Mrs. D. L. Govan, 1st North Sunshine; Mrs. P. J. Lane, 2nd Sale; Miss R. Sparkes, 1st Oak Park; Mrs. L. E. Hanna, 1st Pinewood; Mrs. V. Killingback, 1st Altona; Mrs. W. Wilson, 2nd Ararat; Mrs. R. S. Phillips, 2nd East Malvern; Mrs. C. H. Taylor, 1st Ultima; Mrs. W. A. Jordan, 1st Lakes Entrance; Mrs. B. C. Bishop, 3rd Moorleigh; Mrs. B. Pearse, 1st Yarram; Mrs. J. Woodhouse, 4th Traralgon; Mrs. L. M. Powell, 3rd Highett; Mrs. E. P. W. Martin, 2nd Waverley North; Mrs. K. R. Jacobs, 1st Fern Creek; Mrs. G. Mahoney, 1st Marysville; Mrs. A. W. Linton, 1st Heyfield; Mrs. J. R. Thomson, 2nd Doveton; Mrs. J. Koch, 1st Queenscliff; Mrs. J. McAra, 1st Waverley North.

CORRECTION

June "Matilda":

Mrs. K. N. Turner is Brown Owl of 1st Heathcote, not Mrs. Perry.

CANCELLATIONS

Captains:

Mrs. R. J. Strachan, 1st Mt. Waverley; Mrs. J. C. Campbell, 1st Mornington; Mrs. D. Weatherill, 1st Whittlesea; Miss M. J. Coupar, 1st Mernda; Mrs. K. H. Paul, 1st Yarra Glen; Miss J. E. Oliver, 1st Prahran; Miss C. Mee, 3rd Canterbury; Miss P. A. Lewis, 1st East Coburg; Miss M. Evans, 1st Bacchus Marsh Ranger Coy.; Miss D. Godfrey, 1st Gardenvale; Mrs. I. McL. Cullen, 1st Plenty; Mrs. S. Gordon, 1st Sunbury; Mrs. B. Buist, 1st Burwood; Mrs. W. Shelton, 1st Pakenham.

Lieutenants:

Miss V. Weight, 3rd Williamstown; Mrs. J. Gay, 1st Ringwood; Miss L. Lowing, 6th Kew; Mrs. W. Blay, 1st Canterbury; Miss B. Beattie, 3rd Ringwood; Mrs. J. I. Nield, 1st Ringwood; Miss L.

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