

Marie Perle

Matilda



AUGUST, 1936.

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Volume XIII.

AUGUST, 1936.

Number Two.

EDITORIAL.

We would draw the attention of all Guiders to the Conference to be held at the University in September. As this is the first time we have had a week-end Conference, we hope the attendance will be even better than last year's.

Attention is drawn particularly to the Sunday programme.

We intend holding a Guiders' Own Service, at which we hope Miss Barfus will officiate, near the historic little Church at St. Helena.

We would like this to be a memorable occasion, so will all Guiders make a special effort to attend.

Would the readers of "Matilda" please pass the information on to non-readers, and would all who intend going send their money to the secretary early.

Rhythm Games and Patterns.

Throughout the ages children have found intense enjoyment in movement for its own sake, and the purpose of rhythm games is to help them use this natural instinct as a means towards creative self-expression.

Realising that children find an interest in creating and making things for themselves, modern educationalists plan their programmes accordingly. The result is that instead of forcing facts on to the child mind they plan now to develop and make the best possible use of the material which is already there.

Some children seem to have a natural wealth of ideas on many subjects, others few, but with skilful handling even the most seemingly impoverished mind can gradually be helped to develop.

Monsieur Jaques-Dalcroze has done more to develop this idea of self-education in the past twenty years than any other man, for he realises to the fullest extent that rhythm is the most vitally necessary element.

His method of eurhythmics proves beyond question that for the mind to be rhythmic, the body must be rhythmic also; and for the body to be rhythmic the nerves and muscles must work at a correct tension.

Every child needs definite rhythmic training, and as movement is a child's natural medium of self-expression, what more delightful

way to help him could be found than to give him rhythm games?

The games given below are based on the Dalcroze system of Eurhythmics, and are planned with the idea of developing the child's mind and body of a balanced speed. Every movement is the result of some mental effort, therefore he should become more alert, his memory should be strengthened, his muscles become more supple, and his whole body and mind should develop more poise and balance. It is hoped that teacher and child alike will realise that these games are only stepping stones to fresh ones, and are planned solely to stimulate the imagination and creative ability.

Learn the first pattern, if you wish, but then construct others for yourselves, because herein lies the full enjoyment, and as you construct them you will find that you will appreciate more and more the age-old maxim of the simplicity which is true beauty.

A RHYTHMIC PATTERN.

This pattern is suitable for children whose ages range from about 8-12. If done to some joyous skipping music it should go with a swing.

Part I.—Place children in two lines facing each other, 16 skips or paces apart.

xxxxxxxxx A
xxxxxxxxx B

Joining hands along the lines A and B, do 8 skips forwards, 8 backwards, 8 forwards (as if playing "Nuts in May") then 4 claps on their own hands, and 4 on the partner facing them.

Part 2.—The lines now take 8 skips to break in half, so that four A's join on to 4 B's, and they face so:—

A { x x } A
{ x x }
{ x x }

B { x x } B
{ x x }
{ x x }

They then all do 8 skips backwards; 8 skips forwards; and make one large circle for the next 8 skips.

Part 3.—In the circle they skip 8 times round to the right; 8 to the left; 8 to the right; and then take 8 to return to their original places as in part I.

Part 4.—xxxxxxx A
xxxxxxx B

A and B do 8 skips forwards; 8 backwards; 4 forwards; 4 backwards; then 8 forwards, so that on the final count they can take their partners' hands and raise them high above their heads.

Skipping patterns are great fun to do, and there is absolutely no limit to the designs which can be developed on similar lines to this one. Of course, younger children need simpler designs, but this in no way lessens their interest, and even very small ones are capable of making up most excellent patterns for themselves.

Another game—or, more strictly speaking, a memory test—which children always enjoy is "Things to Remember." Decide on four things to do, such as:—give four claps; kneel down for four counts; turn round; leap in the air.

These commands are said two or three times so that the child can learn them and remember them.

At a given signal—the first one is done; at a repeat of the signal the second; and so on until they have all been done, when the whole series is repeated.

(In Dalcroze classes we frequently use the word "Hopp" because it is easy to say and easy to hear.)

The children play this game by running, walking or skipping in a line, circle or group, etc., and doing the specified movements in their correct order over and over again. If, however, they make a mistake they drop out until the one who makes no faults is left as the winner.

If "Hopp" is said at regular intervals it is comparatively easy, but if said at irregular intervals it always catches the unwary ones.

Children never tire of this game, and an endless variety of "Things to Remember" can always be found.

A simple game which children of any age can take part in is the following one:—

Make two long lines close together

then join hands with a partner in the opposite line, but all face the arrow head.

xxxxxx
xxxxxx

To joyous skipping music they all follow the front pair wheresoever they take them.

At "Hopp" everyone stops skipping immediately, and, raising their hands, make one long archway or tunnel, through, or under which, the leading pair skips to the end of the line, and there join on again. Thus two new leaders carry on the game each time, until every pair has had a turn.

This idea also has infinite variations, and the more the children can think of the better will it be for them, and the greater joy will they have in playing.

THELMA St. JOHN GEORGE,
Dalcroze Graduate.

Guiding and Nationalism.

(By Her Imperial Highness Archduchess Ileana, President of the Austrian Girl Guides Association.)

A great wave of nationalism is sweeping over Europe to-day. All countries seem suddenly to have realised that the young play a great part, or will do so in the future, and have, therefore, started to think seriously of an education in the desired direction, apart from school. Why have they found that school is not sufficient? Mostly, I should think, because school is obligatory, and everything which is learnt there is a lesson, learned because it has to be, and killing the spontaneity which is the great strength of youth. So they have set up organisations in which the young can join freely and learn to serve and to be of use to their nation.

Different countries have set about this in different ways, many, alas, too rashly, and in so nationalistic a manner as to exclude all the international co-operation towards which, in theory at least, we have been striving since the Great War.

In the whirlpool of aims, ideas and organisations, the Boy Scout and Girl Guide movement stands out like a beacon in a troubled sea. It is, as far as is humanly possible, the ideal, because it combines both the national and the international idea. No child can learn to appreciate and understand another country and its inhabitants' love for it, if it has not first learned to love and serve its own. The Girl Guide movement can so easily be adapted to each land without losing one atom of its original aim. Every land has its own language and faith, and these each Girl Guide should know and respect as she must love and honour her own King or Government, knowing that above all stands one God, and that all those who rightly love Him by serving each other are worthy of respect and friendship, whatever language or form of worship they may use.

These are the fundamental precepts of Guiding as I understand them, and why I think that it is the movement destined finally to provide the only solution to the complicated question of the education of the young outside schools. Most other movements are far too self-centred. These are not a solution and are probably not destined to live, at least not in their present form.

And here, as one who dearly loves the Girl Guides, I would make a general appeal to all Guides really to be Guides. The directress of a school greatly interested in Guiding said: "Alas, I seldom see any difference between the girls who are and those who are not Guides once they are not in uniform." This is indeed sad. Every Guide should live up to her Promise, in or out of uniform. They have a great mission before them to-day. They have to fight the good fight. All is at their disposal to win. Let us hope they will do so, and that everything their hands find to do they will do with all their might.

Stradbroke Cup Competition.

And so Guiders, the stage is set, the curtain raised, the play is on. By the time "Matilda" reaches you some teams will already have been judged. But to those who have still to face the music here are just a few words of cheer. In the zero hour before the dawn, when you await the trials of the day to come, you have probably reached the depths of despair, and are wallowing in misery and fear. Misery because your final efforts have fallen so much lower than your hopes, fear because some new and unforeseen mishap will be sure to arise at the last moment.

It is because we know how you are feeling that we want to send you a message of encouragement and cheer. Keep your pecker up, remember that a Guide sings and smiles under all difficulties, that half the fun of guiding is its unexpectedness; think of the satisfaction afterwards when you have worried through and are on the right side of the fence. You can only do your best, and no matter how poor a best it may be, it is better than not having tried at all. Nothing is ever as bad as you think—when you think enough about it. So gird on your armour and be ready for the fray.

And here is where we want to remind you of two of the Guide principles. The first—Be Prepared. You have told us the date you want to be judged, the time and the place. Keep to it, be in time for it, be ready for it. Don't let there be any delays. Remember, the judges are busy people who are giving up their time voluntarily, and at their own inconvenience are journeying long distances to suit you.

Here is where you must stand by your fifth Guide Law—Courtesy. See that the children are there a little while before the appointed time, see they are quiet during the items they are not taking part in, and have someone in authority to welcome the judges and make things as pleasant for them as possible. Have a programme ready with the list of the items to expect, and who is doing them—whether Guides, Brownies or Rangers. For the play if you have to spend money on making or hiring the costumes or scenery, have a list of what it has cost you ready for their inspection. And finally, when they are leaving, send them on their way with a cheery "thank you." These are people outside the Movement who may be coming in contact with Guides for the first time. Let them carry away with them a good impression of the principles we have so much at heart.

But no matter what the outcome, let it comfort you to know that it is by the strength of our endeavours and not by the results that we shall eventually reach our goal. M.R.F.

COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE, 1936.

As the usual date for the Victorian Commissioners' Conference clashes with the Guide celebrations in South Australia and Western Australia, it has been decided to hold the Conference later in the year; the dates will be 17th-20th November; the place is uncertain. Further information in next issue of "Matilda."

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Meetings of the Executive Committee were held on 17th June, 2nd July, 15th July.

Coronation.—An invitation was received from Dame Helen Gwynn Vaughan for five representatives from Victoria (Guiders, Rangers or Guides over 14) to attend a 10-days' Camp at Chigwell Row during Coronation Week. It was agreed that the Federal Secretary be asked if there would be any possibility of a party going from Australia, and whether any travelling concessions would be likely to be made by the shipping firms.

Victorian Institute of Educational Research.—Mrs. Edmondson agreed to represent the Guide Association on the General Committee formed to make arrangements for a Conference in 1937.

Guide and Scout Ball. It was agreed that, in response to a request from the Boy Scouts Association, the Girl Guides Association should combine with the B.S.A. in a Ball to be held during September, the organisation of and proceeds from the Ball to be shared equally.

Office. It was agreed that as the Guiders' Club is ceasing to exist the room be taken over by the Association and the present Training Department Room be given up.

Guide House. Consideration was given to the possibility of purchasing a property at Woori Yallock.

S.A. International Demonstration. Over 30 applications were received. It was agreed that the Secretary be in charge of the party.

I.H.Q. It was noted that a Sub-Committee of the I.H.Q. Executive Committee had been formed to deal with applications for the Silver Fish, Special Service Badge, etc., and that in future these awards would be made on Thinking Day, awards for gallantry and fortitude will be made at any time during the year.

Federal Council. Subjects for the agenda of the Federal Council Meeting were discussed.

Commissioners' Conference. It was agreed that the date of the Commissioners' Conference be altered to 17th-20th November to avoid clashing with Interstate celebrations.

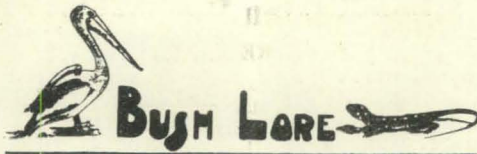
Circulars. It was agreed that from 1st September no circulars should be posted, but all information should circulate to Commissioners and Guiders through "Matilda."

Health Association. It was agreed that the Association would not be able to take part in the activities organised by the Health Association during Health Week in September, but that members of the Guide Association should be encouraged to take an interest in the week and that the September issue of "Matilda" give special attention to this signpost of Guiding.

Routine and financial business was discussed.
S. H. IRVING.

The Committee arranging the Conference consists of Lady Chauvel; Mrs. D. Eadie; Mrs. F. W. Faulkner; Mrs. Colin Macdonald; Mrs. Frank Tate; Miss J. U. Boyes; Miss M. E. Bush; Miss S. M. Cameron; Miss M. Moore.

S. H. IRVING,
State Secretary.



Editor: Miss Sydes, P.O., Kennington,
via Bendigo.

"Life has loveliness to sell,
All beautiful and splendid things."

And one of the biggest treasure houses is the outdoor world. But how are we to get our Guides and our friends to see these "beautiful and splendid things?" Have you ever noticed the number of people who walk about without seeing or hearing either?

Walking.

We all know by now that the very best way to open their eyes, their ears, and to make them use their noses, is to take them outdoors, and as better weather approaches much of this will be done.

It needn't always be a "hike" or, as we say now, a Field Day, but take a patrol or two or three Guides out for a walk. One advantage is that you needn't frighten your quarry with the idea of Nature. You can make the Guide paddock your aim, or some other definite spot, and while the cold weather lasts walk for the warmth and exercise. Then on your way you can find out all about Joan and Jane and Jean into the bargain. Let them eat as much as they like (within reason), although it is against the real hiker's rule. Recently I went for a walk with a small Guide, and the eating was half the fun—it kept things from growing dull. Besides, you can always give the crumbs to the birds and ants. As you walk remark casually on the view, admire a tree here, a bush there, and throw in an occasional "What is that?" and thus awaken interest gradually.

Part of the 2nd Class Test reads "Cover a mile in not less than 12 minutes"—certainly very useful, but why not encourage the alternative, "Have done four walks of at least three miles"? Don't we rather favor the first, and shirk the second?

NOTES TAKEN ON A WALK IN JUNE.

Showery, cold southerly wind, sun shining. Paddocks at first—sheep in—then bush, thinned out by Forest Commission. Tips growing. Odd waxflowers out. Sundews—insects in—all hanging head downwards. Why? (Here was our first discovery, sundews hanging down on a cold, showery day.)

Six casemoth cocoons quite close—brown bug; lichen; tomtits; native cherry-tree; big bunch of mistletoe; blue wrens; blue hills in distance. Two ant chimneys, etc., etc.

THE FIELD DAY.

How are we to get the Guide to see all these things at the Field Day? Show them something first, later they will begin to show you things. Small children, Brownie age or young Guides, don't like to be beaten, so if Captain finds a nice beetle, or cocoon, they'll

pretty soon find some more. And if Mary finds something for Captain, Dorothy won't be outdone. Don't you remember racing for the next wild-flower when you were young? Your sister found a billy-button or a blue orchid—didn't you nearly burst to find the next one, to see it first?

So don't shirk the outdoor side, because you think the Guides will bowl you out with their questions. The more questions they ask, the better job you are doing. It won't matter if you have to say, "We must find that out." Aren't we all learning together, and won't it spoil it if Captain knows everything already, and tells too much?

PLAYING AT "SETTLERS."

Each patrol is a band of explorers in a new land, where they must make their home. They have to decide where they will build their house (compass directions), anything they can find out about the weather, available material for building, what they will eat. This will all lead to the discovery of rabbits and their holes; buds; berries—whether poisonous or not; kinds of trees, roots, etc.; the most sheltered spots, whether rocky or not; and, after all, one thing leads to another. The game awakens interest in things outdoors.

WHY EUCALYPTUS?

Look at the buds of the gum-tree, with their caps on top. Have you watched them being pushed off? Well, *eucalyptus* is made up of two ancient Greek words which mean "well covered"—don't you think it is a very suitable name?

There are two hundred different sorts of gum-trees. How many different flowers do you know—pink, white, scarlet, big, small?

"Our Own Trees"—a First Book on the Australian Forest, is an interesting book for the Ranger library, and quite cheap.

HONEY-EATERS.

(Continued from May issue)

The Eastern Spinebill.

Have you a bottle-brush, flowering currant, or any sort of a honey-bearing shrub? Then you will know the spine-bill. You will have watched him hang on the wing in that marvelous way, while he thrusts his long curved beak into the flowers, searching for honey. Or you will have heard his Pip, pip, pip—a few first slow ones as an introduction, followed by a succession of very rapid "pips." He has another note, but I can't recall it at the moment.

His coloring is conspicuous, too—white chest with chestnut-brown patch on throat; abdomen light chestnut-brown; crown of head, line to crescent on side of chest; wings and tail black; back brown; outer tail tipped white.

He is a swift flier, but will be fairly tame in the garden. The nest is open, cup-shaped, like a yellow tufted honey-eater's, only the use of moss in the building distinguishes it from his.

OBSERVATIONS.

Euroa.—The outer covering of buds, which is brown, smooth and hard, is also covered with an oily substance. This keeps off the rain. I have also noticed that, while leaf buds are pointed, flower buds are rounded.



Editor: Miss Nancy Thewlis.

General Games.

FILL THE BOX.

Brown Owl stands in the centre of the room with a box, size about two feet square, containing bobbins. Brown Owl wants to turn the box upside down, but the Brownies say: "No, we want it filled." Brown Owl then throws the bobbins in all directions as widely apart as possible, and the Brownies run for them and return to the box, dropping one in at a time. The race between Brown Owl emptying the box and the Brownies trying to keep it filled continues till Brown Owl can completely empty it and turn it upside down. If this takes too long, a time limit of two minutes could be allowed. If Brown Owl has not succeeded in emptying the box at the end of this time, the Brownies will have won. A Brownie might then be allowed to take Brown Owl's place.

M.E.H.

MEMORY GAME.

Brownies are in Sixes, numbered, at end of room. A bundle of colored kindergarten papers is in front of each Six. Brown Owl arranges papers in a certain order at the other end of room and calls a number. Brownies of that number run up and gaze at papers for 15 seconds, and then race back and try to arrange their papers in the same order. Brownies who arrange correctly in a given time win a point for their Six. Brown Owl changes the order of the papers and calls another number, and so on. When Brownies are very good at remembering, Brown Owl may call to them to hop, jump, or walk backwards instead of merely running.

M.K.B.

DETECTIVES AND ROBBERS.

(Collecting Pennies).

B.O., T.O. and P.L. are detectives, each chasing a different band of robbers. The robbers hide their jewels on themselves and are chased by the detectives. When caught by the detectives the detective has three guesses where the jewels are hidden. If right, they must be given up; if not, the robber escapes. The detective who catches his six robbers and puts them in prison first wins. The jewels are the Brownies' pennies.

R.L.S.

EPAMAMONDUS.

Brownies in a circle; in the middle are two flat pieces of wood, paper and string. Brownies are numbered or named so that two have the same name. Brown Owl calls cake, butter, puppy dog or bread and a name, and the two Brownies run to the centre and pick up the piece of wood. If "Cake" is called, they run back through their places round the circle and back to the centre, holding the wood lightly with both hands; for "Butter," they must put wood on their heads, for "puppy dog" wrap it up in paper, and for "bread" tie string round it and drag it after them. The Pack, of course, should be told the story first.

H.G.

Some Golden Bar Games.

NATURE GAME.

Brown Owl has a collection of leaves placed round the room, at least six of each kind. Brownies sit in Six circles, Brown Owl describes the flower belonging to a certain leaf, and at a signal all the Brownies rush round the room to find one to match it. At the next signal they must run back to their circles again. The Six having the correct leaves receives a bean for each one. Six with most beans at end of game wins. It is best to hold a short Pow-wow at end of game and if possible show leaves and flowers together.

M.K.B.

THINGS I HAVE SEEN.

Brownies in a circle. One in the middle thinks of a common flower, bird or animal, and anyone she points to must tell something about it before she counts ten. Anyone who cannot takes her place.

H.G.

BALLTHROWING. (Spots on the Sun)

Brownies in a circle, in the centre a yellow circle (paper or chalk) about 2ft. across, with about six matchboxes in it. Brownies sing:

(Tune: John Peel)

"Do you see those spots upon the sun?

Well, something really must be done.

Let's try and knock them out of sight,

And let the sun shine clear and bright."

Two or three Brownies have balls which they throw over-arm at the sun and try to knock the spots off. Whoever catches a ball tries next time.

H.G.

HOPPING (Hoppy Land).

Brownies are divided into two teams, half at each side of ground or hall. Two large figures of eight are drawn across. Brown Owl and Tawny Owl or P.L. stand near the middle of each eight. Brownies hop one at a time round their eight while they sing to "Auld Lang Syne":

"Oh, Hoppy Land's a funny place,

The streets twist round about.

The people never walk or run

But hop when they go out.

The policemen at the crossroad stand,

And they are sure to stop

The people going down the street

Who do not lightly hop."

Any Brownie who hops badly is sent back and has to join on at end of those waiting for their turn. The first side to finish wins. H.G.

Golden Hand Games.

FIRELIGHTING.

Brownies are chips, paper, coal, etc., each with the name on a piece of paper. They are trying to escape from "match." When tug by "match," the "match" has three guesses which part of the fire he has caught. If guessing rightly she changes places. After several minutes, the fire is set by "match" and the pieces of paper are laid in the fireplace in order.

R.L.S.

COMPASS GAME.

1.—A "river" is drawn on the ground. Each Brownie has a partner who is blindfolded. The partner faces north and the Brownie gives her commands, such as "Five steps north-west," etc., and so steers her through the "rocks" (drawn with chalk, etc.) to the other side of the river. Each command and each time a rock is struck counts against the Brownie. On arrival at the other side, the first Brownie is blindfolded and the originally blindfolded child steers her across. The pair with the lowest score wins. L.T.

2.—Brown Owl or Tawny Owl takes the part of an old woman and keeps about the centre of the room. North is the only compass point marked on the floor. The Brownies advance separately to the old woman and ask;

"Old woman, old woman, how do I get to town?"

The old woman replies;

"Turn west and go up hill and down."

If she is correct, she reaches town and is able to go on with some other activity, such as buying something with her penny. If she is wrong, a witch takes her to a cave to learn a bit more about compass points before trying again when all the others have had a turn. The old woman changes the word of direction for each Brownie. A.V.H.

SKIPPING GAME.

(Tune: Little Brown Jug)

1. "The princess ran out of her palace one day,
And called the children to with her play;
So swiftly they all came at her call,
To gaily skip with her one and all."
2. "Tra-la-la, etc."
3. "So happy were those children gay,
And quickly passed the hours away;
The darkness fell and their mothers came
With sticks to chase them home again."

Method: This can either be played with one big skipping rope or separate small ones. The Pack is divided into mothers and children, and each couple has a home.

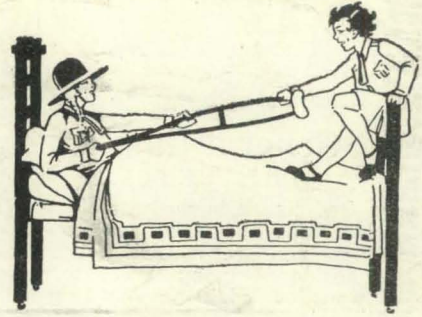
First Verse: The princess runs into centre of big rope or else skips with small rope in centre if space. By end of verse, all children are skipping. Continue while they "tra-la-la," so making with last verse thirty skips, which is required for first class. At end of the third verse, the mothers leave home and chase the children, who run for home. If the mothers catch the children, they take their place next time; if not, the children continue. A.V.H.

9th WORLD CONFERENCE.

The 9th World Conference was held in Sweden last month. Australia was represented by Mrs. C. O. Fairbairn, Miss M. Hoffmeyer, Miss E. Moran and Miss Elsie Smith.

After the Conference the International Camp was held in Denmark, the representatives were to go on from the conference, and a number of other Australian Guiders and Rangers were to join them at the Camp.

In July Miss M. Hoffmeyer is attending the 5th International General Training in Holland, while in August Miss C. Broadhurst will be present at the Round Table of Ranger Guiders at Our Chalet, Adelboden.



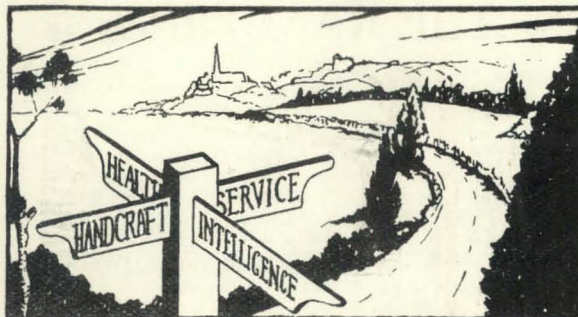
Help! Help! Help!

Have you ever imagined your reaction if, through ill-health, your activities were suddenly restricted, your companionship limited mainly to the narrowness of the home-circle, your helplessness a drag on the financial and physical resources of your family? If you have, then you will know and understand the cheerless prospect of this situation which is the unfortunate lot of many physically afflicted people. To counteract the feeling of uselessness which so often accompanies such a condition, however, the Extension Branch (invalid and crippled Brownies, Guides and Rangers) established some two years ago, a Handcraft Depot.

The filmiest underwear; exquisitely hem-stitched linen table mats; knitted bed-jackets, jumpers, socks or gloves; hand-woven scarves; amusing and well-made toys are only a few of the attractive and useful articles which proceed from the amateur fingers of these girls who are otherwise dependent on the charity of their families or the State for an often painful existence. The gratitude (often of the whole family) which meets these small commissions is so pathetic in its sincerity, that one is stirred to expand the field from which the Depot obtains its orders, and your attention is, therefore, drawn to the showcase at Headquarters which, because of its size, holds only a few examples of the excellent workmanship of the Extension Guides and Rangers.

Will you remember the Depot when Lieutenant or Captain staggers you with the news of her engagement? Think of her delight on receiving a gift from the needle which has stitched portions of many exquisite trousseaus—not the least of which was a vice-regal one! If you should decide to thus honour her, quotations will be given or orders gladly taken by Miss A McA. Campbell, 41 Spring Street, Melbourne, F3824, or Win. 7302, or Miss E. Paterson, 275 Bay Street, Port Melbourne, F5264, or M4479.

This is an appeal to all of you able-bodied people to remember and aid those who are less able to fend for themselves in this inexplicable world where the unexpected always happens. Who knows that you may not some day be in a like position yourself? A.C.



The Sign Post

Editor: Miss Phyllis Salmon.

Give me a sense of humour, Lord,
Give me the grace to see a joke,
To find some happiness in life,
And pass it on to other folk.

Anon.

Mademoiselle Maria Gloria.

BY M. BOWEN.

(Continued from July issue.)

"Girl, Marlborough marches on Brussels," cried de Barros; "he has Brabant under his heel; Louvain has fallen, and Mechlin — and we have been defeated at Ramillies, very bitterly."

There was a pause of seconds, then came the woman's voice:

"Did you fly from Ramillies, my cousin?"

Das Cabral broke into a curse, and her cousin answered hotly:

"We have been cut off from the army. I told you that when I returned this afternoon. My chateau was named as rallying place for my friends —"

She interrupted scornfully: "Your friends! Who are they?"

"My friends," he answered. "We are under the command of Monsieur le Duc de Courcillon."

"Who advised this flight?" she cried.

"Come down—I have no more time."

From overhead came a haughty laugh. "I will not. I do not care for your company. Monsieur de Courcillon is a coward."

"Marlborough is marching this way—burning everything on his route. Do you understand?"

"Yes. And there is one, de Barros, will stay and face him. You are all cowards."

De Barros made a step up the stairs. "What can ten men do against an army?" he cried.

"The same as one woman—die," she answered.

"Must I bring you by force?" exclaimed de Barros, and he sprang up the stairs. There was a sound of hurrying feet, and then the sharp turn of a key.

"By the gods, we can wait no longer. The English do not touch women. Come down, de Barros."

De Barros clattered down with a dark frowning face. "To saddle!" he cried, "I have done what I could!"

De Courcillon came into the light, the Cross of St. Louis on his breast shone like a star.

"Monsieur," he said, "I will stay and protect the lady; au revoir, or shall I say adieu?"

"Monsieur le Duc, you would do no good with your extraordinary gallantry."

De Courcillon flashed.

"Messieurs, a Frenchman has yet to learn that any gallantry of his can be extraordinary. I choose to remain here."

He ascended the stairs.

De Barros called after him incredulously:—"This is madness, Monsieur."

De Courcillon turned on the stairs, his hand lay near the Cross of St. Louis on his breast.

"I have only lived to die well," he said. "I do not care to see the lilies trailing in the dust, or to return to France with news of the enemies' victories. The lady was right. I should have died at Ramillies. But here I have my chance; your cousin has given it to me."

The Spaniards looked at each other a moment, then passed into the courtyard, mounted, and rode away.

(What will happen to Gloria and de Courcillon?—To be continued next month.)

Try This!

To keep the interest in 1st class alive, arrange a date two months ahead for a First Class Test Day. Arrange with the examiners to test all the outdoor sections on one day. The Guides should arrange their programmes for the Hike to fit in heights, distance, time, numbers, map, compass and stars, also first aid if time permits.

The Guides follow a map to a certain place, cook their lunch, estimate heights, etc., which have been worked out previously by examiners, who should make the test as adventurous as possible.

At the end of the day, while the Guides are still keen, fix the date of the next test day to do Health Rules, Tenderfoot, Origin of the Guide Movement.

Three Test Days spread through the year should complete the test. The fixed days give the Guides something definite to work for, and therefore their interest does not wane.

Guiders! Show your interest in the Signpost Page by writing something for it. The Editor, c/o. H.Q., will be glad to receive reports of company activities and requests for special articles, and will answer any questions on Company Management, Tests, Badges, etc.

P.A.S.

Do Your Good Turns Go Wrong?

Do your good turns go wrong? Those I attempt often do! Seated in the train, I lean across and tell a young lady her necklace is undone. It is all right, thank you! and later I see that it is all right—looped up in some new fashion! Arrived at the tram terminus, I offer an unclaimed suitcase to various people, before I discover a young man eyeing me suspiciously! I am cheered when one of the people to whom I offer the case says "Thank you all the same." Charming, as I have done nothing for her.

Talking of trams, have you seen the new posters, "Are you tired?" I am one of the people who sit sideways, taking up one and a half seats, just as you see in the poster.

The new Traffic Code—surely we can do something to show our Guides something of traffic courtesy. It is courteous as well as law-abiding to keep to the left instead of jostling and bumping along on the wrong (or right!) side; to go straight to the nearest pathway on leaving a tram, and to wait until the green light says "Go" before going. The Guides might invent an exciting game, using the traffic rules as a basis.

Another thing well to the fore in our minds is the Stradbroke Cup Competition. If the Guides have never known before, they will learn now that they rise when the expert who has come to train or judge enters the room; that they listen because she is their visitor, and that they thank her at the end. Maybe a rehearsal is held at Captain's home, and Captain's mother kindly brings in supper. How jolly to thank her and to wait on her and other grown-ups first. I think of an old gentleman of 80 years of age who always stood up when a girl of 13 took in his supper at 9 o'clock each night. I remember, too, that this old gentleman used to be very annoyed when doors were banged, and I think he deserved some consideration, don't you?

The good turn we often neglect is to answer letters and circulars promptly, and to take notice of our notices. A very little system helps here; dates of meetings, etc., should be immediately entered in our diaries; circulars put in a tray or box, and not stuffed away in drawers. It doesn't take any longer to deal with a letter or circular by the date required—in fact it's quicker because there's no apology required.

Guiders all know the law: "A Guide is a friend to animals." Why not a courteous friend? If animals are always treated in the same manner and not one day coaxed, another day bullied, they will know what is required of them, and be obedient. When making friends with a strange dog, stand still, holding out a hand. The dog will come towards you and sniff at the proffered hand. If he approves, then you may pat him and make friends.

R.D.

"THE RANGER PAGE"

Editor: Miss Boyes.

The Ranger Guiders' Meeting arranged for August has been cancelled owing to Guiders being so busy with the Stradbroke Cup competitions. Instead, there is to be a special Ranger Session at the Guiders' Conference. It would be a help if Guiders having subjects to discuss could send them in to me beforehand.

Miss Broadhurst, our representative at the Ranger Round Table Conference at Ardeboden in August, has sent out a copy of the agenda. It touches on a very wide range of subjects, many of them of vital interest to Rangers. We hope to have discussions on some of these at the Guiders' Conference.

Only two entries were sent for the poisonous mushroom emergency in the June "Matilda." They were both quite good. Giving an emetic, getting the patient to the house, and sending for a doctor, but neither mentioned treating for shock, and keeping her warm.

J. U. BOYES.

The Metropolitan Rangers Emerge with a Vengeance!

During the Ranger week-end at Sorrento all the patrols set out on Sunday afternoon armed with pens, pencils, paper, and even a compass, to map the route of a hike to Port Franklin, at Portsea.

The committee and the patrol leaders were following later, so that they could check up completed maps.

Having careered along for a mile and a bit, and having also marked in numerous windmills, a doctor's residence, several churches, and marshes to the south, we arrived at the turnoff, Franklin Road, an unmade track which Miss Boyes, who had passed us en route, informed us led to the ocean beach.

The first patrol rounded the corner, leaving the nearest competitors about a quarter of a mile behind. The rest of the Rangers, AS USUAL, were in twos and threes here, there, and THERE, between Portsea and Sorrento.

Having survived two hills of sand in fine style, what should they see at the bottom of the hill but a car smothered in sand up against a snapped-off tree, with a gentleman, apparently sound asleep, over the steering wheel. "Someone was at the ball last night, by the look of him," said one Ranger. But when they arrived at the spot, it was discovered that he was unconscious. "Don't touch him," said one, "He might be drunk." Another remarked, "I am not going to be a witness," while a third wished to go home with all possible speed via the back beach.

However, one Ranger took charge of the proceedings and despatched two Rangers to the nearest house for help. In their absence it was found that the man was shivering; one hand dangling outside the car being quite blue. The next patrol having come into sight a quarter of an hour after the discovery, one of them returned to the main road to implore Miss Boyes to bring her car to the site of the accident. In the meantime, no attempt was made to move the man, or to make him

warmer; but someone did feel his heart and pulse. The first messengers returned stating that the house was empty. By this time the car had arrived. Mrs. Ebeling, who had come with Miss Boyes, felt the victim's heart and pulse, and announced that she thought he was suffering from a heart attack. As it was not advisable to move the patient more than was necessary, he was moved to the other side of the front seat, while Miss Boyes tried to start the car. It would not move! The man was then lifted by three Rangers into the other car. In the meantime, a Ranger handed Miss Boyes a piece of paper with the make of car, number and registration number, adding the fact that the engine, which she had felt with her hand, was still warm. Miss Boyes drove the patient to a doctor. The Rangers were told to return home immediately along the road. On reaching the house they were told that the patient had been left at the surgery, and a telephone report would be sent later. It was not until teatime, when the "victim" entered the dining room, that we knew the "emergency" had been one of the practice variety.

The two real victims of the plot immediately decided that they must turn the tables on the Committee and P.L.s and First Aider. The following morning they organised a stunt in the lounge for the benefit of those rangers who had stood about doing nothing while the patient cooled in the roadway, exaggerating the worst features of various reactions to the emergency. For this they had the assistance of all the committee p.l.'s and first aider. The first plot was to be followed by a what-should-have-been-done performance, the original actors taking their proper parts. But the messenger, having raced frantically round the lounge, instead of reaching a p.l. with the message collapsed in a heap at her feet. Pandemonium ensued; the audience counted her out. "It is a stunt," said they, "another beastly emergency!" The collapsed one was laid out on the verandah while one p.l. rushed back into the lounge. "SSSHHH! she has fainted!" was the warning. As the counting-out continued, the door was shut firmly in their faces, and the remaining p.l.'s and committee ransacked the building in frantic haste to collect pillows and blankets, not to mention pints of water. The first aider administered several doses of sal volatile to the patient, who, not knowing what was to hand, had just "regained consciousness." Her clothes had been loosened and vigorous rubbing of limbs followed. Two p.l.'s removed Rangers from the sitting room inviting the unbelieving to peep through the door at the corpse. Bets, which rose to one shilling, were made without the aid of a bookmaker, as to whether it was a genuine case. After some time the patient rallied sufficiently to be assisted by a solicitous first aider to the first aid room, whereupon she announced: "I think I will be all right now, Mrs. Ebeling."

To the horror of the committee, the p.l.'s, and the child who handed over her shilling, quite convinced that the patient had fainted, the patient emerged and the camp realised that the biters had been bitten.

Margaret Fowler and Kathleen Anderson.

Notices.

GUIDERS' CONFERENCE.

This year the Guiders' Conference will take the form of a week-end. These are the suggestions up to date:

Friday, p.m.—Country Guiders welcomed at the Meeting Pool.

Saturday—a.m.: Brownie, Guide and Ranger Training Classes (from answers received this suggestion is popular).

Saturday, 2 p.m.—Conference begins.

2.15—Official Opening.

2.30—Group Discussions.

4.15—Afternoon Tea.

4.30—Separate into Brownie, Guide and Ranger groups (There has been a special request for this).

6 —Tea.

7.30—Speakers, etc. The evening programme is not yet settled.

Sunday, p.m.—Bus Drive with a Guiders' Own Service as the objective.

Notices will be sent to all Guiders as before, as the Conference agenda should be most interesting and helpful.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The Secretary of the Guiders' Committee would like to remind the 320 Guiders who have not yet answered their Conference Notice, that their replies were to be at Headquarters by 30th June.

"Matilda" suggests you catch the next mail.

FUNNY THINGS GUIDERS DO.

1. A Ranger Guider sends the secretary of the Guiders' Committee a form without a name, or a District, and a stamped envelope unaddressed. What is the poor secretary to do?

2.—Several Guiders sent their stamped envelopes sealed!

3.—Many Guiders omitted to fill in the name of their district. Imagine the secretary hunting up their names in a book which is not in alphabetical order!

4.—Another Guider sends ninepence for her sixpenny levy, so we take it that the extra threepence is a donation to the committee.

5.—Five hundred Guiders and Commissioners received circulars about the conference. One hundred and eighty sent in their replies. IF YOU ARE ONE OF THESE TARDY PEOPLE post your answer immediately.

6.—Some Guiders, because they could not attend the Conference, did not send a stamped envelope for reply.

D. McKINNON.

BROWNIE GUIDERS' EVENINGS.

Owing to the lack of attendance at the Brownie Guiders' Evenings held on the second Thursday of each month, it has been decided not to hold any more meetings until further notice.

RUTH SCOTT, Sec.

VICTORIAN GUIDERS' CLUB.

We regret to announce that at the last General Meeting of the Victorian Guiders' Club held on Wednesday evening, June 24th, 1936, at Guide Headquarters, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, it was found necessary to wind up the Club owing to the lack of members, and the insufficient need for a Club.

JEAN M. C. ROBERTSON, President.

TRAINING DEPARTMENT.

Will Commissioners please notify their Guiders and prospective Guiders (over 18 years of age) that, if applications warrant it, the 32nd Victorian Training Week will be held from FRIDAY, 28th AUGUST, to SATURDAY, 5th September, 1936, inclusive, at "Bethany," Healesville. The fee will be 30/-.

The Week will be for General Guide and Brownie Training. Guider in Charge: Miss G. H. Swinburne; Brownie Trainer: Miss V. Hill.

Applications (envelopes marked "Training Week"), accompanied by a deposit of 5/-, should be sent in writing to the Secretary, Training Department, not later than 4th August, 1936. Deposits will not be refunded unless withdrawal is made a fortnight before the beginning of the Week.

Guiders who have not previously attended a Training Course at Headquarters must bring to the first class of any Course a nomination form, signed by their Commissioner.

Unless otherwise stated, all Training classes are held at the Guide Office, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, at 8 p.m.

Guide Training.—The third (and last) Course of General Training will begin on FRIDAY, 2nd October, 1936. Guider in Charge: Miss G. H. Swinburne.

Brownie Training.—The last Course for the year will begin in October.

Ranger Training.—A Course of Classes for Ranger Guiders will begin on Monday, 7th September, and will consist of six classes. Guider in Charge: Miss F. V. Barfus; assistant, Miss F. Piesse.

Refresher Course.—A series of six classes on General Guiding began on Monday, 6th July. The first two classes dealt with "Ideas for Company meetings" and "Nature Lore" (Plant Life and Birds). The other classes are as follows:—

Monday, 3rd August: Nature Lore: An introduction to the realm of Insect Life (Miss Woolcock); Birds (Miss J. Harper).

Monday, 10th August: Games, probably "something old, something new" (Miss Hayman).

Monday, 17th August.—First Class Ideas (Miss G. Swinburne).

Monday, 24th August.—"Are we running our Companies as the Chief Scout intended we should?" (Miss Swinburne).

Guiders who intend to be present at any class are especially asked to send their names beforehand to the Training Secretary.

Country Guiders or others who are unable to attend the Classes, but would like full notes, may obtain these on application. Guiders will be asked to defray the cost of paper and postage, which will be a very small amount.

M. E. BUSH, Commissioner for Training.

Camping.

Licensed Guiders' Camp.—It has been found necessary to cancel the plans for this camp.

Summer Camps, 1936-1937. It is proposed to hold the following Camps:

Combined Ranger Camp from 26th December, 1936, to 2nd January, 1937, inclusive.

Combined Guide Camp from 4th to 11th January, inclusive, in charge of Miss O. V. Wright. Applications will be received from

four Guiders from any Company whose Guider has not herself a Camper's Licence.

Patrol Leaders' Camp from 12th to 19th January, 1937, inclusive, in charge of Miss D. Hayman. Applicants must be Patrol Leaders, and must have passed the Second Class Test before coming to Camp.

The fee for each Camp will be 22/6 per Camper. Further details re sites, date for applications, etc., will be published later.

Camper's Licence.—The following Guiders obtained the Camper's Licence at the Campcraft Week held in January last:—Miss Enid Bunning (Kew District); Miss Heather Brown (South Yarra); Mrs. O. Grant (Corryong); Miss Wilma Lucas (Brighton); Miss Hebe Martin (Lone Branch); Miss L. Weickhardt (Hawthorn); Miss Winnie Whitten (Malvern).

Indoor Camp Test Certificate and Pack Holiday Permit.—A course of classes for training for these certificates will begin in September.

E. H. PURNELL,

Commissioner for Camping.

REGISTRATIONS.

Local Association—Morwell.

WARRANTS.

Brown Owl.—4th Preston: Miss M. Smith.

Captain—2nd Ararat: Miss M. E. Alfred.

Captain—1st Carlton: Miss J. Harper.

CHANGE OF GUIDERS.

5th Kew Pack—Brown Owl: Miss D. Rylah.

1st Numurkah Pack: Miss K. Powell.

4th Kew Company: Miss J. Ray.

5th Kew—Miss M. Lambe.

IN RECESS.

1st Harcourt North.

CANCELLATION.

Mrs. Russell, Captain 1st Seymour Rangers.

CORRECTED ADDRESS.

Miss E. G. Weppner, Post Office, Colbinabbin.

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