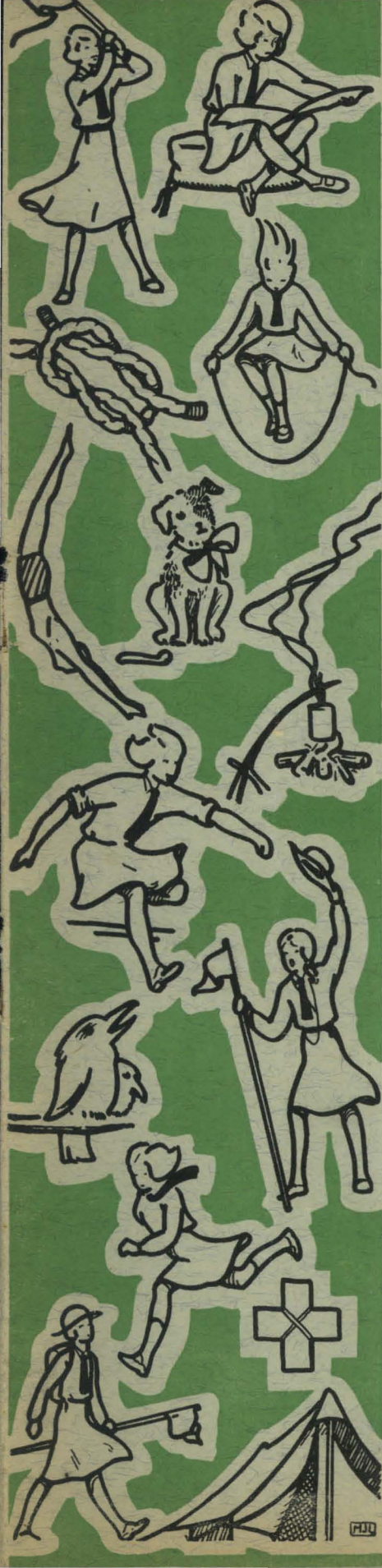


*Mark Bush*

# Matilda



MARCH, 1937.

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Number Nine.

## Editorial.

We hope every one notices the appeal for members for the pipe band in "Matilda" this month. Adelaide has a permanent Guiders' choir, and wouldn't it be interesting if Melbourne Guiders managed something so original as a permanent Guiders' Pipe Band!

THE EDITOR.

## Patriotism.

BY THE REV. P. B. HAYMAN, M.A.

Virgil tells us that "The noblest motive is the public good."

In the gradual process and evolution of man, we are fascinated with his story—his achievements, his endeavours, and particularly his self-expression.

His motives, however, have varied considerably through the centuries, as the study of the history of the nations of the world reveals.

The schoolboy is taught to defend himself, which is a good thing, but not all boys like boxing! All boys, however, when pushed to it, will defend themselves, even though their defence may be feeble.

The question of "Defence," then is a very old subject.

### THE RISE OF NATIONS.

As the Nations of the world developed, the description of livelihood shows the character of their inhabitants and leaders. The characteristics of some nations in early times found them as wanderers and invaders.

Thus the historian delving in the archives of Libraries and Museums, and reading of old manuscript tells the delightful stories of brave and courageous men, women and children, whose love for their country was so strong that they would not only fight the invader, but if necessary resist him unto death. The history of the British Empire is the story of our national development. In it we find wonderful deeds of valour, fidelity and humanity even amidst the horrors of war.

The Literature of our Nation frequently breathes the spirit of Patriotism. Shakespeare writes:

"What is it that you would impart to me?  
If it be aught toward the general good,  
Set honour in one eye and death i' the other,  
And I will look on both indifferently:

For, let the gods so speed me, as I love  
The name of honour more than I fear death."

We may all join in Milton's prayer:—

"O Thou, Who of Thy free grace didst build  
up this Brittanick Empire to a glorious and  
enviable height, with all her daughter islands  
about her, stay us in this felicitie."

But we must not be content to pray only for this great boon; we must, as Carlyle says,

"endeavour to deserve it." We must remember that the deepest force is the stillest: that "not by material, but by moral force, are men and their actions governed."

England has a right to expect, said Lord Nelson, that "every man will do his duty." She says to each of us: "I have done all this for thee; what hast thou done for me?" In our day and generation, the call to arms has sounded, and throughout the far-flung Empire the youth have rallied to the Flag. Many lives of young, promising manhood lie in war cemeteries of foreign battle-fields, having paid the supreme sacrifice.

### THE IMPERIAL SPIRIT.

The expansion of our Empire has called forth noble enterprise, and round the names of Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Francis Drake, Florence Nightingale, Edith Cavell, Earl Haig, Captain Scott and Bert Hinkler, and many others, we find that thought of Virgil, "The noblest motive is the public good." The deeds and activities recorded in our histories and literature have proved for many in a past generation reaching the family round the fire-side. From these adventures, explorations, tests of endurance, and faithfulness to duty, boys and girls have been inspired to noble endeavour.

The imperial spirit, of which we are justly proud, requires understanding. As we know, the head of our Empire is the King, our history contains the lives and characters of Kings and Queens of England, who have played their part in a conspicuous role of kingly virtue and steadfast loyalty to their subjects, running right back to men like Alfred the Great up to our beloved King George V., who has only just recently entered into the higher life amidst the sorrow of the Nation. And so to understand our Imperial outlook we must look to the Crown.

In May of this year, d.v., King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth will be crowned in Westminster Abbey, with the joyous enthusiasm and patriotic spirit of the whole Empire. The Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Archbishop of York, will carry out the religious ceremony of the Coronation. But the actual arrangements of the Coronation are being initiated by the Duke of Northumberland, the premier Duke of the Realm, outside the Royal Family.

### OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO-DAY!

The patient work; the marvellous inventions; and the steady progress with the aeroplane, have brought all nations much closer together, and so the people of different nationalities—their commerce and trade—has come much nearer to the individual. This has brought many new questions and theories to men's minds. For example, with the increased sense of responsibility, new forms of govern-

ment have sprung into being; new conditions are being imposed on the people of those nations, which brings a reaction to the whole world. Nations which have large populations and small territory are looking to those countries who have large areas with anxious eyes.

There is the possibility to look upon our "goodly heritage" and be very pleased with ourselves, while others are in sorry plight! There is the type of patriot who sets out to conquer everything for his own land and his own people. We must therefore read, study and travel so as to know in a friendly way the people of other nations. The World Scout Jamboree at Frankston is an illustration of the modern Patriot. One who was prepared to serve; and then learn about his brother scouts of other nations.

#### THE CHARACTERISTIC OF SYMPATHY.

In the course of our Island story, thinking now of England, the influence that has moulded the nation from its earliest beginnings, has been that of the Christian Church. That this spirit, brought in early times by missionaries, to the savages of the British Isles, has been the foundation, the mainspring of their lives, is borne out by experience in many saintly lives, and in the building of marvellous Cathedrals and Parish Churches.

As we pursue our way into a brief insight into the study of Patriotism, we have noticed the devotedness of Leaders and Statesmen. The greatest Statesmen are not confined to any one nation, however great we might think our own particular leaders! But we can point to statesmen who have been the friends of truth; the soul of sincerity; faithful in action; and honest in outlook. But these statesmen had faithful wives, who helped their husbands in the home. Guides in the real sense of the word. Thus they were encouraged in their good work by faithful women.

#### THE BROTHERHOOD OF NATIONS.

The action of Sir Philip Sydney in passing his water bottle to a wounded soldier, dying on the field of battle, when he himself was mortally wounded, is the spirit of love and true brotherhood. When Albert Schweitzer went out to Africa he brought the same spirit to the negroes. He was able to help the sick. The description of the operation in the hardly lighted dormitory, with the sick native, who scarcely recovered his consciousness, brings to us the spirit of true patriotism. "I've no more pain; I've no more pain!" "His hands feel for mine and will not let it go. Then I begin to tell him and the others who are in the room that it is the Lord Jesus who had told the doctor and his wife to come to Ogowe, and that white people in Europe give them money to live here and cure the negroes."

"Then I have to answer questions as to who these white people are, where they live, and how they know that the natives suffer so much from sickness. The African sun is shining through the coffee bushes into the dark shed, but we, black and white, stand side by side, and feel that we know by experience the meaning of the words: "And all ye are brethren." It is this broader sympathy which brings all humanity together in a brotherly spirit.

But the love of our own country, like the love of our family and kin, is wholly good and necessary; and he who has it not can never be the ideal man. Jesus Himself had a singular love of His country and a reverence for its institutions. "Salvation is of the Jews," He said. It seemed to sound the note, "My country, right or wrong," or "Deutschland über Alles." But it went further than this. It was rather the mode of training and discipline, which passed on to the love of all. At once He recognised in a Roman centurion a faith greater than He had found in Israel.

The common and secular patriot, writes Robert Horton, shouts "My country, right or wrong." He believes that his country is intrinsically better than all the others, and that it is entitled to extend its rule over all nations for their benefit. He is intensely warlike, and always counts his country's glories in terms of defeats and slaughters and conquests. The patriot of this sort has been and still is the bane of the world. The true patriot desires that his country should benefit all countries. He has no wish that his country should flourish at the expense of others, but that his contribution should be for the benefit of the life of the whole world. That is to say, he carries out the commandment of Jesus, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

### Pipers—Rally!

The January issue of "Matilda" published a short note about Pipe Music. I should like to correct the impression given therein that I have the glory (or blame) of being instigator. Daisy McKinnon and Lena Weickhardt had some time before made themselves pipes, according to descriptions in "The Guider" and publications therein recommended. Knowing this, and hearing with pleasure the piping of Miss Holgate Clarke at the Guiders' Social, some of us got together and decided to "get going" at once (the following week-end) and make pipes for ourselves. We worked (rather experimentally, I admit) under the protesting direction of the two who were no longer novices, and after the long agony of tuning the pipes and getting the holes right, about seven of us have now reached the stage when we can play tunes, provided they are in the right key and within the range of our particular pipes. We are not very good yet—except Lena and Daisy, who can do all sorts of jiggly things in the way of changing notes into flats and sharps on the spur of the moment, but it is great fun, and practices are rather hysterical. One of the secrets we have not yet mastered is breathing, but we are hopeful about this.

It is such fun that if there are any other Guiders who would like to pipe too, we should like to help them to make their pipes, and perhaps some day we may really have something worthy to be called a "Pipe Band." I suggest that those interested should write to Lena Weickhardt, 7 Willis Street, Armadale, S.E.3, and say what nights they would be free for meeting. Strike while the iron is hot, as we did, and write at once if you really are keen to learn to play.

F. V. BARFUS.



Editor, Miss Sydes.  
Nature Editor's new address:  
18 Junction Street, Ballarat.

### CONTRIBUTIONS WANTED.

This is the second month of the year, and these notes will go into the March "Matilda," so already the New Year has lost its "newness," and is perhaps becoming tarnished by the growing burden of everyday cares and worries. You poor harassed Captains will be right in the thick of it once more—but what of those Camps and holidays you've had? How refreshing to write up something of them for "Matilda"—how interesting for the other fellow to read your experiences. If you each wrote of one thing you've seen—only one—think what a pile there would be! And you are not going to tell me you didn't see anything at all worth telling someone else about. So go ahead—"Matilda" likes short paragraphs on simple, plain, ordinary, everyday things! You haven't got to be a H. G. Wells or a G. K. Chesterton or a Fabre or a Dr. Leach either.

My holiday was rather mucked up with moving, so if you would send in some crab stories, or notes on shells, or something "seaside," I should feel quite cheered up. There are compensations in moving, though—the trees are lovely here—rowans bright with their red berries, horse-chestnuts covered with big green fruit, a charming Japanese spruce with long brown cones all hanging down like big brown bananas, cedars with neat green cones standing upright on the spreading branches, a new sort of elm, tall grand-looking Californian redwoods, and the greatest thrill of all—the beautiful voice of the butcher-bird in the early morning, sometimes quite close, until this morning he was actually here, and I saw him on top of a cypress at the end of the garden.

### AN EARLY MORNING RIDE.

Jan 13th, 1937, 5.10 a.m. to 9 a.m., per bicycle. Rosellas, swift parrots, woodswallow feeding young in pine tree—high up. Caterpillar-eater—very graceful bird. Magpies carolling—some of them; others feeding, etc. Mud-larks, swallows, dusky woodswallows. Heard two kingfishers at different spots. Saw one and watched him—cream color, lovely green color. Very monotonous song. Thrush, brown headed and black-chinned honey-eaters, also yellow-tufted and fuscous honey-eaters. Grey-crowned babblers—5 or 6 of them—chattering and making all sorts of lovely full notes. Crows, white-faced heron, yellow robins—one sitting and preening in warmth of first sunshine. Blue wrens—male and female. Bell-bird—beautiful full notes—ventriloquist—later saw him on road having drink from channel and bashing something on ground. Open grass paddock—chats, hooded robins—male and female, white faces, tomtits, four willie wagtails, numerous pipits, all walking about

in the grass. Sometimes pipits and willie wagtails sat on stumps. Four grey currawongs on old dead tree—what funny "spoilt-child" noise they make. Diamond finches in another grass paddock—one with long bit of grass in beak—one babbler also had piece of grass in beak—dropped it when I looked at it. Willie wagtail still sitting on nest. Fairy martins. Blackbird. "Katydid" singing at 8, as sun rose up and day got hot.

Have you ever tried an early morning expedition? Before the freshness is off the day, or the dew off the grass?

### LEAF-CURLING SPIDERS.

You will find some interesting notes on these in the "Junior Argus" for February 11th, 1937.

### THE WASPS AND THE GRUB.

A wasp which attracted my attention repeatedly disappeared into a hole in an ash-heap; at length it came out and flew away, returning a few minutes later walking rapidly, and dragging a large grub between its slender legs—slung beneath its tummy. This it stowed away in its hole. As it emerged it met another wasp, and was apparently worsted in the conflict that ensued. The second wasp disappeared into the hole, came out with the grub, and bestriding it in the same fashion, made off with it in another direction. However, when it had gone a few yards, a sparrow swooped down and in its turn carried off the grub.

When I last saw them, the first wasp was frantically running into the hole, apparently searching for the lost grub, while the second was just as wildly circling round the spot, where it had lost it.

EX-GUIDER.

### COCKCHAFERS EMERGE.

The cockchafer is a fat golden-brown colored beetle that buzzes past your ear and gives you a fright. During December we had some heavy rain in Bendigo, and the hard gravel became soft. I was out in the garden when I noticed numbers of holes in the gravel path, and near some of them these yellowy-brown beetles. While I was wondering whether the holes belonged to the beetles I saw the gravel lifting up and cracking. It lifted more and more until out climbed a beetle, thus proving that the holes did belong to the beetles, and that after their long stay under the ground, they were emerging to enjoy the sunlight and fresh air.

EX-GUIDER.

### LEAF GAME.

Collect a good number of leaves of three distinct groups, grouping according to the veins. The three groups are:—1, Finger-veined, e.g., nasturtium, ivy; 2, Feather-veined—e.g., rose, oak; 3, Parallel-veined—e.g., grass, lily, daffodil.

Have them all mixed together, and get the Guides to sort them into their three groups. You can let them do this by pure observation—i.e., putting all that look the same in the same group. Then let the explanations of the three groups—the different veining—come afterwards, when you are checking off.



"By sympathy our joys are increased, and our sorrows are diminished."

## The Smile.

"If we cannot strew life's path with flowers, we can at least strew it with smiles."

Has anyone been to a Pack Meeting and not seen beaming smiles? Pack Meeting is usually the brightest, happiest time of the week, but do the Brownies carry this happiness into their homes? It has been said with truth that "Home is the place where we grumble the most and are treated the best." Brownies promise "to help other people, especially those at home," and in Brown Owl's talks with the Mothers, she might emphasise this point of helping with cheerfulness.

There is often a Brownie who pouts and grumbles when she is not allowed her own way. This may be due to the fact that she is given in to, in her home, and perhaps a tactful word with the mother and a private talk with the child will set her on the right path.

Does Brown Owl ever wear a worried look? By her example Brown Owl must show the meaning of the smile. It is easy to be cheerful when things go well, but cheerfulness is essential when things are going wrong.

"To go on cheerfully with a petty round of little duties, little advocations, to smile for the joy of others when the heart is aching. . . who does this, his works will follow him. He may not be a hero to the world, but he is one of God's heroes." (Dean Farrar). Keep smiling!

M.K.B.

## GOLDEN BAR TEST.

### BOWLING A HOOP.

Do many Packs do this part of the Golden Bar Test? It seems a pity to ignore this exhilarating pastime, when it is such fun and exercise. When I was a child, my hoop was a playmate, and we ran up and down the driveway for hours.

Perhaps lack of space prevents Brownies from trying it, as it is too dangerous on footpaths or roads, but surely there are playing fields where they can practice.

The best kind of hoop is made of rounded iron about as thick as a man's finger, and about four feet in diameter. A hook is sometimes used to push it or it may be bowled along with the hand. Some children play with motor tyres, but I think these are too heavy and cumbersome for a child of Brownie age.

## GAMES.

**A Hoop Race.** A winning post is fixed upon and all the runners stand in line. First to reach post wins. A variation which adds to the fun is for the players to change hoops and the owner whose hoop is last at the post wins. Each player will do her best to be in front, hoping that the person who has her own hoop will be left behind.

**Turnpikes.** A course is mapped out on the field and at certain distances apart sticks are placed side by side, about two inches apart. These are turnpikes, and the players follow the course, steering through the turnpikes. If they touch a turnpike on either side it counts as a mark against them. After three times round the course, the players count their marks, and the one with the least wins.

Follow my leader may be played, and also Hunt the Stag, when the players have become proficient at dodging with the hoop in motion all the time.

If any Packs do the hoop bowling test, perhaps their Brown Owls will let "Matilda" know.  
M.K.B.

## HOW TO INTEREST BROWNIES IN TEST WORK.

For the benefit of the Pack Brown Owl knows a little girl who is not a Brownie and she does all the things a Brownie would never think of doing, such as when she goes to bed she closes the window and another time she forgets to clean her teeth, or Mother asks her to go a message and leaves her to wrap up a parcel which, of course, comes untied in the street.

Make your own stories to suit your pack, and what ever you are going to do for test work; in the case of something the Brownies should know, let them tell Brown Owl what was wrong, and the reason why, and in the case of the parcel which the Brownies may not have learned how to tie up, they will only be too anxious to learn, I call my little girl Mary and no Brownie ever wants to be like her, as some terrible things happen to Mary at times.

A NEW BROWN OWL (B.C.)

## The Brownie Library.

At long last, the Brownie Library is to be re-opened to Metropolitan Guiders. Quite a number of the missing books have been located, new ones have been bought, and several

of the more popular have been duplicated. Unfortunately we are not able to have a glass fronted cupboard. There are already a number of cupboards about, so for the present we will make use of the former green one inside the Meeting Pool.

The books have been re-classified; there are now six sections; in each section the books are lettered and numbered. For instance, the letter "B" followed by a number means the book belongs to the section of use to Brown Owls; "N" is for Nature; "H" Handcraft; "C," Concerts, including plays, songs, etc.; "O," odds and ends of interest to Brownie Guiders; "S," stories, and there are already 31 books in this section. This was done to help Guiders to find the books they need. Inside the cupboard door will be placed a list of books. Any Guider wanting a book of stories looks down the "S" section and then picks out the number she wants on the shelf. All the Library Committee asks is that when a book is borrowed will the borrower please be careful to enter the letter as well as the number.

Remember, too, that each little penny found in the box goes towards buying another book, of which the Library cannot have too many if it is to be a real help to Guiders.

In addition to the books in the Library, the Librarian has a number of stories suitable for telling available for Country Guiders only, and the postage is 6d. for each group. A detailed list of all books is to be duplicated, and the Committee hopes to be able to enclose a copy in "Matilda" some time soon.

DOROTHY SEDGFIELD.  
NANCY THEWLIS.

## Easter Pack Meeting.

### OPENING.

T.O. arrives at hall before B.O., and helps the Brownies to form a big Easter egg. The Brownies kneel on the floor and tuck in their heads. T.O. ties a crepe paper streamer around them all and presents the egg to B.O. on her arrival. B.O. is, of course, very thrilled with it, and wants to see inside. She unties ribbon and then, to her surprise, out jump all her Brownies. Brownie Song.

### INSPECTION.

T.O. has a chicken farm. B.O. is a boarding house keeper who wants to buy some chickens for Easter Sunday dinner. She examines each one carefully, noting beak, teeth, claw, feathers, etc., and then to finally test them—as to freshness!—B.O. and T.O. each take hold of an arm of a Brownie and swing her backwards and forwards. If the Brownie lets go, she is not fresh enough and is put aside. B.O. only buys the best and firmest.

Game: Hen and Chickens.

### HANDICRAFT.

The week before Easter the Pack started making chickens out of wool and cardboard. These are finished, the beak is cut out of red cardboard and sewn on, the legs are made of pipe cleaners. Each Brownie is given some twigs, dried grass, leaves, feathers and plasticine, and makes a nest for her chicken. T.O. and P.L. make a fowl run down one end of the

hall, and each Brownie puts her nest in, with the chicken inside.

Game: Chickens and Bushes.

Story: "The Magic Easter Egg" (Enid Blyton).

### CLOSING.

At the end of the story, T.O. and P.L. become cocks and begin to crow. Each Brownie runs to get her nest and finds her chicken has laid an egg. (The eggs were put in by T.O. during the last game.) The Brownies are then magiced back into an egg, B.O. re-ties the ribbon, and takes the egg home. M.H. and N.T.

## Adventures in Germany.

I had happy adventures in Germany, and in spite of ominous warnings that the country was in a most deplorable and unhappy state, and that there probably wouldn't be enough to eat, I have never had such a warm welcome anywhere before, nor have I ever had so much food offered me! Indeed, it is considered such bad manners in Germany not to eat enormous quantities of food that I was always feeling either uncomfortable or I was hurting someone's feeling by not making a martyr of myself!

After having wandered around most parts of Germany, and having journeyed for a week down the lovely Rhine, and lived with an ex-aristocratic Prussian family and taught their little boy some English, I felt I wanted to find out something about the youth of Germany, and what they thought about their Leader and this new Germany.

It is a very common sight to see troops of boys or girls marching along country roads, hatless and singing, and with pride in their step. Nearly always they seem to wear their Hitler Jugend uniforms, and carry on their backs a knapsack, which is a part of their uniform. During week ends, many parties stay at Youth Hostels for about 3d. I have stayed at some of these hostels myself. They are very cheerful and happy places to spend an evening in.

My career as a member of the Women's Labour Service Corps (entirely voluntary!) was short, but packed full of most interesting experiences, and very far removed from ordinary everyday humdrum life. To be suddenly thrust into a uniform, and to join a column of young women marching along the cobbled streets of a small German town, singing German songs, was rather an amazing thing, and sometimes I had to pinch myself to see if it were really true!

One of my particular friends among the 40 odd girls was a sturdy 18 year old peasant, who could never understand why I wanted to depart from the usual tourist track and voluntarily undertake hard work. It used to distress her to see me scrubbing stone floors (it used to distress me too, sometimes!) and it was only after long arguments that I could prevent her from undertaking my own work as well as hers.

The most remarkable feature of the camp was the spirit of real comradeship among the girls, and after working side by side for six months, each had learned a respect for the

other. Factory workers, students, daughters or the rich, unemployed girls and office-workers had been bound together by a common bond—a political one. They had a real and unshakeable faith in their Fuehrer, for whom they were working now, and it was only such a common enthusiasm that made possible the happy spirit that could be felt among the girls.

The 550th anniversary of the founding of Heidelberg University was celebrated last year, and the celebrations took place when I was one of the 200 or 300 foreign students attending a summer course there. Heidelberg is the famous Student Prince town, complete with its ruined castle and romantic atmosphere. That is why, it is said, it always attracts so many young American students!

The narrow streets looked like ribbons of red, for from each window hung a long red flag, with a swastika in the middle. Here everyone strolled down the middle of the road, and motor cars had to nose their way rather cautiously through the throng.

It is the custom in Heidelberg, once in every 50 years, to roast an ox over an open fire, in the castle grounds. On the historic evening, everyone in Heidelberg goes to the famous ceremony, and it is the tradition that every villager receives a slice of ox. By the time I had arrived, the ox was already roasted and eaten down to the ribs!

The castle grounds were like fairyland that night, for the darkness was lit by thousands of candles, spiked into trees, and by torches, like the ones they use in torchlight processions. Groups of people did folk dances on the lawns, and there was singing, band music, side shows, and, of course, beer! On this night, Heidelberg really abandons itself to riotous fun—but only once in every 50 years!

There were about 25 students in my class, and just about as many nationalities. There was a Turk, a Mexican, Americans, a couple of Greeks, students from Denmark, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, one from Spain, and, strange to say, another girl from Australia. It was not to be wondered at that occasionally the lecturer had difficulty in making himself understood, and when all else failed, Latin was successful!

Practically all the students foregathered each dinner time in a 500-year-old dining hall (originally used as an armoury and stables) and here we used to line up, plate in hand, to receive the largest amount of food possible to stay on the plate without falling off!

The cost of the meal was 6d!

One day I accepted a bet with my friend that I could not possibly eat it all. I very nearly lost it, but it was the sight of other students (Germans) returning to the wooden tables with their second helpings that spurred me on to victory. I still treasure the trophy, hard won!

G. M. WILSON.

9. What is the ONE thing you must not do when using a public phone?

MARGARET FOWLER.

We shall be glad to hear the opinions of other Ranger Guiders, especially those in the country, and any other suggestions they have concerning this test.

## Ranger Page.

### SOME SUGGESTIONS ABOUT THE "TELEPHONE" PART OF THE NEW RANGER TEST.

The following plan has been worked out by a Lone Ranger Captain, who found that the test as it stands could not be applied to many of her Lones. Her plan is printed here, as it may prove to be of help to country Ranger Guiders who find similar difficulties in connection with this test.

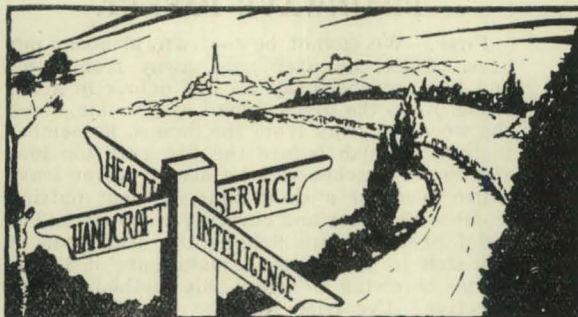
As Lone Rangers are rarely in sight of a public telephone box, and most of them live in places where telephoning is done by simply lifting off the receiver and getting the local postmistress to give the required number, it seems pointless to expect them to know how to use a "public telephone box," and it is practically impossible to test them unless they chance to come to Melbourne. I have worked out the following queries which I thought might be helpful for Lones in the country to know, the answers to which they can find in the front of their telephone directories or by enquiring at the local P.O. exchange. I am now testing by this method:—

- (a) If at all possible arrange for the Lone to speak to another Lone within a reasonable distance, each paying half the trunk call.
- (b) If the above is impossible, arrange for the local postmistress or postmaster (whom I find most helpful) to listen to to them giving a complicated message, and pass them; or some other responsible person (perhaps a Guider in the nearest town) does this.

As well as this, I ask the following in a written paper:

1. Mrs. Brown at Mildura has come to stay at the Victoria Palace, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; while she is away, Eunice becomes ill and wishes to get in touch with her mother urgently. Eunice does not know the number of the Victoria Palace, and has not a metropolitan telephone book. If you were in Eunice's place, how would you get in touch with her mother?
2. Joyce intended to come to Adelaide camp, but her sister became ill, and she was unable to come at the last minute. The P.O., which is an hour's ride away, closes in ten minutes—how can she let Captain know?
3. Is your local exchange continuous? If not, when is it open?
4. Can you ring up when the P.O. is shut?
5. You have not a continuous exchange, and the people at the P.O. have gone to the local picnic; can you do anything about using the 'phone then?
6. Do you know how to go about sending a wire by 'phone, and what it would cost you?
7. How do you know if a number is engaged?
8. If you were using a public phone, what would you need most?

(Continued in previous Column)



## The Sign Post

(Editor, Miss R. Denny)

### The Guide Law.

[We continue the series on the Law with an article on the Fourth Law, the third of these helpful talks. We know you will like these thoughts on Friendship by L.E., and wish you could have had them before Thinking Day.]

#### FRIENDSHIP.

"A Guide is a friend to all, and a sister to every other Guide."

Let us try and see what we mean by "friend," "friendly" and "friendship."

The dictionary gives the following meanings:

**Friend**—From the Anglo-Saxon "freond," meaning to love—one attached to another by sentiments of esteem, respect, or affection—one not a foe or an enemy.

**Friendly**—Kind, amicable, disposed to peace.

**Friendship**—Attachment to a person from intimate acquaintance or esteem, favour, personal kindness.

There is a religious body known as the Society of Friends. The whole system of their doctrine is founded on the belief that everyone is inspired by God, and so is in possession of that inward light, spoken of in St. John's Gospel, as "the true light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world." The light that shines from within, outwards, and makes its possessor, like Kim, "Little friend to all the world."

There are different stages in the development of Friendship. First there is the approach—I remember a friend once saying to me when travelling—"I always look upon strangers as my natural enemies"! That's an attitude of mind we must get rid of, and I think it is a fairly common one, perhaps not always realised. We should not get very far on the road to Friendship if we persisted in that outlook; but many of us are inclined to think that people we don't know are—well—"peculiar"! especially if they happen to belong to another nationality. They are "different," they don't do things our way, they don't like the same kind of things, they don't eat the same kind of food!

All these pre-conceived and unreasonable notions must be put on one side if we are to take the first step on Friendship's way. Instead there should be the friendly attitude of mind towards fresh acquaintances—the kindly welcoming smile—the Guide smile!—the word

of greeting and the willingness to be interested in the newcomer and to meet any advances half way. What a thrill to a lonely girl to see a Guide badge and to get a smile of greeting in a strange land!

Next there is the second stage in Friendship, which we may call the "Ripening."

We have met someone whose personality has appealed to us. It has been wisely said, "If we want to have a friend we must first be one." But how? you will say. Friendship is a precious thing, it is like a tender plant, it needs careful cultivation to bring it to perfection, and then most careful cultivation to keep it fresh and green. It takes courage, faith, loyalty and determination to be a real friend, and I think I may add patience as well.

We have now come to the third stage in friendship—the **Fruit**—and let us see what has been written about friendship by some of the great thinkers in history.

The book of Ecclesiastes, written by the wisest man that ever lived, says:

"A faithful friend is a strong defence,  
And he that hath found an one hath found  
a treasure.

Nothing doth contravail a faithful friend,  
And his excellency is invaluable.  
A faithful friend is the medicine of life;  
And they that fear the Lord shall find him.  
Whoso feareth the Lord shall direct his  
friendship aright;

For as he is, so shall his neighbour be also."

And again:  
"Forsake not an old friend,  
For the new is not comparable to him."

In Proverbs we find:  
"A man that hath friends must show himself  
friendly—and there is a friend that sticketh  
closer than a brother."

David says of Jonathan, his friend:—  
"I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan;  
very pleasant hast thou been unto me;  
thy love to me was wonderful, passing the  
love of woman."

The philosopher Seneca, born B.C.4, who was tutor to Nero, says of friends: "The Roman losses by war and by fire Augustus could quickly supply and repair; but for the loss of two friends, he lamented his whole life after"; and again: "He derogates from the majesty of friendship, that makes it only dependent upon good fortune. It is a narrow consideration for a man to please himself in the thought of a friend, because, says he, I

shall have one to help me, when I am sick, in prison, or in want. A brave man should rather take delight in the contemplation of doing the same offices for another" . . . a friendship of interest cannot last any longer than the interest itself. . . 'tis a negation, not a friendship, that has an eye to advantages." "Of all felicities the most charming is that of a firm and gentle friendship. It sweetens all our cares; dispels our sorrows, and counsels us in all extremities. It is a sovereign antidote against all calamities, even against death itself."

And to come nearer to our own times. Francis Bacon wrote in the time of Queen Elizabeth, "Friendship redoubleth joys and cutteth grief in halves."

In our Guide movement we have wonderful opportunities of making friends. There is the atmosphere of friendship ready made for us. There is the introduction through our badge. I wonder if we are always ready to make the first advance, to extend the hand and the heart of friendship to all—to all the world. L.E.

### A NEW YEAR RESOLUTION.

Guiders—do your Guides know what an Extension Guide is, what Lone Guiding means, and what Post Brownies and Post Guides do? I thought mine did, and am ashamed to say I have discovered them horribly ignorant of what goes on outside our District—I can hear many of you saying, "Well, that is the Captain's fault," and so it is!

Can you imagine my dismay when, amongst some General Knowledge questions, I asked "What is an Extension Guide?" and received this for an answer: "An Extension Guide is one who extends."

One of my New Year resolutions is that I am going to give my Company a broader knowledge of Guiding, because without that you cannot get the right spirit of Guiding into your Company. I wonder how many of us there are who forget this side of our "great game," and think of nothing but 2nd Class and Proficiency badges, and think that we are very inefficient if we have not at least a dozen 2nd Class badges?

Don't you think our Guides would be much more interested and thrilled if they understood that many of their sister Guides do not Guide in the same way as they do?

And, perhaps, if our Guides knew exactly what these other Branches do, they might be keen enough to want to adopt a Post Guide and visit her occasionally, thus bringing her into contact with an active Company, or get in touch with a Lone Guide—many miles from other Guides—who would be interested to receive news of a Company's doings?

I wonder how many Guides, who have never been Brownies, know that they were once known as Rosebuds, or that Brownies in India are called Bluebirds?

I suppose many of you have made New Year resolutions—how about telling "Matilda" about them? You might give some poor Guider a few ideas for her Company. B.M.M.

### BRAINWAVE BASKET.

**Fires.**—We cannot be too careful about our fires. Select an open spot, away from trees and logs, scrape away all dry debris in a big circle. Keep the fire as small as possible, stack the woodpile away from the flames. Remember to burn rubbish before the fire gets too low, else more matches will be used. Never leave a fire even for a short time, without putting it out with water and covering with earth. The Chief Scout advises holding the dead head of a match in the hand to make sure it is out before throwing it away. This method is very effective. I've tried it!

**A Pin Point.** When pinning papers together always make three pin holes, finishing with the point of the pin at the back of the papers. This may save many a scratch.

### Grace Before Meat.

Lord, we thank Thee;  
Praise Thy name;  
Thank for life,  
Thank for light and guidance.

Morning, evening; noon and night;  
For all Thy gifts we thank Thee, Lord.

God Who givest mouths for meat,  
And to-day hast blessed our board,  
Give us appetite to eat  
To the glory of the Lord.

For every cup and plateful  
God make us truly grateful.

### TRAINING THE SENSE OF TOUCH.

The Signpost Page has had games for training the senses of seeing and hearing, while below are given some for helping the sense of touch. Would anyone knowing some games for helping the nose (?) please send them in for next month's page?

**The Rope Trick.** Have rope stretched down hall, with a number of objects tied to it. Game must be played in dark or Guides must be blindfolded. Each Guide in turn feels along rope and is led into another room, where she makes a list of the objects in their correct order.

**Stuff and Paper.** Put a collection of pieces of material (satin, velvet, tweed, georgette, etc.) in a box. In a second box have a collection of pieces of paper (brown, tissue, blotting, writing). Each Guide is blindfolded and has to find a certain piece of material and paper. In a large Company there could be a box of each for every Patrol, and number one in each Patrol could find the same things, and so on.

**Mend the Hole.** Each Patrol is given a whole sheet of newspaper and each Guide tears a hole in it. The torn-out pieces must be all in one. The pieces are then jumbled and each Guide in turn takes a piece and tries to fit it into its original position, keeping her eyes shut. If a piece is put into a wrong place it must stay there, and the Patrol with the most pieces in their correct places at the end of the time are the winners. R.D.

# MELBOURNE'S MARCH ATTRACTION!

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# Floral Week

AT

THE VICTORIAN DEAF AND DUMB  
INSTITUTION, ST. KILDA RD.,

March 16th to 20th,

*(10 a.m. till 10 p.m.)*

To be Officially Opened by

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, LORD HUNTINGFIELD, K.C.M.G.

at 3 p.m. on 16th March.

*ADMISSION : 1/-*

W. J. McCASKILL,  
Superintendent and Secretary.

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Come yourself! Make this your good deed for March, by interesting all  
your friends. You will be helping 133 Deaf and Dumb Children!

## MESSAGE FROM LADY SOMERS.

Melbourne, 19th February, 1937.

Dear Guides,

"Matilda" says I may have a few lines in which to send you a word of greeting.

It has been great fun to come back and visit Victoria again. I wish that I had had longer time so that I could have dropped in at some of your meetings and seen for myself how you are getting on. I know you are getting on well because I have had such glowing reports of you from various people who came out for the Centenary Celebrations or have visited you since.

I shall never forget the happy welcome you always gave me. With love from

FINOLA SOMERS.

## Executive Committee.

Minutes of Meetings of the Executive Committee of the Girl Guides Association, Victoria, held at the Guide Office on 4th and 17th February.

**Present, 4th February:** Lady Chauvel, the Lady Somers, by invitation, Mrs. Eadie, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Tate, Misses Boyes, Bush, Cameron, Hamilton, Purnell, Russell, Swinburne.

**Present on 17th February:** Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Eadie, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Tate, Misses Boyes, Cameron, Lascelles, Ritchie, Russell.

It was agreed that—

Lady Chauvel be granted leave of absence from March to the end of August.

Miss Cameron be the member of the Executive Committee on the Shop Sub-Committee.

Meetings of the Executive Committee continue to be held fortnightly.

Co-operation with the Life-Saving Guards and Sunbeams be carried out on the lines asked for by the Salvation Army.

It was reported that—

Mrs. Faulkner had agreed to be Deputy State Commissioner.

Miss Dell Hayman had agreed to be Assistant Commissioner for Training.

Miss M. Drury had accepted the invitation to the Coronation Camp.

Various properties had been inspected, but none found suitable for the Guide House.

Routine and financial business was discussed.

S. H. IRVING State Secretary.

## A GRAMAPHONE FOR THE COMPANY?

A former Commissioner has a full-sized Cabinet Gramophone which she is willing to give to a Company which would be able to use it and has accommodation for it. Perhaps some Company owning its own Club-room would like it? Please apply to Miss Barfus at the Guide office, giving some information as to the amount of use that could be made of the machine, in case there are several applicants, and we have to make a choice.

## Training.

**Brownie Training Classes** will begin after Easter. Guiders wishing to attend are asked to let the Training Secretary know at once the nights of the week that suit them, in order of preference, stating any nights they cannot attend. The night for the Classes will be arranged as far as possible to suit the majority, and exact date of starting will be published in the press.

**Guide Training Classes** have been arranged to begin on FRIDAY, 2nd APRIL, 1937, and will be in charge of Miss Dell Hayman.

The Course will be for General Guide Training. For new Guiders who have not yet been enrolled there will be a short **Preliminary Course** of three classes, on Friday, 5th, 12th, 19th March, in charge of Miss M. Jolly.

**Ranger Guiders' Classes** will be arranged after Easter. Guiders wishing to attend are asked to send their names and choice of nights at once to the Training Secretary.

A Course of **Refresher Classes** is being considered, and the Training Secretary will be glad to have the names of Guiders wishing to attend, with suggestions for the programmes.

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, 7th Floor, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, C.1, at 8 p.m.

M. E. BUSH, Commissioner for Training.

## SCHOOL BLAZERS

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**Blazers Tailored to Measure**

In the best quality Velour Flannel .. . . . from 45/-

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