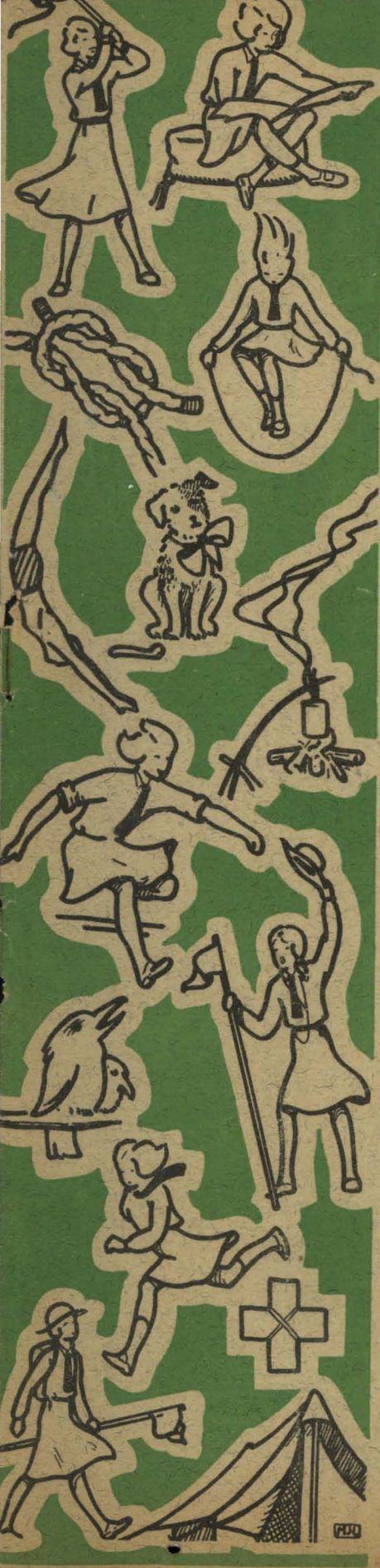


Mark Bushan.

Matilda



APRIL, 1937.

PSO

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Volume XIII.

APRIL, 1937.

Number Ten.

EDITORIAL.

The response to the invitation to join the Pipe Band wasn't very encouraging, but we know those concerned have stout hearts, and are hopeful of more names being sent in this month.

The Guiders' Committee would like your help for the success of the Picture Night they are having for funds for this year. They are so hopeful of being able to do away with the 6d. levy which upsets some people so much.

Would all contributors to "Matilda," including Editors of the various pages, and the Librarian, please send material to the Editor by the 16th of the month in future, instead of the 20th? Thank you!

Christmas at Our Chalet.

Already before the arrival of any other Guide people to "Our Chalet," Christmas had begun; for Falk and Cigogne (Guiders-in-Charge) had given their annual party and tree to all the children who bring milk and eggs, turn hay, or have any remotest connection with the house. There were 75 in all, including a few grown-ups and the Guides of the village, who proudly helped in serving the others. This is held beforehand, partly because of space, and partly because the peasant children would be much too shy to enjoy themselves in the presence of strangers.

When we arrived on the 23rd, the valley was bathed in glorious sunshine, glistening on the thick white snow which covered the mountains, hillsides, and every roof, and threw into relief the straight, dark spruce trees—the evergreen of Switzerland. Parties of Guides from France, Belgium and Switzerland began to arrive, and with we two British there soon was a really International group. The house was decorated with branches and cones of the spruce, and great preparations were going on in the kitchen under the supervision of Rosa and Emma.

The first important thrill was dinner on Christmas Eve. No one was permitted in the dining-room except the Staff; so imagine the picture when the doors were opened and we crowded in to see the tables all decorated with greenery and coloured candles (no lights were lit). At each place was an oblong cake—a kind of ginger-bread, with a white bear iced on it and a lit candle. (The bear is the emblem of the Canton of Bern, in which the Chalet is.) There was a delicious meal, with salads decorated with beetroot trefoils, and a cake which an English Guider had made and sent out.

It was a very fine evening with a full moon, and later on we went out on to the snow where a real living tree had been lit with candles. This is a Swiss Christmas custom, and is very pretty. Unfortunately there was just the faintest breeze, and the candles did not burn according to programme. However, they were more successful a few nights later.

Falk read a short passage on the birth of Christ, we sang French, German and English Christmas songs, then ran quickly in to bed.

More arrivals, Church, ski-ing, and lots of fun characterised Christmas day, and at night we had a tree indoors. More coloured candles and silver-papered chocolates and other sweets made it look very pretty, and again we all sang songs and carols in our various languages.

After this followed a week of glorious sunny days and moonlit nights; energetic efforts to stand upon one's skis and learn to stem and stop; campfires, dancing, stunts, and all the fun that sixty-two young people can make together.

Then came New Year's Eve—the somehow more important Continental festival. Besides our own large group, our numbers were increased by a good many visitors, including several Rovers. As the evening was to be a late one, we did not start campfire till nine, when the fun went fast and furious until eleven. Then for half-an-hour we played some patrol games, including a wild dash round the darkened house in search of clues to a treasure. Supper, of hot lemonade and delicious Swiss pastries, followed, and then we all proceeded to don boots and wraps for the final ceremony.

Outside, on the snow before the flagpole, a big pine fire was lit; we gathered about in a large circle, each nation or association standing together. For a few minutes we stood in silence as the midnight hour boomed out, and the village bells floated softly and clearly across the valley. Then at a sign from Falk one group—the Guides de France, I think, sang its New Year song. Others followed—French Eclairuses, British, Belgian, and Dutch—their songs were separated by Falk's New Year message, given the first time in French, and again in English; and lastly, and most beautifully and fittingly, Switzerland sang. . .

Then at a word we dismissed, and everyone was rushing to wish a Happy New Year to everyone else, and to do it in as many languages as could be remembered or acquired!

MARY E. MILLS.

"The Guide" Stocking Trail.

How many Guides know what a Stocking Trail is? If you read "The Guide" you will know, because that is where the idea started. "Captain" of "The Guide" thought it would be fun if readers had a Christmas good turn and filled Christmas stockings for children whose parents had no money to buy them toys. So the Guides make stockings out of coloured muslin and net and fill them with toys, with a little note attached to say if it is for a girl or a boy and the age. Each County organises its own collection of the stockings and says what is to be done with them.

Last Christmas Miss Broadhurst and I said we would like to see a Stocking Trail, and someone told "Captain," and the result was that she asked us if we would like to drive her car in the Trail in Middlesex and we said "rather," so we did! We were given a programme that showed where the Trail was going to wind in and out and round about, and the times of arrival at certain places. We were told to take our lunch and to meet the other Guiders with their cars at a certain spot at 8.45 a.m. When we arrived we found about ten other cars there, and they were all decorated with Christmassy things—streamers, little trees, and Santa Claus. Other cars joined us during the day, and at one time there were thirteen in the procession. We set off on our route and everyone turned to look at us as we passed. Middlesex is on the outskirts of London, so the first part of the way was through the town. Our first stop was outside a Tube station, where the Guides and Brownies of the district were waiting for us. They rushed towards the cars and put their stockings in cheerfully, and we went on to the next place. The cars soon began to get very full, and we wondered how we were going to manage, but we soon found there were lots of little spaces left. We had our lunch in the country and the last part of the trail wound through pretty country lanes, and every few hundred yards or so were parties of Guide people waiting with their contributions. It was most exciting! We ended up at the Ealing Division Headquarters, where there is a Guide hall, and the Guides of that district had brought their stockings, and they made a heap from floor to ceiling at one end of the room. Then after some tea the cars were emptied into a huge furniture van, which was quite full when we had finished, and was driven off to a London Mission, where the stockings were distributed at a children's party run by the Mission. Stocking Trails have been organised in nearly all the English Counties for the last four or five years. The Guides love meeting the cars and putting their own things in. It is much better fun than just posting them somewhere!

E.E.M.

Library Notes.

To whom it may concern!

To those who may be under canvas this Easter!

Surely this weather will entice quite a few to make their plans for out-of-doors.

Have you read all the books in the Library dealing with camping and out-of-doors?

"Campcraft for Girl Guides."

"Standing Camp" (a Boy Scout publication, so sure to be practical).

"Boy Scout Camp Book."

"Camping Out."

"Camp Cookery and Catering."

"What to expect in Camp" (a Girl Guide publication, so bound to be better still).

Outdoor activities—

"Saturday Afternoon Scouting."

"Hike and Trek."

"Scouting out-of-doors."

"Shacks and Shelters."

Library contains quite a number on "Nature Lore":—

"The Story of the Plants."

"Botany for Beginners."

"First Studies in Plant Life."

"How to Study Birds."

"Scouts' Book on Trees."

"Book of Woodcraft."

"The Bush Boys' Book."

"Australian Bird Book" (Leach).

"Destructive Insects of Victoria."

"Aims and Methods in Nature."

"Nature's Smallest Creatures."

"Census of Plants in Victoria."

"The Log in the Sun."

All these, as well as numerous "stories"—to help refresh your camp fire supply, writing as a Guider who knows what it is to want a "brainwave," try "The Bird's Concert," from Bushland stories.

I. PEARSON, Librarian.

523 Toorak Road, Toorak.

Dear Matilda,

I have read your appeal for suggestions, lists and ideas, and haste to answer, although I fear they will not be of much use.

First—A list of books suitable for library (I have borrowed books from it and greatly appreciate it).

For Stories—

Meeting Pool (Mervyn Skipper).

White Man's Garden (Mervyn Skipper).

Why So Stories (Edwin Rich).

Stories Children Need (Bailey).

For the Aborigine Badge—

Sir Baldwin Spencer's, if they could be secured secondhand.

Australian Aborigine, by Basedow (very good indeed).

For Nature—

Pilgrims of the Wild (Grey Owl).

Adventures of Sago (Grey Owl).

Victorian Sea Shells by Gabriel.

FRANCES DAVIES.

JUST COMMON GRASS (Contin. from p.5.)

3. Compare the different kinds of grass-seeds next time you are cursing at them in your clothing.

4. Is all grass the same height? Notice short, tall, tufty, spreading varieties.

5. Is grass provided for in droughty times?

6. Are wheat and oats grasses?

7. Pick some different varieties and classify them—Leach will assist you on pages 88 and 43.

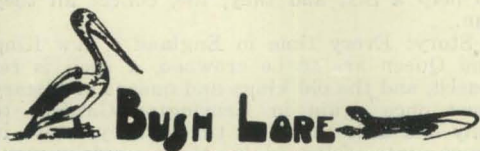
MAINLY ABOUT BIRDS.

Dear Matilda,

Last autumn we were very intrigued when we watched several thrushes come to the edge of the bird bath and eject seeds from their mouths. Wondering what the seeds were, we planted some, and now have a small flourishing forest of eugenia myrtifolias and eunymous trees growing in a little pot. The latter tree in the garden grows about 20 yards away from where the seeds were dropped in the bath. Why do the birds bring them to the water? Perhaps some of your readers would have suggestions?

Each year at this time and during the winter we look out for Eastern Shrike Tit, a fascinating bird with a black and white crest and yellow breast. He is one of our most interesting bird visitors. Have you ever tried enticing honey-eaters with bowls of sugared water? We did this with great success until the wattle birds discovered they liked it too, and were so greedy that the sugar supply nearly ran out! Best wishes,

J.E.S.D.



Editor, Miss Sydes.

"Walking is a fine art; there are degrees of proficiency, and we distinguish the professor from the apprentice. The qualifications are plain clothes, old shoes, an eye for nature, good humour, vast curiosity, good speech, good silence and nothing too much. Good observers have the manners of trees and animals, and if they add words, 'tis only when words are better than silence. But a vain talker profanes the rivers and the forest, and is nothing like so good company as a dog."—Emerson.

INSECT STUDY OUTLINE.

- Where did you find the insect?
- What is its name?
- What was it doing when you found it?
- Was it alone or did you find a number of them together?
- What does it like to eat?
- How does it eat? Has it teeth to bite with, or does it suck?
- How does it get about, with legs or wings?
- Does it hop, walk, fly or swim?
- Where does it live?
- Does it make any shelter for itself?
- Did you find a full-grown insect or a young one?
- How did you know?
- Did you ever see the insect's egg?
- Did you ever find a cocoon or chrysalis?
- Where? What did it look like?
- Did you see the pupa change into a full-grown insect?
- Have you seen any insect shed its skin?
- How does the insect protect itself from its enemies?
- What are some of these enemies?
- Do you think from what you have seen that this insect is a friend or any enemy of man?
- What do you think are its nearest relatives?
- What makes you think this?

PROTECTIVE COLORATION.

In the January issue we touched on this subject, under the heading, "Colour in Nature," so I was naturally very interested to come on the following passage in Banfield's "My Tropic Isle."

"August 2, 1909.

A lanky grasshopper with keeled back and pointed prow flew before me, settling on a leaf of blady grass, at once became fidgety and restless; flew to another blade and was similarly uneasy. It was buff in colour, with a narrow longitudinal streak of fawn, while the blades of grass whereon it rested momentarily were green. Each time it settled it adjusted itself to the blade of grass, became conscious of discomfort, or apprehensive of danger, and sought another. Presently it settled on a yellowing leaf, the tints of which exactly corresponded with its own. The longitudinal streak became absorbed in the midrib of the blade, and the insect rested secure in its invisibility. The event demonstrated the purpose of its previous restlessness."

Now isn't that an interesting episode, the more so, as the same thing can happen before the eyes of any one of us, or perhaps it has already? You should never point the moral, but I also think it serves to show how we can find a reason for even the simplest movements and behaviour of insects, and in the process of reasoning, find out many interesting facts about them.

A WOG-HUNT IN THE BACK YARD.

Only to-day a "Guider" sent in this idea for 2nd Class people, looking for twelve things. Go over the trees, flowers, vines, and then under rocks or stones, or any odd things left about the yard, such as boards or boxes. In this way you will come across beetles, crickets, ant eggs, snails, slaters, slugs, snails' eggs and all manner of things. There is quite a difference between looking in the morning and in the evening. In the morning there are more creatures about, while in the evening they all seem to go into their holes. The creatures need not be collected, but can be visited three to four times a week or less, if you are very busy.

MORE BACK YARD FRIENDS.

The last few weeks have been so rich in observations—here are a few notes on backyard friends, or sometimes enemies. Shall we call them rent-free tenants?

Beginning of February. Common black ants carrying big white shapeless forms—like queens in a pupating stage—down a post. Three or four ants to each one—moved with the utmost care.

Large Emperor gum-moth fluttered down from room to shed at dusk—a beautiful specimen.

Soldier bugs at all stages. Worms in damp garden rubbish. Take-alls in the lawn. Black Beetles in chips.

March 6th—Large, beautiful dragon-fly on dahlia, holding on by legs, four wings spread out, sheltering from the showers of rain and cold wind probably.

March 11th: Three enormous cockchafers in wood shed, about 1½ in. to 2 in. long.

AN OUT-OF-DOORS NATURE GAME.

This game is played by the children of Holland, and is quite definitely an out-of-doors one.

Collect beforehand some specimens (e.g., leaf, stick, stone, flower, etc.).

Place these in a row, and Guides look carefully at them. The P.L. allots one specimen to each of her Guides, who then have a certain time in which to find another object as like the allotted specimen as possible.

A Guide may run backwards and forwards to her specimen as much as she likes, but must not bring anything with her, until she makes her final choice.

Judging then takes place, a point being awarded to each object that is most like its specimen.

This game needs great accuracy of observation.

JUST COMMON GRASS.

N.B. "Matilda" says you all camped either on the sandy beach or else in the desert, so that's all there is to it. Perhaps, also, you will excuse the bitter note in this heading:

1. Observe a blade of grass dry, then wet?
2. Does all grass spread by seed only? Which doesn't?

(Continued on Page 4)



Miss N. Thewlis, Editor.

"Loving your country, you will strive to do your best in every big or little thing. Thus will your country prosper well, through you; thus will you serve, with loyalty, the King."

CORONATION PROGRAMME.

The meeting could start with a short pow-wow on what the Coronation really is, then all prepare to go by aeroplane to London (inspection in families in homes). Then their pennies are covered with the gold paper of chocolates to turn them into sovereigns, and they buy tickets for the plane.

They arrive in London, and play a singing game, "We all went up to London," then handcraft, when all pictures relating to the royal family could be cut out and pasted on cardboard and made to stand up.

Another game—Kings and Castles, based on the same old one, relay, with Brown Owl telling the story, introducing the names of the Royal Family instead of the usual imaginary ones.

Story—How a King is crowned. (The children will be interested to know a little of the detail. An idea was given of this in the "Argus" of Saturday, March 6th).

Pack up and tie in parcels all the pictures they made during handcraft, and fly home again by plane.

Fairy ring and goodbye.

Singing game. "We all went up to London" (tune: "We all came up from Somerset")
We all went up to London, to see the King get crowned,

The streets were hung with bunting, and there was such a crowd.

Then the King drove slowly by, and we gave him a great big cheer,

When we went up to London, to see the King get crowned.

Method: Children in two straight lines, and skip towards each other and back again (as in Nuts and May) for first line. Remain still, hands joined and held above heads, forming arches, second line. Right hand move slowly from right to left (to indicate carriage) and then waved above head—third line. Skip together again, first couple make arch, others skip under in twos, divide right and left and come back to places, as in "The Grand Old Duke of York," fourth line. Take time through till all are in position again to start. V.H.

SUGGESTION FOR A PROGRAMME ABOUT CORONATION TIME.

The week before this meeting is to be held, B.O. has a pow-wow with the Brownies, telling them of the significance of the event, and about kings and queens of history. She takes all sorts of historical pictures, perhaps belonging to the Tudor, Stuart, Georgian, Edwardian and Early Victorian eras.

The children discuss these, and each Six chooses which one it would like to represent. They take that picture, and during the ensuing week, they try to find out all they can about their particular king or queen, and collect clothes and properties, for dressing up. B.O., T.O. and P.L. arrange each

to help a Six, and they, too, collect all they can.

Story: Every time in England a new King and Queen are to be crowned, a spell is released, and the old kings and queens of history meet once again in Kensington Gardens to play and talk about old times. They arrive in great state, followed by their maids-in-waiting, pages, etc. Britannia (B.O.) welcomes them all in turn and they curtsy and bow to her before passing on. When all have arrived, they join in an old English singing game—or folk dance, if desired. Then they all sit and listen to Britannia while she tells them a story of something that has happened in history. They play another game, then form a tableau with Britannia in the centre, with a toadstool, for there are always those in Kensington Gardens! and they all stand and sing the National Anthem as a prayer to the new King and Queen, T.O. acting as Master of Ceremonies, and perhaps P.L. (if not too big) could be Peter Pan!

Programme.

4.30—Arrive at hall, dress. Make costumes of material, paper, etc., if not ready-made.

5.10—Hall is magiced into Kensington Gardens.

Kings and Queens arrive and curtsy to Britannia.

Singing game, e.g., "Lavender Blue."

5.25—Story—appropriate.

5.35—Game—"To-day's the 1st of May."

5.50—Tableau. National Anthem.

6 p.m.—Good-bye.

This could be worked up in many ways to make the Coronation a significant event to the Brownies. They love dressing up and acting, and things mean far more to them when they are thoroughly interested. M.T. & R.L.S.

ECHOES OF THINKING DAY.

Can we keep alive the interest in overseas Brownies which we wakened on Thinking Day? Not if we forget to mention them again, and let the pictures which the Brownies so carefully coloured stay in the cupboard, so let us cut out the pictures, mount them on cardboard, and use them for our games.

All Round the World.—Brownies in a circle. Brown Owl in the middle. Round about are scattered pictures of Brownies and perhaps flags cut from the painting book. Brownies sing to tune of Three Blind Mice.

"All round the world, all round the world

The Brownies are, Brownies are.

They've skins of black and yellow, too,

And some wear green or white or blue,

But all wear smiles like me and you,

All round the world, all round the world."

Till Brown Owl names a country; and all try to find its Brownie or flag or both.

Brownies over the Sea—Played like "Nuts and May, each Brownie being a country and wearing its name and a picture of its Brownie on her dress:

"Here we go making Brownie friends, Brownie friends, Brownie friends,

Here we go making Brownie friends

With Brownies over the sea.

Who are you making friends with, friends with, friends with, etc.

What Brownies over the sea?"

"We're making friends with China, etc."

"Who'll you have to pull her across? etc."

"We'll have New Zealand to pull her across. Across from over the sea." H.G.

MATILDA, April 1937.

C O R O N A T I O N R A L L Y .

The Committee which was appointed to make plans for the Scout and Guide Rally has decided that the Rally shall be held on 12th May at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

The March Past will commence at 2.30 p.m., led by massed Colours and followed by all Companies and Troops. Then will come Scouts and Guides in National Costumes, forming a Pageant of Empire. Lastly, Cubs and Brownies will form a Union Jack in the foreground. A Scouts' and Guides' Own Service of loyalty and thanksgiving will then be held.

Details of the Pageant and of the Union Jack will be sent later to the metropolitan districts concerned. Apart from that circular, there will be no notices sent out, so will all Guiders please watch MATILDA and the Guide notes in the daily papers for further information? Lists of the hymns chosen will be published shortly, so that all Brownies and Guides may learn them, and be able to take their part in the Service. Everyone is asked to come to the Rally provided with a small individual ground-sheet to sit on.

Railway concessions can only be obtained by Guides between the ages of 14 and 16, travelling in parties. Guiders are especially asked to make all enquiries at their local stations, and not to ask at Headquarters.

Country Commissioners are asked to send to Miss S. MacLeod, "Malonga", Kooyong Road, Caulfield, S.E.7, before 15th April, approximate numbers attending, especially in the case of towns and districts sending large contingents.

The public will be admitted to the Rally for a small charge.

SHELLA MacLEOD

JEAN MACNEIL

Convenors, Rally Committee.

25th March, 1937.

Guide House.

Further efforts are to be made in the next few months to increase the £3400 already subscribed to the Guide House fund to £5000, the sum that is considered necessary before we can safely launch this project. Efforts to secure a suitable site or property are also being renewed. It has been decided to hold a referendum to find out if Guides would prefer the Guide House to be in a seaside or country district. Guiders will receive circulars about this quite shortly, and are asked to lose no time in discussing it with their companies and forward the decisions to the secretary.

Properties are difficult to find, and some that have sounded ideal have been found to be separated from the nearest village, means of transport or the sea, by an impassable road, or a precipice so sheer as to deter even the most stout-hearted mountain goat. However, after three years of searching these are typical of the properties that could be acquired.

Country.

(a) Large property just over 40 miles from Melbourne, 320 acres. It has an attractive house and good outbuildings, and a farm that could be let as a source of income. There are many attractive camp sites on the property, with plenty of timber as a shelter. Good river and creek bathing, with deep and shallow pools. About £3500.

(b) Well timbered property, nearly forty miles distant—200 acres. Good camp sites and a very substantial barn for solid shelter. River bathing. About £2000.

Sea.

(a) Rather small site 30 miles from Melbourne, no buildings. Water could be laid on. Room for about three camps. Very close to public camping ground. Close to beach. 15 acres. £4000.

(b) Site at Fossil Beach, often used for Guide camps. Fairly flat paddock, about 40 acres, with room for about 10 camps, some of which would be very exposed, as most of the property is untimbered and runs between two main roads, some of the sites would be about half a mile from the beach. About £3400.

It will be noticed that the seaside properties are very expensive, a point which should be kept in mind.

From time to time details of other properties that have been inspected will be published in "Matilda."

N.S.W. Coronation Celebrations.

The following information has been received from Mrs. Thomas, Chairman of the Hospitality Committee for the N.S.W. Coronation Celebrations.

The programme consists of Rally and Display on 15th May; Guides Own on 16th; and International Exhibition on 19th, 20th and 21st. Excursions and entertainments will be arranged for the days not otherwise occupied.

There will be no indoor or outdoor camps, but it is hoped that hospitality will be available for as many country and interstate Guiders, Rangers and Guides as require it for the period 14th to 24th May.

No assistance can be given for fares, and it is possible that some small charge may have to be made for accommodation should private hospitality not be available for the full number.

In the case of any one preferring to stay independently efforts will be made to secure reasonable lodging at a moderate cost.

Mrs. Thomas wishes to know by 7th April at the latest the number of Guiders, Rangers and Guides wishing to make the trip, also the number wishing to stay at the Y.W.C.A. or similar place at a moderate cost, so will any Guiders wishing to go or to take parties of the Guides or Rangers in their company let me know numbers, etc., by 5th April at the latest? There will be no leader arranged for the party by Victorian Headquarters so it is necessary that any Guides or Rangers should be accompanied by their Guider.

S. H. IRVING.

THANK YOU, SOUTH AUSTRALIA!

As a gesture of appreciation of the splendid time the 49 Victorians were given at the Centenary Camp at Goolwa, a World Flag, with a Victorian State Badge sewn in the lower corner of the hoist, has been sent to S.A. Girl Guides Association to use in any way they choose.

The cost of the gift was defrayed by sixpenny subscriptions from each of the Campers, and the money received covered the postage on the circulars as well.

F.V.B.

A PRESENT FOR GUIDE HOUSE.

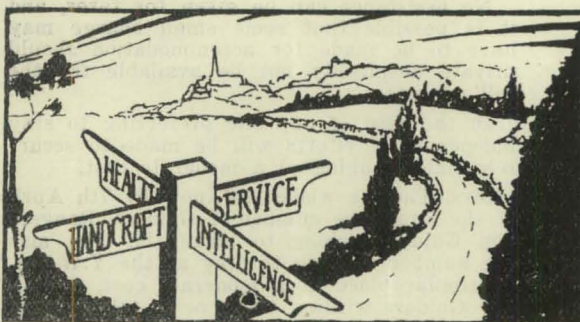
Last year, during her stay in Victoria, Mrs. Hogg, of the Punjab, India, invited 2nd and 3rd Hawthorn Guide Companies to her temporary home in Kew for a party. She told them that she wished to give the Guides of Victoria something for their Camp House as from the Guides of India; that this something was hidden somewhere about the house; and that whichever company should find it could present it to the Camp House Committee for her. After an exhaustive search, 2nd Hawthorn found the prize, a beautiful, hand-made rug, woven in wools of every imaginable bright colour.

So that is the story of the invasion of Headquarters this month by 2nd Hawthorn, who arrived here one afternoon, dragging with them their Commissioner, Miss Swinburne, and their lieutenant, and hugging to their bosom, so to speak, a very large parcel containing the rug. This was duly presented to Miss Irving, representing the Camp House Committee, by the Guide who found it.

EASTER-TIDE.

"O Lord of all, with us abide
In this our joyful Easter-tide;
From every weapon death can wield
Thine own redeem'd for ever shield.

"All praise be Thine, O risen Lord,
From death to endless life restored;
All praise to God the Father be,
And Holy Ghost eternally."



The Sign Post

(Editor, Miss R. Denny)

The Guide Law.

"A Guide is pure in thought, word and deed."

When the Chief Scout drew up the Scout and Guide law, the last part referring to purity was not at first included. It was added later. He is supposed to have said then that if Scout or Guide had the courage to keep the other nine, he or she would also keep the tenth.

I suppose that the reason for this law being so difficult to explain is because it deals with the more intimate and inexplicable things in our lives so often deeply hidden in the heart. In theory this tenth section of the law is placed last of all, possibly because it is the hardest. In actual practice it should come first, for on the keeping or not of this rule depends the quality of the other laws.

If another word could be chosen to represent purity, one which contains its essentials and makes the meaning more easily grasped at by the majority, and yet at the same time does away with the usual inclination for reticence, I think it is the word "wholesome." We all understand what wholesome means. It speaks of the good things of the earth which we know are pleasing and satisfying to taste and smell, and to eat and see and enjoy.

The Guide has about her the flavour of the open air world, and it makes her pleasing and attractive. She loves the beautiful, the good, the true, whether in person or in things, and is in turn drawn to them. She has no time for whatsoever is not lovely and clean.

"Whole" means "complete or perfect," and in the human being is the working together harmoniously of the mind, body and spirit. This is best seen in the child. Again, from this "holy" was derived, and so a saint is not necessarily an angelic creature of the past, but simply some one with a childlike personality acquired through much striving.

Only those Guiders who dare (and it demands great courage) to prove their ideal of purity against that of the world by using it as a challenge, are really going to achieve anything of lasting value. Then is it like steel tempered in the fire, able to cut cleanly and strongly, yes, sternly if necessary.

We of this generation need sometimes to look ourselves straight in the face and realise the significance of the Creator's word when He said that everything He made was good (and therefore to be revered). Most impurity is due to wrong thinking.

What, then, is the great enemy of purity? I think if you think deeply you will agree with me that it is self-indulgence and common, every-day selfishness. The remedy is love for

others. We all know what we mean by pure honey, fine linen, clear jelly. They are goods without a blemish, and with a certain guarantee of absolute first-class quality. As each becomes diluted or mixed, it deteriorates in value, and the price goes down. Exactly the same happens with ourselves. If we as Guiders keep our standard of purity a first-class one, we shall eliminate self-interest; we shall become whole or united in our endeavour to serve, and we shall achieve infinitely more because we shall be stronger and more efficient and quicker.

"My strength is as the strength of ten

Because my heart is pure."

To-day is an age of speed. There are many enemies of our ideals. If we are to fight a winning battle, if we are to remain an effectual movement for good in the present turmoil of thought, let us maintain at whatsoever cost to ourselves our standard of absolute purity.

J.H.

An Indian Girl at the Company Meeting.

This is a way of dealing with the health rules which Guiders have been found to enjoy. It is also a way of testing the knowledge of the Guiders, and probably by the end of the game several Guiders will have passed the health rules for their Second Class badge.

A Guider dresses in a sari and crooked high-heeled slippers and is seated at a table eating white bread and jam and drinking a cup of strong tea. She looks so sad that Captain asks if they can help her. The "Hindu girl" then tells her story.

"She has come from India to school in Victoria. She wants very, very much to find out why the girls of Victoria are so happy, and strong. She has come to school to learn all she can because she must go back to her own people and teach them.

"She is very tired, because she got up at five o'clock, as she thought she would have time for three hours' sleep in the middle of the day, but she finds she has to be in school again in a few minutes.

"During the night she could not sleep because there seemed to be no air, and the clothes fell off the bed. . .

"She is hungry, because she could not find a rice shop, she bought white bread because it looked most like rice, and a kind man told her people had jam and tea.

"Her feet are very sore, because she could not walk barefoot on our roads, she got these shoes which looked most like sandals, but they

have bent. If she gets tired and weak she will never be able to go back and help her people, and she wants so much to be strong and well.

"Can you tell her, and show her? She is too tired to remember very much just now, but perhaps you could show her, write down things to remember, make pictures and collect things for her to look at?"

The Guides then, in patrols, show her what to do by means of models, drawings, and so on. They may work out menus for her and make cardboard clock faces to show her when to go to bed and when to get up. They may show her how to make her bed properly by making up a model one, and they may show her where to place it in the room by drawing doors and windows on sheets of paper. They may chart the day, showing her what to do each hour of the twenty-four.

There will be plenty of talk when each patrol inspects the work of the others, and Captain will be able to decide which Guides have passed their test, without having any "test" at all. G.H.S.

Brainwave Basket.

TO INVENTORS. When inventing games remember—

- 1.—Everyone must take part.
- 2.—People who are not good at subject should get most practice.
- 3.—Have a definite beginning and ending.
- 4.—The game should be simple, and the least possible apparatus used.
- 5.—It should not be rough.
- 6.—It must be fun.
- 7.—Players should play for patrol or group.
- 8.—The instructions must be clear.
- 9.—It should have a purpose . . . to the Guider.
- 10.—And remember, it will be played in the spirit in which it is explained.

LET US DANCE.

The Guides will enjoy making up their own dance, but here is a simple one to the tune of "John Peel."

All take partners and form one large circle, partners facing.

Hop on one foot and tap with other.

Hop on other foot and tap.

Arm right . . . to places.

Slip four clockwise.

Slip four anti-clockwise.

Outside Guide only slip four clockwise, which brings her in front of a new partner.

Repeat ad lib.

THAT SENSE OF SMELL.

We asked last month for "games for the nose," and are grateful to W.W. for two games which will be known by some Guiders, but new, we hope, to others.

Kitchen Ingredients. On a rope stretched across the hall have small muslin bags hanging. Each bag is to contain a kitchen ingredient such as spice, cinnamon, sugar, and is to be numbered. The Guides move along smelling the bags and writing down what they think is in each bag.

2. Onion Trail. This is played in the open and the Guider prepares a trail by rubbing a strong onion on trunks of trees about the height of the average Guide's nose. Do not rub the onion on every tree, but miss some here and there, and make the trail wind about. Use about thirty trees, and on the last one leave a piece of onion or other sign. A treasure may

be at the end, and the Guide to bring the treasure home is the winner.

And here is a variety of a well-known stalking game:

3. Miser's Gold. Guides are in a large circle with the "Miser" in the centre. She chooses one of a variety of "smelly" packets she has and puts it behind her to be the "gold." She is then blindfolded and Guides creep up to her. If she hears a sound and points at the Guide who made it, that Guide is out. But when a Guide gets right up and takes the treasure, then she has to say what is in the packet. If she is right she goes back to the circle and keeps her treasure. The Miser puts out another treasure, and the game goes on. If, however, she is wrong, then she does not get the treasure, but must become the Miser. The Guide who gets most treasures is the winner.

Rangers.

Twenty-four Ranger Captains attended the meeting called by Miss J. U. Boyes, Commissioner for Rangers, for 9th March, 1937, at the Guide Office, to discuss the new tests and report progress in training and testing methods.

Three Guiders reported that the new Ranger test had taken their first recruits from 9 to 12 months, and in some cases the Rangers disliked what seemed a long delay in getting their badge.

Guide Tenderfoot Test.—One Company did revision of this work as a game, as the Rangers resented having to do it as a definite test again.

Know How Scouting and Guiding Began, and read books. Several Guiders reported that their Rangers did not like reading, and would not tackle the books as reading matter. One Guider had evolved with the Rangers a game, with pictures, etc., cut from old magazines and Guide books, from which they learnt the story of Guiding and Scouting; and they were tested from these pictures, etc., too. Several Guiders said their Rangers would not be read to; some of them had tried acting parts of books. It was suggested that Patrols might take chapters from the books, and tell or act them.

World Flag. Some Companies had made miniature flags from either material or colored paper; one Company had made a full-sized flag, each Patrol making half. The World Painting Book had been found very helpful in various Companies. International nights, organised by Patrols, had been successful in several Companies—taking two countries at a time and producing all they could connect with them, including cuttings, and articles borrowed from friends and relations!

Miss Broadhurst, who had recently returned from abroad, explained a game that had been played successfully at Our Chalet, when many different countries were represented. Each Patrol had to discover a folk story of a certain country, condense the story so that it could be written on a postcard; and then the cards were exchanged, and the stories acted.

(The Public Library and the bookshelves of friends might be used here for information re such folk tales.)

Emergencies. One Company has an "Emergency Book" in which Rangers write of any emergencies they have either dealt with them-

selves, or heard of. They sign each one. If they have seen one dealt with in the proper way, and now realise how it should be coped with, it counts as a pass.

Another company discussed their own emergencies, and also those cut out of papers—discussed the latter before saying how they had been actually coped with. One Company had staged a "suicide pact" (gas stove, involving resuscitation); another had arranged for the lights in the hall all to go out, and one girl to fall—she actually hit her head rather hard and considerably worried the Guider!). Another Guider said her Rangers disliked staged emergencies, and did not take them seriously enough for them to be helpful. It was agreed that they should look upon staged emergencies as practice for the real thing. Other emergencies which had been dealt with by Companies were hæmorrhage, snakebite, communicating with deaf, dumb, blind people; mending a window cord, life-saving, rescuing kitten from rat-trap, fish-hook in hand, fire-burn in eyeball, fire in spirit stove, etc.

Map-Reading. Some Guiders (and their Rangers) felt that map-following in their own area was too simple, i.e., in some suburbs, even though it was "unknown country." It was stated that the Tourist Bureau will supply a variety of helpful hike maps, some on post-card, with details about alternative-route fares, etc., and are most helpful. One Company had used some of the Jamboree Maps, which were rather difficult. Miss Boyes thought ability to recognise the meaning of the various mapping signs as found on an Ordnance map should be included in the test.

Telephone. One Guider said she thought the suggestions in the last "Matilda" expected too much, considering the test was merely "be able to use a telephone call box." Other Guiders thought that Rangers should be able to do both local and long-distance calls, and know the various types of public and private telephones. One Guider gets her Rangers to ring from an automatic telephone, and get a message to be delivered at a stated time later, to a friend, whose address is given, and whom they have to ring from a public telephone locally which is not automatic. This was considered to be a good test.

Highway Code. The booklets issued free by the National Safety Council had proved very helpful. Police court reports in the papers are interesting for finding out the sort of things one must not do, and what it costs if you do.

Health Rules. In one Company, they have charts of the six rules of health, and each girl fills in her own chart what she has done during the week to keep that law. Some Guiders felt a week was not long enough. Others had used a game in which questions were asked as to how you had kept the rules in 24 hours. Several Guiders thought the important point in this test was that the Rangers should be given the knowledge of the reasons for the health rules, and that, if they knew the reasons, they would be likely to keep the rules permanently.

An American book, called Handbook of Health (price about 12/6) was recommended as being excellent in matter and attractive in style for Rangers to read; and the Red Cross booklet on "Health and Hygiene" was also useful.

Promise and Law, and Steadfastness of Character. None of the Companies had tackled this part very definitely. Discussion arose as to how long the "definite undertaking" should be carried out. One Guider thought that Sunday School teaching was definitely a service involving the required characteristics, whereas another thought it depended on the spirit in which the Ranger did this service as to whether it should count or not. In several Companies the Rangers seemed mostly to be already doing some outside service which would come under this section. Suggestions for avenues of service included helping the Mission to the Streets and Lanes, sending magazines to someone in a mental home. The general principle was that dependability counted for much; that the time might vary; that Rangers should be "on the watch" for helpful things to do.

Miss Broadhurst, who had been an Australian delegate to the Ranger Guiders' Round Table Conference last year, spoke briefly of the conference. Most countries had agreed that Rangering had been experimental before, and too indefinite; and that the new Tests were a great improvement. Much more emphasis was needed on the spiritual side of Guiding, and all agreed that the Law and Promise should take a much more important part in Company meetings. More should be made of Enrolment Ceremonies, which should be inspiring, and prepared for—perhaps there might be decorations, flowers; it might be held in a special spot, perhaps out of doors.

Rover Vigils has been discussed, but it was agreed that anything similar in Rangering would probably cause hysteria and emotionalism, which would be inadvisable.

Great accent was also laid on the need for far more international relationships, and everything should be done that was possible to encourage these among Rangers.

Miss Aickin, on behalf of the League of Nations Youth Group, offered co-operation in connection with the training for the World Citizen Badge (see Ranger Star, Group 5). She offered also to arrange for speakers to go to Companies and tell them about the work for Slum Abolition.

F.V.B.

THOSE PIPES. . . ?

Two names were sent to Lena Weickhardt in response to the notice in last issue. She would be glad to have further names by 16th April so that arrangements can proceed for practices, so you have just a fortnight in which to buy a post-card and send it to her at her new address: 105 Stanhope Street, S.E.4.

F.V.B.

VICTORIAN GUIDERS' COMMITTEE.

The next meeting of the Guiders' Committee will be held at Headquarters on Friday evening (April 2nd) at 7.30 p.m.

At the last meeting it was decided to hold a picture night on the 19th or 20th April. Details have not yet been finalised, but full particulars will be published in the "Age" and "Argus" during April.

Any country division wishing to be represented on the Guiders' Committee may nominate a Metropolitan Guider to attend

(Continued on Page 12)

Equipment Depot.

CORONATION SOUVENIRS.

Every Guide will want to have some souvenir of the Coronation, so we have made arrangements to stock following attractive articles:

Coronation Emblems—Purple cloth, worked in gold with a crown, and the words: "Coronation 1937 G.G." These may be worn above the right-hand pocket of the uniform by all members of the Girl Guides Association, from May to December, 1937. The price is 3d. (postage 1d. for any number up to 2 dozen).

Pennants. Light blue felt, stamped with a design including the Union Jack and the Tenderfoot Badge, and the wording "May 12th, 1937—Coronation of H.M. King George VI." The measurements will be 12in. x 6in. They will make an attractive decoration for Patrol Corners, tents, and for use on motor-cars and bicycles. The price of these pennants will be about 1/3 (postage 1d.).

Mugs. A charming hand-made pottery mug in grey and blue, with the Tenderfoot Badge on one side and the royal monogram and "1937" on the other. We have no definite price for these yet, but it will be somewhere about 2/-.

Writing Compactum, with an attractive Coronation design on the cover, and inside, 50 sheets of a very pleasing blue paper with envelopes to match, with the Guide badge in the corner of the writing paper and on the flap of the envelopes. The price is not fixed yet, but will be somewhere about 2/6.

Writing Pads and Envelopes of the same paper and design, will also be stocked, the prices being 1/- and 5d. respectively. Postage on pads 2d., envelopes 1d.).

Cards. Here is a new departure in stationery. Cards similar to post-cards, but the same shade of blue as the writing paper, and with the badge in the corner; they are of a size to be enclosed in the envelopes already mentioned, but if desired can be sent through the post as postcards. The price will be not more than 6d. per dozen.

Where the above prices are uncertain as yet, the definite price will be published in the next "Matilda."

Pencils. We hope to stock in future pencils of an attractive blue engraved with the Guide badge. The propelling pencils will be sold at about 1/6.

Diaries. Do your Guides realise how helpful it would be to them to have a Guide Diary each year? With each new issue the contents vary; this year these are good hints on mapping, handicrafts, hand-made furniture, different tracking signs as used by the aborigines, lots of helpful hints for hiking and camping, as well as helpful matter on the Tenderfoot and Second Class Tests, and various aspects of international Guiding.

As we are well on in the year now, we have reduced the price of these diaries; those with pencils are reduced from 1/3 to 10d., and those without pencils from 1/- to 8d. Stocks are limited, so send your orders as soon as possible (postage 1d. per diary).

C. BROADHURST,

Commissioner for Equipment.

Minutes of Division Commissioners' Meeting

Minutes of a Meeting of Division Commissioners held at the Guide Office on 5th March, 1937, at 10.15 a.m.

Present: Mrs. Faulkner in the Chair; Mrs. T. O. Guthrie, Mrs. Officer, Mrs. Springthorpe, Mrs. Troup, Misses Black, Boyes, Campbell (for a short time late in the evening), Macneil, Moore and the Secretary.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Davidson, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. C. O. Fairbairn, Mrs. Gordon Johnstone, Mrs. Tate, Misses Bush, Purnell and Syme.

Broadcasting. The A.B.C. had agreed to have a series of six Guide Talks, the Scouts are to combing, and the talks will be alternate weeks, starting the first week in June. It was agreed that the Guide ones should be on: General, by the Deputy State Commissioner; Camping; Extensions; Games; International Guiding; Lones. It was suggested that Guides should be considered as the main listeners, and that the full programme should be published in the May "Matilda."

Guide House. Miss Boyes reported that since the middle of January she had investigated 15 properties, none of them entirely suitable. The only possible sea site was at Fossil Beach, which was considered too expensive.

Meetings. It was agreed that meetings of Division Commissioners should be held monthly at the Guide Office, the day to be the first Monday in each month, at 2.30 p.m. The secretary was reminded to send notices to Commissioners absent from this meeting.

Interstate Camp. It was reported that 58 Guiders and Rangers attended the South Australian Centenary Camp.

Commissioners' Conference. Miss Lascelles' offer to lend her house at Lorne for the Conference was most gratefully received, and it was agreed to recommend that the Conference should be held there after the September holidays; a sub-committee to be appointed later to make arrangements.

Country Visits. The following requests were made: Hamilton and Coleraine; Training Week-end, Brownie and Guide Training; Upper Goulburn—Speaker for five meetings in April; Clunes—Speaker for annual meeting in August; Camperdown—Training (Guide) one evening; Wimmera—Rally April, 1937.

Coronation. It was reported that the Boy Scouts Association had agreed to co-operate with a rally on 12th May, Coronation Day, at the M.C.G.

It was suggested (1) that country Guides and Rangers should be invited to Melbourne for two nights, hospitality to be arranged; (2) that Districts arrange for Guides to hear the broadcast of the Coronation service.

Message. It was suggested that the Federal Secretary be asked to forward a message of loyalty to Their Majesties from the Guides of Australia.

Salvation Army. The terms of co-operation with the Salvation Army Life-Saving Guards and Sunbeams were explained.

U.S.A. The invitation from the United States Girl Scouts was received for one First

Class Guide from Australia to attend the International Camp in August, 1937.
(Sgd.) SYBIL H. IRVING.
6/8 March, 1937.

APPOINTMENTS.

Deputy State Commissioner—

Mrs. F. W. Faulkner, 7 Como Avenue, S.E.1.
Division Commissioner, Southern Suburbs—
Mrs. Gordon Johnstone, 20 Southey St., S.8.
District Commissioners.

Healesville and Lilydale—Mrs. W. Black,
Cooring, Coldstream.

Heidelberg and Ivanhoe—Miss Isla Pearson,
Castle Street, N.22.

Lorne—Miss C. Lascelles, Waverley, Lorne.
Toorak and Armadale—Miss J. Thewlis,
401 Dandenong Road, S.E.3.

District Captain—

Camperdown—Miss D. Harlock,
Dalkeith, Pomborneit North.

WARRANTS.

Brown Owl—1st Carisbrook, Mrs. L. Wilson.
Tawny Owl—1st Carisbrook, Miss M. Bucknall
Captain.

1st Benalla—Mrs. R. D. Bakewell.

1st Tallangatta—Miss D. Butler.

Lieutenant.

1st Tallangatta—Miss L. Gilbert.

REGISTRATIONS.

Pack—1st Benalla.

Ranger Co.—Footscray District.

DISBANDED.

4th Williamstown Pack.

CANCELLATIONS.

Brown Owl.

4th Williamstown, Miss M. Walker.

Tawny Owl.

1st Camperdown—Miss M. Aitken.

Captain.

1st Molesworth—Mrs. J. Robinson.

1st Berwick—Miss S. Kay.

District Secretary.

Mentone, Cheltenham—Miss V. Thorowgood.

RESIGNATIONS.

Alexandra District—Mrs. J. Robinson.

Southern Suburbs Div.—Mrs. F. W. Faulkner

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Victoria—Lady Chauvel.

Foster District—Mrs. Campbell Wilson.

S.E. Suburbs Div.—Mrs. Clive Fairbairn,

Mrs. J. W. Springthorpe acting.

1st Box Hill Pack—Miss H. Brown.

Miss J. Wilson acting.

CHANGE OF GUIDER.

1st Box Hill Co.—Miss M. Lester,
30 Albany Crescent, Surrey Hills.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Miss Elsie Sydes to 18 Junction Street,
Ballarat.

Training.

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.

Brownie Training. The first Course will begin on Wednesday, 7th April. Guider in charge, Miss N. Thewlis.

Guide Training. The first course will begin on FRIDAY, 2nd April. Guider in Charge: Miss D. Hayman.

Ranger Training. The first Course will begin soon after Easter. The Training Secretary will be glad to have names of Guiders wishing to attend, with the nights that suit them best.

Refresher Course. Several applications have been received, but not sufficient to form a Class.

Other Guiders wishing to attend should send their names at once to the Training Secretary, with the nights that suit them best, and suggestions for programmes.

M. E. BUSH,
Commissioner for Training.

VICTORIAN GUIDERS' COMMITTEE

(Continued from Page 10)

the meetings. Hereunder is a list of the present committee:

Miss Joyce Inglis (South Western Suburbs); Miss Helen Hamilton (Northern); Miss Marion Henderson (Deputy-Northern); Miss Ferguson (Eastern); Miss Potter (Outer Eastern); Miss D. Paton (Western Suburbs); Miss E. Bunning (Lones); Miss Wettenhall (Southern Suburbs); Miss E. Woodford (Extensions); Miss I. Pearson (Librarian); Miss D. Harlock (Camperdown); Miss Caspar; Miss Anderson; Miss McKinnon; Miss Britton; Mrs. Ebeling (President); Miss E. Tobin (North-Eastern) Secretary, "Dorijo," 143-145 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne.

SCHOOL BLAZERS

Ribbon-bound Blazers in high-grade flannel, .. from 18/11

Blazers Tailored to Measure

In the best quality Velour
Flannel from 45/-

SNOWS

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