

Miss Bush

Matilda



JUNE, 1937.

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Volume XIII.

JUNE, 1937.

Number Twelve.

EDITORIAL.

Would all contributors to "Matilda" please send their articles to reach the Editor by the 14th of each month? We asked this before, but articles keep on arriving late.

Also, for this year we are only one pound short of making "Matilda" pay!

This means that five extra subscribers would make us financial. Will you be one of the Guiders to find a new subscriber? If you are, you will have the committee's sincere thanks.

A Trip to Queensland.

I thought you might be interested to hear something of a trip to Northern Queensland, where I went last year with the Deputy State Commissioner for Queensland. Some of you know her—Miss Dorothy Hawthorn, who came down to the Rally with the large party of Guides and Guiders from all over Queensland.

We left Brisbane at 8 p.m., and travelled north through ever-varying scenery—rich cattle country—swamps abundant with bird life—to country of luxuriant tropical growth. We arrived at Cairns at 5 p.m. on the second day. Cairns is an important port for the many industries of the Tableland and surrounding districts. The town is laid out in squares with broad streets shaded by trees—figs, coral, flame, jacaranda and poinciana. The gardens have not many flowers, but califfas bushes—brilliant scarlet and maroon shading down to beige—make brighter and more varied beds hard to imagine. One has to see their coloring to believe them true. In the south, around Brisbane, they are not nearly so vivid.

Many beautiful trips may be taken around Cairns; the Cascades or Intake is 15 miles by car; the road runs between sugar-cane farms and into the Barron Gorge, with the sheer rising mountains making a formidable front. The car crosses many rivers only just fordable, with back waters covered with water lilies—mauve, pink and white. At the end of the road one walks along several miles of winding path by the river; sheer cliffs rise hundreds of feet on either side, covered with every kind of tropical tree, straight gigantic trunks tower to the sky, making the type of leaf impossible to see; climbing creepers twine round them to the forks where stag and elk-horn ferns nestle. Lower one found ageratum and lantana in masses, in other places I have seen the former over one's head when on horseback. Another excursion is up the Russell and Mulgrave Rivers, along the banks rich tropical jungle edged with Johnston River lilies (similar to agapanthus), climbing creepers of every hue and blue mountains rising on all sides greet you as the launch twists its way down rivers or slides into the bank to surprise the alligator as it suns itself on the bank.

Green Island is one of the many islands of the Barrier Reef, about 16 miles from Cairns; it is an amusing place to visit when the tide is out. One paddles on the reef—alas! not the bright coral about which one reads, for it is mostly dead—but sea anemones, royal blue starfish, octopus, sea horses, stingrays, keep you entranced for hours as you turn over the rocks. Clam shells of all sizes threaten to close in on you. A large shell of varied colouring, similar to a cowrie, is very plentiful. These are very dangerous, for when alive they disgorge a grey film which is more venomous than snake bite. No antidote is known, and death occurs in a few hours. Glass-bottomed boats take one into deeper water, where millions of fish are to be seen. Each type seems to have more varied and colourful stripes than the last.

From Cairns we went to the Tableland by car to Youngaburra, whence Lake Eacham and Lake Barrine can be visited. These lakes are over 2000 feet above sea level and are supposed to be bottomless. They lie in volcanoes and sheer cliffs covered with an impenetrable collection of trees, fig and umbrella amongst them, all covered with creepers, rise far above the lake edge. At Lake Eacham is the famous Kauri pine, over 1500 years old, well worth visiting to see its gigantic trunk and colossal girth, and there are fascinating walks through the jungle. The stinging tree is very prevalent here. It grows from a few inches to 8 or 10 feet high. Its large leaf and tempting red berries lead to many unpleasant experiences, for underneath the serrated leaf there are little hairs which, if touched, quickly raise lumps and a swelling which, with an aching pain, spreads rapidly; there seems to be no antidote, so the victim suffers from a stinging itch. If badly stung the victim may have to be kept under morphia for a time.

Malanda is another place of interest which was discovered by a Mr. English, who "humped his bluey" there 29 years ago, and took up virgin country to start a farm. He has kept about 50 acres in its natural state except for cutting paths through the jungle to show visitors the best specimens of trees, etc. Many Penda trees are to be seen. Two specially colossal ones have 18-inch to 4-ft. high flanges which cover a large area. If a root is cut near a twin tree it will grow on to its neighbour. On one of these trees one can see where hundreds of years ago a blackfellow cut his wulla-nulla with a stone axe from the flange. Black walnuts are the most valuable trees. One was sold a short time ago for £1100. Fig trees of all kinds abound, the drooping ones being very prolific. These start in the fork of a tree and send their roots downwards until eventually they ground, and then the fig takes possession of the unrelated parent tree. "Jacky" the blackfellow gave a display of climbing a perpendicular tree with a toe and

hand grip only. This is a rare gift not possessed by every native. He also demonstrated how to climb with the aid of a cane. The cane is wound round the trunk of the tree with the arms entwined round the ends. With a series of alternate leaps of hands and feet the gigantic tree is soon mounted. Even at the age of 65 Jacky is very slick.

Birds here are very lovely. The Rainbow is one of the gayest, though all seem to vie with each other in gaily-coloured plumage. Moths and butterflies are in millions, and it would be impossible to say which were the more beautiful. Mr. Dodd's collection at Kuranda, where the famous Barron Falls are, is marvellous. The story of his intense study of their life would give many hours of fascinating interest to his listeners.

I have tried to give you an idea of the varied scenery and country which are the surrounding of the various Guide companies in this part of Australia. Although many companies have to meet in a hall at night, all try to have at least once a month a whole or half-day in the country, in the jungle or on an island. I was struck by their intense interest in nature and their love of out-door Guiding. Many spend happy camps in these ideal conditions. They appear to use extra tracking signs, including one for danger, which adds to the excitement. All companies wear light-blue ties and dark overalls, and the neatness in putting on the uniform and the brightness of the polished kit is very noticeable.

Many places have no District or Division Commissioner, but the L.A.s are very interested, and carry on the work well. They shoulder the financial responsibility most splendidly, do much to help with camping kit, and to aid companies to avail themselves of the chance of living under canvas as often as possible, and help with rallies. The C.W.A. and the L.A. often work together in raising funds. Companies and Packs are all keen on handcraft; one I heard of was busy making flowers out of wood pulp.

A seven-weeks' tour covers a very small part of the area which the Deputy State Commissioner has to see, and although she travels over it many months of the year, in fact, most of it, places can only be visited once in 18 months—some at much longer intervals. The keenness, enthusiasm of the Guiders and their appreciation of these visits is very pronounced. The training that can be given in the limited time is keenly attended. Nothing seems a trouble, however late or early the Commissioner arrives she is met by Guiders or members of the L.A. and escorted to her hotel. We were met once at 6.20 a.m., and seen off as early on cold and frosty mornings. At one place a Guider walked five miles over country roads through pouring rain to meet the train for a 10-minute stop after 10 p.m. Another had three changes of bus and train to talk for five minutes at midnight. At most stops along the line the Commissioner was met by a Commissioner, Guiders or L.A. members; the kindnesses which we received were manifold, and included motor trips, hospitality, lunch baskets at the train to vary the rush to the station buffet. The life of the visiting Commissioner is a very strenuous one, but the enthusiasm and the acts of apprecia-

tion must repay her for an unselfish and untiring effort to do as much as she can in the time. G.A.B.

Library Notes.

Librarian, Miss Pearson.

Dear Matilda,

We are grateful to several of your readers who have offered many helpful suggestions during the last couple of months.

Some of the books we have now procured, and others we hope to be able to secure.

As the sunny afternoons and warm evenings are slipping behind, we begin to think of indoor hobbies, so have you read—

"Profitable Hobbies."

"Spare Time Activities."

"Playwork Book."

"Basketmaking at Home."

"Scout Handicraft."

"Paper Magic."

"Simple Art Crafts."

"Raffia Work."

"A.B.C. of Needlework"

VICTORIAN GUIDERS' COMMITTEE.

A very successful picture night was held at the Athenæum on Monday, April 19th, as the result of which our funds were increased by the sum of £3/15/8.

Our next social function is to be an evening which will be held at the Meeting Pool on Friday, July 2nd, at 8 p.m. Come along, Guiders—spend a pleasant evening and meet Guiders from other districts. Admission 1/- including supper.

The next meeting of the Guiders' Committee will be on June 4th at 7.30 p.m.

E. TOBIN, Hon. Sec.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

The Australian Council for Educational Research has arranged for an International Conference on Education, under the auspices of the New Education Fellowship, to be held during August and September next.

The Melbourne Session will be from August 24th-31st. Distinguished educationists from all parts of the world will be the speakers at the various sessions. A wide range of subjects has been planned for discussion, some of which are:—

(a) The School and Society;

(b) Aims and Methods in Modern Education;

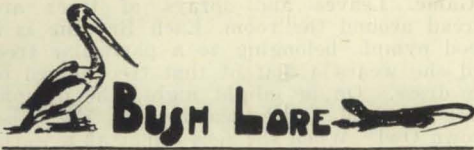
(c) Problem of Increased Leisure;

(d) Adult Education;

(e) The Psychology and Mental Hygiene of the Child, etc., etc.

The fee of £1/1/- will entitle a member to attend all sessions of the conference in any or all of the cities where the conference is to be held—Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth.

A concession of 10 per cent. is being offered to organisations which enrol 50 or more of their members for the conference. Already a number of names has been sent in. Those in the Guide movement who wish to enrol in this way please apply for enrolment forms (enclosing stamped and addressed envelope) to Mrs. C. H. Edmondson, 46 Kooyongkoot Road, E.2, not later than June 12th, but earlier if possible. L.E.



Editor, Miss Sydes.

A People without children would face a hopeless future; a country without trees is almost as hopeless; forests which are so used that they cannot renew themselves will soon vanish, and with them all their benefits. When you help to preserve our forests or plant new ones you are acting the part of good citizens. (Theodore Roosevelt).

TREES IN WINTER.

Trees are our special objects of admiration at present, though by June they will have lost their splendour, and be shaking their bare branches in the wind. Then we can admire and study their individual shapes—the darkness of the oak and its long horizontal boughs, the elm more upright in its growth, the ash with its upturned branches—the beautiful black buds. Each season brings us some new interest—the buds, too, are a study in themselves—different colours, different shapes. How do they protect themselves from the cold, for they must not be injured or the new growth will be lost?

I hope that everyone has made the most of the beautiful autumn leaves. I had to visit the Ballarat Gardens to collect leaves for a game. There was no one about, so I could enjoy all the beauties of the trees, and the birds, and what was a tremendous thrill!—two grey squirrels. One sat in an elm eating, with his bushy tail up over his back. Then he came down and half hopped and half ran across the ground. Then later his mate came out. Their gait is most peculiar and interesting. I loved them both.

To return to the trees, may I quote the following:—"The woods in winter—bare, ruined choirs where once the sweet birds sang—will not seem dead and melancholy to the intelligent Nature lover. I have already pointed out that, stripped of their leaves, the trees may be more easily identified than in summer. There are many indications, besides the leaves by which the different kinds of trees may be recognised. The winter rambler who observes and tries to identify the different varieties without the assistance of their foliage—which is, as a matter of fact, less characteristic than their bark and the growth of their branches and twigs—will learn to appreciate the rare beauty of their form and structure."

LEAF COMPETITION.

Once you have the leaves you can go ahead whichever way you fancy. One way is to attach a number to each leaf—on the large ones by pinning on the back, on the smaller by tying on with wool. Arrange these on a table, bench or anywhere fairly spread out. Allow a definite time for Rangers (or Guides) to identify them—then check up on their written lists—they are thus interested, even interested enough to discuss the leaves and trees, and to ask to see each specimen as it is

checked, and thus get to know it. Our discussions included the difference between the ornamental vine and the Virginia creeper, various cedars and pines, and differences in sizes of leaves—the smallness of the common oak, the lop sidedness of the elm leaves, and difference in size between the weeping and common elms. And unsolved—is a wych elm the same as a hop elm?

So you see what a lot of ground you can cover in a short time!

And please—never be afraid that you won't know enough, when giving Nature at your Company, Interest aroused is the greatest result, and will lead to questions. After all, it is better for the child to find the answer for itself—not be told, or read them in a book. But don't leave the questions unsolved; or the child may lose interest, and the good work you have done be wasted.

SNARE BUILDING.

In the January issue of "Matilda," I saw an appeal, for news of how a spider goes about spinning her web. Having seen a garden spider several times spinning her "snare," and also having read this subject up, I can pass on this knowledge to readers.

Snare-building seems a difficult job, but the spider has no hesitation when setting about this. Having decided on her locality (my spider spun her web from a trellis on to a geranium stem, and thence on to a grape vine), the spider, with eight legs outspread, lets herself drop down on the line, issuing from her spinnerets. About two inches from the ground she stops and, turning, she clutches the line made on her descent, and climbs up, still spinning, but now extracting with the two hind-legs the thread, which, descending, was extracted by the force of gravity. With a double line floating in the air she waits till the loop attaches itself to a twig, and then runs along on the bridge so made, adding further lines to strengthen it. Cross-threads are attached to branches, and then the builder goes from cord to cord, drawing threads from her spinning apparatus with her hind legs. The framework complete, what remains to be done is methodically filled in. This task is frequently gone over, for the web does not stand much wear and tear. When it is damaged the spider does little in the way of repair, but will later gather up the silk threads and devour them, to economise in material, and re-spin her web or snare.

The Angular Spider will re-spin her web almost every evening; the Banded and Silky Spiders allow the webs to be torn to rags before taking trouble to renew. The very fine threads are closely twisted and are hollow. This tube is full of sticky liquid which renews the adhesive properties of the surface when it becomes defective. Spiders are versatile creatures, for they have no less than twelve uses to which they can put their art of spinning. The best known use is for snares of which there are at least six quite distinct and more or less elaborate types. W.B.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

"Matilda" regrets that space will not permit the publishing of all the notes sent in, but don't be discouraged—yours will be in next month.



Miss N. Thewlis, Editor.

"Very few men, properly speaking, live at present, but are providing to live at another time."
(Swift)

Indoor Nature Programme.

Brown Owl tells the Brownies on arrival that she is going to take them for a walk into the bush. The Pack are most excited, and hastily get ready. The way is most interesting. They see different birds, find wild-flowers which the Brownies excitedly ask Brown Owl about; they have to cross a tiny stream by stepping stones, slip through a fence and climb over a stile. Then suddenly they are there! As they are walking through the bush, they come to a tiny clearing in the centre of which is a tiny little bush hut. Pinned to the door is a note: "Have had to go out—please get you own tea." The Brownies imagine it must be left for the man of the house, and Brown Owl suggests that, being Brownies, they might like to be helpful! The Brownies want to, but first Brown Owl has to see whether they are tidy enough to go in. The nice tidy ones are allowed to go in the front door over the nice clean doorstep, the-not-so-clean slip in the window because they wouldn't be so noticeable, but any really untidy Brownie goes down the chimney because she would get untidy that way in any case!

When all the Brownies are inside, they find that the woman of the house must have had to leave hurriedly, because there is so much to do. The Tweenies wash up, the Golden Bars lay the table for tea, one even finds some buttons to sew on! The Brownies practising for Golden Hand tidy up the fireplace and lay the fire, then they prepare a milk pudding and some stewed fruit for tea. When all is tidy again, they slip out and shut the door, thinking what a surprise the family will get when they return! Leaving some crumbs for the birds, they go on. They find a nice place to stay where they play a game, then Brown Owl tells them a story. It is getting late, but they beg for one more game before returning home. Brown Owl gives in, then they gather their things, see that everything is as they found it in the beginning, and go home the way they came, just passing the little house this time, with the note still pinned to the door. On arrival at the hall, they run into the big dancing ring, sing their Brownie song and run away home after a happy day.

Method: B.O. magic's hall. Exercise game. Pictures of trees, birds, etc, scattered round hall. B.O. and Brownies describe walk as they go around hall, doing all actions, i.e., climbing over stile, crossing over stones, etc. 10 minutes.

Inspection: T.O. draws a house meanwhile in the middle of the floor, and B.O. inspects Brownies before they go in. 10 minutes.

Test Work

Tweenies—Washing up.

Golden Bars—Buttons. Table laying.

Golden Hands—Fire laying and lighting.

Cooking. 30 minutes.

Crumbs for the birds—pennies.

Game. Leaves and sprays of trees are spread around the room. Each Brownie is a wood nymph, belonging to a particular tree, and she wears a leaf of that tree pinned to her dress. On moonlight nights the nymphs come out and dance, watched by the Wise Brown Owl. When she sees a mortal, a warning, "Tu whit tu whoo," sends the nymphs scurrying to their trees. Tawny or P.L. walks around and catches anyone who is not by her own tree. The nymphs change trees every two or three times. 10 minutes.

Story—Nature: "The Origin of the Blue Wren." 10 minutes.

Game: "Once upon a time a giant lived in a castle in the middle of the wood. There were lovely flowers in the wood, and the fairies used to go out each day to gather different coloured flowers to decorate their homes. But whenever the cock crowed the giant awoke and tried to catch the fairies. If he caught any of them he laid a spell on them so they had to go to sleep when he did, and help him to catch the fairies when the cock crowed."

A line is drawn across the room to mark the edge of the wood, and a circle inside the wood represents the Giant's castle. Small pieces of coloured paper are scattered in the wood for flowers. P.L. is the giant and goes to sleep inside the castle. T.O. is the cock. B.O. is the fairy queen who tells the Brownies what flowers they are to pick. They collect until the cock crows and then run back to put their flowers in their homes (parts they have chosen in bush). The Brownies who are caught before they reach the edge of the wood drop their flowers and go into castle to help catch next time. The game ends when all the Brownies are caught, or when all the flowers are picked. At the end the Sixes count up the number of flowers they have gathered. 10 minutes.

Exercise game as before, home. 10 minutes.

Back in hall, bush unmagiced.

Fairy Ring. Brownies all sing—

"Oh, listen, what we've done to-day!

We've been to the woods to dance and play;

And there we found good turns to do,

To carry out our motto true, for

We're the Brownies, here's our aim," etc. N.T.

Appeal to Guiders.

Dear Brownie Guiders,

Why are our numbers so few? Everywhere we hear the cry, "The children are here, but where are the Guiders?"

Do you think that we frighten potential Guiders by talking about how busy we are with our Packs and general Guide work? Do some of our best friends say we can never do anything with them because we are always Guiding? Worse still, do we bore them by eternally talking of our Packs and the Brownies in them? We are apt to, you know, because we are all so intensely interested, and forget that our non-Guide friends do not understand a good deal of what we are talking about. I remember the male member of the family exclaiming disgustedly after some Guiders had been to dinner—"Can't you talk about anything else except Guiding, and what is a Sixer, anyhow?" Or do you think that some still object to our uniform? I have heard remarks, but surely now that the much-dispised black stockings may be abandoned,

they can find no fault. Well, just "put on the turned-up hat, straighten up the brown tie," and look smart!!

What can we, as Guiders, do to interest others and obtain their help? Usually the excuse is that they have no time, but perhaps if we could get them sincerely interested they would make time. Remember, "God gives us always strength enough and sense enough for everything He wants us to do."

Have you invited some likely person to one of your Pack meetings, preferably an especially exciting one? Suppose you lend them copies of "The Guider." The articles are all so varied that surely something will appeal to them. Then follow them up by books on Guiding "Girl Guiding" and "Brown Magic" would be very helpful, and by the way, have you re-read them lately? They always give fresh inspiration.

At present it seems to be the poorer suburbs that are suffering from the lack of Guiders, both Brownie and Guide Companies. Are not these the most important places, where the children are ill-fed, poorly clad, and some have little or no home life? Perhaps there are some with only a little time to spare who would be willing to act as Tawnies, without having to take on the responsibility of a Pack! Are there some "Old Guides" who would be Tawnies, even if they were to go only once a fortnight? Their help would be appreciated by Brown Owls with full Packs.

I feel sure that Guiders can influence others to take up Guiding, so let your friends see what fun we have, and how worth while it all is, and show them "It is something to be good, but it far better to do good." M.K.B.

CEREMONY FOR WELCOMING A COMMISSIONER.

Children hide outside hall and Commissioner is brought in to find everything bare and uninteresting. Brown Owl then turns to her and recites:

"Once there was a hall, very dull and bare,
as you can see,
But then there came a knocking—one, two
three,

And in there ran some Brownie people small
Who set to work to brighten up that dull
old hall."

The children listening outside give knocks on door as Brown Owl says "one, two, three." They then troop in and fix up the homes and put up the usual things ready for meeting as quickly as possible, then run and form a circle round Commissioner and Brown Owl in centre of room. At given pre-arranged signal each Six shouts their names in turn and then the Pack altogether say "are very pleased to see you," and salute. V.H.

BROWNIE GAMES.

Guiders! Have you seen the new book of Brownie Games at H.Q.? If you have not, then you are missing something well worth while. It is full of excellent games, most of them quite new. The book is divided into different chapters:—general activity games, test games, nature games, so that it is very easy to look for the type of game you require. The games are attractive and definitely Brownie-ish, and those of us who will use them will know that we are not infringing on the type of game played in the Company. There is in

addition a very helpful foreword by Miss A. M. Knight, Great Brown Owl. The book is priced at 1/6, which is very reasonable, and it is one that should prove most helpful to the Pack. N.T.

Brownies' Share at Coronation Rally.

Brownies were there in their hundreds at the M.C.G. on Wednesday last to take their part in the Coronation Rally. In conjunction with the Cubs, 220 of them were to make the Union Jack, the Brownies forming the Red Cross of St. George.

As they entered in their groups, six abreast, they earned a round of applause. And they deserved it, for very smart they looked in their neat brown uniforms, badges shining, and faces all asmile. When they were all in position, someone was heard to remark in the stand, "But how will they form a Union Jack like that?" It was soon seen. A bugle blew, there was activity among the Cubs and Brownies on the arena; another bugle sounded, there was a flutter of red, white and blue materials, and instead of Cubs and Brownies, there was now a living Union Jack!

All during the singing of the National Anthem, that flag fluttered in the breeze.

Yet another bugle sounded, the flag disappeared, Brownies and Cubs sat up, folded away their material, and waited to join in the Thanksgiving Service.

For an unrehearsed effort, it was very good indeed.

Brownie Guiders and the Brownies not taking part in the flag marched on to the arena while the flag was forming and they, too, took their part in the service.

Such was the Brownies' share in the Coronation Rally. N.T.

Warming-Up Games.

(Tune: "Twa Cra")

1st—"Little rabbits hop like this,

Hop like this,

Hop like this,

Little Rabbits hop like this,

So early in the morning."

2nd—"Big horses gallop like this," etc.

3rd—"Green frogs jump like this," etc.

4th—"White ducks waddle like this," etc.

5th—"Roosters strut like this," etc.

Method: Children in circle, and sing and move clockwise as they imitate the animal in verse. Can be played ad lib., more animals being added at will. V.H.

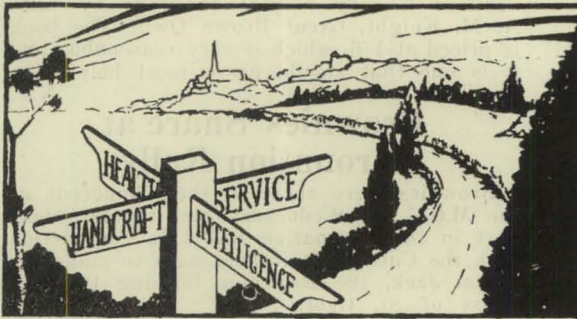
THE SEA IS ROUGH.

The Brownies sit in chairs placed in a circle facing outwards. Brown Owl then gives each Brownie the name of a fish. She then calls out a string of fish names and says "the sea is rough." When she says this, the Brownies who have been given these names must run round the circle. In the meantime a chair is removed, making the number of chairs one less than the number of players.

She then says "the sea is calm," when all players must run to the first available chair. The Brownie without a chair is out.

Sometimes Brown Owl just says "the sea is rough," then all must run round the circle.

The game goes on until there is only one Brownie left who is the winner. M.E.H.



The Sign Post

(Editor, Miss R. Denny)

The Guide Law.

These unusual thoughts on the Ninth Law, by E.J.M., make the sixth of the series on the Guide Law.

THRIFT.

"A Guide is thrifty."

In time we will grow it is hoped, beyond the negative idea that "thrift" is "not wasting anything," to the positive aim of making the best use of everything. Through taking care of the pennies, keeping our clothes mended, and such practical habits, we can develop a deeper sense of stewardship, not only for material possessions, but for such things as health, time and intellect.

From the twenty-fifth chapter of St. Matthew, the most challenging words ever spoken on stewardship, one gathers that the allocation of "talents" is not in our hands. We are provided with these each according to his ability. Many possessions are nothing to boast of; lack of them is no excuse. It is the use we make of them that counts, and nothing God gives is meant for hoarding.

Judged by these standards are we making the best possible use of our working hours, our leisure, our pet possessions, memory, thoughts and opportunities for learning, for service and for friendship?

For instance, the following passage from Ann Bridge's novel, "Illyrian Spring," made me think of the stewardship of experience. . .

"The old are too apt to forget that age alone is not the decisive or even the most important factor in any relationship. . . . As a rule the decisive factor is community of feeling or interest, and what contribution one person has to bring to life as a whole, as it exists for the other. What makes this contribution valuable is partly experience, and still more use the made of experience, a question with which age has little or nothing to do. The stockbroker of sixty-six does not necessarily bring a richer contribution to life, by virtue of his extra forty years, than, say, one of our young modern adventurers in the early twenties. On the other hand, what makes the young modern adventurer's contribution to contemporary life so rich and gay is not alone the fact that they have canoed and waded through the Matto Grosso, or flown or joggled on motor buses across China or Africa—it is the use they have made of those experiences; the lively enquiring mind, watching its own reactions and those of others, forever checking theory against reality—amused, inquisitive, intelligent, sceptical and ardent.

"Nicholas was no great adventurer, but he did stand possessed of this special quality of their common generation, the sceptical intelligence combined with ardour, the irreverent debunking spirit, which will surrender to the genuine, but only to that. He did make use of such experience as he had, examining it, checking it, testing it. Lady Kilmichael, on the other hand, in common with many women of her generation, had made remarkably little use of her experience. It had been impressed on her in youth that experience was necessary and valuable, but no one had ever told her what to do with it. It was something which you apparently acquired in large or small packets, like Lux, and then put away in a cupboard. Experience so treated does indeed leave a sort of sediment of knowledge—the mere possession of those stored packets may give a certain confidence; but it does not make a very vivid contribution to life."

The reward offered to the "faithful servant" was that of being counted worthy of greater responsibility. Is this the high challenge we are passing on, through our own natural example, to the rising generation?

KNIGHTS OF THE LAW.

Coburg, 2/4/37.

Dear Matilda,

In trying to find a new and interesting way of presenting the Guide Laws for Second Class work, I came across an article entitled "Knights of the Law," and we are now carrying out the idea in our Company with great enthusiasm.

First of all, the Guides are shown a picture of a knight of old, then are given a word picture of their going forth to defend the right. The Guides are asked to become "Knights of the Law," and to defend each Law for a week. Taking the first Law, each Guide is asked what she would do to become a Knight of Honour. Here are some of their ideas:—

"Don't put the clock on when I have to practise." "Mother doesn't need to look out the window to see if I am going her message straight away—she knows I will." "No need to count the change, or wonder if I have 'pinched' a biscuit." "I told my Sunday School teacher I would remember to read my Bible and say my prayers, and I always do now."

Knights of Loyalty: "One of our teachers doesn't seem to like me, but I'm not going to be nasty to her any more." "I'm not going to tell tales on my schoolmates." "I don't

think any one will talk about you, Cap., but I'll stick up for you if they do!" "I'll find time to be with God in prayer and Bible reading each day." ("But, Cappy, isn't that being a Knight of Honour? That's not a Knight of Loyalty, is it?" "Why, yes, it is—you see some of the Laws are so interwoven that you can't break one without breaking the other. Saying your prayers, and really meaning what you pray, is being loyal to God, especially if we don't mind even when other people are inclined to laugh at us for it.")

These two Laws are as far as we have gone just yet, but I'm looking forward each week to hearing their ideas on the other Laws, and they are really in earnest about carrying out the laws in this way. M.C.

AN EVENSONG ROUND OR CHANT.

(To be sung to the old French tune,
"Frere Jacques.")

"Day is ending,
Night descending,
Work and fun,
Both are done;
All the world soon sleeping,
Stars their vigil keeping,
Friends, Goodnight! Friends, Goodnight!

"Sweet dreams guard you,
Rest reward you
Till the morn
Comes new born.
Life is all before you,
Faith and joy restore you.
Friends, Goodnight! Friends, Goodnight!"
—From the "Girl Guide Magazine (S.Africa)

JUST A SONG AT TWILIGHT.

"Just a song at twilight
As the sun sinks low,
And the flickering embers
Of our camp fire glow;
Happy hearts now praise Thee:
In our memories, long
Will remain the hours
Spent here in song,
With friends who sing camp songs."
—From "Forty-Five Camp Fire Songs and Hymns."

DESIGNING FOR HANDICRAFTS.

When we teach our Guides a handicraft could we not help them with the design and the colouring as well as the actual working of the craft, whatever it may be?

So often we see good work made unsatisfactory by bad design, unsuitable materials or a wrong combination of colours. A very few elementary rules are all we need.

First of all, what is Handicraft? It is making a beautiful and useful thing, in harmony with the materials in hand. It must fill a real want, it must be useful. It is a means of self-expression. To make the finished work useful the materials must be suited to the object we intend to make. For instance, a crepe de chene apron worked with an elaborate scene or figure is not suitable, whereas a holland one, with a simple design on the bib, sav. is very suitable.

Therefore we must study our designs as well as our materials; and we must be able to make our own designs so that we may express ourselves, and get the greatest satisfaction out of our handicraft. Designs should

be simple; plain spaces are more to be preferred than decorations which are bad or inappropriate. Also, simplicity is more beautiful than elaborate and very highly coloured designs. Colouring of a design should be flat (without light and shade) and conventional, because a design is conventional, and not a picture. There should be no centre of interest, as there is in a picture or a poster. No part of the whole design should attract more than the rest.

In making a design to fit a certain space, we must consider the shape of that space and the design, or at least the border to the design must fit that shape. For instance, the border of a square object should follow the edge all round and not have the corners cut off.

Then, we must think whether the object is to be used in a vertical or a horizontal position. If in the former, as an apron would be, then the design should be symmetrical (having one axis, as the letter A). But if the object is to be in a horizontal position, as the lid of a box, the design should be bi-symmetrical (having two axis, the design being repeated three times.) If this is not clear, take a pencil and paper, draw a simple design, fold the paper vertically, trace the design, and you have a symmetrical design. And now fold the paper horizontally, trace the whole design, and you have a by-symmetrical design. The folds of the paper are the axis. Also, the limitations of the materials to be used must be considered. If one is to weave with wool it would be very difficult to put in a bird in various colours, but a geometrical design is simple and suitable.

In making a design the following laws may be used: Symmetry, Repetition, Contrast, Variety, The Unit and the Group of Units. It is difficult to illustrate these without sketches. Repetition must prevail in the main, with Contrast and Variety to make and challenge interest.

Next month we will give some simple rules for choosing and combining colours. R.D.

CORONATION RALLY.

The Rally sub-Committee wishes to thank the Group Guiders and those who took special responsibility on Coronation Day for their efficient and cheerful co-operation.

Also all other Guiders whose attendance and enthusiasm helped to make the Rally such a happy gathering.

There is only one complaint. In spite of the request that no papers, etc., be dropped on the ground or dressing rooms, after the troops had left several weary Guiders had to spend nearly an hour clearing the oval of peels, programmes and papers. Would Captains please pass this information on to their Companies so that at future Rallies the Guides concerned may pay more practical attention to Laws 3 and 7?

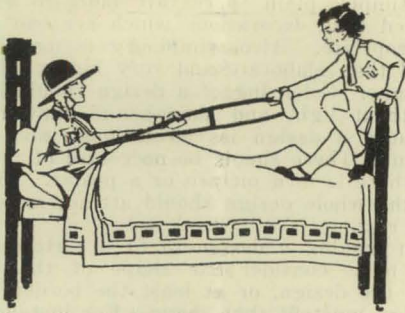
JEAN MACNEIL.

SHEILA MACLEOD.

ADVERTISEMENT.

BOARD AND LODGING.

A Country Girl Guide, aged fifteen, working in the city, requires accommodation in a family, inner suburbs: goes home to country on Friday night till Monday morning. Apply in the first place to MISS BARFUS, G.G.A.



**Packs and Companies!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?
You Once Promised**

As a Thanksgiving for the fun you found in Guiding to give half-a-crown on your Company's or Pack's birthday to the Thank You Fund. This will bring the fun of guiding to a cripple, blind or invalid girl whose only way of entering into our game is through Post Guiding, which is expensive to run.

The Thank You Fund originally had 170 subscribers. In the past six months we have only had fourteen subscriptions.

Is it you who are letting us down?

May 12th, 1937.

For many a long day the date of our King's and our Queen's crowning will be remembered with excitement and thrills by the Extension Rangers, Guides and Brownies.

Early on Coronation morning we woke and quickly looked out of the window. Was it wet—or was it fine? Thank goodness, it was fine, and looked as if the sun would come out later. What a bustle: badges to clean, uniforms to brush, buttons to inspect. It would never do if there were loose buttons or untidy uniforms on this day of days.

At last all was ready, and spruce. And looking "just like any other Guides" we waited for the cars, or the people, who were to take us to the M.C.G.

When we got in to the streets it became more and more exciting. Shops with flags in the windows or royal photos; big public buildings with great masses of flags and decorations. Then, as we neared the Cricket Ground, we began to see the Scouts and Guides. Just a few at first, then more and more, and then masses of them everywhere! And we were members of that great family!

Soon we were inside and in our places in front of the Members' Stand. Now some of us were able to meet other Guides or Brownies to whom we had been writing for years and whom we had never seen before. Some of us hadn't even seen our Captains or Brown Owls until that moment!

When you live at Dargo, at the foot of the Dargo High Plains, you don't often see many Guide folk, and then to come to town and see hundreds at once on the most exciting day of all the year—well! it was breath-taking, that's all!

Gradually all the cars arrived and we assembled together in our corner. Guides and Rangers from the Austin Hospital, Post Brownies, Post Guides and Post Rangers, from far and near, all coming together to

celebrate the crowning of our King and Queen.

At last everyone arrived. Suddenly there was a flicker of colour at one of the entrances to the ground. The March Past had started!

Out in front of us was our own Deputy State Commissioner, and with her the Scout State Commissioner, taking the salute. At our right, inside the fence, was our Extension Colour Party holding our own Extension Union Jack, presented to us last year by the Broadford District.

The sun was out and the flags formed a mass of flickering, lovely colour above the dark blue uniforms. Line after line, hundred after hundred, the Guides swung past. Marching with them were two more Extension Companies, the Blind Rangers and the Deaf and Dumb Guides.

Then came the Scouts, with their flags and standards. Gradually they all marched on. Meanwhile the Guide colour-bearers had ranged themselves along the fences at each side of the oval, and the blue of the uniforms against the white fence with the mass of red and white and blue flags was a very lovely sight.

The Cubs came cheering in next, and on each side of the ground came the Brownies. Soon they were all in their places, and down they sat to watch the Empire display.

What vivid colours as the different countries came marching in, and what fun to see the whole Empire there before us! And what a thrill to see the figure of Saint George, our Patron Saint, leading them all and carrying his flag with the red cross on the white ground.

Down the centre came the Commissioner for Cubs and the Commissioner for Brownies leading on the Cubs and Brownies who were to form the living Union Jack. They marched into their positions marked out on the grass, and there, sat. At a given signal they fixed pieces of red, white or blue cloth to their feet, and at another signal, down they went flat on their backs, with the cloths over them. And there was a huge Union Jack lying before us!

The service came next, and we all joined in thanksgiving and prayers for our King and Queen and Empire. Finally we sang the National Anthem, and then it was time for the homeward trek.

Soon we packed into the cars and off we went, tired but very happy after a wonderful day. Thankful for all we had seen and heard, thankful to have been able to take our part in the Coronation, and thankful for the opportunity to meet so many other Extensions!

And we DO want to thank all the people who were so good to us. The Scouters and Guiders who carried us, the people who drove us in cars or pushed us in chairs, and the people who had us staying with them while we were in town. If it hadn't been for them, we could not have had such a wonderful muster of sixty-six of us.

Thank you, everyone! AN EXTENSION.

APOLOGY.

I am sorry that shortage of space has not allowed me to publish articles on Thinking Day from "Awaitchi," Footscray District Rangers, and Ballarat District.—Editor.

Equipment Notes.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Story of a Million Girls, by Mrs. Mark Kerr, International Commissioner, price 5/6; post, 7d. We had thought nothing could be as thrilling as "The Story of the Girl Guides," by the same author, but here again is a book that enthralls with its stories of Guide pioneering in every part of the world. This is the first time we have been able to read a concise account in print of how Guiding began in Australia in the various States, and it makes fascinating reading. Some of the earliest Victorian Companies will nearly burst with pride at seeing themselves mentioned! The binding of this volume is uniform with that of the previous book by Mrs. Mark Kerr, and will be a most welcome addition to the Company library, and a cherished gift for Birthdays, etc.

Travelogues, by the Chief Guide, price 7/6; postage 5d. You must not miss this—buy it for the Company library. Read how the Chief Guide donned a diver's suit in Bermuda and "went below"; of the town in Sierra Leone, where there is NO LITTER in the streets; of the Chief's "extra honeymoon" in Timgad (guess where it is!) and of the Chief Scout catching barbel on a bent pin! There are also yarns about the Guides they met in many parts during their travels, and altogether it is a book that makes you feel the Chief Guide is just here, talking to you about her travels.

Guide Links. Further travel experiences of the Chief Guide—price 7/6; postage 5d. The frontispiece is an excellent photograph of the Guides marching (in such straight rows!) past the Chiefs at the Jamboree, Frankston. There is within the book a description of the Rally, including a graphic account of the mass fainting fit, and the Chief Guide gives some helpful "recipes" for preventing yourself from fainting next time! Many other countries are dealt with in detail both from the Guiding and general travel point of view, from Toulon and Gibraltar through the Mediterranean and on to Java; another chapter deals with New Zealand; then we go on to Canada, and to Newfoundland, ending up in the United States of America. The book is freely illustrated. One of the pictures, by the way, shows the Winnipeg Brownies making the Union Jack in the same way as the Melbourne Cubs and Brownies made it on Coronation Day.

Thrift Cards. Do you run a Thrift Club in your Company? The Savings Banks can tell you about them. Save for camp—for a holiday—for a trip to town to a rally—or to do a Good Turn at Christmas or midwinter. Of course, each Guide or Ranger must have something you can sign to show you did take charge of her money! So buy some of these thrift cards—2d. each, or 2 for 3d. When you have one, you want to get it filled up and watch the money mount. . . ."

UNIFORM OVERALLS.

Good news for Guides and Guiders; the design of the overall has been changed at last; we are sorry for the time it has taken to evolve this garment, which we hope will be liked by young and old, small and large.

The overall is based on the design used by the American Girl Scouts. The collar may be worn closed or open; there are three pockets, one upper and two lower, all without flaps or pleats; the skirt has inverted pleats on each side and the back is shaped; the sleeves, too, are a more shapely affair than in the old overall.

The new manufacturer will work on a better system of measurements and sizes. Sizes will definitely go according to bust measurement rather than length.

Come and try on the new overall and see how well you look. No more bunching in front of the skirt or badly fitting collars, but a really svelte and smart appearance!

The prices will remain as before.

Paper patterns for the new type of overall will be available within the next month; these will be good and reliable.

BARGAINS FOR JUNE.

Brownie Overalls. We have a limited number of Brownie Overalls (of linene) which have been in stock for a long time; they are in sizes 24in., 26in. and 36in. lengths. In order to clear these for new stock, we are selling them off at 2/6 each. Packs which find it difficult to afford overalls at the usual price will be glad of this chance to get recruits into uniform.

Gloves.—A limited number of these brown short-gauntlet gloves of soft leather are still available, mostly in small sizes (6, 6½). As we are not stocking gloves in future, we are clearing these out at the further reduction of 4/11 per pair. Guides would probably like to know of this opportunity to get nice gloves for wearing to school in the winter. Will Guiders please tell them?

CLARA BROADHURST
Commissioner for Equipment.

The Ranger Page.

Although Guide folk do not expect praise, I do not think it out of place to express appreciation of the valiant way in which Rangers from all parts of the metropolitan area helped towards the success of the Coronation Rally by selling programmes throughout the afternoon. As there was no charge for admission to the Ground, we depended on the sale of programmes by Rangers, and the collection taken up by Scouts, to defray expenses, and these have been well covered.

Sixty-three Rangers from sixteen different Companies sold over 6300 programmes, being an average of 100 programmes each, but a large number sold far more than the average, one Company of thirteen members topping the list with takings £39. In addition to the sellers, there were ten very busy "runners" who collected money in lump sums, and supplied extra bundles of programmes to sellers.

All these activities constituted a very real service, involving real sacrifice; many of the Rangers came to the Ground straight from a very heavy morning's work, and could to their advantage have chosen to march with their Districts and sit on the arena during the service.

As it was, there was little chance of sitting down, and one saw only scraps of the March Past and the Pageant.

However, real service is so often real fun, too, and I think we all agree that we had fun at the Coronation Rally! J. U. BOYES,
Commissioner for Rangers.

WHY THE RANGERS CALL THEIR SHACK "HUI TE RANGIORA."

FIRST HAWTHORN RANGERS' SHACK AT LILYDALE.

Hui Te Rangiora is a Maori name, and it means the Assembly place of all beautiful things, the home of peace and happiness.

Here is the story they tell in Maoriland:—"Once upon a time there lived in far Hawaiki (the ancient home of the Maori people) a chief and his wife and their two daughters, of whom the elder was named Hinerangi (Heavenly Maid).

"Hinerangi had for husband a man of another race, named Miru, and after some time, when their little son was beginning to grow up, Miru decided to go back to his own people. Father-in-law decided to go too, as he was curious to see what kind of place Miru came from, but he would not let his daughter Hinerangi go, nor his little grandson, Tongate-uru. Instead he took the younger daughter.

"When the party reached Miru's home town they found he was a very important person—a teacher of all kinds of crafts, and an authority on all the charms and prayers and ceremonies of his people.

In the middle of his pa was a fairy hall. Rui Te Rangiora, where Miru taught his people, especially the younger ones, all the wisdom which had come to him.

"When the father of Hinerangi beheld all the wonderful works of that house, the weaving and the carving, the marionettes, the string games, the hakas and soi-dances, and heard all the tales which accounted for things which had been mysteries to him, he begged Miru to impart his knowledge, and in return gave him his younger daughter for a wife.

"Then the father-in-law returned to his own place, and there built a meeting place similar to that other one. There he taught his grandson all the wisdom he had learned, so that in turn Tongate-uru should become a chief teacher and Tohunga among the people."

That is how the people of this world learn so many desirable things, and there is always now a house of learning among the Maoris, a sort of Whare or lodge of instruction called Hui te Rangiora. G.F.

THANK YOU!

Thank you, Commissioners and Brownie Guiders, for your fine work in making the "Union Jack" at the Coronation Rally such a great success. It was a splendid effort, and proves the willing helpfulness of Cub and Brownie leaders.

Mr. H. Brearley, Assistant H.Q. Commissioner for Wolf Cubs, asks me to say how very pleased he was with the result; and we both send thanks to the leaders and markers, upon whom success depended. V. A. TATE,

Commissioner for Brownies.

Training.

Woodcraft Week. If applications warrant it, a WOODCRAFT WEEK will be held at "Pinebrae," Mount Evelyn, from Wednesday, 11th, to Thursday, 19th August, 1937. The fee will be 35/-.

The week's programme will cover woodcraft and First Class, and will include building shelters and axemanship, Scouting and night games, birding, trees, insects and Adventures covering First Class.

Guiders who are already Second Class and would like to attend this Training Week should send their names and a deposit of 5/- to the Training Secretary at the Guide Office, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, C.1, not later than 1st July.

As "Pinebrae" is a boarding house, and accommodation is limited, Guiders are advised to apply early; a waiting list will be kept for those who apply late, in case there are withdrawals. Deposits will not be refunded unless withdrawal is made a fortnight before the beginning of the Week.

Certain testing for First Class will be done for Guiders who have already had practice in the sections before they come to the Week.

Training Classes. Applications are being received now from Guiders who wish to attend Training Courses in Brownie, Guide or Ranger work. When sufficient names have been received to warrant the starting of another Course, this will be arranged in each branch of training. Please send names and requirements as soon as possible to the Training Secretary at the Guide Office. MERLE BUSH,
Commissioner for Training.

SCHOOL BLAZERS

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

Blazers Tailored to Measure

In the best quality Velour Flannel from 45/-

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