

*Mark Bush*

# Matilda



AUGUST, 1940.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Minutes of meetings of the Executive Committee of the Girl Guides' Association, Victoria, held at the Guide Office on 19th and 29th June, and 4th July.

### 19th JUNE—

Present.—Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Blackwood, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Orr, Mrs. Tate, Misses Cameron, Hamilton, Harrison, Lascelles, Moran, Purnell, Ritchie, Russell, Irving and Bush.

Agreed.—That this year there should be a One Day Training for Commissioners, combined with a One Day Conference in September after the School Holidays; that Miss Moran should arrange a Training Day before September.

That Miss Bush should be nominated as delegate to the National Council of Women in place of Miss Irving.

Reported.—That over £45,000 had been received from the Empire for the Air Ambulance Appeal, over £9000 being from Overseas Dominions. Australia had given £2533, Victoria's share being £625. A letter from Lady Murray Anderson expressing the pleasure of H.R.H. Princess Alice at the result of the contributions from Australia was received.

That as the result of a fund organised by Miss Bush to augment the Guide House Endowment Fund, the sum of £182 had been received to date.

That in response to Lady Chauvel's letter in the "Argus," £116/4/6 had been received for the Guide War Appeal.

That the total receipts to date for the War Work were £3269/12/4, balance in hand being £482. 4617 yards of flannel, 2960 lb. of wool had been used, 68 cases sent away, with a total of 17,012 garments, 769 being for seamen.

Lady Chauvel, on behalf of the Executive Committee, thanked Miss Irving for all she had done for the Guide Movement, and wished her every happiness in her new position.

Routine and financial business was discussed.

M. E. BUSH, State Secretary.

## SPECIAL MEETING.

### 29th June.

Present.—Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Blackwood, Mrs. Littlejohn, Miss Cameron, Miss Ritchie, also by invitation, Miss Moore, Miss Broadhurst, and Miss Barfus, representing the

Camping Committee, and Miss MacLeod from the Training Committee.

Agreed.—That in answer to a cable from Imperial Headquarters regarding the possibilities of our contacting evacuee children, the Girl Guides' Association should offer to run indoor camps for the children on their arrival from England, before going to their prospective homes.

That the children should be absorbed into Packs and Companies as soon as possible.

That a certain percentage of children should be included in Guide Camps.

### 4th July.

Present.—Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Blackwood, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Orr, Misses Coles, Harrison, Lascelles, Moran, Ritchie, and the secretary.

Agreed.—That Miss A. Campbell should be granted six months' leave of absence, and that Miss J. Alston should be asked to be acting Commissioner for Extensions for six months.

That a letter of thanks should be sent to Miss Campbell for all she had done for the Extension Branch, and extending good wishes to her in her work with the A.I.F.

That the Commissioners' Training Day and Conference should be held on the Thursday and Friday after the September school holidays, and that Mrs. Faulkner should be the convenor of the sub-committee to arrange the conference.

That the District Commissioners in the metropolitan area should be asked to co-operate in the appeal from the Children's Hospital for the assistance of Guides in sorting waste paper.

That Lady Chauvel had been in touch with Mr. Pittard in connection with the offer of indoor camps for evacuee children.

That the total for the Air Ambulance Appeal from the Empire was £46,216, Victoria's total being £739/13/10. A letter was received from Sir Charles Burnett expressing his interest in the total raised.

That Mrs. M. R. Fairbairn was making plans with her committee for the concert to be given by the Ladies' Blue Symphonic Orchestra.

That the Shilling Fund for the Guide Endowment was now £240.

That on 30th June the balance in hand for the Guide War Appeal was £610/15/5; 19,941 garments had been sent away, 1047 being for seamen.

# “Matilda”

An Official Treasure Bag of Guiders' Information for Guiders of Victoria, Australia.

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AUGUST, 1940.

No. 1.

## FAREWELL PARTY TO MISS IRVING.

On Monday afternoon, July 15th, the Meeting Pool at headquarters took on a festive air, with bowls of lovely flowers everywhere, and all signs of work and meetings carefully put away.

By 5 o'clock over 60 Commissioners, Guiders and members of the Executive Committee had assembled to bid farewell to Miss Irving and wish her well in her new sphere of service with the Red Cross. After everyone had greeted Miss Irving, Lady Chauvel welcomed her "home," and thanked her for all she had done as State secretary, and especially, for all the extra things she had always willingly undertaken outside her official duties. Her work as State secretary for 16 years would always be remembered with deep and lasting gratitude by everyone in the movement. Lady Chauvel, on behalf of the members of the movement throughout Victoria, then presented to Miss Irving an "Airzone" wireless set and a cheque, a card attached to the set bearing the words, "With best wishes and appreciation from us all." Miss Irving, in thanking everyone, said that she would always look on her work as State secretary as the happiest years of her life; she thanked everyone for the help and support she had always received, and said she felt sure she would often wish herself back in the Guide office. She was thrilled with the wireless set, and looked forward to many happy hours of listening with such a beautiful and exciting looking instrument.

Someone called for three cheers for Miss Irving, and they were heartily given.

Tea was served by members of the S.R. Akuna, Miss Irving's own Sea Ranger crew.

A charmingly decorated book containing the signatures of all those present, and names and messages from all those in town and country not able to be present, was also given to Miss Irving.

—D. COLES.

## THE COMMISSIONER FOR EXTENSIONS.

Miss Alison Campbell has joined the Massage Unit of the A.I.F., and is at present on leave of absence. It is now 14 years since the Extension Branch was formed in Victoria, and Miss Campbell not only started this branch, but has been its commissioner ever since. With her expert technical knowledge she was well qualified to deal with the special needs of this branch. For all that she has given to guiding, and particularly through the Extension Branch, we would like to express to her our sincere appreciation and gratitude. The very best wishes of us all go with her in her work with the A.I.F.

—SIBYL CHAUVEL.

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## THE ACTING HEAD OF EXTENSIONS

To Miss Joan Alston, who has been appointed Acting Commissioner for Extensions for six months, we give a very warm welcome, and hope that she will continue to have much enjoyment in the Branch, to which she has already given such good service.

—Sibyl Chauvel.

## ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

Miss Alison Campbell is the first of our Guiders doing active Guide Work, who has joined the A.I.F. We know of a number of ex-Guides and Guiders who have joined as Nurses, including Sisters Tisdall and Vines, and Miss Duigan, Masseuse. We would be very glad to receive the names of any others. To them all, we send our best wishes.

—M.E.B.

## MISS M. MARTIN.

Guiders will be very glad to hear that Miss Martin arrived safely in England at the end of June.

### MISS IRVING'S NEW POST.

The "Waratah" would like to offer very hearty congratulations to the Red Cross Society for having secured such a very capable Assistant Secretary for its Victorian Branch. At the same time, we commiserate the Guides of Victoria in losing a State Secretary who has been their devoted servant for sixteen years.

Not so long ago Miss Irving's great services to the Movement were recognised by His Majesty, The King, who awarded her the O.B.E., to the delight of us all, for we felt that not only was the honour exceptionally well merited, but that, in presenting it, the King acknowledged the value of Guiding to the Nation.

Imperial Headquarters showed its appreciation of Miss Irving's splendid work when the Chief Guide, on her last visit in 1936, decorated Victoria's State Secretary with the Beaver, one of the first to be awarded and, I think, the very first to come to Australia.

We would like, too, to express our admiration of Miss Bush's gallant readiness to step immediately into Miss Irving's place, thus freeing her to take up her new duties without delay.

The New South Wales Guides send their warm good wishes to both Miss Irving and Miss Bush in their new spheres of service.

—From "The Waratah."

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31 Tintern Avenue,  
Toorak,  
17/7/40.

Dear Matilda,

May I please have a small space in which to thank all the Commissioners, Guiders, Rangers, Guides and Old Guides for the lovely surprise party they gave me last Thursday, and for the wonderful presents and all the nice things that were "said and sung."

Being taken completely by surprise, the evening was just a continuous series of shocks—quite the nicest sort of shocks—but, as every one knows, shock leaves the patient speechless, and I felt that I expressed my thanks most inadequately! I have, however, the list of "hostesses," and it is my present intention to try to write to each one of you at some time during the next few months, or possibly years, from wherever we may be, and so thank you personally.

The rug is going to be a very close companion to remind me of you all, and with the monogram most beautifully done by an ex-Guide—now a member of the Craft Club—it will be difficult for anyone to part us. Here's good guiding till we meet again.

With love and gratitude from

—A. McA.C.

### GUIDERS' CONFERENCE.

#### 31st August to 1st September, 1940.

As a result of the change from residential to non-residential Conference, it has been difficult to reconstruct arrangements in time for publication in "Matilda" (which goes to press two weeks before the end of the month). However, here are the plans as they now stand. Divisions will be notified by letter of any vital last minute alterations.

Note.—Saturday afternoon session and Guiders' Own will be open to all Guiders.

#### Programme, Saturday, 31st August, 1940

Morning, 11 a.m.—Country delegates meet at headquarters for shopping or training queries. A qualified trainer will be in attendance to give help if required.

Afternoon, 2.30 p.m., at University Union Club House.

Discussion on questions sent in by Guiders this session will be open to all Guiders, both country and metropolitan, who will be at liberty to express their views, whether they are delegates or not.

Afternoon tea will be obtainable at a small charge. Tea will be served at 6 p.m. in the Union House Cafeteria.

Evening, 7.30 p.m.—Further discussion of questions and by-laws of the Vic. Guiders' Committee.

#### Sunday, 1st September, 1940.

Morning.—Free.

Afternoon.—Guiders' Own.

The committee would like to thank the divisions for the interest they have shown in sending in so many questions. Twenty-two questions have been received, all of which have shown thought and interest. It will not be possible to discuss all the questions, but in some cases certain topics mentioned will be brought into the selected questions.

Now, our final request! Will all Division Commissioners or Division Secretaries please forward to the hon. secretary of Guiders' Com-

mittee, Miss G. Oxley, 88 Lewisham Road, Prahran, S.1, at the very earliest convenient date, the names and addresses of their delegates, those from the country stating whether they need "hospitality" while in Melbourne.

Would any metropolitan Guider willing to offer hospitality to one or more country Guiders, communicate at once with Miss Oxley, 'phone, Windsor 1446.

### Questions to be Discussed.

1. How can Victorian Guiders best prepare their Guides for the part they will play in the present war? How much should we expect them to do on the practical side? How should we best prepare them for the burdens they must inevitably bear in future years?

2. Do Guiders practice what they preach?

3. Why is it so difficult to obtain Guiders? Do we expect too much of them—or too little?

4. How can we help the Guide Movement to develop the sense of responsibility and dependability?

5. That "Have a knowledge of . . ." appears too often in the Proficiency Badge syllabus. (Quoted from Report on Drop in Numbers.) Discuss possibility of more practical work and less theory in certain badges such as Aborigine and Book Lover.

6. Discuss some ways in which active companies can help Extensions.

7. That all companies should have at least one meeting a month run by the patrols, the Guider being invited to join a patrol for the meeting.

O. G. M. KNIGHT, Chairman, V.G.C.

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### A CONCERT.

A concert will be held in aid of the Girl Guide War Appeal, through the courtesy of Mrs. Thomas Smith, at Grong Grong, Toorak Road, Toorak, on Monday, August 12th, at 8 p.m. Madam Agnes Smyth and the Blue Symphonic Orchestra will arrange the programme. Grong Grong is at the corner of Toorak Road and Moonga Road, and is on the Toorak tram line.

Tickets are 3/6. There are still a few left, and are obtainable from Mrs. M. R. Fairbairn, 236 Kooyong Road, Toorak (U 7173). A few will also be sold at the door.

Will Commissioners—all of whom have been sent tickets—please assist the committee by notifying me as soon as possible if they are coming? As the room will only hold 250 people, and we want to ensure not having a

vacant seat, we would be glad to know immediately, so that in the eventuality of their not being able to make use of the tickets, we can re-issue them to others who will.

We would also be pleased to receive the money as soon as convenient. This will save congestion on the night.

There will be no reserved seats, so come early. You are assured of a pleasant evening of music. We rely upon you to support us by coming, and help to make it a success.

M. R. FAIRBAIRN, Convenor.

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From The Department of Information:—

## PENALTIES FOR GOSSIPERS.

### Fines and Imprisonment.

#### Security Law Provisions.

Gossip about the national war effort may do not only a great service to the enemy and a great harm to the Commonwealth, but may bring heavy punishment to the gossipier.

Breaches of the national security regulations, which are framed to safeguard information, are punishable by fines of unlimited amount, or imprisonment for an indefinite period, or both.

These regulations were set up to protect the people of Australia, whether members of the fighting services or not, and their enforcement should be made a matter of personal duty by every Australian.

### Danger to Nation.

It is apparent, however, that many do not know of the regulations or the penalties they prescribe. Many more, in spite of tragic happenings in the small countries of Europe, have failed to realise the danger in which a country may be placed by indiscreet statements, careless disclosures of what should be secret information, or even idle and baseless chatter.

The weapons of the Fifth Column and the propagandist are real and menacing, but they are not more dangerous than those of the chatterer.

### Talk is Dear.

Anybody who discusses matters affecting the war effort in such public places as trains, trams, theatres, hotel bars, and restaurants would, if overheard by a Commonwealth Peace Officer, or reported through any other channel, be liable to prosecution under National Security (General) Regulation No. 17, if it were considered that his remarks were a

danger to the safety of the Commonwealth.

In this regard, it is well to remember that the conversation of a wharf labourer, a war industry worker, or a munition maker might be just as interesting to an enemy agent as that of a soldier, sailor, or airman.

Even the casual talk of mothers about the dates on which their soldier sons will sail from Australia may endanger the life of every man in a convoy.

#### **Circulating Rumours is Offence.**

It is not necessary for information circulated to be true before penalties can be imposed. The circulation of rumours constitutes an offence. The argument that information is circulated on the assumption that "everybody must be aware of it already," does not lessen the offence.

Not only talk may be dear. Information circulated in letters which may fall into enemy hands may also bring heavy punishment. Actually, gossip about the war effort should not be written even in letters to addresses within the Commonwealth.

Recently in a radio broadcast, the announcer referred to "our boys who left yesterday." The possible consequences of such an indiscretion—a world-wide circulation of vital war information may be imagined. A rumour or an unguarded statement may gain equally disastrous circulation.

To-day's golden rule is "Hold your tongue—and hold on."

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#### **"MATILDA."**

#### **Have You Renewed?**

With the paper shortage, we do not want to order from the printer a large number of copies which we may not be able to sell.

Spare copies are quickly sold out during the first week of the month, and for several months past we have had to disappoint subscribers who renewed their overdue subscriptions too late.

If your "Matilda" bears a little coloured slip indicating that your subscription is due, will you hasten either to send the subscription (4/-), or, if your company has a credit balance on our books, ask us to charge the amount to your account? Otherwise you are likely to miss the next issue altogether.

—EDITOR.

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#### **July "Matilda."**

If any Guiders have spare copies of the July issue, we shall be most grateful for them, and will gladly buy them back for several Guiders who were unable to obtain a copy.

## **A REFRESHER COURSE.**

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### **SCOUTS PACE.**

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With the advent of colder weather comes parts of Guide tests. Does your Company possess a chain measure — or a half-chain is cheaper if money must be considered. You will find the Guides love handling the measure. Let them mark off a certain distance along and round the street — two chains or ten, or whatever is most convenient — beginning at the clubroom door and there they may practise Scouts Pace for the Second Class mile (walking and running 20 or 30 paces alternately) until they can so gauge their pace that they can arrive punctually to the twelve minutes, without any undue disturbance of breathing, etc. When you have to catch train or tram, it is a useful bit of knowledge to possess — pace against time! For First Class you must do two miles in half an hour. This may be done in a smart walk, though Scouts Pace may be used if you wish. This is slightly more of an endurance test, as a steady pace must be kept up. Judgment may be necessary if the way be hilly as then the wise Guide will walk a little faster down hill and more slowly up. I do not think the training track should be used for the test one, as this would be too easy. Also, the test track should be at least the mile long, so that the candidate may go there and back, or have the two miles marked out if you wish. This would mean having someone to start her off and meet her, at the end, of course. Some helpful person with a motor car will mark the mile out for you. Keep the test track a secret, asking those who have done it to observe this.

An alternative to the Second Class mile, is to do four walks of at least three miles. This is really a more attractive test and the Guides may prefer it. The walks may be done during Company hikes, but the walking should be done without stopping for lunch, etc., though I see no reason why a brief, unexpected stop may not be made on discovering some new bird or flower. This leads us on to the Natural History part of our work.

#### **Nature Tests.**

First of all, let us try very hard to take the 'test' out of Nature. Why did the Chief Scout

think it worth while for his active young followers to study the world of curious and wonderful creatures about them? In his own words, "The aim of your Nature study is to develop a realisation of God the Creator, and to infuse a sense of the beauty of Nature." There is your reason—the development of the soul and mind by encouraging the body to 'stand and stare,' lost in wonder at what is can neither understand nor make — and so help us on to the appreciation of the Second Law and the first part of the Promise. Perhaps we may think that we are making a very poor shot at this, in the games and pow-wows about Nature that we have at Guides, but the intriguing thing is that you simply never know what help you are being, and so you just go on in the small ways that we know — and perhaps, one day, in years to come, you will find out what it all meant to some small silent person whom you had thought a bit dull and heavy.

The very simplicity of the test as it stands—to recognise and discover something of interest—is a good thing in its favour. We simply have to go about with eyes and ears open, and something will happen. Do you read the excellent Nature Notes in "Matilda"? They are there for your help and will lead you on to finding things out. Don't be afraid of saying, "I don't know" to your Guides—but follow it up by "Let's find out," when they come and tell you of a white butterfly with black on it and pointed wings. If you can't find out, then write to "Matilda" and ask her. That is what she is for. It takes no mean observation on the part of that Guide to see some sufficiently identifying mark on that quick little butterfly. Without a doubt, you must in the first place deliberately stir up your own interest in the whys and wherefores of things—but having done so, you will be amply repaid, for a new world will open around you.

By the way, don't forget the stars among the wonders of creation. Have you seen the magnificent pageant of the planets during the last few months—all you had to do was to raise your eyes to the heavens—and now, in the early evening, can you see Orion setting in the west and Scorpio rising in the east? Soon Orion will be gone, until he heralds next summer for us. The stars are such friendly people—they are so steadfast. Whatever else happens, you know that they are always there, keeping a steady course, and whoever else may desert you, they will always come back,

steady and true. Stars are a quietening influence in a troubled world.

During those practises and tests for running and walking, what better chance than to keep the eyes open and exercise the mind as well as the body.

#### Knowledge of the Neighbourhood.

This may only be learnt by actually walking round every street in the prescribed half mile radius, and drawing little maps with doctors, petrol, etc., marked in. This will take several days to do. Then, at home, draw a complete map and mark in all the necessary objects. This map is not a necessary part of the test—but I have yet to find a better way to know your neighbourhood. Captain can do practically nothing here—it is absolutely up to the Guide. Test her by asking her to draw a simple map showing you how to get from one given point to another and when you are satisfied, then send her for the final test. Of course, this test may be included in one of the wide First Class test games that we sometimes see in the "Guider" or the "Guide," and that is a far more thrilling way of doing it.

All of this is absolutely out-door work, as Guiding is meant to be so, if it is wet, just put on hats and coats and carry on. In the arrangement of a programme for a meeting, this work can quite well be done by those ready for it while Captain and Lieutenant carry on with the rest of the Company. There is no reason why the First Class candidates should not spend the whole afternoon or evening away from the meeting place, doing their own special work. Just a word of warning here, that if this is to be, then it would be wise for their mothers to know, or they might wonder why.

—M.H.

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#### OFFICE STAFF.

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Ten days before Miss Irving left us, our typist, Jean Fletcher (1st Blackburn) left us to take a post in the Defence Department offices. Her place has now been taken by Betty Donald, also of 1st Blackburn.

The many Guide people who knew Mary Browning (nee Lambert) as our Equipment Depot Assistant will be interested and glad to know that she has a little son, Allan William Browning.

## GUIDE SHOP.

The following are the increases in price decided on by the Shop Sub-Committee:—Guide Overalls: Size 26, 28, 30, 32, 14/11; 34, 36, 15/11; 38, 16/11. Brown material: 2/3. Fuji ties: 8d.

### New Items.

NICKEL PENCILS, price 1/- plus postage. These can be hung on the belt and are inverted into a holder. Very useful for company meetings, and when you need a pencil all the time.

ANNUAL REPORT, price 1/-, postage 1d. — These have just arrived from England, and show very interesting photos of Guides in their war work as well as Guiding in other places of the British Empire. Photos are very attractive and could be useful for company scrap books eventually.

CRAFT HAND BOOKS, price 2/-, postage 1d. — This is a craft book for adults, but could be useful for Guides. It is well illustrated, showing method of procedure in the work, and the various instructions include pottery, pewter, leather craft, glovemaking, weaving loom, and raffia work. A very useful book to have.

FIRST AID IN A FEW WORDS, price 4d.

HOME NURSING IN A FEW WORDS, price 4d.

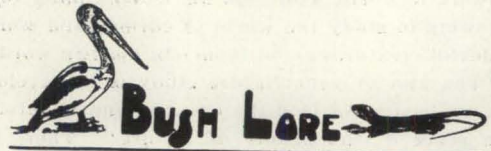
These two cards have just come to hand, and in a small space give much information on these subjects. They are useful to carry in a pocket to be hauled out at any opportune time.

BROWNIE TEST CARDS. — These are quite new, and the three stages of Brownie Tests have each a card to themselves. There is a card for the Brownie Recruit Test, Golden Bar and Golden Hand, and each one is very attractively decorated with various tests included in each badge. Brownies will enjoy these cards very much as they will be able to color them and make them more attractive still. The price of each card will be 2d. plus postage.

SALE OF OLD STYLE HATS.—We are offering a limited number of Guide Hats which are new but in the old style, and are in large sizes: —7½, 7¾, and 7½. These can be bought at 2/6.

Also a limited number of Fur Felt Hats in very good quality in sizes 6¾ and 7½, to be sold at 4/11.

Here is a good chance for people with big heads to obtain something really cheap.



Acting Editor, Ina Watson.

“‘Nature red in tooth and claw’ is often quoted,” writes a naturalist friend, “but this is not a true perspective. Nature is the most co-operating and co-ordinating thing known.”

Surely the world is now being rent with tooth and claw, but just as surely (like beetle snapped up by bird), we cannot see the whole Plan, which must eventually evolve the best and the strongest for the greatest number.

## A NATURE STUDY.

In December last year I found a top-knot pigeon's nest. It was well hidden in a thick bush. I left my pony a little way away, and walked carefully up to the bird on the nest. It was the male, as it has very bright colours. I put my hand out gently, as it had not flown away, and much to my surprise it did not fly away, although it was very frightened. I gently stroked it and left it. The female bird was on the nest next time I went, but she wouldn't let me touch her, and she flew away.

I discovered that they laid only one white egg. I didn't like going too often in case they left the nest, but every time I went the same thing happened. Soon after my father stopped working there, so I had no chance to visit it for a time, but when I did there was nothing left.

SYLVIA GRAHAM, Annuello.

## FIRST AID FOR SICK POSSUM.

A few weeks ago I saw a silver-grey possum behaving in a peculiar manner—running slowly round in circles out in the bright sunlight.

With the aid of an old blanket it was caught and held, while I telephoned various places for advice. Finally the director of the Zoo diagnosed the trouble. Evidently it had knocked its head in some way and injured one side of it—hence the inability to run straight and to find a place to sleep during the day time.

BE PREPARED in case you have to treat a similar case.

Put the possum in a box small enough to prevent it turning round, and keep it there from twenty-four to thirty-six hours (make sure there is plenty of ventilation, of course).

A banana left in the box had disappeared next morning, and when released 30 hours later, it seemed quite cured, ran direct to a tree, and was soon out of sight.

Have you met a "blue ant" yet?

It is bigger than an ordinary bull-dog ant, and is a bright metallic blue.

Treat it with respect—it has very "hot feet." Although looking similar to an ant, it is actually a wingless female wasp—the male is much smaller.

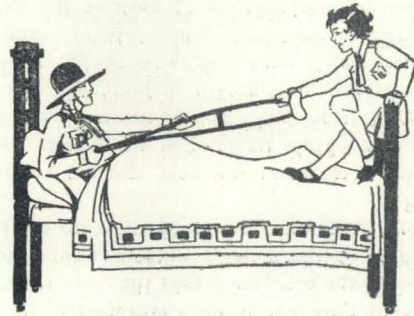
### AN INTERESTING BIRD VISITOR TO MELBOURNE.

You may have seen by notes in the press that a satin bower bird has been visiting the Botanic Gardens. As Melbourne is outside its usual range, it may possibly have escaped from an aviary. But the interesting thing is that it has built a bower in the gardens.

The bower is the bird's playground, and is quite distinct from the nest, which is usually built about 40 feet up in a tree. The bower in the gardens is built of fine twigs from a nearby tree placed to form a platform with two parallel walls about 8 or 9 inches high, "the inner part shaped to resemble a horseshoe."

The birds love anything blue, and scattered about are bits of blue paper, a broken bit of mirror, even the top of a beer bottle lettered in blue "Ballarat Bitter"! These are not actually in the bower itself, but placed just beyond and around it. When flowers are used, dead blooms are regularly replaced with fresh ones. The birds are known to paint the insides of their bower by breaking up certain of the native berries in their mouths and then running their bills over the twigs, giving them a thin coating of the resulting black substance.

Truly one of the wonders that should put Australia on the map.



Editor, Joan Alston.

### EXTENSION GUIDE NOTES.

Editor, Sydney Foote.

Most of "Matilda's" readers will know that it is with mingled feelings of pride and regret that we announce that Miss Campbell, our Commissioner, is on leave of absence from the Extension Branch, owing to her appointment to the staff of the 4th A.G.H., 2nd A.I.F.

Many of her Guide friends (about 100 of us altogether) took the opportunity of wishing her the very best of luck at a party held at Guide Headquarters on July 11th, and she was presented with a travelling rug and purse by Miss Joan Alston, whom we are glad to welcome as our new Commissioner. After the party it was noticed that many of the Guiders were addressing Miss Alston as "Eve," as in the shadow show during the party Eve appeared (in hot pursuit of the apple) and was acclaimed by Miss Campbell as "our new Commissioner."

As Miss Alston will now be responsible for all the woes and queries of the Extension Branch, it is asked that all letters be addressed to her at 5 Struan Street, Toorak. Correspondence will be dealt with on Monday of each week—so if your letter arrives on Tuesday you will realise that it will be at least another week before you can hope for an answer!

One of the last Extension Guide meetings which Miss Campbell attended as Commissioner was an enrolment at the Austin Hospital, where there is again a flourishing company—in three wards—and a Brownie Pack. The latter are most enthusiastic—the Guides no less so, but not so vocal! All the Brownies hail one instantly—"Lady, lady, I'm a Brownie!"

On July 13th occurred one of the big moments of the Extension Guiders' year—the Extension Guiders' Conference. This year we were visited by Mrs. Fairbairn, Commissioner for Lones, and Mr. Richardson, Commissioner for Handicapped Scouts, both of whom spoke during the after-

noon. Representatives of most of the Post and Extension companies were present, and Mrs. Gavan Duffy, Miss Duff, Miss Sedgfield and Miss Low spoke on different aspects of Extension Guiding in hospitals and institutions—these being the Orthopaedic Hospital at Frankston, the Children's Cottages at Janefield, and the Austin Hospital.

The conference discussed the subjects for discussion at the general Guiders' Conference, and came to the conclusion that the main thing at the present time was to keep steadfast to the standards and ideals of Guiding as originally formulated by the Chief Scout—that independence of thought, and dependability of character were primarily the same, and that our main efforts should be directed towards giving the Guide strength and stability of character and the courage to think and act on her own initiative.

The conference opened with an article by Margaret Tennyson, which appeared recently in the Guider—an article which emphasised the need for individual effort in the war—effort directed not so much at our enrolment in one or other of the national services as our mental and spiritual preparation for the future.

We in the Extension Branch realise that there are various economies which we must practise—and one of them particularly is paper. One of the main sessions at the conference therefore was the paper shortage, how it affects our work, and how we will benefit thereby. The last sounds almost paradoxical, but we have discovered that we will be able to get more and more of the patrol spirit in our budgets, because they will be going from one member of the patrol to another. This will help us immensely in our combined efforts, as too will the realisation that this is *our* contribution to the general economies of the country. We also discussed ways in which the Guides can help—knitting, of course, making washers and dusters, saving and sorting tinfoil, and general usefulness and helpfulness in the home, remembering that "grown-ups" have heavy burdens to bear nowadays, and that the eighth law is more important than ever.

**A Game for Post Companies.**

SWALLOW PATROL.—Mary is No. 1, Joan 2, Kath 3, Nancy 4.

KOOKABURRAS—Joy 1, Mavis 2, Lillian 3, Eva 4.

FILL THE GAPS—A. POINT FOR EACH ONE CORRECTLY FILLED.

Guides under 11 are called.....(1) and they wear.....(3) uniforms.

The Chief Scout's birthday is on.....(2) and this is called.....(4) Day.

.....(3) is used to tie bandages, because it.....(4).

The first Union Jack was composed of the flags of.....(1) and.....(2).

IMPORTANT.—All Extension Guide notices will in future be included in this column of "Matilda," and NO individual notices will be sent out. So watch your "Matilda!" And don't tell us that you "haven't heard."

The Extension Commissioner will be available for advice, encouragement and approbation (or otherwise) at 41 Spring Street (Miss Campbell's and Miss Boyes' rooms) on the FIRST Monday of each month, from 8.15 to 9.15. Otherwise by appointment only!

**LONES.**

Dear Lones,

Two interesting things have happened to me since writing last. The first was that I was invited to the Extension Guiders' Conference on Saturday, July 13. I am indeed grateful for this opportunity, and enjoyed myself greatly listening to the discussions. I am ashamed to say—but at least I have the courage to confess it—that I did not realise until then what a lot the Lones and Extensions have in common in the running of their companies, and in the problems they have to face.

One system they have evolved that I think could be copied effectively in the Lones is "Passive" Guides. Needless to say this "twig" of the branch had to be explained to me. They are the Guides who for various reasons have not the opportunity of joining in with the routine work of their companies, and yet who do not wish to drop out altogether. They receive a chatty letter each month from their Captain recounting things of interest in the Guide world. These letters do not require an answer. They merely keep the girls in touch with Guiding in a general way.

I think their motto could well be, "Once a Guide, always a Guide." For I cannot think that anyone who has ever been a Guide could put it out of her life so entirely as not even to be interested in hearing of their doings. Haven't we all a tender feeling towards the scene of our childhood? And don't we all love recalling old times, or looking at old snapshots? These are the things that keep our precious memories fresh. If Guiding meant anything to those we have helped who have

passed out of our hands, there must always be some tiny spark worth keeping alive.

How about "Passive" Lones? Judging by alterations in the lists of each company even since I have taken over, there would be a good muster.

Remember the parable of the ninety-nine sheep. Isn't it worth while trying to gather in the hundredth? I do not mean this should be an added burden of the Guider who already has her hands full keeping her company in working order. But there might be a "Passive" Guider whose job it would be to take on all those who otherwise would fade out completely.

"A thankless task," you might say, "writing to someone who is under no obligation to answer. Why, we wouldn't even know if she got the letter. And in these days of paper shortage, too!" I admit that argument, and yet I quote another parable—that of the sower of the seed. Think of the thrill if by chance our endeavour fell on fertile ground!

My second interesting outing this month was a visit to the Koornong Co-educational School at Warrandyte. This school was opened in September last year, and has about fifty pupils, both boys and girls, from kindergarten up to sixteen years. They are tucked away in such a secluded spot that it took three personal enquiries and three large signboards along the road to find it. It is more like a Canadian back-woods camping reserve than anything I have seen. A row of wooden buildings comprise the class rooms and sleeping quarters. Each room is allowed the greatest capacity of window space for light and air, and the bedrooms are fitted with built-in bunks to which the children climb by a fixed ladder like in a railway carriage. In the class rooms there are large open fireplaces built of the pinkish stone of the district, with huge logs giving out a worth-while heat.

The staff quarters is a long narrow one-storied building, very modern in style, the whole of one side having windows low to the ground. There is an enormous fireplace here, too, carried out in the same attractive stone.

The school is as modern in thought as is its architecture. Its aim is to cultivate creative thought in the character-building process of its curriculum.

I wish I could have chatted longer to those in charge, so that I could give you a better

idea of how they are working to achieve this, but, as my time was short, and I had been asked to speak about Lones, that was hardly possible. I saw enough, however, to impress me forcibly as to their enthusiasm and belief, and these two qualities can achieve anything.

The Junior class room, designed entirely by the children themselves, is a blaze of colour and design. The entire floor is painted in hieroglyphics and futuristic patterns. One would think that every artist of the Contemporary Art Exhibition that caused such a furore in Melbourne last year had had a hand in it!

The drop curtain in the room where I chatted to the would-be Lones is certainly the work of a future genius. It depicts a donkey "rampant," so life-like in its action of running that I was amazed when told it was designed by a girl of fourteen.

I wish I could tell you more about it; of the elder boys who, after school, are helping to build more rooms; of the younger ones who are making a garden, and paths and steps; of the girls who are raising chickens; of the "camaraderie" between teachers and scholars; of the free and healthy spirit that pervades the whole atmosphere. But space does not permit (I have already overrun my word quota!).

I was sorry to leave it, and return to the hide-bound routine of city life. Brave little venture! I have confidence in its success, for if enthusiasm and co-operation are strength, it certainly will succeed.

—M. R. FAIRBAIRN.

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### FOR SALE.

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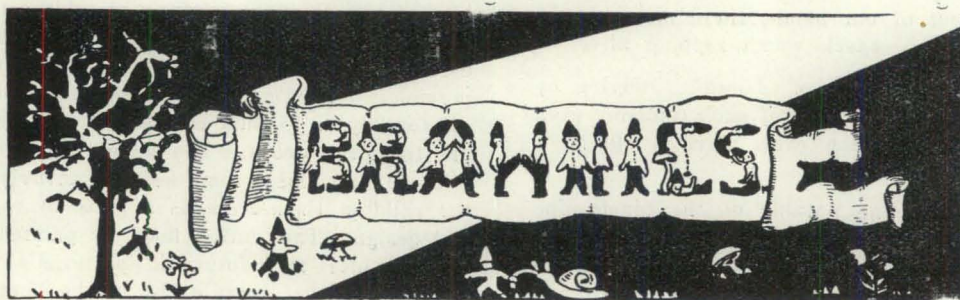
A country Guider would like to dispose of a navy blue fuji silk coat frock, in very good order, for £1; also a coat and skirt, good serge, very good order, size S.W., for £2. Apply in the first place to Miss Barfus for a fitting. The things are at the Guide Office.

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I want quiet silence. For a long time I've wanted these things but I didn't know it. There are I am sure, millions of people to-day who want these things but there is such a row going on that they can't hear themselves think.

Somebody soon will found a new Contemplative Order. It will simply be for people who want a quiet hour or two. A very great success it will be.

—Hugh Walpole.



(Editor: Margaret Haseltine.)

While the days are dark may we bring light and joy.

—The Brownie Prayer Book.

#### BREVITIES.

Do you know that a Brownie's shipping rope needs to be about ten feet long, so she can skip correctly, with arms extended horizontally?

Do you spend as much of your Pack Meeting as possible out of doors?

#### A WINTER MEETING.

##### Inspection and Subscriptions.—Skating.

Brownies run round in a circle as though skating on a pond; Brown Owl is a dragon who lives in the pond and a portion of the circle is marked off as thin ice. When the ice cracks (Brown Owl claps) any Brownie on the thin ice slips into the pond. If she looks just as nice as she ought, she is given a piece of ice (cellophane) to show that the dragon has no power over her, and can climb out and skate again, otherwise she cannot escape unless she can fix up whatever is wrong.

When everyone has been in the pond, the Brownies who got out, try to throw their pennies right into the middle of the pond. This pleases the dragon so much that she lets her prisoners go, and they throw their pennies in, too.

**Observation Game.**—Brownies sit in a circle, one says, "I know it is winter because—" and mentions something she can actually see or feel. Each in turn does this, nobody repeating what has been said before.

**Things We Do in Winter.**—In winter long hair gets blown about, so it must be carefully plaited; the washing takes longer to dry, so we may need an extra clothes line, parcels of clothing are sent to other children to keep them warm, and of course we skip to warm ourselves.

Each child has a card with two items on it: "Plait" for Tweenies (have bunches of wool

or raffia); "Clothes Line" for Brownies (rope to be correctly tied to any convenient object); "Parcel" for Golden Bars (garments to be folded, paper and string); and "Skip" for everyone. Arrange it so they aren't all wanting to skip at once; and mark the card when a job is successfully accomplished. Tweenies could skip to ten, Brownies to twenty, and Golden Zars to thirty, all turning rope backwards with arms straight.

(Story: See Below)

**Game: Snowfight.**—Brownies divided into two sides, behind lines six yards apart, each side has a ball which they throw at the other side, trying to hit one of them below the belt, anyone hit goes over to the other side; if a ball is caught, or hits anyone above the belt, thrower changes sides.

**Handicraft Snowmen.**—Give each Six a piece of dough (3 parts flour, 1 part water to mix) which they divide up, and each make a snowman, cloves and matches are a belt. These may be taken home and baked in a very slow oven.

**Fairy Ring.**—With winter ceremony chosen by the Brownies.

**Closing.**—Brownies sit in a circle, each thinking of a good turn she is going to do. When she thinks of one, she stands up, smiles a big Brownie smile, salutes and runs home.

—H.G.

#### WINTER STORY.

When Beryl woke, it was still dark, and raining—and this was the day that Mother had promised to take Bobby and herself to feed the ducks and swans in the gardens.

"And now I suppose we won't be able to go," thought Beryl. "And the bread we've saved will be wasted. I hate winter! It's always cold and wet."

She was nearly crying, but not quite, be-

cause Brownies don't. But presently she heard someone else really crying. It was a girl in a grey dress.

"What's the matter? Brownies don't cry, you know," said Beryl.

"What are Brownies?" asked the girl.

"Oh, they're people who help others, and put on a smile when things go wrong. I'm one!"

"Do you help others?"

"Oh, yes, p'raps I'll be able to help you, if you tell me all about it. What's your name?"

"Winter! And nobody likes me."

"Well, perhaps I could find some nice things about you," said Beryl. "My mother says everyone has some good points. Would that help?"

"Oh yes, I'm so tired of hearing people say, 'I hate Winter.'"

"Well, I'll try," said Beryl. "Good-bye, mother's calling me."

It was showery all the morning, but Beryl remembered to wear her Brownie smile, and to look for nice things about Winter.

She found daphne and violets in the garden and they smelt lovely, and she saw raindrops looking like diamonds when the sun peeped out.

At dinner time she asked Bobby and their mother what they liked about Winter.

"Hot puddings and oranges and apples," said Bobby.

"Knowing that the rain will make the wheat and vegetables grow," said their mother.

"Yes," said Beryl, "and I suppose we can go to the gardens another day."

"Oh, I think we'll be able to go to-day, if we wear raincoats and change our shoes and stockings when we get home."

And sure enough, they did go, and the swans, ducks, waterhens, were awfully friendly, and took bread out of the children's hands.

"I like the way the rain bounces off their feathers without wetting them," said Bobby. "Why are they so tame to-day?"

"No one else has come to feed them, so they're hungry," said his mother.

"I think the nicest thing about Winter is that the birds are so friendly if you're kind to them," said Beryl. "May I put out some crumbs for the wild birds when we get home, mother?"

And I think I heard a robin say, that one of the nicest things about Winter is the tit-bits Beryl put out each day.

—H.G.

### A PACK'S FAVOURITE CAMP.

1st Kingsville Pack like a game called

#### The Witch and the Geese.

One Brownie goes out as the witch; the others form a long, straight line one behind the other, holding on to each other's belts and face the witch. The geese then chant—

"Old Mother Witch,

Fell in the ditch.

Picked up a penny

And thought she was rich."

To which the witch replies: "Whose children are you?"

The geese reply: "Yours."

The witch then tries to catch the last goose, who dodges backwards and forwards behind Mother Goose.

Mother Goose can help to protect her children by putting out her wings (arms). Brownies must not let go belts during the game. When the last goose is caught, the Witch, Mother Goose and last goose can be changed and the game begins again.

### BROWNIE HOWLERS.

"Did you go to the Brownie Revels at Rudy Vallee?"

Brown Owl: "Does any Tweenie know why we say Lah, Lah, Lah?" Silence.

Brown Owl: "Well we spell it L. A. H. Now what do you think L stands for?"

Tweenie: "Elves."

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### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Girl Guide" and "Girl Scout" Magazines.

"Adventuring," South Australia.

"Bandeirantes," Brazil.

"Canadian Guider."

"The Girl Guide Courier," West Australia.

"The Girl Scout Leader," U.S.A.

"Te Rama," New Zealand.

"The Trail Maker," Massachusetts.

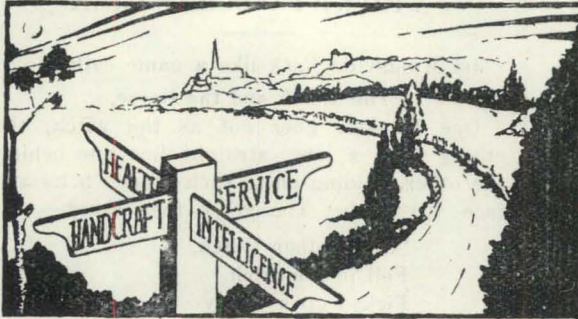
"Waratah," N.S.W.

These magazines will be found in the library at headquarters.

—The Editor.

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When the archer misses the centre of the target, he turns around and seeks for the cause of his failure within himself.—(557B,C.)



## THE SIGN POST

Editor: Elizabeth Alfred.

### THE FIRST CLASS TEST.

#### Understand the Meaning of Thrift.

With the necessary substitutions the first paragraphs of last month's article on First-Class Hiking might well be used to introduce the present subject. Among the first things the new recruit learns is that a guide is thrifty—very probably she learns it without having the least idea of the meaning of the word. (I have been told that "thrifty" means "being polite.") So then she has to set out to learn what thrift is, and then, perhaps, to "unlearn" a few things, for at this stage she will probably get the idea that being thrifty is something akin to being miserly, or to hoarding simply everything, in case it "might come in for something." (I wonder if the people who "hoard" ever think of thrift in relation to space?)

While she is on the road to second class she will gradually learn that all sorts of unexpected things are thrifty:

**Punctuality**, not only in arriving, but all through the meeting, means more time for games and activities.

**Discipline and good temper** mean more enjoyment for all.

A **tidy Patrol Box** not only holds more than an untidy one, but no time is lost in searching for things.

A **rope**, the ends of which are whipped, lasts much longer than one left to unravel and fray.

A **Badge**, cleaned regularly, takes much less time to clean than a dirty one.

**Home work** done on Friday leaves the weekend free (for guiders, tackled and done, instead of shelved, leaves the mind free!)

The test of thriftiness can be applied to almost anything, but it is rather fun to think out new and unexpected examples. But one must bear in mind the real meaning of thrift, and

that it is **not** thrifty to think to save time by doing a job badly—someone will have to do it over again. It is **not** thrifty to try to save money by going without proper food—doctors' bills will have to be paid. One could almost have a competition between the two—would "Thrift" or "Thriftless" provide the most surprising list.

By the time she has her Second Class Badge, and is ready to tackle the test for First Class, she should have, without conscious effort, or thought, become a thrifty sort of person, and that is the time when she begins to think about it seriously, and to apply what she is thinking to her daily life. (No, I have **not** forgotten the second clause in the Second Class Test, but my Guide has **shown** a further knowledge of the Law, but it is a knowledge gained by the habit of keeping it in the company, rather than a knowledge gained by conscious effort and thought.) And if she has been keen, and has had a good P.L., she will be surprised to find how much of this section of the First Class Test she has already done. I have not mentioned the second half—the six practical ways, because a guide who is really thrifty and does understand the meaning of thrift, will have no difficulty over the practical part—she will have lots of thrifty habits to choose from.

—C.W.R.

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### TEAMWORK.

This old story has been quoted so often that most of us have forgotten the original context:—

"Two men were carrying a heavy log when a friend said to one, "Your mate is not carrying his share."

"The man replied, 'I can't help that. All I have to do is to keep my end up.'"

In Guiding we stress the importance of each individual working with the rest for the good of the group and for others. Just as the saw will do its work successfully only when every one of its teeth are in place, so will any enterprise succeed only when each one is doing his share—and perhaps a bit more than his share.

But you have discovered this for yourself.

Have you ever noticed how many of the Guide Laws embody the spirit of teamwork? Think, for instance, of all that "honour" and loyalty imply. And, is not teamwork implied when we say a Guide is "useful," "friendly," "cheerful"?

The saving grace of leadership is a sense of humour, a quality which every really great leader has possessed—that ability to lighten a task with a jest and thereby inspire in a group the will to work together. The comradeship of a common objective and shared effort is quickened by shared laughter.

The rule of courtesy which abounds among Guide people is another very important element of teamwork, both within the movement and in our relations with others outside. Because they know that we are Guides, people expect us to show them the same sense of values, sincerity, kindness, co-operation, and, of course, leadership that we show each other.

Once in a while someone outside the movement will have an opportunity to jibe, "And you a Guide!" Our reputation for high ideals is extensive, and when we do not maintain it the reaction is unfavourable not only on ourselves as Guides, but on the whole movement.

Courtesy is, after all, the power to slip into another's shoes and see things from an angle not one's own—from the other fellow's point of view.

It is difficult for Guiders who live far apart to find opportunities of knowing and helping each other. To solve the problem the system of holding periodic conferences was established.

Conferences provide a means for a better understanding, discussion of common problems and pooling ideas for future policy. Every branch of Guiding needs this regular revitalising stimulus—Patrol Leaders, Guiders and Commissioners—in the District, the Division, the State, and the Dominion.

Conferences give the Guide and Guider alike a vision of the movement as a whole—they learn to think nationally, not in terms of local

problems. The national point of view explores thoroughly each question under discussion, and considers the effect of its decisions upon the whole constituency.

In this way we Guides, Guiders and Commissioners can play our allotted roles, keeping eyes open for the most urgent tasks. It is our responsibility to help to infuse into these troubled times the spirit of team work which will bring us through to success, during this present war—and after we begin to rebuild.

—(From "The Canadian Guider.")

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## SOME GAMES TO PLAY.

### Stalking Game.

Labels with different numbers on them are tied to branches of trees. Players try to put their initials on them without being seen by two sentries who keep guard, moving to and fro. Anyone seen by the sentries has to sign their book and start 20 paces off. Count up the numbers on the labels you have signed and subtract one for every signature in the book. Put the labels with the big numbers in the most conspicuous places.

### Merchants and Highwaymen.

A small wood is best, but a piece of shrubby ground would do. Players in two sides—Merchants and Highwaymen. All players wear a piece of wool round arm, each side having a different colour. Merchants start out from base "York" and cross the wood and arrive at "London," where Captain wai's with treasure for them (pieces of paper labelled as money from £5 to £500 or more). Merchants must get back to York with their money if they can. The Highwaymen try to waylay and capture them. Players are "killed" by having wool armlet broken. Any highwayman killing a Merchant takes the Merchant's money—any merchant killing a highwayman takes the Highwayman's spoils.

No Highwayman must come within sight of Captain or Lieut. (who are stationed at London and York respectively). If Highwaymen are seen by Captain and Lieut. and named, they must give up their spoils. Merchants may go any way they like through the wood, but must set out from York and return to York with their treasure. The side capturing most money and lives wins.

—(From "The Guider.")

# THE RANGERS' PAGE

Editor—E. FAULKNER.

## Heading.

There have been several suggested headings sent in for the page. Thank you all for your work! The Ranger Committee has picked out the one they think most suitable, and if it is also suitable for a good block I hope you will see it at the top of our page in the next issue.

## Notice Board.

Minutes of the Metropolitan Ranger Committee meeting held at H.Q. on July 5th at 6.45 p.m.

Present.—Rangers Betty Newey, Win. Cozens, Gwen Roberts, Margaret Clarke, Peggy Edmondson, and Betty Horsley.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Faulkner, Laurie Wright and Myra Farley.

Ranger Dinner.—The convenor reported that to date seventy-one people had sent in deposits, but only two replies had been received by the official closing date. Final details were arranged.

Visit to the Sir Colin McKenzie Sanctuary.—This was fixed for the 7th September, further details to be ready for the next meeting.

Designs for Registration Cards and Ranger Page.—The secretary reported that four designs had been received for the Ranger Page, but none so far for the cards.

The next meeting will be on Friday, 2nd August, at H.Q., at 6.45 p.m.

BETTY HORSLEY, Hon. Sec.

## An Experiment That Proved Successful.

Permission to hold a camp fire on land adjoining a scout hall was obtained from the town clerk, also permission to use the hall if the weather was unkind was granted by the Scout Master. The date fixed was May 24th. Invitations were issued to all Guide Companies and Scout Troops in the district. A Rover Crew accepted the job of lighting and attending to the fire whether indoors or out. Another Rover took charge of the programme. The weather was too gusty to have an outdoor night, so indoors it was held with a cheerful fire in the large fireplace. About 30 Guides and Rangers were present, and some 90 odd Scouts. They sang all those popular camp fire songs such as "MacDougall's Farm," "One Man Went to Mow," and other novelty songs. There were some stunts and a couple of items by the Guides. The gathering closed with a triple horseshoe around the flag and the singing of the National Anthem.

A collection was taken for the New Melbourne Hospital Fund.

M.B.

## THE PANTRY SHELF.

"Trifles make perfection, but perfection is no trifle."—Michael Angelo.

Winter time is orange time, and orange time is marmalade time. Below you will find three good recipes for marmalade, and some good "tips" when you make it—soaking the cut up fruit for a long time, boiling a short time, letting it get cold before adding sugar, makes clearer marmalade. Use a wooden spoon, and don't stir it unnecessarily, boil it steadily, and skim it often to keep it clear.

### THE PECTIN TEST ("Woman's Weekly").

Place 2 teaspoons of methylated spirit in an egg cup, add 1 teaspoon of boiling liquid. Allow it to remain still for about two minutes. If a thick jelly is formed, marmalade is ready for the addition of sugar or, if testing for jelly, straining.

### BITTER MAMALADE.

Cut up 4 lb. (8 big Seville) oranges into whole thin rings, add 8 pints of water, stand all night. Next day boil half an hour (should weigh 12 lb.). Let it stand overnight. Next day add 12 lb. sugar and boil hard for half an hour. Smaller quantities can be made of course, i.e., 2 Seville oranges, 2 pints water, 3 lb. sugar.

### CARROT AND ORANGE JAM (Economical).

1 carrot, 1 orange, 1 lb. sugar, 1 pint water. Cut the orange up fine, and soak in water overnight. Next day peel the carrot and shred on a grater, add to orange and water. Cook till tender 1 to 1½ hours, add the sugar, and cook till it sets.

### FOUR-FRUIT MARMALADE.

1 large grape fruit, 1 orange, 1 lemon, 1 apple. Peel and core apple, cut citrus fruit in half, and squeeze out juice. Then put apple and citrus skins through the mincer, mix with juice, add three times the measure of water, and stand overnight. Next day boil till tender (or use pectin test). Measure again and add equal parts of sugar. Boil until it jells (from ¾ to an hour).

### LOOK WIDE.

There is a romance surrounding playing cards just as there is a romantic story to be found surrounding the majority of things which we are apt to take for granted. To Italy we owe the modern pack of cards, complete with its suits and meanings. The first suits were supposed to represent the different classes of society; for instance, cups and chalices meant the ecclesiastics or rulers, while swords were the emblems of the warriors, money of the commercial classes, and clubs of the peasantry.

The game moved from Italy to Spain, then to Germany, before finally reaching France, where the designs were made simpler without entirely sacrificing the meanings. Hearts took the place of cups, pikes became symbols for swords, and "carreau"—a paving tile—was used in place of money, while they had the clover leaf for the club. Naturally, from the head of a pike to the spade of to-day is but a short step, but in those days the meaning of the third suit had no connection with the shape of the design. For instance, the first diamond was a square coin, and only by the use of cards did it eventually come into the shape of this famous stone.

Queens were not always in use in playing packs, in fact in the majority of early packs they were missing. Spain never had queens, neither were there any in the German packs, but in France—ever a chivalrous nation, les dames were introduced, although not called queens. The order, however, was the same as to-day, for the lady followed the king, and the valet followed the lady. France since those early days has made very little change in the manufacture of her playing cards, and although we have modelled our court cards exactly on the French model, we have really ignored the significance of the particular cards. To understand this we shall have to consult the French pack, in which hearts is the chief suit, and the king of hearts the chief card.

It is the imposing monarch Charlemagne, the mighty king of the eighth century, who is represented on playing cards to-day. His queen, Judith, it was so related in the Apocrypha, slew the Assyrian general Holofernes. The valet, or, as we term it to-day, "Jack," was a valet to another great Frenchman, Etienne de Vignoles, known as "La Hire," who became famous as a Gascon warrior.

The slayer of Goliath, David, became the ruler of spades, and Julius Caesar and Alexander the Great became the kings of diamonds and clubs

respectively. Of course, there have been other characters represented—at one time, for instance, Adam was the leader of the hearts—but those others just mentioned were the generally accepted characters. Surely the most sinister card in the pack in those olden days was the knave of diamonds, and in olden packs this character was always being changed. In the English packs of 1730 he was represented by the highwayman, Jack Sheppard, while the knave of clubs was supposed to be Sir Lancelot of the Lake in France—who is really the French patron of sport.

### WARRANTS AND REGISTRATIONS.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER. — Oakleigh and Murrumbeena.—Mrs. H. R. Potter, 371 Neerim Rd., Murrumbeena, S.E.9. Seymour: Mrs. Maddern, St. Buryan, Goulburn St., Seymour.

BROWN OWL. — 1st Hartwell Pack: Miss L. Kipping.

TAWNY OWL — 1st Hartwell Pack: Miss L. Thomas.

GUIDE CAPTAINS — 5th Caulfield, Miss D. Smith; 1st Clunes, Miss J. M. Luff; 16th Geelong, Miss E. M. Woods; 1st Hawthorn, Miss S. Richardson; 1st Nhill, Miss C. Fischer; 1st Pomorneit North, Miss Elva Hill; 7th Prahran, Miss N. Pilkington; 1st Victorian Post Co., Miss E. Couch.

GUIDE LIEUTENANTS—6th Camberwell, Miss P. Shilcock; 5th Caulfield, Miss B. Witts; 8th Geelong, Miss M. Taylor; 16th Geelong, Miss M. W. Woods; 1st Rupanyup, Miss G. Powell; 1st Terang, Miss J. Fagan.

RANGER CAPTAIN—3a Geelong Rangers, Miss Ruth Purnell.

CANCELLATIONS—Mrs. Farran, District Commissioner, Rutherglen; Miss Margery Bucknall, Tawny Owl, 1st Carisbrook; Miss Margery Bucknall, Lieutenant, 1st Carisbrook; Miss Elva Hill, Lieutenant, 1st Pomorneit North; Miss Margery Young, Captain, 1st East Melbourne Rangers.

"Talents are nurtured best in solitude,  
But character on life's tempestuous sea."

—Goethe.

# CAMPING and TRAINING

## Pioneer Camp.

In May issue we talked of choosing and chopping fuel for your fire. Have you tried all the different kinds of fires? The Girl Scout Handbook gives sketches of hunter's fire, fire-in-a-hole, and imu; flat-stone cooking; and criss-cross lay (not quite the same as cob-house fire) for a camp fire. Try these while the weather is still cold—it will be too late if you leave it till the dry summer when open fires are unsafe, and prohibited in many areas. If you want real adventure, try some of the ovens pictured on page 324 of the Girl Scout Handbook.

The Pioneer Camp will be held next Easter at the Guide House. It will be a real Pioneer Camp. Patrols will be entirely self-contained and responsible for their own small camps. Please be certain to tell your Patrol Leaders and Guides about it. If any companies or districts would like further help, please write to the Hon. Camping Secretary, Miss V. Harrison, 126 High St. Glen Iris, S.E.6. We would like to hear from companies preparing on these lines. Let us know if some of your Guides are hoping to come to the camp. We would be glad to hear what you are doing. Your ideas might be a help to others.

## Trainings.

The following classes have been arranged and will be held at the Guide Office unless otherwise stated:—

**BROWNIE CLASSES**, Wednesday evening, 8 p.m., commencing 25th September, for six classes. Field Day in connection with course, 26th October. Guider-in-charge, Miss A. Searle.

**GUIDE CLASSES**, Tuesday evenings, 8 p.m., 10th September to 29th October. Field Day, 21st September. Guider-in-charge, Miss M. Hoffmeyer.

These two courses are primarily for elementary training. Sandshoes must be brought. Guiders are asked to be punctual as classes must end punctually. Guiders who have not previously attended Headquarters Training must bring signed nomination forms from the District Commissioners. The fee is 3d. per class.

**COMMISSIONERS' CLASSES**.—Three classes will be held on Thursday mornings at 10.30 a.m. as follows:— 15th August, Tenderfoot Test, games; 22nd August, District Management, Warrants; 29th August, Brownies. The fee will be 3d. class.

**OUTDOOR TRAINING**.— 14th September, at Blackburn. Guiders will catch 2 p.m. train, or, if this is altered, the nearest train to this time. The programme will consist of 1st Class Hiking, Distances, Heights.

12th October, place to be announced later. The programme will consist of refresher training in Stalking, Tracking and Adventure Games.

Guiders who wish to attend the Outdoor Trainings are asked to notify Miss B. Macartney at the Guide Office, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, C.I., not later than a week beforehand.

**SUMMER TRAINING WEEK**.— Preliminary notice is given that if there are sufficient applications a Training Week will be held at the Guide House next summer, from 27th December, 1940, to 4th January, 1941. Fee, 30/-.

**WOODCRAFT WEEK**.— Under canvas at the Guide House, 31st August to 7th September. fee 30/-. Late applications should be sent to Miss B. Macartney at the Guide Office at once accompanied by deposit of 5/- and rail fare, if ticket desired, 5/9.

**REFRESHER WEEK-END**.—Will be held at "Gipton," Frankston, under canvas, 5th-6th October, 1940. This was cancelled from 22nd June, fee 3/6. Rail fare to Frankston, 3/- return. Please send application accompanied by a deposit of 2/- to Miss V. Harrison, 126 High St., Glen Iris, S.E.6, before 14th September, 1940. The programme will consist of Wide Games, and general refresher training for the guider who has not attended a training for some time.

## Summer Camp Plans.

It is planned to hold the following Headquarters Camps at the Guide House camp sites next summer:—

**GUIDERS' CAMPCRAFT** for testing Camper's Licenses and giving general campcraft training from 26th December to 3rd January inclusive.

**RANGER COMBINED CAMP** from 26th December to 2nd January inclusive.

**2 GUIDE COMBINED CAMPS** from 3rd-10th January inclusive; and from 11th-18th January inclusive.

Guides applying should be under 15 years on 1st January, 1941, should have one year's Guide service, and preference will be given to second class guides. Applications must be made by captains on the special application forms, which will be available from Miss Harrison after August 15th. No more than six Guides, or five Guides and one Guider may apply from one company.

SUPPLEMENT TO "MATILDA" - August 1940.

G U I D E R S !      S U P P O R T   Y O U R   R E D   C R O S S   C O M P A N Y !

For the FIRST TIME, the Company will have a Stall in the City - on RED CROSS DAY, August 16th.

The notice has been short, and we would be grateful for your help. Useful gifts of any kind would be welcome, especially fruit, vegetables, jam, eggs, butter, flowers, biscuits etc.

DEPOTS: Mrs. Macdonald, 1505 High St., East Malvern S.E.6.  
Miss F. Mitchell, 418 Glenferrie Road, S.E.4.  
Miss C. Rogers, 390 Glenferrie Road, Malvern S.E.4.  
Mrs. Disher, 8 Toorak Road, Camberwell E.6.  
Miss Moore, 44 Parlington St., Canterbury E.7.  
Miss E. Bunning, 15 Kent St., Kew E.4.  
Girl Guide Office, 60 Market St., Melbourne C.1.  
(MARKED "Red Cross Stall").

ALL GOODS to be left at Depots by Thursday, August 15th.,  
or at Stall by 10 a.m. on Friday, 16th.

PLEASE ASK YOUR FRIENDS TO PATRONISE US,

A N D      A L L      C O M E      A N D      B U Y      ! !

M. Moore,  
Superintendent.

G U I D E   W A R   A P P E A L.

On Sunday, August 25th, Mrs. Littlejohn is going to speak over the air about the Guide War Appeal. She will be speaking from 3 L.O. at 4.20 p.m., and though she will be appealing to people outside the Guide Movement, it is felt that many Guides and Brownies might like to hear the latest news of our work.

G U I D E   A I R   A M B U L A N C E   A P P E A L.

The following cable appeared in the HERALD on July 30th, and for those who do not see the HERALD it is re-printed:-  
London, Monday - The gift of two flying ambulances to the Royal Air Force, each costing £7,500 sterling, completes the allocation of the proceeds of the Girl Guide Association Appeal throughout the Empire, which raised £48,000 in three months. Australia contributed £2,132.

The Princess Royal handed over to the R.A.F. the two Oxford Airspeed ambulances, which are miniature hospitals, carrying four casualties.

Other beneficiaries of the appeal are: Royal Navy, which received £11,000 for motor ambulances; the Army, which got £10,000 for rest rooms, and the Y.M.C.A., which received £5,000.

The Girl Guides also gave £5,000 for a life-boat which was taken before it was completed, for use in the evacuation of Dunkirk. It was badly damaged and is now being repaired. In future it is to be called "The Guide of Dunkirk."

**Licensed Guiders' Week-end.**

Last year it was suggested that the Licensed Guiders' Week-end at Cup Week-end should take the form of a Week-end Hiking Camp, not necessarily moving on every night. Will Guiders please let Miss Harrison know whether they think this is a good idea or not, and offer their suggestions?

**Indoor Camp Test—Pack Holiday Permit—Camp First Aid Test—Quartermaster Certificate.**

Will Guiders and Rangers who are qualified and who wish to train for the above certificates please let Miss Harrison know by 15th August, and classes will be arranged. Please be sure to state which nights you cannot possibly attend.

**New Campers!**

Special week-ends to give you a taste of camping will be held at Gipton, Frankston, 28th September and 26th October. Fee, 3/6 each week-end plus rail fare, 3/- return. Please apply to Miss Harrison for the first week-end *not later than 7th September*, and send 2/- deposit. Deposit will not be refunded if withdrawal is made after 14th September.

**Challenge to Guiders.**

If you do not get the "Guider" yourself you will be able to borrow a copy from someone in your district. Set II, section (1) (2) (3) (4) will be found on page 89 of the April "Guider." The only difference for Victoria is that you must send in your answers to Set II to the Challenge Secretary by 15th September

ELAINE MORAN.

**THE GUIDE HOUSE.**

The Guide House Furnishing Committee has been very silent lately, but remembering the jolly working parties we had during the painting period, we should like to ask for some further help.

The Guide House mattresses, some of which are showing definite signs of wear, are needing protective covers; this applies also to the pillows. We thought that unbleached calico slips for both mattresses and pillows would

be best, as they could be washed periodically. It would be very helpful if any companies could offer to make these for us.

We also find that the verandah beds, even those which are brought indoors between camps, should have covers to prevent rust marks from the wire getting on to the mattresses. Hessian was suggested, firmly bound and with good ties to fix them to the bedsteads. Could anyone make these for us as a good turn?

If you could not offer to do the work, would you like to contribute towards the cost of the materials? It will probably be more economical to buy all the material in one lot.

It has been proposed that we should, in the spring, organise a housekeeping bee, to give a special cleaning to the Guide House; jobs would include washing and mending and polishing and sorting and counting and marking and scrubbing (the plain wooden chairs—not the floors!), and it should be great fun. Do you like the idea? If so, you will see further details in a later "Matilda."

LEURA M. ANDREWS.

**WORKING BEES.**

It has been arranged that notification be given of working bees two or three months ahead so that people who might like to go

"Quality you can TASTE!"

**BROCKHOFF'S**

"Oven-crisp" **BISCUITS**

5. 82G

and help can save up their money for one of these week-ends. There is always plenty of work to do at the Guide House, whether it be digging, hoeing, planting lawns, and other more uninteresting but very necessary things, such as weeding, chopping out bayonet grass, blackberries and other things which are nuisances. There may also be bricklaying to be done, and much successful work has been done already by Rangers, who started as amateurs and are now almost professional!

On August 10th and 11th a working bee will be held mainly for planting wild flowers, shrubs, and trees which were asked for in July "Matilda." We hope to get a good response from this request in July, and we hope that maybe the people who wish to work would bring contributions of wild plants with them. September 21st and 22nd is the beginning of spring, and things are beginning to grow, and there is more work to be done, so that is the date of the next week-end, and this will be followed by October 26th and 27th.

Would applicants who wish to have the fun of working at the Guide House please send their applications to Miss Broadhurst, Girl Guides' Association, 60 Market Street, and all acceptances for this week-end will be taken in

order of application. The cost, counting train and bus fare, will not be more than 10/-.

CLARA BROADHURST.

### THE WOMEN BEHIND THE MEN IN WAR TIME.

The Girl Guides' Association, which has co-operated with the Y.W.C.A. for many years and has received much help from them, is represented by Mrs. Faulkner on a Y.W.C.A. Appeal Committee, which Lady Gowrie has launched with the object of collecting £5000 from Australia to provide five centres in England for uniformed women, women in munition factories, and young people facing the present crisis. Great Britain has appealed for this help owing to the impossibility of money-making efforts there at this time, and because they need to replace the huts and equipment lost in Belgium and France.

Victoria has undertaken to raise £3000 (Australian money) as quickly as possible. All women's associations have been asked for their help in this urgent appeal. Any of our members who would like to contribute through the Girl Guides' Association can do so by leaving contributions at the Girl Guide office addressed to Mrs. Faulkner. —M.E.B.

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