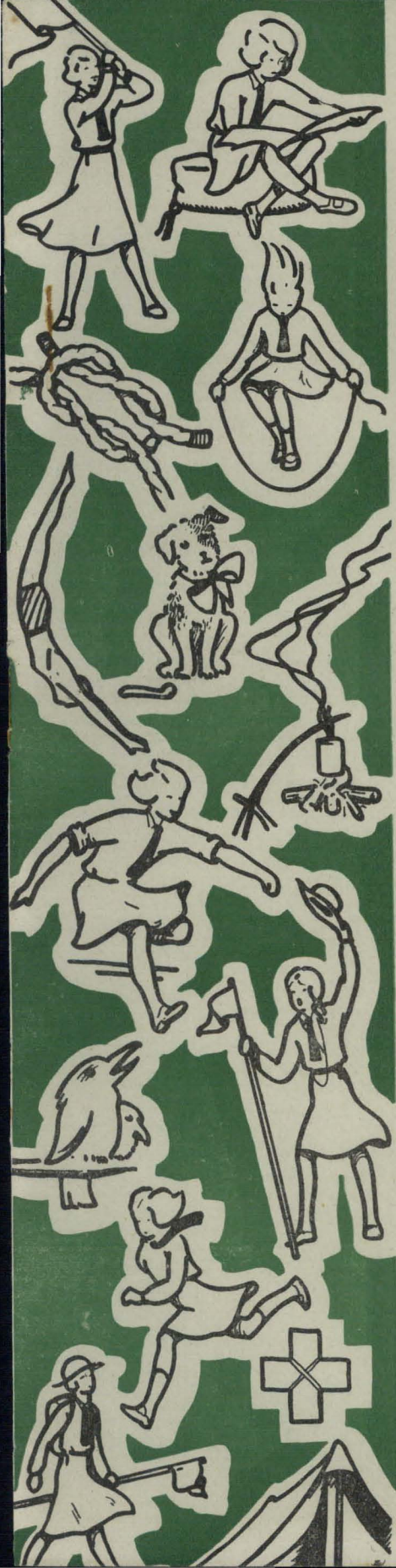


*Maude Bush.*

# Matilda

JANUARY, 1941.



### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Girl Guides' Association, Victoria, held at the Guide Office on 20th November, 1940:—

Present.—Lady Chauvel, Mesdames Faulkner, Blackwood and Tate, and Misses Cameron, Drury, Harrison, Lascelles, Moran, Purnell, Ritchie, Swinburne and the Secretary.

#### Agreed:

That the annual balance sheet for the year ended 30th September, 1940, be accepted.

That next year reminders should be sent out about the levy and annual donations.

That in future a list of subscriptions for "Matilda" should be published each month, and receipts should not be sent unless a stamped addressed envelope were enclosed.

That a new typewriter should be purchased for the office.

That an experiment of clearing the water in the swimming pool by the alum solution method should be made.

That Lady Chauvel and the Secretary should attend a meeting to be held to discuss future plans for carrying on the work in connection with the Hong Kong visitors.

#### Reported:

That £27 had been received for the Caretaker's Cottage since last meeting.

That Mr. Hamer had made various suggestions in reference to the proposed alterations to the Constitution.

That Dr. McFarland had consented to propose the adoption of the annual report at the annual meeting, that Sir Harry Lawson would propose the adoption of the balance sheet.

That plans were being made for the party to be held at Miss Poolman's on 7th December.

That a letter of thanks had been received from Mrs. Orr, for the Executive's message on the birth of her son.

That a letter had been received from Mrs. Knight saying that the election of office-bearers to the Guiders' Committee had been postponed

until the next meeting on 7th February. The Committee had appointed Miss Harrison to continue as Guiders' representative on the Executive Committee until area representatives had been appointed.

That a letter had been received from Lady Clarendon, the new Overseas Commissioner, thanking the Association for further cases of clothing.

That a beam wireless had been received from Mrs. Marsham, Chairman of the Imperial Executive Committee, acknowledging 24 cases of clothing.

That a letter had been received from Mrs. Stanley Elder, acting President of the Children's Hospital Auxiliary, expressing appreciation of the work done by Guides and Guiders in helping to sort waste paper, and asking for further support from the Association in sorting silver paper at the Central Depot.

Routine and financial business was transacted.

M. E. BUSH, State Secretary.

### WARRANTS AND REGISTRATIONS.

#### Captain.

1st Strath Creek, Miss D. J. Lade; 1st Albert Park, Miss L. Brand; 1st Fairfield, Miss N. Bryant; 1st South Melbourne, Miss M. Newell; 1st Gardenvale, Miss A. E. Warr; 13b Geelong, Miss V. Holden; 1st Heidelberg, Miss N. V. Walters; Carrajung South, Miss P. McIntyre.

#### Lieutenant.

1st Croydon, Miss R. Crapper; 1st Hartwell, Miss L. Nelson; 2nd Hawthorn, Miss W. Anand.

#### Packs.

1st Newport; 1st Red Cliffs; 9a Hawthorn; 1st Seymour.

### CANCELLATIONS.

#### Captain.

1st Stawell, Miss M. Long.

# "Matilda"

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

Price: 3/- Per Year; 4/- Posted. Single Copies, 6d. each.

Editor: E. H. PURNELL, 10 Hermitage Road, Geelong.

Contributions should reach the Editor not later than the 18th of each month.

VOL. XVII.

JANUARY, 1941.

No. 6.

## NEW YEAR GREETINGS FROM THE STATE COMMISSIONER.

"Matilda's" January issue gives me an opportunity to send you a New Year's message. In wartime, one's thoughts go first to one's country and next to one's friends, and I do want to send you all my most sincere good wishes for the coming year.

I think that we can look back on a year of satisfactory Guide work, but now is the time of good resolutions, so let us resolve that this will be a better year still for our Companies and Packs, and for whatever war work we are doing.

With regard to the latter, I have this morning (16th December) read in the paper that a number of newly-arrived cases of clothing, which we have sent to England have been distributed between London, Manchester, Bristol, Southampton, North Shields, and Merthyr Tydvil. Most of these towns, as you have seen in the papers, have been badly bombed. It is a great thing to know that our Guide war work has been able to help substantially at a time when this help was so desperately needed. I hope that during the coming year we will be able to continue and to increase the supply.

Again, good wishes to you all.

*Sibyl Chauvel*

## EDITORIAL.

An Old Guide paid a very beautiful tribute to her brother who died recently. "He was always so interested in YOU, in what you were thinking and doing." And because such interest is rare, it strikes one very forcibly.

So much of our Guide training aims at making us more observant—recognise twelve living things, discover something of interest, know how to stalk and track—all of which help us to have eyes that see, not only the beauty and wonder of nature, but also to really see the people we are with, so that we become aware of their interests, their needs, their joys and their sorrows.

These days are crowded with the many things that must be done, and it is so easy to be overwhelmed by things—that loose term which embraces so much; and because of our absorption in them we often neglect the biggest opportunities for service, one, too, that takes no additional toll of our time, namely,

just being genuinely interested in the people we are with at home, at work, and at play.

The year 1941 is here, and is going to ask much of us. Let us beware of the little hindrances, and pray to be kept from the slackness of indifference and a thoughtless disregard for others.

EDITOR.

## ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Girl Guides' Association, Victoria, was held at the Guide Office on 27th November, 1940, in the presence of Lady Dugan, State President. Lady Chauvel, State Commissioner, took the chair, and the meeting was attended by about 120 members and subscribers.

Lady Dugan congratulated the Association on its fine and constructive work during the year, and particularly on the splendid war effort. Lady Dugan thanked all those who had helped, including the friends outside the Movement.

In giving her good wishes to all members of the Association, Lady Dugan expressed her willingness to give every assistance during the coming year.

Lady Chauvel, in expressing our thanks and appreciation to Lady Dugan, referred specially to the interest which Lady Dugan shows in the Guides and Brownies in the country, and the pleasure it gives to them to be visited by their State President.

In moving the adoption of the annual report, Dr. Margaret McFarland referred to the fact that the Guide Movement is working for the same aims as the Kindergartens, and made a special plea for more Brownie Packs to be formed in crowded industrial areas.

Miss C. Duncan seconded the resolution.

The balance sheet was presented by Mr. Harvie, in the absence of Mr. Treloar, and its adoption was proposed by Sir Harry Lawson and seconded by Mrs. F. W. Head.

A vote of thanks to the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Auditor, and the Honorary Legal Adviser was proposed by Mrs. Faulkner and seconded by Mrs. Blackwood.

Miss J. Macdonald gave a talk on her recent experiences in connection with the evacuation of children from London, and with children on the voyage from England.

A vote of thanks to the speakers was proposed by Miss Swinburne, seconded by Mrs. Edmondson.

### GUIDE WAR APPEAL.

The whole of the Guide War Appeal is to close from 20th December till 6th January, but on 6th January and every Monday and Thursday during January, the fourth floor despatch room will be open at the usual hours, and packing will be continued.

On Monday, 3rd February, all sections of the War Appeal will reopen.

We have been busier than usual during December, and when we close for the holidays we should have approximately £685 worth of materials on hand and a very satisfactory balance in the bank.

Guide Districts have been wonderfully good in their efforts to raise money during the past few weeks, and the efforts of at least two individuals are surely worthy of mention.

Miss Judith North, aged eight, held a bazaar at her home instead of a birthday party, and the nett result for the War Appeal funds was £12/17/11.

Major C. O. Fairbairn instructed Dalgety & Co. to credit us with the sum raised by the sale of a truck of Banongill cattle, and that cheque was received on Friday, 13th December. It amounted to £148/14/4. Who says that Friday, 13th, is unlucky?—P. M. Russell.

### CONFERENCE OF BADGE SECRETARIES AND EXAMINERS.

The fourth Conference of Badge Secretaries and Examiners was held at Guide Headquarters on the evening of 24th October, 1940.

In opening the Conference, the Chairwoman said: At a previous Conference the objectives of Badge work were given as character training; general usefulness; finding a possible vocation; hobbies for leisure. Now we feel that the emphasis is on character training and general usefulness: the basis of general usefulness is practical knowledge and this cannot be too emphatically stressed.

Since the outbreak of war wherever there are Guides the value of Guide training has been proved over and over again. Proficiency Badges form a very definite part in Guide training, showing how important and necessary it is that the preparation and testing for badges should be carried out so that the Guide will gain the utmost from them. It is so easy to ask theoretical questions and not find out just how much practical knowledge the Guide has; e.g., Child Nurse, has she bathed a child? Sick Nurse, has she really made a bed with a patient in it? So often in P.O. and R. it says: "Have a practical knowledge," and that means doing things. The examiner can find out by any means she likes what the Guide has done and whether she can do the things required.

Questions were then asked on various Badges, such as Artist, Minstrel Singers and Badges covered by school work. Queries and answers on these questions can be obtained, if

desired, from a more detailed report.

Difficulties with regard to the Child Nurse Badge were discussed. Guides need help when preparing for this Badge, and must have experience with children. The last section, mending and washing of children's clothes, must not be forgotten, and samples of work done must be brought to the test. In the past, Baby Health Centres have been very helpful by both preparing and testing Guides for this Badge. It was felt that kindergarten graduates might be willing to help with this Badge.

Since the Conference, a consultation has been held with the Principal-elect of the Kindergarten College who is willing to provide examiners where needed. (Applications to be made through the Commissioner for Tests and Badges.)

How the Guide could obtain practical experience was discussed and suggestions made were: Visits to the Kindergarten Holiday Home and to get in touch with Leaders of Play Centres.

It was agreed by several examiners present that the possession of a school certificate for cooking did not necessarily mean a practical knowledge of cooking unless the certificate has been obtained recently. This certificate covers the Guide Badge with the exception of use of the hay box. It is necessary for the Guide to have a simple knowledge of food values as stated in P.O. and R. This section was sometimes forgotten.

It was decided recipes could be used at the test, but certain basic principles should be known from memory.

In regard to testing for Secretary Badge (Ranger) it was asked if the examiner must be an accountant, but it was agreed that a trained bookkeeper was sufficient. It was emphasised that a knowledge of making a profit and loss account was required, not merely a balance sheet.—M. Moore.

### DISTRICT NEWS.

#### Rally Held at Dimboola.

In ideal weather on Saturday, 14th December, the Western Wimmera Division of the Girl Guides held a field day at the Dimboola Park, when 85 Guides, together with 11 Guiders, joined in the activities. Companies represented were Horsham (1st and 2nd Companies, 1st Horsham Brownie Pack), Nhill, Hopetoun and Dimboola.

On arrival at the park at 10.30 a.m., the Guides assembled and sang the National Anthem. This was followed by a march past, the salute being taken by Mrs. A. C. Bennett (Division Commissioner), Mrs. L. D. Taylor (District Commissioner), and the Commissioner from Hopetoun (Mrs. John Roberts). The Guides were then drafted into Patrols and enjoyed lunch.

An inter-Company sports programme was provided, the pennant being won by the Horsham 1st Company. The points were as fol-

lows:—Horsham 1st, 17; Horsham 2nd, 14; Nhill, 10; Hopetoun, 7; Dimboola, 6.

Afternoon tea was enjoyed and each Company sang a short Guide song in turn. The neatest camp fire was provided by a Patrol led by Patsy Capp, of Dimboola.

The Guides wish to thank the Local Association and Boy Scouts for their assistance in the arrangements, also Mrs. L. T. Fitzgerald for assisting in the judging.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR GUIDE WAR APPEAL.

Being inspired by the account of Skipton's Penny Party, 3a Ranger Co., Geelong, decided that their Xmas Party should be run on similar lines.

The Rangers decorated the room with Xmas favours. The main decoration was a large Christmas tree, and on this all the gifts were tied in red and blue paper, the red parcels were sold for a penny and the blue for threepence.

Penny cakes, drinks and jellies were sold at one stall, and penny sweets at another.

A bull-board was a big attraction, a penny a shot, and a life-size painting of a Guide on which you tried to pin a badge was very popular. Organised games were played in another room with groups of children.

Finally, when all the pennies were spent, we sang Christmas carols, hoping we would send everyone home with as peaceful a Christmas spirit as possible.

As a result of this small effort, £4/11/6 was handed to the District Secretary to buy wool.

### WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO CHILDREN IF HITLER WON.

(From the Department of Information, broadcast by Mary Grant Bruce)

Throughout Germany Hitler takes the children as his partners in a great plan. From five years old he tells them that service to Germany is all that matters to a German; that they only count in so far as they do their utmost for Germany. At once it's made attractive for them. There are flags, bands, marches, jolly games, all planned carefully by psychological experts to develop the child in the right way.

Even in those baby years, those exercises that are made so delightful, teach disciplined movements and preparation for war. War is taught them as a mental and bodily ideal. Their minds are soaked with the conviction of German greatness, Germany's future as world conqueror. They are taught to despise any creed that gives liberty and equality to all. "You are to be the conquerors," they are told. "You must make yourselves fit to be conquerors."

Throughout school years this ideal is never allowed to slacken for German boys and girls. It is so presented that they themselves WANT

it, and will make their own efforts to attain it. You have won your battle with a child when you reach that point. The boy has begun to be a National-Socialist, his chief aims, war and pride and intolerance. The girl is apt to become even more fanatically National-Socialist. Inwardly she rebels against the hard fact that she cannot be a soldier; very well then, she will make herself as much of an Amazon as she can, working for every party effort. Then the Fuhrer will be pleased with her and although no little Nazi is encouraged to think about pleasing God, every little Nazi knows well that the only safe course in life, the only course made pleasant, is to please the Fuhrer.

To a free and democratic people all this sounds a disgusting policy. But face another fact. Nazism has so regimented its adherents that they have reversed old standards of values. What seems to us beyond all question evil, is not evil to them; it is good. They honestly believe that theirs is the policy that is best for the world, and they are fighting and going hungry because they believe they can enforce it on the world.

It's worse than useless for us to ignore this, to shrug our shoulders in pity or disgust for people so mistaken. It's criminal folly to imagine that "it can't happen here." France said that—and Norway—and other countries. They all know better now. They learned their lesson in blood and tears.

For what happens when Hitler conquers a country? There is a period of intense suffering and privation, during which many people die. The weaker children die in large numbers for lack of nourishment. That suits Hitler well; he needs all the children he can muster, but he has no use for weaklings—let the weaklings die. No cry of a stricken mother ever touched the heart of the Dictator.

That first period over, the work of reorganisation begins, and one of the first steps concerns the children. Educational systems are revised. National-Socialist teachers are appointed to every school—never selected because of scholarship, but because of proved efficiency as members of the Party. Children are fed, because they are Hitler's new acquisition of capital, not to be wasted. The iron grip of Nazi discipline closes upon them.

It is not made unpleasant for them—better if it WERE made unpleasant. But the Nazis are too clever for that. They plan for the future. Older people may be sent to concentration camps or left to endure life under the heel of the victors, but the children are important.

They are the material needed for fighting and working in the future, for further conquests.

And how pitifully vulnerable are the minds of young children. How easy it is to discredit for them all their parents once taught them, to give them new standards of conduct and of life. In that, the Nazi technique is masterly, and it is being applied now to children of conquered countries. It will be applied everywhere—if Hitler wins. Think hard on these things, you fathers and mothers who love your children. Don't put it aside as a danger re-

mote from you—danger has a way nowadays of coming nearer with terrible swiftness. Give—and fight—and work, to destroy that tide of conquest. You can take chances for yourselves—you dare not take chances for the souls of your children.

### LIGHTS OVER THE WORLD.

#### FROM THE COUNCIL FIRE

(By Katharine Furse)

When the war began in 1914, Lord Grey, who was the Foreign Minister in Great Britain, said: "The lamps are going out all over Europe; we shall not see them again in our lifetime."

And then after the war many of us thought that the lamps had been re-lit in the League of Nations, and in what seemed to us to be a universal and fundamental desire for peace.

Now the lights which are under human control are out again in those countries which are again at war. We are facing a human black-out every night, but this does not mean that God's lights are out.

In a train lately a woman said to me that she had not realised before how the stars could light up the sea. Our streets, too, have been lit on clear nights by the most marvellous display of planets and stars, and the moon seems to shine more calmly and more brightly than ever before. Possibly God's light may be used to guide the machines of destruction, but they can never be wholly connected with this in our minds. In the country we are accustomed to walk without artificial light, and find our way in spite of the darkness. So let it be in our hearts.

We are feeling the suffering of humanity acutely; we know that it is more general and as intense as suffering has ever been before. We appreciate that those of us who are spared have great responsibilities to carry for those who are suffering, and we try not to be selfish. We believe that the lights will shine again in Europe, and we hope that those lit by human hand may, in the future, be less garish than they have been in the last few years.

We are becoming more conscious of the need for Spiritual Light, and our faith is that our world movement may help to kindle this in the hearts of all those who have accepted the fellowship.

The sun shines by day and the moon, planets and stars by night equally on all parts of the world and on the children of all creeds and races without distinction. The fact that children are suffering in many countries will draw us closer together and even more altruistically for their protection in the future.

### 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 at 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 have you 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 Guides 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 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.")

### THE WANDERINGS OF HORACE.

Horace has been on the warpath again—the warpath of effort to spread understanding and peace, sound training and good citizenship, through the medium of the Girl Guide Movement.

Perhaps you may remember that, last year, a certain Divisional Commissioner wanted to extend and consolidate Guiding in her Division, so Horace was bought and a Guider drove him here and there, up and down, through rain and flood, trying to turn that Commissioner's vision into facts. One facet of the vision is very interesting, because she foresaw that children from England might be coming here, she wanted to have Guiding—one familiar thing in a strange land—ready for them; and here they come.

Do we, as Guiders, realise what thought and care our Commissioners put into the successful running of our Companies and Packs? Because they do not share with us the weekly round of work and fun—and I grant you there is work, but isn't there always work attached to anything that is worth while? Do we sometimes think that they had all the fun and glory and none of the work? I suggest that you think again if you feel like that.

Seeing the Companies again this year was tremendously interesting—a sort of tying up and finishing off the threads that had been spun on the previous visit. Companies that had been already established showed definite signs of progress—Captains and Brown Owls were being tested for warrants, Guides were crying out for Second Class testing, and many were the busy days spent out in green paddocks, stalking, tracking, signalling, knotting, lighting fires in gusty winds! So MANY were the questions asked by the Guiders, all of whom were just beginning to realise the things they wanted to know. Probably all the questions had been talked about last year—but there was so much to absorb them then, that finer points were quite an impossibility.

Oh, you Guiders who live in the cities, have you any idea of the problems of the country? If a difficulty crops up, YOU ring up your Commissioner or Headquarters and it is fixed in no time. If you feel rusty, you go to a training class. If in need of a training week or camp, it costs you so little to go—even week-ends can be fitted in. BUT—if you are in the country, your Commissioner probably lives 50 miles away—your training has been done by correspondence (a great help, but quite the least exciting way of learning Guiding)—there is no one to ask quickly because no one knows any more than you do! You have never seen a Company meeting run, and you just use your imagination and do your best—and the exciting thing is, WHAT a best it very often is. Allowing for the differences of environment and personality, it is ASTONISHING how the spirit of Guiding triumphs over all obstacles. Well, your Com-

missioner knows of your troubles, so she does her best to bring training and practical help to you.

One of the most delightful Companies I know, consists of eight Guides—there may be three or four more now, who "dink" on bicycle or pony about four miles—and two very new and young Guiders. They meet in a paddock, and the Golf Club has given them the right to use their tiny clubhouse, should the weather be unpropitious. Last year the Guiders were found and trained, one meeting was held with the prospective Guides, and now they are all in uniform, doing Roll Call Drill and having First Aid and Relay Races with the best of them. Such a pile of wool had come from Headquarters to be knitted up, too, the last time I was there. I expect to see First Class Guides in that Company one of these days.

A Divisional Training Class is a joyous affair, and great is the contriving of the Guiders to attend. Transport is the difficulty, but this is invariably overcome, and members of the hostess Local Association give warm hospitality to the faraway ones. This is the only chance the Guiders have of mixing with others and losing the isolated feeling that can come when you are tucked away in the hills and the only uniforms you ever see are your own. It is not always easy to believe that you are a part of a big world-wide Movement, with a wide, deep aim at the back of its activities, when you just seem to be having fun cooking chops on the creek at the foot of Lieutenant's hill. The problem of cows to be milked and distance to be overcome are very real in the country.

Stick to it, you Captains and Brown Owls of the open spaces—you Lieutenants and Tawnies who are the backbone of the Companies and Packs. Your Guiding is not easy to come by, but the real Guide spirit is in you—the pioneering spirit of your grandparents that overcome endless, enormous difficulties. You are giving your Guides and Brownies something strong and steady, something with a high ideal to reach out to, in a time when ideals seem to be crashing about us. You are building better than you know—so stick to it.—M. Hoffmeyer.

### MORE ABOUT WOOLLY ANIMALS.

(From "The Guider", January, 1923.)

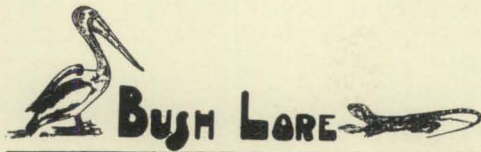
The rabbits are made with two pairs of cardboard shapes, oval for body,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches x 3 inches, hole,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches x  $\frac{6}{8}$ th inch. Circle for head, 2 inches, hole in centre,  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch. The winding is more complicated for these, as they are done in two colours, grey and white, or blue and white; a little pink wool will also be required for the nose. Commence with the body, half of which is wound in white, and half in colour: clip into shape of rabbit's body. For the head take the pink wool, wind about

14 strands in one place on the shape, then join on the coloured wool, and wind one or two thicknesses right round the shape, then join on the white wool and wind until the hole in centre is nearly filled up; fill this in completely with the coloured wool. Clip round and tie as for the chick, and clip into the shape of a rabbit's head by cutting away at each side. For the ears take the coloured wool, crochet 14 chain and work 11 treble, in chain, 3 treble in last stitch, 11 treble down other side of chain, work 1 treble into each stitch until correct size is reached, fasten off ends, thread a piece of fine wire and run it round the outer edge of ear, draw the ends of wire through the head, twist them, cut fairly short, and push well up into the head. Sew the head firmly on to the body. For the feet wind the coloured wool 30 times round four fingers, tie firmly in centre, bend over and tie again and cut, so it forms a short tassel, leave a long end; make two feet coloured and two white; the tail is made in the same way, also in white. Sew in the two coloured feet as fore feet, and the white as hind feet, also sew the tail into position: these will require a little clipping into shape. Sew two boot buttons in for eyes and your bunny rabbit is complete. Baby rabbits are made in the same way, smaller eyes will be required for these. Measurement for body: 3 inches x 2 inches, hole in centre, 1 inch x  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch: head,  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch circle, hole in centre,  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch. The family of rabbits, mother bunny and two babies are an exceptionally good selling line, especially if packed in a brightly covered box.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

#### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Adventuring," South Australia.  
 "Bandeirantes," Brazil.  
 "Girl Guide Courier," Western Australia.  
 "The Council Fire."  
 "The Waratah," New South Wales.



Editor: Elsie Sydes.

Our grateful thanks go to Miss Watson for taking charge of this column during Miss Syde's absence. Bush Lore has been much enjoyed and we thank Miss Watson very much for all the helpful information she gave us.

EDITOR.

"This instinct for a free life in the open is as natural and wholesome as the gratification

of hunger and thirst and love. It is Nature's recall to the simple mode of existence that she intended us for."

—"Camping and Woodcraft," by Kephart.

And so "Good Camping and Good Luck" for the New Year.

#### BIRD OF THE MONTH

##### Sacred Kingfisher

We are very lucky in Australia with our birds—the variety is wide, the colouring magnificent, the singing enchanting and many birds are most remarkable in their habits. The kingfisher is one that is particularly well represented. And what a beauty he is! No Guide seeing him skim gracefully by, the sunlight glancing on his shining back of greenish-blue could fail to be excited. He is one of those beautiful birds one dreams about only this time he is very real. His shining back and head are separated by a collar of a whitish colour which adds to his beauty and underneath he is a creamy colour. The Guides will pick out his big bill and his shortish tail, quite readily and you can tell them that the former helps him to catch the small lizards, fish, crabs and food from the water, and the larger insects that he feeds on. You will find him along creeks. Migratory he returns during October in our district, but Cayley gives the return as August or early September and departure March.

Besides the sheen, the big bill, the stump tail which has a habit of being jerked up and down and is held somewhat erect, he is easily identified by the monotonous call—generally four notes then a break then four more with repeated monotony. It is a sort of "jap, jap, jap, jap" (try it when feeling peevish).

I once had the opportunity of photographing a nest—in the bank of a creek and at first the photographer returned the negatives as failures and unprinted. I had them for years and on going through my negatives decided to get them printed at my own risk. The result was quite good, showing the round hole and the white eggs within. The bird had not troubled with a deep and sure refuge like the little pardalote. The entrance opened out almost at once into the domed hollow where lay the four white eggs. One couldn't blame the photographer for not knowing what it was all about!

##### Another Migratory Bird

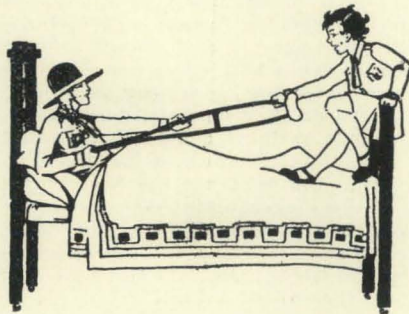
Our old friend the RAINBOW BIRD. I hope people up North are keeping a lookout for this beautiful bird too and his nesting burrow in the sand.

##### A Community Effort.

Do you know that the **white winged choughs** share a nest? In October we went for an early morning walk and saw several of these birds disappear from a tree, they being shy birds. Do you know their peculiar mournful whistle?

Well we thought we heard young birds and there quite close was a large mud bowl placed upon a horizontal forked bough, and that was the choughs' nest. So we sat down behind the only cover—a smallish bush—and waited. We had almost given up in despair when quite silently and gracefully down flew **four** choughs and proceeded in turn to feed the large red mouths that stretched from that nest upon the end of inches of red neck. Great was the noise of the young. This time **three** choughs departed to forage and the fourth settled upon the babies, for the morning was windy and besides there was a hawk screeching wheeling quite near.

These birds are most interesting and entertaining to watch, but you would want to be by yourself or with one or two companions well trained in keeping silence in the bush, for they are up and away as soon as they see or hear an approach.



Editor: Sydney Foott.

### CAMPS.

This seems to have been a round of gaiety. The Commissioner for Extensions and the Assistant Commissioner have been to so many parties and there are more to come before Christmas.

The 6th Post Guides had a very exciting birthday party, at which most of the Company were present, and they had a beautiful birthday cake with mauve decorations—their Company colours. They played various riotous games, including balloon football and "hot coppers," and also had a presentation of service stars and proficiency badges. The badges included needlewoman's and clerk's.

The 1st Post Guides are to hold their fourteenth birthday on 14th December—in Fitzroy Gardens if it is fine, and indoors if not! It is a great excitement to think that a Post Guide Company has attained this ripe old age!

The 5th Post Rangers held a party and raised the sum of 12/7 for the Berry Street Foundling Home.

### Old Guides.

It has definitely been decided that the Extension Branch will form an "Old Guides' Circle," which will be attached to the Old

Guides of 3rd Melbourne Rangers, and thus will be linked up with both Extensions and Rangers.

### Camp.

Plans for the Guide Camp (1st and 6th Posts) at the Craft Hostel go forward most excitingly. Incidentally, the V.S.C.C. has most kindly lent the ambulance for transport at both the Guide camp and the Ranger week-end.

Talking of the Ranger week-end, this is now definitely decided upon for the long Foundation Day week-end in January, and Miss Jess MacDonald, who was captain of 1st Post Guides, is to be the Commandant. The fee will be 12/6, inclusive of fares, but the numbers are unfortunately limited, owing to the number of beds in the house!

The answer to this, of course, is APPLY EARLY. It will be the early bird who catches this worm—or rather, who has the opportunity of watching the kookaburras catching worms on the campsite in front of the house! By the way (and this has simply nothing to do with Extension notes!), did you know that kookaburras BOUNCE along when on the ground—neither walking nor hopping but bouncing like a soft brown rubber ball.

### Uniforms.

It may rather have sounded from the opening of these notes that the C. for E. and the A.C. have nothing to do but attend parties—not at all, they spent a very busy evening sorting out uniforms and classifying them as fit for people in chairs or prams, and those suitable for ambulatory people. There seems to be a great proportion of uniforms of the "length 48 inches, bust 48 inches" type—so if anyone has a uniform of the less heroic type of stature to give away, we should be very glad of it. The Guides could be fed up to fill the uniforms, but this presents some difficulties.

### Christmas Presents.

Perhaps everyone in the Guiding world has decided against Christmas presents—or perhaps it's just being kept as a lovely surprise. But so far no one has come forward with the Christmas present of a Guide or Ranger Captain for which we so hopefully appealed in last month's "Matilda." Another thought—perhaps you are being Scotch, and keeping it for the New Year! Thank you.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Jan. 6.—Guide Office opens.

Feb. 22.—Thinking Day.

Feb. 22.—Working Bee, Guide House.

# BROWNIES.

(Editor: Margaret Heseltine.)

All good wishes to you, and may the year be full of good things for you and your Packs.

Here is a list of suggestions from Miss V. Rhys Davids, Great Brown Owl, as printed in "The Guider" a few years ago, to give you fresh ideas.

Some things to do in 1941:—

1. Make an Owl's book. Scraps of information about children, articles, poems and songs. Ideas about games and test work. Plays found successful, also stories, anything to help you when you re-read it at some future date, in fact an Owl's collection.

2. Re-read the Handbook.

3. Visit at least two other Packs.

4. Have a surprise meeting once a quarter. (Have you ever asked the Pack to give you one?)

5. Get out more than last year.

6. Make a collection, and write about it. Have you ever collected stones, or feathers, or brown things, holes (they have to be drawn as you can't bring them home), or stamps, or tiny things?

7. Do a Pack "good-turn" on your Pack birthday.

8. Make up a play and act it.

9. Get three first-class Brownies in the Pack.

10. Find a Tawny if you haven't one. If you have, find one for somebody else.

11. Have an adventure with the Pack.

12. Does your Pack possess:

A Pack log,

A Pack library,

A magic carpet.

If not, what about it?

V. A. TATE,

Commissioner for Brownies.

## Brevities

Do you have a party for little brothers and sisters?

Do you remember the Thank-you Fund on your Birthday? Next month is Thinking Day.

## A Pack Outing

A pack outing needs a deal of preparation. Equipment may take some time to collect. Each child should have a groundsheet, a coat or a cardigan, a small flour bag will do for a haversack, but of course it would be much nicer for Brownies with mother's help to make brown ones themselves. Strong leather shoes should be worn—sand shoes should be taboo. Each child brings her own food—something plain and something sweet, two pieces of fruit including an orange, which will do instead of carrying drinks if there is no water where you are going.

Now country Packs will probably have a paddock and a creek with lovely paddly places,

but town people can have just as exciting a time in a park or some one's garden. The distance must be short as small legs tire quickly, but the walk is made exciting by a competition. Each six is given a list of things to look for—birds, plants, animals, insects, etc. They compare notes when they reach their destination. Town Packs may divide into three groups with Brown Owl, Tawny and Packleader and go by different streets and they will then have different things to talk about in Pow Wow. Here is a chance for the Golden Bar Brownie to observe and describe.

When the Pack has discussed its adventure, it should have had enough rest to go on a tour of exploration. A trail may be laid by two of each six in coloured beans. Then Elves follow the Sprites trail and Gnomes follow Sprites, etc. Tea should be a happy time, either eaten in special Six Homes or altogether. Brown Owl can tell a story while the tea settles and then the camp is tidied up—the crumbs thrown to the birds, ground sheets rolled and the Pack starts home. It won't be very late as Brownies do not stay out, but the sky may be interesting as the sun nears the horizon. How many colours or what sort of clouds do they find? Birds seem to sing more near sundown. How many calls do they hear? And do they know who calls? Walking could never be dull even in a city street if Brownies just knew what to look for. And is it not the beginning of the love of the longer hiking—

"And there is no end of voyaging when once the voice is heard

For the river calls, and the road calls, and  
O' the call of a bird."

—M.B.

## The Australian Flag

This suggestion for making the Australian Flag may be of some use for Brownie Guiders who have difficulty in teaching their Brownies this part of the Golden Bar Test.

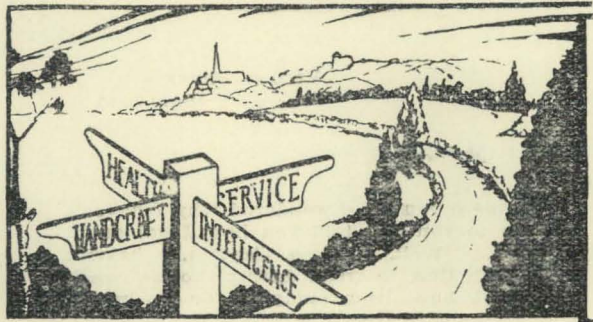
First cut out the flagpole in white paper and paste on to the background, preferably light blue. Cut out the whole flag in red and paste in position against the flagpole. A rectangle of dark blue made to half the measurements of the flag gives the ground for the Union Jack in the corner. Next a white cross is pasted diagonally on the blue ground and on top of this a narrower red cross. This represents the red cross of St. Patrick on a white ground and also the white cross of St. Andrew on a blue ground. Next a wide white cross is pasted on the square and on top of this a narrower red cross. This is the red cross of St. George on a white ground.

Having completed the Union Jack, six stars are cut out of white paper. One large seven-pointed star, four medium sized stars, and one smaller star. The large star is pasted on the red ground in the lower left hand corner and the five smaller stars are arranged like the southern cross on the righthand side.

—M.E.H.

# The Sign Post

Editor: Elizabeth Alfred.



## Our Total Resources

On all sides we hear the slogan, "We must put our total resources into winning the war." I asked a friend of mine, the other day, what was meant by our "total resources"—are they just our material resources, or should we include our moral and spiritual resources as well? The answer was rather a cutting one—"It says our TOTAL resources."

It is more than ever borne upon us that this is a war of specialists—and we may be sure that the material aspect of our resources is not being neglected, when we are reminded of such people as precision instrument experts for plane mechanism, chemists called into munition factories, finance experts to work out our taxes for next year—but where are the specialists on the moral and spiritual side?

Is this where youth leaders might do something? We are specialists in our way—we specialise in preparing the youth of to-day to take their place in the world of the future. While looking to the future, are we doing anything towards making the world a better place in which to live? Can war make it any better? Why aren't we ranging OUR resources alongside those of the material experts to ensure that we ARE fighting to save democracy and all those things for which we are told we are fighting.

Perhaps you will ask me the question, "What ARE these resources you are talking about?" So I invite you to look at our moral resources first. Let us examine the matter of truth—it is so important that, to maintain our national integrity, we should always look for the truth in all things.

Then let us look at our spiritual resources—perhaps you will say that the clergy are the experts there. Yes, but we must back them up—there would be no church without its people. There are many churches open daily for private prayer, and some have special services of intercession for the war. Do you take this opportunity of using your spiritual resources? Do you make a point of praying each day that men's hearts may turn from the city of destruction to-

wards the city of peace? Prayer is one of our most important resources in bringing peace to the world—yet how many forget it in the excitement of material service? I wonder why more of us do not pray for our leaders—they have a tremendous task, yet we seem more ready to criticise them than to help—for we CAN help by praying that they may seek after righteousness, and do only those things which are according to God's will. And let us pray for ourselves, that we may have a clear judgment in all things; that we may have the courage to seek after truth and follow it; that we may so build for the future that wars may be impossible, and that the children of the future may not point accusing fingers at our generation and say, "You could have saved us from destruction, but you would not help."

That is a challenge for this New Year—that we may build a new world, built upon truth, justice and love—are you prepared to accept your job in the building of it?

—M.E.A.

## GUIDE SHOP.

### MORSE BUZZERS:

We have now a range of Morse Buzzers which will be extremely useful in the Company. Prices are 9/6, 10/- and 13/5, which include batteries. The middle price has also a light and by the manipulation of a lever it can be switched accordingly. By a little extra wiring and an extra buzzer, messages can be tapped to sound in another room and in the case of the light this can be made to flicker in the other room also. This will make morse much more exciting in the Company if messages can be sent when you cannot see the person. Instructions for manipulation can be given with these buzzers. Postage 1/-.

Standard batteries are now obtainable at 6½d. each, and new globes can be obtained also for torches at 5d. each.

### EVEREADY TORCHES:

Nickel two cell, price 4/9; postage 6d. This does not include batteries, which will be an extra 1/1.

### SHORTAGE OF BOOKS.

It is with regret that we announce that there will be a shortage of Guide Standard Books for some months, as expected shipments have not arrived. This shortage will not be overcome until new orders have been sent.

—CLARA BROADHURST.

This month we very regretfully say good-bye to Miss Alfred, who has so ably edited this page. We are grateful to her for the help she has willingly given for so long and we shall miss her very much indeed.

Our good wishes go with her as she begins her training as a Social and Parish worker.

—Editor.

## LONES.

The bi-monthly meeting of the Lones L.A. which falls on Tuesday, 14th January, will take the form of a garden party at my home at 3.30 instead of at Headquarters.

This was arranged in the hope that country members and particularly country Guiders might be in Melbourne for the Christmas vacations, and this would give the town members a chance of meeting them personally. I also am looking forward to meeting some of my Guiders and friends, whom at present I only know by letters, or by lists of addresses in a book!

No. 236 is at the corner of Kooyong Road and Myrning Crescent.

Trains.—Every 20 minutes from Flinders Street. Get out at Heyington Station. Walk up pathway by the railway line to Kooyong Road; five minutes.

Trams.—Take the Toorak tram to Kooyong Road. Walk down the hill towards the river; seven minutes.

Bus.—These run every 20 minutes along Kooyong Road, and stop when requested.

It was decided that each member should bring either some sandwiches or cakes towards the tea. I would be grateful if those intending coming could let me know by 8th January, and I look forward to meeting all L.L.A. members and Lone Guiders.

At the annual meeting held at Headquarters recently, amongst the very interesting speakers, I was particularly impressed with a remark of Miss J. McDonald. She was speaking of her experiences on board a ship carrying evacuated children to Australia.

Some days outward bound she was approached by a small girl who expressed the hope that a Guide Company could be formed on board. Being a Guider herself she volunteered to start one. She found there were 12 girls who were already Guides, and they held a meeting to arrange a suitable hour to hold future meetings.

She said: "This was difficult to arrange because all these 12 girls had already found some job for themselves on board. One minded a baby while its mother had lunch, another did a tiny tot's washing, a third took a younger child to the swimming pool each day.

To me this statement was thrilling in its significance. These girls could only have been between 11 and 15—mere children—yet their training as Guides had so imbued them with the will to serve, that without any fuss or with any thought of commendation, they had quietly and immediately found for themselves a field for service in this new community.

And while each girl deserves the recognition due to her for this voluntary demonstration of citizenship, I think we can also feel great encouragement in—and even satisfaction for—

our endeavours, when the ideals we aim at are so fully recognised and carried out. It is also thrilling to know that it is this type of girl whom Britain in her hour of stress has given into our care.

My other contribution to this month's page speaks for itself—M.R.F.

Verdon Street,  
Inglewood.

Dear Captain,—

I suppose you have wondered why I haven't written to you and told you how I got on in Bendigo. Well, you see, Captain, I haven't had much time to write during the last week because I have been studying for my merit, which I hope to pass.

I went to Bendigo on the Saturday before last and it was the happiest day I have ever spent. Everyone was so nice to me and I thought the Captain lovely. The enrolment took place at Lake Weroona about two miles out of Bendigo. There were some Guides from Huntly who were going to be enrolled with me. My Patrol Leader who led me to the Captain was a very nice girl. Her name was Margery Kerr. We played stalking, and some of the Guides passed the stalking test.

When I arrived at the Lake the girls expected to see me in uniform, but Captain explained to them why I didn't wear one. The best part I enjoyed most was watching the Guides doing tracking signs. I think it would be lovely to be in an active Company. I am proud of my badge. It is just like the Guides in active Companies only it has a big L in the middle with G.G. each side of it.

At home I play tracking signs around the yard and I thoroughly enjoy myself. I am so happy now that I am a real Guide. Sometimes I dress up like a Guide when I am doing tracking signs. I put on a navy silk dress and I get a piece of blue material and make a tie of it, and pin my badge on it. I get a loan of my brother's belt and penknife and put that on. I feel like a Guide then, and I enjoy every minute of it.

Well, Captain, I shall have to close now.

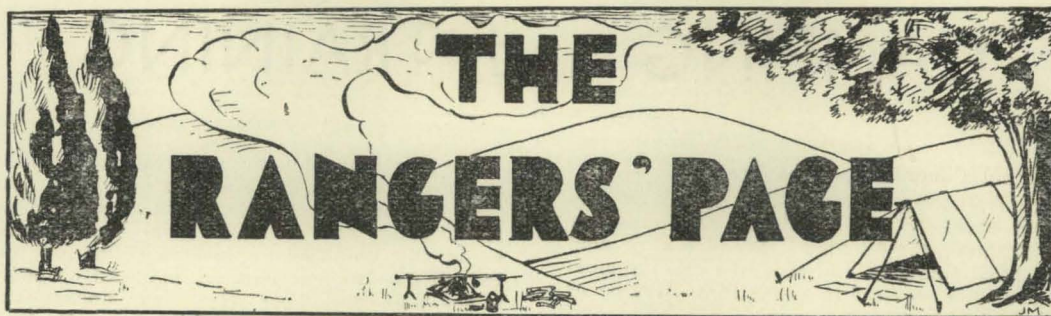
With best wishes from—

DOROTHY.

P.S.—Give my love to Muriel and tell her I love being a Lone Guide because it makes me happy.

MISS D. HAYMAN.

Guiders will be glad to hear that Miss Del Hayman has arrived safely in India.



Editor: E. Faulkner.

"If it is not right, do not say it; if it is not true, do not say it." (Marcus Aurelius).

In writing a New Year's message to you in these swiftly changing times it is very difficult to know what to say, so I have chosen the simplest and most definite words that I could think of.

I could advise you to do this, and do that, or learn this and learn that, but I am not. I take it for granted that as a Ranger you have already thought out for yourself what you should be doing with your life; how much time you should give to develop your own powers and talents, and prepare yourself for what lies before you, and how much time and practical help you should give in the family circle and the work and war effort of the community. I shall advise you though, to go further than that, and by reading, thinking, reasoning, doing, help even more in the great world effort of those communities who are believers in the freedom of man and the Christian Ethic, who through suffering terribly are steeling themselves with the determination that these ideals are worth the struggle and must endure if the world is to advance to unity and peace among all men.

And if this sounds a little removed from you, remember Napoleon said, "The character of a nation is the sum total of the characters of its people," and this can be applied in the widest sense. If you do not know where to start, try the simple and clear advice of Marcus Aurelius, "If it is not right, do not do it; if it is not true, do not say it."

### Notice Board

Minutes of the Ranger Committee Meeting held at H.G. on 6th December, 1940.

Present: Members of new and retiring committees.

An apology was received from Mrs. Faulkner.

Finance.—£1/3/- was passed for payment to the "Thank You Fund," and £1 to Headquarters for the use of a room and help with duplicating, etc.

Conference, the Convenor reported that seventeen companies were represented at the Conference, an average of 60 Rangers attending each session. The loss on the fixture was 6/3. The report was accepted by the committee.

Fixtures, the convenors and approximate dates for these are:—

Swimming Sports.—February or March: Pam Dyke.

Country Dance Party.—May; Beatrice Wilson.

Week-end.—June; Hazel Sampson and Isobel Low.

Dinner.—July; Beryl McNee.

Fancy Dress Ball.—August; Myra Farley.

Sports and Campfire.—October; Ethel Preston.

Conference.—November; Margaret Mellor and Joyce Bryant.

Rangers' Own.—November; Greta Roach.

The next meeting was fixed for Thursday, 6th February, 1941, at H.Q., at 6.30 p.m.

BETTY HORSLEY, Hon. Sec., 1940.

### Did You Know ?

That—

Lang Syne is the Scotch for "long since." In olden times, in days gone by.

"There was muckle fighting about the place lang-syne" Scot, Guy Mannering.

The song called Auld Lang Syne, usually attributed to Robert Burns, was not composed by him, for he says expressly in a letter to Thomson: "It is the old song of the olden times which has never been in print . . . I took it down from an old man's singing."

In another letter he says, "Light be the turf on the heaven-inspired poet who composed this glorious fragment."

Nothing whatever is known of the author of the words; the composer is wholly unknown.

### Thought for the Week

*Lives of great men all remind us we can  
Make our lives sublime,  
And departing leave behind us, footprints  
On the sands of time.*

—Longfellow.

I have little use for the house itself. It is an overcoat to be put on in the stress of bad weather.

—Journal of Outdoor Life.

Life is an arrow—therefore you must know  
What mark to aim at, how to use the bow,  
Then draw to the head and let it go.

—Van Dyke.

"The only man who never makes a mistake  
is the man who never does anything."

# CAMPING and TRAINING

## Assistant Commissioner for Training

The Executive Committee has appointed Miss Sheila MacLeod, the Assistant Commissioner for Training for Victoria. We are very glad that Miss MacLeod has accepted the appointment as her services in this capacity will be of great value to Guiding here.

## Let Us Look Ahead

The "end of the year" feeling is passing and we are recovering from the Christmas rush. We do not start our active Guide year until next month, most of us; it gives us a breather and is a good time to think over our Plans. Many country Districts have already written in about having Trainers to visit them early in the year. Some metropolitan Divisions have asked about Training Days. What a good Plan to start off with if every District got going early, and discussed the possibility of local Guiders' Training at the first Guiders' Meeting after the holidays. If it should be decided to have a Training Day or Week-end, how satisfactory to fix the date, even if it is for some months ahead, and each Guider in the District can keep the time free. As there is a limited number of Trainers and each has a limited amount of time available for visiting country Districts, it would help considerably if applications for Trainers for this year were made as far in advance as possible, to avoid disappointment and in order that the Training Committee can plan the year's programme so that the time available of each Trainer can be used to the best advantage.

## Open Week-ends at the Guide House

Has your Company stayed at the Guide House yet? When your Court of Honour is making plans for this year, be sure and tell them about the open week-ends. They can discuss in Patrols when they would like to go to one, and you can send in the applications in good time and plan for it accordingly. This is what happens—you travel from Melbourne on the five o'clock train on Friday afternoon, with the Guides from other Companies who are going too, and you eat your sandwich tea on the way. When you get to Wesburn station you are met by a bus which takes you to the Guide House. It is about eight o'clock when you arrive and you are welcomed by the two Guiders who are in charge for the week-end. Of course by this time you have made friends with the other Guides, on the journey, so no introductions are needed. You are told which Patrol you are in and who your leader is, and which of the two big bedrooms you are to use. Then you choose your bed, on the verandah or inside as you prefer, and make your bed.

After that it is time for some supper of milk or cocoa, and you are ready to go to bed. In the morning before breakfast the Camp meets for Prayers and then all form a horseshoe while the Colours are hoisted. One of the Patrols does the cooking, one sets and waits on tables and the other does the housework. Everybody shares the washing up. It does not take long with everybody helping, and with the rest of your Company you set out quite early with your lunch in your haversack, for a hike up the creek to the Britannia Falls, or up one of the fire-breaks over the mountains. You get back to the Guide House in time to tidy up and get the evening meal. In the evening all the Companies come together for songs and games and stories round the Camp fire.

Next day Companies go to the little church nearby, if there is a Service on that particular Sunday. If you like you may take your lunch out again and explore more bush paths. All the Guides who wish, take part in a Guides' Own Service, held out of doors in fine weather or round the big open fire in winter. In the late afternoon you do your packing and help to leave the house clean and tidy for the next Campers; then after an early meal you say good-bye to the Guide House for the time being, and catch the bus on your way home.

During this year arrangements will be made to hold these Open Week-ends, if there are sufficient applications, on the 1st and 3rd week-ends of every month except when there is a public holiday week-end or school holidays.

The Fee at present, from Friday evening to Sunday evening is 6/-, including return bus fare from Wesburn. Part time in proportion. The Guide House Committee is giving us reduced rates for Open Week-ends, but may not be able to continue doing so, and this together with the rise in price of food, may compel us to raise the Fee during the year. The rail fare, in addition to camp fee is: from Melbourne, 16 and over, 5/9 return. Under 16, 3/10.

Captains or Lieutenants, with the Commissioner's permission, may take a party of their own Guides. Rangers, Guiders and Commissioners may apply singly or make up parties.

Applications, accompanied by 2/6 deposit for each Camper should be made to the Camping Secretary, Miss Harrison, 126 High street, Glen Iris, S.E.6, not later than two weeks before the Camp. Deposits will not be refunded if withdrawal is made less than one week before the Camp. It is wise to apply early and avoid disappointment, as applications are accepted in the order in which they are received.

When applying be sure to state which week-end is applied for, and by which train it is proposed to travel—Friday evening, Saturday

morning, mid-day or evening.

Proposed dates for Open Week-ends at the Guide House, 1941—February 21st-23rd, March 7th-9th, 21st-23rd, May 2nd-4th, June 6th-8th, 22nd-24th.

### Pioneer Camp

Last month in this page we printed in detail all that we hoped to do at the Pioneer Guide Camp which will be held at the Guide House at East this year. We cannot print it all again, so if you have not read it, will you please refer to the December "Matilda."

The Camp Fee will be not more than £1, plus fares (from Melbourne rail 5/9, 16 and over; 3/10 under 16). Bus 1/3. The applications will close on 15th February, 1940. Applications must be made on the special form available at the Guide Office, or from Miss Harrison.

ELAINE MORAN.

### Miss Paling's Resignation

We regret that owing to lack of time, Miss Paling has found it necessary to resign her Eagle Owl Diploma.

Miss Paling gave so willingly, valuable assistance to the Training Department for many years.

Victorian Owls remember with pleasure and gratitude the happy and helpful times spent with her at Training Classes and Training Weeks and the result of her wise training is seen in many happy Packs.

### THE GUIDE HOUSE.

**Caretaker's Cottage.**—Donations amounting to £7/10/- have come in since last "Matilda," so the total in hand is now £134. We want £300 you will remember. Have you sent your Xmas present to the Guide House yet, or are you waiting till the last moment? Send your contribution to Miss M. Drury at the Guide office as soon as you can.

**Gardening Activities.**—The Working Bees and the Gardening Committee have been busy on general maintenance work. (That is how Miss Broadhurst modestly describes it, anyway). They have dug and weeded garden beds, planted all kinds of things—the next time you are round about the swimming and wading pools be careful because the fern gully has some precious things in it, and it would be sad if they got trodden on. The swimming pool has been emptied, cleaned and refilled. (What a job, pounds or tons of mud were shifted and it rained and was very cold in wet water, but they said they enjoyed themselves!) The grass in the camping paddocks has been cut and raked up and the whole place put in readiness for the influx expected at Christmas time. (I told you it was a modest way of describing a lot of hard work.)

**Camps.**—The House and Cottage and Camp Sites are all booked and there will be 15 camps in progress over the summer period commencing on 26th December, and the last one finishes



"Quality you can TASTE!"

**BROCKHOFF'S**

"Oven-crisp" **BISCUITS**

B. 82G

## Banking for Girls!

EVERY GIRL should aim to have her own Bank Account. The money you have to handle may not be much; but if you can establish early in life the habit of keeping yourself always in credit with a balance in the Bank, it will prove invaluable when greater responsibility comes to you later.

Money in the Bank saves worry.

One shilling will open an account; banking regularly will fill it!

STATE  
**SAVINGS BANK**  
 OF VICTORIA  
 THE BEST PLACE FOR YOUR SAVINGS

on 8th February. It would be interesting to know just how many people will visit the property while these camps are on, if they all sign the visitors' book; perhaps we could count the heads, just to see what the answer is.—M.B.F.

**Working Bees and Guide House Grounds and Gardens.**—Working Bees will start again in February and the first will take place on 22nd February. There will be another one on 29th and 30th March. There is plenty of work to do, and we hope for a good response from everybody. The fee will be 10/-, and this will cover train fare, bus fare and food. When making your application would you please send 5/9 for your fare so that your ticket can be sent to you in plenty of time. Applications will be received in the order in which they arrive. Send your application to: Miss Broadhurst, c/o Girl Guides' Association, 60 Market Street, Melbourne, C.1.—Clara Broadhurst.



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96 ELIZABETH STREET  
 Central 4526.

214-218 BOURKE STREET  
 Central 8022 (3 lines)