

Bush



Matilda

FEBRUARY, 1941.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The minutes of a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Girl Guides' Association, Victoria, held at the Guide Office on 12th December, 1940, are as follows:—

Present.—Lady Chauvel, Mesdames Faulkner, Blackwood, Fairbairn and Littlejohn, and Misses Cameron, Coles, Harrison, Moran, Purnell, Ritchie, Russell, and the Secretary.

Lady Chauvel welcomed Mrs. C. O. Fairbairn as a new member of the Committee.

Agreed:

That World Bureau and Federal Council Quotes should be paid.

That Miss Ruth Scott be appointed Treasurer to the Guide House Committee.

That files of the W.V.R.N.S. should be given to the authorities at the Town Hall.

That a Thanks Badge should be granted to Mrs. Vynner, of Myrtleford, and the granting of a Badge to Mrs. Carter, of Yarraville, should be confirmed.

That Commissioners for Departments be re-appointed.

That Diplomas of Misses Swinburne, Purnell, Hoffmeyer, Hayman, MacLeod, Moran, Lardner and Bush be endorsed.

That Miss Paling's resignation as Eagle Owl be accepted with regret, and that a letter of appreciation for all she had done for the Training Department should be sent to her.

That Miss Cameron be appointed Commissioner for Districts without Commissioners.

That letters of thanks should be sent to Mrs. Broadhurst, Miss Barwood, Mrs. Gibson, Miss E. Thurgood, and Miss Mrosk for their help to the Association.

That Mrs. Eric Harrison's request for leave of absence from the State Council during her absence from Melbourne, be granted.

Reported:

That £500 of the Guide House Endowment Fund had been invested in Inscribed Stock in the 1950-56 Commonwealth Loan.

That Mrs. Howes had agreed to be Federal Post Box Secretary.

That all the resolutions relating to the Constitution had been passed at the special Council meeting.

That a new typewriter had been purchased for the office.

That Lady Chauvel and the Secretary had attended a meeting of the Hong Kong Visitors' Committee, at which arrangements had been made with the C.W.A. for keeping in touch with the visitors.

That a letter of thanks was received from the Overseas Secretary, enclosing receipt for £15/17/9, being additional donation to Guide Gift Week.

Routine and financial business was transacted.

GUIDE ACTIVITIES IN WARTIME.

We are glad to announce that, at the request of the Executive Committee, Miss Maling has agreed to report in "Matilda" on Guiding activities in wartime.

Will Districts please send items of interest to Miss Maling, c/o the Guide Office?

M. E. BUSH.

GUIDE WAR WORK.

This is a new column in which we hope to publish each month some of the things Guides are doing to help the war effort. So will you write to Headquarters to tell us what you are doing in your District or Company? By pooling all our bright ideas we may be able to help each other quite a lot.

In Bendigo, Mrs. Lansell, Divisional Commissioner, has started a Guide Shop in one of the city's busiest streets. The shop is open every Friday, and is stocked and staffed each week by the Guides, the Local Association and other friends of Guiding. Everything is sold, from valuable antiques to jam and doll's clothes, and takings have ranged between £5 and £20 each week.

In Brighton a number of Guides has met at the home of Mrs. Forster, their Commissioner, one day each week through the holidays. They have been cutting down old suits and coats and skirts into little new ones for children. Many of these garments have already been sent to the sister of the St. Kilda Commissioner, Miss Patience, in England to distribute to children in need of warm clothes.

The Daylesford Guides have earned the money themselves by selling bottles and papers, etc., to send a Christmas parcel to each of the local boys at the front. They also had charge of a flower stall at their Paddy's Market, and made £9 for the fund.

1st Heidelberg Guides each bring a newspaper to their Company meeting every week. These their Captain arranges to sell and they have made over £2 for the War Relief Fund by this simple method in two or three months.

Now some of these efforts are very large and some are very small, but they are all interesting, so don't forget—please write and tell Headquarters what you are doing, so that we can exchange ideas.—N.M.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

February 22: Thinking Day.

March 6: Closing Date Guide Pioneer Camp. (See Camping).

March 29: Girl Guide Red Cross Fete. (See notice).

"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.

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VOL. XVII.

FEBRUARY, 1941.

No. 7.

LORD BADEN-POWELL OF GILWELL.

The Federal Secretary received the following cable from Imperial Headquarters:—

"Chief Scout died 7th January, but his spirit will live in heart of youth."

ROSE KERR, World Bureau.

During this last month the Scout and Guide Movements all over the world have been mourning the loss of their great leader and founder, Lord Baden-Powell.

Thirty-three years ago, he gave to the youth of the world a great idea, with a great ideal, on which he founded our two Movements. It is a wonderful thing for one man to have been able to do—even a man as beloved and admired as our Chief Scout—to influence the boys and girls of nations as widely diverse, and as far apart as the Scouts and Guides of to-day. We believe, as he did, that Scouting and Guiding will go on growing to greater strength, to help all they can in this troublous time and in peace when it comes. It rests with us to see that this belief comes true.

At present our thoughts go constantly to our Chief Guide, who has suffered this great personal loss. She means much to us, and she has our love and sympathy.

SIBYL CHAUVEL.

It is with the greatest diffidence that I attempt to write of the passing on of the Chief Scout, Lord Baden-Powell. To such greatness of mind and spirit comes not death, but a passing on to further greatness.

Many of us were privileged to meet the Chief Scout, all have been privileged to read his writings, and thus to gain in some small measure a knowledge of his dynamic personality, his unbounding faith in human nature, and to obtain a glimpse of his vision of what might be accomplished provided one has sufficient faith in the latent powers of a child and the wisdom to build on a foundation of rock—Our Duty To God.

At this time our thoughts turn naturally to his first handbook, *Girl Guiding*, with all its wisdom, laughter, humour and poignant sentences which are tracking signs for the journey. Tidy As You Go; Keep Straight On—seem to stand out particularly now. They meant much to the Chief Scout; the worthless, the superfluous, the superficial, were cleared away so that there should be no hindrances to service, whether material, mental or spiritual. With singleness of aim he kept straight on, having ever before him the vision of what he knew could be expected of Youth always.

At Christmas once again his clear call to the boys and girls has rung out, without faltering, without signs of weariness or disillusionment, but full of hope for the future—the call of Youth to Youth.

We must respond to the challenge. The great responsibility is ours of playing the game according to the rules the Chief Scout gave us, and of showing our gratitude to him "not only with our lips but in our lives."

EDITOR.

Lady Chauvel, State Commissioner for Victoria, cabled to Lady Baden-Powell:—

"Loving sympathy from Victorian Guides."

SIBYL CHAUVEL.

Boy Scout and Girl Guide Memorial Service

for

THE CHIEF SCOUT

The Right Hon.

LORD BADEN-POWELL OF GILWELL

O.M., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., LL.D.

Held on the

MELBOURNE CRICKET GROUND,

Sunday, 19th January, 1941, at 3.15 p.m.

Hymn: "O God, Our Help In Ages Past."

Sentences: St. John 14, 1-3; II Timothy 2, 7-8; Revelation 7, 9-12.

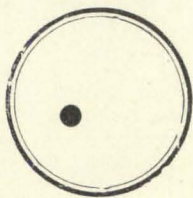
Psalms: "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills."

PRAYERS.

O God, the Father of us all, we thank Thee for the joy of service in union with Thee, and for the fellowship of our beloved Chief Scout and Ponder whom Thou hast now called to Higher Service. Above all we thank Thee for Christ, who having laid the trail has led His servant on through life's pilgrimage to dare the quest for Love and Righteousness and Truth, even unto the end. Be pleased to grant us grace to follow faithfully along the sacred way, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Father of all, we thank Thee for all those of our Guide and Scout Movements who have gone home to Thine eternal mansions and for the examples of faith and goodness which they have left to us.

Be pleased, O Lord, to support us all day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work done. Then in Thy mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



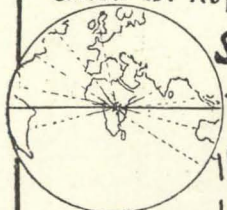
“I have gone home”

Copy of 'The Chiefs' Christmas Card.

THIS is to offer you our hearty wishes for a Happy a Christmas as War will allow
and a New Year bright with Promise. Out of evil good will come. We owe a statue to Hitler
He has done more than any man ever to consolidate our nation, at Home and Overseas and
has given us friends in America and in ALL the countries he has ravaged. Such
wide friendship will help to world Peace so soon as he and his war clouds are swept away



My wife and I, as evacuees, have settled here in Kenya, in the Africa we love, and in
the same continent with Peter and Betty and their respective contingents of grand children
where we hope that Heather and her husband may join us after their war Service.



Scouts and Guides we are, geographically, more in the centre of things than before, nearer
to N. Zealand, Australia, India and the East and not much further from Canada and West Indies
than from England. So, from close up, we can watch you all at your various War Services.
What you have done you have done well

"SLEEVES UP! AND WITH TAILS UP"

And after that to bring about Peace

Nyeri . Kenya

Baden Powell



Stick it out! Play up to the Scouts' slogan
GO TO IT TO WIN THE WAR
with goodwill, and happiness for all.

Olave Baden-Powell Xmas . 1940

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

NUNC DIMITTIS.

THE ADDRESS.

LESSON: Ephesians, 6, 10-18.

RENEWAL OF THE SCOUT PROMISE.

RENEWAL OF THE GUIDE PROMISE.

PRAYERS.

O God, Who by the inspiration of our Founder hast recalled us to our Saviour's two-fold commandment, grant that we may so carry out the daily discipline of helping our neighbours that the world may be brought to love Thee more unly; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Thou Who art Heroic Love, keep alive in our hearts that adventurous spirit that makes men scorn the way of safety that Thy will be done; for so only, O Lord, shall we be worthy of those courageous souls who in every age have ventured all in obedience to Thy call, for whom the trumpets sounded on the other side; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN.

"Land of Our Birth, We Pledge to Thee."

BLESSING.

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. Amen.

ALL SING NATIONAL ANTHEM.

THE MEMORIAL SERVICE.

"Baden-Powell—the best-loved man in all the world, because he is loved by those who love best—the children." So the Chief Scout of the World was presented to a world-wide throng in Hungary, a throng of Scouts inspired by his vision, assembled there by the single purpose of his life; so the message of his life came to us at the memorial service, on that Sunday afternoon, 19th January, 1941.

It was a day of sunshine with a light cool breeze, reminding us of the April day 10 years ago, when Guides and Scouts of Victoria for the first time together saw "the Chiefs"; and now again, in a scene of peace and beauty, thousands were assembling to do honour to the Chief who "had gone home."

In the holiday month, with Companies in recess and their members scattered, no elaborate preparations could be made, but the children came to the service, by themselves, or in small groups, simply and in reverent gratitude. The Scouts and Guides marched to the arena, where the mass of brown and

blue was outlined by the brilliance of the flags; Rovers, Scouts and Cubs, Rangers, Guides and Brownies—those who had known the Chief Scout as their personal leader, those who for almost the first time were wearing the badge, and recruits with all before them—links in the succession he has trusted to carry on the game.

A large congregation assembled in the grandstands, the citizens of Melbourne having come to pay tribute to a great citizen of the Empire and of the world; their presence was a recognition of the part that the Chiefs have led Guiding and Scouting to play in the life of the nation, and it brought to us a sense of responsibility, touched with emotion.

At a quarter past three the whole assembly rose to the "Alert," as the National Anthem sounded, and the Leaders of the Scouts and Guides of Victoria came upon the platform: His Excellency the Governor, Major-General Sir Winston Dugan, Chief Scout of Victoria; Lady Dugan, President of the Girl Guides' Association; Lady Chauvel, State Commissioner; Mrs. F. W. Faulkner, Deputy State Commissioner; Mrs. C. O. Fairbairn, Secretary to the Federal Council of Girl Guides of Australia; Chief Commissioner G. W. S. Anderson, of the Boy Scouts' Association; Commissioner the Venerable Archdeacon E. Franklin Cooper, G. H. Thomas, Esq. (Chairman of the Federal Council), Commissioner C. A. Hoadley (Warden of Gilwell Park), and Commissioner W. D. Kennedy.

The service opened with a commemoration of the Chief Scout, with hymns and prayers in thankfulness to God, Who has led His servant "through life's pilgrimage to dare the quest for Love and Righteousness and Truth, even unto the end," and closed with a rededication to the Scout way of life.

The address was a link between the two, a climax to the commemoration and an inspiration to renewed resolve. Spoken by Commissioner C. A. Hoadley, the words seemed to bring us to the presence of the Chief, and will remain in our hearts.

"Baden-Powell—the best-loved man in all the world, because he is loved by those who love best—the children."

Baden-Powell—soldier, educationist, artist, author, citizen, leader of the Youth of the world, pioneer in every branch of life he touched. On the frontier of India, Baden-Powell was concerned for the truest welfare of every private under his command, and in Mafeking, during the South African War, he proved his leadership with young and old. Hero-soldier of the Empire after Mafeking was relieved (May, 1900), within a few years he was straight in line for promotion to the highest positions in the army, but already boys were seizing upon Scouting. At the personal request of King Edward VII., Baden-Powell turned from his military career and devoted himself to the Boy Scout Movement.

With deepest affection our thoughts go to the Chief Guide and the "children," and as we feel with them, let us try to understand some of the qualities that made the Chief

Scout so great a man. Three stand out clearly in memory: First, his joie de vivre, his love of life and all it could give. There was never with him an idle moment, and always something new to learn—modelling, playing strange instruments, boating, big game hunting, dramatising, acting, even ballet dancing—mastering everything, enjoying everything with keenness and humour.

Second, his selflessness. From his school days, Baden-Powell was ever lending a hand, helping another fellow along, and after he made the great decision of his life he proved indeed that "peace hath her victories no less renowned than war." He became a leader in the truest sense, all that he urged the boys to do he himself had done, in experience of life, in knowledge and in act. How he enjoyed it all! He was a leader by his keenness in every detail and experiment, by his personal interest as he visited the camps, by his way of making every boy his friend. Hundreds of Rovers will remember the climax to the Frankston Jamboree—the hike to Gilwell Park, and late at night by the campfire, the hiking parties bringing their reports to the Chief—to a Chief who in experience and imagination knew everything they meant, and who praised the hike as a fitting end to a great international camp.

Third, his sense of values. The Chief wrote first in the Promise of every Scout and Guide a recognition of our duty to our God; the influence of the Chief brought every campfire to its closing with a prayer, and has kept the Scouts' or Guides' Own Service as a central part of every camp. Baden-Powell was a great leader, for he himself accepted a Leader Who is Jesus Christ.

In memory of the Chief Scout, Scouts and Cubs, Guides and Brownies, renewed the Promise each had made. With prayer for strength, a hymn of dedication and the Blessing, the service closed; Guides and Scouts moved quietly to their homes—and to the future.
G.H.S.

THANKS.

The Girl Guides' Association of Victoria, in conjunction with the Boy Scouts' Association, expresses gratitude and appreciation to all who co-operated with them to make possible the arrangements for the Memorial Service to the Chief Scout; the authorities and staff of the Melbourne Cricket Club; the Band of the Salvation Army Headquarters, and the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

M. E. BUSH.

*Foresight is one thing—
Foreboding is another.*

THE CHIEF SCOUT'S LADDER OF LIFE. (FROM 1907).

(From The Victorian Scout, January 15, 1941)

- 1907 Published "Sketches in Mafeking and East Africa."
Exhibited 125 drawings at Bruton Gallery—and bust of John Smith at Royal Academy.
Trial Camp of Boy Scouts at Brownsea Island, Dorset.
- 1908 Published "Scouting for Boys."
Started "The Scout" newspaper for boys.
Organised Boy Scouts throughout the Empire.
- 1909 Rally of Boy Scouts at Crystal Palace, 11,000; and of Scottish Boy Scouts at Glasgow, 6,000.
- 1910 Retired from Army on to Reserve, 7th May, with reward for good service.
Visited Canada and U.S.A. to organise Scouts.
Visited Paris; also St. Petersburg and Moscow. Received by the Tzar-organising Boy Scouts.
Published "Yarns for Boy Scouts."
- 1911 Visited Norway and Sweden, partly sport, partly Scouts.
Interview with King and Crown Prince of Sweden.
- 1912 Visited Panama, West Indies, U.S.A., Japan, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand.
Gave 41 addresses to public on Scouting; 63 speeches, 69 Scout addresses to 70,280 people.
Met and married Miss Olave St. Clair Soames.
- 1913 With Lady B.P. visited Algeria, Malta, Naples, etc.
Son (Peter) born, 31st October.
- 1914 Great War. Mobilised Boy Scouts to form guards to railways, etc., and take over coastguard duties.
- 1915 Inspected Boy Scouts on coast-watching duty.
Visited the armies in France. Guest of Sir John French, the British C-in-C.
Daughter (Heather) born, 1st June.
- 1916 Girl Guide Conference, Matlock. Lady B.P. elected Chief Commissioner of Girl Guides.
Inauguration of Wolf Cub Movement.
- 1917 Daughter (Betty) born, 16th April.
- 1918 Established Flax-gathering camps for Boy Scouts.
Bought Pax Hill, Bentley, Hants.
- 1919 With Lady B.P. to Canada and U.S.A. to develop Scouts and Girl Guides.
Published "Aids to Scoutmastership."
- 1920 International Jamboree of Boy Scouts, Olympia, London, attended by representatives from all countries.
International Scout Bureau started.
- 1921 With Lady B.P. went to India at invitation of Lord Chelmsford, Viceroy, to

- organise Scout and Guide Movement. Also visited Burmah, Ceylon, Palestine, Egypt.
- 1922 Published "Rovering to Success."
- 1923 Made LL.D., Toronto and McGill Universities.
- 1924 Empire Jamboree at Wembley. International Jamboree at Copenhagen.
- 1925 President, Camping Club and Federation of Rambling Clubs.
- 1926 With Lady B.P. visited America as guests of the Boy Scouts of America. Rover Moot at Albert Hall, London. With Lady B.P. and family visited South Africa, toured the country inspecting Scouts and Guides and promoting the Movement.
- 1927 Published "Life's Snags." Celebrated seventieth birthday while in South Africa.
- 1928 Received the survivors of original "Brownsea Camp" to lunch at Pax Hill. Entertained Mafeking Relief and Defence Force survivors at lunch at Pax Hill.
- 1929 With Lady B.P. and family visited British, French, Spanish and Portuguese Scouts in course of tour on "Duchess of Richmond." Instructed ship's passengers in old English country dancing. Twenty-first birthday celebrations of Boy Scout Movement at Arrowe Park, Birkenhead, England. Received Peerage. Presented with Rolls Royce car and caravan trailer by the Scouts of the World.
- 1930 With Lady B.P. visited West Indies and inspected Scouts and Guides there, returning via New York.
- 1931 Visited New Zealand, Australia, Tasmania, South Africa, on a six months' tour of Scout and Guide inspection.
- 1933 International Jamboree, Hungary.
- 1934 Centenary Jamboree, Frankston, Victoria.
- 1936 Tour of India.
- 1937 Order of Merit.
- 1938 African tour.
- 1941 Died at "Paxtu," Nyeri, Kenya.

THREE TIMES IN AUSTRALIA.

- The World Chief three times visited Australia:
- 1912, when a Rally was held on the Domain.
- 1931, with Lady Baden-Powell, when a combined Scout and Guide Rally was held on the Melbourne Cricket Ground.
- 1934-35, when his presence was one of the principal factors in making the Frankston Jamboree one of the most conspicuously successful of Victoria's Centenary Celebrations.

THINKING DAY.

22nd February.

"The thoughts of your Guides will travel wherever you lead them, and on Thinking Day as we send our kind thoughts out to penetrate through to the hearts of our fellow Guides in far lands, we can utter a prayer that the goodwill thus engendered may become a vital and truly living force in the life of the world of to-morrow."

THE CHIEF GUIDE.

Rarotonga:

"Guides and Brownies are busy learning to knit mittens, and were very amused and pleased with the results of their efforts—not having seen such articles before. They are planning to make children's clothes to be sent overseas for refugee children."

—From "Te Rama," New Zealand.

Poland.

"Madame Małkowska writes from her Oxfordshire village:

"The Polish colony here counts 45 people, mostly mothers and children. I am also looking after a Czech mother with nine weeks' old twins. The village allowed me to use their Memorial Hall, which has also a kitchen and a billiard room. We feed about 15 Poles (mostly children) in the hall; the mothers do the cooking in turns. The billiard room is our classroom, and in the hall we have started a play centre for the under-fives—all evacuees, Polish as well as English."

—From "The Council Fire."

Natal.

"Many children from Palestine and Egypt have arrived in Natal, and were given a very warm welcome by the Guides."

—"G.G. Magazine," S. Africa.

France.

"News comes in a roundabout way assuring us that the French Guides and Scouts are standing firm.

"During the evacuation of half a million people . . . the Guides . . . helped families to pack, and on train journeys of three or four days. . . . Guides were at wayside stations to give help and refreshments; they met them in Paris, fed and encouraged them, and conveyed them across the city—in short, did everything that human kindness could do to ease their tragic lot."

—"G.G. Magazine," S. Africa.

Cape Town.

"In October, 2nd Cape Town (St. Barnabas) Guides celebrated their Silver Jubilee."

United States of America.

"At the Western Hemisphere Encampment organised through the Juliette Low Memorial Fund, and held at Camp Andree in August, there were 84 Girl Scouts from all parts of the U.S.A., as hostesses; and 22 delegates from other countries in the hemisphere—Argentina, Bermuda, Brazil, British Guiana, Canada, Cuba, Curacao, Guatemala, Jamaica, Newfoundland, Mexico, Panama and Trinidad;

and Mrs. Leigh-White, Director of the World Bureau.

"It was agreed that, as between Girl Scouts and Girl Guides, no matter of what nationality, there could be no such things as 'foreigners,' and they selected for themselves the sobriquet of 'Las Golondrinas,' which, being translated from the Spanish, means 'the swallows.'

"The final benediction found an echo in all hearts:

"May the friendship found in this camp last for ever, and may it, by beginning with understanding between individuals, finally develop into understanding between all people."

—"The Council Fire."

Sweden.

"On 29th September, 1940, the World Bureau received the following cablegram:—

"Twenty Swedish Commissioners at Conference planning winter camps and training weeks wish send greetings thinking of you in the World Bureau believing in you and thanking you from the depth of our hearts for carrying on.—Gerda Backstrom."

"Girl Scouts over 17 years of age are recommended to take up Air Watching Service and farm work."

—"The Council Fire."

New South Wales.

"N.S.W. Guide Association has in answer to an S.O.S. from the W.A.N.S. provided 43 Guiders and some Rangers to give instruction to the W.A.N.S. in First Aid, and they are training W.A.N.S. officers, of whom 100 have been attending classes, supervised by Guide Trainers."

—"The Council Fire."

Cuba.

"Cuban Guides helped at the Central Information Bureau of the Rotarian Convention. They translated, mailed letters, directed people to shops, etc. This was their first public appearance and good turn, and they were very thrilled about it."

Suomi-Finland.

"When the war broke out in Suomi-Finland, the usual Girl Scouting in troops came to an end, but the Girl Scouts went on in their self-sacrificing work for others. Some groups worked in hospitals doing all they were told to do—they blinded windows, worked as maids, served food, helped in the nursing and did social work. A very important task was to give first aid to the clothes of the soldiers (very often when undressing wounded soldiers their clothes must be cut off, and garments thus treated must be mended before the soldier leaves the hospital. . . ."

Scotland.

"Miss M. L. Martin, whom so many of us know, has been appointed Assistant Imperial Commissioner for Training, and has recently become also Scottish Commissioner for Rangers. She is very interested in developing the Home Emergency Service for Rangers. She has attended a Youth Leaders' Conference which proved of great interest. Miss Martin,

at the time of writing, was going to London to lead a mobile squad which is cooking for demolition forces."

India.

"Miss Dell Hayman, who was here on leave recently, is back again in Lucknow, and writes cheerfully of her work. Guiders at a recent training showed very encouraging enthusiasm. She intends holding a camp at Agra in February."

WAR APPEAL.

We hope all our helpers are feeling greatly refreshed after their vacation. We are, and so we have fresh energy with which to urge you to work harder and harder for the children of Great Britain and the sailors of the minesweepers and trawlers working off the coast of England.

As many of you know, the ship, Port Brisbane, was sunk on her way to England. She was carrying 11 of our cases of warm clothing and last month you were asked to work extra hard to make up this loss. Many people have doubled their usual amount of knitting and sewing to help replace the lost garments—421 singlets for tiny babies were lost, and Ballarat has taken the responsibility of making up that loss and has been working through the holidays so that there should be as little delay as possible.

A special appeal has come for strips of towelling, hemmed at the sides and ends—about 27in. by 10 or 12 inches. Water gets down the sailors' necks and soaks the wool of their polo necked jumpers, and we all know what a beastly feeling wet wool has—we wouldn't endure it for a moment—well, it feels just as bad even if you are a sailor, and a piece of dry towelling tucked inside the jumper neck must be a comfort. These strips of towelling can be renewed with little trouble, but once a pullover always a pullover—so will you add these towelling scarves to your other work?

Will you please make the following New Year resolutions and keep them?

To keep pyjama tops and pants together.

To be careful picking up correct number of stitches round jumper armholes.

To pick up the same number of stitches for each arm.

Will you please enclose a list of the contents of the parcels you send with the name and address of the Company, or Local Association, which is responsible for the work. Make separate lists for "finished work" and donations.

We are most grateful to everyone for their splendid help last year, and we do hope we can carry on as well and better this year.

The year 1941 has started very well, although we have been in recess the donations to the War Appeal Fund for this month amount to £131/2/8. This includes another generous gift of £50 from the Christadelphian Ecclesia.

To the end of 1940 our total income was £6,738/7/9, and 41,000 garments were sent to England.

MARY LITTLEJOHN.

18th November, 1940.

Dear Mrs. Littlejohn,—

We cabled to let you know that some more of your lovely cases had arrived as we felt you must be getting very anxious about them.

As usual the things arrived most opportunely. We had an urgent call for things for children under five from Coventry, and were able to send them off a most wonderful collection. The wonderful gay colours and beautiful quality of the wool and workmanship are everywhere much appreciated. We have had a request from Mrs. Billington, a Guider and W.V.S. worker in Abbots Langley, for more clothing similar to what we sent her last year as they were so very much appreciated, and now they have a fresh lot of children there.

I also enclose two letters—one from the Kensington Division of the Red Cross and one from the Camden Town Child Welfare Centre to which parcels were taken by members of the staff here who work there during the week-ends.

We do think it is wonderful that you should continue to help us in this way, and I have been asked to thank you once again and to assure all your helpers of our tremendous appreciation of all that you have done.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) Rosalind de Renzy Martin,

Overseas Secretary and Secretary
to the Guide Relief Committee.

GIRL GUIDE RED CROSS EMERGENCY COMPANY.

As a finish to the year's work a general meeting of the Company was held at Guide Headquarters on 4th December. After a short business meeting, a merry time was passed with "Wogs," and the evening ended with supper.

At this meeting, it was decided to hold a fete on 29th March to raise money for the Red Cross. Mrs. C. P. Broadhurst, who has been a good friend to Guides on other occasions, will allow us to hold the fete at her home, 457 St. Kilda Road, S.C.2. We are very grateful, and feel we could not have a pleasanter setting, or more central meeting place.

The different groups, covering a good deal of the metropolitan area, will be responsible for the stalls and afternoon tea. There will also be side shows and entertainments. We ask all our Guide friends to keep 29th March free, and come and buy from us. Don't forget to look in March "Matilda" for the latest details.

M. MOORE, Superintendent.

HAPPY DAYS—SUMMER CAMPS.

*Have you breathed the morning freshness?
Have you seen the day begun?
Have you wandered in the forest?
Have you felt the early sun?
Have you felt God all around you in the wonder
scented dew?*

BALLARAT DISTRICT GUIDE CAMP.

"Bungarra," Ocean Grove.

The camp this year was attended by members of three Ballarat Companies and also by Skipton Guides.

We arrived early on Saturday, 18th January, and pitched our own tents, while our Q.M. settled in and gave us the first of many delicious meals. Patrols were organised and competition was very keen for points and for tent ribbons. The final results were very close.

The first three days were the most suitable for swimming, and later in the week we hiked to Barwon Heads, and played stalking games on the way home. During the week we had many enjoyable evening entertainments, including stunts and a fancy dress frolic. We rose to greet the New Year, and celebrated with a jazz band performance. (We hope the dixies did not suffer too much!)

Saturday came far too quickly. We had tea in the Geelong Gardens, and arrived home, tired and grubby, but all most determined not to miss our camp next year.

The Taboo-ans.

(They called their tent "Taboo," and had a most elegant sign—formed of white periwinkle caps fixed with sticking plaster on to red cardboard.)

Song Composed in Camp.

(Tune: "The Quartermaster's Store.").

(Composers: E.V., J.P., M.D., 10th Ballarat).

There were tents, tents, pitched up near the fence

In the camp—in the camp,

There were trees, trees, blowing in the breeze,

In our Bungarra Camp.

Chorus:

My eyes are sore, I cannot see

The sand has blown from near the sea. . . .

There were ants, ants, waiting for a chance

In the camp—in the camp,

There were hats, hats, falling off their racks

In our Bungarra Camp.

There were girls, girls, combing out their curls,

In the camp—in the camp,

There was nurse, nurse, who hopes we get no worse,

In our Bungarra Camp.

There was cook, cook, we wish she had a
chook

In the camp—in the camp,
There was Peg, Peg, cooking each an egg
In our Bungarra Camp.

1st Collingwood.

Coo-ee, coo-ee, our hearts are glad and gay,
Coo-ee, coo-ee, we're off to camp to-day.

How often had we sung that longingly, but this time it was really true! We were off to Camp, with a whole week ahead of us, full of unknown adventures, fun and friendships. This week we were going to sleep on the ground, tucked up securely in our blankets made camp fashion as Captain had shown us, when three could be made to act as six, and with only a canvas tent separating us from the world with its starry sky and shadowy trees. We had come at last! Camp!

When we arrived and bundled out of the bus, Q.M. had a cup of tea and biscuits ready for us all. This was fine, as it was a very hot day. Then we were told our Patrols and with whom we were to sleep. Soon we put up our own tents in squads and then it was really our own home.

And so began our camp. We were only a small number, 18—4 Guiders, 8 Guides from 1st Collingwood and 6 from 2nd Fitzroy—but it soon seemed as though we had always been one Company. We were very thrilled to receive a telegram from Miss Boyes, the Captain of 2nd Fitzroy, who was in Tasmania: "Hot or cold, wet or fine, happy camping all the time."

The week was full of incident, but two of the highlights were our sports meeting with the 2nd Toorak Guides and our combined campfire on New Year's Eve. The 2nd Toorak camp invited us to a sports meeting which was held on the old bowling green above the swimming pool. We had many exciting events, relay, wheelbarrow, elopement and obstacle races and many more, and our camp won. After a great afternoon we parted, with cheers for our hostesses, and they cheered us as victors, to meet again at night when we invited them to our campfire. We sang many songs together, and each camp did a stunt. Toorak taught us a song and we taught them our "Walla walloo!"

Some of us learnt to swim during the week, and one managed the width of the pool. Others passed their observation of nature and many were the things we learnt—not at least being exciting new ways of tying knots shown us by Miss Black who could tie knots like a sailor and cowboy rolled into one.

We had ribbons for the best tent of the day and the tents got better and a different tent won it nearly every day. But for orderly jobs, the Lazy Loafers Patrol got ribbons every day except one. Many different people won woodcraft ribbons for gadgets and other woodcraft doings.

We had no mishaps during the week, our only casualty being Miss Black who seemed to taste very nice to the ants.

Camp ended all too soon, but we'll probably be back again in Easter, so our farewell to the Guide House was not so sad—we'll be camping again soon.

G.S.

MALVERN DISTRICT GUIDE CAMP.

"This is the Malvern District Guide Camp. After an enjoyable but somewhat uneventful trip up in the train and bus, we arrived at the Guide House garage on Thursday, 16th January, at 11 o'clock, and then sat down to wait for our luggage. There was a wild scramble to bag tents and unpack before lunch. When lunch was finished and the dishes stowed away, the business of filling palliasses and making beds began. The bed-making succeeded in various degrees, judging from the tales of cold toes, noses, etc., which were heard next morning.

"The next morning, after Patrol duties had been carried out, the morning was free to make gadgets, and then, when "Cookhouse" was sounded, nobody disobeyed the seventh Guide law.

"Everyone voted for swimming in the afternoon, and so there was no question about what to do.

"After tea we all trooped down to another camp to which we had been invited for a camp fire and supper. This was a perfect ending to an enjoyable day, which we hope will be a pattern for all our days in camp."

"Two Malvern District Guides."

1st WEST MELBOURNE CAMP—THE GUIDE HOUSE.

The following are two ideas tried in the 1st West Melbourne Guide Camp with great success:—

The first was daylight saving, the Guides arose at 6 a.m., and Taps was sung at 8.15 p.m. It is a hard thing for Guides to keep quiet after six, when all around them the world of nature is awake and busy; they are therefore better up and busy about their work and feeling the joy of the fresh early morning. As the day goes on the Guides have the benefit of their early rising because, as they themselves said, they have more free time.

Then as evening comes, and baths are over in daylight, the Guides are ready for sleep as the daylight fades and Taps are sung.

The other idea we used was the doing without points in every way. We based our camp on the idea of being prepared to help other people. We thought of each one of us wishing for a holiday; therefore we each took a share of the work so as to make each other's holiday a happy one. This idea worked very well, the work was well carried out, and the Guides felt no loss at not having points.

We tried also to make the Guides self-reliant, with whistles only for Colours, cookhouse, and silence; also by giving the mess and cook Patrols times to report for the preparing and dishing of meals.

The whole camp suffered one day at a meal because the cooks and mess were late. The Guiders set a table and dished their dinners and proceeded to have their meal, while the Guides had to set and serve their

own. The Guiders decided it was worth the noise we had to endure, as mess and cooks were never late again.—L.N.

On our arrival at the Guide House at Britannia Creek everybody was overjoyed, for the house and cottage were just as homely as any home could be.

The kitchen had every necessary utensil, the sitting room was a picture with its floral covered chairs, and the bedrooms were pretty and neat. All these things with the beauty of the house and its surroundings made our holiday a treat.

As it was late afternoon when we arrived, and our unpacking to be done, it wasn't long before we were all sent to bed.

We tried a new system, daylight saving, of getting up at 6 a.m. and singing taps at 8.15 p.m., and it was very successful.

On Sunday morning the Guides attended an outdoor church service with the Guides of a neighbouring camp.

A Court of Honour was held for the first time at the camp, at which the duties of cooks, health, mess, and house were discussed.

We had a programme for each day, and the Patrols took it in turns to do their duties.

The Colours were hoisted each morning before breakfast and lowered again before sunset. During the day we had two swims, in a pool not far from the house.

On Monday, after all the work had been done, we went for our usual welcome swim, and by Tuesday we seemed to be settling down. Seeing we had three meals and morning and afternoon teas as well as supper each day, it was certainly settling down very contentedly.

On Wednesday we went for a hike, and lunched out in the open, and returned just in time for our swim.

Thursday was a quiet day for us, because we received news that Lord Baden-Powell, the World's Chief Scout, had passed away. That morning the Colours were lowered to half-mast, and we stood for a minute in silence in his memory.

Friday was our sports day with the Yarra-ville District Guides, and everybody became excited as the time drew nearer. We were all keyed up because we had made up our minds to win, which we did.

Then came Saturday, which meant plenty of packing and tidying up and farewell to a lovely holiday with happy memories.

So ended 1st West Melbourne Guides' happy holiday at the Guide House and Brownie Cottage.—Valda Hastings, Guide.

CALLING ALL RANGERS!

On looking back over the splendid times we had during our Combined Ranger Camp this year at the Guide House, I think one can assuredly say apart from minor mishaps such as ant and fly bites, sunburn, rain and wind,

etc., that we all had a jolly good time, and a splendid opportunity to acquaint ourselves with the Guide fellowship.

The swimming pool was a source of delight to all during the very dry and warm weather. It sometimes found Rangers wending their way towards it at 6.30 a.m.

We had many interesting and adventurous tramps about the country side, sight-seeing, climbing hills, and admiring many panoramic views. During camp several hints were gathered on making better and unusual gadgets for our tents, etc. The New Year was welcomed and celebrated with much hilarity.

Our Sunday was brought to a close by the Rangers' Own Service, which must have been an inspiration and a help to all. The camp fires in the evening were a source of delight to all and a splendid ending to very vigorous and exciting days. The cheerfulness, companionship and high spirits in the camp made pleasant the performing of daily duties, but the camp would not have been such a great success without the splendiddness of the staff.

2nd COMBINED GUIDE CAMP.

The 2nd Combined Guide Camp at the Guide House from 11th-18th January consisted of Guides from the following Companies:—1st Apollo Bay, 1st Cheltenham, 1st Daylesford, 2nd Hawthorn, 1st Hopetoun, 1st Nyah, 1st Rupanyup, 1st Rutherglen, and 1st Yallourn.

Swimming was the greatest attraction while the weather was warm, but was not so popular after the change on Wednesday. Swimming sports had been arranged for that afternoon with the neighbouring camp, but before the Guides reached the pool the rain came down in torrents, and they spent the time singing in the cowshed instead. The evening was fine, and so the two camps had a combined campfire.

Thursday morning being too cold for swimming, the Guides went for a walk. Unfortunately the road chosen proved a very muddy way, and there was a busy scene at the wash cubicles on our return to camp, where legs and shoes were scrubbed clean again.

A Patrol competition on First Class was keenly contested. The estimates of the number of trees in the clump near the cook-house varied from 16 to 50, while the Guiders counted 76. The height of the flagpole and the tall pole of the marquee were more accurately estimated. Plans of the camp site were fairly good, but the compass directions on them were varied. Most Patrols knew the address of Guide Headquarters, but very few the name of the State Secretary. Not one Patrol could produce a complete list of the eight Camp Rules which had been on the Camp Notice Board for five days. A walk along the road and back to be done in 15 minutes was completed in time by rushing at the beginning and dawdling back again. However, it was all fun—the Patrols all scored within five points of each other.

—D.H.

CAMPCRAFT WEEK—THE GUIDE HOUSE.**26th December to 3rd January.**

Campcraft Week this year was ideal, in that it gave to prospective holders of Camper's Licence experience in how to deal with a camp in all kinds of weather. We had wind, rain and sunshine. The camp was small, but keenness and the desire to learn, with plenty of fun thrown in, made it very enjoyable, and all activities, though strenuous, went with a swing. Applicants for Camper's Licence came from Ballarat, Hamilton, Benalla, Coburg, and others who came for experience only were from Gipspland, Geelong, Ballarat, and the Wimmera.

Campcraft Camps are experimental: there are no hard-and-fast rules about anything, different methods are illustrated in a practical way, different methods of pitching a tent, types of grease pits, advantages and disadvantages of having seats in the latrines. And, oh! the joy in discovering the uses of a hay-hole, no more constant bending over a stew, no more worrying over the potatoes, cooking becomes simple and we swear never to be without a hay-hole when we run our own camps. To many of us it is our very first experience in cooking; what harrying moments before the custard comes, and what pride and joy when it is proved that it really looks and tastes like a custard!

Hard work is essential at Campcraft because we are there to learn as much as we are able; but arising from all this comes the comradeship of sharing difficulties, the result of work well done, camp fire where songs are shared, and valiant efforts made to keep the right note and to hold one's own in a new part-song.

By the middle of the week the atmosphere is made, each is playing her part, shyness is overcome. Each Guider is learning to be proficient with a tent, and is taking an intelligent interest in grease pits, and has made definite conclusions on various debated points.

At the end of the week the test is over—we are proficient, we have passed, we are ready to pass our knowledge on. We are reminded in the Guiders' Own that we are not working for ourselves—we are working for the youth of to-day. The words of the Chief Scout are quoted to us: "You are, or can be, preparing them for helping in the greater cause of peace. Look forward. As your plants grow up from the seed which you have sown labelled 'Broad-minded Outlook, 'Love' and 'Desire to bind up the wounds of War.' Goodwill and Peace will be your harvest!"

Yes! Campcraft is good. Surely if we can pass on to our Guides the joy of Camping, the joy of the open air and the joy of simple pleasures that come from simple living in the open, we are carrying out effectively all that the Chief Scout has asked of us.

[Next month we shall hear from other campers.—Ed.]

VICTORIAN TRAINING WEEK.

The 39th Victorian Training Week was held at the Guide House from 27th December to 3rd January, with Miss Sheila MacLeod as Guider-in-Charge. The eighteen Trainees came from all parts of the State—from Swan Hill, Hamilton, Port Fairy, Dimboola, Drouin, as well as from the metropolitan districts, and one came from Singapore.

Apart from the more serious side, the highlight of the week was the Camp fire to which we were invited on New Year's Eve, by "Campcraft." This very enjoyable campfire was followed by supper—cocoa, and piping hot just-out-of-the-pan dropscones!! This so inspired the Training Week Quartermaster that she went home, and did likewise. There was also a concert, provided by the Trainees for the entertainment of each other and the staff—at which each Patrol provided an item, amid much merriment.

It was a very pleasant, as well as a very helpful week, from which I feel sure that everyone went home with fresh inspiration, and full of the joyous adventure of Guiding.

THE CHIEF'S CHRISTMAS CARD.

The State Commissioner feels that every Pack and Company, and many individuals, would like the privilege of having a copy of the Chief's Christmas Card, as a memorial and an inspiration.

It has been decided that every Pack and Company in Victoria shall be given a full-size reproduction; these will be posted direct to Districts for distribution.

Individual Guides who would like copies may obtain them from Headquarters; a charge will be made of 2d. per copy, plus postage and packing. Any proceeds from these sales will be given to the Thinking Day Fund.

M. E. BUSH.

COPIES OF THE FORM OF SERVICE.

A limited number of copies of the Memorial Service is available on application at Headquarters, for those who would like one, but did not obtain one on the day of the Service.

M. E. BUSH.

IDLE GOSSIP MEANS DELAY.

(From The Argus, Tuesday, 21st Jan., 1941).

Many Australian women have wondered why their letters written every week have failed to reach their husbands, sons, brothers, or friends in the services overseas at the time when the mail should have been delivered.

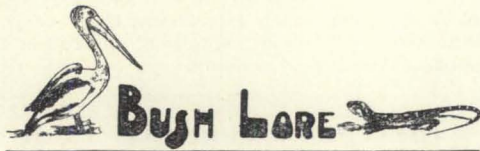
District censors could tell them why. The women of Australia on the whole are far too eager to tell their people overseas about move-

ments of ships and movements of troops—two things which should never be mentioned in letters.

The censors claim that about 75 per cent. of letters delayed by the censor are written by women, and contain careless statements.

Diggers oversea long for letters, but they will be a long time reaching them if women persist in this method of writing. Some women seem to think that as long as they do not actually give the names of ships everything is well. This is not so.

The whole art of letter writing is to tell the loved ones about the things nearest and dearest to them. Soldiers have plenty of soldiering every day. In their spare moments, when the mail arrives, they want to think about pleasanter things—and to a family man no news could be more welcome than the little every-day events of his home.



Editor: Ina Watson

"This instinct for a free life in the open air 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 for us."

—"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 is 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. The Guides will pick out his big bill and shortish tail 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 the creeks. Migratory he returns during October in our district, but Clayley 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 silently and gracefully down flew four choughs and proceeded in turn to feed the large red mouths that stretched from the 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 and 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.



A PRAYER FOR PEACE.

O God, the Father of us all, who hast made of one blood all nations of men, mercifully receive the prayers that we offer you for our anxious and troubled world.

Send Thy light into our darkness, and guide the nations as one family into the ways of peace. Take away all prejudice, hatred and fear. Give grace to all who serve and suffer because of war.

Strengthen in us day by day the will to understand one another, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us.

To those who by their counsels lead the peoples of the earth grant a right judgment, that so through them and us Thy will be done. Amen.

From The Canadian Guider.

BROWNIES INTO GUIDES.

This week sees many Packs holding the first meeting for 1941, so this is the time to collect scattered wits. Many Brownies who left the Packs at the end of last year will be joining Guide Companies which most likely commence this week. Have all you Owls written notes to the Captains, giving her the name and address, age, date of enrolment, tests passed and any other helpful information of each Brownie? Besides this, there may be time to consult with the Captains about the possibility of a 'Going-up' ceremony, or if you have achieved a first-class Brownie, a Flying up ceremony.

If one of you, or better still both of you, have some ideas brewing, then a happy arrangement can be quickly arrived at. The ceremony will be successful if it is simple and straightforward, and the purpose of it be apparent to all who are present. The following are two simple outlines to give an indication of what can be attempted. Your own circumstances of time, space, numbers etc., will govern each detail and will almost compose the ceremony for you.

Brownies Flying or Going up to Company

Company stands in Horse-shoe formation and Brown Owl and Brownie stand behind the Captain with the Totem.

Brown Owl: "Mary Jones, you have for three years been in the Brownie pathway and it is time for you to pass through the gate and to enter on the great highway of Guiding. The best wishes of the Pack go with you to your Guide life. Goodbye." Owl and Brownie salute each other and shake hands.

Brownie walks round the centre of the horse-shoe until she is challenged by her future Patrol Leader.

Patrol Leader: "Who goes there?"

Brownie: "A Brownie from the Pack."

Patrol Leader: "By what right do you come?"

Brownie: "By the right of the Pack." (or "my wings")

Patrol Leader: "Brownies are always welcome."

Patrol Leader accompanies the Brownie to the Captain who salutes, shakes hands and welcomes her. Then Patrol Leader and Brownie return to the Horse-shoe which is then dismissed.

Company and Pack together.

Company in horse-shoe formation and Brownies in Fairy ring. Brownies move around singing—"We're all here to say good-bye,

For up from Brownies you must fly."

Tune—Nuts and May.

Still holding hands the Owl leads the Pack round the inside of the horse-shoe and each patrol leader claims her recruit. The patrol leaders present the recruits to the Captain while the rest of the Pack returns to the Totem. The Captain arranges the conclusion.

Heard at 2nd Richmond Pack

Visiting Owl: "What do you usually do next?"

Brownie: "We hold out our hands and Brown Owl respects them!"

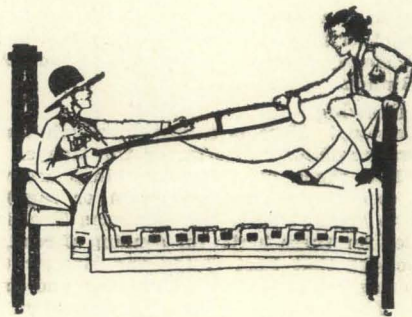
War brings few changes to Brownie work; Packs continue to meet, week by week, year in year out. Recruits arrive—often too many,—they become Brownies, Second class Brownies,

sometimes First class. They play games, they revel in handiwork, they learn to do many small things well. Slowly they learn to understand the meaning of the Brownie promise, and the motto 'Lend a Hand' is widely interpreted as it grows into the daily good turn. Then the Brownies move on to the Guide Companies and more children join the Pack' just as eager and keen to become Brownies as the others were before them.

All Owls and Pack Leaders

Next Matilda will give details of a get-together framed to include Owls old and new, and Pack leaders. This will be an out of doors tea meeting, incorporating some brand new ideas calculated to both entertain and instruct. The date and the place and the time of meeting will be declared in the March Matilda.

V.A.T.



Editor: Sydney Foott.

The Memorial Service to the Chief

There were about thirty Extension Guides, Rangers and Brownies at the Memorial Service to the Chief Scout on January 19th. We were in a little group together in front of the Members' Stand, and though the Extension Colours could not be marched with those of other Companies, we had our own Colour Party which marched down the centre of the aisle of our block while we stood at attention. Then the colours were fastened to the picket fence, where they flew bravely in the breeze.

As we joined with the Scouts and with our sister Guides all over the world in thanking God for the inspiration which the Chief gave to us, we remembered that the carrying out of our promise is the best way of showing our love and gratitude—let us go forward with our Guiding remembering that a task without a vision is drudgery, a vision without a task is a dream, but a task with a vision is the hope of the world.

After the service and the renewal of our Promises we gathered together in a corner of the park outside the M.C.C. and had an Extension gathering—one of the comparatively rare occasions where we can all meet together and see our friends from other Companies. 1st. and 6th Posts had many camp experiences to talk over, and the Rangers were all full of plans for the Ranger weekend.

The Ranger Week-end

So far, about fourteen Rangers are coming to the Ranger weekend—either from Post Ranger Companies or from 3rd. Melbourne Rangers.

We are most grateful to the Victorian Society for Crippled Children, who are lending us the van for transport.

Camp

1st and 6th Post Guides had a very successful camp at Christmas time, which was held at the Craft Hostel, Frankston. The Craft Hostel is an ideal place for an Extension camp, as there are no steps—the only difficulty seemed to be transport up and down the cliff-face to the beach! However, Extensions are as clever as Rangers at solving emergencies of this kind, and everyone managed the journey successfully.

There was also the excitement of a visit from the Commissioner for Extensions, Miss Alston, who was accompanied by Miss Irving.

Miss Thewlis was the Commandant, and the captains of both companies were also on the staff.

Our Commissioner

Miss Campbell has gone overseas with the hospital unit, and all of us in the Extension Branch join together in wishing her the very best of luck and as speedy a return as possible to the Extension Branch.

Herb Growing

Extensions! Here is a way in which we can help in providing comforts for the troops. You know how much nicer savory things are when herbs (such as thyme, marjoram or sage) are added to them. Well, the Canteens Board has appealed for these herbs for sending abroad, and we thought that Post Guide and Ranger Companies might like to help in growing and drying them. The herbs should be picked when dry, using the top part of the stem only. Then they are dried by spreading them out (each sort of herb kept separate in drying and packing) in cardboard boxes, turning them frequently. They take about a fortnight to dry. Then the leaves should be stripped from the stems and put in an air-tight container. If you feel that this is a job your company would like to undertake, please let me know.

The Sign Post

Editor Marjorie Nicholson

A SUGGESTION FOR A HALF-DAY HIKE.

"An International Hike."

Later this month our thoughts will be turning to Thinking Day and Guides in other countries. Maybe you will be planning to have a special meeting in your Company for Thinking Day. Why not try an international hike instead? You would be giving the children a meeting in the open as well as something "different."

Here are a few suggestions for a half-day hike.

I think a week or a fortnight before the hike each patrol should choose a country about which they are to find out as much as they can, including number of Guides there, their uniform and badge, and whether their Laws and Promise are the same as ours; they want to know something about the country too. Captain may have to offer advice as to where some of this information could be found.

Then each Guide should represent a place

where there are Guides and come to the hike wearing the flag of that country, the name being shown so that everyone will have an opportunity of learning the different flags.

The journey to the place chosen for the hike will represent a "sea trip" to the countries the Patrols represent, and when they land, they will naturally make their Patrol Corners into that country.

During Rest Hour, the Guides can compare the flags they are wearing and learn the type of flag belonging to the different countries in readiness for an International Treasure Hunt.

Treasure Hunt:—Captain prepares a number of flags minus names and a sealed order for each Patrol. Instructions to the Patrols read:

"You are going for a trip around the world visiting—say—10 or 12 different places (the number of flags you have prepared). A secret message has been received that China holds the key to a treasure chest. Find that key and it will tell you where to look for the treasure,."

The track is set as follows:—The flags of the countries are placed on trees, bushes or on the ground at least 10 yards apart with an arrow at each one showing the direction the ship should take to reach the next country. The countries should be named by the Guides from the unnamed flags as they pass through. When China is reached (this you will keep as the last port of call) make a letter box tracking sign and hide a message written in morse (the key to the treasure) in a suitable spot. The key could read "60 feet North West of India". The treasure should be hidden in this spot.

Another suggestion—of course you may have a better one—"World Knowledge Game"—Have the Guides divided into Patrols and numbered. Select approximately 6 parts of the world and a tree to represent each, the name of each part being placed in a prominent position on each tree, and a peg or stone for each Patrol at the foot of the tree. Guider prepares a list of well known places in these parts of the world. The Guides will sit in a circle in the centre of the trees.

Captain calls the name of a place and a number. The Guide in each group who bears this number runs to the tree representing the part of the world in which she thinks the place is situated, seizes a peg or stone and runs back with it.

- (a) A point may be given for the correct location of the place.
- (b) An extra point may be given for the particular country the place is in in that part of the world.

e.g. Adelpoden—Europe: an extra point if Guide says Switzerland as well.

Of course, you will be ending your outing with a campfire when the Guides will want to sing such International songs as "Our Chalet" and "Polish International", and it is then that the Patrols will tell all they have discovered about their own particular country. At the close of campfire is Captain's opportunity to impress on the Guides how we are linked with other children all over the world through our common interest—GUIDING. As each Guide has been representing a country during this International outing, what more appropriate ending could you have than "The Cable,, with each country a link in the chain of Guiding. B.M.M.

LONES.

The get-together meeting of the Lones L.A. which took place at my home on Tuesday, January 14th was a very happy party, as it gave people the opportunity to meet not only those country members who attended—Mrs Field of Lang Lang and Mrs Huffam of Geelong—but also one of our Lone Guiders, Miss Weller, and Miss Bush who joined us for tea.

It was a great thrill for me to meet my Guiders. Corresponding is such an inadequate way of learning to know a person, and even though one tries by conjecture to form a mental picture, one is merely guessing. All of which makes the actual meeting doubly interesting. I think this is one of the most important parts of my work as Commissioner—to try and overcome the lack of personal contact. How I am going to achieve it is for the moment beyond me. We all lead such busy lives and with petrol rationing forming an obstruction to travelling, we have to more than ever "stay put". Therefore it can be understood what an event it was meeting those three country people last Tuesday. May I repeat that any time either country Guiders or members of the Lones L.A. are coming to Melbourne, will they please let me know, and give me the opportunity of getting to know them personally, or of being of service to them during their visit.

I was very much interested to hear Mrs Field tell of her experiences as a member of the Wannon Mounted Company when she first joined several years ago. She now belongs to Miss Pond's 1st Lone Rangers.

We are sorry to report that both our Secretary and Treasurer have had to resign. Mrs Roberts because she has been given the care of two evacuated children and Miss Hooper because her home ties make it impossible to attend meetings regularly. However we are very fortunate in enlisting Mrs Hughes and Mrs Jardine to take their places. These two ladies have shown very great interest in the Association since its inauguration last July, and we are happy in the knowledge that they will continue to give practical assistance in these capacities.

A disappointment to us was the fact that no Lone Guide and only one Lone Ranger attended camp. Personally I think it was my lack of foresight in not helping my Guiders make their girls "camp-conscious" long enough before the appointed time. We feel that if parents and girls fully understood the importance and thrill of camp life, and how much we, as an association can do to help them overcome what seem to them insurmountable difficulties—such as transport, hospitality en route, equipment, etc.—we might be able to fill our quota.

N.S.W. held a camp this year comprised altogether of Lones. Yet we were only represented by one Ranger. Clearly something must be done about it! Camping is the essence of Guiding; without it is like looking over a garden wall at an orchard laden with fruit. To open the gate so that our Lones may taste what awaits them is the task we have set ourselves for the year 1941!

The Lones L.A. meetings will take place in the evenings in future instead of in the afternoons as hitherto. This has been arranged because so many members are not free during the day, and

we hope in this way to give them the opportunity to attend. There are 29 metropolitan members and we have not tapped half of them yet! Also any Lone Guiders who like to attend will be very welcome. As our main reason for existing is to help them help their Guides, any suggestion or request they may put forth will receive our earnest attention, and their practical experience will be of great assistance.

So please note, everyone, that the next meeting will be held at Headquarters on March 11th at 7.45 p.m.

M. R. Fairbairn

RANGERS' PAGE

Editor: E. Faulkner

Dear Rangers,

Thinking Day will soon be here, the birthday of our beloved Chief. The day when we think of all our sister Guides in the world and send them a silent wish of good cheer and comradeship.

Millions of hearts all over the world will be filled this Thinking Day by thoughts of our Great Chief and Founder, who after a long life of love and service has "gone home".

They will be filled with sorrow at his passing, and for those nearest to him who grieve for him, but they will also be filled with pride that they are members of the Great Movement that he has given to the world, and a feeling of joy that they are sharing in its being and a sense of responsibility for the furtherance of its ideals.

I have been reading again the "Piper of Pax," how many of you have read it I wonder? Do so this month if you can, also Girl Guiding or Scouting for Boys.

It is in those books that we see clearly the great knowledge the Chief Scout had of men and women and especially children, of what would appeal to them, and be fun for them to learn and useful to them in life; we also realise so clearly his love of life and his fellow men, his vitality and energy, wide outlook originality, courage and self discipline.

I have picked out one or two incidents from the "Piper of Pax" of his early life before 1907 and the Brownsea Island beginnings of Scouting for Boys, in case you have not had the chance of reading his life story.

The Chief Scout was born on February 22nd 1857 in London, just near Hyde Park; he was the sixth son and eighth of ten children of the Rev. Professor Baden-Powell by his third wife Herietta Grace, his father was an Oxford Professor who had written many theological and philosophical books, a clergyman well known for his loving nature and kindly disposition. His mother was the daughter of Admiral Smythe who could claim descent from Captain John Smith, the founder of Virginia.

He won a scholarship from Fettes Rose Hill Tunbridge Wells and also obtained nomination for Charterhouse, so in either case a free education was assured.

He was a born actor and in the school dramatic performances made a reputation that he subsequently never lost. He could always rise to any occasion and B.P. or Bathing Towel as he was

called by the boys was always in demand as a clown, fiddler, pianist and especially as a comic artist.

Sandhurst and the army came next, and we soon find in India the evidence of his observation and sense of humor.

At his first parade he showed himself not as "green" as expected.

It was the rule that every man should wear a thick flannel cholera belt round his waist and many were the efforts to evade this uncomfortable article of attire. The men were drawn up in two ranks, and when B.P. had walked round the rear rank and seen every man open his shirt and display a belt, he saw out of some eye in the back of his head a man step hastily out of the front rank into the rear rank. The new officer said nothing until he had passed the front rank and then remarked coolly and pleasantly, "Now, Hardcastle, we should all like to see the colour of your belt. Stand out. The discomfited Hardcastle stepped forward and revealed the fact that he had no belt, and, amidst the laughter of his comrades, was awarded the punishment of wearing two belts until further notice. At the Cape in 1885 we find him with six other comrades setting off to ride 100 miles and see how fast they could do it; a challenge to the reported rides of certain Austrian cavalry officers.

In Malta in 1893 we find another angle to his terrific energy. He wrote proudly from the "Soldiers and Sailors Club, Malta." It had taken him two years of getting up concerts and entertainments to raise funds for this, but it was a great success, as it was badly needed there. On being criticised for placing it among the drinking shops of the town, he replied: "Well, where would you put a poultice?" And the "Poultice" became its unofficial name.

A few years later in Ashanti we see a real piece of scouting. It was on the night march of a flying column to Bekwai. Messengers had been received by Sir Francis Scott from the King of Bekwai saying he wished to come under the British flag, but that protection must be sent at once. B.P. organised a flying column which, cutting its way through nine miles of bush by night, surrounded Bekwai Palace and hoisted the British flag there. In this night march B.P.'s force had actually got round the enemy, it was a game of hide and seek, and the hiders "got home." In the morning the enemy found that instead of attacking them in front, where they expected it, B.P.'s force was behind them and had cut them off from Bekwai—whom they had counted as an ally—and was likely to cut them off from their main body. So they fled, leaving the main British force to come along without opposition.

In Matabeleland he wrote: "Lots of work, chiefly in the office, but I have had a few outings and have just returned from a three days' reconnaissance which I have thoroughly enjoyed. I went with one companion, the very celebrated American Scout, Burnham. On his night scouting expeditions he usually went alone, accompanied by one reliable native to hold his horse and keep a look out, and in many of his books he has written of his "close shaves" and adven-

tures and the value of observation, deduction, keen eyesight and sense of smell.

We all have heard of our Chief's wonderful example and initiative during the siege of Mafeking, where as we know, he used the boys of the town in all sorts of useful ways and where perhaps the roots of the patrol system were struck. During the siege one afternoon a flag of truce came in from the enemy to ask if they would surrender to avoid further bloodshed. To this demand B.P. sent back the simple answer: "Why?" Always ingenious, new "stunts" were tried daily. A traveller in acetylene happened to be in Mafeking when the place was cut off; he had a small supply of it with him, also some jets. A big tin reflecting cowl was made with triple lights inside it and B.P. had it stuck up on a pole which could be turned by hand in any direction, and gave a strong beam of light. This pole was set up in one fort and shown two or three times in the night. The next night it was transferred to another fort, by this trick it looked as if there was regular installation of searchlights, which would make a night attack very unpleasant. At the end of the siege he writes, "it was a long strain of anxiety, and I had to wear a mask of cheerful nonchalance all the time."

In 1901 he returned to the Cape and set to work on the organisation of the South African constabulary. With these he carried out his new ideas of smaller groups with greater freedom and greater chance for individual initiative. The roots of the patrol system had indeed been struck, had developed, and were in fact at last bearing fruit.

Then followed visits to Germany, Belgium, France, Austria, Italy, Canada, America, Ireland and Egypt. In all of these countries our Chief would note something that appealed to him in the habits or customs or life of the people there, and store it up for future reference and help in the great plan and game that was growing in his mind for the young people of the world.

The game of Scouting did not take shape all in a day. In the early days in India he realised that the ordinary training of soldiers did not give them scope for initiative in war, nor character for making a success of civil life later on. In the S.A.C. he had experimented in Scout training on men under him, in Mafeking he had made it applicable to boys, and when he returned to England he found his book, "Aids to Scouting," was being used in boys and girls' schools. In 1907 he was lecturing on his scheme in many centres and the same year conducted a trial Scout camp at Brownsea Island. And from there we most of us know the wonderful growth of this great game for boys and girls of the whole world.

And although our great Leader and Founder has "gone home," he has left us a torch to carry, an individual responsibility and trust to perform.

He has shown us a simple way of life, which each of us, I expect unconsciously sums up in some of the many wise words that he has uttered. I personally like to express that "way of life" in words that he has used to describe the Scout or Guide movement, "One with love as its soul, and service its expression."

THINKING DAY MESSAGES.

There will not be any special Thinking Day Cards this year, but it is suggested that those who would like to send Thinking Day Greetings may like to use the smaller copies of the Chiefs' Christmas Card. These will be obtainable for about one penny half-penny each; any proceeds from the sale will go to the Thinking Day Fund (World Bureau).

C. Broadhurst.

CAMPING and TRAINING

Pioneer Camp for Guides.

This Camp will be held at the Guide House at Easter. Guides attending must be able to do the following:—Pitch and strike their own tents, and care for tents during camp. Make a woodpile and light cooking fires. Be able to cook out of doors. Have some ideas on making Patrol latrines, using natural cover and any necessary screening. Know all the second class hitches and knots thoroughly. Guides who are recommended for the Pioneer Badge will be tested. Application forms are available at the Guide Office, or from Miss Harrison, now. Applications should be in **NOT LATER THAN 6th MARCH, 1941**. Five shillings deposit must be sent for each Guide. The 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 fee will depend on the number of applications received. Applications should be posted to Miss V. Harrison, 126 High st., Glen Iris, S.E.6. Deposits will not be refunded if withdrawal is made later than two weeks before the commencement of the camp.

Open Week-ends at the Guide House.

As there is to be a working bee at the Guide House in February there will not be any open week-end this month. There was quite a lot of information about open week-

ends in last month's "Matilda," so please read it over again if you are at all vague about what they are. The fee at present, from Friday evening to Sunday evening, is 6/-, including return bus fare from Wesburn. Part time in proportion. The rail fare, in addition to camp fee is: From Melbourne, 16 and over, 5/9 return; under 16, 3/10.

Applications, accompanied by 2/6 deposit for each camper, should be posted to Miss Harrison, 126 High st., 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. Please state which week-end you are applying for, and by which train you wish to travel—Friday evening, Saturday morning, mid-day or evening.

Proposed dates for open week-ends for 1941: 7th-9th and 21st-23rd March, 2nd-4th May, 6th-8th and 22nd-24th June.

Training Classes.

Guide and Brownie Training Classes will commence at the Guide Office late in March. Will Guiders who intend to come to these classes please write and tell the Hon. Training Secretary, Miss B. Macartney, c/o Guide Office, which nights would not suit them at all, so that arrangements may be made to suit as many as possible.



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The fee is 3d. per class. Equipment required is notebook, pencil, sandshoes. All Guiders who have not previously been nominated for Victorian H.Q. training must bring a signed nomination form from their District Commissioners.

First Class.

First Class training for Guiders will commence after Easter. It would help considerably with arrangements if Guiders would notify Miss Macartney beforehand if they wish to attend.—Elaine Moran.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID.

The following subscriptions have been paid, and receipts retained here:—

21st December: 1st Moe Co.

7th January: Miss P. Pond (4 subs.);
1st Monivae Co.

Receipts will be posted if a stamped addressed envelope is sent.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Adventuring": South Australia.

"The Girl Guide Courier": Western Australia.

"The Girl Guide Magazine": South Africa.

"Te Rama": New Zealand.

"The Waratah": New South Wales.

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