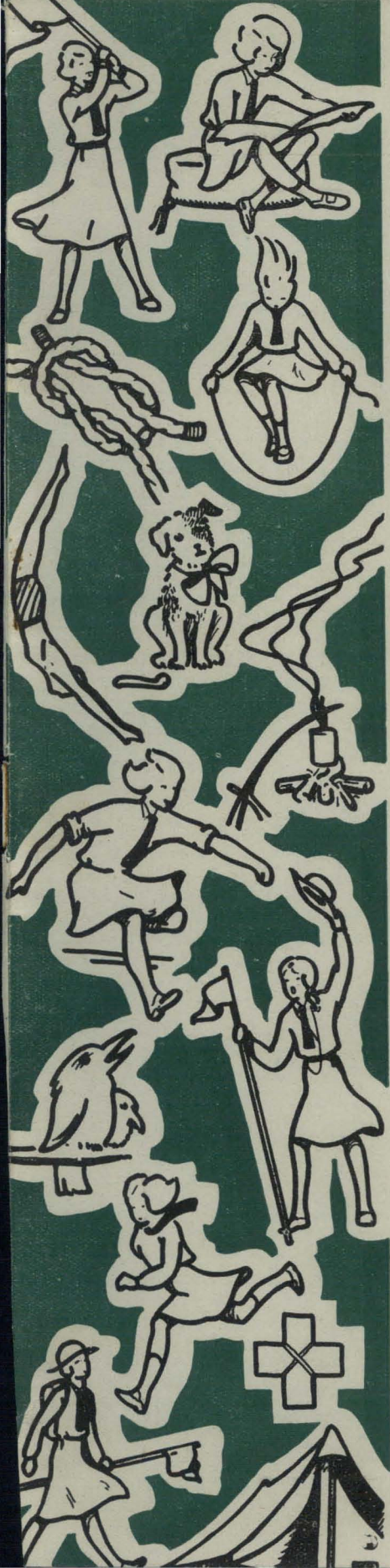


Miss M E Bush
Journal

Matilda



MARCH, 1941



Your next Best Friend...

FOR the friendship of a mother there is no substitute . . . but even a mother's love cannot be completely adequate unless it is based on something deeper than sentiment. In the difficult days to come, your child's "next best" friend will be a bank book . . . the tangible sign of your desire to safeguard the future. Whether you have much money or very little, weekly payments into a Savings Bank account quickly build up a shield which will protect your child against humiliation or complete dependence on others. Open a Savings Bank account this week. You will never regret it.

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“Matilda”

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

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VOL. XVII.

MARCH, 1941.

No. 7.

COMMISSIONER FOR RANGERS.

It is with much pleasure that we welcome Miss Dorothy Ross as Commissioner for Rangers.

Miss Ross is, as you all know, the Head Mistress of the Church of England Girls' Grammar School; we appreciate her generosity in sparing time to help Guiding, and we know that her knowledge and experience of girls of all ages will be of great benefit to the Ranger Branch.

We should like to thank Mrs. Faulkner for acting as Commissioner for Rangers during this past year, and to express our gratitude for all she has done to show her practical interest in Rangering.

SIBYL CHAUVEL.

GUIDE WEEK.

Guide Week will be held throughout Australia in May, 1941, as near to Empire Day as possible.

Guide Week in Victoria will be from 9th to 18th May.

The Executive Committee appointed Miss Coles, Miss Moran and Miss Swinburne as a Sub-committee for Guide Week, with power to add to their number. The Sub-committee consulted Mrs. Knight, President of the Guiders' Committee, Mrs. Tate, Mrs. Faulkner and Miss Purnell, and presented their proposals to the Executive Committee on 19th February. The proposals were accepted.

The principal decision for organisation is that each District shall be a unit for Guide Week; it follows that as Commissioners and Guiders in each District will be making plans, a large central Committee will not be needed.

The Sub-committee attempted to find an underlying idea which would unite us in common purpose, but give greatest freedom in practise and expressions. For instance, the suggested visit to a public service is only one of many ways in which the idea of democracy may be awakened, the common project of "badges" allows individual choice, and original plans in every District for all Guides to see the complete result.

For the Guides' Own Service, we appeal to all Guiders to collect the best hymns, prayers and readings, and send a note for "Matilda" of where they may be found.

Be calm in arguing, for fierceness makes error a fault, and truth, discourtesy.

OUTLINE PLAN FOR GUIDE WEEK.

BE PREPARED.

THE OPPORTUNITY

GUIDE WEEK, 1941.

Decided: That Guide Week shall be held from 9th to 18th May, 1941.

Proposed: THE THOUGHT for Guide Week shall be MY COMPANY. THE ACTIVITY of Guide Week shall focus on the motto: "Be Prepared." THE CLIMAX of Guide Week shall be a Guides' Own Service or Campfire, with the first part of the Promise as the theme.

Guide Week will come to us this year when our hearts are filled with humble confidence, gratitude beyond our powers to express, firm resolution to meet whatever may come; we need a plan which can bring the greatest renewal of our strength, with the least diversion of our time and thought from urgent tasks. For the first time we shall lack the thought and message of "the Chief"; our tribute to him, our response to this trust, shall be to make more real, to use with ever greater faith, the simple basis of Guiding, the inspired ideas that are ready to our hand.

DETAILS.

The unit for organising Guide Week shall be the District.

Publicity shall be chiefly local, arranged generally by the Local Association.

MY COUNTRY: Democracy is a belief that every citizen can be, and should be, responsible for the general welfare. Suggested: That each Company (or Patrol) should visit during Guide Week one public service—library, baths, destructor, municipal depot, park, etc.—and find the answer to the question: How does the success of this depend on me?

BE PREPARED.—Suggested: That each Guide, Ranger, and Guider qualify herself before Guide Week for—

One Proficiency Badge or Second Class

Test (4 sections); or

1st Class Test (3 sections); or

Tenderfoot Test; or

Ranger pre-enrolment, Guide Tenderfoot, or 3 sections.

The awards to be made at the service or campfire with a special ceremony.

Brownies: See special notice.

THE PROMISE: References for the Guides' Own Service will be published more fully in the April "Matilda"; some now available are "The Association News," February, 1941, published by the Y.W.C.A.; certain publications

of the Work to Win Committee, which may be seen at Headquarters.

THRIFT: It is a tradition that Guide Week should be a time for gladness in giving through discovering our power to give.

The purpose of thriving and giving shall be chosen this year by each District, unless in the next few weeks a scheme for the Empire is announced.

Guide Week 1941 is planned with purpose to depend on the resolve of each Guide herself; if each of our many thousands plays her part, definite, responsible, serious, the inspiration of the whole will come to a measure no one can foresee in its influence and power.

NOTES: The central project for Guide Week is "Be Prepared," to be carried out by each one qualifying for a test.

Tests: To relieve possible strain upon Warranted Guiders, it is suggested that tests be grouped, arranged by Districts, be practical and "self-correcting"; that Captain sometimes takes into account a report from Lieutenant or Patrol Leader, and above all that Guiders feel responsible for thorough preparation and practise. For some Second Class tests, "outside" examiners may be used.

Adjustments will be necessary—for instance, where a Guide is already a second class Guide except for two sections. Each District will make these adjustments.

Type of Badge: The question of selecting certain badges for Guide Week was discussed.

Decided: To leave choice entirely open—by strengthening Guiding itself we strengthen character and the power of each Guide to serve her country. The principle of Guiding is that each individual should choose an aim for herself and stick to it till she has achieved an object.

Thrift: The same principle can be applied by Districts to Thrift, to encourage the habit of response to a need the Guides discover for themselves.

Alternative: If a Company already over-emphasises the winning of badges, the Commissioner and Guiders might choose another project with the same general purpose; but the possibility of giving the Guides a different point of view about qualifying for a badge might be considered.

G. H. SWINBURNE,
(For Sub-committee).

GUIDERS' COMMITTEE.

The names of the members of the new Committee will be published in the April "Matilda."

The next meeting will be held on 4th April at 8 p.m. at the Guide Office.

O. G. M. KNIGHT.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

March 6.—Closing date, Guide Pioneer Camp.

March 17.—St. Patrick's Day.

March 29.—Girl Guide Red Cross Fete (see notice).

GUIDE WAR APPEAL.

This month we are most grateful to the Kew District for a donation of £65/11/6. Mr. Tye, the sponsor of the charity programmes of "Tye's Radio Review," donated the proceeds of the Revue of 9th February to Mrs. Eddy, Commissioner of Kew, for the War Appeal. We thank Mr. Tye for this generous gift and the advertisement he has given the Guide War Appeal.

Many Districts have sent in second-hand clothing. We are very grateful for these garments, but find that we cannot arrange for the sorting and packing of them any longer. Our space is very restricted so in future will Districts please not send second-hand clothing to our depot. The Red Cross will be grateful for all second-hand clothing which should be delivered to the Red Cross, Refugee Clothing Department, 264 Latrobe st., Melbourne.

There are still copies of "Rabbits Bane" for sale at 4/- each. This is a delightful child's book, and the proceeds from the sales go towards the Guide War Appeal.

M. LITTLEJOHN.

BRITISH SAILORS' SOCIETY.

14th November, 1940.

The Hon. Secretary,
The Guide War Appeal,
Melbourne, Aust.

Re Three Cases of Woollies.

Dear Madam,—

We are now able to report the arrival of the last three cases of woollies sent to us at the above. You must please excuse the long delay in acknowledging them, as they did not arrive until about a week ago. We are so pleased and thankful to have them.

If you could see how much the men appreciate these gifts you would feel that your labour was not wasted.

We have all kinds of Empire men serving in our Naval Forces—men from Newfoundland, Falkland Islands, Canada, Australia, South Africa, and even U.S.A. All fine fellows, and all waiting and willing to do their "bit."

Just as one is writing the planes zoom overhead, probably on their way inland to make it hot for some town to-night similar to Coventry. We are taking some hard knocks, but we are giving harder ones—and the spirit of the British people was never so solid and courageous as it is to-day. With men like those who manned the "Jervis Bay," nothing can overcome or conquer us apart from the will of God.

So we go on thankful to the Colonies, and to God, for all the help we get from you.

With best wishes to all the Guides who have done so much for us and for our men from time to time.

Yours very sincerely,

W. GEORGE JONES,

Sec., British Sailors' Society.

CORKS !

Did you know that the Red Cross Society are anxious to receive CORKS at their Waste Products Depot—just ordinary common corks, all shapes and sizes—and have asked the Girl Guides' Association to help gather in as many thousands (or millions) as are available in Victoria?

Will you and your Guides and Brownies help? Send your parcels to the Red Cross Waste Products Depot, 684 Elizabeth st., Melbourne.
—M.E.B.

NATIONAL SECURITY.

The following extracts are from a letter received from Lieutenant-Colonel S. F. Whittington, General Staff Officer (M.I.), Southern Command:—

"Despite all endeavours to discourage discussion of Military, Naval, Air Force, and merchant shipping movements and allied matters, or mention of such subjects in letters, the practice is still far too prevalent in all classes of the community.

"Heavy penalties are provided, under the National Security Regulations, for such offences, but, in actual fact, a great many people infringe these regulations thoughtlessly and without premeditation. Nevertheless, the results may be as deplorable as if the action had been deliberate and a wider realisation of the possible consequence of such transgressions is urgently necessary and a greater sense of personal responsibility to the nation's cause.

"Many appear to imagine that Australia is the one country where no enemy organisation is operating, or can operate, to obtain information of military value. Unfortunately this is by no means so. On the contrary, there are astute enemy observers, who may be encountered in any part of Australia, but not recognised, who are competent to collect and piece together news items of value to the country they serve and who can, in these days of speedy communication, transmit such knowledge rapidly to where it can be used against us.

"Such men, or women, find their most fruitful source of information in the casual gossip of thoughtless people in public places, or indeed anywhere, on the telephone and in letters. Oversea correspondence, moreover, is always liable to fall into the enemy's hands. Citizens must, therefore, be made to realise that, by promoting such gossip, by their inability to remain silent on such perilous subjects, they are definitely and directly endangering the lives of their own kith and kin and assisting the enemy to victory. They are active workers against their own vital interests.

"The co-operation of your organisation is sought to discourage harmful gossip, written or spoken, though your members must naturally decide how this can most suitably be done.

"More will be accomplished if your members can be induced to urge the same warning in their homes and among their friends."

CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE.

Mrs. John Orton, nee Molly Fisher, was a keen Guide and Patrol Leader for some years in 1st Canterbury Company, and was a very junior member of our first Company camp at Sunnyside.

After her marriage with Mr. John Orton, officer in the P. & O. Company, she lived in England, but paid several visits to Australia. Mr. John Orton was a sub-lieutenant on the Rawalpindi, and died of wounds received in the epic fight when the ship was sunk by an enemy pocket battleship. Since his death, Molly devoted her time to war work, and was a valued member of the Women's Mechanised Transport Corps Ambulance. It was at a special inspection of a section of this Corps by H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent that her absence was noticed, and enquiries brought the sad news that she had been killed the previous night by direct bomb action on her flat.

For Molly and the reunion of husband and wife, we cannot be sad, but to her mother and family, who will feel her loss so sorely, we offer our deepest sympathy.
—M.M.

HAPPY DAYS—SUMMER CAMPS.

God of the hills grant me Thy strength to go
back to the cities without faltering,
Strength to do my daily task without tiring
and with enthusiasm,

Strength to help my neighbour who has no
hills to remember.

God of the Stars, may I take back the gift
of friendship, of love for all.

1st AND 2nd BENALLA GUIDE CAMP.

The Benalla Guides were thrilled to learn that their District Captain, Mrs. Bakewell, had gained her Camper's Licence, and that she was able to take us to camp, and we were very lucky to have such a lovely camp site by the creek on Miss Sanger's property near Euroa.

The Benalla Guide Camp was held this year at Euroa, and was attended by 15 Guides and four Guiders.

We arrived late in the morning, and after we had been put in Patrols we set to work pitching tents with good camping spirit.

The next day we went exploring the country about us, and many interesting things were discovered.

Two or three days after we arrived, a lady, who lived on a farm near by, invited us all to a Devonshire tea which was to be held in her garden. We set out at about 11.30 a.m. by our "daylight saving" time, and walked the 2½ miles in quite good time. The Devonshire tea was delicious and everybody was charmed with the beautiful garden.

Saturday was Visitors' Day, and the parents of the majority of the Guides came down to see them. The Euroa Guides also came to see us, and we had competitions with them, in the swimming pool and on land.

In the evening we had a camp fire, and each Patrol from camp gave an item, after which we sang with the Euroa Guides.

Two days later we had to strike camp, and every Guide was wishing that we still had another week of camp to go through.

P.L. LUCY TERRETT.

BARWON DIVISION CAMP, "BUNGARRA," OCEAN GROVE.

This is the story of our camp at "Bungarra," Ocean Grove, gathered from impressions given by the Guides.

The 24 Guides in camp are divided into four Patrols—Baden Powells, Beach Views, Sandpipers and Smileaways. Everyone in camp is enjoying themselves in spite of scratches, and bites and PRUNES, and ordinary appetites have developed into CAMP APPETITES very rapidly.

Hot baths have been very popular at night, but the same enthusiasm has not been shown for cold showers early in the morning.

Our Commandant awarded ribbons every day for the best tents, gold ribbon for a perfect tent and red for very good tents, gold ribbons are not very common needless to say, but we are all trying very hard to win one.

Yesterday we had our first swim, and it was just lovely. The water was quite warm and nobody liked coming out. We have six English Guides from the Northcote Farm at Bacchus Marsh camping with us, and they enjoy swimming immensely.

Someone found a ring-tailed possum on the rafter in the mess shelter one night, and called everyone in to see it. It stayed for a few minutes, then ran away on to the big gum tree outside.

As well as four Guides coming on Saturday for the week-end, we had our visitors' day, and lots of us spent the afternoon on the beach with parents after showing them our camp. We were all very sorry Q.M.'s mother was so ill that she had to leave us early Saturday morning. Her variety of camp costumes brightened things considerably.

As we could not go to the Memorial Service for the Chief Scout in Melbourne, we had a service of our own using the same order of service as was used in Melbourne. We erected a small flagpole in the paddock at the back of our camp site, and had the service there amongst the bush the Chief Scout loved so much. Rev. R. J. Philp, who was holidaying at Barwon Heads, very kindly came and gave us such an interesting and inspiring address about our Chief Scout and the wonderful work he had done. He made

us all feel that more than ever we must live up to the ideals he has given us, especially that of fitting ourselves to serve others.

After Church on Sunday afternoon we had a lovely nature ramble. Our camp baby really needed bigger hands to carry everything she found.

We had one lovely afternoon hike into the scrub, where we played all kinds of Scouting games and found such a lot of things towards our Nature Badge. We boiled our billy and had camp fire out there after tea, coming home in the moonlight.

Our Divisional Commissioner and District Commissioner and Secretary came to visit us one day and had dinner with us.

Time at camp has just flown and now we wish we had asked for a 10 days' camp. We have all enjoyed it so much, especially our camp fires and the hike into the bush.

We nearly forgot to mention about the "Camp Badges" our Guiders made up for us to work for. They are: Entertainers, which many of us gained by entertaining for five minutes at camp fire, either singly or in groups. Self-control; you would be surprised that more than half of us won this (after several tries!) to keep silent for three hours on end, including a meal. The Swimmers' Badge was not gained by any of us because we had so little swimming due to the weather, but we had a shot at throwing a life line.

Quite a number of us got our Nature Badge by finding 12 interesting things. Many of us had not realised that a queer sea mist and a glorious sunset belonged to "nature" as well as seed pods, birds, and gulls.

The Camp and Pioneer Badges were a bit beyond most of us as so few had ever camped before, but the "Tent" Badge was gained by one of us.

KEW DISTRICT GUIDE CAMP.

"Bungarra," Ocean Grove.

There were 25 Guides in camp, mostly 11 and 12-year-olds. I have heard arguments against Patrol and tent competition in camps, and know that older Guides sometimes do not respond well to the system, but it worked exceptionally well with these young Guides, whose orderly work rose, during the week, to a very high standard; one which was maintained on the last day, even when points were finished!

Afternoons were spent at the beach, sometimes with tea there, too, and evening sing-songs were short and simple. It was at the Guides' own request that part of each morning was spent on Guide work, as tracking and stalking, for which the back paddock is ideal, and nature rambles were enjoyed. We strongly recommend this site for any Company who are nature lovers, and particularly those interested in birds.

—E.B.

TREASURE HUNT IN CAMPS.

Having voted in favour of a treasure hunt, we stayed in the mess shelter while the clues were set out.

There were four Patrols, and each leader was given an envelope containing sealed orders, which led to the first clue. We assembled at the appointed place, and when the whistle blew the P.L.'s opened their envelopes. Each had a different clue, so that everyone would not be running round together. Our clue was in numbers, and when we decoded it we found it said to find the tallest thing in camp, so we rushed to the flagpole, and there found a second clue. In this way we followed 11 clues, which finished the cycle, and when the last directed us to our starting point, where we found our final clue. This directed us to a Guider's tent, where we, being first, secured the "treasure," an orange for each member of the Patrol!

—R.M., 3rd Kew Coy.

1st AND 6th POST GUIDES' CAMP AT FRANKSTON.

Down the leafy road a car lumbered into sight. Strapped to its hood was a wooden sled, and one running board held a bundle of luggage and billycans, whilst inside were half a dozen Post Guides, squealing with excitement and waving crutches and straw hats.

I grabbed up my bundles and squeezed myself into a small corner of the back seat. The car, with its merry load, started off again, and soon we were on the road to Frankston—to the Craft Hostel which was to be the camp site for 1st and 6th Post Guide Company's camp.

We had no sooner arrived and helped the Guides into the Hostel when the V.S.C.C. ambulance, with a second load, came tooting up the drive. Everybody set to work. Beds were made up, luggage unpacked, and Patrols were organised. Soon it was tea time, and we were sitting around the huge dining room, where the windows overlooked a colourful view of green scrub with the stretch of vivid blue sea beyond.

"Lights out" was early that night, and the next morning subdued whispers, still carrying with them an undertone of excitement, began before sunrise. Some of the Guides had not stayed at the beach before, and it was with difficulty that they were persuaded to stay in bed for breakfast.

After Colours we headed for the beach, some Guides going by car round the road, and others following a path through the paddocks below the hostel. It was a strange procession, including a wheel-chair and a splint-pram, two dogs and a great many bundles of multi-coloured towels and bathers. All the Guides wore straw hats, swathed with green netting to ward off flies.

A precarious trip through bushes and down a steep sandhill followed. Several had to be

carried down on stretchers, but this was negotiated with the help of some stalwart young men who came up from the beach to aid our cause.

A piece of ocean floor was cleared of rocks and stones, leaving a nice sandy little path for the Guides, who, with the help of the sled, were able to slide themselves into the water. For many of them, it was the first bathe, and the inevitable squeals increased to a joyous crescendo.

After much rubbing and heaving and readjusting of splints, the billys were boiled and picnic lunch followed, and then rest hour. Then, collecting crutches and billys and bathers, we hoisted prams and stretchers up the sandy path and made our way back to the hostel.

That night the rising moon shone down on a camp fire, surrounded by a ring of lusty-voiced Guides singing the traditional favourites—"The Animals' Fair" and "Down Yonder." As the first words of "Day Is Done" were heard a hush fell on the camp, and the first day was gone.

Day by day the Guides grew browner and healthier. It was clear, sunny weather, with a cool southerly breeze, and we spent much time out of doors. There was bathing and picnicking and tracking, and several Guides, armed with bags and billys, set out to make fires for their First Class hike.

But the highlight of the week (excepting, of course, the ridiculous evening when the Commandant attempted to return the white rabbit to its cage) was the concert. Each Patrol arranged an item and during the afternoon there was much giggling and rehearsing to be heard from behind locked doors. Cake tins for crowns and bread knives for daggers were surreptitiously borrowed from the kitchen, while one beautiful heroine was seen carving herself a pair of false teeth from orange peel!

Just before cookhouse whistle blew, someone conceived the idea of a fancy dress parade for tea. There was a frenzied hunt for costumes, which had, of course, to be different from the garb for the concert. In half an hour, however, a stream of fantastically dressed creatures poured into the dining room, including corpses, snake-charmers, professors and Spanish beauties—and Alice and the Mad Hatter, hand in hand, the latter trying in vain to bite a piece from his thick china mug!

The week ended all too soon. On Saturday we were re-packing luggage, children and splint prams into the ambulance. Camp had broken up until another year.—By "Sister."

GIFT OF GRAMPHONE—URGENT.

Was it to your Company I lent a small gramophone? We had two here—one unidentified and one which was to be given to a poor Company. I gave one to a Guider in the last half of last year, and now wish to trace it, with a view to exchange; can you give me a clue? F. V. BARFUS.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Girl Guides' Association, Victoria, held at the Guide Office on 6th February, 1941:—

Present.

Mrs. Faulkner (chair), Mrs. Edmondson, Misses Cameron, Coles, Harrison, Moran, Ritchie, Russell, Swinburne and the Secretary.

Reported.

That the Equipment Depot had received word that 2000 yards of uniform material had been sent from England.

That Miss Hattie Alexander had agreed to look after the business side of "Matilda."

That Miss Maling had consented to be responsible for a column in "Matilda" devoted to Guide War Time activities.

That Miss Sheila MacLeod had consented to be Assistant Commissioner for Training.

That Mrs. H. G. C. Adams, Mrs. W. Knox, and Miss M. Parker had all consented to be members of the State Council.

That a session had been arranged over 3XY in aid of the War Appeal, and that 500 copies of a children's book, "Rabbits' Bane," had been given to be sold for the War Appeal funds.

That a letter had been received from Mrs. Atkinson, Imperial Headquarters, thanking the Association for its contribution to the Guide Gift Week Appeal, and giving details of the distribution of the total amount of £50,296/3/4.

Agreed.

That a full-size copy of the Chiefs' Christmas Card should be given to each Company and Pack in the State.

That Guide Week should be celebrated, and that Miss Coles, Miss Moran and Miss Swinburne should be the nucleus of a Guide Week Committee.

That we should encourage members of the Movement, especially Brownies, to collect corks, in response to the appeal from the Red Cross Society.

Routine business was transacted.

M. E. BUSH, State Secretary.

WARRANTS AND REGISTRATIONS.

District Commissioner.—Murtoa: Miss A. Habel.

Captain.—1st Ascot Vale: Miss J. McNab.
1st Learmonth: Mrs. K. Walker. 1st Yarragon: Mrs. Sturgess. 1st Dandenong: Miss M. Brumley.

Cancellations.

Brown Owl.—1st Rupanyup: Miss M. Kendall. 1st Drouin: Miss L. Ramsden.

Captain.—1st Murrumbeena: Miss F. Piesse.
1st Chocelyn: Miss H. Bell.

Secretary.—Lone Branch: Miss F. Sears.

WAR SAVINGS GROUP AT HEADQUARTERS.

If you do not already belong to a War Savings Group, would you like to join the one at Headquarters?

We have 32 members already, and have bought 43 Certificates since we began in August last.

Any member of the Girl Guides' Association may enrol in the Group.

M. E. BUSH.

THE BOOKKEEPER REQUESTS . . .

Although "our terms are strictly cash with order, except where a deposit account has been established," it took one person five hours to make out the 110 accounts and statements for December-January purchases.

In addition, all these had to be folded, put in envelopes, stamped and posted.

Much of this time and effort is unnecessary. If you do not send quite enough money with your order, the whole transaction must go through the ledger. At the end of the month, a statement must go reminding you of the balance owing. If you do not pay it soon, another statement must go to you, and so on—each one costing a penny stamp, besides paper and envelopes.

Will YOU help us to save paper, stamps and time by always enclosing more money than you think will cover the order and postage? We will send the change back, unless you ask us to credit it to your account, in which case it will help to pay any shortage in future orders.

Thank you for helping to halve the number of accounts to be sent out at the end of March.

F.V.B.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- "Adventuring," South Australia.
- "Bandeirantes," Brazil.
- "The Canadian Guider."
- "The Council Fire."
- "The Girl Guide Courier," Western Australia.
- "The Girl Scout Leader."
- "The Trail Maker," Massachusetts Girl Scouts.
- "The Waratah," New South Wales.

GUIDE SHOP.

Prices have been revised for certain articles shown as follows. In future prices for these articles will be as follows:—

Increase in Price.	s	d.
Guide Belts (without swivels)	2	3
Australian Flags	30	0
Union Jack	27	6
World Flag	25	0
Haversacks	4	3

Flagpoles	15	0
Patrol Poles	4	0
Brownie Patterns	1	1
Emblems	0	8
Diaries—with pencils	1	6
Diaries—without pencils	1	3
Record Refills	9d.	per dozen

Reduction in Price.

Small Morse Buzzer	9	0
Brownie Belts	1	4
Small Pullovers	9	6
Guider Woollen Ties	2	11
Guider Fuji-de-luxe Ties	1	6
Brownie Test Cards, 2, 9d., $\frac{1}{2}$ doz.; 1/6 doz.		
Camp Forms	2, 8d., $\frac{1}{2}$ doz.; 1/3 doz.	
Guide Test Cards	2, 9d., $\frac{1}{2}$ doz.; 1/6 doz.	
Brownie Emblems		7d.

We welcome Miss Watson to Bush Lore and thank her for taking charge of this column again. We are very grateful to Miss Sydes for all the help she gave us in her many interesting and enjoyable articles.

EDITOR.

Bush Lore

Editor: Ina Watson.

"A wise old bird is the pelican. . . ."

It was a hot afternoon in the Christmas holidays. As the boat drifted slowly past the sandbank, a number of pelicans were very obvious among the mass of duck and swans. Suddenly, acting completely in unison, six of the great birds lifted their pale pink bills straight in the air, and dropped their lower bill and pouches in tremendous yawns. It must have been very satisfying to the pelicans, and was very amusing to the onlookers.

Tradition has it that the pelican fed its young in times of stress with its own blood. This probably arose because one species of pelican (not Australian) has a red tip to its bill.

On land they look very awkward, but have a dignity of their own as they glide through the water. In the air, the black and white of their plumage shows very clearly, and their flight is wonderful.

Their nests really don't deserve the name. I have not seen them myself, but from all accounts they are simply bare ground, and later, to relieve the monotony of brooding, have a few sticks placed round. Over all is a strong aroma of the decayed fish which gracefully decorates the surrounding earth.

MOSQUITOES.

Another insect which you probably observed over the holidays would be the mosquito. Did you know that in this case also the female is more deadly than the male? Friend husband lives on plant juices, and is a vegetarian, but wifey, although it is believed that she can exist on a simple diet also, is the one at whom we slap unavailingly.

Mosquitoes cannot fly very far, and much of their life cycle is concerned with water. Their eggs are laid in "rafts" so that they will float, and these then hatch out into the familiar little "wriggler." At this stage the head is heaviest, and they breathe through tiny tubes which stick out from their tails through the skin on the water.

The next stage is the pupa, and here the head is lighter, and the breathing is now done through tubes from the chest. This is a "resting" stage, and it does not eat, although it moves about.

When the time comes, the skin splits along the back, and out climbs the perfect insect. The broken edges of the skin keep out the water long enough for it to emerge, but should an accident happen it would drown, as from now on it enters a new environment. Being so light, it can walk on the surface of the water.

Looking for mosquito rafts and wrigglers will be a lovely excuse for your Guides to paddle in all the muddy pools, and they will thoroughly enjoy watching the blood showing through the delicate abdomen of the female as she drinks her dinner—particularly if she is on YOUR arm!

A Note From "Mary Elsie," of Vesper.

I noticed something about those white butterflies which have appeared in millions recently. One day I happened to be out in a shower of rain—it had come on quite suddenly, and as if by magic, all the butterflies disappeared. Some fell at my feet, but on closer observation I noticed that the majority of them sheltered on the underside of bracken fronds. As many as 12 to 16 were there, wings folded, suspended from the fern. They looked so lovely, as the underneath of their wings had yellow and red on them. Then when the sun came out they all took to flight again. I noticed this a number of times.

A True Fish Story.

Kookaburras are very fond of fish, and here is an instance of it.

While I was in our garden the other day I heard a kookaburra laughing, so I watched it. After a while it flew down to our fountain and took the largest goldfish we had. Then flew up to the top of our tennis court fence with the fish still in its mouth. It started to bang the fish on the fence to kill it and later flew away.—June Burt, Guide, 9th Hawthorn.

Extensions

(Editor: Sydney Foott)

THE RANGER WEEK-END.

The following is an account of the week-end which the Extension Rangers spent at the Guide House in January, seen through the eyes of one of the Rangers:—

"The weather in Melbourne was real winter, but by the time we arrived at the Guide House it was much nicer. Eight Rangers travelled up to the Guide House in the

V.S.C.C. van, and half-way up to the House it rained so much that we had to close all the windows and could not see much of the country.

"After lunch we all made our beds and had a walk round the house and lovely verandah which is all round.

"After a lovely tea we sat by a camp fire indoors and had a great sing-song. There were 17 in the house, and five other Rangers who were camping near by joined us for singing.

"On Sunday we had Rangers' Own in the morning, then we all hoped to shell the peas for dinner. We sat down to a wonderfully-cooked dinner—I must say our cooks all through the holiday were O.K.! And to me it was all so lovely sitting around the table with such a lot of other Rangers.

"We all took our turn at drying up after meals, and after rest hour the sun came out and we were all able to go for a walk (or in our chairs) down to the swimming pool and around the garden. It is all so beautiful, and there are so many different kinds of trees, and in the camping field it was all white tents.

"On Sunday night we had a great sing-song around the big log fire, and learnt new songs as well as singing old ones.

"The room I slept in was beautiful, and just as nice as sleeping out on the verandah, as it had two doors and a window, all opening on to the verandah. I had three other Ranger pals in with me.

"Each morning we had breakfast in bed—and then got up and had prayers and Colours—the Rangers forming a horseshoe on the verandah, and a Colour party going down.

"On Monday we had knots and first aid, and then Miss Gray, a commercial artist, came up from town to show us various handicrafts—potato cuts and modelling with clay. All the Rangers enjoyed this very much.

"Then at 4 o'clock, Miss Boyes had made lots of all kinds of lovely sandwiches, but I don't know what you'll say when I tell you that the Rangers could not eat many, as our great cooks gave us too much to eat at dinner time. I do hope when Miss Boyes makes nice sandwiches again the Rangers will eat them, as I'll tell you they are great!

"We left the Guide House at 5 and arrived in Melbourne at 7—I just enjoyed myself so much with all the Rangers that some day I hope to be able to go back and see the lovely Guide House and all its beautiful surroundings."

A 5th Post Ranger.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

Captains of Post and Extension Companies are reminded of the annual St. George's Day Service. Could you please let us know, before 1st April, how many of your Guides, Rangers and Brownies will be coming to the service and/or afterwards? Also let us know how many will be in chairs or prams, as we

must arrange about space for ourselves.

MONTHLY "AT HOME."

The Commissioner for Extensions and A.C.E. will now be "at home" at 41 Spring Street on the SECOND MONDAY in the month, but only when required. If you wish to see us, please let Miss Alston know before 11 on the second Monday.

Our correspondents are reminded that letters are considered on Monday evenings, and answered on Tuesdays—unless a matter is very urgent, it waits until Monday to be dealt with!

LONES.

This year has started well for the Lones, in that we have four new Guiders who will soon be ready to take on Companies of their own. In this way, perhaps by the end of the year, we may have filled the gaps caused by resignations which result in those two bug-bears of a Commissioner's life, "in recess" and "disbanded."

Once upon a time when Lones were flourishing and some happy Commissioner complaisantly surveyed her records, there were 13 Guide and 8 Ranger Companies in Victoria. You have only to look at the list at the end of your Supplement to see the gaps that confront you now.

This is a matter of importance not only to the Lone Branch itself, but to all active Guiding. "The strength of a chain is its weakest link." (I think I have quoted this before, by the way). And isn't there another proverb which says, "You cannot build a house without bricks"? I feel this is the position the Lones stand in to-day. They cannot become a creditable and flourishing member of the Movement if they are not supplied with: (a) Guiders to run the Companies, and (b) Girls to FORM the Companies. We in the Lone Branch have our eyes and ears open always for anything hopeful in either of these categories, but we are a small community and our scope is limited.

It is the Commissioners and especially country ones, who have many opportunities for acting as our recruiting agents. I feel they could keep our ranks filled if they kept us in mind when visiting Districts and talking to L.A.S., and when finding out from their Guiders why certain girls have left the Company. Guiders could help by keeping a list of girls who have left, and their reasons for leaving. I suggest a list as follows:—

Name.	Address.	Reason.
Mary Stone	Weybridge	Gone as domestic help
Mavis Irvine	P.O. Meredith	Family left district
Phyllis Locke	Monbulk	Pressure of school work

If this list were shown to the Commissioner, she could sift out the likely ones and see if they would like to become Lones.

I think, too, that Guiders could talk to the girls about continuing their Guide career. I am sure that half the active Guides know nothing whatever about Lones. I am sure also that half the members of Local Associations do not either. So my plea is "Talk Lones, think Lones, so that others can BE Lones." (Not a quotation this time, but straight from my heart!) There ARE some Commissioners and also Guiders who have helped in exactly the ways I have just illustrated, and to them I am very grateful, and am happy to say that most of their girls have been placed.

But occasionally even when I get a name, I cannot place a girl. Perhaps her idea, so thrilling at first, to become a Guide fades out, and she does not return me her application form, which, being signed by her parent or guardian, is my guarantee that they approve, and that the child really intends to "see it through." Or perhaps there is no vacancy in any Company, and I have to keep her waiting so long that her ardour wanes and she no longer replies when her turn comes.

All of which shows that the path of finding and placing Lones is tedious and lengthy, and for every girl who "fades out" we want another to take her place.

Among our latest recruits are two British children evacuated from England. One is living near Sale, and the other at Flinders. We extend to them a very special welcome to Australia, and hope their Guiding days with us will be still another proof of the friendliness they have met with since leaving their homeland.

We are trying to formulate plans for a "Lone Gathering" to be held during a long week-end at Guide House in the near future. As our ideas are still in the melting pot, I cannot say much about it yet, but we are full of schemes as to how it can be worked, and confident that it will be a marvellous success if it eventuates. I hope to be able to tell you more next month.

M.R.F.

Brownies

DID YOU KNOW?

Two thousand three hundred and six Brownies are living in Victoria. About half of them are in Melbourne and Geelong, and the other half in country towns of all sizes. If you have ever wondered whether yours was an average Pack so far as numbers go, you may be interested to know that the average number in a Victorian Pack last year was 17.

Have you been without a Tawny for a long time and are inclined to think that the species is extinct? Well, more than half of the Brown Owls in the State have a Tawny.

History does not relate how they acquired them. Pack Leaders are not so scarce, either; and far from being a dying race, it is a steadily growing one. This news might encourage some of us who need more help.

GOOD TURNS.

When a Pack feels an urge to do a good turn yet is very vague as to the how, the when and the where, it is apt to look confidently towards Brown Owl who feels the need for inspiration and wonders what other Packs find to do.

Gifts.—Christmas time being the special time of giving, Brownies' gifts find their way to Baby Homes, Orphanages and Hospitals. The presents for fathers and mothers alone total many hundreds. At the usual birthday party and also the Christmas party, the fun is shared with others. Lately the parties tend to take the form of a picnic.

Concerts and Bazaars.—A variety of good causes is assisted by Packs holding a concert or a bazaar entirely by themselves, though most often the Pack gives an item or furnishes one stall, thereby supporting the Guide Company in the raising of funds for the Red Cross, the Comforts Fund, the Camp House Endowment, or the Guide War Appeal. The Owl, being a modest bird, the details of this work have to be sought after. Last year one Pack had a float in the District Hospital Fete, but we were not sufficiently awake to hear more than a whisper of such an interesting event until it was a mere memory to the Pack.

INSTRUCTION.

Packs broaden their outlook; would ours like to do the same? One day a Pack had a lesson in looking after canaries. We would have loved to be there, too, but many of us do not know any canaries socially. Well, many Packs spend a fine Saturday afternoon at the Zoo and also visit the Aquarium. Glimpses of brown uniforms are often seen flitting among the trees of Fitzroy Gardens. The Botanical Gardens and the gardens of the country towns are happy hunting grounds at all times. Wattle Park gives a never-failing welcome to the little people, and the ferry trip up the Yarra to Studley Park and back is a real adventure. Eltham is not considered too far by some, and to go to the Guide House for the day is reserved as a special treat. The faintest whisper of revels has a magic all its own.

ELEVENS.

"Brownies are girls under 11," says our book. Who among us has not a guilty feeling that there is just one Brownie in our Pack who, for that such very special reason, is staying with us until Christmas? Last year there was an average of one to every Pack. Would it be a good thing to announce the rule at the beginning of this year, and sadly, but firmly, say farewell at the birthday month?

GOING OUT.

Some do, and some don't. Pack A calls it a walk, but Pack B calls it a hike. When Pack C go out it is a field day, and the same expedition is a picnic to Pack D. What is better than a tea meeting? asks Pack E. We are going out, says Pack F; but the result is the same for all. A happy day of adventure and fun and the satisfaction of achievement. We would take our Pack, too, if we could. Is it impossible?

Throughout Victoria the Packs are present at the Anzac Day services and on the days of national prayer, and in many and various ways establish themselves as a live force in the life of the community. —V.A.T.

CORKS.

The Red Cross Waste Depot has a buyer for any quantity of corks. Could Brownies let this challenge pass? No matter how soon, or how many they collect, arrangements will be made to help get the parcels to the depot.

EASTER.

After Easter our parks and gardens look very beautiful. The second Saturday after Easter is 26th April, and all Owls and Pack Leaders are invited to join in a meeting which will commence outside The Palms, Alexandra Avenue, at 3 o'clock. Late-comers will find a trail to the meeting which will be not more than a quarter of a mile. An interesting and entertaining programme is arranged, which will conclude before dark. Everyone should bring food for a meal. Drinking water is available, or soft drinks at The Palms.

The Sign Post

Editor Marjorie Nicholson

It pays to be happy. Happiness is not a luxury, but a necessity. The beneficial effect of mental sunshine on life, ability, strength, vitality, endurance is most pronounced.

—Christian D. Larson.

MYSTERY OF THE CHINESE PEARL.

Variation of Kim's game; for games of Patrols of six. P.L., No. 1; Second, No. 2; and so on. Yarn: "Potted." Old Ching Huang of the village of Ping Pong is the head of a famous gang of Chinese robbers. He gets possession of a very valuable pearl, oval in shape, $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, $\frac{1}{4}$ in. broad and of great brilliance. The real owner of the pearl is a most illustrious personage, and several of his underlings, wishing to gain favour, have engaged various detective agents to trace and recover the pearl. (Each Patrol represents a detective agency working on its own.) It is known that old Ching Huang has an agent in London, and will probably send the pearl there. One day the detective agencies in Ping Pong see several articles on Ching Huang's table, and believe the pearl

to be concealed in one of these articles.

No. 3 of each Patrol is permitted to examine, without touching, exhibit A for one minute and go back to her Patrol and report what she has seen. (Allow five minutes or more for Patrols to absorb information.)

Now, Ching Huang uses a peculiar material for packing valuables, namely, the hair from a Chinaman's pigtail, which has an unusual odour, which might be of assistance to the detectives.

No. 4 from each Patrol is allowed to smell exhibit B, and report to her Patrol. The detectives succeed in obtaining employment as stevedores when the English liner is being loaded, and are successful in handling the mail bag from Ping Pong to London. No. 5 from each Patrol is allowed to handle exhibit C and report to Patrol.

When the ship arrives in England the mail bags are passed over an X-ray table, and detectives are present when the Ping Pong bag is examined.

No. 6 from each Patrol see exhibit D, and report to Patrol.

Old Ching Huang's agent in London keeps an old curiosity shop in a small side street. Detectives examine the window one afternoon when the shop is closed.

No. 2 sees exhibit E for three minutes, and reports to Patrol.

When the old curiosity shop opens in the morning the head of each detective agency calls and offers to buy one article.

No. 1, the P.L. of each Patrol, comes up to exhibit E, and after 30 seconds' consideration, points out to the Captain the article her Patrol selects as containing the Chinese pearl.

Sample Exhibits.

Exhibit A.—Small pill box numbered "63" in ink. Small wooden box with pencil X. Brass cartridge case dented. Penny tin of black boot polish. Egg cup turned upside down and chipped on base. Matchbox—once used. Cigar—no band. Twopenny tin of vaseline, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter with an extra lid on bottom. This tin should be cleaned out and stuffed with tarry rope and an imitation pearl.

Exhibit B.—A metal tea infuser. A cardboard box perforated with a number of small holes, stuffed with tarry rope.

Exhibit C.—A cloth bag with the top tied, containing a golf ball, small tin of black boot polish similar to A. Small box and tin of vaseline.

Exhibit D is held over a strong electric bulb in deep box. Care should be taken to separate the items in the bag so that reasonable shadow is obtained.

Exhibit E.—Four pill boxes as in A, but numbered 60, 61, 63, 64. Four small wooden boxes as in A, but with different marks. Four brass cartridges (no dents). Four brass ash trays. Four egg cups turned upside down (no chips). Six or eight matchboxes similar to A, but well used and unused. Three or four cigars with bands or different to A. Several tins of boot polish similar to A

(brown). Three or four tins vaseline, various sizes; some like A, one exactly the same.

In the event of Patrols being more than six strong an extra exhibit can be introduced between C and D. Detectives concealed in cupboard in Ching Huang's room hear the old Chinese rogue making up his parcel for the mail. No. 7 hears the sounds—e.g., behind screen paper rustling, tin and box dropped, egg cup knocked on table. —M.N.

RANGERS' PAGE

(Editor: E. Faulkner)

S.O.S.

Helpers are needed to sort silver paper at 376 Flinders Lane (just round the corner from Guide Headquarters) to help the Free Kindergarten Union.

The Depot is open between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. from Mondays until Thursdays and from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Fridays. There will always be someone there to show you how you can help, and you can bring your friends with you for any length of time during these periods. How about it? Extra helpers are needed particularly on Monday and Tuesday nights.

NOTICE BOARD.

Minutes of the Victorian Ranger Committee meeting held at Headquarters on Thursday, 6th February, 1941, at 6.30 p.m.

Present.—Rangers Joyce Bryant, Pamela Dyke, Peggy Edmondson, Myra Farley, Beryl McNee, Margaret Mellor, Ethel Preston, Greta Roach, Hazel Sampson, Margaret Shaw, and Beatrice Wilson.

A letter was received from Mrs. Faulkner apologising for her non-attendance at the meeting and informing us that Miss Dorothy Ross (Headmistress C.E.G.G.S.) is to become Commissioner for Rangers, but that she will be unable to take over the position until March. Myra Farley was elected to the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and it was found that they omitted to mention that the sum of 2/9 was to be paid to Headquarters for lighting for 1940.

Business Arising from the Minutes.—Owing to the fact that many Rover Crews are disbanded because of war and home service duties, the Ranger and Rover fancy dress ball, which was to have been held in August, has been cancelled. It has been replaced by a moonlight river trip.

It was resolved that Ranger Companies should be asked to decide whether profits made on fixtures this year are to be used for some good cause.

Gipton Committee—Margaret Shaw was appointed from this Committee and nomination for one other member will be asked for on the first circular.

Allocation of Metropolitan and Country

Divisions.—In accordance with the by-laws, each member (except Chairman and Secretary) was made responsible for a Metropolitan or Country Division.

Member.	Divisions.
Hazel Sampson .	Croyden, Ararat and Stawell, Ballarat, Camperdown.
Beryl McNee ..	Eastern Suburbs.
Isobel Low ..	North-eastern Suburbs.
Pamela Dyke ..	Outer Eastern Suburbs, Northern, Clunes.
Greta Roach ..	Southern Suburbs.
Myra Farley ..	Outer Southern Suburbs, Barwon, North-eastern.
Beatrice Wilson	South-eastern Suburbs.
Joyce Bryant ..	South-western Suburbs, Mortlake.
Ethel Preston ..	Western Suburbs, Hamilton & Coleraine, Western.
Margaret Mellor	Gippsland, West Wimmera.
Margaret Shaw .	Lones and Extensions.

Next Meeting.—At Headquarters on Thursday, 13th March, at 6.30 p.m.

GIPTON.

Bookings ahead as far as May have already been recorded, though there are a few week-ends during that period which are still available.

Campers and other interested in Gipton's welfare are asked to mark the week-end of 10th May in their diaries as "Working Bee—Gipton." We can take about 20 for the week-end, and any number for Saturday for the day. Jobs to be done include the painting of the fence with sump-oil, and car owners are asked whether they would like to save their sump oil for this purpose. The summer house roof needs repairs, the house needs painting, and we want to clear a wide fire-break all round the outside of the property. So there are interesting jobs for all, and it would be splendid if some members of each Company that has used Gipton would enrol for the Working Bee.

If you will come, either for the day or for the week-end, please let me know as soon as possible; there will be a reminder of this in the next "Matilda."

F. V. BARFUS,
Hon. Sec., Gipton Sub-Committee.

ST. JOHN FIRST AID CLASS.

If numbers warrant it, a St. John First Aid Class will be arranged, to be held at Girl Guides' Headquarters.

This is not a Red Cross Company Class, but members of the Emergency Company are free to join if they wish.

All names to be sent to Miss Clara Broadhurst, Guide Headquarters, as soon as possible.

CAMPING and TRAINING

(Elaine Moran)

"BE PREPARED"—

"Be Prepared"? What does it mean? "Why", you say, "That's obvious, isn't it? Doesn't it just mean being prepared for anything?"

And that is exactly what it does mean, and everything that is included in any of our Guide tests has been carefully planned so that the Guides may be prepared in character and in practice to face things sanely and efficiently.

Then why, during the Camping month that has just finished at the Guide House, with Guides drawn from Companies in all parts of Victoria, has it been consistently impossible to find a Patrol Leader or a Guide who could USE the necessary sheet-bends for hoisting the colours? Why were there so few guides who could USE the morse code when faced with an emergency in a scouting game? Why were so few able to set and light the breakfast fire efficiently? Why was observation and initiative in tracking so lacking?

Because our own standard is not very high. Can most Guiders stand up to an emergency, with knots, morse code, tracking? Because we are slack with our testing. The tests are not practical, remember in the knot test it says: "USE seven . . . knots". How can a Guide erect a clothesline or tie up a horse or drag along a load of wood or hang up a meat-safe or tighten a guy-line in the Sunday School Hall? Because our average standard of testing is appallingly low. The Guides get through too easily. Think what the word "test" means. To be tried out, proved. We let the Guides down if we do not expect a high standard of them. If we do not expect their best, we are not giving our best. And because we do not give them enough exciting practice after the tests have been passed.

We must pay our motto more than lip service if we are to be helpful and worthy of what people expect of Girl Guides. Our tests must be practical and useful and exciting, so that the Guides can use their knowledge under emergency conditions. We must get outside and DO things, and stop talking so much about them. We must have frequent emergencies and surprises that will give the Guides a chance to use their brains and apply their practical knowledge. We must keep them guessing. The Guides will love this far more than what, it seems, they are getting now in all too many Companies.

CAMPCRAFT BADGE HOLDERS

Many queries have been received lately about Campcraft Badge holders taking Guides camping. This was very thoroughly discussed by the camping Committee and it was agreed that the privilege of taking others camping with this badge as a qualification was primarily intended for Rangers. It was agreed that only Warranted Captains with the special permission of their Commissioners should take Guides away under these conditions. The second Campcraft Badge holder, with the approval of the Commissioner, may be a junior Guider or Ranger.

The question of the maximum number under a Campcraft Badge holder camping at Gipton or the Guide House, came up for revision. In Matilda, March 1940 it was announced that the committee had agreed that the maximum number should be extended from 8 to 12 in certain cases. After consideration of reports and much discussion it was decided that in future under no circumstances should the maximum be over eight. Training for this badge does not include the arrangements for handling of other than very small camps.

GUIDERS' TRAINING COURSE

General Guide Training—Classes will commence Thursday 20th. March, for 10 evenings.

Field Days 5th April, 26th April, and 24th May. Guider-in-charge Miss E. Moran.

General Brownie Training—Classes will commence on 25th March, for six evenings Guider-in-charge, Miss D. Holtz.

Classes will be held at the Meeting Pool, Girl Guide Office, 60 Market St., at 7.55 p.m. sharp. Fee 3d. per class. Equipment required—notebook pencil, sandshoes. Guiders who have not previously been nominated for Vict. H. Q. Training must bring a signed nomination from the District Commissioner.

First Class Training will be held after the Guide Training has finished at the end of May.

Refresher Training is being arranged for May and June.

Pioneer Badge Training.—It is suggested that a course should be organised for Guiders who want training in the syllabus for this badge in order that they may train their Guides. The two courses previously held for the Guides themselves proved not a success, and it is felt that the best way for Guides to be trained for this badge is by their own Guiders. Will any Guiders who are keen to do something about this, please write to Miss Harrison, 126, High St., Glen Iris, S.E.6.

Pack Holiday Permit, Indoor Camp Test.—Will warranted Brown Owls and Captains, nominated by their Commissioners, who wish to attend a course of training for these tests, please write to Miss Harrison at once.

Camp First Aid Test.—A course will be arranged for Guiders and Rangers if there are sufficient applications. Candidates MUST have had previous camping experience, and real practical First Aid experience, and must be nominated by the Commissioner and Camp Adviser. Nomination forms are obtainable from Miss Harrison.

Campcraft Badge Course.—For Guiders and Rangers, who are nominated by the Commissioner and, in the case of Rangers, by the Captain. A course of three classes and three week-ends will be held if there are sufficient applications. Guiders and Rangers may attend the course without necessarily being tested at the end. The Guider-in-charge will have the final recommendation of candidates.

The entrance fee for the course will be 5/-. Candidates will pay their own fares and provide their own food for the week-end

B R O W N I E S' GUIDE WEEK.

(see article in MATILDA).

Guiders who wish to bring home to their Brownies the reality of Guide Week, can consider doing so from three aspects. The Brownies can -

1. Do something useful for others, especially for 'Our Country.'
2. Do something for the honour of the Pack.
3. Each learn something useful to Be Prepared to Lend a Hand.

1. For the first it is suggested that Brownies collect as many corks as possible between now and Guide Week (the Red Cross can sell corks to help the soldiers).
2. For the second, it is suggested that each Pack can earn one of the Pack Badges; the Guide War Appeal particularly needs wool rugs, such as are included in one of the Pack Badges.
3. For the last, each Brownie could learn to signal the name of her District, and her own name, by semaphore, both to send and to receive.

NOTE - We considered limiting the number of letters, but find by further thought that long names usually duplicate letters, and so long and short names 'average out.'

GUIDE WEEK is for EVERY ONE to LEND A HAND.

G. Swinburne
D. Coles
E. Moran
V. Tate.

From the BROWNIE COTTAGE COMMITTEE.

The Brownie Cottage Committee is making an effort to raise funds towards improving the Brownie Cottage Garden at the Guide House, and towards building the proposed sleep-outs to increase the Cottage accommodation.

They are holding a Picture Night at the Regent Theatre on Thursday, 27th March. Tickets are obtainable at 2/2 from members of the Brownie Cottage Committee, or from the Guide Shop.

D. Bradshaw,
Ticket Secretary.

camps, thus each week-end will cost approximately 5/- per head. This does not include the test which will be held on another site.

Dates.—Classes at H.Q. May 5th and 19th, June 2nd. Camps at Gipton: May 24th-25th. June 7th-8th, 21st-22nd.

Nomination forms are obtainable from Miss Harrison and should reach her filled in, with 5/- entrance fee, not later than April 5th, 1941.

CAMP MEMORIAL SERVICE.

Guides in camp at the Guide House on Sunday, 19th January, could not attend the Service at the M.C.C., but were privileged to have their own special memorial service for the Chief Scout in the lovely surroundings of the croquet lawn at the Guide House. The Service was taken by the Rev. Nash, of Warburton, himself a Scouter, and the special leaflets were used.

About 50 Guides took part, and many Guiders and Commissioners and friends who were visiting the Camps. Everyone present will remember the quiet simplicity of the Service in the still evening. Mr. Nash based his talk on words of the Chief Scout: "No one is a failure until he gives up trying." As the Guides listened intently to incidents of the Chief's boyhood and early life, the feeling was assured that the inspiration and joy which emanated from the Piper of Pax for so many years, will endure in the hearts of children.

GUIDE HOUSE GROUNDS AND GARDEN SUB-COMMITTEE.

Guiders, Rangers and Guides are reminded that working bees for the next three months will be as follows:—29th-30th March, 26th-

27th April, and 10th-11th May. Guiders, please send their applications to Miss Broadhurst at Guide Headquarters, enclosing their 5/9 for their fare, and stating if they will be going on the morning or afternoon train on Saturday.

THE CARETAKER'S COTTAGE.

The Guide House.

Is there something that each one of us can do to help raise the £120 still needed to make it possible for the caretaker's cottage at the Guide House to be built?

All who have been to the Guide House know how urgent it is that the caretaker has more privacy and comfort. The good-fellowship and fun we enjoy so much when at the Guide House must often be very wearisome to him, and must make him long for a quiet little spot of his own; also the extra space available in the house will be invaluable to us.

There are 9768 members of the Guide Movement in Victoria, so we really should be able to accept the responsibility of finding £120. (You will remember that it was decided that we should not ask for outside help.) If 2400 of us send one shilling to the fund during this month we shall have the amount required, and we can begin to build.

Let us be generous in our outlook, and not consider at all whether it is possible for us to use the Guide House or not. The Guide House is ours, and is held in trust for the children of to-day and the future.

EDITOR.



"Quality you can TASTE!"

BROCKHOFF'S

"Oven-crisp" **BISCUITS**

B. 220

SHELTER

It is easy enough to take cover when it rains—if you happen to be near cover.

The best "cover" from life's rainy days is a bank account. **BE INDEPENDENT!** Build yours up in the—

STATE SAVINGS BANK OF VICTORIA

221 BRANCHES — 387 AGENCIES
Head Office, Elizabeth Street, Melb.
N. R. WILLIAMS, General Manager.

THE GUIDE HOUSE.

The fund for the Caretaker's Cottage has now reached £179/13/-, so we are more than half way to our £300, but you know we are not allowed to start building until we get all this cash in, so will you see what can be done about getting some more very urgently? We DO want a private retreat for the caretaker and more space in the House. You will remember that it is our effort unhelpt by the general public, surely we can do it!

By the time you read this a very large working bee will be over. On 22nd-23rd February, 28 people are going to plant seeds and young trees so that we shall have a plantation—three lines of trees—right round the property.

Do you remember learning how to paint, when we used to do the hall, the bedrooms, beds and furniture in the early days of the House? All enthusiastic wielders of the brush will be pleased to know that they might get some practice shortly! The House Committee contemplates occasional working bees to brighten up furniture, beds, etc. Remembering the fun we had, I expect all the "old hands" to turn up when these are announced, so watch this column for a notice in due course.

M.B.F.

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