

M. E. Bush.

Matilda



APRIL, 1941.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Minutes of meetings of the Executive Committee of the Girl Guides' Association, Victoria, held at the Guide Office on 19th February and 6th March.

19th February:

Present: Lady Chauvel, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Tate, Misses Coles, Moran, Purnell, Ritchie, Swinburne, and the Secretary.

Agreed:—That Guide Week should be held from 9th to 18th May, and be on the lines suggested by the sub-committee.

To discuss at the Division Commissioners' Meeting the suggestion that testing for certain proficiency badges, especially those included in The Little House Badge, should be done at the Guide House.

That a temporary part-time office assistant should be appointed.

That the Federal Council Annual Report should be circulated among members.

That Miss MacLeod and the Secretary should attend a meeting organised by the Association of Boys' Clubs, in connection with a proposed Conference on "Youth and National Service."

That appreciation should be expressed to the Brownie Guiders' Committee for the many improvements they have made lately to the Brownie Cottage.

Reported: That a suggestion had come from England to the Federal Secretary, that Thinking Day Funds should be kept and invested in each country, and after the war given to whatever fund needed them most.

6th March—

Present:—Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Blackwood, Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Fairbairn, Misses Coles, Harrison, Moran, Ritchie, Swinburne, and the Secretary.

Agreed: That on account of paper restrictions, the question of a magazine for Guides in Australia should be left in abeyance.

That leave of absence for three months from the Executive Committee, and as Convener of the Guide War Appeal, should be granted to Mrs. Littlejohn.

That leave of absence for three months from the Executive Committee should be granted to Mrs. Orr.

That Mrs. Orr's resignation as Commissioner for Hospitality be accepted with regret.

That Mrs. C. H. Edmondson should be appointed proxy for our delegates to the National Council of Women.

That once in four months our representatives on other societies, and/or some of our Commissioners for Departments, should be present at part of the meeting to report to the Executive. That we should celebrate the 21st Birthday of Victorian Guiding this year.

Reported: That a meeting was being arranged to discuss further the question of testing at the Guide House for the Little House Badge.

That a gift of £50 had been received from the Thomas Baker (Kodak) Alice Baker and Eleanor Shaw Benefactions.

That Lady Chauvel had sent a cable to Lady Baden Powell on Thinking Day, on behalf of the Guides of Victoria.

That the Ranger Committee had given £1 to be used for any article of which Headquarters has need.

Routine and financial business was transacted.

M. E. BUSH.

WARRANTS AND REGISTRATIONS.

Captain. 1st and 2nd Geelong—Miss E. H. Purnell; 1st Red Cliffs, Mrs. Walley.

Lieutenant. 1st Clunes—Miss A. Vinecombe.

Cancellations.

Captain. 1st Nhill—Miss C. Fisher.

727 Dandenong Road,
Malvern S.E.4.
17/3/41.

Dear Matilda,

I am writing to ask if anyone has a copy of the December 1940 Guider which they do not wish to keep.

Mine has apparently been lost in transit and I am anxious to obtain one so that I can get the year's copies bound.

Yours sincerely,

M. B. FOWLER

THE DECEMBER GUIDER

If you have read your December issue of THE GUIDER, and do not want to keep it, would you send it to Headquarters? We should be willing to pay the postage.

Our parcel of "to be called for" copies seems to have been lost in transit, and as this lot includes the copies for the library and reference, we should be most grateful for some copies.

M.E.B.

THE GUIDE'S FIRE.

Oh, brightly, brightly burned the fire the Guide had made, upon a noble pure desire the fuel was laid. The fuel was energy and zest for each new day, that she might always do her best along life's way. Lit by ambition's flashing spark, the flames leapt high, dispelling fears oppressive dark when pain drew nigh. And ever was it kept alight, this fire of worth, by kindly action 'warm and bright, and gentle mirth. So many people blessed its glow. It helped them find the road by which they longed to go—to peace of mind. It warmed so many who were cold, this one small fire; for it was lit, so I've been told, by love's desire.
—Wilhelmina Stitch...

“Matilda”

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

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

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

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

VOL. XVII.

APRIL, 1941.

No. 8.

THE CHIEF SCOUT'S LAST MESSAGE TO GUIDES

My Dear Guides.—This is just a farewell note to you, the last that you will have from me. It is just to remind you when I have passed on that your business in life is to be happy and to make others happy. That sounds comfortable and easy doesn't it? You begin making other people happy by doing good turns to them. You need not worry about making yourselves happy, as you will very soon find that that comes by itself, when you make other people happy, it makes you happy too. Later on, when you have a home of your own by making it a bright and cheery one you will make your husband a happy man. If all homes were bright and cheery, there would be fewer public houses and the men would not want to go out to them but would stay at home. It may mean hard work for you, but will bring its own reward then, if you keep your children healthy and clean and busy, they will be happy. Happy children love their parents. There is nothing can give you greater joy than a loving child. I am sure God means us to be happy in this life. He has given us a world to live in that is full of beauties and wonders and He has given us not only eyes to see them, but minds to understand them if we only have the sense to look at them in that light. We can enjoy bright sunshine and glorious views. We can see beauty in the flowers. We can watch with wonder how the seed produces the young plant which grows to a flower which in its turn will replace other flowers as they die off. For, though plants, like people, die, their race does not die away but new ones are born and grow up to carry on The Creator's Plan. So, do you see, you women are the chosen servants of God in two ways; first, to carry on the race, to bring children into the world, to replace the men and women who pass away; secondly, to bring happiness into the world by making happy homes and by being yourselves good, cheery comrades for your husbands and children. That is where you as Guides especially come in. By being a "comrade," that is, by taking an interest in your husband's work and aspirations, you can help him with your sympathy and suggestions and so be a guide to him. Also, in bringing up your children by strengthening and training their minds and characters as well as their bodies and health, you will be giving them to the better use and enjoyment of life. By giving out love and happiness in this way, you will gain for yourselves the return love of husband and children, and there is nothing better in this world. You will find that Heaven is not the kind of happiness somewhere up in the skies after you are dead but right here and now in this world in your own home. So guide others to happiness

and you will bring happiness to yourselves and by doing this you will be doing what God wants of you.

God be with you.

Baden Powell

A RANGER'S THOUGHTS ON THE PASSING OF THE WORLD CHIEF SCOUT.

One who loved us has gone; one whom we loved has gone. But he has left us a glorious heritage—the great adventure of Scouting and Guiding which he gave and shared with us whilst he was here.

When the world grows weary with strife and war great men arise who bring relief in the form of new ways of living, new ideas and great ideals; such a man was Lord Baden-Powell. But he brought his grand new venture not to the "grown-ups" or to the leaders of the world but to the children; the children who never before had been given such a glorious opportunity.

He kindled a spark in their hearts and gently fanned it into a flame which grew brighter and stronger with the years. He said to them, "Go and look about you, see the world in which you live in a new light. Learn about the lives of the birds and animals, grow to love and protect them and rejoice when they return your love. Watch the flowers and trees grow, live amongst them and grow taller, and straighter and stronger as they do. Learn to be useful and give service cheerfully and so come to know duty as a privilege, and laughter and happiness as a reward."

The children rejoiced at the gift he offered and took it eagerly, and so his great Movement grew and grew and spread amongst many nations.

We thank God that Baden-Powell was given to us and pray that we may keep the flame he kindled burning ever brighter and stronger throughout the world so that its strength shall come to lighten all places of darkness and its warmth drive away fear from the hearts of men.

M. E.

GUIDE WEEK

Guide Week for the Guides

Last month we spoke of Guide Week from the point of view of the Commissioner and the Guider. This month we consider it from the point of view of Guides, Rangers and Brownies.

Although they are, we hope, aware of being Guides all the time, and are trying to remember

the Guide Law wherever they are and whatever they do, they have many other interests. There is school which most children enjoy these days, sport, dancing lessons and all the activities which go to make up the everyday life of to-day's child.

Guide Week therefore is a time when the Guides' thoughts are focussed especially on Guiding; Guiding as applied to herself, to her Company, to the Country, and Guiding as a sisterhood stretching away over the sea, for Guides of many countries are keeping this Guide Week too.

This year the special Guide Week activity for Guides is starting weeks before hand—learning to "Be Prepared" in a definite subject which each Guide will choose for herself, and will culminate in the presentation of the badges at a special District Ceremony during Guide Week.

What pride the Guides and Brownies will have when they go up to receive their badges. They will be satisfied with a deepened self respect that after weeks of practise they have passed a sound practical test at a high standard. They will know that the badge has been worth working for, and they will resolve to "Be Prepared" always to use the knowledge and experience gained whenever they may be called upon.

Guide Week is for the Guides, and for them to show others that the meaning of Guiding is practical and sincere.

Special notes upon the Ceremony Guides' Own appear below, but as well as these, and the visits to places of public interest which were suggested last month, each District will think out the smaller ways, which seeming details in themselves, together make Guide Week interesting and personal to the Guides. Special forms of Company Meeting can be held, special Good Turns carried out; some Patrols may want to arrange and carry out secret good turns, or individual Guides may make special efforts to do secret good turns. Perhaps the Guides can wear uniform during a great part of the week, or set the week as a time for improving uniforms. There are a hundred and one small ways, each of which you may make some Guides feel that each is taking part in the whole scheme of Guide Week. We Commissioners and Guiders must make our plans from this point of view, and arrange for the Guiders to make plans through Patrol Meetings and Courts of Honour. If the Guides are told about it, and time is allowed for them, to realise that this is THEIR week, they are sure to be full of ideas.

E. MORAN.

GUIDE WEEK, THE CLIMAX

Points to consider:— (1) Two functions or one?

Can the presentation of badges be combined with the service which brings the Promise to the forefront of our thinking?

Recall the Brownie way of making a solemn undertaking to use the knowledge and skill the badge represents. One cannot suddenly require a new promise from the Guides, but the idea behind this undertaking combines spiritual and practical ideals, links personal success with service for others.

(2) The presence of people other than Guides

and Brownies; (see also note on Coming of Age Year.)

(3) Providing an opportunity for all to see the complete achievement of the District—demonstration, exhibition etc.

(4) How far can Guides make their own plans for (a) ceremony, (b) service? Are plans made by representatives of Guides really representative? Could they be, or do adults from experience make plans more suited to Guides in general?

Subject matter of the Service.

Articles in the Guider,

October 1937, by the Bishop of Bristol. Articles during last year, on the Law, nearly every month, Be Prepared, Foundations of Peace, Lift Up Your Hearts, Training for Living, pages 174, 210, 3, 57, 273, 303. Note; The Guider is an adult paper and it is the subject of these articles that can be used in preparation rather than the articles themselves, except for the one October 1937. All these are especially filed at Headquarters.

Other reference books:—300 thrilling tales, Scouts' Own, Scouting and the Bible.

Prayers.

Guide Book of Prayers and Services. Recommended most highly of all. Price 10d.

Brownie Prayer Book, also suitable for Guides. Unconventional Prayers.

Association News, published by Y.W.C.A. for February and March, may be seen at G. G. Headquarters.

Three prayers are printed below.

Note:—Absolute necessity for preparation for reading prayers. Consider sentence prayers, with pause between, especially if Guides are to take part. Guides can often write these themselves.

Hymns.

Difficulty of combining suitability with singability.

Consider; arranging choir to emphasise words, especially for first verses. At this time the thought expressed in the words is of great importance. Suggestions: I Vow to thee my Country; And did those feet, in ancient time; O Brother Man, take to thy heart thy brother.

General Arrangements.

Specimen points to consider and arrange beforehand.

(1) Entrance of Guides, entrance of visitors, entrance of those conducting ceremony or service. Reception of visitors.

(2) Conduct of colour parties and disposal of flags.

(3) Times for Guides to stand and sit.

(4) Equipment for Guides, ground sheets, order of service etc., and giving out of order of service.

(5) Departure of Guides, and occupation while waiting for transport and others.

Guide Week in Coming of Age Year.

1941 is the 21st birthday of the Girl Guide Movement in Victoria as it is to-day.

Pioneers are all those who are enrolled before December 31st 1925. A special function will be

held in June, but to prepare for this function and to link Guides of to-day with the pioneers—Suggested; that each District, as far as possible, finds the pioneers who are living there and invites them to one of the Guide Week functions.

Thrift in Guide Week.

The object of thrift is to decide by each District individually, and interests will be different everywhere.

Suggested: That the Guide Movement itself be considered as one cause of national importance.

Prayers: From Canadian Guider. See Matilda, 1940.

O LORD OUR GOD.

We are many and we are strong, grant us to grow in numbers and in strength that we may resolve to work steadfastly for Thee in this land that is Thine.

Grant that the uniform that we wear may never be put on simply from force of habit or from convenience, let it be a perpetual reminder to us of whom we are, and of what we are striving to be.

Grant that the Law which we have promised to obey may never become to us a mere string of empty words, let it be the guiding principle of our lives.

Grant that our Promise may be a help to us each morning as we prepare to face a new world, and a strength to us each evening, when wearied by our work, cheered or saddened by the events of the day we return to rest.

We are many and we are strong, grant us to grow in numbers and in strength, and give us faith and courage to work for Thee in this world which is Thine."

Le zard Le Trefle Rouge et Beane.

From "The Vigil" (Methodist Book Depot 10d.)

God, our Father, help us to rise above any pride in race. Break down all prejudice and suspicion and ill will which keeps us from serving Thee in the spirit of true friendship. Grant that we may hear in all things Thy voice which speaks the common language of love to the hearts of men. Give us the desire to know Thee better. Grant us increasing knowledge of Thy plan for us. Deepen our determination to do Thy will at all costs. Strengthen our courage, sweeten our spirit, enrich our service. May we grow more into the likeness of Jesus, our Master, and may our lives win our companions to His high and holy way.

From an unknown source:—

Grant that we may walk amongst men. Thy messengers, Thy warriors, Thy perfect knights, Thy ministers consecrated to Thy service. Serving Thee with unswerving loyalty and single-hearted devotion. Existing only to live forth Thy life in the world. To fight Thy battles. To be ourselves Thy weapon, Thy tools, Thy hands. To love Thee, to toil with Thee, to die for Thee. Take us O Lord, this day. And use us as Thou will in the cause of Thy eternal kingdom.

Benediction:

Cathedral Service of Thanksgiving The Guider, July, 1932.

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 the Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost be upon you, and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

BROADCASTING

WATCH THE MAY "MATILDA."

Unfortunately, there was a misprint in the March Matilda. "The Thought for Guide Week shall be my Company" should read—"The Thought for Guide Week shall be my COUNTRY."

We regret this misprint very much indeed and apologise to the Guide Week Committee for this mistake.

—Editor.

BACK TO THE HOME

The Little House Emblem

"A Guide prides herself on being able to look after a house well. She must be able to cook, to sew, to do laundry work; she must know simple first aid and sick nursing and how to look after children. Her knowledge must be sound, so that she can be counted on in an emergency to care for other people as well as herself."

These are among the first words I remember as a Guide. Are they true of Guides today? They do undoubtedly apply to many, but are there others who fall very short of the standard they imply? Yet the standard is more than ever necessary now. After the war, when we return to more normal conditions, we shall of necessity return also to a simpler way of living than we have known in the past quarter of a century. In doing so it is hoped that we shall learn a greater appreciation of the integral things and how to distinguish between what matters and what does not matter at all. We shall return to the home and the good genuine things of home life which are the backbone of a country's character.

To day we realise more than ever before the value of Guiding as an individual training; its power to promote strength of character independence of spirit and a sense of right values. A Guide learns that her promise to serve God and King, to help people at all times, and to obey the Guide Law, is the basis of her Guiding and that her service has its foundations in the little things of every day life. We aim at equipping the child for life, and our motto, "Be Prepared" warns us to day that we must be ready to supply the demand that new conditions are making and will continue to make in years to come.

Are we preparing our Guides to be good home-makers? Our programme from Tenderfoot to First Class Guide has this end in view, though a great deal depends on the standard set by Guiders and examiners. Whatever Proficiency Badges a Guide goes in for and whatever her

special interests are, there are certain things which she ought to make it her business to know and to do. The three Proficiency Badges necessary for First Class belong to this category—the Cooks Badge the Child Nurse, and the Needlewoman—and it should be the "one" thing in a company for the Guides to tackle these subjects early in their careers. Later on, when a girl goes to work, or when she has a great many exams. at school, it is difficult to find time for the sewing required in the Needlewoman's Test, for instance. Yet when she is 12 or 13 she is learning just those things at school, and if patching is excepted this can quite well be arranged for the Company meeting.

The Executive Committee has just instituted a special emblem for Guides to wear when they have passed the following Badges:— Cook, Child Nurse, Needlewoman, Laundress, Homemaker and Hostess.

Guides will be interested and delighted to hear that Princess Elizabeth has given permission for her Little House to be used as the design for the emblem, and it will be worn at the top of the right sleeve above the Proficiency Badges. This new emblem will not be ready for some months, but Guides can work so as to be eligible for it.

The Hostess Badge has hitherto been a Patrol Badge, but, in future it may also be taken by individual Guides.

The Homemaker Badge has been revised, and now includes part of the syllabus of the Domestic Service Badge, and the badge of this name is being withdrawn, its title never having being popular.

Guiders will realise that if the most is to be made of the opportunity, which the preparation of these Homecraft Badges afford us, there must be co-operation between the Guiders and parents, and if possible between Guiders and school authorities.

It is a well known thing that what a Guider considers important becomes so to her Guides. We can play a big part in stimulating interest in the things which so often a Guide can practise at home if she has the will to do so. Guiders cannot be expected to undertake the training of their Companies in all the homecraft subjects, and if it should happen that the Guides are not taught at school, then it is essential to get expert help. This is also important in the case of the Child Nurse Badge, the training for which must be practical and up to date.

If we are to make anything of this campaign for more and better home craft, we must be convinced about the need for it ourselves. And what of the Guides themselves? Do they not always respond to the challenge and long to be independent people, capable and equipped? Is it not our job to help each to "Be Prepared"?

M. SHANKS.

Commissioner for Training, England.

THE HOME-MAKER BADGE

1. Lay and light economically a fire, or have cleaned shoes (someone else's as well as her own) and have laid breakfast, aired and made beds satisfactorily for seven consecutive days.

2. Lay and wash up Saturday or Sunday dinner and leave kitchen and scullery tidy. Clean and polish windows and furniture. Do the weekly clean of a room, including cleaning and polishing the floor.
3. Have cleaned the flues and cleaned and blacklead the kitchen range or stove, or have cleaned a gas stove or an electric cooker.
4. Know the rules of keeping a dustbin clean and sanitary, and for keeping a sink clean and free from grease.
5. How to use up left over food; know how to do the shopping herself and know if the food-stuffs are fresh. Understand simple food values, e.g. body building food, warming, protecting, and know in which foods these are combined.
6. Bring to the test something she has prepared entirely by herself, such as; jam, bottled or dried fruit, bottled or dried vegetables home made cleaning or polishing preparations.
7. Mend household linen by hand, and be prepared to demonstrate her ability at the test to do this.
8. Demonstrate use of telephone, or word and send a telegram.
9. Bring a certificate from her parent or guardian, stating that she has been helpful and thorough in the home.

Testing of the Badge.

A certificate signed by the Guider who has satisfied herself by contact with the home and the parent, that the Guide has fulfilled the requirements of sections 1, 2, and 3, must be brought to the test.

N.B. The above is taken from the December Guider. Individual copies of this number only, have been received, the others being lost. Therefore Guiders should take this article as official notice.

These Badges are important for us here, and we would like the alteration to come into force as soon as possible.

N.M.

GUIDERS' COMMITTEE.

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

The following are the names of the Guiders who have been appointed to the Guiders' Committee for the year 1941:—

Mrs. Knight, Chairwoman, Continuity Member, representing Mildura; Mrs. Stevenson, Deputy Chairwoman, representing South Eastern Suburbs; Miss L. Johnson, temporary secretary, representing Southern Suburbs; Miss Oxley, Treasurer, Continuity Member; Miss V. Harrison, Guiders' Committee, representative on Executive Committee; Miss Costain, Outer Southern Suburbs; Miss G. Jeans, South Western Suburbs; Mrs. Niquet, Western Suburbs; Miss MacLean, Outer Eastern Suburbs; Miss E. Couch, Post Companies; Miss Joynes, Barwon; Miss H. Harmer, Mornington Peninsula.

LUCY M. JOHNSON,
Temporary Secretary.

GUIDE WAR APPEAL.

Mrs. Littlejohn has been forced to apply for leave of absence for three months, but Lady Chauvel has stepped into the breach and the Guide War Appeal is carrying on—though we are all missing our convener horribly.

When you are writing to us, would you either address the letter: Hon. Secretary Guide War Appeal, or mark it "War Appeal" across the top—poor Miss Bush opens quite a lot of our letters because they are addressed to the Secretary Girl Guides.

For the moment we have rather too many small jumpers, so if you have enough wool, would you knit sizes ten-year-old or twelve-year-old.

We have had two mails from England since the last Matilda went to press and every letter stressed the extreme urgency for clothing of the type we are sending. We were thrilled to hear that a big shipment from us had arrived just in time to be used at Coventry.

P. M. RUSSELL.

Copy of letter received from G.B., 3/3/41:

War Organisation,
British Red Cross,
City and County of London,

To Miss Parker, 22/11/40.
Guide H.Q., London.

Dear Miss Parker,—We have been sent some most useful clothing through Mrs. Marsham, of the Personal Service League, and I understand that some of this was made and sent by Dominion Guides. I wonder if you would be good enough to convey to the Guides concerned our most grateful thanks for this gift, which came at a very opportune moment.

The garments were immediately distributed to bombed civilians in the London area and I thought it might interest you to know that in a recent request for further clothing we were asked to "please send some more of the lovely things which I believe were made by Guides."

Will you therefore accept again our very best thanks.

Yours sincerely,
ANGELA LIMERICK.
Chairman.

Copy of letter from G.B., received 27/2/41:

Dear Guides,—Just a few lines to thank you for the parcel of lovely clothing you sent the Captain for us. She shared them among us and they all fit beautifully. My mother would like to thank you for the lovely woollen vests for the babies which just fitted them. We are refugees from Guernsey, Channel Islands, and are safely in Glasgow, as our home is now occupied by the Germans. We arrived in Glasgow in June and stayed in church halls for about four months, on camp beds. The people were very good to us and we had quite a happy time there. After a while my father found work and people helped us to get a house which we are sharing with another Guernsey family.

There are fourteen people in the house, six of us and eight of the other family, and we all get on very well together. Our relations are in

Guernsey and we cannot get any news through to them. We are members of the 10th Company of the Girl Guides and are very happy there.

Thanking you for so kindly spending the time in making the clothes. With best wishes—

We remain, yours sincerely,
EDITH and DORIS VAUDIN.

TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Editor,—

Being past Rangers and Guiders of about 13 years we would like to use some space in the columns of your magazine to express our feeling about the present day uniform.

At the service for Lord Baden Powell held on the Melbourne Cricket Ground recently, we were rather amazed to see such a motley collection of "uniforms"—if you could call it such. Being at the entrance where the Colours entered the sight of a colour-bearer with the latest in high-heeled suede shoes and fawn silk stockings were rather staggering. As the march proceeded we were almost overcome to see various shades of silk legs (not to mention the black ones!) and in one case black stockings and brown sandals. The hats also varied in shape and condition; one can still have the use of an iron, even though there is a war on.

A Guider known to me looked particularly smart in brown shoes and stockings, but her Company were a motley crew of brown and black stockings.

Surely it is a Guider's duty to inspect her Company and see that the children are dressed according to rules and regulations, but if the Guider does not wear the same uniform as her Company, who is going to do this?

The cause of this letter is because of personal observation and of a remark passed by an onlooker in front of us: "The Guides always spoil a march because they always look odd. Why don't they dress alike?"

Of course, we quite realise that the uniform does not make the Guide, but do spare us from untidiness and unsuitable clothing. Let us be proud of our clothes and the Movement we wear them for.—Yours, etc.,

Two interested Guiders of the past,
D.N. and O.J.

Dear Editor,—

I hope this year that Guiders will remind their Guides who go to the St. George's Day Service in St. Paul's Cathedral that it is not a nice thing to keep up a subdued chatter to your neighbour all the time.

I went to the Service last year and was amazed at the hum of conversation and coughing that went on the whole time except during the singing of the hymns.

What the general public who were there must have thought of it and the Guide Movement, I do not like to contemplate.—Yours, etc.,

M.G.R.

DISTRICT NEWS.

1st Newport Company Girl Guides' Birthday Party.

1st Newport Company celebrated its second birthday last month. The Company has made great progress during its two years of existence, and is supported by a full Pack of Brownies, with Miss Jean Miller as Brown Owl.

We have four Patrols of Guides—the Rabbits, Kingfishers, Blue Wrens and a Patrol not yet named.

An impressive ceremony was the enrolment by our Commissioner, Mrs. R. Ebeling, of four recruits as Guides. Mrs. Ebeling, in her address of welcome to the new Guides, stressed the necessity of having specially-trained girls and women to cope with any emergency that may arise in the future.

Another interesting presentation was that of a Second Class Badge, the first to be awarded in Newport.

At supper it was learned that it was also the birthday of our Vicar, and the whole Company sang "Happy Birthday to You."

Mrs. Ebeling paid a very fine tribute to the work of the Captain, Mrs. Ames.

The party closed with the singing of "Taps."

HAYBOX.

3rd Bendigo Guides also have a haybox—they have had it for some time, but haven't had the courage to use it. However, encouraged by "Matilda's" account of the Gipton haybox, we took ours to camp this year, and were ridiculously thrilled to find it DID work. The porridge and stew that came out of it were fit for a King.

Another thing we did was to have Guides in advance party and rearguard who really did things with no supervision, save the final pronouncement on the efficiency of the job done. This, of course, is as it should be, but it is sad how rarely one gets the Guides to the stage where really important things like mending, striking and stowing tents away can be left to them. The possession of a tent and Company meetings in Captain's backyard give the preliminary training—and the feeling of happy co-operation between Guides and Guiders when the real thing is happening is a "pearl beyond price."

Our aim now is to have a camp staffed by our own old Guides. I wonder if we will attain it.

1st TOORAK GUIDE CAMP.

The Guide House.

On Thursday, 26th December, we were all very happy and excited, for the next day we were off to camp—our very own Company camp, and at the Guide House! We had all

worked and planned and saved for it nearly all the year and at last the great day had come.

Everybody was at the station long before the time we had to be there. It was awfully hot in the train, and there were lots and lots of people, but we enjoyed the long train ride just the same. At last we reached Wesburn, so out we got and piled into the bus which took us along a very pretty turning road to the Guide House. As soon as we got there we all stood at the fence and watched three lucky people swimming in the swimming pool. We did envy them, as it was so hot, you see. Our luggage had not arrived, so we busied ourselves in getting our camping equipment out of the garage. Then our luggage arrived, and in about ten minutes we were all splashing about in the pool. This was the first of many lovely swims we had while in camp.

After our swim we all got dressed in our camp clothes, which were navy blue shorts and shirts and tan sandals with fawn sock-ettes. We were then ready for work. First, we had our lunch and also two visitors. They were the Captain of 1st Woori Yallock Company and one of her Guides, who had come to help us pitch our tents. They were both very welcome, as it came on to rain; but we went on with our work just the same. Each tent was put up by the ones who would be sleeping in it; this was a lovely idea, and we did appreciate it. After our tents were up we had a pow-wow, at which we were told which Patrol we were in and our duties. Then—here was a surprise!—we were all turned into Indians! Don't be alarmed—not the wild kind that goes about scalping and robbing people, but the brave, silent, nature-loving kind. The Guiders had Indian names and we had lots of fun in remembering to call them by their right Totem name. Captain was Nokidi—but this soon came Knock-nee. We made up a song about her, but she did not like it very much! Mrs. Ebeling was our Medicine Man, and we called her Libisana, which in Indian language meant "Little bird singing in the morning." Lieutenant was called Glad Heart, and Miss Witts was Fleetfoot.

We were each given a totem stick and told what we could do with them. We had different tests to do and when we had passed a test we were allowed to paint a badge on our sticks with coloured paints. We were all thrilled and decided to get as many tests as we could before we left camp. Here are the tests we had to do:—

Discovery: Have made 10 different discoveries, i.e., birds, flowers, trees, stars, etc.

Campcraft: Be a useful member of a tenting squad and prove yourself capable of looking after a tent.

Emergency: Deal with an emergency which may occur in camp.

Woodcraft: Collect and stack suitable firing. Follow a trail and prepare an appetizing hike meal.

Swimming: Non-swimmers—swim 12 yards before the end of camp. Swimmers—swim the length of the pool.

Gadget: Make some useful gadget within the first three days of camp.

Silence: Keep complete silence for three hours (to include a meal).

Camp-fire: Entertain the rest of the camp for not less than five minutes or more than 10 by teaching a song or doing a stunt. This may be done as a Patrol.

Alert: A special test in usefulness and promptness to be judged by the Guiders throughout the week.

For each test passed we put a different picture on our sticks. The silence test caused a lot of fun. It was awfully hard to do; lots of us had to do it several times before we were successful in doing three hours' silence. This test brought many surprises, too. The first brave to pass it was the biggest chatter-box in camp by far. She had a lovely time teasing everyone else after she finished her silence. Six people did the swimming test, two of whom learned to swim while in camp. This was because Miss Irving—the life-saver—was so kind and patient in teaching them to swim each day.

Every morning we had prayers and sang a lovely good morning song and Colours before going to breakfast. We got up very early every morning like the Indians because everything is so much nicer then. Each day we did something new and exciting. One day two of our braves were kidnapped by hostile tribes, but they were clever as they left a trail made by some flour they were carrying when they were kidnapped, so we set off to find them, following the flour and tracking signs and notes. We went for miles and miles up the mountain till we came upon them, paid the ransom and recovered our comrades. We all then had a lovely tea, played some games and sang lots of songs. We then made our way "home," which was lovely at that time of day.

Another day we challenged the Guides from the Collingwood and Fitzroy camp to sports. It was great—we came second! That same evening we went to their camp-fire. We sang lots of favourites; our camp taught the others "The Village Dance," and they taught us a lovely quaint one called "Walla Woolloo." That night being New Year's Eve, we awakened at just before midnight to see the New Year in. We stayed in bed a half hour longer next morning.

All this we loved and will always remember and lots of other things, too—the thrill of being awakened in the mornings with the singing of the birds; the water parades we had each day; the nice meals; the huge hay-hole in which we almost disappeared out of sight every time we retrieved our dinner out of it; the lovely rides Miss Jermyn gave us on her pony; the fun we had trying to get Captain to mount the pony; the other Guides we met; the rain; the swims

and lots of other things, too. But all good things must end some time, so at last came the day for us to go home—it was raining as usual—and so we took down our camp and like the Indians, "silently stole away."

BETTY NORWOOD.

AUDREY NORWOOD.

JENNIFER THOMPSON.

REARGUARD ACTION.

Well, that was the close of the Outer Eastern Division Camp; their baggage stacked in a tent near the road had passed from hand to hand along a buzzing line of Guides. Didn't they look handsome dressed for travel—ties of yellow, green, brown and two different blues. They'd left waving madly and we might follow soon for the tents weren't so wet. How they had loved the rain, of course they tired before it did, and went scampering like pups for that splash along the road. You know they were hoping for a deluge? Yes, and before that for such a wind as would blow the tents down! Oh, Commandant! Never mind, if Guiders have a fetish about tents staying upright, at least it poured and nothing got wet and we sang our way through it. We'd not realised they made such a noise at meals till we had moved inside the marquette, ears were drumming when the Commandant called for silence with the second course—there were splutterings and gesticulations that time—wasn't it amazing that they kept asking for it at meals. A few of them mentioned that in the questionnaire at the end. What did you learn in camp? How to control giggles. Others learned that bread and jam without butter was edible, how to cook and various things about tents. What surprised you most? The good food and having hot baths.

I've not known better Guides for clearing up, dixies gleamed and straws were meticulously gathered. Well, didn't tea for four seem lonely after 32, and wouldn't they be tickled to know we'd struck the bath tent and had our tubs palatially in the marquette. Tents were only beginning to dry next day, and town claimed another victim. Skipper adopted the three who were left. What do you think someone meant by answering that the biggest surprise in camp was "the Guiders' manner"? And who wanted no orderly work next camp? When we read that one aloud some tumbled over themselves to tell how they'd enjoyed working together. Gradually the tents came down until with only two left standing it scarcely seemed like camp; we gave the rearguard a few minutes in the Guide House luxury chairs that night while we helped ourselves to ammonia—how ever many ant bites did the first aider treat in camp—and then we came down the track dragging Dolly's cart to aid on an early start with the last load next morning. A lantern was swinging on the cart shaft, the weight was pushing us faster and everything was

changed and strange, with the quiet of night and in the sky the comet, so clear, how amazingly lovely, what a night! What a camp and such a rearguard!

Rest well now, camp site, and green grow the grass.

BUSH LORE

Editor: Ina Watson.

Grey Fantail

"The bushman calls me 'Cranky Fan,'

Because my strange, erratic flight
Seems to uncomprehending man
Sign of a wit not over bright;
But nimble wit and nimble wing
Uphold me in the trade I ply
Of ever-restless foraging—
Excuse me—there's another fly!

DENNIS.

Here is an interesting story of the friendly little bird we mostly know as Cranky Fan-Fan because of the fan tail, and Cranky because of its darting flight after insects. On several occasions the birds have got almost too friendly—they have repeatedly flown at my glasses and I have had to keep my hand up to ward them off.

The beautifully formed nest, made mostly of cobwebs has a 'tail' underneath, and looks rather like a wineglass without a base. Various reasons have been advanced for its shape—one is that it helps to keep the nest balanced and upright.—Ed.

Two Grey Fantails sat, turn about for a fortnight upon their quaint, stemmed nest in a gum sapling. Then three hungry young kept them busy for more than another two weeks feeding them upon insects. At 8 a.m. Dec. 17th, the young were very active bobbing their heads and chirping. They had the sides of the nest pressed down with their weight, 11 a.m. in warm sun they sat in a row upon an adjacent twig, fluttering and trimming their feathers but their tails looked short and juvenile. For several days they kept together among thick foliage. In another week's time they began to follow their parents about instead of being waited on, and to call like them instead of squeaking. Tails grew rapidly to full size, but they were distinguished from their parents by the brown tone of their plumage. After wandering about in the bush during the day they all came back at night to roost in their favourite place in the garden.

IN APRIL WATCH FOR—

ANT FLIGHTS.—though ants do not chose any particular date for the emergence of the winged females and males in their marriage flight, the warm, still days of early autumn often give the requisite conditions, so that we may look for the ant flight any day now. The term "queen" is not strictly correct, as there may be a number of females in the nest, and one particular ant does not 'rule the roost.'

One day last April at Frankston, I encountered large flights of 'bull-ants.' I was sitting on top of a fence post on a hill admiring the view, but the

ants chose to make me a landing ground. It is very unnerving to have bull-ants suddenly descend on one! While having lunch a small sugar ant landed beside me, reached over and delicately broke off her wings then hurried off to start another nest. The male dies, and forms, no doubt, an excellent dinner for a lizard.

What happens after that is too long to tell here—it can be read in many books. Perhaps another time we may have something of the story of the ants.

BIRD MOVEMENTS.—Although most of the migratory birds will have left, there will be late flights of birds early in the month.

ORCHIDS.—Among the best known of the autumn orchids are Parson's Bands and the Autumn Greenhood. Parson's Bands is easily identified by the two prominent white 'petals.' The rest of the tiny flower is red and white. Several flowers may grow on the one plant. Autumn Greenhood's large flower is white with green strips and light brown markings. Its stem grows up to twelve inches in height, and the plant seems to like rocky ridges.

Good hunting!

BROWNIES

SKIPPING.

Any day now the Brownies are likely to arrive for the meeting with skipping ropes turning. This is the time to produce the long Pack rope, to begin turning, and to chant one or the other of the fascinating rhymes which have arisen, in some cases, from ancient religious and seasonal customs and have been handed on for many generations. It is not necessary to teach these rhymes; all that is necessary is to repeat the words through as you turn the rope and you will hear them taken up eagerly by one Brownie and then another.

ACTION RHYMES.

The commonest modern one is:—
I am a Brownie dressed in brown,
These are the actions done in town,
Stand at ease, bend my knees,
Salute Brown Owl, bow to the Queen,
Turn right round and face the King.

Also, the following older one, which is found in every country in England.

Lady, lady, touch the ground,
Lady, lady, turn right round,
Lady, lady, drop your baby,
Lady, lady, pick it up.
Lady, lady, show your foot,
Lady, lady, sling your hook.

And a third one from Sussex:

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, go upstairs,
Teddy Bear, say your prayers.
Teddy Bear, switch out the light,
Teddy Bear, kiss good-night.

Pepper.

There is a large group of rhymes in which the child ends by skipping as fast as she can and the children tell fortunes by seeing at which word they trip.

Raspberry, Gooseberry, Apple, Jam-tart,
Tell me the name of your sweetheart.
A, B, C, D, etc.
Tinker, tailor, etc.
Silk, satin, etc.

And this one:

Ding, dong, castle bell,
Erie, orie, over.
Dr. Brown's a very good man,
Teaches children all he can,
First to read and then to write,
Erie, orie, you go out (pepper).

HANDY PANDY

This friend of our young days is an ever-green. The first two lines are skipped and the next two are missed while the child crouches down and the rope is turned over her head. Up again for the next two lines and down again until she trips:

Handy, Pandy, Sugar, Candy,
French or almond rock,
Bread and butter for your supper,
That is all your mother's got.

An alternative is to complete the rhyme once as above, and then say Salt, Mustard, Vinegar, Pepper.

IN AND OUT.

Many rhymes introduce a second skipper who drives the first one out, so that the children keep moving round.

As I was in the kitchen
Doing a bit of stitching,
In came a bogey man
And pushed me out!

A girl's name can be used instead of bogey man.

House to let, apply within,

Our final rhyme in this group comes from Essex and Surrey.

Down in the valley where the green grass grows,

Dear little Mary grows like a rose,

She grows and she grows and she grows so sweet,

And dear little Betty grows under her feet
(Mary runs out).

One skipper for every verse until the rope is full up:

Blow the fire blacksmith,

Make a pretty light,

In comes (Mabel) dressed in white,

White shoes and stockings,

White curly hair,

And no one else is quite so fair.

—V.A.T.

CORKS.

We do hope the corks are appearing. One Pack has raised their subscription from a penny up to one penny and a cork.

POSTPONEMENT.

Last month an announcement appeared telling of a meeting for Brownie Guiders and Pack Leaders to be held shortly after Easter. This fixture was discussed and planned a long while ago, yet unfortunately the date has proved unsuitable after all, and the outing must be postponed and will receive alterations to suit the later season.

SIGN POST PAGE

Editor: Marjorie Nicholson

If your whole world is upside down and joy and cheer are far away from you, romp for an hour with a six-year-old child and see if its laughter and faith are not veritable sign-posts on the Road to Happiness.

GLADYS HARVEY-KNIGHT

THE TRAINING OF PATROL LEADERS

From THE GUIDER, October 1940.

There are no two ways about it—the best way to train Patrol Leaders is for their own captain to do it, provided she *does* do it and does it well, thoroughly and regularly. Unless the Leaders happen to be born Leaders, all of them (which would be unique) able to lead and teach what they know without effort, have been so well trained as Guides that they have kept up what they learned and so brimful of new ideas that they bring constant freshness to patrol activities—they all need training. It is impossible to run a company on the patrol system unless the training of Patrol Leaders is undertaken, because, if the Patrol Leaders do not know their part, the patrol cannot be properly employed as a unit and the Guides feel forced to run things themselves. This means a complete breakdown of the patrol system and is a sign of very weak company management.

Few Guiders to-day can give extra time to training their Patrol Leaders, but this fact must not prevent our doing our job for all that! The captain must devote one company meeting in every five to the exclusive training of Patrol Leaders (the lieutenant and the seconds running the company, or, if necessary, there can be no meeting of the company that week). Or, because you have the necessary conviction yourself and realise the value to your whole company, you will think out your own scheme, overcome your own difficulties and *train your Patrol Leaders!*

Outline of Programme for Leaders' Trainings

1. Give the Patrol Leaders confidence by helping them to rub up their knowledge.
2. Get them to show how they will teach the various subjects taken. Then make practical suggestions to supplant their ideas and demonstrate these. Let them work with you at the demonstration. Example: *Make* a stretcher and signalling, or *make* a bed, or *erect* a flagstaff and

practise carrying a patient, or *do* long distance practice hoisting colours, or *practise* stalking (walking, crouching and crawling . . .) or *plot out* a wide game together and play it in outline or *spend time* ironing ties, cleaning badges and belts, washing stripes and lanyards and pressing hats—so that a real pride in uniform is developed, etc., etc.

3. Through discussions and demonstrations on their part and on yours, help them to organise Patrol Time well.

4. Demonstrate and hold a Patrol-in-Council with your Patrol Leaders as though they were your patrol. Show them how to get the Guides to speak and express their opinion freely and how they can think of the whole company. If the company is to be truly self-governing it must have Patrols-in-Council at which each Guide makes her contribution in thought for the report to the Court of Honour. Show the leaders that they are responsible for considering the well-being and progress of each individual Guide, and that the secret of this is *being interested*.

5. The Promise, the Guide Law, and the Good Turn.

Everything you do in the company should be towards the growth of the spirit of Guiding. The time spent with your Patrol Leaders is very precious therefore. They will expect of their patrols what you expect of them. No standard can be too high, and experiences shared and good turn done together are worth more than any amount of precept.

At Foxlease and throughout the country in areas, in Counties, and Divisions, residential Patrol Leaders' Trainings have been held during the last year and these have been an unqualified success. The leaders not only enjoyed meeting one another, making new friends, and strengthening their knowledge of the worthliness of Guiding, but they were eager to learn more, to be trained, and to prove their keenness to be of service to their companies and counties.

The purpose of these gatherings was two-fold:

1. Many companies were already without Guiders, owing to their having been called up. The Patrol Leaders were naturally carrying on and it was felt that they would appreciate training. It was also recognised that these Patrol Leaders were our future Guiders and that they might have to act as such at an earlier age than usual owing to war-time.

2. It was felt that it would be of benefit to the whole Movement to show very specially our faith in youth, to prove that we trust our Patrol Leaders and that we consider their part a vital one in their companies. The fact of taking training to them in their counties would demonstrate in a practical way that we looked to *them* to carry on and that it was up to them to be trained and ready for the job!

The training of Patrol Leaders by trainers is not something to be undertaken in a wholesale way, however. Better far for the Diploma'd Guiders to help the District Commissioners and to train the Guiders so that the captains train their own leaders. When Patrol Leaders' Conferences and Trainings do take place, it is important that the trainers should have an opportunity of meeting the Guiders beforehand and discussing with them what they would most like

their leaders to be taught, what part of their training most needs strengthening, and how the trainer can best back the Guiders up. The training department must undermine the Guiders' work and be itself instrumental in breaking down the patrol system!

The majority of Patrol Leaders at the Residential Trainings proved not only their keenness but their worth, many of them showed that they were accustomed to fend for themselves and to think and act on their own initiative, but there was—in some cases—a great ignorance of elementary Guiding, and time planned for other things had to be spent learning how to teach the Tenderfoot Test! On the whole, the knowledge of housecraft was meagre, and this is regrettable, for every Guide should take a pride in being able to do things about a house really well. It is expected of a Guide. The done thing. It will be necessary after the war!

Although they must never take the place of the training of the leader by her captain—representative gatherings of Patrol Leaders, carefully planned by Guiders, District Commissioners, and trainers, are of great value occasionally. It is often some one new saying the same old thing or doing it—who convinces; One Patrol Leader coming back from a County Patrol Leaders' Conference to the company to which I belonged, said:—

"We're the worst company in the world, Captain!"

"How did you find out?" I enquired.

"It was the Conference," she explained. "You should have seen the other Patrol Leaders, heard the things they do, the good turns they undertake, the exciting adventures they have, the games they play. Wait till I get my patrol! Compared with those people, we've done nothing! And Captain, *did you* know that all Patrol Leaders nowadays see that the patrol has a piece of co-operative handwork that any Guide can work on in patrol time when her tests are finished?"

"No," I said, humbly.

"Well captain, we must *do something* about it and *everything*."

I think we must, don't you?

MARJORIE SHANKS,
Imperial Headquarters Commissioner for training.

EXTENSION.

Editor: Sydney Foott.

As the second Monday in April falls on Easter Monday, the Commissioner for Extensions and the A.C.E. will be "at home" at 41 Spring Street on the third Monday—April 21st.

St. George's Day:

Will captains of Post and Extension Guide and Ranger companies please let us know how many will be coming to the annual St. George's Day service—and especially what space will be required for prams and chairs.

Uniforms:

We are most grateful to the various people who have given us their out-grown or "of no further use to owner" uniforms. We would remind Post Captains that uniforms, including hats, belts and ties, may be obtained from the Extension stock, but that the Guide or

Brownie should pay at least something towards the uniform, unless she is a member of a hospital or institution company or pack. The money thus obtained goes towards providing badges, belts, stars, etc.

Extension Guiders' Training.

The Extension Guiders' Training Week-end is to be held on May 3rd and 4th. Usually there has been a residential training week-end at the beginning of the year, but owing to the war and lack of time and money, it is felt that it would be better to have a non-residential training.

This training is for ALL Extension people—Captains, Lieutenants, Brown and Tawny Owls, and other helpers.

All Companies and Packs have been circularised, and many Guiders have already replied. To those who have not, we would say PLEASE HURRY!

Among the subjects suggested for sessions are the following:—

Brownie Games for Extension Packs; Games for Post Guide Budgets; Badges for Extension Rangers; Ranger Service for Extensions; A Talk on the Guide Promise; Hints on Budget-making—illustrations and setting out; Getting Post Guides out of doors.

We also hope to have a speaker from the Victorian Society for Crippled Children, and also a talk on the capabilities and disabilities of the physically handicapped child.

Any other suggestions would be welcomed, together with ideas as to speakers.

If anyone who is not an Extension or Post Guider or helper is interested in this training and feels she would like to attend, would she please write to Miss Alston, 5 Struan Street, Toorak. Sessions will be held on Saturday afternoon and evening, and Sunday afternoon. On Sunday night there will either be a Guides' Own, or we will attend evening service at one of the city churches.

The training will be held in the city, but the place is not yet definite.

LONES

Dear Lones,

We are about to launch on a new scheme of Badge work by correspondence which I am sure will be welcomed by Lones throughout Victoria, and I hope will be well supported by the members of the Lones L.A. as well as by the companies themselves. The badges to be undertaken this year are the following:— Cook, Needlewoman, Laundress and Booklover. Two of these are necessary for the 1st Class Guide Badge, and the requirements will be found in the P.O. and R.

Mrs. McNaughton, a member of the Lones L.A. Executive, is compiling the sets of instruction papers. She would like co-operation with people who will act as supervisors. They will need to have a working knowledge of the subject in which they agree to help, but need not be experts. They will merely send on the papers to the applicants and receive their answers, correct them where needed and give them advice and encouragement. When the applicants are ready to be tested they will notify Mrs. McNaughton,

and arrangements will be made for the nearest local examiner to do the testing.

Mrs. McNaughton already has the offer of a supervisor for the Cook's Badge, but she would be very grateful for someone to help her with the Needlewoman's, Booklover's and Laundress. Supervisors need only refer to the book, Hints on Giry Guide Badges, as a guide of the standard required, and have a personal interest in the job and the girl with whom they are corresponding, to help them along the path Mrs. McNaughton's papers have set out. Any expenses incurred for books, postage etc. will be met by the Lones L.A.

There must not be any applicant for some time as the scheme has to be circulated amongst the Companies, and as only 2nd. Class Guides are eligible there will necessarily be very few able to avail themselves of the opportunity. But as we do not want to delay them, should they apply, we would be very grateful for the names of helpers in this well worth-while scheme as soon as possible. This is a chance for any member of the Lones L. A. either from the country or the town to do their bit, or for anyone interested in any branch of Guiding. I will be glad to receive names or to explain more fully if asked.

The Lone Rangers have now a representative on the State Ranger Committee. She is Miss Margraet Shaw, and her task will be to take any problems or suggestions from the Lone Rangers to her Committee, and to keep Lones in mind when discussing affairs of interest. This co-operation should prove of great value in eliminating that isolated feeling between branches of the Movement.

I am afraid I cannot tell you any more about the project of the Lones Gathering, as there are as yet insufficient replies from the circulated query sent out in the last Guides' minutes to come to any conclusion about it. From answers I have received it would seem a possibility for June, so please keep that long week-end in mind and make every effort to attend.

We have been able to re-open two Companies, the 2nd Lone Guides whose Captain is Miss Frances Reeves, and the 3rd Lone Guides, under Mrs. Monaghan. The first-named is formed of girls at Dargo State School, situated in an outlying district of Gippsland, the other of girls in various parts, including two British children. We extend to these re-formed Companies a very hearty welcome, and sincere wishes for their successful careers.

Guiders will have already received a copy of the circular about Guide Week (May 9th-18th) and I hope are thinking up some special ways in which they and each member of their Companies can mark it as a definite week of achievement. The suggestion that we should each qualify in any subject of our own choice is ideal, because whatever subject we are particularly interested in is sure to be one in which we are at least moderately proficient and therefore it should make easy and pleasant study. On the other hand how thrilling it would be to "swot" up something at which we are definitely weak, and conquer it! But with the watchword, "My Country," let us concentrate on a subject that—although it may benefit us indirectly—will be a tangible evidence of our will to serve.

—M.R.F.

CAMPING and TRAINING

(Elaine Moran)

About Campfires

One of the secrets of running a combined Guides' Own or Campfire or any big ceremony successfully, is to plan it out to the last detail and then when the time comes, in the case of a campfire, let it all seem as though it is quite spontaneous!

Some of the details to be arranged or foreseen:—

Guider-in-charge—Must know the songs and be able to pitch the note. Hold the interest of everyone and be able to gauge the atmosphere and work it up as necessary. Keep control without it being apparent.

Place.—Not public. Not noisy. Pleasant situation. Outdoors if possible. Comfortable to sit, not too steep. Good acoustics. Visualise exactly how much space will be taken; decide where people are to sit, single ring, or six deep, etc., and how big the inner circle is to be. Ground sheets. Allow plenty of time after arrival for settling down. Have a punctual start.

Programme.—Plan well ahead. Know what you are going to start with. A cheery song that everyone knows is best to get a cheerful, "well-knit" feeling. Any "talks" can be done later when everyone's attention is focussed. Allow time for stunts and stories, make sure that actors know when to go off and get ready, etc. Arrange days beforehand with the storytellers and do not take them by surprise. Let the Guides know well in advance what songs or hymns to practise, or better still, give them a chance to choose them. Have a variety of songs and rounds so that all tastes will be satisfied. Have this programme written out and keep it with you, but do not study it obviously, let the whole thing flow on! Do not have a rollicking action song immediately before the ending!

Ceremonies.—Plan these to the last detail, rehearse them more than once with a few Guiders so that you know where everyone stands and exactly what they say and when. Be sure that the Guides know beforehand what their part is so that they will have time to think about it and practise. If Colours are brought to a Guides' Own, a place must be provided for them during the Service. A large piece of solid drain-pipe has been used with success as a Colour stand by one District for several years. Have a good ending. There are many suitable Guide Vespers that can be sung before Taps. Encourage people to go home rather than to linger about.

TRAINING COURSES.

Signalling Classes.—Will any Guiders or Rangers who would like to join a special class

in signalling please write to Miss Macartney and state which nights they could arrange to attend. It is hoped to hold classes after Guide Week or later in the year.

Woodcraft Week.—If there are sufficient applications to warrant it a Guiders' Woodcraft Week will be held under canvas at the Guide House from 30th August to 6th September. Britannia Creek is an ideal place for Woodcraft of all kinds, from bird-stalking, tracking and map-making to the sort of scouting games that the Guides enjoy so much.

Pack Holiday Permit: Indoor Camp Test: Pioneer Badge Training (details last month): Will Guiders who wish to attend classes for these please let Miss Harrison know at once.

Camp First Aid Test.—Will Guiders and Rangers who wish to attend classes for this test please let Miss Harrison know at once.

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

Guider-in-Charge: Miss D. Holtz.

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

Refresher and First Class Training.—Will commence at Headquarters on 5th June, at 7.55 p.m. sharp, for four weeks. Field Day: 21st June.

OPEN WEEK-ENDS.

Open week-ends at the Guide House will be held on the following dates:—May 2-4, June 6-8, 20-22; July 4-6, 18-20; August 1-3, 15-17; September 19-21; October 3-5, 17-19; November 7-9, 21-23. The fee is 6/-, including return bus fare, plus rail fare 3/10 under sixteen, 5/9 sixteen and over. Guiders and Rangers may attend singly or in small parties; Guides must be accompanied by their Guider. Applications are accepted in the order that they are received. Applications must reach Miss Harrison, 126 High Street, Glen Iris, S.E.6, not later than two weeks before the week-end concerned. 2/6 deposit must be sent for each Camper.

Supplement to MATTEDA - April 1941.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

1941.

The combined Service for the Scout and Guide Movements, which is held annually at St. Paul's Cathedral in connection with St. George's Day, has been arranged by the Church of England Diocesan Scout Advisory Council to take place on Saturday, 26th April, at 3.15 p.m. Those attending should be at the Cathedral not later than 3 p.m. in order to be seated in time for the Service. Guides will enter the Cathedral by the door in Swanston Street. The Service is for all sections of the Movements.

The Service is primarily for Anglican Scouts and Guides, but others wishing to attend will be very welcome. Guides may attend individually or in charge of Guiders, but must be in uniform; Recruits may attend. Seats remaining after 3.5 p.m. are open to the general public.

Guiders are requested to announce the Service at their Company and Pack meetings in order to give their members the opportunity to attend. Guiders are asked to remind their Guides that this is a Service, and that a right standard of behaviour is expected (e.g. no talking in the Cathedral, and no turning round). The Service is for the children, who can make it a real Service by taking their full part, and joining in the hymns and responses.

The Order of Service will be similar to that of previous years. Would Guiders give the members of their Companies and Packs a general idea of the Order of Service, making special mention of the renewal of the Promises? Brownies and Guides will stand at the half-salute when renewing their Promise. The Brownies have the responsibility of being the first to renew their Promise; would they please speak very clearly and quite loudly? The Cathedral is such a large building wherein to hear the voices of small people.

COLOURS. Companies are invited to send Colour Bearers with their Colours to take part in the procession. Colour Bearers should be at the Chapter House, 2nd floor, Cathedral Buildings, by 2.45 p.m. All Colours should be marked with the name of the Company. Instructions will be issued to Colour Bearers on arrival. Colour Parties are not to accompany Bearers. It is very important that Bearers be early; they should have leather carriers for their flags, as they have a long distance to march. Entrance to the Chapter House is gained from the path leading from the corner of Swanston Street and Flinders Lane. Rovers will be on duty there to show the way.

There will be a collection to defray expenses, but inability to make an offering should not prevent any from attending the Service.

M. E. Bush.

STOP PRESS!**CARETAKER'S COTTAGE.**

Over thirty pounds came in last month. We have now £209. That means we still want £91. If you laid 1,820 shilling pieces on the road from Market Street to the Guide House they would not stay there very long, and they would not reach very far—BUT, they WOULD BUILD the Caretaker's Cottage! There are 9,000 odd members of the Guide Movement in Victoria to prove 1,820 shillings—have you sent yours yet?

GUIDE HOUSE GROUNDS AND GARDEN.

In the next two months the Working Bees which are advertised to be held on April 26th and 27th, and May 10th and 11th, will be special efforts. It has been decided that the house must be painted at once, and as you know this is a costly business, so we are asking the help of Rangers and Guiders. Make a note of these dates, because it is quite possible for us to paint the walls underneath the verandah ourselves and so reduce the cost. Will you come and help? Guiders please send their applications to Miss Broadhurst, c/o Guide Headquarters, enclosing 5/9 for their fare and stating whether they will be going on the morning or afternoon train on Saturday.

C. BROADHURST.

GUIDE SHOP.

A large shipment of books has just come to hand.

New Books—Tenderfoot's A.B.C.

When we first join the Girl Guides there seems a tremendous amount to learn. No sooner are we beginning to get used to one of the many strange new things at a Company Meeting that—whew-w—the whistle blows and we start to do something else!

This little book was written with the idea that all Patrols could give a copy to each one of their recruits; and to show Tenderfoots that (in spite of first appearances) their tests are, after all, "as easy as A.B.C."

Revised Drill for Guides.

Since 1920, there have been a number of revised editions of the book of Drill, but in the last few years the old yellow-covered Drill Book has been superseded by the small white pamphlets; DRILL FOR GIRL GUIDES (6d.) and COLOUR CEREMONIAL (6d.) and SIGNALING FOR GUIDES (6d.).

You will know from the above whether you are up-to-date with your booklets, but there is another point to check. Lately the booklet, DRILL FOR GIRL GUIDES, has had an inserted leaflet on FORMATION FOR MARCH, and DRILL IN THREES, with the Commands. Directions for the latter were published last year in THE GUIDER, but in case you have not the latest edition of the booklet, we would send you a copy of the leaflet.



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5d.	“ “ “	6d.
6d.	“ “ “	8d.
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1/-	“ “ “	1/3
1/3	“ “ “	1/6
1/6	“ “ “	1/9
1/9	“ “ “	2/-
2/-	“ “ “	2/3
2/3	“ “ “	2/6
2/6	“ “ “	3/-
3/-	“ “ “	3/3
3/3	“ “ “	3/9
5/6	“ “ “	6/-

Next month a complete list of books will be given with the new prices, but this increase will date from April 1st.

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