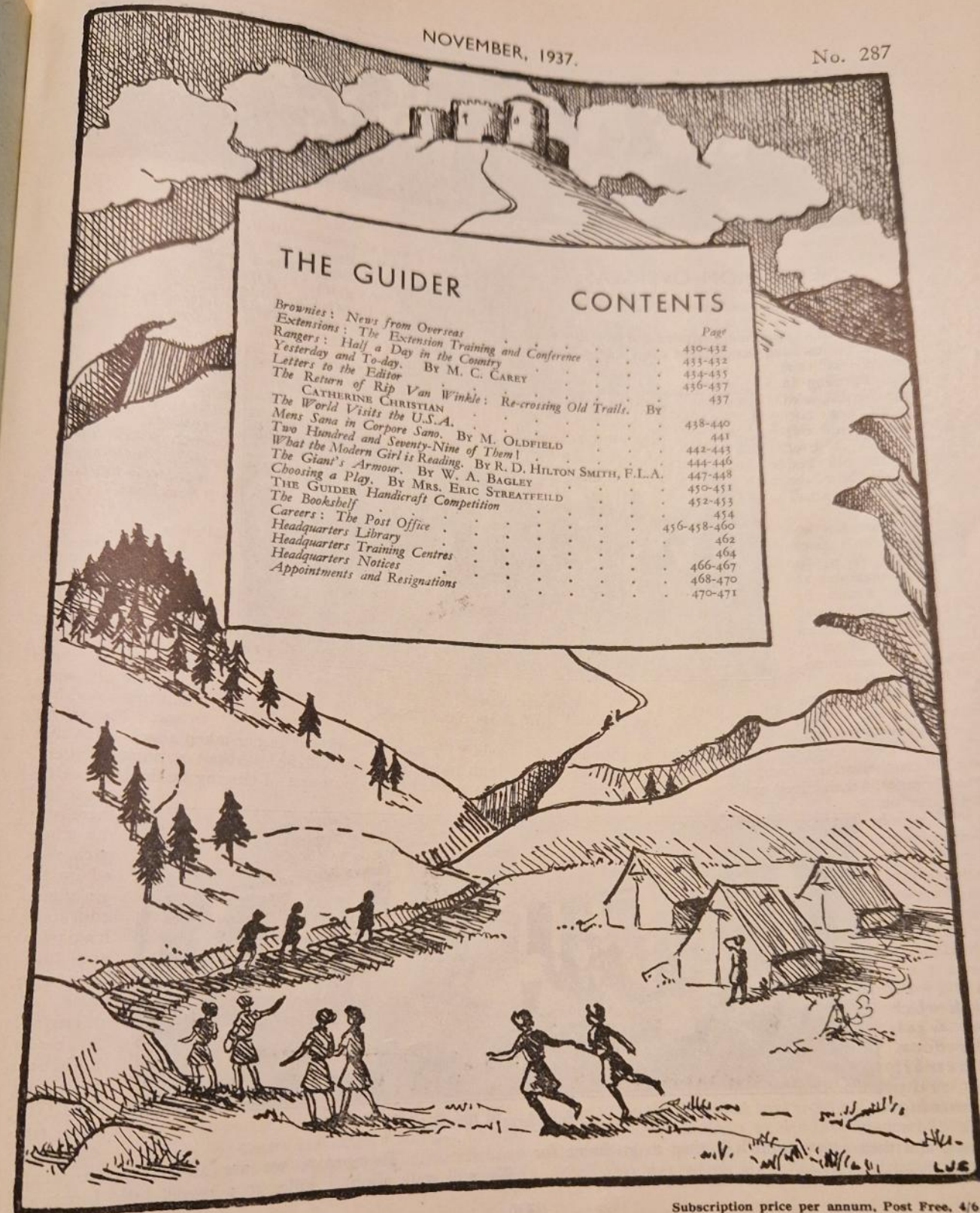


THE GUIDER

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NEWS FROM OVERSEAS

NEW SOUTH WALES. 1st Chatswood Pack.

Sprifair.

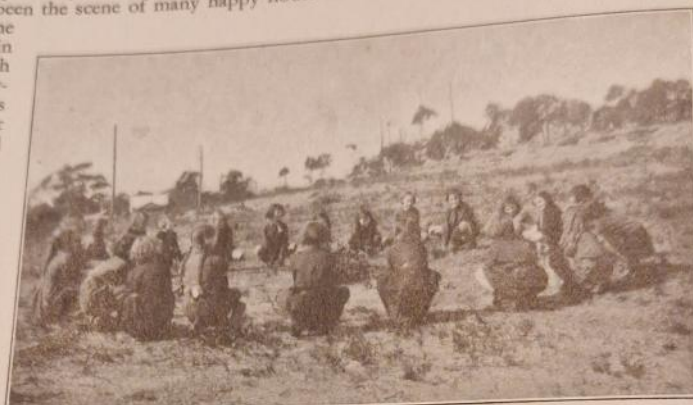
Although not primarily intended for the Brownies, "Sprifair" has been the scene of many happy hours to members of the pack. Standing in a large garden, with a small one surrounding it, this "cubby" is over 30 years old and can still bear the rioting of small people.

We have not actually held a pack meeting in it, as it only measures 10 feet by 8 feet by 7 feet, but it will hold six children quite comfortably, and has accommodated twelve!

Saturday mornings are the special times for tidying up "Sprifair" (the name is the proud invention of the children themselves, comprising part of "Sprites, Elves and Fairies," their Sixes) and four or five will arrive ready for the fun.

Fresh flowers are put in, the floor swept, and on special mornings, a bucket of water allowed with which to wash the floor. When all is tidy "morning tea" is

served, and then games until it is time to go home for lunch.



Grand Owl.
2nd. Dulwich Hill, New South Wales.

It is not meant as a pack meeting, which is held on Friday afternoon, and the Brownies are quite free to do as they like, provided a few simple rules of conduct are adhered to. They must always come to say "Here we are" and "Good-bye" to Brown Owl for instance.

There have been many special times—the day five Brownies brought lunch, and painted the "Cubby" (and themselves); other packs invited for the day; numbers of sausages cooked, much cocoa made, and incidentally, many tests passed in "Sprifair."

PAPUA.

(Extracts from a letter from Port Moresby B.C.)

"... The night that I went away two Brownies came up at dusk to know if they could say good-bye to me. Naturally I

said "Of course" and was rather taken aback when they both raced off to the village! About 20 minutes later I was startled by an outburst of singing at the back of the

house and there was the whole pack seated on the ground and going happily and lustily through their repertoire! A truly Papuan way of bidding one farewell.



Port Moresby Brownies.

To-morrow we are all off for a picnic. We will walk about 5 miles to a lovely little beach and

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have games, stories, pass some of our ball throwing and hopping tests. As a little extra diversion the Brownies will go swimming and shell-fishing. We are all going armed with a yam which we will bake in a big open fire."

S. RHODESIA.
(Extracts from a letter from S. Rhodesia.)

Our Colony Rally and Camp in celebration of the Coronation has been the chief excitement among the Brownies this year, as Sixers over 9½ were invited to come with their Guide companies from all over Rhodesia. They did not sleep in Camp, but were put up by various people in Salisbury and spent the three days from after breakfast until after Camp fire with the Guides.

There was a huge rally on the Saturday afternoon and the bined Salisbury packs gave a 10 minute Ceremony on the Coronation theme. They wore coloured paper tunics over their uniforms as they were supposed to represent flowers.

N. CEYLON.

The first Brownie Revels ever held in Jaffna, 1937.
It was with great excitement that the Brownies looked forward to that great day. The time was arranged as 3.30 p.m. but the packs came streaming into the "Old Park," the abode of the Provincial Commissioner, long before the time.

As the Brownies came in they were sent to their different homes, under the shade of big trees, where each Six had its own special emblem stuck on to the tree. The happy event began with decorating homes, thus giving time for the late comers to arrive. By 3.30 sharp all Brownies were in their different homes, some busy decorating, some making new friends and the others just gazing at nothing and wondering what was going to happen next! Lady Abrahams, the chief Guest, was then taken round to the different homes and she congratulated some of the Sixers on their decorative work.

After the opening ceremony, when the Grand Salute was given to the Provincial Commissioner, refreshments were served. The Brownies were called into the Brownie circle while the visitors sat outside. Then each Six in its own turn ran up to the centre and acted a Nursery Rhyme. It was really interesting to see the great big spider frightening Little Miss Muffet away. The visitors were so thrilled

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Bulawayo Sixers at Colony Camp Again.
S. Rhodesia.

at the spider that they raised three cheers for it. Jack and Jill came next, then the Queen of Hearts and Georgie Porgie.

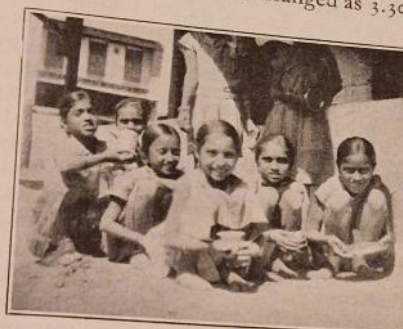
"Games now!" shouted the Brownie Commissioner when the rhymes were over, and the Brownies, who were now getting tired of sitting down, jumped up at this magic word.

Next there was a Sing-song and the Brownies sat in little groups with their own Brown and Tawny Owls, all the groups forming one big Brownie ring. "I hear thunder" came first. At the last time the Brownies hugged themselves so tight that the onlooker would have thought that they were really wet. Then each pack contributed an item—some in Tamil and others in English; after that all joined together in singing "Incey, Wincey, Spider."

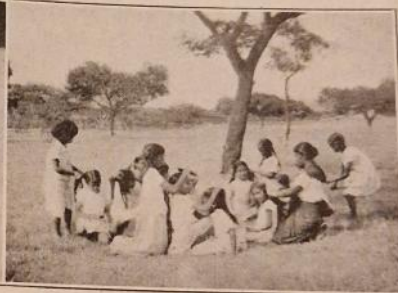
Then they all went home, after singing a good-night song, having had a delightful time. They were all very pleased indeed at having been present at the first Brownie Revels ever held in Jaffna.

INDIA.

"Bluebirds!" calls our Wise Bird and there from among the backs of school benches or tiny shrubs run out numbers of children all singing their little Bird Six rhymes and gradually forming a huge Fairy Ring. Our vernaculars make our rhymes so much longer than the English ones and our opening ceremonies therefore take up a good deal of time if they are properly done. Inspections with us are always such fun—the long plaits often help us to turn into



1st Mandir Pack.



1st Kathapu Pack.

elephants' trunks for inspection—our bare legs turn us into sarus cranes standing on one foot and having feet and toes carefully examined—the village Bluebirds are full of imagination and Wise Bird, if keen, seldom lacks a new form of inspection—something always turns up which is new!

Handicrafts!—yes, we are in most cases too poor to buy materials for really big fancy craft work, but simple things attract us and we in most cases turn our hands to making something out of nothing—try and see—the results are amazing. Scrap books, woolly toys from scraps of old woollen coats given us by kindly ladies who return home to England, endless toys from old matchboxes—real whole curtains for doors or windows made entirely from old cigarette packets—decorated pictures from just pencil shavings which are collected in classroom—charts

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from the tiniest bits of old handbills and even counterfoils of cinema and toll tickets—yes, these are the things Wise Birds collect for their flock handcrafts—gum or Grip-Birds collect for their flock handcrafts—we knit a great deal and own paste at flock meetings—we have no pockets to cover our balls in “six” colours—have little bags decorated with our bird emblems—for we have no pockets to store our properties in—and many a flock has exciting boxes full of all kinds of Bluebird properties—books we seldom can afford, but we love pictures of all kinds and sea shells form useful flock collections.

A flock meeting usually lasts threequarters of an hour and invariably there is only Wise Bird single-handed—but much is done—we love singing and acting too; we work at tests but still not many become First Class, but we do try and often succeed. Washing garments for our tests and “helping Mother” games are always popular for it is no unusual thing to find Bluebirds of eight and nine often left in sole charge of Father and other baby brothers and sisters while Mother goes away for a week’s visit or lies ill in hospital. The Bluebird law means much to us too—quite often when least expected it turns up and we could quote many instances where the Bluebird smile has helped in many a difficulty. To give only two instances—one in a village—Wise Bird found two children almost without any clothing, squatting in the middle of the street. Off she went to scold them, and was unable to do so—for on asking what they were doing was told “Oh Wise Bird, you told us always to help without being asked, and as we were coming home from school, we saw these broken bits of a bottle in the middle of the road so we are moving them to the side and we will then go home”: a simple story but it proves how much that law really meant to the village child. Then once there was a lively Bluebird in a flock, full of fun and all the naughtiness one could find, always full of mischief and often most disobedient, yet good material to work with. She never would listen to anyone and then one day came the test. This Bluebird would while away her time after school playing on the pavement, and one day she slipped and fell backwards into a pot of boiling tar! Needless to say she was badly burnt almost to the bone before she could be lifted out and rushed to hospital. Once there she was kept in for treatment for almost six weeks, but doctors and nurses had nothing but the greatest praise for her courage when dressings were put on, in fact for a week they could not understand why she forebore to cry and shout but lay with lips pursed and allowed them to do their work. Then one day she proudly declared she was a Bluebird.

We have Bluebirds everywhere in India, in the biggest of Girls’ Schools, in tiny villages miles and miles away from other people, in Boy’s schools where just a few girls have to go for want of a school of their own, in Orphanages, in Blind schools, in homes for disabled and Leper children; we go to our meetings in many different ways, by motor cars, bus, tram, on foot, by horsedrawn carriage or tonga and even in bullock carts and sometimes across a ferry, often in the pouring rain when we arrive all drenched and soaked yet sing and play till the hour is up and home we go.

BROWNIE TESTS.

The following alterations have been suggested in regards to the Brownie tests.

and Class. Delete “Ball-throwing test” and substitute “a skipping test.” Delete “skipping” and substitute “a ball-throwing test.” Delete “Balancing a book on the head” and substitute “another physical health test.” Delete “milk pudding.” Comments and criticisms on the above and further suggestions would be gratefully received. All correspondence to be sent to Miss Knight, G.B.O., Brooklands, Rotherham, not later than November 27th.

TO ALL BROWN OWLS.

It has been suggested that in view of a child’s love of colour a Brownie should wear a coloured tie, and that there should be coloured Sixer’s and Second’s stripes.

A Golden colour which would be in keeping with the Golden Bar and Golden Hand Badge is suggested for the tie. The Sixer’s stripes could either match the tie or else be of the “Sixer Colour.”

Please, will Brown Owls who are interested in the question write, giving their views (and their Brownies’, too) to the Great Brown Owl, Miss Knight, Brooklands, Rotherham, Yorkshire.

AN APPRECIATION

MRS. RUPERT LONSDALE
(née CHRISTINA LYALL).

The sudden tragic death of Christina Lonsdale, at the early age of 29, so soon after the birth of her baby son, takes from her family and friends a most delightful and vivid personality.

Christina was a wonderful example of an unselfish and loyal nature. She possessed great qualities, and combined a keen sense of humour with a strong power of balance and duty.

Among her many interests, she showed a deep feeling for Social Service, and worked with unceasing energy at whatever she took up. She was a born leader, and was for some ten years a much loved Brown Owl and District Commissioner. Her interests brought her in touch with every type of person, who one and all greatly admired and appreciated her. Christina lived up to the highest ideals of the Guide Law and Promise.

She was, perhaps, happiest in the country; she loved the joys of outdoor life, particularly her golf, tennis and camping. She greatly enjoyed the pleasures of physical exercise, and was a perfect companion.

She was supremely happy in her short married life, and leaves behind her the memory of a fine character, and a charming personality.

M. R.

EXTENSION NOTES—continued.

It is good news to hear that more Post Brownie packs are being registered at Headquarters and that the new scheme is proving popular and successful. How to start and run a Post Brownie pack can be obtained free from the Extension Secretary at Headquarters, and will be most useful for County Extension Secretaries and Post Owls.

The quarterly letter will be in abeyance until such time as important matters warrant its issue. County Extension Secretaries should watch the notes in THE GUIDER.



THE EXTENSION TRAINING AND CONFERENCE

THE Extension Training and Conference held at King's College Hostel, Queensborough Terrace, London, from September 20th to 27th was attended by 91 Guiders and Commissioners of whom 47 were resident. Miss M. E. Robinson (Red Cord Diploma'd Guider) gave general training every morning, which was afterwards adapted to meet the needs of the handicap of each section.

In the afternoons visits were paid to various homes, hospitals and special schools around London where Guiding is carried on, and perhaps these visits were as valuable as any part of the programme, for "we never see any other companies in our section"! We all appreciated greatly the warm welcome and kind hospitality given by the various matrons, head teachers, etc.

In the evenings, we were lucky to have several excellent speakers, among them Sir Percy Everett, Honorary Treasurer of the Girl Guides Association, who told us of Scouting and Guiding as he saw it on his recent tour, and also gave us a vivid picture of the superhuman work that our Chiefs undertake on their world travels.

Miss Neville, from the Psychological Centre for Home and School, said Guiders of handicapped companies have to be very versatile and adaptable and must help the girls to face their handicap and adjust themselves to overcome it, and never gloss it over. "Discover for them," she said, "ways in which they can find the satisfaction of achievement, even if it be only to make a woolly ball, let them kick it and show your approval—that will help their emotional development." She spoke at some length on the mental handicap which we meet in all companies, and she gave valuable advice on this point.

Miss Clark, handicraft organiser of the National Council of Girls' Clubs, showed us how to do many simple new handicrafts, and exhibited dozens of others. Miss Clark, in a very spirited address, urged us to use the more simple type of craft. She specially commended to our attention ply-wood fretwork toys and useful wooden articles such as ping-pong bats, book ends and stands for displaying

work at bazaars. She showed us some delightful belts made from scraps of leather with charming wooden buckles. Her advice on lettering and the layout of posters was most helpful, and Post Guiders particularly were intrigued with the sets of "letters." The packets of patterns and complete materials for soft toy making were very quickly sold out. Her colour-running embroidery made a most effective decoration that seemed simple enough for anyone to do.

Anyone wishing to have any of the rd. leaflets that were so soon "sold out" can obtain them by writing to The Secretary, National Council of Girls' Clubs, Hamilton House, Bidborough Street, London, W.C.1.

The Chief Guide put new heart into us all with a talk full of deep thought and wide vision. She showed us how Guiding can give an answer to the problems of the world to-day with its troubles—wars—love of speed—fetish of labour saving—religious controversies and colour bars. It was a thousand pities all those critics were not present who think there are "so many other things nowadays for girls to do" and say the need for Guiding



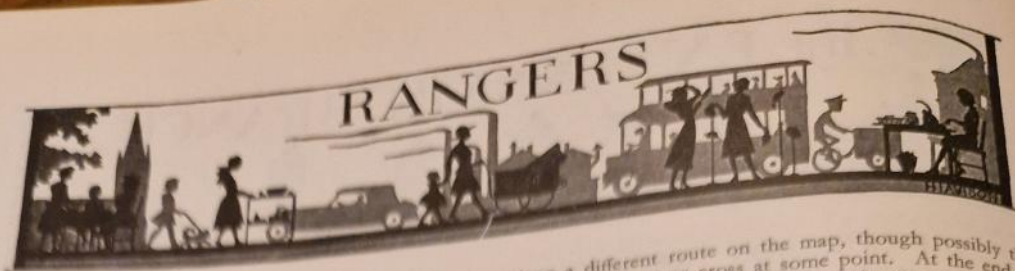
Post Brownie with her Monthly Letter.

is not so great as it was.

Mrs. Birley, the Chief Commissioner, brought the Conference to a very impressive close with her thoughtful and uplifting talk at the Guiders' Own on Sunday. She reminded us that the First Promise is the keystone of our work and one can only pass on what one has gained from personal knowledge and experience.

This week proved very clearly once more that co-operation is vital in our work. Co-operation with Guiding in the Districts and co-operation with the matrons, teachers and health authorities.

The day after the Conference Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, G.B.E., and the Executive Committee gave an At Home at Headquarters to which they invited medical superintendents, matrons, head teachers and secretaries of the various societies with which the Extension Branch co-operates. Dame Helen gave them a very hearty welcome and the Commissioner for Extensions thanked them for their support and help given to the companies and appealed for still further co-operation so that Guiding can be given to all handicapped children as freely and effectively as to any other child.



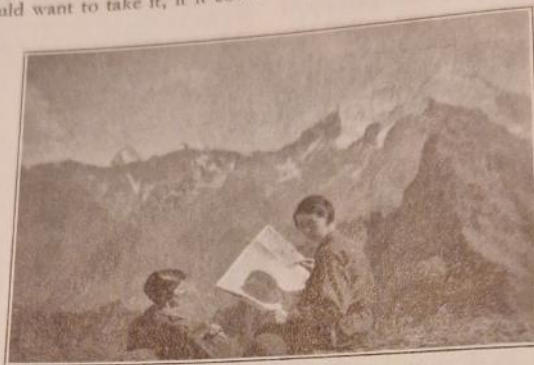
HALF A DAY IN THE COUNTRY

"Must have spent at least half a day alone or with only one companion in the country, cooking her own food, and observing the wild birds, animals, plants and flowers, and give a report of what she has observed."

No part of the Ranger Star Test can be passed without some practice, and who would want to take it, if it could be? Yet, sometimes one finds that the Ranger who has chosen to "spend half a day in the country" imagines she need do nothing but "just go out and see things." But, alas! unless one has trained oneself to look, one may have the disappointing experience of one Ranger who, as her report told, "went down a hill and turned to the left, and then along the road till we came to a turn on the right . . . etc.," for several pages, but in all her wanderings she had only seen a fire-hydrant and an undertaker's workshop!

Seeing is a matter of training oneself to be aware of one's surroundings all the time. Practice in outdoor observation can begin while the recruit is working for her Ranger Test—following a map for three miles gives plenty of scope. Any map-reading practice by patrols or individuals can be combined with observing and collecting information on some definite point, according to the route—e.g., whether there is any difference between the country at the top of a range of hills and the bottom (vegetation, soil, fertility), or the number of different trees that grow along some road (specimen leaves to be brought from those whose names are not known). When testing the tenderfoot's map-following it is a help to ask the girl to bring back information on certain points, as by this means the captain can check whether she has followed the correct route all the way; for instance, "at bridge, notice direction of stream, and material bridge is made of," "name of inn at cross roads," "distance to B—, according to sign-post," "of what trees does Chapel Copse consist"? etc.

Camp is perhaps the best time for training in observation, as there is the stimulus of new surroundings, and a real need to know in what sort of country one is living. It is great fun to spend a day of camp exploring the neighbourhood: the Rangers go out in pairs, taking with them their food for the day, each pair having been



Now, which way?

given a different route on the map, though possibly the routes may meet or cross at some point. At the end of the day all the explorers bring in their accounts of what they have discovered, accounts often accompanied by specimens of unknown flowers found by the way, a post card of a church visited, or a bit of local history picked up in conversation with one of the inhabitants. Again, with inexperienced Rangers it may be a help to

suggest definite lines of discovery, such as to find out the building material chiefly used for cottages, the predominant trees, the main produce or local industry. (Country people such as woodmen, hurdle-makers, etc., working much alone, are often pleased to talk about their work to anyone who shows an intelligent interest.)

But, apart from training in the company, every girl who hopes to be a Star Ranger should test herself in observation as she goes about her ordinary affairs.

For instance, she may go

by bus or bicycle along a semi-country road each day: can she write down what is growing this year in all the fields she passes?—she has seen them often enough! Or could she say of what the hedges consist? Or, perhaps, she has sometimes noticed a flock of rooks, pigeons, or lapwings feeding in a certain field, can she say whether they are there at all times of year?

Such things may seem simple in themselves, but they develop the habit of observation, for after one has consciously looked for some special feature on several occasions, one continues to notice and remember it without any effort.

Observing wild animals and birds is not a thing to be practised in numbers. This is the chance for the Patrol Leader to take out her patrol, or just one or two Rangers, and teach them to walk silently through the woods, with eyes and ears always on the alert, to creep up quietly to a gate and look over before any bird or beast suspects that it is being watched, and to look out for tracks and other clues by the way. But it is important that the beginner, after all her efforts not to talk, or step on rotten twigs, should see something she feels is worth while, by way of reward; so first expeditions must be made to some place where there is no fear of disappointment, perhaps to some such place as a rookery, a moorhen's nest, or a stream where water-voles are constantly

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on view. Then, lying up in cover, the novice will be rewarded by enjoying a close-up of some small beast or bird going about its ordinary affairs, and the interest roused by that intimate view of it may lead her to watch and discover more by herself.

When it comes to the actual test, some Rangers seem to think their report must be in the form of an essay. But this is not a test of literary ability, but of the Ranger's ability to go through the country aware of what is around her. If the Ranger prefers the essay form, she can use it, but she should beware of letting flowery phrases about the beauty of the sunset take the place of solid

information about her expedition. Brief notes make just as good a report as a lengthy essay. What the examiner wants to know are such things as the route (with map, if possible), the kind of country passed through, food taken, and how carried, place chosen for fire, type of fire, wood used, where water was obtained, flowers, trees, birds and animals seen, and any interesting clues that suggest the presence of other wild life not actually seen.

The wise Ranger will leave the roads as soon as possible, and go across country with eyes open for anything that may come.

P. BOND.

THE SPRUCE

- A. Needles (March).
- B. Cone.
- C. Scale with seeds attached.
- D. Male flowers.
- E. Immature cones.

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SPRUCE.



The spruce is a fir, and so the needles grow singly on the shoots, not in groups as they do in the pine family. Although the spruce has been introduced into this country in modern times (some time before 1548), we know that it once was a native, because remains of it are found in geological beds laid down long ago.

The grass-green needles are a half to three-quarters of an inch long. They stay on the tree for six or seven years. The flowers are produced near the ends of last year's shoots, the male or stamen flowers being sometimes a solitary catkin, sometimes two or three together. They are yellowish tinged with

pink. The pistillate flowers, after being fertilised, grow into a long cone. The cones hang downwards. The scales are thin, not hard and woody like those of the Scots pine, and overlap loosely. Two small seeds are developed under each scale, each with a long transparent wing attached. The spruce has very shallow roots and so is easily blown down in heavy winds.

The bark is thin, smooth, and brown at first, but later breaks up into scales and casts off thin layers.

The wood is light and has an even grain. It is elastic and durable. Spruce is valuable for making things where length and straightness are required, such as masts of small ships, ladders, scaffolding, telegraph poles, and so on. It is used, too, in planks by the builder. Resin and pitch are got from it, and possibly the page this is printed on was made from spruce fibre reduced to pulp.

The spruce is our familiar Christmas Tree.

H. D. FORMAN.

YESTERDAY AND TO-DAY

by

M. C. CAREY

Commissioner for Publications.



(Photo by W. F. Mensell, Elfin Works, Teddington)

Children of Charles I, after Van Dyck.
Princess Elizabeth stands between Prince Charles and Princess Mary.

THOSE who saw the play, *Charles the King*, which recently had such a long run in London, will remember the two children who appeared in it to say goodbye to their unhappy father at Whitehall, shortly before his tragic death.

One of them was the thirteen year old Princess Elizabeth, a studious little girl, who afterwards wrote down most carefully her father's farewell words. She had a very learned lady called Bathsua Makin for her governess, which no doubt accounts for her serious education.

Charles was evidently very fond of his little daughter, for he arranged that two of his own books should be given to her as a present after his death, which he must have thought would be good for her. They were the *Sermons of Bishop Andrews*, and *Hooker's Ecclesiastical Policy*. Not our present-day idea of light reading for the young. But as it is recounted that Princess Elizabeth asked to be taught Greek and Hebrew in order to read the Bible in the original, I expect she enjoyed them.

A solemn gentleman who was writing a commentary on Ezekiel at the time was enormously impressed by the sober tastes of the little Princess. He dedicated his work to her, and cried: "If the harvest be answerable to the spring, your Highness will be the wonder of the learned and the glory of the godly!"

Alas! Princess Elizabeth only lived to pursue her vocabularies for two more years. She died at the age of fifteen, perhaps from a surfeit of Sermons?

Bathsua Makin ultimately became the headmistress of one of the first schools for girls in the country, which were just then beginning to spring up for the education of young ladies of rank and fashion. How she must have longed for children as docile and studious as her royal pupil.

In the eighteenth century every little girl worked at her embroidery, and into her sampler stitched long phrases in gay colours, with exemplary patience and industry.

There was another little Elizabeth of the period, this

time not a royal princess but a six-year-old foundling, who embroidered her tiny sampler with the lines:

"This have I done. I thank my God,
Without correction of the rod."

I hope it was true.

And small Elizabeth Hincks spelled out fifty years later:

"The Lord delights in those that speak
The words of truth, but every liar
Must have his portion in the lake
That burns with brimstone and with fire."

and—

"Our days, alas, our mortal days,
Are short and wretched too.
Evil and few the psalmist says,
And well the psalmist knew."

Poor child! One can only trust that to embroider with silks is not the same thing as to write from the heart. When it became the fashion for the young ladies at school to write at length in their diaries, they did so faithfully, to our ultimate enlightenment and joy.

There was a famous school in Yorkshire kept by Miss Mangnall (the original of Thackeray's Miss Pinkerton), and a diary has come down to us written by "Miss Firth" in 1812. She engagingly records with admirable terseness that "several of the Ladies were sent to bed for losing at spelling. I was one of them."

Even more cryptic is the entry dated (of all dates) August 4th:—"Miss Marshall and Miss Dixon fought."

Great days, evidently.

With the 1850's came a burst of books for children, real books, in fact, most of those giants that we know to-day as the Children's Classics. Exciting and delightful as they were, and still are, to children, one must admit the authors had occasional lapses.

In *The Daisy Chain* do you remember how Charlotte Yonge makes a girl cry to a baby sister: "Oh, lucky baby, to have so many years to come before you are plagued with troublesome propriety." A cry from the heart, no

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THE GYMNAST'S BADGE.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR,—The suggested "Gymnast's" Badge as printed for criticism in the September GUIDER begins:—
"Guides should not enter for this badge unless they have been taught by a trained gymnast."

Are we not in danger of losing the original idea of a badge—something to induce the child to make some fresh effort herself which will better fit her to help other people? Instead, badges seem often to be certificates of competence in some work the child has already done. If she has been taught gym. by an expert what is the point of the badge? She has already got the training. The fact that a badge exists seems very unlikely to induce her to join a gym. class if she is not already interested enough to join one for its own sake.

Was not the original idea of a badge to take the things a child would do naturally, and induce her to make some special effort to improve herself through them? I should like a badge which aimed at physical development to include something like the following:—

1. Be able to climb a tree to a given height.
2. Throw a rope over a branch—feet from the ground and swarm up it.
3. Walk along a narrow plank over a river; or
4. Walk along a plank six inches wide, at least six feet from the ground—and so on.

Things a child can keep practising by herself and which help her to cultivate nerve and self-control.

Of course I know I shall be told it would not be safe and no expert would approve it.

That is the worst of it, our badges are safe and approved by experts, but neglected by the children who continue to climb trees and cook over outdoor fires and fall off walls and do the things we might turn to our own ends—character training and service.—
Yours, etc.

NANETTE BEWLEY.

THANKS.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR,—It is with great pleasure that I once again write to thank Guides all over the British Isles for their kind hospitality to our Barnardo Girl Guides. During the past summer a great number of our Guides have been able to enjoy to the full a splendid holiday in camp, and they will long remember the happy friendships made with their sister Guides. We are so deeply grateful for all the kindness and generosity shown to our Guides, and we send our very warmest thanks and appreciation to all who in any way helped to give them such happy holidays.—Yours, etc.

B. PICTON TURBERVILL,
Governor and Divisional Commissioner.

SHORTS.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR,—A Movement like Guiding would surely fail in its aims if it did not adapt itself to modern thought and progress. Most people are agreed, however, that many modern products are extremely ugly. In a seaside place this applies especially to clothes, so many of which are only suitable on the beach.

Is the wearing of shorts by Guides and Rangers a necessary step? Who can say that a camp overall is not sufficiently short? In Guiding we try to make our Guides observant of beauty, and also to take a pride in their appearance; how many girls look presentable in shorts? For no woman's figure was made for them.

Nor does a Guide differentiate between well-pleated Headquarters shorts and tight khaki ones which she will wear in mufti, reasoning that what she is allowed to wear in uniform must be right.

Should Guides, therefore, in order to keep apace with other Youth Movements, wear unsightly clothes when there is no necessity?—Yours, etc.

HAPPY MEDIUM.

doubt. But how strangely stilted and ridiculous it seems to us now, when faced with the practical realism of the children we know. How far removed are the proprieties of crinolines from the emancipation of shorts!

Naomi Mitchison has put the modern point of view admirably. She writes: "Children like solid things to bite on, nuts and hard apples and bones and facts, and education should be hard and tough and separate with the attraction not of soft caramels in an open box, but of green apples in a stranger's wardrobe."

It is indeed important to be truthful, straightforward and unbiased with children to-day, both in and out of their books.

They want so much to know things. It is no use putting them off with vague generalisations and insincere half truths. When Stephen King-Hall was broadcasting in the Children's Hour at one time, he used to have a gigantic post-bag from his listeners, which demonstrated more clearly than any theorising how far the boys and girls of to-day have widened their interests, and left Miss Yonge behind them. These are some of the questions he received:—

"Have flat fishes got hearts? If so, where does one find them?" asked somebody aged 11.

"Please tell me where to buy a musket, really cheap," enquires one aged 9.

"What is Dominion status?" asked 13.

Nearly three hundred years lie between Princess Elizabeth of the Sermons and our own little Princess Elizabeth to-day, who is surrounded by pony and animal stories, by fairy and adventure tales, and all the wealth of modern book production in its present lavish form.

Her favourite books are *Black Beauty*, *Jock of the Bushveldt*, and historical stories like tales from the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. She also loves Scott's *Tales of a Grandfather*. I think Charles's little daughter would have loved them, too.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CHRISTMAS STOCKING TRAILS.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR,—We have again been approached by various Secretaries of our Personal Service League Depots in the Distressed Areas about possible gifts of toys, etc., for the coming Christmas from the Guides of Great Britain.

During the last year or two the Guides have been quite splendid in running stocking trails and collecting gifts and the joy these gave to the recipients is immense. I very much hope that these trails will be undertaken this year, and I have been asked to say that owing to the difficulties of distribution, especially at Christmas time, it would be a great help if the consignments could reach their ultimate destinations by December 16th, so as to ensure the recipients actually receiving something on Christmas morning.

In many cases, but for a Guide stocking trail, children in some homes would have no Christmas presents. Garments or toys would be most gratefully accepted.

I should like to take this opportunity of again expressing my great appreciation of the help Rangers, Guides and Brownies have given in the past.

JOAN MARSHAM,
Vice-Chairman, Personal Service League.
Division Commissioner, West London.

NOTE.—For further news of the Trails see page 448.



THE RETURN OF RIP VAN WINKLE

By CATHERINE CHRISTIAN

RE-CROSSING

OLD TRAILS

DIANA SANDHEIM wondered, as she climbed into the train at Victoria Station on a bleak Saturday in November, just why she had accepted Elsie Bardel's invitation. Anything more unprofitable than a wet weekend spent in a country vicarage, with a collection of females belonging to one's remoter, and probably completely outgrown past, she could not at that moment conceive.

As she lit a cigarette, her dark, acute face brooded, eyes unfathomably brown beneath well-shaped brows. Sentiment—that was the trouble! At twenty-five, with a business career that stretched ahead bright, but inflexible as the rails over which an express is scheduled to travel, one ought not to afford sentiment.

She shrugged.

"I'm not going to see Elsie—I'm going to see Harriet Gore," she reminded herself.

In terms of profit and loss the account stood considerably higher when one put it in that way. She leaned back, wondering a trifle anxiously, a trifle sardonically, just what difference ten years would have made in the remarkable personality of her one-time Guide captain.

The train began to move, and almost at the same moment a tall, loose-limbed, hatless young woman came racing along the platform, pulled open the carriage door and, tossing a rucksack, shabby with use, on to the seat opposite Diana, swung herself aboard.

"That," she remarked calmly, as a scandalised inspector slammed the door behind her, "was a near one even for a professional close-shaver. Oh, hallo!—it's you, is it, Dinny? What a revolting habit you have of always being the impersonal observer!"

Diana stared. Slowly the colour mounted in her face.

"Why, you're Pip Hayward! Pip, it's such years since



I saw you—you've changed so much—I couldn't have been sure."

Philippa Hayward, settling herself comfortably into the corner, lowered her eyelids. Her eyes, tawny-hazel, set wide apart in a face fine-boned, alert, and still faintly freckled, took in Diana's severe smartness—her unobtrusively expensive suit, her point-de-vice suitcase, her general air of grooming.

"You've hardly changed at all," she said gently. It was impossible to tell if the statement was a compliment or an insult. It had always been impossible to tell with Pip.

Ten years dropped abruptly from Diana's shoulders. An old rivalry and an old admiration flamed suddenly out of forgetfulness. Confound Pip Hayward, with her casual, untidy, lordly manner; with the fine steel-tempered quality that one could appreciate but never by any amount of conscious effort reproduce in oneself!

Ignoring Pip's remark, she said:

"I wondered if anyone else would be on this train. I suppose you are going down to Kelsey too?"

"I am." Pip thrust ungloved hands deep into the pockets of a tweed coat, shabby but still bearing the unmistakable stamp of a garment cut—and well cut—for its wearer. "I don't doubt I shall live to regret it."

"Why?" Diana queried.

Pip shrugged.

"Nobody ever put the clock back successfully—except Lloyd George," she remarked.

Diana, watching the grey roofs of London slip past, as the train gathered speed, said, half to herself:

"Are we trying to put it back? Aren't we rather looking to see what time of day it is now?"

Pip gave her a quick look. The veil of defensiveness dropped from her face for a moment as she said soberly:

"Perhaps we are. Elsie says Harriet hasn't changed.

Can you imagine it? If one could really find, after ten years, the idol of one's youth ——" "Was she our idol? I doubt it," Diana shook her head. "Harriet Gore never fancied herself on a pedestal as far as I can remember."

Pip chuckled. "No. She took a delight in emphasising her own clay feet, metaphorically speaking. D'you remember how she used to demand hot water bottles in camp, and talk loudly about her bed-socks, when we were all out for Spartan hardiness?"

Diana smiled.

"And take us to Charlie Chaplin films one Saturday and the Natural History Museum the next—and play frightful practical jokes on us when we least expected it? I say, Pip, I wonder if Guides nowadays have as much fun as we had?"

"Some do. Most don't," Pip seemed as decided about that as about most things. "My Rangers don't seem exactly expiring of boredom, but then, that's because they keep things moving pretty briskly wherever they happen to be, for themselves."

"I forgot you were still an active Guider," Diana said. Pip chose to read a faint condescension in the tone, and bristled.

"If a few more people with long service took the trouble to stay in the Movement and work instead of criticising indiscriminately from outside, things would be considerably easier all round," she said aggressively. "Why aren't you a Guider yourself?"

Diana's face hardened.

"My dear Pip, I've something better to do than dress up in a uniform that never at the best of times became me, and instruct supercilious modern infants in subjects I was never very adept at myself. Besides which," she added, regaining her calmness with a struggle, "I really get very little time to count on. I often work late at the office—one does in advertising."

Pip accepted the explanation gracefully.

"You're career-mad, just as you always were. I remember when you were a skinny little object of a new recruit you stipulated never to do any Guiding in exam. weeks. Well, thank goodness, I'm not an ambitious person, if I were I suppose I should resent washing other people's dirty linen for my living —"

"You resent it now," Diana thought, seeing the bitter twist of Pip's sensitive mouth, "but, my goodness, you're proud—it would be a brave person who walked through your defences and pitied you to your face!"

And yet that was the very thing which Harriet Gore did, and not half an hour later.

She was standing on the platform at Kelsey, between a tall raw-boned freckled District Nurse and a shy little person dressed very neatly and self-effacingly in brown. Her square-shouldered figure surged forward as the train drew to a standstill, and Diana heard her say:

"There she is, there's Pip."

The next moment Pip was out of the train, and Harriet had her in a rare bear-like hug, and was saying, in a voice that brought to Diana old memories of a camp where she herself had been really ill with tonsillitis:

"My poor dear child, whatever have you been doing since I went abroad?"

Oddly moved, Diana turned away, to encounter a smile she remembered mainly for its generous furnishing of rather prominent white teeth.

"Hullo!" said their owner casually, as though seven days and not seven years marked the interval since their last meeting. As an afterthought she added: "Was there anybody else on your train?"

"Several people, I believe," Diana laughed. Ruth Weston had changed remarkably little during the years of her hospital training from the gawky practical girl she remembered. "But if you mean anyone else we know, I think not."

"Elsie wasn't expecting anyone else on the train, Ruth," the shy girl in brown put in. "Kathleen's husband is driving her down, you know."

"Oh, yes, so he is," Ruth nodded. "I say, don't you remember each other? Lilian had only just about arrived on the scene when you left, I suppose, Diana—but you surely know who she is—our one and only school teacher, and a B.A. at that."

"Yes, of course I do," Diana was beginning when Harriet, still holding Pip by the arm, turned.

"Why, Dinny, my dear girl, I hadn't seen you. How are you for goodness sake?"

A flush of real pleasure rose unexpectedly in Diana's face—reflection of the warmth that flooded her whole being, like a sudden burst of sunshine, as she met the older woman's keen but kindly glance.

Harriet had not changed. Foursquare and dependable, brisk of manner, but incredibly understanding of heart, she had come back from the ends of the earth—and Diana was suddenly aware of a great gap filled by that return. Impulsively, she said:

"We've missed you so much. It's lovely to see you again."

Harriet chuckled.

"Well, come along up to Elsie's and take a good look at me over the tea table. I feel like a hen that hatched out a brood of goslings. They got a bit more than she could cover by the time they were fully grown, will you imagine it—but the great things used to sit in a circle and stick their silly heads under her feathers, just to make her think they had not grown up and got superior, I suppose—or else because 'it made them feel sociable.'"

"Of course, you would have to say 'goslings,' wouldn't you?" Pip questioned affectionately. "You might have made them 'cygnets'!"

"But cygnets wouldn't do a thing like that, they don't hatch at all well under a hen," Ruth, the literal, remarked positively.

Harriet chuckled again. She was thoroughly enjoying herself, as she strolled out of the station and up the rutted country road to the village in the middle of her four grown-up Guides.

They'd changed. On the surface they had changed out of recognition—but familiar traits kept popping up to remind her of the characters they had been. At every step, at every word, the strangeness peeled from them, giving to her shrewd observing the child she remembered grown into the shape she had—or had not—expected.

The most complete surprise, and she acknowledged it as such, was waiting outside the door of Elsie Bardel's home. Kelsey vicarage stands at the head of the straggling village street, facing on to a triangle of "green" that is flanked by the church and the creeper-covered schoolhouse. Rambling, mellow, with a green front door and rosemary bushes each side of the step, Harriet had loved the house on sight.

Now a fine grey car was drawn up outside, from which,

THE GUIDER

as the group approached, there emerged a slight, dark wisp of a girl, dressed in a fitted coat and tiny skull cap of brilliant cardinal red. She took one look at them, and flew across the grass.

"Captain! Captain! Oh, darling, how lovely, how marvelous, to see you again! And Pip and Dinny and Horse-Face and Sambo. Oh, I'm just so excited I shall burst!" she cried, as breathlessly and unreservedly she flung her arms round Harriet's neck, and after kissing her on both cheeks, greeted the others with equal fervour.

"Kathleen, my dear!" Harriet protested, the wind, for once, taken out of her sails.

It was Kathleen. The exuberance with which she had so often battled unavailingly proved that. So did the big dark eyes and the rather sweet shrill voice, stressing every word—otherwise—

"Well," said Harriet, considering her quizzically, "you look as if you still need some of the cod liver oil I used to dose you with in camp, but I'll allow that a job on the pictures has smartened you up quite a lot."

To herself she thought: "Why didn't I ever see this child was beautiful? But perhaps she wasn't then. She's got personality too—and I'd have written her down the most chicken-brained of the lot. You live and learn. But what a bundle of nerves! She can't stop talking even if she wants to. I suppose this is the husband—"

A large fair haired blue-eyed man, who, in spite of neat clothes, looked somehow "woolly" to Harriet's eye, lumbered across from the car, and enquired rather shyly of the talkative Kathleen:

"You're all right now, dear, aren't you? I mean—if you are I think I'll just push off."

He was not, however, to escape so easily. Elsie, appearing at the door, with one small daughter in her arms and another peeping from behind her skirt, hailed him in, along with the others, to a comfortable homely dining-room tea.

Sitting at the round table, in a room that looked out on to a dusky tangle of autumn garden, Harriet took apparently absorbing interest in her buttered crumpet.

"Reunions always make me hungry. You talk now, I'm busy," she commanded.

They needed no second bidding. At least three separate conversations started at once. Harriet listened, and nodded, and unashamedly licked her fingers, and passed her cup for more tea before Elsie came back to earth enough to ask for it. She gathered a number of unrelated facts about them all. Ruth had an Extension company—children handicapped through ill-health, but keen as mustard and amazingly plucky; Pip, of course, had her Factory Rangers; Kathleen, surprising creature, also seemed to have a company—

"They aren't awfully good—they mostly seem to be the children of poets and artists, and so on," she explained, as one excusing an affliction. Lilian, it transpired, was in rather unhappy charge of the smart, but not very active company in the school where she taught.

"I feel like a grandmother," Harriet announced at last. "Which of my grandchildren are you going to show me first, that's what I want to know?"

Before the others could speak, Elsie said, with quiet decision:

"My District. You're staying at least a week down here, my dear, and in that time I hope to introduce it thoroughly."

Harriet's eyes twinkled. "Very well, go ahead. But I've an idea I met some of it this afternoon without a formal introduction," she said.

When pressed to give details, she would only shake her head.

"I'm looking forward to the formal introduction," she said. (To be continued.)

ENQUIRE WITHIN

I have a Ranger who was enrolled in the Pack by permission of her Commissioner at four years of age; she remained in the pack for seven years then passed on to Guides and Rangers. Can she wear seven Brownie stars?

The minimum age for enrolling a Brownie is seven, and it is strongly recommended that a child stays in the pack for not longer than three, or at the most, four years. With the issue of the new Service Stars, the Brownie will wear a star

with the figure 3 on it, and will continue to wear it in the Guide company. It is not usual for a Guide or Ranger to indicate more than three years' service in the pack, but if there has been four years' service then the Brownie star with the figure 4 on it may be worn.

Is it necessary for a Ranger who becomes a Tawny Owl or Guide lieutenant to take the Guide Second Class test before obtaining a warrant?

A Ranger who has not previously taken her Guide Second Class test should certainly take it before being warranted as a Guider.

Is it permissible for International Morse to be taken instead of ordinary Morse for Guide Second Class?

Yes.

POEM

Not till the dying hour
Does the daylight answer the land with its golden flower
The swan
Lift to the skies the ecstasy of song.
Not till the faltering season
Does the forest candle the world with its crimson legion
The frost
Sparkle to all the stars the hallowed host.
Not till the final age
Fulfils the purpose on the diviner stage
The story
Resolve the tragedy in the higher glory.

ROSS EDWARDS PIERCE.

THE PLANETS IN NOVEMBER.

*V*ENUS rises in the south-east just before daybreak.

*J*UPITER will be visible low in the southern sky as soon as it is dark, setting about 8 p.m.

*M*ARS will also be seen in the early evening, setting in the south-west about 9 p.m.

*S*ATURN will be in the sky until 2.30 a.m. at the beginning and 1.0 a.m. at the end of the month, southing about 6 hours earlier. Look for him in the south-east in the twilight.

*M*ERCURY will not be visible during November.

THE WORLD VISITS THE U.S.A.

A ^{Queen} LITTLE company of Guides on board the *Mary*—twenty girls, each from a different country, a captain and two lieutenants. Some of them have already travelled many days by sea and land from the far ends of Europe, and now they are going to the United States of America to represent their countries at the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the American Girl Scouts, whose guests they are to be for the next three weeks. Yesterday these girls were strangers to each other—names on paper living in unknown towns and villages—to-day they are friends and comrades, happy, expectant, starting off together on a big adventure. Early morning. Heads turn from New York's incredible skyline to the little tug which hovers under the towering height of the great liner. Cheers and greetings echo across the water. The Sea Mariners, in their butcher-blue uniforms, are giving the first welcome. And now to Camp André. Another wonderful welcome from the 72 Girl Scouts gathered from every State in the Union, and the other six "foreign guests" from the Far East and Southern Hemisphere. An unforgettable fortnight. The inspiring opening ceremony in the "Green Cathedral," the beautiful tree-planting ceremony, the jolly twenty-fifth Birthday Party, the songs and dances, the happy care-free camp life, and, best of all, the real spirit of friendship and kindness, the desire to know and understand each other better—each one contributing to the camp's success. Even the heat wave is superlative! The fortnight has flown and the scene changes. Through the lovely New England country in motor buses—now a



On board the "*Aquitania*" (return voyage).

big party, nearly a hundred strong. A splendid welcome at the Connecticut camp where we stop for lunch, and then on to Pine Tree Camp in Massachusetts, as guests of Mrs. Storrow, the most generous and perfect hostess in the world. This week simply *flies*! Boating, bathing, acting, singing, sight-seeing in Plymouth, a gigantic "clam bake" on the beach, the beauty of the country . . . a perfect week!

On again to Boston, visiting Mrs. Storrow in her own home *en route*. A last sing-song on the top deck of the New York boat, when we hear the distant bugles of the Pine Tree Camp staff from the banks of the Cape Cod Canal. A long day's sight-seeing in New York, ending up with an evening at Radio City. New York by night, when the lights twinkle right up to the sky, like ladders of stars.

The docks once more. The last gong sounds, the last goodbye is said, the distance widens and the waving handkerchiefs become a distant flutter. The little company hang together mournfully. Can it be over already? Surely not. The spirit of Juliette Low, the founder of the American Girl Scouts—a woman whose vision stretched far beyond the boundaries of her own great country—still lives on. It has touched the lives, not only of her own countrywomen, but of girls living in every Continent, giving fresh inspiration, better understanding, and a gleam of hope for the future in a dark world.



Czechoslovakia, Japan, Brazil, New Zealand, Norway.

MENS SANA IN CORPORE SANO

by
M. OLDFIELD

LEAGUES of Youth and Beauty—Campaigns of physical fitness—Housing Schemes—Free Milk—*Mens Sana in Corpore Sano*. A higher standard of living—and again it is dinned into our ears, A Higher Standard of Living.

Yes, but is the *mens sana*, in fact, developing? Is the standard higher? Not in the best sense of the word. A more facile standard of living would be the better description. From birth to death, it is becoming easier year by year for mankind to do nothing for himself. Everything is mechanized or tinned; mechanized transport, and house cleaning; tinned food; tinned drama at the cinema; tinned art and information from "the radio." Yes, it's all much easier, much more luxurious, but is it "higher"? What of our standards of honour? Are they higher? When life is lived so much on the hire-purchase system, what becomes of our principles where debt is concerned? Any employer of labour will tell you how difficult it is to find young people who are willing to learn a trade, to practise a craft, from its beginning. Many of them would rather take any job, that leads them nowhere, but enables them to shuffle through, doing as little as maybe to "get away with it."

Think of the average girl who leaves school at the age of fourteen. What happens? The education she has received is just sufficient to have roused her mind to activity, but not sufficient to have given her a solid background, or the ability to occupy and use that mind progressively. She probably goes into a shop, where she stands all day giggling with others of her kind, recounting what "Jim said last night at the Pictures." A short course of this mode of life, and where is the *mens sana*? Incapable of sustained and intelligent effort, it yet is sufficiently active to demand ceaseless diversion, and so a race of lookers-on is being rapidly and efficiently developed.

How can this deplorable state of affairs be remedied? "The Kingdom of God is within us," few thinking people will deny that. Every human creature has infinite potentialities for good; but all the easy, "catchy" diversions that surround us nowadays so quickly override those potentialities. Without training and conscious effort, they will not grow—and unless they are growing—they will not remain "*in statu quo*"—they will wither away and vanish. We may spend our whole selves in "guiding" our Brownies, Guides, Rangers; but unless we can give them the conscious will to effort, it is all so much wasted time.

One of the most important ways of achieving this is to train the child to read—to love reading. Catch them



Teach Them to "Find it in a Book."

young—read to them the children's classics, the Peter Rabbit books, Grimm, Hans Christian Andersen, and many others. "*We needs must love the highest when we see it*"; and children who are brought up on the old beautifully written stories, generally beautifully illustrated, and "with a moral"—yes, why not?—will unconsciously be absorbing ideals of courage, honesty, beauty; and will turn far less frequently to the ugly "comics" and penny horrors that often otherwise form their mental daily bread.

Then Guides—they are at a stage where concentration is not a difficulty. There is a world of books that they will tackle joyfully, and, in so doing, become accustomed to grappling with their reading. They will not realise it, but their mental capacities will be exercised and kept alert, and their sense of values trained to discern the good in life, and discard the evil or worthless. Reading gives them standards of comparison, it inculcates self-discipline because of the definite effort involved. The wireless and the Cinema provide information, by the line of least effort; reading gives us knowledge, and, if we wish, it will give us understanding.

How can we start them off on this endless voyage of discovery? Let us consider them in order of age.

Brownies first. Perhaps a "reading half-hour" could be managed, before or after Pack Meeting, for anyone who likes to come. Collect a few favourite books to form the nucleus of a Pack Library. Read to those who genuinely enjoy being read to, but let all those who wish have the books themselves. Remember, the great point is that we are accustoming the children to *books*, not just to listening to stories. It is, then, most essential that they should be able to handle the books, pore over the pictures, even hang over the shoulders of the reader-aloud. The discomfort of this can be acute, but should if possible be endured!

What shall we read to them? There are two small boys who love best all the books their mother had as a child; they never get tired of *Alice and Carrots*, *Holiday House*, and all available fairy tales. They frequently and impartially demand the Bible, sandwiched perhaps between *The Wind in the Willows* and *Dr. Dolittle*. Then, work in some poetry occasionally. A. A. Milne and Stevenson, for the tinies. Some of the Shakespeare songs, and bits of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Small people love the sound of poems, even if they don't understand word to word.

Help them, too, to develop their hobbies by reading. Quite small children will become intensely keen on local history; start a collection of post cards of places they visit—but only that they visit personally—and help them to hunt out the history and legends of each place. But get it out of a book, and let them handle the book, don't simply "tell" them. Remember, we are training them to use books themselves, not to "listen-in." Those same small boys referred to above spend hours poring over *Highways and Byways*, with an Ordnance map spread before them, and an illustrated book on "Architecture" ready to hand. Their ages are nine and seven-and-a-half, but from babyhood they have been accustomed to "finding it in a book," and it presents no dullness or difficulty to them.

Guides? The choice for them is almost endless. And how to get hold of books for them? Start by offering to lend books, with the proviso that anyone who allows a book to get torn or dirty will not be lent another! Then, why not encourage them to buy books for themselves? No money? Suggest that they save by pennies and twopences to buy a shilling reprint of Dickens or Jane Austen, or whoever the "special" author may be.

Let the company decide to have a really good library of reference books; and everyone must help to contribute, who wishes to use it, not necessarily by giving money, but by working out ways of earning a "library fund." Then there are the big free libraries in every town, and a branch of the County Library in almost every village. Books are quite easily come by, given the desire for them!

For Rangers, it is merely a question of expanding and progressing from their Guide stage. Additionally, as they are usually earning, the facilities provided by Boots and W. H. Smith might well be pointed out. It costs no more to belong to one of these good libraries than to visit "the Flicks" once a week, and the comparative advantages are out of all proportion!

To what does it all tend? Where are we aiming, in this seemingly crazy world? What is the good of all our Guiding, and our Keep Fit classes, and everything that is done in such variety for the social weal? Surely at the back of it all is the age-old urge to "the greater glory of God." This alone, *au fond*, is the aim and object of all effort. Unfortunately, to-day the tendency is to give so much attention to ethical and material good, forgetting that God is a Spirit, and a Spirit within each one of us, if we will it to be so. Only by realising this, and making the effort to build up character, to give that Spirit space to grow, and food for growth, will any real progress be made toward that splendid world that we so much desire. But each individual must bear his part, must educate himself to be a fit channel for the Spirit of God which is within him. And how can this be done? Well—

THE GUIDER

"He that loves reading has everything within his reach. He has but to desire, and he may possess himself of every species of wisdom to judge, and power to perform."

Suggested books for the beginning of a Reading Campaign:

BROWNIES.

The Peter Rabbit books.
Alice in Wonderland, and *Through the Looking-Glass.*
The Winnie-the-Pooh books, A. A. Milne.
Grimm's Fairy Tales.
Hans Christian Andersen's Fairy Tales.
The Princess and the Goblin, G. Macdonald.
Masterman Ready, Captain Marryat.
Carrots and The Cuckoo Clock, Mrs. Molesworth.

POETRY.

Child's Garden of Verses, Stevenson.
When We Were Very Young, etc., A. A. Milne.

FOR THE REFERENCE LIBRARY.

The Shown to the Children series.

GUIDES.

Treasure Island, Stevenson.
Kidnapped, Stevenson.
Little Women, and its sequels, *Little Men*, *Good Wives.*
The Secret Garden, F. Hodgson Burnett.
The Little Duke, *The Caged Lion*, *Unknown to History.*
by Charlotte Yonge.
Most of Dickens.
Our Island Story.
Our Empire Story.
Story of France.
Lives of great men, well written and clearly printed.
The Wind in the Willows, K. Grahame.
H. Williamson's animal books, *Tarka the Otter*, and others.
Oxford Book of English Verse.
Shakespeare—open to suggestions from the Guider, and possibly read aloud in "parts."

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Highways and Byways series of the neighbourhood.
Standard works on various badge subjects.
Some good maps, and an Atlas of the world.
The Wonder Book series are extremely "good value" and full of information.

RANGERS.

The company should "take in" a sane, well-balanced weekly Review of Art and Letters. Encourage them to belong to a library, and make up library lists. *Penguin* books give a wide range of good modern fiction and also of non-fiction.

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

As for Guides, with additional scope—i.e., *The New Oxford Dictionary*, *Brown's Reader's Handbook*, *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable*, etc.

TO BORROW.

Thackeray, Galsworthy, Hugh Walpole, *Jane Eyre*, and the other Brontës, *Evelina*; the modern poets; and Shakespeare *ad infinitum*, read as a play-reading society.

TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-NINE OF THEM!



Cooks getting busy in camp at Fairlie, Ayrshire.

SCATTERED around in the Special Areas in Scotland are various schemes which owe their existence to three parent organisations. This sounds a little unusual, and not in accordance with the laws of nature which as a rule necessitate two parents only, but the fact remains that these schemes are the offspring of the *Girl Guide Movement*, the *Scottish Association of Girls Clubs* and the organisation directed by the *Scottish Commissioner for Special Areas*. The grants allotted by him to the Guides and the Clubs are, in certain instances, with his approval, being spent on joint schemes. Amongst these schemes are the clubs that have been established in several centres. Into these clubs, where the club leaders' salaries are paid out of the Guide grant, girls are attracted who would certainly never in the first instance join a Guide or Ranger company. As time goes on, Guide and Ranger companies are formed in the clubs. A certain number join them, while other girls remain simply club members, and in this way, through co-operation, each organisation is enabled to provide what it has to offer to a type of girl who needs it very badly.

From the Guide end, the fund is administered under five headings: *Clubs, Camps, Training of Guiders, Provision of camp sites and meeting places, and Small grants* (to meet special and comparatively small needs). So far, in two years and a bit, 2,212 girls have benefited directly and indirectly, by the grant given to the Guide Movement in Scotland.

But it is with the camps only that at the moment we are concerned, and even of them this cannot be at all a comprehensive account. It is just a collection of illustrations, taken from the accounts of the club leaders and the camp advisers concerned of the type of girl who camped and of the sort of camp that was run.

To some extent all the campers had something in common. All came from very poor homes, none of them could have camped without the help that was given. Incidentally, in the six counties composing the Special Areas in Scotland, the chance of going to camp was given to every Guide whose circumstances justified it in the scheduled area, while a certain number of club girls, who are not Guides, also went. Where the girls or their families could help, they did. Several girls in a mining village wanted to pay as much as possible for themselves, and for weeks beforehand they sold flowers and vegetables to

try to make up the sum required. In two clubs, all the campers made their own camp overalls. In some cases, local associations helped. One girl of 15, who had been sent to camp on the grant last year, wanted to go again, but to pay her own way this time. A few weeks before camp she withdrew her name. On investigation being made it turned out that unemployment and illness at home had made it quite impossible for her to take the money from the family budget for her holiday. And so, after all, she was persuaded to come through the grant. Sometimes poverty at home was accentuated by the fact that the father of the family, as well as being unemployed, drank heavily. In others, in spite of the depressing circumstances in which he was living, the father was making such a good fight to do what was best for his children that he neither smoked nor drank. Often illness of one parent or other added to the difficulty of the struggle, and was, with unemployment, an added reason why the girl, tied tightly to her home as a rule, needed a holiday very badly. In several cases the Guides had no fathers, and the widowed mothers were working to support the families.

Their needs were different, too. One county reported after its camp that "all these girls come from villages—derelict mining villages for the most part—and do not need the fresh air of camp so much as the entire change of surroundings and camp discipline." From another, after a Ranger camp, "None of these girls had ever had a holiday before." Two girls came from a family of seven, all of whom live in one room. One Ranger kept house for a family of five who are desperately poor and up against all sorts of difficulties, but of whom it is said "the children are all delicate, but all nice"—no small tribute to the home-maker. Another girl of 18, just out of hospital after eight weeks, was the only wage-earner except the father in a family of seven, and her health in consequence of great importance to others as well as to herself. One who came from a large family, living in a very bad house with a slatternly mother, "smartened up considerably as the result of inspections in camp." Another who worked very hard at home, looking after a delicate mother and the family as well, "had looked unwell all summer and could not possibly have had a holiday if she had not come to camp." The father of one child had been injured in a pit accident and unable to work

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ever since; another, whose father had been unemployed for many years, herself suffered from rickets. And so the record might go on of the 279 girls who camped as the result of this scheme.

In most respects the camps were much like any other Guide camps, but that they had their pathetic, their amusing, and even their gratifying moments is proved by these extracts from the reports sent in:—
"From start to finish this camp was an adventure. Most of us—in fact well over 30 of the number—had never camped before. We had to feel our way from the beginning. In the first place one company refused point blank to go to camp; they would be cold, and it would be too much like work, and too many items to procure to fill their kit bags. Each difficulty was surmounted. These same Guides are now clamouring for the date to be fixed for next year's camp, and their younger sisters are asking to come too!"

"Ours was a wet camp but this may have been an advantage; there were no sore throats, no sunburn or mosquito bites. To live in a tent was most popular and keen rivalry prevailed at inspection time each morning as to which tent would win the ribbon for the day. Every event in camp was so new, canteen being a thrill just because one chose one's own stores. Some of the Guides had not even been given one penny to bring to camp. One small Guide was found in tears beside the bus when all were setting out for an excursion. 'I don't want to go, please let me stay at home,' she said. It was discovered by a sympathetic Guider that she was not ill, only had no penny to pay for her bus, and was afraid the man would take her to prison!"

"Perhaps they enjoyed a hike the last afternoon as much as anything. The P.L.s each took the inmates of their tents to explore inland and came home by the sea. At campfire that night, they each told their adventures. One Guide had lost a shoe in a marsh, another fallen down in a small "burn" which hardly covered her ankles, a third patrol had had "a wee hurl" in a farm wagon, as they were so hot! All had brought home treasures—moss, shells and stones and flowers to take home. All the animal life in the farm appealed to them very much. A jelly-fish, discovered while we were bathing, was definitely a new acquaintance and a sea urchin, just too wonderful, likewise sea anemones."

"The youngest member at camp, not a Ranger but a club girl of 13, was talking to an older girl about who she liked and who she didn't, and the girl said to her 'Oh, but Lizzie, you like the Captain and the Commandant.' 'Och weel, they dae their best,' said Lizzie. As Guiders we sure have plenty to keep us humble!"

"It was a most enjoyable camp and no group of girls, who were new to the game, ever settled into the way of camping so quickly or naturally as did those Guides. One and all are looking forward to a repeat next year."



The hut at Gowanbank.

"Though camp is a busy life, the change of routine and the benefit of the absence of the usual home worries are soon evident in the hearing of the Guides and, of course, the healthy appetites for the camp meals are but another sign of the help camp can be."

"This was the first time any of these girls had camped, and it was feared the weather would dampen their ardour (as well as their clothing). However, they all behaved splendidly, and their captain, who acted as Q.M., felt quite gratified when the Commandant said they just fell into line as if they had been Rangers for years."

"The whole camp went to church on Sunday and the Guides were keen to go. The Commandant must have been proud when the Minister came after the service to say that the Guides were the smartest and most attentive Guides he had ever addressed."

"The Q.M. had a note of thanks 'for the 99 lessons in dish-washing'!"

"The Guide camp was the happiest I have ever known even though we did everything that is *not* done in any good camp . . .

Before the Guides had been in camp an hour a group of them showed me with pride how with the assistance of the 'funny wooden hammers' they had banged in all the 'big wooden nails' below the level of the ground so that no one should fall over them. (And that after I had spent an hour in showing them a tent and explaining the use of pegs and mallets before ever we left home!)

"After they had been sent to collect wood for gadgets imagine my horror on finding one tent literally full of heavy, filthy six-foot planks which had been laid down to make a path through the mud to the latrines. These were to build a wardrobe!"

"One thing was a continual source of surprise to them. Dinner every day—cooked and sat-down-to. This meal at home apparently consists of 'a piece' in our hand. My food bills worked out at 8s. 4d. per head, which is a bit heavy, but they ate so enormously and do need good food. They always wanted to know at breakfast time what was for dinner as that was 'as good as having it twice.'"

"The camp is still the most interesting topic of conversation and both the camps and the hike were well worth while. The best result of the Rangers' hike is that it has begun to broaden their outlook. It was good for them to meet other people, and they are now corresponding with new friends, including a Ranger Guider in Norway. Quite a bit of "walking" was done in cars or lorries, but that too, was good fun, and the girls did appreciate the kindness of people who stopped and insisted on giving them lifts. They say it was because they were in uniform people were so kind to them. Though they have lived in Scotland all their lives, only two had seen the hills except the Campsies.

"I have promised them a holiday next year, if possible, in the Western Highlands. Their behaviour was excellent—the people in the hostels were amused at them.

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One of the girls offered to wash the socks of four Yorkshiremen who arrived one day soaking wet. They accepted the offer gratefully and all four peeled off their pairs of thick golf stockings. Jessie immediately said she was not looking for a contract, but she did them nevertheless. I had a letter yesterday from Yorkshire in which the writer said that now they know there is reality about Guide "good turns."

What the work of preparation and the carrying out of this scheme was for the captains of the companies and for the camp Commandants only other campers can imagine. They might have resented this addition to their already heavy work, but they didn't. "Thank you for entrusting to my care these special Guides," one wrote, and "These children have given me a new enthusiasm for Guiding," another said, and she added, "When one girl told me that the loveliest moment of her life was when she hoisted the flag in camp I felt it was up to Guiding to give them more big moments."

All that can be seen now of the camping experiments of 1937 is a hut, built with "Special Area money," on a site provided from the same source, and which is being very thoroughly equipped by degrees. This is at Gowankbank, Avonbridge, and is primarily for the use of the Stirlingshire and West Lothian Areas, and of it the County Commissioner for West Lothian says, "we feel it will be of lasting benefit to the children of the Special Areas and to Guiding in the county in general."

The more intangible results supply us perhaps with an answer to a very perplexing question. Most of us have realised that Guiding these days offers to the children certain very valuable experiences that they are unlikely to get elsewhere, and we have asked rather despairingly, "But how on earth are we to get it to the very girls who need it most?" Thank goodness, here, through co-operation with clubs and the Commissioner for Special Areas, is one small way in which it can be done.

M. M. M.



LONDON SEA RANGER REGATTA

On September 25th London Sea Rangers held their annual Regatta on the lake in Regent's Park. Fifteen London crews competed, and nine visiting teams—among the latter S.R.S. *Victory* of Kingston, launched last year, of which Mrs. Janson Potts, Ranger Commissioner, is the Captain. In spite of a very wet afternoon many friends came to help, or to cheer on the competitors. Mr. Spiller and some of his Sea Scouts gave us their invaluable help, as usual; and Dame Katharine Furse, Miss d'Avigdor, Miss Royden, and others, who have watched the Regatta ever since its small beginnings in the year 1926 were there, as well as Mrs. Janson Potts and Miss Hopkins, the present Ranger Pilot, and other Commissioners.

Many of the races were very close this year, showing

how hard the Rangers had practised all the summer. When people say—"But why Sea Rangers in London?" they forget that not only is London the biggest port in the world, but also how valuable it is for girls, who might not otherwise have much opportunity for outdoor exercise, to be training for the regatta through the summer—and often in the winter as well. Good sailing to the Sea Rangers, and specially to those in large cities whose working lives are often dull and monotonous. May they find the fun and adventure that might otherwise be lacking. The Regatta results were as follows:—First; S.R.S. *Golden Hind*; second, S.R.S. *Shannon*; third, S.R.S. *St. Vincent*, S.R.S. *Irresistible*; Visitors' Trophy: S.R.S. *Victory*, of Kingston; second, S.R.S. *Endurance*, of Twickenham.

Mrs. Janson Potts kindly presented the Dame Katharine Furse Cup and also the Visitors' trophy, which—to the general satisfaction—had been won by her own crew. A fine feat for a new ship!

A LETTER
RECEIVED AT HEADQUARTERS

Dear "Somebody" (said she in despair),—I dislike all this criticism about how untidily Guides dress, but just lately I have been noticing things that really can be avoided.

Only about one out of every ten P.L.'s seems to have her stripes correctly sewn on; this is particularly noticeable at rallies, etc., where all districts are concerned.

Said stripes are either about three inches apart instead of one, about four inches wide instead of a half-inch, or not sewn on properly. One P.L. I saw seemed to have sewn two bits of string on, at least, that's what they looked like in the middle. Surely her captain could have had something to say on the matter. In one company I know, lots of the Guides do not even know the distinguishing marks of leaders or seconds. And that company is quite a large one.

I think a lot of this sort of thing is caused by the fact that being enrolled is not an important enough business.

Lots of Tenderfoot Tests seem to be absolutely wangled through.

The above company's last three enrolments all had something wrong.

At the first one the company colours were missing, at the next King's also, and at the last one, the recruits, having witnessed the last ones, turned and saluted the company twice instead of saluting King's colours first. The company is better off than most, but they have no patrol boxes or flags, and about 18 out of 46 go to camp.

There is nothing left to attract Guides any further, and so they lose interest and consequently pass few Tests.

Their captain (who is quite good really) just says: "Oh, well, if they're not keen they can leave; there are plenty more to come in."

That's all very well for a few exceptions, but it won't do for a lot, and, after all, girls are not little angels, and need to have SOMETHING to keep their interest at a reasonable height.

About the only thing there is at the moment is "pashes." Everybody seems to have at least one, and they only come to see the object of their affections.

With many apologies,

yours encouragingly,

ONE VERY SMALL P.L.

NOTE:—The above letter was sent to the Editor of THE GUIDE, who passed it on. We feel it is worthy of the attention of Guiders.—EDITOR.

WHAT THE MODERN GIRL IS READING

By R. D. HILTON SMITH, F.L.A.
Borough Librarian of Deptford; Editor of "The Library Association Record."

"I think it is possible to educate young people to a love of books, but we destroy literature when we try to force it. We must not impose reading upon children, but we can put reading in their way."

These wise words of Harold Nicholson's sum up the aim of the modern librarian, who believes that a vital problem of to-day lies not so much in teaching children to read as in enabling them to develop a taste for reading of the right kind. But what is reading of the right kind? The simplest answer to this difficult question is to define what it isn't. Books of the right kind are not necessarily the books which you or I or any other adult think a child should read. First and foremost they are the books which a child wants to read. Sometimes the child's view and ours will tally; but we shall do well to recognise that the only satisfactory means of providing the right reading for children is to base it upon their own preferences. Faced with theories on children's reading, mainly propounded by grown-ups from their own point of view, let us ask ourselves: how far do these theories square with my own experience; how do they fit in with my own observation of what children of to-day really want to read? And the way to encourage a love of books and from their earliest reading years, amongst a collection of those books which will provoke genuine interest.

It is not difficult to find what these books are. From observation, and informal conversation with her readers, every good children's librarian carries in her head a store of information on children's tastes. Sometimes librarians and teachers issue questionnaires on which children are asked to name their favourite author, subject or book; but nearly always the lists of favourite authors are too good to be true. Most children (and especially girls—is there some moral in this?) put down what they think is expected of them. Asked to name her favourite author, the average girl will say Dickens or Shakespeare and then carry on blithely with her thirty-third "William" book or the latest "Peg" story.

But questionnaires do yield interesting and useful facts about children's preferences for subjects or for types of books. It is remarkable that questionnaire enquiries conducted almost anywhere in England or America, and under all kinds of circumstances, give results which are almost identical, and which tally in most respects with what we can learn from personal observation and enquiry.

These enquiries show that many of the old favourites are the favourites of to-day, especially with the younger girls. Little girls like picture-books, simple poems and stories, and the old nursery rhymes in attractive modern editions, particularly when they have gay pictures with plenty of colour and movement. Most children's libraries now provide a special section of easy books for the five-to seven-year-olds, and it is usually one of the best-used and appreciated sections.

For girls of eight to ten the fairy-tale is easily first favourite, and here the girls of to-day have the same tastes as their mothers and grandmothers. *Alice in Wonderland*, the tales of Grimm and Andersen, *The Water Babies*, Andrew Lang's fairy books and similar old favourites are in continual demand. A busy children's library will provide each of them in dozens, and they constantly need replacement because of the wear and tear occasioned by heavy use. *Alice in Wonderland* and *Peter Pan* would probably head the list of perennial favourites in most places, but the others run them close.

As well as the old fairy tales the younger girls like modern books written by authors who possess real insight into the child's world. Amongst the most successful are the *Milly Molly Mandy* Series, the *Sandman* stories, and the *Amelianne* stories. Each of these series forms a long chain of books to which a fresh story is added from time to time, and it is rare for a girl who has read one of them not to go right through the series and clamour for more. A child cannot have too much of a hero or heroine to whom she has become devoted. The writer who creates an acceptable character and can devise enough fresh settings and incidents to produce a whole series about him or her is on the way to fame and a modest fortune. The long series of *Katy* books by Susan Coolidge and Mrs. Hann's *Peg* stories are other examples, favoured by older girls, but the most striking instance of a character who seems likely to go on for ever is *William*. He has already appeared in 19 books, and there seems no reason why he should not appear in 19 more. He is nearly as popular with girls as with boys, with adults as with children. The popularity of the *William* books with children shows how boys and girls will take to themselves books which were not primarily intended for their delectation.

From the age of ten the girl gets interested in school and Guide stories, adventure and plays. Fairy stories retain some of their popularity, but they yield place to other interests. This period usually marks a girl's first introduction to some of the great classics—Shakespeare, Dickens, the Brontës, Scott and Thackeray amongst others—but it would be idle to pretend that they rank as favourites. Some of them might with the exceptional girl, but the fact is that the average girl much prefers them in abbreviated or re-told versions. Nor is this to be wondered at, still less deplored. It is only natural that children should be indifferent to subtleties of language, description and psychological analysis devised by and addressed to adult minds. Their interest is in the story, and there is no valid objection to providing younger children with good shorter versions of the great books. These are definitely popular, and I would sooner give a girl the re-told *Oliver Twist*, knowing she would enjoy it, than run the risk of implanting a permanent distaste for Dickens by supplying only the original story. Librarians find that children who have approached Dickens

in this way are likely to turn to the original with real enjoyment when they are more mature.

School stories still form the staple diet of most girls of ten to thirteen or fourteen, but there are signs that, with the increase in the publication of other kinds of books, their popularity is on the wane. It is possible that the school-story stage in girls corresponds to the "blood" stage in boys: unfortunately, however, the average girl's school story is not such a competent piece of work as the average "blood." It does not offer much scope for good or imaginative writing, and the girl who reads nothing else will inevitably have ploughed through an enormous mass of rubbish. Earlier on I stressed the importance of providing children with the books they really want. This applies to the school story as much as to any other kind of book, but there is evidence in plenty that many girls do want other things instead of, or as well as, school stories. Writers and publishers are just awakening to the fact that there is a need and a market for girls' books other than school stories, but the absence of such books still forms a notable gap in contemporary publishing. Adventure tales and stories of domestic life, plays, intelligent books about the present-day world and its activities and problems, biographies, narratives of travel, simple outlines and practical books: in all of these fields there is a demand which is difficult, and sometimes impossible, to meet.

Mention has already been made of the "Peg" series, but all Guide stories are very popular indeed with girls up to fourteen years old. About this time the adventure story begins to find equal favour with the school story, and most girls show a liking for the books also favoured by boys, such as *Treasure Island*, the tales of John Buchan, "Sapper," and Baroness Orczy, and some of Rider Haggard's. This taste for adventure and incident extends also to books other than stories, but there is not space here to specify the individual books which help to meet it. In this brief review of the reading tastes of the modern girl I have only been able to mention the general types of book which are preferred, but there is one type—equally popular with girls and boys, sought after by children of all ages—which must not be omitted. This is the animal story. *Black Beauty* (still as popular as ever) and *The Jungle Books* apparently set a fashion which met a real and lasting need. To-day animal stories are so popular, and are published in such profusion, that there seems to be some danger of the supply of animal-heroes becoming exhausted. They already include elephants and rhinos, lions and tigers, horses and ponies, dogs and cats, rabbits and lambs, fishes and frogs, and in this varied company a bee named *Claudius* has recently made his debut. Whatever may be said about the dearth of suitable books to meet other interests, the girl who likes animal stories is admirably and adequately catered for.

I believe that the reading tastes of modern girls are sound and catholic, and would be even more so if we could fill some of the lamentable gaps which exist in the provision of books for older girls. Public libraries, by providing a large range of the best books in attractive surroundings, and by giving unobtrusive help and guidance when it is asked for, are helping to create intelligent and discriminating readers, but this is only one half of the

picture. The adults with whom a child comes into contact at home, at school, and in her out-of-school activities can exercise a tremendous influence for good in this direction. Undoubtedly the best guidance and influence starts from home: there is no better background and impetus than sympathetic parents who themselves love books and appreciate their value. The number of such homes is growing, but they are still comparatively rare. Here is a great opportunity and responsibility for teachers, club-leaders, Guiders and others who are concerned with the education and leisure-time activities of children. Let them co-operate with the local librarian, who is generally only too pleased to have the opportunity; let them seek his advice on what books to buy for children; let them carry out the spirit of the words which head this article—reading as a delight, not as a duty—and they will be helping to open new doors into life for the children to whose interests they are devoted.

THE CHRISTMAS STOCKING TRAILS

The month of November is a month of preparation for all the Christmas festivities and it is good to hear that a great many Counties, Divisions and Districts are already well in the throes of preparations for Christmas Stocking Trails.

So many people have organised extremely successful trails for so many years now that there is no need for me to talk about how it is done, but I would like to remind you that all the Trail routes should be sent to *THE GUIDE* for publication if it is at all possible.

It is true that the Guiders drive the cars and organise the Trails but they would be badly off if the Guides and Brownies did not back up by bringing their wonderful gifts of Christmas Stockings and parcels. Well, *THE GUIDE* is the paper for these all important members of the Movement and, very naturally, they expect to see their local Trail route in their paper. If other people's Trails are published and theirs is not they feel that there *must* be a mistake somewhere, and their local Trail cannot be as important as all the rest.

Organisers who are running a Trail on December 4th should let us have particulars by November 11th, and those who have planned one for December 11th should see that their itineraries reach this office by November 18th.

Those dates are the "latest possible" in each case and we shall be very grateful if all who can will send in sooner.

Please remember that the Guides all hope to see the news of the results of their efforts in *THE GUIDE* too, and they have got to count on you, busy as you are, to send it in—so have we!

Thank you so very much for being so game to help again. It is quite wonderful to get such splendid support for this special effort every year.

When you write will you address your letter to "Captain," *THE GUIDE*, 17, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1.

If any organisers have found that the parcels and stockings are not needed by any local settlement or mission we will gladly supply addresses where gifts would be very warmly welcomed.

BARBARA BLANDFORD,
"CAPTAIN" OF "THE GUIDE."

NOTE.—See also Mrs. Marsham's letter on page 437.

Please Note.

We would like to call attention to the fact that the Headquarters overall is to be considered as uniform for any and every occasion.

PERSONAL ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE

Please note that the present policy of the above insurance expires on November 8th, and all those associations insured on an annual basis should renew their premiums for the year 1937-1938 on or before that date.

The object of this Insurance is to cover the Moral Liability of Guiders for accidents sustained during organised Guide activities throughout the year, including accidents and illness occurring during the period of Summer Camps.

Headquarters holds the policy of the Personal Accident and Sickness Insurance, and strongly recommends that all Guiders and Guides should be insured under it. Counties, Divisions, Districts, Companies and/or Packs should insure their total membership on

an annual basis which will cover them during all Guiding activities throughout the year, including camp. If this is not possible then the total number attending any one camp may be insured for the period of the camp only—but on referring to the rates of premium it will be noted that the rate of premium per head is lower when insuring for the whole year than for camp only, therefore far better value for the premium paid is obtained by coming in on an annual basis.

This policy runs for 12 months from November 8th of each year

Application forms, stating particulars required, must be obtained from The Secretary, 17-19, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

RATES OF PREMIUM.

ANNUAL BASIS - - - £1 per 100
(Smaller numbers in proportion.)

Camp only - - - £1 5s. per 100
(Smaller numbers in proportion.)

When applying for a camp insurance, premium at the rate of 3d. per camper must be enclosed.

Applications for camp insurance cannot be dealt with till the premium is paid.

Parties going to "Our Chalet" at Adelboden or on holiday elsewhere abroad (involving short sea transit) pay a premium of 4d. per head, unless already insured on an annual basis in which case no extra premium is required.

Particulars of the special endorsement to the Policy arranged for parties going to "Our Chalet" can be obtained from Headquarters on application.

Schedule of compensations may be obtained on application to Headquarters.

CHOOSING A PLAY

By
MRS. ERIC STREATERFIELD,
Commissioner for Music and Drama.



"Let's do a Play"—there's an excellent book with that title (published by Nelson) that tells you all—or nearly all—there is to know about "doing" a play. Neither it, however, nor any other book, can tell you which play to do. That is a thing you have to arrive at for yourself. And

that, also, is what matters most. We quote Shakespeare's remark, "The play's the thing," *ad nauseam*, but, for all that, it remains as true as when it was first said. There used to be few plays for children and young people to act. Mrs. Hugh Bell with her admirably dramatised fairy stories had the field to herself for years. Now they pour out in a spate throughout the juvenile publishing season, short and long, good, bad and indifferent, and the choosing of one that is right for our company, our audience, our pocket, our hall, and, above all, our particular children, is a more bewildering task than ever.

And the unfortunate Guider has an additional problem that the ordinary producer is saved. She often feels that besides entertaining her audience she ought to be telling them something about the Guide Movement. As a matter of fact, any well-chosen, well-acted, well-organised entertainment tells them a great deal that is good. Too much uniform and too much talk about Guides is apt to be boring on a small stage, and can be left to the big open-air affairs of the summer time. A play like *Pollyanna*, where the naughty little servant girl suffers "conversion" by her Guide company, is much performed, and goes well with a simple audience; the amusing sketch *First Aid and Then*—by a playwright Guider shows we can laugh at ourselves; the Nativity play *Inasmuch*, where the Guides are found doing their humble bit towards the peace and goodwill of Christmas; these are some of the plays with a Guide "moral," so to speak, published by Headquarters for Guiders who want something of the sort.

But to balance one or two items of this kind the Guider will want a play, a good play, that is going to be worth the time and trouble spent on it. The standard of acting, even juvenile acting, is high. The British Drama League with its schools, lectures, expert coaching of all kinds, has ramifications all over England, and audiences now expect to be really entertained. A play has got to be found which is technically sound, properly written for the stage, with the characterisation that girls can manage, with emotions they can express and a plot strong enough to hold the audience without making too much demand on the actors.

If the Guider's Division belongs to the Village Drama Society (twelve companies may join collectively for ten shillings) she can get plays a dozen at a time, suitable for Rangers, to look through. Plays for Guides, though

numerous, are not so easy to procure. A good many are reviewed in *THE GUIDER*, and the most suitable are put on the list published by Headquarters. Having selected a few possible ones, read them aloud to a small, appreciative and discriminating audience, best of all, an audience of one

who is experienced in such matters. That will give you an idea of their length and the strength of their plots. Even if you read badly the listener should be guessing, wondering, waiting for the turn of events. Real characters, sharply differentiated, should be emerging from the dialogue, even if the play is fantasy. If it is an all-women play beware of the stock females, the Cranfordy old ladies, the cheeky servants, the tittle-tattling spinsters, the garrulous charladies—the audience are tired to death of them before ever the play begins. Don't stick to one type of play, however successful it may have been; change is good. A play of imagination, something fantastic, a play completely removed from ordinary life that gives a chance to wear lovely clothes and speak another, perhaps a beautiful, language—that sort of play is exhilarating and refreshing for Rangers, who often spend their time dealing with things, concrete things to be sold or cleaned or made, or inexorable facts like figures. But if you choose a play of this type you must be prepared to be enterprising and energetic as regards clothes and properties, lighting and grouping. Fantasy is not as a rule a case of money—real period clothes are by far the most expensive—but it means imagination and enthusiasm.

In considering the plot of a play remember that it must *move*. Every word of the dialogue must either develop the action or develop the characters; there must be no talking about nothing in particular with the play standing still. Startling events are not necessary; a change of mind in one of the characters can

contain enough drama for three acts—but there must always be travelling towards the final climax.

Plays for people of Guide age seldom have much characterisation except of the broad and obvious kind, and the plot is generally a straightforward affair that happens on the stage, not off it. Be particularly careful of the dialogue in choosing a play for this age. Beware of long sentences, even if they are nicely written and charming to read. A child of Brownie age likes a speech she can say in one breath. Even a fourteen-year-old becomes very stilted and unnatural if she hears herself going on too long. At all costs you must avoid the polite voice used for lessons and "acting" that expresses nothing, and insist on the one used at home for ordinary life that is "alive."

The difficulty of learning a part, so troublesome to



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THE GUIDER

older people, hardly bothers a child as long as she has natural things to say, and as long as the dialogue does not repeat itself—a common fault with poor plays. It is not necessary to choose plays with rhyming couplets of the dreadful doggerel that used to be considered all that could be expected from children—of the type: "And now, my friends, I hope that you are pleased With this our play of Beauty and the Beasted." Such lines may be easy to learn, but they are difficult to forget, and one does not want to furnish the minds of unfortunate children with scraps such as these.

A play with an idea behind it, something that the children will absorb unconsciously, is, of course, an excellent choice, but be careful in selecting frankly propaganda plays. Good intentions are not enough. Many plays, for instance, are written on the subject of the British Empire with the idea of fostering the child's love and admiration for it; and many—of the kind, for instance, that thinks of it in terms of things to eat "Fair New Zealand now we greet, Rabbits, honey, potted meat"—will have exactly the opposite effect when the child is old enough to think for itself. And this is something to be borne in mind when Guiders are writing their own plays and sketches about their own Movement. It is a fact that too ardent propaganda only defeats its purpose.

Plays about great people and great events are a safe choice; plays with pretty clothes and some music and dancing always give pleasure; playlets in dumbshow when the words are recited or sung are excellent for shy children, and are nearly always amusing. Take plenty of advice; there are many people ready to give it. The local Knowledgeable Friend; the Village Drama Society (9, Fitzroy Square, London, W.); the Catholic Play Society and the Religious Drama Society (28, Westminster Palace Gardens, London, S.W.1); the Village Play Series (Year Book Press, 34, Museum Street, London, W.C.); the List of Plays for Girls and Women (Nelson, 1s.); and, last but not least, the List of Plays published by Headquarters and sent for a halfpenny stamp—these are only some of the ways help may be obtained.

The Scotch child can dance and the Welsh child can sing and the English child can generally be trusted to act; a play can happily absorb all the talents of the United Kingdom. It is a pity to let the winter go past without giving your children a chance to enjoy one.

A FILM YOU SHOULD SEE.

Headquarters have added another 16-mm. film to their collection—"A Day at Sea." It was taken on the *Implacable* when the Sea Rangers were having their training there, and it brings a refreshing whiff of sea breeze with it. The fortunate people who were there are seen at their work, and also swimming, sailing, and walking that much-photographed boom.

People who are looking for something to amuse their Local Associations should try it. It is issued with a short talk before the film begins, and a running commentary while it is going on. Including all this, and allowing for a pause between the reels, it takes about forty minutes, so this, together with the story film, "The Fourth Law," would make up quite a good afternoon's entertainment.

The charges are :—

One Exhibition	...	...	10s.
Two Exhibitions	...	...	18s.
Three "	...	...	25s.

Guiders are asked to book their dates early, as it is much in demand. K. S.

TENNIS SHOES

NOEL STREATFEILD

Miss Streatfeild had a great success last year with her first children's book *BALLET SHOES*, which she now follows up with a story of lawn tennis. Illustrations by D. L. Mays. *Prospectus* 5/-

ROBIN HOOD

CAROLA OMAN

The author, a well-known serious historian, has studied all of the thirty-eight existing ballads of Robin Hood, and has produced an absorbing and valuable contribution to the literature of that popular figure. Illustrations by Jack Matthew. 3/6

HERON'S ISLAND

G. DEWI ROBERTS

This sequel to *The House that was Forgotten* chronicles the further adventures of Heron, Cat, Rabbit, Jock the sheepdog, and Wilding the red outlaw cat. Illustrations by Geoffrey Wedgwood, R.E. *Prospectus* 5/-

THE EVERYDAY SERIES

TOLD BY M. C. CAREY

PICTURED BY MARY SHILLABEER

How does your letter reach the Postman's bag? Or the milk get into a jug for breakfast? And what does the Policeman really do? These three gaily printed little books provide the answer. *Prospectus* 1/6 each

All the above are obtainable at Headquarters

DENT · 10 BEDFORD ST · LONDON W.C.2

DENT

"THE GUIDER" HANDICRAFT COMPETITION

We have received several enquiries concerning the Handicraft Competition, and as we feel they may be useful to other prospective entrants, we print them below, together with our replies.

Q. (1)—What is meant by knitted outfit for a child of three? Is a dress of jersey and knickers sufficient, or do you mean vest, etc., as well?
A.—The knitted outfit means either a child's dress and knickers, or a set of knickers and vest. It is not necessary to include a vest.

Q. (2)—Would you be good enough to let us know if in Class 8 the pattern design is to come in you the regulation size, 20 by 30, or much smaller, in the enclosed air sketch?

A.—The poster entered for the competition must be ordinary poster size, 20 in. by 30 in.

Q. (3)—Class 2: Is it necessary to make the dress first, as well as underwear it, or can a dress already made by someone else be used to embroider?
A.—The dress must be made as well as embroidered by the competitor.

Q. (4)—Class 6—Dressed Doll—Has the doll to be made as well as dressed?
A.—No, but it must be completely dressed in hand-made clothes.

We apologise for a printer's error which appeared in Class 2 (a) Brownies. The prizes were given as follows: 7/6, 5/- and 3/6. This should, of course, have read 7/6, 5/- and 3/6, as in the other classes for Brownies.

The coupon, which must be attached to each entry, appears on page 470. For further particulars see "The Guider" October number, page 454.

Class 1. NEEDLEWORK. PLAIN SEWING.

(a) Brownies.
(Entrance fee 3d. Prizes 7/6, 5/- and 3/6.) A roll-up needlecase completely fitted.

(b) Guides.
(Entrance fee 3d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A Pinafore for a child of her own age.

(c) Rangers and Guiders.
(Entrance fee 6d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A Dress and Knickers made by hand for a child of five in a summer material. (Duro fabric, Sparva, etc., etc.)

A Special Class for Guiders.
(Entrance fee 6d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A piece of Tapestry work. (Returnable.)

Class 2. EMBROIDERY.

(a) Brownies.
(Entrance fee 3d. Prizes 7/6, 5/- and 3/6.) A Pinafore for a child of four.

(b) Guides.
(Entrance fee 3d. Prizes, 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A set of Collar, Cuffs and Belt (need not have buckle attached.) Coloured embroidery on linen or crash.

(c) Rangers and Guiders.
(Entrance fee 6d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A child's embroidered Dress, age about six.

Class 3. WEAVING.

(b) Guides.
(Entrance fee 3d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A hand-woven Scarf. (10 in. x 1½ yd.)

(c) Rangers and Guiders.
(Entrance fee 6d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A hand-woven Scarf. (12 in. x 2 yds.)

Class 4. KNITTING.

(a) Brownies.
(Entrance fee 3d. Prizes 7/6, 5/- and 3/6.) A woollen Scarf. (10 in. x 1 yd.)

(b) Guides.
(Entrance fee 3d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) Small Coat suitable for child of two; or
Knitted Pram Cover.

(c) Rangers and Guiders.
(Entrance fee 6d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A pair of men's Socks; or
Stockings; or
Knitted Outfit for child of three.

Class 5. WOODEN TOY MAKING.

Cut with fret saw and painted.
(a) Brownies.
(Entrance fee 3d. Prizes 7/6, 5/- and 3/6.) A cut-out set of six Animals.

(b) Guides.
(Entrance fee 3d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A cut-out set of six characters from Nursery Rhymes—animals included.

(c) Rangers and Guiders.
(Entrance fee 6d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A Noah's Ark, complete with animals.

Class 6. SOFT TOY MAKING.

(a) Brownies.
(Entrance fee 3d. Prizes 7/6, 5/- and 3/6.) Animal or Doll made from a (stuffed) stocking.

(b) Guides.
(Entrance fee 3d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) An Animal made from baize felt or furry material.

(c) Rangers and Guiders.
(Entrance fee 6d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A dressed Doll (not knitted outfits).

Class 7. GLOVE MAKING (LEATHER).

Rangers and Guiders.
(Entrance fee 6d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A pair of hand-made Gloves. (Returnable.)

Class 8. COLOUR WORK AND DESIGN.

Rangers and Guiders.
(Entrance fee 6d. Prizes 10/6, 7/6 and 5/-.) A Poster designed with some relation to Guide activities. (Returnable.)

RULES.

1. Each article entered must be accompanied by a coupon, cut from THE GUIDER. This must be firmly attached to the article and must be properly filled in, giving the name, Guide rank, and address of the entrant, and the Section and Class under which the article is entered. Articles to which this coupon is not properly attached will be disqualified immediately.

2. No articles are returnable, except those entered in the classes marked "returnable."

3. Each article entered in the returnable classes must be accompanied by stamps to cover the cost of return postage.

4. Each article must be accompanied by the entrance fee applicable to the entrant. Details of entrance fees will be found against the classes.

5. Parcels must be carefully and firmly packed. Broken or damaged entries will be disqualified.

6. Parcels should not be sent in before February 1st, 1938. The closing date will be February 14th.

We wish to call particular attention to rules 1 and 5. In the case of the Knitting Competition, although we particularly asked that care should be given to both these points, a very large number of parcels were received in an extremely battered condition, and in a great many cases the labels showing the entrants' name, etc., were improperly attached. In a number of cases no label was sent at all. A moment's thought will give you some idea of the amount of extra work entailed at Headquarters. A competition of this type necessarily produces more work for THE GUIDER staff, and we are glad to rise to the occasion when we receive an enthusiastic response such as that aroused by the Knitting Competition. But we do ask Guiders to see that they, and their Rangers, Guides and Brownies take particular care to observe Rules 1 and 5. In the first place, when you have put a lot of work and trouble into making something, it is a pity to spoil the ship for a ha'porth o' tar and risk losing your prize and possibly spoiling your entry through careless labelling and packing. In the second place, please consider your own reputations, for if you could have heard some of the remarks made by the staff while desperately trying to find owners for parcels and parcels for owners—you would have been startled, to put it mildly!



THE GUIDER CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS PRIZE-WINNING ENTRIES WELDON PUBLICATIONS

- to assist you in making
are contained in
- CLASS 1.** SECTION (C). Needle-Art Series (1/-).
No. 1. Tapestry. No. 5. Period Needlework.
No. 4. Period Tapestry. No. 6. Flower Embroidery.
- CLASS 2.** No. 311. Handbook of Needlework Tapestry.
No. 335. Pretty Transfers. No. 303. Flower Designs.
No. 86. Weldon's Practical Needlework (4d.).
No. 12. Birthday Gifts. No. 12. Embroidery Stitches.
- CLASS 4.** SECTION (A). Weldon's Practical Needlework (4d.).
No. 97. Caps and Scarves. No. 104. Gloves and Scarf Sets.
SECTION (B).
No. 51. Babies' Outdoor Wear. No. 118. Toddlers' Coats.
No. 113. Covers and Rugs for Nursery.
SECTION (C). Weldon's Practical Needlework (4d.).
No. 91. Boy's Suits 2-6 years.
No. 103. Coats and Legging Suits 2-6 years.
No. 105. Knitted Socks and Stockings for Men.
No. 123. Children's Woolies 2-6 years.
- CLASS 6.** SECTION (B). Weldon's Practical Needlework (4d.).
No. 21. Woolly Toys. No. 71. Woolly Wear and Toys.
SECTION (C). No. 71. Woolly Wear and Toys.
Weldon Series (6d.).
No. 400. Doll's Wear (with free pattern).

From your Newsagent or send stamps direct to the publishers, Weldon's, Ltd.
30-32, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2

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THE FOLLOWING WOOLS ARE
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Wendy wools are
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ANCHOR FLOX NO. 5

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IN "THE GUIDER"
Handicraft Competition

You will get the best results by using Coats' and Clark's threads and, in addition, they enable you to qualify for extra prizes in Class 1 and Class 2. That means that if you work your entry with Coats' or Clark's thread you win a double prize in these classes: the one given by "The Guider" and one of the same value presented by Messrs. Coats and Clark. But to do this you must be sure to attach to your entry the ticket from every reel or skein you use.

Coats' and Clark's threads are on sale everywhere.

TO OBTAIN THE BEST RESULTS, USE MILWARD'S NEEDLES.



THE BOOKSHELF

FOR GUIDERS AND RANGERS

The Gospel of the Redman. By Ernest Thompson Seton. (Methuen. 4s. 6d.)

This is a most remarkable book, and carries a lesson to people of all creeds. Although the worship of one God is the origin of all great religions in history, the Creed and Twelve Commandments of the Redman's religion, which existed before white men appeared in America, is the best expressed of any. The teachings of Christ have never been more perfectly worded than they are in the Indian Commandments and Creed; although probably they were made before the coming of our Lord, they show that the instructions to people in all parts of the world came from the same God. As "Sitting Bull" said to the missionary: "We both pray to only one God, who made us all."

Here is the first of the Redman's Commandments:

"THERE IS BUT ONE GREAT SPIRIT. He is eternal, omniscient, omnipotent, invisible. He pervades all things at all times. Reverence Him, and respect all worship of Him by others, for none have all the truth, and all who reverently worship have claims on our respect. So, also, show respect to such things as are held sacred by others."

The fourth paragraph of the Creed commences:

"THE SOUL OF MAN IS IMMORTAL. Whence it came into this world, or whither it goes when it departs, he does not know. But when his time comes to die, he should remember that he is going on to the next world. . . . Therefore let him sing his Death Song, and go out like a hero going home."

MARK KERR.

The Tree. By Grey Owl. (Lovat Dickson. 2s. 6d.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

To give the life story of a tree of more than six hundred years in a short but perfect story seems impossible, yet that is what Grey Owl has done, and given us something so simple that we can with safety recommend the book to grown-ups and children alike; so spiritual, that the beauty of it goes on after we have come to the end. We read such lines as—"As the early morning touched its needles, they hummed a deep varying chord of thanksgiving to the Master of Life—the Sun." The story starts with a squirrel dropping a jack pine cone, which in due course sprouts and, though many difficulties come its way, grows in course of time to a full-sized tree. Beneath its shade we hear of an Indian warrior at his initiation, a fight between pale-faces and Indians, followed by civilisation—"But the tree, who saw it all, made never a sign, just stood there very still, and dark and silent." Finally comes the cutting down of the tree for a modern highway, but as there is no finish to anything good or great, so Grey Owl will not let his tree die, and he leaves us, with a peep at another inquisitive squirrel, who drops a pinecone in a meadow while in search of something fresh, and then forgets all about it.

This book will be a tremendous help to Guiders to help in teaching our children how much more a tree is than a bunch of miscellaneous leaves produced at meetings to disentangle an oak from an ash, etc.!

E. G.

Swift Movement in the Trees (and at Their Roots). By Phyllis Kelway. (Longmans Green. 6s.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

Nature lovers will delight in this book, and be grateful to the author

for the privilege of sharing her friendships with squirrels and moorhens, shrews and toads, and others. To patient detailed observation Miss Kelway adds a gift of living description, seasoned with a charming sense of humour. She makes us feel that we share, not only her garnered store of facts, but also her actual contact with the furred and feathered folk. We, too, are watching, not just reading about them. So easily one thinks and talks about the habits of beasts and birds as species and *en bloc*. Here we realise them as separate personalities. Even toads become loveable, because individual, and therefore interesting. This is a book to possess and re-read. To any compelled to live indoors, to become absorbed in its pages would be like an escape into the open air. The beautiful photographs which illustrate the text are full of character and humour.

A small question—did Job have any experience of a whale's mouth? H. D. F.

Watching Wild Life. By Phyllis Bond. (Longmans. 6s.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

The key to the mystery of seeing birds is at last in the hands of us all if we own this book. If your experience has been the same as mine, that the more seriously you set out to find rare birds and beasts, the less likely you are to see them, then get Phyllis Bond's book and you will know why.

Have you ever, complete with a mental picture of ducks or waders gleaned from books (all in profile at best), approached the shore only to see their back view in flight? Phyllis Bond teaches how to identify birds in flight.

Have you ever tried to show off your pet robin to friends, and although no-one moved a muscle, he would not even come on to the table, let alone eat out of your hand? But then, as the author says, "If when you came into a room all eyes were fixed on you and everyone froze, would you not suddenly remember an appointment elsewhere?" In another chapter she says: "In spite of the ever increasing interest and friendliness to wild life on our side, there seems, unfortunately, to be no corresponding rapprochement on theirs!"

Yet she has drawn the curtain aside on the wild life that is taking place all round us in the woods with tales from her own experiences. She tells us what to look for and how to see it—"never let an unfamiliar sound go uninvestigated, it may just be the ringing up of the curtain on something you had often heard about but of which you have never before been a witness."

The book is well illustrated and full of incident, and 6s. is not dear when one remembers that it is a book of reference,

as well as an amusing book to read. There is no hot air, no sentiment, but much real poetry, and it leaves one anxious to pursue the investigations the author has begun. She tells us that the woodpeckers' holes in her neighbourhood face east or south-east; is the reason, she wonders, to be called by the morning sun, or to be protected by the south-west storms? And in another place she has seen flocks of swallows disappear into the reeds; does this, I wonder, account for the old theory that swallows hibernate under water during the winter?

This book should certainly make an admirable Christmas present, especially if given in the same household where the giver can refer to it herself!

A. M. MAYNARD.



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The FREE "P & B" Angora Book gives instructions for a child's bonnet and coat set and illustrates all the newest "P & B" styles in Angoras. Post free from above address.



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We stock the new "CRONELLA" WOOL in 2, 3, or 4-ply and pastel shades of White, Blue, Pink, Light Yellow, Jade or Mauve. Darker shades in 3 or 4-ply only. Patterns sent post free. Per lb. **7/11**

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THE GUIDER



A MISCELLANEOUS ASSORTMENT

A Dugby on the London River. By Elizabeth Fairholme and Pamela Powell. (Peter Davies. 7s. 6d.)

This is a story for those who, to quote Water Rat, love "just messing about in boats." It is such fun to read how the authors actually unfold the "dream" so many of us have simmering at the back of our minds, and those who read this book may find that it "is" can be moored in the Thames off Hammersmith at a reasonable cost, there is no reason why a similar tactic shouldn't be taken.

The story does not tell us how easy it is to go against wind and current in a narrow space, but is full of the early trials of the owners, and how they were overcome. The most human and cheering part is to read that when none of the crew knew how to handle a trying situation they just "hove to," and studied *Knigh's Sailing for Beginners!* All the same, it is inadvisable to learn all one's sailing from bitter experience.

This book will especially appeal to all lovers of London, as for a background there is the London River and all those so characteristic of her, the barges and watermen, the river police, etc.; but it will also gladden the hearts of those who have an affection for dinghy sailing and all these little boats can do.

A whiff of adventure will be given to all readers of this book, and many a stuffy evening by the fireside on a winter's evening enlivened.

A. H.

A Woman Surgeon. By Rosalie Slaughter Morton. (Robert Hale. 12s. 6d.)

This book is interesting not only from the medical point of view but as a history of women's struggle to be recognised in that profession.

Mrs. Morton describes her early struggles and hardships to become a medical student, her many adventures in hospitals in different parts of the world, and the way in which medicine is practised in many different countries.

The book is also interesting from a travel point of view, as Mrs. Morton, during her training, visited many of the European countries.

Her story of the hardships and courage displayed by doctors and nurses in the Great War, and the difficulties that they overcame, go to make up a book that cannot fail to hold the reader's interest from beginning to end.

K. V. B.

Aids to Firefighting. By Frank S. Oliver. (Pearson. 9d.)

If we are going to be prepared for such emergencies as "Fire," this book is invaluable, not only because it is profusely illustrated, but gives many tips which will make the practice realistic and interesting.

A. M. M.

The Very House. Mazo De La Roche (McMillan. 7s. 6d.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

With the lightest of touches and a wonderful economy of unnecessary facts Miss De La Roche sketches for her readers a year or so in the lives of Gillian and Diggory, two delightfully natural, small people aged four and five respectively.

Gillian and Diggory arrive in England with their

mother, and, after staying in several furnished houses, find "The Very House," where they are gloriously happy together with Dan and Robbie, a Scotty and a Cairn of great charm and not-too-good behaviour. Diggory longed to buy a horse, but was most surprised to hear that racehorses cost more than "working ones." "Oh, I see," said Diggory, "then you buy horses by speed and not by heavy." Nor was he very good at singing, though Gillian tried not to hurt his feelings about it, and remarked, "We know by the words you say what tune you mean." N. M.

Sabu, the Elephant Boy. By Frances Flaherty. (J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd. 5s.)

This book will perhaps have particular appeal to those who have seen the film, "The Elephant Boy." It is the story of the small Indian boy, Sabu, who played the part of little Toomai in the film. There are 46 superb full-page photographs, showing Sabu, with his radiant smile, caring for the elephant, Irawatha (called Kala Nag in the film), scrubbing him in the river, playing with him, and riding him as he goes about his herculean tasks. It is a fascinating story, and will be a delight to both children and grown-ups. N. M.

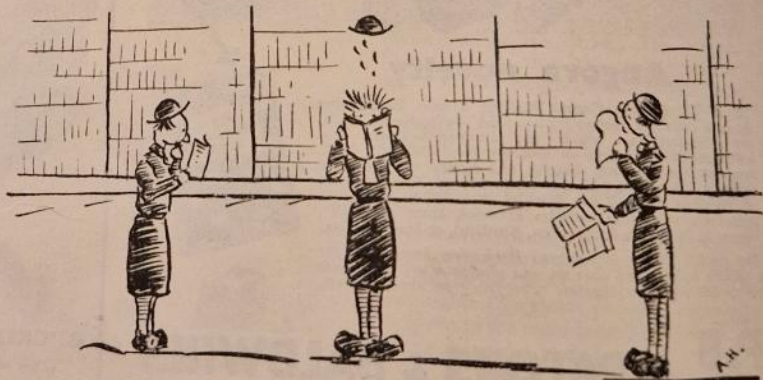
Turned Adrift. By Essex Hope. (Jonathan Cape, Ltd., 6s.)

This is the story of a real dog, a corgi, called Garry, who belonged as a puppy to a small boy, Tom, who adored him, but when Tom went to school Garry was given away and passed from home to home, till one day he was deliberately turned adrift and had no home at all, the fate, possibly, of many dogs each year. After nearly dying of starvation and exposure, Garry found himself at the Dogs' Home and seemed to sense that if no one bought him that would be "the end"—but he was bought by someone who had recently lost a very dear doggy friend, and so, although he is now called Colin, he is still alive and having glorious walks through woods and over downs. "Woof—woof . . . did I see a rabbit? and shall I chase that hare?" This is the life for a corgi dog! N. M.

Wolf of the North. By Phyllis Briggs. With illustrations by the author. (Black. 5s.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

This story of wild life in Lapland is one which will appeal to all animal lovers. It is beautifully written and equally beautifully illustrated by Miss Phyllis Briggs, who has succeeded admirably in capturing the lonely frozen atmosphere of the northland wilds. It is the sort of book which demands a comfortable armchair by a blazing fire and a long winter evening, and it will be read by Guides, Rangers and Guiders with equal pleasure. It almost reaches the Grey Owl standard, which is, after all, so high, that the fact that *Wolf of the North* does not quite come into that category should be no deterrent to prospective readers; rather, the mere fact of its likeness to Grey Owl's writing should be a sufficiently high compliment to ensure the popularity of Miss Briggs' delightful book.

M. T.



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FOR GUIDES AND BROWNIES

Billy Goes to Camp. By H. B. Davidson. (Sheldon Press. 2s.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

Just about this time last year THE GUIDER reviewed a book by Miss Davidson. Now we receive from the Sheldon Press the result of Miss Davidson's work since the publication of *How Judy Passed the Tests*. What a good thing it is that in this Movement of ours there are people like Miss Davidson, who can tell the sort of story that grips the imagination, and, in doing so, teach her readers more than all the textbooks ever written could do in a month of Sundays! No Guide who has read about the adventures of Billy will ever stumble into the same pitfalls, but she will never realise, while she is reading this delightful story, that she is being taught campercraft. Such is Miss Davidson's art, and this ability to reach through games and stories is, after all, the true secret of the good Guider. The book should be in every company library, both because it is a rattling good yarn, and because Guides will find it invaluable in preparing their Guides for camp.

M. T.

Baker's Dozen. Thirteen Stories for Girls. By Catherine Christian. (R. T. S. 2s. 6d.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

Here is a collection of short stories which will appeal even to those who prefer only the full-length story. Written in Miss Christian's inimitable way, each story is distinct and apart. The majority of them are of Guides and their adventures—whether with the company, at home or at school, and there are also two stories of olden days which are equally exciting. Altogether a very delightful "mixed grill" which will appeal to all Guides.

W. M. O.

The Mystery of the White Ties. By Phyllis I. Norris. (Sheldon Press. 2s.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

This is a story with special appeal to the adventurous. Clifford and Derry are married, and included in the household are Clifford's two sisters Betty and Daphne, and Derry's two sisters Madge and Una. These four girls, with the assistance of two others from the village, form an "independent" patrol of Guides, as there is no room for them in the local company. They call themselves the "White Ties," and cause plenty of excitement for the Local Guides. Readers will enjoy the efforts of Daphne, Madge and Una, who go to the High School, to hide the fact that they live in the same house as Betty, who, aged 14, refuses to go to school because she is small for her age and resents being treated as a child. All ends well for the "White Ties" on their subsequent capture by the Guide company.

W. M. O.

The Adventures of the Scarlet Pimpernel Patrol. By Ivy F. E. Middleton. (Sheldon Press. 2s. 6d.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

Miss Middleton's short stories are familiar to readers of THE GUIDE, but this is her first attempt at a full-length story. It is a well-written, jolly story of the six members of the Scarlet Pimpernel patrol, telling of their Company Concert, for which the patrol had a play—of the accident which so providentially gave them a sixth member in time for the play—the finding of Jill and her sister Wendy, and the consequent patrol "good turn" which caused so much happiness—the excitement of the Bazaar, and finally how the Pimpernel brought their numbers up to seven. Altogether a thoroughly good story!

W. M. O.

The Marigolds Make Good. By Catherine Christian. (Blackie. 3s. 6d.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

Good wine needs no bush, and those who have ever read any of Miss Christian's work will know that a book of hers is certain to be a best seller in the Guide Movement. *The Marigolds Make Good*

is no exception to this rule. It is based on the idea that Guiding is a Youth Movement, founded by girls for girls, and, because Miss Christian has been a Guide for twenty years, and therefore started her Guiding in the days when Guides found things out for themselves instead of depending on the grown-up for information, this book should act like a tonic to the modern Guide.

The story tells of a patrol thrown on its own resources by the closing of the company because the school Guides were not pulling their own weight. The Marigolds are the only patrol in the company who have glimpsed the essentials of good Guiding, and they are determined that they, at least, will not be deprived of all that the Chief Scout's wisdom can give them. They call themselves pirates and set sail in search of adventure on their own.

Here is no club-room Guiding, but the real thing. Miss Christian will do much for the Movement if she continues to produce books of this type for the children, but, if I had my way, I would not confine them to the children, I would ask every Guider to read and inwardly digest them.

M. T.

Elaine of La Signe. By U. Moray Williams. (Harrap. 3s. 6d.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

A book by Miss Moray Williams is always certain of a welcome from the Guide Movement, for few people can produce such genuinely good reading material for the child of Brownie age. *Elaine of La Signe* is no exception to this rule. It is a book which can be read with equal enjoyment by child and grown-up alike, and it shows a very vivid picture of the life of a little Swiss peasant girl.

Brown Owls who want to make their Brownies "world conscious" will find that the easiest way to do so is to provide them with story books of this type. No pack should be without a copy of *Elaine of La Signe*.

M. T.

Tennis Shoes. Noel Streatfeild. (Dent, Ltd. 5s.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

If you have read *Ballet Shoes* you will be delighted to know that Miss Streatfeild has now written another story in the same vein. Here is yet a further example of Miss Streatfeild's extraordinary faculty for making the ups and downs and ambitions in the lives of a family of children become of real personal importance to the reader. Jim, Susan, Micky and David Heath are the children of a doctor living in the London suburbs. Their grandfather has been a pretty good tennis player and sows the germs of keenness for the game in the children, also providing some of the wherewithal to make the game possible to these dwellers in suburbia who have no court of their own. The tale of the schemes and difficulties that go towards collecting funds for their "tennis house," as their money-box is called, make delightful and entertaining reading. Annie the maid, with most unorthodox manners, must also be mentioned—she is an ex-trapeze artist, and acts as a wonderful stimulant to the children's ambition for success.

N. M.

A Round the Year Brownie Book. By Sybil B. Owsley. (Girls Own Paper. 2s. 6d.) (Stocked at Headquarters.)

This is a useful book for Brown Owls, for it contains no less than eighteen different stories. There are Christmas, New Year, Thinking Day, and Easter stories—in fact, stories suitable for every red-letter day in a Brownie's life. The book is addressed particularly to Post Brownies, and it is easy to imagine what joy it will bring to them and how real it will make Brownie magic seem to those who are only just beginning to discover it.

Post Owls who are looking for a suitable Christmas present for their Brownies will greet Miss Owsley's latest book with joy.

M. T.

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CAREERS



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THE POST OFFICE.

Many girls are attracted to the Civil Service as a career, or have it presented to them by their parents as eminently safe. Safety is not something which necessarily appeals to the adventurous young, and it is not on this score that work in any branch of it will be advocated in this article.

Many girls, especially those living in and around London, only think of the Civil Service in terms of clerical work in one of the big Government Departments in Whitehall, and therefore seek to enter it by the examination for the Clerical Assistant, General and Departmental Clerical and Executive Classes.

But there are girls who are not temperamentally fitted for the work in offices, and who, though they may do it well from a sense of duty, will never be happy in it. They are the girls who are good "mixers"—who like to meet all sorts of people, and who want plenty of variety in their work. Such girls should carefully consider the alternative offered by work as a Telegraphist or Counter Clerk in the Post Office. This work has much in common with that of salesmanship in retail stores, but it has attractions which that may lack. For instance, the hours of regular work are only 48 a week, and any time worked above this or on Sundays is paid for as overtime. Moreover, the modern Post Office is an attractive, well-lit, well-heated, airy building, and the counter clerks all have seats provided which are arranged so that they can easily use them as they work, and they are expected to use them—in this they compare very favourably with most shops! It is true that hours of work are irregular in busy offices, in the sense that different shifts may be worked. For instance, a girl may have a morning free once or twice a week and be working late in the evening, and she cannot reckon on a regular half-day as a shop girl can. This is a disadvantage, and may interfere with social engagements, but, as far as possible, the girls know their shifts well in advance, though unforeseen absence, through illness of other members of the staff, may render adjustments necessary. It is also sometimes impossible to join in regular outside evening classes, though the Post Office does its best to meet this difficulty by arranging classes for its own members. In addition, in London, each Post Office has its own canteen for the women workers where good food can be obtained very cheaply. Holidays are good:—14 working days with pay on entry, and after 5 years' service, 21 working days. Finally, many girls feel a pride in working for a Government Department which no private employment can give—and they like to feel that they are indeed part of a big national Service. This should make a special appeal to Guiders.

What, then, are the conditions of service, pay and means of entry? The method of recruitment for the Post Office varies in different parts of the country.

In London girls must be between 16—18, and must live in the London area. If successful in the examination they can choose between being a Telegraphist or a Counter Clerk. Rates of pay rise from 28s. a week on entry at 16, to 70s. by annual increments, and there are further possibilities of promotion ultimately to Supervisor. The examination is fairly easy, and in London there is not much competition.

In the Provinces girls become Telegraphists and Sorting Clerks. The grades correspond to the London Telegraphist and Counter Clerk, but the duties are not divided. Rates of pay are as usual, lower than in London, to allow for decreased cost of living, and are from 23s. 6d. or 25s. a week on entry at 16, to 60s. or 64s. 6d., according to locality. The hours and conditions of work are the same as London. Methods of recruiting, however, vary. In some places it is, as in London, by examination, and in others by selection.

Vacancies are filled first by promotion from Boy and Girl Probationers who have entered the Service at 14½, and the remaining posts as described above.

From time to time in recent years temporary Counter Clerks and Telegraphists have been recruited by the London Post Office. They have required girls of 20—23, of secondary school education, and they need not have their own homes in London; 32s. 6d. is paid while training, and afterwards a girl of 20 gets 34s. a week, and one of 21 42s. 6d., rising by 3 monthly increments to 48s. 6d., by which time she should be established.

Recruitment for this is temporarily suspended but may begin again in the new year.

The London Postal Service has now, in the London Counter School, a most interesting training scheme for its staff. There are similar courses at the experimental Training Centres at Liverpool and Leeds, and, in addition, there are short courses for Provincial Sorting Clerks and Telegraphists from areas adjoining London at the London Counter School. A visit to this school is a fascinating experience and gives the "Public" an idea of the vast amount of knowledge which our modern Post Office, with all its ramifications, demands of its employees. There are small classes of girls and boys who have lectures from Senior Counter Clerks, who have at their fingers' ends all the necessary knowledge. It should be made clear that the student is not expected to have this knowledge in her head, but to know exactly where to look for it in the Post Office Guide. Then there is a practical demonstration.

Students move to a reproduction of a modern Post Office complete with money, stamps, postal orders, etc. One student goes behind the counter; others seat themselves on a raised bench, cards containing questions on the lecture are distributed, and one student, representing "the Public," advances to the counter and asks the girl behind one of them. The class listens eagerly, prepared to criticise the reply and supplement if necessary.

Then the "member of the Public" student moves behind the counter and takes over.

The outgoing "clerk" must balance cash, stamps, etc., before retiring into obscurity on the bench and criticising in her turn. In this way the budding Counter Clerk becomes familiarised with procedure, and probably finds the first few days in a real Office much less terrifying than the ordeal behind the counter in front of class and lecturer. Students, by the way, are paid a salary while attending the school.

Enough has been said to show the interesting and varied work, and good conditions in this branch of the Civil Service, and the possibilities it opens out to capable girls.

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HEADQUARTERS
LIBRARY

IT is a long time now since we gave you news of your Library, and we feel that the Book Number of THE GUIDER would be incomplete without a descriptive list of some of the more outstanding books which have been added lately. We cannot go into great detail, because, as books cannot be sent out by post, the Library can only concern comparatively few of those who read THE GUIDER, and we cannot, therefore, spare very much space. We therefore propose to give you simply a list of the most interesting books which have been added in the last two months, with a short descriptive note against each title.

FICTION.

Nothing is Safe, by E. M. Delafield.

A most interesting and well drawn study of the effect of divorce on the child. Shows a very real understanding of the child mind. The book is written from the point of view of a ten year old girl, and will appeal to those interested in psychology. Lightly and charmingly written.

Young Renny. Whiteoaks. By Mazo de la Roche.

Two of the well-known and popular "Jalna" series.

Brother Petroc's Return. By "S. M. C."

A very interesting and sympathetically written study of the effect of present day civilisation on a monk who "died" in the year 1549, but who, by a miracle, was kept alive throughout the centuries and awakes to find that "Time has marched on."

Long Vacation. By K. F. Tegar.

A most amusing description of a rest cure taken by a nervous young barrister. Lightly and humorously written.

They Lived in County Down. By Kathleen Kirkpatrick.

An amusing, "comfortable" story of a family of children living in Ireland. Popular with grown ups as well as children.

TRAVEL.

The English Downland. By H. J. Massingham.

One of "The Face of Britain" series. Gives a most interesting description of the various downland counties, their history and characteristics. Beautifully illustrated.

Tyrolean June. By Nina Murdoch.

A charmingly written description, beautifully illustrated.

Straw Without Bricks. By E. M. Delafield.

Experiences on a community farm and elsewhere in Soviet Russia, written in Miss Delafield's usual delightfully humorous style.

BIOGRAPHY, HISTORY, etc.

Victoria of England. By Edith Sitwell.

The life and reign of Queen Victoria. Very human and giving an extremely comprehensive review of conditions during the reign.

The Prince Consort and His Brothers. Two Hundred New Letters. Edited by Hector Bolitho.
The letters throw a new and interesting light onto a great personality.

The King of Rome. By R. McNair Wilson.

The story of Napoleon's son, who was born King of Rome, and who died of consumption, at the age of twenty-one, the virtual prisoner of the Austrian Hapsburgs. All those who are interested in Napoleon should know the pathetic story of his son's fruitless struggles and ambitions.

PSYCHOLOGY.

The Growing Child and Its Problems. By Emanuel Miller.
Very strongly recommended.

One Fair Daughter. By Owen Rutter.

A very charming study of the author's small daughter, and of his own methods of bringing her up.

SEA RANGERS.

The following excellent works have been included, among others, in the new Sea Ranger Section.

Ships we See. Sailing Ships of the London River. By Frank Bowen.

Seamen All. By E. Keble Chatterton.

Sea Lore. Tales of the Fore and Aft. By Stanley Roger.

Sea Ventures of Britain. By Taffrail.

In addition to the above selected list, all books which are reviewed in THE GUIDER are included in the Headquarters Library, and, naturally, all the latest books on Guiding, and all Headquarters Publications, are to be found there.

The Library is free to all Guides, Rangers, Old Guides and Guiders who live near enough to Headquarters to come in and borrow books. A book may be borrowed for a fortnight at a time. Fines are not imposed if a book is returned late, but we rely on the courtesy and unselfishness of members to keep the rule regarding time, which is the one restriction we make.

The Library is open from 9.30 to 6 p.m. every day, except Saturday, when it closes at 1 p.m.

Members are particularly asked, when visiting the Library, to be as quiet as possible and to show consideration for others who may be trying to work or read. It would be a great help to the Staff if Guiders would ask their Guides, when they examine the papers and magazines displayed on the tables, to leave them in the same condition in which they found them. Guides have been known to leave the tables in a terribly untidy condition, which not only makes extra work for the Staff, but which is so very unpleasant for those coming after them.

Everybody in the Movement is welcome and the Library Staff are delighted to help with advice and suggestions concerning books. There appears to be an impression that the Library is *only* for the use of London Guiders. We want to correct this, and point out that anybody may borrow books who lives near enough to visit the library sometimes, and provided that she is willing to send her book back by post, with her name clearly marked, also that she realises that books *cannot under any circumstances* be sent out by post.

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HEADQUARTERS TRAINING CENTRES



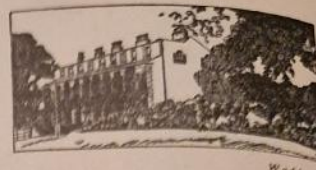
Foxlease

FOXLEASE

Training weeks have been re-named as follows:—

Guide Weeks ... Guide Training.
Ranger Weeks ... Ranger Training.
Brownie Weeks ... Brownie Training.
General Weeks ... Covering Ranger, Guide and Brownie Training.
Elementary Weeks ... For Guiders of little experience.
Refresher Weeks (for those who have already been to an ordinary training). To include such subjects as Knotting and Splicing; Rangers; Brownies; Woodcraft (i.e. Stalking and tracking, observation and the use of signalling; outdoor work for town and country Guides; practice in emergencies; First Class; and any other subject asked for beforehand.

Guide and Ranger ... Covering Guide and Ranger Training.



Waddow

WADDOW

1937.
November 9-16. Ranger Training.
November 19-26. Guide Training.
November 30—December 7. General Training.

1938.
January 7-14. General Week.
January 18-25. Guide Week.

January 25—February 18. Spring Cleaning.
February 18-22. International Week-end.
February 25—March 4. Brownie Week.
March 8-15. Guide and Ranger Week.
March 18-21. Guide Week-end. (Entries closed.)
March 25—April 1. Refresher Week.
April 4-9. Cadet Training.
April 14-21 (Easter). Guide and Ranger Week. (Ranger over Week-end.)

April 26—May 3. General Week.
CADET TRAINING.—This will be a General Training and opportunity for discussion for Cadets. Two Cadets from any one company may apply. If more wish to come, their names will be entered on the waiting list.

1937.
November 5-9. Guide Week-end.
November 12-16. Ranger Week-end.
November 19-23. Guide Week-end.
November 26—December 3. Guide Week.

1938.
February 4-8. Guide Week-end.
February 11-15. Brownie Week-end.
February 18-22. Guide Week-end.
February 25—March 1. Ranger Week-end.

FEES, ETC.

(Applicable to both Centres.)

Weekly.

Single rooms	...	...	...	...	...	£2 10 0
Double rooms	...	...	...	...	...	2 0 0
Shared rooms	...	...	...	...	...	1 10 0

Guiders who have been before and again wish to attend a Training Week are urged to apply, as there are still vacancies.

CAMP SITES.

Applications for camp sites, giving dates and approximate numbers and with a booking fee of 2s. 6d., should be sent to the Secretary. All the sites have permanent shelter and sanitation, also drinking water laid on. The usual permission forms are necessary. No camps of over 50 may be held.

Week-ends. (Per day.)

Single rooms	...	...	...	...	...	s. d.
Double rooms	...	...	...	...	...	7 6
Shared rooms	...	...	...	...	...	6 0
	...	...	...	...	...	5 0

Extra meals: Breakfast 1s. 6d., Lunch 2s., Tea 6d., Supper 1s. 6d.
Cars may be garaged at a charge of 5s. per week or 1s. per night.

CAMP SITES.

Application for camp sites, giving dates and approximate numbers and with a booking fee of 2s. 6d., should be sent to the Secretary. Waddow has four camp sites with drinking water laid on. The North Riding, Canada and Cragg Wood sites include a permanent shelter and sanitation. The usual permission forms are necessary.

APPLICATIONS.

All Training weeks printed above the line are open for bookings immediately, but no applications will yet be considered for weeks below the line, as these are still liable to alteration.

All applications for a training course should be made to the Secretary, Foxlease, Lyndhurst, Hants, or to the Secretary, Waddow Hall, Clitheroe, Lancs., and must be accompanied by full name and address of each applicant, together with a deposit of 5s., which will be returned if withdrawal is made two full weeks before the date of the course.

It has been arranged that three vacancies should be reserved for Scotland for all training weeks until the 20th of the month in which the dates are first published above the line in THE GUIDER.

Further information applicable to both Centres will be found on page 467.

THE GUIDER HEADQUARTERS TRAINING CENTRES

Will Guiders please note that free places are available at both Foxlease and Waddow between October and April. Application should be made through the County Secretary, to the Secretary.

GUIDERS, PLEASE NOTE.

(a) Where a Guider finds difficulty in attending a training course at Foxlease or Waddow on account of train fare, the following reductions may be obtained:—

GRANTS ON RAILWAY FARES.

For return fare exceeding £2, a grant of 3s. will be made.
For return fare exceeding £3, a grant of 10s. will be made.
For return fare exceeding £5, a grant of £1 will be made.

(b) In cases where a Guider, who wants to go to a particular type of training week, finds that no such week is available at a time possible for her at the training centre nearest to her home, but is available at the other training centre, the difference between the two fares may be refunded by Headquarters.

In either case the application for rebate should be made through the Guider's Commissioner direct to Foxlease or Waddow.

FOXLEASE COTTAGES.

The two cottages at Foxlease are to be let by the week to Guiders requiring a rest or a holiday. The larger one contains two double bedrooms and one single, a sitting-room furnished by Canada, a bathroom and a kitchen. The charge for the cottage is 3½ guineas per week in summer, and 3 guineas per week from October to March.

The "Link," which is the bungalow furnished by America, contains three bedrooms, a sitting-room, a bathroom and a kitchen. The charge for the cottage is £2 2s. per week in winter, or 2½ guineas per week in summer. These charges include light, coal and oil. Guiders cook and cater for themselves entirely, although, if necessary, a woman can be engaged to cater, cook and clean at the rate of 30s. per head per week, or merely to cook and clean at the rate of 9d. per hour, in addition to the above charges.

A charge of 5s. deposit fee is made for booking the cottages, and this is forfeited should the booking be cancelled. Guiders wishing to bring their cars can garage them at Foxlease by arrangement, at a charge of 6s. per week, or 1s. per night.

It is not necessary for Guiders staying at the cottages to wear uniform. Any enquiries should be sent to the Secretary, Foxlease.

PRESENTS.

Pillows for Berkshire Room, Berkshire; Donation for Dublin Room, The Misses Menth Wall, Montefiore and Wiers; Picture, Miss B. G. Mackay (S. Africa); Early Morning Tea Set, 1st Kergrave and 1st Cockfield Guiders; Book, Miss Paxton; Donation for Hants Room, Hants; Life Line, Miss Liliecreutz and Miss Nordberg (Sweden); Donation for Garden, Chiff Chaff and Chaffinch Patrol, September 10-17; Donation, Anonymous; Pictures, Miss Marriott (New Zealand); Ornaments for Wilts. Room and Pictures for Quiet Rooms, The Misses Goone-wardene (Ceylon); Books, Miss Maunsell; Shield for Door of Bucks Room, Bucks.

WADDOW FARM.

The cottage at Waddow will be let by the week to Guiders requiring a holiday. It contains two double bedrooms and two single, a sitting-room, two bathrooms and kitchen. The charge for two people is £2 2s. a week (for one bathroom, sitting room, kitchen, and two bedrooms). For three or more Guiders, £3 13s. 6d. a week, and for others £4 4s. a week. The week-end charges are £1 5s. for two people and £2 2s. for three or four.

These charges include light and coal. Guiders cater and cook for themselves, but the gardener's wife is willing to board them for about 30s. per head if required. Applications, with 5s. deposit, should be made to the Secretary. Guiders wishing to bring their cars can garage them at Waddow by arrangement, at a charge of 5s. per week, or 1s. per night.

PRESENTS.

Donations, Training Week (September 1-7), Miss M. E. Mills (New South Wales), Prospective Diploma'd Guiders Week (September 10-17), Training Week (September 21-28); Ink Stand, Mrs. Lawford (N.W. Lancashire); Cushions, Miss Darroch (Edinburgh).

BOOKS RECOMMENDED FOR NEW GUIDERS.

Title.	Author.	Price.	Notes.
Girl Guiding	LORD BADEN-POWELL	2s.	The Official Handbook.
Scouting for Boys	LORD BADEN-POWELL	2s. 6d.	The Official Handbook for Boy Scouts.
Policy, Organisation and Rules	—	10d.	Containing Syllabuses of Badge tests, etc.
The Patrol System for Girl Guides	ROLAND PHILIPPS	6d.	Explanations of the Patrol System. Just revised.
Guiding for the Guider	—	6d.	Notes on Second Class work, etc. General Information on Company Organisation.
An A.B.C. of Guiding	A. M. MAYNARD	9d.	—
Practical Psychology in Character Development	VERA BARCLAY	4s. 6d.	—
Colour Ceremonial	—	3d.	Pamphlet on Drills with Colours.
Games for Guides and Guiders	H. B. DAVIDSON	6d.	—
Brown Magic	V. RHYS DAVIDS	2s.	For Brown and Tawny Owls.
Education through Recreation	L. P. JACKS	3s. 6d.	For Ranger Guiders.
Ourselves and the Community	REYNOLDS	3s. 6d.	Citizenship for Ranger Guiders.
The Guide Law	M. A. CAMPBELL	6d.	Short Readings and Prayers.



ARTICLES AND REPORTS, PHOTOGRAPHS AND DRAWINGS for insertion in THE GUIDER, LETTERS TO THE EDITOR and BOOKS FOR REVIEW, should be sent, if possible, by the 10th of the previous month to the Editor, Girl Guide Imperial Headquarters, 17-19, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

MSs, photographs and drawings cannot be returned unless a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed. No responsibility can be accepted by the Editor in regard

to contributions submitted, but every effort is made to ensure their safe return should the necessary postage be enclosed. Subscriptions to be sent in to The Secretary, Girl Guide Imperial Headquarters, 17-19, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1. The GUIDER is sent direct by post from Imperial Headquarters to any part of the United Kingdom at the rate of 4d. per month (which includes postage). Post free for a year 4/6. Foreign and Colonial, 4/6 post free.

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL.

Held on September 21st, 1937.

PRESENT.

Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, G.B.E. (Chair).
The Lady Baden-Powell, G.B.E.
Mrs. Percy Birley.
Evelyn, Lady Blythswood.
Miss Grace Browning.
Sir Percy Everett.
The Hon. Mrs. Sydney Marsham, O.B.E.
The Hon. Mrs. Charles Tufton, O.B.E.

The following appointments were approved:—

Mrs. Trevor Wright as Diocesan Head of G.F.S. Guides for the Diocese of Manchester, *vice* Miss P. Birley (resigned).
Mrs. Wells as Diocesan Head of G.F.S. Guides for the Diocese of Rochester, *vice* Miss Southgate (resigned).

It was agreed that a Handicraft Competition, open to all members of the Association, be organised by THE GUIDER.

Routine and financial business was transacted.

The date of the next meeting, Tuesday, October 12th, 1937, at 2.30 p.m., was confirmed.

MEETING OF THE ADVISORY BOARD OF THE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION

October 12th, 1937.

PRESENT.

Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, G.B.E. (Chair).
Miss Allan.
The Lady Baden-Powell, G.B.E.
Miss Browning.
Miss Bray.
Miss Carey.
Mrs. Chitty.
Mrs. Crichton Miller.
Mrs. Fryer.
Lady Greig.
Mrs. Houston Craufurd.
The Lady Rachel Howard.
Mrs. Janson Potts.
Miss Knight.
Miss Leathes.
The Hon. Mrs. Sydney Marsham, O.B.E.
Mrs. Moody.
Mrs. McNeillie.
Lady (Murray) Anderson.
Lady Read.
Miss Rhys Davids.
Mrs. St. John Atkinson.
Mrs. Stratfeild.
The Lady Somers.
The Hon. Mrs. Charles Tufton, O.B.E.

The resignation of Lady Read as Commissioner for the Colonies and Assistant Commissioner for the Dominions was received with regret.

The appointments were approved of:—Lady Moore as Commissioner for the Colonies, and Lady (Murray) Anderson as Deputy Commissioner for the Dominions.

The resignation of Miss Armitage as Assistant Commissioner for Training (Brownies) was received with regret.

It was agreed that Old Guides wishing to camp as Guides should obtain the permission of their Commissioner and Camp Adviser, who should satisfy themselves that the group contains a sufficient proportion of experienced campers. Before the camp the Leader of the party to give the outside Camp Adviser an opportunity of visiting the camp.

The appointment was approved of Miss Halpin as Assistant Commissioner for Kindred Societies.

It was agreed that the leaflet giving details of the revision of the Ambulance and Sick Nurse Badges, be included in the next edition of the BOOK OF RULES.

It was agreed that the enamel badge of the Royal Life Saving Society, awarded in respect of the First Class Instructor Certificate, may be worn by Guiders in uniform above the cuff of the left sleeve.

It was agreed that the following new paragraph be added after clause 10, "A Brown Owl," page 26, BOOK OF RULES:

11. After being enrolled and warranted she may enrol her own Brownies and pass them through the Recruit and Second Class Tests.

The Brown Owl may suspend a Brownie for unsatisfactory behaviour, but she may not dismiss a Brownie without first consulting her District Commissioner. She has a free hand in all interior administration and training of her pack, provided that she adheres to the policy and rules of the Movement. When a Guider leaves her pack, her warrant lapses, and must be returned to Headquarters through the usual channels. (See Rule 63 (b)).

The following alteration to the Camp Application Form was approved:—
Heading to read—

"This form to be sent to your District Commissioner at least one month before the date of camp, enclosing 2s. 6d. and three stamped addressed envelopes to (1) your own Camp Adviser, (2) the outside Camp Adviser, (3) yourself for return of permit slip. As soon as you have decided on a site and have notified your Commissioner and Camp Adviser, a post card should be sent to the outside Camp Adviser giving place, dates and maximum numbers expected to attend."

The reports of the Training and Camping Committee and the General Purposes Committee were submitted and approved.

Routine and financial business was transacted.

The date of the next meeting, Tuesday, December 14th, at 2.30 p.m., was confirmed.

The Committee of the Council met at 4 p.m. on October 12th, and confirmed the resolutions passed by the Advisory Board.

The date of the next meeting, Tuesday, November 2nd, 1937, at 2.30 p.m., was confirmed.

AWARDS.

Badge of Fortitude.

Ranger Patrol Leader Margaret Clough, 3rd Herts Lone Ranger Company.

Guide Joyce Hancock, 11th Dartford G.F.S. Holy Trinity Company, Kent.

November, 1937]

Blue Cord Diploma.

Mrs. Dotesio of Wiltshire.
Miss Sheila Findlater of the I.F.S.

Extension Blue Cord Diploma.

Miss Wethered of Bristol.

Gold Cords.

Patrol Leader Diana Cooper-Johnston, 1st Ealing Company, Midds.
Patrol Leader Dorothy Herbert, 6th Parkstone Company, Dorset.
Patrol Leader Marjorie Thompsett, 1st Ealing Company, Midds.
Ranger Connie Williams, 2nd Weston-super-Mare Company, Somerset.

THE GUIDER

Extension Ambulance and Sick Nurse Badges.

The following notes to be added:—

Ambulance. (Biennial).
The examiner must be a doctor or other qualified person approved by the Local Association.

Sick Nurse. (Biennial).
The examiner must be a trained nurse or other qualified person approved by the Local Association.

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES

PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

In order that Commissioners may obtain information on subjects relating to the National Fitness Campaign and the Physical Training and Recreation Act, 1937, it has been arranged that questions with reference to the above shall be dealt with by the Kindred Societies Branch. Letters should therefore be addressed to Miss Leathes, Commissioner for Kindred Societies, at Headquarters.

ADDITIONS TO BOOK OF RULES, 1938

The following amendments to POLICY, ORGANISATION and RULES for 1938 have been approved:—

Campcraft Badge.

Clause 7 to read: "Hold Camp First Aid Certificate or be able to render First Aid in cases of accident and illness that might occur in camp, and give a list of First Aid equipment suitable for a Ranger week-end." and N.B. to read: "The examiner must be a qualified person nominated by the candidate's own County Camp Adviser."

Explorer Badge.

N.B. to read: "The examiner must be a qualified person nominated by the C.C.A. and the latter must be consulted through the usual channels before a Ranger may enter for this Badge."

Keep-Fit Badge.

A new badge to be called Keep-Fit, to be instituted for Guides, with the following syllabus:—

- "The work set for this badge is the same for over and under 16, but a more advanced knowledge and standard of work should be expected from the over 16, especially in clause 4.
1. Have an easy upright carriage and be able to stand, walk, run and sit well, knowing the reason why this is important.
 2. Be able to perform a table of easy "Keep-Fit" Free Standing exercises (based on Scandinavian systems—either Swedish, Finnish or Danish) with or without music accompaniment.
 3. Be able to skip stationary, and forwards and backwards, and also be able to perform four of the following steps in good style:—
 - (a) One plain skip and one with crossed arms alternately.
 - (b) Pas-de-basque.
 - (c) Skipping with feet opening and knee raising continuously and changing feet.
 - (d) Tap step.
 - (e) Six double turns of the rope consecutively.
 - (f) Skipping with knee raising forwards and backwards. (See *Simple Skipping Steps*, by D. C. Clark, 1/-.)
 4. Have an elementary knowledge of respiration, circulation and digestion, and know the effect of exercise on these."

Rifle Shot Badge.

The following footnote to be added to the Rifle Shot syllabus:—
"Precautions—in no circumstances should shooting take place except on an officially approved range and then only under strict supervision."

Woodman Badge.

A new badge, to be called Woodman, to be instituted for Guides, with the following syllabus:—

1. Find out where 15 trees of different kinds grow near her home, and mark them on a rough map. Know their twigs, flowers, fruit, leaves and bark. Show smoke-prints or bark-rubbings of three of them.
2. Collect, or draw from life, first-year seedlings of six trees.
3. Construct something from natural wood (e.g., hut, bridge, gadget, walking-stick).
4. Be able to saw and chop wood.
5. Find out from what wood ten wooden articles have been made.

Extension Proficiency Badges.

The following note to be added after the heading "Extension Proficiency Badges," in the BOOK OF RULES, Rule 41, page 113:—

"The Proficiency Badge Rules (see pages 42-43) are equally applicable in the case of Extension Proficiency Badges."

THE EXTENSION HANDICRAFT DEPOT.

It would be a great help to Extension Rangers and Guides if Commissioners would arrange for work from the Headquarters Extension Handicraft Depot to be on sale at any meetings or conferences which are being held in their areas.

Each year an increasing number of parcels are sent out from Headquarters "on sale or return" to such functions with most satisfactory results, and the further co-operation of Commissioners would be greatly appreciated.

"EXTENSION PHOTOGRAPHS."

Clear and interesting photographs of Extension companies, packs, camps, etc., are urgently needed for illustrating articles and leaflets. Guides are asked to send them to the Commissioner for Extensions, c/o Headquarters.

SHOPPING WEEKS AT THE BRANCH SHOPS.

There will be special Shopping Weeks at the Headquarters Branch Shops when work from the Extension Handicraft Depot will be shown. Please make out your Christmas lists and be sure to visit the shops on these dates:—

Liverpool ... November 15th-22nd.
Leeds ... December 4th-11th.
Cardiff ... December 4th-11th.

FOXLEASE CORONATION AVENUE.

The trees for the Coronation Avenue are to be planted on Saturday, November 20th, at 2.30 p.m.

Will donors of trees or railings who can come and take part in the ceremony, please notify the Secretary, Foxlease, before November 13th.

The Foxlease Rangers will be delighted to plant on behalf of any donor unable to be present.

SCOTTISH HEADQUARTERS.

Everyone connected with Guiding in Scotland is requested to write for all requirements to the Secretary, Scottish Headquarters, 12, Melville Street, Edinburgh.

THE GUIDER. Handicraft Competition Coupon.

Name of Entrant.....

Grade Rank.....

Address.....

Class.....

Section.....

NOVEMBER NUMBER.

Appointments and Resignations

Approved by the Executive Committee, October, 1937.

ENGLAND.

BIRMINGHAM.

EXTENSION SECRETARY.—Mrs. A. T. A. Canaway, 2, Middle Park Close, Selly Oak, Birmingham.
LOVELL.—Dist. C., Miss H. Coley, Baden, Cherry Orchard Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham, 20.
STECHEFORD.—Dist. C., Mrs. R. P. Beckinsale, 226, Chester Road, Castle Bromwich.

RESIGNATIONS.

ASSISTANT COUNTY SECRETARY.—Miss E. Osborn.
EXTENSION SECRETARY.—Mrs. Kelman.
ASTON.—Div. C., Miss E. Osborn.

BRISTOL.

BRISTOL EAST No. 1.—Dist. C., Mrs. Howells, 1, Cuffington Avenue, Brislington, Bristol.

RESIGNATIONS.

ASSISTANT COUNTY SECRETARY.—Miss J. I. Oldnall.
BRISTOL EAST No. 1.—Dist. C., Miss J. R. Storey.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

RESIGNATION.

BLETCHLEY.—Dist. C., Miss M. Cadman.

CHESHIRE.

DAVENPORT.—Dist. C., Miss M. Jalland, 55, Mersey Road, Heaton Mersey, Manchester.
Please note that Middlewich District has been divided into two as follows:—
MIDDLEWICH.—Dist. C., Miss V. Roys, The Hill, Sandbach.
NORTHWICH.—Vacant.

RESIGNATION.

DAVENPORT.—Dist. C., Miss K. Warburton.

CORNWALL.

BUDE.—Dist. C., Mrs. John St. Aubyn, The Manor, Tetcott, Holsworthy.
MID-CORNWALL.—Div. C., Mrs. Kendall King.

RESIGNATION.

CUMBERLAND.
IRTHING VALE.—Dist. C., Miss M. Johnson, Castlesteads, Brampton.
SOLWAY.—Div. C., Mrs. Ellis, Prospect House, Holmrook.
(This is a new Division containing the Districts of Maryport and Workington, formerly in West Cumberland Division.)
WEST CUMBERLAND.—Div. C., Mrs. Henderson, The Mansion, Whitehaven.
RESIGNATIONS.
WEST CUMBERLAND.—Div. C., Mrs. A. Lowther.
WORKINGTON.—Dist. C., Mrs. Ellis.

DURHAM.

CHESTER-LE-STREET, NORTH.—Dist. C., Miss T. Morris, Westmoreland House, Low Fell, Gateshead-on-Tyne.
DARLINGTON, C.—Dist. C., Miss F. Coapes, 38, Duke Street, Darlington.
DARLINGTON, D. (NEW DISTRICT).—Dist. C., Miss A. Wilson, Merrivale, Abbey Road, Darlington.
SUNDERLAND No. 2.—Dist. C., Miss F. Usher, Cresswell Villas, Sunderland.
Please note that Sunderland No. 4 District has been divided into two as follows:
ROKER.—Dist. C., Miss D. Wilcox, 12, Brookside Terrace, Sunderland.
SOUTHWICK.—Dist. C., Mrs. Goshawk, St. Mary Magdalene's Vicarage, Sunderland.
Please note that the District of Neville's Cross and Framwellgate Moor will in future be known as BRANDON and FRAMWELLGATE MOOR.

RESIGNATIONS.

ASSISTANT COUNTY SECRETARY.—Mrs. L. Wakefield.
CONSETT No. 1.—Dist. C., Miss R. Douglas.
CONSETT No. 2.—Dist. C., Miss S. Morrison.

GATESHEAD No. 2.—Dist. C., Miss D. Braithwaite.
SUNDERLAND No. 2.—Dist. C., Miss W. Waller.
SUNDERLAND No. 4.—Dist. C., Miss D. Wilcox.
WOLVERHAMPTON AND PROSTERLEY.—Dist. C., Miss Hindmarch.

ESSEX.

RESIGNATION.

NORTH-WEST ESSEX.—Div. C., Lady Hollis.

GLoucestershire.

TREWSEBURY.—Dist. C., Mrs. Hopper, Stephard, Hereford House, Tewkesbury.

RESIGNATION.

TREWSEBURY.—Dist. C., Miss P. Gough.

Hampshire.

ALDERSHOT COMMAND, NORTH.—Dist. C., Mrs. Swire, Tanglewood, Drepton, Aldershot.
BITTERNESS.—Dist. C., Miss T. Gordon, 4, Stoddart Avenue, Bitterness, Southampton.
Please note that Bournemouth Division has been divided into two as follows:
BOURNEMOUTH EAST.—Div. C., Miss M. Jones, Gogarth, Cawdor Road, Bournemouth.
ASSISTANT Div. C., Miss E. Habershon, Athboy, Cliff Drive, Canford Cliff, Bournemouth.
BOURNEMOUTH.—(Containing the Districts of South, North and East.)
BOURNEMOUTH WEST.—Div. C., Miss M. Jones, Gogarth, Cawdor Road, Bournemouth.
ASSISTANT.—Div. C., Miss G. Rapp, 47, Brankome Wood Road, Bournemouth.
BOURNEMOUTH SOUTH.—(Containing the Districts of South-West, North-West and West.)
BOURNEMOUTH SOUTH-WEST.—Dist. C., Miss H. Martin, 36, Portarlington Road, Bournemouth.

RESIGNATIONS.

ALDERSHOT COMMAND NORTH.—Dist. C., Mrs. Parkin.
ALDERSHOT COMMAND SOUTH.—Dist. C., Mrs. Sufy.
BITTERNESS.—Dist. C., Mrs. Thom.
BOURNEMOUTH SOUTH-WEST.—Dist. C., Miss E. Habershon.

KENT.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER.—Lady Stubbs, The Red House, Wateringbury, Isle of Sheppey.—Div. C., Mrs. Glover, Lister House, Sheerness.

ASHFORD No. 1.—Dist. C., Miss C. Hardwick, Purlands, Charing.

RESIGNATIONS.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER.—The Hon. Lady Cochrane.

ASHFORD No. 1.—Dist. C., Mrs. Harrison.

SHEERNESS.—Dist. C., Mrs. Glover.

LANCASHIRE—NORTH-EAST.

BURNLEY.—Asst. Div. C., Miss McKay, The Lindens, Manchester Road, Burnley.

BLACKBURN No. 6 (WILSHIRE and LANGHO).—Dist. C., Miss K. M. Thompson, Lisimore, Merlin Road, Blackburn.

LANCASHIRE—NORTH-WEST.

ULVERSTON.—Dist. C., Miss C. Fell, Flan How, Ulverston.

RESIGNATION.

ULVERSTON.—Dist. C., Miss M. E. Gaisford.

LANCASHIRE—SOUTH-EAST.

RESIGNATION.

COUNTY BADGE SECRETARY.—Mrs. Hargreaves.

LANCASHIRE—SOUTH-WEST.

RESIGNATION.

LIVERPOOL OUTER NORTH.—Div. C., Mrs. McAlpine.

LONDON.

WESTMINSTER.—Div. C., Miss G. Browning, 106, Whitelands House, S.W.2.
CHELSEA.—Dist. C., Miss Aletha Elliot, 8, Carlyle Square, S.W.3.
LITTON.—Dist. C., Miss D. Wyld, 113, Orford Road, Walthamstow, E.17.
WANSTEAD.—Dist. C., Miss B. Mauler, Rosemary, Whitehall Road, Woodford Green, Essex.

RESIGNATIONS.

WESTMINSTER.—Div. C., Miss C. Mordaunt.

CHELSEA.—Dist. C., Miss M. Sandeman.

LITTON.—Dist. C., Miss I. Blyth.

WANSTEAD.—Dist. C., Miss M. W. Bailey.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

RESIGNATION.

SOUTH NORTHAMPTON.—Div. C., Miss M. Hill.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

EXTENSION SECRETARY.—Mrs. Arkless, Wood End, Workworth.
NEWCASTLE EAST.—Div. C., Miss G. Pumphrey, 115, Osborne Road, Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
DUDLEY AND SEATON BURN.—Dist. C., Miss I. Hodge, 28, Treherne Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 2.
SHIELDFIELD.—Dist. C., Miss A. Raimes, 21, Albury Road, High West Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

RESIGNATIONS.

NEWCASTLE EAST.—Div. C., Mrs. Campbell.
HEATON AND BYKER.—Dist. C., Miss G. Pumphrey.
SHIELDFIELD.—Dist. C., Miss C. Richardson.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

ASSISTANT COUNTY SECRETARY (FINANCE).—Miss B. E. Tutin, The Hall, East, Leake, nr. Loughborough, Leics.
ANNESLEY.—Dist. C., Mrs. Browning, Deerbush, Sutton Road, Kirkby-in-Ashfield.
RESIGNATION.
WORKSOP.—Dist. C., Mrs. McCalman.

SOMERSET.

Please note that Bridgwater Division has been divided into two as follows:—
BRIDGWATER.—Div. C., Miss V. Goodwin (as before).
(Containing the Districts of Bridgwater, Burnham-on-Sea, Nether Stowey, North Petherton and Polden Hills.)
MINEHEAD.—Div. C., Mrs. Hamilton, Killenchy, North Hill, Minehead.
(Containing the Districts of Alcombe, Minehead, Porlock and Williton.)

STAFFORDSHIRE.

NEWCASTLE.—Dist. C., Mrs. T. Moxon, The Croft, Lancaster Road, Newcastle-under-Lyme.
TEAN (CHEADLE DIVISION).—Dist. C., Miss E. M. Cornes, Newton Lodge, Cheadle.

SURREY.

ASSISTANT EXTENSION SECRETARY (EASTERN AREA).—Mrs. A. K. Richardson, The Grange, Old Coulsdon.
CHEAM AND BELMONT.—Dist. C., Miss M. Firth, Rodborough, c5, York Road, Cheam.

THE GUIDER

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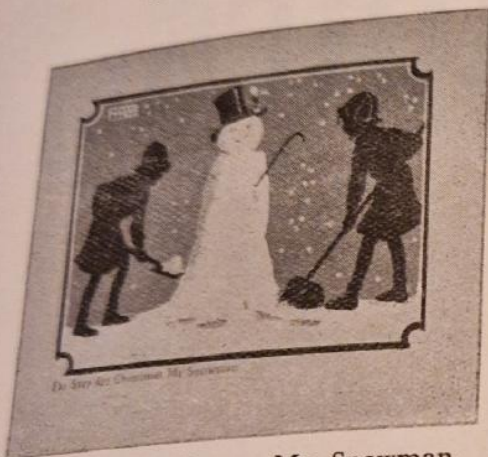
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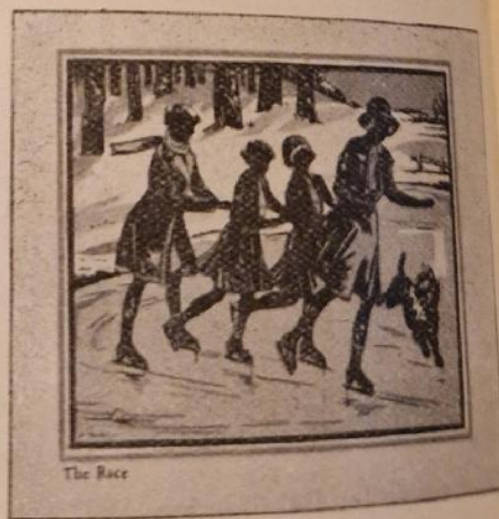
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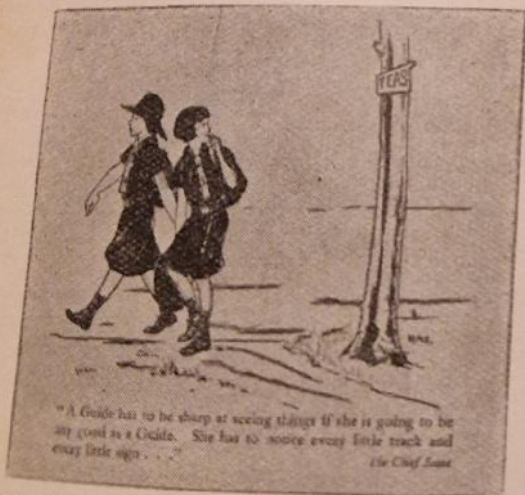
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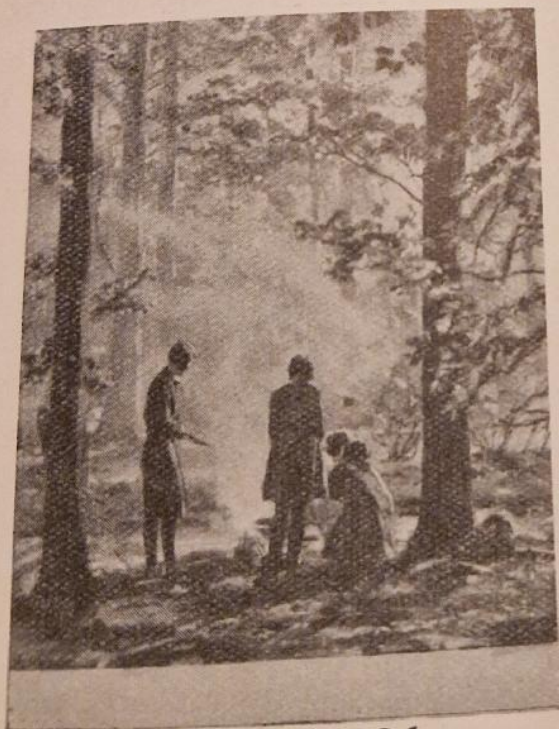
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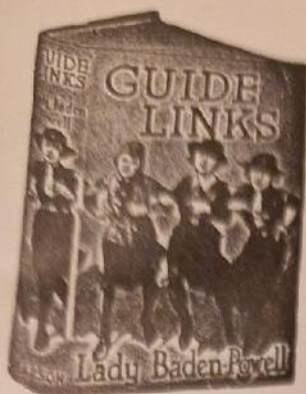


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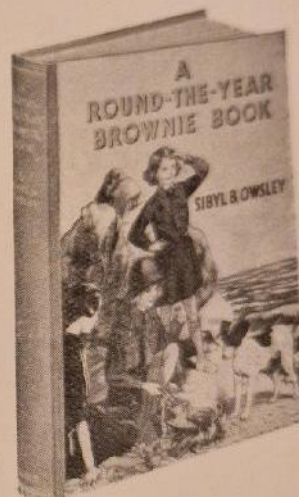
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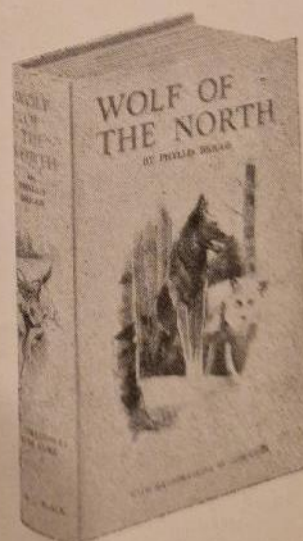
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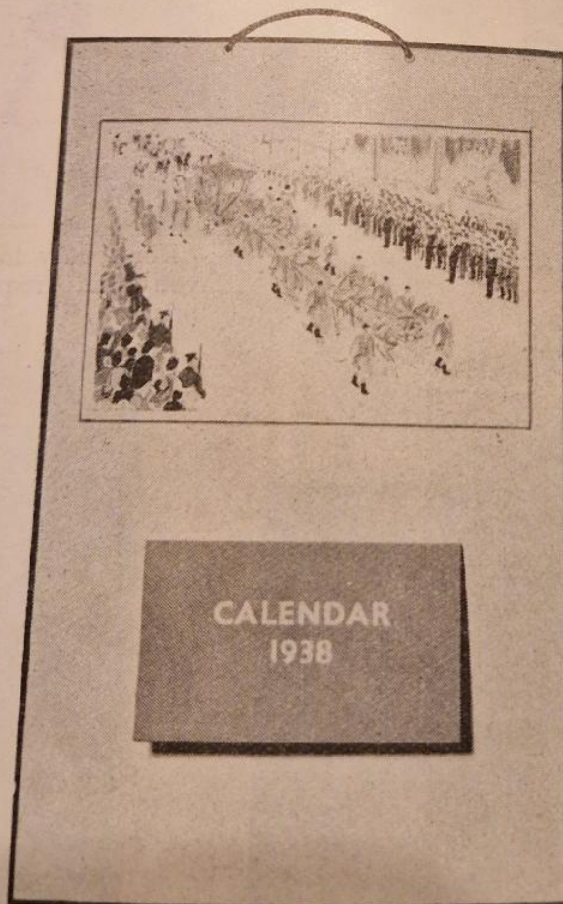
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