

THE GUIDER

Published Monthly for Commissioners and Guiders

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Christmas or Xmas?

SEATED one day at the hairdresser's with an orgy of magazines, I could have gleaned an astonishing amount of information on a variety of subjects. I could have learnt, for instance, how to convert a condemned cottage into an earthly paradise for a few thousand pounds; how to achieve the new look with old materials; how to cook the rations so that they appear adequate and appetizing; how to behave at a swagger restaurant and not betray the fact that one is only used to a snack bar; how to choose a mate (with the aid of a quiz!); in fact, how to face all the crises of life and death, including adolescence, marriage and bereavement. The last was an intelligent and responsible article and I was interested to see that first in the list of assets to help one face marriage and bereavement was religious faith which it was taken for granted one possessed already in some measure.

Among the magazines I turned to an old Christmas number. There were recipes for every kind of delicacy for the Christmas dinner, patterns for charming creations in which to grace the Christmas party, games to play, stories to read, decorations to make and . . . why yes, two concessions to the real Christmas. One of these was a carol printed at the beginning of the magazine and ingeniously decorated with stars and cherubs, and the other was some decorations to special articles on Christmas fare and festivities; these decorations consisted of Father Christmas, looking rather like himself impersonated by Colonel Blimp after a very good Christmas dinner, and a completely frivolous and decorative use of angels, harping in the skies.

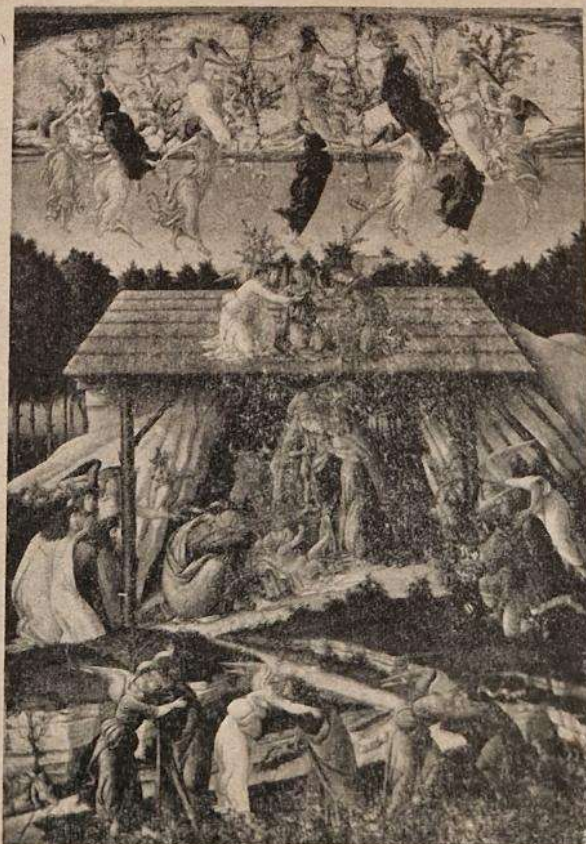
Are these decorations, I mused, symptomatic of the

popular reaction to Christmas? It is a far cry from St. Nicholas, much loved Archbishop of Myra, the children's Santa Claus, to a red-nosed, convivial old horror in fancy dress and from the wonder of 'Glory to God in the Highest' to the semi-comic angels decorating a magazine. I am no Puritan, all my sympathy is with the mediaeval sculptor who made his jokes in stone in the great cathedral and carried into his religion the gay happenings of his everyday life, but would he, I wondered, have treated with shallow levity and taken for granted the great mysteries of his faith?

Christmas—for convenience we write it Xmas, using the initial of *Xp̄st̄is*, the Greek for Christ. Today, people not only write Xmas but they call it Xmas—X, an unknown quantity. The feast of Christ's nativity has often degenerated into a more or less pagan feast of unknown, uncared for origin. To me Xmas is the symbol of that kind of Christmas.

'You want children at Christmas to make it really lovely'. Of course you do, but can it not be lovely without them? If we pin all our faith to the children may it not mean that we are somehow missing the real heart of Christmas and that we are indulging our nostalgia for our own childhood? May it not be that our Christmas consists in trying to recapture the sensations of childhood, so that we live again our own excitement and wonder in the children for whom we plan and prepare? Of course, it is lovely to have children for Christmas, to watch their enjoyment, their delight, but that is often largely connected with Xmas, is it not? With turkey and plum pudding, Christmas trees, mistletoe, crackers and stockings.

Christmas can be more
(Please turn to page 269)



The Nativity, by Botticelli
(By courtesy of the Trustees of the National Gallery)

'Catapulting' into 1949

By the Chief Guide

HERE we are, another year nearly over, and what have we done, and what have we achieved to cheer us on during this coming Festive Season, and to catapult us, with buoyant enthusiasm, into 1949?

We have done a lot in our movement this past year, and gained ground in many ways and in many places. You have done your bit, and I have done mine, in this immense game that we are all playing together—this 'happyfying', purposeful game that we care for so devotedly, and to which each one of us gives so freely.

I came back to England in July, from touring round the world, and now from Australia and New Zealand I am receiving letters saying what they have been achieving in progress since my visit, in new companies and packs, new Local Associations, more young women coming in to be Guiders, and an enhanced keenness, as well as a new interest in this movement of ours.

Empire Ranger Week was in full swing when I got back, and the ripples flowing out from the throwing of that stone have been more far reaching than even the most optimistic people hoped for and the camping enthusiasts triumphantly catered for more thousands of Guides to go out into the open spaces and clean air than ever before. There have been more visits between Guides going abroad, and those coming from abroad than heretofore, and the value of these friendly contacts can never be measured in words; and on quite a different plane from that achievement comes the creation of our own Guiders' Club in London, a superhuman effort made by a courageous committee, whose members surmounted every difficulty to bring into being this invaluable meeting place.

Meanwhile I, for my part, hopped across to share the World Conference in America with all the leading Guide and Girl Scout delegates from many lands and, on returning, popped into a few counties of England, and rushed from end to end of Scotland, including a first peep at the cheery little lot of Guides and Brownies of Shetland.

At the moment of writing this I am flying off (literally!) to visit the Guides in Malta, in Greece and in Italy, and—later—in Paris, when the *Guides de France* are celebrating their Silver Jubilee. My tasks sound slightly spectacular perhaps—and I can hear you saying: 'How lucky she is to go dashing round like that'. But I assure you these tours and the endless non-stop planning and correspondence connected with them, and the day to day work of a Chief Guide, are more exacting than may appear, and gladly would I exchange places with any of you fellow Guiders!

However, that is neither here nor there, and what matters is that we are all hard at work, adding each our quota to the strength and the vigour of our movement, and helping it to forge ahead and to open the doors of Guiding, wider and wider, for eager feet to enter in.

Inspiration for high endeavour against all odds, and a tradition of the conquering of difficulties, has been handed down from generations past. And this can be a present day challenge to each one of us, and find its answer in a burning

desire to make our own part of Guiding grow and expand —whether it be company, district, division or county. If Guiding is good for the many girls who are already within our ranks, can we not open those ranks to include many more of those to whom our service and our influence could mean so much? Success brings success. And I, for one, look to 1949 as a year of renewed zeal, a year of almost militant pushfulness and vigorous strivings, so that all the good things that have happened in 1948 may be crowned with yet more progressive and glorious achievements.

Guiders, Guides and even Brownies say things and write

things to me quite often, that just give me personally a new vision of what Guiding means to them. Some of them even occasionally give me a heart-ache, and act as a direct spur to action, and some of them give me the courage to say this to all of you, urging you, who are already so busy, so over-taxed and overburdened with other duties and tired out with responsibilities, to take on even more.

No, I don't want those of you who come under these headings to do

more, but I urge you to find others to come along to share the weight, and make it lighter! We have got to go out and bring them in and save this sort of thing—told to me in a letter from a patrol leader: 'My patrol are very depressed, as our Captain has had to leave us, owing to the death of her father, and "Lefly" is going away, too . . . but your letter has cheered us up, because they feel that there is a Guider somewhere who thinks of them. They are all young and very keen, so it is extra important for me to keep the 8th Law, having to keep them cheerful'.

To offset that came another letter, by the same post, which read: 'In the twelve months since you came our Division has gained four new packs of Brownies, four new Guide companies, one Local Association, and three District Commissioners, as well as a Sea Ranger Crew and fourteen new Guiders . . .'

And from an entrancing young girl I know, who had been a reluctant Guide at school, had then for a time become almost anti-Guide, but has now come round in her maturity of twenty-three years of age to a new idea of what Guiding is, who writes: 'I am not the orthodox Guider, and quite a lot that one is expected to do I am afraid I don't fall in with—the fusing over little things that don't matter, the tremendously serious way in which people make rules and then unmake them, always annoys me a little. But having seen that rally, and the joy of those children, I am far happier about it all. What I have always felt to be the really important thing is, and always must be, the wonderful simplicity of your husband's first magical idea. For me it will always be my aim to preserve that, and being a Guider is sheer joy'. She's got the spark all right, hasn't she?

Richly have Guiders given in these forty years that are past, and in offering my very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all my many friends throughout the world, may I offer also my cordial hopes that every happiness and success may come to each and all our services to Guiding through the Coming Year?

The Royal Birth

To the Lady-in-Waiting to H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth.

We present to your Royal Highness and the Duke of Edinburgh the loyal greetings of the Girl Guides Association of Great Britain, and our heartfelt thankfulness and rejoicing on the birth of our Prince.

KATHLEEN DAVIES-COOKE,
Chairman of the Executive Committee.

To the Chairman of the Girl Guides Association,
Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.
From Buckingham Palace.

We are most grateful for your kind message of congratulations.
ELIZABETH and PHILIP.

Five Qualities for Leadership

A Talk at Imperial Headquarters by General Sir William Slim,

G.B.E., K.C.B., D.S.O., M.C.

CHIEF Guide, Lady Cochrane, and Ladies—thank you very much indeed for your very kind reference to my recent appointment and the good wishes you gave my wife and myself. We appreciate them very much indeed, coming as they do from you.

I feel rather diffident in speaking to an audience of this kind on the subject of leadership, for two reasons. The first one is that all the experience I have had on the subject has been with men, either in or out of the Army, and I am no Beverley Nichols with a deep knowledge of feminine psychology, so that you will have to decide for yourselves whether anything I say is applicable to your problems. The second reason is that leadership is an extremely personal thing, and if anybody starts talking leadership, his discourse is very apt to be filled with capital 'I's', and capital 'I' is not a very elegant letter. So do forgive me if anything I say is based too obviously on my own personal experience.

You here are all officers in an organisation which in some ways resembles the military organisation, and the aim of an officer is to lead. In fact leadership is the be-all and end-all of an officer.

Command or leadership is in essence the projection of your personality. It is that mixture of example, persuasion and compulsion by which you make other people do what you want. The whole thing is based on the personality of the leader, and so for a few moments, if you will let me, I would like to consider what the personality of a leader, an ideal one if you like, should consist of.

Leadership is much the same thing whether you lead ten men or ten women, or ten million. I have been very fortunate. I have commanded every unit in the Army, from a section of a few men to an army group of a million and a half, and I have never found, at any stage, there was any difference in the qualities required for a leader. As you get higher in the scale, in some ways leadership becomes more difficult and in others easier. The effects of your decision at the top, of course, are wider, and liable to be more beneficial or more disastrous, but you usually get time in which to consider decisions and make up your mind. You also, if properly organised, get a number of people to help you. If you are at the bottom of the scale of leadership your decisions have to be quick and you do not get much help with them, and so it does not necessarily mean in every way that the higher you get the more difficult leadership becomes. The emphasis changes, but in all essentials it is the same, and it is based on the five qualities that a leader requires — courage, will-power, initiative, knowledge and self-sacrifice.

As far as courage is concerned, that is essential because courage is the basis of all virtue. No virtue is a virtue until you have

courage to put it into force. We come of a race which has never failed for want of courage, but for leadership, especially for higher leadership, you require a moral courage, and moral courage is a much rarer thing than physical courage. You rarely find anyone who is a real physical coward when you come to it, but you very often find someone who is a moral coward, and a leader requires, above all, moral courage.

Moral courage really means, briefly, that you are prepared to do something which will make you unpopular, which damages you personally, but which you think is right. That is the kind of courage required for leadership, and for all leaders, especially for the higher ones. The fear of unpopularity is very often a great weakness in people who are otherwise great leaders. If somebody comes along and says about so-and-so: 'Everybody likes him, I have never heard anyone say anything against him', I think there is something wrong, because you cannot be a leader without treading on somebody's toes sometimes.

Certain people are popular with the people above them, and some with the people below them. It is much better to be popular with those below you, I think, but if you are always popular with everybody, have a good look at yourself. You are not doing your job.

So much for courage—now will-power. Will-power is really the most important attribute of a leader, because when something has to be done there are always a thousand reasons why it should not. If you are a General you will find that you have not only got the opposition of the enemy, but you have the opposition of the allies with different views, very often the opposition of your own staff and you may have the opposition of politicians. You will always have opposition. You have got to make up your mind what you want done, and then you drive that through and stick to it.

That brings you up against what is really the most difficult thing in leadership—the contest inside yourself between will-power and flexibility of mind. Some people go about patting themselves on the chest and saying how strong they are. But that is not usually so. On the other hand you find a lot of people who go about priding themselves on their flexibility.

I have known both kinds in high places. The man who says: 'What I have said, I have said', even if he knows it is wrong, and sticks to it because he is frightened to change it, and the other fellow who always agrees with whoever spoke to him last; you have got to hold a balance between your strength of will, your determination, and your flexibility of mind. I cannot tell you how to do it. It is an adjustment of mind you have to make yourself, and until you strike the balance between determination and flexibility you are not a great leader.

Initiative is an es-



Captain Scott (centre), an intrepid leader from 'a race which has never failed for want of courage', and some of the men who followed him on the Antarctic expedition.

sential in a leader. It means that you don't sit down and do nothing. In war, if you sit down and do nothing something unpleasant will happen. Initiative, from the point of view of a leader, is not suddenly getting a bright idea and then dashing off and carrying it out. Initiative is looking ahead. You cannot provide for everything, but you can provide for most things by looking ahead, and one of the things a leader has got to be is a couple of jumps ahead of the people he is leading. The higher you get the farther ahead you have got to look. If you are commanding a section you have to be half an hour ahead, if you are commanding a company you should look several hours ahead, but when you become an army commander you are probably looking three months ahead. The distance you look ahead varies with your position, but whatever you are you have always got to be looking much farther ahead than the people you are leading. That is how initiative comes. You must not be astounded by anything which happens.

Unless you have more knowledge than the people you are leading you have no business to be leading them. I always used to go on the principle that if a man was commanding a section, or a young officer commanding a platoon, I expected him to do everything that he asked his men to do at least as well, and I hope better, than they could do it. When you become a general you cannot go on quite those lines. You cannot expect a general commanding a division to understand the working of a wireless, to drive a tank as well as a tank driver, or to take out an appendix as well as one of his doctors. You have got to have enough knowledge to understand how all those various activities and a thousand others are carried out, how long they take, and the kind of conditions in which they have to be done. You want to know the range of your wireless sets, and to have some idea what equipment a doctor wants in a hospital.

One of the things on which an otherwise extremely good leader falls down, in this matter of knowledge, is over administration. A leader on any sort of scale must have a really good working knowledge of administration.

The last quality which I said leaders must have was self-sacrifice. Of course you would not be in the movement you are in unless you had that, but it is, I think, an essential part of real leadership—leadership for good. You get plenty of people who are leaders on the Hitler model who don't go in very much for self-sacrifice, but if you are really going to lead people in the right direction, and if you are really going to get people in the long run to follow you, you have got to have that element of self-sacrifice. As long as you are successful they will follow you without it, but if you meet with disaster and go through rough times together they won't follow you unless they know your leadership has in it that element of self-sacrifice. That is why in the army we always insist that the comfort and well-being and safety of the soldier comes before those of the officer.

I remember once in Burma I was told one of my units had not done so well. I went to see them and they were in a patch of the jungle in a bad way—tired, unfed, dirty, many of them wounded. And then I looked round the corner and found the officers all brewing themselves tea. Then I knew why that unit was in a bad way. In any unit, where officers think of themselves before their men, that is bad. As far as the British army is concerned there are no bad units—only good and bad officers—and I suspect that applies to other things besides the army.

The leader has got to be the mainspring of the whole organisation, the driving force that makes everything move. He has got to be ready for everybody to turn to him. One of the most awful things about being a commander in war is those moments when there comes a dead silence—everybody stops and just looks at you; they are serious moments in disaster, when everyone stops and waits for you to tell them what to do. You probably don't know yourself.

I remember stepping out of a tank one day where I had been speaking on the wireless to a Division which had been cut off and was in danger of annihilation and the situation was just about as bad as it could be. As I stepped out of

this tank there was a little ring of people waiting for me—my staff, looking at me in that way. I did not quite know what to say so I said: 'Well, it might be worse', and one unmentionable fellow said; 'How?' And the only thing I could think of to say on the spur of the moment was: 'Well, it might be raining!' And in a few hours it was—pouring!

The moment always comes to you as a leader when people turn to you and expect you to lead them. That is the moment for which you have got to prepare yourself. It is a very terrible moment when you know that everyone relies on you and their eyes are on you. You will only meet a moment like that by preparing yourself for it, by expecting it and being ready for it when it comes.

I said that the leader should be the mainspring of the whole thing, and the simile of a clock is one that I very often use, especially with my native troops. In any organisation there are a number of people who do rather monotonous and not very important jobs. If you have a good organisation and good morale, although people do those jobs that are not very exciting or very important, they will feel that they are part of the show; that what they are doing does really matter; and sometimes it is a little difficult to convince them. So I find it very effective with my native troops to go on the simile of a clock and say: 'Well, here are the Generals and the Colonels who are the big wheels in the clock, and you come to the fellow who carries messages, sweeps the path or sees to the cables laid down in the telephone exchange—all those people are the little wheels in the clock. The big wheels may feel they are frightfully important as they move round, but take out a little wheel and see what happens to the big wheels. They stop'. In a properly organised machine, just as in a clock, everyone is important, just as the little wheels inside a clock are important. And it was a simple example like that which brought it home to my native troops.

That always gets us back to the leader, and the greatest factor in morale is confidence that the people below have for the leader. And when you are thinking about leadership it may be a very good thing to consider people who are acknowledged and recognised leaders; but there is a great danger in copying other people if you want to be a leader. Real leadership emanates and projects from yourself—a projection of your own personality. There is a danger, as one has often seen, of copying someone else. If you discover what are the real factors in the person you admire that makes him or her a real leader, so much to the good, but do not copy the little frills, for example, the kind of hat, the manner of speaking. Don't do that because the people that you lead have an immense faculty for judging the genuine. Do not tell them things you do not believe yourself.

My final word of advice to anyone wanting to be a leader is to be yourself. No imitation is ever a masterpiece.

The Value of Film Strips

For those who have never seen a film strip at all, I would explain that it is a series of pictures, photographs, or drawings on a strip of 35 mm. film, which are passed one by one through a sort of magic lantern, enabling the operator to stop and discuss any picture whenever desired. A nice clean whitish piece of wall will do as a screen. The focusing is simple, and the picture can be made quite large and clear in a medium sized hall. The projector costs from £26 to buy, but it is often possible to hire projectors from the school or local education authority.

Film strips 'Pitching and Striking a Ridge Tent' and 'Choice and Layout of a Camp Site' may be obtained, complete with lecture notes, from Headquarters, price 10s., post free. Another training strip on camp gadgets is in course of production and should be available shortly.

During December there will be a film strip projector at Headquarters for demonstration purposes, and for advice on film strips and projectors Guiders can apply to the Publicity Department at Headquarters.

ENID BURNHAM

[County Commissioner, Buckinghamshire]

Christmas with the G.I.S.

THE season of Christmas is a time of rejoicing in the birth of the Christ Child in the manger at Bethlehem—even to those in Displaced Persons' and Refugee camps. There is, too, a heritage which has been built up over the centuries, and although Christmas in pre-war days in Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, or in any of the many other nations now represented in Germany, cannot be compared with Christmas in a dingy cellar room or a bombed barrack with bricked-in windows, yet these people show that their first and central act of worship is adoration.

On Christmas Eve as one approaches the camps the strains of carol singing are heard. Near the gateway a nation's tattered flag is flying, and as the British car passes through the entrance to the camp the Police Guard stands at attention and salutes. In the Polish camps Christmas celebrations always begin with the carol:

In the silent night a quiet voice speaks,
Wake up shepherds. God is born.
Go quickly to Bethlehem to meet your Master.
To meet your Master.

The whole family, and all the dependants, gather together. The Christmas tree, for those who can afford to buy one, is lit. It is decorated with tiny home-made candles, biscuits made from flour and water and cut in the shape of stars, and the traditional Polish Eagle, walnuts, apples and the sixteen-pointed paper stars. At the foot of the tree is the crib, usually made from paper cuttings. The eldest member of the family distributes the gifts to his family, more carols are sung and the whole family sits down to a meal. Before the soup, which for years has now become the main meal of the day, and any extra Christmas fare that they have been lucky enough to come by, a pure white wafer biscuit, broken by the eldest member, is passed round for each person to break off a piece—a sign of friendship and goodwill. The whole family then goes to midnight Mass and on Christmas Day the whole family attends church again.

One's thoughts turn to December, 1945, and the first Christmas service after the cessation of hostilities, when the Relief Teams were trying to make the brightest and happiest Christmas against all sorts of odds. The shabby recreational room in one of the largest camps was turned for the time being into a place of worship. It did not matter that the altar cloth had been made from the Team's sleeping sacks, exquisitely embroidered by the Polish women, nor that the Cross had been hewn from a nearby tree. Families, some of them, were again reunited for the first Christmas since the war and they were going to worship in a sanctuary of their own. Team members set off in trucks to bring the people in from the outlying camps, and by twelve midnight the recreation room was full to overflowing with worshippers. A youngish lad played a violin and the service ended with 'Holy Night', led by a choir of Polish girls. Never had it been sung with so much meaning, and the faces of the women were wet with tears, yet bright with smiles, as they returned to their camps.

Even in those early days of D.P. life each family, by hook or by crook, managed to procure a small Christmas tree. Visits by the teams to the salvage dump were frequent, 'stars' were made from tins, streamers from scanty bits of coloured paper. G.I.S. members sat up late weeks before, making soft toys from scraps of materials, or painting tiny pieces of wood for the toddlers. Many of the children had only known Christmas in a concentration camp or in some place where it was impossible to commemorate the birth of the Christ Child.

In 1946, when conditions were not very much better and the salvage dump had dwindled, again teams used their ingenuity by turning every scrap of material into a duck, a rabbit, or, better still, some article of clothing if the material allowed! Christmas morning saw the 15 cwt. trucks drawn up outside

Schramm Villa in Einbeck where the team lived. The team leader was the first to appear dressed as the *Weinnachtsmann*, followed by his 'colleagues', the Seven Dwarfs. Each Dwarf was dressed in a brightly coloured jacket and scarf, and his cotton-wool beard matched the snowy ground.

All carried a white kit-bag with the gifts, 'operation' stockings for the women, razor blades for the men, a wee bundle of sweets for the elder children, and a soft toy for the babies. The Rumanian camp, 'Austerbeiter', was the first port of call. It was a surprise visit, and unless one had been an onlooker it is almost impossible to visualise the faces of the children when the *Weinnachtsmann* and the Seven Dwarfs jumped out of the six decorated trucks. What a contrasting picture they looked against the damp, grey-walled, shabby hutments of the camp. What inexpressible joy as each room was visited, the party singing as they went, and the gifts left behind.

The Polish camps were next—twelve of them. The *Weinnachtsmann* received just the same jocund welcome, and it was with great difficulty, owing to the pressing crowds, that he managed to enter the camps at all.

Christmas in 1948 presents a much more rose-coloured picture in Germany. Shops are already showing gifts for Christmas, and even in the small town of Vlotho on the river Weser, where the Headquarters of the C.B.S.R.A. and British Red Cross Society are situated, brooches, toys, china, umbrellas, pipe-cleaners, saucepans, brushes, baby comforters, and so on, can be purchased. For those people who have been able to find work the decorating of the Christmas tree will not cause much anxiety. But unemployment is one of the major problems in the Displaced Persons' and Refugee camps today, and so for these people there is again the problem of the Christmas gift.

Teams have for some months past been planning for the Festival Season. Daily as the team member enters the camps mothers ask for scraps of material, patients in the camp sick bay also ask the same question, the Welfare Committee, the camp workshop—all wish to contribute to the children's party. Parcels have arrived from Guides and Guiders in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and Bermuda, and these are being divided between the five Guide International Service teams now serving in Germany. With the help of these gifts groups of mothers and friends in the camps are producing soft toys and remaking some of the secondhand clothing.

G.I.S. teams in Bielefeld, Einbeck and Hanover are bent on making Christmas in the Displaced Persons' camps this year one where the hard circumstances, will, for the time being, be forgotten, and teams in Bôchum and Heide are planning, working, saving so that the German children and families in the cheerless, dreary refugee camps may also catch the spirit of Christmas.

GWEN E. HESKETH



Round a Tree decorated with salvage children gather for carols in a transit camp at Diepholz

Away in a Manger

Bless us every one,
Singing here to Thee,
God whose name is Love,
Loving may we be.

It was the little shoes which always attracted my attention as I stood in front of my school at morning prayers—such tiny shoes, brown, red or blue, and somehow, in shape, very typical of the wearer. One would expect Brian's shoes to be square and turned up, and Janet, of course, would have dainty blue sandals. On this particular morning, however, my eyes strayed to the bent heads; fair and curly, dark and smooth, brown and tousled and the closed lids hiding the mischievous blue and brown eyes.

It was at that moment that the idea came to me of a Christmas play—and why not write it around the children? The Angels were easy enough. If they looked the part and could stand 'as still as mice' they could soon be turned into an Angelic Host. But Angels alone will not make a play, so I left the four-year-olds and visited the seven plus group to select a 'Mary'. At first sight there were several possibilities, but it takes more than good looks to fill such a part; it needs a face which reflects the gentle peace within. Impossible for a seven-year-old you say? Not at all.

Taking the 'possibilities' to my room, I explained what I wanted—a mother rocking her baby to sleep, a tiny baby like the little brother at home whom mother loves so well. With a piece of white butter-muslin wrapped round the head and a large baby doll to nurse the 'Marys' tried out their parts. It worked—a plain face can be radiant when lit from within, and so I found 'Mary'.

Now for the Wise Men and the Shepherds. Some must be speaking parts, and therefore had to be chosen from children with average intelligence who could learn easily, and these were tried out in the hall to see if their voices would be pleasant to listen to and easily heard. Enthusiasm ran high! The Third Wise Man, who dashed off the stage at the beginning of almost every rehearsal and returned regularly to announce in agitated tones: 'I've left my myrrh behind' had nothing to say but, so absorbed did he become in his part, the final offering of his gift surpassed the performance of a gifted artist in its unself-conscious sincerity.

The cast was made as big as possible and several children from the 'C' stream were able to be Shepherds. The only flat refusal came from a tiny acolyte who climbed into his nursery bed, covered himself with a blanket and, with firmly closed eyes, declared: 'I am fast asleep, and I cannot come'. His decision was final.

As usual there was the shortage of materials but we did not buy anything in the way of clothing. Gaily coloured curtains, bedspreads, scarves or an odd pyjama suit and the children's own white nighties completed the wardrobe. The butter-muslin from my camp store-tent was draped around the little Mother and a wooden box of straw was a cradle for the Child. A nativity play costs nothing to dress!

The 'C' stream, whom I always believe should be made to feel essential to the life of the school, made all the wings and halos and a tin of aluminium paint and some thin card were bought for the purpose. This they enjoyed so much that we became ambitious and they produced a backcloth 12 feet by 10 feet, from gifts of old hessian, sized, painted and sewn together. A few effects of stars and lines by an adult hand completed the effect of a night sky for the final scene, whilst the other scenes were enacted before a simple black curtain decorated with a panel of silver stars.

Such small children cannot be expected to attend long and tedious rehearsals and these we started a good three months before Christmas. I took each part carefully, for short

periods, until I had more or less what I wanted from each child and then I passed that particular scene over to a member of staff who had watched the rehearsals, and started on another part of the play. Then about five weeks or so before the event, we gradually pieced the whole thing together. Meanwhile, the whole school had been learning the necessary carols during their regular hymn periods, for good singing and music add greatly to the atmosphere of such a production.

Great care was taken to make a complete pattern when planning the tableaux. Little white marks were made on the floor and, after a time, the children became used to walking to their marks without obviously looking for them, and the fact that they knew exactly where to go gave them confidence.

What is that strange elusive quality known as 'atmosphere' and how is it produced? I believe it is something built up from the very beginning. Each performer must be the part, as for instance, David, whose mother asked him to whom he was talking on the street corner and received the reply: 'Oh, that was just one of the other shepherds!'

With a play of this nature I always try from the first rehearsal to get what I want from the children quietly, unhurriedly, and without losing patience, so that the finished offering is a worthy one. When the great day came, the little performers were so sure of what they were doing, so sincere and reverent, so completely unself-conscious that they carried their audience with them, and two hundred grown ups were hushed into an intense silence, a silence built up of the quiet hills of Bethlehem, the adoration of simple shepherds in the dimly lit stable before the gentle Mother and the roughly cradled Babe.

For, after all, who is more able than a little child to portray the loveliest story in the world?

CONSTANCE M. GREEN

Three New Songs

WRITTEN SPECIALLY for Guides the *Guide Marching Song* and *A Country Song* by Miss Chater, Commissioner for Music, published by the Girl Guides Association at 3d. each, are just what we are always asking for. Let us get both songs and start singing them at once.

The Marching Song is marked 'light-hearted' as an indication of how it should be sung, and so it is. It has a tune that swings along and carries the feet of the singer with it.

They are Guides, all Guides,
And in unexpected places
You'll meet their friendly faces.

A Country Song is for us all, from the smallest Brownie to the whitest haired Trefoiler, for it is a love song of the earth, of the world that lies outside our city, beyond our street, that begins where the pavement stops. It is an invocation to summer and holiday time, to days of staring round and loving what you see. If we have a fiddler it can be sung with an *obbligato*, if not there is an 'echo part' for a few voices in the refrain only. Some verses might be taken solo (and a nature-loving Guide will soon find the children making up additional ones for their own enjoyment). But if it is sung to an audience the words *must*, really *must*, be heard—they are part of the very charming music and the music is part of them.

Watch me: I am the pattern of the sky.

Touch me: I am the beech's twisted root.

Watch me: I am the shadows racing by.

Touch me: I am the grasses underfoot.

A Brownie's Day, with words by Joy Faulkner and music by Mary Chater, published by the Girl Guides Association at 3d., will also be obtainable before Christmas.

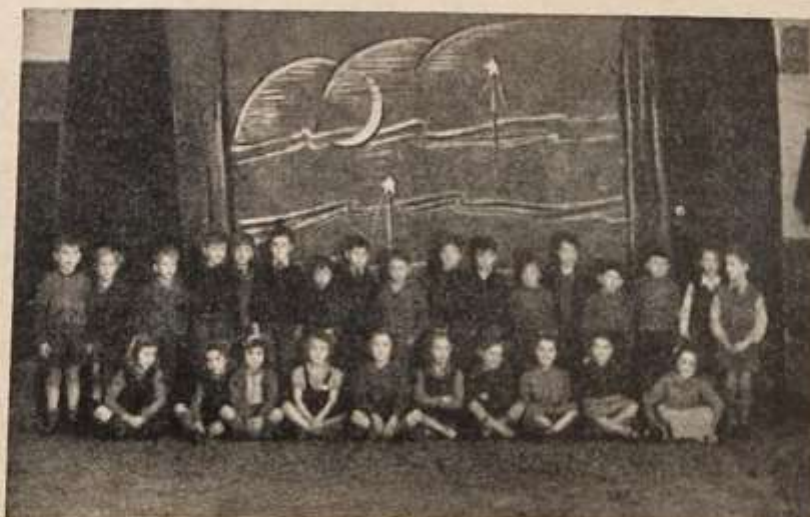
K. STREATFIELD
[Commissioner for Drama, I.H.Q.]

'Open the Stable Door'

One hundred children from four to seven took part in this Nativity Play at Lonsdale Lane Infant School, Wood Green, London. Those who were not acting sang in the choir, made the halo and angels' wings and other properties, and painted the backcloth.



(Top left): 'Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen.' (Top right and middle left): 'And when they were come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary his mother and fell down, and worshipped Him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.'



(Above)
What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb,
If I were a Wise Man
I would play my part;
Yet what I can I give Him—
Give Him my heart!

(At foot). Some of the children who helped to paint the large backcloth. Overalls were brought, and boys and girls splashed merrily away with powder colour.

A Ranger Guider's Training Course—3

KNOW the origin and development of the movement. To acquire knowledge, the Ranger must have access to different sources of information. It is part of the Ranger Guider's job to see to it that such sources are available and as she herself will certainly be one of them, her own knowledge of 'origin and development' must be such that she can transmit it in a number of different and interesting ways. There will be occasions for sessions on the subject, with games and discussions, or for telling of stories, or there will be opportunities for introducing 'news flashes' into conversation, according to the mood of the occasion.

A Ranger has just announced her engagement. The Ranger Guider contributes to the excited chatter the story of the first meeting of the Founder and the World Chief Guide and of their shipboard romance.

The company is discussing some startling item of world news such as the tragic assassination of Count Bernadotte. The Guider asks if they knew that he was one of the founders of Scouting in Sweden?

This sort of interpolation can only happen if the Guider's own knowledge of the subject is thorough and, if it is not, her sources of information will be, as for the Rangers, the books she is able to procure and read. Here are suggestions for the company library: *Here Come the Girl Guides*, by Kitty Barne, 4s.; *The Wolf that Never Sleeps*, by M. de Beaumont, 2s. 6d.; *Baden-Powell*, by E. E. Reynolds, 12s. 6d.; *Opening Doorways*, by the World Chief Guide, 2s.; *The Big Test*, by Catherine Christian, 3s. 6d.; *Current Annual Report*, 1s.; *Biennial Report*, 2s. 6d.; **The Story of a Million Girls*, by Rose Kerr; **The Story of the Girl Guides*, by Rose Kerr.

Unfortunately two of these books (marked with an asterisk) are out of print, but they can be borrowed, perhaps, from a friend, or from the library at I.H.Q., and some of the books written by the Founder and the World Chief Guide are available through county libraries. All the other books mentioned are stocked in Headquarters bookshop when available.

To keep one's knowledge up to date, with news of developments at home and abroad, *THE RANGER*, *THE GUIDER*, *THE GUIDE* and *THE COUNCIL FIRE* and the Biennial Reports of the World Association are most useful.

Rangers who are not, from choice, readers, can be encouraged to read in connection with this clause of the Test. Perhaps the company might decide that the reading of such-and-such a book or books is a necessary preliminary to the passing of it, which would make it more difficult, but would double the value of its effect, for some people.

Without doing away with the necessity for private reading there are occasionally opportunities, in a Ranger company meeting, for reading aloud. Perhaps the company is working on a joint Good Turn, making toys or Christmas tree decorations. One member could read aloud to the others—good practice for her, as well as amusement for them. This, too, might be the occasion for a story out of Guide history, told by the Ranger Guider or (better still) by an 'old stager' invited for the evening. We want the expert in our Ranger companies in every branch of knowledge, and Rangers lucky enough to hear of the pioneer Scouting days from one of the pioneers will never forget that piece of history at least.

A little girl was once heard to remark that she didn't like Nature because there was too much of it. Guiding has less to offer than that, but there are still a good many dates and events which belong to its history. Encourage the Rangers to approach it from an individual point of view. One of them might find out all she could, for instance, about the three women who were most intimately connected with the Founder and, through him, with Guiding—his mother, his sister and his wife. Another might trace the growth of the 'World' idea and its blossoming into camps and con-

ferences and the World Association. It is always so much more interesting to choose one's own path through the woods.

It is important to ensure that the Rangers see the point of this clause in the test. Help them to understand that, if they are seen about in uniform, or wearing a Ranger badge, they are liable to be asked at any moment to what organisation they belong, what it stands for, who are its members, etc. Stage such a situation by introducing a stranger to the company, perhaps during the tea or cocoa drinking which is a feature of so many meetings, and prime this stranger to ask the questions to which the Rangers should know the answers. Some activities with which to teach or test 'knowledge of the movement' are:

(1) Write on slips of paper imaginary situations such as (a) 'Your nephew, aged eight, asks: "How did Scouting start?"'; (b) 'Your neighbour in the 'bus, a middle-aged woman with a basket of groceries on her knee, says she "doesn't hold with Guides because it's only playing at being Boy Scouts"'; or (c) 'Your girl friend says she won't join Rangers because everyone knows that Guide women never marry', etc. Rangers draw a slip and then have a couple of minutes in which to prepare a suitable reply.

(2) Challenge patrols or groups of Rangers one week to stage a tableau or a mime from the history of the movement at the next campfire. Have a few suitable subjects in mind in case they find the choice very difficult.

(3) Hold a history Quiz, or play 'Twenty Questions' by thinking of a particular event or person in Guide history or of something that person did or owned and leaving the company to guess it.

(4) Encourage the making of a company, or of individual, history books.

As the history of Guiding concerns so many countries other than our own, it is a good springboard from which to take off in the direction of some form of international activity. Suggest a pilgrimage, on foot, on ponyback, on bicycles, or, more prosaically, by 'bus and train to places of special interest—Our Ark, for instance, or, better still, Our Chalet. While the company saves up for the latter, they can look fairly wide at home—Foxlease, Netherurd, Broneirion, the Trefoil School, Pax Hill, Waddow, Lorne to be visited. Do the Rangers know that 'holiday weeks' are included in the programme of most training centres today?

Preparations for holidays, whether at home or abroad, link up with Part I of the Ranger Star Test. What items would the Rangers wish to add to the 'complete set of personal equipment' which they can pack with twenty-four hours' notice, before starting out for a holiday? And what equipment, other than that which she packs in her rucksack or suitcase, should every Ranger take with her on such occasions? A set of good manners, for instance. Let the Rangers discuss what is comprised in this. Is it, for instance, good manners to come to table with the hair done up in curlers, even if the curlers are hidden under a scarf? A British visitor did this at Our Chalet this year. Is she guilty of a breach of good manners—or not?

Another most essential part of equipment when travelling abroad on Guide affairs is some stock-in-trade in the way of songs and dances, properly learned and rehearsed for performance. Ask the Rangers to make a list of six songs and repertoire. It is a good idea if at least two of the company and two of the dances are simple enough to be taught quickly to a campfire group.

All this has sprung apparently out of 'origin and development of the movement' which goes to show that there is nothing narrow about the Ranger syllabus.

Errata: Please note that in the last line, bar 1, of the Christmas Carol published in the November GUIDER on page 243, of the third beat.

Nature's Year—January

IT might be argued that June, rich in bird life, butterflies and flowers, is a better month than January to start nature with companies and packs, yet isn't it easier to begin to learn a subject when it is in its simplest form? In winter each bird or flower is clearly seen against a background of winter sombreness, and each is treasured for its individuality, its aloneness.

Birds: There is no better introduction to birds than to feed them on a bird-table or window-sill in winter, so that we learn to recognise them in the summer.

A bird-table need be no more than a board nailed to a post *out of reach of the cat*. It may develop sides to prevent crumbs blowing off, and a roof to keep it dry. You probably cannot have a bird-table at your Guide headquarters, so show the girls yours, and encourage them to have one at their homes. Suggest that it would be fun to compare notes each week on the birds that visit the bird-tables and the kind of food they eat.

What shall we put out for food? Crumbs and meat scraps from the table; scrapings from the porridge pan and pudding basin; sprays of wild berries—hips and haws, whitebeam and holly. Experiment to see which berries are most popular and if they are plentiful put up a clothes-line and peg sprigs of berries to it. Birds perch more naturally here than they do on a bird-table.

Keep a bowl of clean water on the table large enough for the birds to bathe in. They are accustomed to drinking in their baths or bathing in their drinks! Water kept free from ice is particularly necessary in snowy weather, when the birds suffer much from thirst.

What birds may we expect to see? Sparrows, if we live in a town, and starlings. Tits if there are trees nearby, and robins, chaffinches and greenfinches, and if there are big trees we may be lucky enough to attract the nuthatch and the great spotted woodpecker.

Great Tit: The largest tit, about the size of a robin. Black head, white cheeks and black tie, yellow waistcoat and greenish back.

Cole Tit: Like a small great tit with a white patch on the nape of the neck. Wears a bow-tie, not a long one, and the underparts are dusky white, not yellow.

Blue Tit: Bright blue beret. White cheeks, yellow underparts. Greenish back, blue wings, in males often very bright.

Marsh Tit: Very sombre. Black head, off-white throat and buff underparts. Back, wings and tail olive brown.

Willow Tit: Very like the marsh tit, but the head is rusty black and scruffy at the back, and there is a thin white wing bar and a faint rosy hue on the flanks.

Nuthatch: The size of a portly robin. Blue-grey above, orange-yellow beneath fading to cream towards the tail. A black stripe through the eye and a long strong beak for pecking open nuts.

Tits begin their spring songs early in the year. How many of those that visit your bird-table can you stalk and learn to recognise by their songs?

Trees: In a park or wood a study of trees may begin now by learning to recognise them in their winter stark-

ness. Remember they are asleep. Leaves have dropped, the sap has largely run down into the roots, leaving the aerial parts less likely to freeze or to be broken by gales or heavy snow. Buds are there, dormant and protected by scales and able to withstand almost any degree of cold. Let us start by learning the trees by their trunks and bark, and next month we may compare their buds.

Beech has smooth grey bark, and the bole often grows to a considerable girth as well as height. Little 'eyes' may be seen in the bark. These are breathing pores or lenticels.

Oak bark is rough, and the older the tree the rougher. The grooves run up and down the trunk making furrows down which the rain trickles easily. Examine oak trunks for hazel nuts and the seeds of whitebeam which have been lodged there by a nuthatch. He does this in order to wedge them securely before hammering them open with his beak. A nuthatch usually has one favourite tree to which he returns.

Ash bark is pale greenish grey. It becomes rough with age, but the crevices are not so deep as the oak and tend to form diamond patterns.

Wild Cherry bark is smooth and brown, with lines running round the trunk. The lenticels are very noticeable.

Birch bark is white when young and easily flakes off. These flakes form excellent 'paper' for lighting a fire.

Sycamore is a smooth bark, but not so smooth as the beech. It has shallow, irregular cracks.

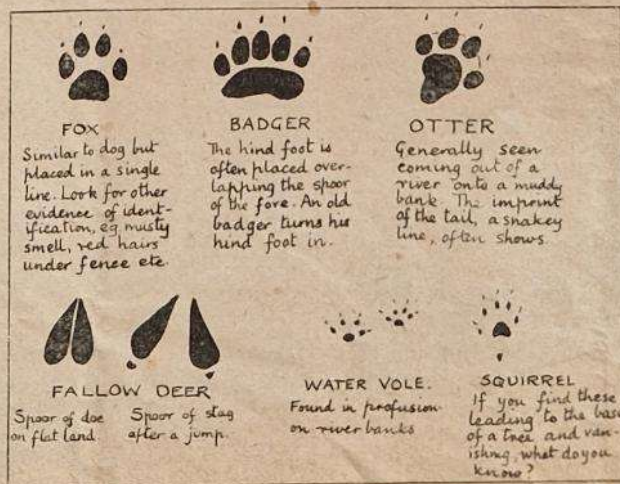
Plane trees do not thrive in towns on account of smoke and dust blocking their lenticels, but the plane tree has an efficient way of overcoming the difficulty. The bark flakes off in patches, exposing a clean, pale green surface once more.

Collections of pieces of bark may be made from dead wood or logs, or better still, a collection of bark rubbings. This is an activity Guides and Brownies will enjoy and they will learn much in the attempt. Thin, tough paper is required, cut into pieces about six inches by eight. Brown wrapping paper does very well. Buy some sticks of heel-ball from a cobbler. Guides can work in pairs. Select a typical piece of bark on a tree trunk, and while one Guide holds the paper against it the other rubs gently with heel-ball until an impression is made. It is done in the same way as in getting the impression of a penny by putting paper over it and then scribbling on it.

Tracking: Here is scope for observation and deduction, for playing at detectives. Follow the trail of an animal by means of footprints, scraps of food left behind (such as blood-stained feathers, nut shells, uprooted bluebell bulbs, etc.), a few hairs caught under a fence, animal excreta or any other means you can, and try to reconstruct the doings of that animal you have never seen!

A collection of casts of footprints may be made. Mix a little plaster of paris and water in a tin of the consistency of thick cream. Pour it into a carefully selected footprint and allow to dry. In about ten minutes it should be hard and may be lifted out, taken home and cleaned.

MARGARET M. HUTCHINSON



Tracking offers scope for observation and deduction.

1705A

JAY

The Cadet Investiture Test

IN August we considered the first part of this test, the 'challenge'. This month we are taking the second part. Before being invested a Cadet must have a good appearance and a high standard of courtesy and reliability.

Our Cadets cannot be invested for at least three months and many of them take a great deal longer, so we have a good time in which to get hold of at least some part of their uniform. Even if their uniform is far from 'model', are they making the best of what they have and of their own personal appearance?

Hair: Is this always well kept, 'off the collar' and of a style suitable for wearing with uniform?

Face: If make-up is used is it put on with care, and is it of a suitable type for use while in uniform?

Hands: Are these clean and well cared for, coloured varnish having been removed while wearing uniform?

Legs: Are the shoes and stockings of a sensible colour and type? Are the stocking seams straight and the shoes well cleaned and polished?

Overall or blouse and skirt: Many of our Cadets have been Guides and will come to us wearing their Guide overalls. If this is so, have they removed the top pockets and replaced them on the skirt; have they re-dipped the overall if it was shabby and is it always kept clean and well pressed? Those that have previously been Rangers will already have a navy skirt; what have they done about a blouse? Have they managed to obtain a Guider's one from H.Q. or made one from parachute material, and is it clean and pressed?

Tie: Every Cadet can obtain a triangle of white material for her tie; here no excuse can be accepted. Is it always clean, starched and well pressed? Do the ends come out one each side of the knot; is it 2½ inches wide and does it end three fingers widths above the belt?

Belt: If the Cadet does not already own a Guide belt she can wear a plain brown leather one until the correct one is available. In any case, the leather and buckle should be so well cleaned and polished that they shine.

Beret: As this item has no coupon restrictions and is considered rather 'grown-up' it is often the first part of the uniform to be obtained by the Cadet. Is the white band always clean and sewn on well; is the beret itself well brushed and worn at the correct angle?

Courtesy and reliability are by no means natural attributes of the adolescent in these days of push and grab. We can hardly blame them; we are in an age of shortages, when the rule appears to be 'first come, first served', and many of our Cadets have been brought up with this background. Our training has, therefore, got to be slow and very, very tactful; a tradition of reliability and courtesy (the two are very closely knit) within the company is the finest training ground that could be found anywhere. It must be obvious, right from the beginning, that we expect the recruit to treat us and her fellow Cadets with courtesy, in just such a way as she will be treated by us; that, if she says she will do something or other, it obviously never enters our head that we cannot rely on her. It is vital that, by the time she is ready to start work with a pack or company, she is a courteous and reliable person.

How are we going to achieve it? By *always* setting the example. Let the Cadet see our attitude towards the people with whom we work, our Lieutenant, the other Cadets, the Commissioner, visitors, the caretaker, etc. And by insisting on her courtesy to us. So often we think: 'Oh, it doesn't matter, it was only me. I won't bother to say anything'. But it *does* matter. Next time it may not be us. Start with the smaller everyday things, such as asking her to provide some part of the equipment for a game next week, and do *not* bring it yourself 'in case she forgets'!

In this clause of the Pre-Investiture test the basic rule in our training, as it is in so much of our Guide training, is: 'Do we fulfil it ourselves?'

GRACE STALEY



Victoria and Albert Museum

CHELSEA PORCELAIN

"The Music Lesson"

This exquisitely modelled group is typical of the elaborate and wonderfully coloured pieces left to posterity by the Chelsea factory from 1745 to 1769. Nicholas Sprimont, a native of Liège, played a leading part in the production of Chelsea ornaments and table-ware which established a standard of beauty and craftsmanship of the highest order.

Each generation adds to our heritage of beauty. The work of old masters and contemporary craftsmen is reviewed in

The Listener

The best of the broadcast talks

A BBC PUBLICATION. EVERY THURSDAY, 3d.

WHY not hold your Christmas party out of doors? There are some lovely afternoons early in winter. In case of wet weather it's as well to arrange for access at any time to the hall or room where you intend to have tea, and to prepare a programme of games which could be substituted for the outdoor suggestions.

Birds' Nests. This is another activity enjoyed by Girl Scouts and is applicable to country with bushes and hedgerows. Patrols disperse to find one old bird's nest per patrol. Patrols return with their nests to the rallying point where they identify them; then each patrol carefully picks its nest to pieces and as far as possible makes a list of the materials. Guides will probably be amazed at some of the things they will find woven into a nest. Each Guide then takes a few pieces of the material—horse hair, sheep's wool, moss, hay, pine needle—and, working in pairs and starting from where the nest was found, the Guides try to discover where the bird gathered the material. They note the distance the bird

To warm up with a large company divide into two teams to avoid unwieldy numbers and let Captain and Lieutenant each lead a team, starting away in different directions at Scout's Pace which is maintained throughout. The Guide calls out: 'I see a spruce tree'. The Guide to race and touch the object first, or get as near to it as she can and point it out, scores a mark for her patrol. The leader calls out objects high and low, for instance: 'I see moss on a grey stone'. 'I see two larch cones close together'.

Suppose the trail starts from beneath a certain tree, the instructions might read: 'If this is an oak, walk straight on past the broken fence; but if this tree is an elm, walk two paces left and towards a leafy stump. Walking in the right direction will bring you to a clump of rushes. If these are bulrush, take the right hand path, but if they are common rush, go back nine paces and then take the path on the right'. Start the patrols off singly at a few minutes' interval and check the time they are away. The patrol following the trail in the shortest time and retracing its steps the least number of times is the winner. This competition is helpful in encouraging Guides to use their eyes and to learn names of trees and plants. The P.L.s will gather a store of knowledge when they prepare the clues.

Patrols choose a bird or animal call. View a certain area around the rallying point as a circle, the size chosen according to light conditions. The Patrol Leaders, starting from the centre, radiate to points on the circumference which are their 'dens'. Only the Leaders know where these are; or, if they are experienced trackers, trails may be laid to their dens for them to follow. Immediately a Leader arrives at her den she calls up her patrol with the animal patrol call. One Guide from each patrol follow each other at thirty second intervals, being guided to the den by the calls of those who have arrived. The first patrol to muster in the den announces the fact to the Guider umpires by cheering. There may be snow on the ground.

There may be snow on the ground. In Switzerland some school children organised a chase following the tracks left in the snow by one of their number whose rubber-soled boots, newly repaired, left a distinctive pattern. Choose two 'hares', with distinctive footwear from the company and, if there are no gum boots or newly-soled rubber shoes among them, make a distinctive mark by attaching a piece of thin knotted rope over one boot of each hare; (be careful it is tied firmly so the hare does not catch her foot in anything). No tracking signs are used as the rope, or newly-soled rubber shoe, will leave a trail which the Guides must follow. According to whether the snow is deep or shallow, the

According to whether the country through which they are running is open or wooded give the hares a suitable start, say five or ten minutes, and let them make for a definite goal where they hide till found, or the time arranged for all to foregather. The hunters should find the hares in their 'form' if they do not catch up with them en route.

C. H. FALCON



Aids For the Absent Minded

HOW'S your memory behaving these days? Judging from the news that the London Passenger Transport Board has had to provide extra accommodation for 'the things we left behind us' perhaps we ought to take a refresher course before all the extra Christmas activities. Why not pin these gentle reminders to your calendars?

1. Remember to take the key of the Guide hut. (Believe me it's a shattering start to a company meeting to have to send a Guide chasing home for the key while the other Guides rampage round!)

2. Weigh bulky letters before posting to save you from the chilly glances of friends who have paid excess postage.

3. Include your full name and *previous* address when sending a notice of change. Some consternation is caused in an office on receipt of an unsigned postcard with the bald announcement: 'My new address is Little Follies, Much Headache, Smallthought'.



'Captain's forgot the key again'



4. Always give a second glance at a cheque to see you have put your signature, the correct date and the amount. Bank clerks are funny that way—they won't journey into the future or linger in the past where money is concerned! Also they like the words and figures to agree and don't realise that when you put £17 1s. 1d., when you mean £1 7s. 11d., you are getting mixed up with your aunt's telephone number, Victoria 1171.

5. Then, of course, there is one other reminder—your subscription to THE GUIDER for 1949.

If it is due for renewal just complete the form enclosed, firmly attaching the 7s. If by any chance you aren't a subscriber send in your name and address and 7s., marking your application 'new subscriber' and THE GUIDER will be on your breakfast table on the 1st of each month. And if you have a niece or cousin hovering on the brink of Guiding and want to send her a Christmas gift why not a subscription for her, too? J.W.



Bank clerks won't journey into the future

A Music Conference

THE Music Conference held at Imperial Headquarters on October 9th and 10th was another link in the sequence of 'M. and D.' gatherings held at Foxlease and Waddow. While the residential weekends seem now to be most profitably devoted to practical training and demonstration, there is also a need for time to confer and to draw in fresh supplies of ideas and music from lecturers and artists outside the movement.

Thus the conference was planned to include plenty of discussion and also talks and recitals by guest artists. First among these came Mr. Bernard Shore, the well-known viola player and musical author, now Chief Inspector of Music to the Ministry of Education. It was an inspiration just to be in contact with a musician of his calibre, one who in his wide orchestral experience has reached the highest levels. Alongside his wealth of musical understanding was his warm human outlook, his pride and interest in the 'rabbits' who take up string playing in their maturity, his racy description of a wild class of small boys learning the violin. All these delighted us almost as much as his own beautiful playing and his vivid glimpse of the orchestra seen from within.

Later in the same day came Miss Joan Welsford, from the English Folk Song and Dance Society, who gave us a delightful lecture on English folk music, linking it with folklore in general. She concluded by singing a charming song which she had collected from Essex. Miss Welsford, an ex-Guider and Commissioner, is keenly alive to the musical opportunities which Guiding can give. She has helped with music training and hopes to be able to do more in the future.

Our last guest artists were Miss Betty Andreae and Miss Nora Huxley, who held us spellbound on Sunday afternoon while with effortless simplicity they gave us an enchanting programme of European folk-songs. Miss Huxley explained, annotated, and opened up the meaning of the songs and then accompanied Miss Andreae as she not only sang but lived them, in voice and mood—a lovely performance.

I have left till the end what was perhaps the most outstanding feature of the conference. This was our campfire session, shared by the Scouts. The Boy Scouts Association co-operated most willingly in the idea, and through Mr. Charles Wood, their Relations Secretary, they sent eighteen delegates to join us, including their own recently appointed Music Adviser, Mr. Regan.

Mr. Genese and Mr. Sweet led the Scout contributions, and we explored the possibilities of combined 'straight' singing, as well as the delights of yells and action songs. The Guiders present all realised more fully than ever before the enrichment given by men's voices to campfire songs. We had the advantage of some fine baritones on this occasion, but at any time the rhythmic vigour of boys' singing can be of immense value, even when their tone is somewhat hoarse or erratic. All depends on the choice of songs. The majority included in this programme were taken from the Hackney Scout Song Book which provides a fine collection of the type of chorus songs which boys can sing without self-consciousness, even in mixed company.

We were much encouraged by the interest and support of the Scouts and we hope they enjoyed the evening as much as we did. Both Scouts and Guiders have a lot to learn from each other's campfire traditions, and this is but a beginning.

There is not much to report of our discussions. We compared notes on the organising and adjudicating of music festivals, and we outlined a possible revision of some of the music badges.

The main strength of the conference was in its representative character. There were over fifty people present from a wide area, including Lancashire, Cornwall and Northern Ireland. We all felt a sense of co-operation and mutual support in the happy task of music making in the Guide Movement, and more than ever before we were conscious of the strong momentum behind all efforts to promote good songs and better singing.

MARY CHATER

Empire Week at Netherurd

THE Empire Week Conference is already a pleasant memory of crowded, happy days when County Empire Representatives and Guiders from overseas met at Netherurd. It was a week during which we listened to stories of Guiding from far away lands; heard of the courage and determination in which some of the problems of Guiding in places like Malaya are faced and overcome; when we exchanged news and ideas and found fresh inspiration and vigour. The beautiful surroundings of Netherurd and the charm and sincerity of our hostesses will long be remembered.

Lady Cooper, Commissioner for Guiding Overseas, opened the conference by a talk on the progress of the movement throughout the Empire. She emphasised the need for elasticity, and the ability to adapt, taking into consideration local conditions, social customs and the needs of the people Guiding was to serve. Lady Cooper also paid tribute to the untiring efforts of Guiders, to missionaries, the Education Departments, the Colonial Office and the British Council, all of whom were such good friends of the Guide Movement.

Attending the conference were Guiders and Commissioners from Australia, New Zealand, Malaya, South Africa, Bechuanaland, Sierra Leone, British Guiana and Newfoundland. All gave vivid and interesting accounts of the life of the peoples among whom they lived and how Guiding fitted into the pattern. Professor Pares, of Edinburgh University, spoke on 'The Growth of the British Empire', viewed from the historian's angle. The Rev. G. M. Dryburgh conducted a service and gave a forthright address on the text: 'Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone'. Later, Mr. Dryburgh spoke on Christianity and Communism.

Dr. Greenleas gave us a delightful talk on 'The Task of Youth in the Empire'. Miss Martin, L.H.Q. Commissioner for Training, spent a day with us and took a most interesting

session, and Miss Lander, Scottish Headquarters Commissioner for Training, showed us how important it is for work, training and play to move with the times. Of the questions Miss Lander gave us to consider and answer, two were:—

1. What (if anything) is wrong with the Guide Movement today?

2. What are the worst evils of the present times?

The findings of the group who took the first question were: (a) Guiding has become dull; (b) the average Guider is too elderly; (c) owing to the shortage of Guiders, there is a tendency to accept the services of people unsuited to the work, with the consequent lowering of standards; (d) too close adherence to P.O.R.; (e) lack of leisure.

The findings on the second were: (a) the complete spiritual indifference that prevails today; (b) lack of discipline in the home; (c) lowering of moral standards brought about by controls; (d) the lack of incentive and pride in craftsmanship; (e) the desire for material welfare and the pursuit of pleasure; (f) urbanisation of the world.

Lady Stratheden gave an interesting account of Guiding for the British children in Germany, and these sessions were interspersed with practical Guiding given an Empire flavour.

One beautiful sunny day we were taken for a motor tour through the Border Country to Melrose and Dryburgh Abbeys, Abbotsford and to a mill to see tweed in the making. One evening a team of experts from Edinburgh gave a delightful demonstration of Scottish Country Dancing.

The conference drew to a close. In listening to stories of Guiding from distant parts of the Empire we learned again the importance of the child, wherever she may be, whatever her race, colour or creed, who looks to us for leadership, inspired by love, courage, gaiety and faith.

ELIZABETH JENKINS

Scottish L.A. Members Confer

AT a time when more and more centralisation and statutory control is being imposed upon us as a nation, we do here represent the triumph of a voluntary spirit—we are all in this thing, free, unfettered, for fun and, I hope, for always. With this claim for our movement Mrs. Stewart, Scottish Chief Commissioner, welcomed the delegates from Orkney to the Borders to the first Local Association Conference held in Scotland. It was fitting on such an historic occasion that the Chief Guide should be present, and Mrs. Stewart spoke of the effect of her magnetic personality upon the children, and how greatly privileged the Guiders are to have her as Encourager, Inspirer, Friend, and a direct living link with our Founder.

With the arrival of the Lady Provost, Miss Rodney Murray, and guests from the Churches, Local Authorities, Scottish Education Department, and many kindred societies, including a strong representation of Boy Scouts, the audience numbered over seven hundred. The Lady Provost paid tribute to the movement by saying: 'Wherever in the world the free development of the individual is valued, there you will find a Boy Scout and a Girl Guide.'

The Chief Guide in her own inimitable way had a heart to heart talk with the Local Association members on the tremendous importance of their position in the Guide Association, and compared them to a strong, sound, well-supported bridge between the lay side and the active uniformed side of the movement. Guiding, she said, is a natural simple thing that comes from the hearts of the children themselves, and as long as a child is a child, so long will Scouting and Guiding go on giving its magical touch, bringing its far-reaching Christian influence into the lives of all those youngsters who come to play this happy game together. Briefly she spoke of her visits to other countries, of how Guiding and Scouting,

suppressed in the occupied countries, had sprung to life at the moment of release, more enthusiastic than ever, how millions of people in all countries are being influenced by its spirit, how we are giving our quality of goodness of thought and kindness and of understanding between peoples for a bigger mission, a bigger fulfilment—the crowning glory of our movement. Every time a Brownie does something to be friendly and helpful, every time a Guide makes her Promise to do her duty to God and her country, every time any one of us tries to throw out a kindly thought of goodwill, then we are setting in the balance something good against the balance which is so heavily weighted today with evil and unkindness. She challenged the delegates to make Guiding an even greater thing for the children of Scotland, to help them to live fuller and richer and happier lives while they are on earth where God gave them this life to give to Him.

Lord Glentanar, Boy Scouts Chief Commissioner for Scotland, spoke of the Chief Guide's unstinted devotion to the movement, and thanked her, not only for her wonderful address, but also for her whole visit to Scotland.

Miss Hartley spoke of her experiences in Germany as a leader of a Guide International Training Team, and as Guide Adviser to the Educational Branch of the Control Commission. She painted a word picture of conditions in Germany at the present time and spoke of the effect on Displaced Persons of 'Scout Magic' and its remarkable rehabilitation powers.

Then came a pageant of Scottish women, written and produced by two Edinburgh Guiders and portrayed by Edinburgh Guiders, showing how the qualities of courage, loyalty, kindness and endurance, had come down through the ages and were still alive in the world today.

Notes of the Month

The 1st Buckingham Palace Company

Royal Guides, by V. M. Synge, published by the Girl Guides Association at 5s., gives a delightful and intimate account of the 1st Buckingham Palace Company in which Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret were first Guides and then patrol leaders. Written in the lively style of the Imperial Commissioner for Guides (who was also Captain of the company), the book gives a behind-the-scenes story of the company's life and doings. It is a good story because it is always fascinating when truth turns out to be so like what fancy and imagination picture it. The picture that emerges of the Royal Family and of the company is just that—though perhaps his loyal subjects would hardly have imagined that the King and the Queen would have taken such a lively interest in the doings of the company, nor that the King would be able to catch Captain 'napping' in a stalking game!

Well illustrated, with photographs and facsimile reproductions of letters from the Princesses as well as the Chief Scout and Chief Guide, it is a book that will be seized on by all members of the movement, provides a perfect present for parents and members of L.A.s, and an answer to anyone who 'has no use for Guiding'. Behind the fun and the high spirits emerges the true purpose of Guiding—the growth of character, enrichment of personality and the desire to serve.

A Flying Visit

Mrs. Swift Newton, the new Chairman of the World Committee, recently paid a flying visit to the World Bureau. She came over for the purpose, as she herself put it, of 'tidying up various loose ends' and, with true American efficiency, she accomplished a prodigious amount of work in the week she was in London. It seemed like a miracle that no less than three European World Committee members were able to come to London at the shortest possible notice to meet their Chairman, namely, Madame Cornil (Belgium, Vice-Chairman), Mlle. Beley (France), Mrs. Peerboom-Kikkert (Netherlands); and Miss Synge and Miss Tennant were also available. The Executive Committee happened to be meeting on November 10th and had the privilege of giving luncheon at I.H.Q. to Mrs. Swift Newton. Everybody who met this distinguished member of the World Movement was impressed with her ability and charmed by her personality, and we look forward eagerly to her next visit.

Girl Scout Invitations

Many Girl Scout Camps in the United States are interested in having Guiders from other countries on their staffs for all, or part, of their summer camping season. Girl Scout Counsellors (staff members) must be at least eighteen years old and must have experience and, where applicable, some definite qualification, e.g., in campcraft, quartermastering, first aid, secretarial work, administration, handicraft, swimming, music, drama. The positions are salaried, the actual salary depending upon the age, experience and qualifications of the applicant. The camps vary in length from two to eight weeks and a suitable applicant

should have little difficulty in securing eight weeks' employment if desired. The invitation was intended for those who plan to be in the United States next summer, and who could apply personally, through National Headquarters. It has been arranged that applications from any who might wish to make the journey specially will be considered, if exceptional testimonials are available. Currency facilities will not be granted for this purpose and applicants would be dependent upon their own earnings in the States. The cost of a tourist sea passage in 1948 was £82 return. Any interested Guider or Commissioner should apply, in the first instance, to the International Department, I.H.Q.

(even if already in the U.S.A.), with the following information: Age, education, qualifications, the fullest particulars of experience as a camper—in and outside Guiding. The application should be accompanied by recommendations from the appropriate Commissioner and Camp Advisor. Closing date will be notified later but early applications will naturally receive priority.

Pax Hill

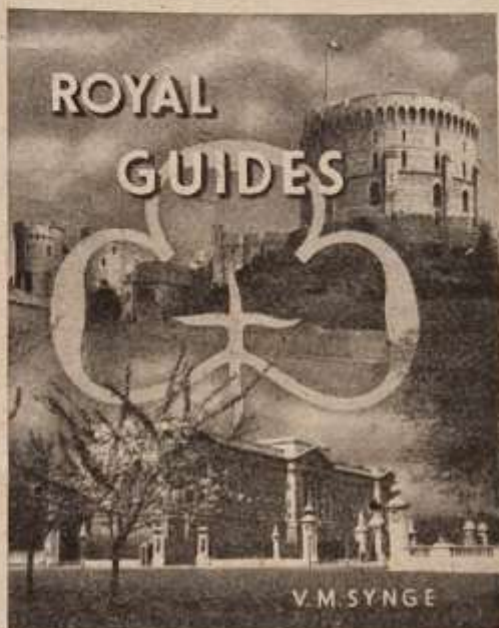
During next summer Pax will again be free for weekend bookings by Counties, Divisions or Districts for ordinary Guiders' training (not homecraft). The house holds twenty-two which includes five single rooms. The fees are the same as for Foxlease and Waddow, and about the same amount of chores are expected from Guiders. There is a half-hourly train service (taking just over an hour) from Waterloo and a coach service. June and July are the months that the house will be free. Why not take this opportunity of getting together in the Chiefs' old home? You will not regret it. Applications should go through the Imperial Training Department, I.H.Q., as early as possible.

The Trefoil School

In a speech launching the appeal for the Trefoil School's Building Fund, Lord Clydesmuir, the former Secretary of State for Scotland, recalled the Government's indebtedness to the Girl Guide Movement during the evacuation period. He also paid tribute to the work of Indian Guiders which he had seen while Governor of Bombay. It will be of interest to friends of the Trefoil School to know that this fund has now been opened to purchase and adapt their permanent home. The Committee of the School are determined that no appeal for money should be made to the Guiders who already support and encourage the School by their interest, by generous gifts and in the most important way of all by providing the staff. But it is felt that Guiders will be appreciative of the development of the work and, when occasion arises, will make it known to their friends outside the movement.

Nature's Year

On page 257 you will find the first of a series of articles by Miss Margaret Hutchinson, specially written to help Guiders to interest Rangers, Guides and Brownies in nature all the year round. This month Miss Hutchinson, author, by the way of *Children as Naturalists* (Allen and Unwin, 7s. 6d.), gives suggestions for January programmes. Next month she will 'look forward' to February, and so on.



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DENT

*Blue Tapestry** (The Story of the W.R.N.S.), by Dame Vera Laughton Mathews, D.B.E. (Hollis and Carter, 15s.) Dame Vera's handling of the background, her conception of light and shape, and her drawing of the various figures in the tapestry prove her to be a true craftsman who has created a vivid picture of the life and work of the Women's Royal Naval Service. The whole has the individual touch of the artist Dame Vera. Undoubtedly is. The reader also gains an arresting impression of the 'threads' creating Dame Vera's own philosophy of life—whether they be her childhood's family motto 'fun without funds', journalism and social work, service in the W.R.N.S. in World War I, marriage and travel abroad.

This book will be of particular interest to members of the Guide Movement. The writer tells much of her experiences in Guiding, particularly the Sea Ranger Branch which she helped to create. The following extract from the chapter on Guiding sums up her views of our movement and that of the Scouts: 'The Girl Guide and Boy Scout movements are the product of a mind of genius, and seem always to me to possess something at the core which most other youth movements have not. The movement is essentially a voluntary one; it depends not on getting but on giving; the policy of training by the children themselves develops leadership to an amazing degree and initiative and self control; it has a spiritual basis without which any project will crumble to dust and ashes, and it has a wide international organisation which seeks to spread ideals of brotherly love and of the joy of the open air and simple living among the youth of all races'.

Blue Tapestry is more than a history—it is a picture which will give several hours of recreative reading and leave a lasting impression on the mind. J.F.

*Rising Twenty**, by Pearl Jephcott (Faber, 8s. 6d.). As a sequel to *Girls Growing Up* Miss Jephcott now studies the private lives of a hundred and three ordinary girls from fourteen to eighteen. It is depressing reading, but anyone interested in youth work should most certainly face it. The impression gained is that by the time they are fourteen it is too late to gain any hold on the girls described where only a tiny fraction had sustained an interest in anything beyond the search for a husband in dance hall, ice rink or cinema but not in any youth organisation. But in the last chapter Miss Jephcott does point out that if demands are made on these girls while still young, demands which prove to them that their share in a youth organisation is a real and valuable one, they are hopeful weapons for helping them to fight their own weaknesses. There is certainly a challenge here that no Guide Guider can afford to miss. And even when the main emphasis is depressing there are encouraging traits that we know are there—the unquestioning generosity and the very real love of home which makes these girls willingly give up much of their time and money to help in overworked and seemingly dreary surroundings. J.M.N.

*Everyman's Carols**, edited by Dr. Desmond McMahon (University of London Press, paper covers 2s. 6d., board 4s. 6d.). A useful collection of popular carols and hymns for Christmas and other seasons. Here are 'Holy Night' and 'Away in a Manger', as well as many traditional carols of which No. 16 is an unfamiliar gem. There are, unfortunately, 'new' tunes to 'O little town' and 'See amid . . .', probably owing to copyright difficulties, and some of the accompaniments and descants sound rather far fetched, but the melodies and tunes are here and will be a boon to all those who want to find their music under one cover. M.C.C.

music under one cover.

*Over the Hills with Nomad**, by Norman Ellison (University of London Press, 7s. 6d.). In this new book by Norman Ellison (Nomad of the B.B.C.) a wealth of natural history, charmingly told, is blended with accounts of a visit to the remains of a Roman fort, of shrimping and fishing, and adventures with boats and a lighthouse. The descriptions of seabirds are particularly good, and portray vividly the clamour at breeding colonies of gulls and terns. All Nomad's talks, whether on the hill fox, caterpillars, or plants betoken the work of a keen field observer. Numerous illustrations by C. F. Tunnicliffe add to the value of this book, recommended to Guides for widening outdoor interests. P.D.H.

Western Lakeland, by Roland

Rambles and Scrambles in Western Lakeland, by Roland Taylor (Frederick Warne, 6s.). Primarily a guide to the western portion of Lakeland this book gives detailed directions for many walks and climbs and a real appreciation of this part of England. It serves both the valley and the fell walker. There are

* At present available

*Lives that Moved the World**, by Horace Shipp (Evans, 5s.). Here are the lives of Marie and Pierre Curie, Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, William Morris and others. More useful material for campfire stories, though for Guides the stories would have to be given more colour and life before retelling.

*Mary Plain Home Again** (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 5s.). The 'Mary' books by Gwynedd Rae are so well known that another story about this unusual first-class bear from the bear pits at Berne needs no introduction to Guiders with young nephews and nieces. There are all the usual 'Mary' situations after her return from Somewhere.

*David and Jean**, by Dorothy Hafln (A. R. Mowbray, 3s. 6d.). Primarily written for Wolf Cubs, Brownies will also enjoy this book. Into a story of family life the author has woven useful instruction about the catechism.

In *Six Cousins at Mistletoe Farm** (Evans, 7s. 6d.) Enid Blyton has written an absorbing story of farm life for the tens to twelves. Incidentally, how the town and country children rub each other's corners off and the atmosphere of normal family life raise this story book above the usual ones for this age group.

*Pow-Wow Stories**, by Freda Collins (University of London Press, 6s. 6d.). This collection of stories is more suitable for Brownies to read to themselves than to be told to the pack in Pow-wow. All the stories have a Brownie flavour. One section of the book deals with the Golden Bar test and from these tales the Brownies can learn something about the various sections of the test. While the stories on health are too fanciful for use when teaching this subject in the pack meeting, they would, when read by the Brownies, remind them of lessons in tidiness and cleanliness. Another section of the book contains stories about the six rhymes, and here can be read the adventures of gnomes, fairies, leprechauns and kelpies. The book is delightfully illustrated by Helen Jacobs.

*Group Play-Making**, by Mary Kelly (Harrap, 6s.). Miss Kelly, the founder of the Village Drama Society that was virtually the beginning of the revival of drama in this country, has spent her life encouraging people to act, whether in a printed play or when making up their own plot and dialogue as they go along. In this book, which readers will recognise as sister to the excellent *How To Make A Pageant*, she describes the method by which she takes a group of village people and somehow turns them into a successful play-producing (in the fullest sense of that word) company—and at the same time makes it all great fun. The Guider who loves acting, is a believer in it as a means of developing her Guides, and who wishes at all costs to avoid the mass-produced gestures and movements of big classes when the children imitate each other by way of self-expression, would do well to get this book. It is for grown-ups, but she will find much in it to help her. Miss Kelly is an experimentalist by temperament, she has a great sense of humour, and a warm welcome for melodrama—innocuous, what she calls 'cuppertea', plays for her ('cheap plays' which the village still acts—because there is no fee to pay'). She has had very remarkable results in her teaching of home-made dramatics. We may not have any of her many gifts and we can't get down to Devonshire to see how she does it, but we can get this book and study it. So many of us try to write plays nowadays and it is full of the very essence of play-making. K.S.

The Phasian Bird, by Henry Williamson (Faber and Faber, 10s. 6d.). This story of a hybrid pheasant, written with all the imagination and observation apparent in *Tarka the Otter* and *Salar the Salmon*, is set in Norfolk against a background of change in English farming during the years 1937-1944; from the use of the single-furrow horse drawn plough during the depression to a period of mechanisation, followed by the tragic years of the war. The book will be widely read, and evoke much discussion among those interested in farming and the countryside. To the general reader the appeal will lie in the beauty of the descriptions in the opening chapters—horse ploughing, spring sowing, mowing of hayfields and the harvest—and for the insight into the lives of the pheasant, the partridge and the lapwing, the moorhen and poaching cat, and Harra the Denchmen—the hoodo crow.

P.H.D.

* At present available at Headquarters Bookshop.

Headquarters Notices

Meeting of the Committee of the Council held on November 10th, 1948

Present: Mrs. Davies-Cooke (Chairman), Finola, Lady Somers, The Lady Baden-Powell, G.B.E., The Lady Burnham, J.P., The Hon. Lady Cochrane, Lady Cooper, Sir Percy Everett, Mrs. Reith Gray, Lady Goodenough, J.P., Mrs. T. W. Harley, J.P., Miss I. H. Kay, J.P., Mrs. H. S. Mair, M.A., Miss M. L. Martin, Miss McSwiney, Miss Powell, Mrs. Powell-Edwards.

By Invitation: The Countess of Clarendon, The Hon. Mrs. Geoffrey Gibbs, J.P., Mrs. Swift Newton (Chairman, World Committee), Mr. Neville (Boy Scouts Association).

Apologies: The Lady Oaksey, O.B.E., J.P., Mrs. Douglas of Mains, Mrs. J. W. Haughton, O.B.E., Dame Vera Loughton-Mathews, D.B.E., Mrs. Stewart of Murdestoun.

In Attendance: Miss J. Frith, O.B.E., Miss M. White, M.B.E. The Chairman and members of the Committee most warmly welcomed Mrs. Swift Newton, Chairman of the World Committee, who was paying a flying visit to England.

The Chairman reported on a meeting with the King George's Jubilee Trust which had been called to discuss *The Outlook for Youth Work*, by Mr. L. J. Barnes.

The General Secretary reported on the result of her meeting with representatives of the Board of Trade to discuss the distribution of the allocation of clothing coupons, and it was agreed that the various points arising should be referred to the forthcoming County Commissioners' Conferences for discussion.

A letter from His Eminence The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster was read nominating Dame Vera Loughton-Mathews as Chairman of the Catholic Guide Advisory Council. This appointment was welcomed by the Committee.

A letter was received from the Chairman of the World Committee requesting that the dates for the World Conference to be held in 1950 might be considered. Various ideas were discussed, and it was agreed that steps should be taken to find suitable accommodation as soon as possible.

It was reported that the sum of £750 had been received from The Lord Mayor's United Nations Appeal Fund for Children, £500 of which was to be spent on camp equipment and £250 towards helping poorer children to go to camp.

Lady Somers reported that Her Majesty the Queen had graciously consented to allow her Crown and Coat of Arms and a message to appear on the Queen's Guide Award Certificate. The Committee expressed its deep gratitude for this privilege.

The question of the premium for the Personal Accident and Illness Insurance in relation to the New Finance Scheme was discussed and it was proposed by Mrs. Harley and seconded by Lady Burnham, that Imperial Headquarters Funds should pay the premium due in 1949, and that the matter should be re-considered before the policy expired in 1950. It was further agreed that under this arrangement the cover taken out by the Association would have to be comprehensive to include all members of the movement.

A letter written to the Editor of THE GUIDER by Miss S. Terry, of the 7th South Deptford Guide Company, was read, suggesting the staging of a production on the lines of 'Boy Scout'. It was agreed that this idea should be further explored and it was suggested that 1951, the 40th birthday of Guiding, might be an appropriate year for such a project.

It was agreed in the interests of economy that a new Commissioners' Register should not be printed for 1949.

Reference was made to the fact that the wearing of Commissioners' lapel badges was not fully known. These had been produced in response to the questionnaire circulated to the movement in 1946 and should be worn by Commissioners in uniform as a means of identification.

The minutes of the World Committee, which met in Coopers-town, New York, on August 9th-12th, were considered in detail.

Appointments:

Commissioner for Rangers, I.H.Q., The Lady Merthyr, on January 24th, 1949.

Commissioner for Guides, I.H.Q., Miss G. Clayton, on December 1st, 1948.

Commissioner for Extensions, I.H.Q., Mrs. Duncan, on November 2nd, 1948.

Resignations:

Commissioner for Guides, I.H.Q., Miss V. M. Synge.

Commissioner for Extensions, I.H.Q., Mrs. Kenneth Nichols.

AWARDS

Life Saving

Silver Cross. Patrol Leader Cecily Booth, age 15, 24th Rotherham (Mexborough) Company, Yorkshire, West Riding South.

Cecily was bathing in the sea with her mother when she noticed that a Mr. Dutton was having difficulties in manoeuvring a canoe, then about fifty yards from the shore. The canoe overturned before Cecily reached Mr. Dutton, who then lost consciousness. She turned him on to his back and started swimming with him towards the shore but, owing to the wind, could make little progress. Three young men had meanwhile launched a boat to go to her assistance, but in their haste started off with oars but no rowlocks so that they could not keep the boat under proper control. When they were within ten yards of Cecily they dived into the sea and managed to get both her and Mr. Dutton (who recovered consciousness after artificial respiration) into the boat. By this time help had been obtained from an R.A.F. rescue launch, which eventually towed the rowing boat 6½ miles back to Bridlington.

Silver Cross. Patrol Leader Angela Butlin, age 14, 1st Southend Company, Essex.

By her prompt action Angela was able to rescue a boy of seventeen from drowning in the Thames Estuary. In the part of the estuary known as the Creek, one can walk along the mud flats when the tide is low, but they fill rapidly as the tide rises, and the water increases to a depth of ten feet in an hour. Angela was out with Donald Siddaway and his father, when Donald, who cannot swim, suddenly disappeared from view. His father, who can only swim a few strokes, went in after him, but also sank, as he was clutched by the boy. Angela dived in fully dressed, got hold of Donald and swam with him to the side. Both Donald and his father would have lost their lives but for Angela's help.

Fortitude

Badge of Fortitude. Ranger Ejulieri Adeke, Ongina Colony Company, Uganda.

Ejulieri has been a great sufferer with a badly diseased foot due to leprosy for many years. She recently consented to have it amputated with only a local anaesthetic and was extremely brave during the operation and after. She has been a Guide and a Ranger for some years and now takes the lead in the company and is always ready to give a hand when it is needed.

Good Service

Silver Fish. Mrs. Fairbairn, Chief Commissioner, Australia. Miss Herrick, Chief Commissioner, New Zealand.

Beaver. Mrs. Ross, Assistant State Commissioner, Western Australia. Miss A. V. Spilman, C.C.A., Lincolnshire.

Medal of Merit. Miss Mary Gibbons, Assistant County Commissioner, Lincolnshire. Miss Jackson, former Captain, 1st Atbara Company, Sudan.

Certificate of Merit. Mrs. Burgess, 1st Miranda Pack, Bermuda. Miss Joan Gibbons, Assistant County Secretary, Lincolnshire.

CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE

Miss Mary Merry, on October 30th in her sleep. Captain and Brown Owl, 7th St. Leonards (St. Matthew's Church) Rangers, Guides and Brownies. Twenty-three years a Guider.

COMING EVENTS

The Empire Circle Christmas Party will be held at Imperial Headquarters on Thursday, December 9th, at 6.30 p.m. Invitations will be sent to all members.

GENERAL NOTICES

Interpreter for International Commissioners' Meeting: The Netherlands joint Committee has offered a free place to a British interpreter at the meeting of International Commissioners to be held there from April 20th-27th, 1949; the offer includes a free excursion and a week's hospitality after the gathering. The fare from London to Hook is £9 9s., second class return. Enquiries should be sent to the International Department, I.H.Q. stating age, qualifications, and experience both as a linguist and as a Guider or Commissioner, and enclosing a Commissioner's recommendation and an outline of interests and activities outside Guiding. Closing date: January 10th.



*Good to drink
Easy to make*

OXO is marvellous for a quick hot drink or tasty soup, and a fine standby for all camp cookery. It puts the goodness and flavour of BEEF into your meals.



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"WHICH FOODS DO WHAT?" — No. 2



Helping out the helpings

It smells good, it tastes good — we don't pretend to be able to teach your camp cook anything about making a stew! But you will be interested in knowing why her stew is good for you. Here's the "gen." The stew is made with meat and some beans. These are examples of first-class and second-class body-building foods, and it's worth while finding out how and why to combine them. You never know when a little extra knowledge may come in useful!

How should you use the First-class builders?

Take a look at the list of body-building foods below. The first-class ones are most important, and everyone should try to get one or other of them into the three main meals of the day. This is because the system gets the best out of them when they are eaten little and often. A hearty portion one day and a skimpy one the next doesn't do so much good.

How should the Second-class builders be used?

They should be combined with, or served with, a first-class builder, to help spread the important first-class builders evenly throughout the week. It is important that they should be teamed together at the same meal.

How can they be combined?

There is nothing complicated to work out. Just think of ordinary things like milk with porridge, bacon with beans, cheese in the macaroni-cheese, meat and beans or peas in a stew. In a difficulty, use a little first-class builder, help it out with the other kind and you won't go short of good nourishment.

The body-building foods

1st Class MEAT of all kinds, tinned or fresh, FISH, tinned or fresh, MILK, dried or fresh, CHEESE, EGGS, shell or dried.

2nd Class BEANS, PEAS, LENTILS, FLOUR AND BREAD, OATS, SOYA. Don't use these alone for main meals, but at the same meal with any of the 1st Class list.

Cut this out and keep it with the others in the series.



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IN THE
NIGHT'!

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of every stitch
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WOOLS**



ANLABY (L) GUARANTEED HOSIERY & WOOLS

Christmas or Xmas?

(Continued from page 249)

lovely at seventy that at seven, for with the years comes a deeper realisation of what it meant 'when as all the world was in profoundest quietness, and night was in the midst of her swift course, Thine almighty Word, O Lord, leaped down from heaven out of Thy royal throne'.

At the heart of Christmas is worship, adoration, mystery, majesty and awe—it is a poor service to children to give them nothing but a semi-pagan Xmas. It may be that to some Guides and Brownies Christmas will mean nothing more than a holiday with presents and nice things to eat, unless, through the company or pack, they find a deeper meaning. A friend told me the other day of the children of educated parents who were positively embarrassed by finding the symbol of Christmas, a small crib, in her home, so foreign was it to all their ideas. Yet how perfectly children can enter into the real spirit of Christmas. Those who saw the Pax Nativity Play last year testify to that. Nativity plays and tableaux are surely one of the very best ways to portray the Christmas story—pictures are sometimes sentimental, but the Bible, presented as drama with simplicity and sincerity, clothed beautifully and matched with some of our lovely heritage of carols, cannot fail in its appeal.

Carols come nearer to expressing the real heart of Christmas than almost anything else. Was not the origin of the carol in joyous dancing? Our forefathers, with true instinct, tried to portray in action Christian joy. 'Rejoice we all, and praise the Lord, celebrating a holy day'.

In art the joy of Christmas is nowhere better expressed than in Botticelli's Nativity. There, surrounding the Holy Family, are kneeling, adoring shepherds, led to the heavenly Child by Angels. As if to emphasise the nearness of heaven to earth, the constant presence of the invisible, made visible in that moment of time, Botticelli places in the foreground of his picture the arrival in paradise of three newly come from earth, welcomed and embraced by angels—whilst high over all, in a rhythmic dance, golden and joyous, swing great angels with crowns and olive branches, emblems of peace.

And so let us sing our carols, recreate the story of Christ's nativity, give each other presents, 'use hospitality', have parties, fun and games, but all in honour of Christmas. Rejoice we all, and praise the Lord, celebrating this lovely, holy day. And let us kneel and worship with a great joy in our hearts, for the unsearchable God has revealed Himself, the Unknowable has made Himself known. No longer is life a hopeless mystery, no longer are we wandering in the dark, for Christ, our light, hath appeared. 'And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth'.

ANGELA THOMPSON

THE GUIDER

When supplies of THE GUIDER were limited during the war and after, many Guiders shared copies with a friend. Readers will like to know that it is now possible to supply all subscribers with a separate copy. If copies are obtained direct from Headquarters readers are asked to send in their name and address and 7s. for an annual subscription. If there is any difficulty in obtaining a copy from a newsagent the Business Manager of THE GUIDER will be glad to take the matter up if his name and address is forwarded to her.

The Lone and Post Bureau. The Lone Correspondence Training Course, 1946-1947, is now to be borrowed (in sections) for 1s. 6d. inclusive. The packets of surplus pages for Lone or Post Guiders' use can now be had for 4d., postage included. Hiring fee for other material is still 6d. per month of hiring, but the outgoing postage is now paid by the Bureau, the Guider paying the return only. All correspondence should be addressed to: The Hon. Secretary, Miss T. Devitt, St. Just, Northaw, Potters Bar, Middlesex.

The Guider's Post Bag

The views expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the Association. Letters cannot be accepted for publication unless they bear the writer's name and address.

A Christmas Ceremony

I wondered if other readers would like to know about a Christmas Tree ceremonial in Switzerland? Everybody wears thick boots and warm coats, for there is a very cold, clear night. The night before it starts with snowing and the earth is covered with a thin white carpet of snow. Marching down to the woods, the Guides are laughing and chattering. But as soon as they enter into the forest they become quiet, and in the complete silence of the night you can hear the cracking of the frozen snow. Along the narrow path, glowing in the darkness, there are small candles leading to the Christmas tree, which suddenly appears between the trees, creating a bright and warm atmosphere. Standing around the tree, the Guides listen to the holy Christmas story read by one of the Guiders. After a short silence, they sing all together the very old and melodious Christmas hymns. Now each Guider comes to light her own candle at the Christmas tree, goes back to her company and gives the light to her Guides. Silently as they came—but full of joy and thankfulness—the Guides march back through the forest, carrying carefully their Christmas light, not only in their hands but also in their hearts to bring it to people who need it.

ELIZABETH GURTNER

The Empire Conference

During my thirty-three years of Guiding I have always had one wish—to attend an Empire gathering at one of the training centres in Great Britain. At last my wish has been granted and I was present at Netherurd for the Empire Training Week in 1948. It was even better than I had ever imagined that it could be. We were like a very happy Guide Company under the guidance of Lady Cooper, Lady Monroe, Mrs. Stewart and last but not least, Miss Shanks. Empire members in turn gave most interesting talks on life and Guiding in the country they lived in and the part that Guiding should play in the Empire. The sermon on Sunday and the talks and discussions all had one thread running through them, that of setting an example ourselves and of training our Guides to be upright, with a true sense of their moral obligations and of spiritual values, since no nation can be strong except in the strength of God.

R. BARTLETT

[Commissioner for Equipment, Western Australia]

Where to Stay in Switzerland

I'm going to Switzerland—where can I stay? How often one has heard this phrase during the past year, and it was one which was asked by myself and my Flight in January last when we finally decided to make a trip to Interlaken for our summer holiday. I mentioned the matter to our Secretary of the International Department at I.H.Q. and she at once recommended that I write to Miss Boss, Hotel Alpenrose, Interlaken.

We spent a most happy fortnight at the 'Alpenrose' and my Flight have already decided that they will return again, but have stipulated that 'Miss Boss must be there'. I feel that perhaps our experience may assist other Guiders in deciding on a hotel where they know that members of the Guide Movement will receive the very best attention at a special party rate.

D. E. INGRAM

(Captain, No. 1 Streatham Air Ranger Flight)

Development Fund

Further gifts since October 10th, 1948

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
England	2,507	18	3			
Scotland	139	6	0			
Wales	224	0	0			
	2,871	4	3	2,871	4	3
Total up to October 10th				46,492	4	9
Grand total up to November 12th				£49,363	9	0



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Dick Barton

SAYS

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this way..."*



"On the radio I lead a life of thrills—Dick Barton is always ready to risk death if necessary. But to take risks in traffic isn't necessary at all—it's just *stupid*. Here's the proper way to cross the road:

- 1 At the kerb—HALT.
- 2 Eyes—RIGHT.
- 3 Eyes—LEFT.
- 4 Glance again—RIGHT.
- 5 If all clear—QUICK MARCH.

"Don't run—there's no hurry if you keep cool and wait for a proper gap in the traffic.

"There's nothing brave about rushing out in front of a car and causing an accident. For one thing, other people may get killed besides yourself. Detectives perform plenty of brave actions, but they're *never* careless in traffic. If you can keep cool, and calm, and alert—you'll be a good Road Navigator. And the first thing is, to do your Kerb Drill at every crossing."

Issued by the Ministry of Transport

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Are you fixed up for Christmas, if not, why not join the House Party at Balmer Lawn House, Brockenhurst. Shared and double rooms available. Apply—Miss Sandy, Balmer Lawn House, Brockenhurst, Hants. Phone: Brockenhurst 3108.

THE GUIDER

Place your order for 1949 now

Twelve months subscription post free from Headquarters 7/- or order from your Newsagent
If he has any difficulty in getting supplies send your name and address with that of the newsagent to:—Business Manager, I.H.Q., 17/19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1

Where to Train

Note.—Applications for all trainings should be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope and a deposit of 5s., which will be refunded if notice of withdrawal is given two full weeks before the training is due to commence. The minimum age for prospective Guiders attending all residential trainings is seventeen-and-a-half years.

FOXLEASE

December
31-Jan 4 Guide Week-end
January, 1949
7-11 N. Surrey Week-end
14-18 Brownie and Guide Week-end
21-25 Music Party
*28-1 Feb. Ranger and Guide Week-end
March
1-8 Guide Week
11-15 Guide and Brownie Week-end
18-22 Dorset County Week-end
125-29 Guide Guiders and Commissioners
April
1-8 Guide Week
All applications to the Secretary, Foxlease, Lyndhurst, Hants. (Tel. Lyndhurst 38.)
* Ranger training primarily for Land and Sea Sections.
† There will be special separate sessions for Commissioners at this training.
‡ Guiders attending this training are expected to have a thorough knowledge of Tenderfoot and Second Class test work.
§ Guide and Ranger training during week-end; Guiders welcome to stay for the rest of the week on holiday.
¶ Any Commissioners wishing to do so may bring one child under 5. Provision will be made for helping to look after the children.

WADDOW

December
30-Jan. 7 Guide and Brownie Training and New Year Party
January, 1949
14-17 Guide Week-end
21-24 Rangers (Land, Sea and Air)
28-31 N.E. Lancs. County Week-end
February
4-7 Commissioners' and Secretaries' Week-end
11-14 S.E. Lancs. W. County Week-end
18-21 Brownie Week-end
25-28 Manchester County Week-end
March
4-7 Guide and Brownie Week-end
11-14 Cadets
18-21 Campfire Week-end
25-28 N.W. Lancs. County Week-end
April
8-11 Woodcraft and First-Class Week-end
Applications to the Secretary, Waddow Hall, Clitheroe, Lancs. (Tel. Clitheroe 188). Unless otherwise stated, week-end trainings will finish on Monday afternoons, but Guiders may stay at Waddow till Tuesday morning if they wish. Applications from Guiders who cannot attend the whole of any training will be accepted for part of it provided there is not a waiting list.
* County representatives only. Applications to the Training Department, I.H.Q., and not to Waddow.
† There will be special separate sessions for Commissioners at this training.

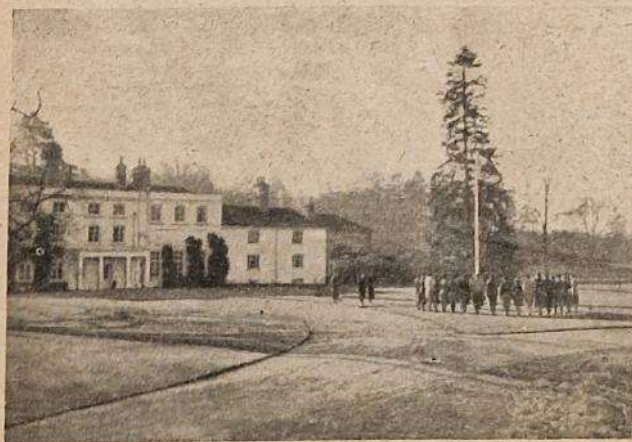
FOXLEASE AND WADDOW

FEES: (minimum, 10s.)

Single room	£3 a week, 9s. 6d. a day.
Dorble room	£2 10s. a week, 8s. a day.
Shared room	£2 a week, 7s. a day.

Bursaries.—Guiders wishing to apply for a bursary place (half fee) should get in touch, through their Commissioner, with the Chairman of their County Training Committee or, where there is no Training Committee, with the County Secretary.

Grants on Railway Fares.—Where a Guider finds difficulty in attending a training



Guiders assemble for 'Colours' during a training week at Foxlease

week at Foxlease or Waddow on account of the train fare, the following rebates may be obtained if the Commissioner applies direct to Foxlease or Waddow.

£1 towards a return fare exceeding £5
10s. towards a return fare exceeding £3
5s. towards a return fare exceeding £2

Note.—Owing to increased costs it has been agreed to raise the deposit for trainings at Foxlease and Waddow from 5s. to 7s. 6d., and this will take effect from 1st January, 1949.

S.R. TRAINING SHIP, M.T.B. 630, DARTMOUTH

Details of 1949 trainings will be published later.

PAX HILL

The 8th Homecraft Training Course is from January 18th to May 16th, 1949, and the 9th from August to December, 1949. Applications should be made to the Secretary, Homecraft Training Committee, I.H.Q.

NETHERURD (SCOTLAND)

December
3-5 Brownie Week-end
10-12 Available for County, Division or Ranger Reservation
30-Jan. 2, 1949 House Party
January, 1949
7-9 Guide Week-end
14-16 Available for County booking
21-23 Available for County booking
March
11-14 Prospective Certificated Trainers.
FEES: Shared room, £2 10s. per week, 7s. 6d. a day. A training fee of 2s. per course will be charged, and an additional fee of 2s. 6d. per course for a single room. Applications to the Secretary, Netherurd, Blyth Bridge, West Linton, Peebles-shire. Unless otherwise stated, week-end training will finish on Sunday evening, but Guiders may stay until Monday morning if they wish.

BRONEIRION (WALES)

December
7-10 Carol Party
January
6-10 Thinking Day Training
14-17 Welsh C.C.A. and C.A. Conference
Applications to the Guider-in-Charge, Broneirion, Llandinam, Montgomeryshire. Fees as for Foxlease.

LORNE (ULSTER)

December
3-5 Ranger Training
11 Annual Meeting
30-Jan. 1 Queen's Guiders
January, 1949
7-9 Cadets
14-16 Commando
21-23 Old Brigade
28-30 Co. Down
February
4-6 Co. Antrim
11-13 Camp Training
FEES: 8s. per day (garage, 1s. per night).
Lorne is beautifully situated on the shores of Belfast Lough, close to the station and golf links, and is a good centre for touring. Guiders and Rangers may book accommodation between the advertised trainings. There are two equipped camp sites. Applications to the Guider-in-Charge, Lorne, Craigavad, Co. Down.

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS

BROWNIE GUIDERS' CONFERENCE

A Conference for Brownie Guiders will be held at Waddow from April 14th to 20th. Fee £3. Owing to limited space it is only possible to accept one name from each County until after March 1st. Additional names from a County will be placed on a waiting list until after that date. Applications should be made through the County to the Secretary, Imperial Training Department.

HEADQUARTERS' CAMP SITES

BLACKLAND FARM

Applications for camp sites for 1949 at Blackland Farm can be made to the Warden, Blackland Farm, East Grinstead, Sussex. Indoor camping facilities are available all the year round. 'Restrop' is furnished for parties of ten, and unfurnished caravans can be used for sleeping accommodation in conjunction with one or two of the sites, and are suitable for small parties in late autumn or early spring.

FOXLEASE AND WADDOW

All applications for Foxlease and Waddow camp sites should be made through the home C.A. Applications should not be forwarded to Foxlease and Waddow before January 1st, and they should be addressed to the Secretary and the envelope marked 'Camp'. No site may be booked for more than one week for one company during the main camping season, to allow as many as possible to have the privilege of camping at Foxlease and Waddow. Please state in the original application the date of the camp, and approximate numbers. The camp sites at Waddow can only be booked from Saturday to Saturday or Wednesday to Wednesday.

THE GUIDER

Articles, Reports, Photographs and Drawings for insertion in 'The Guider', letters to the Editor and Books for Review should be sent 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 as to contributions, but every effort is made to ensure their safe return.

Subscriptions to be sent to the Secretary, Girl Guide Imperial Headquarters, 17-19, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

'The Guider' is sent direct from Imperial Headquarters to any part of the United Kingdom at the rate of 7d. per month (which includes postage). Annual subscription, post free, 7s. to any part of the world.

Classified Advertisements

Advertisements must be received by the 10th of the month for insertion in the next issue. Charges, 3d. per word, 1s. 3d. for box number. Advertisements for the sale of second-hand clothing cannot be accepted. (Accommodation offered has not necessarily been approved by Headquarters.)

EMPLOYMENT OFFERED

The Metropolitan Regional Hospital Boards Nursing Recruitment Centre is open Mondays to Fridays from 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Thursdays to 8 p.m.) to advise, help and offer vacancies in all grades of nursing staff. Call or write to: The Nursing Recruitment Centre, County Hall, Westminster Bridge, S.E.1.

Oxford County Association for the Blind. Applications are invited for appointment as Home Teachers for the Blind (sighted). Salary, if holding the Certificate of Home Teaching of the College of Teachers for the Blind, will be in accordance with Grade I A.P.T., i.e. £390 to £435 per annum. The Association are prepared to consider applicants who do not possess the Home Teaching Certificate, provided that they have a genuine interest in Blind Welfare Work. Uncertificated Teachers salary £240 per annum. The successful candidates would be required to pass a medical examination. Applications stating age, qualifications and experience, accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, should be forwarded to the Secretary, Miss W. M. Barker, Trege Cottage, Devoran, nr. Truro.

Redhill County Hospital, Redhill, Surrey. Student Nurses. Applications are invited from young women at least 17½ years old who are desirous of undertaking a course of three years' training in the practice and theory of Nursing. The course of general training is in accordance with the requirements of the General Nursing Council and candidates are prepared for State Examination for qualification of State Registered Nurse. Salary and conditions of service according to the Rushcliffe Report—1st year, £100; 2nd year, £110; 3rd year, £125; together with full board, lodging, laundry and uniform, plus £5 on passing preliminary State Examination. Further particulars and forms of application from Matron.

Camberwell Hospitals Management Committee. Dulwich Hospital, East Dulwich Grove, London, S.E.22; St. Giles' Hospital, St. Giles' Road, Camberwell, London, S.E.5. There are vacancies at the above hospitals for girls from the age of 17½ years as student nurses for three years' general training (plus three months in the preliminary training school); shortened periods of training for nurses holding certain certificates. Both hospitals are within 25 minutes' of Central London. Four weeks annual leave; good off-duty time. Training allowance payable during first year, £100; 2nd year, £110; 3rd year, £125; plus board and lodging valued at £100 a year, plus a single cash payment of £5 on passing preliminary State Examination. Dependents' allowances also payable in certain circumstances. Uniform provided and laundered. Reasonable travelling expenses paid to candidates. Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, Camberwell Hospitals Management Committee, Dulwich Hospital, East Dulwich Grove, S.E.22, to whom all enquiries should be addressed.

Residential Shorthand Typist interested in social work required for branch of Dr. Barnardo's Homes near London.—Write Miss Chavasse, Stepney Causeway, E.1.

Archway Group Hospital Management Committee. Student Nurses required at Archway Hospital, Archway Road, London, N.19. Salaries and conditions according to the new recommendations. Uniforms supplied. Candidates must be strong and well educated. Nurses on the supplementary part of the Register accepted for shortened period. Form of application available from the Matron.

Two Probationer Nurses, aged 16-17, for general hospital duties, making good grounding prior to taking general training at 18. Rushcliffe scheme, day off weekly, comfortable home, apply Matron, Oxted and Limsfield Cottage Hospital, Oxted, Surrey. **Training for Christian Social and Moral Welfare Work.** There are a few vacancies for January, 1949, for 1, 2 or 3 years at the Josephine Butler Memorial House, 24, Alexandra Drive, Live-pool 17. Urgent need of trained workers (women) for salaried posts. Applications should be made to the Warden. Full bursaries available if needed.

School Matron required, S.R.N. or S.R.C.N. Young and fond of young boys and country life.—Box No. 319.

Mother's Help wanted to help with a baby and cooking in small modern flat.—Apply Hamilton, 45, Four Street, S.W.1.

Matron and Assistant Matron required January term. Pentre Mawr Girls' Boarding School, Denbigh (56 boarders).—Apply The Principal.

The Boy Scouts Association. Vacancy exists in the Legal Department at I.H.Q. for a Shorthand-Typist. Applications, giving details of experience and salary required to: The General Secretary, The Boy Scouts Association, 28, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

Nanny-Help required by Professional lady. Live in. Baby 7 months. Pleasant home, Hampstead.—Box No. 324.

Cook-Housekeeper (resident) required for Lorne, Ulster Guilders' Training Centre, for the new year. Reply, giving full particulars of training, experience, age, etc., to the Secretary, Ulster Headquarters, 50, Upper Arthur Street, Belfast.

Cooks, Assistant Cooks and Domestic wanted for Women's Land Army Hostels in all parts of England and Wales. Residential posts. Salaries from £2 1s. 6d. to £3 weekly.—Apply in writing to Hostels Department, W.L.A. Headquarters, 6 Chesham Street, S.W.1.

HEADQUARTERS VACANCIES

Experienced Shorthand Typist required for the Training Department at I.H.Q. Good speeds and knowledge of office routine essential. Applications to the Secretary, Imperial Training Department, Girl Guides Association, 17-19, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

Experienced Copy-Typist required for the Sales Department.—Apply to the Equipment Secretary, Girl Guides Association, 17-19, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

ACCOMMODATION OFFERED

Westcliff-on-Sea. Ex-Guider invites you to relax in the warm comfort of Boston Hall Hotel. A seafront suntrap from January to December, specialising in good fare and willing service at moderate terms. Facilities for Guides' or Brownies' outings.

Exceptional opportunity for gentlefolk.—Accommodation offered in historic country house in lovely Somerset. Grand views, spacious grounds, every modern comfort. Warmth assured. Excellent cuisine. No staff worries.—Apply Mrs. G. I. Janson-Potts, Nynhead Court, Nynhead, Wellington, Somerset.

London.—Refined accommodation, 3, Westbourne Terrace Road, W.2. Bed and breakfast from 10s. 6d. nightly; central for places of interest. Phone Cunningham 2873.

Accommodation offered older children of educated parents who reside abroad. Small, convenient house, Yorkshire dales.—Whitworth, Wayside, Low Row, Yorks.

Come to Castle Gay for a leisurely holiday; open all the year.—Miss Ashby and Miss Rutherford, Parsonage Road, Herve Bay.

Bungalow Guest House, open all year, run by ex-Guider, two minutes sea and bus. From 4 guineas. Ideal surroundings.—Apply 'Summerhill', Banks Road, Sandbanks, Bournemouth.

Holidays between Downs and Sea.—Apply, ex-Guider, 98, Vale Avenue, Worthing.

Maternity Nursing Home, newly opened, 21, Kings Road, Richmond, has immediate and later vacancies. Moderate terms and trained staff.—Apply to Matron. Tel. Richmond 6386.

Sea Bungalow Put that club room theory into practice. Spend your annual camp about, aboard a real live ship M.L. 'Aberystwyth', 112 feet, on the lovely Oulton Broad. Numbers up to twenty-six accommodated. Pulling boats and motor boat included. Shops near at hand. Charges on application. Write to R. O. Hart, 3, Waverley Road, Lowestoft, and state your requirements. Book early to avoid disappointment. (The 'Aberystwyth' has been used by four crews during 1948, and is

recommended as suitable for Sea Ranger holidays. Boating Permits are necessary for those in charge. S. G. Clarke, Assistant Commissioner for Rangers, Sea Rangers, I.H.Q.)

Pleasant lakeland holidays at reasonable prices at the T.W.O.A. Holiday and Conference House, Iving Cottage, Ambleside. Send for brochure.

To let.—Holiday accommodation in bungalow; 3-4 adults.—Write, 369, Lagoon Road, Pagham, Sussex.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Small House to rent in Wimbledon wanted urgently by Guider working in hospital, and mother.—Box No. 322.

Site for caravan, South Bucks or Surrey, garden or orchard would be suitable.—Box No. 325.

Pleasant, comfortable home wanted for elderly ex-Guider, within easy reach of London. Two rooms preferred. Full board essential.—Box No. 323.

TREFOIL GUILD

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