

THE GUIDER

Published Monthly for Commissioners and Guiders

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'Life Goes Not Backwards'

Thoughts from the C.R.A. Conference

THERE are those who say that Guiding runs on rails—narrow rails that bound a little rut. Such critics would have been jolted a little had they been at the Conference of County Ranger Advisers held at Imperial Headquarters from January 27th to 29th.

In her speech of welcome The Lady Stratheden and Campbell, Chief Commissioner, drew on the wisdom of the East to give her hearers a salutary reminder that no generation can hope to fathom the thoughts and aspirations of a succeeding generation. She quoted the words of a Syrian poet, Gibran, writing about youth:

You may give them love but not your thoughts
For they have their own thoughts.
You may house their bodies but not their soul,
For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow
Which you cannot visit even in your dreams.
You may strive to be like them,
But seek not to make them like you.
Life goes not backwards, nor dwells with yesterday.

'If that is true of young people, and I believe it is', said the Chief Commissioner, 'it is specially true of the Ranger age. A Ranger Company has to be led from behind. You have to keep your finger on the pulse of the company, but let them tell you what they want to do. The leadership of a Ranger Guider has, therefore, to be of the highest order. It is from their Guider that Rangers will learn a great deal of what Guiding has to teach them. Things like reliability, good manners and kindness are as catching as measles'.

The speaker then went on to consider the recruitment of Rangers. 'We shall always get the girl who has found her Guide Company completely satisfying and satisfactory, and who comes to be what we might call "obviously a real Ranger"'. But the Ranger age is one for experiment and adventure and the search for experience, and I don't think we shall even get every girl who has been a Guide—and I doubt if we should want to: they must try things out for themselves in every direction.

'Then, too, there are times when it is the fashion to be in a uniformed organisation and times when it is not—and provided our Rangering is abreast of the times, and as good a training as we can make it, we should not worry overmuch about a fall in numbers. We must see to it that the Ranger Companies which we have got are absolutely first-class, so that when the times comes, as come it will, when it is the fashion to be in uniform again, we may be ready to give more girls the joy that lies in real, fine Rangering.

'If we are to do this, we must insist on a very high standard from our Ranger Guiders—not only efficiency. County Ranger Advisers—and indeed all of us—must bear in mind in our contact with other people, and especially with Ranger Guiders, that as a Frenchman said, "It is eternal warmth of heart that matters most"'.

Lady Merthyr (Imperial Commissioner for Rangers), too, drew on a writer from another country to give her hearers



H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth, Chief Ranger of the British Empire, is welcomed to Imperial Headquarters by Lady Stratheden and Lady Merthyr (left)

food for thought. Among the predictions of Nostradamus* (contained in the several volumes of his works housed in the British Museum) the statement was to be found that at the beginning of the twentieth century a youth movement would spring up which would change the face of the world. She urged her hearers to consider the youth movements of the world and the world-wideness of them, and decide for themselves whether there was one more likely to 'fit the bill' than Scouting and Guiding. She agreed with Lady Stratheden that it was reasonable to expect that organised activities might soon become more popular again. The period of irresponsibility that youth always goes through after a war seemed to be coming to an end. 'Are we ready', she asked, 'to take the flood as it comes? Youth is searching for an outlet somehow or other to put the world a bit more to rights. We probably thought we could put the world to rights ourselves when we were a lot younger: we did not make a very good job of it. But youth is at the stage that we were then. Let us help them to make a better job of it than we did'.

With these two messages in mind the Conference settled down to its main business—to discuss major matters that had been put forward in reply to questionnaires sent out by the Ranger Branch. Proceedings now followed a definite pattern of speech, discussion in groups and summing up. Energetic and fruitful as the discussions were, there is little point in detailing them here. Decisions will be made known later in *THE GUIDER*. It is more profitable to use the space now available to record points of view of other speakers.

Self-Government in the Ranger Company

Miss Hillbrook (Commissioner for Rangers, England) thought that it was easy to give a wrong impression of achievement. 'When', she said, 'we are discussing our Rangering, we must keep our feet on the ground, however wide we want our feelings to be'. She had looked up the word 'vision' in the dictionary. One definition gave 'something which exists in the imagination only'. 'Is what we put out', she asked, 'something which exists only in the imagination?' The other definition was 'revelation'.

'We have now got the girl coming up from the Guide Company because the Ranger Company is of the right age. Fifteen to eighteen is the average age; the majority of Rangers are now looking at eighteen-and-a-half and nineteen as the age when they are likely to move away from the ordinary activities of the company. It is for that younger age we have to think—how are we going to let them have self-government? They must be trained for it. It is not fair to ask girls of that age to run a community of their own age. They not only need training, but leading. We have to lead from behind, but before we can do that we have to get right out into the front. The girls of today are asking for a leader—the girl who gave up Guiding early and the girl coming from outside want to know who the captain is and who is leading. As we lead them we must be training them to lead in their turn'.

'Rangers come to us to learn and train to be good citizens—not to run the company. An inexperienced Guider may try to run a brand new company with too much self-government at the beginning. But do not let us go away from the final aim that, with growing experience, we can give them more and more responsibility for themselves'.

Moral Problems

Lady Merthyr dealt at length with the difficulties which girls of today experience in facing the problems of sex and morals. 'We have got in the world at the moment', she said, 'very sliding standards, and lowered standards. No clear definition of right and wrong—rather, all the edges have been smeared. People do not know what is absolutely right and absolutely wrong. To be right, to stand adamantly, is thought to be very Victorian. It is out of fashion. This means so much to the young girl; they do not like to be out of fashion—nor do we, any of us.'

'We are up against it, and I want to suggest to you that

the prime reason that we are up against it is the lack of faith. Faith is out of fashion—at least it was. My firm belief is that it is fast coming back into fashion. Therefore we are now at a stage in world history when we have got to be prepared to move forward quickly. We must give young people what they are wanting. I should like to read from the Gospel of St. John words which Jesus said when He was in that Upper Room, trying, one would think, to give His disciples in those last few minutes the most lasting things that He could, for them to carry on. "I am the Vine, you are the branches. He who remains in Me as I in him bears rich fruit, because apart from Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in Me, he is thrown aside like a branch and he withers up; then the branches are gathered up and thrown in the fire to be burned".'

'We are sometimes very despondent about the state of the world today. We feel the world has moved away from Christ. "The branch will be withered up". As individuals, if we have no faith, we too wither up. We lose our sense of direction. We lose our sense of security. Nothing appears worth while. We achieve that attitude of "I couldn't care less". There is a lot of it about. The young are up against it very much. Disillusionment. Something is going to come in and fill the vacuum. What is it going to be? All too often it is materialism. It is gathered up and given purpose and concrete direction through Communism. I feel that we have a very great challenge to know more, to understand more and to be able to explain more of our faith to our Rangers so that they can grasp on something really definite and concrete, something that they want, something that they can steer their lives by. Marxist Communism is purely idealistic, but, ideally speaking, there is much in Communism which is very akin to Christianity. There is a lot there that is wholly good and that is where the Ranger may begin and be twisted off into the materialist side and hold that there is no God and nothing beyond this world.'

'How can we counter this? How can we take some concrete step forward? You hear of Young Communist cells, and you find that in those places the young are taught their Communist faith, their arguments, so that they appear to themselves to be impregnable in argument. Are our Rangers taught enough Christian faith to be impregnable in argument? Should we not do more about it? Then, do we suggest to the young people of today that it is going to demand enough of them? I think the young would like to be believers. What do we offer them? A very slipshod affair? We must show them that it is going to be a matter of carrying a Cross—they are going to be laughed at. That is the glory of their Christianity. I think they will accept it on those lines. They like to have something hard asked of them'.

'When the Sap Flows'

Lady Merthyr then returned to the simile of the Vine and branches. 'Anyone who is fond of gardening knows that plants only flourish when the sap runs free between the main stalk and the branches. And we and our Rangers must all keep open that channel for the sap to run. I think we must help our Rangers and probably ourselves, too. We will all find that the more we can keep the sap running, through prayer, Bible study and such things, so we shall find that we can bear better fruit. That our Rangering will spread, will grow and will be of a higher and ever better standard. When the sap runs freely God can work through us. If we cut off the channel for the sap to run, we shall wither and die. We want free use of two arms and two legs. Imagine that one of our arms and one of our legs is, as it were, the spiritual side of life, the other worldly. Are we going to be whole people? Are our Rangers going to be whole, sound people, who can go right on and can be, as no doubt we all would be by God's grace, the tools that he uses in this world to bring in His Kingdom'.

The climax of the Conference was, of course, the arrival of the Chief Ranger, H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth, during one of the discussion sessions on Sunday afternoon. Prefacing her speech (reproduced here) she referred to the fact

* Sixteenth-century French astronomer

that she had hitherto always been at 'the receiving end' and that this was the first opportunity she had had of being present at a Headquarters' discussion.

Immediately after the Chief Ranger's speech, Miss Hether Kay, Chief Commissioner for Wales, summed up the conference—a formidable task which she most ably performed. 'The real things', she said, 'if given in a real way, are going to mean to the Ranger of today just what they meant to the Ranger who has gone before, and Guiding, when you take it as a whole, is really the tremendous interest in the individual. All our companies, whether big or little, are made up of individuals, and our purpose right through Guiding is to care about the individual'.

These, then, were the main speeches of the Conference, though other memorable things were said. Miss Gilbey, a Diploma'd Guider from Buckingham, gave an interesting report of the Ranger Conference she had attended at Les Courmettes. Miss Foott, of the Council of Industrial Design, showed a film called 'A Question of Taste' (giving hints on choosing a wardrobe to a girl leaving school) and a film-strip on the making of Windsor chairs, and gave much information on sources of visual material which would help towards an appreciation of good design, line and colour.

Miss Pilkington introduced Ranger Guiders from overseas, who spoke of the problems and achievements of Rangering in their own countries. Snakes and climatic conditions make camping impossible in Trinidad, said Mrs. Hayes, but the difficulty has been overcome by running a holiday house on one of a small group of islands where there is less danger and discomfort. Canadian girls like Rangering, reported Miss Phillips (who has had experience with Land Rangers in Saskatchewan) 'because they have a chance to be girls, and it is very different from the school's, which are all co-educational'.

An Air Ranger Guider from South Africa, Miss Dichmont, spoke of one of her friends who runs a Guide Company in a leper colony—a tremendously rewarding though grim work. She spoke, too, of that burning problem in Africa—the race question. Guides are leading the way in race co-operation. At the 'All-Africa' Conference in 1948, Indians, Africans, Coloured and Europeans all took part, staying together in one school. It was a wonderful success. The Gold Coast, Uganda, Kenya and Northern and Southern Rhodesia were all represented. 'The Conference was held just in time, as we realised when, six months later, our general election altered much in S. Africa'.

Miss Barfus (one of the pioneer Ranger Captains in Victoria, N.S.W.) in an amusing speech reminded her audience of the vast distances and undeveloped areas in Australia.

'One small group, taking their gear and food for six days, hiked among the mountains in Victoria, and for the whole six days saw neither shop nor dwelling. The snags are the danger of bush fires and the inability to find water'. There was one occasion when apparently there was too much water: 'A special chance of usefulness was the flood victims' relief work in a large area of New South Wales and Victoria. Rangers now have opportunities of contact with New Australians of all nationalities, and help to make them feel they are in a friendly country; some older girls who were Scouts or Guides in Poland, Baltic States, Czechoslovakia, and so on, are joining Ranger Companies with great joy.

'Lone Rangers are an important section with us. I have toured our own State with a Lone Ranger Captain, and even we were astounded at the vast distances which separated some of the Rangers from what we loosely call civilisation. We were humbled to realise what our monthly budgets or

company letters were doing for the company members. The influence of the company letter often leaves its mark on the whole family, and the mail day (perhaps only once a week in the far-flung parts) is all the more a red-letter day when everyone knows it is the week for Linda's Captain's letter; everyone from dad down, eagerly reads it'.

A Ranger who has come to England to train to be a nurse said that Guiding in Barbados has few difficulties and very large companies. But although there are over five hundred Guides there are only thirty-four Rangers. Barbados is the only island in the West Indies where it is possible to camp all the year round. Until recently Barbados had no official Guide Headquarters but last year the Association acquired an army hut which they named Pax Hill after the Chief's home in England.

New Zealand was represented by Miss Jean Elliott who belongs to the company that 'starts Thinking Day'. Her country, she said, is 'Paradise for a girl with the spirit of adventure. The bush is often trackless and sometimes unmapped. It took ten hours in a fishing smack for the company to reach Great Barrier Island where they camped at Christmas. On Thinking Day the Rahiri Ranger Company hold a service on a mountain at dawn, so that at sunrise they may start the chain of thought which links the world on the birthday of the Founder and the World Chief Guide. Rahiri means 'to bind with a strong cord'.

M.P.

H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth's Speech on January 29th, 1950

OURS is a movement bounded by no narrow prejudices of race, class or creed, but one which seeks to join all together in friendship, based on a common promise and upon a common attempt to order their lives in accordance with the laws of the movement.

The promise and laws are simple and anyone can understand them. But this does not by any means make them easy to fulfil. On the contrary, they are very difficult, for they demand of us faith, honesty, self-control and love for our neighbours. For Rangers, moreover, the demand that they should hold to these high principles comes at one of the most difficult periods of their lives when new emotions and new understanding often lead to doubt and delusion.

Life today is a struggle and Rangers, in accepting the promise and the law, take upon themselves an extra struggle, because they have to sacrifice themselves to keep their high ideals. If, however, they can do this successfully, they will be greatly strengthened in a world that is full of materialism, dishonesty and devotion to self. Because of this I am sorry to learn that there has been a fall in numbers for the past few years. This presents a challenge to us to persuade more young girls to go on into the Rangers, thus fitting themselves to be the sort of citizens this country needs and to equip themselves for the responsibilities of life.

Perhaps the help given by Rangering and other organisations working with adolescents has never been more needed than it is today. The task of the Ranger Guider in helping young girls calls for all her skill and powers of leadership. To get young girls to put their heart and soul into Rangering she will need keenness, though not over-keenness, imagination, a sense of humour and a large amount of energy and courage to go on in spite of apparent failure.

The need for younger Guiders who are ready to give up their spare time (and I know that time is not easy to find in these days) and help to put fresh vigour and new ideas into Rangers is very real. I know that this is a great problem for every organisation, not only the Rangers, but if it were possible for the younger ones to come forward and inspire and lead, it would contribute much to the stability and moral strength of young people. It is not only in this country that we have these problems, and each Ranger can get strength from the knowledge that other Rangers all over the world are fighting the same battles.

The times we live in are a challenge to go on with renewed enthusiasm, to combine vision with wisdom and above all else, to keep before us in all things our promise of Duty to God, so that, with His help, an ever increasing number may continue 'to render service by taking the promise out into a wider world'.

Some Books I Couldn't Do Without

SO far the tea party seemed to have gone to plan and a prospective Guider was about to say 'yes', or so I thought; but instead she asked: 'Shall I have to have as many books as that?' I looked at the bookcase, a small one it's true, and I knew what she meant. Were all those books really necessary? Were any of them essential? I decided that some of them were; that five at any rate should not go for salvage; that those five I could not do without.

Scouting for Boys I should keep. It is in truth a handbook, a manual of Scouting: theory and practice are inseparable in it, as they are in all real Scouting. The ideals, the purpose, the Idea behind and within it all are there, abundantly clear, on every page, and so are the practical down-to-earth ways of carrying them out. It is a store of ideas for games, things to make, activities for training in observation and courtesy, in team-work and initiative, too; all those things with which we like to fill our notebooks at trainings are there for the reading of them.

There is something in the way that it is written that goes straight to the heart of the matter. It is always the 'old Scout' handing on tips to the less experienced, always taking it for granted that they want to know, that they want to be Scouts; it is never a well-intentioned adult talking down to a child, but a man-to-man affair. Respect, trust and a belief in the boy's capabilities were keynotes to B-P's success as a leader of youth; that respect and trust and a chance to prove his worth are a tune to which a boy will respond. And it was B-P's writing in *Scouting for Boys* that gained their response and made Scouts of hundreds of them before ever any Scouters were found for the troops they had formed. It is true, I think, that we women are often bogged down by details that are beside the point. *Scouting for Boys* has the power to lift me out of the bog as nothing else I know.

So the Founder's handbook shall not go for salvage and neither, if I can help it, shall *Be Prepared*. Written by Miss Maynard for the Guides themselves it has the same kind of appeal for them as *Scouting for Boys* has for their brothers. If ever anyone thought that Guiding was a narrow affair, confined in appeal to children of limited interests, *Be Prepared* has the answer. You can find instructions for making a whistle or for changing nappies; for conducting a Court of Honour, or for being a good hostess; tips on how to look attractive and how to understand the Promise. Written for the Guides though it may be it is invaluable for their Guiders, too.

In any movement, there is always the danger that once the direct inspiration and guidance of the Founder is removed one of two things may happen. Either the original ideas may be lost through too free adaptation and 'improvements', or they may at the other extreme be interpreted too literally and used without imagination. *Be Prepared* is thoroughly up to date; there is nothing of 1910 about it. But no one can miss the original ideas of the Founder interpreted in it. If you want to know what Scouting and Guiding are for, if you want hints on leading your company and on the understanding and training of the individuals in it, if you want more games and activities (or better still, ideas for making up your own) then these two books are for you.

If we were leading a company on some remote little island, with no possibility of any contact with others, then these two books might be the only ones we should read; but we aren't. We are not only a movement, but an organised movement (though as yet not over-organised, we hope). We have a Royal Charter and Standards to Be Kept Up and Rules for Playing the Game (rules, not regulations said B-P, and so far they have never become regulations, praise be). So with our organisation go our policy and rules—at the moment neatly bound together between two green covers. And for a while I shall keep that battered green book; for a while only—I shall lose it when the new one appears.

So often in the last six months I have turned to it. There was the time when someone said I had the diamond on my beret over the wrong eye. 'As if it matters', thought I; and then realised that it *did* matter (a little) and looked it up (and altered the diamond!). There were the several occasions when testers wanted to know the syllabus for a badge; the ex-Ranger who asked the difference between the Local Association and the Trefoil Guild; the new lieutenant keen to know the requirements for a warrant. I see a green lanyard, a silver cord or a blue ribbon (who can say we are dull, so gay and bedecked as we are) and P.O.R. can tell me what it means. And if, by chance, I find myself becoming timid and wondering too often 'what the book says', then I read the foreword—twice—and act upon it.

Beside that one green book shall stay another, *Campcraft*. True it is that we learn to camp by doing it, and not by reading about it, but this book is a practical guide on how to do it, and the latest edition has been brought up-to-date. Soon there will be a site to visit, an owner to interview, parents to re-assure, plans for food, first aid, transport, programmes and then the one all too short week will be with us for our enjoyment and our growing.

I know that *Campcraft* will often be in my hand between now and then. It is a book of sound information and really practical help, based on the experience of ordinary Guiders. There is nothing high-falutin' or fanciful about it; and the comfortable sight of it in the rucksack is strength to the weakening knees of one about to spend a week in a field, in an English summer, with twenty-four children for whom she is responsible. *Campcraft* shall stay.

And what else? There are many I should like to keep, but I expect if I had to I could do without most of them as permanent possessions (though I should grieve particularly to lose *How to be Healthy and Wise*). The child who wrote in her diary not the facts about the places she visited but the feel of them, was right. 'I can look up the facts in a reference book later, but the spirit of the place is what I shall want always to remember if I am to know and understand it and pass it on'. And it is the spirit of Scouting that we have constantly to recapture, too.

I, who never met the Founder face to face, who never heard him talk, how am I to catch his vision and the infection of his zeal? How am I to pass it on to the children? I have *Scouting for Boys*, but I should like *The Wolf That Never Sleeps* as well. I have seen recruits enthralled by it, and parents intrigued by it; and I have known myself refreshed by it. It was the book that the Prospective Guider took away with her (it slipped so easily into her bag); and the next day her answer was 'Yes, I should love to help'. She had caught the infection of his zeal. J.M.C.

(All the books mentioned in this article, '*Scouting for Boys*', 2s. and 5s., '*Be Prepared*', by A. M. Maynard, 5s., '*P.O.R.*', 1s., '*Campcraft*', 3s. 6d., '*How to be Healthy and Wise*', by M. E. Sutherland, 3s. 6d., and '*The Wolf that Never Sleeps*', by M. de Beaumont, 3s. 6d., are available in H.Q. Bookshop.—EDITOR.)

'We, the Condemned'

Guiders will be interested to know that on the evening of March 28th, on the Light Programme, there will be a repeat-broadcast of 'We, the Condemned'. This programme gives a vivid picture of the situation of many Displaced Persons. It is excellently presented and entirely true to life. Part of the recording was actually made in one of the Camps where 159 Relief Section G.I.S. operates.

The three speakers heard during the broadcast, and the mixed choir of children from a Secondary School for Poles, Latvians and Lithuanians in one of the camps, are all well known to the G.I.S. Welfare workers. The programme gives an opportunity to Guiders to make it known that G.I.S. teams are still in the field, working among those to whom the script refers.

Interhashitall Relations Retort for 1949

Commissioner: Lady Summat-Hazy

THE fog which has hung over the under-rational field for so long is as impenetrable as ever, but those possessed of perseverance and a fog-lamp may sometimes discern, in the glooming, figures stripped for action plunging wildly about Victoria Station and the immediate neighbourhood in search of foreign bodies.

This year has seen many successful international ramps which have encouraged us to lay even more ambitious plans for the future. The Department has filled a long-felt need as a left-luggage office, and it is sometimes almost impossible to thrust one's way through the baggages blocking the doorway without treading on a Girl's snout. Every day a stream of Trouts and Brides winds its way into our hospital office and the staff spend much time dealing with queries. Miss Would Kill (Irrational Secateur) greets them all in her own characteristic manner and is looked on as a real fiend by each and every one. The junior staff are kept busy with religious and political arguments and are indeed always on the hob, boiling night and day to extend our great blisterhood.

The result of last year's language campaign is now very much in evidence. There is not a dock-side in Europe where a Girl Tried may not be heard using her rich and varied vocabulary in successful competition with porters, navvies and customs officials. We are also proud to announce that we are supplying several expert interrupters for next year's World Conference.

Our control over the World Ass has increased considerably. The Director (affectionately known as the World Fag) may frequently be seen bolting into the Burrow hotly pursued by Miss Would Kill. The Council Fire smokes and cackles merrily in the office at all hours of the day; we must admit that this is a little upsetting to the International De-

partment, and we are hoping to provide a better sight in the coming year.

Relations between ourselves and the Coy Scouts have been specially happy; in particular the workers in the field have been very closely associated. Indeed, the Louts have been something more than big bothers to us. Our most successful joint activity was provided by a stork bearing on communist youth, which gave many furiously to think—but space does not permit of our telling you what they thought.

We cannot close this retort without referring to the worm of our committee which has turned to every job with unwavering enthusiasm. Especially we must mention Miss Gripp, Chairman of the Hostility Subcommittee, who so admirably fixes up our guests in the farthest corners of the Untied Kingdom; Insurrectional Commissar Ban em from England, a great help to Miss Gripp; Mrs. Up-the-Pole Headwards, always a joy to see at meetings; the Chief

Commiserer for Walls, always a joy to hear, in concert with Mrs. Bawl of Whaland, and Mrs. Grievous of Ulswhere (Interfering Commissars) with Mrs. Fiddle fiddling away like mad in the background.

Finally, our grateful pranks are due to our Charwoman, Lazy Summat-Crazy, whose passion for de-centralisation is her greatest asset. Her motto, 'Never do today what you can push on to somebody else tomorrow', is an inspiration to all who come within her sphere of indolence, as this report testifies. Against her wetter judgment she is loyally carrying out the policy of Inqueerial Hind-quarters in reducing the size and shape of her committee, and it is hoped that by the end of next year this body will have completely disintegrated to the great benefit of Indescribable Relations.

ALIX FIDDELL

[Insufferable Commitment and Editor of *The Constant Liar* (better known as the World Spout)]

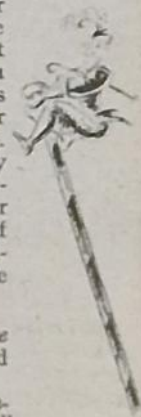
(The preparation of this report on International Revelations was entrusted to Mrs. Kiddell by the Commissionaire (Inferior Headporter), Mrs. Up-the-Lady Slumberlate—who asked for it.—Editor.) Pole Headwards



Using a rich vocabulary in successful competition with porters



Plunging wildly about Victoria Station in search of foreign bodies



The Guild of St. George

THE Guilds of St. George in Denmark, an organisation similar in its aims to the B-P Guild of Old Scouts and the Trefoil Guild, has been in existence for the past sixteen years, so is much more firmly established than the two Guilds in this country. In 1935 there was a membership of 400, today it numbers 4,250. Starting with the aim of helping Danish Scouting, it found its main work during the occupation by Germany in the founding, upkeep and running of numerous holiday homes for Danish children, and this is today still the chief outside work of the Guilds.

Great stress is laid on definite pieces of work being undertaken by the different Guilds, but the other two aims are similar to our own—first to act as a meeting ground for old friends and so continue the comradeship of Scout and Guide days, and secondly to carry Scout and Guide ideals into the lives of members at work and at home.

Ex-members of all the recognised Scout and Guide organisations in Denmark are eligible for membership, whether Catho-

lic, Protestant, or Jew, and women take a prominent share in the work of the Guilds. Members of parents' committees, Scout and Guide councils, and so on, who have shown special interest in the movements are sometimes admitted, as is also in some cases the wife or husband of a member who has not been a Scout or Guide, provided that she or he has shown interest in the movement for some years, and taken an active part in the work of the Guild. Members are admitted at the age of twenty-three or at twenty-one if they are active Scouters or Guiders.

The average membership of a Guild is forty to fifty. It is governed by a committee of three, with Guild-Master, Secretary and Treasurer, elected at an annual general meeting. In big towns several Guilds combine to elect a Town Guild-Master and committee to co-ordinate the activities of the Guilds in the town. A Provincial Guild-Master for each Province is appointed by the National Guild Council. This Council is elected at an annual general meeting which all

members are entitled to attend, and has considerable powers over property and finance.

The local Guild is usually divided into several groups whose members have special interests, each with its own group leader. These groups meet monthly in the home of one of the members for study and discussion, but a monthly meeting of the whole Guild is also held, with a business meeting, usually followed by some social event and coffee. Week-end trips, visits to other Guilds, visits to factories, museums, theatres and attendance at meetings of the town council are also arranged, so that there are many similarities to the Trefoil Guild programme. Unlike the Trefoil Guild much stress is laid on ceremonial, and there are special ceremonies for enrolment of members, the recognition of a new Guild, and the inauguration of special work.

Guild of St. George members feel very strongly that the training of a Scout or Guide in citizenship is not complete when he or she leaves the troop or company. The methods of the movement are suited to the boy or girl, not to the adult, and most boys and girls need much more than these if they are to take the Scout and Guide ideals into their adult lives and make the mark on the life of their town and country which they should do. Great stress is therefore laid on the further training which participation in the work of the Guilds can give. The promise, suited to the adolescent, is somewhat altered for the grown-up, and the ideals of the Guild are based on an adult interpretation of the Scout Promise and Law.

Too many Scouts find the difference between the ideals they have learnt in the troop and the practices they encounter as an adult too great, and give up. The aim of the Guilds is to counteract this and to give just that help which is needed to complete the Scout training. Working together for a common aim is one of the greatest of these aids to good citizenship, and a very great deal of good work, especially for children has been carried out by the Guilds. Help in holiday homes, day nurseries, kindergartens, hospitals, Scout Troops and Guide Companies, the blood transfusion service and United Nations relief work is undertaken, as well as educational work among their own members.

Large sums of money have been raised in various ways, some of which would not be feasible here, but much personal work has also been done. As the review of their Guild work says: 'Don't talk too much about being good, practise it, and by practice it will become a quality of character.'

News of the Trefoil Guild

The Trefoil Guild Census for 1949 shows progress all along the line. The number of members has increased by 1,250 (more than a thousand of these being in England) and now total 6,503, and still more Guilds are being formed. Can we hit the 10,000 mark during 1950?

Scottish Guilds now have their own Recorder, Miss Purvis-Russell-Montgomery.

The Reports from County Recorders show that the inspiration of the conference in May has spread far and wide and several reports refer to the high opinion held of their Guilds by various Commissioners.

Activities mentioned in the Census cover serving of teas when the Chief Guide has visited the county concerned (one Guild catered for six hundred at a Guide rally); raising money to send Guides to camp; provision of camp equipment; helping at Guide camps, including 'Woodlarks', the special camp site for Extensions. And here please note that help for these camps is very specially needed.

The Trefoil Guild School for Crippled Children is helped by a Guild in Cornwall. The school is entirely run by Guiders and would welcome friends like the Cornish Guild.

Fruit bottling, recipe evenings, side-shows at rallies, running a swimming club for Guides, stewarding at Guide stalls, helping with the testing arrangements for the Queen's Guide award and helping at a Ranger-Rover rally, are all reported.

Holidays held by Guilds in Switzerland and at the Waddow cottage, week-ends at Our Ark in London and at Great Huck-

low in Derbyshire were all greatly enjoyed. In reverse, South Wiltshire Division is undertaking to show overseas visitors round Salisbury.

A number of members have become Commissioners, Guiders or Secretaries.

The Badge of Fortitude, we are all very proud to learn, has been awarded to a member of the Guild.

The Guernsey Trefoil Guild has packed and dispatched thirty-three parcels of used clothing to the G.I.S. teams for distribution amongst displaced persons in Europe.

The Beckenham Division Guild have sent eight twenty-two pound parcels to the G.I.S. The school where this Guild meets (the principal is a member) ran two nights of plays in aid of G.I.S. funds.

North Kent Guild Secretary reports that her Guild has sent twenty-two eleven pound parcels.

A Headquarters Correspondent for Overseas has now been appointed. She is Miss Westropp, who has travelled widely throughout the Empire.

Jamaica has a very active Guild which has much in common with Guilds in Britain.

The Brisbane, Australia, Guild, and a Guild in *Auckland, New Zealand*, have sent us magnificent parcels which have provided lovely presents for many ex-Extension members. Any Guild with an ex-Extension member who would be specially grateful for such a parcel, should write to: Miss Westropp, c/o The Overseas Department, Imperial Headquarters, and she may be able to send something later on.

In our last page in the December issue—we asked readers to send us news. Very few have responded. Do write, and remember, we want your letters at the latest six weeks before the next issue is due.

The Trefoil Guild Badge is now available at 1s. 8d. and is obtainable in the usual way for registered goods through Badge Secretaries.

Designed by the husband of a Trefoil Guild member, the badge is a little gilt trefoil with the words 'Trefoil Guild' on a wine coloured scroll.

It can be worn whenever you like, and if you take the place of a Guider, or help at a camp in uniform you wear it on a tie.

Helpers Needed at Woodlarks

As usual all summer camps are in need of active helpers, but I am writing this appeal for one camp in particular from June 27th to July 7th. I want to find a licenced Guider (with experience of Extension Guiding, if possible) who will come and run the camp and who will, perhaps, be able to find some helpers to accompany her.

Any Guider with an endorsed licence who can offer her services should send her name to the Extension Camp Adviser for England: Miss P. Simmons, Stifford Rectory, Grays, Essex, as well as to Mrs. Strover, Woodlarks, Farnham, Surrey.

I am hoping to run a small international camp at Woodlarks in July and this will mean that I am not going to be able to accept as many campers as usual. For every overseas visitor who accepts our invitation I shall have to refuse one English cripple, so for their benefit I want to organise a camp and have chosen the dates of June 27th to July 7th because this is already booked for an Extension company whose Guider cannot come because she is now planning to take some of her Post Rangers to Switzerland.

I am keeping the date for the remainder of her company and for any more individual cripples who apply to come. Applications are already reaching me from hospital authorities asking if I can take any girls in camp this summer. So, please, will licenced Guiders, Q.Ms., Nurses, Guiders, Cadets and Rangers come if you can and run a camp at Woodlarks.—D. STROVER.

The Extension Handcraft Department

'Sale or Return' parcels of assorted goods can be sent to any small or large meetings or conferences if applications are made to Mrs. Duxbury, c/o The Extension Department, L.H.Q. Orders can be taken for fine, hand-sewn lingerie with your own patterns carefully copied, and also for fine, hand-sewn leather gloves (glove patterns are copied from 22s. 6d. upwards). At present there is a good selection of hand-knitted baby wear, men's heather mixture woollen socks with reinforced toes and heels, and Owls made of fur fabric, 11 ins. and 7 ins. in height at £1 2s. and 9s. 6d. respectively.

Watching Wild Life

By B. Melville Nicholas

MY first recollection of a kestrel goes back to when, as a boy, I was thrilled to see a certain bird hovering in mid-air as if suspended by an invisible cord from Heaven. For several minutes it remained stationary, except for the movement of its wings, and then, without warning, dived suddenly to earth. At first I thought it had fallen involuntarily and made its last journey. Imagine my relief when, a few seconds later, my little hero of the skies was again on the wing with something dangling from its claws. As it passed above me I heard a bitter squeal—an indication that either a mouse or vole had paid the supreme price.

From that day onwards I have made a thorough study of kestrels. Unfortunately, observation has not been easy for unjustified persecution has made them so shy and wary that I have never succeeded in getting near to them, except from a hide or other effective concealment.

When seen poised in mid-air the kestrel appears a drab-coloured bird, but when viewed at close quarters it is nothing of the sort, for although the female is less gaudily attired than her mate, she possesses a quiet beauty of her own, not noticeable when she is in flight. Her rufous upper-parts, daintily barred with black, afford a neat contrast to her greyish-white breast, while about her appearance and behaviour there is a dignity which always arouses my admiration. The male has a bluish-grey head, neck, rump and tail, with a chestnut-coloured back spotted with black, and greyish-buff underparts perpendicularly striped with blackish-brown. In common with his tribe, the male is the smaller of the two sexes so that the wife is, physically, his 'better half'.



A sparrowhawk feeds her young in a tree-top nest

Although the kestrel loves the shelter and seclusion of wooded areas much of its hunting is done in the open country where, from a height of sixty or seventy feet, its keen sight is able to detect the movements of unsuspecting rodents as they forage on the ground. Nothing escapes the kestrel's notice and immediately a mouse or vole shows itself it closes its wings, to descend upon it like a 'bolt from the blue'. Before the unfortunate little victim knows what has happened, it is journeying through the air firmly held in the kestrel's talons. As a rule each kestrel has a recognised place where it carries its prey to consume it, and not far from my home is an ash stump to which a kestrel often brings its quarry, but before alighting it transfers its victim from the claws to the beak to allow both its feet to be free for gripping the perch.

Early in the year the kestrel turns its attention to domestic matters and seeks out a suitable site, but not to build a nest, for it prefers to occupy the disused home of some other bird

such as a magpie or carrion crow. Very little, if any, renovation is carried out to these old structures and if no suitable nest is available the kestrel will lay its eggs in a hollow tree rather than build itself a nest. Generally five or six in number, the eggs vary considerably in appearance, but



Two young kestrels clean each other's beaks after a meal

the majority are rusty-white in colour, heavily blotched with reddish-brown, and they take about four weeks to hatch.

At birth the nestlings are queer little mites, very helpless and weak, and clothed in greyish-white down. For the first few days the father does the foraging for both his wife and family, for the devoted mother dares not leave her precious progeny. The food consists mainly of small mammals but as the brood develop their appetites increase until, in order to satisfy their voracious demands, their parents are occasionally forced to resort to feathered meat, for on no account will a kestrel allow its family to go short of food. Indeed, for some weeks after the youngsters leave the nest their parents continue to minister to their needs.

Many pairs of kestrels resort to the cliffs in true falcon fashion, where the females lay their eggs in some concealed crevice without any attempt at nest-making. In my native county of Cornwall scores of dilapidated tin-mining stacks provide them with homes. The surrounding territory of barren land is excellent hunting ground where the kestrel's unmistakable calls of 'klee, klee, klee' can be heard all day as it hovers, soars and glides in search of food.

This method of hunting is in sharp contrast to that of the sparrowhawk for this bird, instead of hovering in mid-air, dashes low over the countryside, sweeping swiftly through gateways and along hedgerows, to take its quarry by surprise. The male is the smaller of the sexes with upper-parts dark slaty-grey, rufous cheeks and a greyish-white breast barred horizontally with reddish-brown. The female is a little lighter in colour and lacks the rufous cheeks, but both have long yellow legs.

With the first indication of returning spring sparrowhawks look out their nesting sites, usually choosing a tall tree in a fairly sheltered position, but building operations do not normally begin until April or May. As a rule a new nest is made each year, a large flat structure of sticks and twigs in which from five to seven eggs are laid. They are pale bluish-white, heavily blotched with brown, but much variation occurs in the markings. Devoted to his wife though he is, I have never known the male brood the eggs, but, like the kestrel, he shows his devotion by frequently bringing her tit-bits of food. The downy-clad youngsters look very quaint, and develop so quickly that they are soon able to peep out over the rim of their tree-top nursery.

An incident which occurred off the Cornish coast when two fishermen noticed a skylark being chased by a sparrowhawk proves that sometimes the victims seek protection with human beings. Several times the lark tried to reach the cliffs but was cut off by its enemy until, driven to desperation, it descended rapidly into the boat, alighting on the knee of one of the fishermen where it remained until the danger had passed.

At Company Prayers

THIS month can we think a bit more about the language of worship, about worship clothed in 'the royal majesty of the King's Court?' The essence of worship is that the creature humbles himself before the majesty and holiness of the Creator and in wonder and awe adores the author and giver of life. 'When I consider Thy heavens and the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained, what is man that Thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that Thou visitest Him?'

I said last time that worship for children grows out of thanksgiving, and I gave one or two examples of thanksgivings. These, you will have noticed, were clothed in homespun, the simplest, most everyday language. The choice of language was dictated not only by the fact that they were children's prayers, but also by their very nature, because they were about snowdrops, parties, swimming and sleeping out. But when we are trying to put into words our worship then our subject matter is God, not even our feelings towards Him, but God, in all His unutterable, unknowable sublimity. Is it not fitting then to choose words of beauty and grandeur? And is it not a fact that children do enjoy the music of words before they understand their meaning?

So it is my belief that we ought to introduce into our prayers, certainly with Guides and Rangers if not with Brownies, some expressions of pure worship clothed in the most sublime language we can find, and for that we shall soon discover that we must go to the Bible and to the Fathers of the Church.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.
Glory be to Thee, O Lord most High.

Sometimes we want to express our worship in hymns. There are many that are excellent for this purpose, among which are the following: 'Praise the Lord! ye heavens adore Him' to Haydn's majestic tune; 'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation', 'All people that on earth do dwell', 'O worship the King' to Dr. Croft's tune; and finally, the hymn that draws all heaven and earth together, 'Ye watchers and ye holy ones'.

The faith of a little child shows itself in a confiding trust in her Heavenly Father and in a loving friendship with Jesus. It will be our aim, our hope and our prayer that such a faith may ripen into the mature faith of one who is a friend of God. But friendship does not mean familiarity. Childlike confidence and trust are one facet of our relationship with God, worship and awe are another. Jesus said, 'Ye call Me Master and Lord and ye say well; for so I am'. And when on Easter Day Mary Magdalene's joy looked like outstripping her awe, the Master said, 'Touch Me not'.

In order, I hope, to remove any possible misunderstanding, I should like to say that in future articles of this series it is planned to say something about the different approaches to Almighty God in prayer, practised by those who belong to Communions other than the one to which I belong. The importance of understanding other points of view is great, especially for Guiders, in order that we may encourage Guides to be loyal to their own traditions.

One other point. In last month's article in this series I suggested the kind of thanksgiving that Brownies might themselves wish to make. It has been brought to my notice that the way in which these were worded might be misunderstood by members of the Extension section. If that did happen no one could be sorrier than I. My admiration is very great, both for the courage with which Extensions make light of their disabilities, and for the great contribution they have made, and are making, to the whole Guide movement. I should like to point out that I never intended to give a prayer for Guiders to use with their packs. The prayer was simply meant to be a thanksgiving in children's words for the gift of health. I would not wish to suggest any unfortunate comparison between well and handicapped children. Guiders would know that Extensions are capable of great achievement because they are not treated as being different from other people.



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P. 744A



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P. 11

Scotland's Annual Meeting

'He either fears his fate too much
Or his deserts are small
Who dares not put it to the touch
To win or lose it all'.

FOUR months ago Mrs. Greenlees, Deputy Chairman of the Scottish Executive Committee, summed up the position in Scotland with these lines when the movement, suddenly bereft of the Scottish Chief Commissioner, was faced with the task of finding a successor. They knew that Scottish Guiding would be fortunate indeed if the Viscountess Colville of Culross, County Commissioner for Kincardineshire, could be persuaded to become Chief Commissioner. Knowing that Lady Colville already had many responsibilities, they were uncertain about her acceptance, but they decided to put it to the touch, and—they won! In presenting Lady Colville to the Council, Mrs. Greenlees paid tribute to her courage, her gift of leadership and her deep-rooted spirit of Guiding.

Resolutions were passed amending the Constitution to permit the appointment of a Chairman of the Executive Committee other than the Scottish Chief Commissioner, in order that the work might be divided. Miss Wallace Williamson, ex-County Commissioner for the City of Edinburgh, was unanimously appointed as Chairman.

Lady Colville expressed her personal gratitude to Mrs. Stewart for the guidance she had received when taking over office. She referred to the Scottish Gift Book which Mrs. Stewart had edited, and said how much it was appreciated in Canada.

One of the outstanding events which took place during the year was a rally held at Wick and honoured by the presence of H.R.H. The Princess Royal, before whom a pageant of local history was performed by Caithness Guides, and country dancing by Sutherland and Orkney.

At their biennial conference held in October, the Commissioners were privileged to have with them the World Chief Guide, the Imperial Chief Commissioner and the Chief Commissioner for Wales. It was the first public appearance of Lady Stratheden as Imperial Chief Commissioner and Scotland was very proud that a fellow-countryman had been appointed to this important post.

Although actual numbers had decreased, individual branches and sections were flourishing and camping numbers were a record; more international visits had been exchanged; public relations had been more firmly established; Square Centres, whose work was much appreciated by local authorities, had devised a new scheme for training leaders; the Trefoil School had celebrated its tenth birthday, and Guiding once more had a sound financial basis, chiefly due to the new Finance Scheme.

Lady Colville expressed the gratitude of all members of the Council to Miss Paterson, Scottish Headquarters Secretary, who was resigning in May. Miss Paterson had been the prop and stay of Scottish Headquarters for sixteen years, and it was with much regret that the Council heard of her resignation through ill-health.

In moving the adoption of the Report and Financial Statement, Miss Margaret Kidd, first British woman K.C., said that in her capacity as Chairman of the Scottish Standing Conference of Voluntary Youth Organisations she had the privilege of coming into contact with all the voluntary organisations in the country, and what impressed her most about Guides was their practical work. While others thought and talked, Guides went ahead and brought help to Brownies and Guides in hospitals and handicapped children everywhere—never losing sight of the individual. Miss Kidd congratulated the movement on their sound financial position without which no organisation could flourish, and on the recent appointments of the two leaders—Lady Stratheden and Campbell and Lady Colville, under whose wise guidance the movement would go from strength to strength.

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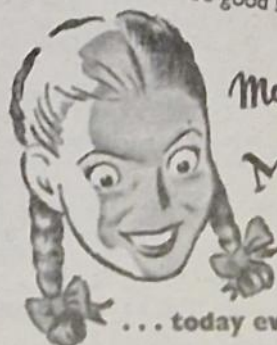
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Fiona Flies Up—and On

THE recruits went to Captain's house for their Tenderfoot Test on the Saturday after the Adventure Trail, as she said that testing was difficult at the company meeting. On her way home, Fiona was overtaken by Pat, on her bike. 'Hello, Fiona', her patrol leader called. 'How did the test go? All ready for enrolment now?'

'Very nearly. It was a lovely test, and I've passed everything, thanks to you and Betty. The flag wasn't very hard, as I'd done most of it at Brownies, but I had to do all the knots again, to show that I could really tie them without thinking. My whipping would slip off the end of the rope at first, but I remembered how you told me to wrap towards the end, and pull away from it. I had to whip the frayed end of a halter rope—not a bit easy, as Captain's pony was on the other end, and kept moving! I tied him up, too, with a round turn and two half-hitches.'

'Good', exclaimed Pat. 'I'm glad you remembered that, although it is not in the test. What else?'

'Oh, we tied reefs over and over again, on different things—bandages, ties and shoelaces. Captain said so many Guides knew it all right for the test, but forgot and tied "Grannies" in a hurry. We hoisted a flag again, as you showed me, for sheet-bend and clove-hitch, as well as tying ropes to loops the way sailors do, and making a fence round the cabbages.'

'So now you would be able to tie them with your eyes shut. What about fisherman's?'

'I managed that, and then Captain showed us how to use it to fix the paper on a pudding bowl. I must show mummie. It is so easy to undo when the string is hot and wet. Then, we sat round the fire, and went over the Promise and Laws, and Captain told us the legends. You know, Pat, I used to think that Saints were just "good", but Captain made them seem so real. I never realised how brave and fine they were.'

'Yes', agreed Pat, 'each in his different way. You must think of that whenever you see the Union Jack. The Company Colours will be out at your enrolment next week. All ready now, aren't you?'

Fiona held out her Tenderfoot card, all signed by Captain. 'I've done everything on this card, but Captain wants me to learn more about the Guide badge, the World Flag, and the origin of Guiding.'

Pat leaned her bike against the garden fence, and took some books from the basket. 'How lucky I met you. I usually do tell recruits all that quite soon, but it has just been added to the Tenderfoot test, and is on the new cards. Look, Fiona, that's a World Flag on my bike pennant! The gold trefoil on the bright blue ground is a little different to our badge. The two stars are for the Promise and the Law, the line in the middle is a compass needle, giving us the right course in Guiding, and the wavy base is a heraldic symbol meaning the flame of the Love of Mankind. You'll find all about it, and lots of other useful things, in your Guide diary.'

Fiona took Pat to a shed in her garden, fitted up by Peter as a Scout Patrol den. 'He lets me use it, now that I'm nearly a Guide. I knew a little about the beginning of Guiding, from some of Peter's books. Look, there's the Founder's picture on the wall. I know how the first Girl Scouts insisted on coming, and what they looked like.'

Pat handed her a neatly bound book, with an embroidered trefoil.

'This is Betty's "History of the Movement" notebook for her First Class. Just what you need, and she has collected some very interesting old pictures.'

Fiona glanced through the neatly written pages, illustrated with photographs and little sketches.

'Oh, this is much more fun than a printed book', she exclaimed. 'May I really keep it for a few days? I think I know about the Guide badge, with three leaves for the three Promises, but why are some badges different? Mummie had one with "B.P." on it, and Captain's has no star.'

Pat explained that these were old badges, and very precious now. 'Some foreign badges are different, too', she added,

'but they all have the trefoil in some form. There's a World Badge now that may be worn by all Guides, anywhere. Captain has it on her battle blouse, the same design as the World Flag.'

They went over the enrolment ceremony together, and Pat saw that Fiona's salute was correct, reminding her to raise her hand to her beret (and not duck her head), with fingers quite straight and elbow in. 'You make the Guide sign while you are saying the Promise, then Captain gives you a left hand-shake, and welcomes you as a Guide. She will say that she trusts you to try to do a good turn every day. Have you thought about that?'

Fiona looked up at the Scout Promise hanging on the wall. 'Quite a lot', she said. 'It's going to be fun in our family, with two of us on the look out for good turns! Peter says a thing you do regularly, like washing up, doesn't count, so I'll have to be original.'

Fiona fetched her new uniform from the house so that Pat could see that she was really smart. 'I had a navy skirt, and mummie made the blouse and gave me her old belt, so I only had to get a beret and a tie'. She pulled on the beret and grinned.

'No, not like that', said Pat. 'Put it on from the front, and pull it down to the right. That's better! So glad you have tidy short hair. Those swivels on your belt should be clipped up when empty, and try to make your tie the right length, about two inches above your belt. We must be very smart, if Commissioner's coming for the occasion.'

Fiona had often met Commissioner, playing games with the pack, but still she felt a thrill when the watching patrol leaders ran out to meet her car. Captain called the company to attention and saluted Commissioner at the door, and then took her round to the patrol corners.

'May I come in, Robins?' she asked, as the patrol stood to greet her. 'Anything new since my last visit?' Pat showed some new treasures, the badges on the Robins' arms, and introduced Fiona.

'Captain will enrol you', said Commissioner, 'but I like to meet the recruits first, in their own patrols. What do you like best in Guiding, so far?'

As Fiona told her about the trail, and the Kingfisher, Commissioner's eyes twinkled. 'I heard about that day, it must have been fun. I've been watching your Kingfisher, too. He's collecting fishbones now, for a nest in the sandbank. Some day I'll show you.'

It was just warm enough to have the enrolment outside, so the company formed a horse-shoe in the school garden. As Pat took her up to Captain, Fiona saw the Colours glowing in the sunset, against budding trees. Afterwards, Commissioner told them about a Thinking Day party with French Eclairuses, and showed them some photographs which she had taken. Then she told a story, specially for the new Guides, she said, as the older ones might have seen it in THE GUIDE, about Red Indian boys and magic birchbark. As Commissioner ended the story: 'Fly up, not down; fly on, not back; then you will rise to be a Great Chief', Fiona looked down at the shining badge on her tie. 'Tonight, I've really flown up', she thought, 'now I'm going to fly "on".'

M.M.W.

A Road Safety Exhibition

Guiders bringing parties of Guides to London during March are invited to visit, free of charge, the Permanent Road Safety Exhibition at Rospa House, 17 Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (near Hyde Park Corner). Open from 10 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. from Monday to Saturday the exhibition includes working models of roadways with electric cars, buses and lorries demonstrating different hazards, bicycle and car trainers, press button quizzes, a magnetic table, and a fully equipped cinema theatre. Guiders wishing to make up a party should write or phone (Sloan 8236) to the Principal, stating date and time preferred and the number and age group.

Camping by Conversation—3

THE company thought it a wonderful idea to have a parents' camp evening and we decided we could make it serve a great many useful purposes. In P.O.R. it says I must "draw up, with details applicable to the camp I propose to run, a prospectus suitable for parents." The Guides know that their parents will need some details written down about the cost, dates, and addresses, but they felt they would want to know so many things that the prospectus would grow longer and longer, and it would be much easier to tell them most of the things and let them ask questions.

'It's an excellent and time-saving idea. Of course you will need to visit some of the parents, so make it clear that you are perfectly willing to do so, but a joint gathering is most valuable. Your parents will be helped by each other's questions and you will have an opportunity to put over the camping idea in an attractive way. Any detailed plans, yet?'

'Oh yes, lots. First we thought I had better talk about camping in general, how it fits into Guiding, how important the Founder thought it, how it encourages self reliance, initiative and community spirit. We've a supply of the leaflet, *How Guides Camp*, to give to the parents, too. Next I thought I would explain to them how I was trying to qualify to take the Guides to camp, how Q.M. was making all her plans in advance, what safeguards we were taking against sickness, and about bathing. Then I shall invite questions—do you think anyone will ask any?'

'Mums (and Dads) are sometimes shy of speaking up in public, but once you get down among your audience you will find yourself in great demand.'

'We thought about that and the Patrols have prepared camp corners for the parents to inspect, informally, so there will be ample time to chat. In January each patrol planned the camp site, and we are having these on show, with comments on the good and bad points. The Robins are collecting a complete set of personal equipment and are having a pile of kit lists for distribution. We used the printed ones from Headquarters and made a few alterations and additions. The Kingfishers are calling their corner "Cleanliness, a Guide Health Rule." They are showing a tripod wash-stand, complete with bowl and sponge bag and a towel-ladder hung horizontally so that the towels hang down free of each other. They got a great deal of practice in clove hitches while making it. They also want to have a washing-up stand with a draining board, only it's a little difficult when you can't drive the upright into the floor!'

'Try toffee tins packed with earth to push your stakes into, though supports lashed diagonally across your uprights should make the whole thing firm.'

'Near this stand they are having a line for tea towels, the twisted string kind with the corners of the towels stuck through like rabbits ears. Then, if the Tenderfoots finish their useful articles in time, there will be jugs, bowls and buckets on show, each wearing a muslin cap. You know, since we started this camp racket the meetings have practically run themselves.'

'Have you just the two patrols?'

'No, I've three. I haven't told you about the Oaks. They call their corner "Our Cosy Home" and they are showing the gadgets they will have inside their tent. They have a shoe rack with little tripods—though they intend to use forked sticks in camp. They have arranged to borrow a net-ball post (the kind with its own base) to be the tent pole. On this they have fixed what they call a "twiggy bit" with west-country whipping. This is to hang their coats on. They are having a bed "laid out" for sleeping and one made into a bedding roll, inside a groundsheet, sitting tidily on a bedding gadget. They chose to make the kind where two poles rest between tripods and loops lashed to the tent pole.'

'It sounds as if your visitors are going to have a wonderful evening.'

'We're also planning to show them what P.O.R. calls "a tabulated plan of orderly work". Since I shall have to produce one for both my licence and my camp I've done it in advance for the parents to see. It may reduce the questions of "Who does the cooking? Who washes up?" Will it do?'

'You're having three patrols I see. I'm glad you're keeping to the company ones since they are working so well together. Cooking you've made into a full time job and put it to follow Wood and Water. That's a good idea, they burn what they collected the day before.'

'We had to combine some jobs, and as the water and wood are both handy I don't think it will make it too heavy a day.'

'Watch for it next year, on a different site. Water-carrying can be most exhausting. If you have to fetch water from any distance and have to combine it with other duties it's a good idea to divide it between two patrols, making one patrol responsible for drinking and another for washing water. Or make it a company job for half-an-hour twice daily. Health and Orderly you've combined, too. That's possible as Health duties fall mostly into the beginning and end of the day.'

'It would be easier with four patrols, but with such a small company that isn't possible. My other jobs I've divided up. Wood are providing the Campfire and Health the Colour Party. Each patrol is doing its own washing up, the P.L.s are working out a rota. While we're on this, will you criticise my programmes—one for a fine day and one for a wet?'

'I think you've made them too long and too full. Can I suggest Colours at 8 or 8.15 and breakfast a quarter of an hour later? Inspection not before 10.15 or 10.30. You see, the orderly work must be done well, and if your camp feels rushed something will be scamped, very possibly the airing of the bedding or a visit to the lats. Do allow at least three quarters of an hour for a meal. If you finish sooner it's all to the good, but it's not good in any way for you or the Guides to get that fatal behind-hand feeling. It's a bit too organised. Of course you want some company activities, but your patrols need time to adventure and to experiment on their own.'

'Won't they be inclined to sit about?'

'I don't think so, your patrol spirit seems very lively. Give them challenges that they can do if they like, but patrol activities and explorations will probably come bursting forth. You will have some individuals, too, who want to develop their own particular interest. Your P.L.s will tell you if they need help when you meet them each day.'

'What about my bed-time?'

'You haven't allowed enough time for washing. Guides take far longer to get to bed in camp than you would think.'

'I've taken the Guides off the site on a wet day.'

'Yes, you want to keep out of soaking fields and wet bracken, but there is lots to be done in the lanes, or in exploring a village. Bathe in the rain if you are near enough to the beach—but don't risk keeping clothes "dry" on the shore! I see you've added hot elevenens and an extra snack between rest hour and high tea. That's sensible.'

'I'll print these out neatly and the patrols can decorate them, like the orderly list. We cut pictures out of THE GUIDE.'

'These should give your parents a fair idea of what goes on. When is the great evening?'

'Next Thursday. And the C.A.'s coming'. C. M. SMITH



The Kingfisher patrol showed 'washing up' at the parents' camp evening

The Children's Safety Campaign, 1950

ONE of the new items in the second class test reads: 'And demonstrate that she understands the Highway Code as it applies to herself'. The Guide Branch Committee recommended its inclusion in the test because practically every organisation connected with young people has realised that road safety training has got to be included among the activities that they promote, because, to put it bluntly, all the interest, time and knowledge spent on the youngster can be wasted by a careless action on his or her part which could have been prevented by a little training.

This road safety problem is a very real and urgent one. On an average 1,000 children are killed and 30,000 injured in road accidents every year. More than two-thirds of this total are pedestrians, and most of the others are pedal cyclists. Common causes of accidents to child pedestrians are running out into the road without looking; running out from behind stationary vehicles; or playing in the road. Child pedal cyclists most frequently become casualties because of sudden swerves, carelessness at road junctions, losing control or skidding.

All these faults are well-known ones, and the way to avoid them and many others is to be found in the Highway Code. A recent analysis of the causes of over 4,400 fatal accidents (adults included) revealed that ninety-six per cent could have been avoided if those concerned had only obeyed the simple instructions of the Highway Code.

The Guide movement doesn't encourage its members learning something solely to benefit themselves personally, and that would be the position if a person merely learned the

Highway Code, did what it said, and left it at that. No, the Guide movement, and the safety movement too, want to see a much more courteous attitude than that. It is not enough to keep oneself safe; it must be the aim of everyone to pass on their knowledge, both by example and by instruction, so that the lives of others can be made safe, too.

If you turn to the first page of the Code, you will find the Minister of Transport writing '... act upon it and encourage others to do so'. Page 2 tells you 'Consideration for others as well as for yourself is the keynote of the Code'.

Through talks, games and quizzes Guiders can do a good deal to keep the Highway Code before Rangers and Guides, and in training Guides and Brownies to practise Kerb Drill and use pedestrian crossings where possible. They can also introduce references to careful cycling, correct signals, keeping cycles in good repair and complying with the lighting-up regulations.

Guiders can also encourage Rangers, Guides and Brownies to take care of young children. Small children have not lived long enough to realise how dangerous traffic can be. They have not yet enough wisdom to think before they act, and they meet with a fatal accident because there was nothing or no one to restrain them from running into the road.

In all these ways, and by contacting their local Safety First Committees and by obtaining leaflets and posters from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, Terminal House, 52, Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1, Commissioners and Guiders can help the Children's Safety Campaign.

From the Chief Commissioner's Diary

H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth Visits Imperial Headquarters

THE big event of this last month was, of course, the County Ranger Advisers' Conference at Imperial Headquarters. It started with a two-day meeting of the Ranger Committee, and then in the afternoon of January 27th the Conference began. It continued all Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and an enormous amount of ground was covered and a lot of valuable discussion and thinking went into it.

On Sunday the Rev. Wilfred Wade conducted a service and then followed talks which you can read on pages 45-47. Then in the afternoon, while a discussion was in progress, Lady Merthyr and I went downstairs to welcome H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth to I.H.Q.

Her Royal Highness walked between a Guard of Honour formed by London Land, Sea and Air Rangers and went first to see a small exhibition of visual aids arranged by the Council of Industrial Design in the waiting room. From there Princess Elizabeth went straight upstairs and the C.R.A.s had the joy of welcoming her to their Conference.

At Her Royal Highness's special request the discussion continued and she listened to it with great interest. I have since had a letter from her Lady-in-Waiting saying that Her Royal Highness was much impressed by the Conference and hopes that it may have a far-reaching and lasting effect. Princess Elizabeth also said that she would be pleased to know the results of the Conference and the outcome of the discussions.

The Chief Ranger spoke to us on 'The Challenge of Our Time', and it was very rewarding for us all to realise how deep is the interest she takes in the work we try to do. You can read the actual words she said on page 47, and will realise what an inspiration it was to us who heard her speak. Many people had the honour and joy of being presented to Her Royal Highness at the end of the Conference and during tea, and for us all it was a day to remember and a reinforcement to our resolution to achieve great things for Rangering.

February is a time when the countryman is mustering his resources and getting ready for the new year which is with us, busy with plans for sowing, busy with seeds ready for planting out in the spring, and it seems to me that we've been doing much the same thing at I.H.Q. Not only have there been plans to make for the World Conference, which is to be the focal point of all our interest this summer (and a special Conference Committee has been appointed to make plans for it), but there are lots of other trainings and conferences which in any ordinary year would stand out as of special importance. This year one is inclined to think of them as being another cycle in the World Conference saga.

Then news comes in to us of all the rallies and plans which the counties are making, and a very full and busy year this promises to be. Whenever I think of the World Conference I feel inclined to cross my thumbs for good weather, for if only this summer could be like the last how wonderful it would be for us all. I can think of no more perfect setting than Oxford in high summer, and if the delegates from all over the world have fine weather for the sightseeing and expeditions that are being planned for them they should have very delectable memories to take away with them.

I can't close without telling you of a really lovely party which was held at I.H.Q. in January. It was the staff Christmas party and to it they invited thirty old people. After a most delicious tea and all sorts of games and entertainments each of these old folk were given gifts collected by the various departments at H.Q. Never have I seen a more dazzling collection of parcels.

Frank Strickland

[CHIEF COMMISSIONER, IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS]

The New Homecraft Course at Pax Hill

At the end of 1950 the Homecraft course at Pax Hill which began in 1945 will come to an end because the grants by which the scheme has been financed will then cease. More than two hundred Guides and Rangers have had a useful training in housecraft and have lived a happy Guide life at Pax, the home of the Founder and the Chief Guide. It would indeed be sad if this was the end of the story, but it is not.

A new chapter will begin in January, 1951, and there will still be a Homecraft Training Centre at Pax Hill. It will differ in some ways from the former one but in many ways it will be the same. There will still be the same friendly Guide welcome, the Guide uniform and many Guide activities. The staff will be Guiders, and we are hoping that all the students will be Guides or Rangers.

In the November, 1949, issue of THE GUIDER there was a notice on page 226 giving useful information about the National Institute of Houseworkers' Centres. The Girl Guides Association has now become an agent for the National Insti-



ing on good living conditions in the posts which it finds for its students, the National Institute has raised the status of domestic employment.

Naturally it follows that if a student accepts so much financial aid from the Ministry of Labour, from whom the grants come, she will realise that she is expected to put this training into practice and accept suitable work in the homes of our country. In the years to come when she has had experience many interesting and responsible posts will be open to her if she is fully trained and holds the Institute's diploma.

The Girl Guide Movement has always understood the idea of service and of 'being prepared' to give it. Many Guides and Rangers take the badges connected with housecraft. We are therefore expecting that there will be numbers of girls who will wish to take the opportunity of this splendid chance to have a happy nine months residence at Pax Hill while working for their diploma and training for a career in life.

Speaking recently about the National Institute of Houseworkers, Mr. Bevin said: 'The Institute has got to show our women and girls that with proper organisation, domestic work is a skilled trade which has a great contribution to make to the well-being of the nation'. And in September, 1949, when presenting diplomas in Kensington, Mrs. Churchill said: 'If I were a young married woman starting life and I felt the need of one of your houseworkers in my home I should certainly try to pass the diploma examination myself'.

Guides and Rangers anxious to know more about the scheme at Pax Hill in January, 1951, or those who already know that they would like to secure one of the twenty-four places, should write as soon as possible to Miss Anderdon (Secretary of the Pax Hill Centre), 112, Rydens Way, Old Woking, Surrey, stating their date of birth and present occupation. The Ministry of Labour has to decide whether the applicant is eligible, and the Girl Guides Association has to decide whether she is suitable, to be given this chance of training.



Trainees at Pax practise pastry-making

tute of Houseworkers and Pax Hill will be run on much the same lines as the N.I.H. Centres, of which there are ten in Great Britain. Here are the main points in the new scheme:

1. Students aged 15-17 years will take a course for nine consecutive months. Students aged 18 years and over will take a course for six consecutive months.
2. The training will be entirely free and in addition the 15-17 year-old students will receive a maintenance grant of 17s. a week, and the 18 year and over students will receive a maintenance grant of 19s. a week during the course.
3. All students will sit for the Diploma examination of the National Institute of Houseworkers. The younger students take this diploma examination at the end of the year following their course, after practical work in a suitable post. The older students take the examination at the end of the course.
4. Railway fares from the home to the Centre will be paid at the beginning and end of the course and for one break during the course.

This all sounds very attractive, does it not? Here is the great opportunity for those girls who like to do housecraft, to cook, to launder, to care for children, to make homes look clean and beautiful.

In 1944 the National Institute of Houseworkers was formed to put this interesting profession on to a proper footing and by providing a residential course of a reasonable length and a recognised diploma at the end of the training, by fixing a suitable wage scale and proper terms of service and by insist-



Laundry-work is not dull if you learn the best ways of doing it

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Are Your Cadets Camp-Minded?

THESE notes are a record of how a Cadet Company brought camp training into one winter's programme and describe only one of the many ways in which this can be done. The training was planned to suit the company's camping arrangements and to fit in with its members' requirements. These ranged from Second Class badge work for some Cadets who had only just joined the movement to campcraft and First Class work for others.

The company served a town district, and nearly all the Cadets were working, and had very little time to spare apart from company meeting evenings. It was very difficult to collect them together in daylight during the winter. In this particular year the only camping that the company would be able to do as a company would be a few very short weekends near home, but several Cadets had planned to help with Guide camps, and four were to help to staff a District Camp of some thirty Guides which their own Captain was running in Derbyshire the following August.

Learning About the Campsite

Training was based on the Campcraft Certificate syllabus, with the Derbyshire camp in view, all arrangements for the camp being made as part of the training. It was also linked up with First Class and Second Class work, and all the way through it was pointed out to Cadets how this could be, and should be, done in a Guide Company's winter camp training.

Using Ordnance maps of different parts of the country various camp sites were chosen, and everything possible found out about them from the map. The actual site of the Derbyshire camp was then found, and all the necessary information about it discovered, including amenities, transport facilities, the type of country and what there was to do and see in the neighbourhood. Plans of the site were made, and the various parts of the camp fitted into them.

The Cadets did not write the necessary letters to the C.A. and the farmer-owner of the site, but they might quite well have done this and it would have been a useful bit of training. (The four who were to staff this camp were able to visit the site later on, and helped to interview the farmer and tradespeople and discuss arrangements with them.)

Early in the year a complete set of personal equipment was shown, and there was a discussion on the equipment needed for First Class hiking, overnight hiking, and camping for longer periods. The Cadets set about completing their own camp equipment. At the same time the kit list which was to be sent to Guides for the summer camp was checked up, and the best additions and modifications discussed. General equipment lists for the Derbyshire camp were prepared and, later in the year, making lists for our own smaller week-end camps gave a variety of practice in thinking out the needs for different kinds of camps.

Camp sanitation was discussed, and this was combined with health training for Second and

First Class tests, both from the Cadets' own point of view, and from the point of view of the training of Guides from homes of different types. The opportunity camp gives of putting the health rules into practice was thoroughly explored.

First Aid and Quartermastering

A good deal of time was spent on First Aid, and expert help was used for part of the training. The requirements for Brownies' Golden Hand, Guide Second and First Class tests were covered, as well as other emergencies likely to occur in camp. The First Aid list was drawn up, and the arrangement of the First Aid tent for the Derbyshire camp was planned.

An experienced Q.M. came to give talks on quartermastering and to answer questions. The menu and lists of stores needed for the Derbyshire camp were drawn up by the Cadets.

A patrol competition entitled 'Can you make yourself comfortable in a tent in thirty minutes?' introduced a gadget and bed-making session, when the best kind of gadgets for tents of different shapes and sizes, for kitchens and for wash houses were discussed and made. The method of erecting screening was taught with miniature poles and cord on the floor, and no difficulty was found by the Cadets when they put it up with full-sized equipment on the first opportunity. Pitching and striking was discussed, plans were worked out in theory and tried out in practice at our own week-end camps and at the Guide camp later on.

It will be seen that a good deal of training was left out, but by the time this ground was covered spring had come, and it was possible to do more out-door training in daylight. The result was that at the end of the winter some Cadets were well on the way to the Campcraft Certificate, and the First Class badge, others had almost passed Second Class, and all had had foundation training which would stand them in good stead when they took their Guiders' Camp Permits or Licence tests later on.

It was borne in mind all the time that Cadets' camp training should lead them towards the best standard in their own camping, so that they got enjoyment from it, should train them in how to camp with Guides, and send them out as camp-minded Guiders, recognising that camping is a fundamental part of Guiding, and able to hand on the fun and adventure they had found in it.

While they are tackling this camp training Cadets could also be studying some of the following books, all of which are obtainable from Headquarters Bookshop. (Camp training is, of course, essentially practical, but it can be usefully supplemented by reading). First choice will naturally be *Campcraft* (Girl Guides Association, 3s. 6d.); *Lightweight Camping*, by A. M. Maynard (Girl Guides Association, 9d.) contains useful information about week-end camping and overnight hiking; *The Way to Camp*, by S. H. Walker (Methuen, 4s. 6d.) and *The Quartermaster in Camp*, 1s., are also recommended.



Cadets have a great opportunity to pass on to Guides the fun and adventure of camping

The Commissioners' Meeting Place

Experiment in Co-operation

A VISITOR to a certain Scout training site in Scotland last July might well have wondered what type of camp was in progress. Passing the camp totem, a skull and crossbones dripping red paint and affectionately known as Nicodemus, you came to the first site containing a hut and four ridge tents. The hut was really a crèche for children of both sexes aged two years and upwards, with the smallest children sleeping in drawers on the floor because there were not enough cots. Girls, not Guides, slept in two of the tents and women staff in the other two. Continuing along the drive you came next to the staff site, with women in one tent and men in two others. Finally, at the end of the drive was the largest site with two huts, the kitchen, a bell tent and a ridge. Older boys, not Scouts, slept in the tents and younger boys in one of the huts.

The connecting links between this very mixed camp and Guiding were the sixteen students on the staff who were members of the Universities' Scout and Guide Clubs. There were eleven men and five women students from Glasgow, St. Andrews, Liverpool and Edinburgh. The camp was run as a holiday for about seventy children, between the ages of two and eighteen, who had been removed from their parents because they were in need of care and protection and were either in County Homes or boarded out. The staff numbered twenty-two and consisted of the County Probation Officer (who was also a Scouter), the matron of one of the County Homes with four of her staff, and sixteen students.

For the first week the staff worked as few of them had ever worked before and soon got to know each other. At first the men did the heavy outside work and the women the cooking and scrubbing out of the huts, but before long the women were learning to use cross-cut saws and axes and the men were helping with the cooking. Besides all the work on the site a considerable time was spent arranging for block emergency ration cards and stores, as well as filling in forms and smoothing out technical hitches. Towards the end of the week borrowed crockery and cutlery arrived; ten dozen of everything and it all needed washing! The latrine diggers ran into difficulty in the shape of heavy waterlogged clay six inches to a foot below the surface.

The kitchen contained two prize brain children, a range named 'Emmet's British Railways' and a boiler named 'The Rocket'. 'The Rocket' was made from a dustbin and a six foot drainpipe lagged with clay, which kept the kitchen supplied with constant hot water. 'Emmet' was a masterpiece and its components were an open fire with grids, a hot oven, a warm oven, and an altar fire. It was also lagged with clay and from the centre protruded two stove pipes and the whole was under cover of a marquee minus the ends.

The day of the children's arrival dawned very bright—the students knew because they were wakened at 5 a.m.! A running buffet was set up in the crèche and about 10.30 a.m. the children started to arrive in a fleet of vehicles. After medical examination they were given tea and rolls and marmalade. Some of the older girls wanted to help in the kitchen and within a short time two had cut their hands, one quite badly.

The rest of the day was chaotic. The babies were installed in the crèche and the older children split into teams, according to sex and age, and were allocated sleeping quarters. Added to the problems of organising a mixed camp with such a wide age-range was the fact that many of the older children had distorted moral outlooks, requiring considerable supervision without their being aware of it. For this reason there were staff sleeping in the stores and at both sites, while the staff site was on the path between the boys' and girls' camps.

During the camp the main meal of the day was provided by the school meals service, but breakfast, tea and supper had to be produced for about a hundred people. The children

had wonderful appetites and the staff were not far behind. The first serious setback came when the babies were being bathed, as one of the boys had developed chicken pox. He was isolated immediately, and luckily the only other person to catch it was his brother who came out in spots the same evening. They were removed to hospital next morning.

For the first few days the children regarded all members of the staff with open suspicion, until they discovered that they were not treated as outcasts, but as real sharers in the life of the camp. They were not forced to do anything, but most of them wanted to help, and when they were given a job where they could see something for their labour they were very proud. The boys, and some of the girls, delighted in gathering wood, and the felling of trees was a great occasion. To be allowed to use the cross-cut saw was a valued concession and it gave them a feeling of achievement to see a tidy wood-pile growing.

It was not quite so easy to find jobs for the girls, because, although there was an unending supply of dishes and dioxies to clean, there was no novelty in such a mundane job. They did help, but were not too particular about cleanliness, and the staff understood their boredom!

There was plenty of opportunity for rope work of all descriptions, and the children who were helping wanted to know for themselves. Seeing the knots used in a practical way gave them an incentive to learn, and the staff found that this applied to other things as well. The children followed their example, and by the end of the camp quite a few of the boys and girls were thinking about becoming Scouts and Guides.

By the end of the first week everything was under control, but the strain was beginning to tell on the staff, reflected by the increasing number of injuries—six were on the casualty list on the worst day. One man had a twisted knee and ankle, another was in bed with a strained muscle, two women had burnt hands, and two men had fingers badly cut by the bread slicer, which became known as the infernal machine. The children had no serious injuries, only a few cases of mild heat stroke, an attack of bronchitis and three fits.

During the second week it was possible to organise some games and, with only a few exceptions, staff and children were the best of friends. Oddly enough it was the men, two in particular, who were to be found hanging around the crèche helping with the toddlers.

On one afternoon there was a camp party with the tables laden with cakes and quantities of ice cream. The children cleared the tables, with rather drastic effects for a few of them! After the washing up it was discovered that all the men had removed their three weeks' growth of beard except one, so he was given a ceremonial shave with a pail of soap suds and a bill hook. In the scramble the pail of suds was thrown over one of the women students, so her hair was shampooed in order not to waste the soap. The children enjoyed this spectacle thoroughly, and it confirmed their belief that the staff were human after all. The day ended with a final campfire, and everyone was up early on Saturday to strike camp.

As the last lorry went down the drive the children were heard singing 'We're no' awa' tae bide awa'', proving that from their point of view at least the camp had been a success. Besides giving the children a holiday, which they would not have had otherwise, the staff had managed to obtain almost perfect obedience, had stamped out bullying and improved the children's manners. They had also tried to show that there is no such thing as an unwanted child.

Scouts and Guides co-operated well and learnt to respect the separate and mutual qualities of each other's Association. The greatest of these mutual qualities was living up to the motto 'Be Prepared', a necessary one at a camp of this kind!

NORMA FRASER and DAVID TAYLOR

For Brownie Guiders

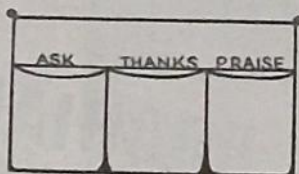
Understanding the Promise and Law

WHEN the new recruit comes to the Brownie Pack she very quickly learns the words of the Promise and Law, and is able to repeat them correctly, but when asked what the words mean, or what she can do to keep the Promise, her answer is often a rather vague 'Be a good girl'.

It is important to give really practical help about how the Promise can be part of their everyday life, and to do this it is necessary to get the Brownies' own ideas. Some children find it very difficult to express their ideas in words and the following suggestions may help these kind of Brownies.

The 'Things Seen' chart is a sheet of cardboard ruled into two columns. A Brownie writes on one side something she would like to 'thank God' for and opposite her own name. If you like, the chart can have a decorative border.

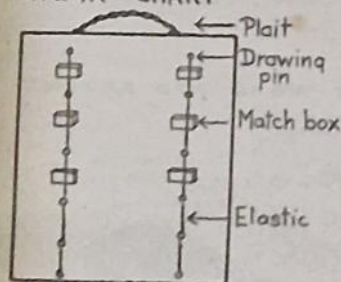
A strip of material with one end turned up and stitched to make three pockets makes the 'Prayer Case'. Prayers chosen by the Brownies



In each pocket is a strip of paper. 'Thanks' and 'Praise' are written on cards and placed in the appropriate pocket and can be used as desired. A decorative tacking stitch can divide the pockets. The 'Prayer Case' is useful where equipment has to be brought each evening as it folds up into a small space.

A sheet of thick cardboard or three-ply wood will make the 'Give-In' chart. Lengths of elastic are secured at intervals

'GIVE IN' CHART

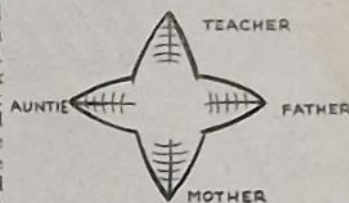


with drawing pins, and match boxes are slipped through the slots made by the elastic. The match boxes are covered with white paper and marked 'Mother', 'Teacher' and so on. Any Brownie who has 'given in' to the grown up concerned puts her initials on a piece of paper which she folds up and

puts in the appropriate box. At Pow-Wow Brown Owl and Tawny draw from one or two of the boxes and the Brownie whose initials are on the paper tells the way she has 'given in'.

The 'Helpful Star' is also made of cardboard. The four or five rays of the Star are marked off into sections, each of which is named after someone to whom the Brownie might do a good turn. Each Six takes one ray for a week to see how many good turns they can do for the person concerned. The Six decides which good turn they would like to tell about at Pow-Wow.

HELPFUL STAR



If it meets with the approval of the pack a section is coloured in.

Every time a Brownie hears or reads of what she considers a good turn done by any member of the Royal Family she can stick a pin of the appropriate colour into a 'Royal Good Turn' crown. This

ROYAL GOOD TURN

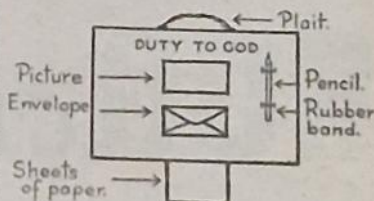


is a cardboard crown with a supply of different coloured drawing pins for each member of the Royal Family.

The 'Duty to God' chart consists, as the diagram shows, of a suitable picture at the top, an envelope, sheets of paper and a pencil threaded through rubber bands. At any time during the meeting a Brownie can take a slip of paper and draw a picture illustrating 'Duty to God'. When finished she folds up the paper and puts it in the envelope. This is emptied periodically and the pictures are shown and discussed at Pow-Wow.

It is through such charts and equipment that the Guider learns what the children really think and feel, and so is able to apply the teaching of the Promise and Law in the most helpful way to each individual child.

Care should be taken to see that the equipment is kept simple, and that no one chart is used for too long a period, and that in the discussions that follow at Pow-Wow no child is left with a sense of undue self-satisfaction.



For Your Bookshelf

The Lone Guiders' Handbook (Girl Guides Association, 2s. 6d.) has been rewritten and brought right up to date. Every Lone Guider should possess one and it is hoped that County Lone Secretaries will see that every company has at least one copy. It is largely the work of Miss James, the Lone H.I. who has great practical experience in Lone and 'active' Guiding, while to Miss Cobham we owe helpful information on writing and illustrating Lone Letters. The handbook contains detailed suggestions for Lone Guide and Lone Ranger programmes, for camp training, the patrol system and Court of Honour, test work and company management generally. Lone organisation is explained and the duties of County Lone Secretaries clearly stated. M.M.H.

The new *Fire-lighting Chart* (Girl Guides Association, 1s.) is an excellent publication, well and clearly drawn, with most of the important points well brought out, such as where to choose the site for your fire, what to use for lighting, and remembering to ask permission of the owner of the land. Several useful types of fires are clearly shown, and the plan

of campaign in clearing up. The importance of not leaving any bits of stick or charred wood under the turf when it is put back is a point that would have to be emphasised by the Guider, as it is not shown in the Chart, nor how the little pyramid fire is changed to the square cob-house when alight. B.M.P.

The *Play List* has been brought up to date and is obtainable free, plus 1d. for postage. It gives all the plays published by I.H.Q. and a selection of others suitable for Brownies, Guides, and Rangers as well as details of the principal publishers of suitable material for entertainment. Companies vary in their acting ability and there is also a difference in taste, between town and country players and their audiences, so that it would be unreasonable to expect that every play in this list is suitable for your particular company, but you may be sure that every play mentioned is 'actable' and worth doing. Some of the volumes listed may be out of print but they may be found in town and country libraries and in our own library at I.H.Q. E.P.

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N.62

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Notes of the Month

Red Letter Day for Virginia

It was the most exciting day in Virginia's short Brownie life. It all began when the International Secretary telephoned to say that an American lady, Mrs. Baker (who was sent to Europe to study social services), was coming to I.H.Q. the following day and bringing with her a Girl Scout doll made by the 4th Kentucky Troop, and could Virginia be produced to receive it? Could she not! She was whisked out of school at one o'clock and transported to I.H.Q., where the International Commissioner, Lady Somerleyton, was waiting to receive the guests, Mr. and Mrs. Baker and Mr. Mann. Virginia was delighted when she was told that the doll was a present for her pack—'Just in time for our Thinking Day party!' Two ice-creams for lunch was not an unappreciated item on the programme and Virginia did not seem unduly perturbed at the thought of being late back to school. Everyone gave her good advice as to what excuse to make to her teacher and all the way back she was muttering, 'I have been promoting Anglo-American relations Uncle Sam says'.

Virginia, by the way, is the grand-daughter of the late Mrs. Mark Kerr, the first International Commissioner and County Commissioner for London—and so tradition is happily carried on.



Virginia Liddell visits the Council Chamber to show the Founder's portrait to Mrs. Baker

Mrs. Eric Streatfeild

If she were not still working for us as hard as ever it would be very sad to have to record that Mrs. Streatfeild resigned her post last year as Commissioner for Drama. I suppose that she first gained renown in Guiding for her pageant plays 'The Amber Gate' and 'Adventurers', while a recent generation learnt to admire her wit and charm as a writer in 'Here Come the Girl Guides'. Mrs. Streatfeild gives distinction to anything she touches, and we are indeed fortunate in having been able, for so long, to call upon her services for the movement. Her many friends will be glad to know that her resignation will not end our happy connection with her. Indeed, she is now hard at work preparing a campfire ceremony, with Miss Mary Chater, our Commissioner for Music, for the World Conference.

A Local Association Holiday

A party of Local Association members was being shown over Foxlease. 'We wish we could come and stay here', they said, 'for a holiday'. 'Would you really like to?' said the Guider-in-Charge. 'Of course we would', said they, 'we could sit all day in the sunshine with our knitting, and you could tell us in the evenings all that we don't know about Guiding—about the G.I.S. and the World Conference and Extension Guides and Headquarters'. The Guider-in-Charge smiled slightly, but kept the suggestion in mind, with the result that just such an opportunity is now offered to Local Association members. They are invited to come for a five-day holiday from June 16th-20th, when Foxlease and the Forest will be looking quite lovely. Those who are full of energy, and who have no wish to sit and knit, are reminded that Foxlease is well placed for visits to Bournemouth, Southampton, Romsey and Winchester. Applications to the Secretary, from whom all information can be obtained about cost and other details.

Thanks for Parcels to the G.I.S.

All the readers who responded so generously to the good turn appeal for Christmas parcels for people in D.P. camps will be interested to read the following extracts from 'thank you' letters. 'The parcels from the United Kingdom and the Dominions were wonderful. During December we received nearly three hundred, all very carefully and well packed.

Brownies, Guides and Rangers and friends of the G.I.S. did a magnificent job in sending such lovely things, and as a result of their efforts many people had pleasure at Christmas, which they otherwise would not have had. I only wish that those who so kindly sent the parcels could have had the fun with us of distributing the contents. . . .

In most camps the majority of presents given out by St. Nicholas came from Guides in England and Australia and all old people and hospital patients received food and gifts and D.P. prisoners in gaol were visited and parcels, Christmas cards and food distributed to them.

The sick children had a lovely time. A Nativity Play was performed by the nurses and bigger children who could walk about, and in the beautifully decorated wards Father Christmas visited all the patients'.

And here is an appeal for the name and address of one of these donors. The parcel contained a number of handmade toys, very beautifully made from felt, and delightful babies' hand-knitted garments and gloves. Each article had a Christmas card attached, also hand done, with 'Fröhliche Weihnachten' on it. Would the senders let the Secretary, G.I.S. Office, 7 Hobart Place, London, S.W.1, have their address?

I.H.Q. Staff Party

'It was a grand time and I am sure you are all a great bunch of girls doing a grand job of work', ran a letter of thanks from one of the guests invited to the Christmas I.H.Q. staff party through the Westminster Old People's Welfare Association. Lady Stratheden and Lady Cochrane joined Miss Frith in welcoming the guests. The programme included a conjuring show, and before 'Auld Lang Syne' each guest received a surprise parcel. Any invited guest who was prevented by illness from coming to the party received their parcels at home or in hospital, and one of these guests wrote: 'I think the world of the gift and the good faith in which it was sent'.

Hospitality for Polish Girls

We have again been asked to help find hospitality for some part of the summer holidays (July and August) for Polish girls in schools or hostels in England, and it has been suggested that some companies might invite two girls to their camp. The ages of the girls would be as far as possible between twelve and seventeen. Fares will be paid and, where necessary, subsistence allowance up to 2s. 6d. a day. It will be possible for the girls to bring, or be supplied with, blankets and other items of camp kit. Each girl will be asked to send a medical certificate of her fitness for camp life three days before going to camp. Guiders whose companies would like to help, either by offering hospitality in camp or in the homes of Guides or Rangers, should obtain the approval of their own Commissioner and Camp Adviser, and send details of hospitality to Miss Tuckwell, at I.H.Q.

The Right Kind of Play

PLAY is generally looked upon as a recreation and relaxation, which it may well be, but what we find so difficult to realise is that play is also serious, for it is during play more than at any other time, that the child's character is formed, her power for work developed and her attitude towards life fixed.

We have only to look at the animal kingdom to see the importance of play. It is not merely for the fun of the thing that the kittens chase their mother's tail—they are acquiring the necessary power of concentration and agility to enable them to catch mice. But note this, if it were not fun the effort would not, and could not, be made.

Baden-Powell, who has been called by a well-known psychologist 'the greatest educational genius of all time', proved this when he founded Scouting for Boys. He used the boys' natural urge for playful mischief to produce reliable, helpful young citizens. Forty years have passed since then, yet all round the world such groups can still be seen among Scouts and Guides because he did not rely simply on instruction, or even leadership, but implemented his ethical laws by the right kind of play.

'Learning their duty to God and the King

By tying knots in bits of string'

his mockers said—and they were right.

You cannot learn to drive a car in a garage, nor can a child develop and control his personality until his energies are fully liberated, as they are when at the work of his choice—generally called by the adults play. Here is something in which she believes she can succeed, and it is this which is necessary to the health and growth of every one. Give a child the chance to do so in a healthy legitimate way, and she will take to it as a duck does to the water, but if there are no such satisfying social opportunities she will be compelled to find other ways out, often destructive or anti-social.

Games are organised play, and should be chosen to produce definite results, but because the incentive of competition still further accelerates a child's natural desire for activity they should not go on too long, but alternate with creative work which will be equally alluring, providing it appears to her as something useful.

The seven games which follow are purely recreational, their joyous activity counteracting the sitting position in which so much of the children's time is spent. They are based on old favourites and included more with the intention of making children alert, happy and controlled, than with correcting their physical defects. It is as well, however, to realise that most children stand badly; poking heads, round shoulders and protruding abdomens may be partially hidden by clothes, but learn to notice them, for they are there, hindering a child's full development not only physically but mentally. A child that stands well and looks up has more self-respect, and will find it easier to speak the truth than one who slouches. A good standing position should be the condition of starting and of winning each game, and all of them should be played out of doors if in any way possible.

Hints on Taking Games

1. *Be Prepared.* Don't call for attention until you have a clear mental picture of how the game will work out from start to finish.

2. *Stand well* and where you can be seen by all. Children copy.

3. *Stand still.* Arrange for someone else to point out the starting and finishing posts. You cannot keep a company's attention if you walk about.

4. *Be definite,* using the fewest words possible. 'Woolly' commands receive 'woolly' responses. In new games the rules should be repeated by the players, and procedure demonstrated.

5. *Pause* before executive commands to give the company time to visualise what they have to do. Thus: 'In file be-

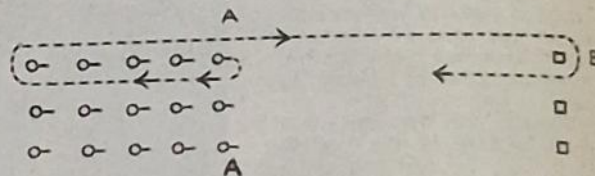
hind your leaders—Fall in. (Generally the pause is too short.)

6. *Keep discipline.* 'Silence' means absolute silence. A straight line is one that cannot be made straighter. A command getting a slow response should be repeated until the company responds quickly. The company should be familiar with whistle and hand signals.

7. *Remember games must be fun.* Mistakes can be funny and, while correcting, you can still laugh. For instance, a company once fell in very clumsily and noisily. The captain laughingly said: 'Here comes the amalgamated society of elephants. I think we will have that again!'

Relay racing with patrols standing in file formation is easy to organise and admits of many variations—hopping, jumping, skipping, crab running (on all fours sideways) or the introduction of obstacles—but the simpler it is kept, and the less waiting for a turn, the better. To make it fair, members of smaller patrols should be allowed to run twice.

1. *Flag Race.* Players line up behind their Leaders facing a distant post. Starting from A No. 1 circles round her patrol and then round the post (B) and back, handing the flag to No. 2, who does likewise. The first patrol to finish, standing correctly, wins.



2. *Windmills.* The same as above, except that one player acts as the post, and swings her runners round back towards home.

3. *Chariots.* Players run up three abreast, the centre one running backwards when going towards the post, the outer two running backwards on the return. This is a useful variation for large patrols.

4. *Water Carriers.* (Patrols sitting in file in order to watch). No. 1 stands and places a book on her head, walks round the post and back giving it to No. 2 who does the same, and so on. (The object of this game is to give practice in good carriage, any one dropping the book, or poking the head forward, has to return to the starting place. Books should be tied up to protect them.)

5. *Stick Jumping.* (File position, single arm distance.) No. 1 runs down her patrol holding a stick about a foot above the ground while the others in turn jump over it. She then runs up with it and gives it to No. 2 and falls back to the end of the file. The first patrol whose leader is back in position wins.

6. *Ball Overhead.* No. 1 passes a ball over her head to No. 2 and so on down the patrol. The last one runs to the front and sends the ball down again until No. 1 stands in the front once more. The first to hold ball up for all to see wins.

7. *O'Grady Says.* A well-known popular game to produce quick response. Simple physical exercises and drill commands are given but only obeyed if prefixed by 'O'Grady says'. Thus 'O'Grady says, right turn'. (Players turn right). 'As you were' (any one turning to the left has to fall out). These may act as umpires, and so still get practice in alertness of mind.

None of these games requires equipment. Even the ball can be made from an old stocking well stuffed at the foot with scraps of paper, rolled up and stitched.

A. MAYNARD.
(Miss Maynard would be glad to receive constructive criticisms of the games published in this series of articles and to hear of other games Guiders have found valuable and popular as it is hoped to publish a games book later. Please write to her at Chantry Cottage, Old Bexhill Sussex.—Editor.)

Headquarters Notices

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council of the Girl Guides Association was held at 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1, on Wednesday, February 8th, 1950.

Present: Mrs. Davies-Cooke (Chair), The Lady Stratheden and Campbell, Mrs. Miles Burdett, B.E.M., The Lady Burnham, J.P., Miss J. Clayton, J.P., The Hon. Lady Cochrane, The Viscountess Colville of Culross, Lady Cooper, Mrs. Douglas of Mains, Miss I. H. Kay, J.P., Dame Vera Loughton Mathews, D.B.E., Mrs. H. S. Mair, M.A., Miss M. L. Martin, Miss H. McSwiney, Mrs. I. H. Powell Edwards, Mrs. C. Traherne.

By Invitation: The Countess of Clarendon (afternoon), The Lady Somerleyton, M.B.E., J.P.

Apologies: The Lady Oaksey, O.B.E., J.P., The Lady Baden-Powell, G.B.E., Mrs. J. W. Haughton, O.B.E., Miss D. Powell, J.P.

In Attendance: Miss J. Frith, O.B.E., Miss M. White, M.B.E., Miss M. Nicoll (during item 19b), Commander Brickdale (during item 5).

Business Arising: Pax Hill Ad Hoc Committee; King George's Jubilee Trust; Ranger Guiders' Uniform.

Correspondence: Director of the World Bureau.

Hon. Treasurer: Quarterly statement; B-P Fund Bursaries; B-P Fund; English Ranger Rally, Royal Albert Hall; Guiders' Indemnity Policy; Finance Scheme.

Chief Commissioner: Guide Branch Committee constitution; County Commissioners' Conference; resignation of Lady Fryer as I.H.Q. Commissioner for Auxiliaries; Lord Mayor's Thanksgivings Fund Committee.

Chief Commissioner for England: P.O.R. amendment; appointment of Miss Barbara James as Commissioner for Lanes for England in the place of Miss Humphreys, resigned.

Chief Commissioner for Scotland: Scottish constitution.

Chief Commissioner for Ulster: Appointment of Miss McKibben as Commissioner for Training for Ulster from July 1st, 1950, in place of Miss Kerr, resigned.

Overseas Commissioner: Federal Australian Constitution; appointment of Mrs. Bruce as Colony Commissioner for Aden, in place of Mrs. Osborne, resigned; appointment of Mrs. Liddle to be Island Commissioner Bahrain Island; appointment of Lady Gaggero to be Colony Commissioner for Gibraltar in place of Mrs. Bacon, resigned; appointment of Mrs. Simmons to be Island Commissioner for Seychelles in place of Miss Beck, resigned; appointment of Mrs. Moffett to be Territorial Commissioner for Tanganyika in place of Mrs. Vaughan, resigned; greetings from the Chief Guide.

Imperial Headquarters: Headquarters Sub-Committees—annual changes in membership; summary of Executive Committee business for 1949; Great Britain's delegates to World Conference; Scottish Provisional Orders; Nominations Committee; Census Figures, 1949; Uniform.

International Committee: Committee constitution; invitations to Foreign Associations; invitations from Foreign Associations.

Public Relations Committee: Membership of the Committee; World Association Public Relations Sub-Committee; Youth Camping Association; 18-30 Conference.

Publications Committee: Designs for world poster.

World Conference Ad Hoc Committee: Report.

Guide International Service Committee: Report.

Awards Committee: Recommendations.

Appointments and Resignations:

Imperial Training Committee: Diplomas; P.O.R.

Any other Business.

CALL TO HIGHER SERVICE

Mrs. Aston (formerly Miss Tasker), District Commissioner for Meigle and for many years captain of the 1st Meigle Guide Company. Perthshire has suffered a great loss in the death of a Guider who for twenty-nine years was loved and followed by the many Brownies, Guides and Guiders who came under her guidance. Despite a great deal of ill-health she showed much cheerfulness and courage.

On January 17th, 1950, Brownie Hilary Creaney, aged eight, after four months in hospital. An orphan from an early age, Hilary was a faithful and much loved member of the 1st Haverfordwest pack.

Gwen Smith, peacefully, after a long illness, on January 30th, 1950. Swallow P.L. of the 1st Essex Post Guide company, formerly of the 5th Loughton.

AWARDS

Fortitude.

Badge of Fortitude.—Company Leader Maureen Reid, aged 18, 1st Aughnacloy company, N. Ireland. Maureen has been in a plaster cast for eighteen months with spinal trouble, and can

only move her arms and head. She is always exceptionally bright and cheerful, and has never been heard to grumble. She lives with her father and a younger brother and sister in an isolated cottage, and contributes to the family finances by undertaking knitting orders.

Good Service.

Beaver.—Mrs. Bayly Cole, Deputy Chief Commissioner, South Africa.

Medal of Merit.—Miss M. Gwyer, Division Commissioner for George Non-European Division, South Africa. Miss Mogg, District Commissioner for Africans, Kimberley, South Africa.

Certificate of Merit.—Mrs. Dashwood, District Commissioner, Queenstown, Cape East Province, South Africa.

COMING EVENTS

The Empire Circle March meeting will be held at the Guide Club, 46 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1 on March 23rd, when the speaker will be Miss Mary White of Queensland. All Guiders are welcome. Those who wish may obtain coffee and sandwiches between 7 and 7.30 p.m. if they let Miss Maynard, the Club Secretary, know beforehand. Miss Maynard would be grateful if any Club members who are attending the meeting and want dinner beforehand will let her know.

The first Evening Social will be held at the Guide Club on April 27th. This will be for members only; details will be given in the April GUIDER.

A Methodist Guiders' Conference will be held in the library at I.H.Q. on April 14th (7 to 9 p.m.) and April 15th (2 to 9 p.m.). The theme is 'The Guider in the life of her Church' and applications should be made to Miss Todd, Methodist Youth Department, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.4.

A Rally for Baptist Guides and Rangers will be held on Saturday, 15th April, from 3.30 to 6.30 p.m., at Horsferry Road Baptist Church, Westminster. Speaker: Miss Nancy Alden, Secretary of the Girls' Auxiliary. Tea, games and campfire. Companies and individual Guides, Rangers, and Guiders welcome. All particulars from Miss Page, 93 Gloucester Place, London, W.1.

North Surrey Land Rangers invite other Land Rangers to their Adventure Camp at Heyswood, Cobham, Surrey, during the Easter week-end, Thursday evening, April 6th, to Monday evening, April 10th. If there is enough demand the camp will be extended to April 14th. Please apply as soon as possible to Miss M. Collins, 12 Marksbury Avenue, Richmond, Surrey, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

Devon Land Rangers invite other Land Rangers to join their Adventure Camp on June 17th-24th. The site will be on or near Dartmoor. Full details from the C.R.A., Miss Windeatt, Druid, Ashburton, Devon.

A North Eastern Area Conference for Commissioners, Guiders, Secretaries and L.A. members will be held at Butlins Holiday Camp, Filey, E. Yorkshire, from Friday, September 22nd (tea-time) to Sunday, September 24th, at 4.30 p.m. The World Chief Guide and the Chief Commissioner for England, Lady Cochrane, will be present and it is hoped that a thousand will attend so that a whole village of the camp may be used for the conference. It is anticipated that the greatest support will come from Northumberland, Durham and all Ridings of Yorkshire, but all applications will be warmly welcomed from every county in England. The cost will be £2, with a conference fee of 2s. Counties in the N.E. area should apply to their own County Secretary for particulars and booking forms; applications from other counties should be sent to the Conference Secretary, Miss D. Baldwin, Elmsall House, Sinnington, Yorkshire, as soon as possible.

GENERAL NOTICES

The following Legacies have been received during 1949: The late Miss S. Mounsey-Heysham, £50; the late Mr. Graham Robertson, £500; the late Miss J. M. S. Mathews, £1,000; the late Lord Austin, £100; the late Mr. Frederick Bach, £10.

Let's Girl Guide Diary for 1952. The Lane Section have been asked to edit the topical matter and Guiders are invited to send suggestions for these pages to the Commissioner for Lanes, Miss M. Hall, Ashleigh, Balmoral Road, Parkstone, Dorset, before March 14th, 1950.

I.H.Q. Library is now open on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m.—1 p.m. Books may be borrowed for two weeks and can be returned through the post.

Cheap fares are available through our vouchers on the same terms as before and there will be no week-end restrictions for 1950. These vouchers are obtainable from Headquarters on request.

Where to Train

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS

THE minimum age for attendance at trainings is 17½, but Foxlease and Waddow both have exceptions this year as there is a weekend for Cadets at Waddow from March 17th-20th, and weeks for P.L.s at both centres from August 15th-22nd. Not more than two P.L.s from the same company will be accepted, although additional names may be put on the waiting list.

The week at Foxlease from July 4th-11th for Commissioners and Guide Guiders with their children now has a full 'nursery'. There is still room for Commissioners and Guiders but children will have to go on the waiting list.

From July 25th-August 1st at Foxlease there will be an opportunity for Guiders in this country to meet visitors from abroad and to take part in an International song and dance training. Guide Training sessions will also be included in the programme. Other International trainings arranged for this World Conference year are at Headquarters from March 17th-19th and April 21st-22nd. (See Trainings at I.H.Q.)

Members of Local Associations and Trefoil Guild members will be welcome at the Waddow Holiday period, July 15th-August 2nd and August 25th-31st.

FOXLEASE

March	
3-7	N.W. London Commissioners
10-14	West Surrey
17-21	Guide and Brownie (fully booked)
24-31	Guide and Brownie (fully booked)
April	
4-13	(Easter) Guide and Ranger
18-25	Guide and Brownie (fully booked)
28-5	May. Bristol W. Division
May	
9-15	Extensions
18-23	Empire Representatives
26-5	June (Whitsun). Guide and Brownie with special sessions for Commissioners
June	
9-13	Woodcraft
16-20	Local Association, Holiday Period
23-30	Empire Chief Commissioners
July	
4-11	Commissioners and Guide Guiders (facilities for children under 5)
17-21	Pre-World Conference gathering
25-1	Aug. International song and dance week with Guide training sessions
August	
4-11	Guide and Brownie (Bank Holiday)
15-22	P.L.s
25-1	Sept. Woodcraft and Holiday Week
September	
5-12	Guide and Brownie
15-22	Guide and Brownie
26-3	Oct. Commissioners and Secretaries
October	
6-10	England—Certificated Trainers
13-16	Somerset
20-27	Guide and Brownie
31-7	Nov. General Training

WADDOW

March	
3-6	Empire and International training
10-13	General training (with special sessions for Commissioners)
17-20	Cadets
24-27	Guide and Brownie
31-3	April. Promise and Law
April	
6-11	(Easter) Guide, Brownie and Ranger (waiting list only)
14-17	Woodcraft and First Class
21-24	English Certificated Trainers
28-1	May. N.E. Lancs.
May	
5-8	Guide and Brownie
12-15	Cheshire
19-22	Rangers (Special Sessions for Lands and Seas)
26-5	June (Whitsun) Guide and Brownie
June	
9-26	Cleaning
30-3	July Brownie
July	
7-14	General Week
15-2	Aug. Holiday period for Guiders, Cadets and Rangers
August	
4-11	General (August Bank Holiday)
15-22	P.L.s
25-31	Holiday period for Guiders, Cadets and Rangers
September	
1-4	Guide and Brownie
8-11	Campfire
15-18	Brownie
22-25	South Lancs
29-2	Oct. Guide
October	
6-9	Staffordshire
13-16	S.W. Lancs.
20-23	Guide and Brownie
Applications for Foxlease and Waddow should be sent (with a deposit of 7s. 6d.) to the Secretary, at Foxlease, Lyndhurst, Hants, or to the Secretary at Waddow Hall, Clitheroe, Lancs.	
The fees for these centres (minimum, 10s.) are: Single room £3 a week, 9s. 6d. a day. Double room, £2 10s. a week, 8s. a day. Shared room, £2 a week, 7s. a day.	
S.R. TRAINING SHIP. M.T.B. 630, DARTMOUTH	
April	
4-25	Fitting out
29-6	May. Sea Rangers
May	
9-16	Permit and Charge
19-22	(Week-end) Permit and Charge
25-5	June. Pre-warrant
June	
8-15	Permit and Charge
17-24	Petty Officers and Bo'suns
27-6	July. Sailing
July	
8-15	Sea Rangers
18-25	Pre-warrant
28-31	(Week-end) Sea Rangers
August	
2-9	Sea Rangers
11-18	Permit and Sailing
21-28	Sea Rangers (Regatta Week)
30-6	Sept. Permit and Charge
September	
8-15	Pre-warrant
16-23	Sea Rangers
26-3	Oct. 'All-comers' Guiders' Holiday Week

Applications to The Secretary, Florence Court, Torquay, enclosing a deposit of 7s. 6d. and a stamped addressed envelope. Fee: £2 2s. per week.

TRAININGS AT I.H.Q.

A Training for Lone Guiders will be held at Imperial Headquarters from April 21st-23rd, commencing at 7 o'clock on Friday evening, 10.30 a.m. on Saturday and 2.15 p.m. on Sunday. Fee: 6s.

An International Training will be held at Imperial Headquarters from March 17th to 19th, commencing at 7 o'clock on Friday evening, 10.30 a.m. on Saturday and 2.15 p.m. on Sunday. Fee: 6s.

A Conference for Music Advisers or their representatives and holders of the Campfire H.I. will be held at I.H.Q. on November 11th from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Applications for all above trainings to the Secretary, Imperial Training Department, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, and in the case of the Lone and International trainings, a deposit of 2s. 6d.

ENGLAND

What is Guiding? A conference on the ideals and methods of the movement, with sessions on the branches and sections and the history of Guiding, will be held at I.H.Q. on Saturday, March 25th from 11 a.m. till 7 p.m. This is planned for Commissioners and Guiders who have recently come into the movement or who have come back after a long interval. Please apply to the English Training Department giving particulars of your contact with, or interest in, the movement. A detailed programme will then be sent.

SCOTLAND

Netherurd

March	
3-6	Guide
10-13	Advanced (by invitation)
17-20	Brownie
24-27	Ranger Guiders
31-3	April. Guide
April	
6-11	(Easter) Guide and Brownie (Party from Dundee)
14-17	Pre-warrant
21-24	Guide
28-1	May. Cadets
May	
5-8	International
12-15	Commissioners
19-22	Students
26-29	(Whitsun) Guide and Brownie
June	
2-5	Local Association
9-12	Campfire
16-19	Available for county
23-26	Available for county
July	
28-8	Aug. Patrol Leaders' Camp and Patrol Leaders in house Rangers' and Cadets' Camps
August	
11-18	Guiders' Training week
22-29	Guiders' Holiday week
September	
1-4	Rangers
8-15	Empire Week
22-25	Ranger Guiders
29-2	Oct. Guide

October

- 6-9 Advanced (by invitation)
13-16 Brownie
20-23 Pre-warrant
27-30 Training in Testing (Guide)
Fees: Shared room, £2 10s. a week, 7s. 6d. a day. A training fee of 2s. a course will be charged, and an additional fee of 2s. 6d. for a single room. Applications, enclosing a deposit of 5s., to the Secretary, Netherurd, Blyth Bridge, West Linton, Peebleshire.

WALES

Broneirion

- March
3-6 Prospective Certificated Trainers
14-17 Commissioners (mid-week)
24-27 Chairmen, Secretaries, Welsh County Training Committees
April
6-11 Guide and Brownie Guiders (Easter)
14-16 Monmouth County Booking (some open places)
18-25 Patrol Leaders (open)
May
3-4 Local Associations' Conference
12-15 Cardiff and East Glamorgan
26-30 Cadets (Whitsun)
June
2-4 Monmouth County Booking (Guide and Brownie) (Some open places)
9-13 Ranger Guiders
16-19 Guide Guiders and Commissioners
July
7-10 County booking
14-16 County Music weekend
31-3 Aug. International Commissioners
August
8-15 Patrol Leaders (Open)
22-29 Patrol Leaders (Cardiff and East Glamorgan)

Sept.

29-1 Oct. Guide Guiders

October

- 6-9 Pack Holiday Training for Prospective Permit Holders and C.A.s
13-17 County booking
20-24 W. Glamorgan County—Brownie, Guide and Ranger—some open places.
27-31 Brownie Guiders and Commissioners

Fees for Broneirion are the same as those for Foxlease. Applications, enclosing a deposit of 5s., to the Guider-in-Charge, Broneirion, Llandinam, Montgomeryshire.

ULSTER

Lorne

- March
3-5 Brownie pre-warrant
10-12 International and Overseas
17-19 Federation of Girls' Clubs
24-26 County Armagh
31-2 April, Ranger Guiders
April
7-10 (Easter) Guide Guiders
14-16 Patrol Leaders
21-23 Pre-warrant—Counties
28-30 Captain Ball Teams
May
5-7 East and South East Belfast
12-14 Woodcraft
19-21 Old 34th Belfast Reunion
26-28 Brownie
June
2-4 Outdoor working parties
9-11 Outdoor working parties
16-18 Rangers, Land Ranger Adventure weekend.

CAMPING AND HOLIDAYS

Cadet Camp. A camp for Cadets will be held at Foxlease from September 2nd—

9th. Fee 30s. Applications to the Secretary, Imperial Training Dept.

Foxlease and Waddow. Before making application for a camp site at Foxlease or Waddow, please consult your C.A. and obtain her permission in writing for you to apply. This is necessary as everyone will realise that all the camps at the training centres must be of a high standard.

Applications should be addressed to the Secretary and the envelope marked 'Camp'. Written permission, together with a camp fee of 5s., should also be enclosed. No site may be booked for more than one week for one company during the main camping season. The camp sites at Waddow can only be booked from Saturday to Saturday or Wednesday to Wednesday. The maximum number on any one site at Foxlease is thirty campers.

Foxlease Annexe. Applications for holidays at Foxlease Annexe during 1950 should be made to the Secretary, Foxlease.

Blackland Farm. East Grinstead, Sussex. Applications for camp sites for 1950 should be made to the Warden.

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 the late autumn or early spring.

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, fees 9s. per day. There are two equipped camp sites. Applications to the Guider-in-Charge, Lorne, Craigavad, Co. Down.

Special Purchase of

GOVERNMENT
SURPLUS STOCKS

Good supplies are available, but as these stocks move very quickly prompt ordering will avoid disappointment.

Sleeping Bags Kapok and feather each £2.6.0

Commando rucksacs each £2.0.0
Complete with 3 pockets and blanket strap

"New British" Tents each £13.13.4

Made from Government surplus brown and green canvas. Size 14ft. long by 14ft. wide by 7ft. high. 2ft. 3in. wall. Two doorways. Complete with 3 jointed poles, ridge pole and pegs. Weight 112 lbs. Very suitable for a MESS TENT

HESSIAN is now available for essential screening. Obtain your requirements now:

72in. wide at 3s. 4d. per yard

Special Offer from

OUR TENT STOCKS
AT UNREPEATABLE PRICES

"Foxlease" £9.17.6

Size 7ft. long by 6ft. wide by 5ft. 6in. high. 2ft. wall. Made from green cotton duck. Complete with two jointed upright poles, one jointed ridge pole, pegs and all accessories. Packed in Hessian Bag. Weight 29 lb.

"Cottage" £13.4.0

Size 8ft. long by 7ft. wide by 6ft. high. 3ft. wall. Made from 8 oz. green proofed cotton duck. Two doorways with window in each doorway. Complete with one 8ft. two-piece ridge pole, two 6ft. two-piece upright poles, wooden pegs and mallet. Packed in Hessian Bag. Weight 39 lb.

"Lancashire" £3 0.0

Size 6ft. long by 4ft. wide by 3ft. 6in. high. 9in. walls. (Size when packed approx. 19ft. by 4in.) Made from white tent fabric with doorway one end. Complete with pocketed sectioned upright poles, guys, and metal pegs. Packed in bag. Weight 4½ lb.

Full price list of tents and ground-sheets on application

Orders over £1 sent carriage free

THE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION
17/19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1

Classified Advertisements

Situations advertised under this heading are available only to applicants exempt from the Control of Emigration Order, 1947, No. 3621. 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

North Regional Association for the Blind.—Arrangements for a training course for prospective Home Teachers of the Blind are in course of preparation. The course will commence late September or early October, 1950, and continue until the end of June, 1951. It will prepare candidates for the examination for the Home Teaching Certificate of the College of Teachers of the Blind to be held in July, 1951. Candidates must be between 21 and 40 years of age on the date of the examination. This certificate is the requisite qualification for the post of Home Teacher of the Blind, the usual salary paid being £390, rising by annual increments of £15 to £435 per annum. The fee for the course is sixty guineas, and full details can be obtained from the Secretary, North Regional Association for the Blind, 17, Blenheim Terrace, Leeds 2.

Two domestic assistants required in New Zealand. Young children, £2 10s. weekly. Passages paid.—Box 396.
Girl Junior clerk (age 15 years) required for general duties in shipowner's office. Interesting position with prospects to conscientious worker.—Apply stating capabilities to Box 399.

HEADQUARTERS VACANCIES

Junior shorthand-typist required to train for secretarial duties of special interest to keen Ranger or Cadet. Salary starting at £3 to £4 per week according to age, ability and experience.—Apply to Assistant General Secretary, Girl Guides Association, 17-19, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.
Messenger to train as clerk urgently required by Postal Department. Splendid opportunity for Guide training school.—Apply Secretary of the Postal Department, Girl Guides Association, 17-19, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.
Experienced clerk required as Assistant to the head of the mail order department. Active Guide aged 28 years and over preferred. Good salary according to experience.—Apply Equipment Secretary, Girl Guides Association, 17-19, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.
Female—Assistant Housekeeper wanted on March 1st. Experience of general housework essential. Knowledge of home nursing an advantage.—Apply Guide-in-Charge, Postleaze, Lyndhurst, Hants.
Female.—An orderly required in April.—Apply for particulars to Guide-in-Charge, Postleaze, Lyndhurst, Hants.
A qualified, but not necessarily experienced, teacher for domestic subjects required for January, 1951, at Pax Hill Homcraft Training Centre. (Recognised for superannuation: Burnham Scale).—Please apply to the Secretary, Girl Guides Association, 17-19, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1, stating qualifications and giving testimonials.

EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Ex-Ranger would like to secure post as Assistant in children's nursery. One year's experience.—Box 392.

BOY SCOUT HEADQUARTERS VACANCIES

Vacancies exist at Imperial Headquarters, The Boy Scouts Association, for Shorthand-Typists and Invoice Clerks. Pension scheme; lunch facilities; salary according to age and experience.—Apply to the General Secretary, The Boy Scouts Association, 25, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

EDUCATIONAL

The English Countryside.—4 week ends at Fendley Manor, Tring, Herts. March 18th, Trees; April 21st, Birds; June 9th, Flowers; July 21st, Animals. For townfolk seeking knowledge of the country (Friday to Monday, £2 2s.). Lectures, discussions and fieldwork.
Frances Martin College.—Individual teaching in languages, music, the arts, by qualified staff, in small, friendly college. Low fees: classes 4.30 to 8.30 p.m. Prospectus from Miss Turnbull, M.A., 7, Fitzroy Street, W.1. (Museum 8847, 9.30 to 11 a.m.).

ACCOMMODATION OFFERED

The Lake District.—Miss Doolley welcomes Guides to her 'Holiday House', open all year.—19, Southey Street, Keswick.
Western Lake District.—Irlton Hall Hotel (licensed), Holmrook, Cumberland. Mountain, sea, home produce, h. and c., billiards, table tennis. Children welcome. Log fire, wonderful walking, climbing.—E. M. Evans and P. Seager, M.B.E. (Commis-sioner). Tel. Holmrook 42.
London.—Refined accommodation, 3, Westbourne Terrace Road, W.2. Bed and breakfast from 10s. 6d. nightly; central for places of interest.—Phone: Cunningham 2373.
Bumble View, Hove.—Bay Road, The Lizard, Cornwall.—Private Guest House open all year, run by ex-Guide. Lovely position. Extensive sea view. Few minutes from beach.—Miss G. Maundrell.

Come to Castle Gay for a leisurely holiday; open all the year.—Miss Ashby and Miss Rutherford, Tarnsgate Road, Herne Bay.
Banglow Guest House, open all year, run by ex-Guide, two minutes sea and 'bus. Banglow, Appl. 'Summerhill', Banks Road, Sandbanks, From 44 gns. Ideal surroundings.—Appl.

Boar'smouth.—Holidays between Downs and Sea, glorious views and lovely weather.—Appl. Lovelock, Southgate, Faversham, Kent.
New Forest.—Ideal for the walker, naturalist and sightseer or for a quiet and restful holiday. Excellent bus and train service. Interspersed with good food and other home comforts. From 44 gns.—Appl. Miss Sandy, Balmer Lawn House, Brockenhurst, Hants.

Lakeland holidays with good food and reasonable prices at the Y.W.C.A. Holiday House, Ambleside.—Appl. Warden.
Camping with the Guides?—You will need to pep up beforehand and re-organise afterwards. Every comfort in ideal surroundings. Come to Jaxonia, Chidsack, Dorset.

Southwold.—Commutably furnished house to let (not August). Three bedrooms. Two reception, kitchen, bathroom, gas, electric light.—Box 393.
North Cornwall, Carbis Bay.—Homey accommodation offered with part board from Easter to October, suit two sharing.—Box 394.

Caravan (Roman) available by the week. Fully equipped for two. Overlooking sea and hills. 3 miles Weymouth, on 'bus route. Water, Elean.—Whistler, Oak Cottage, Kington, Taunton.

Boar'smouth holiday.—Furnished flat, every convenience; week or longer; one bedroom for two ladies sharing; 2 or 2½ gns. incl.—Box 397.
Spend Easter in Sandown, I.O.W.—Ideal for walking; garden produce. Terms 15s. 6d. per day.—Montreux Private Hotel Sandown. Phone: 422.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Schoolmistress requires bed-sitting room in September. Wimbledon-Sutton area preferred.—Miss Wake, The Rectory, Woodston, Peterborough.

CAMPING

Would any Catholic Company camping include extra Guides.—Miss Peck, 31 Allerton Road, London, N.16.

A few 'Seas' would like to join Rangers camping Scotland or Ireland.—Write Miss, Radegund, King's Lane, Swan, Hants.
Guides and few Sea Rangers anxious to join a crew on Norfolk Broads.—Mrs. Dennis, 10, Mountfield Road, Tunbridge Wells.
Approximately 15 Guides, 2 Guiders wish to join camp with Licensed Guide, preferably home counties.—Please write Miss Bell, 300, Grangehill Road, Eltham, London, S.E.9.

WANTED

Commissioner's uniform.—Hips 46, height 5 ft. 5 in.—Box 394.
Commissioner's shirt.—14½ collar. Raincoat or Overcoat, perfect condition. Best 16 in., height 5 ft. 4 in.—Box 398.

FOR SALE

Tooth brushes, pocket combs, dressing combs, etc., stamped in gold with any name. Rep at prices assured.—Samples from Northern Novelties, 20, Parcliffe Road, Heston, Bradford, Yorks.
Log cabin, 25 x 16 ft., 3 rooms. Interlined. Carboards, s.n.k. hot and cold water tanks. Two stoves, sectional.—Appl. St. Julians, Barns Green, Horsham, Sussex.
Brown Brownie ties.—1s. each.—Goodall, 41, Manor Road, Barnet.

WATCH REPAIRS

All repairs done by craftsmen. Special rates for Guides. Send your watch by registered post to Time and Jewels Limited, 430, Greenford Road, Greenford, Middlesex, for an estimate.

STORY WRITING FOR CHILDREN

Earn a spare-time income writing stories for Children. Courses of training by Arthur Watts, Editor of 'The Merry-Go-Round', children's magazine.—Children's Features, Kenworthy Buildings, 81, Bridge Street, Manchester.

TYPEWRITING AND DUPLICATING

All classes of Duplicating and Typewriting made and accurately executed. Prompt delivery, moderate charges, special terms to Guides.—Alert Typewriting Bureau, 1, Peasemarsh, Gillingham, Dorset.
Duplicating.—News-letters, notices, minutes, etc.—Write to Miss Midgley, Highfield, Harthill Lane, Kny's Lane, Herts. (Stamp appreciated.)
Authors' MSS., etc., efficiently typed.—ex-Guide, Oates, 1 Faversham Road, West Worthing.

London N.E. Quiz

The winners of the above Quiz, run in aid of sub-county funds, are: 1st. Miss Marie Smith, 53 Redstone Road, London, N.8; 2nd. Miss M. C. Carey, Wyk House, Rotherwick, Hants.; 3rd. Mrs. A. F. Nicholl, Hurst Cottage, Brightlingsea, Essex. Further details about the Quiz will appear in May.

Fascinating Pastimes!!

Your interest in all types of craftwork will be stimulated when you read through the 332 pages of the well-illustrated 'Atlas' Handicrafts Catalogue. There are instructions and illustrations for every popular craft—Leatherwork, Felt Work, Raffle Work, Handloom Weaving, Rug Making, Potterywork, Basketry, Book-crafts, etc., also a price list of materials and tools which are offered at a reasonable cost. Send 1/- P.O. now for the

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The work of Members of the Model Railway Club, over 3,000 models of locomotives, coaches, wagons, signals and working tracks. Free rides behind real steam engines.

CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER

Tuesday, 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thereafter 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

ADMISSION—Adults 2/6, Children under 14, 1/-

Special terms for organised parties on application to R. C. Panton, 162A Strand, London, W.C.2

NORFOLK BROADS HOLIDAYS

The improved 112-ft. converted Ex M.T.B. 'OTTER' is again available for booking for 1950 for parties of 8-28. Write now for illustrated Brochure giving full details of this craft and its trailers, also of Motor Cruiser, Sail Yachts, Bungalows, Caravans, and Houseboats for Hire.

W. B. HOSEASON, 17 Victoria Road, OULTON BROAD

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