

# THE GUIDER

Published Monthly for Commissioners and Guiders

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## How the World Association Works

OXFORD! There is perhaps no city whose name evokes so many different memories for so many different people. Even those who have never been there must surely have some imaginary picture of that beautiful and historic seat of learning.

What does Oxford mean to you? Dreaming spires or traffic jams in the High? Lazy undergraduate days on the River or controversy over the siting of the gas-works? Lost causes or Morris cars?

To a small band of veteran Guiders scattered far and wide over the earth's surface it means The First International Conference, 1920, and to many more it means The Thirteenth World Conference—still in the future, but not now very far distant.

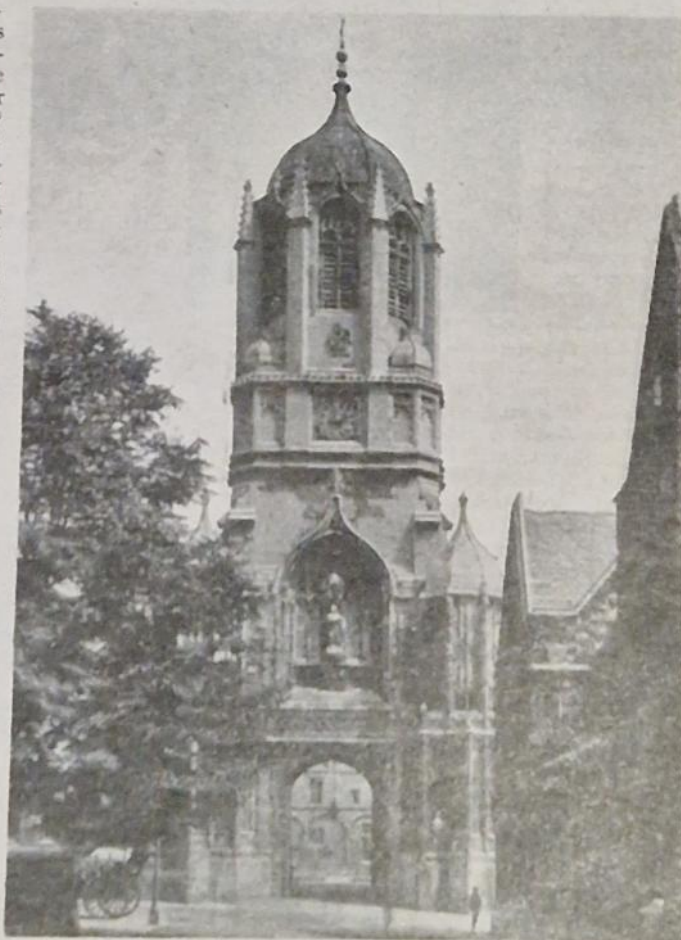
To those who have not taken part in such a gathering—and, after all, a very small number in Great Britain has done so, since the last World Conference to take place in this country was twenty years ago—a World Conference may appear a very nebulous affair. To some it may mean a collection of 'high-ups' who talk and talk (what can they find to talk about for ten days?), and write and write long reports (does anyone ever read them?), and finally disappear as mysteriously as they came, leaving no trace behind. What can a World Conference possibly have to do with the ordinary Brownie and Guide and Ranger? Surely they would go on just the same, Con-

ference or no Conference! Yes, they would certainly go on, but not just the same.

Does your company possess a World Flag? Does it have a Thinking Day ceremony? Does it sing 'Taps'? All these things, to mention only three, came out of World Conferences at one time or another.

I often meet people who are equally vague about The World Association and seem to think it is a lonely little body working on its own, in some undefinable way, with no human contact.

Well, what is The World Association? Why it is you and your Rangers and Guides and Brownies, and the French Rangers and Guides and Brownies, and the Americans and Indians and Greeks and all the rest. It is your pennies (one from each enrolled member paid as a quota by every National Headquarters) which finances it. It is you who, through your country's delegates, is responsible for its policy, methods and training. And who are these delegates? Each member country has the right to send two delegates and two visitors to the biennial World Conferences, who are financed by their own country (your money again), and are chosen with immense care. They are people who are active in Guiding, because they would be useless if they did not know their own country's Guiding inside out. Their job is twofold—to contribute to the pool of general in-



One of the World Conference delegates' memories of Oxford will be the great bell in Tom Tower, Christ Church, pealing a hundred and one strokes each evening at nine o'clock





The World Chief Guide travels by air, land and sea to visit her far-flung Guide family

formation and to take back home new ideas from it.

So many things happen at the Conference that I could not begin to tell you all, but here are just a few of them. Each country presents a report and problems are discussed. Many countries have similar problems and it is extraordinarily interesting, and indeed helpful, to hear the different ways in which different nations contend, for instance, with the shortage of Guiders (a universal complaint) or the follow-up from Guides to Rangers.

One of the most important items on the agenda is the election of three new members to the World Committee of nine. The nominations for the vacant places of the retiring members have naturally been carefully considered beforehand and any country may propose names from any other country, not necessarily their own. The three are elected by secret ballot, each country having one vote. If there is more than one Association in a country (e.g., *La Fédération Française des Eclaireuses* and *Les Guides de France*) the Associations have to agree together how to use their vote.

The members of the World Committee are not chosen to represent their own country but to serve the interests of Guiding as a whole in the widest sense and, for this reason, they are entitled to wear the blue-grey World uniform during their terms of office, so that when they are on World business they will not be associated with any particular country. (Members of the sub-committees and Bureau staff may also wear this uniform).

The World Committee's job is to carry out the wishes of the World Conference until the next Conference takes place. Helped by their sub-committees they arrange trainings for Guiders. Last year, as you know, there were Brownie, Ranger and Extension Conferences and a German training. Trainers are sent to various countries (e.g. Germany and Japan) where help is needed, and countries who wish to become Tenderfoot members of the World Association, or Tenderfoot members claiming full membership, are visited and the resulting reports carefully considered by the World Conference, who also occasionally have the sad task of cancelling the membership of countries who have strayed from the path of real Guiding, or whose numbers have dropped so badly that they no longer have a wide-spread national movement. On behalf of the World Committee the World Bureau answers thousands of questions and publishes helpful literature (e.g. *The Biennial Report*, *The Council Fire* and *The Painting Book*) and generally keeps in touch with places all over the world.

Problems, training, the work of the World Committee, sub-committees and Bureau, applications for membership—all these things and many more are discussed at the World Conference, but the most important happening of all is this—the delegates and visitors from all the different countries get to know and appreciate one another's qualities, and many lasting friendships are made.

The tendency of the world today is towards bigger and bigger organisations. Wherever you look you see it—in business combines, in trade unions, in chain-stores and cinemas—and the element of personal relations is apt to be forgotten. How much more easily and smoothly things go when, shall we say, the Chief Commissioners for Great Britain and Holland are personal friends. They know each other's views on this subject and that, and what their reactions will be to such-and-such a suggestion. They can speak and write more frankly, knowing that they will not be misunderstood. They need not necessarily agree in every particular, but they can sympathise with each other's point of view and can interpret that point of view to their colleagues in their own country.

The World Movement was built up in the early days by three very different but very great personalities, who had this characteristic in common—an enormous capacity for friendship. Everybody knows what the World Chief Guide means to millions of children in the two hemispheres as she travels indefatigably by air and sea and land to visit her far-flung family, to bring greetings from one to another and to give a fresh impetus to Guiding wherever she goes. 'How lovely to see you', she cries. 'What splendid work you are doing!' And because they know she really means it and is their friend she can suggest improvements and make helpful suggestions.

Mrs. Juliette Low, Founder of the Girl Scouts of America, and at one time a London Commissioner, was an undaunted fighter for the things she believed in—and the most important of those things was Scouting for Girls. Even her almost total deafness was no hindrance, indeed she often turned it to her advantage, for she simply did not hear the very good reasons why her friends could not take up Guiding. She sailed off with her completely disarming smile, leaving some poor woman with a collection of enthusiastic girls and the remark 'I am so glad you are going to carry on till I come back in six months' time. I knew I could count on you!' She was a determined woman (how else could she have started Girl Scouts all over America?), but if she was defeated over some scheme dear to her heart she would be the first to say, when things turned out well, 'You were quite right. It is much better like this'.

Like most endearing characters she loved telling stories against herself. One of her delightful weaknesses was a habit of using the wrong word. Once she went to inspect a school and asked the astonished headmistress to show her the funiculaire. 'You must have one—every

(Continued on page 83)



Mrs. Juliette Low, Founder of America's Girl Scouts, was the first to see the vision of World Guiding



With her capacity for friendship and a conviction that it was the children, not the organisation, that mattered, Mrs. Mark Kerr was a great leader at many international conferences



# Watching Wild Life

By B. Melville Nicholas

THE wood-pigeon is one of the earliest birds to turn its attention to domestic matters and, if a spell of mild weather prevails, nests and eggs in March are not unusual. It is a member of the dove family and, in common with its brethren, lays only two eggs on a shallow platform of a few twigs placed criss-cross. The male often expresses affection for his mate by elaborate aerial displays, of which loud wing-clapping is a prominent feature. The sound produced is caused by the wings being brought sharply together over the back, and such flights usually take place immediately over the nesting site.

The eggs are pure white in colour. This is unusual for birds which nest in the open, for white eggs are more frequently produced by such species as kingfishers and owls which breed in cavities. As a rule, however, there is some good reason for the colour and shape of a bird's egg. Eggs that are mottled and spotted, such as those of the woodcock, curlew and lapwing harmonise with their surroundings and are pear-shaped. They are large for the size of the bird, but when the pointed ends are turned inwards the owner can cover them quite comfortably.

Most ground-nesting birds lay comparatively large eggs, so that when their chicks are hatched they will be strong enough to run about and take care of themselves. Pear-shaped eggs are also laid by certain sea-birds, particularly those which nest on the bare rocks; when the weather is rough the egg turns round and round, and is less likely to be blown over the sea.

The colouring of a bird's egg is produced from various internal secretions in the bird's blood stream, and although the patterns of eggs differ considerably among members of the same species, the actual ground colour does not usually show much variation. Unmarked partridges and pheasant eggs are usually covered with grass and leaves before the owner leaves them, and it has been suggested that birds which nest in cavities lay white eggs because they are more easily seen by the owners in their dark surroundings.

The wood-pigeon, however, is an outstanding exception to this rule, and its two white eggs seem to indicate that it was once a hole-nester like its cousin the rock-dove. In any case it apparently realises that its white eggs are very conspicuous in their open cradle, and guards them jealously from the moment they are laid until the chicks emerge.

Both sexes share the duties of incubation, which lasts from eighteen to twenty days, and during that period wood-pigeons are very unwilling to expose their treasures. No matter which bird is on duty it will sit tight until an intruder is almost within arm's reach; yet undue interference will cause them to desert, and for this reason I seldom attempt photography until the chicks are hatched.

The chicks are fed on a semi-liquid substance (partly digested food from the crop of the parents) which is forced into the crops of the chicks. The process differs slightly from the normal method of regurgitation, for the young themselves

insert their beaks into that of the adult when, to the accompaniment of a moaning chorus, the latter pumps the food from its own crop into theirs. Both chicks are fed at the same time, and it is to this semi-liquid food that the name 'pigeon's-milk' has been given, but it is a slang term. By the end of the third week the squabs are ready to leave the nest, having developed into replicas of their parents except that they lack the white neck-patches and are not enhanced by the metallic gloss which is such a marked feature of the adult's attire. Two, and sometimes three, broods are raised each year, and it is customary for a new nest to be built for each family, so it is little wonder they dispense with all unnecessary adornments.

Although the wood-pigeon, because of the damage it does to growing crops, has been greatly persecuted and has become very shy and wary of mankind, there are exceptions, and for years a pair have nested in a hawthorn near my home, where they have become reasonably tame and confiding. Similar ex-

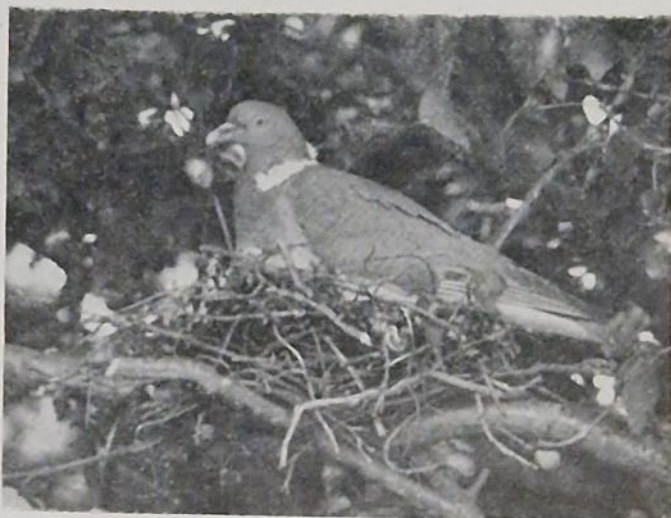
amples are also to be found in many of our public parks, and nobody who has ever been to London can fail to notice the tameness of those wood-pigeons which take food from the hands of visitors in the city parks.

We have in this country at present four species of doves, of which the wood-pigeon, or ring-dove, is the most common, and the rock-dove the rarest. The latter may be distinguished by its white rump and double wing-bars, but it is mainly a coastal species, where it lays its two white eggs in caves or between rocks. Occasionally it comes inland to breed, occupying suitable cavities in old quarries or disused buildings. It is not so destructive to farm produce as the wood-pigeon, and is generally believed to be the ancestor of all domesticated pigeons, including those at St. Paul's and Trafalgar Square.

Two other members of the Dove family are the stock-dove and the turtle-dove, the latter a summer visitor to this country; but it seldom arrives until the end of April, and is more common in the southern counties of England. It is more slenderly built than the other doves, and its general colouring is light brown spotted with darker browns. The long, graduated tail is edged with white. The turtle-dove makes a frail-looking nest of fine twigs, but a close scrutiny will reveal that it is much stronger than it looks.

The stock-dove is slightly smaller than the wood-pigeon, and lacks the white neck patches, but is bluish-grey in colour. Its food, like that of the wood-pigeon, consists mainly of barley, oats, wheat and peas, also the berries of the holly, hawthorn, oak and ivy, and the seeds of many plants, including those of a variety of weeds. Economically, however, it must be regarded as a harmful bird.

The two eggs are laid in hollow trees or in holes in old masonry, where sometimes a few grasses answer the purpose of a nest, while, at other times, the eggs are deposited on the bare floor of the nesting cavity. The deserted nests of other birds and disused squirrels' dreys are often appropriated.



Wood-pigeons of both sexes hatch the eggs and usually two or three families are raised each year



# Games of Skill

THESE games are especially valuable for acquiring proficiency in such things as tying knots, building fires, signalling and so on, because the constant repetition necessary to become efficient can be procured without boredom. In the following games the same knot will be tied ten or more times with unflagging interest.

## 1. Knot Circles

**Equipment:** Each player has a cord and a given number of tokens.

**Formation:** Players stand opposite each other in pairs, with a chair between them forming a large circle. At a single whistle they all tie a clove hitch (or other given knot) round the back of the chair; the one to tie it first correctly receives a token from her opponent. At the double whistle, blown when every one has finished, players on the outside circle move on clockwise to the next station, where they await a single whistle to tie the same knot again against a new opponent. The intervals are occupied by players learning from each other. This game should be repeated with variations to increase the difficulty, e.g., knots could be tied under the seat.

## 2. Dog and Bone

**Equipment:** A piece of rag or stick.

**Formation:** The company stands in two ranks facing each other with a stick in the centre between them. Both sides number from right to left. When a Guide's number is called she tries to bring the stick over to her side, but if touched on the back by her opponent she must drop it.

**Note.**—This is a very useful formation for all contests of skill; there is no blind waiting as when patrols are in file formation. The Guides enjoy watching and learn much from the dodges and feints of the players; they are also kept alert by not knowing when their number may be called. When the company is large the contest should be between each two patrols, playing simultaneously, as in the next game.

## 3. Timber Hauling

**Equipment:** One pole and two ropes between each two patrols.

**Formation:** Patrols pair off and stand opposite each other in ranks, as far apart as possible, with the pole between them. The Guides number from right to left. When the Guide's number is called she tries to secure her end of the pole by means of a timber hitch and a half hitch and drag it to her side before her opponent has finished her knots.

## 4. Knots in the Wind

**Formation:** as in the previous game.

The contestants hold the end of each other's cord and at the word 'Go' they tie them together with a reef knot, or a sheet bend; while tying their own knot they jerk the cord so that their opponent finds it difficult to tie hers, as a sailor would in the wind. At Gilwell they tied a bowline at the end of a single rope—an exciting contest to watch, from which the game is taken.

## 5. Transport (First Aid)

**Equipment:** Potatoes and spoons carefully chosen. Triangular bandages optional.

**Formation:** Patrols fall in, in two files, behind a chair at one end of the hall. At the other end of the hall, opposite them, sits a smallish patient on a chair, holding a potato on a spoon. Captain says: 'These patients have met with an accident. They must be carried with the greatest care to the train'. Guides go up in pairs and by means of a three or four-handed seat they transport them to their patrols. Two steps before their chair they wheel round and take two steps backwards, lowering the patient to the seat. If the potato drops they lose a point and must retrieve it before continuing.

**Variation:** This should be followed by transporting the patients by means of a seat made of a circular bandage, demonstrating the increased comfort to both carriers and carried. (See *Be Prepared*, page 113).

## 6. Sly Fox or Steps (Game of Control)

**Formation:** Captain stands with her back to the company some way off. The company approaches her silently; she turns round at intervals when they must instantly freeze, if she sees any one moving they have to return to base and start again. The first to touch Captain wins.

## 7. The Underground Railway

**Equipment:** A large hall, chalk, a set of tickets on which two sums are written which together make a shilling.

**Formation:** Three or more patrols. Patrols take turns at being porters, ticket sellers, etc. The others start from homes at the end of hall.

1st formation: 'Cloak-room'. Competing patrols place their coats on a chair at one end of the hall and make their home opposite it at the other end. The other patrol, acting as porters, push chairs as barrows about the hall.

At the order 'Fetch coats', they run to their chair (cloak-room) and return to their home, the first patrol home, properly dressed, wins. Any one bumping into a porter is sent back to run again.

2nd formation: 'Tickets'. One patrol, working in pairs, sets up ticket offices. One sells tickets, the other organises the queues.

At the order 'Get tickets' the others go to any ticket office and, tendering supposedly one shilling, give the name of an underground station. They receive their ticket when, on hearing the price, they name the correct change. For the help of the sellers, and to avoid delay, these figures are on the ticket. First patrol home wins.

3rd formation: 'Moving stairway'. One patrol falls in one behind the other in a circle. Right hands in the belt of the one in front and left hand on their hip they run round clockwise, forming the moving stairway.

At the order 'Moving stairway' Guides rush forward and, grasping a free arm, run round the complete circle before getting off. First patrol home wins.

4th formation: 'The train waggon'. All the Guides stand in a tight group and Captain makes chalk marks where the outside feet come. They then return home while she makes a circle well inside these marks. At the order 'All aboard' the company makes a rush to get inside the circle; they stay thus, swaying and holding on to each other, while Captain (the guard) removes any one whose feet are outside the circle. Those who can remain in until the whistle goes, return home. Patrol with most home wins.

## 8. Pot Boiling Competition

**Equipment:** A nearby wood. Water, boilers, matches, and strong knives if turf has to be removed.

**Formation:** Players pair off and choose their sites. For inexperienced players it is better to divide the competition into two parts.

**Part 1.** Prepare site, collect and stack wood. Points are given for: (1) Choice of wood. (It should snap when broken). (2) Proportion of kindling to large sticks. (3) Position of wood stacked to fire site.

**Part 2.** Lay and light fire. First to bring a pint of water to the boil wins 10 points. Point off for every match used, and every minute's delay after the first pot has boiled, and for too large a fire.

(Miss Maynard would be glad to receive constructive criticism 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 on. Please write to her at Chantry Cottage, Old Bexhill, Sussex.—Editor.)



# Is Your Company Prepared?

'GOVELAND 1234', replied the voice on the phone in broken English.

'Cut that out', I answered with the bluntness which is the privilege of very good friends. 'It is not your potential Queen's Guide but the frozen "stooge" wanting to know if you really met those two young hopefuls three-quarters of an hour ago and gave them a map for a ten-minute journey, as there is still no sign of them'.

As a result of this enquiry I was obliged to put my fur-lined glove over the poultice of dough and paint on my head and cycle to the next port of call, where the candidate who had arrived by another route was giving up half an hour's struggle to light a fire as she had used up all her matches. 'Very sorry, I am afraid I have none to spare' answered the frozen-nosed tester who had spent the last hour sitting on a stone wall in a howling east wind.

At that moment the lost Guide appeared and a few seconds later I was lying on the drive, having fallen from my bicycle and broken the bottle of medicine in my basket. I had not realised until then how difficult it is to purposely fall off a bicycle!

Unfortunately a good deal of the 'blood' had been left behind in my furry glove, but I presented a gory hand for attention, complete with an embedded piece of medicine bottle, which was promptly pulled out, after which nothing else happened promptly at all.

For the next, cold, damp, miserable quarter of an hour I lay having my hand bathed in the coldest of water while no attempt was made to apply pressure anywhere. I bumbled anxiously about Mrs. Morgan's medicine for her heart attacks, that she must have some more, that the doctor must know it was broken before she left, in ten minutes, for the hospital.

By this time I decided that I should easily be dead so might as well collapse completely. 'She's fainted', thankfully sighed one of the candidates, not attempting to deal further with me except to continue the cold douche on my almost numb hand. When my thumb 'died on me' I decided to resurrect myself, for obviously the intention was to let sleeping dogs lie.

'Have you phoned the doctor about Mrs. Morgan's medicine?' I asked in an agitated whisper.

'Yes, yes', comforted my First Aider, dropping a length of bandage on the muddy ground and hastily retrieving it. 'He's going to take it on his way to hospital'.

'But it isn't a he—it's a she', I answered awkwardly.

'Well, she then. I made a mistake'.

'How did you get the number for phoning?'

'I looked it up in the directory'.

'What number did you phone?'

'Oh, I don't know, I've forgotten now', snapped my now irritable attendant, who must secretly have been longing for me to collapse again.

'There's an ambulance coming down the drive. Shall we stop it? Oh, it's gone round the corner'.

I quietly sighed my relief as I had no wish to be mown down where I lay.

'I am so cold', I chattered quite genuinely.

'Do you feel better?' hopefully enquired my helper.

'No', I replied with enthusiasm.

I certainly had a coat over me and another rolled up under my feet, but I felt that the hike-tent could have performed the same service, if my feet had to be in the air. My toes would be well and truly turned up, anyhow, by now!

'Could I have a hot drink?' I whimpered pitifully.

'Yes, yes, of course—in a minute', replied the girl-who-had-no-matches in a depressed tone.

By this time a loose roller bandage having been attached to my frozen hand I decided that unless I wished to spend several days in bed I had better recover. As I sat up, a Red Cross nurse cycled down the drive, but nobody thought of moving the broken bottle.

As I finally prepared to cycle away I 'discovered' my flat tyre. How could anyone pump up a tyre if they did not know how to get the connector out of the pump? When I saw the whole valve being pulled out; when I knew that I was already an hour later than planned, and that, even by missing my tea, I should be hard put to keep my next appointment, I began to wonder who had decided that these girls were First Class and ready for the B-P test. First Class? They were not even Second Class!

When I had ceased to think evil of the Guider and Commissioner who had allowed these girls to build up their hopes of becoming Queen's Guides and the testers to spend their precious Saturday afternoon lying bleeding to death on the cold, damp ground, my mind began to follow another train of thought. What is wrong with the training in the Guide Companies? Why was it that these girls could not cope with an emergency?

The answer was not so difficult to find. First of all, does the Guider realise that a Queen's Guide is a very special person, that not every First Class Guide can reach such a standard? Secondly, is the Guider fully aware that every girl of average intelligence can be First Class if she works hard enough and has the right training? First Class is, in itself, a very fine achievement and should be honoured as such in county and district. Thirdly, each recruit should begin training for her First Class at once so that she takes the final test in her stride. Finally, is the training the kind which the Founder intended? Real emergencies, real 'phone calls, real opportunities for the girl to prove her self-reliance and leadership.

In a world of mass production and shoddy standards the aim of the Guide Movement stands firm and unshaken; it is the value of the individual and the development of the 'whole person'. The Guider who is giving every girl in her company the fullest opportunity of this development, whether she is of high, average or low intelligence, has surely a far better interpretation of the ideals of Guiding than the Guider who is pushing two or three unsuitable candidates towards the goal of Queen's Guide.

CONSTANCE M. GREEN



Two young hopefuls struggling with map-reading



For the next cold, damp quarter of an hour my hand was bathed, but no pressure was applied



Endless matches were used on a contrary fire



## The Commissioners' Meeting Place

## B-P's Yardstick

WHEN I wrote two months ago about THE GUIDER I knew that I was discussing a paper in which you had a direct interest. Now, in writing about THE GUIDE and THE RANGER, I am aware that the majority of you may be casual critics rather than regular readers. I am using the word 'critic' in its widest sense—one who appraises; not necessarily one who condemns.

Among adult members of the movement there seem to be several alternative attitudes towards these papers. The first—majority attitude—is understandable; 'Time and money are limited. I've none of either to spare for magazines intended primarily for the young'. Other comments vary considerably. 'I occasionally see these papers; they're not bad'. 'THE GUIDE is not as good as it was x years ago', or 'is better than it was x years ago'. 'THE RANGER is very thin', or 'is well produced'. 'The papers are too solemn; girls all read *The Weekly Titter* or *The Purple Patch*, why not include a comic strip, or have glamour articles?'

Rarely, and blessedly, one meets a Commissioner who says, 'By the way, I thought that article on so-and-so last week (or month) was . . .', or 'might have been . . .'. Happy moment when one gets a considered opinion, complimentary or the reverse! The only magazines that are immune from criticism are the completely colourless and the dead. The Editor of any vital paper must be prepared to hold to a policy, and defend it, in a welter of contradictory viewpoints, though, if she is worth her salt, she will not be content at any time with what she has so far achieved.

An Editor has often and most justly been compared to the conductor of an orchestra. If you are not musical, you may prefer to think of her as a cook or a gardener—in fact, as anyone who must make a number of different things into a balanced, appetising or satisfying whole. The cook knows she will spoil her dish if she puts in too little or too much of any one ingredient—salt, pepper, sugar, flour, egg, meat, spice, or what you will. The gardener usually aims at planned variety both in flowers and vegetables to get a pleasing effect or to keep the family well fed. I prefer to keep to the simile of the conductor here; otherwise I must reduce you to condiments or cabbages. In the musical field I can give you your proper and honoured place; for I want to convince you that these two papers are not things apart, but that you and they have the same aims which call for combined effort. The conductor must have an orchestra at his disposal, an Editor must have contributors. The great object of both conductor and Editor is to subordinate the parts to the whole and to achieve balance. I will not labour the analogy further; if you care to do so you can think out its implications for yourselves.

In her striving for balance an Editor must have a standard and a yardstick by which to measure her success or failure. Happily, the Editors of THE GUIDE and THE RANGER have a precise measure—the ideals of the Founder of the Girl Guides Association. Let us consider briefly, then, what were the Chief Scout's expressed ideals, and how the papers can best serve them. You are, of course, all familiar with *Girl Guiding*, but let me refer to the Chief's own Foreword written in 1918. The world has changed a lot since then. Or has it, fundamentally? Are B-P's sentiments quite out of date? For reasons of space I must lift some of them from their context and paraphrase them, but I hope you will turn to the book itself and see how very much more strongly the points are made there.

Women need improved education, particularly in development of character and unselfish patriotism. In these days when the Press, wireless and cinematograph film are all to the fore with their mass suggestion, and there are ever-increasing facilities for unprofitable pleasure, that is not as easy as it sounds. In the light of these words, would it seem

right to conform to the standards of *The Weekly Titter* or *The Purple Patch* because they are what many children and teen-age girls of 1950 are accustomed to and can understand readily? Should the Editors, in the interests of circulation, introduce comic strips merely to raise a laugh, or film notes of the kind to be found in other girls' papers? Aware of the use that B-P himself made of witty sketches to emphasise Guide training, should she not rather seek diligently for an equally gifted artist, and in the meantime refuse to use a pointless or poor effort? Commissioners, if among your friends and acquaintances there is anyone with the Chief's skill, lightness of touch, and sense of purpose, you will be an ally indeed if you make him or her known to the Editors.

Girls need real training in individual character to repress herd impulse. Refraining from printing the merely sentimental, box-office-serving fan-stuff that often goes by the name of film news would seem to be one way to meet the Chief's requirements that the 'herd impulse' should be discouraged. But everyone must be aware that among a multitude of pernicious screenery there are some fine films distinguished by acute observation of character, people, or nature, such as B-P put high in his list of the desirable factors in education. Therefore it behoves the Editors to draw the attention of the children and girls to these films, and these films only, and seek to detract from the injurious and attract to the healthily entertaining and educative. Commissioners, could you not suggest that the reason sometimes given for not taking the papers—that the amount spent on cinema-going leaves no margin for the weekly 2d. or the monthly 6d.—is not really a good one, in the interests of the girls themselves?

Character should be developed towards happy citizenship through natural rather than through artificial means. 'I cannot', says B-P, 'sufficiently emphasise the importance of Nature lore and its essential place in our programme'. Therefore Nature articles must be included in plenty with a view to arousing and directing an interest that will lead Guides and Rangers to discover 'sermons in stones, books in the running brooks, and good in everything'. Most of you have grown up in Guiding and have shared the joys of the open air—have you nothing to pass on?

Lastly, in the Foreword, the Founder looks to the day when there shall be 'a great sisterhood of the women of all nations under a common ideal of mutual goodwill and understanding'. That goal seems to the casual onlooker far beyond the reach of this generation; nevertheless, there are minute clouds on the horizon of an otherwise brazen sky which hint at eventual blessing. Beneath the glacier of hatred fostered by conflicting ideologies; over the barriers of race suspicion; out of the ruins of war come stories of the binding and healing powers of Guiding. In this field the Editors have a great responsibility and opportunity. They should keep their readers informed of the magnificent work that has been and is being done by the G.I.S.; of the fine part Greek Guides and Rangers are playing in the salving of their country's wounds; of the awareness of African Rangers and Guiders of the evils of the race problem; of the comfort of Guiding to the displaced and dispossessed Baltic children; of the welcoming friendship of Australian and Canadian Guiders and Rangers to newcomers from other lands: that is the Editor's duty—but it is a duty that can be performed only if individual cases are brought to their notice. There must be many examples nearer home of active goodwill and conscious citizenship—work that you know is being done, and which you can make known through the papers and thus give 30,000 Guides and 5,000 Rangers a sense of concerted purpose.

What about training? Have I forgotten that? Oh, no! But I have confined myself here to the aims set out by B-P. Training is a means to a desirable end, and has its place in

(Continued on page 87)



## For Brownie Guiders

## Tests Are More Fun Out of Doors

IN the spring a Brown Owl's fancy turns to thoughts of outdoor activities with her pack—or so we hope! Sometimes, it must be confessed, it turns back again on meeting what appear to be obstacles. One of these is probably test work, but since Guiding is essentially an outdoor movement surely it was never intended that we should spend the majority of meetings indoors, even though all kinds of tests have been planned for our Brownies. Need it be a case of test work versus going out? Let's see if we can't combine the two.

On studying the Recruit, Golden Bar and Golden Hand tests it will be found that they contain surprisingly few specifically outdoor clauses. This is partly because Brownies are learning to be helpful in the home. But their first Promise is to do their duty to God, and finding out more about His world and the wonders He has created for them to enjoy, will help them to love and thank Him, and to understand and take care of the things He has made. Since, too, a happy, healthy child is more likely to be a helpful one, by getting her out into the fresh air and sunshine we are doing our best to achieve our aim.

Although so few tests must be done out of doors most of them could be—and to great advantage. If we meet in a playground where there is shade and somewhere for the children to sit comfortably, we can do all the things we usually do in the clubroom. A playground, however, can be very dull every week, so let us begin now to look for somewhere more exciting. Is there a garden near the clubroom? Let us ask members of the Local Association, or of the Church Council, or the priest or minister.

If there is nowhere suitable close at hand, and getting the Brownies to an outdoor meeting place takes up too much of the evening, we could arrange to meet at the chosen spot. We should have to make sure that all the children know the place and that they will not be in other people's way while assembling. It might be possible to change our headquarters altogether for the summer months, or we might prefer to go in different directions each time. This could be discussed in Pow-wow. If an open space with no shelter is decided upon the uncertain weather always creates a problem. If is a good plan to say: 'If it is fine at four o'clock we will meet on the common at six'—or whatever our normal meeting time happens to be—otherwise there is the danger of half the pack deciding it is fine and the other that it is wet!

Unless a drought is in full swing it is advisable to tell the Brownies to bring a mackintosh and to wear sensible shoes. Then there is the question of punctuality. If Brownies are rather bad at turning up on time they will soon improve if they find Brown Owl and the pack have gone without them. But ending punctually is even more important. Brownies should be home at the usual time (or at the clubroom if they are being met) or parents will be anxious and outdoor evenings become unpopular.

All outdoor meetings need careful planning and a list of equipment is essential. (It would be most awkward if, having reached the 'prairie' we find we have forgotten the ropes to tie up our 'horses'). This small responsibility could well be delegated to Pack Leader. It is excellent training for her if we plan the programme together and she then makes her own list.

The Sixers can carry their own odds and ends in Six Treasure Bags, made of hessian either dyed or decorated with bright coloured wools and easier to carry than boxes or tins. Balls should not be carried in the hand. Inspection before starting out can make the children realise the importance of a smart appearance in the street. Cleanliness and tidiness can be insisted upon, as well as the wearing of hats when in uniform. Road sense and courtesy to others should be taught before going out, and occasional reminders may be necessary. Brownies practising for their Road Test could lead, but it is not satisfactory to test a child among a crowd.

If the pack have to be taken a little distance to the chosen spot the walk there need not be dull. A trail could be followed, collections made, observation games played, lists made of sounds heard—even smells could be recorded! When the destination is familiar, and it can be approached from different directions, the pack could be divided into groups or sixes, each with a grown-up or Pack Leader, which set off at intervals, each trying to arrive without being seen by another group. The first to arrive might hide and the rest play 'sardines' until the last six comes.

Having arrived at our outdoor home what test are we going to do? It depends a little on our surroundings. A wood is a wonderful place to make nature discoveries in, and do compass trails, but not so easy for ball throwing, hopping, hoop bowling or signalling. Let us try long-distance signalling in the open—using the calling up and other essential signals, sending proper messages and answers, which are so much more interesting and worth while, and which Brownies will think are thrilling.

Having decided to be more adventurous in our meeting places we will probably want to make our test work more exciting, too. 'Let's pretend' meetings out of doors can be the greatest fun. A desert island has to be explored, compass points found, trees and flowers described, camps made and flags put up. Knots can be used by cowboys for their horses, gypsies can plait grasses, Red Indians can have head-dresses decorated with bright coloured tacking stitches, fairy tables can be laid with fairy food. A Peter Pan evening can include making a Wendy House, and Wendy could teach the Lost Boys to sew on buttons, fold their clothes and darn. If it is hot the children will be glad to do handcraft for a change.

Making a fire might add to the thrills of an outdoor programme. Outdoor fires are permitted for First Class, though only if an indoor one is impossible for some reason, as Golden Hand is essentially a helping-at-home test. If fires are lit out of doors permission must be obtained from the land-owner and all precautions taken. (The joys of cooking on a hike fire should be left until our Brownies fly up to Guides.)

First Aid kit should always be carried on our expeditions, and let us remember that if there is a grazed knee to be treated our First Class Brownie can do it.

Some packs have a garden of their own, or can offer to look after a corner of the churchyard, planting seeds for their First Class tests and doing a good turn at the same time. Whatever we decide on, now is the time to begin. Let us aim at having more outdoor tests and doing more tests outdoors. Don't let us stay indoors 'while all the spring goes on without us'.

N. SIMPSON



'How do you like your tea, Madam?'



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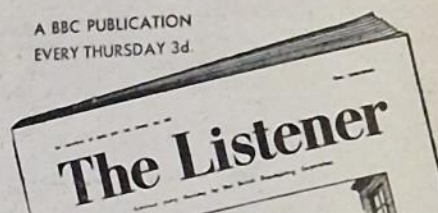


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# Notes of the Month

## In Remembrance of the Founder

On the afternoon of February 22nd a small group of people gathered round the quiet spot in Westminster Abbey where the Guide and Scout flags mark the Memorial to Lord Baden-Powell. Most of them had just come from Evensong, or were wandering round the Abbey, but they stayed to watch the laying of wreaths by a Guide, a Ranger and two Scouts on behalf of us all. The Guides and Scouts were met at the door of the Abbey by the Dean of Westminster and proceeded to the Memorial where they placed the wreaths at the foot of the flags. The Guide wreath, a trefoil of laurel leaves with blue and yellow spring flowers, was laid by Noreen Kent, of S.R.S. *Hermes* (Chelsea) and Felicity Shearme, of the 7th Westminster Guide Company. There followed a moment's silence, and then a short prayer by the Dean, in which he gave thanks for the life and example of Lord Baden-Powell and asked that grace be given to all who seek to follow that example of service. The little group of people dispersed. The corner was quiet again, but there, for all to see—a patch of colour in the gloom—were our tributes to the Founder.

## 'World' Personalities

With the World Conference only a little over three months ahead, Guiders will like to pass on to their Rangers and Guides points of interest about it, and about the World Committee and the World Bureau, and in the next few issues of *THE GUIDER* we plan to give you all the information we can. Mrs. Swift Newton, of Pennsylvania, was elected Chairman of the World Committee at the 12th World Conference two years ago, and her vitality and driving power have done much to encourage the World Movement. Her interest in Girl Scouting began twenty years ago, and as Chairman of the Girl Scout International Committee (U.S.A.) for many years she helped to arrange gatherings for Guides and Girl Scouts of many countries both in the United States and at Our Chalet. As you know, the International Committee sponsors the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund to which American Girl Scouts contribute annually to help children in other lands.

Another name linked with this World Friendship Fund is Mrs. Arthur Choate, Chairman of Our Chalet Sub-Committee, and Chairman of the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund. For her work for the movement for the past thirty-four years Mrs. Choate has been awarded the Silver Fish.

Since she was appointed Director of the World Bureau of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in March, 1949, Mrs. M. E. Home has made many friends throughout the world. She was enrolled as a Guide in 1920 at Belstead House, Aldeburgh, one of the first schools to start Guiding. In 1923 she married Brigadier F. W. Home, of the Royal Marines, who died in Washington, D.C., during the war while on a special mission. Mrs. Home served for six years in the A.T.S. as an administrative officer. She rose to the rank of Chief Commander and was responsible for the happiness and well-being of 14,000 women. In 1946, after training in housing management, Mrs. Home was in charge of a settlement in London where clubs were run for children and grown-ups, and tributes have been paid

to her ability to approach human problems with sympathy and understanding. She is now on a short visit to America.

## The National Thanksgiving Fund

Commissioners and Guiders will have read in the press of the Fund launched by the Lord Mayor of London to express the gratitude of the British people for the wonderful generosity of friendly countries overseas from whom food parcels to the value of over £80 million have been received. They include 75,000,000 individual parcels and 13,000,000 lb. of food in bulk for distribution through the Commonwealth Gift Centre. There has also been a large number of gifts from overseas organisations to their counterparts here of which no complete record is available. Behind all these gifts has been a tremendous spirit of affection for us all in this country, and rarely has there been such a prolonged expression of goodwill between free peoples.

The Guide Movement has played no small part in this operation. From all parts of the Commonwealth and from the United States of America, Guides and Girl Scouts have sent gifts of food continuously, and Guides of this country at their parties, camps and in their homes have been thrilled not only by the food itself, but also by the realisation of the ties of friendship which have prompted the gifts. For this reason, Guides who have enjoyed these gifts will be glad to help any local effort for the raising of this Thanksgiving Fund in so far as this fits in with other commitments. It is not our policy that the movement should be used to excess in the raising of funds for charitable causes, and it is always left to Commissioners and Guiders to use their discretion when such requests are received. Under no circumstances, of course, do we relax our ruling that Guides may not sell flags or collect money in the streets. Subject to all these comments, we do commend this Fund to all Guides who feel moved to support it.

The proceeds of the appeal are to be used chiefly to develop a residential centre in London for students from the Commonwealth and the United States of America in conjunction with London House, a hall of residence for men students from the Commonwealth. Assistance will also be given to a hall for overseas students in Scotland ('The Burn', Edzell, Angus) and, if the Fund is big enough, to four Empire societies and the English Speaking Union to help them with their work for students and other visitors from overseas. All this will provide a striking memorial to our friends' generosity, which will strengthen our bonds with them and be of permanent use to succeeding generations of students from these countries who come to Britain each year in their thousands, many of whom are Guides or Scouts.



Mrs. Home, Director of the World Bureau (right), chats to Countess Estelle Bernadotte, elected third substitute member of the World Committee in 1948

## Empire Training

The Empire Training week to be held at Foxlease for County Empire Representatives, from May 18th to 23rd, has now been thrown open to any Commissioner or Guider who is interested in Guiding in the Commonwealth and Empire and who wants to make new links with our scattered family. Please apply to the Guider-in-Charge, Foxlease as soon as possible.



## At Company Prayers

NOW when Jesus was born in Bethlehem . . . there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying 'Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him. . . . And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down and worshipped him; and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts. . . .'

'They fell down and worshipped him'. Some people find it natural to express their worship, not only in words but with their bodies; they kneel down, they bow their heads, they bend their knees. Others prefer to forget their bodies and to use only their mental worship, but that should not be allowed to take away from its reverence. Don't you think that today, when many children call their parents by their Christian names, when many of our cherished traditions are a thing of the past and our legends are 'debunked', when liberty so often turns to licence and to some people nothing seems sacred, that we do well in Guiding to help to show young things the beauty of reverence? It is closely bound up with our ceremonial, and it is easy to see how the perfection of our Colour ceremonial at a Church Parade for instance, can be part of our worship, an offering, an expression of reverence.

'And when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts'. If the wise men had stopped short at falling down and worshipping they would only have given

us half the picture for the crown of worship is to open our treasures and present our gifts: our treasures mind, gifts of heart and head and hand, and the most costly of all, our own wills. Is it because we forget the gift part and think it is enough to sing hymns and to join in a Church service that non-churchgoers are so deeply critical of us? One of the best things about Guiding is surely this, that when a child promises to try to do her duty to God she is not left with vague and pious aspirations but with practical things to do and to be—her good turns to perform and her Laws to keep. It is for us to see that she realises that these are part of her duty to God, part of her offering, her gifts, her worship.

### A Prayer for Brownies

All this week please help us, Lord Jesus, to lend a hand better than we have ever done before so that next time we meet we shall each of us bring You a big present of good turns, done for Your sake. Amen.

### A Prayer for Guides and Rangers

Holy Father, Lord and Giver of Life, from whom we come and to whom we go, to Thee we offer our worship, to Thee we offer our lives, our honour, our loyalty, our kindness, friendliness and courtesy, our obedience, courage, carefulness and purity. To Thee we offer our humble duty. Bless us we pray, and all other Guides, and so fill us with Thy Holy Spirit that, our worship being shown forth in our lives, our lives may be to Thy glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## From the Chief Commissioner's Diary

### Facts and Figures

AS I trundle along in the train back to London on a Sunday evening I've been wondering how many of us realise what big property owners we, as an Association, are. Or if most of us, enjoying a happy training at any of the Centres, have any idea what a lot of thought and careful planning is involved in running the estates of Foxlease, Waddow, Pax Hill and Blacklands? The last, of course, we don't own, but have on a pepper corn rent from the Manor Charitable Trust through the kindness and generosity of Mr. Wagg.

These estates of ours are run on a long-term policy and, on the principle that a stitch in time saves nine, they are being got into very good order and should soon reach the happy stage when, with a moderate expenditure each year on upkeep and improvements, there should be no huge and disastrous claims in any one year.

When you are at any of these centres for trainings do try to find time to look over the place—not only the house—if you haven't already done so and hear from a member of the staff just what is going on. It is extraordinarily interesting for those of us who are town dwellers and don't know much of the business side of a landowner's work, and for those of us who do know more of country ways and life to see what remarkably well-run and satisfactory property we own, and how well the land is cared for by the staff of these training centres.

Anything to do with the land is good for our perspective and helps us to get our lives and doings into proper proportion, so it's good to know how many people go to our training centres—good even apart from the training they get there. Last year 1,310 Guiders went to Foxlease, 1,536 went to Waddow, and there were 14,078 campers at Blacklands. All our training centres and camps are in such a very lovely part of the country and each is so differently typical of England.

It isn't only our land that I believe to be getting into good fettle, but our other property, too, is improving—a new cooker is to be installed in the restaurant at I.H.Q. (not, I may say, before it is needed!), and the paint given to us by

the Welsh Guides is being used to smarten up our rather grubby walls.

Miss Frith has just made her annual report to the Executive Committee on the work and administration of Headquarters during the past year. It really was most thrilling to learn of the expansion in practically every department, and though space does not permit of my giving you all the details I think you will be as interested as I was in the following figures:—

124,507 letters were received at I.H.Q.

99,500 parcels were packed by a team of seven.

1,200 new accounts were opened.

800 visitors from the Dominions and Colonies were welcomed in the Overseas Department, where they were helped in a variety of ways.

2,000 members of the movement in this country were helped with their travels abroad by the International Department.

Unfortunately we have not kept a record of the total number of visitors to Headquarters, but judging by the numbers of parties of Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Commissioners and friends of the movement whom one sees being shown round there can be no doubt that there has been a considerable increase in the interest in Headquarters by members of the movement, all of which augurs well for the future and greatly encourages those of us who work at I.H.Q. Best, oh much best of all, we have 1,000 more Guiders and Commissioners than a year ago.

When I began writing this monthly diary I mentioned it would not always be I who told you of the various happenings in the movement, and next month I have asked the Chairman of the Executive Committee to write to you.

*Stan Strickland*

[CHIEF COMMISSIONER, IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS]



## Guiding in the Northern Territory

WHO ever heard of a Division Commissioner who had to travel over a thousand miles to visit her nearest Guide Company and over two thousand miles, with a plane flight over the sea, to visit her most distant one? Yet that is what the Commissioner for the Northern Territory must do each time she goes to see her Division. Not that she complains! The Northern Territory in Australia is one of the most interesting parts of the world.

'The Territory' has not the political status of a State of Australia, nor is Guiding in this part advanced enough to have its own headquarters there. But as much of the business



Reached only by air or the Mission supply launch, Croker Island has a flourishing Guide company

and most of the traffic comes south to Adelaide, South Australia is the natural seat for its administration. The Girl Guides Association in Adelaide appoints a Commissioner for the Northern Territory who lives in Adelaide and acts much as a Division Commissioner would do. There are also two District Commissioners, one in Alice Springs and one in Darwin, and a Territory Secretary, who is also a Certificated Trainer, and lives in Adelaide. As it opens up, the Northern Territory attracts people from all parts of the Commonwealth and is indebted to nearly every State for its supply of Guiders.

Imagine then the Commissioner for this enormous area starting off on the train trip of two and a half days and two nights to Alice Springs in the heart of Australia. For the first day the train ran through wheatlands and farming country, but on the next it was travelling across miles and miles of what is called Sturt's Stony Desert, notable for the colouring of the little red gibber pebbles with which it is paved. About 10 p.m. on the second night the Commissioner unpacked and put on her uniform and polished up her own badge, and another with a blue enamel 'L' on it, for at Oodnadatta in the little Mission kitchen she was to enrol as a Lone Guide a girl who might not see a Guider or Commissioner for several years unless she went south to school. Then the engine whistled a warning and the Commissioner hurried back to the train across the sandy wasteland. Next day, early in the afternoon, the train slipped through Heavitree Gap, wide enough only for the train track, a road and the dry bed of the Todd river, into Alice Springs.

Of all strange places the Guides and Brownies of Alice Springs hold their campfires and revels in the bed of the Todd river. In the dry centre of Australia the water courses only run for perhaps three days in the year. The rest of the time they are dry, gravelly beds with huge,

white-trunked gum trees and occasional water holes—ideal places for picnics.

Then we follow the Commissioner up nine hundred and fifty-four miles of bitumen road, built by the army during the war, to Darwin. The people who live in Darwin are enthusiastic about Guides and the Administration has made available for them a bombed hall with the refreshing name of 'Zero in the Tropics'. Both companies have been busy planting paw-paw and banana trees and coconut palms in the grounds and naming them after their Guiders and friends of the movement. The companies and packs in the Northern Territory are mixed whites and half castes and work happily together.

Also in the Darwin District is the Croker Island Guide Company a hundred and forty miles away, out in the Arafura Sea, and reached only by air or by the Mission supply launch which sails at irregular intervals and sometimes takes a week on the voyage. On the occasion of the Commissioner's visit a little six-seater Avro Anson was chartered and the Territory Commissioner, the District Commissioner and the Trainer flew out to visit the company. After leaving Darwin the little plane fluttered and bobbed along, sometimes over ocean dotted with little tropical islands with their low cliffs casting tiny shadows on the narrow beaches, and sometimes flying over the low-lying Peninsula with buffalo herds plunging across the clearings for the shelter of the scrub or crocodiles sliding unobtrusively into the creeks.

At the end of an hour and a quarter the plane was over the Arafura Sea and circling Croker Island for the landing. Presently it bumped to a standstill on the rough air strip cut through the jungle and there, drawn up smartly, was the Guide Company. In the clearing among the Mission houses fluttered the World Flag—surely one of the most isolated spots in which it has yet waved.

The history of the Croker Island Company is interesting. Though distances are great and isolation makes organisation difficult these pioneer Guides in Alice Springs, Darwin and Croker Island, and the Lone Guides scattered throughout the distant cattle stations, are going ahead and fulfilling the enthusiastic dreams of the World Chief Guide when she recorded a message for them three years ago.

AUDREY MORPHETT

[Commissioner for the Northern Territory]

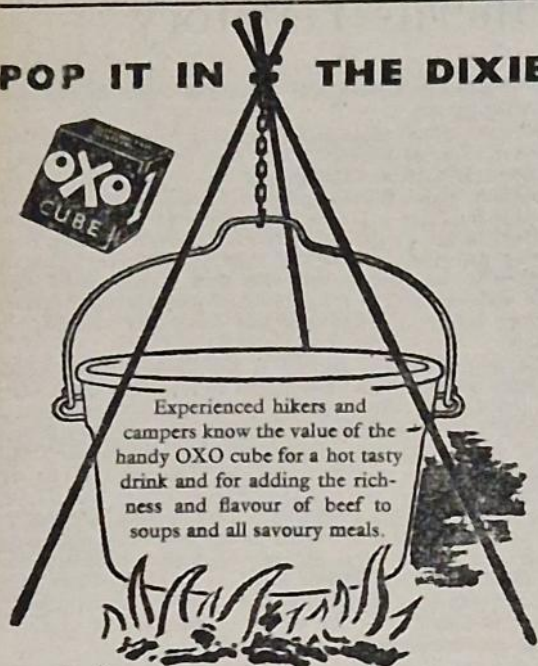


By courtesy Australia House

A beautiful creek between Katherine and Victoria River Downs, Northern Territory



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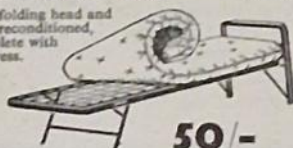
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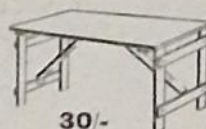
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## Camping by Conversation—4

**W**HAT can the company tackle next? We rather hope you'll suggest tent pitching and striking. A Scouter has offered to lend us an old bell and a small ridge for practice. We thought we could learn quite a lot from the tents, indoors, to begin with, where there would be room for all the company to gather round.

'You can do a lot of preparation that way. After all it isn't possible for everyone to learn through the best method of the right thing in the right place. Let's jot down what we can do. First, check over your tents and guys, brailing loops and tapes. Mend the broken and the weak ones. Don't ever, on any tent or screening, leave the untrustworthy guy—when it does break it throws so much strain elsewhere. Count your pegs, resharpen blunt ones, and, if they haven't got a bag of their own already, set someone to make one from sacking—it will do for a second class useful article'.

'What about actual tears?'

'Could you find someone to show you the proper tent-mending stitch? It does really need demonstrating. Sticking plaster is an emergency measure only, but don't, whatever you do, ignore even the smallest rent, it will grow to an enormous one if neglected'.

'Can we do anything towards actual pitching?'

'A little. Let's take a bell tent first. You could spread this out pancake fashion on the clubroom floor, with the apex in the middle, tuck all the brailing underneath, fasten your door and hook door brailing together. Unroll every fifth guy, beginning with the one second from the door and remembering that, at the door, two pairs of guys will coincide. Run your sliders two thirds down the guy and practise putting the guys exactly in line with the tent seams. You could also practise jointing the poles. Usually the section with the metal socket is the bottom one, but the real check is to see that the end that is to fit into the grommet at the apex of the tent is the rounded one. That is about as far as you can get indoors, except learning to roll up properly the guys that you've just unrolled, and tying the poles securely together'.

'Do we go on from where we left off, once we get outside?'

'Straight on. The next step is to put four pegs ready for the four guys you have unrolled. Train the Guides from the start to stand with their backs to the canvas and to drive the pegs in with a slight slant away from the tent. Encourage them to hold the mallet in one hand, at the end of the handle, and let the weight of the mallet-head do most of the work. Don't allow feet to be used to steady the pegs or you may get bruised toes! Discourage the dreadful habit of crouching over a peg and using a wrist movement only; get your Guides to stand up to it, with feet comfortably apart, and let the mallet swing. Remember, too, that although your pegs need to be secure, the guy line, when it fits into the notch of the peg, must still be free of the ground, or the rope will rot. These may seem a great many complicated directions, but they hold good for all tent pegging—and the tent pegs hold your tents to earth!'

'When do we put the pole in?'

'As soon as your pegs are in. Leave a Guide by each of the four pegs and send two Guides, with the jointed pole, to crawl under the canvas. Their job is to fit the rounded end of the pole into the grommet and then to lift the pole upright. They must keep the butt of the pole on the ground or you will have chaos. The four Guides then tighten the four guys, evenly, and your tent will stand'.

'Just with four guys?'

'Just with four guys. Now everybody can get busy, one unrolling all the guys, one distributing tent pegs, the rest knocking the pegs in. When finished, your pegs should be in a practically perfect circle, each guy should be in line with its seam, and the sliders should be all facing in the same direction round the tent. This isn't just a fad, it simplifies the job

of tightening or slackening guys in a hurry, and in the dark'.

'Is this the only way to pitch a bell tent?'

'No, you will eventually find the way you like the best. This way is the easiest, I think, for beginners, especially if they are small or if there is any wind. I should have mentioned that the pegs, after the first four, should take the strain evenly, but if you have to cope with a great deal of wind anchor the windy side first. The brailing pegs go in upright with the notch facing outwards. The brailing should hang perpendicularly, not sloping outwards, or you will collect puddles when it rains'.

'Do we roll the brailing up inwards or outwards?'

'Inwards—and that goes for ridge tent doorways, too. In a bell, fold the door brailing back against the inside wall before you roll it. Tie up the brailing tapes with half-bows or donkey hitches so that one pull will undo them'.

'How do we get the thing down?'

'Almost by reversing the process. Let down your brailing, take up the brailing pegs, scrape the earth from them and stack them to dry'.

'Any particular method of knocking the pegs up?'

'Tap with the mallet front and back, not side to side, unless you want a high mortality rate in tent pegs! Remove all the pegs and guys except the original four, roll up the guys at once and stack the scraped pegs with the others. Put four Guides by your remaining pegs and send two Guides in to hold the pole. These two give the word when they are ready, then the two Guides at the back of the tent remove their guys from the pegs and come forward with them quickly, while the others remove their guys from the pegs. At the same time the Guides inside the tent lower the pole backwards, keeping the butt on the ground. The whole thing should fall in a flat triangle, with the door in the centre on the top. Now for folding. Roll up the last four guys and smooth out any bumps in the canvas—but not by walking over the tent. Fold the sides to the middle, fold again almost to the middle, fold in two (sides to sides), then roll tightly from the apex, tucking in the guys under the eaves. If your tent bag is the kind that has eyelets sewn on to it, the tent should fit well below these, so that the top portion of the bag may be well folded over. It's all much easier to do than to listen to, and next time we'll deal with pitching a ridge tent as a store'.

C. M. SMITH

### Volunteers Wanted

Leaders and helpers are needed at a summer holiday camp for Surrey children from August 14th-28th. The aim of this scheme is to build up the health of children from tuberculosis families to help them to resist infection from the disease. The children are selected by the staff of the County Medical Officer, and only those who are themselves free from tuberculosis are allowed to go, so that there is no risk of infection to others. They are selected from homes where there is a low income and most of them would not otherwise have a holiday. The camp is situated in a lovely part of Surrey and the buildings consist of well constructed wooden huts, including recreation hall, dormitories, bathrooms, play rooms and sick bay. There is a permanent staff for cooking, cleaning, etc., under the Camp Manager and there are extensive playing fields and a swimming pool.

The duties of the leaders and their helpers are to take charge of the children and to organise their daily routine for eating, sleeping and recreation. Maintenance at the camp will be free and an honorarium will be paid to cover pocket money expenses of helpers. The Committee is prepared to pay a salary to obtain three leaders of ability to be in charge of the organisation of the children and helpers for the fortnight. Inquiries would be welcomed from any interested Guiders and should be sent to the Secretary, Imperial Training Department, Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.



# TENTS

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3 15 0

## Stormtex Tent

Size: 6' 6" long x 6' 6" wide x 6' high, 2' 6" walls. Two doorways. Made from 8-oz. White Cotton Duck. Complete with two Upright jointed Poles and two-sectioned Ridge Pole, and all accessories. Packed in bag. Weight 26 lbs.

7 13 0

## Stormtex Tent

Size: 10' long x 8' wide x 6' 6" high, 3' walls. Two doorways. Made from 8-oz. White Cotton Duck. Complete with two jointed Upright Poles, one sectioned Ridge Pole and all accessories. Weight 36 lbs.

13 6 8

## Ridge Tent

Size: 8' long x 6' wide x 6' 6" high, 3' walls. Two doorways. Made from green rot-proof and waterproof 6-oz. Cotton material. Complete with jointed Upright Poles and Ridge Pole, pegs, etc. Packed in bag. Weight 25 lbs.

14 0 0

## Ridge Tent

Size: 12' long x 7' wide x 6' high, 3' walls. Made from 10-oz. White Cotton Duck. Complete with Upright Poles and Ridge Pole, and all necessary pegs, lines, mallet, etc. Packed in bag. Weight 36 lbs.

15 13 4

## Patrol Tent

Size: 10' long x 8' wide x 6' 6" high, 3' walls. Two Doorways with Canopy over each. Made from 10-oz. Green Proofed Cotton Duck. Complete with one 10' three-piece Ridge Pole, two 6' 6" three-piece Upright Poles, pegs, mallet, etc. Packed in hessian bag. Weight 50 lbs.

18 0 0

## Bell Tent

14 Gores of 36" Canvas, cut 42", finish approx. 40" cir. Height 9' 10". 2' 3" walls. Made from 12-oz. White Cotton Duck. Complete with two-piece Pole, wooden pegs, etc. Packed in hessian bag. Weight 56 lbs.

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13 4

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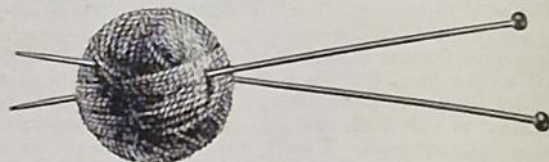
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Pre-Student Nurses (up to the age of 18 years) will be considered for duties in the Children's Wards and other suitable departments.

Enquiries may be addressed to the Matron of either of the hospitals named above.

## ADVENTURE

Boundless opportunities exist for keen evangelical Guiders to serve Christ in India, Pakistan and China in Mission Schools, Hospitals and District work.

## 'LOOK WIDE' WRITE NOW

Candidates Secretary,  
Church of England Zenana Missionary Society,  
19/21 Conway Street, London, W.1



# 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, March 8th, 1950.

**Present:** Mrs. Davies-Cooke (Chair), The Lady Stratheden and Campbell, Mrs. Miles Burlitt, 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 Laughton Mathews, D.B.E., Mrs. M. S. Mair, M.A., Miss M. L. Martin, Miss H. McSwiney, Mrs. I. H. Powell Edwards, Mrs. C. Traherne.

**By Invitation:** Miss A. Thompson (during item 10); Miss R. Ward, O.B.E., J.P. (during item 9).

**Apologies:** The Lady Baden-Powell, G.B.E., The Lady Oaksey, O.B.E., J.P., The Hon. Geoffrey Gibbs, Mrs. J. W. Haughton O.B.E., Miss D. Powell, J.P., The Lady Somerleyton, M.B.E., J.P.

**In Attendance:** Miss J. Fritth, O.B.E., Miss M. White, M.B.E., Commander Brickdale (during item 4).

**Hon. Treasurer:** Report.

**Pax Hill Ad Hoc Committee:** Report.

**Chief Commissioner:** Reports on resignation of Miss Humphreys as Assistant Commissioner for Lanes, I.H.Q.; Letter from the Lady-in-Waiting to Princess Elizabeth, expressing Her Royal Highness's pleasure in attending the C.R.A. Conference.

**Overseas Commissioner:** Sealing and signing of South Australia Constitution; Ceylon Constitution.

**Imperial Headquarters:** Reports and recommendations on trek cart patent; Income Tax Liability; Annual Meeting on May 24th; Guiders' Indemnity Policy; Waddow House Committee; General Secretary's Annual Report; Thinking Day Broadcast; Restaurant acoustics.

**Guide International Service:** Report on future of G.I.S. in Germany; Home for Dependents of European Volunteer Workers.

**Publications Committee:** Report.

**Public Relations Committee:** Reports and recommendations on Standing Conference Report; Local Association Conference; World Association of Youth; Begging by children; Port notice boards.

**Training Committee:** Report.

**Awards Committee:** Recommendations.

**Appointment and Resignations.**

**Chief Commissioner for Wales:** King George's Jubilee Trust Grant.

**Any Other Business:** World Association items.

## CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE

Mrs. Pain, for many years the beloved Brown Owl of the 7th Deal Brownie Pack.

Mrs. Janet Scott, R.R.C., also an officer (Sister) of the Order of St. John, Division Commissioner for Jerusalem 1938-1946, in the Royal Northern Infirmary, Inverness, on January 7th, 1950. In 1946 Mrs. Scott was awarded the Medal of Merit for her good work in Palestine and all those who did Guiding there will be saddened by the news of her death.

Audrey Wilson, on February 8th, 1950, after a long illness very patiently borne. In spite of having spent almost two years in bed Audrey gained her complete Ranger Service Star, Outdoor Bar and Community Service Star and her courage and cheerfulness were a help to all her friends in the 11th Chesterfield Ranger Company.

## AWARDS

### Fortitude

**Badge of Fortitude.** Guide Beryl Fitch, 2nd New Malden company, Surrey North.

Beryl has been lame since babyhood as the result of a fall, and her condition has become steadily worse as she has grown older. She had one operation last year which was unsuccessful, and has now gone back to hospital for another operation and will be in plaster from her waist to her toes for twelve weeks. In spite of considerable pain she has always been bright and cheerful and really tries to live up to the 8th Guide Law. The doctor and matron both write most appreciatively of her fortitude and patience.

**Guide Joyce Williams,** aged 16, 13th St. Helier company, Surrey North.

Joyce has been in and out of hospital since she was ten. She has had about twenty operations, has had one leg amputated and is at present in hospital suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. She has borne her long, painful and extremely

disabling illness with great courage and patience and has remained a very keen Guide and cheerful happy person.

**Letter of Commendation.** Brownie Ann Hodge, aged 10, 1st Cobham pack, Surrey North.

Ann was riding in a horsebox when the door came open and she fell out and was dragged along the ground, resulting in a fractured jaw and arm, internal injuries and abrasions. She was operated on and given blood transfusions but in spite of pain and great discomfort she was always cheerful and optimistic.

## COMING EVENTS

**The Empire Circle** lunch hour talk on April 27th will be given by Miss D. Powell who has recently returned from a short training tour in the Sudan. The talk will be in the Council Chamber at 1.15 p.m. and all Guiders are welcome. Sandwiches may be brought and coffee will be on sale from 1 p.m.

**The first evening social** will be held at the Guide Club on Thursday evening, April 27th at 7 p.m. Miss Wood-Hill, the Secretary of the International Department, I.H.Q., will speak on 'The Thirteenth World Conference' and there will be refreshments and games. This meeting is for members only.

**A Methodist Guiders' Conference** will be held in the library at I.H.Q. on April 14th (7-9 p.m.) and April 15th (2-9 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. Guiders from other denominations will be very welcome.

**A Film Afternoon** for Guiders and Rangers will be held on April 18th at 2.30 p.m. in the Library at Headquarters when 'World Friendship' (a record of the camp for the U.S.A., Canadian, and Brazilian 'Aides' at the World Conference at Cooperstown in 1948), 'A Letter from Camp' (the new Guide camp film) and 'Gateway to Adventure' (the Ranger camp training film) will be shown. Applications for tickets (1s. 6d. including tea) should be sent to the Publicity Department, Girl Guide Headquarters by April 12th. Please mark your envelopes 'Film Afternoon' and enclose a stamped addressed envelope for reply.

**Training and Holiday Camp in Guernsey, C.I. at Whitsun.** It is proposed to hold a camp for any Guiders, Cadets and Rangers (all sections) who care to come to Guernsey, C.I. from Friday, May 26th or Saturday, the 27th to Friday or Saturday, June 2nd or 3rd. The first four days will be devoted to training and testing in licences, Q.M. campcraft, camp first aid, etc., and the rest of the week will be for sightseeing and possibly excursions to other Islands. Anyone interested, please apply for details as soon as possible to: Miss Sarre, Pleinmont House, Torteval, Guernsey, C.I., not later than April 23rd. Miss Close, 1 Aigburth Road, Swanage, Dorset, will be crossing from Weymouth on Friday the 26th and will be delighted to hear from any one who wishes to be sure of travelling companions and a grand way of spending a week's holiday.

**The All-England Ranger Rally.**—The pageant in the Albert Hall will take place on Saturday, October 21st at 2.30 p.m. and 7 p.m., and the Drumhead Service and March Past in the White City on Sunday, October 22nd at 2.30 p.m. approximately. Full details of the rally will be published in the May GUIDER, but in the meantime please do not write for tickets until the date of the opening of the box office is announced. News of rally plans will appear monthly in THE RANGER. Any essential queries should be sent to the Commissioner for Rangers for England, Miss O. L. Hillbrook, at 10 Overton Road, Sutton, from where the rally is being organised.

## GENERAL NOTICES

**Drama Advice Bureau.** On the retirement of Mrs. Streatfield from the office of Commissioner for Drama (reported on page 63 of the March GUIDER), it has been agreed by the Executive Committee that there should in future be an Advice Bureau to deal with various queries in connection with drama. It would be most helpful if those counties which have a Guide Drama Adviser would forward the name and address to the Secretary of the Bureau, Miss Peake 15 Clareville Court, London, S.W.7.

**At the Schoolgirls' Exhibition** which is being held at the New Horticultural Hall, Westminster, from May 24th to June 3rd, 1950, the Girl Guides Association Stall is showing all sections of Ranger activities, Land, Sea and Air. It is also hoped to run a Camp Competition open to everyone. All Rangers and Guiders who visit the Exhibition should encourage their friends to explore our stall.



## Those Boating Rules Again

A CONSIDERABLE number of Sea Ranger crews take the opportunity each year of going to camp at places where boating facilities are easily accessible, and an increasing number are hiring converted M.T.B.s and house-boats for their holidays, and Sea Rangers are flocking to the various training ships that are now open to them, such as M.T.B. 630, T.S. *Foudroyant*, *English Rose* and one or two M.T.B.s owned by Sea Cadets or Sea Scouts.

During the past year there have been one or two cases where the safety rules governing these sort of activities have not been fully understood. It must be stressed that no recruit or member of the movement who cannot swim fifty yards may take part in boat training until she has passed this test. 'Boat training' may be interpreted as being when any member of the movement takes part in the rowing, sailing, or steering of a boat. Therefore a non-swimming Guide, Ranger or Guider is precluded from living on board any vessel which is moored away from land. Neither, if she goes to camp, must she take part in boating expeditions. She may, of course, go out in craft which are handled by professional boatmen.

For many years now the Camping Branch have graded the bathing places in their counties into categories, each of which call for certain qualifications in the life-saver in charge of swimming. A similar method is now being adopted in regard to boating, though the categories are differently designated.

County Coxswains have been asked to grade the waters where boating may take place, and to decide the qualifications needed by a Coxswain in each case. This information will be passed on by the 'foreign' Camp Adviser to the prospective camper, and a notice to this effect is being printed in the *Campers' Leaflet*.

If Skippers do not already know whether Charge Certificates or Boat Permits are required for the waters near their camp-site, or on which their house-boat is moored, they will be well advised to write and enquire early in the year, so as to be sure that they and their crew are adequately qualified. As most people will realise, there are some places that look perfectly safe, but where conditions may deteriorate rapidly with changing conditions of wind, tide and current. In these cases, local knowledge is everything, and in order to ensure that a Skipper is 'put wise' to any possible danger, a Camp Adviser may ask that a local boatman, who has been recommended by the County Coxswain and will be prepared to give her the benefit of his knowledge and experience, accompanies the first boating expeditions undertaken in strange water.

Sea Rangers, and others, often become impatient over the observance of safety rules, and this is only natural where girls are keen and adventurous, but it is essential that both the spirit and the letter of the law should be kept. In boating, and especially in sailing, lives may depend on quickness of thought and action, and none of us dare lay ourselves open to a charge of negligence. Every means, therefore, must be taken to help Sea Rangers and Guiders to acquire the ability to pass the boating tests; the higher the standard they attain the more scope they can be given, and the more experience they gain, the more they will realise that safety rules are necessary wherever numbers are involved, and that these are intended for the protection of the less capable, and not to fetter the experienced.

S. G. CLARKE

(Assistant Commissioner for Rangers (Sea Rangers) I.H.Q.)

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# The Guider's Postbag

## The Finance Scheme

Miss Binnie raised some interesting points in her letter published in the February Postbag, but she appears to overlook the fact that Divisions and Counties do a great deal to help Guiders which would be quite impossible if they had no funds. A Guider with no private means may be selected to attend a conference which will not only benefit her County and Division but also her own Guide company. She could not accept the invitation unless the County and/or Division provided the conference fees and possibly some help with fares. When Division or County events take place, such as rallies or swimming galas, the initial expenses must be met and any unforeseen loss borne by their funds. We all hope that in due course the individual sum paid to Headquarters by members of the movement may be reduced, but we older Commissioners know how the Guides have always responded to an appeal. Surely, if we can convince them that Guiding depends on them, we need have no anxiety as to the issue? They have not failed in the past and I for one have every confidence in them now.

M. J. FURZE (Captain, Lee District Rangers)

May I strongly endorse the views expressed in the letter from M. C. Binnie in connection with the Finance Scheme? My experience in collecting amounts due from packs and companies in this District is that while the 1s. 6d. a head for Brownies has presented no real difficulty, the 3s. a head for Guides is indeed a burden and causes great anxiety to Guide Captains. Only too often the payment has been made at the expense of company equipment and uniforms, both of which are costly in these days as never before. While we all fully appreciate the fundamental need for the Finance Scheme and are anxious to give it our support, we do often wonder whether it has gone a little beyond its original purpose and 'frills' have been included which could quite well wait till we are on our feet financially, or until the general cost of living is more normal, thus making it possible to considerably reduce the yearly payment. Now that the Finance Committee has had the benefit of a full year's working of the Scheme could not the whole question be reconsidered and possibly reduce the Guide contribution to 1s. 6d. as for Brownies, or better still, why not let us all contribute by an overall yearly payment.

May I quote a letter from one of my Guide captains which is typical of the position in this District: 'Am enclosing just £2 at the moment re H.Q. Fund as this is all we can afford. I

must explain that we have quite a number of poorer Guides in our company and it is more than some of them can do to pay 1d. per head for company subs., let alone anything else. Our funds are very low at the moment, but we shall be putting on a concert and after that I shall be able to send a further contribution. I hope you will be able to pass on this explanation with the assurance that although we understand the position, one cannot extract money from Guides who come from a large family in poor circumstances and who just haven't got it'. This captain is an untiring worker and a worthy member of our movement and it is for her sake, and for so many more in the same position, that I would like to see the yearly contribution reduced to more reasonable proportions.

F. E. TIGHE

(District Secretary and Brown Owl, High Cross, Tottenham)

## The Chief Guide's Challenge

It may be of interest to other Districts and Divisions to read of one Division's endeavour to respond. At a Guiders' meeting held in October it was agreed that every Guider should feel herself in honour bound to produce one new 'body'—that is to say a woman of suitable age, physical and mental ability to lead young people as well as possessing the moral attributes required of a Guider. If we brought it off we decided we would send a cable to the Chief in Africa saying that her challenge had been met and the 'bodies', all enrolled and resplendent in uniform, would be lined up when she visits us next October. Accordingly a blue letter-box was put by the door of the hall where we had our Thinking Day celebrations and names of candidates, with their sponsors, were put in the box. We knew that the hunt had been fast and furious during the previous three months in schools, offices, shops and everywhere young women lurk, and feverishly opened the box. It was a very near thing—nineteen volunteers, some already in uniform, introduced by twenty-four Guiders. Alas, we cannot send that cable to the Chief but we have greatly increased our circle and brought in much needed help.

So often Guiders seem to think it is up to the Commissioner to produce new recruits and the Challenge brought it home to each one that she must help all she can (the Commissioner cannot do it all), and if all Guiders in the movement feel this responsibility to be an urgent task we could, as here, not quite double our numbers, but come pretty near it.

V. M. SYNGE (Division Commissioner, Bexhill)

# The Work of the World Conference

(Continued from page 70)

school has'. It eventually transpired that she meant the curriculum, and Mrs. Low and the headmistress had a good laugh together. Girls were devoted to her, and she to them. Whenever she appeared at a camp they would gather round to hear her stories and to have 'their palms read'—when, incidentally, she would often slip in a shrewd word of advice. When some problem arose on a committee she would say: 'Ask the girls to settle it—they are always right'.

Mrs. Low was the first person to see the vision of World Guiding. Away back in 1911, when others were only occupied with local, or at best national efforts, Mrs. Low telephoned to a friend in her home town: 'Come right over. I have got something for the girls of Savannah, and the girls of all America, and the girls of all the world. And we are going to begin it tonight'. She died in 1927, having achieved her dream of holding the Fourth International Conference in the United States at Camp Edith Macy, but her memory and inspiration live on in The Juliette Low World Friendship Fund.

Although Mrs. Mark Kerr was an old friend of B-P's it was Mrs. Low who 'hooked' her for Guiding in 1910 by employing her well-known method of starting a company (this time in Lambeth) and sailing serenely away to America, oblivious of her friend's loud and insistent arguments that 'she lived in the country and was no good with girls'. Another determined woman, Lady Baden-Powell, trapped Mrs. Kerr in her bathroom at the end of a weekend visit in 1916 and insisted on her becoming County Commissioner for London, an appointment she held until 1940. She is known to thousands of Guiders through her books, *The Story of the Girl Guides* and *The Story of a Million Girls*, which have been translated into many

languages and will be read as long as the movement itself exists.

Mrs. Kerr's gift for languages (she could speak six fluently, with a smattering of several others) made her invaluable at all international gatherings. With her knowledge of, and love for, so many different countries she was able to interpret the spirit, as well as the actual words, of the delegates to the World Conferences, all of which she attended up to 1938. When she died in 1944 Sweden expressed what Mrs. Kerr meant to the Guide world by calling her 'a bridge between the nations showing the way'.

These three, Lady Baden-Powell, Mrs. Low and Mrs. Kerr, were the moving spirits of the early International Conferences. Their conviction that it was the children, and not the organisation, that mattered, and their warm-hearted appreciation of other people's qualities drew into the movement many fine leaders (who rose to prominence as the years went on), and set the tradition of friendly co-operation which is still the hall-mark of such meetings.

Lady Baden-Powell is the only one of them who is still with us and it with joy and gratitude that delegates and visitors to the Thirteenth World Conference in July will welcome once more their own beloved Chief—Friend of All the World—at Oxford where it all began.

ALIX LIDDELL

(For an account of the First International Conference see 'The Brochure of The Thirteenth World Conference', which will be obtainable from I.H.Q. at the end of April, price 1s. For reminiscences of World Conferences from 1920 onwards see Miss Gladys Bretherton's article in the April number of 'The Council Fire'.—EDITOR.)



## Where to Train

## FOXLEASE

- 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 Training (open to any  
Guider interested)
- 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  
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 (fully booked)  
25-1 Sept. Woodcraft and Holiday  
Week

- September  
5-12 Guide and Brownie  
15-22 Guide and Brownie  
26-3 Oct. Commissioners and Secre-  
taries

- October  
6-10 England—Certificated Trainers  
13-16 Somerset  
20-27 Guide and Brownie  
31-7 Nov. General Training

- November  
10-14 East Surrey  
17-21 S.W. Area Camping  
24-28 General

## WADDOW

- April  
6-11 (Easter) Guide, Brownie and  
Ranger (waiting list only)  
14-17 Woodcraft and First Class  
21-24 English Certificated Trainers  
27-30 Handcraft and Camp Training  
28-1 May. N.E. Lancs.

- May  
5-8 Guide and Brownie (fully booked)  
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 (fully booked)  
25-31 Holiday period for Guiders,  
Cadets and Rangers

- September  
1-4 Guide and Brownie  
8-11 Campfire  
15-18 South Lancs.  
22-25 Brownie  
29-2 Oct. Guide

- October  
6-9 Staffordshire  
13-16 S.W. Lancs.  
20-23 Guide and Brownie

- November  
3-6 Guide and Brownie  
10-13 Commissioners and Secretaries

- 17-20 Guide and Brownie (with special  
sessions for Cadet Guiders)

- 24-27 Guide and Brownie  
\*Applications will be accepted from  
Guiders for the week-end or part time.  
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. (See March  
GUIDER for fees.)

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' Holi-  
day 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.

International Singing Training. Chef-  
taine Francine Cockenpot of the *Guides  
de France*, and composer of so many  
tuneful songs is to visit this country in  
May and will take a training at I.H.Q.  
on Friday, May 5th, from 7 p.m.-8.30  
p.m., and on Saturday, May 6th, from  
3 p.m.-6 p.m. The songs are in French,  
but English translation will be available.  
The training is open to Guiders and  
Cadets.

Applications for all above trainings to  
the Secretary, Imperial Training Depart-  
ment, enclosing a stamped addressed  
envelope.

## SCOTLAND

## Netherurd

- 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)  
Applications, enclosing a deposit of 5s.,  
to the Secretary, Netherurd, Blyth Bridge,  
West Linton, Peeblesshire.

## WALES

## Broneirion

- 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)

- September  
29-1 Oct. Guide Guiders

- October  
6-9 Pack Holiday Training for Pros-  
pective 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 Commis-  
sioners

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

## ULSTER

## Lorne

- 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 Adven-  
ture weekend



## Notes and News

**Cadet Camp.** A camp for Cadets will be held at Foxlease from September 2nd-9th. Fee 30s. Not more than four will be accepted from any one company until after June 30th, but meantime additional names will be put on a waiting list. Applications to the Secretary, Imperial Training Department.

**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. Applications should be addressed to the Secretary and the envelope marked 'Camp'.

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

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

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.

Donations from four hundred and eleven Local Associations have been received in response to the Chief Guide's letter asking for their help in giving a warm welcome to those who are coming from all parts of the world to the World Conference. Further donations, no matter how small, will be welcomed from those Local Associations who have not already contributed and should be sent to the Honorary Treasurer, Miss Rochat, 172 Regents Park Road, London, N.3.

Guiders may like to draw the attention of Rangers and Guides to the National Handcraft Competition sponsored by the organisers of the Schoolgirls' Exhibition in collaboration with *The Craft Journal*. The competition includes three sections, needlework, knitting and handwork, and entry forms, price 2d., postage 1d., are obtainable from Headquarters.

**The New Queen's Guide Award Leaflet,** price 2d., covers the revised syllabus and takes the place of the white leaflet for Commissioners and Testers and the blue leaflet for Guides, so that now all concerned will be using the same one. All Commissioners and Guiders are asked to procure copies of the new leaflet as soon as possible.

**A Brownie's Day** (words by Miss Faulkner and music by Miss Chater) and 'A Guide Marching Song' (words and music by Miss Chater) which were sung in the Thinking Day broadcast are published by the Girl Guides Association and are obtainable from H.Q. Bookshop at 3d. each.

**Catholic Guide Prayer Book.** The reprint of the Catholic

Guide Prayer Book will be ready early in April and Guides are asked to order their copies, price 6d., from Headquarters.

The following new films have been added to the Headquarters Film Library, and are now available for hire.

**A Letter from Camp** gives a Guide's impressions of her camp at Blackland Farm, and includes many activities familiar to all campers. It takes the place of *A Day in Camp* which has now been withdrawn. 16mm, one reel, silent, coloured, running time fifteen minutes, hire charges 10s. for one showing, 4s. for each subsequent showing.

**Gateway to Adventure,** the Ranger Camp Training Film, shows scenes at a wide variety of Ranger camps. 16mm, two reels, silent, black and white, running time twenty-five minutes, hire charges 10s. for one showing, 4s. for each subsequent showing.

**Ship's Company Afloat.** A record of Sea Ranger training in the *Foudroyant*. 16mm, one reel, silent, black and white, running time fifteen minutes, hire charges 7s. 6d. for one showing, 3s. 6d. for each subsequent showing.

The following films have been withdrawn from general circulation, as they are now out of date and of historical interest only: *Fourth Law*, *Imperial Headquarters*, *Guide Gift Week*, *Guide International Service*, *Windsor*, *This Our Heritage*, *Guide Newsreel 1*. We do not recommend showing them to average audiences, but they are available for hire if specially wanted.

The following films have been withdrawn altogether from the film library: *Pax Ting*, *A Day in Camp*, *Flights for Victory*.

## B-P's Yardstick

(Continued from page 34)

the magazines. Have I forgotten the 'fun' of Guiding? Oh, no! But that, too, is a means and not an end in itself.

Now for a few hard facts in answer to queries raised: *Why are there not more pictures of Guiding in THE GUIDE?* Pictures are limited by the quantity and quality of the supply.

*Why are advertisements included in THE GUIDE?* To enable the paper to be sold at 2d. a copy. Printing, paper, and all other costs have risen enormously, but it is desirable that the paper shall still be within the means of all Guides.

*Why not use smaller type and pack in more material?* Because eyestrain is not consistent with the health policy of Guiding.

*Why is THE RANGER so thin?* Because THE RANGER was started at the request of the Ranger Branch at a time when strict regulations limited the size of magazines. It can be made bigger when circulation figures rise and the cost of production is offset by added income.

MARGARET PLAYLE

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