

# THE GUIDER

Published Monthly for Commissioners and Guiders

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## Fire and Song Remind Us How Our Promise Binds Us



In her speech at the Oxford campfire, broadcast overseas, H.R.H. Princess Margaret said: 'Though I speak to you across the length and breadth of the world I feel that between us all there is a deep understanding which keeps us close in spirit and purpose . . . and we believe that, by our example, we shall help to establish true and lasting friendship among the nations of the world'.



# The World Conference through British Eyes

A RECEPTION to be held in honour of the Delegates attending the Thirteenth World Conference—a phrase that might well conjure up before us a gathering of persons, dignified and stately, weighed down by the cares of their countries and piled high with ponderous papers! What did we find? The gayest and happiest of parties; bright-coloured national dresses from many lands interspersed with the various uniforms of our Guide family from all over the world; greetings from old friends, first meetings with new friends and, in the midst of her 'World', the Chief Guide radiating happiness. So began our pre-Conference activities.

To some it was a first introduction to Britain and British Guiding, so, during four blissful days at Foxlease, we looked and listened and learned. The Brownie pack, the Guide company, the Guiders' camps, the Extensions' camp and Ranger work with Lands and Seas and Airs were the real-life illustrations to the talks that gave us the theory, and we set off for Oxford with a bright vision before our eyes of young people in action. The Conference was richer for this opening chapter.

'What do you confer about at a World Conference?' we are constantly asked. The theme, 'This Changing World' gave full scope for discussion. Like all happy families our World Association is a disciplined body—it must meet to plan for the future, to budget for its expenditure, to hear news of its property (Our Chalet and Our Ark), to help to educate its younger children, to hear reports of work done during the past two years and, above all, to make sure that its fundamental principles remain secure.

With what interest we heard of Guiding springing up, with even greater strength and in spite of difficulties (both human and geographical). With a map before us, we jumped across seas and continents to Haiti, Cuba, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Panama (our baby this, of six months old), the Islands of the Caribbean Sea, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Japan, Korea, Israel, Syria, Liechtenstein, Austria, Germany, Iceland, to Displaced Persons' Camps, and to groups of exiles from their native lands. Guides, Guides and more Guides—rumours of them in tiny islands and in remote corners of great continents.

What a vast family to plan for and to budget for! We all know the value of a personal contact, so money is set aside to send a trainer or visitor wherever possible to carry these scattered members of our family news of other Guides and to help them with their Guiding problems.

To take part in a Conference means hard work and how we enjoyed our play-time—the charming little Sunday luncheon parties, a Water Pageant by the Oxford Guides, the Ulster and Headington dancers, Blenheim Palace, the great Campfire and, crowning thrill, a reception by Her Majesty the Queen. An Edwardian mist of tulle and feathers faded from before our eyes to be replaced by a vision yet more splendid—we have driven through the great courtyard and up to the door of Buckingham Palace in four red 'buses, to match the tunics of the Grenadier Guards on sentry duty! And within awaited us a never-to-be-forgotten welcome from our Queen—surely one of the world's most charming hostesses.

A Conference must, of necessity, end with farewells and three members of the World Committee (having served their term of six years) handed on their badges to the new members, Mrs. Alan Means of the United States, Madame de Saint Victor, of France, and Madame Zarifi, of Greece. The new Chairman, Miss Visapää, of Finland, was greeted by the retiring Chairman, Mrs. Swift Newton, and so, once again, the World Committee will go forward, with our support, to steer us through another two years of World Guiding.

Looking back on this Thirteenth World Conference, we see it against the age-old traditions of our own country, expressed by the beauty of its buildings in London, Hampton Court, Windsor and Oxford. Surely they symbolise the stable background that we need on which to work out the new theme, 'This Changing World'. May our children find the happiness that waits for all who care to take it, and meet the unknown future strengthened by the great unchanging principles that lie behind this game of Guiding.

CICELY DOUGLAS

## —and through Canadian

I FEEL it a great privilege and pleasure to write an article for THE GUIDER to take the place of your Chief Commissioner's diary of her doings each month. In passing may I say that I read her articles each month and from them realise what a fine Chief Commissioner you have, and how very busy you keep her.

I had not visited England for twenty-three years—I was then a Guide captain, and a pretty green one at that—so you can imagine how thrilled I was on July 2nd to get my first glimpse of Great Britain. It was Ulster from 17,000 feet up in the air. My reason for coming by 'plane was to allow me to spend all of my month's holiday in your beautiful country, instead of spending one half of it coming and going by sea. And what a wonderful month it has been—the warm welcome, the hospitality and generosity of everyone, and especially of all you Guides, is something I cannot describe adequately, there has been so much of it.

My first ten days was spent in London, renewing my acquaintance with the greatest city in the world. Walking, riding in the 'buses and on the undergrounds, revisiting your famous shrines and landmarks, noting with sorrow the many ruined and burnt buildings and wondering at your bravery and courage.

Saturday, July 15th, was the date when British Guiding welcomed to England the delegates of the twenty-four coun-

tries attending the World Conference of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. In the morning we met the representatives of British newspapers, and we hope that the press wires all over the world hummed the news that there is a group of women and girls in this troubled and unhappy world who can work and play together, regardless of their race or colour.

We from the 'New World' were especially impressed by such pageantry as the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London, arranged for us by London Commissioners and Guiders, and we will long remember the creepy feeling down our spines when out of the dusk came the red-coated Chief Warder, carrying an Elizabethan lantern and jangling the keys which have locked up the Tower every night for seven hundred years. Here, too, we had the honour of being presented to your President, the Princess Royal, who upholds the royal tradition of being really interested in the organisations to which she and other members of the royal family give so generously of their time and encouragement.

Sunday was a smiling English day, with lots of sunshine and just enough rain to remind us where we were! It was a day in which English history and English hospitality all got mixed up together. We visited Westminster Abbey to pay a special tribute to our Founder, Lord Baden-Powell, Eton College, Windsor Castle and Hampton Court Palace. We lunched at Beaconsfield with Lady Burnham, had tea





H.R.H. The Princess Margaret, accompanied by the Chief Commissioner, Lady Stratheden and Campbell, walks to the Oxford campfire along a route lined with the flags of twenty-four nations

with Lady Baden-Powell and, as a finale, saw a happy, smiling group of Guides who wished us well on our journey home. We certainly walked that day—with the past, the present and the future.

The historic Mansion House was our next gathering place where the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress very graciously welcomed us to the City of London. The beautiful gold plate, put out in our honour, will be long remembered.

Foxlease followed, only a name to so many of us, but the ambition to visit it some day the goal of us all. Our visit there began with the unfolding of Foxlease's history in pageant and song. That it rained throughout the performance seemed to disturb no one except the spectators, who, although comfortably housed in a marquee, were worried about the wetting of the beautiful costumes.

The demonstration of British Guiding in the next three days inspired us to go home and work increasingly hard to achieve the same Guide spirit which ran through all the sessions.

Oxford—the name that has been in our thoughts and our planning ever since our last World Conference at Cooperstown. We have dreamed of ancient towers, peaceful quadrangles, chimes of bells and learned dons. In reality Oxford, 1950, to the delegates to the Thirteenth World Conference, has meant a mingling of race and creed, the sound of many tongues, long sessions on hard chairs, quiet walks in a beautiful garden, learning of others' problems and triumphs, and the realisation that we really do belong to a world-wide sister-

hood. Long after the actual deliberations of the conference will be forgotten each one of us will remember the friends from twenty-four different countries.

On July 27th all work was forgotten and we went to London to visit the Queen. Her Majesty's greeting was a personal one for each of us and her Guide badge told us she was our sister Guide.

On Saturday July 29th the sun shone all day, doing its share to help the British Guides perfect their campfire preparations. All day, while in conference, we heard rumours of Guides arriving in Oxford—by coach, by car, by bicycle and on foot—who were bringing something with them for every member country. We, too, caught the feeling of excitement and expectancy.

At last the time arrived and our 'buses stopped at the gate of the park. Here we were ushered through into an enormous field—but you couldn't see the field—all you could see were Guides, Guides, Guides. Little ones, big ones, fair ones, dark ones—every one of them with a great big smile and handclap of welcome. Soon we found out their secret. One delegate from each country received a scroll and log book, carried by hand by Guides from every corner of England, Scotland, Wales and Ulster.

Canada's scroll travelled the road of the Armies of Liberation, starting in the Isle of Wight and journeying through Hampshire and Berkshire to Oxford. It is beautiful in execution and steeped in happiness and friendship. The Guides in Canada will love it and will all agree with the happy suggestion on the Scroll, 'that there may be many exchange visits between the two countries in the coming years'.

The great campfire, the merry singing, the runners with their scrolls, the informal speech of your Sea Ranger Commodore, H.R.H. Princess Margaret, the flare of rockets—will long be remembered by all who were privileged to be there.

Now, as I soar away from the airport and look down on the twinkling lights of London I say to you all: 'Goodbye, and thank you'.

ESTELLE WISHART

[Chief Commissioner, Canadian Girl Guides]



On the afternoon of July 29th the Chief Commissioners for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland received the Goodwill Messages at Christchurch Meadow. Here we see the arrival in a coach and four of a message that had travelled along the coach roads of England



# Bluebirds

By Virginia Graham

IT must not surprise the inhabitants of the British Isles too much if, during the month of July, they meet a flushed Girl Guide with a dedicated look in her eye roller-skating down Watling Street or an equally flushed and dedicated Brownie bumping through Newcastle on a donkey. For the country will be bursting with girls of every age and size progressing to Oxford by every means of locomotion known to man.

On July 29th, the Girl Guides' Thirteenth World Conference draws to a close, and on that day the twenty-seven representatives of twenty-seven foreign countries will each be given a scroll bearing a message of goodwill to take home with them. Conferences, of course, are only attended by grown-ups, by women who wear cockaded hats and have, most probably, never tied a bowline or hopped a figure of eight on one leg; so it was decided that, as this was a memorable occasion, it would be amusing for the children to have a chance to join in the proceedings. So a scheme has been evolved whereby, somewhat in the manner of the Olympic torch marathon, messages shall be handed from one Guide to another along twenty-seven different routes. Once the seed of the scheme was planted in the fertile soil of youthful imagination, it grew with alarming rapidity, and now, one feels, has burgeoned into something not unlike a conjuror's bouquet, beautiful but a little mad.

## A Gargantuan Relay Race

One of the main features, however, of this gargantuan relay race is that it should be fun; having solemn splendid moments, of course, but on the whole light-hearted. It is adventurous; it has various moral implications; but chiefly it is fun. A secondary feature is that the routes should lie across the loveliest or, if these are not available, the most interesting portions of these islands. The scrolls themselves are to be signed at every point along the line, but it was thought, and with an accuracy that experience will hardly dare to refute, that they might, what with the fatigue and excitement of the journey, get somewhat grubby. Even if the Mayor, hastily summoned from his Parlour to greet a Guide on a fire engine, might be pardoned for over-flourishing his signature, and when a scroll has been down a mine or lain in the watery recesses of a Brownie-engined punt, it is bound to lose its initial crispness. Therefore a larger, more solid log-book is being compiled for each route, and in this not only will the geography but also the history of Great Britain, its industries, its famous men and women, its traditions and peculiarities be noted and illustrated for the benefit of Girl Guides overseas.

It is hoped that such information may also be instructive to our own Guides, although it would seem that what with bicycling, catching trains, leaping on to horses, releasing pigeons and running, not to mention boating, riding in farm-tractors and cadging lifts on ambulances, they will be too busy for much culture at the moment. Here, for instance, is what they are up to in Lanarkshire. Received from Glasgow by a Rally of Guides at Garrowhill, the scroll is to be carried by farm tractor, then to move on by the early milk-cart to Coatbridge, where it will take to the Monkland Canal in a canoe and have a ride on a shunting-engine in the local steel works. Brought to Cadzow Castle to visit the famous herd of white cattle—these, one presumes, will not be mounted—the scroll will visit Garrison Mill, one of the oldest working mills in the country, and will end its day in Morgen Glen guarded by three fairy rings of Brownies, who will discourse on Greece, the scroll's final destination, to an assembled group

of dignitaries. At Corsham, on the other hand (or other foot), the scroll will be run in panting relays to the Fosse Way; then take to horses and arrive in Malmesbury on a bicycle. York is being somewhat exhibitionist in a hansom cab, Sussex extremely dashing in a series of aeroplanes, and Ulster has had the charming idea of dancing its scroll to Oxford. That she who runs may also read seems very unlikely.

## Something Vital to Offer

The Guides are quiet people. For forty years they have been with us making a generous contribution to the ethical standards of the race, but making no noise at all. Like all people who do good and who practise the virtues, they have provided many opportunities for mirth, and no comedian worthy of the name, either male or female, has not appeared at some time on the stage in Girl Guide uniform. That they continue to spread in ever-widening circles over the face of the globe proves that they have something vital to offer, something, perhaps, which needs no advertising. But it is nice, once in a while, to catch them in the open, as it were, and pounce on them. Not that, in this particular instance, they are being particularly virtuous. Although no doubt a Guide would dismount from her penny-farthing should she see a lame dog struggling to get over a stile, and, as has always seemed the most sensible plan, direct the animal to limp under it, she is not ostensibly out to succour. Nevertheless, she is the very essence, the very apotheosis, of loving-kindness, and as she rolls, canters, floats or zooms by us, we should be glad to remember that there are, at this moment, thousands of young girls bent on sending their love to the Philippines and Mexico, determined to bless Bogota and Haiti, bursting their lungs to smile on South Africa.

Men have sought out many inventions whereby they may live in peace with one another, and they have sent many messages of friendship in their time; but inasmuch as their expressions of goodwill are flavoured with expediency, with politics and the price of bananas, they must always, alas, be taken with a pinch of salt. The Guides have no axes to grind, and the hands they are now extending across the seas, though possibly trembling from their owners' exertions, seek only the purest relationship, that of brotherly love. And love is a most infectious thing.

(Reprinted from 'The Spectator', July 21st, 1950.)

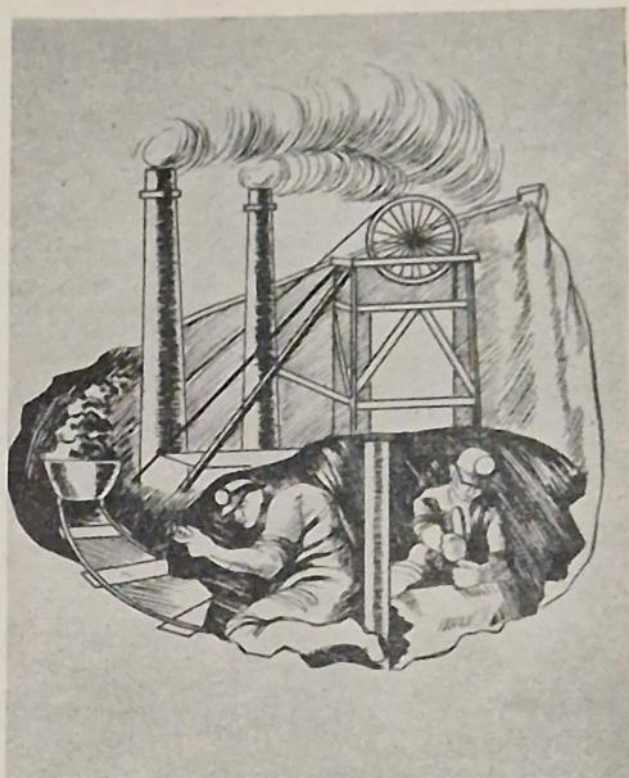
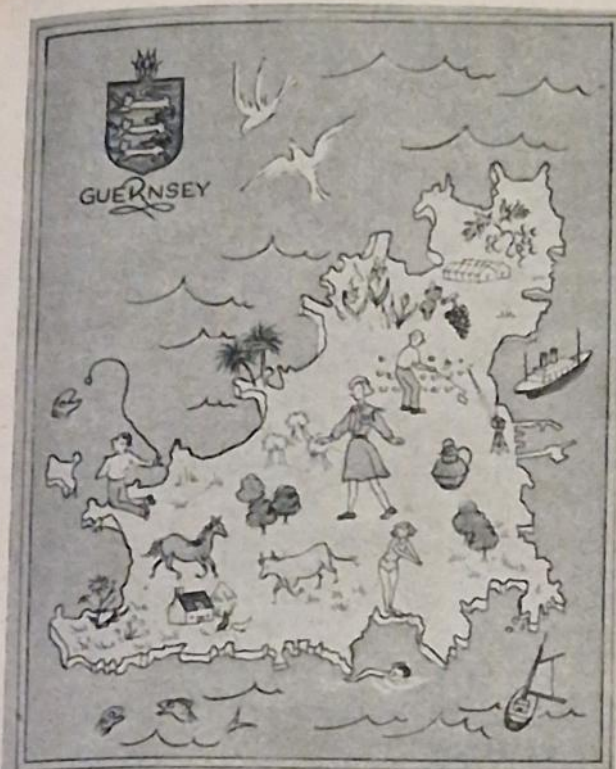
## A Word of Hope

Though threat of ruin fills the world with fear,  
A light of beauty shines in Oxford here.  
A hope for happy life is not yet cold  
In this gray City built by faith of old,  
For here, amid new war's beginning scathe,  
New pilgrims travel, bringing living faith,  
Bringing, in glee, from our remotest isle,  
A word of light to cheer man's little while,  
A word of hope that, by an act of will,  
Life may be surely bettered, even still:  
The City rings with sound long out of use,  
The footsteps of the bringers of good news.

JOHN MASEFIELD

(By courtesy of 'The Times', July 29th, 1950)





## YORKSHIRE,

WEST RIDING,  
NORTH-WEST.

## Leaves from the Log Books

Four of the many delightful illustrations in the Log Books prepared for the World Conference delegates. At the top (left) is an amusing map from Guernsey and next to it a sketch of Durham miners. In the lower pictures the one on the left shows the symbols of Yorkshire West Riding North West and that on the right well-known scenes in Cambridge



# 'Operation Chaos'

IT may be news to some of you that there is—or was—such a period of time as pre-chaos. Chaos, you will know, of course, as pre-world. 'Operation Chaos' you may know as the Pre-World Conference gathering which took place at Foxlease from July 17th to 21st. 'Pre-chaos' was what happened at Foxlease as May (plenty of time in hand) moved into June (not much time left) and June into July (no time left at all). Looking back on it, recollecting it—not in tranquillity (seldom achieved at Foxlease) but in a pause between other occupations—is like looking through a volume of photographs, and the accompanying feelings are, as usual in such cases, a mixture of amusement, pride and regret—regret that the occasions there represented are now recorded only in memory.

Let us introduce you to a photograph here and there. This is a close-up of the Assistant G.I.C. Note the harrowed brow and the ream of foolscap for notes. Her thoughts run something like this—'If seven maids with seven mops swept it for half a year, how many Aides shall we need at Foxlease to do all the work of the house while the delegates are in session? Also, how many members of the staff can I sleep in the boot-hole and, if the dining room accommodates seventy at a pinch and ninety delegates are coming, can the odd twenty reasonably be expected to do without food?'

These next photographs are all of the rehearsals for the Pageant of Foxlease House—rehearsals held in halls, on lawns, in gardens, in barns. (Had you talked to the Producer at any time at all during this period the conversation, had it started in Korea or at 'Ring Round the Moon' or on 'Kontiki' would have been brought round with determination to the subject of period costumes in general and wigs in particular.)

This next one is a composite photograph, dated July 15th. It is not a very good one as it was taken in heavy rain. If you look closely you will see tents going up, coach-loads of campers arriving and come rain (which it did) come shine (infrequent but welcome) a faithful few toiling in the drive to erect thirty tall flagpoles with the help of one auger, a few spades and an infinite amount of patience.

Some photographs recall snatches of conversation. This one, for instance, shows two or three House Aides, already sporting their golden armbands, peering anxiously round a corner. One of them is saying 'Now, if my map is right, Ganges is just next door'. A moment later there is a shout of triumph. Ganges, apparently, is where it should be and the game of learning the House by heart before the delegates arrive is making good progress.

July 16th—Guide Sunday—and the Foxlease Camps, about a hundred and forty strong, march to the local church together to offer thanksgiving for forty years of Guiding.

July 17th—zero hour. Meeting the Assistant G.I.C. before breakfast, the G.I.C. wishes her 'many happy returns of the day' and then wonders if that is really what she means.

There is a great deal to be done before the delegates arrive. Floors must be polished as never before and more and more flowers must be arranged for bedrooms and banked in corridors. The B.B.C. rings up. They wish to make arrangements for broadcasting a commentary in three different languages. The Press rings up. How soon may they come? All the World and his Wife ring up, hoping for an invitation to the Pageant.

This next photograph is blurred. It is of the Secretaries typing briefs for Patrol Leaders, brief for Transport Officer, bedroom lists, patrol lists, duty lists for Aides—they have no time at all to pose for photographs. That is a Secretary—that was. At intervals, campers practise colour ceremonial in the drive. The flags of twenty-eight nations are broken and the World Flag flies above them all.

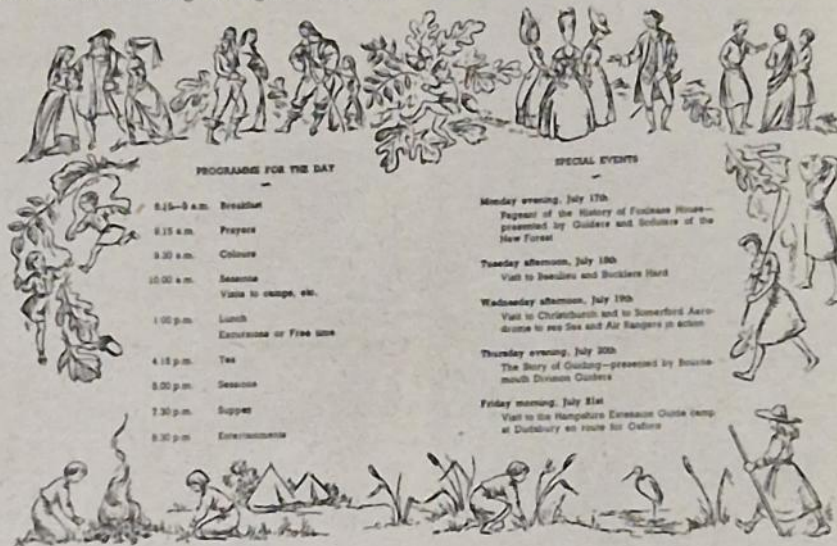
Five o'clock, and Pax Hill

rings through. The coaches have just left. Shortly after six o'clock the Aides are in position at the front door, each carrying a card with the name of a country printed large upon it. Shortly before half past, the G.I.C. receives a message to the effect that the coaches cannot possibly reach Foxlease before ten to seven. She stands the Aides easy and disappears herself towards the Barn on some last minute business connected with the Pageant. Within two minutes the coaches are there and the Reception Committee, instead of being artistically draped on the front porch (as had been planned for months in advance) has to return at the double and barely arrives in time to shake the first descending delegate by the hand.

Now the fight is on in real earnest. There are four more delegates than there are beds—but of course they are welcome and of course it doesn't matter in the least. This is a snapshot of a couple of British, smiling and singing, being pushed out at no notice at all to sleep in the woods. This is a picture of one of the few remaining sitting rooms turned, at great speed and with the help of a couple of camp beds, into a bedroom. By half past seven, believe it or not, all is peace.

If only we had time to show you all the photographs which crowd the next few pages. There are photographs of the Foxlease Pageant (it rained of course), with Puck and his companions from the past—Tudor, Stuart and Georgian—dancing their lovely dances and singing their lovely songs. There is an entrancing picture of the big white and gold reception rooms lighted with candles, with men and women in white wigs and wearing cutaway coats and lace ruffles or billowing silks and satins dancing on the lawns outside (in the rain). When Puck goes back to the Forest each delegate

(Continued on page 204)



A facsimile of the programme for 'Operation Chaos', delightfully illustrated by Jennetta Vise



## The Delegates at Dudsbury

MANY feet have tramped along the track leading to Dudsbury—Ancient Britons, Celts, Romans, Saxons, Normans. William the Conqueror noted the castle in the Domesday Book and the pathway leading from the River Stour. Nine centuries slip away and we read no more of Dudsbury (except for a passing reference to the smugglers who used the river footpath) until an October day in 1930 when some fourteen acres were acquired at a nominal sum from Lord Wimborne by the Bournemouth Guide Division as a permanent camp site—largely through the efforts of the late Miss Myfanwy Jones. A year afterwards Dudsbury was opened by the Chief Guide.

Then, nearly twenty years later, on a lovely July day, came the tramp of many more feet—this time on a peaceful mission from the four corners of the earth. For Dudsbury, holding a camp for Post Guides, Post Rangers and handicapped members of the Trefoil Guild organised by Dorset and Hampshire, was included in the programme of the World Conference delegates before they went to Oxford.

And what impressions did our overseas visitors take away with them? 'They didn't want to go, they didn't', said a Post Ranger as the coaches bore the delegates away, and I am sure they echoed that remark. I think they would have enjoyed, too, taking part in the camp life, joining the Flame, Forest, Sun or Sea Patrol of Guiders, Rangers and Guides (each with a Post Ranger P.L.) for the camp jobs, or the walks and wheel-chair expeditions or the evening campfire and learning still more of the ways in which physical handicaps can be overcome in camp.

They would have been touched, too, to see the preparations made for their visit—the eleven-year-old Guide in a wheel-chair arranging flowers for the luncheon tables anxiously asking 'Will they know we've chosen blue and yellow ones for the Guide colours, Captain?' The hard-working band of Guiders in the background preparing lunch; another group of campers clustering eagerly around an Australian

Guider to make a map showing the visitors the chief places of interest in the district, Brownsea Island, Pax Hill, Foxlease; another demonstrating string belt-making, a third hoisting Colours and a fourth cooking on an upturned lid fixed on a frame—waist high so that even people in chairs could join in. (Few of the delegates will

forget the absorbed interest of young Pat, enrolled in camp two days earlier, cooking her first damper.)

Perhaps if they had tried to discover the secret for happiness in this camp they would have found it in the simple one of the enjoyment of an outdoor life among friends; of willing service to others (members of the Red Cross arrived daily to help, active Rangers came in turn for a night to lay and wash up supper to allow the usual mess patrol to get to campfire punctually, Trefoil Guild members took campers for drives and everyone joined cheerfully in camp life).

And if the delegates took away so many encouraging impressions they can be sure equally happy ones were left behind.

T.W.M.



An eleven-year-old Guide, helped by a Ranger, cooks her first damper

## A Concert of English Music

ON Sunday evening, July 23rd, a concert of English music was given to the delegates at the World Conference by choirs under the direction of Mary Chater and Betty Andreae, assisted by Ruth Harte, pianist and Phyllis Benn, mezzo-soprano. It was given in the dining hall of St. Hugh's College, Oxford, a spacious and lofty room which was grateful to the singers, and gave the audience glimpses of green trees and lawns through its windows.

Two-thirds of the choir were members of Betty Andreae's London Guiders choir, the remainder consisted of volunteers from Foxlease and Waddow Music Parties. The programme was designed to give an impression of characteristic English music from Tudor times to the present day. The only exception was a group of songs from many sources which were given by the London choir with that unanimity and lively characterisation for which they are becoming justly famous.

Among the Folk Songs, Phyllis Benn sang 'A Sprig of Thyme' and 'The Crystal Spring'. Her warm, sympathetic voice and her vital interpretation completely captured the audience who were equally enchanted with Ruth Harte's sensitive playing, notably in the second movement of Purcell's Golden Sonata. The short pieces which she played, including a delightful Siciliana and Rigaudon, also gave intense pleasure.

Among the London choir's group, the two French songs of César Geoffray were particularly effective and were sung with faultless intonation. As to the contribution of the augmented choir, it hardly becomes their conductor to praise them, but the spontaneous enjoyment of the music they

sang carried its message perfectly to the listeners.

Here is an impression of the concert given by a Swiss member of the audience. Their generous reception of the programme was a vital factor in its success.

The concert opened with a joyous Canon by Byrd, conducted by Miss Chater. From the first bars one could feel that the joy would pass from the choir to the audience. . . . Mrs. Benn sang two solo songs in a pure and flexible voice of delightful quality. As to the excellent pianist, Miss Ruth Harte, she gave us, among other pieces, Shield's Minuet in which her delicate and sensitive phrasing lighted up the faces of the whole audience. The choir then gave us songs by Weekes and Byrd in which their technique delighted us.

The smaller choir of London Guiders under the direction of Miss Betty Andreae, opened with a unison tune from the Hebrides which allowed us to appreciate the quality and blend of their voices. Yet, the most moving moment of the concert, at least to the French-speaking members of the audience, was to hear two French songs given with the purest French accent by English Guiders, many of them ignorant of the language. A very beautiful Alleluia by Boyce crowned our conviction of the value of this choir and its leader.

The augmented choir ended the concert with a very beautiful work of Edward German—'Orpheus with his Lute'—and with another burst of gaiety in Howells' 'Tinker Song'.

In this concert our English sisters gave in international language the utmost expression of their joy and their love of beauty. We received their message and we say "Bravo" and "Thank you" for this delightful evening. M.C.C.





*Good to drink  
Easy to make*

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



**Sharps** THE WORD FOR EXPORT



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FOR TOFFEE

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"ANLABY" REGD. HOSIERY

Delicately sheer crea-  
tions, and those with  
a more serviceable note.

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Fingerings, Rug Wool  
and "JACK & JILL"  
Regd. Baby Wool.

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If unable to obtain from usual Draper or  
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Miss Anne, Anlaby House, (Dept. T), High Street, London, E.1



... it was a very interesting  
talk. I read it afterwards in

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# Was it a Good Meeting?

THIS is the question you invariably ask yourself as you say good night to the last Guide, Brownie or Ranger, or later when you take out your programme book and check up to what extent things had gone to plan. What is the answer to this question? There are occasions when there is no doubt, to use the latest expression used by Guide and Ranger, it had been 'smashing'. Everything had gone with a swing—not necessarily according to plan.



No time for leaning against the gate

Some of the best company or pack meetings are those in which you have decided to take a risk and develop some idea or suggestion made when you reached the company or pack meeting place. The small group who meet you at the door and say, 'Captain, let's do . . .', or the occasion when the whole company or pack have been so engrossed in the job on hand that you have thought it wise to scrap the other items in your programme and continue. These programmes may not have worked according to plan, but the evening was a success. You have felt the response of each child; everyone has made a contribution, there has been a sense of achievement, there has been noise, movement and, at times, possibly muddle and mess, but it has all been with a purpose and was controllable and disciplined throughout the whole evening. There was a sense of purpose behind it all.

You feel tired and exhausted as you walk home. Of course you do. The success of the meeting is partly due to the fact that all the Guiders have been giving out their energy and enthusiasm. There has been no time for leaning against the gate (or possibly the table), but it isn't the kind of tiredness which makes you feel 'flat out' and bad tempered when you reach home. The Guides, Brownies and Rangers in their turn have been 'giving out'; by their response to your leadership they have given you ideas, they have given you confidence—on all sides there has been a feeling of anticipation and excitement for the next instalment. Yes, by all means it was a good meeting. You feel you will need a larger sized beret if many more parents stop and ask you what you do at Brownies and Guides or Rangers because Mary or Jane wouldn't miss the meeting for anything.

It isn't always like this. There are times when you just do not know how to answer the question. As you check your programme you find yourself writing remarks by several of the items. The whole meeting seemed to lack enthusiasm, the timing was faulty, and yet there was nothing wrong with the atmosphere when the company or pack came together for the prayer and Taps. It was just one of those meetings about which it is impossible to give a verdict. Many years later a Brownie, Guide or Ranger may remind you of something she learnt and remembered on some such evening as this.

What about the occasions when you return home thoroughly out of sorts with the world in general, with an idea lurking at the back of your mind that you will go to Commissioner tomorrow and resign. You snap out at the family when they ask you the question 'Did you have a good meeting?' You have no energy to look at the programme book. The answer is quite plain. The meeting was a failure. Nothing was right. You won't be surprised if the children find some other way of spending a Tuesday night in the future.

Whose fault was it? The caretaker had a 'mood on' and made things difficult; the children were excitable, examinations had just finished; Lieutenant or Tawny were late and didn't seem prepared to do anything you asked them to; the weather had been most unhelpful; the Guide or Brownie couldn't seem to get on with the job of clearing up, and you had arrived at the 'bus stop just in time to see the 'bus disappearing round the bend. A most unsatisfactory state of affairs resulting in a feeling of complete despondency; one almost reaches the stage of picturing the look of dismay on peoples faces when they read the headlines announcing your suicide!

Cheer up! It comes to us all at times. Even the most experienced Guiders have their occasional moments of blank despair. You will note I use the word 'occasional'. If you find that the feeling of despair attacks you regularly after every meeting for several weeks then the time has come to take yourself in hand. You cannot go on blaming the weather, the caretaker, your Lieutenant or Tawny, or examinations indefinitely. It is the programme which is at fault. You are the person who puts the programme together. You are the person who see that it is carried out. It will be quite obvious that you are at fault. It is your approach to Guiding in general which has become static and dull. Possibly a visit to a training centre will put this right. In the meantime you should sit down and take a piece of paper and write down what you consider are the essentials of a good programme. There are some things which are essential to all programmes, whether Guide, Brownie or Ranger.



Perhaps a visit to a training centre will put you right

I am not attempting to cover the whole subject of programmes in this article, but here are a few suggestions to start you thinking. Remember that we cater for the whole Brownie, Guide or Ranger, body, mind and spirit. No two children are alike, though there will be similar characteristics according to the age group. The programme must appeal to all, though not necessarily to the same degree at one meeting, but over a period of time. Therefore, with the aid of your other Guiders and, in the case of the Guide and Ranger Company, with your patrol leaders or Ranger Committee, you will make a rough plan to cover probably three months at a time.

The work of the company and pack should progress from one meeting to the next. There must be movement, excitement, opportunities to learn, followed by opportunity to put that knowledge to the practical test. Space in the programme for something which is quite unexpected. Time to draw the meeting to an orderly finish. Time for this. Time for that. Oh dear, you feel you need another wet cloth round your head. But it isn't really as bad as all that. Wait—you have had an idea—something you have never done before. It isn't in any of the books you have read, you have never heard it suggested by a Trainer, the company down the street who won the cup last year have never done anything like this idea of yours. Is it a risk? Of course it is, but it will be fun to try it out. There you are, the secret of all programmes, you will find it in *How Girls can help to build up the Empire*, on page 11. Copies of this book are scarce so I will quote: 'If the mistress wishes the girls to enjoy the training, she must determine to enjoy it too'.



You feel the need of another wet cloth

MOLLIE WALKER



## At Company Prayers

WE all begin by being most interested in ourselves and it is natural that this should be so. Probably we started life as pray-ers by praying not only for things for ourselves but for graces for ourselves, courage and perseverance and the rest, *because life was pleasanter for us if we had them*. Jesus taught us to pray for daily bread, but it was to be *our* daily bread leading us to think of the needs of others as we ask for our own to be supplied. And so it should come about that, as we grow in the prayer life, we tend to think less and less of ourselves, our needs, our faults even, from our point of view, as things spoiling *our* life, as blemishes on *our* character, and we think of them as spoiling our usefulness to God, as hiding Jesus from people who are expecting to see Him in us because we call ourselves His followers.

Don't you think that the devastating thing about Christianity is the way it points people to us and expects us to point them to Jesus? When certain Greeks came to Philip and said 'Sir, we would see Jesus' Philip and Andrew were able to take them to meet Jesus; but now when men say that, all we can answer is 'I'll introduce you to Mrs. Johnson who attends St. Mary's' or to 'Mr. Andrews who goes to the Congregational Church—that is the best I can do'. In other words, if people want to see Christianity in action in the world today they have to look at us who are Christians. And that means that we are never off duty. Jesus said, 'Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation'. It is the secret keeping watch, the hidden life of prayer on which everything depends if we are to be faithful to our Master. For, thank God, the help we need is always available, though God may make us work hard for it. Have faith, pray, and try, and anything is possible. God does change our very

natures, our characters; none of the saints began as saints.

We find, don't we, that we need constantly to fly for help during the day, in sudden emergencies, perhaps when we are tempted to hit back or to 'give as good as we got'. These little short 'ejaculatory' or 'arrow' prayers, as they are called, are an S.O.S. to Jesus for help. Sometimes they will be a wordless thought, a turning in entreaty to our Lord, sometimes a silent cry of His name, 'Jesus', sometimes a sentence from the Bible such as this from the twenty-seventh Psalm: 'Thou, Lord, are the strength of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?'

Sometimes we may use a sentence from one of the Fathers of the Church, such as this from St. Clement of Rome who died in A.D. 95: 'O God, make us children of quietness and heirs of peace'. One of the most famous of these arrow prayers is that of Sir Jacob Astley which he used before going into action at the battle of Edgehill: 'Lord, Thou knowest how busy we must be this day, if we forget Thee, do not Thou forget us'. We do well to introduce such prayers from time to time into company prayers, for, who knows, one of them may one day leap into the mind of a Guide in a moment of fierce temptation. There is an ancient hymn, much used by Christians down the ages, attributed to St. Ambrose, which sums up the whole attitude of the Christian to her life in Christ. An English translation of part of it runs thus in hymn 255 of the *English Hymnal*.

Shed forth Thy grace within our breast,  
And dwell with us a ready guest.  
By every power, by heart and tongue,  
By act and deed, Thy praise be sung;  
Inflame with perfect love each sense,  
That others' souls may kindle thence.

## First Impressions at the Pack Meeting

**B**BROWN OWL—Pam wants to join our pack, and she is eight. How often have Brownie Guiders heard something like this—and what has been their reaction, and also what is the pack's reaction? If the pack is not already full they are very welcome words, as we feel the Brownies have enjoyed their meetings and also talked about them to other children.

This new recruit may not be known to many of the pack, and for the first few evenings at any rate, she will probably prefer to stay in the same Six as the Brownie who brought her. On the whole children of Brownie age are more friendly than older ones, and she is soon being shown six treasures or playing ball with one or two, while the rest of the pack is getting ready for the meeting.

If Brown Owl has not been expecting any recruits, she will need to do some quick thinking, so that she can fit into the programme games and activities that the new Brownie can join in. Whatever happens the recruit must have a happy evening, and not feel too lost. Above all she must learn something, as first impressions are very lasting! Most Brownies are keen on test work, and want to get on, and so is the recruit. If Brown Owl always has a few recruit charts, *The Brownie Story* or *It's Fun to be a Brownie*, with her, the recruit can look at these on her own for a few minutes while the rest of the pack settle down to test work. This may need some reorganising as Brown Owl wants some time with the recruit. There are lots of things to find out, name, age, address—times when it is possible to see the mother—and if possible what the family consists of, so that at once one can begin to know something of the home surroundings of the child. Perhaps there will be time to teach her plaiting but if she can plait with three strands, Brown Owl might

show her how to cut out and make a 'needlework doll'.

Some packs have a 'Welcoming Ceremony' so that the recruit feels at once that she is wanted. The pack is in the Fairy Ring—while the recruit skips round outside with the Brownie who brought her—the latter chanting, 'Pam wants to be a Brownie—a Brownie—a Brownie—Pam wants to be a Brownie and join our Brownie Pack'. They are then taken in to the circle and the pack sings—'Oh come and be a Brownie—a Brownie—a Brownie—Oh come and be a Brownie and join our Brownie Pack'.

There is so much for the new Brownie to learn that we do not want to rush at the recruit test. It is better to teach the practical parts first, so that the child can begin to absorb some of the pack spirit before we embark on the meaning of the Law and Promise. Most packs have 'Promise books' made by previous recruits, where the Law and Promise are portrayed by pictures, and after looking at these and colouring in the promise and law on a card to take home, the recruit will be getting ready to explain, what she thinks it means, to Brown Owl. Some children can express themselves much more easily than others, but with patience and a few leading questions, it is usually possible to get the recruit's own ideas.

It is advisable to let the recruit settle down a little in the pack before going to see her mother, as the latter will then have heard something of what we do. The question of uniform can be explained to her, as naturally the prospective Brownie has been wanting to know when she can have it. A copy of a few simple pack rules can be left with the mother.

When the Brownie has passed all her recruit tests her mother should be invited to her enrolment, so that she understands the Promise and can help her daughter to keep it.

P.W.



# Notes of the Month

## An Occasion for Rejoicing

To Clarence House, The Mall, S.W.1.

We present to your Royal Highness and the Duke of Edinburgh the loyal greetings of the Girl Guides Association of Great Britain on the birth of a Princess in which we all rejoice.

KATHLEEN DAVIES-COOKE  
Chairman of the Executive Committee

To the Chairman of the Executive Committee,  
Girl Guides Association,  
Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1.

We are most grateful to the Girl Guides Association of Great Britain for their kind message of congratulations on the birth of our daughter.

ELIZABETH AND PHILIP

## Lady Clarendon's Resignation

'The most beloved person at Headquarters' was one of the spontaneous tributes paid recently to Lady Clarendon, whom readers will regret to hear has had to resign from her appointment as Deputy Commissioner for Overseas because of ill-health. 'Lady Clarendon cares so much for each individual's happiness and welfare', another member of I.H.Q. staff said. 'While she was Commissioner for Overseas during the strenuous war years and, later, Deputy Commissioner, nothing was too much trouble for her and no detail was too small for her notice, whether she was writing one of her delightful "caring" letters to an Overseas Commissioner or welcoming a young student coming to study in England'.

Lady Clarendon's association with the movement began thirty-three years ago when she was County President for Hertfordshire and, later, Division Commissioner for West Hertfordshire, and ever since then she has given generously of her many gifts in the appointments she has held, including the Vice-Chairmanship of the Executive Committee from 1938-41. Allied to her wisdom and kindness is a keen sense of humour, and when she visits Headquarters' restaurant peals of laughter can often be heard from her table. London Guiders will remember her leadership as County Commissioner during the war and Guiders in South Africa all she did as President of the South African Girl Guides Association during Lord Clarendon's term of office as Governor-General. We are indebted, too, to Lady Clarendon for the vision and gallant overcoming of innumerable, and sometimes almost insuperable, difficulties which has given us our Guide Club, of which she was the first Chairman.

All readers will join in wishing Lady Clarendon a speedy return to full health.

## The Lincolnshire Rally

On July 1st, at a rally on Market Rasen race course, attended by Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, nearly a thousand Lincolnshire Guides took part in a pageant-procession depicting the history of the county and the Church. The scenes began with Neolithic savages and

ended with a railway train and early Victorian passengers. Onlookers saw St. Hugh carried in on a papal chair, the Dymoke champion riding by to throw his gauntlet, John Wesley with his brother Charles, Stephen Langton compelling King John to sign the Charter, Flinders and Bass setting their course to find unknown coasts of Australia. The pageant ended with a procession of Guides in the uniform of forty years ago, present-day Guides, Rangers, Scouts and Cubs and Girl Scouts from all parts of the world. In the words of an onlooker, Lincoln Guides 'staged a quite wonderful commemoration of forty years of Guiding and gave a large crowd from all over the county an exciting story of days past and new appreciation of the work they are doing among children who have yet to grow up'.

## The Festival of Britain

Suggestions would be welcomed for the presentation of displays by the Girl Guides Association during the Festival of Britain. They should be sent in to the Secretary of the Festival of Britain Committee at I.H.Q. by October 1st. The *News Chronicle* group of papers have offered to put premises at the disposal of youth organisations taking part in the Festival of Britain. There would be a large hall for exhibitions, demonstrations and drama and it would cater for an audience of some thirty people. With regard to suggestions for Guide performances in the Youth Hall Miss Peake writes: 'The chief point to bear in mind is the limited space, i.e., small arena or village hall size of stage. This means it will lend itself best to items suitable for a company show and patrol items. It would be useful to know of any companies who do good religious acting. Sunday performances will include such performances as Nativity plays, miming of parables, etc. Headquarters Drama Panel would be pleased to see dramatic sketches suitable for patrols (length twenty-four minutes), either for the Festival of Britain or publication. For local pageants, particularly those out of doors, Headquarters has 'The Lion Gives a Party', price 1s. 6d.

## P.O.R.—New Edition

*Policy, Organisation and Rules*, 1950, is now on sale, price 1s., and a few interleaved copies are available at 3s. 6d. It is hoped that all Commissioners, Secretaries, Captains and Brown Owls will buy a copy of the new edition so that they may be up to date with the rules and syllabuses on tests. It would save considerable work in the Invoicing and Despatching Department at Headquarters if Districts would send in collective orders for several copies, instead of each Guider ordering her own.

## Training Centres

### Badge

It has been suggested that Guiders attending Foxlease and Waddow would appreciate being able to buy a Training Centre badge. One possibility is a small embossed badge with rivets which could be put on notebooks, rucksacks, etc. We should be glad to have opinions on the subject, or further suggestions. Please write to the Secretary of the Imperial Training Department, I.H.Q.



H.R.H. The Princess Royal, accompanied by the County Commissioner, talking to Freda Watson at the Lincolnshire Rally. By courtesy, 'Lincolnshire Chronicle'.



## The Commissioners' Meeting Place

## The Guiders' Parliament

THE other day the contents of THE GUIDER were under review and plans were being made for future issues. At present, though the paper was intended to be the organ through which communications can pass to and from the grown-up leaders in the Association, a great deal more traffic goes out to Guiders than comes in the opposite direction. Readers of THE GUIDER will know how successful the Patrol Leaders' Parliament has been as a weekly feature and some similar feature might answer a need in THE GUIDER.

It may be said that there has always been the Guider's Post Bag for individual correspondents who wish to start a discussion, but on looking back at recent numbers of THE GUIDER there seem to have been few subjects of interest which have aroused anyone to find a pen and write to the Editor. The idea of a Guiders' Parliament suggests that those who lead the companies and packs might have the opportunity for asking questions in the same way that Members of Parliament have at Question Time in the House of Commons. The questions will have arisen at weekly meetings, Pow-Wow or Court of Honour and will affect the Brownies, Guides, or Rangers whom they lead.

The Patrol Leaders' Parliament is representative of the 'thinking' of patrol leaders and of their patrols in Council or of the results of experience in Court of Honour. By having this column in THE GUIDER we are able at any moment to

answer the question, 'What are patrol leaders thinking?' We want to be equally sure that we know what *all* Guiders are thinking and saying everywhere about the things that matter to the girls they lead.

The place where Guiders say what they think is at the District or Division Guiders' meeting. If there was a Commissioners' gathering we might be able to hear what the Guiders are saying, but there are more than two thousand Commissioners in Great Britain and a meeting is impossible. September is the month when it is usual to have the first Guiders' meeting of the new year of Guiding. The District Secretary will be in her place to take the Minutes and she can be asked to make a note of any questions and send them to the Editor of THE GUIDER. These would not include those matters to which the answer is provided in P.O.R. nor those which each County answers for its own members through the usual channels of communication. Many enterprising communities of Guiders, sitting in conclave with their Commissioner in the chair, may light on a subject which should rightly be aired, a subject on which every thinking grown-up leader should have an opinion, a matter on which those in authority should know the opinions of Guiders. Their natural spokesman is their Commissioner, their channel of representation can be THE GUIDER, the paper that bears their name.

D.M.P.

## Trefoil Guild Registration, P.O.R., 1950

IT has been suggested that it would be a help to Commissioners to have a few notes on the new possibilities created by the amended clause dealing with the registration of Trefoil Guilds. This clause now reads: 'It is recommended that Guilds should be registered wherever possible on County, Division or District basis, but where special circumstances or numbers make it advisable Guilds may be registered with a more local title at the discretion of the Commissioner concerned and of the County Trefoil Guild Recorder'.

The original idea of incorporating all members of the Trefoil Guild in an area in one Guild has proved in practice to give rise to certain difficulties. Young ex-Rangers of twenty-one are very reluctant to cut away from their friends and join a group often consisting chiefly of older people with different interests. It has been found impracticable to combine postal groups and ex-Extension section members living in institutions, or very scattered country members, with the more usual type of Guild, and it could only be done by a clumsy method of sub-division forming in effect separate Guilds. It is felt that the object of having one Guild, that is, the community sense which comes from belonging to the same body, could be better achieved by holding combined meetings of a number of separate Guilds and by having various common objectives for service.

While the Division or District Guild is still likely to remain the usual form of organisation, it is now possible for the Commissioner to allow the formation and registration of Guilds in connection with specific Guide or Ranger units, or for more than one County, Division or District Guild to be formed. For instance, two or three villages (part of a rural District) may form a Guild with a local place name. These villages may have a good bus connection with each other but a bad one with the rest of the District. It may be desirable to have two or three County Guilds to cater for ex-Posts or Lones of various categories as well as the ordinary membership of a County Guild.

Another possibility which it is hoped Commissioners will consider is the formation of Guilds in connection with factories, firms or businesses employing large numbers of women. The Women's Services, the civil services, the staffs of big institutions such as hospitals are all possibilities for this category of Trefoil Guild. There is no reason why a member should not belong to more than one Guild, if she wishes, but some arrangement should be made to avoid duplication in census returns.

There has been a continuous request for something for the Ranger reaching the age of twenty-one and it is hoped that this new clause will provide the answer. Until they reach the age of twenty-five ex-Rangers in these Guilds will be able, with their Commissioner's permission, to wear their Ranger uniform should they take part in any special Ranger activity. The responsibility for deciding when a Guild should be registered on the new basis, and for giving permission for individuals to wear uniform, has been placed on the Commissioner's shoulders because it was felt that she only could decide when it was desirable. The type of occasion on which uniform might be worn would be when continuing to give help as a Ranger with the Crew, Company or Brownie Pack or when attending joint activities with Rovers and Rangers.

It should be emphasised that it is not desirable for the Guild members as a body to join the Company or Crew for their ordinary meetings so that this would not constitute an occasion for wearing uniform. As the privilege of wearing uniform only applies to Guild members under twenty-five the permission should be given to individuals and not to the Guild as a whole, except for some specific occasion such as a Rover-Ranger Rally and then only if all members are under twenty-five. It is much hoped that Commissioners will encourage experiments on these lines and so help to bring in to the Trefoil Guild more of the vast body of women who have passed through the Guide Movement, but have lost all touch with Guiding today.

M. PORTER [Trefoil Guild Recorder, I.H.Q.]



# Camping in Chamonix

ONE of the loveliest spots in Europe for a camping holiday is the Chamonix valley at the foot of Mont Blanc. When we were there last summer we met campers of all nationalities and ages, including a large contingent from a well-known Manchester grammar school who had walked from the coast in easy stages.

The arrangements for camping are excellent. There are ten authorised sites, from Les Bossons at the S.W. end of the valley to Le Planet at the N.E., some three hours from the Franco-Swiss frontier. All the camps are under the supervision of M. le Brigadier des Eaux et Forêts and you must contact him on your arrival. Turn right on coming out of the station and walk parallel with the railway line for about four minutes when you will come on his charming 'maison forestière' in the Bois du Bouchet. He will tell you whether the site you wish for is available as some localities are partly reserved for the French 'Camping Populaire et Cyclotourisme', the 'Touring Club de France', and for the 'Feminine Club'. 'Votre Beauté'. If your party is a large one, it is wiser to write a good time beforehand, mentioning the proposed length of your stay otherwise you may be disappointed.

Only when you have contacted M. le Brigadier and paid your 'rent' in advance may you pitch your tent. The sum is a modest one: 10 fr. per day per person for isolated campers; 15 fr. per day per person for those with a car or trailer; while for holiday camps and members of the Guide or Scout Movement, the amount may be as low as 5 fr. Anyway, make sure it is paid before you settle in, as you will be fined double the amount later on if you cannot produce on demand the necessary authorisation with the official stamp.

With regard to food prices I can, of course, only give those current last year. Since then the pound has been de-valued, and there has been a rise in French prices as well. However, here are the main items, so that you can work out for yourself how much your catering will involve. A kilo is just over two pounds, and a litre nearly two pints. Bread: 1 kilo, 27 fr.; butter: 1 kilo, 600 fr.; milk: 1 litre, 36 fr.; cheese: 1 kilo, 350 fr. (large cheeses); small goat's milk cheese: 25 fr. each; meat 1 kilo, 500 fr.; potatoes: 1 kilo, 40-45 fr.; tomatoes: 1 kilo, 35-45 fr.; fruit: 1 kilo, 38-50 fr.

There is no rationing now, so shopping is simple. You can get bread, groceries and cooked meat from the local co-operative; milk from the nearest farmhouse or 'Crèmerie'; and meat from Argentières or Chamonix. Coffee

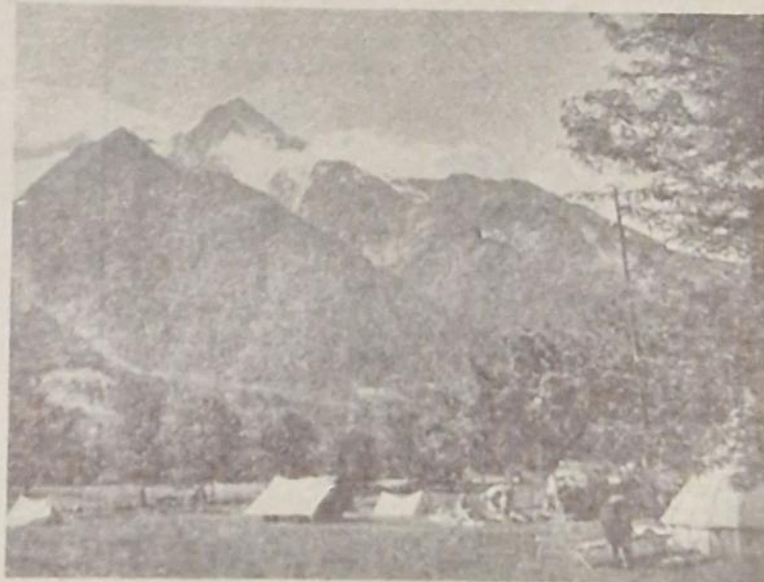
and tea are both scarce and expensive, so it is advisable to take what you need with you.

The brilliant sun and keen mountain air, smelling of pine woods, gave us tremendous appetites, and a feeling of boundless energy. It was an unforgettable experience to walk across the wet grass to fetch the early morning milk, with golden mist rising from the valley to whirl about the great, snowy crest of Mont Blanc, high above. Painted shutters in ancient Savoyard farmhouses were flung open, and bedding slung across upper windowsills to air; an old 'grandmère' drove a few cows and goats to pasture, their bells ringing gently; busy housewives sallied out to the communal trough where the family washing is done; and guides and their clients, laden with climbing tackle, were setting out for the mountain peaks—the Grépon, the Mont Maudit, the Aiguille Verte and the evil Dru.

You can go for different walks or excursions in Chamonix. Within easy reach of the town are the Cascade du Dard, the Lac des Gaillands, and Ruskin's Stone, at the edge of the pine trees, where he used to sit, looking out on his favourite view of Mont Blanc. If you wish to see a glacier at close quarters you can make the steep climb, or take the funicular, up to the Mer de Glace, a great waste of jagged ice waves, shot with bluish green crevasses, and surrounded by some of the cruellest rock peaks in the whole chain. Or you can take the 'téléferique' up to the Brévent. It is well worth the 330 fr. return, if only for the thrill of gliding up a slender wire at an incredible angle above the valley. From the summit, there is a path along the mountain side, with magnificent views of the Mont Blanc Massif across the valley. If you are a photographer, this is an ideal spot for a series of shots, for mountains are best taken from as high up as possible, if they are not to appear disappointingly dwarfed.

The mountains provide a livelihood for many folk in the valley and there are several highly skilled craftsmen you can visit. Claudius Simond makes the ropes on which a climber's life depends: M. Dévouassoud manufactures the bells you hear all day long in the rocky pastures from the diminutive oval 'Sonnettes' for baby goats and lambs to the gigantic, round 'Clochettes' for the leaders of the herds. His cousin makes skis at a factory by the Arve, just outside the town, and we saw the whole fascinating process, from the stamping out of the ski in the wood to the final varnishing.

EILEEN BARKER



One of the ten lovely camping sites in the Chamonix valley and (above) mountain guides join in a folk dance festival



# We Played This in America

**P**ERHAPS some of the following ideas for company activities, collected while camping with Girl Scouts in the United States, may be useful to other Guiders.

**Our Neighbours.** Make a list under headings of animals, birds, trees, flowers and the common insects which it is possible to see in the neighbourhood of the site. Most Guiders will have little time to spend on extra preparation for camp, but some may know the locality of the camp well, and if others will make a note of the trees when visiting the site and, having compiled rough lists of their 'neighbours', will seek the co-operation of some knowledgeable farmer, garden expert or museum curator in the area, the job does not take too much time, and the Guides enjoy ticking off each creature or plant as they find them. You need a list for each Guide.

The scheme arouses great interest in the life about the campers and in woodcraft and nature generally. It also gives any visitors a topic of conversation for the first night, and helps to weld the campers into a unit.

The list might be called 'Our (camp name) Neighbours', and compiled, perhaps as a three-page folder, with a picture of tree or bird pasted or drawn on the outside. If Brown Owl is camping with you she might like to undertake the making of the folders and a Patrol Leader could also be asked to help with the preparation if necessary.

**Camp Meteorological Board.** This idea might be suggested to the Court of Honour and is a means of giving responsibility to those Guides who are not Leaders and whom Captain thinks will profit from shouldering responsibility. Their names would be suggested and discussed at the Court of Honour and then they would be invited to serve on the Meteorological Board.

The Board, numbering seven, consists of two night observers, two day observers, a noontide recorder and two reporters. Their jobs are as follows: During the evening the night observers note and write down the omens for tomorrow's weather. For example: colour of the sky; cloud formations; flight of birds. Birds flying high suggests fine weather; on the coast, seabirds flying inland suggests storm. These observers will also have noted during the day whether the wind veered (promise of fine weather) or backed (sign of storm).

Early in the morning the day observers note the omens for the day's weather. The four then confer and write up a forecast for the next twenty-four hours. This is posted on the camp notice board.

During the day the two reporters observe carefully what the weather really is; wind direction, visibility, periods of rainfall and, as far as possible, sunshine. This record is written in the evening on the back of the card bearing the morning's forecast. The card is then handed to Captain who at the end of the week will sum up the success and progress made by the Board as weather prophets. Progress is often surprising in even a week.

The noontide recorder's duty is to record the midday temperature on a piece of graph paper which is also posted on the notice board. The different days' readings are joined by a line and the curve of this line is usually a surprise to the Guides. At the first campfire a short talk might be given on weather lore, and books or charts on the subject should be available to members of the Board. Sea Ranger publications and seamanship manuals contain useful information.

**Nature Quests.** Write on slips of paper objects which Guides can observe about, or within reasonable distance of, the camp site. For instance: rooks; marsh-marigolds; sheep; willow trees. Try to choose things which really interest your

particular Guides. The slips of paper are put into a hat at breakfast time and each Guide draws one out and will discover, observe and learn during the day all she can about what is written on the slip. According to the knowledge of the Guides they may work singly or in pairs, as seems best. The results could be judged in patrols, thereby encouraging winning for the patrol, rather than individually.

At campfire that evening each Guide reports on the success of her quest. There is scope for originality in this activity and it will, of course, be encouraged. One Guide may collect and mount something of her quest; another may make sketches of it; a third may ask Captain to go with her before campfire to see where her 'quest' grows.

**Tracking.** It's fun if you can construct a tracking ground. Enclose with stones a piece of ground at least twelve feet by nine feet. Rake the sand or soil fine and smooth; water it if necessary. Let the Guides run and walk over it, in shoes, and barefooted, if this appeals to them, and study their tracks. Then hold a patrol competition. Unseen by the rest, three or four girls of a patrol make tracks. Another patrol has to read the tracks and say who made them and what the girls were doing, i.e. running, walking, hopping, etc. Explain the rules which help one to read tracks: 1. Keep a good distance from the print. 2. Read it facing the sun; this may throw a certain amount of shadow on the print which is helpful. American Girl Scouts invented stories using humans and a dog or cat to make the tracks. Their opponents had to try to read the story from the tracks made.

Appoint 'Tracking Ground Recorders' who take charge of the ground and keep a record of animals and birds which walk over it. The recorders might also arrange for each patrol in turn to be in control of the ground overnight. In the early evening the Guides would place scraps to entice animals to cross the ground and after breakfast next morning record who were their visitors. This could be organised as a patrol competition.

C. H. FALCON

## The All-England Ranger Rally

OCTOBER 20th, 21st and 22nd, 1950

Rally in the Royal Albert Hall in the presence of H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth and H.R.H. The Princess Royal on

FRIDAY at 7 p.m. and

SATURDAY at 2.30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Parade of Standards, Community Singing, Speech by the Chief Guide, Pageant devised and produced by Ralph Reader (producer of 'Boy Scout')

Tickets for FRIDAY still available at the special reduction for Guides (see August GUIDER)

DRUMHEAD SERVICE and MARCH PAST in the WHITE CITY STADIUM on SUNDAY at 2.30 p.m.

Salute will be taken by H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth, who will be accompanied by H.R.H. The Princess Margaret and H.R.H. The Princess Royal.

Speaker:

Field Marshal SIR WILLIAM SLIM, G.B.E., K.C.B.

Band of the Grenadier Guards. Open to the Public and to all members of the movement. - - - Admission Free.

Enclosure tickets at 2s. 6d. and 1s. 6d. (see Aug. GUIDER)





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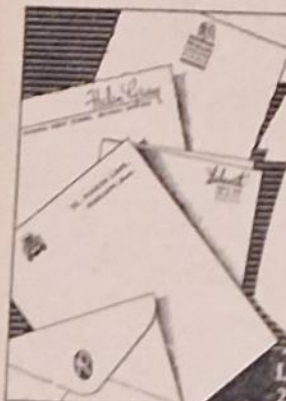
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# The Trefoil Guild

MRS. DUNCAN, I.H.Q. Commissioner for Extensions, writes to ask whether any Trefoil Guild member can give help in running Extension Companies in schools for the physically handicapped, institutions and hospitals. She says: 'In these schools, hospitals and institutions the companies and packs have to meet during the lunch hour and it has occurred to me that some Trefoil Guild members (perhaps married women with husbands at work and children at school) might care to run, or help, with these companies. There is also great need for Post Guiders. The Post meeting can be made in the Guider's own home.'

'Another great service the Trefoil Guild members could render the Extensions is to get to know of any Post Rangers in their neighbourhood and, when these girls have to leave Rangers because of age, welcome and encourage them to join the Trefoil Guild. This might help so many disabled girls over Ranger age, give them companionship and save them many lonely hours.'

'If you feel you can help in any of these ways will you either get in touch with your District Commissioner, or write direct to the Extension Secretary at Imperial Headquarters. She will see that your offer goes to the right place'.

The 1951 Conference will be held at Imperial Headquarters on April 14th and 15th. The Chief Guide has promised to speak on the Sunday morning and other speakers and further details will be announced later. Much of the time will be given to discussion of recommendations sent in by the Guilds and these should be sent in to your County Recorder as early in September as possible, so that Guilds may have ample time for discussion and for instructing their delegates. Owing to the growth of the Guild since the last Conference several Guilds will have to share one delegate.

## A Trefoil Guild in Africa

From Uganda an interesting letter has come from Miss Cave-Brown-Cave, Division Commissioner, Northern Uganda. She tells of the formation of a Trefoil Guild of African women, now married with families. Many of these women, wives of native civil servants, have moved to parts of Uganda where the language is strange to them, and they sorely missed the comradeship of their Guiding days. Now, as members of the Trefoil Guild, they feel that they 'belong' again, and do all they can to assist the Guide companies. When the Chief Guide visited Kazi Camp in February they bought and made the uniforms for the nine Guides who went to meet the Chief.

The Y.W.R.S. County Guild Camp Reunion of ex-Post Ranger (blind) campers, who are now members of the Trefoil Guild and come from the North and Midlands, was held at Westham House, Barford, Warwick, in June. One of the blind campers, Miss Garbutt, says: 'There were many highlights in a crowded week. In a day at Leamington we visited the Training School for Guide Dogs for the Blind and another day we went to Stratford-on-Avon. Interesting talks, piano recitals, and songs by local Girl Guides filled the evenings. The Warden and his wife did all they could to make the party comfortable during their stay. Only the highest praise can be given to all those splendid people who organised and helped to give us such a refreshing, unforgettable, and enjoyable holiday. We are most grateful to them all, especially to our Group Leader and to the two members of the Sheffield T.G. who assisted her.'

Scottish Guilds held a 'get together' in Glasgow earlier in the year. Ten Guilds from various parts of Scotland were represented and Miss Purvis-Russell-Montgomery, Scottish Recorder, addressed the gathering.

The ten Manchester Guilds have sent £90 to Cancer Research funds, from the proceeds of a garden party. Miss Davies, County Recorder, had asked the aid of *The Manchester Evening Chronicle* in advertising the garden party. As a result of this contact an interesting article on the Trefoil Guild was published later in the same paper.

Staffordshire Trefoil Guilds held their first County Conference several months ago in the Borough Hall at Stafford when Miss Porter gave an interesting talk. Three new local Guilds have been formed and several new members have joined the County Guilds.

Stoke-on-Trent and Newcastle Division have produced a Trefoil Guild Magazine for their area containing news of Guild activities, forthcoming events and notes on Guiding.

Darlington Trefoil Guilds have again been active. In addition to money raising efforts in aid of Guide camp and Division funds, steady 'behind scenes' work has been done to help the Scout Gang Show. As last year, a T.G. propaganda stall was opened at the Darlington B.P. Guild's Fête.

## 'Watchers in that City'

I have always remembered a phrase I read in a book—'We have watchers in that city'. I thought at the time how wonderful to have such an organisation and how useful it could be. Now, in the sphere of Guiding, it has come about. Trefoil Guilds are springing up everywhere, and how useful they will be to a Post Guider as her disabled Rangers become thirty and have to leave the company. Here is a wonderful piece of service—to watch over the needs of all ex-members of the Post Section within their reach, and draw them in to their adult and widest circle of Guiding.

In many counties ex-Posts have gathered into County Guilds, and have their monthly Letter. But in order that the disabled member shall really belong to local Guiding, it is essential that each ex-Extension Ranger shall join her local Guild. It might be possible for a member to be given her badge by her nearest Guild, though still, if she wishes, remaining in her Post Circle.

If a simple ceremony were held it would provide an opportunity to introduce the ex-Extension member to as many members as possible of the local Guild. It could be held at her home if necessary. If she could be taken to meetings, or just visited by members, this would be of mutual benefit, as well as giving great pleasure, since many ex-Extensions are skilled craft workers, toy-makers, menders or knitters. Many are shy and it may require a tactful and understanding person to persuade them to go to a meeting. Anyone of a nervous disposition may actually feel ill or tired at the thought of going among strangers. A firm and friendly way must be found of overcoming the genuine excuse that they 'don't feel well enough to go today'. Some Guilds are very good at this, and meet periodically at the house of the disabled member. A way should be found to make ex-Extensions feel that they are a part of their local Guild and no longer in the Extension Section of Guiding.

Just to visit the more lonely disabled ones who struggle so bravely, sometimes living alone, would give great joy. It is sad to see this sentence recurring at the end of a letter, 'no one has come yet', when you tell them you have written to the local Guild and they will probably hear from them. How it would help a Post Guider if she could look down the list of Guilds and say, 'It will be all right. We have watchers in that city, they will find out what to do and look after her'.

ALISON MILES  
(Post Ranger Captain)



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## THE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION

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## The Uniform Chapter in P.O.R.

WHEN the uniform chapter of the new P.O.R. is read the keynote will be found to be 'responsible freedom'. There is no longer a Uniform Committee at Headquarters nor any one person who can be referred to as 'They!'. Instead, a small group of people were asked to review the chapter for the new edition and make any alterations that had become necessary.

The group set to work with the following aims: to shorten and simplify by eliminating details and footnotes, to allow local variations after laying down national standards, to delegate to counties the decisions about county rallies. They had to bear in mind the ever-fluctuating situation with regard to available materials and the need for economy for new Guiders. Their decisions were based on the three principles that now stand at the head of the chapter: (a) the desirability of a uniform appearance, (b) the availability of uniforms, and (c) the nature of the occasion.

The most burning question turned on the footnotes! The group were very sure that footnotes to the book of rules were to be avoided. If County, Division and District Committees were to be allowed to decide for themselves which of the various possibilities suited the particular local occasion for which they were legislating the chapter must state clearly and simply what may be worn by a Commissioner, Guider, Ranger, Guide or Brownie.

If any Guider cares to look back over the years since P.O.R. was first published she will find that the movement has always left a good many points of detail to the good sense of the Guiders. Take, for instance, the matter of stockings. They have been black, they are now variously described as leaf-mould or Headquarters standard shade, but it has never been said what they should be made of. It is not therefore departing from any laid down rule that we now are allowed when the occasion is suitable to clothe our legs in silk or nylon, always provided it is the right colour and the company or district has agreed on the matter. Most people will agree that silk is not the right material for outdoor Guiding such as stalking or hiking. If a Guider is only going to have one pair of Guide stockings she will probably find it best to have something more hard-wearing than silk. For the grown-up in isolation the choice of material is her own, but the colour is Headquarters shade.

When Guiders appear together in conference or training there is a satisfaction to be derived from a uniform appearance as members of one movement and the colour connected with Guiding ever since it started has always been blue. Once the Guider's dress is freely available for all Guiders at a reasonable price we shall once more have an item of uniform in which all Guiders can appear alike with only small distinguishing marks to indicate in which part of the field they are working. This still leaves in the hands of a Branch Committee the possibility of laying down what shall be worn at a branch gathering.

The uniform chapter has been written for the purpose of guiding the newcomer to the movement in choosing her uniform. No mention is now made of the kind of uniform which is out of date. Tailored coats and skirts for Guiders are not now given in the list of possibilities. During the last few years the battle blouse has won its way and is welcomed by all as a very good practical garment that can be smart as well as warm and serviceable. The shirt and skirt is today's answer to our variable climate with the dark-blue pullover or cardigan for informal occasions. As the quotation at the head of the chapter says, 'you can tell pretty accurately a man's characteristics from his dress'. We hope that a member of our movement in uniform will be judged by the world as a person who cares, as a woman should, for her appearance, but is proud of the movement to which she belongs and can be accounted a good and loyal representative, willing to abide by the rules laid down.

D.M.P.



## The 'Cello and Violin Competitions

THE Thomas Smith 'Cello, generously loaned to the Association for five years by Miss Jennings, is now ready again for competition. The Chief Guide's violin, 'Diana', and 'Sibyl', both made by W. E. Hill, have also been joined by another violin, to be known as 'Evelyn', which Headquarters has gratefully accepted on loan from Miss Scott Evans who has presented it in memory of her mother. It was made in 1773 by William Forster, who worked at Brampton in Cumberland and also in London. It is a copy of a Stradivarius with a lovely brown varnish, is in excellent condition and is insured for £75. With it go two silver mounted bows, one of which is a Sartory.

Time has shown what a real help the Chief Guide's violin has been to relays of Guides since the inception of the competition in 1925. Recently, by the addition of a further two violins and a 'cello, the range of assistance has been enlarged.

Will Guiders please broadcast as widely as possible the details of the competition for the Thomas Smith 'Cello (insured for £60) and the William Forster Violin.

1. Candidates must be British Girl Guides resident in the British Isles.

2. All Guides, Rangers and Cadets are eligible to compete.

3. Each entrant must state date and year of birth.

4. The 'cello or violin will be awarded on loan for two years (or longer at the discretion of the Executive Committee) to the Guide, Ranger or Cadet who has passed the Grade V (higher) examination, or any one of the more advanced examinations of the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music, and who then satisfies the Executive Committee both as to her music and her qualifications as a Guide, Ranger or Cadet.

5. When candidates apply they must send a copy of the Examiner's statement of marks gained, signed by their teacher and Guide Commissioner, also a report from the Guide, Ranger or Cadet Captain, countersigned by the District Commissioner, regarding their Guide, Ranger or Cadet qualifications, as these will be taken into consideration when the 'cello or violin is assigned.

6. The 'cello and violin are insured by Imperial Headquarters, and any damage or accident should be reported at once to the Secretary (Mrs. Jeffreys).

7. The 'cello or violin must not be taken out of the British Isles.

8. At the end of each year of holding the 'cello or violin, a report on progress by the music teacher and the Guide, Ranger or Cadet Captain, countersigned by the District Commissioner, must be sent to Mrs. A. Jeffreys.

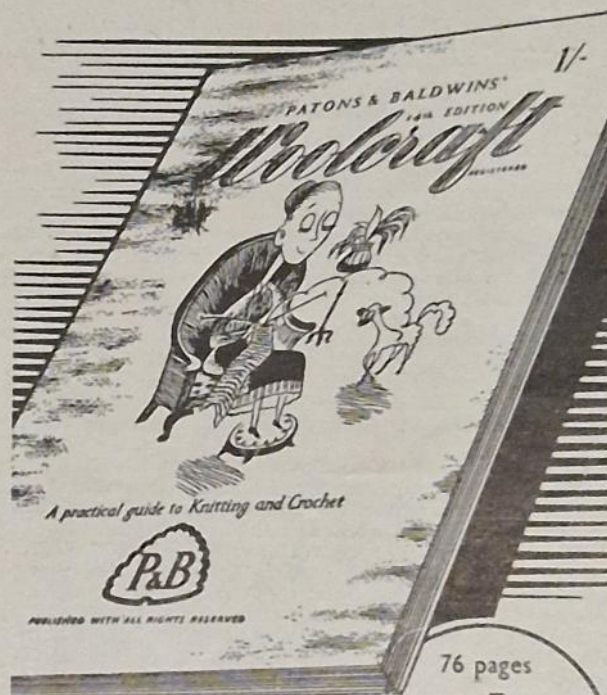
9. The 'cello or violin must be returned to Headquarters at the end of the appointed time, which will be notified by Mrs. A. Jeffreys.

10. All entries must reach the Secretary, Mrs. A. Jeffreys, at Girl Guide Headquarters, 17-19, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1, on or before November 1st, 1950.

**Tickets for the All-England Ranger Rally** will be issued by the Albert Hall before the end of August and will be dispatched as quickly as possible. If tickets ordered through the box office have not been received by September 10th a post card should be sent to the Box Office Secretary, 10 Overton Road, Sutton, Surrey. (N.B.—Tickets for the Friday evening performance are still available.)

**Accommodation on Merseyside** is available at the Guide House, 15 Balls Road, Birkenhead. It is fifteen minutes from Woodside Ferry whence boats run to Liverpool every ten minutes. Camp beds may be borrowed and there are tables and chairs but little other furniture; there is a gas cooker, gas fires, china and pans. The Guide House is suitable for small pack holidays or parties of Rangers or Guides. There is a resident caretaker who cleans the house but visitors would be expected to do their own cooking and other work. Charge from 1s. per night per person or as arranged. Particulars from Miss R. Symonds, 46 Shrewsbury Road, Oxted, Birkenhead.

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# 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, July 12th, 1950.

**Present:** Mrs. Davies-Cooke (Chair), The Lady Oaksey, O.B.E., J.P. (Chair, afternoon session), The Lady Stratheden and Campbell, Mrs. Miles Burdett, B.E.M., The Lady Burnham, J.P., Miss J. Clayton, J.P., The Hon. Lady Cochrane, Lady Cooper, Miss M. Danielsen, Mrs. Douglas of Mains, Mrs. Fleetwood-Hesketh, Miss I. H. Kay, J.P., Dame Vera Laughton Mathews, D.B.E. (morning), Miss M. L. Martin, Miss H. McSwiney, Miss D. Powell, J.P., Mrs. I. H. Powell Edwards, Mrs. C. Traherne.

**By Invitation:** The Lady Merthyr (during items 2 and 3), Miss A. Thompson (during item 6), Miss V. Wallace Williamson, J.P. (representing Lady Colville), Miss R. Ward, O.B.E., J.P. (during item 5).

**In Attendance:** Miss J. Frith, O.B.E., Miss M. White, M.B.E., Commander Brickdale (during item 2), Miss P. Wood-Hill (during item 13).

The Committee was in session from 11 a.m. to 1.15 p.m. and from 2 p.m.-4.30 p.m. and matters under the following headings were discussed.

1. **Correspondence:** Church of Scotland Youth Department's good wishes on the occasion of the Association's fortieth birthday; letter of thanks from Lady Somers in reply to the Executive Committee's congratulations upon her recent honour.

2. **Hon. Treasurer:** Report.

3. **Chief Commissioner:** Recommendations from the Commonwealth and Empire Conference; the Trefoil Guild.

4. **World Conference Ad Hoc Committee:** Report.

5. **Guide International Service:** Report on work undertaken in resettlement camps in Germany; publication of new G.I.S. Leaflet.

6. **Publications Committee:** Report.

7. **The Chief Commissioner for Scotland:** Appointment of Miss Irene Anderson as Scottish Commissioner for Brownies in place of Miss A. Wilson who has retired.

8. **The Chief Commissioner for Ulster:** Appointment of Mrs. Stanfield as Ulster Commissioner for Extensions, Lones and Auxiliaries as from November 1st, 1950, in place of Miss Bamford who retires on October 31st, 1950.

9. **Overseas Commissioner:** The resignation of Lady Clarendon as Deputy Overseas Commissioner, on the grounds of ill-health, was received with regret and many tributes were paid to her long and valued service to the movement in many capacities.

10. **Imperial Headquarters:** Distinguishing marks for Commissioners and Secretaries; presentation of a violin to the movement by Miss Scott Evans which would be named 'Evelyn' after her mother.

11. **Education Panel:** Report.

12. **Public Relations Committee:** Report.

13. **International Committee:** Report.

14. **Awards Committee:** Recommendations.

15. **Appointments and Resignations.**

16. **Trust Corporation:** Report.

17. **Commissioner for Training:** Report.

At the request of the Counties a vote was taken by the Counties on the distinguishing marks for Secretaries and as there was a clear majority for a tawny red brooch bearing the title of the rank held it was agreed that this badge be adopted.

As there was no clear decision about the distinguishing marks for Commissioners the matter was referred back to the counties.

## CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE

Dorothy Margaret Smith, after infantile paralysis, on July 19th, 1950, at Little Bromwich Hospital. Captain of the 59th Birmingham (St. Andrew's) Guide company from 1947-1950, and Captain of the 59th Ranger company from 1948-1950. A very enthusiastic Guider and Secretary of the Ranger-Guiders' Circle for some time.

## AWARDS

### Fortitude

**Badge of Fortitude.** Patrol Leader Rosemary Atkinson, aged 13, 30th Hackney company, N.E. London.

Rosemary was born with a dislocated hip and was encased in plaster for three years. She has had numerous operations and can now walk with difficulty. While in hospital she

co-operated well with the medical and nursing staff, and was always cheerful and determined not to give in. She has been a very keen Brownie and Guide, taking part in many activities in spite of her handicap.

Guide Shirley Hadland, aged 14, 4th Aldershot company, Hampshire.

Shirley has suffered from congenital abnormalities including the absence of one thumb and a disability necessitating the wearing of an apparatus and dressings several times daily. In spite of great pain and discomfort and six major operations, she shows a quiet and cheerful patience and her impressive courage has been an inspiration to all those who have known her.

Brownie Janet Holland, aged 9, 4th Shirley Pack, Warwickshire.

Three years ago Janet was knocked down by a lorry which ran over both her legs. At first a double amputation was feared, but this has now been avoided, and it is hoped that she will be able to walk again. She has always been cheerful in pain and illness and it is largely owing to her bravery and courage that she has improved so much.

## Life Saving

**Certificate of Merit.** Guide Jacqueline Macey, aged 10½, 6th Chiswick company, Middlesex West.

Jacqueline was walking along the river bank with some friends when a six-year-old boy slipped and fell in the water. Jacqueline dashed up and found he had disappeared and only his hand was visible. Leaning over she grabbed him and dragged him out, then wrapped her coat round him and rushed him home.

**Certificate of Merit.** Robin Patrol, 1st Westwell and Hothfield company, Kent.

The Robin Patrol were having a patrol hike and had just started to cook their meal when they heard a cry for help. A nine-year-old boy had fallen into the Eastwell Lake which is forty acres in area and at this point is twelve feet deep. The Guides ran to the spot and, leaning out, grasped the boy after he had gone under the water twice. They dragged him out unconscious, removed his wet clothes, wrapped him in their coats and warmed him by their hike fire. The boy's companion in the meantime went to his parents' home and his mother arrived to take charge. As there was no one else present the boy would certainly have drowned but for the Guides' prompt action.

## Good Service

**Medal of Merit.** Miss N. Inge, District Commissioner, Singapore; Mrs. Speldewinde, Brown Owl, Penang, Malaya.

**Certificate of Merit.** Miss I. D. Mackenzie, Division Secretary, Eastbourne, Sussex; Mrs. Wong, Assistant District Commissioner, Ipoh, Malaya.

## COMING EVENTS

The Empire Circle speaker at the Lunch Hour Talk on September 28th will be Mrs. Cheverton, Commissioner for Training for the Gold Coast. The meeting will be in the Council Chamber at Imperial Headquarters from 1.15 to 2; sandwiches may be brought and coffee will be on sale. All Guiders are welcome.

The Evening Social on September 28th, which is for members and overseas Guiders, will be held at the Guide Club, 46 Belgrave Square, S.W.1, at 6.30 p.m. Refreshments will be on sale.

The Church of England Youth Council has kindly arranged another Retreat for Church of England Guiders for which we are most fortunate in having the Rev. K. G. Symcox again as Conductor. It will be held at the Diocesan House, St. Albans, from Friday evening, November 17th to Sunday mid-day, November 19th and is intended primarily for beginners, but 'old hands' may apply. The fee is 27s. 6d. with a booking fee of 2s. 6d. (not returnable). Applications, with booking fee, should be sent as soon as possible to the Secretary, Miss Thompson, Little Meadow, Burcot, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire. No one need stay away on account of expense as there is a fund from which help can be given if Miss Thompson is told.

(For General Notices, see page 203)



# The Guider's Post-Bag

## The Oxford Campfire

I hope that this letter may meet the eye of many people who must have contributed to the outstanding success of the World Conference campfire at Oxford, and that they will accept the thanks of a small party of Guides who had the privilege of taking part in it. Such an undertaking calls for vision in the first place, and an immense amount of planning and organisation to carry it through, with the inevitable misgivings and doubts on the part of those responsible. If the thrill enjoyed by twelve Patrol Leaders and Seconds, and their very real appreciation of being able to take part with the World Conference Delegates in such a gathering is, as I feel sure it is, typical of the thousands of Guides and Rangers present, then the organisers can feel how enormously worthwhile all the work was. Throughout the whole of the day in Oxford the absence of fuss and obvious organisation added to the enjoyment and to the great impression left with all of us.

NANCY C. GREEN  
(District Commissioner, St. Albans)

## The Pre-Conference Camps at Foxlease

Crack! The word is familiar to Ulster folk and has many amusing interpretations. It was not long before Guiders in the Ulster group at the pre-Conference camps at Foxlease had it presented to them in a variety of ways for the 'crack' was very good indeed. The wet weather did not damp our spirits the first evening and it was miraculous to see how ship-shape everything was the next morning when the sun finally got through. Our gateway was much admired and

photographed and the Red Hand tale was often told as well as acted at the final campfire. We learnt many songs from our delightful overseas guests from New Zealand, Cyprus and Canada. None of us will easily forget the silhouette of the New Zealanders acting the Moari Hand Game 'Ahei Tama' against the night sky, or the haunting melody of the Red Indian lullaby taught us by Edna Jarrett. The half-day hike organised by our Cypriot friends is another happy memory—savory macaroni, 'pilaf' and Turkish chocolate tasted specially good eaten in the lovely New Forest. It was a great delight to be among so many friendly people and the whole atmosphere was carefree and happy.

AN ULSTER GUIDER

## From a Sea Ranger Aide at Oxford

... I am deeply grateful that I have been allowed to do something, though little, to help the delegates in their important work for I feel sure that it is through international meetings of people like this who are so full of good will and determination that peace must come to the world.

ANNETTE HANEGRAAFF

## Thanks from Miss Chater

I send my best thanks to all who learned the songs for the Oxford campfire and who watched the beat and sang with such enthusiasm and precision. The effect from the front was excellent and I am most grateful to you all for your response.

M.C.C.

*a different sweet*  
**EVERY**  
*day*



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PRODUCTS

*Tickle the World's Palate*

**BOTTLED**  
**VINEGAR**  
*is best for*  
*pickling!*





# Where to Train

**C**ADET Guiders should note the training at Waddow from November 17th to 20th, and also the Conference at I.H.Q. in January. Applications for the latter should be made to the county, not direct to Headquarters. Waddow has two trainings for the week-end of October 27th to 30th—Camp and Handcraft. When applying please state which you wish to attend. Note that those taking part in the camp training will be in the house and not under canvas!

The attention of Commissioners and Secretaries is drawn to the special training which is being held at Foxlease from September 26th to October 3rd. In other trainings of this kind it has been found that Commissioners and Secretaries very much appreciate hearing each other's points of view. Some of the sessions will be separate and some joint. While the ideal arrangement is for the Commissioner to come with her own Secretary, either will be welcomed without the other.

## IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS FOXLEASE

- September**  
5-12 Guide and Brownie  
15-22 Guide and Brownie  
26-3 Oct. Commissioners and Secretaries
- October**  
6-10 England—Certificated Trainers  
13-16 Somerset  
20-27 Guide and Brownie  
31-7 Nov. General Training
- November**  
10-14 East Surrey  
17-21 S.W. Area C.A. Conference (Please apply through your C.C.A.)  
24-28 General
- January**  
2-9 Guide, Brownie and Ranger  
12-19 Guide (special Commissioners' sessions)  
23-30 Brownie (special Commissioners' sessions)
- February** (Spring Cleaning)  
23-27 County weekend
- March**  
2-5 County weekend  
9-13 County weekend  
16-19 County weekend  
22-3 April. Guide and Brownie (10 days)

## WADDOW

- September**  
1-4 Guide and Brownie  
8-11 Campfire  
15-18 S. Lancs.  
19-22 Commissioners and Brownie Guiders (mid-week). Care and accommodation will be provided for children under five.
- 29-2 Oct. Guide**
- October**  
6-9 Staffordshire  
13-16 S.W. Lancs.

- October**  
20-23 Guide and Brownie  
27-30 Handcraft and Camp Training  
31-2 Nov. L.A. Conference (members welcome by the day)
- 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
- December**  
29-8 January (New Year) General
- January**  
12-15 Guide and Brownie  
19-22 Music Party  
26-29 Guide and Brownie (pre-warrant)
- February**  
2-5 County weekend  
9-12 Commissioners and Secretaries  
16-19 Guide and Brownie  
23-26 Cadets
- March**  
2-5 County weekend  
9-12 Guide and Brownie  
16-19 County weekend  
22-27 (Easter) General  
30-6 April. Extensions

Applications for Foxlease and Waddow should be sent (with a deposit of 7s. 6d.) to the Secretary, at Foxlease, Lyndhurst, Hants., or to the Secretary at Waddow Hall, Clitheroe, Lancs. The fees for these centres (minimum 10s.) are: Single room, £3 a week, 9s. 6d. a day. Double room, £2 10s. a week, 8s. a day. Shared room, £2 a week, 7s. a day.

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

- September**  
8-15 Pre-warrant  
16-23 Sea Rangers  
26-3 Oct. 'All-comers' Guiders' Holiday Week.
- Applications to The Secretary, Florence Court, Torquay, enclosing a deposit of 7s. 6d. and a stamped addressed envelope. Fee: £2 2s. per week

## CONFERENCES AT I.H.Q.

A Conference for Music Advisers or their representatives and holders of the Campfire H.I. will be held at I.H.Q. on November 11th from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Applications to The Secretary, Imperial Training Department, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

**Cadet Guiders' Conference.** A non-residential conference for Cadet Guiders will be held at I.H.Q. on Saturday and Sunday, January 6th and 7th, 1951. Counties in England, Scotland, Ulster and Wales are invited to send two representatives, and names should reach the Secretary, Imperial Training Department, at Headquarters, not later than December 1st. Names of additional Guiders from any county will be accepted for a waiting list which will be considered after December 1st. A Commissioner or other Guider will be very welcome from counties where there are no Cadets.

## ENGLAND

A one-day Brownie and Guide training will be held at Imperial Headquarters on Tuesday, November 14th, from 11.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. This training is open to all Guiders within reach of London, but is specially intended for those whose family commitments make it difficult for them to attend evening or weekend training. Guide and Brownie training will run concurrently. Please apply before October 21st to English Training Department, Imperial Headquarters, stating whether Brownie or Guide training is required.

## SCOTLAND

### Netherurd

- September**  
1-4 Rangers  
8-15 Empire Week  
22-25 Ranger Guiders  
29-2 Oct. Guide
- October**  
6-9 Advanced (by invitation)  
13-16 Brownie  
20-23 Pre-warrant  
27-30 Training in Testing (Guide)  
Fees. Shared room, £2 10s. a week, 7s. 6d. a day. A training fee of 2s. a course will be charged, and an additional fee of 2s. 6d. for a single room.  
Applications, enclosing a deposit of 5s., to the Secretary, Netherurd, Blyth Bridge, West Linton, Peeblesshire.

## WALES

### Broneirion

- September**  
29-1 Oct. Guide Guiders
- October**  
6-9 Pack Holiday Training for Prospective Permit Holders and C.A.s  
13-17 County booking  
20-24 W. Glamorgan County—Brownie, Guide and Ranger—some open places  
27-31 General Training
- Fees for Broneirion are the same as those for Foxlease. Applications, enclosing a deposit of 5s., to the Guider-in-Charge, Broneirion, Llandinam, Montgomeryshire.

## ULSTER

### Lorne

- September**  
8-10 Trainers  
15-17 Foreign Travel, illustrated by films  
22-24 Patrol Leaders  
29-1 Oct. Commissioners' Conference
- October**  
6-8 Woodcraft  
13-15 Guide and Brownie  
20-22 Carols and Nativity Plays  
27-29 Guide and Brownie (Extensions)
- November**  
3-5 Rangers (Office Bearers)  
Fees: 8s. per day (garage 1s. per night). Applications for trainings at Lorne to the Guider-in-Charge, Lorne, Craigavad, Co. Down, enclosing a deposit of 5s.



## CAMPING AND HOLIDAYS

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

**Blackland Farm, East Grinstead, Sussex.** Applications for camp sites should be made to the Warden. Indoor camping facilities are available all the year round. 'Restrop' is furnished for parties of ten, and furnished caravans can be used for sleeping accommodation in conjunction

with one or two of the sites and are suitable for small parties in the late autumn or early spring.

**Lorne** is beautifully situated on the shores of Belfast Lough, close to the station and golf links, and is a good centre for touring. Guiders and Rangers may book accommodation between the advertised trainings, fees 9s. per day. There are two equipped camp sites. Applications to the Guider-in-Charge, Lorne, Craigavad, Co. Down.

## General Notices

**The Regent's Park Zoo and Whipsnade Park Zoo.** Members of our movement in organised parties are admitted to the above parks on week-days only at reduced rates on production of a special voucher obtained from Headquarters. Applications should give the name of the Guider and unit, date of visit and numbers in the party aged under 18 years and 18 years and over. The reduced rates are as follows: 18 years and over, 1s. 4d.; under 18 years, 8d.

**N.B.**—The Regent's Park Zoo makes a special reduction of half the above rates on Mondays only (Bank Holidays excepted). Both parks are open to the general public on Sundays from 2.30 p.m. at the full rates only; namely: adults, 2s.; children (under 16), 1s.

**Lost property at the World Conference Camp at Foxlease.** The following items were left behind: 1. Waterproof camouflaged material with snake bite outfit and matchbox; 2. Water bottle; 3. Small black loose leaf notebook (half in shorthand); 4. 1/2-inch Map (New Forest and I.O.W.); 5. One tea towel marked OB. Will owners please communicate with Miss Close, 1 Aigburth Road, Swanage, Dorset, sending cost of postage for return.

**Lost property at the Oxford Campfire, July 29th, 1950.** A certain amount of lost property has been brought to Headquarters. Will those who have lost anything please apply to English Training Dept., Girl Guide Headquarters. Postage money for return of the article would be greatly appreciated.

## A Challenge to Players

ONCE THE AUTUMN MEETINGS begin Guides and Brownies will be wanting to make a start on sketches and plays for Christmas entertainment, so here is a challenge to their enthusiasm to make up for past shows which hardly seemed worth the sympathy and financial support given by docile relatives and friends. Most of us have experienced those very amateur performances under rehearsal, when the production drags and even the voices at the sing-song are unpredictable.

There is no need for the Guider to bear all the responsibility if the girls themselves stay keen. They will get far more enjoyment from the preparations if they are given special jobs to do, like hearing parts, teaching songs, stage managing and wardrobe. When discussing plans this winter tell them of the achievements of pupils at the Trefoil School for physically handicapped children and challenge the company to produce an equal success. They will have to make a big effort to do so.

At the Trefoil School the play is the thing, and the play, which often takes the form of scenes from Scottish history, is designed to include all the children so that even a spinal chair case can be given a lying down part. Some are tableaux, others in mime with such clever grouping and simple direction that the whole act is very lively without involving the children in much movement, for chairs and calipers are left behind the scenes and almost every performer

is lifted on to the stage before the curtains part.

Every child is word perfect for both speaking parts and the lovely folk songs, and because they share completely with their producers and helpers the interest and effort needed, the play runs smoothly and is a pleasure to watch. Anyone planning amateur productions can learn many useful points from such an entertainment—how to make the most of each individual in the cast, the value of simple properties for setting a scene, the importance of grouping with the minimum of movement (essential on any small stage), and the colour effects obtained from beautiful costumes.

Given reasonably good lighting, a bold use of colour will overcome many difficulties. Dresses contrived from inexpensive household materials can look very effective if the colours are gay and carefully chosen. The wardrobe and stage properties are important items and if the girls are encouraged to use their ingenuity and inventiveness to create these things for themselves they will feel a personal responsibility for final success. In the early stages, it is a good plan to write a sketch round the cast rather than tackle a set play, so that the Guides can contribute some dialogue of their own. Then on the night they will be natural and unselfconscious and less likely to forget their words. Add sufficient rehearsals to ensure an easy performance.



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**MASON'S**  
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DOES YOU GOOD



# Operation Chaos

(Continued from page 186)

finds on her pillow sprigs of oak, ash and thorn. Those of you who have read *Puck of Pook's Hill* will know why.

The next day the training programme begins in earnest. The Assistant Commissioner for Training (I.H.Q.) gives a most informative talk on school and home conditions in Great Britain; the Brownie pack which comes for purposes of demonstration is so delightfully unselfconscious and enjoys itself so much that practically every delegate is heard to remark that she is going straight home to run a Brownie pack; visits to camp to see training in progress begin.

This is Wednesday's page—and a very full one. In the morning a Guide company meets on the lawn and, compered by the Commissioner for Guides, I.H.Q., and captained by the Commissioner for Guides (England), gives an excellent demonstration of a good company enjoying itself immensely and incidentally (as B-P intended) learning a great deal. Ranger photographs follow, taken at Somerford Aerodrome and in the harbour at Christchurch. Here, for instance, a 'plane, piloted by an Air Ranger Guider, with Air Ranger passengers, takes off, flies round the Isle of Wight and lands again, at regular intervals, with as little fuss, in fact far less fuss, than was made when our grandmamas, greatly daring, allowed themselves to be driven in hansom cabs.

That night there is a big campfire after supper—campers and delegates together, beyond the beech tree to the east of the house. There is a lovely still sunset and a fine night follows as the Land Rangers, accompanied at her own request by the Canadian Commissioner for Camping, move off on a

Night Game and an Overnight Hike. The delegates follow in cars, in traditional English hunt style!

Turn the page for Thursday. The Religious Advisory Panel and Public Relations have their say and the training of Guiders, including the Cadets scheme, winds up the training sessions but, before that, there is a free afternoon. The snapshots of this occasion are colourful and happy.

A Pageant of Guiding, presented by Bournemouth Guide Division, concludes the day. It was a producer's feat to bring about so smooth a performance—a performance that was gay and colourful and amusing and impressive by turns—without once having rehearsed the players on the 'stage'.

There is one more photograph for Thursday, July 20th—not at all a clear one as it was taken after dusk had fallen. The B.B.C. asked if it would be possible to record the singing of the Guide International Song, *Yonder lies the World before us*, and of *Taps*. The choir which assembled on the lawn at Foxlease was two hundred and fifty strong and something of the thankfulness in their hearts at their happiness at being together communicated itself to the singing.

The last page. The coaches leave for Oxford to the singing of *Auld Lang Syne*. 'Auld acquaintance' ask the cynical, 'after being together for four days?' On the contrary we have always been together, ever since the day when we made, each in our own language, the Guide Promise—and that, for some of us, is quite a long time ago.

ELIZABETH HARTLEY

## Classified Advertisements

Advertisements must be received by the 15th of this month for insertion in the next issue. Charges: 3d. per word, i.e. 3d. for box number. Advertisements for the sale of clothing cannot be accepted. (Accommodation offered has not necessarily been approved by Headquarters.)

### EMPLOYMENT OFFERED

**Churchwoman** required as Warden for G.P.S. residential club, central Birmingham. Adequate staff—Apply, with copies of recent testimonials, to Miss Lloyd, 99 West Heath Road, Birmingham, 21.

**Heatherwood Orthopaedic Hospital, Asent, Berks.**—A vacancy occurs for a Student Nurse of good education. Training allowance £300 - £210, less £100 for board residence and uniforms. Four weeks annual holiday. Pleasant Nurses' Home, with individual bedrooms and good social amenities. The hospital is opposite the Royal Course and is well served by frequent electric trains to Waterloo and Reading and by Green Line to Victoria. — For further particulars apply Miss D. M. Howes, Matron.

### HEADQUARTERS VACANCIES

**Shorthand typist** required for the Extension Department. Work includes shorthand and typing, cutting of stencils and keeping simple ledger entries.—Further details, including salary, obtainable from the General Secretary, Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

**Shorthand typists** required; previous experience in merchandise office an advantage, either in clothing, camp equipment, publications. Five-day week.—Apply to Equipment Secretary, Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

### NETHERBURD

Two friends are invited to apply for posts at Netherburd, the Scottish Guiders' Training School, at West Linton, Peeblesshire. Guiders or Rangers (or ex-Guiders) may apply and should be physically strong. One post is that of House Orderly and the other is Handwoman, mainly outdoor work. The jobs can be done by the two friends separately or be combined. (Part share of cottage available to Guiders.)—Apply, Guider-in-Charge, Netherburd, West Linton, Peeblesshire.

### ACCOMMODATION OFFERED

**Western Lake District.**—Irton Hall Hotel (licensed) Holmrook, Cumberland. Mountains, sea, home produce, h. & c. billiards, table tennis. Children welcome. Log fires, wonderful walking, climbing.—E. M. Evans and P. Seager, M.B.E. (Commissioners). Tel. Holmrook 42.

**London.**—Refined accommodation, 3 Westbourne Terrace Road, W.2. Bed and breakfast from 10s. 6d. nightly; central for places of interest. 'Phone: Canningham 2373.

**Bumble View, Housel Bay Road, The Lizard, Cornwall.**—Private Guest House open all year, run by ex-Guider. Lovely position. Extensive sea view. Few minutes from beach.—Miss G. Mansfield.

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

**Bungalow Guest House**, open all year, run by ex-Guider, two minutes sea and 'bus. From 4s. 6d. Ideal surroundings. — Apply 'Summerhill', Banks Road, Sandbanks, Bournemouth.

**New Forest.**—Ideal for the walker, naturalist and sightseer, or for a quiet and restful holiday. Excellent 'bus and train service. Interprising mattresses, good food and other home comforts. From 4s. 6d.—Apply Miss Sandy, Balmer Lawn House, Brockenhurst, Hants.

**Guests taken**, between Bude and Tintagel. On two 'bus routes. Beach and cliffs 1 mile. Two bedrooms to let, single or double 4-4 gns. weekly, or by arrangement. Might let furnished short periods.—Whittingham, Crackington, Bude.

**Edinburgh.**—Catholic members of Guide Movement over 14 welcome at the Grail Club, 1 Erskine Place, West End. Small membership fee.

**Ride or hunt** for late holidays or long wet-ends. Comfortable, convenient, reasonable.—Miss Reed, Long Street, Tetbury, Gloucestershire. (Tel. Tetbury 131.)

### WANTED

Commissioner's uniform required; hips 40 in., bust 35 in., length 46 in.—Box 428

### FOR SALE

250 Seemleards 17s. 6d., 1,500 82s. 6d. Concert tickets 250 for 10s. Memo, posters, samples free.—O', Times, 11, Oaklands Grove, London, W.12.

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19 bound copies of 'The Guide', 1921-1929. What offers?—Apply Watkins, 134, Whitstable Road, Canterbury.

### WATCH REPAIRS

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

### STORY WRITING FOR CHILDREN

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**Duplicating.**—Newsletters, notices, minutes, etc.—Write to Miss McGie, Highfields, Harthall Lane, King's Langley, Herts. (Stamp appreciated.)

**Authors' MSS.**, etc., efficiently typed.—Ex-Guider, Oates, 1, Peverel Road, West Worthing.

### LOST AT OXFORD CAMPFIRE

Lost at the campfire, Oxford, probably near the royal dale, a Guide 'Thanks' badge, engraved 'August 1952'. Please return to Mrs. Kingston, Brackenhurst, Cornwell Road, Poole, Dorset.

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