

THE
GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE



Janet Allan
Signer Secretary

November, 1926

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MUSIC, DANCING and STAGE TRAINING in all its branches can be learnt at moderate fees at the Guildhall School of Music. The Secretary will be glad to answer enquiries from Girl Guides or their friends.

H. SAXE WYNDHAM, Secretary.

Manager:
A. J. H. IVISON

8 GATE STREET, KINGSWAY
LONDON, W.C.2

THE BOTOLPH PRINTING WORKS specialise in the production of Company Reports, Orders, Roll Books, Memos and all Stationery necessary for the smooth running of Girl Guide Companies.

ESTIMATES & ADVICE WILLINGLY GIVEN

PRINTERS OF THIS MAGAZINE

Knots and Lashings at a Glance

THERE have been many forms of Photographic Art, the Cinema, Lantern Slides and the Ordinary Photograph, but none of these methods give us the subject as we *actually* see it; there is no depth of distance, it is a true reproduction, but it is flat and unreal.

THE Girl Guides' Association, therefore, has something unique to offer, in a small, neat device called the **Camerascope**, with a series of subjects which will show you the methods of Lashing and the Tying of Knots. Unlike the ordinary photograph, it shows the subject as it *actually* was when photographed, in the *same perspective, depth and relief*. You can follow every bend of the rope in lashing, and can see everything that you could possibly have seen had you been with the instructor. In short, it gives you a permanent record of the subject, and therefore has a high educational value.

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Girl Guides' Association, 25, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1

All communications with regard to Advertisements should be addressed to The Girl Guide Gazette, Advertisement Department, 18, Henrietta Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.



Price 4/-
With Set of Cards

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The Magic Carpet.

Coming Events

Foxlease

DATES.

Nov. 4-11. Commissioners' Training. Closed.
Nov. 15-22. General Training. Closed.
Nov. 25 to Dec. 2. Brownie Training. Waiting List only.
Dec. 6-13. General Training.

FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES NO GENERAL APPLICATIONS WILL BE TAKEN UNTIL NOVEMBER 10TH. COUNTY SECRETARIES MAY APPLY FOR SPECIAL VACANCIES BETWEEN NOVEMBER 1ST AND 10TH. SUCH VACANCIES WILL ONLY BE KEPT PROVIDED THE NAMES OF ENTRANTS AND THE USUAL 5S. DEPOSITS ARE SENT WITH THE APPLICATIONS.

1927.

Jan. 4-11. General Training.
Jan. 14-21. General Training.
Jan. 25-Feb. 1. Ranger Training.
Feb. 4-11. Brownie Training.

FEES.

<i>Weekly.</i>		
Single rooms	.. ..	£2 10 0
Double rooms	.. ..	2 0 0
Shared rooms	.. ..	1 10 0
<i>Week-end only.</i>		
Single rooms	.. ..	£1 5 0
Double rooms	.. ..	1 1 0
Shared rooms	.. ..	0 17 6

APPLICATIONS.

All applications for a Training Course should be made to the Guider in Charge, Foxlease, Lyndhurst, Hants, and must be accompanied by a deposit of 5s., which will only be returned if withdrawal is made over two full weeks before the date of the Course. No application for any Course will be dealt with until an official notice has appeared in the GAZETTE.

Note.—Any Guider having already attended a Training Course at Foxlease and wishing to apply again, is asked to state that she has been before and to apply to be entered on the waiting list only, in order that preference may be given to Guiders who have never been.

It has been arranged that three vacancies should be reserved for Scotland for all General Training weeks until the 20th of the month in which the dates are first published. Scottish Guiders are therefore requested to send in their applications, including the 5s. deposit, to the Secretary, Girl Guide Headquarters, 12, Melville Street, Edinburgh.

Guiders are asked to note that when a training week is marked *closed* it is no longer possible to consider applications, even when Guiders find saying they will sleep under canvas or find rooms in the village, etc., etc. The Guider in Charge cannot undertake to train more than a certain number of Guiders, so the main factor is not really accommodation but numbers. The courses must be limited if the training is to be of real use to those who visit Foxlease.

This does not apply to applications from Overseas Guiders, for whom special vacancies, within limits, are kept.

FOXLEASE COTTAGES.

The two cottages at Foxlease are to be let by the week to Guiders requiring

a rest or a holiday. The larger one contains two double bedrooms and one single, a sitting-room furnished by Canada, a bathroom and a kitchen. The "Link," which is the bungalow furnished by America, contains three bedrooms, a sitting-room, a bathroom and a kitchen. The charge for the whole cottage is £3 3s. per week for five or less persons, or 15s. each for Guiders wishing to come alone or with a friend, when only one or two rooms are required. In the latter case an extra charge of 5s. will be made for the use of the sitting-room. The charge for the whole "Link" is £2 2s. per week for three or less persons, or 15s. for a Guider alone.

These charges include coal and light, but the Guiders cater and cook for themselves entirely. If they wish it the gardener's wife is willing to board them at the rate of 28s. to 30s. per head in addition to the above charges.

Guiders wishing to bring their cars can garage them at Foxlease by arrangement at a charge of 5s. per week or 1s. per night.

It is not necessary for Guiders staying at the cottage and "Link" to wear uniform unless attending the training courses.

Any applications or inquiries to be sent to the manager.

CAMP SITES, 1927.

BOOKINGS for camp sites at Foxlease for 1927 will be taken in January (for the Easter and Whitsun Camps) and in March for any later ones.

Training

LONDON AND SOUTH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL.

Dates.—Opened on Wednesday, October 6th, for ten consecutive Wednesdays.

Time.—10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Place.—Drill Hall of the 2nd City of London Regiment, 9, Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W.1 (Back of Dean's Yard).

Commandant.—Miss A. M. Maynard.

Deputy Commandants.—The Hon. Mrs. Walter Roch and Miss V. M. Syngé.

Fees.—1s. half-day, 1s. 6d. whole day, 10s. the term. N.B.—This does not include First-Aid examination fees.

Hon. Secretary.—Miss Stettauer, 71, Ladbroke Road, W.11.

Programme.

10.30. General Company Training. Recruit Company (for those who have no previous experience of Guiding).

12.0. Speeches on subjects definitely connected with Guiding.

Nov. 3. Miss Chilton Thomas, "The Guide of To-morrow."

Nov. 10. Mrs. Strode, "General Guiding."

Nov. 17. Dame Katharine Furze, "Steps in Life."

2.30 p.m. Singing. (Mrs. Hick.)

3.30 p.m. Brownie Training.

2.30 to 4.30 p.m. First Aid.

2.30 p.m. Country Dancing (Intermediate Class). Miss Sinclair.
3.30 p.m. Country Dancing (Elementary Class). Miss Gadd.

NORTH-WEST LONDON TRAINING SCHOOL.

Place.—Barrow Hill Road L.C.C. Schools, N.W.8 (close to St. John's Wood Road Station, Met. Rly.).

Time.—Every Monday evening until December 13th. 7-9 p.m.

Programme.

Nov. 1st. Elementary Guide Training.

Brownie Training.

Nov. 8. Elementary Guide Training.

Brownie Training.

Nov. 15. Elementary Guide Training.

Brownie Training Eagle Owl, Miss V. Maynard.

Nov. 22. Advanced Guide Training.

Miss Keith.

Nov. 29. Ranger Evening. Miss Wilkinson.

Dec. 6. Advanced Guide Training. Miss Erskine.

Dec. 13. Songs and Shanties. Mrs. Copland-Griffiths.

SOUTH-WEST LONDON SCHOOL.

Dates.—Thursday evenings, beginning on October 7th, 1926. (Elementary training alternate weeks, beginning October 14th.)

Place.—Holden Street L.C.C. Schools, Lavender Hill.

Time.—7.30 p.m. to 9.45 p.m.

Fees.—2s. for the term, 3d. for a single evening, and 6d. for visitors.

Secretary.—Miss Sagrandi, 3, Montpelier Square, S.W.7.

Programme.

Nov. 4. Nature.

Nov. 11. Elementary Training.

Nov. 18. Advanced Training. The Hon. Mrs. Roch.

Nov. 25. Elementary Training.

Dec. 2. Brownie Training.

Dec. 9. Elementary Training.

Dec. 16. Ranger Guiders. Miss Ramsay.

WEST CENTRAL TRAINING SCHOOL.

Place.—Holborn and West Central Divisional Headquarters, St. George the Martyr Schools, Queen Square, W.C.1.

Time.—7.45 p.m.

Dates.—Tuesday, November 9th, Miss Erskine. Friday, November 19th, Hon. Mrs. Walter Roch. Wednesday, December 8th, Miss Fry.

Fees.—West Central Guiders, no charge. Others, 3d. per class.

THIS MONTH'S COVER.

OUR Cover Photograph—*The Handywoman*—was specially taken for the GAZETTE by Janet Allan and Agnes Martin, Grendon, Harcourt Road, Warrington, from whom copies may be obtained at the following terms: actual size 2s. 6d.; cabinet size, 1s. 6d.

Orders must be accompanied by remittance and postage.

Conferences

RANGERS AND SEA GUIDES.

Dates.—November 14th-December 1st.
Place.—High Leigh, Huddersdon, Herts.
Members.—Commissioners and Guiders.
Fee.—£3 10s. 6d. approximately.
Deposit.—5s. to Miss Chance.
Secretary.—Miss N. Chance, Crofton Hall, Thursty, Cumberland.

Remarks.—Each county is asked to send two representatives, and applications should be made through County Secretaries only. All Diploma and Overseas Guiders are welcome, and should apply direct to Miss Chance.

Sea Guiders may also apply direct to the Secretary, and efforts will be made to include Sea Guiders representative of all parts of the kingdom.

There are still some vacancies. Guiders wishing to attend should apply to the Conference Secretary at once.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

The County Commissioners' Conference will be held at Headquarters, 25, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1, on November 18th, at 11 a.m.

The Agenda will be sent to all County Commissioners, whether they will be present or not, in order that they may know what subjects will be discussed, and a copy of the proceedings of the meeting will also be sent to them in due course.

Those who wish to have luncheon at the Rubens Hotel should notify the Secretary, Girl Guide Headquarters, on or before November 17th.

Scotland

SCOTTISH TRAINING SCHOOL.

MONTHLY TRAINING DAY.

Dates.—November 25th.
Place.—Mid-Hall, St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow. (Enter G door, Berkeley Street.)
Trainer.—Miss E. O. Nicholson, Blue Cord Diploma, Edinburgh.
Programme.—General Training.
Sessions.—10.30 to 12.30 a.m., 2 to 4 p.m.

Miscellaneous Notices

EAGLE OWL TEST.

There will be an Eagle Owl Test at St. John's Hall, Wilton Road (entrance Hudson's Place, beside Victoria Station), on November 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th at the following times:

Morning, 10.30 to 1.
 Afternoon, 2.30 to 4, and 5 to 6.

Will any Guiders who can volunteer to act as a Pack please send their names to Miss C. O'Rourke, 14, Overington Street, S.W.3, and state which days and at what times they can come.

JEWISH GUIDES AND BROWNIES.

A General Service for all Jewish Girl Guides and Brownies in London and the Home Counties will be held on Sunday, December 12th, at 4 p.m. at the Central Synagogue, Great Portland Street, W.1 (entrance 34 Helian Street).

Guiders should communicate with Miss

P. A. Doddington, 25, Cambridge Square, Hyde Park, W.2, not later than Tuesday, November 30th, stating numbers of Guiders and Brownies and whether Colours will be brought.

Hymns.—"All people that on earth do dwell." (Old Hundredth.) "Adon Olam."

Psalm (to be sung).—23rd Psalm (in English). Smart. 111st Psalm (in Hebrew).

GUIDERS NEEDED.

Guiders are badly needed for an open Company and Pack connected with an elementary school in the very poor Lisson Grove district (Marylebone). One Company in this poor area has already had to close for want of officers. Will any Guiders come forward to prevent this much-needed Company and Pack from suffering the same fate? The District Commissioner, Miss Fry, (66, Queen's Gate, S.W.7, will gladly supply all particulars.

RETREAT.

A RETREAT WEEK-END for Guiders and senior Guides will be held at the Retreat House, Pleshey, Chelmsford, Saturday, Nov. 27th to Monday, November 29th. Names and inquiries should be sent before November 17th to Miss G. E. Cowmanow, 20, Lower Park, Loughton, Essex.

LONDON MUSICAL COMPETITION FESTIVAL, 1927.

FOR GIRL GUIDES.

Union Song.—"The Lost Playmate," Maurice Jacobson. (Curwen, No. 71642.)
Two-part Song.—"The Huntsman's Song," W. H. Harris. (Year Book Press, No. 226.)

FOR BROWNIES.

Union Song.—"Let's go in the Garden and Play," Ernest Austin. (J. H. Larway, Op. 69. No. 7. L. 2598.)

Union Song.—"In London Town," Stanley Marchant. (Novello, School Music Review, No. 370.)

Particulars and syllabuses obtainable from the Hon. Secretary, T. Lester Jones, Esq., Jesmondale, 130, Belgrave Road, Wandstead, E.11.

SOUTH-EAST LONDON MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

JUNIORS' COMPETITIONS—
 February 12th, 1927.

JUNIORS' CONCERT—
 February 17th, 1927.

Judge and Conductor.—E. Stanley Roper, Esq., Mus. Bac, F.R.C.O.
Class XV (8). Girl Guide Choirs, etc. (16 years and under.)

Union Song.—"The Little Sandman," Brahms. (Novello, School Music Review, 146. 24.)

Round.—"Let's have a peal." Unaccompanied. ("Scout Song Book," No. 3. 14.)

Class XVI. Singing Game, unaccompanied and without conductor. (For children under 11.)

Own Choice.
 A Certificate of Merit will be awarded to all in this Class who gain 50 per cent. marks.

SENIORS' COMPETITIONS—

March 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 1927.

GRAND CONDUCTOR.—March 5th, 1927.
Judge and Conductor.—Geoffrey Shaw, Esq., Mus. Bac.

Class III (A). Girl Guides and Girls Clubs.

Union Song.—"Creation's Hymn," Beethoven. (Novello, School Music Review, No. 32. 24.)

Two-part Song.—"There is a garden in her face," J. Ireland. (Novello, 151. 2d. 1. Sol-fa, 2d.)

Entrance Fee.—3d. per member.

Class III (B). Less advanced.

Union Folk Song.—"Just as the tide was flowing," arr. Vaughan Williams. (Stainer & Bell. 2d.)

Two-part Canon.—"Clouds o'er the Summer Sky," Holst. (Novello, S.S. No. 710. 2d.)

Entrance Fee.—3d. per member.

For particulars of other classes and syllabuses apply to Miss Helen Ridley, 34, Emperor's Gate, S.W.7. (Hon. Sec.).

"THE MASQUE OF EMPIRE."

A MISPRINT occurred in connection with the competition under this title last month. Page 40 in the play should read Page 47, on which the picture to be coloured appears.

"THE MASQUE OF EMPIRE" (G.C. Edition).
 By Hugh Myrton, should be played by every Company in the Country. Stocked at Headquarters 6d. Cartridges available.

AWARDS

Medal of Merit.
 Miss Harper, Lieutenant, 1st Standard Company.
 For rescuing two people from drowning.
 Miss Lucas, Captain, 2nd Bridgmoor Company. For good service to the Movement.

Eagle Owl Diploma.
 Miss E. Briggs, of Perthshire, Scotland.
 Mrs. Thomson, of Peebleshire, Scotland.

Red Cord Diploma.
 Miss V. Sykes, of London.

Blue Cord Diploma.
 Miss C. Lawrence, of London.
 Miss E. Fry, of London.

Badge of Fortitude.
 Guide Winifred Caswell, 1st Chertsey Company.

Gold Laureate.
 Miss Whitaker, Captain, 2nd Radcliffe Company.
 Miss C. N. Harris, Captain, 45th Birmingham.

Gold Cord.
 Cadet Mollie Brewis, 1st Chertsey Company.
 Cadet Irene Foster, 4th Wembley Company.
 Cadet Gertrude Parkman, 4th Wembley Company.
 Cadet Nancy Pullack, 4th Bournemouth Company.
 Patrol Leader Paula Macrae, 4th Bournemouth Company.
 Patrol Leader Gladys Leavelle, 1st Anglemore Company.
 Patrol Leader Kathleen Cooper, 4th Radcliffe Company.
 Patrol Leader Margaret Holmes, 4th Radcliffe.
 Patrol Leader Kathleen Garland, 12th Perth.
 Patrol Leader Frances Smith, 12th Perth Company.
 Patrol Leader Doris Lane, 12th Perth Company.
 Company Leader Peggy Miller, 1st Tillingbury.
 Patrol Leader Gladys White, 4th Wembley Company.
 Patrol Leader Elsie Phillips, 1st Cadbury Company.
 Patrol Leader Gwen Ogden, 10th Radcliffe Company.

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES

(continued from page 324.)

AMENDMENT TO BOOK OF RULES.

12. *Emergency and Sea Guides.*
- (a) Rule 30, page 66. Qualifications for Ranger Guiders. Add after "As for ordinary Guiders . . . for Captains," "Must be enrolled as a Ranger."
- (b) Rule 30, page 66. Substitute for first paragraph: "Leading Sea Guide. Any member of the crew may be selected by the Captain and Court of Honour as a Leading Sea Guide, in any subject, provided she has sufficient knowledge of it to be useful as an instructor."
- (c) Rule 30, page 66, last paragraph. After "They must also have the same qualifications . . . Guiders" and "and be enrolled as Sea Guides."

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL

Held on October 19th, 1926.

It was reported to the Committee that Miss Eustice Penberthy has accepted the position of Head of Camping for 1927 in the place of Miss Madge Heath.

It was agreed that a letter of introduction should be adopted for the use of Guides and Guiders travelling in foreign countries.

It was agreed that a representative of the Association should attend the public meeting arranged by the Society for Overseas Settlement of British Women on November 12th.

It was agreed to accept the Church of England Zenana Mission's request for affiliation.

A resolution from the Chapter-General of the Order of St. John was approved, viz. —

"That it is considered desirable for Girl Guides to form Cadet Divisions of the Brigade. Further that it may be permissible if desired by both bodies for Girl Guides to wear their Guide Uniform when they form Cadet Divisions of the Brigade with the Cadet Badge on an armband when on Brigade duty."

Miss S. J. Warner, O.B.E., was appointed Assistant Head of Kindred Societies.

It was agreed that Companies in Homes and Orphanages should no longer form part of the Extension Branch. They will in future be under the control of the local Commissioner, working in conjunction with a Liaison Commissioner for such Companies.

It was agreed that nothing in the shape of an advertisement of foreign camps or other schemes be published officially in the GAZETTE unless the Training Subcommittee and the Continental Camp Adviser approve their being run as Headquarters institutions.

The following were appointed Examiners for the Blue Cord Diploma: —

Examiners.—Miss Joyce Wolton, Guider in Charge, Foxlease; Miss M. Shanks, of Forfarshire.

Special Examiners.—Miss M. Baird, of Berwickshire; Mrs. Greenlees, Assistant County Commissioner, Glasgow; Mrs. Seton Gordon, of Inverness; Miss Anderson, Division Commissioner, Edinburgh.

Arrangements for the County Commissioners' Conference to be held at Headquarters on November 18 were approved.

Alterations in the Book of Rules for 1927 were submitted and approved.

Routine and financial business was transacted.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for November 16th at 2.30 p.m.

Amendments to Book of Rules

NOT TO COME INTO FORCE UNTIL 1927

1. Player's Badge.

The Player's Badge is taken in groups, though individuals may wear the Badge. The Group must produce the plays and the items in Section B. Each Ranger in the group must prove her value to the production, either by acting (as in section A) and pass

one item in section B, or, if she does not act, must pass two items in section B. Guiders may be included.

A. Must perform one of the following:—
Twelfth Night. The Tricking of Malvolio. Act 1, Sc. 3; Act 2, Scs. 3 and 5; Act 3, Sc. 4.
Taming of the Shrew. The Homecoming Tailor and Roadside Scenes. (Parts may be doubled.)

Merchant of Venice. The Casket Scenes. Act 1, Sc. 2; Act 2, Scs. 1, 7 and 9; Act 3, Sc. 2.
Midsummer Night's Dream. The rehearsal and Presentation of the Tragedy of Pyramus and Thisbe.

Another play of their own choice to last over twenty minutes.

B. (1) Two Rangers in eight to understand dry make-up, fixing of beards, wigs, etc.

(2) Two Rangers in eight to make four properties from the following: a crown, 14th century sword, a lyre, a window, a cradle, a pair of wings, a stage garden, a scimitar, a king's throne and canopy.

(3) One Ranger to show capability as regards lighting. (If the plays are acted out of doors, the examiner must be satisfied as regards this.)

(4) One Ranger in eight to act as Wardrobe Mistress and have a fair knowledge of English costume from 10th century. One dress in every four must be home-made.

(5) One Ranger to act as Business Manager, show the organisation of the entertainment, sale of tickets, payment of tax, etc.

(6) One Ranger to act as Prompter (to attend 2 out of every 3 rehearsals).

2. Handywoman's Badge.

Compulsory.

(1) Work a sewing machine and understand cleaning, putting in a needle, oiling, etc.
(2) Replace gas mantles, electric bulbs, or clean and trim an oil lamp.

(3) If gas and water are laid on in her own house, know where to turn them off at main.

(4) Thoroughly clean and repaint a hot-water can, table, door, window, or equivalent. Two coats at least.

(5) Clean paint-brushes.

(6) Repair—

(a) Leather strap with copper rivets.
(b) Splice a handle or pole by glueing and whipping.

(c) Splice a rope.

(d) Mend a macintosh by patch and rubber solution.

(e) Repair china.

(f) Glue wood.

(7) At the examination, do up a parcel neatly and sharpen a knife on a grindstone, whetstone or hone.

Also four of the following:—

(1) Renew a roller blind, re-tape venetian blinds, or hang a curtain-fixing rod.

(2) Mend a saucepan or equivalent and bring to examination after at least a week's use.

(3) Lay linoleum.

(4) Re-make a mattress.

(5) Put in new spring to a door handle.

(6) Renew a washer on a tap.

(7) Paper a room, with assistance.

(8) Clean, stain and polish a floor.

(9) French polish a table or equivalent.

(10) Put in an electric bell, and understand the usual reasons for it ceasing to work, or demonstrate with the parts at an examination.

(11) Re-cane a chair.

(12) Put a pane in a window.

(13) Re-upholster a small chair or stool.

(14) Renew webbing in a box spring chair or sofa.

(15) Make a hammock or equivalent in netting.

(16) Whitewash a ceiling.

(17) Make a useful article for the house, showing the use of screws, and correct nails.

This examination can be spread over a period of time so that the Guide should do

these things which are needed in the house rather than producing things for the test.

3. *Leatherworker's Badge.* (Rangers.)
Add after clause 1, "Have a knowledge of the skins suitable to make four of the following: a dog-leash, an attaché-case, moccasins, gloves, leather lining to coats, a tooled box cover or cigarette-case."

4. Photographer.

(1) A Guide must bring to the examination 10 photographs, taken, developed, and printed by herself.

The subjects must be chosen from at least 5 of the following:—

(1) Interior. (2) Portrait. (3) Landscape. (4) Architecture. (5) Instantaneous action. (6) Copy of a photograph, a drawing or a painting. (7) Flowers. (8) Birds, animals, insects.

The photographs must have been taken within NINE months of the examination and conditions stated under which negatives were taken and developed and prints made and materials used.

All the prints must be properly mounted (slip-in mounts not allowed).

(2) Must be able to answer general questions as to the functions of the different parts of the camera, such as lens, shutter and stops.

(3) Explain briefly what causes the production of a negative and a positive, i.e. a print. See page 390 of Photographer's Badge in "Girl Guide Badges and How to Win Them."

5. Book-lover's Badge. (Ranger.)

Substitute for "Produce and act a scene from one of these plays . . ." "Produce or act in a scene from one of these plays . . ."

6. Athlete Badge.

The distance for throwing the cricket or hockey ball to be altered from 100 to 75 ft.

7. Green and Extension First Class.

(a) The Green 1st Class shall be available only for Guides who have no swimming facilities.

(b) The Extension 1st Class shall be available for those who are physically unfit to swim.

(c) Under Rule 34, page 40, Green 1st Class, the following alterations: Line 4, "or for lack of facilities . . . obtained" substitute "or through lack of facilities, in which case . . . obtained."

8. Diplomas.

Under "Diplomas," Rule 46, page 122, "All Diplomas must be returned to the Head of Training annually for renewal or withdrawal," add the following: "through the Guider's Commissioners."

9. Junior Choral Patrol Badge.

(1) Patrol to be able to sing and recognise the following:—

Perfect 5th. Major Common Chord.
Perfect 4th. Minor Common Chord.

To know as unfinished chords Dominant 7th, Diminished 7th, and to know when they are resolved on the piano.

(2) Sing a folk song out of one of the following books:—

Folk Songs (Cecil Sharp and Vaughan Williams), or Songs for Girl Guides.

(3) Sing one song other than a folk song from the Fellowship Song Book (Walford Davies), or Songs for Girl Guides.

(4) Sing one of the following rounds:—
No. 44, "Adieu, Sweet Amaryllis" (Anon.) (The School Round Book. Novello. 1s).

No. 75, "Hey ho, to the Greenwood" (Byrd).

No. 76, "Sweet, lovely, chaste" (Jones of Nayland).

10. Lones.

(a) Lone Secretaries and Captains to wear the Lone Badge on their ties, but not on their cockades.

(b) Rule 42, page 113, Qualifications for Lone Captain, para. (a), for "Log Book" substitute "Company Register."

11. Gold Lanyards.

A report from the Commissioner on the Guider's influence in her Company and in her District, must be sent in with the application for a Gold Lanyard.

Correspondence

CLOSED COMPANIES.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR,—As might be expected, the skilled pen of Mrs. Osborn Hann has made out a strong case in favour of "closed" as opposed to "open" Companies, in the October GAZETTE. There is just one point which, in reading the various letters on both sides on this subject, seems to me to have been overlooked. While, as Mrs. Hann points out, every Guide and Brownie is expected to "attend the service of the religious denomination to which she belongs," there are many children who come into the Guides and Brownies (in our large towns especially) who cannot be said to belong to any religious denomination. For the sake of respectability, in hospitals and other places, they may be put down as "C. of E.," but as a matter of fact the parents "don't go anywhere" as they say, neither do the children. If all Guiders felt that only by running closed Companies could the best in Guiding be attained, what would happen to all these young people who would then be shut out? One's soul revolts at the method sometimes resorted to of using the Company as a means of bribing a girl to church (that is expressing it brutally, of course, but it is in effect what happens!) It somehow puts the Church in the wrong position. How much better to let the spirit of the First Promise be so much part of the Company that the Guide who "goes nowhere" begins to think and search for herself.

But perhaps, after all, they are right, those who feel that closed Companies are best. In that case one cannot help hoping that there will still be many Guiders who, looking beyond their own little circles, and seeing the need of the girl, who on the threshold of her womanhood has no religion to hold her, and no tradition to guide her, will for that girl's sake choose the second best.—Yours, etc.,

FFLORENS ROCH.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR,—Will you allow me to write once more on this apparently vexed question?

I should like to point out that my previous letter was a statement of facts, not a protest against religion. In my present open Company we have undenominational prayers, and I may say that I, personally, should expect prayers to be held as a matter of course in almost any Company, though it was neither considered nor found possible in the one of which I was a lieutenant.

As we are an open Company, the Church of England Rangers and myself attend church together on certain occasions, while I arrange for those belonging to other denominations either to go separately or with another Company.

But I feel very strongly that the mixing up of material benefits with religion is entirely wrong. It is because I believe the following of Christ to be the most vital factor in life that I am really shocked by the narrow denominational attitude.

Let us keep doctrines, as such, for our Sunday schools; in that teaching we have our opportunity to put forward whatever we consider to be the truest form of worship.

I welcome the wider aspect—where true religion is a thing of the spirit and not of any one form—which it seems to me that Guiding helps us to realise.

I agree entirely with "D. P. M.'s" closing paragraph. It had not struck me as necessary to remark that naturally in my old Company we encouraged Guides to attend their own services, and some were in my Sunday school class. All knew and respected our personal attitudes, though we could not have church parades or prayers, but I should be appalled at the bare possibility of having "an immense hold over the religious life of my girls."

Rather do I want them to have a wide outlook, to get behind formalism, and to think for themselves. Mine can, and do, happily discuss with me their different points of view.

"Religion seems a very simple thing," says the Chief Scout, "to trust in God; to do good to other people." To that I should like to add, "Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him."

For myself, I find these ideas easier to inculcate in an open Company, which has nothing to gain or lose materially from its religious connection.—Yours, etc.,

M. M. H.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR,—I have followed the correspondence on the relative value of open and closed Companies with much interest, and though I know that this is a subject on which it is impossible to generalise, I should like to put forward a personal point of view, in favour of open Companies, as an attempt to answer the two letters in last month's GAZETTE.

At the risk of being accused of making a sweeping statement, may I say, that to me it seems that the principle of a closed Company not only limits the possibilities of Guiding, and narrows the outlook of the Guides, but destroys part of the purpose of Guiding.

I entirely agree with Mrs. Hann that religion should be an integral part of Guiding; but what is religion?

Though probably we all have our own definition, is it not also the attitude of the whole of one's life towards God?

I cannot think that Guiding was primarily intended as a means whereby a girl is kept in touch with, and given instruction in, any particular form of religion; but rather, as a wonderful opportunity to help all girls to realise the Divine in everything, and to learn to bring every part of their lives into its right relationship with God.

By all means let us impress on our Guides the value and duty of Church membership, and encourage them to attend the religious services of their own denomination, but our responsibility does not end here.

We are only presenting the skeleton of Guiding unless we make it clear that no true Guiding is achieved without God, and that all true Guiding leads to Him.

"M. G." writes that: "Guiding may be temporary, but the Christian faith and practice eternal. . . ." This would seem to rank Guiding amongst the things that are temporal—if this is the case, it is bound to die a natural death—whereas, surely, our Movement is founded on the things that are eternal?

Its outward form and expression may change, and its activities adapt themselves to meet the needs of successive generations, but as long as service and loyalty to God stand as our first promise, and as long as our law—a practical interpretation of the Christian way of life—runs as a golden cord throughout the whole of Guiding, then surely it must live?

It is for the things that are not seen but are eternal that Guiding rightly claims our utmost and our best, and it is through the same things that we are enabled, by our Guiding, to help to lay the shining trail, that leads from earth "straight upwards unto God."—Yours truly,

M. A. C.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR,—In discussing closed Companies it seems to me that we must distinguish between town Companies and village Companies, for the problems of the two are quite different.

In towns—particularly large ones—finer work may sometimes be done by closed Companies, which are in that case to be recommended. But in a village, where there is generally room for only one, it is surely better for that one to be an open Company, so as to admit all who wish to belong to the Movement.

With regard to parades I would suggest the method adopted in the open Company to which I once belonged in a town where there were several chapels and one church. We paraded at each in turn (having approximately one parade each month), and were always given a great welcome. I was president of a Church of England society at the time, but was proud as a Guide to go with the rest of my Company to the chapels as well as to church. It seemed to me a splendid way of proving our sisterhood.

This could be done in the case of the village Company without anyone being disloyal to her own denomination, and in villages where Nonconformists are in the minority many a small chapel would be glad to have the Company there on some of its parade days.

"M. G." in the October GAZETTE says: "Guiding may be temporary, the Christian faith and practice eternal"; and again, "It would be a disastrous thing for a Guide to be led subconsciously to believe that her Guiding duties are of first importance, her religious ones secondary." I would say that true Guiding is practical Christianity, and as such its form may change, but its principles—never. A Christian must always be loyal, pure, friendly, courteous, useful, etc.

"Loyalty does not involve unanimity, but general agreement," wrote Mrs. Crichton-Miller in "A Sense of Proportion," published in the GAZETTE some months ago. Possibly we can apply it to advantage here.—Yours, etc.

G. B.

DECENTRALISATION

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR,—As M. G. L. in her article on Decentralisation in the October number of the GAZETTE quotes my name, perhaps I may be permitted to make some comments.

It seems to me that M. G. L. shows a great deal of sound sense, and I am quite sure that we could decentralise far more in the Guide Movement, and also simplify the Rules of the Game so that there would again be more room for individual imagination and invention. We are often told that a great many Companies are not up to standard because their Guiders will not go to be trained, and I agree that, up to a point, training is very desirable for everyone in the Movement. But I am also bound to admit that some of the best Companies I have seen have been run in old-fashioned ways, and the children have shown more of the real Spirit of Guiding than a few of the more up-to-date Companies. Now that education is fast developing on new and progressive lines, I think we can do more in Guiding to provide what the children have not so much time for, namely, simple womanly occupations, which, though some of us more active women may not really enjoy them, do appeal very strongly to the average girl.

As to decentralisation, I believe that the difficulty is that we do not all trust younger and more inexperienced people than ourselves to undertake a great deal of the work, which they could do just as well or better than we do it, though they would probably do it differently. Speaking from my own experience I may add that I have never yet failed to find someone to do any job I was willing to depute, and I have also usually found that they have done it infinitely better than I could myself.

Needless to say, I realise that in country districts there are not always women who can come forward to help us, but wherever they exist, I am sure we could get more help if we asked less and, as M. G. L. says, required less of them.

Rules and regulations, technique and professionalism are apt to replace original ideas when allowed to run riot through an organisation. But in the Guides they are not so much imposed by Headquarters as asked for by the active people outside, who often find that it is easier to work according to standard than to develop on wider lines. At the same time other people who could bring a great deal into Guiding are put off by what appears to them to be an indigestible mass of technique, and so the vicious circle goes round and round.

I am optimistic enough to believe that the young Guiders who have come up from Brownies and Guides will find the solution of our difficulty.

Thousands of these potential leaders are growing up and will soon prove themselves to be well able to play the great Game of Guiding as the Chief Scout wants it played, so that all we have to do is to give them their chance and to trust them.—Yours, etc.,

KATHARINE FURSE.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR,—I have been much interested in the article headed "Decentralisation" in your October issue, but

my own experience is not in line with that from which the writer draws her conclusions.

It is unfortunately only too true that the demands made upon our responsible members are enormous, but that necessary decentralisation, the value of which no one will question, is being blocked because "Commissioners and others" are so enamoured of their positions that they refuse to sub-divide their work—I find very hard to believe.

In my Province, which is in name equivalent to a county, but which in area is far larger than Great Britain—nearly a thousand miles lie between the eastern and western Guide outposts—there are many Guiders of all grades who are bearing heavy burdens. The handicap of performing all household duties, the distances to be traversed, and in some districts the rigour of climatic conditions, tend to make their work doubly difficult, but they carry on bravely because much as they wish to share responsibility there is no one with whom to share it. And while in some cases this may be accounted for by the paucity of population, in others the remark made by M. G. L. holds good: "Truly it is hard to find anyone willing to take on any Guider's job!"

It seems to me, that while we in the Movement humbly believe that to us has been entrusted, through the medium of the Chief Scout, a method by which right thinking may be translated into right action and a great number of people be made happier thereby, we have signally failed to impress our belief upon the world, except in a very limited circle. Otherwise why is it that we receive, comparatively speaking, so little public support? Is it possible that we ourselves have lost our sense of perspective, and are unable to see the wood for the trees?

It is useless to inveigh against secretarial work, for with growth must come effective organisation and control. Neither is it more helpful to juggle with names, for even a joyous adventure needs compass and chart, and a spirit of gaiety is not enhanced by shipwreck.

But admitting the necessity for a certain amount of routine work, I am convinced that if each and every individual Guider could recapture the great simplicity of the Founder's thought, remembering always the ideal of happy service to be set before our Guides and ourselves in play and serious activities, a serenity not only of outlook but of action would follow. We should learn to discriminate between the essential and the non-essential, to conserve instead of dissipating our energies, and the spirit of control and calmness would be as contagious as is now the atmosphere of breathlessness in which many of our responsible members seem forced to live, and which makes onlookers hesitate to join us.

There will be many of your readers, Guiders of far greater knowledge and experience than myself, who will say that I am offering no practical solution to a problem that is puzzling us all, but my conviction is that the remedy can only come from within the Movement, nay, further, from within the individuals of the Movement. No ruling from Headquarters can bring to us the Guiders we so sorely need, but on each one of us rests the onus of demonstrating Guiding as a sane, vital force, too big for petty controversy, too simple in its conception to require the

artificial trappings with which it is sometimes bedecked, and with so deep a meaning that it cannot be explained, but must be thought and lived. So only will the world be permeated with the conviction that is ours.—Yours, etc.,

E. FRANCES MARA
(Provincial Commissioner,
British Columbia).

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR,—I do not suppose you will wish to publish this letter, but I would like to say how much I agree with the article on "Decentralisation" in your October number. I have several friends who, I am sure, would make excellent Guiders, but they are deterred by what they see and hear in the various districts where they live. There *does* seem, to the casual eye, to be a disproportionate amount of detail in the plans for Guiding, and several of my friends seem to fear, as the writer of the article says, that they will see very little of the children if they join the Guide Movement. When one re-reads "Girl Guiding" one cannot help feeling that a great deal of its joyous spirit has been lost. I know of at least one girl who was recommended to take up Guide work by her doctor, but who had a nervous breakdown owing to the demands made on her time. She complained that it "ate up all her life," as she had to attend so many meetings, committees, etc.

I suppose the crux of the matter is the shortage of Guiders—but it is a misfortune that potential Guiders seem to be scared away by our appearance of rather joyless activity!—Yours, etc.,

RANGER CAPTAIN.

SMALL RANGER COMPANIES.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR,—I should like to say a word on behalf of small Ranger Companies, especially in villages where it is impossible to hold district meetings, or to secure lecturers, and where a monthly meeting would be most unpopular!

If satisfactory progress and successful meetings depend on how much work is done, and how much instruction given, and how many badges are gained, then I entirely agree with your correspondents, as it is impossible to run a meeting at all with four or five Rangers, and even with seven or eight the patrol system has to be dispensed with; but surely there is a place in our Movement for the tiny group, and for the individual as an individual?

If there is any girl who benefits from the interest and comradeship that Rangers offer, it is the girl working away from home and friends, in the heart of the country, with nothing particular to do and nowhere particular to go on her half-day.

There may be only a handful of such girls in any given place, but are we to debar them from the joy and interest and the inspiration of Guiding because of lack of numbers?

I think that in most villages it should be possible to find some piece of service that the girls could do as Rangers.

In my own case, our Company numbering nine—six regular and three come when they can—the Rangers run the Guides and Brownies, only a tiny Company and Pack, but the village is small and very scattered. The Rangers who can get away early form a senior patrol and work with the Guides at their own request.

There are many difficulties and disadvantages, and a good deal of time spent with not much to show, but Brownies, Guides and Rangers are a very happy family, and if sometimes, after the Company and Pack meetings, we just sit and talk, may we not perhaps—to quote the February GAZETTE—be adding something to the "sanctuary of memories" that may help in dark and difficult days?

I do not want to give the impression that I am advocating very small Ranger Companies, but the correspondence has been so strong from the other point of view, that I felt I should like to put in a plea for those Ranger Captains who, like myself, are dealing in units and not in tens, and feel that, in spite of everything, it is worth while.—Yours etc.

M. A. CAMPBELL.
(Captain, 1st Ide Hill Rangers).

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR.—The recent interesting correspondence upon this subject leads one to wonder why, in the large towns at least, there should be any small Ranger Companies. Stand by a tube station at rush time, or near a cinema queue at night, and you will see enough girls in five minutes to form several strong Companies. In the Rangers we have a good deal to offer, why do we fail to make an appeal to the majority of these girls?

As a working woman I am inclined to think that our tendency is to work Rangers rather too hard. A woman doctor said to me a short time ago that the economic struggle is so acute nowadays that no working woman can afford not to be perfectly fit always. I would venture to go further and to say that no woman can afford not to be keyed up to her highest pitch of efficiency during every hour of the working day, whether she be a clerk, saleswoman, piece worker, or engaged in almost any other occupation which can be named. If she slackens, another is only too ready to take her place. It is obvious that the nerve strain must be tremendous, and one cannot wonder that the average girl chooses evening amusements which demand very little mental effort.

In our anxiety to keep up a high standard, I fancy that some of us are inclined to get too much out of our girls and to put too little into them. Rangers, we say, must not be allowed to "slack." They must be roused mentally and made to drop their childish ways. Of course, there are some brilliant exceptions—Captains who never forget that it is the "wider world" which must count most in a Ranger's life, and that Guiding, with its fun and interests, should be the tonic which helps her to struggle against hard realities.

Do all of us remember the importance of a working girl's one holiday in the year, and, if we urge her to spend it in camp, take care to see that it is a holiday and not a drudgery?

I should be very much interested to know what other and wiser people's views are upon this important subject.—Yours, etc.

F. O. H. NASH.

RANGER HANDICRAFTS.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR.—A notice was put into

the October GAZETTE saying that an Exhibition of Handicrafts was to be held at the Ranger and Sea Guide Conference at Huddersdon at the end of November, and asking for loans of exhibits.

So far nothing has materialised, and I am asking you to insert this letter in the November issue in the hope that Ranger Guiders, who believe in the value of handicrafts, may do their share in making the exhibition a success. We want as much variety as possible if the exhibits are to be of help and inspiration to the Guiders. This will not be a public exhibition and no unfinished work can be shown, and in that state is often most helpful.

Craftwork can be a source of so much pleasure and happiness that we want to give Rangers the chance of acquiring these.

If any Company has any craft work to show and will communicate with Miss Ramsford-Hannay, Ravenshall, Gatehouse of Fleet, Scotland, she will let them know what steps to take. Craft work suitable for Rangers, but not done by such, may also be shown.—Yours, etc.,

NANETTE BEWLEY,
Head of Rangers.

LITTLE OWLS.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR.—I wonder if Miss Longmore would be interested to know that the little owl is fairly common now round my home in Lincolnshire? There is a rumour to the effect that he was driven here by the firing in Flanders; but I have also heard that he was introduced from America. In any case, I think I am right in saying that the little owl is not really a British bird, but wherever he came from, he evidently took favourably to this country, for he now seems to flourish here.

Perhaps Miss Longmore would also be interested to know that this owl may be seen and heard throughout the day (so no wonder he snores at night), especially in the winter time. He is an easy bird to mimic, but I cannot attempt to describe his call, and I have often been gratified to find that he will follow for some distance, flying from tree to tree, answering my mimic-call. Sometimes he will peer in at a window, his eyes bright and inquisitive, shifting his position on the tree where he sits so as to keep me in view as I move about the room.

I have not yet found a nest, and should therefore be obliged if any Guider who has been thus fortunate would describe his favourite nesting haunts.—Yours, etc.,

P. W. TRUSTHORPE.

HELP NEEDED.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR.—My most grateful thanks. Owing to the appeal you put in for me our very slim company of Girl Guides and Brownies are practically equipped—and you have no idea what a help it has been in that sad street. We are hoping to build a Hut on a waste patch, and then the girls will have their own parades there. The street is so despoiled that other girls

won't mix with them! And the spirit in the Company is good. We badly need a Captain and Brown Owl for these girls, as the worker—Sister Blake—who takes them, is snowed down with other work.

I have a Cubmistress coming from Regent's Park, and wondered if I got a Guide Captain from that part whether they could arrange to come down together? Yours, etc.,

MAY WYNNE.

3, Wanlip Road,
Plaistow, E.12.

NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA.

To the Editor.

DEAR EDITOR.—I have received a letter from a friend of mine, who was at one time a Captain of a Company in Gorton, and a year ago left for Australia with her friend—who was also her Lieutenant—and in this letter she tells me about Miss Behrens and her visit, and as I thought it would be interesting to you and other Guiders I am copying this letter for you:—

"We have been having a very hectic month, as Miss Behrens has been in Adelaide since May 20th, and she leaves on Thursday for Melbourne.

"Betty and I went with a party of Guiders to meet Miss Behrens—we were the only two who knew her—and she seemed delighted to see us. I daresay she felt a wee bit homesick travelling in a strange land as the guest of people she had never met before. The day after she arrived she started a six days' training school for Guiders and Patrol Leaders down at Brighton, in a big seaside house. About 20 Guiders attended for the week-end, and about 14 stayed right through the course. Betty and I went down for the evening the first week-end, but the second week-end we managed to stay the two days. After church on Sunday we took some snaps of Miss Behrens, and then she asked one of the girls to take the three of us together as 'The Manchester Group.'

"Since she came Miss Behrens has done wonderful work—both with the Guide Movement and the public. The Guiders all adore her—just as the Lancashire Guiders do—and would do anything for her. She has addressed public meetings in all the suburbs, and even in the country as far as two miles out of the city, visited all high schools and colleges, spoken at the University, addressed the League of Nations Union, broadcasted on the wireless on Foxlease, and everywhere she has won all hearts and those oceans to win the public approval and sympathy towards the Guides. The result has been that new Companies are springing up like mushrooms—high schools are starting school Companies, church Companies are forming, and the already established Companies are enrolling recruits as fast as they can—so don't you think her visit has been worth while?

"On Thursday evening last we had a Farewell for Miss Behrens. We had a camp-fire and all sat round in a circle and sang all the romas and songs she has taught us; then she talked all about Manchester and the Rangers. It was lovely the way she kept referring to us with 'Edie's' us?—'Da, you remember?' and so on. We really felt as if we were back in Manchester and had only to look round us to see the old familiar faces smiling at us.

"After Thursday Miss Behrens left for the south-east of South Australia, where she held a five days' camp for the country Guiders at a big sheep station—the home of Mrs. Bowman, the Episcopal Commissioner for the South-East. It would be a splendid experience for her as the station is only about half the size of little old England.

"To-night she is back in Adelaide, addressing all those who intend to start new Companies.

"On Thursday we are going in droves to give her a sherry send-off when she leaves on the Melbourne express.

"Betty and I got our calendar for 1927 the other day—Miss Behrens had brought one with her and gave it to us when she knew that we had not had one—and we are to receive one every Christmas, just as if we were still South-East Lancashire Guiders."

This ends the letter from Elsie Simpkins, Captain of the 1st Adelaide Company.—Yours, etc.

N. EVANSON-JONES
(Capt., 2nd Fairfield and Openshaw Company, S.E. Manchester).

Books in our Christmas List

GUIDING.

The Commissioners' Book. (Published by Headquarters. 2s.)

It is as well that we are reminded on the threshold of this little book that the perfect Commissioner does not exist, else we might exclaim after reading it, that there is no excuse for her failing to attain perfection in the future, and that indeed she cannot well escape it after the publication of so complete and comprehensive a handbook.

A glance at the contents will show that no subject of any import in Guiding has been omitted, and that in addition to the packed information concerning the Commissioner's own sphere of action, the various aspects of the Movement, and its whole general trend, are all writ here ready to her hand. For this reason this book is bound to be of interest not only to all Guiders, but to all who are interested in this and all similar organisations. It is by no means a mere specialist's handbook.

In the opening chapter—"The Commissioner's Job," by Dame Katharine Furse—no time is lost in announcing the basic, primal duty of every Commissioner: "They are responsible for ensuring that Guiding is so run that parents and the general public may have absolute confidence in entrusting children to their care." A great responsibility this: but the succeeding chapters tell how many means of support in this the Commissioner can evoke, especially the chapter on "the Local Association," one of the most helpful in the book. It is rather a tribute to the unquestioning response that Guiding commands, that this Local Association seems to be treated as an ordinary accessory. The mere organisation of a Local Association on the lines described, would—outside the Guide Movement—be considered a quite respectable whole time job for any secretary. And here we would enter one complaint, that in so full a record of duties, those of the District Secretary, which are spread over such a wide field, should not have been more distinctly attributed to her. The Division and District Secretaries are so entirely "the right hand men" of their respective areas.

One point stands out from the chapters on the Commissioner's work, that she should keep in touch with all the principal organisations for social work, and especially that she should work in close co-operation with the education authorities. Guiders are warned in one chapter to take heed that their Guide claims do not clash with those of the child's education. We would suggest here that not only should they not clash, but that in very many ways the Guide evening can sometimes enhance and revivify a subject taught necessarily in swift routine manner in school that morning.

In reading the chapter on the "New Commissioner" we cannot but envy—the lot of those about to benefit by it, with every detail described in such pre-sympathetic integrity, though we may wonder what whatever may be the correct "gestures" for an enrolment!

In the excellent chapter on "The Commissioner and the Guider" we would, with all deference, but with a dim desire for the truth, murmur that from one and a half to two hours a week does not entirely represent the time needed for running a successful Company.

Very practical and full of sound suggestions are the chapters on Badges, Testing for Warrants, Enrolments, Games, Rallies; and, if at first sight, the new Guider reels at so much to remember, let her take comfort from the Chief Scout: "My hints are like the rows of oil valves on a motor car, they look complicated, but in reality they are intended to drop their oil automatically and make the wheels run easily." But for all this wealth of information concerning the giving and receiving of Guide help, there are, as the first chapter in this book tells us, many spheres for Service still untouched. To search out these and bring all her Guide support to bear will still form one of the most worth-while adventures for the Commissioner. B. M.-H.

The Joyous Adventure. By Mrs. A. C. Osborn Hann (R. T. S. 2d.) Stocked at Headquarters.

This is not one of Mrs. Hann's story books, but a straight talk to Guides—written in her usual cheery style—on that most important but difficult of all subjects—Religion in the daily life: "the biggest adventure in which Guides can ever take part." It is dedicated to Guides of the Church of England, and explains in simple language the use of prayer, Bible reading, and the Sacraments, for the young adventurer travelling along the road of life. Many Captains of Church Companies who find some difficulty in discussing such subjects with their Guides will welcome this little book as a Christmas gift. At any rate it will be well worth while for them to buy a copy and see if they do not feel that it will be of real use to some of their girls. H. D.

The Girl Guide's Diary, 1927. (Letts. In art cover without pencil, 9d.; with pencil, 1s.; leather case and notebook, 3s.) Stocked at Headquarters.

Every year Letts's official Guide Diary seems to increase in popularity. The 1927 issue has a particularly pleasing cover design, being the work of Mr. Charles Brock, always successful where Guide pictures are concerned.

The experiment of having a canvas cover, with a Guide picture in full colour, was tried this year for the first time, and proved to be much appreciated; this is repeated and the endpapers are well selected from charming photographs.

The notes include camping hints on cookery and fire-making, songs, a suggested Patrol Leader's investiture, games, fire safeguards, and a number of useful "tips," both household and otherwise.

Altogether an excellent little production, and should again make a record in Guide Diary sales.

GIFT BOOKS.

The Alp Legends. Collected by Dr. Johannes Jegerlehner. Translated by J. M. Whitworth. (Sherratt & Hughes. 7s. 6d.) Stocked at Headquarters.

Miss Whitworth has done signal service to story-tellers by translating the Alpine legends collected by Dr. Jegerlehner, as it has been very difficult to find the stories told by the Swiss peasants, many of which are entertaining and interesting as folklore.

This volume includes legends from different parts of Switzerland, some of which are nearly akin to the fairy tales we already know well, but many are new, and all are full of local colour. The names of villages and valleys will recall to those who have visited the Alps memories of happy days and nights spent dreaming on their slopes or in their forests, and beside their glaciers and streams.

One or two misprints add to the interest; for instance, in "The Prior who slept for 108 years" where we are left wondering how much history he really slept through in the wood.

The stories of the dwarfs are particularly delightful, and also those of the chamois who roam the higher mountains.

Story-tellers whose supply of new material is becoming exhausted will probably find much in this collection with which to renew their stock. K. F.

Romances of the Wild. By H. Mortimer Batten. (Blackie. 5s.) Stocked at Headquarters.

Romances of the Wild is a beautifully produced book containing seventeen natural history stories. Guide readers know Mr. Batten of old, and his stories of wild life are amongst their favourites.

Here we have the otter, the badger, the coyote, the hare, the wolf—grim stories some of them, for Mr. Batten never forsakes truth for the "happy ever after" ending. He knows the cruelty and tragedy of woods and hills too well to pander to sentiment.

As a Christmas gift book we cannot recommend this book too highly.

A Cat Book. By E. V. Lucas. Illustrated by Pat Sullivan. (Chatto & Windus. 2s. 6d. net.) Stocked at Headquarters.

These original verses, first published over twenty-five years ago, are now allied to the egregious Felix. Mr. Sullivan claims with truth to be the "creator" of Felix the Cat, and his drawings have all the charm we know so well on the screen. At the same time it had never before occurred to us to call Felix "Pussy" even in our less enthusiastic moments, and we find it frankly impossible to divorce the drawings of "a cat" from those of "Felix"—a personality.

This spoils the book in our opinion; it is like writing a story about a rabbit illustrated by the Tenniel drawings of the March Hare.

But separately both rhymes and drawings are delightful, and children will probably not be in the least troubled by qualms of this nature.

Winnie-the-Pooh. By A. A. Milne. Decorations by E. H. Shepard. (Methuen. 7s. 6d. net.) Stocked at Headquarters.

Christopher Robin is an old friend. We have already taken him to our hearts and homes in "When we were Very Young." What we shall do with his bear this year it is difficult to suggest; *Winnie-the-Pooh* will probably sleep under our pillows, so loath shall we be to part with him.

The stories of Christopher Robin in verse have become classics, and in prose they seem to be almost unrivalled in that particular vein of humour in which Mr. Milne excels. He is like Humpty Dumpty, for when he uses a word it means just what he chooses it to mean—"neither more or less." In his hands words seem to be touched with a queer magic, which must be the result of the golden wages he pays them: shining coins straight from the mint of his whimsical mind. The "Song of an Anxious Bear" is one of the cleverest things Mr. Milne has written; Pooh is the most huggable of bears, and Mr. Shepard's perfect little line drawings never for one moment let us forget that Teddy-like quality which is the essence of Pooh, or the inadequately-stuffed quality which is the essence of Eeyore.

Winnie-the-Pooh may take its place on our shelves side by side with the immortal *Alice*; we can conceive of no greater praise or higher tribute of affection.

No. 4 Joy Street. A Medley of Prose and Verse. (Blackwell. 6s. net.) Stocked at Headquarters.

To buy a copy of the new *Joy Street* is to skim off the cream of the Annuals, which every Christmas flood the bookshops and juvenile book departments of the large stores. The *Joy Streets* sounded a new note three years ago in this kind of publication, and have maintained their standard no less than their popularity ever since, in spite of imitations.

If Annuals must be published at all, let them be built in *Joy Streets*. We can find nothing but praise for Number 4, and heartily recommend all members of the Movement to buy it for Christmas.

It is of infinite importance that books should be carefully chosen as presents for the young. The enormous output of brightly coloured, thick-paged, large printed children's books is a lamentable sign that such publications are not bought for their intrinsic merits, but because their size, colour and apparently their weight seem to command purchase. The low price, too, due to the fact that most of the matter is reprinted, is bound to attract. Guiders have a greater opportunity than they realise in their choice of book presents at Christmas-time.

We urge them to choose the best and set a standard throughout the Movement. *No. 4 Joy Street*, as a gift book *par excellence*, will be a safe and wise choice.

The Treasure Ship. Edited by Lady Cynthia Asquith. (Partridge. 6s. net.) Stocked at Headquarters.

The Treasure Ship is easily placed in the slender front rank of Annuals for children. These books seem to seed themselves year by year, alas, more with the prolificacy of weeds, than as the blossoming anew of a rare flower.

That one good thing should be inspired by another better thing augurs well for the

future, and imitation is very often the sincerest form of flattery. Can the public be persuaded to buy the best and let the inferior die from natural causes?

This Annual should have the hearty support of all Guiders, and the parents and aunts and uncles of Guides. Names such as J. M. Barrie, Hilaire Belloc, Walter de la Mare and others ensure that money will be well spent upon it.

Playtime and Company. A Book for Children. Verses by E. V. Lucas. Pictures by E. H. Shepard. (Methuen. 7s. 6d. net.) Stocked at Headquarters.

There is something irresistible about Mr. Shepard's drawings, and these added to very charming verses make it difficult to pass by this book at Christmas-time.

Many of Mr. Lucas's verses are old friends, none possibly more so than—

"Though you decline to think it nice,
The mild Hindu adores his rice,
And always hands his plate up twice.
So when you next the pudding view,
Suppress the customary 'Pooh!'
And imitate the mild Hindu."

The mild Hindu's figure after his rice is so very worthy of consideration.

Little Stories to Tell. By F. H. Lee. (Harrap. 3s. 6d.) Stocked at Headquarters.

One always hears how difficult it is to find tellable stories. So many are readable, but are too long and involved to tell. These three hundred stories are, on the contrary, brought down to their very shortest—they might almost be called story plots. Hence their value to the Guider who knows how to use her own imagination. She will be able to use the central plot, and weave on her own descriptions, putting in perhaps local colouring, and the little details which always delight a child. Without this building up of detail and setting, the little tales as they are strike one as too bald for real thrilling "story telling."

F. R.

Pillicock Hill. Verses for the Young. By Herbert Asquith. With illustrations by A. H. Watson. (Heinemann. 6s. net.) Stocked at Headquarters.

These are the most charming verses for children, and Mr. Watson's illustrations add much to the success of the book.

They are the sort of verses that when read aloud to a child, make him pull the next page over—quick—to hear more; for instance, about Aunt Jane (who must be seen to be believed)—

"Aunt Jane's in such a hurry,
She makes us all perplexed:
And when I'm in one moment,
She's always in the next."

Beautifully bound, this book makes an ideal Christmas present.

FICTION.

Geraldine—a Ranger. By H. B. Davidson. (Nelson. 3s. 6d.) Stocked at Headquarters.

Miss Davidson has given us a story of a girl who leaves her country home to seek her fortune in London. She stays with an aunt and an unfriendly cousin, and finds herself very alone in the evenings after her work is done. However, she falls in with a particularly keen Ranger Company, and her life is then full of interests—camp week-ends, evening classes, etc. She goes through many adventures, and we leave

her with her future assured—surely to live happily ever after!

Miss Davidson has given us a picture that will make many a Ranger Captain's heart envious—a hall with rooms apparently for the asking, on as many nights a week as desired, and Rangers free to join in classes and patrol meetings and Company meetings as often as they can be arranged. Geraldine is quite human, and though her rise to glory is a trifle astonishing in its speed and perhaps would only happen in real life "once in a blue moon," yet it is a readable and pleasant story. V. R. D.

June, the Girl Guide. By Brenda Girvin. (Milford. 2s. 6d.) Stocked at Headquarters.

The best part of this book is its appearance, which is extremely nice. Personally, we do not care for the cover design, but the jacket is most attractive. The book looks a wonderful half-crown's worth, in the new square shape, with its big print and thick leaves.

We fear the story does not live up to the jacket. When during the first few chapters we realise that the tale is going to circle round theft and misplaced suspicion, in the course of which a Guide is wrongly accused, and so forth, we feel that Miss Girvin might have done something better. Is thieving amongst children such an engrossing theme? As a plot for this kind of story it seems to us to be not only hackneyed but untrue to life.

Alas, that the Guide Movement should be considered by writers of this kind of juvenile fiction, a peg on which to hang such mediocre stuff.

The Caravan Patrol. By Nancy M. Hayes. (Cassell. 2s. 6d.) Stocked at Headquarters.

This is a very readable little story of a patrol of Guides who go for a three weeks' caravan tour, their Captain with them as a "patient," having hurt her leg and being unable to walk.

The tale of their adventures with a family of gypsies, and the ultimate gift to them of the caravan by its owner, will give pleasure to many Guides who are not too old to enjoy such yarns.

The Pluck of the Coward. By Mrs. A. C. Osborn Hann. (Black. 2s. 6d.) Stocked at Headquarters.

This is another of Mrs. Hann's lively Guide stories. Hope, a rather unfortunate little person with an unhappy home, goes to work in a nut factory, where she makes her first real friend, who introduces her to her Company and the joys of Guiding, including camp.

There is not a strong plot, but the interest is maintained throughout, and the girls are most life-like and entertaining. The book will undoubtedly make a popular addition to the fiction shelf of Company libraries. H. D.

The Lone Guide of Merfield. By Lilian M. Pyke. (Ward, Lock. 4s.) Stocked at Headquarters.

This book is no better and no worse than others of its genre. Perhaps the Australian slang and the description of a baseball match makes it vary slightly from the prescribed formula usually followed by the present day authors of schoolgirl tales.

The Girl Guide Gazette

Articles and Reports, photographs and drawings for insertion in the Gazette, letters to the Editor, and Books for Review should be sent, if possible, by the 15th of the previous month to the Editor, Girl Guides' Imperial Headquarters, 45, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

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The Raison d'Être

I REMEMBER that at a Commissioners' Conference, many years ago, some good lady brought to our notice what an admirable thing it would be to encourage the Guides in the womanly art of needlework. She told us of a Society of Craft Workers who were anxious to be affiliated with us, and described the various delightful competitions for which we could enter. A wave of enthusiasm swept over the meeting. We began to plan new tests and to invent new uniforms for the examiners for these badges and to visualise a whole scheme of organisation to deal with this new branch of our work. And then it occurred to someone to ask the Founder what he thought about it all. (In those days we were always lucky enough to have him with us at our deliberations, and maybe he saved us from ourselves more than once.) He rose to his feet.

"I think it all sounds very nice, but"—and he gave his well-loved smile—"but—it isn't *Guiding*, you know."

Thus were we gently reminded that the *raison d'être* of Guiding is to deal with the need of the girl, and that the need of the girl is something very, very much greater than the acquisition of proficiency in the art of needlework. And those of us who had been tempted, in all good faith, to use the Guide Movement for furthering our own pet foibles, subsided gracefully and began to try to look at Guiding from the Founder's point of view.

In these days, of course, we cannot always have him at our conferences, and that is one of the reasons why it is good for us, if we can possibly manage it, to read the *SCOUTER* as well as the *GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE*, because in the *Scouts'* publication the Chief writes an "Outlook" each month. If we are keeping in touch with him we can never be tempted for one moment to forget that in Scouting, as he sees it, the all-important thing is the *boy*.

"Look wide." Yes, I know that that is one of his watchwords too, but in looking wide and seeing visions of a world transformed by Scouting and Guiding, we must never forget that this transformation can only take place when we have managed to make every single individual boy and girl understand and appreciate the Guide Law and its application to themselves. Does it really matter what we do or how we do it? Does it really matter what we wear or how we wear it? Does it really matter if we don't run our Companies on strictly stereotyped lines, so long as, by our personal example, we are managing to lead our young people along the road which leads to Health, Happiness and—Heaven?

I once met a headmistress who was out to criticise. "I wish you would tell me," she said, "anything that you can give the girls in the Guides which they cannot get somewhere else without all this fuss of dressing up and clicking heels. Miss —" (turning to her unfortunate Captain) "will you kindly tell me what you do at your Guide meetings?" The poor Captain floundered.

"Oh! we do drill and first aid and country dancing and nature study—" "It seems to me," interrupted her head, "that they could get all those things more efficiently taught elsewhere."

I tried to come to the rescue and I turned to the Company who were all sitting round, solemn-eyed and dismayed. "Guides, can you think of anything which you get in the Guides and don't get anywhere else?" And the corners of the Guides' eyes began to crinkle, and their lips began to quiver as they thought of some of the ridiculous things which had happened in camp which couldn't possibly have been so funny anywhere else. The senior Patrol Leader could not resist it. "Madam," said she, "do you . . . remember . . . Pork and Beans?" Then did the whole Company burst into a great peal of laughter as they thought of the time when . . . With an effort I pulled myself together, and tendered our apologies as best I could, adding: "But I think you may take it that they do get something out of Guiding which nothing else can give them." I longed to add, "And if you don't see that it is education which is not instruction, and leadership which is not repression, and courtesy which is not veneer, and gaiety which is not forced hilarity, then . . ." But I refrained, and managed to make a more courteous and tactful reply; and the Company, determined to justify themselves in their headmistress's eyes, went forward with greater zest than ever. Once again "The little pigs had done it!"

I sometimes think that Commissioners might do a lot towards helping Guiders to keep things in perspective if, when a new Guider came to them for advice, they started her out on rather different lines from the usual ones. If, instead of recommending to her notice the *Book of Rules*, the *Drill Book*, and the rest which are given on that little yellow paper called "How to start a Company," they were to give her just a copy of *Girl Guiding* and one or two of Marcus Woodward's books, and if they were to tell her to go and spend a fortnight alone in the country and then come back and pass on to the children something of what she had found during her "retreat," don't you think we might perhaps get a little nearer to our goal and not be so inclined to forget the *raison d'être* of Guiding?

My mind goes back again to that early conference and to a splendid speech on "Company Management."

"You must remember," the speaker said, "that Guide training is divided into four headings and that only when, in the running of your Company, you are dealing equally with character development, handicrafts, health and service, can you feel that you are catering adequately for the needs of your girls." How often do we forget this and run away with the idea that some particular detail or some particular aspect of the Movement is the *summum bonum* of Guiding? All these enormous rallies, for example, with their attendant evils of strain and overwork, all these elaborate competitions, which help to deaden the individualism of our Companies—is it *Guiding*?

A sense of humour ought to save us, but sometimes we get so deadly serious that our sense of humour goes sadly a-gley. When we want to be quite sure whether a detail is essential or not, let us ask ourselves whether it is in any way going to help to provide for the need of the girl. And if we are not quite sure what that need is, let us ask the girl herself. Then, if she happens to know Meredith's "Love in a Valley," she may reply:

"Could I find a place to be alone with Heaven
I would speak my heart out: Heaven is my need."

And after that, just because she is the elusive and lovable person she is, she will probably add with an affectionate wink, "But I don't mean what *you* mean!"

Brownies in the Country*

THE Brownies came down like the wolf on the fold. To be exact, they came down in a motor lorry, thirty-five of them, driven by a nice, fat, comfortable-looking man in a white coat like an umpire's. We had been on the watch for some while and almost before we could see them, before they had turned the corner of the red wall out of the village, their approach was indicated by joyful squeals. They had squealed the whole twenty miles or so from the north of London. One of them, in pardonable exuberance, but contrary, I believe, to the stricter rules of her order, had thrown a little orange peel. As she proudly proclaimed, she had "got the ice-cream man in the face." They had cheered and been cheered by the passers-by; since some of them had never seen the country before, they had also cheered the first sight of a green field. They were under the supreme command of Brown Owl. There was also Tawny Owl and Pack Leader and various other ladies of vaguely non-commissioned rank in the blue uniform of the Girl Guides. Brownies, I may add, for those who are not well up in their Army List, are Guides in an embryo stage. They are under eleven and they wear very becoming brown uniforms.

When they got here they sat down under a tree in the garden and had lunch, but for the moment they were too much excited to eat a great deal. A small amount of hay, left especially for their benefit, was a great attraction, when they had been shown how to play in it. The too thoughtful gardener had also left them two pitchforks, but these were removed in the nick of time. The hay led to the only small unpleasantness of the day, since one party wanted desperately to make a nest and another was just as intent on destroying it. Brown Owl had to be called in to quell the riot and the two factions united in burying her; they buried her three separate times and she looked rather hot when she came up for the last time. Others wandered away into a neighbour's woods, where they met a keeper. He asked them to whom they belonged, to which they replied simply, "Brown Owl." What the keeper thought they meant is not known, but he bowed them politely out of the woods and they came back rather scared "through the allotments" as they called our modest kitchen garden.

It will be apparent that Brown Owl is a very important person indeed. Certainly she was a very hard-worked one. For the greater part of the day she seemed to be standing in the middle of a ring of Brownies, who never ceased to cry shrilly, "Brown Owl, Brown Owl."

* Reprinted by permission from *Country Life*.

It is a title the shouting of which gives its full poignancy to a pathetic little cockney treble. It is also a cryptic and mysterious one as may be judged from the fact that our own particular Brown Owl received last Christmas a card addressed to "Miss B. Nowl."

The Brownies who had never been in the country before were asked discreetly what they thought of it now that they had seen it. One said, almost severely, that it was not at all what she had expected; she thought that the people would wear different clothes and talk a different language; also that they would live in huts, not houses. We imagined, though we did not ask, that she had been looking at picture books of the peasants of all nations. Another remarked that she had, of course, known that there would not be

shops in the streets, but thought there would be stalls. It was this one who said, "Listen! you can hear the rustling of the grass." What they liked best and wanted most were flowers. A boy had given them some poppies on the way down and now they wanted to go out and find a poppy field, but alas! we could not provide one. When they saw someone picking flowers in the garden, they rushed with one accord and asked, "Will you give me a flower?" but they were certainly very good and well disciplined little Brownies, for, on being told that they should each have some flowers when they went away and that they might help in the picking, they were not importunate. "There'll be flowers in the vase at home now," said one of them, "there haven't been any since last November."

By the time tea came the first frenzy of excitement had worn off and full justice was done to the victuals. In some cases it was almost overdone. Elsie, for instance, had to be led away in a rather dazed condition rubbing her poor little stomach. Her fate was worthy of a moral or cautionary tale. It was not the buns that did it. Elsie had been told not to eat some very hard little green apples to be found in the garden and she had eaten several. So Miss Edgeworth would have approved of her agonies, especially as she added duplicity to her crime by saying, "O, Brown Owl, I only stroked it and it fell off." As it was, those agonies had their compensations. She was wrapped in a Guide's blue coat and put on a bench, and her less swollen comrades came and gazed sympathetically at her. There she lay "with her martial cloak around her," casting a languid eye on whatever was going forward, a consciously interesting invalid. It was, after all, better to have eaten and had a pain than never to have eaten at all.

Tea was shaken down by means of races—three-



legged, wheelbarrow and relay. A Brownie pack is divided into sixes, called Gnomes, Elves, Little People and by other such romantic names. So the relay races between the different sixes called forth a very proper partisan fervour. After the races came a dramatic performance. Our pack had beaten various other packs in open competition and gained a silver cup, which they brought with them. Now they showed us how they had won it, by acting nursery rhymes, "Sing a Song of Sixpence," and some others, each actress first stepping forward and announcing, "I am the King," or "I am the Queen," with a most engaging lack of shyness. There was also a scene from Cinderella, in which the pack provided its own dialogue. When Cinderella tried on the slipper she observed, "It don't arf fit me a treat."

At last the hour of departure drew near. Waste paper

was tidied away in a manner to delight a park-keeper after Bank Holiday. The prizes for the races were given and everyone who had not won a race got a consolation prize. Everybody also got a small nosegay and an orange. The pack then gave their hostess the grand salute. This signal honour, generally reserved for Eagle Owl, consists in a concerted "Tu-whit, Tu-whoo." The correct manner of acknowledging it I do not know, for you can hardly say "Tu-whit, Tu-whoo" all by yourself. The fat gentleman in the white coat now showing signs of impatience, the pack squeezed itself back into the lorry, Brown Owl, as befitting the captain of the ship, being squashed in last of all. The fat gentleman said reassuringly that they would settle down when they were once in. They sang all the way—such of them as did not fall asleep and, which is truly remarkable, no one was sick on the way home. B. D.

Post Guide Crafts

NOW that November is here, and the shops have begun their displays of Christmas gifts, readers of the GAZETTE will be making lists and trying hard to find the right presents for the right people. Present buying, like every other job in this world, is a job that requires both time and thought, and the trouble with most of us is that we have not got very much time. Our thoughts, too, are often a little bit selfish, by which I mean that we choose the presents we ourselves would like to receive, rather than what is most likely to appeal to those for whom we buy them.

Possibly, some people like to decide upon what they will give in the comparative peace of their own homes, rather than in the hurly-burly of a big store. To them we appeal to kill two birds with one stone, or, I should say, to do two good turns with one kind action, by purchasing some of their gifts from the members of the Post Guide Handicrafts Guild.

The Post Guide workers are all qualified, and no one may have her name on the Roll until her work has reached a high standard. Prices are moderate, and there are sections for toy-making, embroidery, leatherwork, knitting, lace-making, raffia work, glove-making, initialling and cross-stitchery. Soft toys of every description can be made to order in sizes and colourings chosen by the customer if desired. One Guide makes particularly neat little doll rattles clad in white teddy-bear cloth, very soft and very fluffy. Some of the leatherworkers can make most charming tooled blotters, while in the embroidery section some are producing fascinating willow-pattern luncheon mats and table runners.

The knitters are prepared to make to order jumpers,

as well as all kinds of children's garments, in sizes and wools selected by their customers, and the work will always be most carefully carried out.

Every Post Guide who belongs to the Guild is poor, and any money she can earn by her craft means much to her. Not only does it enable her to contribute something towards the family exchequer, but it also gives her a prestige that has never been hers before, as it promotes her from "invalidism" to the rank of one of the family breadwinners.

A short catalogue, giving prices and details of many of the things Post Guides can make for Christmas, will gladly be forwarded to anyone who sends her address to Miss Hodson, Tudor Lodge, Shorncliffe Road, Folkestone, Kent. Orders will be welcomed, early ones especially, so that there need be no rush in getting them through.

It would also help very much if readers of the GAZETTE could draw the attention of their friends to the Handicrafts of the Post Guides. In addition to Christmas presents, Post Guides are glad to undertake orders for hand-made lace, embroidering clox on silk stockings, and initialling handkerchiefs and household linen. There is also a section for finishing work already begun, and after Christmas many a Post Guide would be glad to "take over" any piece of

embroidery or plain sewing that some busy Commissioner or Guider has had to hide away in her chest of drawers.

The toy-makers, too, are hoping that everybody's small sons and daughters, nieces and nephews and god-children will have birthdays early in 1927, birthdays that will not be properly celebrated without at least one toy bought from the Post Guide Handicraft Guild.

JOAN RAXWORTHY, *Secretary, Post Guides.*

Embroidery, Raffia, Leatherwork, and fascinating Toys,
Exclusive decorated work, and other Xmas joys,
Lovely Shetland jumpers, and Knitting, plain and purly,
O readers, listen to me now, and place your orders early.

No child should be without a toy,
While in a jumper you live,
Such work to Post Guides is a joy,
And that is what you *could* give.

Cross-stitch, Broderie Anglaise, and kerchiefs, underwear
I wonder if there's anything we do not do or dare.
Shopping Bags in Raffia Work, with such a floral border,
So if you have the time to help, why, use a nib and order.

Oh, make a Post Guide happy,—you—
Don't say you've got no money,
For sometimes she is feeling blue,
And orders make her sunny.

*So send at once to Miss E. Hodson,
And place some orders for your godson,
Or other kids you've got to give to,
Or you yourself, for you must love too.
The Tudor Lodge in Shorncliffe Road,
At Folkestone, Kent, is her abode,
And when the bill arrives, I'll bank you
Will not complain—goodnight, and thank you!*

"In Committee"

By ALFRED G. BARRALET

Author of "The Machinery of Business."

IN technical language the works of a watch are called the "movement." Suppose, when the watchmaker had "assembled" all his parts, he were to say: "Any old thing will do for a mainspring," what would you think of him?

"The man must be mad," you would observe, "for without a reliable mainspring the rest of the mechanism is useless."

Now, a body of earnest people like the Girl Guides' Association is also called a "movement," and suppose, when we had "assembled" a number of keen workers, someone were to say: "Any old thing will do for a Committee!" That would be equally absurd, because a Committee is a mainspring in much the same sense, and unless it be efficient the rest of the organisation comes to a standstill.

And yet how often at a meeting where a Committee is to be formed or re-elected, will you hear a dialogue something like this:—

CHAIRMAN: We're getting on famously. I want two more names, please.

1ST VOICE: I would like to propose Mrs. Rompwell. I haven't the pleasure of knowing her personally, and she isn't here to-night, but I believe she's awfully good.

CHAIRMAN: Would she serve, if elected?

1ST VOICE: Well, she's a frightfully busy woman, but I know she'd come if she could.

2ND VOICE: I second Mrs. Rompwell. Everybody knows her, and it would be a good thing to have *her name* on the Committee.

CHAIRMAN: Very well. All those in favour? Thank you. Against? Thank you. Perhaps the Secretary will be good enough to notify Mrs. Rompwell that she has been elected. Miss Fullamy, what about you?

MISS F.: Well, really, I'd love to—but I know simply nothing at all about it.

CHAIRMAN (humorously): Oh, that doesn't matter a little bit. We'll soon teach you! (Laughter, followed by the election of Miss Fullamy, who protests and smilingly accepts the honour.)

What I should like to do, then, is to discuss Committees from two points of view, namely, their constitution and duties.

As a matter of fact we are dealing with a vast subject, and if I were to include Grand Committees, Parliamentary Committees, Select Committees, Standing Joint Committees, and other awe-inspiring members of this large family, I daresay I should use up a lot of paper and astonish you with my extraordinary erudition—all piping hot from the *Encyclopædia Britannica*!—but it isn't necessary.

Though the names and duties of Committees vary considerably, the *procedure* in all cases is the same. Therefore, I will describe the committee-work of an imaginary Association. You will see the usual method of working, and the various officers who are generally elected to serve in various capacities.

A number of public-spirited ladies and gentlemen have resolved to form themselves into a National League for the Improvement of the British Climate. The aims and objects have been drawn up and disseminated; a Chairman, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, all *pro tem.*, have been appointed, a regular meeting-place has been arranged, and now, at an inaugural gathering, a Committee is to be elected.

This Committee, mind you, is going to be the driving force; so no "Mrs. Rompwells" or "Miss Fullamys," if you please; and since the direction of the movement will rest upon its shoulders, it will be called either the "Executive" or "General Purposes" Committee. Obviously, then, it must consist of men and women who have the aims of the League at heart, and before the inaugural meeting the original promoters of the movement will interview those members who are known to be deeply interested in the British Climate, with a view to obtaining their consent to serve on the Committee. The object is to find *workers*. People with "names" are useful in other ways. No Committee can afford to carry passengers. There are fifteen places to be filled, and having sounded a sufficient number of candidates and arranged "proposers" and "seconders," the moving spirits (whom I have called the original promoters) can hope for the election of a live Committee.

The instrument thus called into being becomes the mouthpiece of the general body of members. It interprets their aims and objects, and assumes the direction of all operations—financial, clerical, educational and disciplinary—in connection therewith. The ultimate authority rests with the members, just as the existence of a Government is derived from the electors; and in each case, Committee and Government, will be called upon in due time to give an account of its stewardship. A seat on the Committee is an honour, but it is also a responsibility.

The newly elected "Executive" will meet as soon as possible and appoint its officers—generally a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, and Secretary. If the existing Chairman and Secretary of the general body of members be willing to serve it is advantageous to appoint them; such an arrangement obviates the multiplication of officers, and probably, as active promoters of the League, the Chairman and Secretary possess valuable information for the Committee's guidance.

One of the first things an "Executive" or "G.P.C." will do is to draw up By-laws, that is, Rules for the conduct of meetings and the routine business of the League, which, by the way, must be adopted by a General Meeting of members before they can become operative. In the absence of By-laws (for it is possible to do without them), "points of order" are constantly arising which can only be settled by the Chairman or by ransacking the Minute Book for precedents, the result being a bewildering patchwork of decisions more or less contradictory. I am not going into the question now because "By-laws" is an interesting subject in itself, and we are concerned with Committees.

Well, it's clear that you won't want fifteen people to discuss every detail of management, so the next thing to do is to appoint Sub-Committees, to report and be responsible to the Executive. "Finance" is a matter requiring special attention. The Executive, or "G.P.C.," will therefore appoint say five of its members to act as a "Finance Committee." "Sport," "Propaganda" and other subjects may call for Sub-Committees of a similar character, and it is usual to have an Emergency Committee to deal with unexpected situations which may arise between the ordinary meetings of the Executive. Where there is no Emergency Committee, a sudden development is sometimes dealt with by taking a Postcard vote. The Chairman and

Secretary draw up the question in such a way as to enable a member to vote "Yes" or "No," and this, being sent out on a postcard with a request for an immediate answer, makes it possible to get a decision without calling a special meeting of the full Executive. Such devices must, however, be provided for in the By-laws.

Let it be carefully noted that every Sub-Committee must have its Chairman and Secretary, like the main Committee; it must also have a separate Minute Book, and duplicate copies of its Reports. The Secretary of the Executive, who is sometimes called the General Secretary, very often acts as Secretary to some or all of the Sub-Committees—quite a good arrangement if he can manage it, because he thus becomes a connecting link between the various branches of the League's work; but it is desirable to have a different Chairman in each case, because these Chairmen, who make their reports to the Executive, may sometimes find themselves in opposite camps. Mr. Jones, as Chairman of the Propaganda Committee, may find it necessary to ask for money which he, as Chairman of the Finance Committee, may be very reluctant to provide.

Admirers of the Gilbert and Sullivan Operas will remember the celebrated case of Pooh Bah in "The Mikado."

The functions of a Sub-Committee are purely advisory, unless "power to act" be specially conferred by a resolution of the Executive.

Sub-Committees fix their own meetings and draw up their own agendas, but the dates and subjects for discussion will be so arranged as to admit of the preparation and adoption of a report in time for the next ordinary meeting of the Executive.

Presidents, Vice-Presidents (sometimes) and Honorary Treasurers are usually *ex-officio* members of the Executive, and it is wise to provide in the By-laws for the co-option of one or two outsiders on the main or any

Sub-Committee. By this means it is possible to obtain the assistance of an expert without putting him to all the trouble of a formal election.

In all Committees the Minutes must be scrupulously correct. The art of "Minuting" consists in brevity and accuracy, and to facilitate a rapid reference to past events it is an excellent practice to leave wide margins so that the "subject" can be inserted against the various paragraphs. Such subjects should, of course, be indexed. Minutes should be a *record of work done*, not a report of speeches, opinions and suggestions. It is not always necessary to record the names of members voting for or against a resolution, but where a vital question of policy is involved it is advisable to do so. It is a dangerous practice to take Minutes "as read," unless a copy of them has been circulated before the meeting, as is sometimes done to save time. No business can be taken on the Executive or on any of the Sub-Committees till the Minutes of the previous meeting have been adopted. It is essential to record the names of those present, for when the time comes for the re-election of the Executive the members of the League are entitled to a list of attendances so that they may see who has served them most sedulously.

Above all, remember that the proceedings of all Committees are private and confidential. The law holds a speaker "privileged" when, in committee, he or she is obliged, in the interests of the movement or business, to make a statement which another member regards as libellous, but directly the statement is repeated outside it becomes actionable. No end of trouble can be caused by a Committeeman who, to air his knowledge, repeats scraps of news which he has heard "in committee."

In conclusion, it may be said that a Committee is a body of trustees or guardians; and if, to revert to my first simile, a Committee is the mainspring of a "movement," enthusiasm, or rather faith, is the key that keeps it wound up.

Campers' Conference, 1926

OVER a hundred Camp Advisers gathered at Foxlease for their annual conference, from England, Scotland, Ulster, Wales, Ireland, the Channel Islands, Australia and New Zealand, and the three allotted days were filled with discussions, talks and practical work. The latter was good and to the point. Various ladders were shown, incinerators built, screening erected and roofed, ground-sheets mended, cooking-pots cleaned, bell-tents pitched by three different methods, and home-made tents were minutely inspected.

Among the discussions camping abroad came in for most attention, but we also talked about hygiene, smallpox, dogs, cheap railway fares, camp uniform, swimming, etc. The conference tried hard not to make new rules, and only four subjects are affected by the resolutions forwarded to Headquarters for consideration.

We were delighted at having the Assistant Chief Commissioner with us for almost the whole week-end. Dame Katharine spoke to us on Saturday on the by-products of camping, such as self-dependence, domesticity, and the value of achievement. Miss Maynard also spoke on the Saturday on initiative in camping and how to develop it and teach ourselves as well as our Guides to use our brains for the benefit of the community.

We had two visitors who were not Guides—Miss Rose Fyfe, who read us her stories and poems, to our boundless delight, and Miss Whitmore, who came down on Sunday to speak on Care Committees and how Guiders can help them.

Then, on the last night, came Mrs. Crichton Miller to speak on "Vision," and she summed up all our

vague ideas and aspirations and set us, as it seemed on the threshold of our first camp of next season brimming with enthusiasm.

We were indeed fortunate in our speakers and in our weather. Altogether a fruitful conference.

A. M. HEATH,
Head of Camping, 1926.

THE FOURTH CROSS OF THE UNION JACK.

(Continued from next page.)

and everywhere gifts of charity were with a powerful hand distributed to the poor."

He lived to be an old man. When the time of his death was at last made known to him in prayer, he received the tidings gladly. But the people wept when they heard that they were to lose their much loved pastor. Chieftains came from afar, and knelt side by side with the poorest serf to receive his blessing. And to them the aged David, who throughout his life had never lost his spirit of holy joy and childlike simplicity, gave his last message.

"Lords, brethren and sisters, be joyful and keep your faith and your belief. And perform the little things which you have heard and seen with me."

Then having blessed them, and turned himself to prayer, we read in the naïve language of the old chronicler that "he gave up his life to God; and the Angelic host accompanying, he went to the heavenly country."

FLORENS ROCH.

THE intelligent Tenderfoot if left to herself will find not three crosses on the Union Jack, but four. We know that there are heraldic reasons why the Red Cross of St. George, even as the Red Cross of St. Patrick, should have a white cross behind it. But the Tenderfoot is not concerned with heraldry, to her each cross stands for a nation, and each nation has a Saint, and each Saint has a legend.

And who shall say that the Tenderfoot is not right? There is a fourth nation, and those who love that little nation know that the white cross on the blue ground that lies behind St. George's red, belongs to them, and they call it the Cross of St. David.

And here is his story.

In the West of Wales where the sea washes the land on three sides, St. David was born many centuries ago. He came in the midst of a storm, when the waves were crashing on to the shore, and hurling themselves in sheets of foam against the cliffs. The times were stormy too; every man's hand was against his neighbour's, the land was often ravaged by enemies of another race who would sweep over the border to rob and to kill. Christianity existed in some parts, it is true, but in many places people had fallen away and worshipped strange, cruel gods, or no god at all, and in other more remote regions among the mountains a degenerate form of the Druidic worship was all the religion that was known. Into this time of storm, to the sound of an angry sea, the child David was born. His mother was a holy woman who had suffered great wrong, and her prayer was that the son who was born to her should live to work for God. When he was old enough to leave her side, she took him to a monastery and gave him into the care of the monks that he might learn those things a boy should know, and be instructed in the doctrine of the Church. He was a happy little boy who loved God very much, and like everyone who has loved God truly, his love went out to all his little world: to the monks who taught him, to his playmates, to the living things about him, and to the sun and the mountains. The children who worked and played with him would often declare they saw a white bird with beak of gold hovering about the head of David. It may be the good monks smiled when they heard the tale, saying that prayers and words of kindness from lips which never uttered evil, might well become white birds of God. And perhaps those other boys, in after years, would keep their own speech pure remembering the vision they had seen. Thus the boyhood of David passed.

He became a monk, and his superiors, knowing that beneath his humble bearing lay a burning zeal to spread the Christian faith among those people of his own land who knew it not, allowed him to go from place to place preaching the gospel of Peace and Good Will, and founding monasteries for the men who would give up all for Christ. He founded many monasteries throughout the land, but the one he loved the best of all was near the place where he was born, in that most western part of Wales, where the sea washes the land on

ARGLWYDDI FRODYK A CHNIOFYDD
BYDOWCH LAWEN, A CHEDWCH
EICH FYDD ACH GRED.



The Fourth Cross of the Union Jack

that was not of this earth. They knew it was God who was speaking to them through the mouth of the monk—God who had caused the ground to rise so that they might see him, and caused his voice to carry to each one so that all might hear the words he spoke. A new spirit fell upon them as they listened. They no longer wished to dispute. Their difficulties were solved. Many things that had seemed big were of no more account to them, for here was something bigger, a message that called them to unite together to work for God and their fellow-men. Peace was restored.

From the Synod of Brefi the name of David was carried far and wide. But he did not change the method of his life. He still went from place to place preaching Christianity, and helping all who came his way, whether their sickness was of soul or body. He taught his monks to work on the land, and to chant the Offices of the Church, to live simply and purely, tending the sick, helping the needy, teaching the young, preaching the way of Christ. Each gave that which he had to give for the greater glory of God. For himself he loved the silent places, and he would have chosen to live his life as a simple monk unknown to the world. But he was needed for other work, and humbly he obeyed.

They made him Archbishop, and under his wise and holy rule the Church prospered in Wales, and men lived in Christian charity one with the other. We read in the old Welsh record that "everywhere the sounds of prayer were raised to the stars; everywhere good deeds were carried on unwearied shoulders . . .

(Concluded on previous page.)

I SHOULD like the Guide Commissioners and Captains to read this, the third of a series of brief articles on Australia, with Guiding uppermost in their minds, because my reason for writing is that I feel the Girl Guide Movement goes closer to the heart of problems connected with migration than any other social work or State device as at present constituted. For that reason I propose to digress from the account of our personal experiences to touch on certain aspects which seem to me to involve the Movement in the broader issues of migration.

Most of my readers will agree that the gravest problem before the British Empire at the present time is how to transfer people from where they are not wanted to where they are, by methods that are natural, reasonable, economic and of lasting benefit.

Hundreds of healthy boys and girls live on the soul-destroying dole in this overcrowded island owing to industrial conditions over which few of us have any control, while the great Dominions need and desire above all things thousands of *suitable* young hands and minds, yet dare not ask them to come in numbers large enough to ease our burden, for fear that the new-comers will fail to adapt themselves to Overseas conditions and fall back to become a charge on the State, or else glut the labour market with unskilled cheap labour—both conditions which a young State just happily launched dreads for many reasons. What is the root of the trouble?

Naturally, conditions in a new country, with a new climate, new ways and new ideas, must be different to life in sophisticated old England, but in the past, English and Scottish pioneers succeeded gloriously under conditions infinitely harder than any offered to even the humblest migrant to-day, and most certainly the trouble does not lie in adverse conditions.

Many people blame the modern generation; they feel that so much dependence on State and Government has sapped the spirit of the nation and made the majority unwilling to dare anything that may be uncomfortable or lonely or new. Personally I do not altogether share this view. The War showed what young British men and women can do; national behaviour during the General Strike showed that the country is still sound enough at heart. I have enormous faith in the young generation, but the older generation make a ghastly mistake in trying to *drive* the young people to go their ways. I trace the majority of our present troubles to worn-out notions and too many old heads at the front. What is wanted in every sphere is that young-minded leaders should be adapting tried methods to suit modern requirements before they get old and cynical and uncreative themselves. This is the secret of the success of Guiding and is true progress. Above all—is migration for the young.

The modern young man whose chief delight in life is to tear along a crowded road on the noisiest motor bike, and the girl who happily shares his precarious seat, could go anywhere or do anything together. Nothing would daunt them in the physical sense, but what they lack, largely owing to their upbringing, is the spirit of self-reliance. They are content to be as everyone else—all wearing the same hat, doing the same things and remaining at the same level so long as they are at all amused or comfortable. It may be the War, Education, Church or Socialism, I do not know, but I am sure that the spirit of Scouting and Guiding which aims at teaching character, honour, discipline, nature, and takes a pride in thoroughness, self-reliance, "making do" and manual accomplishments, at present alone holds the torch that was carried by the Knights Templars, Elizabethan Gentlemen-Adventurers, Pilgrim Fathers and the old

A Trip thro

By L

III. The Group Settlement S

pioneers. Modern youth with its tolerance, its natural manners, desire for scientific exactness, love of fun, delight in physical skill and daring, its dislike of cant, disdain of precise distinctions and the mouthing of words, is a material second to none, and nearer the ancient Greek ideal than any age since. It, however, needs guiding and not "directing," which is what officials, parents and social workers so seldom remember, and a Government which aims at vast removals of the population without methods suitable to youth, should remember that it is apt to be classed with its good intentions among the type of elderly meddling critics who are never so happy as when they are rearranging other people's lives. This is where much social work, excellent in the past, fails now, and where the young Guide Movement run in a new way by young people for the young, has succeeded in catching modern youth in a way that outside people marvel at. (Of course one means "young" in heart and mind more than literally!) The problems of migration—politically, socially and actually—are all those of youth.

As an instance: One of the most grievous errors in dealing



"Mr. Jan



"Mrs. James" going to fetch water, at her back door.

High Australia

Y APSLEY

Home for Settlers in West Australia

with migration is the old shibboleth, so common on the lips of the older generation, of "sending our surplus population to the Colonies." This sort of attitude does harm here and overseas. Nowadays it is not a question of sending people anywhere they do not wish to go, or of making the Dominions receive our dole-drawers; rather should our aim be to prove logically and scientifically in a way both young parties can understand, that it would benefit the young ones here to go, and the young State to receive. It is no use showing intelligent children old photographs of "Our wonderful Dominions": they are quick to notice the 1913 model Ford or the ladies in Edwardian dresses in the pictures of "Melbourne To-day" and distrust you, the country, and your motives! Nothing but true and exact experience interests people to-day, and to be interesting one must generally be personal. For these reasons my husband desired to get first-hand knowledge and to discover for himself if young men and women without previous experience can get on in Australia at the present time. As set forth in my first article he found opportunities of all kinds awaiting young men, and heard everywhere that it is

much more difficult for inexperienced married couples without capital to make good, because the man has everything to learn and a family to keep at the same time.

So keen is Australia to get settlers on the land that elaborate Government schemes have been devised to enable married couples straight out from England to start off on their own land and to gain experience under expert advice so that the risk of failure is practically eliminated. One of the most interesting of these is the Group Settlement scheme of Western Australia, and in order to study conditions from the "married man's" point of view my husband arranged that we should spend a month on a Group as ordinary new settlers.

Briefly the scheme is this: Western Australia contains large tracts of undeveloped, thickly wooded country in the south-west near the sea, where the climate is much the same as that of England, but with more pleasantly hot sun. Such country is ordinarily prohibitively expensive for the settler to clear, but once cleared of the useless timber and poisonous shrubs it becomes valuable pastoral country. The State of Western Australia is short of dairy produce, and the Australian Government with the help of the Home Government has taken over some of these large tracts, roughly cleared them, and then settled large numbers of married emigrants on these outback parts, granting them land, houses, roads, materials and paying them a "sustenance wage" till the area is completely cleared and can support them, when each man's block is turned over to him and he is charged only with a certain proportion of the total outlay as a sort of mortgage spread over a large number of years. The principle is that the land will thus be well cleared, and that each settler will learn the best methods under competent officials. The scheme has been criticised owing to its relatively high cost, but it is a most interesting effort, if only for the fact that it is really a form of applied communism—in the practical and not political sense of the word—as in the beginning everything is State owned, from your tools to your cow, and every man has to work as he is told. Anyone is free to leave at any moment and anyone is eligible for nomination.

It takes a varying amount of time to clear a Group, and ours had been going for about three years and was a quarter done. Some are already finished and settlers working on their own with capital borrowed from Agricultural Banks, these have pasture fields but no houses; while others are only just begun, and the people camp in "humpies" or temporary shelters built of corrugated iron sheets. The average holding is 160 acres, which is about as much as a man can do without assistance, so that the homes are fairly close to each other; and on the average Group there are about twenty families, making a happy little social community on its own, though it may be out of touch with the outside world for the present.

My husband and I applied as Mr. and Mrs. A. James, and were allotted Block 1918 on Group 22, near Busselton, Margaret River, about 250 miles south of Perth and a day and a half by train. No one was aware of our identity except Mr. Anguin, Minister of Lands, who agreed with my husband's desire to try things for himself, and who signed our nomination papers for a vacancy at a date suitable to ourselves; and we went through the usual course of events as ordinary new settlers, no one discovering that we were anything different from what we said we were—a young couple who had married after the war, gone to Singapore and found the climate too trying to stay for long (which was quite true—for a fortnight!) and having no capital wished to try farming



"at his back door."



"Mr. James" off to work.

in Australia. All types are taken on the Groups so long as they are young, healthy and keen to try. There were all types on our Group from an ex-Submarine Commander to an ex-groom, who had charge of the horses and had a dear little wife with two nice children. There was an ex-Stock Exchange clerk with whom my husband did most of his work, and an ex-Lancer, whose wife had been a cook and was doing splendidly on their well-kept little homestead. They were all kind and friendly, and helped us over the first few days of settling in.

Our block was a typical one. It consisted of about 120 acres of which a small portion—about 9 acres—had been cleared by our predecessor, a man who had gone on to a better paid job in the wheat growing country, the rest of our estate being a tangle of brushwood and large trees of a kind useless for timber. Our Government-built house was a four-roomed bungalow built of the local jarrah (a wood familiar to Londoners, as most of the streets are paved with blocks of it), with a corrugated iron roof connected with an 800 gallon tank to catch the valuable rain water. (The well water in Australia is generally hard, or contains minerals, which partly accounts for the large amount of tea drunk by Australians.)

Our "sustenance pay" was £3 a week. We were only there about a month, but all the time we tried

to do and see everything from the point of view of real settlers, and though the wage was not at all high as wages in Australia go I found we could live luxuriously on £2 5s. for two of us, and with more experience on my part it would have been well under £2, and of course we were not there long enough to be able to get chickens or a cow of our own.

My husband worked with the other men belonging to the Group, chiefly at fencing, ditching and grubbing up the stumps of dead trees. The work was hard, but healthy and interesting, and he generally did an eight-hour day with an hour or so doing jobs about his own place after tea. He saw a lot of the work from all points of view, and has carefully compiled his opinions of how to help. Of course we were not there long enough to gain more than an impression of the Group scheme, but we thoroughly enjoyed our time and felt that had we been genuine settlers we should have been able to make good and to have made ourselves a happy home. We left with regrets on all sides, saying we had been offered another job in Melbourne, which was true as my husband was due to attend the Imperial Press Conference.

Next month I hope to tell something about the woman's life on a Group, and some practical experiences of my own in which Guiding took a great share.

Good Turns to Trees

IN country districts the complaint is sometimes heard: "My Company is anxious to do public service, but we cannot find any to do." The Court of Honour may put forward a few suggestions: firewood to be collected for old people; a sick child to be entertained; but such opportunities for doing good are all provided by exceptional circumstances. Yet the daily—or regular—good turn is part of the foundation of the Girl Guide Movement. Apart from its value to others, the benefit to the girl herself of doing a good turn is inestimable.

But although it is hard to find ways of helping other people directly, there is a means of doing it indirectly, and that is by helping trees. The world will soon be faced with a serious timber shortage. An article in a recent issue of the GAZETTE spoke of this, and of the growing movement called "The Men of the Trees," originated in Africa by Mr. St. Barbe Baker, whose object is to assist the Forestry Commission and to combat this shortage. Every effort made to that end is a very real piece of public service, and it is work that should appeal to the imagination of Girl Guides. They are taught to know trees in the Second Class work, and led to appreciate them in camp and on hikes. The logical outcome of knowledge and appreciation is the wish to help.

There is another side to the question. Captains who have not an exceptional amount of imagination are sometimes faced with the problem of what to do when the hike meal has been eaten, their small stock of woodcraft games exhausted, and there is another hour before the time to go home. Then is the chance to put their "wood" craft into practice, for it should certainly not be confined to games. The latter are merely a means of teaching it, although I think we sometimes lose sight of the fact.

The following are perhaps one or two ways in which our Companies can be given an interest in forestry and taught to help trees. Tell them the uses of different wood. For instance—

- Ash .. is used for the making of aeroplanes and cart-wheels.
- Willow .. for cricket bats and artificial limbs.
- Oak .. for railway wagons, building and furniture.
- Walnut .. for furniture and gun stocks.
- Pine .. for building, railway sleepers.
- Larch .. for pit props.

- Beech .. for furniture, tables and chairs.
- Spruce .. for violins and paper pulp, and for artificial silk.

When they know in what way trees are of value in the commercial world, and that they can help England's trade by planting and conserving them, surely Guides will be anxious to help by cutting down or tearing away ivy from tree trunks, clearing away dead branches and in every way possible giving trees room in which to breathe and grow. The lives of seedlings may often be saved by removing the weeds and grass that are choking them. Young saplings that have been bent over can be straightened and weak stems propped up. Birds that are helpful to the forest and live on caterpillars, should be protected, and traps to catch harmful beetles may be set.

Finally, impress these "don'ts"—

- Don't build a fire close to a tree; even though not set on fire, its roots may be injured.
- Don't start cutting a stick and then leave it.
- Don't cut a sapling.
- Don't cut the bark of a tree; if badly cut they are liable to bleed and die.
- Don't tie up a horse near a tree; it will eat the bark.
- Don't run along snapping off twigs. (This is an astonishingly common practice.)

A good way of thanking a wood for its hospitality is for the Guides to spread out and walk slowly through it—provided that the permission of the owner has first been obtained—doing as many good turns to the trees as they can. An extension of this idea is a "Tree Hike." Provide the Guiders with choppers and the Patrol Leaders with knives. Scatter through the woods and hedges and let the younger Guides act as scouts to locate trees in distress. Incidentally this will give them practice in observation. The Guiders and Leaders can then render "first aid."

If it is autumn, let the whole Company collect seeds—ash keys, acorns—and plant them in the shelter of a hedgerow or the edge of a wood. If one new tree is the result of the "Tree Hike," or one already fully grown is saved from the destruction of ivy, it will be a day not without profit to the country. We cannot force a "forestry sense" upon children, but we can encourage it by teaching them to know trees better, and by showing them how, in little ways, they can help them.

MARY WOOD is the youngest member of the 3rd Bideford Company; she leads a life of passive usefulness and keeps the eighth law to perfection. She was bought at Ilfracombe for half a crown after much careful thought on the part of Captain, who prides herself on having chosen the prettiest doll in the shop. The Guides discovered her after a long and somewhat painful Morse messages played their usual unnerving part; her name is Mary, after the pattern of all womanhood and "Wood" because she was hidden in a tree. As her sole article of clothing at that moment was a shawl, her wardrobe obviously demanded our first attention.

We set to work.

"Wool next her skin, Captain," decided the Knitter of the Vest. Suggestions for stays were rejected with horror, but we discovered afterwards that Winnie hadn't *really* meant stays, only a "Liberty" bodice! made out of flannele—flannel, of course—with warm knickers to button on. Captain undertook a blue knitted jumper, Lucy produced a smart cap and tassel, and Annie a white scarf with blue bands at the ends. We are planning a summer outfit, a print frock with knickers to match, not forgetting washable linings; a "party" frock of muslin and a warmer one; a long coat and a short navy skirt joined to a princess bodice, to wear with the jumper. Later on, no doubt, Mary will acquire luxuries—one enthusiast has even suggested Guide uniform—and there is night-wear to think of. Elementary sewing and washing must prosper, surely, with such a trousseau; and if at times Mary has to masquerade as a boy, we shall have to tackle shirts.

Her food is inexpensive; pictures of jellies, sponge-cakes, oranges, custards are easily cut from advertisements; butter, loaves and fruit can be modelled in clay, and most of us can draw and paint some part of her diet; or—be it whispered—write difficulties such as "chicken" on a slip of paper for her plate. Meals have been planned and laid, with a clean cloth, on a chair; while an assortment of eatables makes a fine trayful for Kim's game. Great would be the shocked surprise of the Mangold Patrol if confronted by pickles for Mary!

Those who bath her must first be clean themselves. A good scrub with a nailbrush and an apron are the nurse's preliminaries to a "dry" bath, Mary being hair-stuffed; but the right soap must be used, and never shall one of those germ-bearing sponges be applied to her. Lack of water is no drawback. Testing the heat with one's elbow is still feasible (by means of a "Let's pretend"), and the order of the bath can be observed; face and neck first (here follows a rinse and careful drying), body next, then knees and toes. During the day—more work for the dressmakers—Mary will be kept clean by rompers, and a rub down will take the place of a morning tub. Then, again, a minute



Mary.

How to Teach the Child Nurse Test

toothbrush, hairbrush and comb will have to be produced, and their intricacies mastered. Mary is the fortunate possessor of good white teeth, though her hair will probably resent the comb.

Healthy surroundings are difficult to represent in miniature. A piece of warm stuff put down on the floor in Mary's corner is a useful hint against draughty boards; every Guide understands that windows are meant to be opened, and that babies have to be taken out for an airing (this latter from experience); but one wonders whether it is possible to break down the parlour-lace curtains—aspidistra tradition in favour of the sun. General training must perhaps be responsible as well for that as for the inculcation of self-denial in the matter of cinema nights. The fact that Mary should be in bed by six o'clock is easily grasped, theoretically.

An hour's rest before dinner and half an hour after meals has been voted for; it is the practical side of these things that is difficult.

Exercise is to be worked in with "keeping the child happy"; musical games and nursery rhymes provide splendid opportunities for running, hopping, going tippy-toe, and these the Guides will themselves learn and perform. Something to push or pull about and a hoop to bowl will do for the open air; but jogging is sternly discouraged, and Mary must not rely on being played with, for she possesses toys of her own—a little blue spongy-rubber fish and a woolly ball; we hope to find her a small doll and some bricks.

Some people will say, "But much of this is too babyish for big girls; they would be self-conscious and refuse to join in." That is true, perhaps, of some; but Mary will not be the only baby to instruct the Company. Small persons of eleven enter into playing badge-work with zest, and a Patrol Leader is none the worse for having learnt something from Number 8 by watching her. In story-telling she will find her own difficulties, and Captain can use clothes, toys and food as concrete illustrations at the Leaders' meeting. Mary may even be useful when we come to sick nursing and the changing of sheets. Who knows?

SUGGESTIONS.

Clothing—Pieces from a rag-bag, old linen and scraps of all kinds.

Patterns—Two useful sets of patterns which need no sleeves set in may be obtained of the *Girls' Own Paper* and *Woman's Magazine*, No. 3032 (girl) and No. 3033 (boy), for dolls of fourteen and eighteen inches in height. The *Home Magazine* supplies patterns of five garments (Nos. 7759 and 7660) for 7d. (post free). The other patterns are 7d. each set.

Food—Advertisements from grocers, Harbutt's plasticine (in various colours) and cardboard and coloured paper.

Toys—The rubber fish cost 6d. Cotton-reels may be used for ninepins, marbles for balls, etc. The making of woolly balls and other toys is described in "Girl Guide Badges and How to Win Them."

ELSIE M. MURDITH
(Captain, 3rd Bideford Coy.).

THE WOODCRAFT TRAIL

Edited by MARCUS WOODWARD

This feature provides an exchange for ideas on all phases of Woodcraft; and readers are invited to forward their Woodcraft notes and queries for publication. Our monthly competition suggests a subject of general interest.

A Song of Woodcraft.

THE ROAD.

Not the great town with its brilliant lights,
And its grandeur of wealthy abode,
I seek the glamour of moonlit nights,
On the silent and rain-beaten road.

In midsummer time, when fair dawns the day,
Still following my endless path,
I know all the signs though I care not the way,
The song of the birds, and the green aftermath.

The road still leads on, and with fearless tread,
I mark the horizon's looming rim,
The sky is my roof, and the ditch my bed,
Where I lie to rest as the sun grows dim.

A. M. P. (Lieut., 6th Bridlington Coy., Yorks.)

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One Minute Yarns.

THE PERFIDIOUS PIMPERNEL.

"When crossing a field on a very wet day, my faith in one of Nature's barometers was shattered. Despite the rain, the scarlet pimpernels still glistened in the wet grass. There were numbers of them, fully opened, half opened, and wee ones. I decided, hopefully, that as they remained open they foretold fine weather, but a terrific thunderstorm shortly afterwards dispelled this prophecy."

J. S. (Capt., 19th North Manchester Rangers).

ALL A-GROWING AND A-BLOWING.

"Standing for some time quite still in the middle of a wood, one hot sunny afternoon, I was struck by the thrilling, humming noise all around me, as of myriads and myriads of invisible insects."

"What would it be?" I asked myself.

"Why—things growin', of course!"

P. M. (Capt., 1st Croston Coy., Norfolk).

Woodcraft Problems.

I present a few more answers to my recent questions, designed to form a Woodcraft examination.

Question: When stalking, what are the laws of Woodcraft?

Answer: Study the habits of the creatures to be stalked.

Keep eyes, ears and nose alert.

See without being seen; hear without being heard.

Approach the object stalked against the wind.

Move noiselessly, disturbing the life about you as little as possible. Beware especially of dry twigs underfoot.

Move slowly; be ready to adopt any position.

Avoid hurried movements and pointing. Avoid also meeting the eyes of the creatures stalked.

Try to camouflage yourself.

Nothing is better than a green cloak, covering all the person, including the hands, with a green veil over the face, for green surroundings. Remove any bright distinctive articles of attire—such as white handkerchiefs. Otherwise, keep the face well shaded; and beware of movements of uncovered hands.

Be ever ready to "freeze" at the least flicker of movement seen, the least sound heard.

Avoid tip-toeing, but put the whole foot down carefully.

If the toe goes down first, then the heel, this doubles the chances of noise.

When at close quarters with a wild creature, keep eyes half-closed. Eyes shine and catch the light, and so may attract attention.

When stalking on hands and knees, take the whole of a leg up cleanly at each forward movement.

Avoid being seen on skylines.

Etc., etc., etc.

Finding the Way.

Question: Suggest ways for finding compass directions, by day and night, without a compass.

Answer: By the sun and moon. Point the hour-hand of your watch to the sun; half-way between the hour-hand and twelve o'clock on the watch-dial is the way south.

By the wind, if its direction is known.

By the way trees are bent by prevailing winds, the direction of the prevailing winds being known.

By noting on which side of trees moss grows; usually it grows on the north side.

Campers' Favourite Trees.

Question: Name some Woodcraft points of interest about the beech and the silver birch.

Answer: Beech is one of the finest burning woods, burning as well when green as dry.

The tree yields cool shade, its leaves being opaque, and so set as to deflect sunlight.

Its roots are often high above ground, yielding a comfortable seat in shade, and a safe one—unlike a seat beneath an elm-tree, which is liable to shed branches without apparent cause.

Hollows of the tree hold pockets of water.

The smooth bark sheds water readily, and it may be conserved in a reservoir of canvas.

Beechmast may be cooked and eaten, and made into cakes, or coffee, and it supplies nourishing fare to deer, badger, pig, squirrel and dormouse, and to wood-pigeon, pheasant, rook, jay, titmouse and others.

The smooth bark will yield a smooth writing-tablet.

The leaves are excellent for the stuffing of a mattress.

The leaf-mould is very rich, good for gardens.

The wood is famed for bowls, buckets, trenchers and chairs.

A beech hedge, kept clipped, retains its leaves through winter.

The truffle, morel and other fungi grow about the trees in season.

Virtues of Birch.

It is a Guide tree. It is the camper's best friend among trees. The bark makes the best kindling wood. It may be rolled into a torch. The wood burns green or dry. Slivers of the bark may be used as paper for a log-book.

Cups and bowls for a camp may be made from the bark, as it holds water. The Canadians build canoes of strips of birch bark.

The silvery bark stands out on a dark night—hence may serve as a landmark.

(A word of warning: do not peel the bark off in April, or you may kill the tree.)

The oil of the tree gives Russian leather its distinctive odour. The bark may be used for thatching.

Twigs make excellent brooms.

Finlanders use the leaves for tea.

A kind of wine, or vinegar, can be brewed from the sweet sap in spring.

(An old recipe is as follows: make an incision in the bark in March, keeping the wound open by a small stone, and making



a bottle fast to catch the liquid. Boil this for one hour, with a quart of honey to every gallon of juice, a few cloves, lemon-peel, cinnamon and mace; then ferment with yeast, and bottle.)

I do not recommend the above recipe. And it seems a shame to scar such a masterpiece of Nature as the silk-smooth silver bark of a birch.

Speaking of the tree, I am reminded of a correspondent's letter, as follows:—

BIRCH-BARK LOG-BOOKS.

"I have heard of log-books being written on birch-bark, and I should be much obliged if you could tell me how this is accomplished. When is the best season to obtain the bark, and does this not become brittle when dry?"

E. G. (Newport, Fife).

Any reader with experience in making a birch-bark log will be doing a good turn by answering my correspondent's question.

(But I would never advocate that Guides should be encouraged to damage living birch-trees for the sake of wine or log-books!)

Nothing Ever Happens?

Echoes still roll round my editorial chair of a famous remark once made in this feature of the GAZETTE by a Guider: how, when she takes her company over the hills and far away, on nature-study bent, "nothing ever happens." (Is not the full story told in my book, "The Woodcraft Trail"?). In my post-bag this week I find an excellent sermon for the hundreds upon hundreds of Guiders (if I do not exaggerate) who, also, find nothing happening as they explore the long, long Trail: simply because they will not keep still, and keep quiet, and follow the laws we have laid down governing the art of stalking wild creatures. Pray hear my correspondent's story.

A QUIET EYE'S HARVEST.

"I have frequently seen it stated by Guiders that it is no use taking Guiders out for Woodcraft, as they never see anything. . . .

One evening I went for a solitary walk through a wood. Walking delicately, I heard a sharp rustling, froze, and saw a mole out for his evening meal. His long snout was being thrust under leaves and into holes, his pale pink fat hands were busily at work, and I could hear his little grunts and snuffles and deep breathing. He was so attractive I had to pick him up. Amazement, then, was written all over him! When I put him down he fairly galloped through the leaves until he reached a tunnel, and vanished.

Walking on, delicately, like Agag, trying to see and not be seen, I saw three hen pheasants picking their way through the undergrowth, and heard a cock calling a little way off. (Doubtless he was assuring the members of his harem that he was guarding their welfare.)

A dove was cooing in the top of a fir-tree. A big oak was full of small birds, twittering and hopping; they came close to me, as I was freezing—a party of long-tailed titmice. At the same time I saw a tree-creeper working round the same tree as the tits; they are frequently found in company.

By a stream I hid myself and waited. The first arrivals were a pair of blue tits, then came a little wren, quite close to me, getting his supper; I watched him for a long time. A moor hen made her way along the river's edge. A rabbit appeared and started feeding, scratching up the turf. This reminded me how I once saw a rabbit sitting in a ploughed field, crouching by a lump of earth, nearly invisible, except that his bright eye gave him away. I walked right up to him and picked him up by the ears. A hare, I believe, may be taken if one walks in

a circle, gradually narrowing to the point where she lies. I might have caught the woodland rabbit, but a blackbird sounded an alarm, and it vanished. For a moment I could see nothing he could have feared; then a rustling in an oak brought the cause of alarm to view—a red squirrel.

My next visitor was a robin, who sat close to me, and sang his evening song of praise. Across the stream I saw a little scurrying water-vole. The rabbit came out again, and all was peace.

I think that anyone who has the gift of patience and the art of keeping still and keeping quiet should be able to enter a wood and see all that is to be seen—and go away contented."

"Nemo" (Capt., 6th Bournemouth East Coy.).

OUR Book.

Speaking of "The Woodcraft Trail" reminds me that the publisher (Mr. Geoffrey Bles, Suffolk Street, S.W.) tells me that he is pleased with very brisk sales, and thinks they will increase, now that winter's here and the dark evenings mean more time for reading; and he expects a brisker sale than ever at Christmas, season of prizes and presents for good Guiders.

The longer I live the more I love that book. What a jolly spirit it has! (I may say this, as its virtue lies in correspondents' contributions.) It is a book with a mission—to preach the gospel of good contentment to be found in woods.

Postscript.

All the while I have been putting these pages together I have been troubled by the story of the perfidious pimpernel. Perfidious!—it grieves me that this should be said of the flower so honoured through the ages that it is praised in a proverb,

No ear hath heard, no tongue can tell,
The virtues of the pimpernel.

It always seems to be trying to assure us that our clouds will roll by. Its cheerful countenance is as vivid as a tropical flower's; indeed, it shares with the common poppy the honour of being the sole instances in this country of bright scarlet blossoms. I have been searching the herbals for some eight or nine wise words to say in vindication of its opening during rain; and happily have found them in the "Flora Symbolica" where it is written, "Should rainy weather endure for several days, the pimpernel loses its sensibility." In other words, it turns its clouds inside out.

So here's to the gallant pimpernel!

OUR NATURE COMPETITION.

Woodcraft Studies at Christmas.

Next month bringing Christmas, readers are invited to contribute notes for the next issue of the GAZETTE on Woodcraft and Nature studies at Christmastide. Notes on the birds, animals and flowers particularly associated with Christmas will be welcomed; on Christmas decorations; or any other topics of Woodcraft interest connected with the season.

A Prize Book is sent to those who forward contributions which are published in the "Trail," considered by the Editor to be of special merit; and a special Prize Gift Book is awarded for the best competition note received each month.

The Editor makes the condition that the GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE becomes entitled to the complete copyright of the notes, retaining the right to reprint them in book form; but any contributor may be freed from this condition by request.

Address letters to "Woodcraft," GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE, 25, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1, and post so that they arrive not later than the last day of this month (November).

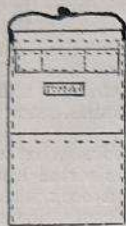
Scraps for the Pack

Compiled by N. HILL JOSEPH, Eagle Owl

HANDICRAFTS.

Owls.—Keep a rag bag, brown paper, cardboard, Christmas cards, etc. Buy remnants of unbleached calico. Before giving a handicraft to the Pack try it yourself. Be prepared to get handicrafts ready. Do not give this kind of handicraft all the year round, or let the Pack sit at it for long each meeting. Though the results may not always be beautiful, expect each Brownie to give you of her best and she will. The following handicrafts are easy, cheap, sell well, and make nice presents.

Camp Hold-all.—Dye a remnant of unbleached calico with a rainbow cold water dye. Cut a piece about 36 in. by 18 in. Fold up bottom, forming large pocket. Tack hems all round, making large one at top. Tack a piece of material near top, dividing it into three pockets. Work the whole with contrasting sylko in "tacking stitch." Make pin-cushion. Put stick into top hem. Use ribbon to hang.



Cat.—Cut off foot and top hem of old black stocking. Securely stitch one end. Turn right side out, closed end forming head of cat. Sew on white buttons for eyes. Outline whiskers with white cotton. Cut up dark pieces from rag bag. Stuff until all but 6 in. of stocking is full. Wind black cotton round this to form tail. Pull up corners of head for ears, squeeze in neck. Make bow with raffia.

Calendars, Match-holders.—On strip of cardboard, paste brown paper. Cut out and paste on coloured scrap. Paste calendar below. Use sylko to hang. For match-holder cut strip of paper 5 in. long. Paste one end over the other. Slip in matchbox, then paste below scrap.

Antimicassars, Table Centres, etc.—Dye unbleached calico a pale shade. Cut material to required size. Place drawing stencil on material, fixing on floor or table with drawing pins. Trace through stencil. Work with coloured sylkos, mainly with straight stitches. Work hems with two rows of tacking stitch, chain stitch or blanket stitch.

Handicraft Ideas for Pack Programmes.—On writing paper, chalk designs for Christmas cards. Or give title, "A Holiday," "Easter," "Summer," and note the ideas of each Brownie. On dark brown paper a Six could chalk "A good dinner" or "What we do from the time we get up till school time." Competition: anything made from acorns, chestnuts. Country Packs, remember your town sisters, and send them a box full.

V. M.

TOTEMS.

Beware of making your totem too large! Unless the stem measures at least a foot and a half, the top of a large totem entirely blots out the people sitting at the opposite side of the Pow Wow ring. Besides a small one is packed away more easily.

A child's red or brown sunshade with emblems stencilled round makes quite an effective one. A cardboard cylinder used for postage purposes serves as a stem. Glue this on to a flat piece of wood about 10 in. square, and weight it by keeping a bag of shot inside. The

handle of the umbrella fits down the cylinder. An old piece of door mat dyed green will cover the piece of wood.

If you prefer to disguise the umbrella part, make a cover by cutting a round of material the size of the umbrella, sewing a straight strip round the edge of it. Gather up underneath the umbrella by a draw-string (can be removed to pack away or be washed). Pad your spokes or they will soon wear through.

Another way is to make your top of papier maché, using a basin as a mould. Glue the top firmly on to your cylinder, and enamel the whole.

To make papier maché make some smooth paste, using three level tablespoonfuls of flour to a pint of water. Add one tablespoonful of powdered size previously soaked in one teaspoonful of cold water and one teaspoonful of alum. Tear some rather porous thick brown paper into small pieces. Oil the mould (basin) and cover with pieces of paper soaked in paste, rubbing and pressing well all the time. Put on layers of paper until it is the required thickness. Allow it to dry slowly, remove from the mould, then trim edges. When absolutely dry and hard give it a coat of size before painting.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

When Pack funds urgently need replenishing, and we feel that an entertainment of any kind suitable for the purpose entails too much time spent on rehearsals, a "Useful Party" will often meet the case.

Invitations are sent out, all guests invited being asked to bring with them any boots or shoes that require cleaning, silver or brass to be polished, buttons sewn on, or anything else suitable that Brown Owl can think of; a small charge is made for each article which the Brownies clean or polish, etc. There can be a stall where any handicrafts really worth selling can be bought at "moderate prices." A couple of singing games and a few mimed nursery rhymes—which are most successful if more or less spontaneous and very little rehearsed—make a good finish; after which there can be a copper collection. It is surprising how the pennies add up!

For entertainments, the acting of rhymes or fairy tales is excellent (also for Pack Meetings); especially if the Pack entirely choose the characters and words. It is a novel idea to introduce a Brownie, showing how she would have "lent a hand" if she had lived in those days, comforting Miss Muffet, or rendering Jack and Jill first aid. . . .

GAMES.

Train Inspection.

We have found this very popular.

The Brownies file up to the ticket office, where Pack Leader or the eldest Sixer doles out tickets to everyone with a penny. Anyone without a penny is given a label and sent to the left luggage office, presided over by Tawny. Brownies with tickets pass on to the ticket collector (Brown Owl), who marks signs on each ticket for badges, neatness, cleanliness, etc. Tawny doing the same to the labels in the left luggage office. Ticket holders get into the express train (behind Brown Owl), which when all are aboard rushes off twice round the room; after which the goods train puffs once round. The goods can be collected at their destination; tickets and signs are then counted up in Sixes.

C. G. G.

Christ Church
Rangers.



"IT'S just selfishness," said the Captain peevishly, "though I know," she had the grace to add, "that it's never dawned on her that it really does the children harm."

The Commissioner listened gravely, though with a quizzical look in her eye. It happened to be no new story to her, this of the keen Brown Owl who couldn't bear to "spoil" the success of her Pack by persuading her older Brownies to go on up to Guides; but being told to her just after a visit to the local Ranger Company it gave her food for thought. However, after agreeing that more co-operation was needed, and dropping a few hints on tolerance, and suggestions that the "getting together" process might well be initiated by the Captain, she changed the subject to plans for raising funds, and a little later the Captain got up to go.

"By the way," said the Commissioner, "I saw May Thompson in the village to-night. What a nice cheery child she is."

"Up to some mischief I expect," the Captain answered, laughing. "She always has a band with her ready for that."

"Yes," said the Commissioner, "they seem to follow her all right. I wonder if she wouldn't make a good P.L. one day. It might divert all that energy into a more useful channel."

"Perhaps," said the Captain, without much enthusiasm, "but I'm not likely to need her. My present P.L.'s are splendid, and so keen on the Company."

"You've had them for some time, haven't you?"

"Yes, they've all been Leaders for three or four years. I was telling them just the other day that they ought to be going on to Rangers soon, but"—and in spite of herself a note of pride and self-satisfaction crept into the Captain's voice—"nothing will induce them to leave. It's funny, isn't it?" she added brightly, "because Miss Merton is so nice, and I'm sure runs the Rangers splendidly. I've told them how interesting they'd find it, and quite different from Guiding!"

But the Commissioner seemed to be thinking of something else, for instead of answering she said: "What's happened to Susan Day? Her mother tells me she's thinking of leaving the Guides."

"I know," said the Captain, "I've been quite worried about her. She used to be so keen and anxious to get on. In fact we thought of making her a Second once, when Irene was ill. But Irene came back and there's never been a vacancy since; and it's a good thing we didn't, seeing how Susan has lost interest since."

"I wonder..." said the Commissioner. "Well, good night, and I'll have a talk with the B.O. I know she'll see all right that it's better for the girls to go on to the branch of the Movement meant for their

own age, as well as being bad luck on the other ones who aren't getting their turn of responsibility. But I

expect you'll find that those Sixers will need careful handling when they do come up. Youngsters are always likely to be difficult

when they've been in positions of authority too long."

Something in the Commissioner's voice made the Captain turn round to see if she was laughing. She wasn't... and yet... The Captain turned rather red, and went off so absent-mindedly that she forgot to shut the garden gate.

But the Commissioner had promised to have supper with the Ranger Captain that night and it was time to be off.

They had many things to talk of, and Guiding didn't come up until the Commissioner was putting on her coat to come home.

"By the way," she asked, "I never heard how you enjoyed that Ranger training week in the spring?"

"Oh, it was great fun, and I came home full of ideas which I meant to try on the Company."

"Well, and didn't you?"

"Only one. And that worked so successfully that I had to abandon all the others. You see I realised that I wasn't letting them run their own company a bit. They do now. They're awfully self-governing, and just tell me what they want me to do! And they're twice as keen, and enjoy themselves no end, as you saw the other night, and yet..."

"Yet what?"

"Well, I've had to abandon all my other fine plans which were going to make Rangering so different from Guiding, and all the rest of it. Half the time the things they seem to want to do most are the same kinds of things the Guides are doing. Is that all wrong, d'you think?"

"I shouldn't worry a bit if it's what they want," said the Commissioner. "For do you know, I've a lurking suspicion that the very thing that puts lots of Guides off becoming Rangers is that they are told that it's so different from the Guide Company. They've enjoyed being Guides, and the thought of something different scares them off. If they thought it was much the same thing only done with people their own age so that they don't have to be kept back by the little ones, and that being all older girls together they can have more freedom and opportunities of service, I believe they would be readier to try it. By the way," she added, "I think some of the P.L.'s from the Guide Company will be coming up to you soon. If so, I expect you'll find they need careful handling at first. Youngsters are always likely to be difficult when they've been in positions of authority too long."

Plays to Act

Edited by MRS. STREATFEILD ("Kitty Barne")

During the winter months suggestions will be given under this heading in regard to plays suitable for Guiders or Rangers to act. Mrs. Streatfeild has kindly consented to answer questions and give advice on simple play production, should Guiders care to write to her at Windmill Corner, Eastbourne, enclosing stamped addressed envelope for reply.

THE Village Drama Society has been good enough to offer special terms of affiliation to Guide Companies as follows:—

The Village Drama Society has, after consultation with the Girl Guides' Association, decided to offer the following special terms of affiliation for Guide Companies:—

(1) Group membership fee, 10s. 6d. per annum, payable in January or July.

(This may include any number of Companies up to twelve, if arrangements are made with the Society through one responsible group Secretary for all.)

(2) Plays for reading for choice may be had free for a week.

(The Society has a large collection of plays suitable for acting by Guiders, and these are sent out in sets of twelve different plays at a time for reading.)

(3) Costumes may be hired at 2s. 6d. each per week, with a reduction of 2s. in the £ on amounts over 10s.

(A deposit of one guinea to be made when booking costumes, to cover possible damage. This does not exonerate from the rule that damage must be paid for, but it will be returned if the costumes are sent back in good condition. Ordinary wear and tear is not charged for.)

Guiders interested in dramatic work will read this announcement with great pleasure. The Village Drama Society knows from practical experience how difficult it is to produce plays in villages, where there is no hall, no system of lighting and no one available who understands producing, and its advice and encouragement will be of the greatest value to Guiders struggling with these conditions.

A list of "Plays for Young Players" is being made by the Society. It is not quite ready for publication, but most of the plays recommended by the Committee who selected them can be sent out to be read. That in itself will be the greatest boon to Guiders. It is impossible for Headquarters to send unlimited plays on approval, and the writer of this article knows from experience how difficult it is to recommend the right play, one of the right length, the right number of parts, the right period for the Company's dresses, etc. Only the Guider herself can tell which play comes nearest her ideal. To get twelve plays from the V.D.S. and read them through is to begin an education in play producing.

Item three, which concerns costume, is an important one. The price is extremely low; in fact it is quite impossible to make them oneself at so small a cost. Naturally they cannot be very sumptuous, but design and cut are correct and good, as Miss Kelly, the Secretary, is an authority on costume, and superintends this department herself. Advice as to the making of costumes and properties is sent, with sketches and patterns.

The Society organised a Summer School last August at the Citizen House, Bath. About eighty students attended from different parts of the country and heard lectures on play production, elocution, stage dancing, etc. There were practical demonstrations on make-up, gesture, lighting, setting the stage, etc., by professional instructors, and finally "Much Ado about Nothing" was produced by Miss Lally (the Director), the students attending all the rehearsals. The School was felt to be a very great success. There will be another session next summer, and it is hoped that Guiders who are interested in the subject will try to attend it.

The Little Duke, and other historical Plays. (Wells, Gardner, Darton, 2s. 6d.)

The Little Duke is a dramatic story. There is a real thrill in the moment when Richard, held by the wily French King, is carried past the sentries on the shoulder of the faithful Osmond, hidden away in a truss of straw. But this play seems over-weighted by the load of history it carries and the action moves too slowly to keep up the excitement. *The Election of an Abbot* is instructive and *Walsley and his Servants*, though it would not act well with its long speeches, would be very interesting to read and a delightful method of imparting history. *The Death of Sir Thomas More*, which has been skilfully adapted from "The Life of Sir Thomas More," is a pathetic and affecting scene that calls for good acting. There is an amusing little play where Dr. Johnson, surrounded by the Club (the group of admiring cronies), gives an account of his conversation with King George. The great man feels that he has acquitted himself well; he has a treasured store of royal compliments which, after a few adroit questions from Boswell, he recounts with great unction. *A Manchester Strike* is a playlet of 1830. A strike is a depressing subject for a play at the best of times, and in this case the stilted conversation of the strikers does not help. It is hard to believe that an infuriated cotton spinner ever cried "Oh Fie!" as an expletive, even in early Victorian days.

The Children of the Year and other Plays. (Wells, Gardner, Darton. Paper covers 9d., cloth covers 1s.)

This book of four plays only costs the modest sum of 9d., so should be well within the reach of the thinnest Company purse.

The first play deals with a little girl selling flowers in a London street. She has a battered book of fairy tales, over which she falls asleep. When Dick Whittington appears she is full of questions about the "story children." Dick tells her of all the delights of the countryside, and she meets a butterfly, robin, squirrel, etc., in her dream. The play ends with an appeal to the audience for city children:

"Let them be led to the enchanted ground of golden meadows and of silver streams, which Nancy has been treading in her dreams."

In *Pan and the Pine Tree Fairy* a little cripple boy is making toys, who come to life. Pan tries to steal away a fairy, but in spite of his music she remains true to Santa Claus and Christmas time.

The Children of the Year has all the months who appear before the new and old year.

These three plays are written in rhyme. The last one has an Eastern setting, and is a more elaborate affair of a penniless Prince who searches for a peerless Princess in the Palace of the King of the Djinnas. It is intended for rather older children.

Green Broom. By F. H. Darwin. (Heffer, 1s. 6d.)

This little play has the folk-song atmosphere. A Broomcutter, a Miller, a Blacksmith and a Drover all try for the hand of Sophy, the daughter of a rich farmer. They each arrive with gifts to tempt her, and she takes George the Broomcutter, not because she loves him but because he is betrothed to another maid, and she enjoys the misery of the jilted rival. It is "a bit of salt with her dinner," she says. However, all ends in the folk-story way. The poor jilted girl promises to wed Richard, a tattered and torn man of the road, thinking him as forlorn and miserable as herself. She is waiting at the church door for her bridegroom when the Broomcutter and his wealthy bride appear. Sophy, dressed in all her wedding finery, taunts her, enjoying the savour of the "salt to her dinner." They are all mocking poor Mary when at last her Richard appears to claim her. He is no longer the battered tramp of the road but gorgeous in silken robes with caskets of jewels for his bride. He proves to be no less a person than Lord Richard of Randwick, and he makes her his lady, to the fury and chagrin of cruel Sophy. There are five scenes, all short; but it would be quite effective in a curtain set, dressed as a costume play. Mary must be able to sing a folk-song.

Advertisements

Communications for this column should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE," 25, HUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1. Headquarters cannot be held responsible in any way for advertisements.

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THEATRICAL.

PLAYS. For entertainments, the old favourites: "A Plot for a Pardon," "Caught," "Aunt Talitha's Will," "The Five Georges," "The Gifts of the Fairies," etc. No fee for performance, 3d. each, postage extra. Volume of thirteen complete, 2s.; postage 4d. Easily produced. From Author, 171, Camden Road, N.W.1.

BEAUTIFUL ACTING CLOTHES for hire, all sizes; historical, fancy, fairy; special terms for Guide concerts from 2s. 6d. Write the Hon. Secretary, 2, Chandon Buildings, Bath.

GUIDING.

EXPERIENCED TEACHER IN HANDCRAFT, LEATHER AND RAFFIA WORK wanted for Ranger Company in London district; every alternate Saturday 5 o'clock to 6.30 p.m.; all expenses paid. Apply Box No. 358, c/o GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE.

SECONDHAND BROWNIE UNIFORMS wanted cheap for poor S.E. London Pack. 8, Windermere Road, Maswell Hill, N.10.

BOOKS WANTED. "Girl Guiding" and "Badges and How to Win Them," for Barnardo Guide Companies, Girls' Village Home, Barking, Essex. Who would send?

WANTED. Copies GAZETTE January and March, 1926. Miss Whately, 170, Church Road, Upper Norwood.

GAZETTES wanted for Foxlease. January, 1922; January and March, 1924. Please send postcard to the Guider in Charge, Foxlease, Lyndhurst, before sending copies.

GUIDER wants suitable Holiday Home or Camp for Guides; N. Wales, Lancs or Yorkshire coast. Box No. 364, c/o GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE.

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GUIDER'S TAILORED UNIFORM, including hat, belt, shirt, extra tunic, whistle, lanyard, etc.; sent on approval; £2 10s. Box No. 352, c/o GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE.

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GUIDER'S UNIFORM for sale; tailor-made; coat, skirt, hat, belt, stock size; £2 10s. or offer. Watts, Tongdean Avenue, Brighton.

GUIDER'S TAILORED JACKET (little worn), lined; length, back 30 in., bust 36 in., hat, 6s.; emerald tie, navy jumper (all new); belt (little worn). £1 4s. the lot. What offers? Box No. 367, c/o GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE.

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GUIDER'S COSTUME complete; good condition; £1. Skentelberg, Romsey, Hants.

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GUIDER'S OFFICIAL COAT AND SKIRT; winter weight; waist 28 in., bust 34 in.; good condition; £1 5s. Apply Box No. 365, c/o GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE.

GUIDER'S UNIFORM; navy suiting; bust 36 in., skirt 32 in.; hat, belt; complete £2 5s.; approval. Miss Hannam, Butlers Coombe, Warminster.

KNITTING MACHINE for sale; new, perfect condition; two free lessons given to demonstrate working of machine; owner going abroad; any reasonable offer considered. Box No. 363, c/o GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE.

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Can Guider recommend CAPABLE GIRL to help with housework and plain cooking for Guider's family in Sutton, Surrey, district. Box No. 360, c/o GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE.

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WEST SOMERSET. To let. Furnished 4 roomed cottage, winter months, near Church, P.O.; charming neighbourhood; tap water; low rent. Tucker, Stourley, Som.

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Please note that mistakes in orders cannot be rectified unless notified within 14 days from date of invoice.

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(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER)

Headquarters Office: 25, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1

(Where all Letters and Orders should be addressed)

Shop: 27, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1

TELEPHONE: VICTORIA 6860.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: GIRGUIDUS, SOWEST, LONDON.

* NEW ITEMS IN THIS LIST ARE UNDERLINED.

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Obtainable through County Secretaries only, except for London.

		Price		Postage
		£	s. d.	
AWARDS.				
Cords. All-Round, Blue and White	...	1	3	6d
" " " " Red and White	...	1	3	2d
Lanyards " " " " Blue and White	...	9		2d
BADGES.				
Boy Scout—				
First Class	...	2		
Proficiency	...	2		
Recurrent (Metal)	...	2		
Second Class	...	6		
Wings	...	7		
Brown Owl	...	9		
Captain	...	2	0	
Ranger Captain	...	1	0	
Commissioner (Silver Timberfoot)	...	6		
County President	...	6		
Examiner	...	6		
Guide—				
First Class, Red	...	6		
" " " " Green	...	6		
Proficiency	...	2		
Second Class	...	2		
Timberfoot	...	3		
Brown	...	1	0	
Gold	...	1	0	
Imperial and International Council	...	8		
Instructor	...	6		
Lieutenant	...	6		
Local Association	...	6		
Extension Guide	...	7		
Long Guide	...	8		
Patrol—				
Choir	...	4		
Folk Song Dancer	...	4		
Honour	...	4		
Ranger—				
Long	...	8		
Proficiency	...	2		
Second Class	...	2		
Star Test	...	2		
Timberfoot	...	3		
Brown, with Red Cloth back	...	3		
Crested	...	7		
Trade	...	4		
Red Cross (Flourish)	...	6		
Sea Guides—				
Proficiency	...	2		
Timberfoot	...	7		
Trade	...	4		
Secretaries' Badges—				
Country, Red crossed pens	...	6		
Division and District, White crossed pens	...	6		
Brownie, Brown crossed pens	...	7		
Tawny Owl	...	7		
Thanks Badges—				
Silver	...	4	0	
Gold	...	1	0	
Transfers for Sea Guide Badges	...	1		
War Service Badges (for removal only)	...	2		
Leaving	...	1	0	2d
CERTIFICATES.				
ENROLMENT CARDS.				
Brownie	...	1		
Guides	...	1		
Ranger	...	1		
FORMS FOR OFFICERS' WARRANTS, COMPANY REGISTRATION, &c.				
Proficiency Badges Certificate Books	...	8		2d
Transfer Books (24 forms)	...	8		2d
HATBANDS.				
Caplet	...	2		
Guide	...	7		
Rings	...	7		
in Guide Cap Ribbon	...	1	2	1d
Sea Guide	...	8		
SERVICE STARS.				
Metal, on Red, Brown or Green Cloth	...	1	1	1d
Five Years' Service Star	...	6		1d

EQUIPMENT.**FLAGS, TOTEMS, TROPHIES.**

		Price		Postage
		£	s. d.	
FLAGS.				
Carrier, leather, for flag	...	3	11	4d
Company Colours, 4 ft. 6 in. by 3 ft., bright Dark Blue, with First Class Badge and Motto. Mounted on brass-jointed pole	...	1	3	6
With Name of Company. One line lettering	...	1	3	6
" " " " Two line lettering	...	1	13	0
TROPHIES.				
Flags.				
Caric and Tassels (Red, White and Blue), for Union Jack only	...	4	9	2d
Flag Covers, waterproof. Length 47 in.	...	7	6	6d
Flag Poles, brass-jointed (bayonet joint)	...	8	0	1d
Morse Signalling Flag, 24 in. by 24 in.	...	4	3	1d
Silk	...	1	0	
Cotton	...	1	0	
Patrol Flags, with emblems (birds, flowers or trees) printed in colours	...	1	2	1d
Semaphore Signalling Flags, 12 in. by 12 in., per pair	...	1	3	2d
Semaphore Flags, 18 in. by 18 in., per pair	...	1	10	2d
Sticks for Signalling Flags—				
Morse	...	5		6d
Ditto, better quality (varnished)	...	9		6d
Semaphore	...	4		6d
SHIELDS.				
Challenge Shields. The shield measures 11 in. by 13 in., with oxidized settings				
Miniature Shields (6 in. by 8 in.)	...	3	3	0
Shields 6 in. by 8 in., on polished background, 10 in. by 8 in., with small surrounding shields	...	1	10	0
Ditto. Without small surrounding shields	...	1	8	0
Silver Cups on plinth 6 1/2 in.	...	2	10	6
Ditto. 4 1/2 in.	...	1	8	6
Brownie Award. In white metal or bronze. The figure of an elf peering round the stem of a mushroom. Made to order only	...	4	6	0
STANDARDS.				
8 ft. poles in three sections (made to order only)—				
Plain, unpainted	...	1	7	6
" " " " polished	...	1	10	0
Painted, polished	...	1	10	0
Double-sided Trestle for pole top	...	10	0	6d
Trestle transfer for standards	...	2		1d
TOTEMS.				
Mushroom shaped—				
2 1/2 ft. high, plain	...	10	6	
" " " " natural	...	19	6	
" " " " with emblems (Please state emblems required)	...	1	12	0
10 in. high	...	12	0	
(Box for totem is charged 1s. Not returnable.)				
Brown Owl, for totem	...	3	0	3
plank	...	1	8	6
(N.B.—Large Totems and flag-poles cannot be sent overseas. Flags can be sent unmounted.)				

BROWNIE UNIFORM.

		Price		Postage
		£	s. d.	
ARMLETS.				
Beid, single armlets, 1d. Per yard	...	1	4	1d
BELTS.				
Sizes 20 to 30 in., 32 in., 34 in., and 36 in.	...	8		2d
CAPS.				
Brown, woolen, in two sizes, small and large	...	1	0	2d
EMBLEMS.				
Kinds given in Brownie Handbook	...	2		1d
HATS.				
Rush, in three sizes—small, medium, large	...	8		6d

		Price Postage				Price Postage	
BROWN—				SKIRTS			
Jerseys		Pym Postage		Navy Serge. On Bodice.			
Boat, 24 in.				Length is measured from shoulder to hem.			
10 25 25	...	4 6	6d	Length 22 in.	...	6 4 5 7 10	6d
15 30 30	...	5 0	6d	25 25	...	6 5 8 7 10	
20 35 35	...	5 6	6d	30 30	...	7 1 8 8 10	
25 40 40	...	6 0	6d	41 41	...	7 4 8 8 10	
30 45 45	...	6 6	6d	44 44	...	7 8 8 9 10	
35 50 50	...	7 0	6d	47 47	...	7 8 8 9 10	
KILTS				STOCKINGS			
Brown. AD Wood Serge, on Bodice. Length from shoulder to hem.				Black Cashmere Gym. Stockings		per pair	3 11 2d
Length 22 in.	...	7 6		Black Cashmere	...	2 4	3d
25 25	...	8 0		Black Cotton	...	1 3	3d
30 30	...	8 6		DISTINGUISHING MARKS.			
35 35	...	9 0		Patrol Leaders' Stripes		2	14d
40 40	...	9 6		Badges, Sea Guides		4	14d
45 45	...	10 0		Semiols' Stripes		1	14d
50 50	...	10 6		Badges, Sea Guides		4	14d
KNICKERS				TIES			
Brown, Flannel-lined—				Green, Lemon, Orange, Red, Royal Blue, Sky		4d, 6d & 8d	2d
Sizes 14, 16, 18 and 20	...	2 9	3d	Black Satin for Sea Guides		1 0	2d
LANYARDS				TUNICS			
Brown, for Pack Leaders only				(N.B.—Length is measured from back of neck to bottom of hem.)			
OVERALLS				Cotton—In three qualities—			
(N.B.—Length is measured from back of neck to bottom of hem.)				Jumper Length—			
Brown, Cotton, in three qualities—				Size	Neck	Inside Sleeve	Black Length
Length 22 in.	...	4 7 5 4 8 10	24d	1	13	16 1/2	24
25 25	...	4 8 6 5 8 10	24d	2	13 1/2	17	27
30 30	...	4 9 6 6 8 11	4d	3	14	18	30
35 35	...	5 0 6 7 8 11	4d	4	14 1/2	19	33
40 40	...	5 1 6 8 8 11	4d	5	15	20	36
45 45	...	5 2 6 9 8 11	4d	6	15 1/2	21	39
TIES				Overall length—			
Brown	...	4d, 6d & 8d	2d	Projections correspond to same in Jumper Length.			

GUIDE UNIFORM.

BELTS (with official buckle).	
All sizes, 24 in. to 30, 22, 24, 26, 28, 40 in. Exact measurements should be sent, as there holes must be left on each side of buckle.	
Plain Belts	1 2
Sewal Belts. Two qualities	1 4d and 1 8
Belt Buckles	6
Belt Sewals	4
(N.B.—No belt can be exchanged if buckle has been removed.)	

EMBLEMS	
Birds or flowers or trees	2 14d
Plate (for embossing)	2 14d
Transfers for Sea Guide Emblems—	
Albatross, Penguin, Sea Gull, Sturkey Petrel, Swan, Tern	each 1 14d
HATS	
Guide, Wool Felt—Sizes 6, 6 1/2, 6 3/4, 7, 7 1/4, 7 1/2, 7 3/4, 8, 8 1/2, 8 3/4, 9	6d
Ranger	3 9
Linon, sizes 6 1/2 to 7 1/2	2 0
Head Scarves, navy, for camp	10d
China Straps	2 14d
Sea Guide Hats (sizes 6 1/2, 7, 7 1/4 and 7 1/2)	4 0
Covers for above	8 14d
Straw	2 0

HAVERSACKS	
Navy, single	1 2
double	1 10
Slides for above	per pair 1 14d

JERSEYS	
Navy woolen, V-neck. Boat 30 in.	7 6
35 35	8 6
40 40	9 6
45 45	10 6
50 50	11 6
55 55	12 6
60 60	13 6
65 65	14 6
70 70	15 6
75 75	16 6
80 80	17 6
85 85	18 6
90 90	19 6
95 95	20 6
100 100	21 6
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645 645	130 6
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670 670	135 6
675 675	136 6
680 680	137 6
685 685	138 6
690 690	139 6
695 695	140 6
700 700	141 6
705 705	142 6
710 710	143 6
715 715	144 6
720 720	145 6
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875 875	176 6
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970 970	195 6
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980 980	197 6
985 985	198 6
990 990	199 6
995 995	200 6

		KNICKERS.			
Navy Blue, Flannel-lined, 22, 24 and 26 in.				2	0
Woven, 22, 24 and 26 in.				2	9
Knitted, 22, 24 and 26 in.				2	9

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Brown Magic. A book for Brown Owls. By V. Rhys Davids. Paper covers ...	2	0	Art of Public Speaking, The. By Lucy D. Bell ...	2	6
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			Princess Mary. By M. C. Carey ...	4	0
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Notes on Camping. Board of Education Educational Pamphlet No. 39 ...	1	0	British Birds. By F. B. Kirkman ...	2	0
Quartermaster in Camp. By Hon. R. Gibbs and Miss B. Gardner ...	1	0	British Nesting Birds. With 8 coloured and 70 black and white illustrations. By W. Percival Westell, F.L.S., M.B.O.U. ...	2	0
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LETCHEWORTH

CURWEN EDITION

Music for Concerts & Entertainments by Girl Guides

WORKS BY KITTY BARNE.

A PAGEANT.

THE AMBER GATE

No. 3905.

A Pageant Play.

Written and Arranged by Kitty Barne.

Scene.—The Amber Gate open, leading to a garden.

CHARACTERS:

The pageant is called the Dream Child, and various well-known children are represented, such as

David	George Washington
William Tell's Son	Flora Macdonald
Dick Whittington	Queen Victoria
St. Joan of Arc	Grace Darling
Handel	Jack Cornwell

And others.

The principal and subordinate characters may be reduced.

CHORUS: Unison or S.C.T.B.

ARGUMENT.—The Amber Gate is the gateway into the Kingdom which the children of this generation have inherited. Through it they go to all the privileges, pleasures, and opportunities that they now enjoy, unclouded by the children that came before them.

The idea of the play is to point out to them that the way into their Kingdom has been forced by a succession of wonderful boys and girls who have created and handed on a standard for children on which Scout and Guide laws could be founded. They force open the Amber Gate and each child who goes through, beginning with David going forth to slay Goliath, leaves it a little more open for the one who comes after, till, with Jack Cornwell, who is the last of the heroes, it stands wide.

Occupies 2 hours.

Price: Libretto, without Music, 1/6; Pianoforte Edition, 2/6 net cash.

PLAYS WITH MUSIC

The following children's plays, written and composed by Kitty Barne and D. W. Wheeler and illustrated by Lucy Barne and J. M. Saunders, are recommended for Girl Guide companies.

Celandine's Secret (3904).

One scene. Twenty-one flower characters with scope for others. Occupies about two hours in performance, has dialogue and dancing. Price, Pianoforte edition, 5/- net. Words and dialogue, 2/6 net.

Timothy's Garden (3902).

One scene in two aspects. Thirteen flower characters with chorus of other flowers. Occupies about 14 hours in performance, has dialogue and dancing. Price, Pianoforte edition, 5/- net. Words and dialogue, 2/6 net.

To-morrow (3903).

Three scenes. Twenty-eight characters, representing various days of the year, with chorus of other elements of time. Occupies 14 hours in performance, has dialogue and dancing. Price, Pianoforte edition, 5/- net. Words and dialogue, 2/6 net.

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Three scenes. Six singing characters and thirteen speaking characters with chorus. Occupies about two hours in performance, has dialogue and dancing. Price, Pianoforte edition, 5/- net. Words and dialogue, 2/6 net.

The Plays are well illustrated and full details for performance are given. Full particulars may be had on application.

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