

GIRL GUIDES' GAZETTE

No. 1.

JANUARY, 1914.

Price 2d.



A Message from Lt.-General Sir Robert Baden-Powell, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., LL.D., F.R.G.S.

I am delighted to see that the Girl Guide Movement has now reached the point where it has been necessary for it to start its own paper. This is always a sign of success in the past, and a guarantee of further success in the future.

It means the bringing together of all who are working in the Movement, however distantly they may be distributed over the world. They will now get the same ideals, the same

news and the same standard presented to them all; and they will have the experience of others put before them to guide and help them in their work.

The comradeship and spirit of the sisterhood will be strengthened as the whole Movement will without doubt go forward with a fresh and still stronger impulse to do its great work in the world.

Good Luck to "The Girl Guides' Gazette."

GIRL GUIDES' GAZETTE.

'LITTLE FRIENDS OF ALL THE WORLD.'

A Helpful and Interesting Letter from Miss Agnes Baden-Powell.

MY DEAR GUIDES,

As I write to you the sand in the hour-glass is running out, and the Old Year 1913 is fast coming to an end, and one cannot help looking back and glancing over the events of those twelve months and wondering what improvement has been made in our lives and what advance has been achieved.

What have I done, and what have I conquered during that time? We ask ourselves what no one else can know.

Now we take leave of the Old Year, with all its work and worry, all its fears and forebodings. It still holds for us some sad events, and yet many happy memories.

And here is

THE NEW YEAR

spreading out before us as a lovely fresh scene, with nothing as yet ugly or spoilt that we can see; all is veiled in soft mist and hardly takes shape, so that all events being undefined, we may be able to form them as we will.

All that will be recorded in that year will be tinged with the colours which we paint, and will be modelled to the form that you and I shape it.

Do not let us forget that we each have a hand in shaping the future—the future of our family or the future of the British Nation.

Did some of you think the New Year did not look so cheerful as it might? But we can each make our own New Year hopeful and cheery. It is in our own power to do so.

There are two ways. Firstly, by making others happy, and, secondly, by making ourselves in some way better than we were.

It is a cheering thought to know that you have knocked a fault on the head. Just take hold of one or two faults and try to conquer them and stamp them out.

If you can do so it puts you "on easy terms with yourself"; it makes you feel all nice inside, and it is so pleasant to feel as if you were *the pick of the basket*.

I am underlining my important words, and wonder whether our new, own Magazine will give me italics.

"Italics are the only real intensifiers of emotion, and are the sparking plugs of passion," says a contemporary.

Another time I must tell you about a heroine Girl Guide, Jessie de Lacey, and also about my baby nephew, the tiny son of General Baden-Powell.

He is born a Tenderfoot, and his age is now just a quarter of nine months or some such age common to babies.

I have been much struck by the nice things I have been hearing of the Guides, and greatly admire the "Good Turns" of which I have been told.

To take only one instance, at random. You have read of all that the Walthamstow Guides have been doing, how they helped at the Old People's Dinner; at the Cripples' Tea; the Children's Welfare; the Carnival for Hospitals; the Hospital Ward Cot; helped the Leyton's Concert; helped Edmonton's Display and Ambulance Sketch.

A short time ago I was invited by the Girl Guides to two very delightful Displays,

WEST LONDON

had theirs in the garden at Aubrey House, Kensington, and excellent knowledge of signalling was shown, as well as ambulance bandaging and smart marching.

The other was in

NORTH LONDON,

when the Guides proved capital actors, and showed that their kit (neckties, belts, staves, &c.) can be of practical use for First Aid to the Injured.

It is very sad to think that since I was there one of the Guides who formed the arch of staves and lanterns under which I entered has been

SERIOUSLY INJURED.

Emily Collins worked in a gun-powder factory, and one day the powder blew up, and her face and hands were terribly burned.

She has often repeated, "I am a Girl Guide; I must be brave," and she has indeed shown a splendid example of braving pain and misfortune without complaining.

Her fellow Guides go in turn to cheer her and help her, for she can do nothing now for herself, and her mother is out at work. I feel sure that having joined the Girl Guides has been a great help to her in this sad trouble.

STANDING ON THEIR HEADS.

You have often heard how useful worms

are in the earth. Their numerous holes give air and drainage to the soil, and besides this, the worms cast up a deal of refuse, all digested and turned into good mould.

At this time of year you may see a curious sight on the lawns. All over the grass are brown leaves standing upright, their withered stalks pointing upwards.

You might wonder why all the leaves are standing on their heads. I will tell you how it has come about. Earthworms cannot climb the trees to get leaves to eat, so they wait till the leaves fall.

Hundreds of worms have drawn leaves into their holes, and are busy eating away the leafy skin, and gradually putting the leaf more into the earth.

Thus, you notice, these hundreds of busy little workers are doing good out of sight, and are building up good soil for our use. Many are the good deeds done humbly and unseen which benefit mankind.

We are all bound as Girl Guides by our promises to help others, and therefore we must think how we can do so.

We must think for others—that is, *put ourselves in the place of the person we wish to help*. If you think what their troubles and trials are, you may see what it is that would make them happier.

It is not always easy to help others, but if you fix your mind on that person—by putting yourself in her place—the way will soon appear.

We read that "that person is a public benefactor who can make two smiles grow where one smile grew before"! And I see it is advertised that tremendous improvements have lately been made both in motor cars and in boots, and I hope that before long we shall see the same effect among our Girls as among boots and motors.

This New Year, 1914, we are entering will prove it, I know.

Look at all the months to come and all the days that make up the months of the year.

They rise up there before us as a grand and beautiful staircase, and we are all stepping up and up, and hoping to mount to the top of those stairs.

But though the staircase is wonderfully beautiful, there lies on every step some bit of work for us to do, and we cannot mount up to the next step till we have accomplished what is put there for us.

Then, again, this

BEAUTIFUL STAIRCASE

is one where there are no banisters or hand-rails, and unless you keep in the centre, and walk carefully, you may easily step to one side, and one false step over the edge and down you fall, crash! into the black depths beneath!

Which of us will get up to the top of this year's staircase successfully, I wonder?

Let me know if you get there first.

Yours sincerely,

AGNES BADEN-POWELL.

ADVANCED TEST BADGES.

On page 463 of the Handbook you will find this sentence: "It is contemplated to award special higher badges to Guides who pass their tests through classes at Continuation or Evening Trade Classes." We now propose giving details of these badges from time to time.

They must be competed for *annually*, and will be granted *free* by Headquarters on receipt of a certificate, which must be signed by a qualified examiner.

We wish the standard of these badges to be high, so that they may serve as a certificate, if need be, to employers and others.

ADVANCED COOKERY TEST.—Cook and serve in the presence of a qualified examiner a complete three course dinner at a cost of about one shilling per head. Ingredients to be purchased previous day, and bills to be produced by candidate. Time allowed, two hours and a half, including washing-up cooking utensils.

It is a good plan, where possible, to hire the cookery room in an Elementary School for examinations, and examinations of other things as well as cooking can be held while there.

ADVANCED NEEDLEWORK TEST.—Cut out and tack up an under garment from a pattern supplied by the examiner, fitting and placing the pattern yourself. Produce specimens of featherstitching, herring-boning, buttonholes, and gathers in a band, also a neatly-made print blouse and a simple dress skirt.

Where candidates are in such a position that there are no classes to attend, she can still go in for these badges. No candidates are likely to be so remotely situated that a Teacher of Cookery or Sewing cannot be found, and I feel sure any such Teacher would lend her services.

GIRL GUIDE

PROFICIENCY BADGES



THE GIRL GUIDES' GAZETTE,

JANUARY, 1914.

NOTICE.

The "G. G. G." will be published in future on the 15th of the month. Price 2½d. post free.

All communications should be addressed to—

HEADQUARTERS,
GIRL GUIDES' GAZETTE,
116 Victoria Street,
London, S.W.

The Editor will return all M.S.S. if a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed therewith.

EDITORIAL FOREWORD.

A LONG FELT WANT.

As the Girl Guide Movement grows larger, and its members scatter abroad, there arises the necessity for some sort of Official Organ, to aid in the working of those Companies nearer home, and to aid and give a sense of unity to the more scattered Patrols. We feel we are fulfilling a long-felt desire by publishing the GIRL GUIDE GAZETTE, which is to be a monthly magazine devoted entirely to the work and activities of the Girl Guides, and should prove of interest to Guides, Officers, and all who have the Movement at heart.

WHAT WE HOPE TO DO.

We hope to help forward the Movement by publishing instructive articles by competent writers, by useful Competitions, by hints on such things as Ambulance, Cooking, Sick Nursing, Gardening, etc., and by giving publicity to the aims and objects of the Girl Guide Movement. We shall publish also, from time to time, short stories. It is hoped to stimulate interest by devoting a space to Company news; it is always interesting to know what other Companies are doing, and how they manage. All changes of Regulations, new Badges, etc., as settled by Headquarters will appear in this magazine.

HOW YOU CAN HELP.

We want your help, first of all, by subscribing yourselves and by getting your friends, either girls or grown-ups, to subscribe. Another way in which you can help us considerably is by sending in your ideas. Most of us, from time to time, have brilliant inspirations about something or other, either in connection with Company work as a whole or else some one branch of it. No doubt some of you have written short plays for Guides' entertainments, or short stories about Guides, or verses relative to scouting. Send them all in, and, whenever possible, we will find space for them. We want this to be *your* paper, and, to make it so, we want to know how you would like it filled. Let us have your suggestions, whether you are a Captain or a Tenderfoot, and then we shall know what you would like to appear in these pages to make it of real interest to you.

THE FIRST ISSUE.

We are greatly indebted to Lady Maud Wilbraham for her article on the use of First-Aid. She is an authority on the subject, and is Lady Superintendent of the London District, St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

Miss Agnes Baden-Powell has given us details of some new Badges, and these, we venture to think, will be read with great interest.

A Happy New Year to you, and one of progress.

GIRL GUIDES AND MUSIC.

At the Musical Competition Festival held at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, November 22nd, the 1st Brixton Company, attached to St. Jude's Church, Dulwich Road, gained the 1st Prize for "Choral Singing." The girls were trained and conducted by Lieutenant A. L. Hale.

In the Solo Singing, Guide Eva Hutchison gained the third place.

The prize was £2 2s. and a certificate.

A Bazaar was held on November 27th and 28th in aid of the Parish Funds.

For some months the Guides had been preparing for the event, and the result of their Stall was a profit of £9 5s. 11d.

WON BY DEEDS.

How a Company of Guides Proved
Their Worth.

By JESSIE CAMERON.

Dorothy Rackford, only daughter of Sir Thomas Rackford, saw at once all the good points in the Girl Guide Movement, and determined to start a Company in Wraybury. Now, Sir Thomas was a man of influence in Wraybury, and his support would insure the Guides a good start in life.

When, however, his daughter told him her plans, he seemed to swell to twice his natural size, and a look of wrath came into his face.

"What! Allow a daughter of mine to wear a ridiculous uniform and parade the streets with a tribe of Girl Scouts? Never! No, don't argue, Dorothy; you know very well that when I say 'No' I mean it. Besides you'd be the laughing stock of the town."

"Guides are not Scouts," persisted Dorothy; "and their aim is to make healthy, helpful women, wives and mothers for the future generation."

"Don't argue, Dorothy," was Sir Thomas' only reply.

Dorothy, seeing that arguing was of no avail, tried persuasion and at length gained from her father a grudging sanction to her schemes.

"But," he said, "I shall expect you to produce some very definite and good result, mind."

Thus the 1st Wraybury Company was formed, three Patrol Leaders were chosen, and an old disused schoolroom was utilised as a Headquarters. Some six months after they had started, Dorothy Rackford had called her three Patrol Leaders together, and suggested that they should take up "Good Service Work." The lower end of Wraybury was a poor neighbourhood, comprised mostly of large tenement buildings and ramshackle houses. After discussion as to

ways and means, they decided to make this the scene of their operations.

One cheery Saturday afternoon saw the Ivy Leaf Patrol bustling about on the top landing of one of the tenements, cleaning up and making comfortable two rooms which belonged to a poor widow who was a cutter in the large boot and shoe factory in the town. She had three small children, and it took her all her limited spare time to look over their heads and a small fire it had to go at that.

The Patrol was intent on its work—it really is surprising what a lot one can find to do even in two rooms—and the sounds of sweeping and scrubbing blended with the cries of children and the clattering of feet up and down the steps.

"You wouldn't call Mrs. Dunn a tidy body, would you?" said Nora Bamsey, in the act of unearthing the kettle from behind some curtains, where it reposed side by side with a pair of boots, a shawl, and a frying-pan.

"No; she hasn't got any 'system,' as Miss Rackford would say," remarked her friend, Elsie Scott.

"There's an awful smell of burning!" said Jenny McCormick, their Patrol Leader, and hardly were the words out of her mouth when the terrible cry of "Fire" arose from the street, and soon sounds of a wild stampede reached them. Their Corporal rushed out on to the landing, and as she did so a dense cloud of reddened smoke came rolling up the well of the stairs, through which she could dimly see below her women, children, and a few men jostling each other down the narrow staircase in their wild eagerness to reach the ground floor and the open air; some were even attempting to jump down the well in order to reach the front entrance.

She returned, and quickly explained to Jenny the position. The Patrol Leader quietly turned to one of the others, and bade her go and turn on all the water taps, of which there were two on each landing, as far as the smoke would allow her; then crossing over to the window, she blew several short blasts on her whistle. This soon attracted the attention of the crowd below, and she then called down for one of their number to hurry and fetch the other two Patrols, who

were by this time back at their Headquarters.

As quickly as possible they tied together all the bed sheets and blankets to make a rope, and soaked them in the water which was running freely from the taps near by. Having done this, they lowered the rope out of the window, only to find that it was several feet too short. However, by tearing down the curtains and adding these the rope just touched the ground. Then came the trying part. Carefully and slowly they lowered the first of Mrs. Dunn's three children down, and as the little one came within reach many hands were raised to take it, and a cheer arose from the sea of upturned faces in the street below. Soon the second child and then the third were lowered safely to the ground.

Meanwhile Dorothy and the rest of the Guides had arrived, and they quickly made bandages and procured oil and flour to dress those who were most badly burnt. There was Mrs. Dunn, too, shedding tears over her children, snatched from so terrible a fate. No one seemed to realise that the gallant little band were imprisoned up there, six stories high, and that the staircase was now a sea of flame, and that their blanket rope was by this time so much tinder. Suddenly a man was heard to cry, "By Jove! the lassies are still up there. Why hasn't the fire-escape come?"

A silence came over the crowd. Dorothy Rackford could only stare upwards and pray that the escape would not be long in coming. At last the sound of bells was heard, and the Police swept the crowd back as the fire-escape and two engines dashed up. It was the work of moments to rear the escape under that top window, and soon the imprisoned Guides were down in the street, with smarting eyes and burnt hands, but still cheerful.

Not a moment too soon, for just then the roof fell with a rumble amidst a shower of sparks and a cloud of black smoke.

* * * *

Need I add how the crowd cheered or how the Firemen and Police congratulated them? Nor was that all. Sir Thomas, on his return from a few days' shooting, found all Wraybury talking of his daughter and her gallant little band.

"Dorothy," he said, "forgive me. Any

Movement that gives a girl this grand opportunity for service is good. Your Guides have more than won their right to exist."

The 1st Wraybury Girl Guides are going ahead splendidly.

LADY MASSIE BLOOMFIELD ON THE GIRL GUIDES.

IN the course of an address on the "Aims and Objects of Our Movement" at Chiswick recently, Lady Massie Bloomfield said that she was glad to hear that the local clergy were about to take up the Movement, because she found that many of them thought they were doing a dreadful thing in following this work.

They knew of the character-building done by the Boy Scouts, and they desired that every mother should wish her daughter to be a Guide for the same reason. One of their great objects was character-building; they wanted to see the girls good daughters, good wives, and good mothers.

She had found that after six months in the Girl Guides the girls become much more refined and had higher ideals. The clubs could form their own Patrols. Their great difficulty, she continued, was to get Officers—ladies who would give a few hours during the week and their Saturday afternoons to the work. They seemed ready to do anything for the boys, but nothing for the girls who were to be the mothers of the future generation.

Those who did help in this way would find the work most delightful. The athletic girl made a good Officer. She urged that the Movement would do much to bring the classes together, and, in conclusion, said that their great ideal was to train up good women, who would be the best of mothers in the future.

8 "EVENING NEWS" COMPETITION.

The prize for the Best Dressed Girl Guide Doll in the "Evening News" Competition was awarded to Miss M. Jellicoe, of the Southwold District. The prize was a cheque for £1 1s.

* * * *

We regret that in the December Golden Rule it was stated that "Mrs. Addison, of Darlington," was awarded the Silver Fish. This should read "Mrs. Addison, of Ronaldkirk."

* * * *

The result of the Dried Flower Competition will be announced next month.



Photograph of Queen Amélie of Portugal, Miss Baden-Powell, Mrs. Cave and Richmond Girl Guides. Queen Amélie is the Patroness of the Richmond Girl Guides. Mrs. Cave the District Commissioner.

IPSWICH RALLY.

A rally for all troops of Girl Guides in the neighbourhood is being arranged at Ipswich for Whit Monday, June 1st, 1914.

The District Commissioner, Mrs. Babington, has offered a prize in each of the following subjects:—Ambulance, signalling, physical drill, cooking, needlework, laundry, jumping with staves, knot tying. She will also give a shield for the troop gaining the highest total marks.

It is proposed to run a week-end Camp in Ipswich for troops able to stay. A meeting for all Officers of competing troops will shortly be arranged to discuss details.

Troops to compete in squads of 6 Guides and the tests will be on the following lines:—

Ambulance—as for Ambulance badge.

Signalling—as for Signalling badge.

Cooking—Each Guide to bring a loaf of bread made entirely by herself. The 6 Guides to cook in the open—porridge and stew and peel potatoes and wash up.

Needlework—Each of the 6 Guides to make two garments in plain needlework, darn a stocking, put on a patch and make a buttonhole. (These will be done beforehand and brought to the Rally.)

Laundry—Each Guide to bring some flannel garment washed and ironed by herself; also pocket handkerchief and blouse or child's frock washed, starched and ironed.

Knots—Guides to compete in quickness in following knots—reef, clovehitch, sheet band, bowline, fishermen's, sheep shank.

Jumping—With staves, long jump and high jump.

Physical drill—Three sets of physical exercises with or without apparatus.

Competent judges who are in no way connected with the Troops will be chosen.

Special cheap tickets are issued by the Railway Companies to Girl Guides—Apply to 116 Victoria Street, S.W., for Railway Vouchers and Particulars.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

I. How to wear your All Round Cords.

The Cords are issued in pairs, and they are worn like this:—

Take one cord, double it, and pass round the right shoulder under shoulder strap. Slip the two tassels through the loop. Now take the other cord, double it, and slip the loop under the other cord. Then put all four tassels through this loop and pull tight. This leaves you four ends, two long and two short. Tie three or four knots in the long ends and pin the tassels together on the right breast. Ordinary overhand knots will do, but your own ingenuity will no doubt invent something more ornamental.

II. Where to wear your Badges.

The First or Second Badge is worn on the left arm, above the elbow and above a Patrol Leader's or Corporal's stripes. The First Aid, Nursing and Child's Nurse badges are worn on either side of the First Class, but the "Red Cross Armband" given when the Guide has reached the rank of "Nursing Sister" is worn above the elbow on the right arm. All other Efficiency Badges come up the right forearm. I advise everyone to have a gauntlet cuff for these, so that they can be removed when there is a dirty job on hand. When the badges outgrow the cuff, make a larger one for yourself with American cloth and blue serge bound together with black braid. The best way to wear the other badges is to button-hole them on to a piece of blue with silk. The patch can be stitched on to any blouse, and the badges do not suffer from the removal. The Service Stars should be worn in a single row upwards on the left cuff. Full directions are given in the Official Handbook, price 1/-, at Headquarters.

III. When and How to Salute.

All Guides in uniform salute a Superior Officer of any Company, a Scoutmaster in uniform, and any Officers of His Majesty's Forces, also the Playing of "God Save the King," the Hoisting of the Union Jack, any Colours, and any Funeral. When passing an Officer the salute is given by raising the

hand furthest away to the forehead at three paces distant, and bringing it smartly to the side when three paces beyond. If more than one Officer receive the same salute, the Senior only returns it. If several Guides are marching in charge of someone, the command "Eyes Right" (or left) is given the Officer saluting with the right hand.

IV. Saluting with Staves.

If Guides are carrying staves, a salute is given by carrying the left hand smartly across the body, palm down, till the tips of the fingers touch the staff held at the "Order." When marching with staves, the salute is given in the same way, with the staff at "Shoulder."

If a Company of Guides meet a funeral, "Halt" should be given, "Front Face" and "Droop on Staves." Guides grasp their staves about a foot from the top, and bow their heads till their foreheads rest on their hands.

V. How to keep your Ties clean.

I know that pale blue ties get very "messy," and washing takes out all the colour, but try this dodge, and you will be surprised how much longer they will last. After every Parade, fold the tie neatly and lay it under your mattress. Sleep on it for a couple of nights, and then lay it away for next Parade.

VI. Should Girl Guides carry Colours?

A great many Companies now have their Colours, but I doubt if many realise the importance of their possession. The flag is meant to be the outward sign of a Company's moral strength as it were. It should be carried upright at the head of the Company, and we consider that any act contrary to the Guide Law would dishonour that flag. Looked on in this light, I say that Guides should have Colours, but they should learn to treat them with proper respect. Colours should always be carried by an Officer or a Colour Bearer appointed for Good Conduct, and they should never be left unguarded. The duty of guarding the Colour ought to be given as a reward for good behaviour to the Guides, and they should remember to take no notice of commands to "Stand at Ease," but always to remain at Attention until orders are given to "Case the Colour."

VII. Badge Records for Club Rooms.

Why do some Club Rooms look so much cosier and more "official" than others? Probably because the walls are well covered with bright pictures, photos, lists, charts, flags, and so on. A "Ladder of Rank" is an attractive thing, and is made as follows: Take a strip of brown or white paper about 18 inches long, and on it paste a ladder in coloured paper. On each rung write the ranks of Guides, from Recruit to Captain, and keep little strips of paper with the name of each Guide. The strips are pinned on to each rung with a drawing pin. The same idea can be carried out with Efficiency Badges.

Here is another idea for a badge record. Cut out shields of wood or cardboard, paint the badge at the top, and as each Guide wins it inscribe her name on the tablet.

VIII. Patrols. A word for Captains

A Patrol of eight girls is the unit in the Guides Corps, but it should be made of more importance. The Leader, a girl older than the rest, must realise that she is responsible for the seven girls under her, and the Captain should work up a keen rivalry between her Patrols. Personally I am in favour of Patrols specialising in one subject for, say, three months. Mark the standard of efficiency reached by each, and see if any other can exceed it. The Pioneering Patrol should always carry staves and one lashing each. The Ambulance Patrol should carry First Aid Outfits, the Signaller's flags, and so on.

Patrol Leaders and Corporals should be encouraged to report little things to their Captain, and also to meet their girls at odd times during the week to coach them.

IX. When may I wear Uniform?

Uniform should be worn at any Guides' Parades or when on Guide duty, but if anyone under the rank of Officer wishes to go in uniform to an entertainment or to pay a call, leave must be obtained first. No Guide should go to a Scout Rally unless in charge of an Officer. Guides must obtain the Scoutmaster's permission to attend a Scouts' Parade. You should always salute anyone you know to be an Officer, even when they are not in uniform, and many ladies and gentlemen appreciate the attention of being saluted.

X. The Book to Read.

If you want to give a delightful prize which your guides would much appreciate why not buy "Nora the Girl Guide." This is a most charming story, and gives Nora's experiences from Tenderfoot to Silver Fish.

Through her influence in the school she earns this praise from her governess:—
"Instead of dishonesty and evasion, we have now unflinching honour and unswerving truth, in the place of the old slackness in our studies, we have a keen enthusiasm and desire to learn which makes teaching the most inspiring of all professions, instead of the least. For secret disobedience we have open loyalty, in the place of apathy we have bright intelligence. Where we mistresses distrusted and suspected we now rely with confidence upon your honour—and are not deceived. We no longer watch you as if you were jailers responsible for the behaviour of criminals."

Obtainable from headquarters.

XI. The correct sizes for Signalling Flags.

Very few girls learn to signal with full-sized flags, but it is a pity, as their style is bound to suffer from using little flags. A Morse flag should be 2 feet square; white, with a dark blue horizontal stripe $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, on both sides. The pole should be $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, tapering from 1 inch to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. Semaphore flags are $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet square, and of dark blue and white diagonally divided. The reason for the introduction of the blue in both flags is to prevent them being taken for flags of truce in time of war.

XII. How to run an Inspection of one Company.

The Inspecting Officer should be received by the Company drawn up at the salute, and, accompanied by the Captain, she then inspects the lines. Displays should then be given, followed by the Presentation of Badges. It is a good idea to invite anyone known to be interested in the Movement to look on, and to offer them a cup of tea and cakes made by the Guides. After tea the Inspecting Officer should say a few words, and the Captain may reply if she has any report to make on the Company since the last Inspection. This is only an idea for a small private Inspection of one Company; a District or County Rally needs very different management.

and twenty-three members are first year service girls. Fifty-three have gained their Tenderfoot badge, fifty are in uniform, and thirty-nine have paid up in full for same. They have twelve first class and seventeen second class badges, and have gained ten "all round" cords. One girl has won the "Nursing Arrow" and another the champion swimming medal. Miss Alexander and the Committee are to be much congratulated.

THE 1ST HERTFORD HEATH COMPANY now number twenty, and have gained forty-seven Proficiency Badges, including needle-work, gardening, laundry, child-nurse, naturalise, etc. They had a big entertainment recently for their Camp Fund.

Mrs. ENGLISH, the Hon. Secretary of the LIVERPOOL and DISTRICT ASSOCIATION, has sent an excellent account of their Rally. The LIVERPOOL, BIRKENHEAD, and ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD COMPANIES, numbering four hundred, were inspected by Miss Agnes Baden-Powell on Saturday, November 22nd, in the Liverpool Scottish Drill Hall. The Lord Mayor of Liverpool (Mr. Herbert R. Rathbone), in a few words of welcome to the Chief Guide, paid high tribute to the aims and objects of the Movement.

After the Inspection, there was a march past of the combined Companies, and short displays of fancy figure-marching, bicycle-drill, pole-drill, step-marching and tambourine-drill. Afterwards Miss Baden-Powell presented some Officers' Warrants and first class badges, and gave a short address to the Guides. Most of the spectators expressed themselves greatly pleased with the appearance and discipline of the girls, who carried out all the movements without the slightest hitch.

1ST MERSTHAM. This Company at present only consists of one Patrol, "The Snowdrops," all of whom have passed their Tenderfoot examination, and are working up for their second class badge. They attended the Reigate Swimming Baths several times, and had a summer outing at their Captain's home.

THE 8TH BRISTOL COMPANY have taken a little cottage as Headquarters, which they opened with a house-warming in November. With Miss Baden-Powell's permission they have christened it "Baden-Powell Cottage."

ALDERLEY EDGE. Congratulations to Patrol Leader McElfrick on winning the Silver Fish.

1ST FARTHINGSTONE. Winnie Spielmann, of this Company, has been awarded the Badge of Merit. She went to the assistance of another girl who got into difficulties in a swimming bath when the attendant was not at hand.

There is no doubt that the girl averted a tragedy by her presence of mind.

THE 1ST and 3RD RICHMOND COMPANIES won the Solo Gold Medal (Girl Guide Section) at the Crystal Palace Musical Festival, and also second prize for Choir Singing. Dorothy Yaylor, Leader, won the medal. The judges said she reached the very highest standard. She is the first Guide to win the Gold Medal in public competition.

When Col. de Burgh, Deputy Chief Commissioner of the Boy Scouts' Association, inspected the Torquay Troops, the TORQUAY COMPANY of Guides provided tea at 3d. a head, and made a profit. Col. de Burgh seemed pleased with the Guides, and said their uniform was smarter than the Scouts.

CRITICISMS WANTED. A COMPETITION OPEN TO ALL OUR READERS

IN WHICH
Ten Shillings is Offered in Prizes.

A Great Man once said—

"A thing to be Good must be worthy of Criticism."

Our first Competition is to be a Criticism Competition.

- (1) 5/- for the most useful and practical criticism for improving the Gazette.
- (2) 5/- for the best suggestion for increasing the sale of our paper.

CONDITIONS.

Cut out and fill in the enclosed Coupon and send it together with your criticism to—

THE GIRL GUIDES' GAZETTE,

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Entries should be sent in not later than February 25th, 1914.

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