

## MISS BADEN-POWELL'S LETTER.

MY DEAR GUIDES,

The War Spirit is let loose, and is clutching men in its claws all over the world. At this moment there are very few people who are not under the spell of this terrible monster.

I should think that in all human history there never have been so many nations at war at one time as we now see.

This is a most dreadful outcome of all our professions of civilisation and Christianity, but I fear that, as we are advised that fighting is the best way to put an end to this awful calamity, all that you and I can do is to help our heroes go forth with good courage, and to do all we can to cheer them and make their path easy.

Men are willing to face the worst dangers of the battlefield, and they have the companionship of their fellows, the excitement and feeling of doing their duty, and perhaps the hope of glory and conquest to urge them on.

The women, however, at home suffer in silence. With them it is different. It has always been woman's lot to endure, to face privation, and to suffer bereavement in solitary grief, with no compensating thrill.

Women are always glad to sacrifice themselves unheard and unknown, but it is often on them that the worst brunt of the suffering in war time falls. But can they not, at all events, crow over their men-folk in being able to look at the bright side of things?

Shall I tell you a little story I heard the other day about trying to be thankful for everything that comes?

I daresay some of you know it. Nevertheless, it will bear repeating.

There was a little girl named Katie, and after a good deal of misfortune her father and she decided that they would make a resolution in future that, whatever happened to them, they would find something about the evil to be thankful for.

Now, Katie knew that a kind lady had promised to send her a big doll, and within a day or two there arrived, addressed to the child, a long box, big enough to hold a life-sized baby. Her father came to help open it, and Katie's delight made her dance with expectation.

What a blow! What disappointment when they found only a pair of crutches inside!

What was the good of crutches, and who could have made such a mistake?

Well, after a few tears had been shed, and a great deal of breath had been wasted, Katie's father pulled her close to him and tried to remind her of their resolve. How could they possibly find something to be thankful for in this?

"Look here, Katie," said her father. "I know! You may be ever so disappointed, but I see something to be thankful for. You can thank God that you do not require the crutches."

Yes, that was true. How many suffering little girls are obliged to creep about on crutches, and now, soon, how many of our dear warriors will have to have crutches! Should not Katie and you and I be thankful we can do without crutches?

The other question we are all asking ourselves is: "How can I help my country?" We cannot enlist, and no one wants us at the Front.

Now, we all know that good work is well paid. Any woman who can do one thing well is always wanted.

If you can do one thing perfectly, you are valuable, but many and many a girl is unemployed and is not wanted because she has not taken the trouble to learn and to get to know how to do a thing well.

You, dear Guides, have an opportunity; you have one chance better than other girls; you have clever, capable Officers willing to teach you. Now is your time to perfect yourselves.

I went to call on a friend recently, and I was surprised when she opened the door herself. She then told me that her servants had been allowed out for the evening.

Meantime two charming Girl Guides had offered to come in and do the work of the servants; and very well they did it. We sat down to an excellently cooked supper, the table neatly laid. We were most attentively waited on and all was washed up and tidied before the servants came back.

Bravo, Girl Guides!

Sincerely yours,  
AGNES BADEN-POWELL.

### USE UP OLD NEWSPAPERS.

In the majority of homes old newspapers are employed for little else but lighting fires. There are many other ways in which they can be used to advantage.

When washing up, it is a great help to remove the remains of food from plates, knives, cooking utensils, etc., by giving them a quick rub with a piece of newspaper.

Instead of the felt which is frequently put under carpets to make them wear better, and to keep the draughts from coming through the cracks in the boards, newspapers can be used.

Wads of folded paper laid on each stair, and kept in place with nails, form an excellent pad, deadening the sound of footsteps, and prolonging the life of the stair carpets.

If you suffer from cold feet, when standing for long at the kitchen table, put two or three newspapers on the floor; they will prevent the chill of bricks or tiles striking through.

Windows and mirrors can be polished with newspaper crumpled up into a soft ball. The glass must first be slightly dampened, then rubbed with a circular motion.

Furs or woollens can be packed away without fear of moths getting at them, if they are wrapped carefully in newspaper. Be sure to see that there are no loose openings through which the moths could enter.

If you have no white paper at hand for lining drawers, use clean newspaper; it does splendidly.

When spring cleaning, you want to cover your head to prevent your hair getting dusty—make a newspaper cap, which can be secured in position by a hairpin or two.

### TRADE CLASSES FOR GIRLS.

For the coming winter the London County Council has arranged special classes for women and girls in silver engraving, boot and shoe manufacture, costume designing, dressmaking, embroidery, ladies' tailoring, millinery, photography, upholstery and other subjects.

Pamphlets giving full particulars regarding cost, where the classes are held, etc., can be obtained from the Education Offices, Victoria Embankment, London, W.C.

### WAR WORK.

What Birmingham and Midland Branches of Girl Guides have been doing.

1st Small Heath are collecting food weekly, which they take round to 20 needy families every Saturday; also coal.

They are making warm garments for children for the coming winter, from odd pieces of stuff given to them.

Also they are preparing for a concert to raise funds for Christmas help to poorer neighbours.

1st Kylie Hall.—Some of the members are mending clothes at a depot for refugees Belgians. They also clean out this depot.

1st St. Barnabas (Sparkbrook).—Are taking out receipts from the Lady Mayoress's collecting depot.

Many of the other Companies are working in various ways, and all are most anxious and willing to help.

A Rally was held at "Beech Lawn," Edgbaston, by the Commissioner on Saturday, September 26th. 186 Guides and Officers attended. Mrs. Langham (Chairman) and Mrs. Taunton (Vice-President) came, too.

### MARKING HOSPITAL LINEN.

When you have many towels, dusters or clothes to mark quickly, an easy way is to use the "Stitch Alphabet."

These letters are easily made by a few straight stitches. Now take a scrap of cloth and try with your needle and cotton. The latter may be red if for white articles, or any contrasting colour.

Make a V by two long strokes. Make an A with a cross bar, a T with two long stitches; a W needs four straight stitches. Out of our alphabet you can make A, E, F, H, I, K, L, M, N, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z; also all the Roman numerals. You may have noticed that dyers and laundresses use them.

## WHEN WOMEN WENT TO WAR.

Stories of Women who have actually been in the Fighting Line.

Many women find it very hard to stay at home idle, as they call it, while their men are out in the fighting line. How gladly they would shut up their homes and follow to the seat of war.

There are a number of cases on record where women actually have gone to the Front.

Early in the present war, a young French girl, heartbroken because all the men of the family had gone off to fight, leaving her at home alone, determined to follow. She wanted to avenge some of the wrongs which the Germans had inflicted upon the poor Belgian women.

Dressing herself in an old uniform belonging to one of her brothers, she presented herself at the regimental headquarters.

Something in her manner, and the slightness of her figure, aroused the suspicions of the officer in charge, and the girl was compelled to confess her identity, being told sympathetically that it was impossible for her to fight.

Of course her disappointment was very great, but she was somewhat appeased by being taken on as a probationer at one of the military hospitals.

"Mother Jarrethout," one of the heroines of the last Franco-German War, was fifty-three when the war broke out, but, nevertheless, when her husband and son were called away, she enlisted in the same regiment as a "*cantinière*," in order to be near them. She went through the whole campaign as cook, as nurse, and sometimes as soldier.

At Ablis she took two prisoners in an engagement with the White Cuirassiers.

In another engagement she was severely wounded, but she bandaged herself as best she could and went calmly on caring for her wounded "children," as she called the soldiers.

Finally, during the siege of Chateau D'Un she dressed herself in a soldier's uniform,

took her turn with the defenders on the walls of the town, and, when her work there was done, threw a loose gown over her uniform and went off as usual to look after the sick and wounded.

At the end of the war she was given the Cross of the Legion of Honour.

During the Russo-Japanese War the daughter of a wealthy merchant of Vladivostok went to the Front and attached herself to a Cossack regiment, making no attempt to conceal her sex.

She was a skilled horsewoman and rifle shot, and distinguished herself so greatly by her bravery in the various encounters in which the regiment took part that she gained the title of "The Amazon of the Cossacks." After the war, the Tsar, who had been informed of her patriotism and courage, gave her his special protection.

A Cuban lady, Senora Clara Santos, actually arrayed herself in the uniform of a General, put herself at the head of a regiment of rebels, and led them to victory against the troops of the Cuban Government.

At one time the fighting was hand-to-hand, but this courageous lady fought with the best of them, and eventually her forces succeeded in putting the Government troops to flight.

There are many instances of women having fought with English regiments. The most famous of all was Hannah Snell, who dressed herself in male attire, and, under the name of "James Gray," joined the Marines.

After an adventurous life, during which she took part in several battles, she ended her career as the proprietress of an inn at Wapping called "The Female Warrior," and was buried in the cemetery of Chelsea Hospital.

Another Amazon was an Irishwoman named Mrs. Christian Davis. Her husband ran away from her, and, so she heard, joined the Army, and was sent to the Front.

Nothing daunted, the intrepid Mrs. Davis donned one of the truant's suits and set off to find him. She also enlisted, and was sent to the Front, and she fought for some time in Marlborough's army without her sex being discovered.

All the time she kept a sharp look-out for her missing husband, and eventually she found him at an inn in Holland.

We have received the following very interesting report from the Manchester, Salford and District Association:—

The annual Church Parade and Special Service at Manchester Cathedral proved that the Girl Guides in Manchester, Salford and District are most earnest and enthusiastic representatives of the movement.

One Company deserved a cheer as it marched into Albert Square and took its place unostentatiously amongst the assembled Companies, having marched nearly eleven miles.

The long line of seven hundred Girl Guides in simple uniform, four deep, with Union Jacks and Patrol Flags, proceeded to the Cathedral by way of Peter Street and Deansgate. The sight convinced us that there were those willing to show by this demonstration their love for their country and their determination to live up to Girl Guide standards.

We should like to thank the Alderley Edge Company, which sent seven representatives, and is always ready to help us. They carry out the fourth law of the Guides—that of being a sister to every other Guide. It was a true sisterly impulse which sent them. Two girls from a Halifax Company also joined in.

The service at the Cathedral was deeply impressive. The Voluntary seemed to urge us to keep steadfast.

The message of the Dean was short, simple and to the point. He enumerated three reasons why we were present—to show that we endeavoured to do good by collective effort, to do good with God's help, and to consecrate ourselves anew. Bishop Well-don urged us to encourage others. God helps us by encouragement. We must follow His example. "Don't give up, don't despair," were his heartening words.

The Dean did not open to us a life all smooth and easy-going. But he did give us the assurance that God sees our sorrow and will breathe into us the spirit to bear it.

We were reminded that it is within the power of every one of us to do kindness with sympathy; to live a life exalted above meanness. In helping others we have the example of Christ. If we are true to Him, He will be true to us. He will be our Guide unto death.

The annual report submitted to the General Committee was very satisfactory.

Since the Association of the Manchester, Salford and District Girl Guides was reorganised last October, seventeen Companies have been formed, making a total of thirty Companies, consisting of 1,050 Guides and sixty-four Officers.

(N.B.—These numbers are now incorrect, as so many have joined the Guides since the outbreak of the war.)

Examinations for Proficiency Badges have been held monthly since January. It is interesting to note the most popular subjects during the months January—July: Ambulance, Laundry, Needlewoman, Child-nurse, Matron (housekeeping), Cook, Artist and Hospital Nurse.

At the end of March we were in debt. In April a concert was given in the Milton Hall, the proceeds of which not only covered all deficits, but left us with a good balance in hand.

Miss Baden-Powell's expressed wish that no Captains should serve on the Executive Committee was laid before a Captains' meeting called in August. The suggestion was approved at the emergency General Meeting, and resulted in the resignation of all Captains on the Executive, including Miss Clark, the Hon. Secretary, who has since the movement began in Manchester been most devoted and untiring in her efforts. Also Miss Taylor, the Hon. Treasurer.

Miss Heaton-Smith has consented to undertake the duties of Hon. Secretary, and Mrs. Spence those of Hon. Treasurer.

## HOW TO PRESS LEAVES.

When leaves are carrying their lovely autumn tints is the very best time to press them.

Take an old book with you when you go out to collect the leaves; put them between the pages (leaving several blank pages between each lot of leaves) as you gather or pick them up; then, when you get home, put the book under a heavy weight, and leave it for three or four days.

After the pressing process is completed, give the leaves a very thin coat of varnish or dip them in melted wax before putting them in the book which is to hold your permanent collection.

# THE GUARDS OF OUR COASTS.

By LT.-GEN SIR ROBERT BADEN-POWELL, K.C.B.

Everybody in Britain—  
(Look here, you Guides! Before I go on, just remember this little point: we are too apt to talk of "England" instead of "Britain." England is only one part of Britain, which includes, besides the English, the Scots, the Welsh and the Irish (such of them as like it) and the people of Berwick-on-Tweed.)

Well—as I was saying—everybody in Britain seems to be doing something to help our forces at the Front, and shirts and socks are almost becoming a drug in the market for the soldiers on the Continent. The War Office has been obliged to say that they have enough of these, and to spare.

But there are lots of smaller things which men on Service like to get, and some of these the Girl Guides are, I believe, making and sending to them, such as foot wrappings, little bags to carry their tea, sugar, and tobacco, handkerchiefs, pipes and chocolate.

But cold nights are coming on, and a warm neck-wrap, or a pair of mits or woollen wristlets are great comforts to a man, especially if a little note is enclosed saying: "Well done!—From a Girl Guide."

Still, you must not forget that the soldiers whom we read about in the papers as fighting for us so bravely and cheerily in the front line are not the only men who are serving our country at this moment.

Behind them are men in the Army Service and Ordnance Corps, working their lives out to keep them supplied with food and ammunition, clothing and forage. Then there are the doctors and nurses and the ambulance men of the hospitals tending them the moment they are sick or wounded.

There are hosts of workers behind the scenes in addition to the actors in the lime-light, on whom the success of the play greatly depends.

The Royal Navy, too, are quietly and bravely doing their work by day and night in the rough, cold North Sea, guarding our island home unceasingly, ready to give their

lives at any moment that their women and children may live. We owe them a great deal, and any little comforts which can be sent them will no doubt please them, and show them that the folk at home are grateful.

And behind them there is a second line, and it is for this line I want specially to ask the help of the Guides.

All round our coasts, as you know, are Coastguard stations. The Coastguards in war time have an important work to do, especially at night and on foggy days, in watching lest the enemy's spies attempt to find landing-places, or to make signals from the shore to hostile mine-laying boats, or lest the enemy himself slip past our Fleet and endeavour to land unseen.

But the Coastguards have had also to supply a number of men for the Fleet, and so Boy Scouts have come forward and have been allowed by the Admiralty to take their place.

Thus, from John o' Groats to Eastbourne, the whole of our eastern coast is being watched by your brothers, the Boy Scouts. A large force of them is doing this duty for their country. They are doing it silently and well, in all weathers, and more especially in the cold and foggy time.

Will not the Guides like to do something to help them? Many of them are poor lads, and cannot afford the jerseys and great-coats which are becoming so much needed by them; and all of them would be the better for sweaters, stockings, or stocking legs, woollen comforters, nightcaps, mits or wristlets.

Do help them if you can, and thus help your country.

I shall be very glad to receive at 116, Victoria Street, London, S.W., any parcels from Guides, and to send them on to the Coastguard Scouts.

Robert Baden-Powell



The Snowdrop Patrol of the Kirkce (India) Girl Guides with their Captain, Miss Mawe. There are nineteen girls in the patrol and they are all children of British soldiers. At Christmas they camp out in the mountains, where panthers, hyenas and jackals abound, and their nights' rest is sometimes disturbed by the howling of these animals. As the sun is so hot in the day time the Guides parade in the evening. Strangely enough they have never seen a snowdrop, the name of their patrol flower. On the occasion of the King's birthday celebrations at Poona the Guides helped to line the ropes.

## HOW WE ARE HELPING.

### What Guides are doing for their Country.

**Abergavenny.**—The Guides are (1) making pillows to put under the limbs of wounded soldiers brought to Maindiff Court Convalescent Home; (2) making bandages; (3) picking and selling blackberries in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund.

**Allford.**—The Guides have bought wool, flannel and shirting, with which they are busy making garments for soldiers, sailors, and Belgian refugees.

**Alfreton.**—The 1st Company is assisting the Red Cross Society, in addition to making and fitting up a kit-bag.

**Bath.**—St. Luke's Company (1st Bath) spent several days collecting old linen, and gathered such a quantity that four days were occupied in boiling, disinfecting, and ironing it. The fuel and disinfectant were bought out of the Guides' funds.

These same girls also collected three hundred blankets in response to the Mayor's appeal for warm coverings for the soldiers.

**Bournemouth.**—The 1st and 2nd Companies of Guides (Princess Louise's Own) helped to prepare the local Red Cross Society's hospital.

**Bradford.**—The 1st Company have been practising ambulance, nursing, and cookery, to enable them to give relief in the poorer quarters of the city, should distress become acute.

**Brighton.**—The 3rd Company are knitting socks for soldiers and making bandages. They have offered their services to help distressed families, etc.

**Brighton and Hove.**—Services have been offered for Red Cross and relief work. Guides are willing to undertake duties as messengers, cyclists, assistants to soup kitchens, hospitals, creches, as dummies for bandaging practice, or to render practical assistance in the homes of the sick poor by cleaning, helping with children, mending clothes, and so on.

**Canning Town.**—The 1st Company is busy collecting linen for a hospital in the district, where wounded soldiers are being nursed.

**Cardiff.**—Giving a display. The proceeds to go to the local War Fund.

**Cornwall.**—Guides from Penzance, Truro, Falmouth, Charlestown, Madron, and St. Austell have been making themselves most useful in various ways to the local Red Cross Societies.

**Guyra.**—The Company has made a donation of £20 14s. to the Patriotic Fund.

**Drewstainton.**—The Guides have made and equipped three beds for the use of wounded soldiers. The materials were purchased by contributions and funds raised for the camp, which was abandoned owing to the outbreak of the war.

**Dublin.**—All the Companies are now hard at work in aid of those who have suffered hardship for us. St. Peter's (1st Dublin) has much knitting and sewing in hand, and hopes to send its garments to needy Belgians. St. Andrew's (2nd Dublin) is sewing for St. John Ambulance Convalescent Homes. Harold's Cross (1st S. Dublin) intends also sending its sewing to St. John's, and hopes to send knitted mufflers to the Fleet. Sandford (2nd S. Dublin) is also serving for St. John's, and those of its Company who have spare time have put their services at the disposal of St. John Ambulance. Victoria School (3rd S. Dublin) has had special advantages, and has availed itself fully of these. Owing to so many of its Committee members and its neighbours being deeply interested in first-aid and nursing, the Victoria School Guides have been able to help greatly by acting as messengers for a very hard-worked St. John secretary, and by posing as lay figures and wounded cases in the numerous first-aid classes in Kingstown. The Guides were, on this account, allowed to attend the first-aid lectures, and fourteen of them have already qualified for Ambulance Badges. Kingstown was also keenly interested in the Belgian Flag Day, and Victoria School Guides worked early and late that day (attending school between times). They have been sewing for the Belgian children since about the middle of August, and have sent a bundle of 36 garments to them already, and have more in the making.

**Dunblane.**—The Guides have been giving their services since war began to the local Red Cross V.A.D. in moving about equipment, etc. Most of the girls have been knitting and sewing, as nearly every Guide has a brother with the troops. Those working for their Sewing Badge this winter are to make clothes for destitute Belgian children.

**Dundee** Guides took part in a pageant promoted in aid of the Prince of Wales' Fund. They contributed a tableau entitled "First Aid."

**Durban (South Africa)** Guides helped to swell the Mayor's Relief Fund by selling leaflets at the close of a great patriotic meeting in August. £10 9s. 9d. was realised.

**East Grinstead.**—The 1st Company has already made eight sheets for the local Red Cross Society, in addition to working for Queen Mary's Needlework Guild. Some of the older girls have applied to the Quartermaster of the V.A.D. to act as ward-maids if required; while

the younger girls are anxious to act as messengers.

**Edmonton.**—The 1st Company has sent a second instalment of £3 12s. to the Belgian Relief Fund.

**Ewhurst.**—Members of the Ewhurst Company are sewing and knitting for the soldiers; they are also giving special attention to signalling.

**Ferndale.**—The Guides took part in a big procession and church parade, when collections were made on behalf of the Prince of Wales' Fund.

**Halifax.**—The Guides offered their services to the Local Distress Committee, and in addition were useful in distributing and collecting needlework for the Army and Navy.

**Hammersmith.**—The 1st Hammersmith Company have made and presented one hundred roller bandages to the local Red Cross Society. They have also made a large collection of old linen, and received 25s. from friends for Red Cross work. Their services are being put at the disposal of the Society.

**Harrow.**—The 1st Harrow Company have been doing splendid work for the Voluntary Aid Detachment in Harrow. Ladies have been employing them to pack up the numerous parcels of clothing, etc., being sent away for the soldiers. The Guides have helped with the actual making of the garments collected for this purpose, and also for the Belgian Refugees. They have been helping in the homes of over-burdened mothers, not only by giving their assistance with the housework, but by amusing the children while mothers were out working. Another way in which their help has been much appreciated is in the carrying of pails of fresh water for the soldiers.

The Guides have been given a private garden, in which they are going to grow produce for the poor. They have also been seeking and reporting cases of distress.

The Voluntary Aid Detachment have been giving free instruction in first-aid and ambulance work to five Girl Guides, so pleased were they with the Guides' work and help.

**Herns Hill.**—The 1st Company are engaged in helping a local Relief Committee, as messengers, and have a working party on Saturdays for making socks for our Indian troops and bed-jackets for the wounded in King's College Hospital.

**Hertford Heath.**—The 1st Company was unable to camp on account of the war, so distributed their camp supplies among families in distress owing to the breadwinner serving with the Colours. The Guides are making pyjamas, handkerchiefs and bandages, and have started a fund for sending tobacco, pipes and cigarettes to the Front. They have collected so far about 600 cigarettes, 2 lbs. of tobacco, and £3, but hope to get ten times that amount. They are sending them to a special regiment through the War Office. Offered services to V.A.D.

**Highgate.**—The 1st Company are helping at feeding centres, etc., and, in addition, have started a bank to which each girl contributes one penny weekly.

**Hunstanton.**—The Rhianya College Company during the holidays offered help, some to the Red Cross Society, and others as interpreters and laundresses. The Captain assisted at a hospital in addition to helping a troop of Scouts with Ambulance and signalling work.

**Jarrow.**—Busy making bandages.

**Leyton.**—The 1st Company have made some garments for Queen Mary's Needlework Guild. National favours are now being prepared and sold to buy food and material for garments for the needy children of the neighbourhood, including some of the Guides themselves, whose fathers are at the Front. Assistance was given at the house-to-house collection for the Prince of Wales' Fund.

The Troop Signalling Instructor is serving abroad with the R.F.A.

**Liverpool.**—Some Guides are collecting all their camp furniture in order to fit up a house which they will hand over complete for the use of war refugees.

**Maldenhead.**—The Guides are preparing accommodation for convalescents, and will be in attendance on the nurses and acting as messengers to the Red Cross Hospital. The Captain and two Lieutenants have offered their services as Signallers. Two of their Officers have had to leave them for the present, being Red Cross nurses, and having orders to go abroad.

**Midlothian.**—The Midlothian Guides are busy knitting and sewing. The camp of the 4th Company having been put off, Captain Wooster very kindly handed £3 of the camp fund to the Committee for materials for some of the other Companies to work up. The services of the Guides were offered to the Territorial authorities as menders and darners for the Edinburgh Territorials.

**Newbridge.**—Bandages and small pillows stuffed with flannel remnants are being made. As many girls as possible have been working hard for their First-Aid Badge. The services of the Guides are much appreciated by the local authorities, who have previously looked askance at them.

**Newcastle.**—The Guides have done good work in helping the High School and Cambridge Hall with St. John Ambulance. Headquarters have been opened in the town, with the result that recruits are coming in.

**Okehampton.**—The Company offered their services to the local Red Cross Society. They are also working hard for Ambulance Badges, and practising Signalling.

**Peckham.**—An old lady sent two medals belonging to her dead son to be sold in aid of the National Relief Fund. As soon as the girls of the 1st Peckham Company heard of this they wrote asking the price, so that they might buy and return them to the sender. Unfortunately, their offer arrived too late—the medals had already been sold.

**Portslade.**—The Guides are busy making garments for the children of distressed families.

**Ramsgate.**—The 2nd Company have sent a parcel to the French Red Cross Society con-

taining pillows and pads which were stuffed with paper torn into very thin strips, handkerchiefs, covers for milk, sheets, pillow-cases, hot-water bottle covers, painted French texts, old table-linen, old linen, and six men's flannel shirts, the latter being contriouted by a friend of the Guides.

The girls are now making children's warm clothing for the war refugees, and "house-wives" for the soldiers.

**Rhayader.**—The Guides have had a special table in the local Red Cross Working Party.

**Road.**—The 1st Company has been making plum, apple, rhubarb and blackberry jam for sale in aid of the War Relief Fund.

**Ruislip.**—The 1st Company are carrying messages for the local Relief Fund, and doing needlework for Queen Mary's Guild.

**Stoke-on-Trent.**—The Guides are making shirts and nightgales in connection with Queen Mary's Needlework Guild.

**Swansea (Y.W.C.A.).**—Each Guide of the 1st Swansea Company was given 2d. (by the President, Mrs. J. T. Davies) with which to trade. The most successful method has been the selling of red, white and blue favours, £12 having been realised. In addition, the Guides have undertaken to provide a bed in the emergency hospital being prepared by the Y.M.C.A.

The services of the Company, as well as their hall, have been offered to the local Red Cross Society.

**Torquay.**—The 1st Company have made 100 bandages and several pillows for the local hospital, and have each made themselves a pair of cooking sleeves, to help in the Red Cross Hospital kitchens, if necessary.

**Twickenham.**—Guides are making children's dresses to order, and also are clothing the children of soldiers at the Front.

**Walton Heath.**—Members of the 1st Company have been acting as messengers to the V.A.D.; they have also helped to scrub the floors, clean the windows, etc., of the local Red Cross Hospital.

**Weston-super-Mare.**—Over one thousand notices were addressed and delivered in connection with the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association and Red Cross Society. Shirts and other garments are also being made.

On August 29 the Company collected gifts—tobacco, cigarettes, and old magazines—for Bath Territorials camping on Salisbury Plain. Ten large parcels were made up.

**Wolverhampton.**—Helping the Mayoress by delivering parcels of material to centres for making up into garments, etc.

**Woolwich.** The 1st Woolwich (St. John's) Company have contributed the following articles towards the equipment of a temporary hospital: Rubber hot water bottle, candlestick, 2 pillows, 75 men's handkerchiefs, 9 sleeping jackets, 6 men's day shirts, 15 pillow-slips, 36 flannel bandages, 120 roller bandages, 4 dozen stocking armlets, 4 knitted pneumonia jackets, woollen coat, spoons and forks, complete set of splints.

# GIRL GUIDES' GAZETTE.

## THE GIRL GUIDES' GAZETTE.

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The Editor will be glad to receive short articles, correspondence or items of news of general interest. Manuscripts must be written on one side of the paper only and bear the name and address of the sender (not necessarily for publication). No MSS will be returned unless a stamped envelope is enclosed.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

#### Friendly Criticism.

We shall be very grateful if readers will let us have their criticism of the contents of the GAZETTE.

We want to give you just what you want, so we hope you will not hesitate to write and tell us if there is any particular feature you would like introduced or omitted.

Friendly criticism is of great value, and suggestions of all kinds will be welcomed gladly.

You won't hurt our feelings whatever you say, so don't be afraid to write.

#### Our New Serial.

We expect you have all been looking forward to the commencement of the new serial which we gave you notice of last month.

Mr. Martin's story (starting on page 5) is really good—we cannot say more than that. It is full of scouting tips—many of the little things which give his heroine clues to various mysteries that otherwise would

pass unnoticed by the girl who had not been trained to use her faculty of observation. When reading the story, we are sure you will begin wondering if you have not been going through life with your eyes shut or, at any rate, half closed.

#### What are YOU Doing?

With the winter coming on, there is going to be a great deal of distress amongst the poor—not only the families of men on active service, but of men who are compelled to work short time owing to the war affecting the various businesses in which they are engaged.

We have heard of several cases where children cannot get their proper food, because the parents, try as they will, are unable to earn enough to keep the home going properly.

What a grand idea it would be for a Company of Guides to undertake to feed one or more deserving families.

Between you, no doubt, it would not be a very difficult matter either to buy or to collect the provisions.

Each pair of Guides could be allotted certain streets in which they would probably find several people willing to guarantee a regular supply of food of some kind. This should be collected at a stated time, and then taken back to headquarters to be made up into parcels and distributed as quickly as possible.

We shall be interested to hear of any Companies who adopt this idea—be sure to choose the really deserving cases.

We all must do something for those who have done so much for us, in some cases having given their lives.

*What can we do for those who did so much?*

*What can we give to those who gave us all,*

*And, giving, passed from human word and touch*

*In death's recessional?*

*For us they spoke with actions—not with lips;*

*For us they gave their manhood to the sword,*

*These men who went down to the sea in ships,*

*Or fell upon the sward.*