

Girl Guides' Gazette

Official Organ of the Girl Guides Association. Incorporated by Charter.

No. 49.

January, 1918.

Price 3d.



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Turn to the right and keep straight

Founded by Lt.-Gen. Sir Robert Baden-Powell K.C.B.

President, Miss Agnes Baden-Powell

GIRL GUIDES' GAZETTE

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Cash must be enclosed unless a Deposit Account has been opened.

THE GIRL GUIDES.

(INCORPORATED.)

TELEPHONE: VICTORIA 7876.

Headquarters Office: 76 VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1

(Where all Letters should be addressed)

Shop 84 VICTORIA STREET, LONDON S.W. 1

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GIRL GUIDES' GAZETTE

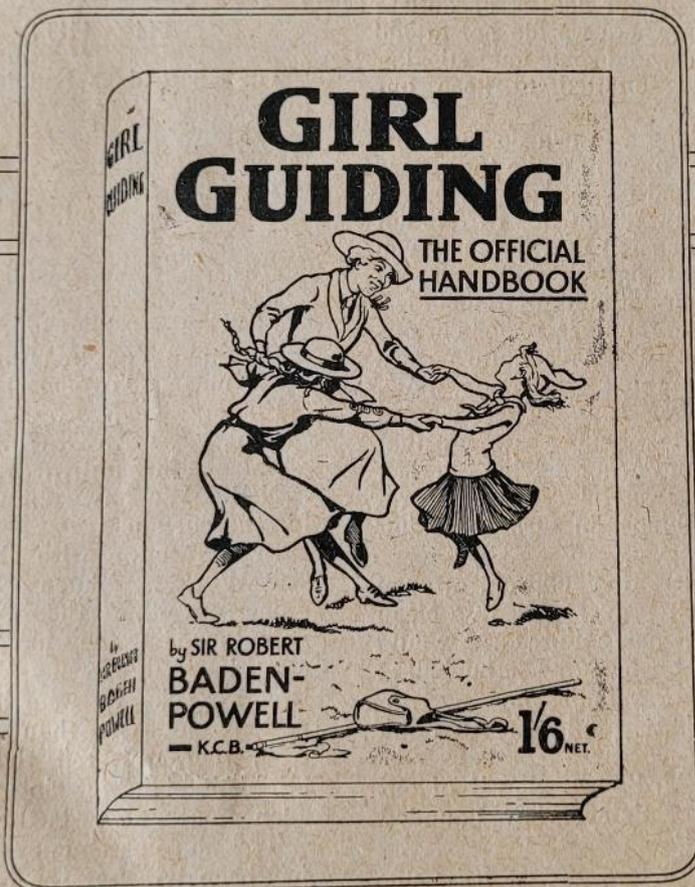
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JANUARY, 1918.

Price 3d.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

"GIRL GUIDING" will be Published before the February "Gazette" comes out.



Please book your orders now.

Price of Book **1s. 6d.** Postage 3d.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

January, 1918.

My dear Guides,—

This is the dawn of a New Year, and we look out on an unknown prospect. We now face another possible year of warfare, warfare to kill war, and to gain lasting peace, freedom and chivalry.

As we stand on the threshold of this New Year, let us pause and think of all the blessings we received during the past year, and what did we do with those months that were lent to us.

The New Year is rather like getting a fresh "warrant." It is fresh and clean. Are we going to keep it unsullied? Or shall we find at the end of the year that it has blots on it made by our neglect of duties; there are smudges where we did not attend to what was told us, and some mud sticking to it by our having omitted to keep our promise.

Now this is a thing you can do for yourself. It is in your power to make the record of this year clean and unblotted.

You will have noticed that this 1918 is not a leap year. We can tell that because, you see, the right-hand figures (18) will not divide evenly by four without any remainder.

Now, times change, and is it not curious to hear of customs that have quite passed away. You would think it strange, now, if in church we saw *snuff* being handed round. Yet it is not so many years ago that this was the custom during Divine Service. The big snuff-box was offered with ceremony to each parishioner in turn according to his social standing.

Then, as they left the church, women usually wrapped their prayer-book in a clean white handkerchief, and going home would always walk a wee bit behind her husband! This was the sign of submission.

The New Year is a good time to think out your life.

Let us take a "bird's-eye view" of our actions, not a "worm's-eye view bounded by the garden wall."

We are usually apt to work on from one thing to the next, and then are glad if we have got the day's work done satisfactorily.

But now and again it is well to pause and consider—for once try to get outside your life and look at it from there as a whole.

Stop the wheels for a moment, review the aims and objects of all that you are doing, and consider whether, on the whole, the

current into which you have been thrust is really the best of currents—where will it lead you in the end, and is it taking you where you would like best to arrive?

Anyhow, let us meantime keep our promises. A little Guide told me that she had invented a way of keeping her third promise.

Every morning, on waking, she says to the cat, "Am I trying to help others?"

Your next thought then is, "How can I try to help others?" Then you think of all the troubles and difficulties your friends have, and a way is sure to come.

"Hopes fulfilled and pleasures true
May this New Year bring to you."

Yours sincerely,

AGNES BADEN-POWELL.

THE HUT FUND.

The Girl Guides Hut in France continues to flourish. This week, in response to a request, we hope to send some curtains for the newly erected stage.

To date the following sum has been received from the Guides:—

£	s.	d.
2,405	14	2

And the following payments made:—

Payments, as per April	£	s.	d.
"GAZETTE," 1917	747	12	8

Rent and Workers' Expenses (June to November)	48	0	1
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Flags	3	15	0
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Books	1	10	0
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Balance in hand	£1,604	16	5
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N.B.—We have not yet received the bill for the curtains!

In connection with the item "Rent and Hut Workers' Expenses," we should like to point out that the workers' services are voluntary, but they have to rent a place to sleep in, and also pay for their food—which is a very heavy item in these hard days, perhaps more so than we here realise. It was, therefore, felt that the Fund would be justified in offering them a small sum each month towards these expenses.

The surplus money—£1,604 16s. 5d.—has been lying at the bank on deposit. Of this, £480 has been used to purchase "The Girl Guides' Ambulance," presented for service with the British Armies in the field.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Sir—Through the medium of the *Gazette*, could a very grateful recipient thank an unknown friend for a very handsome Christmas present.

Yours truly, M.M.

THINGS ALL GUIDES SHOULD KNOW.

Rule of the Road.

The rule of the road is simple enough. Almost everyone is aware that traffic should be kept to the left, the only exception being that of a horse which when being led must keep to the right of the road. Cyclists, however, often neglect one or two simple rules, and from this neglect serious accidents often result. These are the rules: When about to turn to the right, the left hand should be held out, as in the illustration; and the opposite is, of course, true with regard to turning to the left. When about to stop, the right hand should be held up by the side of the head. It will be easily seen how, when vehicles are approaching from the rear, the failure to give notice of a sudden stop or turn may lead to a collision. (From "Things All Scouts Should Know.")

To Prevent Sneezing.

A sneeze is annoying at all times, but on some occasions it is liable to have very serious consequences. Suppose, for instance, a Scout hiding in the bracken or behind a tree stump were to give vent to a sneeze, his hiding-place would soon be discovered by the enemy. Therefore, the following method of preventing a sneeze should prove useful. When you find a sneeze coming on—and you can always feel it coming—place your finger on the upper lip, just under the nose, and press gently. You will find this a certain cure for sneezing. (From "Things All Scouts Should Know.")

How to avoid Poisoning your Finger.

When a child gets a thorn into its finger, the first thing it does is to get a needle and try to dig it out; but even a "clean" needle out of a new packet may have on it dust or the germs of disease. You can always kill these disease germs by holding it for some time in a candle flame or in the fire. This burns and kills any germs. You must then wipe off the soot with a bit of lint, and the needle will be sterilised—*i.e.*, clean and safe to use in taking out the thorn. Many poisoned fingers will be prevented if you remember this simple fact.

[We shall be glad of contributions to this column. A small prize is offered each month for the best item.]

A GREAT PUSH.

Allotment holders and girl gardeners should work hard now in preparing the soil

and getting ready for the great vegetable push in the spring.

The Editor will be glad to have accounts of gardens and allotments, and also practical details of work, with advice for others taking part in this great offensive against the U-boats.

POTATO BREAD.

Sir Arthur Yapp appeals urgently to the women of Great Britain to "save the bread," "to watch the crumbs."

This does not only mean an appeal against waste, but an appeal to the brains and the skill of women to do their utmost to organise their consumption of food, so as to use what is fairly plentiful (nothing is really plentiful) to the saving of other rarer commodities.

Potato bread can be made so as to save a quarter of the amount of flour usually used. This is the recipe:—

- 4 lbs. flour.
- 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. of cold mashed potatoes.
- 1 good tablespoonful of salt.
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. yeast.
- 1 dessert-spoon of sugar.
- About 1 pint of tepid water.

Rub the potato, salt and sugar well into the flour, then make a hole in the middle and crumble the yeast in. Then add the water, mixing it with a spoon at first to a stiff dough. Then knead it for about 20 minutes. The kneading makes it softer, as it is fairly stiff to begin with. It is then left in a dish in front of the fire for about two hours to rise, then put into tins to bake in a quick oven for one hour.

The above quantity makes four medium sized loaves.

Owing to destruction of transport by German submarines, there will be a serious shortage of foodstuffs for a long time, and the efficient trained girls at home will be looked to as valuable assets of the nation in the lean times that are coming. Then let all Girl Guides make it their business during the next few weeks to learn the art of potato bread baking. Let special classes be formed in the different companies *at once*. In the North of England, in a small mining village, there is one little Patrol recently formed who have immediately tackled the baking of potato bread. Good luck to their foresight!

Let all those who are not doing the same, all Girl Guides and their Guiders, "get busy" at once.

THE CASTLESTONE HOUSE COMPANY.

A School Story of Girl Guides.

By CONSTANCE GREGORY.

CHAPTER I.

THE BLACK FOOTMARKS

Eight coats and caps hung in a row; and eight little girls, darting down the passage, proceeded rapidly to appropriate their own garments.

It was the first Friday of the summer term, school felt irksome in these long sunshiny hours and the day-pupils, released at last, were glad to leave their class-rooms and hurry home.

"What kind of a girl are you going to be, Dot?" asked Estelle Carter,—a model to all the juniors, or a bad black sheep, and the despair of Miss Wright's existence?"

It was Dot's first term at Castlestone House. Already acquainted with many of the day scholars, she was not shy, only a little excited by her novel experiences. Her merry brown eyes twinkled at the question.

"A bad one!" she cried, and snatching Estelle's scarlet tam-o'-shanter from her head, she flung it down a flight of stairs at the end of the passage.

All eyes opened wide at this daring act, and there was a gasp of disapproval from the younger children. Such a deed was distinct impertinence on the part of a 'new' girl, and Estelle, with the instinct of recrimination, and disregard of possible consequences, seized Dot's cap, whirled it completely out of sight down the dark stairs, and proclaimed haughtily, "Now you can fetch them both up!"

For a moment Dot hesitated. Then some of the girls tittered. "I'm sure I don't care," she said, tossing her head as she moved away. The stairs, leading to cellars underneath the house, were steep, and turned sharply at the corner.

Estelle's tam was soon reached, and Dot threw it up with a smiling "There you are!" The recovery of her own cap was a different matter; she felt her way cautiously to the foot of the stairs, and then had to grope about in the dim light before she could find it.

"Stupid!" she muttered, as she picked up her headgear; "there's water down here, and she's sent it right into a puddle." She came up, flicking it from side to side, and was fitting the cap on to her disordered curls, when a maid came along the passage. She stopped abruptly at the end, then turned round with a searching glance.

"Which of you young ladies has been down there?" Then, as no one answered, "just look at that!" she added, pointing to the steps.

And eight horrified pairs of eyes perceived footmarks—black and awful—on each of the white stone steps.

"You've been to the coal cellar," went on Ada accusingly, "and it's damp there when there's water in the moat, so you've made them marks all the way up with your boots! Miss Wright'll be awful angry, that she will." And Ada, who was not the best tempered of maids, walked off with an unsympathetic sniff.

Conversation upon the homeward way was fully occupied with terrible prognostications of Miss Wright's wrath. Some sympathy, certainly was expressed on behalf of Dot, but most of the girls were

only too glad to have nothing to do with the scrape, and Dot felt that she was alone in her guilt, and that she alone must face her fate, whatever it might be, on the following Monday. Estelle argued, to her own complete satisfaction, that she could hardly share in the punishment, for she had not set foot on the forbidden territory.

The sun shone brilliantly on Saturday, yet it proved to be a far less entertaining day than usual. Sometimes Dot forgot her troubles momentarily in romping with the dogs, but always like a black cloud overshadowing her gaiety, the remembrance of Ada's words came again and again;—"Miss Wright'll be awful angry, that she will!"

She had no sister with whom to share confidences, and brother John was grown up, and a soldier. Though very fond of his small sister, Dot felt that a lieutenant, busy with preparations for going abroad to fight his King's enemies, might underrate the importance of a schoolgirl scrape. He could scarcely be expected to see the affair in correct focus. Mother was unfortunately away for the week-end.

Dot climbed an elm tree, seating herself in a convenient fork amongst its branches. The tree was close to the garden wall, and commanded an excellent view of the road with its passers-by. It was great fun to supply oneself with a pinafore full of flowers, and, hidden by the masses of leaves, to throw down a blossom whenever a group of cottage children came along. The little ones would look round so wonderingly when a fragrant spray of pink hawthorn or golden laburnum fell at their feet. Romantic Dot hoped that they all had sick mothers at home, to whom they would carry the treasure, telling that the flowers had fallen from heaven. To-night she had not remembered to gather any flowers. It was very worrying to have so much on one's mind. She had been proud of her dignity as a schoolgirl and now she hated the whole business and wished she need not go back. She hated herself for being so excited, and trying to "show off." She hated Estelle for having made her venture down the stairs; she hated Ada for finding out; and she hated Miss Wright worst of all, for the scolding that was bound to come.

Cigarette smoke mingled with the scent of the lilacs and laburnums, and John strolled along the garden path. Although well hidden from the road, concealment was not possible from this side, so Dot merely rubbed the back of a rather grubby hand across her eyes, which happened to feel uncomfortably damp, and smiled a watery smile of welcome. John, looking up, saw a huddled mass of blue zephyr, surmounted by red cheeks, red curls and suspiciously red eyes.

"How goes it?" he inquired sociably, and settled himself on the rustic seat. This was an amiable greeting rather than a question, so Dot merely grunted a reply. There was silence for a few minutes, and John was apparently absorbed in watching the rings of smoke float upwards until they mingled with the pale heliotrope masses of lilac. Then the young man rubbed his head. "Thought I felt a drop of rain just now," he remarked. But he did not move from his place, and to all appearances the sky was cloudless.

"I didn't much care for school the first few weeks I was there," went on John, apropos of nothing.

Again Dot did not reply, but there was a little rustle amongst the leaves, and a few more glistening drops fell on the khaki tunic below.

"Think I ought to fetch an umbrella?" inquired the wearer, looking up into the branches.

There was a curious gurgle, something between a laugh and a sob. Then a pair of brown legs dashed hurriedly to the ground.

"John, you're a beast—but a nice, nice beast!" she sobbed, burying her scarlet face in his shoulder, as she squatted beside him on the seat.

"Mercy! It's not guaranteed waterproof!" exclaimed her brother, but he slipped an arm round to him.

It was not very easy to begin, or to explain how the trouble had arisen, but John was very patient, and by dint of starting in the middle, dwelling in lurid terms on Monday's forthcoming terror, and then working backwards, Dot managed at length to give her brother some explanation of her depressed state of mind.

"After all is said and done," argued the young lieutenant finally, "it doesn't seem such a dreadfully desperate deed of crime. Still, I know that way your respected Head will look at it. But buck up, Dot! After all, we can only die once, and—

"How can man die better than by facing old Miss Wright,

Confessing boldly how you blacked her cellar stairs so white!"

"John, you're ridiculous!" laughed Dot, her tears drying fast. "But you don't know Miss Wright—and I don't suppose you'd mind her much if you did, for you are as tall as she is—but not so wide."

"Ah! It's the width that tells!" said John solemnly. "But now see here, Dodo, if that other kid doesn't 'fess her share, never you mind. Just do the square thing and admit that you went down, but don't drag her in. Never blab about other folks, if they haven't got the decency to own up, leave them alone, and take your own dose as bravely as you can."

"Perhaps Estelle may tell," murmured Dot, "but I don't really believe she will."

"Call her 'Wont-telle' then in future," recommended her brother. "Anyway, she won't be worth bothering about, Dottums. But you'll make plenty of decent chums yet. Look about you a bit at first, and you'll find out who's who, and what's what. And once the row is over, Miss Wright'll soon forget about her precious cellar stairs, and perceive that you are not a bad kid on the whole."

CHAPTER II.

GIRL GUIDES.

Castlestone House was really a place of historic interest, though that mattered little as a rule to the thirty girls in process of being educated there. When the prescribed history period happened to include King John, certainly a gleam of retrospective imagination was kindled by the remembrance that the unfortunate monarch was rumoured to have spent a night on the spot. Not exactly under the roof, of course, for the old castle had fallen to ruin, but the present building was on the same site, and the very stones, if they could have spoken, might have told some of the King's opinions on the subject of Magna Charta.

At one end of the garden the moat still remained, a delightful place in playtime, and on this sunny Saturday afternoon, girls were strolling here and

there, or sitting in groups upon its steep banks, reading, sewing and chatting. On a slope fragrant with grasses and wild flowers three girls lay with heads close together, busily examining the contents of a parcel.

"I spent one and seven-pence on it, including postage," explained Meg Sinclair; "a vast sum, so we'll hope it is worth it!"

"How Girls may Help," read Alice Porter over Meg's shoulder. "Let's have some of it out loud, Peggy; we'll all subscribe to the book if you like, then it won't come to much each."

"What's the white one about?" asked Elsie.

Meg turned over a few pages. "It's rules, about badges and things, and how you get them, and where you wear them. My cousin, who is a Guide, advised me to get this one, too. The uniform is awfully nice,—navy blue, with a hat to match with gold letters on the front, and a leather belt, and all sorts of odds and ends,—shoulder knots and lanyards—and stripes and things, according to what rank you are and what patrol you belong to."

"Oh, let's!" exclaimed Elsie, fervently.

"I don't see why we shouldn't," agreed Alice.

"You could be captain, Meg, or whatever they call it, because you thought of it first."

"Captain, me!" echoed Meg, scornfully. "Captains have to be twenty-one, and lieutenants eighteen. Dear me, no, we should have to get some of the teachers to be officers, and we should just be Guides. Eight girls make a patrol, and they have a Leader and a Second, like the Scouts. And look, it says Leaders should be fifteen, that'll just suit me. I believe Iris Fawley might join too. It would be a good thing if she did, it's always best to keep on the right side of the prefects."

"I'm only thirteen," sighed Elsie. "But I could be your Second, Meg."

"Righto," agreed Meg, cheerfully. "But if we're all going to be Leaders, where are the Guides? We must try and get a lot of the girls interested, and see if we can't start a proper company."

Alice was lost in thought. "Which of the teachers shall you ask?" she inquired presently. "And I suppose we shall have to get Miss Wright's permission."

There was a few moments' thoughtful silence. "I believe Miss Hull might take it up," was Meg's opinion. "And if she does, she'll make us do it properly. I vote we ask her first, and see what she says."

Elsie and Alice agreed to this, on condition that Meg should be spokeswoman.

"I want to begin getting badges straight off," announced Elsie. "When can we, Meg?"

"Apparently," returned Meg, after a prolonged search through the pages, "we have to be tenderfoots or tenderfeet or whatever the plural is, first, and just have a gilt badge. Then we have to do a Second class test, and after that we can try for proficiencies and decorate our arms as much as we like."

"There are heaps of these I could get, I believe," cried Elsie, "and why shouldn't I have them now?"

Meg assumed a superior air as she brushed a small green caterpillar from the book: "We must test your perseverance as a Guide first," she said. "But never mind, we can have our Second class badges in a few weeks, and—"

"Miss Hull!" interrupted Elsie, excitedly; "look—in the fives court. Fly, Meg, you'll never have a better chance. Hurry, hurry, before she goes!"

Meg scrambled up the bank, her freckled face pink, partly with the exertion, and partly with some apprehension as to the success of her errand. Alice and Elsie sat alone, amongst the daisies and dandelions, watching the interview with anxious eyes, and trying to determine from Miss Hull's expression and Meg's attitude, what the result of the appeal would be. Finally, the mistress, accompanied by Meg, walked slowly back to the house, and disappeared through the verandah door.

"Will she,—won't she,—will she,—won't she?" murmured Elsie, pulling the petals from a daisy. Alice watched the process, hands clasped round her knees. Both faces broke into a smile as the last petal was reached.

"She will, she will!" chanted Elsie. "Hurrah, Alice! Oh, don't you hope it really knows?"

It seemed a long time before Meg returned, and the two girls, their heads bent over the Handbook, began to feel that they were already well up in the rules and regulations of the association. When at last footsteps were heard, they started to their feet. Meg, racing across the lawn, flung her arms about their waists, whirled them round and round, then sank, panting, to the grass.

"It's all right,—absolutely all right," she announced, fanning her flushed face with a dock leaf. "Miss Hull was as nice as she could be from the very beginning. And she knows something about Guides already, in fact, she and Miss Wright had been 'talking over the advisability' of starting a school company, so they were as pleased as anything about us wanting to belong." Elsie beamed. "I tried our fortune with a daisy while you were away," she said, "and it came to 'she will'!"

"Then the daisy shall be our patrol flower," announced Meg, solemnly. "I meant to have it in any case if I was Leader, because, you see, it is my name-flower. Miss Hull is going to ask Miss Anderson to be lieutenant."

"Why?" asked Alice, "we don't have kindergarten children in, do we? I thought Guides had to be eleven."

"That doesn't make any difference to Miss Anderson being lieutenant, anyway. But we can have younger ones in as Brownies,—all those under eleven."

"That's rather nice," mused Alice, who was never so happy as when she was allowed to help with the little ones. "I wonder if I could have a patrol of small kiddies?"

"I don't see why you shouldn't," agreed Meg. "Oh, isn't everything nice! Let's go and tell the other girls, and see who will join."

"When will Miss Hull get the things,—hats, belts, and all that?" asked Alice. "I say, Meg, let's go upstairs, there's half-an-hour before tea,—and put on our gym tunics, and see if we can't rig up a sort of uniform."

"We've got to pass the tenderfoot test before we are entitled to uniform, but never mind, we can think about it," said Meg; and the three girls flew up to the bed-room for a committee meeting.

The illustrations in the Handbook were carefully studied. "Look at all the pockets," murmured Elsie, admiringly, "it's as good as being a boy. I've got some bits of serge Mother gave me in case I got torn. Give me some pins, Meg, and I'll stick them on my skirt, and see how they look.—A pleat in the middle, and a little flap on top, like a soldier,—now, how's that?"

Alice, meanwhile, had knotted a handkerchief round her neck, and crowned herself with a navy hat. "Here's a piece of string for a lanyard," she announced, fumbling in a drawer, "and here's a leather bell. How do I look?" and she held up her fingers in a solemn salute.

It is to be feared that no official of the Girl Guide Association would have recognised the uniform, but the girls saw themselves with the artist's eye, which can perceive, even in the rough and early stages, the fulfilment of its aspiration.

They sat solemnly, side by side, on Meg's bed. "Now," she began, "Miss Hull said, as I knew she would, that we musn't play at being Guides, or join for the sake of the uniform, but of course, I told her we weren't like that,—we really wanted to do it properly. I'll read you the Guide Law; listen—"

And so, thanks to Meg's initiative, the Castlestone House B.P. G.G. company was formed.

(To be continued.)

HOW WE STARTED HEN-KEEPING IN AN INEXPENSIVE WAY.

By LOUISA K. BOWDEN (*Capt. 4th Ashton*)

Towards the end of last year I read a short story in one of the monthly magazines about a certain Janet who greatly desired to keep a few hens. She got six pullets from a farm that she had stayed at during the summer, and kept them in a run in a small town garden. Her father did not approve at first, but changed his opinion when he saw what a success they were, how well she kept them, and what nice new-laid eggs he got for breakfast.

As I put the book down I said to my sister "I should love to have a few hens like that." She said, "What do you know about hens?" I replied, "A little, and could learn more by reading and from friends."

The next day I went to a book shop, and asked for a book on the keeping of poultry. I was shown one, but it was expensive and not what I wanted. The assistant said, "We have here a copy of 'The Feathered World,' a penny weekly paper." I thanked her, took it, and found much useful reading in it and an article on

The Intensive System.

This is the now popular and scientific method of poultry keeping, and has increased the egg supply. This system consists of keeping hens in a well ventilated house and scratching shed with roof and no free run, never allowing them to get wet, inducing them to take plenty of exercise and giving suitable food. No male bird should be kept, so there is no crowing to annoy neighbours. Of course, the eggs are not fertile, but keep better for that. Four to

six pullets can be successfully kept in a shed seven feet long and four feet wide and four or five feet high.

There was an advertisement in the same paper of a specially designed house and run months, six laying pullets; all complete for £9. "Very nice," but too expensive for me. Of course, there were others costing less, but I did not want to spend much money, so I said to my sister, "Do you think we could make one ourselves?" She said, "We can try."

How we built the Roost and Shed.

Making the best of what we had, which was a yard with a small shed at the bottom and a stone slab in the top corner, also a quantity of wood and some old oilcloth in the cellar, I bought four empty orange boxes and some nails; with that we started to make the roost in the corner above the slab on which I put a box with ashes in, and a thick perch above, leaving the space under the slab for two nests.

I had no man to help me, so went to a joiner's for a piece of wood 11 feet long to nail to the wall the height I intended to make the house, and three strong stumps, five feet high, which I firmly fastened with long nails into the ground between the stone flags, fixed pieces of wood from one post to the other and across the top, and covered the roof with oilcloth to keep out the rain.

The door was more difficult, but I made a frame the size the door had to be, then nailed lengths of wood across, leaving a space near the bottom for wire-netting. This was to enable me to see into the nest as the door should not be opened if the hen was sitting there. It would disturb her and might prevent her laying an egg that day.

The front of the scratching shed I left open for netting, except for a plank about two feet high at the bottom to keep the peat moss in. When having no free run, it is necessary to cover the floor with litter about six inches deep, so that the dry food can be buried and the hens made to exercise by having plenty of scratching to do for every grain they eat.

I thought the stone paving even when covered with peat moss might be cold, so made a boarded floor. For convenience of working I made it in two sections of double wood to make it strong, and put supports underneath three inches high to allow air to pass under, and so prevent the floor getting damp. In the small shed at the bottom

of the yard I put a good-sized box, filled with ashes, as a dust bath for the hens.

They need this to keep their feathers clean and free from insects. I intended to put wire netting in front, but found it would cost rather a lot. Then my sister saw an advertisement in "The Feathered World," "Fine string netting, two yards wide 18 yards for 1s. 6d.," so I sent for it by post. I found it very satisfactory and most easy to work with. Before putting it up I lime-washed the house well inside. It was my first attempt at white-washing, but it looked quite nice. I wore gloves all the time to protect my hands. I then spread the peat moss on the floor, putting some in the nests, and hung up a string bag (for cabbage leaves and other greens) from the middle of the roof, just high enough for the hens to reach. As I looked at it, all finished and ready for the hens, I felt quite proud, and thought "we never know what we can do until we try." It was then nearly the end of January.

Getting the Hens.

The start was made with three hens; one was from a friend in the town, the other two came by train in a basket, which I carefully put into the hen house where the other already was, took the cover off, and left them. I really could not say whether the hens were more frightened of me or I of them, for the first day or two they would not eat at all, and ran into the furthest corner if I went near. But now, when I take them their food, they come running towards me. On a fine day I let them have the run of the yard, but they soon go back to their own shed; I think they like the peat moss. After two weeks I was delighted to find in the nest a lovely brown egg; a few days later another hen commenced to lay, large white ones. We are hoping one will go broody before long, then we shall get some fertile eggs and try to have a few chickens. Since the hens started laying they have nicely kept up supplied with all the eggs we need.

How I Feed them.

Before I go out in the morning I throw in a dry feed and give fresh water, and later on a hot feed of soft food. In the cold weather I put very little mustard in. During the evening I bury in the litter small dry pieces of any suitable scraps left over for them to find in the early morning, and put fresh greens in the bag every day if possible, and keep a box hanging up with grit

and oyster shell in. In feeding fowls at present one must be careful to keep within the Food Controller's regulations.

We have found it all most interesting and are constantly finding out fresh things about them. Even our disappointments teach us what to do and what to avoid. It is false economy to stint the birds of the kind of food they need. They require plenty of greens; that and exercise is half the battle in the Intensive System, in order to keep them healthy and get a good supply of eggs.

They must also have plenty of clean, fresh water to drink. The peat moss, which keeps the house sweet and odourless for several months, can afterwards be used as a valuable fertiliser for a garden.

During the severe and windy weather in March I anxiously watched the snow settling on the roof, and hoped my joinering would not collapse, but it stood firm.

The Time of Year to Start.

One can start almost any time. The Spring is a good time to get a broody hen with 12 to 18 eggs, or later on start with a number of day-old chicks, costing about 1s. each; or in the Autumn start with pullets about six months old; but if the winter has well advanced get laying hens. Endeavour to keep them by spending as little money as possible on food, feeding them mainly on household scraps, and remember they need fresh water, greens, and exercise; in fact, they must learn to "work for their living."

GUIDES AND THE WOMEN'S LAND ARMY.

The Director of the Women's Branch of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has written to the Countess of Carrick, County Commissioner of Hertfordshire, as follows: "Dear Lady Carrick, I have heard with great interest how very helpful the Girl Guides in Hertfordshire have been to the members of the Women's Land Army. These women are often brought from a different part of England, placed on an isolated farm far away from any friends or companions of their own age. The Guides have done much to make them feel at home, and have placed their clubs and organizations at the disposal of these girls. I hope that it may be possible to extend in other counties this interesting experiment which has begun in Hertfordshire."

The following Rules have been passed by the National Headquarters Committee.

Members of Alien Birth.

That for the present, no Warrant to hold Office in the Girl Guide Movement can be granted to anyone of Alien parentage whose parents are not properly naturalised British subjects.

Cadets Leaving Certificates.

That Leaving Certificates for trained Cadets shall be filled in and signed by the Captains of Cadet Corps, and awarded on her recommendation. Captains of Cadet Corps to apply to Headquarters for Leaving Certificates for their trained Cadets.

Guides and Boy Scouts.

That application may be made to the Local Association for permission for joint recreation of Guides and Scouts.

Where their Committee is satisfied that this will take place under proper supervision, permission may be granted.

Service Stars for Brownies.

Brownies shall be allowed to wear as their Service Badge the Metal Star on a Brown Ground.

Service Stars for Senior Guides.

Metal Star on a Red Ground.

Senior Guides' Badges.

No Senior Badges can be won by the Juniors.

Patrol Leaders' Stripes.

The Patrol Leaders ONLY shall wear the emblem of the Patrol as her distinctive badge on the front of her hat.

Reprint.

In response to many requests a reprint of the article which appeared in the December *Gazette* by Lady Baden-Powell, can now be obtained in Leaflet form, price 4d. per dozen.

Annual Report.

The names and addresses of the County Commissioner, Division and Districts Commissioner, County Secretaries, are given in the Annual Report, price 9d. post free from the Headquarters, 76 Victoria Road, S.W. 1.

Diaries.

Only a few of the 1s. Girl Guides' Diaries are left. Please order your copy at once, to avoid disappointment.

COMPANY NEWS.

MS.S. and photographs submitted for publication cannot be returned, unless accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope.

LONDON AND DISTRICT.

GUIDES HELP WITH SUGAR CARDS.

1st and 2nd Hammersmith companies have been collecting waste paper during the summer months, and are now helping with the sorting of sugar card applications at the Town Hall. Their summer camp was held at Esher, and was very successful, in spite of the unsettled weather.

HANDICRAFTS EXHIBITION.

West London Division.—The Girl Guides of this division held a very interesting exhibition of Handicrafts at Kensington Town Hall on November 24th. There were over 800 entries, officers, Guides and Brownies combined to demonstrate by their handiwork how hand and head, working intelligently together, can produce a wonderful and varied exhibition, such as we have never seen before in Kensington. The exhibition was crowded during the whole afternoon, and it is hoped, if possible, later to give a list of the classes of articles exhibited. This success should encourage the West London Division and others to try to make 1918 a great year of progress and achievement in handiwork of all kinds. Girl Guides are already pioneers in many forms of work, let them try in this coming year to excel still more in every branch of handicraft, for in the days after the war, home industries of all kinds will play a great part. Girl Guides might, among other things, make a speciality of toy-making. They are young enough to remember the toys they loved to play with; who then more competent to create these toys and to invent new ones which will appeal to the imagination of the young. The exhibition reflected the greatest credit on all concerned in its inception, its organisation, and its achievement.

The exhibition was opened by Miss Baden Powell (President of the Girl Guides). Mrs. Ronald McNeill (Chairman of Chelsea Local Association) handed a silver cup (which she had presented), to the 1st S. Kensington (holder of Division Silver Shield for 1917). The 3rd Hammersmith (L.C.C. Trade School Coy.) came second, 2nd Latimer and 1st Kensington tied for third place. The cup was given to the company who gained the greatest number of prizes at the exhibition. Lady Massie Blomfield (Divisional Commissioner), who has since the early days of the movement worked untiringly in its interests, announced that the Earl of Meath would shortly present another cup. Miss E. S. Leith kindly organised an entertainment, and Miss Vicker's orchestra kindly gave their services. The Mayor of Kensington visited the exhibition, and a great number of people were keenly interested in the exhibition and in all the proceedings during the afternoon. A good sum towards Divisional Funds, for summer camps, and war work was realized by entertainments, etc.

AN AUTUMN CAMP.

1st Westminster.—A camp was held at Bookham, Surrey, by Miss Browning, Division Commissioner for Westminster, and Captain of the 1st Westminster. Guides from various London companies spent part of their holidays there. The camp consisted of the

stable buildings and garage of an empty house standing in its own grounds. Practically all the cooking was done on a camp fire in the court-yard with a saucepan, kettle, dixie and two billy-cans. Drill, etc., took place out of doors, except when weather was bad. The furniture of the garage dining-room was simple, comprising two trestle tables, with planks supported by gum-barrels and biscuit tins for seats. There were about 20 girls, who were told off to various duties: store providers, cooks, housemaids, boot cleaner, postman, laundress, and even a camp cobbler. Much good Guide work was done, and recreations were not neglected. A charming photo of three Guides, working at the camp fire was taken by Miss A. M. Heath (1st St. James's Piccadilly).

ENGLAND.

LOCAL ASSOCIATION FORMED.

Dawlish.—A meeting of ladies interested in work amongst girls was organised jointly by the G.F.S. and Y.W.C.A. A local Association was formed, with the intention of starting a company at once.

A HARVEST FESTIVAL.

4th Bath (Manvers Street) Company held a successful Harvest Festival on September 29th. One hundred and twenty-one pounds of apples and pears alone were collected, and other gifts included potatoes, onions, beets, carrots, grapes, nuts, lemons, jam, as well as a large number of fine marrows. It was then taken—two loads—on a trek cart to the Mineral Water Hospital, for the benefit of the wounded soldiers, and was much appreciated.

TWO TOY SYMPHONIES.

9th Bath (Moravian) gave an interesting concert, the chief features of the evening consisting of two toy symphonies, which were well rendered by the Guides.

SILVER FISH.

14th Bristol.—The first Silver Fish has been won by Captain Ellaby, who was one of the first Bristol captains; owing to pressure of outside work she has been obliged temporarily to retire.

FIRST CHURCH PARADE.

1st Clapham Company held their first Church Parade on the 22nd of September, in St. Thomas's Church, Streatham Hill, when the Company colours were dedicated. The service was conducted by the Vicar of St. Thomas's. The 1st Brixton and 1st Streatham Hill Companies were also present.

GUIDE-CRAFT.

Clevedon.—An exhibition of Guide-craft was successfully held last October, and was opened by the District Commissioner of Weston-super-Mare, who gave a good address. The Assistant District Commissioner of Clevedon also spoke, and gave the company drill.

The classes for competition included many subjects of Guide training. There were war-time cookery exhibits, and fine vegetables grown by Guides, who had worked on waste land, or in the Patriotic Gardening Corps.

Two thrift classes—one for useful articles costing not more than 6d., and another for camp requisites under 1s. 6d.—brought out ingenuity in the workers; all kinds of things from a toy-cupboard to a jersey made from old stocking legs, being represented.

The collections of pressed flowers and essays on wild life showed that interest in out-door pursuits was keen, even in these busy days.

Attractive and teaching exhibits had been kindly sent by some members of the Examination Board. The Pathfinding test should be greatly simplified by the clear and beautifully executed diagrams on map-reading, etc. Hay-box cookery was shown in a very practical way. The boxes were both home-made, and 24 dishes of meat and grain foods, dried and fresh vegetables (the latter grown by Guides) had been cooked, and were on view.

The Guides carried out a programme of entertainment during the evening, and were visited by a contingent from Weston-super-Mare.

WORK OF A COUNTY.

County of Durham.—The first Annual Meeting of the County of Durham Girl Guides' Association was held in Durham, on Saturday, September 29th. The Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry (County President) presided, those present included the County, Division, and District Commissioners, County Secretary, County Treasurer, Vice-Presidents, Chairman and Secretaries of Local Associations, and representatives of other societies, such as G.F.S., Y.W.C.A., etc. Miss N. P. Pemberton (Hon. County Secretary) presented the Annual Report, which showed that the movement in Durham County had gradually grown until they now had 1,438 Guides within the county boundaries. The first patrol of Girl Scouts started at Hawthorn in 1909, and this was afterwards merged in the Girl Guides movement, begun in 1910. A good deal of war-work had been done by the Guides, Durham being one of the first counties to obtain War Service badges. Eight companies had collected a large quantity of waste paper, others were doing allotment and garden work, several were sending parcels to local men with the forces, and many helped with V.A.D. hospitals, War Hospital Supply Depots, Fleet Vegetable Depots, and St. John Workrooms. A large number of proficiency badges had been gained, and there were now four Silver Fish in the county. Twelve companies had been registered since 1916, making a total of 47, two of these being Cadet Corps. Five Guiders and Guides had attended the North of England O.T.S. at Manchester. The need of the formation of a Central Fund also received attention. The report, together with the balance sheet presented by Miss Cadle (Hon. County Treasurer), were adopted. A very helpful address was given by the County President. Mr. A. J. Dawson (Secretary to the Durham County Education Committee) described the Girl Guides' and Boy Scouts' Movements as, perhaps, the most pregnant with vitality, and the most likely to be successful in dealing with girls and boys in the strenuous times through which the country was passing. He favoured the formation of girls' and boys' patrols at every school in the county.

ROYALTY'S GENEROUS INTEREST IN GUIDES.

1st Fulwell was fortunate in receiving kind permission from King Manoel of Portugal to use Fulwell Park (his residence) for their first outing. His Majesty graciously provided tea. After tea the Guides had the honour of being inspected by H.M. Queen Alexandra and Princess Victoria. Of course, all the Guides were extremely excited, especially so when the Queen professed herself extremely in-

terested in both the movement and the uniform, and even went so far as to ask a Guide the meaning of various badges and parts of her uniform. Later King Manoel and Queen Augusta witnessed some Guide games. The company has added to its funds by collecting waste paper, acorns and horse-chestnuts.

INSPECTION BY THE PRESIDENT.

Halstead.—Brilliant weather added gaiety to the enlivening scene at Halstead, when Mrs. Austin Courtauld's two companies were paraded, together with visitor Guides from Wethersfield, for the inspection by Miss Agnes Baden-Powell, the President. There was a march past and company drill, directed by Sgt.-Maj. May, after which Guides and guests listened to the President's address.

The forty patrol leaders were subsequently gathered in their dispensary, where the President gave them a speech all on their own. Sunday was a great event for the public in Halstead, hundreds attending the Girl Guides' Church Parade, when forty flags were consecrated at the altar.

GUIDE ENTERTAINMENTS.

1st Huntingdon had an entertainment in the garden of the Captain's house; the older Guides acted a pastoral play, "The Haymakers," and others gave a marionette show and a concert. £5 10s. was raised. The company also helped at a large fete in aid of war charities. On October 29th the District Commissioner for North Huntingdon enrolled fourteen of the company, presented badges won, and inspected the Guides.

A FIRST APPEARANCE IN PUBLIC.

1st East Maldon Company held a stall of plain and fancy needlework at a Bazaar in aid of the Red Cross and Y.M.C.A. Huts in France; they also sold buttonholes and bags of lavender, and raffled a charmingly dressed doll. A sum of £18 was realised. The company formed a guard of honour, this being their first appearance in public, as they were only enrolled in June. They now collect waste paper and send a monthly magazine to the Girl Guide Hut in France.

DEDICATION OF COLOURS.

Peaslake (Surrey).—On Sunday, 18th November, a very impressive service was held at the Church, when the Guide colours were dedicated and placed in the Church, where they will be kept when not in use. The Union Jack was presented to the company by Mr. Stevenson of Peaslake, and the Guide flag by Mr. Stewart, the Peaslake Captain's brother. The 1st Ewhurst Company and the 1st Shere Company met the Peaslake Company in the village, and all marched to the Church together, where the Chaplain to the Peaslake Guides gave a most inspiring address. The Church was full, the people of the surrounding district thus showing their interest in the Guides. The District Commissioner and the County Secretary were also present. The occasion was noteworthy for the assembling of so many Guides from such a quiet country district.

EFFORT TO BENEFIT COMPANY.

1st Ramsbottom celebrated the official opening of their clubroom by a display and sale. A good and varied display was given, a specially interesting item being a Nursery Rhyme dance by the Brownies. Good business was done at the stall, and as a re-

sult £25 was realised. The company has now been running almost four years, and felt justified in making this first effort to help itself after contributing over £14 to a war fund by collecting and selling waste paper.

NEW COMMISSIONER INSPECTS.

1st Roxborough, 1st Nailsworth and 1st Nymphsfield Guides were, on September 8th, visited by Miss M. O. Burges, the new County Commissioner for Gloucestershire. Through the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Jenner Davis the Guides gave a display in the grounds of Haywardsend House. The display included jumping, knot tying, country dances, and a short play. The Commissioner inspected the three companies, complimenting them on their efficiency. It is hoped there will shortly be more companies formed in the district.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS.

1st Stowmarket realised £8 for their funds by a public entertainment. Seven of the performers gained their entertainers badges. The entertainment, which consisted of short plays, songs and dances, was repeated at the Red Cross Hospital at Finborough Hall, where the wounded soldiers enjoyed the various items.

PAPER FOR GIRL GUIDE HUT.

4th St. Albans are kindly sending regularly a copy of "Land and Water" to the Girl Guides' Hut in France.

IRELAND.

COUNTY DUBLIN GIRL GUIDES.

It is proposed to hold the next Annual Competition for Lady Wright's All Ireland Challenge Shield during the last fortnight of June, 1918. The subjects for competition are:—1. Company Drill; 2. Ambulance (including Stretcher Drill); 3. Signalling. It has been suggested that there should be exhibitions of Guide work in general, displays of work done, and specialised patrols engaged in various industries. The winter series of general examinations has been held in the following subjects:—Ambulance, cook, child nurse, cyclist, domestic service, gardener, naturalist, needlewoman. The Cobblers' badge is one which the Guides are proud to possess. It is held by several members of the 1st Dublin (St. Peter's) Company. Royal Drummond have just had their first examination for proficiency badges. Sixteen Guides of this company passed in ambulance, cook, domestic service, knitting, needlewoman, gymnast. Mrs. John Ross has most kindly presented a cup for annual competition in ambulance. The winner each year will be given a replica of the cup. Lady Ford very kindly gave a special prize for exceptionally well done crochet.

OVERSEAS.

INDIA'S GENEROSITY.

The following letters speak for themselves:—
November 2nd, 1917.

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Robert Baden-Powell, K.C.B.

Dear Sir,—A draft for Rs.2243.3 will be forwarded to you from the Bank of Bombay, which has been collected by Guides in India for Prisoners of War in Germany, and they ask you to be good enough to accept it from them, and to forward it as our Chief. Much of the money has been earned by the girls,

the rest has been raised by entertainments, etc. 1st Jubbulpore Company had already subscribed Rs.70 to a fund with the same object, but they wished to make a small subscription. The fund was started by Mrs. Lyons, District Commissioner for Poona, to whom thanks are due, for the trouble she has taken.

I am, Yours faithfully,

G. M. BEAR (Chief Commissioner in India).

LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

GIRL GUIDES' PRISONERS OF WAR FUND.

	Rs.	As.	P.
1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Bombay Companies	654	3	0
1st Poona and 1st Kirkee Companies	579	0	0
1st Ootacamond Company	270	0	0
1st Khargpur Company	260	0	0
1st Hyderabad Company	200	0	0
1st, 5th, 7th, and 17th Calcutta Companies	143	0	0
1st Darjeeling Company	50	0	0
1st Nagpur Company	20	0	0
1st Mussoori Company	15	0	0
1st Mount Abu Company	10	0	0
1st Rangoon Company	10	0	0
1st Jubbulpore Company	4	0	0

Total Rs.2,243 3 0

Reply received.

Central Prisoners of War Committee,
4, Thurloe Place, London, S.W.7.

We are favoured with your letter of the 14th inst. enclosing cheque for £159 3s. 7d., subscribed by the Girl Guides in India, and we have now the pleasure to enclose our receipt therefor.

The Central Committee will be very much obliged if you will convey to the Girl Guides in India their sincere thanks for this welcome and generous contribution, which will greatly assist the work of providing for prisoners of war.

Such kind help is much appreciated, and we wish to thank each and all of our friendly helpers.

Yours faithfully,
(signed) E. HEATH JONES,
Financial Secretary.

Bombay.—Aileen Hayem, now a Lieutenant attached to the 1st Y.W.C.A. Company, is the first Guide to hold the Silver Fish badge in India.

Girl Guide Officers' London Training School, 3 Bryanston Place, W. 1.

Next term will begin on Tuesday, January 29th, and will end on Tuesday, March 26th. The School meets on Tuesdays only. The term will be devoted to work for First Class Test, namely, the mornings will be employed in drill, practise in heights, weights, distances, making a sketch map of the district round the School, also there will be cooking. In the afternoons there will be classes in public speaking, Red Cross, child-nurse, and an opportunity for teaching recruits for their tenderfoot tests. On Mondays there will be a company drill class from 6 to 7 p.m. at St. Andrew's Hall, Carlisle Place, Victoria Street, S.W.1, beginning on Monday, February 5th. All those wishing to join this class must send in their names to the School Secretary, Miss Hetherington, not later than January 30th.

SCHOOL CADET CORPS
COMPANIES AND BROWNIE PACKS.

I have lately been appointed Head of the School Companies and Cadet Corps, and represent these on the Girl Guides Headquarters Executive.

I want to draw up an accurate list of them and ask the Captains to help me to do this and send the information addressed: Miss A. Baird, St. James's, West Malvern.

Will every Captain or Brown Owl send me the following particulars arranged in this order:—

1. The full address of the School or College (including the county).
2. Whether it is a Training College, Boarding School, or Day School, etc.
3. The name of the Principal.
4. The name of the Captain or Brown Owl.
5. Mention if there are Lieutenants—if so, how many?
6. The name of the Cadet Corps, or School Company, or Brownie Pack.
7. The date of its registration.
8. The number of Cadets, Guides or Brownies belonging to it.
9. What time is usually devoted to Guide work each week?
10. Do the Cadets or Guides or Brownies wear Guide or Brownie uniform, or the School uniform?
11. In the case of *School Companies* I should like to know if a definite Company Committee or Association has been formed within the School, or if the Captain and Lieutenants have the whole responsibility for the secretarial work; funds, equipment, and arrangements for the examinations for the different proficiency tests.

In the case of *Cadet Corps* I should be glad to know if they have already fulfilled the conditions for Registration in the new White Book (Rules, Policy and Organisation, 1917), i.e.,

- (a) Is each member of the Corps at least 16 years of age, and a Second Class Guide?
- (b) Has each member promised on her honour to do her best to extend the Girl Guide Movement after she has left School?
- (c) Has the Corps been inspected by a Girl Guide Commissioner?

It is hoped to publish the *number* of the School Companies in the *Girl Guide Gazette*, and a list of the Schools in which Cadet Corps have been formed.

ALICE BAIRD.

FOR OFFICERS.

NOTE FROM THE CHIEF SCOUT.

I want to wish you a really happy New Year.

At the same time, it is little use to wish it, for whether it is happy or not depends almost entirely on your own efforts.

Happiness comes of good work and duty well done. More than this good wish my doctors will not allow me to write.

(No doubt many of you will bless the doctor!)

Therefore it is with some regret and some pleasure that I hand over the fascinating duty to my wife—the Chief.

ROBERT BADEN-POWELL.

NOTES BY LADY BADEN-POWELL
(Chief Commissioner).

I do not know whether the Editor will allow my remarks to go into the "Gazette," for I know she is flooded with contributions, and very rightly has to draw the line somewhere and to discriminate between those which are of interest to the writer and those which are of interest to the readers.

In the present case I cannot help feeling that, although the incident which I propose to describe was of intense interest to me, it will be of equal interest to every Guide in the movement—more especially to those who contributed to the Hut Fund last year.

Princess Mary and the Girl Guides' Ambulance.

In consequence of a moving appeal from the Army for a motor ambulance we looked into our accounts of the Fund raised by you all last year for helping the soldiers at the Front.

After we had equipped the Hut and had subsequently enlarged it in order to meet the demands upon it, we found that we had sufficient money still in hand to justify us in presenting to the Army in the name of the Girl Guides a motor ambulance for transporting our wounded heroes.

Princess Mary, President of the Norfolk Girl Guides, has lately shown great interest in the movement, and she very graciously consented to make the presentation to the Army authorities.

So on a gloomy December day a company of Girl Guides, drawn in Patrols from all the different districts of London, assembled in the garden of Buckingham Palace.

The County Commissioner for London (Mrs. Mark Kerr) and her Staff Captain (Mrs. Janson Potts) were there in command, and I do not think that a smarter lot of representatives of the Sisterhood could well have been got together.

Guides in any part of the Empire might well have been proud to be represented by them.

The other representatives of the movement present were the members of the Hut Committee, Mr. Everett (as Treasurer) and Miss Macdonald (as Secretary) and myself as Chairman.

Unfortunately Miss Taylor and Miss Hooke, the other members, were not able to be present.

The Princess, who was very charming to all the members, had a good look round the ambulance, and in a few kind words of good wishes presented the ambulance to General Sir Francis Lloyd, who said in reply how grateful the Army were to the Guides for their splendid spirit in raising the necessary funds and for their kind thought in supplying the ambulance.

And he added, "I feel sure the car will do as good work for the country in France as the Guides are doing here at home."

Her Royal Highness then inspected the Guard of Honour, and went carefully down the ranks noting the badges that had been won and showing a close interest and knowledge of what the Guides are doing.

It was altogether a nice and jolly occasion, and shows yet another step forward in the history of our movement.

I feel sure that those who have so generously given up time and energy in their great good turn of raising this Fund will feel satisfied that it is going to do a further valuable work in addition to the good already done by our Hut over in France.

Kindred Societies.

Another point which will be of interest, as an additional sign of our progress, is the fact that during the past few weeks we have got into closer touch with some societies having kindred objects with our own.

The Mother's Union have affiliated with us. Their general aim is to uphold the purity of social life and the sanctity of marriage, and they hope to make Guiding known among their members.

The Women's Legion is also affiliating with us under special terms. This movement was formed at the beginning of the war in order to help women to take up National Service in suitable branches.

No doubt, with closer co-operation in our counsels and work, there will be mutual benefit to the Societies concerned and to the country in general.

A Message for the Coming Year.

As we are now entering on the New Year, with our organisation complete for the first time in our history, let us go forward and

make it a year of increased and successful effort.

Our number of Guides were nearly trebled in the last twelve months, and it would not be unreasonable to hope that with everything in order and the Handbook out we may repeat the performance in the coming year.

But we are not out for numbers on paper. Efficiency is our aim, and it is up to every grade in the sisterhood to take its share in bringing this about.

To Commissioners I would suggest that the matter is more than ever urgent. The war conditions of unrest are as serious as ever for the girls of the nation, and this work is of national importance above most others.

To Guiders I would say: Splendid the work you have done. You have not only saved many girls, but you have shown a short cut to other Guiders joining the Movement as to how they too can promote efficiency by the best steps and with the least possible delay.

Keep it up—the labour may be strenuous, but the results are well worth while.

To Patrol Leaders I would say: Back up your Guiders. Do your very best to train your Guides to save your Captain from the work and to show yourself worthy of the rank you hold. Don't let your Patrol be second to any other.

And Guides, think of your laws and your promise. Do your good turns, play up, and play the game.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"FORWARDS."—Yes, "push and go" is an excellent policy, but better not push unless you know where you are going! If you push over the fender you may fall into the fire.

"COMPANY SCRIBE."—No "Company News" can be published unless name, address, company and rank of writer is sent. You can readily understand it is quite impossible to publish anonymous and possibly inaccurate news. It is usual when sending news for the first time to state that you have been appointed correspondent for your Company.

"OFFICIAL HANDBOOK."—"Girl Guiding" will be the only "official handbook." The first handbook is now out of date. It is an interesting book to keep as a souvenir of the early days of the Girl Guide movement.

SENIOR GUIDES.

By MRS. MARK KERR
(County Commissioner for London).

I have been asked to give a short outline of the scheme for Senior Guides. During the Christmas Holidays there will be plenty of time for all Guiders and Guides to set about discussing the formation of Senior Patrols and Companies, and to decide on the programme of work to be carried out in the next two terms, work which will receive its due meed of recognition at the Rallies to be held in the sunny days of June.

The need for Senior Guides has been felt for a long time, chiefly by those who were anxious to keep a hold over girls who, on attaining the age of eighteen, were nominally supposed to pass out of the Guides (if this very seldom happened, that is another story, as Kipling says). Further, some Captains were sorrowfully obliged to refuse to admit "grown-up" girls to their Companies. I have heard of several girls who let down their hair into pigtails, and went back to school so as to become Guides, but now there will be no quibbling over so delicate a matter as age, and no kind of coiffure need be a barrier to admission.

Any Guide over 16 is eligible for promotion to Senior Guides. This does not mean that every Guide automatically becomes a Senior Guide on reaching the age of 16. Guides may stay on in their ordinary patrols from 16 to 18, or even after that age. The rule, however, enables Captains to pass on any ordinary Guide of 16, who has already got the best out of the usual Guide training, into the Senior branch, where she can go in for more advanced tests. The "red-border" badges are reserved for Senior Guides, so that a Junior Guide may have something to which to look forward after she has reached the age of 16.

Girls who are already Guides must pass their Second Class Test before they can become Senior Guides; many Captains think it desirable that these Guides should then solemnly renew their Guide promise. New Recruits must pass the ordinary Tenderfoot test and can then be enrolled.

One point is not yet decided and we invite suggestions from our readers on this question. We think that there ought to

be some sort of test (corresponding to the Guide Second Class test) which every Senior Guide must pass before she can specialize in any one subject or earn proficiency badges. This test should be called "Senior Guide Test" (to avoid confusion with the Second Class), and it is generally thought that it ought to be quite different from the Second Class Test for a double reason: First that of inducing those Junior Guides who have been promoted to go in for it; and secondly so as not to put the newly-joined Senior Guide at too much of a disadvantage compared to the younger Guides who have long ago passed their Second Class. The Morse test should, for example, be replaced by something else, as many of the older girls find it quite impossible to learn Morse. The tests should, of course, be classified under the four headings of character and intelligence, handicrafts, service for others, and physical health. Perhaps a little child-nursing should be introduced, but it is hoped that suggestions will not be exclusively practical and utilitarian, as we must never lose sight of the spirit of romance and adventure, which is the talisman of the Girl Guide Movement. All suggestions should be sent to Mrs. Mark Kerr, at the Headquarters Office.

Having passed the Senior Guide test, the full-bloom Senior Guide may go on to specialize in subjects coming under any of the following general headings:

Arts and Crafts	Professional
Nursing	Domestic Science
Manufacture	Out-of-door Work

These may be learnt through Continuation Classes and Technical Schools, or through Correspondence Classes, or in Factories and Workshops. Badges will be given by the Guide Authorities on the recommendation of the Instructor or Foreman. We want every Guide to enter a trade or profession which will enable her to earn her own living if need be, independently of the earnings of her men-folk, and which will open up to her a larger life and afford full scope to her abilities.

It must, however, be remembered that Senior Guides should not be worked too hard at Guide Meetings; nearly all of them will have been working hard during the day, and will want exercise and recreation in the evening. Therefore they should not be encouraged to do badge work in the evenings; the time should be spent prin-

cially in games, singing, country dancing, and other occupations which will afford a complete change from their day-time employments.

The uniform for Senior Guides is as for Junior Guides, with the addition of a red border to the Tenderfoot badge, and a gold embroidered trefoil on the hatband, instead of the usual "B.-P. G.G."

I have already exceeded the limits of the space allowed me by the Editor, so must close without touching on many aspects of the Senior Guide scheme. The chief thing to remember is that there are at present practically no hard-and-fast rules. Details are left to be worked out by the Guiders, and I am confident that they will make a tremendous success of it.

COUNTY ORGANISATION.

By MRS. PEMBERTON.

(County Commissioner of Durham).

It is impossible, even if it were desirable, in a paper like this to lay down hard and fast rules as to how a county can best be organised for Girl Guide purposes. No two counties present exactly similar conditions of population, employment, and area.

It may, however, be at once said that the creation of an effective county organisation demands in the creator a clear conception of what the organisation when brought into existence is desired to be and what purposes it is proposed it should serve.

This conception can first perhaps be best obtained by a careful perusal of Lady Baden-Powell's pamphlet on the "Girl Guide Movement." Personally, I have obtained considerable help and assistance from its chapter on "Commissioners and their Duties."

It is hoped that this paper, written as it is from the point of view of one who has actively assisted in the creation of a county organisation, may serve as a supplement to Lady Baden-Powell's pamphlet.

First, then, what should a County Commissioner aim at making her County Organisation? She should, I think, seek to create an organisation complete in all its parts, and containing within it everything necessary to carry on and extend the Movement within her own county, and that without the help or direction of the Central Headquarters.

Of course, I do not mean that the County Organisation is to be altogether independent of and to stand apart from Headquarters; but only that the County Organisation should be a living reality, having within itself everything necessary for the support and strengthening of its corporate life. Moreover, one of the chief duties of a County Commissioner will be to serve as the connecting link between the County Organisation and Headquarters.

To do this the County Commissioner must be something far more than merely the nominal head of her County Organisation. She ought to be the person who in fact and in truth knows more about the Movement and its working in her county—its successes and failures, its hopes and fears—than anybody else in it.

Every County Commissioner, therefore, if her County Organisation is to be a success, must be prepared to make its well-being one of her highest personal ambitions and most ardent desires. This means, of course, that she must be prepared to give much of her time much of her sympathy, together with much personal help, to the Movement. In other words, the County Commissioner ought to be, at one and the same time, the brain and body of Girl Guide work in the county.

For the purposes of this paper I propose to assume that the county in which the County Association is sought to be started is one in which no such organisation exists, but only certain—perhaps but few—Girl Guide Companies.

In such a county, and with such object as I have stated, the first thing the County Commissioner will do is to select a County Secretary. She should be someone not only with a practical knowledge of the Movement and keenly interested in it, but who is also in close touch with the Commissioner, as questions of practical difficulty, oftentimes requiring prompt decisions, will certainly arise, the solutions of which will require the united attention of both County Commissioner and Secretary, and this attention they can only give if easily accessible to each other.

The appointment of the County Secretary will *ipso facto* give the County Association its Headquarters, which will necessarily be where she is—at least until such time as the growth of the Movement may render necessary a building exclusively used for the county work.

From the time of the appointment of the County Secretary (until the appointment of Local Association Secretaries) all matters of registration, equipment and routine generally in connection with the County Companies will be worked through her. She will deal exclusively with them, thus relieving the National Headquarters of much work. In this connection, too, it will be desirable for the County Secretary to lay in a stock of badges, pamphlets, and leaflets, so as to be able to immediately satisfy demands for such from County Companies. And here I come to a practical difficulty—namely, how the money is to be provided for the payment of such stock of badges, etc. The National Headquarters require payment with each order, and necessarily in the beginning the County Association has no available funds with which to make payment. For want of a better way, the County Commissioner may make an advance to the County Organisation of the necessary funds, taking repayment in due course when the badges have been resold, or she can make a gift of such amount.

(To be continued.)

COMMISSIONERS.

BERKSHIRE.

County Commissioner: Miss Benyon, Englefield House, near Reading.

CUMBERLAND.

Division Commissioner for Mid Cumberland: Lady Mabel Howard, Greystoke Castle, Penrith.

District Commissioner for Workington: Miss Isobel Curwen, Workington Hall.

DEVON.

Division Commissioner for Exeter: Mrs. Kendal King, 9 Regent's Park, Exeter.

District Commissioner for Newton Abbot: Mrs. Card, Broadlands, Highweek.

District Commissioner for Brixham: Miss Worth, The Knoll, Brixham.

District Commissioner for Chulmleigh: Mrs. Martin, Colleton, Chulmleigh.

District Commissioner for Yelverton: Mrs. Edgar, Wedderlie, Dousland.

DORSETSHIRE.

County Commissioner: Mrs. Livingstone Learmouth, Hanford, Blandford.

DURHAM.

Division Commissioner for the Hartlepoons: Mrs. Beaven, The Vicarage, Seaton Carew, West Hartlepool.

Division Commissioner for Sunderland: Mrs. R. Gibbon Scott, 10, The Elms West, Sunderland.

HAMPSHIRE.

District Commissioner for Fareham: Miss Rawstone, Roche Court, Fareham.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

District Commissioner for Tring: Mrs. Stanley Flower, Longfield, Tring

ISLE OF WIGHT.

County Commissioner: Agnes, Lady Cayzer, St. Lawrence Hall, Isle of Wight.

The Rectory, Litchborough, Weedon.

LANCASHIRE.

District Commissioner for Ebel: Mrs. Lane, Ellet Hall, Lancaster.

District Commissioner for N.W. Division of Liverpool: Miss Maud Taylor, Newstead, Blundellsands.

District Commissioner for N.E. Division of Liverpool: Miss Sarle, Childwall Lodge, Wavertree, Liverpool.

District Commissioner for Nelson: Mrs. T. W. Wilkinson, Forest House, Nelson.

NORFOLK.

District Commissioner for Greenhoe: Mrs. Waterfield, Berry Hall, Walsingham.

District Commissioner for Mitford: Mrs. Hugh Wormald, Heathfield, East Dereham.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

District Commissioner for Daventry: Mrs. Lester, The Rectory, Litchborough, Weedon.

RUTLAND.

County Commissioner: The Marchionness of Londonderry, Oakham, Rutland.

SOMERSET.

Division Commissioner for Bath: Miss Holland, 2, Rochfort Place, Bath.

SUFFOLK.

District Commissioner for Stowmarket: Miss Pettward, Finborough Magna.

SURREY.

District Commissioner for Woking: Mrs. Strode, Church Hill, Horsell, Woking.

SUSSEX.

Division Commissioner for Chichester Division: Mrs. Lindsell, Langley House, Chichester.

Division Commissioner for Horsham Division: Lady Leconfield (has resumed office).

YORK.

County Commissioner for York City: The Hon. Irene Lawley, Escrick Park, York.

WALES.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

Division Commissioner for Abergavenny: Miss Solly Flood, The Pentre, Abergavenny.

Division Commissioner for West Monmouthshire: Miss Davies, 18, Badminton Grove, Ebbw Vale.

Division Commissioner for Monmouth and District: Mrs. Levett, Wyastone Leys, Monmouth.

COUNTY SECRETARIES.

BERKSHIRE.

Miss Ella Sawbridge: Denford, Hungerford, Berks.

N.W. LANCASHIRE COUNTY.

Miss Bardsley, The Vicarage, Lancaster.

NORFOLK.

Mrs. Claude Stratford, Clifton, Camberley Road, Norwich (Assistant Sec.).

SOMERSETSHIRE.

Miss Irene Waldegrave, Lullington Parsonage, Frome.

SCOTLAND.

DUMBARTONSHIRE.

Mrs. Green, Boghall, Milngavie, Dumbartonshire.

EAST LOTHIAN.

Miss M. Baird, Colton, Haddington.

KINROSS-SHIRE.

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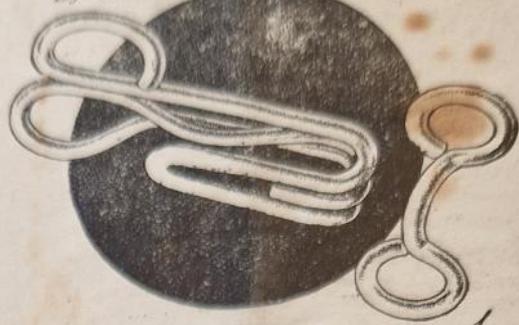
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