

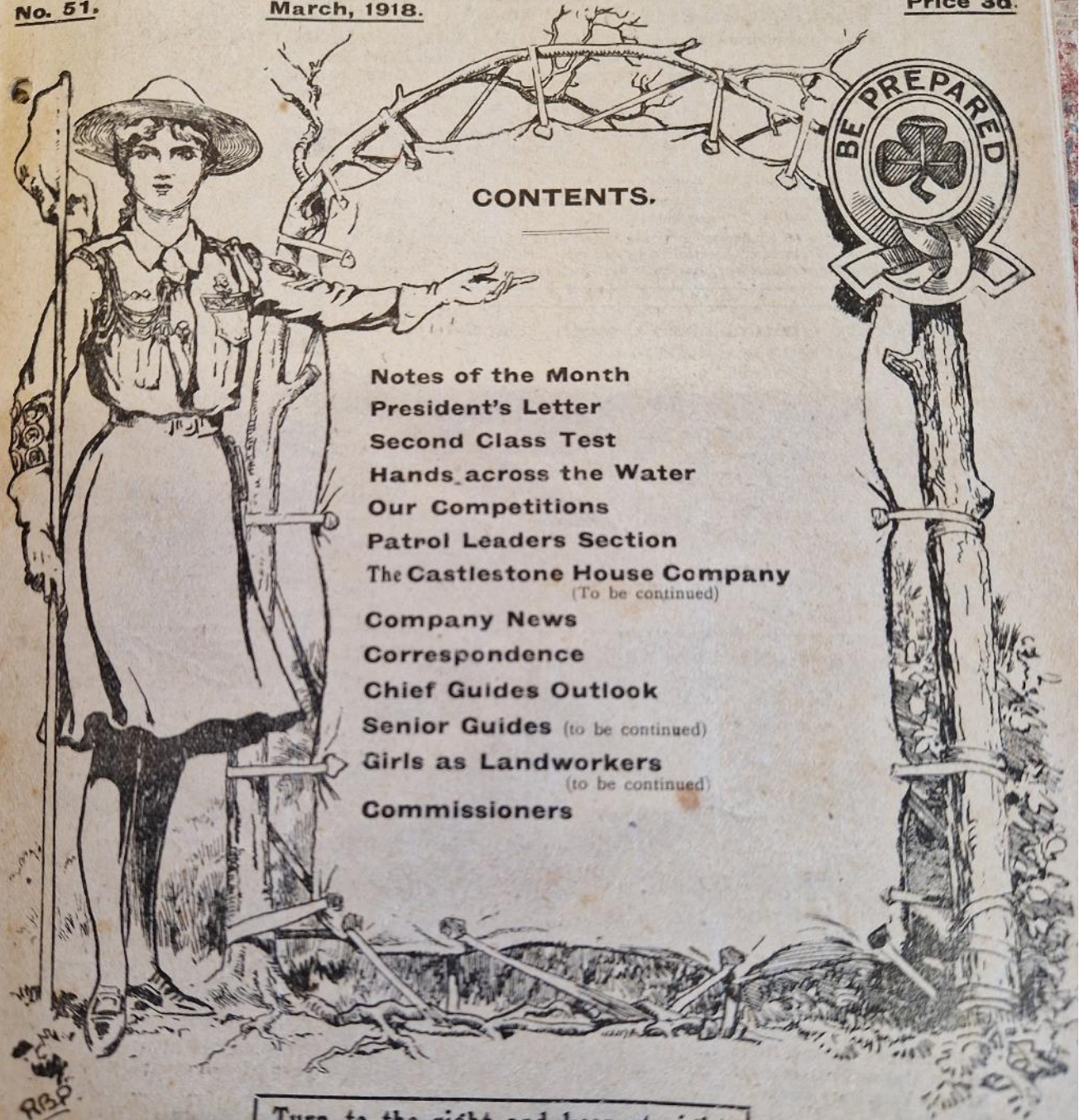
Girl Guides' Gazette

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

No. 51.

March, 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

PRICE LIST.

No Goods are sent out on approval from the Equipment Department, nor are goods once purchased returnable for exchange. Care should be taken therefore, to specify exact sizes for hats, clothing, etc. All orders for Guide Equipment, Books, etc., must be accompanied by cash (care should be taken to include the amount of Postage as accounts cannot be opened).

It is particularly requested that remittances of 1s. and upwards be sent in postal orders or cheques, and not postage stamps.

All orders for Equipment should be written on separate sheets, with "Equipment" plainly marked on outside of envelope. Inattention to this will cause delay in executing orders. Cheques should be drawn in favour of "Secretary, Girl Guides A/c." and crossed, "London County & Westminster Bank Ltd."

Goods Obtainable through the COUNTY SECRETARY ONLY:

BROWNIE BADGES.		Each	Postage			Each	Postage
Brownie Recruit ...	...	2d.	1d.	"Thanks" Badges (Silver) ...	...	3s.	1d.
" Second Class ...	...	1d.	1d.	" " (Gilt) ...	...	1/3	1d.
" First Class ...	...	2d.	1d.	" " (Gold, 9-carat) ...	...	15/6	1d.
" Proficiency Badges ...	...	3d.	1d.	" Captain's Badge ...	...	1/3	1d.
BADGES, ETC.				" Lieutenant's Badge ...	...	9d.	1d.
1st Class. Silk Motto, "Be Prepared,"	...	8d.	1d.	Committee Badges, Silver Trefoil ...	...	2/6	1d.
on left arm in addition to Trefoil	...	...	...	Red Cross Armlet ...	...	6d.	1d.
2nd Class. Silk Trefoil Badge on left	...	3d.	1d.	Enrolment Cards (for each Guide)	...	6d.	2d.
arm ...	...	1/3	2d.	per doz. ...	...	6d.	1d.
"All Round Cards," worn in pairs ...	...	3d.	1d.	County Secretaries' Badges ...	...	6d.	1d.
Proficiency Badges ...	...	3d.	1d.	Local " " ...	...	6d.	1d.
Tenderfoot Badges, Brooches ...	...	1d.	1c.	Commissioners' Cords and Silver Badge	...	5s.	3d.
" " (Gold Plated) ...	...	6d.	1d.	Navy Hat Bands ...	...	8d.	1d.
Attendance Badges ...	...	2d.	1d.	FORMS for Officers' Warrants, Warrants, Company Registration Forms.			

Goods obtainable from HEADQUARTERS 76 VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, PUBLICATIONS, &c.							
Nora, the Girl Guide ...	...	3s.	4d.	Scout Law (By Hon. R. Phillips) ...	...	6d.	2d.
Training Girls as Guides ...	...	1s.	3d.	Parents' Forms (24) ...	...	4d.	1d.
The Patrol System for Girl Guides ...	...	6d.	1d.	Official Registration Certificate ...	...	1/-	1d.
Pioneering and Map Making ...	...	1s.	3d.	(Through Secretaries only)	...	...	...
Home Nursing ...	...	1s.	3d.	Astronomy for Beginners ...	...	6d.	2d.
The Little Dressmaker ...	...	1s.	3d.	Surveying Book ...	...	1/-	2d.
Going about the Country with your Eyes	...	...	...	First Aid Book ...	...	1/-	2d.
Open ...	...	1s.	3d.	Our Union Jack Book ...	...	2d.	1d.
In Natures Way ...	...	1s.	3d.	Our Kings and Westminster Abbey ...	...	3s.	4d.
My Adventures as a Spy ...	...	3/6	4d.	Scout Plays and Displays ...	...	1/6	3d.
Scouting Games (Sir Robt. Baden-Powell)	...	1s.	4d.	Morse Cards ...	...	3d.	1d.
The Scout as a Handyman ...	...	1s.	4d.	Tracking and Pathfinding ...	...	6d.	2d.
Camping Out ...	...	1s.	4d.	Displays for Girl Guides ...	...	9d.	2d.
Wood Carving ...	...	1s.	4d.	Brownikins and Other Fancies ...	...	2/6	4d.
How to Start ...	...	4d.	doz.	Girl Guiding (Handbook for Girl	...	...	...
What They Are ...	...	4d.	doz.	Guides by Sir Robert Baden-Powell)	...	...	...
The Girl Guide Movement ...	...	4d.	1d.	Paper Covers ...	...	1/6	3d.
(By Lady Baden-Powell)	...	...	...	Cloth " ...	...	2/6	4d.
Policy, Organization & Rules ...	...	10d.	1d.	FOR THE CLUB ROOM.			
Basket Making at Home ...	...	1s.	3d.	(Single Copies cannot be posted.)			
Bartons Veterinary Book ...	...	6d.	2d.	Wall Charts ...	...	2d.	1d.
Drill Book ...	...	6d.	2d.	Fires for Cooking; Compass; How to be	...	...	...
Union Jack Defined ...	...	1d.	1d.	Healthy; Abdomen and Leg Exercises; Dumb-	...	...	...
Patrol Roll Book ...	...	2d.	1d.	bell Exercises; Indian Club Exercises; Ju Jitsu;	...	...	...
Company Register ...	...	1/6	4d.	Rescue from Fire; Rescue from Drowning	...	...	...
Questions and Answers on First Aid ...	...	3d.	1d.	How to Act in Emergencies.	...	...	...
Guide Law Cards ...	...	1d.	1d.				

THE GIRL GUIDES' GAZETTE.
 3/6 per Annum. Post Free. All Orders should
 be sent to 76 Victoria Street, S.W. 1

GIRL GUIDES' GAZETTE

Vol. V. No. 51.

MARCH, 1918.

Price 3d.

NOTES OF THE MONTH.

H.R.H. Princess Beatrice is to inspect the Girl Guides of Bath.

Lady Baden-Powell, our Chief Commissioner, has gone to France at the request of the War Office to look into the conditions under which the W.A.A.C. are working.

Guiders and Guides are asked to do all possible this year to increase the food supply by cultivating allotments and gardens.

"Dig, Dig, Dig," is the month's watchword, for March is the great month for digging and preparing the ground for sowing and planting in spring.

Lady Amherst of Hackney begs children, and any others who will do so, to gather tufts of sheep's wool, which flocks of sheep leave in hedges and all sorts of odd places as they move from one grazing ground to another. The wool need not be cleaned or washed, but sticks, thorns, and bits of wire should be removed. Send the wool you gather to Sheep's Wool Depot, 23, Queen's Gate Gardens, London, S.W.7. Every little helps to make warm blankets for our soldiers and sailors.

The best crop to grow is potatoes. Potatoes like a light, open soil, fairly well manured. Dig deep, fork over the ground before you plant, so that the tubers can have a loose covering of soil on them. Early varieties should be planted during March. Good early varieties are May Queen, Mid Lothian Early, and Sharp's Express, but before buying or planting any potatoes ask successful local potato growers for advice about the variety best suited to your soil, and get the best advice you can about how to sprout your tubers, how to plant, etc.

The "Daily Mirror" is offering a prize of £500 for five fine potatoes grown by amateur growers. Why not try for this prize?

If you have a grassy orchard or waste grass ground you will find geese profitable to keep. These birds are grass feeders, so cost you practically nothing to feed.

Jerusalem artichokes make a most profitable crop. Keep some of your ground for planting beans in. All kinds of beans make health-giving food, and are specially useful as a substitute for meat.

The best bit of news is kept for the last. In response to a widespread request, our Chief Commissioner has been appointed "Chief Guide" by the H.Q. Executive. We Guides heartily welcome her as "one of us."

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Articles and notices for the Gazette must reach the Editor *before* the 23rd of each month (for the Gazette of the month following). This rule has been found necessary in order to ensure in future punctual publication of the Gazette, if war conditions permit.

HEADQUARTERS AWARDS.

Silver Medal.—Patrol Leader Ada Jackson. Rescued a little girl from drowning when she was sinking for the third time.

Letter of Recommendation.—Guide Audrey Mappin. Showed presence of mind in going to the rescue of a girl, who was drowning.

Silver Fish.—Patrol Leader S. Chidley, 1st Royal Eltham Co.; Captain G. M. Robinson, 9th Birkenhead; Patrol Leader P. Pentreath, 2nd Ealing.

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES.

Custody of Certificates.—Proficiency Badge Certificates, which are signed by the Local Examiner when tests are passed, should be kept by the Guide herself when the Badge is awarded to her.

Hut Fund Acknowledgments.—Peek Frean Co. (further donation), 5s. 6d.; 1st Havant Co., £1 1s.; 1st and 2nd Newport Companies, £6 15s.

Information Requested.—The Headquarters would be glad to receive the name and address of any Girl Guide who has been employed by the authorities in watching the coast or who sounds the "All Clear" bugle after an air raid.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

March, 1918.

MY DEAR GUIDES,

Now that our fishermen are called in to fight for their lives against the enemy, we have been thrilled with admiration for the brave deeds of those survivors of the awful catastrophe at Dover.

You have probably heard how the German destroyers fired on our little fishing craft, set fire to them and burnt the crew who lay inextricably entangled in the blazing wreck; and how the two survivors lifted the two wounded men into the boat and then returned to the burning ship, although the steam was pouring from her wrecked engine-room and the ammunition all about her decks was exploding.

After long efforts these two seamen succeeded in putting out the fire in the hull, and then hearing their poor wounded comrades calling to them from the boat, they proceeded to drag them on board the ship again, and all through the night devoted themselves to binding up their injuries and lessening their pain.

The sailors were not, however, able to save the lives of their companions.

To be calm and resourceful when attacked like this in the inky darkness of the night, whilst the sea was dashing over their decks, needed great pluck and the heroism of a Britisher, prepared to meet every danger.

Many of you have relations in our Navy. Have you a brother sailor, a father or cousin perhaps?

Think what our Navy is doing silently and invisibly out in the fogs and storms of the North Sea!

How grateful we ought to be to them for keeping watch on the enemy, and how we ought to help our sailors both when they go forth and leave wife and children not knowing if they will ever see them again, or when they come back wounded and disabled. We can each do a little something to help them.

Not long ago I heard a very interesting account of our Navy's doings. I will try to give you some of the details I gleaned about it.

Admiral Sir John Jellicoe said, in a recent speech, there were no finer examples in the history of seamen than those shown by the officers and men of our Destroyer services, while our Submarines were ready to attack any enemy ships every time they came out from behind their mine fields. Moreover our

own Submarines were always looking for German submarines and always trying to sink them. And, we can always sail where we want to!

The number of men we have transported by sea in safety under the shield of the Navy since the war began is upwards of *thirteen million*. What a magnificent record! This is a testimony to the success of our Navy over the enemy. Although the Hun "U" boats are continually on the look-out to sink our ships.

During last year the loss of food carried in ships across the ocean amounted only to 7 per cent. of the whole of the goods. Now this mischief appears to be in a very small proportion to the amount that was safely delivered.

As far back as the reign of Henry VII., the first Naval Dock in England for constructing ships was built at Portsmouth, and Portsmouth has the proud position of having drafted more men to the ships of the Grand Fleet than any other British port.

So long as our Grand Fleet keeps watch and guard on the North Sea, England can never be invaded, and owing to their watchfulness Great Britain is in a better position for food supplies than any other European country.

When we began this war we possessed a fine Fleet, and it has been increasing ever since. The ships are manned by men with all the character and habits of initiative and self-reliance; many of them men who have been trained in the Mercantile Marine and Fisheries of our coasts, where individual resourcefulness is one of the principal qualities which go to the making of a valorous salt,

When you think how distant the ships may be, considering that the North Sea is a vast expanse of 140 thousand square miles of water, whose waves wash the shores of seven of the principal countries of Europe, we do indeed need men of enterprise to carry out our manœuvres, and we can but look with admiration at the indomitable courage and endurance of our men whose watchfulness guards our homes.

Had our Navy not been so good it would have been impossible for us to have sent across to France the first small Force when war was declared, a Force which stopped and held back the first rush of Germans so admirably.

Since then the Navy has swept off the oceans of the world all enemy ships which

could be seen, although it is possible there are many Submarines sitting at the bottom waiting to trap us.

Upwards of *ten thousand* men, women and children have been murdered by these German "U" boats. The Germans counted on sinking at least one million tons of our shipping in a month, but they have failed. British ships still go to and fro and British seamen have never hesitated to man these ships.

On the occasion of the Battle of Jutland, when the German Fleet ventured to poke its nose out, we gave them such a punishment that they have hardly dared to appear since.

The great task of the Navy in this war is to keep open the sea connections between England and the Continent, also our Overseas Dominions, thus securing freedom of passage for our troops in many parts of the world.

We must remember that much of the work of the ships is done by night on the trackless ocean, and that one of the chief means of guiding the ships to their destination is by means of the stars, and by knowing the look of the Constellations and the position of the first-class stars.

So you see how useful it is to study Astronomy. Any of you can begin now to learn the names of the stars, and when you have got on friendly terms with them, you will soon know how to find the North and the South by means of the stars, and also how to direct the course of a ship on the broad seas in the darkest night.

Don't forget that Orion's sword points N. and S. Also try whether you can find the "Square of Pegasus," it is very plain, and its sides point North and South, too; that is to say, carry your eye from the lower star to the top star and on in a straight line and you will come to the North Polar star.

Yours sincerely, AGNES BADEN-POWELL

SECOND CLASS TEST GUIDE PAGES.

The new Second Class Test seems to have puzzled some of you very considerably.

A Guide has written to say it is not possible to stalk and track. Why not? Where is the difficulty? What does tracking mean? The dictionary says "a mark left by someone that has passed along."

As regards stalking, in "Scouting for Boys" Sir Robert Baden-Powell writes:

To teach stalking demonstrate the value

of adapting colour of clothes to background by sending out one boy about 500 yards to stand against different backgrounds in turn, till he gets one similar in colour to his own clothes.

The rest of the Patrol to watch and to notice how invisible he becomes when he gets a suitable background. E.G., a boy in a grey suit standing in front of dark bushes, etc., is quite visible—but becomes less so if he stands in front of a grey rock or house; a boy in a dark suit is very visible in a green field, but not when he stands in an open doorway against dark interior shadow.

GAMES IN STALKING.

Scout Hunting.

One Scout is given time to go out and hide himself, the remainder then start to find him; he wins if he is not found, or if he can get back to the starting-point within a given time without being touched.

Despatch Running.

A Scout is told to bring a note to a certain spot or house from a distance within a given time; other hostile Scouts are told to prevent any message getting to this place, and to hide themselves at different points to stop the dispatch carrier getting in with it.

Relay Race.

To count as a capture, two Scouts must touch the dispatch runner before he reaches the spot for delivering the message.

One Patrol pitted against another to see who can get a message sent a long distance in shortest time by means of relays of runners (or cyclists). The Patrol is ordered out to send in three successive notes or tokens (such as sprigs of certain plants), from a point, say, two miles distant or more. The leader, in taking his Patrol out to the spot, drops Scouts at convenient distances, who will then act as runners from one post to the next and back. If relays are posted in pairs, messages can be passed both ways.

Stalking.

Instructor acts as a deer—not hiding, but standing, moving a little now and then if he likes.

Scouts go out to find, and each in his own way tries to get up to him unseen.

Directly the Instructor sees a Scout he directs him to stand up as having failed. After a certain time the Instructor calls "Time," all stand up at the spot which they have reached, and the nearest wins.

The same game may be played to test the Scouts in stepping lightly—the umpire be-

ing blindfolded. The practice should preferably be carried out where there are dry twigs lying about, and gravel, etc. The Scout may start to stalk the blind enemy at 100 yards' distance, and he must do it fairly fast—say, in one minute and a half—to touch the blind man before he hears him.

Stalking and Reporting.

The umpire places himself out in the open and sends each Scout or pair of Scouts away in different directions about half a mile off. When he waves a flag, which is the signal to begin, they all hide, and then proceed to stalk him, creeping up and watching all he does. When he waves the flag again, they rise, come in, and report each in turn all that he did, either by handing in a written report or verbally, as may be ordered. The umpire, meantime, has kept a look-out in each direction, and, every time he sees a Scout, he takes two points off that Scout's score. He, on his part, performs small actions, such as sitting down, kneeling up, looking through glasses, using handkerchief, taking hat off for a bit, walking round in a circle for a few times, to give Scouts something to note and report about him. Scouts are given three points for each act reported correctly. It saves time if the umpire makes out a scoring card beforehand, giving the name of each Scout, and a number of columns showing each act of his, and what mark that Scout wins, also a column of deducted marks for exposing themselves.

BOOK ON STALKING.

"Deer Stalking." Badminton Library Series. 6s. nett. (Postage 5d.)

'Spider and the Fly.'

A bit of country or section of the town about a mile square is selected as the web, and its boundaries described, and an hour fixed at which operations are to cease.

One Patrol (or Half-Patrol) is the "spider," which goes out and selects a place to hide itself.

The other Patrol (or Half-Patrol) goes a quarter of an hour later as the "fly" to look for the "spider." They can spread themselves about as they like, but must tell their Leader anything that they discover.

An umpire goes with each party.

If within the given time (say about two hours) the fly has not discovered the spider, the spider wins. The spiders write down the names of any fly patrol that they may see; similarly, the flies write down the names of any spiders that they may see, and their exact hiding-place.

The two sides should wear different colours, or be differently dressed (e.g., one side in shirt-sleeves).

Throwing the Assegai.

Target, a thin sack, lightly stuffed with straw, or a sheet of cardboard, or canvas stretched on a frame.

Assegais to be made of wands, with weighted ends sharpened, or with iron arrow heads on them.

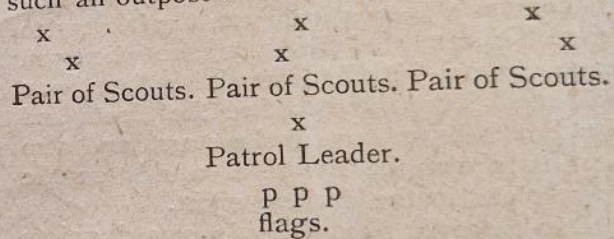
Flag Raiding.

(From "Aids to Scouting." 1s. Gale and Polden).

Two or more Patrols on each side.

Each side will form an outpost within a given tract of country to protect three flags (or at night three lanterns two feet above ground), planted not less than 200 yards (100 yards at night) from it. The protecting outpost will be posted in concealment, either all together or spread out in pairs. It will then send out Scouts to discover the enemy's position. When these have found out where the outpost is, they try and creep round out of sight till they can get to the flags and bring them away to their own line. One Scout may not take away more than one flag.

This is the general position of a Patrol on such an outpost:—



Any Scout coming within 50 yards of a stronger party will be put out of action if seen by the enemy; if he can creep by without being seen it is all right.

Scouts posted to watch as outposts cannot move from their ground, but their strength counts as double, and they may send single messengers to their neighbours or to their own Scouting Party.

An umpire should be with each outpost and with each Scouting Patrol.

At a given hour operations will cease, and all will assemble at the given spot to hand in their reports. The following points might be awarded:—

- For each flag or lamp captured and brought in 5 points
- For each report or sketch of the position of the enemy's outposts (up to) 5 points

For each report of movement of enemy's Scouting Patrols (up to) 2 points
The side which makes the biggest total wins.

(Compiled by Miss Macdonald.)

HANDS ACROSS THE WATER.

Would any Girl Guide care to begin a correspondence with our American Allies?

An English Guide, Christian Bower, 1st Thirsk Company, wrote lately to Mrs. Low, President of the American "Girl Scouts," describing the doings of her Company in war-time, and asking to be put into touch with a Girl Scout. This letter was published in "The Rally" (the American contemporary of our GAZETTE), and aroused so hearty a response that hundreds of Girl Scouts are anxious to find correspondents in England.

Troop No. 53, New York, sought the privilege of answering Christian Bower's letter, and each member has written to each Guide of the Thirsk Company. The Troop as a whole has also sent an American flag, and hopes that the Guides will return the compliment by sending a Union Jack for them to carry beside their American banner.

It is of the utmost importance at the present time to encourage closer comradeship among the Allies, and Guides can in this way help to make real the Guide Law: "A Guide is a friend to all and a sister to every other Guide."

If any Guides will start straight away and write interesting letters (not exceeding the limits of one sheet of note-paper) to unknown friends in America, we shall be happy to forward them. The letters should be stamped and sent under cover to Miss Pemberton, Girl Guides' Office, 76, Victoria Street, S.W.

NEW COMPETITION.

Four prizes of 5s. worth of goods, to be selected from the price list on the cover, are now offered.

Conditions.—One prize will be given to Guiders and three to Guides. Papers must reach the Editor before May 1st. The whole or part of any paper may be published in the Gazette. Full name, address, Guide Company, and rank must be stated.

Subjects.—"How to work an allotment," or alternative subject, "Nature Study in a Town."

Subjects for forthcoming competitions, of which details will be announced later, are: "Guide Games," "Suggestions for Displays, Entertainments, and Sales," and "Life as a Guide."

RESULT OF ORIGINALITY AND OBSERVATION COMPETITION.

(OVER 16.)

Prize 10s.—P. L. Kathleen Smith (Fuchsia Patrol 1st Purley), 9, Birdhurst Rise, S. Croydon.

Special Prize 5s.—Edith M. Lee (P.L. Cornflowers, 2nd Croydon), The Lodge, Foxhunt Manor, Waldron.

Highly Commended.—Elsie Lovell (P.L. 1st Alton), Guide Ray Assenheim (3rd E. Ham).

(UNDER 16.)

Prize 6s.—Muriel M. O. Douglas (2nd Bluebell Patrol, 1st Stonehaven), Green Den Stonehaven, Scotland.

Highly Commended.—Audrey Eleanor Lloyd (working with 1st Bournemouth), P.L. Emily Proctor (4th Newton Abbot); Betty Taggart (1st Douglas, Isle of Man); Muriel Annie Chamberlain (5th Weston-super-Mare).

(UNDER 12.)

As the only competitor was disqualified (having omitted to state her Guide Company and rank), the 5s. assigned as a prize was used as a special prize for the second best paper in the competition sent in by Edith M. Lee.

PATROL LEADERS SECTION.

"A Guide is Loyal to God and the King."

That is the first promise a Girl Guide makes. Never before was our country more in need of loyalty than she is to-day. "A Guide smiles and sings"—even if she has to go without margarine! What we have to go without is as nothing compared with the hardships our soldiers and sailors have to endure. It is not loyalty to go grumbling about the war, Government, and shortage of food, and walk about with long faces. Discontentment is exceedingly infectious.

A Guide must never listen to "peace" talk. It is an insult to the Great Dead. Those who have given their lives—what for? To protect a people who, as soon as they have to make small sacrifices, talk of peace? Peace now would not be a draw, but a defeat. Then all those lives will be indeed wasted. Think how it would grieve the departed—who gave their all to gain liberty and peace, if we were to give in now. So let us all keep smiling and singing—and do our uttermost to stop and silence "peace talk, or, in other words, "traitor's talk."

A PATROL LEADER.

"To-day is the to-morrow you were worrying about yesterday."

"The more we know the less we grumble."

THE CASTLESTONE HOUSE COMPANY.

A School Story of Girl Guides.

By MRS. GREGORY, County Sec., Kincardine.

CHAPTER 6.

ANGELA IN DANGER.

"It's too hot for anything but swimming," announced Angela.

She threw down her school books and her broad-brimmed hat as she spoke.

"I suppose I can go to the baths this afternoon, Mother dear, can't I?"

"With the Guides, do you mean?"

"No, there isn't a meeting to-day. But some of the High School girls are going."

"Who will be in charge, then?"

"One of the mistresses, Miss Scott, I believe. But, dear me, Mums, I can swim like a fish, and dive too,—in the deep end—and I don't need anybody in charge of me."

Angela was pleased with her prowess in the matter of swimming, and had even constituted herself instructress to some of the other girls. Inclined to be daring and adventurous, she was rather a trial to Miss Scott, who contented herself with walking round the slippery edge of the bath, holding her skirts out of the reach of splashes, and inciting her pupils to caution somewhat in the fashion of a hen in charge of a troublesome brood of ducklings.

Angela swam across and across, dived from the spring-board, and floated lazily about the deep end, enjoying herself thoroughly.

"Aren't you ever afraid, Angie?" asked Laura Edwards, clinging to the bar.

"Not a bit," replied Angela. "At least," she added, cautiously, "I'm not afraid of anything but the drain under the spring-board. That 'guggles' and 'gwoobles' so horribly with the water going out that I hate to swim past it. Look at Amy with the corks under her arms, puffing and panting across the shallow end. Come along, Laura, I'll race you to the 4 ft. 6 in. board!"

They started off, and arrived splashing and laughing at the opposite bar.

"You're nice and fat," said Angela frankly, "and I believe it is easy for you to swim. Bother! There's Miss Scott chasing everyone into their dressing-boxes! She'll come for us next. Please, Miss Scott, do give us five minutes more. We're not a bit cold, really, and it's such fun!"

Miss Scott looked searchingly at the shining wet faces upturned to her, but there was no sign of blue lips, or of shivering.

"Very well," she said doubtfully, "just a very few minutes then. I'm going into Amy's box to help her with her hair, and when I've finished you must come out at once, and dress extra quickly to make up."

"Now we've got the whole place to ourselves," said Angela, with satisfaction. "See where the corks have floated to, Laura, out into the middle of the deep end; let's race for them. One, two, three, go!"

Laura was a sturdy girl of fifteen. Though she had not Angela's natural daring, she could swim fairly well, with that buoyancy which keeps the head and shoulders out of the water. But it was not long since she had learned, and in the deep end

she was always a little nervous. She reached the strap of corks before Angela, and with a triumphant smile stretched out her hand to seize them. Somehow, with the motion of the water, the corks floated an inch or two beyond her reach. Laura, missing the support she had counted upon, lost her nerve and her balance. The result was an unexpected mouthful of water. She gave a little gasp, and looked wildly round for the bar; but it was six feet away.

"Come on, Laura," cried Angela. She saw that her companion was scared, but they had often swam hand-in-hand—it was quite easy—so Angela with an extra stroke, reached her friend's side and grasped the fingers nearest to her.

Then—she never knew how it happened, but she was choking—fighting for her breath! Her feet touched the bottom, there were miles of green water apparently, above her head. Laura's arms were round her, pressing her own firmly to her sides; now she was at the surface—no time for more than a gasp of air, then down again, and the smothering green light above. The two girls struggling, gasping, locked in an instinctive, senseless embrace, fought their way to the surface in turns. There was no cry, no shout for help, scarcely even a splashing as they sunk and rose, to tell that anything was wrong.

Perhaps it was the unusual quietness—the cessation of merry voices, that made Miss Scott draw aside the curtain of the dressing-box, and look out.

Angela, at the surface for the third time, heard a shriek—not her own—sank again—the green light disappeared, and the struggle ceased.

In a corner beside the bath, stood a long wooden implement like a rake. Angela found herself gazing stupidly at this thing, which somehow seemed to be out of its accustomed place. Then she discovered that she was lying outside the boxes, surrounded by a good many anxious faces, and that Miss Scott was forcing horrible brandy between her lips. To her dismay, the old man who had something to do with filling the baths, was watching the proceedings.

"It's a merciful providence as I was on the premises, as you might say, Miss!" he remarked to the teacher.

Angela, uncomfortably conscious of her clinging bathing-suit, made an effort to struggle to her feet, and Miss Scott helped her into the nearest compartment. Laura was there, very white-faced and shivering, one of the elder girls trying to hurry on some of her garments.

Miss Scott was very kind, and Angela, who felt curiously tired, was glad of her assistance. In some unaccountable way she had suddenly taken a dislike to the whole place, and when dressed she was obliged to turn her head away from the water as she passed the bath on her way to the door. She felt quite well, however, and declined the old man's offer to fetch a cab. It was not far to her home, and one of the girls who lived in the same road would walk with her to the door.

Tea was ready when she reached home, and Mrs. Dent, though naturally perturbed at the thought of her daughter's past danger, was relieved to see that Angela had a good appetite.

It was not until she was in bed that the little girl felt the full effects of her escapade. Just as she was dropping off to sleep, there seemed again to be the weight of green water above her, the choking sensation, the touch of the cold white tiles to her feet, and Angela would start up in bed, wildly toss

back her hair, and throw down the blankets. This happened again and again, as she lay alone in the darkness.

"I won't call Mums," she thought; "it would only worry her, and she wouldn't let me go back to the baths again."

But even the thought of this contingency did not distress her as it would have done before.

Then came a sudden recollection of her fellow-sufferer, and a wonder as to whether Laura was also passing a sleepless night.

"I could so easily have helped her to the side if the silly thing hadn't clutched me," meditated Angela.

The twin "Imp," while condescending to show some interest in his sister's escapade, had been a trifle scornful.

"Swimming's not much good unless you learn life-saving," he remarked. "Gibbs major is going to show me it all some day soon; there are lots of different things you have to do according to how the drowning fellow clutches you."

Angela felt that she had been found wanting.

"It might have been an opportunity for an Act of Gallantry if only I had known what to do," she reflected miserably. "No wonder the Guide motto is 'Be Prepared.' I wasn't prepared, and I seem to have done the very worst thing—holding out my hand for her to seize. Besides, she wasn't drowning and got to the side if I hadn't interfered. And, anyway, I didn't know there was any danger, and I wasn't frightened to begin with, so it wasn't an Act of Gallantry at all."

There seemed to be no comfort anywhere, and the tossing and tumbling began again. The grey morning light peeped in through the blind, and Angela could see the enrolment card on the wall.

"I will try to learn life-saving," she determined, "so that I can be prepared next time. Yet if I do, there may never be another chance of the same kind—it will be sure to be something different. The only way is to learn to be prepared for everything, and that would take such ages."

With a despairing sigh, Angela tucked her face into the hot pillow.

CHAPTER '7.

THE EXHIBITION.

"Have you heard the news?" Elsie bounced into the class-room. "Miss Anderson told me just now, and Miss Wright's going to give it out after tea!"

"No—what? Stop practising, Daisy, and let's hear."

"There isn't going to be an Old Girls' Party this summer, at least, it's going to be an exhibition kind of affair. The Old Girls are coming, and will bring contributions, but we are going to make things ourselves for it."

"Gracious! What sort of things?" Daisy wheeled round on the stool.

"I think it will be fun!"

Elsie answered the look and tone rather than the words.

"She said it was to 'inculcate thrift.' We are to make things out of nothing, you know what I mean!"

"Oh, hurray!" remarked Meg. "Far more jolly than watching the Old Girls swish about in their best frocks with their fiancés and husbands. Tell us more, Elsie—what did she say—what can we make?"

"Well!—" Elsie sat down on a desk and prepared to give a lecture. "There will be a food

stall with war-time cakes and puddings, the Old Girls mostly are to do that. And a clothes stall, with ideas for making new things out of old ones—"

"My Mother's horribly good at that," sighed Daisy, "I often wish she wasn't!"

"Well, get some ideas from her," continued Elsie, "and, Alice, there's that way you re-foot stockings, you might do that, and somebody could turn an old hat upside down or inside out and trim it again—where was I? Oh! the food stall and the dress stall; and there will be wild plants suitable for food, Morris-y's in charge of that; won't she love it, and shan't we get lectures on cruciferae and all the rest of it? And—the day-girls are going to do the toy-stall—rag-dolls, and so on."

"And we can make things out of old tins," suggested Meg. "I'll ask cookie to save up all the empty ones, and I'll buy some solder next shopping day."

"Would baskets do?" asked Alice.

"Oh, first rate—and mats; you can start your Brownies working full speed."

The Head Mistress entered the dining-room just after tea and gave out the notice to a much interested audience. The chief work of the term was over, and dreaded exams passed, so the girls were able to devote their energies to the subject in hand with real enthusiasm.

"What's this?" asked Dot.

It was a week before the exhibition, and an envelope addressed to "Miss Maxwell" had been handed to her.

"Open it!" laughed one of the boarders, "We've all had ours!"

Dot took this advice, drew a sheet of paper from its cover and read—"Miss Wright requests the pleasure of Miss Maxwell's company on July 24th, from 3-7 p.m."

"Don't look alarmed, Dot," advised Estelle, "you have only got to reply to it in your politest manner and most elegant handwriting! alarmed than ever."

"B—but why?" she stammered. "She knew I was coming. Why did she ask me? What shall I say? Oh, how horrid!"

"It's worse than that," teased Estelle; "when you come in, she shakes hands with you as if you were a visitor, and you have to say it's a nice day and not quite so hot as yesterday, and so on."

"Oh, I couldn't!" Dot groaned, in bitterness of spirit. "I'd rather not come! Why is she so hate-

This had the effect of making Dot look more ful?"

"Poor Dot, don't torment her," said Alice indignantly. "Come here and I'll show you what to say. It's quite easy. Here's some notepaper and a pen. All right—use your own then—and write very neatly. Now—Miss Maxwell has much pleasure—"

"Oh, Alice, must I? I can't call myself 'Miss Maxwell'!"

"You'll get it back to write all over again if you don't do it correctly; come along now—has much pleasure." She does it every year so as to teach us how to write acceptances, (though I think this year she might have tried to economise in paper!)—and you have to be very careful how you come in—don't slink, or hang your head down, or anything. But she's never very hard on the juniors, she expects them to be a bit shy. Go on—'in accepting' two c's, that's it. Some of the Old Girls say they are still terrified at Miss Wright. Betty Stanley, who has had her hair up for two years, says she flies

down a side street if she sees Miss Wright coming, for fear she might tell her not to hold one shoulder higher than the other, though, of course, she wouldn't tell her so now;—' in accepting Miss Wright's kind invitation for—

"Oh, do you remember Betty last summer? Joyce—you were here—do you remember?"

Meg laid her face on the desk and gave way to unrestrained mirth.

"She always hated the party, and said that nothing would induce her to accept when she was an Old Girl herself. Well, it was her last term, and we all cheered her up by saying it would soon be over, but I think Miss Wright was worse than ever, knowing she would so soon be gone, and she held Betty's hand and beamed amiably, and talked about the weather and the 'bus strike, and Betty got the colour of a tomato, and said all the wrong things. And then Miss Wright wound up by introducing a young man—somebody's brother, and Betty didn't know whether to shake hands or not, and neither did he, and they dodged each other with their hands half out and then back again, and at last he got her away to the tent and offered her some strawberries and cream, and she burst into tears with excitement, and he dried her eyes. And all the time Phyllis Hervey would have given her ears to be introduced to him, for he had the loveliest nose and greeny-blue silk socks. And Betty said afterwards in the bedroom that if she hadn't been leaving Miss Wright's for ever the next week, she would have committed suicide—to spite her."

"Do gentlemen come?" asked Dot, her eyes wide with horror at this tragic recital.

"Yes, but you needn't be afraid. It's only prefects and an occasional senior that have to be introduced. Miss Wright told me that sixteen men were invited, and only ten were coming."

"Tens into thirty-eight," murmured Florrie.

"Say into thirty," amended Meg, "it's easier, and day-girls don't count, for they can speak to a man any time. You can have my third of a man, Florrie, I don't want it."

"But you've forgotten the teachers, and all the Old Girls," Joyce corrected. "I fear it's hopeless; we can't even have a third."

"Is your brother coming, Dot?"

Dot shook her head. "He's in France."

"He's about the nicest-looking of anybody's brothers."

This was high praise from a senior. Dot blushed with pride, and felt almost compensated for all the trial before her.

"If John could come," she sighed, "I shouldn't mind anything."

CHAPTER 8.

"BREAKING-UP DAY."

Meg stood aghast, an open letter in her hand. Twice she read it through, then a third time, scarcely able to grasp the news which seemed to her so appalling. It was the last day of the term, boxes and bags stood about, already filled to the brim, and excited girls ran up and down the stairs, shouting and laughing for very glee. Beatrice Mark had brought up the letters, amongst them the one whose contents had so upset Meg. On the landing she was distributing other envelopes, but few girls either expected, or cared for, letters on breaking-up day. Meg moved amongst her companions.

"Harry has gone and got scarlet fever," she announced, "and now I can't go home!"

There was a murmur of sympathy. "How horrible for you, Peg," remarked Daisy; "perfectly ghastly!"

"But I expect Harry will be all right," suggested Iris, comfortably; "he's very strong, isn't he?"

"Oh, yes; tough as anything. I suppose he'll soon be pretty well again. But think of not going home—for the summer holidays above all things; and scarlet fever is so long, it'll take up the whole time."

"Surely you haven't to stay here?" was Edith's horrified question.

"Thank, goodness, no; but it's almost as bad. I've to meet a second cousin I don't know a bit, at Hancourt, and go to a mouldy little place for the whole holidays, and come back here without ever seeing Mother at all, for she's nursing Harry." And real tears stood in Meg's usually merry eyes.

"I'll help you," offered Iris, "the Hancourt train goes at 12.20, Meg, and you will have to make haste."

"I know," agreed Meg dismally, "sit on my trunk, two or three of you and I'll try to get it strapped."

"If he had done it a week earlier," reflected Meg, as the train whirled her along, "things wouldn't have been so bad. I'm sure some of the girls would have invited me home with them if they had had time to write and ask permission. And I might perhaps have got one week at home after everything was disinfected, but to go and begin fever on the very first day of the holidays! Poor, old Harry, it's pretty hateful for him, too!"

The second cousin, Miss Anna Cave, was a somewhat elderly lady. She greeted Meg kindly, sympathised with her troubles, and offered a share of her luncheon-basket when they were settled in the compartment which was to convey them to the "mouldy little place" of which Meg had spoken.

"I don't know Kingsham at all," she said; "but I hope it will prove an agreeable place for a holiday. Dear Mrs. Davies spoke so well of it, I remember. Secluded, she mentioned, but very picturesque; she made a number of charming sketches. I do hope there will no difficulty in settling into comfortable rooms. Everything has had to be arranged so hastily on account of poor Henry's illness."

This hope of Miss Cave's was far from being realised. To begin with, the station was a very primitive affair, no hotel porters in smart uniforms stood about, no one offered to relieve the travellers of their handbags.

"We must find someone to attend to us," murmured the lady, distractedly; "where can the station omnibus be?"

"Ain't no station 'bus, mum," said the ancient porter when appealed to. "On account of the war, mum. Used to be one two days in the week, but, deary me, Bill was killed by them 'Uns, and there ain't no one else took it up so to speak. Where was you goin' to?"

"We want rooms; we are prepared to stay at Kingsham for several weeks if we are comfortable," said Miss Cave with dignity.

"That'll be a matter of five mile,"—the porter rubbed his head—"be it five mile now, or six, Miss Smithers?" as a girl came out of the booking office.

"Five mile mum, at the very outside, this being only the station, and not the residential part, as you might say."

The travellers looked at each other with horror. "We must have a motor car or a horse and trap at once," ordered the elder lady.

"Can't be done, mum, nohow," sighed the porter; "very sorry, mum, but that's 'ow it is. There ain't no hire to be 'ad. Your best way would 'ave been to 'ave wrote that you was comin', and ordered the 'Blue Fish's' gig to come over for you."

"It would take us ages to walk," put in Meg; "and even if we did what about the luggage?"

"Quite out of the question," moaned Miss Cave.

"I heard nothing about having to order either a conveyance or rooms beforehand."

Miss Smithers here interrupted with the remark that Farmer Gray's rough cart was going to Kingsham to-night—he was coming along the road now, and might be willing to oblige.

We will pass over Miss Cave's horror at sight of the vehicle in which she was invited to ride. Meg and the porter arranged details hurriedly between them, and soon the lady found herself packed between the stout farmer and her young cousin, the trunks loaded in behind them.

Never, thought Meg, had she endured such a thorough shaking. The cart bumped and wobbled along the rutty country roads. Miss Cave, out of deference to the owner of the conveyance, suppressed her groans as far as possible, but she found polite conversation an impossibility.

"I'll put ye down at the 'Fish,'" said the farmer obligingly. "It's about a quarter of a mile out o' my road, but never mind that, ma'am, and the landlord 'll maybe give ye a room."

"I shouldn't care to stay at a hotel—two ladies alone," whispered Miss Cave to Meg. "It might smell of beer, and I don't think it would be quite—! Still, perhaps the proprietor will tell us of suitable rooms."

But when they and their boxes were deposited at the door of the "Blue Fish," a very rustic little inn, there was only a tired looking woman in black to welcome them.

Her husband, she explained, was away at a funeral; she didn't know of any rooms in the place,—no, there wasn't a street, only scattered houses,—there were very few visitors came to Kingsham. Mrs. Jones across the field had two ladies certainly, that was all she knew about. She could give them a room at the "Fish" if they liked, but she was not very cordial in her offer.

"We will stay here for the night," decided Miss Cave, "it is too late to go further. Have our trunks carried up, please, and make us some tea at once."

The poor lady's head ached badly, it was half-past eight by the time the meal was finished, and she announced her intention of unpacking what was necessary for the night, and going to bed immediately.

Meg was tired, somewhat gloomy too at the thought of her spoiled holiday, as she followed her cousin upstairs. Her little room opened off Miss Cave's larger one, and the creaking sign with its hideous blue fish swung just underneath her window.

(To be Continued).

"In prosperity our friends know us. In adversity we know our friends."

COMPANY NEWS.

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

ENGLAND AND WALES.

CHURCH PARADES.

1st Bilston (St. Leonard's).—This Company was enrolled on December 18th, and consists of ten girls and two officers. The girls have been working very hard so as to enable them to be efficient patrol leaders and seconds when new girls are admitted. They have been to Church Parade twice since the enrolment, and give one item on the programme of the G.F.S. concert in Bilston. They have all passed their second-class test.

They have a little magazine of their own, which is at present only in manuscript form, and is passed round from girl to girl, and they also keep a "log book" in which they write down exactly all the doings of the Company.

Ipswich.—On January 13th the 12th Ipswich Y.W.C.A. had a united Church Parade with the St. Helen's Troop, and very much enjoyed a special address given to them by the Rev. Wood who interpreted "Girl Guides" as "Guides for Girls." After the service the Y.W.C.A. Troop marched back to their headquarters.

FUNERAL OF A GIRL GUIDE.

On Tuesday last the funeral of Eunice Jenkins, beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins, of Emlyn Terrace, Merthyr, took place at Cefn Cemetery. She was only 12 years of age, and was loved by all who knew her. A large number of wreaths and floral tributes were received. Notable among them was a harp from sorrowing father, mother, and brother; wreaths from Abermorlais Schools, Park Sunday School, also one from the Merthyr Girl Guides, in the form of two rings, being the Guides' sign for "gone home." About 60 members of the Girl Guides attended in uniform, ten acting as bearers, and carrying sprays. Deceased was corporal of the "Thrush Patrol," of the 2nd Merthyr. Park Sunday School (her teacher, Mrs. Balkwill, and the class formed together carrying sprays of white flowers) and Abermorlais School were largely represented. Suitable hymns were sung, under the conductorship of the precentor (Mr. D. O. Thomas). The Rev. J. Lloyd Williams (pastor) officiated.

(Reprinted from the "Merthyr Express," February 23rd, 1918.)

GENERAL NEWS.

1st Exmouth (Clinton): The Captain offers to send on any Saturday two instructors (one drill and one ambulance) to help companies in Devon or near. Return fares must be paid.

2nd Harrow Road had its Union Jack consecrated on Sunday, December 9th, by the Rev. Dr. Golancz. The ceremony took place at the Bayswater Jewish School. After the ceremony, Lady Blomfield gave the girls a short address on patriotism, and then inspected the company. This was followed by a short display.

PATROL LEADERS' CONFERENCE.

N.E. Manchester held its first Patrol Leaders'

Conference in January. Two excellent papers were read on "The Duties of a Patrol Leader." After the discussion it was unanimously agreed that a company really depends on the patrol leaders, and that slackness, or lack of progress is usually attributable to the failure of the P.L. to do her duty properly. Other interesting questions were discussed.

GUIDES' WAR WORK AT ALDERLEY EDGE.

The third anniversary of the opening of the "Guides' Red Cross Laundry" has recently passed. The laundry is maintained entirely by the gifts of the Guides themselves, and by the money earned by the collecting and selling of waste papers; and the Guides do the work as a "good turn." All the bandages used in the Red Cross Hospital are washed and rolled ready for use, and a large number of table-cloths, towels, etc., generally more than 100 articles daily are dealt with by the Guides. The laundry is at work every day (including Sunday); and since its opening the approximate number of articles which have passed through it is as follows: bandages, 13,476; other things, 41,983. As a birthday gift to the laundry the workers presented 21lbs. of soap!

The late Colonel Sir Edward Cotton-Joddrell, K.C.B., on visiting the hospital was greatly interested in the Guides' laundry, and in his report dated September 14th, 1917, to the Commandant, he wrote: "I can assure you on behalf of our President,—Her Grace Katharine Duchess of Westminster—and the county branch of our very high and grateful appreciation of the work the Guides have done and are doing for the B.R.C.S. . . . They at least may be sure of that grateful appreciation which is the due of voluntary help in its best and truest sense."

Surgeon-General Julian, D.D.M.S., Western Command, has also written his thanks to the Girl Guides "for the splendid work they have done for the hospital since it was opened in November, 1914, until the present time."

Upwards of 9,000 leaflets, letters, and bills (for War Loan War Savings, Food Production, Food Economy etc. etc.) have been taken out during 1917 in Alderley Edge, and Wilmslow. Assistance has been given at the "Communal kitchen" in cooking and cleaning.

Guides continue to do the "washing-up" and "potato-peeling" daily at the hospital at Alderley Edge, and to render assistance at the Wilmslow Hospital.

The Guides' market gardens have produced this year 662lbs. of potatoes, 71lbs. of beans, etc., 60 cabbages, 28 beetroots, 252 sticks of celery, and quantities of radishes, onions, etc. etc. Six of the seniors and officers have been awarded the "Green Armband" for work on the land.

A large package of foodstuffs is sent from Alderley Edge every month to the "Poste de Secours" in Flanders established and worked by the "Ladies of Pervyse" (the Baroness de T'Serclaes and Miss Chisholm). The Guides are responsible for the taking out of the "reminder" cards and the collecting of the goods. In recognition of the value of this work the ladies have presented a trophy to the Company—a shell mounted on an ebony stand and bearing a silver plate recording the circumstances of the present action—to be placed in the headquarters of the Company. The baroness also decorated five members of the Company (viz: Miss

Tipping, district captain; Miss Whyman, captain; Corporal Bilsborough, Guides Una Beatty and Hylda Kay) with the bronze medal commemorating the special work done for "Pervyse and Dixmude." The "Ladies of Pervyse" are beloved by the Alderley Edge Guides, who rejoice to have the privilege of doing something to assist them.

A large number of woollen comforts, cigarettes, etc., have been sent out to the forces. Other "war work" includes the providing of vegetables, etc., for hospitals, herb collecting and drying.

A War Savings Association has been formed and is very flourishing.

USEFUL BADGES EARNED.

1st Linton, started in April, 1917 by a lone Guide, has now three patrols. It has helped at several fetes, and has earned about 40 badges, amongst these are 12 cooks and 12 laundresses. The District Commissioner acts as Guider.

EARNING THEIR UNIFORM.

1st Williton (Somerset) send an interesting first report. The Company was formed in August and numbers over 50 guides, who are doing good badge work. They hire an empty cottage at a small rent for a club room, and this the patrols take in turn to keep clean, light the fire, etc. every week, and for this work they receive marks. They collect waste paper and bottles to sell to help towards getting their uniform. In spring they intend to grow sunflowers in a little patch of ground outside the club room door, the seed to be used for poultry food. They are now looking forward to their first inspection and hope to start some Brownie patrols.

PRACTICAL SYMPATHY.

Halifax (Yorkshire) Girl Guides have sent to their sister Guides in Halifax, Nova Scotia, a gift of £3 15s. as a token of practical sympathy in their recent trouble caused by the explosion in December last.

ADOPTING A PRISONER OF WAR.

1st Peshurst and 1st Chiddington Hoath collect waste paper for the Prince of Wales' Fund. The 1st Chiddington Hoath have adopted a prisoner of war with the proceeds saved from the waste paper collection. They also work at knitting socks, helmets, etc. The combined companies held a rally at Stonewall Park in January.

A NEW COMPANY.

1st Cookham Dean was inaugurated at a meeting held at Winter Hill House on January 26th. The hon. secretary (Mrs. Cochran) took the chair in the absence of Lady Beachcroft, President of Local Committee, and introduced to the prospective Guides and their mothers Miss Berryman, new District Commissioner. Miss Cruickshank, the late District Commissioner, impressed upon the girls the necessity of loving their homes and trying to get badges through their homes, and always obeying their parents promptly and willingly.

DISPLAYS, ENTERTAINMENTS, ETC.

1st Campden Hill held a small display at St. James' Church Hall, Sussex Gardens. The Guides were greatly praised by the inspector for excellent bandaging.

8th Newcastle (School House) made £17 in aid of the University Mission in Central Africa by an entertainment in which they were assisted by the 10th Company. They also entertained and gave tea to the patients of the local (St. John's) Auxiliary

Hospital. Several Guides gained 'entertainers' badges.

Shipton-on-Stour realised £26 by a sale of work, and now the Guides are busily knitting comforts for soldiers and making uniforms with the proceeds.

Birmingham., Mrs. Billington (chairman) in January presented 130 badges to the successful candidates in the autumn tests. Among them were several for thrift, two war service, and for the first time two senior and eight Brownie first-aiders.

Sandwich Companies 1, 2, and 3 had Lord and Lady Northbourne to give away their badges recently. Lord Northbourne was enthusiastic in his praise of the useful work he found the Guides doing, polishing boots, silver, etc., laundry, bed-making, cobbling, cycle-repairing, straw hat making, machining and sewing, toy and frame making, etc. The Mayoress and Commissioner showed the work done. Wolf Cubs guarded the separate groups of workers as orderlies, and stood very smartly to attention.

1st Wardour.—Wardour school children and Guides gave a good entertainment. The Guides performed a very successful little play by themselves entitled "The Brown Owl," they also acted "Patriotic Pence," and gave an exhibition of signalling, etc. The magnificent sum of £20 15s. was raised in aid of St. Dunstan's Hospital for blind soldiers.

1st Shoreham tried to give a novel display. The patrols competed in games, races, and stabbing competitions (someone said this sounded rather Hun-ish) and driving "blind horses." The patrols handed back their prize money to the Sussex Guide Bed at Netley. As a result of a collection at the entertainment, a further £2 15s. 3d. went to the Guide bed, and £2 0s. 3d. to the local Hospital Supply Guild.

1st Hunsdon Company, with the help of some other girls, made £10 10s for the Y.M.C.A. by an entertainment. An interesting tableau of Britannia and her Allies was given. Twenty-four countries were represented in their native costumes. During the year the Guides collected medicinal herbs for Red Cross and other war funds, and several tons of acorns and chestnuts for Government purposes. The captain and both patrol leaders are learning the art of change ringing on the church bells. All the Guides belong to a War Saving Association, and many have gained their thrift badges.

Merthyr.—The Hon. Local Secretary reports that the film, "Girl Guides at work" has brought in many new Guides and was proved an excellent recruiting agency. First enquire of Mr. Warren, Alderley Edge Cinema, Alderley Edge about hire of film, then ask your local cinema managers to give you a show free, from 4.30 to 5.30. Third, see the headmistresses of the various schools, girls will bring their pence and go direct from school. Fourth, write to tax authorities and get exemption from tax. The managers will usually add another approved film. Cinema managers are usually prepared to do their "good turn" and more than you expect to assist the movement, only go the right way to work. At Merthyr only 1d. entrance was charged.

OFFICERS' CONFERENCE.

Cheshire.—A conference of officers, convened by Miss M. C. Royden, the County Commissioner, was held during two days at the County Headquarters,

Birkenhead, in February. Officers from Crewe, Chester, Birkenhead, Wallasey, Wirral, Stockport, Manley, Winsford, and other parts of the county were present.

Discussions took place on various Guide subjects, and interesting papers and addresses were given on "How to instil a sense of civic responsibility in Guides," "What we mean by our promise of Loyalty," "Picture-houses: their use and abuse," "Mixed Clubs for Scouts and Guides," "Dangers, Safeguards, and Possibilities of Girl Life," etc.

About 50 officers assembled at the conference, and it was felt that the result would be of great help in co-ordinating and standardising Guide work in the county.

SCOTLAND.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE RECORD.

Girvan honoured their captain by an address and presentation of a marble clock, with inscription. The company numbers over 40. They collected chestnuts and waste paper. Two Guides have never missed a meeting since their enrolment seven years ago, and other two have five and six years' perfect attendance.

GOOD TURNS.

4th Edinburgh and Leith entertained some poor children at Christmas with money which they had saved during the winter term. There were 12 boys, 12 girls, and five tiny tots under three. Tea, a Christmas Tree, lucky bags with presents, and games, were the events of a very happy afternoon. Each child was also given a warm garment made by the Guides.

Gretna.—Excellent work has been done at Gretna by Miss Kathleen Wissman, Abbey Lodge, West Malvern. She has written a rhymed version of the Guide law.

IRELAND.

Co. Dublin Branch.—The following interesting items are taken from a very comprehensive report sent in to Headquarters. The report is a model of careful compilation and of useful and interesting information, and the very clear statement of accounts sent with it is a practical testimony to the care and business ability of the management.

Allotments.—Through the kindness of Sir John Griffiths, who provided the land, and the useful lectures of Mr. Johns, and through the generous gifts of friends the enterprise had a most successful send off. Over 60 Guides are now working on the allotments, each pair of Guides cultivates a plot of 30 square yards.

War Work.—Much war work has been done by the various companies. During the disturbance of Easter Week, 1916, the Guides rendered valuable assistance in several districts, and at Kingstown Major Rhodes, A.P.M., sent the following message: "On leaving Kingstown I wish to express my deep gratitude to the Girl Guides for the admirable manner in which they have come forward and rendered invaluable service during the recent crisis. Their efficiency and high qualities leave nothing to be desired, and it is with deep regret that I leave them."

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

Guernsey Girl Guides.—A variety entertainment was given by the Guernsey Girl Guides on January 3rd, H.E. the Lieut.-Governor Sir Reginald Hart,

V.C., K.C.B., K.C.V.O., performed the opening ceremony, and Lady Hart presented colours to the 9th Company; the entertainment was continued into the evening, when Mrs. E. C. Ozanne wife of the Bailiff of Guernsey, presented colours to the 5th Company. Nine companies, making up a total of 179 Guides and 40 Brownies took part. The programme consisted of tableaux of famous Englishwomen, and of nursery rhymes, action songs, drill, and a short play. Each Company had a stall to provide for its own funds, the "gate" and tea money going to the Central Fund.

OVERSEAS.

Clare, South Australia.—Guides have been so busy with patriotic and church meetings, etc., there has been little time over but they have kept together, and would not hear of disbanding. Practice has gone on in semaphore signalling in the evenings. Guides helped at the Refreshment Booth run by the local Red Cross, and at the local Agricultural Show. All are busily knitting and working individually.

Girl Guides London Officers' Training School, 3, Bryanston Place, W.8.—A "Pilgrimage" expedition will set out on Monday, April 8th, returning to town April 13th, the object of the undertaking will be a visit to the Heritage School for Crippled Children, Chailey, Sussex. Apply for particulars before March 26th to Miss Gumpert, 21, Holland Street, London, W.8.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This little rhyme has been sent us by a Guide poet:—

WELCOME TO OUR NEW HANDBOOK!

Summer to the Autumn turned,
Still each Guider for you burned;
Winter snows returned again,
Still we looked for you in vain.

All hail! All hail! Oh joy to clasp
Your longed-for booky form at last,
Freed by the press. We wait no more;
Eager, we read your helpful store.
Now every flop and flap and flip
Join with me in a mighty hip!
Let one and all with joy declare,
'Twas worth the waiting now you're here!

Dear Editor,—

I should like to recommend to Guides the three following books, by Richard Jeffries: "The Open Air," "The Life of the Fields," and "Wild Life in a Southern County." The cheapest edition, in cloth cover, is 1s. 3d. (Nelson), but the 2s. copy (Chatto and Windus) is the best. Reading these

books is a splendid way of studying Nature indoors (when Guides cannot study direct), and I am sure there are lots of Guides who would enjoy them thoroughly. With best wishes, I remain,

Yours faithfully,
(Miss) M. S. WYATT.

Dear Sir,—

I have just finished a fortnight's reading aloud of the new "Girl Guiding" to a small company of girls. I do not know who enjoyed it most, the girls or I! One good lady, however, to whom I sent the book came to me—very fussed indeed—and said she objected to the picture of an old man shedding the garments of civilisation to go back to the conditions of primitive man, and also said that she was pasting a picture of a "Prehistoric Peep" over it. I was greatly amused, as the same lady gave the girls a talk on "London" some years ago, and spoke in glowing terms of the wonderful statues in the British Museum and the pictures in the National Gallery. They are taken from life, whilst our funny little picture is symbolic. I think the objection is absurd, don't you? "To the pure all things are pure"; or is it, as the wit said, "To the pure all things are impure"? In our old family Bible there is a picture of an unclothed Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, but our pious parents loved us to look through the Book and never covered up the pictures. —Yours truly, etc

[This letter has been sent to the Chief Scout, who, whilst agreeing that the objection is amusing, wishes to make *everyone* happy, so in the next edition of "Girl Guiding" the Nature seeker on page 67 is to be dressed in a bearskin and not in a bare skin. —Ed.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

INQUIRY.—In reply to your inquiry for a substitute for the "Map of the Place" mentioned in the 1st class test, because the Guides are not allowed outside the school grounds, we suggest that the girls should draw the map required for the 1st class test from memory after having learnt it up from a printed map of the surrounding country. Surely, if they are not allowed out, it is all the more necessary for the Guides to have some kind of idea of the surrounding country, nearest doctor, etc., in case of need.

THE CHIEF GUIDE'S OUTLOOK.

(Notes by Lady Baden-Powell.)

From all parts of the country we hear reports of further progress of Girl Guiding, and there seems to be room for (and promise of) endless development—more and yet more Girls wanting to join in the game.

There are many associations for girls, and yet there is room for the work of all, and one hopes that a time will come when there may be no girls who haven't at least the chance of joining some society or another.

It is important, though, for all these Associations to know what the others are doing for the welfare of the country generally, and lately two big organisations—The Mothers' Union and The Womens' Legion—have affiliated with the Girl Guide Association in order to have closer co-operation.

This shows, too, that other workers are beginning more to understand what Guiding is, and it reflects credit on Guides and Guiders, for people judge a Movement by the results that they see.

Work for the Country.

With increasing numbers we have increasing calls upon us. It is a mark of appreciation that the Minister of Agriculture—through the Women's Land Army—has appealed for Guide workers.

Here is a chance for any unbusy Guides or Guiders.

Our soldiers must have food, and to supply it girls and women must till and cultivate the land.

Our sailors need wood for their ships and our soldiers must have it for their shelters and aeroplanes.

This can be felled and stacked and carted by girls and women.

Our soldiers' horses must have hay, and this can be rolled and reaped and loaded by girls and women.

If you want to know more about this you can hear all the details of wages and conditions of service from your nearest Employment Exchange, or from your local Land Army Registrar, whose name can be ascertained from the neighbouring Post Office.

How to deal with Air Raids.

A friend of mine, an old lady, but gifted with plenty of nerve, was informed by an excited maid the other evening: "Please, mum, the police have given warning that the

German aeroplanes are coming, and will be here in half an hour."

"In that case," said the old lady, "bring me my reading lamp and that novel from the table, for I want to know how the story ends before they come."

Citizenship.

It has been said that in a Club with government by its own members girls will learn the keenness of real citizenship, and having known the inner working even of her own club she will take the greater interest in the way public bodies and the State are governed.

This is much the case in a Guide Company, where the Patrol Leader naturally gets into the habit of governing her Patrol on the lines that are best for the Company as a whole and for the whole community.

The Court of Honour is a good model of democratic civil administration.

An idea for developing happy citizenship to a further extent has been put forward, in which it is suggested that a Guide should be encouraged to take more interest in the neighbourhood round about her home. Let her find out about municipal matters, about the management of the parks, the gas, the libraries, etc., in the towns; and about the fields and the buildings in the villages; and let her learn who is responsible for things that affect her in her own immediate locality, such as the mending of the roads, the lighting of the streets, the collection of rents, etc., and from all this she will learn to interest herself in matters concerning the welfare of the country and to care for things that are of national importance.

Thrift.

In the Guides we are always looking far ahead and doing what is possible to live up to our motto "Be Prepared," and Guides in these days have got a lot to be prepared for.

The war may not be over still for some time, and there is going to be a critical time when peace comes. A great many girls who are now being employed in the place of men may suddenly find themselves stranded without any work on hand and without any money being earned.

It is important for all Guides and Guiders to remember that, and to do what is possible to encourage real thrift, as the Guide Law urges, so that there may be something in hand when the rainy day comes.

In the same way Company Funds could

well be gathered in from time to time, by displays, concerts, sales of work, etc., so that when the summer comes and camping time comes with it there may be a little nest egg in reserve to help to defray the expenses.

Emigration.

Talking of "after the war," it has been mentioned a good deal lately that there will be a great rush of emigration to our Overseas Dominions when that time comes—partly owing to there being need for fewer workers in our own little islands, and partly owing to our having got to know better about those far-off countries from the Nurses, Government workers, and soldiers who have come back to fight for the Empire.

The idea of emigrating is bound to appeal to Guides, for there is such an adventurous sound about it—travelling, camping, living miles away from towns, and that sort of thing.

All Guides who are thinking about this then should work especially hard at their Guide handicrafts, so that they may really be prepared to be frontierswomen in the best sense of the word, and to be able to look after themselves in all ways wherever they may be.

Now that our Movement extends into all corners of the globe we shall also be able to help and to keep in touch with any Guides who decide to take this step later on.

In the meantime, too, they would do well to get in touch with sister Guides across the sea by the interchange of letters and post-cards with a view to finding out details first-hand of the different British Dominions in turn.

We hope our Overseas Guides may meet our Home Guides, too, in this way, by sending to them accounts of their life and country.

The Guides of America.

Last month I mentioned in the GAZETTE that the Girl Guide Movement had developed in America into a big scale, and since writing that I have seen their official magazine, called "The Rally."

It is extremely good reading for Guides and Guiders, and shows that, though they do call themselves Girl Scouts, they are all working exactly along the same lines as we are.

Correspondence has already started between Girl Guides and the American Girl Scouts, and no Guide at this time could do anything more patriotic than to get in

friendly communication with the girls of our Ally.

A Personal Matter.

In the minute book at the Girl Guides' Headquarters there is an entry saying that "it was proposed that the title of Chief Guide be instituted."

Now, in the name of the whole Movement, this position has been offered to me.

Well, what can I say? How can I express my deep appreciation of this step, which is one both of importance and surprise to me? I feel quite overwhelmed by it, for kind letters have come expressing in terms that are whole-hearted and touching that I am approved of as Chief Guide.

I do thank most warmly all and everyone for this mark of their trust and goodwill.

It pleases me in a special way personally, for in this new name I see a new link.

I have hitherto been on a pedestal—I am now on a footing. As Chief Commissioner I have perhaps seemed—though I have not felt it myself!—like an official in a lofty position and on a pedestal.

But to bear the title Guide now places me more on a footing with my sister workers and my sister learners in the Movement, and I hope that I may prove worthy as time goes on and that I may achieve what one writer suggested, and that is—"To be to the Guides what the Chief Scout is to the Scouts."

"The longer I live and the more experience I have of the world the more convinced I am that the one thing that is most worth living for—and dying for if need be—is the opportunity of making someone else happy and more useful."—Booker Washington.

SENIOR GUIDES.

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

In the January GAZETTE I asked for suggestions as to the Senior Guide Test. Having weighed very carefully the many suggestions which were sent in, we have made out the following test, which all Guides must pass before they can go in for any of the Senior Proficiency Badges.

SENIOR GUIDE TEST.

2nd Class Test for Senior Guides.

Character and Intelligence.

1. Be able to answer questions on the

- aims, methods, and organization of the Guide Movement.
2. Signal and read simple messages in Morse; or
Read a story or poem (from list given below) and tell or write in own words.
 3. Have visited six places of interest in the locality and know their history; or Know six different kinds of crops (or vegetables) and methods of cultivation; or
Make a rough sketch map of the district within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in towns and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile in the country of home or headquarters.

Handicrafts.

1. Tie seven knots; or
Splice a rope, and make a Turk's Head.
2. Make a garment or some useful article for the home or clubroom.
3. Be able to hem, darn, and patch; or
Be able to clean metal, and remove stains from dress material.

Service for Others.

1. Know the proper methods of bathing, feeding, and dressing a baby.
2. Know the general rules for the treatment of fractures, burns and scalds, and fainting fits.
3. Conduct a Guide game.

Health.

1. Know how to convert an ordinary room into a sick room.
2. Know at least one country dance; or Swim 25 yards; or
Go for and describe, minutely and accurately, a 5-mile walk.

I should like to add a few remarks and explanations to this test. We have aimed at making it slightly different from the 2nd Class Test, so that Junior Guides may not have a repetition of their previous examination, but as they will have studied practically all the subjects included, they can pass this test without much trouble.

The consensus of opinion goes to show that this test should not be too difficult, as Senior Guides are apparently shy birds, and easily discouraged at an early stage of their career. This test is not too difficult for a new Guide to pass within three or four months of her enrolment. We have given many alternatives so as to render it equally possible for town or country girls.

We have left Morse as an alternative, finding such varied opinions as to the ad-

visability of including it. Some captains find their girls like it, and find it extremely helpful; with others it is merely a weariness to the flesh. This probably depends on the teacher; if she is a keen signaller, she can generally infuse enthusiasm into her girls, and in this case Signalling is invaluable for training in alertness, concentration, and accuracy. If, however, the Instructor is not very competent herself, the signalling is not only of no good in itself, but it bores and wearies the girls, and should not be insisted upon.

(To be continued.)

GIRLS AS LANDWORKERS.

BY RUTH M. CHARRINGTON (Capt. 1st South Park Co., Reigate).

In these days, it is clearly the duty and privilege of every British girl to make herself of real use to her country, and to "do her bit," by taking up some *regular* useful work as soon as school days are over, no matter whether she needs to earn her living or not.

The variety of work which it is possible for a girl to do is now so great that perhaps her chief difficulty will be to choose the right job. Remember that the best work will get done with the right people in the right places.

It seems to me that Girl Guides who have learnt what a joy long days spent out of doors in all weathers can be will, many of them, make good land-workers. For those who are thinking of joining the great Women's Land Army, I write this short account of one of the Training Centres to which the women and girls (who enrol as land-workers) are sent, for a month or six weeks' training, before they get paid work on a farm or market garden. "Non-enrolled" members are also taken at this Hostel, i.e., girls who cannot, or do not wish to sign on for the duration of the war; the only difference being, that they must pay for their uniform, board and lodging during the time of training, instead of getting these free, as is the case with the "enrolled" members.

I write as a novice myself, having only just started my training; there are plenty of hardships to be faced, no doubt, which have not yet been my lot, but if one may judge from the "landworkers" whom I have met at this Training Centre (and some of them

have been working on the land for many months), it certainly seems that the hardships have not been too much for them. I never saw a more happy, cheery, healthy-looking crowd of girls—shop assistants, factory girls, V.A.D.'s (whose health had broken down in Hospital), domestic servants—all seem to love the outdoor life, and to thrive on it, although they come from such very varied classes, and such contrasting home surroundings.

The Training Centre which I am describing has for its Hostel a very fine building—St. Augustine's College, Canterbury. In peace time it is a theological college; the ruins of the famous Abbey of St. Augustine are in the college grounds. Each "Trainee" (as the landworker pupils are called) has a room to herself, leading off a long oak-panelled corridor. Through the high latticed window at the end of the long, dim corridor can be seen the towers of Canterbury's glorious Cathedral.

(To be continued.)

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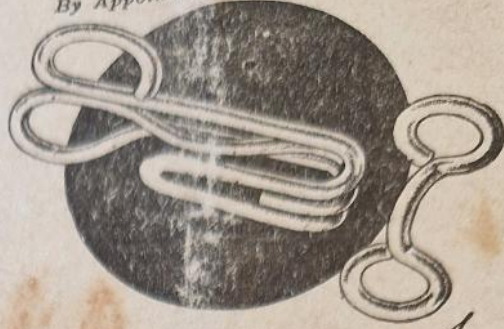
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