

Girl Guides' Gazette

No. 59.

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November, 1918.

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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

Vol. V. No. 59.

NOVEMBER, 1918.

Price 3d.

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES.

The Gold Cord Test.

FOR GUIDES.

A Gold Cord Guide must have had at least two years' service, and must have earned the following Badges:—

First Class.
Sick Nurse.
Handywoman.
Signaller, or
Swimmer, or
Gymnast.
Child Nurse or Nurse.
Laundress or Finisher.
Scribe or Clerk.
Domestic Service,

and six others chosen by herself.

She must also have trained a Guide in all the First Class Tests (with the exception of the Ambulance, Child Nurse, and Swimmer's Tests, which should be taught by a qualified person).

In applying for the Gold Cord, the Captain must send a report of the work during the past year of the Patrol, of which all Guides of six months' standing must be 2nd Class. This application should first be sanctioned by the Court of Honour.

FOR GUIDERS.

If the candidate is a Guider, she must have passed the above Badge Tests, but where two are mentioned, it must be the one for Senior Guides. The Guider must have done good work in her Company and have trained at least four Guides for the First Class Test (excluding the Ambulance, Child Nurse, and Swimmer's Tests). These four Guides need not necessarily all belong to her own Company.

All applications for the Gold Cord must be accompanied by a full report from the local Commissioner regarding the Guider's work with her Company, and also of her loyal support of the movement in the district.

The Gold Cord supersedes the wearing of All Round Cords.

PLEASE NOTE.

Where it is desired by Commissioners and Local Associations to co-operate with any other Movement not mentioned in the official list of Affiliated Societies (published in the Girl Guide Gazette for June 1918), it is requested that they shall refer the matter to Headquarters as a first step.

That no lady be invited to be District Commissioner by any Division Commissioner without first consulting with the County Commissioner.

CHIEF'S DIPLOMA.

The following have received the Chief's Diploma:

	Examined by
Miss Balls (West Riding, Yorkshire).	North of England G.T.S.
Miss Prior (Derbyshire).	North of England G.T.S.

A POPULAR GUIDE STORY.

Guides will be interested to hear that the "Castleton House Company" will shortly be published in book form, with illustrations by Joyce Bruce, price 3s. 6d. net, post free 3s. 10d. The publishers hope that it will be ready before Christmas. Please book orders now to avoid disappointment.

To be obtained at Headquarters.

DON'T MISS THIS.

Guiders and Guides will be glad to hear that the popular play, "The Reformation of Bridget" will be shortly published in Book Form together with other Plays and Displays for Girl Guides. This little book will be in great demand for Xmas Entertainments, so order your copy immediately, and Headquarters will send it as soon as they get it from the Publishers. Price 1/-, post free 1/2.

XMAS PRESENTS.

Leather Cases containing, folding spoon, knife, fork, tin-opener and cork screw, 10/6 each. Leather Sugar-boxes, 1/6 each. Ration Book Cases, pigskin, 1/6 each. Ration Book Cases, khaki drill, 1/- each. Pigskin Purses, 3/6, 3/9 and 4/- each. Splendid assortment of Calendars from 1/6 to 3/- each. Boxes of Water-colours, 1/6 and 2/6. Wristlet Compasses, 5/- each. Hussips containing cottons, wool, thimble, buttons and needles, 1/6 each.

All are to be found at the Girl Guide Shop.

THE GIRL GUIDES HUT FUND.

Miss Egerton-Jones, who has been working at the Hut told us that the Soldiers very much enjoy the Hut, and that owing to the kindness of the Guides it is far and away the most "luxurious" Hut anywhere near. She said that the men greatly appreciated the gramophone records sent out, but that unfortunately the springs of the gramophone had broken, and that made it rather difficult to play; so, on behalf of the subscribers to the Hut, we have purchased a new gramophone, the cost of which was £20; we also bought more records and needles for the gramophone, which cost £6 12s. 9d., and thirty yards of material for curtains to make the Hut cosy for the winter, cost £4 7s. 6d.; also two wicker upholstered armchairs for the workers, the cost of which was £5 15s. She also says that the Soldiers are delighted to get the papers which the Guides send out, and hopes they will continue to send them regularly, for their kind thought is appreciated greatly by the men who are resting from the trenches, and who go to the Hut a great deal.

Nov. 11th, 1918. Armistice Signed.

A GUIDE VOW. With God's help I will do my best to live worthily and to help others to do the same in this land which our men have saved by the sacrifice of their lives.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

November, 1918.

My Dear Guides,—

We all have to think now in what way we can help to win the War. The brightest hopes are dawning and we must strive all we can to make the end a real success. All of you who have collected paper have been a great help, and I have admired the way some of you stick to your wash-tubs at the Hospitals. Then, how hard the sphagnum moss pickers have worked, but it is not everybody who can find a moorside where sphagnum grows.

It is no new discovery that this moss has such marvellous curative properties.

In old histories we read of great battles being fought by the Irish King, Brian Boru, and his army, and how, after one of these fierce conflicts, they marched on to conquer Ossory, carrying their wounded with them.

However, the King of Ossory with a much larger army confronted them, and then a tremendous fight began. Brian's wounded men then showed their heroism, for, seeing that their own side were far fewer than the enemy, they united to beg the Chief to make a front line of them. Their plan was to drive big stakes into the ground; then each man was bound to one, armed, and his wounds dressed with fresh sphagnum moss, which was to give the men strength.

The enemy, on coming forward to conquer, were so struck with the noble purpose of these heroes, who could not retreat—and their armies would not desert them—that the King of Ossory then made a truce and allowed them to make their way to their own country under an escort of his warriors. So you see it was the wounded and the moss who won the day. Sphagnum has been thought much of since very old times, and there is an even older legend in which we are told of a giant owing all his strength to this moss.

He was so mighty that he never fought one man alone, but preferred to hew his enemies down in companies; but after each fight his wife went secretly to the bog and brought handfuls of sphagnum moss to dress his wounds with, and he was soon restored to vigour. Finding that this was his secret for conquering everyone, his enemies laid a plan, and waylaid and made a prisoner of his wife as she was returning from the bog.

And so, having no healing moss, the Giant's wounds became worse and worse, and his enemies got the better of him for a time.

When we see the extensive beds of sphagnum looking like a woolly blanket of the star-like heads, we do not see the most beautiful part of it; each plant is exquisitely built like a tiny fairy fir tree, with delicate branching rays of the finest make.

In the Highlands every warrior used formerly to carry a small quantity of the moss in his sporran in case of being wounded, and the people all treated their cuts and hurts with the dried stems, and it was even used, in times of famine, as food.

In Lapland, in the old days, the babies' bedding was made of sphagnum, and nowadays we find it of the greatest use in our hospitals, far better than wool for wounds.

So our Highlands contribute to win back to health the British heroes who have gone to the front and sacrifice themselves in order to keep us and our homes safe!

You, Girl Guides, have been most useful in collecting such quantities and sending it to the Red Cross, where they dry it and disinfect it, and it is packed under pressure to be sent to hospitals.

And what brings the need for these cures and remedies? It is the pluck and determination of the Englishman. Hundreds and thousands of them know no fear and show the greatest courage. The heroism of our British airmen was well exemplified lately when a raid was to be made by the infantry on the enemy. The Germans expected the attack, and were in readiness in their trenches when they noticed a British aeroplane come over, rather low down, and fly slowly four or five hundred yards behind them and linger, as if in difficulty.

The Germans thought this a fine chance, and all turned to have a shot at it, thus falling into the trap, for whilst their backs were turned the British infantry leaped over and in a few minutes had captured the whole position, which was of considerable importance. Fortunately, in this clever ruse neither the aviator nor the observer were wounded, but the aeroplane, when it returned to our lines, was riddled and nearly disabled with shots. The airmen were warmly congratulated for their splendid gallantry at great personal risk, enabling the raid to be successfully carried out.

"It's an ill wind that blows nobody good," and so this terrible war, with all its horrors and miseries, may be of use to you and me if only it shows us these grand examples of bravery and forgetfulness of self in the wish to help others; and it teaches us how to play the game so that our side may win. The great thing to remember is to sink one's own wishes, so as to be only a part of one great body, your patrol, or your company. Then you feel that as you are that part, you have to do the work that is needed of that part, or the whole body might fall to bits.

For example, if we want the march past to be a success, what we must each do is to think of the good of the whole, to give up her own will and give up her own wish to run away!

Very sincerely yours,

AGNES BADEN-POWELL.

CAMP MANAGEMENT.

By MISS FIELD, G.G.T.S. W. Malvern.

When permission has been gained from the authorities to run a camp, the next consideration will be to choose a suitable site. Four points should be remembered when arranging this, viz. :—

1. Camping ground to be off the main road, in order to avoid annoyances to passers-by.
2. The site should be on a well-drained, pervious soil.
3. Sheltered from prevailing wind.
4. A good water supply is most essential, and should be as near the camp as possible.

Procure, if possible, an empty barn from the farmer on whose land the camp is held. This is useful as a storehouse in fine weather, and if the weather is bad, it will prove a haven of refuge for sleeping purposes, etc. The ideal camping ground is in some private garden or orchard.

TENTS. Order these at least three weeks before hand, so as to ensure the order being carried out.

TRAINING WEEK FOR COMMISSIONERS.

This week will begin on December 7th, for particulars please apply to Miss Maynard, S. of England Guides Training School, 34 Woodside, Wimbledon.

KEEP THE ALLOTMENTS GOING.

Guides are urged to make every possible preparation to keep up next year's food supply. Even when peace comes, it will not mean plenty for some time, so try to beat this year's record in your allotments.

SEEING A SEED GROW.

By A GUIDE.

Do you remember the first time you planted seeds in your garden? You wanted so much to find out how they grew that you had to dig up a few of them. But there is a much better way than this, and that is to experiment with an acorn. Find a wide-mouthed glass bottle, and cut a piece of cardboard to fit the top closely. Take a fresh, healthy acorn, fasten a piece of thread round it, and suspend it from the cardboard disc, or from a little cross-bar of strong wire just below it. Half fill the bottle with water, so that the acorn hangs, point downwards, just a little way above the water.

Keep the bottle in a warm room, and you will soon find drops of moisture collecting on the inside, and the acorn point will always have a drop on it. In two or three weeks the acorn will burst its shell, and in ten days more a little root will push through the split and reach downward. From that time on it will grow and enlarge its roots, and a stem will start upward.

When the stem reaches the card, cut a hole for it to go through. It will then show two small leaves, soon two more, and finally some tiny branches. You can grow a little tree three or four inches high in this way, and you will have the pleasure of seeing for yourself how "great oaks from little acorns grow."

GUIDES FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

Guides of 14 years are *urgently* required in a Government Office to act as Indoor Messengers. They are required to work in uniform.

Salary.—Starting at 12s. 6d. a week, with lunch and tea given free on the premises, with a yearly rise of 1s. 6d.

Hours.—9—6 and 10—7 daily, with one half day each week and alternate Sundays free.

L.C.C. Classes.—Guides attend L.C.C. Classes in the Office six hours a week, from 9—11 on alternate days.

Leave.—Ten days leave is given in the summer, with a long week-end at Christmas or the New Year, and at Easter or Whitsun.

References.—Two references are required. The name of a Guide Captain and a Schoolmistress are usually given.

A personal interview is required, and application in writing should be made to the *Guide Captain, Room, 326, War Office, Whitehall, S.W.*

FOR FRENCH WOUNDED.

Miss Jane Clough asks for small cushion covers, of any material, size 10 by 10 or 10 by 14 ins., machine stitched, for French wounded soldiers, to be sent to

the French War Emergency Fund, 44 Lowndes Square, London, S.W. 1.

MRS. MARK KERR'S COMPETITION FOR SENIOR GUIDES.

With reference to Mrs. Kerr's notice in last month's Gazette, she has now arranged that exhibits can be sent to 3, Bryanstone Place, where they should arrive *not later than* December 1st.

G. G. T. S. ABBEY LODGE, W. MALVERN.

There will be a week's holiday course at the above training school about the third week in January. Will those who wish to join kindly write to Miss Field before the end of November?

Will those who wish to write to Miss Field on any Guide subject, and who require an answer, kindly enclose postage stamp?

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER RECEIVED:—

"I have been doing Guide work at a Government Colony, amongst 1,500 munition girls; it's wonderful what the Movement is doing for them. Since the girls have been enrolled I haven't heard a Guide swear, and this is a big thing for those very roughest and uncontrolled girls; and the non-Guides say: 'There's a Guide over there; better do nothing shabby.'"

SAFETY FIRST.

The Commissioner of Police desires to draw the attention of responsible authorities to the grave risks incurred by permitting bodies of persons to march along the streets during the hours of darkness without lamps to indicate their presence. He therefore trusts that the precaution of displaying a white light at the front of the column and a red light at the rear will be invariably taken when on the march.

DANGEROUS INSECTS.

Guides are asked to help in preventing the spread of epidemics by insects in war time, by extreme cleanliness in their own homes, and by encouraging others to do likewise. A splendid pamphlet (Leaflet No. 14) on how to prevent and get rid of flies, fleas, and other vermin, can be got at 1s. per dozen from the National League for Physical Education, 4, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.

A GUIDERS TRAINING WEEK.

To be held at the Y.M.C.A., Bridgnorth, Salop, from January 7th—14th. Commandant, Miss Kelway; Staff Captain, Mrs. Julian Strode, Church Hill, Horsell. Cost for week, 22s.; campers to bring camp beds if they have them, and bedding. Further particulars can be had from Miss Kelway. Those wishing to attend must register with Miss Kelway before January 1st.

The instruction will include drills, signalling, company work, handicrafts, 1st class work, etc., and the camp will be run on the Patrol system.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Enquirer.—1. A Brown Owl would wear the White Shoulder Knots as a Guider, and Guiders may wear the Title Tapes if desired, but it is not compulsory for them to do so.

2. The Metal Badges for Brown Owls are now ready, price 1s. each, postage extra. They must, of course, be obtained through the County Secretary.

The "Sixers" Emblems should be worn by the whole six, but it is not absolutely compulsory to do so.

3. A Pack Leader does not rank as a Guider, and does not receive a Warrant, her distinguishing marks are the three brown braid armlets. See page 22 of the yellow pamphlet.

4. "Sixers" can be Guides or Brownies. This depends on circumstances and the ages of your girls.

5. Brownies can wear Title Tapes if desired, but it seems rather an unnecessary expense. They do not wear Shoulder Knots.

6. This depends on your circumstances and ages of children in your Pack. We should think it best to keep the different ages in special sixes.

"New-Joined."—1. Officers do not wear Shoulder Tapes.

2. When marching with the Company the Captain walks on the right of the first four, and the Lieutenant on the right of the last four. In the March Past the Captain and Lieutenant march in front of the Company.

3. Guides may begin to work for the War Service Badge at any time; the Badge is awarded for the year in which the majority of the work was done.

"Guide."—You ask whether promotion is by merit or long service. Such questions will be gladly answered by your Captain. She will tell you that merit is the chief consideration and suitability for responsibility is also taken into account.

"Net Maker."—The Textile Worker Badge cannot be gained by net-making; this is merely the Sheet Bend Knot.

No Charity Without Justice.

"There is no Christian justice without charity, and no charity without justice. And as avenging justice is a part of the virtue of justice, there is no charity without avenging justice."—Cardinal Mercier.

LOSS TO THE GUIDES.

Leeds and District have suffered great loss in the death of Miss Clara Longley on August 3rd, aged 22. She had been a member of the 3rd Leeds from its start, ten years ago. She was a good comrade, an absolutely reliable Guider, "a real Guide, who lived the Guide law."

Miss Mary Baird, Wellwood, Muirkirk, N.B., will be glad to receive copies of the Girl Guides' Gazette from October, 1917, to September, 1918, inclusive. What offers?

THE CHIEF GUIDE'S OUTLOOK

(Notes by Lady Baden-Powell.)

A Plucky Girl.

Some of you may have noticed the account of a brave girl's action last month.

When the "Galway Castle" was torpedoed and was sinking, Mrs. Reynolds was separated somehow from her little girl of eleven.

This courageous girl did not lose her head, but, remembering a little crippled brother who was lying in the cabin, she ran down to see what could be done.

She found the baby lying in the bunk; she picked him up, wrapped him in a shawl, and carried him on deck.

She then got a place on a boat, and after eight hours at sea she was rescued with her precious burden.

It was indeed a most splendid act of heroism, and showed that even in the greatest danger the girl could be trusted to do her duty even at the risk to her own life.

Dancing.

Folk dancing is very popular amongst Guides, and certainly it is one of the jolliest things for Guide Companies to take up.

There is a society for promoting this, and the address of its headquarters is: 73, Avenue Chambers, Vernon Place, London, W.C. 1; and the Secretary of this is willing to give information and advice about the whole thing.

This Society is anxious that when the dances are done they should be done properly, and they have a number of special certificated teachers all over the country who would be willing to teach Guides or Guiders when required.

The addresses of these can be obtained from the Headquarters Office in London.

It is interesting to know that the soldiers in camps in England, as well as those in France, are getting so keen on these dances too, and they are learning them and find them as amusing and delightful as we do.

A School of Folk Songs and Folk Dances is being held at Stratford-on-Avon from December the 28th to January the 8th, if anyone wants to learn more about them with a view to being able to give their Guides fuller instruction in the art.

A War Work.

In the winter evenings there are sometimes spare moments in the Guide Club Room, and here is a way in which Brownies as well as Guides can use those spare moments well.

The American children have taken in hand the task of supplying their soldiers at the Front with Scrap Books to read and look at, and why shouldn't we do the same?

Brownies, who often do the same things as Wolf Cubs, could well start putting pictures into books and making up "Joke Books," which would be very much appreciated by the men.

Of course, they need to be strong, and the pictures should be pasted in firmly, and the more amusing the pictures are the better.

The Red Cross Society will be glad to have as many as possible.

The Women's Institutes.

This Movement has lately linked up with the Girl Guides, and it is a very great compliment to the Guide organisation.

One of the members of the committee declared that she had always been against the women's institutes affiliating with anybody, but that the Girl Guides was the one Movement which she had urged them to join hands with, because she considered that "if a village or a town were to be a really good one, it would be that which included in its midst a Women's Institute and a Company of Girl Guides and a Man's Institute and a Troop of Boy Scouts."

The ideals lying behind the Women's Institutes Movement are very much akin to our Guide ideals, according to the paragraph in their Journal recently:—

"Let each Women's Institute determine to make the village to which it belongs the most prosperous and happy corner of the Empire. By continued efforts to do the possible the impossible is accomplished. The fundamental principle that membership means equal rights and equal responsibilities involves the sustained work of each member. Brain, mind, heart and hand go to the making of any successful undertaking, and if each Institute member gives her best to make her Institute the centre of interest in the community she is helping in the working of empire building. The national life that has to be reconstructed will not be a replica of the old edifice; wiser, graver men and women are the builders; economy not alone in name, but in deed, will have to be exercised by every citizen; but if all work together for the common good, a newer, better life will evolve; sounder, broader, and more truly beautiful because the people as a whole will put their best into the making of a nation that will be worthy of those that died to save it."

Willing Workers.

Why is it, I wonder, that people are so ready to come and do the Guides good turns? Every day almost seems to bring an offer to help in one way or another from someone in one place or another.

This time I want to tell Gazette readers of one who will possibly become known to many—Miss D. C. Moore, L.C.A..

She is a lecturer on the art of cooking and domestic economy, and she has also got very keen on guiding from having had some experience of it in a Guiders' Camp this summer.

She now places her services at our disposal, and tells us that she is willing to help to teach, to demonstrate cooking, or to examine for the cook's badge in the different parts of the country which she visits on her official missions for the Food Economy League.

There is a chance for Guiders and Guides to have someone who is a real expert to help them on this important branch of guiding.

"Alice in the cooking class."

Whilst we are talking about cooking, it may interest you to hear what was said lately about this.

"Someone who knows" wrote to the "Times" to show that badly cooked food was a very bad "blunder," and that nobody could digest or thrive well on it.

And he quite candidly states that cooking is as good a science as any, and that as it is essential for human happiness, it is a thing that is worth doing well.

So when you are working up for your Cook's Badge, Guides, do it as thoroughly as possible, and learn all you can about the subject ready for a day when you may want to cook your own grub.

Our Hut in France.

You will have seen the notice in last month's Gazette about the fine help that the Girl Guides' Hut is to the men in France, and it is nice to know how much your gift is appreciated.

I am sure you, who have contributed to it, will all be glad that you had a hand in supplying it, and it was a fine thing for the Guides to have done.

The amount of money that came to Headquarters towards paying for it was ample for the Hut, and we are going to add a room or two on to it as soon as the builders can get to work.

That will not need any further contributions though, and the Hut Fund is now closed.

There will no doubt be plenty of ways in which Guides can help with gifts when they like, and we are considering a plan in which Guides may once more all join together in one cause for the good of someone.

COMPANY FUNDS.

(continued from page 130.)

Most people are dismayed when asked to attend a bazaar; they have visions of a great deal of money being spent on very useless things, of being forced to buy all sorts of things they don't want by eager sellers who will not even let them look quietly round for the things they do want. It has been said that people should be charged nothing for getting in, but should be made to pay half-a-crown to get out within ten minutes!

Such is the ordinary bazaar, but the Guide Bazaar is not at all like that, and so people are not in such a hurry to get out at any price. The real Guide Bazaar is a very cheery and enjoyable affair, equally pleasant to seller and to buyer, and each has an equally good time.

The object of the Guides should be, not only to make money for their Company, but to show the public what a Guide is, and what she does. In this way the whole movement is helped as well as the individual company.

At many bazaars the articles for sale are those which have been made in connection with various tests. In large companies each patrol has a stall, and each stall is a demonstration of a different test, whilst the preparation and running of the bazaar itself gives plenty of opportunity for badge earning as handy man, clerk, artist, carpenter, etc.

It is a good plan to begin to prepare by thinking out these questions:

Can the Company afford to spend any money on preparation; if so, how much?

What will people want to buy?

What can the Patrol make?

What can I make?

What can we all bring?

An honorary secretary may be elected, who will find out how much help can be depended on, and help to arrange who shall be responsible for each stall, and so on. Once these preliminaries are settled, a suitable room or garden secured, and the date arranged, the Patrols and their individual Guides set to work to make the bazaar a great success—again "for the honour of the Company."

Here are a few suggestions for saleable articles: Children's clothing of all kinds, knitted articles, bags of all kinds, baskets, boxes, shelves, brackets, satchels, painted greeting cards, toys, overalls, aprons, articles made from scraps, old boxes, etc., vegetables, flowers, fruit, and home-made eatables. Very careful accounts should be kept from the start by each Guide, so that she may know how much her articles cost to make; she should also keep account of the time spent in making; this information will help in fixing a fair price. It should be fastened to each article when sent in, with the full name of the maker and the name of her Patrol.

Each article as made should be handed to the Patrol Leader, so that she may know how work progresses. Special attention should be given to attractive arrangement of the stalls. In many cases an inter-patrol competition is arranged, a prize of some article, useful to the Patrol, being given for the best stall.

Interest the Commissioners, the Local Association, and your own family and friends in the bazaar.

Begin everything in good time so that there is no hurry or scramble at the last; see that the whole of the arrangements are finished and in order at least an hour before the time of opening. Rehearse all doorkeepers, stewards, ticket sellers, etc., and if there are side-shows, have them ready before the bazaar opens.

Do not worry people to buy; that old lady is much more likely to be tempted if you allow her to look round quietly at everything first. She may surprise you by purchasing the largest and most expensive article in the Show! In war time it is usual to have a parcel stall where sheets of brown paper and string are sold, and 1d. or 1d. charged for the work of making up a neat parcel. Sometimes there is a little stall with Guide literature for show; enquirers are given a slip of paper with, written on it, the price of the book they fancy and address of our Girl Guide shop, where it can be procured. Sales of work are not so elaborate as bazaars, and are more easily managed by small Companies. The hints for bazaars apply equally to them. *Be thorough in all the work and preparations, and have everything ready in good time.*

In arranging jumble sales it is important to have the articles which are sent in cleaned, if necessary, before they are offered for sale: the givers of things will often see to this themselves if asked. Care should be taken that nothing is collected from a dirty house or from houses in which there has been infectious illness.

5. EXHIBITIONS.

These are of many kinds, such as an arts and crafts exhibition, doll show, toy show, flower and vegetable show, etc.

Exhibitions are often combined with sales of work; in this case the exhibition should be arranged the previous day, and the exhibits judged, so that those articles which win prizes can be suitably marked beforehand.

A tea room, when possible, is a welcome addition to all bazaars, sales, and exhibitions, and gives an opportunity for demonstrating cookery and domestic tests.

(To be continued.)

A young working girl friend of mine who never missed a Guide meeting, was once asked by the lady superintendent of the club to which her Company was attached, why she always turned up on Guide nights, but had given up attending the other club evenings. The girl replied with that startling candour of the young Londoner: "Well, I like the Guides, but I'm fair fed up with the club, and that's the truth for you!" Why was she "fed up" with the club? It wasn't all sewing and singing at that particular club; they had a drill evening, and sometimes there was dancing and games. What was it that the girl still needed, and how did she find it in the Guides? It wasn't the fact of character training that attracted her. I don't suppose she knew what that meant. Be- I told that her character was going to be improved! The thing that brings girls into the Guides is, above all, the spirit of Romance. This spirit of Romance interpenetrates all the Guide activities; it binds them together, giving an ideal to aim at, a purpose to work for. It was probably this which prevented my young friends becoming "fed up" with the Guides as she was with the club.

In the heart of every young creature there is the longing for something not quite known. It may be some cherished dream, which grows from the fairy tale into the romance, something very beautiful and mysterious, a "land of heart's desire" where heroes and heroines are. It often is but the longing for a dream, the search of a young soul after an ideal, dimly felt and yearned for, but too elusive to be known; the dream of a dream.

These secret longings need outlet, which is not found at home. The hard-worked mother with all her affection for her children has no time for such things. Her own youth is forgotten in the cares of child-bearing and child-rearing, and so long as her children are fed, clothed, schooled, and later placed in work which enables them to bring her in a bit of money every week she is satisfied that all is well. But it is not always well. I am convinced that very often when a young girl gets "into trouble," as they call it, the cause of the tragedy is not merely the instinct pushing one sex towards another, nor even a cheap vanity, but simply the craving for some unknown thing; the longing for romance and adventure, and the revolt against a life that is all too monotonous and prosaic.

Similarly, I was told by one of the founders of the "Little Commonwealth" that the girl shop-lifters who are sent to be reformed have nearly always been actuated to theft by the spirit of adventure, the excitement of running risks, of doing something a little out of the ordinary routine; and that these young criminals when their longing for adventure and romance—for the two are closely connected—is given a legitimate outlet in the activities and responsibilities of their "Commonwealth" make the best citizens.

I have taken extreme cases. The longings of youth when given no special outlet do not by any means always lead to crime and vice; they are often merely wasted, or, what is worse (for waste at all events implies some kind of activity), they become atrophied, or even worse than that, they can turn into a sort of consuming moral poison. And all those cravings for something better, something mysteriously happier, are as though they never were;

in their place grows a bitterness of spirit that engenders a narrow, hard outlook on life and something akin to hatred of their own long-forgotten craving for the spirit of romance.

How often does a working woman forbid her children joining the Guides. They may play in the streets and welcome, and many is the penny she spares them of a Saturday afternoon to go to "the pictures." But join the "Girl Guides"—no! She doesn't hold with that sort of thing! And the child watches the blue-clad Company go by, with an aching at the heart. She does not know what mother means by "that sort of thing," but she knows that she wants it, and that the street and the pictures won't ever quite satisfy her. Sometimes when the child grows older and is out at work, she asserts her independence and becomes a Guide in spite of mother, or father, for it is not always the women who stand in the way.

"Does your mother want you at home?" I once asked a young girl clerk, whose mother objected to her spending her Saturday afternoons with the Guides.

"Oh, no," replied the girl, "she likes me to go out, and if I'd only go and play tennis instead of going with the Guides, she'd be quite pleased. She don't understand what being a Guide means to me, and somehow I can't tell her."

These women are to be pitied, whose youthful cravings, which like the good seed in the Gospel story, might have been made to spring up and yield a hundredfold, became choked for want of outlet, leaving the soul barren of understanding and too often full of prejudice and bitterness.

Let us take an example of how the romantic side of the Guide movement attracts and affects the average girl. She is a child of 15 or 16, as from that age up to 18 or 19 is the most impressionable time in a girl's life. I have purposely taken as an example a child of the slums, for although the Guide movement attracts every kind of girl, the romantic part is especially necessary for those who have far less opportunity for a healthy outlet for that side of their nature than the girls of the more leisured classes. Perhaps the first thing that attracts her and her friend (for these girls generally run in couples) to the Guides is the uniform. Now uniform is a most important factor not only in attracting girls to join, but in keeping them together; I will even go so far as to say, in stimulating those special characteristics that the movement stands for. I have heard of a newly-appointed Guide Commissioner who at her first inspection of her Companies, upbraided the girls for spending money on uniform in war time. She considered that their ordinary clothes with a Guide Badge was quite enough. That woman had evidently no knowledge of the psychology of the young.

The love of "dressing up" and of putting aside for a time their own everyday personalities, and becoming in a way someone else, shows itself not only in the quite young, but in older people too. It is a step forward into the horizon, an opening out of possibilities not quite known.

And so our slum girl, who in her cramped life has deep down in her soul longed for some dream, begins to weave a romance about that blue uniform of the Girl Guides. What does it mean—what would it lead her to? What do those Guides do? She asks a friend who belongs to the Company.

"We learn first aid and signalling, and lots of things," she is told. "We belong to patrols, and we march out to Rallies, and we've got to lend a

hand wherever we can." One of our members blows the 'All Clear' bugle after an air raid, and some of us belong to the Red Cross Station. Captain says we're Girl Knights, and we've got laws like King Arthur's knights used to have. But then, I can't half tell you about that part of it; you and your pal had better come along with me, and I'll ask Captain to let you stay one evening and see an enrolment—that's when the new girls who have passed their tenderfoot tests make their promises, you know, and become Guides."

Our young girl and her friend accordingly appeared at the next "Parade" and watched the Guides at work. There is an enrolment that night, and by special permission they stay to see it.

The Guides are drawn up in their patrols, the leaders on the right of the patrol, the second on the left. At the word of command they all "right turn" facing the Captain.

"In horseshoe formation, quick march!" is the next order, and the right hand patrol lead off in single file, marching right round the rear of the Company, and finally taking up their position on the left, each girl right turning as she gets into her place facing inwards, and the other patrols follow on in single file till the whole Company is formed up in horseshoe shape, with the Captain, the Lieutenant, and the Patrol Leader, who holds the Union Jack Standard, at the open end of the formation.

The Captain speaks a few words, asking those girls who have lately passed their tenderfoot tests whether they are quite sure they wish to become Guides. They have been four weeks in the Company as recruits, they have learnt the Guide Law, and they know the promises which will admit them into the fellowship, known as the Girl Guides. Those are serious promises, and no one should take them unless they have quite made up their minds that they intend to do their very best to keep them, unless they are quite certain they really do want to become Guides. The recruits intimate by a show of hands that they wish to join. Then one by one they are brought up by their own Patrol Leader to the Captain to be enrolled in the presence of the Company. The same little ceremony is gone through as each girl is brought up.

The Captain asks:—

"Do you know what is meant by your honour?"

The girl replies:—

"Yes; it means that I can be trusted, to be truthful and honest always."

The Captain:—

"Can I trust you on your honour to
Be loyal to God and the King,
To help other people at all times, and
To keep the Law of the Guides?"

The girl:—

"I promise on my honour to be loyal to God and the King, to help other people at all times, and to keep the Law of the Guides."

The Captain then pins the Guide Badge, the metal trefoil, on to the girl's tie, saying at the same time: "I trust you on your honour to keep these promises."

The Lieutenant invests the newly enrolled Guide with her uniform, hat and belt. Then the Captain, taking her by the left hand (the Guides' and Scouts' handshake, for the left side is the side of the heart), formally welcomes her into the "Fellowship of Guides." The girl salutes the Captain with the

symbolic salute of the Girl Guides (three fingers signifying the three promises she has just made, raised to the hat, and, unlike the military salute, pointing upwards, typifying that a Guide aspires to the higher things of life), and then she is presented to the whole Company, who salute her as a newly enrolled member. She returns the salute, and goes back to her Patrol.

When the last recruit has been made, the Captain tells the Company to sit down. It happens to-night that she speaks to them of the three Guide promises, pointing out how those promises taken by Commissioners, Captains, Lieutenants, and Guides, binds them all together in one great fellowship, and that the objects of that fellowship is to make the world a better and a happier place.

Our girl and her friend, who are sitting outside the circle as onlookers, follow everything with rapt attention. A new vista is opened to them. The nebulous desires after something different, something more glowing than their everyday life with its routine work, its petty interests revolving solely round themselves and their family circles, begins to take form.

This Company of blue uniformed girls are out for something big, something extraordinarily beautiful and joyous, and they are out for it *together*. That "together" makes all the difference. Our two friends have heard of good things before, in the Sunday School classes they used to attend, but they seemed such dull obvious good things, and the sense of comradeship in doing those same good things was never put before them. They were simply individuals with their individual "duties" to perform. It didn't inspire them at all, and they gave up attending the classes when they left school. But here was comradeship as a stimulus to doing right things. Because you belonged to what the Captain called this "fellowship of Guides," it was for you to act up to the best you knew for the honour of that Fellowship. And how romantic it all was being bound together by those three promises, and the signs and symbols by which one member of the fellowship could recognise another even though they met as strangers. There was evidently no question here of performing dull duties nor of the merit of doing dull, disagreeable things, because what these girls were out for was to make everything a work of joy. And of course it would be a joy to do things with that idea of knighthood behind it. For the Captain is telling them that their fellowship is really a fellowship of girl knights. The knights of old wore shining armour; the girl knights of the present day wear armour too, but it is fairy armour invisible to outside eyes, and it is kept bright by the keeping of their Laws, which are so like the laws of King Arthur's knights of chivalry. Each girl knight carries a fairy banner with the word "Hope" on it, because their work is to take gladness and hope into the places where there is sorrow and the dreariness which comes so near to despair. When, as sometimes happens, the shining armour is allowed to become dim through the breaking of the Law, the courage of the young knight is put to the test. If she has no courage she will give up, and say it is too hard to be a knight, but if she is of the brave sort, she will look up at her own banner and never despair. She will show her pluck and determination by making her armour bright again, and perhaps afterwards, just because she herself has had to face difficulties and has overcome them, will she be able in a special way to bring courage to others.

The two visitor girls looked at each other. One whispers to the other: "Shouldn't half mind joining this lot," which means in their lingo: "It's the thing I want to do." The other nods and they both get up, as the Guides stand to sing the Guide Song beginning, "We're the Girl Guides marching on the King's Highway." It is a stirring tune, and the two visitors find themselves catching on to the chorus, and joining in:

"Up, Girls, wake, Girls, 'tis no time for sleeping,
Out in the open where the air is fresh and free.
Work well, play well,
Comrades still keeping,
Set the windows of your souls as wide as they
can be."

Every Captain with any imagination will keep the Romance side of the movement before her girls in her own way. The ideal of knighthood is one way, but there are many others. The spirit of Romance is not a slave to any one historical institution—the Japanese Samurai would do as well as the Arthurian Round Table—it is free born of idealism and enthusiasm.

I was present once at a Church Parade arranged for the Scouts and Guides of a certain neighbourhood.

Great pains had evidently been taken by the well-meaning clergyman, who conducted the service, to make the thing attractive to the crowd of uniformed boys and girls—the majority of whom did not belong to his parish. Before the Sermon the Scout and Guide Laws were recited aloud by the young people and their officers, led by the clergyman. This concentrated their attention. As he began his sermon one was conscious that he had a grip on his congregation. It was a great opportunity and he lost it. Before he had been speaking five minutes the grip has relaxed, the air of intense, eager concentration was gone, for he was simply preaching a sermon he might have preached to a congregation of children any Sunday, or it might have been a Sunday School lesson with its little stories thrown in—feeble little stories most of them—and its seven headings, covering far too much ground. The Guide and Scout Laws with which he had begun, and his text, the Guide and Scout motto, "Be Prepared," was merely what in modern parlance would be called "camouflage."

The children listened, but half-heartedly they coughed and whispered among themselves. The moment had passed. Had the clergyman only known how to seize it, he might have sent those young people away with a vision in their hearts, and full of high purpose because of it. As it was, they had heard that they were to "obey," to "do their duty," "to suffer," to "forgive," etc., all in headings, with no word to inspire them as far as I could see with even a wish to do those things. There was nothing in all that sermon to appeal to the craving for Romance, nothing to rouse the spirit of adventure, which does more with the young, and, who knows, perhaps with the old too, than all the moralising talk in the world.

Yet such an appeal would have been specially easy to make in time of war, because the idea of helping in a national emergency has immense attractions for the young and adventurous spirits, especially when there is a spice of danger in it.

Later, on learning why the children had been so restless, the clergyman gave a new address which sent them away full of zeal and desire to co-operate with him in enthusiastic work for the good of others.

A call for volunteers to be on duty certain nights at air raid shelters, Red Cross stations, and indeed to any form of emergency service in which they can take part as members of a Guide Company in uniform, always receives an eager response. But as the Guide movement was in existence well before the War, and will, we hope, last long after, I have purposely avoided making more than this failing stimulant to the spirit of romance and adventure which forms one of the chief attractions of the Guide movement.

On the other hand I have enlarged somewhat on the idea of Knighthood, as it was, I believe, the wish to bring back something of that old chivalry—legendary as it may be—combined with technical efficiency and thoroughness in any work undertaken, that induced Sir Robert Baden-Powell to set on foot the Boy Scout movement, which only a genius could have evolved, and afterwards to organise the Girl Guides on the same principles.

It may be urged that history does not bear out the blameless reputations of the Arthurian knights; even so idealizing an exponent as Thomas Mallory describes them, with all their attractions, as what we should consider a rather barbarous and dubious band. But this affects us not at all. The thing we hold to is the ideal knight, the knight as he seems to us at a distance, the knight as he seems to have been really or partially embodied once or twice, in S. Louis, Bayard, Sydney; the knight in stained-glass window; in short, Watts' Sir Galahad, and Durez's Man-at-arms riding unscathed among the devils in the Valley of Death.

I feel, therefore, we are justified in taking our children into the realms of Romantic chivalry, for it is there among the "might-have-beens" that they learn to strive for what yet may be, and to value the good in real life, which might have passed unnoticed if it were not for a likeness to a dream that never had reality.

And so we give our Guides a uniform that is different from their everyday dress; we give them things to do that are different from their everyday work; we give the signs and symbols which had no meaning for them before; we give them a dream to carry in their hearts; and thus equipped we set them on their new way rejoicing.

FFLORENS ROCH,
Commissioner.

OUR COMPETITIONS.

Suggestions for Guide Bazaars, Sales and Exhibitions:—

1st Prizes.—Halcyon Sladen Wing, P.L., 1st Chelsea, Christ Church Company, Chelsea.

2nd Prizes.—M. Llewellyn Davies, Cwmwysg, Sennybridge, Breconshire, S. Wales; Frances M. Grimshaw, Capt. No. 5 Nelson Co., 114, Hibson Road, Nelson, Lancs.

3rd Prizes. Winnie A. L. Read, Second Class Guide, Dandelion Patrol, 2nd Weston-super-Mare, c/o Rev. W. Watson, Christ Church Vicarage, Weston-super-Mare; Margaret Miller, Lieut. 2nd Accrington, 41, Brown Street, Accrington, Lancs. Dorothy Stewart, Wild Thyme Patrol, 1st Edinburgh and Leith Company. 20th S. Manchester: P.L. Ethel Woods (Thistle); Beatrice Elsie Wright (1st Birch); P.L. Violet M. Theraitt (1st Birch).

The time limit has been extended for the two competitions announced in the April Gazette, so as

to allow extra time for arrival of delayed overseas mails.

These competitions are:

1. Guide Games.
2. Life as a Guide.

All papers from home or overseas Guides must reach the Editor on or before December 20th. All Guides have still time to compete.

The number of prizes will depend upon the number of papers sent in.

Full name, address, Company and Guide rank must be given. Age need only be stated when under 17.

In Life as a Guide, besides the prizes for competing Guides, there will be an inter-patrol competition, i.e., girls in a patrol can write a paper between them. Prize for patrol: framed photos of Founder, Chief Guide, and President.

BOOKS SUITABLE FOR SENIOR GUIDE LIBRARIES.

List No. 1.

Gene Stratton Porter.

- Freckles.
- A Girl of the Limber Lost.
- Laddie.
- The Song of the Cardinal.
- The Harvester.
- The Music of the Wild.
- Michael O'Halloran.

Jeffrey Farnol.

- The Money Moon.
- Chronicles of the Imp.
- The Amateur Gentleman.

Conan Doyle.

- Sir Nigel.
- The White Company.
- The Tragedy of the Korosko.
- A Duet.

Charles Kingsley.

- Hereward the Wake.
- Westward Ho!
- Two Years Ago.
- Water Babies.

R. L. Stevenson.

- Kidnapped.
- Treasure Island.
- Virginibus Puerisque.

Louisa Alcott.

- Little Women.
- Little Women Good Wives.
- Little Men.

W. H. Melville.

- The Interpreter.
- Holmby House.
- The Queen's Marias.

Mrs. de Horne Vaisey.

- Pixie O'Shaughnessy.
- More About Pixie.
- Peggie Saville.
- More About Peggy Saville.
- A Houseful of Girls.
- The Fortunes of the Farrells.

Mrs. Scott-Gatty.

- Parables from Nature.

Mrs. Ewing.

- Jackanapes.
- Lactus Sorte Mea.
- Lob Lie-by-the-Fire.
- Snap-dragon.
- Mrs. Ewing's Tales.

Jack London.
The Call of the Wild.
White Fang.
Blackmore.
Lorna Doone.
Rider Haggard.
The Brethren.
Charlotte Yonge.
The Little Duke.
The Caged Lion.
The Dove in the Eagle's Nest.
The Book of Golden Deeds.
Maryvill.
The Children in the New Forest.
Mayne Reid.
The Boy Hunters.
Forde.
English Seamen of the 16th Century.
Books of Poetry.
Longfellow's Poems.
Tennyson's Poems.
Henry Newbolt's Poems.
Some of Kipling's Poems.
Kipling.
The Jungle Books.
Captain's Courageous
Kim.
Puck of Pook's Hill.
Rewards and Fairies.
Shakespeare.
King Henry V.
Julius Caesar.
Midsummer Night's Dream.
The Tempest.
Merchant of Venice.
Shackleton.
The Antarctic.
Mrs. Henry Wood.
The Channings.
Roland Yorke.
Mrs. Halliburton's Troubles.
George Macdonald.
Hans Andersen's Stories.
Fairy Tales.
Fairy Tales.
Dickens.
A Tale of Two Cities.
Frank Bullen.
The Cruise of the Cachalot.
Deep Sea Thunderings.
Ernest Thompson Seton.
Wild Animals I have Known.
Monarch, the Big Bear.
Mrs. Craik.
John Halifax, Gentleman.
Forster.
The Drummer's Coat.
The Story of a Red Deer.
Younghusband.
The Story of the Guides (Indian Army).
School Stories.
Tom Brown's Schooldays.

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RESIGNATIONS.

The Lady Kathleen Thynee, from being County Commissioner for Somerset.

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