

## THE GIRL GUIDES

**W**E, the Girl Guides, are a parallel organization to the Boy Scouts.

Our aims and ideas are the same, but the practical working out of the theme is different. We both want to "be prepared" and to "do our duty in that state of life unto which it shall please God to call us," and we guides know that our state of life must be a womanly one; so there is no idea in our heads of being "imitation Scouts." We do not want it to be said of us that we are "Beings who have ceased to be ladies and are no gentlemen," and we realize that a woman's place is not to be either the plaything or the mimic of man. But without sacrificing any of our womanliness we can, like the Scouts, cultivate ideals of honor, chivalry, and endurance, not only endurance of body but endurance of mind. Patience, courage, and good temper can be gained by keeping our Guide Law (which varies from the Scout Law only in the matter of singing instead of whistling), and doing our daily "good turn."

The president of the movement, Miss Agnes Baden-Powell, sister of the Chief Scout, has told us that the 31st chapter of Proverbs describes the ideal Guide: "Strength and honour are her clothing. She openeth her mouth with wisdom, and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household and eateth not the bread of idleness."

So, in our training we study practical things that are going to be of use to us all our lives. We know if we go West, or even go much outside the cities, we must know how to do things for ourselves, be able to bake our own bread and make our own butter, and cook and sew and paint doors and mend furniture—in fact to be able to turn our hand to anything about the house. Then we want to learn to be able to find our own pleasures. So we have musicians' and artists' and naturalists' badges to work for, and, as we know it is no good to be prepared in mind and not in body, we go in for swimming, gymnastics, and out-door games.

Then, knowing that war is a possibility, and that accidents are every day happening, we give a lot of our time to ambulance work. Indeed, we might say that it is our specialty. If there is war we do not want to keep men who might be fighting doing work that we can do just as well—if not better. So we want to show our patriotism by learning now, in time of peace, what will make us of practical use in case of invasion. We want to be able to find the wounded after a battle and give them first aid. Then we learn:

**SIGNALLING.**—So that we can call the ambulance and show where the wounded are.

**TRANSPORT OF WOUNDED.**—We have to know how to move the wounded to hospitals, and how to improvise stretchers and ambulances.

**FIELD HOSPITALS.**—We have to learn how to pitch tents and shelters, and to convert barns and churches into hospitals.

**COOKING.**—We want to be able to heat water and make soup and tea on the field. So we learn how to light fires and cook in the open as well as in the house.

**NURSING.**—The lives of the more severely wounded men may depend on our knowing exactly how to look after them. A "Nursing Sister's" badge is to us what a King's Scout is to the boys: to get it we have to have badges for ambulance, hospital nurse, matron, cook, and laundress.

This does not mean that should war come we expect to step forward as a comic opera chorus of Red Cross Heroines. What we aim at being able to do is to furnish a band of trained, disciplined women, who have learned to obey orders, if there is one in authority to give them, and can act on their own initiative if there is not.

To come down from our aims to our organization. We have the patrol and troop system of the Scouts. Our law is the same. We make the same promises—on our honor of loyalty, obedience, and helpfulness. But here our difficulties begin.

We have Captains instead of Scout Masters.

**BADGES.**—Our badge is a trefoil instead of a fleur de lis.

**PATROL NAMES.**—We call our patrols after flowers instead of animals, and wear the flower embroidered as a crest instead of having a patrol call. We wear patrol colors the same as the boys do. We can be almost any flower we like. The Scarlet Pimpernel, I believe, is a favorite with those who have read the book.

**TESTS.**—Tenderfoot.—Tie three knots, know the composition and history of the Union Jack, and know the Guide Law.

**II. Class.**—Tie six knots, paint a Union Jack, and run (scout's pace) half a mile in three minutes, or make a signalling flag and track a mile in twenty-five minutes. Lay and light a fire, make a bed, know one Morse alphabet, know how to stop bleeding, and bandage a broken limb.

**I. Class.**—Have twenty-five cents in the savings bank. Be able to cook a simple dish, know first-aid bandaging, know simple hospital nursing, know the history of their town and be able to act as a guide to visitors, know the whereabouts of fire, police, and ambulance stations, and train a tenderfoot, if required.

**UNIFORM.**—Navy blue dress with pale blue neck handkerchief; shoulder knot of patrol color on left shoulder; haversack white with red cross; stick or light staff, badges on left arm. The patrol leaders wear two white stripes on left arm, the corporals one white stripe on left arm. Gauntlet gloves.

**LOCAL COMMITTEE.**—To start the Guides in any new district a small committee must be formed who will be responsible to headquarters. They must register the local company and then apply to headquarters for an affiliation certificate. The uniforms, crests, badges, etc., can be got in Toronto. Any further information can be obtained from Miss Marjorie Jarvis, Capt. I., Toronto, Canadian B.P.G.G., 112 Bedford Road, or from Miss E. Cooper, 730 Spadina Avenue, Secretary Central Committee Canadian B. P. Girl Guides. Requests for affiliation should be made to the secretary at headquarters, Miss Margaret Macdonald, 116 Victoria Street, London, S.W., England.

### Concerning Fires

**T**HE only way to avoid the terrible catastrophe of a fire is to exercise eternal vigilance. A Chicago paper says in sarcasm:

Take an ordinary parlor lace curtain. Hang it at any window which does not open on a court. The window must be near a gas jet. Light the gas jet. Any time after the first of March open the window so a March breeze can blow in. Then leave the room. Return in about half an hour and the fire will be ready.

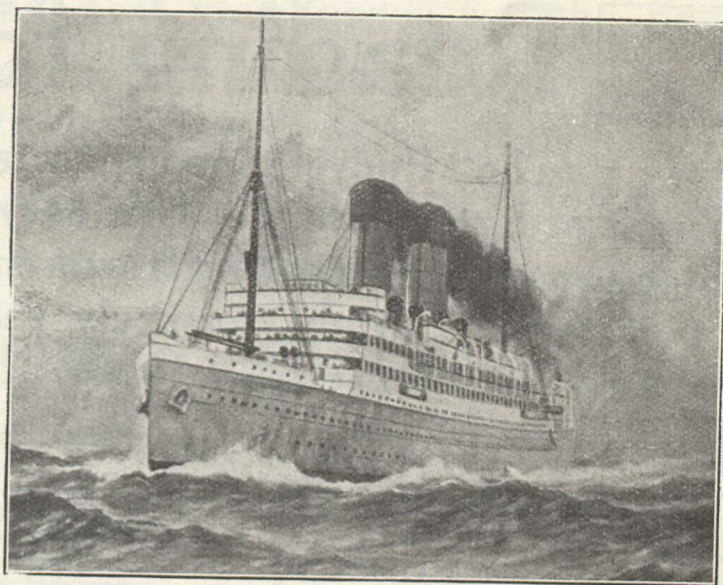
Unless you wish to have a demonstration of this particular recipe a fire captain here warns people to take careful precautions during this month. Last March, said he, we had twelve fires started by lace curtains which resulted in a \$6,000 loss.

"Through the remainder of the year we have on an average five lace curtain fires each month.

"It is one of the things firemen cannot understand, why women should be so careless with lace curtains. The average woman seems to have no conception of distance. She sees a gas jet all aflame within five feet of her window and then she is surprised if the wind carries the lace curtain into the fire.

"The months of spring are the worst of all. During the winter people have their windows closed much of the time. In the summer the gas jet is not alight so much of the time, but just as soon as the weather begins to get warm and the windows are opened slightly the lace curtain fires begin.

"The only way to prevent is not to hang lace curtains in any room where there is a gas jet that is sometimes lighted. I have known instances where a curtain, borne on the breeze, reached up and caught afire from a jet in the centre of the room and close to the ceiling."



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