

Canadian Girls in Training

CANADIAN GIRLS IN TRAINING

With the coming of autumn our thoughts naturally turn to plans for our winter activities. The girls have come back from holidays full of enthusiasm and energy which must find expression in activity of some sort. It is the wise C.G.I.T. leader that directs this energy in the right direction.

Does the task appall you? Do you need help?

The Toronto Girls' Work Board has arranged a splendid training course for the benefit of all leaders, or prospective leaders of teen-age girls.

A series of ten supper gatherings will be held at the Central Y.W.C.A., 21 McGill St., five meetings before Christmas and five during the winter. The programme includes group discussion of practical problems in girls' work and psychology of girl life, under very capable leadership; a series of lectures on the Old Testament by Professor Irwin of Toronto University; group study on the life of Jesus Christ led by Miss Margaret MacDonald of the Y.W.C.A., and a fine course on "Leadership in the appreciation of music" by Mrs. W. W. Mason, whom we have been most fortunate in securing.

Further details of the course or registration forms may be obtained from Mrs. R. J. Marshall, 11 Glenholme Avenue; or by telephoning Ken. 5092.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM AKIDU INDIA

Dear Helen,—This time I thought I would describe large animals. When you hear the word 'buffalo' I suppose you think of an animal with a very large head coming as if to charge a person. The buffaloes here are called water buffaloes. They are used for hauling carts as horses are at home. They are a grizzly grey colour. They have very long horns of many different shapes and twists. An angry buffalo does great harm by hooking people in its way. They say that if the person who is chased will only fall flat on the ground the buffalo will rush on and do them no harm. I think it would take a lot of courage to do that,

so long as one had any strength left for running. The mother buffaloes give quite good milk. It is whiter and in a way richer than cows' milk. We do not care so much for it. Buffaloes are very stupid. In India they do not say 'You stupid owl' or 'You goose', but 'You buffalo'. These animals cannot live unless they can get plenty of water. They love to have a bath in the canal. In the evenings we often see them lying lazily in the canal while the little boys who care for them give them a scrubbing.

The cows look very different here. They are smaller than our home ones and do not give nearly so much milk. If you told anyone that Uncle Henry's cows would give a pair of milk, I believe they would think you were stretching the truth. A cow that gives as much as three quarts here, is quite a wonder. These cows have a lot of flabby skin from their heads to their fore legs. They also have a strange hump on their backs.

Pigs! Oh what dirty creatures they are! They seem to be all grey or black. Their noses are much longer than our pigs have. People here do not feed their pigs very much. They just let them run and find what food they can. This is not always clean so we never think of using pork here. One caste have as their special work the raising of pigs. They find it very hard to catch these animals when they need to do so. After they succeed they tie the four legs together, run a pole through and two men carry the pole between their shoulders. The pig is of course upside down. Can you imagine the squeals?

We often see donkeys. I wonder if you ever have. The men who wash clothes for a living often use donkeys to carry the soiled clothes to their homes and to bring back the clean ones. They are not always as kind as they might be and give the poor little animals more than they should carry. There is a class of gypsies who sometimes camp near here. They carry their houses (?) and all their supplies on the backs of donkeys. We have plenty of music when they are near. I have my bed out on the verandah every night. One night I

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