

Pioneer of Youth Groups **Boys' Brigade Now** **World Movement**

When the annual review and display of the First Melbourne Company of the Boys' Brigade was held at Malvern town hall last night the inspecting officer was a former member of the 4th Kilmarnock Company, in Ayrshire, Scotland.

He was the Commonwealth Director of Road Transport and chairman of the Road Safety Council (Mr. T. G. Paterson).

The Boys' Brigade, which was founded in Glasgow in 1883 on the twin pillars of "drill and the Bible class"—two foundations which still hold good today—has spread throughout the world.

Two Founders

It was the pioneer of all youth groups, and from it sprang the Boy Scout movement, as the two respective founders, Sir William Smith and Lord Baden Powell, were great friends.

Each company of the brigade must be connected with one of the Protestant denominations, and definite Christian teaching must be part of its programme.

Queen Elizabeth recently conferred a high honor on the movement when she consented to become its patron. In this she followed

the example of King George VI, King Edward VIII and King George V.

The Boys' Brigade has had the reigning monarch as patron for 42 years.

Not long before his death the late King George VI received at Buckingham Palace a beautifully illuminated message on vellum, carried by relay teams of runners

after a triumphal Festival of Britain run covering England, Scotland and Ireland.

Quite a number of Boys' Brigade members from Britain are officers of

Brigade members from Britain are officers of companies and members of the council.

The First Melbourne Company, which has the only Boys' Brigade drum and bugle band in Victoria, and possibly in Australia, was formed in 1926 at Armadale by Rev. Eric Evans, of the Baptist Church, and has been in existence ever since. Its present captain joined as a private in 1937.

Companies are in process of formation at East Camberwell and Ashburton Baptist Churches. There is also a flourishing company at Aberdeen-street Baptist Church, Geelong.

Teams of Life Boys (nine to 12 years) meet at Armadale, Malvern and East Camberwell Baptist Churches and Chalmers Presbyterian Church, and another is being formed at Ashburton Baptist Church.

Citizens of the Future



DRUM AND BUGLE BAND of the 1st Melbourne Company Boys' Brigade, at Armadale Baptist Church.