TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[*To save space, answers have been posted to "Poppy," "Kew Bridge," "Dawson," "The Pier Hotel," and "Grannie," which it is hoped have been duly received.*—ED.]

BETTY'S MOTHER (Kensington).—*Epidemic diarrhœa.*—The articles you have heard quoted appeared in our issues of July 14 and 21 last, followed up by the one you saw last week. You can obtain the copies from the publisher of the *Queen*, Bream's Buildings, E.C., price 1s. 1d.

PEGGY.—*Baby carriage often recommended.*—You are thinking of the baby carriages made by Messrs Hitchings, which have frequently been recommended here, and wisely, for they are made on perfect designs, with every detail planned and executed for safeguarding the little owner. Therefore, quite infants can safely be placed in these carriages, which is by no means always the case. If you write to Messrs Hitchings, 86, New Bond-street, W., they will send you full particulars and illustrations; or, better still, call there, or at 45, Knightsbridge, S.W., and see for yourself how charming in appearance and valuable in design these baby carriages are.

BETTY'S MOTHER (Cardiff).—*Really good baby carriage.*—Many thanks for your appreciative letter; I am so glad to hear of the improvement in "Betty," following on the advice given here. Such things are far more often a matter of habit than is realised, and a great deal can be done by commonsense, wisely and consistently followed. With regard to the baby carriage for Betty's small brother, I strongly recommend you to get one from Messrs Hitchings. The name alone stands for perfection in all those matters of construction which are of such far-reaching importance, for weal or woe, where babies are concerned. A Hitchings carriage, too, always looks smart, for they are all beautifully turned out, down to the smallest detail, and not only have all the *cachet* which such a fact gives while they are new, but maintain it for an immense time. Needless to say, they can be fitted with all the latest awnings and additions generally; and are really quite perfect things of their kind. There are many different models, naturally, and your best plan would be to go either to 45, Knightsbridge, or 86, New Bond-street, and inspect them, or write to the latter address for particulars.

N. M. (Teignmouth).—*Child who will not eat.*—Many thanks for your letter, with the interesting description of the extreme difficulty you have had with your small son. As I said in the answer to another correspondent which attracted your attention, such cases are emphatically those for a skilled doctor, and most certainly for individual treatment. What scientists term "the life history," in this case embracing that of the parents, has a great bearing on such cases; and therefore a course of treatment succeeding admirably with one subject would fail dismally with another. It is really almost without exception a nervous, or rather psychic, trouble, as I stated before. It is, luckily, rare, but by no means unknown. I have now three other cases in mind through this column, in which, naturally, advice is often asked in abnormalities. For the benefit of other mothers reading this, I would urge the necessity for treating quite tiny babies who have a nervous inheritance with studied calm and regularity, recognising that it may happen that a mother, no matter how devoted, is not necessarily the best person to have too much control of the child, especially as over-anxiety often reacts, even on a mere baby. And also the fact, so often dwelt on here, that children by the time they are nine months old or so, should be introduced to solid food.

ZOË.—*Sleep for child of nearly four.*—The child should certainly sleep at least twelve hours each night and two by day. Six or half-past six should be bedtime, which means that, bathed and comfortable, the child should be in his cot and asleep by half an hour afterwards, and sleep straight on for twelve hours. The daytime rest should be insisted upon, the child being regularly put to bed and the room darkened; even if, as you say, he does not sleep, the time in bed should be enforced, and very soon, I think, you will find that he does sleep. Your little son is showing all the signs of over-activity, mental and physical, which are so common nowadays. But they are none the less pernicious for that, and should be prevented. The great thing in regard to sleep is to have an unswerving regularity; never give in to pleading or coaxing when bedtime comes, nor allow any irregularity in the house to interfere with this hour or the daytime sleep. If, as is so often the case, children discover that they can get out of their routine, they will generally try to do so, and they cannot be blamed for the consequences, although they will undoubtedly be the sufferers—though, incidentally, the whole household is prone to suffer too. Having, as you say, had a nurse who was so careless in training her little charge—and this matter of sleep is far more largely a matter of training than many people realise—you must be prepared for a little trouble. But I can only urge you to take it for your small son's sake, no less than your own, because nervous strength and stability during the crucial years of adolescence, even all through life, may be, and often are, seriously jeopardised by lack of sufficient sleep in nursery days. And after all nervous strength is one of the greatest assets which an individual can possess.

MAYBLOSSOM.—*Virol for child who sleeps badly.*—Yes; it is Virol which you have seen recommended for children who sleep badly, and I can assure you that it is of the utmost value. Your little son is probably feeling the strain of examinations added to hot weather—which by no means suits all children—and these are quite enough to account for his wakefulness. It is difficult to generalise about school work for children, though undoubtedly if sleeplessness and other nervous signs continue the work should be lessened or knocked off altogether. When they are quite young, and nothing much depends on this work, it is always well to drop it when such signs appear; but, as you say, at his age it is an important matter, so any steps which can safeguard his nervous and physical health without interfering with work, are most valuable; and amongst them I should place Virol very high indeed. For actual sleeplessness it should be given in the form of Virolised milk, and taken the last thing at night. But Virol altogether is most valuable when any strain is being endured, for it has direct powers of nerve as well as of body building, and, indeed, cannot be too highly recommended at all ages from this point of view; nor must one forget its admirable powers of preventing and curing anæmia, a tendency to which is frequently induced in children, who are none too robust, by hard school work with its accompanying sedentary hours. For this purpose Virol may be given in the form of a sandwich, and makes quite delicious ones, or simply plain from the spoon. Incidentally it is very nice to take, with just a hint of lemon flavouring from the juice of fresh lemons, which play their part in its composition. To make Virolised milk, one teaspoonful must be dissolved in a tumblerful of cold or warm—not hot—milk. The largest sized jar, costing 2s. 11d., is naturally the most economical, smaller sizes costing 1s. 8d. and 1s., and, of course, you can get it from chemists and stores in the usual way.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MADCAP.—*Open air for babies.*—A baby cannot be too much in the open air, provided it is sheltered from the direct glare of the sun, and placed in a comfortable bed free from constriction. For this purpose, the Treasure cots are admirable, and I think it is these which you have in your mind as having been frequently mentioned here. These cots form a perfect bed for a baby under any conditions, and have the great advantage of being very light and easily carried over the nurse's left arm while she has her little charge in the other. They form, therefore, a most valuable addition to nursery equipment, being used in the garden, on the shore, or perhaps only the verandah of a town house. In such cases, they are probably only an accessory to the usual nursery cot; but where space is very restricted—as in flats, for instance—or money has to be strictly censored, the Treasure cot is all that is needed for night as well as day. It folds up and rests against a wall when not in use, and so is particularly valuable for tiny rooms. The Treasure cots start in price at 17s. 9d.—the quality which naturally does admirably as a "second string"; but more ornate varieties are also available, at correspondingly low prices, and these would probably be chosen when one possession is to do the whole duty. A white Treasure cot, for instance, with the dainty canopy curtains provided when required, is as pretty a thing as the most fastidious mother can need. They will send you particulars if you apply to the Treasure Cot Company, 124, Victoria-street, S.W. 1.

TRAINING FOR TEACHERS ON MONTESSORI PRINCIPLES.

A NEW TRAINING COLLEGE for teachers of young children will be opened in September in one of the large houses in Kingswood-road, Gipsy-hill, with a hostel and demonstration school in the Avenue. The college is recognised by the Board of Education, and will accept resident and day students for whom the Government grant will be paid, as well as private students who intend to take up secondary school work or become governesses.

The two years' course will provide a thorough training in the principles and practice of education advocated by Dr Montessori, and will also include instruction in biology, literature, handcrafts, gardening, eurhythmics, and other subjects.

Dr Maria Montessori's principles have already influenced enormously the education of young children in the United States as well as in this country, and in the opinion of many of our foremost educationalists they are destined to revolutionise not only education, but life and conduct too.

The children in a Montessori school, who range in age from three to seven or eight years old, are trained to develop their own powers in an atmosphere of freedom, the only limits to which are the well being, happiness, and comfort of others.

The child is a member of a community, with his own responsibility, rights, and obligations, in which he never fails to take a pride and delight. His rapidly growing powers are used continually in the service of others younger and less expert than himself. Each child works the material invented by Dr Montessori at his own pace, and is free to rest or change his occupation when he wishes, so no sign of strain or overwork is ever seen. The tiniest children learn very quickly to button, tie, and lace, to set a table and clear it, as well as to dust their school room and attend punctually and carefully to their pets. In so doing they learn the right relationship to their work, truth, honesty, and accuracy in doing it; the right relation to others, self-control, respect, courtesy, consideration, discipline, and obedience to law.

The substitution of the spirit of co-operation for that of competition in the life of the school spontaneously generates the most delightful atmosphere of sympathy and brotherhood which is full of promise for the future, and lays a firm foundation for those qualities of good citizenship which, now more earnestly than ever, we desire to see in the sons and daughters of our Empire.

The mental progess of the children brought under the influence of Montessori training is as striking as their splendid moral and physical development, and it is not uncommon to find these children passing straight into standard 2, or even standard 3, out of a Montessori infant class.

The organisers of the Gipsy-hill college have been fortunate in securing as principal Miss Lillian de Lissa, who has been training Montessori teachers in Adelaide, South Australia, with very great success. She is at present in America studying under Dr Montessori the latest developments of her method. All enquiries should be addressed to Miss Rennie, Sway, Hampshire.

For description of "Paper Patterns" see page 179.

TO CORRESPONDENTS AND CONTRIBUTORS.

ALL communications intended for the Editorial department should be addressed "The Editor of the QUEEN, Windsor House, Bream's Buildings, E.C. 4," and not to any person by name.

Any contributions that may be sent for approval—whether literary or otherwise—will be carefully considered by the Editor; but no responsibility whatever can be accepted in respect thereof, although, if unsuitable, every effort will be made to return them, provided that a stamped addressed wrapper is enclosed for that purpose.

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DIRECTORY OF THE WAR CHARITIES.

SPECIAL APPEAL THIS WEEK: Prisoners of War Food Parcels and Clothing Fund.

FOR MEN ON SERVICE.

Royal Flying Corps Aid Committee.—*Gifts: Lady Henderson, Surrey House, Marble Arch, W.*

Lady French's Fund.—*Gifts in kind: 22, Trevor-square, Knightsbridge, S.W.—Donations: Lady French, 49, Beauchamp-place, S.W.*

Queen Alexandra's Field Force Fund.—*Gifts: Hon. Secretary, Mrs Sclater, 24A, Hill-street, Knightsbridge, S.W.—Donations: The Hon. Treasurer, same address.*

Officers' Families Fund.—*Donations: Countess Roberts. Hon. Secretary, Lansdowne House, Berkeley-square, W.—Offers of nursing homes, doctor's services, &c.: Mrs Seymour Corkran, Lansdowne House, Berkeley-square, W.—Clothing for ladies and children: Lady Wilson, 29, Berkeley-square, W.—Clothing for men: 2, Albert-gate, S.W.—Gratuitous advice on business matters: Countess Roberts, as above, or Philip H. Freeman, Esq., 3, South-square, Gray's Inn, W.C.*

Camps Library. — *Hon. Secretary, the Hon. Mrs Anstruther, Camps Library Depot, 45, Horseferry-road, Westminster, S.W.*

D.G.V.O.'s Comfort Depot.—*Government scheme for providing needed comforts to the troops.—Home Workers' Branch: 45, Horseferry-road, Westminster, S.W.*

Individual home workers are wanted to supply garments asked for by authority for the troops, particularly those who will try to forward one or more regularly. Workers are registered and receive Government badges when qualified. Gifts to be sent to the Comforts Depot, D.G.V.O., 45, Horseferry-road, Westminster, S.W.

Minesweepers' Fund. — *Gifts: Hon. Secretary, Minesweepers' Fund, care of Messrs Geo. Trollope and Son, West Halkin-street, Belgrave-square, S.W. Donations: Hon. Treasurer, Admiral Sir A. H. Markham, K.C.B. (to whom cheques should be made payable), same address.*

HOSPITALS.

Lady Smith-Dorrien's Hospital Bags.—*Gifts: Lady Smith-Dorrien, 26, Pont-street, S.W.*

Central Workrooms of the Order of St. John and the British Red Cross.—*President, the Countess of Gosford, Royal Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.—Chairman, Lord Manners.—Hon. Secretaries, the Dowager Countess of Jersey, Lady Robert Manners, and Lady Bland-Sutton.*

Kensington War Hospital Supply Depot.—*Gifts and donations: Hon. Secretaries, 11-13, Kensington-square, W.*

Special appeal: Donations for the cost of materials and gifts of old linen.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

British Prisoners of War (Educational) Book Scheme.—*Chairman, A.T. Davies, Esq., C.B., Board of Education, Whitehall, S.W.*

Object: To provide British prisoners of war interned in enemy or neutral countries with educational books. Full information on application to the chairman. Books, particularly on modern languages and technical subjects, are in great demand, and offers of them (new or second hand) are earnestly invited. All offers should be accompanied by a detailed list.

British Prisoners of War Food Parcels and Clothing Fund.—*Donations and subscriptions to Miss C. Knowles, Hon. Treasurer, 25, Trevor-square, S.W. 7.*

Special appeal: How urgent is the need of the British Prisoners in Germany is, alas! so much a commonplace that there is no need to elaborate it. But surely the fact that starvation faces them save when adequate food parcels arrive regularly from home should make everyone feel it a duty to do some small share at any rate in supplying the demand. And at the same time that the need has been emphasised so much, the cost of supplying it has also increased enormously, so that additional financial help is most urgently needed. Any donations, no matter how small, will be much welcomed, and should be sent to Miss C. Knowles, as above.

INDIAN TROOPS.

Indian Soldiers' Fund.—*Gifts in kind and donations:* 2, Thurloe-place, S.W. 7.

OUR ALLIES.

British Ambulance Committee. — *President: The Duke of Portland.—Hon. Secretaries: Mr Bradby Peyman and Mrs Cecil Baker.—Donations: Hon. Secretaries, 23A, Bruton-street, Berkeley-square, W.*

The committee has already many ambulance cars working in the French lines, but more are urgently needed. Also volunteers who are ineligible for the British Army.

London Committee of the French Red Cross.—*Donations: The Hon. Treasurer, 9, Knightsbridge, S.W.—Gifts in kind: same address.*

Serbian Relief Fund.—*Gifts in kind: Mrs Carrington Wilde, 5, Cromwell-road, S.W.—Donations: The Right Hon the Earl of Plymouth, Hon. Treasurer, same address.*

Wounded Allies' Relief Committee, *Bank Chambers 329, High Holborn, W.C. 1.—Donations: T. O. Roberts, Esq., Manager, London County and Westminster Bank, 217, Strand, W.C.*

The Wounded Allies' Relief Committee have removed from Grosvenor-gardens, and the headquarters is now at the above address.

DRESS CUTTING AND DRAFTING. By M. Prince Browne. Part 1 contains Bodices, Sleeves, and Collar; Part 2, Skirts and Adaptation of Bodice Patterns to Blouses, &c.; Part 3, Tailoring and French Pattern Modelling; Part 4, Adaptation of Patterns to the Cutting-out of Undergarments. Price 1s. each part; four parts in case, 4s. Postage 4d.—FIELD & QUEEN (HORACE COX) LTD., Windsor House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C. 4.—[ADVT.]

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