



ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MEDICAL.

AGGIE.—There are several hospitals in London devoted entirely to the treatment of diseases of the skin. Every large general hospital has a department given up to this specialty. The rule in most hospitals is that you attend once, and obtain a letter from a subscriber for your second visit. A list of subscribers is placed in the hospital. At some institutions this rule (which is more a form than anything else) does not obtain.

"DEVOTED READER."—It is not possible for us to tell you exactly what is wrong with your daughter's hair, because you do not supply us with sufficient information. Does her hair fall out from every part of the scalp, or only in patches leaving bald places? If the former, washing the head occasionally with boracic acid solution (1 in 40) may do good. If the hair falls out in patches, applying a simple ointment will help to cure the condition.

MARGARET.—There are a thousand and one preparations sold for lengthening the hair, some of which are very efficacious. Lotions and pomades containing cantharides and rosemary are among the most trustworthy.

S. FIELD.—The symptoms you describe are in all probability due to your ear trouble. The best advice we can possibly give you is to go to the hospital where you were originally treated.

PHYLLIS BROWN.—You say "I think I have very poor blood, and not much of it," yet "I don't think that I am anæmic." What do you suppose anæmia is but "very poor blood and not much of it"? It is only in severe anæmia that the lips become white. The symptoms you describe are those of anæmia, and therefore we refer you to the advice we gave you at first. The medicine is a liquid, and should be taken after meals. If you prefer taking physic in the form of pills, you might take "Bland's pill" instead: one pill twice a day after meals.

"RONALD'S DARLING."—"Nervousness" is a comprehensive term, and unless you furnish an accurate description of your particular case, it is hopeless for us to suggest a remedy. By nervousness, do you mean shyness? Do you feel nervous when talking with your friends, or only in the presence of strangers? In the presence of all strangers? or only of those of the opposite sex? Have you been nervous all your life? If not, for how long have you been troubled? What other forms, if any, does your "nervousness" take besides shyness? Are you subject to fainting-fits, palpitation, breathlessness, flushing or indigestion, or other symptoms that might suggest anæmia as a cause of the trouble? Lastly, do you belong to a "nervous family"? When you have answered these questions, we would be able to supply you with some definite information. As to whether your nervousness would interfere with your following nursing as a vocation—well, it depends upon the answers to the above questions.

"OLD GIRL."—We agree with the opinion expressed by your medical man as to the nature of your affection—it is eczema. Of course we do not know what you have tried in the way of treatment, but we suggest one of the following applications:—Calamine ointment, boracic ointment or ichthiol ointment. Unless you suffer from gout, rheumatism, diabetes, or kidney disease, internal medicine is not required.

MARY.—The nerves of a decayed tooth can be destroyed by various means, both chemical and mechanical. The mechanical method is the most satisfactory, but this of course must be done by a dentist. If you have decayed teeth in your jaw, it is exceedingly important either to have them extracted or properly stopped, for they are a constant danger to health.

GIRLS' EMPLOYMENTS.

ADA and MILDRED B. (Nursing in a Children's Hospital).—You are both too young to be admitted as hospital probationers. There are so many girls like yourselves who prefer nursing children to grown-up people that it is difficult to obtain admission to large hospitals such as that in Great Ormond Street, London. If at the age of two-and-twenty or thereabouts a vacancy could be found for you, it is probable that you would have to pay a fee. We are sorry for Ada, who lives in the country, and has few girl-friends. But because she is young she ought not to be living in enforced idleness. The present time, indeed, might well be utilised in studying ambulance work and hygiene. Very likely the Secretary of the National Health Society, 56, Berners Street, London, W., could tell her that some course of lectures is being given by one of the Society's lecturers in her part of the country, and, if not within walking distance, at least within a bicycle ride of her home. Some knowledge of dressmaking, and especially of the cutting-out of children's garments, might profitably be acquired during these years of preparation, for supposing that at any time the hospital career should have to be abandoned, it would be possible for both our readers to earn a good living as trained children's nurses in private families.

AILEEN (Waitress in an Hotel).—Waitresses are comparatively little employed in hotels of any size and importance. But there can be no doubt that if you could obtain hotel experience it would be of great service to you should you in after life wish to go out as waitress for private dinner-parties and other entertainments, where women are now frequently preferred to men. Try to obtain a situation as still-room maid, and then work your way up. Your idea of cooking lessons from a professional waiter is an excellent one, and should certainly be carried out. A point to consider is that it is not easy to change from private to hotel service, or *vice-versa*. But hotel work offers the fuller training of the two. Either a waitress or a parlour-maid, however, who thoroughly knows her work, is always sure to obtain employment.

ANXIOUS BEGINNER and a GENERAL FOREMAN'S DAUGHTER (Lady's-Maid).—Why does "ANXIOUS BEGINNER" think she must know French well in order to obtain a situation as lady's-maid? This is not in the least degree requisite. But what is necessary is a taste for dressmaking, and "A General Foreman's Daughter," who confesses she does not much like this kind of work, had better perhaps turn her attention to some other occupation, such, for instance, as that of children's nurse, towards which she seems to have some inclination. Dressmaking, millinery, and hair-dressing are crafts a lady's-maid should understand. A pleasant, companionable manner is also, of course, a strong recommendation.

ISABELLE DE SAY (Army Nursing).—No nurse is received into the Army Nursing Service until she has been trained in a general hospital. For this purpose we should advise you to try to obtain a probationership at the London Hospital, or, otherwise, at St. Thomas's.

GOOD THINGS (Cookery).—"Is there much chance for a girl to get a living by cookery?" Certainly; the best of chances. We hear continually of the amazing difficulties ladies encounter in engaging cooks, even when they offer most liberal wages. Also there is a good opening in any large town for an active, energetic woman as visiting cook, who would superintend affairs in the kitchen when a dinner-party is impending. There is in your own town of Nottingham a school of cookery where you would be well taught. We think Miss Carey, of the Ropewalk, Nottingham, would be kind enough to give you information concerning it if you applied to her.

RITA (Photography).—In the photographic trade it is possible to earn about £2 a week by retouching negatives, but girls who are only capable of putting the finishing touches to the prints earn comparatively little. Try, then, to become an expert photographer and be content with nothing less than doing the best work. So many girls fall from want of ambition. The Polytechnic, in Regent Street, is an excellent school for a beginner, and many persons learn there in order to enter the trade afterwards.

WHITE GERANIUM (Scholarship).—People advertise little for governesses; but on the whole, you would be most likely to see such advertisements in the morning papers, or in such weeklies as the *Gardian* and the *Journal of Education*. The registry kept at the Governesses' Home, in Harley Street, is an exceedingly good one. You might also apply to the Teachers' Guild, 74, Gower Street. But, despite registries and advertisements, the truth remains that a teacher usually obtains a post through the recommendation of her own character and qualifications. Your other question being of a medical character cannot be dealt with in this column.

MISCELLANEOUS.

E. C. H.—We have heard of the chain letter, and should think it an excellent way of collecting small sums in stamps, either used or unused, but preferably the latter, as it seems a pity to expend money to collect the used ones; nor can we ever comprehend what any "philanthropic person" would do with a million of old stamps!

ANXIOUS TO DO RIGHT.—The wife of a Baronet is Lady So-and-so, or Dame So-and-so, whether in speaking or in writing. You would address her as "Lady Smith." A Baron's wife would be addressed in writing, by her equals, as "The Lady West." With the wife of a Knight, it would be the same as that of a Baronet, only not Dame. The fact of their having sold their estates, and become impoverished, would not affect the question. We have only one title in Great Britain which goes with the castle and estates, and that is the Duke of Norfolk's second title, borne by his eldest son, *viz.*, the Earl of Arundel. This title goes with the castle of that name.