

“Stitch, Stitch, Stitch.”

At the request of the Central British Red Cross Committee the St. John Ambulance Association, which is represented thereon by the Director and Chairman, Viscount Knutsford, G.C.M.G., and Sir John Furley, has undertaken the organization of working-parties, and the collection and forwarding of suitable articles of clothing and other gifts calculated to alleviate the sufferings of the sick and wounded in the South African war. These articles are intended for use in the hospitals in South Africa, and to form part of the equipment of a hospital train and a hospital ship which are being prepared by the Central British Red Cross Committee.

WORKING PARTIES.

These may be arranged by the Local Committees of the St. John Ambulance Association or by private individuals in all parts, some of the most suitable articles being as follows:—

Shirts, Day (Cotton or Flannel).—Sizes, $14\frac{1}{2}$, 15, $15\frac{1}{2}$, 16 and $16\frac{1}{2}$ inches neck measurement, the most useful sizes being 15, $15\frac{1}{2}$ and 16. These should be made to the pattern of a man's ordinary shirt, and should have the size boldly marked inside the back of the collar in red worsted.

Pyjama Sleeping Suits.—These should be made of thin flannel, preferably *fast dyed* red. The most useful sizes are: Chest, 46 and 48 inches; waist, 42 and 44 inches; length of jacket from back of neck, 20 and 22 inches; length of leg outside, 40 and 42 inches, inside 28 and 30. These sizes should be distinguished by the chest measurement being worked in a distinct colour of worsted inside the back of the collar.

Nightingale Suits are made in the same way as pyjama suits, but instead of a seam down the outside of the sleeves there should be three or four tape fastenings which can be untied.

Stockings and Socks (the latter most useful).—These should be made of wool. The most useful sizes are 10, $10\frac{1}{2}$, and 11 inches from the toe to the heel. They should be worked to the pattern of ordinary stockings and socks, and the sizes should be distinguished as under: 10 inches by a knitted band of red at the top of the leg 1 inch wide; $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches by a similar band of blue, and 11 inches by a similar band of white. Pairs should be strongly tacked together.

Slippers.—These should be made of any soft material, the most useful sizes being $11\frac{1}{2}$, 12, and $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches in the sole. The length of the sole should be clearly marked on the outside of the soles with ink or paint. Pairs should be strung together.

Flannel or Knitted Waistcoats.—These should be made of the same material back and front, the most useful sizes being 36, 38, 40, and 42 inches chest measurement; length from back of neck, 22 inches. The chest measurement should be marked in red worsted in the back of the neck.

Dressing-gowns.—These should be made of light and warm wool material, the most useful sizes being 40, 42, and 44 chest measurement, and the length from the back of the neck from 55 to 58 inches. The sizes should be distinguished by the chest measurement and length being worked in red worsted inside the back of the neck, thus: $\frac{42}{55}$

Mufflers.—These should be knitted about six inches wide and 45 inches long, or made of woollen or silk material in squares of about a yard.

Night-caps.—These should be knitted jelly-bag shape.

Gloves.—These may be made with fingers and a thumb, or with a bag for the fingers and a thumb. The most useful sizes are 8 and 9. They should be made to come well up the wrist, and the sizes should be distinguished by a knitted band of red for size 8, and by a similar band of blue for size 9.

Green Silk Shades for Electric Light.—These are bags, 5 inches deep, 4 inches across, with piece of elastic in hem round opening.

Pillows.—These should be made of calico or tick 25 inches in length and 17 inches in width, and stuffed with soft material.

Pillow Slips.—These should be of calico, and made to fit the pillows.

GIFTS IN KIND.

Contributions of the following articles would be most gratefully received either from private individuals or from manufacturers and merchants. It will as a rule not be advisable for private individuals to purchase for presentation any of the articles mentioned in the following list, but money donations to enable the Committee to make necessary purchases will be gratefully received by the Chief Secretary, St. John Ambulance Association. It is not wished that very large consignments should be forwarded at present. In all cases an offer stating what it is proposed to send, accompanied, if possible, by samples, should be forwarded to St. John's Gate, and the goods should not be despatched until an acceptance and full instructions for forwarding have been received.

Garments, etc.—Buttons, caps, drawers (cotton and merino), handkerchiefs, scarves, shirts (cotton and flannel), socks (woollen and cotton), trousers (blue serge lined), slippers (leather, carpet and list), aprons (canvas), frocks (duck for cooks), trousers (duck for cooks), sewing cottons, shawls, travelling rugs, flannel belts, jerseys, vests, overcoats, etc., etc.

Bedding, Linen, etc.—[NOTE.—The size of the cots for which bedding is required is 6 ft. 6 in. by 2 ft. 3 in.]—Air beds, air pillows, blankets, sheets, mattresses, quilts, towels (hand and roller), carpet strips, table cloths (white and colored, about three yards long), etc., etc.

Utensils.—Jugs, basins and chamber utensils (enamelled iron or tin), water bottles and tumblers, spitting cups, soap dishes, feeding cups, filters of approved patterns, funnels, lemon squeezers, foot-warmers, stomach warmers, galvanised iron pails, tea-pots, coffee-pots, knives, forks, spoons, cruet stands, etc., etc.

Food.—Potted meats, biscuits, rusks, prunes, raisins, currants, isinglass, gelatine, flour, marmalade, butter, lard, salt, pepper, mustard, baking powder, browning for gravies, tinned meat and fish, bottled fruits and vegetables, arrowroot, corn-flour, oatmeal, pearl barley, rice (whole and ground), sago, tapioca, peas (split), lentils, cocoa, chocolate, coffee, tea, condensed milk, jellies, meat extract, essence of chicken, essence of mutton, solidified soup, sugar, pickles, lime juice, lemon juice, brandy (old), whisky, champagne (in pints), and other wines, beer, stout, vinegar, etc., etc.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)