

OUR NEW PRIZE COMPETITION IN NEEDLEWORK.

MISSION TO THE "DEEP SEA FISHERMEN."

PRIZES TO THE AMOUNT OF £22 IS.



THE Editor has decided on a Knitting Competition, as one most likely to be of general interest to the readers of the "G.O.P.," an interest which will be doubled when the object to which the articles are to be

devoted is announced, *i.e.*, the Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen. There are few people who have not heard of the large fleets of fishing vessels which labour to supply our markets by plying their dangerous and arduous profession in the North Sea. Twelve thousand souls are estimated to be the number, and the Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen was instituted some few years ago, to send out mission vessels which should supply these men with Christian preaching and Christian service, in sickness and in health. The office of the mission is Bridge House, 181, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.; and those of our readers who desire to see the account of the work performed, should send for a copy of the monthly magazine, the *Toilers of the Deep*, price twopence. The tales told of the privations, uncomplaining, and heroic courage of these poor fishermen, and of the God-fearing and simple religious life of many of them, will bring tears to the eyes of many of our sympathising girls.

One way of helping them to bear the cold and exposure of their hard lives is to make them warm knitted articles of stout wool, to protect them from such evils as cracks on the skin, or the sore known as "sea blister." This latter is produced by the sea water reaching the open wounds which are often made on the wrists by the constant rubbing of the hard edges of the oilskins they wear to protect them from the incessant wetting of the sea water. Warm stockings and socks are required, and the woollen helmets are much sought after. For these instructions are given, which are plain and easily worked; and also the address of a firm of kindly merchants, who allow a discount especially on wool purchased of them for this object. From them all materials, needles, etc., can be procured. We have added men's socks and cuffs to the list, and we hope all our workers will remember that it is *men* for whom they are knitting, and not send to us anything too *small for their use, nor too* badly shaped to be worn. So far as possible every article will be judged with its own class, so that all may gain the advantage of good and laborious work, in addition to being judged with those of their own age.

For those who cannot knit we shall make special arrangements for judging crochet (like the knitting). Comforters, cuffs, and mittens can all be made in crochet, and will be accepted.

Shall I add one more word to spur my dear girls on to do their best in this competition? So much valued and so highly prized amongst the fishermen are the woollen articles that kind hands make for them, and so much do they evidently add to the comfort of their hard lives, that they make, at their prayer-meetings a special prayer that God would bless the kind ladies who knit the warm things that give them so much comfort.

The Editor offers a prize of One Guinea to girls of every age; that is, One Guinea will be awarded to the girl of the age of nine who

shall have been most successful in her efforts; another Guinea to the girl of ten years, and so on, to competitors of the age of thirty years. In this way the Editor will award prizes to the amount of Twenty-one Guineas. Certificates of the First, Second, and Third Classes will also be awarded.

The last day for receiving the work is Michaelmas Day, 1888.

Each piece of work must have stitched upon it the name of the worker and the certificate of a parent, minister, or teacher, certifying the age and the work to be that of the competitor only. The age of the worker must be sent as stated above, but it will not be printed in our pass lists.

FISHERMEN'S SEA-BOOT STOCKINGS.

Four needles, No. 9, 1½ lb. yarn. The yarn is a special kind, unbleached white, and as thick as carpet yarn, to be obtained of Messrs. Jevons and Mellor, Minorities and Corporation Street, Birmingham, at 1s. 4d. per pound. This firm also supply needles, gauges, and various other yarns, and not only pay carriage of all parcels exceeding 10s. in value, but allow a special 5 per cent. discount upon M.D.F.S. orders. Another firm—Fleming, Reed, and Co., Merion Mills, Greenock—also promise the same reduction for the mission.



From point of toe to point of heel, 11 inches.
From ankle to top of stocking, 22 inches.
Across calf, 7 inches.

Cast 22 stitches on each of 3 needles and rib, 2 knit, 2 purl, for 12 rounds, making the last stitch of each round a seam stitch. (The seam stitch is each round alternately knit and purred, so that it looks like a string of beads; it is carried throughout the entire length of the stocking, and is used to count by.) Now knit plain round and round, till you have done 24 purl on the seam stitch. Then begin the intakes thus: When you arrive at your 25th purl stitch take 2 together on each side of it, then work on plain till you have done 3 more purl, and on the 4th take in again, as before, and so on till you have done it 6 times. Now work on still in the same manner, only

with 2 purl between the intakes instead of 3, till you have made in all 11 intakes. You will now have 44 stitches on the needles. Go on knitting till you have completed 9 purl after the intakes. Now begin the heel, thus: Take 22 stitches on one needle, having the seam as near the middle as possible. Work backwards and forwards on these stitches, 1 row knit, 1 purl, till you have done 8 purl on the seam stitch; on the 9th purl take in 1 on each side of the seam, return row purl, next row take in again, return row purl, take in once more, purl back 8 stitches; double your pins together, wrong side out, and cast off, taking a stitch off each pin and knitting them together.

Now begin the foot, using the remaining 22 stitches, and taking up as many stitches as you can around the heel, making the seam stitch along the sole of the foot; take in each side of the heel every other row, to form a gusset, until you have 44 stitches remaining; knit on until you have done 20 purl of the seam stitch, counting from the first. Now begin to narrow the toe, but not this time on each side of the seam; but, beginning with the needle on which are 22 stitches, you knit 2, then take 2 together, knit the remainder of the needle all but 4 stitches; take two of these together and knit the others. Next needle knit 2, take 2 together, knit remainder; third needle knit all but 4, take 2 together, knit remaining two stitches. Knit 5 rounds (*i.e.*, 2 purl stitches) plain, then take in as before; now 3 rounds plain, again take in, this time every other round, until 12 stitches remain; place these on 2 pins and cast off as you did the heel.

WOOLLEN COMFORTERS.
(Greatly Needed).

For these, of which at this season of the year there is great need, proceed as follows:—

Two pins, No. 7, and yarn same as for the cuffs. Cast on 36 to 40 stitches, and knit plain or any fancy pattern for two yards. Brioche stitch; make 1, slip 1, knit 2 together, is a good pattern, with 2 plain stitches at each side. It takes but one skein for cuffs, and five for a comforter.

WOOLLEN CUFFS.

Use Scotch yarn and four needles, No. 12. Cast on 52 stitches on three needles, knit 2 plain and 3 purl alternately for 6 inches.

VERY STOUT STEERING GLOVES.

Needles and wool same as for stockings; half-pound wool required.

Cast on 40 stitches (14, 14, 12).

Rib 30 rounds, 2 purl, 2 plain.

Knit 4 rounds plain.

Round 5—Knit 1, make 1 (*i.e.*, take up loop between the pins and knit it), knit remainder of round.

Rounds 6 and 7—Plain.

Round 8—Knit 1, make 1, knit 1, make 1, knit remainder of round.

Rounds 9 and 10—Plain.

Round 11—Knit 1, make 1, knit 3, make 1, knit remainder.

Rounds 12 and 13—Plain.

Round 14—Knit 1, make 1, knit 5, make 1, knit remainder.

Rounds 15 and 16—Plain.

Round 17—Knit 1, make 1, knit 7, make 1, knit remainder.

Rounds 18 and 19—Plain.

Round 20—Knit 1, take off 9 stitches on to a piece of string, and tie them together. Cast

71 stitches more on to the needle on which you already have 1 stitch; this will make 51 stitches in all. Knit 25 rounds plain.

Now divide your stitches thus. On the needle upon which you did the gusset place 25 stitches, being careful for the right hand, to have the gusset at the beginning of the needle, and for the left hand, at the end of it. Place 13 on each of the other 2 needles. Commence the intakes, beginning with the long row, thus—

Round 1—Knit 2, take 2 together, knit off all but 4 stitches, take 2 together, knit 2. Second needle—Knit 2, take 2 together, knit remainder of row. Third needle—Knit all but 4, take 2 together, knit 2.

Round 2—Plain.

Round 3—Same as first.

Round 4—Plain. So on till you have 12 stitches remaining.

Place these on two needles, lay them side by side and cast off, taking 1 stitch from each needle and knitting them together.

Thumb—Take up the 9 stitches on the string, and take up 9 more to make 18 round the thumb. Knit 14 rounds plain, then take 2 together 4 times every other row till you have 6 stitches remaining. Finish off.

STEERING MITTENS.

These are made on the same principle as babies' gloves, and, although not so well adapted for ordinary use as the mittens already described, they protect the fingers better than the open ones, and thus are most valuable for steering purposes. The bitter cold experienced in grasping the wheel or tiller through a winter's night may be more easily imagined than described. These steering mittens should always be made in grey Alloa yarn. This is sold in 2 oz. "cuts" or skeins. Three "cuts" will make two pairs. The mitten, when complete, should measure fully 12 inches in length. The standard for measurement of the pins used is Chambers's Bell Gauge. *The needles must pass through the openings of Nos. 12 and 13, not fit into the round part.* This is the shop standard of size.

With pins No. 13 east on 18 stitches, on each of 3 needles. Knit 36 rounds of ribbed knitting (2 plain, 1 purl).

Now change to pins No. 12, and knit 10 plain rounds; the larger needles give more room in the hand-part; while it is desirable for the wrist to fit closely.

Knit the thumb thus:—

Round 1—Knit 2, make 1, knit 2, make 1, knit to the end. (N.B.—To make a stitch, take up the loop that goes across a stitch and knit it.)

Rounds 2 and 3—Plain.

Round 4—Knit 2, make 1, knit 4, make 1, knit to the end.

Rounds 5 and 6—Plain.

Round 7—Knit 2, make 1, knit 6, make 1, knit to the end.

Rounds 8 and 9—Plain.

Round 10—Knit 2, make 1, knit 8, make 1, knit to the end.

Rounds 11 and 12—Plain.

Round 13—Knit 2, make 1, knit 10, make 1, knit to the end.

Rounds 14 and 15—Plain.

Round 16—Knit 2, make 1, knit 12, make 1, knit to the end.

Rounds 17 and 18—Plain.

Round 19—Knit 2, make 1, knit 14, make 1, knit to the end.

Rounds 20 and 21—Plain.

Round 22—Knit 2, make 1, knit 16, make 1, knit to the end.

Rounds 23 and 24—Plain.

Round 25—Knit 3, make 1, knit 18, make 1, knit to the end.

Round 26—Knit 3, then slip off on a bit of wool 18 stitches, and knit plain the rest of the round. Knit 34 plain rounds.

Round 35—Knit 2 together, knit 4; knit 2 together, knit 4. Do the rest of the round in this manner. You will then have 15 stitches on each pin.

Rounds 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, and 41—Plain.

Round 42—Knit 2 together at the beginning of each needle, knitting all the rest of the stitches plain.

Rounds 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, and 50—Plain.

Round 51—Knit 2 together, and continue this throughout the round. This will leave 7 stitches on each pin.

Round 52—Plain.

Round 53—Knit 2 together, and continue this throughout the round. Knit the odd stitch plain at the end of the round.

Round 54—Plain.

Break off the wool, leaving an end 6 inches long, with which thread a coarse wool needle. On this needle slip off the stitches from the first pin, and draw the wool through them. Do this with the remaining stitches, and draw them up *tightly*, to close the mitten. Run your wool round through the stitches a second time, then pass the needle to the inside of the mitten, and fasten off by darning up and down 3 or 4 lines, as it ought to be made very secure.

For the thumb, take up the 18 stitches from the bit of wool, and pick up 3 or 4 more in the gap left between the last stitch and the first. Knit these 21 or 22 stitches plain for 18 rounds.

Round 19—Knit 2 together, and continue this throughout the round.

Rounds 20, 21, 22—Plain. Break off the wool, and close up as you did for the mitten itself, being very careful to fasten off securely.



What Cheer? What Cheer?

KNITTED MITTENS.

These are greatly valued by the men. The oilskins they are compelled to wear, by reason of the incessant wetting with sea water, grow hard and cruel; the wrist, chafed by the oilskins, is sacrificed, and the salt water reaching the wound produces "sea blister," an excessively painful sore. When, however, woollen mittens are worn, the "sea blister" is seldom known, and much suffering is consequently avoided. The mittens are made as follows:—

Use Scotch yarn, and four needles, No. 12.

Cast on 52 on 3 needles, and knit 2 plain and 2 purl for 36 rounds. This forms the wrist.

Knit 15 plain rounds, then knit the thumb thus:—

Round 1—Knit 2, make 1, knit 2, make 1, then knit to the end.

Rounds 2 and 3—Plain.

Round 4—Knit 2, make 1, knit 4, make 1, then knit to the end.

Rounds 5 and 6—Plain.

Round 7—Knit 2, make 1, knit 6, make 1, then knit to the end.

Rounds 8 and 9—Plain.

Round 10—Knit 2, make 1, knit 8, make 1, then knit to the end.

Rounds 11 and 12—Plain.

Round 13—Knit 2, make 1, knit 10, make 1, then knit to the end.

Rounds 14 and 15—Plain.

Round 16—Knit 2, make 1, knit 12, make 1, then knit to the end.

Rounds 17 and 18—Plain.

Round 19—Knit 2, make 1, knit 14, make 1, then knit to the end.

Rounds 20 and 21—Plain.

Round 22—Knit 2, make 1, knit 16, make 1, then knit to the end.

Rounds 23 and 24—Plain.

Round 25—Knit 2, make 1, knit 18, make 1, then knit to the end.

Rounds 26 and 27—Plain.

Round 28—Knit 2, make 1, knit 20, make 1, then knit to the end.

Rounds 29 and 30—Plain.

Round 31—Knit 2, make 1, knit 22, make 1, then knit to the end.

Round 32—Knit 3, then slip off on a bit of wool 22 stitches, and knit plain the rest of the round.

Then knit 10 rounds plain.

Then knit 10 rounds, 2 plain and 2 purl, and cast off loosely.

Then knit the rest of the thumb thus: Take up the 22 stitches off the wool on to 3 needles, adding 2 more stitches where the opening is, which will make 8 stitches on each needle.

Knit 6 rounds plain.

Then knit 6 rounds, 2 plain and 2 purl, and cast off loosely.

Fasten off the ends.

N.B.—To make a stitch, take up the loop that goes across a stitch and knit it.

A "lady who has knitted many pairs of mittens" would like to suggest to others "when they increase the stitches for the thumb to do it by knitting a stitch and *before taking it off the needle* to knit a second stitch in the back part of the loop." It will be found, she states, that this prevents the open stitch which, "taking up the loop that goes across," is apt to make.

The Uhlán cap is a new introduction, and on account of its threefold use as helmet, muffler, and cap, as well as being much easier to make, it is considered a very useful addition, better than the old helmet.

THE UHLÁN CAP.

Cast on 21 stitches.

Row 1—Knit 3, purl 1, knit 6, purl 1, knit 6, purl 1, knit 3.

Row 2—Purl 3, knit 1, purl 6, knit 1, purl 6, knit 1, purl 3.

Row 3—Knit 3, purl 1, make 1, knit 6, purl 1, make 1, knit 6, purl 1, make 1, knit 3.

Row 4—Purl 4, knit 1, make 1, purl 7, knit 1, make 1, purl 4.

Row 5—Knit 4, purl 1, knit 8, purl 1, knit 8, purl 1, knit 4.

Row 6—Purl 4, knit 1, purl 8, knit 1, purl 8, knit 1, purl 4.

Row 7—Knit 4, purl 1, make 1, knit 8, purl 1, make 1, knit 8, purl 1, make 1, knit 4.

Row 8—Purl 5, knit 1, make 1, purl 9, knit 1, make 1, purl 9, knit 1, make 1, purl 4.

Row 9—Knit 5, purl 1, knit 10, purl 1, knit 10, purl 1, knit 5.

Row 10—Purl 5, knit 1, purl 10, knit 1, purl 10, knit 1, purl 5.

Row 11—Knit 5, purl 1, make 1, knit 10, purl 1, make 1, knit 10, purl 1, make 1, knit 5.

Row 12—Purl 6, knit 1, make 1, purl 11, knit 1, make 1, purl 11, knit 1, make 1, purl 5.

Row 13—Knit 6, purl 1, knit 12, purl 1, knit 12, purl 1, knit 6.

Row 14—Purl 6, knit 1, purl 12, knit 1, purl 12, knit 1, purl 6.

Row 15—Knit 6, purl 1, make 1, knit 12, purl 1, make 1, knit 12, purl 1, make 1, knit 6.
Row 16—Purl 7, knit 1, make 1, purl 13, knit 1, make 1, purl 13, knit 1, make 1, purl 6.
Now knit 2, purl 2, till your work measures 6½ inches long, then rib 8 stitches, cast off 30 stitches very loosely, and rib to end of row.

These last 8 stitches to be ribbed till 9 rows are done, which will bring the wool to the inner side; cast on 30 stitches very loosely and break off wool, leaving an end.



I.—USED AS HELMET AND CHEST PROTECTOR.

Now rib the 8 stitches left on needle till 8 rows are done, to form the second side of opening, then join firmly to end of wool, and continue to rib all the stitches on needles till it measures twelve inches below opening.

Cast off very loosely.

BACK.

The same as front, except that no opening being required, do not cast off, but knit 2, purl 2 the whole length.

Cast off very loosely.

Sew the two pieces together neatly and firmly up the sides.

When not used as a comforter and helmet, it makes a comfortable cap by rolling up the lower part.

Use Alloa yarn and needles No. 8 or 9.

WOOLLEN STOCKINGS.

Our readers are now pretty familiar with the value of the sea-boot over-all stockings donned by the smacksmen, but, of course, the trawlers have also to wear, whether they can secure the woollen "over-wear" or not, the ordinary woollen stockings. Repeatedly the men have asked whether we could not supply them with these absolutely needful articles, which they would manifestly not only receive with gratitude, but gladly pay a moderate price for. Here, again, there is an "open door" of service through which ladies may feel that they are helping the fishermen in two ways—in supplying warm, serviceable articles, and, at the same time, by means of these, in strengthening the general work of the Mission. We append the instructions:—

FOR STOCKINGS.

Scotch fingering, No. 13 needles.

To commence the stocking put 90 stitches on 3 needles; do 12 rounds of 2 knit and 2 purl; then do plain until you have done 80 rounds, then take in every 12 rounds 4 times, then every 10 rounds 4 times, then every 8 rounds 4 times; then do 80 rounds before setting the heel; then put 20 stitches each side the seam; stitch, do 30 rows, cast off the heel; have 90 stitches on the foot; do 90 rounds before taking in; divide the stitches, having 45 on the front needle and 22 each side the seam; stitch, cast off with 12 stitches.

WOOLLEN GUERNSEY FROCKS.

For these there is a constant demand, summer and winter alike, in the trawling fleets, and as the men will readily purchase them at a moderate cost, ladies, by supplying these, can not only directly benefit the men, but also indirectly aid the general funds of the Mission. Here are the instructions for knitting:—

SAILOR'S GUERNSEY.

Six needles No. 12. 2lbs. blue worsted, sold on purpose.

Cast on 1 needle thickly, knitting it on your thumb and 1 needle 142 stitches. 6 rows plain, slipping 1st stitch of each row. 7th row: slip 1, knit 5, 2 purl, 2 plain, till you have 6 left; knit them.

8th row plain. 9th row: slip one, knit 5, knit 2, purl 2 alternately till the last 6; knit them. 10th row plain.

Repeat from 7th row till you have 7 patterns, then knit 6 plain rows.



II.—USED AS HELMET AND MUFFLER.

This is for the front. Do the same for the back on 2 other needles; then join the whole round, using 6 needles, picking up an extra stitch each side of the join both sides. Knit a round. 2nd round, make a seam stitch each side by purling the wool between the 2 stitches you made last time. Keep the seams

all through to the wrist, pulling 1 each time you come to the seam.

Plain knit 15½ inches. Then, beginning from the seam stitch, knit 2, and start again your pattern. Purl 2, knit 2, till you come to the opposite seam, when you again knit 2 on either side of it, and so round to the back; purl 2, knit 2, till you come to the other seam. Knit a plain round. Repeat till you have 9 patterns, with 9 plain rounds between, knitting the 2 you purlled, and purling the 2 you knitted, in alternate rounds.



III.—USED AS HEAD-GEAR ONLY.

Then begin to increase for the gussets. Make one side of each seam by taking up a stitch, carrying on your pattern (2 purl, 2 knit) on the body. Increase every 4th round each side of the seam, on both sides the jersey 10 times, always 2 stitches from the body pattern, so as to shape the gusset, then leave your gussets on separate needles, and knit the front backward and forward, thus leaving the back. Knit 10 (slipping 1st stitch), then go on with your pattern and plain row between (doing the pattern always on the inside or purl row) till you have 40 ribs to make the front of the armhole. For the shoulder, knit plain 36 stitches from each end, making 10 ribs or 20 rows. When you have done both sides of the throat, leave them till you have knitted up the back to match. When this is done, join again, and knit off the shoulders, back and front together. For the neck you have 82 stitches on each side, which you rib all round; knit 2, purl 2, every round alike, to gather nicely round the neck. Two inches for the neck, then purl 4 rounds, knit 1 round, and knit off. For the sleeves take up 60 stitches besides the gusset each side. Only 50 come to take up, but you must make 10 more by taking up another on every fifth stitch to make it fuller. Knit 17 stitches to cuff, decreasing first your gusset, and then 2 off the seam each side at regular intervals till you have 68 stitches left. Rib for cuff, 2 plain, 2 purl, 3½ inches; then purl 4 rounds, knit 1 round, and knit off.

The bluest worsted wears and washes best, that with a redder tint not so well.

VARIETIES.

HOW TO TREAT GOSSIP.

What can't be cured must be endured, and the best way of enduring gossip is not to listen to it. Over one of our old castles a former owner has inscribed these lines:—

THEY SAY.

WHAT DO THEY SAY?

LET THEM SAY.

Thin-skinned persons should learn this motto by heart.

TO A STOUT, ELDERLY LADY.

You ask me, your servant, to give you in rhyme Some apt definitions of space and of time. If your ladyship looked at your form and your face, You'd gain excellent notions of time and of space.

THE LOVE OF FLOWERS.—"She who does not love flowers," says a German writer, "has lost all fear and love of God."

FORTUNE TELLING.

"I can tell you the first letter

Of your handsome sailor's name."

"I know everyone; that's better,
Thank you, gipsy, all the same."

"Ah! my maiden, runs your text so?

Then I see your doom is past,
And the day is Monday next." "No,
Gipsy, it was Monday last."