

Over \$2,000,000 have been spent in purchasing medical and general stores, a few of which are chloroform, X-ray outfits, tooth brushes, soap, shirts, blankets, fresh eggs and milk, kitchen equipment, fodder, boilers, ice machines, mosquito netting. Gifts have been received to the value of \$1,700,000, and no fewer than 125,000 bales and cases have been sent out and 2,721,700 garments issued, not including 1,100,000 garments and other gifts for the wounded provided by the Order of St. John.

Rest Stations.—Six of these are stationed in France. They are Red Cross hostleries, ministering to the needs of the wounded and sick, and doing much to mitigate the real hardships of war. In a single week 30,000 men were fed and 1,500 dressings done in one station alone.

War Library.—Convalescence would be dreary indeed without books. Over 2,000,000 volumes have been sent to the thousands of hospitals, rest camps, hospital ships and trains.

Food For Prisoners.—Some 64,000 parcels (1,200 weekly) have been sent to prisoners in Germany. So many institutions and individuals have taken up this most important work that the Society has confined itself to the difficult task of filling in gaps, seeing that *every* prisoner, friendless or not, gets regular parcels and that none gets a plethora.

"Missing."—With six branch offices in France and others in Egypt, Malta, Basra and Bombay, this department collects evidence among the wounded in hospital concerning the fate of officers and men who are reported missing. In the last fourteen months alone some 48,700 anxious enquiries have been received, and 61,600 items of information gathered.

IN CONCLUSION

The above has been the merest outline of the work of the British Red Cross, for the purpose of giving to those who have so generously supported the work in the past and will continue to do so, a rough idea of what their contributions have made possible. Nothing has been said, for instance, of the splendid service of the hundreds of thousands of workers at home and abroad—surgeons, nurses, orderlies, men and women of the Voluntary Aid Detachments and St. John Ambulance Brigade—the large majority of whom received their first training in stretcher work, first