

## Chaplain's Wounded Soldiers' Fund, etc.

By Major E. Bertram Hooper, (Chaplain)

I very gratefully acknowledge the following gifts to my "Wounded Soldiers' Fund" since my statement in last week's issue :

Nursing Sister Blank, A Section of the Hydro	£1	10	0
Sergt. Blank of the Personnel (Hydro)	-	5	0
Pte. Blank of the Officers' Mess	-	3	0

This is all, but there will I expect be more to follow. It will be noticed that each donor rejoices in the name of Blank. This is on account of their modesty which urges me to give to each a *nom de giving*—They are not relatives even. My readers in this connection, i.e., regarding relations may remember the woman, who, when her husband was hanged, said "Well I am sorry, but thank God he was no blood relation of mine."

But speaking of those three donors, it is a peculiar satisfaction to me to record them.

1st—The Nursing Sisters have an enviable record of personal benefactions to the patients. It is good to have another to add to the growing list of Nursing-Sisters who have thought enough of the "Padre" and his fund, to help him and it along.

2nd—The Sergt. of the Personnel handed over to my fund the 5/- sent him to buy something for himself.

3rd—The Private connected with the Officers' Mess, made his gift out of a big, sympathetic heart and a shallow pocket.

I thank all three of them heartily.

My expenditures represent everything possible in ministering to comfort and cheer of the gallant boys in blue, whom I am proud to call my "Sons." These will be given when my full statement is audited and published.

The Chaplain Services Department in London is taking up the very form of ministry I have endeavoured for a long time to carry on. They have lately sent me as Senior Chaplain in the Buxton area a supply of excellent writing paper and envelopes—sets of chess—checkers—dominoes—to be followed by packs of playing cards. This will enable the Chaplains to supply any who need them with any of these things. I shall be glad to receive and meet any applications.

My heart is full of the warmest appreciation of the princely gifts presented to me this Christmas by the patients at the Hydro and those at the Palace Annex. Nothing has ever touched and pleased me more. It is the fine spirit that prompted them that I value most.

I am their affectionate and grateful old

PADRE.