"He had not mony or other thing, only a medal with the pictures of his parents. After the ware I send picture of his tomb to his parents and also the medal, but if they wish I will send it directly.

The English soldiers are very good treated in our hospital, is it the same in London

treated in our hospital, is it the same in London or other towns of England. Please not to forget our brothers in England."

To go back for a moment to the routine work

of the Department.

Every ten days or so, long lists of prisoners, lists of the dead and buried on the battlefield, of men who have died in prison, men in hospitals, are transmitted to us by the German Red Cross, which is an annex of the German War Office. The contents of these lists are at once indexed and the information sent on to enquirers. From these lists we compile sheets of information for the Canadian Red Cross, the India Office, and Regimental Record offices. In fact, we act as a clearing house for all prisoner enquiries.

In addition to this, since September 10th we also get the Ottoman Red Crescent lists, and we are doing the same with them and are making out lists for the Commonwealth of Australia and

New Zealand offices.

Another branch of our work is the search for missing Germans. We get numbers of enquiries from Germany not only about men who have disappeared in fighting, but also about civilians who have disappeared on the high seas. Sometimes it is a German mother who writes that her son left Sumatra in a ship bound for Brisbane in August, 1914, and has never been heard of since. Sometimes it is a man who writes from Hungary to say his brother, who had once been for a short time in business in Cairo, had disappeared. Sometimes it is an enquiry for a missing member of the Cape to Cairo motor tour, or for three German scientists who were travelling in Abyssinia in 1914, and were last heard of at Djbouti in August, 1914.

We also get a great number of enquiries for missing Germans in what was German South-West

Africa.

In addition to this search for missing, we have been engaged in the work of seeing that all exchanged prisoners and repatriated persons are carefully and sympathetically interviewed by competent people, and in this way we endeavour to keep our information as to camp conditions, complaints, needs, and the best ways of helping our prisoners through the next weary months up-to-date.

We want our prisoners to feel that the Red Cross and Order of St. John stand for something in their lives, that some responsible body takes a deep and abiding interest in their welfare and is endeavouring to weave a network of thought and care and knowledge round those unhappy silent people, our prisoners of war.

It is with great pleasure we publish this most interesting report, and commend it to the notice of relatives of prisoners of war.

IN MEMORY OF MISS EDITH CAVELL.

A cheque for £5 has been sent by the President of the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, from members and societies connected with the Council, to the Daily Telegraph Fund for the statue of Miss Edith Cavell, to be erected in London. From a large number of letters received we gather that, as over £500 more than the £2,000 asked for has been contributed for the statue, the groups connected with the National Council, which are chiefly interested in education, would rather contribute towards the foundation of a College of Nursing in Brussels, as proposed by the President, after the war is over, and so perpetuate the work for the training of Belgian women as nurses, to which Miss Cavell devoted the latter years of her life.

A really practical and beneficent memorial of the late Miss Edith Cavell has been proposed by Mr. John Howard, an octogenarian philanthropist, of Brighton, inspired by a desire to honour her memory. He is arranging to build four-and-twenty cottage homes for incapacitated nurses, and to endow each with 10s. a week. To this end he is devoting £30,000. The cottages, to occupy three sides of a quadrangle, are to be built by the side of the John Howard Convalescent Home for ladies in circumstances. This home Mr. Howard built and endowed at a cost of £40,000, but almost as soon as it was opened it was converted into a hospital for soldiers, and is now occupied by wounded officers.

The new cottages will be for the use of trained hospital nurses who, through ill-health or other infirmities, are unable to follow their calling, preference being given to those who have tended the sick and wounded during the

present war.

Mr. Howard is a native of Liverpool, and is an engineer. He has resided at Brighton for many years, and built the magnificent Palace Pier there.

Dr. Anna Hamilton, of Bordeaux, has a sympathetic article on the execution of Edith Cavell in La Petite Gironde, in which she writes that the Comtesse d'Haussonville has invited all those who care for sick and wounded soldiers to subscribe 50 centimes for a monument of this heroine in Brussels.

The ladies of Durban have inaugurated a fund for the purchase and maintenance of a motor ambulance for the Front as a memorial to Miss Cavell.

previous page next page