

## "LEST WE FORGET."

To the Editor.

Sir.—You have been very kind in giving publicity in your esteemed paper to my appeal on behalf of the brave Belgians last August and I trust you will treat my new appeal which is for a cause a thousandfold more deserving, in the same way. I wish to remind your readers to give a thought to the many Australian heroes who will return armless and legless.

I travelled through the Balkans after the war there, and saw many brave soldiers returning home, having lost arms, legs and eyesight, but nevertheless they were young and had many years to live and earn their living. Now how can your readers think of making such unfortunate heroes work as attendants on Sydney lifts (as suggested by some insane people in the press recently), or the alternative, which is to sell matches in the streets? Many things will be done to give the Australians a warm reception, but the experience I have had after war in other countries has proved that these brave wounded are forgotten after a year or so. I would mention an instance that came under my personal notice when travelling on the railway after the Balkan war—a maimed soldier was in the same compartment, and everybody was anxious to leave him alone as much as possible.

To avoid this I should like to

To avoid this I should like to propose a fund to be opened to provide for the establishment of a permanent home and institute for the Australian crippled soldiers, and if your readers will respond to their Australian needs as generously as they have to the needs of other countries, this fund should reach seven figures, and consequently make the institute self-supporting.

Messrs Wirth Bros. are guaranteeing £1,000 towards this fund, and Australia expects that all those gentlemen who have sent in £500 cheques to other funds will come forward in this case which is, as you will agree, a thousandfold more deserving.

I am touring the country, organising a committee in every town, and communicating with the Premier to whom all communications should be forwarded.

Yours, etc.,

E. PLATT-RUSKIN.