INCORPORATED SOLDIERS’ & SAILORS’ HELP SOCIETY.

LORD ROBERTS MEMORIAL WORKSHOPS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS."

SIR,—May I beg the courtesy of your columns to ask for the support of your readers of the work that is being carried on by the SOLDIERS’ AND SAILORS’ HELP SOCIETY (LORD ROBERTS MEMORIAL WORKSHOPS). And what more fitting occasion is there for such an appeal than to-day, September 30, and the anniversary of the birth of Lord Roberts.

Gratitude to men of the Fighting Forces and recognition of their high courage and skill, lie deep in the heart of the Nation to-day. Again in our generation we are engaged in a titanic struggle in defence of the principles of justice and freedom, and again those same qualities of determination and valour, of fidelity and service, for which Lord Roberts will ever stand as the great tradition, are winning the admiration and respect of all.

But the discerning will remember that our sailors, soldiers and airmen are paying the price of their service often in life-long disablement, in broken health and careers.

The Society stands between such victims of the conflict and what might indeed prove a hard lot in life. Help is given to the necessitous in numerous effectual ways, while in the workshops in which Lord Roberts’ name is enshrined, the seriously disabled are trained in new trades and employed.

These workshops solved a formidable problem in the years succeeding the Great War when more than 3,000 of the maimed received training which enabled them to obtain work in the ordinary commercial market. Those others, whose high rate of disability precluded their finding a livelihood outside the shelter of the workshops have been permanently employed.

In consequence of the present War the Society’s responsibilities are growing apace, for, in addition to its peace-time activities which must be maintained, it is striving to meet the needs of Serving men in distress, and to make adequate provision for the admission to the Lord Roberts Workshops, and subsequent employment there, of the badly disabled of the present campaign.

Despite the multifarious claims upon the generosity of the public in these difficult times, I am confident I will not appeal in vain for still further support of a great and worthy National work.

Gifts sent to me as Hon. Treasurer, Lord Roberts Memorial Workshops, 122, Brompton Road, Room T, London, S.W.3, will be gratefully acknowledged.

122, Brompton Road,
London, S.W.3,
September 30, 1940.

Yours truly,

ROGER KEYES,
Admiral of the Fleet.