

JUNE

SEVENTH YEAR — No. 75

International Review of the Red Cross



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GENEVA
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INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

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BOOKS AND REVIEWS

FRENCH EDITION OF THE REVIEW

The French edition of this Review is issued every month under the title of *Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge*. It is, in principle, identical with the English edition and may be obtained under the same conditions.

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SUPPLEMENTS TO THE REVIEW

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THE
INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

*is published each month by the
International Committee of the Red Cross*

7, avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva I, Switzerland
Postal Cheque No. 12.1767

Annual subscription : Sw. fr. 25.— (\$6)
Single copies Sw. fr. 2.50 (\$0.60)

Editor : J.-G. LOSSIER

The International Committee of the Red Cross only assumes
responsibility for material over its own signature.

SOME REMINISCENCES

The First “Prisoners of War Agency”

Geneva 1914-1918

by J. Chenevière

Mr. Jacques Chenevière has recently published a volume of memoirs in which he recalls various souvenirs, chiefly concerning his life as a writer¹. In addition, he has however devoted a large part of his life and energies to the work of the International Committee of the Red Cross. As an active participant he has, therefore, lived through various periods of great importance in the history of the ICRC.

With the editor's kind permission, we publish hereunder some passages², extracted from this volume, which deal with the First World War. (Ed.).

On the morning of September 12th, 1914, I presented myself at 3, rue de l'Athénée, the surprisingly modest headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross. Gustave Moynier, who was then unknown to me, one of the founders of this Genevese institution fifty years earlier, of which he had been President until 1910,

¹ *Retours et images*, Editions Rencontre, Lausanne, 1966, 336 p.

² Translated by the ICRC.

said that he was also its door-keeper, because it was he who had the keys to the small, three roomed flat. It was there where the Committee's as yet by no means very considerable records were kept.

President Gustave Ador rose to greet me with the same cordiality which he had always shown me since my childhood. "There is a great deal of work to be started immediately", he said in his deep voice.

He pointed to two trays full of letters: appeals sent to Geneva by the families of soldiers reported missing.

"That is today's mail; twice the amount we received yesterday".

He then gave me some concise instructions, typical of a man of authority. "Sort this out into nationalities. Put it into alphabetical order and report back to me. It's hardly a job for a poet, is it?"

He was tall and still sprightly in spite of his sixty-nine years. Beneath his light jacket, with a small yellow rose in the button-hole, could be seen a splendid white waistcoat. Gustave Ador then took me into an adjoining room, no larger than its neighbour. There I met a gentleman of medium build whose smile between his black goatee and his pince-nez was reassuring. This was Paul Des Gouttes, a perspicacious lawyer; he was not one of the eight members of the International Committee, but its Secretary-General. This modest title had not then been inflated to its present proportions; one function of his office was to write out by hand the minutes of the Committee's meetings; somewhat in the role of a historiographer.

Whilst I was arranging my trays of papers, which were spilling over on to a sort of Napoleon III occasional-table, Des Gouttes, in his precise manner, explained to me that the Committee—the founding and central body of the Red Cross movement throughout the world—was composed exclusively of Swiss citizens, who were co-opted, so that it was only its activities which gave it its international character.

"You must know the basics. So far the two Geneva Conventions, which form the framework of the Red Cross, have made no mention of *able-bodied* prisoners of war. The question was broached by the International Conferences in Saint Petersburg (1902) and London (1907) without any conclusion being reached. The Washington Conference in 1912 finally recommended each National Red

Cross Society to set up a special commission to provide relief to servicemen in captivity. Gustave Ador, who was Chairman at that memorable meeting, stated that the Geneva Committee was prepared to send Swiss delegates to visit prison camps and supervise the distribution of such relief supplies, food and clothing ”.

I nodded—I had yet to learn!

“ Then there was the matter of moral relief which had been omitted, though essential: to collect from the official bureaux of belligerent countries full details on prisoners and to centralize this information in Geneva (my pro tem Mentor grew animated). In this respect nothing has been decided. It is a serious omission! So on August 15 the Geneva Committee decided to set up here the *International Prisoners of War Agency*. We have announced this to the whole world ”.

All this went dancing around in my head. Perhaps I had not been listening attentively enough: there were so many letters waiting to be dealt with . . .

“ Well, cheer up! ” my Mentor concluded. “ You can take your trays and work in the next room ”. This I did.

On that first morning, truth to tell, the “ Agency ” was for me only an abstract idea: a few sheets of paper bearing the emblem “ red cross on a white background ”, a pile of mail on a long deal table in a corner, with two antiquated brown chairs. At one end of the table sat a single, lonely typist, by no means sure of herself, doing her utmost to type I know not what on card-indexes from the Lord only knew what document. Never mind! I got down to work slitting envelopes and reading the mail.

I was thereupon suddenly seized with an emotion which grew with every letter: sometimes a neatly written well composed request, sometimes a slip of paper with a scrawled message and no idea of spelling. Between my fingers I felt the vibrations of a universal anxiety: the seamy side of battle, the reverse of heroism. This mail flowed in from Germany, France and England, and even further afield. Those left behind, to wait in anxiety, turned to the “ Cross of Geneva ” as their only hope of relief from the torment of knowing nothing about the fate of a missing relative and consequently fearing the worst. One poor little envelope, bore this address: “ *Genève, pour trouver mon fils* ”. That was how it reached us!

Another was addressed to "*Gustave Adoré, Genève*"; no more than that. I showed it to the President. Without a word he unfolded it. I returned to my reading. From that moment on I was no longer my own master.

Several people gave me a hand. The following morning I was joined by Mademoiselle Marguerite Cramer (later to become Madame Edouard Frick) whose organizational ability wrought miracles. One of her cousins strengthened our numbers for a long time. We three, overtaxed apprentices to begin with, had to cope with an ever-increasing volume of work. From time to time, Gustave Ador popped in to sustain us with a warm word of encouragement, only to vanish again.

"Do just as you feel is for the best" he said.

This left me plenty of scope, but little guidance! More helpers of both sexes, and varying abilities, offered their services. They had to work in shifts; it was out of the question to be more than four in that small, cramped room. All accepted our impromptu authority. The sometimes impetuous initiative of these kind hearts had oft to be held in check; in addition, everything had to be improvised, such as methods of labelling, filing, communications. On the first day we started writing out a white card, by hand, for each enquiry, showing the name, christian names, and regiment of the person sought, and the address of the persons to whom information should—when possible—be sent! These cards were then filed alphabetically in suitable boxes. In a fit of boldness we ordered thirty, each containing two hundred cards: later the Agency had more than three thousand such boxes!

By the end of a week we were once again short of space. Action stations for removal!: we moved across the street, lock, stock and barrel, with all our gear, and camped in two rooms of the Palais Eynard, lent by the town. However, ten days later these rooms too were congested. On October 12th we transferred the Agency—for good this time—to the Rath Museum from which hundreds of collections were evacuated. Art had to make way for us! At first it seemed like the great open spaces on the ground floor and in a huge room in the basement, to which light filtered through a glass wall. It was from here that had fled—in the arms of odd-job men—the pristine goddesses and naked stalwarts, cast in the mould of

antiquity. Our first lonely typist was transferred to a neighbouring building where she was at once submerged by some thirty other sisters of the keyboard.

After two months of war, by the end of September, requests for news were piling up but "official information"—that indispensable concomitant—was, alas, lacking. Could the Agency much longer justify its existence? Our anxiety increased. Ministries and army staffs, though besieged by the ICRC, remained aloof and silent. "We are at war and the prisoners are out of the game" we were given to understand. We could not let matters rest. President Ador left for Bordeaux, where the French Government had installed its headquarters. His persuasive authority induced—or pushed—to action the so-called "competent" authorities which, during two world wars, I have frequently known to be obstructive. Shortly thereafter, Gustave Ador laid on my desk a sheaf of papers he had gleaned: the names of German prisoners in French hands. No less pressing steps were taken in Berlin and produced similar lists of French, Belgian and British prisoners. Things had started to move! From then on these invaluable documents reached us regularly from both sides.

But how to exploit them to the best effect and rapidly? There were no precedents to guide us. It was impossible to proceed merely by a tally system. We therefore drew up a *coloured* card for each soldier traced. The typing pool, now doubled in strength, kept up an output of two streams of cards; one white, representing the missing, and the other coloured, green, yellow pink, etc., each colour representing a different nationality. This produced two parallel series of boxes, but comparison of details, one by one, was slow and unreliable and apt to lead to omissions. A bold decision was called for: the combination, in one system, of the white and the coloured cards, of which there were already several thousands. This was a considerable task and one requiring great precision. The plan was good: thanks to alphabetical accuracy the "news" card joined the "query" card which had been in suspense pending this encounter. The two concurring cards, clipped together, were sent to the department responsible for replying, which checked the information from the official lists and immediately transmitted it to the enquirer. The cards were thereupon returned to the general records until new

THE FIRST PRISONERS OF WAR AGENCY

information came: a change of hospital, or of camp, or concerning a prisoner's state of health, etc. For enquiries and replies of various types, a series of forms for completion was printed. Thereby much time was saved. For every death a separate letter was written to the bereaved.

This system appears elementary today, but we had to devise and perfect it.

The flood of mail continued to rise. The Agency spread throughout the whole museum, even into the attics. The carpenters were hard at it: on the ground floor several of the high exhibition rooms occupied by us were even divided horizontally, half way to the ceiling, by a floor on beams where new departments came to roost. Cliffs of wooden filing boxes arose everywhere. Lighting was improvised as well as ventilation to cope with the needs of this swarm of workers. Departments were organized according to nationalities and space was allotted to each. The Anglo-Franco-Belgian section took up all the basement. The repertory boxes—not then known by the euphonious title of card-index—were piled one on top of the other. They were to spend some four years there, just like us.

Some twelve hundred staff devoted themselves to the Red Cross in Geneva for the four years of war and even for a long time after the armistice. With the exception of a small minority, they gave their time and labour free, several hours each day. They were a mixed lot, of every age and condition and of both sexes, but they were united by an ideal and in action. A strictly observed time-table enabled work to go on uninterruptedly, some two hundred persons took shifts in the many cells of this hive. The buzzing of these two hundred workers, one on top of the other (in a manner of speaking) was hardly audible. Attention to the job required silence: a wrongly filed card meant that some person being sought was almost certainly lost. Yet each card represented hope—and sometimes joy—for someone, somewhere. Thus, on the fringe of the war, in the background, we acquired a profound human experience. Our hearts were in the job. Methodical and thankless toil was transformed. As for me, thus fully absorbed, day and night, I scarcely remembered my former life or my work as a writer which had remained in abeyance. Of what use was fiction when history was there in the making, immediate, compulsory and blood stained?

In the last weeks of 1914, the amount of incoming mail was twelve thousand letters each day and the outgoing thirty thousand.

At this point I wish to recall the memory of a Frenchman, Etienne Clouzot, who was a palaeographer and exempt from military service for reasons of health. On the advice of Frédéric Barbey—subsequently a member of the ICRC—a former colleague of his at the Ecole des Chartes, we invited Clouzot to join us. He accepted by cable and soon became, in technical matters, a pillar of the Agency. From then on he settled in Geneva and devoted himself entirely to the Red Cross for some twenty years.

The official lists of prisoners were often lacking in precise information. In order to ascertain the fate of a wounded man, the circumstances of a death, the despatch to Geneva of a dead soldier's belongings—we opened special enquiries, even in hospitals and field dressing stations.

The ICRC set up a section to deal with civilians, dispersed by the war in enemy territory or enemy occupied territory, who were not covered, by the Conventions. It very soon grew in importance, seeking the missing and establishing contact, at least by correspondence, through the Agency in Geneva.

President Ador and his colleagues worked in two small rooms on the second floor. As the "Guardians of the Conventions" they maintained diplomatic and other correspondence with governments and National Red Cross Societies. They also negotiated the permission for Swiss delegates to visit prison camps. Thus, the Committee, relying on us, merely supervised our work from above and surveyed the Agency from afar. And yet visitors of high rank, official or private—Government ministers or senior military officers on mission to the ICRC—now and then descended to our labyrinth of rows of planks and shelves and tiers and cliffs of boxes. One day H. G. Wells came from London and had me explain to him in detail our methods, our failures and our successes. Apparently somewhat distraught as he listened to me this well known Englishman nodded his head. Then he enquired about two or three of his military friends who had been taken prisoner. There and then we were able to bring their cards out from the files. I handed them to him and from behind his somewhat bushy moustache came the words: "Wonderful. Thanks so much for our boys and our people." On

his impassible countenance I detected a sign of emotion; but hardly had I done so than he shook my hand and hurried away.

Of all these passing faces I still see one particularly who appeared in the middle of the autumn of 1914. At first I thought I had misheard the name which was whispered to me across the threshold. I went to meet the new arrival. A diminutive boy-scout was shepherding him between the cliffs of filing boxes. He gave me his name, Romain Rolland, and was silent. Somewhat embarrassed at first I ventured to tell him how much I admired *Jean-Christophe*. He interrupted me gently: "Thank you. But I came to offer my services."

Whilst I gave him an outline of our work I observed him: frail and seemingly chilly in spite of a heavy overcoat, thinning hair above his forehead, a moustache but sparse and fair. A slender, almost colourless face above a high, starched collar. His limpid gaze remained steadfast on me.

"What type of work would you prefer, Sir?" I finally asked this man, so famous yet reserved. "Anything which is useful; and immediately if you wish."

And useful and faithful to us Romain Rolland was, for several months; but he seemed to wish to fade into the background among his fellow clerks engaged in tallying and making annotations. When I passed near him and "his boxes" he would give me a nod. I soon suggested he take on more varied work, such as special letters to families. With his customary gentleness of voice and manner he said: "It is up to you to decide. There is so much to be done here! One struggles against such distress."

.....

If I have dwelt too long on these matters it is because, as I have said, they marked a new trend in my life. My country came to represent something more profound for me. Here was an awakening of conscience. To "neutral" Switzerland fell certain duties and powers which, though restricted, arose out of its singular geographic, political and moral situation. In this small haven of peace, in the centre of this man-made storm, it was given to us to help some at least of our fellowmen.

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The same Cross of Geneva, borne in the midst of battle, on arm-bands and ambulances, also flew above our vast hive of industry. This flag enlisted me almost without my knowing it and later was to influence me to my very roots for the rest of my life. This work must be pursued and developed so long as fatal rivalries continue to oppose nations, inflicting offence on the persons of the vanquished and infringing on their liberties.

Jacques CHENEVIÈRE
Honorary Vice-President
of the International Committee of
the Red Cross

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS

**Protection of Civilian Populations
Against the Dangers of
Indiscriminate Warfare**

GENEVA, MAY 25, 1967

Circular No. 468

*To the Central Committees of National Red Cross,
Red Crescent, Red Lion and Sun Societies*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour of enclosing the text of a memorandum dated May 19, 1967, addressed by the International Committee of the Red Cross to the Governments of States parties to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and to the IVth Convention of The Hague of 1907, concerning the laws and customs of war on land. This memorandum bears on the protection of civilian populations against the dangers of indiscriminate warfare and, in particular, on the implementation of Resolution XXVIII of the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross.

In conformity with this resolution, which notably requests our institution to pursue the development of humanitarian law in this

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sphere and to take into consideration all possible means with a view to obtaining a rapid solution, the International Committee has made very thorough examination of the question and has notably undertaken a series of consultations in several continents. On termination of this study, the International Committee has judged it necessary to address the above-mentioned memorandum to all Governments requesting them to sanction, by an adequate instrument of international law, the principles set forth in Resolution XXVIII, and to invite them, whilst waiting for this instrument to be drawn up, to reaffirm the value which they attach to these principles by making any appropriate official manifestation, such as a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly.

Furthermore, the International Committee draws the attention of Governments to the existing position of the rules of international law relative to the conduct of hostilities and whose observation is of direct interest to civilian populations.

In the penultimate paragraph of Resolution XXVIII, it is stated, in particular, that the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross " requests National Societies to intervene with their Governments in order to obtain their collaboration for an early solution of this question ".

Convinced that the step it is taking corresponds with the profound concern of the Red Cross world, the International Committee now wishes to express its gratitude to National Societies for the efforts they may consider possible to undertake to this effect.

With the assurance, Ladies and Gentlemen, of my high consideration.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS

Samuel A. GONARD
President

MEMORANDUM

*To the Governments Parties to the 1949 Geneva Conventions
for the Protection of War Victims and to the IVth Hague Convention
of 1907 concerning the Laws and Customs of War on Land*

GENEVA, May 19, 1967

I.

As a result of its humanitarian action in connection with armed conflicts, the International Committee of the Red Cross has become ever increasingly aware of the imperative necessity for nations to renounce force as a means of settling disputes, to agree to reduce armaments and to establish peaceful and confident relations amongst themselves. The Red Cross contributes, within its own sphere of action, by every means available to it, towards these ends.

Until such time as these objectives have been achieved—and so long as the scourge of armed conflicts, even of a limited nature, continues to subsist or to arise—it is, however, of paramount importance that the humanitarian rules destined to safeguard the essential values of civilisation and to facilitate thereby the re-establishment of peace should be strictly observed in such extreme situations. These rules are laid down, in particular, in the Geneva and Hague Conventions as well as in customary law. The International Committee desires to issue a solemn reminder of this necessity, which has incidentally been recalled by various International Conferences of the Red Cross, at which the Governments were represented.

II.

As a result of technical developments in weapons and warfare, given also the nature of the armed conflicts which have arisen in our times, civilian populations are increasingly exposed to the dangers and consequences of hostilities. The International Committee, which has long been deeply concerned by this grave threat, is certain that it reflects public opinion by calling once again the earnest attention of all Governments to the principles which the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross, at Vienna in 1965, proclaimed in its Resolution No. XXVIII, thereby confirming the prevailing law.

Indeed, in its Resolution—the full text of which is attached hereto—the Conference solemnly declared that:

all Governments and other authorities responsible for action in armed conflicts should conform at least to the following principles :

- that the right of the parties to a conflict to adopt means of injuring the enemy is not unlimited ;*
- that it is prohibited to launch attacks against the civilian populations as such ;*
- that distinction must be made at all times between persons taking part in the hostilities and members of the civilian population to the effect that the latter be spared as much as possible ;*
- that the general principles of the Law of War apply to nuclear and similar weapons.*

In order for these principles to be fully operative, the International Committee urgently requests Governments to sanction them and, if need be, to develop them in an adequate instrument of international law. The International Committee is prepared to assist in drawing up such an instrument.

In addition, without awaiting the entry into force of this instrument and the possible achievement of an agreement between the Powers concerned for the formal prohibition of weapons of

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mass destruction, the International Committee invites the Governments to reaffirm, as of now, through any appropriate official manifestation, such as a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly, the value they attach to the principles cited above. Moreover these principles could henceforth be referred to in the instructions given to the armed forces.

III.

Another aspect of this problem is also of deep concern for the International Committee and calls for the sympathetic attention of Governments.

The observance of rules destined, in case of armed conflicts, to safeguard essential human values being in the interest of civilisation, it is of vital importance that they be clear and that their application give rise to no controversy. This requirement is, however, by no means entirely satisfied. A large part of the law relating to the conduct of hostilities was codified as long ago as 1907; in addition, the complexity of certain conflicts sometimes places in jeopardy the application of the Geneva Conventions.

No one can remain indifferent to this situation which is detrimental to civilian populations as well as to the other victims of war. The International Committee would greatly value information on what measures Governments contemplate to remedy this situation and in order to facilitate their study of the problem it has the honour to submit herewith an appropriate note.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS

Samuel A. GONARD
President

Annex No. 1

**PROTECTION OF CIVILIAN POPULATIONS AGAINST THE
DANGERS OF INDISCRIMINATE WARFARE ¹**

The XXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

in its endeavours for the protection of the civilian population, reaffirms Resolution No. XVIII of the XVIIIth International Conference of the Red Cross (Toronto, 1952), which, in consideration of Resolution No. XXIV of the XVIIth International Conference of the Red Cross (Stockholm, 1948) requested Governments to agree, within the framework of general disarmament, to a plan for the international control of atomic energy which would ensure the prohibition of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy solely for peaceful purposes,

thanks the International Committee of the Red Cross for the initiative taken and the comprehensive work done by it in defining and further developing international humanitarian law in this sphere,

states that indiscriminate warfare constitutes a danger to the civilian population and the future of civilisation,

solemnly declares that all Governments and other authorities responsible for action in armed conflicts should conform at least to the following principles:

- that the right of the parties to a conflict to adopt means of injuring the enemy is not unlimited;
- that it is prohibited to launch attacks against the civilian populations as such;
- that distinction must be made at all times between persons taking part in the hostilities and members of the civilian population to the effect that the latter be spared as much as possible;
- that the general principles of the Law of War apply to nuclear and similar weapons;

expressly invites all Governments who have not yet done so to accede to the Geneva Protocol of 1925 which prohibits the use of asphyxiating, poisonous, or other gases, all analogous liquids, materials or devices, and bacteriological methods of warfare,

¹ XXth International Conference of the Red Cross, Resolution XXVIII.

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urges the ICRC to pursue the development of International Humanitarian Law in accordance with Resolution No. XIII of the XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross, with particular reference to the need for protecting the civilian population against the sufferings caused by indiscriminate warfare,

requests the ICRC to take into consideration all possible means and to take all appropriate steps, including the creation of a committee of experts, with a view to obtaining a rapid and practical solution of this problem,

requests National Societies to intervene with their Governments in order to obtain their collaboration for an early solution of this question and urges all Governments to support the efforts of the International Red Cross in this respect,

requests all National Societies to do all in their power to persuade their Governments to reach fruitful agreements in the field of general disarmament.



Annex No. 2

SUMMARY REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL LAW RULES CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIAN POPULATIONS AGAINST THE DANGERS OF INDISCRIMINATE WARFARE

The basic rule is laid down in article 22 of the Regulations concerning the Laws and Customs of War on Land, annexed to the Fourth Hague Convention of October 18, 1907, namely: "*the right of belligerents to adopt means of injuring the enemy is not unlimited*". From this principle, still valid and confirmed by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross, the following rules are derived.

1. Limitation for benefit of persons

Whilst combatants are the main force of resistance and the obvious target of military operations, non-combatants shall not be subject to and shall not participate in hostilities. It is therefore a generally accepted rule that *belligerents shall refrain from deliberately attacking non-combatants*. This immunity to which the civilian population by and large is entitled—provided it does not participate directly in hostilities—

has not been clearly defined by international law, but in spite of many examples of blatant disregard for it, it is still one of the main pillars of the law of war.

In 1965 the International Conference of the Red Cross in Vienna formulated (in its Resolution XXVIII) the following requirement as one of the principles affecting civilians during war and to which governments should conform, viz: "... distinction must be made at all times between persons taking part in the hostilities and members of the civilian population to the effect that the latter be spared as much as possible."

A major rule deriving from the general norm quoted above is that *bombardments directed against the civilian population as such, especially for the purpose of terrorising it, are prohibited*. This rule is widely accepted in the teachings of qualified writers, in attempts at codification and in judicial decisions; in spite of many violations, it has never been contested. The XXth International Conference of the Red Cross, moreover, did not omit to re-state it.

International law does not define civilian population. Of course, any sections of the population taking part in hostilities could hardly be classified as civilian. The view is general that civilians staying within or in close proximity to military objectives do so at their own risk. But when such people leave objectives which may be attacked and return to their homes they may no longer be subject to attack.

Another rule deriving from the general norm is that *belligerents shall take every precaution to reduce to a minimum the damage inflicted on non-combatants during attacks against military objectives*.

This latter rule is perhaps less widely admitted than those previously mentioned. However, in an official resolution of September 30, 1938, the League of Nations considered it fundamental and it has been given effect in the instructions which many countries have issued to their air forces.

The precautions to which allusion is made would include, for the attacking side, the careful choice and identification of military objectives, precision in attack, abstention from target-area bombing (unless the area is almost exclusively military), respect for and abstention from attack on civil defence organizations: the adversary being attacked would take the precaution of evacuating the population from the vicinity of military objectives.

As can be seen, the obligation incumbent on the attacking forces to take precautions depends in part on the "passive" precautions taken by the opposite side, or, in other words, the practical steps taken by each belligerent to protect its population from consequences of attacks. What is the extent of such an obligation? In some attempts at drafting regulations it has been suggested that bombing attacks should not be carried out if there is strong probability of indiscriminate

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

effect causing the population to suffer. The International Committee of the Red Cross, for its part, proposed, in its appeal of March 12, 1940, that belligerents should recognize the general principle that *an act of destruction shall not involve harm to the civilian population disproportionate to the importance of the military objective under attack*. On a number of occasions, and recently by qualified writers, by experts and by some army manual of the laws and customs of war, this rule has been re-stated.

2. Target limitation

In this connection, the accepted rule is that *attacks may only be directed against military objectives, i.e. those of which the total or partial destruction would be a distinct military advantage*.

There has always been an accepted distinction between the fighting area and the zones behind the lines. This distinction is purely technical in origin, the theatre of operations depending on the ground gained by the advancing troops and the range of weapons. Until the advent of air raids, areas behind the firing lines were in fact immune from hostilities.

This out-dated concept was the basis for the law of conventional warfare, i.e., in the main, articles 25 to 27 of the Regulations annexed to the IVth Hague Convention of 1907. In those articles the word "bombardment" must be construed to mean "shelling"; since that time the aeroplane has made air bombardments possible well behind the lines.

Nowadays, a belligerent's whole territory may be considered a theatre of hostilities. The 1907 rules are still applicable to the fighting area at the front. So far as areas well behind the lines are concerned, they are in part out of date.

Although during the Second World War indiscriminate bombardments wrought widespread havoc, no government has attempted to have the practice recognized as lawful. The contrary has in fact been the case. States have shown a marked tendency to justify their air bombardments as reprisals against an enemy who first had recourse to this method, or, as in the case of the use of the atomic bomb, as an exceptional measure dictated by overriding considerations, such as the saving of human lives by putting an end to the war quickly.

Our first rule of target limitation is not contained in treaty law, but its validity is founded on many official statements, made particularly during the Second World War and the wars of Korea and Vietnam. It has been evolved progressively by analogy with a provision contained in the IXth Hague Convention of 1907; this authorizes naval shelling of certain important military objectives, even if these are situated in undefended towns. The 1949 Geneva Conventions and the 1954 Hague Convention contain several references to the concept of military objective.

Several documents, such as the draft issued by the Commission of government jurists who met in The Hague (December 1922 - February 1923) and the Draft Rules drawn up in 1956 by the International Committee of the Red Cross, have suggested definitions or lists of military objectives. It is generally admitted *that an objective is military only if its complete or partial destruction confers a clear military advantage*. It is held, also, *that any attacking force, before bombing an objective, shall identify it and ascertain that it is military*.

There are buildings which cannot under any circumstances be considered as military objectives; they are given the benefit of special immunity under the Geneva Conventions (I, art. 19, IV, art. 18), the Hague Regulations of 1907 (art. 27), and the 1954 Hague Convention relating to the protection of cultural property (art. 4), namely *belligerents will in particular spare charitable, religious, scientific, cultural and artistic establishments as well as historic monuments*. In addition, under the Fourth Geneva Convention, *belligerents may, by special agreement, set up safety or neutralized zones to shelter the civilian population, particularly the weaker members thereof*, in order to provide them, under such agreement, with special protection against the effects of hostilities.

These Conventions stipulate that it is the duty of the authorities to indicate the presence of such buildings and zones by special signs.

Mention must also be made of article 25 of the Regulations annexed to the IVth Hague Convention of 1907, considered for years as one of the fundamentals of the law of war namely: "*The attack or bombardment, by whatever means, of towns, villages, dwellings, or buildings which are undefended is prohibited*". The subsequent development of air warfare has vitiated this provision so far as areas behind the fighting lines are concerned; it is a provision which has been supplanted by the military objective concept. It is nevertheless still valid for ground fighting. When localities offer no resistance, an enemy who is able to take them without a fight shall, in the interest of the population, abstain from attack and useless destruction.

It has become customary to declare towns "open" if it is not intended to defend them against an enemy who reaches them.

3. Limitations on weapons and their use

In this respect the basic rule is article 23 (e) of the Regulations annexed to the IVth Hague Convention of 1907, namely: "*It is forbidden to employ arms, projectiles or material calculated to cause unnecessary suffering.*"

Its characteristic is that its aim is not only to spare non-combatants, but also to avoid any suffering to combatants in excess of what is essential to place an adversary hors de combat. This implies that weapons and

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methods as described below should not be used. Due to the nature of modern war, this field of law no longer concerns only combatants, but also civilian population.

a) *Weapons inflicting needless suffering*

The Conventions of The Hague and of St. Petersburg prohibit the use of "*Poison or poisoned weapons*" (Hague Regulations, art. 23, a), "*any projectile of a weight below 400 grammes which is either explosive or charged with fulminating or inflammable substances*" (St. Petersburg Declaration, 1868) and so-called "*dum-dum*" bullets "*which expand or flatten in the human body*" (Hague Declaration, 1899).

It might well be asked whether such new weapons as napalm and high velocity rockets should not be included in this category. They have not so far been expressly prohibited but they do cause enormous suffering and the general prohibition which forms the sub-heading to this section seems applicable to them.

Mention must also be made of a clause in the St. Petersburg Declaration to the effect that parties thereto reserve the right to come to an understanding whenever a precise proposition shall be drawn up concerning any technological developments in weapons, with a view to maintaining the principles they have established and reconciling the necessities of war to the laws of humanity. It is unfortunate that States have not followed up this suggestion which today is as valid as ever.

b) "*Blind*" weapons

These weapons not only cause great suffering but do not allow of precision against specific targets or have such widespread effect in time and place as to be uncontrollable. They include, for instance, chemical and bacteriological weapons, floating mines and delayed action bombs, whose insidious effects are such that they preclude relief action.

The Geneva Protocol of June 17, 1925, *prohibiting the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous and other gases and of bacteriological methods of warfare* has replaced older prohibitions (the 1899 Hague Convention, the Treaty of Versailles) and shall be considered as the expression of customary law. In an almost unanimous resolution on December 5, 1966—which affirms that the strict observance of the rules of international law on the conduct of warfare is in the interest of maintaining the accepted norms of civilisation—the United Nations General Assembly called for strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives of this Protocol, and condemned all actions contrary to those objectives. This very brief Protocol is in the nature of a Declaration subject to ratification by the Powers and binding them in the event of conflict with any co-signatories. This formula seems to have been well chosen and remarkably successful; only one violation has been recorded. It

should be pointed out, however, that almost eighty States are not participants.

Unanimous agreement on the interpretation of this prohibition has not been achieved by qualified writers. The Protocol mentions not only asphyxiating gases but also "other" gases. Does this mean all gases or only those which are a hazard to life and health?

The major problem however has been set by nuclear weapons.

In a resolution adopted on November 24, 1961, the United Nations General Assembly stated that the use of nuclear and thermo-nuclear weapons, which exceed even the field of war and cause uncontrollable suffering and destruction to humanity and civilization, "is contrary to international law and to the laws of humanity". It must be added, however, that this resolution was not adopted unanimously, did not cover the case of reprisals and, what is more, it envisaged at some future date the signing of a Convention on the prohibition of nuclear weapons, and it also requested the United Nations Secretary-General to hold consultations with governments on the possibility of convening a special Conference for that purpose.

Until such a Convention has been drawn up and widely ratified—it is still not yet known when this special Conference will meet—the fact must be faced that qualified writers differ on this question. It is not our aim here to decide this important controversy. We would state merely that the use of atomic energy in war has not been expressly forbidden, for the conventional law on the conduct of warfare dates back to a time when atomic energy was unknown. However this does not justify its use: in the implementation of the law of war, as any other law, general principles must apply to cases not previously foreseen. It is in fact these very principles which the present survey reviews, i.e.: no attack on the civilian population per se, distinction between combatants and non-combatants, avoidance of unnecessary suffering, only military objectives to be targets for attack, and even in this latter case, the taking of every precaution to spare the population.

This view was proclaimed by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross which met in Vienna in 1965. The Resolution No. XXVIII then adopted postulated certain essential principles of protection for civilian populations and added that "*the general principles of the Law of War apply to nuclear and similar weapons*". This does not imply that the Conference intended to make any decision on the legitimacy of using such weapons; it merely made it clear that in any event nuclear weapons, like any others, were subject to these general principles until such time as governments came to an understanding on measures for disarmament and control with a view to a complete prohibition of the use of atomic energy in warfare.

*EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES***Greece**

On May 1st, Mr. Germain Colladon, delegate of the International Committee, went to Athens to examine with the authorities and the Hellenic Red Cross various humanitarian problems arising from the recent events in Greece.

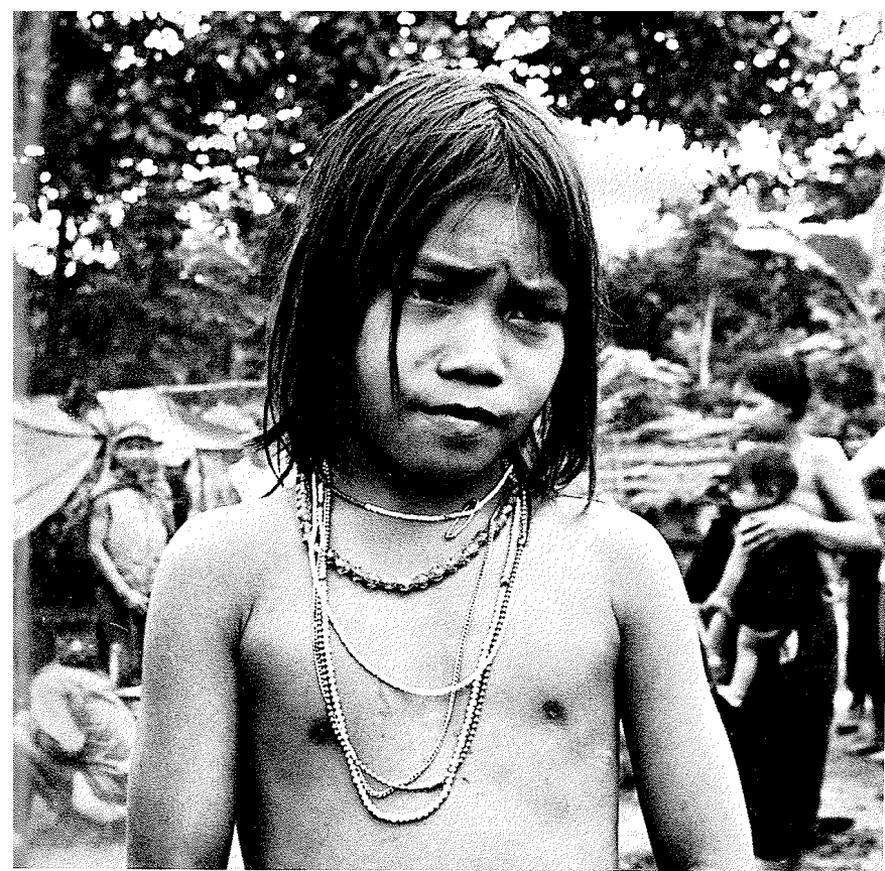
Soon after his arrival, he was received in audience by Mr. Kollias, President of the Council of Ministers, and was authorized to visit recently arrested persons and inspect detention conditions.

He came back to Geneva at the end of the month then returned to Greece to continue his mission.

With the agreement of the authorities and the support of the Hellenic Red Cross, he was able to visit nearly all persons arrested in connection with the recent events. He went in particular to the Island of Ghioura where the majority of internees are to be found and during the course of a four-day visit he spoke freely without witnesses with many of them.

Mr. Colladon's findings during his mission are contained in a report which the ICRC has transmitted to the authorities in Athens.

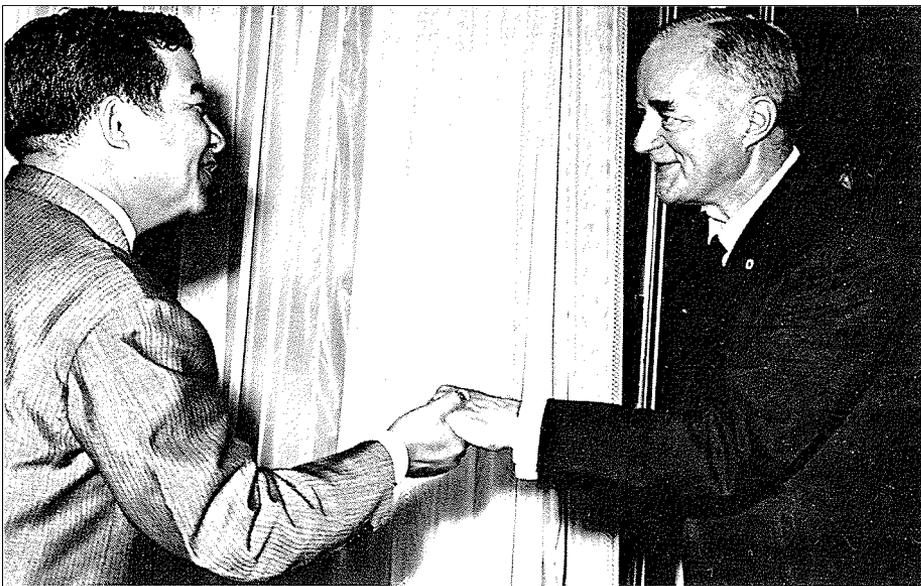
In agreement with the Hellenic Red Cross, the International Committee of the Red Cross is supplying indigent internees and families deprived of male support, relief of which they may be in need. It is taking delivery in Geneva of donations in cash and in kind which, in co-operation with the Hellenic Red Cross, the ICRC delegate is distributing accordingly.



Vietnamese
children

Photos by Willy Randin,
Swiss Red Cross





Cambodia: H.R.H. Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the Head of the State (left) grants an audience to Mr. A. Durand, ICRC Delegate General for Asia.

Laos: Mrs. Noupbat Chounramany of the Laotian Red Cross distributing relief supplies from the ICRC and the League.



ICRC President in the United States and Canada

After visiting the United States, Mr. Gonard went to Canada and, on May 8, 1967, attended the official World Red Cross Day ceremony at the Montreal World Exhibition. We shall refer to this event later. Mr. Gonard was accompanied by Mrs. Gonard and by Mr. P. Basset, Assistant Director.

In New York he was received at the United Nations headquarters by U. Thant, U.N. Secretary-General. In Washington he met several senior officials of the United States.

His voyage then took him to Ottawa, where he had an interview with the Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs; accompanied by Mrs. Gonard, he then visited Regional Sections of the Canadian Red Cross in Vancouver, Toronto and other towns. This National Society's fine work is well known and a recent article in the *International Review* described for our readers its signal service in the field of blood transfusion.¹ Enthusiasm in Canada for the Red Cross idea is illustrated by the fact that there are two million Red Cross volunteers in Canada, out of a total population of 20 million.

Mr. Gonard whilst in Montreal attended a meeting of the Canadian Red Cross Central Committee, when he presented Miss Alice Girard the Florence Nightingale Medal which had just been awarded to her by the ICRC, and delivered an address on the Geneva institution's present-day tasks.

Japan

The 147th and 148th vessels transporting Koreans wishing to leave Japan for North Korea left Niigata respectively on March 24, 1967 with 118 passengers and on April 21 with 162 persons on board.

This departure brings to 87,267 the total number of Koreans repatriated since December 1959 under the auspices of the Japanese Red Cross and in the presence of delegates of the International Committee.

¹ March, 1967.

Aden

The head of the mission of the ICRC in the Arab peninsula, Mr. André Rochat, went to Aden from April 24 to May 1 accompanied by Mr. Jacques Ruff who had come from Geneva, having been called upon to replace the head of the ICRC mission in that part of the world for several months.

The two ICRC representatives made further visits in prisons in Aden to detainees prosecuted as a result of the events.

South Africa

Since the beginning of April, Mr. G. C. Senn, ICRC delegate, has been carrying out another mission in South Africa. He has been granted every facility by the government to inspect any prisons he chooses and to interview detainees without witnesses.

The first prison Mr. Senn visited was on Robben Island, near the Cape. He was there four days, accompanied by a liaison officer, during which time he had private talks with political detainees, penal law prisoners, and patients in the prison hospital. He also inspected three work centres connected with the prison, one a stone quarry, one a limestone quarry and the third extracting and processing sea-weed. Mr. Senn's inspection tour of prisons and other detention centres is continuing.

Haiti

Two Italians who had been in detention for a fortnight in Port-au-Prince were released following intervention on their behalf by Dr. Victor Laroche, President of the Haiti Red Cross. They left the prison in good health and returned home immediately. The ICRC was informed of this favourable outcome by the Italian Ambassador at Port-au-Prince, who spoke highly of the Haiti Red Cross and its dedicated President.

Cambodia

On April 4, 1967, H.R.H. Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, granted an audience to Mr. André Durand,

delegate general of the International Committee for Asia.¹ The ICRC representative who has established himself at Phnom-Penh, continues to help the work of the Cambodian Red Cross on behalf of Vietnamese refugees in Cambodia.

IN GENEVA

A further film on Vietnam

A film called " Presence of the Red Cross in Vietnam " produced by the ICRC Information Department, is now available in French, English and German. It shows, in approximately twenty minutes, the healing influence of the Red Cross against the devastating background of war.

In addition to the moving " shots " taken in camps for prisoners of war or refugees, the film shows episodes in the work of the medical team sent by the Swiss Red Cross in a hospital in the mountains of central Vietnam. The activities of the Swiss Red Cross, the Vietnamese Red Cross and the ICRC delegates also come vividly to light especially in the Disablement Centre in Saigon, where, thanks to the unstinting contributions of the " World's Rehabilitation Fund ", the British organization " War-on-Want " and the American and Swiss Red Cross, some thirty to fifty disabled are given treatment and fitted with artificial limbs. The pictures taken amongst them give a particularly striking impression of the sufferings of war which men of goodwill are attempting to alleviate.

¹ *Plate.* The Head of State of Cambodia granting an audience to the ICRC's delegate general for Asia.

At the Central Tracing Agency

In January 1967 and on the request of an Indian national living in Geneva the ICRC, through the National Red Cross Society in Karachi, asked the Pakistan Government to grant an entry visa to Mr. Ch. J., to enable him to go from India to Pakistan to visit his aged and ailing father, a recent widower. According to his religion, an only son must perform certain rites upon his mother's death.

By a curious coincidence, the ICRC was visited just at that time by Dr. D. of the Lahore section of the Pakistan Red Cross. Whilst being shown the Central Tracing Agency, Dr. D. was informed of the young Indian's request and he promised to arrange for the Pakistan Red Cross to give its backing.

As a result the Pakistan Government immediately allowed Mr. Ch. J. to enter and stay a fortnight in Pakistan. Thus, thanks to the ICRC's demarche, a frontier was opened and a son able to go to see his father. It so happened that it was a last farewell, for the old man died shortly after.

THE ICRC AND THE YEMEN CONFLICT

On June 2, 1967, the International Committee of the Red Cross again received from its delegates in the Yemen reports of bombing by toxic gas.

A medical team, led by the head of the ICRC mission in the Yemen, went on May 15 and 16 to a village in the northern part of the country to attempt to give aid to the victims of bombing having taken place some days previously and as a result of which, according to the survivors, many inhabitants had died of asphyxiation.

Delayed by an air raid of which their convoy was victim, the ICRC doctors on arrival at the site immediately gave treatment to some of the wounded and collected various indications pointing to the use of poison gas.

Extremely disturbed and concerned by these methods of warfare which are absolutely forbidden by codified international and customary law, the International Committee at once communicated its delegates' reports to all authorities concerned in the Yemen conflict, requesting them to take the solemn engagement not to resort in any circumstances whatsoever to the use of asphyxiating gases or any other similar toxic substances.

Fifty years ago

On June 25, 1917, Romain Rolland wrote to Gustave Ador, then President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, informing him of the gift he was making to the Central Prisoners of War Agency. This gesture is worth recalling fifty years later, at a time when the fine figure of the author of Jean-Christophe is held in such high esteem.

The Revue internationale has already given an account of the close relations established for a certain time between Romain Rolland and the Red Cross.¹ Mr. Robert Melley wrote at the time : " One can imagine what this fervent idealist, an object of criticism much of which was malevolent, found in the Red Cross. First of all no doubt, and with what soothing satisfaction, because here was a practical way of coming personally to the aid of those who were suffering, and also pre-eminently the place, perhaps the only one which was at the centre and above the struggle where the truth was sought for and recorded without passion." Out of the sum he had been awarded for the Nobel Prize for Literature, Romain Rolland put aside 50,000 Swiss francs to offer to the work of the ICRC. He informed Gustave Ador of this in the following letter : ²

Dear Sir,

The International Red Cross has been one of the brightest lights illuminating the darkness of these tragic years. It has been a consolation for millions of unfortunate beings, the guardian of the spirit of human fellowship in the midst of universal suffering.

¹ " Romain Rolland et la Croix-Rouge ", see *Revue internationale*, February, 1955.

² *Plate*. Romain Rolland's letter to Gustave Ador and the latter's reply. The two letters have been translated by the ICRC.

For millions of people it is still the harbinger of better times to come.

On behalf of those it has helped by its example and action, I would like to ask it to accept, as a modest token of my deep gratitude, a donation of fifty thousand francs for the International Prisoners of War Agency—whose hallowed work has enriched the names of Switzerland and Geneva throughout the world.

I would be pleased if out of this amount a sum of ten thousand francs were placed at the disposal of the head of the Agency's civilian section, Dr. Ferrière whose humble and affectionate collaborator I had the honour of being for a time.

With the assurance of my high consideration and cordial devotion,

Romain Rolland

Gustave Ador had just been appointed a Federal Councillor and his colleagues told him of this generous gesture as he was taking leave of the International Prisoners of War Agency. In spite of the heavy duties awaiting him in Berne he thanked Romain Rolland by personal letter on June 29, 1917:

Dear Sir,

When I went this morning to the Musée Rath to say goodbye to my friends, they handed me your letter of the 25th informing me of the magnificent donation of 50,000 francs which you have been so very good as to make to our Agency. Deeply touched by this much appreciated encouragement given to the work of the Red Cross by a man whose character and nobleness of sentiment I so greatly admire, I would ask you to accept the expression of all my gratitude.

It was a great privilege to have been able, during this terrible war, to do something for so many stricken families and it is indeed the rôle of Switzerland, which has been so spared, to seek to alleviate suffering.

We have had the joy of counting you as one of our collaborators for many months in the Civilian Section and we have all remembered the valuable help you gave us. According to your wishes, ten

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thousand francs will be remitted to Dr. Ferrière for the Civilian Section which he directs with such devotion.

With the renewed expression of my gratitude,

Yours sincerely,
Gustave Ador

We think it apposite on this anniversary to reproduce extracts at some length of the article published in our columns of Mr. Paul-Emile Schazmann concerning Romain Rolland who worked at the International Prisoners of War Agency.¹

The "list of persons having worked at the International Prisoners of War Agency (August 1914-December 1918)" mentions laconically amongst many others, in alphabetical order, after the name "Rolland, Madeleine (M^{lle})", that of "Rolland, Romain".

Since the middle of September 1914, Rolland who was staying at the Beau Séjour Hotel at Champel with his mother, whilst his father and sister were living in Lancy, wrote to Gustave Ador, President of the ICRC, asking him to make use of his services. On September 24, Ador wrote to him suggesting that he would be better serving the final triumph of the course of justice and freedom by writing. The day before, Rolland's article *Au-dessus de la mêlée* had appeared in the "Journal de Genève". He continued to press his point and was duly called upon to present himself at the offices set up in the Eynard Palace.

The Prisoners of War agency, then in its early days, was able to transmit prisoners' mail to their families without too much difficulty. Romain Rolland was able to do this for large numbers of Germans and Austrians interned in the South of France. It gave him some concern to observe that in 80 % of these cases it was not possible to find the addresses of missing soldiers sought by their families. "The first task of all", he wrote, "would have seemed to me to have been to collect all lists of prisoners . . . and to have drawn them up in alphabetical order. . ." If he had in fact returned to the Central Prisoners of War Agency of the Second World War

¹ See *Revue internationale*, February 1955.

A Monsieur Gustave Ador
président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge

Lundi 25 juin 1917

Cher Monsieur

La Croix-Rouge Internationale a été une
des plus pures lumières qui aient éclairé la
nuit de ces tragiques années. Elle a été
la consolatrice de millions de malheureux,
la gardienne de l'esprit de fraternité humaine
dans la souffrance universelle. Elle reste pour des
milliers d'âmes l'annonciatrice d'un avenir
meilleur.

Je voudrais, au nom de ceux qu'elle a

connus par son exemple & son action, la prie
d'accepter, comme seule expression de ma
profonde gratitude, une don de cinquante mille
francs, pour l'Agence internationale des prisonniers
de guerre, - cette devise sainte qui aura rendu
chers dans le monde entier les noms de la
Suisse et de Genève.

Je serais heureux que sur cette
somme dix mille francs fussent mis à la
disposition du chef de la section civile de l'Agence,
monsieur le docteur Fauriol, dont j'ai eu l'hon-
neur d'être pendant quelque temps le modeste
et affectueux collaborateur.

Veuillez agréer, cher Monsieur,
l'assurance de ma haute considération et
de mon cordial salutation

Romain Rolland

Villeneuve, hôtel Byron.



IN TER ARMA CARITAS

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE INTERNATIONALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Genève, 29 Juin 1917

Prise de registre
Sans la réponse 10
N° 47-500

47-500

Cher Monsieur

En allant ce matin au Musée Rath, prendre
congé de mes amis, ils m'ont remis votre lettre du
25 et m'annonçant le magnifique don de 50.000
francs que vous avez l'extrême bonté de faire à notre
Œuvre - Profondément touché par cette générosité
et courageusement donné à l'œuvre de la Croix-Rouge
par un homme dont j'admire le caractère et la
noblesse des sentiments, je vous prie de recevoir
l'expression de ma plus vive reconnaissance -

C'est un grand privilège d'avoir pu, pendant
cette terrible guerre, faire quelque chose pour tant
de gens si affligés et c'est bien la voie de la Suisse
si imparfaite, de chercher à soulager les souffrances.

Vous avez en la personne de vos collègues français
bien des mots parmi nos collaborateurs au service
civil et tous avec amour consacré le souvenir de
votre si utile concours - Il va sans dire que selon
votre désir, dix mille francs seront remis au docteur
Ferrera pour la section civile par diligence avec
tant de discernement. Veuillez agréer, je vous
prie, cher Monsieur, avec la nouvelle expression
de ma gratitude, l'assurance de mes sentiments
les plus distingués

G. ADOR.

Monsieur Romain Rolland

Hôtel Byron

Villemanay

he would have seen the progress made in this sphere and admired the Watson perforated card system then in use.

During his work, tedious at times, at the Agency, Rolland was amazed at the naïvety of some of the correspondents. For example, one woman, having read that civilian clothing could not be sent to prisoners for fear of escapes, sent Ador a pair of white trousers which she had dyed the regulation red for French infantrymen, asking him whether this was the approved colour. Another asked him to send her suitcase, on which she gave two pages of detail; she then concluded by expressing hopes that she could also have news of her husband, soldier "X". A dozen fiancées wrote concerning the same "fiancé". However, the tragic element underlying the comic did not escape him, such as the case of a father begging the Red Cross to transmit a letter to the Kaiser William II asking him to send his wounded son to a town nearest the Swiss frontier to enable his mother, who never stopped weeping, to go and see him there.

Rolland worked only a short time in the Prisoners of War section, before going to the Interned Civilian Section set up by Dr. Frédéric Ferrière. Women, children, the aged, all of whom entirely unprepared to face such trials, had been taken from their homes and deprived of their possessions. It was a question of coming to the aid of these unfortunate ones.

Romain Rolland was then to feel unqualified admiration for the work and new tasks of the Red Cross: "it encompasses the name of Geneva with wondrous glory", he notes in his *Journal*, "it spreads to the very depths of the French and German countryside." He knows this from letters sent from every province and even from his native town in Burgundy.

Describing some time later a visit made by the President and Vice-President of the ICRC to Berlin, where initial contact was very difficult to establish, Rolland observed that his idea of "the two Germanys" enabled Dr. Ferrière to be patient and understand the situation better, the civilian element having intervened on their behalf against the Ministry of War... Romain Rolland worked until the summer at the Agency, leaving it on July 3, 1915. Before devoting himself again to his writing, he helped Dr. Ferrière to obtain the repatriation of 3100 French medical orderlies and

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300 doctors, not through official representations but by correspondence and personal approaches, taking the International Committee's instructions into account. His own influence had greatly contributed to this result.

The famous writer had collaborated with the International Prisoners of War Agency for nine months. Two years followed during which he continued to interest himself in its work. This is indeed revealed in his correspondence such as his *Journal*. Hermann Hesse replied to his letters on "Pro Captivis" writing-paper at Berne. The initiative of Pope Benedict XIV, together with that of the International Red Cross, to obtain the internment in Switzerland of sick French and German prisoners, seemed to Rolland to be especially worthy of that great prelate and of the Geneva Committee.

In June 1917, Romain Rolland was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, amounting to 100,000 francs which he distributed entirely amongst works of charity. The Prisoners of War Agency received half the amount . . .

. . . At the donor's wish, 10,000 francs were set aside for the Civilian Prisoners Section created by Dr. Ferrière. Rolland always kept a moving memory of the time when at the Agency he sat each day beside the merciful doctor. He admired his reactions to all forms of injustice, which were so strong that he turned pale and his lips trembled, his good will in the presence of human weaknesses, and his horror of the pharisaic behaviour of the virtuous. On leaving the Red Cross, he presented it with a collection of his *Jean-Christophe* books.

"What a difference", notes the great novelist, "between his sincerity and that of most men, even of the best, who are sincere by will ! He was sincere with the limpidity of a pure source".

By messages and visits from Dr. Ferrière, Romain Rolland continued throughout the post-war period to follow the beneficent work of the Red Cross, amongst others in Vienna and Salonika in 1919. From their side, those who had had the author of the *Vie de Beethoven* with them, at a time when the Agency was beginning its vast humanitarian activity, had written through the pen of their President, Gustave Ador: ". . . We all remember your most useful help . . ."

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

The leaders of the three bodies which, with the National Societies, make up the International Red Cross met in Geneva on Thursday, 18th May.

They are the Countess of Limerick (Great Britain), Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross; Mr. Samuel A. Gonard, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross; and Mr. José Barroso (Mexico), Chairman of the Board of Governors of the League.

This is one of the regular meetings provided for in the statutes of the International Red Cross. The Standing Commission, headed by Lady Limerick, ensures the general co-ordination of the work of the different International Red Cross institutions between meetings, every four years, of the International Conference of the Red Cross.

Following their meeting, the three Presidents of the International Red Cross made the following statement:

The Countess of Limerick, Chairman of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross, Mr. Samuel Gonard, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and Mr. José Barroso-Chavez, President of the League of Red Cross Societies, meeting in Geneva, on May 18th, 1967, have viewed with deep concern the mounting tide of human suffering and loss of life in the tragedy now being enacted in Viet Nam. In accordance with the traditional humanitarian role of the Red Cross and its determination to secure the reduction of human suffering, particularly for those civilians whose homes are in the areas of armed conflict, the three Presidents solemnly call upon

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all Governments and authorities at present engaged in such armed conflict :

- 1. to affirm by their action the Declaration adopted by the Governments, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies at the XXth International Red Cross Conference, held in Vienna in October 1965, which recalls the general principles of the laws of war and particularly the fact that the right of the parties to adopt means of injuring the enemy is not unlimited ;*
 - 2. to refrain from all deliberate attacks upon innocent civilians in Viet Nam, whether by aerial or ground weapons, or by torture or wanton murder ;*
 - 3. to use their utmost endeavours to ensure that innocent civilians are not killed or injured in the course of combat operations, whether by land, sea or air ;*
 - 4. to allow the unimpeded distribution of medicaments and other relief urgently needed by the civilian population in all areas of Viet Nam ;*
 - 5. to ensure the proper and humane treatment of all prisoners and detainees held by them, irrespective of their allegiance ;*
 - 6. to allow the International Committee of the Red Cross, through their duly appointed representatives, to carry out their humanitarian and legitimate functions in all parts of Viet Nam in accordance with the requirements of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 which they have accepted, and the dictates of conscience and good faith by which they are bound ;*
 - 7. to conclude with the utmost urgency a complete and comprehensive cease-fire in all areas in order that this intolerable burden of human misery may be removed from the civilian populations of Viet Nam.*
-

TWENTIETH WORLD RED CROSS DAY

In its issue for March 1967, the *International Review* pointed out the significance in 1967 of the World Day for the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun. We may now state that it was celebrated in many countries and that various events took place which we shall describe later. Today, we would merely say that the press, radio and television joined in the general effort, of which the aim, apart from paying tribute to Henry Dunant's memory, is to enable National Societies to make known their activities and participation in the world Red Cross movement.

The theme chosen, *Protect health, prevent accidents, save lives through the Red Cross*, implied that everybody could be trained in hygiene and first-aid and that, once trained, they could contribute effectively to the improvement of health. That is why an institution such as the World Health Organization once again associated in this World Red Cross Day. An address by its Director, Dr. M. G. Candau, clearly showed the immense scope for humanitarian activities:

Dr. A. Sauter, President of the World Health Assembly, pointed out that the meeting, as it happened, opened on May 8 and he took the opportunity to pay tribute to the Red Cross in his opening address:

By a favourable coincidence the date of our Assembly's opening session this year is the 8th of May which, as you know, is the anniversary of the birth in Geneva in 1828 of Henry Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross. Many of the delegates who are today in this town, the birthplace of the Red Cross, are also in touch with the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies when they are in their own countries. It is no news to them, therefore, that for the past twenty years World Red Cross Day has been commemorated on the 8th of May.

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Nor need I remind them of the community of aims and close co-operation which exist between the World Health Organization and the Red Cross.

This year the World Health Organization is laying stress on teamwork by "partners in health", and it is significant that, when adopting the theme "Protect health; prevent accidents; save lives . . ." for its World Day in 1967, the Red Cross chose a subject which highlights the achievements of well trained voluntary workers in action alongside professionals. They render signal service, particularly the younger set, in such fields as health in the home, at school and in the community, first-aid and the prevention of accidents and diseases. Allow me, on this World Red Cross Day, to pay tribute on behalf of this Assembly to the splendid movement of universal fellowship which has made possible the alleviation of so much human distress.

*

The World Red Cross Day at the Montreal Exhibition was officially commemorated before a large attendance including Mr. J. A. Broadbent, President of the Canadian Red Cross and General J. F. Collins, President of the American Red Cross. At eleven o'clock, the Red Cross colours were run up and many children from various parts of Canada raised flags from all the countries where our movement exists. Speeches were then made: Mr. Pierre Dupuy, the general commissioner of the Exhibition, after welcoming visitors, stressed the importance and moral significance of the signs of the red cross, red crescent and red lion and sun. Mr. José Barroso, Chairman of the League of Red Cross Societies, after recalling our movement's universality, said: "It is a great pleasure to be here in Canada, a country that serves not only itself but also looks to the welfare of others." Mr. Gonard, ICRC President, stated that the Red Cross flag was in evidence for the first time on a battlefield in Canada in 1885 when a young army doctor raised it above his ambulance in the course of fighting during the uprising in Saskatchewan. "Moreover", he added, "the theme of the Exhibition—Man's World—is close to the spirit of the Red Cross. As your late Governor-General, General Georges Vanier, stated, the aim of the Exhibition should be: One world, the world

of Humanity; one race, the race of Man; one language, the language of Fraternity. These are also the aspirations of the Red Cross ”.

On the same day, the first monument to the memory of Henry Dunant in Canada was inaugurated. It is at Laval, near Montreal, in a fine park, and during the ceremony, Mr. Gonard laid flowers on the monument on behalf of the International Red Cross. After mentioning the prophetic role of the author of *A Memory of Solferino*, he paid the following tribute to the Canadian Red Cross:

Here, in front of our founder's monument, I wish to thank you, in the name of the International Committee of the Red Cross, whose duty it is in time of war to execute Dunant's ideals for the greater benefit of the victims, for all you have done, and are doing, to promote and develop Red Cross, at home and abroad.

Long may the Canadian Red Cross continue to serve our common cause : Humanity!

*

As already mentioned, the radio and television also took part in the celebration of this 20th World Red Cross Day.

The Swiss Broadcasting Corporation had been entrusted by the broadcasting corporations of other French-speaking countries (France, Canada, Belgium, Luxemburg, Monte Carlo) with the production of a programme on Red Cross activities throughout the world. This aimed at showing that the Red Cross principle of universality was reflected in the work carried out by the ICRC, the League and the National Societies, and that their activities often exceeded in scope and effectiveness the image which is all too prevalent.

Mr. J. P. Goretta, who directed this documentary, condensed into a twenty minute broadcast the testimony of Red Cross delegates who were in Vietnam, India and the Yemen on May 8, 1967. He accompanied an ICRC delegate on a visit to a prison camp in the region of Saigon. He recorded a moving account by a League delegate who on that day had just returned from one of the worst famine stricken areas of India. Through the ICRC radio station he made direct contact with one of the medical teams working in the mountains of the Yemen.

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These radio documentary reports once again showed the great diversity of Red Cross work and the difficulties which have to be faced by delegates carrying out their missions, frequently under exceptional conditions of isolation and at considerable risk.

The Swiss Television Corporation also broadcast a special programme entitled " May 8, 1967 ". This lasted for 25 minutes and was broadcast by eight European television transmitters in six languages: Belgium (Flemish and French), Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain and Switzerland (French, German and Italian). The programme included a film showing some Red Cross activities in Vietnam, the Yemen and several African countries (Liberia, Nigeria, Togo and Zambia). It showed the solid bond which exists among the various bodies of the International Red Cross, the ICRC, the League and the National Societies.

A number of National Societies have requested the Swiss Television Corporation to supply them with copies of this film.

*

As in previous years, a brief ceremony took place in Geneva on the morning of May 8 at the monument to Henry Dunant's memory in the *Parc des Bastions*. Among the many people attending the ceremony were representatives of official bodies as well as of the ICRC, the League and the Swiss Red Cross. Wreaths were laid on the monument by members of the Junior Red Cross; one of these bore the inscription " Les jeunes de la Croix-Rouge à Henry Dunant ". This event was impressive as a demonstration of youthful attachment to the founder of the Red Cross and to the ideal which he so perseveringly and effectively personified. Two addresses, one by Mr. J. P. Buensod, President of the Geneva Red Cross, and the other by Mr. C. A. Schusselé, Director of the League's Red Cross Youth Bureau, dwelt on the essential role incumbent on the younger generation if the humanitarian ideal is to prevail and develop in the world of the future.

A EUROPEAN MEETING ON RED CROSS INFORMATION

The need for the Red Cross the better to adapt itself to present information requirements and public relations was the principal reason for the Conference held in Geneva from January 25 to 27, 1967 in which twelve European National Societies participated (Belgium, Denmark, France, German Democratic Republic, German Federal Republic, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland and Yugoslavia). Other Societies of the continent expressed their approval and interest in the meeting and the projected exchanges of views even if they were unable to be present. The ICRC had taken the initiative in convening the Conference and ensured its preparation and organization jointly with the League, at whose headquarters part of the work also took place.

The first item on the agenda dealt with the " position and rôle of information in the Red Cross world on the international and national levels ". The preliminary commentary, prepared by the ICRC and the League included this remark on the subject: " Our meeting should be the occasion of reconsidering the whole problem of Red Cross public relations, a problem whose great importance does not always appear to be fully appreciated."

In this respect, it appears that the Conference really achieved the desired objective, since it first of all enabled the heads of information present to be more clearly aware of the extent and multiplicity of the tasks devolving on them. It also brought out the necessity of obtaining closer co-operation between the information bodies of the international institutions of the Red Cross in Geneva and those of the National Societies. In this connection, the meeting was a particularly welcome occasion for comparing the information methods in use in various countries. This in itself, by making contact will no doubt already have had a stimulating effect on those in charge of this field of activity.

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The need of redoubling efforts here was also clearly apparent in exchanges of views on the present popularity of the Red Cross and on the "competition" it encounters from other organizations carrying out activities close to it. Several speakers in particular stressed the urgency of interesting the young and associating them with the work of our Societies, for, being constantly pressed from all directions, the young are liable to turn away from the Red Cross and no longer to understand the possibilities it offers to their enthusiasm.

Other items on the agenda were as follows: 2. Dissemination of Information. 3. Radio problems. 4. Commemoration of World Red Cross Day. 5. Television. 6. Graphic representation. 7. Dissemination of documents and publications of National Societies and of the international institutions of the Red Cross. 8. Dissemination of the Geneva Conventions and Red Cross principles.

This list shows that all the main problems connected with Red Cross information were reviewed. These problems, unfortunately, are generally of such amplitude that it was not possible to deal with them with sufficient thoroughness. The discussions will however have been of great usefulness in different respects.

In addition to the new ideas expressed of which the participants will have made an abundant harvest thanks to the variety of experiences and opinions exchanged, the talks enabled a series of practical measures to be envisaged as regards co-operation which is even more necessary. Such co-operation can present the triple advantage of increasing the quality and the quantity of information whilst decreasing its cost. The views exchanged also gave the opportunity of pointing out certain errors and clumsiness in dealing with the public and indicating remedies.

There was specially wide-ranging discussion on television to which, in the general view, the Red Cross should resort more often. For the ICRC and the League this was the occasion to collect valuable data on the best method of adapting their information material to the needs of National Societies and the European public.

This Conference which will have owed its success to the active participation of National Societies and the balanced observations of their representatives will be the subject of a report which will

shortly be made available. This summary will contain a list of the principal points discussed and in particular of the wishes expressed with a view to improving the information work of the Red Cross, in other words, to increasing the extent and effectiveness of our movement.

In fact, it should be stressed that the participants' main pre-occupation was effectiveness, for it was not necessary to remind these professionals of information and public relations that the importance of this sphere of activity is continuously increasing in the world today. However, one should also mention the interest which this meeting and its work had for all members of the Red Cross, where it has not always been sufficiently understood that often, in order to give more effective aid, one should begin by giving better information.

R. D. P.

THE FUTURE OF THE RED CROSS

In one of the latest issues of The Red Cross World¹ are to be found various illustrated articles on problems which the Red Cross will no doubt have to contend with in years to come and on new methods and techniques which it uses and will continue to use more and more to ensure the greater rapidity and effectiveness of its work. In his foreword, Mr. José Barroso, League Chairman, draws attention to the need for the Red Cross to adapt to a world which is visibly undergoing radical changes.

Other articles deal with such subjects as "The effect of the transistor evolution", "Automation and the Red Cross", "Satellites already important to Red Cross work", "Closed circuit television", "The population explosion—its meaning for Red Cross" and finally in the article which we quote below, Mr. Henry W. Dunning, former League

¹ No. 3, Geneva, 1966.

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

Secretary-General and present Adviser to the League, describes how he views our movement's future.

On other pages of this issue of "The Red Cross World" the future is prognosticated in vivid terms—the growth of population, automation, more rapid communication and transportation and their effect on social and economic life.

Some of these predictions may seem fantastic, but if we look back on the progress that has been made during the present century, they appear logical.

What does this new world into which we are emerging hold for the Red Cross? Will it be able to keep pace with these rapidly changing events, adapt itself to them?

In the past fifty years, the Red Cross has spread out into many fields that were foreign to its original conception; today there is scarcely any human endeavour in which it is not concerned. At the same time, governments have expanded the scope of their activities, other international organizations and foundations with enormous resources have come into being to undertake actions in many respects similar to these of the Red Cross. New nations have been—and continue being—born where the Red Cross is hardly known. In some older nations Red Cross Societies are well-known auxiliaries of their governments.

All of this requires profound thinking on the part of Red Cross leaders, both national and international.

To begin with, all nations are in various stages of development, both economically and socially—it will always be so. There are various forms of government—which also change.

Spiritually, Red Cross is based on seven fundamental principles—humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality—but materially, each nation has its particular problems to solve, in which the National Red Cross has its role to play. And it is these National Red Cross Societies which are the roots of the organisation as a whole.

The future of the Red Cross depends on how well each one of them fulfils its role, at the same time maintaining their spiritual values.

New nations should mean additional Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies. Increased population should mean more Red Cross mem-

bers, enrolment of which should be facilitated by the most modern promotional methods. More leisure time through automation should mean more volunteers, who should be trained in specialities—home nursing and care of the sick, first aid, the battle against illiteracy, more attention to the aging, disaster relief. More intensive and higher specialized training also will be required for salaried employees of the Red Cross who will have to guide this growing organisation, both nationally and internationally.

A closer co-ordination and co-operation will probably be established between the Red Cross and government, particularly in the fields of health, social service and education, or else with the expansion of government services in these fields the Red Cross will find itself with diminishing possibilities for its activities and the loss of interest of individuals in the movement. The Red Cross principle of independence however, must be guarded even more carefully than in the past.

The Red Cross will survive and prosper in this new world because of its continued usefulness to humanity, the speed and efficiency of its actions, its consecration to its basic principles.

BOOKS AND REVIEWS

ANDRÉ SOUBIRAN: « LE BARON LARREY,
CHIRURGIEN DE NAPOLÉON »¹

Dr. Soubiran has attractively portrayed the man who was Surgeon-in-Chief of the "Grande Armée" from 1812 onwards. Whilst he has no hesitation in destroying the legend of his unconditional loyalty to Napoleon I, he describes throughout a well documented work the determined efforts made by a man of integrity, who did not however disdain honours, an able surgeon devoted to his craft who was the "Providence" of the battle-field.

Step by step we follow Dominique Larrey (1766-1842). He was a fighter, as indeed he had to be to maintain the hard struggle throughout his life to obtain some form of independence for the Army Medical Service, constantly thwarted by his subjection to the Staff and especially to the Quartermaster-General's Department. Slowness, slackness, indeed the dishonesty of the administration, obliged Larrey and many of his colleagues to accomplish heroic efforts to deal with the most desperate situations and to give treatment and perform operations in conditions described in these pages.

Of a choleric and obstinate temperament, with his rough but active kindness, Larrey showed great courage when it was a question of defending the wounded, and at times those of the enemy. Many examples of this are given in Dr. Soubiran's work. One such was the famous episode of his resistance at Dresden to the Emperor's orders, after Lutzen and Bautzen, to designate for each Army Corps two cases of self-inflicted wounds to be shot as an example to the troops. His report concluded that "it is physically impossible to discover the slightest indication that any of the soldiers visited by him had wilfully caused self-inflicted wounds . . . our researches have induced us to believe that the lack of knowing how to handle weapons has been the main reason for such mutilations amongst con-

¹ Librairie Fayard, Paris, 1966, 523 p.

scripts, such as when they fire in three ranks, the second and third aim unconsciously at those in front . . ." The Emperor, having admitted the justice of his observations, Larrey sent a circular letter to all his colleagues which, says the author, " would be sufficient for the renown of one man and which remains one of the foundations upon which military legal medicine is based." The following is but one extract.

" Doctors are and should in any case be the friends of mankind. As such, they must always act and speak on its behalf. You should always give treatment and bandage the guilty as well as the innocent and you should only have eyes for the sick organism. You need concern yourselves with nothing else ".

Larrey's stubbornness in defending the situation of the wounded immediately after the fighting enabled him, in Alexandria in 1801, to obtain the repatriation of 1,338 wounded and sick in twelve hospital ships before the first able-bodied soldier left Egypt. Unfortunately, however, there were so many other occasions when Larrey was forced to resign himself to abandoning to their fate the wounded who could not be transported.

To his honour, Larrey cared for the enemy, when circumstances demanded, never hesitating to search for wounded men within range of the enemy's guns. Amongst others mention should be made of his intervention with Bonaparte to enable the release of English prisoners incarcerated in the Cairo citadel.

Creator of the Medical Service of the future, as admitted today by all armies throughout the world, Larrey was one of the forerunners of Henry Dunant, Maunoir, Appia and of all those who for the past hundred years have struggled to establish, then to safeguard the neutrality of medicine which is always at risk in time of war. Moreover, the author in his epilogue makes mention of the battle of Solferino, the Committee of Five, the Geneva Conventions and the principles which are their motivation.

M. G.

The modern world and its effect on the mental health of children, by Dr. H. Feldmann, *Médecine et Hygiène, Geneva No. 775, 1967.*

. . . The more developed, complex and better organized society becomes, the less tolerant is it of the maladjusted, the backward, the unstable, of children suffering from physical disorders from sensory or motive insufficiency, who are no longer accepted in the large towns. The amount of toleration shown by society of the maladjusted decreases in proportion to the rate of technical and scientific advance. Material progress and the exigencies of life force the individual to become more exposed to moral and physical suffering which he is less capable of accepting. This results in an increase in disorders which require help from psychiatrists, psychologists or social workers with a view to rehabilitation.

However, the increasing number of mental disorders in our own civilized societies can also be accounted for by the fact that more psychical anomalies are discovered than ever before. This is also explained by the present rapid march of events which contributes to greatly increasing anxiety at the same time as progress continues to advance. The speed of scientific and technical progress, the rapidity with which news is spread by radio and television, create a climate of anxiety far greater than hitherto known whenever some disaster is reported.

Sociologists insist on the fact that social and present conflicts are of equal importance as infantile quarrels in causing neuroses. Margaret Mead, after having studied populations in the South Seas, comes to the conclusion that it is the existence of homogeneous communities which brings to the fore a whole series of human values to the detriment of all others. "Homogeneous societies", she says, "do not know of the conflicts and confusions of heterogeneous communities". In other words, sociologists regard neuroses as being the result less of instinctive frustration than of difficulties of identification and integration existing at present.

Today, instability in all spheres is the rule. That populations move from one place to another is considered to be normal. This also applies to the permutability of ideas and scientific progress is so rapid that what was valid in the past is no longer so today. How then can one offer real security to a child ?

It is not therefore the child who is maladjusted, it is our modern society which is no longer adjusted to the child. Whether it is a question of vast modern cities, of housing blocks leaving no room for phantasy or verdure, of over-crowded classrooms where the teacher no longer

knows his pupils, of cramped lodgings at exorbitant rents forcing children on to the street, there is no longer any place for the child.

In all countries, physical health is improving, living conditions are more favourable, the number of births is increasing, the physical health of children is better than it used to be and their intellectual and cultural level is of a higher standard. However, the affective development itself of the child has not changed through the centuries, rather has it diminished. There therefore exists a real cleavage between these two sets of facts which causes an ever greater lack of balance in the child leading to anxiety which often results in a delinquent attitude to life in adolescence or on becoming adult.

The best antidote for troubles of behaviour, neuroses and psychoses amongst children is a healthy-minded family life.

Better organization should be made of the child's psychological integration in the new conditions of life to avoid ever-increasing insecurity which is less and less accepted by the child today.

In this connection, youth community centres are indispensable factors in the socio-psychological structure of the modern world. These centres act as catalysers which channel the child's aberrant tendencies, thereby preventing maladjustment. If they are properly run these can detect children heading towards delinquency and send them to medical, psychological, sociological and educational teams capable of taking them in charge with a view to their reintegration.

Thus community centres and medico-psycho-sociological teams are mediating factors between the perturbed child and his surroundings enabling him to find his place again in society. These teams, however, also have a fundamental rôle to play with the family as regards improving the child's situation. . .

Prisoners of war and their doctors, by J. Mathieu, *Annales de droit international médical, Monaco, No. 13*

. . . The question of relations between doctors of opposing powers comprises legal, technical and ethical aspects. These aspects are all dependent on each other, thus forming a whole inherent in the medical profession.

The legal expert defines rights and has an important rôle in settling points of litigation. One can pull to pieces the Conventions which are not respected. The law has not only the objective of passively recording statements of fact, but from the positive point of view can create fresh thinking on a subject. It draws up, at all events, theories to which one can refer, each theory being an engagement of future action.

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Technology opens up perspectives which have not always been perceived. It extends co-operation between doctors to the employment of the civilian and military technical methods of the Detaining Power. Legal definition should be made of doctor's rights in this technical sphere.

Finally, ethics should encourage a supra-national professional code, guaranteeing the harmonization of aid to all who are suffering.

This ethical approach is essentially that of doctors' consciences as regards the moral and professional problems arising in conflicts. It is not mistaken to believe that training and education can form new consciences. Law, in its prospective and positive action can, here again, precipitate such a development.

That the consciences of doctors alone are involved is not sufficient. There should also be the active determination of governments and leading moral and intellectual circles. Thus, populations as far as war leaders themselves would be the better aware of the dignity and the rights of the medical body.

Standing apart from all forms of belligerency, concerned exclusively with the good of mankind, doctors of all nationalities will then only have the moral authority enabling them to act in common, in accordance with the very essence of their profession which is to save lives in danger and alleviate pain.

Leisure Time for the Aged, *Travail social, Paris, No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 1966.*

. . . Whether we are able to put our leisure time to good advantage when we are old will depend on how, throughout our lives, we have been able to find a way of life suited to our personality. Initiation to this way of life begins with the understanding of everything which forms the apparently freest part of every-day activities, namely leisure. This knowledge permits the determination of conduct in each one of the circumstances of existence. Behaviour is thereafter no longer the mechanical result of a conditioning process. It utilizes environmental resources in a manner appropriate to the needs and aspirations of the personality. This choice leads one to find a proper balance between relaxation, recreation and developing activities in the flux of situations occurring in daily life.

With the increased leisure time available to people, it might be thought that each one of us could decide the pattern of our lives and would therefore, from adulthood onwards, make the best use of leisure time. The problem raised today will therefore evolve. The individual accustomed to making the best of considerable leisure time will, when

he reaches retiring age, know how to use that period of his life when no demands are made of him. It will then therefore no doubt be less necessary to insist on the exercise of a professional activity.

Moreover, people in later life who have learned not only to put up with but to come to terms with old age will be able to find unity and happiness: this period of their life will become the inevitable but not the dreaded stage of every human being's lot.

The Position of the Medically Trained Person in the Administration of Health Services (Summary), by Dr. K. Evang, *Boletin de la Oficina Sanitaria Panamericana*, Washington, 1967, No. 3.

Any health problem of consequence facing a central health administration today will generally present several aspects:

1. The health (medical) aspect.
2. The legal, including constitutional, aspect.
3. The financial aspect.
4. The functional aspect, meaning integration into the machinery of the health services at large.
5. The sociological aspect, relation to other related functions of society.

All these aspects are intimately interwoven and only represent various sides of the same problem. In any other field it would be accepted that the only way to handle a problem of this conglomerate character is to establish an adequately composed team, the members of which among themselves cover the various types of insight and experience. This approach is now called for also as far as the central health administration is concerned. Old traditions, prejudices, and vested interests will have to be overcome to also achieve this on the part of the medically trained administrator.

On such a team the lawyer will be a full member in his own right, as a specialist in legal questions, as will various types of specialists in administration. Since the goal-setting has to do with health, however, all participants will find it only natural that the medical specialist in health administration should be the head of the team. One should also recognize from the very first moment that a team entrusted with administrative and executive tasks cannot in all respects act in the same way as a scientific team. In administration for obvious reasons a ladder of responsibility must be established.

It should also be clearly admitted that the difficulties which we are facing today to a great degree are caused by the unwillingness of the

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medical profession to accept the challenge of administrative medicine. In many countries of the world today, fortunately, the tide is turning in this respect, especially since administrative medicine has now been established as an academic discipline with its own scientific and practical instruments.

One of the greatest dangers to democracies in our day is that we may drown in our own bureaucracy. To follow Parkinson's Law is too easy: each time an administrative problem arises, some are apt to put a new layer of "administrators" and "coordinators" on the top of the already existing machinery, in the hope of thereby gaining in control and efficiency. Experience shows that the opposite is more often the result.

Health services form an entity. The independence of its component parts is growing daily. Since all demands for health services cannot—in fact should not—be met, countries should in their own interest develop a technical authority entrusted with the task of producing the balanced, the "ecological" view.



EXTRACT FROM THE STATUTES OF
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

(AGREED AND AMENDED ON SEPTEMBER 25, 1952)

ART. 1. — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) founded in Geneva in 1863 and formally recognized in the Geneva Conventions and by International Conferences of the Red Cross, shall be an independent organization having its own Statutes.

It shall be a constituent part of the International Red Cross.¹

ART. 2. — As an association governed by Articles 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code, the ICRC shall have legal personality.

ART. 3. — The headquarters of the ICRC shall be in Geneva.

Its emblem shall be a red cross on a white ground. Its motto shall be “*Inter arma caritas*”.

ART. 4. — The special rôle of the ICRC shall be :

- (a) to maintain the fundamental and permanent principles of the Red Cross, namely: impartiality, action independent of any racial, political, religious or economic considerations, the universality of the Red Cross and the equality of the National Red Cross Societies;
- (b) to recognize any newly established or reconstituted National Red Cross Society which fulfils the conditions for recognition in force, and to notify other National Societies of such recognition;

¹ The International Red Cross comprises the National Red Cross Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies. The term “*National Red Cross Societies*” includes the Red Crescent Societies and the Red Lion and Sun Society.

- (c) to undertake the tasks incumbent on it under the Geneva Conventions, to work for the faithful application of these Conventions and to take cognizance of any complaints regarding alleged breaches of the humanitarian Conventions;
- (d) to take action in its capacity as a neutral institution, especially in case of war, civil war or internal strife; to endeavour to ensure at all times that the military and civilian victims of such conflicts and of their direct results receive protection and assistance, and to serve, in humanitarian matters, as an intermediary between the parties;
- (e) to contribute, in view of such conflicts, to the preparation and development of medical personnel and medical equipment, in cooperation with the Red Cross organizations, the medical services of the armed forces, and other competent authorities;
- (f) to work for the continual improvement of humanitarian international law and for the better understanding and diffusion of the Geneva Conventions and to prepare for their possible extension;
- (g) to accept the mandates entrusted to it by the International Conferences of the Red Cross.

The ICRC may also take any humanitarian initiative which comes within its rôle as a specifically neutral and independent institution and consider any questions requiring examination by such an institution.

ART. 6 (first paragraph). — The ICRC shall co-opt its members from among Swiss citizens. The number of members may not exceed twenty-five.



H. Ritschard & Cie. S.A.

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also.*

ADDRESSES OF CENTRAL COMMITTEES

- AFGHANISTAN** — Afghan Red Crescent, *Kabul*.
- ALBANIA** — Albanian Red Cross, 35, Rruga Barrikadavet, *Tirana*.
- ALGERIA** — Central Committee of the Algerian Red Crescent Society, 15 bis Boulevard Mohamed V, *Algiers*.
- ARGENTINE** — Argentine Red Cross, H. Yrigoyen 2068, *Buenos Aires*.
- AUSTRALIA** — Australian Red Cross, 122-128 Flinders Street, *Melbourne, C. 1*.
- AUSTRIA** — Austrian Red Cross, 3 Gusshausstrasse, *Vienna IV*.
- BELGIUM** — Belgian Red Cross, 98, Chaussée de Vleurgat, *Brussels 5*.
- BOLIVIA** — Bolivian Red Cross, Avenida Simon-Bolivar, 1515 (Casilla 741), *La Paz*.
- BRAZIL** — Brazilian Red Cross, Praça da Cruz Vermelha 10-12, *Rio de Janeiro*.
- BULGARIA** — Bulgarian Red Cross, 1, Boul. S.S. Viruzov, *Sofia*.
- BURMA** — Burma Red Cross, 42, Strand Road, Red Cross Building, *Rangoon*.
- BURUNDI** — Red Cross Society of Burundi, P.O. Box 98, *Bujumbura*.
- CAMBODIA** — Cambodian Red Cross, 17 R Vithei Croix-Rouge, P.O.B. 94, *Phnom-Penh*.
- CAMEROON** — Central Committee of the Cameroon Red Cross Society, rue Henry-Dunant, P.O.B. 631, *Yaoundé*.
- CANADA** — Canadian Red Cross, 95, Wellesley Street East, *Toronto 5*.
- CEYLON** — Ceylon Red Cross, 106 Dharma-pala Mawatte, *Colombo VII*.
- CHILE** — Chilean Red Cross, Avenida Santa Maria 0150, Casilla 246 V., *Santiago de Chile*.
- CHINA** — Red Cross Society of China, 22 Kanmien Hutung, *Peking, E*.
- COLOMBIA** — Colombian Red Cross, Carrera 7a, 34-65 Apartado nacional 1110, *Bogota D.E.*
- CONGO** — Red Cross of the Congo, 24, Avenue Valcke, P.O. Box 1712, *Kinshasa*.
- COSTA RICA** — Costa Rican Red Cross, Calle 5a Sur, Apartado 1025, *San José*.
- CUBA** — Cuban Red Cross, Ignacio Agramonte 461, *Havana*.
- CZECHOSLOVAKIA** — Czechoslovak Red Cross, Thunovska 18, *Prague I*.
- DAHOMEY** — Red Cross Society of Dahomey, P.O. Box 1, *Porto-Novo*.
- DENMARK** — Danish Red Cross, Ny Vestergade 17, *Copenhagen K*.
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC** — Dominican Red Cross, Calle Galvan 24, Apartado 1293, *Santo Domingo*.
- ECUADOR** — Ecuadorean Red Cross, Avenida Colombia y Elizalde 118, *Quito*.
- ETHIOPIA** — Ethiopian Red Cross, Red Cross Road No. 1, P.O. Box 195, *Addis Ababa*.
- FINLAND** — Finnish Red Cross, Tehtaankatu I A, *Helsinki*.
- FRANCE** — French Red Cross, 17, rue Quentin-Bauchart, *Paris (8^e)*.
- GERMANY (Dem. Republic)** — German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic, Kaitzerstrasse 2, *Dresden A. 1*.
- GERMANY (Federal Republic)** — German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 71, 5300 *Bonn 1*, Postfach (D.B.R.).
- GHANA** — Ghana Red Cross, P.O. Box 835, *Accra*.
- GREAT BRITAIN** — British Red Cross, 14 Grosvenor Crescent, *London, S.W.1*.
- GREECE** — Hellenic Red Cross, rue Lycavittou 1, *Athens 135*.
- GUATEMALA** — Guatemalan Red Cross, 3.^o Calle 8-40 zona 1, *Guatemala C.A.*
- HAITI** — Haiti Red Cross, rue Férou, *Port-au-Prince*.
- HONDURAS** — Honduran Red Cross, Calle Henry Dunant 516, *Tegucigalpa*.
- HUNGARY** — Hungarian Red Cross, Arany Janos utca 31, *Budapest V*.
- ICELAND** — Icelandic Red Cross, Ölduggötu 4, *Reykjavik*, Post Box 872.
- INDIA** — Indian Red Cross, 1 Red Cross Road, *New Delhi 1*.
- INDONESIA** — Indonesian Red Cross, Tanah Abang Barat 66, P.O. Box 2009, *Djakarta*.
- IRAN** — Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society, Avenue Ark, *Teheran*.
- IRAQ** — Iraqi Red Crescent, Al-Mansour, *Baghdad*.
- IRELAND** — Irish Red Cross, 16 Merrion Square, *Dublin 2*.
- ITALY** — Italian Red Cross, 12, via Toscana, *Rome*.
- IVORY COAST** — Ivory Coast Red Cross Society, B.P. 1244, *Abidjan*.
- JAMAICA** — Jamaica Red Cross Society, 76 Arnold Road, *Kingston 5*.
- JAPAN** — Japanese Red Cross, 5 Shiba Park, Minato-Ku, *Tokyo*.
- JORDAN** — Jordan Red Crescent, P.O. Box 1337, *Amman*.
- KENYA** — Kenya Red Cross Society, St Johns Gate, P.O. Box 712, *Nairobi*.
- KOREA (Democratic Republic)** — Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, *Pyongyang*.
- KOREA (Republic)** — The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, 32-3 Ka Nam San-Donk, *Seoul*.

ADDRESSES OF CENTRAL COMMITTEES

- LAOS — Laotian Red Cross, *Vientiane*.
- LEBANON — Lebanese Red Cross, rue Général Spears, *Beirut*.
- LIBERIA — Liberian National Red Cross, National Headquarters, Broad Street, P.O. Box 226, *Monrovia*.
- LIBYA — Libyan Red Crescent, Berka Omar Mukhtar Street, P.O. Box 541, *Benghazi*.
- LIECHTENSTEIN — Liechtenstein Red Cross, *Vaduz*.
- LUXEMBURG — Luxemburg Red Cross, Parc de la Ville, *Luxemburg*.
- MADAGASCAR — Red Cross Society of Madagascar, rue Clemenceau, P.O. Box 1168, *Tananarive*.
- MALAYSIA — Malaysian Red Cross Society, 519 Jalan Belfield, *Kuala Lumpur*.
- MEXICO — Mexican Red Cross, Sinaloa 20, 4º piso, *Mexico 7, D.F.*
- MONACO — Red Cross of Monaco, 27 Boul. de Suisse, *Monte-Carlo*.
- MONGOLIA — Red Cross Society of the Mongolian People's Republic, Central Post Office, Post Box 537, *Ulan-Bator*.
- MOROCCO — Moroccan Red Crescent, rue Calmette, B.P. 189, *Rabat*.
- NEPAL — Nepal Red Cross Society, Tripureswore, P.B. 217, *Kathmandu*.
- NETHERLANDS — Netherlands Red Cross, 27 Prinsessegracht, *The Hague*.
- NEW ZEALAND — New Zealand Red Cross, 61 Dixon Street, P.O.B. 6073, *Wellington C.2*.
- NICARAGUA — Nicaraguan Red Cross, 12 Avenida Noroeste, *Managua, D.N.*
- NIGER — Red Cross Society of Niger, B.P. 386, *Niamey*.
- NIGERIA — Nigerian Red Cross Society, Eko Akete Close, Ikoyi, Yaba, P.O. Box 764, *Lagos*.
- NORWAY — Norwegian Red Cross, Parkveien 33b, *Oslo*.
- PAKISTAN — Pakistan Red Cross, Frere Street, *Karachi 4*.
- PANAMA — Panamanian Red Cross, Apartado 668, *Panama*.
- PARAGUAY — Paraguayan Red Cross, calle André Barbero y Artigas 33, *Asunción*.
- PERU — Peruvian Red Cross, Jiron Chancay 881, *Lima*.
- PHILIPPINES — Philippine National Red Cross, 860 United Nations Avenue, P.O.B. 280, *Manila*.
- POLAND — Polish Red Cross, Mokotowska 14, *Warsaw*.
- PORTUGAL — Portuguese Red Cross, General Secretaryship, Jardim 9 de Abril, 1 a 5, *Lisbon 3*.
- RUMANIA — Red Cross of the Rumanian Socialist Republic, Strada Biserica Amzei 29, *Bucarest*.
- SALVADOR — Salvador Red Cross, 3a Avenida Norte y 3a Calle Poniente 21, *San Salvador*.
- SAN MARINO — San Marino Red Cross, *San Marino*.
- SAUDI ARABIA — Saudi Arabian Red Crescent, *Riyadh*.
- SENEGAL — Senegalese Red Cross Society, Bld. Franklin-Roosevelt, P.O.B. 299, *Dakar*.
- SIERRA LEONE — Sierra Leone Red Cross Society, 6 Liverpool Street, P.O.B. 427, *Freetown*.
- SOUTH AFRICA — South African Red Cross, Cor. Kruis & Market Streets, P.O.B. 8726, *Johannesburg*.
- SPAIN — Spanish Red Cross, Eduardo Dato 16, *Madrid, 10*.
- SUDAN — Sudanese Red Crescent, P.O. Box 235, *Khartoum*.
- SWEDEN — Swedish Red Cross, Artillerigatan 6, *Stockholm 14*.
- SWITZERLAND — Swiss Red Cross, Taubenstrasse 8, B.P. 2699, 3001 *Berne*.
- SYRIA — Syrian Red Crescent, 13, rue Abi-Ala-Almaari, *Damascus*.
- TANZANIA — Tanzania Red Cross Society, Upanga Road, P.O.B. 1133, *Dar es Salaam*.
- THAILAND — Thai Red Cross Society, King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, *Bangkok*.
- TOGO — Togolese Red Cross Society, Avenue des Alliés 19, P.O. Box 655, *Lomé*.
- TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO — Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society, 48 Pembroke Street, P.O. Box 357, *Port of Spain*.
- TUNISIA — Tunisian Red Crescent, 19, rue d'Angleterre, *Tunis*.
- TURKEY — Turkish Red Crescent, Yenisehir, *Ankara*.
- UGANDA — Uganda Red Cross, 17 Jinja Road P.O. Box 494, *Kampala*.
- UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC — Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Republic, 34, rue Ramses, *Cairo*.
- UPPER VOLTA — Upper Volta Red Cross, P.O.B. 340, *Ouagadougou*.
- URUGUAY — Uruguayan Red Cross, Avenida 8 de Octubre, 2990, *Montevideo*.
- U.S.A. — American National Red Cross, 17th and D Streets, N.W., *Washington 6, D.C.*
- U.S.S.R. — Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Tcheremushki, J. Tcheremushkinskii proezd 5, *Moscow W-36*.
- VENEZUELA — Venezuelan Red Cross, Avenida Andrés Bello No. 4, Apart. 3185, *Caracas*.
- VIET NAM (Democratic Republic) — Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, 68, rue Bà-Trièz, *Hanoi*.
- VIET NAM (Republic) — Red Cross of the Republic of Viet Nam, 201, duong Hồng-Thập-Tu, No. 201, *Saigon*.
- YUGOSLAVIA — Yugoslav Red Cross, Simina ulica broj 19, *Belgrade*.
- ZAMBIA — Zambia Red Cross, P.O. Box R. W. 1, Ridgeway, *Lusaka*.