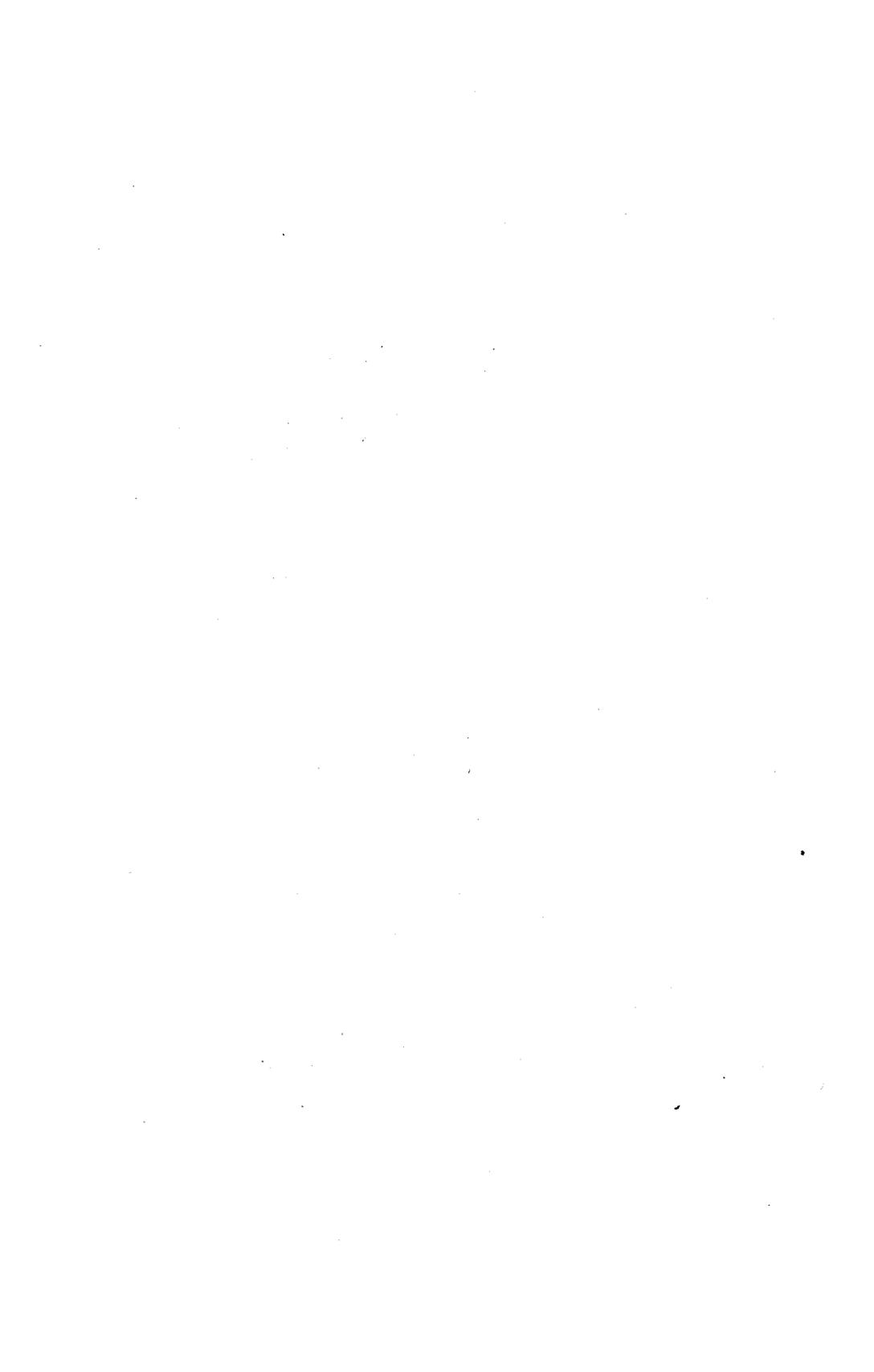


**REVUE  
INTERNATIONALE  
DE LA  
CROIX-ROUGE**

**SUPPLEMENT**

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# INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

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## SUNDRY ACTIVITIES

### News Items

*Mr. M. Bodmer, Vice-President of the I.C.R.C., accompanied by Mrs. Bodmer, left New Delhi on November 9 and arrived a few days later at Katmandu, the capital of Nepal, where he discussed with the Government authorities the question of the formation of a Red Cross in Nepal.*

*Later he proceeded to Bangkok in Thailand, where he was received by H. M. the Queen and Prince Chumbot, President and Vice-President of the Thai Red Cross, and was able to visit the Red Cross services accompanied by Mr. W. Salzmänn, delegate of the I.C.R.C. in Thailand.*

*Mr. Bodmer also visited New Zealand and Australia, where he met the authorities and leading members of the Australian and New Zealand Red Cross Societies. In Auckland he met Mr. L. Bossard, delegate of the ICRC, and afterwards visited the Society's headquarters in Wellington. In Australia he stopped at Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney where he visited blood transfusion centres and hospitals.*

*On the return journey Mr. Bodmer stopped at Djakarta, where he saw the Vice-President and Secretary-General of the Indonesian Red Cross before his return to Geneva at the end of December.*

\* \* \*

*In response to the kind invitations received from the Chinese Red Cross, the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR and the Polish Red Cross, after the XIXth Inter-*

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*national Conference Mr. F. Siordet, Vice-President of the ICRC, accompanied by Mr. M. Borsinger, of the Secretariat, visited China, the USSR and Poland from November 13 to December 23 last.*

*Mr. Siordet and Mr. Borsinger first stopped at Hong Kong where they met the International Committee's representative, Mr. P. Calderara. On November 16 the ICRC mission was welcomed by the Chinese Red Cross at the frontier and accompanied to Canton, where visits were made to hospitals and the Chinese Red Cross Waterway Service. After a stay of three days, the mission went to Wu-Han where they visited, in particular, a model prison and the Faculty of Medicine of the University. The International Committee's representatives then proceeded to Shanghai, and Hangchow, and to Peking where the headquarters of the Chinese Red Cross are situated, and where they stayed for five days.*

*On November 30 the mission left Peking via the Trans-Siberian Railway for Moscow, arriving on December 8; visits were paid to the various sections of the Alliance and to a factory where Red Cross health service is particularly active. On December 11 the mission went on to Leningrad and saw the work of the Red Cross in that city in schools and among the public. Two days later the mission went to Kiev, where it was received by the Ukrainian Red Cross and visited various hospitals and health services, especially in factories.*

*On December 17 the mission arrived in Warsaw, where it was the guest of the Polish Red Cross and visited, in particular, the Red Cross Nursing Schools. After a short stay, Mr. Siordet and Mr. Borsinger returned to Geneva; they passed through Vienna where they saw members of the Austrian Red Cross and the delegate in Austria of the ICRC.*

*The members of the ICRC mission met with a warm welcome everywhere; their visits have helped towards strengthening the bond between the National Red Cross Societies and the Committee. In view of the considerable area covered fuller details on the subject will be published later.*

\* \* \*

*A joint international appeal on behalf of Algerian refugees at present in Moroccan and Tunisian territory was launched on December 12, 1957 by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies.*

*This appeal, sent to each of the 80 National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies in the world, followed a decision unanimously passed by the XIXth International Red Cross Conference, which had just finished its work at New Delhi. Its purpose was to obtain supplementary aid to enable the Algerian refugees to get through the winter and was without prejudice to any future action, on more general lines, undertaken by non-Red Cross organisations.*

*For this relief action, which was of an urgent nature, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies mainly asked for cash donations, foodstuffs (hard wheat, oil, sugar and condensed milk) blankets and clothing sufficient to cover the needs, during the cold season, of some 100,000 refugees, of whom the majority are women, children and aged persons.*

*The Revue internationale has referred on several occasions to the emergency relief action already taken on its own account by the ICRC on behalf of these refugees during the past months.*

\* \* \*

*A mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross, composed of Mr. Pierre Gaillard and Dr. Louis Gaillard, returned from Algeria towards the end of December. This mission, the fifth since the outbreak of the disturbances, visited 46 Screening and Transit Centres and 2 Assembly Centres where persons arrested or captured as a result of the events are held. Six hospitals where prisoners wounded during the fighting are receiving treatment were also inspected.*

*The majority of these 54 places of detention had not so far been visited by the ICRC or by other organisations.*

*As customary, during each visit, the delegates of the ICRC conversed without witnesses with the persons under detention.*

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*Whenever it appeared to be necessary some considerable improvements in detention conditions were obtained.*

*This mission of the ICRC will continue its tour of inspection early in 1958.*

\* \* \*

*Mr. W. M. Michel did not return directly to Geneva after the Conference in New Delhi.*

*He first proceeded to Thailand, Burma, Cambodia, Malaya and Indonesia where he was able to meet leading members of the National Red Cross Societies and Governments of those countries.*

*Mr. Michel then went to Goa, where he visited persons under detention, and returned to Geneva on December 22.*

\* \* \*

*Mr. C. Pilloud, Assistant-Director for General Affairs of the ICRC went to Ceylon after the XIXth International Conference. He paid a visit to the National Society and had most interesting discussions with its directors. He was able to see some of the activities of the Ceylon Red Cross which is making a great effort in first-aid work and assistance to the sick in hospitals.*

*A meeting was held in Colombo with the directors of the National Society and members of the local branch, during which Mr. Pilloud and Dr. Hantchef (delegate of the League) described the work of the two institutions they represented and gave replies to many questions put to them.*

\* \* \*

*After having taken part in the XIXth International Red Cross Conference in New Delhi, Miss Y. Hentsch, Director of the Nursing Bureau of the League of Red Cross Societies, and Miss A. Pfirter, Head of the Medical Personnel and War Disablement Section of the ICRC together made a study visit, under the auspices of the Central Committee of the Indian Red Cross, throughout the country from the Punjab to West Bengal. They visited numerous civilian and military hospitals, dispensaries and nursing schools,*

*in particular in Lucknow, Hyderabad, Ludhiana and Amritsar, to mention only a few of the places visited during their tour.*

*During their mission Miss Pfirter and Miss Hentsch were warmly welcomed everywhere and had conversations with high-ranking officials of the Ministries of Health, the directors of regional committees of the Indian Red Cross and medical men. During the various meetings arranged during their visits, Miss Hentsch and Miss Pfirter gave talks on the role and activities of the League and the ICRC. They also discussed problems concerning the organisation and development of medical care and emphasised the valuable contribution which can be made—both in peace and war—by the increasingly active co-operation of voluntary auxiliary Red Cross personnel.*

*Before returning to Europe, Miss Pfirter visited Iran and various countries in the Near East.*

\* \* \*

*Millions of persons separated by the war still do not know what has become of their near relatives. As part of a vast action which covers Asia as well as Europe, the International Committee of the Red Cross has given the closest attention to the unfortunate situation of numerous Korean families who have thus been without news of their relatives since 1950.*

*The ICRC therefore submitted to the Red Cross of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and the Red Cross of the Republic of Korea, certain proposals likely to facilitate the tracing of civilians who disappeared in the course of hostilities. These suggestions having met with favourable response on both sides, an enquiry form in Korean was drawn up which provided for the recording of all details which might lead to the identification of the persons sought.*

*The project thus prepared was then put into practice; the Korean Section of the Central Agency in Geneva received from Seoul postal packets containing over 7,000 enquiries which, after examination, were immediately forwarded to Pyongyang.*

*During the XIXth International Red Cross Conference in New Delhi, the delegates of the Red Cross of the Democratic People's*

## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

*Republic of Korea informed the representatives of the ICRC of the first results of the tracing operations; the replies received were at once handed over to the delegation of the Red Cross of the Republic of Korea. In addition, the delegates from Pyongyang took advantage of the opportunity by giving the International Committee 14,000 enquiries concerning North Korean civilians who also disappeared during the conflict. These enquiries were immediately sent to Geneva for examination, and were afterwards transferred to the Red Cross of the Republic of Korea, Seoul, which will make the necessary searches.*

\* \* \*

*When passing through Geneva on their return from New Delhi, several persons of consequence in the Red Cross movement visited the ICRC headquarters. The International Committee thus had the pleasure of receiving Dr. O. Belea, President of the Red Cross of the People's Republic of Rumania, Mrs. A. Mesaros, the Vice-President and Dr. Bidulescu, and Dr. A. Inostrosa, President of the Chilean Red Cross, and Mrs. Inostrosa.*

*At the end of November the International Committee had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. D. Q. R. Mulock Hower, the new Secretary-General of the International Union for Child Welfare, and Mrs. J. M. Small, Assistant Secretary-General. Like his predecessor, Dr. G. Thelin, Mr. Mulock Hower wishes to co-operate closely with the ICRC in assisting child victims of international events.*

*Among the visitors to the ICRC headquarters in December, mention should be made of Mr. Joseph Arcache, member of the Board of Governors of the Philippine National Red Cross, and one of the founders of the Society.*

\* \* \*

*Mr. P. Jequier, head of the Central Prisoners of War Agency sections, recently visited Arolsen, in order to make a study, on the spot, of the resources afforded by the vast collection of documents held by the International Tracing Service. With Mr. N. Burck-*

hardt, Director of the ITS, Mr. Jequier discussed the allocation of work between the Agency and the ITS, and all measures for strengthening the fruitful co-operation of the Geneva and Arolsen centres.

Certain activities come exclusively within the competence of the ITS, in particular the cases of civilians deported to concentration camps. But there are others which can only be dealt with through the combined efforts of the Agency and the ITS, if only in connection with prisoners of war, some of whom were transformed to civilian workers, and others were sentenced to detention in concentration camps or transferred, immediately after the war, to camps for displaced persons.

Mr. Jequier's visit to Arolsen was preceded by a visit by Mrs. Mathez, Head of Section, Executive Division, who is responsible for liaison between the ICRC and the ITS directorate.

\* \* \*

During his stay in New Delhi, Mr. Pilloud was able, thanks to the kind offices of the Indian authorities, to visit a small group of former Korean prisoners of war.

It will be remembered that at the close of the repatriation of prisoners of war following the Korean conflict, which operation was presided over by India, a certain number of prisoners refused to proceed to the Republic of Korea or the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The prisoners, numbering about a hundred, were taken to India and the majority have since emigrated to other countries. The few ex-prisoners still in India were those visited by Mr. Pilloud, accompanied by a representative of the Indian Red Cross. They are housed in military buildings, enjoy full liberty and are provided for by the Indian authorities.

\* \* \*

On November 15, the Japanese Red Cross celebrated with all due solemnity the 80th anniversary of its foundation. An imposing ceremony was held in Tokyo on that occasion, honoured by the presence of T.I.M. the Emperor and Empress of Japan who wished

## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

*to show once more their great interest in the principles and work of the Red Cross. During the celebration ceremony, Mr. H. Angst, delegate of the ICRC in Japan, read a message of congratulation sent by Mr. Léopold Boissier, President of our institution.*

\* \* \*

*In December the Pakistan Red Cross and the Jordan Red Crescent both celebrated the tenth anniversary of the foundation of their Societies. The International Committee sent congratulatory telegrams to both Societies.*

\* \* \*

*At the close of a mission in Egypt of nearly eleven months' duration, Mr. Maurice Thudichum left Cairo in the autumn to return to Geneva.*

*Formerly a Head of Section at the Central Prisoners of War Agency, then Director of the International Tracing Service, Arosen, Mr. Thudichum accepted, early in November 1956, a mission to Port Said to give the traditional assistance of the ICRC to civilian and military victims of the hostilities. In the city, which was then cut off from the rest of the country, Mr. Thudichum organised and directed the distribution of relief supplies to families which had suffered the greatest distress. Members of the Egyptian forces held prisoner by the Franco-British forces also benefited from his activity, which included visits, transmission of family messages, enquiries, etc. It will be recalled that Mr. Thudichum also took part, on December 21, in the exchange of the prisoners referred to above and British civilian internees. At the end of 1956, the International Committee placed Mr. Thudichum at the head of its delegation in Egypt, with headquarters in Cairo. He carried out with great competence the manifold activities of the delegation, in particular in behalf of Egyptian prisoners of war in Israeli hands, the civilian population in distress, Arab refugees in areas bordering the Israeli frontier and stateless Jews in Egypt who wished to emigrate.*

*As is known, after Mr. Thudichum's departure, Mr. E. Muller, resident delegate of the ICRC in Egypt, took over responsibility for the Delegation.*

\* \* \*

*Mr. H. G. Beckh, delegate of the ICRC, visited the National Red Cross Societies of Jugoslavia, Rumania and Bulgaria from December 1 to 18, 1957.*

*In Belgrade—where he saw the card-index of the Yugoslav Red Cross directed by Mrs. Z. Matejcek—he was able to appreciate the efficient work done in connection with the re-uniting of families.*

*In Bucharest he had interviews with the President of the Rumanian Red Cross, Dr. O. Belea, and the Vice-President, Mrs. A. Mesaros, as well as several members of the directorate and heads of sections. He visited the Society's various sections and was present at one of its first-aid demonstrations.*

*In Sofia he met the Vice-Presidents of the Bulgarian Red Cross, Mrs. R. Raidovska and Mr. G. Gospodinov, and members of the directorate. As in Rumania, he saw the efficient work of the National Society, of which the health centres set up in the capital are a tangible proof.*

*On his return journey Mr. Beckh visited Vienna where he saw the International Committee's representative in Austria, Mr. G. Joubert.*

# INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

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## RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE XIXth INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS

### I

#### REPORTS BY NATIONAL SOCIETIES

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,  
having taken note of the reports submitted by National Societies  
on their work,  
receives these reports,  
directs that they be filed,  
thanks the National Societies which submitted them.

### II

#### REPORTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,  
having received the reports of the International Committee of the  
Red Cross on its work from 1952 to 1957,  
accepts these reports  
thanks the International Committee of the Red Cross for having  
submitted them.

III

REPORT OF THE LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,  
having received the report of the League of Red Cross Societies  
on its work from 1952 to 1956,  
accepts this report,  
thanks the League of Red Cross Societies for having submitted it.

IV

REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN ON THE RESOLUTIONS  
OF THE XVIIIth INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,  
having received the report of the International Committee of the  
Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies on the action taken  
on the Resolutions of the XVIIIth International Conference of the  
Red Cross,  
accepts this report,  
thanks the International Committee and the League for having  
submitted it.

V

EMPRESS SHÔKEN FUND

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,  
having received the report of the Empress Shôken Fund presented  
by the Joint Commission of the International Committee of the Red  
Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies,  
considering the proposal submitted to it by the Joint Commission  
in the annex to its report,  
accepts the report,  
thanks the Joint Commission for its administration of the Fund,  
decides to amend the Regulations of the Fund as follows :

- (a) Addition of the following sentence to Article 2, paragraph 1, after  
the second sentence :
- “ The institution from which the Chairman is drawn shall also  
provide the Commission's Secretariat for that same year ”.
- (b) Addition of a new article 5-bis as follows :
- “ National Red Cross Societies which feel obliged by circum-  
stances to put the allocations received to uses other than those  
specified in their applications for grants under Article 4 must  
ask for the Joint Commission's approval before doing so.”

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(c) Addition of a new article 5-ter as follows :

“ The National Red Cross Societies shall send to the Joint Commission, in due time, a report on the use of the allocations received ”.

(d) Amendment as follows to paragraph 1 of article 8 of the Regulations :

*Article 8.* — “ The Joint Commission shall present to each International Conference of the Red Cross a report on the financial situation of the Fund, the allocations which have been made since the preceding Conference and the use made of those allocations by the National Societies.”

## VI

### AUGUSTA TRUST FUND

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having received the report on the Augusta Trust Fund submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross,

accepts this report,

thanks the International Committee of the Red Cross for its administration of the Fund.

## VII

### FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEDAL

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having received the report on the award of the Florence Nightingale Medal submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross,

accepts this report,

thanks the International Committee of the Red Cross for its administration.

## VIII

### FOUNDATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having received the report on the Foundation for the International Committee of the Red Cross submitted by the Council of this Fund,

accepts the report,

thanks the Council for its administration.

## IX

COMMISSION FOR THE FINANCING OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

whereas the Commission set up by the XVIIth International Conference of the Red Cross in its Resolution No. 8 has concluded its work and submitted its report,

whereas, according to this report, a number of National Societies have made regular voluntary annual contributions to the International Committee and whereas the continuation of this support and contributions from all National Societies are desirable, justified, and necessary,

whereas, also, appeals are made by the International Committee to Governments which are members of the International Conference of the Red Cross in accordance with the Resolution of the Diplomatic Conference held in Geneva in 1949 and the participation of National Societies in passing on and supporting these appeals varies of necessity from country to country according to national custom,

decides :

- (a) that the report of the Commission set up by the XVIIth International Conference of the Red Cross in accordance with the above mentioned Resolution is approved,
- (b) that each National Red Cross Society accepts its obligation as a member of the International Red Cross to pay regular, voluntary, annual contributions to the International Committee,
- (c) that each National Red Cross Society will continue to take such steps as it considers advisable with regard to financial appeals made to Governments by the International Committee in accordance with the above Resolution of the 1949 Diplomatic Conference.
- (d) that a new Commission shall be appointed consisting of the National Societies of Czechoslovakia, Great Britain, India, Mexico and the Netherlands.

## X

## SPECIAL FACILITIES

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering the situation of National Societies which have not been granted adequate facilities by their Governments to accomplish their missions such as :

- (a) the granting of rapid visas and travel facilities to Red Cross personnel going on official duty in a foreign country with the agreement of the National Society of the country concerned;

## INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

- (b) rapid transfer from one country to another of funds for Red Cross work;
- (c) rapid movement free of charge of Red Cross medical and other relief supplies for disaster needs;
- (d) exemption from custom duties and other duties on Red Cross relief supplies;
- (e) exemption from taxes on fund-raising schemes in aid of disaster relief;

urges National Societies once again to bring this matter to the notice of their Governments indicating to them benefits already granted to a large number of National Societies and to request from their Governments that similar facilities be accorded to enable the Societies effectively to discharge their duties in disaster relief.

## XI

### ALGERIAN REFUGEES

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that a large number of Algerians, the majority being composed of women, children and aged persons who, fleeing from events in Algeria, have taken refuge in Tunisia and Morocco;

considering that the majority of these refugees, whose numbers are increasing daily, are absolutely destitute; that the approaching severe winter in North Africa will render still worse the living conditions of this mass of human beings who are already homeless, undernourished, without sufficient clothing and deprived of all means of resistance against illness,

considering that the assistance given by the Tunisian and Moroccan Governments, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Tunisian Red Crescent as well as other associations animated by the Red Cross spirit, is not sufficient to prevent the serious danger which threatens the existence of these innocent victims of the war;

considers that only an effort of an international and universal nature would be able to meet the immense resources required to give assistance to these hundreds of thousands of human beings,

guided by the humanitarian spirit which the associations composing it have so frequently shown during recent similar situations,

makes an urgent appeal to the world for similar efforts to be made on behalf of the Algerian refugees.

XII

AUTONOMY OF NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETIES

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

re-affirms the principle of the autonomy of all National Red Cross Societies in conformity with Article 4 of the Conditions for the Recognition of National Red Cross Societies.

XIII

DRAFT RULES FOR THE LIMITATION OF THE DANGERS INCURRED  
BY THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN TIME OF WAR

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

convinced that it is interpreting the general feeling throughout the world which demands that effective measures be taken to rid the peoples from the nightmare of the threat of war,

having taken cognizance of the "Draft Rules for the Limitation of the Dangers incurred by the Civilian Population in Time of War", drawn up by the International Committee of the Red Cross, following a request by the Board of Governors of the League, meeting at Oslo in 1954,

considers that a set of rules revising and extending those previously accepted is highly desirable as a measure of protection for the civilian population, if a conflict should unfortunately break out,

deems that the objectives of the Draft Rules submitted are in conformity with Red Cross ideals and the requirements of humanity, urges the International Committee of the Red Cross to continue its efforts for the protection of the civilian population against the evils of war, and

requests the International Committee of the Red Cross, acting on behalf of the XIXth International Conference, to transmit the Draft Rules, the record of its discussions, the text of the proposals, and the submitted amendments, to the Governments for their consideration.

XIV

ROLE OF NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETIES  
IN THE SPHERE OF CIVILIAN PROTECTION

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having noted the reports on the role of National Societies in the sphere of Civilian Protection submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies,

accepts these reports and thanks their authors,

## INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

reaffirms that it attaches great importance to the adoption of all necessary practical measures for the protection of the civilian population,

invites Governments to give their most careful attention to such measures,

requests National Societies to act in accordance with the directions and operational programmes proposed by the International Committee of the Red Cross in its report and by the League of Red Cross Societies in its Guide, so that the civilian population may be assured of the assistance which it is entitled to expect of the Red Cross.

### XV

#### THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 1949

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross

having received the report on the Geneva Conventions of 1949 submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross,  
accepts this report,

thanks the International Committee of the Red Cross for having submitted it.

takes note of the declaration relating to the application to members of police forces of the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention 1949, as quoted in the report.

### XVI

#### LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO FOREIGNERS

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having received the reports on Legal Assistance to Foreigners submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross,  
accepts these reports,

thanks the International Committee of the Red Cross for having submitted them.

### XVII

#### MEDICAL CARE

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering the efforts already made by the International Committee of the Red Cross to minimise the suffering caused by armed conflicts of all types, expresses the wish that a new provision be added to the existing Geneva Conventions of 1949, extending the provisions of Article 3 thereof so that :

- (a) the wounded may be cared for without discrimination and doctors in no way hindered when giving the care which they are called upon to provide in these circumstances,
- (b) the inviolable principle of medical professional secrecy may be respected,
- (c) there may be no restrictions, other than those provided by international legislation, on the sale and free circulation of medicines, it being understood that these will be used exclusively for therapeutic purposes,

furthermore, makes an urgent appeal to all Governments to repeal any measures which might be contrary to the present Resolution.

## XVIII

### PROTECTION OF POPULATIONS

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross

considering that the Red Cross has always striven and continues to strive to relieve human suffering whether in peace or war,

considering that it has always stood for the cause of world peace, hereby recalls the resolutions adopted by the XVIIIth International Conference at Toronto in 1952 as also by the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies at Oslo in 1954,

appeals once again to all the countries of the world, to accept the principle that war is no solution to any problem and thereby pledge themselves to renounce it,

to intensify their efforts to bring about general disarmament, particularly to adopt measures which will at all times effectively protect humanity from the terrible consequences of the use of incendiary, chemical, bacteriological, radioactive or other such agents,

## XIX

### RELIEF IN THE EVENT OF INTERNAL DISTURBANCES

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering it necessary to ensure maximum efficiency and equity in the distribution of relief supplies in the event of internal disturbances,

declares that relief supplies of all types must be distributed equitably among the victims by the National Red Cross Society, without hindrance on the part of the local authorities;

considers that, in the event of the National Red Cross Society being unable to come to the assistance of the victims, or whenever it may be deemed necessary or urgent, the International Committee of the Red Cross should take the initiative for the distribution of relief supplies, in agreement with the authorities concerned;

requests authorities to grant the Red Cross every facility in carrying out relief actions.

XX

REUNION OF DISPERSED FAMILIES

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering that as a result of war, internal conflicts and other events a large number of persons, both adults and children, are still separated from their homes and from their families which have been dispersed, and

whereas much human suffering has been caused as a result of such separation, and,

whereas the XVIIIth International Conference of the Red Cross meeting in Toronto in 1952 by Resolution No. 20 has already recognized the National Societies of the Red Cross, " as the natural intermediaries with their respective Governments to facilitate to the greatest extent the liberation of these persons, to seek information concerning the fate of such persons and to facilitate the despatch to them of material relief ",

reaffirms the principles enunciated in this Resolution,

urges all National Societies and Governments to intensify their efforts in these matters and, in particular, to facilitate by every means the reunion of persons, both adults and children, with their families in accordance with the wishes of such persons, and in the case of minor children in accordance with the wishes of the recognized head of the family no matter where domiciled.

XXI

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

having taken cognizance of the joint report of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies on the International Commission for Medical Equipment,

considering that these two Organizations have reached the conclusion that whilst the work of this Commission had proved extremely useful in the past, this is no longer the case, other specialized organizations now being in a better position to undertake these tasks,

recommends that the Commission be dissolved,

further recommends that the International Committee and the League continue to follow problems connected with medical equipment for civilian and military use and inform National Societies of progress in these fields, at the same time remaining in close contact with the competent international technical organizations and national health authorities.

## XXII

## TECHNICAL AID

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,  
taking note of the report of the Medico-Social Commission,  
requests the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies :

- (a) to study the reports from the National Societies sent to the Conference and also the remarks made during the Medico-Social Commission's meetings by various Societies upon their activities in the sphere of medico-social, welfare, nursing and Junior Red Cross work,
- (b) to urge National Societies to continue reporting to the League Secretariat upon experiences gained in this field,
- (c) to intensify the technical assistance programme of the League through the planning, within the framework of financial possibilities, of courses or seminars on special activities suitable for pioneer work or pilot projects in those Societies which need and request them,

requests those National Societies which already may have gained experience in a particular field to help, through the League Secretariat, other Societies where such activities are under development through receiving study visitors or sending out instructors and field workers for guidance,

requests the League Secretariat to continue distributing information and directives for work in special fields, either spontaneously or upon request, in order that the League Secretariat may remain an effective intermediary and service body to National Societies—keeping in mind the universality of the Red Cross principles.

## XXIII

RED CROSS RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES,  
GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
IN THE MEDICO-SOCIAL FIELD

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering with satisfaction the development over recent years of the working relations between the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies, the World Health Organisation, and other governmental and non-governmental international organizations,

recognizing the importance of these contacts in bringing about coordination of activities and in making the best use of the available resources,

recalling the terms of the resolutions adopted on this point by the Board of Governors of the League in 1946 and by the XVIIth International Conference of the Red Cross in 1948,

## INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

recommends the development of existing links between the League and these organizations on both the international and the regional level,

suggests that National Red Cross Societies,

- (a) develop their relations with the regional and national offices of these organizations in order to ensure that the best possible use is being made of Red Cross resources in terms of personnel, professional and auxiliary, as well as of equipment, and that the largest possible participation be encouraged of Red Cross volunteers of all categories in carrying out medico-social activities of particular interest to the area under consideration;
- (b) make contact with the competent government services in order to ensure closer co-operation on the national level, thus co-ordinating the programmes of activities.

## XXIV

### BLOOD TRANSFUSION

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering the increasingly important role of transfusional therapy in medical and surgical practice,

considering that blood requirements impose new burdens on the community, hence the necessity for an ever-increasing number of blood donors

recalls the resolutions concerning this subject adopted by the XVIIth International Conference of the Red Cross at Stockholm in 1948 (resolution No. 47) and by the 21st Session of the Board of Governors of the League at Monaco in 1950 (resolution No. 15),

considering the recommendations of the meeting organized by the League in 1956 between various international organizations interested in problems of blood transfusion on the standardization and interchangeability of material, biological standardization, stocking of equipment, training of staff and recruitment of blood donors,

welcomes the actions undertaken by National Societies in regard to the development of blood transfusion services and the establishment of reserves of dried plasma and blood protein fractions for use in the event of epidemics, disasters or conflicts,

emphasises the importance of close cooperation on the national level between the Red Cross and the authorities in the organization of blood transfusion services,

confirms the desire that the principle of the free gift and receipt of blood be as far as possible universally applied,

calls upon National Societies to continue to draw public attention to the importance of this medico-social problem and to contribute to the civic and humanitarian education of the community in this connection,

requests the Secretariat of the League to continue to encourage and to assist the National Societies in their blood transfusion and blood donor recruitment programmes, by making available information based on the experiences of sister Societies, and by encouraging mutual assistance and the exchange of technicians and scholarship holders between National Societies.

## XXV

### PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS

The XIXth International Conference of the Red Cross,

considering the growing number of accidents at home, in schools, at sports, on the streets and at work, which are tending to become an increasingly important cause of death and disablement amongst adults and children,

noting the work of the Health Advisory Committee and of the Junior Red Cross Advisory Committee, as well as the publications issued by the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies,

bearing in mind the importance of coordinating the activities of adult and Junior Red Cross,

welcomes the numerous initiatives taken in various countries to prevent accidents, by the public services and specialized bodies, as well as by the National Red Cross Societies and their Junior Sections,

draws the attention of Governments and National Societies to the urgent need for measures to decrease the causes of accidents and for education of the public in general, and young people in particular, in order to promote a greater safety consciousness on the part of the trained first aiders and the general public,

requests the National Societies to study means whereby practical cooperation with public or private bodies concerned with accident prevention may be undertaken or developed, specially in educational institutions,

requests the League Secretariat to continue its work on the prevention of accidents in order usefully to advise National Societies.

**Changes in the Secretariat**  
**of the**  
**League of Red Cross Societies**

**Mr. de Rougé retires**

Mr. Bonabes de Rougé, having reached retiring age, relinquished his post as Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies at the end of 1957.

When he joined that body in 1924, it had only been in existence for five years. In 1936 he was appointed Secretary-General and under his guidance the activities of the League constantly widened in scope.

Since 1936, there has been noteworthy progress in co-operation between the member Societies and it is in this sphere perhaps that the League owes most to its Secretary General. He kept in constant touch with the Societies, both by letter and through visits in person or by members of his staff to National Red Cross Societies. His duties took him to more than fifty countries and recently the League paid striking tribute to his high qualities of leadership and his administrative abilities by awarding him the Bernadotte Medal and appointing him Honorary Vice-Chairman.

To show their gratitude for his services, more than forty countries have granted him their highest distinctions. The

Board of Governors of the League, at its 24th session, recently held in New Delhi, appointed him Honorary Adviser, a post which he will take up in January 1958.

These few facts alone would be enough to indicate the prominent role played by Mr. de Rougé at the League, at a time when that body was taking an ever more important place in the Red Cross movement and was becoming truly universal. In carrying out his often difficult duties, he has been well served by his high intellectual qualities, his unfailing sense of responsibility and a very wide and generous understanding of the Red Cross ideal and the duties which it imposes—particularly on those in posts of great responsibility. Mr. de Rougé has shown in all circumstances a deep understanding of international realities and the possibilities and limits of Red Cross action.

The International Committee deeply regrets the departure of Mr. de Rougé, with whom it has always had the most cordial relations, and who has always understood the long-term need of the complex international Red Cross organization, but is happy to think that the Red Cross movement will continue to have the benefit of his great experience and the Committee of his continuing co-operation.

### **Mr. Milsom leaves the League**

Last year, Mr. Georges Milsom, Under Secretary-General of the League became a member of the Board of Governors. At the end of 1957, he retired from his post and has been appointed Honorary Adviser.

Mr. Milsom has had a fine fruitful career in the service of an ideal which he has always defended with authority and feeling. A brilliant organizer, with a clear and judicious mind, he also has played a part from the beginning in the general movement which has brought the League to its present level of achievement.

A member of the Secretariat since the founding of the League in 1919, and Head of the French Section in 1920, he later became Director of the Information and Publications Bureau and then, in 1949, Director of the Bureau of the Junior Red Cross, whose work he has encouraged for many years. He carried out numerous missions and everywhere succeeded in obtaining the adoption of the humanitarian point of view, having closely and competently studied the problems of the International Red Cross.

The International Committee regrets his going and wishes him a happy retirement. He may be sure that everyone in the ICRC will remember him with affection and the Committee wishes to thank him once more for his unfailing courtesy and understanding in his relations with the ICRC.

#### **Appointment of Mr Dunning**

The Board of Governors of the League, at its 24th. session, appointed Mr. Henry W. Dunning, hitherto Under Secretary-General, to replace Mr. de Rougé.

Born in the United States in 1895, Mr. Dunning, after various posts in journalism and later in international organizations, was appointed in 1941 Assistant Director of the Relief to Prisoners of War Service set up by the American Red Cross in Washington. Three years later, he became representative of the American Red Cross Society for questions concerning prisoners of war with the Supreme Command of the Allied Expeditionary Forces, and Director of the Prisoner of War Services in the European and Mediterranean theatres of operations. In 1946, he entered the service of the League in Geneva as Executive Secretary and Director of the Organization and Development Bureau. In 1956, he was appointed to the post of Under Secretary-General, which he held until his present promotion.

The International Committee wishes to congratulate Mr. Dunning on his appointment. It has always had the best possible relations with him and has had many opportunities of appreciating his initiative and co-operative spirit.

The Committee wishes him every success in carrying out his new duties and is certain that the relations between the League and the Committee will continue to be excellent and close.

### **Appointment of Mr Phillips**

Finally, Mr. Wilfrid J. Phillips, M.B.E., has just been appointed Under-Secretary General of the League of Red Cross Societies.

Born in 1906, Mr. Phillips became in 1940 Assistant Secretary to the British Red Cross Society. He was promoted Secretary in 1945 and, at the same time, appointed Joint Secretary of the war organization of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John.

In 1950, Mr. Phillips came to Geneva to take up a post with the League as Director of the Bureau of Organization and Development of National Societies. Today, he succeeds Mr. Henry W. Dunning as Under-Secretary General.

The International Committee rejoices that this highly responsible post has been entrusted to a person whose outstanding qualities it well knows and with whom it has always enjoyed the most cordial relations. It offers its very sincere congratulations to Mr. Phillips on his appointment.

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