



SUPPLEMENT

VOL. IV

REVUE INTERNATIONALE
DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

ET

BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL
DES SOCIÉTÉS
DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

SUPPLEMENT

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INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

Western Germany. — On May 25, the first General Assembly of the German Red Cross since its official recognition by the Government of Western Germany was held at Bonn. The International Committee was represented by M. Martin Bodmer, Vice-President, and M. François Ehrenhold and M. Denis Favre, Delegates. A warm tribute was paid to the work of M. Ehrenhold for the "Volksdeutsche". The Committee's representatives also attended a reception given by the President of the Federal Republic, and a public meeting organized by the German Red Cross.

In the Western Sectors of Berlin, a relief scheme to help 25,000 needy old people has been completed. In co-operation with the Social Welfare Services, the Delegation provided each with a mixed parcel containing two kilos of food, including meat, milk, sugar, and margarine. The gift was made possible by the generosity of "Swiss Relief to Europe", the Swedish, Danish, and South African Red Cross Societies, and the American, British, and Canadian Society of Friends.

The Delegation also handed the Public Health Authorities 47,197 cases of cod-liver oil—a gift of "Norwegian Relief to Europe", which helped some 23,600 sick people.

"Volksdeutsche". — Under the ICRC scheme for reuniting dispersed families, 340 "Volksdeutsche" from Czechoslovakia arrived at Furth im Walde Camp (Bavaria) on April 27 and 28, bringing the total who have passed through to 16,439; the total for Friedland Camp, which receives "Volksdeutsche" leaving Poland, stands at 43,922.

A new group of "Volksdeutsche" children from Jugoslavia crossed the Austrian frontier at Rosenbach (Villach) on April 17. It contained 239 children, of whom 172 have returned to relatives in Germany, and 67 in Austria.

Greece. — Relief to the destitute in Greece continues. In March, the Delegates at Athens visited the exile camp of Trikeri, the penal agricultural colony at Kassavetia, near Halmyros, and the prisons of Kardizza, Trikkala, Lamia and Larissa; in April, those of Amphissa, Thebes, Levadia and Chalkis, and at the beginning of May, Aegina Prison. Help, varying in amount according to needs, was given.

Ten cases of medical supplies and bandages, and 3,500 X-ray films of different sizes—the consignment worth in all 19,500 Swiss francs—were forwarded from Geneva.

Displaced Greek Children. — On May 24, at Salonika, 214 children claimed by relatives in Greece arrived from Jugoslavia. They were handed over to their parents in the presence of a special Delegate of the ICRC and the League.

Korea. — The Delegates in South Korea visited nine prisoner of war camps and one hospital during the month of May.

On June 1, the Committee cabled to the North Korean Government details of the location of prisoner of war camps; this information had been provided by Unified Command of the United Nations forces.

Japan. — After protracted negotiations, the transfer to Japan has begun of Japanese military personnel sentenced in the Far East for acts committed prior to war captivity. Those from Hong-Kong arrived at Yokohama on May 17; others, including prisoners in Malaya and Burma, are expected to leave shortly.

Vietnam (Indo-China). — Seven prison camps and a hospital situated in the neighbourhood of Hanoi and Haiphong were visited during May.

As Dr. Roland Marti's mission to Vietnam was temporary only, M. Paul Kuhne, of headquarters staff, has been appointed to succeed him. M. Kuhne arrived in Indo-China on May 23.

Salvador. — The Committee has made a gift of 4,750 Swiss francs to the Salvador Red Cross for relief to victims of the recent earthquake.

War-Invalid Relief — The War-Disabled Section, has again provided funds amounting to 42,000 DM for the training of German war invalids. This money has been divided between five professional training centres in Western Germany, and used to purchase machines and tools for invalid workshops, and to provide facilities for greater numbers in each centre.

Nursing Service — The pamphlet "Some Advice to Nurses" was sent to all National Societies last October; it was designed for the use of nurses in wartime, printed in the same format as the identity card, and has appeared in seven languages.

To the Committee's knowledge, eight National Societies have reproduced the text in their official Reviews, and seven others have translated it into the national language and had it printed for general issue to nurses.

In general, the pamphlet has been very well received, not alone by the Red Cross, but also by the Medical Services of the armed forces. Several National Societies asked that the text be slightly modified for issue to other Red Cross medical personnel.

In addition, certain Medical Services wished to have an edition suitable for all medical personnel of the armed forces. A new pamphlet: "Some Advice to Nurses and other Members of the Medical Services of the Armed Forces", practically identical with the first, has therefore been edited. There are slight changes: the text has been broken up into headed paragraphs and some details added. It has also been published in three languages, in the identity card format and can be issued with advantage to all categories of medical personnel protected under the First Convention, namely:

- (1) — Medical Personnel of the armed forces employed exclusively in searching for, collecting, transporting, and caring for the military wounded and sick, or in the prevention of disease.
- (2) — Military Personnel dealing exclusively with the administration of medical units and establishments.
- (3) — Chaplains attached to the armed forces.
- (4) — The personnel of National Red Cross and other Relief Societies recognized by their Governments, employed on the same conditions as those listed under the first three headings, and subject to military laws and regulations.
- (5) — Temporary medical personnel while engaged on medical duties.

A number of National Societies have suggested that a third pamphlet for the use of Civilian Hospital Personnel, protected to some extent under certain clauses of the Fourth (Civilian) Convention, should likewise be prepared. This suggestion is at present being considered.

Talks with National Society Delegates to League Executive Committee — Several Resolutions of the Stockholm Conference made reference to the need for close collaboration between the International Committee and the National Societies. It is standard practice for the Committee's representatives, in any country to which they may have to travel on mission, to make personal contacts with officials of the National Society, and to discuss matters of common interest to the Societies and the ICRC. As such missions are comparatively infrequent, the Committee took advantage of the expected arrival at Geneva of National Society Delegates to the League Executive Committee and the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross Conference, to propose to the League that such Delegates should meet at the Committee's headquarters for informal discussions. The Chairman of the League Board of

Governors, Judge E. Sandstroem, gave his ready approval. Invitations were accordingly issued to the twenty-seven Societies concerned.

On May 14, 15 and 16, representatives of the following fifteen National Societies attended in response :

Alliance of Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies: Professor Pachkov, Vice-President ; Dr. Pavlov ; Mlle. Mikalevskaja.

Australian Red Cross: Lady Owen, A.R.C. representative in Great Britain.

Brazilian Red Cross: Mr. T. W. Sloper, B.R.C. Delegate in Europe.

Chinese Red Cross: Madame Li-Teh-Chuan, Minister of Health, President of the C.R.C. ; MM. Lin Schih Hsiao, Shen Yi, Chi Seng, and Yin Ming Chih.

Greek Red Cross: M. Mindler, Secretary-General.

Iraqi Red Crescent: Dr. Sabih Al Wahbi, Iraqi Delegate to the World Health Organization.

Red Lion and Sun of Iran: Mr. Hekmat, Vice-President ; M. Esfandiari ; M. Gharib, Counsellor of Legation at Berne, Delegate in Switzerland.

Italian Red Cross: M. Minucci, Director, External Affairs Section of the I.R.C.

Jugoslav Red Cross: Dr. Pavle Gregoric, Minister of Health, President ; Dr. Olga Milosevic, Secretary-General ; Mme. Milin.

Mexican Red Cross: M. J. J. G. de Rueda, Delegate to the Committee and the League.

Netherlands Red Cross: M. van Emden, Director.

Polish Red Cross: Mme. Domanska, First Vice-President and Head of the External Relations Section.

Swedish Red Cross: Judge E. Sandstroem, President, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the League.

Swiss Red Cross: Dr. H. Haug, Assistant Secretary-General.

Turkish Red Crescent: M. Ali Rana Tarhan, Vice-President ; M. Nedim Abut, Liaison Officer.

In a number of general and individual talks, the ICRC gave its visitors an outline of the most urgent current problems. The following subjects were dealt with: the 1949 Geneva Conventions (ratification, commentaries, diffusion); incidents

in the Southern Moluccas ; protection of German civil workers in France ; legal assistance to former German prisoners of war in France ; civilian relief in Germany ; refugees and " Volksdeutsche " ; relief given by the ICRC and the League in the Near East ; Korea ; unrest amongst refugees in Bengal ; assistance to detainees in Greece ; war invalid relief ; training of medical personnel and nurses.

Comments and suggestions made during the course of these talks were both useful and interesting, and amply justified the Committee's idea of holding them. The eleven Societies which were unable to send representatives expressed their lively interest in the initiative.

*ANNUAL AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR
ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1950*

The Annual Accounts of the International Committee of the Red Cross are audited each year ¹ by the « Société Fiduciaire Romande OFOR S.A. »

The Society's Report for the year ended December 31, 1950, is given below.

Gentlemen,

On your Committee's instructions, the undersigned firm of auditors, approved by the Swiss Federal Council and the Federal Banking Commission, has audited the Annual Accounts to December 31, 1950, of the International Committee of the Red Cross and of its subsidiary relief works.

On the basis of the vouchers, books and supporting documents placed at our disposal, we have made numerous spot checks and examinations of documents concerning the operating of the ICRC during the year 1950. The entries are in entire conformity with the supporting documents.

We then verified the Balance Sheet and the Statement of Income and Expenditure, as on December 31, 1950. These two documents are shown in annex. They are in entire conformity with the Committee's books and are an accurate record of its financial situation at the end of 1950.

All documents and information we asked for have been readily furnished.

We recall that we have already verified the Annual Accounts for 1950 of the various Special Funds entrusted to the International Committee, namely :

- The ICRC Foundation
- The Augusta Fund
- The Empress Shōken Fund
- The Florence Nightingale Medal Fund.

The auditing of these Accounts, which were found to be accurate, was the object of our special Reports of January 23 and 24, 1951.

Geneva, April 18, 1951.

¹ See *Revue internationale*, English Supplement, June 1950, p. 97.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

ASSETS

GENERAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	To 1950 Sw. Fr.	To previous years Sw. Fr.	Total Sw. Fr.
GENERAL OVERHEAD EXPENSES			
Staff remuneration	2,110,412.85	—	2,110,412.85
Family and cost of living grants	149,613.40	—	149,613.40
Social Insurance (Old Age and State)	93,837.65	265.75	94,103.40
Share in staff transport expenses (Geneva-Pregny)	57,903.10	—	57,903.10
	<u>2,411,767.—</u>	<u>265.75</u>	<u>2,412,032.75</u>
Postage, telegrams, telephone	79,712.09	84.—	79,796.09
Heating and lighting	23,255.90	17.50	23,273.40
Office supplies	35,825.72	0.78	35,826.50
Office equipment (purchase and upkeep)	28,846.92	284.90	29,131.82
Equipment, supervision and upkeep of premises	32,972.80	2,627.86	35,600.66
Upkeep of automobiles (cars and lorries)	70,780.97	—431.51	70,349.46
Reception of visitors	13,429.25	466.70	13,895.95
Press subscriptions, etc.	13,524.61	885.—	14,409.61
Travelling expenses, Switzerland	21,413.40	2,356.10	23,769.50
Travelling expenses, abroad	145,915.27	1,341.50	147,256.77
Printing and publishing, Revue, booklets, etc.	114,712.23	1,269.—	115,981.23
Wireless and films	41,327.35	11.05	41,338.40
Allowance for expenses, members of the President's Office	48,110.—	—	48,110.—
Red Cross Conferences and Meetings (including 25,000 francs for XVIIIth International Red Cross Conference)	44,692.25	—	44,692.25
Sundry	44,939.05	4,055.98	48,995.03
<i>Total</i>	<u>3,171,224.81</u>	<u>13,234.61</u>	<u>3,184,459.42</u>
DELEGATIONS			
Staff remuneration	321,161.10	—896.11	320,264.99
Travelling expenses, insurance, Delegates' maintenance and overhead of Delegations	1,011,702.03	1,817.98	1,013,520.01
<i>Total</i>	<u>1,332,863.13</u>	<u>921.87</u>	<u>1,333,785.—</u>
<i>Total of expenses</i>	<u>4,504,087.94</u>	<u>14,156.48</u>	<u>4,518,244.42</u>
DEBIT BALANCE AS ON DECEMBER 31, 1949, CARRIED FORWARD	—	1,672,740.49	1,672,740.49
<i>Grand Total</i>	<u>4,504,087.94</u>	<u>1,686,896.97</u>	<u>6,190,984.91</u>

OF THE RED CROSS

ACCOUNT AS ON DECEMBER 31, 1950

LIABILITIES

	To 1950 Sw. Fr.	To previous years Sw. Fr.	Total Sw. Fr.
CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATIONS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES			
Contributions of National Red Cross Societies	236,958.95	66,986.79	303,945.74
Contributions by Governments	5,193.95	265,075.38	270,269.33
Sundry contributions and gifts	61,755.40	9,322.35	71,077.75
Total	303,908.30	341,384.52	645,292.82
INCOME FROM SECURITIES			
Bank interest	55,368.60	19,103.45	74,472.05
Interest from Public Securities	51,273.15	18,168.20	69,441.35
ICRC Foundation	19,249.60	8,523.30	27,772.90
Total	125,891.35	45,794.95	171,686.30
SUMS RECOVERED AND SUNDRY RECEIPTS			
Reimbursements and payments towards headquarters and Delegation expenses	675,396.—	90,959.31	766,355.31
Sundry	113,357.05	71,320.78	184,677.83
Total	788,753.05	162,280.09	951,033.14
Total Receipts	1,218,552.70	549,459.56	1,768,012.26
LEVY ON PROVISION FOR CURRENT RISKS FOR WRITING-OFF			
BALANCE OF 1949 DEFICIT	—	1,137,437.41	1,137,437.41
Deficit as on December 31, 1949, carried forward Fr. 1,672,740.49			
Less surplus on accounts entered in 1950 for previous years » 535,303.08			
Debit Balance, 1949 Fr. 1,137,437.41			
	1,218,552.70	1,686,896.97	2,905,449.67
DEFICIT FOR 1950	3,285,535.24	—	3,285,535.24
Grand Total	4,504,087.94	1,686,896.97	6,190,984.91

We certify that the above General Income and Expenditure Account of the International Committee of the Red Cross as on December 31, 1950, has been drawn up on the basis of the Annual Accounts for 1950, which have been audited and found true.

Geneva, April 18, 1951.

SOCIÉTÉ FIDUCIAIRE ROMANDE OFOR S. A.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE

ASSETS

AVAILABLE AND REALISABLE	Sw. Fr.
Cash in hand	52,390.06
Postal Cheque Account	164,507.78
Balance at Swiss Banks	4,145,662.22
Foreign currency holdings	21,106.24
Public and other securities deposited at the Swiss National Bank	14,001,014.30
Sundry securities presented to the ICRC (nominal value)	1.-
Total	18,384,681.60
EARMARKED	
Advances to Delegations and Delegates abroad	1,663,783.93
Governments, official organizations and National Red Cross Societies	132,041.83
Sundry Debtors	143,274.13
Stocks of pharmaceutical relief supplies	36,804.27
Office equipment and furniture (nominal value)	1.-
Capital shares in " Foundation for the Organization of Red Cross Transports " (nominal value)	1.-
Legacy, M ^{me} E. M. Domke (bare ownership) (nominal value)	1.-
Total	1,975,907.16
<i>Gross Assets</i>	20,360,588.76
DEBIT BALANCE AS ON DECEMBER 31, 1950	
Debit Balance for 1950	3,285,535.24
<i>Grand Total</i>	23,646,124.-
SUSPENSE ACCOUNT	
Advances to Delegations for relief undertakings	85,333.55
Guarantee " Foundation for the Organization of Red Cross Transports "	400,000.-

OF THE RED CROSS

SHEET AS ON DECEMBER 31, 1950

LIABILITIES

COMMITMENTS	Sw. Fr.
General Relief Account	2,554,446.71
Delegates and Delegations abroad	1,126,796.27
Governments, official organizations and National Red Cross Societies	1,992,027.51
Sundry Creditors	843,267.32
Swiss Confederation Loan	3,000,000.—
<i>Total</i>	<i>9,516,537.81</i>
SUNDRY PROVISIONS	
Provision for specific undertakings in case of war	5,000,000.—
Provision for general risks	4,054,586.19
Provision for XVIIIth International Red Cross Conference	75,000.—
<i>Total</i>	<i>9,129,586.19</i>
RESERVE FUND	
Capital Fund as on December 31, 1950	5,000,000.—
<i>Grand Total</i>	<u><i>23,646,124.—</i></u>
SUSPENSE ACCOUNT	
Advances to Delegations for relief undertakings	85,333.55
Guarantee "Foundation for the Organization of Red Cross Transports"	400,000.—

We certify that the above consolidated Balance Sheet as on December 30, 1950 has been drawn up on the basis of Accounts closed as on December 31, 1950, and audited by us, and that it is a true statement of the financial situation of the International Committee of the Red Cross on the said date.

Geneva, April 18, 1951.

SOCIÉTÉ FIDUCIAIRE ROMANDE OFOR S. A.

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMISSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS CONFERENCE

The last half-yearly meeting of the Standing Commission was held in Geneva on May 12, 1951, with M. André François-Poncet, Ambassadeur de France, in the Chair. All the members were present with the exception of Lord Woolton, who was ill, and for whom Lady Limerick, Vice-President of the British Red Cross Executive Committee, acted as substitute.

Mr. T. J. Nicholson, Vice-President and Executive Director of the American Red Cross—which will be host to the next International Red Cross Conference—was elected by the Commission to fill the place left vacant by the resignation of Mr. Henrik Beer.

The agenda included : Korea, Repatriation of Greek Children, and the Statutes of the International Red Cross. The meeting approved the draft programme submitted for the XVIIIth International Red Cross Conference, to be held in Washington in October 1952. A proposal to increase provisionally the number of members, in order to make the Commission more representative of the Red Cross in general, was rejected; it was considered that the Statutes of the International Red Cross did not allow of such alteration.

BOOK REVIEW

Warrior Without Weapons, by Dr. Marcel Junod. With a preface by Professor Max Huber, sometime President of the International Committee of the Red Cross. London, Jonathan Cape, 1951. 318 pages, with portrait. Price : 12/6 net.

In 1947, Dr. Marcel Junod, Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, published *Le troisième combattant* on his experiences between a first mission to Abyssinia in 1935, and 1945, when he accompanied one of the first Investigation Commissions to Hiroshima. He had in the meantime served in the Spanish Civil War, and during the World War, in Poland, Germany, France, England and Greece. Just before the War ended, he travelled from Moscow across Siberia and Manchuria, in order to investigate Japanese treatment of prisoners of war.

The book has now appeared in an English translation by Edward Fitzgerald, under the title *Warrior Without Weapons*.

Towards the end of this book, a passage occurs :

“ In our plane the physicist Morrison was nervously going from one window to the other studying the scientific message the grim picture held for him ... His nervousness and agitation contrasted with the rather shocked silence of General Newman. As for me, my feelings were very strange. I was less impressed with what I saw than with something I remembered : a picture of burnt and blasted Abyssinian huts and fleeing natives. Though flying above the remains of Hiroshima, it was of Dessie I thought.”

A statesman knows, on many occasions, that lives will depend upon his decision. Many wars have taken place because statesmen believed they had a legitimate right to give vent to their feelings—if not a solemn duty to do so. A Red Cross Delegate never can. In the ten years 1935-1945, the author of this book had much pent up, and he gives the impression of having very considerable satisfaction in stating openly what he has had so often to keep to himself.

Dr. Junod has not attempted to write a history. Out of the vast amount of his material, he has very skilfully chosen, always with an eye for the significant detail and the ironic twist. In

the Spanish Civil War, for instance, he is bitterly and contemptuously attacked in the Press, but succeeds in arranging many exchanges of prisoners. In the closing stages of the war, he is in Valencia and has been there for a time. He awaits the Franco forces with some misgiving, but is politely received by their commander, who, during their interview, passes him a sheet of paper with the Republican Government heading, his own name, and the one word in Spanish "Ojo"—"keep an eye on him". Or again: after the fall of Poland, the Germans made much of a stock of poison gas found in Fort Pilsudski. A tin containing the gas is handed to him for examination. He discovers, underneath, in small lettering, the words "I.G. Farben, Berlin". That particular investigation had not to be carried any further.

Chance meetings and coincidences are adroitly used to bind his story together. In his first assignment in Abyssinia, he found that the only medical services were five or six foreign ambulances. These were mercilessly bombed, the Red Cross markings on them serving as a target rather than a protection. He met two Poles, attached to one of the units, later on, one as a prisoner of war in Germany, the other dying of tuberculosis in a Swiss sanatorium. He heard the story of the bombing of the British ambulance from a mechanic attached to it—"bored to tears at the enforced inactivity which resulted from the fact that he was a prisoner of Franco in a San Sebastian jail".

A Red Cross Delegate on active service is expected to be something of everything, with a good sprinkling of less orthodox qualifications, including good luck and what is briefly, if not elegantly described as "neck". In an enemy-occupied village, the members of a patrol see every inhabitant as a possible killer, and appear themselves in exactly the same light. There is a definite advantage with whichever is first to reckon on the fears of the other. A Delegate must often have this sort of instinct. Time and again, Dr. Junod mentions examples of success achieved by something which, if it was not bluff, was closely akin to it.

A Delegate's weapons are fragile enough. True, he has the Geneva Conventions—when they are enforceable. How real

their value, is well brought out in the instance he quotes of a camp in Germany. British prisoners in it had the complaints to make which no self-respecting soldier will be without, however good the conditions. Separated from them by a double line of barbed wire were a group of Russian prisoners. The Conventions were unfortunately not applicable as between Germany and Soviet Russia. The Germans therefore refused prisoner of war treatment to the Russians; the Delegate was there only exceptionally and by permission of the camp commander.

“ To clear a path for us, the *Feldwebel* did not hesitate to use his whip... Some of the Russians cast furtive glances at me and quickly looked away. I tried to make out the expression on those emaciated faces. They seemed indifferent to the whip which lashed their backs. What was going on in the minds of these men from Eastern Europe? Revolt or fatalism? In any case, they seemed very near the end to me. They seemed to have but one desire: to stretch themselves out and sleep, ...”

Dr. Junod had no right to intervene or protest; nevertheless, he did not let the matter drop. A modest beginning had been made in Spain where a hundred persons, say, condemned on one side, exchanged against a hundred on the other side, meant a saving of two hundred lives—a fact too eloquent for even the fanaticism of a civil war to ignore. It will never be known how many thousands died in Russia and Germany because this form of arithmetic could not be made to prevail.

Even where Conventions are accepted and there is a genuine intention to put them into effect, a great difficulty remains. Conventions are drafted and accepted by legal experts, but if, to take one example, the pilot of a bombing plane falls into the hands of natives in a village which has just been bombed in Abyssinia, it is a lot to expect that his captors will worry about the niceties of international law.

Chapter 5 is entitled “ The Murder of Dr. Vischer ”. For two or three years before the War ended, the International Committee had lost all contact with its Delegates in Batavia, Singapore, Manila, Hong Kong, and Shanghai. All of them were located except Dr. Vischer, who had been in Dutch Borneo when the Japanese invaded. Dr. Junod discovered in Tokyo

that he had died in December 1943—he and his wife had been executed. Junod succeeded in locating the prosecutor. He gives details of his bewildering interview with this man.

“...At the trial itself, Japanese was the only language allowed. There was no interpreter and no defending counsel. Any defence was impossible. Dr. Vischer and his wife were probably unaware that sentence of death had been passed on them when they were taken out to the place of execution and beheaded together with the twenty-six hostages whose lives they had tried to save... And the man who had demanded and obtained the slaughter stood before me, without remorse, impassive. Perhaps he was right from his standpoint. I knew as well as he did that Vischer had been guilty of doing his duty to the last. Guilty of having tried to learn the name of the hostages... guilty of having done everything in his power for the prisoners—out of 700 Allied internees in Borneo, only six were still alive on the day of liberation.”

It is not always remembered that what is known as the neutrality of the Red Cross carries such risks for those who serve the organization. Dr. Vischer and his wife, like the other case specifically mentioned—a young Swiss representing the Committee who went down with a ship carrying relief to Greece—took the risk with their eyes fully open. Their sacrifice, and that of the eight other Delegates who died on service during the War, binds the Red Cross even closer to the victims for whose sake it exists.

Divergence between theory and fact is a constant nightmare for Delegates. Everywhere, it is, in the last analysis, an individual who is responsible—and this brings us to yet another dilemma. No ordinary man could bring himself to annihilate hundreds of people in cold blood. Yet that is the routine duty of a bombing pilot. There is a strong temptation to say, when a nation which has started a war begins in turn to receive its share of attacks, that it is only justice. But the new victims have as little say as the others. To take an example from the book :

On August 6, 1945, Hiroshima had what appeared to be a singularly harmless air-raid. Four B29 planes appeared, but flew off again. At 7.31, the all-clear was given. Feeling themselves in safety, people came out of their shelters and went about their affairs and the work of the day began.

“ Suddenly a glaring whitish pinkish light appeared in the sky, accompanied by an unnatural tremor which was followed almost

immediately by a wave of suffocating heat and a wind which swept away everything in its path...

"Within a few seconds the thousands of people in the streets and the gardens in the centre of the town were scorched by a wave of searing heat. Many were killed instantly, others lay writhing on the ground screaming in agony from the intolerable pain of their burns. Everything standing upright in the way of the blast, walls, houses, factories and other buildings, was annihilated and the debris spun round in a whirlwind and was carried up into the air. Trams were picked up and tossed aside as though they had neither weight nor solidity. Trains were flung off the rails as though they were toys. Horses, dogs and cattle suffered the same fate as human beings. Every living thing was petrified in an attitude of indescribable suffering..."

In Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as in Abyssinia, and all the other countries which, one by one, came or were dragged into the War, thousands were maimed and killed who, by no stretch of the imagination, could be described as belligerents. The very idea of law depends on the existence of right and wrong in the abstract. If a Convention is accepted by a nation, and violated, what is to be done? The idea of War Crimes is a step in the direction of punishing individuals. But if an entire nation is responsible for the violation, the only available punishment seems to be to make war on it—and we are back where we started, especially when it is considered that one primitive atomic bomb made 160,000 victims.

The International Committee is very much alive to this problem, and has appealed to all Governments to consider it. Unfortunately, even if the decision to make war is finally that of an individual, both sides can nearly always convince themselves of their own righteousness. The individual conscience and the professional or political conscience seem to exist on different levels. Dr. Junod's book is a testimony of the persistent claim of the individual to his individuality, whatever the surrounding circumstances. He mentions the sympathy of a hotel porter in Germany after telling him the rumour—false as it happened—that Germany had declared war on Switzerland. He mentions his popularity as an "Americansky" with a Russian general and his friends on the Trans-Siberian railway. He mentions the German Attaché who gave the escaped French

prisoner of war a lift back into France, to hear himself be told, by the man's relatives, that "only a Swiss would have done it."

There is a mention in Dante of a brazen bull designed for Phalaris, the Sicilian tyrant. The shrieks of those roasted inside were to remind bystanders of the roaring of a bull. The designer was the first on whom the invention was tested. It is unfortunately impracticable to suggest that the same attitude be adopted towards atomic scientists, however much we might be inclined to wish for this solution after reading about the scientist who went with the first Commission of Investigation to Nagasaki and kept on saying, "We must open our minds". Nagasaki was a confirmation of a theory he had advanced several years before.

"He turned to me holding a dissected brain, congested and suffused with blood, and in a peremptory voice he said bluntly: "Yesterday it was rabbits; today it is Japanese."

It is not least of the many virtues in Dr. Junod's book that he brings home the full horrors of the ten years he describes, without hysteria, exaggeration, or pomposity, always retaining his sense of humour and his sense of proportion. His book can be read in a few hours, and from every point of view—including the elegant format in which Messrs. Jonathan Cape have produced it—it is readable. Certainly it has lost nothing in translation, although it may perhaps be regretted that the striking photographs in the French edition are omitted. There is a preface by Professor Max Huber, President of the International Committee for many years and still its Honorary President—one of the great figures of the Red Cross. Professor Huber devoted a great deal of what leisure his office left him to a study of the philosophical implications of the Red Cross. His preface is a brief statement of its principles, and in paying tribute to Dr. Junod and his fellow-delegates, he locates their contribution inside the greater framework.

It need not be said that everyone should read Marcel Junod's book, but it certainly can be claimed that few will do so without profit and interest.

Frank McDermott.