

New Members of the ICRC

At its plenary meeting on November 1, 1967, the International Committee of the Red Cross elected Mr. Roger Gallopin, Mr. Jean Pictet and Mr. Waldemar Jucker, as new members.

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Mr. Roger Gallopin was born in 1909 in Geneva where he began his studies which he continued in the universities of Munich and London.

He was awarded the degree of Doctor of Laws at Geneva University and was called to the Geneva Bar. He later became Legal Secretary of the ICRC in 1936. In this capacity he attended the XVIth International Conference of the Red Cross in London in 1938.

At the beginning of the Second World War, he assumed important functions on the staff of the ICRC. From head of the Division for Prisoners and Internees, he was promoted Assistant Secretary-General, then Director-Delegate, followed by Executive Director and subsequently Director-General, an office he still holds today.

In various capacities he was responsible for the practical side of many actions undertaken by the ICRC for protection and assistance to victims of war.

He has carried out a number of missions abroad and has taken part in all the International Conferences of the Red Cross.

He has on many occasions contributed to the *International Review*, particularly with articles on the protection of civilian populations in time of war, the notion of military objectives and the ICRC's work for the benefit of victims of civil wars and internal conflicts.

Mr. Jean Pictet was born in Geneva in 1914, and educated in Paris and at Geneva University.

After graduating as a Bachelor of Laws he worked as a lawyer in Vienna and in Geneva. In 1937, he joined the ICRC as a Legal Secretary. He held important offices during the Second World War

and was appointed Director in 1946 and, in 1966, to his present position of Director-General.

As a Director, he assumed responsibility for the preliminary work which led to the signature, in 1949, of the Geneva Conventions, the four-volume commentaries on which were published under his supervision.

He was the author of many articles in the *International Review*, and contributed for a large part to the elaboration of the humanitarian doctrine of the Red Cross today. Of his writings, we might mention: "The Red Cross and the Geneva Conventions", "The Principles of International Humanitarian Law" and "Red Cross Principles" for which he was elected Doctor of Laws by the University of Geneva and which formed the basis of the Proclamation, by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross, of the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross. In 1950, Mr. Pictet was appointed to give courses at the Academy of International Law at The Hague, and since 1965 he has taught International Humanitarian Law at Geneva University.

Born in 1924, Mr. Waldemar Jucker attended schools first in Rapperswil and Aarau, then the classical high school of Basle. Afterwards he followed legal and economic studies in Basle and London. In 1948 he presented a thesis to Basle University on labour law.

From 1949 to 1957, he was economic associate in the International Metalworkers' Federation.

Subsequently, he was appointed Secretary of the Swiss Association of Trade Unions, which he represents on various Swiss Federal commissions and international institutions.

His interests and main activities are connected with problems of political economy and finance, and also with European questions.

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As in the past, the counsel of these two directors-general, just elected "ad personam", will be valuable to the International Committee which is pleased to associate them in its work even more

closely than previously. The Committee is also happy to be able to count henceforth on Mr. Jucker who has agreed to place his profound knowledge on social realities at the service of the Red Cross in the pursuit of its humanitarian cause.

New Year Message

As in previous years, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross sent a message to many countries as follows :

On the threshold of the New Year, as President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, I send you my greetings and best wishes; I share with you the hope that 1968 may at last see an atmosphere of peace prevailing in the world.

The events of the past year have, once again, shown that Red Cross action is increasingly necessary in a world in which each one of us is constantly haunted by the spectre of war.

Conflicts, in particular in Vietnam, the Near and Middle East, in the Yemen and Nigeria, have caused untold suffering and brought in their train sometimes dramatic consequences. If the events in Greece and in the Congo are also taken into consideration, it can be seen that the ICRC has been called upon, during the past twelve months, to undertake many varied tasks of considerable scope.

In the Middle East where the application of the Geneva Conventions was generally speaking ensured and the victims of war protected, the ICRC continues to carry out its role as a neutral intermediary.

In Nigeria, Vietnam and the Yemen, though these wars are not officially recognized as such, the ICRC has ceaselessly worked at having the provisions of humanitarian law respected and is concerning itself especially in the distressful plight of the civilian