

A GLANCE THROUGH THE REVIEWS

The Red Cross and the Nurse, by Yvonne Hentsch, *International Nursing Review*, 1963, No. 2.

... In all Red Cross activities, as in others too numerous to mention here, the professional nurse plays a vital rôle.

At the local, regional and national levels of the national Societies around the world she is welcome in many capacities: as adviser to determine the Society's programme and to direct nursing activities, also to register for service in case of emergency, whether it be prevention of epidemics or in national disasters. She is also needed for service in other single aspects of the Society's programme, such as nursing education, as a teacher of home nursing and first aid, nursing auxiliaries, and in health education programmes and with the Junior Red Cross; she may work directly in immunization and blood transfusion programmes, in public health activities, Red Cross hospital service, as midwife, and in other medico-social services. In all of these activities she can volunteer to give as much time as she has available.

In line with today's technical progress, national Societies are engaging in nursing research projects, such as the Canadian Red Cross in nursing education, and the Swiss Red Cross in nursing personnel needs. Societies in newly developing countries are starting to train the public in all types of basic health education, and requests for technical assistance in this field are filled by specialists provided through League recruitment of personnel available from other Societies and from the League Secretariat itself. By working in close contact with other international organisations such as the ICN and WHO, and consulting with the International Committee of the Red Cross in establishing standards for nursing personnel in time of conflict, the League keeps in touch with the development and progress of the nursing profession.

Nursing and the Red Cross are in step with each other: the Red Cross principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality apply to both.

In entering a second century of service, the continuing development of mutual ideals is a source of inspiration for even greater effort in filling the ever-increasing needs of today's world.