

However, since our institution is constantly called upon to intervene in conflicts and troubles which have continued ever since the end of the world war, it knows how fragile are the achievements which have been made over suffering. It is also fully aware of the grave perils which continue to threaten the world.

On the threshold of the New Year, may I appeal to all men and women of goodwill by their understanding to support the work of the Red Cross in spite of present antagonisms, so that their sympathy may help in further vanquishing suffering and strengthening the confidence of mankind in its future.

### **Testimonies of recognition**

For some years past the International Committee of the Red Cross has made a point of marking twenty years of service by members of its staff. A ceremony took place on December 17, 1964 at which several members of the ICRC were present. Mr. S. A. Gonard expressed the gratitude of the institution of which he is President to the following: Miss A. Besson, Mrs. D. Braun, Mrs. M. Dumur, Mrs. E. Huguenin, Mrs. S. Kallenbach, Mr. R. Lafond, Mr. A. Perret, Mr. J. Santandréa, Mrs. M. Schmauss, Miss S. Schumacher, Mr. W. Uhlig, and Mr. M. Rouge

Mr. Gonard praised their loyalty to the work of the Red Cross and presented to each one a silver salver individually inscribed by name. Then Miss Besson, on behalf of her colleagues thanked the ICRC. "Mr. President", she said, "you have recalled the nature of our various activities here and this general survey brought us back to the time, now already remote, when the war had not yet ended, when we were part of a veritable army of colleagues distributed in different parts of the town and even in various towns in Switzerland, as is demonstrated by the presence here of Mrs. Huguenin, then in charge of the Zürich auxiliary section . . . It would be useless to seek the traces of twenty years of activity on our faces, since they are to be found in our hearts, in our determination to give ever more and better service. We want to give our experience daily to serving the ICRC, a modest contribution to the immense task it accomplishes on all fronts."