

But the international significance of the Red Cross goes further than these facts and mechanics of cooperation. Its contribution is, of course, in part an extension of the humanitarian work it does here at home. But I believe the contribution goes further, for it underlines for us some of the most urgent problems faced by our insanely unstable world society and points beyond them, if not to solutions, then at least to something hardly less precious—to the possibility of solutions . . .

. . . The Red Cross' utter dedication to *his* service, the growing speed and sophistication of their means of action, the setting up of permanent disaster squads to meet human tragedy as soon as it arises—in all this, I confess, I see another “last best hope” that “one day the burdens will be lifted from the shoulders of all mankind”.

The work has begun. The devotion and dedication *must* prove infectious. In our Pandora-box of miseries still lives the fair spirit of hope. And it is for this above all, as the Red Cross begins its second century with new tasks and growing responsibilities opening up before it—it is above all for this contribution of enduring hope that we turn to it with gratitude, salute it with joy and wish for it a hundred more years as fruitful and rewarding as the last.

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### CORRECTION

In the February 1963 issue we mentioned the text of the message addressed by Mr. de Valera to the members of the Irish Red Cross Society, on the occasion of the Centenary Year of the Red Cross. We regret that an error crept into the English edition. Mr. Eamon de Valera is President of Ireland and President of the Irish Red Cross.

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