

## IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

*Relief Service.*—The Society was on the spot during the conflict between Ethiopia and Somalia at Ogaden in 1964. It gave medical attention to the wounded and sick and distributed relief supplies to the civilian population. Considerable help in cash, medical supplies and foodstuffs was received at the time from sister Societies.

*The Junior Red Cross.*—The Junior Red Cross activities have been intensified during the past year by the extended First-Aid Teaching programme. In close co-operation with the Ministry of Education, plans are being worked out to reach the school students for enrolment in the Junior Red Cross Section.

*An Anti-epidemic Service* has been set up to co-ordinate hygiene campaigns in co-operation with the Ministry of Public Health.

*Tracing of Missing Persons* is still carried on, in close co-operation with the ICRC.

As can be seen, an immense task has been accomplished in a short time. We express the wish that the Ethiopian Red Cross will carry on, ever more extensively and in ever better conditions.

## Nepal

“ I am very glad to know that the Nepal Red Cross Society is bringing out a journal to commemorate World Red Cross Day today. I hope the journal will serve to popularise the ideals of selfless service to suffering humanity, which the Red Cross Society was born to practise. I am happy to know that Princess Princep Shah and other Nepalese are trying their best to achieve the cause through it in Nepal. I wish the Nepal Red Cross Society all success.” It was with these words that H.M. the King of Nepal, on May 8, 1965, expressed his welcome of the publication of a well presented illustrated commemorative booklet edited in English <sup>1</sup>.

May 8, 1965, was also an occasion for Princess Princep Shah, the King's sister and Chairman of the Society, to express her views on the scope of this publication. After explaining the significance of World Red Cross Day, she stated : “ It is a matter of great joy that on this occasion the first issue of the journal of our Red Cross Society is being published. I wish wholeheartedly that the journal

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<sup>1</sup> *Nepal Red Cross*, Kathmandu, 1965, 62 p.

will serve to make our people more conscious of humanitarian duty by bringing out the real aims and objectives of our Red Cross Society. I hope sincerely for the greater devotion and co-operation of all the members of our Red Cross Society so as to prevent diseases and to mitigate human suffering throughout the country.”

Part of the booklet gives general information on the ICRC and the Junior Red Cross throughout the world. It also describes the activities and programme of the National Society. Under the title “The Beginning of Nepal Red Cross” the Secretary General, Dr. Jaya N. Giri, gives an account of the formalities for the foundation of the Society. These resulted in recognition by the ICRC—as announced in its Circular No. 458—on October 1, 1964 and admission to the League in the same month.<sup>1</sup> “Under Her Royal Highness’s leadership”, the author writes, “the organization is growing from infancy to maturity and gradually overcame the many problems and hindrances that so frequently confronted it.” Since last year various committees and permanent services are in operation, such as the ambulance service, to which the Red Cross of the Federal Republic of Germany has donated four ambulances ; a blood donor recruitment committee, considered very important and H.M. the King, who inaugurated the campaign in 1964, himself gave blood ; an emergency supplies storage service ; a first-aid service which will be able to give valuable assistance to the Nepal medical corps and is responsible for training instructors who in turn will conduct classes for industry, government and schools ; home nursing instruction in and around Kathmandu by 25 nurses who give their services voluntarily and work under the direction of a doctor and a nurse delegated by the League of Red Cross Societies ; and a refugee committee, led by the Society’s Chairman, which has been co-operating with the Government and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in assessing needs and planning the emergency care of Tibetan refugees ; this same committee has established a refugee camp. The Nepal Red Cross has been called upon to co-operate also with the World Health Organization representative in Kathmandu in the field of maternal and child welfare.

<sup>1</sup> *Plate* : First General Assembly of the Nepal Red Cross Society. (Photograph kindly lent by the League of Red Cross Societies.)

The Nepal Red Cross is in constant touch with the National Publicity and Public Relations Committee for disseminating news on its activities through the press and radio. The text and illustrations of this booklet testify to the importance of the Junior Red Cross in Nepal. The leaders have their sights aimed at the future and one of their essential concerns is to prepare those who will one day take their places and who are an assurance for the continued work and development of the Society.

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### Upper Volta

“ It is our humble desire to acquaint you with the Upper Volta Red Cross, through its first-aiders and their daily life. May this album bring home to you the necessity of helping our teams the better to serve ”.

These are the opening words to the album of photographs which Mr. Ilboudo, First Assistant Secretary General of the Upper Volta Red Cross, presented to the ICRC recently in the course of a visit to its headquarters in Geneva. These photographs were received with particular interest, for they give a fascinating insight into the first-aid work of a young National Society. They are also an appeal to those who, having already acquired wide experience, can give support to these worthy efforts.

A graphic representation of the Upper Volta Red Cross first-aid teaching development shows that the training of youths in this field began in 1956. In 1959, the number of participants was fifty ; by 1965, there were 700 first-aiders.

Everything having to be started from the beginning, the organizers made contact with other National Societies. As the first step, the national director went to France to familiarize himself with first-aid there. Then the Upper Volta Red Cross delegated representatives to the International Meeting of First-Aiders at Macolin (Switzerland) in 1963, on the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary.

These photographs show youths engaged in a number of activities ranging from first-aid training to a demonstration of