

## DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE ON THE HUMANITARIAN PRINCIPLES AND CONVENTIONS

It gives us pleasure to bring to the notice of our readers an interesting innovation at the Laguna University in Santa Cruz, Tenerife. In co-operation with the Spanish Red Cross Canaries Branch it has organized a series of thirteen lessons on "Principles and Conventions for humanitarian protection"; these lessons are given by Mr. Juan José Gómez de Rueda, Mexican Red Cross Delegate in Europe and former Adviser to the ICRC and the League in Geneva.

In November 1966, the inaugural lesson was attended by local dignitaries, the Dean of the University and a large public. Mr. de Rueda first recalled the value in the world today of the Red Cross idea which possesses a strength and dynamism sufficient to draw the efforts of men of goodwill. The First Geneva Convention was a capital event in protection for human beings and the ever-increasing importance of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the need to apply them and defend the principles thereof was apparent in the following lessons. Courses will also begin on the Red Cross organization and action.

This first lesson was followed by the film "Red Cross on a White Field", which aroused keen interest and was shown again a few days later.

Weekly courses of one hour are planned; they will probably be followed by a seminar where students will be able to study questions relating to humanitarian protection and to prepare to become the future leaders of the Red Cross and other relief work. In addition, we would mention that before extending his courses on a wider scale, Mr. de Rueda will give summary courses in a series of broadcasts over Radio Atlantico.