

RESIGNATION

Miss Lucie Odier has asked to be relieved of her duties and the International Committee has taken note of her resignation with the greatest regret.

Miss Odier, who became a nurse in 1914, has been a member of the Committee since 1930 and has carried out important work in the humanitarian field, undertaking numerous missions and displaying the greatest devotion to duty at all times. Hers has been a considerable and extremely varied activity in the service of the Red Cross and it is therefore impossible to single out more than a few of the essential tasks to which she devoted herself. From the very beginning she made nursing and relief problems her special concern, to which she later added the problems of the disabled.

In the field of relief, Miss Odier directed all the actions undertaken during the wars in China and Spain. Then, at the beginning of the second world war she set up the first relief bureau, which gave rise to the relief Division, and from then on she devoted herself to this work with inexhaustible energy. At that time, she undertook several important missions for the ICRC, particularly in London, where she managed to have the blockade lifted on foodstuffs destined to the prisoners of war in Germany.

In the sphere of nursing care, Miss Odier gave proof of the greatest competence. A member of the Florence Nightingale Foundation, she represented the ICRC on numerous missions in several countries and she played a leading rôle at the Conference held in Paris in 1937, which gathered experts together to prepare voluntary auxiliaries. Then, in 1945, she went to Northern Italy, to organize the hospitals which were due to receive sick Italian refugees returning home.

But she has also co-operated constantly in the study of general problems which have been put to the ICRC; thus she played a very active part in the International Red Cross Conference in Tokyo, London, Stockholm and Toronto. Following the end of

the war, she worked on problems relative to the appointment and formation of nurses and she worked closely on the questions of help to the disabled and on questions referring to medical equipment. She has published several articles in the *Revue internationale* on her experiences and missions, and, amongst others, she has brought out a brochure entitled : *Some advice to nurses and other members of the medical services of the armed forces*, which has been translated into practically every language. Miss Odier has participated in the work of the Conseil de Présidence of the ICRC for some time and was also, hitherto, a member of the Committees of the Florence Nightingale Medal, the Shôken Fund and the Augusta Fund.

The International Committee, anxious to place on record its deep gratitude for the distinguished services which Miss Odier has rendered to the Red Cross cause throughout her career, has nominated her an honorary member and has conferred on her the title of Honorary Vice-President for life.

It was during the ceremony which took place on October 12, which is reported elsewhere, that Mr. Boissier announced the resignation of Miss Odier and expressed the profound regrets of the Organization of which he is President. He was delighted, however, that the ICRC would be able to count on her presence and her support.

Miss Odier, greatly moved, said a few words herself, thanking the International Committee for the honour which it had accorded her, and affirming that she would always remain faithful to the Red Cross and ready to lend it her assistance.¹

¹ *Plate.*