

**NEW VESSEL ON LAKE LEMAN NAMED  
“ HENRY DUNANT ”**

The General Navigation Company of Lake Léman in Lausanne has honoured the work of the Red Cross by naming its newest vessel after the author of *A Memory of Solferino*. The Company chose the date of the Centenary of the foundation of the ICRC for the naming of the boat, and a ceremony took place at Ouchy shipyard on February 17, 1963, before a large crowd.

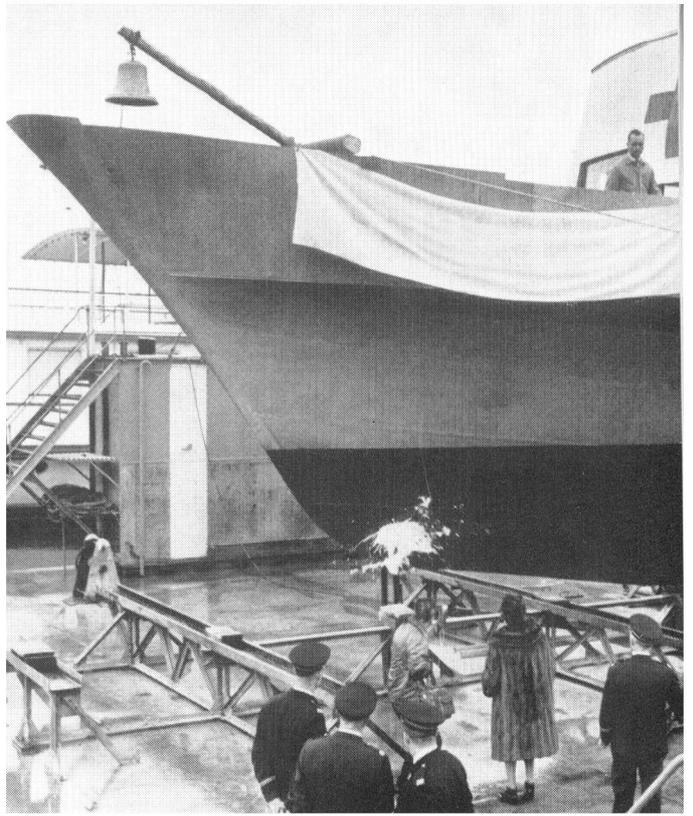
After a musical interlude by a French naval band, a great grand-daughter of Henry Dunant, Miss Jacqueline Dunant, recited a poem written for the occasion by a member of the ICRC's staff, Miss Krayenbuhl. Mrs. Léopold Boissier, wife of the President of the ICRC, then named the vessel by breaking the ritual bottle of Champagne over the bows.<sup>1</sup> The vessel was then launched and a bell was tolled. This bell belonged to the first *Henry Dunant*, chartered by the ICRC during the Second World War.

The guests then assembled in a saloon of another boat and, in the absence of Mr. F. Siordet, Mr. Martin Bodmer, Chairman *ad interim* of the Commission of the Red Cross Centenary in Switzerland, spoke a few words. He described the circumstances in which the decision to give the new boat a name dear to the Red Cross had been taken and he stressed that the Administrative Board of the Company had accepted this suggestion with enthusiasm. He recalled the fine career of the first *Henry Dunant* which crossed the Atlantic on countless occasions, carrying foodstuffs and relief supplies under the Red Cross flag. At a time when the high seas had become so dangerous, the Red Cross flag protected it.

The second speaker, Mr. Jean Kratzer, Chairman of the Administrative Board of the Company, then gave various technical details and drew attention to the fine works of art destined to decorate the interior of the vessel and which are inspired by the Red Cross

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*

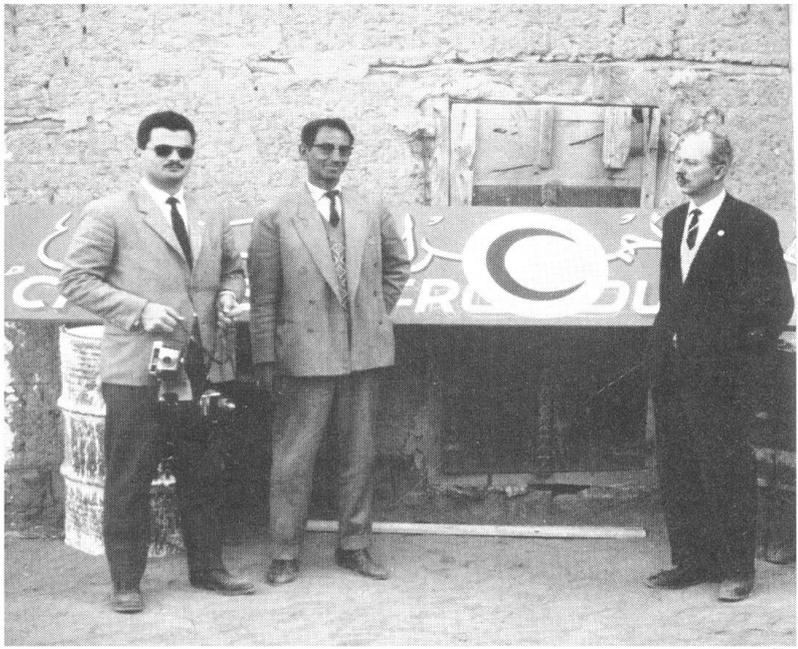


*The Naming by Mrs. L. Boissier,  
wife of the President of the ICRC.*

*On Lake Léman: A boat called Henry-Dunant.*



*The launching at Ouchy  
on February 17, 1963.*



**YEMEN:**

*At the headquarters of the Red Crescent, at Sanaa. (From left to right: Mr. Gasser, delegate of the ICRC, Mr. Abdel Wasaar, Director General of the Red Crescent, Mr. Du Pasquier, delegate of the ICRC.)*

**INDIA :** *Refugee camp school in Assam, where a delegate of the ICRC, Mr. Schmid, is distributing biscuits to the children.*



idea. They are the work of the Swiss artist Robert Hérítier and they were made possible thanks to several patrons.

Finally, Mr. Léopold Boissier said a few words on behalf of the ICRC, of which he is President, thanking the General Navigation Company for having placed the new vessel under the patronage, in a way, of the Red Cross and of one of its founders :

“ If, as Frédéric Amiel said, a landscape is a state of mind, Dunant’s was not a calm, unruffled lake, but a rough lake swelled by high waves, in the image of the dreams which tormented him throughout his life. Of these dreams, so numerous and, sometimes, so fantastic, one has become reality and has spread into a shining movement called the Red Cross.

Henry Dunant had confidence in mankind. Despite his disappointments and the unhappy course which his life took, he believed in his destiny and he remained an optimist.”