

and dedication were remarkable and gained him universal esteem.

In 1980, he wrote an illustrated publication under the title *The ICRC and its Activities in the World*, a popularized work of great value in dissemination, with the essentials expressed briefly and clearly.

As this exceptional but unassuming man leaves us, we wish to express to him our great appreciation for the eminent services he has rendered to the humanitarian cause, together with our warm and friendly wishes that the improvement of his health will enable him to enjoy to the full his well-earned retirement and to continue at leisure the scholarly work which is so dear to him.

J. P.

New editor-in-chief of the *International Review*

Mr. Jacques Meurant, who succeeds Mr. Michel Testuz as editor of the *International Review of the Red Cross*, was born in Lille, France, in 1932. After studying in Lille and Paris, Mr. Meurant became a teacher in 1957 and taught English at the Henry IV High School and the Jules Ferry High School in Paris.

Following a period with the French Red Cross, Mr. Meurant went to the League of Red Cross Societies in January 1962 as Special Assistant attached to the Secretary General's office.

In 1973, Mr. Meurant was appointed Special Adviser to the Secretary General and was responsible for statutory and legal matters. In this capacity, he advised the Secretary General on legal and constitutional issues relating to the statutes and functions of the League of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, as well as to the doctrine and principles of the Red Cross, international humanitarian law and human rights. He was closely involved with the work of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law (1974-1977) and co-ordinated League activities in the field of dissemination of international humanitarian law and Red Cross principles and ideals.

In 1979, Mr. Meurant succeeded Mr. Jean Pictet, Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, as Director of the

Henry Dunant Institute, a centre specializing in research training and publications for the international movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

While Mr. Meurant was its Director, the Henry Dunant Institute carried out some eighty programmes, serving mainly the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and academic circles, and concerned with research (primarily international humanitarian law), training and dissemination (organization of courses and seminars) and publications.

Mr. Meurant has done considerable research work himself and has published numerous articles on Red Cross thought, humanitarian law and various aspects of Red Cross activities in the harsh reality of today's world. He is the author of a book on Red Cross voluntary service in present-day society, and he was the rapporteur at the First World Red Cross Conference on Voluntary Service (Mexico, March 1983).

He has also given talks on the Red Cross and humanitarian law at several international and national Red Cross meetings and at various academic institutions.

In the course of his work, Mr. Meurant has had much close contact with the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and has co-operated closely with academic institutions and specialized institutions operating in the humanitarian field.

Mr. Meurant holds a doctorate in Political Science from the University of Geneva. He is a graduate of the Institute of Political Studies in Paris and the French Institute of Journalism in Paris and also has an Arts degree. He is a member of the Executive Council of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law in San Remo, the Council of the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg and the Swiss Study Commission on the Second World War.