

Committee, the International Committee arranged a conference at its headquarters. This took place on September 3 and was attended by a large audience.

Members and representatives of the International Committee described current activities, mainly in Nigeria and the Near East, being carried out in co-operation with the National Societies. They also took note of several remarks and replied to many questions.

An address then given on "The Restatement and Development of Laws and Customs applicable in Armed Conflicts" gave rise to an important discussion.

Further Participation in the Geneva Conventions

In its previous issue, the *International Review* mentioned that 120 States were parties to the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949.

The ICRC has been informed by the Federal Political Department in Berne of the participation of Malta in these Conventions. This was made in the form of a declaration of continuity received on August 22, 1968 and which took effect on September 21, 1964, the date of that country's accession to independence.

There are now 121 States expressly bound by these Conventions.

Meetings

On September 6, 1968, Senator Guiseppe Medici, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy, met Mr. Samuel A. Gonard, President of the ICRC.

Mr. Gonard availed himself of this opportunity to thank the Italian government once again for its recent and generous gift of 200 million lira in support of the ICRC's action on behalf of the victims on both sides of the conflict at present raging in Nigeria.

In his turn, Minister Medici assured the ICRC of the Italian government's desire to continue its support in view of the future development of the ICRC's operations in Nigeria.

The same day, Doctor Kurt Waldheim, Austrian Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, called on the President of the ICRC.