

necessary for sustained action and reviews the material organization at the disposal of the Swiss Red Cross and the realizations which, it can be expected, will expand still further. By way of conclusion, he alludes to the fact that the ideal of humanity should inspire all those working for the Red Cross. "The struggle for humanity", he writes, "at a time which threatens man and the human race, the struggle for humanity in work accomplished outside and in our inner life represents the core of the task imposed on us men and especially on us of the Red Cross. If we unceasingly continue this struggle and these efforts, in spite of disappointments and the setbacks we may experience, the future development of the Swiss Red Cross will be fortunate, certain and flourishing".

J.-G. L.

PAUL LOGOZ: « ALFRED GAUTIER »¹

The author, an honorary member of the ICRC, recalls the memory of a man who played an important part in the International Committee, half a century ago. Is not the work of our predecessors a lesson worth remembering? We quote below what the author wrote on Alfred Gautier (1858-1920), a jurist and member of the Red Cross:

Alfred Gautier bequeathed us several striking aphorisms, such as the one I have already mentioned "Hesitation is better than prejudice". He also said "Charity transcends justice", and he suited his actions to his words.

From 1888 until his death Alfred Gautier was an active member of the ICRC, then presided over by Gustave Ador. He naturally was willing to attend to legal matters. Thus in articles in the *Revue Internationale de la Croix-Rouge*, he spoke, particularly after

¹ Off-print of an article published in *La semaine judiciaire* (1968, No. 23) Geneva, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the *Société genevoise de droit et de législation*.

the war, of the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles concerning those responsible for war. Again in 1919 the *Revue* published a moving article by him, entitled “*Protection de l'enfance et Croix-Rouge*”.

Before the war, moreover, he had occasion to submit a well-documented report on the misuse of the signs and the name of the Red Cross. He had presided over a commission to consider measures to be taken in this field and, at the Rome conference in 1892, he had reported on the results.

He also concerned himself—and in this he was a pioneer—with the improvement of conditions for prisoners and with legislative measures which might have relieved their often miserable plight.

He drew up a veritable “Code for the treatment of prisoners” and he knew the gratification of achieving considerable success in this field.

But he went even further: in 1914, he persistently sacrificed himself, without ostentation, by assuming a voluntary position at the *Prisoners of War Agency* in the ill-lit and badly ventilated basement of the Musée Rath, to take in charge, day after day, the department which perhaps required the greatest prudence and tact, that which was concerned with the recording of deaths and communicating with bereaved families.

It was Alfred Gautier who was charged to represent the ICRC (of which he became one of the Vice-Presidents in 1917) at Paris in 1919 for the ceremony of the founding of the League of Red Cross Societies. He then had the opportunity to describe in public in glowing terms, the mission and role of the International Red Cross.

The Rights of the Disabled, according to the Rt. Hon. Noel Baker, *World Health, WHO, Geneva, Oct-Nov. 1968.*

... Thanks to the progress of science, man, on average, lives longer than he used to do. This is also true of children born with physical or mental handicaps. It means that a greater number of them will survive and form part of adult society, thus setting a new problem.