

Geneva University, where Mr. Pictet has been teaching since 1965, paid tribute to him at its meeting of 16 November 1984 which was chaired by Mr. Charles-André Junod, Dean of the Law Faculty, and attended by representatives of the Swiss and Genevese authorities, of the Federal Tribunal and of the European Office of the United Nations. The very large audience was addressed by Mr. Junod. Mr. Jean-Paul Buensod, Vice-President of the Swiss Red Cross and President of the Henry Dunant Institute, and Mr. Alexandre Hay, President of the ICRC. Mr. Pictet was then presented with the first edition of *Studies and Essays on International Humanitarian Law*. He closed the ceremony by giving a lecture on "The formation of international humanitarian law" which will be published shortly in the Review.

Mr. Pictet, who also taught at the Hague Academy of International Law and in Strasbourg under the auspices of the Council of Europe and of the University, is a doctor *honoris causa* of the Universities of Leyden, Zurich and Louvain.

The press, in Switzerland and Germany especially, marked Mr. Pictet's seventieth birthday celebrations by publishing laudatory articles written by eminent legal scholars and Red Cross personalities.

The *International Review of the Red Cross*, which owes so much to Mr. Pictet, takes this opportunity to convey to him its sincere congratulations and to wish him many happy returns of the day.

A new building for the Central Tracing Agency

The opening ceremony for the new building of the Central Tracing Agency took place at the ICRC on 29 October 1984.

During the inauguration about one hundred guests were addressed by Mr. Pierre Aubert, Federal Councillor and head of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Jacques Vernet, Vice-president of the State Council of the Republic and Canton of Geneva, Professor Jean-Werner Huber, Director of the Federal Buildings Office, and Mr. Alexandre Hay, President of the ICRC.

Made possible by a donation of 15 million Swiss francs from the Swiss Government, the co-operation of the Office of Federal

Constructions and the technical assistance of the Federation of Buildings for International Organizations in Geneva, this modern and rational building allows the ICRC to bring together all the services of its Central Agency in premises very near its headquarters.

For the occasion the Swiss Confederation donated a sculpture—The Wild Boar—by Remo Rossi, an artist from Locarno (Switzerland) who died in December 1982 at the age of seventy-three. This work symbolizes strength and energy, two of the qualities necessary for the ICRC in all its activities.

Death of Mr. Claude Pilloud

It was with great sorrow that the ICRC heard of the sudden demise on 10 November 1984, after nearly forty years of service, of their faithful collaborator Mr. Claude Pilloud.

A law graduate and a barrister, Claude Pilloud made his début as a delegate in France in June 1940, only a few months after the start of the Second World War. In 1943, he was the ICRC escort on a hospital train in an operation for the exchange of severely wounded Italian and British soldiers between Rome and Lisbon. From January to June 1945, he successfully discharged a delicate negotiation concerning the German armed forces surrounded at Saint-Nazaire and Lorient, in the north of France.

This man of action who carried out numerous missions in Europe and Africa also proved to be a man of thought and an outstanding negotiator. He attended the first post-war International Red Cross Conference, held at Stockholm in 1948, where the ICRC reported on its work during the war. He further took part in the meetings of the International Association of Penal Law and of the “Bureau international de documentation et de médecine militaire”, the congress of the “Lieux de Genève”, the general meeting of the World Medical Association and the World Assembly for Peace. He also took part in the negotiations which resulted in the ICRC’s mandate to manage the International Tracing Service at Arolsen (Federal Republic of Germany), where all concentration camp archives are kept. He was one of the founders of the ICRC pension fund and later became Chairman of the fund council.