

BELGIUM

Last month, *International Review* gave an account of the wide publicity given in various countries to the celebration of World Red Cross Day 1974, which was preceded and sometimes followed by events which provided the National Societies with opportunities for more direct contact with the general public. For example, the Belgian Red Cross took advantage of the commemoration to prepare a programme in which the ICRC contributed, thanks to the participation of Mr. Gaillard, deputy director, and a mobile exhibition of sixteen panels illustrating the institution's present-day activities. The exhibition was presented first at Louvain and then, supplemented by other panels produced by the Belgian Red Cross, in a large shopping centre in Brussels.

This year, the main celebration of the World Day on 8 May took place at Mons in the presence of H.R.H. Prince Albert, National President of the Red Cross, and of all the Hainaut provincial authorities: procession of first-aiders, youth, bands, several floats depicting historic Red Cross events from Solferino to the present.

A Red Cross fortnight began on 27 April, also at Louvain, with an official ceremony attended by the National President. Addresses were delivered by a government representative and several senior members of the National Society. At a fête in the town, many young people participated with the aim of making Red Cross principles and work better known to the population. Visitors were conducted round the blood transfusion centre.