

BOOKS AND REVIEWS

D. G. TSIROPINAS:
" LA NOUVELLE DEVISE DE LA CROIX-ROUGE " ¹

This pamphlet bears as a subtitle the words "*Per humanitatem ad pacem*" (Through humanity to peace). The author, Dimitri G. Tsiropinas, a member of the Central Board of the Hellenic Red Cross, undertakes to analyse the events which determined what he calls "a new orientation of the humanitarian mission of the Red Cross". And that orientation, the moral factors of which he discusses with convincing force, caused the Red Cross movement to "complete its initial motto, *Inter arma caritas*, by a parallel motto embodying the new Red Cross tendencies: *Per humanitatem ad pacem*".

It is not the purpose of the Red Cross to concern itself with the political organization of peace; yet its contribution "should aim above all at cultivating and promoting a humanitarian spirit between peoples". There is a general wish to reach a state of peace, but to fulfil that wish everyone must take part in the task of helping to create a moral climate more favourable to community life. And that means that the humanitarian feelings of individuals are instilled and encouraged, for an awareness of one's true duties implies "a feeling of love for others, an altruistic and philanthropic feeling, and hence a humanitarian feeling".

Here we have a broader and more positive description of the concept of peace, considered as the result of creative efforts to establish genuine harmony in human relationships. It therefore demands of one and all a humanitarian struggle since humanity is the means to achieve the final aim which the author evokes in the following passage, which shows how noble is his purpose:

"It amounts to saying that, if men became aware of their obligations and their responsibilities towards their fellow-men, in

¹ Extract from the second volume of the records of the First International Humanitarian Symposium held at Delphi in 1969. Athens, 1971, 20 p.

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a spirit of mutual understanding, justice and humanitarian love, armed combat and wars would no longer have any *raison d'être*. But for that to come about, it would be necessary, on the one hand, for the strong to be aware of the duty of moral and material solidarity with others and to give the weak a possibility of improving their living conditions; and, on the other hand, for the weak, aware of the duty of self-respect and responsibility towards their own dignity, to contribute, within their small means, to improving their condition and thus diminishing the gap between themselves and the strong.

Harmony in human society, and hence peace in the broad acceptance of the word, depends on the humanization of social relations, in every field of communal life ”.

J.-G. L.

The Nurse and Health Education, by Ruth E. Grout and Julia D. Watkins, *International Nursing Review*, Basle 1971, No. 3.

... As a nurse engages in health education activities she is constantly concerned with what is being accomplished. On the one hand, she hopes for evidence that the teaching-learning experiences are bringing about the desired changes in health behaviour. On the other hand, she wants assurance that she is following sound principles of education and is employing educational procedures which will contribute to the desired results. Both approaches to evaluation are important and both need to be used in on-going health education endeavours.

Evaluation should be built into a health education activity from its very beginning and continue periodically throughout the relationship. Whenever feasible, it should be a joint undertaking of the nurse and the individuals or groups with whom she is working. The initial stages of a teaching-learning situation, in which the participants state, define, and clarify problems and establish objectives, provide not only the foundations for determining how to proceed with the educational activities themselves but also the bases for evaluation.

As a teaching-learning situation progresses, the nurse and the individual she is counselling, or the group she is teaching, need to pause now and then to consider what has been accomplished so far and what more