

† ERNEST GLOOR

*Member of the International Committee of the
Red Cross*

The International Committee has just lost, by the death of Dr. Ernest Gloor on May 30, one of its most devoted members and who had for many years given valuable support to the work of the Red Cross.

Born in 1893, he practised medicine at Renens in the Canton of Vaud. He was also at the same time a member of the Vaud Grand Council, of the town council of Renens, then syndic of that town until 1937. From 1931 to 1941 he was a member of the National Council.

In 1945 he was appointed a member of the ICRC and since then he devoted himself, with as much courage as understanding wisdom, to the important tasks entrusted to him. From January 1947 to March 1948 he, together with Mr. Bodmer as Vice-President, assumed the temporary Presidency of the institution. Since then he was uninterruptedly part of the Presidential Council of the ICRC and again on a number of occasions was Vice-President.

He undertook a mission, in 1947, in Central Europe and the Balkans and participated in the XVIIth International Conference of the Red Cross at Stockholm in 1948. Two years later he was a member of the delegation which went to Moscow under the direction of the then President, Mr. Ruegger. In 1960 he represented the ICRC at the independence celebrations of Cameroon and was also present at the founding of the new National Red Cross Society at Yaoundé.

On entering the ICRC he had interested himself in information matters in the service of the Red Cross. He was thus a member,

then President, of the Executive Commission of the Broadcasting and Television Office of the ICRC and always took an active interest in such problems.

We would mention that he represented the International Committee at various congresses, in particular, in 1954, 1955 and 1958, of those of the International Committee of Military Medicine and Pharmacy. He was the author of a booklet concerning the activity of the International Committee during the Second World War and of a study, which was given much notice, on Switzerland's rôle as a land of refuge. He also gave accounts of his various missions in the service of the Red Cross, which were published in the *Revue Internationale*.

The International Committee is profoundly grateful to Dr. Ernest Gloor for having given it so much of himself and for always having responded so conscientiously to appeals which were made to him. Of him it will keep the memory of one who was fundamentally good, and who had made the fight for humanity his own fight, as well as making the Red Cross ideal his own.
