

Assembly insisted that the organization's efforts should be intensified.

*New institutions within the framework of or with the assistance of WHO*: The Director-General stated that a group of scientific experts had suggested setting up within the framework of the Organization a World Health Research Centre. Scientists from various countries would meet for the purpose of carrying out joint research in this field. The Assembly invited Dr. Candau to continue his studies with a view to the establishment of such a Centre and it authorised him to negotiate with some States for the establishment of a World Cancer Research Centre in which WHO would participate.

Technical discussions took place covering "the influence of public water supply programmes on the development of health and welfare". Water-borne diseases affect some 500 million people in the developing countries, and even in other countries this is a problem to some extent. For this reason, the Assembly recommended member States to give greater consideration to safe and adequate water supply and if necessary to take advantage of the assistance offered in this field by governments or international organizations.

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### WRITERS AND SCIENTISTS PAY TRIBUTE TO THE RED CROSS

The *International Review* has published in this same number an article on the events which were organized recently on the occasion of the Red Cross Centenary at Meaux by the local Committee of the French Red Cross. That Committee had the idea of asking several leading personalities in the world of letters and science in France to give their views on the position of the Red Cross.

We now give the translations of some of these opinions of which the texts were prominently displayed in the show-cases of the exhibition arranged by the Meaux Committee.

*Georges Duhamel of the French Academy.*

I cannot think of the Red Cross without a sense of gratitude and hope. My life as a doctor, especially during the two great wars, was illuminated and indeed in a way sanctified by the Red Cross. Let us think of it twenty times a day and make the resolution to have this symbol recognized and respected by the entire world.

*Daniel-Rops of the French Academy.*

There is no need to write of the Red Cross, nor to speak of it. Its work which has now been continuing for a hundred years speaks for it. How much pain has it relieved, how much consolation has it given to misery, how much love. . . . The little Cross is now so well known throughout the world that one wonders how mankind was able to do without it for so long.

*Armand Lanoux of the Goncourt Academy.*

The Red Cross is one of the very rare moral conquests of which man has the right to be proud since the Declaration of the Rights of Man and the abolition of slavery.

*Jean Guittou of the French Academy.*

In the history of the Red Cross, what has so struck me is its open spirit, its availability. Help is always brought wherever there is urgency. One renders service "without respect of persons", as Saint Paul said, only looking into the face of suffering. Right to the very end.

But, once the end has been reached, the pain relieved, then the Red Cross withdraws and leaves it to others to continue. It does not glory in the services it has rendered. It knows full well that the world of suffering is infinite, varied and is always restarting. It then turns to another task.

*Jean Rostand of the French Academy.*

In a world darkened by violence, fanaticisms and hatred, the Red Cross shines as a beacon for mankind.

Transcending factions and standing above all conflicts, it only desires to see the man in everyman and to accord him, for this alone, every consideration, compassion and help.

It thus complies with a moral truth which, however much it may be flouted today, should none the less be of primary importance.

By the vast range of its work, by its exemplary and effective action, by the spirit of peace which it maintains and imposes amidst the horrors of war, by the courageous way in which it places itself between those killing each other, by the unconditional respect for life which it proclaims and demonstrates unceasingly, it does more than serve the present: it foreshadows and prepares the future.

*Louis Pasteur-Vallery-Radot of the French Academy.*

The name of the Red Cross calls up the memory of charity and goodness. It is to be found on the battle-field as it is on all life's paths, benevolent at all times. Can enough ever be said of all it has done to comfort those who suffer ?

*Henry de Montherlant of the French Academy.*

I find it all the easier to say a few words about the Red Cross as, from 1942 until 1945, I myself belonged to the International Red Cross in the Children's Aid Section whose directress was Mrs. Micheli, a Swiss living in Paris. We were engaged in sending under-nourished Parisian children to Switzerland for certain periods. More than most, I am therefore in a position to know the devotion and effectiveness of Red Cross action, since I co-operated with it during the years which especially required its intervention.

*Jérôme Carcopino of the French Academy.*

However little qualified I may be to pay fitting tribute to it, I would, for my part, like to express in my humble opinion how much admiration and gratitude is felt for Red Cross action throughout the world.

Ever since its founder planted its flag on the fields of carnage in the Italian campaign, the Red Cross has never ceased bandaging wounds, relieving suffering, giving encouragement and bringing

## MISCELLANEOUS

a ray of humane light in the midst of war's horrors, to the vilest excesses of hatred between men.

*Marcel Achard of the French Academy.*

All flags, whatever they may be, are the symbols of a country. That of the Red Cross is for me the only one which represents them all, since it is the banner of humanity and fellowship.

*Pierre Mac Orlan of the Goncourt Academy.*

The work of the Red Cross is so manifest that it seems to be inappropriate for me to write about it, unless it is to expose the sum total of the services it has rendered humanity. My tribute is then only a very small stone brought to the edifice.

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## Xth DISCUSSION OF INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL LAW

Convened by the World Medical Association, the Xth Medical Discussion took place in Monaco on May 11 and 12, 1964 at the headquarters of the Monacan Red Cross. As has been customary, those who participated were representatives of the ICRC, of the International Committee of Military Medicine and Pharmacy, of the World Medical Association and, in the capacity of observers, of the World Health Organization and the Medico-Legal Commission of Monaco.

The principal questions discussed were the protection, in the event of conflict, of civilian medical personnel, the creation of a military medical section on the headquarters of the United Nations armed forces, and the application of the Geneva Conventions by these forces.

The participants in the meeting were received by Princess Grace of Monaco, President of the Monacan Red Cross.

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