

library at the Saint-Pierre University hospital in Brussels. 1964—84
libraries in operation in :

- 49 general hospitals
- 6 institutions for the aged
- 6 military hospitals
- 8 institutions for the mentally sick
- 15 sanatoria and preventoria
- 103,000 catalogued books in stock
- 470 voluntary workers
- 446,000 loans in 1963.

No technical treatises could explain the need for a library in a hospital—if that hospital is to be considered as operated on humanitarian lines—so well as the sentiment expressed by an old lady who had lost the use of her legs : “ When I have a good novel, I feel as if I were again up and about ”, or as expressed by a patient awaiting another operation : “ Trouble is changed to joy when books are available ”. Another patient, realizing the moral support he was given, has offered to join the ranks of the CNBH or to supply books to increase the library’s stock.

That is why the CNBH was set up, met with success, and continues to develop ; unceasingly endeavouring to assist the patients and the hospitals by accomplishing this work which is truly in keeping with the spirit of the Red Cross.

Sierra Leone

On April 11, 1965, the Joint Commission of the Empress Shôken Fund granted an allocation to the Red Cross of Sierra Leone of 10,000 Swiss francs, to be utilized, in accordance with the wish expressed by that National Society, for the purchase of a Land Rover.

We have pleasure in announcing that the Red Cross of Sierra Leone has now effected purchase of this vehicle, which will be used

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

for work in three provincial branches which has until now been seriously hampered by a lack of adequate means of transport.

It should be added that the visit to Freetown of the general delegate of the ICRC for Africa, Mr. G. Hoffmann, coincided with the delivery of this Land Rover, which he accordingly officially presented on behalf of the said Commission ¹. Furthermore, Miss A. Pfirter, head of the medical personnel section of the ICRC, and Miss Y. Hentsch, directress of the League's Nursing Division, who were also passing through that town, were able, thanks to the newly acquired vehicle, to visit one of the provincial branches.

¹ *Plate* : In Freetown. The delegate of the ICRC presenting the gift of the Empress Shōken Fund.