

HENRY DUNANT INSTITUTE

Science and the Red Cross

In its April issue, the *International Review of the Red Cross* mentioned the publication of a book which is already considered an authoritative work: *Belligerent Reprisals*, by Professor Kalshoven. A high distinction, the Koninklyke Shell prize, has just been awarded to him in recognition of the book's worth.

This book inaugurated a new collection at the Henry Dunant Institute: *The Scientific Collection*. What is the purpose and program of this collection? The time has come to answer that question.

Between the Red Cross and many sciences there is a greater wealth of exchanges than appears at first sight. The Red Cross is constantly appealing to science, law, medicine and sociology for example, but no less frequently it contributes to the progress of those same sciences. *The Scientific Collection* at the Henry Dunant Institute will be the place for such exchanges, the link between science and the Red Cross.

Two books now in preparation clearly show this. Both will be collected works: the first, by Professor D. Schindler, will include all texts making up the law of armed conflicts; in the second, Professor J. Zourek will collect all texts constituting the law of peace, the *jus ad bellum*.

To bring these treaties together, comment upon them, annotate them; to give for each of them a full and exact list of ratifications, accessions and reservations, was no mean task. It is the answer to the desire of legal experts, diplomats, soldiers and research workers who wanted a complete and practical collection of these treaties.

From its beginning the Red Cross, albeit not always understood, has sought to attenuate the evils of war and to outlaw war. This twofold tool bears witness to the determination of the Red Cross to continue that effort which is ambiguous only in appearance.

P. B.