

steady development of this organisation in New Zealand is proving to be a stimulus for many Red Cross centres. An ever-increasing number of local authorities are laying plans for use in a future emergency and many sections of the Society will be called upon to undertake a variety of first aid tasks.

We should like to end this article on a somewhat original note, but one which expresses only too well the financial worries of a Red Cross Society and the ingenuity which has to be used to overcome them. Having a considerable job of work to do, and consequently having to find a large sum of money, one of the sub-centres compiled a cookery-book with excellent recipes contributed by members and friends of the Red Cross. Two thousand copies were printed and Centres throughout New Zealand were asked to assist with sales. It is with this example of ingenuity and solidarity that we end these notes which, although far too brief, will give readers some idea of the pioneer work being undertaken in New Zealand under the Red Cross emblem.

Norway

In its issue of July 1960, the *Revue internationale* published a short article on the results of the co-operation, in Norway, between the Government and the Red Cross with a view to the wide scale dissemination of the Geneva Conventions. This co-operation had made it possible to distribute to the civil and military authorities a complete edition of the text of the four Conventions, printed thanks to the National Society and to the army medical services. Another edition—with commentaries—was also published by a magistrate, whilst the Red Cross itself distributed a résumé of the four Conventions to the military academies and the civil defence training centres, etc. ; moreover, in September 1959, the Red Cross distributed to the crews of all Norwegian vessels, a booklet on the Second Convention, which concerns the condition of wounded, sick and shipwrecked members of armed forces at sea.

Wishing to reach a wider section of the population, the Red Cross made the key-note of its 1961 "Red Cross Week" the diffusion of the Geneva Conventions amongst adults and young people, with particular emphasis on the latter. With this in view, it distributed a Red Cross paper published during the "Week", and intended for young people, and it also distributed a booklet for children. In all, 800,000 copies of both papers were printed, which shows the importance of this action.

In order to present the Geneva Conventions to its readers, the Red Cross paper printed a long article entitled "The law of charity during war" with the subtitle: "The Red Cross idea". The introduction recalled that aid to the sick and wounded victims of war goes back to ancient times, but that the event which gave birth to the Red Cross was Henry Dunant's experience on the battlefield. A short historical section then explains the development of the circumstances leading from the First Convention of 1864, to the four Conventions of 1949; the latter are the subject of the long article mentioned above, which represents an attempt at popularization in the best sense of the word.

The press also played an important part in disseminating the Geneva Conventions, particularly by encouraging their distribution amongst young people and children. The Horten newspaper "Gjengangeren", remarked in this respect, that thanks to close co-operation with the Church and the State, the "Red Cross Week" had that year succeeded in reaching every school in the country and every youth organisation. Moreover, thanks to the support of certain institutions, such as the Post Office, the Savings Bank, certain publicity services of the press, etc., the organisation of the "Week" only involved the Red Cross in very small expenditure.

One can only applaud this co-operation with the above mentioned official organisations, because by their nature, they contribute towards facilitating the work of the Red Cross and overcoming indifference. It should also be mentioned that 250,000 copies of the "Week" newspaper, were printed and distributed to

colleges, professional institutes, seminars, schools and youth organisations.

Another organ of the press, the "Akershus Amtstidende", attaches great significance to this event: "It is primarily youth which is affected this year and it is not an easy thing to make youth understand the importance of the Geneva Conventions for us. The Norwegian Red Cross has treated this subject in a manner both brief and easily understandable, adapted to all ages and all levels of intelligence".

The Norwegian Red Cross has sent the ICRC the booklet which it published on that occasion and which is intended to teach young people what the 1949 Conventions are. This publication is moving in the understanding it reveals with regard to the child; not much text, a lot of pictures, most expressive in their simplicity, which are emphasized by short captions. We cannot remain indifferent, faced with these serious subjects brought within the reach of a child, without however falling into childishness.

It should also be mentioned that the Norwegian Red Cross intends to continue its efforts to spread the knowledge of the Conventions amongst military personnel, and that it is thinking of distributing a booklet on the four Conventions to the public.