

THE EMPRESS SHÔKEN FUND

A further gift

The Empress Shôken Fund, created in 1912, through the generosity of H. M. the Empress of Japan to promote relief work in time of peace, has just received a further substantial contribution from the Government of Japan.

The initial capital was 100,000 yen in gold. Thanks to successive donations of the Imperial Family it amounted, by December 31, 1965 to 389,081 Swiss francs. The Japanese Government's present contribution of 119,232 frs. brings the inalienable capital to a total of 508,313 Swiss francs.

The Shôken Fund is administered by a Joint Commission of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies. Each year on April 11, the anniversary of the death of H. M. the Empress Shôken, the Joint Commission distributes the revenues amongst National Red Cross Societies having made substantiated applications before December 31 of the preceding year bearing exclusively on relief work in peace-time.

This further generous action will make it possible to respond more adequately than in the past to the numerous appeals which the International Committee and the League receive each year from National Societies. It will also make it possible the better to carry out the valuable mission devolving on the Empress Shôken Fund.