XVith INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS CONFERENCE

1st COMMISSION

General Commission
Mr. Eliot WADSWORTH (American Red Cross), in accordance with the wish expressed by the Chairman of the Conference at the plenary session held the previous day, declared the meeting open.

Following a proposal made by Mr. YAHANOUCHI, the meeting ratified the election of Mr. Wadsworth as Chairman.

Report presented by the delegate of the Papal State.

Before considering the regular agenda, the Chairman called on Lieut.-Genl. Sir George MACDONOCH, the representative of the Papal State, to read the following report:

Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I feel that it is a great honour to appear at this meeting as Observer for the Vatican at the International Red Cross Conference. This is only the second occasion on which the Holy See has been represented, but it is well known to all of you that the ideals which inspire the Red Cross movement are those which have animated the Church for the last two thousand years.

These ideals are summed up in the commandment "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself", and it has been the endeavour of the Church from its earliest days to give practical effect to this injunction. Thus we find in the Acts of the Apostles that seven deacons were appointed, one of them being St. Stephen, to administer what we should
now call poor relief. The funds for this purpose were provided by first fruits, freewill offerings, and voluntary tithes, which were brought to the bishop for whom, as trustee of the poor, a deacon acted as minister. In the time of Tertullian, towards the close of the 2nd Century A.D. the Church Fund was used to succour and bury the poor, to help destitute and orphan children, old household slaves and those who had suffered for the faith. In the reign of Constantine numerous hospitals were founded and during the latter part of the 4th Century St. Basil founded a hospital for lepers at Cesarea, St. Chrysostom, built a hospital at Constantinople and St. Augustine one at Hippo. In 416 A.D. there was a great development of hospital work at Alexandria, where 600 Parabolani, chosen by the bishop, attended to the sick. About the same time, the first country convalescent home, of which we have any record, was established by Fabiola in connection with a Roman Hospital. Again, at the end of the 4th Century, the Pope, St. Anastasius, founded deaconries in Rome and endowed them largely "to meet the frequent demands of the diaconate" for funds to relieve distress.

Two hundred years later St. Gregory the Great reorganized the system. He divided the 14 old "regions" of Rome into 7 ecclesiastical districts and 30 titles or parishes. The districts were eleemosynary divisions, each under a deacon over whom was an archdeacon. Their duties were to care for the poor, widows, orphans, wards and old people in their districts. They drew up a register of the poor and only those were relieved whose names were on it. In each district there was a hospital and an office for alms, of which the deacon was in charge, assisted by a steward. Here food was given and meals taken, sick and poor were maintained, and orphan and foundling children lodged. The necessary funds were obtained chiefly from the church estates and endowments. On the first day of each month, St. Gregory distributed to the poor in kind corn, wine, cheese, vegetables, bacon, meal, fish and oil. The sick and infirm were superintended by persons appointed to inspect each street, and before the Pope sat down to his meal a portion was separated and sent out to the hungry at his door.

The organization of poor relief in the Middle Ages was developed on similar lines. In the time of Charlemagne the system was parochial, but afterwards the institutional method seems to have predominated, whilst the bishop was responsible for the sick and needy in his diocese.

The charitable work of the Church was fostered by the great mediaeval saints, St. Bernard, St. Francis, St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Elizabeth of Hungary, whilst the Crusades led to the institution of the Knights Hospitallers of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of whose work right up to the present day you will hear from the representative of the Grand Master of that Venerable Order.
By the 11th and 12th Centuries, a close connection had been formed between the monasteries and the hospitals, and there was a large increase in the religious orders devoted to hospital work. Thus at Canterbury in 1086 two hospitals were endowed by Archbishop Lanfranc and there was also a hospital there for poor and infirm men and women, and one outside the town (at Harbledown) for lepers. These institutions were in charge of a prior, and, later on, in the reign of Henry II, a hospital for leprous sisters was established.

At the same period similar work was going on in London, for in 1123 the monk Rahere founded St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and a hundred years later St. Thomas's was rebuilt. In the reign of Pope Innocent III, at the end of the 12th Century, the famous hospital of Santo Spirito was founded in Rome on the site of the ancient Saxon Colony, and hospitals of the Holy Spirit were founded in many places in Europe. Hospital Orders then flourished in England, among whom I may mention the Brothers and Sisters of the Holy Ghost (1198), the Sisters of St. Elizabeth (1207), Beguines, etc.

You all know the great work of charity, which was performed by St. Vincent de Paul in the 17th Century. He founded the Lazarites in 1625, a Congregation of priests pledged to the service of the poor, sick and infirm, and, in 1642, the Sisters of Charity who bear his name, and who have carried on his work to the present day, whilst the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, founded in France at the beginning of the 19th Century, and established in England in 1844, is indefatigable in its charitable labours.

There are three striking features of the work done by the Religious Orders during the last hundred years:

1. The pioneer work done by them in undeveloped countries. I would refer particularly to the British Dominions and Colonies, where in 1842 the Sisters of Mercy established themselves in Newfoundland, and in 1845 the same order founded a house in Perth, Western Australia; I would also refer to the work done for lepers by Franciscan Sisters, White Sisters and other Orders in Africa and China, and to the heroic labours of Father Damien in Molokai.

2. The work done for the mentally afflicted. Thus the Hospitall Brothers of the Order of St. John of God, founded in 1571, have hospitals, both in England and in Eire, for the treatment of mental diseases and the care of epileptics. The Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, established in 1857, have houses all over England where they devote themselves to mentally deficient children, and the Augustinian Sisters have private asylums in private parts of the United Kingdom for ladies mentally afflicted.
3. The establishment of recognized Training Schools, for example in London at the Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth and at St. Andrew's Hospital Dollis Hill there are training schools for Catholic Nurses which supply a very urgent need.

Time forbids me to touch upon the work of more than one of the Orders of Nuns who are engaged in hospital work, but I would like to refer to the Sisters of Mercy with whose labours I am personally acquainted. They came into being a little over a century ago, the first nursing which they did being at the time of the cholera epidemic in 1832, when they worked in the Dublin hospitals. Eventually they established their own hospital there, the Mater Misericordiae one of the best known institutions in the world, and now they have hospitals in both hemispheres, of which the best known are those in Chicago, Philadelphia, Pittsburg and London.

There are two reasons why I have dwelt particularly on the charitable organization of ancient days, the first being that at the last International Red Cross Conference, held in Tokyo four years ago, the Vatican representative gave a short account of more recent events, and, in particular, of the efforts of His Holiness Pope Benedict XV to ameliorate the lot of prisoners of war during the Great War and to restore peace among the Nations. My second reason is that it is impossible, within any reasonable space, to tell of a tithe of the labours that are being performed all over the world under the guidance of the Holy Father by a multitude of workers, male and female, religious as well as lay, for the relief of the poor, the care of the sick and dying, the maintenance of orphans, aged and infirm, the reclamation of criminals and for giving assistance, both spiritual and temporal, to all those who may need it.

Before closing, however, I would like to mention one innovation, which has been recently introduced on the earnest recommendation of His Eminence, the present Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster. Up to very recent times nuns had been forbidden by the Holy See to undertake any form of maternity work, but soon after he had been appointed, in 1930, Apostolic Delegate in Africa, Monsignor Hinsley discovered that the work of the Church in Africa would be greatly facilitated, and the lives of the natives rendered far more happy, if the devoted sisters, who were engaged in ministering to the sick in that great continent, were permitted to attend maternity cases. Such cases were, of course, very numerous and the needs of the mothers and children very great, and, when it became obvious that in vast regions no European women, other than nuns, were available to render skilled assistance, His Holiness Pope Pius XI consented to an
alteration of the rule, and, subject to certain regulations, nuns are now allowed to receive midwifery training, and to attend Maternity cases, thus alleviating much suffering.

In conclusion, I would like to express the admiration which we all feel for the admirable work of the Red Cross Societies and the wish that they may prosper in their charitable endeavours to lighten the sufferings of humanity and to promote peace and concord among nations.

The CHAIRMAN then thanked the representative of the Papal State for his report and asked the representatives of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta to read their report.

Report presented by the delegates of the Order of Malta.

Count PALAGI del PALAGIO read in French his report, the English translation of which was read by the Rt. HON. Earl of IDDESLEIGH (see appendix).

The CHAIRMAN thanked the delegates of the Order of Malta for their statement.

There being no other preliminary business, the Commission proceeded to consider the regular agenda.

Report of the Standing Commission

In the absence of Prince Tokugawa, Mr. YANANOUCHI was called upon by the Chairman to read the report of the Standing Commission (Document 3).

The report was unanimously approved.

The next item on the agenda was the General Report of the International Red Cross Committee of which a summary was read by Colonel FAVRE, a member of the Committee (Document 12). This summary will be published in the REVUE INTERNATIONALE DE LA CROIX-ROUGE.

The Chairman thanked Colonel Favre and declared the Report open to discussion.

The MARQUIS DE LILLERS (French Red Cross) thanked Colonel Favre for his very interesting report. He was glad of the opportunity of conveying the admiration of the French Red Cross for the valuable work of the International Committee.
A resolution to the following effect was carried unanimously:

"The XVIth International Red Cross Conference,

Having heard the General Report of the International Red Cross Committee,

Notes with satisfaction the care with which the International Committee has carried out the mandates entrusted to it,

Approves the initiatives taken by the Committee, and congratulates it especially on its interventions in the Chaco, Ethiopia, Spain and China."

Señor VINCENT ORCHE MARTINEZ (Governmental Spain) expressed certain reserves in regard to the Spanish section of the report.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that an official rapporteur to the plenary session of the Conference should be designated. Miss Norah Hill of the Indian Red Cross was proposed and unanimously appointed.

General Report of the League of Red Cross Societies.

The CHAIRMAN called upon M. de Rougé, Secretary General of the League of Red Cross Societies, to present the General Report of the League.

M. de ROUGE said that as the full report of the League's activities since the XVth International Conference in 1934 had been circulated among the delegates he would only give a brief survey. Among the resolutions passed at the Conference at Tokyo, a certain number of mandates had been given to the League.

The Tokyo Conference had expressed the desire of seeing the League continue to be, as in the past, a source of energy and stimulation for the national societies. The fundamental aspects of the League's programme, those of furthering the development of national societies in their own country and stimulating co-operation between them, had always been inspired by this resolution. These two general aspects were sub-divided into a number of special activities.

The League placed its Secretariat at the disposal of the national Societies to serve as a link between the Societies and an information bureau whose aim was to facilitate the development of the national Societies and further co-operation between them.
The Secretariat had four main spheres of activity: Disaster relief, the training of nurses, popular health instruction, and the Junior Red Cross.

**DISASTER RELIEF**

The Secretariat endeavoured to help the national Societies to organize special relief work in the event of disaster. It supplied them with information regarding relief work existing in other countries, and with draft agreements which could be made between the Societies and governments as to the measures to be taken in the event of disaster.

The League co-operated with the International Committee in the working of the Central and Permanent Service of the International Relief Union (special report devoted to this subject). The Secretariat also co-operated with the national Societies in developing specialized relief work (aerial, on roads, in mines, on the coast, in the mountains, etc.).

**NURSING**

An advisory committee of nurses worked in close collaboration with the Nursing Section of the Secretariat and gave advice to the Secretariat of the League. The League awarded annually a certain number of scholarships for the post-graduate training of nurses and was closely associated with the Florence Nightingale Foundation.

**HYGIENE**

A new organization had been set up in the form of an advisory health committee, working under the direction of Dr. René Sand. The committee consisted of some twelve important members of the medical world, chosen by those national Societies which had agreed to direct the League's Health work on such lines as would meet the general needs of the Red Cross health programme. The Secretariat assumed the work of making a synthesis of the instructions it had received in order to avail the national Societies of its assistance and the information which would facilitate the development of their activities in this sphere. The emphasis was at that time especially laid on rural hygiene.

**THE JUNIOR RED CROSS**

A special report had been presented on that very important activity which was developing so excellently in the Red Cross. The membership of the Junior Red Cross had increased from 14,200,000 in October 1934 to nearly 20 millions in 1938. The Secretariat remained in close communication
with the Junior Sections of the national Societies and was doing its utmost to encourage the development of the Junior Red Cross.

The League co-operated permanently with the International Red Cross Committee, and moreover, it gave its assistance whenever the latter desired. He wished to express the very warm gratitude of the League for the friendly and beneficial co-operation which the International Committee had always shown. He strongly recommended the delegates to acquaint themselves with the subject in the report of the Secretary General of the League to the Board of Governors, in which the different aspects of this co-operation throughout the past were described in detail.

He also wished to draw the attention of the delegates to the important problem concerning the relations between national Red Cross Societies and their respective governments. As regards peacetime relations, the League had asked national Societies to state in their general reports to the Conference their existing relations with their government. The Societies had complied with this request and sufficient information had been procured to enable the Secretariat to draw up a detailed synthesis on the relations between the national Societies and the governments in most countries.

The Secretariat of the League had tried to keep in close contact with the national Societies in every corner of the world in spite of the distance between them. He thought that they had succeeded in establishing relations with the national Societies in each country, not only in Europe but in Asia, Africa, the Americas, Australia and New Zealand. These direct contacts had been a great help to the League in its work and he hoped that the Societies themselves had also benefited.

M. de Rougé said that the work of the League should be able not only to maintain its present level but to develop. Its very existence, however, depended on its disposing of sufficient resources. He wished to recall the words of the President of the International Committee and of the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the League, who had both shown that if the Red Cross was indispensable to the world, the League was indispensable to the Red Cross. The national Societies were therefore asked to do all in their power to provide their federation with the resources necessary for its development and work. He concluded by expressing his thanks to the national Societies for all that they had already accomplished for the League and for the spirit of co-operation they had always shown.
The CHAIRMAN declared the report open to discussion.

Mr. RACTIVAND of the Greek Red Cross moved the following resolution:

"The International Red Cross Conference,

Approves the general report of the League of Red Cross Societies and expresses to the Board of Governors its sincere appreciation of the work accomplished by the League as a federation of national Red Cross Societies.

It expresses the hope that the League which constitutes an increasingly important element in the International Red Cross movement, will continue to be a source of inspiration as well as an effective information centre for the Red Cross Societies, and a living example of really world-wide international co-operation, disregarding all considerations of race, politics, or creed and seeking only the alleviation of human suffering."

This resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN expressed his thanks to M. de Rougé for the report of the League.

The Report of the Joint Commission entrusted with the administration of the Income from the Empress Shôken Fund.

The CHAIRMAN called on Mr. YAMANOUCHI to present the report of the Joint Commission (Document 4).

The Chairman declared the report open to discussion.

Mr. VALLAY (Hungarian Red Cross) moved the following resolution:

"The XVIth International Red Cross Conference,

having taken cognizance of the report of the Joint committee of the Empress Shôken Fund,

approves the new rules regulating this Fund adopted by the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross Conference at its meeting on April 29th, 1935 (Resolution XLV of the Tokyo Conference)."
Thanks the International Red Cross Committee and the League of Red Cross Societies for their administration of the Empress Shôken Fund, and approves the measures taken by these two bodies."

This resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. Yamanouchi for his report.

Reports on the funds administered by the International Red Cross Committee.

The CHAIRMAN called on Mr. de HALLER, the Treasurer to the Committee, to read the report on the Augusta Fund (Document 16), and the Nightingale Fund (Document 13).

The CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. de Haller for his reports.


The CHAIRMAN called on Dame Alicia LLOYD STILL TO READ the report of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation.

Dame Alicia LLOYD STILL said that as the full report (Document 19) had already been circulated, she would only refer the delegates to one or two headings. The Florence Nightingale International Foundation was celebrating its fourth birthday next month. It was therefore a young organization with great possibilities but still only in its formative stage. Thanks were due to the League of Red Cross Societies and to the national Red Cross Societies, which had not only laid the sound foundations but had also helped the organization financially. Twenty-one national Florence Nightingale Memorial Committees were affiliated to the Foundation and on all but two of these Committees the Red Cross was represented. In memory of the late Nurse Director of the American Red Cross, Clara Dutton Noyes, two annual Scholarships had been founded to be awarded to Florence Nightingale Scholars for the next five years. Dame Alicia went on to mention particularly the Red Cross Societies of Finland, Great Britain, India, Latvia and South Africa which were contributing regularly to the Endowment Fund and she thanked the Red Cross Society of South Africa for its generous co-operation with the South African Committee. The Red Cross Societies of Switzerland, Germany and Turkey had helped in the selection of Scholars. The co-operation with Bedford College and the College of Nursing would continue until 1942 and the possibility of a more direct link with London University was already under consideration.
The CHAIRMAN thanked Dame Alicia for her report.

Relations of the Red Cross Societies inter se

His Excellency the Chilean Ambassador, Mr. EDWARDS, (representing the Government and Red Cross of Chili) said that he had at the plenary session brought to the notice of the delegates the resolution adopted at the XIIth Conference at Geneva in 1931.

The Government of Chili and the Chilean Red Cross were aiming at the adoption by an international convention of a resolution which had already been adopted by the Third Pan American Conference of the Red Cross at Washington in 1926, and which at present only applied to American countries.

The Government and Red Cross of Chili wished to give a more general character to this resolution, and thus had proposed the wording which he had read yesterday, and which he proposed again to read today.

It represented a modification of the resolution already approved by the International Conference at Geneva. The preliminary proposal, which was identical with the resolution passed at Washington, was as follows:

That no section, foreign detachment or Red Cross Committee should be established in foreign territory without the consent of the Central Committee of the national Society of the country concerned.

That this consent should only be granted in extreme circumstances for a purpose already determined and providing no confusion was created.

The resolution passed at the Geneva Conference in 1921 as regards this point ran as follows:-

"No section or foreign detachment, no committee, organization, or manifestation of the Red Cross abroad, may be set up in foreign territory without the consent of the Central Committee of the mother organization; this is to apply specially to the use of the name and symbol of the Red Cross."

The first paragraph of the resolution of 1921 was in entire agreement with the attitude of the Pan-American Conference at Washington. In the opinion of the Chilean Red
Cross, it was the second paragraph which lent itself to favourable interpretations and which might give rise to difficulties. The second paragraph was as follows:

"The Central Committees are asked to grant that authorization to the largest possible extent with this consideration that the foreign branch works entirely with its own nationals. In the event of disagreement, the Central Committees may refer the matter to the supreme authority of the International Red Cross."

There were foreign Red Cross Committees set up in certain countries of South America which sometimes found themselves in a rather difficult position through this problem of compatriots. It was well known that in the countries of South America and even in those of North America there was the problem of dual nationality, of nationals of their motherland who had also the nationality of the land of their birth.

This situation tend to give rise to the idea of transforming a Red Cross organization into an organization of a different kind, the aim of which would be not only to preserve but also to strengthen the bonds uniting such persons with their motherland, rather than with the land where they were born. This was not the rôle of the Red Cross, which had not to create difficulties but to bring about goodwill and cooperation between all peoples in the interests of mankind.

In the opinion of the Government and Red Cross of Chile, a modification would have to be made to prevent such Committees, when established, from giving rise to such problems.

The second paragraph continued:-

"In the event of disagreement, the Central Committees may refer the matter to the supreme authority of the International Red Cross."

which would appear to establish a kind of arbitration over and above the authority of the national Red Cross.

Mr. Edwards wondered how far the national Sociétés would be prepared to accept arbitration in their internal administrative organization, which might relate to problems of a more serious nature.

By adopting the modification already approved, which was in force in South American countries, this resolution
would take on a definitive character which would no longer give rise to discussion. As it stood, the resolution read:

"The Central Committees are asked to grant that authorization to the largest possible extent,"

that was to say that if the Central Committees were to refuse to give their very wide measure of consent to what was asked of them, this would sow seeds of difficulties, which in his opinion was never worth while. The Chilean Government and the Red Cross of Chili proposed that the XVIth Conference should approve the following alternative wording:

a) "That no section, foreign detachment or Red Cross Committee should be established in foreign territory without the consent of the Central Committee of the national Society of the country concerned."

In other words, the first part of the Chilean proposal was in entire agreement with the first section of the resolution passed at Geneva in 1921.

He then dealt with the second part of the Chilean resolution:

"That such authorization should only be sought in quite exceptional circumstances for purposes already determined and without giving rise to any confusion as regards the use of the uniform or symbol of the Red Cross."

The Marquis de LILRERS opened the discussion on this point by expressing his appreciation of the remarks made by the Chilean delegate but pointed out that the same difficulty could not exist in France as there was a definite rule whereby no foreign Red Cross organization might establish a centre without the approval of the French Government. He wished specially to refer to another decision made at Geneva in 1921 which authorized the national Red Cross Societies to send representatives into other countries.

He did not intend to go into the matter again thoroughly but he would like the Commission to bear in mind that a certain degree of courtesy should be observed in order to avoid regrettable incidents. For instance as regards France certain Red Cross societies had formed the habit of appointing delegates who were no doubt engaged in some excellent work but he had to point out again that he was ignorant of their activities. He knew personally certain of these delegates whom he had met in Paris and on no occasion had they
spoken to him about their work for the Red Cross. He con­
sidered that foreign delegates should not only call on the
Red Cross authorities in the country where they are station­
ed but should also inform that national organization periodi­cally of the work they were doing.

Otherwise there was a likelihood of the occurrence of
regrettable incidents. He wished to draw the attention of
the Conference to a special point, and proposed that the
different texts should be examined by a commission which
could perhaps improve them and take measures to avoid the
incidents to which he had referred.

He wished to draw the attention of the Conference to
this very special point, and to propose that the different
texts should be examined in a friendly spirit by a commis­
sion which might perhaps improve them and take steps to
avoid such incidents as those to which he had referred.

Mr. CHENEVIERE (International Red Cross Committee)
supported the motion of Mr. Edwards and pointed to the dif­
ficulties which arose when a foreign Red Cross Organization
sprang up suddenly in another country and appealed for
funds. He too suggested that the question should be re­
ferred to a committee of experts, who could examine the
legal points and the modifications in the text.

Mrs. LOWRY (New Zealand Red Cross) quoted the example
of some Italian fishermen who had wanted to set up an
Italian Red Cross Society in New Zealand. Their request had
been refused but naturally they would have been welcome to
join the New Zealand Red Cross. Following this refusal they
had written to the Italian Consul in Australia but the re­
sult was not yet known.

His Excellency the CHILEAN AMBASSADOR thanked the
Marquis de Lillers for his comments and added that the
Chilean proposal aimed at extending a measure already adopt­
ed in America to the whole world. As he could not be pres­
ent that afternoon, he asked for permission to return to
the question at the next meeting.

The Session was adjourned at 1 p.m.
SECOND SESSION

June 21st 1938. Afternoon at 3 p.m.

The CHAIRMAN opened the second session of the First Commission by discussing certain recommendations embodied in the report of the Yugoslav Red Cross, and called upon Colonel MARINKOVITCH of YUGOSLAVIA to present the CONCLUSIONS OF THIS REPORT.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE REPORT OF THE YUGOSLAV RED CROSS.

Colonel MARINKOVITCH pointed out that two years ago at the last Meeting of the Council the Yugoslav delegation had expressed a wish concerning the relations between national Societies in exceptional circumstances such as war disaster. He stressed the fact that although much was said at each meeting about the relations between Red Cross Organizations for peace time activities, the most important and difficult task of national Societies was that of providing help for the sick and wounded in war time. Certain measures were to be taken to examine all facilities so that the Societies should be able to fulfill this other duty. Several restrictions and stipulations relating to the activity of the National Red Cross Societies existed in the Convention concerning the war time personnel, but the means of applying them had yet to be found. For that reason the Yugoslav delegation had been in communication for two years with the Secretariat of the League, with the Chairman of the Board of Governors and with the International Committee and they had agreed to bring the question before the Assembly. He went on to read certain passages from the Yugoslav memorandum. There was the problem of the relations between Red Cross national Societies of belligerent States, and between belligerent States and the representatives of neutral States. They considered the question to be too important to be summarized in one session, but though it would be opportune to form a Commission consisting of some ten members, representatives of national Societies which had taken part in the world war or who had contributed usefully to relief work during the last war. This Commission of experts would study this technical problem and would present its conclusions in the form of recommendations at some future meeting. That was the conclusion which the national Society of the Yugoslav Red Cross asked the Assembly to adopt.

For some years the situation in many parts of the world had become rather grave and the task of the Red Cross in those countries had in consequence been made more difficult and
widespread. In spite of the extent of the work taken on by the national Societies, these societies were continuing their task of aiding the Governments concerned, thanks to the material and moral help of members and friends of the Red Cross. Nevertheless, the situation in certain parts of the world remained grave and wars had broken out or were in danger of breaking out. The task of the Red Cross became in consequence more and more difficult and it was the duty of national Societies in neutral countries to help the Societies or countries engaged in war.

The work of the International Committee and the League had brought about even closer relations between all the national Societies. However, experience had shown that, in spite of the spirit of solidarity and mutual help, together with the influence of preceding conventions, a number of difficulties arose in practice. It was for this reason that the Yugoslav Red Cross, fully conscious of the heavy task before it and of the great responsibility incumbent on national Societies, considered it was its duty to reaffirm the wish expressed before the Board of Governors and the League in October 1936 that a Commission be appointed to study the most satisfactory means of facilitating the cooperation of national Societies of countries at war with each other, and between the national Societies of neutral countries. The Yugoslav delegate concluded by asking that the Conference should appoint this commission in conjunction with the International Committee and the League and that it should arrange the date and place of the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN declared the subject open to discussion.

Professor Max HUBER (on behalf of the International Red Cross Committee) said that the Yugoslav Red Cross had already approached the League and the International Committee and a joint reply had been sent to the Yugoslav Red Cross approving its suggestion. The League and the International Committee were therefore prepared to call together in the near future a small study Commission consisting of a limited number of representatives from those Societies which had had special experience in this branch of work or which had shown, by the way in which they had helped other Societies, a real interest in this scheme of cooperation. The report of this small commission would be circulated among the national Societies. It might be possible at a later date to call together a larger and more comprehensive commission but in the meantime the conclusions of the international Commission would provide a useful source of information. Professor Max Huber considered that in the circumstances the Conference had only to give moral support to the action of the League and the Committee as regards the suggestion of the Yugoslav Red Cross.

M. de ROUGE on behalf of the League expressed his pleasure in approving the proposals of the Yugoslav Red Cross.
The CHAIRMAN asked if anyone else wished to speak.

Dr. MAHMOUD MAHER Bey, the Egyptian delegate, understood from the resolution put forward by the Yugoslav delegation that there were certain Societies which would be unable to cope with the requirements of their countries in the event of war through lack of funds and material, and that it would therefore be better to make the necessary arrangements in advance to enable the necessary assistance to be given to the national Society confronted by the appeals. Four years would pass before the resolution of the Commission would receive the approval of an International Conference, and as much could happen in that space of time he suggested that the Conference should there and then make the necessary arrangements. They could for instance set up a fund to which each Society should contribute annually its share; in the event of war, that money could be used to meet the needs of the national Society appealing for funds. If any Societies did not wish to contribute annually they could, perhaps, at once state straightaway that they would be prepared if required to send a certain proportion of personnel and material to the Society in distress.

Professor HUBER, on behalf of the International Committee, said that the principle of cooperation between the Red Cross Societies was firmly established, and the Committee was convinced that the national Societies would accept the principle of cooperation between sister societies, as well as the cooperation implied by the suggestion made by the Yugoslav Red Cross. During recent years the Societies had spent between them large sums of money amounting in all to some £200,000. The work of the Commission consisted in establishing details of a practical scheme of collaboration; the question raised by the Yugoslav delegation should not be confused with financial principles. He asked them to keep for the moment to the proposal made concerning the setting up of a commission, whose conclusions would be known within a few months - not four years.

M. CHENEVIERE (International Red Cross Committee) continuing the discussion suggested that the proposals contemplated by the International Committee and the Board of Governors should be approved.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Commission should be designated by the Conference.

MR. MARINKOVITCH (Yugoslav Red Cross) thanked Professor Huber and Mr. de Rougé for the help which the Committee and the League had so kindly given the Yugoslav Red Cross for several months in studying the question, drew attention to the fact that he was not concerned with the financial aspect but only wished to discover the best method of applying the Geneva convention and other clauses referring to prisoners of war - a purely technical problem.
Professor HUBER considered that the Commission should be nominated by the League and the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN asked the Conference to vote on the original proposal.

THE PROPOSAL WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

In the absence of Mr. Goldschmidt, the report of the Trust Fund for the International Red Cross Committee was presented by Mr. DRONSART.

REPORT OF TRUST FUND FOR INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMMITTEE. (Document 17).

Baron STJERNSTEDT (Swedish Red Cross Society) said that he had been asked by the President of the Swedish Red Cross to convey to the First Commission his opinion on the work and financial status of the International Committee.

All those who had been able to follow the work carried out by the International Committee since the last conference in 1934, who would have heard the President's speech, or studied the financial reports of Mr. Goldschmidt, had surely been impressed by the great work accomplished in armed conflicts by the Committee during the last four years. They owed a great deal to the Committee for its splendid work in upholding the Geneva Convention.

Unfortunately it had to be realized that the contributions made to the Committees of those Powers signatory to the Geneva Convention and of the national Red Cross Societies had been very modest and in noway adequate for the task. This was obvious from the Report presented to the Conference by the Committee. The usual funds of the Committee had decreased by 100,000 Swiss Franc during the last few years and its resources would have to be increased if the work of intervening in armed conflict on behalf of the Red Cross was to continue. He hoped that the national Red Cross Committees as well as the Governments would agree that the work of the Red Cross should not be hampered by financial considerations. The President of the Swedish Red Cross wished to draw the attention of the first Commission to that very important question. Many ways of meeting the situation had been proposed; the President of the Swedish Red Cross did not intend to put forward a definite proposal but only give his attention to that important problem, so closely connected with the respect due to the authority of the Geneva Convention and the Red Cross in armed conflicts.
Mr. DRONSART, on behalf of the Belgian Committee, wished to support the motion and warmly approved the suggestion made by the Swedish delegate. He said that the report of Mr. Alfred Goldschmidt, the treasurer of the Belgian Red Cross, had also pointed out the necessity for further measures to enable the International Committee to carry on its work.

Doctor VOGELIUS (representing the Government and Red Cross of Denmark) was in entire agreement with the opinion expressed by Baron Stjernstedt on the financial situation.

The NORWEGIAN DELEGATION also supported the motion.

Mr. de HALLER (International Committee) wished to complete the statement made by Mr. Dronsart of the Belgian Committee and thereby afford the national Societies with an additional reason which might perhaps be useful to them when approaching their Governments. Out of the capital of 891,000 Swiss Francs which formed the trust fund that was to say the Foundation in favour of the International Committee, 850,000 had been subscribed by Switzerland, and of this sum 500,000 by the Swiss Government alone. He thought that if the national Societies bore that fact in mind it would facilitate their task of appealing to their Governments to follow the example set by Switzerland when its Government contributed that sum of half a million Swiss Francs.

Mr. DRONSART said that in his own opinion the problem was not merely a financial one. The International Red Cross had reached a crucial stage in its career and the problems which had arisen should be examined by the Conference. He could discuss the subject freely, as the Belgian Red Cross was in a very prosperous position. During the ten years following the war the Red Cross had enjoyed a certain prestige and the organization had found no difficulty in obtaining sufficient funds, but he wondered whether ten years hence their successors would be similarly placed. The chief problem of the Red Cross was that of real and enduring co-operation between all classes. A second problem lay in the introduction of more forceful methods with special regard to the status of the Junior Red Cross. Had it introduced a new element but did its members fill important positions in the Red Cross organization? The Belgian Red Cross was doing its utmost to ensure that these Junior members should rise to important positions in the adult body. He wondered whether there had not been a tendency to exclude these younger members from responsible positions. The Belgian Red Cross like other national Societies had undoubtedly made full use of its advantageous position but he was not sure that they were still worthy of that position for in devoting so much time to the work of their own Societies they knew little of the achievements of their neighbours, from which they would certainly benefit in an emergency.
It was their duty to see that the Societies fulfilled the idea to which they aspired. He asked whether the feeling did not exist among local Committees that the work was being done there; that the Central Committee consisted of capable and industrious people who had accomplished a good deal in the past but that the real work was done by the local committee. It was possible that the same feeling existed in the Central Committees which might consider the national Societies to be the real Red Cross. He expressed the opinion that the national Societies including the Belgian Society had derived a very great benefit from the International Red Cross and that now it was their duty to see that youth was more widely represented in important position. By youth he meant not merely persons young in years but young in outlook. He emphasized that the national and international character of the Red Cross should be reaffirmed and recognized as such. The Finance Committee which was going to be convened should take into consideration the unity of the Red Cross. The Red Cross celebrated its 75th anniversary this year but it was not to be considered as an old lady to receive flowers and finally a wreath but as a young and forceful organization still capable of growth.

Professor HUBER (International Red Cross Committee) considered that the Commission should confine itself to the question of a resolution relating to the Trust Fund of the International Committee. He referred to the remarkable speech made by the Belgian Red Cross delegate and considered that a decision should be made regarding the immediate continuation of the general discussions on the finances of the International Red Cross. He recalled that Sir Arthur Stanley, the Chairman of the Conference had suggested at the plenary session of the previous day that a sub-committee be appointed within the first Commission to go into these financial questions and to examine the possibility of a common fund for the two international organizations of the Red Cross. The Chairman of the League, Mr. Norman Davis, he said, was in agreement with M. Huber and his colleagues in considering it inopportune to discuss the question before it had been examined by the League and the International Committee. Professor Huber thought that the meeting should confine itself to the resolution relating to the Trust Fund, which had been before International Conferences for many years, and should refer the discussion of any further financial questions to the afternoon session the following day. Everyone would agree, he said, that greater endeavours would have to be made if the League and the International Committee were to develop as much as the world expected but the existing efforts should not be hampered through lack of funds. For this reason he considered it necessary for the resolution to be more closely examined before opening the discussion. It was not a question of taking immediate decisions but rather of investigating the matter and defining its scope. He entertained the possibility of encouraging the Societies to increase their help. Professor Huber
proposed that they should confine themselves to the resolutions as regards the Trust Fund and the election of two members of the Trust Fund Committee.

The CHAIRMAN said that the resolution was before the meeting.

Count VINCI (Italian Red Cross) expressed his approval of the statements made by Prof. Huber and added that the first question had already been sufficiently developed in the interesting report presented by the Belgian representative. Regarding the second, he wished to support the proposal made by Mr. Norman Davis of appointing a sub-committee to examine the question which was of great importance to the Red Cross. He suggested that a resolution to the following effect should be proposed to the Commission:

"The XVIth International Conference,

having received the reports submitted by the Council for the Trust Fund and taking into consideration that when the Fund was formed it was intended to raise the sum of three million Swiss francs and that this goal was far from being reached,

realizing the necessity of assuring the International Committee of a regular income apart from annual and occasional contributions to enable it to fulfil its task particularly in the event of war,

realizing also that the interventions of the Red Cross in international conflicts was advantageous to the Governments and the populations by maintaining a strictly neutral and impartial organization,

renews the desire expressed by the XVth Conference and invites the national Societies to take immediate action with their respective Governments to examine the means of providing the Trust Fund with sufficient contributions to bring the capital to three million Swiss francs in the shortest possible time.

that in view of the proposal already made, the XVIth International Red Cross Conference should appoint as its representatives until the next Conference, the Belgian delegate, Mr. Goldschmidt and one member of the British delegation."

The CHAIRMAN said that the next matter before the meeting was the nomination of two members to represent the Conference and added that Mr. Goldschmidt had already been proposed. General Fawcus of the British delegation was nominated as the second representative.
Mr. NORMAN DAVIS (American Red Cross) wished to point out that the proposal of appointing a Commission of the two International organizations originated from Sir Arthur Stanley but that he was in full agreement with Prof. Huber in considering the problem too intricate to be considered before the afternoon session next day. As President of the League he considered that the League's budget would have to be balanced before the question of putting aside a permanent reserve fund could be entertained. The problem of meeting the deficit would have to be considered by the Executive Committee of The Board of Governors in collaboration if desired with the International Committee. He raised no objection to the resolution before the meeting and approved the project of appealing to the several national Societies for the formation of a permanent fund but was most concerned however with meeting the League's deficit and hoped that the problem would be considered as soon as the resolution then before the meeting had been disposed of.

The CHAIRMAN stated that there were two considerations before the meeting to accord Professor Huber and Mr. Davis the opportunity of laying a proposal before the assembly the following afternoon and to ascertain whether the British Red Cross wished to be represented permanently on the Board of Foundation. He thought it might be possible to postpone these discussions till 3 o'clock the following afternoon.

Mr. DRONSART (Belgian Red Cross) considered that as two quite distinct questions were under consideration the meeting should vote on the nomination of the members and on the resolution before the meeting as regards the Foundation.

Mr. SOMMERVILLE (Canadian Red Cross) asked the British Red Cross if they wished General Fawcus to be their representative on the Board of the Foundation.

Count VINCI (Italian Red Cross) said that he had made a clear proposal embodying two points and asked the Chairman that the meeting should vote on his first proposal concerning the appeal to intensify existing international agreement. As regards the nomination of members of the Board of the Foundation, he had proposed Mr. Goldschmidt and a member of the British Red Cross, if the British Red Cross preferred not to be represented on the Council, the assembly should call upon the member of some other Society. The two proposals were quite clear and he saw no reason for postponing the vote. Count Vinci referred to the Commission appointed to discuss the finances of the League and the International Committee, and considered that whether the problem was solved by means of the discussions between Prof. Huber and Mr. Davis or in any other way, some recommendation must finally be presented to the Commission for its approval or rejection.
Mr. SOMMERVILLE pointed out that it was very important that they should not put the cart before the horse. They should support the International Committee as much as was necessary but he considered they could accomplish all the International Committee desired if a suitably worded resolution were formulated, confirming the resolution approved at Tokyo for the creation of a Foundation, expressing regret that the sum of three million Swiss francs had not been attained, and the hope that the International Committee would be able to find a means of obtaining that sum.

Professor HUBER perceived that the financial problem was again being brought up and confused with the Foundation of which 90% had been subscribed by Switzerland. He considered that the resolution could be approved as it stood.

Herr HARTMANN (German Red Cross) wished to support Prof. Huber and pointed out that the resolution implied some moral obligation on the Governments to help the Committee on this particular occasion. He also felt that the resolution should be approved as it stood.

Count VINCI said that although he personally was not accustomed to parliamentary procedure he considered that when a resolution was approved it should be put to the vote and rejected or approved.

The CHAIRMAN said that the resolution proposed by the Italian representative was as follows:

"The XVIth International Conference,

having received the reports submitted by the Council for the Trust fund and taking into consideration that when the fund was formed it was intended to raise the sum of three million Swiss francs and that this goal was far from being reached,

realizing the necessity of assuring the International Committee of a regular income apart from annual and occasional contributions to enable it to fulfil its task, particularly in the event of war,

realizing also that the interventions of the Red Cross in international conflicts was advantageous to the Governments and the populations by maintaining strictly neutral and impartial organizations,

renews the desire expressed by the XVth Conference and invites the national Societies to take immediate action with their respective Governments to examine
the means of providing the Trust Fund with sufficient contributions to bring the capital to three million Swiss francs in the shortest possible time."

Sr. BENARDOUT (Dominican Republic) said he thought that the other delegates should be consulted before supporting such a resolution. It was rather difficult, particularly in his country, for the Red Cross to approach the Government with a request of this nature.

Mr. DRONSART agreed that it was a very serious question but pointed out that all that was being asked was the renewal of a desire already expressed at Tokyo or even earlier for the setting up of a fund of 3,000,000 Swiss francs. Of this amount only some 850,000 had been obtained, 90% from Switzerland alone. All they desired was that the national Societies should help in obtaining this sum, for it was their duty to co-operate in raising these 3,000,000 Swiss Francs.

Professor HUBER stated that the resolution in its present form could be adopted without any difficulty but he realized that it was not only the Dominican representative who had raised the point that a Red Cross Society could not easily appeal to its Government for funds. However the difficulty could be solved by a clause to the effect that representatives of the Government as well as the Red Cross were asked to intervene.

Mr. DRONSART (Belgian Red Cross) agreed with this statement.

Mr. SAKOL VARAVARN as representative of the Siamese Government and of the Red Cross appreciated the difficulties entailed and approved Professor Huber's suggestion.

Dr. MAHMOUD MAHER Bey representing the Government and Red Crescent of Egypt expressed his approval of the foregoing statements and asked that the meeting should vote on the resolution in its modified form.

The CHAIRMAN put the resolution as modified to the vote.

THE RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED.

THE SESSION WAS ADJOURNED AT 5 p.m.
instance during development, and requires the active
involvement of the users in the design process. This is
achieved through collaborative workshops and
ongoing feedback sessions.

Data collection is performed through a combination
of surveys, interviews, and observations. The data is
analyzed using qualitative and quantitative methods.

The project is divided into several phases, including
planning, design, development, and evaluation. Each
phase is carefully planned and executed to ensure the
success of the project.

The project team consists of experts from various
fields, including design, engineering, and user
research. Their combined expertise ensures that the
project is successful.

The project is funded by a grant from the National
Science Foundation, which provides the necessary
resources for the project to succeed.

In conclusion, the project is a significant step towards
improving the user experience in the field of design.
It involves a multidisciplinary approach and has the
potential to make a significant impact on the
industrial design community.
Third Session
June 22nd, 1938. Afternoon at 3 p.m.

FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE AND THE LEAGUE

THE CHAIRMAN opened the third session of the First Commission by introducing a draft resolution based on the discussions of the previous day relating to the Fund for the International Red Cross Committee. He said that the draft had been prepared and would be circulated. Professor Huber was called upon to present the resolution.

Professor HUBER said that it had been decided the previous day to adjourn the Commission until the following afternoon in order to allow representatives of the League and the International Committee to examine the possibility of presenting a draft resolution. This resolution on the one hand would leave untouched the question of which sources could be drawn upon to ensure that the two international organizations of the Red Cross were more completely and efficiently financed. On the other hand it would ensure the immediate examination of that vital problem. Pending the application of a different solution, the national Societies were earnestly requested to continue their present financial assistance and if possible increase it. He went on to give a summary of the resolution before the meeting. The first paragraph of the resolution stated that the Conference, having studied the reports presented by the League and the International Committee, considered the financial position of these two organizations as precarious. The second paragraph acknowledged that, although these organizations had been working most economically, they had not at present the necessary funds to continue their activities. The League had drastically curtailed its expenditure whilst the International Committee was compelled to draw on the reserve funds which had already been considerably reduced by the Red Cross interventions in the Chaco, Abyssinia, Spain and China. The independence of these two institutions was recognized. The resolution then asked the Chairman of the Board of Governors and the President of the International Committee to examine the financial situation with regard to the needs of these organizations both now and in the near future, and to consider the means whereby these needs could be met. The result of
this investigation would be made known to national Societies and Governments for whom the question had a special significance. The resolution confirmed the necessity for ensuring the financial means of the two organizations without delay and emphasized that the national Societies should continue their support pending the setting up of a more efficient system.

Mr. de ROUGÉ (Secretary General of the League) said that he wished to add a few words; it was evident that the financial status of the International Red Cross did not rest on a satisfactory basis. The national Societies voiced their own opinions but were not always well informed. They were sometimes not altogether satisfied with the way in which they were expected to finance the national Red Cross units. It had been thought that if the President of the International Committee and the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the League could thoroughly examine the question, they would be able to present the national Societies with an outline of the system by which the International Red Cross should be financed. Mr. de Rougé considered it would perhaps be simplest to vote the resolution in its present form (reserving as it did the rights of the International Committee, the League and the national Societies). As regards the League, he said that during the last few years its expenses had been reduced to a minimum in order that it should not be too great a burden on the national Societies. He was of the opinion that if the meeting gave the International Committee and the League its entire confidence, a satisfactory system could be devolved which would enable both organizations to fulfil efficiently the tasks expected of them by the national Societies.

Professor HUBER pointed out that in the translation of his speech it had been said that the results of the investigations could be available to the national Societies. Actually they would be communicated to all the parties concerned - first of all to the national Societies and, as agreed the previous day, to the Governments.

The CHAIRMAN asked if any other delegate wished to express an opinion.

Mr. SOMMIERVILLE (Canadian Red Cross) considered that they would meet with more success if they had only one budget for both organizations and a single request to make
to the world. It would be a great advantage if the investiga-
tion resulted in making clear to the Societies what was
expected of them. The Societies were asked to contribute to
the expenses of the International Committee, but if calcula-
tions were made assuming that all the Societies would
contribute when in reality only half would do so, the sum
sent to the Committee would at once be insufficient. If the
amount required of each Society were definitely stated, the
Society could do all in its power to raise that sum
voluntarily. He went on to say that it would be an advantage
if they had only one demand to make on behalf of the two
organizations for that would do away with the necessity for
explaining to each new member of the Red Cross the reason
behind the existence of the two international organizations.
All those present were aware that one examined questions
relating to war whilst the other confined its attention to
peace. However, outsiders would consider that it would be
more economical if the two organizations would be amalgamated.
Mr. Sommerville concluded by expressing the opinion that if
that result could be obtained, it would enable the Societies
to make contributions which could meet the needs of both
organizations.

Mr. VARAVARN (Siamese Red Cross) pointed out that
the financial status of both organizations was based on
humanitarian principles, and not on a definite arrangement
such as that made by the League of Nations whereby each
state contributed according to its economic importance. It
did not follow, because the donations were made through the
generosity of the country without respect for its size, that
the resources of those countries which contributed were
greater than those of the others. For instance, on studying
the list of contributions on p. 62 of the General Report, of
the International Committee, it would be seen that the United
States of America had contributed the largest sum; one
country had not contributed anything. Although Siam was a
very small country, it ranked seventh on the list; either it
was extremely generous or else it did not grasp the real
situation. He considered that a more rational basis should
be adopted and proposed that the contributions made by
national Societies to the two international organizations
should be in ratio to their own annual budget. This scheme
would at once place the financial position of the two
organizations on a sound basis. He pointed out that the
English version of the resolution was at variance with the
French on one or two points. There were two superlatives
which should be omitted - firstly "work most economically".
Mr. Varavarn considered it was sufficient to say "economically
so as to give satisfaction" a secondly a superlative which did not exist in the French text: "are of the most essential importance". He opposed the wording of the last paragraph by which all national Societies were asked to continue to contribute to the two organizations and if possible to increase their assistance. He agreed that they should continue to contribute but considered that Siam, for example, should not be asked to increase its contribution. He therefore proposed that the word "all" in the English text and "toutes" in the French text should be deleted.

Dr. GALLEGOS (Ecuadorian Red Cross) said he wished to take back with him a definite statement concerning the sum required from each country as that would make his position much easier. In regard to the proposed scheme based on a principle of percentages, he remarked that certain national Societies had rather small budgets and 1/1000 would not yield very much. If the amount required from each country were known, that country would do all in its power to obtain the sum expected of it.

Count VINCI (Italian Red Cross) said that the Italian delegation would abstain from voting on the proposal.

Colonel MARINKOVITCH (Yugoslav Red Cross) said that the Canadian delegate had raised two points in his speech the first of which, proposing a single budget for the two international organizations, was purely constitutional and should not, in his opinion, be discussed there. The second point relating to the means by which the required sum of money was to be obtained should be referred to the small Commission. He supported the view of the Italian delegate in desiring that the resolution presented by the Chairman of the League and the President of the International Committee should be voted in its present form.

Mr. SOMMERVILLE wondered whether he had not made his meaning clear for he had no intention of raising a constitutional point which would involve the Commission in lengthy legal discussions. What he desired was not an amalgamation of the two international bodies but one single request, formulated by the Chairman of the League and the President of the International Committee to meet the needs of both organizations.
Count VINCI expressed his pleasure at the statement made by the Yugoslav delegate and asked whether an ambiguity in the French text could be remedied. He proposed the substitution of the word "réunir" for "obtenir" in paragraph three.

PROTECTION OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGAINST THE RISKS OF AERIAL WARFARE

The CHAIRMAN announced that the Commission would reassemble the next day at 10 a.m. to discuss the conclusions to be drawn from the declarations made at the plenary session, the previous Monday. He asked if the representative of the French Red Cross had any comment to make on this subject.

Marquis de LILLERS replied that a proposal had been made by the French Red Cross together with four other national Societies before the Conference met. The proposal aimed at making a detailed examination of the means for protecting children against the dangers and misfortunes of war; the question of protecting the family was also under consideration. If it was the desire of the First Commission to be informed of the subject the following morning, he would be very pleased to present the French proposal; however he wished to warn them that it had been transferred to the Second Commission which was in possession of the actual text. He was particularly anxious that the question should be examined as fully as it deserved.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the French proposal would come before the 1st Commission next morning if it had not been possible to consider it before the Second Commission. The speeches made at the plenary session regarding the problem of open towns would also be considered.

He asked the Commission to return to the resolution under discussion.

FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE COMMITTEE AND THE LEAGUE

Mrs. Berman (South African Red Cross) supported the resolution and said that if the South African Red Cross had not always contributed large sums in the past, she would ask
members to sympathize with the difficulties of obtaining money for purposes outside the country. The Red Cross was, however, making great progress in South Africa and would continue to make every effort in the future.

Miss HILL (Indian Red Cross) supported the motion and pointed out that the contributions made by national Societies to the two International Societies fell under two headings — war and peacetime contributions. She approved of the proposal made by the representative of Siam for the setting up of a percentage system, and mentioned that the local committees of the Indian Red Cross contributed 20 o/o of their income to provincial headquarters, and the provincial branches contributed 10 o/o to the national organization. It would therefore only seem just that the national organizations should contribute a certain percentage to the international organizations. In view of the difficulties involved, she left the question of a scheme for wartime contributions to the consideration of the Presidents of the two international organizations.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that it was always very difficult to give away other peoples money and that was what they were really doing by informing the Societies how much they should contribute. For this reason it was essential that the wording of the resolution should be extremely precise.

Count VINCI (Italian Red Cross) asked that the vote should be taken by roll call in order that there should be no misunderstanding as to the reasons for his abstention.

The CHAIRMAN said that instructions would be given to those responsible for drafting the text to re-examine the English and French versions in order to make them tally.

The resolution was put to the vote; twenty five were in favour of the resolution and two abstained from voting.

RELATIONS OF THE RED CROSS SOCIETIES INTER SE

Returning to the resolution proposed by the Chilean Red Cross, the CHAIRMAN said that His Excellency Mr. Edwards was not able to be present to continue the debate, but as the
resolution before them was almost identical with the original proposal made by the Chilean delegate, he saw no reason why the resolution should not be accepted if that was the desire of the meeting.

Count VINCI (Italian Red Cross) pointed out that he had not been present the previous day. The last section of the resolution in his opinion might involve difficulties for the work of the Italian Red Cross. There were ten million Italians abroad and the Italian Red Cross had delegations working among them. The sole task of the delegates was to spread Red Cross propaganda among Italians abroad in order to obtain contributions. The resolution stated in the first paragraph that "no delegation should be established in foreign territory without the consent of the national Society of the country concerned". He agreed in principle with this but desired an assurance that such consent, when solicited, would not be refused. He entirely disagreed with the last paragraph stating that "this consent should only be asked for in exceptional circumstances", for he pointed out that it would involve difficulties by compelling the Italian Red Cross to sever many of its contacts abroad. He was willing that the national and local Red Cross should be informed by courtesy but considered that the last paragraph should be deleted.

The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the fact that the first paragraph was identical with the regulations on p. 402 of the Manual already in force and added that the Conference could not give orders to the national Societies but only recommend what it considered to be the best means of protecting national interests.

The Marquis de LILLERS wished to repeat certain remarks which he had made at the previous meeting. He agreed in principle with the proposal made by the Chilean delegate and did not desire any alteration in the resolution, but he considered certain points of detail were at fault. The national Societies were united by an international bond and the French Red Cross, far from objecting to the presence of foreign Red Cross delegations in France, looked on them as a means of strengthening that bond. Unfortunately, however, it was his experience that the foreign representatives never discussed their work with the French Red Cross and completely ignored its existence. He considered it would not be unreasonable to ask them to acquaint the President of the French Red Cross once a year with the work on which they were engaged.
Count VINCI sympathized with the Marquis de Lillers' point of view and proposed that his recommendation should be retained, but considered the circumstances related by him to be exceptional. As regards Clause A, the question had already been dealt with in Chapter 7 of the Regulations. He proposed the following modification of Clause B which was contrary to that Chapter:

"No delegation, section or committee shall be established in a foreign country without informing the Central Committee of the national Society in the country concerned".

Mr. SOMMerville pointed out that the resolution applied chiefly to the Committees of younger countries, such as the Americas, whose population was descended from many different European races. The problem continually arose in all parts of Canada, when a foreign Society appealed for funds and at once undertook some task without advising either the provincial or the national organization of its action. For instance, the Canadian Red Cross on being asked by the International Committee to help the victims of the Spanish war, had wished to raise funds for the International Committee. These funds would have been administered impartially. Appeals were sent out, but it was suddenly discovered that one of the two parties engaged in the war had already appealed for funds to all philanthropic organizations, education committees and Chambers of Commerce in Canada. Naturally the Canadian Red Cross was inundated with letters asking what control the Red Cross would have over the money. They had had to admit that they knew nothing about the appeals with the result that it was felt that only one Red Cross organization should exist in each country. The Canadian Red Cross was quite prepared to answer an appeal, made by a foreign Red Cross Society but it was to be admitted that the resolutions passed twenty-five years ago were obsolete today.

His Excellency Mr. Edwards expressed his regret at being unable to agree entirely with the arguments put forward by the Italian representative. Count Vinci had recognized that no Red Cross organization could be established without the consent of the Central Committee of the national Society of the country concerned. Unless the reason for establishing the organization and the period of time intended for its existence were made known, the national Committees might possibly refuse their consent, and so bring about a very undesirable situation. It would be possible to avoid such
complications by stating the aim and period of time for which consent should be given. Mr. Edwards considered that the first paragraph of the Chilean proposal could not be adopted without the second. The International Committee only recognized one national Society in each country and if the Red Cross Committees of other countries were allowed to establish themselves wherever they liked, innumerable Red Cross Societies would spring into existence and the national Committee would be in danger of losing its status vis-a-vis the International Committee. He illustrated his point of view by the example of the Italian Overseas Colonies which might on some occasion wish to help their mother country. He was sure that the Central Committees would create no difficulty in co-operating with the colonies but only disapproved of the existence of Committees neither dependent on nor connected with the Central Committee, of the country in which they were working. These reasons compelled him to uphold the Chilean proposal.

Dr. WANG (Chinese Red Cross) gave his reasons for supporting the views held by the Canadian delegate. The co-operation existing on the one hand between the several national Societies and on the other hand between the national Societies and the International Committee was of vital importance to the Red Cross Organization. Surely it was not right that a foreign Society should be allowed to establish itself in the territory of a national Society and set up a rival Red Cross organization within that territory. The prestige of the Red Cross would be impaired and for that reason Doctor Wang supported the resolution.

Count de la GRANJA (of the Red Cross of Burgos) understood that an appeal for funds had been made in Canada by the Spanish Red Cross and asked the Canadian representative which side had made the appeal.

Mr. SOMMERVILLE replied that the appeal had come from people in communication with the organization at Madrid.

Count de la GRANJA (Red Cross of Burgos) thanked Mr. Sommerville for his information and added that as the appeal had come from the Spanish Government he had nothing more to say. If the appeal had been made by the Nationalists he would have instituted an enquiry and thanked the Canadian people for their generosity.
Colonel MARINKOVITCH (Yugoslav Red Cross) expressed his appreciation of the statements made by the Chilean representative and the Marquis de Lillers, concerning the conduct of delegations established in foreign countries. He pointed out that the object of the Yugoslav Red Cross was to obtain as much co-operation as possible between the several Red Cross Societies; for this reason according to the statutes of the Yugoslav Red Cross, the Central Committee was allowed to nominate as a representative to those organizations either a Yugoslav or a national of the country to which it was attached. In this way the Central Committee could cooperate more efficiently with the International Committee, the League and other individual national Societies. In regard to the resolutions he considered that the meeting was in agreement over the first section. He proposed the following amendment to the second section

"No delegation, section or committee of the Red Cross should be established on foreign territory without the consent of the Central Committee of the country concerned or without a definite aim".

Thus if this aim were exceeded the national Society could withhold its consent.

Mr. SOMMERVILLE (Canadian Red Cross) quoted two examples, illustrating the necessity for adopting the resolution as it stood. The Chinese Red Cross had asked the permission of the Canadian Red Cross to collect funds among the Chinese population in Canada. Not only did the Canadian Red Cross grant this permission but also made a general appeal to the people of Canada as a result of which the sum of $68,000 was sent to China. Referring to the other appeal made by the Spanish Government, he said that two alternatives were open to the Canadian Red Cross: either to ask people not to subscribe to the other organization or to ignore the other appeal and contribute to the International Committee out of its own funds. To safeguard the reputation of the Red Cross, the second alternative was followed and the contribution made from the funds which the Canadian Red Cross Society had in hand.

Count VINCI was in agreement with the Chilean delegate and emphasized that as far as the Italian Red Cross was concerned, with ten million Italians abroad, it could not afford to risk the loss of that source of income. He considered that the regulation on page 402 to the effect that
no delegation was to be established in a foreign country without the consent of the Central Committee of that country was entirely satisfactory, and pointed out that the resolution went on to define still further the conditions relating to the establishment of a Red Cross unit:

"The central Committees are asked to grant that authorization to the largest possible extent, with this consideration that the foreign branch works entirely with its own nationals. In the event of disagreement, the Central Committee may refer the matter to the supreme authority of the International Red Cross. It is not necessary to say that the foreign branches must respect etc..."

"In states where no Red Cross Society exists etc..."

He thought the attention of national Societies could be drawn to the existing regulations of the International Red Cross.

Mr. VARAVARN, the Siamese delegate, considered the meeting could proceed to vote on the resolution. The opinion of the meeting seemed to be divided between retaining the original text and adding a more restricted condition.

The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the rectification in the English text proposed by the Siamese delegate.

THESE RECTIFICATIONS WERE APPROVED

The CHAIRMAN put the revised resolution to the vote.

THE RESOLUTION WAS CARRIED BY 19 VOTES TO NIL WITH POSSIBLY A FEW ABSTENTIONS.

The CHAIRMAN asked if the meeting was prepared to vote on the Resolution of the Yugoslav Red Cross of which copies had been circulated among the delegates.

THE RESOLUTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the next session would take place the following day at 10 a.m.

THE SESSION ADJOURNED AT 5 p.m.
The CHAIRMAN declared the meeting open. In reply to the question addressed to him by several of the delegates, he stated that there would be no modification in the afternoon programme consequent upon the Queen's bereavement, and that the Royal garden party would take place as planned.

The Commission had not yet said its last word with regard to Item 2 of the agenda, since it still remained for it to designate the two members who were to represent the Conference on the Council of the Foundation.

Mr. MAMANOUCHI (Japan) proposed that the XVIth Conference should appoint M. Goldschmidt (Belgium) and Colonel Marinkovitch (Yugoslavia) to represent the national Red Cross Societies on the Council of the Foundation for the International Red Cross Committee until the next Conference.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The CHAIRMAN then invited Mr. Norman Davis to submit the proposal which the Commission was to study that morning.

Mr. Norman Davis (United States) said that, in his view, it was the duty of the Commission to take steps to secure protection for women and children caught up in the toils of war. With this end in view he had, in collaboration with some other members of the Commission, drafted a resolution the terms of which could not possibly give rise to any political objection. He had been guided very largely by the report of the International Committee on the results of protests which it had made in the past. The resolution was as follows:

"The fifty-four national Red Cross Societies assembled at the XVIth International Red Cross Conference, meeting in London on the 20th of June 1938, appeal in the name of humanity to the competent authorities in all countries to prevent or so restrict bombing from the air as to safeguard the lives of helpless women and children and aged civilians, and urges these authorities, in all areas where civilian lives are liable to be endangered by any military operations, to arrange for the evacuation of women and children into zones of immunity under Red Cross protection. The Red Cross Societies desire to place on record their earnest hope that effective steps will be taken without
Mr. Norman Davis pointed out that this resolution was not in contradiction to the one passed the previous day by the 2nd Commission but was rather in the nature of a complement thereto which, in his view, was very necessary.

Mr. VARAVARN (Siam) asked what that other resolution was.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the Marquis de Lillers would answer this question.

The MARQUIS DE LILLERS first expressed his complete agreement with what had been said by Mr. Norman Davis. He was particularly grateful to Mr. Davis for saying that his proposal was merely complementary to the resolution adopted by the Conference the previous day on the proposal of the French delegation. That resolution was as follows:

**Protection of Women and Children against the Suffering resulting from Armed Conflicts.**

"The XVIth International Red Cross Conference, affirming the importance of the problem of protecting women and children against the sufferings resulting from armed conflicts, requests the International Red Cross Committee to study this problem in co-operation with the Save the Children International Union, and recommends that the national Red Cross Societies bring this question before their Governments, after consultation with the national bodies specially concerned with the protection of women and children."

The Marquis de Lillers felt that this resolution could not meet with any opposition from persons of good will, and it was definitely in the spirit of the resolution proposed by Mr. Norman Davis. As close neighbour of a land now in the throes of war, France was in a position to measure the horrible sufferings entailed for women and children, thousands of whom had sought refuge on French soil. He was sure there must be many delegates in the hall who, like himself, were ex-soldiers, and who knew the terrible moral and physical ordeal to which bombardments subjected the population. It was an appalling problem, and none with a grain of imagination could remain unmoved by it. It was because the French Red Cross had witnessed the sufferings of those unhappy women and children from Spain that it had extended all the relief in its power and had asked its delegation to the Conference to call the attention of the world to this question.
Señor O. P. GALLEGOS (Ecuador), as a citizen of the country which had advocated the abolition of the cause of the danger, said that, as in medicine, the only hope of effecting a cure was to trace the evil back to its origin. The duty of the Conference was to urge the Northern countries, and especially the great manufacturing powers, to restrict the production of aeroplanes. He fully realized all that the Red Cross (and more particularly the French Red Cross) had done to mitigate suffering in Spain, and, as the representative of a Spanish-speaking nation, he was deeply appreciative of the efforts which had been made to safeguard the Spanish people and their culture.

The CHAIRMAN reminded the Commission that several delegates were still awaiting their turn to speak, and urged that the debate should be confined within purely philosophical and humanitarian lines.

Dr. C.C. WANG (China) thanked the Chairman for his timely reminder and pointed out that the world was at present confronted with a colossal danger which threatened not only human civilization but the human race itself. War was a monstrous thing, and, with the modern weapons which science provided, the slaughter of women and children was becoming wholesale. If it amused grown men to kill one another, that was their own affair, but there could be no justification for taking the lives of defenceless women and children. Dr. Wang therefore endorsed unreservedly the resolution proposed by the American delegate.

Señor EDWARDS (Chili) announced that the Chilean delegation supported in full the draft resolution submitted by Mr. Norman Davis, just as it had supported the French resolution the previous day. No sane and reasonable men could do otherwise. The resolution had been drafted in a very comprehensive manner so as to cover every aspect of the question. While he did not wish to change the wording in any way, as any amendment might tend to weaken the effect of the resolution, he would nevertheless like to have placed on record in the minutes of the meeting an aspect of the question which, in his view, was of extreme importance.

It sometimes happens that, in proximity to densely populated areas, there are to be found what might be considered as military objectives, although they have not been placed there deliberately. He did not believe that any responsible Government, made up after all of husbands and fathers, would be so heartless and insensate as wittingly to endanger the lives of women and children by using them as a cover for the manufacture of war materials, but it may happen that munition dumps or factories engaged in producing essential articles are situated in or near a town. Could not, then, the Commission draw the attention of Governments to the necessity of guarding against the
possibility of bombardment by removing from densely-populated areas anything which might be considered as a military objective in the event of war? Until this is done, there must always subsist the risk of aerial attack. No aviator likes the prospect of killing women and children, but he has to do his duty according to his own lights.

The CHAIRMAN asked the delegates who were awaiting their turn to speak to allow Mr. Davis to add a few words to what he had already said.

Mr. NORMAN DAVIS thanked the Chilean Ambassador for his support of the resolution and for his remarks on the practical aspects of the problem. He was fully aware of the difficulties, having spent two or three years at Geneva in studying them; it had not occurred to him, however, that it was a matter into which the Red Cross could enter, since it seems to be a purely political consideration which only the Governments could handle. If munitions are stored in densely-populated areas, it is obviously difficult to safeguard the inhabitants against aerial attacks. Presumably the Governments will take all these questions into consideration when drawing up conventions on the subject.

Senator de MICHELIS (Italy) stated that he would have liked to see the commission, after Mr. Davis had introduced his resolution, approve not so much the actual terms of the resolution -- for each one of the delegates could probably suggest slight variations in the wording -- as the humanitarian idea underlying it. However, as members of some of the other delegations had seen fit to raise arguments of a different nature, he would like to say that he entirely approved and endorsed the spirit of Mr. Davis' motion. He ventured, moreover, to draw the attention of the Commission to one or two points.

The Second Commission had, the previous day, discussed not only the French proposal and all the humanitarian questions arising out of that proposal but also questions of a more general or a more specific character, such as the creation of safety zones under the protection of the Red Cross emblem for women and children, and the possibility of building shelters for the civilian population. One of the Italian delegates had read the text of a draft law, drawn up in Italy, inviting the Governments to reach agreement with other Governments on a reciprocal basis for the establishment of such shelters. Bombing, however, was not the only danger to which women and children were subjected in time of war. There was also the shortage of food, from which women and children were the first to suffer. It was for this reason that the Second Commission had given a general character to the motion by drawing the attention of Governments to the urgent need for guarding against all the disastrous consequences of warfare to civilians, and not merely air attacks.
The Second Commission had devised a formula which went further than that of Mr. Norman Davis. Instead of urging merely that the plight of women and children should be taken into account, it covered all the consequences, and the speaker asked Mr. Davis if he could not amend slightly the first paragraph of his resolution so as to give it the form of an appeal in the name of humanity to the authorities in all countries to safeguard to the utmost the lives of women, children and aged people, deleting any specific reference to bombing. This, he thought, would lend greater force to the appeal. At the meeting of the Second Commission the previous day, the French delegate had pointed out that the conditions of safeguard should be defined, and that the nations of the world should be reminded that the Red Cross emblem was designed to safeguard all who placed themselves under its protection. Senator de Michellis asked that additional force should be given to this motion by the adoption of the slight modification which he had proposed.

He further reminded the Commission that the question of aerial attacks was a highly technical and military one. It had first seen the light of day at the Washington Conference on February 4th, 1922. He would not go into details as to the procedure, but a very important document was distributed on that occasion, viz., the report of the Commission of Legal Experts, which contained 59 articles designed to dictate new laws for aerial warfare. It was proposed that the bombardment of towns, cities and villages should be prohibited, but there was one article which specified that, in the immediate vicinity of land army operations, the bombardment of towns, cities, villages and buildings was legitimate if there was a reasonable assumption that military concentrations were large enough to justify bombardment. Here was the substance of the proposed International Convention, and the delegates would perceive the danger of going minutely into a question when such details as these are to be found set down in black and white.

Colonel Lord O'HAGAN stated that, on behalf of the British Red Cross delegation, he wholeheartedly supported the resolution. So far as the remarks of the head of the Italian delegation were concerned, viz. that the resolution should be couched in more general terms, Lord O'Hagan pointed out that Mr. Norman Davis had been engaged in making a study of the question for many years and that he doubtless had excellent reasons for drafting the resolution in the form submitted. Everyone was agreed in deploring the terrible sufferings caused by armed conflicts, but what the Commission had particularly in mind in approving this resolution was the danger of air attacks. So much had been heard in the course of the meeting concerning the results of these attacks that it would be superfluous to add anything further on the subject. The Marquis de Lillers had described the effects of aerial bombardments on adults and aged persons. but what must be the
effects on the mind of a child who has gone through such experiences?

All that the Red Cross could do in the matter was to focus public opinion against such outrages and seek to mitigate their consequences, until such time as the Governments shall have taken the necessary humanitarian steps to preserve the sacredness of human life. If this happy consummation could be brought about, the time of the Commission would not have been wasted. Lord O'Hagan believed that if large masses of people wished ardently for a thing, that thing could be brought about, and that was why he have unconditional support to the resolution.

Herr HARTMANN (Germany) believed that everyone present desired to make the resolution as forceful as possible, and suggested two methods by which this might be done. The first would be to amend it in the manner suggested by the Italian delegate, recognizing that bombing from the air is not the only danger to which civilians are exposed in wartime; there are, indeed, a host of other special and technical military methods which are not included under the heading of bombardments, and it would be regrettable to restrict the terms of a resolution which enters so fully into the spirit of the Red Cross.

The second method would be to avoid the possibility of any discussion with the governments. Confronted with the resolution as it stood, the governments might well exclaim, with Senator de Michelis: "There is nothing new in this resolution; the whole matter has already been dealt with in agreements". The best way to represent what was in the mind of the Red Cross would be to obviate the objections which might arise as a result of the restrictive clause in the first part of the resolution.

Professor HUBER (I.R.C.C.) congratulated Mr. Norman Davis on having brought the resolution before the Conference, and stated that the International Committee could not do otherwise than support it warmly since it was to some extent the outcome of efforts made by the International Red Cross Committee for a long time past. Moreover, its acceptance was fully compatible with the Committee's attitude in regard to war problems. In this resolution, care had been taken to refrain from touching upon political questions which were not within the province of the Red Cross and to avoid futile discussions on problems of international law. Often the thorniest questions are those which arise when the law is force is confronted with situations which had not been foreseen when the law was drafted.

The first task of the Red Cross was to succour the victims, and then to consider how such happenings might be prevented in the future. Towards the end of the Great War, the international
Committee had already appealed to the Governments to refrain from the use of methods of warfare which avoidably or unnecessarily imperilled the lives of non-combatants, but it was especially since the war that the Red Cross had given consideration to the problem.

As Senator de Michelis had pointed out, an International Conference -- presided over by an eminent American citizen, John Basset Moore -- had met at The Hague for the express purpose of studying an international convention to be applied to aerial warfare; in 1925, in the course of a meeting of the League of Nations Assembly, the Geneva Protocol was adopted outlawing chemical and bacteriological warfare. The remarkable efforts of the diplomats and military experts at The Hague, however, had not been ratified up to the present, and, from the very outset, certain lacunae became evident in the Geneva Protocol. This being the case, the International Committee took upon itself the duty of examining how it might be possible to guard against these terrible dangers which the Governments were theoretically willing to abolish but which, through the force of events, might some day threaten our contemporaries.

The International Committee accordingly convened Commissions of Experts in Brussels and Rome to study the technical aspects of the passive defence of civilian populations against the dangers of chemical warfare. The results of their labours were not entirely fruitless. While it is true that, even without the Red Cross, the problem would certainly have claimed the attention of the Governments, it can nevertheless be claimed that the Red Cross played a pioneer rôle in this field. At the present time, in all countries, the protection of civilians against aerial warfare is no longer a question for the Red Cross but one of national defence.

Mention should also be made of a Committee of Experts, made up of eminent chemists from all parts of the world, which met in Paris in 1930, on the convocation of the International Red Cross Committee, to study certain specific problems connected with chemical warfare, such as the detection of mustard gas. The results of these different meetings of experts went to show that aerial warfare - whether it involved gas or incendiary bombs - might create situations in which any form of effective protection would be virtually impossible.

Some other solution had therefore to be sought. Thanks to a gift from the German Red Cross, the International Committee was able to consult a number of legal experts in Europe and America for a study of the problem of protecting civilians against bombardments, and the results of this consultation, which were communicated to all the national Societies and aroused considerable interest, formed the basis of the labours of a new
Committee of Experts convened by the International Committee at Geneva in 1931. This new committee arrived at the conclusion that the only effective means of meeting the danger consisted in the prohibition of aerial bombardments, and that this solution was juridically possible. When the Disarmament Conference met in 1932, the International Committee provided all the Governments with a voluminous report setting forth all that had been done to date by the Red Cross in this field.

Here again, as in the case of the Hague Diplomatic Conference, no concrete result was arrived at and the position remains very difficult. True, there are still certain stipulations of the Hague Conventions, e.g. that prohibiting the bombardment of open towns, but since 1899, the conditions and technique of warfare have changed.

Although there may often be doubts as to the true interpretation to be given to any particular clause, the rule that an open town should not be attacked constitutes a vital principle which should prevail however much conditions may change. On this basis, the International Committee, in the course of the last few years - and again quite recently, as shown by its circulars relating to Spain and China -, has appealed to the Governments in terms very similar to those used in the resolution under discussion; if now the national Societies wish again to raise their voices in a similar appeal to all the Governments to restrict or refrain from bombing civilian populations, the International Committee cannot but rejoice at the American proposal.

It had been justly pointed out that what was being asked for at the present juncture was nothing more than a particularly urgent concrete application of a more general problem, i.e., the protection of civilian populations against the effects of military operations, and here again the Red Cross had not been idle. The delegates would recall that, at the Brussels Conference in 1930, the International Committee and the Swedish delegation, supported by the Norwegian and Danish delegations, had put forward a proposal for succouring civilian populations in the event of blockade and siege, and that the Conference had passed a resolution to that effect. It was conceivable that, as the methods of warfare evolved and the economic conditions of nations developed, new problems would arise.

Professor Huber agreed, in principle, that the scope of the resolution might be enlarged, but felt that it would perhaps be difficult to adapt a resolution drafted for one specific purpose in such a manner as to make it applicable also to a wider and more indeterminate set of circumstances. What the Commissioner should keep in mind was the necessity of prohibiting attacks on defenceless individuals, so as to restrict as far as possible the effects of bombardments on women and children. This appeal
was made in the name of humanity, but it really formed part of a greater and much wider principle.

Professor Huber added that it would be clear from what he had said that the American proposal was entirely along the lines of the policy which had for long past been followed with the courage, conviction, perseverance and prudence which constitute the traditional attitude of the Red Cross, and that was why, in the name of the International Committee, he had no hesitation in supporting the proposal put forward by Mr. Norman Davis.

Herr HARTMANN (Germany) said he fully appreciated the admirable work which had been accomplished by the International Committee on this question. The differences which had arisen between the various delegations in regard to the wording of the resolution were concerned only with expanding its scope. The German delegation supported both theses, and thought it might be possible to conciliate them. He proposed, for example, the insertion in the third line, after the date of June 20th, 1938, of the following words: "looking forward to the results of their efforts to bring about measures of a general nature for the protection of civilians". In this way, attention would be called to the fact that there were other dangers than bombardments, or even aerial bombardment. The resolution as it stood touched upon only one aspect of the problem.

Mr. Norman DAVIS accepted the suggestion of the German delegation for inserting a reference to measures of a general nature, the rest of the wording to stand as drafted.

Mr. DRONSART (Belgium) considered that the most important duty of the Commission was to provide for the protection of women and children; he therefore accepted the resolution as presented by Mr. Davis and amended by the German delegation.

Mr. SOMMERVILLE (Canada) congratulated the German delegation on its proposed amendment, and expressed the belief that the resolution thus amended would become one of the fundamental principles of the Red Cross. Canada would never be subjected to the horrors mentioned as it had the best of neighbours on its southern boundary; there the frontier was no longer a dividing line, for it had been abolished by the friendly relationship and co-operation established between the two countries.

But the population of Canada is drawn from 54 different nations, and it viewed with distress the situation in other parts of the world. When reason governs human activities, civilization progresses, but when reason disappears and passion takes command, civilization loses ground. The resolution in question held out hope of a return to reason, and the speaker said he would like the Commission to be assured that the resolution,
when adopted, would be considered in the light of a mandate to the International Red Cross Committee to secure the aid of the national Societies in giving full effect to its terms.

Senator de MICHELIS (Italy) expressed the interest with which he had followed the course of the debate. He had joined in it only because Mr. Davis' proposal had not been accepted without secondary considerations. He had suggested an amendment, but since Mr. Norman Davis had accepted a subsequent amendment which partly met the desiderata of the Italian delegation, he would not insist further. If he was referring again to his intervention in the debate, it was merely in order to confirm that the Italian delegation supported the American proposal, not only for the eventualities specifically envisaged but for all the dangers menacing civilian populations in time of war.

Dr. MAHMOUD MAHER Bey (Egypt) stated that, in supporting the resolution as amended, he would like to point out that it was one of the questions raised by the Egyptian delegation at the Chamber of Deputies last year. So far as the unanimous desire to abolish war altogether was concerned, if 54 nationalities could live together in harmony in the relatively small territory covered by Canada, why could not the rest of the nations of the world do likewise?

It was not sufficient to support the resolution; all the delegates should formally undertake, when they return to their own countries, to do all in their power to see that it is put into effect. Many of them were probably personally acquainted with Members of Parliament and could persuade them to confront their Governments with the question with a view to getting some action on the resolutions passed by the Conference.

Professor HUBER thanked Mr. Sommerville for what he had said, and assured the Commission that the International Committee would continue its efforts and that the resolution which the meeting was about to pass would be of great moral help to the International Red Cross Committee in the task which it had been pursuing for so many years.

Mrs. SMALL (President of the Save the Children International Union), referring to the fact that the co-operation of the Union had been mentioned in the French resolution adopted the previous day, pointed out that the Union was occupied with the relief of children not only in time of war but at all times and in all circumstances. She expressed her whole-hearted approval of the resolution put forward by the American delegate.

The CHAIRMAN then asked if the Commission was in agreement with the amendment proposed by the German delegation, viz., to
add, after the date of June 20th, 1938, the words: "looking forward to the results of their efforts to bring about measures of a general nature for the protection of civilians".

The Amendment was unanimously approved.

The Resolution thus amended was put to the vote and Carried Unanimously.

Mr. Norman DAVIS expressed his gratitude to the Commission, and thanked particularly the German delegation for its proposal and the Italian delegation for having accepted the amendment. The United States were not exposed to this danger so far as the Americas were concerned, but they fully appreciated the risks in less favoured parts of the world. All present hoped that the national Societies would collaborate unanimously with the International Committee in its efforts to combat the danger.

Mr. DRONSART pointed out that it was not for Mr. Davis to thank the Commission but for the Commission to thank Mr. Davis for his generous initiative in proposing the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN felt that everyone would be in agreement with Mr. Dronsart on this point.

A Vote of Thanks to the Congress was Passed.

A Vote of Thanks to the Chairman was also Passed.

Professor HUBER voiced the deep regret felt by all present on learning of the death of the Countess of Strathmore, mother of Her Majesty The Queen. In accordance with the procedure invariably followed by International Conferences in such matters, he therefore proposed the following resolution expressing the sympathy of the Conference:

"That all the Delegates assembled at the XVIth International Red Cross Conference desire unanimously to express their deep and sincere sympathy with Her Majesty The Queen in the irreparable loss Her Majesty has sustained by the lamented death of her Mother, the Countess of Strathmore.

"They bear gratefully in their minds the recollection of the message of welcome which Her Majesty was graciously pleased to send the Conference through His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester."

The CHAIRMAN declared that this resolution was unanimously adopted.

THE SESSION ADJOURNED AT 12 O’CLOCK
Mr. President, Ladies, Gentlemen,

In presenting to you the General Report of the International Red Cross Committee, I will endeavour not to trespass on your time and attention.

Indeed, the agenda of the General Commission is a very heavy one and I would not wish to encroach unduly on the already very restricted time set apart for the debate of the numerous and important subjects which will be submitted to you.

During the four years just ended, events have followed one another with a rapidity which was at times disconcerting, armed conflicts have arisen in quick succession in the four quarters of the globe, placing the International Red Cross Committee in the presence of delicate situations, serious problems and the obligation of taking decisions likely to be fraught with consequences of the highest moment.

During that period the efforts and energy of the International Committee have been called into requisition, sometimes to their extreme limits and yet, notwithstanding these, might I say untoward, activities, the International Committee could not allow its attention to be diverted from its normal and usual tasks. These form the subject matter of the first portion of the General Report, while the second deals with the interventions of the International Committee in armed conflicts.

Among its ordinary duties, mention should be made of the mandates with which it was entrusted by the XVth Conference and by those which preceded it (Chapter I). The International Committee has, in particular, endeavoured to bring them to a successful issue.

It is first a matter of juridical questions (Chapter IV); the application, interpretation and revision of existing conventions or the preparation of new Conventions.

One must not fail to appreciate that, in these various fields, progress is slow. It is necessary to collect docu-
memory evidence which is often of considerable magnitude, numerous instances must be consulted, replies to questions asked are often delayed and sometimes fail to materialize. Finally, when this long preparatory labour has matured into a draft convention, the convening of a diplomatic conference intended to discuss it is often beset with difficulties for which the International Committee is not responsible.

Such is the case regarding the draft "Convention on the adaptation of aerial warfare to the principles of the Geneva Convention".

and regarding the proposal for a "Convention concerning the status and protection of civilians of enemy nationality".

The International Committee exerted its utmost efforts so that these two proposals, one adopted by the XIVth Conference, and the other by the XVth Conference, might, prior to the present Conference, be submitted to a diplomatic conference which it was anticipated would take place in 1957; but it was not possible to hold this meeting.

Three new reports on juridical questions have been added to these two proposals. They are to be discussed by the Juridical Commission, I therefore merely mention them here.

The International Committee presents a draft "Convention for the adaptation to naval warfare of the principles of the Geneva Convention" (Document No.2) which, if it be adopted by the XVIth Conference, is ready to be discussed by a diplomatic conference.

The question of the "Establishment of Hospital Towns and Areas" has not yet reached such an advanced stage. The labours of a Commission of experts and the replies of various National Societies to a questionnaire have made it possible to draw up "Draft Articles to serve as a basis for a Convention" (Document No.15). It has unfortunately not been possible to convene a second commission of military experts and jurists in international law previous to the XVIth Conference.

Recent experiments have induced the International Committee to present a report on the "Rôle and action of the Red Cross in time of Civil War" (Document No.10). It concludes by a draft resolution intended to clearly define and complete the resolution of the 1921 Geneva International Conference.

Finally, the studies on the "interpretation, revision and extension of the 1929 Geneva Convention" form the subject matter of a report presented to the present Conference (Document No.11).

*  
*  
*
Jointly with the League of Red Cross Societies, the International Committee has continued to carry on the Central and Permanent Service of the International Relief Union. (Chapter V).

Clearly defined qualifications favour the carrying out in common of this work and, thanks to the increased resources, the Union has been able to give the two Red Cross organizations the benefit of, the Service has developed.

The activity of the International Relief Union is the subject matter of a joint report of the League of Red Cross Societies and of the International Red Cross Committee to the Conference (Document No.20) and it is not necessary, therefore, to dwell further on this matter.

The same applies to the International Institute for the Study of Ambulance Equipment, formerly the Standardization Commission (Chapter VI) (Document No.18), which, with the faithful co-operation of eminent specialists, continues its labours under its new denomination and with modified rules. It will be sufficient to note that the question of premises for the exhibition of its numerous and interesting collections has at last been solved thoroughly satisfactorily.

* *

Let us refer here to the Individual Research and Enquiry Service (Chapter VII), which, even at the present time, is still dealing with certain waifs and strays of the Great War by searching for the missing, by re-establishing contact between the members of dispersed families, transmitting documents, facilitating repatriation. Its activities still prove to be very necessary as is shown by the number of cases of all kinds it still has to deal with.

It was from this service that the Service of News to Families in Spain (Chapter VII) originated, and its development rapidly exceeded all anticipations, a matter to which I propose to revert when dealing with the second part of the General Report.

* *

* *
In various countries the fate of Political Prisoners (Chapter VIII) has been a subject of concern for the International Committee. Acting in liaison with the national Societies, it has had to intervene in five different countries. Said interventions are often of a delicate nature and do not usually lend themselves to publicity. The object of the International Committee is purely humanitarian, and it is content when it can ameliorate the fate of those it attends to and reassure those who are anxious about them.

* *

At the Tokyo Conference, the International Committee presented a report (\*) on the "Protection of the Civil Population against Aerial Warfare" and, more particularly, on the "Information Centre on Aerial Chemical Warfare" functioning at the headquarters of the Committee.

Alongside the account of the reasons why it had not been able to carry out the technical mandates it had been entrusted with, the International Committee foreshadowed that, failing receipt of the financial means necessary for its maintenance, it would be compelled to suppress the Information Centre.

This forecast has unfortunately become a reality (Chapter VII). After having had to provide a sum of approximately 20,000.- Swiss francs out of its ordinary budget, or roughly 50 per cent of the expenditure of the Centre, it found itself reluctantly compelled to suppress it as from January 1st this year.

* *

In the same connexion, I will only mention in passing Chapter XIV of the General Report dealing with the "financial situation" of the Committee. Said situation is causing it the most serious anxiety. You have heard Mr. Max Huber's speech; I would blame myself if I were to weaken its effect by comments.

The "Relations of the International Red Cross Committee with the League of Red Cross Societies and with the national Societies" are dealt with in Chapter XIII.

\(\text{(*) Document No.14 of the Tokyo Conference.}\)
The relations with the League of Red Cross Societies are ever closer and more cordial and numerous opportunities of working in common only draw the bonds closer.

I desire specially to mention here the willingness evinced by the League in giving its efficient assistance to the Committee on the occasion of its interventions in armed conflicts.

The International Committee has been painfully afflicted by the decease of two presidents of the League of Red Cross Societies, Judge Payne of whom those who took part in the Tokyo Conference preserved a memory which gave them no reason to anticipate his impending decease, and Admiral Grayson. The International Committee pays a heartfelt tribute to those two fine personalities of the International Red Cross.

The International Committee is happy to welcome the appointment to the presidency of the League of that eminent personality, Mr. Norman Davis.

It is with the deepest regret that the International Committee recorded the resignation of Colonel Draudt whom since 1928, had been the delegate of the League to the International Committee. It hailed, with pleasure, the appointment as successor to Colonel Draudt of Mr. de Rougé whose influence can only draw closer the bonds which unite the two organizations and further facilitate their co-operation.

Moreover, it is the International Committee's greatest desire to establish ever closer and more frequent relations with the national Societies. It seeks all opportunities of creating personal contacts between its members and their directing organizations but, apart from the International Conferences, circumstances do not always permit it to be done to the extent it would wish, especially in the case of Societies whose headquarters are far removed from Geneva. The International Committee regrets it deeply for it is convinced that an ever closer union between all the Red Cross organizations is one of the essential conditions of productive work.

Since the Tokyo Conference, the list of "Recognized national Societies" (Chapter II) has been increased by two units; the Nicaraguan Red Cross and the Haitian Red Cross; on the other hand, it has been reduced by one, the Abyssinian Red Cross which has ceased its activities.

Six Societies are in process of formation or awaiting recognition.

Honduras having complied with all stipulations can be admitted forthwith.
For the admission of Burma, the International Committee only awaits that a request to that effect may be made to it.

As regards Afghanistan, certain difficulties with respect to the emblem, mentioned in the General Report, have since been eliminated and the negotiations seem to be on the road to success.

As regards the Irish Free State, Manchuko and the Philippines, certain questions are still in suspense. The International Committee hopes they may soon be settled and that it will be possible to proceed to admit these new Societies in the near future.

* * *

I have reached the end of my exposition of the first portion of the General Report. I lay no claim to having made it a complete one and I have no doubt left important points on one side, but maybe I have managed to convey to you an idea of the multifariousness and diversity of the duties which devolve on the International Committee in ordinary times.

But, in the past four years, we have not had to deal only with our usual labours.

War, in various forms, has suddenly imposed other duties on us.

We have had to intervene in four armed conflicts.

On broaching such a subject it is difficult not to cast one's thoughts back on the past. One remembers moments of distress one has passed through, tragic hours one lived through and, more particularly, one cannot refrain from comparing the magnitude of the distress that requires alleviation with the feeble means at one's disposal and the paltriness of the results one can obtain.

To be sure, considerable efforts have been made by Red Cross Societies, Governments and sundry organizations which helped the International Committee or sent relief direct to the seat of hostilities. The International Committee is deeply grateful to them for this. Unfortunately modern wars, with the unceasing development of the technique of armaments, are comparable to certain upheavals of nature in the presence of which man experiences the crushing sensation of his powerlessness.
Is this a reason for giving way to discouragement? On the contrary. The heavier the task, the more efforts should be multiplied and, going back to its origin, the Red Cross must remember that it was instituted for the purpose of assisting the victims of war.

The evolution in the conception of modern war methods, the development of technique, the very nature of present day conflicts which are far different from those of the past, set ceaselessly renewed problems and the duties devolving on the Red Cross become more numerous and more diverse.

In the additional report which is in your hands, the International Committee has expressed a few general considerations in connexion with these problems.

The second part of the General Report contains the detailed historical record of the interventions of the International Committee in the Chaco (Chapter XV), in Abyssinia (Chapter XVI), Spain (Chapter XVII), and China (Chapter XVIII). I would remind you, in addition, of the numerous circulars by means of which the International Committee made a point of periodically keeping the national Societies informed of the progress of its work.

It would take too long to attempt to give a summary of the events here. I will therefore confine myself to extracting certain points which appear to me to be of general interest.

In the first place, one can notice the very different conditions under which the conflicts developed.

Local circumstances such as the nature of the countries and the characteristics of their populations, the configuration and extent of the seat of military operations, the greater or less efficiency of the national Red Cross Societies of either party, the very nature of the conflicts, as well as other factors, have compelled the International Committee and the Red Cross Societies to adapt their methods to the various situations and their respective tasks have varied according to circumstances.

In the Abyssinian conflict, for instance, the British, Finnish, Netherlands and Norwegian Red Cross and the Egyptian Red Crescent sent ambulances to the seat of war to assist the Abyssinian Red Cross which had been but recently created.

Some members of these formations forfeited their lives through their devotion to duty, others were wounded, all suffered fatigue and privations of all kinds, and at these solemn meetings of the International Red Cross, it is but justice to
pay tribute to their spirit of sacrifice in the cause of the Red Cross.

In other cases, in Spain in particular, the material and financial assistance of the national Societies was sent more especially to the International Committee. Moreover, they made use of their influence on Governments and private organizations with a view to procuring additional resources for the work of the International Committee.

Our activities in Spain have invariably been carried on in accord with the authorities and Red Cross of one side or the other. Without this twofold support our work would have been infinitely more difficult, if not impossible.

In the conflict in the Far East, on the other hand, it is to the Chinese Red Cross that the national Societies have sent the greater part of their assistance.

All these methods are to be recommended according to circumstances and the International Committee is always at the service of the national Societies, should they ask for it, to supply them with information regarding the needs to be met, to co-ordinate efforts and attend to the distribution of relief.

As regards the medical supplies sent to Spain, I beg to call your attention to the annex regarding the "Purchase Service". These particulars may yield useful information regarding the requirements of medical establishments in time of war.

The International Committee does not however consider that its duties are limited to the despatch and distribution of material relief only. It must also act in other fields. In the Spanish conflict in particular, it assigned a portion of the means placed at its disposal to maintaining its delegations in Spain and to reinforcing its services in Geneva.

It was only thanks to its delegates that it was possible for it to organize its "Service of News to Relatives" and that of "News of Prisoners".

Picture to yourselves what it means, to beings separated by civil war, to be at last able to know something about their relatives who, for them have vanished. All correspondence would be impossible were it not for the small cards, bearing but a few words, which often bring joy and hope to distressed hearts.

More than two million messages were received by the "News to Relatives" Service and, since the supplementary report was printed, only a few days ago, the number of messages was increased approximately by another 130,000. On the other hand,
the "News of Prisoners" Service which our delegates were able to organize only with considerable difficulty and which has only been in operation for a short time, has already received approximately 50,000 messages.

Thanks to their persevering and untiring efforts, the delegates of the International Committee have managed to obtain permissions to visit the "Prisoners' Camps" and prisons and, after many disappointments, they now find that they are granted increasing facilities.

Unfortunately, they are able to ascertain that the requirements are very great. On the one hand there is lack of food, and on the other hand there is need of blankets and clothing. Now that the facilities granted would at last make it possible to give efficient and necessary assistance it is deeply to be regretted that lack of funds prevents its being given.

I beg very earnestly to call the attention of the XVIth Conference to this point.

Finally, it is the presence on the spot of our delegates, the knowledge of people and things they have been able to gather, which have enabled the International Committee, in cooperation with the Swiss Red Cross, to carry out the "evacuation, under difficult and often perilous" conditions, and but a few months ago, of approximately 2,500 women, children and old people from Madrid. It was thus possible to snatch these innocent victims of the war from privation and danger and to place them in better living conditions.

The serious problems set by the "civil war" have been touched upon in the general considerations of the supplementary report. I am therefore simply mentioning them.

As to the "Protection of the Civil Population" - that problem which haunts the conscience of the world at present -, the International Committee is fully alive to its full importance. Unfortunately, the problem is so vast and so complex that its solution will probably require considerable time yet. In the meantime, we must proceed by successive stages, taking the possibilities into account. This subject has likewise been dealt with in the supplementary report.

Finally, I would like to draw attention here to the ever increasing difficulties raised by the "Protection of Medical Establishments and Formations" against the means of modern warfare. This problem is likewise too vast and too complex to be dealt with in a summary statement; but it is the duty of the International Committee to call the attention of the Conference to the very serious anxiety this problem causes it.
The establishment of Hospital Towns and Areas might possibly be a preparatory step towards a solution.

Before closing, there is still a duty I would like to discharge. In my desire for brevity I have not been able, when reviewing our various activities, to express the gratitude of the International Committee to all those who have helped and supported it in every one of its tasks. They are many: National Red Cross Societies, Governments; sundry organizations, personalities who, in the past four years have given their assistance to the International Committee in numerous and various ways. Financial and material help, voluntary co-operation, the placing at our disposal of expert advice in the most varied fields, have been generously bestowed on us. The International Committee expresses its gratitude to all, this support extended to it from all quarters of the globe is a precious encouragement to it to faithfully prosecute the tasks it has undertaken and to contemplate with confidence the carrying-out of the further tasks it may be faced with in the future.
Report of Comte PALAGI del PALAGIO, Délégué of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta

Mr. President, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The work which the Sovereign Military Order of Malta carried on during the Great War, in accordance with the traditional spirit of the Hospitallers, is too well known to need any comment on my part. More than 900,000 wounded and sick soldiers were transported in the trains of the Order or cared for in its hospitals. This work undertaken in time of war was carried on in time of peace, in infirmaries, ambulances, orphanages and in the centres for the distribution of food and clothing, which the Grand Priories and the National Associations of the Knights of Malta possess in Europe, America, Asia and Africa. In these different establishments each year thousands of unfortunate are cared for and nourished.

I feel that it is not out of place, in this International Red Cross Conference, where work on so great a scale for the relief of humanity is being accomplished, to speak briefly of the new undertakings of the Order of Malta in the Mission field and in work for the relief of lepers.

In years gone by, in 1674, the Grand Master Nicolas Cotoner started in the Hospital of Malta a school of anatomy, medicine and surgery, under the direction of Joseph Zammit. In 1721, the Grand Master Marcantonio Zondadari gave permission for the dissection of corpses. Later on lectures on this subject were given by the surgeon Henin who was called to Malta for the purpose by the Grand Master Manuel de Vilhena. In like manner the present Grand Master, His Most Eminent Highness Prince Ludovico Chigi Albani, instituted in 1934, an International Missionary Association of the Order; on March 4th of the following year there was opened a free School of Medical and Surgical teaching, the object of which was to enable Missionaries to give adequate aid, not only to souls, but to sick bodies as well.

The courses are held in the Lancisi amphitheatre of the Hospital of San Giacomo in Augusta in Rome, and thanks to a special arrangement of the Order with the Management of the Joint Roman Hospitals, there is attached to the School a surgical ward of 20 beds for men and 15 for women, as well as an operation theatre.

Naturally the object of the Course is not to make doctors or surgeons - for which six years of study would barely suffice - but, in a comparatively short space of time, to teach the Missionaries sufficient medical knowledge to enable them to
assist natives suffering from the commonest forms of disease and injury. The Missionaries, especially in the tropics, can thus profit by the long experience of their teachers.

The course begins with a general outline of human anatomy and physiology. Then comes instruction in medicine, surgery, ophthalmology, laryngology, pharmacology, as well as hygiene and child-welfare.

The students pass on to gain practical experience assisting in operations and surgical dressings. Then in the amphitheatre, demonstrations in anatomy with the use of surgical instruments and the ligature of arteries are given.

Under the expert guidance of Prof. Sir Aldo Castellani, the eminent specialist in tropical pathology, the pupils are also given a course in tropical and sub-tropical diseases - their character, etiology, epidemiology and prophylaxis.

These courses are attended each year by over a hundred missionary monks and nuns of every order and of every nationality. Thus Christian Civilisation, thanks to the care it gives to the body as well as to the soul, often gains a foothold among primitive peoples. This is testified to by the many grateful letters of former pupils of the Missionary School, who keep in constant touch with the Order.

Another big undertaking of the Order of Malta, the cost of equipment which has been estimated at 6,000,000 Lira, is a large Institute for the study and treatment of leprosy. The first stone was laid on January 15th of this year in the plain of Selaclacå on the road to Axum in Ethiopia (the holy city of Lepers). The Institute was named after a brother of the present Grand Master of the Order, Prince Agostino Chigi, who in 1896, as a Lieutenant of Cavalry, gave his life gloriously in the battle of Adowa.

The settlement is situated on well-watered ground 5,800 feet above sea-level in a temperate climate and occupies 200 hectares of fertile ground.

The Institute will have two infirmaries, for 96 men and women, in the worst stages of the disease, and in the huts "tuculs" or "harrischs" - of three neighbouring villages. 1,800 lepers able to work in the agricultural colony will be maintained.

The Settlement will also include an up-to-date laboratory for international research work on leprosy, quarters for the staff, a library and an asylum for the children of lepers before they become contaminated. There is also a large central "tucul" with wireless and a cinema to afford recreation to the lepers, and an electric plant for the different needs of the centre.
I cannot do more than mention the other important works of the Sovereign Military Order - the Hospices at Tantur in the Holy Land, the Institute for the treatment of Abnormal Children, the Clinic and the Hospital for Incurables of the Grand Priory of Naples; the Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth in London, assisted by the British Association, which also makes a grant to the Leper Camp at Nyenga in Uganda; the Clinic of the Grand Priory in Rome; the Orphanage of the Belgium Association (which also takes a keen interest in the fight against Leprosy in the Congo), the Leper ward in the Hospital of St. Louis in Paris, the 10,000 sick persons treated annually in the great hospitals of the two Associations of Knights in Rhenish-Westphalia and Silesia, the hospital work of the Dutch, Polish and American Knights - but the programme of the Conference is full and its time is limited.

I must leave this subject, but not without having expressed in the name of the hospitals of the various Langues of that Order, the greatest admiration for the fruitful and ever increasing achievements of the Red Cross, whose powerful organization has brought together in this Conference the humanitarian efforts of the whole world, I wish further to express the sincere gratitude of the Order to the gallant people of Great Britain for their traditional and most gracious hospitality.