

General organization

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PART I

I. General Organization

COMPOSITION OF THE ICRC AND ITS COMMISSIONS

There was no change in 1950 in the composition of the International Committee, and the list of Members remains accordingly as indicated at the beginning of the Report for 1949.

The Committee continued, apart from plenary sessions, to meet twice monthly to deal with current business.

The Presidency Council and the Commissions continued as in 1949.

The Delegations Commission has become the " Commission for External Activities ", under the Chairmanship of M. Jacques Chenevière as before, and with the following additional members : MM. Bodmer, Duchosal, de Traz and Wolf.

REORGANIZATION OF SERVICES

A general reorganization of services was made in order to adapt them better to current needs.

As from March 10, 1950, three Divisions (Executive, General Affairs, Administrative) were set up, and placed under two Directors, namely :

Executive Director : M. Roger Gallopin.

Director for General Affairs : M. Jean S. Pictet.

(a) *Executive Division:*

The Division is in charge of M. D. de Traz, Deputy Executive Director, acting under the responsibility of M. Gallopin.

It deals with all questions of relief, and takes over the following Services :

- (1) Central Prisoners of War Agency ;
- (2) Prisoners and Civilian Internees ;
- (3) Delegations ;
- (4) Relief ;
- (5) Medical ;
- (6) Pharmaceutical ;
- (7) War Invalids ;
- (8) Nursing.

(b) *Division for General Affairs.*

M. Pictet, as Director, takes over responsibility for all permanent Services, apart from relief. The Division absorbs a number of former departments :

- (a) The Secretariat of the ICRC and of the Presidency Council ;
- (b) Legal ;
- (c) Information and *Revue* ;
- (d) Archives and Mail ;
- (e) Translation.

(c) *Administrative Division:*

This Division is managed by M. E. de Bondeli, Assistant Director, acting under the responsibility of M. Gallopin.

It deals with current administrative and financial questions and includes the following Services :

- (a) Administration and Staff ;
- (b) Accounts.

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Directed as previously by M. J. Duchosal, the General Secretariat assists the Presidency Council ; it deals with :

- (1) Relations between the ICRC and the National Societies ;
- (2) Relations with Red Cross and other international bodies ;
- (3) Relations with Governments (on the instructions of the President or the Presidency Council) ;
- (4) Organization of Conferences and Meetings ; Florence Nightingale Medal award ; Augusta and Shôken Funds, etc.

STAFF

Staff varied little from the previous year ; on December 31, 1950, it numbered 316 (275 at Geneva).

The number of voluntary workers was 52 (38 abroad, 14 in Geneva), i. e. seven more than the previous year. The much-appreciated services of these voluntary workers represent a great saving.

The Employment Office was closed at the end of December, its functions being taken over by the Staff Service.

The Welfare Service continues on the lines indicated in previous Reports.

Staff insurance against accidents has become compulsory, the ICRC paying 55% of the premiums.

DELEGATIONS

As on August 15, 1950, the list of representatives was as follows : ¹

AFRICA

French Equatorial Africa. — PORT-GENTIL : M. Fritz Arnold, Delegate.

¹ Of the sixty-one Delegates, thirty-four give their services without payment.

South Africa. — PRETORIA : M. Henri-Philippe Junod, Delegate.

Algeria. — ALGIERS : M. Roger Vust, Delegate.

Egypt. — CAIRO : M. Albert de Cocatrix, Delegate.

Morocco. — CASABLANCA : M. Camille Vautier, Delegate.

TANGIERS : M. Alfred Saudan, Correspondent of
the Morocco Delegation.

Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland. — LUSAKA :
M. G. C. Senn, Delegate.

AMERICA

Argentina and Latin America (apart from the five countries following). — BUENOS AIRES : M. Jacques de Chambrier,
M. Jean-Pierre Roulet, Delegates.

Bolivia. — LA PAZ : M. Pablo Gacon, Delegate.

Brazil. — RIO DE JANEIRO : M. Eric Haegler, Delegate.

Columbia. — BOGOTA : M. Adolphe Pestalozzi, Delegate.

Mexico. — MEXICO : M. Alfred Behn, Delegate.

Peru. — LIMA : M. Max Reiser, Delegate.

Venezuela. — CARACAS : M. Robert Moll, Delegate.

ASIA

Indo-China. — M. Charles Aeschliman, Delegate.

Indonesia. — DJAKARTA : Dr. Otto Lehner, Delegate ; Correspondents : SOERABAYA : M. Keller ; MEDAN : M. L. Scheidegger ; MACASSAR : M. F. R. A. Weber.

Malaya. — SINGAPORE : M. Heinrich Pfrunder, Delegate.

Siam. — BANGKOK : M. Werner Salzmann, Dr. Karl Laupper,
M. E. Dickenmann, Delegates.

Ceylon. — COLOMBO : M. C. R. Flückiger, Correspondent.

China. — SHANGHAI : M. Edouard Eglé, Delegate.

TIENTSIN : M. Rudolph Merz, Correspondent.

TSINGTAO : Dr. W. Rieder, Correspondent.

India and Pakistan. — CALCUTTA (Bengal Mission) : Dr. Roland Marti, Head of Delegation : Drs. Charles Bessero, Gabriel Chevalley, Pierre Fasel, Pierre Moinat, Pierre Zimmermann and MM. Nicolas Burckhardt and Georges Hoffmann, Delegates ; Mlles. Simone Christie, Röseli Fischer, Lucie Flückiger, Rita Hodel, Hedwig Hofer, Lina Hofer, Verena Köpfli and Ida Stauffiger, Nurses.

BOMBAY : M. Jacob Anderegg, Correspondent.

Korea (South). — MM. Frederic Bieri and Jacques de Reynier, Delegates.

Israel. — JAFFA : M. Jean Munier, Delegate.

Japan. — TOKYO : M. Hans Abegg, Delegate (replacing M. Harry Angst, absent).

Jordan, Iraq and the Arab States (except Lebanon and Syria). — AMMAN : M. Albert de Cocatrix, Delegate.

Lebanon and Syria. — BEIRUT : M. Georges Burnier, Delegate.

Philippines. — MANILA : M. Joseph Bessmer, Delegate.

EUROPE

Austria. — VIENNA : M. Guido Joubert, Delegate.

France. — PARIS : M. William Michel, Head of Delegation, Dr. Jacques de Morsier, Medical Adviser, MM. Karl Amman, Pierre Boissier, Jean-Pierre Maunoir, René Wasmer, Delegates.

Germany. — BERLIN : M. Charles de Jenner, Head of Delegation, MM. Ralph Eckert and Denis Favre, Delegates.

Greece. — ATHENS : M. Adrien Lambert, Delegate ; M. Germain Colladon, Secretary-General.

Italy. — GENOA : M. Leon Biaggi de Blasys, Delegate.

BARI : M. Manfred Roth, Correspondent.

NAPLES : Dr. Paul Burkhard, Delegate.

PALERMO : M. Ernest Ganz, Correspondent.

Spain. — MADRID : M. Eric Arbenz, Delegate.

AUSTRALASIA

New Zealand. — AUCKLAND : M. Leon Bossard, Delegate.

There are few changes from 1949, but the following may be noted :

M. F. Bieri, Delegate on special mission at Hong Kong, was appointed to South Korea ; Dr. O. Lehner, in 1949 head of the Delegation in Israel, took over in Indonesia. M. de Cocatrix, at Cairo, was nominated for Jordan, Iraq and the Arab States (except for Lebanon and Syria), with headquarters at Amman.

In June, the Prague Delegation was closed. The number of persons needing the assistance of the ICRC in Czechoslovakia had steadily decreased over the previous five years. The Czechoslovak Red Cross declared itself ready to continue this work and the Society, in liaison with the technical services in Geneva, looks after any cases still needing assistance.

It was also possible to close the Rome office at the end of June. Its main activities had been in connexion with the delivery of Travel Documents to persons deprived of legal protection. This work was taken over by AGIUS, an autonomous Section of the Italian Red Cross, which deals with legal assistance for aliens.

FINANCES

Internal Audit.

An independent internal Auditing Service has been set up which is directly responsible to the Presidency Council, and, for obvious reasons, remains apart from affairs which are the province of the Executive. Its duties are :

- (a) To ensure that expenses incurred at Geneva and abroad do not exceed estimates.
- (b) To point out cases where the estimates may be, or are likely to be, exceeded.
- (c) To verify expenses incurred by the Committee and the Delegates, at Geneva and elsewhere, and the justification for them ; the Service is entitled to require any documents necessary for this purpose.

- (d) To supervise the management of funds entrusted to the Committee, or belonging to it, and the use made of them.

General Income and Expenditure Account.

The general income and expenditure account as on December 31, 1950 (see Table No. 1), may be summarized as follows :

		<i>Expenditure</i> Swiss francs	<i>Receipts</i> Swiss francs
<i>To 1950:</i>			
Col. 1	{ Expenditure	4,504,087.94	
	{ Receipts		1,218,552.70
	{ Deficit on 1950		3,285,535.24
<i>To Previous Years:</i>			
Col. 2	{ Expenditure	14,156.48	
	{ Receipts		549,459.56
	{ Debit Balances as on Dec. 31, 1949.	1,672,740.49	
	{ Transfer from General Reserve to cover 1949 deficit		1,137,437.41
Col. 3	Grand Totals	<u>6,190,984.91</u>	<u>6,190,984.91</u>

National Society Contributions.

Contributions for 1950 are shown in Table No. 2 ; the total of 304,000 Swiss francs includes 67,000 Swiss francs in respect of previous years.

Government Contributions.

See Table No. 3.

Situation at the end of 1950.

The accounts are audited each year by auditors recognized by the Swiss Federal Council and the Federal Banking Commission.

What is most striking in the general situation (see Table No. 1, col. 1), is the difference between Receipts and Expenditure.

The deficit of 3,285,535.24 francs comes from two sources :
(a) an increase of 832,000 francs on the estimated expenditure of 3,672,000, due principally to unforeseen expenses arising

Table

ASSETS

GENERAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	To 1950 Sw. Fr.	To previous years Sw. Fr.	Total Sw. Fr.
GENERAL OVERHEAD EXPENSES			
Staff remuneration	2,110,412.85	—	2,110,412.85
Family and cost of living grants	149,613.40	—	149,613.40
Social Insurance (Old Age and State).	93,837.65	265.75	94,103.40
Share in staff transport expenses (Geneva-Pregny)	57,903.10	—	57,903.10
	<u>2,411,767.—</u>	<u>265.75</u>	<u>2,412,032.75</u>
Postage, telegrams, telephone	79,712.09	84.—	79,796.09
Heating and lighting	23,255.90	17.50	23,273.40
Office supplies	35,825.72	0.78	35,826.50
Office equipment (purchase and upkeep)	28,846.92	284.90	29,131.82
Equipment, supervision and upkeep of premises	32,972.80	2,627.86	35,600.66
Upkeep of automobiles (cars and lorries)	70,780.97	—431.51	70,349.46
Reception of visitors	13,429.25	466.70	13,895.95
Press subscriptions, etc.	13,524.61	885.—	14,409.61
Travelling expenses, Switzerland	21,413.40	2,356.10	23,769.50
Travelling expenses, abroad	145,915.27	1,341.50	147,256.77
Printing and publishing, Revue, booklets, etc.	114,712.23	1,269.—	115,981.23
Wireless and films	41,327.35	11.05	41,338.40
Allowance for expenses, members of the President's Office	48,110.—	—	48,110.—
Red Cross Conferences and Meetings (including 25,000			
francs for XVIIIth International Red Cross Con-			
ference)	44,692.25	—	44,692.25
Sundry.	44,939.05	4,055.98	48,995.03
<i>Total</i>	<u>3,171,224.81</u>	<u>13,234.61</u>	<u>3,184,459.42</u>
DELEGATIONS			
Staff remuneration	321,161.10	—896.11	320,264.99
Travelling expenses, insurance, Delegates' maintenance			
and Delegation overheads	1,011,702.03	1,817.98	1,013,520.01
<i>Total</i>	<u>1,332,863.13</u>	<u>921.87</u>	<u>1,333,785.—</u>
TOTAL OF EXPENSES	<u>4,504,087.94</u>	<u>14,156.48</u>	<u>4,518,244.42</u>
<i>Debit balance as on December 31, 1949, carried forward . .</i>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,672,740.49</u>	<u>1,672,740.49</u>
GRAND TOTAL	<u>4,504,087.94</u>	<u>1,686,896.97</u>	<u>6,190,984.91</u>

No. 1

ACCOUNT AS ON DECEMBER 31, 1950

LIABILITIES

	To 1950 Sw. Fr.	To previous years Sw. Fr.	Total Sw. Fr.
CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATIONS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES			
Contributions of National Red Cross Societies	236,958.95	66,986.79	303,945.74
Contributions by Governments	5,193.95	265,075.38	270,269.33
Sundry contributions and gifts	61,755.40	9,322.35	71,077.75
<i>Total</i>	<i>303,908.30</i>	<i>341,384.52</i>	<i>645,292.82</i>
INCOME FROM SECURITIES			
Bank interest	55,368.60	19,103.45	74,472.05
Interest from Public Securities	51,273.15	18,168.20	69,441.35
ICRC Foundation	19,249.60	8,523.30	27,772.90
<i>Total</i>	<i>125,891.35</i>	<i>45,794.95</i>	<i>171,686.30</i>
SUMS RECOVERED AND SUNDRY RECEIPTS			
Reimbursements and payments towards headquarters and Delegation expenses	675,396.—	90,959.31	766,355.31
Sundry	113,357.05	71,320.78	184,677.83
<i>Total</i>	<i>788,753.05</i>	<i>162,280.09</i>	<i>951,033.14</i>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	1 218,552.70	549,459.56	1,768,012.26
<i>Transfer from General Reserve to write off Balance of 1949 deficit</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>1,137,437.41</i>	<i>1,137,437.41</i>
Deficit as on December 31, 1949, carried forward	Fr. 1,672,740.49		
Less surplus on accounts entered in 1950 for previous years	535,303.08		
Debit Balance, 1949.	Fr. 1,137,437.41		
	<u>1,218,552.70</u>	<u>1,686,896.97</u>	<u>2,905,449.67</u>
DEFICIT FOR 1950.	3,285,535.24	—	3,285,535.24
GRAND TOTAL	<u>4,504,087.94</u>	<u>1,686,896.97</u>	<u>6,190,984.91</u>

Table No. 2
CONTRIBUTIONS FROM NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETIES IN 1950

	1950	To previous budgets
	Sw. Fr.	Sw. Fr.
Albania		458.36 (for 1949)
Australia	25,680.—	
Austria	2,160.—	2,700.— (for 1949)
Burma	1,920.—	2,400.— (for 1949)
Colombia	2,000.—	
Denmark	2,000.—	
Dominican Republic . . .	430.—	
Ecuador	600.—	
Ethiopia	1,080.—	
Finland	5,000.—	
Germany (regional organizations)	4,472.—	1,397.— (for 1949)
Greece	2,280.—	2,850.— (for 1949)
Guatemala	600.—	
Hungary		2,250.— (for 1949)
India	{ 915.66 (special gift)	
	{ 13,733.65	
Indonesia		3,066.— (for 1949)
Iran	1,200.—	
Iraq	2,160.—	2,700.—
Ireland	1,465.80	
Lebanon	840.—	1,050.— (for 1949)
Luxemburg		756.58
Nicaragua	430.—	
New Zealand	6,115.—	
Netherlands	20,000.—	958.85 (suppl. for 1949)
Norway	3,000.—	
Panama	603.50	
Peru		4,300.— (for 1948-1949)
Philippines	3,840.—	4,800.— (for 1949)
Poland		15,450.— (for 1949)
Portugal		2,500.— (for 1949)
Salvador	132.—	
South Africa	16,845.—	
Spain		15,000.— (diff. years)
Siam	676.34	
Turkey	9,780.—	
United States of America	107,000.—	
Venezuela		4,350.— (for 1949)
	<u>236,958.95</u>	<u>66,986.79</u>

Table No. 3

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM GOVERNMENTS IN 1950

	1950	To previous budgets
	Sw. Fr.	Sw. Fr.
France		250,000.—
Mexico		15,075.38
Northern Rhodesia	2,140.25	
Southern Rhodesia	<u>3,053.70</u>	
	5,193.95	<u>265,075.38</u>

Table No. 4

COMPARATIVE EXPENDITURE BUDGETS FOR 1950 AND 1951

	1951	1950	
		Actual	Estimated
	Sw. Fr.	Sw. Fr.	Sw. Fr.
Salaries and allowances			
Geneva	2,035,000.—	2,110,412.85	1,940,000.—
Staff allocations and charges	322,000.—	349,464.15	317,200.—
Post, telegraph and telephone	90,000.—	79,712.09	80,000.—
Heating, lighting, maintenance and supplies	117,500.—	120,901.34	100,000.—
Car and transport costs, Geneva	70,000.—	70,780.97	72,300.—
Information and publications	198,500.—	169,564.19	188,500.—
Travelling expenses, Switzerland and abroad	144,000.—	167,328.67	120,000.—
Red Cross Conferences and meetings	28,000.—	44,692.25	30,000.—
Delegates and Delegations abroad	978,000.—	1,332,863.13	784,000.—
Sundry expenditure	<u>43,000.—</u>	<u>58,368.30</u>	<u>40,000.—</u>
	4,026,000.—	4,504,087.94	3,672,000.—

from the international situation ; (b)—still more important—the low figure of receipts, namely, 1,218,552.70 francs.

However generous they may be, contributions of the National Societies cover a small part only of the budget, and it becomes increasingly clear that regular financing can be ensured only by giving practical effect to the Resolution adopted in this connection by the 1949 Diplomatic Conference.¹

Some Governments have made contributions for 1950 and indicated their intention of doing so for 1951. This leads the ICRC to hope for a positive solution, but for this, it will be necessary that other Governments follow suit. It is obvious that deficits on the lines at present incurred would very quickly absorb the reserves which the Committee has in hands, thanks to certain exceptional payments ; the maintenance of such reserves is absolutely necessary if the Committee is to be in a position to face the responsibilities inherent in its work.

Estimates for 1951.

Estimates for 1951 are given in Table No. 4, with comparative figures for 1950. It is important to note that the estimates were drawn up in January 1951, in the light of the existing financial situation, and changes in world affairs would most likely call for modifications.

¹ "Whereas the Geneva Conventions require the International Committee of the Red Cross to be ready at all times and in all circumstances to fulfil the humanitarian tasks entrusted to it by these Conventions, the Conference recognizes the necessity of providing regular financial support for the International Committee of the Red Cross."

See Report for 1949, p. 17.

Collection in Switzerland. Other Gifts.

The net amount realized by the 1950 Collection in Switzerland was 920,000 francs.

This sum, with amounts from the Committee's own funds and certain other gifts (apart from those set out in Tables Nos. 2 and 3), was used wholly for the purchase of foodstuffs, medical supplies, artificial appliances and others relief for distribution to the sick, the wounded, war invalids and other categories in distress.

These figures are not included in Table No. 1, which deals solely with the actual financing of the Committee itself. It is only right, however, that the public, whose unfailing generosity makes it possible to carry on this work of assistance, should be told the uses to which such large funds are put. On page 63 will be found a further Table showing how some three and a half million francs were applied to the relief of distress in various parts of the world.

INFORMATION

The President's New Year message was broadcast in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese.

Communiqués and features prepared by the Broadcasting Service are relayed by seven leading European Systems :

Institut National belge de radiodiffusion ;

Radiodiffusion française ;

The Station of the American Sector of Berlin ;

Radio Luxembourg ;

Radio Monte-Carlo ;

Sottens (Radio Geneva) ;

Swiss Short-Wave Service, Schwarzenburg.

Programs included commentaries and discussions on the new Geneva Conventions, and on the work of the Central Agency in connexion with the war in Korea ; the monthly output was forty-two minutes direct broadcast and twenty-nine minutes recorded.

On May 8, anniversary of the birth of Henry Dunant, an international broadcast lasting one hour and entitled « A Century Later » was devoted to the work of the Red Cross as a whole.

PUBLICATIONS

The following were amongst the Committee's publications in 1950 :

The New Geneva Conventions: Retention of members of the Army Medical Services who have fallen into the hands of the enemy. By J. S. Pictet, Director-Delegate. 8vo, 55 pp. (English, French, Spanish.)

Quelques aspects de l'œuvre de Max Huber à Genève. By Paul Ruegger, President of the ICRC. 8vo, 6 pp. French only.

Les nouvelles Conventions de Genève. Les Conventions de Genève et la guerre civile. By Frederic Siordet, Counsellor to the ICRC. 8vo, 44 pp. French only.

The Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949. Analysis for the Use of National Red Cross Societies.

Vol. I: Geneva Convention No. I for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field. Geneva Convention No. II for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea. 8vo, 106 pp. (English, French, Spanish.)

Vol. II: Articles Common to the Four Conventions. Geneva Convention No. III relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War. Geneva Convention No. IV relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. 8vo, 112 pp. (English, French, Spanish.)

The New Geneva Conventions. Respect for the Human Person in the Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949, relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. By Henri Coursier, Member of the Legal Service. 8vo, 16 pp. (English, French, German, Spanish.)

La question des otages et les Conventions de Genève. By Claude Pilloud Head of the Legal Service. 8vo, 18 pp.

Le caractère des droits accordés à l'individu dans les Conventions de Genève. By René-Jean Wilhelm, Member of the Legal Service. 8vo, 30 pp.

Legal Assistance for Refugees. By Henri Coursier, Member of the Legal Service. 8vo, 8 pp.

Los Convenios de Ginebra del 12 de agosto de 1949. 8vo, 254 pp.

International Committee of the Red Cross. Report on General Activities (January 1 to December 31, 1949). 8vo, 95 pp. (English, French, Spanish.)

Some Advice to Nurses. By Lucie Odier, Member of the ICRC. 16mo, 8 pp. (English, French, German, Spanish.)

Relief Scheme for the Poor of Jerusalem. 8vo, 14 pp. (English, French.)

Other Publications

Un Souvenir de Solférino. By J. Henry Dunant. 8vo, 115 pp., ill. (New edition.)

A Jérusalem un drapeau flottait sur la ligne de feu. By Jacques de Reynier. Preface by Paul Ruegger, President of the ICRC. Neuchâtel, La Baconnière, 1950. 8vo, 244 pp., ill.

MAIL

From January 1 to December 31, 1950, the Committee received 256,633 letters and sent out 165,752.

It received 901 telegrams and despatched 1,211.

As postal communications have been speeded up, there was less need for cabling, and the separate Telegraph Service was closed in June. Telegrams are now dealt with as part of the ordinary mail.