

Haiti

For the National Society, Red Cross Day has become the occasion of a general assembly at which its members, friends and government representatives gather. This happened again this year, and Dr. Victor Laroche, President of the Haiti Red Cross, outlined the institution's activities during 1970-1971. First-aid certificates were then presented to schoolchildren and to members of some army corps who had attended first-aid and life-saving courses. The ceremony closed with demonstrations by first-aid brigades.

The National Society is active in a number of fields, and it is worth mentioning its action for victims of floods which devastated certain areas last May, and before that the distribution of clothing and blankets by its voluntary workers. At the time of a big fire, too, the stricken families received immediate aid. We should also mention the Society's activities in the prevention of traffic accidents and, lastly, the development of a blood donation programme, to which a Red Cross blood transfusion centre, soon to open at Cap-Haïtien, will bear witness.

Mexico

Monuments to Henry Dunant's memory exist in a number of countries. The latest is the one inaugurated in Mexico by the National Society last October. The ceremony, which took place on the esplanade in front of the Mexican Red Cross hospital, simultaneously commemorated two other important events: the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the Mexican Red Cross, and the presentation of the Florence Nightingale Medal to Mrs. Dolores Campos de Estrada, as announced in our May 1971 issue.

Several notables of the Red Cross movement were present, including Mr. Salvador Lopez Chavez, National Society President, Countess Angela of Limerick, Chairman of the International Red Cross Standing Commission, Mr. José Barroso, Chairman of the

League Board of Governors, Mr. Harald Huber, Vice-President of the ICRC, various members of the Mexican Red Cross Committee and many National Society delegates at Mexico for the thirty-first session of the League Board of Governors. The bust of Henry Dunant was unveiled by the Countess of Limerick, after a speech by Mr. Lopez Chavez in which he summarized the profound significance of the three events being celebrated that day and said that the women's volunteer corps of the Mexican Red Cross were proud of the tribute to the laureate by the ICRC's award of the Florence Nightingale Medal.

This distinction was then presented symbolically to Mrs. Dolores Campos de Estrada and a few days later the Head of the Central Department of the Federal District, in the absence of the President of the Republic, pinned the medal on her, at the same time praising her meritorious service and dedication. "Our country is proud of you", he said, "for the honour conveyed by the award of such a high distinction." After thirty-five years with the Red Cross as a graduate nurse, Mrs. Campos de Estrada is now in charge of co-ordination on the Women's Voluntary Corps Committee.

Spain

At the inauguration of the Spanish Red Cross radio transmitter, H.R.H. Don Juan Carlos de Bourbon, Prince of Spain, addressed a message to the ICRC in which he recalled the work of the Red Cross on behalf of the victims of conflicts, the essential meaning of the humanitarian idea at the present time, and the importance of the Red Cross as a link between peoples and as a peace factor. The Red Cross should have the support of one and all because its endeavours were based on the ideal of human dignity.

"Through the International Committee—whose plans I approve and hope to see fulfilled—I transmit to all National Societies this token of solidarity from the Spanish Red Cross, and to the Spanish Red Cross I wish to express the gratitude of the Spanish