

Since the establishment of the hospitals in both cities, many sufferers have come to them for medical care and treatment as physical and mental disorders have appeared. The medical records of these two hospitals have thus become uniquely valuable and should provide very useful data for future studies on the atomic bomb casualties, especially their delayed effects ; evaluation and summarization of these medical records will be a long-term task that can be achieved only by persistent endeavour over a period of many years.

At the present stage we feel it our duty to publish the medical records of these hospitals in their original form and without any of our own interpretation so that scientists around the world may have them for reference and critical study. Each medical record cannot introduce any definite scientific conclusion, yet the accumulated mass of these records will in time provide extremely valuable data for the further study of delayed effects of radiation.”

Luxemburg

The Information Bulletin of the Luxemburg Red Cross (June 1961) contains an account of the activities of this Society and the improvement of its financial position due to a substantial bequest from a Luxemburg citizen. In effect, this citizen appointed as his sole heirs the Cancer Prevention League (Luxemburg Red Cross) and the Tuberculosis Prevention League, which will therefore share between them a sum of about 3 million francs. The anti-cancer section of this Society will thus be able to dispose of half of this donation, to the great satisfaction of those in charge, who will be able to extend their field of action in this important branch.

As in previous years, the Luxemburg Red Cross has paid special attention to children : children's homes, nurseries and holiday camps play an important part in its programme. A credit of 3 million francs has been voted for the transformation of part of the buildings of the " Colnet d'Huart " Foundation, a children's home. When the transformation and extension of these buildings have been completed, the house will be able to receive seventy children : " five dormitories with 10 beds, another with 20, a dining-room, staff common-room, a large washing-room for the children and a very spacious kitchen."

On March 11, 1961, a new nursery, the " Félix Schroeder " Foundation, was inaugurated at Rédange/Attert ; the ceremony was attended by the Grand Duchess and the Prince of Luxemburg, President of the Luxemburg Red Cross, as well as numerous other political and social personalities. This nursery has a capacity of 30 beds and is almost entirely full. A large number of local branches participated financially in its construction.

As each year, the National Red Cross Society is organizing holiday camps. Training courses for instructors are therefore being held in this connection, and this year again all the necessary teams are taking part.

Among other activities mentioned in the Information Bulletin, we should like to point out the Home Assistance Service ; in spite of a rather discouraging beginning, it is now becoming more and more popular and the people of the town of Luxemburg call upon it very often. The " Aid for the Blind " action is widening, thanks to a new association of the local Differdange branch ; this is called " The White Cane " and its purpose is to come to the aid of blind people by all possible means. On behalf of the Association of the Blind, the first-aid workers of Differdange organized a waste-paper collection which enabled them to raise 50,000 francs. In addition, wrist-watches for blind people were given to twelve persons during a ceremony at the headquarters.

Finally, with regard to first-aid work, a teaching programme drawn up by the first-aid leaders of various branches has been

adopted by the Civil Defence organization to be incorporated in the first-aid courses organized jointly by the Luxemburg Red Cross and Civil Defence.

Switzerland

Looking through the *Report of the Swiss Red Cross for 1960*, in French and German, one cannot help being struck by the large number of regional branches and voluntary institutions which have been set up throughout the country ; it thus gives a general impression of work carried out in a spirit of unity and solidarity, in the villages as in the towns, for the well-being of the nation as a whole.

On a national level, a large part of this report is taken up with the recruitment and training of volunteers for the *Voluntary Medical Service of the Army*. In 1960, 120 Red Cross recruits took part in preliminary courses in which they learnt the rudiments of their future work ; this was followed by a supplementary course and for the first time four Red Cross units attended the technical courses. The training programme for this Voluntary Medical Service consists of optional exercises as refresher courses in this technical training, a Red Cross staff course for group leaders and another for head nurses.

A further important section is that concerned with *hospital equipment* : beds, bedding, linen for the patients, etc. These stocks are stored in 73 different places, chosen with a view to easy distribution in the event of war, disaster, etc.

The Blood Transfusion Service run by the Swiss Red Cross continues to grow : by the end of 1960 some 150,000 donors had given their blood freely. In cases of necessity, especially in rural areas, mobile units of the donors department take blood on the spot. These units are very active, since there is a growing demand in the clinics and hospitals of the large urban centres.

In the field of *nursing*, the Society hopes to see an increase in the number of candidates for the professional schools. The report