

General organization

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PART I

I. — General Organization

MEMBERS OF THE ICRC ¹

To the great loss of the Committee, one of its members, M. Adolf Luchinger, Doctor of Laws, Mayor of Zurich, died in July, 1949.

Two new members were elected in 1949: Dr Alfredo Vannotti, M.D., Professor in Lausanne University, and M. Rodolfo Olgiati, former Director in Spain of Swiss Relief for Spanish Children (1937-1939), former Secretary-General of Swiss Red Cross Relief for Children (1942-1943), Chairman from 1945 of the Swiss Central Office for Relief to Refugees, and former Director of the *Don Suisse*.

The list of members as on December 31, 1949, was as follows :

Max Huber,	Doctor of Laws, former President of the Permanent Court of International Justice, <i>Honorary President</i> (1923) ²
Paul Ruegger,	Doctor of Laws, former Swiss Minister to Italy and to Great Britain, <i>President</i> (1948)

¹ International Committee of the Red Cross.

² The dates in brackets represent the year of nomination as a member of the ICRC.

Ernest Gloor,	Doctor of Medicine, <i>Vice-President</i> (1945)
Martin Bodmer,	Hon. Doctor of Philosophy, <i>Vice-President</i> (1940)
Jacques Chenevière,	Hon. Doctor of Literature (1919)
Suzanne Ferrière,	Deputy Director of the International Social Service (1924)
Georges Patry,	Doctor of Medicine, Colonel, former O.C. Medical Services of an Army Division (1929)
Lucie Odier,	former Director of the District Nursing Service, Geneva Branch, of the Swiss Red Cross (1930)
Carl J. Burckhardt,	Doctor of Philosophy, former Swiss Minister to France (1933)
Edouard Chapuisat,	Hon. Doctor of Literature (1938)
Alec Cramer,	Doctor of Medicine, Colonel, Army Medical Service (1938)
Adolf L. Vischer,	Doctor of Medicine (1945)
René van Berchem,	Doctor of Laws, Banker (1946)
Léopold Boissier,	Doctor of Laws, Professor in the University of Geneva, Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (1946)
Edmond Grasset,	Doctor of Medicine, Professor in the University of Geneva, Director of the Geneva Institute of Public Health (1946)
Paul Carry,	Doctor of Laws, Professor in the University of Geneva (1946)
Claude Du Pasquier,	Doctor of Laws, Colonel of Division, Professor in the Universities of Geneva and Neuchâtel (1947)
Henri Guisan,	General, former Commander-in-Chief of the Swiss Army (1948)

Alfredo Vannotti, Doctor of Medicine, Professor in Lausanne University (1949)

Rodolfo Olgiati, former Director of the Don Suisse (1949)

TRIBUTES TO M. MAX HUBER AND M. JACQUES CHENEVIÈRE

On November 7, 1949, at headquarters, there was a reception to mark the thirtieth anniversary of M. Jacques Chenevière's election to the Committee.

On December 28, 1949, the Committee celebrated the seventy-fifth birthday of M. Max Huber, Honorary President, who, for seventeen years, was head of the institution. M. Paul Ruegger, in the presence of his colleagues on the Committee and the Geneva staff, expressed deep gratitude for the inestimable services M. Huber gave, and continues to give, to the Red Cross.

PERIODICAL MEETINGS OF THE ICRC

Since January 27, 1949, regular, more or less restricted meetings—in addition to the Plenary Sessions—are held twice monthly to deal with current business. These "Work Meetings" replace the former meetings of the "Bureau"¹. The new system, while leaving full scope to the Bureau, allows other members of the Committee to take part when they so desire.

PRESIDENCY COUNCIL

The Presidency Council, set up on January 27, 1949, deals with emergency questions which may arise between the Committee's meetings.

Members in 1949 were: M. Paul Ruegger, *President*, Dr. Gloor, Messrs Bodmer, Chenevière, Boissier and van Berchem, *members*.

¹ See *Report, 1947-1948*, p. 11.

COMMISSIONS

The Commissions designated to organize and supervise the Departments continued, with the exception of the Relief Commission, dissolved early in 1949.

The Membership Commission, which had ceased to function, was reconstituted. The Commissions for the administration of Inalienable Funds, and of the Shôken and Augusta Funds, continued as usual.

The Commissions were as follows :

Membership: Chairman : Dr. E. Gloor ; Members : Messrs Max Huber, R. van Berchem, Ed. Chapuisat, Dr. A. Cramer, Dr. G. Patry.

Administration and Finance: Chairman : M. Martin Bodmer ; Members : Messrs J. Chenevière and R. van Berchem.

Delegations: Chairman : M. J. Chenevière ; Members : Messrs Ed. Chapuisat, R. Gallopin, P. Gaillard.

Legal: Chairman : M. L. Boissier ; Members : M. Max Huber, Professor P. Carry, Professor C. Du Pasquier, Messrs Pictet, Pilloud, Duchosal, de Traz.

Medical, and Study of Medical Equipment: Chairman : Dr. A. Cramer ; Members : Dr. E. Gloor, M^{lle} L. Odier, Dr. G. Patry, Professor E. Grasset, M. R. Gallopin.

Inalienable Funds: Member-Delegate : M. R. van Berchem ; Members : Messrs Martin Bodmer and P. Abegg.

Florence Nightingale Medal and Augusta Fund: Chairman : Dr. G. Patry ; Member-Delegate : M^{lle} L. Odier ; Member : M. J. Duchosal.

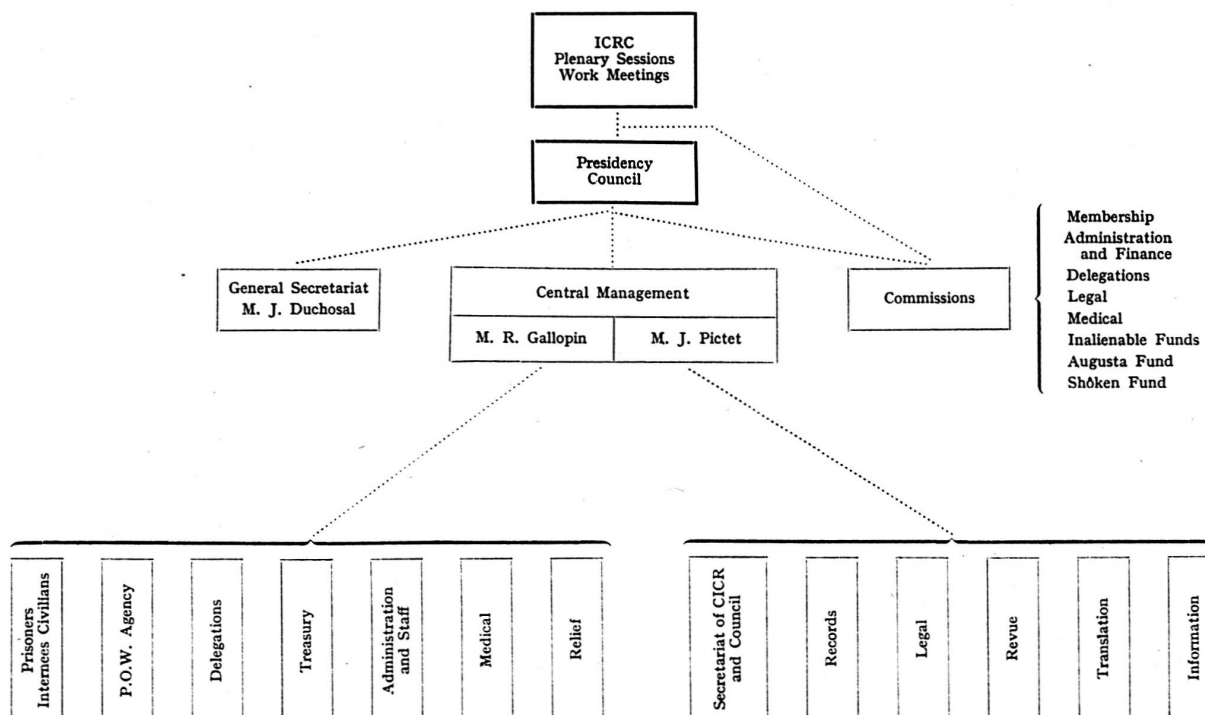
Shôken Fund (ICRC and League): Chairman : M^{lle} L. Odier ; Members : Messrs R. van Berchem and J. Duchosal.

CENTRAL MANAGEMENT

Following the resignation of M. Georges Dunand, Director-Delegate, his duties were apportioned between M. R. Gallopin, who took over the management of the Medical and Relief

ORGANIZATION OF THE ICRC AS ON DECEMBER 31, 1949

II



Divisions, and M. J. Pictet, who became responsible for the Information Division.

The Central Management directed, as before, the work of the ICRC.

SECRETARIAT

The duties of Secretary-General were carried out by M. Jean Duchosal. The Secretary-General continued to ensure liaison between the ICRC, the National Red Cross Societies, the League of Red Cross Societies, and the International Organizations.

He also took part in preparatory work for the XVIIIth International Red Cross Conference, to be held in Washington in 1952.

STAFF

On January 1, 1949, staff numbered 394 (315 in Geneva). There were, in addition, 60 voluntary workers.

On December 31, 1949, there were 310 salaried members on the staff ¹ (274 in Geneva) ; voluntary workers had decreased to 45.

The *Welfare Service*, under a Council which meets regularly, continued to assist the staff. Increasing calls for medical care kept the Welfare Worker and Visiting Nurse as busy, in spite of the reduction in staff, as she had been in 1948.

The *Employment Office* was offered 117 vacancies for the 65 applicants on its books (several being staff who had left some years ago). Posts were found for thirty-five persons. As on December 31, 1949, there were still twenty-one applicants on the books.

DELEGATIONS

Thanks to former Delegates and voluntary correspondents, the ICRC was able, with a small number of salaried staff, to maintain its representation abroad in 1949.

On May 16, 1949, the list of representatives was as follows :

¹ To this figure should be added 18 assistants engaged during 1949 in connection with the temporary mission in Palestine.

Africa

French Equatorial Africa. — PORT-GENTIL : M. Fritz Arnold, Delegate.
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. — 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.
Colombia. — BOGOTA : M. Adolphe Pestalozzi, Delegate.
Mexico. — MEXICO : M. Alfred Behn, Delegate.
Peru. — LIMA : M. Max Reiser, Delegate (on leave), M. F. A. Noetzli, Acting Delegate.
Venezuela, Nicaragua, Surinam and Central America. — CARACAS : M. Robert Moll, Delegate.

Asia

South-East Asia. (Indonesia, Malaya, Siam, Indo-China). — SINGAPORE : M. Charles Aeschliman, Head of the South-East Asia Delegation.
Indonesia. — DJAKARTA (Batavia) : No appointment having been made, this Delegation is under the direct control of M. Aeschliman.
The following are correspondents of the Djakarta Delegation :
SOERABAYA : M. Keller : MEDAN (Sumatra) : M. R. Scheidegger.
Singapore. — M. Hans Schweizer, M. Heinrich Pfrunder, Delegates.
Siam. — BANGKOK : M. Werner Salzmänn, Dr. Karl Laupper, Delegates.
Ceylon. — COLOMBO : M. C. Fluckiger, Correspondent.
China. — HONG KONG : M. Frederick Bieri, Delegate on special mission.
SHANGHAI : M. Edouard Eglé, Delegate.
TIENTSIN : M. Rudolph Merz, Correspondent.
TSINGTAO : Dr. W. Rieder, Correspondent.
India. — NEW DELHI : Dr. Roland Marti, Head of Delegation in India and Pakistan.
BOMBAY : M. Jacob Anderegg, Correspondent.
Pakistan. — LAHORE : M. Nicolas Burckhardt, Delegate.

Israel. — TEL-AVIV: Dr. Otto Lehner, Head of Delegation ;
M. François de Reynold, Delegate.

Japan. — TOKYO: M. Harry Angst, Delegate.

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

M. Jacques de Reynier, Head of Palestine Delegation.

M. Gaston Gaberel, Delegate (Central Office and Relief).

Arab Palestine (Jordan). — JERUSALEM (Old Town): M. Jean Munier,
Delegate.

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

Europe

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

Czechoslovakia. — PRAGUE: M. Georges Meyer-Moro, Head of
Delegation; M. Charles Reichard, Delegate.

France. — PARIS: M. William Michel, Head of Delegation.

MM. René Walter Roth, Robert Gouy, Pierre Boissier and
Jean-Pierre Maunoir, Delegates; M. Germain Colladon (Legal
Section); Dr. Jacques de Morsier, Medical Adviser; M. René
Wasmer, Delegate (Administrative Section); M. Denis Ochsen-
bein, M. Karl Amman, Delegates (Protection of German civilian
workers in France).

Germany. — BERLIN: M. Charles de Jenner, Head of Delegation.

M. Georges Hoffmann, Delegate; MM. Ralph Eckert and
Auguste Gaille, Delegates (Relief); M. Denis Favre, Delegate.

Greece. — ATHENS: M. Adrien Lambert, Delegate.

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

ROME: M. G. Mosimann, Head of the Liaison Bureau (Travel
Documents).

BARI: M. Manfred Roth, Correspondent.

PALERMO: M. Ernest Ganz, Correspondent.

NAPLES: Dr. Paul Burkhard, Delegate.

Poland. — WARSAW: M. François Ehrenhold, Head of Delegation;
M. Jean Muller, Delegate.

Australasia

Australia. — SYDNEY: M. Eugène Gerber, Delegate.

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

Apart from certain transfers, this representation was,
except for *Poland*, maintained.

In mid-November, 1949, the Delegation in Warsaw had
to close down following measures taken by the Polish author-

ities in regard to nearly all international organizations. M. Ehrenhold, was, however, given sufficient time to finish certain urgent tasks, to make a final distribution of relief to prisoners of war detailed for repatriation and to arrange with the Polish Red Cross, which undertook to continue the ICRC relief, for assistance to prisoners still awaiting repatriation. On the eve of departure, M. Ehrenhold was officially requested to express the gratitude of the Polish Red Cross to the Committee for its help to Poland, especially since 1945.

Spain. — The Delegation in Madrid was reopened, at the request of the Spanish Red Cross, to assist German ex-prisoners of war interned in Spain. A former delegate, M. Eric Arbenz, was placed in charge in November 1949.

As on December 31, 1949, Delegation staff numbered thirty-five salaried members and thirty-eight voluntary.

COMMISSARIAT FOR RELIEF TO PALESTINE REFUGEES

In addition to staff on traditional duties in the Near East—whose numbers decreased once hostilities had ended—the ICRC had its “Commissariat for Relief to Palestine Refugees”, set up by agreement with the United Nations Organization.¹

FINANCES

At the end of 1948, the debit balance on the General Income and Expenditure Account was about 1,930,000 Swiss francs, including a deficit of 567,000 Swiss francs brought forward from previous years.

Estimated expenditure for 1949 was 4,320,000 Swiss francs.

The total sum to be provided amounted therefore to 6,250,000 Swiss francs.

Income and Expenditure is shown in Table No. 1, pp. 18-19.

¹ See below pp. 75 et seq.

Contributions by National Red Cross Societies.

Contributions from National Societies (Table No. 2) amounted in round figures to 612,000 Swiss francs : 87,000 Swiss francs were on account of previous budgets, the balance, 525,000 Swiss francs being relative to 1949 ¹.

Contributions and Donations by Governments.

Contributions and extraordinary donations by Governments in 1949 are shown in Table No. 3.

In the *General Report*, 1939-1947 (Vol. I, p. 100) the Committee stated that considerable sums placed at its disposal just before hostilities ended had been frozen. Following protracted negotiation and thanks to the comprehension of the Governments concerned, the sum of ten million Swiss francs, donated by the Japanese Government in 1945, was finally released during the year.

The Italian Government similarly made a gift of 3,100,000 Swiss francs, in consideration of the "debt of honour" contracted through services to Italian nationals during the last phase of the War.

These extraordinary contributions, together with that of the French Government in respect of work done during 1948, allowed the Committee to extend its relief activities; it provided also an opportunity of constituting certain reserves, particularly against emergency in the event of a general conflict. (See Table No. 1.)

Collection in Switzerland and other Receipts.

The collection throughout Switzerland in 1949 brought in about 935,000 Swiss francs.

Other donations, receipts and reimbursements made an appreciable contribution.

¹ In the course of the two meetings held in April and October, 1949, the Finance Commission of the ICRC—set up by the XVIIth International Red Cross Conference, in August 1948—decided :

- (1) to appeal to National Societies to contribute a total amount of 1,500,000 Swiss francs to cover 1949 expenditure, and
- (2) to ask National Societies to assess their shares on a scale similar to that employed by the majority of international organizations.

Position at the end of 1949.

Following routine practice, the 1949 Accounts were examined in detail by Auditors approved by the Swiss Federal Council and the Federal Banking Commission. ¹

In addition, it has been decided in principle to set up a permanent Auditing Service, which will be completely independent of the Finance and Accounts Departments.

Reference to the 1949 General Income and Expenditure Account will show that expenditure considerably exceeded regular income.

The evident conclusion is that regular financing is still a problem ; any attempt to deal with it on a durable basis will depend on the willingness of the National Societies and Governments in future to make regular annual contributions.

The matter was considered by the Geneva Diplomatic Conference in 1949. ² On signing the Final Act on August 12, 1949, the Conference adopted Resolution No. 11, reading as follows :

" 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."

* * *

1950 Estimates.

Comparison of the 1949 budget with the 1950 estimates (Table No. 4) reveals how far the ICRC has been successful in reducing expenditure whenever it was possible to do so without prejudice to its humanitarian work.

¹ The *Société Fiduciaire Romande OFOR S.A.* See Report in the *Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge*, English Supplement, June 1950, p. 97.

² See below, pp. 32 et seq.

Table

DEBIT

GENERAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	Total	Allocation	
		to Financial Year 1949	to Previous Years
	Sw. Fr.	Sw. Fr.	Sw. Fr.
GENERAL OVERHEAD EXPENSES			
Staff remuneration, Geneva personnel.	2,300,120.60	2,300,120.60	—
Social charges (Old Age Insurance and Family Allowances)	98,289.03	98,289.03	—
Share in staff transport expenses (Geneva-Pregny) . . .	62,177.60	62,177.60	—
	<u>2,460,587.23</u>	<u>2,460,587.23</u>	—
Allowance for, and costs of President's Office	57,020.—	57,020.—	—
Travelling and entertainment expenses in Switzerland .	27,424.99	27,424.99	—
Red Cross Conferences and Meetings (of which Fr. 25,000 allotted to the Reserve Fund for the XVIIIth Inter- national Red Cross Conference)	27,749.10	27,749.10	—
Upkeep of automobiles and lorries in Switzerland and abroad	171,311.49	171,311.49	—
Postage, telegrams, telephone	75,138.66	75,138.66	—
Sundry printing costs, ICRC Revue, publications . . .	94,657.77	94,657.77	—
Information, press, radio, films, etc.	29,084.10	29,084.10	—
Office supplies and furniture	45,312.24	45,312.24	—
Lighting, heating, rent, upkeep and equipment of premises	94,229.37	94,229.37	—
Other expenses	56,764.88	56,764.88	—
Total	<u>3,139,279.83</u>	<u>3,139,279.83</u>	—
DELEGATIONS AND MISSIONS			
Staff remuneration for Delegates and personnel abroad	335,408.95	335,408.95	—
Travelling expenses, insurance, maintenance for Delegates, and overhead expenses of Delegations abroad . . .	1,152,624.19	985,738.49	166,885.70
Total	<u>1,488,033.14</u>	<u>1,321,147.44</u>	<u>166,885.70</u>
ALLOCATIONS			
Allocations by the ICRC from funds, received in 1949, but relating to previous years—			
— to Emergency action in case of a general conflict	5,000,000.—	—	5,000,000.—
— to Relief actions	3,500,000.—	—	3,500,000.—
— to General risks	1,458,683.—	—	1,458,683.—
— to writing off Deficit as on December 31, 1948 .	1,928,989.67	—	1,928,989.67
— to ICRC Reserve Fund	1,679,069.32	—	1,679,069.32
Total	<u>13,566,741.99</u>	—	<u>13,566,741.99</u>
Total	<u>18,194,054.96</u>	<u>4,460,427.27</u>	<u>13,733,627.69</u>

ACCOUNT AS ON DECEMBER 31, 1949

CREDIT

	Total	Allocation	
		to Financial Year 1949	to Previous Years
CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATIONS RECEIVED FOR GENERAL PURPOSES	Sw. Fr.	Sw. Fr.	Sw. Fr.
Proceeds of the 1949 Appeal in Switzerland (collection)	935,347.53	935,347.53	—
Contributions by National Red Cross Societies.	611,920.04	524,653.19	87,266.85
Contributions by Governments abroad	13,886,300.74	19,638.65	13,866,662.09
Donations from organisations, commercial firms and private individuals	200,155.41	159,160.81	40,994.60
Total	15,633,723.72	1,638,800.18	13,994,923.54
INCOME FROM CAPITAL INVESTMENTS			
Bank interest.	74,225.95	60,470.85	13,755.10
Income from Public Stocks	66,612.65	50,809.60	15,803.05
Income from ICRC Foundation	27,645.60	27,645.60	—
Total	168,484.20	138,926.05	29,558.15
SUMS RECOVERED AND SUNDRY RECEIPTS			
Sale of furniture and equipment, rebates, etc.	58,300.47	56,431.07	1,869.40
Reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of third parties	615,963.14	520,055.44	95,907.70
Over-estimation of Delegation costs to the end of 1948	44,842.94	—	44,842.94
Total	719,106.55	576,486.51	142,620.04
Total Receipts	16,521,314.47	2,354,212.74	14,167,101.73
Transfer to the 1949 Budget of the unexpended balance from previous years	—	+ 433,474.04	—433,474.04
	16,521,314.47	2,787,686.78	13,733,627.69
DEBIT BALANCE as to December 31, 1949.	1,672,740.49	1,672,740.49	—
<hr/>			
Total	18,194,054.96	4,460,427.27	13,733,627.69

N.B. — The relevant receipts and expenditure figures for the Committee's own work in the Near East and that of the ICRC Commissariat for Palestine Refugees are not included in the above General Account.

Table No. 2

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETIES IN 1949

	1949	To previous budgets	
	Swiss francs		
Australia	68,830.00		
Canada	214,000.00		
Chili	2,071.50	1,178.80	(balance 1948)
Denmark	2,000.00		
Dominican Republic	420.00	400.00	(1948)
Ecuador	120.00		
Finland	5,000.00		
Germany (reg. organisations)	11,105.00	2,420.00	(1948)
India	1,287.50		
Indonesia (Neth. Red Cross)	23,415.00	5,890.50	(balance 1948)
Iran	700.00		
Ireland	3,463.00		
Italy	13,157.50	65,788.50	(1946-1948)
Mexico		1,720.00	(1945)
Netherlands	12,000.00		
New Zealand		8,583.30	(1948)
Nicaragua	428.00	505.00	(1948)
Norway	3,000.00		
Salvador	132.00		
Siam	851.54		
South Africa	45,892.15	780.75	(balance 1948)
Turkey	9,780.00		
United States of America .	107,000.00		
	<u>524,653.19</u>	<u>87,266.85</u>	
Total	611,920.04		

Table No. 3

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM GOVERNMENTS IN 1949

	1949	To previous budgets
	Swiss francs	
France		751,699.50
Mexico		14,962.59
New Zealand	12,250.00	
Nyasaland	1,300.50	
Northern Rhodesia	3,034.50	
Southern Rhodesia	3,053.65	
	<u>19,638.65</u>	<u>766,662.09</u>

DONATIONS FROM GOVERNMENTS TO THE ICRC IN RESPECT OF SERVICES DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR

	Swiss francs
Italy	3,100,000
Japan	10,000,000
	<u>13,100,000</u>

Table No. 4

COMPARATIVE EXPENDITURE BUDGETS FOR 1949 AND 1950

	1950	1949
	Swiss francs	
Salaries and allowances Geneva staff	1,940,000.—	2,160,000.—
Staff allocations and charges	317,200.—	352,000.—
Post, telegraph and telephone	80,000.—	90,000.—
Heating, lighting, maintenance and supplies	100,000.—	117,000.—
Car and motor transport costs, Geneva	72,300.—	80,000.—
Information and publications	188,500.—	213,000.—
Travelling expenses in Switzerland and abroad	120,000.—	112,000.—
Red Cross Conferences and meetings	30,000.—	45,000.—
Delegates and Delegations abroad	784,000.—	1,100,000.—
Sundry expenditure	40,000.—	51,000.—
	<u>3,672,000.—</u>	<u>4,320,000.—</u>

BROADCASTING

The Committee's broadcasts made, with the assistance of the Geneva Broadcasting Station, to help in tracing missing persons, were discontinued in 1949. They were replaced by features dealing with Red Cross principles and current ICRC activities.

The growing importance of wireless for transmitting information made it indispensable for the ICRC to have its own wavelength, duly recognized by international agreement.

Thanks to the representations of the Swiss Delegation, the radio short-wave conference, held in Mexico during Winter, 1948-1949, allocated a wavelength for the use of the International Committee in time of war.

The terms of this allocation are as follows :

“ The High Frequency Broadcasting Conference of Mexico City, considering the humanitarian tasks assigned to the International Committee of the Red Cross by the signatory States of the Geneva Conventions,

considering the necessity of placing at the disposal of the International Committee of the Red Cross the means of accomplishing these tasks,

considering, finally, the necessity for the International Committee of the Red Cross to be prepared at all times to render the assistance which war-stricken peoples might expect of it,

RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS :

1. The Swiss Confederation shall be assigned six additional channel-hours to be placed at the disposal of the International Committee of the Red Cross.
2. This assignment shall be made on the condition that the Swiss Confederation in turn place a maximum of six channel-hours at the disposal of the International Committee of the Red Cross to be deducted from the Swiss Confederation's own assignment. In this way a total of twelve channel-hours will be made available to the International Committee of the Red Cross, in times of crisis.”

This decision will enable the ICRC in time of war to meet the obligation contained in Article 79 of the 1929 Prisoners of War Convention¹ to transmit information received at the Central Agency "as rapidly as possible" to the prisoners' home Power.

The ICRC owes a debt of gratitude to the Swiss Government for its intervention in a matter which may, some day or other, be of interest to every nation.

PUBLICATIONS

The following ICRC publications were issued in 1949 :

Remarks and Proposals submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross. — Document for the consideration of Governments invited by the Swiss Federal Council to attend the Diplomatic Conference of Geneva (April 21, 1949) — In English and French.

Report of June 16, 1949, on the Audit of the Annual Accounts, to December 31, 1948. — Société Fiduciaire Romande OFOR S.A., Geneva — In English, French and Spanish.

The Sign of the Red Cross, by Jean S. PICTET, Director-Delegate of the ICRC — In English, French and Spanish.

The Return of the War-Disabled to Normal Life — In English, French and German.

Health Conditions among the Civilian Populations of certain European Countries affected by the War (No. 5)² — In English and French.

The New Geneva Conventions and the Red Cross, by Jean S. PICTET, Director-Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross — In English and French.

Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field, of August 12, 1949. — (First Convention) — In English and French.

¹ Reproduced in Article 123 of the Third Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949.

² Nos. 1 to 4 of this publication appeared from 1946 to 1948 ; Nos. 3 and 4 were published in English and French.

Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick, and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea, of August 12, 1949. — (Second Convention) — In English and French.

Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, of August 12 1949. — (Third Convention) — In English and French.

Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of August 12, 1949. — (Fourth Convention) — In English and French.

The Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949. — In English and French. With an Introductory Note of 22 (24) pages.

Report on General Activities. (July 1, 1947 — December 31, 1948) In English, French and Spanish.¹

THE REVUE

The *Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge*, official organ of the ICRC, incorporates the *International Bulletin* of the Red Cross Societies².

The issue for December 1949 gave a table of articles which appeared during the year in the *Revue* (thirty-first year) and the *Bulletin* (eightieth year).

The main articles dealing with traditional activities, matters of international concern, and the law relating to the Conventions, were translated and published in English and Spanish *Supplements* to the *Revue*. The December *Supplements* also gave indexes for the year.

It may be useful to note that the four new Geneva Conventions were published in the *Revue* and in the English *Supplement*, before the end of the year, thus bringing them without delay to the notice of the National Societies.

¹ Although not published by the Committee, mention should be made of a book by M. Georges DUNAND, former Director-Delegate of the ICRC, *Ne perdez pas leur trace* (Neuchâtel, La Baconnière, 1949), and the Final Report of the Administrative Commission for Relief to Greece, under ICRC auspices, entitled « *Ravitaillement de la Grèce pendant l'occupation 1941-1944 et pendant les premiers cinq mois après la libération* », Athens, Imprimerie de la Société Hellénique d'Éditions, 1949. In-8, 627 pages, with maps and annexes. An English edition is due to appear.

² Founded in 1869 by decision of the Second International Red Cross Conference (Berlin, 1869).

CORRESPONDENCE

From January 1 to December 31, 1949, the ICRC received 210,256 letters and sent out 165,752.

It received 1124 telegrams and dispatched 1499.
