

The Red Cross has 100.000.000 membres

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companions, however, have since informed me that never before in their lives had they to listen to so many speeches and drink so much wine. I can truly sympathise with them. After all the many festivities I understand, that a little farewell luncheon was held at the Hotel Bristol in Berne, the Headquarters of the delegation, and shortly afterwards the party returned by Swissair to London.

The participation of a British team of Chefs and individual exhibitors at Hospes has been an undeniable success, in every respect, and I heartily congratulate the organiser and instigator of the party, Mr. W. Bachmann, and each member on their fine achievement, the former especially has tackled a tremendous task, and can rightly claim a big share in the success so brilliantly obtained.

There existed throughout the stay a wonderful team spirit, marred by no unpleasant incidents, everyone gave his best and worked exceedingly hard for the *ensemble*.

This, alas, only too short trip in the company of some of the giants in the cookery and confectionery profession will always remain a treasured memory. It has proved to me that this country need not despair as to the state of British Cooking and Confectionery, they are as good as any of their colleagues from abroad.

ST.



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THE RED CROSS HAS 100,000,000 MEMBERS.

The 126th anniversary of the birthday of Jean Henri Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross Movement, occurred on May 8. This day is known as International Red Cross Day and has been celebrated by the 100,000,000 members of the Red Cross Societies throughout the world.

Jean Henri Dunant, the son of a Swiss merchant, was born in Geneva, Switzerland on May 8, 1828. In 1859 he travelled on a business trip to Solferino in Northern Italy, where he hoped to see Napoleon III of France, but the appointment was never kept. The battle of Solferino was raging, between the forces of France and Sardinia and those of Austria.

After 15 hours of fighting more than 40,000 men lay dead or wounded. Dunant was appalled by the complete lack of aid for the wounded and dying and immediately set about organising assistance in a small town nearby. But without resources and trained helpers little could be done to alleviate the suffering.

He described these experiences in three editions of his book *A Memory of Solferino*, which appeared in November, 1862. In the book he also appealed for the founding of aid societies which would care for the wounded in time of war.

Early in 1863 a commission was set up in Switzerland to study the question. Its members were General Dufour, head of the Swiss Army; Gustave Moynier, Henri Dunant, Dr. Louis Appia and Dr. Theodore Maunoir, who became the International Committee of the Red Cross. Later that year 17 countries were invited to take part in a conference in Geneva which resulted in the signing of the Geneva Convention for the treatment of war wounded and prisoners of war.

The convention adopted the red cross as its flag and laid down the principle that it was the duty of a country at war to care for sick and wounded soldiers whatever their creed or nationality and that ambulances, hospitals and members of the Red Cross were to be regarded as neutral.

In 1901 Duant shared in the first Nobel Peace Prize. Nine years later he died.

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