

the school textbook *The Red Cross and My Country*. National Society officials visit schools, distribute the manual and with the assistance of the teachers give instruction on its content.<sup>1</sup> The pupils in this way learn the ideals of the Red Cross and the general principles of the Geneva Conventions.

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### Sweden

The importance of the drug problem to-day in many countries is common knowledge and the Red Cross movement, always on the look-out for new tasks, cannot be indifferent to it. *Panorama*<sup>2</sup> has published an article on the initiative taken by the Swedish Red Cross which is participating in a campaign launched, under government auspices, against the abuse of drugs by young people. It is no doubt one of the first National Societies to take an active interest in this problem and its contribution consists of a series of courses for Red Cross workers on drug-addiction. The League's publication gives the following interesting details:

“... Its eventual aim is to train one official in every Red Cross district in the country. He or she will serve as a “middleman” for drug problems, advising on what help is available and where it can be obtained.

The courses are being backed by a Sw. kr. 10,000 government grant and are organised by the Swedish Red Cross in co-operation with the national council against the misuse of medicaments.

Thirty-five officers from Red Cross branches across the country took part in the first course—a series of lectures and group sessions led by a former drug addict, a social worker, a hospital almoner, a police officer, a school counsellor and a writer specialising in drug

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate*. — “The Red Cross and My Country” text-book is in use in primary schools where it is discussed by teachers and Red Cross workers.

<sup>2</sup> Published by the League of Red Cross Societies, Geneva, 1969, No. 7.

problems. The programme covered the socio-economic and socio-psychological aspects of drug abuse, different kinds of therapy and the role of the police and the customs and closed with a look at counter-measures: action by youth organisations, information problems and the use of the school system for publicity .”

## Turkey

*A joint Turkish Government and Red Crescent report on the diffusion of the Geneva Conventions in Turkey was submitted to the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross at Istanbul. Our readers might be interested in this very full document dealing with important questions.*

Turkey has ratified Conventions concerning the Law of War. Conventions can be cited by the order of date of ratification as follows:

1. Declaration Prohibiting the Use of Asphyxiating Gases (The Hague, 1899).
2. Declaration Prohibiting the Use of Expanding Bullets (The Hague, 1899).
3. Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or other Gases and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare (Geneva, 1925).

Turkey, which has abided by the International Declaration of 1899 and the Convention of 1925 on the prohibition of the use of asphyxiating and poisonous gases, has never resorted to these weapons. Turkish Armed Forces have never used gases or bacteriological methods of warfare. Furthermore, neither the use in the Armed Forces nor the manufacturing in military or civilian factories of expanding bullets has taken place.