

receiving specialized post-basic training, have been working very successfully as organised groups in industry and rural districts. The effectiveness of their health education work is increased by the fact that when making inspections and controls they not only criticize shortcomings, but take an active part in changes and make sure the improvements are checked. The educational effect of this practical work is a valuable supplement to suggestions and theoretical methods.

Thanks to this cooperation with the Public Health Services we have in the past years been able to contribute to the improvement of health conditions, a decline in infectious diseases and the general decrease of illnesses in the country.

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## Luxemburg

The Luxemburg Red Cross Annual Report for 1963 gives pride of place to child welfare. Courses have been started in infant nursing, dispensaries have been set up, a mobile unit for the care of babies has been brought into service, a nursery capable of accommodating 89 children has been organized, a foster-parents service is in operation and a children's home throughout the year has received 222 guests. We would also mention other functions, such as the running of holiday camps, the organization of vacations in the countryside, all of which corresponded to more than 57,000 hours in health resorts for some two thousand children. The school medical service in 116 villages is attended to by thirty itinerant nurses who in 1963 examined more than twenty thousand children of school age.

Mention must also be made of the blood transfusion service which carries on the various related activities, such as the recruitment of donors, the drawing of blood, the determination of blood groups.

The Red Cross is also concerned with a convalescent home and helps the blind, notably by looking after the financial side of the Luxembourg Association for the Blind. Yet a further activity

which deserves to be mentioned is the "Cancer Social Service". In fact the Society looks after 213 families, 34 new cases having occurred during the year under review. The itinerant nurse attached to this Service called at 77 homes in 1963. As can be seen, home care and treatment by the Social Service constitute an important sector of Red Cross activity.

Five first-aid sections organize studies and refresher courses, intervene in the event of accidents at work or on the roads and provide free transport for the sick and the injured. In conclusion, let us point out that the Junior Red Cross is very active. It provides leaders for the holiday camps, carries out the annual collection for the benefit of French and German refugee children and in 1963 it celebrated the Centenary of the International Red Cross by organizing a children's painting competition, the theme being human fellowship.

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## New Zealand

The North Canterbury Branch of the New Zealand Red Cross is organizing its civil defence preparation and we give below a brief description of one of the practical courses it has conducted in connection with this scheme<sup>1</sup>.

Vegetable soup, stew, creamed potatoes, peas, carrots, apple pie, cream horns, steaming cups of tea... these were what twenty-nine Red Cross members sat down to for their midday meal recently.

But this was no ordinary meal cooked in electric ovens, with all the conveniences of a modern kitchen at hand. The whole dinner was cooked out-of-doors in true Army style, using good solid-looking mud ovens, which emitted the taste-tingling aroma of wood smoke.

It was a pilot scheme organised by the North Canterbury Centre as part of the civil defence programme. The course was arranged with the co-operation of the catering staff at Burnham Military Camp.

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<sup>1</sup> *Plate.*