

THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS MUSEUM

Some time ago, the *International Review* published an article by its editor-in-chief, following a visit to Castiglione delle Stiviere in Italy and its International Red Cross Museum. Since then, we have referred several times to the Museum's activities. We can now report on new developments, after a meeting of the institution's directorate on 12 March.

Undertaken on the initiative of the curator, Mr. Ezio Mutti, the interior reconstruction begun last year is now well under way and will provide for a considerable expansion of exhibition space. In addition, arrangements are being made for a photographic laboratory. The first-floor balcony has already been modified, to provide better light and allow for the ever-increasing flow of visitors.

On the ground floor, the exhibition rooms open into a large hall, at one end of which a door leads to a garden courtyard. In the court, protected by vaulting and half-roofs, there is a display of medical equipment presented by the Italian Red Cross, along with illustrations. Nearby are the very stretchers on which the cruelly wounded soldiers were carried to Castiglione from the battlefields of Solferino and San Martino.

Mr. Mutti also provided for the renovation of the courtyard, which has now been completed, bringing into evidence again the original tiles ordered by Silvio Longhi, an eminent figure in the history of Italian penal law, who built this stately house during the last century—a house now containing such a wealth of remembrances of the Red Cross and its history.

This summer, there will also be a special opportunity for visitors to learn more about the present-day work of the Red Cross. An exhibition will be presented, from June to September, including 18 huge panels of pictures, photographic documentation and posters, illustrating some of the humanitarian activities of the Red Cross throughout the world.