Afghanistan

One of the principal activities of the Afghan Red Crescent is that of social assistance. As part of its action programme it distributes to those in need in Kabul and in the various provinces, relief in the form of cash, coal, clothing and food. It intervenes in cases of natural disaster. Thus, only citing this example, when the floods in 1965 had caused thousands of homeless, it brought them considerable aid and actively co-operated with the civilian and military organizations.

As it has informed the ICRC, it intervened in more recent circumstances on behalf of persons who suffered from the particularly harsh winter last year in Kabul and elsewhere. Following a programme drawn up beforehand and estimated for a length of 20 days, 3,750 persons received food in daily assistance. It can be said that in all 75,000 were aided by the Afghan Red Crescent which also had to arrange distributions of clothing during the winter season.¹

Burundi

The Red Cross Society of Burundi, officially recognized by the ICRC in 1963, today carries out useful and varied work. It gives medico-social assistance to orphanages, social centres and the Bujumbura prison. It teaches the armed forces, members of the Society and the general public first-aid, under the supervision of a leading official and medical adviser of the Society. It helps refugees, providing them with food and setting up milk centres for refugee children. It has organized Junior Red Cross branches in schools. Recently it extended its scope to blood donor recruiting.

As can be seen, its programme is very varied, and we believe our readers will be interested in the personal impressions of Mr. J.

¹ Plate. — Afghanistan: The Red Crescent distributing clothing and food.