

The Blood Bank established by the Society plays an important part in supplying the Government Hospital with blood donors. In Bahrain thanks to the efforts of the Blood Bank, there are enough blood donors to cover all requirements.

The Bahrain Red Crescent has arranged for a medical team to visit Nabi Saleh island. An ambulance is sent over every week, during sports events, to attend to casualties in case of accidents.

Five volunteers have been sent to Jordan to attend courses in management, organization and social services.

Spain

The *Revista de la Cruz Roja Española*, in its February 1974 issue, published an interesting article on the history of nursing from its beginnings. The article lays stress on the spirit of service with which every nursing trainee must be imbued if she is to carry out her duties well.

It pays a tribute to Florence Nightingale, beside whom it evokes the figure of Concepción Arenal, a Spanish woman of the same period whose activities were eminently humanitarian. As a sociologist and writer, she was appointed general visitor of women's prisons by Queen Isabel II, and, like Florence Nightingale in England, concerned herself with the social status of women in her country.

The Spanish Red Cross has always been very active in the sphere of nursing care. In 1918 it founded the first school for nurses, which was officially recognized in 1922. Subsequently, the Red Cross nursing unit was formed. There is also a body of Red Cross women voluntary aids, founded in 1917, which now has 30,850 members. Further, the Red Cross is planning to train nursing aids.

Here are a few figures which sum up the National Society's work in training nurses in an ever-larger number of schools, which award officially recognized diplomas.

There are schools in the following towns:

	<i>Founded</i>	<i>Number of pupils in 1974</i>
Madrid	1918	228
Barcelona	1920	148
Seville	1947	55
Badajoz	1967	47
Valencia	1970	152
Castellón	1970	108
Tarragona	1971	42
Alicante	1972	41
Alcoy	1972	50

The Spanish Red Cross, however, considers the total of 871 pupils to be inadequate, and that in view of the development of hospital services and the growing need for nurses the teaching and training effort must continue.

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Attention should be drawn to a new worthwhile activity of the National Society for the dissemination of Red Cross principles and the Geneva Conventions. The Red Cross has organized in its premises at Santa Cruz de Tenerife weekly talks and discussion groups for students wishing to know about the Red Cross and humanitarian problems in the world today. The subjects are explained and the discussions led by Mr. J. J. G. de Rueda, Mexican Red Cross delegate to Europe and former adviser in Geneva to the ICRC and the League.

We wish him every success in this new and useful undertaking.