

March is Red Cross Month in Canada

May 8, 1972 is World Red Cross Day. It honours the birth of Henri Dunant, founder of the Red Cross. This year's World Red Cross Day slogan "A Bridge to Humanity" highlights the vital contribution made by the Canadian Red Cross and Red Cross Societies in every country, which keep individuals aware of the urgent needs of their fellow men around the world.

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In his book "A Memory of Solferino" (1862) Henri Dunant, founder of the Red Cross foresaw the need of permanent societies of volunteers to care for wartime wounded and urged the adoption of international principles of humanitarianism.

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The purposes of the Red Cross are: "To furnish volunteer aid to the sick and wounded of armies in time of war, in accordance with the Treaty of Geneva, and in time of peace or war, to carry on and assist in work for the improvement of health, the prevention of disease, and the mitigation of suffering throughout the world."

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The Canadian Red Cross Society is one of 115 Red Cross, Red Crescent, and Red Lion and Sun Societies belonging to the International organization known as the League of Red Cross Societies.

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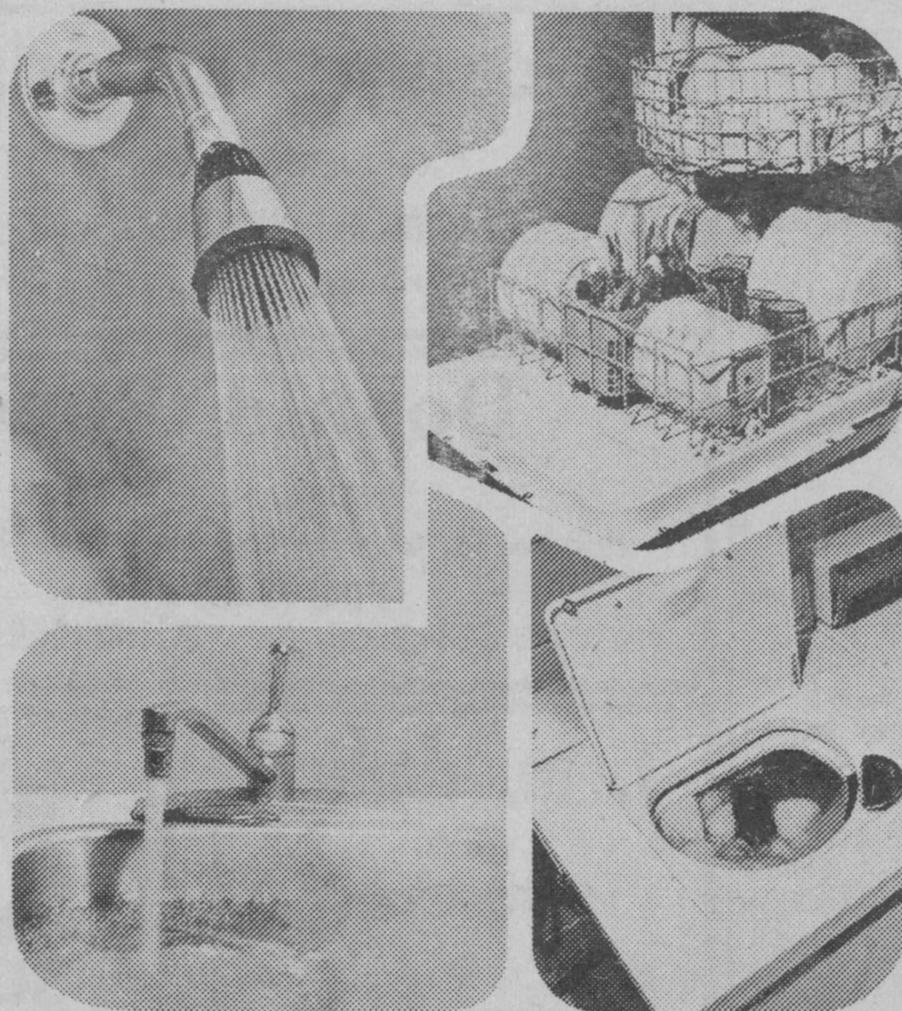
The Red Cross flag was first flown in Canada in 1885 when Dr. G. S. Ryerson, a surgeon to the Tenth Royals, organized a volunteer medical corps to tend the wounded of both forces at the Louis Riel North West Rebellion.

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Volunteers do more than 90 percent of the work carried on by the Canadian Red Cross Society. The Canadian Red Cross Society plays an important part in international disaster and developmental assistance. Each year the funds contributed help provide medical materials and technical aid to countries in many parts of the world. Last year over \$1,000,000 in aid was sent to countries in need, by and through the Canadian Red Cross.

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Red Cross Youth in Canada supplies children with assistance for medical, dental and recreational purposes

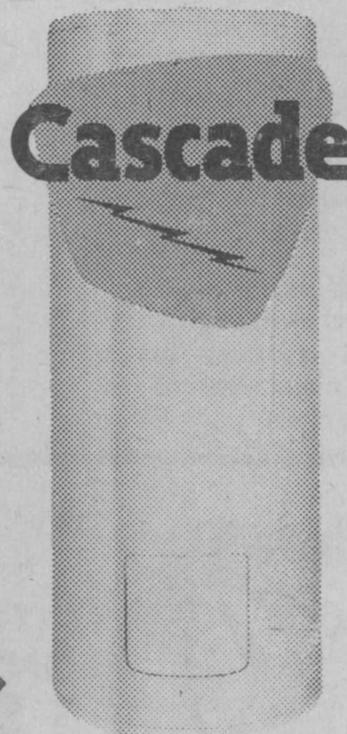


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