

ceived \$500.00, and an equal sum was allocated for German children.

Another \$100.00 was assigned to the Swiss in Russia in 1921, tabling at the same time requests from the Stauffacher Verein and the Stuttgarter Swiss Society.

Hard times were stressed at the Annual General Assembly, January 26, 1922, resulting in much excess labor, and bringing 24 applications for assistance from young immigrants in 1921. Living expenses 'still' were above pre-war level, with prospects of improvements in 1922, though not assured. The membership stood well with 110 paid up (\$395.00). While assistance was given in only 246 cases, the sum soared to \$749.00, highest on record since 1884. The gain for the year remained at a scant \$58.15. Assistance was given to still fewer people in 1922, but somewhat greater allowances are observed, and the Treasurer's records would, no doubt, shed light on the circumstance that, in spite of reported extra-revenue, the balance dropped to \$11,353.50.

The records for 1923 reveal a donation of \$100.00 to the Relief Fund for Swiss Authors. Assistance had been rendered to 44, with \$684.00, 25 of the charges getting monthly allowances. There were 123 members.

To a plea from the Swiss Government (1924), for Relief for the people of Someo (Ticino), which was covered by a landslide, the directors responded with a donation of 500 francs. There are very few cases in which money was lent in amounts greater than \$20.00 or \$25.00. The integrity of Jacob Graber must have been well-known, for he was granted \$100.00 to bring his family from Switzerland, agreeing to pay back \$1.00 a week. Commensurate with the higher living costs, the monthly allowances were mostly \$5.00 instead of the earlier \$2.00, or \$10.00 instead of \$8.00, and total assistance climbed for the first time to \$1068.00 (230 cases), yet still leaving a gain of \$306.37.

At their meeting in February 1926, the directors took no action for the benefit of survivors of an avalanche at Bosco (Ticino), as the circumstances were not clear, but \$20.00 were allowed in April. A man of 80 was assisted to get into the Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor, and part of the funeral expenses for him were paid in February 1927. There were now almost regular donations of \$25.00 each every June to the Lutheran Orphanage, the Protestant Home for the Aged, and the Little Sisters of the Poor, all places which had been helpful on occasions, and might serve again.

Except for a donation of \$50.00 for the flood victims in the Grisons, the directors had few special cases to handle in 1927. But there was a family in Westfield, Pa., left destitute by the father, who tried to get them deported to Switzerland. They were assisted several times until February 1928.

An exceptional case concerned a veteran of World War I. It had its inception in 1924, and he was to remain a charge off and on until 1941. Consul Knup got Congressman Darrow interested in the man, and got the assurance that everything would be done to 'render justice.' But he was not very coöperative, and at one time was reported to be well enough 'to peddle again.' When Vice Consul Rohrbach took over, the case occupied him monthly until April 1941, when he reported work had been found for the man's sons. When they failed to report, the case was dismissed. For comparison, a case in Allentown broke out in February 1930, to terminate only with the man's demise in March 1952. After he lost his job, he never seemed to have found work again, and his meager savings were used up. Throughout the long years of assistance rendered him, he probably never once failed to acknowledge receipt of it with a letter or card.

No money was assigned from the Treasury for a bust of Henry Dunant in the new Red Cross Building in Washington (1930). But the President's report for that year indicated a shrinking membership. It was to be the first step on a downward trend. There had been 132 paid-up members (\$607.00) in 1929. Now there were 120, still with \$522.00. By 1933, there were only 80 paid-up members, not to rise above the 100-mark again until 1955, with a corresponding decrease in dues taken in. On the other hand, by 1932 the assistance rendered reached a record of \$1235.00 (372 cases), yet, thanks to sound investments and special gifts now and then, deficits were held to the years 1929, 1930, 1932, 1933, 1940, 1947 and 1949. Assistance too dropped gradually to an all-time low of \$160.00 in 1944, to jump back to \$1105.00 in 1947, and \$1090.50 in 1948, with a new decline to \$180.00 in 1953. The records from 1932 on emphasize new uses to which the funds of the SBS were put, and the Board's actions always gained the approbation of the General Assemblies, even if, sometimes, some gifts were first put under discussion, which is as it should be.

The 'Verband für das Blindenwesen, St. Gallen,' benefitted to the amount of \$25.00 in June 1931.