

Board, as Theo Baur had resigned, aside of the replacement for Dr. Vuilleumier: J. Fleischmann and J. c. Schoop.

Until 1960, the Annual Meeting only elected the Board, which immediately afterwards would convene to elect the officers. In 1934 it was a matter of course that J. H. Reichling was honored with the chair, after his twenty years of devoted services as Vice President. Mr. J. Knup, Jr., became Vice President, but, because of other heavy engagements stayed in office only three years, superseded by Jacob Fleischmann, who was to succeed himself until 1952. J. Schoop remained a director-at-large until then, to hold the vice presidency 1952/54, and to become the Society's sixth president in 1955.

The AGA of January 29, 1936, held at Weber's Hofbrau, marked the Society's 75th Anniversary, attended by 85 members and friends. As Mr. Reichling pointed out, there had been only three presidents before him; three vice presidents had served more than ten years, as did three Recording Secretaries, with a Financial Secretary for 14 years, and another eleven, and 15 directors had tenures of twenty years and over.

A few days prior to the Annual General Assembly, again at Weber's Hofbrau, with 89 people present January 27, 1937, another outstanding member of the Society and indeed the Colony was carried to his last resting place: former Honorary Consul Jacob Knup, to whom the President paid his respects as a member of 28 years standing, and serving as director and officer for over twenty. Mr. Reichling concluded his remarks with a befitting tribute out of 'respect and admiration to a wonderful woman, the devoted wife of our esteemed deceased friend, Mr. Knup, whom she has nursed and comforted in his hopeless sickness for almost two years.' It is cause for very special joy to note that this beloved lady is still with us.

In deference to non-members attending our dinners in conjunction with our Annual Meetings, it was tried again on January 26, 1938, to hold the business session before the meal. But, while 89 people appeared for the dinner, only very few members were in time for the assembly itself. In the course of the new year, we lost 'our two oldest members, both as regards membership and age,' Mathias Hefti and Julius Hess, the latter at the venerable age of 91. Director Egli resigned in 1939, returning to Switzerland, and Mr. Alfred Knup took his place on the Board.

Consul Rohrbach, inspired founder of the New Helvetic Society, Pennsylvania Chapter, advocated the creation of a Joint Committee of the Philadelphia Swiss Societies February 21, 1940, to facilitate collaboration in combined efforts, and to serve as a clearing house for scheduling events by the several associations, each with non-conflicting interest. Each organization appointed two delegates, and they, in turn, chose John c. Schoop as president of the Joint Committee. Its initial function was devoted to the collection of contributions by individuals to the Swiss Relief Fund. The year had to account for the loss of five members, among them J. Habisreutinger, a member since 1911, and Carl Gaebler, one of the particularly efficient directors since 1926, beloved for his exceptional sense of humor. The Society is forever indebted to Consul Rohrbach especially for taking over at that time as investigator and distributor. The matter has come up for discussion almost every year, but this appears to be the most practical solution. In some instances assistance was given by directors in investigations. The AGA 1941 elected Hans Fitzi to the Board in place of Mr. Gaebler. His determination at the end of 1959, not to permit re-nomination, was greatly regretted, both as a friend, and because he rendered valuable services in many assignments.

Because of complications due to war restrictions, the AGA of February 9, 1943, was held without dinner, and the Meeting, required to be held on the last Wednesday in January, had to be postponed due to particularly inclement weather. Frank Schillig dropped out as director, bringing in P. H. Reichling in his stead, with no change among the officers.

As a gesture of solidarity, the New Helvetic Society agreed to co-sponsor the Annual Meeting and Dinner of the SBS, 1944, and this has become traditional. It is in part responsible for a later decision by the SBS, to separate the annual dinner from the date of the general assembly. The other consideration was the official date for this meeting, its attendance suffering on occasion from stormy weather. A separation of the two functions also was welcomed as an opportunity for the membership to get together twice, instead of only once a year.

With the year 1944 terminated the outstanding services of Recording Secretary Ernest Muller, who retired after 22 years in office. He was duly memorialized, and the Society presented him with the desired easy chair as a small token of apprecia-