

When the United Silk Weavers of Paterson, N.J., applied for assistance in April, 1883, to tie them over their strike, the directors found such aid to be beyond their province. But the following month, an appeal from New York, to contribute to the Swiss House which was to be founded, the Board came through with \$100.00. This was partly in recognition for the collaboration of our sister society in New York in numerous instances, relieving us of many cases. Also, application was made to the Pennsylvania Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, Philadelphia, for the admission of a 13-year-old girl with those afflictions. She was declined as 'not a proper subject,' but help was obtained for her from the Training School for feeble-minded Children in Delaware County.

When in 1885, New York urged further contributions to their Swiss Home, the Board granted another \$50.00, noting that the Society was relieved of some charges, who were admitted at that home. A conflagration destroyed much of Gross Fetan in the Lower Engadin in the fall of 1885. The appeal for help was referred to 'people of the Grisons as proper parties to make a collection,' and there is no report on results obtained.

A collection on behalf of the Winkelried Foundation, benefitting 'wounded defenders of their country and their families,' made during the summer of 1886, yielded \$160.00.

For the first time in four years, there was again a small surplus (\$131.24) over expenditures. The assistance had jumped to \$825.81 for 905 cases in 1883; \$776.25 (961) in 1884; \$669.00 (914) in 1885. Now it was down to \$503.40 (667), and the book balance stood at \$4156.91. The membership fluctuated in the eighties.

The workers of Belgram & Meyer, Paterson, N.J., sent \$51.05 in September 1887, supplemented by \$61.16 from 'sundry' Swiss in that town, collected for the workers of Zug, which had suffered damages to the extent of 1 million francs from an inundation. The local collection reached \$540.00 by later November. The sbs, Chicago, asked for a Black List of 'unworthy and malicious applicants.' Philadelphia judged it impractical and injurious. It was agreed, however, to notify other Benevolent Societies in 'flagrant cases.'

Three exceptionally sad cases came up in September 1888. A family from Bethlehem arrived with very little means on its way to Switzerland, and received \$10.00. A woman took care of five grand-children while her son-in-law was hospitalized for eleven weeks. The sbs contributed \$4.00

monthly toward her rent. An old, infirm couple had long been helped by our Mr. Kuehne. By the time they were admitted to the 'Little Sisters of Charity', the woman died. A collection for the flood victims in Uri produced \$656.65.

Disaster struck Johnstown, Pa. on May 31, 1889. A letter of June 24, read to the directors on the 27th, told of 111 resident Swiss there. The inundation, caused by the bursting of the large reservoir, took the life of G. Voegtli. Sixty-four lost everything, and the others sustained damages. Subscriptions from all the Swiss in the country were sought. By July 31, \$296.50 had been collected here, and the Swiss Government sent 5000 francs.

Refusing able young men, or holding them short in 1889, held the cases of assistance down to 580, with \$512.00.

A collection was approved in June 1890, for the sufferers from 'Fire and Water at Gampelen, Tiefenkastel, Broc, Rütli' (Rütimoos, St. Gl.), as well as for the Tell Monument at Altdorf. By the end of December, \$332.75 were raised for those victims and \$76.25 for the monument. Locally, President Koradi commented at the General Assembly 1891, the year was about the same as 1889, but the receipts shrunk. Most of the applicants were farm-hands, let out in winter.

There were more disasters in Switzerland in 1891, with heavy losses caused by fire and water, prompting Minister de Claparède to appeal for help for Meiringen (completely destroyed), Rebstein, Ladix and Sclamischoth. Moreover, a railroad accident at Münchenstein took a toll of almost 100 people, and there was another at Zollikofen. A general depression was noted, except for the farmers, who reaped bumper crops. There was the usual, generous response.

In April 1892, the German Society thanked for six orders of coal filled by the sbs. An appeal from Swiss in Hamburg, Germany, where the Cholera raged, was rejected on the grounds of distance. At the General Assembly 1893 it was noted that the City Mission helped with groceries and coal for several women with children.

The home governments raised their contributions for 1894 to a total of 750 francs. It was by far the worst year for the Society, processing 1122 cases with \$821.50.

In 1895, a Swiss in Idalia, Colorado, asked for help to local Swiss farmers to buy seeds. Investigation with the county clerk brought word that there were nine Swiss families. The assistance