

His is probably the most time-consuming case Consul Rohrbach ever encountered, and for long periods his illness made him difficult and irrational. Be it also recorded that another member, Miss Elise Spuehler, a nurse and resident at Norristown, has given much time and effort in the case, giving Mr. Rohrbach at least some relief with it. The unfortunate patient was long considered incurable. Yet, with the development of new treatments and medicaments, he has lately made a remarkable come-back. He has been helped throughout these years to the best of our ability and in the interest of the patient.

Direct assistance was once again on the increase in 1946 (77 cases; \$684.00), and special contributions were made to the American Red Cross, the Swiss National Fund, for the Swiss Abroad, General Guisan Fund, totalling \$200.00. Still the books closed with an increase of \$313.21, for total assets of \$13,745.21. In 1947, donations went to the American Red Cross, the Swiss National Fund, and the Pestalozzi Foundation, with reduced revenues, creating a loss of \$548.46.

A plea for assistance to help a man to travel around the world got, of course, a negative reply, but 111 cases of assistance took \$1030.50 in 1948. Consul Rohrbach led a discussion on the problems of repatriating Swiss citizens from the war-torn countries, and the sbs responded favorably to the idea as a humanitarian undertaking and task of solidarity. The Consul's question, if the Society might reconsider help from the Federal Government, was answered in the negative.

Former Consul Kunz (in Germany) visited with the directors at their monthly meeting in February 1949, on his mission in the United States to raise \$20,000 to finance a committee to exert pressure on the Federal Government and the Inter-Allied Commission for the release of funds to destitute Swiss in European countries. About half-a-million francs were tied up, representing German investments in Switzerland, seized or tied up by the Allies after the war. Half of the raised funds was intended to re-establish Swiss. J. c. Schoop was charged to head a committee soliciting contributions from the resident Swiss (the Joint Committee had had to be abandoned), and the collection produced \$841.00. Assistance to the needy still stood at \$906.00 that year, and, without exceptional contributions, the year ended with a deficit of \$284.71. The membership, now at 90, was to decrease steadily until 1953 to a low of 75. Fortunately, the needs for 1950 dropped

to \$655.00, permitting to recoup \$173.88 on the books. The next year was even better, with assistance down to \$258.55, and with the sale of a property, net worth of the Society went up by \$3111.65.

A number of special cases of recipients in the future years could be enumerated, but the pattern of assistance rendered has been established. However, it developed that where we were giving regular monthly support, state agencies would deduct such amounts from pension grants. This could not be our intention, and the directors decided to change our donations to more practical gifts as needs were ascertained, with direct cash at irregular intervals. Certainly, pensions in themselves were, and often still are, too small in themselves to provide bare necessities to destitute people, and the purpose of our assistance was meant to supplement the state contributions.

Direct assistance in 1952 amounted to \$228.29, and \$395.00 were assigned to four local homes and the Red Cross. The 81 members (there also were nine life-members) paid dues totalling \$413.00, and the books closed just about even, with \$16,257.60.

In 1953, direct assistance took a further drop, with special donations to three local homes, \$200.00 for the Swiss flood victims in Holland, and \$50.00 to the Swiss National Fund, the books showing a gain of \$570.37.

Direct assistance in 1954 required \$420.00, and \$50.00 each went to the Swiss National Fund, the Zwissig Memorial, with \$115.00 in smaller sums to other worthy causes, still leaving an increase of capital of \$1730.38. Perhaps because of an appeal made at the AGA 1955, to recruit new members, this department showed a gain of 25 for the year, to 106. Assistance requirements remained low, and contributions were allocated to the three 'regular' local homes, the Swiss National Fund, and the United Fund, for a gain of \$1178.40, to \$19,736.75.

The 109 members paid in \$500.00 in 1956, and besides the three homes, there were donations to the Swiss National Fund, the Kinderdorf Trogen, the United Fund, and for Hungarian Relief.

As the President reported at the end of 1957, for the sbs the year was one of 'business as usual.' Still, there was another gain in membership to 114, and the assets went up to \$20,244.37. And the 99th year recorded \$404.70 in direct relief, and \$455.00 to other various meritorious organizations and institutions, and there were 141 paying mem-