

bers on the books, among them seven life-members. The net worth of the sbs rose to \$27,567.96.

Up to 1879, we have some figures only for seven years of that period, in round figures, assistance rendered amounting to about \$3300.00. On this basis, a conservative estimate for the 19 years might be about \$9000.00, with gifts from businesses and professionals, in coal, victuals, medications, medical services not included, and declining to zero in the last century. Again in round figures, direct assistance from 1879 to 1959 inclusive ran about \$45,500, and other donations about \$17,000, for about \$72,500.00 in cash donations to the needy and other worthy causes since 1860. In 1879, reference is made to a booklet, paying tribute to some of the 'most energetic early members, already deceased.' Perhaps it is natural that a comparatively small membership narrows the choice in directors and officers available. However that may be, there are many in the sbs who have been 'energetic' for long periods. We will here attempt to review the minutes, yielding such information, and cite discussions on matters not involving monetary transactions.

When the Charter was revised in 1915, Sections 3, 4 and 5 were stricken off, and this reading was adopted as new Section 3:

The Society shall be managed by a board of Directors consisting of 15 members, elected annually, of whom at least 10 shall be Natives of Switzerland. Said Directors shall elect annually from their members, a President, a Vice President, a Recording Secretary, a Financial Secretary, a Treasurer, and such additional officers as may from time to time be provided for by the by-laws.

For 1860/62 we have only the names of the four officers: President Rudolf Koradi; Vice President C. Pénéveyre; Secretary A. H. Wirz; Treasurer C. T. Amsler (1860/61); P. J. Wildberger (1862/1867). For the years 1863/1907 there were ten directors-at-large. Four of them were assigned with the task of taking care of the needy in their respective districts.

The Annual General Assembly of January 20, 1864, was held at 'Kiefer's House,' 206 Branch Street. President Koradi was satisfied that the Society would succeed in spite of the small number of members. The operating expenses for printing amounted to \$5.50.

Eight days before the next AGA, the members were to indicate if they wanted dinner at \$1.00, with half a bottle of wine. 'A motion to make the next Election secret in the future was lost.'

For the Annual Meeting of 1865, 'Paravicini's House,' 1012 Sansom, was selected. The ensuing 'rebellion in this country' was to affect also the sbs adversely, but the President remained undeterred, and recommended steps to be taken for a charter, which, it was hoped, 'would bring greater support from home.' Enlarging of the Board to 15 was ordered at that time, but the actual number remained at 14 until 1907, as stated above. The Constitution of 1865 was to serve intact until 1915, while the by-laws were revised 1879, to make suitable adjustments in line with changed conditions. It also was resolved to assess the Board Members with a fine of 50¢, if absent from a meeting at 8:30 p.m., unless for valid reasons. With one or two exceptions, when the Board Meetings were held at Mr. Koradi's office, they took place at 'Paravicini's.'

The AGA of December 5, 1865, acknowledged hard times, which continued into 1866, and the mere token-assistance was deplored. Treasurer Wildberger commented: 'It is the desire of the Board of Directors of this Society, through a judicious management of its affairs, to secure a fund, with a yearly income, and thus to have a moderate fixed income for the future years.'

The AGA 1867 was held at 'Muller's,' 341 North 4th Street. In March 1868, the Treasurer was required to give surety. President Koradi vouched for him for the current term, and one of several directors continued to do so for many years. At the end of that fiscal year, H. Ducommun admonished the directors to 'pitch in harder' to recruit members, while P. J. Wildberger voiced an opinion which has been reechoed at intervals since: Why accumulate funds? They should be used. As Treasurer, he was 'astonished' at the 'large balance' (\$902.26). But even then President Koradi countered that recent collection of dues would soon be expended.

At the Tenth Anniversary, AGA December 6, 1870, the small deficit accrued that year was attributed to the circumstance that several cantons omitted their refunds because of 'still extant' suffering at home from the past inundations. P. J. Wildberger considered it a 'sacred duty' to acknowledge all the illustrious President had done for the Society.

On September 18, 1873, again P. J. Wildberger addressed the Board, asking to give some thought to the forthcoming Centenary of the Republic, and how the resident Swiss could most appropriately express the 'sympathy of the oldest for the