

greatest democracy.' Later, a committee, headed by Consul Koradi, was formed, to 'consult for due congratulations from one Republique to another, via an expressive manner,' but without touching the funds of the sbs.

J. J. Yauchler started his first term as Treasurer 1873, to serve 19 years in that capacity. The Swiss Maennerchor offered to hold a concert for the benefit of the sbs, but when it was suggested that the occasion should be used to recruit more members for us, the offer was withdrawn, only to be re-instated after further consideration.

The locale for the AGA, December 15, 1874, was 'J. Bourquard's House,' 413 Locust Street. Two years later it was at the 'House of Gus. Walther,' 412 Library Street.

In November 1877, delegations from the Gruetli Verein and Swiss Maennerchor called on the Board of Directors of the sbs to discuss plans for a Swiss National Festival in 1878. The meeting had started on a sad note, official condolences being expressed to Consul Koradi in the loss of his wife.

The presence of 'Gentlemen of the Philadelphia Press' is recorded for the Annual General Assembly, December 18, 1878, held at 'Bourquard's Hall.' The Society's activities were published in the English and German-language newspapers of Philadelphia for many years and the General Meetings advertised.

The already-mentioned booklet, brought out at the time of the revision of the by-laws in 1879, said of Chas. Pénéveyre, the first Vice President (†1865), that he was 'ever ready to assist with private means where those of the Society were not sufficient.' Then there were John Mayer and Henry Ducommon, 'faithful and efficient members of the Board of Managers' and Theo Amsler, first Treasurer, who had returned to the Old Country. John F. Hartranft, the later governor of Pennsylvania, joined the sbs in 1879.

'Bloechlinger's Hall' 506 Vine Street, was the locale for the AGA of December 17, 1879. The accent was still on the 'dull times.' 'Elegant membership certificates' were ordered, particularly as a gesture toward non-Swiss subscribers, contributing 'from motives of pure charity and friendship.' Fifteen firms were listed for that year.

The next Annual Meeting was moved up to January, and the books closed with the calendar year. The Assembly of 1881 took place at John F. Volet's, 257 South 6th Street. The prospects at

home continued poor, Mr. Koradi reported, while there was optimism in the United States.

The Board Meeting of September 1881, noted the passing of President Jas. A. Garfield. In November, Vice-Consul Werner Itschner was mentioned for the first time. A year later, the Board was advised of the arrival in Washington of Minister Col. Emil Frey, and the several societies were asked to form a committee of three to discuss a reception for him. Wirz, Oberer, Péquinot were designated for the sbs. And at the next Board Meeting it was recommended that all members take part in the Bi-Centennial Celebration of Pennsylvania, October 23/26, 1882.

Delegates from all other local Swiss associations (Gruetli Verein; Schweizer Maennerchor; Swiss National Festival Society), as well as the press were present at the AGA of January 17, 1883, at which time President Koradi deplored the impetus given immigration by misleading reports from the United States. The Reception for Minister Frey, held November 22/23, 1882, is mentioned without further elaborations.

Mr. Koradi's completion of 25 years as Consul at the end of the year was celebrated with a memorial of his accomplishments, signed by the officers of the several Swiss associations, '... in appreciation of eminent services as Consul, to his fellow-countrymen, his love and patriotism for our fatherland, for ardent endeavor to elevate the Swiss Benevolent Society to a high standard and prosperous conditions, by which he acquired the love and esteem of his countrymen, Citizens of his Consular District and Representatives of foreign nations in the United States.'

In April 1883, the Maennerchor appeared at the Board Meeting, to serenade President Koradi, who responded with an eloquent address. At the end of this term, J. J. Yauchler, Jr., was presented with a 'handsome piece of Swiss Art' in appreciation of completing his 10-year tenure as treasurer. He was to stay until 1893. Julius L. Progler was a prominent member of the colony, with membership in all Swiss societies. He was memorialized by the Board in March 1884, following his demise. He had joined the sbs in 1876, and been a member of the Board since 1877.

Early in 1885, the Board took favorable notice of a letter from the 'Nordamerikanischer Grütli Bund', urging all Swiss and their societies to take part at the 'Grand National Swiss Festival,' July 9/12, 1886, at New York, celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Battle of Sempach. Over