

1892, and the Reading Terminal opened 1893. Yet, already 1880, Swiss were located as far as East Walnut Lane and Morton; 3541 North 17th; 67th and Woodland; 2534 Fairview Ave.; 3200 Ridge; 1786 Ellsworth.

Some sort of Protocol was kept since the inception of the Society. Until those earliest records are recovered-if ever-we must content ourselves with the information gleaned from the yearly reports since 1867 and the Minute Books, starting with the Annual General Assembly of January 6, 1863. Secretary Wirz notes that President Koradi gave a retrospect of 1862 as reported in the 'Secretary's Debates for the year.' The 'debates,' it is remarked, shall henceforth be held in English, as the language of the country.

But language difficulties prevailed for some years, as is evidenced 1864, when J. J. Yauchler requested to drop the clause, arguing that the language should be decided at every meeting. C. Jacot, of the French minority, thought they might need an interpreter. For the time being P. J. Wildberger's motion was adopted, allowing the board members to use their preferred idiom.

As late as 1904, the invitations to the assemblies still were executed in German, probably in long-hand, as in October of that year, it was resolved to take recourse to 'printed invitations in English,' as one effort to bring more people to those events. The by-laws, as adopted December 15, 1915, still hint that the directors were at liberty in matters of language, as they specify that the Recording Secretary shall, if possible, be acquainted with both French and German.

The minutes for the Board Meeting of September 22, 1880, asserts that A. H. Wirz handled the Minute Book of the Society from its founding to 1863, also the Charter, to Consul Rudolf Koradi for safe-keeping. In 1907, the latter document was to be taken to City Hall. It was not found among Mr. Koradi's effects.

Instead, there was the application for same, 'duly executed and signed, also by city authorities.' The Recorder of Deeds declared this document as 'the genuine Article,' and Treasurer Schmid took it into his care. In 1915, it was resolved that the Charter 'has become cumbersome and burdensome,' bringing about some amendments in adjustment to the changed times. This was followed by similar improvements to the by-laws, which were re-designed in 1960, awaiting approval by the Annual General Assembly 1961.

The Charter declares as object of the Society relief, 'so far as its means will permit, the urgent

necessities of poor and honest natives of Switzerland, either by contributions of money and provisions, or by procuring employment for them. It is not a society for mutual assistance, but of general benevolence.'

This principle has been conserved, and it is natural that needy Swiss in this area received precedence, since practically all funds are from here. From 1864 on, the Federal and Cantonal Governments approved requests for assistance at least in some measure while the Society was struggling along. Fifty years later it was resolved not to ask for aid from Switzerland anymore, except perhaps in an emergency. And there occur cases involving considerable sums, when it is warranted to ask for a canton to help along. Even now, the membership dues alone would not suffice. But occasional generous gifts, legacies and rents and interest on capital have boosted the assets to a point that assistance beyond a token contribution can be allocated. This situation is also due, in part, to various other factors, of course.

The 'plethoric' condition of the treasury was considered as temporary by the President in 1863. And soon there would be far greater demand for disbursements, 'owing to the Condition of the Country.' The first legacy, by Johann Gustav Ith, yielded \$208.23 in 1869. Another, by the late Chas. Peneveyre, \$950.00 in 1876.

When the Consulate General in Washington submitted a needy case in Charlotte, N.C., the appeal was found to be 'against the Spirit of the Constitution' and 'our duties,' indicating that the early by-Laws imposed restrictions. In his report for 1866, President Koradi remarked: '... The late rebellion in this country, now happily ended, contributed its share (to increased assistance) by the financial disturbance it created, to embarrass the action of the members, and to tax to their utmost the exertions of the Board of Managers, who from patriotism and without the least benefit to themselves, tried to devise means to enlarge the efficiency of the institution' Dr. Henry E. Dwight came up with the recommendation to make use of printed pamphlets, to be mailed 'to all well-to-do Swiss and other Houses in New York and Europe,' as our ability to render aid was now only a fraction of the amounts needed in 'really meritorious cases.'

Due to financial reverses, several members resigned 1867, and the President offered to see if our SBS could be affiliated with others of greater wealth, which would allow to 'send out West all such able-bodied and willing poor as cannot be