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The financial position of the Solidarity Fund for the Swiss Abroad is satisfactory. Membership has increased and a favourable interest rate has pushed its assets to 6.1 million francs. There remains an important loan to be refunded to the Confederation and the fraternal insurance which the Solidarity Fund is cannot at present be ready to sustain heavy claims. The compensation fund presently stands at 450,000 francs, and 180,000 francs came in as welcome premiums to various Swiss living in Algeria, Kenya, Ghana and Morocco. The President of the Swiss Club of Lima had proposed in 1968 that each member should join the Solidarity Fund, which would receive payment for each member directly from the Club kitty. This was conceived as a gesture of support towards the fund and a protection of the members of the Club. The arrangement that finally prevailed consisted in the Fund's acceptance of yearly minimum and retrievable deposits of 25 francs and benefits to the Swiss Club of Lima for all newly enrolled Fund members giving more than the minimum contribution of 25 francs.

The care of the Swiss youth abroad

The Secretariat is intent on helping the younger Swiss across the world, relying in this on parentally co-operation as parents are the only way in which 15-year-olds can come to the attention of the Secretariat. It distributes the *Weltschweizer*, a brochure on Swiss topics, to the young on its mailing list, five times a year. The Secretariat organised three well-attended ski holiday camps and a summer holiday camp during the year covered by the report. Efforts are made to keep in touch with Swiss youth organisations, of which examples can be found in Lyon, Strasbourg, Munich, Hanover and Braunschweig. A questionnaire seeking to establish guidelines for the Secretariat's youth policy revealed however that the need of a youth club was rarely felt as there were usually too few young Swiss to make it viable.

One of the 20 Swiss schools abroad, the Cairo Swiss School, had to close down. The Swiss School in Alexandria has been passing through difficulties and losing attendances. There are new projects on the way however, and work was begun on the new Swiss school in Sao Paulo last November. The Commission for the Swiss Abroad has approved expenditure of 280,840 francs in educational grants to some 186 young Swiss abroad wishing to get education in Switzerland.

Conclusion

These chapters have summed up the numerous activities of the Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad. We should have mentioned the Annual Assembly of the Swiss Abroad which took place in Montreux last year and was attended by a record 500. The theme of the conference was, as readers may re-

member, the contribution of the Swiss abroad to the national economy. National Councillor Hans Schaffner made the opening speech.

The life of the Swiss abroad is following the stormy evolution of the world today. It is getting harder in the Middle East and in Brazil, where a deteriorating political climate and a tendency to covet foreign capital have

made their livelihood increasingly precarious. They know however, that they can count on the unflinching support of an organisation whose very existence is the expression of the renewed concern of the nation for her children abroad.

(Adapted from the 1969 report of the Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad.)

SURVEY OF THE EFFECTIVES OF THE SWISS COLONIES ACROSS THE WORLD

EUROPE		30	Mali	58
1 Norway		628	31 Upper Volta	58
2 Sweden		2,867	32 Niger	37
3 Finland		496	33 Chad	80
4 Ireland		263	34 Sudan	37
5 Great Britain		14,480	35 Liberia	227
6 Denmark		1,292	36 Ivory Coast	333
7 Russia		90	37 Ghana	562
8 Holland		3,099	38 Dahomey	68
9 Belgium		5,587	39 Nigeria	454
10 West Germany		34,043	40 Cameroons	473
11 East Germany		3,236	41 Central African Rep.	62
12 Poland		238	42 Ethiopia	125
13 Luxembourg		462	43 Gabon	67
14 Czechoslovakia		117	44 Congo (Brazzaville)	74
15 France		92,882	45 Congo (Kinshasa)	563
16 Austria		5,804	46 Ruanda	192
17 Hungary		159	47 Uganda	31
18 Rumania		118	48 Kenya	280
19 Italy		18,490	49 Angola	76
20 Yugoslavia		125	50 Rhodesia	492
21 Bulgaria		58	51 Mozambique	190
22 Portugal		722	52 S.W. Africa	115
23 Spain		4,903	53 Botswana	1
24 Greece		526	54 South Africa	5,601
			55 Madagascar	292
			56 Tanzania	572
NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA				
1 Canada		18,432	ASIA	
2 USA		34,213	ASIA	
3 Mexico		1,888	57 Turkey	486
4 Guatemala		254	58 Syria	53
5 Salvador		188	59 Lebanon	458
6 Honduras		105	60 Jordan	30
7 Nicaragua		73	61 Iraq	57
8 Costa Rica		195	62 Iran	302
9 Panama		195	63 Afghanistan	63
10 Jamaica		118	64 Pakistan	304
11 Cuba		80	65 Saudi Arabia	58
12 Haiti		61	66 Israel	1,068
13 Dominican Rep.		33	67 India	615
			68 Nepal	65
			69 Burma	6
SOUTH AMERICA				
14 Columbia		1,477	70 China	17
15 Venezuela		1,211	71 South Korea	35
16 Ecuador		406	72 Japan	726
17 Peru		1,948	73 Ceylon	58
18 Brazil		7,958	74 Thailand	326
19 Bolivia		252	75 Laos	33
20 Chile		1,703	76 South Vietnam	96
21 Paraguay		365	77 Cambodia	21
22 Argentina		10,156	78 Hong Kong	353
23 Uruguay		575	79 Formosa	96
			80 Philippines	311
			81 Malaysia	126
AFRICA				
24 Morocco		1,153	82 Singapore	191
25 Algeria		555	83 Indonesia	143
26 Tunisia		302		
27 Libya		114	AUSTRALASIA	
28 Egypt		392	84 Australia	7,046
29 Senegal		188	85 New Zealand	1,291