

Ciba-Geigy 1979 world results

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strength of character. She was 74 and still fit. She took three children of her recently widowed son and looked after them for over a year. After visiting her daughter in America and whilst staying with her daughter Ida in the Lebanon, she fell and became a cripple. But she still travelled and went to Hundwil, Jacob's birthplace, where a plaque was put up in the village church.

Slowly she grew weaker and finally took to her wheelchair. But she shared in the happiness and disappointments of those around her and kept up a lively interest in world events. She had her 93rd birthday on 9th January, 1968, and died a few days later. Outside, a storm was raging, just as there had been 19 years before when her husband was buried.

At the end of 1971 a small monument was unveiled in Jacob's memory at Walzenhausen. The Commune wanted to honour the memory of their great citizen born 100 years before. The inscription says, "To Jacob Kuenzler, citizen of Walzenhausen, died on 15th January, 1949, in Ghazir in the Lebanon, carpenter, deacon, honorary doctor of medicine, the Saviour and Father of the Armenians. Its home Commune expresses its warm thanks to him on the 100th anniversary of his birth."

This then is the story of Jacob and Elisabeth Kuenzler. In Ida Alamuddin's own words, "They stood for what was highest in life and true religious faith. They believed in deeds rather than words. Goodness and kindness in a human being were of more importance to them than pious words or sermons."

"Papa's deep unquestioning faith brought him the happiness that shone from him, warming and charming all he came into contact with. It made him strong in the face of danger and tragedy which he accepted cheerfully as being God's will. "Mama, though a true believer, lacked so absolute a faith. She was practical and saw through people, hated hypocrisy and false piety. She was too busy looking after others to bother much about the various religious theories. Happiest when looking after children and old people, quiet, modest, perfectly sincere, she had the courage that comes with loving others and disregard of self. In her presence, there was understanding, wisdom, an acceptance of life for what it was, and a great peace."

Mariann Meier

Ciba-Geigy 1979 World Results

Ciba-Geigy Group operating profit after tax amounted to 327 million Swiss francs in 1979, 33 million francs less than in 1978, despite an 11 per cent increase in Group sales to 9,891 million Swiss francs.

Sales value growth was due chiefly to greater volume. The lag between sales and profit is attributed principally to the inability to raise selling prices sufficiently to cover rising costs. Fixed costs increased appreciably, due to expansion and inflation and raw material prices showed a distinct rise in the second half of the year. Fluctuations in foreign exchange rates, though less marked than in 1978, continued to have a significant effect on profits.

Operating cash flow at 957 million francs was similar to the 1978 level.

Capital expenditure throughout the Group in 1979 amounted to 598 million francs – 44 million francs more than in 1978. Total depreciation on fixed assets was 630 million francs, and hence exceeded capital expenditure.

Research and development expenditure was 62 million francs higher than in 1978. At 824 million francs it represents, as in the preceding year, approximately 8.5 per cent of sales.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Company, to be held on Wednesday 21 May 1980, the Directors will recommend a dividend for 1979 at the same level as in the preceding years, namely 22 francs per share and per participation certificate.



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