

INFORMATION

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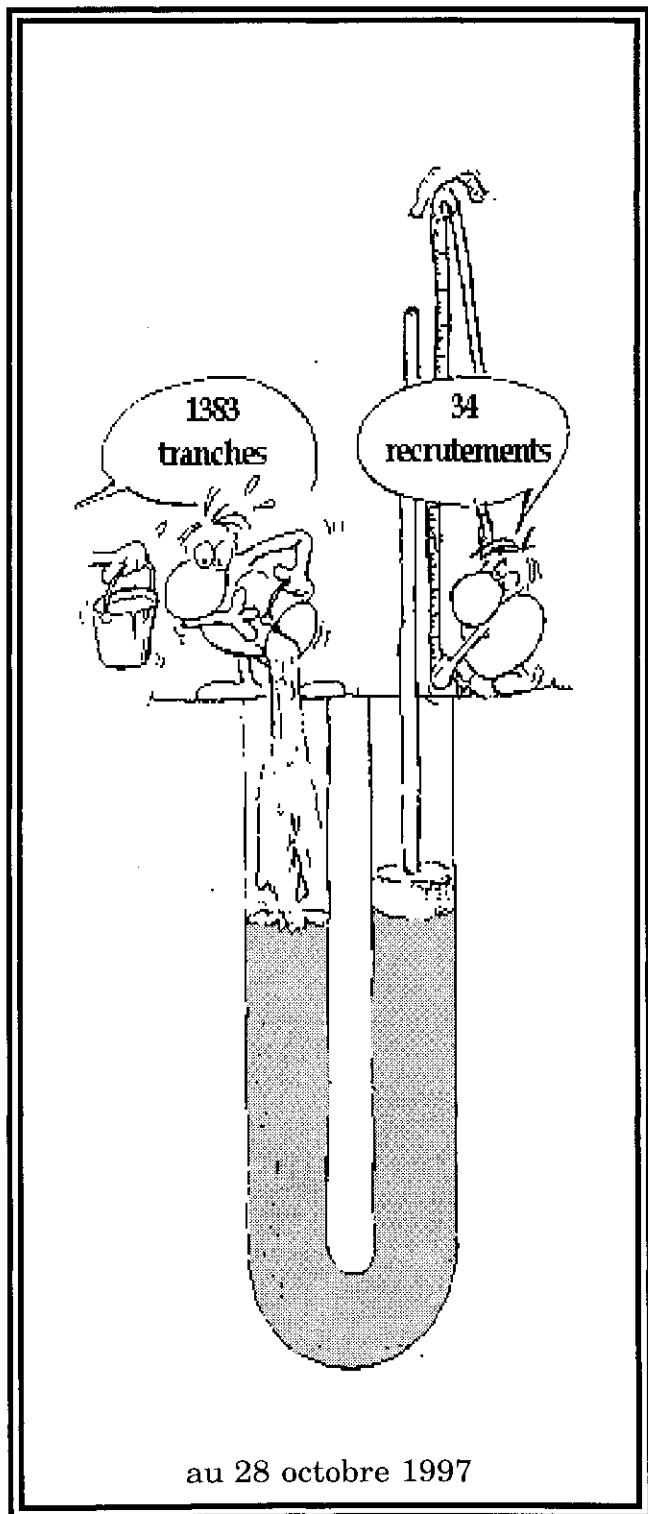
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Subscription to the Staff Association

A reminder to all members of the Staff Association that your annual subscription will be automatically deducted from your December salary.

By decision of the General Assembly held on 2 October 1997, this subscription remains unchanged at 1,5‰ of the basic annual salary.

We strongly encourage those of you who are not yet members of the Staff Association to join. Talk to your delegate and inscribe at the secretariat of the Staff Association.

Mini-assizes on Health Insurance

The mini-assizes of the Staff Association took place on 17 October 1997 at the John Knox Centre in Geneva. The theme of the day was social protection for long-term care, and what CERN provides in this domain.

The participants included the majority of the delegates of the Staff Association, including the representatives of the pensioners' association (GAC), the members of the CERN Health Insurance Supervisory Board (CHISB), representatives of the Austria insurance company, members of the Standing Concertation Committee (SCC) and outside experts.

Following a brief introduction by M. Vitasse, President of the Staff Association, welcoming the participants, M. Aymon, a member of the CHISB, gave a brief history of the topic at CERN. It had been raised in various reports, the first dating from 1990, and was the subject of a CHISB report of August 1996, which had been revised in July of this year. This report proposes a definition of long-term care and distinguishes three components of the cost: medical, paramedical and accommodation plus food.

Then followed detailed presentations by the invited experts:

- C. Page and Mme N. Burcher-Hallier explained which costs of long-term care are at present reimbursed at CERN by the Austria insurance.
- R. Duquenne, Director of the Geneva cantonal office for aged persons (OCPA), explained the general situation in Switzerland and the particular situation in Geneva, since it varies from Canton to Canton.
- F. Lusson, actuarial expert from the cabinet Joël Winter & Associés, dealt in depth with the situation in France and the types of insurance offered by certain companies.
- M. Baboulaz, chairman of the CHISB, resumed the situation in other International Organizations, where the question is also under serious study.

Numerous questions were then raised by the participants with the team of experts.

After warm thanks to the experts for their instructive presentations, the remaining part of the meeting was devoted to a preliminary debate between the delegates of the Staff Association, in particular compiling a list of questions which must be answered in order to find a solution adapted to the needs of CERN. It was agreed that a Staff Association working group would be set up in the immediate future.

The whole day was video recorded, to preserve the material for future work on this important question.