

ANNUAL REPORT OF ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH SCHOOL

<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>School Year 1956-57</u>	<u>School Year 1957-58</u>
Director:	Levon N. Zenian	Levon N. Zenian
Supervisors:-		
Primary Department	Helen Armodlian	Helen Armodlian
Secondary Department	Ardameas Toovalian	Ardameas Toovalian Janoyan
Recording Secretary	Rose Hanesian	Louise Kushigian
Secretary:	Sona Yavruian	Louise Kushigian
Treasurer:	Terry Kelch	Terry Kelch
Asst. Treasurer:	Mary Toovalian	Mary Toovalian
Teacher Rep.	Mary Jimzejian	Virginia Sivazlian
	Rose Hanesian	Anoush Papelian
Total Number of Staff Members	<u>56</u>	Number of families with children <u>270</u>
Total children enrolled (1957-58)	<u>407</u>	Primary Dept. <u>206</u> Sec. Dept. <u>201</u>
Number of Executive Committee Meetings	<u>9</u>	Number of Staff Meetings <u>5</u>

Curriculum - The Church School followed the curriculum prepared by the Council for Religious Education for the Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America with one exception.

Teacher Training - The A.C.Y.O.A. sponsored Midwest Church School Conference was held at Kellogg Center, Michigan State University the weekend of April 5th, 6th, and 7th, 1957 with almost 80% of the teachers attending the Conference. Lectures were given by Rev. Tatoyan, Rev. Arnak Kasparian, Rev. F. M. Donahue, Archdeacon Hagop Nersoyan and Dennis Papazian and some members of the Michigan State Faculty. In addition to this program, a Teacher Training Course was held once a week during the summer months at the Cultural Hall which about 40% of the teachers attended.

The Teacher Training Program continued in the Fall for 6 weeks under the leadership of our own teachers - Mrs. Z. Atesian, Miss S. Mezian and Deacon and Mrs. Papazian. These Meetings were held at the homes of the Leaders.

P.T.A. Meetings - During 1957 the P.T.A. held three regular meetings:-

- Feb. 14, 1957 - Rev. F. M. Donahue of Michigan State University lectured on the "Ten Commandments".
- May 16, 1957 - A panel of senior class students with Ardie Toovalian as Moderator discussed "Youth and the Church". The same P.T.A Executive Board was re-elected for another year.
- Nov. 20, 1957 - Constitution and By-Laws were accepted and presented to the Parish Council for ratification.

Holy Communion - Two special Communion Services were held for our Church School children and teachers on the Saturdays before the Feast of the Holy Nativity and Theophany and Easter. Following the Easter Communion Service, breakfast was served by the Women's Guild.

Picnic - On June 9th, 1957 the Annual Picnic was sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. E. Sarkisian, Mr. & Mrs. A. Sarkisian and Mr. & Mrs. G. Gargarian at Palmer Park. Approximately 500 children, parents and teachers attended. Arrangements and supervision were taken care of by the P.T.A. Executive Board.

Open House - During the month of August, 1957 Mrs & Mrs. Edward Mardigian opened their house for the Church School Staff where a buffet supper and a good time was enjoyed by all.

Annual Dinner - The Annual dinner for the Church School Staff by the Parish Council was held at Jeri's Restaurant where the Parish Council with their wives and the Armenian School Teachers and Sunday School Teachers were present, and pledges were renewed by the Sunday School Teachers for another year of service.

Church Building Fund - At the annual dinner for teachers a check for \$1,000.00 was presented to Mr. Edward Mardigian, Chairman of the Apostolic Society toward the Church Building Fund. With this donation the Church School contribution has reached \$4,000.00.

cont.

Church School Report Continued:-

Rally Day - September 8, 1957 marked the opening of the School Year. Program included the presentation of Promotion Certificates to children advancing from one department to another, recognition of students with perfect attendance during the past year, and Officers and Teachers Installation Services conducted by Archdeacon Levon N. Zenian, Church School Director. Graduating Diplomas were awarded to Aurora Melikian and Diane Couyoumjian, the first graduates of the Church School.

Toumajian Awards - Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Toumajian established a cash award of \$30 to be awarded by contest in compositions, which were won by the following:-

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|-------------------|--------------------|
| Michael Armodlian | Louise Sarkisian |
| Louise Yeghissian | Patricia Kalayjian |

Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets- The children donated food on both occasions which amounted to \$80.00 which was distributed to the needy Armenian families in our community by the Armenian Veterans Association.

Christmas Donation - The children this year voluntarily decided to give up their Christmas gift from the Church School and donate the amount to the Leader Dogs for the Blind. The Sunday before Christmas a check for \$100.00 was presented to the Representative of said Association who visited the School with his Seeing Eye Dog.

Christmas Program - The Christmas Program was under the co-chairmanship of Miss Gladys Barsamian and Miss Alberta Ohanasian. The Primary Department presented Tabloids and the Secondary Department presented the "Christmas Carol" by Dickens. Both programs were well attended.

Song Books - An attractive book containing Armenian prayers, sharagans and songs was prepared and made available to the children by Christmas.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Louise Kushigian
Secretary

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ARMENIAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Director of the School -- Mr. Arshavir Yeghissian
Teachers:

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|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mrs. Araxie Zenian | Mr. Arek Khachadurian |
| Mrs. Araxie Najarian | Mr. Mihran Kupelian |
| Mr. Haroutune Zardarian | Mr. Arsen Sanjian |

There are 6 classes with a total of 60 children attending. The ages of the children range from 5 to 13 years of age. The textbooks used are "Hrasdan I" and "Paros". Classes are held on Sunday mornings from 10:00-11:00 A.M. The children are taught to read, write, and speak the Armenian language.

The Armenian Language School participated in the Christmas program of the church school with Armenian recitations and songs.

Respectfully submitted,

Arshavir Yeghissian
Director