

1. OFFICERS

At a special meeting held after the Parish Assembly, the members of the Parish Council were elected to their respective offices as follows:

Chairman	Gregory Abrahamian
Vice-Chairman	Stephen DerMargosian
Secretary	Charles Mazadoorian
Treasurer	John Maljanian
Pledges	Hurach Azarigian
Advisor	Harry Azarigian
Advisor	Paul Abrahamian

The retiring members were Charles Vartanian, Harry Hougas, and Sargis Grigorian.

Because of ill health, Mr. Hurach Azarigian handed in his resignation. Mr. Paul Abrahamian was appointed to the position of Pledge Comptroller. Mr. Harry Hougas who had previously declined as an elected trustee agreed to replace Mr. Hurach Azarigian for the remaining term of one year.

2. MEETINGS

During the year 1959, the Parish Council held a total of 21 meetings as follows: 12 Regular Meetings 9 Special meetings

The special meetings were held for the following reasons:

- a) Three meetings with the Hartford Parish Council to set up a harmonious schedule for Father Michael to conduct Divine Liturgy in Hartford periodically and discuss mutual problems and their solutions.
- b) Other meetings were called to keep up with current business requiring council action. This included preparations and arrangements for the Anniversary Banquet, Budget Committee, and Planning Committee. Also meetings were held with the Church Choir and Sunday School teachers.

The Preliminary Parish Assembly was held on Oct. 5, 1959^{and} with proper due notice sent to all parishioners only thirteen parishioners attended, of which five were members of the parish council.

3. CHURCH ENTERPRISES

The following enterprises were undertaken by the Parish Council during the year 1959. It must be remembered that in almost every instance, valuable aid was received from the Ladies Aid in helping to make these affairs a success:

- a) 18th ANNIVERSARY Celebration: The eighteenth anniversary of the consecration of our church was celebrated on April 12 and was a very successful affair. The Rt. Rev. Sion Archbishop Manoogian was guest of honor. Guest artists were Mr. Hurach Berberian and Sarah Yagoobian, both of whom were accompanied by Mrs. Maro Donabedian. A total of \$943.04 was donated by parishoners and friends in the ceremony of the lighting of the candles on the anniversary cake.

- b) Annual Church Picnic: The annual church picnic was held in August. This affair was sponsored by the Parish Council with the assistance of the Ladies Aid. It was a very successful affair and a net profit of \$366.31 was realized.
- c) Celebration of Vartanantz: The celebration of Vartanantz was held in February in the church hall. Dr. Poladian of New York was guest speaker and entertainment was provided by the Sunday School pupils and church choir.
- d) Raffle: The Parish Council held a raffle on December 5 in conjunction with a Bingo party sponsored by the Ladies Aid. A total net profit of \$624.77 was realized from this affair.

4. CHURCH SERVICES:

Divine Liturgy was celebrated every Sunday except during the weeks that our Parish Priest served in the Hartford Parish. Despite the absence of Father Michael, the Parish Council is proud to say that the doors of the church were open every Sunday throughout the year and through the efforts of our dependable deacons, Ghevont DerMargosian, Lazar Manoogian Sarkis Azarigian, Stephen DerMargosian and Hagop Schamkotzian, also our able choir director, Miss Sarah Yagoobian and talented organist, Mrs. Maro Donabedian, morning services were celebrated. The Parish Council is deeply grateful to these people for their untiring efforts in donating their services to the Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection. During the year, the Parish Council of St. George's church in Hartford requested permission to have Father Michael celebrate Mass in Hartford once every month to help fulfill their spiritual needs as they are presently limited to Morning Services. This request was granted inasmuch as Father Michael was able to perform Mass on all Feast Holidays in our church, such as Lent, Easter and Christmas; also we felt it our Christian duty to help a sister church.

5. MAINTENANCE

The following work was done by the Parish Council with regard to maintenance and upkeep of our church:

- a) The front entrance stoop was demolished and re-constructed at a cost of \$485.00.
- b) The two front entrance doors were removed and replaced with new doors. The cost of this project was \$161.04 and the total cost was donated by Mr. & Mrs. Levon Azarigian and son, Harry for which the entire church is grateful. Credit is due Peter Egazarian who donated \$20 of his labor for the installation of the new front entrance doors.
- c) The floor of the church hall was cleaned and waxed by the Parish Council at a cost of \$8.38.
- d) The heating system was cleaned and repaired with the replacement of gages, valves, damper and flusing of the mains at a cost of \$62.02.

6. PUBLICATIONS:

The Parish Council has tried to keep the congregation informed of every important church event through the continuous mailing of circulars. Every week, a notice concerning church services was placed in the New Britain Herald so that both our congregation and all others will know of our church services.

In addition, Father Michael and his staff has continued to publish the monthly church paper "Looy's". The paper is supported by donations from the recipients. All those who have not donated are strongly urged to do so in the support of their church paper.

7. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

At the start of the year the church roll included 101 dues paying members in good standing. During the year, through the efforts of Father Michael and the membership committee, eighteen new members were added to the church. It is strongly urged that the members of the congregation pay their dues regularly year by year and make every effort not to fall behind. This regular income is essential in maintaining of church records and payment of bills as they become due. As of this writing, dues in arrears amount to \$525.40.

8. OTHER CHURCH SERVICES:

During the year the church performed the following:

2 Weddings 7 Baptisms 4 Funerals

Also the sick were visited by Father Michael and homes were blessed during Christmas and Easter.

9. FINANCES:

This item will be covered in great detail by the Auditors Report. At the last Annual Parish Assembly the proposed budget was the item which demanded the most discussion. It will be remembered that a pledge income of approximately \$5000 was needed to balance the budget. It was decided to accept this budget and appoint a budget committee to establish a means for raising the balance needed. The Budget Committee with Father Michael and the Parish Council decided that the best way to make up this amount would be to conduct a door-to-door canvass of the congregation and ask for a permanent increase in the yearly pledge. Through these efforts \$4185.60 of the budget was pledged. It must also be noted that even though a profit is shown on the auditor's report, a sum of approximately \$1425 was over and above income which was not anticipated in last year's budget. This amount was realized by the exceptional donations at the Anniversary Banquet, the Raffle and the Church Picnic. Five-hundred dollars was also withdrawn from the trust fund. It would therefore seem appropriate to mention that at this writing, there are members who are behind in their pledge as much as two years and others who haven't increased their pledge since it began in 1954. Each member knows his own means. We are not telling the membership what to give - they themselves know that, but take a minute and figure out what percent of your yearly income you give to God and your church.

This year the Parish Council presented the Sunday School with special pledge envelopes which were divided into two parts.. One part was for the regular Sunday School offering and one part was for the church. This way even the Sunday School pupils as God's children are making their donations to their church.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: FUTURE PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS:

The following projects are now under study and hope to be completed in the year 1960:

- a) Balancing the heating system which would maintain the same temperature upstairs and downstairs.

- b) Repair or replacement of the stairs leading from the church to the hall.
- c) Painting and caulking the exterior of the church
- d) Pointing the exterior brickwork of the church

In complying with the wishes of the last Parish Assembly, the Parish Council appointed a Planning Committee and held the first meeting the July. All the individual committee reports have been accepted and are now in the process of being compiled into one report for future Parish Council reference and use.

11. RESOLUTIONS:

- 1. Recommend that the number of Parish Council members be increased from seven to nine members. The fifth and sixth highest votes be accepted for a one-year term.
- 2. Recommend that Mr. Hurach Azarigian be appointed permanent Cemetery Custodian and Mr. Harry Hougas as assistant.
- 3. Recommend that a pending motion by a former Parish Assembly to sell the church be declared null and void. There was a minority recommendation not to declare this pending motion null and void.

12. CONCLUSION:

The Parish Council wish to express their deep appreciation for all the help that it has received from the Priest, Yeretgin, Deacons, Choir Sunday School Staff, Ladies Auxiliary and the Congregation itself. The Parish Council has tried to make this report as complete as possible but in a report of this type, it is possible to omit certain items, for which we are sorry and hope we are forgiven.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory Abrahamian
Chairman, Parish Council
Armenian Church of the Holy
Resurrection

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