

DIOCESAN DELEGATE REPORT

The 90th Annual Diocesan Assembly was held April 30th through May 2nd, 1992, at Boca Raton, Florida, hosted by St. David Armenian Church. The Assembly was presided over by His Grace, Bishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate. Martin Cholakian, (St. John Church, Southfield, MI), was elected Diocesan Assembly Chairman.

70 registered clergymen and delegates were represented, out of a total of 119. The Chairman declared a quorum was present.

Col. Victor Arzoomanian presented the ACEF report. The 1991 year was the best year since the inception of ACEF. The Bank of New York Management Fund was retained to manage a portion of its portfolio.

The Rector for St. Nersess Seminary, Deacon Hratch Tchilingirian presented a report on St. Neresess Seminary. Currently there are 22 parishes without priests. A program in process stresses the need for students. Recruitment through the parishes and parish priests will be a valuable tool in keeping our Diocese supplied with priests and qualified lay workers.

Zarvin Kasparian presented the Unity Committee report. The National Representative Assembly (NRA) reviewed the comments on the proposed draft By-Laws and is continuing negotiations with the Diocese for the preparation of the proposed By-laws. It was reported there has not been a Joint Unity Committee Meeting since the 89th Annual Assembly because the Prelacy has failed to request a meeting pending implementation and cooperation. The interpretation of the NRA Executive Council is that cooperation activities must come first, then further meetings on the draft By-laws will be considered. The Assembly reconfirmed its faith in the recommendation that unity is within the best efforts and effect to do what is best for this Assembly.

Council Member Dean Shahinian introduced a presentation entitled "Young Adult Involvement in the Parishes," with Rev. Fr. Mardiros Chevian, Diocesan Director of Youth Ministry. Various speakers expressed their views on young adults views, parents' views, and positive directions for the parishes.

The Diocesan Assembly has recognized the needs of our youth and young adults over the past several Assemblies, devoting greater time each Assembly for the purpose of strengthening our parishes. At this Assembly a proposal was presented to include a period of 60 - 90 minutes at the 1993 Diocesan Assembly, beginning on Friday afternoon for report and analysis on the involvement of the youth and young adults in the parish. This proposal was passed by the Assembly.

Jack Hacherian,
Diocesan Delegate