

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

ASSEMBLY AGENDA

22nd ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 1 and 2, 1968

INVOCATION, PRAYER, AND PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

INTRODUCTION AND OPENING ADDRESSES

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

ADOPTION OF RULES OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

ADOPTION OF RULES OF PROCEDURE

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

REPORT OF MINUTES' READING COMMITTEE

OLD BUSINESS

CENTRAL COUNCIL REPORT-REVIEW

FINANCIAL REPORT

NATIONAL EVALUATION CONFERENCE

NEW BUSINESS

PROPOSALS

AMENDMENTS, CONSTITUTIONAL

APPROVAL OF BUDGET

TAXATION COMMITTEE REPORT

ELECTION OF CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

RESOLUTIONS

SELECTION OF ASSEMBLY SITE

PRESENTATION OF HOST BANNER

ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION

MINUTES

of the

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

of the

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

August 30 - September 2, 1968

George Williams College, Williams Bay, Wisc.

PRESIDING: President -- Most Rev. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian,  
Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian  
Church of North America

CHAIRMAN: Leon Hojegan, Chairman  
ACYOA Central Council

ATTENDANCE -- CHAPTERS:

Boston

Jerry Berberian  
John Giragosian

Haverhill

Fr. Michael Buttero  
George Krikorian

Bridgeport

Vahe Derounian  
Maryann Khachadoorian

Montreal

Alex Kunterian  
Hayk Misakyan

Chicago

Fr. Sarkis Kashikjian  
Mathew Klujian

New York -- Holy Cross

Edward Afionian  
Setta Cachoian

Cleveland

Debbie Abdalian  
Jan Baltayan

New York -- Holy Martyrs

Bob Nazarian  
Marie Peters

Detroit

Deacon Nersess Jebejian  
Roberta Carman  
Greg Jamian  
Garry Javizian  
Pamela Neffian  
Carol Nersessian  
Nancy Nersessian

New York -- St. Gregory

Karl Babikian  
Richard Matheossian

Niagara Falls

Richard Avdoian  
Karen Kashmanian

East St. Louis

Deirdre Pinzeira  
Toni Vartanian

North Philadelphia

Rosemarie Haigazian  
Albert Keshkegian  
Flora Keshkegian

Evanston

Baikar Tatosian

Providence

Fr. Haik Donikian  
Joyce Avedisian  
Margie Martiesian

Hartford

Sue Mardirosian

Racine

Fr. Dajad Davidian  
Robert Akulian  
Sarkis Andekian  
Roseanne Kaprelian  
Edward Kargenian

Richmond

Fr. Arsen Barsamian  
Dianne Greene  
Linda Sharigian

Tenafly

Steve Kasparian

Toronto

Dikran Berberian

Troy

Albert Zouky

Washington

Alan Kazanjian

Watertown

Paul Korian  
Leon Jonikian  
Barbara Sarkesian  
Steve Tashjian

Waukegan

Fr. Vasken Tatoyan  
Nvart Paparigian

West Allis

Fr. Shnork Kasparian  
Chuck Hadjenian  
Steve Kaishian

West Philadelphia

Armen Ounjian

Worcester

Ronald Davagian  
Marcia Gazoorian

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS: 1967-1968

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, President 630 Second Avenue New York, New York 10016	(212) MU-6-0710
Deacon Hovhannes Kasparian, Exec. Sec. 630 Second Avenue New York, New York 10016	(212) MU-6-0710
Leon Hojegan, Chairman 89-50 56th Avenue, Apt. 7L Elmhurst, New York 11373	(212) 426-4402
Robert Goshgarian, Vice-Chairman 41 Burbank Street Boston, Massachusetts 02115	(617) CO-7-3406
Carol Der Boshosian, Corr. Secretary 25 Jerome Avenue Bloomfield, Connecticut 06002	(203) 242-8136
Louise Yeghissian, Rec. Secretary 600 Haven Street Evanston, Ill. 60201	(313) 358-4023
Ashod Rhaffi Aprahamian, Treasurer 21468 Stahelin Southfield, Michigan 48075	(313) 356-3528

Richard Norsigian, Public Relations 49 Signal Hill Boulevard East St. Louis, Illinois 62203	(618) 397-4765
Gary Zamanigian, Membership Chairman 18442 Nadol Drive Southfield, Michigan 48075	(313) 356-8623
Nancy Kaprelian 715 North 14th Street East St. Louis, Illinois 62205	(618) UP-4-1589
Carol Norigian, 85 Legion Way Cranston, Rhode Island 02910	(401) 941-8738
Dr. Arra Avakian, Diocesan Council Liaison 8455 Portland Place McLean, Virginia 22101	(703) 893-4042

Central Council Coordinators: 1967-1968

Anniversary Ball Coordinators	Nancy Kaprelian Richard Norsigian
Finance Director	Ashod Rhaffi Aprahamian
ACYOA Day Coordinator	Robert Goshgarian
Lenten Offering Program	Deacon Hovhannes Leon Hojegian
Publications	Deacon Hovhannes Leon Hojegian
Junior Groups Director	Robert Goshgarian
1968 Assembly Coordinators	Nancy Kaprelian Richard Norsigian Deacon Hovhannes Leon Hojegian
Pilgrimage Coordinators	Deacon Hovhannes Leon Hojegian

FIRST SESSION: Saturday, August 31, 1968 - 9:00 a.m.

The Assembly was called to order by Central Council Chairman, Leon Hojegan. The session opened with a short worship service, which was followed by a meditation delivered by Bishop Vasken Kebreslian.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call of the delegates was taken and there were 55 delegates and 6 clergymen present, a total of 61, constituting a quorum.

MESSAGE:

The message of greeting from His Holiness, Lord, Lord Vasken I, Supreme Patriarch of all Armenians, to the ACYOA Assembly was read by His Grace, Archbishop Torkom.

Chairman of the Assembly, Bob Akulian, welcomed the delegates to the 22nd Assembly on behalf of the Racine chapter. His Grace, Archbishop Torkom, expressed his pleasure that we had the opportunity to come together again and welcomed the delegates and clergy.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

The Haverhill chapter moved and the Watertown chapter seconded that the agenda be accepted with these changes: that the discussion of the Proposals Committee report precede the discussion of the Constitutional Amendments Committee report, that the Taxation Committee report follow immediately the approval of the Budget and that the election of Central Council members precede the report of the Resolutions Committee. The motion was PASSED.

ADOPTION OF RULES AND PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE AND RULES OF PROCEDURE:

It was moved by Richmond and seconded by the Worcester chapter that the Assembly adopt the Rules of Parliamentary Procedure as presented by the Central Council. The motion CARRIED. Miss Carol Norigian of the Central Council was appointed Parliamentarian.

Long Island moved and Niagara Falls seconded that the Rules of Procedure as submitted to the Assembly be accepted. The motion was CARRIED.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

The Central Council, at its August meeting in New York and its meeting immediately preceding the Assembly, prepared the following list of committees and submitted it to the Assembly:

Budget

Fr. Haik Donikian - Providence  
Robert Goshgarian - Central Council  
Rhaffi Arahamian - Central Council (Advisor)  
Sarkis Andekian - Racine  
Dianne Greene - Richmond  
Karen Kashmanian - Niagara Falls  
Carol Nersessian - Detroit

Taxation

Fr. Shnork Kasparian - West Allis  
Carol Der Boghosian - Central Council  
Paul Korian - Watertown  
Hayk Misakyan - Montreal  
Nancy Nersessian - Detroit

Nominating

Deacon Nersess Jebejian - Detroit  
Richard Norsigian - Central Council  
Garry Javizian - Detroit  
Barbara Sarkesian - Watertown

Resolutions

Bishop Vasken Kebreslian  
Deacon Hovhannes Kasparian  
Carol Norigian - Central Council  
Marcia Gazoorian - Worcester  
Pam Neffian - Detroit

Proposals

Fr. Michael Buttero - Haverhill  
Gary Zamanigian - Central Council  
Joyce Avedisian - Providence  
Karl Babikian - New York, St. Gregory  
Deidre Pinzeira - East St. Louis

Constitutional Revisions

Fr. Vasken Tatoyan - Waukegan  
Nancy Kaprelian - Central Council  
Roberta Carman - Detroit  
Leon Jonikian - Watertown  
Albert Keshkegian - North Philadelphia

Detroit moved and the motion was seconded by Montreal that the list be accepted. The motion was CARRIED.

1967 ASSEMBLY MINUTES:

Long Island chapter moved and the Worcester chapter seconded that the minutes of the 21st Annual Assembly be accepted as submitted. The motion was CARRIED.

Also presented was the corrected list of the delegates that attended the 20th Annual Assembly held in Providence in 1966.

CENTRAL COUNCIL REPORT 1967-68:

In order to save time, the Chairman did not read the Central Council report with the delegates. (A two-hour study period Friday night was set aside so that the delegates could prepare themselves for the Assembly by reading the minutes, reports, and other materials submitted by the Central Council.)

The following additions and corrections were made immediately to the Central Council report:

Notations be made that Gary Zamanigian served as Assistant Treasurer of the Central Council, that Gary Zamanigian served as Membership Chairman of the Central Council, that Richard Norsigian served as Public Relations Director of the Central Council.

Because several of the delegates disapproved of the choice of the Junior Essay Contest topic for 1969, the Chairman appointed Deacon Nersess Jebejian to work with Central Council members, Louise Yeghissian and Gary Zamanigian, to come up with a better essay topic.

#### MEMBERSHIP:

While discussing the membership of the ACYOA, the drop in membership over the last several years and particularly the drop in number of senior members was noted by the delegates. Racine moved and Watertown seconded that the Assembly immediately suspend the rules of procedure to discuss the membership report. The motion was CARRIED.

One of the major factors which contributed to the membership lag was the lack of communication between the chapters and the Central Council. His Grace, the Primate, pointed out that it is the chapters, not the Central Council, that fail in obtaining new members.

His Grace, the Vicar-General, asked why the young adults are not interested in the organization. The delegates were reminded that this decrease in senior members was Diocese-wide. The experiences of several chapters were related in the hope that their comments would throw light on the issue. The Haverhill delegates mentioned that we are not offering the members of the ACYOA anything unique. Our major aim should be to Christianize the entire organization.

Fr. Dajad noted that major Protestant denominations today are disbanding their youth groups so that we needn't feel bad about the decline in our membership. It is typical of the times. He continued that the crux of our problem lies in the fact that we are existing in a ghetto, in a vacuum; and, therefore, we are not attracting the cream of the Armenian young people. The best way to continue to lose members is to constantly discuss ways and methods of obtaining more members. Our problem is that we do not concern ourselves with the real burning issues that face us as Christians today. We need to invite speakers from the Resistance or from SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) who will disturb our thinking and move us into action. The role of a young people's organization is to disturb its elders and this is a role that the ACYOA has not fulfilled.

The delegates were reminded that a Leadership Clinic would be held immediately following Divine Liturgy on Sunday to discuss problems such as membership programs, conferences, and publicity. It was the hope of the Central Council that the Leadership Clinic would answer some of the questions in the minds of the delegates and offer ideas to them for making the ACYOA a viable organization. The Toronto delegates pointed out that the biggest obstacle the ACYOA faces in Canada is the AYP.

Deacon Hovhannes suggested that we present a proposal to the Diocesan Assembly that the age of voting members of our parishes be lowered from 21 to 18. At this point, Fr. Dajad moved that the chair appoint a committee of three lay delegates to draw up a manifesto to state the opinions and concerns that were voiced in the preceding discussion. Detroit seconded and the motion was CARRIED. The Chairman appointed Leon Jonikian, Watertown; George Krikorian, Haverhill; and Flora Keshkegian, North Philadelphia. The discussion of membership was terminated and we returned to the Central Council report.

ANNIVERSARY BALL:

Discussion continued with Anniversary Ball. Central Council coordinators, Nancy Kaprelian and Richard Norsigian, reminded the members that they had prepared and mailed evaluation forms which only a very few returned. The necessity of holding anniversary balls at all was questioned by several of the delegates but the majority felt that it should remain as one of the national projects. Long Island chapter moved the acceptance of the Central Council report with the corrections and additions that were made with the second by Racine. The motion was CARRIED, and the meeting recessed at 11:35 a.m.

SECOND SESSION: Saturday, August 31, 1968 - 4:20 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 4:20 p.m. with a five-minute meditation by Fr. Shnork. Leon stated that an abnormal number of chapters have not paid their taxes. Those who have not paid and are not prepared to deliver a check for taxes at this time should move themselves over to the side and may continue to caucus at the Assembly but have no vote. There was some argument as to what could be done by chapters that could not meet their financial obligation at this time. Deacon Hovhannes suggested that the chapters borrow the money from their individual parish councils and pay it back. The Chairman asked if they would be willing to give Central Council a promissory note for their obligations.

Detroit moved that all chapters delinquent in their tax points be permitted to sign a promissory note so that they might have a vote in the Assembly. Watertown seconded. The motion was CARRIED.

PROPOSAL COMMITTEE:

The report of the Proposals Committee was read by Gary Zamanigian.

Proposed: That the date of the Anniversary Ball be changed from before Lent to post Easter specifying the 50-day period between Lent and Pentecost. (As of now it is optional.) DEFEATED.

Proposed: Chapters hosting the respective Anniversary Balls make all the necessary arrangements, making reservations, publicity, etc. PASSED.

Proposed: That the host chapters of the Anniversary Ball will retain 1/3 of the proceeds while the Central Council receives the remaining 2/3. PASSED.



Proposed: That the Central Council be authorized to go ahead with the merger of the Armenian Church Monthly and the Armenian Guardian should it so desire with the final authority for making the decision resting solely with the Central Council. Deacon Hovhannes explained that the ACYOA is being notified by the Diocese that a merger is being considered.

The tenor of the delegates' comments was strongly against the merger. Because the proposal itself was ambiguous, it was decided to send the proposal back to committee and continue the discussion with a reworded proposal. Some of the points mentioned in the discussion included the larger subscription rate of the Armenian Church Monthly, the possibility that printing costs for the combined publication would be less and the fact that the Organization's identity would be lost if we tied our only communications' link with our membership to the Diocesan periodical. It was also suggested that once a merger took effect, it would be difficult to dissolve it. RETURNED TO COMMITTEE.

The meeting recessed at 5:44 p.m.

THIRD SESSION: Sunday, September 1, 1968 - 1:15 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:15 p.m. with a five-minute meditation by Fr. Vasken. The Proposals Committee continued with its report.

Proposed: That the Central Council be authorized to investigate a merger between the Armenian Church Monthly and the Armenian Guardian; the Council is permitted to experiment with the combined form and present it with their report to the 23rd Annual Assembly for approval. PASSED.

Proposed: That a pilgrimage to Armenia and the Holy Land be an annual project under the direction of Central Council and that the income from these pilgrimages be applied to the discretionary fund. PASSED.

Proposed: That at the discretion of Central Council and under its jurisdiction regional committees shall be formed in order to implement the work of the organization and to facilitate communication within regions. PASSED.

Proposed: That the future ACYOA General Assemblies be unrestricted as to location, be open to all Armenian youth, and be hosted by an ACYOA chapter, as in the past, prior to the 1967 Assembly. Because there was no consensus reached during the discussion, Fr. Dajad moved that a committee be formed consisting of those who made the proposal and those who feel a compromise needs to be worked out to report back to this Assembly. Watertown seconded. (TABLED PENDING REPORT OF COMMITTEE) MOTION CARRIED.

Proposed: That the proceeds from the 1969 Lenten Offering Program be donated to the St. Nersess Summer Religious Study Conference Scholarship Program. PASSED.

His Grace suggested that we undertake the publication of a bulletin such as Church Manners which would be placed in the Cathedral pews as a memorial to the ACYOA. The Chairman reminded the Assembly that \$3,200 from the 1960 Assembly proceeds was given to the Cathedral project committee with a verbal agreement that a specific item would be placed in the Cathedral upon its completion, in the name of the ACYOA.

Proposed: That  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the proceeds of ACYOA Day remain with the chapter and  $\frac{1}{2}$  be given to the College Scholarship Fund for 1969. PASSED.

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

Robert Goshgarian read the committee's report. Detroit moved and Worcester seconded that the allocation be raised from \$150 to \$200 for ecumenical conferences, general committee conferences, and National Council of Churches membership. MOTION FAILED.

Racine moved to reduce the item of \$1,000 in the proposed budget to \$700 for regional conferences. Detroit seconded. PASSED.

Racine moved to reduce the budgetary allocation of the Guardian from \$4,400 to \$4,000. Bridgeport seconded. MOTION PASSED.

Racine moved administrative expenses (grouped) be cut from \$1,300 to \$1,000. Washington seconded. MOTION PASSED.

Racine moved to add a contingency figure to this budget of \$150 to be used at the discretion of the Central Council to make the budget total \$10,650. Watertown seconded. MOTION PASSED.

Racine moved that we should increase the proposed Anniversary Ball profit to \$1,000. Tenafly seconded. MOTION FAILED.

Racine moved to increase the amount for membership from \$700 to \$1,200. Detroit seconded. MOTION PASSED.

Racine moved to delete from the budget the appropriation for retreats and religious conferences of \$200. Detroit seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

Deacon Nersess moved that the figure of \$150 for National Council of Churches - Department of Youth Ministry be raised to \$250 with the understanding that \$100 be allocated for a specific ecumenical conference to be held in January. Worcester seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

Detroit moved and Niagara Falls seconded the adoption of the budget as corrected. MOTION CARRIED.

ACYOA - BUDGET

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>67-68 ACTUAL</u>	<u>68-69 PROPOSED</u>
Central Council Expenses		
Central Council Meetings	\$1,933.00	\$2,000.00
Assembly	507.50	900.00
Visitations & Regional Conferences (Central Council members only)	700.00	700.00
Intra-Church Relations	38.00	100.00
Secretarial Services		
Executive Secretary travel allowance (to Diocese)	500.00	0
Part-time Secretary	1,300.00	250.00
Armenian Guardian	3,909.96	4,000.00
Administrative Expenses (grouped)	1,623.19	1,000.00
Organizational Expenses		
Mission '67	1,131.43	800.00
(Ecumenical Conference )		
(General Committee Conference)	137.00	250.00
(NCC Membership )		
Retreats & Religious Conferences (\$25 per person)	0	0
Publications to members	161.25	0
Contingency	0	150.00
National Evaluation Conference	0	500.00
	<u>\$11,941.33</u>	<u>\$10,650.00</u>
 <u>Credits</u>	 <u>67-68 ACTUAL</u>	 <u>68-69 PROPOSED</u>
Assembly	\$1,219.06	\$1,000.00
Anniversary Ball	- 704.74	500.00
Armenian Guardian	1,127.00	1,000.00
Membership Dues, Initiations & Penalties	1,252.00	1,200.00
Yearbook	0	500.00
Taxes	3,303.00	4,300.00
Pilgrimages & Raffle	2,488.83	2,150.00
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$8,685.15</u>	<u>\$10,650.00</u>
Anticipated Tax Point Value		\$43.00

TAXATION:

The report of the Taxation Committee was read by Carol Der Boghosian.

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Tax Points</u>
Boston-----	2½
Bridgeport-----	2
Chicago-----	4
Cleveland-----	1½
Detroit-----	12
East St. Louis-----	4
Evanston-----	2
Fairlawn -----	2
Hartford -----	2
Haverhill -----	1½
Lawrence -----	2
Long Island -----	3½
Lowell -----	1
Montreal -----	4
New Britain -----	1
Newark -----	1½
New York - Holy Cross -----	2½
New York - St. Gregory -----	2
Niagara Falls -----	1½
North Philadelphia, Srs. -----	8
North Philadelphia, Jrs. -----	2
Providence -----	6
Racine -----	5
Richmond -----	2½
St. Catherine -----	1
Springfield -----	1½
Tenafly -----	2
Toronto -----	1
Troy -----	1
Washington -----	1
Watertown Srs.-----	3
Watertown Jrs. -----	5
Waukegan -----	1½
West Allis -----	1
West Philadelphia -----	2½
Worcester -----	3½
TOTAL	100

Providence moved the acceptance of the tax points. East St. Louis seconded. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSTITUTIONAL REVISIONS COMMITTEE:

The report of the committee was brought by Nancy Kaprelian of the changes made on the work of the Central Council during the past two years. Because the ultimate passage of the Constitution requires ratification by the chapters, Providence moved and Detroit seconded that every chapter participate in Constitutional regional conference to be held in November and that the discussion of the committee report not be held now. This would provide for real evaluation and debate among all the members and inform each member about the proposed changes. MOTION CARRIED.

It was suggested that the National Evaluation Conference also undertake review and discussion of the proposed Constitution. The Chairman reminded the Assembly that the proposed changes within the Diocese will also affect the ACYOA directly and that the members should keep this in mind in their discussions. Waukegan moved and Montreal seconded that discussion of the new Constitution begin immediately. MOTION FAILED.

Watertown moved and the Niagara Falls chapter seconded that a national Constitutional Convention be held in March 1969 with all chapters participating. Haverhill moved and seconded an amendment to the motion that the date for the Constitutional Convention be left to the discretion of the Central Council. Amendment FAILED, MOTION CARRIED.

The Detroit chapter moved and East St. Louis seconded that the March Constitutional Assembly be held in Detroit. At the request of the Detroit chapter, a roll call vote was requested and seconded by Hayk Misakyan, Montreal; Deidre Pinzeira, East St. Louis; Steve Kasparian, Tenafly; Chuck Hadjinian, West Allis; Alan Kazanjian, Washington. MOTION CARRIED (After the roll call). The meeting recessed at 6:10 p.m.

**FOURTH SESSION: Monday, September 2, 1968 - 9:15 a.m.**

The session opened at 9:15 a.m. with a prayer by His Grace, the President.

**ELECTION OF CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Richard Norsigian, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the following nominees for election to three 3-year terms and one 1-year term:

Roberta Carman - Detroit  
Dianne Greene - Richmond  
Hayk Misakyan - Montreal  
John Kartalian - Niagara Falls  
Sema Tarpinian - Niagara Falls  
Carol Norigian - Providence  
Baikar Tatosian - Evanston  
Maryann Khachadoorian - Bridgeport

Watertown moved to close the nominations. Worcester seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

Carol Norigian, Dianne Greene, and Hayk Misakyan were elected to three-year terms and Roberta Carman was elected to fill the remaining year of Judy Hachigian's term. (Judy resigned in November and Carol Norigian of Providence was co-opted.)

**RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE:**

The Resolutions Committee report was brought by Carol Norigian.

Whereas it is the duty of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America to speak out on matters of social significance in the light of Christian ideals, be it RESOLVED that the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America recognize the tragic and untimely death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a martyr in the continuing struggle

for the equality of all men and be it further resolved that all members actively contribute in their community toward the realization of his goals exemplified by the life and work of this Christian witness of the 20th century. PASSED.

Whereas the high school graduates among the members of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America are mature enough to meet the challenge of our church and to take an active role in the parish community be it RESOLVED that the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America respectfully urge the Diocesan Assembly through the Diocesan Council that the voting age in the parishes of our Diocese be lowered to the age of 18 with the possible provision that all members between the ages of 18 and 21 be expected to pay only  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the parish annual dues in order to integrate and involve our youth more fully in the life of our church. PASSED.

Whereas there is a dire need for clergymen in this Diocese and whereas a good many of the clergymen who have come to this country from overseas are celibate, some of whom have been quitting the ranks in order to save further scandal; who otherwise would continue the ministry in the church, be it RESOLVED that the role of celibacy be optional for the celibate clergymen who are serving in our Diocese. TABLED - further discussion necessary.

Whereas His Holiness Catholicos Vasken I, our spiritual father, manifested his interest in the youth of our church during his recent visit to America, be it RESOLVED that the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America acknowledge with gratitude and joy that his visit has fostered our spiritual enthusiasm, increased our historical perspective and deepened our appreciation for and loyalty to the Mother See of Etchmiadzin. PASSED.

Whereas our Primate, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, has extended to our organization his continued guidance and wisdom, be it RESOLVED that we express our gratitude and respect and pledge our continued support for and cooperation to him. PASSED.

Whereas we acknowledge the fact that through association with other Christian organizations our ecumenical involvement is deepened, be it RESOLVED that the ACYOA continue to support and maintain effective and productive relations with all worthwhile projects on international, national, and local levels, undertaken by various church groups. PASSED.

MANIFESTO COMMITTEE:

Flora Keshkegian of North Philadelphia read the following Manifesto:

(See Page 14)

## WILLIAMS BAY MANIFESTO

The world is in an age of revolution, a time of changing and becoming. The Church, if it is to be relevant to the world, must speak of God's will in terms of today. Christianity is not a religion for the timid, for it takes courage and strength of conviction to resist that which is comfortable, convenient, and traditional in favor of God's will, which may at times be difficult. Christ continually calls His followers to renewal, reform, and revolution.

As the youth of the Armenian Church, we are disturbed by our church's refusal to be a part of the twentieth century, to face the urgent and real problems of today, and to seek Christian solutions to them. Poverty, hunger, disease, wars, racial tensions, social discontent and turmoil sear the world around us, and yet our church concerns itself mainly with erected costly buildings and monuments and amassing material goods, rationalizing that this is necessary for self-preservation. We want our church to see beyond its own interests, to share others' sufferings and problems.

At present, in the minds of many Armenians, the Armenian Church's primary function is to act as the defender of nationalism, to protect Armenians from assimilation. This is indicated by their fear of reform, for they worry that with change would come a certain loss of identity. On the contrary, we feel that specific reforms would bring increased dedication and enthusiasm, a renewal and rebirth for our church.

Apathy and spiritual indifference pervade our church life. Few church members have that sincere relationship with God which is the basis of Christian living. We, as the youth, are not simply condemning the adults of our church; we can see the same problems among ourselves. The ACYOA is suffering from an internal malaise: membership has fallen off, only socials and dances are well attended, spiritual growth has come to a complete standstill.

The time has come when we, the youth of the Armenian Church, can no longer in conscience allow ourselves to be used as instruments for the preservation of a church which is living in the archaic past. We feel we must make known our discontent with the present antiquated and meaningless structures and institutions and our desire to ameliorate the stagnated condition of the church which is ours. We are told so often that the church belongs to us; therefore, we have not only the right but the duty to see that our church relates to the present day and, thus, becomes meaningful to its members. We are committed to action...the watchword is revolution. Our revolutionary commitment and action addresses itself to a radical concern of making Christ live and grow in our church and members. We are now resolved to speak out and act in accordance with the dictates of our conscience in all areas of life within and without our church, wherever Christ is being crucified anew.

presented at 22nd ACYOA General Assembly  
September 2, 1968  
Williams Bay, Wisconsin

Fr. Dajad spoke in favor of the manifesto reminding the delegates that the attitudes which the manifesto attacked were also present in 1946. It was his feeling that the manifesto expressed the concerns of the generation. If the young people do not get the opportunity to voice their discontent within the organization, then they will eventually leave and seek other platforms to express their opinions. He then moved that the Assembly adopt the Williams Bay Manifesto and that it be sent to all Diocesan publications in English, all Armenian publications in English, and to other youth publications, particularly those of other Eastern churches. Washington seconded the motion.

Detroit moved and Watertown seconded the following amendment: That the manifesto be distributed after it has been presented to and adopted by the National Evaluation Conference. The amendment CARRIED. Racine then withdrew its motion but there were objections to the withdrawal. Haverhill moved and Worcester seconded to allow Fr. Dajad to withdraw his motion. MOTION FAILED. The Racine motion then CARRIED with the amendment.

ASSEMBLY BID:

Racine then moved that the Rules of Procedure be suspended in order that the Assembly hear the report of the Assembly Committee. Watertown seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

The Assembly Committee reported that the 1969 Assembly be held in a resort rather than returning to the commercial city hotel (particularly in light of the revamping of the ACYOA which will undoubtedly take place at the Constitutional Assembly in March). The Chair then accepted bids for the 1969 Assembly. The Richmond chapter bid for the 1969 Assembly to be held at the Chamberlain Hotel, Fort Monroe, Hampton, Virginia. Watertown moved acceptance of the Richmond bid and the motion was seconded by Detroit. MOTION CARRIED.

It was moved by Racine and seconded by Worcester to adjourn the Assembly. MOTION CARRIED.

Following the prayer by His Grace, Archbishop Torkom, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.



ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION  
OF AMERICA

FINANCIAL REPORT  
1967-68

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Central Council Expenses		
Central Council Meetings	\$2,100.00	\$1,933.00
Assembly	650.00	527.00
Chap Visit & Reg. Conf.	350.00	700.00
Intra-Church	100.00	38.00
 Secretarial Services		
Exec. Sec. travel	500.00	500.00
Part Time Sec.	750.00	1,300.00
 Armenian Guardian	3,850.00	3,909.96
 Administrative Exp.	1,000.00	1,623.19
 Organizational Expenses		
Mission '67	1,115.43	1,131.43
National Council	250.00	137.00
Retreats	175.00	-----
Publications to members	159.57	161.25
	<u>\$11,000.00</u>	<u>\$11,941.33</u>
 Assembly	1,500.00	1,219.06
 Anniversary Ball	1,000.00	-709.80*
 Armenian Guardian	1,000.00	1,119.00
 Membership Dues & Fees	1,500.00	
Initiation & Penalty Fees	500.00	1,252.00
 Taxes	5,500.00	3,303.00
 Pilgrimages & Raffle	-----	2,488.83
	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 8,690.00</u>

\*Includes \$310.00 for out of court settlement  
of New England Anniversary Ball suit

Reserve Fund Income Statement  
For the year ended June 30, 1968

Income:

Interest - Savings Bank Interest	\$ 396.33
Stocks & Bond Int. & Dividends	349.82
Income from sale of publications and slides	<u>346.75</u>
Total	\$ 1,092.90

Expenses:

College Scholarships	500.00
Printing & binding new edit. of <u>Sacraments and Prayers</u>	500.00
College pilot program	97.46
Youth rally	367.17
Regional Senior groups	<u>100.00</u>
Total	\$ 1,564.63
Net Expenses over Income	\$ 371.73
Savings Bank Interest	\$ 260.75

Notes

\$5,000.00 has been withdrawn from reserve fund to meet organizational expenses  
\$4,856.87 remains in reserve fund plus 9,400.00 in stocks and bond holdings