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1980 A.C.Y.O.A. General Assembly

MINUTES OF THE 1980 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

August 27 - 29, 1980
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Cambridge, Massachusetts

His Eminence
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

I. FIRST SESSION - Wednesday, August 27th, 1980

A. Invocation

The first session of the 34th ACYOA General Assembly was called to order at 8:50 p.m. by the ACYOA Central Council Chairman, Paul Pogharian. Paul introduced the 1979 General Assembly Vice Chairman, Harry Tavitian. (1979 Chairman was not present.)

His Eminence, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate, opened the Assembly with the Invocation.

B. Roll Call

Harry Tavitian introduced the 1979 General Assembly Recording Secretary, Deborah Stepanian, to call the Roll of the Delegates. 32 delegates answered the Roll. (30 delegates were needed to constitute a quorum.) A quorum was present. (Appendix 1)

All delegates were reminded that their presence was necessary to participate in voting. Leaving the Assembly floor during discussion, constitutes forfeiture of voting privileges on that particular item. Proxy votes are not allowed.

C. Election of Assembly Officers

The Chair invited the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Deborah Stepanian, to conduct the election of the 1980 General Assembly Officers. Deborah reported that the Central Council asked the Nominating Committee to present selected names of persons qualified and eligible to conduct the Assembly proceedings. The Nominating Committee contacted Seth Bilazarian and David Onanian - both accepted nomination. In addition, David Onanian has been briefed by the Central Council. At this time, David is present, Seth is not. The floor is open to additional nominations.

Carol Ekizian (Westchester) nominated Harry Tavitian (Westchester) - it was seconded.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations.

A motion was made and seconded to call the question.

The motion to call the question was defeated.

The motion to close nominations was defeated by voice vote.

The floor was again opened for nominations.

Steve Turekian (St. Gregory, NY) nominated Robert Dogramajian (Bayside) - it was seconded.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations.

A motion was made and seconded to call the question - it passed on voice vote. The motion to close nominations passed on voice vote.

The nominees for General Assembly Chairman are: "

Seth Bilazarian (Worcester)
David Onanian (Gr. Lowell)
Harry Tavitian (Westchester)
Robert Dogramajian (Bayside)

Roll Call vote was taken. Deborah reported that David Onanian was elected Chairman.

Deborah continued that the Nominating Committee also reports that it searched for possible candidates to serve as Secretary (recording) for the Assembly sessions. No affirmative responses were received. The floor is open for nominations.

Nine nominations were made and declined.

Sarkis Soukiasian (Watertown) nominated Ken Hagopian (Watertown) - Seconded by Fr. Dajad Davidian (Watertown) - Ken accepted the nomination.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations. It was defeated.

Five more nominations were made and declined.

Fr. Dajad Davidian nominated Melanie Mamishian (Watertown) - Seconded by Laurie Bejoian (Watertown) - Melanie accepted the nomination.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations. It was passed by voice vote.

The nominees for General Assembly Recording Secretary are:

Ken Hagopian (Watertown)
Melanie Mamishian (Watertown)

Roll Call vote was taken. Deborah reported that Melanie Mamishian was elected Recording Secretary of the 1980 General Assembly.

It was also reported that Harry Tavitian (Westchester) was elected as Vice Chairman of the Assembly, receiving the second highest votes. Ken Hagopian will serve as Assistant Secretary of the Assembly.

The Chair was turned over to David Onanian.

David thanked the entire Assembly and extended the Assembly's warmest welcome to the Primate, asking His Eminence to continue to guide the ACYOA as its president.

The Chair informed the Assembly that Rules of Procedure, as stated in Appendix 5 of the 1979 General Assembly Minutes, will be followed by this Assembly.

The Chair appointed Seth Bilazarian as Parliamentarian, and, Garo Hovagimian (Toronto) as Sargent-at-Arms.

1980 General Assembly Officers:

David Onanian (Gr. Lowell)	Chairman
Harry Tavitian (Westchester)	Vice Chairman
Melanie Mamishian (Watertown)	Secretary
Kenneth Hagopian (Watertown)	Assistant Secretary
Seth Bilazarian (Worcester)	Parliamentarian
Garo Hovagimian (Toronto)	Sargent-at-Arms

D. Adoption of Agenda

Stephen Turekian (St. Gregory, NY) moved to accept the agenda as proposed by Central Council. Richard Gergerian (Evanston) seconded the motion. Discussion. Fr. Dajad Davidian (Watertown) moved to amend the proposed agenda to include under Section I. "Appointment of Assembly Committees"; a new item #1 "Proposals"; and renumber the agenda, under Section M. accordingly. Seconded by Fr. Nersess Jebajian (Springfield). Discussion. Motion passed on voice vote.

The Chair announced a change in the proposed agenda: Section H. "Address of the Diocesan Primate" has been moved to follow the Central Council Report.

Fr. Patee Metjian (Fair Lawn) moved to accept the agenda as proposed and amended. Mark Kazanjian (Lawrence) seconded the motion. Motion passed on voice vote. (Appendix 2)

E. Adoption of Rules of Procedure

Fr. Dajad Davidian (Watertown) moved to accept the Rules of Procedure as proposed, provided final adoption of the Rules is postponed until the first item of business on Thursday morning. Motion seconded by Fr. Nersess Jebajian (Springfield). Discussion.

Fr. Nersess asked for clarification of Rule 24, due to the Chair's determination that delegates absent from the Assembly during parts of the nomination process for Assembly officers would not be allowed to vote for the Assembly officers. It was determined that the requirement for the delegates to be present during discussion referred only to amendments, proposals and resolutions.

Fr. Patee Metjian (Fair Lawn) called the question - it was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

F. Minutes of 1979 General Assembly

The Chair called for the reading and approval of the Minutes of the 1979 ACYOA General Assembly. All delegates received a copy of the Minutes.

Marianne Hovsepian (Detroit) informed the Chair that she had corrections to be incorporated in the 1979 Minutes. Total of 7 corrections. (Appendix 3)

Fr. Nersess Jebajian (Springfield) stated that an apparent conflict exists between a section of the Address of the National Youth Director, referring to 4 and 5 year olds being recruited into the Church and ACYOA, and, the 1980 Central Council Report which refers to 9 and 10 year olds being recruited into the Church and ACYOA.

It was determined that the 1979 Minutes were correct and the reference to 4 and 5 year olds should be noted in the 1980 Central Council Report.

Fr. Nersess went on to note that on page 26 of the 1979 Minutes, under the heading ASP, the first line should include the years 1972, 1973, and 1976.

Paul Pogharian (Watertown) stated that Appendix 11 of the 1979 Minutes, Article 8 Section 8, should read, "the President shall preside over the Annual Chapter Membership and monthly meetings."

Brian Bogosian (Lawrence) moved to accept the 1979 General Assembly Minutes as corrected. Nancy Malkasian (Detroit) seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

G. Welcoming Address of the Host Parish

The Chair invited Father Dajad Davidian, Pastor, St. James Armenian Church of Watertown, Massachusetts, to deliver the welcoming address. Fr. Dajad encouraged each delegate to be a participatory member of the Assembly, and welcomed everyone to Watertown and the Greater Boston area for the ACYOA General Assembly and National Sports Weekend.

H. Appointment of Assembly Committees

The Chair listed the various Assembly Committees and the appointments there to. It was noted that the Proposals Committee could bring to the floor matters not submitted to the Central Council 60 days prior to the Assembly. Reference was made to the Rules of Procedure, number 10, and the ACYOA Constitution, Art.10 sec. E. However, a three/fourths vote of the entire Assembly is necessary.

It was noted that no proposals were submitted for consideration this year, and question was raised about the need to have a Proposals Committee. It was determined that a Proposals Committee should be appointed even if its only task is to report that no proposals have been submitted.

The Chair again announced the Assembly Committees, their appointments, and where they were to meet. (Appendix 4)

The Chair also reminded all delegates of the schedule of Assembly sessions and asked that everyone be prompt. (Appendix 5)

The Chair invited a motion to recess the Assembly until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, August 28th. Fr. Nersess Jebejian so moved - Seconded by Gary Hovhanessian (New Britain). Motion passed by voice vote.

The Primate led the Assembly in a closing prayer.

The First Session of the 1980 General Assembly closed at 10:45 p.m.

II. SECOND SESSION - Thursday, August 28th, 1980

Chairman of the General Assembly, David Onanian, called the delegates to order at 10 a.m. The Primate, His Eminence, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, led the assembled in an opening prayer and scripture reading.

The Chair invited a motion for final adoption of the Rules of Procedure, noting that they were temporarily approved during the first session, pending final adoption of the Rules as the first order of business today.

Seth Bilazarian (Worcester) moved for final adoption of the Rules of Procedure. Seconded by Richard Gergerian (Evanston). Discussion.

Father Dajad Davidian (Watertown) suggested the following corrections to the Rules:
Rule #1: "...regarded as only means..." be changed to read, "...regarded only as means..."

Rule #18 sub-section C: "...But must be referred to the Proposals Committee." be changed to read, "...But should be referred to the Proposals Committee if feasible and at the discretion of the Chair."

Rule #4: "The Order of Business" - under H. Appointment of Assembly Committees: addition of a #7 Other, and, under L. New Business: addition of a #7 Other.

Seth Bilazarian moved to call the question - it was seconded - passed on voice vote. Motion to adopt the Rules of Procedure as corrected passed on voice vote.

I. Central Council Report

The Chair invited Paul Pogharian, Chairman of the ACYOA Central Council, to deliver the Report of the Central Council for the 1979-1980 year. (Appendix 6)

Paul asked for any questions or need for clarification.

Fr. Nersess Jebejian (Springfield) questioned if a retreat was held in the New England region this year, as noted in the Council Report. After some discussion, it was determined that the reference to a New England Regional Retreat on March 22nd, 1980, be stricken from the Report.

Anniversary Balls:

Fr. Nersess asked if Anniversary Balls were treated as national or regional events. Paul stated that they were encouraged by the Central Council nationally, however, but each region is suppose to sponsor an Anniverary Ball. The proceeds, therefore were handled on a regional basis (i.e. 25% of the income is transferred to the National Organization). Michael Yapchaian (Central Council Treasurer. Watertown) stated that the results from the Anniversary Balls were minimal in terms of financial support to the National Organization. He suggested that the Council oversee them as a national function.

Media Sources:

It was suggested that parish newspapers and builetins be added to this list of sources.

Armenian Studies Programs:

Paul stated that it was the intention of the Council to re-instate the Armenian Studies Program this coming year.

Keghard:

Fr. Dajad Davidian (Watertown) complimented the Keghard staff, and stated that an effort should be made to sell subscriptions and produce material for the publication.

Armenian Martyr's Day Commemoration:

Paul stated that, according to Annual Chapter Reports, three chapters had some type of commemoration program this year. Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) commented on the spiritual nature of the program, that it has been well received, and that more copies should be made available. Paul thanked Vahan Janjigian and Sona Yazijian for compiling the material for the Martyr's Day Program.

Youth Camp:

Paul Pogharian invited the Rev. Father Patee Metjian of St. Leon's Armenian Church (Fair Lawn) to give some of his remarks concerning the 1980 Youth Camp - named the ACYOA St. Vartan Camp. Fr. Patee was appointed as Camp Director this year.

Fr. Patee stated that the camp was quite successful, despite the fact that only \$472.30 was noted as a profit. Counselors gave their time free of charge, including traveling expenses. The program was well received by the 68 participants. The facilities lent themselves to a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere. All participants went home with good memories, excited, and looking forward to next year. Some scholarships were made available to those who couldn't otherwise attend. Fr. Patee submitted his report, along with recommendations for next year. They included:

1. A line item in the budget to cover administrative expenses.
2. The declaration of the third Sunday in May as "ACYOA St. Vartan Camp Day" with the proceeds of the collection plate, or whatever other function held on this day, go toward scholarships for local children.
3. That the ACYOA and/or the Diocese continue to investigate the possibility of owning their own camp site in the future.
4. That the ACYOA, through the Keghard, sponsor an essay contest, with scholarships to the Camp given as prizes.

Cheryl Arslanian (Cleveland) suggested that advertisement of the ACYOA Camp as a "Soccer" Camp may have discouraged some from attending. Fr. Patee stated that the ACYOA Camp was not advertised as a soccer camp, but used the facilities of one.

Fr. Patee stated that he looks forward to next year, which he believes will be even more successful. He was asked for some statistics on this year's Camp:

Of the 68 participants, 30 were from New York/New Jersey area, 10 were from New England, the rest from other parts of the country.

Ages ranged from 8 to 17, most of which were between 8 and 13.

The ratio of counselors to campers, as required by State Law, was 10-1

The Camp had six counselors and two seminarians.

The program included religious, cultural and athletic aspects.

The facilities, the Canterbury School in New Milford, Connecticut, were more than adequate - grounds, buildings and personnel.

Fr. Patee thanked the Primate for his support, as well as the Central Council Chairman for his help.

Paul Pogharian reported that the Central Council investigated the possibility of sponsoring a camp program in the Midwest region. Mr. Sam Avakian was contacted, but because of man-power shortages and financial problems no progress was made.

It was noted that the Toronto Chapter did have a plate collection on the day designated by the Primate as "Camp Day" last May. Michael Yapchaian, Central Council Treasurer, stated that the donation was deposited in the general treasury (\$109.15) and anticipated that it would appear in the financial report of the Camp next year.

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Basketball Tournament:

Paul thanked St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church for sponsoring this year's Tournament. 12 teams participated with St. John's of Detroit (men) and St. James of Watertown (women) winning the championship. Michael Yapchaian noted that a financial report has been received for the Tournament. Ron Godoshian (Detroit) suggested that the Tournament and National Sports Weekend be held in different parts

of the Diocese (country) this year and every year. (To be taken up at a later time.)

Chairman's Roundtable:

Paul briefly described the development of this program. He noted with regret the problems encountered this year, due to the distance between the location of the Roundtable and the Diocesan Assembly. (They were not held at the same place.) Paul went on to note that as a result of the Roundtable's support during the Diocesan Assembly's Budget presentation, the ACYOA may have gained additional funds. He said that the Diocesan Assembly extended unusual courtesies to the ACYOA, and permitted him as Central Council Chairman, to address the Diocesan Delegates. Fr. Dajad Davidian (Watertown) suggested that an attempt be made to avoid the problems of this year's Roundtable. The facilities should be in the proximity of the Diocesan Assembly.

The Sam Nersesian Scholarship:

Paul stated that the winners of this year's scholarships will be announced at the Awards Banquet this year.

Finances:

Paul Pogharian asked the Assembly to postpone their questions until the Central Council Financial Report. (p.22)

New Chapters:

No additional information was given.

Fr. Dajad asked if those programs not undertaken this year would remain priorities of the ACYOA. Paul answered that they would remain priorities unless modified by this year's National Events Committee or General Assembly.

Fr. Nersess Jebejian commented that the Council Report was lacking detail. He stated that the Central Council was the highest body of the ACYOA and that its activities for the year should have been covered fully. He thought that the General Assembly might act more intelligibly if armed with additional information. Brian Bogosian (Lawrence) also agreed that more detail was needed.

Paul explained some of the problems faced by the Central Council in their attempt to implement the programs of the ACYOA.

Melanie Barsamian (Worcester) asked for some financial information on the Anniversary Balls. Paul asked the Central Council Representatives from the various regions to comment on the Balls held in their regions. Michael Yapchaian was not present to comment on New England. Suzanne Minassian (Cheltenham) reported that the Mid-Atlantic Anniversary Ball was a failure and financial loss, citing poor publicity and little local support as reasons. Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) reported that the Midwest Ball was somewhat successful. High expenses contributed to the small amount of profit. He said that a report has been prepared, but not yet submitted. Commenting on the New England Ball, Mary Ann Kalian (Providence) said that it was a financial success, but if the local (Providence) parish didn't support it, it would have experienced financial loss as well. She went on to say that the other chapters showed poor support for the regional event. Mary Ann said that a possible reason for the poor support may be the absence of the Executive Secretary.

Deacon Krikor Zamroutian asked for more information on the lack of regional retreats. Paul said that the retreats are left up to the regional committees to run. The Mid-Atlantic organization collapsed and suffered from poor communication with the Central Council mainly because there was not elected Council member from that region.

In the Midwest Region, a retreat was organized but had to cancel due to few registrants. It lost money as well. In New England, conflicts arose between the ACYOA Retreat, and a retreat organized by Chuck Slagen of Watertown. The ACYOA decided to support the other retreat.

Fr. Dajad Davidian asked for more information concerning programs that were not successful, or experienced problems - Mission program, Observance of the International Year of the Child, ACYOC participation in ACYOA events. Paul responded that the ACYOC was invited to this year's National Sports Weekend, but no response was received. The ACYOA intended to participate in the Diocesan Observance of the International Year of the Child, but to Paul's knowledge, no events or programs took place wherein the ACYOA could participate. Paul informed the Assembly that an attempt was made to organize the Mission Program, but poor committee and participant response prevented it from taking place. Some Central Council Members questioned if the Mission Program was within the scope of ACYOA, while some delegates thought the seminarians might be qualified to handle such a program.

Fr. Dajad stated that the Central Council had no choice but to organize such a program since it was charged to do so by the General Assembly. Paul assured Fr. Dajad that programs not completed this year would remain priorities of the Council unless modified by the National Events Committee and approved by this General Assembly.

Chapter Reports:

Paul stated that 24 chapters have met their financial obligations to the National Organization and that the chapter reports section of the Central Council Report should be corrected accordingly. Delegates expressed their concern over the low number of chapters submitting annual reports.

Executive Secretary:

Paul Pogharian introduced Mr. James Magarian, recently appointed Executive Secretary to the ACYOA by the Diocese, to address the Assembly.

Mr. Magarian expressed his gratitude to the Primate for being appointed to serve the Church through the ACYOA. He outlined the importance of the ACYOA as the "farm system" of the Church, wherein the youth prepare for participatory roles in the parish as they mature. He went on to say that everyone must be dedicated and committed to the ACYOA for it to achieve its goals. Deliberate and planned actions are necessary for programs to be executed successfully. He noted the need to improve and expand certain programs that are important to the Organization - Armenian Studies Program, membership campaigns, standardized procedures... He concluded that he is looking forward to visiting the many parishes of the Diocese and to meeting the delegates and members. "Together we can realize the present and plan a future."

(This concluded Part I. of the Report of the Central Council. Part II. begins on p.22)

David Onanian, Assembly Chairman, extended the support of the entire Assembly to Mr. Magarian, and thanked him for his inspiring address. The Chair also acknowledged the presence of the Rev. Father Mesrob Benlian from Sophia, Bulgaria, who was visiting the Diocese.

The Chair noted that Part two of the Central Council Report - Financial - was being printed, and therefore would entertain a motion to change the Rules of Procedure allowing Part two of the Central Council Report to be moved to a more opportune time.

Fr. Nersess Jebejian (Springfield) so moved - it was seconded. The Chair asked for a show of hands to vote - a two-thirds majority was achieved, as necessary.

J. Address of the Diocesan Primate

The Chair invited His Eminence, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, and President of the National Body of the ACYOA, to address the assembled delegates.

After an eloquent introduction, the Primate addressed the Assembly:

The Primate underlined the very purpose of the ACYOA - to cultivate the minds and souls of the youth in the life-giving teachings of Christ. He spoke of social binds and pressures which take away one's rights and freedoms, especially when it comes to the Church. The Armenian Church has in the past, and continues today, to play a major role in the lives of the Armenian people. It is within the Church that one can break the social barriers of other situations and come together in love and faith. He went on to state that the fellowship of the ACYOA is in itself the expression of Christian Armenian religious feeling. The Primate noted that there are problems in America, with some people involved in a false sense of security. There are problems in our Armenian Community as well. But, he went on, the Armenian people are stronger and healthier today than it has been in centuries. He stressed the need for all the youth to have faith, to work together, to rejoice in the treasure of what we are - the beloved children of Jesus Christ. He concluded by saying that with the energetic Christian Armenian Spirit prevailing in everything we do, we say and we think, then for sure the concluding "AMEN" of every prayer will ring as a sound of joy and thanksgiving.

The Primate ended his address with a blessing over the entire Assembly.

The Chair thanked His Eminence and pledged the Assembly's everlasting support and service to him as their spiritual father.

K. Report of Special Standing Committees

The Assembly Chairman asked for a motion to change the Rules of Procedure by postponing item K of the Agenda, in order that elections could begin.

Fr. Nersess Jebejian so moved - it was seconded.

Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) asked the reason for the postponement. The Chair stated that the only Standing Committee is the Constitution Standing Committee, and it would be more appropriate for its report to be combined with the General Assembly's Constitution Committee Report - under new business. (Item M of the agenda.)

Hearing no objections, the Chair instructed the Secretary to cast one vote in favor of the motion - the motion passed unanimously.

L. Elections

The Chair invited the Chairman of the Nominating Committee to begin the election process. Members of the Nominating Committee included: Deborah Stepanian, Chairman (Evanston), Seth Bilazarian (Worcester), and Deacon Michael Chevian (Waukegan).

-----1-Election of Central Council Members:

Deborah Stepanian, Chairman, stated that the Nominating Committee mailed out 12 applications for nominees to the Central Council. There are two openings on the Council this year. Suzanne Minassian (Cheltenham) and Doreen Nersesian (Gr. St. Louis) have accepted the nomination of the Nominating Committee. The Chairman read the qualifications of

both Suzanne Minassian and Doreen Nersesian. The Chair then opened nominations from the floor. Marianne Hovsepian (Detroit) nominated Mark Kazanjian (Lawrence) - seconded by Michael Yapchaian (Watertown). Fr. Mampre Kouzouian (Boston) nominated Rober Borzakian (Boston) - seconded by Laurie Bejoian (Watertown). Six additional nominations were made from the floor - they were all declined.

It was noted that parish priests and deacons (in-Charge) could serve on the Central Council. The Chair asked for a motion to close nominations. Fr. Patee Metjian (Fair Lawn) so moved - it was seconded - passed by voice vote.

Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) asked for the qualifications of the new candidates. A short brief was given on each.

The Chair noted that there were 59 elected delegates to the Assembly and asked that every delegate vote for two candidates. A secret ballot roll call vote was taken.

Assembly Chairman, David Onanian, announced the results of the Central Council election - no majority was received. The candidate with the least number of votes was removed from the ballot and elections were done again. Candidates were: Suzanne Minassian (Cheltenham), Mark Kazanjian (Lawrence), and Robert Borzakian (Boston). A second secret ballot roll call vote was taken.

Chairman of the Nominating Committee announced that Robert Borzakian (Boston) was elected to serve on the Central Council. A run-off election was needed to fill the final place between Mark Kazanjian and Suzanne Minassian. Following this election, Mark Kazanjian (Lawrence) was elected to serve on the Central Council.

Members serving on the ACYOA Central Council for the 1980-81 year are: Michael Yapchaian (Watertown), Sona Yazijian (Chicago), Nancy Malkasian (Detroit), Robert Borzakian (Boston) and Mark Kazanjian (Lawrence).

-----2-Election of Auditing Committee:

Chairman of the Nominating Committee announced the selections for Auditing Committee: Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) and Harry Tavitian (Westchester). There are three openings on the Auditing Committee for the coming year. The floor was opened for nominations.

Fr. Dajad Nominated Bruce Margosian (Watertown) - seconded by James Totovian (Watertown). Sona Yazijian (Chicago) nominated Christine Mooradian (Gr. St. Louis) - seconded by Mark Kazanjian (Lawrence). There was one other nomination which was declined.

Fr. Patee Metjian moved to close nominations - seconded by Steven Parnagian (Providence). Motion was passed by a voice vote.

The Chairman asked the delegates to vote for three - a secret ballot roll call vote was taken.

The Chair announced that Vahan Janjigian, Bruce Margosian, and Harry Tavitian were elected to serve on the Auditing Committee.

-----3-Election of Nominating Committee:

The Chair announced the selections for Nominating Committee. Paul Pogharian (Watertown) was the only nominee - there were three openings on the Nominating Committee for the coming year. The floor was open for nominations.

Kenneth Hagopian (Watertown) nominated Marianne Hovsepian (Detroit) - seconded by Michael Yapchaian. Mark Kazanjian (Lawrence) nominated Richard Gergerian (Evanston) - seconded by Brian Bogosian (Lawrence). Fr. Karekin Kasparian (Westchester) nominated

Carol Ekizian (Westchester) - seconded by John Hovagimian. Fr. Dajad Davidian nominated David Onanian (Gr. Lowell) - seconded by Kenneth Hagopian (Watertown). Steven Parnagian (Providence) nominated Robert Dogramajian (Bayside) - it was seconded. Kenneth Hagopian nominated Melanie Barsamian (Worcester) - seconded by Sona Yazijian (Chicago). Richard Gergerian moved to close nominations - seconded by Brian Bogosian. Motion passed on voice vote. The delegates were asked to vote for three candidates. A secret ballot roll call vote was taken.

The Chair announced that Paul Pogharian (Watertown) had been elected to serve on the Nominating Committee. After several additional votes, and after David Onanian withdrew from the election, Carol Ekezian (Westchester) and Marianne Hovsepian (Detroit) were elected to serve on the Nominating Committee for the coming year.

The Chair was then returned to the Chairman of the Assembly, David Onanian.

Several announcements were made concerning participants in Sunday Morning's Badarak, a Sport Weekend Committee meeting, and need for finalized rosters to be submitted.

The Chair invited a motion to recess the Assembly until 2:35 p.m. sharp. A motion was so made to recess the Second Session of the Assembly - it was seconded - passed on voice vote.

The Second Session of the 1980 General Assembly closed at 1:05 p.m.

III. THIRD SESSION - Thursday, August 28th, 1980

The Chairman of the General Assembly, David Onanian, called the delegates to order at 3:15 p.m.

K. Report of the Special Standing Committees

1-Constitution Standing Committee:

The Chair invited Michael Yapchaian, Chairman, to deliver the report. (Appendix 7) Michael Yapchaian (Watertown) reported that because of time limitations, the Committee felt it could not address all the implications associated with the regionalization issue. Therefore, the Committee proposed Item #2 of the report. Michael stated that the Constitution Standing Committee was the logical and best vehicle to deal with the issue.

The report of the Constitution Standing Committee was accepted by the General Assembly.

Fr. Dajad Davidian moved to take from the table the amendments tabled at the 1979 General Assembly - seconded by Fr. Patee Metjian.

Parliamentarian Seth Bilazarian (Worcester) recommended that these issues be deferred until New Business, because tabled amendments are discussed at that time (Constitution Committee Report) Frs. Dajad and Patee withdrew their motion.

2-General Assembly Constitution Committee:

The Chair invited Kenneth Hagopian, Chairman, to deliver the report. (Appendix 8)

Fr. Dajad Davidian (Watertown) moved to accept Item #1 of the Constitution Committee Report - seconded by James Totovian (Watertown). Ken Hagopian pointed out a concern of the Committee as to whether this amendment increased the power or authority of the Budget Committee. The Constitution Committee came to the conclusion that the amendment simply increases the amount of time the Budget Committee has to complete its work. Ron Godoshian (Detroit) asked if the Budget Committee had the necessary information to complete its work.

Michael Yapchaian suggested that if the motion passed, the Assembly might also consider budgeting funds for the Committee to execute its work. Fr. Dajad suggested that the budget should be prepared by the Central Council, and that it is the responsibility of the Budget Committee to review the proposed budget, and makes its recommendations to the Assembly.

Sona Yazijian (Chicago) spoke in favor of the amendment, stating that it is proper to spend a considerable amount of time working on a budget, instead of preparing it in just a few hours. If properly prepared, deficit spending might be avoided.

Fr. Dajad again stated that the Council should prepare the proposed budget since they are the most informed about where money can be expected, and how much; as well as what the expected expenditures will be during the coming year. The proposed budget should be reviewed by the Budget Committee, asking questions of the Council and arriving at the best possible result.

The Primate explained how this process works on the Diocesan level. It is the Diocesan Council that prepares a budget and is reviewed by the Diocesan Assembly Budget Committee. Likewise, it would appear that the ACYOA and its General Assembly should follow this practice. The Primate questioned if the ACYOA was at a point where it should elect a budget committee for a full year's term.

Paul Pogharian stated that since the fiscal year ends June 30th, the Council could prepare a proposed budget within 30 days and allow a budget committee 30 days as well to review and prepare recommendations.

Marianne Hovsepian asked the difference between the Auditing Committee and the Budget Committee. Paul Pogharian explained.

Robert Dogramajian explained that deficit spending did not occur every year as was stated earlier.

Motion made to call the question - it was seconded - question called by voice vote. The motion to amend the Constitution (re: Item #1, General Assembly Constitution Committee Report - Appendix 3) was defeated by a show of hands.

Kenneth Hagopian went on to Item #2 of the Committee report. He explained that the Committee received two proposals concerning regionalization.

The first proposal was an amendment received from the Midwest Regional Committee concerning the election of Central Council members on a regional basis. (re: page 3 Appendix 8) The second was received from the Constitution Standing Committee, proposing a study of the regionalization issue and its Constitutional implications.

The General Assembly Constitution Committee rejected both proposals and recommends instead the adoption of Item #II. of the Committees report.

A motion was made and seconded to accept Item #II. of the Committee report - Discussion.

Sona Yazijian stated that the Assembly does not need such a committee for the same reasons it doesn't need a standing budget committee. Fr. Patee Metjian noted that the Committee report being discussed was poorly prepared.

It was determined that the Regionalization Standing Committee, as proposed in Item #II, could be elected or appointed by the Chairman of the General Assembly or Central Council.

Suzanne Minassian (Cheltenham) said the small parishes and chapters need a more structured regionalization format. Deacon Krikor Zamroutian agreed saying it was important.

Sona Yazijian called the question - motion was seconded - question called by voice vote. The Proposal by the General Assembly Constitution Committee (Item #II) was passed by a show of hands.

The Assembly, by passing the proposal, rejected the proposals of the Midwest Regional Committee and the Constitution Standing Committee.

Item #IV. of the Committee Report was submitted by the Diocesan Council. Ken Hagopian reported that the Committee voted in favor of the two amendments. (Tabled from 1979)

Fr. Dajad Davidian moved to accept the two tabled amendments - it was seconded - discussion.

Seth Bilazarian (Worcester) asked about the origin of these two amendments. Paul Pogharian offered an explanation.

Fr. Dajad offered two friendly amendments:

to include the words - "to the Constitution" in Article 11 Sec. 9, so that it will read: "All amendments to the Constitution intended to be presented."

Also added in Article 11 Sec. 10, so that it will read: "An agenda along with all amendments to the Constitution intended to be considered...."

The Chair asked for any objections to the friendly amendments - being none - they were accepted by the Committee.

The motion to accept the two tabled amendments as amended passed by a show of hands.

The final Constitutional Item, #V., originated within the General Assembly Constitution Committee. Since it was not submitted to the Central Council 60 days prior, the Assembly must approve consideration by a three-fourths vote before discussion. The Assembly voted to consider the amendment to Article 10 Sec. 9.

The General Assembly Constitution Committee voted in favor of this amendment.

Deacon Krikor Zamroutian (Toronto) moved to accept Item #V. - seconded by Brian Bogosian. Discussion.

Fr. Dajad expressed his concern if the Assembly could not find someone to chair the Assembly proceedings. The Primate inquired as to who would officially sign the minutes.

Nancy Malkasian (Detroit) pointed out the problem of having someone accept the position of (recording) Secretary of the General Assembly, and, in having the Minutes prepared and sent to the chapters within the allotted time (90 days).

Sona Yazijian called the question - seconded by Seth Bilazarian - question called by a show of hands. The main motion was defeated by a show of hands.

3-Goals Committee:

Assembly Chairman, David Onanian, invited Brian Bogosian, Chairman of the Goals Committee to deliver the report. The Committee Report was given, and concluded that in order to address goals finances and manpower were necessary. (Appendix 9)

Sona Yazijian (Chicago) stated that it is the responsibility of the Central Council to establish goals and programs and not that of a special committee. Ron Godoshian (Detroit) questioned the need to set up another standing committee to guide the Organization.

Fr. Dajad Davidian spoke positively concerning a goals committee, and that it might operate as a "think tank". The committee might be one chapter, changing every year from chapter to chapter. This chapter rotation would reduce expenses and provide a continuous influx of new ideas and methods to implement our goals.

David Onanian (Lowell) stated that in the past a Sports Weekend Study Committee was set up to discuss aims and goals and particular programs involved with the National Sports Weekend. He concluded that after long deliberations many of the suggest ideas and recommendations were not even considered. He said that another standing committee would probably be a waste of money and time, and, that every member of the Organization should be part of the thinking process for new ideas. The delegates should come to the Assembly with ideas and suggestions without the need of a standing committee.

Ken Hagopian (Watertown) moved to accept the report of the Goals Committee as read - seconded by Fr. Karekin Kasparian (Westchester) - motion passed by a show of hands.

It was determined that the General Assembly Chairman or Central Council was not obligated to appoint a Standing Goals Committee, but that it was hoped that the Central Council would act upon some of the recommendations of the report.

4-National Events Committee:

The Chair invited the Chairman of the National Events Committee, Richard Gergerian, to deliver the report of the Committee. It is divided into sub-sections. (Appendix 10)

Membership Drive - National & Local:

The Chairman reported that the Committee determined that last year's proposal to establish a National ACYOA Membership Drive Day (with tote board and chapters calling in their new-member statistics) be dropped because of feasibility.

Fr. Nersess Jebejian (Springfield) noted that there appears to be some confusion between the traditional ACYOA Day program, and, a National Membership Drive. We should not cancel, or drop, the traditional ACYOA Day program that many chapters sponsor every year. Fr. Nersess went on to say that the ACYOA Day program is very important in terms of rejuvenation and exposure of the local chapter with its parish and that it should not be dropped.

The Primate agreed with Fr. Nersess and said that the direct contact that occurs on ACYOA Day is very important for the chapter, the parish, and the whole organization. The Primate went on to say that last year we only added the membership drive concept to the existing program and that we should not drop either idea. He concluded by highly suggesting that every chapter should try to add two or more members to its membership this coming year.

Fr. Nersess moved that the Executive Secretary, in conjunction with the Central Council, implement a National Membership Drive for 1980-81 - the motion was seconded.

Seth Bilazarian, Assembly Parliamentarian, stated that new proposals were out of order at this time.

The Chair ruled that new proposals were in order. Seth moved to appeal the decision of the Chair - seconded by Harry Tavitian (Westchester). Discussion.

Fr. Dajad supported the decision of the Chair. Seth stated that in order to consider a new proposal, the Assembly would have to approve consideration of the proposal by a three-fourths vote - only then could discussion take place.

The appeal of the ruling by the Chair passed on a voice vote. New proposals could not be considered during the Committee report without a three-fourths vote of the Assembly.

The National Events Committee report dealing with Membership Drives stands as read. It is the concensus of the Assembly that ACYOA Day activities including membership drives will be continued in their present form.

Regionalization:

Fr. Dajad suggested that regionalization should be implemented in those areas where it is feasible, and that it should be understood that in some areas of the country, it is not feasible. Fr. Karekin Kasparian (Westchester) suggested that the first note under regionalization (#1 Retreats) should not be included in this section.

Archbishops Tournament:

Ron Godoshian (Detroit) suggested that New York be included as one of the possible sights for the tournament, and that the tournament be held in a part of the country other than where the National Sports Weekend will be held during that same year.

Armenian Studies Program and Reunion:

Marianne Hovsepian (Detroit) stated that there are scholarships for this Program. The Primate informed the Assembly that there are no permanent funds for this Program, and that money for scholarships is raised and distributed on a yearly basis.

Fr. Karekin suggested that under Item #4, the word "Der Hayr" be changed to President. He also suggested that the recommended "Domestic Armenian Studies Program" of the Goals Committee be incorporated in this section of the Committee Report.

Fr. Nersess stated that much of the educational content of the Armenian Studies Program is determined by the Committee for Cultural Affairs in Armenia, and that there isn't too much we can do with it. He suggested that Item #5 should be clarified or removed.

Fr. Karekin suggested that when the participants meet privately, religious oriented discussions can take place. (re: Item #5 Appendix 10 page 2)

Keghard:

Sona Yazijian stated that the Keghard is suppose to be a serious magazine - jokes and comics may be found in comic books. Michael Yapchaian, a member of the Keghard staff, noted that the staff is aware of a need for some lighter articles to offer some balance.

John Hovagimian suggested that if we are not getting enough subscriptions, we should consider improving and changing the publication to make it more appealing. Michael asked the Assembly what efforts were being made to sell the publication on the chapter and parish level. Ken Hagopian (Watertown) noted the need for an organized sales staff.

Steven Turekian (St. Gregory, NY) noted the effort last year to sell the publication, but one of the main problems was that ACYOA Members were not receiving it.

Martyr's Day Commemoration:

Deacon Krikor Zamroutian (Toronto) questioned the meaning of a program not being held successfully. It was explained that depending on the day that April 24 falls on, it is sometimes difficult to receive full support for an offered program in a parish. It was suggested that Chapters offer their programs on weekends.

Fr. Nersess Jebjian (Springfield) noted the last line of the section, and suggested that the Chapter might also participate in parish commemorative programs as well. Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) stated that it is important the the ACYOA show its concern and interest in remembering the martyrs.

Youth Camp:

Paul Pogharian, responding to a question, said that there were two reasons for the designated third Sunday in May collection - the parish could use the funds as a scholarship a needy youth to attend the camp, and, money not used as a scholarship could go directly to the camp as a donation.

Sarkis Soukiasian (Watertown), speaking for Fr. Patee Metjian, Camp Director, suggested that there be a \$250.00 allocation for the Camp, with \$150.00 going to needy youth, and \$100.00 offered as a scholarship through an essay contest in the Keghard. In addition, Fr. Patee suggested that someone should be in charge of the May Collections, perhaps the ACYOA Executive Secretary.

Nancy Malkasian (Detroit) thought that parents who live far away from the camp are hesitant to send their children over long distances alone, especially when they even haven't seen the camp. She concluded that the camp will probably serve only those communities that are relatively close.

Chairman's Roundtable:

Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) thought this program was too expensive and counter productive, and therefore should be done away with. He recommended it be removed from the report.

Gary Hovhannessian (New Britain) said that last year's program, and the one held in Chelmsford were productive and much was discussed and accomplished. Harry Tavitian (Westchester) said this year created a unique situation. The transportation problem prevented the program from being productive and worthwhile. Steven Turekian suggested a change of scheduling. David Onanian supported the Roundtable program.

Marianne Hovsepien (Detroit) reiterated last year's suggestion of expanding the program into a weekend workshop, and offered this as a friendly amendment.

Fr. Nersess Jebjian said that he was not aware of any guidelines for this program, and asked if all Central Council Members needed to attend. Central Council Chairman Paul Pogharian explained that it was necessary for all Council Members to attend because each is a specialist in a different area, heading up different programs, as well as a representative to the various regions. Paul concluded by saying this program is good, but could use improvement.

Seth Bilazarian moved to limit discussion on each topic of this report to five minutes - seconded by Melanie Mamishian - passed on a voice vote.

National Mission Program:

Fr. Karekin Kasparian suggested we reinstitute the program, instead of investigating its content and make-up.

Sona Yazijian (Chicago) questioned if this program was within the scope of the ACYOA, and whether we were qualified to undertake such a program.

The Primate stated that the title "national" was misleading. The program would be a religious program of one week duration and would be directed at one or two parishes in a given year. His Eminence went on to say that every program in the Diocese belongs to the Diocese and that the Diocese may use any executive branch within the Diocese to implement any program which is useful. Lately, the ACYOA has taken on the responsibility for the Mission Program. The Primate said that he has no objection to the ACYOA conducting the program as long as it is done well and successfully. If the ACYOA does not wish to continue this program, it is free to express their wishes.

New Business:

Steven Turekian (St. Gregory, N.Y.) asked for clarification on Item #1 of this section. Richard Gergerian, Chairman of the National Events Committee, explained that the Committee thought that an appropriate plaque would be used as the award.

The Assembly had general questions concerning the criteria and guidelines.

Steven Turekian moved to accept the Report of the National Events Committee along with the suggestions and recommendations that were made from the floor - Seconded by Melanie Barsamian. The question was raised as to whether the recommendations from the floor would be included as part of the permanent record of the Assembly. It was determined that they would be incorporated into the Record of the Minutes under the heading, "Report of the National Events Committee", in the section dealing with the reports of the General Assembly Committees. Steven and Melanie withdrew their motion.

Fr. Karekin Kasparian (Westchester) moved to accept the report of the National Events Committee as part of the permanent record of the Assembly, along with suggestions and recommendations - seconded by Seth Bilazarian (Worcester) - passed on a show of hands.

The next report scheduled was the Budget Committee, however Fr. Dajad Davidian suggested we postpone this report until after the Proposals Committee Report, since proposals may effect the proposed budget. The Chair did not receive any objection, and called for the Report of the Proposals Committee. (The Budget Committee Report may be found in the proceedings of the Fourth Session of the Assembly, following the Auditing Committee Report.)

6-Proposals Committee:

The Chair invited a representative of the Proposals Committee to deliver the Report. Seth Bilazarian (Worcester) delivered the report of the Committee. (Appendix 11)

Seth reported that no proposals were received by the Central Council within the required time limit, therefore all proposals require a three-fourths vote of the Assembly for consideration at this time.

Proposal #1: Considered

Fr. Dajad moved for adoption of the proposal - seconded by Carol Ekizian (Westchester). Discussion.

Sona Yazijian expressed reservations concerning the desire of ACYOA members to participate in this type of program. Fr. Karekin supported the proposal. Fr. Dajad supported the proposal saying that worthwhile programs must be offered.

Deacon Krikor Zamroutian (Toronto) moved the question - seconded by Brian Bogosian (Lawrence) - question called on a voice vote - motion passed on show of hands.

Proposal #2: Not Considered

Proposal #3: Ruled out of order by the Primate as already in progress.

Proposal #4: Considered

Fr. Dajad moved the proposal - seconded by John Hovagimian (Toronto) - Discussion.

Michael Yapchaian (Watertown) stated this type of proposal was raised a few years ago and it was determined that this would require too much time and work on the part of the five member Council. Michael felt the same argument holds true today, even with the addition of the Executive Secretary. Fr. Dajad contended that this proposal would not require that much more additional work, just additional detail.

Robert Dogramajian (Bayside) spoke against the proposal saying that details can be filled in during the Assembly when time is given to ask questions on the report. He said that we did not need the minutes to Central Council Meetings. Harry Tavitian noted that the chapters contribute to the lack of detail themselves by failing to send in their own reports on time or at all. Nancy Malkasian (Detroit) said that when we give more information we are asked to cut down; when we give too little we are asked to give more.

Fr. Nersess Jebejian noted that the records of the Organization can show how detailed past Central Council Reports have been. Melanie Barsamian (Worcester) spoke in favor of the proposal. Robin Kazanjian (Lawrence) suggested an outline be drawn up that would assist in determining the contents of the report.

Brian Bogosian called the question - Fr. Nersess seconded - question was call on a voice vote - motion passed on a show of hands.

Proposals from the Assembly Floor:

1) Brian Bogosian proposed that the Central Council study the feasibility of creating an audio-visual program dealing with the practices and teachings of the Armenian Church.

Seth Bilazarian, Chairman of the Proposals Committee, called for a three-fourths vote. It was received and the proposal was considered. Brian moved the proposal - seconded by Robert Borzakian (Boston) - discussion.

Fr. Karekin asked what types of audio-visual aids already exist, saying that we should take into account those that already exist.

The Primate informed the Assembly that the Diocesan Office and Department of Religious Education could be contacted to find out what programs and resources exist.

Suzanne Minassian (Cheltenham) spoke in favor of the proposal, and added that perhaps the existing resources may be intended for younger children.

Fr. Nersess offered a friendly amendment to read: ...in accordance with the aims and purposes of the ACYOA. Both Brian and Robert accepted the amendment.

Fr. Dajad said that the ACYOA has produced slide presentations in the past. This would be a good time to again produce needed materials and programs.

Ken Hagopian moved to call the question - seconded by Fr. Karekin - question called on a voice vote - motion passed on a show of hands.

2) Brian Bogosian proposed that the Central Council study the feasibility of a domestic study program to complement and enhance the Armenian Studies Program.

Not considered.

3) Deacon Michael Chevian (Waukegan) proposed that the ACYOA reinstate the Mission Program that it has organized and sponsored in the past, to begin in the summer of 1981.

Considered by the Assembly. Deacon Michael moved the proposal - seconded by Deacon Krikor Zamroutian (Toronto). Discussion.

Fr. Dajad stated that if the Assembly refuses to consider a proposal, it does not mean that the Central Council can not act on that proposal. It means that the Assembly chooses not to discuss it at this time.

Marianne Hovsepian (Detroit) questioned whether this program was the responsibility of the ACYOA. She said that the ACYOA should participate in such a program, if the Diocese were to organize it. Fr. Dajad gave some background information about the Mission Program, emphasizing that it originated within the ACYOA. Fr. Karekin assured the delegates that the Primate would be involved in the organization of such a program. Fr. Nersess informed the Assembly the financial implications of the program were small.

John Hovagimian said that whatever the costs the Diocese should pay for it.

Brian Bogosian moved to call the question - seconded by Steven Turekian - question called on a voice vote - motion passed on a show of hands.

4) Harry Tavitian (Westchester) proposed that the Central Council and Executive Secretary work in conjunction with local chapters to compile a national mailing list broken down into regions. This Mailing list will include names and addresses of Armenian young adults in order to aid local chapters, as well as the ACYOA nationally, publicize events.

Considered by the Assembly. Harry moved the proposal - seconded by Brian Bogosian - Discussion.

Fr. Nersess Jebajian questioned the financial considerations involved. Harry said that whatever the financial considerations, the cost would be returned quickly.

Sona Yazijian pointed out the difficulty the Watertown Chapter had in preparing a national mailing list for this year's National Sports Weekend. Fr. Dajad stated that the list is available for this purpose.

Fr. Nersess moved to call the question - seconded by Brian Bogosian - question called on a voice vote - motion passed on a show of hands.

5) Fr. Nersess Jebajian (Springfield) proposed that the Executive Secretary and the ACYOA Central Council implement a national membership drive during 1981 to increase the membership and give greater exposure to the ACYOA within the community.

Not considered.

6) Fr. Dajad Davidian (Watertown) proposed that the Central Council and the Executive Secretary implement the recommendations of the National Events Committee concerning the third Sunday in May being designated St. Vartan Armenian Youth Camp Day.

Considered by the Assembly. Deacon Krikor Zamroutian (Toronto) moved the proposal -

Seconded by Brian Bogosian - discussion.

Nancy Malkasian (Detroit) doubted whether the Midwest chapters would support this effort because their children will not go because of the distance.

Marianne Hovsepian (Detroit) said this program deserves the support of all the delegates no matter where they were from.

The Primate offered a friendly amendment to the proposal, to read, ...concerning a Sunday in May... The friendly amendment was accepted by Deacon Krikor and Brian.

Richard Gergerian (Evanston) suggested that if funds collected in the Midwest went to the Camp (Hye Camp) in that area, the proposal would receive more support. Deacon Krikor and Brian accepted this suggestion as a friendly amendment. The proposal now reads: The Central Council and Executive Secretary implement the recommendations of the National Events Committee concerning a Sunday in May being designated as Diocesan Youth Camp Day and a collection being passed on that day to benefit the Diocesan Youth Camps.

The question was called - seconded - questioned called on a voice vote - motion passed on a show of hands.

7) Brian Bogosian (Lawrence) proposed that the Diocesan Council be requested, if they see fit, to prepare appropriate amendments to the Diocesan By-laws whereby the ACYOA may participate in the Diocesan Assembly, having both voice and vote.

Considered by the Assembly. Brian moved the proposal - seconded by Deacon Krikor Zamroutian (Toronto). Discussion.

Richard Gergerian (Evanston) suggested that this proposal would have a better chance of adoption if it was sponsored by a parish, in addition to all chapters gaining the support of their respective parishes.

Marianne Hovsepian (Detroit) asked if any other Diocesan organization had this right. The Primate answered that no organization has this right.

Ken Hagopian called the question - Mark Kazanjian (Lawrence) seconded - question called on a voice vote - motion passed on a show of hands.

8) Robin Kazanjian (Lawrence) proposed that an outline or checklist be created to be used throughtout the ACYOA which will assist in the preparation of reports for the activities that have been conducted.

Not Considered.

9) Fr. Karekin Kasparian (Westchester) proposed that the ACYOA resume the Armenian Studies Program in 1981, taking into consideration the recommendations made by the 1980 National Events Committee.

Point of order - Nancy Malkasian (Detroit) - Should this motion be brought up at this time - under the Report of the Proposals Committee.

Seth Bilazarian, Parliamentarian of the Assembly, ruled this proposal germane, and called for a show of hands by the delegates - a three-fourths vote was received.

Considered by the Assembly. Fr. Karekin Kasparian moved the proposal - seconded by Deacon Krikor Zamroutian (Toronto) - discussion.

Fr. Dajad Davidian (Watertown) noted that this proposal mandated an Armenian Studies Program for the coming year, whereas the report of the National Events Committee only suggested it.

Deacon Krikor Zamroutian moved to call the question - seconded by Richard Gergerian - question called on a voice vote - motion passed on a show of hands.

10) Ron Godoshian (Detroit) proposed that the Central Council select a site for the Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Basketball Tournament with the approval of the Archbishop, and that the tournament shall take place in a region other than that of that year's National Sports Weekend.

Considered by the Assembly. Ron moved the proposal - Richard Gergerian (Evanston) seconded. Discussion.

Ron stated that the rising costs of travel make going to the same region twice in one year difficult.

Brian Bogosian (Lawrence) called the question - John Hovagimian (Toronto) seconded - question called on a voice vote - motion passed on a show of hands.

11) Berj Basmajian (Toronto) proposed that a Christmas Caroling Program on the night of January 5th become a national event of the ACYOA.

Not Considered.

Fr. Dajad moved to accept the Proposals Committee Report - seconded by Seth Bilazarian.

The Chair, receiving no objections, instructed the Secretary of the Assembly to cast one vote in favor of the motion. The Report of the Proposals Committee was accepted unanimously.

Fr. Dajad moved to suspend the Rules of Procedure and discuss the Report of the Resolutions Committee - seconded by Ken Hagopian.

The Chair, receiving no objections, instructed the Secretary of the Assembly to cast one vote in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7-Resolutions Committee:

The Chair invited a representative of the Resolutions Committee to deliver the report. Sharon Karian (Wisconsin) presented the report. (Appendix 12)

The Primate suggested one friendly amendment - to insert in the third line from the bottom of the report, where it reads: "...record its pride in the historic..." Change to: ...record its joyful commitment to the historic... The friendly amendment was accepted by the Resolutions Committee.

Ken Hagopian (Watertown) moved to accept the Report - seconded by Melanie Mamishian (Watertown) - motion passed on a show of hands.

8-Courtesies Committee:

The Chair invited Melanie Mamishian to deliver the Report of the Courtesies Committee. (Appendix 13)

Fr. Nersess Jebejian (Springfield) suggested to amend #9 of the Report, by striking "Father Ghevont Samoorian", and adding Deacon Michael Chevian, Waukegan, Deacon Onnig Terzian, New York, and Father Mesrob Benlian, Sophia, Bulgaria.

Paul Pogharian (Watertown) suggested to amend #11 of the Report, to read, "three years as Central Council Chairman".

Fr. Dajad Davidian (Watertown) suggested to amend #5 of the Report, to read, "St. James Armenian Church of Watertown,the ACYOA extends warm....".

The Primate suggested we strike out #18.

Michael Yapchaian (Watertown) suggested to amend #8 to read, "the efforts of the St. James Parish Organizations in assisting....".

Paul Pogharian suggested that we amend #10 to read, "...Director, and whereas Sona Yazijian, Nancy Malkasian, and Michael Yapchaian are the current ACYOA Central Council members, and whereas, Robert Borzakian and Mark Kazanjian are newly elected Central Council members, be it resolved.....in their endeavors for the coming year."

Robert Borzakian moved to accept the Courtesies Committee Report as amended - seconded by Ken Hagopian - motion passed on a voice vote.

James Totovian (Watertown) moved to recess the meeting until 9:30 a.m., Friday, August 29th - seconded by Ken Hagopian (Watertown) - motion passed on a voice vote.

IV. FOURTH SESSION - Friday, August 29th, 1980

The Chairman of the General Assembly, David Onanian, called the delegates to order at 10:15 a.m.

I. Central Council Report (Part 2 - Financial)

The Chair invited Michael Yapchaian, Central Council Treasurer, to deliver the second part of the Central Council Report, dealing with Finances. (Appendix 14)

Michael began by making corrections to the Financial part of the Central Council Report which were the result of Auditing Committee changes. (Pages 1,2 and the last page)

Deacon Micheal Chevian (Waukegan) asked if the Sam Nersesian Scholarship was actually \$100.00. Michael said that the disbursement was \$150.00, and that \$50.00 was returned in July, too late to appear in the report.

Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) asked for the breakdown of payments to the A.G.B.U. for use of their facilities for the 1979 ACYOA Camp. Michael stated that the checks issued were in the amount of \$4,000.00 (by former Treasurer Karnig Durgarian), \$5,000.00 and \$2,000.00 by himself. Michael explained that when the Camp program began, a separate bank account was opened at the Valley Bay/Bank. In November, 1979, that account was closed and a transfer of the remaining funds appears as a line item in the November receipts report for \$239.15.

Fr. Dajad Davidian (Watertown) said that \$21,974.51 income was not clear; that it was actually the transfer from savings that added \$6,850.00 to the income. Michael explained that these funds were the receipts from the 1979 Wisconsin National Sports Weekend.

Fr. Dajad suggested a more simplified report for the future.

The Primate commended Michael for an outstanding effort and Financial Report.

Marianne Hovsepian (Detroit) questioned the lack of receipts under the Archbishop's Tournament and dividend and stock gains. Michael explained that there were no receipts during this time frame with regard to the Archbishop's Tournament. However, income from the stocks, in terms of dividend checks, were sent to the address of former Central Council Treasurer Suzanne Minassian, in Richmond, Virginia. A computer error mailed the checks to the wrong address. Michael stated that he and the Executive Secretary were currently working on correcting the problem.

Robert Dogramajian (Bayside) moved to accept the Report of the Central Council (Parts 1&2) - seconded by James Totovian (Watertown) - discussion.

Marianne Hovsepian asked why the Armenian Studies Program funds were not being kept in a separate account. Fr. Dajad stated that the money used by the Central Council that belonged in the Armenian Studies Program Fund should appear on a balance sheet as funds owed that account. Paul Pogharian (Watertown) noted that those funds remained in the General Treasury due to cash flow problems, however they would be returned.

Fr. Dajad suggested that a balance sheet should be included in all future financial reports.

Paul Pogharian suggested that a note be attached to the Savings Account Report (p.3 Appendix 14) stating that the Central Council should return \$2,000.00 to the Armenian Studies Program Fund. Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) said that a terrible precedent has been established by allowing the Central Council to use designated funds which have been determined by the Assembly on numerous occasions for specific use only.

Fr. Dajad noted that only \$3,500.00 of the Diocesan subsidy has been received, and questioned why this is so. Michael said that the Diocese operates on a different fiscal year and could account for the missing or yet to be received funds.

The Primate informed the Assembly that the Diocesan subsidy was not a cumulative account, and therefore does not add up from one year to the next - whether it is issued or whether what is issued is used.

Fr. Dajad questioned the \$568.20 listed as revenue for the ACYOA Youth Camp, as being the total revenue received by the Organization from the 60 campers this year. Michael explained that the indicated amount was all the revenue which appeared during the periode covered by the report.

The motion to accept the Report of the ACYOA Central Council passed by a show of hands.

Auditing Committee Report:

The Chair invited Harry Tavitian (Westchester) to deliver the Report of the Auditing Committee. (Appendix 15)

Fr. Dajad Davidian moved to accept the Report - seconded by Suzanne Minassian - discussion.

Sona Yazijian offered a friendly amendment to the Report, to read, "Christine Mooradian audited the Sports Weekend Books of 1979 and the attached is her report..."

The friendly amendment was accepted by Fr. Dajad and Suzanne.

Sona moved to call the question - seconded by Ken Hagopian - question called on a voice vote - motion passed on a show of hands.

The Chair requested the record to show that the Assembly is extremely grateful to the Auditing Committee, and in particular its Chairman, Anna Garabedian, for their tremendous effort.

M. New Business

5-Budget Committee:

The Chair invited the Chairman of the Budget Committee, Harry Tavitian, to deliver the Report. (Appendix 16)

Harry began by stating that the first column of figures indicates the proposed budget, 1980, and the second column of figures indicates the actual expenses for 1980. The third column of figures indicates the Budget Committee's proposed budget for 1981. The figures in second column were provided by the Central Council Treasurer, prior to the Auditing Committee's changes. (Footnotes #1&2)

Ron Godoshian moved to accept the budget - seconded by Sona Yazijian - discussion.

Gary Hovhanessian (New Britain) asked if the 1980 Camp was more successful than the 1979 Camp. Referring to financial considerations, Harry noted that the 1980 Camp was more successful.

Harry proceeded to review the disbursements line by line.

Michael Yapchaian noted again that some of the figures in the "Actual Column" were changed and delegates should be aware of this.

Fr. Dajad suggested that following the words "chapter visitations" under disbursements, be added the words "Central Council". The suggestion was accepted as a friendly amendment by Ron Godoshian and Sona Yazijian.

Paul Pogharian (Watertown) moved to amend the Budget Committee's Report by increasing the item under disbursements, "Chapter Visitations - Central Council" from \$400.00 to \$1,000.00 - seconded by Robert Dogramajian (Bayside) - discussion.

Michael Yapchaian stated that the Budget Committee chose the figure because it felt the \$,154.00 actually spent was due in part, to the absence of the Executive Secretary. Many of the visitations done by Central Council members would normally be done by the Executive Secretary.

Several delegates spoke in general favor of the amendment.

The motion raising the disbursement line item under "Chapter Visitations - Central Council" from \$400.00 to \$1,000.00 passed on a show of hands.

Paul Pogharian moved to amend the Report of the Budget Committee by adding a new line item "Central Council Sports Weekend Fund", budgeting \$1,000.00 for it. - seconded by Robert Dogramajian.

Discussion on this motion centered on the merits of increasing the budget and various means of allocating funds. Several delegates spoke for and against the motion.

Fr. Dajad offered a friendly amendment to the motion stating that instead of a new line item, a modification of the line item "General Assembly" to read "General Assembly - Sports Weekend" \$2,500.00. Both Paul and Robert accepted the amendment.

The motion passed on a show of hands.

Paul Pogharian asked why the proposed expenditures for the Chairman's Roundtable has been reduced. Harry Tavitian explained that the Budget Committee questioned the effectiveness of the program and the necessity of having all Council members attend. The Committee felt the attendance of the Council Chairman might be sufficient.

Paul moved to amend the Report of the Budget Committee by increasing, under disbursements, the line item "Chairman's Roundtable" from \$300.00 to \$600.00 - seconded by Ken Hagopian.

The motion was defeated on a show of hands.

Having voted on the prevailing side, Michael Yapchaian (Watertown) moved for reconsideration - seconded by Robin Kazanjian (Lawrence), also having voted on the prevailing side - discussion.

Michael Yapchaian stated that he voted against the previous motion because he felt that insufficient funds were being assigned.

Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) spoke against reconsideration since the Chair gave sufficient time for the motion and possible amendments.

Nancy Malkasian (Detroit) spoke in favor of the reconsideration, saying that the agenda for the Chairman's Roundtable requires several Council members to prepare and present. Ken Hagopian (Watertown) also spoke in favor saying the Roundtable Program was effective and beneficial, and, that the Assembly should be selective in choosing programs to fund.

The motion to reconsider passed on a show of hands.

Ron Godoshain (Detroit) offered a friendly amendment to the motion, changing the proposed \$600.00 to \$1,000.00. Both Paul and Ken accepted the amendment.

Deacon Krikor Zamroutian (Toronto) moved the question - seconded by Ken Hagopian - question called on a voice vote - motion passed on a show of hands.

Steven Parnagian (Providence) moved to amend the Report of the Budget Committee by adding a new line item under disbursements, "Mission Program" and assigning to that line item \$500.00 - seconded by Fr. Yeprem Kelegian (Watertown) - discussion.

Steven noted that we now have the program and no funds assigned to it.

The motion passed on a show of hands.

Harry Tavitian then proceeded to the revenue section of the Report.

The Primate requested the Budget Committee to explain the \$12,500.00 Diocesan subsidy figure. Michael Yapchaian explained that our operating year begins six months into the operating year of the Diocese. He said that this year's subsidy is \$10,000.00 and next year's subsidy is \$15,000.00. Half of each year's subsidy equals the figure

shown. The Primate directed that the figures be checked. He noted that the figures might be \$5,000.00 and \$10,000.00 instead. The Minutes of the Diocesan Assembly should be reviewed to find out.

Robert Dogramajian (Bayside) questioned the Sports Weekend anticipated income, and asked for the final figures from the Providence (1978) and Wisconsin (1979) Sports Weekends. Michael Yapchaian reported that the National Organization received approximately \$5,000.00 from Providence and \$7,000.00 from Wisconsin. Robert asked why this year's projections are less than last year's.

Robert moved to amend the Report of the Budget Committee by increasing, under revenues, the line item "Sports Weekend" from \$4,000.00 to \$7,000.00 - Mark Onanian (Lowell) seconded the motion - discussion.

Vahan Janjigian asked for a representative from Watertown to inform the Assembly of what the Watertown Chapter expects to profit from the weekend. Michael Yapchaian said the \$4,000.00 figure is expected to be met this year.

Vahan Janjigian moved to call the question - Ken Hagopian seconded - question called on a voice vote - motion defeated on a hand count.

Fr. Dajad said that Watertown will do as well as past years. \$4,000.00 was budgeted, and usually the budgeted figure is passed. For the sake of recognizing inflation and progress, Fr. Dajad moved to amend the Report of the Budget Committee by increasing under revenues the line item "Sports Weekend" from \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 - seconded by Laurie Bejoian - discussion.

Richard Gergerian (Evanston) offered a friendly amendment to increase the amendment from \$5,000.00 to \$5,100.00, thereby balancing the proposed budget. Fr. Dajad and Laurie accepted the amendment.

John Hovagimian offered a friendly amendment to increase the amendment by the current rate of inflation - 10%. Fr. Dajad refused the amendment.

The motion passed on a show of hands.

Marianne Hovsepian (Detroit) stated that we anticipate \$700.00 from the misdirected dividend checks from stock gains. She moved to amend the Report of the Budget Committee by increasing under revenues, the line item "Dividend and Stock Gain" to \$700.00.- Fr. Dajad seconded - Robert Dogramajian called the question - seconded by Ken Hagopian - question called on a voice vote - motion passed on a show of hands.

James Totovian (Watertown) noted a discrepancy between the amount of dues received and the number of dues paying members as reported in the Central Council Report. Paul Pogharian explained the number of dues paying members is an approximation. Some chapter reports indicate a certain number of members, but do not always send in dues to reflect the reported figures.

Sona Yazijian asked for an explanation of the \$750.00 budgeted for "Summer Camp" since we are not anticipating any income. Harry Tavitian explained that the Committee assumed it would be a program like the Keghard, not money making, but worthwhile. Sona stated that programs being operated at a deficit are not a good practice.

Sona Yazijian (Chicago) moved to amend the Report of the Budget Committee by adding a category under revenues, "Fund Raising" with an assigned amount of \$2,000.00 - seconded by Nancy Malkasian - discussion.

Sona Yazijian informed the Assembly that the Diocesan Treasurer suggested we consider fund raising, during a discussion about our budget. Whatever activities we decide upon will need approval of the Primate and Diocesan Council. We should be considering other avenues of income besides current programs.

The motion was defeated on a show of hands.

Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) moved to call the question on the Report of the Budget Committee - seconded by Ken Hagopian - question called on a voice vote - motion to accept the Report of the Budget Committee as amended passed on a show of hands.

Harry Tavitian announced that the total for revenues now reads \$25,750.00, and disbursements now reads \$25,250.00.

The Chair thanked Harry and the Budget Committee for a fine job.

The Chair announced to the Assembly that a telegram will be sent to His Holiness, Vazken I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, expressing our love and devotion and service to him and to Holy Etchmiadzin.

N. Selection of the Next General Assembly and Date

The Chair invited Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) to present the Chicago-Evanston ACYOA Chapters' bid for the 1981 ACYOA General Assembly and National Sports Weekend-Sept. 2-7.

The bid consisted of oral, audio and visual presentations, along with several handouts.

Ken Hagopian (Watertown) moved to accept the bid presented by the Chicago-Evanston Chapters - seconded by Gary Hovhannessian (New Britain) - motion passed on a voice vote.
(NOTE: There were no other bids.)

O. Announcements

Paul Pogharian announced that following the Assembly, a meeting of old and new Central Council members would take place. Fr. Dajad Davidian asked everyone to attend Church on Sunday morning.

P. Good and Welfare

Paul Pogharian reminded the delegates that their responsibilities do not end with the proceedings here. Everyone should report back to their respective chapters and relate the business that has taken place and the role of the chapter therein. The Central Council and Executive Secretary look forward to working closely with all chapters, however, cooperation and commitment to the proceedings set forth here are very important. Paul expressed his pleasure in working with the various Chapter Chairmen over the years and hopes they continue in their service to the Church and the ACYOA. He expressed his thanks to the Primate and all the clergy who have helped make his duties a little easier. He said he plans to remain active and of service wherever needed.

The Assembly responded with a standing ovation for the out-going Chairman of the Central Council - Paul Pogharian.

Mark Kazanjian (Lawrence) suggested inviting the ACYO of California to the next Assembly and Sports Weekend. Sona Yazijian said the Council is discussing it already.

Fr. Dajad Davidian requested the Assembly express its thanks to General Assembly Chairman, David Onanian for an outstanding job. David asked the Assembly to also recognize the efforts of Assembly Officers Harry Tavitian, Melanie Mamishian, Kenneth Hagopian, Seth Bilazarian and Garo Hovagimian. (Accomplished.)

Carol Ekizian asked the Assembly to recognize Deborah Stepanian, Assembly Secretary from last year, who prepare the minutes. (Accomplished.)

The Chair asked the Assembly to recognize Michael Zeytoonian for his efforts in coordinating the Keghard publication. (Accomplished.)

The Chair then asked all Central Council members to stand and be recognized. (Accomplished.)

The Chair invited a motion to adjourn the 1980 ACYOA General Assembly. Deacon Krikor Zamroutian (Toronto) moved to adjourn the Assembly - Vahan Janjigian (Evanston) seconded the motion - motion passed on a voice vote.

The 1980 ACYOA General Assembly adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

His Eminence, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, conclude the proceedings and officially closed the Assembly by commending all participants in the successful Assembly.

His Eminence then led the delegates in a closing prayer and blessed the old and new members of the ACYOA Central Council in a short initiatory service.

