

3703 Travis Street
Houston, Texas
February 1, 1971

Mr. Sam G. Harrison
2400 Bank of the Southwest Building
Houston, Texas 77002

Dear Mr. Harrison:

Many thanks for your recent telephone call following my hospitalization. Your concern pertaining to my health is greatly appreciated. As you know, I am more concerned with the welfare of the St. George Armenian Church of Houston than to my health or life.

You may be interested to know that Archbishop Torkom, following his visit to Houston during December 1970, has appointed a new Parish Council for the Church. The Archbishop expects to visit Houston again during February 8 to 10, 1971 and hopes he will again have an opportunity and pleasure to meet you.

The financial situation of the Armenian Church of Houston is about the same as Dr. A. Packchianian and myself communicated to you during September 10, 1970 at your office.

The enclosed copy of the letter from Mr. Alex Manoogian, the philanthropist and the president of the Armenian General Benevolent Union is self explanatory. He states that once the mortgage of the church grounds is liquidated he promises substantial financial help for the Armenian Church and Cultural Center of Houston. Because of this, I respectfully request that you reconsider the liquidation of the present mortgage on the church grounds (\$19,000[±]). Such noble aid on your part will make the Armenian Church of Houston eligible for financial help from Mr. Alex Manoogian for other pressing and essential need for the Armenian Religious and Cultural Center of Houston. Concomitance and following such actions the Houston Armenian community will periodically raise modest sums of money among themselves for religious and community service and for upkeep of the church building and grounds.

Thanking you for your kind consideration of the above matter I am

Respectfully yours,



Hrant C. Bardoony

cc: ✓ Archbishop Torkom

Jan. 30, 1971

Manoogian Gives \$40,000 to Diocese

Alex Manoogian, President of the Armenian General Benevolent Union, who has donated enormous sums both to the AGBU and the Armenian Church, recently made a further substantial contribution in excess of \$40,000 to the Diocese of the Armenian Church for its various religious and educational purposes.

Mr. Manoogian for decades has been an outstanding leader in the Armenian community, respected equally in America and abroad, both for his benefactions and his personal involvement and leadership. He has been AGBU President for 17 years, and the announcement of his resignation at the organization's Assembly last December provoked a massive public response urging him to reconsider. It was further dramatic evidence of the great esteem in which he is held by the public.

Armenian
Mirror-Spectator
Vol. 38 No 27
Jan. 30, 1971
