

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF
THE HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
OF GREATER BOSTON

FEBRUARY 8, 1976

(A Report in Brief)

The Annual Assembly of the Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church was held on Sunday, February 8, 1976 in the Cultural Hall of the Church. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. and commenced with the invocation by the Pastor, Very Rev. Yeghishe Gizirian.

The presiding officers of the day were appointed from the floor as follows:

John Soorsoorian - Chairman
Araxi Janjigian - Armenian Language Secretary
Nancy Kasargian - English Language Secretary.

A Ballot Committee was selected from the membership, which included:

1. Charles Nahabedian
2. Harry Najarian
3. Betty Nahabedian
4. Mary Hagopian
5. Zabel Odabashian

Harry Najarian was appointed Chairman of this Committee.

The roster of candidates for the offices in the Parish Council, Auditing Committee, Nominating Committee and Delegates for the Diocesan Assembly, was called, and each one was asked to come forward and were introduced in person to the membership.

The Secretary's Reports of the 1975 Assembly were read; the First Session - February 14th by Nancy Kasargian and the Second Session - February 16th by Araxi Janjigian and both were accepted as read.

At this point it was announced that the voting would close at 3:00 P.M.

The Annual Reports from the various committees, commenced with the Pastor's Report for the year 1975. Father Gizirian presented a favorable report generally for this period and specified the following points:

That we are expending all efforts to present the Sunday Services to the satisfaction of the community, both musically and otherwise.

He stated that unfortunately the deaths/funerals exceed the births/Baptisms for this year; and that approximately 100 per cent of the marriages are mixed-marriages.

However, it was further related that there is a serious problem which concerns and disturbs him, and that is the difficulty in communicating with the various sections of this expansive parish. Especially, with regard to the elderly, sick and needy, who suffer their/^{plight}without the comfort from a priest or clergyman, of which he is not aware. Father stipulated that he cannot stress enough, that church members inform him of these cases, so that he can perform his duties.

This report contained a point of news which pleased the assembly, that being, the opening of an Armenian School in the City of Brockton. The report was accepted as presented.

The Report from Parish Council was presented by the Chairman, Gregory Tashjian, Robert Proodian, Secretary and George Hagopian, Treasurer. The item on Scholarship Fund was questioned, and a correction was made that in fact, the monies given to Diran Zaghigian was paid by the A.C.Y.O.A.

The item - MEMORIAL GIFT was questioned as to specifically what doors were being referred to, and it was explained that/^{it}concerned the four outer front doors, to be replaced with bronze in memory of Alan Karchakian; however, the names of the original donors would remain thereon.

The question was raised regarding the comparison being so extensive in the income for 1974 over 1975, it was explained that it was caused by the Diocesan quota set for Boston for that year, and that it will be much less in 1976.

In the section on GIFTS, a \$200.00 donation from the Arlington Women's Auxiliary had been left out; when included would add up to the designated total of \$10,631.00.

Re: DISBURSEMENTS - Peter Talanian raised the item of Stipends to Clergymen, such ^{as} why are they less for 1974 as compared to 1975.

It was explained that this total included the Miscellany and that Father Gizirian came in April and that Rev. Maksoudian's salary changed, thus spelling out the difference. However, a breakdown of salaries was requested from the floor, and the Treasurer complied with the following:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1975 - Father Gizirian | \$ 11,947.00 |
| Rev. Maksoudian | 6,330.44 |
| Father Minassian | <u>3,640.00</u> |
| Total | \$ 21,917.44 |

Further questions were brought up about the salaries of the Custodial help, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Alice Ashjian, certain explanations were given about the record.

Other comments arose from the membership regarding salaries; however, it was finally stipulated that such decisions are made and carried out by the Parish Council and not by the Assembly.

A motion was made and seconded that the report on the PROPOSED BUDGET for 1976, be left out of the actual financial report and it was so agreed.

A further motion was made and accepted that the 1976 Budget be accepted as proposed and was so voted.

A motion was made and seconded that the Parish Council's Report be accepted.

The reports from all of the Church Organizations were presented to the assembly in order of the Annual Report and all were accepted with comments and commendations.

A new item was submitted by the Trinity Men's Union to the Assembly, which will become a source of revenue to the church, which they researched for a long time, amongst the other churches in the American community. It is called the "1000 Club", a lottery which may net \$30,000.00 per year for the Church. Letters are being sent to the parishioners and all were urged to consider participating in this function. All reports were accepted as given.

NEW BUSINESS

At this time Father Gizirian asked for the floor to express his feelings regarding the discussion on salaries. He stated that this was not a desirable subject to be raised in meetings of this sort. He said that if he were disturbed about anything, it certainly would not be about money, especially, since he is aware of the current financial situation, and that if he is spiritually content, he would have no further wants.

Mr. Ardashes Der Ananian submitted that committees be formed in the various sections of the parish, with a representative to look into situations where a priest is needed in their areas and inform Hyre Soorp. It was suggested that "good will" groups be formed to visit people in situations, when the priest^{is} tied down with other duties, and inform him when the matter is critical.

The Chair suggested and it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council set up this plan as formerly proposed by Father Gizirian when ^{he} first came to this parish; further that Parish Council divide the area into sections and appoint a committee for each section.

Mr. John Davagian questioned an item in the Annual Report of the previous year about the formation of a Ways and Means Committee and as to whether it had been organized. Gregory Tashjian responded that they are in the process of organizing a Ways and Means Committee and that a letter is going out to former Parish Council members requesting them to join this committee.

The question was raised as to what participation the Parish Council has had in the Boston Bicentennial Festival thus far, we were informed that liasons, in the persons of Dr. Michael Kolligian and Anne Hintlian had made some connection with the Committee, but since they were not available at this time, no definite information could be submitted.

Re: The Lebanon Relief Fund - This consists of aid to the Armenian people who have been ravaged by the current conflagration in this country. The assembly was informed that a rally would take place on Sunday, March 7th at this church in conjunction with St. James Church of Watertown, to solicit funds for this appeal. The monies will be channeled from the Diocese and A.G.B.U. and will be in the form of materials, such as food, medication and means of shelter. Hyre Soorp informed us that Arthur Apkarian is Chairman and Harry Sarkisian, Vice-Chairman from St. James Church. Other churches in the New England area will participate. The program for March 7th will be a dinner and speakers from abroad, Dr. Varjabedian and Vahe Vahian, who are witnesses to these didasters.

Der Hayr stated or reported that the total cash amount available accrued from all of the organizations of the church, not including the Parish Council,

is \$24,957.23.

RESULTS OF ELECTION PRESENTED BY NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

PARISH COUNCIL

(148 Ballots Cast - 3 Invalid)

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Gregory Tashjian | 94 - <u>Votes</u> |
| 2. Gerard Odabashian | 87 |
| 3. Robert Proodian | 79 |
| 4. Sarkis Boghosian, Jr. | 76 |
| 5. Anita Hedison | 71 |
| 6. John Aroian | 68 - <u>Alternate</u> |

AUDITING COMMITTEE

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Hiram Deranian | 87 - <u>Votes</u> |
| 2. George Jamgochian | 83 |
| 3. Gertrude Nahigian | 82 |

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

(148 Ballots Cast - 11 Invalid - 3 Write-ins)

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Arthur Apkarian | 99 - <u>Votes</u> |
| 2. Diran Zahigian | 88 |
| 3. Ardashes Der Ananian | 84 |
| 4. Peter Talanian | 77 |
| 5. Aram Hintlian | 74 |
| 6. John Davagian | 63 |

RESULTS OF ELECTION (CONT.)

DELEGATE TO DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

(148 Ballots Cast - 10 Invalid,- 13 Write-ins)

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Arthar Apkarian | 104 - Vote |
| 2. John Soorsourian | 99 |
| 3. Diran Zahigian | 93 |
| 4. Archie Kolligian | 91 |
| 5. John Davagian | 74 |
| 6. Peter Talanian | 69 |
| 7. Richard Goolkasian | 58 - <u>Alternate</u> |

The new elected officers were congratulated and called forward to receive the blessings from the Pastor.

The meeting of the 1976 Annual Assembly adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Araxi Janjigian
Secretary

Very Reverend Yeghishe Gizirian
President and Pastor

John Soursourian
Parish Assembly Chairman