

## PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- 1 In consideration of the criticism about the length of our annual membership meetings your Parish Council this year has decided to present a general summary of the reports of its various auxiliary organizations and committees together with the Council's annual report.

If any member wishes to have more detailed information about any subject such information will be made available to the meeting through the responsible parties.

- 2 I wish to remind you that as members in good standing of our Church, it is not only your right to question and criticize the activities and the decisions of your Parish Council and its auxiliary bodies but it is also your duty to do so without any consideration as to your personal relationships with the persons involved. Those of us who have accepted responsible positions to serve our Church must also be aware that our decisions can always be subject to the criticism of the members who have elected us. It is through such constructive criticism that past mistakes can be corrected and/or future ones can be avoided.

3 PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: G. Kavoukian  
VICE-CHAIRMAN: H. Horasan  
SECRETARY: J. Yeretsian  
TREASURER: T. Bodourian

- 4 MEETINGS: The Parish Council met 20 times since taking office and each meeting started promptly at 8:30 p.m. and lasted about for two hours. Compared to previous years and due to the co-operation of the members, a considerable amount of meeting-time was saved and none of the questions discussed were left undecided.

- 5 SPECIAL PARISH ASSEMBLY: In order to keep in close touch and consult the members, the Parish Council tried to organize Special Parish Assemblies every three months. On the 23rd March and 22nd June, two such Special Meetings were held but the attendance proved to be very discouraging for holding further such meetings.

- 6 EASTER MASS: For the better accommodation of the worshippers in 1969 the Easter Mass was celebrated, with the permission of the Primate, in this Hall. Your Parish Council needs your comments on this decision for their future guidance.

- 7     **24TH APRIL:** As usual the commemorative meeting for our martyrs was organized under the auspices of our Church with the participation of the Armenian Evangelical Church, the Armenian General Benevolent Union and the Armenian Revolutionary Federation.
- 8     **VISIT TO H.O.M.:** The Parish Council Chairman was invited to attend the 59th anniversary meeting of the H.O.M. (High Oknutyan Miutyun). I was instructed by the Parish Council to accept the invitation and attend the meeting which I did.
- 9     **COMMEMORATIVE PLATE:** After a lapse of about ten years of His Holiness Catholicos Vasken First's visit to our Church finally in 1969 a plate was installed in our Church commemorating this visit. The Parish Council thanks Mr. N. Alexanian for the donation of this plate.
- 10    **CUFFLINKS:** According to a local custom every year cufflinks are donated by the Parish Council members to the retiring members of the Council in appreciation of their services. Somehow this custom was neglected within the past few years and in the Special Parish Assembly of the 23rd March, cufflinks were distributed to those members who had served the Council since 1965 and were present at that meeting.
- 11    **FINANCIAL:** The attached statements certified by your auditors present our financial position. As your Parish Council, we feel proud that for the first time, since the building of this hall, we now have a surplus of about \$11,400. We would even have shown a much higher surplus had it not been for certain repairs which had been deferred during the past years which we had to take care of in 1969. However, I must warn you that this surplus should not discourage our potential donors by leading them to think that our Church is no longer in need of their help. The fact of the matter is that this surplus is far from being adequate as a Reserve Fund which we desperately need, in an expanding community such as ours, for our future investments.
- 12    **CHURCH SERVICES:** Every Sunday, except on two occasions, when Rev. Tashjian was away for the ACYOA convention in March and for the Diocesan Assembly in May, High Mass was celebrated in our Church. And on the Sunday of the 16th of November our Primate the Most Rev. Bishop Torkom Manougian was the celebrant priest.

13 During the year, ceremonies were performed for 31 Baptisms, 23 Marriages, 16 Burials and ~~for~~ requiem mass for 59 families.

As this is the end of my term, I would like to express my thanks to our Suffragan Bishop, The Most Rev. Vache Hovsepian, to Rev. Tashjian and to all my colleagues in the Parish Council for their help and co-operation in the performance of my duties. I would especially also like to thank Mr. J. Yeretsian who proved himself to be a very exceptional Secretary. And due to the secretarial and technical help which was accorded to us through Mr. Horasan's office, I can say that we have been able to keep the most accurate minutes of Parish Council meetings as compared to any previous year.

The Parish Council would also like to thank Mr. Y. Boyajian for his services which have always proved to be beyond the call of duty.

14

LADIES AUXILIARY

CHAIRMAN : Mrs. H. Afarian  
SECRETARY : Mrs. Sh. Artinian  
TREASURER : Mrs. Sh. Channessian

15 MEETINGS: Six membership meetings and ten Executive Committee meetings were held during the year.

16 MEMBERSHIP: There are 89 registered members.

17 ACTIVITIES:

- 1) March 15 : Lenten Dinner
- 2) April 6 : Easter Egg-Cracking Party
- 3) April 13 : Breakfast for the Students of Saturday School
- 4) April 19 : Kebab Party to the Executive Committees of the auxiliary bodies of the Church.
- 5) April 27 : "Madagh" Dinner
- 6) May 27 : Tea party to welcome new members
- 7) June 19 : Tea Party for the teachers and the Executive Committee members of St. Sahag and St. Mesrob School.
- 8) June 26 : Tea Party for the teachers of Sunday School
- 9) Nov. 1 : Annual Dance at the Inn on the Park
- 10) Nov. 16: Dinner Party to the Choir members of our Diocese at their Convention in Toronto.
- 11) Nov. 22: Annual Bazaar



23

TEACHING STAFF (Cont'd.)

Kindergarten Supervisor:

Mrs. A. Karageuzian

Kindergarten Assistants:

Miss S. Chuljian

Miss H. Derderian

Miss A. Kassarian

Miss A. Papazian

All the above-mentioned are serving on a voluntary basis without any payment. The Parish Council feels sure that their sacrifice is highly appreciated by the members of our community.

24

NUMBER OF STUDENTS: There are 147 registered students of which 110 are in elementary classes and 37 in Kindergarten.

25

TRANSPORTATION: With very few exceptions all the students are utilizing the transportation provided by the School. This year the drivers have been very punctual.

26

CLASSES: The six elementary school classes are taking place in the Armenian Holy Trinity Church Hall and the Kindergarten classes are being conducted in the Armenian Evangelical Church Hall. Both Churches have volunteered to put their facilities at the disposal of the School Committee.

27

ACTIVITIES: The School Committee organized a concert by inviting the Istanbul Armenian Cultural Association of Detroit on the occasion of Gomidas Vartabed's centenary.

28

FINANCIAL:

From Sept. 1968 to July 31, 1969

Misc. Income	\$ 11,965.93
Expense	<u>9,580.06</u>
Cash Balance	
July 31st	<u>\$ 2,385.87</u>

FINANCIAL (Cont'd.):

From July 31st to Dec. 31st, 1969

28	Cash Balance	\$ 2,385.87
	Income	<u>5,548.94</u>
		7,934.81
	Expense	<u>3,859.32</u>
		4,074.99
	Accrued Expense	<u><del>830.00</del></u>
	Cash Balance Dec 31st, 1969.	<u><del>3,394.99</del></u>

The School Committee members express their thanks to all their supporters and benefactors.

29

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mr. S. Adourian  
Members: Mr. J. Sultanian, Mr G. Celil,  
Mr. M. Papazian, Mr. A. Gulian.

30

ACTIVITIES : Spring Dance: This Dance was organized in co-operation with the ACYOA.

Gross Income	\$ 1,208.65
Expense	<u>675.96</u>
Net Profit	<u>\$ 523.69</u>

Annual Picnic: This year's picnic was exceptionally successful.

Gross Income	\$ 2,658.35
Expense	<u>837.30</u>
Net Profit	<u>\$ 1,821.05</u>

16th Anniversary Dance: This Dance was organized in co-operation with the Ladies Auxiliary.

Gross Income	\$ 1,372.00
Expense	<u>622.37</u>
Net Profit	<u>\$ 749.63</u>

31

The Entertainment Committee members express their thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary, to the ACYOA and especially to Miss A. Ceylanli and Mr. H. Mardirossian for their help in making their ventures successful.

32 SUNDAY SCHOOL: After the resignation of Mr. Hamboyan, who was a very valuable Principal, our Sunday School is organized as follows:

Supervisor: Rev. Tashjian  
Parish Council: Mr. J. Pederian  
Principal: Mr. M. Bahudian

Teachers: Mrs. S. Chuljian  
Miss L. Chakmakjian  
Miss L. Tashjian  
Mr. D. Ghazarian

33 STUDENTS: There are 25 registered students.

34 CLASSES: The School is divided into 4 classes in the following manner:

1st Class 4 to 5 years old  
2nd Class 6 to 7 years old  
3rd Class 8 to 10 years old  
4th Class 10 to 13 years old

Every Sunday, the lessons are from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

In 1969 a projector <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ purchased and religious slides are being shown to the students.

35 The Principal of the Sunday School, Mr. Bahudian, needs the co-operation of the parents for the further success of the Sunday School.

36 FINANCIAL:

Cash balance at the beginning of the term	\$ 288.37
Income	<u>27.00</u>
	315.37
Expense	<u>155.90</u>
Cash balance on 31st Dec., 1969.	<u>\$ 159.47</u>

37

A.C.Y.O.A.

CHAIRMAN: Miss A. Chubukjian  
SECRETARY: Mr. H. Tikirian  
TREASURER: Mr. A. Chubukjian

38

MEMBERSHIP: There are 35 registered members.

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MEETINGS: 38 Executive Committee and 2 General Meetings  
were held during the year.

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ACTIVITIES:

- 1) February - Mascarade Dance
- 2) May - Trip to Montreal (10th Anniversary celebration)
- 3) Aug. Sept. - Three picnics:  
Kingston  
Mussulman Beach  
Kelso Beach
- 4) September - Opening Party
- 5) October - Lecture by Mr. Y. Sevan
- 6) November - Lecture by R. Norsigian
- 7) November - Lecture by H. Terzan
- 8) December - New Year's Eve Party

41

FINANCIAL:

Cash Balance Jan. 1, 1969	\$ 913.40
Income	<u>1616.31</u>
	2529.71
Expense	<u>2329.17</u>
Cash balance Dec. 31/69	\$ 200.54
Estimated Income of Dec. Dance	<u>300.00</u>
	500.54
Debt to Parish Council	<u>300.00</u>
	\$ 200.54

42

JUNIOR A.C.Y.O.A.

CHAIRMAN: Mr. H. Sakarya  
SECRETARY: Miss I. Papazian  
TREASURER: Mr. V. Kerim

43

MEMBERSHIP: There are 13 registered members.



44 MEETINGS: 25 Executive Committee meetings were held during the year.

45 ACTIVITIES:

January - Skiing trip to Honey Pot (under Dr. Sakarya's supervision)

November - Dance Party

46 FINANCIAL:

Cash balance January 1969	\$ 150.00
Income	100.00
	<u>250.00</u>
Purchase of a record player etc.	50.00
Cash balance Dec. 31/69	<u>\$ 100.00</u>

47 The ACYOA must be considered one of the most important organizations of our Church. If we do not prepare and train our present day youth properly we can not have too much hope about our future existence as a community. The idea is not to interfere with the activities of our youth but to provide the necessary guidance to our present junior senior ACYOA Executive Committees so that they can make this organization interesting for their members. Your Parish Council made several efforts in this direction, but I regret to inform you that the results were not successful. Your Parish Council needs your help and suggestions on this subject.

48

NOR SEROUNT

EDITOR IN CHIEF:	Mr. Y. Kahvejian
ENGLISH EDITOR:	Mr. H. Selian
ARMENIAN REPORTER:	Mr. H. Shishmanian
TREASURER:	Miss A. Dzalian
PUBLISHER:	Mr. V. Salibian
CIRCULATION DIRECTOR:	Mr. J. Yeretsian
ASST. " " :	Mr. G. Karabulut
TYPISTS :	Mrs. A. Eudemishlian
	Mrs. A. Tchilguirian

49 CIRCULATION: There are 242 subscribers.

50 PUBLICATION: 8 issues were published during the year.

51

FINANCIAL:

Cash balance 1st of Feb. 1969	\$ 759.95
Income	664.93
	<u>\$1,424.88</u>
Expense	573.05
Cash 31st Dec. 1969	<u>\$ 851.83</u>

52

There is no doubt that a community such as ours needs a newspaper which must be published at least once a month. After a long period of interruption, the Parish Council succeeded in re-organizing the Nor Serount staff and the paper started to be published again in 1969. This paper is now being published by the Parish Council and the ACYCA but unfortunately in 1969, ACYCA's contribution has been very negligible.

53

CHURCH CHOIR

CHAIRMAN: Mr. V. Vartanian  
SECRETARY: Mr. V. Vartanian  
TREASURER: Mr. H. Kassarian  
CHOIR MASTER: Mr. A. Cavouk  
ASST. CHOIR MASTER: Mr. M. Selian  
ORGANIST: Mrs. A. Kassarian  
ORGANIST: Miss A. Meutemedian

54

MEMBERS: There are 20 registered members.

55

MEETINGS: 18 Executive Committee Meetings were held.

56

ACTIVITIES: Picnic at Mr. Minas Selyan's garden  
Gomidas Vartebed Centennial Concert  
Convention of Diocesan Choirs

57

FINANCIAL:

Cash balance January 1st, 1969 \$235.95  
Cash balance December 31/69 \$448.54

Note: - Expense or Income totals were not available at the time of printing.

58

In 1969, the Choir Master, Mr. Minas Selian retired after serving the Church Choir for 10 years. At the Convention of the Diocesan Church Choir the Primate the Most Rev. Bishop Manougian and the Parish Council Chairman, thanked Mr. Minas Selian for his services.

59

It is desirable that those of us who wish to sing in Church should first consider to become registered members of the Church Choir in order to secure and preserve unity and uniformity.

60

#### MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

It is preferable to have a Committee under this name but in 1969 the Parish Council did not feel the need to form such a Committee because Mr. Victor Catchick's professional guidance was considered sufficient.

The upkeep and the repair of our Church had to be neglected for the past few years because the Church was in debt. However, in 1968 after the successful settlement of an insurance claim not only was the debt paid off, but the necessary maintenance work started which incessantly continued in 1969. In 1969, alone the cost of such repairs was approximately over \$2,000.00.

Mr. V. Catchick has been very helpful in guiding and advising us and providing the necessary workmen and checking the results. The Parish Council is very grateful to Mr. V. Catchick.

61

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Considering that during the past Assemblies, there has been a demand to establish a Public Relations Committee, Dr. N. Cehlanli and Mr. A. Cavouk were asked to consider the possibility of forming such a Committee but no activities were reported.

62

#### IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE

Mr. G. Elmassian was asked to organize a Committee with the object of helping the newcomers but no activities were reported.

63

#### PROJECT 1980 COMMITTEE

This Committee was formed under the Chairmanship of Mr. G. Elmassian with the object of studying the long term policy or the needs of our Church in this expanding community. This Committee had three meetings and in the last meeting it was decided, for the time being, to help the A.G.B.U. School Building project but no activities were reported in this respect.

63

PROJECT 1980 COMMITTEE (Cont'd.)

I submit that this Committee be considered one of the most important Committees of our Church and in the event of its not functioning properly that it be re-organized.

64

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

This Committee was set-up by Dr. N. Ceylanli, Mr. G. Elmassian and Mr. V. Bedrossian for finding and registering new members to our Church. No activities were reported by the committee; but through the individual efforts of Rev. Tashjian, the number of our members was raised from 232 to 255.

65

We must admit that compared to the total Armenian population in our city this number is very low. This Committee must be re-organized and efforts must be made to make it clear to certain people that paying annual dues to our Church is like paying Income Tax to our Federal Government. If we need a Church, we must be willing to support it and never condescend to benefit from the services of a Church which is being supported by others.

66

DELEGATES

Mr. J. Pederian, Mr. A. Cavouk and Mr. H. Selian were elected as delegates to our Diocesan Assembly in 1968 for a term of 4 years. Unfortunately, only Mr. J. Pederian as a delegate and myself as the Parish Council Chairman attended the 1969 Diocesan Assembly. The proceedings of the Assembly were extensively reported in the " High Yegeghetzi " to which you are all subscribers. There is no decision to report which specifically concerns our Church.

67

It is desirable that our Church be properly represented in the Diocesan Assembly. In future, those who do not have the intention of performing their duties should not declare themselves candidates not only for this but for any other position in any other Committee. This is a most elementary principle for the proper functioning of an organization. No force can be exerted on any one to work but where there is no intention or willingness, the chance must be given to those who may wish to work.

68

VISIT TO ETCHMIADZIN

Among the great number of tourists who visited Soviet Armenia in 1939 on the occasion of "Mironortnuyun", our Parish was fortunate to have Mr. A. Cavouk and Mr. J. Pederian as delegates.

69

CHURCH HOSPITALITY

Mr. J. Pederian who was in charge of this function every Sunday did his best and meticulously performed his duty in organizing the plate collections and in securing an atmosphere of orderliness for the worshippers.

70

CIRCULARS

The job of printing and mailing our circulars has been taken care of voluntarily by Rev. Tashjian in addition to his clerical responsibilities.

71

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Mr. Y. Boyadjian, Mr. A. Cavouk, Mr. V. Vartanian, Mr. A. Baltayan and Mr. J. Sivajian (resigned) are the members of this Committee. They have been requested to find candidates for:

- a) Parish Council membership
- b) Auditors
- c) Next Assembly's Nominating Committee

The Committee will directly report to this Assembly.

72

AUDITORS

Dr. N. Ceylanli, Dr. M. Sakarya and Mr. M. Artinian were elected as auditors in our last year's Assembly. The books of the Parish Council and the auxiliary bodies were submitted to their examination. The Parish Council will approach with an open mind any suggestion that the auditors may present to this Assembly. I submit, with all due respect to the present auditors that in future, auditors be preferably elected from amongst those members who are professional accountants or bookkeepers.

72

AUDITORS (Cont'd.)

I also suggest that one of the auditors provide professional guidance to our Treasurer, during the year, so that our accounts may be kept in accordance with the accepted accounting principles.

CONCLUDING REMARKS:

In 1969, we tried to establish an organizational structure through various committees. Some of these committees, as it is obvious from this report, need to be re-organized.

However, the structure must be solidly established: first, because it is more democratic; secondly, because by making members participate in the management of their Church affairs we make them more attached to the Church.

For the better involvement of the remaining passive members, we must encourage their constructive criticism.

I wish the very best of luck and success to my successor in 1970.

Caro Kavoukian

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

CK/amp

Toronto,  
January 25, 1970.