

Outreach

Հրատարակութիւն Ամերիկահայոց Արեւելեան Թեմի Ազգային Առաջնորդարանի
A Publication of the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America

Volume XII, Number 7 — November 1989

ՀԱՂՈՐԴԱԳՐՈՒԹԻՒՆ

Այսօր, Ս. Աթոռոյս Գահակալ՝ Ն.Ս.Օ.Տ.Տ. Գարեգին Բ. Վեհափառ Հայրապետը խոր գոհունակութեամբ ստացաւ Ամենայն Հայոց Վեհափառ Հայրապետ Ն.Ս.Օ.Տ.Տ. Վազգէն Ա. Կաթողիկոսէն հետեւեալ հեռագիրը. —

Ն.Ս.Օ.Տ.Տ.
ԳԱՐԵԳԻՆ Բ. ԿԱԹՈՂԻԿՈՍ
ՄԵԾԻ ՏԱՆՆ ԿԻԼԻԿԻՈՅ

Ուրախ եմք Ձեզ յայտնելու քէ Սիսիանում եկեղեցու մօտ տեղական իշխանութեան կողմից կառուցուած է մի յուշակոթող՝ չորս մեթր բարձրութեամբ, ի յիշատակ Ամենայն Հայոց Կաթողիկոսի եւ Տանն Կիլիկիոյ Գարեգին Բ. Կաթողիկոսի պատմական այցելութեան: Ամսոյս 26-ին տեղի ունեցաւ հանդիսաւոր բացում բազմահար խանդավառ ժողովրդի ներկայութեան:

Եղբայրական սիրով,
ՎԱԶԳԷՆ Ա. ԿԱԹՈՂԻԿՈՍ

Ի պատասխան սոյն հեռագրին՝ Գարեգին Բ. Վեհափառը հետեւեալ հեռագիրը ուղղեց Վազգէն Ա. Կաթողիկոսին. —

ՆՈՐԻՆ Ս. ՕՇՈՒԹԻՒՆ
Տ.Տ. ՎԱԶԳԷՆ Ա.
ԿԱԹՈՂԻԿՈՍ ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՅ
Ս. ԷՋՄԻԱՄԵՆ

Հոգեկան անհուն բաւարարութեան զգացումով այսօր ստացանք Ձեր 29 Սեպտեմբրի հեռագիրը: Մեր սիրոյ ողջումը կը փոխանցենք Սիսիանի հայ ժողովուրդի պատուական գահակներուն, որոնք Հայց. եկեղեցւոյ հանդէպ իրենց գովելի եւ օրինակելի կապուածութիւնը արտայայտեցին այսպիսի յուշակոթողի մը կառուցումով:

Թող անասան մնայ Հայց. եկեղեցին, որուն մէջ ահա կը բացուի ծաղկումի նոր շրջան մը միասնականութեան անխախտելի ոգիով շնչաւորումով:

Սիրելի՛ Վեհափառ,

Մտէն կը հետեւինք այս օրերուն Ղարաբաղի եւ Հայաստանի մեր ժողովուրդի կրած ահաւոր զրկանքներուն, վտանգալից նեղութիւններուն, մնչումներուն եւ անարդարութիւններուն: Գիտեմք որ Ձեր Հայրական սիրտն ալ կ'արիւնի ի տես մեր ժողովուրդի այս նոր տառապանքին: Ձեզի հետ եմք աղօթքով, մտածումով եւ կամքով: Պատրաստ եմք մեր գերագոյն կարելին ի գործ դնելու զօրավիզ կանգնելու Ձեզի եւ մեր անընկճելի ժողովուրդին: Շնորհակալ կ'ըլլանք եթէ կարենաք Մեզ տեղեկ պահել կացութեան եղաշրջումներուն մասին:

Կը հպարտանաք որ մեր ժողովուրդի արդար իրաւունքները օրինական տնօրինումներով եւ ազդու կարգադրութիւններով կը յարգուին պատկան իշխանութեանց կողմէ:

Պիտի խնդրէիք որ Մեր այս տրամադրութիւնները յայտնելի հայրենի մեր պետութեան եւ բոլոր պատասխանատու անձնաւորութեանց:

Եղբայրական ջերմ սիրով
Աղօթակից

ԳԱՐԵԳԻՆ Բ. ԿԱԹՈՂԻԿՈՍ
ՄԵԾԻ ՏԱՆՆ ԿԻԼԻԿԻՈՅ

9 Հոկտեմբեր, 1989
Անթիլիաս

ԴԻՒԱՆ ԿԱԹՈՂԻԿՈՍԱՐԱՆԻ

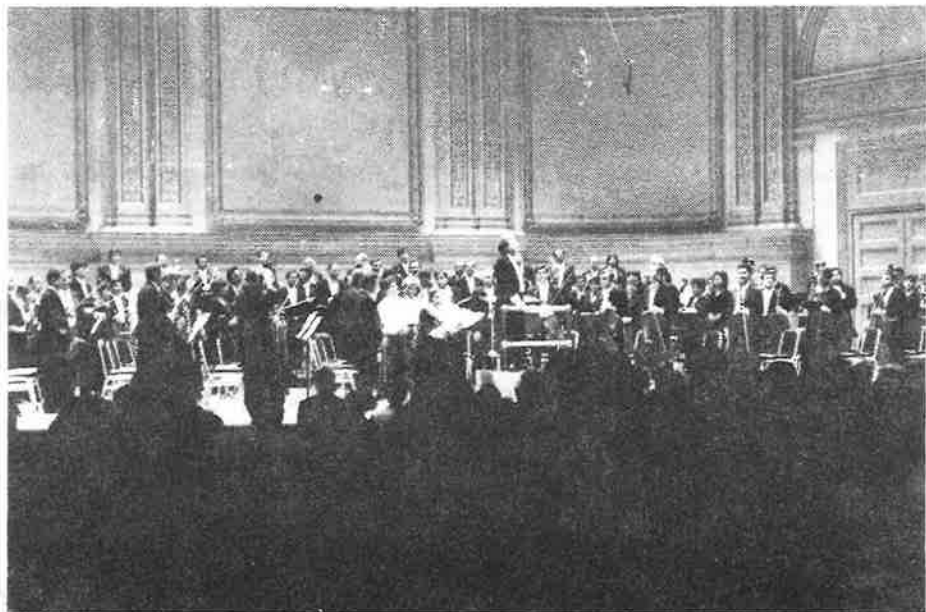


Photo by Harry Koundakjian

The Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra under the direction of Loris Tjeknavorian concluded their three-city tour in the U.S. with a sold-out performance at Carnegie Hall on December 7. Pianist Andre Watts joined the orchestra in their Boston, Washington, and New York performances. Full details of the Philharmonic tour—its first tour outside the Soviet Union—will appear in the next issue of Outreach.

Prelacy 1990 Raffle Campaign Begins

The 1990 raffle ticket fund-raising campaign for the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America is underway under the chairmanship of Mr. Ramon Zorabedian of East Greenwich, Rhode Island.

The drawing of the winning raffle tickets will take place, as in past years, during the Prelacy's annual Paregentan weekend which will take place this year at the Marriott Hotel in Newport, Rhode Island, hosted by Providence's Sts. Vartanantz Armenian Apostolic Church.

The funds raised from the raffle drawing each year helps implement the Prelacy's many projects, specifically those related to Christian education. The tickets, which are \$100 each, offer the following prizes.

- 1st Prize \$15,000
- 2nd Prize 5,000
- 3rd Prize 3,000
- 4th Prize 2,000
- 5th to 10th Prizes 1,000

Mr. Zorabedian, chairman of this year's raffle campaign, is a dedicated member of the Armenian community in Rhode Island. A long-time member of Sts. Vartanantz Church in Providence, Mr. Zorabedian has served as a trustee for six years, three of which he served as board chairman. In addition, he has served as a delegate to the National Representative Assembly for four years. Currently Mr. Zorabedian is chairman of Sts. Vartanantz Church's 50th anniversary committee. He is also a member of the Rhode Island Martyrs' Committee and has served as chairman of that committee for the past three years. Mr. Zorabedian is self-employed in the costume jewelry industry, but in spite of his demanding job, has always found time to serve the Armenian church and nation.

The 1990 raffle ticket is in itself interesting and is destined to become a collector's item. The ticket features a replica of the bank notes issued by the Republic of Armenia of 1918-1920. The original Arme-



Ramon Zorabedian
Chairman Prelacy 1990 Raffle Campaign

nian bank notes, available in 50-, 100-, and 250-ruble denominations, were designed by artist Arshag Fervadjian and were printed in London in 1919 and placed in circulation in 1920 shortly before the fall of the Republic. The signatories are the Prime Minister, Alexander Khadisian and the Minister of Finance, Grigor Djaghnetian. The text on the notes is in Armenian, French, and Russian.

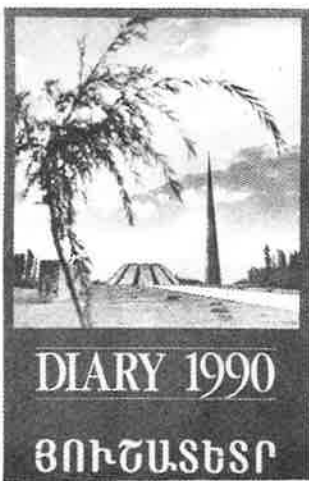
The regional coordinators for the 1990 raffle ticket campaign are:

Mid-Atlantic Region: Mr. Jack Tutelian, 2200 N. Central Rd., #8H, Fort Lee, NJ 07024, (201) 461-8088.

New England Region: Mr. Gary Setian, 32 Longview Drive, Longmeadow, MA 01106, (413) 567-6514.

Mid-West Region: Mr. Richard Maloyan, 35246 Lancashire Ct., Livonia, MI 48152, (313) 478-6956.

(Continued on page 4)



**The 1990 Pocket
Diary Published by
The Prelacy is on
its Way to You. . .
And Should Arrive
At Your Home Very
Soon!**

Editorial . . .

Reflections

Although this is the November issue of OUTREACH you will be receiving it well after the first anniversary of the earthquake in Armenia. It has been a year of deep thought and reflection for Armenians. . .

Tens of thousands of lives expired in a few minutes when the earth shook a large part of northern Armenia into a mass of rubble. This earthquake was the largest single tragedy suffered by the Armenians since the Great Massacre of 1915. December 7 will be memorialized, no doubt, in the Armenian calendar, as a secondary Martyrs' Day. It will be given the aura of sanctity by the Church and official recognition by the secular organizations. Once a year, like a revelation, we will remember it and pay homage, as we do with so many other things on our calendar.

That is the easy way out, to hold an annual service, and to forget it the rest of the year. That does not require much thought. But what if this earthquake were a lesson for the Armenians? It was, after all, an act of God, as all such natural disasters are called. Was God trying to tell us something? Is there a lesson to be learned from this event? That is the question we have to ask ourselves.

What did we learn from this tragedy, because if we did not learn anything, then the dead died in vain. But if we learned any fundamental lessons, then the dead gave their lives so that we might be wiser in our thoughts and acts.

We now know not to build 7 or 9 or 11 story buildings in an earthquake zone unless they are designed and constructed to withstand heavy tremors. We now realize the importance of an emergency disaster organization in place ready to act when needed. We learned that rescue work must be planned ahead of time and must be accomplished within the first few hours to be effective.

But these are logistical, physical, almost axiomatic, lessons that we learned. What of the spiritual lessons that must be learned and which are not so obvious?

In the human spirit there is the instinct to help in all kinds of emergencies. We might say that the Good Samaritan has always been with us. That is one lesson. Another is charity, not the assistance that came from all corners of the world to Armenia, but Christian charity, that love—which is what the word charity means—that each of us should have for the other. A third lesson is the sense of commonality that we all feel, in the Diaspora, in Armenia, and between the Diaspora and Armenia, despite the differences and diversity found even within a single people. The greatest lesson of all and seemingly the most difficult to learn is unity, which goes back to the third lesson, a commonality that sticks together, to help each other to overcome suffering, to work together to achieve worthy goals, and to encourage each other always to seek excellence.

If we as a people can learn these lessons from that tragic earthquake, instead of merely adding another memorial day to our church calendar, then we can say as did the Psalmist of old, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

President Bush and Governor Deukmejian Send Their Thanks

The following letter was sent to Archbishop Ashjian by President Bush:

Dear Archbishop Ashjian:

Thank you for your message and kind words following California's recent earthquake. I know that Armenian Americans, with poignant memories of last December's catastrophe, understand fully the amount of suffering and damage caused by an earthquake.

At times like this, the generosity displayed by Americans and by people throughout the world is truly inspiring. You can be sure that those touched by this tragedy are deeply grateful for your prayers and encouragement. I know I am.

With appreciation and best wishes,

Sincerely,
George Bush

The following letter was received from Governor George Deukmejian:

Dear Archbishop Ashjian:

Thank you for your kind message regarding the recent earthquake that struck Northern California. Your thoughtfulness is deeply appreciated.

This earthquake took a tragic toll on our state—killing 65 people, injuring more than 3,000, forcing thousands of families out of their homes and causing billions of dollars worth of property damage.

Yet, the victims of this disaster have been comforted and consoled by the overwhelming offers of sympathy and assistance from people throughout our nation and the world.

We also feel blessed to have benefited from a highly sophisticated and effective disaster planning program that helped to minimize the damage. Despite the great magnitude of this earthquake, many tall structures emerged virtually undamaged, and the death toll is lower than originally estimated.

Today, we stand committed to helping the victims of the earthquake rebuild their homes, businesses and lives. This effort is being accomplished not only by mobilizing the resources of government, but also through the generous support of private citizens and organizations, and the concerned leaders of other states and nations.

We are proud of the resiliency of our citizens in meeting the challenges posed by the earthquake. Federal, state and local employees, volunteer groups and private citizens and organizations have all come together to respond to this disaster with a selfless, dedicated commitment of the highest caliber.

All Californians join me in extending our deep appreciation for your expression of sympathy and concern. Please accept my very best wishes.

Most cordially,
George Deukmejian

THE PRELACY BOOKSTORE
HAS A LARGE SELECTION
OF BOOKS, VIDEOS, TAPES

John O. Vartan Donates for Special Projects



John Vartan to Receive Prince of Cilicia Honors

John Vartan will be granted the title of "Prince of Cilicia" in a ceremony on Armenian Christmas Day, January 6, 1990. The ceremony will take place at the Prelacy headquarters in New York City.

Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian will preside over the ceremonies during which the title will be bestowed upon Mr. Vartan and the Encyclical issued by His Holiness Karekin II for this occasion will be read.

The Prince of Cilicia honorific dates back to the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia (1080-1375). After the fall of the Kingdom, the Catholicos of the Armenian Church assumed the Kingdom's temporal and spiritual honors. To this day the Catholicos of Cilicia is addressed as "Your Majesty," signs all official encyclicals with red ink and has the right to grant titles to individuals who have served with distinction in spiritual, social, political, and cultural endeavors.

Currently the Catholicos bestows four titles:

1. Great Cross of Cilicia. This is the highest order and in the past decade recipients have been: The Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, President Ronald Reagan, and the late Emperor of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie II.

2. Prince of Cilicia. This insignia is bestowed upon major benefactors and individuals who have served the nation with distinction. In recent years recipients have included Philanthropist and Humanitarian, George Mardikian; Writer, William Saroyan; Premier of Canada, William Davis; and Cleveland Dodge, benefactor and founder of Near East Relief.

3. Knight of Cilicia: This title is bestowed upon people who have shown great commitment in their service to the Armenian nation.

4. Order of St. Mesrob Mashdots. This title was established in the name of the inventor of the Armenian alphabet and is granted to individuals who have distinguished themselves in the arts and in education.

"We are pleased," said Archbishop Ashjian, "to honor Mr. Vartan, who has distinguished himself in recent years as one of the most prominent benefactors of the Armenian church and community in Pennsylvania. He is joining the company of people to whom the Armenian nation owes so much."

VIDEO OF THE
ANI PROGRAM AT THE
METROPOLITAN MUSEUM
FEATURING
ALAN HOVHANESS'
ANI SYMPHONY IS
AVAILABLE ON VIDEO
AT THE PRELACY
BOOKSTORE

John O. Vartan, the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania based businessman and real estate developer and an avid supporter of Armenian causes, has donated \$100,000 to the Prelacy to be used for special projects jointly by the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America and the Catholicosate of Cilicia. Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian recently visited Mr. Vartan at his home in Harrisburg to thank him and his family for their outstanding philanthropic endeavors toward both the Armenian and American communities.

Earlier this year Mr. Vartan donated \$1,250,000 to the Prelacy to be used for education, the needy, the elderly and for the development of religious leaders. Immediately after the earthquake in Armenia Mr. Vartan set up a fund raising drive in Harrisburg, raising \$60,000 in a short time by contacting local townspeople. He matched the sum and forwarded a check for \$120,000 to the Prelacy's earthquake fund.

In 1987 Mr. Vartan donated 14 acres of land and a mansion in Harrisburg, valued at 2.1 million dollars, to Widener University. The main campus of the University is located in Chester, Pa. For some time the University hoped to build a law school in the Harrisburg area but was unable to find the right location at an affordable price. Mr. Vartan's donation solved the problem and the Widener University Law School was dedicated on September 22, 1989.

Mr. Vartan was also instrumental in the establishment of the Allison Hill Community Center in Harrisburg. He built the Center for the community to the delight of local politicians and residents who had struggled for years to build a center with little progress. At that time Mayor Stephen Reed commented: "I can remember no person, no group that has made a contribution of this significance to the city of Harrisburg in at least 40 years." The center provides a safe meeting place for neighborhood children and senior citizens.

Archbishop Ashjian expressed his deep gratitude to Mr. Vartan and his family for the generous support they have extended towards countless worthwhile projects.

N.A.L.G. Regional Seminar in Troy, NY

The New England Regional Seminar of the National Association of Ladies Guilds took place October 14, at the Holy Cross Armenian Apostolic Church, Troy, New York.

The seminar was hosted by the Ladies' Guild with guests from Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

Rev. Khatchig Meguerdichian, pastor of the Holy Cross Church, welcomed the guests and briefly gave a history of the church and community noting that the women are the ones who make the Church into a home and that the Ladies' Guild is a vital part of the Church.

Nartuhi Selverian, chairwoman of the N.A.L.G. outlined the purpose and the accomplishments of national guild and Violet Karian, chairwoman of the Ladies' Guild of the Holy Cross Church spoke about their mission and accomplishments.

The Very Rev. Anoushavan Tanielian, delivered a very informative lecture on the Divine Liturgy, prompting an interesting question and answer period.

Mrs. Zepure Ovigian, member of the Holy Cross Church Ladies' Guild was honored on the occasion of her 90th birthday and for her more than 30 years of devoted service to the Church. During that time Mrs. Ovigian served for 20 years as chairlady of the Troy Ladies' Guild.

All of the participants enjoyed a day of education and friendship and look forward to future seminars.

—Alice Khachadourian

OUTREACH

A monthly publication of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America

Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian, *Prelate*

Mardiros M. Haftvani, *Managing Editor*

Iris Papazian, *Editor*

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National Conference on Christian Education

by Joanna Baghdarian

Director of Christian Education, Armenian Religious Education Council

The AREC-sponsored, National Conference on Christian Education was held at Our Lady of Peace Spiritual Life Center in Narragansett, Rhode Island from September 8-10, 1989. Just two minutes from the beach, the setting was ideal for the refreshment and the rejuvenation of the spirit. We who arrived early, could indeed sense the peace and the presence of the Holy Spirit in this beautiful setting. Our hostess, Sister Mary, radiated God's love with her gentle smile and kind demeanor as she embraced us warmly at the door. We were given a quick tour of the retreat House and within minutes, the occupants of the van unloaded the boxes. In a short time, the Conference Room was decorated with colorful posters and displays. Exhibition tables were set up with free resource material. Arts and Crafts tables held a variety of beautiful Armenian Church Crafts and as this team of teachers from Ridgefield, New Jersey received final instructions on registration procedures, participants slowly began to arrive from Providence, Montreal, Indian Orchard, Worcester, Watertown, Whitinsville, Philadelphia and more from Ridgefield. Thus began our weekend theme: "The Badarak" "We Believe" "The Bible": *Knit Together With Love ...*

First on the Agenda was an "Arts and Crafts Workshop". This gave participants an opportunity to learn how to use the Armenian Church Craft effectively. The Craft time was a highlight for the teachers, since the informal atmosphere contributed to warm, friendly, spontaneous, let's-get-to-know-each-other conversations. Participants experienced a variety of textures in crafts, like molding plaster, colorful plastic beads, melting crystals, cloth banners and stained glass.

Later, film producer, Manoug Kaprielian from Providence, gave a moving video presentation depicting his recent visit with Armenia's school children, entitled, *Kindred Spirits*. Manoug, who has been working with a team of psychiatrists, embarked on this project to help the emotionally traumatized children of the earthquake express their grief through video. The film included responses from Armenian-American students who also shared their thoughts, feelings and emotions regarding the disaster. It was interesting to see that all the young people who were interviewed in Armenia and the U.S. communicated similar sentiments over their loss. The finale to this production is something that cannot be forgotten since it truly portrays the bonding that takes place — no matter how great the distance — between "kindred spirits."

The Keynote Speaker, Rev. Dr. Mesrob Tashjian, Pastor of Sts. Vartanantz Armenian Apostolic Church in Providence, addressed the participants on the topic "God's Love Through the Liturgy". Dr. Tashjian began by saying, "We, as baptized Christians, are ambassadors of God placed on earth to bring glory to Him and to build up His Kingdom. The Badarak — or Sacrifice — is the expression and re-enactment of God's Perfect Love. Jesus is the Perfect Sacrifice and we cannot pierce heaven and touch God without first coming to Christ." Der Mesrob's lecture was filled with tangible, concrete examples from life and nature that allowed participants to touch the hemline of heaven and to see with more clarity, the ways and the wisdom of God.

Workshops on "How To Teach the Badarak" and "How To Teach the 'We Believe' Curriculum" were later led by Rev. Antranig Baljian, Mrs. Aghavni Bashian, Ms. Barbara Baljian, Ms. Mary Fermanian, Dr. Helen Garabedian and Mrs. Beatrice Postian.

Educator and Humorist, Dottie Bengoian, lightened our hearts with laughter as she demonstrated *Humor in the Sunday School Classroom*. "Humor is a bonding agent," says Dottie. "It helps students learn and re-



Participants on steps of Retreat House.

tain the lesson better and discipline is kept to a minimum with humor in the classroom, humor is God's weapon against worry, and laughter is internal jogging" added Ms. Bengoian. "When we laugh, God laughs with us." Her stories were taken from real life experiences and were words of wisdom presented with enthusiasm and humor. To help us 'cool down' from this 'internal jogging', Dottie told the story of how a gentle prayer brought harmony to a meeting when a group of Armenian women were arguing over a matter. There seemed to be no end in sight to this clash of opinions when suddenly, the leader began to openly pray the "Hayr Mer." Slowly — one by one — each woman joined in. God's peace had settled over the room and the women were able to continue their meeting in a more loving and orderly manner. Ms. Bengoian skillfully showed us not only how to have a joyful, hopeful attitude towards life but she also revealed the gentle power of God's written Word as in the story above. A recent note from one of the participants expressed clearly what all of us felt: "Dottie's humor gave me a different outlook on life."

The First Annual Awards Dinner was held Saturday night and directors and teachers were honored for various reasons: Director Michael Injaian from Philadelphia and Teacher Lisa Sinanian from Ridgefield were rewarded for "Punctuality" in responding to deadlines for projects issued by the AREC Office.

Mr. and Mrs. Zaven Abdalian were acknowledged for having travelled the "Furthest Distance" — 10 hours from Montreal to attend the Seminar.

St. Sarkis Sunday School in Dearborn, Michigan was honored for contributing \$1,000 — the most money collected for the "Plant A Tree In Armenia" Campaign sponsored by AREC. St. Sarkis Sunday School students will receive an evergreen tree to be planted on their church grounds as a reminder for the trees that will be planted in Nalband in early Spring.

Arto Kiremitdjian, a freshman in college and Bea Piligian, Sunday School teacher for 35 years, were recognized as the "Youngest" and "Longest Serving" teachers, respectively.

The award for the "Most Participants" to attend the Seminar was given to 6 teachers who came from Ridgefield, NJ.

Finally, directors and nominees for the "Teachers of the Year" Award were honored and the award for "Teacher of the Year" was presented to Patricia Begian Schlagheck from St. Sarkis in Dearborn, Michigan.

The film *Discipline in the Sunday School Classroom* by Dr. James Dobson, was later shown and focused on, establishing authority in the classroom, developing the qualities of an effective teacher, testing the teacher's authority and dealing with the defiant, strong-willed student.

The traditional Vesper Services with Der Antranig brought our active days to a restful end every night. Der Antranig's soothing inspirational messages captured



AREC Coordinator, Joanna Baghdarian (right) introduces "Lady of Humor," Dottie Bengoian.



Teachers fill their precast metal frame "Khach" with colored crystals that will melt to a glass-like appearance after placing in oven.



Teachers get involved in craft project. From left to right: Sonia Arakelian, Indian Orchard; Anahid Changelian, Watertown; Audrey Guzelian, Watertown.



Dottie Says: "Laughter is jogging..."

National Conference on Christian Education List of Participants

Indian Orchard
Sonia Arakelian

Montreal
Valentine Abdalian
Zaven Abdalian - Director

Philadelphia
Michael Injaian - Director
Jeannette Nazarian

Providence
Mary Fermanian - Director
Denise Garabedian
Kathleen Anne Mouradjian

Ridgefield
Rita Asdourian
Marie-Rose Garabedian
Arto Kiremitdjian
Hampartzoum Nazarian - Director
Shake Nazarian
Lisa Sinanian

Watertown
Anahid Changelian
George Changelian
Audrey Guzelian

Whitinsville
Deborah Bedrosian - Director
Linda Faltaous

Worcester
Linda Beremian
Beverly Papazian

AREC Members
Rev. Antranig Baljian, Chairman
Ms. Barbara Baljian
Ms. Mary Fermanian
Dr. Helen Garabedian
Mrs. Beatrice Postian
Mrs. Joanna Baghdarian, DCE

Speakers
Rev. Dr. Mesrob Tashjian
Ms. Dottie Bengoian
Mr. John Bashian
Mrs. Aghavni Bashian
Mr. Manoug Kaprielian

SEE PAGE FIVE FOR MORE AREC ACTIVITIES

not only the key points from the day's lectures and workshops, but also the attentive ear of every listener. Hearts were stirred.

On Sunday morning, the participants enjoyed a "Bible Study" led by John Bashian who focused on the teacher. "Why do we teach?" began Mr. Bashian. "Teaching is God's chosen method of telling others about His redemptive plan. We teach to improve the quality of life." Mr. Bashian echoed the words of Scripture eloquently and appropriately. He listed the qualifications of a teacher as God decreed through His Word and stressed the importance of

knowing Christ and making Him known to others.

Our morning ended with a Chapel service. We brought the summer season to a close together at Narragansett. We enjoyed good company, excellent teachings and laughter. We began our Teaching School year united in purpose for the sake of our Lord and for the children He has entrusted in our care. As we went our separate ways, each to his own city, we took back with us a weekend that will be committed to memory, for we were truly *Knit Together With Love ...*

Young Teens Remember Their Summer At Ocean Grove, NJ and ANEC program

The summer program, "Learn Armenian in Three Weeks," sponsored by the Armenian National Education Committee this past summer was so successful that many of the participants have written letters of praise about the "crash program" to Mrs. Hourig Papazian-Sahagian, executive director of ANEC.

A sampling of some of the notes follows:

Kristen Cavros writes:

Dear Deegin Hourig:

...About Ocean Grove, I would just like to say that it was definitely an unforgettable experience. The Armenian that I learned there gave me a solid foundation from which I will build a greater fluency in Armenian language and culture. Also, I made many new Armenian friends from all across the country. I am proud to be a part of the first graduating class of the crash program and hopefully this is something that will continue for many years to come.

Raffi Dadigian writes:

In going to Armenian school weekly at our church, I arrived at the crash course with the ability to read and write Armenian, but not to speak it. Thanks to the wonderful staff and especially my Intermediate level teacher, Mrs. Yester Garabedian, when I returned home after the course, I noticed a dramatic improvement in my speaking as well as the ability to read much faster.

Aside from just learning about the Armenian language, I also learned or reinforced my knowledge of Armenian culture, customs, dancing, and religion. I met many people from all over and consider all of them to be my good friends...

Hovannes Bakalian writes:

I was very lucky to join the ANEC crash course in Ocean Grove, NJ. I made lots of friends and learned about our Armenian heritage. I wish this program continues with great success and this will be a good learning experience for future students. See you all next year.

Christine Kavros writes:

Dear Mrs. Papazian-Sahagian:

I apologize for not writing sooner, but I do want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to learn Armenian. If it hadn't been for you and the crash program I would probably never learn to read, write, and speak Armenian. An Armenian school is starting once a week at St. Gregory's in Indian Orchard, and I am going to attend in hopes of becoming more fluent. Thank you again for a wonderful experience.

Arax Garabedian poetically wrote:

While others were off to their summer place
I took off with a different pace
A pace that was smooth but with a flash
Turned out to be a Summer Crash.
A crash course sponsored by ANEC
That taught teens Armenian rapidly
Everything we did was with all our might
Like learning to speak and learning to write
Yet we were lucky to have the chance
To learn Armenian song and dance.
And we all seemed to have found a love
That special desire sent from above
But when it was done and we had
to depart
That love we found was still in our heart
And in our minds the memories of when
We found some special Armenian friend...
I will continue my search through to
the end
For a chance to learn with my Armenian friend,
Because an Armenian friend will
always be
In my heart, my family.



A group of teens who participated in the summer Armenian "crash program" at Ocean Grove in front of the Lillagaard Hotel, their home away from home. The scenic resort provided the right atmosphere where fun and learning could be mixed with positive results. The first program proved to be very successful as a sampling of the letters printed show. For more information about the program contact Mrs. Hourig Papazian-Sahagian at the ANEC office, (212) 689-7231.

Salt

There was no need long ago
to perspire. And salt
had not been discovered.
It took medieval pain
and pressure, the worry
over fate and free
will to make man sweat.

Then salt crystallized and those
who discovered it lived
in an Armenian village called Koghb.

Even before that day
the Greeks in books of alchemy
labeled salt, *sal armenicum*
in deference to the origins of
alum, malachite, and lazulite.

Along the river Vardamark,
along the Arax and Akhurian
through the valley Agho
traders came, by oxcart
and caravan along Salt Road
to the mines
of Nakhijevan, Keghvan
from the west
until the railroad's time.

From the east another horde
decided there might be
a better way to speed
the supply
by making the Armenians
weep and weep.

II

But do not think salt came
from Armenia because
it was the land of tears.
Tears come from laughing too.

Salt is what is left
when the sea recedes,
when the flood subsides.
It is what is left
when passion is eased
to coat the face of calm.

The same salt that flavors
the table sweetens the breath,
causes the blood to rise, spoils
the pilaf and brightens the smile.
Salt that eats the heart
can erode the sun.

When you throw it over
your left shoulder to blind
the eye of Bad Luck
invite Good Luck to your table,
and say with the Armenian poets

"Hey, djan,
let us toast one another,
the dispersed;
but don't let the salt
of longing close our throats
with thirst

Hey, djan,
our differences, like salt
flavor what we eat.

But let us not consume
more salt than meat."

by Diana Der Hovanesian

Samuelian's 2-Volume Text in Western Modern Armenian Ready

The Armenian National Education Committee (ANEC) has announced the publication of the *Course in Modern Western Armenian* by Dr. Thomas J. Samuelian. The much-awaited two-volume work is now ready for distribution and can be purchased from the Prelacy Bookstore.

The result of nearly a decade of teaching the Armenian language at the university and high school level, the course is specifically designed for the Armenian American student and, prior to publication has been tested with native and non-native speakers at the University of Pennsylvania, University of Connecticut, St. Nersess Seminary, Columbia University, and the Siamanto Academy. Although it is primarily aimed at students who are learning Armenian as a second language, it has been used with equal success as a review text for advanced and intermediate speakers.

The approach used throughout the text is essentially practical. The spiral and thematic presentation of vocabulary, conjugation, declension, and syntactic structures represents an innovation in Armenian-language pedagogy, as does the variety and grading of exercises in each unit. Exercises are based on actual speech patterns and often drawn, with some adaptation, from nineteenth- and twentieth-century Armenian literature as well as from newspaper articles, organizational bulletins, correspondence, and reports. While the material is sufficient for a standard four-semester college sequence in Armenian as a foreign language, it can also be used in the more common once-a-week evening or weekend course environment. It provides copious exercises to reinforce class work and to help students develop solid language habits.

The first volume, *Exercises and Commentary* (864 pages), consists of 40 units of self-explanatory tutorials covering Armenian conversation and grammar. Each unit deals with a specific grammatical form or concept, which, through an extensive battery of exercises at various levels of proficiency, is drilled in isolation and then in context. The tutorial first leads the students to discover the grammatical form or concept in question, sharpening the students' skills in linguistic observation and helping them become independent language learners. In addition, the hundreds of exercises in each unit develop and reinforce linguistic habits using the most common words and speech patterns. Since the purpose of the exercises is habit formation, the correct answer is usually self-evident, which makes the book ideal for those studying alone. Both grammar explanations and reinforcement exercises can be done outside of class, thus freeing classroom time for conversation and the development of oral skills.

Of special interest to teachers is the modular structure of the *Course*. This feature makes it possible for a teacher to tailor the course to the various demands of scheduling, individualized instruction, and the multilevel classroom. For example, the opening module is a phrasebook presenting, in Armenian script and in transliteration, the 200 phrases beginning students most frequently ask for. The second module is a programmed introduction to the alphabet, which enables a student working alone to learn how to read and write in less than eight hours. The rest of the modules can be studied in almost any order that suits the students' and teachers' needs. A core vocabulary of 1200 words, introduced in the first half of the book, is used throughout the *Course*. The total lexical inventory in both volumes is 4000 words.

The second volume, *Dictionary and Linguistic Notes* (288 pages) begins with a 4000-word bilingual glossary of the words in the textbook. In contrast to existing Western Armenian dictionaries, the entries give information on conjugation and

declension of Armenian words, irregular verbs and nouns, prepositional and postpositional usage, case usage, and idioms. The rest of the volume consists of tutorials and exercises on Armenian prefixes, suffixes, vowel reduction, and alternations; spelling lists, rules, and exercises; punctuation and hyphenation exercises; notes on the origin and history of the language; and a comparison of Eastern and Western Armenian to enable students of Western Armenian to understand Eastern texts. Also provided in each volume is a comprehensive paradigm chart.

ANEC, sponsored by the Prelacy and the Armenian Relief Society, foresees the work as an important component in the nationwide effort to provide quality instruction to the growing number of teenagers and adults who seek to learn the language of their parents and grandparents and become a part of the Armenian-speaking community around the world. The *Course* is seen as a response to the need for a comprehensive language curriculum for a wide range of educational programs at the high school and college level, the Saturday and day schools, intensive summer courses, and adult education courses.

Dr. Samuelian holds a Ph.D. in linguistics from the University of Pennsylvania, where he has been Assistant Director of the Center for Soviet and East European Studies and has taught Modern and Classical Armenian through the Tarzian Chair in Armenian History and Culture (from 1979 to 1988) and Intensive Russian and linguistics. He has edited two volumes of conference papers on Armenian culture, *Classical Armenian Culture* and *Medieval Armenian Culture*, translated and retold Yeznik Koghbatsi's *Refutation of the Sects*, published numerous articles and reviews in Armenian and linguistic journals, given scores of public lectures on Armenian topics, and served on ANEC and other Armenian councils. He has also taught Modern and Classical Armenian language and literature at Columbia University, at St. Nersess Seminary, at the Siamanto Academy for Young Adults, and at the ARS Summer Studies Program at the University of Connecticut and the University of Pennsylvania.

Volume I, *Exercises and Commentary*, is \$40. and Volume II, *Dictionary and Linguistic Notes*, is \$19.50. Mail orders are now being accepted at the Armenian Prelacy Bookstore, 138 East 39th Street, New York, NY 10016. Please add \$3.50 for postage and handling.

"Whom have you left behind to carry out the work?" asked the angels.

"A little band of men and women who love me," replied Jesus.

"But what if they should fail?"

"I have no other plans," said Jesus.

Prelacy Raffle

(Continued from page 1)

Southeast Region: Mr. Robert Derian, 3762 Cocoloba Lane, Boynton Beach, FL 33436, (305) 738-4796.

Southwest Region: Mrs. Loretta Gulian-Boxdorfer, 7033 Cornelia Lane, Dallas, TX 75214, (214) 827-8470.

Canada: Mr. Zaven Sarkissian, 9 Creekside Rd., Willowdale, M2M3R5, (416) 225-3002.

The annual Prelacy raffle, now in its 15th year, has become an important fund raising endeavor and has helped the Armenian Church continue its important mission. Your \$100 donation will enable the continuation of vital educational projects. Tickets are now available and may be purchased by contacting your regional coordinator.

AREC Holds Spiritual Retreat for Young Adults

"Knowledge" was the key that unlocked the precious Jewel Box we cherish as the Soorp Badarak. Once opened, God's love poured freely upon the participants who attended this year's Young Adult Retreat held at Our Lady of Peace Spiritual Life Center in Narragansett, Rhode Island from November 10-12.

An interesting observation from last year's Retreat Evaluations revealed a concern from all participants—without exception—to learn more about the Divine Liturgy. Therefore, AREC set to work and prepared an agenda whereby all lectures and small group discussions blended with the theme: "God's Love Through the Liturgy."

Our weekend began by taking a journey through the 4-part Badarak, step by step. First, Archdeacon Aram Stepanian explained the meaning of the "Preparation" (Vesting) and the "Synaxis" (Teaching). Once the priest has put on his vestments, he has clothed himself in the full armor of God. He then purifies himself by symbolically cleansing his hands, confessing his sins and asking God to forgive him. Having done all this, the priest is now ready to present God's redemptive plan: He is escorted into Man's world to bring the Good News of salvation.

Mrs. Aghavni Bashian continued from this point as she led us through the third part of the Badarak called the "Eucharist" (Thanksgiving). The Eucharist was instituted by Christ in the Upper Room when He broke bread and drank wine with His disciples for the final time. During their Last Supper together, Jesus instructed them to "do this in remembrance of me" because He knew the hour was approaching when He would become the sacrificial Lamb for all mankind—His ministry on earth would soon end at the Cross.

Finally, Mr. John Bashian compared our journey through the Badarak to reaching the Cross at the pinnacle of a mountain. The "Dismissal" is the descent down the mountain and back into the world. "Why don't we stay at the top?" asked Mr. Bashian. "If we stay at the top," answered one participant, "we will become cold—spiritually cold. We must go into the world telling others what we know about Jesus."

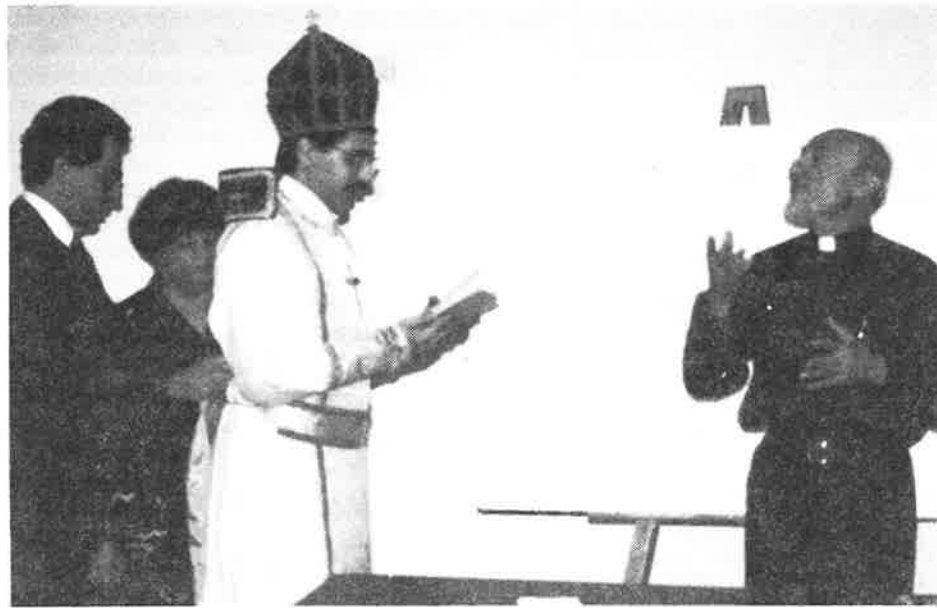
Filled now with the spiritual understanding of the Divine Liturgy, the group was inspired by Archpriest Dr. Mesrob Tashjian who taught us how to live the Liturgy by inviting the participants to celebrate the life of Christ together. Rev. Tashjian selected participant, Dr. Ed Sanossian, to be robed in vestments as once again we went through the Badarak, this time in its entirety. Dr. Mesrob's multi-sensory teaching techniques coupled with his electrifying personality and fatherly love toward his listeners made learning a joy!

Throughout the weekend, family-style sharing was enjoyed when we gathered in small groups to compare the Bible's "Love" Chapter with a modern-day fable. This special time helped us to rethink and re-evaluate our own ideas about love toward self, toward others, toward God and as a way of life. We roasted marshmallows and sang songs around an open campfire on Narragansett beach. Saturday night, the Conference Room was transformed into a coffee house atmosphere with decorations. The warm glow of a single candle at each table illuminated the room. Jokes, monologues and group skits generated laughter during our "Saturday Night Live!" show. Birthdays were celebrated. Prizes were awarded. The evening ended with a stirring hymn sung by Roxane Sarkesian from Chicago. This song of praise helped prepare our hearts for Vespers.

The following day, we attended Sts. Vartanantz Church in Providence—the church Rev. Dr. Tashjian has been serving for 29 years. Once again, the Badarak un-



A group picture of the participants.



Hagop Khachadourian (left) and Jeannette Nazarian helping participant, Dr. Ed Sanossian vest as Archpriest Dr. Tashjian looks on.



Acting it out with Garo Bekirian and Roxane Sarkesian during "Saturday Night Live!"



AREC Vice-Chairman Aram Stepanian and Coordinator Joanna Baghsarian sharing closing remarks with participants.

folded before our eyes, sealing forever in our hearts the learning that took place during the weekend. After the services, the Ladies Guild hosted our group with a delicious *lule-ke-bab* dinner.

The Young Adult Armenians who came from Toronto, Montreal, Chicago, Watertown, Worcester, Ridgefield (NJ), and Philadelphia did not depart the same as when they came to Narragansett "mountain." They were challenged to descend the mountain and return to their communities ready to "tell others what we know about Jesus." "Be ready," said Der Mesrob in his closing remarks. "Be ready to give a clear reason for your belief in Christ."

The key of "Knowledge" unlocked the Mystery contained in the precious *Soorp Badarak*—our Jewel Box and Jesus the Jewel was revealed as "God's Love Through the Liturgy" was poured freely upon His sons and daughters.

Joanna Baghsarian
Director of Christian Education, AREC

Book Review



Incarnate Love: Essays in Orthodox Ethics, by Vigen Guroian, Notre Dame, Indiana, University of Notre Dame Press, 1987. 212 pages.

This is a collection of essays on Orthodox ethics arranged by subject into three parts. Guroian defends the distinctiveness of Orthodox ethics, which, unlike ethics in Western Christianity, does not have an independent and systematic formulation, but is essentially rooted in the liturgy, traditions, and theology of the Church. Thus, for example, Guroian turns to the various Orthodox rites of marriage in his discussion of the proper vision of the Christian vocation of marriage and family. From these rites, Guroian is able to demonstrate the importance of an inherently social view of the family that transcends the prevailing individualism and which gives greater meaning and purpose to the vocation.

Although all of the essays are engaging and accessible to the non-theologian, the last collection of essays on social ethics is of particular interest, especially because of its lucid and straightforward discussion of the historical predicament of Orthodoxy in this century, having been uprooted and placed in an alien environment, and unsure of its role in the new world. Guroian warns against the dangers that lie in accommodation to the mainstream culture and religious ideals of America. By playing a role similar to the other mainstream churches in our pluralist society, Orthodoxy may lose sight of its distinct legacy and history. One of Guroian's main theses is that the Orthodox social ethic must be rooted in the Orthodox historical and cultural experience. An interesting consequence of this principle, Guroian notes, is that Orthodoxy, existing today mostly as a minority church in diaspora, is better able to come to terms with the post-Christian era of secularism in which Christianity has begun to assume a minority status. Clearly, Orthodoxy needs an appropriate social ethic for this age. In these essays, Guroian has provided an articulate and cogent definition of Orthodoxy's role and significance in contemporary America.

—Michael B. Papazian

The Kiss of Peace or Voghchoin

The Kiss of Peace or *Voghchoin* (greeting, salutations) is one of the most beautiful early Christian traditions preserved in our church. The Kiss of Peace symbolizes our reconciliation to God and to our fellow man through the grace and manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thus, the congregation is identified by a seal of unity and brotherly love in love of God and one another. The deacon, after intoning the bidding "Greet one another with a holy kiss" himself approaches the Altar, kisses the Altar and the joined hands of the celebrant and descending from the northern steps of the Altar into the Chancel, gives the greeting to one standing nearest or to a clergyman. If you take the *Voghchoin* from a clergyman, after having received it himself from the deacon, approach and kiss his right hand, then, when transmitting the same, lean forward, to the other persons left and then right shoulder saying *Krisdos ee mech mer Haidnetsav* (Christ is manifested amongst us). The receiver should reply *Orhniat ee Haidnotiounun Krisdosee* (blessed be the manifestation of Christ). Thereby, each receiver should transmit the same to the others until the entire congregation is united in the love of God and to each other.

from "Basic Rules and Manners in the Armenian Apostolic Church"
Prepared by Rev. Dr. Gorun Shrikian
(copies of this booklet are available at the Prelacy)

Students from P.S. 29 Visit Armenian Sites



A group of students from Public School 29 with Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian and Archpriest Moushegh Der Kaloustian at the Prelacy. The students were studying ethnicity in New York and wanted to learn more about the Armenians.

In a continuing effort to help appreciate the different ethnic heritages that exist in New York City, the Staten Island Children's Museum arranged for a class of gifted students from P.S. 29 to explore the Armenian community.

The students prepared questions to ask of several community leaders and will ultimately prepare a publication on several of the ethnic groups.

On October 10, 1989, the group visited St. Illuminator's Cathedral in New York. There they interviewed Michael Mirakian, principal of Concord High School. The students questioned him on how he balanced his Armenian and American cultures and also the difficulties he encountered in maintaining the culture. Mr. Mirakian expressed how all Armenians feel about the tragic events of 1915 and also the deep concern over the current state of affairs in the Karabagh area of Azerbaijan.

Archpriest Moushegh Der Kaloustian was also interviewed and gave his perspective. The students asked how he kept in touch with a congregation that is spread all over the city. They were especially interested in what his home life was like and what he ate. Father Moushegh responded

by saying he really enjoys pizza but his favorite is dolma.

From the Cathedral, the students visited the Prelacy where they had a private audience with Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian. His Eminence answered questions about the Armenian religion and language. First question: "How do you say good morning?" "Paree louys," answered the Prelate. Next question: "How do you say Nintendo?" "Nien-ten-do!" came the answer.

Archbishop Ashjian explained that the Prelacy has a resource library with 10,000 books and is called upon as a resource for Armenian culture, history, and current events.

The students were given a tour of the Prelacy visiting the various offices and meeting the directors of each department. They were especially interested in the library and bookstore.

After refreshments of juice and cookies, the students were given gifts of maps, historical pamphlets, language booklets, pens and art work suitable for framing.

The program entitled "Touching Home" was conducted by Shari Davis and Benny Ferdman of the Staten Island Children's Museum and the City AAS Agency, "Arts Partners."

PEACE PROPOSAL CONCERNING LEBANON



At the invitation of His Eminence, Metropolitan Philip Saliba, Primate of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, and Chairman of the Standing Conference of Lebanese Christian and Muslim Religious Leaders of the United States, a meeting was held at the Archdiocesan Chancery in Englewood, New Jersey, to discuss the escalation of the conflict in Lebanon. A peace proposal was drafted to be presented by the religious leaders to the President of the United States. Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian attended the meeting and participated in the discussions and the drafting of the peace proposal. The final proposal was signed by Metropolitan Philip Saliba, Primate of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America; Archbishop Athanasius Samuel, Syrian Orthodox Church of America and Canada; Bishop John Elia for Archbishop Joseph Tawil, Melkite Greek Catholic Eparch; Bishop Antoun Khouri, Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America; Shekh Sami T. Merhi, Druze Assembly of North America; Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian, Prelate, Armenian Apostolic Church of America; Hamad Ahmad Chebli, Islamic Center of New Jersey; and Imam Mohamad Jawad Chirri, Islamic Center of Detroit, Michigan.

JUST ARRIVED!
A TWO VOLUME WORK
Course in Modern Western Armenian

Volume I — Exercises and Commentary
Volume II — Dictionary and Linguistic Notes
by Dr. Thomas J. Samuelian

The Armenian National Education Committee has published this two-volume work by Dr. Samuelian, who developed the text as a result of a decade of teaching the Armenian language at the university and high school level. Although primarily aimed at students who are learning Armenian as a second language, it is just as successful as a review text for advanced and intermediate speakers. The first volume, *Exercises and Commentary* (864 pages), consists of 40 units of self-explanatory tutorials covering Armenian conversation and grammar. The second volume, *Dictionary and Linguistic Notes* (288 pages) begins with a 4000-word bilingual glossary of words in the textbook and gives information on conjugation and declension of Armenian words, irregular verbs and nouns, prepositional and postpositional usage, case usage, and idioms. Each volume also includes a comprehensive paradigm chart.

Dr. Samuelian holds a Ph.D. in linguistics from the University of Pennsylvania, where he has been Assistant Director of the Center for Soviet and East European Studies and has taught Modern and Classical Armenian, as well as Russian and linguistics.

A Prayer of Hope

by George Najarian

Please Lord Help me not to spend sleepless nights worrying about things I have no control over, or of misfortunes that might befall me but almost never do.

Fears conjured up by my insecurities, whose seeds have been sown early on by others, and nurtured along into maturity through the years. Insecurities instilled by many who themselves are afflicted even more so than I. Help me to realize how truly fortunate I am, considering the plight of many, who through no fault of their own, are forced to carry terrible burdens throughout life. I sincerely thank you Lord for all the good things you have given me, and no matter how small or insignificant they may seem to others, their true worth is what my heart and mind perceive them to be.

Amen

Prelacy Bookstore
138 East 39th Street
New York, New York 10016

Please send me _____ copies of Volume I @ \$40.00 each.

Please send me _____ copies of Volume II @ \$19.95 each.

(Please add \$3.50 for postage and handling)

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Name _____

Address _____

ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԵԱՅՑ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻՆ
ԵՒ ՆՐԱ ԴԵՐԸ
ԺՈՂՈՎՐԴԻ ԿԵԱՆՔՈՒՄ

Մ.Խ. Սոյն յօդուածը կ'արտատպենք հայրենիքի մէջ վերջերս հրատարակուած Հ.Ա.Յ.Ք. պաշտօնաթերթի անդրանիկ թիւին: Հ.Ա.Յ.Ք.-ը կը հրատարակուի Հայոց Համազգային Շարժման կողմէ, եւ ողջունելի է իր ոգիով եւ հեռակարգութեամբ:

Հայաստանեայց եկեղեցին իր ուրոյն եւ կարեւոր դերն է ունեցել եւ ունի հայ ժողովրդի պատմութեան մէջ: Ուսումնասիրութեան կարօտ այս նիւթը շատ ընդարձակ է. մենք այստեղ կը սահմանափակենք մի քանի կարեւոր տեսանկիւններ առանձնացնելով: Զննարկուող հարցում եկեղեցի կամ Հայաստանեայց եկեղեցի ասելով հասկանալու ենք անկեղծ, աներկբայ ու հաւատարիմ այն անհատները համախումբը, որը ոչ միայն Տէր է ասում, այլեւ ըստ Աւետարանի սրտով է հաւատում եւ ապրած իր կեանքը շատ մօտ է իր խօսած կամ քարոզած կեանքին:

ԱՌԱՋԻՆ. Հայաստանեայց եկեղեցին ունի համախումբող, ընդգրկող ազգը ընդհանրացնող նշանակութիւն: Գնենրալ Պատկերէր Երեւանը գրաւելուց յետոյ մի նամակ-առաջարկ է ուղարկում փոխարքային:

«Այս ժողովուրդը քաղաքական միաւորներ չունի եւ խիստ համախմբուած լինելու գաղտնիքը նրա եկեղեցին է: Մենք պէտք է գրաւենք այդ եկեղեցին»:

Գրաւել եկեղեցին: Հայաստանը զավթողի միակ նպատակը այլեւս եկեղեցին գրաւելն է. ինչ չէր յաջողուել օտար հաւատք ունեցող այլադասան խաժամութեանը, որոչ չափով յաջողուեց քրիստոնեայ անունը իր վրայ առած մեր հիւսիսային հեռաւոր հարեանին: Սա մեր ողբերգութիւնների սկիզբը դարձաւ...

Եկեղեցին ազգը համախմբում էր անհատ տաղանդներով, ովքեր ոչ միայն քրիստոնէական մտածողութեան թուիչք ունին, այլեւ ազգի մշակոյթի եւ արուեստի կերտողներ էին:

Աստուածաշունչի Ծրդ դարի թարգմանութիւնը ոչ միայն թագուհի էր թարգմանութեանց, այլեւ ազգային մտածողութեան բերեղացում, գրական լեզուի զարգացման մի այնպիսի ճոխ որակ, որն ահա մեկուկէս հազարամեակ սնում է մեր գրականութիւնն ու լեզուն, եւ ինչքան հեռանում ենք, այնքան սքանչելի ու ահռելի է դառնում նրա մեծութիւնը: Համախմբումը ոչ միայն կատարում էր արդեն շեշտուող միասնական լեզուամրտածողութեամբ, այլ մտքի ու տրամաբանութեան միասնական ելակետով, ուր տարբեր դատողութիւններն ու տրամաբանական իզրահանգումների տարբերութիւնը ներդաշնակօրէն լրացնում էին իրար եւ ծնում մտքի ու գործնականի արտասովոր թուիչքներ: Լեզուի քերականութիւնը ոչ միայն գիտութիւն էր, այլեւ մտածողութիւն, հարազատ մտածողութիւն. ահա թէ ինչու թշնամին փորձեց այն, փոխեց արագ ու անխնայ...

ԵՐԿՐՈՐԴ. Մեր եկեղեցին ունի նաեւ հաւասարակշռող նշանակութիւն. ազգը հաւասարակշռող: Յայտնի է որ իւրաքանչիւր համակարգ հասարակական միաւորների, հարատեւութեան համար պէտք է նաեւ կայուն լինի, յարատեւութեան գաղտնիքը կայունութեան մէջ է: Երբ քրիստոնէական համապարփակ առաքելական մտածողութիւնը անբաժանելիօրէն խառնուում է ազգային մտածողութեանը, ինքնարբերաբար առաջանում են ծայրահեղ վիճակներից զերծ հաստատուն վիճակներ: Եւ պայքարի կամ զարգացման ցանկացած փուլ նման հաստատուն իրավիճակների փոխակերպում է, որն առաջացնում է անհողողողութիւն՝ վճռական կամք, որը յաղթանակի գրավականն է: Այս հաւասարակշռող դերը խիստ մեծ է բազմակուսակցական հասարակարգում. այստեղ անհողողող մի խաւ՝ եկեղեցու եւ միաժամանակ ազգի մի մասը, կուսակցութիւնների իրար հանդէպ թշնամական կամ լարուած իրավիճակում, շատ լաւ յարաբերութեան մէջ է միաժամանակ բոլորի հետ է այդ հանգամանքով է նա դառնում կայունացնող, հաւասարա-

կշռող: Եթէ յիշենք 9-րդ դարի վերջ-20-րդ դարի սկիզբներին մեր Լազարեան եւ Գէորգեան ճամբարանների թէ՛ դասախօսութեան կուսակցական կողմնորոշումը (ինչը ոչ՝ նաեւ եկեղեցու), մեր դժուարութիւնների պատճառներից մէկը պարզ կը լինի:

Ո՞րն է թշնամու խնդիրը: — Ազգի ներսում անհաւասարակշիռ վիճակ ստեղծելը: Այնուհետեւ հեշտ է արդէն անհաւասարակշիռ մարդուն արտաքին գործունեւորով այնպէս ներազդել (պատերազմ, ահաբեկչութիւն, շրջափակում, սաղարան), որ ժողովրդին բերեն անկայուն վիճակի, այլ խօսքով՝ վերածեն ամբողջ խաժամութի:

ԵՐԿՐՈՐԴ. Պատմութեան մէջ հանդիպում են խիստ ծայրահեղ վիճակներ, երբ ժողովրդին առաջնորդող խաւը, շերտը պատուում է, սխալում կամ ուժասպառ է լինում, թուլութեան պատճառով երբեմն նաեւ հեղինակազրկում է, այդ պահին հարկ է լինում, հոգեկան ուժերի պրկում ոչ քաղաքական ասպարէզի մարդկանց միջոցով: Մեր պատմութեան էջերն առատ են նման օրինակներով: Ավարայր, Սարգսրապատ, Մուսա լեռ: Ուրեմն, եկեղեցու երրորդ հիմնական դերը ժողովրդին ծայրահեղ վիճակներից հանելն է՝ թոյլ չտալով այդ վիճակում երկար մնալ:

Երկար ու ճիշդ պայքարից հիւծուած ու յոգնած մարդու համար եկեղեցին օվասիսի նման վերականգնանցնող ու թարմացնող է:

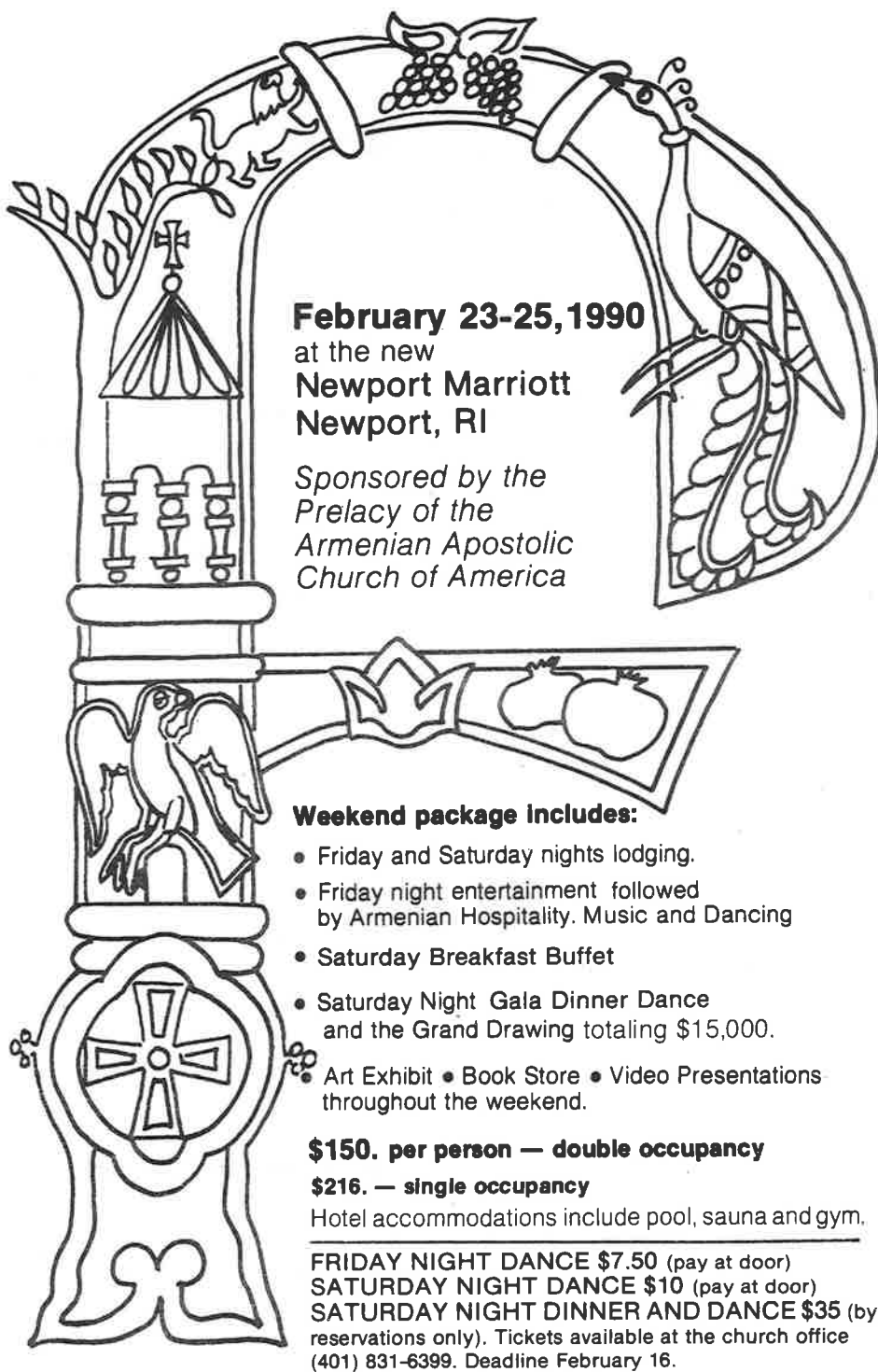
«Մենք մեր մէջ պէտք է փնտռենք ուժ, գորութիւն» կարգախօսը հզօր եւ իրական գործօն է դառնում, երբ վստահ ենք նաեւ որ մենք ունենք ոչ միայն գործունեայ մարմին, ամէն զոհաբերութեան պատրաստ միտք, հայրենասիրական բարձր զգացումով ամէն բանի յօժարող կամք, այլ նաեւ մահուան սարսուռը յաղթահարած վիճակ եւ Ամենակարող Մէկի սուրբ ներկայութիւնը:

ՉՈՐՈՐԴ. Բարոյական արժէքների անփոփոխ եւ հաստատուն լինելը գրաւականն է ազգի հոգեւոր, մտաւոր առողջութեան: Իրօք որ ԱՐԴԱՐՈՒԹԻՒՆԸ՝ բարոյական մաքրութիւնը, ազգը բարձրացնում է: Եթէ այս տեսանկիւնով դիտենք ընտանեկան կեանքը, անձնական փոխյարաբերութիւնները ընտանիքում, հասարակութեան մէջ, կը տեսնենք, որ առանց ամուր ընտանիքի ազգի ամրութեան, միաձուլութեան եւ հայրենասիրութեան կոչերը զուտ դատարկ խօսքեր են: Գրիստոնէական ընտանիքը ազգի ամուր բերդն է, ազգը պահող ու պահպանող, այն համովացնող բնիքը: Հայ ընտանիքը, նրա ամրութիւնը քրիստոնէական մտածողութեան, դաստիարակութեան շարունակութիւնն է լոկ, որի երեքսերնդեան պակասը լրացում է հիմա՝ մեր օրերում: Եւ այդ պակասի առաջացած թերութիւններն ենք մենք զգում ներքին սփիւրջում եւ ինչու ոչ՝ ամենուր:

ՀԻՆԳԵՐՈՐԴ. Մարդկանց մէջ միշտ առկա է ձգտումը դէպի մաքուրը, սուրբը, երկնայինը, տիեզերականը: Աքանջելի է եւ երջանկութիւն, որ այդ Տենչալին միշտ անբաժան է քեզնից, օրինաւոր Գոնն է՝ իր անփոփոխ դաւանանքով, սքանչելի եւ իմաստուն Այրերով, եւ արտաքին անփոփոխ արժէք ունեցող արուեստի ու մշակոյթի արտայայտութիւններով իրական տեսնանքների նիւթական արտայայտութիւնն է եկեղեցին, ուր իրապէս ներկայ են անցեալի սուրբեր Մեսրոպ Մաշտոցն ու Սահակ Պարթեւը, Վարդան Մամիկոնեանն ու Յովհաննէս Մանդակունին, Ներսէս Ծնորհալին ու Գրիգոր Նարեկացին: Ոչ միայն ներկայ են, միահիւսուելով ամէնքս իրար, դառնում ենք մի ամբողջական շօշափելի ու հզօր միութեան, ուր անցեալն ու ներկան շաղկապուած են իրար անբաժանելիօրէն եւ ուր ապագան ստոյգ է ու բարուն ծառայող:

ՎԵՑԵՐՈՐԴ. Հայաստանեայց Առաքելական Սուրբ Եկեղեցին ճշմարտութիւն փնտռողների համար գերբնական ու նաեւ մատչելի մի կենտրոն է: Ցանկացած մարդու կեանքում գալիս է մի պահ, երբ նա սկսում է փնտռել ճշմարտութիւն եւ ար-

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Sponsored by the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America

Weekend package includes:

- Friday and Saturday nights lodging.
• Friday night entertainment followed by Armenian Hospitality. Music and Dancing
• Saturday Breakfast Buffet
• Saturday Night Gala Dinner Dance and the Grand Drawing totaling \$15,000.
• Art Exhibit • Book Store • Video Presentations throughout the weekend.

\$150. per person — double occupancy
\$216. — single occupancy
Hotel accommodations include pool, sauna and gym.

FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE \$7.50 (pay at door)
SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE \$10 (pay at door)
SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER AND DANCE \$35 (by reservations only). Tickets available at the church office (401) 831-6399. Deadline February 16.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BEFORE FEBRUARY 16.
PAREGENTAN X MARDI GRAS FESTIVAL
February 23-25, 1990, Newport Marriott, Newport, RI
NAME _____
STREET _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
Enclosed is my check for (check one) \$216 for one person. \$300 for 2 persons. \$384 for 3 persons.
Make checks payable to Sts. Vartanantz Armenian Apostolic Church, 402 Broadway, Providence, RI 02909.
Your reservation receipt and directions to the hotel will be mailed to you immediately.
For further information call the church office (401) 831-6399

Don't Forget Your Annual Donation for Outreach

դարութիւն: Ոմանց մէջ դա ի յայտ է գալիս որպէս իր ապրած կեանքի տրամաբանական ընթացք, միւսների մէջ՝ ընդգծուած իրական ձգտում: Եւ որպէսզի այդ փնտռողները չզեղբերեն օտար արեւմտեան եւ ուրիշ ազգերի սահմաններում, չփնտռեն ջուր անմահական, սնունդն իրենց յաւիտենական հոգու նրանց համար:
«Եկեղեցին հայկական ծովուն դիմաց պիկո՞ծ նաւահանգիստ մ'է խաղաղ, ցուրտ գիշերին՝ հուր ու բոց:» (Վահան Թէքէեան)
Մենք շատ լաւ գիտենք, թէ ինչ ծայրահեղ դժուար վիճակի կարող է մեզ հասցնել օտար շարժումները արհեստականէն հայրենիք բերելը: Այդ բանի նախանշանները հիմա էլ առկա են մեր

մէջ:
ԵՈՒԹԵՐՈՐԴ. Ոչ մի խաւ այնքան կապուած չէ անցեալին որքան հոգեւոր խաւը: Այդ կենդանի կապերով մարդը ձուլում է իր շրջապատին եւ դառնում ազգը սնող անցեալի կենսական անհրաժեշտ ավիչը ամենին մատակարարող օղակ: Իսկ այդ նիւթով եւ արմատներով նորընձիւղ պտուղն իրօք որ պիտի աշխարհը գրաւի իր թէ՛ քաղաքական եւ թէ՛ մշակութային արժէքներով: Սա մեր հարստութիւնն է: Օտարն այն կտրեց, արմատները կտրտեց, բայց մենք էլի զնացինք, զնացինք զէպի աղբիւրը լոյսի ու վերջնելով այդ լոյսը, լուսաւորեցինք խաւարը մեր սրտերի, նաեւ՝ խաւարն աշխարհի:
Վ. ԶԱՔԱՐԵԱՆ

Autumn Happenings at the Prelacy

The autumn months have been busy ones at the Prelacy with many preparations and happenings. Here we highlight two events of interest.

Photos by Kantzabed

Pope Shenouda III of Coptic Church Visits St. Illuminator's Cathedral



Pope Shenouda III at St. Illuminator's Cathedral in New York surrounded by clergy of various denominations during ecumenical service.

Pope Shenouda III, Pope of Alexandria and Patriarch of the See of St. Mark in Egypt, visited St. Illuminator's Cathedral in New York on September 18. The Pope was on an extended tour of the Coptic Orthodox Churches in the United States.

Pope Shenouda was greeted and led to the Cathedral by Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian with the singing of the Armenian Sharagan "Ourakh Ler" and "Evlogimenos," a Coptic processional hymn. An ecumenical thanksgiving service took place with the participation of Armenian and Coptic clergy as well as representatives of sister churches: Archbishop Athanasium Y. Samuel, Primate of the Syrian Orthodox Church in the United States and Canada, and Bishop Paulus of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church.

Following the ecumenical service Pope Shenouda recited a special prayer from the Coptic Liturgy and blessed the Congregation. In a short speech, Archbishop Ashjian welcomed the Pope to New York and St. Illuminator's, stressing the "very strong traditional ties" between the two churches going back many centuries. He told the Pope that the Armenian church "shares your joy in witnessing the growing vitality of the Coptic Church in the United States." His Eminence went on to say that "the challenges facing the whole of Christendom are many. Our churches have a great role to play in the future of world Christianity and many great and laudable goals can be realized with leaders like you and our two Catholicoses Vasken I and Karekin II. We can help bring greater understanding between all Christian churches in order to work in unison confronting the many problems facing mankind today." Archbishop Ashjian concluded his remarks with good wishes for the Pope's health and successful visit to the United States and presented him with a beautiful Armenian Cross, designed and donated by Mr. Khosrov Adanalian from Boston.

Pope Shenouda responded with warm brotherly words, remembering his trips to Etchmiadzin and Antelias and his meetings with Catholicoses Vasken I and Karekin II. He spoke of the daily contacts and cooperation the churches maintain through the Middle East Council of Churches. He emphasized the importance of Christian unity. He stressed the importance of Armenians remaining faithful to their roots. At the conclusion of his remarks Pope Shenouda presented Archbishop Ashjian with a specially made wooden cross with mother of pearl inserts. His Holiness presented ceremonial crosses to Archbishop Samuel and Bishop Paulus. He also presented commemorative medallions to each of the Armenian clergy present. The ecumenical service concluded with prayers by the Bishops from the Syrian and Ethiopian Orthodox Churches.

A reception hosted by the Ladies Guild of St. Illuminator's Cathedral took place in Pashalian Hall following the service. During the reception Pope Shenouda again reiterated the importance of ecumenical meetings.

Attending the ecumenical service as part of Pope Shenouda's entourage were Bishop Bishoy, Bishop Sarabmon, Bishop Tadros, Bishop Rewies, Bishop Mosa, Bishop Sarapion and Father Gabriel Abdel Sayed who is the representative of the Pope in New York.

The Coptic Church, like the Armenian Church, is part of the Oriental Orthodox group of churches. Parts of the two Liturgies are similar as are other features such as architecture, vestments, etc. The Copts are a growing community in the United States with an estimated 250,000 in the metropolitan area.



Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian presents a pectoral cross to His Holiness Pope Shenouda III, head of the Coptic Orthodox Church.

Reception for Abel Aganbegyan



Mr. and Mrs. Laurance Rockefeller toast Abel Aganbegyan during Prelacy reception for the Soviet economist. With Mr. Aganbegyan is attorney Charles Bausman who acted as his interpreter during his visit.

Businessmen and women from the metropolitan area, including Mr. and Mrs. Laurance Rockefeller, attended a reception hosted by the Prelacy for Academician Abel Aganbegyan on September 16. The reception took place at the Prelacy headquarters in the Vahagn and Hasmig Hovnanian Hall. Mr. Aganbegyan, who is the head of the Economic Branch of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. and the chief economic adviser to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, was in the United States in connection with the publication of his second book. Mr. Aganbegyan was born in Tiflis in 1932 of Armenian parents. Although he spoke Armenian as a child, Mr. Aganbegyan said he has forgotten most of what he knew.

Archbishop Ashjian welcomed the guests and introduced Mr. Vahagn Hovnanian who presented Mr. Aganbegyan to the audience. Mr. Hovnanian, who had greeted Mr. Aganbegyan at the airport and escorted him to the Prelacy, presented Mr. Aganbegyan with short introductory words saying "I want him to have more time to speak to you." Mr. Hovnanian said through his conversations with Mr. Aganbegyan, he is convinced that he has not forgotten his Armenian roots and "I am proud to present him to you as a fellow Armenian."

Standing in the front of the packed hall and speaking through an interpreter, Mr. Aganbegyan spoke in response to questions asked by members of the audience. Before beginning he said, in English, that his English is not as good as his Russian, and therefore he would speak in Russian. He also said that he would not be making any opening statement, but would prefer to begin immediately with questions from the audience.

Mr. Aganbegyan admitted freely to the poor condition of the Soviet economy. Perestroika, he said, referring to the economic restructuring advocated by Mr. Gorbachev, is necessary for the improvement of the economy. One of the important features of perestroika is decentralization, giving each economic region or unit the power to manage its own affairs, allocate resources, establish production goals, and efficiently utilize its labor force.

Asked about pessimistic reports regarding Mr. Gorbachev's ability to stay in office given the lack of support for his politics among some high officials, Mr. Aganbegyan said that it is true that there is opposition to Mr. Gorbachev's policies of glasnost and perestroika, but that the predictions of his fall in the next six to twelve months could come to pass only if nothing positive were done in the coming months. He was certain that within the next year, positive results would be seen within the Soviet economy as a result of perestroika.

Among the various plans they have for the long-term improvement of the economy is the creation of a business school along the lines of American schools to produce M.B.A.'s who would become the business managers of the new economic structure. Asked about the Western partners' profits from joint ventures, Mr. Aganbegyan stressed that Westerners could take out their profits in dollars or other hard currencies, especially since sales to the West would bring in hard currency. He said that another important advantage of strengthening the Soviet economy would be to make the ruble a convertible currency in the world market.

After the discussion of the economic problems facing the Soviet Union, the question of Karabagh was raised by a member of the audience. Mr. Aganbegyan said that as an economist he had no direct connection with the issue, although he has been asked about it before. All he could say was that the entire issue of Karabagh was being studied by a special committee.

After the formal question-and-answer period, the Prelate presented Mr. Aganbegyan with a copy of the newly-published "Armenian Art" by Jean-Michel Thierry and Patrick Donabedian. His Eminence also presented a copy of this impressive book to Mr. and Mrs. Rockefeller.

Guests enjoyed a champagne and buffet table filled with Armenian delicacies as guests conversed with the Soviet economist. Translating for Mr. Aganbegyan was international attorney Mr. Charles Bausman, who studied Russian and spent two years in Moscow. He is now employed in Moscow as a representative of his firm. Archbishop Ashjian had previously met Mr. Bausman during one of his trips to the Soviet Union.

Mr. Aganbegyan graduated from the Economics Institute of Moscow in 1955 and received a doctorate in Economics in 1963. He became Director of the Institute of Economics and Industrial Organization of the Siberian section of the Academy of Sciences in 1967. Returning to Moscow, he now heads the Economic Branch of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R.

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