

NEWSLETTER

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Number 1

HARVARD LIBRARY'S ARMENIAN COLLECTION

INCREASED BY BOOK AND PAMPHLET GIFTS

Four private collections totaling over 1200 books, pamphlets, and periodicals have been presented to the Harvard University Library's Armenian section through the efforts of NAASR. The collections were given in the memory of the following well-known members of the American-Armenian community:

Dr. Hovhanes Zovickian of Watertown, by his son, Dr. Anthony Zovickian; Dirsadour A. Dikijian of New York, by his widow, Nevart, and daughter, Armine Dikijian; A. Nazar of Watertown, by his widow, Mrs. G. A. Nazar, and his children, Nicholas and Vahe Nazar and Mrs. Satenig Der Hovanesian; Kapriel S. Papazian of Watertown, by his widow, Mrs. Martha G. Papazian.

With these acquisitions, the Harvard Library becomes without question the largest repository of Armenian books of any university library in the country. Harvard's famed Widener Library is already known as the largest library in the U. S., even exceeding the Library of Congress and the New York City Public Library, with over six million volumes.

Harvard is now cataloging these books. Duplicates will be returned to NAASR for dispersement to other university libraries. Other collections will be welcomed by the Harvard Library, and all books will bear appropriate name plates.

To handle negotiations for the acquisition and disposal of book collections, a "Library and Books Committee" has been set up by NAASR's Board of Directors with Miss Zabelle Tahmizian as chairman.

BOARD CHAIRMAN YOUNG ON FIELD TRIP

FOR NAASR AND HARVARD CHAIR CAMPAIGN

An extended field trip to thirteen major American-Armenian communities in the East and Middle West is being undertaken by NAASR Board Chairman Manoog S. Young, from February 3 to March 5.

With the increased membership in areas outside Greater Boston, Chairman Young's trip will serve to bring both members and friends in closer touch with the NAASR program and to give them a first-hand report of the Association's progress since its inception in March 1955. Particular emphasis will be placed on showing how Armenian studies and research can best be furthered through the NAASR and Harvard programs. The trip will also serve to stimulate local activity and to acquaint members and friends with the campaign for the Harvard Armenian Chair.

Highlighting the field trip will be a series of gatherings in the form of receptions, teas, and lecture-meetings arranged by key NAASR members in the cities to be visited. Before the various groups Chairman Young will speak on either "The Need and Importance of a Center for Armenian Studies and Research in America" or "The 18th Century - A Little Known Century in Armenian History."

The field trip began in Providence, R. I., on February 3 and will end in the Albany-Troy-Watervliet, N. Y., area on March 5. Later Worcester and Haverhill, Mass., will be visited. The tour was preceded by a Greater Boston area meeting on February 1 at the Hotel Commander, Cambridge, Mass. Prof. Aram Vartanian of Harvard University's French Department spoke and a Greater Boston Committee was elected.

ASSOCIATION'S CONTINUED GROWTH

NAASR has growing pains. A physical transformation took place the first of February with the expansion of NAASR's present office to larger quarters. Located on the same floor, the new office, twice the size of the old one, is only a few doors down the hall in Room 425 of the College House Offices, Harvard Square, 1430 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, Mass.

The move, which had been pending since the first of the year, was necessitated by the need for more desk space as a result of the addition of seven new volunteer workers to the staff. Joining the 11 other girls of the night office staff are Nancy Arkelyan, Mary Martunian, Rose Karibian, Joan Najarian, Anne and Marion Sarkisian and Bertha Terzian.

Along with the office growth, both NAASR's membership and funds for the Harvard Armenian Chair campaign have also increased. Since the October banquet, over 80 new members have joined the organization and a gain of close to \$6,500 has been realized for the Harvard Armenian Chair campaign. For a statistical breakdown of the financial status of the Chair, see page 3.

PROF. LANGER URGES STUDENTS INTERESTEDIN ARMENIAN STUDIES TO APPLY NOW

In a statement to NAASR last month, Prof. William L. Langer, director of Harvard's Center for Middle Eastern Studies, announced that scholarship or fellowship aid may be available this fall for those wishing to pursue courses in the field of Armenian studies at the University

Dr. Langer, who has recently returned from a trip to the Middle East, said that interested students should make their intentions known now, stating their qualifications as candidates for M.A. or Ph.D. degrees. Letters of inquiry can be sent either to the NAASR office, or to the attention of Prof. Richard N. Frye, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, 16 Dunster St., Cambridge, Mass.

FISCAL YEAR ENDS MARCH 31

Dues are payable for all NAASR members joining before Jan. 1, 1956.

Dear Members:

No comparable movement in the history of the American-Armenian community has met with the enthusiastic response that NAASR has in the short period of time since its inception last March 2, 1955.

After an eight-month planning stage prior to then, the organization went through a rapid expansion culminating in the historic banquet of October 30th at the Harvard Club of Boston.

Now it is embarked upon the fund-raising phase for establishment of an endowed or permanent Chair of Armenian Studies at Harvard University as the first and prerequisite step to creating an unparalleled center of research and learning in America from whence will flow in the English language histories, monographs, translations and studies and will come scholars, teachers, researchers and leaders of the American-Armenian community.

No other program can guarantee these results and no other program can help the Armenian to attain the self-respect, understanding, and appreciation due him and his people as the NAASR program can.

Such a program deserves the wholehearted and immediate support of every member of the Association financially, morally, and organizationally. Its success lies in your hands. Will you accept this challenge and responsibility now?

Manoog S. Young, Chairman
Board of Directors

BOARD CHAIRMAN'S FIELD TRIP ITINERARY

Feb. 3	Providence, R. I.
Feb. 4	Springfield, Mass.
Feb. 5-6	Hartford, Conn.
Feb. 7-11	New York City
Feb. 12-16	Philadelphia, Pa.
Feb. 17-19	Washington, D. C.
Feb. 21, 24	Chicago, Ill.
Feb. 22-23	Milwaukee, Wisc.
Feb. 25-28	Detroit, Mich.
Feb. 29-Mar. 1	Cleveland, Ohio
Mar. 2	Niagara Falls, N. Y.
Mar. 3	Syracuse, N. Y.
Mar. 4-5	Albany-Troy-Watervliet, N. Y.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ARMENIAN STUDIES FUND

For the Advancement of Armenian Studies and Research and the
Establishment of an Endowed Chair of Armenian Studies

New Contributions and Pledges
since December 1, 1955

Summary of Contributions and Pledges
as of February 1, 1956

<u>California</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total</u>
Dr. Charles G. Merian	\$ 10.00	\$ 1500.00	1	\$ 1500.00
Triple-X Frat., Golden Gate Chap.	25.00	1000.00	10	10,000.00
		550.00	1	550.00
<u>Florida</u>		500.00	12	6000.00
George K. Altoonjian	50.00	350.00	1	350.00
		300.00	9	2700.00
<u>Massachusetts (Greater Boston)</u>		250.00	3	750.00
Anahid Avakian	25.00	200.00	14	2800.00
Karnig A. Berberian	10.00	150.00	6	900.00
Mimi Chamian	50.00	142.50	1	142.50
Rose Depoyan	80.00*	125.00	1	125.00
Nubar Hintlian	100.00	117.10	1	117.10
Dr. Agnes G. Israelian	200.00	105.00	3	315.00
Viola Minasian	100.00	100.00	41	4100.00
Jacob Pilibosian	2.00	80.00	1	80.00
Prof. & Mrs. Hrand Saxenian	15.00	75.00	3	225.00
Touloukian Foundation	250.00	60.00	3	180.00
		55.00	1	55.00
<u>Massachusetts (State)</u>		50.00	26	1300.00
Dr. John J. Bandeian	25.00	40.00	1	40.00
Dr. Levon Chertavian	100.00	30.00	1	30.00
Harry Levine	25.00	25.00	29	725.00
Anne Ohanian	15.00	20.00	7	140.00
Sahag Sahagian	10.00	15.00	6	90.00
George K. Shamgochian	125.00	10.00	16	160.00
		5.00	8	40.00
<u>Michigan</u>		under 5.00	3	7.04
Mr. & Mrs. Puzant Ajemian	25.00	Totals:	<u>208</u>	<u>\$ 33,421.64</u>
<u>Minnesota</u>				
Zarm C. Keljik	50.00			
<u>New Jersey</u>				
John M. Azarian	5.00			
Daniel Kondakjian	1000.00			
<u>New York City</u>				
Mrs. Annette K. Baxter	5.00			
<u>Ohio</u>				
Rose Bannaian	20.00			
<u>Rhode Island</u>				
Fred B. Avakian	1000.00			
Dr. H. S. Emirzian	50.00			
Antranik Gurdjian	100.00			
Irene A. Martiesian	5.00			

RECAPITULATION

Total Remitted to Date	\$ 14,274.52
Total Pledged	19,147.12
Total Remitted & Pledged	<u>\$ 33,421.64</u>

HOW THE FUND OPERATES

All monies received for the Harvard University Armenian Studies Fund are transmitted directly to the University and become a part of the University's capital fund designated for the advancement of Armenian studies and research.

Until such time as the necessary \$300,000 for the endowment of the Chair of Armenian Studies is raised, the income from the invested fund will be used for an interim program for Armenian studies. It may encompass scholarship and fellowship aid, lectureships, book purchases and publication grants.

(NOTE: Some of the above donations have been pledged over 2 or 3-year periods while others were immediate contributions. Asterik (*) denotes an increased total over previously reported amount.)

NEW MEMBERS JOINING SINCE OCTOBER 15, 1955

Arizona

A. S. Mehagian

California

Dr. J. J. Chalison

Dr. K. M. Khantamour

Canada

Elizabeth Culoossian

Connecticut

Henry G. Keshian

James C. Poloshian

Illinois

Armen M. Mouradian

Mass., Greater Boston

Mary Ann Abadjian

Mrs. Starrie Alemian

Gladys Asdikian

Elissa J. Avagian

Dr. Henry A. Azar

Mrs. Queenie Boyajian

Mrs. Doris G. Carlson

John I. Carlson, Jr.

Sam Goekjian

Beatrice A. Harpootlian

Mrs. Mary Kilbourne Matossian

Mrs. Araxy M. Odabashian

Mrs. Martha G. Papazian

Helene Pilibosian

Dr. Richard L. Sidman

Astric Sourian

Leonie A. Sulahian

Hrand J. Topjian

Nicholas Topjian

Charles K. Zeytoonjian

Frederick N. Zeytoonjian

Richard K. Zeytoonjian

Mrs. Rose M. Zeytoonjian

Massachusetts (State)

Edward Babigian

Grace G. Bagdolian

Shirley M. Bagdoian

Mrs. Clara W. Berwick

Ann Colombosian

Mary Colombosian

Paul Kazarosian

Garabed Moushegian

Edward Tavidian

Charles Thompson

Michigan

Mrs. Zartoohy Ajemian

New Jersey

Rev. Vartan D. Assadourian

Verken D. Attarian

Mrs. Artemis Nazarian

Nazar Nazarian

New York City

Haig H. Agababian

Shakeh Agajanian

Astrik Dagavarian

Prof. Yervant H. Krikorian

Arpine Mardiguian

John W. Margosian

Mrs. Isabelle Nalbantian

R. Stepanian

Lillian G. Murad

New York State

Karnik Babikian

Garo Taft

Ohio

Paul K. Apkarian

Rose Bannaian

Pennsylvania

Nishan Androyan

Mrs. Sirouhie Derian

John Garabedian

Jack Gregory

Dr. Muzur Hagopian

Benjamin M. Hatch

Haig F. Kanjian

George Kapeghian

Dearon S. Mazmanian

Dr. Joseph Mazmanian

Asher Mikaelian

Mrs. H. H. Pakradooni

Stephen Philibosian

John Samuelian

Martin Zoulikian

Rhode Island

Krikor A. Dulgarian

Peter H. John

Irene A. Martiesian

M. J. Najarian

Mrs. M. J. Najarian

Dr. Vahey M. Pahigian

Sylvia Sahagian

George H. Zartarian

Texas

Stephen Saxenian

Wisconsin

Jacob Carian

Aram Malkasian

SECOND ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Please circle in red June 8 - 10. These are the dates which have been set for NAASR's Second Annual Assembly of Members. Details on the business sessions and assembly banquet will be given at a later date.

Co-chairmen of this year's arrangements committee are Jack Guveyan and James Koundakjian, who were appointed by the Board of Directors. Anyone wishing to serve on the committee can contact either co-chairman.

Don't forget! Be sure to reserve the weekend of June 8 - 10 to attend this year's annual assembly.

COMMITTEE ON ARMENIAN STUDIES

Like to have a voice in things? A wonderful opportunity to express your ideas and opinions is afforded by NAASR's Committee on Armenian Studies and Research, headed by Prof. Richard N. Frye, of the NAASR Board and of Harvard.

An invitation to join the committee is extended to anyone interested in working with the group on recommendations for Armenian studies and research programs and plans for a symposium on an aspect of Armenian studies for the Second Annual Assembly in June.

If interested, contact Prof. Frye through the Association's office.