

## Harvard Chair Campaign Reaches \$250,000 Mark

Since the first of the year the fund for the establishment of a permanently endowed Chair of Armenian Studies at Harvard University has increased by over \$16,000 to bring the total to the \$250,000 mark. In the last 12 months this represents a \$100,000 increase.

With two months left before the Fifth Annual Assembly, NAASR's Board of Directors is asking all members and friends to help put the campaign over the top by May 15, since only \$50,000 more is needed to bring it to a successful close.

At the Association's Third Annual Progress Report Dinner at the Harvard Faculty Club in Cambridge last January, by means of charts and graphs it was shown how the campaign could be concluded in the remaining months. It was pointed out that at the current rate of growth it would well exceed the goal. However, Board Chairman Manoog S. Young pointed out that everybody's cooperation is needed to make this statistical probability an actuality.

Among the recent donors whose substantial gifts have made this rapid growth of the fund possible are Daniel Kondakjian of Newark, N. J., and Mrs. Flora G. Sarkisian of New York City, who have both pledged to establish memorial funds at Harvard for the advancement of Armenian studies. Also since the first of the year new pledges have come from Mr. and Mrs. Sarkes Tarzian of Bloomington, Ind. (\$5000), Gullabi Gulbenkian Foundation of New York City (\$1000), and Dr. P. Jack Kasarjian of Arlington, Mass. (\$1000).

The following have recently increased their previous contributions to new highs: Jacques Kayaloff, New York City (\$1000); Haroutune Touloukian, Boston, Mass. (\$1000); Dikran Missirlian, New York City (\$1500); J. Mark Kolligian, Belmont, Mass. (\$2750); and Gen. Sarkis M. Zartarian, Arlington, Mass. (\$2750). A complete list of these and all other contributions which have been made since April 1, 1957; is now being prepared to be issued in published form.

In the fall campaign, during which a number of NAASR Board members criss-crossed the country appearing at banquets and public functions, over \$52,000 was raised principally from California, Detroit, Troy, Providence, and Worcester. Paralleling the growth of the fund is the membership which now extends to 30 states and exceeds 1700 in number, and there are now over 20 active local sections functioning.

### Fifth Annual Assembly Set For May 15-16-17 at Harvard University

NAASR's Fifth Annual Assembly of Members will be a great milestone in the progress of the organization. It will climax four successful years of activity and will mark the beginning of the fifth year for an organization which has witnessed a phenomenal growth unparalleled in the history of similar organizations in the American-Armenian community.

Chairman George H. Boole, Jr., of the Assembly's Arrangements Committee expressed the hope that this year's assembly will be attended by a record number of members. He announced that his Committee is aiming to make the Assembly Banquet on Saturday evening, May 16, the most outstanding event in the history of NAASR and the American-Armenian community alike.

With Harvard President Nathan M. Pusey heading the list of invited guests, an imposing array of speakers and notables will be on hand to celebrate this historic occasion.

Friday will be devoted to a conference of scholars on an aspect of Armenian history and culture with a public session scheduled for the evening. All day Saturday and Sunday afternoon have been set aside for the business sessions. Headquarters for out-of-town members and guests will be the Hotel Commander. Further details regarding the program, sessions, and meeting places will be sent to all members soon.

#### DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

The Fifth Annual Assembly's banquet on May 16 can be a great event in the history of the American-Armenian community if every member and friend interested in the success of the Harvard Armenian Chair Campaign brings his cooperation and support now.

If you haven't contributed yet, now is the time to join the honored list of supporters. If you have made a contribution previously, an additional contribution or pledge at this time will insure the campaign's success by May 15. If you have done both, then you can help by getting a friend to contribute or make a pledge.

If every member and donor uses the enclosed card in one of these three ways, the campaign can be concluded successfully on time.

All who help to make this project a reality will have rendered a great service to their people and the world of knowledge alike.

Manoog S. Young, Chairman, Board of Directors

## Dr. Avedis Sanjian Reports On Trip To Armenian Centers Abroad

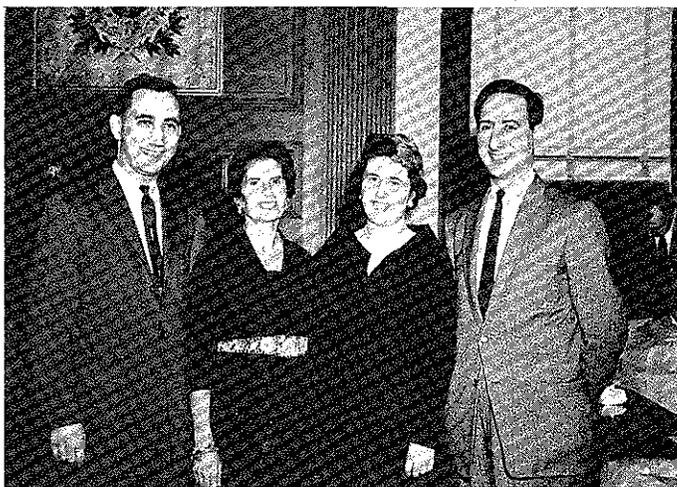
At "progress report" dinners in Boston and New York City in January and February Dr. Avedis K. Sanjian, Research Fellow in Armenian Studies, reported on his extended 4 1/2 months' tour on behalf of Harvard University to Armenian centers of learning in Europe, the Middle East, and Soviet Armenia.

After giving a country-by-country survey of research activities, instructional programs, and library facilities, Dr. Sanjian concluded by stating that Armenian studies in the Western countries are limited in scope and have declined considerably in the last decade or two. In Soviet Armenia, however, there is an extensive and accelerated program of studies underway under government sponsorship.

He felt that the Harvard program, when it is in full operation, will help to bring about a revitalization of this much neglected area of specialization in the Western countries as well as a better understanding of Armenian history and culture throughout the world. He noted that in every country he visited he was accorded a warm welcome and much interest was shown in the developing Harvard program for Armenian studies as an important center of research and training.

He visited all important institutions of higher learning dealing with Armenian studies, conferred with top-ranking academic leaders and scholars, had full access to materials and research facilities, visited ancient historical sites and excavations, and established exchange relationships between various Armenian centers abroad and Harvard University. Dr. Sanjian also showed over a hundred colored slides from his collection of nearly one thousand taken while abroad. (The full text of the report will be printed at an early date.)

At the Boston dinner other speakers included Dr. Pergrouhi Najarian, visiting lecturer on developmental psychology from the American University of Beirut, who stressed the importance of the Harvard program from the point of view of the pressing educational and cultural needs of the Middle East Armenians, and Sir Hamilton A. R. Gibb, director of Harvard's Center for Middle Eastern Studies.



SMILING over the campaign's progress at the Boston dinner are, left to right, Manoog S. Young, Mrs. Sarkes Tarzian, Dr. Pergrouhi Najarian, and Dr. Avedis K. Sanjian.

## NAASR Sections Step Up Tempo of Activities and Fund Drive

Across the country NAASR sections are stepping up the tempo of their activities and fund-raising efforts in order to help bring the Harvard Armenian Chair campaign to a successful conclusion by May 15.

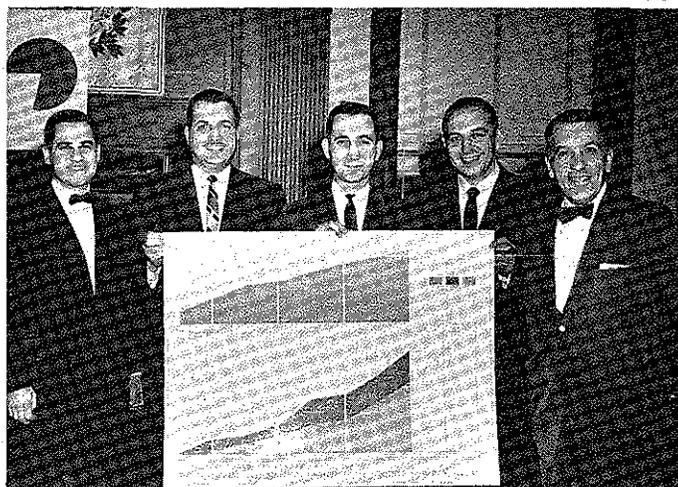
From canvassing activity in the three major California communities to lecture meetings in the East, NAASR's increased pace of activities augurs well for the future of the organization. Public meetings on the weekend of March 13-15 in Chicago, Racine, and Waukegan with Prof. Emmanuel P. Varandyan of the Ohio State University as the featured speaker will be followed by lecture meetings and receptions in Detroit and Syracuse on March 20 and 22, respectively, for Dr. Sanjian who will present his illustrated report on his overseas trip. Board Chairman Young will report on the campaign's progress at these public functions and will be joined in the Midwest communities by California regional director Dr. J. Michael Hagopian, who is touring the eastern part of the country with his new films on Tibet and the Middle East.

Philadelphia, Providence, and Cleveland are all undertaking intensive canvassing activity and are planning pre-Assembly public functions and lectures. Widely scattered communities like Sacramento, Toronto, Miami, and Rochester are also attempting to stage banquets or other public functions before May 15.

Boston, the nerve center of the Harvard Chair campaign, is conducting a canvas of all members, planning another of its well-attended lectures for April, and preparing to make the Fifth Annual Assembly and Banquet an unforgettable event in the city's long and eventful history as one of the first Armenian communities in America.

In Detroit the friends and relatives of the late Carl Yavruian donated \$600 to the Harvard Armenian Chair in lieu of flowers last October. His brother, Sooran, is treasurer of NAASR's Detroit Committee.

To date Massachusetts, California, Michigan, and New York have raised the largest amounts for the Harvard Chair in the order listed. Tiny Rhode Island is a close fifth.



CHARTING the future course of the campaign are, left to right, Board members Haig Der Manuelian, Gregory H. Adamian, Manoog S. Young, Richard Malkasian, and J. Mark Kolligian.