

Great Strides and Events Mark 10th Anniversary Year

NAASR's tenth anniversary year is being highlighted by many great strides and events of unequalled importance.

It commenced in June in Boston with a four-day program featuring an International Conference on the Armenian Language, the Tenth Annual National Assembly of Members with representation from every part of the country, and a Tenth Anniversary Banquet and Celebration.

¶NAASR-sponsored academic programs at Harvard University and the University of California - Los Angeles are making rapid strides. ¶NAASR will also be aiding the development of a more permanent program at Columbia University. ¶NAASR has also financially contributed to the Armenian program at the Berkeley campus of the University of California. ¶NAASR's own endowed "Fund for the Advancement of Armenian Studies" has grown to over \$120,000 in cash and pledges. ¶With two publications already in print and a book department and mail order service in operation, NAASR's projected publication program includes books, translations, reprints, records, and other audio-visual aids dealing with Armenian language studies, history, literature, and culture. ¶Steps are being taken to acquire a building or site to serve as a NAASR headquarters, library, and information center with full-time personnel.

The Tenth Anniversary Banquet and Celebration held on June 14 in the Grand Ballroom of Boston's Statler Hilton Hotel with a capacity audience was a never-to-be-forgotten event. Next to the Victory Banquet which climaxed the Harvard Armenian Chair campaign in 1959, this was the most thrilling moment for NAASR and the Armenian community. Gathered together under one roof at one time was the largest assemblage of Armenian scholars ever convened in the world and outstanding American-Armenians who have distinguished themselves in their chosen fields of endeavor.

The most dramatic moment of the celebration was perhaps when three outstanding Armenologists, all from abroad and none of them Armenian by birth, spoke in perfect Armenian to the enthralled audience and beseeched those present not to let die the wonderful heritage and culture of the Armenians which they have come to love and claim as their own now. They were Prof. Robert Godel of the University of Geneva, Switzerland; Prof. Frederic Feydit of the Ecole Nationale des Langues Orientales Vivantes of Paris, France; and Dr. Charles Dowsett of the University of London, England.

Toastmaster Gregory H. Adamian introduced the double-tiered head table of over fifty persons. In addition to the scholars there were such famous American-Armenians as world renowned plastic surgeon Dr. Varaztad H. Kazanjian; Judge Mary Arabian of Baltimore, Md.; industrialists Edward Mardigian of Detroit and Sarkes Tarzian of Bloomington, Indiana; financier Jacques Kayaloff of New York City; Olympic Hockey Coach Edward Jeremiah of Dartmouth College, inventive genius Emik Avakian of Crestwood, N.Y., and many others too numerous to mention here. Also as principal speakers were Hon. Chester E. Merrow of the U.S. Department

of State, Hon. Samuel Mardian, Jr., former mayor of Phoenix, Ariz., and Board Chairman Manoog S. Young.

Congratulatory messages were received from President Lyndon B. Johnson, United Nations Ambassador Adlai E. Stevenson, Governor Endicott Peabody, Senators Leverett Saltonstall and Edward Kennedy, His Grace Abp. Sion Manoogian, A.G.B.U. presidents Alex Manoogian and Mrs. Arax Exerjian, Rouben Mamoulian, Lili Chookasian, and many others.

NAASR's second decade of activity will see the realization of such projects as one-week Summer Institutes in Armenian History and Culture, an International Conference on Armenian History and Archaeology, a tour of Armenian educational and cultural centers abroad, and a World Congress of Armenian Studies.

Harvard Armenian Program Moves Forward on Ten Fronts; New Courses Introduced

Harvard University's Armenian Studies Program took a great stride forward this fall with the introduction of five new courses in the curriculum so that now the program offers nine courses, with more to be added in subsequent years, to those interested in pursuing Armenian Studies on a serious, scholarly basis.

There are five language courses now available, two in Modern Armenian and three in Classical Armenian, and four courses dealing with history, literature, and intellectual thought. They are Intellectual History of Armenia, 5th through 10th Centuries; History of the Armenian Church, From the Beginnings to the 7th Century; Seminar in Armenian Historiography; and a Graduate Reading and Research Course in Armenian Language and Literature. In addition an intensive course in Classical Armenian was offered in the Summer School.

These courses are being taught by Assistant Professor Avedis K. Sanjian and Dr. Robert W. Thomson. Last spring as a visiting professor there was also Prof. Robert Godel of the University of Geneva, Switzerland. In the span of the last 3-4 years over 50 students, mostly on the graduate level, have pursued these courses for credit towards advanced degrees.

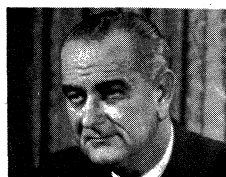
Harvard will inaugurate an Armenian publication series next February auspiciously with Sirarpie Der Nersessian's *Aghtamar, Church of the Holy Cross*, a beautiful book of 77 illustrations with four in full color. It will be followed by other monographs shortly. (Watch for detailed announcements and special rates.)

Harvard's Armenian Studies Program is moving ahead as well on six other fronts: 1) intensive research activity on both graduate and professorial levels, 2) a public lecture series with internationally known scholars giving lectures open to both the academic and Armenian communities, 3) a continual enlarging of its collection of Armenian books and periodicals making it still the largest in America, 4) acquisition of museum holdings, 5) establishment of exchange programs with Armenian academic centers and institutions abroad, and 6) closer inter-departmental relations and cooperation with NAASR.

SPECIAL MESSAGES TO NAASR

"As you observe the Tenth Anniversary of your fine organization, I am pleased to extend hearty greetings to the members and friends of the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research. I wholly applaud your scholarly activities of years past and I wish you a productive and rewarding future."

-- Lyndon B. Johnson



President Johnson

"... What you have done to promote a fuller understanding of the Armenian people is truly unique and ... will be a living symbol of your efforts."

-- Senator Edward M. Kennedy



"My heartiest congratulations to the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research on its Tenth Anniversary.

I have the highest admiration for your successful preservation of an old and treasured culture, which the world could not afford to lose. We hope some day all men will be brothers but never facsimiles of each other. Our diversities are therefore precious, and the rich and varied foundations of the past will help us to build the future.

With my best wishes.

-- Adlai E. Stevenson

International Conference on Armenian Language Receives World Wide Attention

The International Conference on the Armenian Language, held on June 10 and 11, 1964, at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology under NAASR's sponsorship and direction, was the first international academic conference ever held on any phase of Armenian studies and has drawn world wide attention through the participation of noted European scholars and extensive foreign radio and newspaper coverage.

Under the able direction of Prof. V. Lawrence Parsegian of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, the conference brought together seventeen scholars and over 125 participants who examined the Armenian language from the historical, classical, and comparative points of view. Following formal presentation of specially prepared papers, panels discussed related questions and explored current research and areas for future work as well as problems, methods, and needs for the teaching of Armenian. One highlight of the conference was the reading of papers specially prepared and sent to the conference by scholars at the Academy of Science in Erevan, Armenian S.S.R.

Through the Voice of America radio broadcasts and reports in newspapers and journals on the proceedings, the conference has already received international coverage. Inquiries have been received at the NAASR office from scholars, students, libraries, and universities in this country and from foreign countries as far distant as Australia. The complete proceedings of the conference, including discussion from the floor, will be published in special monograph form by NAASR.

Participating in the conference, besides the European scholars, were Prof. Roman Jakobson, Prof. Richard N. Frye, Dr. Robert W. Thomson, and Michael E. Stone, all of Harvard University; Prof. Nina Garsoian and Hagop Nersoyan of Columbia Univ.; Prof. James Etmekjian, Queens College, N. Y.; Abp. Tiran Nersoyan, St. Nersess Armenian Theological School; Rev. A. A. Bedikian, Leonia, N. J.; Prof. Emmanuel P. Varandyan, Ohio State University; Prof. M. G. Sevag, Univ. of Pennsylvania; Prof. Pergrouhi Svajian, Brooklyn College; Dr. Arra S. Avakian, Mass. Univ. Extension; and Sirarpi Ohannessian, Center for Applied Linguistics, Washington, D. C.

New Books Available Through NAASR

NAASR's Book Department continues to expand and offer more books in English for its members at discount rates. Books make excellent and lasting gifts and help you and your friends rediscover your heritage and cultural past.

New titles which are now available in addition to those on the published list are Spoken West Armenian by Gordon Fairbanks, Columbia Univ. Press, 1958, \$3.50; Spoken East Armenian by Gordon Fairbanks & Earl W. Stevick, Columbia Univ. Press, 1958, \$5.00; Rose Baboian's Armenian American Cook Book, 1964, \$5.00; Armenia - An Abridged Historic Outline of Its Church and People, Diocese of the Armenian Church, 1964, \$2.00; The French Influence on the Western Armenian Renaissance by James Etmekjian, Twayne Publishers, 1964, \$6.00 (\$5.00 for members).

All orders must be accompanied by a remittance. Postage and handling charges are prepaid.

West Coast Tenth Anniversary Banquet Aids Fund Drive; NAASR Chapters Step Up Activities

A successful Tenth Anniversary Banquet held on Nov. 14 at the modern Kaiser Center in Oakland, Calif., served to acquaint the San Francisco Bay Area Armenians with NAASR's accomplishments and to aid the campaign to enlarge its endowed Fund for the Advancement of Armenian Studies and to establish a second Chair of Armenian Studies at the University of California - Los Angeles.

The banquet featured Vice-Chancellor Foster H. Sherwood of U.C.L.A., Pres. Paul Dodd of San Francisco State College, Dean Aram Tolegian of West Los Angeles Metropolitan College, National Board members Manoog S. Young, Dr. Joseph Mazmanian, Dr. J. Michael Hagopian, and Regional Director Dr. Lionel S. Galstaun, who served as toastmaster. Present also were Dr. Paul Essabal of the University of California - Berkeley, Dr. Hoosag Gregory of San Francisco State College, and Dr. Louise Nalbandian of Fresno State College. Under the direction of Attorney Everett Berberian the assembled guests contributed over \$10,000 towards NAASR's fund drive. Michael Kilibjian is the chairman of the Bay Area Chapter.

The banquet was the highpoint of a 24-day field trip by Board Chairman Young to the Middle West and West Coast in October and November, in which he was joined for ten days by Second Vice-Chairman Dr. Mazmanian. Well-attended meetings, home gatherings, and public functions were held in Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Phoenix, Los Angeles, Fresno, Sacramento, San Francisco and Seattle in order to bring NAASR's members and friends up to date on its progress, activities, and future programs.

In Los Angeles a special public reception was held on Nov. 5 at the U.C.L.A. Alumni Center where a formal presentation of NAASR's first installment towards the U.C.L.A. Armenian Chair was made to Dean Franklin P. Rolfe of College of Letters and Science in the amount of \$15,980.84. Prof. Gustave von Grunbaum, director of the Near Eastern Center, presided and gave an inspiring report of U.C.L.A.'s efforts and plans to put Armenian studies on a permanent footing there in a program comparable to Harvard's.

NAASR's activities and campaign in the Los Angeles area will be intensified with the formation of four new chapters under able chairmen. In the spring tenth anniversary banquets are now planned for Fresno and Sacramento. In the Mid West a banquet is scheduled in Chicago and in New York City there will be a major banquet and tenth anniversary celebration where plans of NAASR's support of the Columbia University Armenian Studies Program will be unfolded.

In New England NAASR's largest and most active chapter in Boston continues with its annual lecture series and other activities and its close cooperation with the National Board of Directors, and renewed activities are planned for the Merrimack Valley, Worcester, and Providence areas.

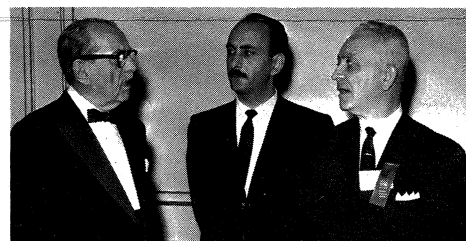
There are many ways in which you can help support NAASR's program and activities, but none is more important than your membership. If you are not a member, join now. If you are, please renew your membership faithfully each year.



SCHOLARS CONFERRING: Prof. Robert Godel, Prof. Frederic Feydit, Prof. Roman Jakobson.



BETWEEN COURSES: Prof. V. Lawrence Parsegian, Prof. Feydit, Abp. Tiran Nersoyan, Hon. Chester E. Merrow.



CHATTING BEFORE THE BANQUET: Haik Kavookjian, Conductor Haig Yaghjian, Gen. Sarkis M. Zartarian.

