

Hairenik Weekly

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THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1965

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GOP House Policy Comm. Adopts Captives Resolve

The House Republican Policy Committee unanimously adopted a resolution Tuesday afternoon, May 25, 1965, supporting the creation of a Special House Committee on Captive Nations. The full statement by Congressman John Rhodes follows.

The Republican Policy Committee of the House of Representatives reaffirms its position in urging the creation of a bipartisan Congressional Committee on Captive Nations.

1. The Republican Policy Committee has consistently supported the creation of a bipartisan Congressional Committee on the Captive Nations as "a positive means for the advancement of world freedom in this psycho-political struggle."

2. The failure in our cold war strategy is nowhere better seen than in our failures to place Moscow under constant, tactful and skillful pressures in the area where they are most vulnerable in every sense of the word—captive nations.

3. The Soviet Union has promulgated the false propaganda that world Communism seeks to liberate the peoples of developing nations from colonialism and imperialism. This can best be combated by the assembling and utilization of truths and facts pertaining to the enslaved conditions of subjugated nations.

4. The Soviet Union has displayed to all the world its profound fear of growing free world knowledge of and interest in its brutal suppression of the people of these captive nations. Thus, the creation of this Committee would be the first step in transporting the cold war to the terrain of the captive world.

5. We refuse to accept the oppressive, and tyrannical regimes now in control of these peoples. Instead, we feel there is an obligation to protect and promote the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms wherever they may be denied or threatened rather than merely in those areas where it seems expedient to do so.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD BARES REMARKABLE TRIBUTE PAID 1915 MARTYRS OF TURKISH GENOCIDE

Tone Poem Dedicated To Martyrs

(The Daily Reveille)

Loris O. Chobanian, a concert classical guitarist, composer and graduate student in the Louisiana State University School of Music, made two guest appearances in Baton Rouge last month on radio and television.

Chobanian discussed differences between the flamenco guitar and the classical type on WJBO-FM radio, implementing his discussion with musical selections. He was guest-star on "Mid-Day in Louisiana" on WBRZ-TV.

In the radio broadcast Chobanian emphasized the present-day use of the classical guitar as a solo instrument. Compared to the flamenco guitar, Chobanian says the classical guitar has less limitations — it can play 16th Century lute classics to 20th Century guitar concertos and light numbers.

The term classical, Chobanian points out, refers to the technique in which the instrument is played. The six-stringed wood instrument, which resembles a German lute and a vihuela of the Renaissance Period, can be played so as many

(SEE PAGE 4, COL. 4)

'SPECIAL ORDER' IN HOUSE, SALTONSTALL RECEPTION HELD

BOSTON, Mass.—A study of the *Congressional Record* issues of the last days of April brings to light a magnificent tribute to the Armenian Martyrs of the 1915 Turkish Genocide on the part of members of the United States House and Senate.

Proceedings in both houses of the legislative branch were capped by a Special Order, obtained for thorough discussion of the Genocide through the efforts of Congressman Edward Derwinski (Ill.), and highlighted by a special reception for members of the Senate and House given by Senator Saltonstall, on April 29.

Other major moments of tribute to the Martyrs by Congress occurred on April 23 and April 26.

Congressional dignitaries throughout the week were in touch with the Commemorative Committee on the 50th Anniversary of the Turkish Massacres of the Armenians, in Boston, through the representative of that Committee in Washington, John D. Hovanessian.

A delegation of Committee members joined members of the twin Houses at the Senator Saltonstall reception held on the 29th.

His Grace, Abp. Hrant Khachadourian, Prelate of the Armenian National Apostolic Church of North America, was privileged to

open the Senate session of April 26 with a Benediction. He performed a like service before the House on April 29.

On the 23rd of April, according to the record, messages on the Turkish Genocide were delivered by Senators Birch Bayh, Indiana, Vance Hartke, also Indiana, Paul Douglas, Illinois, and Roman Hruska, Iowa.

The Appendix of the Record of the same day also bears the text of a speech on the Floor of the House on April 5 by Congressman Roman C. Pucinski, Illinois.

On the 26th, Congressman Philip Philbin, Massachusetts, delivered his remarkable speech on the House Floor under an order granting him 60 minutes to speak. (See the text of Cong. Philbin's speech in the May 27, 1965, issue of the Weekly.)

Shortly thereafter, Congressman Daniel Flood, of Pennsylvania, whose record of advocacy of the causes of the captives is as long and as distinguished as is his record in public service, arose to pay homage to the Armenian dead of 1915.

On the same day, Senators heard Senator Edward Kennedy, Massachusetts, tell his colleagues that "the Armenian question is very much alive today."

Back on the House Floor, Congressman Stanley R. Tupper, Maine, continued House proceedings on the Genocide.

He was followed by Congressman Frank Annunzio, of Illinois. "Special Order" day in the House, April 29, was a remarkable demonstration of how distinguished Americans rally to a cause of intrinsic value.

The entire issue was brought to the Floor of the House when the Speaker pro tempore, Cong. Carl Albert, of Oklahoma, recognized Mr. Derwinski for one hour.

Mr. Derwinski spoke on the Genocide and terminated this effort with the extension speech delivered by Setrak Benjamin Minas, National Chairman of the Commemorative Committee on the 50th Anniversary of the Turkish Genocide of the Armenians, who was present on the occasion.

The Congressman from Illinois then yielded to Mr. Robert Mc Clory, his distinguished fellow Congressman from Illinois, who in turn, after delivering his message, yielded to their colleague, Mr. Barratt O'Hara, also Illinois.

Regaining the floor, Mr. Derwinski yielded to Congressman Gerald L. Ford, of Michigan who was followed in turn by Cong. John D. Dingell, also Michigan, Cong. William Bates, Massachusetts, Cong. Charles Joelson, New Jersey, Cong. Dominick Daniels, New Jer-

(SEE PAGE 4, COL. 3)

AYF CONVENTION TO HAVE SPECIAL ALUMNI REUNION EVENTS THRU WEEK

BOSTON, Mass.—Special homecoming exercises and events for AYF graduates are planned for the July 3-4 national holiday weekend which terminates the 32nd Annual and National Convention of the Armenian Youth Federation of America, to be held in Boston starting June 27.

In a special release meant for the press, the A.Y.F. Central reported there is unusual interest this year among the Alumni-Alumnae body of the organization in the National convention.

The Central ascribed this enthusiasm to precedents set at last year's historic Convention, held in Los Angeles, at which times festivities were marked by a stirring Alumni turn-out for events planned conjointly with the Convention.

More than 800 former AYF members joined their present brethren as an example at a major ball held at the famed Ambassador in that city. Other Alumni events were outstandingly successful.

Apparently, news of the Alumni participation in support of the Convention has made its way back East, and the local graduate gentry are planning on surpassing the testament of goodwill made by the West Coast Alumni.

The AYF will hold its National Convention, centered of course around an intensive round of business sessions lasting over a six-day period, at the magnificent new Sheraton Boston Hotel, Prudential Center, Boston.

Business will start on Sunday evening, June 27, when

the delegates will convene to choose temporary officers and their Committee on Credentials.

The first function of the Alumni Reunion Weekend will take place Sunday evening, at 6:30 p.m., at the Imperial Ballroom of the new Sheraton Boston, when a Cocktail Party for Alumni will allow the AYF graduates to meet the Convention delegation and other members of the present organization.

Following this event, the Annual Convention Ball will take over, again at the Sheraton Boston, at which time Homecoming Ceremonies will take place. A special brief but effective program is being planned.

On Sunday, July Four, Independence Day, the Annual AYF Convention Outing will be at Camp Haiastan, Franklin, Mass., and AYF officers predict a record breaking crowd to be in attendance.

The Outing will be marked by special Alumni ceremonies, as well as an Alumni-vs. AYF Softball game at the new ARS Athletic Field of the Camp.

The Central has taken steps to throw upon the great AYF Camp Pool to the use of the picnickers on the occasion. There then ought not to be any desire on the part of anyone to spend the day at a beach.

This is an early report on Convention plans, which are still under perfection. However, the anticipation among

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7, COLS. 1-2)

DEVELOPMENTS IN SOV. ARMENIA

(In "Problems of the Peoples of the USSR: Winter, 1965")

Unworthy Films. The Young Communist League's newspaper, *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, maintains a special correspondent, M. Kvasnetskaya, in Yerevan, the Armenian capital. On November 3, she devoted her article to the Armenian film studios, Armenfilm, which, in her view, has been failing to produce films "worthy of our time." They are too hackneyed. The older studio officials, nurtured in the era of the "cult of personality," prefer "safe" themes and "safe" treatments; such people are afraid to extend responsibility to young, talented, searching minds, because "it is always difficult with that type; they cannot be judged by a placid, standard norm; their work, one fears will not please every last man, without exception. At the studio, therefore, it is considered better to work with com-
plaisant mediocrity.

The *Komsomolskaya Pravda* correspondent saw nothing but utter banality in such recent Armenfilm products as "Twelve Companions," "The Road," and "A Hard Transition." They all "used the approved cinematographic cliches of the decades past." They were devoid of creative searching. The Armen-film studios have been lacking in the spirit of true creativity for many long years.

As an example of the studio's standpat policies, the correspondent cited the young director Armen Manaryan, who did the first-class film "The Liver". Manaryan recently began shooting a film version of Shirvanzade's story "The Artist," but the ultra-conservative studio officials put so many obstacles in his way that the project had to be shelved. The clever young director D. Kesayan has had similar troubles.

However, all is not lost. Three new films have already been scheduled for production at the hands of young directors. All give indications of being subtle and interesting.

Poor Circulation. The official newspaper of the Armenian Young Communist League, *Komsomolets*, which appears in the Russian language, carried an appeal on November 22. It seems that neither *Komsomolets* nor *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, the organ of the All-Union Young Communist League, sell enough copies in Armenia, so a circulation drive is on. But it goes poorly. As *Komsomolets* said: "It is an alarming circumstance that the Young Communist League committees and the Young Communist League activists are failing to bring the importance of this matter home to every young person, to every Young Communist League member. Many young men and women do not even know that a subscription campaign is in progress." Some factories, the newspaper went on, with hundreds and hundreds of youthful employees subscribe to as few as ten copies of the Young Communist League dailies.

In many countries, of course, when newspapers go unread, the editors are considered the culprits, not the public.

New Encyclopedia. *Kommunist*, the Russian-language organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia, reported on November 20 that work will soon begin on a ten-volume *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia*. The purpose of the books will be to "report the historic worldwide victories of socialism, the progress made in the building of Communism, and our country's advances in all fields of the economy and culture." Numerous scholars

Record:

(FROM PAGE 1, COL. 5)

Taking the floor was Speaker of the House, Cong. John McCormack, of Massachusetts.
He was followed by Cong. Abraham Multer, of New York, Cong. Emilio Daddario, Connecticut, Cong. Edward Boland, Massachusetts, and Cong. John H. Buchanan, Jr., of Alabama.

Mr. Derwinski then asked for and received permission to allow other members of the House to Extend Remarks on the Turkish Genocide in the Record through the following five legislative days.

The Record of the same day shows that in the Senate, Senator Leverett Saltonstall himself delivered a message on Armenian Memorial Day, followed immediately by Senator Jacob Javits, of New York.

Later on the same day, Senator Frank J. Lausche, Ohio, joined his colleagues in remembering the grim events of 1915-18. Still later, Senator Harrison Williams, New Jersey, took the floor, in pursuit of the same matter.

The Record of April 29 also reveals that Congressman Harold D. Donohue, Massachusetts, addressed his House colleagues on April 26 on the matter.

(Note: As it goes on through the 50th Anniversary year, the *Hairenik Weekly* will offer the texts of those of the above speeches which have not as yet appeared in its pages.)

Special Order Day on the Armenian atrocities has rung a new bell of inspiration and dedication among the Armenian nation scattered as it to the four winds.

The effect of the Derwinski measure, supported as it was by a cordon of distinguished Americans, was to assure the Armenian nation that its great sacrifice of 1915 had not been forgotten, and that there are thinking Americans who aspire to the reindpendence of the Armenian homeland.

A native of Mosul, Iraq, Chobanian has presented programs in Baghdad and in various parts of the United States. He has appeared with the New Orleans Summer Pops and with the University Sym-

phony, entitled "April 24", is based on the genocide of the Armenians by the Turks which occurred on that date in 1915. (Ed.—See below for critique of this work.)

The symphonic poem was written, Chobanian says, with a wishful objective that such incidents should not be repeated. Occasional crescendos and loud movements might be interpreted as warnings of a repetition of such massacres.

Chobanian's work was influenced by "The Memoirs of Naim Bey," a Turk in the Ottoman Empire, who took part in the massacre of the Armenians and later wrote the book to partly relieve his conscience.

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A LEGACY (TO MY OPPRESSED PEOPLE)

By N. KOUMYAN

Who made you fearful, who made you weep,
For centuries long, enduring deceit?
Why accept defeat, thus becoming weak,
Always be the last, always submissive?
Where is your pride, why not uphold,
You, the rightful heirs of ancient nobles?
When the others were roaming around the
Your forefathers built great cathedrals.
How can you let, how can you stand
When the hords come to confiscate your home.
Destroy, plunder, your honor, your land?
How can you give, how can you sleep?
You became homeless, unable to fight;
Always submissive, always the fearful;
Even leaving behind what was your own right.
To become nameless, a homeless orphan.
Look around you now, to learn and to see,
No one gives freely, no one fights for you.
The world is for those that know how to be
The master of their fate. It is not for the weak.
You have no more right, you have no more
If you cannot fight, if you cannot unite:
Forget then your home, and forget your name.
And live day by day as a nameless clan.

MARTYRS' MUSIC

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1, COLUMN 3)

as three melodies might be distinguished.

Chobanian, classical guitar instructor with the University's General Extension Division, has recently been recognized for his compositions as well as for his performances.

His recent one-movement symphony, entitled "April 24", is based on the genocide of the Armenians by the Turks which occurred on that date in 1915. (Ed.—See below for critique of this work.)

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SOLOS ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF L.S.U.'S SYMPHONY

(In "Baton Rouge Advocate," May 10)

A smooth orchestral piece, highlighted by solo and conducting skills by distinguished soloists in the LSU Symphony Orchestra of the Union Theater.

Dr. Peter Fuchs, who led the predominantly string orchestra into an effective playing group, yielded the baton to Loris O. Chobanian, a student in composition who conducted his own work, "Nahadagatz."

Chobanian's moving music, inspired by the massacre of Armenians by the Turks in the Ottoman empire in 1915, is a genocidal attempt in his young composer says to be a thematic material from folk and church music, as these themes are never developed their recurring strangely compelling and

The orchestral work opens with a plaintive flute solo and moves purposefully to a dramatic finale. The dirge-like tempo is utilized through much of the composition emphasizes melody. Chobanian proved himself an able conductor as well as a composer.

A S A

56TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

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EMERSON, N.J.—A permanent monument to the memories of the Armenian Martyrs of 1915—1918 was unveiled recently on the grounds of the Home for the Armenian Aged here, with New Jersey Governor Richard J. Hughes, shown above speaking before the monument, and Congressmen Charles S. Joelson and Henry Helstoski, United States Commissioner Theodore Kiscaris, and New Jersey Senatorial Candidate Ned J. Parsekian, in attendance. Member clergy of churches other than the Armenian Apostolic were also present at the impressive exercises.

A VIEW OF A NON-ARMENIAN

By TONY VELIE
New York City
Mr. Velie is not of Armenian extraction. He has been led to write this message on reading of the Turkish Massacres in the press.

All we human beings seem to need is an example; once it is given anything can happen. Thus in 1915 a man named Talaat Pasha who was then the Turkish minister of the interior redefined reality for mankind and ushered in the Twentieth Century. You all know what this man caused to happen—a million and a half Armenians violated, beaten to the ground, slaughtered like animals; another half-million—your fathers, yourselves—forced into a bitter and despairing exile; a great culture stretching back over three thousand years eradicated. You all know that unto you befell the dubious privilege of becoming the first modern men. You were the sacrificial lambs on the altar of truth, the original victims in the reality that now besets us all. I'm talking about genocide.

In a sense, after what happened to you then Aushwitz, Bergen-Belsen, Treblinka; Stalin's blood-purges, the Katyn forest, the millions he exiled from their homelands in the Ukraine—horror heaped on horror until the fragile human sensibility recoils and refuses to record any more.

after what happened to you in the dreadful days of 1915—oh, everything that followed has had a certain logic to it. Because a man named Talaat Pasha showed the world the way to total and irreversible self-destruction. And all this happened a brief fifty years ago, not even a tear-drop on time's waters, fifty brief years and your nation, your culture, yourselves almost completely destroyed! Is it any wonder that it is hard to mourn the dead? Any wonder at all that even now a half-century later some of you might still feel the numbing shock of what happened to you? I have never suffered anywhere near the way you have, and yet my grief, my sense of impotent outrage and, above all, the burden of numb incredulity is mine, too. Insofar as I am an exile on this at best indifferent earth, I am one of you. I too, am an Armenian.

And yet I'm not, of course. I can grieve with you. I can try to understand how you must feel, but my blood has never been shed—no one has yet tried to wipe all

traces of me and mine from the face of the earth. Let me say, then, that this is what I fear in the guts of my soul more than anything else—the total extirpation of us all. I think every human being alive dreads the complete cessation of life on this planet more than any other single thing. And we all know that it is impossible. Individually we are moments in time, we are as nothing at all; to a large extent we live for others—but suppose there will be no others? This is our prime dread.

Still, what I am trying to say to you remains theoretical. What has befallen you I have not experienced directly and can only dread. Above all else the tentacles of the notion of genocide serve to isolate me from you, you from you, me from myself. To the degree that all men alive now are without roots and resonance, the presence of the comforting echoes of the past, to the degree that all of us are modern men, then we are all Armenians. All of us exiles—fragmented - confused - afraid - yet still alive!

I swear I cannot even now grasp the magnitude of your sufferings. It is hard for me to think abstractly, and the sheer physical number - one million, five hundred thousand people dead, massacred - my mind recoils from it. I am overwhelmed. Perhaps this is an attempt on the mind's part to save its sanity. Perhaps not. . . .

But I, as a living man, as your symbolic brother, must acknowledge my terror and try to face the fact that what happened to you can happen to us all. And from this awful realization I would wish that something could be built—for me, for you, for all the peoples of the earth. But I

IS APPOINTED ASST MGR BY EMERSON RUG



VAHAN BARSAMIAN

Vahan Barsamian has been appointed assistant merchandise manager of Emerson Rug Company of Dedham, it was announced by President John Reilly.

Barsamian comes to his new position with 20 years of experience in the carpeting field, and is a specialist in Oriental rugs. From early childhood, he worked with his father, the late George Barsamian, learning every facet of the business.

don't know what can be built on corpses; thus there is little I can give you but the sincerity of my grief which you are free, in your loneliness, your exile, to doubt or ignore.

All I can tell you is that I mourn alongside you, and that if I could I would reach out and touch you all—put my hand on your hands, your living hands, my living flesh, we the heirs of 1915. The survivors.

FORUM:

(FROM PAGE 2, COL. 5)

show "eternal gratitude" to him on behalf of the Armenians at large. Now tell me please how would it feel if sometime in the future the leaders of the Jewish minority in Germany were forced to indulge in a similar gesture on the anniversary of the Jewish genocide of World War II? Can you conceive of a worse calamity befalling a victim nation? Can you imagine a baser, a more vicious spirit for any authority?

which you are either overlooking or are deliberately suppressing. I personally deeply resent your partiality with which you are ignoring multitudes of dissident Armenians who, even in their hour of mourning, cannot find solace by a press which is supposed to be the pride of a just democracy.

ARSHAG HAJIAN
Associate Professor of Mathematics
Northeastern University,
Boston, Mass.

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