



ܠܝܬܝܢܐ ܕܡܝܬܝܢܐ ܠܝܬܝܢܐ ܕܡܝܬܝܢܐ **LIGHT FROM THE EAST** **DECEMBER 1949-JANUARY 1950**

Vol. 2 Published Bi-Monthly by The Patriarchal Council, No. 1
6346 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago 20



A Christmas
Message from
His Holiness,
Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII
Catholicos Patriarch
of the East

pages 2 & 3



**SHAH OF IRAN
GREET'S PATRIARCH
- PROMISES AID -**

	Page
Interview with the Shah of Iran...	1
Great Developments in Japan.....	7
First General Convention of Church of the East in the U.S.....	4
Assyrian National Federation Repudiates Trouble-makers.....	5
Resolutions of Convention.....	14-15
Amazing story of Trichur Sunday School.....	11-13
Publication of Takhsa Receives Congratulations.....	8
Personal Notes.....	6
News from Other Lands.....	3
Hymns from the Khudra.....	16
Aramaic.....	17-24

During his recent visit to the United States as a guest of President Truman, His Imperial Majesty Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, Shah of Iran, gave a private audience to His Holiness the Patriarch Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII on Nov. 19, 1949 at 11:45 a.m. at the Iranian Embassy in Washington, D.C.

This was the only audience of its kind given by the Shah during his visit. Only the Patriarch, accompanied by his archdeacon, the Ven. S.D. Neesan, J.J. Durna, president of the Assyrian National Federation, and George M. Lamsa, were present, together with his excellency Hussein Ala, the Iranian ambassador.

Cont. on page 10

**A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE
FROM THE PATRIARCH OF THE EAST**

**"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given;
"And his authority was upon his shoulder; and His name was called
Wonder, and Counsellor, the Mighty God of the World, author of Peace."**

So the prophets foretold, so the apostles preached, so the martyrs witnessed.

Some twenty centuries ago this great mystery was revealed unto mankind in the Babe who was born in Bethlehem of Judea.

The elements, the heavenly host, and mankind all with one accord recognized the event, and offered unto Him their glory and worship.

The Star and the Heavenly Host from above, the Magi and the Shepherds from below, rendered praise and thanksgiving to Him who was born on that day--the eternal Word of God.

Mar Narsay, the Harp of the Spirit, unequalled master of spiritual drama, describes the event in these words;

**"In the village of David the promise made to David was fulfilled.
"And the course of Prophecy finally rested in Bethlehem."**

This most holy event is being celebrated today once again by the Holy Apostolic and Catholic Church of the East throughout the world, and by millions of others who believe in the Messianic mission of our Redeemer.

To the Assyrian people, the occasion is a reminder of the history of the adoption of the Christian faith by their forefathers nearly twenty centuries ago, and of the stormy yet glorious history of that faith.

The experiences thus acquired are now being put to good use. The confidence and understanding which have been steadily growing between our Assyrian people in the Middle east and their governments, their Moslem neighbors and their fellow-citizens, have given us great satisfaction.

This is especially true since the establishment of the closer understanding effected by us through the agency and cooperation of the representatives of these governments in the United States of America.

We shall long remember the words spoken to us by His Imperial Majesty, Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, the Shah of Iran, during the private audience given to us in Washington, during the Shah's recent historic visit to the United States of America.

His Majesty's desire for the welfare and success of all his subjects, including the Assyrians, is an evident fact. The Shah's words to us were

"My father was interested in your people, and so am I."



Reports reaching us daily from Assyrians throughout the Middle East, Syria, Iraq and Iran, all speak of the new hope and courage with which they are facing the future, as useful citizens of their respective countries.

The Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church of the East once again is on the move to fulfil the task for which it was destined by the Divine Providence as the Apostle of Asia.

In far-off India, the nearly twenty centuries old daughter and integral part of the Mother Church of the East, continues to be the apostle of that great sub-continent. The newly-won independence of India offers limitless opportunities for the Church of India--a church free of all political ties, and without any alien sympathies or loyalties.

On the other side of Asia, in the distant land of Japan, the Rukha Qadisha, the Holy Spirit, is working in His mysterious ways, as He did on the Day of Pentecost. An appeal has been made to us by a number of prominent Japanese who ask us to re-establish the Church of the East in Japan.

For this, and for many other signs of the workings of the Holy Spirit, we render our praise and thanksgiving to Him who on this day fulfilled our salvation through the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, and good hope to mankind!

May that peace become a reality in our days.

The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all, Amen.

ESHAI SHIMUN

By Grace
Catholicos Patriarch of the East

News from OTHER LANDS

IRAQ

More subscriptions to Light from the East were received from Habbaniyeh, bringing the total to 135. Arrangements now are being made to transfer this money into the printing fund for the paper.

IRAN

A letter from the Visitor General reports that all is proceeding favorably throughout Iran.

SYRIA

The economic situation is now normal in everything except for the unfortunate people who were led astray by the Brazilian hoax of Yusuf Malek, and did not cultivate enough ground. These families are in bad straits, but all the others are prospering.

FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION VOTED TREMENDOUS SUCCESS

When delegates to the first national convention of the Church of the East adjourned at the close of their sessions in Chicago on Nov. 6, it was with the satisfaction of knowing that they had accomplished a great step forward.

Delegates come from New Britain, Conn., from Flint, Mich., Gary, Ind., and of course from Chicago, the patriarchal city.

On the opening night the Patriarch welcomed the delegates, reporting to them the amazing progress being made throughout the world by the Assyrian people and the Church of the East. He told of great gains in India, in Iran, and in Iraq and in Syria. He urged them to return to their homes full of renewed devotion to the cause for which they had come to the gathering.

An impressive element in the Convention was the deep devotion manifested in the services of worship, held in the Church of Mar Sargis and in the Patriarch's private chapel, at 6346 N. Sheridan Road.

Resolutions were adopted charting the future activities of the church in many fields.

First was the systematic plan for national financial support in the establishment of a General Treasury Fund. Next came plans for the Patriarchal Pence; for Sunday Schools; for restoring the lapsed. Regulations for the choice of Church Committees were voted, and rules for correspondence were laid down.

Gary, Ind., is to be the convention city in 1950.

Minutes of the Convention were carefully kept by the permanent secretary, Narsay Serges. These are being mimeographed and will be supplied to every parish. The resolutions were submitted to the Patriarch. In view of the transcendent importance of this convention in laying the groundwork for all future such gatherings, the Patriarch examined them with great care, clarifying them in some respects, and then giving them his hearty approval.

The spirit of the convention was enthusiastic, harmonious, and forward looking. Especially notable was the deep interest taken by the younger delegates, and their activity in submitting and discussing plans for forward work.

On the night of Sunday, Nov. 6, a banquet was held in honor of the Patriarch at Kolping House, 811 W. Oakdale Ave., Chicago, presided over by the Rev. S.D. Neesan, Archdeacon to the Patriarch, with nearly 300 present. This was Chicago's welcome to the new Takhsa, or Service Book, published for the first time in English with parallel columns of Aramaic in English letters. All the convention delegates attended in a body, and received warm applause when they were presented to the gathering.

Bishop Charles L. Street, the newly consecrated Suffragan Bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Chicago, was an honored guest and expressed his profound interest in the work of the Church of the East. Other guests of honor included Mr. Lucius Astley-Locke of the Chicago Tribune.

On this occasion the Patriarch signally honored the Rev. Irwin St. John Tucker, president of the Patriarchal Council, by presenting him with the golden Cross of St. Thaddeus the Apostle. This was in recognition of his work as editor of Light from the East, as well as of his activity on the Council.

Both the Patriarch and Father Tucker expressed their strong desire for the establishment of the Madrashta Aramayta Patariarchayta, or Patriarchal Aramaic Institute, for the purpose of preserving a knowledge of the Language of Jesus.

ASSYRIAN NATIONAL FEDERATION Condemns Attack On Patriarch

In recent months sheets and leaflets emanating from sources in the Middle East, attacking the integrity, character, reputation and civil authority of His Holiness, Mar Eshai Shimun, Catholicos Patriarch of the East, have been widely circulated by mail and otherwise.

Assyrian National Federation has been requested by many to make its position on the subject publicly known.

In response, the Federation makes the following declaration:

1. That the defamatory charges made against His Holiness, Mar Eshai Shimun, in such sheets and leaflets are untrue and unfounded;
2. That issuance and circulation of such sheets and leaflets, particularly the leaflet entitled "Assyrians Repudiate Feudal Authority of Mar Eshai Shimun" was unwise, uncalled for, and contrary to the welfare of the Assyrian race, particularly those in the Middle East;
3. That issuance of such sheets and leaflets was not prompted by patriotic or humanitarian motives;
4. That the purpose of circulation of such sheets and leaflets was to create discontent, disunity and segregation among the Assyrian remnant, particularly those located in the Middle Eastern countries and to further weaken them.

The Assyrian National Federation is of the opinion that unfriendly forces or powers without the Assyrian race are behind the movement and are using the services of Assyrians to circulate such sheets and leaflets to weaken and destroy the race.

The Assyrian National Federation has endeavored to bring about a cessation of such utterances, and has communicated with individuals in the Middle East presumably responsible for the issuance of such sheets and leaflets, has reasoned with them, and called attention to the folly and damaging effects thereof, and has urged the discontinuance of such practice, but without avail.

In conclusion, the Assyrian National Federation publicly condemns and repudiates the charges and allegations made against His Holiness, Mar Eshai Shimun, in said sheets, particularly Leaflet 5 (B) and those responsible for the issuance and circulation of such sheets and leaflets.

The Assyrian National Federation, which is probably the most informed organization concerning the civil activities and labors of His Holiness, Mar Shimun, knows of nothing that His Holiness has done contrary to the best interests and welfare of the Assyrian people residing or located in various parts of the world, and especially those in the Middle Eastern countries.

The Federation has direct knowledge and information that His Holiness Mar Eshai Shimun, has at all times labored relentlessly in the interest of and for the good and welfare of the Assyrians, their security and economic betterment.

In all his dealings concerning the Assyrian people, His Holiness has proved himself a loyal leader, honest and trustworthy.

The Assyrian National Federation has labored with His Holiness, Mar Eshai Shimun, in many instances on matters pertaining to the well-being, security and relief of the Assyrians in the Middle Eastern countries, and in all instances has found His Holiness to be sincere in his efforts to relieve and improve the social and economic conditions of the Assyrians located in the Middle Eastern countries.

ASSYRIAN NATIONAL FEDERATION
17 Academy St.,
Newark, N.J.

LIGHT FROM THE EAST

Published Bi-Monthly By
**THE PATRIARCHAL COUNCIL,
INC.**

6346 N. Sheridan Road,
Chicago

Phone, HO llycourt 5-2037

Subscription rates.....\$2 per year
Single copies, 20 cents

The Patriarchal Council, Inc.

Rev. Irwin St. John Tucker, president

Rev. Saul D. Neeson, vice president

Narsev Serqes, secretary-treasurer

PATRIARCH GOES TO CONSECRATE TURLOCK CHURCH

On Dec. 17, His Holiness the Patriarch left Chicago for California, with his father, the Rab Khaila David d' Mar Shimun, and his sister, the Lady Helen. The party was to arrive in California on the 21st or 22nd of Dec.

The Patriarch will consecrate the newly built church at Turlock on Dec. 25, the Western Christmas, and celebrate the Qurbana. This will also be celebrated on the Eastern Christmas, Jan. 7.

All the Assyrians of Turlock are tendering a banquet in honor of the occasion, and also a reception for Lady Helen and the Rab Khaila, who are visiting the West for the first time.

The Patriarch hopes to visit the Assyrians in San Francisco, and if time and circumstances permit, those in Los Angeles also.

NOTES FROM NEW BRITAIN

Oct. 29, 1949, The Assyrian War Veterans, Joel Eshoo Post #1, presented the Assyrian National Association with an American flag at a banquet, with full military honors.

The marriage of Albert Aziz, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Aziz of Hartford, to Madeline Tine of Forest Hills, N.Y. was celebrated on Oct. 8, 1949

The marriage of George Lazar, son of Mr. and Mrs. Pera Lazar of New Britain to Dorothea Rose was held Sept. 19, 1949.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sargis of Yonkers, N.Y. announce the engagement of their daughter Lillian to Jack Baba of New Britain. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Badal.

Mr. and Mrs. Yonan Jones announce the engagement of their daughter Joan to Benjamin Abraham, son of Mrs. Abraham of New Britain.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tamraz announce the engagement of their daughter Viola to Jack Baba, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Baba of Hartford.

Mr. and Mrs. Bayram announce the engagement of their daughter Sarah to Albert Alavardy of Chicago.

INDIA HOPES FOR VISIT

EMBASSY OF INDIA

Washington, Nov. 15, 1949

"Your Holiness:

I am desired by Her Excellency Madame Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit to thank you for your kind letter of Oct. 17, 1949. Her Excellency regrets she was not able to reply earlier, owing to her preoccupation with the Prime Minister's visit. Your letter unfortunately arrived too late to enable Her Excellency to arrange an appointment with the Prime Minister.

The Ambassador regrets that the Prime Minister could not have the pleasure of meeting you, and hopes that Your Holiness will be able to visit India in the near future, to strengthen the bonds between our two countries and peoples.

T.N. Kaul,
First Secretary"

PHOTO PROVES ANTIQUITY OF CHURCH IN JAPAN

This Tripod marks the location of a Shrine of the Church of the East more than 1,000 years old near the city of Kyoto, Japan, when the emperors of Japan were protectors of the Patriarchal Church of Asia.



WORKING FOR RESTORATION OF CHURCH OF EAST IN JAPAN

At a great national mass meeting attended by 15,000 people held in Tokyo on Oct. 6th, the chairman read to the great gathering the cablegram of Mar Eshai Shimun, Catholicos Patriarch of the East, heartily approving establishment of the Association for the Reinstatement of the Church of the East.

It produced a profound impression "deeply engraved on the hearts of the whole audience" according to Sakae Ikeda, one of the directors of the Association.

A pamphlet describing the objectives of this great mass meeting on behalf of National Religious Peace (including the Patriarch's telegram) was published, and distributed by thousands throughout Japan.

Mr. Ikeda sends an amazing picture of an ancient shrine of the Church of the East, a tripod representing the Holy Trinity, in the form of the Torii symbol seen everywhere in Japan. This is one of most startling and significant pictures ever sent out of Japan. It indicates the location of a shrine of the Church of the East half a century older than the visit of Francis Xavier, incorrectly credited with having brought the Christian faith into Japan.

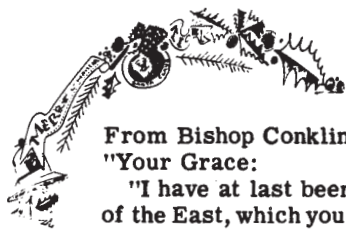
After acknowledging the letter of Oct. 4 sent by airmail, in which the Patriarch said that when the time was ripe he would send a bishop to Japan to evangelize this country again, Mr. Ikeda said:

"We are doing our utmost to let the Japanese know of your church. The first Council of the Association for the Reinstatement of the Church of the East was held at the famous Koriuji Buddhist Temple, Kyoto, the superior of which is one of the directors of the ARICE, on the 16th of October.

"Prof. N. Asaki, formerly of Kyoto Medical College, and adviser of the ARICE; Rev. Eiko Kiyotaki, Superior of the Temple, and I, as well as several other directors, were present.

"Although my brother, Eitsugu Ikeda, president of the ARICE, had been confined to his home against his will owing to illness, and could not at-

Cont. on page 9



Warm Welcome Greet Publication of TAKHSA

From Bishop Conkling of Chicago...

"Your Grace:

"I have at last been able to find time to read The Liturgy of the Church of the East, which you so graciously presented to me. It is very beautiful.

"I was particularly impressed with the portion on page 37, beginning "Strengthen, O Lord", and on page 41, beginning "May He who has Blessed Us." The former has been written into a hymn which is used in our churches. I am planning to have both these passages typed out for use by me on occasions at our Parishes.

"I was also greatly impressed by the intensity and dramatic clarity, especially of the Palm Sunday and Easter devotions. They have the character almost of being written by eye-witnesses.

"I would also congratulate you on the excellent job of printing and arrangement, which makes the whole book so attractive and readable.

W. E. CONKLING"

From Bishop Grochowski, of the Polish National Catholic Church...

"Your Holiness:

"I have just received the copy of the Liturgy of the Church of the East. I thank you most sincerely for your kindness and consideration in sending it to me. I will study it in due time, for I am certain by the first glance that it will prove to be of interest to me. I enjoyed and remember well your visit in our Cathedral and hope we will meet on other occasions in our efforts for the Christian cause.

LEON GROCHOWSKI"

From Dr. Wigram, Green Acres, Wells,
Somerset, ENGLAND

"My Dear Lord Patriarch:

"I have just received from you your lately published copy of the Takhsa of the Holy and Apostolic Church of the East. I must thank you for it heartily and congratulate both you and your helpers for the work that they have accomplished. I have no doubt it will be a blessing to the ancient church over which you rule, for many years; and I hope that you will be able to complete, with your helpers, the other service books of your church.

"The texts of the daily services and of the funeral service will be, I think, available for reproduction in the same way, and I presume that your people would have no objection to using ordinary copies of the Psalter.

"I can think of no work that will do more to hold your people together in loyalty to the old Church in their new land, than easily obtainable copies of their own services.

W. A. WIGRAM."

Letters of thanks also were received from Dean Lawrence Rose of General Theological Seminary; Dean H.H. Shires of the Church Divinity School of the Pacific; Dean W.H. Nes, of Nashotah House; from W. R. Castle, former assistant secretary of state, Washington, D.C., Dean Percy L. Urban of Berkeley Divinity School, New Haven, Conn; and from the librarian of Cambridge Theological Seminary, Cambridge, Mass.

GREETING FROM BRITISH PRIMATE

Lambeth Palace, London

From the Archbishop of Canterbury...

"In the serene joy of His first coming, and in solemn hope of His second advent to judge the world in righteousness, I greet Your Beatitude praying that the blessing of Christ may descend in fullest measure on your apostolic work, upon your clergy, and the faithful people whom God has placed in your spiritual charge.

"I remain, your Beatitude's loving brother in Christ,

GEOFFREY

Archbishop of Canterbury,

Primate of All England, and Metropolitan"

REPLY TO ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

To His Grace, the Archbishop of Canterbury.

"Beloved Brother in Christ:

"In thanking you for your message on the occasion of the approaching celebration of the birth of Our Lord, we greet you and all those who are under your spiritual care in the name of the children of the Holy Apostolic and Catholic Church of the East, and also in our own.

"In the words of the prophet: 'For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and his authority was upon his shoulder; and his name was called Wonder, Counsellor, Mighty God of the World, Author of Peace.'

"May the Author of this peace, whose advent was foretold by the prophets, preached by the apostles, and witnessed by the martyrs, reign in the hearts of all men.

"Peace on earth, and good hope to mankind. May this angelic message be a reality in our day.

"Your Grace's loving brother in Christ,

ESHAI SHIMUN

by Grace

Catholicos Patriarch of the East"

Cont. from page 7

tend, he was kind enough to submit to the Council thousands of copies of a paper which referred concisely to the history, the present condition, and the doctrines of your Church and the recently established ARICE, and which he had printed at his own expense. Thenceforth, we have been distributing the copies among prominent people in Japan.

"Under separate cover I am sending you a picture which shows the very spot in Kyoto where a Nestorian tripod was located more than a thousand years ago in the reign of Tennos including Empress Suiko. This reminds us of the words of the New Testament:

"And he showed me a pure river of the water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

-Rev. 22:1"

Rome was not built in a day. We might as well be trying to build Rome in Japan, but we are doing our best to restore the Church of the East in our land.

Cont. from page 1

His Majesty opened the audience by shaking hands, and with the words: "I am very glad to receive Your Holiness. My father was interested in the welfare of your people, and so am I. I am trying to do all I can for the welfare and happiness of all our people. The officials also are trying to do their best. Is there anything I can do for you?"

The Patriarch's response was to welcome his Imperial Majesty to this country, in the name not only of the American Assyrians, but also in the name of the Church of the East throughout the world.

The Patriarch stated that the Church of the East was historically an integral part of the Persian Empire, adding: "While Greek and Latin churches were within the Roman Empire, the Church of the East was established and flourished within the Persian Empire. Under the rule of various imperial dynasties, it grew and spread throughout Asia. While Christianity within the Roman Empire was being persecuted, Christianity within the Persian Empire enjoyed freedom and liberty.

"Under His Imperial Majesty, your late Father, not only the Assyrians but all the people of Iran enjoyed freedom and security, and great advances were made. It is my earnest hope and prayer that the success they made will be greatly multiplied under your majesty's reign."

The emperor then asked the Patriarch whether he had any special request to make, and promised to give any such request his immediate and full consideration.

The audience, here reported very briefly, left upon the Patriarch a deep impression of the firm intent of His Majesty to see that the Constitution of his land is carried out to the very letter for the good of all his subjects.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME TO SHAH OF IRAN

-By J.J. Durna

Your Majesty:

It is significant indeed that this sacred day of Thanksgiving should be the occasion of the visit with us of Your Majesty, the Shahanshah of Iran. It is a most opportune day for those of us of the Assyrian race to search our memories and recall the many benefits which Allah, through the medium of Your Majesty and his Government has showered upon our kin who form a component part of the citizenry of the Great Land of Iran. We are especially mindful of the consideration and assistance, material and otherwise, rendered to our blood relatives--our fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters--in their recent rehabilitation in Azerbaijan. In helping them you have helped us. We therefore extend our sincere thanks and gratitude and assure Your Majesty of our deep appreciation.

I had the esteemed honor to be presented to Your Imperial Majesty in Washington last Saturday at the audience Your Majesty graciously granted to His Holiness, Mar Eshai Shimun, Catholicos Patriarch of the East and leader of the Assyrian people. His Holiness has all along urged the Assyrian people in every land to be loyal and useful citizens of their respective countries and to prove their loyalty by deeds of sacrifice when necessary, and this has also been the policy of the Assyrian National Federation at all times.

HOW GREAT SUNDAY SCHOOL WAS BUILT UP IN INDIA

-By J.N. Louis

Secretary,

Mar Apprem Sunday School

Trichur, India

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" is the golden maxim of Solomon the Wise, regarding the bringing up of infants. With due respect to this solemn and practical advice, the Chaldaean Syrian Church (Church of the East) of Trichur, South India started some 45 years back an organization for the religious instruction of her children, under the name of "The Bethany Sunday School." This was changed to Mar Apprem Sunday School by His Grace Mar Timotheus, as patron of the School.

Begun with only a strength of 5 children, this progressed so rapidly, thanks to our Blessed Redeemer whose loving dispensation guided and guarded this infant institution, that it not has not less than 2,000 students on its rolls.

This education may well be considered as sponsored by the church and compulsory, yet we cannot but assert with regret that there are still a number of children of school-going age who have not in any way benefited by this endeavor of ours.

The spiritual awakening seen in some of our youngsters, however, is extremely encouraging. We hope and pray that the divine seed sown in the infant hearts may take root in good time, and bear fruit a hundred fold.

The school is highly indebted not only to His Grace Mar Timotheus, our late lamented and beloved Metropolitan, but also our late Administrator Kashisha Poulose Konikkara, to whose integrity and patronage this movement owes much of its stability and prosperity. Our thanks are also due to the unselfish workers of this institution, and to all others who have helped us in manifold ways, especially to the benevolent parishioners who have readily granted us the use of their houses for holding our classes.

We commend this institution ever more to the loving care of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who through all the days of its existence has been guiding and guarding it in the day time with a cloud, and all the night with a light of Fire.

Cont. from page 4

Much approval was expressed during the Convention of the work of the Chicago church committee in the repairs and improvements made in the Church of Mar Sargis. The church house next door has been fitted up as an assembly room. It is planned to hold the classes of the Aramaic Institute in the church building, as a beginning.

Gabriel Sargis of Chicago was elected chairman of the Convention, both during the 1949 sessions and for preparation for the convention of 1950. Narsay Serges was elected secretary.

With this convention as an annual established event, and with the Patriarchal Council meeting regularly; with Patriarchal Pence cans actively supported in every parish; with LIGHT FROM THE EAST supported and widely read; and, above all with the Madrashta Aramayta Patariarchayta in operation: the Church of the East in the United States will be able to fulfil the apostolic task that was in the mind of God when, by His providence, His Holiness the Patriarch of the East was brought to the United States.

TEACHERS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL OF



One hundred and fifty teachers of Mar Apprem Sunday School, Trichur, India, instructors of more than 2,000 children. This Sunday School began 45 years ago with 5 children. At first known as "The Bethany Sunday School", the name was changed to honor Mar Aprim, or Apprem, author of many hymns used by the Church of the East for milleniums.

J.N. Louis, secretary of the Sunday School, writes:
"Instructions are given to girls and boys separately wherever possible, in eight standards. Classes are held on all Sundays, with very few exceptions, from 2 to 4 p.m. Schools are conducted in different branches to suit the convenience of young children. There are

THE CHURCH OF THE EAST, TRICHUR, INDIA



18 branches in all in Trichur and its suburbs.

"A secretary with his assistants, both chosen from amongst the clergy, direct the school in consultation with a committee constituted of all the Head Masters of the various branches. Quarterly and occasional meetings for all the staff also are held, wherein ways and means are suggested and proposed for more efficient and proper conduct of the school.

"Inspectors are also appointed, who are expected to supervise the work of teachers of their respective jurisdictions, and to visit the houses of parishioners, thereby facilitating regular attendance of truant students."

RESOLUTIONS

**Adopted by the First National Convention
of the Church of the East in the United States of America
November 3-7, 1949
(Revised, clarified and approved by the Patriarch)**

I. General Treasury

There shall be a General Treasury of the Church of the East.

- a. Headquarters will be in Chicago. The Patriarchal Council shall act in a supervisory capacity, in accordance with the rules laid down by the Patriarch.**
- b. Money shall be used only for (1) necessary activities; (2) Printing Church Literature; (3) unforeseen necessary expenses having direct bearing on the church.**
- c. After each parish has had its annual meeting, thirty per cent of the net profit shall be forwarded to the Patriarchate. This donation shall begin in the year 1949.**
- d. All money bequeathed by anyone to the Church, and not designated for any parish, shall be forwarded to the General Treasury fund.**

II. Church Committees

All Church Committees shall be chosen by the people.

- a. The people's voice may be substituted by the trustees, as the representative of the people.**
- b. Elections shall be carried out in accordance with the rules and regulations laid down by the Patriarch pertaining to the election of committees.**

III. Correspondence

All correspondence, outside of religious matters, shall go to the secretary of the church.

Communications from the Patriarch to the parish priest, if they relate to the work of the church committee, shall not be published by the priest until he has first brought their contents to the notice of the committee.

IV. Name of the Church

In accordance with the desire of His Holiness, the official name of our Church is here by declared to be the Church of the East.

V. Publication Committee

Each parish shall appoint a special committee for the publication LIGHT FROM THE EAST.

VI. Patriarchal Pence

A PENCE CAN rack shall be placed in each parish church, with cans for every member. A committee shall be chosen to administer the handling of this rack. (Unanimous support was voted for the Theological Schools supported by the Patriarchal Pence.

VII. Sunday Schools

The Priest shall operate the Sunday School, and the church committee shall help him in every possible way.

VIII. Missionary Work

In regard to Missionary work, the convention feels that this subject is out of its jurisdiction, and will abide by whatever plans the Patriarch shall put into effect.

IX. Services of the Church

A priest must abide by the canonical law pertaining to the holding of services for any non-member of the Church of the East.

- a. No service should be performed for any member of the Church who has failed to perform the duties expected of a member, or has not paid his yearly pledge, unless the sanction of the Patriarch is first obtained.
- b. If a person is 21 years of age or over and desires to marry in the Church of the East, he must pay the yearly pledge before the ceremony is performed.
- c. If any member drops his membership in the church, in order to re-enter he must pay the dues for the year in which he dropped, and also the year in which he seeks re-admittance.
- d. Money received for marriage ceremonies, baptisms, etc., is to be turned over to the priest.

X. Clothes for Iran

The Patriarch is requested to write to the government of Iran to allow the sending of clothes from the United States duty free to needy Assyrians overseas.

XI. Visitors Committee

Each parish should appoint a visitors committee to visit the sick and also to visit members who have dropped from the church.

XII. Thanks

The convention extends thanks to the Daughters of the Church of the East of Chicago for their hospitality and hard work during the convention.

Thanks also were extended to the Rev. Irwin St. John Tucker in appreciation of the work done by him on the Patriarchal Council and in connection with the magazine LIGHT FROM THE EAST.

XIII. Restoring the Lapsed

The convention elected a committee of six to visit the Patriarch and discuss with him the subject of members who had dropped from the church.

On this committee the following were elected;

Rev. B. Odishoo, Deacon Jacob Serges, David Elia, Youshia Solomon.
Isaac Aziz, Gabriel Sargis.

HYMNS FROM THE KHUDRA
(Known as Qanuni, or metrical chants)

Translated from the Aramaic into English by His Holiness, Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII, Catholicos Patriarch of the East.

ON THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD

B'RIKH DITLI B'APARTHA

(Blessed is He who was revealed in Apartha)
(Apartha is the Aramaic rendering of Ephratha,
original name of Bethlehem.)

Blessed is he who was revealed in Apartha, who was born in the cave;
The Magi offered him worship: gold, myrrh and incense.

Blessed is the Lord who proceeded and came from heaven, and was truly
born, and His name is called Wonder.

Blessed is the Ray of Wonder who was made known by the Vigilant Ones,
who was born without man, and was called Mighty.

Blessed is He who fulfilled the prophecies and shone forth from the Virgin,
and was born in the cave in Bethlehem Apartha.

Blessed is He who sent to the East the brilliant Star, which revealed His
birth to the world which eagerly awaited Him.

Blessed is He who was revealed without division and united without ming-
ling, and was born without marriage, and freed us from all peril.

Blessed is the High and the Exalted one who proceeded and came down
from heaven, and dwelt in the pure bosom, as Isaiah proclaimed.

Blessed is the Eternal Child who came to us from heaven, and made his
abode in the chaste bosom as it is written in the prophet.

Blessed is He who by His grace made us worthy of the feast of His birth,
and promised us through His love to make us inheritors of His kingdom.

Blessed is the Child who came and freed us from error, from the Evil
One, from death and adversity, and proclaimed his kingdom.

It is meet that we should thunder with praises unto the Giver of Light,
the Messiah, who by his glorious birth leads the way unto the heights above.

Let us sing praises unto the Lord with the watchers in heaven, on this
glorious feast of the birth of the Son of the Living One.

.91 1.11 1.11

[illegible]

1-090:209 2A2B2C 2A2B2C 2A2B2C 2A2B2C 2A2B2C
 1-9 2A2B2C 2A2B2C 2A2B2C 2A2B2C 2A2B2C 2A2B2C
 .2A2B2C 2A2B2C 2A2B2C 2A2B2C 2A2B2C 2A2B2C 2A2B2C

-19-

[illegible]

1. מדינת ישראל תהיה חברה בליגת המדינות הערביות.
 2. מדינת ישראל תהיה חברה בליגת המדינות הערביות.
 3. מדינת ישראל תהיה חברה בליגת המדינות הערביות.
 4. מדינת ישראל תהיה חברה בליגת המדינות הערביות.
 5. מדינת ישראל תהיה חברה בליגת המדינות הערביות.
 6. מדינת ישראל תהיה חברה בליגת המדינות הערביות.
 7. מדינת ישראל תהיה חברה בליגת המדינות הערביות.
 8. מדינת ישראל תהיה חברה בליגת המדינות הערביות.
 9. מדינת ישראל תהיה חברה בליגת המדינות הערביות.
 10. מדינת ישראל תהיה חברה בליגת המדינות הערביות.

[illegible][illegible][illegible]