



FEDERATION News

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FEDERATION
OF AMERICAN SYRIAN-LEBANON CLUBS

VOL. 1

DECEMBER, 1952

Series 9-C-3-b-2 NO. 6

Executive Board Meets In Kansas City Dec. 13-14

Michael F. Tamer Federation's New President

Michael F. Tamer of Indianapolis, Indiana is the new president of the Federation of American Syrian Lebanon Clubs.

Tamer, who long has been active in Federation affairs, and for several years has served a chairman of the important and active Scholarship committee, was the unanimous choice of the delegates to the recent Chicago convention for the post of president of the Federation.

The new president has already moved aggressively into the many duties that become part of the task of leading this organization, and has already had meetings and made several trips to different parts of the country to acquaint himself with the activities and the interests of the various clubs.

Soon after his election, the president and Mrs. Tamer attended a meeting in Huntington, W. Va., on Sept. 28th where a policy conference meeting had been scheduled, that included the new chairman of the scholarship committee Fred Salem of Huntington, the Federation's treasurer John Sakakini of Huntington and the Federation's director of public relations Wm. M. Corry of Zanesville, Ohio.

At the Huntington conference a definite plan for continuing Federation News was outlined, and a new plan for building the treasury of the scholarship fund was discussed.



MICHAEL F. TAMER, President

After the Huntington conference the next trip of the new president was to Atlantic City where he attended the convention of the Eastern States Federation and also served as one of the delegates from the mid-west to the meetings of the National Association of Federations held in Atlantic City in conjunction with the

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Plans Go Forward For Census Of Syrian-Lebanese People In U. S.

Plans are moving forward rapidly towards the taking of a census of Syrian and Lebanese people in the United States, under the sponsorship of FEDERATION NEWS.

This particular project, one that has long been discussed and apparently much needed, will be officially started on

January 1st, 1953, when census blanks will be forwarded to all the persons of Syrian and Lebanese origin, whose names are in the files of FEDERATION NEWS, or whose names are made available by federation club members.

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SEE YOU IN CINCY—AUG. 6-9

The first executive board meeting of the new administrative year of the Federation of American Syrian Lebanon Clubs will be held at the President Hotel in Kansas City, Mo. on Saturday and Sunday December 13th and 14th. The Syrian American Club of Kansas City, will be the host organization for this conference.

This being the first meeting of the Executive Board called by the new Federation president, Michael F. Tamer, since the Chicago convention. It is expected that a full agenda of important business will be presented to the executive group for consideration and action.

President Tamer has been active since his election in Chicago, in completing preliminary plans for the new organizational year, and the Kansas City conference will give an opportunity to discuss those plans with the full executive board and organize the Federations program for the coming months.

The invitation of the Syrian American Club of Kansas City to the executive board is a happy one because of the very pleasant memories that so many of the board members have from the meeting held two years ago in Kansas City at which time the same club and its members proved to be unsurpassable hosts to their visitors.

The business program as announced by President Tamer will begin the opening session at 2:00 P. M. on Saturday afternoon, December 13th. On Saturday evening, a get-together party will be held at the President Hotel, honoring the visitors who are expected to come from all parts of the mid-west to attend the meeting.

The second business session will be held at 2:00 P. M. on Sunday afternoon,

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NAMES IN OUR CENSUS

FILE TO DATE

1096

Chicago Convention Is Huge Success

The Associated Clubs of Chicago once again proved to be capable and genial hosts in conducting the 1952 convention of the Federation on Aug. 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st.

Chicago's Hotel Sherman was a beehive for those four days as the Chicago committee welcomed visitors from practically every state in the union.

The Chicago committees staged a most unusual series of events, many offered to conventioneers for the first time.

For the first time in the convention history registration was free. Carnival night—a hilarious take-off on the fabulous gay 90's was a feature on Friday evening. A Beauty contest, style show, cocktail party, professional entertainment, Club House activities, Syrian entertainment, grand banquet and convention ball, were planned to supplement the highly interesting business program for the 4 days of the convention.

The General Chairman of the Convention was Mr. Edward G. Harris president of the Syrian Lebanon Progressive League of Chicago.

Those assisting Mr. Harris included:

James S. Haboush, Chairman of Executive Advisory Committee; Lydia Ellis, Chairman of Accounting Committee; Joseph Shaker, Chairman of Ad and Program Book Committee; Lena Bonahoom, Chairman of Beauty Contest Committee; Joseph P. Abraham, Chairman of Carnival Night Committee; Virginia Nasharr, Chairman of Flower Committee; Sam Saad, Chairman of Banquet Committee; Nimer Haddad, Chairman of Hotel Club House Committee; Sidney Be-Hannesy, Chairman of Publicity & Public Relations; Elizabeth Munyer, Chairman of Reception Committee; Louis Nasharr, Chairman of Registration Committee; Louis Bourjally, Chairman of Reservation & Housing; Thomas N. Neimy, Chairman of Secretarial Committee; Edward J. Zine, Chairman of Sports Committee; Genevieve Abraham, Chairman of Style Show & Tea Committee.

National Clothing Drive Collects 226,926 Pounds of Clothing

The clothing drive for Arab refugees sponsored by the National Association of Federations resulted in a total collection of 226,926 pounds of clothing, collected between Oct. 1, 1951 and Oct. 6, 1952, as announced by the officials of the Association at their recent report.

This is a combined total of clothing collected in the many states that participated in the drive, and the thanks of the officers go to all those who cooperated with the clothing drive in their respective communities.



EDWARD G. HARRIS



MAJOR JAMES A. JABARA

CENSUS (Continued from Page 1)

The interest in and the need of the census so that all names of Syrian and Lebanese in America might be made part of a central registry is one that has been suggested by the Public Relations Director of the Federation of American-Syrian-Lebanon Clubs, and one that has been approved by the delegates in convention assembled, as part of the Public Relations Program for this Federation.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found a blank requesting that names of persons known to FEDERATION NEWS readers be sent to the Public Relations Director's office, so that these names may be added to the already growing list of names now available in our files.

It is expected that this central registry will eventually be one of the most important factors in the dissemination of news and information to the people of our origin, who find a common purpose and reasons to join together in common projects.

With each issue of FEDERATION NEWS, a front page block will indicate the number of names already in our files, ready to be sent the census blank as of the first of the year.

One of the finest sources of names in the early start of this compilation has been found in the rosters of the individual member-clubs forwarded to the FEDERATION NEWS office by President Michael Tamer and Secretary, M. W. S. Zarick, who recently requested the individual names of the members of the various clubs for mailing purposes for the publication.

Names of members of the following clubs are now in our files:

ILLINOIS

Syrian Ladies Aid Society of Chicago
American-Syrian-Lebanon Society of Peoria
Women's Auxiliary of American-Syrian-Lebanon Society of Peoria

INDIANA

The Syrian Ladies Aid Society of Michigan City
The Emira Club of Fort Wayne
The Young Men's Syrian Christian Society of Michigan City
The Ladies Good Will Society of Indianapolis
Saint George Ladies Aid Society of Michigan City
The Syrian American Association, Inc., Mishawaka
The Caravan Club of Fort Wayne
Sigma Lambda Zeta Sorority of Terre Haute
The American Syrian Lebanon Club of Indianapolis

IOWA

The LeBan Club of Sioux City
The Syrian-American League of Sioux City
The St. Thomas Cruasders of Sioux City
The Syrian Progressive League of Des Moines

MICHIGAN

The Cedar Club of Port Huron

MINNESOTA

The United Syrian American Aid Society of St. Paul

MISSOURI

The Syrian Ladies Auxiliary of Kansas City
The Syrian American Club of Kansas City
The J. M. N. Girl's Club of St. Louis

NEBRASKA

The Phoenician Club of Omaha

OHIO

The American Lebanon Club of Zanesville
The Lebanese American Women's Club of Dayton
The Victor Club of Toledo
The Lebanese American Club of Dayton

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Scholarship Program Continues To Be Federation's Finest Project

The Federation's Scholarship Program started many years ago by several of the founding fathers of the Federation and continued by several of the federation's leaders throughout the years continues to be the project that attracts and interests the largest number of people. This program, which was the brain child of the first president, the late Dr. W. S. Zarick is now making it possible for 12 of our finest young people to continue their college education.

This program which started after several years of discussion saw its first scholarship awards made in 1948 to, Miss Hilda Baroody of Miami, Fla. and a Mr. Joseph Shibley, Toledo, Ohio. In 1949 Mr. Shibley was again a scholarship winner and that year he was joined by Miss Yvonne Yanney of Sioux City, Iowa and Michael Thomas of Michigan City, Indiana.

These three young people continued their excellent work and were rewarded with scholarships and four new names were placed on the honor roll of those deserving and receiving aid to continue their college work.

These included Donna Marie Aboud of Omaha Nebraska, Doris Mae Rahall of Sioux City, Iowa, John S. Habib Detroit, Michigan and Edmond Farris Cleveland, Ohio.

This year the 1952 scholarship awards including renewals, loans and new awards totaled \$4,150. These were divided among the 12 deserving students upon the recommendation of the scholarship committee. These 12 students included John S. Habib, Detroit, Michigan, who is now attending the University of Detroit



Scholarship Donor
M. K. STEPHEN, Fort Wayne, Ind.

and who was awarded a \$500 scholarship. A scholarship in the similar amount was awarded at Morningside College in that City. Scholarship renewals in the amount of \$250 each were again awarded to Raymond George, Huntington, W. Va. who is now attending Marshall College, Doris Mae Rahall, Sioux City, Iowa who is a student at St. Joseph Hospital in Sioux City, Sherine Ashor, Detroit who is a student at Wayne University; Edmond Farris, Cleveland, who is a student at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, and Michel Thomas, Michigan City, Ind; who is attending Indiana University.

In addition to the above, new awards were made to Barbara Ann Melham of Sioux City, a student at the University of Iowa, selected for an award of \$500. A similar award of \$500 was made to John Joseph Raher of Michigan City, Ind; a student at the University of Indiana. A new scholarship award for \$250 was made to Fred A. Abodeely of Iowa City, who is a student at the University of Iowa.

In addition to the above awards loans were made to Fred Abodeely for an additional \$250 and a new loan to George Hanna Turk a student at the University of Michigan for \$400.

It can easily be seen that of the renewals amounting to \$2,250 the new awards \$1,250 and the special loans at \$650 give the grand total of \$4,150 in all.

Thus the program today is providing the opportunity for these 12 young people to continue their education and to develop themselves to be the future leaders of tomorrow.

At the recent Chicago Convention the delegates at large authorized the naming of specific scholarships by persons or clubs making contributions of \$500 or more to the scholarship fund. The first of these contributions was made in person by Michael A. Stephan of Fort Wayne, Ind., a past president of the Federation, and one of the federation leaders who has long been interested in the scholarship program.

In a letter released today by Fred J. Salem the new scholarship chairman, Mr. Salem said:

"It is with pride that I announce the first scholarship to be named under the authorization given by the delegates at the Chicago convention. This particular scholarship shall be known as the 'M. K. Stephan scholarship,' made possible by M. K. Stephan of Fort Wayne, Indiana. "Mike" as he is known to all of us, is a past-president of the Federation. He has contributed much of his time and talent to the well being of our organization and now through his generosity, he will help some de-

Scholarship Winners



MISS SHIRENE DELORES ASHOR
Detroit, Michigan



JOHN S. HABIB, Detroit, Michigan



RAYMOND GEORGE, Huntington, West Virginia

serving person receive a part of their education.

I also wish to acknowledge at this time the contribution of \$100.00 from Mrs. Ann Zarick, Federation Secretary. It has been gifts of this nature that have made possible the work your scholarship Fund is doing.

The Scholarship Committee appeals to you to follow the examples set above. Donations of any size are

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What of the Federation?

What of the federation? Where is it going? What is it doing? What can it do?

These are questions that are being asked by many members of the Syrian and Lebanese groups throughout the mid-west as the Federation starts a new administrative year. The torch of leadership has been handed to a new president and a new set of officers—some veterans in the ranks others new to the workings of the Federation.

Above all it can be said that the federation is maturing. Thanks to the personal sacrifices of many of the former presidents and others active during the years, this federation has attained a high degree sociability and companionship and fellowship among its members.

Year after year, there were new ideas, new dreams and new proposals. But progress in federation matters is slow because this federation unlike many organizations known to our members, is not an organization of individuals. It is an organization of clubs and societies who speak through their elected delegates to the convention proper, and through their elected members who comprise the Executive Board.

There are those who ask of the purposes of the organizations. These purposes are spelled out in detail in the articles of organization. May we sum them up briefly? The purpose of this organization is to serve its people its members and to provide them with an opportunity of expression as a united people, a united voice.

We said the federation had matured. That is true. During the past few years new programs in keeping with the tempo of the times have been presented and adopted by the federation. Let us list a few of them:

(1) **Scholarship program.** Here 4 of the members of this federation have made it possible for deserving young men and young women to have assistance in continuing their college education.

In 1952, 12 of these young people are the beneficiaries of this program. Certainly no finer investment could be made for the future leadership with the federation then to continue or to strengthen this program.

(2) **Adoption and placement program.** A touching and heart warming project, handled by men in the federation who will retain the warmth and the appreciation of this project and still guide it through the nec-

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essary legal channels so that there may be no problems in the future.

(3) **The Retreat Home for the Aged.**

It seems only a few years ago that this project came to the convention floor, but really it has been talked by many of our people for a long long time. It is now definitely a matter of organization business. It is not one that is easy to complete. It will take time. But also give the credit to the men and the women who have kept this project alive.

(4) **The National Census.** A new project approved a little more than a year ago—another that will take time, but one when completed will provide us with the finest records possible who are our people, where they are located, what they are doing,—and maybe build a bridge from one to another in time of need or time of convenience.

(5) **Participation in the National Association of Federations.**

Here joining with our sister federations, this federation builds a national voice through an organization that becomes a congress of the thinking of people at the national level.

(6) **IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION PROGRAM.** A natural project because it affects many of our people. If there is some one who should speak, it should be those of us who are in a position to speak on this important subject. This is one in which we are not a large group, but in which we are a small group packaged together with many other minority groups. But to the end that we want to gain the advantages, then must we speak in a voice that is fair and one that will be heard.

(7) **PUBLIC RELATIONS.** What is Public Relations? It is nothing more than giving personality to an organization. It is that composite of those things which we do to make ourselves better understood by others.

Looking over that list one cannot help but feel the depth of the words, "We have matured". But there is need for a realistic look and another matter, and that matter of financing this federation. Would that there was some easy way to bring this fundamental problem to the attention of every member. As we grow and as we expand our services and our programs, we must provide the means and the money to place those programs

Comment

in execution so that they might be completed satisfactorily.

There have been many discussions about the financial status of the organization. There are those who insist that the best procedure is to maintain a conservative trend and go slow. There are those who then on the other side, who call attention to the fact that we have lost members and lost member-clubs because of our inability to sustain their interest.

Let's look at the situation bluntly. Membership dues of the Federation are fifty cents per person per year. That is less than one cent a week. The Federation treasury receives income also from the convention. First, the thousand dollar check from the city to which the convention is awarded, and secondly, the Federation shares in sales of tickets for certain function. In the past this has run anywhere from several hundred to a few thousand dollars. But year after year we find other expenses increasing. There are those who suggest that the Federation actually conduct the annual convention. In other words, manage the convention from year to year.

Others maintain that the matter of running the convention should be left to the individual cities because it has proven to be a means of increasing the

income of those individual cities, so that those clubs may continue to be active. Somewhere along the road we would come to a quick understanding of our position. We should do everything we can to improve the position of the Federation treasury, without retarding the opportunities of the individual clubs.

It is our opinion, and frankly a personal one, that there is definite need for a businesslike look at the operation possibilities of the Federation twelve months in the year.

It is totally unfair to burden the few who are chosen for leadership. It retards the opportunity for many people to share, and certainly it does not put us in a good position to speak as a strong and powerful voice to our people.

The executive board now has before it a resolution referred to it from the last convention to explore a matter of conducting the annual convention. It is our suggestion that this exploration be thorough and complete and after several conferences with interested persons on either side of the question be held before a decision is reached. We still believe in our people. We still believe that this question can be settled satisfactorily. We still believe that, "United we stand, divided we fall."

An excellent example of the interest and cooperation demonstrated by many of the member clubs towards the scholarship program is evidenced by the action of the Phoenician Club of Omaha, Nebr., who recently exceeded the quota set for them by the chairman of the scholarship committee, and made a substantial contribution to the program.

Earlier in the year the chairman of the scholarship committee was Mike Tamer. In a letter sent to all of the member clubs, chairman Mike urged that each organization accept a quota as their contribution towards the general scholarship fund. The manner of raising the money was to be left up to the individual club but suggestions were made that it might be possible to stage a benefit party or to solicit special contributions for the scholarship fund.

A letter received recently from Miss Eva Nasr, secretary of the Phoenician Club is indicative of the splendid example that her organization has set for other member clubs. The letter is as follows:

Dear Mr. Tamer; References to your letter regarding the fund raising campaign for the Federations scholarship fund. In that letter you stated that you had set the quota for the Phoenician Club of Omaha at \$100. We are, therefore, very happy to enclose our check in the amount of \$141 to help this most worthy program.

Very truly yours,
Eva Nasr

To Eva Nasr, and all the fine members of the Phoenician Club, our sincere thanks for a splendid demonstration of cooperation and example.

Federation News To Be Mailed To Individual Addresses

A complete list of members of the various clubs affiliated with the Federation is now being compiled by the Federation secretary Mrs. W. S. Zarick after a letter appealing to the clubs to send in their individual names and addresses was forwarded from the desk of the new present Michael F. Tamer.

The purpose of this list is to provide a mailing list whereby Federation News, the organization's publication may be mailed to each individual member at his home address.

This new plan was recommended at the Chicago convention and the details were completed among the officers, who believed that the mailing of the publication to the individual addresses will provide a more complete coverage of the membership and also give an opportunity to circulate the news and the announcements and record of activities that are of interest to the individual members.

It was found that during the past year that many times clubs that did not meet regularly were without an opportunity to place the copies of Federation News in the hands of their individual members. On the other hand those members who

did receive copies were enthusiastic in the belief that this new publication was vital to the building and furthering of the Federation's activities and program.

The publication is under the direction of the Director of Public Relations, and is planned to be issued for the current year on a sixty day basis. Thus a publication will be mailed from the Public Relation Director's office on the first day of every other month beginning December 1st.

This added service is hoped will encourage the continuing of expanded membership on the part of existing clubs and provide an opportunity to attract new clubs to the Federation's fold.

EXECUTIVE BOARD (Continued from Page 1)

December 14th with adjournment scheduled for 5:00 o'clock on the same afternoon. At 6:00 P. M. the conference banquet will be held at the hotel, followed by a dance at the Latin Quarters, popular Kansas City dancing spot.

The Kansas City committee under the

direction of Mechel Harris, Federation Governor for Missouri, and Victor Swyden, past president of the Federations, have planned an elaborate program of entertainment throughout the two day stay of the delegates and guests.

President Tamer has emphasized that all members of the Federation are invited to the board meeting, and it is hoped that especially those who are affiliated with clubs located in the proximity of Kansas City will avail themselves of the opportunity to meet and become acquainted with the business of the Federation and the program to be considered by the conferees representing the various state organizations.

SCHOLARSHIP

(Continued from Page 3)

appreciated as the money is needed to continue the work started and to make it possible to send more boys and girls to school.

Wont you help us get more scholarships like the "M. K. Stephan Scholarship?" If you know of any one among our people outside the Federation that might be interested in sponsoring a specific scholarship, please contact them, explaining to them the importance as well as the present activity of the fund and solicit their donation.

Hoping to receive favorable replies in the near future, we remain,

Yours very truly,

Fred J. Salem,

Scholarship committee chairman.

The Scholarship committee this year is composed of the following members:

Mr. Fred J. Salem, Huntington, W. Va.; Mr. Michael K. Stephan, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Mr. Thomas A. Peters, Dayton, Ohio; Mr. George Barrock, Milwaukee, Wis.; Mr. Charles Thomas, Detroit, Mich.; Mr. Edward Harris, Chicago, Illinois; M. J. Yanney, Sioux City, Iowa; Miss Nabiha Saliba, St. Louis, Mo.; Mrs. James Faroh, Michigan City, Ind.; Mrs. James Shalala, Cleveland, Ohio; Mr. John Sakakini, Huntington, W. Va.

The delegates of the Chicago convention also approved the recommendation of the committee that in the future beyond specified scholarship awards be known as the Wahbeb S. Zaruk scholarships in honor of the federations first president who first conceived the idea of the scholarship program.

CENSUS BLANK

Please send Census Questionnaire to the following names (give address)

Sent by

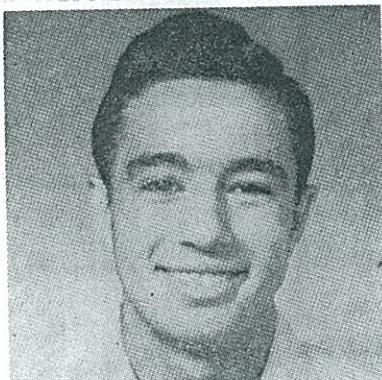
Scholarship Winners



MICHAEL S. THOMAS, Michigan City, Indiana



MISS YVONNIE YANNEY, Sioux City, Iowa



JOSEPH SHIBLEY, Toledo, Ohio

MICHAEL F. TAMER

(Continued from Page 1)

Eastern States conference.

Elected with the new president were Edward S. Allam of Detroit, Michigan who was named first vice-president. Mr. Allam had served as second vice-president in the previous administration.

The second vice-president this year is Mr. Joseph Shaker of Chicago, an active member of the convention city committee and one who has served in several capacities in his home club.

John Sakakini of Huntington, W. Va., was reelected treasurer. The new president named Mrs. W. S. Zarick as secretary and Wm. M. Corry director of Public Relations. Both of these people had served in the previous administration.

The new list of governors include several new names as well as continuing the terms of several who have served in the past.

The new list of governors include:

Sidney J. Behanney, Chicago, Ill.

A. J. Maloof, Indianapolis, Indiana

Benny J. Rashid, Des Moines, Iowa

Fred Okal, Flint, Michigan

Michael N. Lyons, Jr., St. Paul, Minnesota

Mechell F. Harris, Kansas City 2, Missouri

Dr. Fred G. Nasr, Omaha, Nebraska

Thomas A. Peters, Dayton, Ohio

Dr. Leo Moses, Charleston, West Virginia

Charles Bab, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

DETROIT CLUB ACTIVE IN CLOTHING DRIVE

The American Syrian Lebanon Association of Detroit completed a successful clothing drive, as reported by past-federation-Governor, Philip Schervish, of Detroit, who along with many Federation leaders in the Motor City, spearheaded the movement.

The drive, held as a part of the national clothing drive for Arab Refugees, received generous publicity through all of the Detroit newspapers and radio stations, and attracted the attention of many people.

Clippings of feature articles by prominent Detroit newspaper men calling attention to the fine work being done by the members of the ASLA, were included in the report.

National Association Holds Mid-Year Meeting At Atlantic City

The mid year meeting of the National Association of Federations of Syrian & Lebanese American Clubs was held at the Ambassador Hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey on Oct. 17th, 18th and 19th. The Association's meeting was held in conjunction with the 16th annual convention of the Syrian and Lebanese American Federation of the Eastern states.

Delegates representing the three federations from the east, south and the mid west were present.

The Eastern delegates included Faris S. Malouf of Boston, Mass., honorary president. George M. Barakat, New York, N. Y. Michael N. Abodeely of Worcester, Mass.; Cosmo M. Ansara, Springfield, Mass.; Mrs. Louis Nassif, Wheeling, W. Va.; Joseph S. Sado, New York, N. Y.; Albert Maykel Worcester, Mass., the new Eastern states president.

The delegation from the Southern states included Roger Bite, Birmingham, Ala.; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Sharbel, Birmingham, Ala.; Mr. Sharbel is the Southern Federation President; M. C. Zanaty of Birmingham, immediate past president of the national association, and Mitchell Joseph, Birmingham, Ala. The delegates and officers from the mid west group included Fred Eckrosh, Federation Vice President to the National Association, Michael F. Tamer, federation president, past presidents of the mid west group Fred Alexander of Detroit and George Barrock of Milwaukee. Also in attendance were Marshall Arrieh of Milwaukee and Bert Haddad of Cleveland, the association secretary and treasurer respectively.

During the conference sessions presided over by George M. Barakat of New York, N. Y., the new president of the Association, several matters of business were transacted, including the naming of the National Association Exchange Scholarship Program in honor of Bayard Dodge, President Emeritus of the American University of Beirut Lebanon, and the awarding of the first of the Associations Exchange Scholarships to Mr. Nadim G. Hajjar of Lebanon; the adoption of a public relations plan to sponsor an educational form on Middle East affairs; and a plan to sponsor a summer education seminar of American and Near East students on the campus of the American University of Beirut. Also approved was a proposal to request a conference with the newly elected President of the United States and the Secretary of State.



FRED C. ECKROSH, Federation Vice President
To the National Association

Federation Members Active In National Election Campaigns

Many of our Federation Members exemplified the true spirit of good citizenship in the recent national elections. Many took active part in the special divisions set up by each of two major political parties to encourage participation of nationality groups.

B. C. Haddad, Cleveland, served as chairman of the special Republican committee and A. R. Abraham, Chicago served as Vice chairman of a similar committee for the Democratic group. C. M. Ansara, Springfield, Mass., acted as chairman of the latter committee.

The committees for each of the National parties as indicated by literature sent to many of our members included:

Republican Committee:

Nicholas S. Zlaket, Cleveland, Ohio; Victor Swyden, Kansas City, Mo.; Joseph Nahra, Cleveland, Ohio; Marshall Arrieh, Milwaukee, Wis.; Edna Shalala, Cleveland, Ohio; Michael K. Stephen, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Louis Ganin, Cleveland, Ohio; Joseph Sheban, Youngstown, Ohio; Mrs. Henry George, Cleveland, Ohio;

Joseph G. Lian, New York City, N. Y.; Minor H. George, Cleveland, Ohio; George J. Shagory, Boston, Mass.; John Sakikini, Huntington, W. Va.; George K. Lutfy, Grosspointe Park, Mich.; Albert, Worcester, Mass.; Dr. Joseph K. Driebe, Scranton, Penn.; Edward T. George, New Haven, Conn.; Dr. Raymond D. Romanos, Barre, Vt.; Joseph A. Trad, Asbury Park, New Jersey; Nelson M. J. Peters, Lewiston, Maine.

Democratic Committee:

Roy E. Abdnour, Streator, Ill.; J. M. Abraham, Jackson, Miss.; Kamal E. Antone, Houston, Texas; Nicholas G. Azar, Atlanta, Ga.; Michael Batal, Lawrence, Mass.; Sidney J. Behanese, Chicago, Ill.; Mike Borane, Phoenix, Ariz.; Albert Bryan, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Fred Eckrosh, Des Moines, Iowa; John A. Edwards, Beverly Hill, Calif.; Frederick Fayette, Burlington, Va.; Frederick T. Hyder, Branford, Conn.; Neil Joseph, Goldsboro, N. C.; Albert J. Knuckley, Columbia, S. C.; Albert Koore, New Orleans, La.; A. J. Maloof, Indianapolis, Ind.; Dr. Fred Nasr, Omaha, Neb.; Charles Saah, Washington, D. C.; Fred J. Salem, Huntington, W. Va.; Fred Saliba, Blytheville, Arkansas; James Shalala, Cleveland, Ohio; Mitchell Sirgany, Miami, Fla.; Victor Swyden, Kansas City, Miss.; George Trad, Asbury, N. J.; Jack B. Wehby, Nashville, Tenn.; Eli N. Zrake, Brooklyn, N. Y.



BURT C. HADDAD, Republican Committee
Chairman

1953 Convention Scheduled For Aug. 6-7-8-9

The dates, of August 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th have been selected for the Federation's 1953 convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Cincinnati host committee, has made arrangements with the management of the Netherlands Plaza and the Terrace Plaza Hotels to serve as convention hotel headquarters.

The announcement of the two Plaza Hotels insures the finest of accommodations for the delegates and visitors. These two hotels are famous for their unusual appointments and splendid facilities to handle conventions.

The Netherland Plaza Hotel has been one of Cincinnati's show-places among the hotels for many years. The building a few years ago of the Terrace Plaza Hotel by the same management, added a new and unusually modern hotel facility. This is the hotel that was featured in a recent issue of a national magazine and has attracted considerable attention from architects, designers and others in the construction and building fields.

Thus the conventioneers will have their choice of two different types of hotel accommodations, one the elaborately furnished Netherlands Plaza and the other the very latest in modern appointments at the Terrace Plaza. The hotels are one block apart thus affording the conventioneers easy access within quick walking distance when going from one hotel to the other.

With the choice of Cincinnati, with its excellent location geographically the 1953 convention might well attract people from all parts of the United States. This is especially true of the Central and Southern States from where past conventions have not drawn as many people as we would have liked. Thus the shifting of the convention site each year affords an opportunity for those who live in the different areas of the country to join with their friends in participating in a week end of pleasant socialibility and delightful acquaintances.

Later announcements will be made as to the arrangements for reservations and the method by which registrations for the convention will be handled.

CENSUS

(Continued from Page 6)

The United Aramoon Society of Cleveland

A-Shabebat Society of Cincinnati
The Junior Kirby Club of Cleveland

The Syrian Women's Club of Cleveland

Club El-Waten of Columbus
Syrian Lebanon Junior League of Cleveland

Royals Young Women's Organization of Zanesville

The Mid-Syr-Leb Club of Youngstown

The St. Maron's Club of Youngstown

WEST VIRGINIA

The Phoenician Auxiliary of Charleston

The Phoenician Club of Charleston
The Benevolent Society of Huntington

The Palmerian Society of Huntington

And a special word of appreciation goes to Sid BeHennesey of Chicago, who forwarded a list of several hundred names including members of the various clubs in Chicago.

FEDERATION NEWS

P. O. Box 145

Columbus 16, Ohio



For

John H. Foss, Jr.
1353 Vermont Avenue
Marysville, Michigan



FEDERATION News

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FEDERATION
OF AMERICAN-SYRIAN-LEBANON CLUBS

Vol. I

MARCH 1953

Series 9.C-3-b-2 No. 7

New Plan Announced For Sustaining Scholarships



PRESIDENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

The members of the Federation of American-Syrian-Lebanon Clubs pledge our loyalty as American citizens to you, President Eisenhower. To you, we renew our devotion to the ideals of the American way of life, grateful for its blessings, yet appreciative that it could not have been so had it not been for all the groups who make up this nation, ours included, banding together in support of the ideals that have made this country the greatest nation on the face of the earth.

Our people who have come to these shores from distant lands, and those who are native born, all have a rich stake in this America.

Our ancient homeland has been of greater significance to mankind than any land of equal size.

In the years gone by its people were the main bearers of the torch of culture, and enlightenment throughout the civilized world.

Our Federation is dedicated to the sacred duty of bringing out of Americans of Syrian and Lebanese extraction their finest qualities and traditions.

We stand with you, Mr. President, on the threshold of the greatest era in the history of mankind. The flag of freedom must fly over the soil of free-loving people throughout the world. The name of America is linked with destiny. May we serve in this crusade, which you have inaugurated as President of the United States. Call and you will find us ready.

Scholarship Fund To Benefit From New Support Program

A new plan to finance the costs of the Scholarship Program of the Federation of American-Syrian-Lebanon Clubs has been presented by Fred J. Salem, Huntington, W. Va., chairman of the Scholarship committee.

At the recent convention at Chicago a resolution was passed recommending that each member-club of the Federation sponsor at least one project or social affair annually, the proceeds of which to be directed to the Scholarship Fund. This plan had already been practiced by some of the member-organizations with considerable success, and contributions to the Federation's scholarship fund were made by several of the Clubs.

The scholarship committee, named by President Michael F. Tamer, after the Chicago convention, sought ways to provide a new broad and comprehensive program that could be made available to all member-clubs on an equitable basis.

This new program calls for a plan whereby each club will assume the purchase or sale of one or more units, the quota from each club to be based on the number of members in the individual club.

Each unit is valued at \$50.00. The goal set for this year is 200 units for a total of \$10,000. Based upon this goal of \$10,000 in receipts, the scholarship committee proposes that \$6000 be set aside for the scholarship program, and the remaining \$4000 be distributed in awards to the participating clubs. The awards will be made at the June meet of the Executive Board. Five awards will be made with the first award valued at \$2000, the second at \$1000, the third at \$500, and the fourth and fifth awards at \$250 each.

(Continued on Page 3)

Census of Syrian and Lebanese in America Continues Through the Federation Office

A census of Syrian and Lebanese people in the United States moves forward as additional names are being added daily to the growing list compiled by the Public Relations office of the Federation of American Syrian Lebanon Clubs.

This project which has long been needed is showing promising progress in the past few weeks as many of the member clubs have been forwarding names of their individual members. In addition to members of the different clubs affiliated with the Federation, the census will include the names of many people not affiliated with any organization at the present time. Of its nature, such a compilation is slow and tedious, but the progress shown to date has been encouraging, and every indication points to a more rapid addition of new names in the coming months.

The list to date numbers well over the 2,000 mark and is being recorded in the office of the Public Relations Director in alphabetical order for home listing, and second listing by geographic location of home addresses.

Thus by cross filing, it will be easy to ascertain the name and location of the different persons recorded in the Federation census.

Naturally the first group of names are for the most part from the states closely affiliated with the Federation. Invitations to submit names are also being forwarded to organizations located in the eastern, southern and western parts of the country. In some of the states particularly in the South and West, a census covering the names of the Syrian and Lebanese in those particular states has already been compiled by the organizations in those states.

It is hoped that by convention time in August a goal of more than 5,000 names will have been reached. This number, obviously, is only a small segment of the Syrian and Lebanese population in America, but it should provide a strong nucleus around which to keep a full listing and the recording of names of persons throughout the nation.

Found elsewhere in this issue of Federation News is a census blank which may be clipped and forwarded to the Federation Office, Box 145, Columbus 15, Ohio.

For those forwarding names, it should be pointed out that individual names and addresses are desired in each case, and where possible, identification made of children of families.

Additional blanks may be secured from

the Federation Office at the above address. Any further details or information needed to assist Federation members in compiling this census may be addressed to the Public Relations Director.

Census Recording Needs Cooperation of All Members

The inauguration of a movement to compile a census of Syrian-Lebanese people in this country has attracted considerable interest among members of the Federation.

Several inquiries have been received seeking further information as to the purpose and the manner for which the census is being taken.

In the first place, a complete understanding of the purpose should be clear in the minds of every member of the Federation. The purpose is a simple and plain need for a central record of Syrian and Lebanese people, their names, where they live, and their community interests and affiliations.

In many cases it is highly desirable to acquaint these people, some living in distant parts of the country, with the different activities sponsored by the Federation. For the most part it is a service that is deeply appreciated, because to the hundreds and thousands of Syrian and Lebanese not actively affiliated with any Federation Club or Society, the news of the many activities sponsored by the Federation proves to be of unusual interest, and the means of providing a warm bond-ship among the many people, scattered as they are throughout the many communities in the various states.

For some this is their only contact with people from their former homeland. For others it is the means of a continuing acquaintance with people, either as friends or relatives, who are held together by common interest.

The need now for cooperation from members and non-members alike. The names and addresses of individuals, living in any of our communities are requested. Forward them and any others that you think of too, to FEDERATION NEWS, Box 145, Columbus, Ohio.

Kansas City Club Hosts To Executive Board

The Executive Board had one of its finest meetings at the December conference held in Kansas City, just before the holidays. The Syrian-American Club of Kansas City proved once again to be excellent hosts.

The Executive Board meetings were held in the President Hotel, while the social part of the program was held at the Latin Quarter, Kansas City's popular night-spot.

Mechell Harris, Federation Governor for Missouri, and Victor Swyden, Federation's Past President, directed the efforts of a fine committee, who provided excellent arrangements for their visitors.

CENSUS OF SYRIAN AND LEBANESE IN AMERICA

Please include the following names in your census records:

Name
 Address
 City
 Sent by:

Name
 Address
 City
 Return to: FEDERATION NEWS
 Box 145
 COLUMBUS 15, OHIO

Palmerian Society Of Huntington First Club To Reach Quota In Scholarship Fund Campaign

Sioux City and Cincinnati Clubs Next in Line

The Palmerian Society of Huntington, W. Va., was the first club in the Federation to accept their quota of units in the new scholarship support campaign. The Huntington organization, with a quota of eight units, was the first club to notify President Michael F. Tamer that their check for \$400 was being forwarded as their participation in the new plan.

A letter from the president of the Huntington organization, Mr. Edward G. Thabet, said in part:

"The Palmerian Society goes on record as being in favor of the plan submitted for raising money for the Scholarship Fund; the Palmerian Society is confident that their quota of eight units assigned to the Palmerian Society and Auxiliary can be met; the Treasurer is authorized to issue a check to the Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$400.00, and ways and means of repaying the treasury will be arranged at a later meeting."

"The Palmerian Society is well aware of the part that the Scholarship program is contributing in building the reputation of the Federation of American Syrian Lebanon Clubs. It is also cognizant of its financial needs. It is sincerely hoped that the officers, interested persons and Clubs of the Federation will give this program the support it justly deserves."

Fraternally,

Edward G. Thabet, President.

The second club to accept its quota was the Syrian-American League of Sioux City, Iowa, whose quota was one unit, and who have forwarded their participation in the amount of \$50.00.

The third club to fall in line was the A-Shabebat Society of Cincinnati, whose president, Emil Wehby, handed President Tamer three \$100 bills as payment of the Cincinnati Club's quota of 6 units.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

	Units	Amount
GOAL	200	\$10,000
Received to Date		
Palmerian Society	8	400
Syrian-American	1	50
League, Sioux City		
A-Shabebat Society	6	300
Total to Date	15	\$ 750
Yet to Go	185	\$ 9,250



MISS YVONNIE YANNEY, Sioux City, Iowa

Miss Yvonne Yanney, recipient of a Federation Scholarship, has recently been honored by election to the presidency of her sorority Kappa Pi Alpha at Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa.

Yvonne, who was an honor student all through her high school years has continued that record of excellence during the 3½ years she has been a student at Morningside College.

She will complete her fourth year as a recipient of a Federation Scholarship this coming June. She has been active in extracurricular activities at the college and is popular among her fellow-students.

Miss Yanney is an excellent example of the type of students who are proving the value of the Federation Scholarship Program.



MICHAEL S. THOMAS, Michigan City, Indiana

Thomas is first of scholarship students to graduate. Completes 4-year course at Indiana University this June.

New Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

Thus it is apparent that participating clubs not only may share in the building of a scholarship fund that will amply support these scholarships awarded each year by the Federation to deserving students, but will also have an opportunity to possibly receive a club award, which money may be used by the club for its own project or activities.

Letters have already gone forward to the President of each member-club, advising him of the quota of units for his organization. In order to qualify for the awards, each organization must forward its participation amount to the chairman of the scholarship committee before the date of the June Board meeting.

The manner in which the individual clubs assume their quota is left entirely to the discretion of each individual organization. The units may be assumed by the club itself and paid for out of the club treasury. They may be sold to individual members, or a group of members may form a pool among themselves, and subscribe to one or more units through the Club, after agreement among themselves of the method and manner in which the awards may be distributed if their club is one of the winners.

The goal of \$6000 for the scholarship fund is the amount that the committee feels is absolutely necessary if this Federation is to continue its worthy program of awarding scholarships to deserving students who desire to further their college education. At the present time the Federation is assisting eleven students through the scholarship program. The cost of that assistance for this year amounts to \$4,150. However, like in most programs of this nature, the funds are not sufficient to carry on the expanding requirements, and to provide for the many requests which the committee feels are worthy of assistance, were funds available.

Probably no other program in the history of this Federation has been as worth-while as has the scholarship program. Through the many years of the Federation's existence the money has been raised through varied methods. This year, for the first time, a definite and concrete plan is submitted whereby the scholarship committee may feel assured of adequate funds to properly evaluate the requests and the appeals placed before it.

(Continued on Page 5)

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From The Scholarship Chairman

To the Members of

Federation of American Syrian Lebanon Clubs

"If you were asked to name one activity of the Federation which shows that we are living up to the preamble of our Constitution, your answers would unanimously be "THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM." This is one tangible activity that you as supporters can be proud of and, letters received each year from the many Colleges and Universities attended by the recipients of these scholarships consistently support this statement.

At the present we are assisting eleven students under this fund at a cost of \$4,150.00 for the year. The sources of income are from the assessment of certain functions at the annual convention; affairs promoted by member clubs; and from individual contributions. However, these means are not providing sufficient funds to carry on the expanding program.

During the general convention at Chicago recently a resolution was passed recommending that each member club promote at least one affair a year, the proceeds of which are directed towards the Scholarship Fund. Your scholarship committee would like to assist you in doing this by submitting a plan whereby the Scholarship Fund may be assured of an annual income, and, at the same time, the clubs participating will benefit financially.

The goal now set is 200 units of \$50.00 each which make a total of \$10,000. These units are being distributed to each club on a basis of its membership with a minimum of one unit to a club. The last Executive Board meeting will be held in June and we ask that you raise your represented amount before that time.

At this meeting of the Executive Board the 200 units, represented by stubs, will be placed in a container whereby member club drawings will be as follows:

First Club drawn will receive \$2,000
Second Club drawn will receive 1,000
Third Club drawn will receive 500
Fourth Club drawn will receive 250
Fifth Club drawn will receive 250

Total \$4,000

Out of the \$10,000.00 represented by 200 units, the member clubs will receive \$4,000.00, thus, leaving a balance of \$6,000.00 for the Scholarship Fund.

Through individual club functions, we know you can raise your assessment and participate in the \$4,000.00 drawing. Make your plans now so that when the time comes for the drawing you will be represented and will feel that you have helped enable the "SCHOLARSHIP FUND" continue the job it is doing for our people. Here is a wonderful opportunity to participate and assist in a productive cause—"THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND." Plan your events now.

Wishing you success and hoping to hear favorable replies at an early date, we remain—

Yours very truly,

Fred J. Salem,
Chairman Scholarship
Committee.

NOTE: If your Club finds it impossible to raise your assessment, it is suggested that individual members form a pool among themselves, agreeing to distribute the winnings in whatever manner they wish. Someone is going to share \$4,000.00 and the committee hopes it will be your Club. It is something worth working for."

New Plan

(Continued from Page 3)

Further details of this program will be carried in FEDERATION NEWS, so as to keep all members apprised of the progress of this campaign month by month.

Members of the Scholarship Committee for this year are: Fred J. Salem, Huntington, W. Va., Chairman; Michael K. Stephan, Fort Wayne, Ind., Co-Chairman; Thomas A. Peters, Dayton, O.; George Barrock, Milwaukee, Wis.; Charles Thomas, Detroit, Mich.; Edward Harris, Chicago, Ill.; M. J. Yanney, Sioux City, Iowa; Miss Nabihah Saliba, St. Louis, Mo.; Mrs. James Faroh, Michigan City, Ind.; Mrs. James Shalala, Cleveland, O.; and John Sakakini, Huntington, W. Va.

NAMES IN OUR CENSUS

FILE TO DATE

2246

SEE YOU IN CINCY AUGUST 6-7-8-9



MICHAEL F. TAMER, President

From The President's Desk

In this issue of FEDERATION NEWS you will find high-lighted three matters of the greatest importance to our Federation members.

These are: (1) Our new plan to raise funds for our Scholarship Program. (2) The Progress report of the census being taken by our Federation's Public Relations Committee. (3) Preliminary announcement of the plans for our 1953 convention to be held in Cincinnati on August 6, 7, 8, and 9.

It seems unlikely that anyone needs any further urging to become acquainted with our Federation's activities when we review these three projects. Hours and days and weeks and months of work are being packed into each of these projects by the many of our committee members who have accepted the tasks assigned.

I urge each member-club of this Federation to get back of and cooperate with these three projects.

They fall in good sequence. The first will insure our continuous support to the education of our youth. The second will bring together a needed record of our people in the different parts of this country. And the third will provide a fitting climax to a year's program of activity and progress for this Federation.

Let us join hands now to make a success of these three projects. First—make definite plans to assume your quota of units for the Scholarship Fund. Second—Send the names and addresses of your members and other Syrian and Lebanese people living in your community to the Public Relations Director. Third—Start now to organize a large delegation to come to Cincinnati for the 1953 convention.

MICHAEL F. TAMER, President

Cincinnati To Provide Excellent Convention Facilities

AMPLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ALL FEDERATION ACTIVITIES

Accommodations and facilities for the 1953 convention to be held in Cincinnati on August 6, 7, 8, 9 will undoubtedly surpass anything that has ever been made available to our conventioneers during the many years of the existence of this Federation.

Cincinnati's famous Netherlands Plaza, known from coast to coast as one of the most elaborately equipped hotels in the nation, has been designated as convention headquarters.

The beautiful Hall of Mirrors will be the scene of the convention meetings. The Pavilion Caprice, night spot for some of America's foremost entertainers, will be available for dinner parties and banquets.

A recent inspection of the Plaza facilities by officials of the convention found everyone lavish in praise of the unusual appointments and excellent facilities that will be available to our conventioneers for their 1953 conference.

In striking contrast to the ornate Netherlands Plaza is the sister hotel, the Terrace Plaza, strikingly modern and distinctive in design so as to qualify it for recent reviews and write-ups in national magazines. The Terrace Plaza is one block from the Netherlands Plaza.

Cincinnati is famous for its many good hotels, and this year it can be really said that accommodations and facilities within the reach and desires of everyone interested in our Federation convention will be available.

The Cincinnati committee organization is being headed by Emil Wehby with Adeeb Mishley, as co-chairman. A complete roster of committees will be listed in next month's issue of FEDERATION NEWS.

Member Clubs of the Federation are being urged to quickly name their official delegates to the convention, and to forward these names to the Secretary's office so that the naming of the convention's official committees may be announced well in advance of the convention by the Federation President.

Ohio State Convention Scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend.

The 1953 convention of the Ohio State Federation will be held in Cleveland on May 29-30-31, it has been announced by Thomas Peters, Dayton, the Ohio Federation governor.

The Ohio group held a fine meeting in Columbus on January 17-18 when they joined together for their mid-year conference and also to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the founding of the Columbus Club EL-WATAN.

A dance was held on Saturday night at the Seneca Hotel, with the business meeting on Sunday afternoon.

A special awards committee to select the outstanding member of the Ohio group in devotion to civic service, was named by Governor Peters, who announced the appointment of Victor Salome, Columbus, as chairman of the committee.

Representatives of the Cincinnati group attended the meeting to extend an invitation to all to make their plans for the coming Federation convention scheduled to be held in Cincinnati on August 6-7-8-9.

Ambassador Harold Minor Named "Bureaucrat Of The Year"

American Ambassador To Lebanon Recognized For Distinguished Service

Considerable interest and approval has been shown among Federation members for the recent naming of the American Ambassador to Lebanon, Hon. Harold Minor as "Bureaucrat of the Year" by PARADE magazine.

Ambassador Minor, who endeared himself to the members of the Federation who became acquainted with him last year on the Jabara tour, was recognized for his participation and direction of the internationally reported "Arab Airlift" last August.

The story of the Airlift and Ambassador Minor's part in the accomplishment is a story worth retelling.

The airlift really began in Ambassador Minor's Beirut office on the sweltering afternoon of August 21. Minor, a 50-year old career diplomat with nearly 20 years' experience in the Middle East, was visited on that Thursday afternoon by Saeb Salaan, a leading Lebanese politician. Salaan told him that in the midst of the annual mass pilgrimage to Mecca about 1,000 Moslems had suddenly been stranded on Beirut's Khaldi airport. They were suffering in the intense heat, unable to get adequate food or water.

Most of them were elderly. They carried their life's savings with them, and were prepared to pay for airline tickets. It was the supreme moment of their lives.

Their plight was not their fault. They had been misled into believing that if they reached Beirut the local airlines could carry them on the last lap of their devout journey.

And time was running out. They had to be at Mecca by August 27 for the week-long ceremonies that mark the fulfillment of one of the five basic tenets of the Moslem faith.

Otherwise, this moment would be lost, for most of them forever.

Could the United States Air Force possibly help out somehow, Salaan wanted to know?

Minor quickly saw the propaganda benefits to the U. S. if the Air Force and the State Department could be persuaded to meet Salaan's plea. This humanitarian airlift could give our reputation a great boost in a part of the world where America had long been regarded with suspicion and hostility.

Cautiously, Minor promised he would find out what could be done, if anything. Then he dispatched a top-secret "NIAC" (night action) cable to the State Department pleading for the airlift. He said he realized that he was "asking the impossible."

With this cable the wheels of government machinery began to move, at first with alarming slowness. The cable reached the State Department code room at 11:07 a.m. but was not decoded and delivered to Henry A. Byroade, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, until 5 p.m.

But when Byroade saw the cable he moved quickly. Within two hours he had obtained approval for the idea from H. Freeman Matthews, Deputy Under Secretary of State, and Thomas K. Fineletter, Secretary of the Air Force. But there were still details to be worked out

that might prevent carrying out the scheme.

Before he went home that night, just before 8 p.m., Byroade drove back to his office from his meeting with Fineletter in the Pentagon and cabled Minor. He said the Department was "looking into the possibility of moving some of the pilgrims by air."

He asked Minor to cable immediately replies to a few technical questions involving the nationality of the stranded pilgrims, possibilities of other means of transportation (there were none) and visas and health certificates for Saudi Arabia. In addition, he cautioned not to indicate to Lebanese officials that there was much likelihood the problem could be worked out. Clearly, he was fearful of a last-minute hitch.

Minor's reply came at noon the next day, Friday, August 22. He reported the situation was getting worse—there were now 1,500 pilgrims stranded at the airport. And, apparently fearful that red tape might yet strangle his scheme, he warned that the Lebanese government was getting so worried that it was about to make a formal request to him for help.

Meanwhile Fineletter had taken the problem to Secretary of Defense Robert A. Lovett for his formal approval. Mr. Lovett insisted that one point be made clear: the Air Force would not accept payment from the pilgrims. Instead, he said the pilgrims should pay their fare into escrow for eventual donation to Moslem charities.

Byroade spent most of Friday afternoon at the Pentagon working with Air Force officers on details of the operation. And at 7 p.m. he cabled Minor that orders were going out to implement the plan. Overnight, the Air Force went into action. It flashed an order to Brig. Gen. Wentworth Goss, commanding officer of the 1602nd Air Transport Wing at Wiesbaden, Germany, to organize a "Mecca Airlift Task Force."



DELEGATION RECEIVED AT AMERICAN EMBASSY IN LEBANON

Shown above with Ambassador Harold Minor are Left to right: Michael Stephan, M. C. Zanaty, Major James A. Jabara, Ambassador Minor, George M. Baraket, Anthony R. Abraham, John Jabara, and Marshall Arrie.

Abraham Honored by Syrian Government



ANTHONY R. ABRAHAM, Chicago

In recent months the Syrian Government has recognized several of our eminent leaders with citations for distinguished service. Prominent among these was immediate Past President of the Federation, Anthony R. Abraham, Chicago.

Ambassador Minor

(Continued from Page 6)

General Goss received this order at 10 a.m., Saturday, August 23, and 17 hours 34 minutes later, he landed at Jiddi airport to take command.

Throughout Sunday General Goss' planes arrived—14 in all—from Wiesden and Tripoli, Libya. Meanwhile, word of the airlift swept through Beirut and more and more pilgrims congregated at the airfield.

At 8 a.m. Monday the airlift began. General Goss' C-54 bucket-seat transports began taking off, every hour on the hour, with 50 or more eager, grateful, solemn pilgrims, many of whom had never before been off the ground. In 48 hours, 48 flights left Beirut for Jidda, a town in Saudi Arabia, 40 miles from Mecca.

Meantime Dr. John H. Shope, executive secretary of the American Friends of the Middle East, who happened to be in Beirut, added an extra fillip of U. S. good will. Learning that the stranded pilgrims had reached the end of their food resources, he and George Britt, a director of the organization, bought 7,500 pounds of food and had it packed in boxes for the hungry throng at the airport.

Altogether, it added up to a brilliant propaganda coup, so successful that



MAJOR JAMES A. JABARA (right), who recently requested return to duty in Korea

Moslems throughout Lebanon prayed for the Americans who organized and flew the airlift. Beirut newspapers published 1,538 column inches of news and comments, all favorable, on this "miraculous . . . humanitarian gesture."

Hearing of the airlift, still more pilgrims swarmed onto the airport. The Lebanese government, seeing that it was impossible to lift the late-comers within the deadline set by the Saudi Arabian government, obtained a 48-hour extension of the deadline—to August 29.

Finally, at 5:22 p.m., August 29—38 minutes before the final deadline—the 75th flight took off with the last of the 3,763 stranded pilgrims and Minor cabled the State Department:

"Gen. Goss reports his mission accomplished . . . airport is completely clear of all stranded pilgrims. This was an outstanding job well done."

It was an outstanding job, but it is more than that. It stands as an example and challenge to all our diplomats for the years to come.

Stephan in Demand for Public Appearances



M. K. STEPHEN, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Michael K. Stephan, Fort Wayne, a past President of the Federation, has been constantly in demand for public appearances since his return last year with the group of Federation members who accompanied Major James Jabara on a tour of the Middle East countries.

"Mike" who is a popular and affable speaker, has appeared before many Service Clubs, women's organizations, civic associations, and church groups as a recognized speaker on international affairs as affected by conditions in the Middle East countries.

His recent itinerary includes speaking assignments in several cities in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. A short time ago he addressed the state organization of women's clubs at Lexington, Ky.



AMBASSADOR HAROLD MINOR talks with Past President, Anthony R. Abraham in Beirut.

Many Cities Listed In Census Records

The recording of names in the Federation census records emphasizes the wide distribution of the Syrian and Lebanese people in this country.

A review of the cities and communities taken from our geographical file show that our people today have spread to all parts of the country. Naturally the heavy populations are along the eastern coast, but now the midwest, southern, and western States all have their share of American citizens of Syrian and Lebanese extraction. A glance over the many names of the communities in the various States is a good study in American geography.

While the list on hand totals a little more than 2,000, the following cities are found in our records.

ALABAMA: Bay Minette, Birmingham

ARIZONA: Phoenix

ARKANSAS: Jainer

CALIFORNIA: Hollywood, Lehambra, Merced, Sherman Oaks, Wilmar

FLORIDA: Coral Gables, Ft. Lauderdale, Hialeah, Jacksonville, Jux, Miami, St. Augustine, Tallahassee

GEORGIA: Atlanta, Decatur, Lagrange

ILLINOIS: Arlington Hgts., Berwyn, Bloomington, Blue Island, Braid-

wood, Bridgeview, Brookfield, Chicago, Chillicothe, Cicero, Creve Coeur, Elmwood, Ft. Wayne, Balsburg, Joliet, Kewanee, LaSalle, Lemont, Melrose Park, Oak Park, Peoria, River Forest, Spring Valley, Streator

INDIANA: Gary, Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, Michigan City, Mishawaka, Muncie, Terre Haute, Walkerton, Vincennes

IOWA: Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Dubuque, Fort Madison, Sioux City

KANSAS: Wichita

KENTUCKY: Dayton, Fort Thomas, Lexington, Newport, Louisville

LOUISIANA: Lake Charles

MARYLAND: Tokoma Park

MASSACHUSETTS: Fitchburg, Lowell

OHIO: Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Fairview Park, Lakewood, Lima, Norwood, Plain City, Painesville, Parma, Seven Hills Village, Toledo, Warren, W. Carrollton, Youngstown, Zanesville, Akron, Berea, Canton, Cincinnati

OKLAHOMA: Oklahoma City

PENNSYLVANIA: Dubois, New Kensington, Johnstown, Monessen

TEXAS: Wichita Falls, San Antonio, San Benito

MASSACHUSETTS: Roslindale, Springfield, Worcester

MICHIGAN: Ann Arbor, Benton Harbor, Dearborn, Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Grosse Pointe, Highland Park, Lansing, Marysville, Midland, Port Huron, Saginaw

MINNESOTA: Minneapolis, St. Paul

MISSISSIPPI: Clarksdale, Vicksburg

MISSOURI: Joplin, Kansas City, Lexington, St. Louis

NEBRASKA: Alliance, Omaha

NEW JERSEY: Brooklyn, Patterson

NEW YORK: Binghamton, Brooklyn, New York, Niagara Falls

VIRGINIA: Richmond

WEST VIRGINIA: Beckley, Charles-
ton, Huntington, Moundsville, Park-
ersburg, Wheeling

WISCONSIN: Fond Du Lac, Green Bay, Jamesville, La Crosse, Milwaukee, Oconomowoc, Mauwataso

WASHINGTON, D. C.: OTHERS

CANADA: Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Ontario, Winnipeg, Man.

BRAZIL: S. Paulo

It is expected that by the time the census is completed, we will have recordings from everyone of the 48 States in the Union. As the census develops, its progress will be reported in later issues of Federation News.

FEDERATION NEWS

P. O. Box 145

Columbus 16, Ohio



For

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