



# ARMENIAN WORLD

By LEVON KESHISHIAN

After the hectic Republican Convention and the unique experiences with Armenians at the Convention, our thoughts go now to an Armenian who lives in Wichita, Kansas. He is H. Kurdian, a prolific philologist and collector of Armenian manuscripts. I visited him during my last trip to Kansas some ten years ago and admired his collection. He has now decided to donate all his precious collection to the Mekhitarists of Venice. \*\*\*\* Sig Haig has a part in the film "Swash-buckler." \*\*\*\* Catholicos Khoren recently was operated. \*\*\*\* Pianist Shahan (he writes it Saham) Arzruni has been invited to give concerts in Armenia. This will be his second trip there. \*\*\*\* Aged Archbishop Suren Kehmajian of Jerusalem passed away at the age of 90. \*\*\*\* Sahag K. Dedeyan, who was recently convicted, will appeal, according to an Armenian lawyer in Washington.

Gregg Kilday of the *Los Angeles Times*, says Franz Werfel's "The Forty Days of Musa Dagh" is being adapted for the screen by Ronald Harwood. The film will be produced by MGM by executive producer Sam White and producer James B. Harris. \*\*\*\* George Mardikian was at Bohemian Grove, so was Sarkis Talzian of Indiana. He has returned home now. \*\*\*\* If Armenians introduced yogurt to the United States, this fact was missed by a full page account, in a recent issue of *The Washington Post*. \*\*\*\* Carl Bazarian, former U.S. Treasury handling the Saudi Arabian dealings, was invited by Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Gerald Parsky to a reception given in honor of Shaikh Hisham Nazer, Saudi Arabian Minister of planning, during a recent visit to Washington. Bazarian now works for an American organization that deals with OPEC.

According to French newspapers, Charles Aznavour has stopped planning for concerts, cutting records, appearing on TV or the cinema, since the mysterious death of his son, Badrick. \*\*\*\* The Swedish English language magazine "Now", has an article on Ararat (will appear in *The Observer*). \*\*\*\* UN Sub-commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities started its 29th session in Geneva on August 12 and will continue through September 1, 1976. It is an expert group of 26 who make necessary recommendations to the Commission on Human Rights. Genocide item is not on the agenda. \*\*\*\* Christine Le Grand, sister of Michel, is a fine singer too. \*\*\*\* Hagop Topouzian in Puccini's "Tosca" under direction of Angelo Liaiconna presented the opera at Trinity Baptist Church in Los Angeles. \*\*\*\* Jerry Tarkantina, the famed Armenian basketball coach of Nevada, once again made big news in the sports circles, moving him from his desert base.

A famous Armenian scientist, Prof. Hrant Petrosian, was in Texas attending an international conference of saline water. He is the head of the Research Institute of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, which is part of the Ministry of Agriculture of Soviet Armenia. We had the pleasure to meet him on arrival from Erevan and spent one day with him discussing many problems concerning his achievements and he gave a pamphlet written by him entitled "Saline Soils Retreat" (translated and printed in English) which brings out the experiences in this field in Armenia. He was the only representative from the Soviet Union at the Texas international gathering. He has attended many conferences and is well known to experts in his field, including the experts in the United States, since we had the opportunity to be the interpreter between the Armenian professor and his American hosts who were extremely pleased that he attended the Congress.