

REPORT

ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ACADEMY DURING 1979*

BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL

J. N. THEODORACOPOULOS

This year is the fifty third anniversary of the foundation of the Academy of Athens. The founder of the Academy Demetrios Aiginitis, Minister of Education in 1926, deliberately called it «the Academy of Athens» in order to associate it with Plato's Academy which functioned for 916 years. By the time Justinian closed Plato's Academy in 529 A.D. its glory had spread to all corners of the ancient world. Not only did Greeks come to study in the Academy, but also many others from beyond the Greek world. We do not know what the intellectual history of Greece might have been if this Christian emperor had not closed the gates of the Academy. We know for certain that there are no hypothetical situations in history, but only facts. The «ifs» belong only to the area of logic. It is still generally believed that the life of Plato's Academy ended in 529 A.D. This is an indisputable historical fact. Nevertheless, there is something that I propose to reveal tonight which may come as a surprise. One of my dearest colleagues, a Professor of Philosophy at the University of Montreal in Canada, told me when we met in Bern, Switzerland, that an American historian, who deals with the history of Plato's Academy and works in the Museums of Constantinople, has stated that these are clear indications that even after the closing of the Academy the Dean continued to be secretly elected throughout the Byzantine period

till 1453. If true, this is an astonishing fact in the intellectual history of Greece.

The Academy of Athens with its Research Centres, where many young scientists and scholars work, deals with the research of the intellectual life of the Nation. Research is carried out on language, folklore, law, archaeology, history, philosophy, classical, Byzantine and modern philology, and scientific terminology as well as on Greek society, mathematics, astronomy and finally on meteorology and the climatology of Greece. These particular activities of the Academy, though of utmost importance for the understanding of Greek culture, are not given wide publicity. The great importance of these research centres can frequently be assessed by their publications. Furthermore, the contribution of the Academy to the intellectual life of the country consists of the scientific work of its members which is presented both in writings and communications. The fact that the whole work of the Academy is followed by foreign Academies is of great significance. This needs to be emphasized.

The above-mentioned work of the Academy is accomplished by the continuous renewal of its forces. During the current year, in addition to the new scientific collaborators of the Academy who were appointed to the recently founded research centres, two new full members were elected to the Academy: Mr **John Toumbas** and Mr **Peter Vasiliades**, both in the Section of the Exact Sciences. On behalf of the Academy of Athens I wish both of them a long and productive life.

At the same time, the President of the French Republic Mr **Valéry Giscard d'Estaing** was elected as an Honorary member in the Class of Moral and Political Sciences. The President of the Republic of Senegal Mr **Leopold Sedar Senghor** was elected as a foreign fellow in the Class of Letters and Fine Arts. Finally, there were elected as corresponding members of the Academy of Athens: in the Section of

the Exact Sciences, Mr **Charalambos Antoniadēs**, Associate Professor of Biochemistry at Harvard University, in the Class of Letters and Fine Arts, Mr **Demetrios Obolensky**, Professor of Russian and Balkan History at the University of Oxford, in the Class of Moral and Political Sciences Mr **Vasilios Vlavianos**, Professor of Public Administration at the University of New York.

It is a matter of great regret to us all that eight of our former colleagues are no longer with us: **Anastasios Orlandos**, **George Ioakimoglou**, **George Maridakis**, **Constantine Paraioannou**, **Andreas Xyngopoulos**, **Angelos Terzakis**, **Vasos Falireas** and **Constantine Eustathiades**.

Anastasios Orlandos was the last of the founding members of the Academy of Athens. He was Professor in the Polytechnic School and the University of Athens. A. Orlandos' work both in Classical and Byzantine Archaeology was indeed very important. For ten years he held the post of General Secretary of the Academy of Athens and for 28 years was General Secretary of the Archaeological Society. His writings run to many volumes. Orlandos made a significant contribution to the restoration of archaeological monuments and, in particular, of Byzantine churches, a field in which he was a pioneer.

George Ioakimoglou came from Ionia. He attended the prestigious Evangelical Gymnasium of Smyrna and studied pharmacology in Berlin where he became one of the most distinguished pharmacologists in Germany. Ioakimoglou was responsible for hundreds of original scientific studies in the fields of microbiology, biological and toxicological chemistry and medical physics as well as in physiology and, in particular, experimental pharmacology. His studies are of international prestige and are published in distinguished German periodicals. Ioakimoglou together with Karatheodoris was largely responsible for the foundation of the University of Smyrna. As a man he was endowed with very gentle manners.

George Maridakis was one of the leading lawyers of Modern Greece and, at the same time, an exemplary teacher and man. Maridakis was as straight in morals and spirit as he was in body. He came from Siphnos, one of the Aegean islands and was related to Zelemon, the President of Areos Pagos, as well as to the poet Provelenghios. He produced authoritative works on the History of Roman Law, International Private Law, Modern Greek Civil Law, and on the General Theory of Law. He was also one of the authors and founders of the Greek Civil Code. I should add here that these three men, Orlandos, Ioakimoglou and Maridakis, were corner stones of the Academy of Athens.

Constantine Papaioannou was Professor of Applied Mechanics at the University and the Polytechnic School of Athens. He studied in Athens and at the Sorbonne and taught for many years in the Polytechnic School and at the University. He wrote in the area of his discipline, but his activity at the Academy was limited due to his long illness.

Andreas Xyngopoulos was Professor of Byzantine Archaeology at the University of Salonica from 1940 to 1956. He greatly contributed to the study of Byzantine Archaeology, namely the study of Byzantine Art, and studied the mosaics of the churches of Saint David, the Apostles and those in the Acheropoiotos church in Salonica. He also studied the frescoes in the cave of Saint Sophia on the island of Cythera and those of Asketario at Vourvoura in Cynouria (Arcadia). Andreas Xyngopoulos was distinguished as a research worker and teacher, as well as a man. He, however, never sought the lime light.

Angelos Terzakis was a distinguished figure in modern Greek letters. The theatre was the centre of his intellectual activity. From his youth he was a lover, student and creator of the theatre. His long service to the National Theatre in the post of the Director of Repertory left a profound mark on the life of the theatre. As a playwright his name will always be linked with the following plays: «Emperor

Michael», «Cross and Sword», and «Theophano». Terzakis was also a recognized novelist, and wrote many novels. I shall only mention «Princess Izambo», «The Godless» «Secret Life». He was also an essayist of a reflective bent. Terzakis exercised a great influence on modern Greek letters.

Vasos Falireas was the neoclassical sculptor of our age. His work is characterized by a deep respect for tradition and a creative originality which draws its inspiration from the classical as well as from the whole historical tradition of the Nation. Classical Greece, the many aspects of Byzantium, the Turkish Occupation and the Greek Revolution are the constant sources of his inspiration which animate his work. Nevertheless, his work is not mere imitation but new and original creations. The statue of Hermes, in front of the United Nations Building in Geneva is an outstanding example of Falireas' classical art. All his works are characterized by fervour and inner power.

Constantine Eustathiades was prevented from making a significant contribution to the activity of the Academy by his sudden death, shortly after his election. He was Professor of International Law at the University of Athens and wrote excellent books, such as «System of International Law», «The Diplomatic History of Greece» and «International Law» (in five volumes). Eustathiades was an inspiring teacher and always a staunch friend of the young. Apart from his scientific work, he also rendered tremendous service to his country as its representative at various conferences. He was a man of outstanding intellectual ability and handled Greece's relations with other countries with great subtlety and skill.

In the current year the Academy of Athens also lost its corresponding member Agostino Pertusi, Professor of Byzantine and Greek Philology at the University of Milan.

In the year just ended distinctions were awarded to the following full members of the Academy:

1. The Academician *Panayotis Kanellopoulos* was elected a foreign fellow of the Bulgarian Academy.

2. The Academician *Dionysios Zakythinos* was elected an honorary member of the London Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies.

3. The Academician *Constantine Trypanis* was elected a honorary member of the above-mentioned Society.

4. The Academician *George Mylonas* was elected an Honorary Fellow of the London Society of Antiquaries and was also awarded the John Hopkins University Medal on the fiftieth, anniversary of his getting the Ph. D. and for his contribution to Greek Archaeology.

5. The Academician *Panayotis Zepos* was elected, for a period of five years, President of the International Society for the Studies of South-East Europe.

A new research centre was affiliated to the Academy of Athens under the name of «Research Centre for Antiquity».

The Academy was represented:

1. By its General Secretary *John Theodoracopoulos* at the assembly of the International Society of Academies held in Bern, Switzerland, last June.

2. By the Academician *Panayotis Zepos* at the ceremony to mark the centenary of the foundation of the Japanese Academy in Tokyo.

3. By the Academician *Nicolaos Roussopoulos* at the ceremony on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Australian Academy of Science.

4. The Academician *Constantine Trypanis* delivered a lecture in London as part of the co-operation of the Academy of Athens and the British Academy.

The following members of the Academy participated in various congresses abroad: *Panayotis Zepos*, *George Michaelidis-Nouaros*, *Angelos Angelopoulos*, *Solon Kydoniatis* and *Constantine Bonis*.

The Academy celebrated this year Plato's birthday with a special session at which its General Secretary *J. Theodoracopoulos* spoke on «The Platonic Philosophy and its influence on the Development of the Mind of Man».

In a special session the Academy also celebrated the hundredth anniversary of Claude Bernard's death with the Academician *Nicholas Louros* as speaker.

Furthermore, the Academy celebrated the 1600th anniversary of Saint Basil's death with the Academicians *Constantine Bonis* and *John Karmiris* as speakers. Finally, the hundredth anniversary of Albert Einstein's birth was celebrated with a speech by the Academician *Othon Pylarinos*.

The following donations were made to the Academy this year:

The Academician *Gregory Kasimatis* presented more than 3,000 books to the Research Centre for Greek Society. The Academician *Panayotis Zepos* also presented more than 500 volumes to the Research Centre for Greek Law.

The Academy announces the following new prizes:

1) The **Lambros Porphyras** prize of 100,000 drs deriving from the income of Theodoros Sypsomos' legacy to be awarded to a Greek lyric poet.

2) The **John Kouyoulis** prize of 100,000 drs for an unpublished essay on the history of Volissos at Chios from antiquity to the present, and

3) A prize of 90,000 drs in memory of **John Diamantes Pateras** for an essay on the benefactors of Chios from the Turkish Occupation to the present day.

Two scientific missions were organized this year: One by the *Historical Dictionary Centre* in Macedonia and the other by the *Greek Folklore Research Centre* at various places in the country.

The following editions were issued this year:

1) The *Historical Dictionary Centre* published the 13th volume of the *Lexicographical Bulletin* and the *Modern Hellenic History Centre* published the second volume of the Abstracts of the correspondence between the Foreign Office and the British Embassy and consulates in Greece. Seven studies by the Academician John Xanthakis and his collaborators in the Research Centre for Astronomy and Applied Mathematics were also published in the Proceedings of the Academy of Athens, in those of the French Academy and in foreign periodicals. Two scientific studies, one by the Director of the Research Centre for Atmospheric Physics and Climatology Mr Zerefos and the lecturer Mr Repapis, and the second by Messrs. Zerefos, Repapis and Mentis, were accepted for publication in the following periodicals: «Archiv für Meteorologie, Geophysik und Bioklimatologie» and in the Journal of «Pure and Applied Geophysics».

The following works were issued by the Academy: 1) *Catalogue of the illuminated Byzantine Manuscripts of the National Library* by **Anna Marava-Chatzinicolaou** and **Christina Toufexi-Paschou** and 2) *A volume in honour of Anastasios Orlandos*.

In the series of treatises there were published:

1) **D. J. Georgacas**, *Ichthyological Terms for the Sturgeon and Etymology of the International Terms Botargo, Caviar and Congeners*.

2) **C. Syros**, *Distributions, Functions and Properties of the Boltzmann equation*.

In the current year, 2,500 thousand volumes of the publications of the Academy were sold in Greece and abroad.

This year, the Academy obtained Solomos' archives containing documents pertaining to the national poet Dionysios Solomos and his family. The Academy also obtained Ellis Lambridou's legacy which will serve as a subordinate foundation directed by the Supervising Committee of the Research Centre for Greek Philosophy.

The National Astronomical Committee, which is under the aegis of the Academy of Athens and is presided over by the Academician John Xanthakis, organized a series of scientific lectures.

In the current year the Research Centre for Greek Society started to function.

In this year 20 lectures were delivered by academicians, foreign fellows and corresponding members of the Academy; seven presentations of books and eleven communications were made by academicians and 18 scientific communications by non-Academicians.

Accessions to the Central Library of the Academy and the libraries of the Centres during the current year totalled 6,701 books.

There is one fact of particular importance regarding the activity of the Academy that I wish to mention. In the current year the association of the Scientific Staff of the Academy organized a week of scientific communications in the building of the National Research Foundation. As General Secretary of the Academy I would like to congratulate them and wish them the fruitful continuation of their activities.

And now I proceed to the announcement of the honorary distinctions awarded by the Academy.

At the suggestion of the *Section of the Exact Sciences* and by the decision of the *Plenary Session*:

A *certificate of commendation* is presented to the **Medical - Surgical Society** of Corfu which for more than 90 years has contributed to the promotion of Medical Science and the protection of public health.

A *prize* together with 200,000 drs is awarded to Mr **Demetrios Apostolides**. Mr Apostolides offered the Ministry of Education an aquarium of tropical fish consisting of 55 glass bowls containing almost 500 tropical fish of different species.

Mr Apostolides worked hard for many years to establish, maintain and enrich the aquarium and spent large sums for this purpose.

The aquarium was set up in the Visual Teaching Aids Centre of the Ministry of Education and has been visited by approximately 7,000 school children and many other visitors.

The *Vasilios Malamos prize* of 100,000 drs is awarded to **Helen Gyftakis, Matina Kesse-Elias, Vasiliki Alevizou-Terzakis, Demetrios Benopoulos** and **Kyriaki Sofronidou** for their study entitled «*A study of b-Mediterranean anaemia with radio isotopes in Greece*».

This study is the result of almost 20 years' work. Its significant and positive characteristics are the following: the large number of cases studied, the use of modern technical methods and the in vivo discoveries, the originality of which was internationally recognized.

At the suggestion of the *Section of Letters and Fine Arts* and by the decision of the *Plenary Session*.

A *certificate of commendation* is awarded to Mrs **Helen Charalambopoulou - Damianou** for her study entitled «*Ancient Arcadia Gods, Music*». The enumeration of the Gods of Arcadia, the sketching of their character and speciality, their temples and cult is the main subject of this small study, which is supplemented by general remarks on Music as it was played by the ancient Greeks. As stated in the prologue, the study is based on ancient texts, and particularly on that of Pausanias. The presented information has been known for a long time but it has been carefully, accurately and systematically assembled. This is a study which will be of interest to a wide public. The description of Arcadia and its natural beauty is graceful and sensitive and holds the reader's interest to the very end.

A *certificate of commendation* is awarded to the **Intellectual Society of Cyprus** which this year completed thirty two years of useful activity.

The Society, with lectures, anniversary celebrations, presentations of books, exhibitions of paintings, literary contests and other mani-

festations has greatly contributed to the strengthening of the cultural and intellectual climate of Cyprus.

A *prize* is awarded to Mrs **Helen Kazantzakis** for her book entitled «*Nikos Kazantzakis - the uncompromising*».

The book consists of approximately 700 pages and is largely made up of hitherto unpublished letters to the author and other recipients. Biographical information supplemented by explanatory notes has resulted in a biography that is pervaded by a genuine feeling of love and admiration for Nikos Kazantzakis and affords reliable evidence on his life and ideas.

A *prize* is awarded to the Cypriot painter and engraver Mr **Tele-machos Kanthos** for his work.

Mr Kanthos has made a significant contribution not only to painting and engraving but also to scenery and costume design. His work is inspired, to a great extent, by the struggle of the Cypriots and is characterized by sensitivity and expressiveness.

A *prize* is also awarded to Mr **Tasos Zappas** for his contribution to literature and folklore. Mr Zappas has already produced fifteen books on folklore, history and travel. Six of them refer to Euboea, his birth place. They contain impressions, studies, miscellaneous material on folklore, historical figures of past and present, chronicles, and adduce valuable evidence on a changing or vanishing world.

Such works as those of Mr Zappas are undoubtedly useful to the Nation.

A *silver medal*, together with a cash prize of 150.000 drs is awarded to Mrs **Diana Antonacatou** for her work.

Mrs Antonacatou, who has already been honoured by the Academy for her illustrated albums of Greek historical places, now presents, in collaboration with Mr Takis Mauros, two new impressive volumes entitled «*The Monasteries of Argolis*» and «*The Monasteries of Arcadia*». In these volumes all the historical treasures of the monas-

teries which during the Turkish Occupation were not only the refuge of the enslaved Greeks but the site of the Nation's secret schools.

The Monasteries are shown in excellent photographs and paintings, made by Mrs Antonacatou herself.

The artist's zeal is admirable and her work will be of enduring interest.

A *prize* is awarded to Mr **Evangelos Moschos** for his series of essays entitled «*Evaluations*». Mr Moschos' work, though not extensive, is of a quality to place him on a par with the best essayists. His language is precise, his judgement penetrating and his work is imbued with a profound knowledge of literature.

A *prize* is awarded to Mrs **Marica Chourmouziou - Papaioannou** who teaches piano at the Athens Conservatory for her artistic activity and her high educational work.

Both as a pianist and musicologist Mrs Marica Papaioannou has been highly praised by both Greek and foreign critics.

It is due to her that contemporary French piano-music (Debussy, Ravel and other composers) has become known in Greece. For this activity she was honoured by the French Nation with a medal. Among the many contemporary composers whose work she has performed before Greek and international audiences is that of Nicos Scalcotas, the famous Greek composer.

In addition to her piano activity Mrs Papaioannou was particularly active in the field of education. As teacher of piano at the Athens Conservatory from 1941 to 1975 she taught a number of young students some of whom are now rising pianists and some already internationally known.

A *prize* is awarded to the internationally famous, blind pianist, Mr **George Themelis** for his services to music.

The artist had already been recognized by international audiences before his recognition by the Academy. Mr Themelis has performed

with the greatest world orchestras and has been highly praised by the critics. The phrase that he is «a miracle of talent and will» is very apt. He has been honoured with many medals and distinctions. Nevertheless, he is a kind, modest artist and an excellent man.

At the suggestion of the *Section of Letters and Fine Arts* and by the decision of the *Plenary Session*:

A *prize* of 100,000 drs is awarded to Mr **Athanasios Papa-georgiou**, curator of the ancient monuments of Cyprus.

Mr Papageorgiou's archaeological and other research covers the whole area of Paleochristian, Byzantine and post-Byzantine art. He made many excavations in Cyprus and as curator of ancient monuments, supervises the maintenance of all the ancient monuments in Cyprus.

Mr Papageorgiou is the author of many works in which he presented the conclusions drawn from his excavations.

A *prize*, together with 100,000 drs, is awarded to Mr **George Papacharalambous** for his work in education and his writings.

The veteran educator George Papacharalambous was a distinguished figure in the intellectual life of Cyprus. He was Professor and Director of the Pan-Cypriot High School and Director of the Scientific Research Centre as well as a founding member of the Society for studies relating to Cyprus.

His contribution to the organization of Libraries (especially to that of the Phaneromene) and of schools was great.

As an author and research worker he studied the private life and the folklore of Cypriots, and the dialect of Cyprus. He published remarkable studies.

The *Louiza Antonios Sochos prize*, accompanied by a cash award of 50,000 drs, goes to Mr **George Karachalios** who distinguished himself in the final examinations of the Department of sculpture in the School of Fine Arts.

The *Spiros Motzenigos prize* of 50,000 drs, established by his wife L. Papa - Motzenigou in memory of her husband and presented to an outstanding young Greek musician, this year is awarded to the guitar player **Constantine Kotziolis**. Though young, he started some years ago a very successful career in Greece and abroad.

The *Prize of the Union of the Reporters of the Athens Daily Journals*, accompanied by a cash award of 100,000 drs, is awarded to Mr **John Mamalakis** for his unpublished study on the history of the Cretan Revolution of the years 1866 - 1869.

In this objective study the Revolution of the years 1866 - 1869 is studied in all its aspects: military, political and diplomatic, and the events in Crete are described in detail. Furthermore, the relevant events of the Greek and Balkan history are also examined.

The author used hitherto unpublished sources in Greece, the collection of which was lengthy and involved a great deal of work. Nevertheless, it should be noted that, if the author had made a systematic study of the contemporary newspapers, he would have gleaned considerable information on public opinion and other matters.

A *silver medal* is awarded to Mr **Alexis Solomos** for his stage direction and his many-sided contribution to the Greek theatre in general.

Mr Solomos over a period of 40 years has made significant contributions to all aspects of the theatre. I shall limit myself here to referring to his work as director of performances of ancient drama, especially Aristophanic comedy as well as of performances of the Rennaissance Cretan theatre in which he was a pioneer. His direction is characterized by a deep awareness of the historical conditions of ancient and modern dramaturgy, by an artistic understanding of the meaning and form of plays and by creative ability. As an author, on the other hand, Mr Alexis Solomos was always praised for the origi-

nality of his views and his ability to draw on foreign literature on the subject.

A *silver medal*, accompanied by a prize of 100,000 drs, is awarded to Mr **Odysseus Lampsides**, President of the Committee of Pontiac Studies, an acknowledged student of Byzantine affairs and untiring investigator of Mediaeval and Modern Literature and History of his birth place, Pontos.

The Empire of the Great Comnenoi, the Turkish Occupation and the intellectual social and economic life of Trapezous and Pontos are thoroughly studied by Mr Lampsides who is an experienced scholar and historian with an endless nostalgia for «lost countries». His treatises, book reviews, and notes run to more than three hundred. In addition, Mr Lampsides played an important role in the edition of the periodical «*Archives of Pontos*» and other Pontiac collective publications and in many ways contributed to the maintenance of the high spirit of the Greek refugees of Pontos.

A *gold prize* is awarded to the following foreign Scientific Foundations which for more than 100 years have promoted the research and propagation of Greek Letters abroad:

a) To the **Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies** which is celebrating its hundredth anniversary this year.

This distinguished body, which includes among its members distinguished British scholars, archaeologists, historians and philosophers, has made significant contributions to the research and propagation of Greek Letters in the Anglo-Saxon world.

b) To the **Boston Archaeological Institute of America**, also celebrating this month the hundredth anniversary of its foundation. The Institute aims at aiding the archaeological excavations in Greece and disseminating the results of the excavations to the public.

To achieve the success of its aim it organizes lectures and congresses in various cities and educational centres in the U.S.A. and

publishes a quarterly scientific periodical, the American Journal of Archaeology which for a whole century has been presenting studies of ancient Greek civilization by scholars of international repute.

The American School of Athens, which for decades has carried out significant excavations, was founded by the Institute.

c) To the **German Archaeological Institute** in Berlin which in April 1979 celebrated the hundred and fiftieth anniversary of its foundation.

For 150 years the Institute has been engaged in the preservation of antiquities and in sustaining interest in archaeological discoveries.

The Athens branch of the above-mentioned Institute — the German Archaeological School — was established with the aim of carrying out excavations and publishing the results in scientific periodicals. It is noteworthy that a special library containing 70,000 volumes used not only by German investigators but also by foreign and Greek scholars was established and functions in Athens.

d) To the **Association pour l'Encouragement des Études Grecques en France**.

This Association was founded in 1857 by the following distinguished Hellenists: Gustave d'Eichthal, Brunet de Presle and Charles Beaute who conceived the idea of founding a Centre for studies and Greek-French contact, with the object of uniting in an association all «those who were interested in ancient and modern Greece». Since 1867 the Association has become a private foundation.

From the very first year of its foundation, the Association started publishing a periodical since 1888 under the title «*Revue des Études Grecques*». Ninety-two volumes of this periodical have been issued so far. In its pages can be found original contributions, book reviews and valuable bibliographical supplements. It contains articles on Greek Literature, History and Art in Antiquity in particular but also in the Byzantine period.

For 120 years the Association pour l'Encouragement des Etudes Grecques en France has been a most powerful centre of Greek and Philhellenic activity in France and elsewhere.

At the recommendation of the *Special Committee of C. and H. Ouranis Foundation* and by the decision of the *Plenary Session*:

The *Foundation's Prize* for a work of narrative prose is awarded to Mrs **Iphigenia Chrysochoou** for her book «*Uprooted Generation*».

The first pages of the book take us to the dramatic hours the Greeks lived through at the Smyrna harbor until they managed to embark on the Greek and foreign ships. The narrative realistically conveys a picture of terror and suffering.

Nevertheless, the pages which follow and compose the main theme of the narrative, namely the chronicle of the refugees' struggle for survival in Salonica and in the whole of Macedonia, are not less dramatic.

Though in some sections of the book the literary reconstruction of events is not entirely complete, it nevertheless provides with great intensity pictures of life which bring us close to a great national and human adventure.

The *Foundation's prize for poetry* is awarded to **Melissanthe (Eve Skandalakis)**. Melissanthe, since the publication of her book «*Prophecies*» (1932), which was received with great acclaim by some of the recognized poets of her time, she has continued to produce works of consistently high quality.

Her work is characterized by an innate philosophic tendency. According to the introductory report, her inspiration, fed by both «reflection» and «dreams», is marked by great descriptive force, simplicity and clarity of expression.

The *Prize of the Foundation* for Children's Literature is awarded to Mr **Alcis Tropeatis**.

According to the announcement, this distinction is awarded to

authors of children's books and for their contribution to this genre. Mr Tropeatis is the author of some twenty books for children on educative subjects, national, all of which are permeated with his love for children.

At a recommendation of the *Section of Moral and Political Sciences* and by decision of the *Plenary Session*:

A certificate of *commendation* is awarded to Mrs **Maria Basakaris** for her philanthropic activity. For decades, Mrs Basakaris has been the moving spirit of efforts in the fields of charity and social welfare, with beneficial results not only to the community of Kalamata and Messenia in general but on occasion to the Nation as a whole.

A certificate of *commendation* is awarded to Mr **Nicolas Fistas**, doctor of medicine. Mr Fistas has been striving for decades to preserve and restore the Nympheos community near Florina.

This mountain village in the Vitzi area was one of the starting places of the Macedonian struggle and at the same time a centre of resistance against the Turks about five centuries ago. Mr Fistas dedicated his life to the development of this community where he founded a Folklore Museum, he publishes a monthly periodical entitled «*Voice of Nympheos*» and other books and, at the same time, he strives to keep the population of Nympheos in the place of their original settlement. He is an example of a disinterested national fighter in a frontier area of the country.

A certificate of *commendation* is awarded to Mr **Nicholas Vasi-liades** for his book «*National Martyrs of the Struggle of the Cypriots (1955 - 1959)*» as well as for his popularizations of history.

A certificate of *commendation* is awarded to Mr **Demetrios Kaloumenos** for his book «*Crucifixion of Christianity*». The book refers to the tragic events held against the Greeks of Constantinople on the 6th and 7th September 1955 and is accompanied by numerous pictures which the author, a photographer of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, took at considerable risk of his life during that terrible night.

A certificate of *commendation* is awarded to Mr **Martin Jordan** for his book «*The very old Mystery of the Church*». It is a work of rare religious and dogmatic profundity. The author used as source material the Literature of the Church Fathers of the first three centuries. His profound knowledge of the texts of the Old and New Testaments, combined with a systematic study of all the source material lasting over fifteen years, enabled him to open new ways towards a closer communication with the great mystery of «the One, Holy and Apostolic Church, its *essence* or *nature* in which and through which the beneficial and redemptive work of our Lord Jesus Christ is accomplished»

The author made every effort to base his conclusions on a careful study of the sources. Every term or concept in the study is corroborated by citing the appropriate specific reference in the literature. It is characteristic that the text of the study is limited to 94 pages only while the remaining 900 pages are devoted to over three thousand references.

A certificate of *commendation* is awarded to the **Patras Association of the Lovers of Nature**, which over the last thirty years has actively contributed to the cultural progress of Patras with its rich social and cultural activities.

A *prize* is awarded to Mr **Alexandros Macrides** for his social and cultural activities in the last thirty years.

For the last thirty years Mr Macrides has been the leader of the Union of the Graduates of the Great School of Constantinople. The Graduates, after being driven out from Constantinople, brought to Greece the spirit of the Mother School to which the Greek Nation owes a great deal. This spirit, which they cultivated with much love and devotion, still unites them today. Mr Macrides preserved and strengthened the links between the Graduates and was for as many as thirty years the inspirer of all the activities they organized in Athens.

A *prize* is awarded to Mr **Evangelos Demeroutis** for his enormous philanthropic and cultural work.

Since 1974 Mr Demeroutis has sponsored at the cost of many millions of drachmas a number of welfare schemes in his birthplace, the city of Vitala, Carystia (Euboea). Among these there is the construction of the building of the Primary School, equipped with furniture and heating, the construction of a modern group of buildings housing the local Community Office, the kindergarten and a fully-equipped Rural Clinic, the construction of the provincial road between Vitala and Kymi, the restoration and decoration of churches, the construction of the main square and other roads and water works. Particularly noteworthy is the establishment of a public Library of 2,000 books. The building is well equipped and contains halls and offices. This Library serves thousands of readers (school children, students, teachers, professors, etc.).

A *prize* is awarded to Mr **Pantelis Argentis** for his contribution to the extension and enrichment of Choraes' Library at Chios.

Continuing the work of his father Philip Argentis who had been elected a corresponding member of the Academy of Athens, Mr Pantelis Ph. Argentis extended, restored, refurnished and equipped the building of the Library. He also created the Museum of popular art of Chios, the standard of organization and appearance of which is equal to that of European museums. In addition, he donated new valuable books and historical objects to the Library.

A *prize* is awarded to the **Central Patriotic Association of Doliana, Cynouria**, in Athens for its social, cultural and patriotic activities in the last 100 years.

The activity of the Association mainly aims at raising the living and intellectual standards of the inhabitants of Doliana, Cynouria.

A *prize* is awarded to the **Charitable Foundation «The Greek House»** for its social and cultural activities in the last 40 years.

Since its establishment in 1938 the Foundation has included Housekeeping, Handicraft and Professional Schools for girls aged 12 - 15 from the provinces. The main purpose of the Foundation is to keep alive Greek traditions and especially that of our popular art. The graduates of the School are useful and effective members of the Greek rural society helping to maintain and continue the popular traditions of modern Greece.

A *prize* together with 100,000 drs is awarded to Mr **Vasilios Stavrides** for his work entitled «*The Oecumenical Patriarchs from 1860 till today*».

The study has been published by the Society for Macedonian Studies and consists of two volumes in which the important work of the Oecumenical Patriarchs is described in all its aspects: Ecclesiastic, national and literary. The study is based on historical evidence and texts in the archives of the Oecumenical Patriarchate.

The work continues that of the late Emmanuel Gedeon and is of particular ecclesiastic and national importance.

A *prize*, together with 100,000 drs, is awarded to the **Panhellenic Society of the Friends of Large Families** for its social and philanthropic work.

The Society provides financial assistance to poor families with many children. Its foundation is due to private initiative and is a result of the love for poor children and of the concern for such a serious national problem as the decline in birth rate.

A *prize* is awarded to the periodical «**Maritime Greece**» which has already completed fifty years of life.

For half-a-century «*Maritime Greece*» has been a means of maintaining and propagating the maritime tradition of our nation and spreading the spirit of maritime life among Greeks. Occasionally, some of the best known Greek writers have contributed articles to this periodical.

The *prize announced by the Academy* for a study on Pavlos Calligas — Greek jurist, historian, politician and writer — is awarded to Mr **Theodoros Cozyris** for his unpublished study entitled «*Man's divine character*».

The author, a lawyer by profession, is an experienced man with a solid background in law. The submitted study suffers from a narrow consideration of characters and events — and an unnecessarily extensive analysis of the contents of the juridical studies of the prominent jurist. There are also serious omissions in the bibliography of modern works on the subject. The study, however, is distinguished by a good prose style and a classification of the material. Photocopies of unpublished letters of Calligas taken from the archives of the Tricoupis-family are cited in the appendix.

The work, on the whole, corresponds to the demands of a wide public.

A *silver medal* is awarded to Mr **Pavlos Canellopoulos** for the donation of his precious collection consisting of thousands of objects of great importance for the history of Greek art from the ancient time onwards. The collection found a permanent home in the P. Canellopoulos Museum.

A *gold medal* is awarded to the **Library of Chios** which was founded in 1792 at the suggestion of Adamantios Coraes. It was burnt down by the Turks in 1822 and refounded a few years later.

Thanks to the donations of books, manuscripts, maps and pictures made by the founders of the Library as well as by other benefactors from Chios, the Library nowadays contains more than 100,000 volumes and is considered to be the most important provincial Library and one of the most considerable libraries in Greece.
