

Dear Friends:

July, 2005

The most important message we have for you with this second newsletter is THANK YOU for your wonderful support. We have been able to keep up with the requests for financial assistance that we have received thus far, and want to share with you all the things that are currently happening.

First, let us express our gratitude for one person who has helped us tremendously: He has become a dear friend without whom it would be very difficult for us to function. He is currently translating the Nenneman book: Mary Baker Eddy: Persistent Pilgrim. He has been helping with the translation of our web-site into Russian, has recorded the Russian Lesson Sermon for broadcast, will be reviewing the three recently published diaries of Prokofiev, who was an active Christian Scientist, in order to write an article for the forthcoming Russian Herald, and has just agreed to edit the Russian Science and Health for the next publication. And much more!

We mentioned in our first newsletter that we wanted to reestablish Russian language broadcasts. This has been done with programs prepared at The Mother Church recording studio for broadcasts weekly along with the Lesson in Russian. Two former members of the St. Petersburg Society who are now living in the USA are currently recording the Lesson in Russian every other week. When we find another Russian speaker to help with this, we want to broadcast each weekly Lesson on a daily basis. We also need to find another program producer since our current one is retiring in September. Our hope is eventually to have all programs produced and broadcast in Russia by Russians. We currently broadcast from Germany, which is very expensive.

We also reported in the last letter that there was a small group in Yerevan, Armenia that was interested in meeting to read the Lesson. We helped them rent and furnish a space and they have been meeting regularly for three months to read the Lesson. In addition to this they have organized two conferences, in cooperation with The National Institute of Health of Armenia, dedicated to non-drug methods of treatment. In these conferences they presented "the views of Mary Baker Eddy." Again quoting from a recent letter: "Well known Armenian doctors-scientists participated in them, 20 to 23 persons. The meetings were successful." All this came about from one Christian Science lecture that the Foundation funded last year. We will continue to support them in every way we can.

One of the most important events that has happened this year resulted from a letter written to us by Marie Helm, a Russian speaking practitioner in Juneau, Alaska. She asked us if there was any way that she could help us with our work in Russia. She wrote recently that what happened then made her "feel like Alice in Wonderland." She spent January – March in St. Petersburg and has since been appointed to The Board of Lectureship. We warmly welcome her on board.

As a result of the radio broadcasts a professor at a University in southern Poland has written for copies of Science and Health which he plans to share with his students in his

philosophy classes. We have sent him several copies and encouraged him to attend one of Hildegard Arnesen's lectures in a nearby city in the Ukraine. He has expressed great enthusiasm for the ideas in the textbook.

A history professor from the St.Petersburg University has approached us with a proposal to research the re-emergence of Christian Science in Russia after Perestrojka. He will then publish a monograph similar to one he has written about Christian Science activities during the early Soviet Period, 1917 - 1929, at which time the Society was ordered closed and its members sent to the Gulags. Some of the professor's earlier publications have been screened by an independent source to make sure there is no bias against Christian Science. The result was a positive evaluation of the professor's publications accompanied by the remark that "this man will probably make a valuable contribution to the movement and to our church".

In a recent visit to Boston, Bill and Hildegard Arnesen met with members of the Christian Science Publishing Society (CSPS) and discussed the publication of a new Russian Herald. The idea was very favorably received and plans are in progress for two 24 page Heralds in color, to be produced by the CSPS and published by the Foundation in Russia. This is an important step, since no literature except Science and Health, is currently available for distribution.

The Societies in St.Petersburg and Kherson will provide workers for the CS booth at the Moscow International Book Fair in September, sponsored by the Board of Lectureship. The Foundation will support this effort as needed.

A small group of Christian Scientists in Georgia (former Soviet Republic y'all) recently requested C S literature for children in the Russian language. A friend who was leaving for Georgia within a few days was to hand-carry it there. We managed to have three little books translated into Russian with the translated text glued into them alongside the English. We have since been gathering more books and soon will have a "pasting party" for the other Sunday Schools that are forming.

We have also added a new member to our Board: Ralph W. Emerson CS. He has taken over the metaphysical committee that supports our work in Russia, which keeps him very busy.

We are only able to bring you these good reports because you made it all possible through your generous contributions. We are deeply grateful.  
As the Russians would say: Bolshoe Spasibo ...Big thanks!

With Love and Gratitude,

Bill Arnesen, Ralph Emerson, Charles Glover, Samantha Gudger, Sonny Lindvall, Leslie Knowles