



The Spiritual Resource Foundation

Supporting Christian Science activities in the Russian-Speaking Field

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Dear Friends:

It is time again to make you aware of the progress that is being made on the 'Russian Front' and some of the needs we see arising. The Board of The Spiritual Resource Foundation (TSRF) is working to meet these needs but know that we can only do it with your support. Most importantly we need your metaphysical support to overcome the waves of resistance to Christian Science that are being encountered, and then there is the money-physical support to ride the waves of need of this expanding and growing field.

Mrs. Eddy says that "desire is prayer" and in this sense the Russians are praying hard and loudly for several things to help them gain a greater understanding of Christian Science. Foremost is the desire for all of Mrs. Eddy's writings to be translated. They currently have only *Science and Health*, the *Manual*, and *Rudimental Divine Science, Retrospection and Introspection* and *No and Yes from Prose Works*. As our Russian/English scholars obtain a better understanding of Christian Science they tell us that the language in the current translations is archaic and that there are mistakes which may lead to misunderstandings. They recommend that these works be reviewed before the remainder of Mrs. Eddy's writings are translated into Russian.

So ... What has happened since the last Newsletter? The most important development is that there is now the provision for an on-going Russian *Herald* and it came about from some very creative thinking and cooperation. There is a *Herald* website at CSPA which now contains translations of articles from current periodicals and hopefully in the future, articles from Russians themselves as they grow in their understanding of Christian Science. The articles posted on the *Herald* site can be downloaded and printed as Russian *Heralds* for distribution at Book-fairs and lectures, for Reading Rooms, and to send to people who hear about Christian Science on our Foundation-sponsored Radio broadcasts and request information. *Heralds* can be assembled from articles relevant to the event or the need for which they will be used. The Foundation will help with funding the printing and distribution of these *Heralds*. We are very grateful for this development!

During production of the Bible Lesson for the Short-wave radio broadcasts, the sound of page turning with metal markers was clearly heard. To remove this distraction, the Foundation has been funding the typing of the Lessons to eliminate this sound. It was soon recognized that a "Full text" was being produced and many have asked for it. Boston is now taking steps to make this an official publication and available to all. More gratitude! More printing!

TSRF has also funded the production of a website in Russia devoted to presenting Christian Science and clarifying false information currently presented on other Russian sites. This allows the Russians to access their website using Cyrillic keyboards. To access this site, the address is: <http://www.christian-science.ru/> The lesson sermon can be heard in Russian on this site as well as on our US based site: <http://www.spiritualresource.org>. Efforts are underway to link all Christian Science sites and we will continue to upgrade our sites as new information and technology become available.

There is a wonderful report in the July *Journal* by Marie Helm of a lecture she gave in Russia which resulted from the above mentioned radio broadcasts. The report is so creatively written that when you read it you get the feeling of what it is like to be in Russia! Marie is doing wonderful work and we are very grateful for her commitment and devotion to Christian Science and to the Russian-speaking field.

On a somber note, it is with great sorrow that we report that Dr. Hildegard J. Arnesen CSB has passed from this level of consciousness. When her future husband asked her back in 1957: "Will you marry me?" She answered: "Yes ... my only reservation is that you are not a Russian because I dream of one day bringing Christian Science back to Russia." She spent her life preparing for this calling and was able in 1993 to move to Russia where she shared her love of Christian Science for many years. She lived her dream! When Marie Helm took over so wonderfully, she felt her work was done and quietly moved on. We will try not to miss her.

Our most sincere thanks to all of you that help support this outreach to the Russian-speaking world. All are blest.

With Love,

The Board of The Spiritual Resource Foundation

Following are excerpts from the report on the Book Expo held in Astana Kazakhstan: by Nelli Desyatova

When we arrived in Astana, the customs control became interested in our cargo. Having learned that it was books, officers said that we had the right, to take no more than 10 books per person. We had 70 books and a big pack of Heralds. They had been told that our cargo should be put into a warehouse before customs charges were paid. We showed what we had. Gennady showed *Persistent Pilgrim* first, and then *Science and Health*. Two officers took the book and, having read the title, they changed their facial expression. Then one of them told us that the book is probably not harmful, and on the contrary, good. And they let us go.

In the hall where the Book fair was held, many of the employees of the other exhibitions became our first buyers. There were many young people. We were pleasantly surprised that among them there were many Kazakhs. They attentively listened to our stories about Christian Science, and about Mary Baker Eddy's writings. In three days we sold 56 copies of *Science and Health* and three copies of *Persistent Pilgrim*.

The Chancellor of the Moscow State University, Astana, bought one copy of the book, but the next day he bought another. He said his wife took the book and could not stop reading. He bought another and Mary Baker Eddy's biography as well. He said he would recommend that the Chair of the Philosophy Department include Mary Baker Eddy's book in his program.

A woman, a lieutenant colonel of the militia, bought a book, and the next day she came to us and said she could not stop reading the book till 4:00 in the morning. One woman bought 2 copies of *Science and Health* and a copy of *Restless Pilgrim*, and said the next time she goes to Boston she will visit the Mother Church.

Many university people were interested in Christian Science. Some books were taken to the library of the College of Management and to the library of the National University.