

VOLUME TWENTY-EIGHT / NUMBER ONE
FALL 2014 ** ZANESVILLE, OHIO

CHURCH ALIVE! NO MORE

An e-mail letter from the Clerk of The Mother Church dated July 8, 2014, announced:

"After several years of much-appreciated, inspiring Church Alive Summit meetings on five continents and resulting fruitage shared through chats, blogs, and newsletters, The Mother Church will be turning its focus in other directions in its effort to support individuals and branches in enlivening their expression of church... [I]t is important for all of us to cherish the opportunity to devote our time and thought more exclusively to becoming consistent, effective healers. This requires spending significant time alone with our Pastor, the Bible and the Christian Science textbook." The same letter announced: "...Mother Church sponsored Church Alive blogs, newsletters, and chats are being discontinued as of July 31, 2014. Church Alive videos will be available on christianscience.com until October 31, 2014." (End of quotation)

[Finally, the panel discussions, the group sings, the conga lines, and the bongo drums are falling silent. The letter from the Clerk hints that students of Christian Science will be urged to turn back to the Bible and Science and Health for individual and branch church progress. ---Editor]

PAUSING ECUMENICAL WORKSHOPS

A week earlier, on June 30, 2014, an e-mail from the Ecumenical Workshop planners in the United Kingdom announced: "We have had word from Shirley Paulson CS, Committee for Ecumenical Affairs today, giving us the news that the Christian Science Board of Directors has decided to pause the Ecumenical Workshops." The CSBD is quoted:

"The Annual Meeting message of strengthening the spiritual foundation of Christ healing certainly includes healing relationships with our fellow Christians. But during the next year we are calling on branches to give their attention to strengthening the practice of Christian Science healing for themselves and others who seek healing.

"To support this effort, we are pausing ecumenical workshops while we invite branches to call for workshops on the healing practice. We're aware that many members feel less conviction that they can heal and be healed by spiritual means alone..."

Earlier the same month another e-mail from the UK committee dated June 11, 2014, gave no hint that any of these activities would be curtailed. It stated, "Good news! A growing number of Christians are asking what Christian Science is and why we class ourselves as Christian... Under the umbrella of the Committee on Publication, The Mother Church has formed a Committee for Ecumenical Affairs, which has been making connections with Christian leaders and organisations of many denominations."

[In just a few weeks, all of these activities have been swept away by the Board of Directors. As a result of this pause, are they also abandoning their quest for membership in the National Council and World Council of Churches? Either membership would mean the annulment of Mrs. Eddy's Tenets of The Mother Church. Also, are the "workshops on the healing practice" the way to learn how to heal, or is it, rather, through individual Christian dedication, humble consecration, and deep study as Mrs. Eddy taught? --Ed.]

FURTHER CURTAILMENTS

The August 2014 *Reading Room Resource Newsletter* included, "IMPORTANT: A Message from the Christian Science Board of Directors regarding online forums. Friends, we wanted you to know that in August 2014, this discussion area will no longer be available. [...] As the Board of Directors has explained, in August of 2014, the discussion areas on christianscience.com will no longer be available, this includes the Seeking and Offering board. Because the unique and specific activities of this space must continue, please know that it will be hosted elsewhere."

OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE

A branch church in the western United States has experienced what appears to be direct interference from Boston in its internal affairs. The branch church's by-laws require that the King James Version of the Bible be the only one used for its church services. Because of this, inserts are placed in the *Quarterlies* whenever other Bible versions are used for the Golden Text or Responsive Reading. (Many branch churches use these inserts which may be downloaded at: www.kjvquarterlypages.com.)

After the appearance of an article titled '...the inspired Word of the Bible...' by the Christian Science Board of Directors and the Trustees of the Publishing Society in the *Christian Science Sentinel* of May 12, 2014, the state C.O.P., who also happens to be a

member of the branch church in question, called a meeting for the purpose of removing the King James Version as the only Bible used by the branch. The church has voted three different times to keep the King James Bible. The new proposal to abandon the KJV did not receive any additional support. At the meeting, the C.O.P. revealed that there had been contact with Boston, and word had been given that if this branch church were applying for *Journal*-listing and recognition by The Mother Church today, it would have to conform its by-laws to please the Board of Directors.

At a previous meeting, the same C.O.P. had proposed that Robert's Rules of Order be abandoned presumably to make sweeping changes much easier to achieve at church business meetings.

The May 12th *Sentinel* article by the Directors and Publishing Society trustees stated, "Friends, we earnestly request that all branch churches read the Lesson-Sermons as they are printed in the *Christian Science Quarterly*. Even when there is disagreement among members, we believe our Church will progress by humbly supporting the demonstration of those Mrs. Eddy entrusted with the publishing of the Lesson-Sermons." (p. 12) [See also, Summer 2014 *Banner* for further background on this issue.]

TEN MORE CHURCH CLOSINGS

A comparison of the June and September 2014 issues of *The Christian Science Journal* reveals that the following ten branch churches have closed: Burbank, California; El Centro, California; Lake Wales, Florida; La Grange, Illinois; Sioux City, Iowa; Brainerd, Minnesota; Scottsbluff, Montana; Philadelphia (6th), Pennsylvania; Waco, Texas; and Wenatchee, Washington. Since the count began in February 1987, 942 churches have closed, and 80 have opened. *The Banner* continues to receive reports of branch churches selling their edifices that they have had for decades and moving into storefront locations with a reading room in the front and a meeting room in the back.

HEALING ACCOUNT AT ANNUAL MEETING QUESTIONED

The 2014 Annual Meeting of The Mother Church was held on June 2nd. The theme was "A Spiritual Foundation of Christ-healing." Included in the boardroom only meeting was a testimony of healing by Pamela Herzer. An account of this was given originally as an article featured on the cover of the *Christian Science Sentinel* of November 25, 2013, titled "Gratitude and healing of cancer." The September 2014 *C.S. Journal* contains an insert with a summary of the Annual Meeting including Mrs. Herzer's healing. Since the Annual Meeting, Mrs. Herzer has been listed as a practitioner in *The C.S. Journal* beginning with the July 2014 issue.

A quiet controversy began in early July when, reportedly, the Board of Directors was given a copy of Mrs. Herzer's web site <http://www.pamelaherzer.com> and her Twitter feed at <https://twitter.com/PamelaHerzer>.

The Twitter feed had two quotations from Mrs. Eddy, two quotes from the Bible, and numerous quotes from Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh, Jesuit, and New Age authors and mystics. Also included were references to Eckhart Tolle's *A New Earth*, Marianne Williamson's *A Course in Miracles*, and the television sitcom *Sex and the City*. Interestingly, an article by current Board member, Margaret Rogers, in the July 2002 *Christian Science Journal* contains many similar references and quotations from the same kinds of sources. Since then, the Board has backed away from its flirtation with the New Age begun during the Virginia Harris era. [See Fall 2002 *Banner*] Twelve years later, such references seem to be viewed as problematic.

Mrs. Herzer's web site included an account of her healing, but it pointedly excluded any mention or references to Christian Science, Mary Baker Eddy, or Science and Health. A reader's comment on the Herzer web site stated, "a similar account recently published in Christian Science publication, where Pam credits help from her Christian Science teacher, who we might presume gave her Christian Science treatment. Doesn't seem honest to present it here with that part washed out."

Mrs. Herzer listed her university degrees: Bachelor of Arts, Liberal Studies at Loyola Marymount University and a Master's Degree in Spiritual Psychology at the University of Santa Monica. She included a description of the latter degree as conferring "enhanced spiritual awareness through knowing yourself as a Divine Being having a human experience." She offered Gracious Life Coaching, Awakened Woman coaching, and Spiritual Love coaching.

According to sources, the Board of Directors learned of the contents of Mrs. Herzer's web site on July 9th and gave her an ultimatum to take down the site and Twitter feed or have her practitioner listing removed from the *C.S. Journal*. In fact, both the web site and the Twitter feed were deleted from the Internet as of August 17, 2014.

LEGAL ACTION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Discovery of court decisions of prior legal cases involving The Mother Church continues. *Fernald v. First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, et al* (1913): "A trust created by will for promoting and extending Christian Science, as taught by testatrix [Mrs. Eddy], to all parts of the world, should be administered in the state of its origin [New Hampshire], being as much for the benefit of it as for any place." The court also stated that the trust should be "administered by the

church *under the direct supervision of the court.*" (emphasis added)

Mrs. Eddy incorporated the deed of trust dated September 1, 1892, conveying land for church edifice in Boston into her last will and testament. This is the deed to which the Directors always refer when asserting their authority over the church. Also included is the deed dated January 25, 1898, establishing the Christian Science Publishing Society "for the purpose of more effectually promoting and extending the religion of Christian Science as taught by me [Mary Baker Eddy]." Every one of her deeds was filed in the state of New Hampshire. Legal action is now being finalized to establish once and for all that the probate court in Mrs. Eddy's native state has the authority to enforce her deeds and by-laws if a valid complaint is lodged by a Christian Scientist. The Board of Directors was never intended to be above the law. The tyranny and arrogance exhibited by the Directors over the past hundred years are largely responsible for the near extinction of genuine Christian Science as taught by Mrs. Eddy. This legal action may be the last chance to put things right. Readers are urged to visit www.mbefund.net to view the upcoming legal action. Send a generous contribution made out to "M.B.E. Fund" in care of: Robert B. Eyre

Foehl & Eyre P.C.

27 East Front Street

Media, PA 19063 U.S.A.

MALPRACTICE TODAY

The subject of malicious animal magnetism, also known as mental malpractice, has evoked much fear and too little understanding since the early days of Christian Science. Yet it has appeared in many forms over the centuries. In Proverbs 26, one finds a recognition of this: "...the curse causeless shall not come." Today one finds versions of this inside and outside of religious organizations. The Muslims have the *hutama* which is used against those who convert to Christianity (See Fall 1993 *Barner*), the Roman Catholic Church has *anathema*, and secularists have secret warfare. Regarding the latter, *The International Jerusalem Post* of November 7, 1987, included an article subtitled *Soviets use witchcraft against foes*. In this article, Israeli KGB expert Avraham Shifrin is quoted: "The KGB has a para-psychology department located in Baku, whose members can kill people long-distance without the use of weapons." An interviewer observed, "Witchcraft is a matter of bygone ages." Shifrin replied, "Not so, serious institutes in Russia and the U.S. investigate these matters."

Of particular interest to Christian Scientists is mental malpractice as manifested within their own church. Regrettably, this phenomenon still exists today and is actively used against those who oppose or dissent

from the official program enunciated at church headquarters...

It would be useful for the reader to know the general indications of this demonic activity. Sometimes it is manifested in the target as intense mental pain [or anger, or hopelessness] without any seeming source. Other times, a specific vital organ is the focus. In other cases, a general sense of chaos is introduced into the individual's daily routine with no apparent cause. The classic desired effect is an automobile accident. For the most part, the mental work is crude and heavy-handed. Sometimes it takes place only at night. Other times it can last twenty-four hours a day for weeks. Occasionally it can be very clever. One example gives some insight: For no apparent reason, an individual felt a very strong, overpowering sense of euphoria. He realized that it was not spiritually based and refused to embrace it. Rather, he observed it almost as a bystander. Within a few minutes, it was as if that material sense, like a soaring airplane, had been deliberately nose-dived and crashed into the ground. The targeted individual mused about what might have happened had he gotten on that "airplane".

Malpractitioners, of necessity, must justify themselves. They reason: "We know that death is unreal. We are just 'moving' people from 'here' to 'there' so that they cannot disrupt or cause harm to the church." Sometimes they reason: "This person had been mentally warned, ought to have taken the hint, and should have ceased his activity. Therefore his human death was his own fault. In any case, we know that death is not really real."

The reader should realize that mental malpractice is very hard work. Sometimes these people work in shifts. Other times they work alone. When the desired effect is not achieved, they do give up [for a while], and the target can actually sense the malpractitioner's fatigue and can literally mark the hour when the malpractice stops.

A genuine Christian Science practitioner receives spiritual benefit from every healing of his patients. A malpractitioner, on the other hand, clearly does not gain any benefit except the "gratitude" and material perquisites from his employer. He can only fancy that he is able to turn back to the books for solace with the erroneous conviction that he has been "working for church." ...

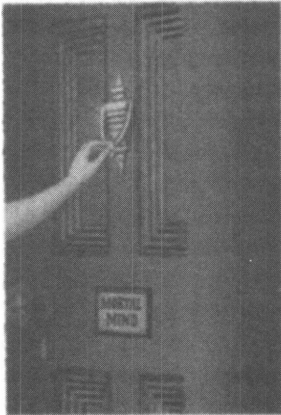
Mental malpractice is a form of "justified" hatred in which the malpractitioner feels justly ordained to undertake this action. However, Mrs. Eddy states, "Hate no one; for hatred is a plague-spot that spreads its virus and kills at last. If indulged, it masters us; brings suffering upon suffering to its possessor, throughout time and beyond the grave." (Mis. p. 12)

It is possible to overcome malicious animal magnetism. Students of Christian Science need to know

Andrew W. Hartsook
2040 Hazel Avenue
Zanesville, Ohio 43701-2222

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that when m.a.m. is recognized for what it is, malpractice is defanged. Its deadly aspect is reduced from dangerous to disturbing. Sometimes there is deep water to be traversed, and the seeming fury of the storm may require much from us as we work our way through it. But the error *does give out* if we hold firmly to the Truth, and *persist* without wavering or doubting. Then we see that this erroneous phenomenon is much like the wizard of Oz. It turns out to be a pathetic creature behind a curtain with a megaphone booming and thundering with special effects as in a movie.

The only danger, then, is not to know all of this. Some people are entirely innocent of the workings of mortal mind. When a condition or claim does not yield to prayerful work that was successful in the past, malpractice is usually the cause. Recognizing this leads to renewed healing. Mrs. Eddy states, "A knowledge of error and of its operations must precede that understanding of Truth which destroys error. (S&H p.252)... [Reprinted from Fall 2005 *Banner*]

Special references for consideration by the Christian Science Board of Directors, the Committee on Publication, and the Committee on Business: "There may be those who, having learned the power of the unspoken thought, use it to harm rather than to heal, and

who are using that power against Christian Scientists. This giant sin is the sin against the Holy Ghost spoken of in Matt. xii, 31, 32." (Mis. p. 55)

"Again, foreseeing the persecution which would attend the Science of Spirit, Jesus said: 'They shall put you out of the synagogues; yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service; and these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father nor me.'" (S&H. p. 31)

"Holy inspiration has created states of mind which have been able to nullify the action of the flames, as in the Bible case of the three young Hebrew captives, cast into the Babylonian furnace; while an opposite mental state might produce spontaneous combustion." (S&H, p.161) "Physical science has sometimes argued that the internal fires of our earth will eventually consume this planet. Christian Science shows that hidden unpunished sin is this internal fire, -- even the fire of a guilty conscience, waking to a true sense of itself, and burning in torture until the sinner is consumed, -- his sins destroyed. This may take millions of cycles, but of the time no man knoweth. The advanced psychist knows that this hell is mental, not material, and that the Christian has no part in it. Only the makers of hell burn in their fire." (My. p. 160)

VOLUME TWENTY-EIGHT / NUMBER TWO
WINTER 2015 ** ZANESVILLE, OHIO

MARYFRANCES CASSELL, C.S.

"The lives of great men and women are miracles of patience and perseverance." (Mis. 340:26) Maryfrances Cassell passed on peacefully the 6th of December 2014, in her 94th year. Her father was a very fine practitioner, -- an instantaneous healer. Maryfrances was tutored by lecturers including Professor Hermann S. Hering and Dr. John M. Tutt who admired her father and visited her home. She attended the Paris Conservatory of Music at age sixteen and only reluctantly returned home in 1940 after the outbreak of World War II. She then studied the violin at the Juilliard School in New York. She joined The Mother Church in 1941. She toured the United States and Mexico giving solo recitals and later opened her own studio. Later she was a licensed realtor and auditor. Her primary class teacher was L. Ivimy Gwalter. For many years she had monthly meetings with her and developed a remarkable understanding of Mrs. Eddy's teaching.

LETTER TO THE BOARD

On November 17, 2004, a "Celebration of Life" ceremony was held in The Mother Church extension to remember the victims of homicide. President of The Mother Church, Cynthia Neely, turned the edifice over to the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute. After each statement by seven speakers, a candle was lit. A choir from Unity Tabernacle sang a spiritual with rap overtones. After the remarks, three of the speakers marched down the aisle holding tall, lighted candles in front of them out onto the plaza where everyone, including the Christian Science Board of Directors, placed floating candles on the reflecting pool. The next Sunday, the First Reader reportedly said, "We sure had a great time last Wednesday with the homicide victims," and then invited people to use the donation envelopes in the seat racks to contribute to the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute. (See Winter 2005 *Banner*)

Mary Baker Eddy states in her September 1, 1892, Deed of Trust, "Said Board of Directors shall not allow or permit in said church building any preaching or other religious services which shall not be consonant and in strict harmony with the doctrines and practice of Christian Science as taught and explained by Mary Baker G. Eddy..." (See *Church Manual*, page 131)

In obedience to Article I, Section 9, of the *Manual*,

Maryfrances Cassell informed the Directors of the failure of President Cynthia Neely and of the Directors, themselves, to obey Mrs. Eddy's clear requirements of church officers to comply with her deeds of trust and the by-laws. After correspondence and court initiatives, Maryfrances Cassell was excommunicated from The Mother Church on February 8, 2007, for alleged lack of Christliness and for working against the Cause.

COMPLAINT FILED

Three years later in 2010, Maryfrances Cassell filed a complaint against the Christian Science Board of Directors in the Probate & Family Court in Suffolk County, Massachusetts, declaring the Directors to be *ultra vires* (in excess of legal power or authority) by violating the terms of Mrs. Eddy's deeds of trust and the *Church Manual*. The complaint enumerated a long list of violations. In addition Miss Cassell's complaint asked that her Mother Church membership be restored since she actually was being punished for *obeying* the *Manual*.

Miss Cassell had attended every Annual Meeting since 1972. She attended a workshop anonymously in 2010, but Director Tom Black spotted her and called the Boston police. She was led out of the Sunday School building in full view of everyone with uniformed police officers on each arm who led her across the street and left her on the sidewalk. She was then in her 89th year.

Ultimately, Miss Cassell's case was dismissed by the Massachusetts court which ruled that her complaint was frivolous, that she had no standing, that the courts had no subject matter jurisdiction (because the church was falsely characterized as a public charitable trust), and that only the Attorney General could oversee such trusts. In more one hundred years, the Attorney General has declined to intervene.

THE SECRET OF VICTORY

As Mrs. Eddy writes, "Experience is victor, never the vanquished; and out of defeat comes the secret of victory." (Mis. 339:6)

While Maryfrances Cassell's case was unsuccessful in the Massachusetts courts -- as all previous attempts by others have been -- **a series of vital facts emerged**. It was discovered by Miss Cassell's attorney that the courts' assumption that all churches are either hierarchical or congregational was wrong.

The 1871 U.S. Supreme Court case, *Watson v. Jones* declared that there is a third basis for forming a church: a deed of trust. After dissolving the first church

organization in 1889, Mrs. Eddy relied exclusively on private deeds of trust to establish her current church organization and publishing society. Instead of being regarded as incidental, minor pieces of paper work, the deeds of trust are now understood to be vital documents.

HIDDEN DEEDS

It was discovered by Michael Ritchie of Scotland that all of Mrs. Eddy's deeds of trust after March 20, 1903, were inaccessible. Through his efforts, the 1904, 1905, and 1906 deeds were brought to light. There is a strong indication that the hiding of these deeds was deliberate. Why? In a filing with the court dated March 6, 2012, the Directors declared that "[T]here is nothing in Mrs. Eddy's 1892 deed that incorporates the Church Manual... In sum, *there is simply no colorable basis in fact to suggest that the Church Manual imposes any legally enforceable trust obligations upon the Board*, either in general or specifically with regard to church discipline... *[T]here is no colorable basis in fact to support the incorporation of the Church Manual in any of Mrs. Eddy's deeds of trust.*" (emphasis added) Read pages 136-138 of the *Church Manual* to see that the last statement is a barefaced lie.

With these newly revealed facts and false representations in hand, a new legal effort will be instituted in Mrs. Eddy's home state of New Hampshire. It was there that she filed *every one* of her deeds and where the state courts have declared that any legal dispute regarding New Hampshire deeds should originate.

DIRTY TRICKS

During the years of litigation, Maryfrances Cassell was subject to a series of efforts to stop her. Telephone scammers "Curtis" and "Teresa" called her incessantly and managed to access her bank accounts. She had to change her telephone number more than a dozen times. Adult Protective Services came to her home more than once to try to prove that she was mentally incompetent. On February 20, 2012, an anonymous tip was telephoned to the local police stating that she was hiding illegal drugs in her home. The police came, searched her house, and found nothing. A former trappist monk, who was a constant fixture in the branch church where Miss Cassell attended, disappeared immediately from the scene as soon as her court case was concluded. The monk is a good friend of Nathan Talbot. (See Sep. 2011 C.S. *Journal*, p. 32) Maryfrances Cassell rose above it all. "Well done, good and faithful servant;" (Matt. 25: 23)

SUPPORT THE CASE

Donations to support the pending New Hampshire case should be made out to **M.B.E. Fund** and sent to Robert B. Eyre; Foehl & Eyre P.C.; 27 East Front Street; Media, PA 19063. Go also to the web site for the "Mary Baker Eddy's Church and Deeds Restoration Fund" www.mbefund.net.

BREAKING NEWS

A previously unknown deed of trust signed by Mary Baker Eddy and dated December 21, 1903, was uncovered the week of December 1, 2014. It states categorically, "No new tenet or By-Law shall be adopted nor any tenet or By-Law amended or annulled by the grantees unless the written consent of said Mary Baker G. Eddy, the author of the text book Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, be given therefor..." In a letter dated March 9, 1903, Mrs. Eddy had written to the Directors, requesting that the same clause be added to the 1892 "deeds of land". She requested that the same statement be included in the *Manual*. The Directors failed to do this, and she wrote another letter dated August 17, 1903, scolding them, "I gave you direct orders to bring out our [29th] Manual and not to delay one other day. Nothing but malicious mortal mind is now causing delay."

In their March 6, 2012, statement to the court [quoted above], the current Directors claim that this required clause does not apply to them. After the publication of "Matters of Conscience" by teacher Elaine Natale Davidson in 2002, the Directors declared that the Matthew Code (*Church Manual*, p. 50) does not apply to them in cases of church discipline because the Directors *are* the Church. (See Summer 2010 *Banner*)

NINE MORE CHURCH CLOSINGS

A comparison of the September and December 2014 issues of *The Christian Science Journal* reveals that the following U.S. churches have closed: Eureka Springs, Arkansas; Little Rock (Soc.), Arkansas; Redondo Beach, California; Weaverville, California; Ormond Beach, Florida; Oak Park - River Forest, Illinois; Berea, Ohio, Middletown, Ohio; and Marshall, Texas. Since the count began in February 1987, **951** churches have closed and **80** have opened.

BRANCH CHURCHES WORLDWIDE

1908	1,059
1951	3,049 (2,279 U.S., 770 elsewhere)
1961	3,273
2011	1,673
2012	1,666 (1,153 U.S., 513 elsewhere)
2013	1,632 (1,129 U.S., 503 elsewhere)
2014	1,575 (1,129 U.S., 489 elsewhere)

PRACTITIONERS AND TEACHERS

Practitioners Worldwide

1908	3,793
1951	10,503
Jun 2000	1,833
Jun 2005	1,433
Jun 2010	1,374
Jun 2012	1,383
Dec 2013	1,327
Dec 2014	1,298

Teachers Worldwide (Still teaching classes*)

Mar 1992	250
Jan 2000	193*
Jan 2005	172*
Jun 2010	182*
Jun 2012	167*
Dec 2013	186*
Dec 2014	192*

SENTINEL'S CONTINUING DECLINE

The October 27, 2014, *Christian Science Sentinel* (p. 24) gave the annually required U.S. Postal Service statement of current, paid circulation: 18,101

1933	170,784
1997	44,995
1998	50,868
1999	53,290
2000	46,342
2001	48,899
2002	48,260
2003	45,047
2004	37,778
2005	36,384
2006	34,773
2007	32,341
2008	30,154
2009	24,130
2010	25,720
2011	24,016
2012	23,403
2013	19,346
2014	18,101

MONITOR'S LOSSES CONTINUE

The required U.S. Postal Service statement of current, paid circulation appeared in the October 13, 2014, *Christian Science Monitor* (p.4)

1933	129,260	
1989	156,246	*Color format, fewer
1990	116,709	pages & greatly
1991	115,117	reduced advertising
1992	107,652	began (Hoagland)
1993	103,607	
1994	96,352	
1995	86,479	
1996	85,679	
1997	77,507	
1998	77,093	
1999	72,498	
2000	73,079	
2001	70,324	
2002	77,310	
2003	72,463	
2004	63,794	
2005	54,726	
2006	57,027	
2007	52,813	
2008	47,725	
2009	48,435	*Weekly format begins
2010	76,869	
2011	74,312	
2012	59,775	
2013	51,410	
2014	43,163	

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS

Article XXIV, Section 9, of the *Church Manual* states in part: "The Christian Science Board of Directors shall elect annually a Committee on Business, which shall consist of not less than three loyal members of The Mother Church, who shall transact promptly and efficiently such business as Mrs. Eddy, the Directors, or the Committee on Publication shall commit to it."

The intent of this committee was to render positive, metaphysical support to the church, its officers, activities, and false characterizations in the press. The Fall 2010 *Banner* asked former committee members to give accounts, assignments, and experiences while on the committee. It has been reported over the last twenty-seven years that the Business Committee has been

subverted into a malpractice committee to eliminate and/or punish those people in the field who present a "threat" to the board and its policies. One newly appointed committee members was handed the following assignment to argue by a member of the Board of Directors during the Harvey Wood era: "Anyone who does not unreservedly support the policy of The Christian Science Board of Directors will have no success as a healer, nor will he prosper in his professional life or personal life."

The new committee member recognized this to be malicious mental malpractice and immediately resigned.

The current outlines of the Committee on Business have been described as follows to the editor of *The Banner*: There are generally twelve members: six on the "dark" side and six on the "light" side. Those on the dark side are to work for the elimination or severe punishment of targeted individuals. Those on the light side are generally new members who may be given positive metaphysical work or arguments such as the one quoted above. The members of the committee are "compartmentalized" and do not know who else is on the committee, at least for the first few years of their appointment. This compartmentalization is maintained to allow "plausible denial" if public allegations are made by former members or others who learn of its activities.

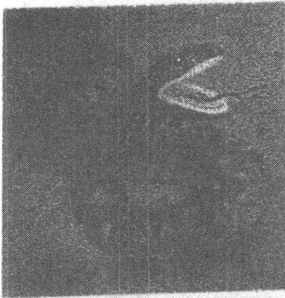
Reginald G. Kerry sent out a series of letters to the Christian Science field from 1975 to 1990 which detailed a pattern of corruption and immorality which the Directors of that era categorically denied and which their successors still deny these many years later. One day Mr. Kerry was met on a Boston street by a prominent, former member of the Board of Directors who said, "We don't understand why you are still alive. We have one hundred practitioners working on you." Mr. Kerry's simple reply was, "I hate no man." (A vivid description of Business Committee malpractice can be found in Chapter XII of *Crisis in the Christian Science Church* [1978] by Ann Beals. [See the Fall 2014 *Banner* for more details of this activity within The Mother Church organization in Boston.] Article XXIV, Section 9, in the *Church Manual* ends with this sentence: "Before being eligible for office the names of the persons nominated for said office shall be presented to Mrs. Eddy for her written approval." Because such approval can no longer be obtained, this committee should be disbanded immediately and forever.

An article in the December 22, 2006, edition of the Russian publication *RIA Novosti* stated, "General Boris Ratnikov, who served in the KGB department for Moscow and the Moscow Region, told Rossiiskaya Gazeta that people in power had resorted to various methods of manipulating individual's thoughts since ancient times, and that it was hardly surprising that

Andrew W. Hartsook
2040 Hazel Avenue
Zanesville, Ohio 43701-2222

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See page 3

secret services adopted the practice when it acquired a scientific foundation in the 20th century." American government efforts in the same area are documented in *Psychic Warrior* [1996] by David Morehouse and *The Men Who Stare at Goats* [2004] by Jon Ronson. An article titled, "The Secret Hypnotism of the Jesuits" appeared in the November 1, 1924, issue of *The American Standard Magazine*. It documents the activities of this Catholic order since its founding in 1534.

In a letter dated June 7, 1904, Mrs. Eddy wrote, "The mental assassins are in God's hands, and He will uncover their crimes, and punish them in His own good time and way. Let us obey Jesus' command to bless our enemies and do good to them that spitefully use us."

ELAINE NATALE DAVIDSON, C.S.B.

Word was received in November 2014 of the passing of Elaine Natale Davidson. On January 4, 2002, she sent a 144-page document titled "Matters of Conscience" with accompanying documentation to the Christian Science Board of Directors which outlines serious violations of the *Church Manual* committed by the board "over the past two decades." (p. 137)

The complaint concluded that the board of directors is

responsible for all of these violations and demanded: "It is your *Manual* duty to replace yourselves in an orderly fashion with individuals who understand what is facing them and who are morally and spiritually prepared to faithfully fulfill the responsibilities of these offices. (p. 138) Some of the observations included: misrepresenting Christian Science by identifying it with mind/body, New Age, and medical trends; altering and misrepresenting Mrs. Eddy and *Science and Health* in commercial promotional activities; undermining the Pastor and the Bible lessons; blurring the denominational distinctness of Christian Science and perpetuating a political system of rewards and punishments.

Mrs. Davidson was excommunicated from The Mother Church on January 20, 2009. In May of 2013, she published *The Future of our Church and the Ministry of Reconciliation*.

It states, "This is a late hour, but not too late to face up to the truth: the Christian Science movement has been shrinking not because its teachings are less interesting or less relevant than they were when the movement was flourishing during its first decades, but rather because there has been a shrinking from the spiritual demands of fully committed Christian Science demonstration -- and this includes a failure to effectively handle mesmeric mental influences that induce drowsiness and a loss of spiritual alertness and focus."

*****HIS BANNER OVER ME

THE

BANNER

WAS LOVE *****

A NEWSLETTER FOR CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS

ANDREW W. HARTSOOK, EDITOR

VOLUME TWENTY-EIGHT / NUMBER THREE
SPRING 2015 ** ZANESVILLE, OHIO

DIRECTORS SELL PLAZA PROPERTIES FOR \$65.6 MILLION AND \$21.9 MILLION

The *Boston Business Journal* of December 23, 2014, reported that the Christian Science Board of Directors sold to an affiliate of Cambridge-based Carpenter & Co. "two development sites bounded by Belvidere Street and Dalton Street at the 15-acre Christian Science Plaza in the Back Bay, which is home to the world headquarters of the Church of Christ, Scientist."

One of the lots "is set to be the site of a 58-story tower with a hotel and restaurant as well as apartments... A mid-rise tower is also planned on an adjacent parcel at 30 Dalton St., which an entity of Pritzger Realty Group of Chicago acquired in October for \$21.9 million... The overhaul of the Christian Science Plaza was approved by the Boston Redevelopment Authority in August 2011. Once complete, the development will span close to 1 million square feet." [www.bizjournals.com/boston]

DEMAND TO INSPECT BOOKS AND RECORDS

A letter to the Christian Science Board of Directors and the Committee on Finance dated March 19, 2015, was delivered on March 20th via Federal Express. The letter was written on behalf of unnamed members of The Mother Church "for the purpose of investigating suspected violations of the fiduciary and contractual obligations of the Directors, members of the Committee on Finance (the "Committee") and/or other officers of The Mother Church, including possible misuse and gross mismanagement of the Trusts' assets..."

"Our clients have a good faith basis to suspect that the Directors, members of the Committee and officers of The Mother Church may have violated those duties. Our clients, therefore, must be permitted the inspection described below, and if it is determined that their suspicion of transgressions are manifest, then proper corrective actions may be taken..."

The letter cites *Church Manual* Article I, Section 9; Article XXIV, Sections 2 and 4 to justify these requests. Also Article XI, Sections 3, 4, 6, 7 are cited as to the duties of the Clerk when specific complaints of misconduct are lodged. The letter also notes: "Finally, the By-Laws require that 'The Mother Church shall not be made legally responsible for the debts of individuals...[.]' and that the Committee shall have the

books of both the Board and the Treasurer audited annually, and the Board shall 'have the books of the Church Treasurer audited semi-annually, [so as] to report at the annual Church meeting the amount of funds which the Church has on hand, the amount of its indebtedness and of its expenditures for the last year.' ...

"Based on a review of the annual financial statements for previous years, The Mother Church has experienced severe asset value reduction and worsening operating losses that appear to be the result of conduct not in the ordinary course of the business of The Mother Church. Put another way, these deviations probably resulted directly from conduct amounting to breaches of fiduciary duty, such as misappropriation or other gross mismanagement. In addition, our clients have a good faith basis to believe that members of the Board or Committee have treated The Mother Church's assets as their own, paying themselves unjustly and, indeed, have entrenched themselves by transferring seats of leadership to friends or family members..."

"Finally, until a formal complaint may be made, our clients remain anonymous in view of a pattern of summary punishments, including removal from the membership rolls of the Mother Church, levied against members who have raised the same concerns echoed in the Demand..."

"If you have not responded by 5:00 p.m. EDT on Monday, April 21, 2015, our clients will assume that you do not intend to comply with this Demand and will proceed accordingly."

FIRST NON-BOARD CLERK IN 23 YEARS

An e-mail dated December 16, 2014, announced the appointment of Suzanne Riedel, CSB, of Denver, Colorado, as Clerk of The Mother Church replacing Lyle Young, a member of the Christian Science Board of Directors. (See also March 2015, *C.S. Journal*, p. 47)

Every clerk since 1992 (Olga Chaffee) has been a member of the Board. This has represented a clear conflict of interest since Article I, Section 9, of the *Church Manual* requires members to complain to the Clerk and if "the complaint be found valid, the Directors shall resign their office or perform their functions faithfully." (p.29) If the clerk is also a member of the Board, honest action is hardly to be expected. It is the opinion of insiders that the pending legal action in New Hampshire and elsewhere prompted the Board to restore the office of Clerk to a more independent status to avoid criticism and vulnerability in the courts.

CSPS: ANOTHER CASE OF OVERREACH

Since January 27, 2014, two of the three trustees of the Christian Science Publishing Society have also been members of the Board of Directors. They are Scott Preller and Margaret Rogers. The third member is the Mother Church Treasurer, Lyon Osborn. This is the first time since Mrs. Eddy established the Publishing Society in 1898 that the Board of Directors has had unvarnished, direct control of the Publishing Society. In fact, the Board has had effective control since the Great Litigation of 1919-1921. Mrs. Eddy established a separation of powers for the two entities which were to cooperate, but not dominate. When Mrs. Eddy established the deed of trust for the Publishing Society in 1898, she kept the fact secret from the Directors until the deed was signed. It is reported that Board chairman Archibald McLellan was so angered by this that he would not speak to CSPS trustee William P. McKenzie for two years for "keeping him in the dark." So now, all pretense at maintaining Mrs. Eddy's deliberate separation of powers has been removed. (See Spring 2014 *Banner* for details)

FIVE MORE CHURCH CLOSINGS

A comparison of the December 2014 and March 2015 issues of *The Christian Science Journal* reveals that the following churches in the United States have closed: Sarasota (2nd), Florida; Grinnell, Iowa; Rockport, Maine; Sargentville, Maine; and Freehold, New Jersey. Since the count began in February 1987, 956 branch churches have closed and 80 have opened.

BRANCH CHURCHES WORLDWIDE

The Winter 2015 *Banner* transposed some figures and gave an inaccurate count of churches for the year 2014. The following list gives the correct numbers:

1908	1,059
1951	3,049 (2,279 U.S., 770 elsewhere)
1961	3,273
2011	1,673
2012	1,666 (1,153 U.S., 513 elsewhere)
2013	1,632 (1,129 U.S., 503 elsewhere)
2014	1,563 (1,074 U.S., 489 elsewhere)

FRANK S. STREETER'S 1915 LETTER

Mrs. Eddy's longtime lawyer, Frank S. Streeter, wrote a letter to the Board of Directors on September 8, 1915: "Shortly before the middle of July, [Board chairman] Mr. McLellan conferred with me relative to the proposals made in the board to make certain readjustments and specifically to increase the salaries of board members from \$2500, the amount now limited by Section 8 of the By-Laws, to \$8000 or \$10,000 and to do this without changing the By-Law and without notice to or knowledge of the church members..."

"No other board in the English-speaking world is vested with such a combination of exclusive and unrevisable power over the spiritual and property concerns as this board seems to possess on the face of

the creating documents. I use the word 'seems' advisedly because I am convinced that these powers although not so intended are not immutable, but are probably subject to change or modification if occasion therefor arises..."

"The organization of the Mother Church rests upon the powers conferred by general statute combined with powers created by the Founder. In all church organizations resting on the statute, the ultimate management and control of all the temporal and spiritual concerns of the church is vested solely in the beneficiaries, namely, the Church members."

"If the Church members or any considerable number thereof shall be aroused to challenge at law the board's power of exclusive control conferred by the Founder in disregard of the statutes on which the Church is based and which confer exclusive control on the members, this question of power of control by the board conferred by the Founder, or power of control by the Church members conferred by the statutes will immediately be raised..."

In a separate memo dated July 20, 1915, Mr. Streeter wrote, "If the members of this Church, or any group or faction, should become aware of some of the things recently done and said and largely shown by your [the Board's] records, you might reasonably expect an effort made either to change the power of control from the board to the Church members, or to change the personnel of the board itself..."

"If any member thinks me impertinent or presumptuous in presenting these views, let me remind him that my connection with the fortunes of this Church at highly critical periods, when its Founder, its doctrines and its property were viciously assailed and its fortunes seemed to hang in the balance, may afford some justification for my present desire that this organization shall not be disrupted, but shall be preserved to carry on the great work in accordance with the hopes and intentions of the Founder..." (*Proceedings in Equity 1919-1921*, pages 735-739)

The *Banner* was informed in 2006 that the Board members were paying themselves \$200,000 each per year or \$1,000,000 for all five of them. See Spring 2006 issue for discussion of Board salaries.)

CASELL FOUNDATION WILL CONTINUE

A letter from Maryfrances Cassell dated February 5, 2010, announced the organization of the Novus Ordo Seclorum Foundation whose purpose is "to reinstate the original organization as founded by the Deed of 1892 and preserved in the *Church Manual* by Mary Baker Eddy as Pastor Emeritus in perpetuity." The foundation's name was one of four inscriptions on the granite marker at Mrs. Eddy's birthplace and is an adaptation of a phrase appearing in the epic poem, *The Aeneid*, by the Roman poet Vergil. This poem recounted the mythical founding

of the Roman republic and was a favorite of Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and other founding fathers of The United States. This also explains the motto's appearance on the Great Seal of The United States. With the passing of Miss Cassell, the litigation is now in other hands, but one other purpose of her foundation remains to be accomplished: the restoration of the marker at Mary Baker Eddy's birthplace at Bow, New Hampshire.

"In 1962, the Board of Directors voted to demolish the pyramid marker at the site of Mary Baker Eddy's birth in Bow, New Hampshire. After Mrs. Eddy's passing, James F. Lord had acquired the property of the old Baker homestead... He improved the site, erected the monument and donated the property to the Mother Church in 1927. His efforts had never been viewed with favor by the Directors, and the monument was never included in notices of historic sites occasionally listed in the *Journal*. A photograph, however, was included in the book, *Landmarks from Bow to Boston*. The precisely carved granite was the largest single piece ever quarried in New Hampshire, and, despite its official lack of approval, it attracted many visitors over the years since its dedication on the centennial of Mrs. Eddy's birth on July 16, 1921.

"Workmen at the site had prepared to blast the monument with dynamite as instructed by the Directors [in 1962 presumably when word of Mr. Lord's passing had been verified]. At the last minute, L. Ivimy Gwalter [Maryfrances Cassell's teacher], a member of the Board who did not want it destroyed, persuaded her fellow Directors to postpone the destruction, and word was immediately sent to New Hampshire. But the message arrived too late, and the destructive deed was done. The fragments were buried somewhere to prevent souvenir seekers from getting any of the pieces. This was in keeping with the Directors' policy established with the destruction [by controlled burning] of Mrs. Eddy's home at Pleasant View [in 1917] when every fragment of the house was taken away and secretly buried to thwart those who wanted some tangible remembrance." (*Christian Science After 1910*, by Andrew W. Hartsook, p. 116)

Perhaps anticipating all of this, Mary Baker Eddy wrote a letter less than two weeks before her passing dated November 20, 1910, in which she stated:

Know all men by this protest that no change shall be made on the grounds that I own without my consent in writing.

Mrs. Eddy also wrote in March 1893, "Justice, a prominent statute in the divine law, demands of all trespassers upon the sparse individual rights which one justly reserves to one's self, -- Would you consent that others should tear up your landmarks, manipulate your students, nullify or reverse your rules, countermand your

orders, steal your possessions, and escape the penalty therefor? No! 'Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.'" (*Miscellaneous Writings*, page 119: 24)

Information about how to support Miss Cassell's foundation will be provided in a future issue of *The Banner*.

PRINCIPIA ANNOUNCEMENT

An announcement from the Principia Board of Trustees dated November 19, 2014, stated in part: "Over the past several years, the Board of Trustees has been reviewing Principia's practices regarding homosexuality in terms of admissions, community standards for living with the Principia community, and employment at Principia...

"Principia continues its commitment to help all students rise above the claims of sensuality and understand themselves as the pure reflection of Spirit. That work is reflected in the commitments that Principia students, faculty, and staff are asked to make.

"In light of Principia's primary purpose to serve the Cause of Christian Science, the Board recognizes that sexual orientation does not prevent an individual from healing or making contributions to the growth of Christian Science around the world...

"Principia has a responsibility to recognize man as a spiritual idea and to provide an atmosphere conducive to such understanding. It also has a practical responsibility to protect members of the community from all forms of sexual aggression, both heterosexual and homosexual... Principia recognizes all legally married couples..."

[www.principia.edu/statement]

INCIDENT AT PRINCIPIA UPPER SCHOOL

The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* of January 29, 2015, included a front-page article titled, "3 charged in Principia football hazing case." The article begins, "The investigation into hazing allegations at a sports camp at Principia Upper School last summer has led to felony charges for two teens, and misdemeanor counts against another... [The students], who played football, were kicked out of Principia in August after school officials contacted police about 'an assault related to hazing of juvenile students... The allegations involve penetration with objects, according to [one student's] attorney. The school told parents after the incident that all students involved had been fully clothed.

"The case involving the private Christian Science school in Town and Country mirrors several others across the country where high school hazing has risen to the level of sexual violence...

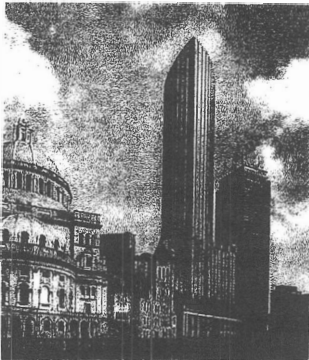
"Had Principia been made aware of any previous such incidents, they would have been reported immediately to law enforcement, as occurred in this case," spokeswoman Laurel Walters wrote in an email."

[www.post-dispatch.com]

Andrew W. Hartsook
2040 Hazel Avenue
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November 20, 1918.

Know all men
by this protest
That our change
shall be made
on the grounds that
I sworn without
my consent in
writing
Mary Baker Eddy

VOLUME TWENTY-EIGHT / NUMBER FOUR
SUMMER 2015 ** ZANESVILLE, OHIO

SWIFT RETRIBUTION

The Spring 2015 *Banner* reported that a Demand letter dated March 19, 2015, was sent to the Christian Science Board of Directors and the Committee on Finance. The letter was written on behalf of unnamed members of The Mother Church "for the purpose of investigating suspected violations of the fiduciary and contractual obligations of the Directors, members of the Committee on Finance (the "Committee) and/or other officers of The Mother Church including possible misuse and gross mismanagement of the Trusts' assets..."

While the Mother Church members on whose behalf the letter had been written remain anonymous, the Directors immediately assumed that the branch church, which had financially supported Maryfrances Cassell in her personal hour of need, was responsible for this latest probe into Mother Church finances.

In a March 27, 2015, letter to the branch church, the new Clerk of The Mother Church, Susan Riedel, threatened the branch with delisting. Among other charges, the letter claimed mistreatment of the branch's former clerk. [See "Branch Clerk Gone Wild" in the Spring 2014 *Banner* for details of the clerk's outrageous behavior including misappropriation of church funds for personal, family use.]

Article XI, Section 13 of the *Church Manual* states: "A member of both The Mother Church and a branch Church of Christ, Scientist, or a Reader shall not report nor send notices to The Mother Church, or to the Pastor Emeritus, of errors of the members of their local church; but they shall strive to overcome these errors. Each church shall separately and independently discipline its own members, -- if this sad necessity occurs." (pp. 54, 55) [Emphasis added]

In other correspondence, also dated March 27th, the officers of the same branch church received nearly identical Riedel letters threatening them with excommunication from The Mother Church. It is the understanding of the editor of *The Banner* that the unnamed members, on whose behalf the Demand letter of March 19th was written, do not include anyone from the targeted branch church. The Mother Church members referred to in the March 19th letter remain unnamed because they would be excommunicated

immediately to prevent them from having standing in any court initiative against the Directors.

LETTER TO NEW HAMPSHIRE DIRECTOR OF CHARITABLE TRUSTS

A letter to the New Hampshire Director of Charitable Trusts dated June 2, 2015, cites Clauses 6 and 8 of the Trust under the will of Mary Baker G. Eddy, and asks for a compliance review of the accounting process required by Mrs. Eddy on behalf of the beneficial owners, (i.e. the real owners of The Mother Church -- the members). In part, the letter states:

"We would like the opportunity to meet with you to discuss beneficiary concerns regarding the administration of these trusts, including without limitation: 1. identification of the Trust funds as unrestricted funds; 2. the apparent violation of RSA 564-B:9-903, which commands investment diversity; 3. the lack of a surety bond; 4. the failure to identify investment vehicles or to disclose the calculation of management fees; 5. absence of a copy of the August 23, 1993 Stipulation for Order governing distributions of principal from the Clause 8 Trust; and 6. the absence of reported Trustee fees [salaries]."

STIPULATION FOR ORDER

In the aftermath of the Monitor Channel fiasco (1988-1992), which brought the church to the brink of bankruptcy, the above mentioned Stipulation for Order was issued by the Probate Court of New Hampshire. It specified a repayment schedule that the trustees [Directors] were required to follow to reimburse the Trust for all the money they illegally transferred from it in the vain attempt to keep the Monitor Channel project afloat. Interestingly, the Order states, "The parties agree that this Stipulation is not to be considered as an admission of any impropriety in the administration of the Trust,..." This "understanding" took the Directors "off the hook" for any legal action or possible removal from office that might have faced them otherwise.

This all demonstrates that the members of the Christian Science Board of Directors are civil fiduciaries who are to act in the best interests of the beneficial (real) owners of The Mother Church -- the members. (That is the reason why the yearly donation to The Mother Church is referred to as a "per capita tax". *Church Manual*, p. 44) The Directors cannot claim a religious cloak or ecclesiastical exemption based on the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. Mrs. Eddy did not create a modernized hierarchy of priesthood.

2015 ANNUAL MEETING

The financial accounting given at Annual Meeting stated that funds on hand were \$839,000,000. Indebtedness was zero. Expenditures were \$84,000,000 (\$2,000,000 less than the year before). Maintenance of the church plaza was \$25,000,000. It was stated that the Christian Science Publishing Society made a profit, but this did not include *The Christian Science Monitor* which remains in deficit. Board Chairman, Scott Preller made a point of stating that this report is the Directors' Report, not the Treasurer's Report. The question is: what is in the Treasurer's Report and that of the Committee on Finance?

A TOOTHLESS TIGER

A letter written to the Christian Science Board of Directors by Charles F. Terrell dated May 12, 1992, illustrates the need for a review of how Mrs. Eddy's Trusts are being administered.

Mr. Terrell wrote: "Article XXIV, Sections 1 thru 6 of the *Church Manual* sets forth the criteria for "...the proper management of the Church funds". The Board's policy statement (under which the Committee on Finance is obliged to operate dated July 1, 1980, entitled 'Role of the Committee on Finance and the Scope of its Responsibilities', essentially reduced the Committee's function to seeing that proper procedures and controls were established and followed, and if so, approving the bills presented for payment. This interpretation of Manual Article XXIV would attempt to eliminate "God's Requirement, Sect. 5", "...wisdom, economy and brotherly love...", from being one of the oversight functions of the Committee on Finance.

"As a member of the Committee on Finance (COF) since January 1985, I have objected to this interpretation, since it makes the Committee impotent. A former Treasurer of The Mother Church described the COF as 'a toothless tiger'. However, the COF is the one and only Committee of the Church which has the responsibility when there has been a 'deviation from duty,... (to)... visit the Board of Directors, and, in a Christian spirit and manner, demand that each member thereof comply with the By-Laws of the Church..." Mr. Terrell resigned from the Committee on Finance effective with this letter.

RESEARCH PAPER FROM 1930

The Charles Terrell letter also refers to a research paper prepared by Lucia C. Warren in 1930 titled, "Account of the Relation of the Finance Committee to the Directors and the History of the Inception of the Committee." The paper quotes a July 3, 1895, letter from Mrs. Eddy: "God requires wisdom, economy and brotherly love to characterize all the proceedings of the members of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and I am glad to state, that the action of its honorable

Board of Directors has given good evidence of their obedience to this requirement. In case of any possible future deviation therefrom, it shall be the duty of the First members of this Church to call a special meeting for the purpose of duly considering the questions relating thereto, and to require the committee on finance to visit the Board of Directors, and, in a Christian spirit and manner demand each one to comply with the vote of the First members on this subject; and, on penalty of any member refusing thus to do, this member shall be dismissed from office and the vacancy supplied by the Board.

"This By-Law is designed, not as much for this hour, as for future years, and for the disobedient; even as the Ten Commandments stand for all time, and require all men to act righteously." See Article XXIV, Sections 4, 5, and 6 of *Church Manual*, pages 76-78

ONE EXTRAVAGANT EXAMPLE

LandMarks Magazine of January 1994 gave an account of the sale of the shortwave transmitter purchased by the Directors and later sold at a considerable loss just as the Monitor Channel fiasco reached its logical conclusion in the absence of wisdom, economy, and brotherly love:

"...George [Jacobs] had been contacted by the Christian Scientists. They had asked him to become the broker for the proposed sale of their large station in Scott's Corner, Maine. Though George is not a broker, they recognized him as an authority on shortwave radio and wanted him to manage the sale of their station.

"The transmitting power of this station is 500,000 watts -- the largest made. This enormous energy is multiplied 100 times by the world's most sophisticated and powerful shortwave antenna array suspended between two gigantic towers -- placing it in the position of being the most powerful shortwave station in the world. The station is in strategically the best location in the United States for reaching one half of the world's population. The station's array is electronically steerable, making it possible to reach Scandinavia, all of Europe, Ukraine, western Russia, Afganistan [sic], India, the Middle East and the entire continent of Africa!

"Though the law forbids targeting the United States with the antenna, the radiation pattern of the antenna provides a backwash of 50,000 watts on the reverse side that reaches clear across North America making it clearly heard on the West Coast."...

"...[T]he Prophecy Countdown board met with the Christian Scientists. The station, built for \$7.2 million in 1987, could not be rebuilt for less than \$10 million. Knowing that the assessed value is \$8 million, Prophecy Countdown offered \$4 million. An agreement was reached accepting [\$]40,000 as a down payment, with a total figure of \$5 million, and the contract was signed.

"Ross Perot, the Roman Catholics, and the General Conference of Seventh Day Adventists, it turns out, were also contenders for the purchase."

HARVEY WOOD'S SWAN SONG

Harvey Wood resigned from the Christian Science Board of Directors in March 1992 just as the Monitor Channel project was imploding. He and his wife took a private trip to Australia before his resignation became known. He gave a \$30,000 donation to an aboriginal youth group in Footscray. His local host asked him, "What are we to do about the Knapp book." He sighed very deeply and replied, "It is up to others to work it out now," clearly acknowledging he was trapped by the financial disaster that had occurred. He had already resigned from the board although it was not yet public knowledge. He took a short holiday in Queensland and then returned to face the most humiliating period of his life.

SIXTEEN MORE CHURCH CLOSINGS

A comparison of the March and June 2015 issues of *The Christian Science Journal* reveals that the following sixteen churches have closed in the United States: Springdale, Arkansas; Mission Viejo (society), California; Visalia, California; Carbondale, Illinois; De Kalb, Illinois; Northbrook, Illinois; Ames, Iowa; New Bedford, Massachusetts; Sullivan, Missouri; North Bergen, New Jersey; McMinnville, Oregon; Conroe, Texas; Greenville, Texas; Vernon, Texas; Randolph, Vermont; and Everett, Washington. During the same period a new society was formed at Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

Since the count began in February 1987, 972 churches have closed and 81 have opened.

ECUMENICAL ADVOCACY RETURNS

On June 30, 2014, an e-mail from the Ecumenical Workshop planners in the United Kingdom announced: "We have had word from Shirley Paulson CS, Committee for Ecumenical Affairs today, giving us the news that the Christian Science Board of Directors has decided to pause the Ecumenical Workshops." (See Fall 2014 *Banner*)

The pause seems to have ended as indicated by a "Report on the Ecumenical Advocacy Days -- April 17-20, 2015", held in Washington, D.C. The Christian Science participation was led by California teacher, Brian Talcott, CSB, and included the comments of delegates from Texas, Arizona, California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Montana, Ohio, Oregon, and Washington. The meeting was sponsored by the National Council of Churches with the focus on institutional (prison) work. It remains to be seen whether this kind of C.S. ecumenical activity will expand to its former intensity.

RESTORATION FUND

A New Hampshire court case from 1913, *Fernald v. First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, et al* decided: "A trust created by will for promoting and extending Christian Science, as taught by testatrix [Mrs. Eddy], to all parts of the world, should be administered in the state of its origin [New Hampshire], being as much for the benefit of it as for any place." The court also stated that the trust should be "administered by the church under the *direct supervision of the court*." (emphasis added) The legal action already initiated in New Hampshire intends to establish, once and for all, that the probate court in Mrs. Eddy's native state has the authority to enforce her deeds and by-laws and that valid complaints can be lodged by individual members of her church. The Board of Directors was never intended to be above the law. The tyranny and arrogance exhibited by the Directors over the past hundred years are largely responsible for the near extinction of genuine Christian Science as taught by Mrs. Eddy. This legal effort may be the last chance to put things right.

The current legal action taking place in New Hampshire needs your support. Please send a generous contribution made out to "M.B.E. Fund" in care of:

Robert B. Eyre

Foehl & Eyre P.C

27 East Front Street

Media, PA 19063 U.S.A.

To view the details of the fund and to read all of Mrs. Eddy's Deeds of Trust and related documents as well as her Last Will and Testament, go to:

www.mbefund.net

Already, more than \$15,000 has been contributed.

1897 CHRISTIAN SCIENCE JOURNAL

An article Ezra W. Reid, "The Second Coming of Christ," appeared in the October 1897 *Christian Science Journal*, (p. 390):

"The year 1866 has been referred to as the year in which a number of English theologians looked for the end of the 'present dispensation;' but as that time drew near without any Millennial symptoms, Dr. John Cummings, the chief exponent thereof, was understood to have modified his original views considerably, and now conjectures that 'the beginning of the Millennium will not differ so much, after all, from the years immediately preceding it, as people commonly suppose' (American Cyclopaedia).

"Was it coincidental that Christian Science should have been discovered in the year 1866? As indicated in the above quotation, there is no reason for expecting that the beginning of the new dispensation should be so very different from the years preceding it, that is, from the standpoint of mortal man. Are not all of God's works performed through the still small voice?

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"It was in this manner, and in the year of 1866 that Rev. Mary Baker Eddy discovered Christian Science, which from the testimony of Jesus and the apostles, we feel sure is the Second Coming of Christ."

It should be noted by readers of *The Banner* that February 2016 will mark the 150th anniversary of the discovery of Christian Science.

FROM DIVINITY COURSE AND GENERAL COLLECTANEA

"Read *Science and Health* 562:29 - 568:7, before reading this article. To know that the dragon is in truth but a mythical creation, saves us from it. If we make something of it, and attempt to destroy it, we will be vanquished every time. Only Truth and Love can destroy the dragon. What is it to love? To always see the man of God's creation, and nothing else, and to separate from our thought of man any belief of fear, sin or disease. This is love. Let us strive more and more earnestly to reflect this love in our homes, where little errors so often tempt us to lose sight of the real child of God.

"We each dwell in our own world of consciousness. We look out through the windows of this consciousness and behold the passing procession of mortal mind. Day after day we have been lured forth, have been pressed into the whirl, lost our individual peace and poise in divine

Mind, and found ourselves dragged through the uncleanness, the pain of the procession. We seek to regain our own home of consciousness, wiser for the experience, thinking we will not again become part of error's pageant; but here let the newer understanding of Love guard well your door. Stay in your own home of demonstration. Keep your peace, for idle curiosity, criticism, or even false sympathy may lure you forth.

"Wherein lies the wisdom of the serpent? To hide itself. Therefore hide yourself in the understanding of Christian Science, be it great or small. We have all in some way needed the experience we have had. Never be found as a Christian Scientist mourning over an experience. It is a thing of the past, but not so the manifold power and presence of God resulting therefrom." Attributed to Mrs. Eddy (p. 216)

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